

# Economy Committee

10am, Friday, 13 February 2015

## External Relations Update

<b>Item number</b>	7.9
<b>Report number</b>	
<b>Executive/routine</b>	
<b>Wards</b>	All

### Executive summary

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The report provides an update on the work of the External Relations team, including the newly appointed External Funding officers. The report advises the Committee of recent and forthcoming projects and activities in relation to the European and International Strategy, the new External Funding Strategy and Parliamentary Briefings.

This update specifically covers the work undertaken in relation to:

- Recent Parliamentary Briefings;
- Twin and partner city linkages, specifically Munich, Krakow, Dunedin and Florence;
- The International Visits Management Scheme;
- The City of Edinburgh Council Smart Cities Commitment to the European Commission;
- Completion of the EU LEONARDO officer exchange programme;
- EUROCITIES Annual General Meeting and Conference;
- EU and other bids for finance; and the first three months of the External Funding initiative.

### Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	<a href="#">P15, P16, P28, P30, P31</a>
<b>Council outcomes</b>	<a href="#">C07, C08, C09, CO25, CO26</a>
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<a href="#">SO1</a>

## External Relations Update

### Recommendations

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The Committee is asked to:

1. Note the progress being made by the External Relations team in delivering on the Council's European and International Strategy and in promoting the city's international profile and programme of visits, partner city projects, events and international agreements.
2. Note the remit of the newly appointed External Funding officers to work with Council departments to bid for external funding.
3. Note and endorse the response to the European and External Relations Committee Parliamentary inquiry 'Connecting Scotland: how Scotland can engage most effectively in a globalising world'.

### Background

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- 2.1 The External Relations team works across the city with partners on EU and international affairs and on efforts to access EU and other sources of funding. Approaches to host international delegations, participate in EU and international initiatives and to jointly access funding are filtered by the team on a daily basis in consultation with service areas across the Council to identify appropriate fit with strategic objectives.
- 2.2 This report provides an update on a range of activities which profile the Council and the city internationally, position the Council in front of opportunities to access funds and exchange good practice, and enhance strategic relationships from which the city can benefit across service areas.

### Main report

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#### Parliamentary Liaison

- 3.1 The briefing in October 2014 focused on the Draft Council Budget, BOLD projects and City Deal. Further briefs are planned for 2015 in January, May and September.
- 3.2 A response was submitted to the Scottish Parliament European and External Relations Committee on 30 January for the enquiry 'Connecting Scotland: how

Scotland can engage most effectively in a globalising world'. The consultation response emphasised the synergies between strategic international and inward investment strategies and the intention to continue to work with the Scottish Government, Scottish Parliament and national agencies as part of a Team Scotland approach. The response is contained in Appendix 1.

### **Building Geographical Connections**

- 3.3 As previously reported to Committee, the External Relations team's key objectives are to help sustain the development of the city and enhance its role as a capital city.

#### **China**

- 3.4 The External Relations team works closely with China, and has a specific role in underpinning the work to deliver the Memorandum of Understanding on creative industries with Shenzhen.
- 3.5 As detailed in the Investor Support report to this Committee, Shenzhen has been identified as a target market for investment into Edinburgh's creative industry and property development. Shenzhen has an established Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Scottish Government (July 2012) with the aim of delivering benefits in trade, science, culture, education and tourism.
- 3.6 In addition to supporting related secondments from Shenzhen, the team has hosted the Shenzhen Municipal People's Congress. The visit included a visit to the Scottish Parliament and a series of presentations on Edinburgh's engagement in China and creative industries sector, hosted by the Convener of the Economy.
- 3.7 In 2015 Edinburgh and Xi'an will mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the twinning link and work is underway on a programme of activities which will also increase our connections with China.

#### **Twin and Partner Cities**

- 3.8 External Relations works with Edinburgh's twin and partner cities to build legacies for the future in terms of mutual interests in economic and cultural diplomacy.
- 3.9 The Partner Cities' Working Group led by the Lord Provost and Councillors Lewis and Ross has identified and overseen a number of projects with **Munich** (1954), **Krakow** (1995), **Florence** (1964/65) and **Dunedin** (1974) to mark anniversaries of the links during 2014 and 2015.
- 3.10 Edinburgh's international links play a significant role in offering the Council access to shared learning and the exchange of good practice in service delivery and city development. These relationships are also key within international associations such as EUROCITIES and UNESCO Creative Cities / City of Literature / World Heritage networks and the international Festivals

community. Equally, they offer Edinburgh international profiling opportunities, economic and cultural benefits, and access to EU funding.

