
**Please find attached the report in respect of Item No. 4
on the agenda for the above meeting.**

4.	Economic Development Update (Pages 3 - 78) Consider briefing paper by Director – Resilient Communities (Copy attached.)	15 mins
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Economic Development Briefing Note

Report by Director - Resilient Communities

Executive Committee

12 September 2023

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides elected members with a briefing note on the key areas of economic development delivery within the Scottish Borders. The note identifies some of the policies and strategies that are currently driving regional economic development and details key pieces of work.
- 1.2 The Local Employability Partnership (LEP) was established in September 2021 to help drive the employability agenda and to foster a strong collaborative approach to delivery. One of the key elements of work is the delivery of the No One Left Behind (NOLB) funding programme which has a greater focus on Child Poverty. In the first quarter of 2023/24 a team of 10 key workers has supported 113 clients with a range of barriers to employment.
- 1.3 Scottish Borders Council and South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE) agreed to form a strategic partnership for delivery of the Business Gateway service in November 2020, with the transfer of services completed in April 2021. This paper provides an update on delivery and indicates a consistent demand for Business Gateway services, with strong enquiry numbers which is very encouraging.
- 1.4 All of the key agencies in the South of Scotland, including Scottish Borders Council are currently collaborating in terms of the development of a single Responsible Tourism Destination Development Strategy for the South of Scotland.
- 1.5 The UCI Cycling World Championships at Glentress were deemed to be a great success and showed the Borders at its best to an estimated television audience of over one billion people. Glentress was the host venue for the cross-country cycling and marathon events and in addition there was a full range of programmes and activities for all visitors and attendees.
- 1.6 Following a series of recent meetings and discussions, The Scottish Government, Transport Scotland and The UK Government Department for Transport have confirmed that they are content for the Borders Railway Extension project to move into the first stage of the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal Business Case process. There was also agreement that Scottish

Borders Council could submit a funding request to appoint a Senior Project Manager to help lead the business case process.

- 1.7 The Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal was signed in March 2021 by the Borderlands Partnership, the UK and Scottish Governments, and the five local authorities within the Borderlands area. An update on the various projects that have The Deal will provide a total funding package of £452m over 10 years for the Borderlands area, with £150m available for the South of Scotland, comprising £65m from the UK Government and £85m from the Scottish Government.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 I recommend that the Executive Committee:

- (a) Notes the information provided regarding current economic development delivery affecting the Scottish Borders;**
- (b) Notes that future delivery updates will be reported back to the Executive Committee on a regular basis.**

3 KEY AREAS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DELIVERY

3.1 A briefing note and update on some of the key elements of local economic development delivery are provided below.

3.2 Employability

The Local Employability Partnership (LEP) was established in September 2021 to help drive the employability agenda and to foster a stronger collaborative approach to delivery. The importance of the LEP has been recognised by the Scottish Government as the most appropriate mechanism to ensure that there is further integration and alignment of employability and skills provision at local level.

Since the initiation of the group, the LEP has gained a stronger understanding of the local employability needs in the Scottish Borders through data intelligence supported by Skills Development Scotland, Department of Work and Pensions, City Regional Partnership, employability services, third sector, colleges and educational partners.

The key aims of the LEP is to provide strong leadership and governance along with a clear vision statement and a targeted set of priorities for the delivery of employability related interventions throughout the Scottish Borders.

One of the main priorities of the LEP is to deliver the No One Left Behind (NOLB) funding programme which has a greater focus on Child Poverty in 2023/24. In the first quarter of 2023/24 a team of 10 key workers supported 113 clients with a range of barriers along the employability pipeline.

The team is split into three sections:

- NOLB stage 1 who work with 16-19 year olds furthest from the labour market;
- Parental Employment Support working with parents with a range of barriers; and
- Employment Support Service supporting those with barriers in employment.

The Parental Employment Support team also include dedicated key workers supporting the Project Search initiative, an intensive support programme for young people (16 – 29) with additional needs such as a learning disability or autism.

The LEP is currently managing a number of funding applications that are currently coming through the open call for projects process linked to the Shared Prosperity Fund. Seven applications have currently been supported through this process with a further batch of expressions of interest from partners and third sector organisations currently being considered.

3.3 Business Gateway

Scottish Borders Council (SBC) and SOSE agreed to form a strategic partnership for delivery of the Business Gateway service in the Scottish Borders in November 2020 and to transfer the operational delivery from SBC to SOSE in April 2021.

As part of this partnership arrangement, it was agreed that regular updates in the form of business start-ups and general activity would be provided to Scottish Borders Council.

The Business Gateway outputs from quarter one of financial year 2023/24, have been provided in Table 1. The information provided indicates a consistent demand for Business Gateway services, with strong enquiry numbers which is encouraging.

Table 1 – Business Gateway Outputs – Quarter One 2023/24

Output Targets 2021/22	Current Position	Outputs 2022/23	Targets 2023/24	Actual Q1 Outputs	Actual Q2 Outputs	Actual Q3 Outputs	Actual Q4 Outputs	Total 2023/24 Outputs
Start-up Service								
Total number of start-up customers who have begun trading	Building a post-covid recovery pipeline of start-up business	217	150	51				
Start-up with Employees	Building a post-covid recovery pipeline of business who are employing staff	19	20	0				
Number of business Start-up enquiries	New target introduced to demonstrate demand for individuals exploring business start-up.	450	300	123				
Number of Start-up workshops delivered by Business Gateway Scottish Borders	BG workshops delivered locally, these workshops	66	35	11				
Number of clients attending start-up workshops/seminars	This target reflects the estimated number of attendees from Scottish Borders at national workshops/seminars, which forms part of our pipeline	525	250	94				

3.4 Events, Tourism and Cycling

Events

Officers are continuing to implement the Scottish Borders Strategic Events Strategy. This plan is ambitious and provides support for strategic events that have a regional economic impact, are sustainable and are working towards the delivery of net zero.

The National Event Strategy “Scotland the Perfect Stage” review is still ongoing, with a first draft hopefully being made available in November 2023. The final version will be available from March 2024. The refreshed strategy will be extended through to 2035.

Tourism

All of the key agencies in the region, including Scottish Borders Council are currently collaborating in terms of the development of a single Responsible Tourism Destination Development Strategy for the South of Scotland.

The South of Scotland Destination Alliance has recently been promoting a series of consultation events throughout the South of Scotland, including local area workshops, digital online thematic meetings, and an online survey. This work will contribute to the strategy document and associated delivery plan. To support this activity the Council has recently recruited a Tourism Officer to support partnership activity across the Scottish Borders.

In response to concerns about the emergence of short term lets and potential negative impacts, Scottish Government recently instructed all local authorities to introduce a licensing system for short-term lets by 1st October 2023. An online registration system for the Scottish Borders has been developed for relevant businesses, along with a focused media and communication campaign.

Cycling

The UCI Cycling World Championships at Glentress were a great success and showed the Borders at its best to an estimated television audience of over one billion people. Glentress was the host venue for the cross-country cycling and marathon events and in addition there was a full range of programmes and activities for all.

Following the world championship event, it has been confirmed that the South of Scotland has now joined a prestigious list of world-leading cycling destinations, having been awarded the "UCI Bike Region" label, the first Scottish region to achieve this accreditation. The label recognises our region's commitment to both elite cycling and cycling for all.

Other key cycling related projects include the development of the National Mountain Bike Innovation Centre in Innerleithen, the 250-mile Kirkpatrick C2C route between Stranraer and Eyemouth and the opening of a new section of shared access route between Peebles and Eddleston.

3.5 Shared Prosperity Fund

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) is part of the UK Government Levelling Up agenda, designed to help deliver local investment and to help build pride in place and increase life chances in every area across the UK.

UK Government guidance indicates that this investment should be directed to:

- Help provide an increase in job opportunities;
- Improve living standards;
- Improve public services in areas where they are most needed; and
- Help empower communities to deliver services or facilities for community benefit.

The SPF is delivered over four key funding strands:

- Community & Place;
- Supporting Local Business;

- People & Skills; and
- Multiply (adult numeracy)

In December 2022, Scottish Borders was awarded £5,369,972 and the funding will run until 31st March 2025.

A percentage of the overall fund has been allocated to cover management and administration costs with the remainder split as follows:-

	2023/24	2024/2025	Total
Community & Place	£673,676	£1,272,032	£1,945,708
Supporting Local Business	£575,090	£681,825	£1,256,915
People & Skills	£573,504	£747,941	£1,331,445
Multiply	£403,718	£217,387	£621,105
4% Management /Admin	107,399	107,400	£214,799
TOTALS	2,333,387	3,026,585	£5,369,972

Nine projects have already been awarded funding in the Scottish Borders totalling £1,161,689. Details of these projects can be found at [UK Shared Prosperity Fund | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/uk-shared-prosperity-fund)

A further six projects are currently progressing towards funding sign-off which would allocate an additional £889,470.

3.6 Community Led Local Development

The Community Led Local Development Fund (CLLD) is a Scottish Government funding scheme, administered on behalf of the Local Action Group (LAG) by Scottish Borders Council. The LAG consists of volunteers from the local community and other key organisations.

This year the LAG was given £270k in revenue and £120k in capital to distribute to suitable projects that tackle social inclusion, seek to alleviate poverty (especially Child/Fuel) or move towards Net Zero. Applicants were asked to develop projects with an ask of up to £20k.

The LAG has awarded funding to 8 groups so far this year and this information will be publicised in the near future.

There are more rounds of funding later in the year and the LAG intends to allocate all of the funding by the end of October 2023.

3.7 Borderlands

The Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal was signed in March 2021 by the Borderlands Partnership, the UK and Scottish Governments, and the five local authorities within the Borderlands area: Carlisle City Council, Cumbria County

Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Northumberland Council, and Scottish Borders Council. The Deal will provide a total funding package of £452m over 10 years for the Borderlands area with £150m available for the South of Scotland.

Programmes and Projects Updates

Since the last update was provided to the Committee on 18 April 2023, work has continued on a number of programmes and projects

The Mountain Bike Innovation Centre and Adventure Bike Park with Trail Lab at Innerleithen is a £40m capital programme being led by South of Scotland Enterprise that has submitted its Full Business Case to the UK and Scottish Governments. Scottish Borders Council approved the Full Business Case on 31 August 2023. The Full Business Case will require final approval by both governments before going to the Borderlands Partnership Board for approval in December 2023.

The Business Infrastructure Programme (Scotland) is a £13.7m capital programme for the South of Scotland, which includes £3m of Borderlands funding for the Scottish Borders and a contribution of £632k from Scottish Borders Council. This funding is for the building of industrial units and the servicing of land at five sites across the South of Scotland, including Coldstream and Hawick in the Scottish Borders. The Full Business Case for the Coldstream project was approved by Scottish Borders Council on 31 August 2023. It is anticipated that work on the Full Business Case for servicing land at Hawick will take place in 2024.

The Natural Capital Programme Outline Business Case has been approved by Scottish Government and Scottish Borders Council (31 August 2023). The programme is split into five pilots:

- An Agri-Environment Pilot: Embedding Agricultural Resilience for a Productive Future – Farmers, Landowners and Species-rich Grassland (led by Scottish Borders Council) and Whole Farm Audits and Natural Capital Advisory (led by Dumfries and Galloway Council).
- A Woodland Pilot: Integrated Land Use and Woodland Creation (led by Scottish Borders Council).
- A Marine Pilot: A Sustainable Solway Economy (led by Dumfries and Galloway Council).
- An Investment Pilot: Borderlands Natural Capital Investment Plan (South of Scotland-wide).
- A Data Pilot: Natural Capital Data Audit and Mapping (South of Scotland-wide).

Destination Tweed is a £25m capital programme centred on a 113-mile long walking and cycling trail from Moffat to Berwick-upon-Tweed. In addition to the Tweed Trail, the programme constitutes another 12 projects that cover

economic, cultural, and environmental themes. An Outline Business Case was approved by the Scottish Government and by Scottish Borders Council Council (on 29 June 2023). Prior to this, an update on the programme was given to Council on 25 May 2023 during which it was noted that Scottish Borders Council are leading on the project management and construction of the Tweed Trail works. A draft Full Business Case will be submitted for Government consideration in due course before being submitted for approval by Council and the Borderlands Partnership Board.

The Place Programme is a £50m programme across the Borderlands region, which includes £20m of investment from the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal in the South of Scotland, including £7.25m for the Scottish Borders. There are four towns within the Scottish Borders that will be developing Place Plans as part of the programme:

- Eyemouth – A Town Team has been established and is meeting regularly. It is being supported by Borders Community Action and the team has emerged from the Vision 4 Eyemouth membership and expanded to include young people from the High School;
- Galashiels – Energise Galashiels Trust is leading on bringing together a Town Team. It is intended to confirm a core team in the near future with a view to establishing an agreed structure and developing wider engagement;
- Hawick – A new Town Team had its first meeting on 12 September 2023. This builds on a series of successful engagement sessions conducted by the community over the summer; and
- Jedburgh – The Town Team is established, meeting regularly and looking to learn from Town Teams elsewhere. The process is being supported by a project with Jedburgh Grammar School on a young person's 20-minute neighbourhood and other engagement with students.

The Energy Programme is a £31m programme across the Borderlands region, which includes £14m of investment from the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal in the South of Scotland, including £3.6m for the Scottish Borders. A Borderlands Energy Masterplan will provide a robust evidence base to inform decision-making and identify key areas for investment in low carbon and low-cost energy opportunities across the region. The next step is to develop an Investment Programme and identify where to focus the funding to maximise the impact across the region.

Digital Borderlands is a transformational digital and mobile infrastructure programme to increase rural productivity and support inclusive growth. There is an opportunity to invest £32.2m across the Borderlands region, which includes £16.2m of investment for the South of Scotland and £9.45m for the Scottish Borders. There has been a delay to the Outline Business Case stage because of changes in the public policy and investment environment for digital infrastructure and this has led to the need for a programme reset, taking into account the delivery of existing commercial and public funded commitments.

3.8 **Borders Railway**

Following a series of recent meetings and discussions, The Scottish Government, Transport Scotland and The UK Government Department for Transport have confirmed that they are content for the Borders Railway Extension project to move into the first stage of the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal Business Case process.

There was also agreement from all of the agencies that Scottish Borders Council could submit a funding request to Scottish and UK Governments to appoint a Senior Project Manager to help lead the business case process and undertake key tasks such as stakeholder consultation with key partners and communities.

The first meeting of the newly formed Borders Railway Reference Group was held on 24th August and it was confirmed at the meeting that the funding requests for a new Senior Project Manager had been received by UK and Scottish Governments and were currently being considered.

3.9 **Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal**

The annual report for the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal 2022/23 provides an update on all of the activity that is taking place throughout the region, including work that has been undertaken in the Scottish Borders. A copy of the report is provided in **Appendix A**.

4 **IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 **Financial**

Each programme of work noted in the paper is being delivered within approved budgets. This is a descriptive report and therefore detailed analysis of each project has not been provided.

4.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

Each programme of work noted in the paper has their own particular issues in relation to risk and potential mitigation and will be reported on individually. This is a descriptive report and therefore detailed analysis of each project has not been provided in this instance.

4.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment**

Each programme of work noted in the paper has their own particular issues in relation to potential impact assessment and will be reported on individually. However, a key aspect of Scottish Borders Council's work in relation to Economic Development is to reduce barriers to inequality and help to promote sustainable, inclusive economic growth.

4.4 **Sustainable Development Goals**

The intention is for each of the programmes of work noted in the paper to provide socially and environmentally responsible decision making, balanced

with delivering economic benefits to help sustain local communities and where applicable driving local supply chains and the circular economy.

4.5 **Climate Change**

The intension is for each of the programmes of work noted in the paper to provide socially and environmentally responsible decision making processes and to have sustainability as a core theme.

4.6 **Rural Proofing**

This report provides an update on a number of programmes of work that will have a positive impact on all areas of the Scottish Borders.

4.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.8 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

There are no changes to the scheme of administration or the scheme of delegation proposed in this report.

5 **CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The Director of Finance and Procurement, the Director of Corporate Governance, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director of People Performance & Change, the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications have not been consulted on this report. Comments received on the day will be incorporated into the final version of the report.

