

Draft Community Plan – April 2009



INVERLEITH

NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP



C o m m u n i t y P l a n
I n v e r l e i t h : 2 0 0 9 - 2 0 1 1



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Welcome

Welcome to the first local community plan for Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership, which is the result of extensive consultation with Community Councils, members of the wider community, local groups and projects and other key Partners including Health, Police and the Council.

The plan outlines five key priorities which can be seen on the following pages, which have been selected through community consultation, backed up with gathered data.

We are enthusiastic about the work that has been done so far and we would like to thank everyone who has helped shape this plan.

Not all local activities are within this plan. This plan focuses on those areas where we feel that combined action can produce greater results and real improvements, in addition to the specific workplans of service providers. This plan is complemented by a more in-depth action plan detailing how we shall achieve these priorities.

But this is only the beginning of our journey. Together we have made a good start along the road to making Inverleith a better place for everyone; however, it is essential we have greater participation from the broader community.

The Plan will be constantly reviewed and refreshed and we want you to play a big part in this. The evolution of the plan over the next three years will be influenced by your views, your concerns and your priorities.

Finally I would like to thank Peter Strong and the management team for all the hard work they have put in over the past year.



Councillor Stuart Roy McIvor, Convenor (2008/09)

Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership

Membership – Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership (as at end March 2009)

- Councillor Stuart Roy McIvor (Convenor)
- Councillor Iain Whyte (Vice Convenor)
- Councillor Lesley Hinds
- Councillor Tim McKay
- Eddie Thorn, Craigleith and Blackhall Community Council
- Thomas Brown, Drylaw and Telford Community Council
- Nigel Bagshaw, Stockbridge and Inverleith Community Council
- Tannis Dodd, Stockbridge Traders Association
- Inspector Ian Davis, Lothian and Borders Police
- David Small, NHS Lothian
- Kate Kasprowicz, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council
- Peter Taylor, Scottish Business in the Community North Edinburgh

Advisors:

- Will Garrett, City of Edinburgh Council, City Development
- Christine MacKay, City of Edinburgh Council, Children and Families
- Peter Strong, City of Edinburgh Council, Services for Communities Neighbourhood Management
- Jackie Sutherland, City of Edinburgh Council, Health and Social Care
- Martina McChrystal, City of Edinburgh Council, Services for Communities
- Elaine Lennon, City of Edinburgh Council, Services for Communities

About the Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership

Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership lies in the North of the City, with the Water of Leith running along its southern boundary.

There are almost 30,000 people living in Inverleith, with a high percentage of home owners (76.5%). A high proportion of people living in Inverleith live alone or without children (73.4%). The high majority of residents (75.4%) are aged over twenty five. 96.1% of people classed themselves as 'white', with the second largest ethnic composition being 'other' at 1.4%. (Source: Ward 5 Area Profile, 2007)



According to the Ward Area Profile, Inverleith has a lower rate of people excluded from the world of work than the rest of Scotland, is above average in terms of housing standards and health, and also has lower crime levels.

According to the Services for Communities (SfC) Neighbourhood Research 96% of residents surveyed stated that they were fairly or very satisfied with the Inverleith area as a place to live, compared to 86% average across Edinburgh.

This area is a multi-member ward, and Councillor representatives are Lesley Hinds (Labour), Tim MacKay (Liberal Democrat), Stuart Roy McIvor (SNP) and Iain Whyte (Conservative). The Partnership is currently convened by Councillor McIvor.

Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership area is represented by three Community Councils: Craigleith / Blackhall, Drylaw / Telford and Stockbridge / Inverleith.

Inverleith is also a socially diverse neighbourhood comprising a number of smaller communities such as Comely Bank and Dean Village as well as the above areas covered by Community Councils.

It contains one secondary school (Broughton High School), 4 primary schools (Blackhall, Ferryhill, Flora Stevenson, and Stockbridge), a retail park (Craigleith Retail Park) and a wide range of green space and parkland (Including Inverleith Park, Ravelston Park and the Royal Botanic Garden).

