

# Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2017-18



# FAIRER ABERDEEN PRIORITY THEMES AND KEY ACTIONS

## MAXIMISING INCOME

Provide access to affordable financial services and products and coordinated provision of quality advice and information services

## GETTING PEOPLE INTO WORK

Access to support and skills needed to return to work, including initial engagement, personal development activity and in work support

## IMPROVING HEALTH & WELLBEING

Reduce health inequalities; improve mental health and wellbeing; and increase access to affordable healthy food

## BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Improve access to services in regeneration areas and support community involvement and participation

## INCREASING SKILLS AND CREATIVITY

Support learning and creative opportunities, improve literacy and encourage volunteering

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Community Planning Aberdeen

**27,059**

people  
supported

**£1.6m**

invested

**45**

funded  
projects

**971**

volunteers

**126,500**

hours of  
volunteering  
time

**£1.94m**

value of  
volunteering



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



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



**Regeneration Matters** is a forum of community representatives from all the regeneration and priority neighbourhoods in Aberdeen City who have been meeting since November 2006 and are active in identifying and addressing issues around poverty and deprivation. The group meets monthly and as well as discussions on particular issues they also have the opportunity to share information about each of their neighbourhoods and feedback on any meetings or conferences they have attended.

Regeneration Matters also manage the Community Support Fund on behalf of the Fairer Aberdeen Board, to support communications, training, community capacity building and community involvement in regeneration. Over the year this funded printing and delivery costs for community magazines in 7 of the regeneration areas, community galas, Seaton Pantry, Fersands Community Food Outlet and a Business Breakfast at Bramble Brae School.

Regeneration Matters elect 7 of its members to act as community representatives on the Fairer Aberdeen Board, alongside 3 representatives from the Civic Forum.

# PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING



£25,000 was allocated to undertake a Participatory Budgeting (PB) process, which is a way for local people to have a direct say in how funds can be used to address local needs.

A steering group was set up to organise the process, made up of community and partner representatives. It was decided to cover the areas of George Street, Castlehill and Pittodrie, and the City centre, as these are areas with pockets of deprivation that don't usually benefit from funding directed at priority neighbourhoods.

21 proposals were presented and then voted on by residents at the voting event in March 2018. Funding was awarded to 14 projects that were most popular.

- Hanover Street Outdoor Adventures (Hanover Street Primary School)
- Connecting Cultures (Hanover Street Primary School)
- Kids in the Kitchen (CFINE)
- Awesome Tech in TX (Digital Maker CIC)
- Common Room Upgrade at Greig Court (Greig Court Tenants Association)
- Youth Activities at Froghall (Froghall Community Centre Association)
- Capoeira Martial Arts and Dance (Froghall Community Centre Association)
- Solidarity Fridges (Claire Delhumeau and Josh Willey)
- Out & About (Four Pillars)
- Grampian T Folk (Four Pillars)
- Girls Club @ Cruyff Court (Active Girls Committee, Active Schools, Sport Aberdeen)
- Improvements to ASLSC Changing Huts (Aberdeen Surf Life Saving Club)
- Replace Doors in Changing Huts (Aberdeen Surf Life Saving Club)
- Farmers Market and May Day Fun Day (Greater George Street Traders Association)

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



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 sub group of the Community Planning Partnership, made up of representatives from the regeneration areas, the Civic Forum, the Council, NHS Grampian, Police Scotland and ACVO (Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations). In 2017-18 funding of £1,632,000 was made available to support work in regeneration areas and across the City with vulnerable groups and individuals, fitting with the main priorities decided by the Board.

Funding was awarded to 45 projects within the main programme, as well as a Community Support Fund to support community engagement, an Employment Support Fund to support costs associated with getting people back into work, and a Participatory Budgeting event.

Grants ranged from £200 to £155,000 in value. A total of 27,069 people were involved in, or benefited from, funded initiatives, 4,648 of them were under 16 years old. 971 volunteers contributed 126,500 hours of volunteering time with a value of over £1.9m\*, more than doubling the value of the Fund.

\*Volunteering time is generally valued as the average hourly pay rate in the area, in Aberdeen this was £15.33. (Office of National Statistics, the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE))



The Fund focuses on neighbourhoods that fall within the most deprived 0-15% in Scotland, according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, as well as supporting vulnerable groups and individuals across the City.

**PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS**

- Cummings Park**
- Middlefield**
- Northfield**
- Seaton**
- Tillydrone**
- Torry**
- Woodside**

**PRIORITY GROUPS**

- People living in poverty**
- Lone parents and families with children**
- Unemployed people**
- Children and young people**
- People with health issues**
- Older people**
- Minority groups with an identified need**



**“PB** is community empowerment at its best.”

Jenny Laing, Council Leader

**U DECIDE**

Now is your chance to VOTE for new projects that aim to improve your area!

**George Street, Castlehill & Pittodrie and City Centre**  
Saturday 10 March, Hanover Primary School, 10am.

Funding will be awarded to the projects that get the most votes.  
Everyone living in the area and aged over 16 years is eligible to vote.  
(Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult)  
Lunch will be provided and successful projects announced on the day.

Registration will start at 10am and close at 10.30am. You cannot vote unless you register so please arrive on time. The event is expected to last approximately 3-4 hours.

Translation and Interpretation available  
If you require assistance in any language  
Swiadczyzny uslugi tłumaczeni i ustnych  
Galma vertimai rasta ir vertimai žodžiu

聯絡口毛譯服務  
الترجمة الشفوية و المكتوبة متوفرة  
Contact Lorraine Geddes on 01724 498167  
or email: logeddes@aberdeen.gov.uk

**“I really enjoyed finding out about all the things that are going on in my area and to see so many interesting proposals. Great community involvement!”**

# MAXIMISING INCOME

**AIMS** | Provide access to affordable financial services and products and coordinated provision of quality advice and information

3,196 people received money advice or income maximisation advice, with a total financial gain of £3,031,494, an average of £1,051 per person

6,149 adults and 2,309 juniors saved with credit unions, depositing £2,517,659 in savings and 3,326 affordable loans totalling £2,477,052

480 tonnes of free Fareshare produce distributed, the equivalent of 96,000 food parcels or 988,095 meals

1,612 referrals to the Cash in Your Pocket database, which supports people to access the financial inclusion support they need

3,650 food bank beneficiaries signposted to other agencies for support

Food banks provide support and access to a range of services and advice as well as emergency food for those in crisis



## St Machar Credit Union and North East Scotland Credit Union (NESCU)

improve access to affordable financial services and products and develop 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 they gave out affordable loans of over £2m, meaning over 3,000 people had access to affordable credit, avoiding payday loans or doorstep lending. Over 50 volunteers staffed 12 collection points across the priority areas.

**Aberdeen Illness and Disability Advice Service** offers confidential, independent and impartial financial advice to anyone affected by illness, disability or a long-term health condition.

Over the year they saw total of 2008 clients, this included 460 home visits, 323 hospital visits and 1225 to their office. The total financial gain was £2,253,216, an average of £1,122 per

person. 10 volunteers contributed 13,200 of volunteer time.

**Financial Capability at the Foodbank** provides financial health-checks and budgeting advice, including welfare benefits advice, to beneficiaries using the CFINE Food Bank.

Money management help was given to 360 beneficiaries resulting in a total financial gain of £271,905, an average of £755 per person. 32 groups and 157 partner beneficiaries benefited from financial education and resilience training sessions.

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

Over the year 469 clients received money advice and income maximisation advice with a total financial gain of £573,453, an average

of £1,222 per client.

**Money Management for Women** provides help and advice with money management, budgeting, benefits and debt, to women who are clients of Grampian Women's Aid.

Over the year there were 19 new referrals for the service and a financial gain for clients of £69,227, an average of £3,643 per client.

**Food Poverty Action Aberdeen** provides food for those in food poverty, as well as coordination and networking between organisations involved in food poverty work. They also provide support to address issues around health and well-being, financial capability and employment.

415 tonnes of free produce were distributed, and 12,112 food parcels were given out to 5,051 beneficiaries. 2,016 people were referred to other agencies and 360 people accessed financial support. 231 volunteers contributed 55,440 hours of volunteer time.

**21,356 people benefitted and a total of 324 volunteers contributed 78,934 hours of volunteer time**

**Cash In Your Pocket (CIYP)** acts as a central hub for the operation of its financial inclusion partners, delivering a one-stop referral system to allow access to the full range of organisations that can assist with financial inclusion issues, and coordinating provision.