Approved by

Samantha Smith

Chief Officer Economic Development

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Lesley Forsyth	Principal Officer – Economic Development
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Background Papers:

Previous Minute Reference: Economic Development Update, 18 April 2023

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Graeme Johnstone can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at: gjohnstone@scotborders.gov.uk



CITY REGION DEAL

Edinburgh
& South East
Scotland

ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – 2023





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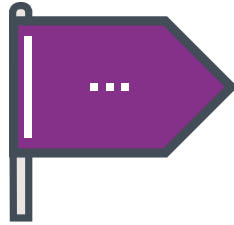


Executive Summary

Key Achievements



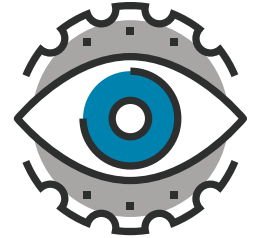
£58.8m spent in 2022/23



1,268 enrolments in data upskilling short courses, **70%** up on last year



47% of total Government allowance has been drawn down in first 5 years of 15-year programme



20 of 22 projects now in Implementation or Delivery phase



DataLoch supported more than **£6.5m** in research revenue



£300k funding secured to boost skillsets for retrofit and net zero in homes



IRES programme has improved the skills of **103,000** people and helped **4,500** into work



677 learners have been awarded Data Skills Credits



543 of the **728** mid-market rent homes have been delivered through Edinburgh Living



800 approvals, **2,300** site starts and **2,400** completions for affordable homes across the region – ahead of target



Executive Summary

Timeline



National Robotarium opens



First building occupied in Borders Innovation Park



Transport Barrier Baseline Report published by Workforce Mobility project



City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Framework published and adopted



Site clearing commences for Dunard Centre construction



Work completed at West Way, Dalgety Bay as part of Fife Industrial Innovation Investment Programme



Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan published and adopted



2 years of funding committed for Regional Housing Alliance for the South East of Scotland



Community Wealth Building Framework for Action and accompanying pledge launched



Consultation for Broxburn to Maybury public and active travel launched part of West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal project



New A1 Junction to unlock Edinburgh Innovation Park, East Lothian opened



Bus Driver Careers campaign launched part of the Workforce Mobility project



Green Economy Jobs Campaign launched as part of Integrated Employer Engagement project



Executive Summary

Video Highlights

A showcase of the diverse and innovative initiatives supported by the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal, featuring the people and organisations behind the projects, their delivery partners across the region, and those who are benefiting.

Women in Data

The PDA Data Science programme is delivered by Edinburgh College through the Data Education in Colleges project. The programme is aimed at reducing the gender imbalance within IT and Tech roles by supporting women to enhance their skills in digital and data innovation. We hear from several students enrolled on the course who are taking the opportunity to further their learning, enhance their lives and advance in their careers.



Ukrainian Construction Academy

The Integrated Employer Engagement project worked with Balfour Beatty, lead contractor for the Edinburgh Futures Institute to design and deliver a construction academy for members of the Ukrainian Community who had been resettled within our region. The programme supported 13 people to obtain the required UK industry qualifications which led to them securing sustainable employment and additional further education opportunities.



BE-ST Retrofit

The Housing, Construction and Infrastructure (HCI) Skills Gateway is changing construction across Edinburgh and South East Scotland. With almost 40% of UK greenhouse gas emissions emitted by the built environment, it has never been more important to work together to inspire new careers and upskill existing experts to achieve sustainable low carbon housing and construction.



Dunard Centre

The Dunard Centre is being delivered as part of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal as the sole project in the 'Culture' theme. We hear from those making this centre a reality, as well as Beth Malcolm, a performer who shares why this space is so exciting to her as one of Scotland's up and coming performers.





Executive Summary

Fife Innovation Zone

The Fife Innovation Zone is being delivered as part of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal's innovation theme. It delivers a sustained investment programme in modern business premises. In this video, we explore in further detail the methods being used to save energy, and contribute to the wider economic growth in Fife, and speak to a tenant directly operating out of the innovation zone.



Data Education in Schools

The Data Education in Schools programme is for children and young people across the City Region to learn about data to benefit their personal lives and open up new possibilities for interesting and well-paid careers. One example can be seen in Addiewell Primary School, where children of learnt about the impact Co2 levels have on their own learning and focus, as well as how it effects a reptilian friend in the Five Sisters Zoo.



Bus Driver Careers

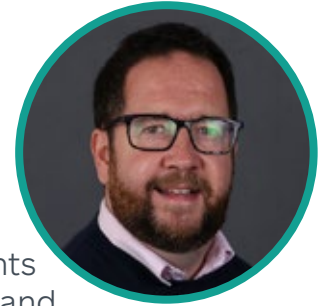
The Workforce Mobility Project launched a Bus Driver Career video to promote career opportunities in the industry. Hear from various bus operator staff who share their experiences including the 'benefits of the job', 'career progression opportunities' and 'the investment in you by the operators'.



Green Economy Jobs

To achieve ambitious climate change goals, we need to work together across all sectors to create a workforce with the required skills and understanding of sustainability. This will drive forward a truly green economy. This campaign aims to inform and encourage everyone to think about the impact they can make within their own career choices. Hear from experienced and passionate individuals from various sectors sharing their ideas and practices about making a difference.





1. Forewords

Cllr Euan Jardine

Convener of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

The Edinburgh and South East Scotland (ESES) City Region Deal celebrated its fifth anniversary on 7 August. Excellent progress has been made in delivering the £1.5 billion programme to create new economic opportunities, increase prosperity, promote inclusion and reduce inequalities. The ESES regional partnership brings together six local authorities, four universities, six colleges and the Regional Enterprise Council – made up of business, social enterprise and third sector representatives from across the region.

Business cases for 18 of 20 Deal projects have been approved and are now being implemented. Particular highlights in the last 12 months include the opening of the **National Robotarium** in September 2022, the launch of the **Usher Innovation Community** in November 2022 and the completion of the Edinburgh Innovation Park A1 grade separated junction in May 2023.

Over 66,000 skills enhancements and 4,500 job outcomes have been delivered through the Integrated Regional Employability and Skills programme to increase employment and career progression opportunities for the city region's residents. In the Borders Innovation Park at Tweedbank, we now have an amazing new Digital Centre of Excellence where our Inspire Learning programme delivers learning opportunities, training and events for children and young people, teachers and communities to improve their digital skills. Greater detail about every project is in Section 4.

Short case-study videos throughout the report vividly highlight the positive impact that projects are having on our residents' lives.

Ensuring that investments support strategic plans and priorities is crucial in delivering the greatest benefits locally, regionally and nationally. **Our Regional Prosperity Delivery Framework** was approved in March 2023 and sets out an ambitious and dynamic series of four key programmes to deliver the region's ambitions: Green Regeneration and Skills; Infrastructure for Recovery and Prosperity; Visitor Economy and Culture; and a Data Driven Innovation (DDI) Enabled Economy.

You can read more about this regional collaboration in Section 6.

Beyond the Deal's projects, our regional cohesion and robust governance enables us to respond effectively to challenges and opportunities. Examples include:

- The successful Green Forth Freeport bid which was **endorsed by Joint Committee** to boost innovation and inclusive growth within our communities.
- Contributing our regional perspective to key consultations including National Planning Framework 4; the National Strategy for Economic Transformation; the Strategic Transport Projects Review 2; and the Scottish Government's Regional Economic Policy Review.
- Establishing a series of regional propositions for the region's six local authorities to deliver utilising the UK Government's **Shared Prosperity Fund**.

We will build on these successes and the strength of our regional partnership to further accelerate prosperity and inclusion to ensure the benefits are fully enjoyed across the region.



1. Forewords

Garry Clark

Chair of Regional Enterprise Council

It has been a great pleasure to reflect on the impactful progress made in the fifth year of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal.

The Regional Enterprise Council (REC)

was formed in November 2018 to advise the Deal's decision-making body, the Joint Committee, on the delivery of projects across the city region and to encourage further investment opportunities. In directly participating on the Joint Committee and Elected Member Oversight Committee, we represent business, social enterprise and wider third sector across the region and help to ensure that the benefits from the Deal support our shared ambition for achieving sustainable and inclusive economic growth throughout the city region. REC members bring a broad range of experience, expertise and wide networks to best represent business, social enterprise and wider third sector across the city region.

We helped to develop the Regional Prosperity Framework vision and shape the related **Delivery Framework** which was approved in March 2023. It is encouraging to see this ambitious 20-year economic plan enter its delivery phase with strong support across the region. We have also witnessed the success of the Forth Green Freeport bid in January 2023 following the REC's support of the bid and its strong focus on quality jobs, upskilling, small business facilities and a 'Just Transition' away from hydrocarbons. This should help to both tackle inequalities and to achieve our net-zero carbon aspirations.

Garry Clark



The Deal's **Benefits Realisation Measurement Framework**

was also approved in March 2023, which will ensure that the Deal impacts are realised and maximised across the whole city region.

The REC is particularly determined to promote the use of **Community Wealth Building**, to ensure that every Deal programme works together to maximise synergies and open up new opportunities for local businesses and communities alike. We are pleased to see the creation of the **CLES Framework for Action** specially for the Deal and the Community Benefits **regional portal** has now delivered 60 matches between suppliers and good causes.

A lot has been achieved in the last 12 months and in the first five years of the ESES City Region Deal. This provides the economic platform which the regional partnership will use as a springboard to ensure that the engine room of the Scottish economy delivers further prosperity and opportunity to its citizens and to the rest of Scotland.

Finally, a special thank you to Claire Pattullo, who stood down from the REC this year, having served first as Vice Chair and then as Chair since its creation. Claire has made an enormous contribution to the development and success of the Deal. In particular, she has been a tireless champion of the role that the third sector brings to the Deal and this will be a vital legacy to develop.



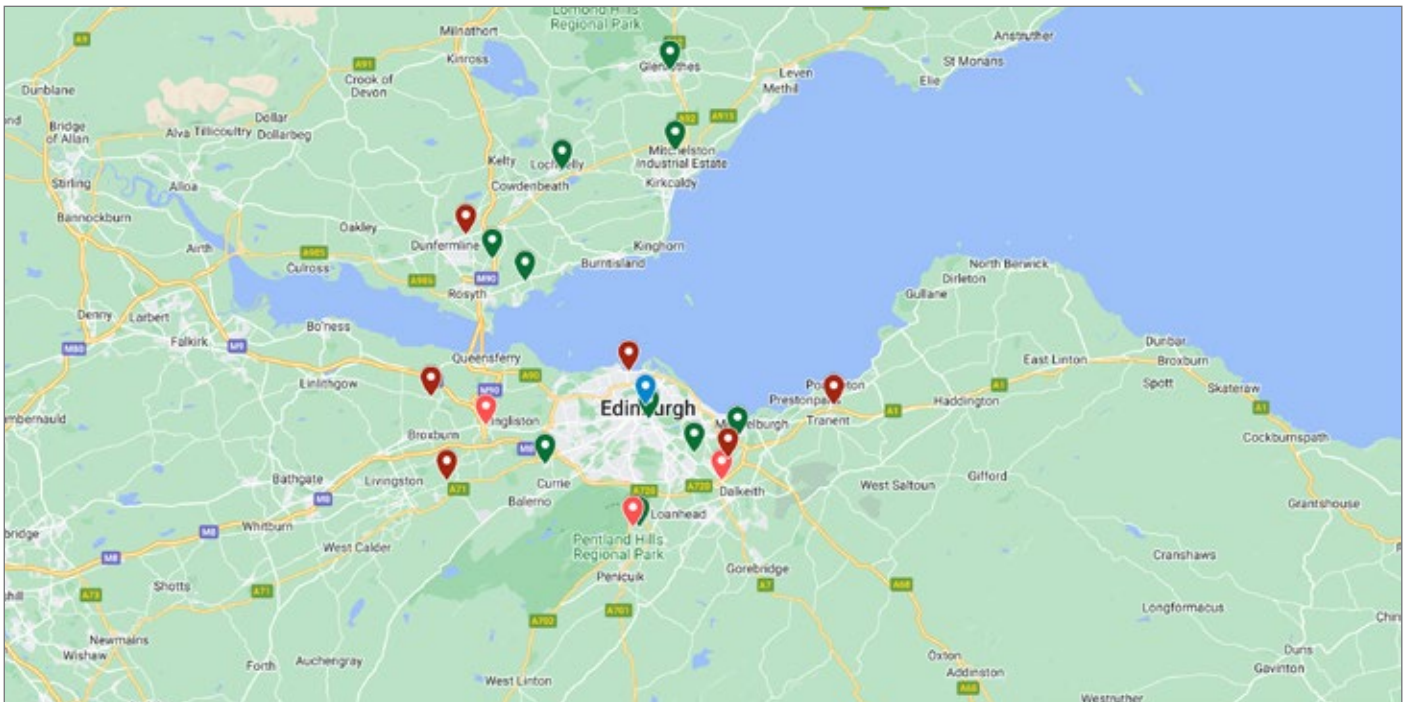
2. City Region Deal Overview

Status of Projects and Finances

The Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal is now a **£1.5 billion*** (originally £1.3 billion), **15-year programme** aimed at driving productivity and reducing inequalities through five key themes:



***Original figures were:**
Research, Development & Innovation – £791m
Culture – £45m
but have grown due to increased partner contributions.



This map shows where the projects are located across the region

Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) activity spans across the whole City Region and is integrated into all projects.

- Research, Development and Innovation
- Transport
- Culture
- Strategic Housing Sites



2. City Region Deal Overview

The 23 City Region Deal projects are listed in the Table below. More detail on the projects, including their current status in **Section 4**.

Table 1: Status of Programmes and Projects – July 2023

Theme/Programme/Project	Location	Business Case Approval Link	Stage	On Time?	On Budget?
Research, Development and Innovation					
Edinburgh International Data Facility	Edinburgh/Midlothian	Dec 18	3. Deliver		
Bayes Centre	City of Edinburgh	Dec 18	3. Deliver		
National Robotarium	City of Edinburgh	Dec 18	3. Deliver		
Edinburgh Futures Institute	City of Edinburgh	Mar 19	2. Implement		
Usher Institute	City of Edinburgh	Sep 19	2. Implement		
Easter Bush	Midlothian	Mar 21	2. Implement		
Edinburgh Innovation Park (Food and Drink Innovation Hub)	East Lothian	Jun 21	2. Implement		
Fife Industrial Innovation Investment	Fife	Mar 19	2. Implement		
Borders Innovation Park	Scottish Borders	Mar 19	2. Implement		
Integrated Regional Employability and Skills	Cross-Regional	Dec 18			
Integrated Knowledge Systems	Cross-Regional	Jun 19	3. Deliver		
Labour Market Analysis and Evaluation	Cross-Regional	Jun 19	3. Deliver		
Integrated Employer Engagement	Cross-Regional	Jun 19	3. Deliver		
Intensive Family Support	Cross-Regional	Mar 19	3. Deliver		
Data-Driven Innovation Skills Gateway	Cross-Regional	Mar 19	3. Deliver		
Housing and Construction Infrastructure Skills Gateway	Cross-Regional	Mar 19	3. Deliver		
Workforce Mobility	Cross-Regional	Jun 19	3. Deliver		

Table continues overleaf



2. City Region Deal Overview

The 23 City Region Deal projects are listed in the Table below. More detail on the projects, including their current status in **Section 4**.

Table 1: Status of Programmes and Projects – July 2023

Theme/Programme/Project	Location	Business Case Approval	Stage	On Time?	On Budget?
Transport					
West Edinburgh	City of Edinburgh	Expected Mar 24	1. Define		
A720 (Sheriffhall Roundabout)	Edinburgh/Midlothian	TBC	1. Define		
Culture					
Dunard Centre	City of Edinburgh	Mar 22	2. Implement		
Regional Housing Programme	Cross-Regional	Sep 19 (work prog report)			
Affordable Housing Programme	Cross-Regional	N/A	3. Deliver		N/A*
Seven Strategic Sites	Cross-Regional	Winchburgh: Aug 18 Dunfermline: Jun 21 Granton: Dec 21	2. Implement		
Innovation and Skills	Cross-Regional	N/A	2. Implement		N/A*
Edinburgh Living (housing company)	Cross-Regional	N/A	3. Deliver		

* No Government funding through the City Region Deal

Project Stages

Stage no.	Definition
1. Define	Business case being developed, and not yet approved by Thematic Board and Joint Committee.
2. Implement	Business case has been approved by Thematic Board and Joint Committee, and is being implemented. In a capital project, this may be construction; for skills projects this may be establishing a course or system.
3. Deliver	Project is in place and benefits realisation framework to assess if it is achieving its objectives.
4. Legacy	Project has resulted in mainstreaming or improvements to business as usual (impact) that is generated beyond the funded period.

