

Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the 8<sup>th</sup> City Update and the first update of 2022.

Last year saw the conclusion of Phase 1 of the programme, with the final few of our 26 Phase 1 projects currently in the process of completion.

A number of these projects have already reported significant achievements, with the remainder working on closure reports and capturing evidence of the outputs they have achieved. Further detail on this is provided in section 2.

Seeing the projects come to fruition is an exciting time for the projects, the PMO and all our stakeholders, and it's wonderful to see them receive awards and the recognition they deserve.

An excellent example of this is the Smart Canal project which has received a number of industry awards (see section 11)

This newsletter also highlights the collaborative nature of the programme, with examples of the type collaboration, partnership and stakeholder engagement that sits at the heart of it.

As we move fully into Phase 2 of the 8<sup>th</sup> City Programme, I want to thank everyone who has been involved in the successful delivery of this innovative programme to date.

We look forward to working with you on the next stages of the 8<sup>th</sup> City Programme.

**Nicola McPhee, 8<sup>th</sup> City Programme Manager**



Photo: Steve Hosey,  
Glasgow City Council

## 2 | 8th CITY PROGRAMME – PHASE 1 UPDATE

December 2021 saw the conclusion of phase 1 of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme. As shown in the table below, 26 projects have now been delivered via all seven Scottish cities.

These Phase 1 projects have combined budgets of £13,190,782 (LUPS) and £1,751,501 (H&I) - of which £5,266,656 (LUPS) and £875,750 (H&I) is ERDF grant and £500k is via the Cities Investment Fund administered by the Scottish Cities Alliance.

Over the coming months project leads will arrange financial closure of recently delivered projects and will produce Project Closure Reports in line with programme requirements.

In terms of outputs, these projects have delivered 48 Innovative Services and 199 Data Sets Opened for Innovation (with further outputs to be realised in early 2022).

PHASE 1 – 26 PROJECTS			
PHASE 1 - OPEN PROJECTS		PHASE 1 – CLOSED PROJECTS	
ABERDEEN			
PROJECT	END DATE	PROJECT	END DATE
		Infrastructure ISL	Sept 2019
		Infrastructure DDD	Dec 2018
		Data	March 2020
DUNDEE			
Public safety	Dec 2021	Waste	June 2019
Mobility	Dec 2021	Data	Sept 2019
EDINBURGH			
		Waste	June 2020
GLASGOW			
Infrastructure Water	Dec 2021	Data	March 2019
		Mobile working	June 2021
		Waste	June 2019
		Infrastructure ISL	Jan 2020
INVERNESS			
Mobility	Dec 2021	Data	Dec 2020
		Waste	March 2021
PERTH			
Public Safety	Sep 2021	Infrastructure ISL	Dec 2018
		Data	Dec 2019
		Innovation lab	Dec 2019
		Waste	June 2019
		Mobile working	Dec 2019
STIRLING			
		Energy	June 2019
		Mobility	Dec 2018
		Data	March 2019
		Waste	March 2019

For information about any of the projects listed above, please contact [8th\\_City\\_PMO@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:8th_City_PMO@glasgow.gov.uk) and we will forward requests to the relevant project manager or city representative.

### 3 | 8th CITY PROGRAMME – PHASE 2 UPDATE

There are 15 projects currently being delivered as part of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme Phase 2, as shown in the table opposite.

These Phase 2 projects have combined budgets of £28,313,003 (LUPS) and £2,832,304 (H&I) of which £11,323,658 (LUPS) and £1,982,613 (H&I) is ERDF grant.

When combined with Phase 1 investment, & the budget to support the PMO the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme has total anticipated spend of £48,207,074 - of which £20,296,471 is ERDF grant.

Data-related activity has continued as a key area of development and Scottish cities are increasingly engaged in data analytics work - an area progressed by Glasgow as a Phase 1 project and further developed across the programme in Phase 2.

Data analytics allows projects to address city challenges through data-driven decision making, combining design, data and innovation to deliver new solutions. These projects aim to enhance outcomes for citizens by generating new insights and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of city services. Data and data science techniques are key elements of this approach.

Smart and Intelligent Infrastructure has also been feature of Phase 2 projects – with a stronger focus on Internet of Things (IoT) activity. This reflects the greater awareness around a ‘system of systems’ approach and the deployment of connected assets such as sensors.

Phase 2 of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme is scheduled to run until June 2023, with many of the 15 projects scheduled to be active until then. Project delivery for Phase 2 is intended to achieve output targets of 59 x Innovative Services and 170 x Data Sets Open for Innovation.

For more information about these projects or about work to monitor and report on project and programme outputs, outcomes and benefits please contact the 8<sup>th</sup> City PMO.



PHASE 2 - 15 projects
<b>DUNDEE</b>
Data
Mobility
<b>EDINBURGH</b>
Intelligent Infrastructure
Public Safety
Driving Operational Efficiency
<b>GLASGOW</b>
Infrastructure ISL
Mobile Working 1: Yotta/Digital Citizen
Mobile Working 2: Smart Fleet
Data
Smart Cities Co-ordinator
<b>INVERNESS</b>
Smarter Cities - Smart Buildings
Road Network Vehicle Messaging
<b>PERTH</b>
Data
Waste
<b>STIRLING</b>
Data

*Cities and projects in delivery for Phase 2.*



## 4 | STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACROSS THE 8th CITY PROGRAMME

The ERDF Strategic Intervention application for the 8th City programme notes the core themes of 'Data' and 'Digital Technology' and outlines the vision of using these to *"enable cities to become more liveable and resilient"*.

