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**THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL  
KEY FACTS and FIGURES 2007-2008**

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**INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this booklet is to complement the detailed revenue budget published by Finance and contribute towards the wider publication of local authority financial information.

The Council's revenue budget has been integrated with three-year service plans prepared by all service departments, for the period 2007-2010. This has been aligned with government grant settlement figures enabling a firm Council Tax level to be set for 2007-2008 together with an indicative level for 2008-2009. The Council has not set an indicative level of Council Tax for 2009-2010.

This publication focuses on the Council's budget for 2007-2008 and provides a summary of revenue and capital expenditure and funding for 2007-2008. It also provides a number of key facts about Council services together with comparative statistics for the other Scottish city councils.

Any enquiries about the contents should be made to Corporate Accounts, Financial Services, Finance, Waverley Court, Level 2:6, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG, Tel. 0131 469 3172 or e-mail [corporate.finance@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:corporate.finance@edinburgh.gov.uk).

Donald McGougan  
Director of Finance  
May 2007

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## 2007-2008 REVENUE BUDGET

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### THE FUNDING OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL SERVICES

#### Council services

The City of Edinburgh Council is responsible for providing services such as education, social work, housing and culture and leisure. Police, fire and rescue and valuation services and the Forth Road Bridge are provided through joint boards with neighbouring authorities.

#### Revenue expenditure

Revenue expenditure is the day-to-day costs incurred by the Council in providing services. It includes salaries, running costs, interest payments and repayments of debt. Revenue expenditure on all services except Council housing is charged to the General Fund and financed by a combination of fees and charges, government grants, Non-Domestic Rates and Council Tax. Expenditure on Council housing is financed wholly by rents.

#### Receipts

The main sources of income from client and customer receipts are rents from Council properties and fees and charges.

#### Fees and charges

Sources of income from fees and charges vary from parking charges to residential accommodation for the elderly, school meal charges and charges for recreation and leisure facilities.

#### Government Grants and Non-Domestic Rates

The total of Government grants, Non-Domestic Rates and specific grants is known as Aggregate External Finance (AEF).

Apart from some specific grants, most AEF is distributed amongst authorities as Revenue Support Grant and Non-Domestic Rates. The distribution is designed to ensure that if all local authorities providing the same range of services incurred expenditure at a level equal to their needs, as assessed by the government, they would all levy the same council taxes.

#### Council taxes

After taking account of income from fees and charges, government grants and Non-Domestic Rates, General Fund revenue expenditure is financed by a Council Tax, levied on each property within the Council's area, subject to certain discounts and exemptions.

The Council Tax is the only tax-based element of the Council's funding which is not determined by the Government. In 2007-2008, Council Tax income represents 27% of the Council's net General Fund expenditure.

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## 2007-2008 REVENUE BUDGET

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### SUMMARY OF CHARGES TO BE LEVIED

#### Council Tax

Band	Council Tax band limits (property value)	Council Tax 2007-2008	Council Tax 2006-2007
A	Below £27,000	£779.33	£768.00
B	£27,001 - £35,000	£909.22	£896.00
C	£35,001 - £45,000	£1,039.11	£1,024.00
<b>D</b>	<b>£45,001 - £58,000</b>	<b>£1,169.00</b>	<b>£1,152.00</b>
E	£58,001 - £80,000	£1,428.78	£1,408.00
F	£80,001 - £106,000	£1,688.56	£1,664.00
G	£106,001 - £212,000	£1,948.33	£1,920.00
H	Above £212,000	£2,338.00	£2,304.00

Properties are valued on the basis of what they might reasonably have been expected to realise in the open market if sold on 1 April 1991. The use of this date for all valuations means that they do not have to be adjusted for changes in prices through time. A new dwelling in September 1997 will be valued on the basis of its open market value as if it had been sold on 1 April 1991.

<b>Non-Domestic Rates</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>2006-2007</b>
National Non-Domestic Rate	44.1p per £	44.9p per £
Properties with rateable value greater than £29,000 (2006-2007 £29,000)	44.4p per £	45.3p per £
Empty Property Rate	50%	50%

The National Non-Domestic Rate is prescribed by the Scottish Ministers.

Properties that have a rateable value of £11,500 (2006-2007 £11,500) or less will receive 5% small business relief for 2007-2008.

Properties with a rateable value of less than £8,000 (2006-2007 £8,000) may qualify for further relief.

