

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Strategic Commissioning Committee
DATE	12 November 2020
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Locality Plan Annual Reports
REPORT NUMBER	CUS/20/210
DIRECTOR	Andy MacDonald
CHIEF OFFICER	Derek McGowan
REPORT AUTHOR	Neil Carnegie
TERMS OF REFERENCE	4.2

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks endorsement of the third annual progress reports for each of the Community Planning Partnership's three Priority Localities.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Committee endorses each of the three annual progress reports for the Community Planning Partnership's Priority Localities prior to their submission to the Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 3 December 2020 for final approval.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council and Community Planning Aberdeen have agreed the three Priority Localities. These are localities where we have identified that people residing there experience significantly poorer outcomes which result from socio-economic disadvantage. The Priority Localities are:

3.1.1 Torry

3.1.2 Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton

3.1.3 Middlefield, Cummings Park, Northfield, Heathryfold and Mastrick

- 3.2 Three Locality Partnerships have been established to oversee delivery of each Locality Plan. The plans were agreed in 2017 by each Locality Partnership, the Council and Community Planning Aberdeen.

- 3.3 The Community Planning Aberdeen Outcome Management and Improvement Framework makes a commitment to produce annual progress reports for our Locality Plans. This is in line with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 which requires Community Planning Aberdeen to report progress against Locality Plans annually for the period 1 April to 31 March.

- 3.4 A progress report for each of the Priority Localities is appended to this report.

Reports have been prepared by our Locality Inclusion Managers and will be endorsed by respective Locality Partnerships. These are the third annual progress reports for Priority Localities.

- 3.5 Locality Inclusion Managers will be engaged in the review of the citywide Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) to help ensure focus and priority is given by Community Planning Aberdeen to refreshed priorities within Locality Plans.
- 3.6 The final approved annual progress reports and easy read summaries will be published on The Community Planning Aberdeen website.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation
Strategic Risk	None		
Compliance	None		
Operational	None		
Financial	None		
Reputational	There is a risk that the annual progress reports do not accurately reflect progress made by the Locality Partnerships in delivering outcomes which may have a negative impact on the public's perception of the Council and Partnership working.	L	Members of the Locality Partnerships have been involved in monitoring progress and respective Locality Partnerships will endorse plans.
Environment / Climate	None		

7. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</u>	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	The report supports Place policy statement 7 'The development of locality plans across the city in conjunction with communities'
Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	The report provides an overview of what has been achieved over the last year to progress all three themes and all stretch outcomes of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 in our Priority Localities.
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	
Regional and City Strategies	The annual reports set our progress in improving outcomes in the Priority Localities that will contribute to a number of regional and city strategies including the Regional Economic and Skills strategies.
UK and Scottish Legislative and Policy Programmes	The report sets out progress in Priority Localities which is a requirement in Community Planning Aberdeen under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	Not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Locality Plans report to Council 15 March 2017
 Locality Plans – Annual Reports CUS/18/242

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Torry Annual Progress Report
 Appendix 2 – Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton
 Appendix 3 – Middlefield, Cummings Park, Northfield, Heathryfold and Mastrick

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Community Planning
Aberdeen

Torry Locality Report – 2019/2020



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INTRODUCTION

From Community Representatives on the Locality Partnership

As Torry residents, we feel privileged to be members of the Torry Locality Partnership.

In our second year we have continued to strive for the people of Torry, along and equally, with the Locality Partnership members. Together we have played and will continue to play an active role in the selection and development of the outcomes of the LOIP projects and deliver a range of projects and Improvement Projects in the Locality.

Working alongside our partners has been good experience, resulting in positive outcomes for some of the projects that we have been involved in.

Working with a range of partners has been informative and has given us a greater overview of issues that not only effect the community of Torry but city wide. This has given us the opportunity to work together with partners, to ensure the delivery of positive outcomes that meet the needs of our Community.

passionate about Torry confident
respectful supportive
non-judgemental
team player fair
analytical friendly
willing to compromise
reliable represent wider community
welcoming willing to learn new things
& take on board new ideas
action-focused
forward-thinking committed
care about your community
sensible organised

We want a Locality Partnership which is active, inclusive and delivers action. This means that:

- A good cross-section of community interests are represented.
- A wider range of voices are heard that represent the community make up of Torry
- Fresh thinking and ideas contribute to the work of the Partnership.
- Better decisions are made (which address community priorities) and these decisions turn into joint action
- People feel they have ownership and influence over the work of the Partnership.
- The wider community is better-connected into the work of the Partnership and can influence and deliver on the Locality Plan
- There are clear relationships with other community organisations

Looking forward, we plan to continue to work closely with our colleagues in the Locality Partnership to reach common goals that will enhance the lives of Torry residents.

OUR ECONOMY



Our Economy Drivers

Priority Aim

Primary Drivers

Areas where we have made changes during 2018/19

We will increase the available income levels for residents

We will ensure the community have the knowledge, skills and confidence to reduce household costs and maximise household income

Heat Network Development

Community Growing

Provision of Low Cost Meals

Torry Hub Development

Access to Employment and Enterprise Opportunities

We will remove barriers to accessing employment and employment progression

Citywide Job and Apprenticeship creation benefits local residents

Dragados Community Benefits

We will maximise the employment, education and training opportunities for school leavers

SHMU Train – S2/S3 early Interventions

New Business Start Ups are supported and promoted as viable economic opportunities

Greyhope Bay

Victoria Road will be an attractive
Place for residents and visitors

VictoriArt

What key changes have we made?

Community Food Growing

These projects feed into the Aberdeen city food growing strategy 2020-2026 which aims to provide access to everyone in the city to grow their own food and be aware of the benefits of food growing and quality environment across the city.

Tullos Community Garden and Growing Space

Summer 2019 saw the delivery of 12 fun and interactive Outdoor Woodland learning Sessions. 20 families took part with a range of ages involved. We had bug and toy animal hunts, planted and picked vegetables, played games and held storytelling. Built dens and toasted marshmallows, with hot chocolate by the mud kitchen!



On the 6th of July the garden held its first Anniversary bash, with around 70 local people along to celebrate, with fun activities, food and refreshments on offer. We planted an apple tree to mark the day and shared birthday cake with everyone.

A number of Planting and garden maintenance sessions took place with the help of local volunteers and timebank hours from Dragados. Giving a small crop of veggies to share with the community.

In October the Garden group also put on a 'Spooky' Halloween event with some fun, scary activities, a Halloween grotto, games and snacks.

There has been a consistent increase in the number of people coming to use the garden to walk, listen to the birds and for children to play and take part in supported activities.

Lockdown and new restrictions delayed some of the planned projects for 2020, although the group were partners in the Keep Growing Aberdeen - 'Seed Sharing Project' which saw 50 seed packs delivered in Torry and a further 200 city wide.



The **Keep Growing Aberdeen - 'Seed Sharing Project'** ran from April – July 2020 during the pandemic, as a pilot project for the Torry area. To encourage those self-isolating or feeling shut off from nature and their neighbours to take part in a beneficial activity: growing at home and sharing vegetable and flower seedlings within their neighbourhood.

The project was promoted with delivery taking place through E bike and partners, some linked into local food parcel deliveries.

After a successful launch in Torry. The project was rolled out following interest citywide. Seeing 250 packs delivered to individuals and groups across the city. Becoming a collaborative health improvement venture between Community Food Initiative North East of Scotland (CFINE), Tullos Community Garden Group, Aberdeen City Communities Team, One Seed Forward and Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP).

The collaboration sought a variety of outcomes from the projects including:

- Improving mental health and wellbeing during the pandemic,
- Skills and capacity building i.e. knowledge of food growing as a life skill
- Community cohesion and inclusiveness and participation
- Improved dietary habits
- Pro-environmental behaviours
- Developing partnership working,

St Fitticks Growing Space & Orchard

Towards the end of 2019 Cultivate Aberdeen attained the lease of the site on St Fittick's Road next to the golf club. Plans were drawn up with consultation of the community and the next stage was to move ahead with landscaping of the area in the spring of 2020. Cultivate linked in with the Eden Project and Old Torry Community Centre to host a launch event in March 2020. This was a well-attended, vibrant day with soup and sandwiches from Go Green and Cfine, topped off with a visit to the site and entertainment from the Torry Dancers.

Unfortunately, the restrictions around COVID 19 have delayed much of the planned activity on site.

Cultivate Aberdeen Seedling project

Cultivate was successful in securing funding for Grow at Home kits. Cultivate Aberdeen's #GrowAtHome kit was part of our Community Action Response - an initiative to encourage everyone to do what they can to support communities, and particularly vulnerable and isolated individuals during this ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. We wanted to remain true to our vision so we facilitated the ability for people to grow their own - at home! With everything from salad leaves to cress, peppers to chives all being grown for free besides sinks or on kitchen counters when we weren't able to go too far outdoors.



Along with food growing the initiative wanted to support those struggling with the social effects of isolation and therefore created 'grounding techniques' to boost one's resilience to stress and anxiety which were available in every kit. The project was an astounding success and we were inundated with more requests than we could deliver, but by working with other organisations and through the generous funding from both the National Lottery and SHMU Community Support Fund we were able to reach over 500 individuals and families to share some joy for growing and to make steps towards our vision of creating kind, confident, and connected communities through the power of food growing.

School Holiday Food and Fun

In partnership with AFC Community Trust and Sport Aberdeen the children of Torry were again offered the fantastic service of Food and Fun during the summer holidays. Between 15-30 children approximately aged 5-12 were offered a range of activities plus their lunch at Tullos Primary School, thus benefitting their health and offering them a chance to do stimulating activities and mix with their peers. Parents were also delighted with the service as it helped feed their children and gave them a well needed break too. The initiative linked in well with the Big Noise programme which meant that some children almost had a full day of fun at Tullos

A vital partner in the programme was Cfine who contributed the food every day.

Summer 2019 – 975 attendances

October 2019 -

Spring 2020

Due to Lockdown during the Easter break, a different type of provision was put in place, providing for children from Torry and the South who were already attending the Vulnerable Children's Hub. A multi-agency group of staff and partners provided food and an activities programme

Free and Low-Cost meals

- Jesus House's breakfast and supper club providing – feeding 135 people every month
- Go Green Café – Running from Old Torry Community Centre – average 40-50 meals each Friday
- Food and Fun Initiative to address holiday hunger – Summer 2019, October 2019, Winter 2019, Easter 2020
- St Fittick's Church fortnightly Lunch Club – 1,320 low cost meals to older people.

Torry St Fitticks Church



St Fittick's Church provide a range of activities for the local community over and above their church services within the area. Messy Church providing family fun activities with snacks for everyone. Youth and community events provide a base for the Ragamuffin Drama groups running weekly.

Their Lunch Club provide for mainly elderly but is open to everyone. Held fortnightly, on a Wednesday. A team of church volunteers provide a freshly cooked 3 course lunch followed by tea and coffee. Over 60 folk attend, adding up to over 1,320 meals served.

Some of the outcomes reported for those attending are: Reduces loneliness, Increased social interactions, Keeps people involved and active, provides fun and entertainment, Boosts morale and an opportunity to have a proper home-made meal.

Breakfast and Supper Club Jesus House

The breakfast and supper club was in full operation up until April 2020 when Lockdown took hold. Cooked breakfasts and a weekly evening meal were served to on average 135 people every month. The existence of this club has raised hope in the lives of the people in our community. Some have been able to get back to work, others have reduced intake of substance, and others reduced criminal behaviours. Feedback has shown with support from the church and positive social interactions, feeling of anxiety and low self-esteem has have also been reduced.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions they had to stop physical attendance at the club but instead started door to door food parcel distribution to existing club members and others in the community who needed help. They currently distribute food parcels distribution from the church in Glenbervie Road every Saturdays. They are looking forward to starting up the Breakfast and Supper club in the near future (when restrictions allow).

Community food outlets and food parcel distribution

Three main providers of food parcels in the area were operating in Torry over the year to March 2020.

- Community Food Initiatives North East (CFINE) - FareShare free produce distributed - 30 tonnes in Torry equates to 4,285 emergency food parcels, >71,000 meals. However this is not including CFINE's own food bank, which distributed a significant amount of food to Torry residents. There are also a number of CFMs around the city centre who will deal with Torry residents too, however this data reflects those actually based there. COVID 19 continues to pose a major challenge for Cfine. They switched their provision to contactless home delivery and made >500 deliveries in Torry between April 2020 and May 2020
- TLC Foodbank works in partnership with the Trussell Trust and ran from Old Tory Community Centre.
- Jesus House Church distribution of food parcels over the last year.

Best Start Smile Pantry

CFINE, with partners Aberdeen City Council, NHS Grampian, Health and Social Care Partnership and Torry (a regeneration area) community organisations and residents, has opened a Torry Best Start and Smile Community Food Pantry where members can access good quality, nutritious fresh, frozen and ambient food for £2.50 a week with a typical shopping being worth £20 plus.

*Quote from Carole-Anne Duff
NHS Health Professional*

The Best Start and Smile Pantry "has enabled us to work directly with the public (something that we don't always get the opportunity to do) and to work in closer partnership with a third sector organisation."

Key aspects of the programme, in which awareness and practical steps promoting good oral health are integral, include:

- Establishing a 'Healthy Start Community Food Pantry' where those entitled to claim Best Start vouchers (families with young children) can access the range of produce at a greatly reduced cost as well as free FareShare produce.
- Promoting good oral health practice including 'Making Every Opportunity Count', training for all front line public/voluntary sector staff, raising awareness of the importance of oral health and how to 'spot and refer', building on the 'Child Smile' programme.
- A programme of healthy cooking on a budget training targeted at parents with under 5's and including working with Midwifery services on a "Baby Steps" programme targeted at pre- and post- natal women which includes physical activity (walking primarily) and learning to cook healthy, nourishing meals for their families and infants; promoting oral health to be incorporated potentially including further community growing projects, further promoting local, healthy produce.

Adopting 'Test of Change' (Plan, Do, Study, Act) methodology, learning from the Torry experience, will expand and establish the programme in other regeneration areas.

The Best Start and Smile Pantry was launched on 21st November offering a unique shopping opportunity for Families with young children who are eligible for Best Start Foods. With an initial membership of 20, now increased to 60; members can access good quality, nutritious fresh, frozen and ambient food for £2.50 a week with a typical shopping being worth £20 plus. The Pantry includes FareShare produce which varies day to day but a typical includes fruit and veg, baby food pouches, steamed rice packets, bread, milk and juice etc.

Several members are using their Best Start Debit Card to purchase fruit, vegetables and pulses. Recipes, using the Pantry ingredients which are available and members are reporting back how they have got on when they have tried something new. Volunteers are helpful in offering cooking advice

and sharing their low cost, healthy recipes. Members can also access free dental packs, sanitary products, nappies, wipes & toiletries etc.

Sixteen volunteers manage the day to day running of the Pantry shop; they have all been provided with training in Pantry operation processes focusing on requirements and regulation including food hygiene. Key skills in good customer management processes have been outlined and volunteer are trained to identify potential members e.g. primary carer givers, entitled to Best Start vouchers.

Healthy cooking on a pantry budget 5 week course started the first week of March and was attended by 6 mums. Aberlour Child Trust provided a free creche on CFINE premises bedside the kitchen and this was attended by 6 children aged between 7 month and 2 years.

SAFE team referrals are taken by the SAFE team when they attend the pantry or by one of two volunteers who have undergone training in completing the referral form with a member, to pass on to the team. The member is then contacted by the SAFE team and advised or given an appointment as is appropriate.

Due to COVID 19 the Pantry suspended public opening on the 19th of March. Pantry members were all offered home delivered food parcels, dental packs, sanitary and personal hygiene products, nappies, wipes and baby food and formula. During this process of adapting Best Start Pantry members also received a welfare call or email and they have been provided with food and anything they have requested.

Our key achievements and impact

- Aberdeen as a whole has seen an increase in the uptake of Best Start Vouchers, in the Pantry membership alone there has been an increase of 37%
- Local people in or at risk of food poverty have another option to food banks and the opportunity to buy a healthy, affordable shopping whilst sharing with others the benefits of an inviting, supportive space.
- Our hopes are that the pantries will expand across the City and Shire, that our members will help to create these and that the alliances we have made along the way continue to be beneficial and help each other to help those in need.

Old Torry Go Green Project

The Go Green project uses food that would otherwise have gone to waste to create home cooked hot meals which are given away free at the Community Centre. The number of people served is estimated to average to around 40 – 50 people each week. Some users have commented that it is the only proper home made cooked meal that they receive during the week.

Apache North Sea Provided funding to the Centre to primarily for improvements to the Kitchen area in order to support the Go Green Project. As well as improvements to the Kitchen this funding allowed for a general refresh of the centre with internal decorations taking place along with the sanding and re-varnishing of the hall floor.

Old Torry Community Centre

A public access defibrillator has been fitted at the entrance of the centre to be used by the wider community. This was supplied by the charity Red Rox.

The Centre has also had gigafast Fibre Broadband installed as part of the Cityfibre project. This ensures their public access Chrome computers have superfast broadband for activities such as the Pathways employment support services and users can free wifi access as superfast speeds as well.

Balnagask Community Centre

The Association has recently arranged to redecorate the Coffee Bar and Main Hall within the centre and also arrange for a new flooring to be fitted in the Main Hall.

The chairperson of the Association, Hazel McAllen, was Awarded the British Empire Medal in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours list.

The Association ran their usual Summer Playscheme during 2019 which also included trips to Blair Drummonds Safari park, Landmark and the carnivals at Arbroath. Other activities for children included trips to the Circus, while the Parents and Toddlers group went to Scallywags in Stonehaven.

Halloweens and Christmas parties were also organised and trips to visit Santa Claus at local stores were arranged.

