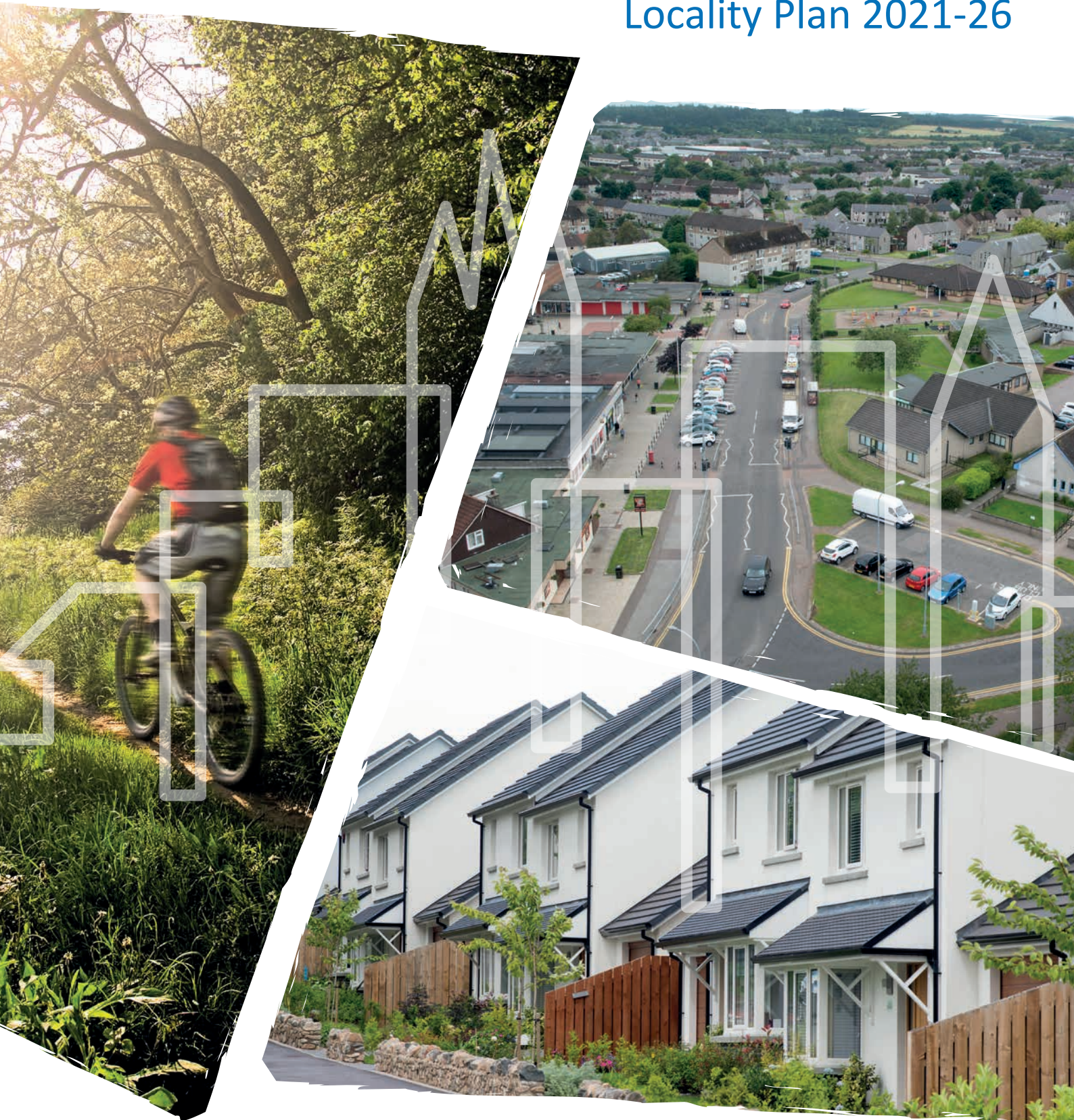


# Aberdeen City - North

Locality Plan 2021-26



Community Planning  
Aberdeen

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# FOREWORD

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We are delighted to share the first North Locality Plan. The plan has been developed by exploring local data but, more importantly, has been shaped by listening to the people living and working across the locality to understand what would make the greatest difference to them. This has taken place through the establishment of the North Locality Empowerment Group and discussions with various stakeholders, including community members.

We recognise that within the North locality there are some neighbourhoods which face challenges requiring targeted support. The Northfield Priority Neighbourhood Partnership continues to follow the work of the former Northfield Locality Board (and earlier Northfield Total Place) to build on the partnership work within these areas – *Northfield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Middlefield and Heathryfold*.

The Covid 19 pandemic has had a significant impact on all our lives. Communities have demonstrated how responsive and willing they can be in meeting the range of challenges that their members have faced.

The next steps are to continue to build on what is strong across North locality and strengthen our collective vision to ensure that North locality is a place where all can prosper. This plan should be seen as a living document and will be shaped by the community as we continue to understand the needs and opportunities in the area.

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**Aberdeen City Council**



## Development of Plan

The development of this plan has taken place during a global pandemic which has meant many of the traditional ways of engaging with communities and staff, including meeting face to face and canvassing opinions in neighbourhoods across North locality has not been possible. Instead most engagement has taken place on-line and through virtual mechanisms to ensure that views have been captured. In an attempt to ensure citizens and staff living and working in North locality were involved in the process the following engagement opportunities took place:

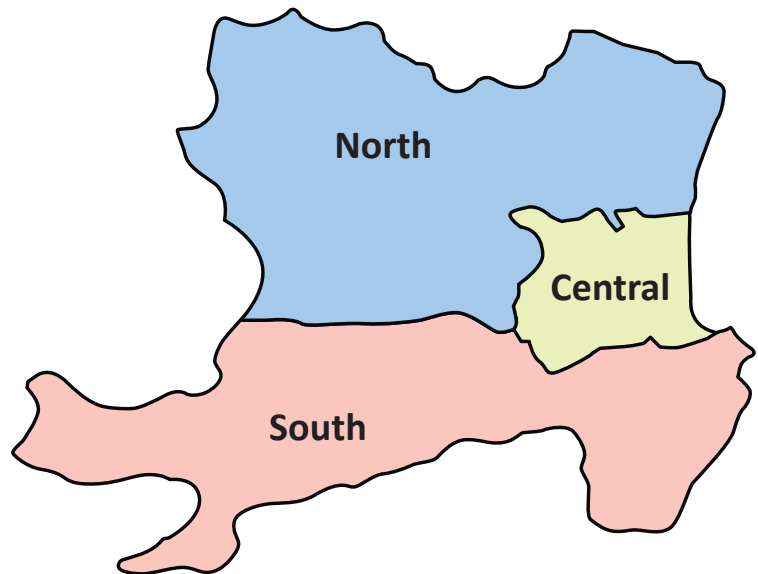
- During February four workshops were facilitated on the themes of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP); people (adults), people (children and young people), place and economy where locality data was shared and citizens were asked what the priorities should be and potential ideas for action, the workshops were attended by 45 people from North locality.
- During March staff workshops were held for each locality where locality data was shared along with feedback from community sessions to seek feedback from frontline staff on what the priorities should be and suggested ideas for actions, the North workshop was attended by 21 members of staff.
- For staff unable to attend the workshop (it was recognised these workshops were taking place during the highest level of civil contingency in response to COVID therefore making it challenging for frontline staff to attend) a survey was developed based on the themes of the workshop, 26 members of staff shared their views.
- An additional survey was tailored to capture views of children and young people and sent to all schools for completion, 130 children and young people completed the form.
- A session was facilitated with the youth council to capture views on priorities and suggested actions.
- An online simulator was developed to enable citizens to express what was important and of value to them and their community and this was open from 1-30 March 2021. The simulator was completed by 713 people in North. Full results are available here [CP Simulator Summary results and Appendix \(2\).pdf](#) The top five priorities identified in the simulator were shared with members of the Locality Empowerment Groups (LEGs) and incorporated in discussions to identify the six overarching themes for the North locality plan. The results were also incorporated within the plans.
- The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) provided support with the process by facilitating a number of workshops throughout April including; a visioning session, an evening session and workshops for each of the three localities, the purpose of these workshops were to turn the ideas into actions, the sessions were attended by 17 people in North.
- A workshop providing an overview on Community Planning Aberdeen and consultation on the locality plan template was held in April, this was attended by 14 people.
- LEG and Priority Neighbourhood Partnership Meetings took place throughout January – April to check in with the process and gain feedback to inform the development of the plans.
- On-going actions from Locality Recovery Plans have been incorporated within this plan.
- During this process the findings from the People at the Centre Engagement which took place nationally in late 2020 have also been considered and incorporated as appropriate.



# LIVING IN THE NORTH

Central Locality is made up of 14 neighbourhoods including:

1. Dyce
2. Danestone
3. Oldmachar
4. Denmore
5. Balgownie & Donmouth
6. Bucksburn
7. Heathryfold
8. Middlefield
9. Kingswells
10. Northfield
11. Cummings Park
12. Sheddocksley
13. Mastrick
14. Summerhill



Based on analysis from the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD), we have identified some of these neighbourhoods to be priority neighbourhoods. That means they need additional support to benefit from the same opportunities to thrive and succeed as other neighbourhoods within the North Locality. Our priority neighbourhoods include: Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park and Mastrick.

The North area of the City covers a large area of the city from suburban areas bordering Aberdeenshire to more populated urban housing estates. Many of these neighbourhoods run alongside the River Don. Aberdeen airport lies within North locality resulting in people regularly travelling to the area for employment and recreation purposes. The oil boom in the 1980s gave way for a number of new housing developments as well as a number of oil and gas companies establishing bases within the area. Within the area, there are many green spaces, a community Hub, Aberdeen Treasure Hub, community centres, schools and places of worship providing a range of opportunities. New additions to the area include the P&J Live – a multipurpose indoor arena as well as the connecting Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route.

This is how people living in North described the community they live in:

**Complicated** **Safe**  
**Leafy** **Villagey**  
**Growing** **Huge**  
**Active**

# VISION FOR NORTH

The Vision for Aberdeen City is a 'Place where all people can prosper'.

We asked communities in the North Locality to break this down into what this means for them.

**PRIORITIES**  
Do you agree with priorities?  
 - Priorities do NOT apply to Bridge of Don  
 - HUGE community large population  
 - Focus on regeneration  
 - LOPSIDED North sub-groups?  
 - Should apply to full North  
 - Change language around poverty  
 - Differs depending on demographics of specific North communities  
 - Physical health important across communities  
 - Danestone & Bridge of Don  
 - Need for local employment  
 - Affected by oil  
 - Older people Funding?  
 - Digital access is key

**What's working well?**  
**VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**  
 - Full sense - not just post covid  
 - Battalion of volunteers - how to best use?  
 - Asset mapping - priorities may change  
 - Park generates lots of people from all areas  
 - clean up & gardening  
 - Outreach programme in sheltered housing - older volunteers - post covid support  
**DIGITAL INCLUSION**  
 - Connecting Scotland delivering technology to households  
 - Council looking to expand wifi for sheltered complexes  
 - Donestone Community centre busy - community wants  
 - Scotland's Service Directory - what's out there? up to date  
**REDUCING POVERTY**  
 - Food & fun established holiday hunger programme  
 - Parents involved in cookery prep & on committees  
**PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELLBEING**  
 - Silver Surfers

**What needs to change?**  
 - Grow confidence of volunteers - post covid  
 - Crossroots - meetings dominated by professional staff  
 - Professionals in communities - listen & find out what has changed  
 - Capitalise on appetite for volunteering  
 - Professional help to recruit  
 - Share volunteers across communities  
 - Share resources too  
 - Volunteering as a step into employment  
 - How to create spaces, get better at connecting & sharing  
 - e-consult  
 - Transparency, honesty & listening

**PRINCIPLES/VALUES** TOP 3  
 1 Empowered & connected communities  
 2 Focus on prevention, early intervention & reducing inequalities  
 3 Build on what we already have

