

# Planning Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 30 March 2017

## Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Draft Management Plan 2017-2022

**Item number**

**Report number**

**Executive/routine**

**Wards**

Executive

City Centre

### Executive Summary

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The UNESCO Convention on World Heritage requires every World Heritage Site (WHS) to have a management system. The current five year management plan for the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh WHS covering the period 2011-2016 has been reviewed.

A new plan for the next five years is presented in draft for approval. It has been shaped by an extensive and innovative programme of public and stakeholder engagement and awareness-raising.

A range of consultative and promotional activity is planned with the public, community groups and organisations in April to June 2017, prior to finalising the plan for partners' approval by September 2017.

### Links

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**Coalition Pledges**

[P40](#)

**Council Priorities**

[CP9, CP12](#)

**Single Outcome Agreement**

[SO4](#)

## Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Draft Management Plan 2017-2022

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the draft Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Management Plan 2017- 2022 for consultation.

### 2. Background

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- 2.1 The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh (ONTE) site was added to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO) list of World Heritage Sites (WHS) in 1995. The UNESCO World Heritage Committee stated that the Edinburgh Old and New Towns "represent a remarkable blend of two urban phenomena: organic medieval growth and 18th and 19th century town planning".
- 2.2 The Site extends to 4.5 square kilometres of the city centre. It includes the Old Town and New Town conservation areas and parts of five others. It is home to a range of institutions of national and civic significance including the Scottish Parliament, the courts and the University of Edinburgh. It has retained its historic urban form and character to a remarkable extent and contains a wealth of buildings listed for their architectural character or historic interest. It also has the highest concentration of Category A listed buildings in Scotland.
- 2.3 The UK currently has 30 World Heritage Sites; Scotland has six, including the recently inscribed Forth Bridge. Each site must demonstrate how it is meeting its obligations under the WHS Convention which requires every world heritage site to have a management plan which should set out how its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) will be protected. The UK Government is committed to ensuring management plans are produced for all UK World Heritage Sites and encourages local planning authorities to work with site managers, owners and other agencies to ensure management plans are in place.
- 2.4 The first The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site (ONTEWHS) Management Plan ran from 2005 to 2010. The second plan covers the period 2011 to 2016. It was not until the late 1990s/early 2000s that it became good practice in the UK to produce management plans this explains the gap between the date of inscription (1995) and the first Management Plan (2005). In the interim, the ONTE WHS was managed by the New Town Conservation Committee and the Old Town Renewal Trust, who merged to form Edinburgh World Heritage Trust in 1999.

### 3. Main report

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- 3.1 A WHS Management Plan is a forward-looking strategic document which sets the framework for the preservation and enhancement of a Site's cultural heritage. It contains a vision for the Site and objectives and delivery mechanisms for its achievement. It is prepared jointly by the World Heritage Site management partners: City of Edinburgh Council, Historic Environment Scotland and Edinburgh World Heritage.
- 3.2 A new management plan which builds on the strengths of the 2011 to 2016 plan has been prepared (Appendix 1) and is presented in draft for approval to consult. The review leading to the draft plan has embraced the opportunity presented in addressing some of the issues/challenges facing the management of the Site as set out in a report to Committee in [February 2016](#).
- 3.3 The management partners have used extensive and inclusive public and stakeholder engagement in drafting the Plan. This included a blog, social media and innovative use of the Place Standard and the Environmental Quality Indicators (established to measure the quality of development on the ground). More than one thousand responses were received to a consultation exercise in summer 2016 which included seeking people's views on 14 themes including the awareness of the World Heritage Site status, the level of care and maintenance of buildings and streets and the quality of recent new developments built within the WHS.
- 3.4 The designation should facilitate the delivery of the highest quality of environment in a living capital city centre. The draft management plan establishes a framework to achieve this and for the preservation and enhancement of the Site's cultural heritage. Since 2005, when the first management plan was produced, the management partnership has worked together with communities, other agencies, institutions and businesses to deliver projects on the ground to deliver the core aims of the management plan.
- 3.5 Much of this activity is ongoing. However, over the next five years, the partners are seeking to focus on addressing the six key themes that scored the lowest in the Place Standard exercise. For these six key themes, the following sets out examples of achievements from the previous two plans and future actions:
- 3.6 Care and maintenance of buildings and streets

#### 3.6.1 Past achievements

##### **The Scotsman steps**

In 2011, Edinburgh World Heritage and the City of Edinburgh Council worked with the Fruitmarket Gallery to bring the Scotsman steps back to life, and enhance the public route between the city's Old and New Towns. The steps had become dilapidated with graffiti on the walls, damage to the stairs and recurring anti-social behaviour. The conservation project started in September 2010 and the steps reopened in 2011.

## **The City of Edinburgh Council's lighting strategy**

A [History of Street Lighting report](#) in the Old and New towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site was published in 2012. It helped to inform the City of [Edinburgh Council's lighting strategy](#), which amongst a number of issues regulates management of historic street lighting in the World Heritage Site. It now informs planning policy by explaining the importance of street lighting in the context of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site's Outstanding Universal Value.

### 3.6.2 Future aspirations

The consultation highlighted that more can be done for the general state of repair and ongoing care and maintenance of historic buildings. Some buildings require some form of repair or maintenance to windows, roofs, stonework or guttering. The management plan seeks to address this issue by promoting a range of initiatives: the new voluntary Shared Repair Service facilitated by City of Edinburgh Council, and the better promotion of existing grants programmes to continue the strong tradition of conservation and preservation in the World Heritage Site.

## 3.7 Control and guidance

### 3.7.1 Past achievements

#### **Shopfront Improvement**

In the last ten years, Edinburgh World Heritage Trust has been running a scheme that offers advice to shop owners and allocates financial assistance for shop fronts in need of restoration.

This scheme has allowed the implementation on the ground of good practice set out in the City of Edinburgh's Council planning design guidance and guidance in listed buildings and conservation areas.

Some positive examples include: the restoration of a series of Georgian shopfronts at 33-41B William Street; a comprehensive refurbishment of a vacant property at 9-11 Gilmours Close, in the Grassmarket and ongoing improvement on a large scale to West Maintland Street.

#### **Local Development Plan- World Heritage Site policy**

Whilst the World Heritage Site has been designated since 1995, its protection was approved as part of the Local Development Plan in 2016.

The Policy Env 1 World Heritage Sites now states:

"Development which would harm the qualities which justified the inscription of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh and/or the Forth Bridge as World Heritage Sites or would have a detrimental impact on a Site's setting will not be permitted. This policy requires development to respect and protect the outstanding universal values of the World Heritage Sites and their settings. Setting may include sites in the immediate

vicinity, viewpoints identified in the key views study and prominent landscape features throughout the city.”

### 3.7.2 Future aspirations

The city is a thriving, living city, important for tourism, retail, business and government as well as having a large residential population. It will evolve overtime with new trends. The challenge is to ensure that development takes appropriate account of the unique qualities of the Site. Care and attention is required to ensure that any change preserves and enhances the OUV. It is the management partner’s responsibility to guarantee that all stakeholders understand the context to allow respectful change in line with the character of the area. In assessing change, the management partners have a responsibility to fully assess the impact on OUV.

## 3.8 Awareness of World Heritage Site status

### 3.8.1 Past achievements

#### **World Heritage Business Opportunity Guide**

This guide was a joint project between the Edinburgh Tourism Action Group (ETAG) and Edinburgh World Heritage; it is part of a series which offers guidance for tourism businesses in the city. The aim is to illustrate how they can use the World Heritage Site as a promotional tool for visitors. Throughout the guide are practical hints and tips on how to use World Heritage status, including a selection of case studies where tourism businesses have worked with EWH to use the city’s heritage in their promotion.

#### **World Heritage Day**

World Heritage Day has been celebrated locally with lectures and events to raise the public’s awareness about the diversity of cultural heritage and the efforts that are required to protect and conserve it.

In 2016, the six Scottish World Heritage Sites were celebrated at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh. Visitors to the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh table were able to handle Corinthian column heads, archaeology from the Tron church, household artefacts as well as interpretation material (maps, leaflets, colouring in sheets). It was a great day of sharing activities and stories with families, school groups, tourists, locals and more.

### 3.8.2 Future aspirations

Awareness of the World Heritage Site and its Outstanding Universal Value varies through the city, its communities and its visitors. To ensure that we all look after the World Heritage Site as best as we can, the Outstanding Universal Value needs to be clearly understood by stakeholders and members of the public. It is recognised that the management partners must continue to work together to spread the message to as wide an audience as possible.

### 3.9 Contribution of new development to city centre

#### 3.9.1 Past achievements

##### **Enhancing Construction sites- The New Waverley Fund**

To make the best use of the New Waverley Construction site, community groups in Edinburgh bid for grants to enhance this Old Town site. The New Waverley Community Fund (NWCF) was created as a joint project between the City of Edinburgh Council and Artisan Real Estate Investors, the developers of New Waverley. The total fund available is £200,000 including £100,000 held by the Council from the former developer. The initial round of funding paid out to six projects including a community garden, an art installation and a project celebrating the literary history of the area. This involved the unveiling of a 10-metre illuminated art work above the Waverley Arches by movie director and Monty Python star Terry Gilliam as part of the Words on the Street project run by Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature Trust.

#### 3.9.2 Future aspirations

Policies are in place to ensure that new development is sensitive to historic character. Management partners have a role in raising awareness on how interventions can contribute to the Site's authenticity. Management partners also have a role in reflecting and interpreting the particular quality of its surroundings, responding to and reinforcing distinctive patterns of development, townscape, views, landscape, scale, materials and quality of the World Heritage Site. The City of Edinburgh Council actively promotes the city as a destination for national and international investment. Balancing the needs of the city to maintain its economic vibrancy and the need to protect the heritage is essential for both. The relationship between OUV and economic success needs to be protected, developed and celebrated.

### 3.10 Visitor management

#### 3.10.1 Past achievements

##### **Heritage Trail leaflets**

A number of heritage trails have been produced to raise awareness about encourage residents and visitors to explore hidden historic assets. For example, the food trail revealed some of the hidden links between the city's built heritage and its food traditions, encouraging visitors to explore the 'nooks and crannies' of the World Heritage Site and discover its culinary customs.

#### 3.10.2 Future aspirations

The management partners recognise the need to support the operational systems in place to ensure that cleanliness of streets and spaces standards are maintained even during peak visitor times. This contributes to people's sense of pride and ownership of the city. It also creates the impression that visitors take home with them.

### 3.11 Influence and sense of control

### 3.11.1 Past achievements

#### **Meadows festival**

For the first time in 2016, the partners had a stall at the Meadows Festival. This was the start of the consultation on both the [Old Town](#) and the [New Town](#) Conservation Area Character Appraisals and helped raise awareness of the conservation of the site. This was an opportunity to carry out the Place Standard face to face and to get feedback on the recent developments in the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh. The stall attracted more than 550 people on the two days. This will now be an annual event for the management partners.

### 3.11.2 Future aspirations

It is the management partners' responsibility to clearly show the importance of the impact of public participation. Seeking to capture the biggest and widest audience, the management partners will advocate the joined-up approach to consultation. Similar topics will be grouped to make the best use of people's time and to contribute to better policy making.

- 3.12 The remaining themes are not disregarded. The management partners are working with other city stakeholders to ensure the concerns are addressed by other strategies. The scope of the plan includes:
- explaining the special qualities and values of the Site;
  - including the shared vision, long-term goals and shorter-term objectives to preserve the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site's OUV;
  - providing information on threats and opportunities facing the Site;
  - advocating existing protective policies;
  - influencing day-to-day management issues; and
  - providing a framework to monitor the condition of the built environment.
- 3.13 The Plan's main sections cover vision and aims; a site description; a summary of issues, challenges and opportunities; and proposals for implementation and an action plan.
- 3.14 The Plan is also related to other policies: the LDP; the emerging Local Improvement Plans (LIPs); and the City Vision to be launched later in the year.
- 3.15 If approved for consultation, a series of engagement events is planned in the period April to June. The management partners will work together to prepare World Heritage Day events to promote the consultation of the Management Plan in Edinburgh and Glasgow, attend local festivals and targeted community workshops. It is proposed that the finalised Management Plan will be re-submitted to HES and EWH Board members and return to Planning Committee in late summer/early autumn.

- 3.16 Management partners will also continue to work together on the format and publication of the Plan; it should be an accessible on-line document that is compatible with the format of the other Scottish WHS management plans.

## **4. Measures of success**

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- 4.1 The ONTEWHS Management Plan is finalised and approved by Committee in line with the project programme. The Plan will guide and inform planning decisions in a way that protects and conserves the Site's OUV.

## **5. Financial impact**

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- 5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 There are no significant risks associated with approval of the report as recommended. The report relates to Policy ENV 1: World Heritage Sites of the adopted Edinburgh LDP. This policy requires development to respect and protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS and its setting.

## **7. Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 The aim of managing the WHS is to preserve and enhance the quality of the area. This has the potential to improve the quality of life and supports sustainable communities. There are no predicted negative impacts on equalities.

## **8. Sustainability impact**

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- 8.1 Sound management of the built environment can help minimise the use of natural resources and reduce carbon emissions. The management of the historic environment contributes directly to sustainability in a number of ways. These include the unique quality of historic environments which provide a sense of identity and continuity.

## **9. Consultation and engagement**

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- 9.1 The draft management plan for 2017 - 2022 flows from an extensive and innovative programme of public and stakeholder engagement and awareness-raising, as detailed above. A range of consultative and promotional activity is planned with the community and stakeholders in the period April to June 2017, if the draft Management Plan is approved for consultation.