For the Adults that use the centre the Prize Bingo nights arranged for gifts to be taken to Balnagask House and Torry Nursing Home, with the Volunteers dressed as Elves and Santa. Adults were also treated to a Hogmanay party to welcome in the New Year and volunteers were treated to celebration at the Caledonian Golf Club.

YOUTH WORK IN SCHOOLS – LOCHSIDE ASG – TORRY

The Youth Work in Schools (YWIS team) work across the Lochside ASG within schools in the Torry, Cove and Kincorth areas. The YWIS team's aim is to engage with young people from P6- S6 delivering a wide range of skills building activities to support their personal and social development.

In partnership with young people, primary schools and Lochside Academy Multi Agency Team, the YWIS team offer one to one sessions to support young people's confidence building, consequential thinking, relationships and managing challenging situations in a positive way.

From August to October 2020, 72 young people have accessed one to one support from the Youth Work in Schools Team

Transition Groups-29 young people from Walker Road and Tullos Primary Schools have taken part in a 10 the YWIS teamek transition group to support their move to secondary education

Confidence to Cook – 6 young people have taken part in Confidence to Cook sessions at Lochside Academy and Deeside Family Centre. This has enabled young people to develop further skills and knowledge around healthy eating on a budget and learn practical cooking skills

During March to August 2020 , the YWIS team supported young people with google classroom, virtual cooking walk and talk sessions, garden visits to promote positive health and being during lockdown and this support continued throughout the Summer break.

The YWIS team supported young people at the Tullos Hub from April – July 2020.

Lochside Academy Art Group – 14 young people attended the art group on a Monday lunchtime. The YWIS team are also part of a joint project supporting the movie group at Tullos Community Centre with Street Sport

STREETSPORT – DENIS LAW TRUST

Torry is a target area of the Denis Law Legacy Trust Streetsport programme and we are delighted that during this time period we have continued to grow our staple sessions and expand into new activity and opportunities.

Sessions have been delivered at Tullos Playing field. Then since its opening in November 2019, our popular Wednesday session moved to the Cruyff court and saw an increase in users and the number of activities we could offer. As soon as the court opened, we were able to offer an additional Tuesday session in line with the community need.

A Total of **4412** participants took part in Streetsport Sessions

With a breakdown of:

Male = 2760 (63%)

Female= 1652 (37%)

Streetsport Multisport Session breakdown - Participations: **2693**

- 05/11/19- 17/03/20 Tuesday 1930-2100 (Cruyff Court Neale Cooper) -Participations: 492
- 03/04/19- 18/03/20 Wednesday 1930-2100 (Tullos School – Cruyff Court Neale Cooper)

Pilot Combat Sport

After conducting participant interest questionnaires, we trialled boxing activity at our multisport sessions, having received funding to purchase equipment from Police Scotland. Those who engaged were invited to participate in a dedicated fitness and boxing session at Tullos School. We then managed to secure a partnership with Aberdeen Muay Thai in Torry. Securing funding for the hire of the space and a facility coach so that the session was free to the young people we signposted.

From 04/11/19- 19/03/20 there were **456** Participations in this activity.



Young Promoters Squad

From October 2019 until March 2020, in partnership with North East Arts Touring, we set up a group whose task was to organise a series of cinema screenings and professional theatre performances in the Torry community. Meeting weekly to organise events and take part in related activities. An art group, set up in collaboration with the youth work team at Lochside produced marketing material

and art to promote the events. Our event group -the Young Promoters Squad was made up of 10 young people of various ages. After a successful cinema screening the group was preparing for a live theatre performance of 'Space Ape' but unfortunately this had to be postponed. Our Grinch Cinema Screening had 40 attendees and at the Snow Queen was watched by Primary 1,2 and 3's pupils.

Dance Classes

We also ran a free dance class at Tullos School, but when funding came to an end, we were able to secure more to allow us to support the Lochside dance group with 367 attendances. We supplied a dance instructor who helped support the PE staff member and the group of pupils to create choreography for a dance competition. This took place at Mackie Academy on the 27th of February 2020.

114 young people from Torry primaries took part in Kickstarter sessions, encouraging them to get involved in the project as well as members of the Wednesday sessions taking part in the Annual Sport Di Strada tournament at ASV.

Greyhope Bay

In May of 2019, the board took the decision to increase fundraising capacity and engaged a further consultant to work alongside Fiona McIntyre in developing a fundraising campaign and support the implementation of a fundraising strategy. In August 2019, Greyhope Bay launched a new campaign focused on creating opportunities for communities, organisations and individuals.

A membership framework was developed that allowed business, organisations and individuals to join as members and be part of Greyhope Bay. This structure created four membership levels - ADMIRALS, SKIPPERS, CREW and BAYWATCHERS and an ever-evolving cross community collaboration that has led to investors getting in on the ground, hosting fundraising events and Skippers, who meet weekly, shaping the project programme and strategy.

By October 2019 commitments of funds and in-kind contributions had been raised to cover over a third of capital costs. This was achieved through the membership programme, including skipper fundraising events and commitments to provide funds and in-kind contributions as part of the design/build phase. In celebration, Greyhope Bay hosted a community event and fundraiser at Torry Battery with over 700 visitors joining in the fun-filled family event.

Building Community

Greyhope Bay leads by building community, it was through crafting a way to connect individuals, businesses and community leaders and creating opportunities to be part of the project that fundraising skyrocketed.

Community empowerment has developed and been identified as one of Greyhope Bay's core values, which means creating structures for community ownership and space for the community to lead. Greyhope Bay membership

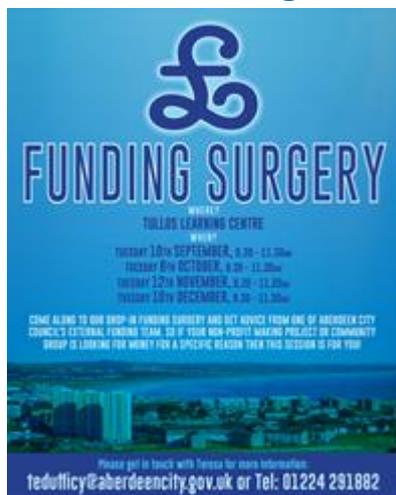
includes a free access model (Greyhope Baywatchers) offering Greyhope Crew membership benefits to the immediate community of Torry and Balnagask and ownership of a community events calendar.

Our community have taken the lead in crafting events from bike rides, afternoon teas, treasure hunts, santa stand up paddle races and beach cleans to both fundraise and offer multiple opportunities to be a part of the project.

Greyhope Bay's ongoing fundraising success through the membership framework and building community has led to strengthened applications to larger grant funders. Greyhope Bay successfully secured £38,000 from Suez Communities Trust in February 2020, with further significant applications to Scottish Water, SNH Year of Coast and Waters, Aberdeen Harbour and Opportunity North East.

A new project manager was appointed to manage the project build and design team with the aim of submitting a building warrant application, finalising detailed designs for the construction and operation of an off-grid facility. This work has included the development of a bespoke green power system that will use alternative energy solutions including solar, battery and eventually wind - designed and built by JCE Energy at no cost to Greyhope Bay. The project aims to be operational at Torry Battery by the end of 2020.

External funding - Torry Funding Surgeries



Between April 2019 and February 2020, 15 community groups attended funding surgeries in Torry, with some groups attending more than once. These surgeries were organised through close working between the Community Development Officers and External Funding Officers at Aberdeen City Council. Two groups were successful in applying for the Wee Grants for Wee Groups funds from the Robertson Trust in January 2020, after attending funding surgeries in December 2019. Another group were successful in their application to the Community Festive Fund and a further group was supported to apply and successfully granted an Awards for All Grant from the National Lottery. These outcomes help to deliver on the Torry Locality Plan and bring in funds for delivering activities in the area.



Other organisations were supported to apply for funding but were not successful. However, the content in these applications can be kept and used to support future applications. Other groups received information about potential funding sources.

Feedback from those who attended included:

- *“The help is much appreciated.”*
- *“The funding meeting was very useful, and it has led us to have discussions in our committee as to whether we should move to a different structure to access more funding.”*
- *“Links she provided for Funding Scotland has meant we have put in an application with another funding group from there.”*

The most successful groups appear to be those who have attended more than one funding surgery – this could be because there is more time to develop ideas and discuss potential funding opportunities.

VictoriArt



The Victoriart Road Group have continued to brighten Torry’s streets and buildings. Commissioning several new murals, involving local pupils and residents in art and wellbeing projects in the area.

Pupils at Tullos Primary School had a brilliant time in September 2019, helping artist ‘Fit Like’ complete an extensive mural, funded by Tesco bags for life. Depicting shining herring and pupil handprints as part of the colourful ocean inspired design.

The group launched a Mural Health Walk on 28th Sept 2019. Starting at the Victoria Road bridge along to Nigg Bay Golf Club with 15 local people taking part. Planned workshops on t-shirt printing, using a tufting gun, stone painting and collage, linked to the art on show will take place once restrictions are lifted.

The Mural Health Walk Project tells a story about Torry and local people around the theme of health and well-being. It centres on a series of new artworks scattered along Victoria Road in Torry, creating a treasure trail of art. Artists (Isla Wade, Quarry Wood and KMG) engaging with partners at the Marine Laboratory, Carpet shop on Victoria Road and Nigg Bay Golf Club. The group felt this was a great opportunity to enhance the attractiveness of Victoria Road. These artworks will be added to an online and physical map of local street art in Torry and form part of the new walking route for people to improve their health while enjoying some art.

The group has also secured funding to run a pebble painting workshop for children and adults during summer 2019 in the Tullos Community Wildlife Garden.

More exciting projects are on the way. Including painting recycling bins and colourful painted stairways; like those at the St Nicholas Centre have been funded through HIF and local raffles. However, due to the current restrictions these projects are currently on hold.

OUR PEOPLE



Our People Drivers

Priority Aim

Primary Drivers

Areas where we have made changes during 2017/18

Our Children and Young People will have equal opportunities to achieve in life

We will close the gap between our children entering P1 and the *Aberden Average*

We will close the Attainment Gap

Torry Hub Development

Early Years Expansion

Priority Families

BIG NOISE

Food and FUN & Free School Meals

Pupil Equity Fund

Skate Park

Our Young People will have facilities and services that meet their needs

We will reduce the levels of dependency on alcohol and drugs in our community

Torry Alcohol and substance misuse Improvement project

We will improve the mental and sexual health in our community

Bounce Back

Torry Medical Practice

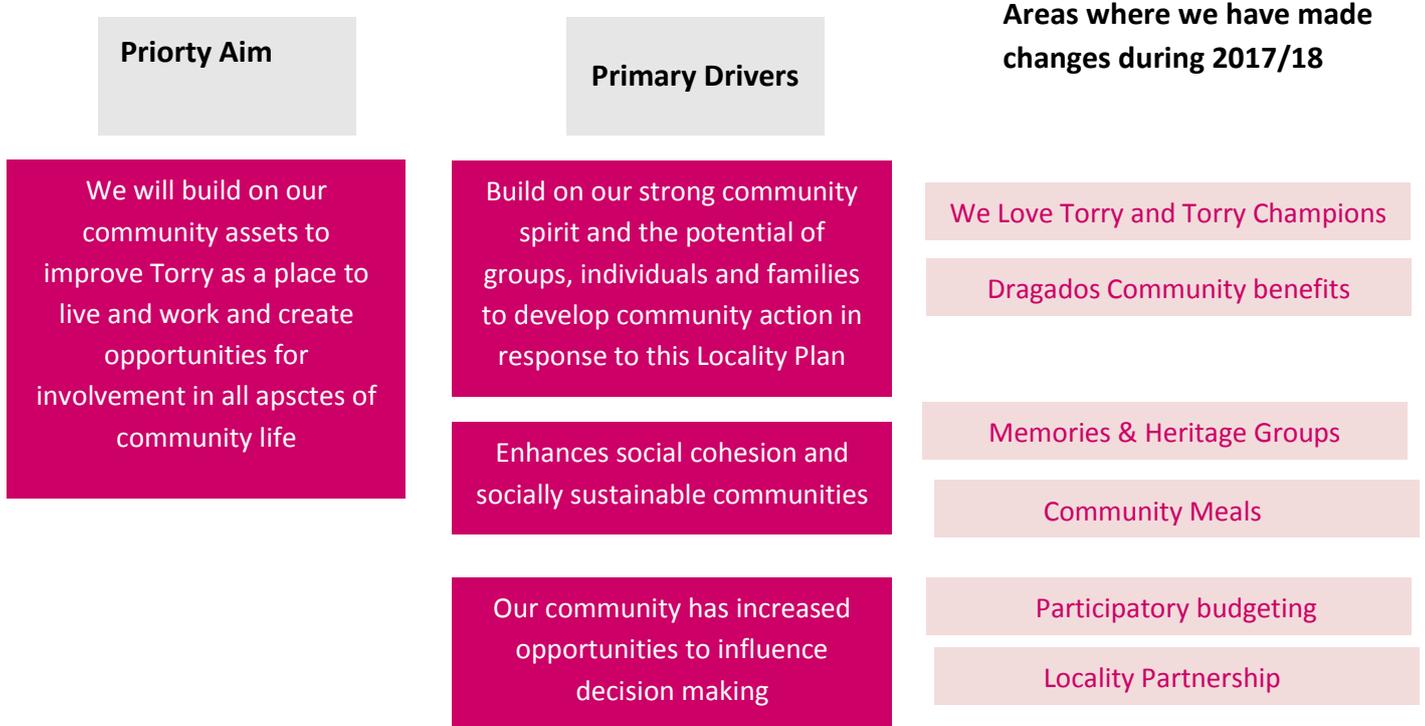
We will improve the health and wellbeing of the community

Community Led Action

Jog Torry

Our Community is kept safe and protected from harm

TYAG and Operation Smallwood



What Key Changes we have made?

Torry Adult Counselling

Torry Adult Counselling provides professional, client-led counselling to people living in Torry. Clients are most frequently referred by the two GP practices working within the TNC but often clients can simply refer themselves via a very simple application form, obtainable at the Reception at the TNC. They delivered counselling to 161 clients in Torry, referred by GP practices and other health workers, social work, education, police and other agencies working either in the Torry Neighbourhood Centre (TNC) or in the area (home-visiting) as well as self-referrals - 989 counselling sessions were provided. 1 volunteer involved in the delivery of the service, contributing 98 hours. Over the years, the project has grown into a community resource to all people in the Torry neighbourhood. The counsellor reported that she worked with 5 people who required help with accessing PIP

Geronimo - Time to Play

Geronimo- Time to Play is a ten-week project for parents and their early years children (0-5 years) to play and be creative together, in Torry. This valuable time together helps create positive attachment, supporting the early stages of learning, loving and creating together. Nurturing these relationships at this key time can have a lifelong impact and can make a significant difference to childhood development, self-esteem and lead to increased academic achievement as they grow up.



Around 30 children and parents were involved in this project. Almost all (90%) of parents reported increased confidence in joining in with their children's play and learning.

Healthy Minds

The Healthy Minds team is part of the council’s Community Learning and Development service and is funded by the Health and Social Care partnership and NHS Grampian.



They aim to assist adults with enduring mental health illness to access learning opportunities within Aberdeen City and support and encourage learners to get involved in their community by accessing learning opportunities to promote their recovery.

In the last year they have supported learners with a wide range of opportunities including Gardening at the Grove, Basic and Intermediate Guitar, Writing Groups, Craft, Walks and Art.

One learner said *“When you reach an all-time low, something like this really gives you a sense of self-worth.”*

The Branching Out Programme takes part in partnership with the Countryside Rangers and the Forestry Commission. This project supports learners to gain skills and build confidence over a 10-week programme. Some learners then support future courses as peer mentors. Learners from across all localities attend this group. One learner said the group helped them be *“More assertive, less anxious.”*

Some Statistics

- 96% of learners report improved confidence
- 98% of learners report improved skills
- One learner completed their Adult Achievement Award
- Locality 1 Total enrolments 74 Learner Hours 678

COERCIVE CONTROL AWARENESS-RAISING

Communities Torry staff invited Grampian Women’s Aid to deliver two ‘Coercive Control Awareness Raising’ training sessions on the 14th of May 2019 over an afternoon and evening session.

This training, part of a Scotland wide awareness raising campaign, targeted local workers, highlighting changes to the Coercive Control and Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018. Which came into force in April 2019. Twenty-two staff from a variety of organisations and roles attended: including midwives, housing support, health and social care roles, communities and youth work staff.

The two-hour session provided participants with an understanding of Coercive Control as a specific form of intimate partner abuse, explaining the characteristics of this abuse.

Participants gained information on the main components of the act and how to support women to report and gain help in these situations. Reporting positive feedback with a better understanding of the legislation changes, advice for clients involved, and how to signpost on for help.