Other major landmarks in the ward include The Royal Botanic Garden, Inverleith Park, Western General Hospital and Craigleith Retail Park.

The communities of Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership are illustrated overleaf.

The Planning Context

The relevant development plan documents for the Inverleith area are the Lothian Structure Plan 2015 and the Central Edinburgh Local Plan. The Structure Plan sets out a long term strategy for development, including strategic housing, business and transport requirements. Work will commence next year on the preparation of a new Edinburgh City Region Strategic Development Plan which will replace the current Structure Plan.

The Central Edinburgh Local Plan identifies sites to meet the strategic requirements and includes detailed policies used in determining planning applications. This will be replaced by the Edinburgh City Local Plan at the end of 2009.

The development of this plan has seen the gathering of evidence which has been used to both support and determine the need for change, which is referred to throughout the plan.

Further information is also available in the Inverleith Ward Profile, which can be accessed on this website, or by telephoning the contact details at the end of this document.

www.edinburghnp.org.uk

This website also gives information on the work of all of the Neighbourhood Partnerships in Edinburgh, including Area Profile, Boundary Map, minutes of Action Groups and papers from public meetings.

Consultation and Engagement

Only by genuinely engaging with local people can we develop services which meet local needs and aspirations. In particular the effective engagement of local people is critical to the development of neighbourhood planning. It is only by listening to the experiences and ideas of the people who live in these communities that we can find solutions which will make a lasting difference.

Community groups were consulted throughout this process, from being involved at the earliest stages through to making comments on the final draft. This has included:

- Workshops on community priorities at the inaugural Neighbourhood Partnership meeting of August 2007
- The setting up of 5 Action Groups to tackled themed areas of work
- Direct feedback from members of Action Groups and other members of the community
- A survey of Inverleith residents to determine local priorities, undertaken by City of Edinburgh Council Services for Communities.
- The Area Profile for Inverleith.
- Discussion of draft plan at Community Council meetings.
- Ongoing discussion and consultation will take place to ensure that this document continues to meet the needs of people in Inverleith.



A local engagement strategy is in place alongside this plan which outlines in more detail steps which will be taken to engage better with the community. Key actions include:

- Raise awareness of, and provision of, accessible information on Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership
- Consult with communities of Inverleith on priorities for Community Plan
- Engage with harder to reach groups, particularly young people and older people

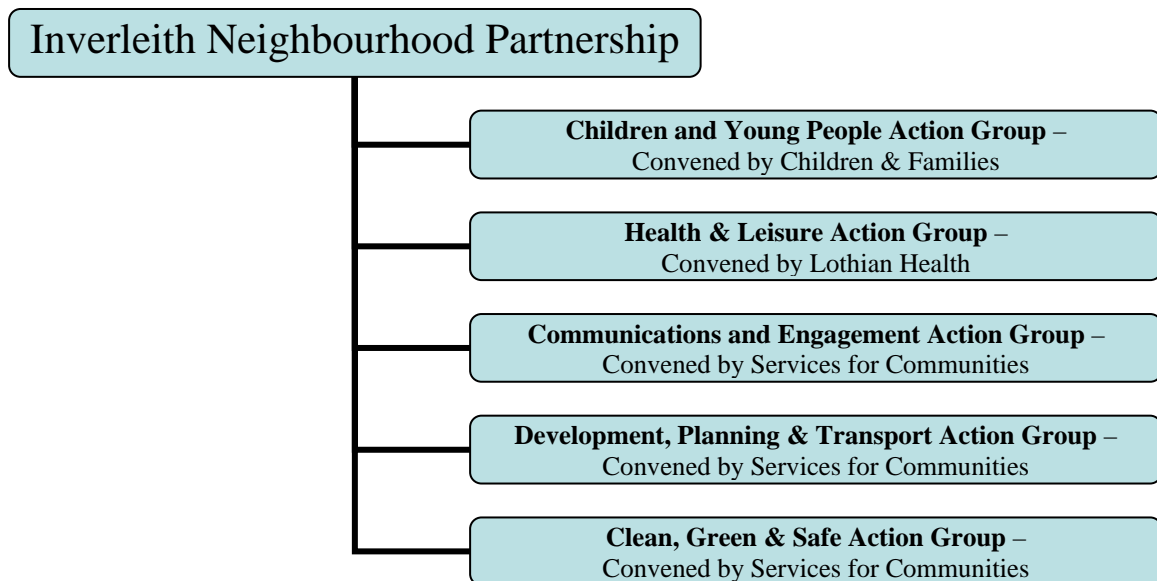
What is a Local Community Plan?