In taking forward 8th City activity, programme partners adopted a shared definition of 'Smart City' as the *"Integration of data and digital technologies into a strategic approach to sustainability, citizen well-being and economic development"*. These three areas generally equate to the environmental, social, and economic benefits, highlighted in project proposal forms submitted by 8th City partners when outlining prospective activity for inclusion in the 8th City programme.

In taking forward work to develop and deliver projects and Operations in support of the 8th City programme, partner cities also agreed to an additional, non-Operational Programme output in relation to 'citizen and stakeholder engagement'. Unlike the core programme output indicators (i.e. Innovative Services developed in cities and Data sets opened for innovation) the stakeholder engagement output isn't supported by Managing Authority guidance or specification: Instead, programme partners have determined measurement of this output as a commitment to incorporate stakeholder engagement for **all** projects, with engagement activity at the Design, Build, and Use stages (i.e. prior, during, and post-project delivery).

To support a credible and consistent process of citizen and stakeholder engagement, 8th City partners jointly developed a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Action Plan. This was approved in July 2016 and, following discussion with the Managing Authority, was followed by a Benefits Realisation Strategy and Action Plan for 8th City programme and projects.

A common thread across the stakeholder engagement output, the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy, and the 8th City Benefits Realisation strategy is the focus on 'Smart Cities for People' and the need for inclusive and effective engagement. Supporting guidance produced as part of the 8th City Programme Assurance Framework (PAF) highlights links to Scottish Government's National Standards for Community Engagement as well as providing links to EU Smart City policy actions – for example the Inclusive Cities European Manifesto for Citizen Engagement. The 8th City Stakeholder Engagement Strategy also includes templates for designing, developing and delivering effective engagement activity. Copies of these documents are available from the 8th City PMO.



There is wide support for the 'Smart Cities for People' agenda: The [Rethinking Smart Cities from the Ground Up](#) report (Peter Baeck and Tom Saunders, Nesta, 2015) highlighted the general failure of 'top down' smart city ideas, positing instead the opportunities afforded by collaborative technologies which offer cities another way to make smarter use of resources, smarter ways of collecting data and smarter ways to make decisions. Baeck and Saunders also highlighted how collaborative technologies can help citizens themselves shape the future of their cities.

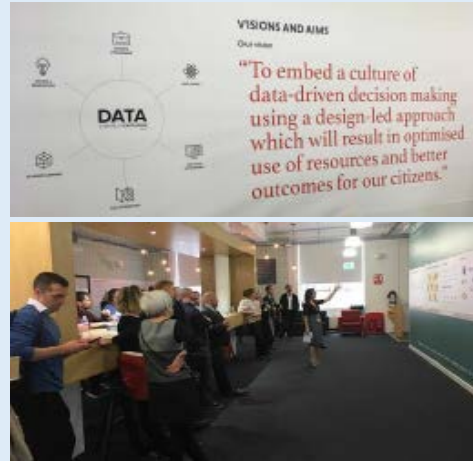
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The Baeck and Saunders report included key policy recommendations, including:

- Set up a civic innovation lab to drive innovation in collaborative technologies.
- Use open data and open platforms to mobilise collective knowledge.
- Take human behaviour as seriously as technology.
- Invest in smart people, not just smart technology.
- Spread the potential of collaborative technologies to all parts of society.

A number of these recommendations are threaded through 8<sup>th</sup> City project activity, with open data and the development of open data platforms being a key feature of phase 1 of the programme. Examples of citizen and stakeholder engagement being used to inform 8<sup>th</sup> City open data, and other, projects include:



**Aberdeen's** Digital Data Development project is a Smart Mobility monitoring project which included Police Scotland as a major stakeholder, primarily due to the sensitivity of IPCCTV projects. Police Scotland were taken through the whole process to ensure awareness of the foot print the cameras would have. As they required a maintenance contract for IPCCTV they were included in a procurement exercise, which reduced their costs whilst allowing additional maintenance work to be done. Further work subsequently took place around scoping a joint ACC and Police Control room, partly based on improved partnership working.

The **Dundee** open data platform was used to support stakeholder engagement work by Creative Dundee and Dundee Place Partnership regarding cultural opportunities across Dundee and how people engage with these opportunities, if at all. To gain the best insight, they wanted to survey the public but lacked the tools and knowledge to ensure that survey results could be published under an open license to the Dundee City open data platform. DCC supported this by providing Ordnance Survey OpenMaps, enhancing collated results and adding them to OpenStreetMap. Training in ArcGIS Online was provided as well as guidance on publishing data to the Dundee open data platform. Mentoring was provided by DCC throughout the process.



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8<sup>th</sup> City Phase 2 projects in **Edinburgh** have embraced the opportunities afforded by the Internet of Things (IoT) and connected assets. Development and delivery of the Intelligent Infrastructure project has incorporated extensive engagement in support of active travel plans – with Transport for Edinburgh, Cycling Scotland, Transport Scotland, local bus operators, and officers of City of Edinburgh Council’s Active Travel and Low Emissions Zone (LEZ) teams engaged on many aspects of the project.

**Glasgow** and Perth each delivered ‘Smart Communities – Mobile Working’ projects in Phase 1 of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme and Glasgow has continued to develop this area of activity during Phase 2, with a Smart Fleet Management project and Smart Assets/Digital Citizen projects currently being delivered.

