

Dates of 2019 Meetings

21 June

13 Sept

15 Nov

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Meeting on Friday 21 June 2019

10.30am – 1.00pm

Lesser Hall, Dalbeattie Town Hall, High Street, Dalbeattie, DG5 4AD

Members

- Elaine Murray** - Leader
Chair Dumfries and Galloway Council
- Nick Morris** - Chair
NHS Dumfries and Galloway
- Jeff Ace** - Chief Executive
NHS Dumfries and Galloway (advisor)
- Colin Cook** - Location Director for Dumfries and Galloway
Scottish Government (observer)
- Rob Davidson** - Councillor
Dumfries and Galloway Council
- Archie Dryburgh** - Councillor
Dumfries and Galloway Council
- Norma Austin Hart** - Chief Executive
Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway (advisor)
- Bill Robertson** - Dumfries and Galloway Housing Sector
- Iain Boddy** - Dumfries and Galloway Third Sector
- Helen Keron** - Dumfries and Galloway Third Sector
- Sheena Horner** - Dumfries and Galloway Private Sector
- Brian Johnstone** - Dumfries and Galloway Further and Higher
Education Sector
- Jane Maitland** - Councillor
Dumfries and Galloway Council

- Hamish McGhie** - Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Dumfries and Galloway Division (advisor)
 - Elaine Morrison** - Scottish Enterprise (advisor)
 - Graham Nicol** - Councillor
Dumfries and Galloway Council
 - Linda Jones** - Local Commander, Police Scotland,
Dumfries and Galloway Division (advisor)
 - Gavin Stevenson** - Chief Executive
Dumfries and Galloway Council (advisor)
 - Andrew Wood** - Chairman
SWestrans
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Dates of Meetings 2019

21 June 21 September 16 November

**DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY
COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

FRIDAY 21 JUNE 2019

10.30am - 1.00pm

Lesser Hall, Dalbeattie Town Hall, High Street, Dalbeattie, DG5 4AD

AGENDA

- 10.30am 1. DRAFT MINUTE OF MEETING OF DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD ON 15 MARCH 2019 (attached)**
- 10.35am 2. DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY ANNUAL CHILD POVERTY ACTION PLAN REPORT 2018/19 (attached)**
- 11.00am 3. AMAZE ME LEADER (attached) and presentation**
- 11.30am 4. YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY LEGACY (attached)**
- 12noon 5. PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND CONSULTATION – DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE (attached)**
- 12.15pm 6. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTATION – COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE (report attached)**
- 12.30pm 7. CURRENT KEY STRATEGIC ISSUES UPDATE (attached)**
- 12.45pm 8. BUSINESS UPDATE (attached)**
- 1.00pm CLOSE**

Dumfries &

Galloway

**Together is
Better**

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Friday 15 March 2019
Town Hall, Lockerbie

Present

- Elaine Murray** - Leader
(Chair) Dumfries and Galloway Council
- Nick Morris** - Chair
(Vice Chair) NHS Dumfries & Galloway
- Jeff Ace** - Chief Executive, NHSD&G (advisor)
- Iain Boddy** - Dumfries and Galloway Third Sector
(*substitute*)
- Rob Davidson** - Councillor
Dumfries and Galloway Council
- Brian Johnstone** - Dumfries and Galloway Further and Higher
Education Sector
- Jane Maitland** - Councillor
Dumfries and Galloway Council
- Hamish McGhie** - Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Dumfries and
Galloway Division (advisor)
- Graham Nicol** - Councillor
Dumfries and Galloway Council
- David Rennie** - Stakeholder and Partnerships
(*substitute*) Scottish Enterprise (advisor)
- Bill Robertson** - Dumfries and Galloway Housing Sector
- Gavin Stevenson** - Chief Executive, Dumfries and Galloway Council
(advisor)

Stephen Stiff - Police Scotland
(*substitute*) Dumfries and Galloway Division

Andrew Wood - Chair
SWestrans

Apologies

Colin Cook - Scottish Government

Archie Dryburgh - Dumfries and Galloway Council

Norma Austin Hart - Third Sector, D&G (advisor)

Sue Irving - Third Sector, D&G

Linda Jones - Police Scotland

Elaine Morrison - Scottish Enterprise

In attendance

Marguerite Hunter Blair - Chief Executive, PlayScotland (Item 3)

Michele McCoy - Interim Director Public Health, NHSD&G

Craig McGoldrick - Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Dumfries and Galloway Division

Alex McGuire - Chief Executive, Dumfries and Galloway Housing Sector

Liz Manson - Community Planning and Engagement Manager

Cherie Morgan - Strategy and Development, PlayScotland (Item 3)

Martin Ogilvie - Resilience and Community Safety Manager, DGC (Item 2)

8 members and 5 advisors present from 8 partners.

The Chair **WELCOMED** everyone to the meeting of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board, particularly Nick Morris who had been appointed recently as Chair of NHS Dumfries and Galloway and therefore is the Vice Chair of the CPP Board.

1. DRAFT MINUTE OF MEETING OF DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2018

1.1 **APPROVED** as a correct record.

1.2 Arising from Item 5.1, **HIGHLIGHTED** that the issues which had been presented in the paper covered health protection and health inequalities as well as health improvement; and that there was a wide range of activities which contribute to this agenda.

1.3 Arising from Item 8, **NOTED** that although Langholm had been identified as a meeting venue, the Annandale and Eskdale venue had changed to Lockerbie to coincide with a Scottish Government seminar on Public Health Reform for Community Planning Partnership Board members and advisors.

ACTION: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

Jane Maitland entered the meeting - 9 members and 5 advisors present from 8 partners.

2. BREXIT UPDATE – MARCH 2019

2.1 **NOTED** the position statement about issues identified by Dumfries and Galloway partners:

- Export of locally produced foodstuffs;
- Food supplies and transport
- Recruitment and retention
- Returnees
- Layering of impacts
- Demonstrations and disorder
- Businesses
- Economic downturn
- EU funding for the region

2.2 **DISCUSSED** the importance of partnership approaches to mitigate the likelihood and impacts, particularly around the potential increase of traffic on the A75/the port at Cairnryan; supporting local businesses with import/export, although **NOTED** the recent Business Gateway courses had been poorly attended; ensuring Dumfries and Galloway is a welcoming place for non-British residents; managing fresh food supplies, especially for vulnerable people; and promoting responsible and measured behaviours.

2.3 **NOTED** that our region was in a good position as the Council Chief Executive and Resilience Manager were both operating at national level; and we have established relationships and arrangements to build on (for example Operation Stack at Cairnryan Port) to tackle the forthcoming challenges; and

2.4 **FURTHER NOTED** that Briefings and communications will be cascaded to partners as soon as a decision has been taken by the UK Government and further information is available.

ACTION: RESILIENCE MANAGER, DGC

3. PLAYSCOTLAND

3.1 **RECEIVED** a presentation from Marguerite Hunter Blair and Cherie Morgan of Playscotland about the proposed adoption of a Strategic Statement on Play for the region and the benefits of a greater focus on play for children's development, the local environment, housing areas/design and community cohesion.

3.2 **DISCUSSED** the opportunities that this presents for our region, and the contribution a higher profile and greater activity around the Play agenda could make to e.g. child obesity; emotional health and wellbeing of all ages; civic pride; use of streets and countryside; tackling AntiSocial Behaviour; and community use of schools – all of which were commitments in the nine Strategies and Plans that support the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan;

3.3 **AGREED** to support this approach and that further dialogue takes place between the Chair of the Children's Services Executive Group and other appropriate officers/Alliance(s)/local organisations and Play Scotland to develop the details; and that the CSEG includes this work in its Programme which will provide the direct link to the CPP Board as recommended by Play Scotland;

3.4 **FURTHER AGREED** an update on progress be submitted to future meetings of the Board to monitor progress.

ACTION: CHAIR, CHILDREN'S SERVICES EXECUTIVE GROUP

Graham Nicol left the meeting – 8 members and 5 advisors present from 8 partners.

4. CURRENT KEY STRATEGIC ISSUES UPDATE

4.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy

4.1.1 **NOTED** the allocation of £250k Council Budget for 2018/19 for 'Making Ends Meet' and Child Poverty being determined by Participatory Budgeting during March and April; and the good take-up of online voting.

4.1.2 **ALSO NOTED** that Dumfries and Galloway Council had allocated £400k for tackling poverty grants to third sector organisations, in addition to allocations for services, during 2019/20.

ACTION: HEAD OF CUSTOMER SERVICES, DGC

4.2 Children's Services Plan

NOTED the work underway to prepare the draft Annual Report in advance of the Scottish Government visit in May 2019.

ACTION: CHAIR, CSEG

4.3 Community Justice Improvement Plan

4.3.1 **NOTED** the significant progress in this agenda since Dumfries and Galloway separated from Ayrshire; and **COMMENDED** the refreshing design and accessible content of the Newsletter.

4.3.2 **AGREED** that a confidential session on the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) should be arranged to ensure Board members are up to date with current approaches and activity.

ACTION: CJP MANAGER, DGC

4.4 Community Learning and Development (CLD) Partners' Strategic Plan

NOTED the progress being made in the Action Plan, particularly in Outcome 4 (Involvement of learners and community organisations) and Outcome 5 (Our CLD sector workforce has the necessary skills) and **COMMENDED** the contributions from a good range of partners at meetings.

ACTION: CLD MANAGER, DGC

4.5 Health and Social Care Strategic Plan

4.5.1 **NOTED** the highlights from the Quarter Two Performance Report, including: an average of 3,779 people attend the emergency department each month; and the acute emergency admissions for 2017/18 have risen, and are higher than the Scottish position.

4.5.2 **WELCOMED** improvements to the Locality Plan performance reporting format for the six monthly reports scrutinised by the Council's Area Committees

ACTION: CHIEF OFFICER, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

4.6 Local Housing Strategy

NOTED the recent feedback from the Scottish Government on the Local Housing Strategy (submitted in June 2018) had been minimal; and **HIGHLIGHTED** that there has been excellent buy-in from the across the housing sector for the Strategy and Forum

ACTION: HOUSING MANAGER, DGC

4.7 Regional Economic Strategy

4.7.1 **NOTED** the positive announcement this morning about the allocation of £345M from the UK and Scottish Government for the Borderlands Growth Deal and the focus on place-based development, with the redevelopment of Chapelcross former power station as a named project, and **COMMENDED** all involved in the lobbying over many years;

4.7.2 **DISCUSSED** the development of South of Scotland Enterprise and the Chair reported on a positive meeting with the Cabinet Secretary about local accountability and the need for the new agency to have a full understanding of the challenges of rural economies and a different approach to measuring success through outcomes and not traditional urban metrics;

4.7.3 **HIGHLIGHTED** the importance of the interim South of Scotland Economic Partnership to be open and transparent in its decision-making processes; and a spread of investment across the whole of the south of Scotland for new approaches based on our strengths and natural resources e.g. a distillery trail, cultural events

ACTION: HEAD OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DGC

4.8 Regional Transport Strategy

4.8.1 **NOTED** the progress in the Transport Study for the South West Scotland and the review of the National Transport Study, which will inform our Regional Strategy;

4.8.2 **HIGHLIGHTED** the importance of rail options and a different approach to bus provision being kept on the agenda and the potential opportunities through South of Scotland Economic Partnership/South of Scotland Enterprise and the Borderlands Growth Deal for funding for these issues;

ACTION: HEAD OF TRANSPORTATION, DGC

4.8.3 **WELCOMED** the information about the progress in the Public Social Partnership; **ENDORSED** this new approach to social transport across our region; **NOTED** the funding shortfall of £115k for 2019/20 and that the sustainability of community transport had been raised with the First Minister by the South of Scotland Alliance; and further dialogue, including the possibility of a seminar on this topic would be taking place over the coming months to share experiences and approaches from across Scotland.

ACTION: HEAD OF TRANSPORTATION, DGC/ PROJECT MANAGER, PSP, TSD&G

4.9 Local Development Plan

4.9.1 **NOTED** the Local Development Plan (LDP2) was on schedule to be adopted by September 2019 and **DISCUSSED** how it would support the aims and principles of our Community Planning Partnership; and

4.9.2 **AGREED** that information on how LDP2 would contribute to the Play Scotland agenda be included in the work of the Children's Services Executive Group around this topic.

ACTION: TEAM LEADER (LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN) DGC

4.10 **AGREED** that the Updates in June should focus on their contribution to the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and the Public Health Priorities, to promote understanding of what they are achieving individually and collectively.

ACTION: ALL LEAD OFFICERS

5. BUSINESS UPDATE – MARCH 2019

5.1 Membership of Community Planning Partnership Board - **NOTED** the appointment of Nick Morris NHSD&G and Bill Robertson, Housing Sector; the forthcoming appointments of Third Sector representatives; the mechanism for electing a community representative was being discussed with Community Councils at forthcoming 'Gatherings'; and **AGREED** to approach the Economic Leadership Group for the private sector representative, as it was refreshing its arrangements and membership;

ACTION: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

5.2 Community Planning Improvement Plan

APPROVED the Improvement Plan for 2019/20, **NOTING** that the first event of the Safer Communities Partnership will be arranged as soon as practicable.

ACTION: RESILIENCE MANAGER, DGC

5.3 CPP Board Work Programme

AGREED the Work Programme as set out in the Appendix with the addition of an update on the '10,000 Voices' youth engagement work at the June meeting.

ACTION: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

CLOSING REMARKS

The Chair expressed the Board's thanks to Sue Irving, Third Sector representative whose term of office comes to an end on 31 March 2019; and, to Hamish McGhie, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service who was leaving before the next meeting of the Board. Both members were acknowledged to have made significant contributions to our discussions over a number of years which have been much appreciated by all partners.



DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY ANNUAL LOCAL CHILD POVERTY ACTION PLAN REPORT 2018/2019

1. Purpose of Report

This report presents for Community Planning partners' consideration, the draft Dumfries and Galloway Local Child Poverty Action Report.

2. Recommendation

The Partnership Board is invited to:

2.1 note the background to the development and submission of the first annual Local Child Poverty Action Report as detailed at Sections 3.1 – 3.11; and

2.2 agree any proposed additions or amendments to the content and format of the draft Local Child Poverty Action Report 2018/19 as detailed at the Appendix

3. Background

3.1 To address child poverty in Scotland, the Scottish Government (SG) has set itself ambitious targets to reduce poverty which were introduced through the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017. The four key measurements, after housing costs (AHC) are as follows:

- less than 10% of children live in relative poverty (relative poverty is less than 60% of average UK household income for the year taking account of the size and composition of the household)
- less than 5% of children live in absolute poverty (absolute poverty is less than 60% of average UK household income for the financial year beginning 1 April 2010)
- less than 5% of children live in combined low income and material deprivation (low income is defined as less than 70% of average UK household income for the year, material deprivation is when families are unable to afford three or more items out of a list of basic necessities)
- less than 5% of children live in persistent poverty (persistent poverty is where a child has lived in relative poverty for three out of the last four years)

3.2 The most up to date national figures for these four targets are:

- In 2016/2017 an estimated 23% of children were in relative poverty
- In 2016/2017 an estimated 20% of children were in absolute poverty
- In 2016/2017 an estimated 11% of children were in combined low income and material deprivation
- In 2016/2017 an estimated 10% of children were in persistent poverty

Community Planning Partnership Board

3.3 Child Poverty Delivery Plans

The Act introduces provisions requiring Scottish Ministers to prepare delivery plans relating to the child poverty targets within the Act. The first Delivery Plan was required to be prepared by 1 April 2018 and thereafter, Plans must be prepared by 1 April 2022 and 1 April 2026 and with a final Report in 2031 after the final target year. Scottish Ministers are also required to prepare reports on an annual basis which set out progress made during that year towards meeting the child poverty targets and implementing their Delivery Plan.

3.4 Local Action Reports

The Act also introduced a new requirement for local authorities and each relevant health boards to jointly prepare a Local Child Poverty Action Report as soon as is practicable after the end of each reporting year. The Act does not specify a cut-off point for submission of reports however it does require that the Scottish Government's annual progress reports be submitted within three months of the end of the reporting year which is the subject of the report. To align with these timescales, local partners (local authorities and relevant Health Boards) have been requested to aim for submission of their reports by 30 June each year.

3.5 Support for the Development of Local Action Reports

The Scottish Government has arranged for various support mechanisms to be developed to enable each local authority and health board to both develop and deliver their Local Action Reports, the first of which is due to be submitted by each region by the 30 June 2019. This includes the appointment of a new national Co-ordinator who has been helping with the development of the reports, will monitor the progress of each Report and will also share best practice throughout Scotland. The Co-ordinator is based within the Improvement Service and works closely with the Scottish Government, NHS Health Scotland, COSLA, the Poverty Alliance and the Child Poverty Action Group.

3.6 The Co-ordinator will also play a key role in supporting the implementation of the Fairer Scotland Duty to enable this Duty to have a positive impact on improving outcomes for children living in poverty.

3.7 The Scottish Government has also provided funding for three years from 2018-2019 for the new Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit (SPIRU) which has brought together researchers from Glasgow's Caledonian University and external partners to analysis different aspects of poverty and inequality. Through this three-year term, the Unit will focus on ensuring accurate measures of child poverty are gathered together along with working with partners to facilitate a national learning culture which reflects upon, articulates and shares the principles and practices shown to be most effective in tackling child poverty.

3.8 In addition, the Scottish Government has also expanded its support to a number of local areas to set up their own community bodies to bring people with lived experience of poverty into strategic decision making. These new community bodies have been modelled on the Tackling Poverty Reference and Co-ordination Groups within our region.

Community Planning Partnership Board

- 3.9 A new 'Child Poverty Local Action Reports Reference Group' was also formed in early 2018 which was chaired by Gillian Cross, Team Leader Child Poverty, Scottish Government. This Group's primary focus was to help to develop the format and support for the development and effective delivery of each Local Action Report as well as further developing good linkages between regions of Scotland to help with both peer and good practice support. Issues and potential barriers to the completion of the Reports were also highlighted and measures developed to remove these. Dumfries and Galloway Council's Anti-Poverty Officer was a member of this national Reference Group.
- 3.10 Developing the Dumfries and Galloway Local Child Poverty Action Report
Following consideration of the development of this Report at the Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Partnership Board on Friday 16 November 2018, the Community Planning Partnership Board was of the view that there was a closer alignment of these new Reports with the Children's Services Plan than the Anti-Poverty Strategy and therefore agreed that the lead for this plan would sit with the Children's Services Plan Team and Children's Services Executive Group.
- 3.11 A Dumfries and Galloway Project Group was formed which was chaired by the Head of Education/ Acting Chair of the Children's Services Executive Group with additional officers including the Anti-Poverty Officer and two Health and Wellbeing Specialists from the DG Health and Wellbeing Team.
- 3.12 Using the Guidance which was specifically developed by the Scottish Government to assist with the development of the first Local Child Poverty Action Reports, the Project Group have produced the first draft Annual Report which is attached to this Report as **Appendix**. This Report also incorporates the draft Plan for 2019/2020.
- 3.13 An earlier draft Report was forwarded to both the Child Poverty Action Report National Co-ordinator and the Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit for consideration and comment. All recommendations received in early June 2019 have been incorporated into the final version of this Report.
- 3.14 The draft Report has followed the Guidance noted above and contains all of the information which has been requested.
- 4. Assessment**
- 4.1 The formal approval of the Local Child Poverty Action Report rests with the relevant local authority and Health Board. However, the Guidance indicates that as tackling this issue requires collaborative working across a range of partnerships, it makes sense for the Community Planning Partnership process to be a 'helpful vehicle'.
- 4.2 The key messages for our region will be highlighted at the CPP Board meeting as part of the presentation of the Report.

