



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	17 June 2025
Report Title	Locality Planning Annual Reports
Report Number	HSCP25.037
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Consultation Checklist Completed	Yes
Directions Required	No
Exempt	No
Appendices	1. Central Locality Plan Annual Report 2. North Locality Plan Annual Report 3. South Locality Plan Annual Report
Terms of Reference	Risk, Audit and Performance Committee 5. Receive and scrutinise performance reports and receive assurance that actions in respect of emerging trends are proportionate to the IJB's Risk Appetite Statement.



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present the locality plan annual reports 2024-25 for approval.
- 1.2 The Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP) has a statutory duty under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) Scotland Act 2014 to deliver a locality planning system. ACHSCP has three locality areas in Central, North and South of the city. These localities are aligned with Community Planning Aberdeen's locality areas to better enable joint planning, delivery, and reporting.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Committee:
 - a. Approve the 2024-25 annual reports attached as **Appendices 1,2 and 3**;
 - b. Instruct the Chief Officer to submit the 2025-26 Locality Planning Annual Reports to this Committee by June 2026;
 - c. Note that new Locality Plans would be prepared alongside the new 10 year Local Outcome Improvement Plan during the winter of 2025-26 in a collaborative way with our Locality Empowerment Groups (LEGs) and Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships (PNPs); and
 - d. Note that the Committee would continue to receive regular updates on locality planning through its regular Performance Report and to the IJB through the Chief Officer's Report.

3. Strategic Plan Context

- 3.1. ACHSCP has a commitment within the Strategic Plan under the Caring Together strategic aim to support community empowerment, deliver Locality Plans and report on progress.

4. Summary of Key Information

- 4.1 Since 2021, Aberdeen City Council and ACHSCP have been working together to facilitate and deliver an integrated locality planning model on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen. The approach ensures that Community Planning partners are meeting their locality planning duties in



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

respect of both the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 and the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. At the same time, this joint working enables more efficient and effective working between partner staff and communities to secure better outcomes for the economy, people and place. Integrated locality planning is an innovative approach in Scotland and during 2024-25, Locality Planning Co-Leads have met with other local authorities, health and social care partnerships, and community planning partnerships who have expressed interest in learning from our approach.

- 4.2 In April 2024 following an extensive period of community engagement and consultation, Community Planning Aberdeen published its new Locality Plans for the North, South and Central [Localities of the City](#). This approach sees every neighbourhood in Aberdeen covered by a Locality Plan. The plans incorporate improvement activity for the whole locality and/or targeted neighbourhoods, in most cases priority neighbourhoods. Priority neighbourhoods are those areas within the North, South and Central localities which experience poorer outcomes as a result of their socio-economic status, as identified by SIMD data. These include: for the North, **Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park and Mastrick**; for South, **Torry and Kincorth**; and for Central, **Tillydrone, Seaton, Woodside, Ashgrove, Stockethill and George Street**.
- 4.3 This report presents annual reports against the new Locality Plans for 2024-25 and reflects inclusion of a new theme covering Community Empowerment which was strongly recommended by community members throughout the engagement and consultation period. Each of the annual reports attached as **Appendices 1-3** will provide IJB members and the public with an overview of progress made in the last 12 months to address priority issues outlined in our reports. A summary of highlights and challenges from each annual report are set out below against the Economy, People, Place, and Community themes:

NORTH, SOUTH AND CENTRAL KEY HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES 2024-25

4.4 Central Locality

- 4.4.1 **Economy** – ABZ Works supported **28 people** living in Central Locality to set up their own business during 2024-25.