Community Plans aim to improve the quality of life for people living in local communities, by working in partnership to make services, programmes and initiatives more responsive to local needs. They also draw on and build upon existing plans and activities within the areas and ensure that key agencies, Council Departments and other Partners work together to achieve its objectives.

By listening to what you have said – at public meetings, through Community Council’s and through comprehensive Neighbourhood Research - we have developed a vision for where we would like to see our community in 15 years. We have also developed priorities and outcomes for us to deliver this vision over the next four years.

The Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership has established five local action groups to bring together key partners across five themes. These are:



These groups are made of representatives from Services for Communities, other Council departments, Police, Health, Voluntary Sector and Community Councils and work towards agreed priorities for action. Membership of each group can be seen on the website www.edinburghnp.org.uk/page/Inverleith.aspx

The agreed vision and priorities are listed below and over the following pages and a more detailed action plan is being developed, which will describe how the Neighbourhood Partnership plans to achieve the outcomes.

Our Vision

By the Year 2022, Inverleith will be a place where:

- There is a vibrant community offering opportunities for all people to take part in public life.
- People are valued, healthy, and feel in control of their own destiny.
- People are given a wide range of learning and leisure opportunities
- The environment is safe and clean, and our green space is enhanced, maintained and preserved
- Transport links meet local needs

Our Priorities for 2008 to 2011

We, the Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership, have agreed to the following priorities for joint action to help achieve our vision.

1. Maintaining and enhancing our parks and greenspaces
2. Making our environment is cleaner and more sustainable
3. Improving our roads and transport
4. Creating an environment where children and young people can take part in sports and leisure activities
5. Maintaining and improving the health and well-being of the community

The vision and priorities outlined above will be best achieved through an active, informed and committed community which is inclusive of all communities of interest and equalities groups.

The Inverleith Community Plan concentrates on the community priorities which can only be tackled by working in partnership with other Council Departments and Partners.



Our Partners have contributed to and confirmed this shared vision for Inverleith. The plan does not attempt to cover all the services which are provided within the neighbourhood but is about doing something better and different which will complement and add value to the individual plans of these service providers.

Under each priority we have shown why the priority has been chosen, how we will measure if we have made a difference and how this links with other strategic priorities.

Priority 1 – To preserve, enhance and maintain our parks and greenspaces



This has been identified as a key issue for residents of Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership through workshops at public meetings. Specific consultation on Inverleith Park has led to priorities being identified which form part of a Management Plan, and which will be rolled out to include other parks, based on Green Flag Award criteria.

The Cleanliness Index Monitoring System (CIMS) score measures the cleanliness of Edinburgh's streets and Inverleith is above average on this rating (71 in June 2008). Local residents are determined to maintain and enhance this.

There is a wide range of, and good access to, parks and greenspace within the Neighbourhood Partnership, including Royal Botanic Garden and Inverleith Park.

The neighbourhood outcome that the partnership will achieve is;

- **Increased community satisfaction with our parks and greenspaces**

How this will be achieved is detailed in the attached Action Plan, and key partners include City of Edinburgh Council Services for Communities, Lothian & Borders Police, Community Councils, Friends Groups, and other Voluntary Groups including Four Winds Inspiration Centre, British Trust Conservation Volunteers and Drylaw Open Spaces Group.

This outcome will be addressed by the Clean, Green and Safe Action Group, and success will be measured using the following data:

- * Cleanliness Index Monitoring System (CIMS) 2008 **Baseline figure 71**
- * Services for Communities Neighbourhood Research 2008 **78% satisfied with parks and greenspace**
- * Number of parks in Inverleith achieving Green Flag status

Priority 2 – To make our environment cleaner and more sustainable

This has been identified as a key issue for residents of Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership through workshops at public meetings and was also the second highest priority highlighted in the Services for Communities (SfC) Neighbourhood Research, 2008.

