

SUB-GROUP SUSTAINABLE EVENTS - ENVIRONMENTAL

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Heritage (Key Principle)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Heritage (Key Principle)
Idea	Management of the WHS public space should always be sensitive to, and respectful of, the history of the city, as manifested in its architectural heritage. Event organisers will be expected to join with Edinburgh residents in taking responsibility for the good appearance of the city. Temporary installations should never be erected in close proximity to monuments, iconic views of the capital should never be blocked, and streets should not be overwhelmed with advertisements and littered with the discards of event participants.
Why the contribution is important	In the past funfair installations have been put up against monuments. Iconic views of the capital have been blocked, streets have been awash with advertisements and public spaces have been covered in litter. This has been to nobody's advantage. We simply need to take greater care of our historic city.
Created by	Holledge
Date	19 Jan 2021 07:07PM

URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/heritage-key-principle
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 4.67, Number of votes: 6
Topics	
Number of comments	3
Comment by CliffHague 20/01/2021 11:01 Status: Approved	Fundamental point that needed to be made.
Comment by Peter 20/01/2021 12:16 Status: Approved	There is a need for a much more sensitive consideration of the aesthetic of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site than has happened in recent years. It gives very bad message and devalues Edinburgh's heritage.
Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 22:14 Status: Approved	<p>Agreed in principle, however the practical implementation needs to be thought through.</p> <p>Of particular concern is fixing and damage to heritage elements such as wrought iron railings, scaffolding anchors to stonework, damage to setts and paving.</p> <p>Actual protection of elements such as statues and war memorials should also part of th PSMP</p>

Area Conditions (historic environment)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Area Conditions (historic environment)
Idea	Historic Environment Scotland: Despite the rich historic environment which helps to define the character of all of the featured Areas, we note that only the proposed Area Conditions for Calton Hill make a (partial) note of the historic environment features of the area. In order to enable proposals to support the 'Reflecting Edinburgh' and 'Impact on the surrounds' guidelines, you could consider expanding the Area Conditions to provide more helpful and detailed information on the historic environment baseline of the relevant areas, and explain how this should inform the development of proposals for events.
Why the contribution is important	To support national and local historic environment policy.
Created by	VirginiaSharpHES
Date	19 Jan 2021 02:40PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/s7ozlmfclx/area-conditions-historic-environment
Status	Approved

Rating	Average: 5.00, Number of votes: 2
Topics	
Number of comments	2
Comment by Holledge 19/01/2021 21:09 Status: Approved	See also Heritage (Key Principle) https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/heritage-key-principle
Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 14:36 Status: Approved	<p>This should include temporary fixings to stonework, to railings, into setts or paving and the like.</p> <p>It should include statues, as well as buildings, streets and railings.</p> <p>Protection protocols should be developed to reflect the event type and the historic environment requirements. Damage risk assessment prior to event , inspections after the event and appropriate insurance for damage to be included</p>

Environment and Amenity (Key Principle)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Environment and Amenity (Key Principle)
Idea	<p>This key principle includes the following guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public open spaces intended for people to enjoy should remain open and available for their enjoyment. • It will only be possible in exceptional circumstances to close off public access to a major part of any public space. The organiser will need to provide strong justification for any request to do so. • Air quality and the quality of the local environment must not be compromised. • Permanent power supplies will be considered for frequently used areas with appropriate cost recovery. • The historic character and fabric of the city must not be damaged. • Temporary, reversible decoration may be justified in some circumstances. • The Council must agree any works that affect the highway and associated assets or street furniture. • All advertising methods must be agreed with the Council • The return to normal life of the city following an event or filming is to be achieved as quickly and as safely as possible
Why the contribution is important	<p>Edinburgh's public spaces should be used in a way that enhances the city's cultural identity, reputation and quality of life.</p> <p>The use of public spaces must be balanced to function for the wide range of people who live, work and visit the city, throughout the year.</p> <p>If you don't like something (and we won't all agree!), try to come up with something better, that you feel may be accepted, possibly as a compromise, by the wider group.</p>
Created by	Charlotte_CEC (Site Admin)

