

The G8 Summit, Gleneagles July 2005

City of Edinburgh Council

02 June 2005

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform the Council of the issues related to the G8 Summit, how they impact on the normal life of the city, and the extensive work done to mitigate these issues.
- 1.2 To bring to Council's attention the incurred costs to date and the steps being taken to obtain funding from the Scottish Executive on this matter.

2 Summary

- 2.1 The UK will host the next G8 Summit, on 6-8 July 2005 at Gleneagles, Perthshire. The agenda for the Summit will be dominated by the report of the Africa Commission, the difficulties faced by highly indebted poor countries and climate change issues. This major event will impact on the surrounding areas and cities in Scotland by attracting associated media coverage, related events and, based on previous history, a large number of demonstrators.
- 2.2 The Summit presents an opportunity to promote Scotland and the City of Edinburgh internationally. All the pre-event planning is based on a welcoming city within a strategy designed to achieve minimum disruption and the safety of citizens and visitors.
- 2.3 A range of promotional events has been planned to match the main themes for the UK Presidency of G8 2005 which are Africa and climate change. It is hoped to raise public awareness of the issues involved and encourage a wider public debate on these topics.
- 2.4 Given the high level of security that will be in place at Gleneagles, Edinburgh is likely to become a focal point for organised demonstrations over the Summit period. Extensive discussion has taken place with the police and organisers of known events to ensure the safety of citizens, visitors and demonstrators alike, and wherever possible to achieve the normal operation of the city in the lead up to and throughout the Summit period.

- 2.5 Countries that have hosted the G8 Summit in the past have experienced large scale violent demonstrations that have called for police/military intervention. It should be noted however that never before has any affected local authority or police force entered into discussion regarding the pre planning of peaceful demonstrations with the organisers of such events and it is expected that the work done by this Council and Lothian & Borders Police to facilitate safe demonstrations will keep disruption and injury to the absolute minimum.
- 2.6 It is also important to note that the City of Edinburgh is the first Council to actively involve itself in discussions with dissident groups in order to facilitate safe demonstrations and, in conjunction with this, Lothian & Borders Police have stressed that the policing strategy to be adopted will allow for organised demonstrations to take place in a safe environment for demonstrators and general public alike.
- 2.7 *Make Poverty History*, a coalition of over 400 charities, approached the Council in the autumn of 2004 regarding the holding of a mass demonstration day on Saturday 02 July which would be centred on the Meadows with a march through the city centre streets. The Council working closely with the MPH coalition's technical advisers has facilitated this event and it is expected that 100,000 people will take part in the march on the day.
- 2.8 As part of the Council's contingency planning, arrangements have been progressed in the provision of a proactive campsite within the city to cater for possible large numbers of backpackers that may arrive and are identified as sleeping rough on city streets or in central parks.
- 2.9 No amount of preplanning however can prevent those dissident elements that are intent on violent confrontation from coming together to cause difficulties, but the Police in conjunction with Government agencies and this Authority are working so that disruption and violence will be contained and kept to a minimum over the G8 Summit period.
- 2.10 A great deal of work has been done through the Council led multi agency groups since the start of this year to address strategic, tactical and operational issues, to liaise nationally and locally with Government agencies and other authorities, and to promote the opportunities that the hosting of the G8 Summit at Gleneagles presents to the city.

3 Main report

Background

- 3.1 Last year the Government announced that the next meeting of the G8 countries would be held at Gleneagles, Perthshire between 6 and 8 July 2005.
- 3.2 The Summit is the personal responsibility of the Prime Minister and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) is providing the main support in connection with planning the Summit.
- 3.3 The agenda for the Summit will be dominated by issues arising from the report of the Africa Commission, the range of difficulties faced by highly indebted poor countries and climatic change.

- 3.4 The Summit will be attended by the leaders of the G8 countries (USA, UK, Russia, Germany, France, Italy, Japan, and Canada). The President of the European Commission, the Secretary General of the United Nations and the leaders of African countries and other developing economies will also be invited. It is also expected that HM the Queen will attend for part of the proceedings.
- 3.5 In excess of 5,000 visitors directly associated with the Summit including officials, security and families of delegates will stay in a number of locations with many being accommodated within the city.
- 3.6 There will be world wide media coverage of the Summit and it is expected that several thousand journalists will base themselves in Edinburgh during the period.
- 3.7 The nature and profile of the G8 Summit has also attracted proposed demonstrations along with issue related events such as rallies, forums and workshops. Because of the strict security surrounding the Gleneagles arrangements many of these are planned to be held in the city over the Summit period.
- 3.8 The influx of a large number of visitors into the city associated with organised demonstrations at an already busy tourist period has the potential to impact greatly on the road network and city infrastructure. Advice from Lothian & Borders Police indicates that the risk of disruption is increased due to possible pre-planned targeted demonstrations by dissident groups.