In developing an Intelligent Street Lighting project, initially as part of Phase 2 Smart Infrastructure, officers in **Inverness** participated in the Interreg Smart-Space project which facilitates the uptake of smart lighting in small/mid-size municipalities to enhance energy efficiency and reduce CO2 emission. Smart-Space is supported by the Intelligent Lighting Institute (ILI) of the Eindhoven University of Technology and involves the cities of Oostend, Middelburg, and Tipperary.

The Smart Cities Co-ordinator for The Highland Council (THC) was positive about this engagement: *“The workshop was great as it really helped our team solidify many of the ideas they had for the project - the act of physically mapping out where potential use cases were most relevant throughout the city was beneficial in helping to provide a structure to the project, and was something the lighting team found quite useful. We all look forward to contributing to the project further.”*

THC has recently secured alternative funding for ISL deployment, with no requirement for European Structural Funds - although the Phase 2 Smart Infrastructure project remains part of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme and has a focus on Smart Buildings Management: Stakeholder engagement for that project has included the sharing of learning and resources via Stirling’s Phase 1 Smart Energy project.



Stakeholder engagement involving officers at The Highland Council working on Intelligent Street Lighting. Activity facilitated via the Interreg Smart-Space project.

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A key aim of the **Perth** Open Data Phase 2 project is to interact with stakeholders by creating chances for participation. This involves

- Communicating programme knowledge to the Scottish Data Community (and beyond) and its different stakeholders;
- Involvement in conversation nationally with counterparts in other organisations (including CENSIS, Digital Office, Scottish Government, suppliers and other agencies);
- Attracting counterparts to replicate data initiatives;
- Responding to stakeholders in different contexts using a blend of channels;
- Facilitating a Data & Analytics Steering Group and a wider Advisory group with representatives from each service in Perth and Kinross Council; and
- Engagement with a Digital Board, chaired by Chief Digital Officer, and involving PKC services as part of wider work to steer the Council's digital and data strategy.

Another Open Data project, this time in **Stirling**, has undertaken extensive and ongoing engagement – with over 200 interactions recorded across a wide range of partners (from Stirling Council internal to collaborative meetings with external partners). Key areas of activity informed by this engagement include: open data set development and publishing; common data sets; data standards and vocabularies; Data Commons in Scotland (University of Stirling project); and Transition to Net Zero - Carbon Scenario Planning Tool (Edinburgh Climate Change Institute, University of Edinburgh).

As part of ongoing stakeholder engagement at programme level, partners are committed to the wider sharing of information, knowledge and learning from 8<sup>th</sup> City project activity. This is supported by inputs to Smart City webinars and events and by the production of blogs, Project Closure Reports, and project case studies - see Scottish Cities Alliance [website](#).

**Stephen Birrell, Programme Officer, 8<sup>th</sup> City PMO**



**DATA FEST 2020**

Innovating with Data across the Public Sector:  
**a Scottish Cities Perspective**

Thursday 12th March 2020, Perth Creative Exchange

Today's event is part of the fringe events programme for **DataFest 2020**, which has the theme **#BeyondData** – the real impacts of Data and AI on peoples lives.

This event will:

- Highlight the importance of Data-led innovation across the public sector in Scotland.
- Demonstrate impact through Scottish cities use cases (examples enclosed), and
- Provide a platform for sharing lessons learned.

**Scotland's 8th City – the Smart City ERDF programme**




The Scotland's 8th City: the Smart City ERDF Strategic Intervention is an ambitious programme of collaborative innovation across Scotland's seven cities of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Perth, and Stirling.

By working together cities have a chance to become more attractive, livable and resilient through use of data and digital technology. The programme aims to expand smart city capabilities and deliver priorities through community engagement, integrated service delivery and innovation. Collaboration is key with all cities working to develop projects which are open, interoperable, scalable and replicable. Partners also commit to sharing of learning, experiences and assets.

The 8th City programme is supported by ERDF of £20.4m enhanced by cities match funding (including SCA Cities Investment Fund) of £28.1m to create a £48.5m programme of Smart City projects on data, energy, mobility, waste, public safety, intelligent street lighting, and to smart infrastructure. For more information on projects contact 8th City PMO [8thcity@scottishcities.org.uk](mailto:8thcity@scottishcities.org.uk).

Data is at the heart of the 8th City programme, with city representatives contributing to the 8th City Data Cluster Steering Group. The use cases presented in this report highlight aspects of data related projects undertaken by Scottish cities.

For more information please contact Doug Young, Phone 01892 434 902, Email [doug.young@scottishcities.org.uk](mailto:doug.young@scottishcities.org.uk)


**scottishcities**  
[@scottishcities](https://www.scottishcities.org.uk)

8th City Phase 1 **#SmartMobility** projects included travel & transport monitoring infrastructure, with information and datasets linked to **#OpenData** platforms also developed via ERDF support.

Smart parking infrastructure also featured in Phase 1.

[#scottishcities](https://www.scottishcities.org.uk) [@scotlandgovESIF](https://www.scotland.gov.uk)




## 8 | SMART WASTE PROJECTS - SHARING THE 8<sup>th</sup> CITY LEARNING

Thanks to partnership working via the Digital Office for Scottish Local Government and CENSIS, a number of Scottish cities were able to present on Smart Waste projects delivered as part of the 'Scotland's 8<sup>th</sup> City – the Smart City' ERDF programme.

Inputs were arranged as part of the **Smart Infrastructure in Scottish Local Government** webinar series



Officers representing Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Perth (as well as the 8<sup>th</sup> City PMO) were able to show different aspects of their Smart Waste projects delivered during Phase 1 and, in the case of Edinburgh and Perth, how that activity had formed the development of Phase 2 projects addressing Smart Waste activity.

