

Completed Project

Leith Meanwhile *The City of Edinburgh Council*



The £1.3m Leith Meanwhile project, whilst small in budget is big in impact. It's been a true collaborative effort and the various elements combine to deliver a community hub which is having a positive impact locally. Handed over in summer 2018, the project comprised:

The refurbishment of C-Listed 165a Leith Walk – an at risk building on the main street in Leith – turning it into modern office space for Capital City Partnerships and NHS Lothian.

The transformation of the rear of the building by the demolition of a derelict former tram depot.

The creation of workspaces in shipping containers providing much needed space for artists and other creative entrepreneurs.

The creation of a community space from what was essentially a large piece of wasteland, into a bustling new hub for the community, by the community. This is very much community lead, and will focus on activity around Gardening and Growing, Food and Drink, Sports Exercise and Play, Arts and Education, and Social and Small Business Enterprise.

Leith Meanwhile is generating spend in the local economy and income for the local authority, whilst enhancing social cohesion and community wellbeing by acting as a focus for a wide range of activities in a new public space. It's also enhancing the cultural value of the area, all whilst demonstrating environmental sustainability, bringing meaningful use to a previously neglected site.



Development Partner

Hub South East

Project Value

£1.3m

Main Contractor

Morrison Construction

In 2017, the City of Edinburgh Council was awarded £750k from Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF), which supports projects in disadvantaged areas that engage and involve local communities, after successfully applying to develop a project which is breathing new life into an old tram depot site in Leith. With an additional £530,000 invested by the Council itself, the Leith Meanwhile project is a £1.3m investment in the regeneration of the heart of Leith.

Hub South East has been involved from the very start, proposing ideas for the development and helping the Council secure funding. This project is an excellent example of the Strategic Support Service we provide for clients.

MEANWHILE... IN LEITH

pop-up community space

In partnership with



Main contractor



Architect

REIACH AND HALL ARCHITECTS
STUDIO NIRO

Community engagement

CIVIC SOUP

Project team

Goodson Associates

AECOM

WGM CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Digital marketing

baillie signs

VICKERS CREATIVE

SUPPORTING SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

The shipping containers, being used by local artists and entrepreneurs, were fitted out by Edinburgh based construction social enterprise, **Rebuild**.

Five trainees were paid whilst they learned new skills on site. The project therefore provided much needed training opportunities during the construction phase.

We're incredibly proud to have supported Rebuild in its first live project. Knowing that the trainees have grown in skills, experience and confidence during their time on site and that four of the five are now in employment, is fantastic and is another example of how the project is creating a lasting legacy.

You can see a video made by Rebuild about what they do – filmed on site at Leith. <http://www.rebld.co/>



The Leith Walk area will benefit from this injection of funding and the exciting plans look certain to support the regeneration of the area.

Local Government Minister Kevin Stewart



This is an amazing project which has had a huge amount of community involvement.

This project will create much needed space for local artists and other creative entrepreneurs as well as providing valuable community space. It is also great to see training and job opportunities as part of the project.

Cllr Kate Campbell, Housing and Economy Convener for the City of Edinburgh Council



The sense of confidence and self worth that comes with learning new skills and immediately being able to see the results of that labour is something that helped me through a difficult time and if we can replicate that with even a fraction of our trainees, then we will make a lasting impact and help them positively improve their lives.

Paul Hunter, Founder – Rebuild