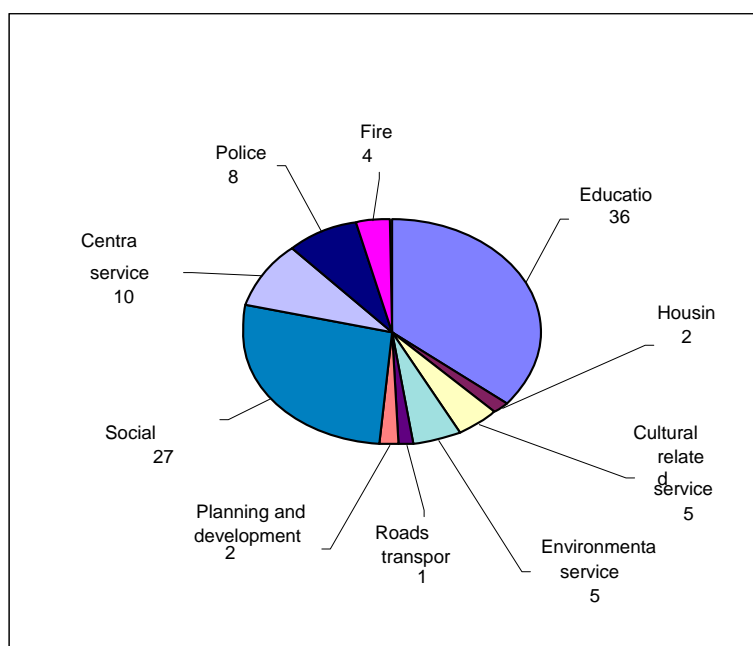
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**2007-2008 REVENUE BUDGET**

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**GENERAL FUND  
FUNCTIONAL SUMMARY**

	Budget £000	Band D Equivalent £
<b>Service expenditure</b>		
Education	257,327	374
Housing (Non-HRA)	14,320	21
Cultural and related services	34,374	50
Environmental services	37,852	55
Roads and transport	9,102	13
Planning and development	15,502	23
Social work	196,818	286
Central services	70,473	102
Police	54,840	80
Fire and Rescue Service	28,248	41
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	718,856	1,045
<b>Other adjustments</b>		
Loans charges	79,956	116
Significant Trading Operations	(2,468)	(4)
Single status	10,000	15
Other non-service specific expenditure	11,326	16
Dividend income	(1,940)	(3)
Contribution from reserves	(11,094)	(16)
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<b>Total expenditure to be funded</b>	<b>804,636</b>	<b>1,169</b>



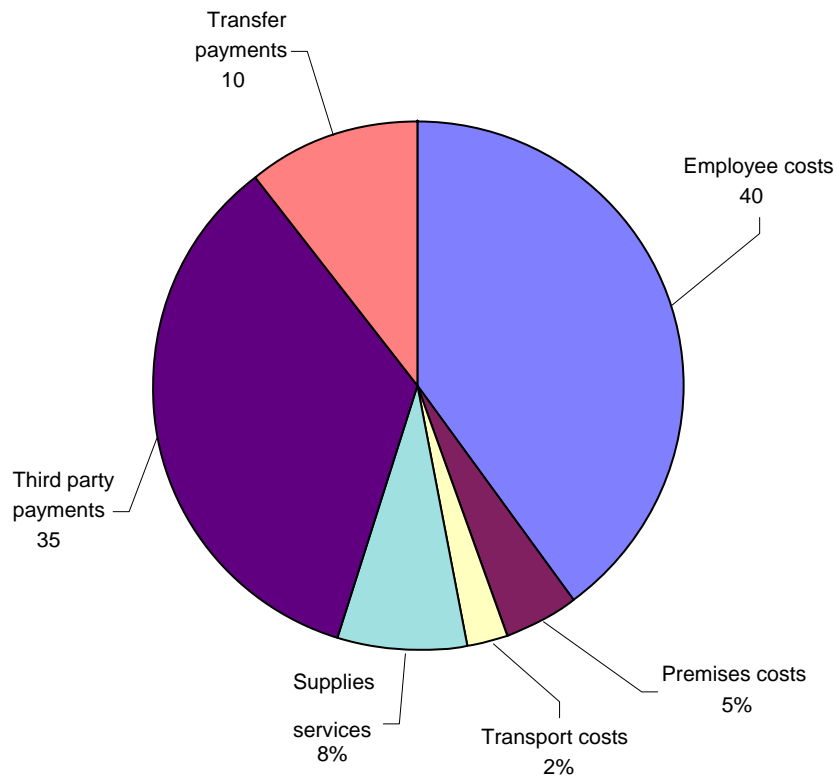
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**2007-2008 REVENUE BUDGET**

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**GENERAL FUND SERVICES  
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS**

	Budget £000	%
Employee costs	480,074	40
Premises costs	54,212	5
Transport costs	27,695	2
Supplies and services	93,304	8
Third party payments	419,330	35
Transfer payments	125,607	10
<b>Gross expenditure</b>	<b>1,200,222</b>	<b>100</b>
Income	481,366	
<b>Net expenditure</b>	<b>718,856</b>	