Date	09 Oct 2020 10:21AM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1w/environment-and-amenity-key-principle
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 3.25, Number of votes: 4
Topics	environment and amenity
Number of comments	7
Comment by Stephen 18/12/2020 02:23 Status: Approved	<p>An important summary principle, but these guidelines must be enforced. Proposals which do not “enhance the city’s cultural identity, reputation and quality of life” should be dismissed out of hand.</p> <p>Absolute ban on generators and other polluting mechanisms. A ban on "closing off" should also include structures designed to block off views such as the hoardings along Princes Street railings during Gardens concerts</p>
Comment by Holledge 11/01/2021 17:43 Status: Approved	<p>This "key principle" is really a series of them, from amenity to environment to heritage etc and as such is <u>not</u> very useful.</p> <p>We need more specific, more detailed and better defined key principles that will be genuinely useful in guiding management decisions. (I have attempted to provide some of these as new ideas.)</p>
Comment by MTrail 17/01/2021 12:39 Status: Approved	<p>Needs more detail.</p> <p>Enforcement will be key, and an ability to enforce must be available including a budget, although all costs should be recover from the organiser.</p>
Comment by CliffHague 19/01/2021 17:39 Status: Approved	<p>I agree with the comments above. Who decides whether an event will damage the historic character, as the screening of W.Princes St Gardens for Summer Sessions certainly did? Do the team signing contracts for events have expertise in historic environment and place-making?</p>
Comment by BradleyM 19/01/2021 22:40 Status: Approved	<p>More detail needed on why all advertising methods need a sign off from CEC and what is considered when saying what is damaging the historic character of Edinburgh.</p> <p>Overall a good start and I think being clear that it is not an outright ban on closing off certain public spaces, but that it must be justifiable under the events needs and a clear plan on how that affects the public wishing to access that space.</p>
Comment by Peter 20/01/2021 13:47 Status: Approved	<p>The principles do not include unnecessary intrusion upon the life of citizens and businesses - which can only be determined by citizens - that is one of the main grounds for opposition to large events. Major omission.</p>

<p>Comment by WECC 21/01/2021 01:13 Status: Approved</p>	<p>These principles are too vague as the comments attest.</p> <p>The PSMP does not for instance cover the issue that parks close at night?</p> <p>It doesn't refer to all types of public space</p> <p>How about the suspensions of normal work on roads or construction during the festival periods isnt that an issue for some?</p>
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Commentary: Environment and Amenity

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Commentary: Environment and Amenity
Idea	This principle needs to be reinforced by explicit CEC recognition that the drive to 'internationalise' this Festival City is now imposing significant net costs in terms of disruption, congestion and environmental burden. The costs are largely unquantified and are borne by the erosion of the 'quality of life' that is held central to the city's character.
Why the contribution is important	A much stricter trade-off is warranted to govern event frequency and scale, and the off-the-shelf outsourcing of event management and participation to event producers and participant suppliers from well beyond the city and region. Local costs are best offset by retained local benefits.
Created by	RobertsonGPCC
Date	17 Jan 2021 02:25PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/commentary-environment-and-amenity
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 4.00, Number of votes: 3
Topics	environment and amenity
Number of comments	6
<p>Comment by CliffHague 18/01/2021 16:57 Status: Approved</p>	<p>The whole events / filming process needs to be connected to carbon neutral aims and to a community wealth building approach. The Scottish Government is promoting a series community wealth building pilot projects. Post covid recovery will need such measures.</p>
<p>Comment by bstanton 19/01/2021 13:33 Status: Approved</p>	<p>It should be remembered that the boost to the local economy during the festival period is immense.</p> <p>It also provides employment for local residents and brings a variety of international events/productions etc to Edinburgh which are not only seen by visitors to Edinburgh, but locals, which otherwise might not have been accessible to them.</p>

	<p>Please do not forget the positives of entertainment to everyone.</p> <p>Edinburgh is a city, not a village in the country and by the very nature of a city it will be lively, densely populated, diverse and a melting pot of cultures</p>
<p>Comment by AndrewAnderson 19/01/2021 16:44 Status: Approved</p>	<p>I agree that such events are generally beneficial; it's important, however, that we take into account the wider effects on local residents who have to put up with sometimes excessive inconvenience. Also, this doesn't just apply to festivals, but also to filming etc.</p>
<p>Comment by CarolNimmo 19/01/2021 18:01 Status: Approved</p>	<p>Edinburgh and its residents welcome well organised events of all sizes and shapes, local or international but constant 'growth' for growths sake needs appropriate measure and evaluation.</p> <p>We have to value environment /amenity to the highest denominator. and to do that requires strict protocol and management. A well considered, fair and transparent PSMP can help us achieve that, but not at all costs.</p>
<p>Comment by CliffHague 20/01/2021 11:28 Status: Approved</p>	<p>In response to bstanton, I am not denying that there are economic benefits or that we enjoy events. But we should remember that poverty and social exclusions were issues in Edinburgh before Covid, which has made the inequalities worse. Local procurement, a living wage, and trying to retain and recirculate money within the local economy - the basics of community wealth building - are not incompatible with bringing "entertainment to everyone". The question we need to be asking is whether the events and filming can do more to address these concerns which will be with us through this decade.</p>
<p>Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 23:11 Status: Approved</p>	<p>The PSMP needs to find a way to 'balance' competing and often opposed impacts and benefits in a sustainable way. The attempt to define what is a good use/frequency/location etc is a welcome start and should be a dynamic living balance to reflect all the various individuals groups and organizations who have a stake without excluding some or ignoring legitimate concerns</p>

