

28 October 2024

See [\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Edinburgh Partnership, 11/06/2024 14:00](#) Item 6.1

See [\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Edinburgh Partnership, 03/09/2024 14:00](#) Item 6.1 / 6.2

# THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

## Community Planning: the next stage of partnership working

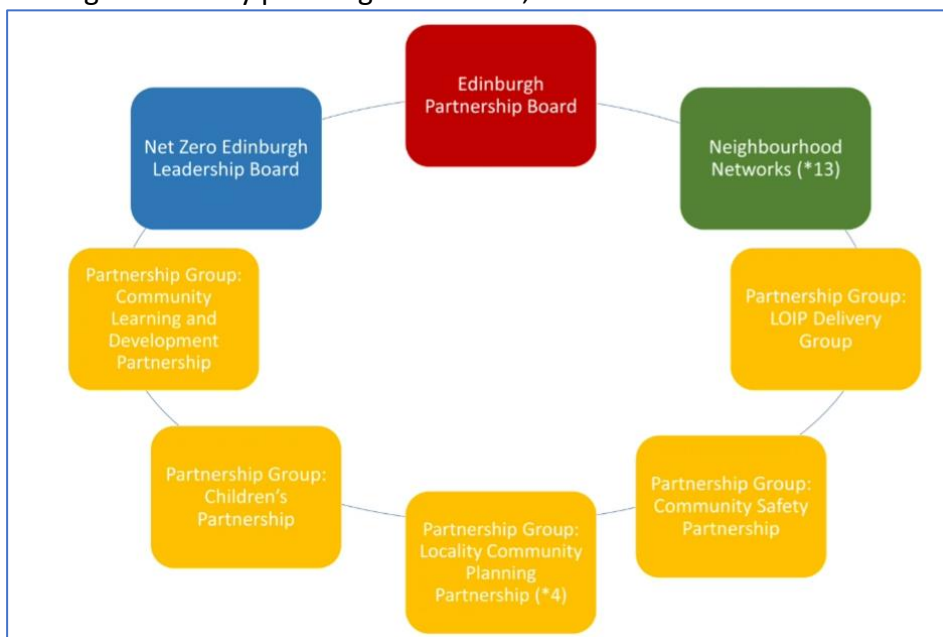
Progress Report from Michele Mulvaney, CEC Strategy Manager and lead officer for Edinburgh Partnership (EP).

Final Report due to go to Policy & Sustainability Committee on 10 December.

### Background

- Community Planning aims help local public services to work together and with local communities to plan and deliver better services that make a real difference to people's lives.
- It is based on the idea that public bodies can get better results locally by working together and with the community so that public services improve for the people who use them."
- It's a legal obligation under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 that public service providers such as the council, NHS, Police and many others to work together to deliver better services. This working together is "community planning".

The big community planning framework, as is:



LCCP structure (4) too big and unwieldy? Neighbourhood Networks (NN, 13, 2019) haven't really taken root. Concept' only working in NW Edinburgh. Time to reassess.

## Transformation and Improvement

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- Agreed to an improvement programme at September 2023 Board
- Needed to stop and think – community planning is vast therefore what's in scope
- Goal is to strengthen community planning, based on a shared understanding of all our statutory duties and what it means in practice – it means different things to different people

Service Design framework: Discover. Define: Develop, Deliver.

## Design Principles

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- Put people first. Start with the people who are involved in the delivery of community planning
- In-depth discussion to help people gain a shared understanding of issues and ideas for improvement
- Collaborate and co-create. Work together and get inspired by what others are doing

What are the difficulties?

'Community Planning' (CP) 'impenetrable and hard to understand' outside of the circles of the those 'professionally' engaged in it.

Structures not as 'place based' (grass roots locality) as they could be. LCCPs 'too big' in their geography. NNs haven't 'cohered'; participant groups working more in competition than in collaboration. Participant organisations need to look beyond themselves to the 'bigger picture'.