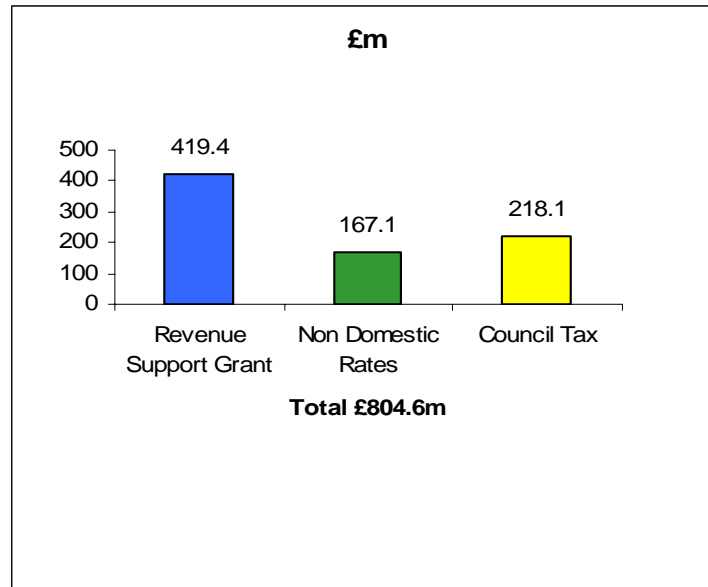
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## 2007-2008 REVENUE BUDGET

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### FUNDING OF NET EXPENDITURE

The following chart analyses the principal sources of funding of net expenditure for 2007-2008.



The Scottish Executive determines the Revenue Support Grant and Non-Domestic Rates figures. The balance of funding is met through Council Tax.

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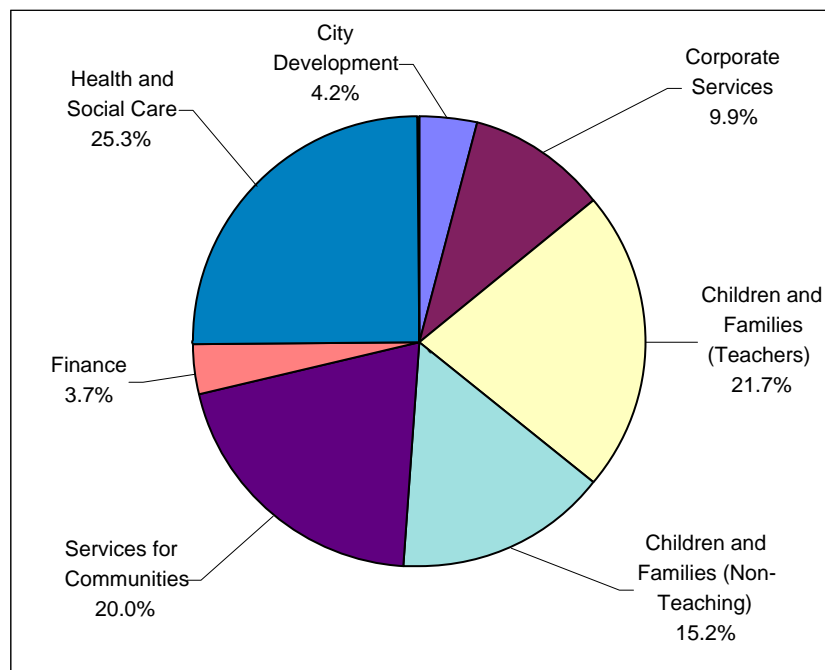
## 2007-2008 REVENUE BUDGET

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### STAFFING SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT	2006-2007	
	JSW No. (FTE)	Dec 06 % of Total
City Development	727	4.2
Corporate Services	1,706	9.9
Children and Families (Teachers)	3,733	21.7
Children and Families (Non-Teaching)	2,624	15.2
Services for Communities	3,435	20.0
Finance	629	3.7
Health and Social Care	4,357	25.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,211</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Snapshot of Council employees at December 2006 (including Casual staff) as per the Joint Staff Watch (JSW). Comparable figures for last year are unavailable as the categories used to collect data in the Joint Staff Watch have been altered. However the total Council staffing at December 2005 was 17,068.



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**FUNDING STATISTICS**

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**COUNCIL TAX BASE 2007-2008**

Properties per Band:

A	24,349
B	45,513
C	41,365
D	34,021
E	36,310
F	22,215
G	19,078
H	3,396
TOTAL	<u>226,247</u>
Band D equivalent	237,478
<i>Less:</i> discounts and exemptions	(44,264)
<i>Add:</i> contributions in lieu	609
Tax base	<u>193,823</u>

	Edinburgh	Aberdeen	Dundee	Glasgow
Tax base	193,823	86,387	47,520	213,527
Provision for non payment	<u>7,268</u>	<u>2,073</u>	<u>1,521</u>	<u>10,676</u>
Net tax base	<u>186,555</u>	<u>84,314</u>	<u>45,999</u>	<u>202,851</u>
Net expenditure	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
To be funded by Council Tax	<u>218,082</u>	<u>103,736</u>	<u>55,705</u>	<u>246,058</u>
Band D Council Tax	<u>£1,169</u>	<u>£1,230</u>	<u>£1,211</u>	<u>£1,213</u>

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## 2007-2008 CAPITAL BUDGET

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The Capital Budget includes expenditure on the following areas:

- upgrading Council houses (Housing Revenue Account)
- operational land and buildings, including schools and offices
- acquisition of vehicles, plant and equipment
- infrastructure and community assets, for example, roads and parks.

