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To: Councillor Allard, Convener; Councillor Bouse, Vice-Convener; and Councillors Brooks, Davidson, Hutchison, Kuszniir, Mennie, Tissera and Watson.

Town House,
ABERDEEN 30 October 2024

ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE

The Members of the **ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in **Council Chamber - Town House on WEDNESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2024 at 10.00 am.** This is a hybrid meeting and Members may also attend remotely.

The meeting will be webcast and a live stream can be viewed on the Council's website. <https://aberdeen.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

ALAN THOMSON
INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER – GOVERNANCE

B U S I N E S S

DETERMINATION OF URGENT BUSINESS

1.1. There are no items of urgent business at this time

DETERMINATION OF EXEMPT BUSINESS

2.1. Members are requested to determine that any exempt business be considered with the press and public excluded

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS OR TRANSPARENCY STATEMENTS

3.1. Members are requested to declare any interests or connections

DEPUTATIONS

4.1. There are no requests for deputations at this time

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 5.1. Minute of previous meeting of 28 August 2024 (Pages 5 - 10)

COMMITTEE PLANNER

- 6.1. Committee Business Planner (Pages 11 - 14)

NOTICES OF MOTION

- 7.1. There are no Notices of Motion at this time

REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL, COMMITTEES AND SUB COMMITTEES

- 8.1. There are no referrals at this time

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- 9.1. External Adviser Vacancy - CORS/24/301 (Pages 15 - 20)
- 9.2. Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report - F&C/24/290 (Pages 21 - 56)
- 9.3. No Recourse to Public Funds - CORS/24/289 (Pages 57 - 68)
- 9.4. Supporting People through the Cost of Living Crisis - CORS/24/291 (Pages 69 - 92)
- 9.5. Annual Committee Effectiveness Report - CORS/24/288 (Pages 93 - 114)
- 9.6. Visit to Cairncry Community Centre - CORS/24/292 (Pages 115 - 140)

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

- 10.1. There is no exempt business

Integrated Impact Assessments related to reports on this agenda can be viewed [here](#)

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 5.1

Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee

ABERDEEN, 28 August 2024. Minute of Meeting of the ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Allard, Convener; Councillor Bouse, Vice-Convener; and Councillors Brooks, Davidson, Hutchison, Kuszniir, Mennie, Tissera and Watson.

External Advisers:- Professor John Bone (University of Aberdeen), Kerry Gavin (CFINE), Sophy Green (Instant Neighbour), Maggie Hepburn (ACVO), Marjorie Johnston (NHS Grampian) and Edward Obi.

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be located [here](#).

Please note that if any changes are made to this minute at the point of approval, these will be outlined in the subsequent minute and this document will not be retrospectively altered.

WELCOME

1. The Convener welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the two new External Advisers, Kerry Gavin and Marjorie Johnston, whose appointments had been agreed by the Council on 3 July 2024.

URGENT BUSINESS

2. There was no urgent business.

EXEMPT BUSINESS

3. There was no exempt business.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND TRANSPARENCY STATEMENTS

4. Members were requested to intimate any Declarations of Interest or Transparency Statements in respect of the items on the agenda.

The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to note that Councillor Kuszniir advised that he had connections in relation to agenda item 9.2 (Accessing Money Advice and Advisory Services) as he was (1) a Board Member of Aberdeen Citizens Advice Bureau; (2) a current employee of Burnett and Reid Solicitors and with regard to Taggart Meil and Mathers Solicitors which had been assumed as part of Burnett and Reid; and (3) a financial guardian for four individuals however, having applied the objective test he did not consider that his connections amounted to an interest which would prevent him from participating in the discussion on the item;
- (ii) to note that Councillor Brooks advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda item 9.2 as he had family working for Aberdeen Citizens Advice Bureau

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- and adjacent organisations however, having applied the objective test he did not consider that his connection amounted to an interest which would prevent him from participating in the discussion on the items;
- (iii) to note that Councillor Watson advised that he had a connection in relation to the agenda as he was on the Executive of Aberdeen Trades Union Council however, having applied the objective test he did not consider that his connection amounted to an interest which would prevent him from participating in the discussion on any item; and
- (iv) to note that Professor Bone advised that he had a connection in relation to agenda item 9.1 (Working in Partnership for Aberdeen – Supporting People with the Cost of Living: Round Two of Funding Allocations) as he was a Board Member or CFINE however, having applied the objective test he did not consider that his connection amounted to an interest which would prevent him from participating in the discussion on the item.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 12 JUNE 2024

5. The Committee had before it the minute of the previous meeting of 12 June 2024.

The Committee resolved:-

to approve the minute.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS PLANNER

6. The Committee had before it the planner of committee business, as prepared by the Interim Chief Officer – Governance.

The Committee resolved:-

to note the Planner.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP FOR ABERDEEN - SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH THE COST OF LIVING: ROUND TWO OF FUNDING ALLOCATIONS - CORS/24/229

7. The Committee had before it a report seeking approval for the allocation of the remaining funds from the £1million provided by the Council to support people with the cost of living. The Corporate Strategy and Community Planning Manager introduced the report.

The report recommended:-

that the Committee:

- (a) note that the Council, on 3 July 2024 (1) approved the allocation of funds agreed by the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee on 12 June 2024; and (2) agreed that the remaining funding balance be allocated by the Anti-Poverty and Inequality

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Committee without the need for further approval from the Finance and Resources Committee or Council; and

- (b) approve the proposed allocation of remaining funds from the £1million provided by Council to support people with the cost of living crisis during 2024/25 as described in paragraph 3.7 of the report.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved:-
that the Committee approve the recommendations.

Councillor Kuszniir, seconded by Councillor Brooks moved as an amendment:-
that the Committee:

- (1) note that 'outcome reports' from each funded organisation are required as part of the funding agreements to demonstrate best value for taxpayers;
- (2) note that an update on outcomes will be provided as part of the report scheduled for the next Committee meeting and instruct the Executive Director – Corporate Services to provide a full evaluation report to Committee in June 2025 which will include details of (a) a breakdown of how taxpayers' money has been spent by each organisation, (b) the ultimate spend on staffing and (c) the considered impact of the spend on reducing poverty;
- (3) decline to allocate additional funds to (a) CFINE/Food Poverty Action Aberdeen and (b) SCARF (SC094819) until Committee considers their outcome reports, especially given funding was only approved by Council on 3 July 2024 and no assessment of the spend to date has been provided in the report;
- (4) note reported increase in staffing costs from 2022 to 2023 for both Community Food Initiatives North East Limited (SC262156) and SCARF within their Companies House filings; and
- (5) approve:
 - 5.1 £100,000 for funded work experience placements for long term unemployed individuals, the employing organisations to receive such funding to be determined by the Executive Director - Corporate Services, given the positive impact of supporting return to work and its impact on reducing poverty and improving social mobility; and
 - 5.2 the proposed allocations at 3.7, excluding those relating to (a) CFINE/Food Poverty Action Aberdeen and (b) SCARF.

Councillor Tissera, seconded by Councillor Watson, moved as a further amendment:-
that the Committee:

- (1) note the contents of the report;
- (2) note that the committee has not been provided with a detailed rationale for how the funds should be allocated between different areas of need, or how the specific organisations receiving funds have been identified. Little information has been provided about expectations around monitoring the spending of these funds;
- (3) note that each funded organisation must complete a monitoring report detailing how intended deliverables have been met and instruct the Executive Director – Corporate Services to prepare a report for the Anti-Poverty and Inequality

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- Committee, prior to the allocation of any potential future anti-poverty funds, to ensure that objectives and outcomes will be met; and
- (4) recognise the excellent anti-poverty work by Abernecessities and amend the proposed Abernecessities allocation at 3.7 to award them £140,300 and revise the allocation to CFINE to £142,038. Approve the allocation of other funding as identified in table 3.7.

There being a motion and two amendments, the Committee first divided between the amendment by Councillor Kuszniir and the amendment by Councillor Tissera.

On a division, there voted:-

For the amendment by Councillor Kuszniir (2) – Councillors Brooks and Kuszniir.

For the amendment by Councillor Tissera (2) – Councillors Tissera and Watson.

Declined to vote (5) - Convener, Vice Convener and Councillors Davidson, Hutchison and Mennie.

In accordance with Standing Order 32.7, the Convener exercised his casting vote in favour of the amendment by Councillor Tissera.

On a division, there voted:-

For the motion (5) – Convener, Vice Convener and Councillors Davidson, Hutchison and Mennie.

For the amendment by Councillor Tissera (2) – Councillors Tissera and Watson.

Declined to vote (2) – Councillors Brooks and Kuszniir.

The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to instruct the Corporate Strategy and Community Planning Manager to include information on how CFINE procured and distributed food to partner organisations in the report on Supporting People through the Cost of Living Crisis scheduled for consideration at the next Committee meeting;
- (ii) to instruct the Corporate Strategy and Community Planning Manager to investigate the possibility of a Committee visit to Abernecessities; and
- (iii) to otherwise adopt the motion.

ACCESSING MONEY ADVICE AND ADVISORY SERVICES - CORS/24/230

8. The Committee had before it a report prepared by the Financial Inclusion Team Leader presenting work undertaken to determine issues faced by people in poverty in relation to accessing advice services and financial services.

The report recommended:-

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that the Committee:

- (a) approve the areas for improvement identified in section 3.39 of the report;
- (b) approve the initiation of an improvement project to test changes that will achieve an increase in awareness of services provided and address identified gaps; and
- (c) instruct the Chief Officer – People & Citizen Services to report back to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee in Q1 of 2025 on the findings of the survey and an update of the improvement actions.

The Convener moved, seconded by the Vice Convener:-
that the Committee approve the recommendations.

Councillor Tissera, seconded by Councillor Watson, moved as an amendment:- that the Committee:

- (1) note the contents of the report;
- (2) note the Executive Director has brought a report to the Committee detailing what was asked for on 30 August 2023 despite the SNP voting against the Labour amendment at the last committee meeting as per the approved minutes;
- (3) note that the report does not specifically address the huge issues of in work poverty, and the benefits that fair work can bring to those facing poverty; and
- (4) agree to instruct the Chief Officer – People & Citizen Services to engage with local trade unions across a range of sectors to identify the support that they can offer those facing poverty pay in conjunction with the Council and other partners.

On a division, there voted:- for the motion (7) – the Convener, Vice Convener and Councillors Brooks, Davidson, Hutchison, Kuszniir and Mennie; for the amendment (2) – Councillors Tissera and Watson.

The Committee resolved:-

to adopt the motion.

VALEDICTORY

9. The Convener paid tribute to Maggie Hepburn of ACVO who had been one of the External Advisers since the Committee started in October 2022. He advised that ACVO would be stepping back as an External Advisor to the Committee after today's meeting. The Convener stated that Maggie had brought a wealth of experience as one of the experts representing the charitable sector in the city. He thanked her and ACVO for their valued advice and support and wished them well. Furthermore, the Convener advised that expressions of interest for a replacement would be reported to Members in due course.

The Committee resolved:-

to note the Convener's remarks.

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COMMITTEE VISIT TO CAIRNCRY COMMUNITY CENTRE

10. The Committee resolved:-

to note that Members were invited to attend a visit to Cairncry Community Centre from 12.30-3.00pm.

- **COUNCILLOR CHRISTIAN ALLARD, Convener.**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	ANTI-POVERTY AND INEQUALITY COMMITTEE BUSINESS PLANNER The Business Planner details the reports which have been instructed as well as reports which the Functions expect to be submitting for the calendar year.								
2	Report Title	Minute Reference/Committee Decision or Purpose of Report	Update	Report Author	Chief Officer	Director	Terms of Reference	Delayed or Recommended for removal or transfer, enter either D, R, or T	Explanation if delayed, removed or transferred
3	06 November 2024								
4	External Adviser Vacancy - CORS/24/301	To provide an update on the process for recruiting a new External Adviser.	On the agenda	Michelle Crombie	Community Planning	Corporate Services	1.1		
5	Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report - F&C/24/290	To provide members with the Fairer Aberdeen Fund annual report for 2023/24	On the agenda	Susan Thoms	Education and Lifelong Learning	Families and Communities	1.14		
6	No Recourse to Public Funds - CORS/24/289	To understand what support is available to those who have No Recourse to Public Funds.	On the agenda	Martin Murchie	Data Insights	Corporate Services	1.1		
7	Supporting People through the Cost of Living Crisis - CORS/24/291	To review the allocation of the remaining funding and to reallocate any underspent funds.	On the agenda	Michelle Crombie	Community Planning	Corporate Services	1.1, 3.1		
8	Annual Committee Effectiveness Report - CORS/24/288	To present the annual committee effectiveness report.	On the agenda	Andy MacDonald	Corporate Services	Corporate Services	GD 8.5		
9	Visit to Cairnry Community Centre - CORS/24/292	To provide a review of the visit to Cairnry Community Centre on 28 August 2024 and the issues raised.	On the agenda	Michelle Crombie	Community Planning	Corporate Services	1.3, 1.5		
10	29 January 2025								
11	Committee Visit								
12	25 March 2025								
13	Equality Outcomes Progress Report	To provide an update on the progress achieved for Aberdeen City Council's Equality Outcomes for 2021-25. Last reported to Committee on 8 March 2023.		Baldeep McGarry	People and Citizen Services	Corporate Services	2.2		

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	Report Title	Minute Reference/Committee Decision or Purpose of Report	Update	Report Author	Chief Officer	Director	Terms of Reference	Delayed or Recommended for removal or transfer, enter either D, R, or T	Explanation if delayed, removed or transferred
2									
14	Accessing Money Advice and Advisory Services	On 28 August 2024, Members resolved: to instruct the Chief Officer– People & Citizen Service to report back to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee in Q1 of 2025 on the findings of the survey and an update of the improvement actions.	Quarter 1 of 2025	Angela Kazmierczak	People and Citizen Services	Corporate Services	1.1, 3.2		
15	Integrated Children's Services Plan - Annual Update	On 20 March 2024, Committee resolved to agree in future years that the Plan would be presented to the Anti Poverty and Inequality Committee for its input in advance of being presented to the Education and Children's Services Committee for formal approval.	Last reported to Anti Poverty and Inequality Committee on 20 March 2024. To be reviewed by Committee prior to going to ECS on 29 April 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard	Education and Lifelong Learning	Families and Communities	1.1		
16	11 June 2025								
17	Cost of Living Funding 2024/25 Evaluation Report	To present a year end report on funding allocated.		Michelle Crombie	Community Planning	Corporate Services	1.1, 3.1		
18	Citizens' Assemblies Approach Progress Report	To present a report on the progress of delivering a Citizen Assembly approach on poverty and gender inequality.		Michelle Crombie/ Deirdre Nicolson	Community Planning	Corporate Services	1.2		
19	10 September 2025								
20	Committee Visit								
21	26 November 2025								
22	Citizens' Assemblies Approach Evaluation report	To present an evaluation on delivering a Citizen Assembly approach on poverty and gender inequality.		Michelle Crombie/ Deirdre Nicolson	Community Planning	Corporate Services	1.2		
23	2026 and beyond and TBC								
24	Memorandum of Understanding between Aberdeen City Council and the Department of Work and Pensions on preventing homelessness and improving outcomes	Six monthly update: At the Council meeting on 13 July 2022 the Council resolved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU); to agree that the Co-Leaders of the Council countersign the MoU on behalf of the Council. Last update 20 March 2024.		Jacqui McKenzie	Housing	Corporate Services	2.3		

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	Report Title	Minute Reference/Committee Decision or Purpose of Report	Update	Report Author	Chief Officer	Director	Terms of Reference	Delayed or Recommended for removal or transfer, enter either D, R, or T	Explanation if delayed, removed or transferred
2									
25	Refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-2026	To present the refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2016-26 approved by the Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA) Board on 29 April 2024 - On 21 June 2023 Members agreed: 5(b) to instruct the Chief Officer Early - Intervention and Community Empowerment, to liaise with the Chief Officer - Data and Insights, and align the Committee business planner with key Community Planning Aberdeen deliverables.	2026	Michelle Crombie	Community Planning	Corporate Services	1.1, 1.5 and 1.10		
26	Refreshed Locality Plans 2021-26: North, South and Central.	To present the Locality Plans approved by the CPA Board.	2026	Michelle Crombie	Community Planning	Corporate Services	1.1, 1.5 and 1.10		

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Anti-Poverty and Inequality
DATE	6 November 2024
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Appointment of External Adviser to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee
REPORT NUMBER	CORS/24/301
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Andy MacDonald
CHIEF OFFICER	Michelle Crombie
REPORT AUTHOR	Michelle Crombie, Community Planning Manager
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report requests approval of the appointment of a new external adviser, representing the charitable sector, to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Committee:-

- 2.1 Approves the appointment of a new external adviser representing the charitable sector, as named in this report, to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The Aberdeen City Council Committee Terms of Reference, approved by Council on 21 August 2024, provide as follows:

External Advisers:

Emphasising the close links with Community Planning Aberdeen's Anti-Poverty Group, the Committee will appoint advisers who are not members of the Council. These external advisers will be appointed by the Committee as follows:

- 1 resident of Aberdeen with lived experience of poverty;
- Up to 2 people representing the charitable sector in Aberdeen;
- 1 person representing higher and further education in Aberdeen;
- 1 person representing key interest groups in Aberdeen (that may be appointed for a defined period of time); and
- 1 public health professional/practitioner who works in Aberdeen

- 3.2 In September 2024 a position for an external adviser representing the charitable sector became vacant. An email inviting expressions of interest in the position was shared across partner networks. See Appendix 1.

- 3.3 Three of the people expressing an interest went on to submit an application for the position. See Appendix 2. Selection took place on Thursday 10 October by a panel that included the Corporate Strategy & Community Planning Manager, Chief Executive of ACVO Third Sector Interface and a young person from Aberdeen Youth Movement.
- 3.4 The applicant that was selected for appointment to the vacant external adviser representing the charitable sector in Aberdeen is Donna Hutchison. Donna Hutchison is the Chief Executive Officer of Aberdeen Cyrenians and a member of Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce Policy Chamber Group representing third sector.
- 3.5 The Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee is asked to approve this appointment in line with the Committee's Terms of Reference.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation of this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	No significant risk identified		L	Yes
Compliance	Risk of not complying with committee terms of reference	Appointment of external adviser will mitigate this risk	L	Yes
Operational	No significant risk identified		L	Yes

Financial	No significant risk identified		L	Yes
Reputational	No significant risk identified		L	Yes
Environment / Climate	No significant risk identified		L	Yes

8. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2023-2024</u>	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement <u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u>	The appointment of the external adviser will contribute to a Transparent, Accessible and Accountable Council - Aberdeen City Council works for the people of Aberdeen, and it is important that people can access, understand, and take part in the Council's democratic processes.
<u>Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26</u>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	The appointment of the external adviser will support the work of the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee in contributing to stretch outcome 1 - No one will suffer due to poverty by 2026
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	N/A
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	N/A
Regional and City Strategies	N/A

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	It is confirmed by Executive Director Andy MacDonald that no Integrated Impact Assessment is required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	N/A

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 N/A

11. APPENDICES

11.1 N/A

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Michelle Crombie
Title	Corporate Strategy and Community Planning Manager
Email Address	mcrombie@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Appendix 1 Call for Expressions of Interest

Please share across your networks.

Expressions of interest for the position of External Adviser: Charitable Sector



Aberdeen City Council's [Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee](#) invites expressions of interest from people across our networks who would be interested in serving as an external adviser to the Committee, representing the charitable sector in Aberdeen.

The purpose of the Committee is to monitor and determine the Council's contribution to alleviating and mitigating all forms of poverty and inequality in the City. The Committee is supported in this role by a panel of external advisers who are not members of the Council. The external advisers include:

- 1 resident of Aberdeen with lived experience of poverty
- Up to 2 people representing the charitable sector in Aberdeen
- 1 person representing higher and further education in Aberdeen
- 1 person representing key interest groups in Aberdeen
- 1 public health professional/practitioner who works in Aberdeen

External Advisers will also have the opportunity to become a member of [Community Planning Aberdeen's Anti-Poverty Group](#) to collaborate with representatives of other organisations and community groups working together to tackle and prevent poverty.

Registering your interest

Prospective advisers will be asked to complete a short application form which includes questions about their reasons for applying for the position, what they would bring to the role and what relevant experience they have of poverty and inequality. The Committee values diversity and encourages applications from people from a wide range of backgrounds.

To register your interest and arrange an initial chat, please email mcrombie@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Appendix 2 Application Form



Application – External Adviser to Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee

To find out how we will use your data if you become an external adviser to the Anti-Poverty & Inequality Committee, please click here [Your Data: External Committee members](#)

First Name	
Surname	
Home Address	
Telephone Number	
Email Address	
Organisation you represent	
Address of Organisation	
If your organisation has a website, please include the web address.	
Has your organisation agreed that you will be their representative?	
Please state your reason for wishing to undertake the position of External Adviser to Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee.	
What do you feel you would bring to the role and how you would plan to engage with the wider community as an external adviser?	
Please state any experience you have of poverty and inequality.	
Declaration of interests – is there anything that a reasonable person might consider could influence the advice you give the Committee. For example a relevant financial interest, active membership of a relevant campaign group or political party or involvement of a close family member in these areas.	

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee
DATE	6 November 2024
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2023-24
REPORT NUMBER	F&C/24/290
DIRECTOR	Andy MacDonald
CHIEF OFFICER	Michelle Crombie
REPORT AUTHOR	Susan Thoms, Fairer Aberdeen Coordinator
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.14

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide members with the Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2023-24.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Committee:-

- 2.1 Note the Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report for 2023-24, at Appendix 1 and the positive impact that has been made to lives of people in Aberdeen; and
- 2.2 Instruct the Executive Director Corporate Services to thank all the Fairer Aberdeen Board members, funded partners, and volunteers for the work they've done and their many successes.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The purpose of the Fairer Aberdeen Fund is to tackle poverty and deprivation in priority neighbourhoods and across the City with vulnerable groups and individuals. This report includes the Annual Report for 2023-24 at Appendix 1. Appendix 2 details key performance indicators for all funded initiatives, with figures for the previous 4 years for comparison. It also collates figures for the programme over the last 10 years since the Fund was renamed in 2013, following an amalgamation of several previously ringfenced funds, including the Fairer Scotland Fund.
- 3.2 The Fairer Aberdeen Fund (the Fund) is dispersed and managed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board, made up of representatives from the identified priority neighbourhoods through Regeneration Matters network, the Council, NHS Grampian, Police Scotland and ACVO (Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations). The Fund is aligned with the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) of Economy and People (Children & Young People and Adults) themes and their outcomes.

- 3.3 The Annual Report details how the Fund was used and the impact it had during 2023-24. £1.54m was allocated by the Council to the Fund, to be dispersed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board. A few highlights are summarised here, further detail is available at Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Funding was awarded to 35 projects within the main programme, as well as a Community Support Fund to support community engagement, and an Employment Support Fund to support costs associated with getting people back into work.
- 3.5 Grants ranged from £2,200 to £168,690 in value. A total of 51,445 people were involved in, or benefited from, funded initiatives, 4,696 of them were under 16 years old. 92% of people supported were affected by poverty; living in low income households or in the most deprived areas. 827 volunteers contributed 139,495 hours of volunteering time with a value of over £2.2m. Match funding achieved by funded initiative totalled more than £875,000.
- 3.6 The Economy theme tackles poverty and promotes inclusive economic growth, removes barriers to accessing employment and helps to maximise household incomes. It provides access to food, affordable financial services and products, coordinated provision of quality advice and information services, and access to support and skills needed to return to work, including initial engagement, personal development activity and in work support.
- 3.7 Over the year 965 people were involved in employability programmes, and 249 people moved into work.
- 3.8 5,473 people received money advice or income maximisation advice, with 1,558 reporting a total financial gain of £2.3m, an average of £1,480 per person.
- 3.9 5,420 people saved with a credit union. The credit union provided £2.1m in 2,877 affordable loans, avoiding reliance on payday loans or doorstep lending.
- 3.10 629 tonnes of free food were distributed, the equivalent of 1.5m meals (Food Standards Authority standard calculation of 420g per meal, used by FareShare). 38,205 emergency food parcels were provided and 1,079 food bank users were referred to other services for support. Five cooperative Community Food Outlets were established and 7,600 shops took place at Mobile Cooperative Vehicle services and community pantries, offering a more sustainable and dignified response to food insecurity.
- 3.11 Five Community Flats/Projects were funded in priority areas of Cummings Park, Middlefield, Printfield, Seaton and Tillydrone, providing youth work, adult learning, support and advice, addressing isolation and promoting social inclusion. Community Projects have a role in delivering services and support on a wide range of issues and responding to new issues as they arise, like welfare reform, the continued impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the cost-of-living crisis and need for warm spaces. A number of organisations use the venues to deliver services and distribute resources like free food and sanitary products. Projects support local people's involvement and promote local democracy.