- 9.2 Concurrently to the consultation period, there will be awareness raising and promotion and stakeholder engagement events. This includes events on and around World Heritage Day in April and possible joint consultation with the new LIPs. There will be a social media and communications programme throughout the period of consultation to make sure it is inclusive. Other events such as the [Meadows Festival](#) and the [Architecture Fringe](#) (a project-led platform exploring how architecture makes a difference to our lives) will be opportunities to promote the consultation and gauge awareness.

## 10. Background reading/external references

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- 10.1 [UNESCO WHS Convention](#)
- 10.2 [The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Management Plan 2011-2016](#)
- 10.3 [Report to CEC Planning Committee: Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Update, 25 Feb 2016](#)
- 10.4 [Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Update, 1 October 2015](#)

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## 11. Links

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<b>Coalition Pledges</b>	P40 - Work with Edinburgh World Heritage Trust and other stakeholders to conserve the City's built heritage.
<b>Council Priorities</b>	CP9 – An attractive city CP12 – A built environment to match our ambition
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	SO4 - Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric
<b>Appendices</b>	1 - Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site – Draft Management Plan 2017 – 2022

# OLD AND NEW TOWNS OF EDINBURGH WORLD HERITAGE SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2017-2022

## *CHAPTER 1: Introduction*

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- 1.1 Foreword
- 1.2 What is World Heritage?
- 1.3 Scope and status of the Plan
- 1.4 Planning and policy framework
- 1.5 The management partners
- 1.6 Preparation of the third Plan (2017-2022)

## *CHAPTER 2: Vision and Aims*

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- 2.1 Long Term Vision
- 2.2 Aims of the Management Plan

## *Chapter 3: Description of the Site*

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- 3.1 Location
- 3.2 Key facts
- 3.3 Key figures
- 3.4 The statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)
- 3.5 Safeguarding of the OUV

## *CHAPTER 4: Action Plan*

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- 4.1 Six key challenges- Actions
- 4.2 Other challenges- A way forward

## *CHAPTER 5: Implementation & Monitoring*

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- 5.1 Implementation
- 5.2 Monitoring

## APPENDICES

### *A. The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site*

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- A.1 Description of the Site**
- A.2 Justification for inscription**
- A.3 Integrity**
- A.4 Authenticity**

### *B. Management of the World Heritage Site*

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- B.1 Governance**
- B.2 Ownership**
- B.3 Planning, Policy and Legislative Framework**

### *C. Review of the previous plans*

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- C.1 The First Management Plan (2005-2010)**
- C.2 The Second Management Plan (2011-2016)**

### *D. Useful links*

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- D.1 Map of interventions in the past five years (restoration projects/ new developments/ ongoing developments)**
- D.2 Key stakeholders**
- D.3 Key Views Policy**
- D.4 Conservation Areas**
- D.5 The Public Consultation Process**
- D.6 Case studies**
- D.7 Selected bibliography**
- D.8 Sources (images- figures)**

## CHAPTER 1: Introduction

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### 1.1 Foreword (to be added in final version)

#### The Vision

We share an aspiration for the World Heritage Site to sustain its Outstanding Universal Value by safeguarding and enhancing its exceptional historic environment. This underpins a confident and thriving capital city centre, its communities, and its cultural and economic life.

### 1.2 What is World Heritage?

World Heritage captures the cultural and natural aspects of the global community that are the most significant, unique or best examples of their kind according to the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). It is important because it promotes important cultural traditions and places as belonging to everyone.

There are over 1000 World Heritage Sites globally and UNESCO is the organisation responsible for adding to or removing from the [List](#). The list is intended to 'ensure as far as possible the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of the world's irreplaceable heritage'.

Each site must demonstrate that it is fulfilling its obligations in respect of UNESCO's requirements in implementing the [World Heritage Convention](#).

#### The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh

Edinburgh has long been celebrated as a great city: an ancient capital, the medieval Old Town alongside the world renowned eighteenth century classical New Town, all situated in a spectacular landscape of hills and valleys beside the wide estuary of the Firth of Forth.

It is the recognition of these qualities that led to the city's inscription by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in December 1995.

All World Heritage Sites have an associated Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV), which explains the importance of the Site. The SOUV is the term UNESCO applies to the detailed description of what is unique about the Site.

#### World Heritage Properties in the United Kingdom

To date, there are [30 World Heritage Sites](#) in the United Kingdom. The five [other Scottish Sites](#) are New Lanark, St Kilda, the Heart of Neolithic Orkney, the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (the Antonine Wall) and the Forth Bridge. Other urban centres in the UK with World Heritage Site status are Bath, Greenwich, Durham, Liverpool and Westminster.

### 1.3 Scope and status of the plan

The geographical scope of the plan relates to the WHS itself. This is clarified in section 3.1 (location).

The Plan is a partnership document. It represents the consensus view of the members of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site Oversight Group and Steering Group.

The Management Plan sets out what is significant about the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site, as a basis for understanding its important qualities, in order to determine the action necessary to protect, manage and enhance it.

The management plan:

- Includes the shared vision, long-term goals and shorter-term actions to preserve the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site's OUV
- Helps to explain the special qualities and values of the Site
- Advocates existing protective policies
- Influences the day-to-day management issues
- Provides supporting information on managing the opportunities and threats facing the Site
- Provides a framework to monitor the condition of the built environment

The Management Plan's success is dependent upon the delivery of objectives and relies on stakeholders across the Site making a commitment to the Action Plan. The careful coordination of partner organisations and the collective effort is possible and resources are used to best effect.

The Plan works within the Local Development Plan of the City of Edinburgh, which sets out planning policies to guide development. The Management Plan is a material consideration in the planning process (see section 3 for further details).

Whilst it is not a statutory document, the Plan will continue to inform and respond to other policies and management proposals relating to the WHS area.

How does it sit alongside other relevant plans?

- Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan (LDP) sets out policies and proposals to guide development. It was adopted in November 2016 and replaces the Edinburgh City Local Plan and Rural West Edinburgh Local Plan. The policies in the LDP are used to determine planning applications. The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site is protected by Policy Env 1 in the LDP.

The Policy Env 1 World Heritage Sites states:

"Development which would harm the qualities which justified the inscription of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh and/or the Forth Bridge as World Heritage Sites or would have a detrimental impact on a Site's setting will not be permitted. This policy requires development to respect and protect the outstanding universal values of the World Heritage Sites and their settings. Setting may include sites in the immediate vicinity, viewpoints identified in the key views study and prominent landscape features throughout the city."

- Locality Improvement Plan

Locality Improvement Plans (LIPs) 2017 to 2022 will be launched at the end of 2017. They aim to deliver citizen and community 'priorities and aspirations'.

The Locality Improvement Plan covers the city centre and the World Heritage Site. It will include the following management plan objectives:

- to enable the delivery of better social, economic and environmental outcomes
- to improve community engagement and co-production

- to promote enhanced public service integration

Locality Improvement Plans will form part of the Council's and the Edinburgh Partnership's Strategic Planning Framework.

This will help with the delivery of the Action Plan.

The aims of the action plan will also be delivered through a range of strategies, including transport, public realm, economic development, waste and cleansing, tourism and climate change.

#### **1.4 Planning and policy framework**

Scottish Planning Policy and Environmental Assessment regulations require planning authorities to take account of OUV both in their policies and decisions on cases.

The Edinburgh Local Development Plan includes Policy Env 1 that serves to protect the OUV of the Site. Historic Environment Scotland (HES) is a statutory consultee in cases where there is potential to impact on OUV. Edinburgh World Heritage is a consultee, and engages with the planning process from the earliest stages through a Planning Protocol.

Where HES objects to a planning application, and the Council is minded to grant consent, Scottish Ministers must be notified for them to determine if they wish to call-in the application for their decision. In practice, this happens on a very small number of occasions across all World Heritage Sites.

## **1.5 The Management Partners (graphics to be added)**

### The City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council is the Planning Authority. It implements the planning system in the city. The Council is responsible for providing political leadership and governance for a comprehensive range of services across the city.

It is also responsible for the provision of a range of [public services](#) that affect day-to-day life within the World Heritage Site, including strengthening and supporting communities, providing jobs and ensuring its residents are well cared for.

### Historic Environment Scotland

Historic Environment Scotland is a non-departmental public body. It is the lead public body established to investigate, care for and promote Scotland's historic environment. Its board is appointed by Scottish Ministers.

Historic Environment Scotland offers technical expertise, support and significant funding to the historic environment via its in-house experts and various grants schemes, directly employing the highest number of traditional crafts staff in Scotland and actively fostering apprentice development.

### Edinburgh World Heritage

Edinburgh World Heritage is an independent charity formally charged by the City of Edinburgh Council and Historic Environment Scotland with facilitating the work of the World Heritage Steering Group and overseeing the implementation of the Management Plan since 1999.

A World Heritage Site coordinator post was created in 2009 to bring a focus to World Heritage issues across the partnership. The post ensures effective liaison and co-ordination of activities between the partners.

## **1.6 Preparation and structure of the Plan**

This is the third management plan for the site. All the management partners have taken the lead role in preparing the Plan. This work was overseen by the WHS Steering Group and Oversight Group.

This plan is divided into five chapters covering:

- The role of the plan
- Its vision and aims
- Key facts and figures and why the WHS is special
- Challenges to be addressed and actions to achieve this
- Implementation of the Plan and monitoring processes

This management plan relies on information gathered from the consultation process in July 2016. The consultation process coupled with a series of engagement events were the source of the actions.

### **2.1 The Vision**

We share an aspiration for the World Heritage Site to sustain its Outstanding Universal Value by safeguarding and enhancing its exceptional historic environment. This underpins a confident and thriving capital city centre, its communities, and its cultural and economic life.

### **2.2 Aims of the Management Plan**

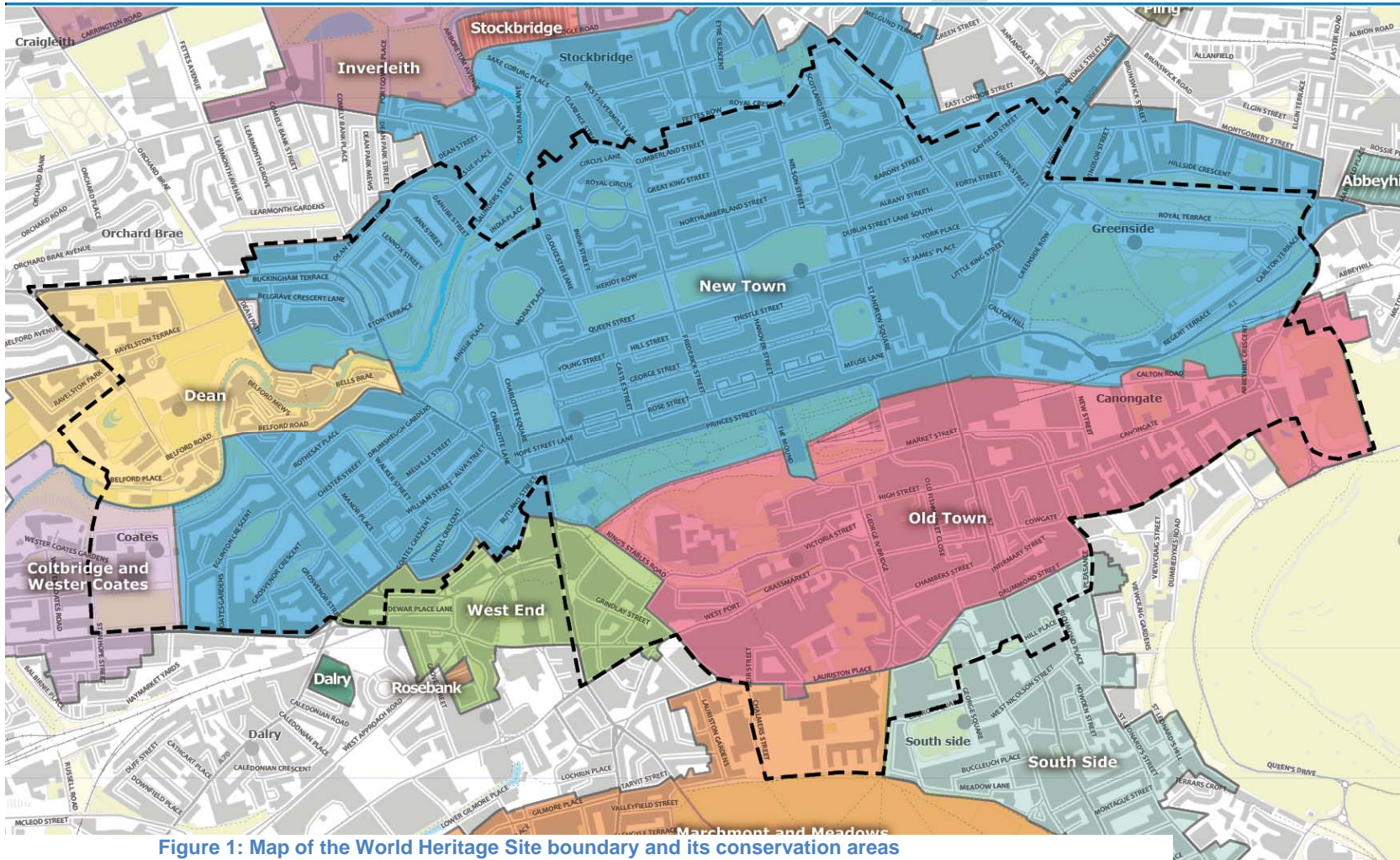
The main aims of the Management Plans are to:

1. Promote a sustainable approach that integrates conservation with the needs of all communities and visitors to the site
2. Build and maintain strong partnerships between local, regional and national organisations to help deliver the actions of the plan
3. Interpret and present the history and significance of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh to the highest quality and promote equality of opportunity to access and enjoyment
4. Ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the Site and its setting is understood, protected and sustained



## CHAPTER 3: Key information about the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site

### 3.1 Location



The Old and New Towns are located in Lothian on the Firth of Forth's southern shore. It is Scotland's second most populous city.