5. Next Steps

This draft Report will also be submitted to the meeting of Dumfries and Galloway Council on 27 June 2019 and to the Dumfries and Galloway NHS Health Board for approval, prior to submission to Scottish Ministers.

Officer providing the report: Gillian Brydson, Head of Education	Lead officer: Colin Grant, Director Children Young People & Lifelong Learning
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APPENDICES - 1

Appendix - Draft Dumfries and Galloway Local Annual Child Poverty Action Report
2018/2019

**Dumfries and Galloway
Child Poverty Action Report 2018/19 and Plan 2019/20**

1. Dumfries and Galloway Vision Statement

Dumfries and Galloway Council's commitment has been incredibly strong in tackling all forms of poverty and its dedication to this has been reinforced through the ongoing delivery of our Anti Poverty strategy which has been recognised at national level by gaining the COSLA 2018 Gold Award for Tackling Inequalities and Improving Health. Together with NHS Dumfries and Galloway, we will continue to tackle poverty in all its forms and work towards the vision of our Anti Poverty Strategy which is 'people will be prevented from falling into poverty, supported to escape from poverty and able to live independent, safe, happy and fulfilled lives'.

2. Introduction

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 sets out the Scottish Government's statement of intent to eradicate child poverty in Scotland by 2030.

The subsequent national Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2018-2022, Every Child, Every Chance recognises that poverty is fundamentally about a lack of income. As a result, targets within the Act focus primarily on income measures, while the Delivery Plan actions are focused on increasing family incomes or reducing costs.

Although the greatest impact on child poverty will occur through nationally set policies and strategies, it is recognised that local agencies and communities have much to offer. As a result, the Act requires Community Planning Partnerships and Local Health Boards to jointly report, annually, on activities undertaken at a local level to further mitigate the impacts of child poverty.

This Local Action Plan for Dumfries and Galloway outlines the challenges faced, details existing activity and highlights key actions we intend to take forward during 2019/2020.

Between 1st April and 30th June 2019, we will produce a report detailing our progress against this action plan. This will be submitted to the Scottish Government, and to a newly created Poverty & Inequality Commission, for external scrutiny of our progress.

Appendix 1 outlines what we are already doing in Dumfries and Galloway to combat child poverty. The actions within this section are not exhaustive and it is recognised that a range of partnership organisations across Dumfries and Galloway are helping children and families in many other ways.

Appendix 2 details the delivery of the Children's Services Plan in relation to Priority 4 - *We will work to reduce or remove barriers so that all children and young people have equity of opportunity.*

Appendix 3 provides information on local Strategies and Plans which support the reduction of child poverty in Dumfries and Galloway.

Appendix 4 details our high level action plan for 2019/2020.

3. How we developed our Child Poverty Action Report 2018/19 and Plan 2019/20

In December 2018 the Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Executive Group agreed to remit the preparation of the Child Poverty Action Report and Plan to the Children's Services Executive Group. An editorial group was established, comprising Dumfries and Galloway Council and NHS Dumfries and Galloway staff, in order produce the Report. This joint approach to identifying content for the Report, agreeing its structure and governance arrangements has ensured ownership for the Report across both organisations. Since the inception of the Anti Poverty Strategy, all Community Planning Partners, including the NHS, have worked together to tackle poverty. This Report reflects the effective partnership working within our region and ensures a truly joint strategy is being delivered.

4. Local Child Poverty Action Plan Reports (LCPARs)

Dumfries and Galloway Council employs an Anti-Poverty Officer who has been a member of the Scottish Government's Project Group. This group has developed both the Guidance and the draft reporting Templates for the annual Local Child Poverty Action Plan Reports. The Improvement Service, COSLA and the Scottish Poverty and Inequalities Research Unit (SPIRU) are part of the network of strategic Child Poverty Leads who have hosted networking events, shared best practice and who are co-ordinating a range of support which is now available including a new National Coordinator who has met and consulted with our local Anti-Poverty Officer on a range of associated issues.

Financial support has been received by the Council and NHS, leading to a small funding contribution of £7,600 for Dumfries and Galloway. This has been allocated to enable the completion of the Annual Report.

5. National Context and Targets

After housing costs, data for the period 2014-2017 suggests 230,000 children were living in poverty in Scotland. This is equivalent to one in every four children. In Scotland, around 7 in 10 children living in poverty live in a household where at least one adult is working, and 10% of children are living in persistent poverty (living in poverty in 3 of the last 4 years).

To address child poverty in Scotland, the Scottish Government has set itself ambitious targets to reduce poverty. The 4 key measurements, after housing costs (AHC) are as follows:

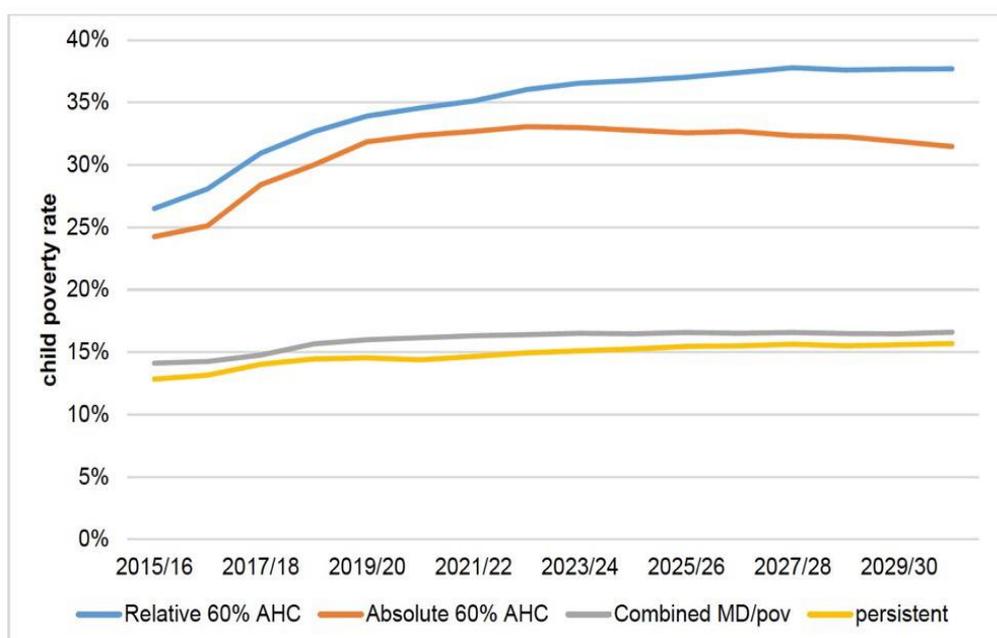
- less than 10% of children live in relative poverty (relative poverty is less than 60% of average UK household income for the year taking account of the size and composition of the household)
- less than 5% of children live in absolute poverty (absolute poverty is less than 60% of average UK household income for the financial year beginning 1 April 2010)
- less than 5% of children live in combined low income and material deprivation (low income is defined as less than 70% of average UK household income for the year, material deprivation is when families are unable to afford three or more items out of a list of basic necessities)
- less than 5% of children live in persistent poverty (persistent poverty is where a child has lived in relative poverty for three out of the last four years)

The most up to date national figures for these 4 targets are:

- In 2016/2017 an estimated 23% of children were in relative poverty
- In 2016/2017 an estimated 20% of children were in absolute poverty
- In 2016/2017 an estimated 11% of children were in combined low income and material deprivation
- In 2016/2017 an estimated 10% of children were in persistent poverty

Without intervention and mitigation at both a national and local level, it is forecasted that child poverty will increase across all 4 measures to 2030, see Figure 1.

Figure 1: Child Poverty Rate Forecasts



Source: Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan (Scottish Government 2018)

Recognising the external factors likely to impact on child poverty and the significant gap between existing poverty levels and the 2030 targets, the Scottish Government has set the following interim targets to be achieved by April 2023:

- Less than 18% of children are in relative poverty
- Less than 14% of children are in absolute poverty
- Less than 8% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation
- Less than 8% of children are in persistent poverty.

Health and Wellbeing

Poverty and child poverty operates across a 'social gradient'. The worse the social disadvantage, the worse the health impacts. As children's lives unfold, the poor health associated with poverty limits their potential and development across a whole range of areas, leading to poor health and life chances in adulthood.

Scotland's Public Health Priorities reflect public health challenges that are important to focus on over the next decade to improve the health of the nation. The Priorities are interdependent and related, reflecting the complexity of Scotland's health challenges and the effort needed nationally, regionally and locally to make a difference. They provide a focus for collective action across the whole system to improve the public's health and reduce health inequalities.

The Public Health Priorities for Scotland (see <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-public-health-priorities/>) are:

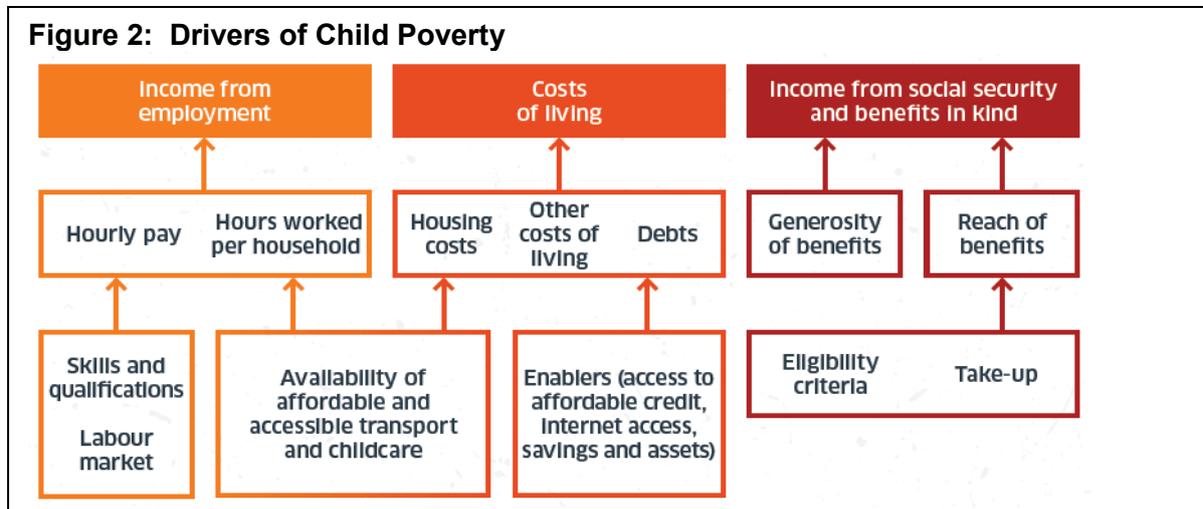
- A Scotland where we live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities
- A Scotland where we flourish in our early years
- A Scotland where we have good mental wellbeing
- A Scotland where we reduce the use of and harm from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs
- A Scotland where we have a sustainable, inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all
- A Scotland where we eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active

The Priorities are intended to be a foundation for the whole system, for public services, third sector, community organisations and others, to work better together to improve Scotland's health, and to empower people and communities. Alongside the Children's Services Plan, the Public Health Priorities are a starting point for new preventative approaches.

In addition to the Public Health Priorities, NHS Scotland have also published a set of Principles and Guidance for their organisations to use to inform local activities in collaboration with community planning partners which will help to mitigate the impact of welfare reform on health and NHS services, service users and employees (see <http://www.healthscotland.scot/publications/welfare-reform-nhs-outcome-focussed-plan>)

6. Drivers of Child Poverty

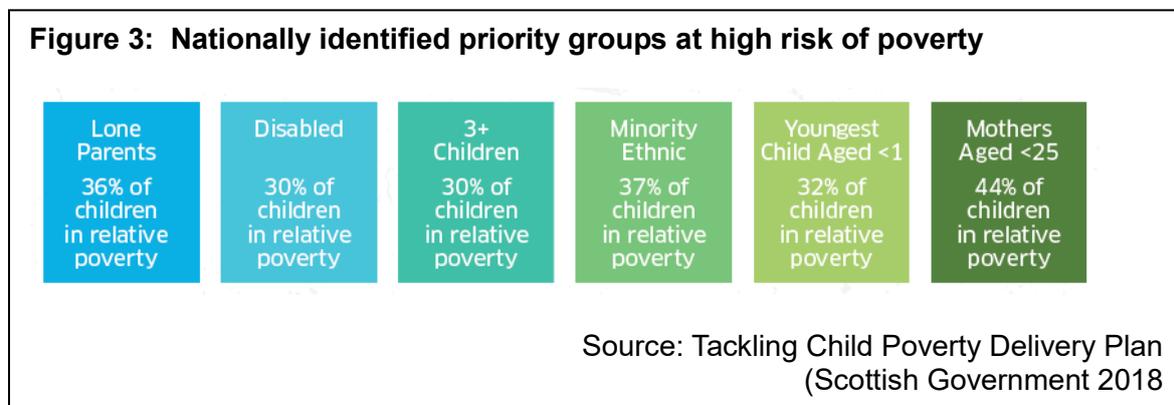
The direct drivers of poverty fall in to 3 main categories – income from employment, costs of living and income from social security. The relationship of these drivers to wider thematic areas is summarised in Figure 2 below.



The six priorities in the local Children’s Services Plan relate to the three key drivers above by:

1. Ensuring that children and young people are safe and free from harm
2. Ensure children and young people get support at the earliest appropriate time through prevention and early intervention
3. Improving the wellbeing and life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people
4. Working to reduce or remove barriers so that all children and young people have equality of opportunity
5. Delivering the best possible health and wellbeing for all children and young people
6. Raising attainment and be ambitious for all children and young people.

Research on behalf of the Scottish Government has highlighted a number of priority groups which are at higher risk of poverty. In recognition of the greater risks for the groups outlined in Figure 3, the actions and activities within this Plan focus predominantly on those groups. Community Planning partners do, however, undertake a wide range of activities to tackle poverty for all sectors of our communities.



7. Local Context

Child Poverty in Dumfries and Galloway

The Children and Young Peoples Strategic Needs Assessment for 2017 established the child population profile. The Assessment identified that 28,647 children under 18 live in Dumfries and Galloway. During 2019, the Children’s Services Executive Group will work with Scottish Government to review the Needs Assessment as part of the wider Realigning Children’s Services work. The full report is available http://www.dg-change.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Strategic-Needs-Assessment-Children-Young-People-2017-V1_0.pdf

End Child Poverty (ECP) in Scotland, is an anti-poverty coalition consisting of members including the Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland, The Poverty Alliance, Barnardo’s Scotland, One Parent Families Scotland, Children 1st, Save the Children and Children in Scotland.

ECP now publishes annual statistics on the level of child poverty in each constituency, local authority and ward in the UK. The statistics are intended to add to the evidence base around child poverty in Scotland. Updated statistics for 2018/19 were released on 15 May 2019. These figures are based on the Ward areas prior to the last Boundary Commission Boundary Changes which were completed in May 2017 and are detailed below:

Ward Name	% of Child Poverty Before Housing Costs	% of Child Poverty After Housing Costs
Stranraer and the Rhins	25.2%	34%
Mid Galloway	27.0%	37%
Wigtown West	25.7%	34%
Dee	20.6%	32%
Castle Douglas and Glenkens	23.4%	28%
Abbey	16.9%	22%
North West Dumfries	24.3%	36%
Mid & Upper Nithsdale	20.5%	28%
Lochar	13.6%	16%
Nith	16.7%	17%
Annandale South	18.2%	25%
Annandale North	17.9%	25%
Annandale East & Eskdale	16.2%	25%

The full report by the End Child Poverty Campaign can be accessed on the below link:
<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.endchildpoverty.org.uk%2Fpoverty-in-your-area-2019%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cb8addba02bdc488b099908d6d877547c%7Cbd2e1df68d5a4867a647487c2a7402de%7C0%7C0%7C636934405551095591&data=mKqUes8pRXOvK4ewxewY2d1S7H7UtPxjU6PMrwCIA6M%3D&reserved=0>

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The following statistics provide a more detailed overview of child poverty within our region:

Measure	Number	Proportion
Estimated number of children in poverty in Dumfries and Galloway (Data from End Child Poverty)	4,346	24.7% of children under 18
P4 to P7 children registered for free school meals (2018)	950	15.2% of children under 18
S1 to S6 children registered for free school meals (2018)	2,745	14.7% of children under 18
Children aged 0-15 living in out-of-work benefit claimant households in May 2017.	3,260	
Housing benefit claims for households with children (end of March 2019)	2,028	n/a
Council Tax Reduction Claims made to families with children (end of March 2019)	2,605	n/a
Number of children in households with Council Tax Reduction Claims	4,905	n/a
Pre-birth referrals received by Social Work in 6-month period from 01 August 2018 to 31 Jan 2019 (Total number maternity bookings 633)	73	11.5% of bookings
Low birthweight babies (under 2499g, live singleton births) Year ending 31 March 2018	71	5.8% of births
Births affected by drugs – in the 3-year period 2014-2017 (total births 3727)	23	0.6% of total births

Through the on-going work of the Improvement Service and the Scottish Poverty and Inequalities Research Unit (SPIRU), additional reports on the level of child poverty within each Local Authority Area and the key indicators to measure each are due to be received. These reports will be used to help to measure the direct impacts each local authority and health board are contributing towards the Statutory Income Targets which have been set by the Scottish Government.

8. Local Partners and Stakeholders

Community Planning and the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

The Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) is the overarching strategy to influence and guide Community Planning partners towards the agreed Outcomes for our region. The Community Planning Partnership tasked the Children's Services Executive Group with the production of the Child Poverty Action Plan, as a complementary element of the Children's Services Plan.

Children's Services Executive Group

Our Children's Services Plan sets out our vision and commitment to improving the lives of children, young people and their families in Dumfries and Galloway. It sets out key achievements, new developments and identifies the direction of travel over the three years and meets our requirement under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. We have six priorities in our plan and Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) is the overarching framework through which they are being delivered with prevention and early intervention as the underpinning key principles.