The neighbourhood outcome that the partnership will achieve is;

- **Increased community satisfaction with cleanliness of the environment**

How this will be achieved is detailed in the attached Action Plan, and key partners include City of Edinburgh Council Services for Communities, City of Edinburgh Council Children & Families, Lothian & Borders Police, Community Councils, Friends Groups and other Voluntary Groups.

This outcome will be addressed by the Clean, Green and Safe Action Group, and success will be measured using the following data:

- * CIMS 2008 *Baseline figure 71*
- * SfC Neighbourhood Research 2008 *49% satisfied with the management of litter and rubbish in the streets compared to a city average of 56.3%,*
- * SfC Neighbourhood Research 2008 *58% satisfied with the recycling facilities in the neighbourhood compared to a city average of 64%,*

Priority 3 – Better roads and transport

This was identified as a key priority during workshops at public meetings and Inverleith was the only Neighbourhood Partnership where residents stated 'improve public transport' as their top priority for action. (Source: Services for Communities (SfC) Neighbourhood Research, 2008). Current bus routes are under review and the Neighbourhood Partnership will continue to monitor the effect of this on the local community.

The Neighbourhood Partnership is served well with cycle paths and greenspace and these are important to the local communities.

The development of the Tram network has implications for the residents of Inverleith

The neighbourhood outcome that the partnership will achieve is:

- **Increase the satisfaction with roads, public and active transport**

How this will be achieved is detailed in the attached Action Plan, and key partners include City of Edinburgh Council City Development, City of Edinburgh Council SfC, Lothian Buses / First /TIE (Transport Initiatives Edinburgh), SPOKES, Friends Groups, Community Councils

This outcome will be addressed by the Development, Planning and Transport Action Group, and success will be measured using the following data:

- * SfC Neighbourhood Research, 2008 *Inverleith had the second lowest level of satisfaction with public transport across the city (76% compared to city average of 84%)*
- * SfC Neighbourhood Research, 2008 *Residents had only 47% satisfaction with maintenance of roadways and pavements / footpaths, compared to city average of 51%*
- * *Projects completed as part of Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP)*



Priority 4 – To create an environment where children and young people can take part in more sports and leisure activity

This was identified as a key priority at workshops at a public meeting.

There is a slightly lower percentage of children and young people in Inverleith (14.5%) than the rest of the City (15.18%). The Neighbourhood Partnership contains one secondary school (Broughton High School) and 4 primary schools (Blackhall, Ferryhill, Flora Stevenson, Stockbridge).

Various activities for children and young people also take place in the 2 libraries (Stockbridge and Blackhall), the above schools and in church buildings, but there are only 2 dedicated youth facilities – Fet-Lor and Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre.

There are 2 major annual festivals in Inverleith which offer activities and entertainment to children and families – Treefest and Stockbridge Festival.

The neighbourhood outcome the partnership will achieve this is:

- **Increase participation of children and young people in sports and leisure activity**

How this will be achieved is detailed in the attached Action Plan, and key partners include City of Edinburgh Council Children and Families, City of Edinburgh Council SfC, Police, Voluntary Groups, Edinburgh Leisure and Community Councils

This outcome will be addressed by the Children and Young People Action Group, and success will be measured using the following data:

- * Viewfinder 2008 **61% of young people reported attendance at leisure centre or swimming pool, compared to city average of 62%**
- * SfC Neighbourhood Research **24% of residents satisfied with the quality of facilities for young children compared to 26% across City.**
- * SfC Neighbourhood Research **11% of residents satisfied with the quality of facilities for teenagers compared to 12% across City.**

Edinburgh Leisure / Open all Hours

Priority 5 – To maintain and improve health and well-being of the community

The Inverleith area has a healthy population compared to the rest of Edinburgh, including lower hospital admissions for drugs and alcohol misuse, higher rates of breastfeeding and lower instances of smoking in those aged over 16.