Torry Alcohol and Drugs Misuse Project

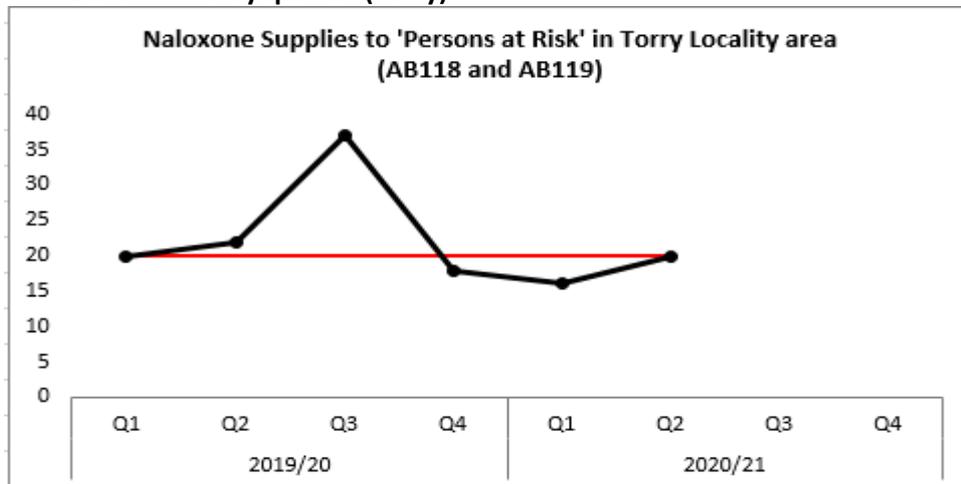
The Locality Partnership is now working with Aberdeen Drugs Partnership and other partners to develop two LOIP improvement projects being piloted in Torry

- Increasing access to Naloxone to avert overdose deaths - “Reduce the incidence of fatal drug overdose by innovative developments and increasing the distribution of naloxone by 10% by 2021”
- Reducing the number of births to opiate addicted mothers.
Due to difficulties engaging relevant partners and data. This charter is currently on hold.

The Torry community embraced a test of change to highlight the importance of having Naloxone available in their community and these figures demonstrate the good work done in this last year. The COVID restrictions have impacted on the ability for face to face discussions regarding Naloxone but measures are now in place to allow alternatives, and we would want to ensure Torry have these opportunities available in the next quarter

A variety of methods were being implemented to increase the provision of Naloxone training and kits to individuals at risk, their families and friends. Those who may be at the scene or in a position to respond in crisis situations. Staff working in situations with at risk individuals were also targeted for training and awareness raising sessions, which will continue once restrictions are reduced. Access channels to Naloxone Kits have also been widened to allow increased and easier access.

Naloxone Community Supplies to "Persons at Risk" - AB118 and AB119 by quarter (Torry)



Also, as part of the Drug and Alcohol Improvement Project Torry Three Drug information training sessions were delivered by the ‘Scottish Drugs Forum’ – coordinated by SHMU

- 6 Feb 2020 – Trauma Informed Practice with people who use substances (15 attendees)
- 7 Feb 2020 -General Drug Awareness Training (20 attendees)
- 3 March 2020– Understanding Stigma- Promoting inclusive attitude and practice. (20 attendees)

Boogie in the Bar

Boogie in the Bar became a regular feature in the Torry social calendar with the dementia and disability friendly boogie taking place on the second Thursday of every month at the White Cockade in Torry.

Some boogie fans hailed from the local care homes, others were isolated elderly who wanted to socialise and listen to tracks from their youth. The boogie started with a soup and sandwich lunch on arrival while requested tracks from the 50's and 60's played in the background. After the lunch and snacks were over, dancers took to the floor. The range of requests went from Abba to Frank Sinatra to Andy Stewart to Elvis and even to AC/DC! Some of the older members had fun teaching the younger care workers the slosh while our resident volunteer DJ Javier Buron from Dragados led on the Macarena. Sessions would often draw to a close with a circle of boogiers dancing along to Runrig's "Loch Lomond".



Sadly the boogie was one of the first thing to close due to covid but like many community activities it went online with the aptly named "Boogie in Yer Living Room".

Here is hoping covid is over soon and the boogies will be back in the real world as our older residents have had so much to contend with over recent months.

Community Cooking projects

Torry Tasters – Family Cooking Sessions



Torry Tasters – Family cooking sessions were part of a wider Improvement project. Aiming to increase the uptake of free school meals in the Torry area.

As a lead up to these sessions, workshops were held in both Tullos and Walker Road Primary – asking children how they felt about school meals, which they would like to cook if given the opportunity. School assemblies, information stalls at parents' nights, also highlighting 'Veg cities campaign' promoting the project. Delivered jointly by Communities Team with CFINE. Having secured £2000 Health Improvement Grant funding.

Chef Spotless, the mascot created for the project, has been popular with pupils, encouraging interest in the uptake of school meals.

17 Cooking sessions have been delivered to total of 20 families taking part in 3 community kitchen venues. A variety of health and money saving topics were also included as part of the sessions. Including Oral health and reducing food waste.

Families cooked a range of 12 recipes from the school meal summer and winter menu', including: Singapore noodles, Vegetarian frittata, Chicken Korma, lentil soup and soda bread. With a few additional recipes contributed by the 'Torry memories and Heritage group'.

A colourful, family recipe booklet has also been produced as part of the promotion of school meal recipes with photos from the sessions. 800 booklets have been given to all families at Walker Road and Tullos Primaries and to Cfine Food Pantry, marking the end of the project.

Highlights and benefits of the project

- Pre- workshops in school -engaging children in what would like to cook, and highlighting veg city campaign
- Filming of a cooking session by BBC Scotland which appeared on Grampian news.
- Positive relationships the groups built up over their sessions
- Additional info delivered as part of sessions
- Certificates given to all adults and children who took part
- Template of this project was requested by another school and has been used successfully on the Healthy Me at Northfield Academy with Kyle Hewitt, Child Healthy Weight team.

Some participant feedback:

"Fun and good to work as a family."

"very helpful people. good atmosphere."

"I liked everything."

Jog Torry

JOG TORRY

Jog Torry went from strength to strength over the year. Two new beginners "couch to 5km" courses were run and existing members integrated and supported new members really well. Routes round Torry and beyond were explored although a favourite destination was the Torry Battery and "bagging" the Oor Wullies on the way.

The clear links between physical health and mental health were demonstrated in the group as anecdotally group members remarked on how running was not only leading to weight loss and reduction in lethargy but they also remarked on a boost in mood. With mental health in mind Jog Leaders also completed the Jog Scotland mental health training.

Original members who had gone on to complete the Jog Leader Training then volunteered to run a Jog Scotland group at Tullos for the children there, thus supporting their own community even further.



The highlights of the year was the feel good Santa Run at the Sports Stadium and group members sporting their Jog Torry t-shirts and taking part in the Aberdeen half marathon.

Torry Youth Action Group and Operation Smallwood

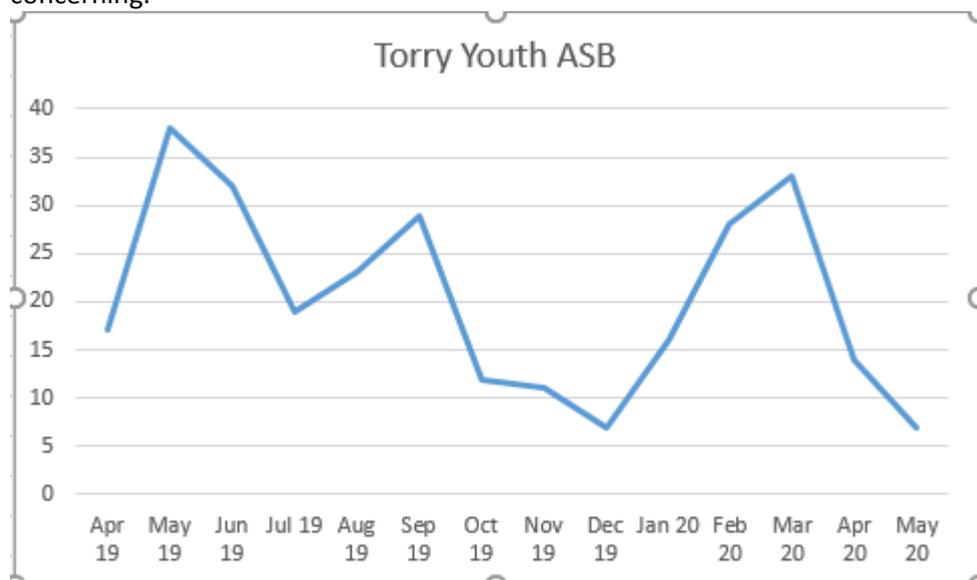
During 2019 the TYAG achieved the refurbishment and opening of a vacant unit at the Finnan Street Shops for use as a local youth work base. In one of the local hotspots for YAB. It opened on a limited weekly basis, staffed by workers from the ACC Street work team. While open the area saw a ----% reduction in YAB calls proving a huge success in engaging those hard to reach young people.

However due to staff changes the unit was only able to open for a short time until December 2019. Following this setback, the group were working towards the reopening of the Unit to provide a safe working environment for youth workers as well as a focal point for the community which could be used for a variety of different activities. With interest from -Community Wardens, Priority Families as well as after school provision in using the facility to work with young people and other vulnerable groups within the community.

Those involved felt the Unit had been a wonderful asset in reducing ASB and were working towards the addition of a multi-agency provision to develop a sustainable project for Young people, in anticipation of the new Community Hub opening. Funding streams for the reopening of this facility were being explored prior to the lockdown coming into force which brought developments to a halt. Over the requested period, ASB calls were recorded at well under one per day, with 286 calls recorded of an antisocial nature, which is a great figure to have and these call types range from anything like shouting in the street, general annoyance calls, to acts of vandalism or drug misuse. This low figure shows the longer term benefits of the work that is being done within the community providing the support to the right people who require it the most.

The Police closely monitored these calls and reacted to the emerging trends by carrying out high visibility patrols, working with partner agencies to support those affected and to provide diversionary activities, such as the opening of the Cruyff pitch, to stop any minor irritations becoming a major issue. During the time frame, there were 91 instances where youths were dealt with for criminal acts and reported to the Youth Justice Management Unit for a disposal decision. These offences ranged from juvenile assaults to drug possession offences. It should be noted that under current Criminal Justice legislation, a youth is defined as anyone under the age of 18 so this figure may be appear higher than would be anticipated. 19 of these offences are attributed to one individual so again this figure is somewhat inflated. To shorten AM

The only real spikes were in August 19 - (9 calls to the Old Torry Academy) and September 2019 - (6 calls to the RS McColls at Finnan Brae), beyond that, the calls were routine and nothing that was concerning.



Torry Dancers

April 2019 saw the dancers busy practising for their Summer Showcase giving families a chance to enjoy the new routines/skills the girls had learned over the last year and a wonderful opportunity for the dancers to perform on a stage. The senior dancers were once again invited to perform at the Beach Ballroom for an ACC award ceremony in June last year and as always did a great job of showcasing the wonderful talent and commitment of the Torry Dancers. It was a very busy month with the dancers performing for their families at Tullos Primary School which was a great free evening which went well from start to finish and was very well received by the audience. In July some of the Dancers went along to support the Greyhope Bay promotion day.

As soon as the pupils were back to school in August the dancers once again took part in the Celebrate Aberdeen Parade, which, as always was great fun. Next came Xmas where once again they had a free party at Nigg Bay Golf Club for all the dancers. A great time was had by all.

2020 started with rehearsals for the RSPB Scottish week of promotions. Luckily in March they managed to perform for Cultivate Aberdeen in Old Torry Community Centre which was fantastic.



Bonny Torry

A group of local residents wanted to celebrate a positive image of Torry and what better way to do that than recreate the Bonny Torry competition? This had been a hit in the past so with that in mind and support from Cove in Bloom who had launched a similar event in Cove the group got stuck in. Walker Road school was approached for the children to do a poster competition to advertise the event. The Bonny Torry group was blown away with the quality and quantity of entries and a winner was picked, posters were produced and the community was engaged.

There were three categories – front garden, back garden and community garden and Torry Memories and Heritage group produced framed winners certificates while the Community Council contributed towards the trophy. the cup and certificates were presented at a feel-good afternoon tea at Provost Hogg Court.



Torry Teen pregnancy LOIP project

Although parenthood is a positive experience for many young people, it is associated with increased risk of a range of poor social, economic and health outcomes for some. The Pregnancy and Parenthood in Young People (PPYP) Strategy aims to drive actions that will decrease the cycle of deprivation associated with pregnancy in young people under 18 and provide extra support for all of Scotland's young parents.

The teen pregnancy LOIP charter for Torry is one approach that aims to drive action to improve outcomes for young people and reduce rates of teen pregnancy in the locality. South locality data of 25.7 crude rate per 1,000 females aged 15-19 indicates that this is comparable to the national rate which is set as one of the poorest rates in Europe.

OUR PLACE



Our Place Drivers

Priority Aim	Primary Drivers	Areas where we have made changes during 2017/18
<p>Our Community is Safe, Clean and we can move around easily and safely</p>	<p>We can Move around Torry easily and safely</p>	<p>Traffic and Air Quality management on Victoria Road</p>
	<p>The Community is Tidy and well maintained</p>	<p>Keep Torry Tidy</p>
	<p>The Community is resilient</p>	<p>Living Streets</p>
<p>We have access to affordable fit for purpose well maintained housing which we can sustain</p>	<p>We will deliver high quality social housing estates and housing services</p>	<p>Housing Estate Upgrades</p>
	<p>We will deliver additional affordable housing that meets resident's needs</p>	<p>Torry Hub</p>
	<p>There are increased opportunities to access high quality fit for purpose facilities</p>	<p>Former Phoenix – 258 NBR</p>
	<p>Community Ownership of assets</p>	<p>Community Growing Spaces</p>
<p>We will increase the promotion, quality and use of our greenspace and heritage</p>	<p>We will improve and promote our Greenspace</p>	<p>Torry Battery</p>
	<p>We will celebrate and promote our Heritage</p>	<p>Memories and Heritage Groups</p>
	<p>We will improve children and young people's play experiences</p>	<p>Park Upgrades</p>

Brimmond Court Backie

The residents committee had an eventful and productive year at Brimmond Court. Besides their indoor social events including bingo and zumba as well as themed party events around about such days as Burns night, they got going on the outside of their building. They managed to secure funding



from HIF and started making their outdoor area a welcoming place for residents to catch some outside sunshine. Neighbours from the other tower block were also welcomed to their new benches – all funded by Health Improvement Fund (HIF). Brimmond entered into Britain and Bloom and Bonny Torry under the community garden section and were over the moon to receive certificates and recognition.

This year was to be extra special for the residents as it marked the 50 year anniversary of the building of the block. With that in mind they were assisted in applying for an Awards for All grant and were delighted to be given funding for celebrations. Sadly some of that has since been curtailed due to covid. But the plans are still there to hold a bash when conditions allow.

Community Asset Transfer - Former Phoenix- 258 NBR

Kings Community Foundation have been working with their local steering group, council staff and partners, to complete the second stage of refurbishment to the former 'Phoenix' building in the heart of Balnagask.

Their aim is to create a vibrant, inclusive, multi-functional centre. Delivering a wide range services and groups targeting the whole community: young people, family support, social isolation, employability and addiction services. With levels of anti-social behaviour and poverty significantly higher in this area of Torry. The centre will, as part of a planned approach, hope to deliver solutions to tackle these issues.

The foundation has secured funding for a part time centre manager and are in discussion with a range of organisations including the Princess Trust, to help deliver services.

Further developer contribution monies have now been agreed, along with the signing of a 3-year lease for the building, leading to a proposed asset transfer in the future.

Extensive planned works will include a new kitchen and café area, remodelling of the ground floor, new toilet facilities, general upgrades, reflooring and decoration throughout. Works will be in three phases, taking an estimated 16 weeks to complete. Community Involvement will be key to the Centre's success and the driver behind the work it delivers.

The renovation of the physical building and readapting the space to provide a community café.

- Provide a community facility that is available and displays value to the community.
- Offering a space for the community to meet and use.
- Having a community café open for people to enjoy affordable refreshments.
- Offering the café and other spaces to be available for local community groups.
-

The provision of enhanced services from the café to benefit the local community.

- Offering cooking on a budget and healthy living workshops from the café kitchen.
- Opening the café for young people to use.

Providing inter-generational services to reduce social isolation and enhance social cohesion.

- The coordination of a weekly programme that provides opportunities for the marginalised and vulnerable in the community to be included and supported.
- Providing post school learning and employment opportunities.
- Offering a debt management and advice service.
- Providing IT training and offering the use of a computers for the community.
- Providing ESOL for the community.
- Working in partnership with the community and other charities to develop a programme of services from the building.



Cruyff Court Neale Cooper

On November 22nd, 2019, Torry hosted the celebrations to mark the official opening of Aberdeen's second Cruyff Court in Tullos. The £250,000 facility, which is named after late Dons legend Neale Cooper, has been built next to Tullos Primary School along with an upgrade of the existing multi-use games area on the Tullos pitches on Girdleness Road.



In addition to the artificial AstroTurf pitch, the courts include a hard surface pitch with the following features: with a solar lit path and a disabled access ramp to ensure accessibility.

- Basketball with adjustable hoops, Mini tennis, Dodgeball and Freestyle Football and an area for outdoor gym equipment

This project will support the delivery of several key strategic objectives through:

- Increasing the no. of individuals taking care of their own health and wellbeing.
- Decreasing the incidence of anti-social behaviour in the surrounding areas.
- Increased opportunities to high quality, fit for purpose facilities.
- To provide opportunities for young people to volunteer and develop employability skills.

Streetsport and the Cruyff Foundation will offer diversionary, plus coaching and volunteering schemes which are designed to provide improved opportunities for local residents to develop their confidence and employability skills through their Heroes of the Cruyff Court programme and Cruyff Foundation Coach course.

Funding to support the project came from Partners:

- £250,000 from the Aberdeen City Council non-housing capital programme
- £50,000 from the Cruyff Foundation
- £50,000 in kind contribution from the Denis Law Legacy Trust

The site sits adjacent to the Tullos Primary School, one of several anti-social behaviour 'hot spots' in the area identified by Police Scotland. Since opening It has been noted, based on community safety analysis, that the increase of provision has a positive effect on the levels of anti-social behaviour in the area.

Graham Hunter compered the event while members of the Gothenburg Greats, ex-Barcelona, Tottenham and Aberdeen player Steve Archibald and, of course, footballing legend and patron of the charity, Denis Law, were among those to attend.