**Other suggestions:**  
 - Happy & active community  
 - Rewarded & valued community  
 - Listening, transparency & honesty

**VISIONING NORTH LOCALITY**  
 Aberdeen City Health & Social Care Partnership  
 A caring partnership

During one of the workshops participants were then asked to vote on what was most important to them and this is what they said (the words in largest font were voted for the most with the words in smaller font receiving the least votes):

equity build  
 valued community transparency  
 active community inequality early intervention  
**connected community**  
 listening honesty person inequality  
**prevention focus**  
 human rights approach justice centred approach



Using a combination of data as well as insight from community members and front-line staff, six priorities were identified to ensure that all people living in North locality, including those people living in our most disadvantaged communities, have an equal chance to prosper. These include:

Locality Priorities	Link with city wide LOIP Priority Themes
Reduce the number of people living in poverty through the creation of local employment, training and apprenticeship opportunities, and create solutions to tackle food poverty	<b>Economy</b>
Increase digital access and skills across the locality	
Improve the physical health and wellbeing of people	<b>People</b>
Support local volunteering opportunities beyond the pandemic	
Early intervention approach targeted at those who are involved in, or at risk in offending behaviour (domestic abuse, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour)	
Maximise use of disused outdoor space to increase food growing opportunities	<b>Place</b>

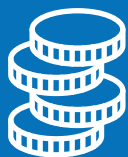
Above and throughout this document we have made the links between our priorities and the work of the wider Community Planning Aberdeen Partnership being delivered through the city wide LOIP. This is essential to ensure we are working collaboratively on common priorities, supporting each other by sharing knowledge and experience and testing out our ideas together to ensure they have the best chance of success, scalability and sustainable results.



# THE NORTH ECONOMY

## What we know about the North

### From what the data tells us:



**Earnings** In 2017, median annual household income ranged from £18,596 in Middlefield to £59,162 in Kingswells. 7 of the datazones in the North locality are in the 20% most income deprived areas in Scotland, with 3 in both Mastrick and Middlefield and 1 in Northfield.



**Universal Credit** 30.1% of people in Aberdeen on universal credit live within the North Locality. Numbers are highest in Bucksburn (783), Heathryfold & Middlefield (766), Northfield (628) and Mastrick (538) and lowest in Danestone (129).



**Covid Impact** There was a 124% increase in people on universal credit and 145% increase in claimants between March and November due to Covid.



**Food Poverty** In 2020, when asked about food security, 3.6% of respondents from the North Locality to the City Voice reported being worried they wouldn't have enough food to eat; 5.5% reporting they were hungry but didn't eat and 1.8% going without eating for a day. As at 12 December 2020, 13% of calls to the crisis line requiring food assistance were from Cummings Park, Heathryfold, Mastrick, Middlefield, Northfield.



**Digital Connectivity** In 2020, 75% of respondents from the North Locality (95.5%) to the City Voice reported having basic digital skills (based on answering 'yes' to questions about foundation skills), this is lower compared to respondents from the South and Central Localities.

### From what you have told us:

*The link between all areas is poverty – it connects to everything. There is lots of stigma around poverty.'*

*'Job losses in the oil industry and impact of Covid means more people are claiming benefits and needing support than ever before but there is stigma and shame associated with taking support when needed.'*

*'Covid has had a significant impact on people with disabilities – accessing benefits, training and future employment opportunities.'*

*'There is an increase in use of food banks and more demand for emergency food provision. Food & Fun continues in the locality so food poverty remains a challenge.'*

*'More apprentices and opportunities for people of all ages to seek new skills regardless of their qualifications.'*

*'Digital connectivity is extremely important for people. Being isolated is a big issue facing many vulnerable people currently.'*





## Our priorities for partnership working

There is already a wide range of activity already taking place by community groups and organisations across the locality and within our priority neighbourhood partnerships to tackle the issues highlighted above.

This Locality Plan includes the areas where we can bring added value by working more collaboratively - communities, public, private and third sector organisations working together in partnership to test new ideas which we believe will improve outcomes.

The table below includes the two priorities we have identified for partnership working in the North Locality which can be linked to the Community Planning Partnership theme of Economy.

North Priorities	Link with city wide LOIP Stretch Outcomes (SO)
Reduce the number of people living in poverty through the creation of local employment, training and apprenticeship opportunities, and create solutions to tackle food poverty	SO1 - Poverty SO2 – Employability
Increase digital access and skills across the locality	SO3 – Upskill/Reskill

The following tables set out the improvement projects that we believe can help us achieve our priorities.

## Our Improvement Plan

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

Improvement Project Aim	Project Lead	Community Ideas for Improvement we might test	Where we might test them	Community Connector
<b>Income and Employment</b>				
Increase employer sign up to the Real Living Wage by 5% year on year to 2023 to achieve Real Living Wage City Status by 2026.	Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Prospers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage employers in the locality to sign up to the Real Living Wage.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Shmu
Support 50 people into sustained, good quality employment by 2023, and 100 by 2026, with a particular focus on; those from priority neighbourhoods and people over 50.	Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Prospers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop locally designed services that reflect needs of the community.</li> <li>Promote information available on ABZ works.</li> <li>Develop volunteering pathways to lead into local employment.</li> <li>Promote job opportunities through new Northfield/ Cummings Park nursery as well as childcare options to support local families.</li> <li>Encourage opportunities to reskill local people into new employment sectors</li> <li>Ensure linkage to low-cost childcare options in the area.</li> <li>Promote and offer employability workshops delivered by Farrans.</li> <li>Promote the kickstart programme as well as seek opportunities to support individuals beyond kickstart.</li> </ul>	Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick	Shmu  Farrans Middlefield Community Project ACVO
Supporting 50 people to start a business in Aberdeen who will be coming off the benefits system or significantly reducing their benefits through starting a business by 2023 and 100 by 2026.	Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Prospers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunities and provide ongoing support to grow and sustain local social enterprises which contribute to building communities; local relationships and reducing isolation.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	