Impact on the surrounds (Guideline)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Impact on the surrounds (Guideline)
Idea	Temporary use of public spaces for events, activities or installations should support the qualities, characteristics, heritage considerations and functions of the surrounding built environment.
Why the contribution is important	The use of a space must support and reinforce the special 'place' quality of its surrounds.
Created by	Ian_CEC (Site Admin)
Date	09 Oct 2020 12:47PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1w/impact-on-the-surrounds-guideline
Status	Approved

Rating	Average: 2.00, Number of votes: 2
Topics	
Number of comments	7
Comment by verityleigh 01/12/2020 16:04 Status: Approved	When combining guidance for public spaces and parks into one document, it will also be important to recognise the differences between parks/greenspace and other public space. I'm thinking especially of the impact of providing hardstanding, vehicle access etc for an event in a park vs putting an event which requires hardstanding in a public space which is already paved.
Comment by Stephen 18/12/2020 02:11 Status: Approved	The definition of "impact" should be extended to include the effect on neighbouring residents and businesses, and disruptions to transport and accessibility.
Comment by timpogson 30/12/2020 15:52 Status: Approved	Events should not be permitted on grassed areas, because of the damage caused. Events should only be held on areas of hardstanding, such as Festival Square. If there are insufficient areas of hardstanding to accommodate all event requests that the City Council would like to accommodate, more suitable hardstanding areas should be constructed. Chair, Southside Community Council
Comment by MTrail 17/01/2021 12:52 Status: Approved	Serious efforts must be made to keep the impact of the event to the event site, where other citizens are impacted such as nearby neighbours that would be adversely impacted the event should not go ahead, although I am open to event organisers being given permission if those impacted are properly compensated, perhaps being housed for free in a hotel during the event with some financial incentive.
Comment by VirginiaSharpHES 19/01/2021 14:35 Status: Approved	Historic Environment Scotland: We welcome the intention to ensure that proposals that fall under the scope of this consultation reflect and protect the valuable historic environment of Edinburgh. The World Heritage status of the city is recognised here, and it will be important to ensure that proposals are sympathetic to the Outstanding Universal Value of the Old and New Town of Edinburgh World Heritage Site. Beyond this, the Public Space Management Plan should seek to recognise the wider designated and non-designated historic environment which defines the character of the city, and to ensure that events within the scope of this consultation take special care minimise harmful impacts on the character and appearance of the historic environment.
Comment by CliffHague 19/01/2021 17:02 Status: Approved	Again, how well has the existing Guideline worked? Do the fairground rides at the heart of the World Heritage Site reinforce the special place quality, for example? Before endorsing an existing Guideline there must be some evaluation of how well it has delivered on its aims. Linked to this is the question of who decides? How many staff in the team overseeing events have qualifications in planning, architecture or conservation? Are they in sufficiently senior positions to have a decisive say on place impacts. Is there anybody with experience in doing capacity or impact assessments? Without assurances that such expertise is available, it is difficult to have confidence in what will actually be permitted. And, of course, it's only a Guideline, not a requirement set by the landowner.
Comment by WECC 21/01/2021 00:40 Status: Approved	This idea overlaps with a number of others but WECC support its intent even if the subjective nature will be difficult to enact.

Reflecting Edinburgh (Guideline)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Reflecting Edinburgh (Guideline)
Idea	<p>Temporary uses of public spaces should actively promote Edinburgh's role and reputation as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the capital city of Scotland, • a globally recognised Festival City, • an historic city (with Unesco World Heritage Site status), • a cultural and sporting city, • a great place to live, do business, visit or study. <p>The use of public spaces supports Edinburgh's 2050 City Vision and Edinburgh's 'Events Strategy', which aims to attract the best events to Edinburgh, as well as actively encouraging local and grassroots activities, and acknowledges the Council's partnership role reflected in 'Thundering Hooves 2.0', the strategy to strengthen Edinburgh's position as the world's leading Festival City. Key partners of the Council, that contribute to the city's unique offering, such as festivals, heritage bodies, cultural institutions and business improvement districts are well placed to help promote these principles in the public spaces that they utilise or own.</p>
Why the contribution is important	The use of spaces must reflect Edinburgh's unique city offering.
Created by	Ian_CEC (Site Admin)
Date	09 Oct 2020 12:50PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/reflecting-edinburgh-guideline
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 1.00, Number of votes: 1
Topics	reflecting edinburgh
Number of comments	8
Comment by ollydavies 23/10/2020 13:31 Status: Approved	Consultation with key festival partners to ensure council policy is joined up re. key event areas. George St parking charges a good example of where the policy of spreading activity out beyond the Old Town met an obstacle due to increased costs elsewhere.
Comment by ollydavies 23/10/2020 13:35 Status: Approved	Recognise the particular demands of managing performance spaces within an event area - this may necessitate temporary signage / infrastructure to better manage pedestrian flow and avoid bottlenecks. Also consider the impact of certain types of street furniture in areas likely to be regularly used as events spaces eg concrete bollards on Royal Mile, which become a major trip hazard during August and restrict pedestrian flow.