### **Munich**

- 3.11 The Depute Lord Provost attended Munich's 'Sister City Conference' in June, hosted by the Lord Mayor. In addition to profiling Edinburgh alongside Munich's other twin cities to senior representatives of the Council, diplomatic, cultural and business sectors, new links were fostered in economic development, including life sciences, energy services, and the tech sector. Specific investment activity is detailed in the Investor Support report to the Committee.

### **Krakow**

- 3.12 In October the Lord Provost visited Krakow at the Mayor's invitation to launch the annual Conrad literary festival and to re-sign the partnership agreement with Krakow for a further five years. This is the fourth time that the agreement has been re-signed and coincided with Krakow's first anniversary of gaining the UNESCO City of Literature designation. The re-signing was marked by the launch of a photography exhibition in Krakow celebrating the similarities between the two cities. The exhibition was curated with the Scottish Polish Cultural Association and also shown in Edinburgh throughout September. Future projects for collaboration with Krakow include reciprocal workshops on planning and heritage on World Heritage Day on 18 April.

### **Florence**

- 3.13 To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the twinning with Florence several reciprocal projects are currently in development for 2015 with cultural, arts and tourism themes. These projects are being supported by sponsors and partners across both cities including the Italian Consulate in Edinburgh, the British Institute in Florence, the Italian Cultural Institute and arts organisations in Edinburgh and Florence. It is also hoped that the Mayor of Florence will join the Lord Provost in August for the opening of the Festival in Edinburgh.

### **Dunedin**

- 3.14 In August the Mayor of Dunedin, accompanied by the Councillor for twin cities, visited Edinburgh as part of the Momentum delegate programme run by Festivals Edinburgh. They were hosted by the Lord Provost in honour of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the twinning between Edinburgh and Dunedin. In December it was announced that Dunedin was among four new Cities of Literature to be awarded the designation from UNESCO. The Edinburgh City of Literature office had been working with Dunedin to develop its application.
- 3.15 External Relations works in partnership with the UNESCO City of Literature office in Edinburgh with the joint objective of profiling the city internationally. External Relations is able to make use of the Creative Cities network as a link to other cities of strategic importance.

- 3.16 The UNESCO World Heritage designation that Edinburgh holds is also of strategic importance in maintaining and building relationships with other cities internationally. Krakow, Dunedin and Florence are three such cities that Edinburgh has existing partnership links with and who share the UNESCO designation. Additionally, Barcelona has recently approached Edinburgh regarding potential areas for cooperation, specifically identifying shared objectives that both cities share in their position as heritage cities.

### **Town and Gown**

- 3.17 In September a new [film](#) was produced to welcome international students to the city. Featuring a welcome to the city from the Lord Provost, the film promotes Edinburgh as a destination for study by showcasing its quality of life and the standard and range of teaching available. The short film was made in partnership with Edinburgh's four universities through our Town and Gown forum.
- 3.18 The film will be used by universities to recruit students abroad. It was promoted in the Middle East during the Abu Dhabi Global Summit for Young Entrepreneurs which was hosted by the Abu Dhabi University in December. This event was run by ['We are the Future'](#), an initiative which started in Edinburgh which hosts similar events in Scotland and the US. The film has been viewed over 3,200 times on YouTube in countries including the USA, Brazil and India and is promoted by the universities' international offices and campuses.
- 3.19 As part of External Relations' commitment to building opportunities for international academics and fellowships, a reception was held in August for the President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh which was attended by Presidents from the International Academies of Art and Science in Krakow and Sweden.

### **International Visits Management Scheme (IVMS)**

- 3.20 The IVMS continues to receive many delegations from a wide range of countries. Recent examples include the German and Hungarian Ambassadors and assistance to the new Turkish Consul General in establishing the new Turkish Consulate in Edinburgh.
- 3.21 The IVMS also receives international requests to share technical expertise. Recent examples include education, zero waste strategies and health / social care. The IVMS works closely with the Scottish Government and Scottish Parliament in hosting delegations.
- 3.22 In close cooperation with the city's Consular Corps the team has also hosted a number of cultural and community events such as the Munich Lutheran Church delegation to Edinburgh and the "City Lights" Polish photography exhibition.

### **Smart Cities**

- 3.23 The City of Edinburgh Council submitted an application to the European Commission in response to an invitation for Commitments within the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Smart Cities and Communities. This invited local

authorities, private companies, academia and other stakeholders to share their existing or planned Smart City related activities at the interface of energy, transport and information and communication technologies. By calling for commitments the Commission is seeking to facilitate strategic partnerships to support knowledge exchange to help develop a dynamic market place to accelerate the roll-out of smart city technologies and services in Europe's cities. It has set up Action Clusters as working groups to identify existing smart city solutions and help bring together consortia potentially bidding for funds under the EU's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.