Support 15 care experienced young people progress to employment through public sector funded employability programmes by 2023.	Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Prospers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and develop employment opportunities for young people by giving them placements and support on how to do interviews.</li> </ul>	Middlefield	Middlefield Community Project Shmu
Increase to 30 in total, the no. of individuals who are on a custodial sentence, Community Payback Order with a Supervision Requirement, on Unpaid Work Orders, on Remand or who have been Diverted from Prosecution who are being supported to make progress on the Employability Pipeline by 2022.	Skills Development Scotland, Community Justice Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build on learning from Community Payback Order project in Aberdeenshire and test in North.</li> <li>Auchmill golf course to offer local apprenticeships.</li> </ul>	Cummings Park Mastrick Middlefield	Shmu Auchmill golf course
<b>Training and Apprenticeships</b>				
80% of young people successfully complete their Modern Apprenticeship programme by 2023.	North East Scotland College, Aberdeen Prospers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage young people into a range of local apprenticeship opportunities, i.e., Police Scotland; Housing; Bon Accord Care etc.</li> <li>Build on pilot with Hazlehead Academy and Mastrick Community Centre offering young people progression to employment within childcare sector.</li> <li>Promote apprenticeship opportunities at Auchmill Golf Course.</li> <li>Foundation apprenticeships offered by Shmu.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Mastrick Community Centre Bon Accord Care Auchmill golf course Shmu
Increase the number of Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships by 5% by 2022.	North East Scotland College, Aberdeen Prospers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote housing modern apprentice and graduate trainee schemes.</li> <li>Share positive stories from local young people and employers that have benefitted from apprenticeships.</li> </ul>		Aberdeen City Council Shmu
Improve the overall impact of partnership wide community benefits by increasing the number of projects which involve community co-design activities from 0 to 5 by December 2023.	Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Prospers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen and build on relationships with local businesses as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility – e.g., Farrans – Haudagain. Build on projects such as STEM ambassadors at Northfield Academy.</li> <li>Work with local oil companies in Bridge of Don/ Dyce offering volunteering time.</li> <li>Work with local academies to increase uptake of virtual work experience scheme with Farrans.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Farrans

<p>Increase the number of vulnerable learners entering a positive and sustained destination by 7% by 2023.</p>	<p>Aberdeen City Council, Children's Services Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map what is already going on to support vulnerable learners into positive and sustained destinations, e.g., Northfield Academy cycle maintenance, Training Academy (Shmu).</li> <li>• Build on Men's shed model – develop an approach which is suitable for young people and linked to a local school.</li> <li>• Build on learning from projects such as AMPED which is based around trail bike maintenance.</li> <li>• Build on test with Hazlehead Academy and Mastrick Community Centre offering young people progression to employment within childcare sector.</li> </ul>	<p>Locality wide</p>	<p>Mastrick Community Centre  Shmu</p>
<p><b>Poverty</b></p>				
<p>Increase the number of people using community pantries by 20% by 2023.</p>	<p>CFine, Anti-Poverty Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that services are more joined up and wrap around the whole family/person.</li> <li>• Increase volunteer involvement in community pantries.</li> <li>• Support families beyond crisis support, i.e., budgeting; cooking skills, etc.</li> <li>• Use community pantries to break down barriers around poverty and stigma.</li> <li>• Learn from Best Start in Life pantry – opportunity to test in North.</li> </ul>	<p>Locality wide</p>	<p>Family Learning Team - North Fit Like Hub</p>
<p>Increase the uptake of unclaimed benefit across Aberdeen City by 2023 (TBC).</p>	<p>Department for Work &amp; Pensions, Anti-Poverty Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that services are more joined up and wrap around the whole family/person.</li> <li>• Roll out benefits awareness/financial literacy training to community members; volunteers and staff to avoid people reaching out only at crisis point.</li> <li>• Support families who experience language barriers to navigate support and benefits available.</li> <li>• Need to explore bold approaches to tackling poverty, i.e., buying debt.</li> <li>• Support families in poverty who are on low income or on furlough to access appropriate support.</li> </ul>	<p>Locality wide</p>	<p>Community Pantry (the Cubby) North Fit Like Hub Shmu</p>

Decrease the number of households in extreme fuel poverty in Aberdeen by 54% by 2023; and reduce the rate of socially rented households in fuel poverty in Aberdeen by 108% by 2023.	Scarf, Anti-Poverty Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness of support available, e.g., Scarf.</li> <li>• Encouraging volunteers to be trained to support local households with insulation advice.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Local volunteers
Increase support for those who have been most disadvantaged through the pandemic.	Aberdeen City Council, Anti-Poverty Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that support is available for families that do not qualify for benefit assistance.</li> <li>• More support for people with disabilities – including better access; tackling discrimination/hate crime and better opportunities for disabled people to participate.</li> <li>• Increased support for individuals wellbeing beyond the pandemic.</li> <li>• Raise awareness of poverty across the locality to break down the barriers around poverty and stigma.</li> <li>• Share learning from pop-up TSB services at Danestone.</li> <li>• Promote Pathways employability programme.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Danestone Community Centre

### Increase digital access and skills across the locality.

Improvement Project Aim	Project Lead	Community Ideas for Improvement we might test	Where we might test them	Community Connector
<p>By December 2022, increase by 10% the number of people in Aberdeen who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have digital access; and</li> <li>• Feel comfortable using digital tools.</li> </ul>	Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Prospers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that sheltered housing complexes have wifi to allow digital connection.</li> <li>• Increase support available for digital champions as part of Connecting Scotland programme.</li> <li>• Promote Connecting Scotland programme and distributing devices amongst new parents to connect to social support.</li> <li>• Promote places where people can access digital devices and support, e.g., community centres and libraries. Could people lend out a laptop?</li> <li>• Ensure Wifi is available in community centres and libraries so that people can take their own devices and access free data.</li> <li>• Promote digital inclusion course via Farrans and Shmu.</li> <li>• Improve wellbeing with a group of individuals at Dominies Court through digital support.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	<p>Farrans</p> <p>Shmu</p> <p>Libraries</p> <p>Aberdeen Health and Social Care</p> <p>Sport Aberdeen</p> <p>Bon Accord Care</p> <p>Middlefield Community Project</p>

# THE NORTH PEOPLE

## What we know about the North

### From what the data tells us:



**Child Health** Child Health The % of primary ones with no obvious tooth decay varies across the Locality, being highest in Oldmachar (89%) and lowest in Heathryfold/Middlefield (58%), compared to the city rate of 69.7%. Balgownie and Donmouth West have the highest proportion of children at P1 with a healthy weight in the Locality 92%. The lowest proportion of P1s with a healthy weight in the locality is Heathryfold/Middlefield at 72%.