Planned Events

- 3.9 *Make Poverty History* (MPH) is a coalition of over 400 charities that have come together under one banner to peacefully demonstrate in Edinburgh on Saturday 02 July 2005. They expect to draw a mixed profile audience of up to 100,000 people including families for a day of demonstration centred on the Meadows. The main focus of the event will be a march through the city centre. Participants will be encouraged to wear white clothes, armbands etc which will culminate with a "ring of white" in the city centre when the marchers heading the demonstration return to the Meadows before the tail end has left.
- 3.10 The Meadows will act as a focal point for people who are arriving from all parts of the UK and the Continent for the day of demonstration. Speeches, entertainment, music, food & refreshments, toilets and security will be provided. Use of the Meadows as a campsite will not be permitted. Strict controls are being applied to the use of the Meadows to ensure entertainment is appropriate. The event in this location will run from 11.00am until 8.00pm with a close down of entertainment and concessions starting at 7.00pm.
- 3.11 The route of the proposed march is via Middle Meadows Walk, Forrest Road, George IV Bridge, The Mound then west along Princes Street, Lothian Road into Castle Terrace, Lady Lawson Street, Lauriston Place, and then Chalmers Street to the Meadows.
- 3.12 MPH staff have been in regular contact with the Council's multi-agency Event Planning & Operations Group (EPOG) and Lothian & Borders Police to plan and mitigate the effects of this major demonstration. Marchers will leave in three distinct groups, on the hour, starting at 12 noon, 1.00pm and 2.00pm. The route will be controlled by Police, trained stewards, marshals and will have first aid staff stationed along its length.

- 3.13 Barriers will be erected along Princes Street and at main road junctions to separate the Marchers, Police, general public and traffic movements.
- 3.14 It is intended that the shops, stores and other premises in the city centre will continue as normal throughout the day. Public transport provision, although likely to experience delays, will continue to run via designed diverted routes
- 3.15 Approaches have also been made by two other groups regarding their plans for events in the city for the Summit period. *G8 Alternatives* is a political grouping that intends to hold rallies, workshops and political forums in a number of venues owned by the University of Edinburgh and also in the Usher Hall. Many of their members are expected to take part in the MPH march.
- 3.16 The other group who have made initial contact with the Council are *Stop the War Coalition*. This cellular grouping of city and town based independent groups intend coming together for a rally on Bruntsfield Links at the same time as the MPH event on the Meadows on 02 July. They have also expressed a wish to hold a demonstration/ march on the evening of 03 July centred on Princes street and Calton Hill. They have been asked to make formal application and develop their proposals further for discussion at EPOG.
- 3.17 At this time the City will also host two other major events of importance, the Quincentenary Celebrations of the Royal College of Surgeons and the 60th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day. The former consists of a series of events culminating in a ceremonial procession of Surgeons on Sunday 03 July from the Royal College to St. Giles via the Greyfriars Church. The celebrations to mark the end of the Second World War will include a Veterans parade with associated family day of entertainment, brass and pipe bands, and military flypast.

G8 Management Arrangements

- 3.17 Based on the wealth of experience that the Council has through its experience of dealing with major street based events such as the Bank of Scotland Fireworks and the Hogmanay Street Party and following initial discussion with Lothian & Borders Police it was agreed to set up an organisational reporting structure as shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.18 The Member/Officer Review Group is chaired by Councillor Anderson with Cllrs Fallon, Dawe and Laing representing the political Groups. The Chief Executive, the Director of City Development and a Senior Police representative attend and are supported by relevant Council officials.
- 3.19 The Review Group receives reports from the G8 Senior Officers Group which is chaired by the Director of City Development. Membership consists of 2nd and 3rd tier officials representing each Department and also includes a senior Police representative.
- 3.20 In turn the established Event Planning & Operations Group (EPOG), chaired by the Public Safety & Emergency Planning Manager, who acts as Project Manager for the Council's G8 issues, meets regularly with promoters to take forward the safe planning issues. Various sub groups have been set up to concentrate on matters such as transport, medical, contingency planning, and welfare and justice.