The priority for this Neighbourhood Partnership is to maintain these good levels of health and to work towards promoting healthy lifestyles, in particular physical leisure opportunities. It is also important to acknowledge, however, the health inequalities that exist in parts of Inverleith, where many residents, because of recent boundary changes, receive health care provision and support from practices and initiatives in the adjoining Forth Neighbourhood Partnership. Work will continue to monitor work across this area.



Opportunities for physical activity in the area are varied and include parks and greenspace, Glenogle Baths, Ravelston Golf Course and the Water of Leith Walkway. There are also community facilities including schools, libraries and Drylaw Community Centre which offer various activities.

The population of Inverleith has a higher proportion of people who are of pensionable age (20.05%) compared to that of the City (17.01%).

The neighbourhood outcome that the partnership will achieve to create a healthier community is:

- **Maintain and improve health and well-being of the community**

How this will be achieved is detailed in the attached Action Plan and key partners include NHS Lothian, City of Edinburgh Council Health and Social Care, Voluntary Groups, Community Councils and Edinburgh Leisure.

This outcome will be addressed by the Health and Leisure Action Group, and through a targeted public meeting in 2009. Success will be measured using the following data:

* SfC Neighbourhood Research 2008 ***26% of residents felt satisfied with facilities for older people compared to 24% city average.***

* Edinburgh Leisure – ***local projects taking up the Community Access Programme (CAP)***

City for all ages stats?

Tackling Poverty and Disadvantage

Inverleith area includes the Drylaw / Telford Community which has received Community Regeneration Funding (CRF) in previous years to tackle levels of disadvantage and poverty.

Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre was the only CRF funded project situated in the Inverleith Ward, and provides activities and services for local residents. Residents living in Drylaw Telford have also received targeted services from many projects including North Edinburgh Childcare, North West Carers Centre and North Edinburgh News, which are now located within the Forth Neighbourhood Partnership.

The Fairer Scotland Fund was established to allow Community Planning Partnerships to address poverty and disadvantage in their areas. The Edinburgh Partnership and its partners have agreed **three priorities** for the investment of the Fund in Edinburgh:

1. An early intervention approach.
2. Improving health and reducing health inequalities.
3. Improving employability.



Using the Edinburgh Index of Deprivation, Inverleith has been allocated £139,794 for 2009/10 and £138,606 indicative funding for 2010/2011 to tackle disadvantage in the 5% most deprived areas in the ward. Index of Deprivation maps show the main concentration in Drylaw / Telford areas, with smaller pockets in other parts of the ward.

Including carry forward from 2008/09, the Neighbourhood Partnership has agreed allocations of £174,000 for 2009/10 to the following 9 projects providing a range of services which tackle the above priorities:

- Black Community Development Project - £10,000
- Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre - £62,000
- Granton Information Centre - £16,000
- North Edinburgh Business Incubator - £3,000
- North Edinburgh Childcare - £31,000
- North Edinburgh News - £11,000
- North West Carers Centre - £19,000
- Pilton Equalities Project - £15,000
- Pilton Community Health Project / Women Supporting Women - £7,000

Further Information

Inverleith Partnership is keen to continually engage with, and involve people, who live or work within the Inverleith Neighbourhood area.

The following documents are available;

- Inverleith Area Profile 2008
- Services for Communities Neighbourhood Research 2008
- Inverleith Action Plan 2008
- Young Edinburgh – Viewfinder 3 report 2008
- Local Community Engagement Plan 2009
- Edinburgh Index of Deprivation maps 2008

These documents are available to download free of charge from our website at www.edinburghnp.org.uk or from the address below.

If you wish to make comments or discuss any of the services within the community plan, please contact your Neighbourhood office:

Elaine Lennon, Partnership Development Officer, 0131 529 5270, email elaine.lennon@edinburgh.gov.uk

Martina McChrystal, North Partnership and Information Manager, 0131 529 5001, email martina.mcchrystal@edinburgh.gov.uk

Peter Strong,

Neighbourhood Manager

Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership

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