- 3.12 The People (Children and Young People) theme promotes health and wellbeing, provides parenting and family support, services that meet the needs of young people, and opportunities for young people to secure positive destinations. It also provides opportunities for young people to enter employment, education and training. Many more children and young people will benefit from the programme through family support, the provision of food, and employability and financial inclusion support for parents.
- 3.13 Over the year 4,696 children and young people were supported, along with 135 parents and families with complex needs. 409 young people took part in employability programmes, 84 moved on to employment, education, or training. 255 young people accessed 2,127 counselling sessions and 297 young people were involved in training in youth media. At least six families no longer required Social Work support, resulting in a significant saving for statutory services.
- 3.14 The People (Adults) theme promotes health, mental health and wellbeing, community safety, and social cohesion and socially sustainable communities. It supports volunteering, and increased opportunities to influence decision making. Many adults will also benefit from projects listed under the economy theme, that also provide individuals and communities with the social resources needed to reduce feelings of loneliness and social isolation.
- 3.15 Over the year 496 people accessed counselling provision provided locally. Additional patrol hours were allocated to reduce harm to women involved in prostitution and to protect communities from the risk and harm caused by prostitution. 62 ex-offenders and vulnerable adults with complex needs were supported, 23 reduced their risk taking or offending behaviour to secure a positive destination after release, 28 of them moved into positive destinations of volunteering, education and training, and five into employment.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Fairer Aberdeen Fund is allocated by Aberdeen City Council and is aimed at tackling poverty and deprivation; supporting partners to work together to tackle area-based and individual poverty; and to help more people access and sustain employment opportunities. Funding supports initiatives and services for the most disadvantaged communities and vulnerable people across the city.
- 4.2 In 2023-24 the Council agreed a sum of £1.54m to be dispersed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board. The same sum was agreed for 2024-25.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) <small>*taking into account controls/control actions</small>	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	The strategic objectives of the Council and the Community Planning Partnership are not met.	The Fairer Aberdeen programme addresses poverty and inequalities and supports third sector initiatives that can respond to the needs of vulnerable people.	L	Yes
Compliance	Failure to comply with following the Public Pound financial regulations.	The funding programme follows all FtPP regulations and funded initiatives provide feedback reports every 6 months. Outcomes are aligned with the LOIP.	L	Yes
Operational	That community empowerment, which involves local people in decision making and addressing local issues, is not achieved.	The community members on the Fairer Aberdeen Board are supported to engage and decisions made through a deliberative participatory budgeting approach.	L	Yes
Financial	Failure to continue to address the needs of Aberdeen's most disadvantaged communities would have a detrimental effect for the individuals and communities involved and	Supporting people into employment, maximizing people's income, providing early intervention in relation to education and health is not only a better outcome for individuals but reduces the costs	L	Yes

	potentially increased costs in the long term for public services	involved in responding to the effects of poverty in the long run.		
Reputational	Failure to support vulnerable people during a cost of living crisis.	The Annual Report demonstrates impact and the range of support provided.	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	No significant risk identified			

8. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2023-2024</u>	
	Impact of Report
<p>Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement</p> <p><u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting people with the cost of living - many of the initiatives provide services that are preventative and addressing inequalities within the City, however there is an increasing need for support for people in crisis situations which is also being delivered for some of our most vulnerable citizens. Recognise the importance of the third sector in Aberdeen's life and economy – the majority of the Fund is allocated to community and third sector organisations. Empowering Aberdeen's Communities - the Fairer Aberdeen programme is a positive example of partnership working, involving communities in decision making, bringing a wide range of experience and knowledge to support initiatives that can respond to the needs of vulnerable people.
<u>Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26</u>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	<p>The Fairer Aberdeen Fund provides services that tackle poverty and contribute to improving wellbeing for the city's most disadvantaged communities and vulnerable individuals. Supporting people into employment, maximising people's income, providing early intervention in relation to education and health is not only a better outcome for individuals but reduces the costs involved in responding to the effects of poverty in the long run.</p> <p>The Fairer Aberdeen Programme supports the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 1 – 20% reduction in the percentage of people who report they have been worried they would not</p>

	<p>have enough food to eat and/ or not be able to heat their home by 2026. It seeks to mitigate the causes of immediate and acute poverty, helps to ensure access to appropriate benefits, and supports vulnerable and disadvantaged people, families, and groups, particularly in priority neighbourhoods.</p> <p>The Fairer Aberdeen Programme supports the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 2 – 74% employment rate for Aberdeen City by 2026 by helping to deliver the LOIP Improvement Project Aim to support people into sustained, good quality employment, with a particular focus on those from priority neighbourhoods and people over 50.</p>
<p>Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes</p>	<p>The Fairer Aberdeen Fund supports a range of initiatives to support vulnerable people. Many of the services are addressing inequalities within the City and responding to an increasing need for support for people in crisis situations.</p> <p>The Fairer Aberdeen Programme supports the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 3 - 95% of all children will reach their expected developmental milestones by their 27-30 month review by 2026 by providing parenting and family support.</p> <p>The Fairer Aberdeen Programme supports the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 4 - 90% of children and young people report they feel listened to all of the time by 2026, by providing counselling and access to physical and mental health and wellbeing activities.</p> <p>The Fairer Aberdeen Programme supports the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 6 - 95% of children living in our priority neighbourhoods (Quintiles 1 & 2) will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026, by providing pathways to education, training and employment.</p> <p>The Fairer Aberdeen Programme supports the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 9 - 10% fewer adults (over 18) charged with more than one offence by 2026, by providing support services for post release offenders to engage with relevant services.</p> <p>The Fairer Aberdeen Programme supports the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 10 - Healthy life expectancy (time lived in good health) is five years longer by 2026, by providing support to vulnerable and disadvantaged people, families and groups, providing communities with social resources needed to reduce loneliness and social isolation, and increasing opportunities for volunteering.</p>

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	No assessment required. I confirm this has been discussed and agreed with Michelle Crombie, Corporate Strategy and Community Planning Manager on 30.9.24.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	None

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Funded initiatives provide annual monitoring reports which are used to produce the Annual Report.

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix 1 – Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2023-23
- 11.2 Appendix 2 – Fairer Aberdeen Fund Impact Measures 2023-24

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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FAIRER ABERDEEN FUND ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



£1.5m invested
35 projects supported
51,445 people supported
827 volunteers
139,495 hours of time
volunteered
£2.2m value of volunteering
£875,000 match funding
secured by funded
initiatives



**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING
SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES TO TACKLE POVERTY & INEQUALITIES**

10 YEARS OF THE FAIRER ABERDEEN FUND

The Fairer Aberdeen Fund was renamed in 2013, following an amalgamation of several previously ringfenced funds, including the Fairer Scotland Fund

In 2014 **27,343** people were supported, 10 years later this has almost doubled to **51,445**, despite the number of initiatives reducing from 55 to 35

Thank you to all the participants, staff, and **10,000** volunteers who have contributed over **1.3m** hours of volunteering time valued at **£20m** to the Fairer Aberdeen programme over the last 10 years

ECONOMY

249 people into work

965 people involved in employability programmes

409 young people involved in employability programmes

84 young people moved on to employment, education or training

49 young people into work

29 sensory impaired people supported to stay in employment

5,473 people received money advice and income maximisation advice

£2.3m client financial gain, an average of **£1,480** per person

5,420 Credit Union savers **£2.1m** affordable loans provided

629 tonnes of free food distributed, equal to **1.5m** meals

38,205 emergency food parcels provided

1,079 food bank users referred to other services

7,600 shops at community pantries

5 community projects/flats supported in disadvantaged areas

163 people involved in producing community media

73,800 community magazines delivered to **24,600** households

600 contacts with older people to develop digital skills

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

4,696 children and young people supported

135 parents and families with complex needs supported

255 young people accessed **2,127** counselling sessions

297 young people involved in producing youth media

ADULTS

496 people accessed counselling provision

2,581 counselling sessions provided locally in priority areas

62 ex-offenders and vulnerable adults with complex needs supported

23 people reducing their risk taking or offending behaviour

237 vulnerable women involved in prostitution supported

The Fairer Aberdeen Fund is allocated by Aberdeen City Council to tackle poverty and deprivation. The Fund is dispersed and managed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board, a subgroup of the Community Planning Partnership, made up of community representatives from priority neighbourhoods, with representatives from the Council, Aberdeen Health & Social Care Partnership, Police Scotland and ACVO (Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations). The Fairer Aberdeen programme is aligned with the themes from the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: Economy, Adults, and Children and Young People. In 2023-24 funding of £1.5m was made available to support work in priority areas and across the city with vulnerable groups.

Funding was awarded to 35 projects within the main programme, as well as a Community Support Fund to support community engagement, and an Employment Support Fund to support costs associated with getting people back into work.

Grants ranged from £2,200 to £168,690 in value. A total of 51,445 people were involved in, or benefited from, funded initiatives, 4,696 of them were under 16 years old. 827 volunteers contributed 139,495 hours of volunteering time with a value of over £2.2m*. 92% of people supported were affected by poverty (low income households or living in the most deprived areas). £875,000 was brought into the city through match funding secured by funded initiatives.

*Volunteering time is generally valued as the median hourly pay rate in the area, in Aberdeen this was £15.81. (Office of National Statistics, the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE))

ECONOMY

Mitigating the causes of poverty and supporting those experiencing poverty.

Ensure those experiencing poverty have access to all appropriate benefits.

Increasing the number of people in Aberdeen in sustained, fair work.

LOCAL OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN DRIVERS

CFINE SAFE (Support, Advice, Financial, Education) provides financial capability support on benefits, budgeting and debt, and a referral system to direct beneficiaries to agencies who can support them to resolve issues. SAFE provides a holistic, person-centred response to the multiple and complex needs of people on low incomes and reliant on emergency food provision.

Over the year 3,253 clients were engaged, 365 of them received financial gain of £1,039,035, an average of £2,847 per person.

They supported 475 people referred through the food bank and 1,039 referred by other agencies. 2,468 clients were from priority neighbourhoods. 101 people were seen at home visits and 223 at outreach venues. 833 people were referred to CFINE's wrap around services and 545 to partner agencies, such as SCARF and Pathways.

"The S.T.A.R. Community Flat are delighted that the S.A.F.E. Team have started drop-in sessions at the Flat. With the cost of living being so high now many people have benefit and money queries, and these sessions give them an opportunity to access information and advice locally without having to spend money on transport to get them to the City Centre. It's great to have such an accessible service."

Care and Repair provides advice and financial assistance to older people and people with disabilities, to maximise household income and raise charitable funding on behalf of individuals to carry out repairs, improvements, and adaptations to the home.

Over the year 981 households were assisted with income maximisation, charitable and grant funding, achieving a total financial gain of £537,709, an average of £548 per household. 1,742 households received assistance with repairs, handyman services, adaptations, and energy efficiency work. 1,056 people who are disabled or have a long term health condition were supported.

CAB Money Advice Outreach Project provides advice and information using community centres as drop-in centres, assisting clients to maximise their income from welfare benefits and to reduce levels of debt.

327 clients received money advice and 657 received income maximisation advice with a total financial gain of £962,421 an average of £1,465 per client.



92% of people supported by the Fairer Aberdeen Fund are affected by poverty, living in the most deprived neighbourhoods or in low income households

- 249** people into work
- 965** people involved in employability programmes
- 133** young people moved on to employment, education or training
- 5,473** people receiving money advice
- £2.3m** client financial gain
- 629** tonnes of free food distributed, the equivalent of **1.5m** meals*
- 1,079** food bank users referred to other services
- 7,600** shops at community pantries
- 5** community projects/flats supported in disadvantaged areas



St Machar Credit Union improves access to affordable financial services and products and develops credit union membership, by providing and promoting easy access savings accounts for adults and juniors and low-cost loans within the community.

Over the year 5,420 savers deposited £2.2m of savings. They gave out 2,877 affordable loans of over £2.1m, meaning people had access to affordable credit, avoiding payday loans or doorstep lending.

Return of £8 for every £1 invested in income maximisation services

shmuTRAIN (Station House Media Unit) offers comprehensive employability support and skills development training to young people and adults, using community & digital media to engage people, increase motivation and develop core skills such as confidence, communication, and teamwork, and to support people to move on to a positive destination.

Over the year 23 young people attended the Training Academy and 10 moved onto education or training. 35 young people participated in the post-school employability programme and 11 of them moved into positive destinations, 2 into employment, 3 into education and 6 into training. 8 young people secured an SQA, and all showed improved communication skills and increased readiness for work.

The adult programme supported 18 people and 2 moved into employment. All participants reported an increase in aspirations, and an increase in digital skills 9 people reported an increase in job search skills.

NESS (North East Sensory Services) Employment Service provides an employment service to blind, visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing people who live in Aberdeen City. They provide specialist support enabling people to access relevant employment, education, and training

opportunities and to sustain opportunities which have already been accessed.

They worked with 60 clients. 4 people moved into work and 29 were sustained in their current jobs.

Pathways supports people into employment by providing tailored support for people from the first stages of job seeking through to securing and maintaining employment. They identify and encourage participation of hard to reach residents through weekly drop-ins, work clubs, established links with partner agencies and individually tailored one to one Keyworker support.

A minimum of 23 support sessions took place in community centres and projects in areas with an identified need, linking in with other support services like food provision, to ensure that immediate referrals can be made for people who are looking to get back to work.

They exceeded their targets for the year and continue to see more young people under 25yrs (15%); while ensuring they are not duplicating the work of other employability providers. They now record whether clients move into jobs paying the National Living Wage and all clients did so. The majority (70%) went into full time employment.

398 people received support and 217 moved into work. 7 volunteers contributed 336 volunteer hours.

Prince's Trust Team Programme provides a 12 week personal, social and employability skills development programme for participants aged 16-25 who are disadvantaged, with a high proportion having complex needs including offending behaviour, drug and alcohol issues, behavioural issues, problems with literacy, numeracy, mental health, and homelessness.

Over the year 36 people took part in the programme, 7 moved into work and 15 into education, training or volunteering.

Pathways support people to achieve their job goals, rather than just any job. We do not support people into zero hours contracts or temporary jobs. This means they are entering permanent jobs, which pay at least the National Living Wage, for more hours, which makes sure they are better off in employment. Our model of providing one-to-one support to people in their communities works to support large numbers of people into work and helps to alleviate poverty.

"I cannot thank you enough for all your help and encouragement, I really thought I would not get another job. So thank you and I am glad that Pathways was there, it's a great service."

shmuTRAIN

Social return on investment for every £1 of funding received by shmuTRAIN there was a return of £3.69

PATHWAYS

Social return on investment for every £1 of funding received by Pathways there was a return of £4.67



CFINE (Community Food Initiatives North East) provide services to tackle food poverty. They maintain and develop Community Food Outlets and Pantries to provide access to healthy, affordable food in priority areas.

629 tonnes of food were redistributed, equivalent to 1.5m meals. 255 organisations received food. 38,205 emergency food parcels were provided. 423 food bank users were referred to other services that CFINE provide.

5 cooperative Community Food Outlets were supported and there were 7,600 shops at the Mobile Cooperative Vehicle and pantries.

332 volunteers contributed 79,680 hours of volunteer time.

Silver City Surfers provide one to one computer tutoring for over 55s in the City Centre and priority areas, so they can confidently learn how to use the computer and surf the internet safely in a welcoming and social environment.

There were 600 contacts to support older people and 15 volunteers contributed 3,440 hours.

Cummings Park Community Flat, Printfield Community Project Tillydrone Community Flat and Seaton Community Flat provide resources for community activity; venues for a range of organisations that offer support, information and advice; and support community capacity building and adult learning.

They support people with the Cost of Living crisis and help to address social isolation and loneliness.

Cummings Park Community Flat

10 partner agencies used the Flat to deliver advice and support for a range of issues including employability and financial inclusion.

The total number of contacts accessing activities was 1,367. 317 people were supported, 100 people were referred to partner agencies, and 13 volunteers contributed 2,000 hours of volunteer time.

Printfield Community Project

107 children and young people participated in activities in the project and 39 in the After School Club. 14 children under 3 years were registered.

60 young people were provided with healthy lunches during the school holidays. 12 residents were supported to be part of the Woodside Network.

A total of 270 people were supported, and 40 volunteers contributed 300 volunteer hours.

Tillydrone Community Flat

13 agencies used the Flat to deliver advice and support services for a range of issues including Health, Education, Employability and Financial Inclusion. There were 7,200 recorded uses of the Flat facilities, including use of washing machine, phone and access to computers. 187 people got support with debt and benefit issues and 142 were engaged in activities to assist with their recovery from substance/alcohol misuse.

A total of 652 participants were involved, 125 of them under 16 years old. 12 volunteers contributed 1,000 volunteer hours.

Seaton (STAR) Community Flat

11 partner agencies used the Flat to deliver services, with 973 attendances at these. There were 338 uses of Flat facilities and 256 uses of information and advice provision. 15 people attended sessions supporting people back into work and 27 people attended sessions aimed at increasing skills and creativity.

A total of 465 people were supported, and 4 volunteers contributed 40 hours of volunteer time.

SHMU Connecting Communities Through Community Media supports the production of community media in regeneration areas, exploring and addressing local community issues and developing skills by providing training and support, developing opportunities for underrepresented voices to be heard across the city; creating a wide range of benefits for individuals and communities, fostering a spirit of engagement and partnership working; developing transferrable skills in participants; and contributing towards increased social capital.

33 volunteers were supported to produce 7 community magazines, delivered to 24,600 households across priority areas 3 times a year. 102 volunteers were supported to produce radio programmes, including community shows broadcast weekly in priority areas and issue based shows.

195 organisations worked in partnership with SHMU over the year and a total of 163 participants were involved. 147 volunteers contributed 21,320 hours of volunteer time.

Aberdeen Foyer Reach delivers personal, social, wellbeing and employability skills development programmes, aimed at participants who are in recovery from any long-term condition e.g. substance misuse, mental illness or physical illness.

38 clients participated in the course and 7 secured employment, training or education as a result. 1 volunteer contributed 25 hours of volunteer time.

Aberdeen Foyer Families is an employability and personal development programme for parents facing multiple and complex barriers to sustainable, living wage employment.

26 people participated in the programme, all participated in financial literacy sessions and 22 received financial health checks. 3 moved on to further employability programmes and 6 into employment. 22 participants reported increased confidence and knowledge to make healthy lifestyle choices as a result of the course. 2 volunteers contributed 6 hours of volunteer time.

No Recourse North East (NRNE) Partnership: Tackling and Preventing Destitution

provides a coordinated approach in Aberdeen to tackling and preventing destitution experienced by people with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF), including asylum seekers. The aim to achieve this via a wide range of activities, including the training of third and public sector organisations (particularly those with roles around housing, welfare and domestic abuse), support to organisations (particularly those delivering employability services) to improve their service in a way that mitigates barriers relating to NRPF, and engaging with policy makers and relevant forums to advocate for the rights of people with NRPF.

Over the year they delivered 22 training sessions to over 250 staff and volunteers in third and public sector organisations, including 5 employability providers and 5 financial inclusion/benefit advice agencies. They developed a lived experience group to give a space for mutual, peer support, as well as an opportunity to influence policy around related issues. 9 people with NRPF participated in the group and 8 volunteers contributed 180 hours of volunteer time.

AberNecessities were awarded funding to provide 220 winter clothing packs for families affected by poverty

10 YEARS OF THE FAIRER ABERDEEN FUND

2,637 people into work

7,240 people involved in employability programmes

250 sensory impaired people supported to stay in employment

32,914 people receiving money advice and income maximisation advice

£32.8m client financial gain

£20m affordable loans provided

4,507 tonnes of free food distributed

Equivalent of 10.7m meals provided

Aberdeen continues to experience the impact of the economic change that has arisen from the Covid-19 pandemic, and the cost of living with increased inflation, food and energy prices. This is impacting on people across the city, but we know that people living in our priority neighbourhoods, women, children, people with a disability, minority ethnic communities and on a low income are more likely to be affected.

The cost of living crisis, combined with existing inequalities, increase the risk of acute poverty and reduce wellbeing. We are committed to working in partnership, with our communities, to develop and provide targeted, locally based solutions to mitigate against the cost of living and support the long term financial security of all households.



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Ensuring that families receive the parenting and family support they need.

Increasing children's knowledge and understanding of their own physical and mental wellbeing and take an early intervention and prevention approach.

Improving pathways to education, employment and training for all our children

Tackling antisocial behaviour in problem areas with appropriate and effective interventions.

LOCAL OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN DRIVERS

Middlefield Youth Flat and Under 11s work supports young people, especially those with low self-esteem and lack of confidence.

Over the year 235 children and young people were supported. 125 participated in diversionary activities designed to reduce youth crime and exclusion rates. 10 were supported to get into work, training or education and 30 were supported with mental health issues.

110 children attended primary club sessions, 12 of them had additional support needs. 3 volunteers contributed 192 volunteer hours.

Fersands Youth Work Support provides a wide range of youth work services to encourage young people to experience new activities, gain new skills, build relationships, and learn about health issues, employment, and other issues relevant to them.

Over the year 115 young people participated, 96 of them under 16 years old. 1,490 free meals were provided for young people during activities. 8 volunteers contributed 320 hours volunteer time and 8 young people were involved in volunteering.

Home-Start coordinate home visiting support to families identified as at risk and hard to reach, working to prevent further crisis and family breakdown.

29 families in priority areas were supported. 30 families reported reduced isolation, 30 parents reported improved physical or mental health and 30 children had improved emotional

wellbeing. 6 families no longer required Social Work support and 2 care experienced parents needed reduced support. 28 families were supported with financial issues, and 6 families with no recourse to public funds were supported. 30 volunteers contributed 5,460 hours of volunteering time.

Choices Relationship Revolution

delivers an early intervention programme to break the cycle of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and to raise awareness, challenge prejudice and stereotypes amongst young people.

Over the year 1,423 young people participated in the programme, 123 educational workshops and 89 drop in clubs were delivered. 95% of participants reported being able to identify violent and exploitative relationships and 98% an increased knowledge of existing support services following participation in the workshops.

There were 11 young people trained and supported to volunteer and 770 volunteer hours contributed.

Befriend A Child provide accessible group activities for children involved in the Befriend A Child scheme. Youth clubs cover priority areas and provide indoor and outdoor activities after school, for children who are experiencing difficulties at home and are feeling socially isolated.

52 children attended the youth clubs regularly. 10 volunteers contributed 18 hours of volunteering time.

Many more children and young people will benefit from the Fairer Aberdeen Programme through family support, and the provision of food, employability and financial inclusion support for parents

4,969 children and young people supported
135 parents & families with complex needs supported
255 young people accessed
2,127 counselling sessions
297 young people involved in producing youth media



SHMU Youth Media provides creative opportunities for young people (between the age of 12-19), primarily from the priority areas of Aberdeen, to train and take part in all aspects of the production of regular radio programmes.

A total of 297 young people participated, all of them under 16 years old. 37 volunteers contributed 8,695 hours of volunteering time.

Mental Health Aberdeen provides ACIS Youth Counselling, where 183 young people accessed 1,344 counselling sessions. ACIS Youth also operates in Torry, where 38 young people accessed 675 counselling sessions in Primary schools. 408 meetings were held with teachers, parents and other referring agencies and there were 1,148 cases of signposting and advice from ACIS Information Officers.

Geronimo – Time to Play is delivered by Aberdeen City Council's Creative Learning for parents and their early years children (0-5 years) to play and be creative together. Through play, creativity and risk Geronimo aims to improve parents' confidence in taking part in their children's learning and to be confident in their own ability to think creatively and be able to find opportunities to play in any environment; a supermarket queue, at home when feeling busy, or out in the rain.

Sessions open to all residents of priority areas were delivered in Cummings Park, Tillydrone, Torry and Kincorth as well as Camp Geronimo in outdoor settings at Aberdeen Beach and The Grove. 195 people took part in sessions, 105 of them under 16 years old. 100% of parents/carers reported improved relationships with their child, improved wellbeing, and an increase of time spent playing with their children.

Fersands Family Centre supports vulnerable families, providing home visits, one to one support and group work.

60 families received support, a total of 154 people participated and 4 volunteers contributed 600 hours of volunteer time.

Big Bang Drumming Group provides drumming workshops for young people in priority neighbourhoods, enhancing social skills and supporting participants to become active and productive members of their communities. The group supports young people with varying abilities and needs and aims to enhance their confidence and self-esteem.

Over the year 10 young people attended and 2 volunteers contributed 40 hours of volunteer time.

“Fersands Family Support Worker has noticed a significant deterioration in the mental health and wellbeing of some of the families she supports. The cost of living increase has absolutely been a major stress factor for all families but particularly for those who were already struggling with other huge life events. The Support Worker provides one-off or short term assistance to some families and more in-depth support, that can last several years, to others.”

10 YEARS OF THE FAIRER ABERDEEN FUND



10 YEARS OF THE FAIRER ABERDEEN FUND

43,946 children & young people supported

3,197 parents and families with complex needs supported

2,251 young people involved in employability programmes

**713 young people moved on to
employment, education or training**

2,408 young people accessing counselling sessions

1,726 young people involved in producing youth media

**Youth work provision in Middlefield,
Fersands & Printfield**



We will work with families and young children to ensure they have the best possible start in life by helping them reach their developmental milestones. We continue to have a focus on improving mental health and wellbeing and increasing the attainment of our children and young people. We will provide focussed interventions for those who require the most support such as: those from our priority neighbourhoods; those experiencing poverty; those who are Care Experienced; at risk of entering the Justice system; or who have additional Support Needs/disabilities ensuring they have the same opportunities to thrive as their peers.

ADULTS

Provide individuals and communities with the social resources needed to reduce feelings of loneliness and social isolation.

Taking targeted interventions to reduce the impact of crime on communities.

Those who are convicted are supported to engage with relevant services and reduce re-offending.

LOCAL OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN DRIVERS

SHMU Adult Engagement and Support Service supports vulnerable adults with complex needs and/or barriers to participation, including justice experienced individuals. As a result of the challenges experienced, many of the adults supported are at an increased risk of antisocial or risk-taking behaviours.

Practical and emotional support is provided through one-to-one sessions, as well as through wellbeing and social activities, including a Weekly wellbeing Café, Wellbeing Walks, and a monthly Wellbeing radio show, giving organisations and those with lived experience a platform to share their stories.

62 people participated in the programme. 23 participants reduced their risk taking or offending behaviour. 23 people secured a positive destination, 16 volunteering in the community, 4 into education, 8 into training and 5 into employment.

Printfield Feel Good Project and Tillydrone Health & Well Being Project provide Complementary Health sessions to increase relaxation and wellbeing. 80 people accessed 320 sessions and 2 volunteers contributed 80 hours of volunteering time.



Mental Health Aberdeen provides adult counselling in Torry, where 235 clients accessed the service and 796 counselling sessions were provided; and in Calsayseat Surgery, where 160 clients accessed 972 counselling sessions.

Pathways to Wellbeing provides locally based, easily accessible counselling services.

They provided counselling for 101 people accessing 813 counselling sessions. 7 volunteers contributed 336 hours of volunteering time.

Police Scotland Operation Begonia is a joint initiative involving Police Scotland and partner agencies with the two aims of preventing sexual exploitation and supporting those who find themselves involved in selling or exchanging sexual activity. It provides dedicated, directed patrols with the aim of using a trauma informed approach to signpost those involved towards services and more positive destinations.

Begonia was set up to reduce harm to women involved in the on street sex industry and to protect communities from any real or perceived threat, risk and harm caused by prostitution.

During the year 237 women were engaged with and 33 new women encountered through street work patrols and referred to partner agencies. Begonia patrols access rape alarms, toiletries, and snacks to give out when needed. There were 58 dedicated patrols undertaken in Aberdeen to address on street prostitution. 136 male perpetrators were stopped, educated, or charged regarding kerb crawling offences to try and discourage males from frequenting identified areas, in support of local communities

The Fairer Aberdeen programme supported 827 volunteers providing 139,495 hours of volunteering time

496 people accessed counselling provision
2,581 counselling sessions provided locally in priority areas
62 ex-offenders and vulnerable adults with complex needs supported
23 people reducing their risk taking or offending behaviour
237 vulnerable women involved in prostitution supported



"I think the support element that is available at shmu is crucial. Having the wellbeing and ad hoc support available is so valuable. It's great to know that there is support there if I need it. That side of shmu isn't recognised enough."

"I feel that at shmu I can be me, I can be myself, actually, everywhere else I have been an oddball, but here I fit in."

"The walk yesterday was great - it got me out of my flat and talking to people - I needed that."

10 YEARS OF THE FAIRER ABERDEEN FUND

9,169 volunteers

1,362,802 hours of volunteering time

£20m value of volunteering

3,984 adults accessing counselling provision

48,497 counselling sessions

**Community Flats supported in Tillydrone,
Seaton, Cummings Park and Printfield**

The rising cost of living is a key risk to population health and is likely to increase the existing inequalities in healthy life expectancy. With people making difficult decisions between heat and food, evidence shows that general physical and mental health will be affected. There will be long term consequences of the cost of living crisis, many of which are preventable. Mitigating the impacts on people, communities, as well as the inequalities currently experienced, can only be achieved by us working together in partnership and through targeting improvement activity for vulnerable and disadvantaged people, families, and groups.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

“Being on the Fairer Aberdeen Board is an important role; it has a big impact on the city. We need to represent our own communities but also see the bigger picture.”



Regeneration Matters 2012

Regeneration Matters is a forum of community representatives from all the regeneration and priority neighbourhoods in Aberdeen City who nominate 7 members to sit on the Fairer Aberdeen Board along with 3 representatives from the Civic Forum. The group has been meeting since 2006 and is supported by the Fairer Aberdeen Development Officer. They meet every month to discuss issues of interest across all the communities, as well as managing the Community Support Fund to support community engagement and empowerment. Over the year the Fund supported Community Networks, printing and distribution of Community Newsletters, IT support and communications.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Since 2016 the Fairer Aberdeen Board has allocated £25,000 to undertake PB (Participatory Budgeting) events. These have been held in Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank; George Street, Castlehill & Pittodrie; Kincorth; Garthdee; Mastrick, Sheddocksley & Summerhill; and a city wide event focusing on young people. The Fairer Aberdeen Coordinator and Development Officer support a steering group made up of partners and community representatives, which prioritise the funding for initiatives that will improve communities, support wellbeing, and help people feel less isolated.

