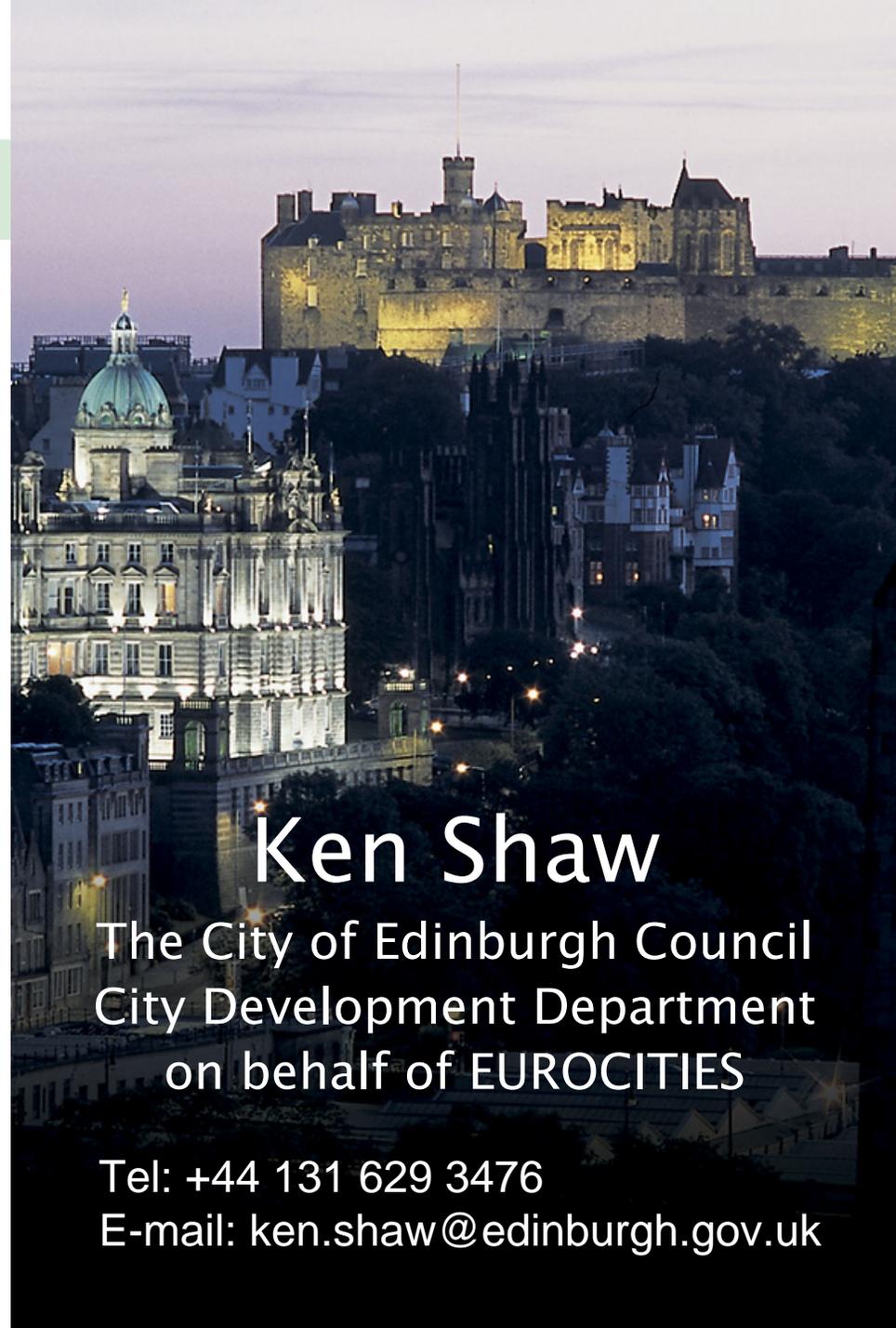




EURO
CITIES

Services to Tackle Poverty:

What Works?



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Outline of Presentation

EUROCITIES: A European Partnership

- Aims and activities

The Urban perspective

- How are cities impacted?

What can Cities do?

- What works?

The Future:

- The European Year of Combating Poverty and Exclusion



What is EURO CITIES?

- EURO CITIES is a Network of European Cities
- From Edinburgh to Lublin, Naples to Leeds, Reykjavik to Nicosia, EURO CITIES has over 120 members in over 30 countries.
- Membership of EURO CITIES is open to large European cities.



The Aims of EURO CITIES

We aim to;

- enhance links between cities and promote trans-national cooperation through participation in European projects.
- **promote** closer and more effective **cooperation** between the different territorial spheres of governance.
- **engage in dialogue with the European institutions** and ensure that the role and responsibilities of cities are taken into account in the development of EU policies and legislation.

With activities focusing on the creation of;

- **Inclusive, Prosperous, Sustainable & Creative** cities.

Areas of Activity

Activities are developed through areas or forums:

- Environment, Culture, Mobility, Knowledge Society, **Social Affairs**, Economic Development, and Cooperation

Forums contain Working Groups:

- Social Affairs Forum: **Employment**, **Social Inclusion**, Migration & Integration, and Health & Well-being.

Members can participate in areas of interest.

- e.g. Edinburgh is active in the Employment and the Social Inclusion working groups.

Poverty: The Urban Perspective

- Even in a wealth of opportunities, poverty and inequality is a significant issue.
 - Unemployment: significant disparity between neighbourhoods and certain groups of people
 - Income: significant numbers of low income households in cities, including in-work poor
 - Health inequalities significant differences in mortality rate strongly linked to socio-economic status
- Poverty action requires cross-cutting and multi-actor action if it is to be effective

What do Cities do that works?