The Children's Service Plan priorities are:

1. We will ensure that children and young people are safe and free from harm
2. We will ensure children and young people get support at the earliest appropriate time through prevention and early intervention
3. We will improve the wellbeing and life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people
4. We will work to reduce or remove barriers so that all children and young people have equality of opportunity
5. We will deliver the best possible health and wellbeing for all children and young people
6. We will raise attainment and be ambitious for all children and young people

Community Planning Tackling Poverty Co-ordination Group

This group is comprised of volunteers from the Tackling Poverty Reference Group, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway, Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership, Loreburn Housing Association and Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service. Throughout the development of this report we have continued to engage with this Group to access their expertise in the wider activities around tackling poverty.

7. Strategic Direction in Dumfries and Galloway

Since the beginning of 2017, the Council has committed over £4,700,000 to tackling poverty in all of its forms and has funded 109 different projects, the majority of which are working together towards the reduction of child poverty within our region.

All of the projects have been formulated through the Tackling Poverty Reference Group to ensure that a step-change is achieved and the outcomes make a real difference to the families and individuals affected, or at risk. The projects that we are developing to tackle poverty are changing the delivery mechanisms of our services, and therefore the strategic way that the Council and NHS are working. This ensures that we are improving the services that we deliver in a time of diminishing Public Sector resource.

The Child Poverty Local Action Plan will be progressed and monitored through the Children's Services Executive Group. Alignment to this Group will allow the Child Poverty Local Action Plan to be reported to the Community Planning Partnership through the Executive Group.

With the Children's Services Plan reporting to the Partnership Board on a quarterly basis, this will allow consistent publication of progress in relation to addressing child poverty across plans.

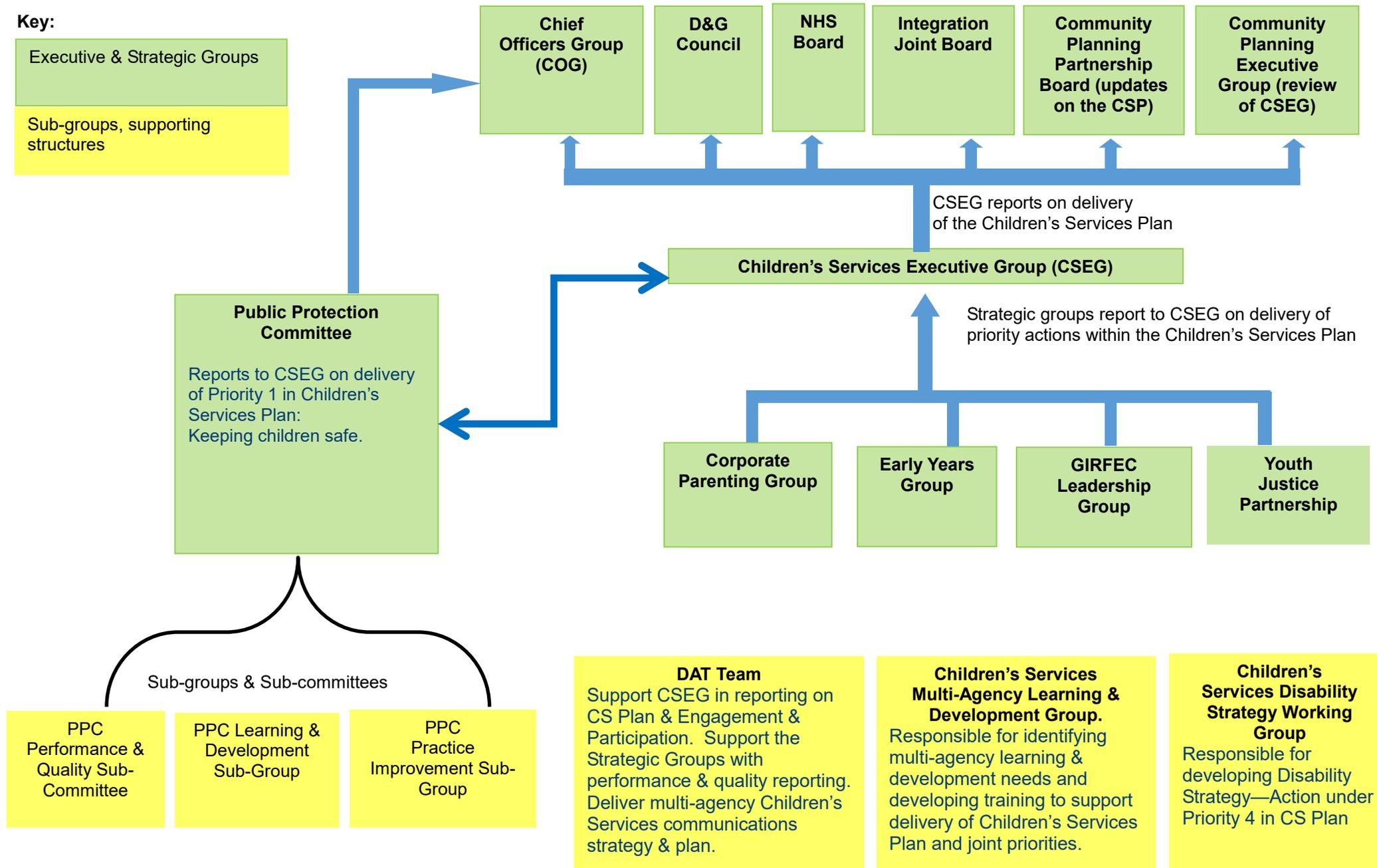
Within Dumfries and Galloway, the Integration Joint Board remit is focussed on Health and Social Care for Adult and Older People. Partners recognise that work with families can cross agencies; Realigning Children's Services analysis will help us ensure that integrated work for Children and Families is suitably supported. The Governance and decision-making structure for the Children's Services Executive Group (CSEG) and Public Protection Committee (PPC) is set out below in Figure 4.

Within the Children's Services Plan, Priority 2 – "We will ensure children and young people get support at the earliest appropriate time through prevention and early intervention" and Priority 4 focuses on "reducing and removing barriers and improving educational attainment" with the delivery of activity under these priorities clearly contribute to our ambition to reduce child poverty. Similarly, the Dumfries and Galloway Council Plan, the Children and Young People Business Plan, and the National Improvement Plan for Education Services identify an inequalities sensitive approach to action by "Reducing the gap in outcomes between the most deprived and least deprived children and young people in Dumfries and Galloway".

A link to the Children's Services Plan is below:

[Dumfries & Galloway Children's Services Plan 2017-2020.pdf](#)

Figure 4: Children’s Services and Public Protection Planning Structures, November 2018



8. Current Activity to Reduce child Poverty

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 details specific areas where Community Planning partners must demonstrate activity undertaken. These are detailed below.

Income Maximisation & Financial Inclusion

Within our region, the Council has commissioned Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service to deliver the Advice and Information Service for three years beginning on 1st January 2019. This is aimed to significantly reduce all aspects of poverty within our region, including child poverty. A large proportion of the clients who are being supported by this Commission will be families with children. This service funded for the sum of £906,500 per year for three years was agreed on the basis of previous delivery of the Advice and Information Service commission. All of the following targets aim to reduce child poverty:

Description	Provider Role	Target (2018/19)	Provider Recording Frequency
Value of additional benefits identified through income maximisation services. This has to be broken down by benefit type and the age band of the customer.	Direct Measure	£7 million per annum	Monthly
Number of customers assisted resulting in an increase to income.	Direct Measure	1,395 per annum	Monthly
Identify the number of working age benefits claimed and list these benefits in order of benefit name and age group of the claimant.	Direct Measure	Per Claim	Monthly
Value of Debt managed through Money Advice Services.	Direct Measure	£15m per annum	Monthly
Number of customers actively being supported in managing debts.	Direct Measure	900 per annum	Monthly
Number of referrals to Employability Service, which are taken up by customer.	Direct Measure	50 per annum	Monthly
Evidence that the Service is being accessed in all areas of Dumfries & Galloway.	Direct Measure	Monitor	Monthly
Evidence Customer Base has higher representation in areas of deprivation.	Direct Measure	Monitor	Monthly
Percentage of residents using Service satisfied with level of support.	Direct Measure	80% of response is positive	Monthly
To hold and continue to meet requirements of or be working towards Scottish National Standards for Information and Advice Accreditation level III (or to be achieved within first 12 months of contract). Individual staff shall have appropriate training and accreditation including wiser adviser level 2/3 for money advisors.	Direct Measure	Yes	Ongoing

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Value of additional funding secured from non-Council sources	Evidence of funding applied for and secured	No Target	Quarterly
Details of all customers who are in receipt of a service. List their names, Date of Birth and National Insurance Number.	Direct Measure	100%	Monthly

Description	Provider Role	Dumfries & Galloway Council Aim	Provider Recording Frequency
Actual number of households not managing their finances and the reasons why.	*Influence	Reduce	Monthly
Actual number of customers without Bank or Building Society Account.	*Influence	Reduce	Monthly
Actual number of customers who have opened a bank account as a result of engaging with the Service.	*Influence	Increase	Monthly
Actual number of customers who feel confident in making financial decisions.	*Influence	Increase	Monthly
Actual number of customers who are aware of where they can access debt and money advice.	*Influence	Increase	Monthly
Actual number of customers accessing a Credit Union as a result of engaging with the Service.	*Influence	Increase	Monthly
Actual numbers of customers in receipt of advocacy in the prevention of homeless.	*Influence	Increase	Monthly

This funding allocation is the highest in Scotland for an AIS Commissioned Service. Robust monitoring of this service is completed on a monthly basis to ensure that our most vulnerable individuals and families are continuously supported to access the help which will assist them to escape from the downward cycle of poverty.

In addition, the services which are provided by our Council's Financial Inclusion and Welfare Support Team complement this. The Team's main activities are summarised below:

- Benefit Maximisation including:
 - Advice and information on all benefits and entitlements including; Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit, Carers Allowance, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction, Universal Credit, Income Support, Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment, Employment Support Allowance, Bereavement Support Payment, Scottish Welfare Fund Crisis Grant & Community Care Grants
 - Assistance with completing claims paperwork
 - Contacts in any one of the local network of offices or a home visit if necessary

The main aim of the Benefit Maximisation team is to maximise benefit take-up. Referrals are received from partner agencies such as Social Work Services, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, GPs, Alzheimer's Scotland and a large number of third sector organisations.

The total figures achieved for the Income Maximisation Services for both of the services highlighted above in 2018/2019 are detailed below:

Dumfries and Galloway Council Financial Inclusion and Welfare Support Team	£8,275,601
Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service	£7,903,000

Promoting support services (e.g. Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service and Dumfries and Galloway Council's Financial Inclusion and Welfare Team) and developing referral pathways which enhance access to support has been a priority between all partners within our region, both on a community planning basis and throughout all of our third sector partners. We view this as key to our on-going commitment to successfully tackling and reducing child poverty. We know that one of the most effective ways to tackle poverty is to increase incomes and reduce costs and the two services above are key to ensuring that this is completed.

Income Maximisation in Health Settings

Money worries and socio-economic pressures experienced by individuals and families are known to have a major impact on health and wellbeing. They can also widen health inequalities and increase pressure on General Practice and health and social care services.

Financial inclusion referral pathways are an effective method of supporting people to be more financially included, to increase their incomes and to reduce household costs.

There is increasing evidence that integrating money and welfare and health services has extensive benefits for

- patients
- health services
- money and welfare services

To support this, additional funding is to be made available by the Scottish Government to embed referral pathways within Health Boards.

For this area of work the following activities were delivered within health settings in 2018/2019:

- Promoting awareness of child poverty, welfare benefits and support services to Health Professionals and services engaged with children and families
- Exploring opportunities to develop e-referral and further embed the Financial Inclusion Enquiry Pathway (supporting the work of the Scottish Health Promotion Managers)
- Links with Women and Children's Services have been further developed, particularly in the important areas of Maternity and Health Visiting Services, where increased awareness raising of child poverty issues has been undertaken through the dissemination of various briefings
- Midwives and Health Visitors continuing to work in an integrated way with income maximisation specialists to increase income for pregnant women and their families
- Promotion of specific welfare grants e.g. the Best Start Grant
- Financial Inclusion and Welfare advice as part of Social Prescribing pathways

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- Drop in Welfare and Advice clinics at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary and Mid Park Acute Mental Health Hospital.

As indicated above financial and welfare advice delivered by Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service and Dumfries and Galloway Council's Financial Inclusion Assessment Team continues to operate from Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary and Mid Park Acute Mental Health Hospital. In 2018/2019 figures in relation to the number of referrals and additional income gained are as follows:

	Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service Welfare Advice Clinic at DGRI and Mid Park	Dumfries and Galloway Council's Financial Inclusion Assessment Team welfare advice clinic at DGRI and Mid Park
Number of referrals (2018/2019)	271	141
Total Client income gained (2018/2019)	£356,673	£190,440
Income gained per referral	£1,317	£1,350

Cost of the School Day

Detailed studies have been completed within our region including the "*Cost of the School Day Report 2016*" which highlighted the ways in which both primary and secondary education impacts children, young people and families in low income households in relation to the often hidden financial costs of formal schooling. This report has been used to inform and shape policy development within our region whilst also acting as a comparative study to other local authorities undertaking similar research. The detailed report is now located on our Tackling Poverty pages on our Council's website <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/tacklingpoverty>.

Education Officers provide detailed assistance to all parents / carers through a range of methods including signposting to the detailed support pages which are available on our Council's dedicated Financial Support for Education pages <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15243/Financial-support-for-education>.

The Cost of the School Day Report and additional information on funding sources has been disseminated to locality Health and Wellbeing Teams and Health Visiting/School Nursing Teams. Further consideration of links with the local authority in terms of Cost of the School Day will be considered in 2019/2020 as part of the developing Child Poverty Action Plan.

A large number of these projects including the Free Breakfast Clubs in Schools and Removal of Period Poverty have all undertaken dedicated research and consultations with our key stakeholders, internal Council Services and partner organisations before the delivery of the project has begun which has ensured that the specified outcomes are reached. These research documents have been made available and shared with other local authorities to highlight both good practice and also to ensure that the activities which we are completing within our region are replicated within other areas of Scotland. More importantly, these will have a significant, positive impact and will improve their life chances on as many children and young people's lives as possible and will reduce the number who are experiencing the lifelong ill-effects of poverty and deprivation. Our existing range of projects which specifically aim to tackle child poverty include all of the following:

- Free Breakfast Clubs in Schools Project: This project aims to offer free breakfasts to pupils in schools throughout our Region to help to raise attainment, increase the health and wellbeing of the children involved and reduce the financial pressure on our most vulnerable families
- Intensive Family Support Service: This Team of Social Work Officers are delivering very dedicated support to up to 100 families within our Region with very complex issues including child poverty and other forms of poverty
- The Welfare and Housing Options Support Team: This Team provide intensive support to families (and individuals) who are suffering from very complex and extreme aspects of poverty
- Cost of the School Day: Home Economics and Technical Subjects: any barriers to learning these two subject's areas are removed which will result in increased engagement for all pupils wishing to study these two areas
- Cost of the School Day: Pupil Charges for Extra Curricular Subjects linked to national qualifications in the Senior Phase – A Discretionary Fund has been created which would cover the costs of these subjects (including Art & Design, Drama, Photography and Geography) for pupils
- Cost of the School Day: Extra Curricular Travel: This fund can be accessed by families on low incomes to cover the costs of travel for schools trips and sporting fixtures
- Removal of Period Poverty: This project has two elements which are both being successfully delivered – free sanitary products to young people within every school in our region and also through all sites throughout our Region which offer youth work activities
- Extension of the Food in School's Breakfast Club's Provision to include Holiday Meals and during Study Support: Pilot projects have now been delivered to offer the provision of meals linked to other activities during all holiday periods to ensure that no child goes without food during school holidays
- Mitigating the consequences of Welfare Reform - Crisis Payments and Community Care Grants: This funding is available to ensure that the most vulnerable families are able to access these two grants following the roll out to Full Service Universal Credit from May 2018
- Increased Registration of Free School Meals and Clothing Grants: This project has increased the number of eligible families taking up Free School Meals/Clothing grants and streamlined the process to make the current and future process easier and more accessible for our most vulnerable families
- Free School Uniform Bank Project: Donation and Collection Points have been set up throughout our Region for both new and used school uniforms and shoes to be donated. Every child in need can now access free school clothes without the stigma of having to collect these within a school setting
- Increased Support to Vulnerable Families and Those in the Justice System: The multi-agency approach of this project is ensuring that effective signposting, appropriate support mechanisms and vulnerable families and victims of crime are able to rebuild their lives including their confidence and also reduce their safety fears

Pupil Equity Funding (PEF)

As part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge Programme for 2017/2018, the Scottish Government committed Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) of £1,200 for each child in Primary 1 to Secondary 3 (or equivalent) who was eligible for free school meals. This funding was announced on 1 February 2017 and schools in our region received £2,881,200 in 2017/2018. In February 2018, a further £2,972,520 was allocated for PEF Projects. Due to the scale of funding received, PEF was included in our Council's Audit Plan for 2017/2018 as it was significant new funding for schools. At the current time approximately 102 projects within schools are being delivered using this funding.

A Pupil Equity Fund Day will be delivered by the Education Support Services Manager and Anti-Poverty Officer to Elected Members, stakeholders and third sector organisations in May 2019 to highlight all projects delivered through this funding stream and the positive outcomes which these are achieving to all of the pupils within each school. The following link provides more information on this essential funding support <https://www.gov.scot/publications/pupil-equity-funding-school-allocations-2018-2019/>

Dumfries and Galloway Council's commitment has been incredibly strong in tackling all forms of poverty and its dedication to this has been reinforced through the on-going delivery of our Anti-Poverty Strategy which has been recognised at national level by gaining the COSLA 2018 Gold Award for Tackling Inequalities and Improving Health.

Food and Fuel Poverty

Promoting awareness of services which are available to address food and fuel poverty has been a focus of work and the Community Planning Partnership's Locality Plan is about food sharing. This has included promoting local food banks (including Food Share) and energy advice services such as Home Energy Scotland and Cunninghame Housing Association's Lemon Aid Energy Advice Scheme to staff and within referral pathways.

A dedicated joint initiative to increase the number of organisations who are accessing the Fareshare Service, which fights hunger and food waste by redistributing surplus food to frontline charities, has successfully increased the number of groups accessing this direct distribution to 16 within our Region. The Registration Fee of £1,000 to join this organisation ensures that at least £8,000 of surplus goods are redistributed each year and assistance has been given by the Anti-Poverty and other officers to source grant funding to cover the cost of the initial fee. This initial investment of £16,000 equates to £128,000 of additional food being redistributed to those most in need.

Workforce Focused Activity

The local authority and NHS together are the largest employers in Dumfries and Galloway with around 4,300 members of staff for NHS Dumfries and Galloway and 6,300 with Dumfries and Galloway Council. Therefore, all actions to support staff can have a significant effect on reducing the impact of child poverty across the region.