Chairman of the Denis Law Legacy Trust, Graham Thom, said: "We're delighted to be marking the opening of Aberdeen's second Cruyff Court and to be honouring the memory of Neale Cooper, one of the city's most-loved sporting sons.

"The investment made by the Council and the Cruyff Foundation has created a wonderful facility and through our Streetsport team we look forward to bringing a range of activities to the community, with support and encouragement to get involved and enjoy new opportunities."

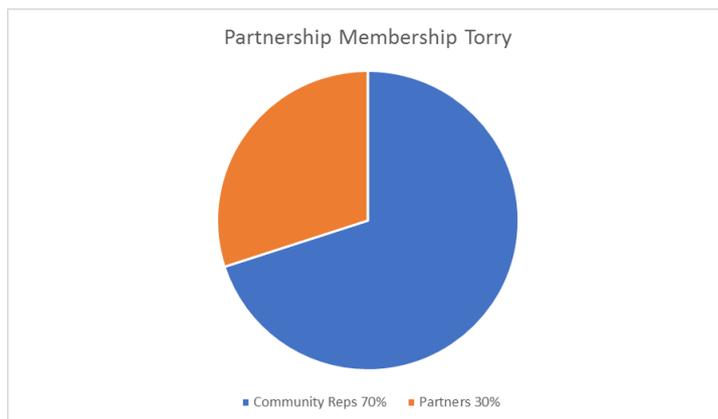


Locality Partnership and Key Contacts

A consistent priority for the Locality Partnership since it was established in early 2017 has been to maximise the role of the local community in progressing the Plan. Whilst our target is 50% community representation, in the past year we have increased community representation on the Locality Partnership from 62% of overall membership to 70% of overall membership. The Partnership has successfully attracted local membership from a diverse cross section of the community

Membership

- 9 Community Representatives
- 1 Community Project Representative – Big Noise
- 4 Local Councillors
- 1 City Council Representative
- 1 Police Scotland Representative
- 1 AHSCP Representative
- 1 ACVO / Third Sector Representative
- 1 Active Aberdeen Partnership Representative
- 1 Local Head Teacher



For all enquiries in relation to this report, or about Locality Planning, please contact the Locality Team in the first instance by emailing: CoWright@aberdeencity.gov.uk



Community Planning
Aberdeen

Northfield, Mastrick, Middlefield,
Cummings Park and Heathryfold
Locality Plan Annual Report
2019 – 2020
(Draft)





Wildflowers in Heathryfold Park next to new housing at Manor Walk

INTRODUCTION

As a local resident, I have been involved in the Northfield Total Place Locality Partnership Board since April 2017. I was elected Chairperson in May 2018.

Again, I would like to say what a privilege it is to be part of a group that has the best interests of Northfield, Mastrick, Heathryfold, Cummings Park and Middlefield at the core of their work and activity.

We have been very fortunate to be joined on the group by representatives from Farrans who have kept us up to date on the Haudigan project. Their input and the information they have shared has been very positive as has been their commitment to community engagement.

I would also like to thank our other partners who share so much information that benefits the communities for example, the Health improvement fund, other funding streams and general information.

We also thank our team members who have moved on to other projects and jobs and wish them all the best.

Thanks for taking the time to read our Annual Report.



***Garry McNulty, Chairperson,
Northfield Locality Partnership
Board***

SUMMARY

Northfield Locality Partnership Board has continued to see positive progress on the priorities in their Locality Plan. The Board began to review the priorities in August 2019 in line with the refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan from February 2019. Another review took place in early March 2020 with plans to determine the projects to support delivery scheduled for the end of March. Lockdown and Covid-19 response work have meant specific projects have not been identified although the need to address several priorities has intensified.

Prosperous Economy

Reductions to barriers to employment continue to be supported through the Pathways service providing sessions helping people getting into or back to work. The expansion of provision at Middlefield Nursery has supported people into further education and employment. The Food and Fun project has continued to run during school holiday periods supporting families on low incomes by providing meals during the school holidays.

Expansion of Community Food outlets have continued to be a priority throughout the year as demand for cheap and free food has continued to grow. Indications are that this need is only increasing as a result of Covid-19.

Prosperous People – Children and Young People

The expansion of the Nursery at Middlefield is supporting several children with their early development. Creative Learnings project Geronimo delivered in Mastrick and Cummings Park offered creative ways for parents to play with their children, supporting child development and assisting parents' confidence.

Middlefield Project Youth Hub continues to support several young people and through their activities have positive impacts on mental health and school attendance.

Prosperous People- Adults

Volunteering opportunities and involvement in community activity has been increased in Cummings Park with the establishment of a management committee at Cummings Park Centre. Family Learning staff worked with several families towards achieving the John Muir Award.

Participatory budgeting and Boogie in the Bar provide opportunities for people to become involved as well as contributing to projects for the benefit of the area. A group started to support Syrian Scots expanded to a wider number of women who created and published a Recipe Book.

Prosperous Place

The completion of the housing at Manor Walk has increased the number of affordable homes in the area.

The developments at Heathryfold Park and gardening projects are further enhancing the area creating green spaces for the community to enjoy.

The Haudagain project has seen the demolition of 436 homes to create the way for a new link road. On completion of this part of project, further regeneration is planned with mixture of residential, retail and greenspace featuring through our development partner - Dandara.

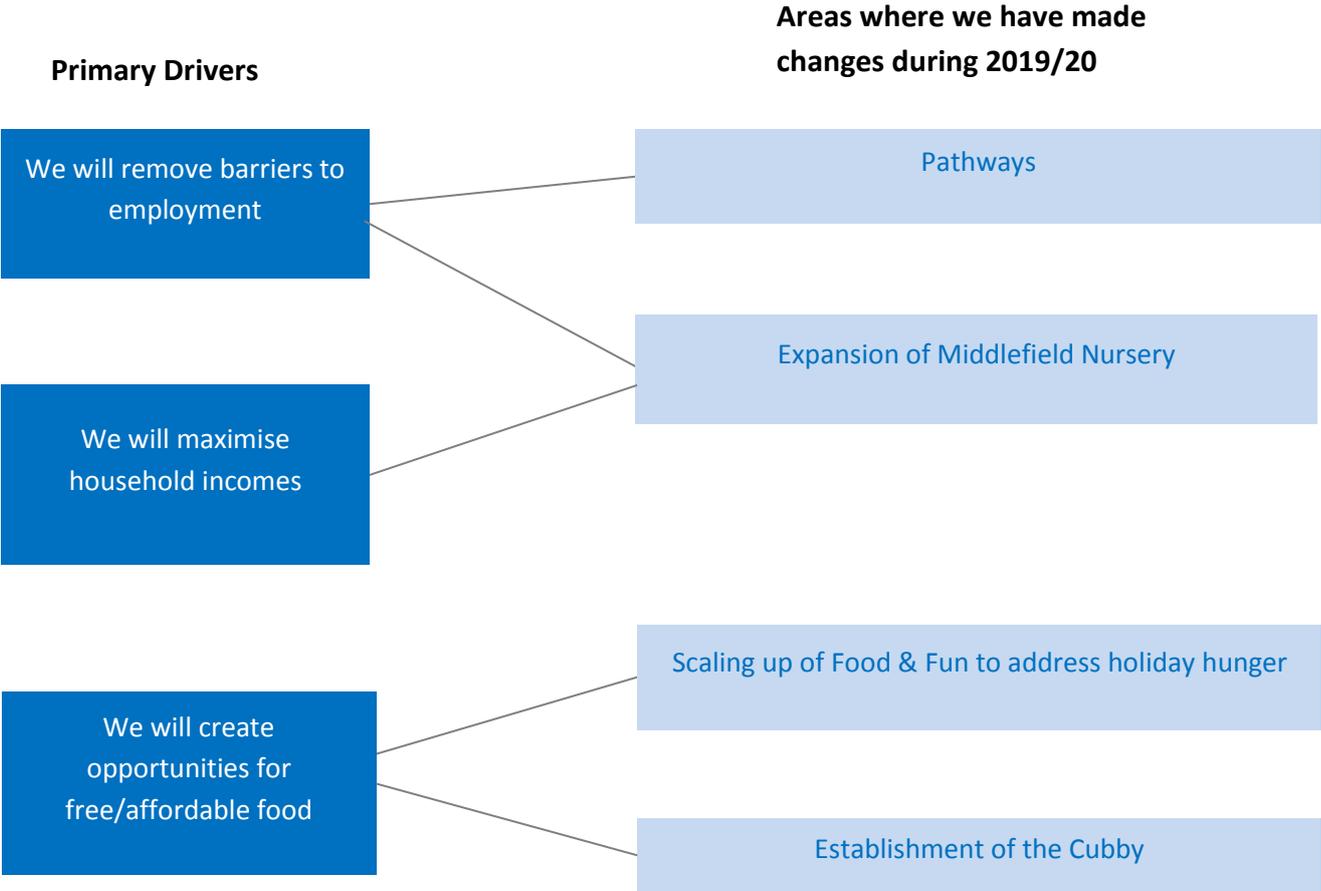
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PROSPEROUS ECONOMY



Priority: We will improve economic performance



What key changes have we made?

Pathways

Pathways have Employability Keyworkers who continue to meet people seeking assistance at weekly sessions at Manor Park Centre, Cummings Park Community Flat, Mastrick and Northfield Community Centres.

Pathways assist people from the age of 16 upwards to identify the job or training that is right for them. Key workers support people to plan job goals, help with CV's, assist in completing application forms and that they also have access to funds to remove barriers to work - clothing or equipment needs.

A total of **107** clients were supported across the area over the year. This is an **increase of 26** over the previous year. The majority received 1-1 support with **80%** being supported into full-time work.

Middlefield Project Nursery

The nursery participated in an Aberdeen City trial offering families the opportunity of extended nursery hours for their children prior to the planned roll out in August 2020. All children were offered the benefits of the full 1140 hours (potentially 30 hours of childcare per week). Working, college parents and families considered to be most vulnerable were also offered the opportunity of the extended hours too. A total of 72 children from the ages of 2 to 5 attended the Nursery throughout the year.

Families benefited from flexible options with having the full hours as either term time nursery sessions or having shorter term time sessions and their child then attending during the school holidays too. This has helped many families financially. Several parents commented that the extra funded hours had enabled them to have career or college opportunities that they would not have been able to previously have.



"Financially this is life changing as I am not having to pay for my childcare now"



"This has a positive impact for me and my family".

Food and Fun

The Food and Fun project has continued to be delivered during the school holidays.

The programme in Northfield has again been supported by ACC Communities Team staff along with partner agencies Sport Aberdeen through their Active Schools Co-ordinators, coaches, volunteers and senior pupil leaders; Police Scotland, Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust coaches and volunteers also ACC Youth Work and Family Learning workers.



Delivery moved to Cummings Park Centre both during the summer and October school holidays. This has successfully led to the involvement of parent volunteers with 2 during the summer holidays increasing to 7 for the October break.



Two parents successfully attended Food Hygiene training and received their REHIS certificates.

Eight volunteers went on to organise and hold a Festive Party at Christmas for 40 children.

Once again on Christmas Eve 2019 Sport Aberdeen hosted an event at the Beach Leisure Centre. This time it was a family event with children and parents attending. Coaches to and from the venue were provided through AFCCT, a soup and sandwich lunch was provided by CFINE, and selection packs for all children was provided by Sport Aberdeen.

Supported by CFINE, local families were provided with the opportunity to access food parcels which could be collected in the days before Christmas. A successful funding application meant that fresh meat packs could be added to this supported by a local butcher. For 40 families this ensured that limited incomes could stretch a little further at this time.

Community Food

All the community and learning centres across the area serve as distribution points for FareShare food that is delivered by CFINE.

Cummings Park Centre has continued their partnership with Tesco's Cloud and collects food that would otherwise go to landfill at least 3 times per week. Foodstuffs vary but there is usually bread and a range of fresh produce that can be collected by anyone who needs it. With the centre having to close as a result of Covid-19 they have continued to collect food and deliver to Instant Neighbour to support their food parcel distribution.

Manor Park Centre now has a small community fridge allowing more fresh produce to be distributed locally.

Northfield Community Centre operates a Food Bank twice weekly in partnership with CFINE.

Mastrick Community Centre also collect from Tesco and Greggs food that would otherwise go to landfill for local collection. The centre has experienced growing demand from families with young children and in addition to food offer clothing and toiletries to those in need.

The Cubby

Together with six local volunteers, Community Development and Centre based staff with support from CFINE, have set up 'The Cubby' at Cummings Park Centre. The aim was 'to develop a food distribution pick up point at Cummings Park Community Centre, open twice a week -one weekday morning and one afternoon from April 2020.'

This has been achieved with a small room decorated and two commercial sized fridges and two freezers purchased to increase the variety of foods available. This is now a well-equipped space which has extended the amount and range of FareShare and other fresh, frozen and ambient (dried goods and tinned) foodstuffs that can be distributed.

The Cummings Park area was chosen as there was no readily accessible food bank in the immediate neighbourhood.

By March 2020, 34 households which consists of 65 adults & 63 children have registered to use The Cubby.

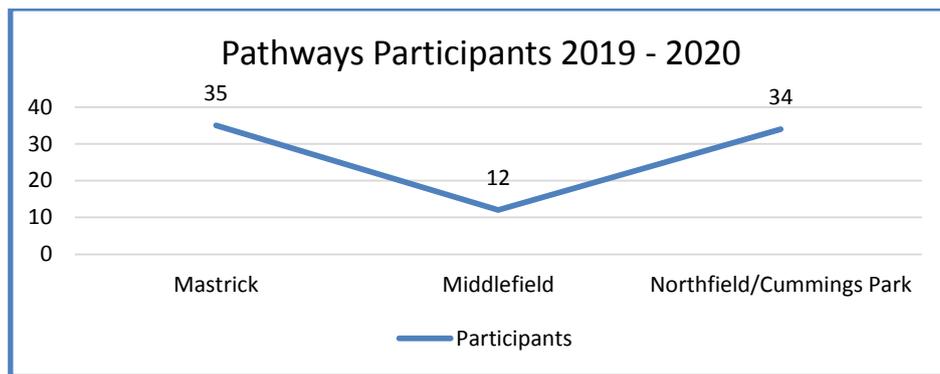
The dedicated space used by the Cubby has increased the capacity to support families and individuals with signposting to other appropriate agencies for any additional necessary supports. More personal conversations are now possible – previously food was distributed from the open foyer area.

The development of The Cubby has had to be stopped due to Covid-19 restrictions. Support to families by food distribution will be the first project to be started again at Cummings Park Centre when all necessary precautions can be in place.

Are our changes resulting in improvement?

Improving Economic Performance

PATHWAYS participants



81 people across the area were supported in returning to work

PROSPEROUS PEOPLE

Children & Young People

Adults



Priority: We will improve quality of life

Areas where we have made changes during 2019/20

Primary Drivers

We will support child development

We will improve Community Safety (Youth Diversionary Activities)

We will increase community involvement

Middlefield Nursery

Geronimo Project

Middlefield Youth Hub

Volunteering

John Muir Trust Award

Participatory Budgeting

Boogie in the Bar

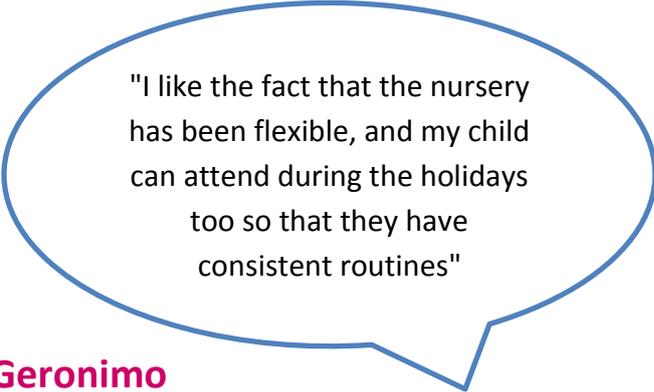
Women's Group & Recipe Book

What key changes have we made?

Middlefield Nursery

With the Nursery expansion working, college parents and families considered to be most vulnerable were offered the opportunity of the extended hours too. Families benefited from flexible options with having the full hours as either term time nursery sessions or having shorter term time sessions and their child then attending during the school holidays too. In addition to assisting with family finances this has supported children with consistency and routines for attending nursery

Feedback from parents has been very positive. All parents highlighted that children benefited from longer playing and learning in nursery. Many parents commented that their child had picked up new words in English and that they were happy to play with more friends. Many parents highlighted that having lunch in the nursery is helping their child to become more confident to try and eat more varied foods. Comments include:



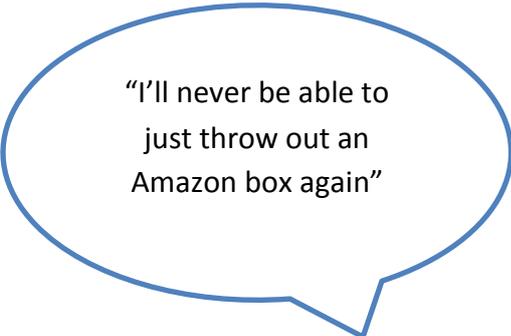
"I like the fact that the nursery has been flexible, and my child can attend during the holidays too so that they have consistent routines"



"A Mum finding the benefit of getting more one to one quality time with her youngest child"

Geronimo

Staff from Aberdeen City Council Creative Learning Team delivered the Geronimo project in Cummings Park and Mastrick. The project designed to deliver play and creative activities that support and encourage positive attachment between parent or carer and their child was attended over the 10 weeks by **20** different families in Cummings Park. While the sessions in Mastrick were slow to start by the end – unfortunately, cut short by a week due to lockdown – **29** families had attended.