In 2004-2005 the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy developed a Prudential Code to support local authorities in taking their capital investment decisions. Local authorities are required by Regulation (Part 7 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003) to have regard to the Prudential Code when carrying out their duties.

The objective of the code is to provide a framework for local authority capital finance which will ensure that:

- capital expenditure plans are affordable
- all external borrowing and other long-term liabilities are within prudent and sustainable levels
- treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with professional good practice.

Further, the framework established by the code should be consistent with and support:

- local strategic planning
- local asset management planning
- proper option appraisal

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## 2007-2008 CAPITAL BUDGET

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The table below details the sources of funds available to finance capital expenditure in 2007-2008.

Resources	General services £000	Housing revenue account £000
Notional consent	21,406	-
Prudential borrowing supported by departments	13,331	23,500
Prudential borrowing supported by Council Tax	21,344	-
City Growth Fund	5,394	-
Cycling, walking and safer streets	818	-
Home zones	1,044	-
Housing non HRA-development funding programme	18,500	-
Schools fund	7,552	-
Capital receipts	10,300	16,500
Other adjustments	4,200	-
Total available resources	<u>103,889</u>	<u>40,000</u>

As can be seen from the table on page 12, total expenditure of £115.098m exceeds total available resources of £103.889m by £11.209m. The difference of £11.209m is over-programming. Due to the nature of capital projects, slippage inevitably occurs. Thus by over-programming in-year, the Council should be able to maximise expenditure, within overall resource levels.

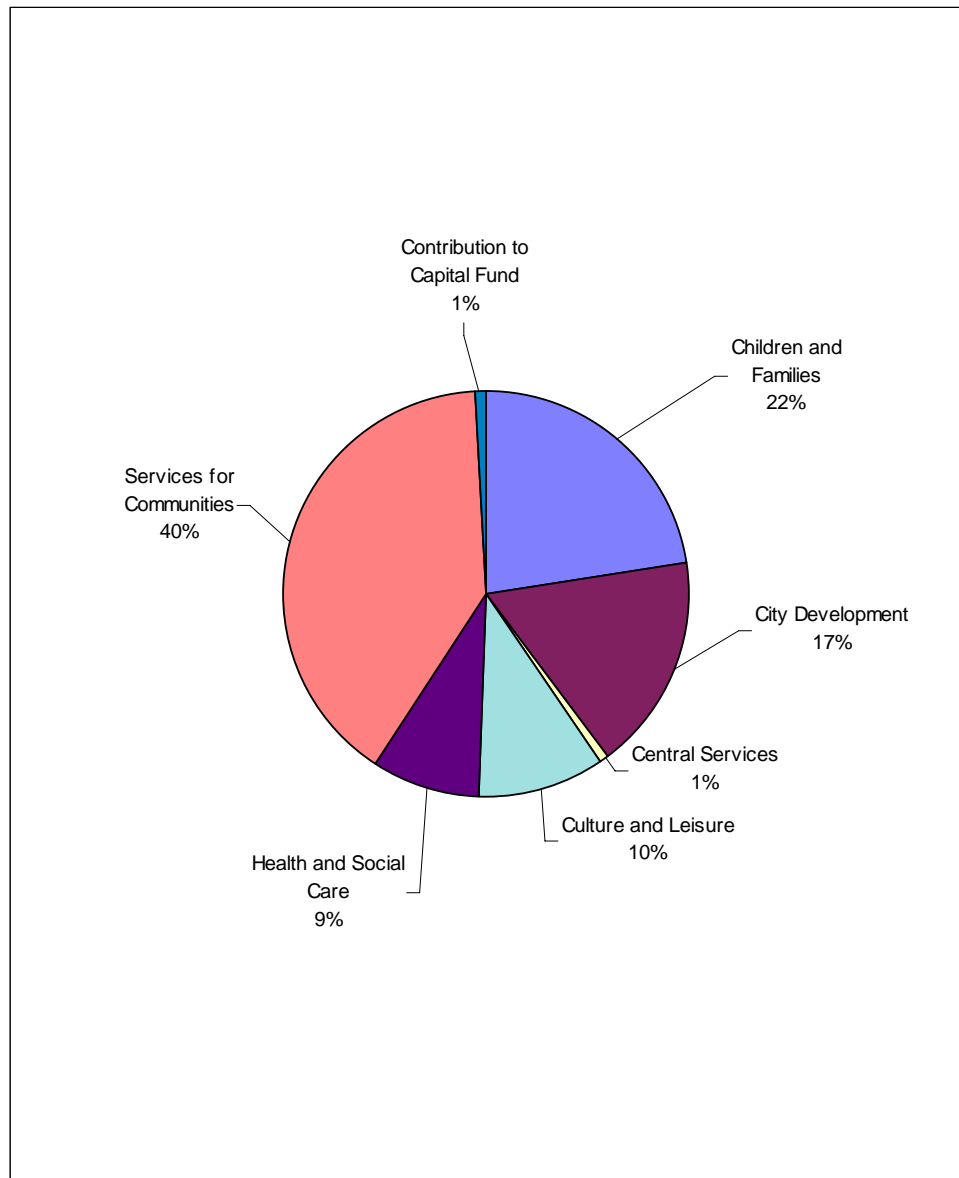
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## 2007-2008 CAPITAL BUDGET