It is recognised that a proportion of our employees are currently experiencing or are at risk of experiencing poverty and that this will have an impact on their families. To raise awareness of and increase access to local support e.g. Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service, Dumfries and Galloway Council's Financial Inclusion Assessment Team, food banks and services providing fuel poverty support and advice, awareness raising has been undertaken. Information on Credit Unions has also been made available to staff.

Through the Human Resources Team and the Anti-Poverty Officer, a new Financial Wellbeing Workforce Initiative was launched in March 2019 to provide more dedicated assistance to staff. The aim of this is to ensure that our Council delivers on its commitment to helping all of our employees to gain an increased level of financial wellbeing

Through the Financial Wellbeing in the Workplace 2019 Project, we will complete all of the below:

- Promote financial planning across the Council, through regular broad and targeted communication, emphasising confidentiality
- Increased Communication to be as widespread as possible to all employees
- Signposting to resources both locally and nationally, such as Citizens Advice or the Money Advice Service

- Updating the Council's Intranet Site with advice, guidance and support, with list of all supporting agencies
- Educating our staff through working with our partners to develop information and guidance and increased financial wellbeing
- Messages on Council payslips
- Dedicated information will become part of team briefings to alert and inform staff of the initiative and advice that's available
- Introduce referral system for employees to fast track advice from local agencies
- Promote our employee benefits that are already available which could save employees money

Importantly, both Dumfries and Galloway Council and NHS Dumfries and Galloway have in place a number of family friendly policies which can help mitigate some of the impacts of child poverty. These policies have been actively promoted to staff through the Healthy Working Lives initiative and the NHS Dumfries and Galloway's Working Well Strategy. Although not directly referenced in Appendix 1, each of these policies and supporting mechanisms directly contributes to our overall ambition to tackle child poverty.

Reinforcing our Commitment to Tackling Child Poverty

During Dumfries and Galloway Council's Budget Setting on 28 February 2019, the Council again reinforced its dedicated commitment to continuing to tackle poverty within our region. Former Policy Development funded initiatives from 2018/19 were established as part of our Education Service's ongoing service provision/budgets and will now be mainstream funded moving forward. These included Cost of School Day (Costs of Home Economics and Technical Design Classes £195,000), School Meals in Holiday/Study Support £200,000 and Free Sanitary Products in Schools which are also supported through funding from the Scottish Government.

In addition, further Policy Development Funding allocations for 2019/2020 include all of the following:

- Area Committee Anti-Poverty Grants £200k
- Involving Communities in Tackling Poverty – Participatory Budgeting £200k
- Credit Union Development £20k
- Taxi Card Scheme £100k
- Distribution of Crisis Grants £260k
- Tackling Child Poverty £100k (funding towards increasing the level of Free School Clothing Grants to £134 per child)

9. Key Actions for 2019/20

Appendix 4 details actions we plan to take over the course of 2019/2020 to address child poverty. Progress against these actions will be reported through the six weekly Children's Services Executive Group and our progress across the year will be published between 1st April and 30th June 2020, in line with the requirements of the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017. Throughout 2019/2020, we will be ensuring that all projects, activities and services contain an element of income maximisation to actively reduce child poverty.

In developing this plan, we recognise that partners are already undertaking a number of projects and actions to mitigate the impacts of child poverty as detailed in section 8 above and associated appendices.

We acknowledge that there are local level actions which may not have captured but make a significant contribution to mitigating child poverty within Dumfries and Galloway. There is a great deal of work within our local areas which could contribute to the partnership actions to mitigate child poverty.

Much of this, but not all, is encapsulated within the plans and reports of agencies detailed above. We recognise that there are also community groups, and local action groups, schools and nurseries, third sector agencies who provide important local actions; it is important that our future reports take steps to pull some of these actions together to provide a fuller picture and these important contributions are given the deserved recognition.

10. Conclusion

In preparing this document together, we have set out what is already being delivered and what we aim to do next year. We know that we can help mitigate the effects of child poverty by working in partnership, adopting proven interventions and considering all services strategically from a 'child poverty sensitive' perspective. This approach can improve the health and social outcomes of our children and young people, enable them to achieve their optimum potential throughout their life course, and thus benefit the inclusive economic growth and future prosperity of Dumfries and Galloway.

Appendix 1 - Child Poverty Local Action Report 2018-2019

Action e.g. new services offered, increasing flexibility of existing services	Who action is carried out by e.g. list of all those partners involved in action	Resources allocated	Poverty driver(s) the action is intended to impact	How impact has / will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst e.g. who is service targeted at and who is using it?
Anti-Poverty Intensive Family Support Service (dedicated support to at least 100 families in crisis)	Social Work Services, Education Officers, Employability Team D & G Council, NHS, Police Scotland etc	£1,200,000	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	All families will be accessed at the beginning of the support and again at the end to assess the overall impact which the	September 2017 – March 2020	Families identified through Social Work Services who are in extreme crisis.
Breakfast Clubs in Schools	Education Services Officers, Head Teachers & School Officers	£400,000	Costs of Living (and Costs of the School Day)	Attainment levels will be raised. The number of children accessing the	September 2017 – October 2019	All children who are already receiving Free School Meals
Reduction of the Cost of the School Day: Home Economics and Technical Subjects	Education Services Officers, Head Teachers & School Officers	£140,000	Costs of Living (and Costs of the School Day)	Increase in the number of pupil accessing these subjects.	On-going	Pupils who would otherwise be unable to afford these classes.

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Reduction of the Cost of the School Day: Pupil Charges for Other Curricular Subjects linked to National Qualifications in the Senior Phase	Education Services Officers, Head Teachers & School Officers	£25,000	Costs of Living (and Costs of the School Day)	Increase in the number of pupil accessing these subjects.	April 2018 – June 2019	Pupils who would otherwise be unable to afford these classes
Cost of the School Day: Extra Curricular Travel to Sporting Fixtures	Education Services Officers, Head Teachers & School Officers	£30,000	Costs of Living (and Costs of the School Day)	Increase in the number of pupil accessing these subjects.	April 2018 – June 2019	Pupils who would otherwise be unable to afford these trips.
Removal of Period Poverty in Schools and at CLD Facilities	Education Services Officers, Head Teachers & School Officers, CLD Officers	£100,000	Costs of Living (and Costs of the School Day)	A dedicated study was completed prior to the establishment of this project in each of our schools. The overall impact of this project will be assessed through a detailed survey which will be completed in September 2019.	August 2018 – ongoing	All Primary and Secondary School Pupils who would otherwise be unable to attend school during their periods.

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<p>Extension of the Food in Schools Support to Include Holiday Meals and During Study Support</p>	<p>Education Services Officers, Head Teachers & School Officers & Third Sector Partners</p>	<p>£200,000</p>	<p>Costs of Living (and Costs of the School Day)</p>	<p>A pilot project was completed which informed the further development of this vital project in conjunction with third sector partners. Impact will be accessed by measuring the number of pupils accessing each project offered in each location of the region.</p>	<p>August 2018 – ongoing</p>	<p>All families who struggle to cover the costs of additional meals during each of the holiday periods within the school year.</p>
<p>Credit Union Development</p>	<p>Solway and Stranraer Credit Union, the Credit Union Development Officer and partners including NHS Dumfries & Galloway, DGHP & Loreburn Housing Association and Education Officers and Headteachers.</p>	<p>£50,000</p>	<p>Costs of Living</p>	<p>The number of new young savers who are recruited through the development of new Savings Schemes within all Primary & Secondary Schools, the number of new Direct Salary Payment Savers from our Council and partners and the number of new borrowers.</p>	<p>March 2018 – March 2020</p>	<p>Increasing the number of young savers, increasing financial wellbeing through regular savings, increasing the number of direct salary payments and increasing the number of borrowers to reduce the amount of clients getting into unaffordable debt and loan shark</p>

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<p>Welfare and Housing Options Support Team (Team of specialist advisors who complete detailed support to families with multiple and complex financial issues)</p>	<p>D & G Council Officers, Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership, Loreburn Housing Association, and Dumfries & Galloway Citizens Advice Service</p>	<p>£175,000 (Sept 2017)</p>	<p>Costs of Living & Income from Social Security and Benefits in Kind</p>	<p>All clients will have detailed records of the amounts of arrears, debt etc and how this has been reduced / managed during their time supported by the Team. A Case Study will be completed for each client assisted. For the purposes of reporting for the Child Poverty Act, specific information will be gathered in relation to income maximisation measures provided to pregnant women and families with children with a) information, advice and assistance about eligibility for financial support and b) assistance to apply for financial support</p>	<p>This project is due to end in September 2019 but it is hoped that this can be mainstreamed.</p>	<p>Families in complex poverty with large rent, council tax & debts.</p>
<p>Housing and Homeless Options Team (arranging temporary or permanent accommodation for people who are homeless or at risk of</p>	<p>Dumfries and Galloway Council, Registered Social Landlords and Third Sector Organisations</p>	<p>Within existing resources</p>	<p>Costs of Living, Income from Social Security and Benefits in Kind</p>	<p>The delivery of this service is measured through reporting through normal Council processes.</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>All vulnerable families within our Region.</p>

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becoming homeless)						
PSP Transport Project & Rural Transport Projects (Develop a Public Social Partnership Model which is a collaborative approach between the public and third sector to redesign, pilot & procure services based around the needs of the service user, enhance travel choices for residents and expand discounted travel)	Dumfries and Galloway Council and SWESTRANS (South West of Scotland Transport Partnership)	Within existing resources	Costs of Living, Income from Social Security and Benefits in Kind	The delivery of these projects are measured through reporting to Communities Committee and also to the SWESTRAS Board.	On-going.	Families and young people who are at risk of fuel poverty through lack of income for transport and due to their rural location.
Poverty Awareness Training (Training delivered to	The Poverty Alliance and Dumfries & Galloway Council Officers	Total Cost £15,000	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security	Poverty Awareness Survey by the Poverty Alliance was completed in May 2018 to evaluate the understanding of poverty at that time.	May 2018 – August 2019	This training will raise awareness of why poverty occurs and will increase the

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1,200 Council Officers and Elected Members)			& Benefits in Kind	After completion of the Training, this Survey will again be completed and the results analysed. Evaluations completed by all Delegates attending the Course.		understanding of our work as a local authority to tackle all forms of poverty including child poverty.
Financial Inclusion and Advice Team	Dumfries & Galloway Council Officers and partners including the DWP and Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service, NHS Dumfries & Galloway, GP's, Alzheimer's Scotland etc	This Team is funded through mainstream costs within our Communities Department.	Costs of Living & Income from Social Security and Benefits in Kind	All clients will have detailed records of the amounts of arrears, debt etc and how this has been reduced / managed during their time supported by the Team. A Case Study will be completed for each client assisted. for the purposes of reporting for the Child Poverty Act, specific information will be gathered in relation to income maximisation measures provided to pregnant women and families with children with a) information, advice and assistance about eligibility for financial support and b) assistance to apply for financial support.	This Team is a mainstream element of our Council's Communities Department.	Residents within our Region who may not realise that they have unclaimed benefits. The main aim of this Team is to maximise benefit take up.
Home Energy Help Project for Fuel Poor Households	The Energy Agency, Dumfries & Galloway Council	£250,000 (September 2017)	Costs of Living	All clients supported will complete detailed Cast Study Reports which will be followed up with	September 2019	All Families who are in Fuel Poverty within our Region

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(Home visit with detailed advice and funding for small improvements to residents homes to increase the energy efficiency and reduce heating costs)	Officers and The Hub, Dumfries			future visits which highlight the difference in the fuel costs and the savings made by each client.		(currently around 40%)
Increase in the Number of Registrations for Free School Meals and Clothing Grants	Anti-Poverty Officer, Education Officers and Team Leader Benefits & Welfare	Existing Resources	Costs of Living, Income from Social Security and Benefits in Kind	The number of newly identified families and children will be directly measured as they are firstly identified and then after they have successfully registered for Free School Meals and Free School Clothing Grants.	On-going	Families who may not realise that they can claim these two benefits.
Advice and Information Services Commission delivered by Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service (DAGCAS)	DAGCAS and partners including HM Prison Service, D & G Council Trading Standards Team & others	£905,000 per year	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security and Benefits in Kind	Impact on all clients supported through this Commission will be monitored throughout the Contract Team and for the purposes of reporting for the Child Poverty Act, specific information will be gathered in relation to income maximisation measures provided to pregnant women and families with children with a) information,	1 st January 2019 – 31 st December 2022	Clients who are in need of any form of Advice and information in relation to debt advice, consumer advice, income maximisation etc. Pregnant women and families with children will be particularly monitored for the purposes of this annual Report.

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				advice and assistance about eligibility for financial support and b) assistance to apply for financial support		
Mitigating the Consequences of Welfare Reform (Increased funding for Crisis Payments and Community Care Grants)	Financial Wellbeing & Revenues Teams	£150,000	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	This increased financial support has been made available to cover the additional demand which is anticipated to occur due to the roll out of full service Universal Credit. All spend will be monitored and details of all grants paid and the reasons for spend will be detailed.	March 2018 – October 2019	Most vulnerable residents within our community including pregnant women and families with children.
Links to Work Project (Economic Development)	Dumfries & Galloway Council Officers, DWP, European Social Fund, local employers etc	Funded by the European Social Fund & Dumfries and Galloway Council	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	Impact on all of the clients will be measured throughout the period of support with detailed Case Studies highlighting the benefits to both the clients and their families completed.	On-going	This project focuses on intensive personal development support to individuals experiencing poverty. The project will support individuals to access information and guidance on any areas that they feel are barriers to their

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						progression such as, Money management skills, Fuel poverty activity, Confidence and skill building and eventually be supported to access the employability pipeline and towards sustainable quality employment.
In Work Poverty This service is targeted at lone parent or low income households within Dumfries and Galloway (Economic Development)	D & G Council Officers, DWP, Employers and partner organisations.	Funded by the European Social Fund & Dumfries and Galloway Council	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	Impact on all of the clients will be measured throughout the period of support with detailed Case Studies highlighting the benefits to both the clients and their families completed.	On-going	Support includes help for people to upskill, progress in their current job and raise their income level or move to a better paying job. We can also provide support to help people gain more control over their lives financially and/or provide support with childcare costs

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Participatory Budgeting Phase 1 Funding 2018/2018 (Awarded between March – May 2018)						
New Projects specifically designed to tackle poverty including the following which all tackle child poverty:						
Langholm Playcare – Parent & Child Social Club (Private Sector)	Langholm Initiative, NHS, Education Services & Third Sector Partners Support Group developed to help lone and low income parents within the Langholm Area	£12,120.00	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	All parents will be accessed for their support needs upon joining the group and all impacts will be measured throughout the delivery of the project (e.g. Increase in income through referral to DAGCAS for Benefit Review etc)	June 2018 – May 2019	Single and Low Income Parents
Lochside is Families Together – Events and Activities (Third Sector)	Lochside is Families Together and Third Sector Partners Funding allocated to deliver a range of trips, activities and events to low income families	£20,000.00	Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	Case Studies will be completed by the families taking part to highlight the impact which the project has had on their lives.	June 2018 – July 2019	Low income families.
Lochside Community Association – Grub Club (Third Sector)	Lochside Community Association and Fareshare Food Share Provision to	. £20,000.00	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in	Case Studies will be completed by the families taking part to highlight the impact which the project has had on their lives	May 2018 – June 2019	Low Income Families.

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	families who are struggling to cope with additional signposting to support services		Kind			
Aberlour Childcare Trust - Aberlour Intensive Family Support Service (Third Sector)	Social Work Services, NHS, D & G Council, third sector partners Support provision to families with complex poverty.	£8,000.00	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	All parents will be accessed for their support needs upon joining the group and all impacts will be measured throughout the delivery of the project (e.g. increase in income through referral to Social Work Services for specialist support)	June 2018 – May 2019	Families in need of dedicated support due to issues of complex poverty.
Teas, Tots & Tales Group Parents Support Group (Third Sector)	D & G Council, CLD Officers, Education Services etc Support Group for parents with very young children to access additional support through referral and employment pathways	£875.00	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	Case Studies will be completed by the families taking part to highlight the impact which the project has had on their lives	May 2018 – May 2019	Low income families with very young children.
Funding was allocated towards Anti-Poverty Projects from our four Area Committee's in 2018/2019 for the following projects:						
The Furniture	The Furniture	£3,979.25	Income from	Monitoring Reports and	On-going.	Individuals and

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Project Stranraer – Fed Up Community Kitchen (Third Sector)	Project Stranraer, Local businesses including Tesco & Lidl, Youth Work Services, Education Officers		Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	Case Studies will be completed by the families taking part to highlight the impact which the project has had on their lives. To date, there have been 662 beneficiaries to this project.		families in poverty.
Galloway Action Team – New Beginnings (Third Sector)	New project to deliver support to organisations supporting people in poverty through the distribution of goods and the completion of projects such as the building of gardens, furniture etc.	£5,475.00	Benefits in Kind.	Monitoring Reports including detailed Case Studies from the supporting volunteers.	On-going.	Projects which are supporting families and individuals in poverty.
Newton Stewart Initiative – Youth Work Provision (Third Sector)	Delivery of two Youth Groups within the Newton Stewart area supported by additional third sector agencies who the young people will be signposted too.	£3,375.00	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	Monitoring Reports and Case Studies.	On-going.	Young people in poverty.
Better Lives Partnership –	Dedicated Support to	£8,000.00	Income from Employment,	Monitoring Reports	On-going	Young People in poverty & very

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Bridge to Employment Project (Economic Development) (Third Sector)	enable Work Experience Projects and Opportunities to be developed within the Stewartry Area.		Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind			low incomes.
Dumfries & Galloway LGBT Plus – Volunteer Services (Third Sector)	Volunteer Co-Ordinator who delivers counselling services and supported events.	£2,250.00	Income from Employment, Costs of Living, Income from Social Security & Benefits in Kind	Monitoring Reports	On-Going	Individuals in poverty which includes young people.