**Positive Destinations** In 2018/19, positive destinations varied across the Locality, being highest in the North Locality at Dyce Academy at 95% and lowest in Northfield Academy at 81%.



**Mental Health** The rate of probable suicide (2014-2018) in the North Locality increased to 13.3 from 11.7; similar to the city rate of 13.8; 18.9% of people were prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis (2019/20)



**Life Expectancy** Heathryfold/Middlefield has both the lowest life expectancy (F:76.9/M: 71.8) and highest death rates in the Locality (1,446), more than double the lowest rate in the Locality of 692 in Kingswells.



**Drugs and Alcohol** The rate of alcohol related deaths is lowest in the North Locality at 16.9 per 100,000 in 2014/18, compared to the city (19.9). Heathryfold & Middlefield has the highest rate (1,348) of alcohol related hospital admissions (19/20) in the Locality, nearly double the city rate (710.6) and more than 6 times the rate of the lowest neighbourhood of Balgownie and Donmouth West (281). The rate of drug related hospital admissions in the North Locality increased to 168 per 100,000 population in 2016/17-2018/19, from 156. This is lower than the city rate (182) and the Central Locality (222), but higher than in the South Locality (147).

### From what you have told us:

*'Concerned that the lack of social activities and social development during Covid will have a lasting impact on all children and their parents.'*

*'We are particularly worried about the impact of Covid on the transition from P7 to S1 in our priority neighbourhoods.'*

*'There's been an increase in people exercising indoors and outdoors. But a decline in those shielding and people feeling anxious to go out.'*

*'People are eating more but more people are also cooking from scratch.'*

*'Social isolation continues to be a contributing factor to mental health issues.'*

*'We need more facilities such as skate parks in each community, youth clubs, evening classes etc. Classes to meet and engage with likeminded people will help with mental health and feelings of loneliness.'*



**Health & Wellbeing** In 2019, 89% of respondents from the North Locality to the Health & Social Care users Survey agreed that support helps them live as independently as possible, similar to responses from South (91%) and Central (90%) Localities. 59% said it was hard for them to get motivated to look after their own health, lower compared to the city response (68%) and South (73%) and Central (71%).



**Crime** In 2019, crime rate per 1,000 population in the North Locality is 22.9, lower than the city rate of 35.3, the rate for the South (23.5) and Central (57.6) Localities. Crime rates vary across the Locality with a high of 56 in Cummings Park, compared to a low of 4.8 in Denmore. The 3 highest rates are all priority neighbourhoods and all higher than the city rate of 35.3. The majority (12 of 16) of neighbourhoods in the North locality have a lower crime rate than the city.

*‘Encouraging people to use the outdoors and to exercise by providing the environment to make this easier for them to do so safely will do more for public health than any health initiative telling them what to do.’*

*‘There is a link to the increase in alcohol use and isolation.’*

*‘We are concerned about harm due to drugs in the locality, both the causes and consequences.’*

*‘Shop lifting and petty crime is on the increase.’*

*‘Increase in domestic abuse – raised through Northfield Partnership Forum from schools.’*

### Our priorities for partnership working

The table below includes the three priorities we have identified for partnership working in the North Locality which can be linked to the Community Planning Partnership theme of People.

North Priorities	Link with city wide LOIP Stretch Outcomes (SO)
Improve the physical health and wellbeing of people	SO 5 – Child Mental Health SO8 – Child Friendly City SO 11 – Healthy Life SO 14 – Sustainable Travel
Support local volunteering opportunities beyond the pandemic	SO 11 – Healthy Life SO13 – Climate Change
Early intervention approach targeted at those who are involved in, or at risk in offending behaviour (domestic abuse, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour)	SO 10 – Community Justice SO12 – Alcohol & Drugs SO13 – Climate Change

The following tables set out the improvement projects that we believe can help us achieve our priorities.



## Our Improvement Plan

### Improve the physical health and wellbeing of people.

Improvement Project Aim	Project Lead	Community Ideas for Improvement we might test	Where we might test them	Community Connector
<b>Physical Health</b>				
<p>Increase % of people who walk as one mode of travel by 10% by 2023.</p>	<p>Nestrans, Sustainable City Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build on interest in cycling during lockdown – cycle classes; bike storage; adaptable bikes encourage more “walk and talks” encouraging others from across the locality to adopt a similar approach.</li> <li>Encourage more buggy walks and similar approaches across generations.</li> <li>Promote facilities on walking routes, i.e., accessible for wheelchairs; toilets on route, etc in local area.</li> <li>Promote and upgrade local path network paths, e.g. Whitestripes Avenue., Northfield to Bucksburn.</li> <li>Work together to promote all the walking/jogging groups in the local area.</li> <li>Promote Aberdeen bike hire scheme once in place new walking routes around Haudagain development.</li> <li>Promote local walks in community magazines.</li> <li>Development of Heathryfold woodland area.</li> <li>Offer Paths for all training to build on network of Health Walks.</li> <li>Work together to promote all the walking/jogging groups in the local area. (Health Walks/Over 50s network)</li> <li>Develop a ‘Park Walk’ for those not keen on the Park Run.</li> </ul>	<p>Locality wide</p>	<p>Farrans</p> <p>Shmu</p> <p>Heathryfold Woodland</p> <p>Paths for All</p> <p>Stay Well, Stay Connected</p> <p>NESTRANS</p> <p>Health and Social Care Partnership</p> <p>Middlefield Community Project</p>
<p>Increase % of people who cycle as one mode of travel to by 2% by 2023.</p>	<p>Nestrans, Sustainable City Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build on interest in cycling during lockdown – cycle classes; bike storage; adaptable bikes.</li> <li>Promote and upgrade local path network, e.g., Whitestripes Avenue.</li> <li>Promote Aberdeen bike hire scheme once in place.</li> <li>Ensure community involvement in Kingswells to Westhill development.</li> <li>Promote new cycling routes around Haudagain development.</li> </ul>	<p>Locality wide</p>	<p>Farrans</p> <p>Shmu</p> <p>Paths for All</p> <p>NESTRANS</p> <p>Middlefield Community Project</p>



