

Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee

10am Tuesday 2 August 2016

Dean of Guild Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Committee name

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Convener Councillor Maureen Child</p>  <p>Vice-Convener Councillor Lewis Ritchie</p> 	<p>Councillor Nigel Bagshaw Councillor Mike Bridgman Councillor Ron Cairns Councillor Paul Edie Councillor Nick Gardner Councillor Joan Griffiths Councillor Allan Jackson Councillor Karen Keil Councillor Alex Lunn Councillor Mark McInnes Councillor David Walker Councillor Andrew Burns (ex officio) Councillor Frank Ross (ex officio)</p>	<p>Lesley Birrell Committee Services Tel: 0131 529 4240</p> <p>Nick Croft Corporate Policy & Strategy Manager Tel: 0131 469 3726</p> <p>David Bruce Senior Education Manager (Community Services) Tel: 0131 469 3795</p> <p>John Arthur, Council Customer Engagement Manager Tel: 0131 529 7260</p>

Recent news	Background
<p>Coffee, Cake, Connect!</p>  <p>On 25 April 2016, the Liberton Gilmerton Neighbourhood Partnership hosted its first information and awareness raising event for older residents living in the local community.</p>	<p>Further information is available from Pamela Brown, Communities and Families, South Neighbourhood Team.</p>

The event took place in the South Neighbourhood Library and organisations on the day included Living it up, Vintage Vibes, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Edinburgh Leisure, Libertus and officers from the Council's Community Safety and Libraries Services.

Over 65 people attended the event and enjoyed coffee, cake and conversation with each other and the exhibitors. The feedback received shows the event was positively welcomed and comments included: *"It was a fun day"; "A great opportunity to learn about what's available locally" and "lovely to meet new people in the area"*.

The event has provided a platform for future events for both Moredun and Gilmerton Libraries.

South Central Decides



South Central Decides took place on 30 April 2016. This was the first time in the city that different types of funding, totalling over £200,000, were allocated using a participatory budgeting approach. Funding was made up of the South Central Neighbourhood Partnership's Community Grants Fund and the Neighbourhood Environment Programme.

A total of 218 people participated in the scoring process on the day. The atmosphere was positive and attendees were able to discuss the projects with applicants and staff from the Council's Roads and Housing Property Teams.

Feedback shows the event was well received and comments from attendees included:

"Learned a lot about projects I did not know existed. Very interesting."

"I liked the interacting with each group."

"Great chance for local people to make decisions."

"Sense of how these projects matter."

Further information is available from [Margaret Campbell](#), Communities and Families, South Neighbourhood Team.

Local people voted on all of the projects, with eleven organisations securing funding from the Community Grants stream of the funding. For the Neighbourhood Environment Programme, people were asked to list projects in order of priority and the Roads and Housing Property Teams will now work through the respective lists until the funding is exhausted.

Full details of all the projects are available on the [Neighbourhood Partnership website](#).

Hawthorn Bank Community Park



The Greenferry Trust is based in South Queensferry and aims to conserve and improve the environment for the benefit of the public.

The Trust's project was to transform the Hawthorn Bank Park – a derelict area, off the town's High Street – into a community garden.

A community consultation event was held in February 2015, which was well attended, with nearly 100 suggestions and overwhelming support for the project.

A Community Grants Fund award of £2,000 was made by Almond Neighbourhood Partnership for clearing the site of disused play equipment and the removal of vegetation and tarmac.

The transformed park opened in June 2016.

You Decide!

Portobello and Craigmillar Neighbourhood Partnership held its second You Decide! Event on 14 May 2016.

Adopting a participatory budgeting approach, the Neighbourhood Partnership allocated all of its 2016/17 Community Grants Fund through this process.

Further information is available from [Jim Conner](#), Communities and Families, West Neighbourhood Team.

Further information is available from [Graham Rowan](#), Communities and Families, East Neighbourhood Team.

A total of £21,737 was available and this was divided into two funds. £7,500 was available for applications up to a maximum of £500 (especially to assist new or smaller groups with start-up costs and/or pieces of equipment) and the balance of £14,237 was for applications up to a maximum of £1,500.

Nearly 300 votes were received. The voting comprised an event at Portobello Town Hall, together with a dedicated session for young people aged 8-16 years old in Craigmillar Library, facilitated by library staff. A total of 20 out of a possible 25 projects were successful and a full list of applicants is available on the [Neighbourhood Partnership website](#).

Tenant discount card



A new City of Edinburgh Council tenant discount scheme has been launched which will save tenants money.

The scheme, launched in partnership with Travis Perkins, means tenants are now able to use their rent payment cards to access discounts on a wide range of products in seven different locations across the city. The Council will expand the scheme over the coming months, increasing the number of places tenants can save money alongside a [website](#) which will provide details of available discounts and money saving advice.