Appendix 2 - Dumfries and Galloway Children's Services Plan – Priorities 2 and 4 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019

Priority 2 – We will ensure children and young people get support at the earliest appropriate time through prevention and early intervention				
Action: to achieve this we will	Timescale	Lead/ Reporting Officer	Indicators of Progress	Progress
2.5 Review and refine the current suite of parenting approaches and programmes including Incredible Years, PAFT, Solihull and Mellow Bumps	On-going	CYPLL	<p>A new cohort of staff have been trained in Incredible Years</p> <p>4 x courses delivered Aug- Dec 2018</p> <p>Total of 17 families engaged initially</p> <p>Positive evaluation scores and qualitative information from parents who attended</p> <p><i>Report available</i></p> <p>Feb 2019 courses – numbers. of families</p> <p>Dumfries - 10</p> <p>Stranraer – 6</p>	<p>Delivery of the Incredible Years Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have trained staff to run high-quality parents' Incredible Years groups throughout Dumfries and Galloway. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Incredible Years is aimed at parents and carers who have children aged 3-6 years. – An opportunity to meet other families and support each other in a friendly relaxed environment. – Incredible Years courses are open to mums, dads, carers and grandparents. – Every session is led by 2 group practitioners, with weekly contact and support available between sessions. • In 2018/19 4 Groups have been run across D&G – Upper Nithsdale, Stewartry, Dumfries and Wigtownshire. Numbers have been low but outcomes and feedback from parents and referrers have been positive. • Nearly 70 referrals for the block which started in February 2019 were received. 41 parents are attending the sessions, these are bigger numbers than D&G have had in the past. Groups are running in Dumfries, Kelloholm, Stranraer, Gretna and Castle Douglas. • Starting in 2018, a local improvement project resulted in development of the Solihull in Schools programme in 2018. This has been delivered in

			<p>Kelloholm – 6 Gretna – 9 (Primary School) Castle Douglas -10 (Primary School)</p>	<p>Maxwellton High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is available to all secondary schools, free of charge and supported by CAMHS.
<p>2.6 Further develop our community offer through the establishment of family centres/family centre approaches to include a parenting support offer.</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>CYPLL</p>	<p>Lochside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing number of partners involved – now 27 Increasing number of families visiting for first time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017/18 – 245 2018/19 – 375 Footfall increasing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017/18 – 5,798 2018/19 – 8,468 3,844 picnics were also collected from the Centre 	<p>Progress has been made with this action, with Lochside slightly more developed than Park at this stage. Family Centres are now operational at the 2 designated sites (Park School and the former Lochside School site). Year 2 has seen further progress made in terms of building relationships, developing partnerships and working with the associated commissions linked to the two centres.</p> <p>Lochside Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust and relationships have developed, and parents are increasingly accessing the Centre for support, advice or containment in times of crisis The centre now has its own Facebook page, and this is regularly used by families to message the Centre staff Families are actively involved in sharing clothes, equipment, books and toys via the swap shop in reception. The Centre now also distributes surplus bread from Fareshare. Incredible Years Programme is currently being delivered at the Centre Regular activities include: Toy Library stay and play sessions; Babes in the Woods outdoor play; speech and language drop-ins; breastfeeding support; teeny boppers toddler group; cuppa and toast drop in; and the new parent-led 'bubble' group with supporting crèche. In addition to this the Centre hosts a number of meetings and supervised contacts throughout the week and is the base for Relationships Scotland's Child Contact Centre on Saturdays. <p>Park Centre</p> <p>There was limited progress made during 2017-18 due to delays in building works and capacity issues to support the development of 2 sites at the same time, however, 2018-9 has so far seen the beginning of a very a positive start to the transformation into a Family Centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Steering Group now meets monthly and is actively moving the developments forward:

			<p>during the summer and October holidays as part of the Holiday Hunger initiative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2018-9 the Centre hosted a total of 1,030 hours supervised contacts through Social Work. <p>Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footfall in 2018-9 was 7,402 and of those, 278 were first time visits. Footfall is on a similar level to that of the previous year but there has been a considerable increase in first time visits. In 2018-9 the Centre hosted a total of 247 hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – group membership being extended – establish Facebook page (underway) – develop action plan – improving transition from creche' to nursery – testing a common approach for key services/activities: Fareshare; surplus food distribution; parental involvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Centre handbook has been reviewed and a system put in place to track feedback from families. • The Incredible Years Parenting Programme is currently being delivered at the Centre. • Regular activities include: Creche parents group; tweenies group; baby group; dads' group; LAC health clinic; Women's Aid, Rape Crisis, and Speech and Language Therapy drop ins; SHAWL group (for people with long term conditions); child psychology and CAMHS appointments; Young Carers group; Relationships Scotland counselling sessions; and Park nursery activities. • In addition to this the Centre hosts Family Protection interviews, social work supervised contacts and a number of meetings. It also is the base for Relationships Scotland's Contact Centre on Saturdays. • There are 3 commissioned services which relate to the 2 family centres (2 directly, 1 indirectly). These will be reviewed from April 2019 to help assist move towards a more sustainable model for the Family Centres.
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			supervised contacts.	
2.7 Test the delivery of parenting approaches and improve parental engagement through Early Learning and Childcare provision.	On-going	CYPLL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 practitioners have completed train the trainer training and successfully delivered course in D&G. • First cohort of local Peep training included all 10 government-funded ELC graduate practitioners, 5 DGC Lifelong Learning staff and 1 third sector staff member, who are deployed in ELC settings in areas of greatest need. • Total of 28 practitioners in Dumfries and Galloway now trained to deliver Peep, with 15 of 	<p>In Dumfries and Galloway, one of our chosen parenting approaches is the Peep Learning Together programme. We selected this programme as it has a very robust evidence-base, also, the flexible nature of the programme means that the focus of the group can be responsive to localised data, to parental interest and to the setting. Overall, our progress with the delivery of Peep is very good. We set out to deliver Peep programmes in areas of disadvantage and to build capacity by training an additional 16 practitioners which will expand delivery of the programme in the future. We have successfully delivered programmes in priority areas and practitioners have completed train the trainer training, successfully delivering their first course in D&G. All delivery has received positive feedback from parents, practitioners and partners. 100% of parents who have completed a PEEP evaluation have agreed that they are now more confident in supporting their child's learning. Many Parents spoke about being more confident about their children moving on to P.1. Parents indicated they were more confident about early language skills and early maths skills.</p>

			<p>those able to deliver the Peep parent accreditation through SQA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses run A&E – 2 courses 11 parents and 13 children Wigtownshire -7 courses t 73 parents and 80 Children. 19 parents have progressed gain SCQF level 3. 2 parents progressed to D&G College. Dumfries – 1 course 6 parents and 7 children.. Upper Nithsdale -5 courses 55 parents and 55 children with 10 parents progressing on to SCQF accredited units at levels 3, 4 or 5. • 2 parents on completion of the SCQF units 	
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			have now gained employment as classroom assistants.	
2.15 – 2.18 Expansion of free Early Learning and Childcare from 600hrs to 1140hrs	On-going	CYPLL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going 	<p>Summary of Progress</p> <p>The Scottish Government has committed to increasing the number of funded hours of early learning and childcare (ELC) through the near doubling of the funded entitlement from 600 to 1140 hours per year from August 2020 for all 3 and 4-year-olds, and eligible 2-year-olds. The aim is to provide high quality, flexible early learning and childcare that is accessible and affordable for families. The approach is ‘provider neutral’ and is underpinned by a National Standard that all settings will have to meet regardless of whether they are in the public, private or third sector or are childminders.</p>

Priority 4 – We will work to reduce or remove barriers so that all children and young people have equity of opportunity				
Action: to achieve this we will	Timescale	Lead/ Reporting Officer	Indicators of Progress	Progress
4.1 Poverty Awareness training – evaluate the impact of the training which has already been delivered to all Head Teachers and Teachers	March 2018	Education Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluations completed by all Head Teachers & Teachers 	<p>Good progress has been made in this area.</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing the poverty related attainment gap is now clearly articulated in the National Improvement Framework planning and reporting expectations. The training has been helpful to assist HT in meeting these national expectations and in preparing plans for the Pupil Equity Funding in conjunction with their school communities. This training was supported by statistical summaries and training on the use of Tableau and Insight, our attainment analysis tools As part of the delivery of the Poverty Alliance Poverty Awareness Raising Training, an additional questionnaire is being finalised which will be completed by all Head Teachers and Teachers on their initial Poverty Awareness Training previously received. The results of this will be used to inform specialist sessions at the end of the delivery of the Training which is being accessed by other services and Elected Members.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These sessions will also be informed by the results of the report on the Pupil Equity Fund Spend for 2017 / 2018 which is currently being completed by all Head Teachers who are in receipt of Pupil Equity Funding (£1,200 per pupil who is registered for Free School Meals) • This training will be delivered between late October to the end of November 2018 and follow up sessions will also be delivered to all new Education Staff upon induction. • A new FLO Poverty Training Module will also be developed which will include an additional section especially for all Head Teachers and Teachers. This will be completed early 2019.
<p>4.2 Reduce the extra costs within the school day and</p> <p>– identify areas where extra costs exist within the school day</p> <p>- Identify areas where financial pressure could be alleviated or removed</p>	March 2018	Anti-Poverty Officer / Education Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Report • Identify the total costs to remove each of the areas identified. • Source potential funding options for each of the areas identified. • Submit funding proposals to relevant funders (April / May 2019) • Budget Templates 	<p>Good progress has been made in this area and resources allocated to mitigate the costs of the school day</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on the Cost of the School Day Report which has already been completed, a detailed study on the full Costs of the School Day will be completed by the end of September 2018. All identified areas where additional costs exist will be identified. • All of the following allocations of funding were completed by our

			<p>were submitted by Education Team Officers prior to the Full Council Meeting on 27.02.18 on a variety of options where financial pressure could be removed or alleviated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Projects were selected for funding for delivery within a range of dates from March 2018 – March 2020 	<p>Council's Administration on 27.02.18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £140,000 – Home Economics & Technical Subjects. Funding ensures that there are no costs to any pupils to undertake these subjects. • £25,000 – Pupil Charges for Other Curricular Subjects Linked to national Qualifications in the Senior Phase (e.g. additional materials for portfolio work, fieldwork, residential fieldtrips etc) • £30,000 – Extra Curricular Travel (e.g. Travel for Sporting Fixtures) • £100,000 – Removal of Period Poverty, Free Sanitary Products in Schools • £200,000 – Extension of Food in Schools Support to include Holiday Meals & During Study Support
4.5 Establish Breakfast Clubs Funding allocated for this project from the Anti-Poverty Fund on 28 February	March 2018	Anti-Poverty Officer / Education Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Report • No. of clubs established • No. of children attending 	<p>This project has begun and is progressing well.</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <p>The Pilot for the project, which was agreed as part of the original project proposal, is now being delivered in 15 of our schools noted below:</p>

2017.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attainment levels of children attending 	<p>Gorleston, Whitehorn, St. Teresa's, Sand head, Drum more, Sheahan, Lore burn, St. Columba's and Breaker, Kirk bean, New Abbey, Odom, Langholm, Canonise and Wallace Hall.</p> <p>Each Breakfast Club Meal consists of semi-skimmed milk and a selection of fruit and vegetables. They are designed to capture young people who may be arriving late due to circumstances outwith their own control and who may miss the times of the standard Breakfast Clubs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Facilities Services Team in conjunction with CYPLL Officers developed flyers prior to the commencement of the pilot. A full Evaluation of the Project, carried out by CYPLL Officers, will inform the roll out of this initiative across all Schools within our Region. The Evaluation Forms will be completed via Survey Monkey and other methods by School Officers, catering staff, children and families. • The full delivery of this project will now be completed by the 31st October 2019. A full evaluation will be completed which will be used to inform future projects or the continuation of this pilot project.
4.6 Develop and deliver awareness raising campaigns on anti-bullying, ensuring that they include prejudice, and inform pupils about their schools anti-bullying policy		Education Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of schools involved in the campaign • No. of campaigns 	<p>Progress has been made this area and the next stage will be to evaluate impact.</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection Committee Survey undertaken June 2017 showed that 96% of children felt safe and would know what to do if they felt unsafe, this included feeling unsafe because of bullying. • MVP programme will be implemented in 15 secondary schools by September 2018 • Childline schools Services Programme now being delivered from P1 –

and the procedures for reporting				P7 in all primary schools on a two-year rolling programme
4.7 Review anti-bullying policies: Ensure they comply with the Council's Schools Anti-Bullying Guidelines and cover all protected characteristics and socio-economic groups		Education Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of reviews taken place • Outcomes of anonymous survey of pupils to capture surveys of bullying across relevant protected characteristics • Including trend information 	<p>Progress has been made in this area</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Manager is currently engaging with Respect Me colleagues to complete an update of current anti bullying guidance and to plan support for schools to allow them to fulfil the SG expectation that each school will have their own anti bullying policy; this should be developed through parent/carers/pupil engagement (workshops due September 2018) • Supporting Transgender Young People in Secondary school local guidance is currently under development due for launch September 2018 • Anti-Bullying and Equalities Module has been implemented within all school settings by 16th April 2018
4.8 Develop and implement an engagement and participation strategy for children across Dumfries and Galloway	December 2017	Development and Assurance Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy signed off • Increased range of methods of engagement and participation • Outcomes of self-evaluation activity • Engagement activity report 	<p>Progress was initially slow in this area but the strategic document is now ready for implementation</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategic document is universal but has a particular focus on children and young people who may need additional services and who have individual care-plans. It complements and reflects the Council's Corporate Youth Participation Strategy. • The strategy will make a difference by bringing together formerly disparate engagement activities into a strategic and systemic approach to engagement. Under a clear set of objectives. • The implementation of the strategy will support children and young people

				to have their voices heard in their care-planning and more widely in shaping the services they use.
4.9 Develop and implement a strategy for disabled children across Dumfries and Galloway.	2017-2020	Social Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our strategic aims will be transparent and shared widely for everyone to see. 	<p>Initial progress has been made in this area but there is still work to be done.</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision and objectives for strategy have been devised and agreed across agencies • Data on current activity has been collated and will be used to determine future needs and service planning • Initial priority area identified underpinning delivery of all 4 objectives - Enablement approach • This strategy will make a difference by ensuring joined up multi-agency support for children and young people with disabilities and their families underpinned by clear aims and objectives leading to more positive outcomes
4.11 Promote self-directed support for children and young people	2017-2020	Social Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of feedback forms • Outcomes of focus groups • Data and nos. of families using SDS 	<p>There has been some progress in this area but it remains an area for further development</p> <p>A specific format for gathering relevant feedback in relation to the child and the family's experience of SDS is in development and will be trialled this summer following consideration by focus groups in the East and West of the Authority.</p>
4.12 Develop services to ensure that young people with ASD continue to be supported to live within Dumfries	2018	CYPLL NHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data re children and young people moving back to D&G • Audit of plans 	<p>Good progress has been made in this area.</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The multi-agency residential placement group continues to have oversight of a number of young people who are supported to live outwith Dumfries and Galloway. Due to their very specific and often complex needs

and Galloway				<p>considerable planning is required to successfully consider how these young people can be repatriated back to Dumfries and Galloway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dumfries and Galloway Council have been very successful over the last few years to support a number of young people to return to live in Dumfries and Galloway. • Joint working arrangements are in place for 2018-2019 to consider future placement options to consider how we can create bespoke and creative packages of support to meet the needs of these young people and allow them to return to live with or near their families and support networks. • Adult Services are engaged to consider the transitional needs of these vulnerable children to consider their future employment and social care needs as they move into adult services. • Young People tell us that it is good to come back, spend time with their families and know that they will be living nearby and see them when they want. • Parents tell us they are delighted when their sons/daughters are able to return to live in Dumfries and Galloway as they are able to maintain and sustain relationships which can be difficult if they are placed a considerable distance from home.
4.13 Raise awareness of Young Carers across Dumfries & Galloway	March 2020	CYPLL NHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young People who undertake a caring role are identified as young Carers • Nos. of young carers who wish have a Young Carers Card 	<p>Very good progress has been made working jointly with young carers.</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new joint Carers Strategy 2018-2020 has been endorsed throughout Dumfries and Galloway addressing the needs of all Carers. This is an ambitious strategy which aims to raise the awareness and challenges facing young Carers as they progress through their childhood. The Carers Strategy aims to further strengthen key stakeholder relationships for both statutory and independent services who work with and support

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from focus groups 	<p>Young Carers in our region and to raise the profile of Young Carers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dumfries and Galloway Young Carers Project have supported 229 Young Carers between April 2017 and March 2018. This figure continues to rise year on year. • Approx 90 Young Carers have a young Carers card. This helps to empower Young Carers and have a voice in the lives of those whom they care for. • Many Young Carers have provided feedback in relation to the development of the Carers Strategy and they have shared their views at a number of Young Carers support groups in their localities.
4.18 Engage Young Carers to complete a Young Carer Statements in partnership with the Young Carers Project.	March 2020	Social Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Nos. of young carers with Young Carer Statements 	<p>Very good progress has been made in this regard</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Significant advice and training on the role of Young Carers has been rolled out across the Service. – Dumfries and Galloway Council have commissioned the Dumfries and Galloway Carers Centre to develop in partnership with statutory agencies a Young Carers Statement. This has been in development and rolled out throughout our region during 2017-2018 and 52 Young Carers now have a Young Carers statement in place at this time. – Young Carers in Dumfries and Galloway are some of the first Young Carers in Scotland to have a Young Carers statement completed. – Young Carers views are sought to ensure that these statements can be

				<p>shared with key stakeholders when consider the individual needs of Young Carers.</p> <p>– Feedback for other agencies working with Young Carers has been very positive. Many other agencies did not know that they were a Young Carer. The development and implementation of the Young Carers statements has raised awareness of Young Carers throughout the region.</p>
4.19 Develop joint approaches to support Young Carers holistically across children and adult social work services	March 2020	Social Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young Carers report services working together to meet their needs • Transition policy and procedure • Feedback from young people 	<p>Good progress has been made in this area working co-productively with young carers.</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new overarching Carers Strategy creates a seamless transition for Young Carers, Young Adult Carers and Adult Carers. This ensures that eligibility for services as a Young Adult Carer and Adult Carer are clear and there is a transparent process in place. • Young Adult Carers tell us that they are not ready for an Adult Carers Service and very much benefit from talking and sharing support with other young Adult Carers. We deem Young Adult carers to be young people aged 16-29 years of age. • Young Carers are able to choose when they feel they are ready to move on from the Young Carers project to the Young Adult Carers project but often their circumstances will determine this e.g. if they themselves are a young parent. If they are in employment or further education as opposed to continuing their education at school • The feedback from Young Adult Carers tells us that they prefer to attend a specific Young Adult Carer groups as they do not feel they are ready to attend or receive he services offered to older adult carers.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dumfries and Galloway are one of only a handful of Local Authorities in Scotland who have developed a specific service in response to the views of Young Carers and Young Adult Carers that they would like their own group to address their specific needs.
4.20 Develop joint youth democracy and youth participation across corporate Council	December 2017	Member of implementation team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish working group taking forward recommendation • (January 2017) • Combined youth democracy structure and the creation of a youth participation strategy. • (December 2017) 	<p>Progress is good with the Services for Young People Review on track against the three-year implementation plan.</p> <p><u>Evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working group was established in January 2017, this group then led forward the development of the Youth Participation and Engagement Strategy. This strategy was co-designed with young people and went through a consultation process from summer 2017 – early 2018. This structure was then ‘sense checked’ at the event #ROOTS with over 120 young people before going to committee in late March 2018. • The next phase of this will be developing and delivering on the election process starting in August 2018, with the Youth Council formally launching in early 2019.

