

Deputations

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

10.00 am, Friday, 1st November, 2024

Hybrid Meeting - Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers / Microsoft Teams - City Chambers

Contacts

Email: andrew.henderson@edinburgh.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

EDINBURGH INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

01 NOVEMBER 2024

DEPUTATION REQUESTS

Subject	Deputation
3.1 - In relation to item 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	The Ripple Project (Verbal Submission)
3.2- In relation to item 6.3 Medium Term Financial Strategy Update, 7.1 Finance Update and 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	Edinburgh Community Health Forum and Health All Round (Verbal Submission)
3.3- In relation to item 6.3 Medium Term Financial Strategy Update, 7.1 Finance Update and 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	The Health Agency (Verbal Submission)
3.4 - In relation to item 6.3 Medium Term Financial Strategy Update, 7.1 Finance Update and 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	Edinburgh Community Food (Verbal Submission)
3.5– In relation to item 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	Cyrenians (Verbal Submission)
3.6– In relation to item 6.3 Medium Term Financial Strategy Update, 7.1 Finance Update and 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	Voluntary Sector Reps of the Adult Support & Protection Committee (Verbal Submission)

EDINBURGH INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

01 NOVEMBER 2024

DEPUTATION REQUESTS

3.7- In relation to item 7.1 Finance Update and 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	Edinburgh Trade Union Council (Verbal Submission)
3.8- In relation to item 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (Verbal Submission)
3.9 - In relation to item 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	Citizens Advice Edinburgh, Community Help and Advice Initiative and Granton Information Centre (Verbal and Written Submission)
3.10 - In relation to item 7.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership	Dr Scott Arthur MP (Written Submission)

Information or statements contained in any deputation to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board represent the views and opinions of those submitting the deputation. The reference to, or publication of, any information or statements included within a deputation, including on the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board's website, or those of its partners, does not constitute an endorsement by the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board of any such information or statement and should not be construed as representing the views or position of the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board. The Edinburgh Integration Joint Board accepts no responsibility for comments or views expressed by individuals or groups as part of their deputations.

Context

This deputation is submitted on behalf of the consortium of Income Maximisation and advice providers in the city:

- Citizens Advice Edinburgh (**CAE**)
- Community Help and Advice Initiative (**CHAI**) and
- Granton Information Centre (**GIC**)

Collectively, we receive 22% of the funding that is proposed to be removed and support at least 27% of the Individual's that access EIJB Grant Funded Support on an annual basis. Moreover, in addition to the EIJB grant fund, we bring in an additional **£2m** of funding for early intervention and prevention services in Edinburgh each year.

As a result of the significant contribution we make and the significant impact the proposed cuts would make, we would ask that the EIJB take account of both our written deputation and invite us to speak directly to the board on 1 November 2024, so that we can provide more direct testimony to the impact we believe these recommendations will have.

Deputation:

We note the papers that have been submitted to the EIJB and recognise the significant financial pressures it faces, including the need to meet its statutory obligations. We also welcome the recognition of the significant impact we and other 3rd sector services have on the health and well-being of Edinburgh, detailed throughout the reports.

However, the proposal lacks a detailed Integrated Impact Assessment of the withdrawal of the current Grants Programme, nor does it outline any information on what the suggested Public Social Partnership funding model will look like.

As a result, we ask members of the EIJB to vote against the proposal disinvestment of grant funded services and instead request that the Chief Officer provides a more robust and detailed Integrated Impact Assessment and provides the framework, outcomes, timescale and funding upon which a Public Social Partnership model of future funding will be based. Only then will the EIJB have the £necessary information upon which it should make a decision of this magnitude.

There are 3 main reasons for this:

1. The return on investment figures presented to the EIJB by Chief Officers are not correct. We measure and report on our return on investment in 3 ways:
 - The additional income that has been achieved for the citizens of Edinburgh, primarily through access to previously unclaimed welfare

entitlement, employment pay and entitlements, affordable debt repayment and improved financial management.

- The additional income that we bring into Edinburgh for the provision of prevention and early intervention services.
- The unpaid hours of support our volunteers provide.

Combined, this provides a return of **£14.62** for every £1 of investment from the EIJB Grants Programme.

2. The Integrated Impact Assessment does not provide the EIJB with enough details or evidence of the impact. Substantial details are missing, but to highlight three examples:

- It states no staff will be made redundant. Evidence from the 3rd sector providers suggests that more than 100 individuals will be placed at risk of redundancy if the EIJB vote in favour of this recommendation. Many of those are staff who have delivered services on behalf of the NHS and City of Edinburgh Council Grant Programmes for decades.
- It states that removal of preventative services **may** in turn lead to higher demand for services to meet critical and substantial needs, when we know in fact that it **will** and the cost of preventative 3rd sector services compared to statutory critical and substantial services will be substantially higher than the saving proposed by this disinvestment. That detail could and should be provided.
- It states that services users will be signposted to other community services and this will mitigate the impact on them, but no examples are provided of these alternative community services, because they do not exist or do not have capacity to meet that demand. Those facts should be stated, and the impact recognised that those clients will not have access to alternative preventative services.

3. The potential contraction of the social care sector and 3rd sector overall is stated as being mitigated by developing a commissioning strategy which aligns with the EHSCP strategic plan, but this mitigation is not in place, has no time scale for development and no funding to support it. Until that mitigation or at least details of that mitigation are in place, we would ask that the EIJB do not vote in favour of that proposal.



Dr Scott Arthur MP
Member of Parliament for Edinburgh South West
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Wednesday, 30 October 2024

Pat Togher
Chief Officer
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

Dear Pat,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent publication of your report, "Edinburgh Intergration Joint Board Grants Programme and Public Social Partnership, 1 November 2024" (the "Report"). Several third sector organisations in my constituency, Edinburgh South West, have raised serious issues about the analysis, conclusions, and potential consequences of the proposed recommendations.

My key concerns include:

- **Lack of Consultation:** The absence of consultation with the third sector prior to the report's publication raises significant questions about the accuracy and validity of the analysis.
- **Inaccurate Information:** The report contains numerous inaccuracies, likely resulting from the lack of consultation.
- **Vague Alternative Proposal:** The proposed Public Social Partnership model lacks a clear framework, timeline, or funding allocation, making it difficult to assess its feasibility and potential impact.
- **Severe Consequences of Funding Cuts:** The immediate cuts to grants for many third sector organisations could have devastating consequence, including:
 - **Reduced Service Provision:** A significant reduction in essential services for vulnerable residents in my constituency.
 - **Job Losses:** The potential for over 200 redundancies within the sector.
 - **Compromised Community Health and Well-being:** A negative impact on the overall health and well-being of communities in Edinburgh and Lothian.

I acknowledge the financial challenges faced by the EIJB, City of Edinburgh Council, and NHS Lothian at the hands of the Scottish Government and accept fair funding from them would resolve the issue. Nonetheless, I believe the proposed approach is misguided and could lead to irreparable harm.

I urge you in the strongest possible terms to pause and reconsider the recommendations of the report and engage in meaningful dialogue with all stakeholders, including third sector organisations, to develop a more sustainable and equitable solution. This collaborative approach will ensure that the needs of our communities are met and that essential services are protected.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Dr Scott Arthur MP
Member of Parliament for Edinburgh South West

Contact me, e-mail Address: scott.arthur.mp@parliament.uk

This page is intentionally left blank