At its greatest extent the Site is about 2 kilometres long from east to west and 1.5 kilometres wide, north to south, giving a total area of some 4.5 km<sup>2</sup>.

### 3.2 Key facts (graphics to be added)

- UNESCO inscribed the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh as a World Heritage Site in 1995.
- The inscription recognised the striking contrast and quality in architecture between the medieval Old Town and the Georgian New Town. The medieval Old Town has retained its distinctive pattern of narrow passageways, known as closes and wynds. The New Town, first designed in 1767, is the largest and best preserved example of Georgian town planning in the United Kingdom.
- Edinburgh is built on an extraordinary landscape of hills and valleys, formed millions of years ago by volcanoes and ice sheets. Together these factors have created a truly distinctive skyline and stunning views which are recognised around the world.
- The Site contains nearly 4,500 individual buildings, of which over 75% are listed for their special architectural or historic interest.
- The Site also contains Scheduled Monuments, the best known being Edinburgh Castle.
- The Site has retained its historic urban form and character to a remarkable extent.
- The Site 'represents a remarkable blend of two urban phenomena: the organic medieval growth of the Old Town and the eighteenth and nineteenth century town planning of the New Town'.
- In the New Town, the integrity of the street layout is a key defining factor in its character. In the Old Town the 'spine and ribs' pattern of the High Street and its closes and wynds maintains the medieval street pattern.
- The Old Town was overlaid in the nineteenth century by wide streets as a result of the City Improvement Acts.
- There are many open spaces and graveyards throughout the Site.
- The Old Town contains two twelfth century burghs with two early royal palaces (one within the castle), a medieval abbey, and a wealth of early buildings.
- The New Town contains a high concentration of remarkably intact world-class neo-classical buildings
- The Site contains the dramatic river valley of the Water of Leith. The valley includes the original mill settlements of Bell's Mill, the village of Dean and part of Stockbridge.

### 3.3 Key figures



Figure 2: Key figures of the World Heritage Site



Figure 3: Impact to date of the World Heritage Site status

Listed buildings and designated assets

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>A listed buildings*</b>	656	656	656	656	655	655	654	653	654
<b>B listed buildings**</b>	863	864	863	863	864	863	864	867	865
<b>C listed buildings*</b>	157	156	157	157	157	156	157	156	156
<b>Total for the World Heritage Site</b>	1676	1676	1676	1676	1676	1674	1675	1676	1675

Source: Previous monitoring reports

<b>Scheduled ancient monuments</b>	8	Edinburgh Abbey Strand Edinburgh Castle Edinburgh, Palace of Holyroodhouse Edinburgh Town Wall- Flodden Wall and Telfer Wall-Heriot Place Edinburgh Town Wall, Drummond Street to Pleasance Edinburgh Town Wall, Johnston Terrace to Grassmarket Holyrood Abbey and Palace Gardens
<b>Designed landscapes</b>	2	New Town Gardens, Palace of Holyrood House
<b>Conservation areas</b>	7	Coltbridge and Wester Coates (part), Dean (part), Marchmont, Meadows and Bruntsfield (part), New Town (part), Old Town (part) South Side (part)

Source: Previous monitoring reports

### 3.4 The statement of Outstanding Universal Value

(Pictures to be added)

#### Introduction to the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV):

The SOUV for the World Heritage Site is explained fully in the nomination document for the Site.

This document is used in the assessment of development proposals within the Site. Development proposals must be considered in terms of whether or not they would add to or detract from the ability to understand and appreciate what makes the Site special.

#### Brief synthesis of the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

The remarkable juxtaposition of two clearly articulated urban planning phenomena. The contrast between the organic medieval Old Town and the planned Georgian New Town provides a clarity of urban structure unrivalled in Europe. The juxtaposition of these two distinctive townscapes, each of exceptional historic and architectural interest, which are linked across the landscape divide, the "great arena" of Sir Walter Scott's Waverley Valley, by the urban viaduct, North Bridge, and by the Mound, creates the outstanding urban landscape.

The Old Town stretches along a high ridge from the Castle on its dramatically situated rock down to the Palace of Holyrood. Its form reflects the burgh plots of the Canongate, founded as an "abbatial burgh" dependent on the Abbey of Holyrood, and the national tradition of building tall on the narrow "tofts" or plots separated by lanes or "closes" which created some of the world's tallest buildings of their age, the dramatic, robust, and distinctive tenement buildings. It contains many 16th and 17th century merchants' and nobles' houses such as the early 17th century restored mansion house of Gladstone's Land which rises to six storeys, and important early public buildings such as the Canongate Tolbooth and St Giles' Cathedral.

The Old Town is characterised by the survival of the little-altered medieval "fishbone" street pattern of narrow closes, wynds, and courts leading off the spine formed by the High Street, the broadest, longest street in the Old Town, with a sense of enclosed space derived from its width, the height of the buildings lining it, and the small scale of any breaks between them.

The New Town, constructed between 1767 and 1890 as a collection of seven new towns on the glacial plain to the north of the Old Town, is framed and articulated by an uncommonly high concentration of planned ensembles of ashlar-faced, world-class, neo-classical buildings, associated with renowned architects, including John and Robert Adam, Sir William Chambers, and William Playfair. Contained and integrated with the townscape are gardens, designed to take full advantage of the topography, while forming an extensive system of private and public open spaces. The New Town is integrated with large green spaces. It covers a very large area, is consistent to an unrivalled degree, and survives virtually intact.

Some of the finest public and commercial monuments of the neo-classical revival in Europe survive in the city, reflecting its continuing status as the capital of Scotland since 1437, and a major centre of thought and learning in the 18th century Age of Enlightenment, with its close cultural and political links with mainland Europe.

The successive planned extensions from the first New Town, and the high quality of the architecture, set standards for Scotland and beyond, and exerted a major influence on the development of urban architecture and town planning throughout Europe.

The dramatic topography of the Old Town combined with the planned alignments of key buildings in both the Old and the New Town, results in spectacular views and panoramas and an iconic skyline.

The renewal and revival of the Old Town in the late 19th century, and the adaptation of the distinctive Baronial style of building for use in an urban environment, influenced the development of conservation policies for urban environments.

Edinburgh retains most of its significant buildings and spaces in better condition than most other historic cities of comparable value.

### **3.5 Safeguard of the Outstanding Universal Value (Pictures to be added)**

Edinburgh has a thriving, living city centre, important for tourism, retail, business and government as well as having a large residential population. The city's strong economy has resulted in a number of major development proposals. This means the values for which it was inscribed as a World Heritage Site encourage businesses to make Edinburgh their base.

The City of Edinburgh Council actively promotes the city as a destination for national and international investment.

Balancing the needs of the city to maintain its economic vibrancy and the need to protect the heritage is essential for both. The relationship between OUV and economic success needs to be protected, developed and celebrated.

The challenge is to ensure that development takes appropriate account of the unique qualities of the Site (i.e. the OUV). Care and attention is required to ensure that any change preserves and enhances the OUV.

This Plan is a tool for influencing the development process in order to ensure that the OUV of the Site and its setting are understood, protected and sustained.

Large scale developments may have an impact on OUV. Similarly, small scale changes may also have an impact on OUV. Regardless of scale, the cumulative impact of development must be managed in such a way that the significance of the Site remains understood.

Developers are expected [to assess](#) the impact of proposals on the OUV.

A planning protocol has been agreed by the partners to enable a collaborative response to the impact of development on the World Heritage Site early in the planning process.

#### International scrutiny on the safeguarding of OUV

State Parties for World Heritage Sites are bound by the Operational Guidelines to monitor the State of Conservation of a Site. State Parties are expected to inform UNESCO of their intention to authorise or undertake any major restorations or constructions which may affect the OUV of the World Heritage Site. This is known as Reactive Monitoring. Its purpose is to allow UNESCO's World Heritage Committee to assist in seeking appropriate solutions to ensure that OUV is fully preserved. UNESCO may also request a [State Of Conservation Report](#) from the State Party for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its annual session. Decisions by the World Heritage Committee will normally include recommendations and requests for specific actions to be

undertaken to address threats to OUV. The World Heritage Committee may decide to place the WHS on the World Heritage in Danger list if it feels that the threat to OUV is sufficient to warrant this.

Once a site is on the World Heritage in Danger list, it can take many years of action to address UNESCO's concerns before the World Heritage Committee can decide that the threat to OUV has been reduced sufficiently for the site to be removed from the World Heritage in Danger list. If UNESCO's concerns about threats to OUV remain unaddressed for a prolonged period, the World Heritage Committee may eventually decide to remove the WHS from the list of inscribed sites.

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## **Introduction**

World Heritage Site designation is a celebration of heritage that is already preserved.

The designation should facilitate the delivery of the highest quality of environment.

Sustaining a living capital city centre is a balance between protecting the environment, strengthening society, supporting a vibrant cultural scene. It should allow uses to evolve and provide for places to live and work (and access to them), without damaging the outstanding universal value of the Site. However, the OUV of the WHS will, at times, be challenged by activity that has the potential to adversely impact on the unique qualities of the Site.

This chapter presents actions for the next five years to help sustain this balance. The management partners now have over 20 years of experience in understanding the challenges that an urban World Heritage Site faces.

The online public consultation undertaken in July 2016 has informed the issues taken forward in this chapter as have the discussions at the oversight group workshops, and the feedback from awareness raising events in 2015 and 2016.

The online public consultation used the Place Standard [methodology](#). It consists of 14 questions which cover both the physical and social elements of a place. The questions were tailored to reflect the World Heritage issues.

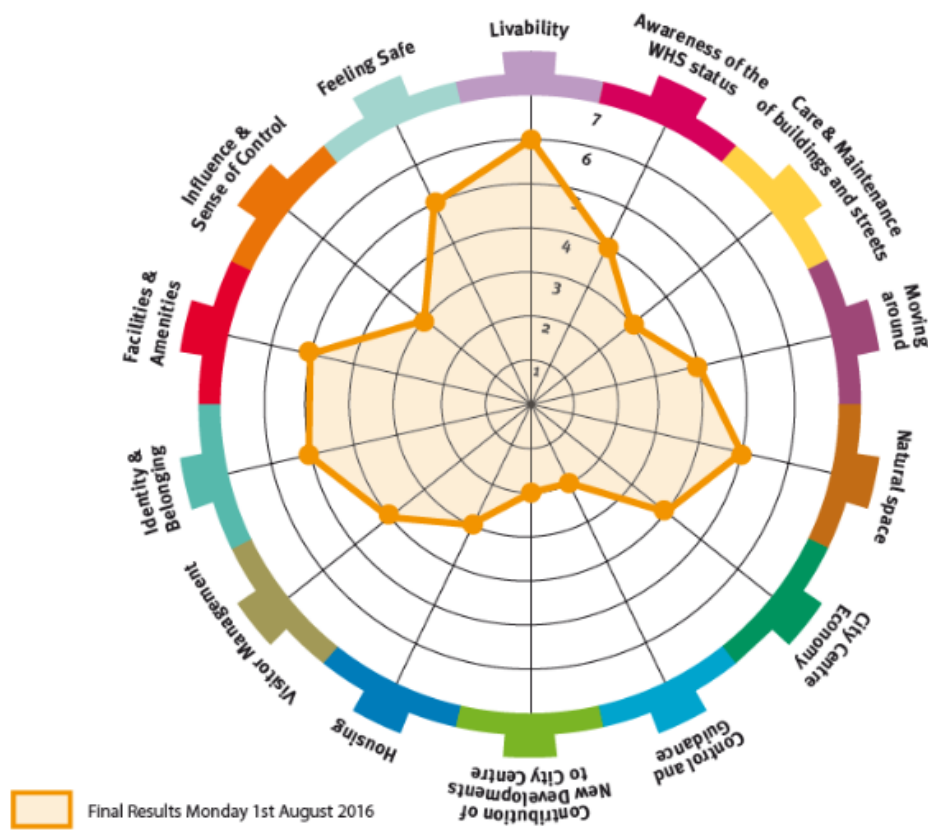


Figure 4: Online public consultation

Members of the public were asked to rate the 14 themes of the Place Standard. The action plan seeks to address the issues that scored the lowest on the “wheel”.

Those six themes are:

- Care and maintenance of buildings and streets
- Control and Guidance
- Awareness of World Heritage Site status
- Contribution of new development to city centre
- Visitor Management
- Influence and sense of control

The remaining themes are not disregarded. The management partners are working with other city stakeholders to ensure the concerns are addressed by other strategies.