<p>Comment by Holledge 10/12/2020 17:25 Status: Approved</p>	<p>I don't agree with "the strategy to strengthen Edinburgh's position as the world's leading Festival City". This guideline doesn't reflect Edinburgh so much as the festivalization of the city by the tourist industry. Arguably this policy of commercialisation has resulted in the artistic decline of the festivals and a loss of reputation by the city. I don't think this guideline belongs in the PSMP.</p>
<p>Comment by esc 15/12/2020 23:32 Status: Approved</p>	<p>I agree with Holledge's comment above. What the city would most benefit from is a steady flow of visitors year-round and this will also mean greater investment into our year-round arts scene, music and nightlife, for the city's residents. In particular, we need to look at nightlife in a positive way instead of always as something to be cut back.</p>
<p>Comment by Stephen 18/12/2020 02:08 Status: Approved</p>	<p>Agree with the aspirations in the guidelines although these are currently not evident in planned events. The quality of events should reflect that of the modern city and its heritage, both in execution and choice of material. Each proposal application should contain a paragraph explaining how the event reflects Edinburgh's character and what benefit it brings to the city. Should also look at the quality of barricades, signs etc used to effect street closures, which is currently a disgrace. No red-and-white plastic wands or cones; no Heras fencing or other building-site barriers.</p>
<p>Comment by VirginiaSharpHES 19/01/2021 14:34 Status: Approved</p>	<p>Historic Environment Scotland: We welcome the intention to ensure that proposals that fall under the scope of this consultation reflect and protect the valuable historic environment of Edinburgh. The World Heritage status of the city is recognised here, and it will be important to ensure that proposals are sympathetic to the Outstanding Universal Value of the Old and New Town of Edinburgh World Heritage Site. Beyond this, the Public Space Management Plan should seek to recognise the wider designated and non-designated historic environment which defines the character of the city, and to ensure that events within the scope of this consultation take special care to minimise harmful impacts on the character and appearance of the historic environment.</p>
<p>Comment by CliffHague 19/01/2021 16:41 Status: Approved</p>	<p>The fundamental question is how well has the existing Guideline worked? It has existed alongside the festivalisation of Edinburgh. It is time to put Thundering Hooves 2.0 behind us and take seriously the carbon targets instead. Is there the professional expertise in the Council's culture and events team to properly address the concerns mentioned by HES? How many staff in that team have a qualification in conservation, for example?</p>
<p>Comment by CarolNimmo 19/01/2021 19:32 Status: Approved</p>	<p>Edinburgh has to change from being the leading Festival city to the best Festival City.</p> <p>Quality rather than quantity.</p>

Commentary: Reflecting Edinburgh (Guideline):

	<p>Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental</p>
Title	<p>Commentary: Reflecting Edinburgh (Guideline):</p>
Idea	<p>"Thundering Hooves 2.0', the strategy to strengthen Edinburgh's position as the world's leading Festival City" speaks to 'vaulting ambition' in an era of now radical change. The focus must shift <i>from</i> event frequency and scale <i>to</i> event holistic worth and sustainability. A return to 'business as before' on forceful, intensive, event promotion and hosting is no longer an option.</p>

Why the contribution is important	<p>The use of public spaces must reflect Edinburgh's physical capacity and the 'domestic' priorities of everyday economic and business life alongside the need to protect 'Edinburgh's unique city offering'. As matters stand, the 'tail has taken to wagging the dog'. <i>City projection</i> has outpaced <i>city protection</i>.</p> <p>A summary statement of the GPCC position would be as follows. The PSMP going forward must inevitably lead a shift in scale and density of approved events in comparison with the last decade or so. A continued drive to position Edinburgh as 'the world's leading Festival City' will ultimately lead it to a fall from grace. The mood across the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils (EACC) is flagging this now.</p> <p>Edinburgh no longer needs ever louder-global applause for its cultural endeavours and it certainly doesn't need an unchecked banner-headline as a party city. Nature by way of climate and health exigencies is telling us something different. CEC implicitly acknowledges the change. It's time to square the circle in terms of the events calendar and its presently heavy imposition on the use of public infrastructure, space and amenity. The city's character has been compromised and distorted. CEC as the guiding hand is as aware of this as anyone. The city can do less, and so do better.</p>
Created by	RobertsonGPCC
Date	17 Jan 2021 02:21PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/commentary-reflecting-edinburgh-guideline
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 5.00, Number of votes: 4
Topics	reflecting edinburgh
Number of comments	4
Comment by CliffHague 18/01/2021 17:03 Status: Approved	There are particular responsibilities within the World Heritage Site related to the criteria that define its Outstanding Universal Value. All proposed events within that area need to enhance, not undermine, these criteria.
Comment by CarolNimmo 19/01/2021 18:16 Status: Approved	<p>Edinburgh has been given an opportunity, a silver lining by way of a pandemic, to step back from over-commercialisation of public space, to reassess and re-evaluate our use of the city. We need to share it again with visitors not be swamped by visitors.</p> <p>A well defined PSMP can help to bring that about if it listens to the voice of residents.</p>
Comment by Peter 20/01/2021 12:45 Status: Approved	More should be done to attract people for its heritage which is properly displayed - not hidden behind burger bars, funfair rides, big tents on such a scale.

Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 23:14 Status: Approved	West End Community Council (WECC) endorse this view
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Heavy equipment and temporary buildings (Guideline)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Heavy equipment and temporary buildings (Guideline)
Idea	All heavy equipment (as used by fun fair rides etc), and temporary buildings (portacabins, chalets, stalls etc) should be located on hard-standing surfaces, not on grass or earth in parks and greenspaces. This is to avoid environmental damage, including damage to the grass, trees and shrubs as well as soil compaction, but also to encourage fast and efficient event setting up and de-rigging.
Why the contribution is important	In other European cities, heavy equipment is automatically put on hard standing, and this should also happen in Edinburgh. Putting heavy equipment in East Princes Street Gardens has been particularly controversial with the gardens closed off for many months to restore the grass etc, however any heavy equipment on soft-surfaces will involve compacting the soil, damaging tree roots and interfering with drainage etc.
Created by	Holledge
Date	19 Dec 2020 06:09PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/heavy-equipment-and-temporary-buildings-guideline
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 4.20, Number of votes: 5
Topics	
Number of comments	7
Comment by Tacitus 08/01/2021 01:20 Status: Approved	Apart from the damage caused at the time to grass, tree root systems etc, the reinstatement works take an unacceptably long time to regenerate to a usable level, depriving the public of the use of that space in the meantime. The organiser offering to pay for reinstatement is not enough. The only unambiguous way forward is to ban any structures on soft ground.
Comment by jimorr 12/01/2021 19:28 Status: Approved	Hard standing spaces in, around or near public spaces should be created or designated and then made openly available for festival and other uses.
Comment by JDoherty 14/01/2021 13:09 Status: Approved	While of course environmental damage should be avoided at all costs, it needs to be recognised that not all public green spaces have hard standing spaces and the ability to mount events that are of huge benefit to residents and businesses could be adversely effected if there is a blanket ban on structures on soft ground.

<p>Comment by MTrail 17/01/2021 13:03 Status: Approved</p>	<p>Any action which risks serious damages to the ground or trees etc, at the time or later point should not be permitted unless there is a fully funded plan to rectify the issue. Parks and greenspaces should not suffer because an organiser wants to hold an event. if they cannot hold their event without damaging our parks and greenspaces, they should perhaps consider that they have chosen an unsuitable location.</p> <p>Any damage to be prevented but where it does occur it must be repaired as soon as possible and fully funded by the organiser. If projected damage cannot be repaired within days of the event, the event should be refused. Im thinking about Princes Street Gardens where it takes months for damage to be repaired.</p>
<p>Comment by bstanton 19/01/2021 14:38 Status: Approved</p>	<p>More hard standing sites need to be made available to events if this guideline is to be enforced .</p>
<p>Comment by CliffHague 19/01/2021 15:31 Status: Approved</p>	<p>Quite simply, "Keep off the grass".</p>
<p>Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 23:54 Status: Approved</p>	<p>Hard landscaping contributes to surface water run off and flooding, grass is very resilient and a balance must be found. More green spaces not hard landscaping is required in the city centre.</p>

Greenspaces environmental impact assessment (Guideline)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Greenspaces environmental impact assessment (Guideline)
Idea	<p>Commercial events in parks and greenspaces should require an environmental impact assessment.</p> <p>The following should be included in the assessment: 1. surface and sub-surface impacts (damage to walls, banks, drains, compacted soil etc), 2. vegetation damage (to trees, shrubs and grass), 2. biodiversity impacts (to all significant forms of life from animals to micro-organisms), 3. air, water, noise, and light pollution, 4. anti-social behaviour (i.e. littering, graffiti etc).</p> <p>If one or more of these impacts is expected to be substantial or lasting in a particular public space, there should be a presumption that the event should not be approved.</p>
Why the contribution is important	<p>Environmental impact assessment requirements have been ignored in the past, even in the case of the most impactful of events (e.g. East Princes Street Gardens). It's important that these assessments are comprehensive and do not overlook any potential problems that may be caused by events.</p>
Created by	Holledge
Date	11 Jan 2021 05:56PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/greenspaces-environmental-impact-assessment-guideline

Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 4.88, Number of votes: 8
Topics	
Number of comments	6
Comment by Graham 11/01/2021 20:07 Status: Approved	Agreed. It is only through assessing potential risk that we can ensure the best outcome for the environment, and in circumstances where an event is clearly at odds with good practice, events could be adapted and in the correct situation, relocated to a more appropriate site. Money and capitalisation should not be the main criteria. The CEC should lead the way with more considered approaches to these important public spaces.
Comment by Jenni4 15/01/2021 12:31 Status: Approved	Yes, important to do these and also to use them in decision making, to set conditions and to audit compliance.
Comment by CliffHague 18/01/2021 17:15 Status: Approved	Health impacts and risks also need to be included. Astonishingly, the EIA for the 2020/21 Xmas events indicated that there were no health risks: the events eventually were curtailed because of the Covid restrictions in place.
Comment by bstanton 19/01/2021 13:53 Status: Approved	A clearly defined time line for this assessment should be agreed and adhered to. If an event is not to be approved on this basis the organisers should be informed in the early stages of site application.
Comment by CarolNimmo 19/01/2021 18:28 Status: Approved	Community engagement in the process is essential, and should operate in a similar way to planning and licensing etc. This would involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community engagement in advance of application, and outcomes • notification to be published of planned major events (weekly /monthly list) • statutory community council stakeholder status (along with the heritage bodies associated with NTBCC and its area) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • council committee decision making • right to hearing/delegation
Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 23:29 Status: Approved	Profoma impact assessment should be on the event portal for organisers to complete

Individual need option

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Individual need option
Idea	In general I think its a very good organisation structure and future orientation in the PSMP. I would like to suggest to add an option under Area conditions called: Individuality need.
Why the contribution is important	Hi Ian, we Edinburgh Oktoberfest have been operating many years on the red blase in the Gardens. Individuality: which means the need for flexible solutions for single events. Eventhough its the same area different events might have some very specific needs. E.g. we have the need to park our liquid truck inside the Gardens below the rock as we have to draw a pipe over the bridge. This need might only be ours but there should be room for flexibilty as this is a vital part for our event and maybe other events have different individual needs. Kind Regards, Carsten Edinburgh Oktoberfest
Created by	CarstenRaun
Date	25 Dec 2020 05:08PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/s7ozlmfclx/individual-need-option
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 4.00, Number of votes: 1
Topics	
Number of comments	1
Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 14:45 Status: Approved	Flexibility is a key ingredient of the unique character of Edinburgh and its public space events

Carbon neutrality 2030 (Key Principle)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Carbon neutrality 2030 (Key Principle)
Idea	The management of public spaces in Edinburgh should be consistently and undeviatingly informed by the policy of making the city carbon neutral by 2030.
Why the contribution is important	Real (or apparent) inconsistencies in City of Edinburgh Council policies have undermined confidence in policies that would otherwise have enjoyed public support. If the PSMP is to command any respect it must have some bedrock principles which are strictly adhered to. It is important that 'carbon neutrality' is one of these.

Created by	Holledge
Date	23 Dec 2020 10:17AM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/carbon-neutrality-2030-key-principle
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 5.00, Number of votes: 7
Topics	carbon
Number of comments	7
Comment by Graham 03/01/2021 15:56 Status: Approved	This is essential. CEC must lead the way. Worldwide we are facing an uncertain and frightening future. We must see, at the forefront of public space use and planning, aims that accord with climate awareness and management, and where necessary innovative and creative methods for carbon offsetting.
Comment by Frankin 11/01/2021 15:51 Status: Approved	Requirements to reduce carbon could cover the sources of energy for the event, the distance and modes of transport for deliveries/attendees, the sustainability of materials used (no plastics for instance?) and reusable infrastructure, reducing pollution, waste and the need for additional reinstatement of the space after the event, and so on. An assessment will need to be included in the application form unless it is possible to prohibit certain methods for instance.
Comment by Jenni4 15/01/2021 12:17 Status: Approved	Agree this is essential. Agree with Frankin about measures. Other things would be ensuring no damage to trees. Takeaway food and drinks are a big issue with respect to generating waste including single use plastics. Better solutions need to be found.
Comment by MJMcDougall 16/01/2021 17:55 Status: Approved	Notice boards in parks should include information on Zero Carbon by 2030 and carbon neutral activity is use and management of park
Comment by CliffHague 18/01/2021 17:50 Status: Approved	Fundamentally important. We need to show that public spaces are important for carbon neutrality (and health and wellbeing and for equity), and that any use of them for events / filming needs to contribute positively to carbon reduction.
Comment by BradleyM 19/01/2021 22:47 Status: Approved	<p>Agree that every event should be looking to be carbon neutral by 2030 if not sooner!</p> <p>If the council are serious on pushing for 2030 carbon-neutrality, is there scope for doing more to support smaller events organisers and local organisations/charities to think/be greener when designing their events. Maybe looking at incentives to help events organisers push more towards carbon neutrality.</p> <p>That could be anything like:</p> <p>* CEC supplier subsidies towards the cost of recycling or low emission generators</p>