1612 individuals were referred to Cash in Your Pocket and there were 60 organisations involved in dealing with referrals. CIYP attended 16 community events with Network promotional material where 1233 people were engaged. 1531 contacts were made with people in the community and 3400 referral issues were forwarded to partners for action.

**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 359 households were assisted with income maximisation and charitable funding, achieving a total financial gain of £413,816, an average of £1,152 per household.



“I was very satisfied with the service. My mother was referred to CIYP by SCARF. CIYP sent a referral to the Pension Service for Attendance Allowance – my mother is now receiving mobility allowance as a result of the visit by SCARF and the support from CIYP.”

**Cash In Your Pocket client**

## **FINANCIAL CAPABILITY AT THE FOOD BANK**

**Client S came to CFINE for help with his PIP claim after failing the medical. We are seeing a large demand for help with the appeal process and decisions made by the DWP. He had been suffering from kidney failure for several years and visits the hospital 3 times per week for dialysis. This process plays havoc with his health both physical and mental. He has been a strong active man all his life, working as a labourer and a Merchant Seaman for decades. To become so sedentary in a short space of time was a huge shift in life style.**

**He does not have a strong command of English and on reading his PIP application it was apparent he has some form of learning disability. This shows the need for people to have support when filling out such forms, the PIP is 50 pages long and complicated.**

**We appealed the decision and moved towards the tribunal process. This can be difficult for some clients, and S already has a distrust of the system due to his refusal of certain benefits. The date of the tribunal arrives, and I have to convince S to go as he sees it as another waste of time. I calm him down and reassure him to just tell the truth. He is nauseous daily, even more so after the dialysis. He feels weak and cannot do daily tasks without extreme tiredness. He vomits regularly and seems to have some undiagnosed mental health problems.**

**The judges at the tribunal were very understanding. They did ask a great deal of the client and he was becoming frustrated and angry. His behaviour reflected his mood and at several points I had to talk him down out of his temper. This certainly reflected on the assessment, and his mental health issues were acknowledged immediately by those at the tribunal. They also recognised that his diet is a medical treatment and he needs assistance with this from his wife, who is his carer. He received £3,000 in backdated payments and £80 per week for the next year.**

**He was delighted and very relieved.**

# GETTING PEOPLE INTO WORK

**AIMS** | Access to support and skills needed to return to work, including initial engagement, personal development activity and in work support

**21 access centres** in areas of high unemployment offered weekly employment support drop in sessions

**280 people** moved into work

**Over 100 people** accessed a support fund to help overcome financial barriers, providing clothing for interviews, transport, training and qualifications

**180 young people** were involved in activities designed to increase their opportunities to move into positive destinations

**95 young people** moved onto employment, education or training



Volunteering can give valuable experience and confidence to enable people to get back into work

**Pathways** supports residents of priority areas 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.

Pathways moved premises during the year to Powis Community Centre and have now established themselves in the area. They are working closely with St Machar Academy and are hoping to secure funding to support school leavers at risk of not securing a positive destination. They also set up a Job Club (in partnership with Skills Development Scotland) aimed primarily at young people from the Powis area but which is open to everyone. They also started delivering the ESF Progress Through Positive partnerships (PTPP) project which has increased their number of keyworkers

to just over 6 full time equivalent posts. The project is designed to give clients a keyworker who identified training opportunities and refers them on.

425 people received support. Of these 237 moved into work, 177 into full time employment and 60 into part time employment. Weekly drop-ins were delivered in all the regeneration areas, with additional drop-ins arranged in areas identified as needing extra support. Key workers were in each priority area at least twice a week, offering advice and help with job searches and providing laptops to enable people to complete online applications with their support. 6 volunteers contributed 300 volunteer hours.

**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 59 clients. 6 people moved into work and 26 were sustained in their current jobs. Clients were also involved with training, work placement and volunteering.

**shmuTRAIN (Station House Media Unit)** offers comprehensive employability support and skills development training to young people aged 14-19, using community & digital media to engage young people, increase motivation and develop core skills such as confidence, communication and team work, and to support young people to move on to a positive destination.