### **Care and maintenance of buildings and streets**



Overarching objective:

To ensure ongoing investment in the conservation of the Site

When asked to think about the level of care and maintenance of buildings and streets, residents felt that there is still a lot to be done, namely:

- Improve street surfaces such as setts and general littering
- Difficulty to get agreement from multiple owners to carry out common repairs which gets in the way of preventive conservation
- Too much street clutter
- Over-commercialisation of public spaces (e.g Princes Street Gardens, St Andrew Square)
- Need for stricter rules about shops spilling out on the street
- Need for more reuse of derelict buildings

The following actions seek to address these issues:

## Grants

Edinburgh retains most of its significant buildings and spaces in better condition than most other historic cities of comparable value. More than 350 applicants received a grant in the lifetime of the previous management plan. Steps should be taken to make the **process more transparent and accessible**. **Raising awareness of quality craftsmanship and traditional skills is also crucial, alongside understanding the predominant building stock and its specific challenges.**

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Grants	1	Raise awareness on the availability of grants and on other services needed to do the work. Publish list of buildings that have received grants	EWH Lead	Short Term
	2	Indicate the priorities for grants Ensure a joined up approach to deliver grants program	EWH Lead	Short Term

## Research & Best Practice

The management of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site is considered as an **example of best practice internationally**. People come from all over the world to research our practices. **Research needs to be sustained** to keep the management of the Site current and relevant to global trends.

This applies to archaeology for example as every time there is a significant development in the Old Town, there is **potential for undiscovered archaeology**. There is a continual programme of fieldwork and **research should be made accessible**.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Research & Best Practice	3	Support and inform a research agenda which reflects and develops best practice in World Heritage management. Publish work and participate in national and international events	EWH Lead	Mid Term
	4	Direct people to where archaeology research findings are published- Create map of the key discoveries	CEC, HES Lead	Mid Term

Treatment of public space and public realm

The spaces between buildings, known as the “**public realm**” make an essential contribution to the OUV of the Site. This plan must provide the context to **support the existing guidance**.

City life happens in the spaces between the buildings. There is a **high demand for public space use** all year round. There needs to be a balance of use and **greater transparency on decisions about the events and activities** that take place in them.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Treatment of public space and public realm	5	Raise awareness on the contribution that public realm makes to the Site and embed the understanding of the Conservation Areas Character Appraisals in decision making	EWH Lead	Mid Term
	6	Advocate the use of the Street Design guidance and other relevant public realm guidance (lighting, advertising)	CEC Lead	Mid Term
	7	Develop guidance on appropriate use of public spaces	CEC Lead	Mid Term

Sustainable re-use of underused and unused buildings

**Underused and unused buildings can be a burden for their owners yet they may present an untapped resource for conversions or temporary use.** Securing temporary uses, where appropriate, for underused and unused should become a priority.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Sustainable re-use of underused and unused buildings	8	Support maintenance of Buildings at Risk Register (BARR) and encourage the sustainable re-use of underused and unused buildings	HES, CEC, EWH	Mid Term
	9	Advocate for creative temporary solutions which encourage bringing buildings back into active use	CEC and HES Lead	Mid Term

Climate change and sustainability

**Achieving sustainable development is a major goal for Edinburgh as a whole.** The city is working on reducing carbon emissions through better use and generation of energy. The Management Plan must contribute to the climate change agenda

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Climate change and sustainability	10	Extend the energy efficiency programme with the aim of increasing energy efficiency in historic buildings	EWH and HES Lead	Mid Term
	11	Encourage walking and cycling within the WHS through actions outlined in the Active Travel Action Plan	CEC Lead	Mid Term
	12	Monitor air quality in the WHS	CEC Lead	Mid Term

## Control and Guidance



Objective: to improve tools to sustain Outstanding Universal Value

When asked to think about the level of control and guidance, the consultation feedback stated that the enforcement of planning laws was critical for maintaining the quality of the WHS, namely:

- Need for greater guidance for property owners
- Concern about the importance given to existing guidance that protects the site
- Need for guidance outwith the site boundaries
- More protection needs to be given to the skyline
- Suggestion of using an independent panel involving professionals to advise on developments

The following actions seek to address these issues:

### Planning process

Managing change is a key priority for the Management Plan. To ensure that the OUV is safeguarded, the Management partners must retain an overview of all the systems in place to make this happen.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Planning process	13	Ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS is taken into account in planning decisions and other relevant consents as material consideration	HES, CEC, EWH	Short Term
	14	Review the conservation area character appraisal to ensure up to date information about the unique qualities of the area	CEC Lead	Mid Term

### Interpretation and engagement

It is the management partner’s responsibility to guarantee that **all stakeholders understand the context** to allow respectful change in line with the character of the area. Where harmful change occurs, the management partners have a responsibility to make it clear that it is not acceptable.

There is **advice and support for owners** of historic homes in maintaining their building. It is essential that this advice **is pulled together** so that the **owners can navigate through and find what they need**.

	<b>Action</b>		<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Interpretation and engagement	15	Contribute to understanding of decision making by raising awareness around actions and planning decisions taken in the WHS	HES, CEC, EWH	Short Term/continuous
	16	Audit of guidance available to owners in the WHS to identify gaps	HES, CEC, EWH	Mid Term
	17	Understand the user journey for owners and connect to the appropriate guidance	HES, CEC, EWH	Mid Term

Advocacy

The city is a dynamic, thriving capital city. It will evolve overtime with **new trends**. The management partners must ensure that it **participate in changes and influence** in such a way that it supports OUV.

The management partners will also need to advocate for the maintenance of traditional skills. Historic buildings need a variety of crafts for their repair and conservation, from stonemasonry to metalwork, joinery to slating. With over 75% of all the buildings within Edinburgh’s World Heritage Site being listed, **maintaining** these **traditional skills** is vital to the conservation of the city’s built heritage.

	<b>Action</b>		<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Advocacy	18	Integrate WH values in city-wide decision making about the future of the city	HES, CEC, EWH	Short Term
	19	Promote and create opportunities for traditional skills events and advocate for the use of accredited craftsmen	EWH Lead	Mid Term

**Awareness of World Heritage Site Status**





Overarching objective: To coordinate the actions to ensure a broad level of understanding of the WHS

When asked to think about the level of awareness of WHS status, the consultation feedback stated that the concept of WHS status was known but there not properly understood, namely:

- Uncertainty over where the boundaries of the site are
- Strong sense that more could be done to promote the World Heritage Site status
- Better signage with information on the history and significance of the site
- Need for information on the benefits the status brings in terms of funding and additional protection measures

Interpretation and engagement

**Awareness** of the World Heritage Site and its Outstanding Universal Value **varies through the city, its communities and its visitors**. Based on the consultation results, the qualities that make the Site unique - of “outstanding value” – appear to be unclear. Yet, to ensure that we all look after the World Heritage Site as best as we can, the **OUV needs to be clearly understood** by stakeholders and members of the public.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Interpretation and engagement	20	Clarify the qualities that make the WHS of Outstanding Universal Value and use as a tool to inform the understanding of the WHS	CEC Lead	Short Term
	21	Produce a programme of themed events for residents and visitors	EWH Lead	Short Term

## Communication

The **work done under the World Heritage banner is exceptional**. Achievements include innovative collaborative projects for the public realm, providing grants for buildings in need of repair and sharing expertise internationally. This **work** should be **more widely promoted**.

The number of stakeholders, collaborators and the different groups working under this banner is so widespread that the message can get diluted. It is recognised that to address this we must continue to **work together and communicate on what we do**.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Communication	22	Publicise and crosspromote actions taken around the condition of the WHS	HES, CEC, EWH	Short Term
	23	Establish strategy for interpretation of the Site, with potential for digital interpretation	HES, CEC, EWH	Mid Term

## Contribution of New Developments

### Contribution of New Developments to City Centre



Overarching objective: To ensure that development embraces the context of the WHS and is of the highest quality in terms of architecture, design and materials

When asked to think about recent new developments, the consultation feedback stated that respondents are seeking more innovative architecture and better quality materials that is respectful of the Old Town and New Town's architectural context, namely:

- Need for better standards of architecture for new developments
- New developments are not seen to be in keeping with the Old and New Towns architectural context
- Need for top quality materials
- How to ensure economic development and preservation of historic environment coexist?

#### Planning process

Management partners have a role in raising awareness on how interventions can contribute to the Site's authenticity. Management partners also have a role in reflecting and interpreting the particular quality of its surroundings, responding to and reinforcing distinctive patterns of development, townscape, views, landscape, scale, materials and quality of the World Heritage Site. It is the management partner's role to **make sure these qualities (i.e the OUV) continue to be taken into account.**

The World Heritage Site's skyline and setting are vulnerable to unsympathetic development. The city's topography and visual characteristics (landmarks, townscape characteristics) create a uniquely visible landscape setting for the city. A majority of **key views** from the 'Skyline Study' cut across the World Heritage Site; their **protection is essential** to the protection of the historic environment.

		Action	Delivery Partner	Review
Planning process	24	Clarify the qualities that make the WHS of Outstanding Universal Value and produce guidance on their use in the planning process	HES, CEC, EWH	Long Term
	25	Develop a programme of training events and engagement to provide clarity on the unique context of the WHS	HES, CEC, EWH	Short Term
	26	Advocate the importance of the skyline study and provide guidance on its use	CEC Lead	Mid Term

Informing design quality

The vast majority of building stock in the World Heritage Site is constructed in local sandstone under pitched roofs and covered with Scots slate. **New materials should have the quality and integrity that befits this special context**, and detailing should be carefully considered to ensure their long term visual success. Management partners have a role in **raising awareness** on how **interventions can contribute to the Site's authenticity**.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Informing design quality	27	Produce research on appropriate materials for the WHS to inform guidance	HES, CEC, EWH	Mid Term

Influencing new development

Development within the World Heritage Site is expected and welcomed. The management partners must **influence the creation of the structure in which this change can happen**.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Influencing new development	28	Support and inform a research agenda on appropriate economic development which develops best practice in World Heritage management	HES, CEC, EWH	Long Term
	29	Define and share a standard of development in the WHS	CEC Lead	Long Term
	30	Produce place briefs for vacant sites in the WHS	CEC Lead	Long Term

## Visitor Management



Overarching objective: To advocate for sustainable tourism within the WHS and the city

When asked to think about the impact of tourism and visitor management, the consultation feedback stated that a sustainable balance is sought between resident and visitor needs, namely:

- How to deal with the concentration and volume of visitors on the Royal Mile
- Need for more informative street signage
- Better balance between tourist shops and shops for those who live and work in the area.

		Action	Delivery Partner	Review
Interpretation and engagement	31	Explain the value of WH to tourism industry and business community	HES, CEC, EWH	Mid Term

## Operational Management

The cleanliness of streets and spaces contributes to people's sense of pride and ownership of the city. It also creates the impression that visitors take home with them. It is vital that the management partners **support** the **systems in place** to ensure that standards are maintained even during peak visitor times.

		Action	Delivery Partner	Review
Operational management	33	Encourage street cleanliness through actions outlined in the Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan	CEC Lead	Mid Term
	34	Develop a supplementary guidance to support the mix of uses and a diverse social mix in the city centre	HES, CEC, EWH	Long Term

Research and Best Practice: Mix of uses and diverse social mix

The livability of the World Heritage Site is at the core of the OUV. Market forces dictate what types of activity are proposed and the planning system and other regulatory functions determines what happens where. The management partner's role is to **help the policy makers understand the impact of these market trends on quality of life** in the city.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Research & Best Practice	32	Understand what sustainable tourism is and promote best practice	CEC Lead	Mid Term

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## Influence and sense of control



Overarching objective: To sustain effective partnerships that support the management of the WHS

When asked to think about the sense of influence and control, the consultation feedback stated that there is no clear line of sight between feedback and action on the ground, namely:

- Consultations need to be more widely advertised to attract feedback from more people
- Confusion over why planning application decisions get overturned by councillors against the recommendation from the council officers and advisory bodies
- What is done with the comments received from the public- how are they taken into account?

### Partnership working

The Management Plan's success will be dependent upon **careful co-ordination of partner organisations** to ensure that collective effort is possible and resources are used to best effect. The management partners must convey the importance of the WHS to the right people involved in the delivery of actions to safeguard its OUV. This includes **communicating with all sectors**; tourism, economy and local government.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Partnership working	35	Promote a more active role for stakeholders to help deliver the management of the WHS	HES, CEC, EWH	Mid Term
	36	Develop a programme to engage and involve businesses in the management of the WHS	HES, CEC, EWH	Long Term
	37	Involve relevant delivery partners to monitor the progress in the management of the site	HES, CEC, EWH	Short Term

Advocacy and communication

The Management Plan's success will depend upon people giving up their time to tell us what they think. In return, it is the management partner's responsibility to clearly show the importance of the impact of this participation.

		<b>Action</b>	<b>Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Review</b>
Advocacy	38	Audit of the available information that assists the implementation of the management of the WHS to inform a research agenda	HES, CEC, EWH	Mid Term
Communication	39	Consult widely and provide clarity on how decisions were reached. Follow through with the consultations, be accountable for: (You said, we did)	CEC Lead	Short Term

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## 4.2 Other challenges- A way forward

Six key themes have been the focus of our attention, under the following headings:

1. Care and maintenance of buildings and streets
2. Control and Guidance
3. Awareness of World Heritage Site status
4. Contribution of new developments to the city centre
5. Visitor Management
6. Influence and sense of control

However, because the management plan is not a generic city plan, there are inevitably issues raised which are not directly related to the Outstanding Universal Value of the site and best addressed by other strategies. The Locality Improvement Plan for example, brings together local people, elected members and services to work to make the city centre area of Edinburgh (also the World Heritage Site) a better place.

The Locality Improvement Plan and the World Heritage Site Management Plan share common aspirations and will complement each other in managing the complex range of issues facing the city centre and thus, the World Heritage Site.