The cities each highlighted key learning arising from their Smart Waste projects. Areas covered include: sensor procurement and deployment; data analysis; managing culture change; data driven service change; and service optimization. The cities were joined by East Renfrewshire Council with an input on use of sensors to support optimal implementation of gritting services during adverse weather.

This webinar was part of a series, organized by the Digital Office, to explore how local authorities in Scotland can leverage the seamless integration of data gathered by the Internet of Things (IoT), to manage and optimise their infrastructure.

The Digital Office partnered up with CENSIS (Scotland's Innovation Centre for sensing, imaging and Internet of Things technologies) to help raise awareness and provide guidance and support on smart infrastructure applications across the sector and both organisations played a key role in the development of the webinar series, which ran from August to November.

Colin Birchenall, Chief Technology Officer (CTO) at the Digital Office noted

*"The Digital Office is working with CENSIS to promote the application of smart technologies in local government. We are delighted to have partnered with the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme to share the practical experience of smart waste applications learned through the programme with Councils across Scotland. The feedback we have received has been fantastic and we look forward to highlighting the work of the 8<sup>th</sup> city programme in future events."*





## 9 | SMART CITY PLANNING, STRATEGIES AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

City representatives and partners working across the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme have committed to being part of a collaborative programme of Smart City activity that aims to be open, scalable, replicable, and interoperable. This is supported by shared values related to openness, transparency, information and knowledge sharing, and community and stakeholder engagement.

In support of this, 8<sup>th</sup> City programme partners have developed a monitoring, reporting and governance structure encompassing an Advisory Group and Strategic Board, each with agreed Terms of Reference. The programme is further underpinned by a Programme Assurance Framework (PAF) that outlines what is required in relation to monitoring and reporting, with accompanying strategies and policies where required. The PAF is reviewed on a regular basis with updates and revisions made in line with directives from Scottish Government/Managing Authority and the European Commission.

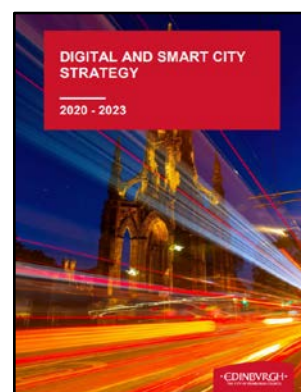
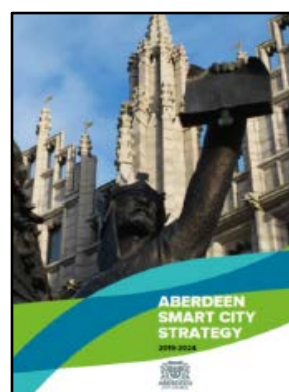
The PAF also includes template documentation for use in project initiation, development, and reporting - as well as in the development of action plans in relation to stakeholder engagement and benefits realisation. Use of these templates supports a consistent approach to project monitoring and reporting across the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme and enables the potential aggregation of collated data. However, this approach is only viable where there is a shared understanding of aims, objectives and values. For the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme the adoption of a shared understanding – i.e. ‘Smart City’ understood as the *‘Integration of data and digital technologies into a strategic approach to sustainability, citizen well-being and economic development’* - and intended outcomes has led to a strategic approach to programme delivery.

In outlining the framework for delivering the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme Glasgow City Council has used the experience gained in delivering the UK Smart City Demonstrator project which was progressed via £23M funding secured from Innovate UK from 2013-2015. Accordingly, Scottish cities, via the Scottish Cities Alliance, agreed that Glasgow would be Lead Partner in developing the bid for an initial tranche of £10M funding via the 2014-2020 ERDF Operational Programme. This became the ‘Scotland’s 8<sup>th</sup> City – the Smart City’ programme, launched in 2015 and which runs to June 2023.

In planning for the delivery of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme Scottish cities noted the importance of projects being developed in line with each city’s priorities – as evidenced by contributions to the Smart City Maturity Model self-assessment exercise and the resulting Smart Cities Investment Roadmap (both of which were completed prior to the submission of a bid for ERDF grant to deliver the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme).

Again, this collaborative and strategic approach informed both the development of individual projects and the delivery of a wider Smart City programme.

In recent years Scottish cities have further articulated their Smart City ambitions via the development of Smart City, Sustainability, and Digital / Transformation strategies. Previous 8<sup>th</sup> City Update newsletters have highlighted recent strategies in [Aberdeen](#), [Edinburgh](#) and [Glasgow](#) – complementing initiatives already in place for other cities and for Scottish Government.



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For example, the recent refresh of the Glasgow Digital Strategy noted activity in relation to community involvement. This aligns well with the aims of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme which incorporates an output indicator in relation to community and stakeholder engagement for all projects – and for this to take place prior, during and post-project delivery.

This is complemented by Glasgow City Council's commitment to Open Government and supporting ambitions in relation to open data. Trust and transparency are key values in delivering Open Government and this is supported by a wider commitment to community and citizen engagement and a focus on open data.

For Glasgow, there is also a clear line of progress from Future City Glasgow to 8<sup>th</sup> City Phase 1 and on to activity for Phase 2 of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme, with ongoing learning and iteration of Smart City projects in relation to areas such as Open Data and Data Analytics, Intelligent Street Lighting (ISL), Smart Waste, and Mobile Working.