Refer 20% of people living with COPD or other respiratory conditions into specific PR physical activity and other support programmes delivered in community settings by 2023.	NHS Grampian, Resilient, Included and Supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More health and social care services to be available within community centres.</li> <li>• Expand sites providing specialist support activities for long-term conditions.</li> <li>• Promote referral to online and face to face condition specific classes at Sheddocksley, Jesmond, Alex Collie and the Beacon Sports Centres.</li> <li>• Build a network of volunteers to deliver strength and balance classes – both indoor and outdoor across the locality.</li> <li>• Expand use of physical activity exercise cards at Fairley Den and Len Ironside Centre.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	<p>Sport Aberdeen</p> <p>Bon Accord Care</p> <p>Local volunteers</p> <p>Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership</p>
Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023.	Aberdeen City Council, Resilient, Included and Supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a smoke-free generation where young people smoking, vaping or using e-cigarettes is not culturally acceptable.</li> </ul>	Middlefield	
<b>Wellbeing</b>				
Increase to 80%, the number of staff who feel confident about how to directly support, or refer a child for support, and signpost to appropriate services by 2022.	Aberdeen City Council, Children's Services Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training for staff in understanding ASD and how to support families.</li> <li>• Training to support anxiety in young people.</li> <li>• Identify who would benefit from training locally and advertise widely, i.e., uniformed organisations, community centres, volunteers, youth clubs, etc.</li> <li>• Ensure information is readily available to support parents.</li> <li>• Provide support to ensure that people understand the process for referral and who to contact.</li> <li>• Youth hub to support young people to develop life skills and confidence in their ability and deal with any issues affecting their wellbeing.</li> <li>• Share practice amongst organisations about being a Trauma-Informa workplace.</li> <li>• Promote MindU mental health recovery support programme aimed at ages 12-25.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	<p>North fit like hub</p> <p>Local Schools</p> <p>Local community groups</p> <p>Mastrick Community Centre</p> <p>Middlefield Community project</p> <p>Shmu</p>

Increase by 80% the use of digital wellbeing resources for children and young people's mental health and wellbeing by 2022.	NHS Grampian, Children's Services Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and increase a range of online wellbeing sessions for children and young people.</li> <li>Use community media platforms as a way for young people to share their views on mental health and wellbeing.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	North fit like hubs Shmu
100% of children and young people have increased free access to physical activity which improves mental health and wellbeing by 2022.	Aberdeen City Council/ Sport Aberdeen, Children's Services Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage outdoor play using green spaces across the locality. Promote local community groups and activities run by Play Forum and rangers.</li> <li>Use reach of community planning partners to promote and market local organisations.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Community-based organisations – uniformed org, etc.
Reduce the rolling 3-year average number of suicides in Aberdeen to below 26 (2019) by 2023.	Police Scotland, Resilient, Included and Supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop buddy scheme to support people out of lockdown.</li> <li>Roll out of suicide prevention training/promote suicide prevention app.</li> </ul>	Middlefield Locality wide	SAMH
Increase the number of unpaid carers feeling supported by 10% by 2023.	Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership, Resilient, Included and Supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of informal opportunities for unpaid carers across the locality.</li> <li>Co-design local unpaid carers resources and support.</li> <li>Explore opportunities to support unpaid carers with their wellbeing post lockdown.</li> <li>Increase support for dementia sufferers and their carers.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Quarriers
Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.	Aberdeen City Council/ Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership, Resilient, Included and Supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have local noticeboards (near parks) with information about what's available in the local area.</li> <li>Use local Facebook pages (e.g., community councils) to get key messages out to the local community.</li> <li>Test approach with Bon Accord Care signposting individuals to local community opportunities through use of iPads.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	LEG members Bon Accord Care

<p>To support 50 low income families in priority neighbourhood to improve eating behaviours and adopt positive lifestyle choices to help towards a healthy weight by 2023.</p>	<p>NHS Grampian, Resilient, Included and Supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support breastfeeding peer supporter locally.</li> <li>• Promote Best Start/Healthy Start vitamins.</li> <li>• Improve access to fresh food locally.</li> <li>• Support families to cook and prepare food from scratch on a budget.</li> <li>• Establish outdoor gym equipment for adults to encourage physical activity, improved wellbeing and to bring the community together.</li> <li>• Ensure playparks are accessible for all.</li> <li>• Adapt exercise cards developed for people in sheltered housing to be used for families to ensure that finance is not a barrier to being active.</li> <li>• Improve safety in parks e.g., lighting.</li> <li>• Influence local shops to provide affordable healthy produce.</li> </ul>	<p>Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park &amp; Mastrick</p>	<p>Local businesses Sport Aberdeen  Aberdeen City Council - Education</p>
<p>Build social connections across North locality.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on building social connections – develop links locally - what is on in the local area, i.e., community centres; libraries; green spaces; church halls, etc.</li> <li>• Develop community hub model beyond priority neighbourhoods.</li> <li>• Improve awareness of local services from Aberdeen and refer people to this.</li> <li>• Spread awareness of what is available locally via ALISS.</li> <li>• Revisit Total Learning Offer information.</li> <li>• Revisit asset mapping process.</li> <li>• Host a series of ‘Getting to know you’ sessions – with local community groups and front-line staff.</li> <li>• Ensure that there is a conduit between community planning partners and local communities and continuation when staff move on. Build on neighbourhood lead model in place during pandemic.</li> <li>• Utilise community media outlets to promote what is on in the local area.</li> </ul>	<p>Locality wide</p>	<p>Shmu  LEG members  Neighbourhood Leads</p>