T: Status against **timeline** set out in business case/implementation plan **B:** Status against budget set out in financial plan

RAG Status	Definition – Timeline	Definition – Budget	Action Required
	In line with business case/ implementation plan	In line with spend set out financial plan for the current financial year.	No management action required
	Delay exists but is considered acceptable by PMO.	Spend is within acceptable range from what is set out financial plan for the current financial year. Project lead is confident that spend will be to profile at financial year end.	Management action is in place by senior management to address issues, and project is being closely monitored.
	Delay is significant.	Spend is outwith acceptable range from what is set out financial plan for the current financial year. Project lead does not consider that spend will be to profile at financial year end.	Immediate action is required by senior management and relevant Boards as appropriate to address issues. Issues must be highlighted to Government.



2. City Region Deal Overview

Stages

As of 1 July 2023:

2 Projects are in



Define, which means that the project's business case is yet to be completed (same number as last year)

9 Projects are in



Implement, which means that the project's business case has been approved by Joint Committee and is in the process of being implemented (15 last year)

12 Projects are in



Deliver, which means that the project has been implemented and is working towards delivering its objectives (6 last year)

Time and Budget

15 Projects

are considered to be on target to be completed on time (green score) or have been completed on time

8 Projects

are delayed, but considered to be within an acceptable range, with management action in place to address the issue (amber score)

17 Projects

are considered to be on target to be completed within the specified budget so far for the 2023/24 financial year (green score) or have been completed within the specified budget

2 Projects

are projected to cost more than the specified budget so far for the 2022/23 financial year, but considered to be within an acceptable range, with management action in place to address the issue (amber score)

1 Project

is projected to spend outwith the acceptable range for the financial year (red score) and immediate action is required to address the issues it faces

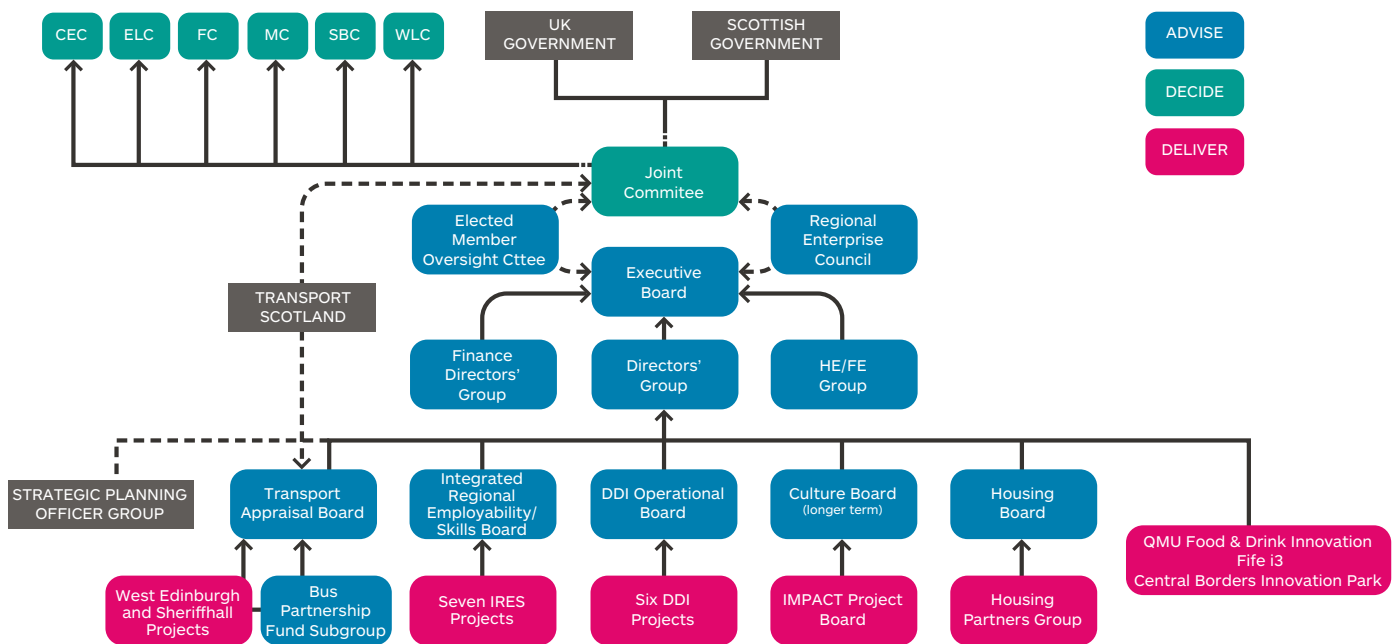


2. City Region Deal Overview

Governance

The City Region Deal has a comprehensive governance structure. This is summarised in the diagram below. There is more detail on the Boards and Groups in Section 3 of the **Deal Document**:

Functioning Governance





3. Financial Statement

This City Region Deal identifies new and more collaborative ways that partners will work with United Kingdom Government and Scottish Government to deliver change to the city regional economy. The Governments will jointly invest £600 million over the next 15 years and regional partners committed to adding in excess of £700 million, overall representing a deal worth £1.3 billion. Since the Deal was signed, partner investment projections have increased by over £84m. As a result, the value of the Deal is now almost £1.4 billion. A summary of the City Region Deal total over a fifteen-year period is shown in the Table 2:



Table 2 Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal Financial Summary

Project	SG Contribution (£m)	UKG Contribution (£m)	Partner Contribution*** (£m)	Total Funding (£m)
Bayes Centre	2.24	30.31	80.71	113.25
Borders Innovation Park	15.00	0.00	14.14	29.14
Easter Bush	1.27	16.10	69.77	87.13
Easter Bush Link Road	0.00	10.90	43.06	53.96
Edinburgh Futures Institute	2.24	55.68	216.89	274.81
Edinburgh Innovation Hub	1.42	28.58	21.94	51.94
Edinburgh International Data Facility	0.67	78.93	52.80	132.40
Fife i3 Programme	35.00	0.00	15.25	50.25
National Robotarium	1.43	21.04	0.00	22.47
Usher Institute	0.73	48.46	76.98	126.18
Total Research, Development & Innovation	60.00	290.00	591.54	941.54
Dunard Centre	10.00	10.00	54.93	74.93
Total Culture	10.00	10.00	54.93	74.93
Integrated Regional Employability & Skills Programme	25.00	-	0.00	25.00
Total Integrated Regional Employability & Skills	25.00	-	0.00	25.00

Table continues overleaf



3. Financial Statement

Project	SG Contribution (£m)	UKG Contribution (£m)	Partner Contribution*** (£m)	Total Funding (£m)
A720 Sheriffhall Roundabout*	120.00	-	0.00	120.00
West Edinburgh Public Transport Improvement Programme	20.00	-	16.00	36.00
Total Transport	140.00	-	16.00	156.00
New Housing Partnership – Edinburgh Living**	15.00	-	248.00	263.00
Housing Infrastructure Fund**	50.00	-	0.00	50.00
Total Housing	65.00	-	248.00	313.00
Grand Total	300.00	300.00	910.47	1,510.47
<p>*Includes £120m for Sheriffhall roundabout to be delivered by Transport Scotland. ** Funding issued by Scottish Government (Housing). Partner contribution of £248m relates to CEC on-lending. *** These are projections as not all partner contributions have been secured yet.</p>				



3. Financial Statement

The City Region Deal Financial Summary for the period of April 2021 to March 2022 is set out in Table 3.

Total expenditure for the year amounted to...



Table 3 Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal 2022-23

Project	2022-23	Cumulative (2018/19 - 2022/23)	
	CRD Expenditure (£m)	CRD Expenditure (£m)	CRD Expenditure as % of Funding
Bayes Centre	0	32.55	100%
Borders Innovation Park	0	2.33	16%
Easter Bush	0.07	16.50	95%
Easter Bush Link Road	0.52	0.90	8%
Edinburgh Innovation Hub	1.20	1.20	4%
Edinburgh Futures Institute	0	57.92	100%
Edinburgh International Data Facility	10.70	50.93	64%
Fife i3 Programme	3.89	13.23	38%
National Robotarium	4.96	20.28	90%
Usher Institute	27.35	49.12	100%
Total Research, Development & Innovation	48.68	244.95	70%
Dunard Centre	4.91	6.79	34%
Total Culture	4.91	6.79	34%
Integrated Regional Employability & Skills Programme	4.06	11.55	46%
Total Integrated Regional Employability & Skills	4.06	11.55	46%
A720 Sheriffhall Roundabout*	1.08	6.31	5%
West Edinburgh Public Transport Improvement Programme	0.06	0.17	1%
Total Transport	1.14	6.48	5%
New Housing Partnership – Edinburgh Living**	0	15.00	100%
Housing Infrastructure Fund**	0	0	0%
Total Housing	0	15.00	23%
Grand Total	58.79	284.77	47%

*Scottish Government funded. Transport Scotland taking forward scheme delivery.
 ** Funding issued by Scottish Government (Housing).

Across the Deal programme, £284.8m of the £600m government funding has been drawn down to March 23. This includes funding issued by Transport Scotland and Scottish Government Housing Department.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

This section summarises the themes, programmes and projects within the City Region Deal. It details the progress that has been made in line with the Implementation Plan.



Quarterly performance reports are shared between the Project Management Office (PMO) and Governments throughout the year and are published at each Joint Committee meeting.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Data-Driven innovation

The DDI programme is a 15-year, £661m investment and innovation initiative launched in August 2018, supported by £270m capital funding from the UK and Scottish Governments as part of the City Region Deal. It is built upon a foundation of six decades of world-leading AI and Informatics research, and a strong digital business ecosystem that has evolved in the city region over the past 20 years.



At the end of the 2022/23 financial year, DDI reached a half-way milestone. Except for some delays caused by the Pandemic, DDI made excellent progress in the first five years, with a focus on finalising the business cases for capital funding, securing large flagship projects across ten industry sectors, and building and equipping DDI Innovation Hubs across two universities.

At the end of March 2023, the cumulative five-year draw-down was £207m, £78.7m ahead of the original City Region Deal plan.

The National Robotarium, a collaborative hub between Heriot Watt University and the University of Edinburgh, was opened in September 2022 with laboratories in ocean systems, human-robotic interaction, and assisted living. The Robotarium offers an ecosystem for industry collaboration where humans and robots work in partnership.

DDI Hubs are also well ahead with the delivery of TRADE (Talent – Research – Adoption – Data - Entrepreneurship) key performance indicators. Examples from 2022/23 include:

- In Talent, the first 150 students joined the fusion teaching programmes of the **Edinburgh Futures Institute**. Designed to offer maximum flexibility for students, they are proving to be extremely popular. Multi-disciplinary programmes cover diverse domains from Education Futures to Future Governance; Service Management and Design; and Data, Inequality and Society.

In the wider skills space, the **Data Skills Gateway** reached around 34,500 participants, from school-aged children to women returners. The **Data Education in Schools** team has boosted data literacy in more than 850 schools, creating learners fluent in using data to answer big societal questions and teachers who are confident to teach data skills.

- In Research, the DDI Hubs were involved in efforts to mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. In the **Usher Institute**, the team led by Professor Aziz Sheikh in the **EAVE II** project used large datasets to demonstrate world-first results of the effectiveness of vaccines, and the lesser severity of the Omicron variant.
- In Adoption, the **National Robotarium** began a strategic partnership with Tata Consulting, which focuses on applied engineering and joint research across multiple disciplines, including soft robotics, field robotics, and tele-operations.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

- In Data, the **Edinburgh International Data Facility** has secured two critical public sector collaborations. Research Data Scotland was established in partnership with Scottish Government and Public Health Scotland, to unlock data for research by providing platforms, policies, and approaches; and Scottish Government's SPACe service for data analytics builds on the results of the initial analytical workbench proof-of-concept.
- In Entrepreneurship, the **Bayes Centre** hosted the sixth cohort of the **AI Accelerator programme**. Companies from previous cohorts have raised significant amounts of funding. Carcinotech, a cancer research company manufacturing 3D printed tumours using patient-derived cancer stem cells, recently raised £1.6m for internationalisation. The founder is the Scottish Female Entrepreneur of the year 2022, Ishani Malhotra.
- The **Easter Bush Agritech Hub** secured the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council Campus Innovation Account for three years after a successful partner-researcher collaboration model, and Roslin Technologies and the CEO of Cytochrom won the Life Sciences Scotland Awards.

The first phase of the DDI Programme comes to an end in 2023/24 with completion of the last two Hubs, the Usher Institute and Edinburgh Futures Institute.



Located in the iconic Royal Infirmary Hospital from the late 19th century, the **Edinburgh Futures Institute (EFI)** is the largest of the Hubs and will become a new landmark in the city centre. EFI is the home base for five of the 10 DDI industry sectors with the broadest educational programme of the Hubs, bringing people, data, and diverse disciplines together in an open, 'what-if' environment.

In the next phase of the DDI Programme, the six Hubs will join forces as an externally facing innovation platform, housing expertise and facilities to help researchers, companies and public sector partners collaborate and innovate using data. The focus is shifting towards solidifying integrated ways of working, external engagement for economic growth, and delivering benefits and impact. The strategy, governance, and delivery methods will be fine-tuned to implement this effectively.

Building upon the successful relationships nurtured through the delivery of the City Region Deal, in 2022 the DDI Programme Office supported regional partners to complete the Regional Prosperity Delivery Framework.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Bayes Centre

This academic year saw the fifth anniversary of the opening of The Bayes Centre. A programme of post-pandemic recovery has ensured that Bayes continues to be a vibrant hub of activity bringing together academics, industry, and public sector to deliver the key objectives of the City Region Deal pertinent to the DDI Programme.

Bayes is now well-established as a destination of choice for cutting-edge digital organisations across industry and the public sector that want to benefit from a set of tailored programmes around the main axes of TRADE (Talent, Research, Adoption, Datasets, and Entrepreneurship) to drive their growth.

In 2022/23, we saw major new partnerships with industry (NatWest Group - jointly with EFI - and Cisco) and the growth of existing ones (Huawei) being agreed in collaboration with schools and other DDI Hubs. These partnerships create new opportunities for joint translational research into and adoption of the latest technologies being developed at The University of Edinburgh. Furthermore, Bayes is now consolidated as the reference DDI Hub for Entrepreneurship with our incubation and acceleration programmes oversubscribed and receiving applications from some of the best start-ups around the globe.

A fruitful partnership with the public sector has allowed us to grow and consolidate our non-traditional education offering aimed at upskilling the workforce, which, along with the previously highlighted activity, will drive the creation of more and better jobs in Edinburgh and South East Scotland.



Innovation Fellows



Bayes Centre Community Event lightning talks



Bayes Centre Community Event: Start-up Funding



Venture builder incubator showcase



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in 22/23

- **Bayes Entrepreneurship: AI Accelerator** and **Venture Builder** Incubator programmes delivered successful showcases in March with over 360 people attending including 20 investors. Funding secured for the return of a face-to-face **EIE Investor Showcase** in 2024, which will reinvigorate engagement with the global tech investor community post-pandemic.
- **Bayes Innovation and Adoption:** Major partnerships with industry for multi-million-pound joint translational research and adoption programmes:
 - Agreement reached for the creation of a Bayes Huawei Fellows programme
 - NatWest group partnership announced in collaboration with the Edinburgh Futures Institute
 - Establishment of a Cisco Centre of Excellence in partnership with the School of Informatics.
- **Bayes Education:** Strong recruitment figures for **Data Upskilling Short Courses** with 1,268 enrolments across 43 courses (around 70% increase on last year) and Data Science, Technology & Innovation postgraduate programme delivering £662K of tuition fee income in 2022/23.
- **Bayes Community:** 33 co-located Members and Partners with a growing community of virtual collaborators via new hybrid model. 33 community activities hosted to support engagement with key stakeholders. High profile visits from Scottish, UK, Europe, and US Government representatives, as well as technology major companies.
- **Bayes Research:** Launch of new **Bayes Innovation Fellows programme** providing training and funding to support academic commercialisation efforts of high-value research.