- There is no magic bullet.....it depends on;
 - the specific needs of the city
 - the key strengths and opportunities available to the city
 - The service context including structures, governance arrangements and resources available

What do Cities do that works?

- Actions of Municipality typically cover;
 - Stimulating Demand: Create supportive conditions for the local economy to encourage investment and maximise opportunities for disadvantaged groups
 - Capturing Opportunities: Provide training and brokerage services for jobseekers and businesses that increases employment rates within disadvantaged groups
 - Supporting Transitions: Benefit top-ups, transition payments, childcare support to support progression towards/into employment
 - Health and Social Factors: Tackling lifestyle factors that can contribute to ill-health and inactivity, disengagement
 - Household Expenditure: Support families out of fuel poverty through for example allowances energy advice
 - Co-ordination: Act as a mediator ensuring services combine around the needs of the individuals and businesses
- Delivered through a mix of People vs. Area Based approaches

Area Based Approaches

- Area based approaches have proved effective mechanisms. Typically with the following characteristics;
 - Integrated Action: Horizontally between local administration and sectors and vertically between programming at European, National, Regional and local levels
 - Integrated Strategy: goals, objectives, instruments and evaluation frameworks
 - Data Collection at a sufficiently local scale to support targeting and impact monitoring
 - Multi-actor approach: Bringing together key actors to work co-operatively on delivering common objectives
 - Empowerment and participation of the local community in setting objectives, evaluation

EUROCITIES: Future Action

- European Year of Combating Poverty and Exclusion
 - EUROCITIES will undertake a campaign during 2010 on the eradication of poverty and the benefits it will bring
 - Stocktaking exercise across cities to provide example of what works
 - Peer reviews between cities and thematic events to support
- Ongoing co-operation between cities
EUROCITIES as part of the inclusive cities aim.



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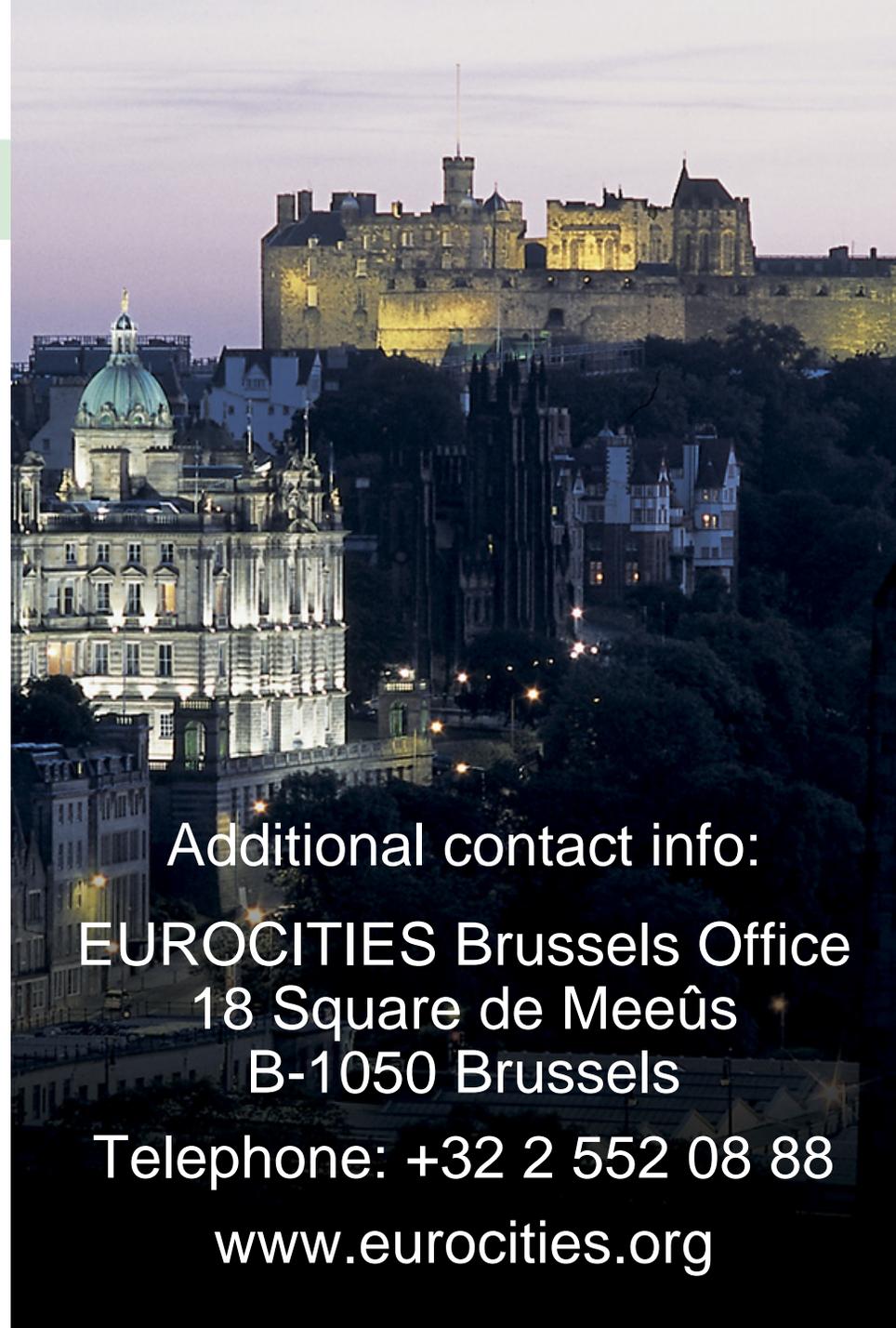
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