## Support local volunteering opportunities beyond the pandemic.

Improvement Project Aim	Project Lead	Community Ideas for Improvement we might test	Where we might test them	Community Connector
Increase opportunities for people to increase their contribution to communities by 10% by 2023.	Aberdeen City Council, Resilient, Included and Supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore different ways to develop intergenerational working post-lockdown.</li> <li>• Encourage people to continue volunteering beyond pandemic.</li> <li>• Explore how community assets can be used as community resources, e.g., churches, care homes, etc.</li> <li>• Involve more young people in volunteering leading to career opportunities, e.g. Bon Accord Care; Police Scotland. Opportunity to build connections with local schools.</li> <li>• Promote Saltire Awards with young people.</li> <li>• Provide incentives to business and organisations to provide volunteering or internships.</li> <li>• Develop a similar model to men’s shed for women or young people.</li> <li>• Identify time-banking opportunities in conjunction with Farrans.</li> <li>• Encourage volunteers to get involved in Friends of Heathryfold Park/Auchmill Community Woodland Group.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	<p>Shmu</p> <p>ACVO</p> <p>Community Councils in North.</p> <p>Farrans</p> <p>Friends of Heathryfold Park</p> <p>Auchmill community woodland group</p> <p>Middlefield Community Project</p>
Community led resilience plans in place for areas most vulnerable to flooding by 2023, leading to resilience plans in place across all areas of Aberdeen by 2026.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Sustainable City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build on learning from pandemic - continue to develop community connections—build on community spirit. Has to be local and led by local people.</li> <li>• Continue to develop the Heathryfold flood alleviation scheme.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Shmu



## Early intervention approach targeted at those who are involved in, or at risk in offending behaviour (domestic abuse, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour)

Improvement Project Aim	Project Lead	Community Ideas for Improvement we might test	Where we might test them	Community Connector
Reduce instances of public space youth anti-social behaviour as a result of appropriate and effective interventions in targeted areas by 10% by 2022.	Police Scotland, Children's Services Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase priority family interventions.</li> <li>• Develop diversionary activities which lead to job skills development.</li> <li>• Build a network of volunteers trained by youth work team.</li> </ul>	Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick Summerhill	Police Scotland
Increase by 50% the number of 10 to 16 year olds in target areas of the city who access youth community activity by 2023.	Aberdeen City Council, Children's Services Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a process where police can signpost young people to other activities in the community as opposed to criminalising? e.g Streetsports; project at Tesco Lang Stracht.</li> <li>• Have a safe place for teenagers to come and go during the week and also on a Friday and Saturday night</li> <li>• Develop skate park/BMX track in Dyce</li> <li>• Co-produce a range of activities available for young people across the locality. Young people to be actively involved in the development.</li> <li>• Build on learning from projects such as AMPED which is based around trail bike maintenance.</li> <li>• Development of outdoor forest programme.</li> </ul>	Locality wide	Police Scotland  Young people  Middlefield Community Project  Street Sport  AFC Community Trust
Increase number of young people who need support in relation to trauma and bereavement having access to such support by 50% by 2023.	Aberdeen City Council, Children's Services Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roll out evidence-based resilience training to community members; staff and volunteers across the locality.</li> </ul>		
Decrease number of incidents of domestic abuse reported to the Police by 15% by 2023.	Aberdeen City Council, Community Justice Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase support for families where English is not the first language to protect children and to ensure that families can access appropriate support.</li> <li>• Northfield ASG project – Promotion of new domestic abuse policy and signposting information.</li> </ul>	Northfield Partnership Forum	Aberdeen City Council  Shmu

Substance Misuse				
Increase % of the population who feel informed about using alcohol responsibly and increase by 10% the percentage of adults in Aberdeen City who are non drinkers or drink alcohol in a low risk way by 2023.	Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote more non-alcoholic products and alcohol-free social options.</li> </ul>	Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick	
Increase the uptake of alcohol treatment by improving access to alcohol services and ensuring they are local, integrated and targets areas of greatest need by 10% year on year by 2023.	Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restart outreach services (Northfield/Mastrick) paused by pandemic.</li> <li>Work with those with lived experience to share positive messages about their journeys, including how local services have played a role in their recovery – leading to a greater awareness of alcohol services locally.</li> </ul>	Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick	<p>LEG member</p> <p>Alcohol and Drug Action</p> <p>Shmu</p>
Increase uptake of drug treatment and specifically within Locality Areas by 10% each year by 2023.	Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substance misuse Youth Worker to work with individuals and families.</li> </ul>	Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park & Mastrick	Middlefield Community Project
Increase number of people undertaking recovery from drug and alcohol issues who are being supported to maintain drug / alcohol free lives in their community by 2023.	Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support recovery through physical activity, music, film and other creative experiences.</li> <li>Support recovery through peer support and developing media skills.</li> </ul>	Cummings Park	<p>Aberdeen City Council, Community, Learning and Development.</p> <p>Byron Boxing Club</p> <p>Auchmill Golf Club</p> <p>AiR</p> <p>Shmu</p>

# THE NORTH PLACE

## What we know about the North

### From what the data tells us:



**Priority Neighbourhoods** Aberdeen has 29 datazones in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland. 8 of these are in the North locality with 3 in both Mastrick and Middlefield, 1 in both Heathryfold and Northfield. Based on SIMD, our priority neighbourhoods in the North Locality are: Mastrick, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park and Heathryfold.



**Place Standard** In March 2020, when asked about different aspects of their neighbourhood, respondents from the North Locality scored availability of green space (5.3) and feeling safe in your neighbourhood (5.3) as the highest. Lowest scoring areas were economy and access to jobs (2.5) and the ability to participate in decisions and help change things for the better (3.2).



**Community Safety** In 2018/19, the rate (per 100,000 population) of accidental dwelling fires in the North Locality ranges from a low of 0 in Kingswells, Bucksburn South, Dyce, Balgownie & Donmouth East and Denmore, to a high of 234 in Summerhill (more than double the city rate of 115.10). The rates for Heathryfold and Middlefield, Cummings Park and Mastrick have all increased substantially in 2018/19.



**Active Travel** In 2020, respondents from the North Locality to the City Voice reported using the following modes of transport at least once a week to travel into the city – car (59.6%), bus (41.3%), walk (23.9%) and cycle (6%).