Appendix 3: Strategies and Plans supporting the delivery of the Child Poverty Action Plan 2019/2020

Within our region, we are together, through Community Planning partners and successful joint working, making progress towards preventing and tackling the impact of child poverty.

The following table details local Strategies and Plans which will support the delivery of our Child Poverty Action Plan for 2019/2020:

Strategy or Plan	Delivered By	Resources Allocated	Poverty Driver	Key Outcomes
Realigning Children's Services	Dumfries and Galloway Council and Community Planning Partners	Education Services Officers	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment Costs of Living	Reduction in Child Poverty
Continued delivery of the Dumfries and Galloway Council Anti-Poverty Strategy and Action Plan	Dumfries and Galloway Council and Community Planning Partners	Anti-Poverty Officer, All Directorates within our Council and all Community Planning Partners	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment Costs of Living	Reduction in all forms of poverty including Child Poverty
Development of the second Dumfries and Galloway Council Anti-Poverty Strategy 2020 – 2025	Dumfries and Galloway Council Community Planning Partners	Anti-Poverty Officer, All Directorates within our Council and all Community Planning Partners	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment Costs of Living	Reduction in all forms of poverty including Child Poverty

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Pregnancy and Parenthood in Young People Action Plan	NHS Dumfries and Galloway and Community Planning Partners	NHS DG Health & Wellbeing Team	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment	Improved quality of life and mental health gains for pregnant mothers and parents Improved partnership working and knowledge sharing
Dumfries and Galloway Council Education Plan 2019/2020	Dumfries and Galloway Council and partners	Education Officers	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment Costs of Living	TBC
Participatory Budgeting Making Ends Meet Phase 2 Project Delivery	Dumfries and Galloway Council and Third Sector partners	Anti-Poverty Officer, PB Steering Group and Community Empowerment Manager Participatory Budgeting	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment Costs of Living	Reduction in Child Poverty
Area Committee Anti-Poverty Discretionary Budget Grant Funding	Dumfries and Galloway Council and Third Sector partners	Anti-Poverty Officer, Ward Team and Business Support Team	TBC	TBC
Development of Phase 3 of Participatory Budgeting Funding	Dumfries and Galloway Council and third sector partners	Anti-Poverty Officer, PB Steering Group and Community Empowerment Manager Participatory Budgeting	TBC	TBC
Youth Work/employability	Dumfries and Galloway Council	DG Tap Links to Work Project In Work Poverty Project	Income from social security and benefits in kind	Reducing poverty for young people leaving school.

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			Income from employment	
			Costs of Living	
Community Learning and Development Partners Strategic Plan for Dumfries and Galloway 2018-2021	Dumfries and Galloway Council and Community learning and Development partners	Within existing resources	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment Costs of Living	Increasing learning and skills opportunities Increasing opportunity for children and young people Partnership working Supporting volunteers and communities Workforce development
South of Scotland Enterprise Agency	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
NHS Dumfries and Galloway Mitigating the Impacts of Welfare Reform Outcome Focused Plan	NHS Dumfries and Galloway and partners	TBC	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment	Increased financial gains for individuals and families Improved quality of life and mental health gains Improved partnership working and knowledge sharing
Healthier Wealthier Children approach embedded	NHS Dumfries and Galloway and partners	TBC	Income from social security and benefits in kind Income from employment	Increased financial gains for individuals and families Improved quality of life and mental health gains Improved partnership working and knowledge sharing

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<p>CLD Partners' Plan 2018 - 2021</p>	<p>Community Planning Partners</p>	<p>Various staffing resources linked to partners.</p>	<p>Income from social security and benefits in kind</p> <p>Income from employment</p> <p>Costs of Living</p>	<p>Outcome 2 - Our children and young people are experiencing improved outcomes and positive destinations through enhanced partnership working</p> <p>Outcome 3 – Volunteers, target groups and community organisations are supported to develop their capacity and capability</p> <p>Outcome 4 – The involvement of learners and community organisations in shaping CLD priorities has increased and is leading to positive change</p>
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Appendix 4

Local Child Poverty Action Plan 2019/2020

We plan to:

- Build on all of the outcomes which we hope to have achieved
- Ensure each project and service will be effectively monitored and all outcomes are measured
- Ensure that we identify and share what is working and lessons learned by effectively sharing all of the information which we will gather and sharing this on both national and regional levels to highlight both projects which didn't work so well and also those which could be highlighted as best practice.

We have already identified a range of new actions which will continue to reduce child poverty within our region and we intend to ensure that they are all easily measurable through the Scottish Government assessment process of measuring targets, drivers and policy. The following table details new actions for the Child Poverty Action Plan 2019/2020 this will also include the continuing delivery of the 2018/2019 Plan.

Action	Policy Link	Delivered by	Resources Identified/Allocated	Timescales	Performance measure	Outcome
Explore opportunities to provide welfare advice services in GP Practices	Transforming Primary Care Programme and GMS Contract	NHS Dumfries and Galloway and GP Clusters	TBC	TBC	Number of referrals to support services Additional income gained from health referrals	Increased financial gains for individuals and families Improved quality of life and mental health gains
Ensure clear referral pathways to Income Maximisation Services as part of social prescribing models are in place	Transforming Primary Care Programme and Community Link Programme	NHS Dumfries and Galloway	Within existing resources	TBC	Pathway in place and consistent approach to referral being adopted	Increased financial gains for individuals and families Improved quality of life and mental health gains

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Develop opportunities to replicate the <i>Financial Wellbeing Workforce Initiative</i> within NHS Dumfries and Galloway	NHS Dumfries and Galloway Working Well Strategy	NHS Dumfries and Galloway	Within existing resources	TBC	TBC	Improved quality of life and mental health gains for staff Increased productivity and better patient outcomes
Explore opportunities to further embed the Financial Inclusion Pathway within appropriate NHS services	NHS Dumfries and Galloway Mitigating the Impacts of Welfare Reform Outcome Focused Plan	NHS Dumfries and Galloway and Health and Social Care Partnership	Within existing resources	TBC	Pathway in place and consistent approach to referral being adopted	Increased financial gains for individuals and families Improved quality of life and mental health gains
Work with partners to deliver a programme of awareness raising and training which supports use of the Child Poverty Impact Assessment Tool within stakeholder organisations	Tackling and reducing inequalities and health inequalities (inequalities sensitive practice)	NHS Dumfries and Galloway and partners	Within existing resources	TBC	TBC	Increased financial gains for individuals and families Improved quality of life and mental health gains
Develop web based financial inclusion information for staff on NHS Dumfries and Galloway's intranet site		TBC	Within existing resources	TBC	TBC	Increased financial gains for individuals and families Improved quality of life and mental health gains

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Deliver Poverty Awareness training to staff groups who have face to face contact with families, parents and vulnerable young people	NHS Dumfries and Galloway Mitigating the Impacts of Welfare Reform Outcome Focused Plan	TBC	Within existing resources	TBC	Number of staff trained in Poverty Awareness Evidence of staff confidence to raise money/work issues with patients/clients	Increased financial gains for individuals and families Improved quality of life and mental health gains
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Insert 4x Case Studies Here (Graphics to incorporate into body of text at final stage)

Case Study for Inclusion within the Annual Child Poverty Action Report

Income Maximisation in Health Settings

There are clear benefits in providing welfare advice in a healthcare setting, especially to those who are most vulnerable. These gains can be categorised under the following themes; financial, social and health.

Welfare advice in NHS Dumfries and Galloway settings (hospitals and GP Practices) have been provided by the Council's Financial Inclusion Assessment Team (FIAT) and Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service since 2013.

These services provide advice on benefits, debt, energy efficiency and lots of other issues which can help reduce or prevent poverty. This advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. The aim is to support people to get expert advice quickly and when they need it. This will make sure everyone has as much money in their pockets as they are entitled to.

Between April 2018 and March 2019 the two services received 412 referrals which resulted in generating £547,000 in additional client income. This is additional money and money which otherwise people would not have received.

Importantly, patients and visitors report the benefit of being able to easily access advice services in a trusted community setting', while staff indicate that it is re-assuring to know that they can confidently refer patients to quality services.

Welfare & Housing Options Support Team

Case Study 1

The Scottish Welfare Fund Team alerted WHO Team to a single parent with 3 children who had applied for a Crisis grant due to using monies towards rent arrears. Liaison with the Housing Options and Homeless Team identified rent arrears of £1659 and Customer at risk of losing RSL Tenancy due to forthcoming Court date.

Records detailed that Housing Benefit had been cancelled some months previously as Customer had failed to provide all required evidence. The Appeal held detailed; the Customer's personal circumstances, health issues across the family and outside factors, all of which had impacted on the Customer 's efforts to resolve the matter.

The appeal was immediately escalated and with evidence to hand the Housing Benefit was back dated realising £1941 to clear the rent arrears and remove the eviction threat. Prompt action by all the Teams ensured that the Housing Benefit was awarded and the eviction threat removed.

One off Award

Housing Benefit Underpayment £1941

Weekly Award

Housing Benefit £97.16

Case Study 2

Initial research and data gathering established that Customer had no rent or Council Tax arrears and that one of Customer's children had recently went to live with other parent.

The customer advised at the appointment that they were unhappy about their child leaving to live with other parent and were getting assistance with situation as Customer wanted child home. In obtaining the Customer's income and expenditure, the expenditure far outweighed the income and therefore Customer was struggling every month to make ends meet.

Budgeting and how Customer managed was discussed and Customer advised that they always prioritised the rent and council tax payments but that did leave them short for other things and for the children especially. General budgeting tips such as how to move suppliers for Electricity was given but the main concern for the customer was a huge oil bill. This was due to a previous neighbour stole oil from their tank and disappeared, so Customer had been left with a huge bill to pay and it was crippling their budget at present.

To help ease the Customer's financial position, applying for a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) to cover the shortfall in rent was discussed. Customer lived in a private Tenancy and advised that rent had increased to £515.00 per month from June 2017 but our records stated £500.00. At the appointment the WHO officer contacted the previous Landlord to see if a copy of the letter advising of the rent increase from 2017 could be provided. On contact from the Customer the letter was provided and submitted as evidence with the DHP application and ensure any award was on the correct rent amounts. The DHP was subsequently granted with full rent shortfall to be paid until February 2019 and then continue at a reduce rate.

The Customer was delighted with the outcome and grateful for help with financial position.

Intensive Family Support Service

Case Study 1

This is a single parent family that consists of mum and two primary school aged children/

Issues Identified:

- Rent arrears of £268, Council tax arrears of over £3000
- Debt accrued from catalogues
- The living area of the home was sparse and poorly decorated with ripped wallpaper peeling off the walls
- Mums poor mental health contributing to dependence on agencies/services.
- Mum's alcohol use has been a barrier to her being given medication for her mental health difficulties.
- Children often late for school due to mum changing schools because of disputes with other parents/children at previous school.
- New school is 15 miles away from the home.

- 10-year-old was removed from Mum as a baby and then returned to her. This has contributed to an attachment difficulty between mother and child.
- There is a reoccurring pattern of cyclical referrals to Social Work.
- 10-year-old has previously made several unsubstantiated allegations against both parents.
- Mum's self-esteem/confidence contributes to her making poor choices in adult relationships.
- Younger child's language development.
- Younger child's room has no carpet and his bed is broken.
- Older child's attachment behaviours are a challenge at home.

Summary of work done and how this is reducing the impact of poverty on the children and developing parenting skills.

- Between 10/05/2018 and 06/06/2018, the family were visited 13 times, and this equates to 22 hours intensive support. There have been no failed appointments.
- IFSS worker already had a working relationship with mum in her previous post. This has been a positive as mum is very happy to work intensively with this worker.

Encouraged mum to accept a referral to/ Supported mum to attend appointment with, Welfare and Housing Options Team. This led mum to address rent/council tax arrears. A realistic payment plan has been established with the reassurance that the £3000 council tax arrears will not be pursued if she is consistent with these payments.
- Established that mum has done some of the incredible years programme but missed the last few weeks. IFSS worker, who is trained in delivery of the Incredible years programme, is using the materials to do some one to one work with mum, in the home and with the children.
- IFSS have encouraged and supported mum to apply for a mechanic course at D&G College and she now has an appointment for an interview at the college.
- A Scottish Welfare Fund application has been submitted, by IFSS, to purchase a carpet and a bed for younger child's bedroom, as his bed is broken and he has no carpet on his floor.
- Mum has been encouraged to go on sales and free sites instead of using catalogues, and she is now proactive in getting furniture items for the home. Mum sourced a stair and hallway carpet and fridge freezer for herself.
- Support and encouragement, from IFSS, to de-clutter the home, has led to an observable improvement in the home environment, making it a more nurturing environment for the children.
- At the latest wellbeing web review, mum discussed how the changes are boosting her own confidence and self-esteem.
- IFSS are supporting Mum to implement appropriate and effective morning and general routines (to enable the children to attend school on time consistently)
- School lateness is improving but still needs worked on.

- IFSS observe that mum is doing everything she should be doing to get her 10-year-old to school on time, but it appears that this child does not want to be in that school. When 10-year-old completed the wellbeing web she indicated that she wants to return to her old school. IFSS working on this with mum and child.
- IFSS are in liaison with CAMHS (Child and Adult Mental Health Services). CAMHS taking a step back as IFSS involved. CAMHS feels that the 10-year-old does not have mental health problems. IFSS feels there is an attachment problem. CAMHS said that they will do a referral to psychology at end of IFSS involvement if there continues to be concerns regarding 10-year old's behaviours. If this is needed at the end of the intervention, the IFSS worker will make this a recommendation in her assessment and evaluation.
- IFSS have been in touch with Opportunities for All Service. They advised that their plan was what IFSS is doing and that they will take a step back for now.
- IFSS have motivated mum and the children to improve the garden area of the home. This has improved the garden and will appease the neighbours/landlord and gives the children a safer place to play. Mum has fed back that she attributes this to IFSS support.
- IFSS has supported Mum to reduce her alcohol intake as she could not get re-medicated for Mental Health until she was 6 weeks sober. Mum has reduced her alcohol intake to "a couple of shandy's at weekends" and is back on track with appointments at her GP re her mental health treatment. GP is happy with her progress.
- IFSS have encouraged and supported mum to join a local gym to alleviate mental health issues and use stress in a more positive way. Mum is now attending the gym consistently.
- CDAT (Community Disorders Assessment Team) referral made by IFSS – to get an update on the status. Younger child has appointment for 18th June at SALT (Speech and Language Therapy) and once this has happened then CDAT can become involved.

Links to other anti-poverty services:

- Welfare & Housing Options Team have been able to get council tax debt frozen and support mum to set up a realistic payment plan. This will prevent court action and the £3000 will not be pursued if mum keeps up her payments. This has reduced stress and had a positive impact on other aspects of this families lives.
- Scottish Welfare fund application being made to purchase a carpet and a bed for younger child's room.



Supporting communities across
Dumfries and Galloway



**sleeping
GIANTS**
- Open Your Eyes & Awaken Your Potential -

Item 3

AMAZE ME LEADER

INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE AND ENGAGING THEM AS AGENTS OF CHANGE

1. Background

In common with many rural areas, Dumfries and Galloway has an ageing population profile and relatively high levels of out-migration amongst people aged 16-24. This led the Dumfries and Galloway LEADER programme to recognise young people in the region as a 'strategic challenge'.

There are also several local and national policies and strategies aiming to ensure that young people are included in decision making, in light of evidence that young people are less likely to be engaged in formal politics and decision making processes, although this does not mean that they are necessarily uninterested in political or social issues.

In response to this challenge, Dumfries and Galloway LEADER commissioned Sleeping Giants to deliver the Amaze Me LEADER (AML) Project¹ : a week long programme of activities in August 2018, which brought together 46 young people from Dumfries and Galloway, other parts of Scotland, Finland, Latvia and Estonia, in order to engage young people in thinking about rural development and to encourage their participation in decision making where they live.

The young people travelled around the region and considered its strengths and weaknesses, as well as issues for young people living in rural areas more generally. D&G LEADER were always keen to ensure a legacy for the project and to learn from the young people's experiences, therefore the week culminated in a day long 'Youth Think Tank' conference, which saw the young people engage with and feeding back their reflections to around 80 local decision makers and leaders from local agencies, and during which a list of strengths, weaknesses and solutions to local issues were drawn up.

The week was followed by a series of themed 'ideas exchanges' to promote further dialogue between young people and decision makers, and to consider and reflect on the findings from the Think Tank.

A summary of the **strengths and weaknesses** of Dumfries and Galloway (from discussions from the Think Tank and Ideas Exchanges) can be summarised below².

¹ the interim evaluation report, produced by the University of Glasgow's Dumfries Campus can be accessed here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/5jt36shyu2d965e/AMAZE%20ME%20LEADER%20Evaluation%20Interim%20Report.pdf?dl=0>

² Full write ups of the Think Tank and ideas exchanges can be accessed here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/67fprnhabwo4vow/Youth%20Think%20Tank%20-%20Workshop%20findings.pdf?dl=0>

and here: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/61tcg0989bkqo3p/Ideas%20Exchange%20Findings.pdf?dl=0>



Strengths

- Dumfries and Galloway has **strong** family-focused **communities** with good **community spirit**
- Our people and communities are diverse, and have a wide range of **skills, experience, talent and passion**
- There are many who are **active** in their communities
- We have a rich and beautiful diversity of **natural assets, history and arts / culture** with a number of excellent **tourism** offerings (supporting employment, leisure, creativity & wellbeing)

Weaknesses

- We have an **ageing population** and declining numbers of young and working age people
- Our **towns** are declining with the loss of retail and industry
- Our **economy** is weaker in some key areas, with few sustainable **jobs**, and not enough opportunities for **enterprise**, innovation and relevant **education / training**
- We do not **market, promote and signpost** D&G (and all its assets) effectively to either our own people or tourists – we do not sell its benefits to young people
- Our Region is vast, with the need to travel, but our **transport infrastructure** is ineffective and not geared towards the needs of young people
- Our **connectivity** is poor, with difficulties in phone signal, broadband connection and use of new technologies
- Our communities, facilities, sporting, tourism and cultural offerings are **not targeted towards the needs of young people** (e.g. not much interactivity)
- Many people, not least the young, feel a lack of **voice and power** to be active, manage community resources and influence change in our communities
- We don't always work well together in **partnership** to address the issues our communities face, and perceived conflicts of interest can get in the way

The young people from Dumfries and Galloway (still motivated by their experiences from Amaze Me LEADER 2018) were keen to be able to continue to develop their thoughts in relation to improving our local area, and in Feb and March 2019, twelve of them came back together again with the aim of:

- Reflecting further on the Think Tank and Ideas Exchange findings (above) and deciding which themes / issues they want to take forward
- Using the Learning, Evaluation and Planning (LEAP) framework as a structure, defining what they want to be different or better under the key themes (outcomes); what ideas they have to help achieve this positive change (outputs); when these could be done (timeline); and what steps they need to take to achieve these (tasks / actions)
- Identifying their skills gaps and training needs
- Improving their self-belief and confidence to be changemakers

Throughout this process, the young people identified the 4 key themes they want to influence through the development of this project: **Employment and Skills; Tourism; Environment and Climate Change; Mental Health.**



2. Development of the New Project – Amazing LEADERS of the Future

Amazing LEADERS of the Future has been entirely youth led in its inception, with individuals from Sleeping Giants and the local LEADER action group merely supporting the young people from Dumfries and Galloway to gather, and to structure and articulate their ideas, aspirations, thoughts and feelings.