- 3.24 The Council submission, Appendix 2, highlights a range of existing and planned city actions which align with the EIP's smart city objectives and eligibility criteria. The commitment, which has been approved by the Commission, indicates an intention to draw together key partners, technology, innovation, assets and resources in joined-up action across energy, transport & ICT to deliver a genuinely smart world heritage city.
- 3.25 Submitting a commitment as a visible contributor to the EIP Smart Cities initiative allows the Council to position itself to gain access to future EU and other funds for 'smart city' related activities, share learning and best practice solutions and secure recognition of Edinburgh as part of a dynamic group of 'smart' European cities. The Commission accepted 370 commitments involving 3000 organisations out of 441 commitments received. The list of commitments is on the European Commission's [website](#).

#### **EU LEONARDO Project Completion**

- 3.26 The fully funded LEONARDO officer exchange programme with Munich has received very positive feedback from the EU evaluators. The programme provided tailored two-week work placements for six staff with appropriate service areas in Munich City Council's Economic Development Department. These included economic policy, sustainable development, economic promotion, inward investment, employability and skills, business support and European funding. Participants gained significant personal and professional development benefits including broadened knowledge of economic development policy and practice within a wider international context, new perspectives from comparing approaches and working methods, and German language and international communication skills. In addition the Council has hosted a series of incoming Leonardo funded placements for colleagues from Munich City Council in service areas including Business Gateway, Enterprise and Innovation, External Relations, Employability and Skills, Investor Support and Legal Services.
- 3.27 The project has strengthened the twin city partnership between Edinburgh and Munich, building new and closer connections between the cities and opening up further opportunities for economic collaboration.

## **Eurocities**

- 3.28 Edinburgh has been a member of the Eurocities network since 1991 and has reaped significant benefits in terms of international profile, policy development, access to EU funding, good practice exchange, peer learning and benchmarking with other European cities. During this period EUROCITIES has established itself as a key platform for over 130 of Europe's largest cities. Councillor Ross and Councillor Hinds represented the Council at the annual Eurocities AGM and Conference in Munich on 5-7 November 2014. The theme of the conference was 'energising cities - energy intelligent cities of the future'.
- 3.29 Attendance provided opportunities to:
- review the past year's performance of the network and approve the work programme for 2015;
  - vote in the elections for the President, Vice-President and executive committee members of the association;
  - get an update on structural and policy changes to the Eurocities organisation and meet Anna Lisa Boni, the recently appointed EUROCITIES Secretary-General;
  - participate in the private political session when senior city politicians met to share knowledge and solutions to common problems encountered by cities around sustainable growth and employment, social inclusion, and smart mobility;
  - hear during the mayors debate about the challenges European mayors face in trying to make their cities energy intelligent;
  - connect with other European cities, including existing partner cities such as Munich, and making contact with prospective city partners for collaborative project proposals;
  - learn about good practice urban energy and mobility initiatives through workshops, speednetworking and an exhibition showcasing projects and ideas for energy intelligent cities;
  - participate in an inspirational workshop hosted by Stadtwerke Munich (SWM), the city's utility company, which included visiting two hydropower plants on the River Isar in central Munich and learning about the city's renewable energies strategy to provide the whole city with green electricity by 2025.
- 3.30 The Mayor of Nantes, Johanna Rolland, was elected as the new President of EUROCITIES. The cities of Birmingham, Bratislava, Milan and Rotterdam were elected to the executive committee 2015 and Reykjavik and Cardiff were approved and welcomed as new members. Information was circulated on the next EUROCITIES AGM that will take place in Malmo and Copenhagen on 4-6 November 2015 addressing the theme of quality of life and growth. Cities were invited to consider bidding to host the next annual meeting. Preliminary work has been undertaken to prepare a bid for Edinburgh to host the EUROCITIES 2017 annual meeting by the September deadline.

- 3.31 Edinburgh was one of nine cities which succeeded in making the shortlist for the EUROCITIES Awards which recognise exceptional initiatives by cities which improve the quality of life for citizens. The Lothian Buses eco-buses project was profiled during the awards ceremony alongside the other shortlisted projects delivering energy intelligent solutions. The three winning cities were: Liverpool, Vilnius and Malaga.
- 3.32 A refreshed plan for Council engagement within the network is proposed (attached as Appendix 3) which will further harness the opportunities from membership, supporting Council objectives and raising Edinburgh's international competitive profile alongside other large European cities.