76 young people participated in the programme. 32 of them moved into positive destinations, 6 into work, 19 into further education and 7 into training.

**664 people benefitted and 6 volunteers contributed 300 hours of volunteer time**

**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 29 people took part in the programme, 4 moved into work and 14 moved into education, training or volunteering.

**“It was fantastic, and it really helped me build experience and improve my skills”**

**“Gave me another path to think about”**

**“Built up my confidence a lot”**

**Princes Trust Team participants**

**“My Keyworker helped me find a job that I enjoy and allows me to spend time with my family. I would have struggled if it were not for Stan and Pathways.”**

**Pathways client**

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

**PATHWAYS**



James was made redundant in October 2016 from a major Oil & Gas company after over 22 years of service. James had a break to spend time with family and have a well-earned rest, as he worked off the west coast of Africa for long periods of time. James came to Pathways a year after being made redundant. He was also recovering from triple heart bypass surgery.

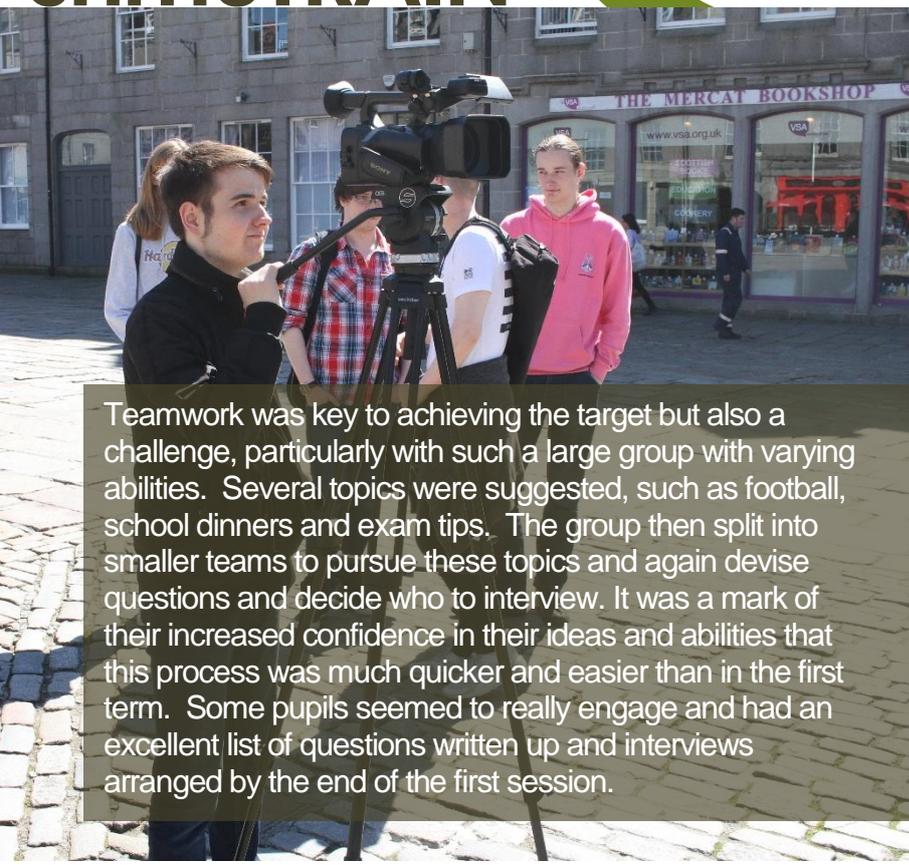
James asked for assistance to find employment within Aberdeen city due to working abroad for so many years. We discussed what he would like to do and he agreed to do some voluntary work while looking for employment. We looked at various organisations and charities that would best fit with the type of work he was interested in.

James chose CFINE and after a phone call an interview was arranged. James agreed to a few hours a week driving CFINE's Tuk In delivering street food to various location around the city. James also got involved with the warehouse and assisting with delivering food to various organisations around the city.

After around 6 weeks of volunteering James asked for assistance to apply for a position of Support Worker with SACRO. We both sat and went through the application and expressed how James was suitable for the position. James was invited for an interview.

James secured a full time position with SACRO as a Support Worker assisting residents with learning disabilities to live an independent life.