A key development for Glasgow's Phase 2 activity was the appointment of a Smart City Projects Co-ordinator – an approach deployed by other Scottish cities for 8<sup>th</sup> City phase 1. In parallel with other cities, Glasgow is developing a Smart City Vision via a range of partners working across the public, private, academic, and community sectors. The focus is on a whole system approach with benefits for the whole city. This work will be phased around research, innovation, and implementation/operation and is driven by principles such as being open, people-centred, and knowledge-driven.

Glasgow is currently looking to identify the key challenges where Smart City and digital initiatives can make a contribution at community, city and social levels. Updates an activity and learning will be provided and shared with partners and stakeholders across the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme.

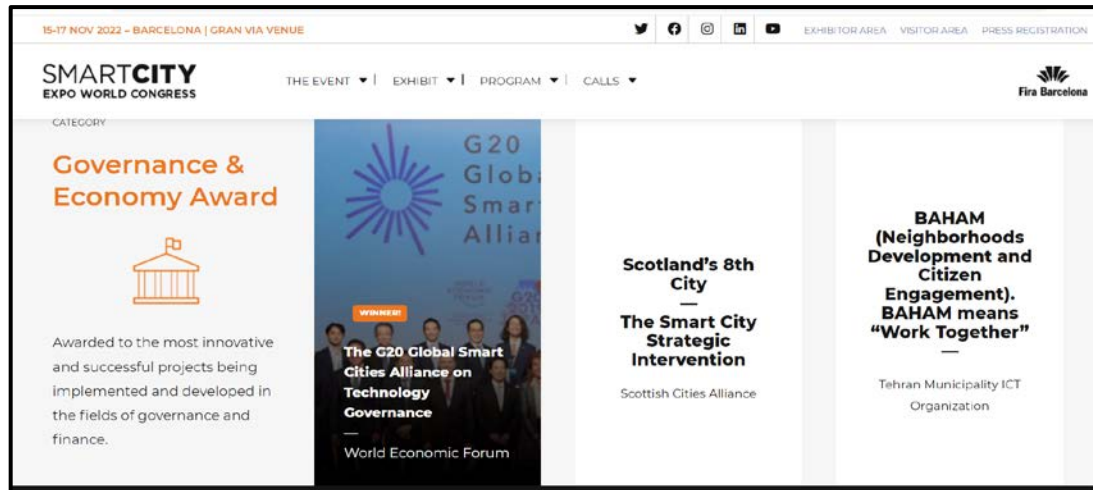
Along with the other cities and, indeed, all Scottish local authorities, Glasgow is a partner in the [Digital Office for Scottish Local Government](#). The Digital Office has pioneered information sharing, partnerships and collaborative working across councils. Recent activity has included a focus on Smart Infrastructure and Internet of Things (IoT) as integral aspects of service delivery. A similar focus on Data (including big data, open data, and data analytics) will also support Scottish local authorities in developing and delivering data-driven responses to local issues and service demands.

In summary, the alignment of Digital, Smart City, and Sustainability strategies with city policies and community planning agendas, informed by opportunities arising from community engagement and empowerment legislation, provides a strong foundation for ongoing 'Smart and Sustainable' activity across the Scottish cities as they look beyond delivery of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme.



## 11 | AWARDS UPDATE

The 'Scotland's 8th City – the Smart City' ERDF programme was recently short-listed as one of three finalists for the 'Governance and Economy' category of the annual World Smart City Awards - a prestigious international competition that seeks to recognize pioneering projects, ideas and strategies making cities around the world more livable, sustainable, and economically viable.



Entries for the 2021 awards came from 46 countries worldwide and were noted as being “of an exceptionally high standard”. After a highly competitive selection process, winners were announced at the Smart City Expo World Congress which took place 16-18 November in Barcelona.

The 8<sup>th</sup> City ERDF programme was short-listed alongside Tehran's 'BAHAM Neighbourhoods Development and Citizen Engagement' project, and the World economic Forum's G20 Global Smart Cities Alliance, with the latter project winning the award.

Recognition must be given to Scottish Cities and to all the partners who have committed to the ongoing vision and implementation of a collaborative programme of Smart City activity and engagement. The 8<sup>th</sup> City PMO is looking at other opportunities for this work to be recognised nationally and globally.

Partnership working is also at the heart of the **Glasgow Smart Canal** project, delivered as one of the Smart Infrastructure projects in Phase 1 of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme. Working under the banner of The Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership (MGSDP), project partners - Glasgow City Council, Scottish Canals, and Scottish Water – secured five industry awards during 2021 in recognition of the Smart Canal's innovation, delivery and impact. These awards are as follows:

- 'Initiative of the Year' and 'Industry Transformation & Innovation Champions' at the British Construction Industry Awards.
- 'Greatest Contribution to Scotland' at the Scottish Civil Engineering Awards - organised jointly by CECA Scotland and ICE Scotland.
- 'Best Innovation/Demand Management Initiative' at the APSE Public Service Excellence Awards.
- 'Sustainable Drainage & Flood Management Initiative of the Year' at the Water Industry Awards.

Congratulations to project manager, David Hay, and project partners, stakeholders and funders including 8<sup>th</sup> City ERDF, Green Infrastructure ERDF, and Glasgow City Region City Deal.





## 12 | COP26 UPDATE

The United Nations Climate Change Conference – or Conference of the Parties (COP) - is the foremost global forum for discussions on climate change.

COPs are intended to advance work on multi-lateral agreements, assess the progress of global efforts to limit global warming and provide a focus on a common way forward to tackle the realities of climate change.