"I'll never be able to just throw out an Amazon box again"

The sessions included play, creativity and risk taking and ended with a shared lunch. Families carried their learning into the home with one mum remarking "I'll never be able to just throw out an Amazon box again". Parents developed relationships with each other and found that their children could have 'total free play – they don't always get that at home'

Middlefield Project – Youth Hub

Over the course of the year the Middlefield Youth Hub staff worked with **140** young people from Middlefield, Northfield and Cummings Park.

Young people engaged in fundraising for a trip to Belgium and to replace the furniture and fittings in the Youth Hub area. A number of young people attended an enlightening trip to the Findhorn Foundation which started and continued discussions over a number of weeks around wellbeing and environmental issues.

The Hub staff have provided support to a number of pupils from Northfield Academy that have found attending school challenging and behaviours had become difficult to manage in school and in the community. The Hub staff have worked hard with the young people, parents and the school staff in order to deliver a programme of alternative ways of working with the young people than attending school.

Four young people have been supported with developing CV's and job applications.

The Hubs own mental health recovery programme 'MindU' has been a particular success by increasing the mental health and wellbeing of young people. One young person now manages their anger issues much more appropriately and another found their mental health improved so much through attending sessions that he can now attend school 95% of the time after two bus journeys. Previously he was never on time.

Volunteering in the Locality:

ACVO

As the 2019-2020 year end came, the world was struck by the Covid-19 Coronavirus Pandemic. The most terrible, worrying and greatest challenge any of us and our communities have faced. As part of the response to Covid-19 and in looking towards recovery and building back in our communities the volunteering and community response in Northfield and across Aberdeen has been (and continues to be) incredible and most inspiring. Lots of new people who have never volunteered before have got involved and people and communities have been rallying together like never before. Reports to ACVO, the local third sector interface for Aberdeen highlight that across the city 7,000 plus people have been assisting in record numbers and with exceptional kindness and compassion with specific Covid-19 community responses to help everyone get through the current time and as we rebuild and renew. Volunteering enquiries have increased eight fold and Aberdeen's online volunteering portal – www.volunteeraberdeens.org.uk saw an unprecedented 104% increase in volunteering searches.

This is in addition to the tremendous volunteering that regularly occurs in our great community with pre-Covid-19 **43%** of people regularly volunteering either formally (through an organisation or group) or informally (helping out generally with community, friends, family

etc.) in Northfield. This includes high levels of young people volunteering and achieving awards such as Saltire Awards (for volunteers aged 12-25 years). In Northfield this year:

- **195** new young people (aged 12-25 years) registered for the Saltire Youth Volunteering Awards which ACVO coordinates in Aberdeen City on behalf of the Scottish Government
- a total of 354 Saltire Award certificates were issued during the period:
 - 179 Saltire Approach Awards (in recognition of 10 and 25 hours volunteering),
 - 160 Saltire Ascent Awards (in recognition of 50, 100, 200 and 500 hours volunteering)
 - 12 Saltire Challenge Awards (for 'one off' team volunteering)
 - 3 Saltire Summit Awards (in recognition of outstanding achievements)

This is a **further increase** compared with 2018-2019 and reflects the great contribution young people are making in Northfield and the achievements of young people. There has been excellent support with this from schools in the area, all locality partners and organisations active in the community such as ACVO, SHMU, Denis Law Legacy Trust Streetsport, Future Choices, Aberdeen FC Community Trust, Police Scotland Youth Volunteers, Community and Learning Centres in the locality.

Northfield locality partners will continue to support and help further build the important contribution volunteers are making more than ever in the Northfield locality partnership area.

Cummings Park Association

It has been an aim of Communities staff based in the locality to encourage local residents to get more involved with decision making, taking ownership and responsibility for decisions and actions that affect and benefit the communities they stay in. This requires people developing and sharing their skills with positive impacts for families, friends and the wider community.

It was decided to attempt to engage with local residents in the Cummings Park area using a Community Development approach in order to build a management committee that would oversee a programme of social and learning activities and recruit volunteers to support the development of a food aid resource. It was planned that these would both take place in Cummings Park Centre.

In the Summer of 2019 daily “Food and Fun” sessions were held in Cummings Park Centre. Families with primary aged children attending Bramble Brae School were invited to fill in a form regarding their food needs. Recognised that an ideal time to target parents/carers was at drop off/pick up. Staff concentrated in engaging with parents and carers at this time, developing positive relationships and getting to know more about their needs and aspirations.

At the end of the summer an invite was given asking if people would like to get involved in a committee and volunteer/help plan a food resource. Eight people said they would like to get involved.

Until Covid-19 restrictions were put in place, a group of 6 people have been regularly meeting with staff, learning and discussing the processes involved in managing a community organisation that reflects the needs of the local community. Policies have been developed and much work put in to writing a constitution. A formal meeting took place where the constitution was adopted, and the Cummings Park Community Association formally agreed.

Since the Covid-19 restrictions the group have tried to meet digitally with mixed success. They are currently trying to open a community bank account which is very difficult as many banks have suspended this service. Understandably, family life has taken precedence over the committee in some cases, but the group are working through these issues. There is a strong chance of securing funding to allow a learning/social needs programme to go ahead, albeit considering the constraints the pandemic may bring.

John Muir Trust – Family Learning

During the summer of 2019 Family Learning Development Workers and the Middlefield Community Ranger worked with families from Bramble Brae, Manor Park, West Park and Quarryhill schools to complete the Family John Muir Award.

The John Muir Award is an environment award scheme where each participant must face four challenges - discover, explore, conserve and share with increasing responsibility and ownership, over the course of four days. At the beginning of the scheme the Family Learning Team gave an overview of the award to the 12 families taking part. They then enjoyed a scavenger hunt in Auchmill Woods, which was followed by putting at the golf club and a picnic in the park. The second part of the scheme took place in Hilton Woods where participants made moth traps, walked around the woods looking for moths, bats and other nocturnal animals, then finished with roasting marshmallows around the fire accompanied with a hot chocolate. The third activity was at Howes Road where the participants did some bird watching with binoculars, went pond dipping, did some litter picking and made doggy poo bag holders. Families also enjoyed making seed bombs and leaf printing. The final activity was at Manor Park Centre. Families enjoyed a hunt around the area looking for minibeasts. They also did pebble painting which was followed by the local police officers showing children inside of the police car. The session was finished with a celebration lunch and all families received their John Muir Award certificates.

All families enjoyed learning new skills and finding new parts of their community that they can enjoy in the future as well as building relationships with families from different schools. One family said, “the whole experience has been great” while another commented “favourite was pond dipping enjoyed being outdoors with the John Muir challenge award have enjoyed every activity and would like to do more”. Another family’s favourite was “sharpening the sticks for marshmallows and sitting together around the fire”. Family Learning Team members

and Middlefield Community Ranger had a great time completing the challenges along with the families and looking forward to working with more families in the future to support them in completion of their award.

Participatory Budgeting

Aberdeen City Council has provided the opportunity to allocate funds to local community groups since 2016 via the Participatory Budgeting process. Community Development staff in Northfield have supported a group of residents to develop their skills so they in turn can support the process. During the 19/20 cycle, Aberdeen City Council via the Fairer Aberdeen Fund provided £10,000 to local community groups for projects that would benefit the community.

The UDecide Northfield Steering Group have built up a wide range of experience from 2016 using the Participatory Budgeting model that has an event at its core. Bidders for funding present their application to an audience of voters who then decide the projects to receive funding. It was recognised during the 18/19 cycle that it would be beneficial to the steering group and PB in the area to develop and explore different models of carrying out the PB process. With this in mind, they approached Northfield Academy about basing a PB project in the school, sharing and developing ideas. The project was a success but the group realised further development was required as they had worked with the pupils in a very limited timescale.



They contacted the Academy late 2019 to gauge interest and the school were keen to participate. The steering group decided to work towards the following outcomes.

- to develop the skills of the adult steering group
- Increase the numbers of people voting
- Explore models of PB including the use of digital platforms
- Increase deliberation time of the young people the group work with
- Recruit young members for the steering group

The steering group held a session with an Academy Working Group consisting of pupils from years 1-3 to learn about PB, refine the model, decide the priorities, funding limits, rules, type of voting and the allocation of voting roles.

The Academy Working Group decided that an offer would be publicised throughout the Northfield community, giving groups the chance to apply for up to £1500, for projects that would meet the following outcomes from the LOIP:

- Being a safe/child friendly city
- Supporting Mental Wellbeing
- Combating Food Poverty
- Supporting Young People to a Positive Destination

They also decided that once the applications were returned, they would be scrutinised by the AWG to check they fit the criteria. They would then be presented at assemblies, advertised on the school digital displays and at lunchtime sessions. The pupils would vote on the 3 projects they believed would benefit their community the most with funding given to the projects with the most votes. The results would be fed back to the pupils at later assemblies and a celebration held to acknowledge the volunteers' and community group's involvement and learn about the successful projects.

9 bids totalling £12293.80 were received by applicants, were scrutinised by the AWG and presented at the assemblies. The vote took place on 6th March 2020 throughout the school supported by teaching staff, so could be regarded as a whole school effort. 450 pupils voted, the votes counted, and money awarded to the following applicants

- **Northfield Youth Project 2020** A weekly youth group and monthly disco for young people with support and food. £1500
- **As-Salaam Project** Fishing and outdoor activities for Syrian New Scots who have moved to the area as a result of civil war. £1235
- **Street sport Gazebo** A Gazebo to allow chilling out, karaoke, arts and puzzles, or a place to watch the sports at the Northfield Street sport sessions. £1500
- **The Cubby** A fund to make sure the fridges and freezers in Cummings Park Centre have food in them to give to people who need extra help and make ends meet. £1500
- **Preparing for Secondary** Shazam Theatre Company want to hold drama confidence building workshops for 2 primary 7 classes in the area to build their confidence before attending secondary. £1370
- **Community Food Bank Initiative** Mastrick Community Centre and Muirfield Primary will work together in this pupil led project to build a bigger food bank for the Mastrick area. £1500
- **Boogie in the Bar** People over 50 or with dementia, many who live alone attend a social and dance at local venues. The bid is to provide lunch at the sessions. £840
- **Northfield Masters Basketball Club** To start a basketball club for players to continue participation in basketball outside of school and provide development opportunities in leadership £1349



The number of volunteers that supported this project totalled 14, 3 in the UDecide Northfield steering group and 11 from the AWG, totalling over 100 volunteer hours.

A PB Celebration, plus evaluation session was planned but had to be postponed due to the Covid-19 crisis. This celebration has been postponed and it is hoped members of both steering groups can visit the successful bidders to see the difference PB funding can make to communities although it

should be noted that the Covid-19 restrictions have resulted in delays to the funded projects. Once they take place the total number of volunteer hours will increase.

The UDecide Northfield steering group have been impressed by the attitude and commitment of the pupils. Also, the planned outcomes were achieved as follows:

- Number of voters **increased from 372 (previous PB) to 450.**
- Digital displays were used in the presentation of the bids and ideas have been developed to use and simplify the voting process using digital platforms in the future. This PB model departed from the usual one event model normally practiced in the city therefore showed other models could be successful.
- Involvement/deliberation time of pupils increased from two short sessions to 2 double period sessions plus presentations and vote counts.
- 2 young people want to join the main steering group

Boogie in the Bar

Following the success of the Boogie in the Bar initiative that is aimed at giving people with dementia, their carers and others needing additional support a fun activity, “Boogie on Tour” takes the Boogie brand to sheltered housing complexes and brings the party to those who have more difficulty or cannot access the Boogie at the Bar events. The first of the tours was at Lewis Court.

It was Valentine’s day so the décor in the common room was hearts and flowers. Thirty-eight residents attended. They had soup and sandwiches for lunch, finishing with some tea and

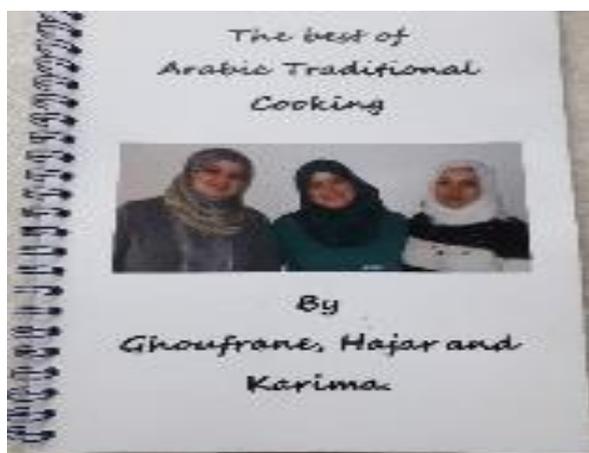
biscuits. After all the food the Boogie was a must. Those that could dance did, and the others simply enjoyed the music and the company.



This initiative goes a long way to the reduction of isolation and from the feedback we received impacts positively on people's wellbeing.

Women's Group and Recipe Book

The group was set up originally to support women from families who had been relocated to Aberdeen from Syria. There were 8 women regularly attending the sessions together with 6 children under 5's, planning a programme based around their interests. Some of the women cooked and recorded recipes in traditional Arabic cooking. Three of the women completed a recipe book with Arab food recipes. This involved translating ingredients into English and sourcing unusual spices and ingredients. This helped to improve their oral and written English. Funding for this project came from Aberdeen City Council's Syrian Project and the completed booklet was sent to the printers just before lockdown. This delayed publication but the



booklet has now been completed and distributed to family and friends and further into the community.

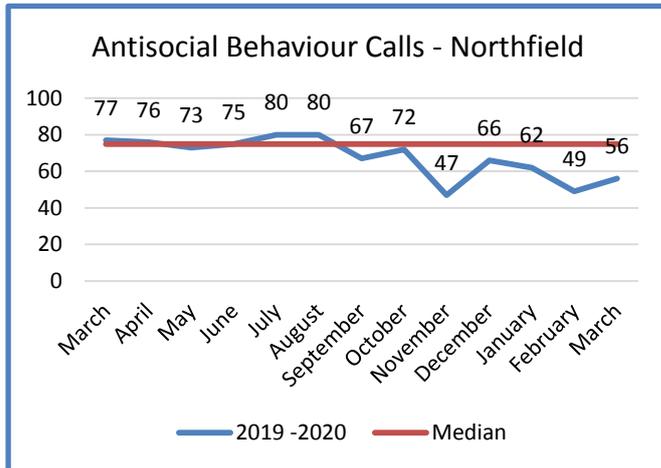
The biggest unintended outcome for this group was that they met at the same time as those developing the Cummings Park Community Association with the two groups regularly coming together to eat and get to know more about each other. They spoke

about differences in culture and spoke about their children and schools. They also spoke about the area and the ladies from the management committee group were interested in ideas to develop the area including the development of the coffee bar in Cummings Park Centre. It is hoped this can be developed into providing lunches from different cultures for everyone to enjoy.

Another outcome for the Women's Group was that they successfully applied for funding for 2 summer family trips during the school summer holidays 2019. This was an opportunity for the women and their families to visit other parts of Scotland they had not yet visited and have fun together.

Are our changes resulting in improvement?

Improving Quality of Life



Youth Anti- social behaviour calls have gradually decreased over the year – starting at an average of 77 and reducing to 56 per month.

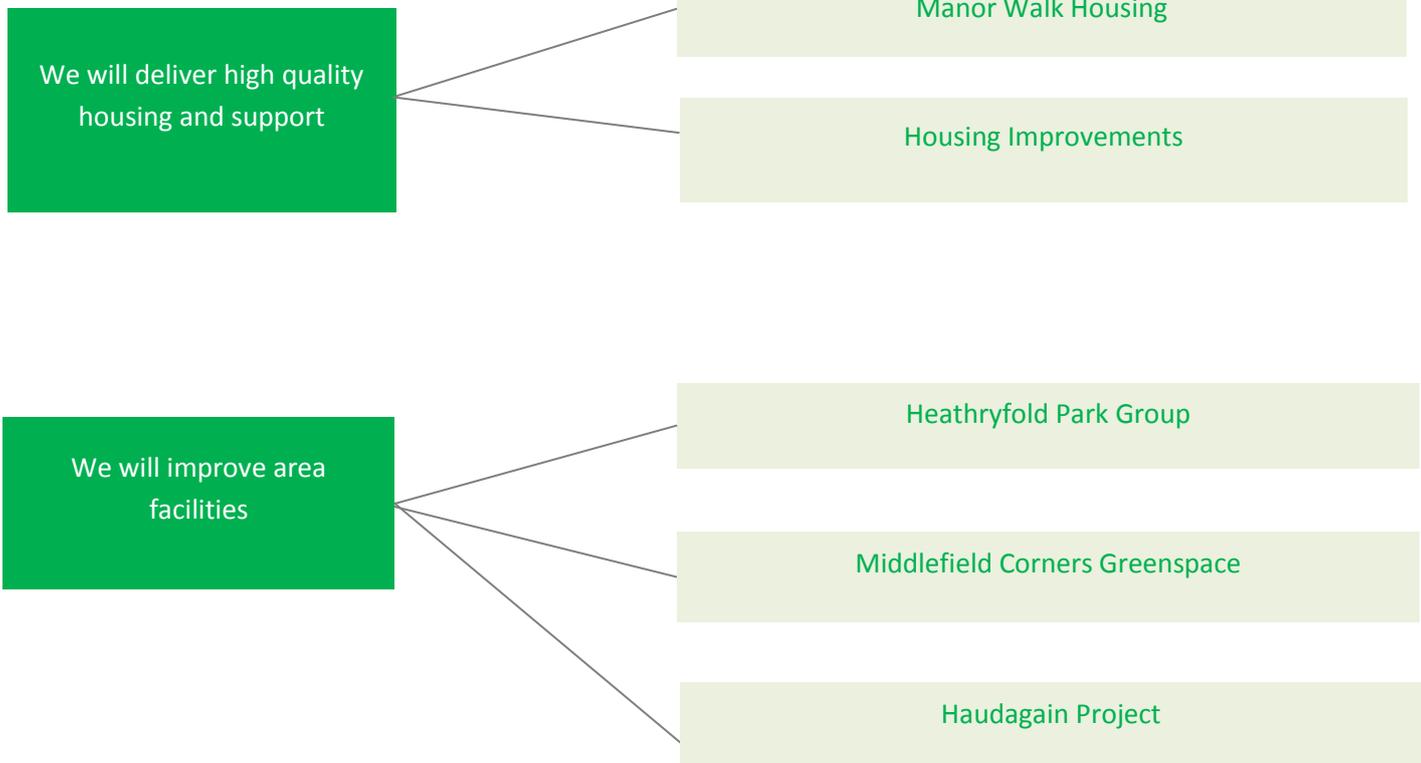
PROSPEROUS PLACE



Priority: We will work together to improve the area

Primary Drivers

Areas where we have made changes during 2019/20



What key changes have we made?