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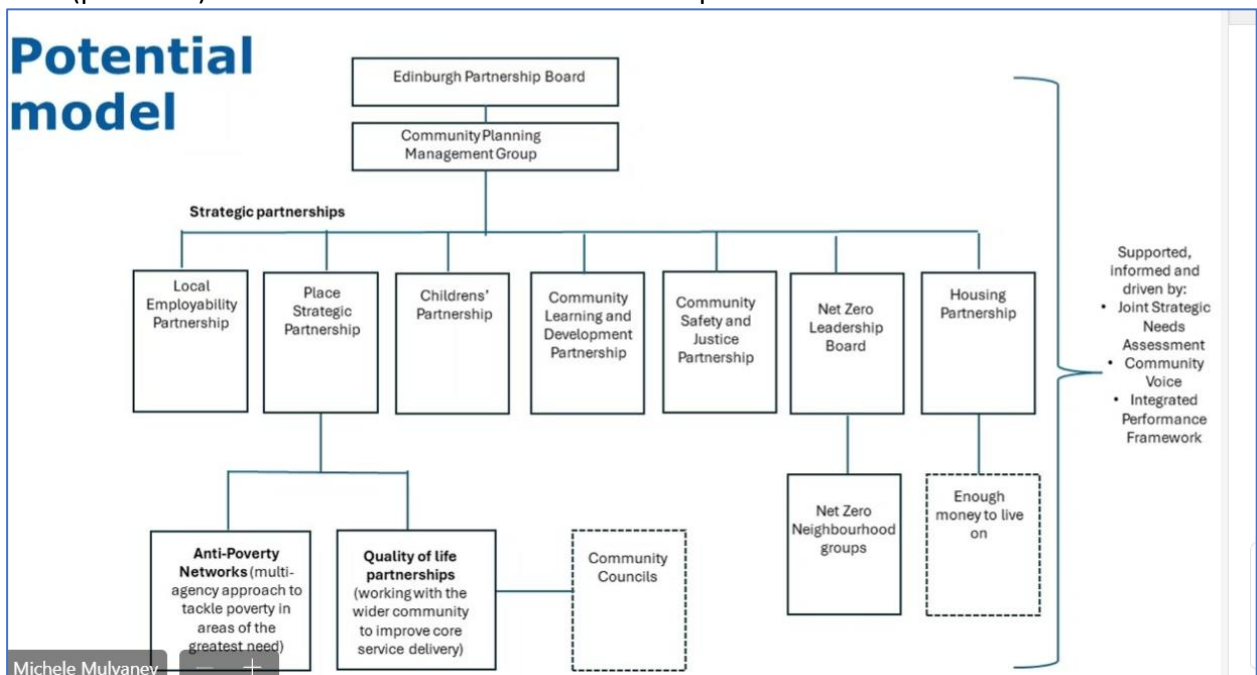
## Learning (i)

- Keeping it **simple** – the current landscape can be hard to navigate
- The problems we face today require more than one solution, they will require continued **collaborative working** with other organisations and supporting people to be part of the solution
- Working across organisations is incredibly hard and depends on the ability to **think beyond** ourselves, our organisation and our sector of work
- Community planning works best where **trust and relationships** are strong and there are lots of examples of this across the city
- Everyone wants to do **prevention**, but this is hard
- Prioritising community planning as a **way of working** – the whole should be greater than the sum of all parts

## Learning (ii)

- The best partnerships are clear on their **purpose** and focus on the needs of the city.
- In all our work, we need to use **data and lived experience** to inform our approach
- We need to be **transparent** and **accountable** in all we do
- Some issues will need **place-based** working, but others will require a **thematic approach**.
- Many of the **structures** we have work, but others needs **reformed or updated** with new groups brought together to tackle specific issues, such as the housing emergency
- **Collective leadership** is needed to maximise efforts

New (potential) framework: discussed with over 200 'partners'.



