This transformed image and sense of community will provide new opportunities for existing residents and attract a range of people to live, work, shop and enjoy themselves in the new quarter.

Creating a sustainable community

Sustainability is paramount and will be ensured through economic revival (and inclusion), social mobility and by limiting the environmental impact connected to climate change and social sustainability. The principles of sustainable development will be applied across every aspect of the development.

Transport

The communities of Granton Waterfront will be connected through strategic transport and infrastructure improvements, including the establishment of more green and welcoming streets and transport links between neighbourhoods, to Edinburgh city centre and north to Fife. Improved public transport accessibility is the key to unlocking full commercial development potential. Provision has accordingly been made for Tram Line 1B through the site.

Environment

The Waterfront at Granton will also be an environmentally responsible development that minimises the impact on the environment from greenhouse gases. The adoption of energy efficient planning, low carbon building technologies and local power and heat generation will ensure that the waterfront at Granton contributes to a more sustainable future.

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Vision for Granton by Colin Hunter, Chief Executive of Waterfront Edinburgh Ltd

To me, the transformation of Edinburgh's Waterfront has always been more than a project to simply regenerate a neglected area of our capital.

I firmly believe the revival of Granton is all about people and communities.

That's why we will build houses that people want to live in, offering a good deal of choice to suit say the first time buyer or a family. And crucially, ensuring that they are affordable.

We want to create sustainable communities.
We are looking not only at the environment but at a community where people can work, live, shop and play.

To guarantee this, I have two simple tests. The first is how long do people need to travel for a pint of milk or a pint of beer? If it's more than five minutes then you don't have a community, as people will simply jump in their cars to find what they want. The second test is I simply ask myself if I would want to live there and if the answer is 'no' then we need to think again.

Edinburgh should rightly have a waterfront that sits equal with any other in the world. We have set the vision high and I know this will present us with many challenges, but we need to think big about the Waterfront at Granton and deliver something truly exceptional.