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General services expenditure has been allocated as follows:

General services	Budget	
	£000	%
Children and Families	25,918	22
City Development	19,878	17
Central Services	987	1
Culture and Sport	11,468	10
Health and Social Care	9,958	9
Services for Communities	46,002	40
Contribution to Capital Fund	887	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>115,098</b>	<b>100</b>



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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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### THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Area: 264 square kilometres

Population (Mid-year estimate 2005) 457,830

*Age Structure*

0-4 21,247

5-15 49,214

16-24 68,337

25-34 78,087

35-44 69,574

45-64 102,724

Over 64 68,647

**The Electorate:**

Number on roll (December 2006) 334,826

**The Council:**

Number of Councillors 58

Political representatives (January 2007):

Labour 15 members

Scottish Liberal Democrat 17 members

Conservative 11 members

Scottish National Party 12 members

Scottish Green Party 3 members

**Edinburgh's democratic structure**

The Council's system of democratic decision-making prior to the May 2007 local elections is based on the following:

- the full Council
- an Executive
- Scrutiny Panels
- Committees for regulatory responsibilities and appeals, such as licensing and planning
- Joint Boards for Police, Fire and Rescue Services, Valuation and Forth Estuary Transport Authority
- Local Development Committees

*This may be reviewed by the new administration.*

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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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The City of Edinburgh Council – known as the full Council – is made up of 58 councillors who are elected by citizens. The full Council meets on a monthly basis and is, for all legal purposes, the local authority.

The Executive is made up of 13 members of the full Council, appointed annually by the Council. Members of the Executive are allocated a special area of responsibility such as transport, education, social work, housing, environment, and leisure and culture. The Executive meets in public every two weeks. At alternate meetings of the Executive, a special part of the agenda is set aside for education issues so that church and teacher representatives can join the decision-making process.

To help the Council scrutinise the activities of the Executive and hold it to account for its performance, the Council has appointed seven Scrutiny Panels. Members of these Panels are councillors of all political parties who are not members of the Executive. The Panels cover the areas of:

- children and young people
- community services
- development of the city
- environmental quality
- leisure and cultural development
- resource management and audit
- social justice and older people.

Six Local Development Committees have been established covering an area bounded by the city's former parliamentary constituencies. They advise on, decide and develop issues concerned with their area. They are made up of all councillors representing wards within the constituencies. Consequently, the political balance on each will differ from the political balance on the full Council.

Following the Council elections in May, the Local Development Committees will be replaced by 12 Neighbourhood Partnerships based upon the new multi-Member wards. There will be a role for community representatives, partner authorities such as the police and health service, and the voluntary sector.

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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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### Children and Families

3,332 three to five year olds attend 18 nursery schools, 78 nursery classes in primary schools, 2 nursery classes in a special school, 12 Health and Social Care centres .The Council's Workplace Nursery. Additional Partner Provider Centres also provide places for eligible three to five year olds.

25,940 pupils attend 94 primary schools that have a total of 1,679 teachers.

20,000 pupils attend 23 secondary schools that have a total of 1,736 teachers.

A range of special schools and classes cater for 730 pupils who have special needs.

There are 51 community centres.

13,860 school meals were provided per day of which 5,630 were free.

**Children's services:** eleven area-based Children and Families' Social Work practice teams and one hospital-based team, provide help and services to vulnerable young people and their families each year.

One family based care service unit recruits and provides support to foster/day carers and prospective adoptive parents across the city. This service is composed of six separate teams - The Initial Family Placement Team, Recruitment Team, Family Support Team, Permanence Team, Disability Team and New Opportunities Fostering Team. At 7 February 2007, 347 children were in foster care.

About 233 children benefit from the services provided at 12 Child and Family Centres around the city each month.

There are 107 residential care places for children looked after by the Council. Of these, 12 are within two Secure Accommodation Units, 18 are within four Close Support Units, 53 are at seven Young Person Centres, and eight are within one unit providing respite care for about 75 young people. In addition, Wellington School in Midlothian provides 16 residential places and 34 day places.

The Council also purchases places in independent sector homes and residential schools (in exceptional circumstances) outside Edinburgh.

### Health and Social Care

#### Community Care

Community Care teams were restructured in April 2006. The first point of contact with Health and Social Care is now the Contact Centre, which answered over 7,000 phone calls between October and December 2006 – nearly 120 calls each week day. Five sector teams undertake both short and long-term work with individuals in the community, and three hospital social work teams work across Edinburgh's hospital sites. These teams assess around 9,000 new clients in a year, in addition to carrying out work with existing clients.