Our desire is that it remains as youth led as possible moving forward, however we recognise that the young people have lives, jobs, relationships and other commitments and will require ongoing and robust support to ensure that their ideas can be actioned and implemented.

We are currently seeking funding from a variety of sources to progress this project and the young people's ideas.

The new project is primarily a **youth participation and engagement** project, building the capacity and confidence of a group of young people aged 16 – 25 to share their views with and influence decision making locally and nationally around the 4 key themes that they have identified: **employment and skills; tourism; environment and climate change; and mental health.**

Although it is also focussed on achieving outcomes for the various young people who will participate actively in this project, the young people themselves are seeking **wider societal change, and far reaching improvements to our local area and its communities**, and have already identified ambitious outcomes under 4 key themes that they aspire to achieve or at least consider and influence for our local area.

They aim to be **strategic** in their approach, and to work **positively and collaboratively in partnership** toward achieving these outcomes (with each other, with other youth representatives, with local agencies and with decision makers); and overall, they are keen to ensure that **the voice, engagement and empowerment of young people** becomes central to the development of plans and strategies, and to decision making more generally in Dumfries and Galloway.

Around 12 of the young people will also take part in Amaze Me LEADER 2019: a learning visit to Estonia, which will be fully funded by Dumfries and Galloway LEADER programme, but from which the resultant lessons, connections and motivation of young people will be fed into this project.

We also intend (in order to keep it as youth led as possible) that (if funding is successfully sourced) that the bulk of the day to day work will be delivered by 2 paid young interns or apprentices.

3. The Aspirations of Young People

The outcomes that the young people have identified in relation to each thematic area (which is where they will be starting their discussions with agencies) are designed to make far reaching societal, environmental, and economic impact. These are:



Employment and Skills

1. Young people can access a fuller range of local educational and vocational skills building opportunities which allow them to progress to and succeed in their chosen field of employment
2. Young people are better able to access opportunities, and showcase their talents, irrespective of background, education level and situation
3. The potential of young people is better harnessed, developed and supported
4. Young people can inform, influence and are actively involved in the work of the South of Scotland Enterprise Agency

Tourism

1. Our tourist attractions are modernised to allow for more interaction and experience
2. Our tourism offerings are better marketed, which improves access and engagement, especially by young people
3. More people able to access, experience and appreciate what our Region has to offer (both visitors and locals)
4. Our tourism industry provides more skills building opportunities and higher paid jobs
5. Dumfries and Galloway has a modern, green tourism strategy, which celebrates our unique heritage and culture, while encouraging regeneration, wild tourism and connection with/ protection of the landscape

Environment and Climate Change

1. Plans and strategies to tackle climate change are more focussed on tackling the root cause, including personal, social and emotional factors
2. Schools better educate children and young people about environmental impact and climate change
3. We reduce our use of plastics, and can organically recycle or upcycle most of our waste products
4. Taking action on climate change is more embedded in all aspects of our local economy, phasing out the need for high carbon industries and championing projects which promote sustainability
5. There is more of a focus on the unique challenges for rural areas in relation to climate change issues such as environmental sustainability, carbon footprint and fuel poverty

Mental Health

1. Schools address all aspects of positive mental health with children and young people at a younger age
2. Stigma around mental health is reduced, and young people can speak openly about both positive and negative mental health
3. There is a change in values, where success is also measured by a growth in happiness and wellbeing
4. Positive mental health and good mental health care is better supported and encouraged in colleges, universities and workplaces
5. Young people can better access high quality informal, formal and crisis support and information, when, how, and where they need it



Outcomes for Young People

The young people also identified **personal outcomes** that they wanted to achieve for themselves (and other young people) through becoming involved in this project:

- To become more **involved in the decision-making** processes of their local communities
- To **improve their mental health** while supporting others
- To use their new skills and experience to **gain fulfilling employment, training for further education**
- To maintain and nurture **ties to the region** (for those who have moved away e.g. for further or higher education)
- To be **role models**, encouraging other young people to get involved
- To **develop a growth mindset** – confident in the continuing possibilities to improve their intelligence, ability and performance
- To promote **self-determination**, enabling them to cut their own path in life

4. Links to 10,000 Voices and the Youth Council

The 10,000 voices consultation which was undertaken across Dumfries and Galloway echoes many of the findings that this project has highlighted, not least in relation to mental health and access to employment. In addition, several of the new Youth Council reps are young people who took part in the Amaze Me LEADER programme.

Whereas the Youth Council is made up of local youth representatives who will help support the implementation of the Regional Youth Engagement Strategy at a ward level, Amazing Leaders of the Future will be more focussed on *issue specific activism*, with work organised in thematic sub groups, and attracting young people who feel passionately about a single issue (e.g. young environmental campaigners, young people passionate about mental health issues, young entrepreneurs etc.).

As a key value of this project is collaboration, there will be many opportunities for further linkages and partnership work with the Youth Council moving forward.

For more information please contact Grace Cardozo: Managing Director

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Sleeping Giants Community Development is a Dumfries and Galloway based Community Interest Company Limited by Guarantee, number SC557276.

Appendices – 1

Appendix 1 – Youth Think Tank Workshop Findings





Supporting communities across
Dumfries and Galloway



Amaze Me LEADER Youth Think Tank Workshop findings

Please see below the findings from the five Themed Workshops we held at the Amaze Me LEADER Youth Think Tank event on Fri 10th August 2018. The Strengths and Challenges identified along with the suggested solutions/comments provided by everyone at the event will provide the basis for discussion at our follow-up meetings on 28th September and 5th October 2018. We hope you find this of interest.

Young People

Expert Listeners

Young People

Strengths

Themes	Solutions
Strong Community Spirit	<p>Community suffers with poor access</p> <p>International project between communities abroad</p>
Activist Movement	<p>Embed opportunities in curriculum to 'join in'</p> <p>Increase opportunity for political/policy engagement</p> <p>Network of mentors to share their experience</p> <p>We need to evidence that we have listened and help in that change</p> <p>Diversity and engaging with different groups</p>

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	<p>Youth marketing by young people</p> <p>Co-production – joining Boards ‘by law’</p> <p>Provide the opportunity to take part in activism in school – this could be an ‘elective’ but in school day</p> <p>Diversity on different political boards e.g. health education</p>
Great Alternative to urban living	Spend a year in Dumfries & Galloway – try it out
Fantastic natural assets to explore	Active story based products for young people Easy to access
Good Tourism offering	Categorised tourist maps Using media to promote tourism offering – offline app so no need for Wi-Fi or 3/4G

Challenges

Themes	Solutions
Lack of support for young people to be enterprising/innovative	<p>Promotion of business support</p> <p>More information of business opportunities and how to start</p> <p>Does the Scottish Business Strategy include young people’s views?</p> <p>Investments and incubators for start-up enterprises</p>

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	<p>Business and pop up shop collaborations</p> <p>Enterprise guidance at school</p> <p>Bursaries to set up businesses/Government subsidies</p> <p>More career advice/business support in school</p>
<p>Transport connections are poor</p>	<p>Car share/community transport for young people)</p> <p>Car share programme</p> <p>Information about what transport support is available</p> <p>More frequent services & free for young people</p> <p>More frequent transport</p> <p>App for bus services</p> <p>Subsidised transport for young people</p> <p>Free transport for students</p> <p>Cooperation between bus companies = community based fares</p> <p>Public transport must be free for under 25 year olds</p> <p>Local community buses</p> <p>Regional car sharing/community transport initiatives</p> <p>'Rentable' electric cars in villages as in towns</p>

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	Public bicycle scheme
Lack of marketing of D&G as a destination	<p>Marketing & promotion – sharing knowledge – going into schools</p> <p>App for what is in Dumfries & Galloway for young people</p> <p>Create a main ‘trans-city’ route through the area</p> <p>Young people to market Dumfries & Galloway to young people</p> <p>More support from citizens advice for young people to value ideas</p> <p>‘Place making’ – young people to create their own platforms</p> <p>Greater use of all social media</p> <p>Social media e.g. DGWGO - Marketing support for businesses – access to this resource for young people</p>
Connectivity/phone signal/internet access	<p>Young people to support ‘offline’ forum</p> <p>Connectivity hub where young people can access internet</p> <p>Data and internet access should be made affordable and everywhere</p> <p>Change access in schools outside core hours – take away security!?</p> <p>Complain about provision</p>

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Lack of opportunity to participate in sport	<p>Sports promotions</p> <p>School promotions</p> <p>Building networks to support young people into sport</p> <p>Free sport activities for children and young people</p> <p>Free skating hours at ice rinks</p>

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Land Coast & Marine

Expert Listeners

Young People

Strengths

Themes	Solutions
Place of history, heritage, culture, landscape, views, beautiful, animals	
Unique conservation of history	
Good visual appeal, workshops & visitor interactions	
Good appreciation/enthusiasm for sharing local knowledge	
Good facilities like Loch Ken – Need more promotion	

Challenges

Themes	Solutions
Travel time/accessibility	<p>Roads not as bad as you think – from tourists</p> <p>Bus stops</p> <p>Railways</p> <p>Electric bicycles – rental and charging</p> <p>Wider roads with paths</p> <p>More/better/safer cycle & walking paths</p> <p>Car Clubs</p> <p>Cheaper transport for young people</p> <p>Community transport rather than public transport</p>

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	<p>Care hire scheme +driver</p> <p>Bike hire in outlying villages not just in major towns</p>
<p>Lack of facilities/lack of promotion</p>	<p>Advertise local activities/attractions on public transport</p> <p>Reward cleaning operations e.g. trade time spent cleaning beaches for free lesson coupon for activities</p> <p>More hire of equipment for water sports/activities</p> <p>More promotion</p> <p>Tourism Rangers</p> <p>Community run visitor centres</p> <p>Free events/workshops</p> <p>Use Social Media to promote local activities</p> <p>Paid advertising on social media</p> <p>Provide recycling stations on streets to make it easier</p>

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<p>No viewing points/no stopping places – lack of signs</p>	<p>Coastline walking trail</p> <p>Safe stopping places (YP)/specifically on A75</p> <p>Better signage</p> <p>Funding for roadside maintenance/views</p>
<p>Conflict of interests: retirement/farmers –v- tourism</p>	<p>Empower businesses & community groups with a sense of social responsibility to keep area clean</p>
<p>More interaction needed – more activities/experiences/packages</p>	<p>Tourism App with local information</p> <p>Packaged experiences</p> <p>Campaign/competition</p> <p>Skiing opportunities</p> <p>Coastal/walking/cycling packages</p> <p>Innovation regarding outdoor activities – learn from other examples</p> <p>Forestry – high rope course</p>

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Tourism

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Young People

Strengths	Solutions
Experiential Tourism	
People & Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share knowledge
Natural Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package tours
Activity Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiking trails • Backpack tours
History & Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise and promote 'living history week'

Challenges	Solutions
Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathering information • Tailored packages for different target groups • Signs • D&G should be in 20 most interesting places to visit in Scotland • When googling D&G to get more interested to come here instead of Edinburgh or Glasgow • More information about D&G should be available on google • Packages (small things together) • Trip Advisor • Instagram for marketing • Seasonal Attractions • Proper analysis of all target groups needs • Opportunities to rent a tent
Transport & Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More jobs • Ready packages e.g. bus, activities, guide • Locals as tour guides • Contract with e.g. Taxi drivers • Car sharing

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick up and bring to region
Working Together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One website for all hiking trails/facilities • Networks of enterprises • More/better economy • Should be open to more ideas is do not only trust one thing • Festivals • Workshops • Not just talking – more activities
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rejuvenation of rural areas • Collaborative incentive
Marine Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand up pedalling • Geo Catching • Riverside promenade in Dumfries • Providing boats etc. for locals and rivers • Viewing points • Disc Golf

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Communities

Young People

Expert Listeners

Strengths

Themes	Solutions
Close Knit Tight Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentorship for 16-30 year olds in rural communities • Co-design community activities with young people – help to feel part of tight community • Create dedicated worker that can support community work with other orgs • Work with Uni's to offer wide range of courses • Get students out of class to try potential training/job opportunities • Create more interactive opportunities in communities to make more interesting for young people • Young people not knowing what alternatives there are to uni/college. How do you find out? • Befriending service • School workshops (Rather than presentations) • Free help board (offer & get help for free) • Young people going to visit young people who are new to the region. An activity for older young people...
Variety & Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get rid of Silo mentality – have DGC , Visit Scotland, 3rd Sector work together to build on community successes • Transport – scheme for young people to hire a moped for 6 months to give time to raise own finances

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better advertising on training opportunities
Family Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More Flexibility of community buses e.g. Late Saturday night/trips to points of interest
Training & Skills Potential	
Existing Knowledge & Experience	

Challenges

Themes	Solutions
Transport Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport needed to access mental health services An app for car sharing Free bus passes for young people – could make bus service more reliable and better used Community buses ran for young people for special events etc. Youth focused touring facilities – Hidden histories/libraries on wheels Community bus/car share for work/study. Share existing good practice.
Infrastructure for Broadband & Signal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use internet to car share/develop app around car sharing More movement between towns
Sustainable Job Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make monthly idea conferences Amaze me learning to first minister/commissions for young people Change the expectation of going to university/college to one of staying in region Need to make use of empty units in town centre which could create economic opportunity

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making further education more accessible • Ring-fence new voting place for young people on boards e.g. DGC, NHS etc. • Educating young people already in work • Hostel style accommodation for young people • Offer job taster sessions • Dragons Den for young people • Young Enterprise Shop • Larger companies investing in the area • Community owned business
Rural Resource Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory budgeting to allocate funds • Greater powers to community councils • Restructure community councils to empower • Easier access to local history • Division of communities – Address of communication – a voice in the council for young people • Community owned assets
Lack of Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture change around engaging with young people • New schools have a youth council • Issues of fitting in a new community very difficult for young people • Chance to be taken seriously • Chance to get an opportunity for young people to do things ourselves (organise events etc.) • Young people engaging and designing community events • Chance to be heard

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Arts & Culture

Young People

Expert Listeners

Strengths

Themes	Solutions
Our heritage provides enterprise & employment opportunities	Dumfries & Galloway Tours – of places of interest
Our historical sites & passionate people in region (Living History)	Influencer – make use of people who have a lot of followers on social media Pan-Scotland Agency for interpreters 'Beat the Street' heritage information
Passionate people in region	Give passionate people the skills to share their passion about history in the right way
Our environment – links with arts & Culture (Landscape etc.)	
Our musical talent – across genres	

Challenges

Themes	Solutions
Town and village centres are dying or dead! (Online shopping – high rents etc.)	Small shops 'The Stove' Rent out shops – e.g. Wigtown's 'Open Book' initiative Arts Tours e.g. open studios

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	<p>More investment in town centres to bring them alive</p>
<p>Lack of information – advertising/promotion of what we have</p>	<p>Lots of adverts everywhere or small focussed postings</p> <p>Use free media</p> <p>Maximise links to websites across the region</p> <p>Advertise in schools</p> <p>Regional social media marketers</p> <p>More information points – make them more interactive</p> <p>DGWGO website – more advertising</p> <p>A website for different age groups with different tabs</p> <p>More reception spaces like ‘the Oasis Youth Centre’ in Dumfries</p> <p>Better signage for walks/outdoor activities</p> <p>Dedicated young people Facebook page</p> <p>Facebook page run as apprenticeship opportunity</p>
<p>Motivating young people to participate (out of comfort zone)</p>	<p>Friends persuade others to try</p> <p>Need to hold more free events that would provide a platform for young talent</p> <p>More accreditation e.g. Saltire Awards</p> <p>Get into schools/colleges to promote things</p>

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	<p>Internships – work experience including free transport/food (but no pay)</p>
<p>Gap in provision – activities focused on small children & young families not young people</p>	<p>Outdoor places for young people to meet</p> <p>More opportunities/places for young people to meet up (EL)</p> <p>Long weekend programme for young people with mentors (EL)</p> <p>Collection point for 'gap' ideas to actioned upon</p>
<p>Terrible transport – expensive & poor service (times)</p>	<p>More people with access to free bus passes</p> <p>Free/subsidised transport</p> <p>Create a scheme to make mopeds affordable for young people (also tractors!)</p> <p>An increase in hotels/tourism will then boost transport networks</p> <p>Better access to transport and more discounts</p> <p>Community transport – youth service/young drivers</p> <p>Make longer routes – include more stops – not just the most straight route</p>

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10,000 VOICES

CAPTURING THE VOICES OF OVER 10,000 YOUNG
PEOPLE IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

*THE LARGEST EVER
COLLATION OF YOUNG
PEOPLES VOICES IN
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY*



- 3** Introduction
- 4** Methodology & Considerations
- 5** Place Standards Tool
- 6** Overall Results
 - Results by Ward Area
 - 7** Stranraer & The Rhins
 - 8** Mid Galloway & Wigtown West
 - 9** Dee & Glenkens
 - 10** Castle Douglas & Crocketford
 - 11** Abbey
 - 12** North West Dumfries
 - 13** Mid & Upper Nithsdale
 - 14** Lochar
 - 15** Nith
 - 16** Annandale South
 - 17** Annandale North
 - 18** Annandale East & Eskdale
- 19** Implementing the Findings

10,000 Voices ran in Dumfries and Galloway for the duration of 2018, and is the largest collection of young people's views in the region, with all participants aged between 10 and 25. This is therefore the views of 46.9% of all young people living, working and studying in Dumfries and Galloway, making it the largest collection of young peoples views in Scotland for a single local authority area.

The project sought to gain the perceptions of 10,000 young people of the communities within which they live, this was done through formal consultations, focus groups, events and issue based groups.

The whole project involved young people in every single phase, from its initial planning and development through to the delivery and the subsequent analysis and reporting of the findings.

The information gained from the consultations will be used to inform a new five year strategic plan for Young People's Services, and will provide professionals with an excellent insight into young people's views and priorities for all organisations working with young people across Dumfries and Galloway.



10,000 Voices was conducted as part of a formal consultation process in Primary and Secondary schools from across Dumfries and Galloway. Young people were given a set of questions based upon what age they were, those at Primary were given a version suitable to them, and the same for those at Secondary school, and the age range itself was 10-25.