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
Oct 23	Bayes Innovation Fellows programme fully operational.
April 24	40 new start-up and scale-up propositions supported via Bayes Entrepreneurship portfolio programmes
July 24	Over 600 student registrations on Bayes coordinated PGT and Data Upskilling programmes
July 24	Over £1M of Bayes-led adoption income

Strategic added value

1. Sponsorship of Data Upskilling Short Course enrolments for people in employment in the City Deal region (and the rest of Scotland).
2. Strong support infrastructure for entrepreneurial activity and technology ecosystem in the City Deal region going from idea incubation to investor showcase.
3. Over 30 community events supporting the local ecosystem of academics, entrepreneurs, and companies driving interactions and collaboration.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Easter Bush

Nucleated at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies' Easter Bush Campus – Europe's largest concentration of animal science research expertise – the Agritech Hub is a dynamic and vibrant innovation environment. World-class facilities equipped with the latest technologies support Europe's largest concentration of animal science research experts and clinicians, as well as co-located industrial partners in our custom-built Innovation Centre.

The Easter Bush Agritech Hub continues to leverage existing world-class research institutes and commercialisation facilities to place Easter Bush as a global beacon of Agritech excellence by fostering collaboration between researchers and companies to contribute to global food systems, work towards net zero carbon in the Agritech sector, and inform food and environmental policies. Experts use data to develop genetics and health innovations for agricultural science and business, and to build initiatives and novel systems to improve production traits and other variables within food systems. The research engages with innovative areas, such as data-driven breeding and aquaculture, to enable data generation and analysis that will improve the agriculture industry worldwide. The DDI investment continues to transform the scale and impact of agricultural technology in outputs from teaching, research, and innovation. The executive education address skills shortages and gaps in the industry, with a postgraduate offer encouraging graduates to set up or join micro-agritech companies.

The Agritech Hub facilitates an interactive community that brings together researchers from the University of Edinburgh and other higher education institutions, along with commercial, public and third sector organisations, in collaboration with project partners.





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

- Securing **five-year strategic investment from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) for the Roslin Institute**. This investment recognises Roslin as a UK-wide resource for pioneering Animal Bioscience, and is associated with £8m per-year strategic funding for 2023-28.
- Spinouts **Roslin CT** and **Roslin Technologies**, along with Dr Kate Cameron of biotech startup **Cytochroma**, all **won in their categories** in the annual Scottish Life Sciences Awards on 17 March 2023. Roslin Technologies continue to gain recognition for their work in alternative proteins; recent examples include hosting a delegation from Scottish Development International to showcase facilities and discuss the future of cultivated meat.
- Roslin expertise has **contributed to the UK and Scottish Government response to avian flu**. Researchers have formed part of the Scottish Avian Flu Taskforce and UK Government DEFRA Highly Pathogenic Avian Flu Taskforce. The **science continues to deliver the latest research in this field** with the Institute's scientists participating in interviews to raise awareness about avian flu and its impact with the **Financial Times**.
- Prof Dominic Moran, Dr Rafael Silva and Dr Mike McGrew's research in the **IMAGE** project has been used to inform new **guidelines** in cryoconservation of animal genetic resources.

- COVID-19 research continues to contribute to **new understanding in the genetic factors involved**.
- Researchers have been part of a group of universities which **collaborated on a research strategy to respond to major challenges faced by the agriculture sector**.

Next milestones

- Taking a leading role in the animal component within the UKRI Precision Breeding Mission Hub for Food Systems. The formation of this hub will enable a nationally recognised engineering biology hub for food systems, consolidate and strengthen partnerships with other UK partners (other institutes and industry). This considerably enhances the hub's precision breeding capabilities to remain at the forefront of agricultural science and innovation.
- Launching a new Roslin Innovation Centre Field station. New agriculture space has been secured in nearby Dryden Farm, which will facilitate the attraction of new agriculture-based tenants to the region.
- Building of a new veterinary First Opinion Practice. This will provide the next generation of vets with a learning experience fit for the future, ensuring greater opportunities for first-opinion clinical practice material for teaching students and, crucially, a dedicated programme centred on the financial and practical business skills our graduates need to thrive. This will expand access to first opinion facilities to the Midlothian areas, as well as enable expanded outreach and research opportunities accordingly.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Strategic Added Value

- An independent **Benefit Impact Assessment** of the first five years of Roslin Innovation Centre (RIC) was released in Jan 2023: RIC has delivered qualitative benefits, including establishing an entrepreneurial and innovative culture, enhancing the Easter Bush Ecosystem and enabling tenant companies to access research grant and inward investment funding. Many tenants said their location within the Easter Bush Hub was influential in securing research grants, and approximately half of those interviewed felt it had helped them secure private investments. Since taking up occupancy, tenant companies have received, on average, one or more investments totalling over £100k - this includes several examples of inward investment from outside the UK. Tenants also believed there were 'plentiful' opportunities for further collaboration within Roslin Innovation Centre. The review found clear evidence of positive engagement with schools, colleges, the wider Midlothian community, and the Edinburgh area by Roslin Innovation Centre tenants. It was argued that the most reasonable estimate was an economic return equivalent to £2.86 for every £1 invested (a return of 286%). In addition to economic growth, the report specifically evidenced the impact on regional job employment and regional growth.
- **Independent analysis** was undertaken on the Roslin Institute which details economic contribution of Roslin Institute to the local, national and global economies. Research carried out at the Roslin Institute contributed almost £20 billion to the global economy in 2019/20, largely through productivity improvements in agriculture and aquaculture, according to an independent economic analysis. This figure includes a contribution of almost £325 million to the UK economy, more than £80 million to Scotland and almost £50 million to the local economy, according to the report from BiGGAR Economics, published in 2022. Their report finds that Roslin's work supports more than 1600 jobs worldwide, including 1325 in the UK and more than 1000 in Scotland. For every £1 of public funds received, Roslin generated £3.40 in Scotland and £13.50 for the UK.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Edinburgh Futures Institute

One of six data driven innovation hubs at the University of Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt University. It is part of a regional powerhouse for collaboration and data innovation with industry partners.

The creation of an entrepreneurial campus, supporting a thriving innovation ecosystem is well underway. It includes the co-location of research centres, civic and commercial partners alongside students, and will support the creation of at least 90 new companies. The Futures Institute is fast becoming a data-driven, co-creative innovation hub at the heart of the University of Edinburgh and the city region.

Interdisciplinary postgraduate, undergraduate and professional and lifelong study supports data driven innovation and is equipping students with the critical leadership, data and creative skills needed in a fast-changing world. Flexible and inclusive fusion study enables online and on-campus learning, and is increasing opportunities for a diverse student body to gain and apply knowledge to live projects and real-world challenges.

The Institute’s research culture consolidates the University of Edinburgh’s leadership in Data-Driven Innovation research and is delivering impact through the generation of over £170 million in research income. The Futures Institute is developing research capacity by supporting the incubation and growth of interdisciplinary clusters and centres.

The Futures Institute is establishing major partnerships through four key sectors: Financial Services (including Fintech), Creative Industries, Tourism and Festivals, and Public Services (including Data Civics), and co-creating projects that deliver



Tour of the new Futures Institute with Humza Yousaf, First Minister of Scotland, Sir Peter Mathieson, Principal of the University of Edinburgh and members of the project team (May 2023)
Photo:Neil Hanna



meaningful impact derived from world-leading research.

The Institute becomes a physical reality with the opening of a newly-restored building in the heart of the central University campus. A phased entry to this Edinburgh landmark will open to students in September 2023, and research teams and partners in 2024.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

Sep 22: The Futures Institute welcomes its first cohort of postgraduate taught students on six different degree programmes. A further four postgraduate programmes open for recruitment and the undergraduate Interdisciplinary Futures degree opens for applications for autumn 2023.

Dec 22: Art and Humanities Research Council **Programme on Responsible AI** led by Professors Shannon Vallor and Ewa Luger. Edinburgh Futures Institute researchers will lead a project to ensure AI and data are used responsibly and ethically across society and industry.

Apr 23: The Futures Institute launches its second public events programme with ‘Love Machine Spring 23’. Hybrid format events featuring the Edinburgh Futures Conversations and 25+ events focused on the intersection of human experience and artificial intelligence, in partnership with the University of Edinburgh’s Celebrations of 60 Years of Research in Computer Science and AI. **Watch recorded events.**

Jun 23: Building on the success of the **Creative Informatics cluster, University of Edinburgh announced as a core partner** in £50m CoSTAR Programme. A technology and data-driven Network Lab that will – in collaboration with Codebase, the UK’s largest technology incubator – deliver innovation and enterprise across two centres in Dundee and Edinburgh

Jun 23: **Launch of the Centre for Purpose-Driven Innovation in Banking**, a new partnership with the NatWest Group, the Bayes Centre and Edinburgh Futures Institute, to improve how data is used to benefit bank customers, students, researchers and policy makers.

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
Sep 23	Welcome postgraduate and undergraduate students to the newly-restored Edinburgh Futures Institute building on Lauriston Place.
Oct 23	Autumn 2023 public event season ‘Power Trip’ including Edinburgh Futures Conversations events on Future of Leadership.
Oct 23	Final three postgraduate ‘fusion’ degrees open for recruitment 2024 entry, bringing the postgraduate portfolio to 13 programmes.
Feb-Mar 24	Continued phased opening of the Futures Institute building to staff, tenants and partners.
Spring 24	The Police Scotland and Public Health Scotland ‘Prevention Hub’ will be located in the Futures Institute, with a focus on reducing inequalities to improve health and wellbeing, developing a sustainable and innovative ‘prevention’ ecosystem, utilising evidence-informed action around key prevention challenges.
Apr 24	Public events programme opens building to the public with series of events focused on the future of education.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Edinburgh International Data Facility (EIDF)

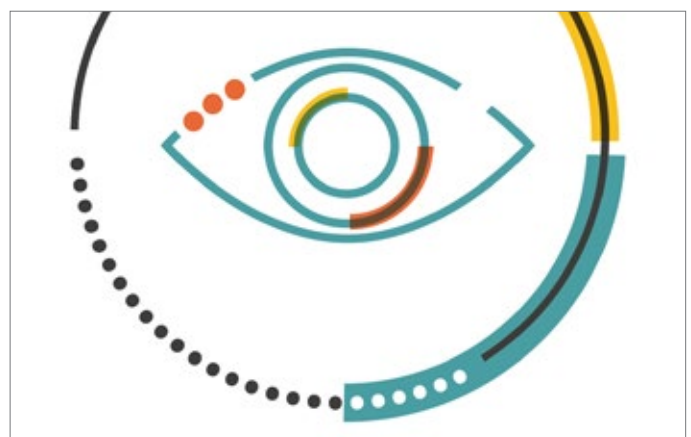
Achieving the aims of the DDI initiative requires a powerful, high-capacity, and flexible data infrastructure capable of responsive and secure delivery of an ever-expanding range of complex and bespoke data and analytical services. These activities also demand a level of service (e.g. resilient to the loss of power, redundancy of equipment to mitigate the impact of sudden failures) that is not normally required for research computing applications and was not supported by previous facilities.

The EIDF City Region Deal investment was made up of four complementary components:

- **EIDF computer room:** a new high resiliency computer room (CR4) at the EPCC’s Advanced Computing Facility in Midlothian, to complement the pre-existing three computer rooms, focused on supercomputing system provision for research users;
- **Data and software Infrastructure:** the underlying Data Science Cloud computing and data infrastructure to support the DDI initiative. As part of this component open source, and paid-for advanced data analytics, compute and other software infrastructure is being deployed;
- **Internet of Things (IoT) Service:** a regionally focused IoT network is being deployed across the City Region area, supporting both school-pupil engagement, as well as wider research and industry development; and,
- **Regional Data Haven:** the capacity for a regional data repository, with data provided by City Region Deal Partners, created to support a smart data generation infrastructure, aligned to work at a national level, such as Research Data Scotland, COG-UK, the Smart Data Foundry, and the Regional Health DataLoch Service.



Edinburgh International Data Facility





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

EIDF’s focus in 2022/23 has been on the development of novel data and analytical services. Progress has been good in both general-access services and project-based services for DDI partners and stakeholders, with an emphasis on Trusted Research Environment.

There has also been a steady stream of regional companies, and some from wider afield, seeking access to EIDF expertise and resources, including; **DanuRobotics, Smartr AI, Black Goblin Audio, BoCreate**. In addition, a range of companies have been engaging with the **Data Slipstream project** on earth observation data, including: **Mercury Environmental Systems, AstroSat, EarthBlox, Intelligent RealityTM**, and **Environment Systems**.

The IoT Service has seen significant maturing of its Schools Outreach Programme, as well as a number of high-profile projects delivered.

You can view the **EIDF’s Service Catalogue here**.

Due Date	Milestone
Oct 22	The Cerebras CS-1 service was upgraded to the Cerebras CS-2 machine, enabling work on Large Language Model research.
Oct 22	The Outbreak Data Analysis Platform (ODAP) Trusted Research Environment (TRE) , co-designed with HDR-UK, Public Health Scotland, Scottish Government and Roslin Institute through ODAP Partnership was launched into operation.
Dec 22	The ingest of Covid19 Genomics-UK (COG-UK) Consortium and NHS Digital data into the Outbreak Data Analysis Platform Trusted Research Environment was completed, supporting this society-focused research.
Aug 22	The EIDF Data Science Cloud was made available for general use. The service has since grown to over 8,500 virtual CPUs and 62 TB of RAM and is in use by Scottish Government and other EIDF research users.
May 23	The first version of the genomic data management and analytics service for the Institute of Genetics and Cancer (with Cambridge-based Zetta Genomics), run using OpenCGA, started undergoing user-acceptance testing. The first version of the Battery Data Hub, a data management and analytics service for battery data, funded by the UK Faraday Institute, was made available to the School of Maths and external collaborators Imperial College, Oxford University and RWTH-Aachen.
May 23	Started working with the National Centre for Arial Photography (NCAP) - an agency within Historic Environment Scotland - exploring novel methods to assist in the digitisation of their photographic archive, to support research and commercial use.
May 23	The alpha Battery Data Hub , a data management and analytics service for battery data, funded by the UK Faraday Institute, was made available to the School of Mathematics, and external collaborators Imperial College, Oxford University and RWTH-Aachen. This is supporting research into optimisation of battery management, an increasingly significant issue, in the transition to Net Zero.
Jun 23	The first tenant was migrated from the former Safe Haven infrastructure to the new EPCC Trusted Research Environment (NSH2.0) service. This has seen investment in new hardware and significant automation, whilst retraining the secure operation required of a TRE.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Due Date	Milestone
Jul 23	The Artificial Intelligence Compute service was launched for general use by researchers. This includes a cluster of 160 Nvidia A100 Tensor Core GPUs that enable deep learning with an extremely high bandwidth, enabling significant benefits in performance for AI research and development.
Jul 23	IoT in Schools outreach programme – this is now active in over 40 primary and secondary schools from all six Local Authorities in the South East Scotland region. The pupils have fully embraced the technology even installing one of their sensors in the crocodile enclosure in a zoo in Fife. All local authority schools in West Lothian will be active at the start of the next school year from August 2023, with full rollout to the other LAs expected to quickly follow. We are also now supporting an operational pilot of indoor environmental monitoring in Midlothian schools.
Jul 23	Smart IoT Campus services – these continue to develop, including building occupancy monitoring, maturing this monitoring for University Estates' investigation into building utilisation and hybrid working. SeNSES has also been further developed to improve the data captured within central Edinburgh for finer resolution monitoring of air quality and pollution, deploying over 40 new particulates sensors across the city.
Jul 23	Smart IoT Tourism services – ongoing delivery of outdoor park monitoring for vehicle and people counting and capacity management, migrating East Lothian Council's coastal carpark monitoring pilot to a recurrent service,

Next milestones (2022/23)

EIDF will continue its focus on a combination of generic service development and bespoke project support. Its operating model is to engage with stakeholders on DDI projects using existing EIDF services and infrastructure, identify commonality and synergies between projects and from these develop new generic services. This approach has proven successful to date.