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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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### **Health and Social Care (*continued*)**

Help and support for people at home is provided in a number of ways. Firstly, over 41,000 hours of help with domestic support and personal care is provided directly or purchased for around 5,000 people each week. The service also supports around 1,600 people each year in returning home from hospital. In addition, the Crisis Care, Rapid Response and Community Rehabilitation Services provide care to people in their own homes, to prevent admission to hospital or to facilitate discharge. In the 12 months to the end of September 2006, nearly 1,500 people received a service from these teams. On the basis of assessed need, frozen meals are provided to around 350 people and a shopping service is provided to 342 people.

Day Care services for older people are based at 12 Council-run centres providing activities and support for around 460 older persons. Residential care is provided by Health and Social Care in 17 residential homes for older people with a total capacity of 663 beds. In the year ending December 2006, there were 262 older people admitted on a long-term basis and 400 were admitted for respite.

At September 2006, the Council was funding around 3,100 older people in a care home place. This includes people receiving free personal care payments.

Health and Social Care has completed its review of day services for people with learning disabilities. These services are now more flexible, making use of general community facilities. Four of the centres have amalgamated into two district-based centres, leaving five centres in total which provide for around 500 people each week. Residential and respite services provide 42 beds for adults with learning disabilities. There are also three units providing 23 residential places for adults with mental health problems. Two Council-run day centres provide services for around 160 adults with physical disabilities each week.

At September 2006, 450 adults under 65 were being supported in long-term places in care homes run by the Council or the private and voluntary sector. Many people with learning disabilities now live in their own accommodation with support, rather than in a care home.

### **Criminal Justice**

The four District and one Central Criminal Justice Teams submitted 4,228 Social Enquiry Reports to court and supervised 1,204 individuals on a Probation Order during 2005-2006. The Central team includes the Diversion from Prosecution Scheme, the Domestic Violence Probation Project and the Bail Information Services Scheme. The Drug, Treatment and Testing Order Scheme is also run by Health and Social Care and in 2005-2006, 99 individuals successfully completed their order. The Council also undertakes an increasing amount of work with prisoners to help them prepare for leaving prison – 190 during 2005-2006, a 17% increase on the previous year. Additional purchased Independent Sector services include probation programmes and supported accommodation.

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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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### Health and Social Care (*continued*)

#### Other services

Other services include the Welfare Rights Service which dealt with over 30,600 enquiries during the past year. The Emergency Social Work Service provides an out-of-hours service for the social work departments of Edinburgh, East Lothian and Midlothian Councils. The service received some 13,500 referrals during the year ending 30 September 2006.

#### Services for Communities

The Services for Communities' vision is to ensure that the citizens of Edinburgh and visitors to the city should benefit from an environment that is clean, safe and well maintained and a place where services respond to the needs of local communities.

Services for Communities is structured around four divisions: Environment, Housing and Regeneration, Community Safety, and Performance and Community Engagement.

#### Environment

**Road Services** - is responsible for maintaining 1,364 kilometres of public roads which consists of 142 kilometres of principal roads, 51 kilometres of non principal roads, 120 kilometres of non principal C Roads and 1,051 kilometres of unclassified roads. Road Services also makes safe approximately 40,000 defects each year. Street lighting maintains 60,400 street lamps (27,000 faults are repaired each year), 3,000 illuminated bollards and 3,850 illuminated signs.

**Edinburgh Building Services (EBS)** – EBS is a multi-skilled building organisation providing a repair service and comprehensive maintenance service to 23,000 Council homes. This includes a responsive repair service for tenants and servicing of gas equipment and lifts.

EBS provides planned improvement work through working in partnership with Building Design Services (BDS) located in the Housing and Regeneration service.

EBS carries out around 20,000 emergency and 100,000 other response repairs each year for Council tenants and is also responsible for maintaining stair lighting in nearly 15,000 private and public stairwells.

**Waste Services** – are responsible for collecting refuse including recyclable and compostable wastes from 225,000 homes and 6,400 trade premises. They carry out 100,000 special bulky waste uplifts per year.

The Waste Service is also responsible for the bulk transporting processing of recyclable, compostable and residual wastes, and for the operation of three community recycling centres, handling in excess of 260,000 tonnes of waste per year.

The domestic household recycling rate was 23% in 2005 and is on course to reach 25% for 2006-2007. 100,000 bulky waste uplifts are carried out with all materials sifted for recycling.

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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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### **Services for Communities** (*continued*)

Waste Services also includes the cleaning of 1,364 kilometres of streets, parks and open spaces and the horticultural maintenance of formal parks, open green spaces, sports pitches and school playing fields. It also operates 31 public toilet facilities and provides specialist services such as graffiti treatment.

**Parks and open spaces** maintained by the City of Edinburgh Council contribute to the physical and psychological wellbeing of residents and visitors alike. They manage:

- 1,600 hectares of open space
- 42 kilometres of walkways
- 141 parks and gardens ranging from 0.1ha to 94ha in size
- 1,238 allotments over 21 sites
- 350,000 mature trees
- 150 play areas

### **Housing and Regeneration**

There are 24,000 households currently registered on EDIndex (Edinburgh's single housing register) because they need somewhere to live or want to move to a new home, and there are only around 3,500 social rented (Council and housing association) lets a year. Over 5,000 people a year approach the Council for help because they are homeless or at risk of homelessness. It is estimated that Edinburgh needs to build 10,000 affordable new homes over the next 10 years.