### **EU Bid Development**

- 3.33 External Relations is working on the development of a number of EU bids in the areas of employability, social inclusion, regional development, youth engagement and training, the creative sector, sustainable development and ICT.
- 3.34 The Employability Pipeline application for the European Social Fund (ESF) programme for 2014 – 20 was submitted with the support of External Relations to the Scottish Government on 23 January. A further application will be submitted by 9 March for the Enhanced Pipeline.
- 3.35 The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) programme for the period 2014-2020 is currently being rolled out and further details are awaited from the Scottish Government. Discussions are currently taking place with the Scottish Government and partners regarding potential applications for ERDF grant funding to support Business Gateway, low carbon, smart city and green infrastructure projects.
- 3.36 The ERASMUS+ programme supports transnational partnerships among education, training and youth institutions to foster cooperation and bridge the worlds of education and work in order to tackle the skills gap faced in Europe. External Relations is working with Children and Families to develop a project proposal with European Partners focusing on the participation of young people in decision-making. A bid will be submitted for the 4 February call.
- 3.37 External Relations is providing support to the Council's Enterprise and Innovation and Culture teams in the development of a funding bid to the Creative Europe programme to promote entrepreneurship in the cultural industries. The deadline for applications is October 2015 and the project has a maximum budget of 2 million euro to be split between 6 partner cities.
- 3.38 External Relations is supporting development of a potential bid to the EU Horizon 2020 Smart Cities programme for the May 2015 funding call deadline. The project proposal would pilot a range of actions addressing the particular challenges of integrating sustainable smart city attributes into the historic urban fabric of cities with UNESCO World Heritage status. It is anticipated that the bid, which is at an early stage of development, would be worth over £1million to the Council. All costs would be funded at 100%.

## **External Funding Team**

- 3.39 As part of the 'Spend to Save initiative', two External Funding Officers were appointed in October 2014 to lever in additional resources for Council strategic priorities and projects.
- 3.40 In addition to the existing work carried out on EU Funding within External Relations, the new team resource will look at a wide range of funding options, including Lottery Funding, sources of funding from the Scottish and UK Governments, philanthropic and charitable organisations/ grant making bodies. The team would also dovetail into workstreams on corporate social responsibility.
- 3.41 As with the existing EU funding service, the team work Council wide to support and co-ordinate funding bids, ensuring compatibility with eligible funds. The new External Funding Group can now also oversee EU bids. An update report on this new External Funding Initiative was submitted to the Finance and Resources Committee on 3 February.

## **Measures of success**

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- 4.1 As there are no specific Capital Coalition Pledges and Council Outcomes for External Relations, the team monitors its contribution to a wide range of related pledges and outcomes. Examples for this current report are given in the Links section below.

## **Financial impact**

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- 5.1 Any financial implications resulting from these activities will be met by the existing External Relations budget. Sponsorship and contributions by other Departments, local and international partners are continuously explored.

## **Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 The actions and outputs described in this report adhere to the risk compliance policy and governance arrangements. In addition the recommendations in the report do not impact on any existing policies of the Council.

## Equalities impact

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- 7.1 The Council's European and International Strategy, External Funding Strategy and Parliamentary activity supports the Council's commitment to equal opportunities.

## Sustainability impact

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- 8.1 There are no impacts on carbon, adaption to climate change and sustainable development arising directly from this report. Much of the work done by the External Relations team supports the Council's Sustainability Strategy in terms of drawing on EU funds and sharing international good practice in service delivery and city development.
- 8.2 Modern technology is utilised wherever possible in international liaison and all travel is in accordance with the Council's Sustainable Travel Plan.

## Consultation and engagement

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- 9.1 The External Relations team engages across the Council and with a wide range of players in the city of a consultative basis. This includes a Team Edinburgh / Team Scotland approach linking closely to the Consular Corps, the Scottish Government, the Chamber of Commerce the Parliaments, the Higher and Further Education Sectors, Festivals Edinburgh and Marketing Edinburgh.

## Background reading / external references

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### **Greg Ward**

Director of Economic Development

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	<p><b>P15</b> - Work with public organisations, the private sector and social enterprise to promote Edinburgh to investors</p> <p><b>P16</b> - Examine ways to source new funding to support small businesses</p> <p><b>P28</b> - Further strengthen our links with the business community by developing and implementing strategies to promote and protect the economic well being of the city</p> <p><b>P30</b> - Continue to maintain a sound financial position including long-term financial planning</p> <p><b>P31</b> - Maintain our City's reputation as the cultural capital of the world by continuing to support and invest in our cultural infrastructure</p>
<b>Council outcomes</b>	<p><b>CO7</b>- Edinburgh draws new investment in development and regeneration</p> <p><b>CO8</b> – Edinburgh's economy creates and sustains job opportunities</p> <p><b>CO9</b> – Edinburgh residents are able to access job opportunities</p> <p><b>CO25</b> – The Council has efficient and effective services that deliver on objectives</p> <p><b>CO26</b> - The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnership to improve services and deliver on agreed objectives</p>
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<p><b>SO1</b>- Edinburgh's economy delivers increased investment, jobs and opportunities for all</p>
<b>Appendices</b>	<p><b>Appendix 1</b> Response to European and External Relations Committee Parliamentary inquiry 'Connecting Scotland: how Scotland can engage most effectively in a globalising world'</p> <p><b>Appendix 2</b> Smart Cities Commitment</p> <p><b>Appendix 3</b> Eurocities Engagement Strategy</p>