### From what you have told us:

*'Locality Empowerment Groups and Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships have a vital role here.'*

*'More green spaces, community gardens and allotments for citizens.'*

*'The redevelopment of Haudagain offers greenspace.'*

*'Demand for food growing initiatives is increasing so requires support.'*

*'Lighting in parks would be an asset and make it safer to use.'*

*'Community facilities and Housing Office has been impacted by Covid.'*

*'Flood alleviation scheme in place at Heathryfold.'*

*'Increased trend on shopping crime.'*

*'Home fire safety campaigns have been disrupted by the pandemic.'*



## Our priorities for partnership working

The table below includes the last priority we have identified for partnership working in the North Locality which can be linked to the Community Planning Partnership theme of Place.

North Priorities	Link with city wide LOIP Stretch Outcomes (SO)
Maximise use of disused outdoor space to increase food growing opportunities	SO 13 – Climate Change SO15 - Nature

The following tables set out the improvement projects that we believe can help us achieve our priorities.





## Our Improvement Plan

### Maximise use of disused outdoor space to increase food growing opportunities.

Improvement Project Aim	Project Lead	Community Ideas for Improvement we might test	Where we might test them	Community Connector
Increase community food growing in schools, communities and workplaces by 12 by 2023.	Aberdeen City Council, Sustainable City Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote train the trainer for food growing within communities.</li> <li>Share learning from other food growing projects across the locality, i.e. One Seed Forward, Dyce community Garden &amp; Orchard run by Dyce Gardening Club.</li> <li>Grow vegetables at community gardens and sell at local schools.</li> <li>Work with young people at Northfield Academy to develop community growing space/creative area.</li> <li>Share how people can apply to the council for the establishment of allotments. Make growing spaces easier and more accessible for the community.</li> <li>Develop lifelong habits by encouraging young people to get involved in outdoor nurseries.</li> <li>Define and clarify process for individuals/organisations - requesting a piece of land – Aberdeen City Council to share with communities.</li> </ul>	<p>Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park &amp; Mastrick</p> <p>Locality wide</p>	<p>Farrans</p> <p>Danestone Community Centre</p> <p>Dyce Community Garden and Orchard</p>
Increase the number of community run green spaces that are organised and self-managed for both people and nature by a minimum of 8, of which at least 4 will in priority neighbourhoods, by 2023, particularly in priority neighbourhoods where the diversity, quality and satisfaction of green spaces and health and wellbeing outcomes tend to be lower.	Aberdeen City Council, Sustainable City Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share learning across Aberdeen of similar initiatives, e.g. Bonnymuir Community Garden.</li> <li>Identify unused pieces of land to develop food growing/ community green space.</li> <li>Potential connections to be made between the land at Granitehill with the community hub; Sheddocksley, Middlefield triangle and Cummings Park garden.</li> </ul>	<p>Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park &amp; Mastrick</p> <p>Locality wide</p>	<p>Danestone Community Centre.</p>

# HOW COMMUNITIES CAN GET INVOLVED

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## What resources are currently available?

- Churches
- Community Centres
- Community hub
- Community organisations
- GP practices, pharmacists, link practitioners
- Parks
- Libraries
- Schools and nurseries
- Transport connections
- Local businesses

## What do we already have?

- Bridge of Don Community Council and Friends of Westfield Park. Getting together with other groups (scouts, brownies etc) – hoping to restart following Covid
- Park generates lots of people of all areas for park clear up and gardening (**volunteering and green spaces**)
- Danestone Community Centre – busy because that’s what the community wants
- Middlefield Hub – Middlefield Community Project and Healthy Hoose
- Mastrick Community Centre
- Cummings Park Community Centre – “The Cubby”
- Northfield Community Centre
- Manor Park Learning Centre – Fit Like Hub
- Outreach programme in sheltered housing – volunteers are older – it’ll be like starting again, how will people want to get back to programmes after Covid – more work to be done
- Dyce & Stoneywood Community Association (based in Dyce Community Centre) which runs an extensive programme of groups mainly for Older People to meet the needs and wishes of the high proportion of Older People living in Dyce and including Dyce Men’s Shed within its programme.
- Sheddocksley Baptist Church – Wellbeing cafe
- **Reducing poverty** – established holiday hunger programme in place (Food & Fun)
- **Digital Inclusion** – Connecting Scotland – staff currently delivering digital support to households
- **Green Space** – successful projects well underway with community groups at the forefront
- Scotland’s Service Directory – people don’t know what is out there – grassroots people need this at their fingertips – how to get this info and how is it kept up to date
- Council looking at expanding wifi accessibility for sheltered complexes – silver surfers in partnership (**digital inclusion**)
- Battalion of **volunteers** – how to make best use of that resource
- Holiday hunger aimed at children – parents involved in cookery prep – and then parents became members of management committees (**reducing poverty**)



## Get Involved

### Locality Empowerment Groups

Locality Empowerment Groups (LEGs) are made up of local people interested in improving outcomes with Aberdeen City. LEGs members will use their knowledge and experiences to influence priorities and help determine solutions. There are groups for Central, North and South of Aberdeen, however they also focus on needs that may be Citywide e.g. sharing your experience as a person living with a disability.

The role of a LEG member is intended to be as flexible as possible. People can contribute in several ways including; getting involved in activities to improve your community; attending LEG sessions; through participation in surveys or on-line forums. There are no set time commitments expected and involvement can be as little or as much as suits people's circumstances.

We are currently recruiting members to ensure we have a wide representation of communities across Aberdeen. We have a range of opportunities available for people to get involved. If you would like more information please visit our website [www.aberdeencityhscp.scot/our-delivery/locality-empowerment-groups](http://www.aberdeencityhscp.scot/our-delivery/locality-empowerment-groups) or email [LocalityPlanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:LocalityPlanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

### Cummings Park, Heathryfold, Northfield, Mastrick and Middlefield

#### Priority Neighbourhood Partnership

Northfield Partnership Board is a well-established and well supported partnership group within the CPA structure. We work together to achieve improvements for the area 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

To find out more about how you can get involved, please email [localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