The Locality Improvement Plan defines the following five key themes:

- Making it easier to get around the city centre
- Enhancing the citycentre as a living community
- Working together for a clean and green city centre
- Supporting citycentre economy
- Helping people feel safer in the city centre

The eight remaining themes from the consultation that have not been discussed in detail, have been fed into the Locality Improvement Plan

*More engaging and intuitive table to come to explain the synergies and how issues will fit in the LIP*

Locality Improvement Plan theme	Theme from WHS MP consultation	Feedback
Making it easier to get around the city centre	Moving Around	Need for better cycling provision in the citycentre Need for more pedestrianisation in the citycentre
Enhancing the citycentre as a living community	Facilities and amenities	Need for more public toilets and water fountains, Concern over GP provision in certain areas
	Livability	Can the city aim to be more sustainable, cleaner and more respectful of the community needs?
	Identity and belonging	How to balance competing needs between residents and visitors?

Working together for a clean and green city centre	Natural Space	More to be done to keep public squares as publicly accessible open spaces
Supporting citycentre economy	Citycentre economy	Need for more shopfront improvement? How to ensure local community benefits from tourism? How to support local entrepreneurs and businesses in the area?
Helping people feel safer in the city centre	Feeling safe	Need for additional lighting in parks and smaller alleyways Need to reduce the speed of cars in certain parts of the Old and New Towns

All of the consultation results that relate to other strategies are being fed back into the relevant contacts in the same way.

Housing is possibly one of the most contentious issues that were consulted on. Whilst the concerns surrounding this issue are striking, it goes beyond the remit of this plan and the Locality Improvement Plan and is a citywide/ city region issue that has been at the forefront of shaping the Local Development Plan.

## 5.1 Implementation

This plan contains 6 objectives and 38 actions, fewer actions than in the previous plan. This is not to say that the scale of ambition has reduced. The intent in this action plan is to focus on fewer projects which can realistically be delivered.

Some actions will be short term and “easy wins” such as Action 14 and Action 25.



- Action 14: “Review and update the Conservation Areas Character Appraisals to ensure up to date information about the unique qualities of the area”

The process of reviewing both Old and New Town Conservation Areas Character Appraisals commenced in parallel with the management plan review because these documents are crucial to an understanding of the unique characteristics of the World Heritage Site.

Contribution of New Developments to City Centre



- Action 25: “Develop a programme of training events and engagement to provide clarity on the unique context of the WHS”

The management partners are already working on a programme of training events and engagement. This will include lectures, continuing professional development activities and events for children and families.

However, other actions will require the formation of new partnerships and will take longer to achieve.

Contribution of New Developments to City Centre



- Action 24: “Clarify the qualities that make the WHS of Outstanding Universal Value and produce guidance on their use in the planning process”

The discussion around this is underway. A draft table of the unique qualities of the World Heritage Site has already been produced and feedback was sought from some of its end users, officers dealing with planning application in the World Heritage Site. Similar methods have already been tried and tested in Bath and Stonehenge. Achieving this action will have untold value in articulating the Site’s OUV on a number of levels; from basic understanding (school children, visitors, members of the public) through to informing the development process (for politicians, planning committee, planners, architects, developers and other stakeholders) by setting a baseline for contextual developments.

Actions will be delivered by a wide range of partners, both Steering Group members themselves and others. The Action Plan may be updated as necessary during the plan period.

## 5.2 Monitoring

Monitoring of achievement against plan actions will be undertaken once a year with reports presented to the Steering Group. Key messages will also be presented to the community councils in the World Heritage Site (Old Town, New Town, West End, the three main community councils within the site).

### State of conservation report

A responsibility of inscription as a World Heritage Site is to monitor the state of conservation of the World Heritage Site. The [last periodic report](#) was completed in 2013, the next one is due in 2018.

### Monitoring report

There are six consecutive biennial monitoring reports. The next one will cover 2015 to 2017. This is very helpful exercise as it provides an evaluation of the condition of the site over time.

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# APPENDICES

## *A. The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site*

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### **A.1 Description of the Site**

**Pictures to be added throughout**

#### Topography

The City of Edinburgh possesses one of the most spectacular urban landscapes in the world. Its dramatically varied terrain rests on a complicated geological pattern of sediments, extinct volcanoes, lava flows and igneous intrusions. This pattern has been emphasised by the differential weathering of hard and soft rocks.

The city's topography is central to the character of the Site. It shaped the city's spectacular townscape and creates the dramatic views into, out of, and through the Site, including the key views out to the 'mountain' of Arthur's Seat; down to the Firth of Forth (the River Forth estuary); towards the green slopes within the city; to open countryside up to 30 kilometres beyond; and to views down from high vantage points onto roofscapes and open spaces.

Within the Site the landforms created the setting for the dramatic juxtaposition of the Old and New Towns across the green valley of Princes Street Gardens (the drained Nor' Loch). The Castle Rock and its geological 'tail' provided the perfect location for the original settlement of the medieval planned Burgh, shaping its subsequent development pattern of narrow property holdings on a single main street. Its steep, rocky slopes also ensured that a highly visible 'island' of natural landscape has been retained in the heart of the Site.

#### Archaeology

Edinburgh's World Heritage Site, particularly the Old Town, is an area of high archaeological significance and potential, containing a range of nationally important scheduled monuments and extensive areas of well-preserved archaeological deposits. The area was analysed in 1981 as part of the Scottish Burgh Survey (Turner et al. 1981).

Archaeological excavations have shown that Edinburgh's origins extend back into prehistory.

Edinburgh's Castle Rock was fortified from the late Bronze Age (around 900 BC) and is arguably the longest continuously occupied site in Scotland.

By the eleventh century, settlement had almost certainly begun to develop along the rocky ridge that later became the Royal Mile.

Every time there is a significant development in the Old Town, there is potential for undiscovered archaeology.

#### Architectural History

Edinburgh's architecture and its historical importance set it apart from most other cities of the world. The particular nature of Edinburgh's duality is unusual: on the one hand, on a high ridge is the ancient Old Town, while in contrast lying below and to the north, is the eighteenth and

nineteenth century New Town (the name 'New Town' applies to the whole area developed in classical style between the 1760s and the 1870s).

### The Old Town

The Old Town contains two planned twelfth century burghs with two early royal palaces (one within the Castle), a medieval abbey, and a wealth of early buildings. The tradition of building taller was regulated and limited to five storeys on main streets through by-laws in the seventeenth century but the tendency was predominantly vertical and the sloping nature of the Site allowed for the creation of tenements that must have been the world's tallest buildings of their age, some of them still to be seen.

The Old Town grew along the wide main street (the Royal Mile) stretching from the Castle on its rock through the Canongate to the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Edinburgh Castle dominates: a medieval military fortress extended as a Royal Palace within a square in Renaissance times but later re-classified as an army barracks and hugely extended as such from the mid eighteenth century. Of special interest are the twelfth century St Margaret's Chapel and the Great Hall of 1500. At the other end of the Royal Mile are Holyrood Abbey and the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Along the Royal Mile is an array of architecturally and historically outstanding buildings. The Parliament House and High Court of Justiciary complex comprise the two-storey T-plan Parliament House, a key building of the Scottish Renaissance by Sir James Murray of Kilbaberton (1632-39) with neo-classical additions and extensions as a court of justice complex by Sir Robert Reid and others in the earlier nineteenth century. The City Chambers (formerly a multi-use complex with the Royal Exchange at its core and from 1811 the headquarters of the city council) on the High Street are the work of John and Robert Adam (1753); the plan is that of a private square protected from the Street by a single-storey rusticated screen. The Canongate Tolbooth c.1590 is identified by its powerful turreted steeple. Other notable public buildings within the Old Town include George Heriot's School (1628-60), built in the area 'outside' the town enclosed by the contemporary Telfer Wall, Surgeons' Hall (1829-32, Playfair), and the Old College of the University (1815-27, Robert Adam, completed by Playfair).

By the early seventeenth century, much of the wealth of the Scottish nation had come into the hands of the Edinburgh merchant elite, which resulted in considerable new building. The nobility also built high-quality town houses and all this activity came under the strict control of the municipal authorities. The heyday of the Old Town was the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

From the 1790s and especially after the development of the New Town, a slow social and economic decline began. During the later nineteenth century, the withdrawal of the middle classes from the Old Town began to be seen as a problem. In 1892 Sir Patrick Geddes proposed that the Old Town should be 'regenerated' by attracting back to it the university, the bourgeoisie, and the intelligentsia. The value of the pioneering efforts of Geddes in early restoration and new build housing infill, especially along the Royal Mile, was substantial both in terms of conservation and in maintaining the residential population of the area. These are exemplified at the theatrical red-roofed and half-timbered Ramsay Garden which was intended to reflect the character of the medieval town. Sir Patrick Geddes was also active in establishing community gardens or pocket parks in the Old Town during the early part of the 20th century. As part of his Civic Survey of Edinburgh in 1909, 75 open spaces in the Old Town were identified as having potential for community gardens. By 1911, nine of the gardens were 'in working order'. They are now represented by: Advocate's Close; the Patrick Geddes Memorial Garden on the south side of the

West Port and the Scottish Wildlife Trust Garden which occupies a prominent position on the south side of Johnston Terrace, adjoining the Patrick Geddes Steps and the former Castlecliff Workshops.

### The New Town

The New Town is important for two main reasons: its high concentration of world-class neoclassical buildings and the sheer extent of the area covered with classical ashlar- faced (highly finished stone) architecture, all consistent to a degree without parallel and, perhaps crucially, all now surviving remarkably intact.

The New Town consists of seven successive major developments, each different from, but closely related to, its predecessors, built in a continuous programme of construction from 1767, arguably until as late as 1890.

The First New Town originated in proposals published by Lord Provost Drummond in 1752. These were embodied in an Act of Parliament, which envisaged the development of the city's lands to the north of the Old Town, linked by an urban viaduct across the valley, the North Bridge. The rectangular layout of the first New Town was the competition-winning work of James Craig, redrawn in 1767 after consultation with John Adam. The second New Town followed from 1801, planned by Sir Robert Reid, and William Sibbald, and located to the north of the first, breaking away from the previous strictly rectangular plan by the incorporation of some curved terraces. The third New Town, the work of Robert Brown from 1813 onwards, essentially continues the approach of its predecessors.

The pattern of terraces and crescents changed with the fourth New Town, planned by William Henry Playfair. Instead of imposing a grid-iron upon the landscape, the buildings exploit the contours, view and trees of Calton Hill in a romantic manner. The fifth New Town, built from 1822 on the lands of the Earl of Moray to designs by James Gillespie Graham, cleverly links the first three New Towns as a unified scheme. It was intended as a self-contained enclave for aristocrats and professional gentry. The sixth New Town followed in the 1850s on Lord Provost Learmonth's Dean Estate, to the north of the Water of Leith, linked since 1831-32 by a spectacular bridge designed by Thomas Telford. The seventh and final New Town brought the hitherto detached Raeburn estate together with the rest, but building continued well into the later nineteenth century within the generally established precepts of the New Town ideal. Although the original idea was that the New Town should be a purely residential suburb, it rapidly proved to be attractive to business and government; drawing this element of the city away from the Old Town.

Most noteworthy for its planned ensembles rather than its individual buildings, the New Town has, however, a number of notable public buildings, including Register House (1774, Robert Adam), the Royal Scottish Academy (1822-36, W H Playfair), and the Royal High School (1829, Thomas Hamilton). The New Town was to become the location for some of the finest public and commercial monuments of the neo-classical revival in Europe.

Monuments symbolic of Scotland's past were grouped together on Calton Hill, in the aspiration to live up to the city's intellectual soubriquet, the 'Athens of the North'.

**Timeline to be added**

### Streetscape

Natural stone paving slabs, extensively used throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, have an uninterrupted smooth surface which complemented the design of buildings.

The slabs were laid with the same precision as the stone courses of adjacent buildings. Much of the remaining stone paving is carried through into private staircases, closes, and finally even into the hallways, kitchens, bathrooms and cellars of the dwellings themselves. Many of the setted streets in Edinburgh are now more than 150 years old and this represents a remarkable survival. Footways in the New Town were made from various materials, from the horonized paths of Drummond Place, made of slivers of spoil from stone working, to the Hailes-flagstoned pavements of Dundas Street. The Old Town was largely repaved in the nineteenth century with high-quality Carmyllie or Hailes flagstones.

What is now referred to as the 'public realm' was constructed to an extremely high standard in Edinburgh, although this quality was eroded to some extent in the second half of the last century. Carriageways, kerbs, pavements, footpaths, closes and wynds, boundary walls, railings, gatepiers, street signs, lamp posts, some historic bollards, and police boxes and other street furniture were either there from the beginning or were, for the most part, sensitively added as the materials became available or circumstances demanded an intervention.

Local residents' initiatives have also made a contribution. For example, in many streets in the New Town, residents have reinstated original railing-mounted streetlamps.

### Parks and Gardens

Edinburgh's parks and gardens are integral to the New Town's layout and architectural composition. In the Old Town the designed landscape at the Palace of Holyroodhouse covering the Palace Yard at Holyrood and the garden enclosed within the boundary wall were identified for their significance in Volume 5 of the first Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland (1987). The Old Town also contains gardens – early 'pocket parks' laid out by Sir Patrick Geddes – which are also significant for the part they played in the 'regeneration' of the Old Town and are essential in providing a pleasant environment.

Calton Hill is the most dominant 'designed' landscape within the Site due to its prominence and character. This nevercompleted project attracted complementary schemes of commemoration to focus on Calton Hill, including the Nelson Monument, the Burns Monument and the Playfair Monument.