- 3.21 The three main groups noted above have been meeting on a two weekly cycle since March and will continue to do so up to the end of the Summit period.
- 3.22 A Communications Group chaired by the Head of Corporate Communications also meets regularly with the Media representatives of the Police, Emergency Services and the event organisers to address pertinent issues. This Group led on the setting up of a suitable web page on the Council's website that went "live" on 11 May. Corporate Communications ensure that it is maintained on a regular basis.
- 3.23 In addition to the above corporate groups, Departmental groups have been set up to identify pertinent issues, review risk assessments and identify business priorities over the period.
- 3.24 There is daily contact at operational level between Council and Police staff, and two weekly contact at tactical and strategic level between senior staff in both organisations. This has facilitated the development of plans as issues are raised by various promoters or new intelligence is gained.
- 3.25 At an early stage in the planning process the Chief Executive required Directors to identify key staff who are to be available throughout the G8 period. In certain cases annual leave restrictions have had to be applied to managers and operatives for the late June/early July period.
- 3.26 Contingency arrangements have been put in place within the city to maintain the road network and public transport over the period of both organised and possible ad hoc demonstrations. Working with the Scottish Executive, Trunk Road operators, Police and contractors, the Council has planned for rapid response to necessary diversion routes, provision of temporary signage and erection of barriers.
- 3.27 The contingency planning arrangements have also considered welfare and justice issues, the pressures put upon existing medical provision and how Lothian NHS Board will deal with these. Arrangements have also been progressed in consideration of provision of a proactive campsite within the city. Various locations are currently under consideration using defined criteria and risk assessment. The campsite would be open during the period of main demonstration and would ensure that any backpackers being identified as sleeping rough on city streets or in central parks were directed to a suitable location. The campsite will be advertised widely beforehand via the web and through participating agencies.
- 3.28 Annual city dressing requirements marking events such as the Edinburgh Festival and Fringe along with special branding for one off events such as the Heineken Cup Final have or are being erected throughout the city centre. In a similar manner every opportunity will be taken to ensure suitable dressing to mark the period of the G8 Summit and promote the new city branding.
- 3.29 A day long multi agency tabletop exercise led by the Police and involving all agencies was held on the 30 May to test responses to various hypothetical scenarios, and each agency will continue to test their own in-house responses over the build up period.

Liaison with other Agencies

- 3.30 Combined Police/ Council presentations have been given to major business and hotel representatives within the city centre and to selected Councillors and Community leaders whose Wards are directly affected by current proposals.

This work will also continue as new intelligence is obtained. Letters will be sent to more than 20,000 residential and commercial properties affected by the proposed road closures and parking restrictions covering the MPH march on 02 July and by the security arrangements covering the Holyrood Palace and Parliament buildings.

- 3.31 Work is ongoing with Perth & Kinross Council at Chief Executive and senior officer level in identifying matters of common concern and possible mutual aid, and also of incurred and unbudgeted costs that must be taken forward to the Scottish Executive for resolution.
- 3.32 Through the work of the Lothian and Borders Emergency Planning Committee, chaired by this Council's Chief Executive, possible mutual aid issues between the City, East, West and Midlothian Councils will be discussed
- 3.33 The Government and Scottish Executive have objectives for the Summit which can be summarised as:
- to host a Summit that is professional, relevant and safe, operating as far as possible on a sustainable basis
 - to exploit opportunities presented by the Summit to promote all aspects of Scotland on the international stage, tying in with the Scotland's "International Image" initiative
 - to maximise the economic benefits of the Summit for Scottish businesses of all sizes
 - to enable as many people as possible living and working in Scotland to contribute to the success of the Summit, have their say on the agenda topics, and learn and benefit from it, and to provide easily accessible factual information about all aspects of the Summit tailored to different audiences.
- 3.34 The Scottish Executive has established a G8 Co-ordination Team and the Council's Special Projects Manager is a member of this. Matters discussed have covered the development of related events for members of the general public and school pupils to address the main G8 agenda items of Africa and climatic change. A programme of events has been developed to meet the above objectives and it is being updated on a regular basis. Discussion of the above team has also covered information/branding issues, PR/Media items, promotional materials and city dressing.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 A Government funded budget has been set aside to cover the cost of policing and security issues arising from G8. It is uncertain at this stage whether the funding will cover costs that may be incurred by local authorities to enable them to meet their obligations regarding public safety issues, possible disorder and subsequent clean up issues.
- 4.2 The Council Leader, Chief Executive and senior officials have made representations to the Scottish Executive to achieve a commitment to meet the costs to the city of the G8 related issues, especially for the proposed major demonstrations.
- 4.3 Joint representation with Perth & Kinross Council has been made to the Scottish Executive on this matter.

