

Fairer Scotland Fund Progress Report

City of Edinburgh Council

16 October 2008

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To submit recommendations, in terms of Standing Order 53, on a progress report on the Fairer Scotland Fund.

2 Background

- 2.1 On 30 September 2008, the Policy and Strategy Committee considered a report by the Director of Services for Communities providing the Scottish Government's response to the final proposal for the investment of the Fairer Scotland Fund and related decisions made by the Edinburgh Partnership.

3 Motion

- 3.1 To note the progress made in implementing the Fairer Scotland Fund Investment Strategy and the associated decisions of the Edinburgh Partnership Board.
- 3.2 To refer the report by the Director of Services for Communities to all Neighbourhood Partnerships for information.

- moved by Councillor Dawe, seconded by Councillor Buchanan.

4 Amendment

- 4.1 To refer the report to the Council meeting on 16 October 2008.

- moved by Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Murray.

5 Voting

For the motion - 9 votes
For the amendment - 5 votes

6 Decision

6.1 To approve the motion by Councillor Dawe.

6.2 **In terms of Standing Order 53, the requisite number of members required that the decision be referred to the Council as a recommendation.**

Jenny Dawe
Leader

Appendix	Report no PS/54/08-09/SfC by the Director of Services for Communities
Contact/tel	Rhona Sinclair ☎ 529 4238; ✉ rhona.sinclair@edinburgh.gov.uk
Wards affected	City wide
Background Papers	None

Fairer Scotland Fund Progress Report

Policy and Strategy Committee

30 September 2008

Purpose of report

- 1 To advise the Committee of the response from Scottish Government to the final proposal for the investment of the Fairer Scotland Fund (the Fund) and provide an update on the related decisions made by the Edinburgh Partnership.

Main report

Scottish Government response to the Final Proposal

- 2 The final proposal for the investment of the Fund was submitted to Scottish Government by the Edinburgh Partnership for the 30 June deadline and a written response was received on 22 August. In summary the Scottish Government response commented:
- 3 It had been noted that the new Edinburgh Index provides an objective and transparent method of allocating the Fund to work alongside mainstream resources to tackle deprivation. In addition, the Scottish Government is encouraged by the Edinburgh Partnership's commitment to forming more strategic programmes of activity which will move away from the current project based approach.
- 4 It was further noted that partners have agreed the National Outcomes most relevant to investment of the FSF in Edinburgh and that work was ongoing to establish the full range of appropriate local outcomes. This work has now been completed and details of the Local Outcomes have been circulated to Neighbourhood Teams and Strategic Partnership contacts.
- 5 The Edinburgh Partnership's firm commitment that community engagement should be an underlying principle for all partners and integral to all three priority programmes has been acknowledged. It was also noted that a 'Neighbourhood Partnerships' Community Engagement Plan' is being developed which will be a key element of local community plans.

Commissioning approach

- 6 At its meeting of 28 August the Edinburgh Partnership Board agreed that new activities to be supported by the Fund, both at the neighbourhood and city levels, should be procured through a commissioning process rather than an application based approach. The Implementation Group has been asked to consider such a commissioning process in more detail and bring forward a proposal for the consideration of the Board.

Strategic Partnerships

- 7 The Board further agreed that the Strategic Partnership arrangements with a particular expertise and knowledge of each of the priorities would be responsible for investing the Fund at the city level, namely:
- Improving Employability – The Joined Up for Jobs Strategy Group;
 - Addressing Health Inequalities – The Health Inequalities Standing Group;
 - Early Intervention – The Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership.

Fund allocation based on agreed resource planning assumptions:

City wide programmes / activities	Fairer Scotland Fund allocation 2008 - 2009
Strategic Partnerships	£1,855,000

The Strategic Partnerships’ programmes of activity will focus on the same disadvantaged individuals, groups and areas as the Neighbourhood Partnerships and the programmes will be informed by neighbourhood Fund priorities as reflected in Local Community Plans.

Neighbourhood Partnerships

- 8 Recommendations for the funding of existing activities at the Neighbourhood level, including transitional funding, were also approved by the Board. Full details of the Fund approvals will be available on the Neighbourhood Partnerships’ website; www.edinburghnp.org.uk/page/Homepage.aspx

Fund allocation based on agreed resource planning assumptions:

Neighbourhood programmes / activities	Fairer Scotland Fund allocation 2008 - 2009
Neighbourhood Partnerships	£5,790,000

It is essential to ensure clarity and transparency in the governance arrangements for the Fund, and it was agreed that terms of detailed agreements between the Neighbourhood Partnerships and the Strategic Partnerships would be drafted for future consideration by the Board.

9. It is planned that a further report will be presented to the Edinburgh Partnership Board in November which will make recommendations for the funding of eligible activities across the programmes up until April 2010, with the proposed earmarking of indicative expenditure up to April 2011 where appropriate.

Financial Implications

- 10 None

Recommendations

- 11 It is recommended that the Committee notes the progress made in implementing the Fairer Scotland Fund Investment Strategy and the associated decisions of the Edinburgh Partnership Board.



Mark Turley
Director of Services for Communities

22/9/08

Appendices

Contact/tel Angela Leitch 0131 529 6752

Wards affected All

Background Papers Copies of the Fairer Scotland Fund Progress Report considered by the Edinburgh Partnership Board on 28 August are available in the Group rooms.