

North Locality Plan

2021-2026

(Updated April 2024)



North Locality Neighbourhoods:

Dyce, Danestone, Oldmachar, Denmore, Balgownie & Donmouth, Bucksburn, Heathryfold, Middlefield, Kingswells, Northfield, Cummings Park, Sheddocksley, Mastrick, Summerhill



Community Planning
Aberdeen

Welcome



Welcome to the North Locality Plan which sets out the priority outcomes we want to achieve by 2026. We will work together with people living and working in the North Locality to deliver the plan. The plan was first published in July 2021 and has been refreshed in 2024 to ensure it remains relevant and focussed on North Locality priorities. Moving out of the pandemic, some priorities have changed but many remain the same. As part of the refresh process, we considered feedback gathered through our ‘what matters to you’ community engagement exercise and considered local level data, including progress we have made and areas for improvement reported as part of the North Locality Annual Report 2022-23. Most importantly, we listened to people living and working across the North Locality to hear what they think and understand what would make the greatest difference to them. The refreshed plan has been developed by Community Planning Aberdeen, working with members of the North Locality Empowerment Group and North Priority Neighbourhood Partnership. The plan supports delivery of the citywide Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).



Vision and Priorities

Our collective vision is to ensure that Aberdeen is a place where all can prosper. To achieve this in the North Locality, we have identified six priorities to be achieved under the four key themes of Economy, People, Place and Community.

ECONOMY	PEOPLE	PLACE	COMMUNITY
1.Reduce the number of people living in poverty (Page 3)	2.Improve the physical health and wellbeing of people (Page 5)	5.Maximise use of disused outdoor space (Page 8)	6. Increase the number of people and groups involved in making improvements and decisions in their community (Page 9)
	3. Support local volunteering (Page 6)		
	4.Early intervention approach (Page 7)		







These priorities are relevant to all neighbourhoods within the locality, but we recognise that some neighbourhoods will need more support to achieve improved outcomes. Priority neighbourhoods which experience disadvantage have been identified using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). These neighbourhoods may need additional support to benefit from the same opportunities to thrive and succeed as other neighbourhoods within the locality.

Our priority neighbourhoods within the North Locality include Northfield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Middlefield and Heathryfold.

Our Economy



What we know now

 <p>8.3% of people in the North Locality worried they would not have enough to eat compared to 29.4% of people living priority neighbourhoods.</p>	 <p>4.2% of households in the North Locality have experienced times when they felt hungry but did not eat compared to 6.3% of households in priority neighbourhoods.</p>	 <p>33.6% of people in the North Locality worried they would not be able to heat their home compared to 62.5% of people living in priority neighbourhoods.</p>
 <p>2.8% of households in the North Locality have had to seek support for paying for heating, compared to 12.5% of households in priority neighbourhoods.</p>	 <p>People on universal credit has increased in the North Locality since 2020. 43% of UC claimants live in Priority Neighbourhoods.</p>	 <p>Child poverty has increased in the North Locality since 2019. 51% of children in low income families live in Priority Neighbourhoods.</p>

Note of caution in considering priority neighbourhood data as sample size is smaller.

Priority 1:

Reduce the number of people living in poverty through the creation of local employment, training and apprenticeship opportunities, and create solutions to tackle food poverty


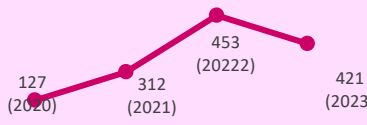



Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Create opportunities for fair work				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage employers in the area to sign up to the Real Living Wage. Strengthen relationships with local businesses. Support development of social enterprises and small businesses Support and develop employment opportunities and routes to employment for young people. More access to apprenticeships and training 	Locality Wide Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick	SHMU Business Gateway	No. of people supported to start up a social enterprise/ business (IP 2.5) No. of young parents supported into training or employment (IP 2.6) No. of people supported with	Stretch Outcome 2: Employability. All improvement projects. In particular, 2.4-2.7 Stretch Outcome 6: Positive Destinations. Improvement projects 6.3-6.6 Stretch Outcome 9: Community Justice.

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a dedicated Northfield job fair • Develop locally available employability support. • Make childcare affordable and accessible to increase parental employment. 			<p>digital skills to apply for employment (IP2.7)</p> <p>No. of people supported into good quality employment (IP 2.1)</p>	Improvement project 9.1
Support our most vulnerable families				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support communities with benefit uptake and affordable heating • Sustain and develop community food provision • Insulation and retrofitting of housing • Buying debt/ debt management • Support families with English as a second language to access services 	<p>Locality Wide</p> <p>Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield & Mastrick</p>	<p>CFINE</p> <p>Middlefield Community project</p> <p>Cummings Park Community Association</p> <p>Northfield Community Centre</p> <p>NESCAN</p> <p>Mastrick Community Centre</p>	<p>No. people accessing foodbanks referred to cash first initiatives (IP1.3)</p> <p>Uptake in unclaimed benefits (IP1.4)</p> <p>No. of socially rented households in fuel poverty (IP 1.2)</p>	<p>Stretch Outcome 1: Anti-Poverty All Improvement projects</p> <p>Stretch Outcome 2: Employability Improvement projects 2.1 and 2.7</p>