In 2005-2006 through both the Core Programme and the Community Ownership Programme, Development and Regeneration administered £24m enabling the approval to build 730 new homes.

Improved access to housing for people in need is measured through the number of people who are homeless, housed by both the Council and the Registered Social Landlords (RSLs). In 2005-2006, Housing and Regeneration let around 1,170 houses to people with homeless priority.

### **Community Safety**

Environmental Health services impact directly on the health and welfare of communities and the public at large. Officers visit more than 11,000 premises to ensure compliance with the smoking ban and last year the environmental wardens were involved with over 9,000 enforcement actions for the abandonment of vehicles, inappropriate waste presentation/disposal and dog fouling.

Public Health and Pest Control services receive over 25,000 service requests and enquiries. Over 8,000 visits and inspections are made to commercial premises in respect of Food Health and Safety.

Bereavement services provide in excess of 3,500 cremation/burials and assist with 850 autopsies at the City Mortuary each year.

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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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### Services for Communities (*continued*)

Emphasis in the service is placed upon educating and informing businesses and the public about their rights and responsibilities under the vast body of Trading Standards-related legislation. The service is being steered by Government towards proactive work based around risk assessment and market intelligence. During 2005-2006 enforcement staff carried out over 4,000 visits to traders. They reported 25 cases to the Procurator Fiscal, served warnings and notices and dealt with 3,383 complaints and enquiries to assist businesses.

The Trading Standards service successfully created a Debt Advice Partnership which dealt with 4,000 cases of debt in Edinburgh totalling in excess of £20m. This led to additional Scottish Executive funding for two pilots – Edinburgh Prison and for young people.

Community protection works with victims of anti-social behaviour so that further action can be taken against perpetrators, including court action where necessary. It also aims to provide an early response to problems of anti-social behaviour developing in a community or neighbourhood. Community Protection works closely with the Police, Youth Justice Services and registered social landlords along with other services provided by Services for Communities. Working in conjunction with key partners such as Lothian and Borders Police and Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service through the Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership is an essential part of improving community safety across the city.

### Performance and Community Engagement

Library services include the Central Library, 25 community libraries and five mobile libraries which lend more than three million books to more than 105,000 borrowers and attract more than three million visitors. The libraries stock more than 1.25 million books and work with a budget in excess of £9m. Library services also provide a wide range of other information and learning support services for the public.

### Central Services

**Corporate Services:** provides a range of services to people within and outside the Council, including Councillors, staff and residents. Examples of the services provided include managing:

- the human resources service to all Council staff – over 19,000 people
- Edinburgh Catering Services, which employs 549 staff to provide 13,860 meals every school day in the Council's schools
- Direct Cleaning Services, employing 1,100 cleaners, cleaning some 20,500 rooms in around 400 buildings, ranging from schools to crematoria throughout the city on a daily basis
- the Council's communications with residents, stakeholders and staff. This division provides internal communications, media relations, design, brand management, events, web, marketing and publications

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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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### Central Services (Continued)

services including the production of Outlook, the residents newsletter to 227,000 homes.

- the Contact Centre, which deals with over a million enquires a year about all of the Council's services. 90% of callers were satisfied with the way their call was handled
- Culture and Sport oversee the Council's relationship with Edinburgh Leisure, through which 20 sports centres and swimming pools, six golf courses, five bowling greens, the Meadows tennis complex, Port Edgar marina and the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena in Ratho are all funded.

In 2005-2006 there were 3.84 million admissions to Edinburgh Leisure's facilities.

13 grants were awarded to sporting organisations totalling £32,025.

- the Council's 11 museums, galleries and monuments, which drew 613,000 visitors and the Usher Hall, which attracted some 208,000 people
- cultural venues such as the Assembly rooms and Church Hill Theatre which attracted 260,000 and 16,000 people respectively over a wide range of events in 2005-2006

71 grants were awarded to cultural organisations totalling £3,886,181

- licensing of taxis, gambling, the sale of alcohol and houses in multiple occupation. Granting these licenses raised £2.63 million
- the registration of births, deaths and marriages – last year over 2,561 marriage licenses and 111 civil partnership registrations were issued
- IT services, through our partnership with BT, with over 17,000 computers supported over 180 sites across the city
- the Smart City programme, which ensures that Council services are provided more effectively by using the latest technology.

**Council Tax rebates:** At any one time approximately 40,000 Council Tax payers will be receiving assistance towards payment of their Council Tax.

In 2006-2007, the total amount of Council Tax rebate is estimated to be £28m.

### Lothian and Borders Police

The strength of the force was 2,743 police officers and 1,449 civilians as at December 2006.

82 traffic wardens were employed on traffic duties.

