



Community Board Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday 8 February 2023, 11.15am - 1.15pm

Argyle House, Meeting Room 14, Floor E & Teams

Chair: Dave Gorman, Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability

Attending:

Sarah Anderson, Community Engagement Programme Manager, Social Responsibility and Sustainability

Bridie Ashrowan, Chief Executive, EVOC

Katrina Castle, Head of Strategic Partnerships and Transitions, Student Recruitment and Admissions

Patricia Erskine, Head of Stakeholder Relations, College Office – CAHSS

Ian Fyfe, Senior Lecturer, Moray House School of Education and Sport, IECS

Gemma Gourlay, Head of Social Impact, Department of Social Responsibility & Sustainability

Eppy Harries-Pugh, Communications Manager, Social Responsibility and Sustainability

Hazel Lambert, Head of Communications, Marketing & Engagement, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine

Anne-Sofie Laegran, Head of Knowledge Exchange and Impact, Edinburgh Research Office

Lesley McAra, Assistant Principal Community Relations and Director of Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities

Jacky MacBeath, Head of Heritage Collections (Access & Engagement), Library & University Collections, ISG

Derek MacLeod, Head of Global Partnerships, Edinburgh Global

James Mooney, Director of Open Studies, Centre for Open Learning

Cameron Ritchie, Depute Director and Head of Operations, University Sport and Exercise

Sean Smith, Director of the Centre for Future Infrastructure, Institute for Infrastructure and Environment

Zoe Stephens, Head of Organisational Development and Change, Estates Management Group

Stuart Tooley, Community Relations Manager, Communications and Marketing

Isi Williams, EUSA VP Community

Apologies:

Lynn McMath, Director Stakeholder Relations, Communications and Marketing

In Attendance:

Anne Douglas, Community Engagement Administrator & Projects Coordinator

Agenda

	Time	Item	Paper (closed/ open)
1.	11.15am	Approval of meeting minute of 1 December 2022 (Dave Gorman)	A
2.	11.20am	Matters Arising, not otherwise covered in the agenda (Dave Gorman) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the University's coordinated response to global emergencies (Derek MacLeod) • Update on meeting with Provost (Gemma Gourlay) 	

3.	11.30am	SRS land acquisition and community engagement implication (Vanessa McCorquodale, Community and Student Engagement Manager – Forest and Peatland programme)	
4.	12 noon	Curriculum Transformation Experiential Learning Group: presentation (Lesley McAra)	
5.	12:20pm	Community Plan update (Gemma Gourlay)	
6.	12.35pm	CAHSS Social & Civic Responsibility Statement (Patricia Erskine)	B (closed)
7.	12.55pm	Standing item: report from the Cost of Living Working Group (Stuart Tooley)	
8.	1.05pm	Standing Item: Community Team and Communications update (Sarah Anderson/Stuart Tooley) <i>Paper for information</i>	C (closed)
9.	1.10pm	AOB	
10.	1.15pm	Meeting close	

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MINUTE OF A MEETING *of the Community Board held in Meeting Room 14, Argyle House and via MS Teams on Thursday 1 December 2022*

- Present:** Gemma Gourlay, Head of Social Impact, Department of Social Responsibility & Sustainability (GG) (Chair)
Sarah Anderson, Community Engagement Programme Manager (SA) for part of meeting
Bridie Ashrowan, Chief Executive, EVOC (BA)
Julie Contreras, Stakeholder Engagement & Events Manager, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine (JC) (standing in for Hazel Lambert)
Patricia Erskine, Head of Stakeholder Relations, College Office – CAHSS (PE)
Anne-Sofie Laegran, Head of Knowledge Exchange and Impact, Edinburgh Research Office (ASL)
Lesley McAra, Assistant Principal Community Relations and Director of Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities (LMcA)
James Mooney, Director of Open Studies, Centre for Open Learning (cover for Kate McHugh)
Derek MacLeod, Head of Global Partnerships, Edinburgh Global (DM)
Lauren McLeron, Communications Manager (Finance and Community Engagement) – maternity cover
Lynn McMath, Director, Stakeholder Relations, Communications and Marketing (LMcM)
Cameron Ritchie, Depute Director and Head of Operations, University Sport and Exercise (CR)
Sean Smith, Director of the Centre for Future Infrastructure, Institute for Infrastructure and Environment (SS)
Zoe Stephens, Head of Organisational Development and Change, Estates Management Group (ZS)
Stuart Tooley, Community Relations Manager, Communications and Marketing (ST)
- In attendance:** Anne Douglas, Community Engagement Administrator & Project Coordinator (AD) (minute)
- Apologies:** Katrina Castle, Head of Strategic Partnerships and Transitions, Student Recruitment and Admissions (KC)
Dave Gorman, Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability (DG)
Ian Fyfe, Senior Lecturer, Moray House School of Education and Sport, IECS (IF)
Hazel Lambert, Head of Communications, Marketing & Engagement, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine (HL)
Jacky MacBeath, Head of Heritage Collections (Access & Engagement), Library & University Collections, ISG (JMcB)
Isi Williams, EUSA VP Community (IW)