Manor Walk Housing

The Manor Walk development was completed in early summer 2019 with the houses being allocated from August 2019.

This sees the completion of a further 179 new homes and an investment of £26.5 million across the two Smithfield and Manor Walk developments in Middlefield.



Housing Improvements

The flats on Byron Square have seen a major refurbishment project to the external painted areas. Issues with windows deteriorating has seen the project expand to window replacements.

It is intended that with the completion of the work on the flats a project will develop to enhance and redevelop the whole square area reconfiguring the car parking area and generally making the area more 'attractive'.

Heathryfold Park Group

Over the last few years major flood alleviation works have taken place in Heathryfold Park, including the development of flood alleviation measures by opening the Scatterburn which coursed underground and the building of bunds. The major works are complete for this and are currently being tested and adjustments made.

The development of this area meant design opportunities could take place including the development of two play areas, the creation of a dog play area (one of the first in Scotland), new paths and walkways created, plus various planting opportunities for wild flowers, bulbs, various different grasses, plants suitable for different terrains including semi wetlands and fruit bushes. New paths and walkways have also been built.



Throughout the process a Greenspace Development Group made up of 7 residents and

supported by local ACC Community Development staff have been influential with the design aspects of the development, including the location and design of the playparks, the routes and materials of the paths, the location and design of the dog play area, the placement of

litter bins and the planting, plus the introduction of new lighting. They brought a level of local knowledge to the process and showed a commitment to the area by regularly carrying out litter picks. This has brought about much learning about planning, environmental issues, working in partnership and budgeting not only for the local people, but for the staff and workers involved.

The Steering Group also supported various engagements with the local community, from consultations on play spaces to historical walks and talks, bulb planting sessions and in the Summer of 2019 held an open week of activities that included bat exploration walks, science Workshops, a family fun run and even horse riding!

The group also supported activities arranged by a Community Countryside Ranger, managed by ACC Countryside Service and contracted for a year. These included work with the local primary schools, learning about habitat, nature and the environment using various means from guided walks to art activities. Animal searches also took place as the wildlife in the area includes deer, foxes, hedgehogs, many different species of birds and frogs. The Ranger was instrumental in raising the profile of the project within the local community and wider area.



Due to Covid-19 restrictions continued development of the area has been difficult, however this year (2020) saw the first flowering of the wildflowers and the establishment of much of the other planting. It is hoped that more bulb planting will take place and to develop the idea of family runs. It is also hoped to create information points throughout the area.

Middlefield Corners Greenspace Project



The project came to life following conversations with local folk who said:

“The corners of some of the streets are a mess and could something be done to change them from dull, muddy areas where people fly tip and allow their dogs to mess by turning them into something more colourful and appealing.”

The project developed to improve the look of the environment and to further offer food growing activity in the area. It began with improving the green space corners located at the bottom of Kemp Street onto Danestone Circle in Middlefield, opposite Manor Park School. Spring bulbs were donated by Aberdeen City Council and planted by the Nursery School children of the school in October 2019. By March 2020 the fruits of their labours were visible, and the community was rewarded with white crocus flowers. Fruit bushes, raspberry and blackcurrant have also been planted so that the local community can forage for

berries. More planting is planned with the Nursery School although unfortunately this has halted due to Covid-19.

The project has been a team collaboration involving our Aberdeen City Council Gardeners, they did the digging and assisted the nursery children to plant the bulbs along with the Communities team based in Middlefield. The project has received funding from the Community Food Growing and the Health Improvement fund of £700.

Middlefield Corners has also registered with 'It's your neighbourhood (Keep Scotland Beautiful) and was recognised and awarded their first "establishment" certificate by Steven Shaw, Aberdeen City Council Environmental Services Manager. Manor Park Nursery is among the first nurseries in Scotland to be involved in such a project.



Haudagain Development

Following being appointed by Transport Scotland to work on the major infrastructure improvement project to reduce congestion at the Haudagain roundabout, Farrans Construction came onsite early summer 2019 with an expected completion date of Spring 2021. The project includes approximately 500m of new carriageway connecting the A90 North Anderson Drive and the A96 Auchmill Road to assist reduce traffic congestion and improve journey times.

Farrans have kept the community updated with regular newsletters and pieces in the community magazines that serve the area – Middlefield Mirror, Cummings North and Mastrick Matters. Their dedicated Community Liaison staff are regular attendees at the Northfield Locality Partnership Board, and they provide updates for the Board as work progresses.

In addition to their newsletter and media updates, Farrans have held 2 Community Engagement events – a Meet the Contractor in May 2019 and a Public Drop in Event in December 2019. Both were held in the Lord Provost Henry E Rae Hall at the Middlefield Hub.

Following the final demolition of the remaining houses in the Middlefield Logie area, work started to divert utilities which had to happen to allow road construction work to begin.

As well as the actual construction work, Farrans staff have attended Manor Park School to deliver a safety workshop to pupils in Primary 2. A major construction project can be very exciting for children to consider exploring -and the workshop was designed to educate the

children of playing in and around the construction site. Various activities were held to highlight the need for safety and the class teacher commented – “The workshop was great, it had a mixture of activities to keep the children engaged, which they continued to talk about afterwards.

Five of Farrans Project staff had signed up to become STEM Ambassadors using their own skills to encourage and promote young people to choose a career in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). An opportunity for the company to promote the industry it should offer to inspire the future generation of workers and the STEM Ambassadors will visit Manor Park and other schools in the area over the duration of the construction project.

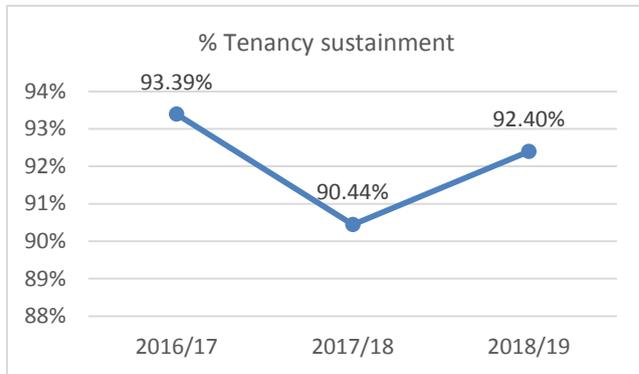
Not only will the Haudagain Project improve traffic congestion but will hopefully provide exciting future prospects for the area’s children and young people.



Are our changes resulting in improvement?

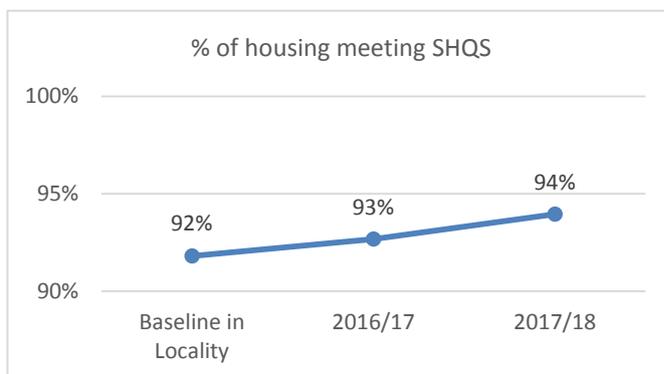
Improving the Area

Tenancy sustainment shows an improvement over the last year

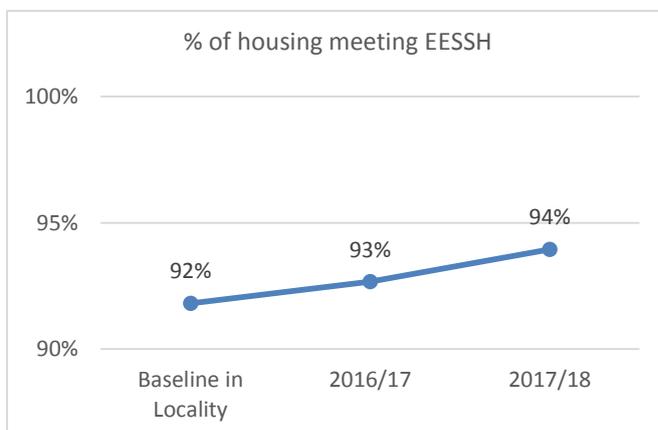


The following graphs illustrate the improvements that have been made to our stock over the last year resulting in achieving high levels of compliance with national indicators.

Scottish Housing Quality Standard



Energy Efficiency for Social Housing



Locality Partnership

Cummings Park, Heathryfold, Northfield, Mastrick and Middlefield

Martin Smith, Locality Inclusion Manager

Northfield Locality Partnership Board is a well-established and well supported partnership group within the CPA structure. We work together to achieve improvements for the Locality around the themes of people, place, technology and economy and to ensure it is a place where all people can prosper.

Membership

- *4 Community Representatives*
- *2 Community Council Representatives*
- *1 Community Project Representative*
- *1 Community Centre Representative*
- *1 Aberdeen City Council*
- *1 AHSCP Representative*
- *2 Police Scotland Representatives*
- *1 ACVO / Third Sector Representative*
- *1 Deputy Head Teacher*
- *2 Elected Members*



Community Planning
Aberdeen

Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton Locality Partnership Annual Report 2019/20



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Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton Locality Partnership

Further information about the Locality Plan and the Locality Partnership can be found at: <https://communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk/priority-localities/>

Any questions on the partnership or this report should be directed in the first instance to:

Paul Tytler

Locality Inclusion Manager

Aberdeen City Council

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ptytler@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Introduction

Welcome to the 2019/20 Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton Annual Report.

The report covers the period 2019/20 but it would be remiss not to include the early response to the ongoing Covid 19 situation. Covid 19 has almost overshadowed the work undertaken during the reporting year and it has been refreshing to review and reflect on the extent of work carried out across our locality.

Of particular note is the range of support delivered across a wide range of community organisations and our partners, delivering services and support, that have clearly proven their value in recent months. It is also admirable how service delivery has responded to enable that support to continue to be provided to people in the community, including the most vulnerable people.

The next period will continue to see delivery challenges in response to the ongoing Covid 19 and finding ways to engage with the wider community, where not everyone can rely on online communication.

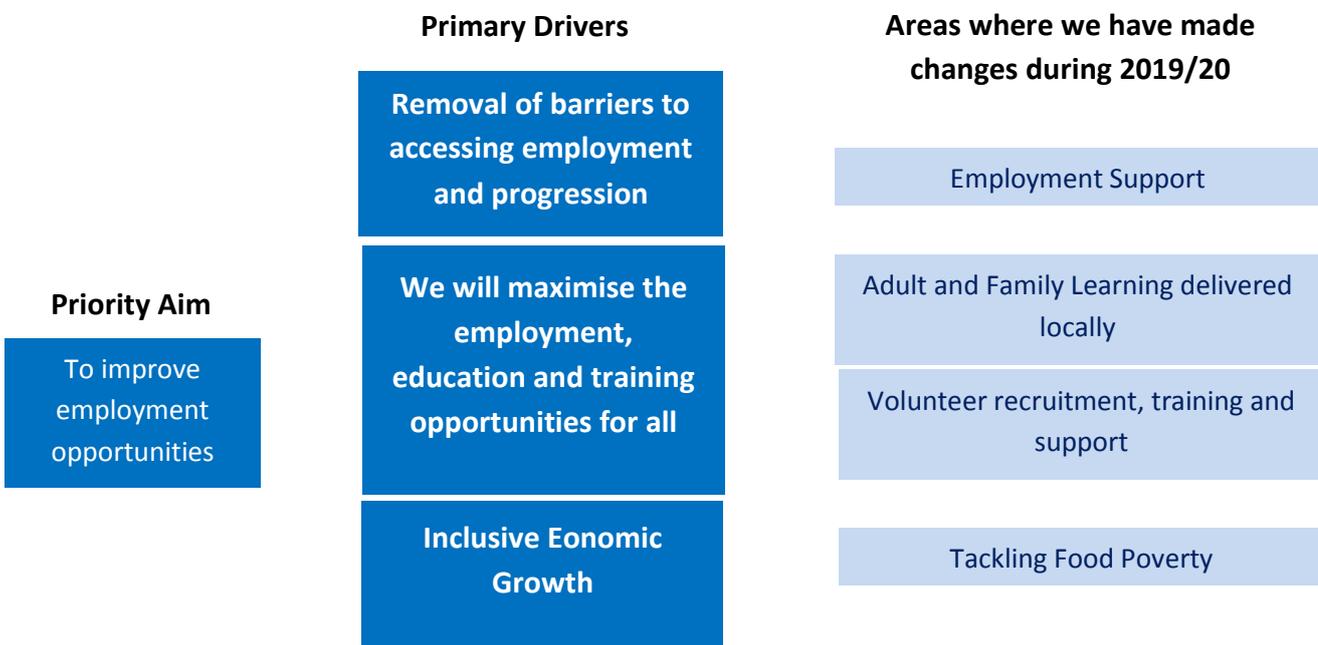
Looking forward to the next year, we will be refreshing the locality plans to align with the citywide Local Outcome Improvement Plan and again the challenge will be finding safe and effective ways of engaging widely to support that work.

In the meantime, I'd like to thank all the volunteers, community groups, projects and services for their work in support of our locality; our partners in Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership for their support and work in the communities. I'd also like to thank the community learning and locality team for their work in support of the plan.

Paul Tytler
Locality Inclusion Manager

PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

Priority: To Improve Employment Opportunities



Changes in Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton

Volunteers

Tillydrone Community Campus opened last year as a way of gathering in one facility a range of services and to provide a space that could be used for the community and local groups to meet. Within the Campus there was a café with the intention of employing a chef and recruiting volunteers to support the chef and the workings of the café.

Over the course of several months prior to and beyond the opening of the café a recruitment drive took place to recruit volunteers. This was done by utilising third sector providers in the area, ACVO, social media and through personal contacts. As a result, we recruited 24 volunteers.

"This has been a godsend and definitely making me more creative with food to use up what we get it's fantastic probably see you Friday 😊" (comment from one of our group member)

Having an opportunity to have regular discussions with members whilst collecting a parcel or through a message or call, various issues have been raised, mainly from those with a protected characteristic. Six individuals and families from different ethnic minority backgrounds have been supported with issues such as domestic abuse, sexual work harassment, fuel and food poverty and migration/visas issues. Many members of our community 'struggle in silence' due to a lack of understanding of the social benefits system, cultural differences (such as seeing a local authority as a negative source of power), or simply being ashamed to ask for help. The support has been delivered in partnership working with the Lighthouse support centre.

"As foreigners, the care we felt from the Tillydrone Community Campus, through the Foodbank and the direct support from Zuzana have touched us and made us feel the sense of being in a community again, especially in the lockdown time."

Tillydrone Community Campus hosts a Trussell Trust supplied Food Store, operated by the Lighthouse Project. Some of the volunteers recruited for the campus café opted to volunteer at the Food Store too. The Communities Team supported Lighthouse to get settled into the new building and develop a way of working that worked for them and those who accessed the Food Store.

The Store was open twice a week and operated a referral system that meant families identified by third party organisations could refer. Self-referral was also possible. Whilst the food was available so was an opportunity to speak with Lighthouse staff to identify any underlying issues with support given to address these.

The Food Store regularly supported 12 families each time it was open. Since COVID struck this has increased to 30, clearly demonstrating the increased demand in the community.

Employability

Fersands and Fountain Community Project provides a range of employability support for people in the locality, including the provision of volunteering opportunities for over 12's with their youth committee, fundraising events and more. Over 16's with PVGS can volunteer in the wider project developing vital skills, training and experiences to maximize employment opportunities. A particular case study is below:

'A young person aged 21 that we had worked with since they were 3 approached us. They had been having a rough few years with mental health and alcohol issues and was looking for some help to give their life a new focus and improve their mental wellbeing. They started volunteering in the Pantry working around 10 hours a week helping in the shop, in time they came into the office and started to support the admin side of the project. We have seen this young person's mental health improve

and they are now living at The Foyer, meeting weekly with their support services and continue to volunteer for us. They have gained really valuable skills and are an asset to our project. We have just supported this person to apply for college starting in the summer in social care and hope she moves onto this positive destination.'

Pathways

Support residents of the locality 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 in the localities through weekly drop-ins, Work Clubs, established links with partner agencies and individually tailored 1-2-1 Keyworker support, accessing a variety of specialist support as appropriate for individual clients, ensuring they receive relevant support to overcome their barriers.

A team of Employment Keyworkers provides support in all aspects of jobsearch, from initial development of CV's, through identification of job goals and barriers, to identification and matching to suitable vacancies, help to complete application forms and preparation for interviews. All participants are also offered in-work support once they start work to ensure job retention. Pathways link with partner agencies where appropriate to ensure that participants receive specialist advice, including budgetary advice before entering employment.