The 26th Conference of the Parties took place in Glasgow from 31<sup>st</sup> October to 12<sup>th</sup> November and was the most significant COP since the Paris Agreement of 2015 as nations had opportunity to review emissions targets that world leaders had committed to tackle climate change - by keeping global mean temperature rises well below 2°C and to strive to limit the rise to 1.5°C.

At COP26, nations adopted the Glasgow Climate Pact, aiming to turn the 2020s into a decade of climate action and support. Nations took a range of decisions in the collective effort to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees.

The package of decisions consists of a range of agreed items, including strengthened efforts to build resilience to climate change, to curb greenhouse gas emissions and to provide the necessary finance for both. Nations collectively agreed to work to reduce the gap between existing emission reduction plans and what is required to reduce emissions, so that the rise in the global average temperature can be limited to 1.5 degrees. For the first time, nations were called upon to phase down unabated coal power and inefficient subsidies for fossil fuels.

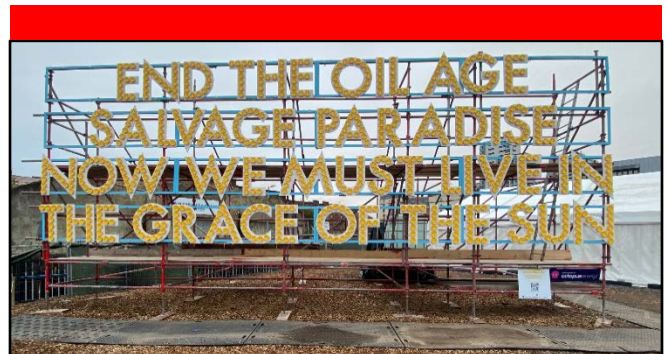
One of the key achievements of COP26 include the finalization of the "Paris Agreement rulebook". This lays out how countries are to be held accountable for delivering on their climate action promises and self-set targets under their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

A full overview of outcomes relating to the Glasgow Climate Change Conference is available [here](#).



**UN CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
UK 2020**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



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For Glasgow, a further related development was announced during COP26; on 11th November - the Cities, Regions and Built Environment presidency themed day - it was revealed that the city will join the Thriving Cities Initiative to develop its wider COP26 legacy.

The Thriving Cities Initiative is a two-year pilot project for pioneering cities that recognise the need to tackle harmful, unsustainable consumption and transition to more equitable and sustainable economies to meet the Paris Climate Agreement goals. Thriving cities rethink systems, to foster community led action and new business models that support all people to access a good life within planetary boundaries.



## Low Emission Zones in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, and Glasgow

Low Emission Zones (LEZs) set an environmental limit on certain road spaces, restricting access for the most polluting vehicles to improve air quality. Vehicles that do not meet the emission standards set for a LEZ will not be able to drive within the zone. A penalty charge will be payable by the vehicle's registered keeper when a non-compliant vehicle enters the LEZ.



LEZs focus on improving air quality by reducing concentrations of the harmful pollutants Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and Particulate Matter (PM), and contributing towards meeting the emission reduction targets set out in Part 1 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. This helps protect public health in towns and cities, making them more attractive places in which to live, work and to visit.

In many ways, this complements Smart Mobility initiatives which have been supported via the 'Scotland's 8<sup>th</sup> City – the Smart City' ERDF programme. For example, in Phase 1 of the programme, Dundee's focus on Mobility as a Service (MaaS) activity reduces the need for private vehicle ownership and supports active travel and public transport; Aberdeen, Inverness and Stirling have deployed vehicle monitoring infrastructure to reduce congestion and make travel more efficient; similar activity is currently underway in Edinburgh; and Glasgow is delivering a Smart Fleet initiative.

Following extensive consultation, Low Emission Zones are intended to be introduced across Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow from 2022 – although each city has agreed a grace period of at least one year prior to implementation. Glasgow has had a LEZ in place since 2018 that applies only to local buses. A [report from SEPA](#), published in 2020, provides strong evidence that air quality in Glasgow has improved since the introduction of phase 1 of the Low Emission Zone.

Full LEZ roll-out combined with benefits arising from 8<sup>th</sup> City Smart Mobility and other ERDF programmes - such as the Low Carbon Travel and Transport Challenge Fund - will support cities in delivering against targets on their journey to Net Zero carbon.

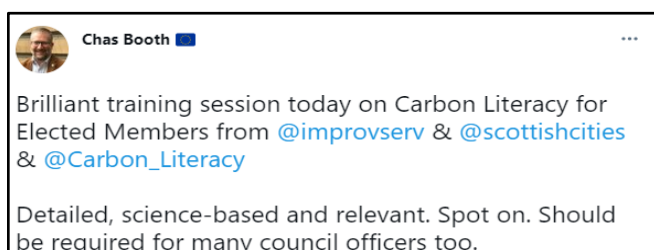


## 14 | A NEW PARTNERSHIP TO DELIVER NET ZERO

The Scottish Cities Alliance and the [Improvement Service](#) have formed a new partnership to support officers and elected members to deliver a just transition to Net Zero. This agenda is a priority for both organisations and the collaboration will build capacity within local government to deliver the transformation and improvement needed.

To support this work, a peer-to-peer network was launched in April 2021 to promote knowledge exchange between the Alliance partners and support access to learning from a UK and international perspective. The network is open to officers across the Scottish cities – registration required – and members can access case studies and share ideas through a MS Teams platform.