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

- 4.4.2 **21.8%** of people in Central Locality worried they would not be able to heat their home compared to **26.3%** of people living in Central priority neighbourhoods.
- 4.4.3 **People** – **13** Health Improvement Fund (HIF) projects were funded across Central Locality during 2024-25, with a collective value of **£48,240** for health improvement activities which delivered outcomes within the IJB Strategic Plan, the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, and/or the Central Locality Plan.
- 4.4.4 **127** people attended the Community Appointment Day on Chronic Pain at the Aberdeen Vaccination and Wellbeing Hub on 5 February 2025, with 61 people pre-booking their place, and 66 walk ins. **86% of pre-booked attendees** had no previous contact with the Chronic Pain Team, highlighting the importance of taking an a preventative, population level approach.
- 4.4.5 In 2023, the rate of drug related hospital stays for Central Locality was **248.5 people per 100,000** of the population, this was a slight improvement on 2022's data, where the rate stood at **250 admissions**. Central Locality continues to have the highest rate of drug related hospital stays across Aberdeen City.
- 4.4.6 **Place** –**87%** of Central Locality respondents to the City Voice survey reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces. **81.3%** of respondents from the Central priority neighbourhoods reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces.
- 4.4.7 **74.6%** of Central Locality residents regularly walk compared to **68.8%** of people living in Central priority neighbourhoods. People in Central Locality are most likely to walk regularly in Aberdeen City.
- 4.4.8 **Community** - Overall attendance at Central LEG meetings **increased by 35.8%** between 2023-24 and 2024-25. Overall attendance at the Central PNP **decreased by 37.1%** between 2023-24 and 2024-25.
- 4.4.8 **Eight** community led projects were funded in Central Locality through the UDecide participatory budgeting scheme in March 2025, with a collective value of **£20,000**.

4.5 North Locality



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

- 4.5.1 **Economy** – ABZ Works’s Development Fund has supported several employability projects across North Locality during 2024, such as Future Focus CV Workshop sessions for unemployed people in Mastrick, Sheddocksley, and Summerhill; and they worked in partnership with Middlefield Community Project to provide volunteers with qualifications for REHIS (food hygiene), First Aid, and Customer Service, along with mentoring, resilience, and mental health support.
- 4.5.2 Danestone Community Centre delivered a Community Nappy Exchange providing nappies to families in need. The project has helped reduce the financial burden on families and promote sustainability. The project supported **545** people during 2024.
- 4.5.3 **People** – **98** people attended Aberdeen City’s first Community Appointment Day for Chronic Pain at GetActive@Northfield on 27 November 2024. The purpose of the Community Appointment Day was to bring all key health, social care, and wellbeing services all under one roof to support people who are living with chronic pain. This included primary care and secondary care services, as well as key partners such as the DWP, Sport Aberdeen, and third sector organisations which provided advice on sleep, medication, and social connectiveness. Feedback received during the event was very positive from both attendees, staff, and stall holders.
- 4.5.4 The Saltire Awards are the Scottish Government's way of celebrating, recognising and rewarding the commitment, contribution and achievements of volunteers aged 12-25 in Scotland. Of the 3623 Aberdeen Saltire Award recipients during 2024, **1622** young people were from North Locality. This is the highest number by locality area in Aberdeen City.
- 4.5.5 **Place** – **65.2%** of North Locality respondents reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces, compared to **45%** of people who live in North priority neighbourhoods.
- 4.5.6 Heathryburn Primary School created a community garden to engage families in the cycle of food growing and encourage positive mental wellbeing through outdoor activities. The garden has provided a space for families to learn about gardening and enjoy outdoor activities together. The project supported over **50 pupils**. The garden has become a popular spot for families to gather and learn about gardening.



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

4.5.7 **Community** - Overall attendance at North LEG meetings **increased by 8%** between 2023-24 and 2024-25. Overall attendance at the Northfield PNP **decreased by 25.8%** between 2023-24 and 2024-25.

4.5.8 **22** community led projects were supported by the Health Improvement Fund in the North Locality during 2024-25 with a collective value of **£61,372**. **8** community led projects were funded in North Locality through the UDecide participatory budgeting scheme in March 2025, with a collective value of **£20,000**.

4.6 South Locality

4.6.1 **Economy** – The number of children in low income households decreased from **1900** in 2022, to **1864** in 2023, an improvement of **1.8%**. However this is still significantly higher than the 1616 children in low income families from before the pandemic in 2019.