## Appendix 1

### European and External Relations Committee Consultation

#### Connecting Scotland – how the Scottish Government and its agencies engage internationally

##### Comments from The City of Edinburgh Council

#### 1. Is there a clear, coherent and well-resourced strategy for European and international engagement within the Scottish Government and its agencies?

Similar to comments made by The City of Edinburgh Council in 2010, there is still scope for the national agencies engaged in international promotion to work more closely together, to draw in more local city level engagement and to develop closer working on longer term initiatives. Edinburgh and the other Scottish cities could contribute more to the Scottish Government's international strategies through their relationships with other cities in the world, such as formal partner and twinning arrangements, civic diplomatic relations and events, and valuable educational linkages and direct flight routes. An accord with the Scottish Government in recognition of key strategic linkages would allow the cities to draw on the support of the national agencies, would dramatically increase Scotland's connectivity with the rest of the world and help build and secure long term relationships. This would be particularly valued by the emerging economies, would help secure future talent and skills and position Scotland more effectively in terms of attracting international investment..

Good examples of international work recently include the Commonwealth Games and Legacy and the Ryder Cup. Both demonstrated Scotland's position on the international stage and also galvanised collaboration opportunities. There continue to be excellent examples of working together on incoming international delegations and engagement with the Consular Corps, and delegations such as the ASEAN and Arab Ambassadors. In 2010 we noted that there were fewer examples of practical cooperation with Edinburgh on overseas projects and outward visits. However, our 2013 / 2014 MOU and China Showcase were supported fully at national level. In addition, in terms of formulating strategy, the consultation event by the Scottish Government on links with China was very helpful. Future opportunities to attend similar events on other geographies would be welcomed. There is still a need to develop closer working on long term initiatives, for example the thematic years. It would be beneficial if local authorities were more engaged in the process to understand how they can link to these initiatives – local projects can make a valuable contribution to such year- long themes. It was difficult to engage in the 2015 Year of Food and Drink and we look forward to consultation in advance of future focus years, in particular the 2016 Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design and the 2017 Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology.

**2. What has the Scottish Government’s international strategy achieved since its refresh in October 2012, and what has the EU Action Plan achieved since it was first published in 2009? Has the international strategy enabled “Scotland to flourish on the international stage, thus increasing economic growth for Scotland”?**

In our work with China the level of engagement with the Scottish Government and Ministers is well remarked upon. Similarly, the Gulf also has a high level Ministerial profile. Relations with Foreign Embassies are also very strong and Ministers continue to be very well engaged on international matters. Ministerial visits can play a very important role in underpinning the inward investment agenda and in other areas, such as attracting talent. We would welcome further engagement by Ministers alongside Skills Development Scotland to ensure the right skills capture to meet the demands of employers and investors. Cultural diplomacy is strong and very much welcomed, exemplified well in terms of support for our Festivals, as is support for international institutes and associations such as the Scotland Asia Institute and the Confucius Institute. Most of our partners in the European stage are with cities and there is always the opportunity, particularly within European bids and partnerships, to exchange experience and ensure information flow with Ministers engaged in European geographies.

**3. What can be learnt from the approaches of other sub-state governments? In particular, how do the EU and international offices of other sub-state governments operate and what tangible outcomes do they achieve?**

The European network, EUROCITIES, is an excellent and active resource for the exchange of good practice on a city level and for establishing city partnerships to draw on EU funds

Elaine Ballantyne  
Head of External Relations and Investor Support  
The City of Edinburgh Council  
23 January 2015

## Invitation for Commitments

### 1. Please provide your contact details

**Name of Lead Organisation**

City of Edinburgh Council

**First name**

Elaine

**Surname**

Ballantyne

**Position**

Head of External Relations and Investor Support

**Type of Lead Organisation**

Public authority - Local / city level

**Existing Membership of Lead Organisation in EU Initiatives**

Green Digital Charter

**Contact e-mail address**

elaine.ballantyne@edinburgh.gov.uk

**Number of consortium members**

Non-lead organisations in the consortium (names only)

**Commitment main sector(s)**

Energy, Transport & Mobility, ICT

**Main commitment location**

Edinburgh EH8 8BG (United Kingdom)

Additional location(s)

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**2. Please describe the organisations in the consortium and their core activities; please put special emphasis on the lead organisation.**

Optionally, you may also provide quantitative data on your organisation such as annual turnover or number of staff.

