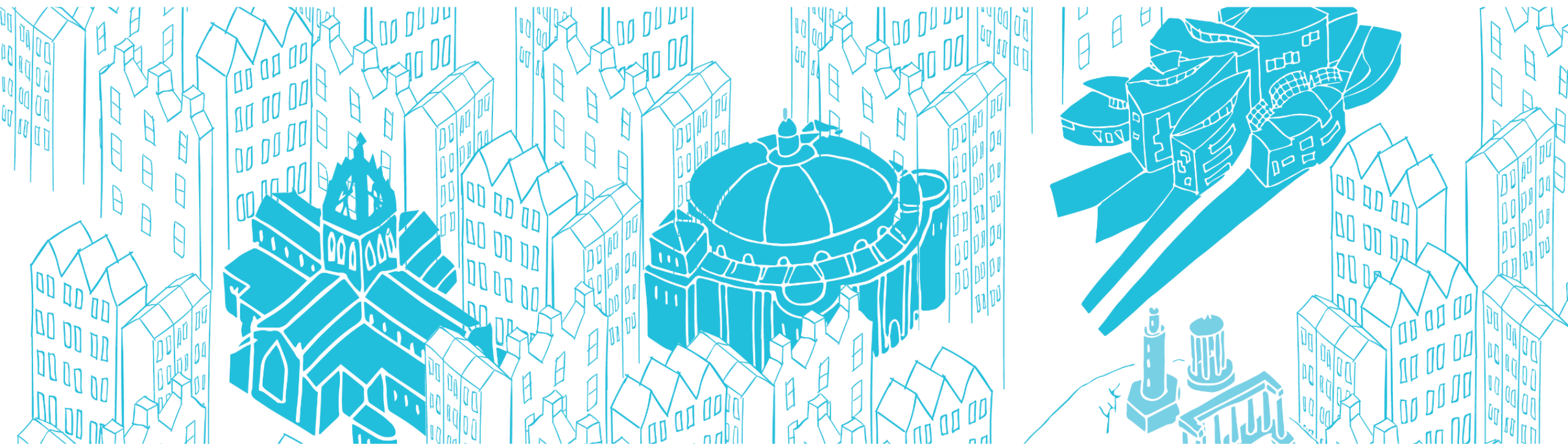


# Edinburgh Local

## Partnering to Support Inclusion

Dr Sarah Anderson (Community Engagement Manager)



# 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

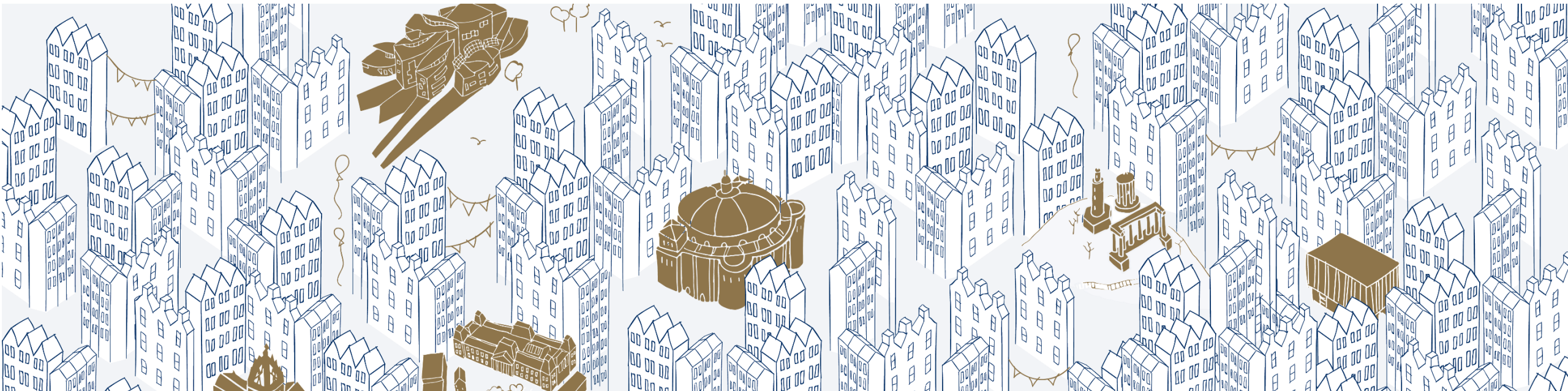
- Second round of Pledges made
- Academic lead becomes Director of Edinburgh Futures Institute



# 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
- 
- *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