The approach is part of the wider budget strategy which aims to reduce tenants' costs of living by investing in goods and services differently and by increasing the number of affordable and low cost homes in the city.

Further information is available from [Lisa Mallon](#), Place, Housing and Regulatory Services.

UK Final of Young Consumers



Boroughmuir High School is the UK champion of the Young Consumers Final. Having won the Scottish title in March 2016 at the Scottish Parliament, they competed against 3 other teams to win the UK title in London.

The quiz was organised by the Trading Standards Institute, with each local authority providing the support and educational resources for participating schools. The Team took part in Consumer Challenges and a quiz on 9 and 10 June 2016, and won the competition with over a thirty point lead.

The Young Consumers competition is open to pupils aged 15-18 years and is now in its 30th year. The competition tests teams on a range of consumer-related topics, from shopping rights, health and safety, money and credit, through to food safety and environmental issues.

Further information is available from [Alex Jones](#), Communities and Families, Local Community Planning Team.

City of Edinburgh Council Tenants' Conference



Twenty five tenants attended the conference on 23 April 2016 to hear feedback from the October 2015 tenants'

Further information is available from [Samantha Reeves](#), Communities and Families, Local Community Planning Team.

conference, an update on the Housing Revenue Account Budget Strategy and the results of the Tenants' Survey 2015.

The conference was well received. Eighteen tenants completed the evaluation form and 100% of the respondents rated the event as excellent or good. Comments included:

- *"Very informative, I'm looking forward to the next one."*
- *"Worthwhile event which gives tenants the opportunity to participate and help make decisions on important issues."*

The conference was an interactive opportunity for tenants to contribute their ideas on actions that should be taken where service improvement is required.

Councillor Cammy Day, Housing and Community Safety Leader, said: *"Talking and listening to residents and understanding their priorities and concerns is central to the delivery and development of the service."*

Walk Hack 2015/16



The City Centre Neighbourhood Partnership successfully bid for funding from the [Smarter Choices, Smarter Places programme](#), Paths for All's grant scheme to support behaviour change initiatives to increase active and sustainable travel modes.

The 'Moving Around Action Group', a sub group of the Neighbourhood Partnership, includes people who are involved with transport, active travel, place making and walking for health in a professional capacity. They identified a lack of opportunities for people to come together and develop connections, be inspired and work across boundaries.

Further information is available from [Katie Swann](#), Communities and Families, City Centre & Leith Neighbourhood Team.

In partnership with [Sustrans Scotland](#) they used the funding to deliver five events over six months called '[Walk Hack](#)', based on the '[Cycle Hack](#)' model, an established annual event. The aim was to encourage and support innovative thinking, learn about the hack process and get people to make connections with each other.

Over 70 people took part in the 5 events. Several behaviour change prototype projects are being developed, and evidence shows that learning about the hack process has impacted on the approach to working collaboratively for professionals in a number of organisations.

An evaluation report is being prepared and further information is available on the [Neighbourhood Partnership website](#).

Inverleith Youth Talk and You(th) Decide:



Facilitated by Michael O'Reagan, Broughton High School, and Lucie Duffie, Member Scottish Youth Parliament Edinburgh Central, around 85 people attended Inverleith Youth Talk on 11 March 2016. Almost half of the attendees were local young people representing statutory and independent schools, youth groups and libraries.

After entertainment from pupils at Broughton High School – Young Rappers 'Natural Hazard' and the Broughton Music School singers – attendees discussed round tables themed topics raised by young people during an earlier information gathering phase. Topics included parks and greenspace, roads and travel and ICT. Tables were co-facilitated by a member of the Inverleith Youth Forum.

The young people and service providers attending took part in three different themed discussions, prioritised issues, and pledged to make changes where appropriate.

Further information is available from [Elaine Lennon](#), Communities and Families, North Neighbourhood Team.

The second part of the event was the final voting of Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership's 'YOU(th) DECIDE 2016', which used a participatory budgeting approach to allocate a funding pot comprising the Neighbourhood Partnership Community Grants Fund, Scottish Government Participatory Budgeting match funding and local partner contributions.

Before the event, young people were invited to submit ideas for activities that would make the Inverleith area better. 52 young people who lived, studied or played in Inverleith submitted a total of 60 proposals. These were assessed, and 26 proposals were taken forward for consideration by the Inverleith Youth Forum.

With 880 votes cast, the top projects were announced by Councillor Gavin Barrie, Champion of the Engaging Young People Action Group. These are now being explored and/or progressed by local agencies and include:

- Educational, social and recreational trips
- Day of sporting and leisure activities in Inverleith Park
- Fun events in Easter Drylaw Park with a bouncy castle and football
- A sheltered area in Easter Drylaw Park