**shmuTRAIN**



Teamwork was key to achieving the target but also a challenge, particularly with such a large group with varying abilities. Several topics were suggested, such as football, school dinners and exam tips. The group then split into smaller teams to pursue these topics and again devise questions and decide who to interview. It was a mark of their increased confidence in their ideas and abilities that this process was much quicker and easier than in the first term. Some pupils seemed to really engage and had an excellent list of questions written up and interviews arranged by the end of the first session.

# IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

**AIMS** | Reduce health inequalities; improve mental health and wellbeing; and increase access to affordable healthy food

**67 Community Food Outlets** operated in local communities, 40 of them in Sheltered Housing complexes, and 415 tonnes of free food was distributed to 138 organisations through FareShare

**30 families** in regeneration areas were supported to prevent further crisis and family breakdown, and 5 families no longer required Social Work support

**557 people** accessed 4,809 sessions of counselling provision, 179 of them were under 16 years old, and counselling was provided in 7 priority areas

**180 volunteers** were recruited, trained and supported to provide meals, laundry and showering facilities to rough sleepers 4 times a week

**40 vulnerable people** took part in recovery programmes based on community involvement, personal development, wellbeing and employability skills



**CFINE support Community Food Outlets in priority areas and sheltered housing complexes, providing access to affordable healthy food**

**Mental Health Aberdeen** provides adult counselling in Torry, where 130 Clients accessed the service and 1,083 counselling sessions were provided; and in Calsayseat Surgery, where 140 clients accessed 1,122 counselling sessions. 3 volunteers were involved in delivery of service, contributing 223 hours.

They also run ACIS Youth Counselling, where 179 young people accessed 1661 counselling sessions. ACIS Youth also operates in Torry, where 54 young people accessed 890 counselling sessions in Primary and Secondary schools. 4 volunteers were involved in delivery the service, contributing 348 hours.

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

They provided counselling in 7 regeneration areas, 108 people accessed 943 counselling sessions delivered. 7 volunteers contributed 300 hours of volunteering time.

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

30 families in regeneration areas were supported. 30 families reported reduced isolation, 27 reported reduced levels of family conflict or stress, and 5

families no longer required Social Work support. 19 families were supported with financial issues, 3 people moved into work or training and 31 volunteers contributed 1890 volunteering time.

**CFINE (Community Food Initiatives North East)** maintain and develop Community Food Outlets to provide healthy, affordable food and raise awareness of healthy cooking and eating.

Over the year they supported 67 Community Food Outlets, 40 of these in sheltered housing complexes, with a total of £83,000 sales. They provided work experience for 48 people and 180 volunteers were supported.

**1,053 people benefitted and a total of 259 volunteers contributed 9,831 hours of volunteer time**

**Befriend A Child** provide accessible group activities for children involved in the Befriend A Child scheme.

39 children and young people benefitted from regular use of the youth club, and in actively participating in organising activities. 12 volunteers contributed 1440 hours of volunteering 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.

22 clients participated the course and 10 secured employment, training or education as a result. 17 volunteers contributed 290 hours of volunteer time

**Cyrenians Street Alternatives** provides a volunteer led service offering practical support to people in Aberdeen City who are sleeping rough or who have no access to cooking or personal care facilities.

Over the year 23 people attended session held 4 times per week. 14 community awareness raising events were held to promote the service and volunteering opportunities. 180 volunteers contributed 6,600 hours of volunteering time

**Printfield Feel Good Project and Tillydrone Health & Well Being Project** provide Complementary Health sessions to increase relaxation and wellbeing.

82 people accessed 485 sessions and 2 volunteers contributed 40 hours of volunteering time.

**Seaton Recovery Project** provides support to those recovering from alcohol/drug misuse and access to specialist support services.

Over the year they worked with 18 clients at the drop-in service. 12 of them received support with personal development and life skills, 8 took part in activities that enhance physical/mental health and wellbeing, 5 people attended classes to improve their employability skills and 10 were referred to specialist debt and financial support and advisory services.

Two of our children who are twins aged 6 are currently being befriended, both have foetal alcohol syndrome and have their own learning difficulties. One is very demanding and at times can be very disruptive and often takes his anger and frustration out on his brother.