PB gives local people the opportunity to decide on how funding is allocated in their area. People who have attended public voting events fed back that they enjoyed the opportunity to decide where the funding went and to be involved in decision making. They also appreciated the networking opportunities, meeting other local people, seeing what was going on in the area, and hearing the presentations from the groups.

The projects supported by participatory budgeting will contribute towards achieving Local Outcome Improvement Plan priorities including providing individuals and communities with the social resources needed to reduce feelings of loneliness and social isolation.



Fairer Aberdeen PB Steering Group 2019



“It gives people the chance to directly influence how funding is allocated.”



Fairer Aberdeen Fund Support Team:

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“It is amazing for the community to have the opportunity to decide how public funding is used within our localities. Please keep this going.”

PB FUNDED INITIATIVES 2023-24

Muirfield Primary School Parent Council
Playground Refurbishment

Somebody Cares
Winter Wellbeing

Aberdeen North Parish Church
Chat & Snack

Mastrick Community Centre
Mastrick Under 5s

Lewis Court Sheltered Home
BBQ for all at Lewis Court

Cain Boxing Club
New equipment and kits

Fairer Aberdeen Programme 2014-2024

The Fairer Aberdeen Fund was renamed in 2013, following an amalgamation of several previously ringfenced funds, including the Fairer Scotland Fund. Over ten years 337,796 people* have been supported, and 9,169 volunteers* have contributed 1,362,802 hours of volunteering time, worth £20,090,000.**

£1,534,000 has been allocated by Aberdeen City Council annually. In 2014 27,343 people were supported, 10 years later this has almost doubled to 51,445, despite the number of initiatives reducing from 55 to 35.

2,637 people have moved into work, 32,676 affordable loans have been provided, and total client financial gain is £32,845,777.

In 2014-15 there were 125 tonnes of free food distributed, in 2023-24 this had increased to 629 tonnes. Over 10 years there was a total of 4,507 tonnes, an equivalent 10,731,167 meals*** provided to groups and organisations across the city to support people in food insecurity.

43,946 young people have been involved in early intervention, learning, wellbeing and employability activities. 3,197 parents and families with complex needs have been supported, and 6,392 people have accessed counselling services.

10 YEARS OF THE FAIRER ABERDEEN FUND

Fairer Aberdeen Fund 2014-2024	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	10 YEAR TOTAL
Amount invested	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£1,534,000	£15,340,000
Number of funded projects	55	49	45	45	43	41	40	38	36	35	431
Number of people supported	27,343	31,335	25,778	27,059	24,315	34,431	36,252	35,610	44,228	51,445	337,796
Number of volunteers	1,040	1,232	1,070	971	1,044	973	630	643	739	827	9,169
Hours of volunteering time	109,473	172,392	134,713	126,500	155,000	145,324	120,756	114,280	144,869	139,495	1,362,802
Value of volunteering	£1,500,000	£2,400,000	£1,850,000	£1,940,000	£2,200,000	£2,200,000	£1,900,000	£1,700,000	£2,200,000	£2,200,000	£20,090,000

*Participants and volunteers are counted annually, so figures may contain duplicates for people involved/volunteering over more than one year.

**Volunteering time is generally valued as the median hourly pay rate in the area (Office of National Statistics, the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE))

***Food Standards Authority calculation of 2,381 meals per tonne, used by FareShare

Fairer Aberdeen Programme 2014-2024

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	10 year TOTAL
ECONOMY											
Number of people into work	376	290	314	280	265	270	97	236	260	249	2,637
Number of people involved in employability programmes	676	690	746	664	719	736	605	611	828	965	7,240
Number of sensory impaired people supported to stay in employment	27	21	26	26	30	36	26	26	29	29	250
Number of people receiving money advice/income maximisation advice	2,305	2,482	2,883	3,196	4,287	2,126	2,479	3,032	4,651	5,473	32,914
Total client financial gain	£2,569,028	£2,405,253	£3,031,494	£3,031,494	£4,031,255	£3,179,778	£4,024,738	£5,941,710	£2,323,811	£2,307,216	£32,845,777
Number of Credit Union savers	6,574	6729	8,375	8,458	5,255	5,625	4,947	5,326	5,099	5,420	61,808
Number of affordable loans provided	2,984	2718	3,319	3,326	3,611	3,597	3,420	3,900	2,924	2,877	32,676
Value of affordable loans provided	£1,800,000	£1,835,565	£2,235,714	£2,477,052	£2,200,000	£1,747,286	£1,722,604	£1,829,737	£1,938,069	£2,100,000	£19,886,027
Tonnes of free food distributed	125	262	405	415	461	484	615	557	554	629	4,507
Emergency food parcels provided	12,272	10,000	10,053	12,112	17,869	20,045	44,378	23,937	35,307	38,205	224,178
Number of food bank users referred to other services	2,000	2,186	1,064	2,016	2,433	582	600	650	998	1,079	13,608
Number of people involved in producing community media	136	135	136	130	148	137	80	81	238	163	1,384
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE											
Number of children and young people supported	5,000	4,681	4,995	4,648	4,087	4,327	3,094	4,099	4,319	4,696	43,946
Number of parents and families with complex needs supported	315	279	261	180	421	469	198	495	444	135	3,197
Number of young people involved in employability programmes	164	164	199	287	204	191	144	185	304	409	2,251
Number of young people moved on to employment, education or training	81	80	75	95	91	62	26	43	76	84	713
Number of young people accessing counselling sessions	241	227	200	179	256	359	257	231	203	255	2,408
Number of young people involved in producing youth media	78	78	91	176	268	186	133	149	270	297	1,726
ADULTS											
Number of adults accessing counselling provision	379	427	373	378	420	404	379	355	373	496	3,984
Number of counselling sessions provided locally in priority areas	4,295	4,448	4,995	4,809	4,846	6,124	5,002	4,521	4,749	4,708	48,497

Funded initiatives – key performance indicators

Figures for 2023-24 are shown in comparison with the previous 4 years.

ECONOMY

CAB Money Advice Outreach Project	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of clients receiving money advice	218	147	229	322	327
Number of clients receiving income maximisation advice	484	384	476	687	657
Number of community appointments	1,527	1,379	2457	2,677	2,578
Total client financial gain	£760,136	£624,000	£637,904	£1,130,559	£962,421
Total client financial gain - money advice/debt counselling	£368,315	£154,318	£230,530	£510,921	£361,215
Total client financial gain - income maximisation	£391,821	£469,682	£407,374	£619,638	£601,206
Total financial gain per head	£1,570	£1,625	£1,340	£1,646	£1,465
Total number of participants	484	384	476	687	657
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	1	0
Number of volunteers	0	0	0	2	2
Number of volunteer hours contributed	0	0	0	200	480
Care and Repair Funding Officer	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of households assisted for income maximization and charitable funding	441	254	312	289	536
Total financial gain/award: Benefits & Annuities	£493,688	£94,891	£355,704	£135,417	£305,760
Total financial gain/award: Charitable Funding	£103,043	£75,157	£39,552	£82,422	£97,902
Total financial gain/award: Local/National Grants			£123,983	£223,143	£134,047
Total financial gain/award: C & R Low-Cost loan	new indicators introduced			£6,775	£2,842
Number of people assisted across services who are living with a long-term health problem or registered disabled	794	581	898	896	1,056
Total number of participants				2,499	2,176
Total number of participants aged under 16 years				28	12
Number of volunteers				10	16
Number of volunteer hours contributed				1,240	210
NESS Employment Service	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of people receiving advice on benefits	new indicator introduced			10	8
Number of people engaged and registered with the service	75	50	62	64	60
Number of people moving into work	6	1	4	7	4
Number of people in work receiving support to retain work or look at alternative options	36	26	28	29	29
Number of people supported to use technology adaptations	7	9	8	12	7
Number of people moving onto education and training	14	4	9	8	5
Number of people taking up work placement and volunteering opportunities	7	0	2	8	2
Total number of participants	75	50	62	64	60
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteer hours contributed	0	0	0	0	0
Pathways to Employment	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Numbers of unemployed or low paid people (including working people on benefits) case loaded to receive support	461	437	383	433	398

Numbers of people supported into work	192	85	206	238	217
One-to-one support sessions delivered in regeneration and at-risk communities each week	23	0	23	23	23
Total number of participants	461	437	383	433	398
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	7	7	7	7	7
Number of volunteer hours contributed	294	210	320	320	336
Princes Trust Team Programme	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of participants progressing to employment, training education or volunteering	18	9	15	6	15
Number of people moving into work	10	2	4	2	7
Number of entrants achieving SQA units	23	14	18	13	23
Number of entrants achieving Food Hygiene certificate	30	0	0	22	14
Number of entrants achieving First Aid certificates	20	7	14	0	16
Number retained on the programme	23	14	18	13	23
Number of completers taking part in final presentation	23	14	18	13	23
Number of young people participating in mental health and wellbeing activities during the course	33	21	25	14	36
Number of unemployed young people participating in the programme from deprived areas of the City	20	15	18	28	6
Number of participants taking part in community project	25	16	22	21	31
Number of participants previously engaged in offending behaviour	23	14	18	8	5
Number of care experienced young people taking part in the course	23	14	18	6	5
Number of crisis interventions to alleviate poverty	7	2	3	12	16
Total number of participants	33	21	25	32	36
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	3	28	50	10	14
Number of volunteer hours contributed	120	28	65	40	200
St Machar Credit Union	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of adult savers	3,865	3,421	3,716	3,451	3,655
Number of junior savers (those aged under 16)	1,760	1,526	1,610	1,648	1,765
Total savings deposited (both adult and juniors)	£2,195,980	£2,206,037	£2,625,705	£2,969,693	£3,185,737
Number of affordable loans provided	3,597	3,420	3,900	2,924	2,877
Total amount of affordable loans provided	£1,747,286	£1,722,604	£1,829,737	£1,938,069	£2,124,616
Number of Prepaid Debit Card				262	986
Total number of participants	5,625	4,947	5,326	5,099	5,420
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	1,760	1,526	1,610	1,648	1,740
Number of volunteers	9	9	9	8	9
Number of volunteer hours contributed	2,800	1,850	800	3,925	2,650
CFINE SAFE	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of clients engaged	582	922	1,434	2,668	3,253
Total client financial gain	£879,168	£1,010,278	£3,367,615	£1,057,835	£1,039,035
Number of people reporting financial gain	202	267	203	254	365
Total average financial gain per head	£4,352	£3,793	£16,589	£4,165	£2,847
Number of people receiving one to one digital support	311	0	54	137	228
Number of people undertaking digital training to improve IT and employability skills	72	0	43	107	280
Number of outreach venues	9	0	6	21	58

Number of people engaged at outreach sessions (including virtual)	69	0	45	63	223
Number of community events attended	24	0	0	8	16
Number of food bank self-referrals (through phone / drop ins)	1,021	2,036	325	523	475
Number of partner referrals received (e.g., NHS, Social Work, FIT etc)	89	224	378	832	1,039
Number of mandatory reconsiderations submitted to DWP	145	93	184	51	31
Number of mandatory reconsiderations successful	22	9	39	12	25
Number of appeals/tribunals undertaken	61	52	67	30	5
Number of clients from priority neighbourhoods		446	439	1,464	2,468
Number of people seen at home visits	41	0	17	120	101
Number of people referred to CFINE's wrap around services e.g., Food access, Community Pantry, CBT, Volunteering, Employability, Cooking on a budget sessions'	new indicators introduced			308	833
Number of people referred to partner agencies e.g., SCARF, Pathways, Housing				575	545
Total number of participants	4,180	1,942	1,537	3,284	5,021
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	45
Number of volunteers	22	10	5	31	31
Number of volunteer hours contributed	1,010	313	1,080	7,440	7,440
Aberdeen Foyer REACH	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of clients participating in 'budgeting' sessions during 'Personal Development' weeks of the course	34	20	25	34	38
Number of clients securing employment, training and/or education as a result of the course	7	6	6	4	7
Number of clients participating in mental health and wellbeing activities during 'Personal Development' weeks of the course.	34	20	25	34	38
Number of clients participating in the Community Project and Community Challenge	26	0	0	12	25
Number of clients achieving recognised training certificates and/or qualifications	28	29	16	9	33
Number of digital skills sessions delivered	28	28	36	36	38
Number of learners taking part in cooking sessions	22	20	25	23	21
Number of people receiving Financial Health Check	new indicators introduced			34	38
Number of people accessing crisis support				7	3
Number of people residing in highest deprivation areas (SIMD) accessing programme				23	3
Number of care experienced people participating in programme				4	6
Number of vulnerable/disadvantaged people accessing programme				34	8
Number of people supported to access social resources in their community				8	21
Number of events to promote and celebrate recovery within the community				5	6
Total number of participants	34	20	25	34	38
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	20	2	3	12	1
Number of volunteer hours contributed	350	120	200	70	25

SHMU Community Media	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Community Radio					
Number of volunteers contributing to shmuFM	100	49	50	55	102
Number of hour-long weekly Community radio shows broadcast	6	12	6	2	3
Number of weekly issue-based radio shows produced and broadcast	32	19	25	33	27
Number of weekly 'What's On' news feature collated and broadcast	25	25	25	25	35
Community Magazines					
Number of volunteers supported to produce community magazines	37	31	31	36	33
Number of magazines produced and distributed	18	18	19	21	21
Number of editorial teams supported and meeting regularly	7	7	7	7	7
Number of Editorial Team meetings supported	74	63	66	63	65
Number of Joint Editorial Team meetings supported	6	2	0	3	1
Community TV					
Number of Community TV workshops held		not funded		15	18
Number of volunteers contributing to Community TV				17	14
Community Websites					
Number of Community Websites launched				0	1
Number of volunteers contributing to Community Websites				0	9
Across Platforms					
Number of individuals and groups supported to participate in training and skills development	173	73	148	137	115
Number of volunteers reporting increased confidence	new indicators introduced			95	85
Number of volunteers acting as mentors				12	4
Number of volunteers reporting feeling less isolated/lonely				95	130
Number of volunteers receiving tailored employability support				5	12
Number of items of content produced relating to Health & Wellbeing across all media platforms				72	194
Number of items of content produced relating to food and fuel poverty across all media platforms				33	152
Number of organisations working in partnership	347	131	241	117	195
Number of guests from local authorities/local & national government	15	12	10	48	48
Total number of participants	265	195	258	138	163
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	40	10		0
Number of volunteers	137	80	81	108	147
Number of volunteer hours contributed	21,454	29,901	25,963	26,857	21,320
Silver City Surfers	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of new learners	86	75	32	108	87
Average number of learners at each session	5	4	5	6	5
Average number of volunteers at each session	5	6	4	5	4
Number of sessions offered	183	80	210	152	150
Total number of contacts		670	690	590	600
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	42	40	13	17	15
Number of volunteer hours contributed	2,795	5,000	220	4,105	3,440

Cummings Park Community Flat	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of management committee meetings	10	2	1	9	10
Number of management committee members	14	11	11	11	10
Number of management committee training events	3	1	1	3	2
Number of contacts accessing flat led activities	3,004	72	268	868	1,367
Number of individual users of Flat facilities - enquiries, phone, use of computers	47	22	32	203	317
Number of partners/agencies delivering services from Cummings Park Community Flat	17	1	5	11	30
Number of individuals referred to partner agencies by volunteers	100	100	100	100	100
Number of contacts accessing the drop in sessions facilitated by partners	66	9	41	104	100
Total number of youth work contacts	42	6	5	5	130
Total number of adult learning contacts	198	125	98	396	10
Total number of individual adult learners	71	53	40	51	200
Number of people on the Cumming North editorial group	6	3	2	3	67
Number of people who have access to Wifi for phone, computer etc.	329	22	all	293	4
Number of people undertaking walking activities	24	19	36	28	50
Number of people signposted to relevant health agencies	54	39	45	7	30
% of people reporting they find flat safe and welcoming place to attend	90%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of agencies flat is working in partnership with	17	4	4	11	10
Number of people involved in Litter Picking and community walkabouts	26	0	0	12	17
Total number of individual participants	447	144	119	389	317
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	59	4	3	4	8
Number of volunteers	22	16	17	9	13
Number of volunteer hours contributed	5,070	1,000	1,104	1,315	2,000
Printfield Community Project	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of children provided with healthy lunches during school holidays	50	0	60	70	60
Number of children & young people who attend out of school care and youth services	170	76	150	130	95
Number of children registered at After School Club	69	46	47	43	39
Number of children under 3 yrs registered	12	10	8	10	14
Number of children and young people aged 5-16 participating	100	40	60		80
Number of residents who participate in Woodside Network	25	0	20	14	12
Number of volunteers involved in Printfield Management Committee, Printfield Forum, Woodside Network	60	20	45	32	35
Number of Woodside Network meetings supported	6	0	6	10	10
Number of Adult Learners involved in Courses	12	0	6	8	12
Number of Adult courses provided	4	0	2	3	4
Number of people getting support with benefits and 1-2-1 sessions	60	30	60	60	60
Total number of participants	250	222	250	234	270
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	182	86	150	98	107

Number of volunteers	40	40	30	30	40
Number of volunteer hours contributed	450	450	300	600	300
Seaton Community Flat	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of Agencies Using the Flat	16	12	11	11	13
Number of attendances at agencies	1,975	207	685	1,171	973
Number of uses of Flat Facilities	521	36	152	278	338
Number of uses of information and advice provision	330	57	137	192	256
Number of members of the STAR Flat Management Committee	3	3	3	3	3
Number of STAR Management Committee Meetings and training sessions held	3	2	3	3	4
Number of STAR Flat Management Committee Meetings and Training Sessions held.	3	2	3	3	4
Number of sessions (group or individual) supporting getting people back into work	41	0	34	33	43
Number of attendances at sessions supporting getting people back into work	266	0	81	143	184
Number of people involved in sessions supporting getting people back into work	15	0	24	15	15
Number of Credit Union Branch openings held	47	7	36	46	16
Number of attendances (pay ins) at Credit Union	421	40	163	281	69
Number of sessions aimed at increasing skills and activity	153	0	36	101	80
Number of attendances at sessions aimed at increasing skills and creativity	587	0	158	531	464
Number of people involved in seasons aimed at increasing skills and creativity (individuals)	39	4	49	42	27
Number of uses of services and activities that that support improving mental health, wellbeing and diet	1,456	9	346	439	504
Number of sessions in the Chill Out Room	1,152	0	78	200	210
Number of attendances at Sessions in the Chill Out Room	780	0	130	90	281
Total number of individual participants	452	162	370	404	465
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	16	0	1	24	161
Number of volunteers	4	4	10	8	4
Number of volunteer hours contributed	240	60	94	60	40
Tillydrone Community Flat	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of uses of flat facilities – washing machine, phone, access to computers	3,426	1,669	3,577	6,400	7,200
Number of agencies using the Flat to deliver advice and support services for a range of issues including Health, Education. Employability and Financial Inclusion	25	10	12	12	13
Number of locals/members on the Committee	8	8	8	8	8
Number of Management Committee meetings and training sessions occurring	14	2	12	12	12
Number of people on the Tilly Tattle editorial group	2	1	1	2	2
Number of reps from the Flat attending Tillydrone Network meetings	3	0	2	2	2
Number of attendances at Learning opportunities	508	0	120	258	480
Number of adults involved in Adult Learning Activities	36	0	15	15	20
Number of volunteers supporting the service	12	10	12	13	15

Number of opportunities provided to engage with people with mental health issues and/or feeling of social isolation	40	72	112	285	175
Number of Food Parcels provided to those in need	744	760	1,268	1,994	3,375
Number of service users who are engaged in activities to assist with their recovery from drug/alcohol issues	72	68	94	83	142
Number of network meetings attended	8	0	4	8	10
Number of users who access computers at the flat	27	22	42	42	52
Number of growing spaces and planters in flat garden to engage with local residents to grown fruit/veg/flowers	2	6	6	8	6
Number of service users assisted with debt or benefit issues inhouse and also referred to other agencies	172	130	198	236	187
Total number of participants	360	322	438	611	652
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	41	97	100	193	125
Number of volunteers	12	10	12	13	12
Number of volunteer hours contributed	600	350	700	520	1,000
Tackling Food Poverty	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Tonnes of food redistributed	484	615	557	554	629
Equivalent number of meals redistributed	1,152,404	1,464,315	1,326,217	1,314,286	1,497,619
Number of cooperative Community Food Outlets	44	0	0	2	5
Number of emergency food parcels distributed	20,045	44,378	23,937	35,307	38,205
Number of community organisations receiving FareShare food	205	187	232	193	255
Number of shops at Mobile Cooperative Vehicle services		not funded		4,013	7,600
Lived experience group re-established				1	1
Total number of participants	15,400	20,000	15,293	25,529	30,855
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	322	231	281	330	332
Number of volunteer hours contributed	77,280	55,440	67,440	792,000	79,680
Aberdeen Foyer Families	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of clients participating in financial literacy sessions		not funded		36	26
Number of Financial Health checks completed as part of the course				36	22
Number of people accessing crisis support				6	4
Number of participants moving into employability programmes including Fair Start Scotland, REACH as a result of the course				3	3
Number of participants reporting increased confidence and knowledge to make healthy lifestyle choices as a result of the course				36	22
Number of people residing in highest deprivation areas (SIMD) participating in programme				20	5
Number of care experienced people participating in programme				6	4
Number of participants to move directly to quality, living wage employment as a result of the course				4	6
Number of participants supported to access social resources in their community				10	14
Number of participants taking part in cooking sessions				23	22
Number of digital skills sessions delivered				30	32

Total number of participants				36	26
Total number of participants aged under 16 years				0	0
Number of volunteers				5	2
Number of volunteer hours contributed				25	6
No Recourse North East (NRNE) Partnership	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of training sessions provided to third and public sector organisations		not funded		14	22
Number of employability providers in Aberdeen that have received training and/or additional support from the project				4	5
Proportion of employability providers in Aberdeen that receive training and support from the project				50%	60%
Number of financial/benefits advice agencies in Aberdeen that have received training and/or additional support from the project				5	5
Proportion of financial/benefits advice agencies in Aberdeen that receive training and support from the project				50%	50%
Number of individuals with NRPF participating in the lived experience group				3	9
Number of meetings or activities of the lived experience group				1	6
Number of direct interactions with relevant policy makers, aimed at improving policy and strategy relating to people with NRPF				12	12
Number of relevant policy forums and consultation opportunities attended where learning from the project has been shared				15	18
Number of people participating in lived experience group				3	
Number of workers receiving training				221	250
Number of people with NRPF benefitting from improved service delivery					
Total number of participants				250	250
Total number of participants aged under 16 years				0	0
Number of volunteers				0	8
Number of volunteer hours contributed				0	180
AberNecessities	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of winter clothing packs provided		not funded			220
Number of ethnic minority households supported					50
Number of people with No Recourse to Public Funds supported					50
Number of lone parents supported					100
Total number of participants					220
Number of volunteers					30
Number of volunteer hours contributed					1800

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Home-Start Aberdeen	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of families using community pantries				8	8
Number of families supported with financial issues	23	34	19	22	28
Number of families supported who have no recourse to public funds				4	6
Number of families supported in regeneration areas	38	41	30	30	29

Number of families report that they feel better able to cope with the issues in their lives	38	35	28	21	30
Number of families no longer needing Social Work support	5	2	4	4	6
Number of care experienced parents needing reduced Social Work support				1	2
Number of children accessing play and learning opportunities	35	25	43	30	45
Number of families with increased access to local and community services	34	30	22	14	28
Number of families supported to access universal and statutory services	34	35	16	13	12
Number of families who supported to create a safer home environment				4	12
Number of families reporting reduced isolation	38	35	26	24	30
Number of families participating in Recipe for Life project	10	18	7	3	7
Number of people reporting improved physical and/or mental health	34	35	24	27	30
Number of children whose emotional wellbeing has improved	new indicators introduced			28	30
Number of families supported where one or more parent is care experienced				2	5
Number of families supported to play a more active role in their community	12	15	13	10	20
Total number of participants	129	130	96	97	106
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	65	76	53	48	62
Number of volunteers	49	34	28	32	30
Number of volunteer hours contributed	2,890	1,375	784	4,992	5,460
Fersands Youth Work Support	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of group activities available to youths 12yr + per week	6	6	6	5	6
Number of youth workers/volunteers available to support young people	8	8	8	8	11
Number of group activities available to 5 – 12yrs per week	4	4	4	4	4
Number of Holiday activities / days offered 5-12 yrs	20	20	20	21	20
Number of Holiday activities offered to youths 12 +	15	15	15	16	24
Number of Young People involved in volunteering	8	4	8	12	8
Number of free meals provided for 5-12 yr olds during activities	new indicators introduced			447	980
Number of free meals provided for 12yrs + during activities				222	510
Free Holiday Residential experience offered to young people 5-21	4	4	4	4	5
Total number of participants	120	90	110	116	115
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	101	72	96	99	96
Number of volunteers	8	4	8	7	8
Number of volunteer hours contributed	7	120	300	420	320
SHMU Train Initiative	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Training Academy					
Number of young people participating across TA provision	5	12	44	20	23
Number of young people securing Positive destinations:	5	1	6	9	10
Employment	0	0	1	0	0
Education	5	0	2	6	10
Training	0	1	3	3	0
Progression Milestones:					
Number of participants securing interview for work	0	0	1	0	0
Number of participants securing interview for College	5	0	1	1	10
Number of participants securing an SQA qualification	2	0	2	0	0
Soft Outcomes:					
Number of participants reporting increase in health and wellbeing	5	0	25	20	14
Number of participants reporting increase in aspirations	5	0	25	20	14
Number of participants reporting increase in job search skills	5	0	25	20	5
Positive Transitions					
Number of young people participating in post-school employability programmes	45	28	40	33	35
Number of young people securing Positive Destinations:	26	15	34	20	11