In addition, EIDF will be working with the other DDI Hubs to develop Data Strategies for each Hub. For the IoT Service, looking forward important new relationships with external organisations are being developed to that enable delivery of significantly improved coverage for our LoRaWAN-based SeNSES regional sensor network, and to build out our engagements to meet the needs of the utilities industries in the adoption of IoT. Activities are also aligning with the City Region Deal Regional Prosperity Framework, to support the development of its future projects.

Finally, work will continue on securing the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region as the hosting location for the UK's first Exascale HPC system, further cementing the Region's Digital, AI, and data reputation.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Next milestones (2022/23)

Due Date	Milestone
Oct 23	The Cerebras CS-2 service upgraded to a two-machine cluster, to further enable work on Large Language Model research.
Oct 23	Graphcore IPU-POD64 system brought into service within the EIDF, to provide additional novel compute capability to support AI research and development
Dec 23	Joint Data Strategy developed for the Edinburgh Futures Institute with EPCC, to support its TRADE activities.
Dec 23	Preparation of CR4 for developments to support future hosting of a UK Exascale HPC System
Dec 23	Working with UKRI and EPSRC on the development of the Business Case for Exascale , to be hosted in the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region, progressing to a UKRI-led Procurement of the system
Jan 24	IoT-enabled Care Testbed environment , for use by the Advanced Care Research Centre, in place and being used.
May 24	Data Catalogue for EIDF available for engagement (reporting data assets accessible)
Jul 24	Galleries to Calories - a high profile project involving many institutions examining the feasibility of establishing a geobattery to provide a district heating mechanism based on excess heat production from the Advanced Computing Facility cooling system propagating heated groundwater through the extensive coal mine shafts which percolate the area around Roslin and Bilston. The IoT Service is providing extensive water and environmental monitoring to support the project.
Jul 24	Phenoweb – a pilot project to instrument two of the existing Phenoweb ecology sites to measure plant growth factors and biodiversity in real-time. This pilot will deploy IoT Service-developed bioacoustic sensors, now capable of determining both bat and bird species present in the surrounding environment.
Jul 24	Longitude Prize for Dementia – in partnership with the School of Engineering at the University of Edinburgh, the IoT Service will build out a testbed environment with the sensors and IoT infrastructure to support the development of prototype Smart Care services, in particular the application of acoustic monitoring devices to support individuals with health conditions living independent lives at home.
Aug 24	On-going industrial use of EIDF, and wider EPCC Compute facility for pre-commercialisation
Aug 24	A range of Schools across the CRD Region using live IoT in Schools Service



4. The Deal – summary of progress

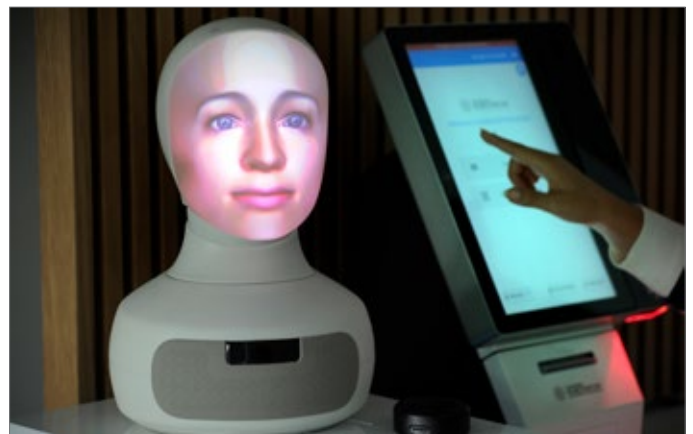
National Robotarium

The National Robotarium is a world-leading centre for Robotics and Artificial Intelligence. Its responsible and collaborative approach creates innovative solutions to global challenges. Its pioneering research moves rapidly from laboratory to market, developing highly skilled visionaries and delivering substantial benefits for society. Its ethos is People centred; Intelligence driven.

This facility translates cutting-edge research into technologies to create disruptive innovation in an expanding global market in robotics and autonomous systems, delivering sustainable economic and societal benefit to the city region, Scotland, the UK, and globally.

As global leaders in Robotics and Autonomous systems, Heriot-Watt University and the University of Edinburgh explore collaborative interaction between humans, robots and their environments at all levels. The National Robotarium is leveraging existing research and the needs of UK industry to meet the significant market opportunity of Robotics and autonomous systems. Building capacity across complementary areas of embedded intelligence and expert systems, the National Robotarium is linking to other UK and international research locations to attract further inward investment.

The £22.4 million purpose-built centre, opened on 28 September 2022, with unrivalled facilities supporting Robotics and Autonomous Systems, Human and Robotic Interaction, Environmental testing, accelerated life testing, Robot design and development as well as facilities for incubation of Robotic and AI based start-up companies.





4. The Deal – summary of progress

With a strong focus on entrepreneurship and job creation, the National Robotarium is offering an ecosystem for industry collaboration where humans and robots work in partnership.

Most importantly The National Robotarium is reaching out to schools, colleges, businesses, and the public at large, to raise awareness and understanding of Robotics and AI including its application to future lives of all UK citizens.



Headline achievements in the past year

- The National Robotarium officially opened on 28 Sept 2022.
- Five resident start-up businesses now in place, providing 50+ high skilled jobs.
- The National Robotarium now employs an engineering and operations team of 30.
- First financial year of operation will see a turnover of £1.8 million.
- Four research grant funded activities now underway in the facility.
- Eight commercially-funded projects now running in the facility.
- Partnership with Tata Consultancy Services (Worldwide) in place.
- Partnership with Fourier Intelligence in place.
- Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) funding received for Industry partnership with Fugro.
- Three additional partnership agreements with other companies.
- 4000-5000 schoolchildren have visited, toured and held workshops at The National Robotarium.
- Sectors engaged include: Agriculture, Construction, Health, Pharmaceutical manufacturing, Utilities companies, Aerospace, Fisheries, Social care, Renewable energy.
- Scottish Government support for discussions to establish a Robotics Cluster started.

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
Sep 2023	All construction phases closed and agreed with Contractor.
Oct 2023	4G Inbuilding solution commissioned and operational.
Mar 2024	All Latest generation Robotic assets in place – DDI Grant drawdown complete.
Apr 2024	Industrial training offering publicised and available.
Jun 2024	Complete development of outdoor facility for testing, operation and accomodation of outdoor robotic assets.
May 2024	Digital enterperise implemented.
Aug 2024	Decision on Robotics cluster implementation.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Strategic Added Value

The development of the National Robotarium is aligned with the strategic focus of both Universities and with the Data-driven innovation theme. The core strategic focus of Heriot-Watt University is:

Strengthen research intensity in fields of economic and societal benefit; Provide truly global education while maintaining our Scottish roots; and deliver excellent student experience and highly employable graduates.

The National Robotarium is actively identifying opportunities with our colleagues across the DDI programme. These examples include:

- with Bayes Centre: joint activities in Robotics and Autonomous systems across the University of Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt University, and both DDI hubs, including joint events, funding applications and support to start-up businesses.
- with Edinburgh Futures Institute: to develop CPD and other talent offerings on ethics in robotics.
- with the Usher Institute: development of joint offerings for funding
- with the Edinburgh International Data Facility: for computing needs and advice and support

During the procurement and completion of the National Robotarium main construction contract, the focus has been on the delivery of an ambitious Community Benefits plan with agreed KPIs on variety of areas including youth and school engagement, work placements and job creation within an inclusive growth approach.

Public Engagement is now an integral part of the ongoing approach at The National Robotarium. By actively embedding this into the work programme, the skills and attitudes of all those taking part will be enhanced and the research will be socially conscious and relevant.

The vision is to create a sustainable programme of engagement focused on robotics and artificial intelligence, putting audiences at the heart of the offering through increased public understanding and critical appreciation of robotics and AI. The National Robotarium will be fully engaged in policy making on robotics and AI, from ethics to standards and public understanding.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Usher Institute

Through the application of data science, the **Usher Institute** is driving innovation in health and social care that improves lives. It will establish a world-leading innovation hub where public, private and third sectors can collaborate to enable data-driven advances in the delivery of health and social care.

The Usher Institute works with people, populations and their data to understand and advance the health of individuals and populations in the community and beyond. It supports the use of data and digital technologies to improve outcomes for patients and encourage the adoption of those with the greatest potential to transform health and social care.

The activity will deliver the infrastructure, resources, and expertise essential for the data-driven transformation of the health and social care sector in the City Region and beyond. This includes the creation of high-quality education and training in the application of data skills within health and care; a unique regional data service, **DataLoch**, as a foundation innovation asset; and a membership-based innovation community bringing together service, academic and industry interests to collaboratively develop solutions to our most pressing health and social care challenges.

Innovation and commercialisation will be embedded at the heart of Scotland's premier academic medicine campus with a new, bespoke home opening at **Edinburgh BioQuarter** in early 2024.



Usher Institute



A panel session at Digital Health and Care Scotland 2022, held on 23 February at Dynamic Earth on Ageing and Frailty. Pictured is Nick Mills closing the session, with a presentation on the Usher Institute and data-driven innovation activities.



Topping out ceremony for the new Usher Institute building attended by the Lord Provost.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in 22/23

In the last year, Usher's health and social care hub has continued to mature in its approach to collaboration and innovation, ensuring that communities in Scotland and beyond benefit from secure access to data for research and an array of educational programmes to ensure our workforce can interpret and innovate with that data.

The Talent team has established a portfolio of high-quality learning and development opportunities to support the needs of multiple stakeholders including health and social care professionals, Scottish Government, NHS Scotland, third sector and industry. The Institute has successfully enabled and support data-driven innovation in health and social care to improve outcomes for individuals, communities, and populations. To date, it has upskilled over 2,000 students.

In its earliest iteration, **DataLoch** provided access to specific data extracts for academic researchers and health and social care managers. After working in partnership with NHS Lothian to agree an appropriate governance framework, DataLoch's full launch in July 2022 allows approved researchers from third- and private-sector organisations to apply for secure data access. Putting data at the centre of responses to health and social care system challenges is critical to improving services through research, innovation and service management.

As a programme, Usher's hub has established strong partnerships across the Scottish Government and the NHS, which has contributed to the development of governance and data-sharing protocols for Scotland's mature and world-leading health

data assets and ensured that discussions about health data include a focus on innovation and collaboration to deliver the best outcomes for our community.

The Talent programme launched three new Masters' programmes in Data Science for Health and Social Care, Epidemiology and Leading Digital Transformation in Health and Care for Scotland. It also offers 40 stand-alone postgraduate professional development (PPD) courses and a newly launched continuing professional development (CPD) programme. The Institute has successfully enhanced the undergraduate medical degree through the creation of BSc/BMedSci courses in Data Science for Health and Biomedical Sciences. This will prepare graduates for a career in data-intensive healthcare.

In collaboration with the **Bayes Centre** and through the Scottish Funding Council upskilling fund, fully funded places through the '**Data Upskilling Short Courses**' are offered - a wide portfolio of short stand-alone courses targeted to working health and social care professionals across Scotland. The most popular Health Data Science course has upskilled over 50 students in the region.

DataLoch brings together primary and secondary health data for the region, works with experts to understand and improve this data, and provides secure access for academics, clinicians and innovators to help solve important challenges. The use of data has supported projects associated with more than £6.5m in research revenue for the University.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

DataLoch is a critical part of the **Wellcome Leap** funded innovation collaboration to enhance support for emergency cardiac care clinicians in Scotland. This is a partnership that includes the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh Napier University, NHS Lothian and Lenus Health, where DataLoch has brought together relevant data from across primary and secondary care settings, to train an artificial-intelligence model to support clinicians with early-diagnosis when faced with patients with acute chest pain or breathlessness.

Next Milestones

The opening of the Usher building in early 2024 sets the stage for the establishment of a dynamic innovation community in which academics, public, private and third sectors collaborate to enable data-driven advances in the delivery of health and social care. The event series will draw speakers and audience members from across the community to participate in conversations about data-driven innovation in health and social care.

DataLoch will incorporate social care data, working with experts to understand and improve data from disparate sources, ultimately driving toward further linkages between primary, secondary and social care data which will improve health in communities across Scotland. Talent will expand the short courses offering using the new **University Short Courses** online learning platform. A bespoke training service for stakeholders with a focus on industry partners will be offered, and professional accreditation routes linked to regulatory bodies for masters programmes and short course portfolio will be sought.

Strategic added value

The institute is working with the **Edinburgh Clinical Trials Unit (ECTU)** team to create a path towards data-enabled clinical trials using routine data from DataLoch, ultimately resulting in economic benefit as South East Scotland is positioned as a leader in clinical trials. A new CPD and PPD course in data-enabled clinical trials will be launched to further ensure that the skills to deliver these trials exist.

Through a senior leadership programme for digital transformation in health and care for Scotland, which is funded by Scottish Government, led by NHS Education for Scotland, and delivered by the Institute's Talent team, a new masters level programme has been launched to develop a new generation of leaders who can drive, deliver, and embed digital transformation across Scotland's health and care services.

DataLoch supports NHS Lothian with service improvement in priority areas. This includes a project working with a group of GPs in North-East Edinburgh to design an automated report which flags when patients are considered frail and helps health professionals support those at highest risk of coming to harm. This includes reviewing medication prescriptions to help reduce the risk of falls, arranging rehabilitation services like physiotherapy to keep people active, and supporting people who develop memory problems. The automated report tracks performance over time and shows where progress is being made and where more work is needed. It also allows GP surgeries to compare their performance against other practices, to try to ensure frail patients receive the same standard of care across the area.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Edinburgh Innovation Hub

East Lothian Council and Queen Margaret University are delivering, in partnership, the Edinburgh Innovation Hub. The Edinburgh Innovation Hub (“Hub”) is in a prime strategic location next to the QMU campus on East Lothian Council owned land and is a catalyst for the subsequent development of a wider Edinburgh Innovation Park (“EIP”).

The state-of-the-art Hub is a flexible 7,200 sqm GIA for the food and drink sector in Scotland, located directly adjacent to, and supported by Queen Margaret University – a university that is leading on international research in Dietetics, Nutrition and Biological Sciences.

The Hub will drive company growth, supporting and developing existing businesses and creating sustainable new businesses to access a global market for healthy and functional food. The development will allow Queen Margaret University, along with businesses, to form and grow a business sector that will harness the potential of translational medicine in food and drink and contribute to the wider health agenda. This will in turn support the diversification of the food and drink industry towards preventative, therapeutic and rehabilitative applications of expertise in genomics of food and drink sector. The EIP will be developed over time and create a nationally significant centre of knowledge exchange, innovation and high value business growth.



Edinburgh Innovation Park Masterplan





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

Date	Milestone
Sep 22 to Jan 23	Detailed design of the Hub finalised
Feb 23	Planning Application for the Hub submitted
Jun 23	Procurement of the contractor commenced
Aug 23	Planning consent granted

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
Sep 23	Appointment of the contractor
Nov 23	Commencement of construction of the Hub

Strategic Added Value

- The Hub forms a key part of an ecosystem of Innovation themed projects promoted by the Edinburgh South East Scotland City Region Deal.
- The whole project will contribute to job density improvement for the wider city region by making available infrastructure/construction opportunities and employment opportunities within the Innovation Hub and the EIP.
- The Hub will generate job opportunities in the sector for those highly skilled graduates both through the innovation led growth of the businesses located there, and through providing access to the space, facilities and services for food and drink graduate start-up companies.
- Ongoing collaboration and partnership working between East Lothian Council and QMU.
- Community Benefits such as internships, work placements, apprenticeship opportunities



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Fife Industrial Investment Innovation

The Fife Industrial Innovation Investment (i3) Programme is a £50 million, ten-year programme delivered by Fife Council.