When the boys were offered the chance of coming along to the club in Northfield it was felt by their parents it was not a good idea that both attended. It was agreed that one would attend to give the other some space. Their dad also offered to come along and volunteer while he was there. The young boy has settled in very well and enjoys his time with the other children and his confidence and his ability to engage with the other children has vastly improved.

During a conversation with dad it was suggested that he take the other child along to the club in Woodside, that way both children would get the same opportunity in engaging with other children but at different times. The dad was delighted, and he also agreed to come along and volunteer. Both children are enjoying their separate experiences and at the same time giving them both some 1-1 time at home with their mum. Hopefully in the future both boys will be able to attend the same club, but in the meantime, they are having fun with the new friends they have made.

## BEFRIEND A CHILD



“As someone who sometimes suffers with depression and anxiety, I find that the health treatments leave me feeling more positive and help me focus on my physical as well as my mental health. My children have noticed a difference in me.”

# BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

**AIMS** | Improve access to services in regeneration areas and support community involvement and participation

**Community Flats** in Cummings Park, Seaton and Tillydrone and Middlefield Youth Flat were funded and used by a number of organisations to deliver services within the areas

**2,189 people** participated in activities and services provided in Community Projects and Flats

**12,889 attendances** to use facilities in funded Community Flats including phone, computers, making enquiries and getting information

**1,701 young people** under 16 years old took part in activities

**944 hours** of additional police patrols engaging with sex workers reducing numbers of calls to the Police regarding on street prostitution in the City Centre and Seaton



**Demolition of Middlefield Nursery, which has moved to the new Hub**

**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.

In Cummings Park 30 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 1945 and the number of uses of the Flat facilities, including phone, computers and enquiries was 58. The Flat was open for 30 sessions per week and 18 volunteers contributed 2,717 hours.

In Printfield 105 young people aged 5-16 participated in activities in the project and 58 in the After School Club. 16 children under 3 years were registered.

50 people got support with welfare reform issues and 60 volunteers contributed 600 volunteer hours in the Project Management Committee, Printfield Area Forum and Woodside Network.

In Tillydrone 25 agencies used the flat to deliver advice and support services for a range of issues including Health, Education, Employability and Financial Inclusion. There were 3131 recorded uses of the Flat facilities, including use of washing machine, phone and access to computers.

There were 80 Learning Support creche sessions with 37 children attending creche sessions. A total of 537 participants were involved, 59 of them under 16 years old. 62 people were involved in adult learning activities, 4 people were on the Tilly Tattle editorial group and 16 volunteers contributed 750 hours of volunteer work.

In Seaton there were 2,149 attendances at sessions provided by 14 partner agencies. 35 people attended sessions supporting people back into work and 32 people attended sessions aimed at increasing skills and creativity. A total of 409 people attended the flat and 4 volunteers contributed 340 hours of volunteer time.

**3,409 participants were involved and 155 volunteers contributed 9,260 hours of volunteer time**

**Fersands Family Centre Family Support Worker and Twos Group**

provides a safe, welcoming and stimulating environment to deliver good quality play and learning experiences to encourage motivation, and enthusiastic learning.

Over the year 38 families received support and 2 parent groups ran weekly. More intensive, long term support was provided to 11 families who have social work involvement.

19 children attended, and 4 pre-nursery groups were held per week. 2 volunteers contributed 192 hours of volunteer time.

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

Over the year 180 young people participated in 1175 sessions at the Youth Flat, as well as 30 outreach sessions, 150 of the were under 16.

80 young people were involved in Under 11s Work, there were 145 club and small group work sessions. 4 volunteers contributed 840 hours of volunteer time.

**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 98 young people participated, 98 of them under 16 years old. 6 volunteers contributed 478 hours of volunteer time.

**Police Scotland Operation Begonia**

provides dedicated, directed patrols with the aim of tackling prostitution; by encountering, identifying and engaging with both on and off street sex industry workers.

During the year 24 new women were encountered through street work patrols. 4 women were referred to partner agencies and 9 engaging women's files have been closed off as they are now no longer involved in prostitution. There were 944 hours of additional patrol time undertaken. 57 males were stopped, educated or charged regarding kerb crawling offences to try and discourage males from frequenting identified areas.