1 Approval of meeting minute, 15 September 2022

A

The Community Board minute of 15 September 2022 was approved.

2 Matters Arising, not otherwise covered in the agenda

(1) Minute item 2(1) – Ukraine response: Lessons learned – Derek MacLeod informed the meeting that an update on a coordinated University response to global emergencies could be provided in early 2023.

Action: DM – provide an update at 8 February 2023 Board.

- (2) Minute item 2(7) – SRS Land acquisition – Vanessa McCorquodale, Community & Student Engagement Manager for the Forest and Peatland Programme, will present to the Community Board at the 8 February 2023 meeting.

The following italicized items were noted in an Action Points tracker, but not raised in the meeting:

- (1) *Minute item 3 – Introduction to EUSA Vice President Community. As Isi Williams sent her apologies for today's meeting, she will be introduced to the Board at the February 2023 meeting.*
- (2) *Minute item 4 – Our Edinburgh Neighbourhood. John Brennan's presentation was circulated to the Board.*
- (3) *Minute item 5 – Social Impact Pledge. Action remains outstanding.*
Action: SA - Expand the wording of the third proposed commitment ('we will situate additional community services in the Dick Vet in the Community venue')
- (4) *Minute item 5 – Social Impact Pledge. Action remains outstanding.*
Action: SA - Check with Isi Williams that Social Impact Pledges are compatible with VP Community and Student Association plans.

3 Bioquarter Community Impact strategy imprint and its alignment to the University's Community Plan

Sarah Anderson, Community Engagement Programme Manager, gave a presentation on the Bioquarter Community Impact Strategy, and explained that Cathy Southworth, Community Science Engagement Manager, College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine, was unable to attend today's Board meeting.

Additional points raised and discussed included:

- There is an external chair of the Bioquarter Community Impact Sub-Board.
- To implement the Community Impact Strategy the Sub-Board will undertake a 3-stage process: mapping, actions and resource.
- In relation to communities immediately adjacent to the Bioquarter, the Board was asked to provide Sarah and Cathy with details of University activities already taking place in these localities, including anything that is planned, and to flag that which may offer potential.
Action: All – provide details by 8 December of University activities or plans in selected localities.
Action: SA – to obtain details of Career Ready placements hosted by the University.
Action: SA – to follow-up with Capital City Partnerships and [SWECO](#). Sean Smith has emailed both organisations to introduce them to Sarah.
Action: SA – to follow-up with the Binks Hub.
- Bridie Ashrowan mentioned [Small Area Networks](#) that are being set-up that may be of relevance to the Sub-Board.
Action: SA – to follow-up Liberton Small Area Networks.

4 Annual Community Plan (closed)

Stuart Tooley, Community Relations Manager, introduced Paper B, Annual Community Plan update, to the Board.

He highlighted the more rigorous and successful process for annual reporting that had been undertaken this year to in-gather full details of activities supporting specific Community Plan commitments. A report will be shared publicly in February 2023.

Action: PE – to follow up with Sarah Anderson on paragraph 13 (EFI) of the Annual Community Plan paper.

Lesley McAra raised the issue of ensuring that community engagement work comes to the attention of the University's Executive, and suggested the need for a more strategic

B
(closed)

communications approach, particularly in view of potential, future changes to governance. Gemma Gourlay will be meeting with the new Provost in January and will report on the Community Plan Annual update & planning presentation to the Sustainability, Civic & Social Responsibility Committee in early 2023.

Action: GG – to update the February Board meeting.