A number of clients are now further away from the work market and therefore need more support to get them job ready. There are also a number who are older, nearer retirement age, but need to gain work as required within the UC criteria. The labour market in Aberdeen has been very poor over the past year in Aberdeen. There have been occasional glimmers that it was about to pick up, but it has then gone very flat again. As a result, there are far fewer vacancies in lower and unskilled vacancies than in more buoyant years.

Compounding the limited vacancies available after Christmas, as the labour market started to pick up the impact of the coronavirus pandemic slowly began to be felt. In March, when employers are often looking to forward recruitment, the labour market slowed drastically and eventually stopped, limiting the number of people into work once again.

STAR Community Flat – Langstane Housing Association

The S.T.A.R Community Flat is based in the Seaton area of Aberdeen and serves the local population. The flat offers a range of free services and classes to support and enhance the day to day lives of Seaton residents. Throughout the year they have held very popular classes in cooking, sewing and craft classes. The community flat helped support 15 people to get back to work. 205 referrals were made to Trussell Trust for food parcels. 99 referrals to Mrs Murray Cat & Dog home for pet food. A member from the CFine SAFE Team providing a weekly session at the Flat and good results were obtained by using this service, providing financial and benefits advice.

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, for the health and safety of the Flat users, staff and volunteers, the Flat temporarily closed at the end of 17.03.20. The Flat has been using its Facebook Page to notify Seaton

Residents of any important developments and to answer queries, whilst also sign posting people on to other appropriate agencies.

Tillydrone Community Flat

The flat provides a resource for community activity, supports community capacity building and learning, as well as providing a venue for a range of organisations that offer support, information and advice. During the year, 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 3326 recorded uses of the flat facilities, including use of washing machine, phone and access to computers. There were 68 Learning Support creche sessions with 36 children attending creche sessions. A total of 387 participants were involved, 41 of them under 16 years old. 36 people were involved in adult learning activities, 2 people were on the Tilly Tattle editorial group and 12 volunteers contributed 600 hours of volunteer work.

Tillydrone Community Flat is a thriving hub for community activity and provides vital support to local residents. Service user numbers continue to rise and are at a very high level in relation to the size of the project and the minimal staffing levels.

The most notable success of the last year has been the successful outcome of the Participation Request brought forward by the Management Committee in securing the future Tillydrone Community Flat in its current location. This was a substantial piece of work which involved a lot of data collation, risk factors and meetings with ACC officials. The passion and local knowledge of Committee members was tantamount to the positive outcome which has been a source of great happiness and relief to our service users. This outcome has been further enhanced by the Tilly Community Flat being awarded Charity Status by OSCR in mid-March. The flat hosted two Social Work placement students from RGU this year – 2nd and 3rd year, further increasing their strong partnership with the University who recognise the Flat as an ideal placement setting affording students a varied, enlightening and challenging placement.

PROSPEROUS PEOPLE

Priority: Communities are Inclusive and Safe

Priority Aim

Primary Drivers

Areas where we have made changes during 2019/20

Communities are inclusive and safe

There are groups and networks that strengthen the sense of community

We will work in new ways to ensure engagement of all sections of the community

Young People

Community Support

Participatory Budgeting

Family Learning

Improve health and wellbeing with increased access to healthy food

We will prevent and reduce the levels of substance misuse in our community

Sustainable food provision will be developed

Mental Health

Breastfeeding

Community Growing

Changes in Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton

Mental Health

Young People and Mental Health is identified within the Local Outcome Improvement Plan as well as being identified as a local priority by the Local Partnership (including the recent refresh of locality priorities), with the stretch outcome being;

Increase the confidence of parents and young people to recognise and seek support in response to deteriorating mental wellbeing by 2026.

A locality subgroup was formed to develop a plan and a course of action in how work locally could contribute to delivery of the stretch outcome.

Youth groups were identified where engagement and information could be gathered on their experience within schools and the wider community looking at their mental and emotional wellbeing. Coupled with this we would embark on a program of activities to create opportunities for the wider community to access partner agencies and training opportunities.

We were able to provide 6 free places for community members to attend Mental Health First Aid training and engage with 3 youth groups (engaged with 12 young people). A world café event was organised where young people, volunteers, local youth groups and community members were invited to help inform the next phase of the work. Unfortunately, COVID prevented us from hosting the event. Online platforms are currently being explored to continue the engagement and support.

The Healthy Minds team is part of the councils Community Learning and Development service and is funded by the Health and Social Care partnership and NHS Grampian.

We aim to assist adults with enduring mental health illness to access learning opportunities within Aberdeen City. We support and encourage learners to get involved in their community by accessing learning opportunities to promote their recovery.

Our team co-ordinates and supports a variety of small learning groups in venues throughout the city along with offering support to individuals to access mainstream activities arranged in partnership with other agencies.

In the last year we have supported learners with a wide range of opportunities including Gardening at the Grove, Basic and Intermediate Guitar, Writing Groups, Craft, Walks and Art. Learners who took part in activities at the Grove supported Aberdeen's Britain in Bloom bid.

We had a DJ Workshop at Cornhill hospital which started off as adhoc sessions and developed in a 4-week course culminating in the group recording a CD at Captain Tom's Studios. Four learners took part from across the localities where supportive relationships were formed which have been helpful during the lockdown. One learner said *"When you reach an all-time low, something like this really gives you a sense of self-worth."*

Healthy Minds

Healthy Minds celebrated our 12 volunteers in December at an event at Rosemount Community Centre. Over the year the volunteers have amassed an astounding 1680 hours of time by supporting craft, music, Branching Out, Men's Group, walking, sports and activities at The Grove.

The Branching Out Programme takes part in partnership with the Countryside Rangers and the Forestry Commission. This project supports learners to gain skills and build confidence over a 10-week programme. Some learners then support future courses as peer mentors. Learners from across all localities attend this group. One learner said the group helped them be *“More assertive, less anxious.”*

Consultation on the Promoting Good Mental Health Action Plan

Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership launched a consultation on their new action plan for community Mental Health in December 2019. On the 28th/29th January the Healthy Minds Team facilitated two consultation events to encourage our learners to give their views on the action plan. One event took place at the Grove in Hazlehead with 7 participants and another at Rosemount with 15 participants. Learners were encouraged to give their opinion on each of the 14 actions as well as the overall presentation of the plan.



Most participants felt that the actions would assist in supporting and promoting health and wellbeing in Aberdeen but were concerned about the layout of the document and the language used. There were also several concerns about the use of technology and how mental health service users would be able to access information if they couldn't use a computer.

Many learners were positive about the increased use of advanced statements but were unsure of how they worked. Several learners also commented on the need to increase peer mentors and volunteers to support learners who are just starting their recovery journey.

Work at the Blair Unit

We also have an adult learning tutor based in the Blair Unit at Cornhill Hospital. The tutor works with adults within the low secure forensic mental health service on a range of topics which have included support with driving theory, general maths and science, cyber security, CV writing and art over the last year.

Statistics

96% of learners report improved confidence

98% of learners report improved skills

One learner completed their Adult Achievement Award

	Total enrolments	Learner Hours
Locality 1	74	678
Locality 2	86	597
Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton	70	578

Printfield Feel Good Project

The project aims to increase relaxation and wellbeing by providing Complimentary Health sessions including Reflexology, Reiki and Indian Head Massage accessible to everyone within the area of Woodside and delivered by a qualified and experienced Complimentary Health Practitioner. During the year, 20 participants accessed 76 therapy sessions.

Fersands Family Support Worker

Support vulnerable families in the community; provide regular one to one support and advice on a wide range of issues including housing, employment and child protection, involve parents in group discussions and activities which make them feel less isolated and increase their parenting skills.

Link with Social Work and other professionals that can offer support to the families, introduce new resources and opportunities for families to benefit from or become more involved in community activities or volunteering opportunities. Help individuals to access employment or educational opportunities, offer direct practical support and play a key role in representing families during family case meetings. During the year, 44 families received support and 2 parent groups ran weekly. More intensive, long term support was provided to 12 families who have social work involvement.

Many vulnerable families benefit from financial grants or donations of goods to support the family in crisis situations, this work has increased through changes to Welfare Reform. The support worker has managed to help families apply for and receive over £3000 in support grants.

Young People

Communities staff undertook lead contact roles to help the multi partner work undertaken to support vulnerable children and families. This involved acting as a contact point for all communications, fire and health and safety, one to one support to children where appropriate and liaising with Social Work, the Youth Team, AFCCT, Sport Aberdeen and other providers to develop the children's programme. For example, one family who were previously unopened to SW were allocated a Social Worker due to a child protection concern, with at least three further child protection concerns being raised with social work. At least 25 food parcels were handed out to hub families every week to try and help tackle food poverty An average of 15 vulnerable children per day were supported during this period. Feedback from schools, parents, children, and staff has been very positive and a report on the inspection of the Hub by HMIE can be found at Appendix 1.

Fersands 2's Group

This group provides a safe welcoming and stimulating environment to deliver good quality play and learning experiences for children to encourage motivation, and enthusiastic learning. Target the most vulnerable families and work with parents, health visitors, education support workers social work to maximise the child's development opportunities. During the year, 19 children attended and 4 pre nursery groups were held per week. In addition, 2 volunteers contributed 192 hours of volunteer time.

Fersands Youth Work

Provide a wide range of youth work services to encourage young people to take responsibility, experience new activities, gain new skills, new experiences, work together, build relationships, and learn about health issues, employment and other issues relevant to the young people. Provide free alternative activities including day trips and residential camps which take the youths into different environments, new situations and new challenges, helping them become more independent and to work as a team. Over the year, 120 young people participated, 101 of them under 16 years old. Additionally, 8 volunteers contributed 136 hours of volunteer time.

St George's Church - ACT Attack

This group 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. During the year, 55 under 16s were involved in 50 classes. A total of 6 volunteers contributed 80 hours of volunteer time

Community Support

Staff from the Communities Team and Health & Social Care were involved in supporting the community resilience work during the COVID -19 lockdown. The Grampian Local Resilience Partnership (GLRP) agreed to establish a Humanitarian Assistance Centre (HAC) to deliver Care for People and Community Resilience under one banner. The following areas of support work were actioned;

Community Audits

Neighbourhood Leads consisting of Communities Team and Health and Social Care Teams were directed to assess the capacity of community organisations to support volunteer and resident needs during the COVID-19 lockdown. AS an example Locality 3 neighbourhoods assessed over 20 organisations in relation to community support capacities. This included whether they had enough digital connectivity, volunteer numbers, funding, training and structural supports to cope during the C-19 lockdown.

Shielding Survey

Neighbourhood leads were also tasked with door knocking duties to contact people who were identified as being in the shielding category and who had not confirmed receipt of their letters. Approximately 400 checks were made in locality 3. The checks involved an online survey which asked if the resident needed food and prescription deliveries and if they required emotional support. Feedback was evidenced through the surveys that residents felt very

isolated during this time and were very appreciative of the fact that neighbourhood leads were making contact with them and ensuring their safety. One observation, there was a lot of friendly chat during the shielding letter checks which helped alleviate the seriousness of the lockdown environment. The door to door activity enabled a degree of community engagement that has also gone along way into gaining a better insight into community needs and perceptions. This in turn will help align services to meet those needs.

The Emergency Crisis Line

Neighbourhood leads also actively contributed towards the crisis line support offer by linking/directing volunteers to community organisations to register support offers for prescription deliveries, food shopping support, foodbank delivery, mental health support. Staff distributed over 10,000 posters advertising the crisis line number to businesses and community organisations across Aberdeen during the C-19 Lockdown period.

Community Growing

A small group is working on a community growing project on Hayton Road in Tillydrone, called 'Earth and Worms'.

The group needed support to recruit volunteers, which was done in partnership with the environmental team who posted out a volunteer opportunity to those who were on the waiting list for allotments. From this there were 7 responses with 4 being met to date at the garden. An online meeting is planned for the volunteers to support the development of the garden, clarify expectations and roles.

The garden itself is semi-wild and requires time and effort to have it the way the group would like it. The volunteers have seen the garden and know the extent of the work required but are also excited by the prospect of being involved in the development of the community growing space.



Participatory Budgeting

The Locality Partnership agreed that applicants for the participatory budget of £20,000 should have a focus on Additional Support Needs. With that in mind, a partnership was formed with the Disability Equity Partnership (DEP) to set application criteria, while also ensuring due diligence and governance.

The criteria were deliberately broad in order to allow for applications from as wide a range of projects as possible to go forward to the public vote. Applicants needed to demonstrate inclusiveness about people who have physical, sensory and learning disabilities.

The DEP gave guidance on the promotional materials as well as the accessibility and location for the accompanying public event while the Partnership gave advice on voting criteria.



Following a public event at Seaton Primary School, online voting, leaflet distribution across the entire area and presentations at primary schools - allowing pupils aged 5 and upwards the opportunity to fully participate in a meaningful democratic process. The public event took the form of a market stall, where the 13 projects which applied set up displays allowed members of the community to move around freely, speaking to project team members before being invited to vote. The following projects were voted for and received funding;

- Woodside Community Centre - Older People Day Trip.
- Woodside Community Centre - Summer Playscheme.
- Lord Hays Court - Sensory Garden
- Fersands - Holiday Playscheme
- Granite City Taekwondo - Taekwondo Classes
- KittyBrewster Primary School - Creative Energy: Imagine Our Potential
- Seaton Linksfield Network - Seaton Street Fayre
- Polish Association Aberdeen - Visual expressions inspired by Grampian storytelling & arts
- Community Link Childcare - Community Activity Garden

Aberdeen City Council Co Leader, Councillor Jenny Laing, said: “We had a fantastic public response with 4880 votes being cast and resulting in eight wonderful local projects receiving participation funding.

“Our ambition for Aberdeen is for the city to be a place where everyone can prosper regardless of their circumstances and where perceived obstacles are removed. Public participation, particularly involving our children and young people, are also high priorities and so this year’s voting process and the eventual funding awards in Tillydrone, Woodside and Seaton have really reflected our ambitions”.

Family Learning

Family Learning helped parents with children’s home learning during the summer months by providing Family Learning packs with a focus on outdoor activities and arts and crafts. We created and delivered learning packs in April & August to help parents who would otherwise have no access to learning resources or activities during the current Covid-19 lockdown.

Approximately 368 children from 147 families have received bags containing the activity and educational resources including fun tools such as art supplies, yoyos toy windmills and even

magnifying glasses and descriptive drawings to help children find and identify the insects in their gardens

The team have taken part in almost 5000 calls, video calls and WhatsApp conversations to help the families through the height of the lockdown. Through advice and support provided by the team members on issue such as on food, parenting, sleep, mental health, activities and accessing free school meals. The detail of one of the projects is below.

GERONIMO AT THE GROVE

This was a joint piece of work between Creative Learning, who had accessed funding from the Fairer Scotland Fund, and Family Learning.

The project provided Creative Outdoor Learning sessions for families at a forest location within the Grove Nursery site at Hazlehead. Creative learning employed an artist, Jessica Fernandez and together with Caroline Hay- Crawford, a Forest School qualified Leader who is part of the Family Learning team planned and delivered 30 2-hours sessions over a five-week period.

The families who took part were identified by family learning and were families who they were actively working with. The families came from across the city and if they did not have access to transport we organised and provided taxis to take them to and from the forest site. Family Learning also provided waterproofs and wellingtons for families to remove any barriers to taking part.

We had over 20 families taking part and most participated in 3 consecutive sessions and some only managed 1 or 2, but everyone who took part enjoyed the activities.

The kind of things we provided included, outdoor nature related games, family flag making using natural materials scavenger hunts and transient art, Den building, which became quite competitive among some families, bug hunts, creating obstacle courses ,campfire cooking and using clay to create new members of their family. We also spent time playing games such as hide and seek, creating and telling stories and exploring the forest site. The families encountered a range of wildlife and saw red squirrels, deer and a range of birds, insects and toads. We encouraged children to use their imaginations and be creative when in the forest.



The project has been a great success and the feedback we received was very positive and included from all: “Great could not wait to come back” All the activities we offered were given 5 stars by families in the feedback sheets, most enjoyed spending time playing together with their children, and having fun with Jessica and Caroline and being outdoors.

Many of the families learnt new things such as “how to make a fire,” making a flag” learning about secret hideout places,” “how to make marshmallow smores and bananas with chocolate in them” “I had never been in the forest before but will go more now”, “All the children working together” “ more ideas of things to do outdoors”. The project had been a great success and helped families spend time together and enjoy being in nature.

The Breastfeeding Improvement charter group has now resumed and we are in the process of having peer support mentors trained by the NHS which will be complete by December to complete. (Three local peer support mentors have been recruited for this role). We have also been in communication with local businesses in Tillydrone, to encourage them to sign up to the Breastfeeding Friendly Membership Scheme to ensure that the community as a whole will be recognised as breastfeeding friendly – so far, 5 local businesses have signed up.

The Young Parent Support Group has now also restarted, with a number of partners committed, including CFINE, SHMU, Home Check and St Machar Credit Union, to attending the 8 week group before lockdown. Since resuming, we have added a Family Learning staff member to the group. Family Learning will also refer the young families for the group out of their existing case load and waiting list. We are now co-producing the design of the programme with the families, so that they can identify and address any barriers that would prevent them attending i.e. technology, transport etc.

PROSPEROUS PLACE

Priority: To improve transport options

Priority Aim

To improve transport options

Primary Drivers

Roads are safer with less congestion and improved air quality

There are appropriate spaces and facilities to support play and recreational activities

The community is resilient, tidy and well-maintained

Areas where we have made changes during 2017/18

Street Design

Tillydrone Community Campus

Cruyff Court

Environmental walkabouts

Changes in Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton

Tillydrone Community Campus – the Campus was opened on 23rd August 2019. Here are (most of) the people who were there and the centre was opened by the Lord Provost, helped by one of the volunteers Aileen Davidson.