**SHMU Community Reintegration Support Service**

works with ex-offenders, following their release, to create strong, supportive community networks and develop effective community based multi-agency working.

153 offenders participated in the programme within prison and 39 in the pre-release programme. 45 participants engaged with appropriate support services post release. 29 participants secured a positive destination after release, 18 volunteering in the community, 2 into education, 14 into training and 9 into employment.

**Tillydrone ACT Attack** provides drama classes as a means to help promote a sense of value, self-worth, and self-confidence in young people, and give them an appreciation of Arts, drama and music while having fun and enjoying themselves.

**Aberdeen Lads Club Big Bang Drumming Group**

provides percussion workshops for young people, to create a performance band to enhance participants' confidence, self-esteem and social skills.

**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 880 participants were involved, 135 educational workshops and 125 drop in clubs were held. Around 91% of young people reported being able to identify violent and exploitative relationships and an increased knowledge of existing support services following participation in the workshops.

There were 20 young people trained and supported to volunteer and 470 volunteer hours contributed.

## TILLYDRONE COMMUNITY FLAT



The volume of individuals accessing the flat for support with social security issues has increased dramatically over the last couple of years, and now occupies the majority of the Senior Support Worker's working day. The introduction of Universal Credit is proving challenging and several service users have required assistance and support ensuring that the correct payments are made. Our Senior Support Worker has provided invaluable support to many service users at ESA/medical interviews, often under very stressful circumstances, helping many get their benefits reinstated.

# INCREASING SKILLS AND CREATIVITY

**AIMS** | Support learning and creative opportunities, improve literacy and encourage volunteering

**130 people** were involved in producing community media, including 21 editions of community magazines in 7 regeneration areas, and weekly community radio programmes

**176 young people** were involved in producing youth media, 14 of them secured a Saltire Award and 7 moved on to employment or education

**150 people** took part in classes to promote positive parenting including cooking, first aid and support with financial issues

**150 older people** were supported to use technology and engage online and 188 learning sessions were delivered

**247 young people** under 16 years old took part in activities

**St Machar Parent Support Project** provides opportunities for families to enjoy activities together



**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.

35 volunteers were supported to produce community magazines 3 times a year in 7 regeneration areas.

In all 201 organisations worked in partnership with SHMU over the year and a total of 708 participants were involved, 60 of them under 16 years old. 130 volunteers contributed 18,352 hours of volunteer time.

**St Machar Parent Support Project Positive Lifestyles** provides support to young parents, helping them identify issues and to engage with the relevant

agencies before they reach crisis point, preventing future long term need for statutory services.

150 people participated in the programme and 98 parents were referred on to relevant agencies for further support. 15 people received help with CVs and interviews. 25 people took up volunteering opportunities and 48 people were supported to claim grants totalling £10,000. 23 young people under the age of 16 were indirectly helped by the support provided to their parents.

**1,320 participants were involved and 212 volunteers contributed 28,475 hours of volunteer time**

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

A total of 176 young people participated, 164 of them under 16 years old.

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

150 people registered as new learners in the City Centre. 188 sessions were offered, and 39 volunteers contributed 2,482 hours of volunteer time.