	<p>* Support in the form of reduced fees for events that can demonstrate genuine efforts to achieve carbon neutrality</p> <p>* Assisting with training for event organisers to think and act greener</p> <p>Beltane Fire Society has started to donate a percentage of ticket income towards green causes to help offset carbon so encouraging other charities to do the same from CEC would help further push events towards investing in local green causes to help protect our precious environment,</p>
<p>Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 23:44 Status: Approved</p>	<p>This is a duplicate idea</p>

Commentary: Carbon Neutrality 2030 (Key Principle)

	<p>Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental</p>
Title	<p>Commentary: Carbon Neutrality 2030 (Key Principle)</p>
Idea	<p>This is a massively ambitious target, perhaps wholly inconsistent with the pending Local Development Plan (LDP), <i>City Plan 2030</i>, perhaps not.</p>
Why the contribution is important	<p>The wide discussion leading up to and around <i>City Plan 2030</i> draws attention to this goal but is muted on how a heavy emphasis on city events can skew or hinder progress towards the objective. It is not too late to review the LDP due later this year in the light of new and more immediate priorities for PSMP, and so to make any changes to the LDP needed to reinforce and facilitate the PSMP.</p>
Created by	<p>RobertsonGPCC</p>
Date	<p>17 Jan 2021 02:41PM</p>
URL	<p>https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/commentary-carbon-neutrality-2030-key-principle</p>
Status	<p>Approved</p>
Rating	<p>Average: 3.50, Number of votes: 2</p>
Topics	<p>carbon</p>
Number of comments	<p>5</p>
<p>Comment by Holledge 17/01/2021 16:21 Status: Approved</p>	<p>See also https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/carbon-neutrality-2030-key-principle</p>
<p>Comment by CliffHague 18/01/2021 16:36 Status: Approved</p>	<p>For the consultation to be meaningful there needs to be some robust assessment of how the holding of events and supporting filming contributes to - or detracts from - the zero carbon target. Similarly, the impacts of recent events on trees needs to be explained, so respondents can make a judgement of the proposals in the consultation.</p>

Comment by Cockburn 19/01/2021 20:18 Status: Approved	ISO20121 is the International standard for the management of sustainable events. This could form the core foundation of carbon and climate management for all events. It would also be worth including the travel carbon into each event to properly assess the carbon position. Thus, if someone travels from Glasgow to Edinburgh to attend an event, the carbon used should be added to that event.
Comment by BradleyM 19/01/2021 22:52 Status: Approved	Where possible, every event and organisation whether private, public, or charity should be aiming to be carbon neutral where possible. Ambitious targets help push us to get there faster and the time for action is long overdue.
Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 22:41 Status: Approved	GHG calculations for an event can be calculated using ISO 14064, however this is likely to be too onerous for all but the largest of events as it would require specialist input. A simplified calculator and method should be developed so over time all events can do the calculation and fit into the pathway to achieve the 2030 target

Carbon footprint (Guideline)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Carbon footprint (Guideline)
Idea	Organizers must include estimates of the carbon footprint of proposed festivals and commercial events, together if necessary with information about carbon offsets. This information should always be available to the public. There is a presumption against carbon-intensive events being allowed in the city. Event organisers will be expected to operate on a completely carbon neutral basis by 2030.
Why the contribution is important	We are already in a transition to a carbon-neutral Edinburgh by 2030. It is important that the City of Edinburgh and event organizers think through the implications of the new greener economy, so the message Edinburgh conveys to the world is modern and relevant.
Created by	Holledge
Date	22 Dec 2020 07:21PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/carbon-footprint-guideline
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 5.00, Number of votes: 2
Topics	carbon
Number of comments	4
Comment by Tacitus 08/01/2021 01:12 Status: Approved	Agree. There is no point permitting any event which blows holes through the City's aim to achieve carbon neutrality.
Comment by MJMcDougall	possibly provide checklist to help estimate footprint

