

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

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

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.”

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

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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!”