Our People



What we know now

 <p>92.6% of school leavers from North Locality schools achieved an initial positive destination in 2022-23. This is compared to 89.6% for schools in priority neighbourhoods. The Aberdeen City average is 93.6%.</p>	 <p>No. of referrals each month to NHSG's children and adolescent mental health services increasing. <i>(Data only available at city wide level)</i></p>	 <p>The rates of death from suicide in the North Locality is 12.6 per 100,000, this is above the citywide average of 11.1 per 100,000 of the population. <i>(Data not available at neighbourhood level)</i></p>										
 <p>25.4% of people in the North Locality said they didn't know how many units are in the alcoholic drinks they consume. 47.3% of people living in the North said they didn't think about units at all. Compared to 18.2% and 66.7% in priority neighbourhoods.</p>	 <p>The rate of drug related hospital stays for the North Locality in 2022 was 175.2 per 100,000. This has improved from 193 per 100,000 of the population in 2021. <i>(Data not available at neighbourhood level)</i></p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>80.9</td> <td>81.1</td> <td>80.9</td> <td>80.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M</td> <td>77.2</td> <td>77.2</td> <td>77.3</td> <td>77.3</td> </tr> </table> <p>Life expectancy has stayed stable in the North Locality but is lower in priority neighbourhoods at 78.3 (F) and 75.4 (M)</p>	F	80.9	81.1	80.9	80.8	M	77.2	77.2	77.3	77.3
F	80.9	81.1	80.9	80.8								
M	77.2	77.2	77.3	77.3								

Note of caution in considering priority neighbourhood data as sample size is smaller.

Priority 2:

Improve the physical health and wellbeing of people

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Upskill knowledge and understanding to improve health and wellbeing				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Community groups to know about Health and Wellbeing and Health and Social Care Services in the Community Use of noticeboards and social media to inform. Creating opportunities for those who identify as socially isolated or vulnerable to take part in activities. Upskilling communities and partners knowledge of 	Locality Wide Middlefield Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick	Northfield Community Centre, Fit Like Hub, SHMU, Middlefield Community Project, Mastrick Community Centre, Cummings Park Community Association,	% the number of people engaged with Stay Well Stay Connected initiatives (IP 10.3) % of citizens who feel they can regularly experience good quality natural space (IP15.1) No. of community groups making	Stretch Outcome 10: Healthy Life Expectancy Improvement project 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4 Stretch Outcome 15: Open Space and Built Environment Improvement project 15.1, 15.2, 15.4 and 15.5

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Suicide Prevention, services and training. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve physical place to encourage people to use outdoor space 		Cummings Park Flat	environmental improvements (IP15.4)	
Encourage healthy outdoor activities				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and improve accessible, active travel, including more and safer walking and cycling routes Develop programmes to encourage outdoor activity 	Locality Wide	Middlefield Community Project Sport Aberdeen Cummings Park Flat	% of people cycling and walking (IP14.1&2)) No. of organised physical/wellbeing activity opportunities in the area	Stretch Outcome 14: Sustainable Travel All improvement projects

Priority 3: Support local volunteering opportunities

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Support local volunteering				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase volunteering opportunities in the area and the communication of them Develop opportunities for 'micro volunteering' such as one-off litter picks Develop package of support for volunteers Create community heritage centres to celebrate local identity 	Locality Wide	SHMU Middlefield Community Project Northfield Community Centre Cummings Park Community Association Cummings Park Flat Sport Aberdeen	No. of volunteering opportunities available	All Stretch Outcomes and Community Learning & Development Plan

Priority 4:

Early intervention approach targeted at those who are involved in, or at risk in offending

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Provide activities for children and young people				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More activities/spaces for children and young people to participate in/be together • Diversionary Activities for young people • Develop a pump track in the Northfield Area • Develop and promote community safety initiatives. 	Locality Wide Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick	AMPED Sport Aberdeen Mastrick Community Centre	% of S1-S6 pupils who report they feel confident (IP 4.4) % of children who feel safe in their community (IP4.5) Develop a pump track in the Northfield Area instances of youth anti-social behaviour calls to Police Scotland (IP7.5)	Stretch Outcome 4: Children's Mental Wellbeing Improvement projects 4.4 and 4.5 Stretch Outcome 7: Youth Justice Improvement project 7.5
Support those affected by alcohol and substance use				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage alcohol free social options. • Development of activities to promote recovery • Raise awareness of Substance use service and provision 	Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick	Alcohol and Drugs Action Aberdeen in Recovery Cummings Park Community Association DSM Foundation	No. of women drinking in pregnancy (IP11.3) No. of people in priority neighbourhoods receiving alcohol support (IP11.4) No. of people at stage 5 recovery from drug and alcohol (IP11.7)	Stretch Outcome 11: Alcohol and Drugs Improvement projects 11.3-11.5 and 11.7



What we know now



66.5% of North Locality respondents to the City Voice survey reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces, compared to 64.7% of people living in priority neighbourhoods.