Edinburgh is a capital city with a population of 495,360 predicted to grow to 600,000 by 2035. The City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) provides key public services including education, housing, social work, planning, environment, economic development, transport, culture and leisure. CEC is the second largest council in Scotland employing around 15,000 staff.

CEC's ICT and Digital strategy Empowering Edinburgh is at the heart of transformational change to support Edinburgh becoming a sustainable smart city. An

ICT Solutions team is transforming the way it provides services to staff, communities, businesses, citizens & partners through the use of ICT, improving access to information, efficiency & reduced costs. CEC leads a Connected Capital Wireless Concession programme & as a member of the Open Data Institute has already tested the concept of opening up and sharing data to find new solutions to city issues.

Sustainable Edinburgh 2020 is CEC's vision for a low carbon, resource efficient city. CEC has pledged to reduce carbon emissions by 42% by 2020 & a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) produced by the Sustainable Economy Team provides a framework for all energy activities in the city.

CEC's Transport 2030 Vision also supports the broad objectives and aspirations of the city for the environment, social inclusion, connectivity, health and economy.

CEC leads the Open Innovation (OI) programme which brings together a transnational partnership to transform the way organisations work together to create new opportunities and put innovation at the forefront. The quadruple helix University-Industry-Government-Society model used by OI is building a strong multi-sector innovation partnership including involvement by city residents. CEC is owner of each of these strategies and each are underpinned by the ICT&D strategy.

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**3. To which focus area do you wish to commit to contribute? Please select a primary affiliation and mark further areas that you believe to be evidently significant. Please refer to the [Strategic Implementation Plan](#) as well as the [Operational Implementation Plan](#) for details on each focus area.**

Primary

Integrated Infrastructures and Processes across Energy, ICT, and Transport

Additional

Sustainable Urban Mobility, Sustainable Districts and Built Environment, Citizen Focus, Integrated Planning and Management, Knowledge Sharing, Open Data Governance, Business Models, Procurement and Funding

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**4. Please provide a succinct description of your proposed commitment (project/action). If relevant, please refer to the potential action(s) in the [Operational Implementation Plan](#) that your Commitment will contribute to.**

Edinburgh already embraces the key dimensions of a Smart City but this lacks overall coordination. The core commitment is to devise a methodology to identify missing elements & draw everything together into a unified coherent & comprehensive strategy which is acceptable in an historic World Heritage townscape. Smart Cities is a major strategic agenda for the Council. The Enlightened Capital Commitment is to align those city initiatives and projects with the assets, resources and partners to deliver a genuinely smart World Heritage City. This is in line with the Europe2020 policies for smart, inclusive & sustainable growth. CEC recognises the EIP objectives catalysing sustainable economic development, resilience and a high quality of life. CEC will

deliver smart energy, mobility & ICT actions aligned to city priorities across 4 key dimensions:

Sustainability - including a sustainable economy underpinned by Sustainable Edinburgh 2020 & CEC's SEAP, a commitment overall to meet and exceed the EU objective of a 20% reduction in CO2 emissions through increased energy efficiency & development of renewable energy sources

Resilience – CEC will enhance & develop its resilience plan as part of this commitment, making communities & systems better prepared to withstand adverse events & enhancing city competitiveness

Citizen involvement – CEC will maintain a citizen centric approach through stakeholder & community engagement improving quality of life & service delivery

Placemaking & urban design – this is paramount in a UNESCO World Heritage City as the quality environment generates considerable tourist spend as well as attracting investors. Past interventions for achieving new development to create quality townscapes & the “conservation areas of tomorrow” will be explored & green exemplar sites developed.