The network also includes support for elected members through a training programme, based on the Carbon Literacy Project's [toolkit](#). 'Carbon literacy' is the knowledge and capacity to support the required positive shift in how we live, work and behave in response to climate change. It is an awareness of the costs and impacts of greenhouse gases (collectively referred to as 'carbon') through everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, as an individual, community and organisation.



The importance of Net Zero and Carbon Literacy activity is underlined by Councillor John Alexander - Chair, Scottish Cities Alliance & Leader, Dundee City Council:

*"We all have the joint ambition and drive to ensure our economies and our cities achieve our net zero goals in a greener, more sustainable and vibrant Scotland. By undertaking this bespoke Carbon Literacy training for Elected Members in a collaborative environment which encourages peer-to-peer learning, we are all taking an important step together in equipping ourselves with the skills needed to engage with our communities and bring them with us on this journey towards a becoming a carbon neutral nation".*

The Alliance and the Improvement Service are working closely with Keep Scotland Beautiful to adapt and deliver this training which aims to empower elected members through practical and relevant training, exploring the science and policy to develop understanding then focusing on solutions and actions. It also supports and encourages peer-to-peer learning across the local authorities.

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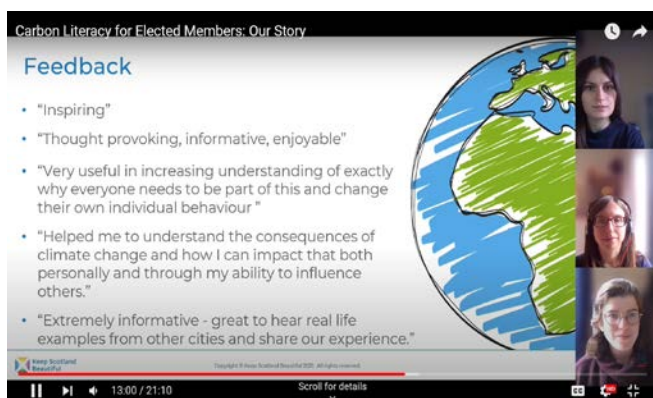
For further information, please see the '**Carbon Literacy for Elected Members; Our Story**' film which can be seen [here](#).

The training is currently paused until after the elections in May, however, as many elected members will be busy completing council business or campaigning in the next few months. Work is underway on a proposal to roll training out instead to senior management across the councils during Feb – June; dates are to be arranged but please contact Veni Kojouharova (details below).

This work is further supported by information sharing and engagement events. The first event (held in April 2021) had a focus on low carbon heat and energy efficiency; subsequent (September 2021) had a focus on the climate compact model with examples from the Edinburgh Climate Compact and the Glasgow Sustainable Charter. The final event for 2021 took place on 16<sup>th</sup> December with a focus on city climate governance.

Please also see Scottish Cities Alliance [Transition to Net Zero Carbon Action Plan](#) and Improvement Service [Our Approach to Net Zero](#).

For further information please contact Veni Kojouharova, Policy Lead, Scottish Cities Alliance, [veni.kojouharova@scottishcities.org.uk](mailto:veni.kojouharova@scottishcities.org.uk)



## A Fairer, Greener Scotland: Programme for Government 2021-22



Published on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021, the [Programme for Government](#) sets out the actions to be taken over the coming year and beyond. Priorities and planned activity are outlined across the following six broad themes:

- A Caring Society
- Scotland as a Land of Opportunity
- A Net Zero Nation
- An Economy that works for all of Scotland's People and Places
- Living Better
- Scotland in the World

The **Net Zero Nation** aim is noted as 'Ending Scotland's contribution to climate change, in a just and fair way'. Actions to be taken to support this include:

- building a net zero economy fair for all;
- creating opportunities for new, good and green jobs;
- introducing **Just Transition** plans for all sectors and regions;
- providing funding support to make homes easier and greener to heat; and
- supporting **Active Travel** to ensure greener, cleaner and better connected communities.



On 14<sup>th</sup> December over 90 stakeholders attended the 2021 annual publicity event to celebrate the achievements of the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) Programmes. Slides from the event are available [here](#) and a full report will shortly be available on the ESIF blog site. The event also highlighted recent publication of the 2021 case studies booklet, now [available online](#): One of the case studies selected was the MESH project being delivered as part of the Inverness Smart Mobility project in phase 1 of the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme - see case study on page 17 of this newsletter.

## POST-ESIF FUNDING UPDATE – UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (UKSPF)

In recent years there has been discussion about the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) which is intended to replace the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) following the UK's withdrawal from the European Union. Although the intended rollout is scheduled for April 2022, information on the UKSPF has been limited. The UK Government's (UKG) 2020 Spending Review did however note that the Fund would 'on average reach around £1.5bn per year' and that UKSPF would consist of the following elements:

- a 'Place' Fund' which will focus on supporting skills communities and business (this is largely an ERDF replacement); and
- a 'People Fund' focused on skills and employment support. This is largely an ESF replacement and likely to be managed by Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) UK-wide; it remains unclear how this will interact with the Scottish Skills System.