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## EDINBURGH'S SERVICES - KEY STATISTICS

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### **Lothian and Borders Police (*Continued*)**

The number of crimes and offences reported in category groups 1 to 5 were 79,043 with a 44% solve rate.

The number of road accidents involving death or injury was 3,222.

583 police vehicles covered 8.5 million miles during 2006.

### **Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Services**

At December 2006, the strength of the service was 1,098 operational fire officers, retained fire fighters and control personnel. The non-uniformed personnel of the service numbered 187.

Fire-fighting appliances, etc. numbered 68 at December 2006.

The number of emergency incidents attended by Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service for the year to 31 December 2006 was 22,278.

Up to 31 December 2006, 16,000 home safety visits have been conducted, with over 18,500 free smoke detectors fitted. Home safety information packs have been delivered to over 53,000 homes. This work has contributed to making safer communities in the Lothian and Borders area.

### **The Forth Road Bridge**

Located west of Edinburgh, the Forth Road Bridge spans the Firth of Forth between South Queensferry and North Queensferry. Work began on this suspension bridge in 1958 and it was opened by the Queen on the 4th September 1964. It is a toll bridge for motorised traffic (free for pedestrians) and carries four lanes of traffic with two walkways. The bridge is nearly 2,517m (8,259 feet) long between abutments while its main span of 1,005m (3,300 feet) is one of the longest in the world; its towers are 156m (512 feet) high.

For the year to December 2006, northbound traffic numbered 11,840,338.

This was split between:

Cars and light goods vehicles	10,744,578
Heavy goods vehicles	716,305
Buses	87,085
Motorcycles	91,810
Exempt vehicles	200,560

**NOTE:** Joint Boards administer The Forth Road Bridge, Lothian and Borders Police and Fire and Rescue Services.

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## SCOTTISH COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

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### Net expenditure

	2007-2008		2006-2007	
	Total £'000	Per head of Population £	Total £'000	Per head of Population £
Aberdeen	408,488	2,019	399,980	1,966
Dundee	321,666	2,263	311,649	2,196
Edinburgh	881,300	1,925	843,532	1,859
Glasgow	1,442,245	2,492	1,430,264	2,476
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	3,053,699	2,211	2,985,425	2,169

### Aggregate external finance

	2007-2008		2006-2007	
	Total £'000	Per head of Population £	Total £'000	Per head of Population £
Aberdeen	303,631	1,500	292,857	1,439
Dundee	263,562	1,854	256,116	1,805
Edinburgh	658,584	1,439	629,886	1,388
Glasgow	1,183,958	2,046	1,137,561	1,969
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	2,409,735	1,745	2,316,420	1,683

#### NOTES:

Expenditure is budgeted net service expenditure at out-turn prices.  
It includes loan charges and is before the deduction of specific grants.

### Populations as at June 2005

Aberdeen	202,370
Dundee	142,170
Edinburgh	457,830
Glasgow	578,790

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Council Tax** - With effect from April 1993 a local authority's total expenditure, after deducting income from fees and charges, government grants and non-domestic rates, and excluding expenditure chargeable against other sources of funding (principally housing) is met from Council Tax.

**Council Tax product** - The income derived from the levying of a £1 Council Tax for Band D properties.

**National Non-Domestic Rate** - A rate levied by each local authority upon each non-domestic property, expressed in pence per £ rateable value. This replaced the Non-Domestic Regional Rate with effect from 1 April 1995 and is prescribed by the Scottish Executive.

**General Fund** - The fund to which all the expenses incurred by a local authority in the discharge of its functions under any Act are charged insofar as they are not met or provided for in any other such Act.

**Specific Grants** - Government grants paid to local authorities in relation to specific service provision, eg., police grant, Social Inclusion Partnerships grant. Specific grants are deducted from the total grant aid made available by Government to local authorities (normally referred to as Aggregate Exchequer Grant) before the balance is distributed in the form of Revenue Support Grant.

**Revenue Support Grant** - This is the main form of Central Government support to local authorities. It is not related to specific services but is a general grant payable as a contribution towards the cost of total general fund expenditure. Distribution between authorities is based on the Government's assessment of their grant-aided expenditure level, non-domestic rate income and number and value of Council Tax properties.

**Aggregate External Finance** - The total of Government determined support for local authorities i.e. Revenue Support Grant, Specific Grants and Non-Domestic Rate Income.

**Grant Aided Expenditure** - This is the amount, in the Government's view, which needs to be spent to provide local authority services.

**Total Estimated Expenditure** - This is the total of Grant Aided Expenditure, estimated loan and leasing charges, housing and Council Tax benefits net of Department of Work and Pensions subsidy, and floor adjustments for each authority.

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**THE SCOTTISH PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN**

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If you have gone through the Council's complaints process and you are still unhappy, you have the right to take your complaint to the Scottish Public Ombudsman, 4 Melville Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7NS. Tel:0800 377 7330. Fax:0800 377 7331.

Generally, if you want to do this, you must contact the Ombudsman within one year.