The investment is delivering new business premises and immediately available serviced land. The new business accommodation is located within existing business clusters in mid and south Fife, adjacent to growth corridors (M90 and A92). It aims to facilitate more joint working between the region's universities and Fife businesses, to drive productivity and to deliver higher value, skilled, permanent jobs from data driven innovation.

The new industrial and commercial stock will ensure that Fife's industrial estates provide flexible space for innovative manufacturing industries with cutting-edge digital and energy capabilities. Five sites have been developed in Glenrothes, Kirkcaldy, Dalgety Bay, Lochgelly and Dunfermline during the first four years of the Programme. 6.09 Ha of employment land has been unlocked and site servicing took place at 2 sites to unlock 3.89 ha which is now immediately available for private sector investment, along with almost 3250 m² of newly developed business space. The new units are more than 95% occupied.

Headline achievements in the past year

- Tranche 2 of the Fife i3 Programme is underway.
- Completed 8 new business units at Hillend & Donibristle Industrial Estate, Dalgety Bay.
- Construction started at Fife Interchange North and Levenmouth to create new business units.
- High interest from potential occupiers in these Business Units.



Fife Industrial Investment Innovation





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Next milestones (2022/23)

Due Date	Milestone
Sep 2023	Annual Survey of tenants.
Oct 2023	Complete new Business Units in Levenmouth.
Q3 2023	Planning Application submitted for two new developments at Flemington Road, Glenrothes (refurb project) and John Smith Business Park, Kirkcaldy.
Q2 2024	Complete new business units at Fife Interchange North, Dunfermline.

Strategic Added Value

The Fife i3 Programme works closely with the Scottish Borders Council to share Lessons Learned and is also engaged with the DDI Programme around Innovation opportunities. These linkages will widen as the DDI Programme moves into its next phase.

Fife Council's strategic inclusive growth priority is the Mid-Fife Area. All the projects in the Fife i3 Programme contribute to inclusive growth. The locations for investment in the first FBC were selected based on these criteria:

- Ability to support strategic business clusters;
- Location / connectivity to strategic growth corridors (M90, A92);
- Fit with existing predominant land use;
- Potential impact on sensitive or incompatible land uses; and
- Potential to deliver lower-cost business space.

The site selection process for Tranche 2 Full Business Case (FBC) included these sustainability criteria:

- Greenfield sites are generally not preferred unless they fulfil other sustainability criteria or make a significant contribution to other strategic objectives.
- Can the site accommodate a passivehaus design, particularly in relation to the orientation of the building to maximise passive solar gain?
- Does the site have access to any renewable energy source (e.g. district heat network, air source or solar power)?
- Will the project remediate vacant and derelict land or property?

Work continues to develop and refine the Programme's approach to sustainable construction on a project-by-project basis.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Borders Innovation Park

The Borders Innovation Park, situated next to the Borders Railway terminus at Tweedbank, will deliver much-needed high quality business space to the Scottish Borders.

Costing £29 million and being constructed in three phases, the programme is intended to stimulate growth for local businesses and inward investors together with associated job creation.

As with many other rural economies, the Scottish Borders has to overcome the problem of market failure caused by a combination of remote locations and poor infrastructure, a lack of supply of modern business premises and the increasing obsolescence of existing stock.

The first building to be completed in Phase 1 of the Borders Innovation Park opened in July 2022 having been delayed owing to the Pandemic. The IT firm, CGI, has leased one floor in the building while Inspire Learning, a digital learning programme, occupies part of the other floor. Work is continuing to develop road and service infrastructure for the original Phase 3 of the programme.

The Pandemic has also impacted on the programme in that the aspirations to build out speculative office space in Phases 2 and 3 were exposed by changes in market conditions for this type of accommodation. This has led to a review of the planned mix of developments in Phases 2 and 3, which will necessitate a revision of the Full Business Case by December 2023.

In summary, the Borders Innovation Park will greatly enhance the inward investment offer in the Scottish Borders, particularly to high value sectors, as well as assisting existing businesses to improve their competitiveness. It will also help to address inequalities in the area through providing access to better quality, higher paid jobs.



Borders Innovation Park





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

Due Date	Milestone
Sep 2022	Occupation of first building in Phase 1 by tenants.
Mar 2023	Programme update given to Scottish Borders Council.
Jun 2023	Programme update given to ESES City Region Deal Joint Committee.
Aug 2023	Engagement exercise with businesses, mapping needs to inform development.

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
Sep 2023	Phase 3: Development of road and service infrastructure.
Nov 2023	Submission of revised Full Business Case for Phases 2 and 3 to Scottish Borders Council.
Mar 2024	Submission of revised Full Business Case for Phases 2 and 3 to ESES City Region Deal Joint Committee.

Strategic Added Value

Scottish Borders Council is working with strategic partners, particularly Fife Council, the University of Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt University, to maximise the benefits of data-driven innovation and its potential to increase the number of innovation-active businesses, both regionally and locally. This work is taking place within the context of both the Borders.

Innovation Park programme and also the relevant strands of the Regional Prosperity Framework.

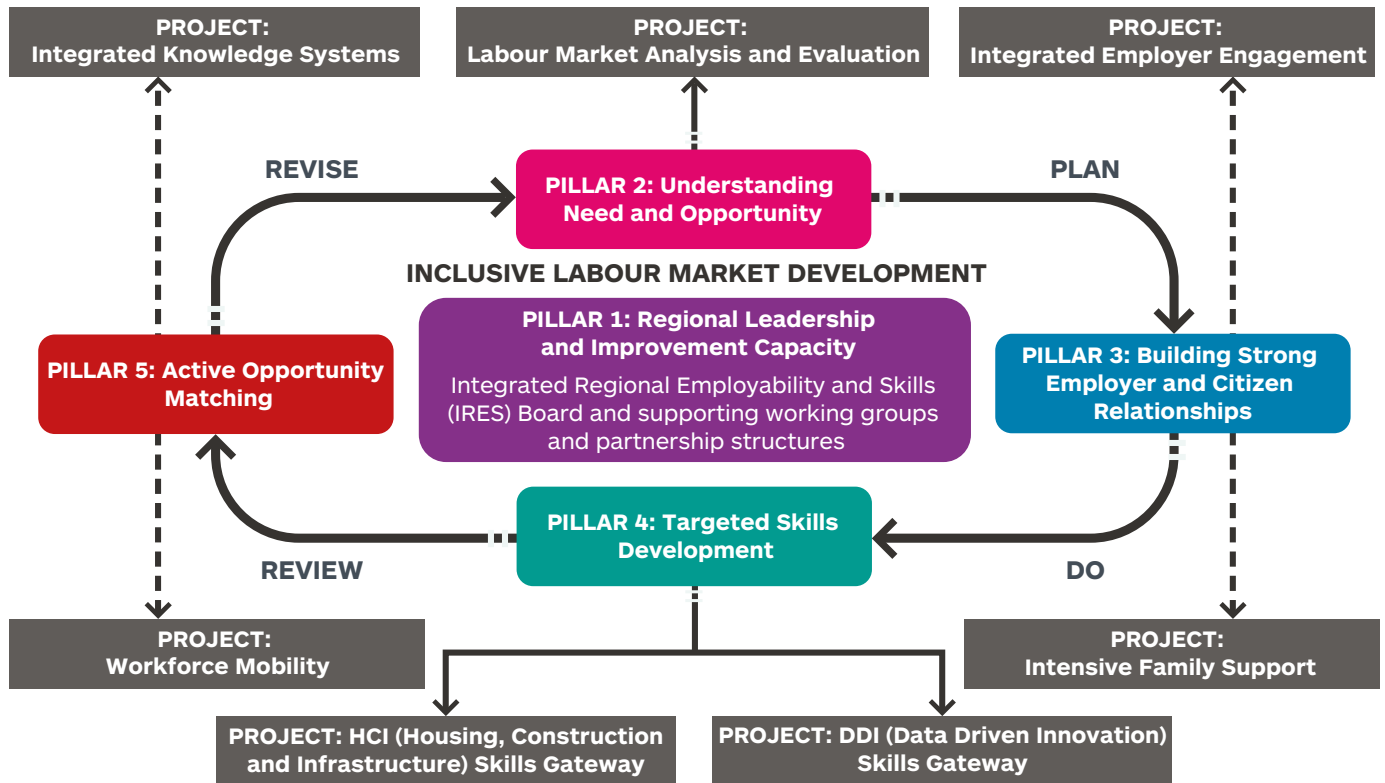
Scottish Borders Council is also working with South of Scotland Enterprise to maximise the business support and advice available to businesses as well as other aspects of the Borders Innovation Park programme. As a participant in the City Region Deal Housing, Construction and Infrastructure (HCI) Skills Gateway, the Council will look to develop new talent through utilising the construction opportunities during the build phases of the innovation park.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Integrated Regional Employability and Skills

The Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) Programme and its cross-sector partnership seeks to evolve regional labour market policy and practice to help drive inclusive growth. The programme continues to focus on five improvement pillars targeting known areas of weakness or opportunity.



The IRES partnership is funded by £25 million investment (over eight years) and will deliver an additional 14,700 skill improvements; 5,300 people into employment; and a further 500 career enhancements through its seven themes:

1. Integrated knowledge management systems
2. Labour market analysis and evaluation
3. Integrated employer engagement
4. Intensive family support service
5. Housing construction and infrastructure (HCI) targeted skills gateway
6. Data-driven innovation (DDI) targeted skills gateway
7. Workforce mobility

The IRES programme has already supported over **103,000** people to improve their skills and gain new knowledge through training and/or education and helped over **4,500** people secure employment. An additional **£587m** funding has been secured so far to enhance IRES activity. The IRES programme continues to evolve, streamline, and integrate the region's employability and skills system to enhance our capacity and capability to drive inclusive growth and create added value for stakeholders.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

1 Integrated Knowledge Systems (IKS)

- Capital City Partnership migration of all Integrated Employer Engagement data including C-19, Fort Kinnaird, Community Wealth Building and Employer Fund as well as Edinburgh focused Joined Up for Business, into Helix
- Scottish Borders Council migration into Helix
- **helix.scot** launched



2 Labour Market Analysis & Evaluation (LMAE)

- Delivery of regional analysis of future skills needs for the tourism sector.
- Delivery of regional analysis of future skills needs for the creative industries sector.



3 Integrated Employer Engagement (IEE)

- Developed and launched the **Community Wealth Building Framework for Action and accompanying pledge** commitments for the deal following a consultation with CLES (Centre for Local Economic Strategies). The project engaged with over 6,000 citizens and represented Community Wealth Building at 52 events and 42 leadership forums.
- IEE delivered a pilot Hospitality Academy in February 2023 in partnership with Midlothian-based hospitality business, The Original Rosslyn Inn (TORI). Of the six clients recruited onto the course, 4 moved into employment with a hospitality employer, 3 of which were directly with the host employer and from the Ukrainian community.
- Working in partnership with Balfour Beatty, lead contractor for Edinburgh Futures Institute, IEE funded and developed a Construction Academy for the Ukrainian Community. This project converted the practical construction work experience of the Ukrainian client group into UK regulatory qualifications to support them to progress into work following their resettlement in our region. 13 Ukrainians enrolled on the course. The results for this course included 100% CSCS pass rate (national average 56%), all candidates securing work placements, 9 have started work in the sector and the others are being case managed as they are relocated to other regions in Scotland.





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

4 Intensive Family Support Service (IFS)

- A consultation of Phase One Intensive Family Support Service was carried out. Capital City Partnership engaged with stakeholders representing third sector and statutory organisations, as well as 23 parents and young people engaging in the service to gather their experiences and views to implement Phase Two delivery plans for the programme. Consultation with families engaging in IFSS was overwhelmingly positive, with all respondents feeling that engaging in the service has had a positive impact for them and their family.
- A Holistic Whole Family Support conference took place in February 2023. The conference raised the profile of holistic whole family support in the region and built connections between organisations serving families in those areas. Several IFSS delivery partners were involved in the workshops including one parent and one young person engaging in the Fife service who shared their experience. The conference had 157 attendees representing 70 organisations.
- Phase Two of the Intensive Family Support Service commenced in January 2023 following a six-month period of consultation with stakeholders and families lead by The University of Edinburgh. The research and learning from Phase One informed the direction of Phase Two and a recommissioning process was undertaken which saw delivery partners propose changes in response to the specification. In Phase Two, work will continue with those Phase One families who continue to require support, and a minimum of 141 further families will engage.





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

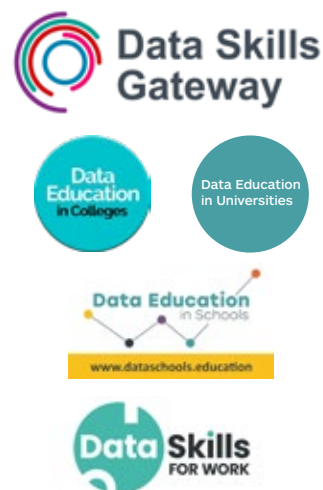
5 Housing, Construction, and Infrastructure (HCI) Skills Gateway

- Over 1,000 pupils from **SIMD** 20 and 40 areas engaged in construction learning through active partnerships with Edinburgh Science, the Scottish Council for Development and Industry, and Fife Community Trade Hub.
- Publication and putting into practice of two UK-wide working papers:
 - **Equality in Engineering Pathways Report** (October 2022), followed with a mentoring scheme for 72 historically excluded HE and FE engineering students with industry leaders in ESES region.
 - **Timber in Construction Skills Action Plan** (March 2023), with the launch of Timber Technology Engineering & Design courses developed by HCI at **NMITE** and **BE-ST**.
- £300k in additional leverage achieved, with HCI leading the Innovate UK Fast Followers scheme to gain a Net Zero Innovation and Delivery Officer for 24 months, based at Fife Council and working across the Edinburgh and South East Scotland region.



6 Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) Skills Gateway

- 239 learners benefitted from £67,000 funding awarded through the Data Skills for Work programme.
- Women in Digital and Data Innovation Professional Development Award in Data Science (SCQF level 7) – 75 learners enrolled and predicted completion level of 75%
- Internet of Things (IoT) sensors rolled out to 34 schools across the region.



7 Workforce Mobility (WFM)

- Delivered **Scottish Borders Council Bus Network Review**.
- Supported Scottish Borders Council's pilot Demand Responsive Transport service in Berwickshire.
- Completed filming to promote **bus driving as a career** in 2023/24.