A subsequent update was provided via the UKG [Comprehensive Spending Review](#) announced on 27 October 2021. The UKSPF is one of several new funds being delivered in Scotland by UKG as part of the **Levelling Up** agenda. Scottish Government has minimal role in the development of these Funds which are as follows:

- **Community Renewal Fund (CRF):** to help local areas prepare over 2021-22 for the introduction of the UKSPF, the UKG launched a pre-cursor programme called the Community Renewal Fund. Within Scotland, 13 Local Authorities were designated as 'more in need' (of whom three are from the H&I region). 28 of Scotland's 32 Local Authorities submitted bids by the application deadline in June 2021.
- **Levelling Up Fund (LUF):** This £4.8bn four year capital Fund aims to support regeneration and transport projects within Local Authorities is being delivered on a competitive basis with Scotland expected to receive £400 million via this Fund. Local Authorities were ranked on a basis of priority of needs with 13 Scottish Local Authorities achieving the highest ranking. The first round of bids closed in June 2021. It is also worth noting that the Levelling Up fund will be subject to a judicial review to be held before end of 2021. The claim against the UK Government was brought by the Good Law Project and is focussed on the methodology that was used to determine priority areas.
- **Community Ownership Fund (COP):** Perhaps less relevant to the Smart Cities agenda, this Fund also closed for its first round of applications in August 2021

**Engagement with Scottish stakeholders and UK Government:** Between August and October 2021, UKG conducted roundtable events with stakeholders from across the UK to consider the development of the UKSPF. These covered the following themes: Investment in Communities and Place; Skills and Work-based Training; Supporting people towards and into employment; Investment in Employment and Skills; Environment and Sustainability; and Local Business.

In late September 2021, UKG established a UK-wide Local Government Taskforce for UKSPF - however, there remains a continued lack of clarity regarding the role of Scottish Government (or other Devolved Administrations) in the development or rollout of these plans, despite commitments made by UKG.

## Making smarter traffic management systems in Inverness



The Inverness Smart Mobility project is part of the 'Scotland's 8th City – the Smart City' Strategic Intervention, and received £696,000 of ERDF grant support. The project is jointly led by The Highland Council and Hi-Trans and will deliver various Smart Mobility initiatives - with the central element being a scalable and flexible wireless mesh infrastructure that forms the backbone for future digital city services, including Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) solutions coordinated by the Inverness Urban Traffic Management and Control (UTMC) database.

With the exception of a few junctions, there was previously no real-time co-ordination of traffic management in Inverness city centre. Thanks to ERDF support, a new ITS wireless platform was put in place.

The ITS platform enables the implementation of smart technologies across the city's traffic signal network, improving the efficiency of each junction and making it possible for each site to host intelligent bus priority that will improve public transport journey times and help encourage modal shift.

The platform will also benefit the management of on- and off-street car parking, and mitigate the impact of roadworks, major events and road traffic incidents in real-time. The scheme is currently in the commissioning phase prior to system integration with wider traffic strategies and systems.

This project will enable travellers to make informed transport choices in real-time as well. This will be achieved by making real-time updates available to transport managers and also directly to the public through channels including a bespoke website, live information displays on-street and at public transport interchanges.

Thanks to ERDF support, the people of Inverness have a traffic management system that can respond in real-time to issues and gives its managers and the public the information that they need to make effective travel decisions.

**Shane Manning**  
**Principal Officer, Traffic Management & Control**  
**The Highland Council**

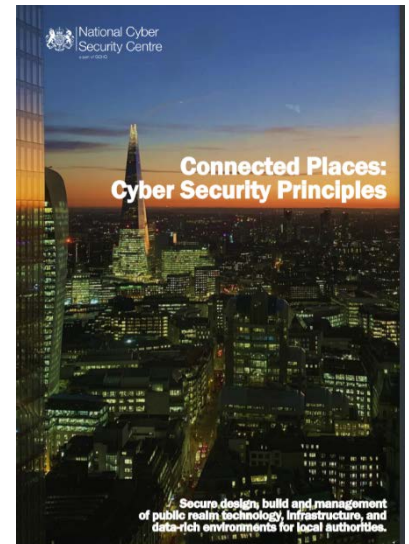


### Cyber experts set out blueprint to secure smart cities of the future

[A new set of security principles](#) has been published by the National Cyber Security Centre to help UK authorities secure smart cities and their underlying infrastructure.

Connected places – which include smart cities and connected rural environments – use networked technology / Internet of Things (IoT) devices and sensors to improve the efficiency of services and therefore the quality of citizens' lives. Within these 'connected areas' this guidance supports service functions, such as: traffic light management; CCTV; waste services; street lighting; parking; transport services; and public services (such as health and social care, or emergency services).

These Connected Places Cyber Security Principles are complemented by the launch, on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021, of a new National Cyber Strategy which sets out a clear vision for building cyber expertise, strengthening offensive and defensive capabilities, and ensuring that everyone plays its part in the UK's cyber future. This in turn supports the secure design, build and management of public realm technology, infrastructure, and data-rich environments for local authorities.



The [Innovate UK Plan for Action for Business Innovation](#) was officially launched on 19<sup>th</sup> November and is intended to support delivery on the UK Innovation Strategy, with the vision for the UK to become a global hub for innovation by 2035.

This forms the basis for Innovate UK's work over the next four years to serve and support businesses to use innovation to drive economic recovery; to fulfil net zero obligations; to help keep everybody healthy and safe; and to educate young people and develop the innovators of the future.

Innovation, defined here as the process that turns science and technology into added-value business reality, is essential to creating a future of good health, prosperity, respect for the planet and environment – and a future of fairness, diversity, and equality.



The next **8<sup>th</sup> City Update** will be out in April 2022. Feedback, suggestions, and contributions are welcome from across the 8<sup>th</sup> City programme.

Please contact Stephen Birrell, Programme Officer, 8<sup>th</sup> City PMO, [stephen.birrell@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.birrell@glasgow.gov.uk)