- 4.4 Extensive work has been carried out by each Department to identify incurred costs for the G8 associated works, staffing and service responses. This figure will rise as the planning process progresses but current assessments gives a figure in the region of £1.5M depending on the degree of disruption and clean up required following unplanned demonstrations, and the implementation of contingency planning arrangements.
- 4.5 Discussion has taken place with the Council's Insurers and Finance staff in light of the responsibilities placed on this Authority by The Riot Act (1716) and the Riotous Assemblies (Scotland) Act 1822 and amending statutes. These allow for a civil remedy against the county or burgh in which a riot (as defined) takes place in respect of damage to certain categories of buildings. The Insurers are investigating the Authority's liabilities and the appropriate level of cover.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The presence of the G8 Summit at Gleneagles presents an opportunity to promote Edinburgh internationally as a welcoming city through the high media coverage being given to Scotland at that time.
- 5.2 A range of promotional events to be held in the city that are associated with the G8 themes will raise public awareness of the issues being discussed and hopefully lead to wider public debate.
- 5.3 The Council has in place strategic, tactical and operational planning teams that are working closely on a regular basis with Lothian & Borders Police, the Emergency Services, the Health Board and other main agencies to address issues as they arise concerning planned demonstrations, rallies and associated events.
- 5.4 The above groups have also taken forward contingency planning and public safety arrangements to cater for the demands of unplanned demonstrations over the period, delays due to the necessary traffic diversions, and to ensure that normal city life continues where possible.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Council:
- (a) notes the extensive work by officials and Lothian Borders Police to ensure a safe environment for the city's residential and commercial sectors, for visitors to the city and demonstrators alike during the very busy G8 Summit period
 - (b) endorses the representations to date with the Scottish Executive to enable this Council to recover its costs in the matter.
 - (c) notes that a further report will be submitted on the outcome of G8 following an assessment and debrief of pertinent issues.



Andrew Holmes
Director of City Development

26.5.05

Appendices 1. Organisational Structure
 2. G8 Related Special Projects and Events

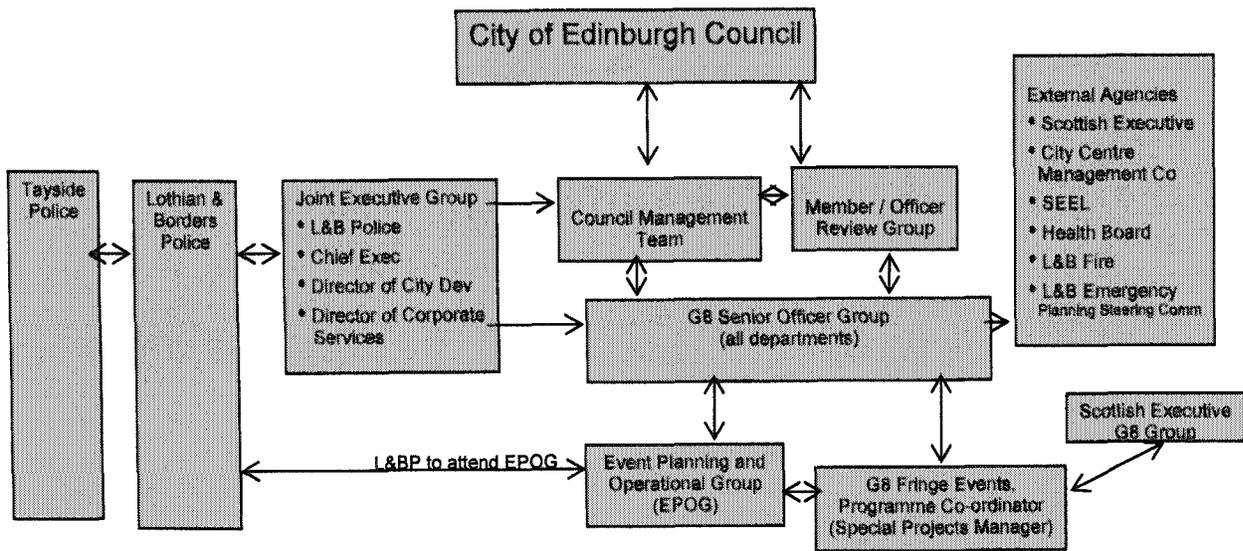
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Wards affected City wide