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
March 2024	<p>Integrated Knowledge Systems (IKS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migrate Midlothian Council data into Helix with site and data language mapping. • Set up UKSPF in Helix for Edinburgh, East Lothian, West Lothian, Midlothian, and Scottish Borders councils. • Investigate API for helix.scot and build out landing page for Fife Council. • Migrate West Lothian Council data into Helix with site and data language mapping.
January 2024	<p>Labour Market Analysis & Evaluation (LMAE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission research into digital skills needs of health and social care sector in Edinburgh and South East Scotland. • Commission research into skills/labour market issues in Edinburgh and South East Scotland – focus to be agreed by partners. • Deliver series of workshops to disseminate Regional Skills Assessments.
March 2024	<p>Integrated Employer Engagement (IEE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working closely with Sir Robert McAlpine, tier 1 contractor for the Dunard Centre build, following the agreement of a regional community benefit plan; employability, education, supply chain and community engagement objectives are underway, and the reporting of deliverables will commence through quarterly IRES reports. • The fourth annual IEE Employer Fund will launch, offering £50,000 of small grants to micro businesses across the 6 local authority areas in partnership with Business Gateway, early indications of fund theme are ‘fair work’ objectives and ‘green adaptations within the workplace to support the employee wellbeing and working environment’. The fund will launch in Q2. • Launch Green Economy jobs sectoral awareness campaign. The campaign consists of a short docufilm and series of social media shorts highlighting the importance of every citizen and business making changes to contribute to the net zero ambitions set out by governments. The campaign looks at career and training options and a snapshot of what local businesses are already doing to make a difference within this priority agenda. The campaign will be shared with our employability network of over 400 recipients and a supporting TV advert will launch across our region on STV, ETV player and ITVx. Outputs from this campaign will be expected in Q3.
October 2023	<p>Intensive Family Support Service (IFSS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providers will complete the process of registering all children and young people to the HELIX information management system to support high quality data capture for reporting and evaluation. • An in-person network event for all IFSS providers will be developed and held in Autumn 2023. While the content of the event will be shaped by provider input, it intends to provide an opportunity for providers to come together, develop relationships, and share practice and learning across the region. • Development of Phase Two research and evaluation with academic partner or researcher to begin. Opportunities to work in partnership with Strathclyde University are currently being explored and a research proposal has been submitted to a funding body. The outcome of this application will be known in August 2023.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
March 2024	<p>Housing, Construction, and Infrastructure (HCI) Skills Gateway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceed original inclusive skills target with over 800 school pupils achieving a new SCQF Level 4+ qualification in net zero skills, plus engaging over 5,668 learners from across the region. Develop and implement pilot programmes to address gender inequality in construction roles beyond Higher Education and Further Education students, with particular focus on reskilling older women. Achieve 5,000 Further Education student enrolments for net zero skills short courses delivered by Borders, Edinburgh, Fife, and West Lothian Colleges.
March 2024	<p>Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) Skills Gateway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of video content promoting data careers, for use across the programme. Embed Data Skills for Work programme in mainstream skills activity of The Data Lab. Expand Teacher Professional Learning programme and promote development of knowledge-sharing communities.
March 2024	<p>Workforce Mobility (WFM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Scottish Borders Council deliver the recommendations of the Bus Network Review. Support East Lothian Council with a strategic Journey / mobility Hub analysis (with supporting infrastructure). Develop and deliver the Driver Recruitment Campaign to support operators across the region.

Strategic Added Value

Inclusive growth remains at the centre of the IRES Programme with the aim of supporting long term sustainable destinations for those who live and work within the ESES region. By supporting local and regional ambition the IRES project has contributed to national policy to help shape future investment for the region. As the partnership supporting IRES develops, further opportunities for wider alignment have developed, including:

- Delivery of clear, integrated, and inclusive pathways into industry.
- Driving cross cutting themes within regional networks such as Community Wealth Building.
- Ongoing research to tackle climate emergency, green skills, and skills gaps.
- Engagement with stakeholders to support regional agendas including the development of the Regional Prosperity Framework.
- Informing future policy through ongoing engagement with stakeholders.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

A720 (Sheriffhall Roundabout)

The Sheriffhall Roundabout is currently the only junction on the A720 Edinburgh City Bypass that is not grade separated, which means the City Bypass is at the same level as the A7 and A6106 local approach roads. This at-grade, six-way junction, often experiences significant queuing, especially during peak hours. The Scottish Government's commitment through the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal includes £120 million to support improvements to the A720 Edinburgh City Bypass for the **grade separation of Sheriffhall Roundabout**. The project is being delivered by Transport Scotland and is subject to Transport Scotland's normal governance procedures.

Headline achievements in the past year

Continued engagement with the City Region Deal partners, on progress and technical scheme developments.

- Formal responses issued to all objections made to the draft Orders and Environmental Statement.
- Public Local Inquiry (PLI) conducted by the DPEA from 30 January to 8 February, to consider objections raised and maintained in response to publication of the draft Orders for the proposed Scheme.



Visualisation of the proposed Scheme looking from the South-West



Visualisation of the non-motorised user facilities included in the proposed Scheme



Visualisation of the non-motorised user facilities included in the proposed Scheme



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
Late-2023	DPEA Reporter to conclude and submit their PLI Report to Scottish Ministers for consideration. Delivery of the proposed Scheme can only commence if the proposed Scheme is approved under the statutory procedures. Only following completion of statutory consents can a programme be set for delivery of the proposed Scheme.

Strategic Added Value

The project will:

- Address the bottleneck on the strategic road network by improving operating conditions and connectivity at Sheriffhall and help to reduce the traffic impact of proposed developments on the area.
- Provide high quality active travel facilities to deliver a step change in accessibility for walking and cycling.
- Support future development in the region, including the South East Wedge development, inclusive growth and the removal of physical barriers to growth through delivery of programme of construction across the region.
- Contribute towards the requirement to provide Community Benefits in line with the requirements of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014.
- Support wider skills development in the construction sector.

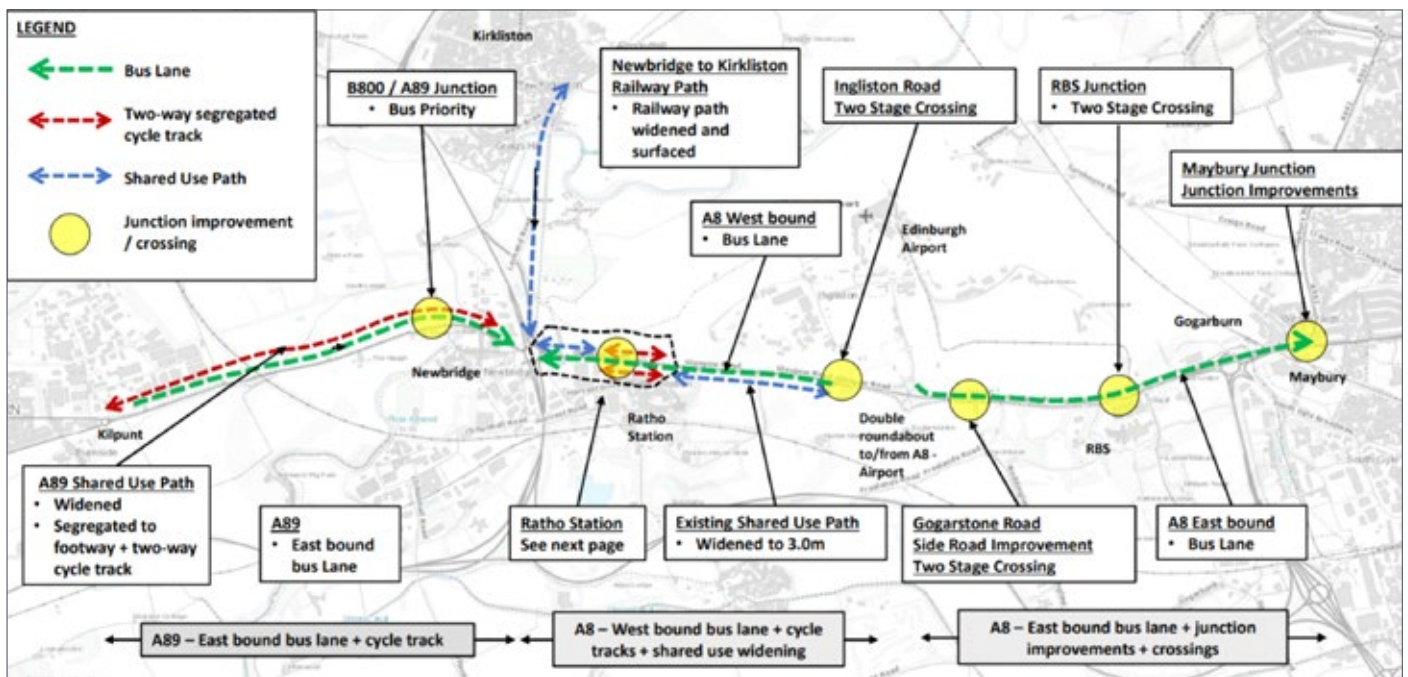


4. The Deal – summary of progress

West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme (Wetip)

West Edinburgh is recognised by the Scottish Government as a key national economic asset and perhaps the most important gateway to Scotland. National Planning Policy set the long-term vision for development and investment across Scotland and cites West Edinburgh as a significant business investment location with potential to be internationally competitive. In recognition of West Edinburgh's key gateway function Edinburgh Airport and the scale of adjoining land identified for development. The vision for West Edinburgh and the unlocking of the proposed business and residential development cannot be delivered without significant investment in an

integrated package of transport intervention measures. These include a core package of sustainable transport improvement measures along the A8/A89 corridor that provide long term resilience and support strong connectivity between neighbouring authorities and communities. The transport intervention measures are centred around sustainable transport enhancements between Broxburn and Maybury and are necessary to mitigate the impacts of new developments and meet current agreed modal share/shift targets. This proposal is in line with the City Region Deal vision which looks to accelerate the rate of investment and economic performance by capitalising on our existing world class assets through an inclusive and sustainable growth model.





4. The Deal – summary of progress

Next milestones

- Completion of initial Options Appraisal stage which included the following activities:
 - Programme Initiation.
 - Review and refresh of the Case for Change.
 - Review of more ambitious schemes (following announcement of the Bus Partnership Fund).
 - Preliminary Appraisal of Options.
 - Feasibility study for a mobility hub at Broxburn.
 - Topographical Surveys and initial Utilities assessment.
- Mobilisation of Outline Business Case (OBC) stage with following activities commenced:
 - Draft Preliminary Design.
 - Stakeholder Engagement and Public Consultation.
 - Detailed Options Appraisal.
- Transport Planning Objectives to support OBC agreed by Programme Board

Due Date	Milestone
Autumn 2023	Issue draft Outline Business Case for review by Transport Scotland
Early 2024	City of Edinburgh Council Transport & Environment Committee and West Lothian Council Committee OBC approval
Spring 2024	ESES CRD Joint Committee OBC approval
Spring 2024 – End 2024	Advertisement of Statutory Road Orders (including Consultation)
Spring 2024 – Autumn 2024	Procurement

Strategic Added Value

The purpose of the West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Programme is to progress the delivery of the public transport and active travel measures identified in the 2016 WETA Refresh study including the assessment of the feasibility and demand for a mobility hub at Broxburn. Interventions are being appraised against a wide range of objectives including, but not limited to, the promotion of sustainable travel to a range of destinations; improving regional connectivity and accessibility for all to jobs, education, healthcare and leisure; and delivering an improved active travel and public transport mode share within West Edinburgh to support net zero carbon emission targets.

The Programme brings together a range of stakeholders contributing to successful delivery. These include the City of Edinburgh Council, West Lothian Council, Bus Operators, Transport Scotland, Active Travel Groups, Bus User Forums, SEStran, Sustrans, Network Rail, Edinburgh Airport, Major Developers and other statutory consultees. In due course, this project will be procured as a construction project, and links with the Housing and Construction Infrastructure Skills Gateway will be established. The improvement of public transport provision in this area has the potential to unlock housing development opportunities and ease congestion in the corridor between West Lothian and Edinburgh.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Dunard Centre

The Dunard Centre, supported by Royal Bank of Scotland, will be Edinburgh’s first purpose-built concert venue in 100 years: a sensational space that helps artists and audiences connect like never before.

Nestled in the heart of Edinburgh’s New Town, visitors will be able to stream into the venue on foot, on pedal and by bus, tram and train, with an all-day programme of performances, tours and café/bar options encouraging drop-ins as well as dedicated trips.

Though the plot is little bigger than a football pitch, the ingenious design of the hall will transform the previously screened-off site into a dynamic new public precinct, opening up music-making for all.

The plot is currently undergoing enablement works to prepare for main construction, and promotion of this exciting new space has also begun, including a Day One recital by Scottish Chamber Orchestra cellist Su-a Lee, and the launch of a website that allows music lovers to explore the plans.

Our powerful public positioning focuses on inclusion: the Dunard Centre is “for music and for everyone.” Dedicated to both excellence and experimentation, it will be a place that supports music-makers of all styles and career to *play* – with their own art form, with cross-genre collaborations and with audiences, both on and off-stage.

By celebrating the talent of today the Dunard Centre will help create the music of tomorrow, a mission made possible by the incredible partnership between the City Regional Deal, generous philanthropists and visionary corporates.



Dunard Centre



Dunard Centre northern approach Dunard Centre cafe terrace
Image: David Chipperfield Architects and Hayes Davidson



Dunard Centre auditorium
Image: David Chipperfield Architects and Hayes Davidson



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Milestones achieved in the past year

- **19 January 2023:** the Dunard Centre site is formally transferred from Royal Bank of Scotland to IMPACT Scotland, the charity in charge of developing and delivering Edinburgh’s new music venue
- **6 February 2023:** site clearance works begin, marked by an intimate concert for construction workers, stakeholders and media
- **March 2023:** Ronnie Bowie takes over the Chair for IMPACT Scotland, and immediately heads up the international search for our first permanent CEO
- **May 2023:** Jo Buckley is announced as IMPACT Scotland’s first permanent CEO, with a start date of September 1 2023
- **May 2023:** RIBA Stage 4 Design completed and is signed off by Trustees
- **June 2023:** www.dunardcentre.co.uk launches

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
1 September 2023	Jo Buckley joins IMPACT Scotland as CEO
September 2023	<i>Music Matters</i> research fieldwork gets underway (see below)
By November 2023	IMPACT Scotland Stage 2 tender acceptance
By January 2024	Main construction start date

That’s why we’ve commissioned an ambitious quantitative and qualitative study into consumer attitudes and behaviour, which we will use to inform our future messaging, artistic development and audience mobilisation efforts. We also anticipate using the data to help shape ongoing and standalone campaigns across our Community Benefits commitments once the main construction phase begins.

Strategic Added Value

The Dunard Centre will be a 21st century space dedicated to musical excellence and artistic experimentation.

Our definition of a 21st century space comes from two things: firstly a place that offers audiences and artists great sound and a great experience; and secondly a venue that encourages and enables as many people as possible to access the extraordinary benefits of live music.

However, our inclusive ambition of operating as a ‘hall for all’ requires us to be audience-driven, securing a detailed understanding of how citizens currently engage with music in all formats so that we can reflect this lived experience in our own outreach and communications campaigns.

Working with expert, Edinburgh-based JRS Consortium, our research waves begin with Edinburgh and South East Scotland citizens, before widening our sample out to Scotland as a whole, providing our team with rich baseline findings to build upon at local and national level.

As a data-driven organisation we will continue to share the research roadmap with CRD stakeholders, actively exploring opportunities to involve the wider network in our sampling and reporting efforts. We are targeting a best-in-class approach to insight-driven programme development and marketing; just one example of IMPACT Scotland’s wider pursuit of building excellence: both on site and within our own organisational development.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

To ensure the region can continue to successfully deliver on its housing ambitions and react to the existing and future political, economic, and environmental conditions a refreshed set of five housing priorities were developed and agreed at the **December 2022 Joint Committee meeting**. The priorities are - Affordable Housing Delivery (current and future); Retrofit (EESH2); Home Demonstrator Project; Strategic Sites; and Future Town Centres and New Delivery Models Regional partners also collaborate, share best practices and lessons learned on homelessness, infrastructure, innovation, retrofit and delivering net-zero carbon housing.

The region continues to deliver a significant proportion of Scotland’s new affordable homes. In 2022/23 the region collectively delivered nearly 1,800 approvals, 2,300 site starts and 2,400 completions, and a spend of £174m- all ahead of annual targets. Due to the scale and effectiveness of the region’s affordable housing programmes, the region has again continued to utilise underspend from elsewhere in Scotland with an additional £41m (compared with Scottish Government Resource Planning Allocation (RPAs)) absorbed to spend on affordable housing delivery.

Approvals for the region are slightly lower than anticipated, which was due to adverse market conditions. This is reflected elsewhere in Scotland, with **the Scottish Government’s quarterly statistics** to the end of September 2022 (published March 2023) reporting that, across Scotland, private led new builds reduced by 11% and housing association new build approvals dropped by 27%. Encouragingly there was a 14% increase in site starts across the region and completions were also ahead of target.



Blindwells



Granton



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Over the next five years, the region had projected that it would spend over £1bn to deliver 18,000 affordable homes.