Patricia Erskine reported that a statement on Social & Civic Responsibility was being prepared for a College of Arts Humanities & Social Sciences management committee on 13 December, and that internal feedback had been positive.

Gemma Gourlay requested that Board members pass on any further details that may be relevant to the Community Plan commitments as soon as possible. This will ensure that all evidence supporting the commitments is available, even though publication will be more selective.

Action: All – provide any further details in support of Community Plan commitments to Sarah and Stuart as soon as possible.

5 Community Wealth Building

Bridie Ashrowan, Chief Executive, EVOC, gave a presentation on community wealth building (CWB).

Key points included:

- The Scottish Government has adopted the 5 community wealth building (CWB) principles ([The principles of community wealth building | CLES](#)). There is a synergy between these principles and the recommendations from the recent Poverty Commission.
- The vision is to bring about longer-term structural changes, including shifts in power focus and investment, to ensure community empowerment that will result in lasting changes in areas of the city which have experienced persistent deprivation. In this model organisations will be accountable, including those in the private sector.
- An Edinburgh Community Planning Partnership Working Group, which includes the anchor institutions of NHS Lothian, Edinburgh City Council and the University of Edinburgh, has been set-up to bring together key partners in the city to implement the wealth building principles through a delivery plan. (Gemma Gourlay attends on behalf of the University.)
- The Third Sector Interface partnership has the role of connecting the participant anchor institutions and community anchor organisations.
- Anchor institutions bring significant influence to ‘economic engines’ in their roles as employers, purchasers and land/property owners.
- In research conducted by the University of Central Lancashire, the ‘Preston Model’ of CWB was found to bring about significant changes over 5 years.
- If the University can assist with joint resource and/or research, that would be a major contribution to CWB.

There was a wide-ranging discussion including the following:

- The role of research in CWB and the practicalities of academic year timings and the submission of grant proposals. It was suggested that the support the University could provide as an anchor institution may be of greater value, but also an emphasis on a knowledge exchange approach.
- The importance of getting the University’s senior management involved in the CWB project was emphasised, and the need to make clear that the University would be committing to a strategic venture.
- Reference was made to the Place Based Investment initiative in Granton, which Oliver Escobar, Senior Lecturer in Public Policy, is leading from the University side.
- Senior staff members who can help progress CWB will be passed onto Bridie.

Action: LMcA – pass on details of relevant staff members to Bridie.

- Communications & Marketing are currently looking at the Social Impact Survey and it may be helpful for questions to be tailored in view of CWB principles, e.g. about ownership within communities.
- Collective recognition that culture change will be required to deliver CWB.

Action : GG - to raise awareness of CWB with Kim Graham.

- There was a suggestion that going forward, smaller community led projects could feed into the Community Plan report.
- Action: LMcA - The Binks Hub may also be a helpful contact. LMcA to provide details.

6 Standing Item: report from the Cost of Living Working Group

Lynn McMath updated the Board on the Cost of Living Working Group's recent work.

The following point were raised and discussed:

- The key focus to date has been on ways to support students mitigate the cost of living crisis. Information has been collated on a dedicated web page [Cost of living | The University of Edinburgh](#). For example, videos setting out available support have been prepared, there are additional support funds, and the University's Catering team has introduced a low cost lunch option. Discussion is underway about ongoing support for prospective students joining the University in September 2023. EUSA has representation on this Group.
- There will be a meeting before Christmas to discuss support over the festive period.
- Lesley McAra recommended that there should be more senior ownership of this Group, and also requested that the Group discuss the option of staff travel vouchers.

Action: LMCM – raise these points at the next Working Group meeting.

- It was suggested that reaching out to widening participation and mature students could also be important.
- Currently Sport & Exercise are not represented on the Cost of Living Working Group.

Action: LMCM – details of the Group to be passed to Cameron Ritchie.

- It was acknowledged that there needs to be more work done for staff support.
- If Board members would like a particular issue discussed by the Group, they should contact Lynn McMath or Stuart Tooley.

Action: All – contact LMCM or ST to request discussion item to be added to the Working Group agenda.

7 Standing Item: Community Team Update

C

Paper C was noted by the Community Board. Stuart Tooley advised that a Modern Apprentice, based in Communications & Marketing, would be joining the Community Team next week.

8 Any Other Business

It was agreed that Argyle House (with the option of joining by Teams) is a suitable venue for future Community Board meetings.