Edinburgh has cut its carbon emissions by 15% since 2005 while increasing jobs in line with its economy strategy. The city's energy policies are underpinned by the SEAP where CEC is committed to reducing carbon emissions by 42% by 2020. Feasibility investigation is underway on a city Energy Service Company (ESCo) to facilitate innovative ways of attracting private finance & retrofitting existing buildings. The challenge of retrofitting acceptably into a historic World Heritage city fabric will be a particular focus

A key transport challenge is road traffic congestion which impacts on business resilience & air quality. The Transport 2030 Vision will work towards emission free public transport & an accessible & sustainable city that is smart, efficient, inclusive & integrated

CEC is committed to developing its open data approach, in partnership with the Open Data community in the UK and Europe, which has generated innovative solutions to city issues. CEC's outcome rather than technology driven ICT/Digital programme focuses on customer & business drivers including development of a citizen account where citizens can track their interactions with the Council

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**5. Please explain in which way your proposed commitment meets the principles and criteria of the EIP. Please refer to the 'Invitation for Commitment' for details on each criterion.**

Engagement

This commitment will empower the city to be proactive in harnessing key partners, stakeholders, technology, innovation & resources in joined-up concerted action across energy, transport & ICT to make the transition to a genuinely smart world heritage city. The actions will connect smart city assets & initiatives in a city-wide system transcending sectoral & governance boundaries to deploy intelligent and resource efficient smart city solutions. It will provide a springboard to generate innovation &

deliver improved quality of life, environmental footprint, citizen services, economic investment, growth & jobs. A specific challenge will be how to integrate smart city attributes into a historic city in a sensitive way without destroying the quality of the environment & cultural heritage which attracts people to the city. Implementation will use open data principles of fostering innovation, user driven, open by default, usable by all and transparency & information shared with stakeholders.

### Inclusiveness and Partnership

CEC will deliver smart city commitments to citizens via public/private partnerships/integrated actions in ICT,energy,mobility,tailored to find critical solutions,save costs,pool resources.Our EU funded Open Innovation OI partnership is a model for engaging in a virtuous innovation circle.CEC leads via its Member Officer Working Group on Carbon Climate&Sustainability & consults via the Edinburgh Sustainable Development Partnership&Transport Forum.CEC's ICT Solutions Team partners the OI Institute & the School of Informatics.The Edinburgh Apps & Connected Capital Wireless projects are people driven.The Sustainable Economy team champions smart/green businesses & placemaking/urban design.The Edinburgh Business Forum provides a platform for future economic competitiveness with CEC leading an initiative to unite tech companies across sectors & capture innovations.Partners include:Edinb World Heritage,Edinb Centre for Carbon Innovation, Scottish Power Energy,Universities,Festivals Edinburgh

Is the commitment potentially open to additional partners and if so, in which priority area (please tick the relevant options)?

- Sustainable Urban Mobility
- Sustainable Districts and Built Environment
- Integrated Infrastructures and Processes across Energy, ICT, and Transport
- Citizen Focus
- Integrated Planning and Management
- Knowledge Sharing
- Open Data Governance
- Business Models, Procurement and Funding

### Delivery

City-wide interlinked smart energy/mobility/ICT actions will be delivered across Sustainability, Resilience, Citizen involvement, Placemaking & Urban Design in 2014-2016, incl: Exemplar energy efficiency projects: Bioquarter district heating, local energy pilots (geothermic/wind power/solar); hydro schemes, retrofitting historic building stock & public buildings. Address fuel poverty via CHP public housing development; City EScO, energy-from-waste plant, upgraded smart energy grid; Traffic control/travel information measures; Urban Traffic Control technologies, integrated ticketing, intelligent speed adaptation; Low carbon transport: hybrid buses, trialling hydrogen fuel-cell power, electric vehicle charging points, newly-opened tram line review. Smart low-energy street lighting & signal systems; Connected Capital connection vouchers for SMEs, incubation demonstrator, wi-fi on street, in public buildings/transport. Citizen account, Open data platform; Smart Tourist & retailer apps; digital access

**6. Please provide details on how you intend to participate in possible Action Cluster(s), which could be set up for the focus area(s) of your primary and/or additional affiliation.**

The City of Edinburgh is seeking to collaborate with European lighthouse and follower cities and academic, community and business partners to explore and test innovative and practical solutions to the challenges which arise when Smart City aspirations (integrating energy, transport and ITC) are overlaid on a historic city fabric. Participation will afford valuable opportunities to access know-how, expertise, tools, new ideas and technological solutions to common challenges with city peers beyond local, sectoral and national boundaries that will help to accelerate the design, development, procurement and deployment of successful transferable smart city concepts and solutions which can be beneficially replicated in other cities. CEC is keen to learn from leading Smart Cities and is willing to share our expertise in relevant fields and to contribute to pilot and demonstration actions, development of methodologies, data collection and sharing of results.

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**7. Do you wish to play an active role in facilitating the organisation of a possible Action Cluster(s)?**

Yes.