Across the seven strategic sites (Blindwells, Calderwood, Dunfermline, Edinburgh’s Waterfront, Shawfair, Tweedbank and Winchburgh) a total of 181 social and 32 mid-market rent and 697 homes have been completed over the last year. A breakdown is provided below:

Delivery (completions)	Tenure Mix			
	Social Rent	MMR	BTR	Market
Blindwells	60	0	0	48
Calderwood	103	32	0	233
Dunfermline	0	0	0	252
Granton Waterfront	0	0	0	0
Shawfair	18	0	0	0
Tweedbank	0	0	0	0
Winchburgh	0	0	0	164
Total	181	32	0	697

The strategic sites have planning consent for a potentially transformational delivery pipeline of 4,355 social, 271 mid-market rent and 12,544 market homes as detailed below:

Delivery (approvals)	Tenure Mix			
	Social Rent	MMR	BTR	Market
Blindwells	480	0	0	1,120
Calderwood	550	0	0	1,650
Dunfermline	1,331	0	0	3,994
Granton Waterfront	334	271	0	0
Shawfair	798	0	0	3,192
Tweedbank	0	0	0	0
Winchburgh	862	0	0	2,588
Total	4,355	271	0	12,544

Please note that this breakdown does not capture the scale of design, development and enabling activity that has been delivered over the last year which will unlock significant construction activity in future years. The Headline Achievements below captures some of this detail and the Next Milestones section demonstrating the scale and breadth of activity that will take place over the next year.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Headline achievements in the past year

- The Regional Housing Programme Update, was **approved** at the December 2022 Joint Committee meeting, with a further update scheduled for the 1 September 2023 Joint Committee meeting.
- At Winchburgh over the past year the following has been delivered:
 - Winchburgh Academy (the non-denominational secondary school) completed on time and on budget and opened in August 2022.
 - Holy Family Primary School (the new denominational primary school) completed on time and on budget and opened in August 2022.
 - The new motorway junction on the M9 was opened early in 2023.
 - The new marina on the Union Canal completed and opened.
- At Dunfermline, Officers are working collaboratively with a key landowner to identify a potential solution to enable the delivery of necessary education capacity that can unblock the delivery of 2,575 new homes.
- Ongoing completion of consented development in Blindwells Phase 1, with detailed approvals and delivery for second phase infrastructure and on-going commercial and residential development underway, with 140 families now living in new homes. 80 affordable homes and school site now transferred to the East Lothian Council and proposals for new local centre submitted for approval. Commencement of the Strategic Outline Case for Blindwells Expansion now underway, with SOC anticipated Q3/4 2023/24.
- At Tweedbank a Prior Information Notice (PIN) has been issued for a development partner before moving toward procurement. £50k Scottish Government funding has also been secured to support a feasibility study for a heat and energy network for the entire site.
- At Calderwood housebuilding is progressing ahead of forecast and agreement has been secured on a developer funded third stream Calderwood Primary School
- Regional Home Demonstrator - The collaboration between local and national government, academia and the construction industry is testing a new model for designing, procuring and delivering new homes in the region to create a greener future.
- Partners have committed two years funding to continue resourcing and formation of a Regional Delivery Alliance to:
 - Sustain/maintain regional pipeline including strategic sites.
 - Engage with industry on pipeline delivery.
 - Support initial feasibility studies.
 - Sustain/maintain regional typologies & design and performance standard.
 - Facilitate the bundling of sites across the region; and
 - Identify additional funding/resourcing opportunities.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

- **Edinburgh Living** has drawn down all of the one-off grant of £16.1m approved as part of City Region Deal. In 2022/23 was successful in securing an additional £6 million in grant funding from Scottish Government to support acquisition of homes for mid rent. 543 of the 728 mid-market rent homes have been delivered already with around 78 more homes expected to be purchased in 2023/24. The remaining mid rent homes are in design/development or under construction as part of the Council's housebuilding programme.

Next milestones

Due Date	Milestone
Aug 23	Winchburgh – Sinclair Academy (the denominational secondary school) completed on time and on budget.
Sep 2023	Dunfermline – Planning application to be submitted for new bridge at Halbeath (first major component of the new Northern Link Road).
Summer 23	Winchburgh – Submission of a planning application for the first new non-denominational primary school.
Summer 23	Shawfair – Installation of 4km of pipework for Shawfair District Heat Network followed by Energy Centre to serve 3000 homes and commitment to new 32Mva primary substation to meet all of Shawfair's power requirements.
Summer 23	David Lloyd Leisure and Danfoss Low Carbon Manufacturing facility open on Shawfair Park.
Summer/ Autumn 23	Tweedbank – begin construction with the phase 1 access road into the larger Lowood site. This will unlock access to 2 development sites initially, with an extension to that road to follow, opening up access to a further 2 sites.
Autumn 23	Tweedbank – Care Village progressing to Planning.
Autumn 23	Shawfair – acquisition of All Through Campus site by Midlothian Council and remediation of site begins.
Nov 23	Dunfermline – Bothwell Gardens Roundabout signalisation delivered (second required intervention measure).
Nov 23	Dunfermline – Broomhall (2250 consented units) phase 1 development strategic infrastructure delivery plan, development brief and phase 1 housing delivery submitted.
Dec 23	Dunfermline – Phase 1 and related infrastructure for Halbeath (1400 consented units).
Winter 23	Calderwood – Commencement of construction of a third-stream accommodation at Calderwood Primary. Completion of a new access to St Paul's Primary School.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

Due Date	Milestone
Winter 23	Granton Waterfront – First set of homes delivered and tenants start moving in.
Dec 23 / Early 24	Blindwells Strategic Outline Business Case .
Winter 23 / Spring 24	Tweedbank – Full Business Case .
Feb 24	Granton Waterfront – Regional Home Demonstrator D1 site complete – Delivery of 75 Net Zero Homes.
March 24	Dunfermline – Phase 2 development brief for strategic transport infrastructure
Spring 24	Winchburgh – Completion of the distributor road to the M9 including new bridges over the Union Canal and Edinburgh – Glasgow Railway line.
Spring 24	Shawfair – Starting infrastructure delivery to access and service 30 acres of employment land.
Summer 24	Shawfair – First ‘heat on’ connection for housing on Shawfair District Heat Network
Summer 24	Granton Waterfront – Full Business Case – Working with development partner to progress designs and planning permission and produce a Final Business Case for phase 1 of regeneration: circa 800 homes, the first phase of a low carbon heat network, a primary school, 3,000m2 of commercial space, a mobility hub and active travel upgrades.
Summer 24	Granton Waterfront – Final Business case being developed for Waste Water Sewer Source Heat Network – working with development partner to progress designs and planning permission and securing anchor load connections.
Autumn 24	Granton Waterfront – Signing of Development Agreement, Concession Agreement, Heat Supply Agreement and Building contract to allow commencement of enabling and infrastructure phase including heat network pipe laying and energy centre delivery.
Winter 24	Granton Waterfront gasholder park under construction with completion anticipated late 2024.

Strategic Added Value

- The seven strategic sites can collectively deliver transformational economic and social change both in terms of housing supply, circa. 40,000 homes, and for the local, regional and national economy, through maximising the economic benefits from the construction of new homes and ensure that jobs, training and apprenticeships are targeted towards disadvantaged areas across the region. These sites all require further work and business case development with most of these homes anticipated to be delivered over the next 10-20 years. Several of the sites therefore require a

long-term commitment and investment from Government, agencies and key stakeholders. advantages that the CRD partnership working is bringing to add value to the proposal.



4. The Deal – summary of progress

- Housing is a key social, economic and environmental driver. Greater integration across these drivers and City Region Deal policy themes is essential to support the growth requirements of the region and to deliver new communities which deliver the quality of place that ensures the South East of Scotland is a desirable place for people to live and for businesses to invest. Advantages that the CRD partnership working is bringing to add value to the proposal.
- Strategic sites will provide opportunities to create sustainable 20 minute neighbourhoods and due to their scale, will secure significant biodiversity enhancements and renewable energy generation to address the climate emergency.
- The Edinburgh Home Demonstrator will project is delivering Net Zero Carbon Homes in Granton and will seek to scale up delivery across the city region. This will demonstrate the effectiveness of homes designed and constructed to net zero carbon. Using Modern Methods of Construction (MMC). MMC uses technology, new materials and contemporary on-site building techniques to improve efficiency and quality in buildings.
- At Dunfermline - Progression of Broomhall will ultimately provide employment land to support the Forth Green Freeport.
- Under EESH 2 new housing will need to have zero emissions with social landlords expected to be fully compliant by 2026. Significant work will be required to ensure existing properties across all tenures are retrofitted to improve energy efficiency and decarbonised heat to meet new zero emissions targets.
- The Regional Housing Programme delivers on the Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) ambitions and vision to protect environment and make best use of our extraordinary built and natural assets, ensuring that our Region delivers a just transition to a net zero economy. It also delivers on the three main goals of the RPF Delivery Plan – reduce economic exclusion, sustained and increased competitiveness and accelerate a fair transition to Net Zero.



5. Our Approach to Benefits Realisation

Our Approach to Benefits Realisation

To date, Benefits Realisation is an area that significant progress has been made on over the last five years. In 2020, the Benefits Realisation Plan was published following approval by the Joint Committee in September 2020.

In 2021, the Programme Management Office (PMO) commissioned the Smart Data Foundry to recommend measures to be put in place so that outputs and impacts can be captured, measured, and reported on by 2023 and thereafter.

In the annual report last year, three key questions were explored pertaining to Benefits Realisation. To summarise, these questions asked what outputs and impacts might be captured by 2023; what is currently in place to capture, monitor and manage outputs; and what actions need to be taken to ensure benefits are monitored and evaluated effectively going forward. In 2023, action has been taken to progress and address these questions.

1 What outputs and impacts might be captured by 2023?

Great progress has been made in creating a Benefits Realisation Measurement Framework (approved by the joint committee and published in March 2023). This framework was identified as a key action required in last year's annual report and allows for a sophisticated approach to monitoring and evaluating each project in the city deal both quantitatively and qualitatively.

A Benefits Realisation report will be taken to the September 2023 Joint Committee which outlines benefits captured in 2023, and the longer-term approach to the monitoring and evaluation of benefits. By 2028 the position will have changed significantly, with every project theme being able to report outputs and impacts.

2 What is currently in place to capture, monitor and manage outputs?

Last year, three actions were recommended to take benefit realisation forward in 2023. These actions were:

- Appoint a Senior Responsible Officer to oversee benefits realisation (completed).
- Secure a Benefits Realisation Officer within the PMO to co-ordinate City Region Deal project and programme output and impact reporting (completed); and
- Develop and implement an outputs, outcomes, and impacts reporting framework across all City Region Deal projects to complement and enhance the current output reporting already undertaken by the PMO (completed).





5. Our Approach to Benefits Realisation

In addition to the above, two further monitoring and evaluation actions are being implemented:

- A Benefits Output and Impacts Monitoring template has been created, this template ensures each quantitative output and impact established in the business case of each project are monitored, with qualitative data supporting this data. These templates will be reported in full at the end of Q1 each year and will be a part of the 2024 annual report.
- Initial GVA estimates have been created using methodology outlined which is approved by both Scottish and UK governments. These estimates were included in the 5-year review to estimate GVA in the first 5 years of the deal, the goal is for this to become more sophisticated with full GVA reports being produced that assess overall GVA, indirect GVA, induced GVA, catalysed GVA and GVA of each project to each specific Local Authority in the ESES.

3 What actions need to be taken to ensure benefits are monitored and evaluated effectively going forward?

Going forward, the next steps for benefit realisation are about implementation. There are five main actions to be taken:

- A reporting template is being issued to monitor quantitative outputs and impacts, and it is the responsibility of the Benefits Realisation Officer to collate and process this data, whilst also supplementing the quantitative data with qualitative data as outlined in the benefits realisation measurement framework.
- During implementation, continue working closely with partners in both UK & Scottish Governments, as well as utilising the Benefits Realisation group, in which officers working on benefits realisation in city deals across the UK come together to ensure best practice is shared and work collaboratively to problem solve.
- Encouraging the adoption by all projects of the City Partnership Community Benefits portal and consequent capturing and reporting of these benefits.
- Ensuring all projects are involved in on-going engagement with Scottish Government in relation to the guidance on whole-life carbon costs and incorporation into business cases, procurement, and ongoing operational commitments.
- Once benefit data is captured and processed, evaluate how benefits delivered fit into the wider picture in terms of regional prosperity goals, community wealth building goals and inclusive growth goals.



6. Regional Prosperity Framework

Regional Prosperity Framework

The City Region Deal partners have developed an ambitious 20-year economic framework called the Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) which articulates the next phase of activity to develop the regional economy, building upon the successes of the Deal.

The **RPF Delivery Plan** was approved at the Joint Committee meeting in March of this year, following individual approval by each of the six Local Authorities and University of Edinburgh Court.

The Delivery Plan seeks to drive prosperity for Edinburgh and South-East Scotland through delivering on the RPF ambitions and vision:

to ensure the social and economic benefits of future growth extend to all. All sections of the community will have the opportunity to develop and enhance the key skills that will help to end inequalities in our society. We will protect our environment and make best use of our extraordinary built and natural assets, ensuring that our Region delivers a just transition to a net zero economy. Our institutions, ancient and modern, will deliver positive outcomes that enhance our local, national, and international reputation. Our aim is to become the data capital of Europe.





6. Regional Prosperity Framework

The Delivery Plan has four key programmes, priority projects and three core goals, summarised in the diagram below:



Regional partners recognise that delivering the three main goals of the RPF Delivery Plan requires alignment between local, regional and national ambitions, policies and resources.

The four programmes will enable the city region to maintain and enhance its global reputation and become the data capital of Europe, delivering sustainable and inclusive growth. The Delivery Plan aligns with Scotland’s **National Strategy for Economic Transformation** (NSET), Scotland’s Regional Economic Policy Review recommendations, and UK Government’s **Levelling Up** priorities.

Regional partners are now engaging with ministers and civil servants to secure support and progress the priority projects within the plan, and are aiming to complete propositions and asks of Government by the end of the calendar year.

A long term, integrated, place-based capital and revenue funding programme agreement is being sought. Such a mechanism would enable the region to take a joined-up approach across transport, planning, housing and economic development priorities and deliver shared outcomes.



7. The Year Ahead

Date	Milestone
Aug 23	Sinclair Academy (denominational secondary school at Winchburgh) completed.
Sep 23	<p>Joint Committee meeting where the following items will be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Update. • Regional Housing Programme Annual Update. • City Region Deal Annual Report 22/23. • Audit Scotland Report: “Scotland’s City Region and Growth Deals Progress of the 2020 audit report recommendations.
Sep 23	New Edinburgh Futures Institute building in Lauriston place welcomes first intake of students.
Nov 23	Commencement of construction of Edinburgh Innovation Hub.
Late 23	DPEA Reporter to conclude and submit their Public Local Inquiry Report on the A720 Sheriffhall scheme to Scottish Ministers for consideration.
Winter 23	Blindwells Strategic Outline Business Case complete.
Winter 23	Tweedbank Housing Full Business Case complete.
Early 24	Opening of Usher Institute Building.
Oct 23	Business Units in Levenmouth complete as part of the Fife I3 Programme
Dec 23	<p>Joint Committee meeting where the following items will be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A720 Sheriffhall six-monthly update from Transport Scotland. • Culture Programme Annual Update. • Integrated Regional Employability and Skills Programme Annual Update.
Dec 23	Regional Home Demonstrator D1 site complete at Granton Waterfront delivering 75 Net Zero Homes.
By Jan 24	Main construction at Dunard Centre starts.
Early 24	Final Business Case for phase 1 of regeneration at Granton complete.
Mar 24	<p>Joint Committee meeting where the following items will be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Update. • Data-Driven Innovation Programme Annual Update. • West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Plan Outline Business Case. • A701 Relief Road and A702 Spur Road (Easter Bush) update. • Borders Business Park Phases 2 and 3 business case.
Spring 24	Business Units in Fife Interchange North, Dunfermline complete as part of the Fife I3 Programme.
Jun 24	<p>Joint Committee meeting where the following items will be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A720 Sheriffhall six-monthly update from Transport Scotland. • Transport Programme Annual Update.



8. Contacts and External Links to Further Information

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Further Information

- Keep up to date with the latest news and join the mailing list at www.esescityregiondeal.org.uk
- **Data-Driven Innovation website**
- Download all Joint Committee reports including approved business cases at **The City of Edinburgh Council Committee library website**.
- Visit the **webcast library** to view recordings of each Joint Committee meeting