11.8% of people in the North Locality cycled in the last year compared to 5.9% of people living in priority neighbourhoods. **87.5%** of people in the North Locality walked in the last year compared to 82.4% of people living in priority neighbourhoods



59.1% of people in the North Locality are worried about their home and community being vulnerable to severe weather compared to 80% of people living in priority neighbourhoods. **5%** of people in the North Locality agreed that the community has taken steps to prepare against this compared to 6.7% in priority neighbourhoods.

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Priority 5:







Maximise use of disused outdoor space to increase food growing opportunities

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Support greenspace use and development of area				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage community growing spaces, such as Council allotments Encourage the use of green spaces for healthy benefits. Encourage responsible dog ownership Support outdoor activities by having benches placed in specific locations Grow more wildflowers Improve traffic management Develop opportunities/spaces for more physical activity in the area 	Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick Locality wide	Danestone Community Centre, Dyce Community Garden and Orchard, Sport Aberdeen, Cummings Park Community Association, Cummings Park Flat,	No. of people experiencing good quality natural space (IP15.1) No. of people reporting positive outcomes in relation to their health and wellbeing (IP15.2) No of community groups delivering environmental improvements in their area (IP15.4)	Stretch Outcome: Sustainable Travel Improvement projects 14.1 Stretch Outcome 15: Open Space and Built Environment Improvement projects 15.1, 15.2, 15.4
Develop Local Resilience Plans				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community led resilience plans in place, particularly for areas most vulnerable to flooding. 	Bridge of Don, Denmore and Grandholm	Community Councils in the North Locality	No. of resilience plans in place across the locality (13.3)	Stretch Outcome 13: Climate Change Improvement project 13.3

Our Community



What we know now

 <p>37.9% of people in the North Locality scored highly* for overall identity and belonging compared to 20% of people in north priority neighbourhoods and 38.5% city wide.</p>	 <p>43.7% of people in the North Locality scored highly* for how welcoming the place is compared to 33.4% of people in priority neighbourhoods and 46.6% city wide.</p>	 <p>9.2% of people in the North Locality scored highly* for overall influence and sense of control compared to 6.7% of people in priority neighbourhoods and 16.7% city wide.</p>
 <p>37.5% of people in the North Locality feel part of the community compared to only 26.7% in priority neighbourhoods and 46% city wide.</p>	 <p>18.3% of people in the North Locality belong to community groups compared to 6.7% in priority neighbourhoods and 24.9% city wide.</p>	 <p>In the North Locality, 17.5% are aware of Locality Plans, 5.8% are aware of Locality Empowerment Groups and 5% of Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships.</p>

*Scored 5 and above out of a possible 7

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Priority 6:


Increase the number of people and groups involved in making improvements and decisions in their community


Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Support people to get involved				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase no. and diversity of community members participating in community planning • Support community led organisations to access funding for community led initiatives • Celebrate and increase awareness of community led projects • Explore how community assets can be used as community resources 	Locality Wide	All community groups and organisations	<p>No of community ideas being tested (IP16.2)</p> <p>No. of people participating in community planning (IP16.3)</p> <p>No. of community led initiatives being supported to access funding (IP16.4)</p>	Stretch Outcome 16: Community Empowerment All improvement projects


How to get involved


The [North Locality Empowerment Group](#) and the [Cummings Park, Heathryfold, Northfield, Mastrick and Middlefield Priority Neighbourhood Partnership](#) are two of the main ways we connect with our local communities in the North Locality. As a member of a LEG and a Priority Neighbourhood Partnership you will be able to provide a voice on behalf of the people and communities across your neighbourhood.

What's in it for you?

 Influence what happens in your community

 Help make a brighter future for all

 Connect with others

 Participation can lead to credits for the Saltire Award (young people, age 12-25)

Following a recent training session provided by SCDC in partnership with ACC/AHSCP, the community had this to say about community engagement:

"Talk to us and talk to us early. Don't make decisions and then get it approved by us. Communities have knowledge and skills to know what's best for us. We're the local experts about our places"

"Community Engagement is where people grow"

If you are interested in getting involved in helping achieve these aims in your local community, follow this link to find out more: [Our Communities - Community Planning Aberdeen](#) or email localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk.



Meet your Locality Planning Team

We understand the importance of working with communities to build a thriving environment for everyone. By engaging with local communities through our dedicated locality planning team, we aim to become more receptive, supportive and action oriented. Community input is extremely valuable to this work.

The Locality Planning Team includes staff from Aberdeen City Council and the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care partnership working together to support improved outcome across all our localities and neighbourhoods. In the North Locality your locality planning contacts are Iain, Jade, Katie, and Kev.



Iain Robertson,
Transformation Programme
Manager, Aberdeen City
Health and Social Care
Partnership



Jade Leyden,
Community Development
Manager, Aberdeen City
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Kev Donald, Community
Development Officer,
Aberdeen City Council



Katie Cunningham,
Public Health Coordinator,
ACHSCP

Please take a moment to complete this [survey](#) and let us know how we can enhance our service delivery and collaboration with you. Together we can make a positive impact and create a place where all people can prosper.