4.6.2 According to the City Voice Survey carried out in 2024, **10.3%** of people in South Locality worried they would need to choose between heating and eating, compared to **16%** of people living in Torry and Kincorth.

4.6.3 **People** – **94.2%** of South Locality school leavers achieved an initial positive destination. With **91.4%** of Lochside Academy leavers also achieving a positive destination.

4.6.4 Alcohol related mortality rates in South Locality have been improving since 2018, with a rate of **14.4 deaths** per 100,000 recorded in 2023, compared to **17.3 deaths** per 100,000 in 2018.

4.6.5 **Place** – **69.6%** of South Locality respondents reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces, compared to **47.4%** of people who live in South priority neighbourhoods.

4.6.6 **64.2%** of South Locality residents regularly walk compared to **47.4%** of people living in South priority neighbourhoods

4.6.7 **Community** - Overall attendance at South LEG meetings **increased by 29.2%** between 2023-24 and 2024-25. Overall attendance at the Torry Partnership **decreased by 19.5%** between 2023-24 and 2024-25.

4.6.8 **14** community led projects were supported by the Health Improvement Fund in the South Locality during 2024-25 with a collective value of **£49,701**. **Ten** community led projects were funded in South Locality through



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

the UDecide participatory budgeting scheme in March 2025, with a collective value of **£20,000**.

NEXT STEPS

- 4.8 The Locality Planning Team will work with our Community Planning and community partners to focus on areas for improvement during 2025-26. These include increasing the number of Community Resilience Groups across the City; improving community health and wellbeing, particularly weight management and mental health; and supporting people living in poverty to achieve better outcomes.
- 4.9 The Locality Planning Team will lead on planning and community engagement for the three new Locality Plans which will be published alongside the new 10 year Local Outcome Improvement Plan, expected in June 2026. The Locality Planning Team will report to the IJB with the new plans, alongside the new 10 year LOIP in 2026.
- 4.10 The Locality Planning Team will ensure locality planning and community empowerment are effectively embedded into the new IJB Strategic Plan ensuring LEG and PNP members can contribute towards evaluation, planning, and delivery of projects, with an increased focus on co-production and co-delivery wherever possible.
- 4.11 Engagement between Community Planning, third sector, and community partners will continue. [Stretch Outcome 16](#) projects aim to connect, support, build capacity, and promote community activity within localities.
- 4.12 The Locality Planning Team will continue to work with Community Planning Outcome Improvement Groups and ACHSCP's Strategic Planning Group to ensure more locality level data is produced, and can be used to make targeted interventions.
- 4.13 The Locality Planning Team will continue to consolidate funding streams which support Locality Planning such as the Health Improvement Fund, participatory budgeting, Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund, and the Fairer Aberdeen Fund to improve efficiency, reduce duplication, and ensure our key community led priorities are being supported.
- 4.14 Progress reporting on locality planning will continue on a monthly basis through ACHSCP's Strategic Planning Group and through the LOIP Stretch Outcome 16.3 improvement project group which reports to the



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

CPA Management Group and Community Empowerment Group. Updates on locality planning will also be reported to the IJB through the Chief Officers Report and the ACHSCP Annual Performance Report.

5. Implications for IJB

5.1. Equalities, Fairer Scotland and Health Inequality

This report will have a minor positive impact on people with protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act (2010), and those affected by socio-economic disadvantage. The LEGs and PNPs provide an opportunity for those with protected characteristics to fully participate in the locality planning process and have their voice and views taken into account. Locality Planning team leads also co-project manage the LOIP Stretch Outcome 16.3 project group on community participation which aims to increase the number and diversity of Locality Empowerment Group members. LEGs and PNPs have a good gender balance, and its members include those from ethnic minority backgrounds, priority neighbourhoods, and people with disabilities. Outreach activity continues to increase the number of young people engaging with locality planning. An Integrated Impact Assessment has been prepared for this report.

5.2. Financial

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

Integration of locality planning between Aberdeen City Council and ACHSCP, along with the creation of an integrated Locality Planning Team in February 2023 has enabled the ACHSCP Public Health Team and Community Planning's Community Learning and Development Team to share workload and resources which has cut down on duplication of effort, led to a more efficient delivery of locality planning, and freed up officer time to focus on other strategic priorities.