Employment	7	4	4	2	2
Education	9	9	5	3	3
Training	10	2	15	15	6
Progression Milestones:					
Number of participants securing an SQA qualification	11	7	14	11	8
Number of young people moving into volunteering	3	0	2	3	2
Number of young people securing an interview for work	14	6	19	9	5
Number of young people securing an interview for college	10	8	9	4	5
Soft Outcomes:					
Number of participants reporting increase in health and wellbeing	45	27	29	33	35
Number of participants reporting increase in aspirations	45	27	29	33	35
Number of participants reporting increase in job search skills	45	27	29	33	35
Adult Programmes (inc women returners, adult employability etc)					
Number of participants (inc. support at Ukrainian sessions)	not funded			30	18
Number of participants securing Positive Destinations:				2	2
Employment				0	2
Education				0	0
Training				2	0
Progression Milestones:					
Number of participants securing an SQA qualification	not funded			0	0
Number of participants moving into volunteering				3	0
Number of participants securing an interview for work				4	2
Number of participants securing an interview for college				0	0
Soft Outcomes:					
Number of participants reporting increase in health and wellbeing	not funded			14	18
Number of participants reporting increase in aspirations				14	18
Number of participants reporting increase in job search skills				18	9
Number of participants reporting increase in basic skills				18	18
Number of participants reporting increase in digital skills				14	18
Number of outreach sessions delivered in the community				8	2
Number of participants engaged at community outreach sessions				26	3
Total number of participants				83	76
Total number of participants aged under 16 years				6	4
Number of volunteers				0	0
Number of volunteer hours contributed				0	0
SHMU Youth Media	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of young people attending training sessions	186	38	169	270	297
Total number of young people actively involved with Youth Media on a regular basis	28	33	25	24	61
Number of participants aged under 16 years actively involved on a regular basis	25	29	19	20	51
Number of young people acting as members of Youth Media Forum				12	10
Number of young people demonstrating increased communication skills	138	38	169	214	297
Number of young people demonstrating increased confidence	138	38	169	134	297
Number of young people who feel able to do new things	139	38	169	214	256
Number of young people who report their skills are increasing	141	38	169	204	297
Number of young people who report increases in wellbeing against SHANARRI indicators	142	33	76	212	297
Number of young people securing Dynamic Youth Awards	6	0	0	0	6
Number of young people securing Saltire Awards	20	0	5	4	12
Number of young people securing SVQ's	10	0	3	2	0
Number of young people progressing to employment	18	0	3	1	4
Number of young people progressing to further/higher education	3	2	4	2	2
Number of young people progressing to training	12	8	13	1	0

Total number of participants	186	133	149	270	297
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	175	34	138	249	297
Number of volunteers	28	33	25	24	37
Number of volunteer hours contributed	14,900	19,820	5,875	8,112	8,695
Middlefield Youth Hub	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of young people over the year involved in diversionary activities to reduce crime and exclusion rates	140	50	75	96	125
Number of youth work sessions run at the youth hub	1,600	298	1,335	870	920
Number of young people attending the youth hub	170	50	95	96	120
Number of day trips	20	4	0	10	20
Number of young people that continue to have or new individual learning plans or goals	45	50	60	30	40
Number of young people being supported to get into work, training or college	10	8	6	15	10
Number of young people presenting or needing support with mental health issues	20	40	25	30	30
Number of young people that have additional support needs	12	15	25	30	35
Number of children with additional needs				10	12
Number of children under 11yrs attending through the year	30	0	20	68	110
Total number of participants	170	50	95	164	235
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	145	45	75	148	210
Number of volunteers	3	1	0	4	3
Number of volunteer hours contributed	80	40	0	140	192
Big Bang Drumming Group	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of young people attending	12	0	5	10	10
Total number of participants	16	0	5	12	10
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	12	0	4	10	10
Number of volunteers	1	0	2	2	2
Number of volunteer hours contributed	40	0	20	40	40
Mental Health Aberdeen ACIS Youth Counselling	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of counselling sessions for 12 – 18 at ACIS Hub	2,147	1,387	1,124	1,431	1,344
Number of clients aged 12+ at hub	223	114	121	128	183
Number of clients at Primary Schools (Tullos & Walker Road)	48	43	29	32	38
Number of appointments for above:	833	597	470	488	675
Number of meetings with Teachers, parents, other referring agencies	933	1,066	1,073	941	408
Signposting and advice from ACIS Information Officers				893	1,148
Total number of participants	271	276	178	321	221
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	193	109	131	160	169
Number of volunteers	11	11	7	3	9
Number of volunteer hours contributed	410	276	164	106	504
Befriend A Child	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of children attending youth club on a regular basis	23	38	42	46	52
Number of young people suggesting topics for and taking part in youth information sessions	23	25	42	30	30
Number of children that are safe and responsible	23	38	42	46	52
Number of children that are respected, included, and achieving	23	38	42	46	52
Number of children involved in increased community growing				20	20
Total number of participants	23	38	42	46	52
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	23	38	42	46	52
Number of volunteers	13	4	10	12	13
Number of volunteer hours contributed	1560	460	1200	1860	1960
Choices Relationship Revolution	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of young people participating in this programme	1200	650	715	1410	1423
Number of educational workshops delivered	135	70	108	153	123
Number of Drop in Clubs delivered	100	45	45	80	89

Number of young people consistently engaged in focus group	6	3	10	21	19
Number of young people accessing counselling 3+ sessions	32	52	59	43	34
Young people reporting increased knowledge of existing support services	95%	95%	95%	95%	98%
% of participants able to identify violent and exploitative relationships	94%	96%	96%	98%	95%
Total number of participants	1200	729	715	1532	1485
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	1118	700	715	1410	1423
Number of volunteers	15	12	3	8	11
Number of volunteer hours contributed	600	528	85	524	770
Fersands Family Centre	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of families receiving support	44	46	not	44	60
Number of families receiving intensive support	12	6	funded	12	16
Number of parent groups set up	2	0		1	2
Number of families that have benefitted through grants				50	44
Total number of participants	70	82		120	154
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	22	30		50	64
Number of volunteers	0	0		5	4
Number of volunteer hours contributed	0	0		480	600
ACC Geronimo - Time to Play	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of people receiving parenting and family support	228	271	185	141	195
Number of adults receiving parenting and family support	102	144	79	58	90
Number of parent/carers reporting an improved relationships with their child	92%	100%	100%	86%	100%
Number of parent/carers reporting improved wellbeing having taken part	92%	100%	100%	88%	100%
Number of parent/carers reporting an increase in time spent playing with their children	85%	86%	90%	86%	100%
Number of children who receive Fit Like? Geronimo 1:1 family support				11	4
Total number of participants	228	271	185	141	195
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	126	127	106	85	105
Number of volunteers	1	0	0	0	1
Number of volunteer hours contributed	16	0	0	0	0

ADULTS

Mental Health Aberdeen Calsayseat Counselling	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Total number of participants	164	126	114	156	160
Number of sessions delivered	1,082	931	998	1,089	972
Percentage of clients reporting a decreased score in HAD monitoring forms	61%	60%	57%	68%	95%
Total number of participants	164	145	114	156	160
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	1	1	1	1	0
Number of volunteer hours contributed	102	90	87	39	0
Printfield Feel Good Project	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of treatments provided	76	80	80	88	80
Total number of participants	20	15	24	20	20
Total number of participants aged under 16 years				0	0
Number of volunteers				0	0
Number of volunteer hours contributed				0	0
Tillydrone Health & Well Being Project	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of treatments provided	396	216	240	240	240
Total number of participants	60	20	35	48	60
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	4	0	0	0	6
Number of volunteers	2	2	1	3	2

Number of volunteer hours contributed	40	40	40	80	80
Police Scotland Operation Begonia	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of females offered assistance relating to budgeting, benefits, food provision, housing, employability, domestic abuse at Spring Gardens/Cyrenians	411	305	261	234	237
Number of females offered assistance relating to chaotic alcohol and drug use at Alcohol and Drugs Action	411	305	261	234	237
Number of people offered DBI referrals - Penumbra	52	9	5	30	8
Number of patrols	98	64	60	62	58
Number of females engaged with.	411	305	261	234	237
Number of new females engaged with.	14	12	25	14	33
Number of males dealt with appropriately.	78	91	56	101	136
Number of home visits	0	0	125	85	44
Number of intelligence logs	442	342	247	261	286
Total number of participants	78	342	261	234	237
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteer hours contributed	0	0	0	0	0
Pathways to Wellbeing	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of counsellors	2	2	2	2	2
Number of priority areas covered	7	7	7	7	7
Number of people accessing the counselling service	79	95	92	91	101
Number of counselling sessions delivered	977	991	788	835	813
Total number of participants	81	95	92	91	101
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	7	7	7	7	7
Number of volunteer hours contributed	294	210	320	320	336
SHMU Adult Engagement and Support	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Prison					
Total number of offenders participating in programme in prison	206	24	23	22	no
Number participating in the programme pre-release	24	12	14	13	access
Total number of offenders participating in programme in the community	61	27	32	10	to work
Number of participants who engage with appropriate support services post release	61	27	25	10	in prison
Community					
Total number of participants taking part in the community	new indicators introduced			54	62
Number of participants engaging in activities within the community	24	27	47	46	52
Number of participants accessing support within the community				37	46
Number of participants securing a positive destination:	20	12	27	19	33
Volunteering	20	5	22	13	16
Education	4	3	2	5	4
Training	7	1	3	9	8
Employment	11	3	10	6	5
Number of participants reducing their risk taking and/or offending behaviour	51	26	23	21	23
Number of participants improving their confidence	new indicators introduced			41	52
Number of participants improving their communication				41	46
Number of participants improving their creative skills				41	46
Number of participants improving their wellbeing				42	49
Number of participants reducing their isolation and loneliness				41	36
Number of volunteers hours contributed in community				1,094	1,373
Total number of participants	129	45	84	76	62
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0		0
Number of volunteers	22	7	24	17	20
Number of volunteer hours contributed	3,001	767	1,598	1,194	1,373

Torry Adult Counselling	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Number of counselling sessions provided in priority area	989	869	893	792	796
Number of clients taking session as above	161	158	149	136	235
Number of meetings with referring agencies, including partnership surgeries/community centre staff	7	5	4	3	7
Total number of participants	161	158	149	136	235
Total number of participants aged under 16 years	0	0	0	0	0
Number of volunteers	0	0	0	2	0
Number of volunteer hours contributed	0	0	0	141	0

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Anti-Poverty & Inequality
DATE	6 th November 2024
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	No Recourse to Public Funds
REPORT NUMBER	CORS/24/289
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Andy McDonald
CHIEF OFFICER	Martin Murchie
REPORT AUTHOR	Martin Murchie
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with an update on the regulations governing those deemed to have “No Recourse to Public Funds” (NRPF) and to give an overview of the measures in place to support this group of people in Aberdeen.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Committee:-

- 2.1 note the current situation with respect to the condition of No Recourse To Public Funds, including:
- the challenges faced by individuals subject to a NRPF condition;
 - the support currently provided by the Council directly and through the Fairer Aberdeen Fund, as well as by the Aberdeen City Health & Social Care Partnership services
 - further actions underway (para 3.14)

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The UK has a framework of laws, policies, and administrative arrangements to ensure that access to work, benefits, and services is only permitted for those who are lawfully present in the UK and have the right to access them. The ‘No Recourse to Public Funds’ (NRPF) condition is attached to most temporary migrants’ permission to enter or stay in the UK, restricting access to a range of benefits listed as public funds for immigration purposes. These benefits include Universal Credit, State Pension Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Attendance Allowance, Carer’s Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Housing Benefit, and others.
- 3.2 2.6 million people in the UK hold visas with an NRPF condition. In Scotland the NRPF condition applies to almost all migrants who are required to hold a visa. The condition applies to international students, spouses, people with a work

visa, people seeking asylum. It can apply to long-term residents and children born in Scotland, as well as more recent arrivals. Some EU citizens with pre-settled status are also excluded from accessing welfare if they are unable to demonstrate a 'right to reside'. Any breach of this condition could result in the visa being revoked and the person being required to leave the UK.

3.3 Not all of those with NRPF are experiencing or at imminent risk of destitution or homelessness. Some are working or studying, others are supported by family. But people with NRPF who find themselves in difficulty have limited options for assistance. Councils are not specifically funded for providing accommodation, social care and financial support to people with no recourse to public funds. However, certain services are not "public funds" for immigration purposes, meaning that a significant number of households remain supported on a long-term basis for a variety of reasons. Support can include accommodation, schooling, financial assistance and care. As well as asylum seekers and resettlement, there are also some local cases of long term residents who are NRPF due to processing of post-Brexit settled status. Local government has both duties and restrictions in providing support for arrivals depending on their source and circumstances.

3.4 It is important to note that not all people with NRPF require support. People may only need a safety net in times of unexpected crisis. The Migration Policy Scotland report "[Open the Door Migrants Facing Financial Disadvantage and their Needs for Support](#)" (October 2024) is a lived experience-centred report which provides clear explanations about the challenges which people with a status of NRPF may face. These include:

i. The complexity in establishing which funds are public and fall within NRPF condition

The Scottish Government has introduced mechanisms whereby some benefits and entitlements (for example Best Start Foods) can be claimed by those with NRPF. Others may be provided at the discretion of local authorities. However, the complexity of rules and systems creates uncertainty regarding eligibility, compounded by fear, since mistakes can compromise immigration status. This results in people both with and without recourse to public funds missing out on support they could be eligible to claim. People are often unsure of their entitlements, in some cases falsely believing charitable support and foodbanks to be part of NRPF exclusions.

ii. External factors

Rapid changes in immigration legislation can affect people's financial capacity to cover immigration costs e.g. the rise in both the cost of the International Health Surcharge and visa fees - the former rising from £624 per year to £1,035 per year, a rise of 66% and the latter by at least 15% in 2024. Foreign exchange currency fluctuations can also have repercussions for people who have invested life-changing sums to come to the UK. The Cost-of-Living Crisis in the UK has also impacted people with NRPF in the same way as everyone else, but with the additional pressures of usually being less able to find employment which pays enough to cover the rising

costs. For example, international students are limited to 20 hours per week while studying.

Migrants' Rights Network has published an International Students Report (October 2024), which explores the many barriers that international students face amidst a complex context:

<https://migrantsrights.org.uk/2024/10/04/solidarity-with-international-students-oct-2024-newsletter/>

iii. Changes in legislation

Changes have been made in 2024 which further limit access to support – e.g. through the EU Settlement Scheme and, most recently, by changing the Destitute Domestic Violence Concession (DDVC) to the Migrant Victims of Domestic Abuse Concession (MVDAC).

When it comes to people seeking asylum and refuge, immigration legislation provides continuing barriers to finding a real refuge. Three new immigration laws were enacted between 2022 and 2024 to do with people seeking asylum. People whose appeal rights are exhausted have NRPF as a default status.

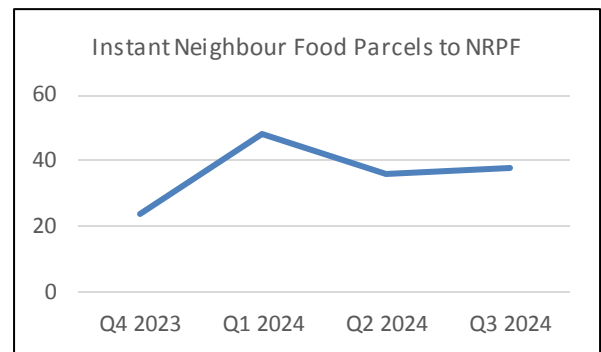
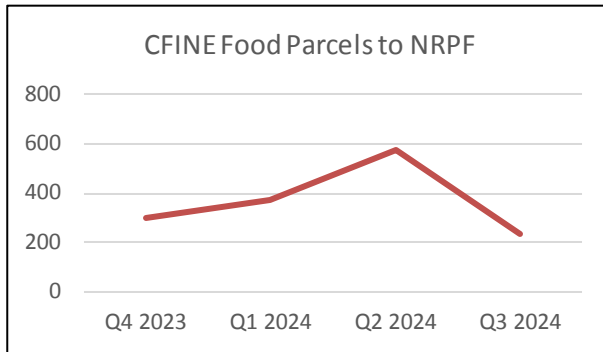
3.5 The NRPF: Tackling and Preventing Destitution Project

- i. The NRPF: Tackling and Preventing Destitution project started in June 2022 with funding awarded from the Fairer Aberdeen Fund to support a part-time project co-ordinator, managed by the No Recourse North East Partnership (NRNE) and hosted by GREC (Grampian Regional Equality Council). NRNE has been active since 2014 with now over 40 partner organisations working in collaboration to ensure that individuals from ethnic minority communities with a status of NRPF (affected by or threatened with homelessness, domestic abuse and/or destitution) receive appropriate and good quality advice and support. The project is managed by a group of facilitators from the three founding organisations: GREC, Shelter Scotland and Turning Point Scotland.
- ii. In the first year of the project, a website was created at: www.nrnepartnership.org to share information amongst the Partnership members. Two training courses were developed on *An Introduction to NRPF* and *The Asylum Process and NRPF*, and these have subsequently been delivered to over 500 participants from 49 organisations, including Aberdeen City Council staff.
- iii. In the first year of the project, there were two sub-groups – one bringing together organisations to collaborate in supporting international students and the other to support survivors of domestic abuse.
- iv. Recent developments in UK immigration law continue to impact all partner services. The Illegal Migration Act 2023 received Royal Assent in July 2023, but is not yet fully in force and some uncertainty exists around some of the provisions. The purpose of the Act is to regulate the removal, detention,

support and legal proceedings of migrants who enter or stay in the UK illegally. It also amends the entry, settlement and citizenship rules, and introduces a cap on safe and legal routes. Provisions not yet fully in force include: the “Duty to Remove” individuals who enter the UK illegally and have passed through a safe country; new powers for the “Detention of Unaccompanied Children”; and certain asylum claims being deemed “Inadmissible”. The Home Office position is that the Illegal Migration Act is compatible with existing legislation, but that there will be operational implications on unaccompanied asylum seeking children and local authorities’ duties if children are subject to deportation from their 18th birthday. It also remains unclear how the Act’s provisions relate to the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, which places duties on local authorities: to operate in the best interests of the child (and care leaver) and for the provision of safe and suitable accommodation. Similarly, it is also unclear how the Act is compatible with United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which requires authorities to: respect the rights of children, support refugee children and support recovery from trauma. The UK Government have established a working group for local government associations, including COSLA and the devolved administrations to discuss how the Illegal Migration Act will be implemented in relation to children. Navigating this uncertainty is challenging, but in response a third sub-group was created within the partnership for NRPF and Asylum, to help share information and co-ordinate support and resources..

- v. In addition, from June 2023 a Lived Experience Group of people with a status of NRPF began to meet and has worked together to record experiences which can inform policy work with humanising narratives.
- vi. A final area of work is data collection. Work is ongoing with the NRPF and gender based abuse sub-group on data collection work, to some extent already available via the Violence Against Women Partnership (VAWP), and it is anticipated that results within the next year will be shared to the wider partnership. Hopefully, having improved NRPF data will also shape and develop services across the city in a useful way.

3.6 Food insecurity is evident amongst those who have NRPF. Figures are shown below for food parcels provided by CFINE and Instant Neighbour for those who are NRPF and/or who are waiting on an update on their immigration status. Food banks have seen an increase of Afghan asylum seekers – many of them staying at hotels, and some who have been given accommodation. The challenges they face include finding culturally appropriate foods, and also purchasing clothing and basic essentials on the funds they receive from the Home Office. These numbers include: people seeking asylum; dependents of those on a student visa; those who are still applying to the EU Settlement Scheme; those who are allowed to work but cannot find a job in the limited sectors available to them.



3.7 Services across the Council, and partner agencies, actively collaborate, and cross-reference knowledge around both the extent and impacts of poverty associated with those who have No Recourse to Public Funds. The role and impact on ACC and ACH&SCP services of supporting those with NRPF is summarised below:

3.8 Housing - Aberdeen City Council Housing is, in some cases, used to house people with NRPF who have undergone a human rights/welfare assessment, the charge for accommodation is funded by social work services (10 - 15 cases currently) and is in the Council's temporary accommodation. Some people have moved into shared Council accommodation to try to lower the associated costs (which will not always be an appropriate option due to levels of risk). Officers refer onto the Fair Way Scotland Project for those individuals who have NRPF due to processing of post-Brexit settled status to help gain eligibility to both Housing and state benefits. Referrals are not made to Fair Way for people with NRPF from non-EU countries, meaning this group has fewer support pathways. The Housing Service have also provided accommodation for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Young People which are set up as shared properties.

3.9 ACH&SCP - Although, in general, people with NRPF are not eligible for assistance and support from social work services, in practice this is dependent upon an assessment of whether this might breach an individual's human rights and the nature and level of assessed risks to be addressed. Families/individuals with NRPF often approach Social Work during crisis situations, marked by destitution and urgent, essential needs which they cannot meet themselves. These individuals may need a safe place to live or have no financial means to meet basic needs. Services work collaboratively across and with partners to ensure families and adults are supported by those services best placed to do so to mitigate risk and alleviate destitution. Where necessary, officers also work with external services, such as the Home Office, Police and/or third sector providers. Adult social workers are required to carry out assessments and, where there is a need, put support in place. Risks and circumstances might include offending, substance misuse, and support can include rent and subsistence. While clients' ability to make a financial contribution to care is assessed, due to NRPF they will not be in receipt of benefits.

3.10 Children's Social Work - As with adult social work, where a family has children, children's social work (CSW) are also required to undertake human

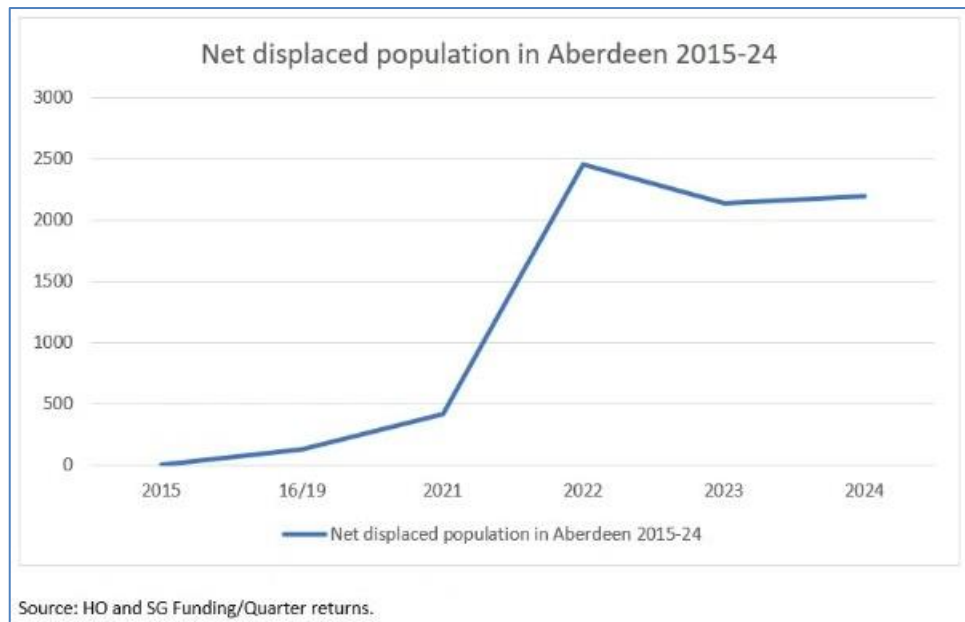
rights / welfare assessments. Naturally, there is a strong preference for families to remain together and, consequently, a small number of families are currently supported in longstanding, costly packages. Since it is not lawful for people with NRPF to apply for council housing, support can include social work services paying local authority rental or higher cost private rented accommodation as well as regular support to cover bills and living expenses. All efforts are made to draw on 3rd sector charities and supports, as well as ensuring families utilise any informal wider family or community supports they can source. CSW additionally, support unaccompanied child asylum seekers and the city has received a relatively high volume (c50 - 60 as at 31.08.24.) Almost half of these have arrived via the National Transfer Scheme, which sees dispersal throughout the UK managed to take account of wider data relating to the looked after children population in local areas. Each year, CSW respond to the needs of a few spontaneous arrivals via land or boat (<10 as at 31.08.24). More challenging has been referrals received in relation to asylum seekers who have been dispersed to hotel accommodation assigned to adults, who require prompt assessment to determine if there is robust evidence to be clear that they are not a child. Such assessments have since meant a significant number (c.20 - 25 as at 31.08.24) have become looked after children, thereby requiring us to exercise our statutory duties towards this vulnerable group of children. Most are in supported accommodation. The full costs of support are not met from funding, although Home Office funding has been utilised to resource this demand.

- 3.11 Education - Full time local authority schooling is provided for children of asylum seekers and others settling in the city. One of the issues that makes school roll forecasts uncertain is the ability to predict inward and outward migration, which can change dynamically.
- 3.12 Numbers and Costs - ACC's 2023 return to COSLA on NRPF is shown as at 4.1 in this report.
- 3.13 Council officers across each of these service areas are collaborating on meeting the challenges which providing support for those with NRPF presents for the Council and Health & Social Care Partnership. These include:
- The professional and administrative aspects of assessing status and need
 - Receiving timely information from the UK Home Office to support assessments and to make a determination on legal status of this group.
 - The unfunded cost of meeting support needs
 - The demand for suitable accommodation in the city
 - The complexity of duties and restrictions which require local authorities to provide some supports, but prevent it from providing others
- 3.14 Agreed actions include:
- i. improved recording and information sharing to facilitate co-ordinated response to meeting needs
 - ii. improved access to data from the Home Office

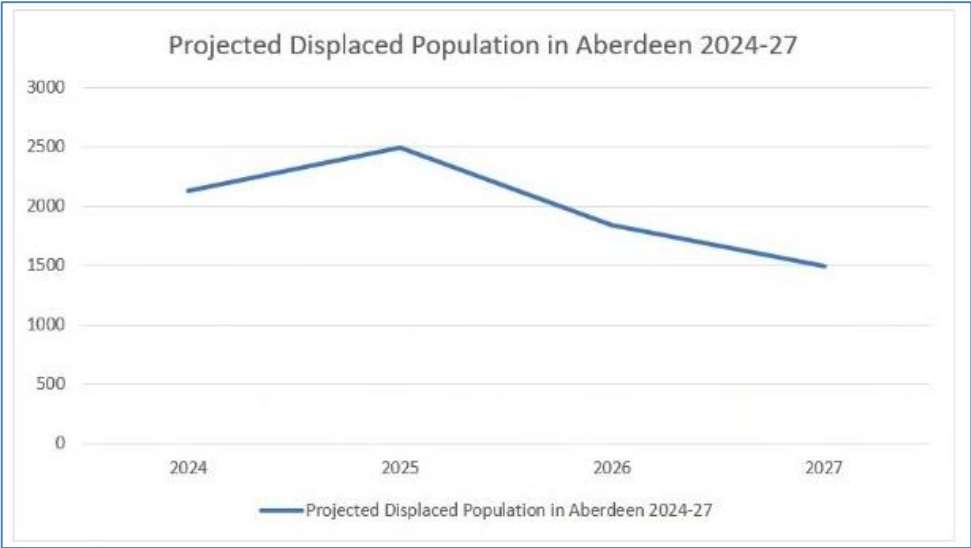
- iii. combined policy documentation across all Council services and ACH&SCP
- iv. continuing to capture, quantify and communicate the challenges which both those with NRPF and local authorities experience, in order to inform consideration of policy at national level.