16/01/2021 17:43 Status: Approved	
Comment by MTrail 17/01/2021 12:59 Status: Approved	<p>Every event in a park & greenspace should operate on the basis of having the lowest possible carbon footprint, and being carbon neutral.</p> <p>This measure should not just include activities on the event site, but all associated travel & manufacture. Any off setting should also take place in Edinburgh. And if the organiser cant do it directly themselves, perhaps they can do it financially by giving the council money to plant trees somewhere, or install insulation in public buildings etc etc.</p>
Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 23:47 Status: Approved	this is a duplcate idea

Commentary: Carbon Footprint (Guideline)

	Sub-Group: Sustainable events - environmental
Title	Commentary: Carbon Footprint (Guideline)
Idea	Information on event carbon footprints and carbon offsets should be proactively published by CEC, not just 'always be available'.
Why the contribution is important	If CEC wants to flag the virtue of leading a global 'target destination city' to a 'greener future', it should carry the obligation to drive home the message and to make some different choices in how it sanctions the use of the space and infrastructure for which it is the appointed steward.
Created by	RobertsonGPCC
Date	17 Jan 2021 02:39PM
URL	https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/commentary-carbon-footprint-guideline
Status	Approved
Rating	Average: 4.40, Number of votes: 5
Topics	carbon
Number of comments	5
Comment by Holledge 17/01/2021 16:23 Status: Approved	See https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/ksm6bjz1lw/carbon-footprint-guideline
Comment by CliffHague 18/01/2021 16:41 Status: Approved	This point is very important. Any consultation needs to be based on evidence of how the existing guidelines etc have performed in relation to the carbon neutral targets. Making the data available as part of the consultation is part of the process of helping the city to move to those targets. The zero carbon target has to take priority over any targets for events.

<p>Comment by AndrewAnderson 19/01/2021 16:36 Status: Approved</p>	<p>I agree with the principle, but am doubtful if we can accurately measure the marginal impact of a single event. For example, how we go about accounting for the greenhouse gas (that is, not just carbon) effect of travel to Edinburgh by those attending?</p>
<p>Comment by BradleyM 19/01/2021 22:50 Status: Approved</p>	<p>Agree with this. We should not just be answering when asked but should be upfront and proactive on data where possible. The more we share the more trust we build and the more others can learn and build upon good practice.</p>
<p>Comment by WECC 20/01/2021 22:44 Status: Approved</p>	<p>if you don't measure it you can't manage it (Lord Kelvin) Carbon foot print calculation should initially be targetted and major events and gradually applied to smaller ones as the city rolls out tools to assist its calculation</p>

Also see the Challenge ‘Additional stakeholder organisation engagement’

<https://edinburghtalksclimate.dialogue-app.com/29fuel9z7l>

Contribution from Edinburgh’s Festivals

FESTIVALS EDINBURGH OVERALL KEY MESSAGES

- The fragile situation the city faces emerging from the Covid-19 crisis must be fully reflected in the Public Spaces guidelines in order to realise the best balance of benefits for city residents
- Success means achieving a balance of cultural, social, economic and environmental sustainability.
- Local residents make up the biggest single segment of audiences for our world-renowned festivals with 1.8 million attendances a year
- Their love for our signature homegrown events over 70+ years has made world-class festivals an integral part of Edinburgh’s intangible heritage along with our architecture and natural environment.
- We want to work with partners across the city to nurture the extraordinary layout, fabric and environment of Edinburgh as part of the identity of the city and its festivals critical to future success.
- The Plan must focus on achieving a balance between the wide range of needs and preferences of different residents to enjoy their public spaces through everyday use and experiences beyond the everyday; and the need to realise social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits for the whole city.

SUSTAINABLE EVENTS – ENVIRONMENTAL

The festivals strongly support the guideline on considering permanent power supplies for areas frequently used for festivals and other events. As part of the festivals’ [collective environmental policy](#) commitment to make our contribution to Edinburgh being a zero carbon city by 2030, we are looking for Council plans to increase ‘plug and play’ event infrastructure and working with partners including the University’s centre for carbon innovation on piloting clean power generators.

The city needs more event-ready spaces where hard standing and power and IT infrastructure are inbuilt, as part of a sustainable cultural infrastructure strategy. With seriously limited public funding, it will be

important to focus on how additional investment can also be generated to resource this e.g. property developers' premiums. However, given the lack of hard standing space in many parts of the city and limited gap sites with strong potential as new event locations, any blanket ban on temporary structures or equipment on grass or earth could have a damaging impact on a range of events at all scales, and issues should be managed through area guidance instead.

For festival and event operators to play a full part in the emissions reductions required by 2030, the necessary shifts need to be made with a plan for all organisations and businesses to transition over time and for affordable alternatives to be available, including **the city's infrastructure making it easy to source clean power from the grid.**