## Summary of proposed changes:

- Expand the role and scope of the LOIP DG to incorporate representatives from all strategic partnerships, forming a Community Planning Management Group. This group aims to enhance connectivity among strategic partnerships and offer a comprehensive perspective on partnership activities aimed at alleviating poverty and inequality through the LOIP.
- Create a strategic partnership to oversee partnership work around housing recognising the current challenges and opportunities;
- Strengthen links between strategic and local community planning by linking placed based work with LOIP Priority 3 “A good place to live” through a Place Strategic Partnership;
- Improve how the Edinburgh Partnership uses and shares data to design interventions and focus on early intervention by developing a JSNA and integrated performance framework

“Bring together community planning and place-based planning.”

(Note:

New ‘Community Planning Management Group’;

New ‘Place Strategic Partnership’;

Unspecified (but more formal) role for Community Councils – this has to be spelt out well before the Q1 2025 (election) drive for stronger participation and new members.

Likely move to bring CCs together for this CP working purpose, maybe within electoral ward structures.

## Summary of proposed changes continued ...

- Replace LCPPs by establishing:
  - Quality-of-life partnerships across the City to address service concerns with communities
  - Anti-poverty networks in areas experiencing the poorest outcomes and producing local improvement plans
- And in doing so:
  - Avoid duplication by working with existing groups and networks. Supporting them to actively participate in the design and delivery of collaborative solutions
  - Improve links, communication and feedback loops between spheres of community planning to build trust, strengthen accountability and transparency and work towards more empowered communities
  - Ensure voluntary and community participation through existing infrastructure e.g. VSFs
  - Align with recommendations from the Neighbourhood Networks review

Objectives:

More tailored initiatives for specific (disadvantaged) parts of the city.

Better support at local levels.

Improved CP relationships

## Why this proposition?

- Includes all the issues essential to community planning
- Provides an opportunity to strengthen all the partnerships recognising some are not operating at full potential
- Focuses on a data-driven approach
- Enhances accountability and transparency through improved reporting and monitoring to the EP Board

## Why this proposition continued....

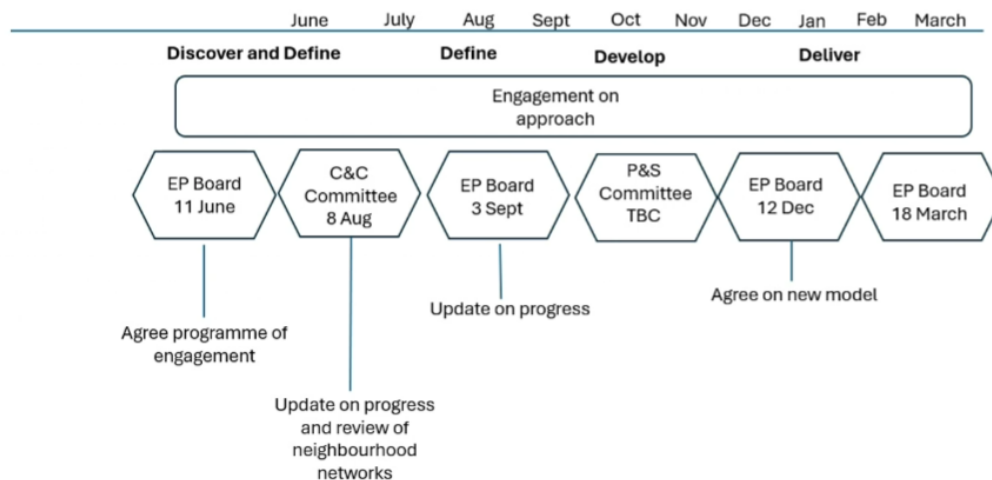
- Enables us to deliver local improvement plans in a different way
- Strengthens support for initiatives led by local communities, particularly those in disadvantaged areas
- Seeks to increase community involvement on issues that matter most to them
- Supports the building of resilience and relationships to enable improved partnership working

Next Steps:

Policy & Sustainability Committee 10 December

Look for elaboration on 'new' undertakings for community councils.

## Timeline



Thank you

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Information online:

<https://www.edinburghpartnership.scot/>