3.15 Resettlement Schemes – details and projections - Aberdeen, like many other places in the UK, has welcomed high numbers of families and individuals through various resettlement schemes in recent years and it is anticipated that the city will receive significantly more in the next year. It should be noted that not all displaced persons will have NRPF. NRPF will apply to those who are seeking asylum. Figure 1 below shows the number of displaced people in Aberdeen between 2015 and 2024 through the following schemes:

2016/17	Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme
2021	United Kingdom Resettlement Scheme
	Afghan Bridging Accommodation
	Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy
	Afghan Citizen Resettlement Schemes
	1 Asylum Contingency Hotel
2022	Homes for Ukraine
	Scottish Super Sponsor
	Welcome Accommodation
	Asylum Dispersal
2023	2 Asylum Contingency Hotels



3.16 Figure 2 below shows the number of displaced people projected to arrive up to 2027.



4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 CoSLA have co-ordinated NRPF surveys across all Scottish Local Authorities to gather high level information to understand the extent of local authority support provided to those with NRPF, and establish associated costs of provision. For 2022/23 Aberdeen City Council's return to this survey was as follows:

Type of Support	Expenditure for families with NRPF under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995	Expenditure for single vulnerable adults under The Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968	Expenditure for single adults under the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003	Expenditure under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987	Expenditure under the Management of Offenders etc. (Scotland) Act 2005 or Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016
Accommodation	£36,504.96	£65,402.04	£7,000	£530,000	£57,000
Subsistence	£11,500	£12,637	£2,000	£5,000	£2,000
Staffing	£213,026.55	£213,026.55	-	£75,000	-
Legal	-	-	-	£50,000	-
Other	-	£28,636.44	-	-	-
Total	£261,031.51	£319,702.03	£9,000	£660,000	£59,000

The return for 2023/24 is currently being collated.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Local authorities have duties to safeguard the welfare of children, young people leaving care and vulnerable adults, which can include providing accommodation and financial support when a person has NRPF and is prevented from accessing mainstream benefits and social housing by their immigration status.
- 5.2 Some uncertainty exists around certain provisions of the Illegal Migration Act 2023. The purpose of the Act is to regulate the removal, detention, support and legal proceedings of migrants who enter or stay in the UK illegally. It also amends the entry, settlement and citizenship rules, and introduces a cap on safe and legal routes. Provisions not yet fully in force include: the "Duty to Remove" individuals who enter the UK illegally and have passed through a safe country; new powers for the "Detention of Unaccompanied Children"; and certain asylum claims being deemed "Inadmissible". The Home Office position is that the Illegal Migration Act is compatible with existing legislation, but that there will be operational implication on UASC and local authority's duties if children will be subject to deportation from their 18th birthday. However it remains unclear how the new IMA provisions relate to the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, which places duties on local authorities: to operate in the best interests of the child (and care leaver) and for the provision of safe and suitable accommodation. Similarly with United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which requires authorities to: respect the rights of children, support refugee children and support recovery from trauma. UK Government have established a working group for local government associations, including COSLA and the devolved administrations to discuss how the Illegal Migration Act will be implemented in relation to children.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None arising from this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	Excessive resettlement and asylum demand and associated harms to individuals is an ACC Corporate risk.	1) Monitoring of impact on services of Asylum and Resettlement Strategic Partnership 2) Development of Pathways and Support. 3) Training on age assessments. 4) Capacity of the Resettlement Team. 5) Liaison with SG colleagues. 6) Liaison at COSLA and Home Office. 7) Review and assess existing and future commitments to establish Safe and Legal Routes Cap. 8) Monitoring budgets and applying for all funding. 9) Development of strategic approach to resettlement and asylum for the City. 10) Data modelling - asylum population projections.	M	Yes

Compliance	Included within the Corporate Risk above.			
Operational				
Financial				
Reputational				
Environment / Climate	None			

8. OUTCOMES

Council Delivery Plan 2024	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement <u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u>	Aberdeen City is a welcoming, peaceful and safe place to live, work and visit.
<u>Local Outcome Improvement Plan</u>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	The LOIP reflects the strategic importance of attracting people to the city, encouraging them to stay and supporting them access services and become economically active.
Regional and City Strategies <i>Local Housing Strategy;</i> <i>Children's Services Plan;</i>	

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	A new Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed and reviewed with no changes required.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	-

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Further details of NRPF issues can be found at the NRPF Network website: [About | NRPF Network](#)

- 10.2 [Right to healthcare for people with no recourse to public funds \(publichealthscotland.scot\)](http://publichealthscotland.scot)
- 10.3 <https://migrationscotland.org.uk/migrants-rights-and-entitlements/social-services-support-children-within-families/>

11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Anti-Poverty and Inequality
DATE	6 November 2024
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Supporting People with the Cost of Living Crisis 2024/25: Interim Evaluation.
REPORT NUMBER	CORS/24/291
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Andy MacDonald
CHIEF OFFICER	Michelle Crombie
REPORT AUTHOR	Michelle Crombie, Community Planning Manager
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1, 3.1

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an update to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee on the outcomes achieved to date from Round 1 of the Cost of Living Funding allocated for 2024/25.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Approve the outputs and anticipated outcomes of the Cost of Living Fund achieved to date and actions to ensure funds will be fully spent by April 2025.

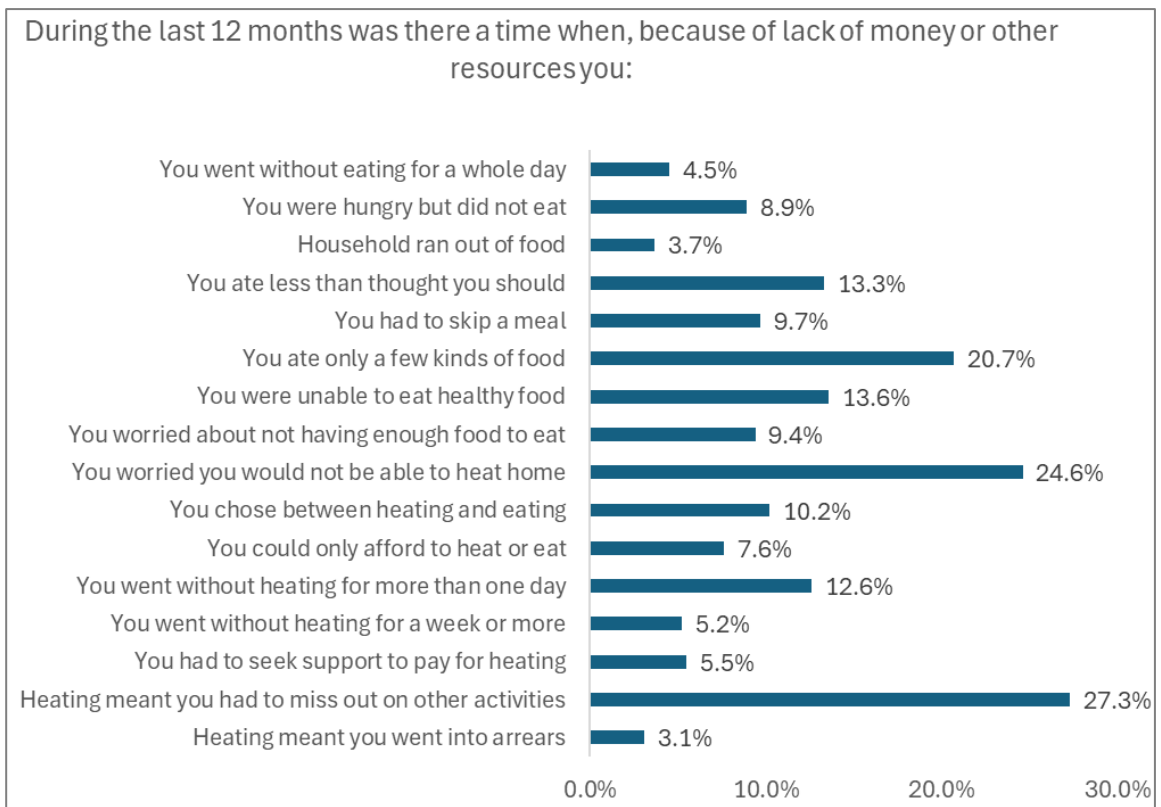
3. CURRENT SITUATION

3.1 Cost of Living Crisis

- 3.1.1 The Aberdeen City [Population Needs Assessment 2024](#) provides an overview of the current cost of living crisis in the City. It states that while all households will be affected by increases in the cost of living it is those with lower incomes and little or no savings who will be most impacted as they spend a higher proportion than average on energy, food and transport and they therefore have less flexibility in their budget to cope with price rises. Research by the Money and Pensions Service (November 2022) suggests that one in six UK adults have no savings and a quarter of UK adults have less than £100 put away. More recent research (January 2023) suggests that as many as one in five adults are borrowing to pay for food and other essential bills, with half doing so for the first time.
- 3.1.2 Research published by the End Child Poverty coalition reported that in 2021/22 an estimated 7,994 children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City were living in poverty (below 60% median income after housing costs). This is equivalent to 20.5% of children compared to 18.3% in 2020/21.
- 3.1.3 It has been reported nationally that poverty and the cost of living crisis is pushing people to choose between heating and eating. To understand the impact on people and families across the City, questions about food and fuel security have been included in City Voice questionnaires each year since 2018.

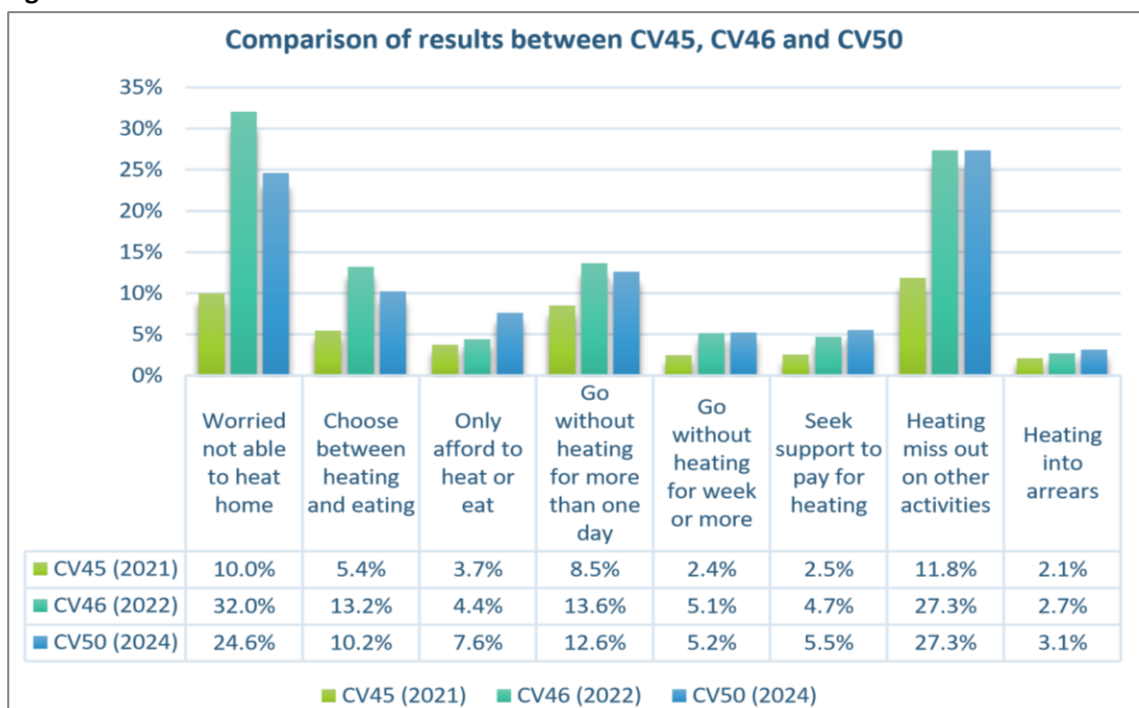
3.1.4 In the latest [City Voice Report published in July 2024](#), participants were asked if during the last 12 months there was a time when, because of lack of money or other resources they had to go without food or fuel or other activities.

Figure 1



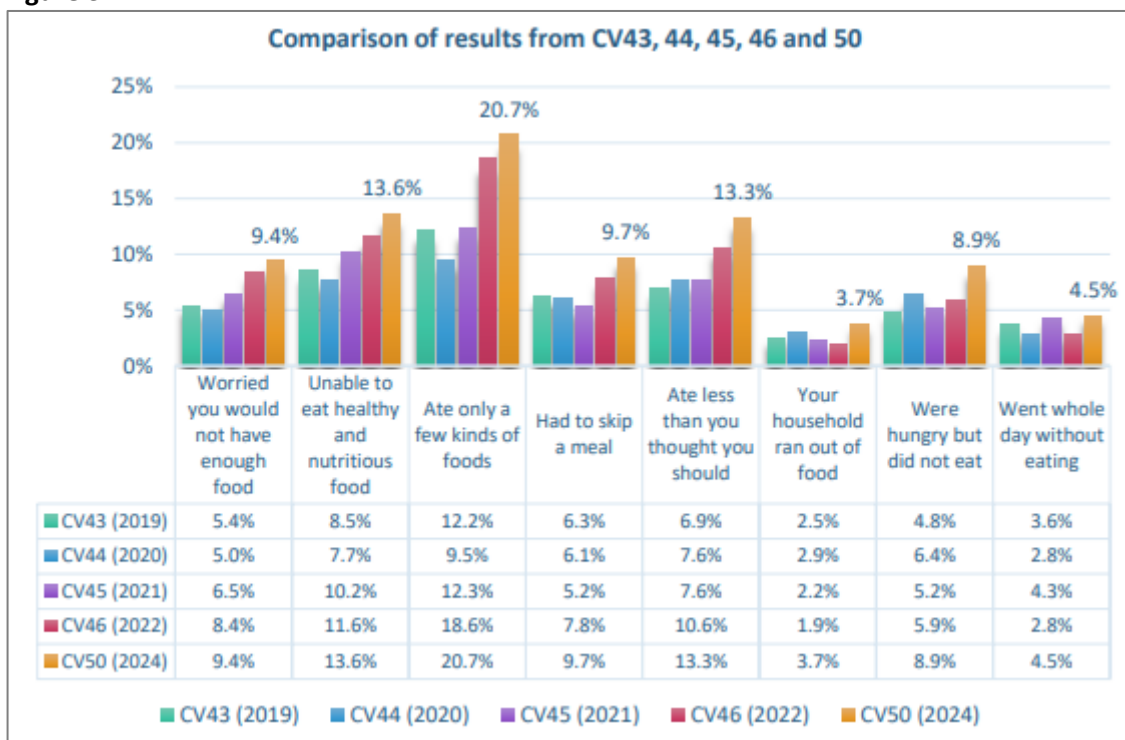
3.1.5 These questions have been asked in previous City Voice questionnaires. The charts below show the proportion of respondents who answered ‘yes’ to each question.

Figure 2



3.1.6 The chart above shows that with the exception of worried not able to heat their home which has gone down from 32% to 24.6%, the responses in 2024 are broadly similar to those in 2022. The largest increase is in the proportion of respondents who reported being worried they could only afford to heat their home or feed themselves/their family (from 4.4% to 7.6%).

Figure 3



3.1.7 The chart above shows that since the questions were first asked, the percentage of respondents who answered ‘yes’ has increased for every question. Similarly, since last asked in December 2022, the percentage who answered ‘yes’ has increased for all questions, with the largest increase being in the proportion who reported they were hungry but did not eat (from 5.9% to 8.9%).

3.1.8 While there has been support for people with the cost of energy, people and families have been affected by the increase in inflation and locally there has been an increase in demand for emergency support. Support to mitigate some of the impacts locally has included:

- Increased financial advice provision
- Increased support through Scottish Welfare Fund
- Procurement of suitable food to increase supply of emergency food
- Provision of fuel vouchers
- Provision of [Warm Spaces](#) during the winter period to alleviate cost of heating homes

3.2 Supporting People with the Cost of Living Crisis 2024/25

3.2.1 On 6 March 2024, Aberdeen City Council agreed to provide £1 million to mitigate against the ongoing cost of living crisis. Between June and August 2024 the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee agreed recommendations for how this funding should be spent.

Allocation	Organisation	Amount
Round 1 – June 2024		
Food procurement and pantries	Food Poverty Action Aberdeen	£251,260
Fuel	SCARF	£50,000
Poverty Awareness Films	SHMU	£20,000
Discretionary Housing Payments	ACC Revs and Bens	£100,000
School costs (Winter Clothing)*	ACC Revs and Bens	£20,000
Telecare/Tec	ACHSCP	£20,020
Power of Attorney	ACHSCP	£10,000
Childcare Costs	ACC ABZ Works	£60,000
Round 2 - August 2024		
Christmas Family Panto Package for low income families.	Aberdeen Performing Arts	£10,000
Scottish Welfare Fund Crisis Grants/ Community Care Grants	Aberdeen City Council (Revenues and Benefits)	£96,382
Food procurement and pantries	Food Poverty Action Aberdeen	£242,038
Fuel poverty vouchers and advice	SCARF	£80,000
Essentials for underprivileged families	AberNecessities	£40,300

3.3 Inputs, Outputs and Outcomes from Round 1 So Far

3.3.1 This report provides an update on the inputs, outputs and outcomes so far from Round 1 of the cost of living the funding. A summary is provided overleaf in a logic model format. A logic model helps illustrate the relationships between a program's resources, activities, outputs, and the anticipated outcomes.

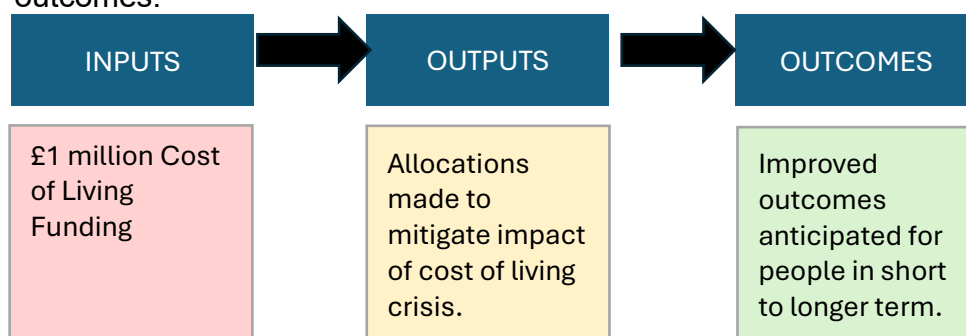


Figure 4 – Round 1 summary of inputs, outputs and anticipated outcomes.

INPUTS		OUTPUTS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES		
What did we invest in to mitigate against the rising cost of living and why?		What have we done so far and who have we reached?	Short term impacts	Longer term impacts	
RESPONSE	Food £251,260	The rising cost of living has put pressure on food banks, causing increased demand and falling food donations.	Equivalent to 72,620 meals distributed to 69 organisations across the City. 73 people supported through SAFE outreach and 500 weekly shops provided.	People experiencing food insecurity are able to access good, nutritious food to meet their basic needs.	Food pantries can help people break free from poverty by providing additional support that can help prevent future crisis.
	Fuel £50,000	Fuel poverty can have a significant impact on people's mental and physical health over winter.	292 households provided with payment towards their fuel bills and tailored energy efficiency advice.	People are able to heat their homes over winter to help ensure their general wellbeing.	Better living conditions can contribute to improvement in health outcomes in the long term.
EARLY INTERVENTION	Housing £100,000	There are people that rent their home that get Housing Benefit or Universal Credit but still can't afford their housing costs.	67 claimants supported with shortfall in their local housing allowance or income related, preventing further escalation of harm to people.	People who are having difficulty paying their rent due to financial challenges are supported to prevent going into rent arrears.	Discretionary Housing Payments can help people address financial challenges and achieve housing security.
	Winter clothing £20,000	The rising cost of living can make clothing difficult to afford and children in poverty can suffer not only physically but mentally as a result.	2,559 winter clothing payment awards of £30 made so far, supporting 4,009 children to have the clothing they need over winter.	Children and young people are supported to purchase weather-appropriate clothing which removes stress and improves school attendance.	Providing winter clothing to children and young people in poverty can improve their self-esteem, wellbeing and improve test results.
PREVENTION	Telecare £20,020	Telecare helps elderly and disabled people live independently and safely at home. However, digital poverty can impact access to telecare and health services.	Funding available to support 100 low income families that are assessed as can't afford to pay. Identification of individuals in need ongoing.	Older people and people with disabilities that can't afford telecare are assisted and kept safe in their home over winter when there is a greater risk of harm.	Benefit checks are built into the application process to ensure people receive the reduced fees/exemptions they are entitled to and supported to stay in their homes for longer.
	Power of Attorney £10,000	Lack of Power of Attorney lacks in delayed discharge. This is often due to the cost of putting it in place. 80% of cases are from SIMD 1.	Funding available to support 40 people living in SIMD 1 that are not eligible for legal aid. Identification of individuals in need ongoing.	Older people living in Aberdeen's most deprived communities receive financial support with putting in place Power of Attorney.	Reduction in delayed discharges for people in poverty who are ready to go home, minimising risk of further infection, loss of mobility and independence.
	Child Care Costs £60,000	Childcare costs can be a significant expense for parents and the cost of living crisis can put some parents off going back to work.	4 families supported with childcare costs to date enabling three parents into employment and supporting another parent to sustain their education.	Support with childcare costs to help parents get back into work, stay employed and earn more.	Keeping parents in the workforce when their children are young can help generate economic growth and boost the local economy.
	Poverty Awareness £20,000	Raising awareness of poverty is essential to help people understand the effects on individuals and communities and think about how they can help.	2 short films produced to raise awareness of challenges for people with No Recourse to Public Funds and gendered impacts of poverty to shared widely during Challenge Poverty Week.	Podcasts and short films capturing the lived experience of people in poverty shown during Challenge Poverty Week 2024 to raise awareness.	Increased support from all sectors in reducing stigma, increasing uptake of support available, and working together to prevent poverty,

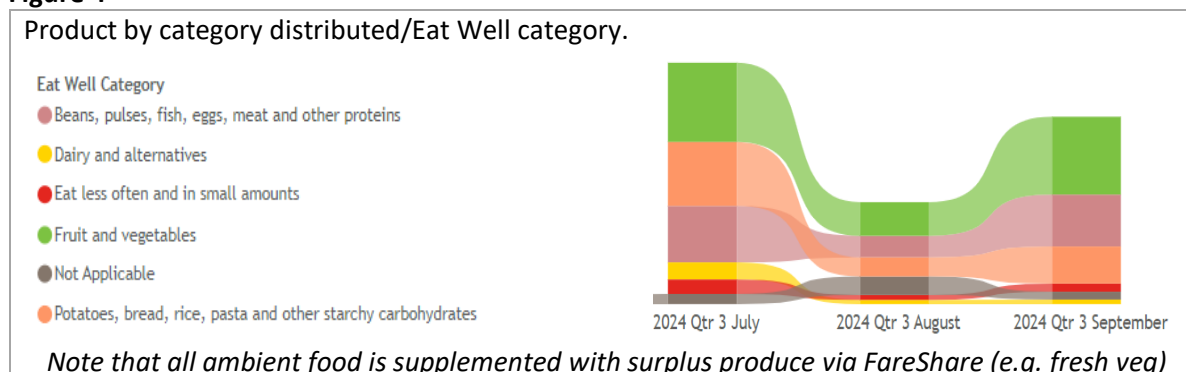
3.4 Food

Input	£251,260 allocated to Food Poverty Action Aberdeen (FPAA)
Output	<p>£152,957 spent to date on food procurement & distribution, SAFE outreach and pantry memberships</p> <p>30.5 tonnes of food distributed to 69 FPAA partners and Community Food Members, equivalent to 72,620 meals.</p> <p>7 partner organisations received outreach support from SAFE Team</p> <p>73 people referred through SAFE outreach, improving their financial situation</p> <p>500 pantry memberships/ weekly shops provided</p> <p>Instant formula pathway continued, providing £1,028 in crisis support</p>
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased levels of food availability in communities • Adequate types of food for emergency food parcels • Reduced social isolation • Increased education and food skills • Better access to nutritious meals for families • Causes of food insecurity addressed through wrap-around services. • Income maximised for individuals and families • Increased benefit uptake • Reduced 'food stress' and poverty-related issues tackled. • Increased volunteering opportunities leading to improved wellbeing

3.4.1 Food Poverty Action Aberdeen (FPAA) is a partnership of organisations providing support to individuals residing in Aberdeen and experiencing food poverty. The cost-of living crisis continues to have a negative impact on residents, and FPAA partners have reported continued high demand for emergency food and wrap-around services. The £251,260 allocated to FPAA as part of round 1 of funding has been used to procure and distribute a total of 30.5 tonnes of food to 69 partners throughout the city. Food will continue to be purchased twice per month from November to March 25, with the exception of December where there will be one purchase due to seasonal closures across the city and due to the festive season.

3.4.2 With increased costs being felt, many food providers have seen a drop in donations from the public, at a time of increased need. The purchased food has significantly helped address the gap between supply and demand, providing the right types and quantities of food for emergency provision, and providing flexibility when coupled with existing surplus food supply through FareShare. Food categories which have been chosen are based on feedback from partner organisations.

Figure 4



3.4.3 Organisations benefiting include those supporting people on low or no income, families and children, people affected by domestic violence, community centres/hubs, community pantries, food banks, out of school clubs, people with drug and/or alcohol addiction, older people, day centres/drop in centres, homeless people & rough sleepers, long term unemployed, faith organisations, people with experience of the justice system, local health and social care services, sheltered housing complexes, and young people. FPAA and CFM partners prioritise early intervention and prevention by providing person-centred wrap-around services which tackle underlying reasons that can lead someone to request emergency food.

3.4.4 **See Appendix 1** for further detail on how food has been distributed to Food Poverty Action Aberdeen partners and Community Food Members.

3.4.5 It is expected that the funds from round 1 will be fully spent by December 2024 with the following actions:

- Continue procurement of food from suppliers based on feedback from FPAA partner organisations and pantry members.
- Continue to store, process, allocate, and distribute from CFINE’s warehouse in Aberdeen, utilizing their fleet of vans, and increased capacity due to recruitment of new volunteers and ongoing employability trainees, adding value to their training/work experience.
- Continue to respond to new requests from community organisations requiring access to food supplies as required which will ensure a wider spread of distribution going forward over 2024/25.
- Supplement purchased food with surplus via FareShare to maximise added value and choice.
- Ensure on-going engagement with FPAA partners and Community Food Members across the city to ensure CFINE are providing appropriate food depending on the needs of the organisation and communities.
- Continue the development of community pantries and extend the mobile service and SAFE outreach to other areas which are identified as areas of need.

3.5 Fuel

Input	£50,000 allocated to SCARF
Output	£45,875 spent to date on fuel support. 292 households supported with payment towards their fuel bills, including: 377 Adults and 129 Children 631 onward referrals have been made 292 households have received tailored energy efficiency advice via a home visit.
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Households supported to heat their home • Fuel debt cleared for households under serious financial pressure • Improved mental health for families • Energy advice to help reduce energy costs • Home visits to help clients in their own homes • General advice provided over the phone and at events • Onward referrals to further support with finance and food • Income maximised for individuals and families

3.5.1 Scarf is a social enterprise, based in Aberdeen, that delivers free advice to householders and businesses including advice on how to reduce heating costs. The £50,000 allocated to Scarf as part of round 1 of funding has been used to support householders and families living in fuel poverty. Depending on the size of the household, families have received a payment towards their fuel bills, and some received discretionary amounts to clear fuel debt. This has further helped to relieve financial pressures and improve mental health for families living with the extra stress of fuel debt hanging over their heads.

3.5.2 Households supported totalled 292 for the period, all of which had received a home visit from a Scarf advisor, and the breakdown of the areas visited is below.

Post code	Area	Number of Home Visits
AB24	Tillydrone, Seaton, Woodside, Old Aberdeen	88
AB16	Mastrick, Northfield, Middlefield, Sheddocksley	66
AB11	Ferryhill, Torry	51
AB25	Gerorge Street, Kittybrewster, Rosemount	35
AB21	Bucksburn, Dyce	26
AB15	Hazlehead, Kingswells	11
AB12	Cove, Kincorth	8
AB22	Bridge of Don, Danestone	7

3.5.3 Onward referrals are often made to supporting organisations, to support the energy saving, financial and wellbeing impacts made by Scarf advisors. This includes referrals to the Fuelbank Foundation who provide really useful on-the-day support to clients who may require immediate support getting back on supply, or to keep them on supply while longer term support, in the form of Centre for Sustainable Energy or Housing Association Charitable Trust vouchers which have a higher value, but takes longer to arrive. Advisors do their best to make their home visit really count towards improving a clients situation, and onward referrals are a good way to offer well rounded and longer-term outcomes.