**Background
Papers** City Development G8 Files

Appendix 1

G8 ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS



11 February 2005

Appendix 2

CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

G8 RELATED SPECIAL PROJECTS AND EVENTS

1. During 6-8 July 2005 some of the world's most influential decision makers will meet at Gleneagles Hotel in Scotland, as the UK hosts the G8 Summit. The G8 is made up of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States. As host nation the UK sets the agenda, organises the Summit, including its location and acts as spokesperson for the event. The main themes for the UK Presidency of the G8 in 2005 will be Africa and climate change.
2. **Africa** contains 18 of the world's 20 poorest countries and demands particular attention. The Prime Minister launched a Commission for Africa to take a fresh look at the challenges facing African countries. It reported recently and its work will feed into the UK's agenda for G8 in July. The Commission's work will support the implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan across the full range of issues, including trade, HIV and education.
3. **Climate change** is happening. The Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is clear: increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere caused by human activities are largely responsible. The IPCC reports that over the next 100 years global temperatures and sea levels will rise. By 2080 a further 80 million people could be flooded every year, and another 290 million people are predicted to be at risk of malaria. Agricultural productivity will decline and the poor will be most vulnerable.
4. The nature of the G8 Summit is such that it will be the focus of worldwide political and media attention. Hosting the G8 Summit in Scotland presents both challenges and opportunities. The First Minister has set a number of **objectives** in relation to that:
 - to exploit opportunities presented by the Summit, to promote all aspects of Scotland plc on the international stage, tying in with the Scotland's International Image initiative;
 - to maximise the economic benefits of the Summit for Scottish businesses of all sizes;
 - to enable as many people as possible living and working in Scotland to contribute to the success of the Summit, have their say on the agenda topics, and learn and benefit from it, and to provide easily accessible factual information about all aspects of the Summit tailored to different audiences.
5. These are **supported by the City of Edinburgh Council**, particularly the importance of raising awareness of the issues and encouraging a wider public debate on them. The principal means of achieving this is through a programme of G8 related special projects and events aimed at the general public and, particularly, young people. The programme is a mix of events along the lines of previous programmes related to major national or international events in Edinburgh, such as Holocaust Memorial Day and the Commonwealth Heads of

Government Meeting. The events will be presented in a variety of venues during the 2-3 weeks immediately ahead of the G8. A brief description of the main elements is set out below.

- **J8 Summit** In October last year, the Prime Minister launched the J8 Global Citizen Programme for secondary schools across the UK. With the support of the FCO and the DfES, it will culminate in the J8 Summit in Edinburgh. This will involve two winning teams from each of England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. In addition a number of young people will attend from each of the other G8 states and from African countries. A J8 Communiqué, agreed by all participating schools, will be sent to the G8 leaders.
Venue: Scottish Parliament Date: 3-5 July
- **Global Climate Change Project** A number of primary schools are working with materials provided by Friends of the Earth and other agencies to study global warming and climate change. School children will work with an artist to create a model of Edinburgh under water. The resultant works will be exhibited publicly.
Venue: tbc Date: May-June
- **Child Soldiers Project** A number of secondary schools are working with materials provided by UNICEF, Save the Children and others to study child soldiers and the rights of the child. Pupils will bring in toy weapons and work with an artist to create a tree of weapons. The resultant works will be displayed publicly.
Venue: tbc Date: May-June
- **"Looking Both Ways"** An important contemporary art exhibition from the Museum of African Art in New York which explores the increasing globalisation of the African Diaspora. The exhibition presents recent work about the interplay between their backgrounds and their new environments using an array of styles and media, ranging from video, sculpture, installation art and performance art to painting, photography and works on paper.
Venue: City Arts Centre Date: 18 June - 10 September
- **Visual arts workshops for schools** Primary and secondary school pupils will work with an artist to create new work based on the theme of the exhibition. The resultant works will be displayed at the City Arts Centre.
Venue: City Arts Centre Date: 20-25 June
- **"The Forgotten Women"** Photography exhibition from Fiona Lloyd Davies (Guardian Films) telling picture stories of women in the Congo.
Venue and dates tbc
- **"The Edinburgh Africa Conversations"** In association with Africawomen, this is a series of public lectures on G8 issues by prominent contributors, including:

Author, Alexander McCall-Smith, 'Finding a place for orphans'

Venue, National Museum of Scotland Date 15 June Time 7.30-8.30

Lawyer, Hauwa Ibrahim, 'Women and Human Rights in Africa'
Venue, Edinburgh University Playfair Library Date 21 June Time 7.00-8.00

Author, Jonathan Falla, 'Out of control in Darfur' Venue, City Chambers Date 29
June Time 7.00-8.00

Businessman, Tom Hunter - details tbc

Chief Executive of Pfizer - details tbc

- **Edinburgh-South Africa School Exchange** 10 young people from James Gillespie's High School travelled to Zwelibanzi High School, in the Umlazi Township, Durban, as part of an ongoing exchange programme. This relates to "Diversecity" (see below).
Date: April
- **"Truth and reconciliation"** A seminar for young people, focusing on young people and Africa with a particular emphasis on confronting genocide. To include theatre production - using music, drama and dance - from Rwandan youth group telling the story of the genocide through the eyes of a child. Also looks at Rwanda eleven years on and the use of theatre in the reconciliation process. Event will also include key speakers on Darfur and 'Ten years of democracy' with young people from South Africa reflecting over the last decade and sharing their hopes and aspirations for the future.
Venue: Traverse Theatre, Date: 20 June
- **"Africa Night"** An evening of vibrant Scottish and African music, poetry and visual art involving pupils at Drummond Community High School, Edinburgh and young people from Rwanda and South Africa.
Venue: Drummond Community High School Date 21 June Time 7.30-9.30
- **"Making Poverty History"** Edinburgh's Active Citizenship Group will hold a public seminar on the subject of world poverty.
Venue: tbc Date 22 June Time tbc
- **"Women in Africa"** In association with Africawoman, this is a one day conference focusing on the issues, needs and solutions of women in Africa. Keynote speakers to include Hauwa Ibrahim - lawyer who successfully defended Amina Lawal in Nigeria and prevented her from being stoned to death. Journalist and broadcaster Lesley Riddoch chairing event.
Venue: The Hub Date: 23 June Time, 10am-4.30pm
- **"Diversecity"** An evening of dance, music, drama and media presentation celebrating African/Scottish cultural diversity involving young people from Edinburgh, Rwanda and South Africa.
Venue: James Gillespie's High School Date 23 June Time 7.30-9.30
- **"Film Africa"** Special screening of films and documentaries at the Edinburgh Filmhouse as part of an African week, supported by Q & A sessions with key speakers.

Venue: Filmhouse Date 3-9 July

- **"Peaceful Protest"** Photography exhibition based on the Dalai Lama's teachings regarding non-violent protest and resistance.

Details tbc

- **"Black Sun Over Genoa"** A Theatre Workshop production telling the story behind the anti-G8 demonstrations in Genoa 2001. Based on documentary accounts, this powerful play portrays the hope, the passion, the dedication of the protestors in the face of overwhelming opposition and reveals the tragedy of a young man who made the ultimate sacrifice for his belief in a better world. This community production includes a mass choir, carnival style 'tactical frivolity', haunting film footage and a huge cast of people from all ages and backgrounds.

Venue: Festival Theatre, Edinburgh Date: 30 June, 1 & 2 July, 7.30pm

- **Fairtrade Gathering and World Music Concert** A Fair Trade contribution to the Make Poverty History campaign. The event will have speakers including Bianca Jagger talking about justice and fair trade. Musicians from around the world include fourteen strong Cuban band Candido Gabre and many more.

Venue: Usher Hall Date: 1 July Time tbc

6. The programme has been created by the City of Edinburgh Council with the active support of a number of organisations but particularly the Scottish Executive and Africawoman.