The most significant of the many designed gardens in the Site is Princes Street Gardens, a green space planned like Queen Street Gardens to offer uninterrupted garden views to onesided streets at each edge of the first New Town. Protected from 1752 as a pleasure ground in the 'proposals' document, the gardens were formally opened in 1821. East Princes Street Gardens was re-designed in 1840 to receive the Sir Walter Scott Monument, one of a number of elaborate Gothic episodes planned within the geometric layout of the New Town. Overlaying its historical role as private pleasure ground, Princes Street Gardens has an important collection of monuments and statuary.

### Colour

The original stones of which the city was built were variations of yellow, which have now mellowed to grey. Edinburgh has, at certain times in its life, been colourful by modern standards. Windows have been painted white, green, brown and most other rich dark colours.



New Town railings were also painted in various vibrant shades. Venetian blinds and planted balconies added to the scene. At some point in its history, however, probably around the time of Lord Cockburn in the early nineteenth century, Edinburgh took on an architectural mantle of respectability, often severe. Ruskin noticed this, with dismay. A delayed architectural reaction came eventually in the form of Rowand Anderson's Gothic, red sandstone, National Portrait Gallery (1885-90), Well Court in Dean (1883) and, later in the Old Town, Geddes's white and red-walled, red-roofed, Ramsay Garden (1892-94) which re-visited the perceived architectural chaos and confusion of the medieval town. Along with colour in the later nineteenth century Old Town came an interest in the romantic architectural effects of self-consciously random rubble construction. Layers of harling or limewash were often stripped from existing buildings, or new buildings designed to conform to this aesthetic. The colour issue has ebbed and flowed ever since, but the epoch of New Town conservation brought a renewed interest in 'sanity' and simplicity in keeping with the principles of modernism. The post-modern period revived colour and picturesque outline, notably at Ian Begg's Scandic Crown Hotel (now the Radisson SAS) and Richard Murphy's neo-Geddesian infills in the Canongate and off the High Street.

### Materials

From 1674 even the most ordinary buildings were constructed of stone. The main formations used for building are the Upper Old Red Sandstone (Devonian) at Craigmillar, and the carboniferous system of the Craigeith, Ravelston, Hailes, Dunnet and Binny sandstones. The geological processes that formed Edinburgh's landscape also provided the materials for its buildings. Until the mid-nineteenth century the cost of imported building materials was prohibitive, and Edinburgh, situated amidst beds of local sandstone, used this high-quality local material as its main building and paving material. This, together with Scottish slate and the occasional use of high-quality imported stone, has contributed a vital ingredient to the essential character of the Site.

Looking at Rothiemay's famous 1647 map of Edinburgh we can see the important introduction of stone-fronted tenements which takes us to the very beginning of the use of stone in 'ordinary' dwellings. As early as 1550, the expatriate Scot Alexander Alesius wrote that Edinburgh's Royal Mile was 'lined with buildings not constructed from bricks, but natural and square stones, so that even private houses can be compared with great palaces'. What distinguishes Edinburgh from other European capitals is the consistent use of ashlar (dressed stone) in the 'show' parts of the facades: those parts of the building which are on public view. Only in a handful of early New Town houses was rubble-work, originally stuccoed to represent ashlar, adopted for front elevations.

Slate roofs also make an extremely important contribution to the Edinburgh townscape. Generally, roofs are finished in West Highland slate laid characteristically in random widths and diminishing courses with a deeply textured, uneven appearance. New Town roofs were not generally 'architectural' and were concealed behind a parapet in views from the street.

Nevertheless, the topography of the city is such that slate roofs become a dominant feature in distant views.

### Conservation

From at least the sixteenth century – early in a European context – building control was enforced through a key burgh figure, the Dean of Guild, whose role was crucial for the direction of future planning in Edinburgh. The Dean's Court controlled, among other matters, new buildings and the role was successively consolidated throughout the coming centuries. For example, as a precaution against fire, all roofs had to be of tile or slate from 1621, and in 1674 this was extended to building

facades, which had thenceforth to be of stone, although many timber-fronted examples survived well into the nineteenth century.

What was just as remarkable as the formal force of the grand plan for a new monumental city was the consistency with which it was carried out over the following decades, through increasingly restrictive development controls by the Town Council and the private landowners and trusts concerned. It was a unique formula, using Town Council speculation along with Dean of Guild and feuing restrictions imposed by private speculators to protect the amenity of successive developments and therefore their value.

After the Second World War, habitation in the Old Town continued to decline. A similar pattern, if much less pronounced, was evident in the New Town where the need for conservation and restoration was first recognised in the late 1960s. A survey carried out by the Edinburgh Architectural Association was followed by an international conference in 1970, the outcome of which was the establishment of the Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee.

The committee utilised Government and City Council aid to initiate a major programme of repair and rehabilitation. In 1980 the problems of the Old Town were again recognised by a small group of architects, resulting in the establishment of what was to become the Edinburgh Old Town Renewal Trust in 1985. In 1999 this organisation and the Edinburgh New Town Conservation Committee were merged to form the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust with a broad remit focused on the whole Site.

### Recent Development

Over many hundreds of years the Site has proved itself capable of adaptation to new uses and new ways of living. However a very important feature of the Site's cultural history has been its self-referential devotion to the idea of an ordered city where heritage has been highly valued. Edinburgh's deeply ingrained culture of conservation has created the conditions for the City's remarkable survival.

A considerable amount of development has taken place since the Site was inscribed. Most of the major changes which have taken place are measurable under the existing monitoring arrangements. However, the nature of the Site is such that often very small changes can have a considerable incremental effect on its character and archaeology. The Site has a complex, multi-layered and very detailed significance. This requires, simultaneously, an overview related to setting, infill and development and a close attention to minute details of building fabric, streetscape and landscape design.

## **A.2 Justification for inscription**

### **Pictures to be added throughout**

Inscription on the list as a cultural site requires one or more of six criteria measuring Outstanding Universal Value to be met.

The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh met two criteria (II), (IV)

Criterion (ii) – Have exerted great influence, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture, monumental arts, or town planning and landscape design.

The successive planned extensions of the New Town, and the high quality of its architecture, set standards for Scotland and beyond, and exerted a major influence on the development of urban architecture and town planning throughout Europe, in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Criterion (iv) - Be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.

The Old and New Towns together form a dramatic reflection of significant changes in European urban planning, from the inward looking, defensive walled medieval city of royal palaces, abbeys and organically developed burgh plots in the Old Town, through the expansive formal Enlightenment planning of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries in the New Town, to the 19<sup>th</sup> century rediscovery and revival of the Old Town with its adaptation of a distinctive Baronial style of architecture in an urban setting.

### **A.3 Integrity**

#### **Pictures to be added throughout**

It is the exceptional quality and contrast in architecture and streetscape between the medieval Old Town and the Georgian New Town and its scale – it covers 4<sup>1/2</sup> km<sup>2</sup> and over 75% of the building stock within the Site is listed for its architectural or historical importance which sets the baseline for gauging the integrity of the Site.

This clarity of the urban structure is what needs to be maintained to ensure integrity remains intact. The combination of the topography and the buildings upon it creates a spectacular urban landscape which is punctuated with church spires, steeples and monuments. The integrity of the Site is fragile as it relies on the legibility of the skyline. The cumulative effect of the mass, height, form, design and materials of a proposed development could potentially damage the skyline and surrounding townscape, impacting landmark buildings, features in the urban area, and the landscape setting of the city. Development that fails to respect the skyline could introduce a form that detracts from the spectacular views, panoramas and iconic skyline that give Edinburgh its integrity.

Irreversible change to the skyline has the potential to compromise the integrity of the site.

### **A.4 Authenticity**

#### **Pictures to be added throughout**

The Site continues to retain its historic role as the administrative and cultural capital of Scotland, while remaining a vibrant economic centre.

High-quality workmanship is an aspect of Edinburgh's authenticity which is extremely important to maintain. The identification and support of sources of craft expertise and the necessary traditional materials needed for repair and restoration is a key challenge for the Management Plan.

Material authenticity extends beyond the fabric of buildings, to the patterns of urban form and the qualities of urban spaces.

Edinburgh's setting is an indispensable part of its character and is widely understood as being a key feature of the Site's authenticity. The need to maintain key aspects of the city's setting- such as the

view out to Arthur's Seat or down to the Firth of Forth as well as many other key vistas and views that contribute to this quality cannot be over-emphasized.

The concern for maintaining these patterns is present everywhere. In the New Town, the integrity of the street layout is a key defining factor in maintain the New Town character. In the Old Town, concern was for the 'spine and ribs' pattern of the High Street. The closes and wynds maintain the existing- and reinstated lost- relationships with the medieval street pattern.

## ***B. Management of the World Heritage Site***

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### **B.1 Governance**

#### **Diagram Governance structure to be added**

World Heritage Sites are subject to local, national and international scrutiny.

#### Local

To ensure a strong governance of the management plan, an Oversight Group was set up to allow a more strategic discussion of issues emerging from the review. The Oversight Group is made of the convener and vice convener of the planning committee, representatives of the community councils within the Site, ICOMOS UK, the chamber of Commerce and the management partners.

It considers the outputs of the Steering Group and check whether the reports and outputs provided have met the project objectives. The Oversight Group will pursue issues through its members' own organisational arrangements to ensure that decisions are properly informed.

The day-to-day management of the World Heritage Site is overseen by a Steering Group that is made up of members from Historic Environment Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh World Heritage Trust. There is a communications sub-group of the Steering Group that manages communication of the key messages around the delivery of the Management Plan. This partnership must demonstrate that it is fulfilling its obligation in meeting the requirement of the World Heritage Convention.

#### National

DCMS (Department for Culture, Media & Sport) has overall responsibility for managing World Heritage Sites in the UK in complying with the World Heritage Convention. This is not devolved but Scottish Government has a role in ensuring DCMS meets the Convention.

UNESCO membership is reserved to the UK Government. DCMS acts as the State Party to UNESCO and is also responsible for nominating sites in the UK for inscription under the Convention. Under the 1999 post-devolution concordat between the UK Government and Scottish Government, DCMS looks to Scottish Ministers to ensure compliance with the Convention in relation to Sites in Scotland, and to identify Scottish Sites that should be on the UK tentative list for possible nomination as World Heritage Sites. As lead public body for the historic environment, Historic Environment Scotland carries out these functions on behalf of Scottish Ministers.

#### International

UNESCO is the UN agency with global responsibility for protecting cultural heritage internationally. ICOMOS are the UNESCO's advisers on cultural world heritage sites.

## **B.2 Ownership**

Management of the WHS is the responsibility of the resident population, the businesses, the institutions and all the users groups active in the city centre. **The following text will be translated into a diagram to shape understanding of how this document will help inform end users.**

Informative description and history of the Site, useful background information to respond to planning applications:

Community Councils  
Politicians  
Residents  
Wider stakeholders including ETAG, Chamber of Commerce

Assessing impact on OUV:

Management Partners (CEC, HES, EWH)  
Planning Officers  
Residents

Monitoring the condition of the WHS:

Management Partners (CEC, HES, EWH)  
UNESCO  
Residents

Aligning strategies for the efficient day to day management of the WHS:

Council internal services (Transport, Waste Management, Lighting, Economic Development)

## **B.3 Planning, Policy and Legislative Framework**

**Diagram to be added**

National

Scottish Planning Policy recognises the international importance of World Heritage Sites and requires planning authorities to protect and preserve a Site's OUV. This responds to the international importance of World Heritage Sites and the obligations associated with their inscription.

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 provide a framework for local and regional planning policy and act as the principal pieces of primary legislation guiding planning and development in Scotland. Additionally, individual buildings, monuments and areas of special archaeological, architectural or historic interest are designated and protected under The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 and the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act.

Our Place in Time, the Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland, emphasises the need to understand the historic environment holistically, combining both intangible (those aspects we cannot see- stories, traditions and concepts) and tangible heritage (physical things).

Normal statutory controls for each of these designations still apply, and there are local plan policies seeking to protect them.

### EIA

EIA is a process for identifying the environmental effects of development proposals. It aims to avoid, reduce and offset any adverse effects. Certain types of development, and development in environmentally sensitive areas, are more likely to require EIA.

UNESCO's guidelines state that 'Impact assessments for proposed interventions are essential for all World Heritage properties.' World Heritage Sites are specifically mentioned in the EIA regulations as a factor which might influence whether or not EIA is required.

The EIA process should address the impact of proposals on a Site's OUV and its specific attributes is available on the Scottish Government's website.

### HIA

HIA is used to assess and evaluate impacts on OUV. This includes any effects on specific attributes, setting and underlying archaeology. The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) has produced Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments. UNESCO encourages assessors to refer to this and use it as a starting point in considering impacts.

When an EIA is required, this assessment should be incorporated into the process. When EIA is not a formal requirement, it is still essential to assess the impact of a proposal for change on the OUV of the World Heritage Site. The planning authority or conservation body may therefore request an HIA to show how proposals will affect OUV.

### Local

OUV is also a material consideration in the planning process and Local Development Plan (LDP) policy Env 1 – The World Heritage Site is in place to protect it. The Policy Env 1 states:

"Development which would harm the qualities which justified the inscription of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh as a World Heritage Site or would have a detrimental impact on the Site's setting will not be permitted".

The LDP sets out policies and proposals to guide development. It establishes the long term vision for land use in the city. It includes general policies focused on the city-wide built heritage as well as specific guidance regarding the World Heritage Site. These documents are the main source of reference in making decisions on planning applications.