3.5.4 Onward referrals (375 for this period) have been made to the following partners:

- Citizens Advice Bureau – money support etc
- Aberdeen City Council – repairs etc
- Centre for Sustainable Energy – vouchers x 6 £49
- Priority Services Register - gas, electricity and water
- Financial Inclusion Team – benefits check etc
- Instant neighbour – further top ups of 1 x £49 voucher
- Fuelbank Foundation – 1x £31 vouchers
- Housing Association Charitable Trust – vouchers x 6 £49
- CFINE – food parcels & SAFE team
- VSA – up to £500 grants
- Home Energy Scotland– ECO4, Warmer home Scotland, Grants & Loans

3.5.5 Energy advice has been provided to clients in their own home during a scheduled visit with one of Scarf’s advisors, and is specific just to the client’s own property and behaviours. General advice can be provided on the phone and at events etc, but Scarf find the greatest impact can be made when an advisor visits a client’s home. This allows the opportunity to have a conversation around specific areas of concern that the client may have, and to discuss aspects of their life which can impact their energy usage (e.g. programming heating systems, using extractor fans) and any specific savings that can be made from these proposed changes in behaviour can be communicated with the client. Some examples of energy savings advice includes conserving hot water, reducing thermostats, switching off standby and reducing shower times. Also, installing draft proofing, low energy lighting, radiator reflector panels, hot water tank jackets and smart meters. It is expected that the funds from round 1 will be fully spent by December 2024.

3.6 Housing

Input	£100,000 allocated to Aberdeen City Council, Revenues & Benefits
Output	£96,377.03 spent to date on Discretionary Housing Payments 67 claimants. 52 cases where there is a shortfall in the Local Housing Allowance (£80,132.49) 15 cases where there is an income related payment (£16,244.54)
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of people in difficulty going into rent arrears • Prevention of homelessness due to being in rent arrears • Signposting to financial advice services and support • Improved mental wellbeing of people in financial crisis

3.6.1 Aberdeen City Council provides Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) to help people who are having trouble paying their rent. DHPs can help with rent, rent deposits, or removal costs. They can also help with restrictions that limit Housing Benefit, such as the maximum number of bedrooms that benefits can cover.

3.6.2 The £100,000 allocated to Revenues & Benefits as part of round 1 of funding has been used to support 67 claimants with their shortfall in the local housing allowance or for income related reasons, preventing further escalation of harm to claimants. It is expected that the funds will be fully spent by December 2024 by processing existing claims and renewal applications received in October 2024. We do not anticipate being able to award any new renewal awards as the remaining budget will be exhausted by the few current claims still to be processed.

3.7 Winter Clothing

Input	£20,000 allocated to Aberdeen City Council, Revenues & Benefits <i>(Note that this was in addition to £30,000 from SG and £100,000 allocated from the common good fund to provide a total of £30 per child for 5,000 children over winter 2024/25).</i>
Output	£126,120 spent to date on Winter Clothing Grant (Approx £17,000 from the cost of living fund) 2,559 awards made 4,009 children benefitting from the additional £30
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children/ young people have weather appropriate clothing over winter • Reduced stress for children/ young people to fit in with their peers • Improved attendance at school with access to appropriate clothing • Improved self-esteem and wellbeing for children/ young people • Improved ability to focus on education

3.7.1 Aberdeen City Council provides winter clothing payments to anyone already in receipt of a school clothing grant. School clothing grants are available to anyone whose child attends an Aberdeen City Council school, or are away to enter Primary 1, and are in receipt of benefits including Income Support, Universal Credit and Housing Benefit. Students who receive an Education Maintenance Allowance can also apply for a school clothing grant for themselves. Winter clothing payments assist families in need by ensuring that children have what they need to keep warm throughout the winter.

3.7.2 The Scottish Government provides £6 per child for winter clothing. However, funding from the Cost of Living Fund and the Common Good Fund means that the Council can top this up to provide 5,000 children with a total of £30. The £20,000 allocated to Revenues & Benefits as part of round 1 of funding has been used to issue the Winter Clothing Grant city wide to all existing School Clothing recipients from 16 September 2024. To date, 2,713 awards (4,204 children) have received the additional £30. This totals £126,120. Any subsequent claim for a School Clothing Grant will automatically receive the additional £30 as part of the School Clothing Grant payment. It is expected that the funds will be fully spent by April 2025.

3.8 Telecare

Input	£20,020 allocated to Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership
Output	£0 spent to date on Telecare Payments to support low income families.
Outcome	Anticipated outcomes relate to prevention of harm over winter.

3.8.1 Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership will provide telecare support to low income families to support both cared for and Carer in purchasing equipment and devices for additional support straight into their homes. The £20,000 allocated to the Health and Social Care Partnership as part of round 1 of funding will be utilised to break the barrier of device costs for telecare support for low income families. Both unpaid Carers and the cared for person receive reassurance, reminders, prompts and support digitally reducing the need for hands on care support and reducing the risk of emergency response.

3.8.2 Arrangements are now in place for the Telecare provider Bon Accord Care to support the distribution of Telecare Payments to support low income families at pace. To date, time has been spent identifying individuals that require this service and undertaking assessments of their ability to pay. There is a high demand for this support and it is expected that the funds will be fully spent by April 2025 with the following actions:

- Gather data and information for distribution of funds to relevant families by Bon Accord Care.
- Identify families before December 2024.
- Purchase and install devices.
- Report on demographics, SIMD zones and collate impact/ stories early 2025.

3.9 **Power of Attorney**

Input	£10,000 allocated to Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership
Output	£0 spent to date on Power of Attorney Payments to support low income families in SIMD 1.
Outcome	Anticipated outcomes relate to reduction in delayed discharge.

3.9.1 Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership will provide support to low income families to arrange power of attorney because delays in support, health and care decisions and access can be due to a lack of Power of Attorney arrangements in place. The cost of Power of Attorney is usually unexpected and a barrier to low income families, particularly at point of crisis. The £10,000 allocated to the Health and Social Care Partnership will support families in gaining power of attorney arrangements for Carers without delay or barrier.

3.9.2 Quarriers are the Carers Support Services for Adults in the city and will manage the distribution of Power of Attorney support to low income families. There is a high demand for this support and entitlement to legal aid is explored first to reduce spend and maximise funding available. It is expected that the funds will be fully spent by April 2025 with the following actions:

- Transfer funds to Carers Support Services.
- Identify families and provide Solicitor lists before December 2024.
- Report arrangements on demographic information, timescales, and impact from feedback and stories and what this fund has enabled.

3.10 **Child Care Costs**

Input	£60,000 allocated to Aberdeen City ABZ Works
Output	£4,631.42 spent to date on supporting families with child care costs 4 families supported with child care costs to date 3 parents supported into employment 1 parent supported to sustain education in health and social care
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased opportunities for parents that face child care cost barriers • Parents enabled to enter into employment and stay in employment • Support to continue education to access paid employment • Increased self-esteem and mental health for parents • Income maximised for individuals and families

3.10.1 Aberdeen City Council ABZ Works provides support with childcare costs to parents as we know that childcare provision is a main barrier to employment or employability support. The £60,000 allocated to ABZ Works as part of round 1 of funding has been used to provide financial grants to parents who are looking to enter into employability support, employment or education but have childcare as a barrier to this. The allocation of funds can also be used for parents already in employment, but struggling to sustain this due to cost of childcare. The funding can also be used to pay for deposits or settling in periods to help alleviate initial financial pressures, and ease the transition process for both parents and their children.

3.10.2 The families that have been supported so far would not have otherwise been able to enter into employment and/or education, without support from the funding. For one parent, they are looking for roles in health and social care but do not currently have enough qualifications for their desired position. They have been accepted on to a university programme to enhance their career, but have been unable to access financial support for their two young children. ABZ Works will be using some of the allocated funds to support childcare payments during the first semester, where they will then be able to access their funded hours.

3.10.3 It is expected that demand for this support will continue to increase as a result of greater promotion of the support. Further, commissioned activities will be introduced to provide additional employability support for parents, and it is expected that these funds will help break down barriers and allow more parents to engage with the programmes. ABZ Works will also be offering paid work experience for parents in key sectors, and it is expected that some will be able to access childcare payments where needed in order to take up the placements. However these placements can take some time to be arranged due to awaiting PVG checks and identifying placements.

3.10.4 It is expected that the funds will be fully spent by April 2025 with the following actions:

- Promotional activities with commissioned services supporting parents.
- Promotional activities with partners to encourage referrals for support.
- Childcare payments offered to parents looking to engage with employability support, employment or education where financial support via DWP is not available.

3.11 **Poverty Awareness**

Input	£20,000 allocated to SHMU
Output	£8,000 spent to date on producing two short films shown during challenge poverty week 2024 Development of two more short films and podcast series underway
Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness of the reality of life for people in poverty • Improved understanding of challenge of people with No Recourse to Public Funds and gendered impacts of poverty • Volunteering opportunities for people with lived experience • Partnership working between lived experience, subject experts and support organisations • Informs decision making and training opportunities

- 3.11.1 Station House Media Unit (SHMU) is a charity based in the Woodside area of Aberdeen that supports residents in regeneration areas in radio and video production, traditional and on-line publications, music production and digital inclusion. The £20,000 allocated to SHMU as part of round 1 of funding has so far been used to increase capacity within the organisation to co-produce two short films with partner organisations about people with lived experience of poverty. The first was made with the No Recourse North East Partnership's lived experience group and the second with two females in Woodside exploring the gendered impacts of poverty in Aberdeen. Both films were screened at an event aimed at policy and decision makers on 11 October as part of [Challenge Poverty Week 2024](#).
- 3.11.2 Other areas which are being progressed using the funding include recruitment of people in Tillydrone to be trained on podcasting and interview methods to co-create a short series of podcasts shining a light on the challenges, support mechanisms and opportunities in the area. SHMU believe this place-based approach will be particularly impactful, both for those involved in its making, and for those who listen to it. Also, SHMU are working with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation to co-produce a short film on stigma to raise awareness with policy and decision makers and provide a training aid for practitioners in various sectors in the City. Finally, a short film which looks at the issue of unclaimed benefits will be produced in support of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan project on this topic.
- 3.11.3 SHMU will create a multimedia digital resource with all the outputs made through the project, and share this with elected officials and officers of Community Planning Aberdeen partners. SHMU will include an evaluation link when they circulate this resource and will interview and collect feedback from those that participate in the project, so that they can ascertain the impact on those involved. It is expected that the funds will be fully spent by April 2025.

3.12 **Next Steps**

- 3.12.1 An evaluation of the full cost of living funding allocated during 2024/25 will be submitted to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee meeting in June 2025.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 It is expected that the funds allocated from the £1 million approved by the Council at the meeting on 6 March 2024 will be fully spent by April 2025. This is a one-off fund that has no recurring commitment.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Funds allocated to third parties are subject to Aberdeen City Council's standard terms and conditions.

6. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	There is a risk that failing to support people struggling to meet the increased cost of living could lead to longer term economic harm.	Delivery of measures to help mitigate the cost of living impacts for the most vulnerable, alongside work and support across services, partners and third sector.	L	Yes
Compliance	There is a risk of failing to comply with a Council decision to spend the allocated £1m to help the most vulnerable in our community with energy costs.	Delivery of measures to help mitigate the cost of living impacts for the most vulnerable, alongside work and support across services, partners and third sector.	L	Yes
Operational	The project delivery in this report requires some resource from the Council, but mainly through partners	Strong partnership working with organisations identified will ensure this risk is minimised.	L	Yes
Financial	There is a risk of failing to deliver and spend the approved budget	It is expected that funds will be fully spent by April 2025.	L	Yes
Reputational	There is a risk that failing to support people struggling to meet the cost of living could lead to reputational damage.	The delivery described in this report demonstrates a clear commitment to supporting people with the cost of living.	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	No environmental risks identified	N/A	N/A	N/A

8. OUTCOMES

Council Delivery Plan 2024	
Impact of Report	
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement Working in Partnership for Aberdeen	The proposals within this report support the delivery of the following aspects of the policy statement:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting People with the Cost of Living • Actively support Aberdeen’s foodbanks and provide assistance with bulk purchasing where desirable.
<u>Local Outcome Improvement Plan</u>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	Stretch outcome 1: 20% reduction in the percentage of people who report they have been worried they would not have enough food to eat and/ or not be able to heat their home by 2026.
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	Stretch outcome 12: Reduce homelessness by 10% and youth homelessness by 6% by 2026, ensuring it is rare, brief and non-recurring with a longer term ambition to end homelessness in Aberdeen City.

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	New Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required.
Other	N/A

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 [Supporting People with the Cost of Living CORS/24/152](#)

11. APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Food Poverty Action Aberdeen Food Distribution and Outcomes and Impact Statements.

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Michelle Crombie
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APPENDIX 1 FOOD POVERTY ACTION ABERDEEN FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Charity/Community Organisation	Food Distribute (KG)	Meal Equivalents
Instant Neighbour	3,235	7,703
St Vincent De Paul Society	1,435	3,416
Cairncry Community Centre	899	2,141
The Care Hub Aberdeen	482	1,147
The Holy Family Sisters of the Needy	404	963
Touch of love outreach (sacred heart church)	268	637
Deeper Christian Life Ministry	93	222
Mobile Pantry (Aberdeenshire)	549	1,307
CFINE Food Bank	4,226	10,062
FITTIE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST	338	805
Heathryburn Community Cafe/Breakfast Club	302	720
SALEM INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CENTRE	48	114
Time to Heal	285	679
CFINE Community Food Pantry	2,026	4,824
Tillydrone Community Flat	505	1,203
Hilton Community Centre	419	997
Seaton Community Hub	381	907
Cummings Park Community Centre " Cubby "	338	805
Kincorth Community Centre	338	805
Manor Park School	300	713
Craigielea Childrens Centre	290	690
Dyce Community Centre	268	637
Danestone Community Centre Cfo	214	509
ACC Youth Team	225	535
Printfield Community Project	163	389
Northfield Community Centre	1,034	2,462
Middlefield Community Centre	651	1,551
Quarry Family Centre	432	1,028
Tullos Community Centre	293	697
Star Community Flat	92	219
Mastrick Community Centre Cfo	538	1,281
Sunnybank Community Centre	43	102
Stocket Grange Cfo	311	740
Mark Bush Court Cfo	93	222
Powis Community Centre	312	742
Williamson Family Centre	260	620
Ymca Aberdeen	245	584
Mobile pantry (ABERDEEN)	1,125	2,679
Aberdeen Duty Social Work Dept	435	1,036
St Vincent de Paul - St. Mary's Cathedral	1,098	2,615
Affinity Trust	334	794
Fersands Cafe	43	102

RISE	3	7
Woodside Pantry	404	962
Clifton Court Sheltered Complex	48	114
Drugs Action Aberdeen	23	54
Cyrenians (Summer Street)	626	1,491
Aberdeen Cyrenians - Warehouse	439	1,045
Community meals at St Andrews Com	48	114
Mamacita Foundation	476	1,133
Orchard brae school (Integrated children and family service)	316	752
Nescol Students Association	302	720
Northfield Academy	266	632
Kittybrewster Foodbank	248	591
Jesus House Torry	264	629
Jesus house Holburn street - City Of God	65	155
Higher ground assembly	5	13
Catalyst Vineyard Church	218	518
RCCG City Of The Great King	48	114
Meadow Court	260	620
Regensburg Court	93	222
Murray Court	23	54
Cyrenians (Wernham House)	93	222
Foyer (82A Crown Street)	93	222
Foyer (Marywell Street)	338	805
Clinterty - Adult Learning	93	222
TRE-Life C.I.C	23	54
Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital	275	656
AUSA Aberdeen University Students' Association	43	102
Total	30,503	72,627

Outcomes and Impact Statements

Northfield Community Centre

"We have received pallets of the purchased food which has been a lifesaver. Every week we are dealing with anything up to 165 people in the two days our food bank is open (Tuesday 6 to 7.30 and Thursday 10 to 2pm). That's not counting the additional emergency referrals or calls coming in through the week.

The ambient food is a blessing as it is food that doesn't need to be frozen/chilled can just go straight in the cupboard – these are staples that people need just now.

I spoke to a mother today who has a family of 7 who said:"I'm grateful for whatever is given to us. As as you can imagine, with kids it's a constant round of needs like food and clothes. I wish we didn't need to use the food bank, but needs must."

We are working as part of Food Poverty Action Aberdeen to make sure that folk have access to the essentials they need."



Photo: Northfield Community Centre food bank being stocked

Cummings Park Community Centre

“Cummings Park receives regular deliveries of food from CFINE purchased with funding from the Council, as well as surplus FareShare food.

Working in partnership with local schools, Family Learning, community groups, individuals and city-wide agencies, Cummings Park was identified as vulnerable regarding food stress and other issues around poverty.

Food poverty, defined as the inability to access sufficient, safe, and nutritious food, has far-reaching impacts on individuals and communities. This leads to malnutrition, which can cause a range of health issues. Along with educational challenges where children may struggle academically due to lack of poor nutrition, which affects concentration and cognitive function.

Accessing food at Cummings Park has allowed those with possible social isolation, educational challenges and mental health issues to take food with no judgement and may allow them to access foods they may not have tried. We encourage them to try new products by telling them different ways of cooking things or how certain foods go well together.

The local community has commented on how accessing what we have as a godsend, takes the strain off of family relationships, allows their children to have better nutritional meals and gives them a friendly place to come and not feel judged. We also give advice on budgeting, services to access for help and any other information they ask and we have the knowledge about.”

St Vincent De Paul Society

“The impact that CFINE have given us is huge. We can now offer a fairly balanced & healthy food parcel to the needy, mainly from the Mastrick area of Aberdeen. We are serving on average 60 people per week. We have found that they are really struggling to provide themselves with food, especially with the energy costs so high these days. Holy Family is a poor parish, and without this support would not be able to provide anywhere near the 60 or so parcels that we give out each week.”



Photos: food parcels ready for distribution by SVDP

Instant Neighbour

“Instant Neighbour receives ambient food once a week from CFINE, this food being purchased with the Cost-of-Living funding provided by Aberdeen City Council.

The food bank at Instant Neighbour issues on average 150 emergency food parcels a week. These parcels consist of ambient foods, and we aim for them to last around 2-3 days, each parcel usually weighing between 6-8kg.

We provide food parcels, advice and signposting to people from all walks of life; families, people in work, people with disabilities, people with no recourse to public funds and so on. Everyone that visits us has a unique set of challenges which has meant they need to access emergency food.

However, for the majority of early 2024, we were unable to provide the same level of food support that we previously did because of the end of the funding to CFINE. This meant reducing the amount of food in a food parcel, with the amount of food only lasting around 1-2 days.

Now the funding has been reinstated, we have received, since July, approximately 2,160kg of ambient food from CFINE. This has helped us to provide at least 360 food parcels. Without this food, the food bank would not be able to provide a substantial food parcel to clients.

This has also taken a significant amount of pressure off the charity, as during the period we were not receiving this food from CFINE, we spent £2,572.90 on purchasing food to keep stock levels up, alongside public donations. This was not

sustainable, and our purchased food would usually only last 3 or 4 days as demand was unchanged.

As the cost of living remains high, and with the end of the universal Winter Fuel Payment in Scotland, that demand going into the winter months will remain high and is likely to grow. If demand remains the same or grows further, the food that CFINE provides will prove vital to our continued provision to those in need throughout Aberdeen City.”

CFINE

The additional food purchased with funding through the Cost-of-Living fund has already had a major positive impact on services. CFINE operates one of the busiest food banks in the city, and demand has continued to be incredibly high due to the cost-of-living. In 2023-24, CFINE distributed >38,000 food parcels, averaging more than 100 per day. This trend has continued, with over 6,000 food parcels distributed in July and August, and so it was vital that the supply of food was made available to keep up with demand. Demand typically increases in the winter months, but has remained stubbornly high for some time.

Food is something that we all have in common and the conversations that stem from food can reveal deeper underlying issues associated with poverty which can then be addressed. CFINE uses food as a vehicle for engagement and community development, not just treating the symptom (hunger), but through wrap-around services tackles underlying causes of food insecurity and poverty.

500 free pantry memberships and weekly shops has been rolled out at CFINE and Woodside Pantry. This has proved successful in reducing household expenditure for members, and maximise income.



Photo: the first lorry-load of food arriving to be sorted and distributed

Letter from Community Pantry Member

"Dear CFINE Pantry Team,

Thank you for helping me!

Thank you for enabling me to have healthy food , week after week, and enabling me to have a decent quality of life.

As many of you know I was homeless or insecurely housed for a number of years and my life was chaotic. I often as without enough money to eat properly as priority was to keep was to keep myself safe with a roof over my head.

Since arriving in Aberdeen my life is changing, through friend I have safe accommodation and can have a future to look forward to.

Food insecurity has been very traumatic, especially if it's prolonged and I know it will take time to recover. It's so lovely that here at cfine pantry its not just about shopping. Theres a wonderful warmth and a buzz in the place and I really look forward to my weekly visit.

Thank you so much for your kindness and your solidarity!

Kind regards

AS"

Case Study – CFINE Pantry Volunteer

Volunteers come from all areas of life, retired, in recovery from addiction, poor mental health, unemployed – job seekers and students to name a few. Many volunteers arrive at CFINE with low self- esteem, low confidence, poor attendance etc but thrive on the 'family and friendly' atmosphere that develops and gain in confidence, skills and sometimes move on to employment and better prospects or just a better outlook on life.

DC, started his volunteering journey quite recently, working in the CFINE Pantry on a Thursday morning. When DC started he presented as shy, quiet and lacking in confidence. He quickly picked up the 'job' made friends and is now an invaluable member of the team. His confidence has grown along with his skills, knowledge and now helps teaches other new volunteers and supports many of the more vulnerable pantry members. I will let his own words describe how his volunteering journey has been.

"I am a 73 year old and live on my own, my wife died 8 years ago. I have worked since the age of 14, retiring at 68, making mistakes along the way. If the bills fell behind, I changed my job or asked for overtime, but mostly worked an extra job as bills had to be paid. Doing charitable work was out of the question, but now I have paid the house and added to my pension pot I don't have to earn any more.

I had a few major operations last year and needed some extra help for anxiety from the doctor. Was given medication which I stopped, then was passed over for counselling with Jenny who in turn recommended me to contact CFINE which I did. Best thing ever, great group of personnel, easy to work with. Until now I did not realise how much people needed our help which is sad. I have found a team on which I work very supportive and the work rewarding. Glad I am now involved in something worthwhile."



SAFE Outreach

CFINE's SAFE team work to maximise household incomes through benefit uptake. An element of the funding has been used on SAFE outreach work, embedding the service in communities and generating financial gain for individuals.

Middlefield Hub, Tillydrone Community Flat, Cummings Park Community Flat and Cairncry Community Centre are all receiving outreach support either fortnightly or monthly as agreed with the centres based on level of need. Further to this HomeStart and HMP Grampian have a named outreach adviser who facilitates immediate appointments upon receiving referrals covering two priority groups, families and male prisoners preparing for liberation. Since July there have been 25 community outreach sessions delivered on a drop-in basis at the locations. Cairncry is a new addition based on a visit from the Anti-Poverty & Inequality Committee members that identified need for the service users and the outreach adviser is delivering a drop in during their wellbeing café and food bank sessions fortnightly.

Additionally, the outreach adviser hosts a drop-in session at Aberdeen Vaccination and Wellbeing centre fortnightly and has recently set up a session at Frederick Street clinic. SAFE advisers are also scheduled to visit priority postcode areas once per week on rotation with the pantry van.

Anyone who requires ongoing support with income maximisation or budgeting matters are offered a follow up home visit from the outreach advisers to complete forms etc in privacy. This has shown to be positive with those seeking advice or support and an increase in home visits being facilitated, 34 in July and August. Further to this 39 people have been referred from outreach advisers for wider SAFE input and have been assigned an adviser

Tillydrone Community Flat

“The provision of purchased food distributed through CFINE and facilitated via funding from Aberdeen City Council has been an absolute godsend to Tillydrone Community Flat.

Foodbank demand has risen exponentially over the last couple of years, rising from 993 parcels in the years 2020/21 to 3500 in the year 2023/24.

As a small grassroots charity with limited funding, we have struggled to maintain our emergency food provision service and earlier this year thought we may have to stop the service completely.

Benefiting from this initiative has enabled us to continue supporting those most in need in the Tillydrone area where poverty levels are high, and the cost of daily living is an ongoing struggle for many residents. We are very thankful for this support and the positive impact it has on our service.”

Middlefield Community Project

“I can’t stress how vital and how much help the deliveries of ambient non-perishable food has been for lots of local people. From having conversations with people, the reasons people come for a food parcel is so varied. We have an elderly woman who struggles to move around due to ill-health, and with no family.

These food parcels are a “lifesaver” for her. She can’t afford to bulk buy, she doesn’t have a freezer, and she can’t go to the shops often. She was often going days on end without food as she was too sore to go to the shops. Some families struggle to make ends meet each month, especially if they have had big outlays of money such as school uniforms being bought for multiple children from single parent households, household appliances breaking, or a delay with benefits payments, for example.

This service also means we are able to check on the wellbeing of our most vulnerable in our communities, we are also able to signpost to other services when they come for a food bag, and check in on their mental health as well. The non-perishable goods are also a brilliant support to struggling families as people can make it last for longer, they can bulk cook, and they can spread it over a few weeks and not have to worry about a short “Use By” date. We estimate over 120 people a week benefits from the service including children all the way up to people 80+.”

Holy Family Sisters of the Needy

“What a joyful privilege to write to impart the invaluable help your organisation makes in our work of helping our needy and vulnerable brothers and sisters who come to us daily for their livelihood. Truly, this work would have been undoable without the great support we get from you.”



Photo: emergency food parcels ready to be distributed by Holy Family Sisters of the Needy using the purchased food.

Cairncry CC Foodbank Case Study

Our foodbank is open 3 days a week alongside our free café opening times. This has been hugely beneficial to the local community with numbers ranging from 20 – 30 each day using both foodbank and café. We have various users that require food parcels from several different walks of life.

The café staff use some store cupboard goods from the foodbank showing examples of what can be made with tinned items etc, this may range from carrot soup to vegetable pasta in tomato sauce. Without C-Fine's weekly deliveries the centre would struggle to provide these necessary resources to our users.

