

# Edinburgh Local

## Partnering to Support Inclusion

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# Strategic imperatives

- Delivering impact for society
- Contributing locally as one of four University development themes
- Putting University research and teaching in the service of the local community
- Building and strengthening relationships with the City region and its communities



# What 'contributing locally' means for the University and its communities: examples

## **For the community**

- University co-produces research/services which solve real-life problems in community
- Communities can access information about services provided (in-reach)

## **For the University**

- Student experience: creates a stronger sense of identity and common purpose
- Research: creates stronger and clearer pathways to research impact as the City region provides a living context for co-produced research projects that seek to be genuinely transformative
- Learning and teaching: creates opportunities to build experiential learning into the curriculum
- Alumni relations : opportunities to engage alumni and encourage sponsorship

# Timeline and resources

## 2016

- University Community Engagement Strategy approved
- University makes its first Social Impact Pledge

## 2017

- Dedicated staff appointed to implement community engagement programme
- Community Grants scheme launched
- Edinburgh Local website launched (<https://www.ed.ac.uk/local>)
- First Social Impact Pledges successfully completed
- Mapping of University activities and partnerships begun

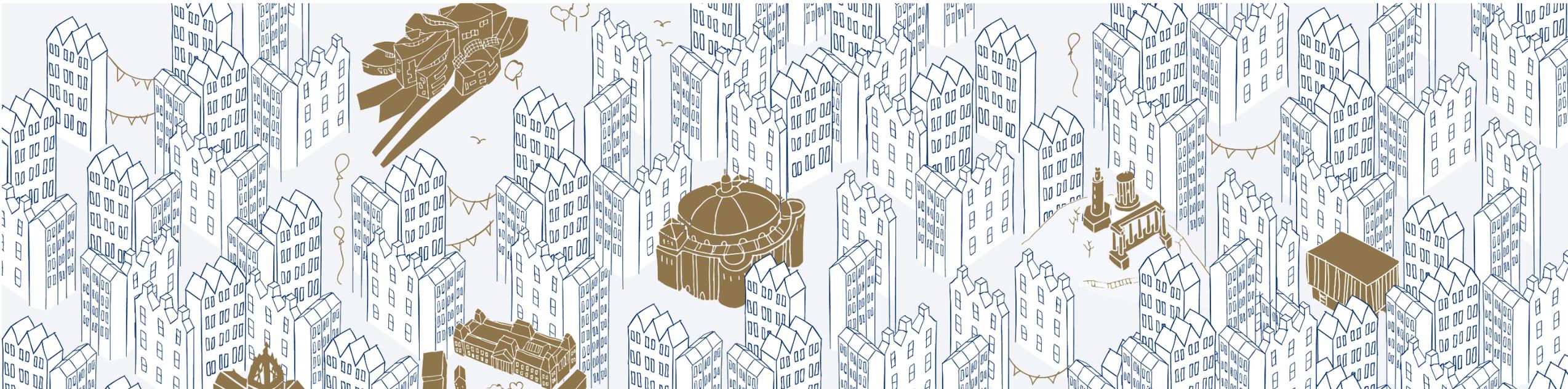
## 2018

- Second round of Pledges made
- Academic lead becomes Director of Edinburgh Futures Institute

# The challenges

Partnering to promote ‘inclusive growth’ which transforms the lives of the many, not the few

- Future-scoping
- Engaging and mobilising hard-to-reach groups
- Transforming the academic role from ‘pedagogy’ to co-production



# Flagship projects



# Characteristics of flagship projects

- Integrate research and teaching
  - Involve external partnerships (with locally-based individuals, groups, institutions)
  - Have transformative impact on the community
  - Have transformative impact on the student experience
  - Have spin-off potential for research grant applications
  - Are evaluated and learning used to up-scale
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- *Digital Ambassadors*
  - *Design for Wellbeing*

# Digital Ambassadors

- Basic digital life skills (e.g. sending email, taking pictures using a phone)
- Delivered by student volunteers
- Delivered in partnership with:
  - City of Edinburgh Libraries
  - Charteris Centre for Community
  - Amina Muslim Women's Resource Centre
  - People Know How



# Design for Wellbeing

- Redesign of public spaces near the University
- New designs will reduce antisocial behaviour without excluding people
- Researchers and students work with community partners
  - Police
  - Council
  - Local businesses and residents
  - People using the public spaces



# More information

[www.ed.ac.uk/local](http://www.ed.ac.uk/local)

[local@ed.ac.uk](mailto:local@ed.ac.uk)

t: @EdinUniLocal

f: /EdinUniLocal/

i: edinburghunilocal



The screenshot displays the top navigation bar of the University of Edinburgh website. The 'Local' menu item is highlighted with a blue arrow. Below the navigation bar is the university's logo and name, 'THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH', and a search bar. The main content area features a large image of Edinburgh at sunset, with the text 'EDINBURGH LOCAL' overlaid in a purple banner. A sidebar on the left contains links to 'Edinburgh Local home', 'University in the city', 'Local news', 'Read our strategy', and 'Projects in the community'. The main content area below the banner shows a breadcrumb trail 'Home > Local' and a featured image of the Anatomical Museum entrance.

Study Global Visit Research News About Alumni Local Staff Students

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

Search

EDINBURGH LOCAL

Edinburgh Local home

University in the city

Local news

Read our strategy

Projects in the community

Home > Local

ANATOMICAL MUSEUM

Local news

Experienced teacher project

University opens its