5.3. Workforce

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



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

5.4. Legal

Section 29(3) of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 states that the “*provision required to be included in a strategic plan by virtue of subsection (2)(a) is to include provision—*

*(a) dividing the area of the local authority into two or more localities, and
(b) setting out separately arrangements for the carrying out of the integration functions in relation to each such locality”.*

ACHSCP is currently fulfilling its statutory obligations as it has three locality areas across Aberdeen City.

5.5. Unpaid Carers

The annual reports for all three of our localities have reported an increase in the number of unpaid carers accessing support over the previous year. The annual reports have a positive impact on unpaid carers as they help to promote the invaluable work they do to support our health and social care colleagues. Each report also sets out where unpaid carers can access dedicated services and support.

5.6. Information Governance

There are no direct information governance implications arising from the recommendations.

5.7. Environmental Impacts

All three Locality Plans have priorities to improve use of greenspace for food growing and health and wellbeing; as well as initiatives to make the local environment cleaner, safer, and more welcoming. ACHSCP’s Health Improvement Fund has supported several community led initiatives which will have a positive impact on the environment across all three locality areas.

5.8. Sustainability

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



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

5.9. Other

As integrated locality planning arrangements are in place with Community Planning Aberdeen, the annual reports were reported to the Community Planning Management Group on 21 May 2025 and will be presented to the Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 18 June 2025.

6. Management of Risk

6.1. Identified risks

- 6.1.1 During a citywide locality planning workshop session on 30 January 2025, community members told us significant barriers prevented people from volunteering in the community. The included work commitments, timings of meetings, cost of living challenges, lack of confidence or anxiety, childcare and/or caring responsibilities, and other family or leisure commitments were the most common reasons why community members found it difficult to support a community group.

Likelihood of occurrence – High

Impact if the risk does occur - Medium

- 6.1.2 This is a known risk and being mitigated through the Locality Planning Team's ongoing community outreach and engagement programme, and through citywide events such as 2025's *Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future* community engagement programme, and May's Wellbeing Festival. Community Planning Aberdeen published its Community Empowerment Strategy in November 2022 with the creation of Stretch Outcome 16 and its seven dedicated Improvement projects to deliver the Strategy. LOIP Improvement Project 16.3 aims to increase participation and diversity in locality planning and reports are presented to the Community Empowerment Group on a monthly basis. Locality Planning updates are also a standing item on ACHSCP's Strategic Planning Group which is attended by LEG members from across all three of our locality areas.

6.2. Link to risks on strategic or operational risk register:

- 6.2.1 This links to Risk 6 on the **Strategic Risk Register**:

Cause: Need to involve lived experience in service delivery and design as per Integration Principles



RISK, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Event: IJB fails to maximise the opportunities created for engaging with our communities

Consequences: Services are not tailored to individual needs; reputational damage; and IJB does not meet strategic aims

- 6.2.2 The Locality Planning Team has been put in place to facilitate LEG and PNP meetings and to support delivery of the three Locality Plans. Performance updates are reported to this Committee, ACHSCP's Strategic Planning Group, and the Community Empowerment Group on a cyclical basis.
- 6.2.3 LEG and PNP meetings are held on an eight weekly cycle, and hosted in accessible community venues across Aberdeen City. A hybrid option to join meetings are also provided for those unable to attend meetings in person. Meetings alternate between mornings and early evenings to enable as many people to participate as possible. The LOIP 16.3 improvement project group is tasked with increasing the number and diversity of LEG and PNP members which helps ACHSCP meet its Delivery Plan and statutory duties to deliver a locality planning system.
- 6.2.4 LEG and PNP members, in addition to Outcome Improvement Groups and locality based services were fully consulted on the annual reports and had the opportunity suggest changes for improvement.
- 6.2.5 During 2024-25, two LEG members joined the Integration Joint Board as service user representatives and are a key link between the Board and our locality groups.