User's statements:

"it's been a god send" "so grateful" "if it wasn't for the foodbank I would be unable to eat"



ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee
DATE	6 November 2024
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Committee Annual Effectiveness Report
REPORT NUMBER	COM/24/288
DIRECTOR	Andy MacDonald
CHIEF OFFICER	Alan Thomson
REPORT AUTHOR	Emma Robertson
TERMS OF REFERENCE	GD 8.5

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the annual report of the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee to enable Members to provide comment on the data contained within.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Committee:-

- 2.1 provide comments and observations on the data contained within the annual report; and
- 2.2 note the annual report of the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

Annual Reports on Committee Terms of Reference

- 3.1 The annual committee effectiveness reports were introduced in 2018/19 following a recommendation from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) as part of the Council's work towards securing that organisation's accreditation in governance excellence. The Terms of Reference set out that each Committee will review its own effectiveness against its Terms of Reference through the mechanism of the annual report.
- 3.2 The annual effectiveness reports were mentioned by CIPFA in their report which awarded the Mark of Excellence in Governance accreditation to Aberdeen City Council. CIPFA highlighted the implementation of the annual effectiveness reports as a matter of good practice in governance and were encouraged that, during consideration of the reports at Committee and Council, Members had made suggestions for improvements to the reports in future years.
- 3.3 Data from the annual effectiveness reports is used to inform the review of the Scheme of Governance, ensuring that Committee Terms of Reference are

correctly aligned, and identifying any areas of the Terms of Reference which had not been used throughout the year in order that they can be reviewed and revised if necessary. The information from the effectiveness reports has also been used in the past to feed into the Annual Governance Statement.

- 3.4 The reports provide a mechanism for each committee to annually review its effectiveness, including data on attendance, any late reports, referrals to Council and the number of times officer recommendations were amended, and to ensure that it is following its Terms of Reference.
- 3.5 Similarly, recording the sections or stretch outcomes of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) which apply to each report allows Members to be aware of the direct impact of any proposals before them on the LOIP, and gives a general overview at the end of each year of the number of reports which have had an impact on the LOIP stretch outcomes.
- 3.7 Any comments from Members on areas of data that should be considered would be welcomed to ensure that Members are presented with meaningful data.
- 3.8 The annual report for 2023/2024 is therefore appended for the Committee's consideration. Following consideration by the Committee, the report will be submitted to Full Council in December 2024 for noting.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications from the recommendations of this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	N/A			Yes
Compliance	Failure to submit this report would	L	Council is given the opportunity to consider the reports	Yes

	mean that the Council would not be complying with its instruction that all committees and Full Council receive such a report each year.		and provide feedback on any amendments Members would wish to see in the content so that this can be taken on board for next year's Scheme of Governance review.	
Operational	N/A			Yes
Financial	N/A			Yes
Reputational	N/A			Yes
Environment / Climate	N/A			Yes

8. OUTCOMES

There are no links to the Council Delivery Plan, however the committee effectiveness annual reports link to the Scheme of Governance, by ensuring that each committee is fulfilling its Terms of Reference.

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	It was confirmed on 9 October 2024 by the Assurance Manager – Governance, Vikki Cuthbert, that no impact assessment is required.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee Annual Effectiveness Report 15 October 2023 to 15 October 2024.

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee Annual Effectiveness Report 2023/2024



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1. Introduction from Convener

- 1.1 I am pleased to present the annual effectiveness report for the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee. The report represents good practice in governance and also informs the annual review of the Council's Scheme of Governance, enabling officers to identify if any changes are required, for example, to the Committee Terms of Reference.
- 1.2 The Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee Terms of Reference have been updated to reflect that the Committee will approve for publication the Local Child Poverty Action report and reports on progress on mainstreaming equality duty, sets of equality outcomes and report on progress to achieve equality outcomes.
- 1.3 Committee welcomes the expertise and input from our External Advisers - who have supported the Committee since it was established in November 2022 - informing the development of committee business as well as the input of members of Community Planning Aberdeen's [Anti-Poverty Group](#).
- 1.4 A key piece of work this year was progression on Citizens' Assemblies. The Committee has received three reports on this subject, with the most recent resolution to commission the Scottish Women's Budget Group (SWBG) to deliver an assembly approach on poverty and gender inequality in Aberdeen. The Scottish Women's Budget Group is due to report to the Committee on its findings in 2025.
- 1.5 Committee Members have been visiting our Communities and the organisations supporting them. This year we have been to Aberdeen Cyrenians and Cairncry Community Centre. The visits have been extremely helpful for the Committee and for officers in learning about the work of organisations across the city. They have also assisted the organisations themselves, as each visit identified actions for improvement to be carried out by officers. The commitment of the organisations in organising and hosting the visits is very much appreciated.
- 1.6 I would like to thank members, past and present - both elected and external - and officers for their contributions over the last year and look forward to working with them, and my Vice Convener Councillor Desmond Bouse next year.



Councillor Christian Allard
Convener – Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee

2. The Role of the Committee

PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE

To monitor and determine the Council's contribution to alleviating and mitigating all forms of poverty and inequality in the city.

The Committee will develop an Anti-Poverty Strategy.

REMIT OF COMMITTEE

1. The Committee will, in respect of poverty and inequality issues in the city:
 - 1.1 Consider the impact of poverty on the city as a whole and targeted population levels, including on key groups such as children, minority ethnic communities and those of pensionable age who are known to be particularly disadvantaged by poverty;
 - 1.2 Consider the evidence from Citizen's Assemblies on poverty and inequality matters;
 - 1.3 Seek the views and involvement of those experiencing poverty and inequality;
 - 1.4 Consider the effect of In-work Poverty and the Living Wage, including by receiving reports on Living Wage accreditation rates;
 - 1.5 Consider evidence of "what's worked" in combating poverty and inequality;
 - 1.6 Consider the impact of ongoing Welfare Reform measures, including by receiving reports on benefit access and uptake;
 - 1.7 Consider the impact of poverty on Employability and Youth Employment, including by receiving reports on employment rates and positive destinations;
 - 1.8 Consider the impact of Food Insecurity and Fuel Poverty, including by receiving reports on community food provision and energy cost impacts;
 - 1.9 Consider the impact of stigma and discrimination on those experiencing poverty;
 - 1.10 Consider the impact of poverty on the health and wellbeing of those experiencing it;
 - 1.11 Monitor the progress of research relevant to poverty and inequality, including in relation to health determinants;
 - 1.12 Consider matters relating to the provision of Credit Unions, fair and affordable banking and advice services;
 - 1.13 Examine the nature of institutional and systemic discrimination in Aberdeen, and consider the steps required to eradicate such discrimination;
 - 1.14 Monitor the performance of Council-funded community programmes and projects which seek to address poverty or inequality.
2. The Committee will:
 - 2.1 approve for publication Local Child Poverty Action Reports in terms of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 and Child Poverty Action Plans;
 - 2.2 approve for publication the Council's (i) reports on its progress on mainstreaming the equality duty, (ii) sets of equality outcomes, and (iii) reports on the progress made to achieve the equality outcomes, all in terms of the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012; and

- 2.3 monitor the Memorandum of Understanding between the Council and the Department for Work and Pensions through receipt of an annual report.
- 3.1 In undertaking the aspects at 1 and 2, the Committee will ensure that it is acting within the budget set by Council and is supporting the delivery of the Council's agreed outcomes, commissioning intentions and service standards.
- 3.2 The Committee may make recommendations to the appropriate Committee(s) or Sub Committee(s) on matters affecting its remit where the authority to approve sits within the remit of another Committee or Sub Committee.

EXTERNAL ADVISERS:

Emphasising the close links with Community Planning Aberdeen's Anti-Poverty Group, the Committee will appoint advisers who are not members of the Council.

These External Advisers will be appointed by the Committee as follows:

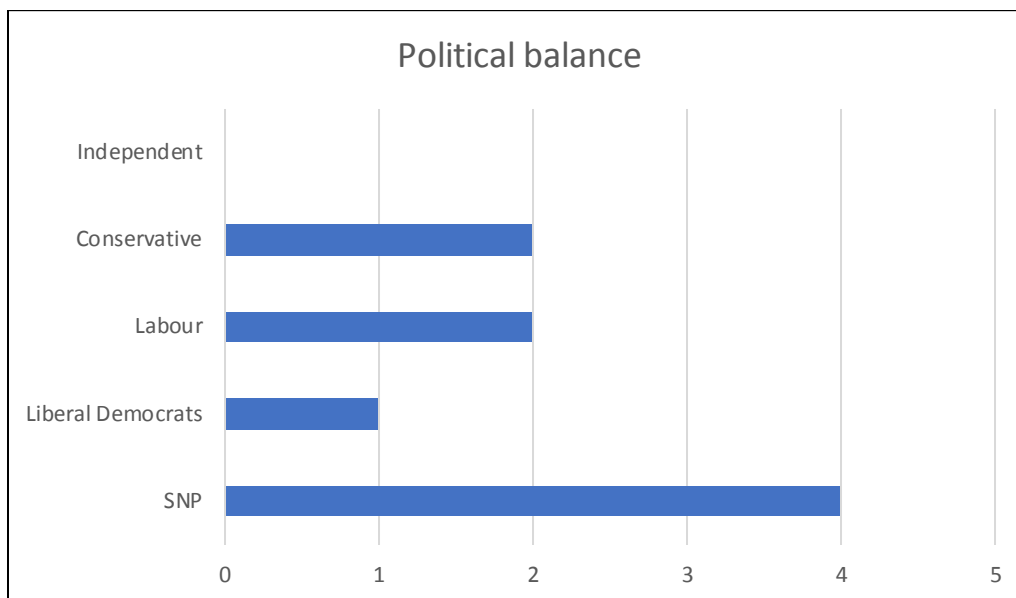
- 1 resident of Aberdeen with lived experience of poverty;
- Up to 2 people representing the charitable sector in Aberdeen;
- 1 person representing higher and further education in Aberdeen;
- 1 person representing key interest groups in Aberdeen (that may be appointed for a defined period of time); and
- 1 public health professional/practitioner who works in Aberdeen.

EXECUTIVE LEAD:- Executive Director of Corporate Services

3. Membership of the Committee during 2023/2024

3.1 The Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee had 13 members, however in February 2024, Council agreed to reduce the number of elected members to nine.

3.2 The Committee composition is presented below:-



3.3 The Committee also has six External Advisers. The Advisers attend the Committee meetings, can ask questions and participate in any debate, but do not have the ability to move or second motions or amendments, nor to vote. These Advisers are:-

Professor John Bone	University of Aberdeen
Kerry Gavin (from 3 July 2024)	Lived Experience, CFINE
Sophy Green	Instant Neighbour
Dr Marjorie Johnston (from 3 July 2024)	Public Health, NHS Grampian
Edward Obi (from 1 November 2023)	Chair of ethnic minority group
Vacancy: Charitable Sector representative	
Maggie Hepburn (until 28 August 2024)	ACVO
Phil Mackie (until 12 June 2024)	Public Health, NHS Grampian



*Visiting Cairncry Community Centre
(L-R) Councillor Richard Brooks, Convener Councillor Christian Allard with External Advisers Edward Obi, Kerry Gavin and Dr Marjorie Johnston, and Vice Convener Councillor Desmond Bouse.*

3.4 The value the Advisors add to the Committee is reflected in these two quotes:

“The Committee’s commitment to addressing poverty head-on, through strategic partnerships and innovative solutions, is both commendable and essential. We are honoured to contribute to the vital work being done to tackle the challenges faced by our most vulnerable communities. We look forward to continuing our collaboration, ensuring that every effort is made to uplift and empower those in need, paving the way for a more equitable and prosperous future for all.” – Edward Obi.

“Thanks very much, it has been an interesting experience being an External Adviser and I look forward to hearing what happens next. ACVO will always be available as a source of information and support for the Committee.” – outgoing External Adviser Maggie Hepburn, Chief Executive of ACVO.

4. Membership Changes

4.1 Councillors Clark, Crockett, Graham and Greig were members of the Committee until February 2024 when places were reduced from 13 to nine. There were no other changes to the membership during the reporting period.

5. Member Attendance

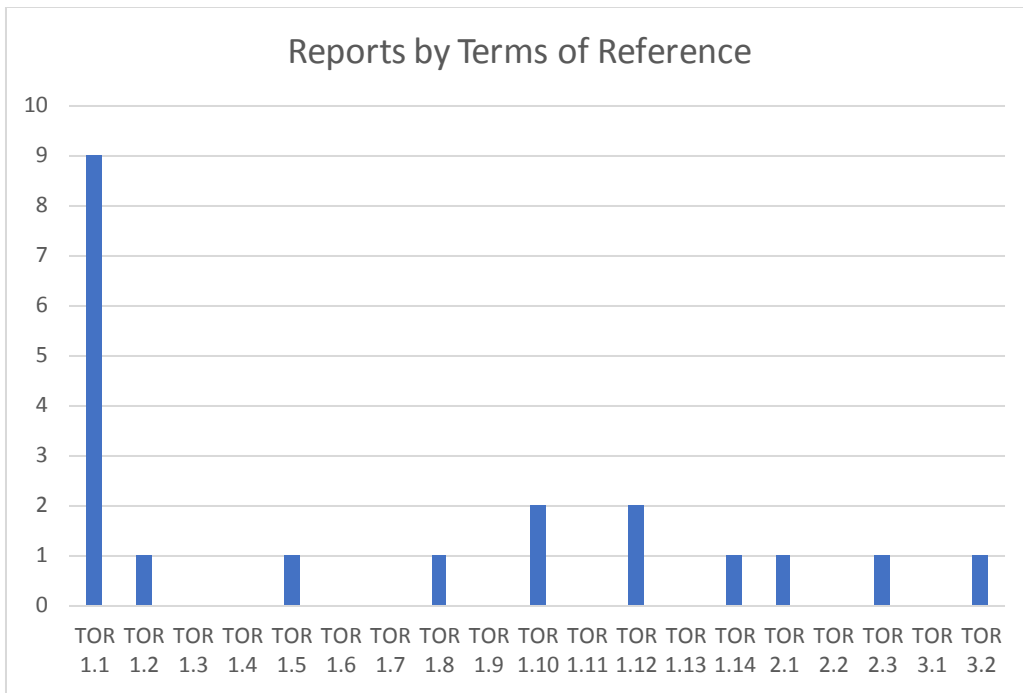
Member	Total Anticipated Attendances	Total Attendances	Substitutions
Councillor Christian Allard	5	5	
Councillor Desmond Bouse	5	3	Councillors Henrickson, Radley/ Yuill
Councillor Richard Brooks	5	5	
Councillor Derek Davidson	5	5	
Councillor Michael Hutchison	5	5	
Councillor Michael Kuszniir	5	5	
Councillor Jessica Mennie	5	4	Councillors Radley, Yuill
Councillor Deena Tissera	5	4	Councillor Thomson
Councillor Simon Watson	5	5	
The following were members until the membership of the Committee was reduced in February 2024:			
Councillor Donna Clark	2	2	
Councillor Barney Crockett	2	0	
Councillor Gordon Graham	2	0	Councillors Malik, Bonsell
Councillor Martin Greig	2	2	

6. Meeting Content

6.1 During the 2023/2024 reporting period (15 October 2023 to 15 October 2024), the Committee had five meetings and considered a total of 15 reports.

6.2 Terms of Reference

6.2.1 The following chart details how reports aligned to the Terms of Reference (set out at section 2 above) for the Committee.



6.2.2 During the course of 2023/2024 the Committee received reports under most of the main Terms of Reference which indicates that the Committee has discharged its role effectively throughout the course of the reporting period.

6.2.3 Some minor changes were made to the Committee Terms of Reference as a result of the Scheme of Governance 2024 Review. Additions were to approve for publication Local Child Poverty Action Reports in terms of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 and Child Poverty Action Plans; and approve for publication the Council’s (i) reports on its progress on mainstreaming the equality duty, (ii) sets of equality outcomes, and (iii) reports on the progress made to achieve the equality outcomes, all in terms of the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012. The new Terms of Reference will continue to be monitored throughout the year, in preparation for the 2025 Scheme of Governance review.

6.2.4 The majority of reports fell under Terms of Reference 1.1 (Consider the impact of poverty on the city as a whole and targeted population levels, including on key groups such as children, minority ethnic communities and those of pensionable age who are known to be particularly disadvantaged by poverty), 1.10 (Consider the impact of poverty on the health and wellbeing of those experiencing it) and 1.12 (Consider matters relating to the provision of Credit Unions, fair and affordable banking and advice services).

7. Reports and Decisions

7.1 The following information relates to the committee reports and Notices of Motion presented to Committee throughout the reporting period, as well as the use of Standing Orders and engagement with members of the public.

	Total	Total Percentage of Reports
Confidential Reports	0	0
Exempt Reports	0	0
Number of reports where the Committee amended officer recommendations	0	0
Number of reports approved unanimously	3	20%
Number of reports or service updates requested during the consideration of another report to provide additional assurance and not in business planner	0 reports 2 Service Updates*	N/A
Number of reports delayed for further information	0	0
Number of times the Convener has had to remind Members about acceptable behaviour in terms of the Code of Conduct	0	0
Late reports received (i.e. reports not available for inspection at least 3 clear days before the meeting)	0	0
Number of referrals to Council under SO 34.1	1**	7%

* Two Service updates were requested – (1) on the potential criteria to be considered in order to make recommendations for the allocation of the £1 million funding; and (2) the costs and potential benefits of providing free school meals to Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils.

** Referral by Councillor Kuszniir on 12 June 2024 in respect of the report on Accessing Money Advice Services.

Notices of Motion, Suspension of Standing Orders, Interface with the Public	
Number of Notices of Motion to Committee*	1
Number of times Standing Orders suspended	0
Specific Standing Orders suspended	N/A
Number of deputations requested	0
Number of deputations heard	N/A
Number of petitions considered	0

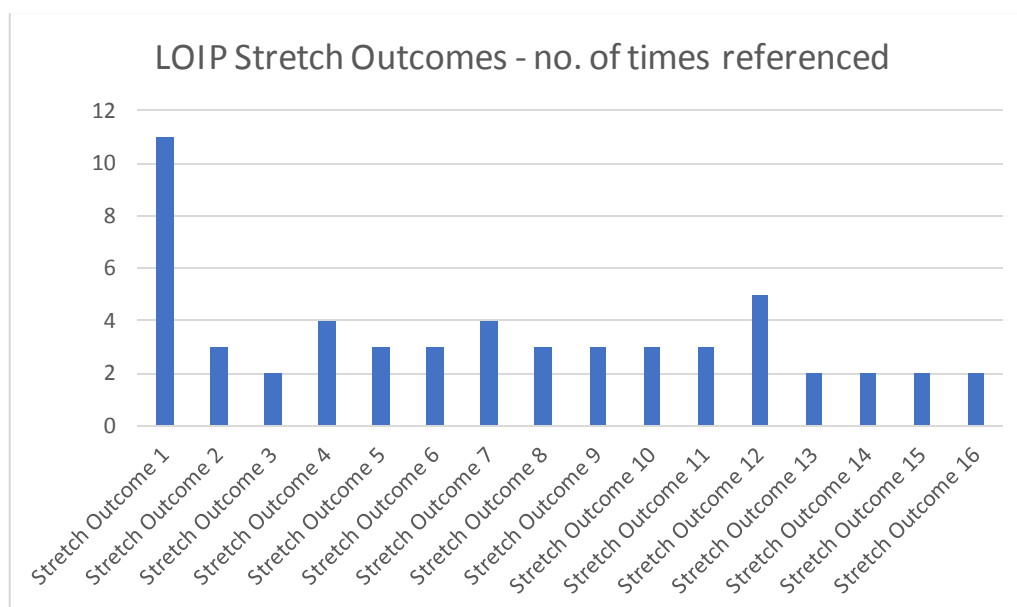
* Notice of Motion by Councillor Kuszniir on 20 March 2024, withdrawn at the meeting.

8. Reports with links to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

- 8.1 The following table details, of the 15 reports, how each report linked to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP Stretch Outcomes are appended to this report for reference at Appendix 1).

Stretch Outcomes were correct at the time of recording on the Committee reports, however, these were updated in April 2024 and therefore the Stretch Outcomes noted after that date refer to the new outcomes in Appendix 1.

As can be seen from the chart below, reports to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee had links to all of the stretch outcomes. It is encouraging to see that the Stretch Outcomes have been used so frequently in reports presented, as it demonstrates that the reports are closely tied to meeting the objectives of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.



9. Training and Development

- 9.1 New external advisers coming on to the Committee have received an induction which includes an introductory meeting and an invitation to join the Community Planning Aberdeen Anti-Poverty Group.
- 9.2 The Anti-Poverty Group provides a forum where external advisers can come together with wider partners from across the public, private and third sector in Aberdeen. Together the group explores key issues, collaborates on improvement activity and seeks to coordinate efforts across partner organisations. Organisations represented on the group include: Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen City Health and Social Care

Partnership, ACVO, Aberdeen Foyer, CFINE, Fountain of Love Church, GREC, Aberdeen Health Determinants Collaboration, Instant Neighbour, Igbo Community Aberdeen, NHS Grampian, SCARF, SHMU, and the University of Aberdeen.

- 9.3 Through the Anti-Poverty Group, external advisers have had the opportunity to collaborate with wider partners in shaping anti-poverty strategy through the refresh of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans. On 23 January 2024 the group lead an [economy themed stakeholder session](#) as part of the refresh process. The session considered the latest poverty data and insights and consulted on suggested priorities for action. This informed the refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan that was approved in April 2024.

Poverty – what we know

What the data is telling us..	What the community is telling us could be better..
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8.4% of City Voice respondents (Dec 22) said that they were worried they would not have enough food to eat, up from 6.5% in Aug 21 32% of City Voice respondents (Dec 22) reported being worried they would not be able to heat their home – up from 10% in Aug 2021 Across four foodbanks in Aberdeen, almost 62,000 emergency food parcels were distributed in 2022/23, averaging over 5,000 parcels every month In Scotland in 2019/22 an estimated 21% of people were living in relative poverty after housing costs and it is estimated that 57% of those in relative poverty are in working households Provisional data for 2022/23 shows there were 1,772 homelessness applications in the year – an increase of 26.1% from 2021/22. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better insulation and more energy efficient homes Type and availability of housing with more affordable housing available – rent vacant properties Access to affordable food, such as food banks. “in the central locality there are no big supermarkets in the community, mini versions can be expensive.”(Central locality only) Affordability of public transport – reducing transport poverty Increases to, and improvements for, making neighbourhoods ‘look’ better was suggested which could help build community spirit and community pride.

- 9.4 As part of the Anti-Poverty Group, external advisers have also had the opportunity to do a deep dive into topics including food insecurity, fuel poverty, No Recourse to Public Funds and the final topic of the year will be transport poverty. These development sessions support external advisers in their role with the Committee by creating space for them to share thoughts and ideas with wider partners in a less formal setting. External advisers are also supported by Council Officers in undertaking specific tasks such as making recommendations to the Committee on Cost of Living funding.

- 9.5 Further development opportunities will be considered for next year based on Committee business throughout the year, Executive Lead proposals and Member feedback on what may be required to assist them in performing their roles.

10. Code of Conduct Declarations and Transparency Statements

10.1 No declarations of interest and 16 transparency statements were made by Members during the reporting period. Information in respect of declarations of interest and transparency statements is measured to evidence awareness of the requirements to adhere to the Councillors' Code of Conduct and the responsibility to ensure fair decision-making.

11. Civic Engagement

11.1 During the reporting period, the Committee has engaged in a wide variety of engagement and consultation. The following bullet points list some, but not all, of the engagement undertaken to give a flavour of the work throughout the year.

- Visit to Aberdeen Cyrenians as part of their programme of visits to key organisations
- Visit to Cairncry Community Centre
- External Advisers of the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee and members of the Community Planning Aberdeen Anti-Poverty Outcome Improvement Group ran an economy themed stakeholder session as part of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan in January 2024
- Participation and promotion of [Challenge Poverty Week in Aberdeen 2024](#)



Aberdeen Cyrenians Visit, January 2024 (Photo: Norman Adams - Aberdeen City Council)

11.2 The visits have been extremely helpful for the Committee in learning about the work of organisations across the city, hearing at first hand the issues and difficulties faced by people experiencing poverty, as well as from staff and volunteers on the challenges of supporting vulnerable people. This builds on input to the Committee from our external advisers and Anti-Poverty Group. The commitment of the organisations in organising and hosting the visits is very much appreciated.



Cairncry Community Centre Visit, August 2024

The Committee helped encourage involvement in Challenge Poverty Week (7-13 October 2024) coordinated by the Poverty Alliance. A [briefing](#) was developed for elected members, staff, external partners and communities to promote the events planned in Aberdeen and other national events being held online. The week kicked off with a free drop in community fair held by SCARF to raise awareness of the range of support with the cost of living crisis available to people across Aberdeen. Mid-week, GREC launched their report about their ongoing work to explore solutions to tackle financial disadvantage in migrant households. The week culminated in Fairer Aberdeen Fund partners holding a special event aimed at raising awareness of the lived experience of poverty and inequality of Aberdeen's communities.

CHALLENGE POVERTY WEEK  **Mon 7th - Sun 13th October 2024**

  **Community Planning Aberdeen**

Aberdeen City Council's Anti-Poverty & Inequality Committee and Community Planning Aberdeen's Anti-Poverty Group encourage you to get involved in:

Challenge Poverty Week 7 October -13 October 2024

In this briefing find out:

Page 1 What is Anti-Poverty Week?
 Page 2 What is going on in Aberdeen?
 Page 3 Online events
 Page 4 Other ways to get involved
 Page 5 Challenge Poverty Week Background and Footers

What is it?

- A week long campaign coordinated by the Poverty Alliance which promotes compassion and Justice
- It's about having a unified voice around the injustice in poverty
- It's a time to campaign to challenge the stigma and discrimination which can often be associated with poverty, one of the main barriers for people getting the support they need
- It's also an opportunity to share the anti-poverty work happening in Aberdeen across Scotland
- Involvement can be as small or as large as organisations want to go
- The campaign has been growing year on year

Policy Asks and Themes 



Events in Aberdeen

The aim is to encourage a coordinated effort between Aberdeen partners and communities to ensure we have a united voice and are united in **action and support**, **reducing stigma** and **improving the lives** of people affected by poverty.

Monday 7 October – Sunday 13 October @ 11.00am – 1pm, [shmu](#) radio Challenge Poverty Packed Lunch



[shmu](#) will also host a week of Challenge Poverty "Packed Lunch" specials, with volunteer presenters interviewing third sector and community organisations about their work to tackle poverty in the City. Tune in on 99.8FM, or on DAB in most of the City. [shmu](#) will also be releasing a series of three visual podcasts during the week, exploring different themes relating to poverty (stigma, health inequalities, and unpaid carers), with lived experience guests alongside academics and representatives of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and others.

Monday 7 October @ 10:00am – 4.00pm, Music Hall Empower Aberdeen



A free drop in community fair, providing direct access to support available across Aberdeen. It will be a day of sharing services, experiences and networking with other like-minded organisations in Aberdeen to improve the lives and homes of those living in our city/area.

Aberdeen City Council and Community Planning Aberdeen are just two of the stall holders at the event. All community organisations being invited to sign up by following the link [MusicHall2024 \(scarf.org.uk\)](#)

The event is being sponsored by Community Planning Aberdeen Responsible Business Partner [Vital Energy](#) who are paying for the cost of the venue.

Monday 7 October @3pm, Marischal College Marischal College to be lit up in solidarity for Challenge Poverty Week



The Lord Provost will light up Marischal College pink and blue on Monday 7 October to mark the beginning of Challenge Poverty Week.

11.2 Looking ahead, in December 2024 members are taking part in the AberNecessities Christmas Volunteering opportunity, helping to play a role in the Believe in Magic campaign which aims to provide essential items and support to children living in poverty across the North East of Scotland, ensuring, “no child misses out on the wonder of the most magical time of the year”.