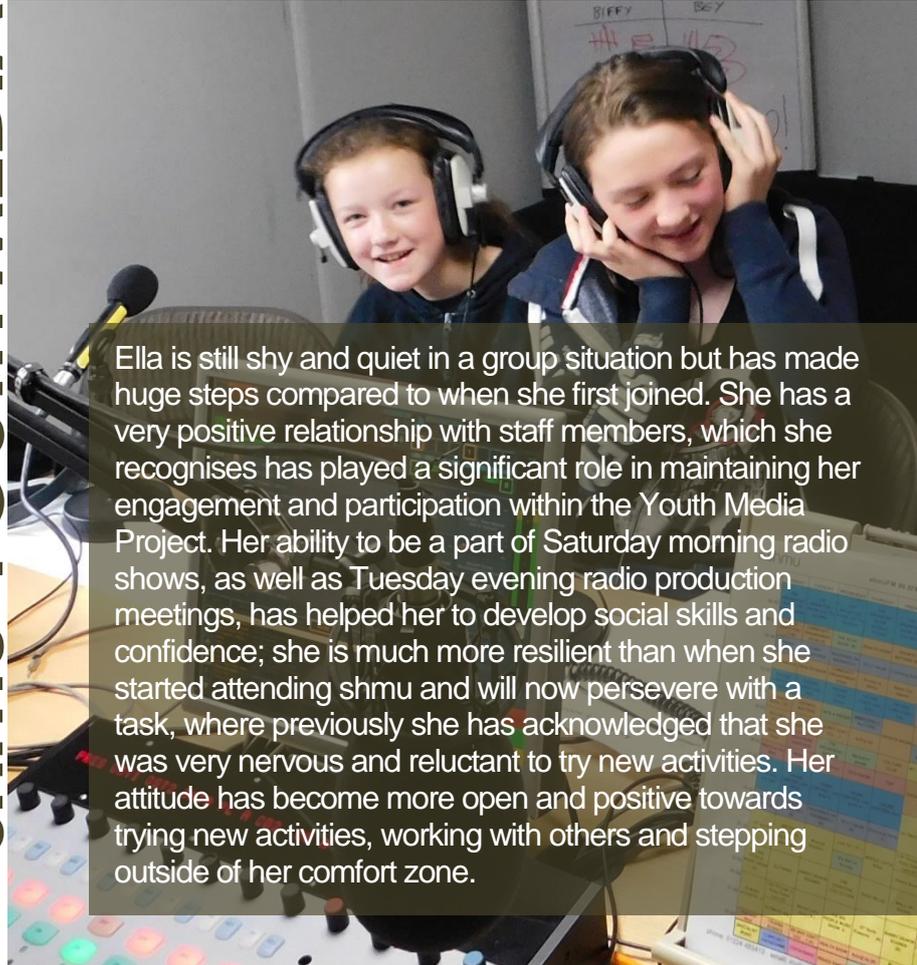
**WEA Reach Out** provides literacy opportunities for non-traditional learners, which are accessible and inclusive and appropriate to learner needs, offering flexible literacy programmes and routes to volunteering and employment.

136 people took part in 38 Skills Programme courses provided, 7 moved into employment and 13 progressed onto further training. 7 volunteers contributed 229 hours of volunteering.

"Reach Out has been great for her and her confidence levels rose quite quickly. She joined the Employability course and is now back to work. She still likes to stay engaged with the project and occasionally joins us on the walking group, so she can stay in touch with her new friends."

## WEA Reach Out

# shmu YOUTH MEDIA



Ella is still shy and quiet in a group situation but has made huge steps compared to when she first joined. She has a very positive relationship with staff members, which she recognises has played a significant role in maintaining her engagement and participation within the Youth Media Project. Her ability to be a part of Saturday morning radio shows, as well as Tuesday evening radio production meetings, has helped her to develop social skills and confidence; she is much more resilient than when she started attending shmu and will now persevere with a task, where previously she has acknowledged that she was very nervous and reluctant to try new activities. Her attitude has become more open and positive towards trying new activities, working with others and stepping outside of her comfort zone.

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTERS

seatonscene  
Spring 2017



**In this issue:**

- SEATON NETWORK
- MAYFEST
- FRIENDS OF SEATON PARK
- SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

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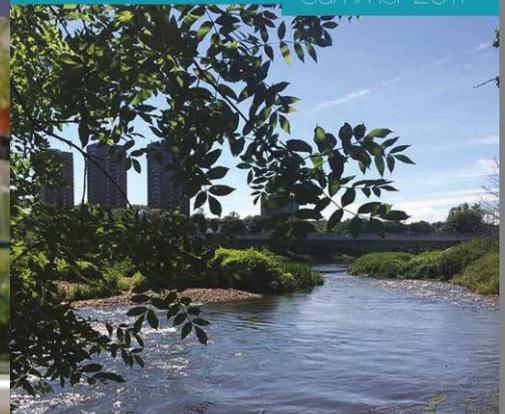


**In this issue:**

- CUMMINGS PARK COMMUNITY FLAT
- GROWING UP IN NORTHFIELD
- ABERDEEN TREASURE HUB

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TillyTattle  
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- TILLYDRONE VISION
- LOCALITY PLANNING
- TILLYDRONE COMMUNITY HUB

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*Thank you to all the participants,  
staff and volunteers who have  
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over the year.*

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