In addition the Council's wider policies and guidance on the design of development provide detail on issues such as heights, massing, detailing and the appropriateness of materials. The Skyline policy plays an important role in protecting the setting of the World Heritage Site. This policy identifies key public viewpoints and is used in assessing proposals for high buildings. This is necessary to protect some of the city's most striking visual characteristics, the views available from

many vantage points within the city and beyond, of landmark buildings, the city's historic skyline, undeveloped hillsides within the urban area and the hills, open countryside and the Firth of Forth which create a unique landscape setting for the city.

### Local National Panels

#### The Urban Design Panel

The Edinburgh Urban Design Panel gives design advice. Its aim is to raise the quality of new buildings, streets and spaces in Edinburgh. It does this by reviewing schemes and giving reports on them. These reports help designers, developers and planners improve their plans.

The panel meets monthly and reviews between one and three schemes per meeting. As well as new developments, the Panel also reviews Council policy and guidance that has an impact on urban design.

Once a planning application is made Panel reports are put online. You can see these in the Panel's directory.

#### Who are the Panel members?

The members are drawn from a range of organisations including Architecture and Design Scotland, Edinburgh World Heritage, Historic Environment Scotland, The Cockburn Association, Police Scotland, the Royal Town Planning Institute.

## C. Review of the previous plans

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### **C.1 First Management Plan (2005-2010)**

The [first Management Plan](#) for the World Heritage Site was published in July 2005. It provided a very solid information base around which to build a shared understanding of the outstanding universal value and the partnerships between agencies, the communities, institutions and business.

It set an agenda for action and outlined a range of challenges and opportunities for the World Heritage Site in the context of its outstanding universal value. It remains a very relevant background document.

#### Key achievements of the first Management Plan (2005-2010):

##### **1. Care and maintenance of buildings and streets**

**(Infographic to be added)**

##### Restoration of Well Court (Dean Village)

**(Picture to be added)**

Total Cost	£1.76 million
EWB Grant	£1,153,244

Built between 1883 and 1886, it was designed by Sydney Mitchell to accommodate local workers. It was listed at Category A in 1965.

A grant of £1,153,244 million was awarded to restore the listed building in February 2007. This grant went towards the 18 months conservation work on stonework, roof, windows, the clock tower and communal areas. Part of the costs of restoration was covered by 55 owners who led the project and the other part by Edinburgh World Heritage repayable grants. All works were carried out using traditional building methods and materials in order to meet the best standards of conservation.

#### Gilmour's Close

(Picture to be added)

Total Cost	£2.84 million
EWB Grant	£140,000

Gilmour's Close is a Category B listed building dating from 1875 and designed by John Lessels.

In 2008, a project made available 17 new energy efficient affordable homes in two refurbished tenement buildings that were previously disused. Ten of the flats were reserved as specialist accommodation for particularly vulnerable youths and shopfronts to commercial premises at the ground floor were restored.

The funding covered works to the exterior of the building, carved stone chimneys to restore the original skyline and repairing stonework on the original crowstepped gables as well as the historic shopfronts on the Grassmarket facade.

Throughout the building, heritage conservation and sustainability measures harmonised as original features were retained and upgraded to provide higher energy efficiency. Independent Housing awarded the project Sustainable Social Housing Refurbishment Project of the Year 2009.

#### Twelve monuments Restoration Project

(Picture to be added)

Total Cost	£1,2705,16.16
EWB Grant	£1 million

In 2007, the Twelve monuments project was set up to restore the city's most important monuments and statues.

During the first year, the Melville Monument in St. Andrew Square, and the Bow Well in the Grassmarket, were restored as part of the on-going public realm improvements in both areas. The Black Watch Memorial on the Mound also benefited from funding, with contributions from the One O'Clock Gun Association, the War Memorials Trust and the Bank of Scotland. The second year, 2008-9, focussed on Calton Hill, the National Monument, the Burns Monument and the Nelson Monument. The final year of the project saw the restoration of St Bernard's Well on the Water of Leith. Twelve Monumentsd Volunteers were involved in many of the individual projects. Young



people training with the Future Jobs Fund got involved with the conservation of three bronze statues in Princes Street Gardens.

The project was funded by EWH, the City of Edinburgh Council and external sponsorship.

## **2. Control and guidance** **(Infographic)**

### The Skyline policy **(Picture to be added)**

It was acknowledged that cumulatively, or individually, a number of factors (city growth, increasing call for density, and fashion for high buildings) can lead to the development of buildings that might have an adverse impact on the unique skyline of the city.

In 2005, the City of Edinburgh Council in partnership with Edinburgh World Heritage and Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian, commissioned the landscape consultants Colvin & Moggridge to study the Edinburgh skyline and recommend key views that should be protected from new development.

The consultants were asked to review the existing policy on high buildings and come forward with a mechanism for updating the guidance. As part of this process, they identified key views and skylines that are considered fundamental to the image and sense of Edinburgh and have developed a methodology that allows planners (and developers) to assess the impact of any development on those key views.

The study developed a methodology based on the intrusion of any development into the 'skyspace' that surrounds key features in the townscape. In order to do this, the bottom of the skyspace in front, to the sides and beyond key features from each viewpoint was defined. From this, it was possible to establish the height at which new development at any given location would begin to be visible from the identified viewpoints, and so have an effect on the perception of those features most strongly associated with the image of Edinburgh.

In 2007, this methodology was approved and is now fully part of the assessments of planning applications in the planning department of the City of Edinburgh Council.

There is no formal buffer zone around the Site. The Department for Culture, Media & Sport DCMS maintains the view that buffer zones are not necessary in every case, particularly where adequate layers of protection already exist. In the case of Edinburgh, the implementation of the 'Guidance on the Protection of Key Views' based on the skyline study allied to the existing statutory protections will provide a subtler and more responsive mechanism to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property which will cover more of the city surrounding the World Heritage property than any additional definition of a formal buffer zone.

### Historic Home guides **(Picture to be added)**

In 2009 Edinburgh World Heritage launched a series of Historic Home Guides, aimed at giving easily understood and practical advice to owners of historic buildings within the World Heritage Site.

The guide to external paintwork covered everything from windows and doors, to balconies, railings and common stairs. Advice was also given on how to find further information and where permission was needed to make changes.

The ironmongery version included fixtures and fittings such as hinges, door handles and locks. Often these details were tailor made for the building, and as such are significant, but easily overlooked, original features.

The comprehensive guide to roofs covered not only slates and pantiles, but also features such as dormers, cornices, gutters, cupolas, chimneys and balustrades. As well as describing the construction and materials, the guide also offered maintenance tips and highlights common problems with roofs in the Old and New Towns.

### **3. Awareness of WHS status** **(Infographic to be added)**

#### Looking Up! **(Picture to be added)**

Between September 2009 and March 2010, EWH worked with St Thomas of Aquin's school on a project looking at Old and New Town architecture. During this period, a total of 140 Pupils toured the World Heritage Site for inspiration, and then designed their own house based on the historic buildings they had seen. The project completed with an awards presentation at the school, with friends and family invited along.

#### Learning Section on the EWH website **(Picture to be added)**

Over the autumn and winter of 2009-10, EWH set up a Learning section to their website. This section provides suggested lesson plans, downloadable maps, photos and documents, to enable teachers to include the World Heritage Site in their studies.

#### Family Learning Space at the Museum of Edinburgh **(Picture to be added)**

In 2008 EWH awarded a grant of £5,000 to the Museum of Edinburgh, to develop a new learning space as facility for families and school visits, which opened in June 2009. The learning space incorporates a variety of art activities for children, including building an Old Town house. Dressing up costumes are available to try on, representing different characters in the Old and New Towns in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and a handling collection of historical objects illustrating everyday life in the past. Children from Royal Mile and Abbeyhill Primary Schools attended the launch of the learning space and helped to evaluate the activities. This facility has since proved to be popular with families and school groups, with much positive feedback.

## **C.2 Second Management Plan (2011-2016)**

### Key achievements of the second Management Plan (2011-2016):

#### **1. Care and maintenance of buildings and streets** **(Infographic to be added)**

#### Edinburgh Art Festival collaboration £108,336 **(Picture to be added)**

In 2012, a project under Regent Bridge brought heritage and art together to help transform a neglected route of the New Town. An installation from Turner Prize nominee Callum Innes was commissioned as part of the Edinburgh Art Festival. The piece of public art transformed the sides of the bridge arch with an illuminated plinth of floating colour.

#### The Scotsman's steps – £354,600 (Picture to be added)

In 2011, Edinburgh World Heritage and the City of Edinburgh Council worked with the Fruitmarket Gallery to bring the Scotsman's steps back to life, and enhance the public route between the city's Old and New Towns.

Originally built in 1899 as part of the Scotsman newspaper offices, the steps had become dilapidated with graffiti on the walls, damage to the stairs and recurring anti-social behaviour. The conservation project started in September 2010, coinciding with Network rail's work to improve the Market Street exit from Waverley Station. Using traditional materials, new lighting and lead work were completed, along with the installation of new handrails and iron gates. The interior windows were also reglazed and there were extensive masonry repairs, to bring the steps back to life.

## **2. Control and guidance** **(Infographic to be added)**

### The Management Partnership Protocol

In order to align the message amongst the managing partners, a protocol was established in April 2013. It formalises the roles of each partner in the planning process.

**(Protocol table to be added)**

### Edinburgh Design guidance

In 2013, the City of Edinburgh Council published the Edinburgh Design Guidance. It draws together local authorities view on height and form, scale and proportions, layout, materials and detailing, daylight, adaptability, open space, impact on conservation areas, listed buildings and skyline.

The document set out expectations for new buildings and spaces clearly, so that all those involved in future developments can understand from the outset what is required. This guidance has been used by both Planning officials and the Development Management Sub-Committee to help make decisions on the design quality of new development.

### Managing Change Guidance

The best practices for managing change in the historic environment and guidance on how to apply Scottish Planning Policy requirements are explained in a series of guidance.

The best practices for managing change in the historic environment are showcased in a suite of guidance produced in 2016. They provide detailed advice on the application of Scottish Planning policy requirements.

September 2016: Managing Change in the Historic Environment: [World Heritage](#)

June 2016: Managing Change in the Historic environment: [Interiors](#)

June 2016: Managing Change in the Historic environment: [Setting](#)

June 2016: Managing Change in the Historic environment: [Microrenewables](#)

June 2016: Managing Change in the Historic environment: [Gardens and Designed landscapes](#)

### **3. Awareness of WHS status**

**(Infographic to be added)**

#### The Community Map **(Picture to be added)**

In 2013, over a period of six months, a series of workshops was held with different sections of the community, with the intention of discovering the sights, sounds and smells that make most impression on their journeys. Students, school children, older people, workers and shoppers all took part and the results were turned into a map of the Old and New Towns from a resident's perspective.

#### Collaboration with businesses **(Picture to be added)**

Edinburgh World Heritage in partnership with businesses in the Old and the New Towns produced a series of trails (Meet the Westenders, Food Heritage, Canongate and Holyrood, University Heritage, Auld Reekie, House histories). The aim is to encourage more visitors to explore the less visited historic streets of the Site.

#### Traditional skills festival **(Picture to be added +link to Youtube videos)**

A Traditional skills festival was set up in 2011 to keep traditional skills alive, helping employment in the construction sector and sustaining Edinburgh's built heritage. It is funded by Historic Environment Scotland, Construction Skills Scotland, the National Federation of Roofing Contractors and the Stone Federation of Great Britain with the support of Edinburgh's Telford College and Edinburgh World Heritage.

The event celebrates Edinburgh's traditional buildings as well as the materials and the vital skills needed to maintain them for future generations.

The Edinburgh Traditional Building Forum holds talks, live demonstrations and guided walks around Edinburgh. Over the years, specific sessions were developed with demonstrations on lead roofing, sash and case window repair, architectural cast iron, stonemasonry and roof slating.

#### World Heritage Day **(Picture to be added)**

World Heritage Day has been celebrated locally with lectures and events to raise the public's awareness about the diversity of cultural heritage and the efforts that are required to protect and conserve it.

In 2016, the six Scottish World Heritage Sites were celebrated at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh. Site coordinators and staff from the six sites: New Lanark, St Kilda, Forth Bridge, Heart of Neolithic Orkney, Antonine Wall and the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh were gathered all together in one place to show off the sites.

Visitors to the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh table were able to handle Corinthian column heads, archaeology from the Tron church, household artefacts as well as interpretation material (maps, leaflets, colouring in sheets).

It was a great day of sharing activities and stories with families, school groups, tourists, locals and more. Visitors were also able to try out virtual reality experiences on 3D headsets from the Scottish Ten project and Dig It! 2017 brought along a photo booth so that people could 'time travel' to the sites and have their picture taken.

#### ***D. Useful links***

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##### **D.1 Map of interventions in the past 5 years (restoration projects/ new developments/ ongoing developments)**

Map to be added

##### **D.2 Key stakeholders**

Diagram to be added

##### **D.3 Key View Policy**

Diagram and link to policy to be added

##### **D.4 Conservation Areas**

Map of the WHS with 7 conservation areas-  
Link to all the 7 relevant conservation areas embed in the map

[Coltbridge and Wester Coates](#)

[Dean](#)

[Marchmont, Meadows & Bruntsfield](#)

[New Town](#) (updated version coming up)

[Old Town](#) (updated version coming up)

[South Side](#)

[West End](#)

##### **D.5 The Public Consultation Process**

The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh WHS has been designated since 1995. The management partners now have over 20 years of experience in understanding the threats to health of the WHS. Ongoing dialogue with UNESCO and ICOMOS has informed this review.