A key piece of work this year was progression on Citizens’ Assemblies. The Committee has received three reports on this subject, with the most recent resolution to commission the Scottish Women’s Budget Group (SWBG) to deliver an assembly approach on poverty and gender inequality in Aberdeen, Scottish Women’s Budget Group will use mixed method tools to explore the issue and identify solutions with participants. Since July, the organisation has been working with community groups in Aberdeen to recruit a diverse range of women to be part of a steering group. The Scottish Women’s Budget Group is due to report to the Committee on its findings in 2025.

12. Executive Lead to the Committee - Commentary

12.1 Given the public's interest in Committee activities, transparency in reporting is essential. I am pleased to note that all matters this year were discussed in public sessions, with no exempt reports.

Officers consistently integrate feedback from Committee Members to ensure that reports are transparent and accessible. They appreciate the scrutiny and high interest shown in their work across the city.

Throughout the year, officers have delivered detailed reports to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee, highlighting the Council's extensive efforts to tackle poverty. These initiatives span areas such as education, housing and homelessness, employability through City Growth, and the work of the Financial Inclusion Team. Additionally, the Scottish Welfare Fund, managed by the Revenues and Benefits Team, is crucial in this fight against poverty.

It is heartening to see a significant focus on cost of living challenges that our communities may face. Our external advisers, partners and Community Planning Aberdeen's Anti-Poverty Outcome Improvement Group members have been instrumental in offering advice and support to ensure the committee members are offered relevant and local information to assist in determining business presented to committee.

This has led to members being updated on support measures for individuals facing the cost-of-living crisis. These include assistance from the Scottish Welfare Fund, help acquiring emergency food supplies, the development of food pantry memberships, and support with rising energy costs through fuel vouchers. Initial explorations of cash-first approaches have also been highlighted to the committee.

Another key report submitted this year was the Child Poverty Action Report, mandated to outline local efforts against child poverty. The Child Poverty Action Plan is now part of the Children's Services Plan to enable effective, integrated implementation.

13. The Year Ahead

13.1 Committee members and officers have welcomed visits to third sector organisations throughout the year, and these will continue during the year ahead. These visits highlight the fantastic support our partners deliver within the city and help promote their invaluable contribution.

13.2 Aside from the regular annual reports and performance reports received for assurance, a selection of the business for the next year is listed below:-

- Findings and actions from the Accessing Money Advice and Advisory Services survey
- Evaluation on delivering a Citizen Assembly approach on poverty and gender inequality.
- Evaluation report on the 2024/25 Cost of Living funding

- Thematic reports from External Advisers/Community Planning Aberdeen Anti- Poverty Outcome Improvement Group.

13.3 The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 came into force in 2024. Local authorities have to fully embed children's rights into their policies and practice and children can legally challenge when their rights are breached. There are additional reporting obligations which may impact on the reports to be considered by this Committee.

Appendix 1 – Local Outcome Improvement Plan Stretch Outcomes

Economy	
1.	20% reduction in the percentage of people who report they have been worried they would not have enough food to eat and/ or not be able to heat their home by 2026
2.	74% employment rate for Aberdeen City by 2026
People (Children & Young People)	
3.	95% of all children will reach their expected developmental milestones by their 27-30 month review by 2026
4.	90% of children and young people report they feel listened to all of the time by 2026
5.	By meeting the health and emotional wellbeing needs of our care experienced children and young people they will have the same levels of attainment in education and positive destinations as their peers by 2026
6.	95% of children living in our priority neighbourhoods (Quintiles 1 & 2) will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026
7.	83.5% fewer young people (under 18) charged with an offence by 2026
8.	100% of our children with Additional Support Needs/disabilities will experience a positive destination
People (Adults)	
9.	10% fewer adults (over 18) charged with more than one offence by 2026
10.	Healthy life expectancy (time lived in good health) is five years longer by 2026
11.	Reduce the rate of both alcohol related deaths and drug related deaths by 10% by 2026
12.	Reduce homelessness by 10% and youth homelessness by 6% by 2026, ensuring it is rare, brief and non-recurring with a longer term ambition to end homelessness in Aberdeen City.
Place	
13.	Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by at least 61% by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate
14.	Increase sustainable travel: 38% of people walking; 5% of people cycling and wheeling as main mode of travel and a 5% reduction in car miles by 2026
15.	26% of Aberdeen's area will be protected and/or managed for nature and 60% of people report they feel that spaces and buildings are well cared for by 2026
Community Empowerment	
16.	100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Anti-Poverty and Inequality
DATE	6 November 2024
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Visit to Cairncry Community Centre
REPORT NUMBER	CORS/24/292
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Andy MacDonald
CHIEF OFFICER	Michelle Crombie
REPORT AUTHOR	Michelle Crombie, Community Planning Manager
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.3 and 1.5

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with a report following the visit to Aberdeen Cairncry Community Centre on 28 August 2024.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Note the report and the actions identified during the visit to Cairncry Community Centre; and
- 2.2 Thanks all those at Cairncry Community Centre, including the many staff and volunteers, who welcomed the Committee and provided an informative and interesting visit.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

3.1 Cairncry Community Centre

- 3.1.1 Cairncry is a voluntary-run Centre that serves the local community of Cornhill, Stockethill, and other nearby areas. The centre opened in 1995 and was originally used for carpet bowls, line dancing, exercise classes, and parent and toddler groups. The centre offers a variety of groups and services to support the wellbeing of the community. It is managed by a committee of local residents and supported by a full time Centre Manager. The Committee meets monthly to discuss development ideas and service provision for all ages. The area's diversity has changed over time, bringing new challenges. The centre serves a population that includes single parents, people dealing with drugs and alcohol, people with mental health issues, and the elderly.
- 3.1.2 Further to a suggestion from [ABZ Works](#), the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee visited Cairncry Community Centre on 28 August 2024 to find out about the work the Centre is doing for and with the local community. This is part of a wider programme of visits the Committee is making to organisations supporting people in poverty across the City.

Cairncry Community Centre 28 August 2024



3.2 **Issues Raised and Actions Required**

3.2.1 During the visit, Committee members received a presentation from staff about Cairncry Community Centre which was followed by discussion.

3.2.2 A number of issues were raised during the visit and a follow-up session with the Committee took place on 3 September 2024 to discuss actions . The following actions have been undertaken or are planned as a result of the visit and follow-up session:

3.2.3 **Awareness of Cost of Living Support**

The visit highlighted the need to increase awareness of the support that is currently available from the Council and partner organisations with the cost of living crisis. Centre staff did not feel confident that they knew where to go to find out what support is available.

Actions

- Completed - Signposting to information on [Cost of Living Support](#) available through the Council and partner organisations has been shared directly with the Centre and across community networks via email and social media.
- Completed - [Empower Aberdeen](#) Event arranged by SCARF in partnership with the Poverty Alliance and Community Planning Aberdeen on 7 October as part of Challenge Poverty Week to raise awareness of support available to people across the City.
- Planned – Ongoing awareness raising by the [Anti-Poverty Group](#) will be coordinated through the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) [Stretch Outcome 1](#) improvement projects.

3.2.4 Community Outreach

Whilst signposting to resources and services is essential to help people access the support they need, it is understood that many of the people attending the Cairncry Community Centre are vulnerable with complex needs. Online information can be less accessible to them. Outreach support services can help people that do not have access to digital devices, lacking in digital skills or need help to understand the information.

Actions

- Completed – A schedule of regular visits to Cairncry Community Centre have now been arranged by the Council's Financial Inclusion Team, CFine's SAFE Team and SCARF to support income maximisation.
- Planned – [The Anti-Poverty Group](#) will take forward improvements through the Local Outcome Improvement Plan Stretch Outcome 1 to ensure outreach support for the City's most vulnerable communities is effectively coordinated across partners and communicated to the public.
- Planned – An idea to be tested as part of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan [Stretch Outcome 1](#) improvement projects is the provision of training to community centre staff and community groups on use of the benefits calculator and helping to signpost people to other support.

3.2.5 Access to Funding

Cairncry Community Centre has benefitted from funding from the Council towards the Triple C Café and kitchen refurbishment as well as for the foodbank and cooking courses. The centre shared its ambitions for the future but stressed the challenges in applying for funding.

Actions

- Completed – The Community Planning Aberdeen [Funding Tracker](#) is regularly updated and shared across community networks which now includes Cairncry Community Centre.
- Completed – Contact details provided for the Council's [External Funding](#) Team and [ACVO's Funding Officer](#) who are available to support third sector organisations with making funding applications.
- Planned – [The Community Empowerment Group](#) is working together to take forward improvements through the Local Outcome Improvement Plan [Stretch Outcome 16](#) to join up efforts across partner organisations to ensure support is available to community groups to access external funding. This will include publishing digital resources, for example top tips for community groups, as well as offering more one to one support.

3.2.6 Support Dealing with Challenging Behaviour

The visit revealed the vulnerabilities of many people in the local community and how this can trigger challenging behaviour that centre staff and volunteers do not always feel equipped to handle.

Actions

- Completed – Community safety concerns raised with Aberdeen Community Safety Partnership and Community Centre Liaison Officer is engaging with the Centre to consider options.
- Planned – Options being explored for Council and partners to provide courses in [mental health first aid training](#) for community groups and centres.

3.2.7 See Appendix 1 for full overview of the visit.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	None	None	L	Yes
Compliance	None	None	L	Yes
Operational	None	None	L	Yes
Financial	None	None	L	Yes
Reputational	None	None	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	None	None	L	Yes

8. OUTCOMES

Council Delivery Plan 2024	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement <u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no proposal in this report
<u>Local Outcome Improvement Plan</u>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	There is no proposal in this report
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	There is no proposal in this report

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	No assessment required.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required.
Other	N/A

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 N/A

11. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Overview of Visit to Cairncry Community Centre

Appendix 2 Cairncry Community Centre Presentation Slides

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Michelle Crombie
Title	Community Planning Manager
Email Address	mcrombie@aberdeencity.gov.uk



Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee

Visit to Cairncry Community Centre



Cairncry Community Centre
Cornhill Shopping Arcade, Foresterhill Rd, Aberdeen AB16 5HL

Date: 28 August 2024

Attending:

Councillor Allard
 Councillor Bouse
 Councillor Brooks
 Michelle Crombie, Aberdeen City Council
 Kerry Gavin, External Adviser
 Marj Johnston, External Adviser
 Edward Obi, External Adviser
 Karen Orchard, Aberdeen City Council
 Susan Thoms, Aberdeen City Council

Time	Description
12.30pm	<p>Welcome and Lunch</p> <p>Committee members were invited to have lunch in the café where they were able to see how recent funding secured from the Prosperity fund/Common Good fund and fundraising has been used to refurbish the Triple C Café. This was a chance for Committee members to chat with the community and find out about their experience of the cafe.</p>
1.30pm	<p>Presentation and Discussion</p> <p>The Committee received a presentation on the Cairncry Community Centre from:</p> <p>Joanne Currie, Chair Person has been on the Committee for 25 years and has seen the transition in the area over that time.</p> <p>Sarah Beattie, the new Centre Manager, has 20 years experience of working with communities on community centre committees and as a youth worker.</p> <p>Craig Morrice, Community Support Worker has been working with the centre for 3 months and is enjoying new challenges.</p> <p>About the Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Centre Committee has ten members and meets monthly to plan ahead and makes decisions. • The Centre has many volunteers that are also centre users. Without the volunteers, the Centre couldn't continue. • The Centre was built at the same time as the shopping centre, which was a condition of the development. • Launched in 1995, there have been lots of changes since then. Centre users were once affluent, retired groups, enjoying activities such as line dancing. • Over the years the diversity of the area has changed and poverty has increased. For that reason the Centre has not increased fees. If the centre doesn't keep costs low, then local communities suffer. • COVID had a severe impact on the community so services changed in response. It started with the free café which received funding through the Mental Health and Wellbeing fund.

Services Provided

Food Bank

- Open Monday, Tuesday and Friday but will open any time if someone is in crisis and says they don't have food.
- Volunteers run the food bank, with food provided by Food Poverty Action Aberdeen. Before becoming a member of FPAA the Centre would have to cover the cost of food from own funds.
- One volunteer goes round every coop and picks up their surplus food. The volunteer came to the centre as very vulnerable person that was socially isolated. They started cleaning tables and built their confidence. They are a totally different person today.
- Majority of people that access the food bank are regulars but through word of mouth community members will attend. Don't widely advertise it because can't cope with the demand.
- One of the biggest decisions the centre made was not to apply conditions to accessing the food bank. There are families in work that just have their head above water.
- No stigma to the food bank because there are no conditions to being able to access it, including staff.
- Saving money on a shopping bill means someone can keep their house warm.
- Ladies that attend for exercise will access the free ingredients because they know how to use it in their cooking but they will give a donation.

Triple C Café and Confidence to Cook

- The café opens up on Mondays and Tuesdays and includes a food bank. Free breakfast and free lunch provided for visitors to the Café.
- Food Poverty Action Aberdeen provides food is used to prepare meals for the community café. Left over meals go into the food bank to provide a healthy 'micro meal'.
- As of June this year the kitchen was almost 30 years old. The Centre did a crowd fund and applied for funding from Common Good and Prosperity Fund for an upgrade.
- Centre volunteers have been able to undertake a 10 week confidence to cook course through ABZ Works and funding has enabled the Centre to purchase cooking hobs.
- Cooking classes are giving centre users transformative life skills. One participant could only make a sandwich at the beginning of the course. Now they cook with fresh ingredients like peppers and learning skills which can be passed down.
- Centre users have learned about nutrition and level two hygiene. After the class, people sit together and eat the food they made.
- The course uses the foodbank food as much as possible. But participants also get given £5 to go over to Aldi learn to buy food which teaches them how to budget for a meal.

Exercise

- Swedish exercise/ pilates.
- Bowls

Parents and Toddlers Classes

- Parents don't pay for Parents and Toddlers class until the child is 6 months to encourage connection, advice sharing with other parents and to support child development.
- Classes have remained £1.50 since the day doors opened so the Centre can support children to have the best start in life.
- All toys are as educational as possible. Trying to encourage traditional activities and not focus on devices.
- Free, healthy snacks provided.
- The childminders have a key role in helping to manage the centre which also helps them in their work. It is an excellent example of how forging partnerships with local community groups can have mutual benefits. With support from the wider community the centre is able to open at the weekend and evenings.

Working in Partnership

- The Centre receives support from local businesses including the Coop, Murdos Bar, and Croft and Cairns. For example, last year they helped fund a free Christmas meal for local people that included a free give. Due to the success there was another funded lunch between Xmas and new year.
- Argos in Inverurie donated equipment to the refurbished kitchen.
- The Centre is grateful for the funding the Anti-Poverty & Inequality Committee provided to FPAA as it is helping Cairncry Community Centre and many organisations across the City.
- ABZ Works has provided funding for courses and have been very supportive which has helped run classes.
- Stockethill Church, the local Church of Scotland hire the hall for Sunday service on a Sunday as there is no church in the area anymore.
- The Ashgrove and Stockethill Community Council hold meetings at the Centre monthly for free.
- The Centre also provides the Council's Community Development Officer with office space.

Community Cohesion

- The centre attracts people through volunteering which helps remove some of the stigma of receiving support.
- Helps reach people in poverty that wouldn't want to admit it.
- Centre users come to the centre to access support with cost of living but it is not widely known what support and advice is available from beyond the centre.
- Events held to encourage communities to access the centre. E.g. Gala. Future events planned include beetle drive, line dancing, disco, fancy dress.
- Don't have to live in the local community. All welcome. One man that has been moved to Torry will come back and use the food bank every time it is on. To make connections.

- People visiting the centre for exercise class will also sit and have a cup of tea with the vulnerable people that come in.
- Vulnerable people that want company can act out when trying to communicate.
- But staff are not trained social workers and there can be challenges. Centre staff link with support workers from Cornhill for advice on handling difficult situations.
- No judgement at the centre. Everyone works together. No stripes on shoulders.
- Diverse people – older generations, parent and toddlers, vulnerable – all sit together. Feel so comfortable. No judgement. Confident.
- Older people who may have been nervous about being around younger people with challenges in the community. But the centre creates a family. Older people and younger generations look out for each other.

Issues Raised

- Not widely known what support and advice is available for people with the cost of living crisis outwith what is provided by the centre.
- Time spent on funding applications is time spent that could be used better helping the community.
- Need a bigger building but don't have the funds. The Centre is exploring opportunities such as applying for national lottery community funding.
- Centre needs two full time members of staff but don't have the funds. Rely on volunteers.
- Vulnerable people that want company can act out when trying to communicate. But staff are not trained social workers and there can be challenges.
- Community safety. Recent incidents in nearby flats have increased concerns for safety as there is no CCTV.

Anti-Poverty & Inequality Committee Visit

28th August 2024



Cairncry Community Centre Association



Cairncry Community Centre Association

Joanne
Currie

Chairperson



Cairncry Community Centre Association

Sarah
Beattie

Centre Manager



Cairncry Community Centre Association

Craig
Morrice

Community Support Worker

Programme

12:30pm – Arrival

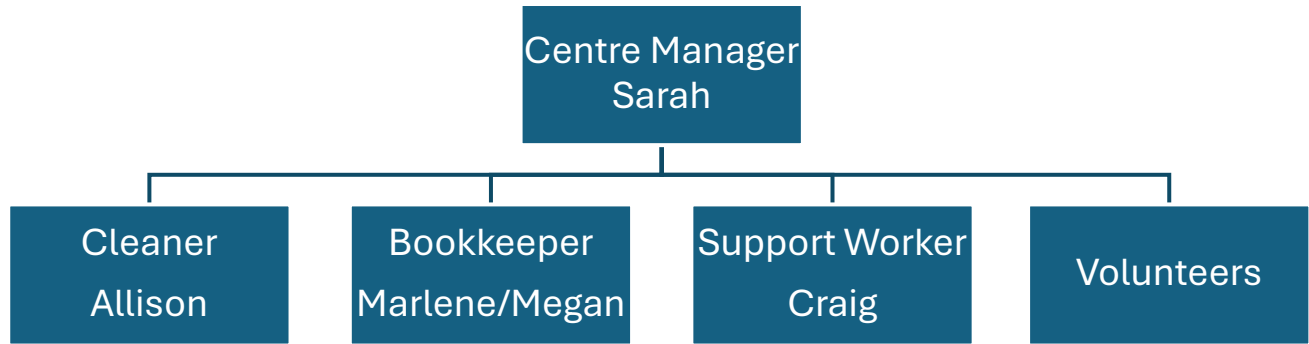
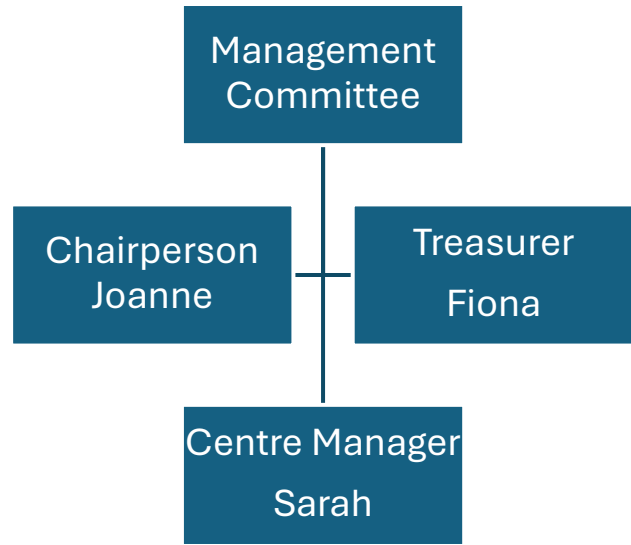
12:35pm – Lunch & talks with centre users & volunteers.

1:00pm – Presentation with Centre Staff

2:00pm – Close



The Team





Our Partners

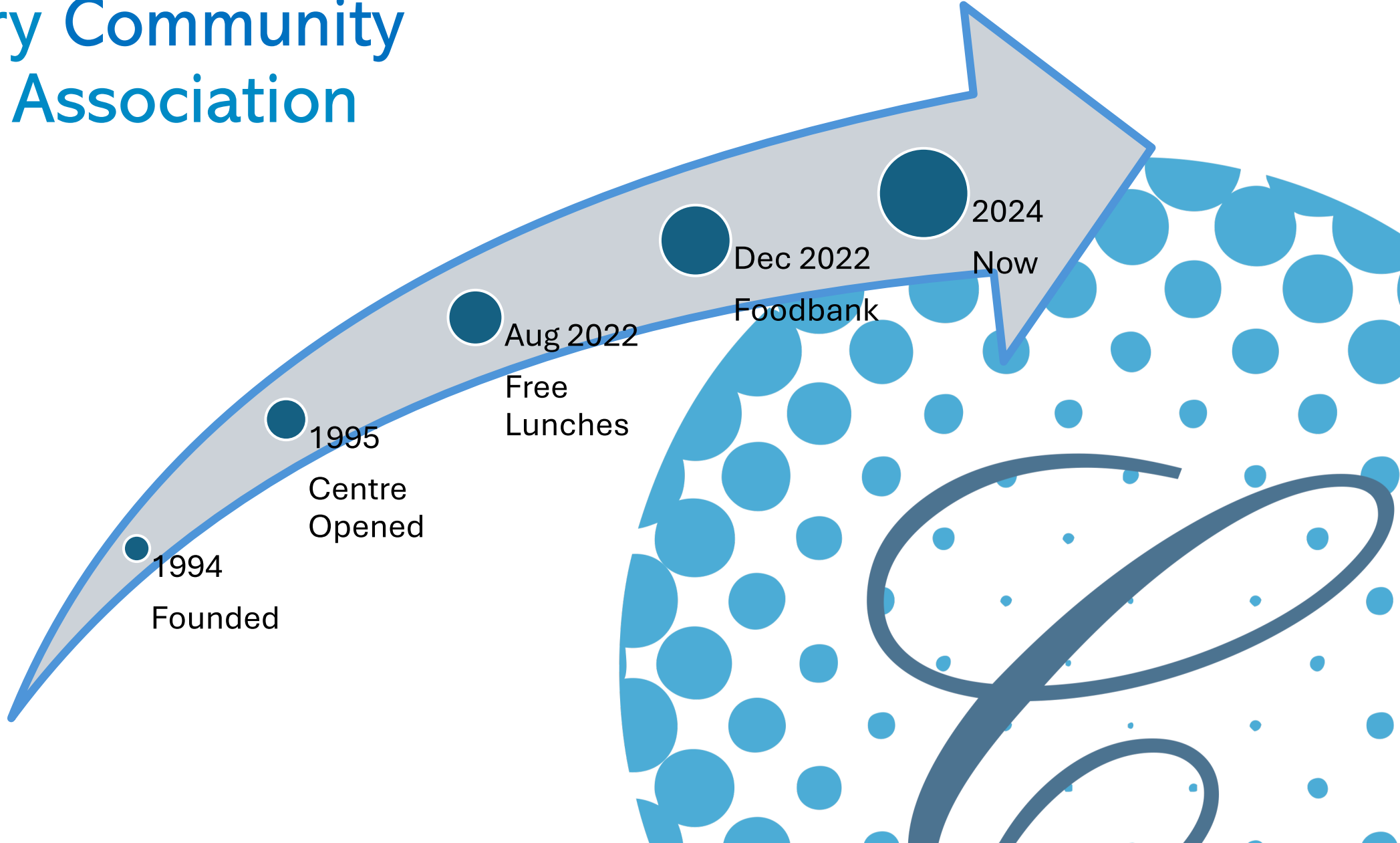
**ABZ
WORKS**

Your route to skills, training and work



tackling poverty together

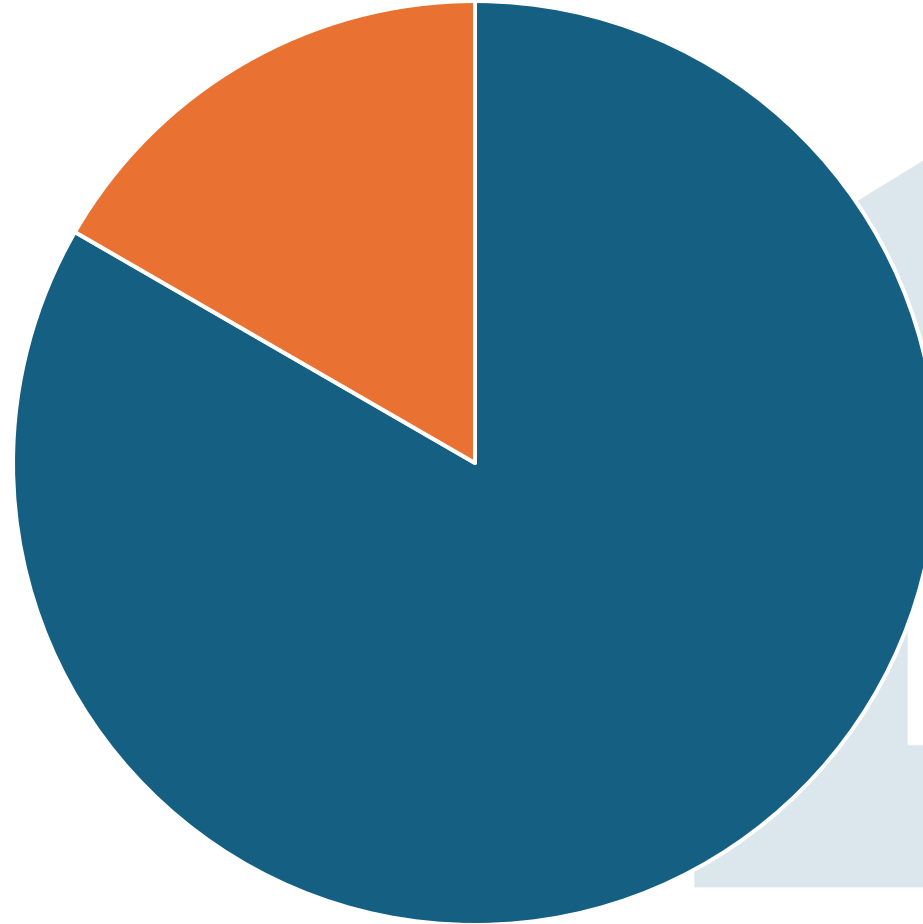
Cairncry Community Centre Association





Finance

Current Account



■ Allocated ■ Unallocated



Food
Bank

Cafe

Cooking
Classes

Youth
Club

ACTIVITIES

Parents
&
Toddlers

Exercise

Bingo

Bowls

Food Bank

- Supported by CFine & centre volunteers
- Not means tested
- Open Monday, Tuesday & Friday
- Support for people in crisis
- Operated by volunteers

Lorraine



Youth Club Parents & Toddlers

- Provision for young people P1 – P7
- New parents & early years
- Financially accessible
- Snacks
- Social Engagement
- Education



“Working in the kitchen has given me confidence to deliver a 10 week training course after using the service myself 28 years ago”



Triple C Cafe

- Runs Monday, Tuesday & Friday
- Breakfast & Lunch
- Socialisation
- Demographic
- Run by our volunteer kitchen team
- Kitchen refurbishment

Cooking Classes

- Teaches life skills
- Qualifications
- Nutritional cooking on budget
- Food bank
- Run by volunteers
- Abz Work
- Family course

“I have really enjoyed the cooking & have more confidence to cook at home”



Exercise, Bingo, Bowls

- Provides a safe environment
- Intergenerational relationships
- Wider community engagement
- Access to foodbank, donations
- Health & Wellbeing





Cairncry Community Centre Association