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## Appendix 3 – Eurocities Engagement Plan

### EUROCITIES ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Date/ Location	Event/Activity	Notes	Council Represent- ation / Engagem- ent
March/April	Announcement of call for bids from member cities to host Eurocities 2017 annual meeting	Notified Eurocities of intention to submit bid. Draft outline prepared.	√
March Edinburgh	Meeting with new Secretary General of Eurocities	Host meeting in Edinburgh, introduce Anna Lisa Boni to key colleagues & city priorities and challenges.	√
11-13 March Osmangazi, Turkey	<b>Eurocities Social Affairs Forum</b> meeting. Topic: adapting services to demographic change in cities. Includes private political session on migration, refugees and asylum.	Priorities: inclusion & employment of young people, tackling poverty & joblessness, social cohesion in age of austerity. Includes working groups on 13 March (education, employment, health inequalities, homelessness, housing, migration & integration and smart social inclusion).	
25-27 March Porto	<b>Eurocities Environment Forum</b> meeting	Priorities: sustainable resource efficient economy, healthy environment and climate change. Includes working groups on Air Quality, Climate Change, Energy Efficiency, circular economy, clean cities, waste, green areas and biodiversity, greening the local economy.	√
25-27 March Turin	<b>Eurocities Culture Forum</b> meeting. Focus: public art improving creativity, innovation, production & audience in Europe	Priorities: new forms of cultural governance, connecting to wider urban agenda, measuring value of culture. Working groups include cultural & creative industries, access to culture, young people, culture & inclusion, activator of social innovation.	
April Rennes or Eindhoven	<b>Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum</b> meeting.	ICT, research and the digital agenda. Priorities: Smart citizens, co-creation for innovation, transparency & business, IT development for smart governance. Includes working groups on Smart Cities, Open Data, e-Inclusion, Cybersecurity.	√
13-15 April	<b>Eurocities Mobility Forum</b> Meeting	Priorities: sustainable urban mobility plans, financing and new business	√

Sofia		models for urban mobility, smart, connected and inclusive urban mobility. Includes working groups on road safety, urban mobility plans, transport & energy efficiency, smart city logistics and fleet management, barrier-free city.	
15-17 April Genoa	<b>Eurocities Economic Development Forum Meeting</b>	Includes working groups on innovation, international economic development, metropolitan areas, city branding, employment & entrepreneurship, integrated urban development, cohesion policy & structural funds.	
21-22 May Prague	<b>Eurocities Cooperation Platform:</b> Annual meeting for cities' European contact officers	Demonstrate visible commitment to the network, connect with cities, gain overview of overview of activities across the various Eurocities fora, identify opportunities for joint projects and inform development of AGM bid.	√
End May	<b>Deadline: Eurocities Awards.</b> Topic: Quality of Life & Growth	Identify Edinburgh good practice initiatives for submission by May deadline.	√
3-5 June Brussels	<b>Eurocities Environment Forum</b> meeting	Coincides with EU Green Week	√
17-19 June Lisbon	<b>Eurocities Social Affairs Forum Conference:</b> Together towards barrier-free cities in Europe	Includes meeting of Mobility Forum Barrier Free working group	
September	Deadline: Submission of <b>bid to host Eurocities 2017 annual meeting</b>		√
Sep/Oct	Deadline for applications for Chair/Vice Chairs of Forums		
30 Sep – 2 Nov	<b>Eurocities Culture Forum</b> meeting Ljubljana		
4-6 Nov Malmo & Copenhagen	<b>Eurocities 2015 Annual Meeting</b>	Topic: Quality of Life & Growth	√

## **Eurocities Forums and Working Groups**

Eurocities work is carried out within six thematic policy forums addressing issues which impact on cities: Culture, Economic Development, Environment, Knowledge Society, Mobility and Social Affairs. Forums are open to all member cities to promote exchange of knowledge and experience and meet two to three times a year. They are chaired by an elected member who represents the Forum and EUROCITIES at high-level European meetings and major conferences. Each forum has a number of working groups focusing on specific topics of interest which are chaired by a member city.

Practical collaboration is mostly undertaken by policy officers sharing professional know-how and experience through participation in the working groups, joint projects and events. The Forums are currently developing their work programmes for 2015, aimed at enabling member cities to make the most of the opportunities presented by the new round of EU funding programmes just getting underway.

Council representation at political and officer level will be prioritised in selected forums and working groups which support Council objectives. It is suggested that the Convenor of the Transport and Environment Committee attend forthcoming meetings of the Mobility and Environment Forums, with appropriate officer support, to assess their specific relevance and potential opportunities for Council engagement over the coming year. Further political representation is envisaged at the annual conference and AGM in Malmo and Copenhagen in November 2015. The proposed incoming visit by the Secretary General of Eurocities in the spring offers an opportunity to update and engage a wider range of service areas in the work of Eurocities.