It has also been informed by an online public consultation undertaken in July 2016, discussions at the oversight group workshops, and the feedback from awareness raising events in 2015 and 2016.

Results of the public consultation echo some of the [observations of UNESCO and ICOMOS](#) .

## Consultation

### The first steps

A review of the first and second plan was carried out to reflect the current context. Other similar national and international examples of Management Plans were looked at (Bath, Bruges, Vienna, Regensburg, Florence and Porto) for their good practice.

The WH:UK platform was used to discuss Management Plans. A two day session in Edinburgh in 2016 provided an opportunity to show the latest thinking from all other sites from Orkney all the way to the Jurassic Coast.

### A new way of doing things

The WH:UK two day meeting provided a link to the professional context . This is important. However, we need to understand the view of the people who live, work and visit Edinburgh. A novelty of this review was the use of the online survey. Members of the public who live, work and visit Edinburgh were invited to have their say in how the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site should be managed.

The survey used the Place Standard [methodology](#). It consists of 14 questions which cover both the physical and social elements of a place. The questions were tailored to reflect the World Heritage issues.

Out of the 14 themes of the Place Standard, 9 were kept:

- Moving around (*Infographic*)
- Natural space (*Infographic*)
- Facilities and amenities (*Infographic*)
- Work and local economy (*Infographic*)
- Housing and community (*Infographic*)
- Identity and belonging (*Infographic*)
- Feeling safe (*Infographic*)
- Care and maintenance (*Infographic*)
- Influence and sense of control (*Infographic*)

And 5 “Outstanding Universal Value” related new ones were added:

- Awareness of World Heritage Site status (*Infographic*)
- Control and guidance (*Infographic*)
- Contribution of new developments to the city centre (*Infographic*)
- Livability (*Infographic*)
- Visitor Management (*Infographic*)

The public was asked what they think worked well, and where improvements could be made.

The consultation gathered the views of 588 respondents.

### *Wheel- Consultation images*

#### **The thought process**

Once we gathered these views, through the use of a tailored Place Standard, we held a series of workshops and focus groups to come up with deliverable actions to tackle the issues emerging from the consultation.

These workshops together with the results of the consultation were translated into actions to deliver.

### *Picture of oversight group*

#### **How were the issues gathered?**

There are items rolling forward from the 2005-2010 and 2011-2016 plan. Other issues have arisen through risk assessment during the life of the previous plan.

Thirdly issues have emerged through the online consultation in July 2016 which gathered the view of 588 respondents. Finally issues have emerged through full public consultation.

A consultation exercise was carried out to allow members of the public to have their say in how the Site should be run. It gathered feedback from almost 600 respondents in the summer of 2016.

Public meetings were held with different community and residents' groups; the methodology of the [Place Standard tool](#) was used to start a conversation on public perception of the issues affecting the Site.

The issues and challenges were grouped under 14 key themes, which due to the nature of the Site are all interrelated.

Some of the celebrated strengths (scoring 5/7 or more):

- Natural Space
- Identity and belonging
- Livability
- Feeling Safe
- Facilities and amenities

Overall, the respondents are very satisfied with Edinburgh's city centre as a place to live and work. The parks and green spaces were very highly rated and the city centre is felt to be safer than most the one's of other comparable capitals. More lighting at night and a reduction of the traffic speed was suggested to create an even greater sense of safety in the area.

Edinburgh's strong visual identity and its years of history were thought to be contributing to a real sense of pride and belonging to the city. The respondents felt generally positive about the level of amenities and facilities the city centre offers, as there is a wide range of offer and there are easily accessible.

Areas of debate (scoring 3 to 4/7):

- Housing

- Moving around
- City centre economy
- The cost of living, the city centre economy and the ease to move around were topics that generated a lot of comments.

Affordable housing is a key issue and it was felt that the city centre should be providing more affordable housing options to retain its resident population in the city centre. And while the compactness of the city is seen as an asset, many said that traffic still dominates pedestrian and cycling movement. Opinion was divided as to whether the Royal Mile achieved enough for its residents as it is thought to be too geared towards tourists.

Out of the 14 initial themes, the 6 themes that scored the lowest or engendered the most negative comments were:

- Care and Maintenance of buildings and streets
- Control and Guidance
- Contribution of new developments to city centre
- Influence and sense of control
- Visitor Management
- Awareness of World Heritage Site

When asked to think about the level of care and maintenance of buildings and streets, residents felt that there is still a lot to be done. Issues such as general litter and the quality of road and pavements were mentioned. Making sure that planning laws were enforced is critical for the respondents. Recent new developments divided opinion, the respondents are hoping for better quality and more innovative architecture that is respectful of the Old Town and New Town's architectural context.

The influence and sense of control is one area that could be improved as the respondents felt they were being asked to participate but failed to see the impact of this participation.

The balance between visitor and resident needs was a source of numerous comments. The Royal Mile attracts the largest number of tourists but is seen to not deliver enough for the resident's population. While despite the fact the awareness of the city centre's World Heritage site status was rated highly, respondents were mostly unaware of what it meant and what the benefits were.

## **D.6 Case studies**

### **Case study: Awareness of the World Heritage Site status**

#### World Heritage Business Opportunity Guide

Pictures to be added

The guide is a joint project between the *the* Edinburgh Tourism Action Group (ETAG) and Edinburgh World Heritage; it is part of a series which offers guidance for tourism businesses in the city. The aim is to illustrate how they can use the World Heritage Site as a promotional tool for visitors. The guide explains the concept of World Heritage and the historic qualities that give the Old and New Towns the coveted status. It also covers visitor profiles and the importance of the city's built heritage in attracting tourists and shaping their experience whilst in the city.



Throughout the guide are practical hints and tips on how to use World Heritage status, including a selection of case studies where tourism businesses have worked with EWH to use the city's heritage in their promotion.

The examples include hotels, retailers, restaurants and visitor attractions, who EWH has worked with to produce heritage trails, building histories, web and social media content. Each case study highlights how the business became involved and the benefits their project has brought.

#### Learning Section on the EWH website

Pictures to be added

Over the autumn and winter of 2009-10, EWH set up a Learning section to their website. This section provides suggested lesson plans, downloadable maps, photos and documents, to enable teachers to include the World Heritage Site in their studies.

#### **Case study: Care and maintenance of buildings and streets**

##### Hidden Door Festival- A creative reuse of underuse buildings

Pictures to be added

Hidden Door is a not-for-profit arts organisation entirely run by volunteers. Founded in 2009, it has grown to stage an annual arts festival in unexpected locations around the city.

Hidden Door aims to open up disused urban spaces in Edinburgh, in order to create a platform enabling emerging artists, musicians, theatre-makers, poets, film-makers and all manner of visual artists and performers based in Scotland to showcase their work. One of the benefits of the nature of Hidden Door is that the festival transforms these often uninviting derelict urban spaces into environments that the public can explore, discover and engage with creatively.

In 2014, the Hidden Door team reused 24 C-Listed vaults on East Market Street for their first 9-day festival. The site was formerly on the Buildings at Risk Register and had been out of regular use for decades.

In both 2015 and 2016, the team opened up a site on King's Stables road, hosting their 9-day festival in a disused street lighting depot waiting for redevelopment into flats, a hotel and student accommodation. By utilising these empty urban spaces around the city, Hidden Door has temporarily brought over 65 disused spaces and rooms to life and shared these spaces with around 30, 000 visitors.

Identifying the positive impacts of this type of event, the Council has officialised its wishes to consider the opportunity to secure temporary uses, where appropriate, on land and buildings which become vacant in the future. In September 2016, the Council started to record the requests received for temporary uses of vacant buildings and the licenses agreed on Council property.

#### Street Lighting

Pictures to be added

A [History of Street Lighting report](#) in the Old and New towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site was published in 2012. It helped to inform the City of [Edinburgh Council's lighting strategy](#), which amongst a number of issues regulates management of historic street lighting in the World Heritage Site. The statement is one of the outcomes of the study in hand and its main function is to inform the planning policy by explaining the importance of street lighting in the context of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site's Outstanding Universal Value.

Lynedoch Place is a good example or reinstatement of historic lighting. The idea of the Lynedoch Place Lighting Scheme was first proposed in 2007 by the Lynedoch Place Residents' Association, with Dr. Morris Bradley, the Association's secretary. It was implemented as a joint initiative between the residents, Edinburgh World Heritage and the City of Edinburgh Council. The costs were shared equally among the three main stakeholders in the project.

The goal was to restore the railings and their lanterns, to enhance the street and return it to its historic character.

The scope of the project included the installation of street lights mounted on the boundary wall of front gardens, starting with No. 4 and then every second property to No. 22. The standards used were exact copies of castings from examples in Ann Street. These were produced by Ballantine's Bo'ness Iron Co. Ltd—one of the few companies in Scotland still using traditional methods of producing cast iron, based on research delivered by Edinburgh World Heritage and LDN Architects.

On the opposite side of the street along Belford Road five lamp standards of a compatible design were also installed. Additional works included cutting back overgrown hedges and the reinstatement of railings.

The project is a good example of productive cooperation between local residents, the City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh World Heritage. In the future, it is hoped to replace more of the railings and improve the pavement on the north side of the street.

### **Case study: Control and Guidance**

#### Edinburgh World Heritage Shop Front Restoration

**Pictures to be added and more detail explaining the restoration point by point**

A single high-quality shop front can make a significant improvement to the streetscape. Edinburgh World Heritage Trust runs a scheme that offers advice to shop owners and allocates financial assistance for shop fronts in need of restoration. Funding is also available for organisations or individuals who own a historic building, scheduled monument or a designed landscape.

The benefits:

- A positive shopping experience in an attractive area
- Increased property value
- Higher footfall and increased sales turnover
- Creation of a shopping community, which includes those who buy and sell locally
- Public safety
- Attraction of new investment and, if managed properly, a sustainable mix of uses in a visibly improved area

## **Case study: Contribution of new developments to the city centre**

Pictures to be added

### Enhancing Construction sites- The New Waverley Fund

To make the best use of the New Waverley Construction site, community groups in Edinburgh were asked to bid for grants to enhance this development site area in the Old Town.

The New Waverley Community Fund (NWCF) was created as a joint project between the City of Edinburgh Council and Artisan Real Estate Investors, the developers of New Waverley. The total fund available is £200,000 including £100,000 held by the Council from the former developer.

The initial round of funding paid out to six projects including a community garden, an art installation and a project celebrating the literary history of the area. This involved the unveiling of a 10-metre illuminated art work above the Waverley Arches by movie director and Monty Python star Terry Gilliam as part of the Words on the Street project run by Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature Trust.

## **Case study: Visitor Management**

Pictures to be added

### Heritage Trail leaflets

Their aim is to explore new ways to maintain and enhance this historic burial ground and encourage local community involvement. Each of the trails features a timeline and map which reveals some of the buried stories about Old and New Calton Burying Grounds, Greyfriars Canongate, and St Cuthbert's Kirkyards. The trails were produced as part of EWH's Edinburgh Graveyards Project, which aims to promote and conserve the five historic graveyards within the World Heritage Site. The project is also supported by Edinburgh World Heritage, the World Monument Fund and the Pilgrim Trust.

The Athens of the North trail is a self-guided trail exploring Edinburgh's New Town, providing insights into everyday Georgian life and how the city became known as the Athens of the North.

The food trail reveals some of the hidden links between the city's built heritage and its food traditions, encouraging visitors to explore the 'nooks and crannies' of the World Heritage Site and discover its culinary customs.

### Education programme with universities and schools

In 2012-13, Edinburgh World Heritage worked with the University of Edinburgh to [develop a trail](#) of their historic buildings.

EWH also promotes the World Heritage Site as an educational tool, producing resources to support learning through the curriculum for excellence and encouraging its study in colleges and universities. In 2012-13 the trust developed a [new resource for children](#) focused on the key part Edinburgh played in the Scottish Enlightenment, with support from a charitable trust and the Scottish National Portrait Gallery.

## Case study: Influence and sense of control

Pictures to be added

### Councillor awareness and training

The election of new councillors happens on a five-year cycle. At the start of this cycle - and consistently throughout – training and awareness raising is provided to elected members to assist them in the delivery of their responsibilities as member of Planning Committee, the Development Management Sub-Committee of the Planning Committee, Transport and Environment Committee and participate fully in taking decisions.

In November 2015 a training workshop was held for Planning Committee members on the review of the Management Plan. This was carried out by the management partners of the WHS: CEC, HES, EWH; also with input from ICOMOS UK. It reminded Councillors of the complex governance structure of the Site, the policies and guidance in place to support the management of development in the site, staff skills in place and the importance of their own sound knowledge and understanding in taking decisions within this challenging context. It set out the timescales and a project plan for the delivery of the draft Management Plan, and secured the commitment of support from ICOMOS UK to actively engage with the process.

### “Meadows festival”

For the first time in 2016, the partners had a stall at the Meadows Festival. This spot to kick-start consultation on both the [Old Town](#) and the [New Town](#) Conservation Area Character Appraisals and raise awareness on the conservation of the site. The stall attracted more than 550 people on the two days- an event the management partners intend to do every year. The public could pick up informative leaflets about the site (educational walks, facts about the site but also repair and maintenance advice for the properties). It was also an opportunity to get feedback on the recent developments in the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh. The public were asked 2 questions per each new building: Do you like it? Does it fit within its environment?

## D.7 Selected bibliography

To be added

## D.8 Sources (images- figures)

To be added