The opening ceremony marks the start of a new era for Tillydrone and the opening of a purpose built modern, fit for purpose facility.

With over 3000 visitors in the first few weeks of opening, the challenge is to develop a programme that meets the needs of the local community while addressing the issues within the community.

Throughout the entire process, the Communities team has strived to make sure the community are at the centre of all planning. At the lessons learned session the community group overwhelmingly praised the process, with the following noted:

- The initial Kingswells event – everything that was raised then that was asked for.
- Brief has been met for the building
- Community engagement has been good
- Communication between ACC and community has been good.
- Opps group members has been good, open and honest
- Communication has been good.

- Group members feel they have been involved in the whole process from design to picking colours etc
- Support from ACC staff for moving ie with decant and moving into the Campus
- Organisations who weren't involved in the decant were involved and kept up to date.
- Being part of the ops group has allowed people to get to know each other better
- Lighthouse/ACC relationships have developed due to sharing the offices
- Partnership with ACC early years/Lads Club to provide the FT nursery provision – offering local provision and employment opportunities
- Volunteers have done a lot to help.
- Good membership of the group by local people, staff. People have been honest and open and extremely committed.



In terms of impacts, the following early outcomes have been identified by the group:

Impact

- Has encouraged groups to work together – share facilities
- Helped groups work in alternative spaces ie woodside
- Will help local folk use facilities in their own areas
- More understanding of what other project deliver
- Will encourage centre users to access other services
- Ability to cross refer
- Café will be central for people to gather and spend time or access services
- Opportunity to work and engage with men in the café
- Sense of achievement
- Building looks amazing!
- Mosaic looks amazing

Seaton Linksfield Community Network – Walk Throughs

Seaton Linksfield Community Network (SCLN) was established in 2018 with a view to be a focus point for community support and action in the areas of Seaton and Linksfield. The Network was made up of community members with support from the Communities Team met monthly. The meetings were open and allowed for members of the community to attend and raise concerns about the area.

It became clear that there were reoccurring themes around the Roads, Environmental issues, and Housing. To offer support to the SCLN and ultimately the community it was agreed that series of Walk Throughs were organised. These Walk Throughs would be attended by SCLN committee members and ACC staff who had knowledge, understanding and could influence the identified issues and concerns.

Outcome

Reports written on each of the themes with attendees getting an understanding of how ACC officers came to decisions, relationships built between SCLN and attending ACC officers (clarifying protocols and dismissing interpretations of actions) and a report that would hold ACC staff accountable to any actions that came out of the Walk Through with the understanding of attending future SCLN meetings to update progress. The report can be viewed at Appendix 2.



Printfield Community Project

Provide a resource for community activity, support community capacity building and learning, providing a venue for a range of organisations that offer support, information and advice. The flat provides Family Support Services consisting of Crèche Provision, Youth Services, Out of School Care, Access to IT and assistance with Forms and Benefits relating to Welfare Reform.

Young people receive support to look at their choices when preparing to leave school and are guided to apply for employment, apprenticeships, or a college place. Forum members worked with ACC Waste Management team and participated in a Recycling

Project in Printfield to raise awareness among residents about the importance of recycling, and to tackle an ongoing problem with fly-tipping in the community.

Over 100 young people aged 5-16 participated in activities in the project and 49 in the After-School Club, with 12 children under 3 years are registered. In addition, 60 volunteers contributed 600 volunteer hours. The project has supported 50 people with relevance to Welfare Reform, helping with benefits etc.

Street design

The Street Design Project - Sustrans and Aberdeen City Council are working in partnership to develop a concept design that aims to make Tillydrone and Woodside a more attractive place to live, work and move around in. This will be achieved by strengthening the corridor between Great Northern Road and Tillydrone Avenue.

The Project builds on the Street audit undertaken by Living Streets in 2017 with residents which identified potential solutions to address road safety concerns along Hayton Road.

In terms of community engagement, the Street design process has worked with the community through the Street design steering Group meeting regularly to jointly organise engagement activities. The Street Design Steering Group (local reps and residents) consists of representatives or members of the following organisations:

- Riverbank Primary School
- Local Councillors
- Tillydrone Community Council
- Woodside Community Council
- Tillydrone Community Flat
- Donside Village Association
- Clifton Court Sheltered Housing Complex
- Health Walks Group
- NHS Health and Support
- Printfield Project Management Committee
- Printfield Forum
- Aberdeen Lad's Club
- Fersands and Fountain Community Project
- Station House Media Unit
- Over 55's lunch club
- Tidier Tilly Group

In total there have been over 3,000 people engaged, 38 activities and events and 500 children have got involved from July 2018 to June 2019.

There have been 5 key themes identified with local people and these are;

1. Improving pavement conditions
2. Reducing and slowing down traffic
3. Providing safer crossings
4. Enhancing public spaces

5. Adding more greenery and informal play opportunities

Key areas for design improvements include: The Underpass, Don Street Bridge, Hayton Road, The Woodside Gateway and the Hayton Road Entrance. Included in the Street Design Project is also the Tillydrone Gateway Sculpture proposal.

Cruyff Court

The Denis Law Legacy Trust and Streetsport Aberdeen identified Tillydrone as a possible location for a 3rd Cruyff Court in Aberdeen (potentially making Aberdeen the first city in the world with 3 Courts). In partnership with ACC Officers, consultation took place with local schools, and local community organisations notably Tillydrone Network and Tillydrone Community Council. Over 200 pupils were consulted, and agreement was reached to proceed with a Cruyff Court design. A location consultation was also carried out with local residents. The court will have the first hard surface running track as a result of the pupil consultations.

Despite the lockdown barriers the Cruyff Court project team has continually met to progress the business case and timelines for the Cruyff Court in Tillydrone. The final legal agreement is now being reviewed by Legal and the Communities Team to address the maintenance and sports coaching frameworks. The timeline for construction completion is now June 2021. The project has supported

- Increased involvement of children and young people in decision making in relation to design and location and type of multisport options
- Increased involvement of local organisations in decision making e.g. Tillydrone Community Flat, Tillydrone Community Council, Tillydrone Network

Station House Media Unit

SHMU provide a wide range of service supporting the locality – the community newsletters and radio station along with considerable volunteering and training opportunities. An excellent example of how these aspects can come together in support of the community is as follows:

Friends of Jacob's Ladder campaign

'A local person came into shmu one day to chat to staff about an idea she had; she regularly does litter picks throughout the Woodside and Tillydrone areas, particularly along the River Don, and is passionate about the upkeep of the area. After speaking to staff, she wrote up a piece for the Woodside Free Press and Tilly Tattle, set up a group email address and organised a public meeting which was to be held at shmu. Unfortunately, due to the current coronavirus pandemic the meeting has been postponed, but the community member received lots of positive feedback from her article and has not been discouraged in her efforts to do something positive for her community.'

Appendix 1

Report on Tillydrone Hub for Vulnerable Children and Young People.

Introduction and Context

Education Scotland was asked by Aberdeen City Council to undertake a brief visit to the Tillydrone Hub in Aberdeen and provide an objective view of how well staff are meeting the needs of children and young people in the context of the current Covid-19 pandemic. Two members of Education Scotland visited the hub on Friday 1st May 2020. The hub was established in response to the need to support vulnerable children and young people during a period of quarantine. It is housed in Tillydrone Community Hub. This report is structured to answer two key questions, using aspects of Quality Indicators 3.1 and 1.3 of How Good is our School? 4. At the time of the visit, 8 children were using the Hub.

How well is the Hub meeting the wellbeing needs of children and young people?

Staff know the needs of the children and young people very well. They have a clear understanding of each child's needs and are upholding well the 6 nurture principles within their practice. They respond effectively to pupils' individual needs and are very flexible in finding solutions to problems that arise. Planning to meet the needs of individuals' social, emotional and learning needs is working very well. Simple but effective processes are in place to ensure important information is shared with practitioners. Children are also able to rate their own emotional wellbeing each morning. Staff use effectively a multi-agency platform to capture information on children's health and wellbeing. This is shared appropriately with agencies supporting the child. The headteacher who oversees the hub has developed a very helpful information and planning wall which staff use to access information and add planning ideas.

Staff within the Tillydrone Hub have ensured that the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators are weaved throughout their practice and interactions with pupils. This helps to ensure that children are experiencing positive outcomes while they are in the hub and develop important life skills and knowledge. Staff have adapted parts of the building to meet the needs of specific children which helps children to feel safe and able to begin to feel calm following distressed behaviours. Staff have also used creative solutions to ensure exits from the building are safe for all pupils and staff. All staff do their best to implement guidelines on social distancing but this is not always possible when intervention with children is required.

The hub is based in a local community centre and this is proving to be a key strength in its successful operation. Staff are using on-site washing facilities to ensure children have clean clothing; they use the training kitchen to help children learn important cooking skills; and they make use of the local food bank to help children and families have enough food. This is supported by a newsletter which has easy recipes that families can cook together. The staff make very flexible use of the building which allows children to be active and make choices about their activities. This is very well monitored within the limitations of the social distancing guidelines.

Overall, children are achieving well. They develop a range of skills through experiential learning and this is supported further by teachers, who provide support for learning that is delivered through Google Classrooms. Other partners, such as Active Schools and Community Learning and Development contribute extremely effectively to the learning of children. Children are included well in the life and planning of the Hub through the use of ideas walls and planning discussions. The effective outcomes are based on very strong positive relationships between staff which are then developed between staff and children. There is very effective multi-agency working with the needs of children being the first and foremost driver for planning and discussion.

How effective is the strategic planning of hub delivery?

The headteacher overseeing the hub is a very effective and respected leader. She has, in a very short time, recruited and built a blend of volunteers with flexible 'can-do' attitudes: this is a key element to the success of the hub. She provides clear advice and simple processes which people follow. The key social worker is also an important leader and helps to ensure the wellbeing needs of children, arising from home, are quickly communicated to and addressed by the hub team. This strong partnership is supported very well by the advice and guidance of the local authority. Of particular note are the 'markers of vulnerability' which facilitate child-centred planning. Appropriate support and guidance is also given to staff to support their own health and wellbeing. Across the hub, staff take the lead to provide activities for children and young people.

The multi-agency working in the hub is highly effective. A broad range of partners works very effectively together to draw on each other's skills and experiences to deliver a child-led service. The strong collaboration means that decisions are made quickly and outcomes reviewed without adding too much to workload. For example, evaluation activities take place using a 'dart board' approach which includes staff and children.

Staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities within the hub. However, they are flexible enough to pick up a range of work if it helps to meet the needs of children. They are empowered to use their professional judgement, suggest changes and initiate new thinking. Which agency is in the lead changes in response to the needs of children and very effective communication through twice daily meetings has resulted in cross-pollination of learning for staff. Staff understand their responsibilities regarding safeguarding and know where to go for guidance if required.

Summary

Overall, the hub is a highly effective place for children to learn and thrive. This is underpinned by a number of positive factors:

- The hub is not based in a school and so children and staff have taken ownership of the environment and made it suit the needs of all. The more relaxed atmosphere helps children to remain calm and feel they can take the lead in some of their activities and learning.
- The ability to use the resources in the community centre means that the hub is supporting the parents and carers as well as the children. This helps to develop a more relaxed atmosphere at home and benefits the children. The Friday coffee, made by a local parent creates a relaxed environment where staff and children mingle within the context of social distancing. This helps to build positive relationships across the service.
- The leadership of the headteacher has led to an effective blend of people being brought together to plan and deliver outcomes for children. The unreserved commitment from all staff to collaboration and multi-agency working means that solutions to problems are found quickly and new ideas are developed at pace.

Staff in the hub may wish to consider:

- Using technology to help children record and talk about their learning. This could also be used to connect parents and carers to the activities children are experiencing.
- Staggering food parcel distribution to best meet the needs of families, taking into consideration when wages are paid or benefits received.
- How they can feedback to children on suggestions made to improve the hub.

Appendix 2

Walk Through:

Local people taking action

Organisation Seaton Linksfield Community Network

An Audit of.....Infrastructure.....



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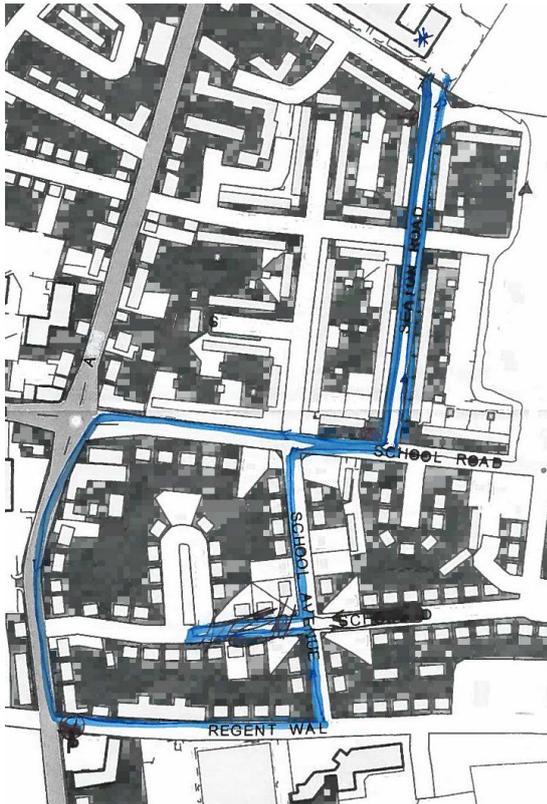
Introduction

We are Seaton Linksfield Community Network (SLCN) and plan to create a Seaton that is a safe, attractive and enjoyable place for residents and visitors to enjoy. We hope to work with professionals and politicians to make sure the vision we have for Seaton can be fulfilled.

Part of this process was to carry out a series of Walk Throughs looking at Environment, Infrastructure and Housing conditions.

Audit route and process

Due to the nature of a Walk Through it would have been impractical to cover every street, lane, path or park in Seaton. As such a route was selected that would highlight a range of environmental issues that would reflect issues across the community.



Summary

On 16th September, 13:00, 2019 an audit of Infrastructure issues in Seaton was undertaken by members of the (SLCN) with support from Traffic Management and Road Safety Team.

The Walk Through was a structured and systematic method of evaluating Infrastructure issues within Seaton from the point of view of those who reside there. Due to several factors it was agreed previously with SLCN to have a designated route that would pick up on potential areas of discussion.

From the Walk Through the group agreed the following priority short and longer-term actions that would improve conditions for walking.

Priority recommendations for action

Short term:

Potholes;

Throughout the walk there were several potholes identified with further information being shared of this being across Seaton.

Action;

Vycki informed the Walk Through of the process in repairing reported potholes; once reported and inspection team will inspect and if it meets the criteria will then be repaired. Routes, such as Bus routes will get priority.

It is everyone's responsibility to report potholes or indeed other issues with roads and pavements, more information can be found on Council website - <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking/report-problem-road-pavement-or-road-sign>

Longer term:

Gullies;

It was noted that several Gullies were not draining properly and resulting in localised flooding when it rained. Some of the Gullies that were not draining properly impacted on areas further down the road not draining and created large puddles and preventing pedestrians from using crossings.

Action;

Vycki stated that Gullies were not directly the responsibility of her team but would pass on the concerns to the officers responsible. It was also noted that due to cutbacks there were fewer gully clearing resources; this has had an impact on the frequency of Gully clearing.

It is everyone's responsibility to report blocked gullies or indeed other issues with roads and pavements, more information can be found on Council website - <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking/report-problem-road-pavement-or-road-sign>

Road Markings

Throughout the walk the road markings highlighting speed limits were worn and not particularly clear.

Action;

The group was informed that road markings were refreshed as reported and budget allows with priority given to those at junctions. This work is only carried out during the summer months.

Encouragement to report issues would be through the following link; <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking/report-problem-road-pavement-or-road-sign>

Additional Information

Throughout the walk and in the discussions afterwards Vycki was able to give an insight to other questions / issues raised

School Road

Additional crossing

There is not enough pedestrian traffic to justify another crossing however there are currently plans looking at a number of factors on School Road that might impact on this assessment.

Reduce Traffic

Currently looking to reduce traffic, particularly HGV's coming through Seaton by several potential approaches, such as; limit weight on School Road and additional through routes (Golf Road etc). This is also about looking at making King Street more appealing for HGV's to use. Currently work being done to move this on.

Plans are in motion to look at getting the safety van to come to school road (currently not a priority road for them) and monitor for accidents and speeding. The location of this sites now with Vycki's team who will try to make the case for sighting of the van on School Road.

Dropped Kerbs

Recognition that some kerbs at crossing points are high. These are not routinely dropped with priority given to those with mobility issues; require anything from a walker to a mobility scooter to move around. Requests should relate to specific individuals and routes.

For further information; <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking>

Link in with local priorities

Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)

Stretch Outcome

15.38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026

Key Driver

15.1 Supporting different ways for active travel in everyday journeys, using partners and volunteers to address safety, infrastructure, fitness, well-being and confidence.

Contact details

Whilst the Walk Through was designed to pick up a range of points regarding infrastructure issues, findings were limited by the coverage of the Walk Through. As a result, the Operational Team recognised that the issues identified in this report is potentially replicated

in other areas of Seaton. However, they can only act on what was observed in this Walk Through and what can be reported through online processes.

Infrastructure issues can report directly on the Council website;
<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking>

This report is submitted by Seaton Linksfield Community Network please direct your response to the group's named representative:

Alan Parker – SLCN Chairperson

E-mail: chair@seatonlinksfield.co.uk