The formal consultation was also conducted within youth and community group settings across the region. Another method used by staff to gather the appropriate data, was to conduct the survey as part of a focus/issue based group.

By completing the consultation both formally and informally, this gave us the wide variety of views that we required to progress with the project. The data gathered has been split into Ward Areas, in order to allow local Elected Members and other professionals to see what is being presented, and where key issues lie.



10,000 voices was developed for Dumfries and Galloway, using the Scottish Government’s Place Standards Tool. The tool lets communities, public agencies, voluntary groups and other organisations find the specific aspects of a place that need to be targeted in order to improve people’s health, quality of life and well-being.

The tool provides a simple framework in order to structure conversations about places and communities. It allows us to follow a questionnaire format, and to think about and assess the appropriate issues.

Basing the format of our research on the Place Standards Tool, the questions within 10,000 Voices are based on the two following strands:

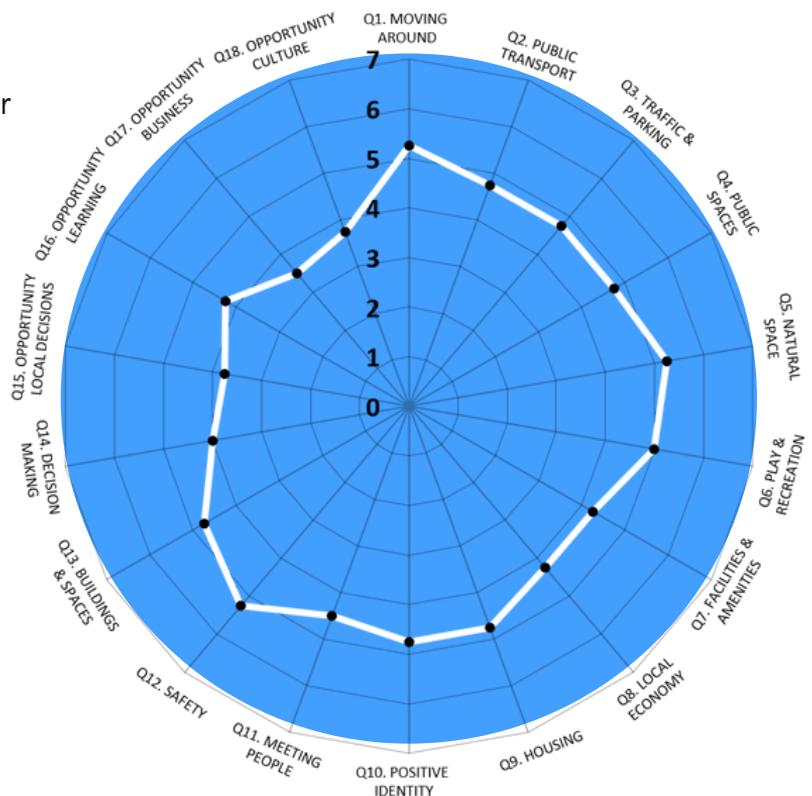
The physical environment: the buildings, streets, public spaces and natural spaces that make up a place.

The social environment: the relationships, social contact and support networks that make up a community.

The tool asks 14 questions on the physical and social elements of a place, which our survey is based upon. We ask questions, and the participant chooses a number from 1-7, 1 means there is a lot of room for improvement, and 7 means there is very little room for improvement, this is taken directly from the Place Standards Tool.

Results have been plotted on diagrams throughout this document, with points closer to the centre representing the ward areas which are most in need of improvement, whilst those plotted closer to the edge of the diagram displaying the strengths.

Utilising the Place Standards Tool for our 10,000 Voices consultation can benefit all new and existing communities, and can also help towards tackling health inequalities.



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

1. BULLYING 2. DIET & BODY IMAGE 3. MENTAL HEALTH 4. SMOKING 5. TRANSPORT

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. CRIME & LAW 3. DRUG MISUSE 4. EMPLOYMENT 5. TRANSPORT

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE

5.25

Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes

4.75

Q2. Public transport meets my needs

4.75

Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs

4.75

Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around

5.25

Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space

5

Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation

4.25

Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs

4.25

Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work

4.75

Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community

4.75

Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong

4.5

Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people

5.25

Q12. I feel safe here

4.75

Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for

4

Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE

3.75

Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making

4.25

Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests

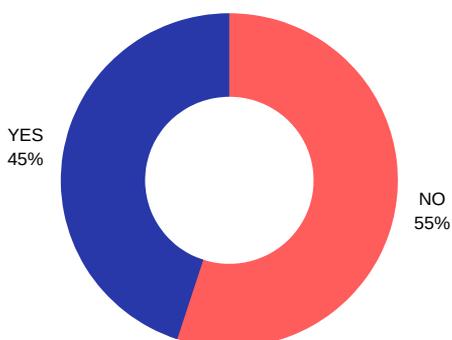
3.5

Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area

3.75

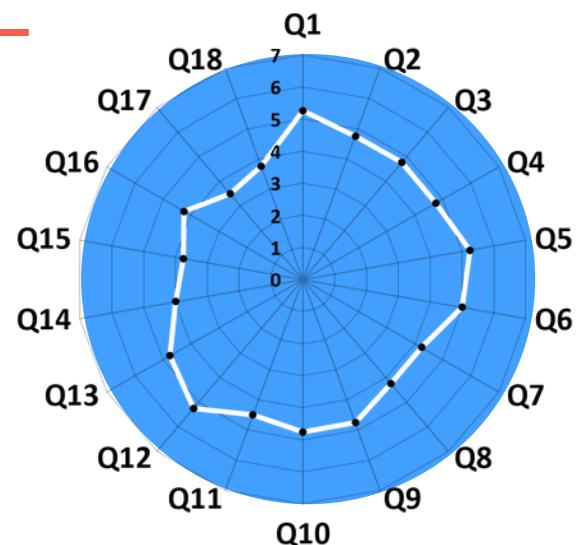
Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. TRAVEL
2. STUDY
3. WORK



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. DISABILITIES 2. LGBTQI+ SUPPORT 3. MENTAL HEALTH 4. SMOKING 5. TRANSPORT

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. CRIME & THE LAW 2. DOMESTIC ABUSE 3. EMPLOYMENT 4. FAITH/RELIGION 5. WHATS ON IN MY AREA

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	5.75	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	5	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	4.75	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	5	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	4.75	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	5.25	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	5	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	4	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	4.5	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	4.75	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	5	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	5.5	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	5	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	4.75	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

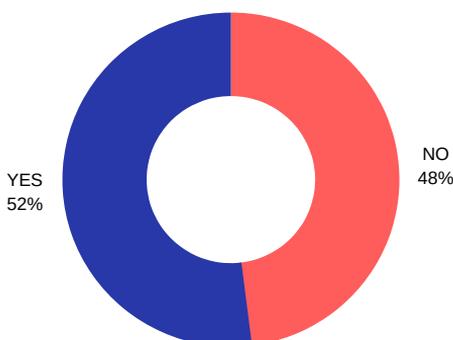
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

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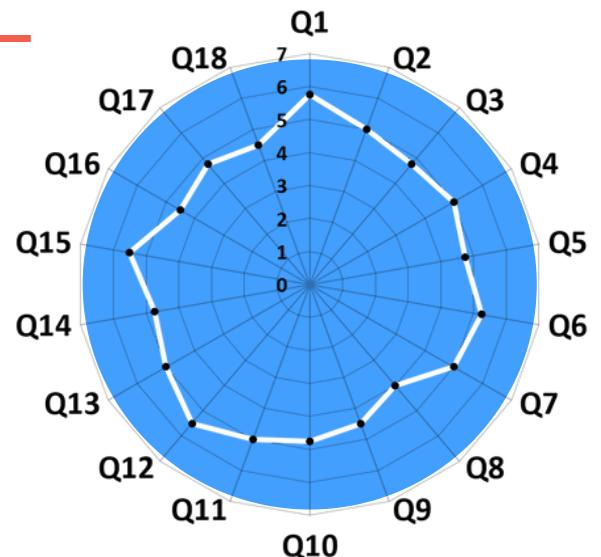
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	5.5	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	4.5	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	4.75	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	4.5	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. TRAVEL
2. STUDY
3. WORK



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. EMPLOYMENT 2. SMOKING 3. TRANSPORT 4. YOUNG PEOPLES RIGHTS 5. WHATS ON IN MY AREA

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. MONEY 2. DRUG MISUSE 3. DOMESTIC ABUSE 4. DISABILITY 5. BENEFITS & WELFARE

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	5.5	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	5.75	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	5.75	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	4.75	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	4.5	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	4	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	3.75	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	4.75	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	4.75	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	5	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	3.25	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	6	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	4	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	3	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

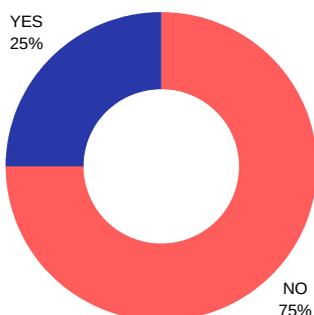
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

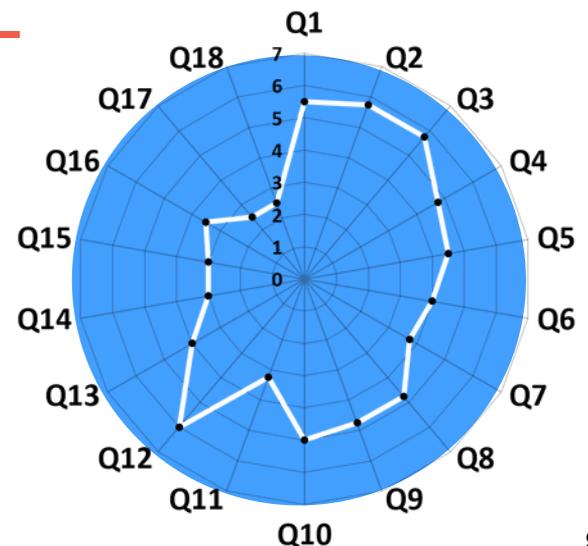
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	3	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	3.5	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	2.5	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	2.5	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. STUDY
2. TRAVEL
3. WORK



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. DIET & BODY IMAGE 2. EMPLOYMENT 3. MENTAL HEALTH 4. PREGNANCY 5. YOUNG PEOPLES RIGHTS

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. HOUSING & ACCOMMODATION 2. MONEY 3. TRANSPORT 4. WHATS ON IN MY AREA 5. BENEFITS

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	5.25	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	2.75	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	4.25	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	5.5	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	6	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	5.75	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	5	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	2.75	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	4.5	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	5.25	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	3.75	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	5.5	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	5	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	3.5	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

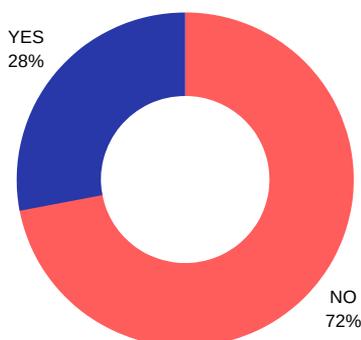
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

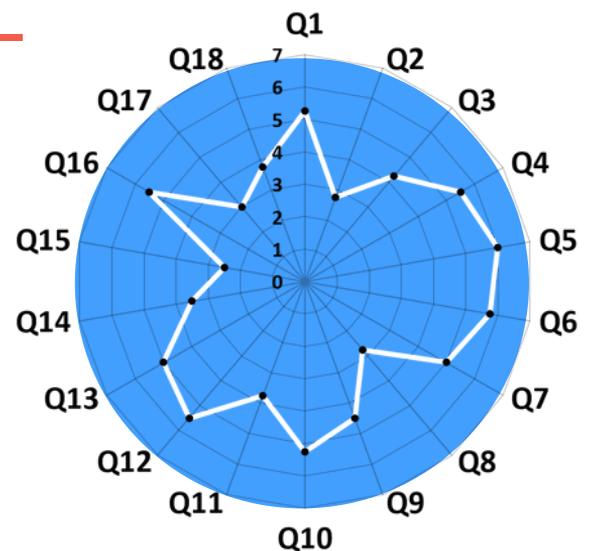
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	2.5	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	5.5	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	3	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	3.75	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. STUDY
2. TRAVEL
3. WORK



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. BULLYING 2. PREGNANCY 3. SEXUAL HEALTH 4. TRANSPORT 5. WHAT'S ON IN MY AREA

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. CRIME & LAW 3. LGBTQI+ 4. SEXTING & PORNOGRAPHY 5. YOUNG PEOPLES RIGHTS

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	6.75	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	6	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	3.5	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	5.75	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	6	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	6.25	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	6	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	6	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	6.75	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	5.25	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	6	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	5	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	5.25	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	3.5	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

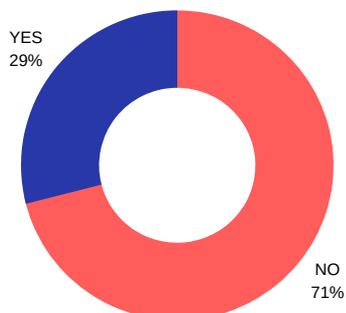
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

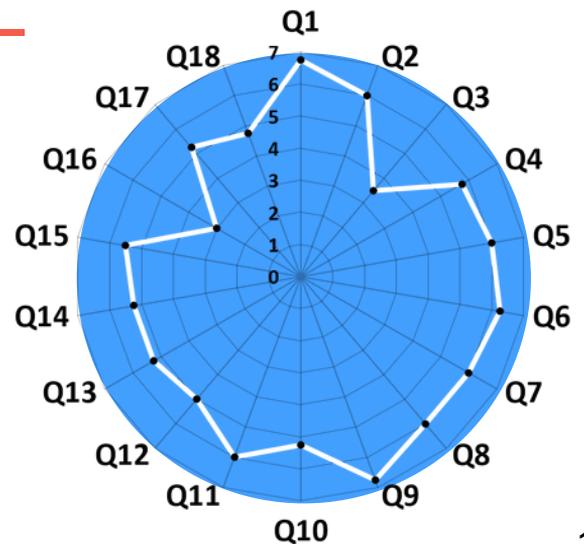
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	5.5	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	3	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	5.25	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	4.75	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. TRAVEL
2. WORK
3. STUDY



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. BULLYING 2. PREGNANCY 3. SEXUAL HEALTH 4. TRANSPORT 5. WHATS ON IN MY AREA

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. CRIME 3. LGBTQI+ 4. SEXTING & PORNOGRAPHY 5. YOUNG PEOPLES RIGHTS

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	5.25	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	4.75	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	5.25	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	4	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	4.5	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	4.25	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	4.5	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	5	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	4.75	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	4.5	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	4.75	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	3.75	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	4.25	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	4	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

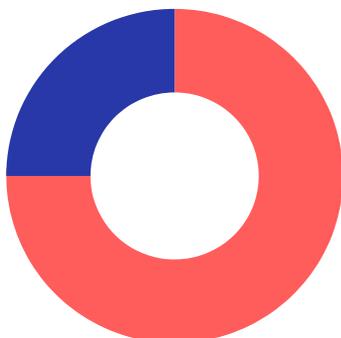
AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	4.75	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	5.75	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	2.5	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	2.5	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

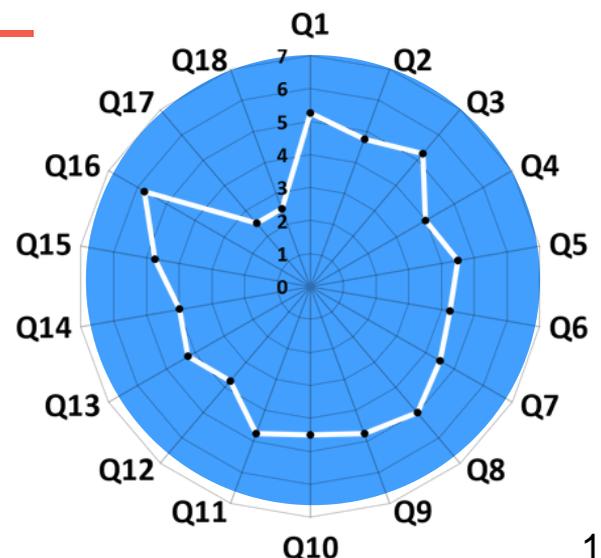
DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?

YES
25%



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. TRAVEL
2. WORK
3. STUDY



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. BULLYING
2. PREGNANCY
3. SEXUAL HEALTH
4. TRANSPORT
5. WHATS ON IN MY AREA

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. ALCOHOL USE
2. CRIME
3. LGBTQI+
4. SEXTING & PORNOGRAPHY
5. YOUNG PEOPLES RIGHTS

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	4.75	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	5.75	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	5.5	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	5.75	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	6.25	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	6.25	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	4.25	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	5.5	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	5.25	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	4.25	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	4.75	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	4.75	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	5.75	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	6.25	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

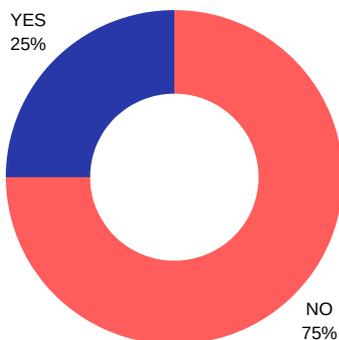
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

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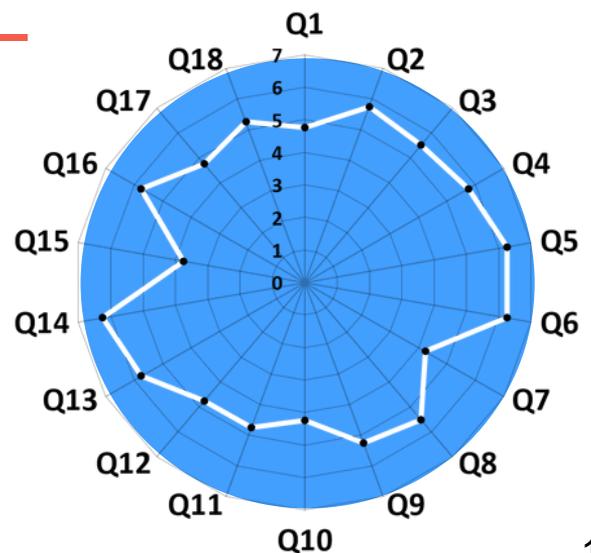
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	3.75	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	5.75	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	4.75	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	5.25	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. TRAVEL
2. WORK
- STUDY



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. BENEFITS 2. BULLYING 3. DIET & BODY IMAGE 4. DRUG MISUSE 5. MENTAL HEALTH

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. DISABILITIES 3. DRUG MISUSE 4. SEXTING & PORNOGRAPHY 5. TRANSPORT

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	4.75	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	4	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	4	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	3.75	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	6	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	4.25	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	4.25	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	3.75	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	4	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	4.25	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	3.75	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	4.5	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	3.5	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	3.5	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

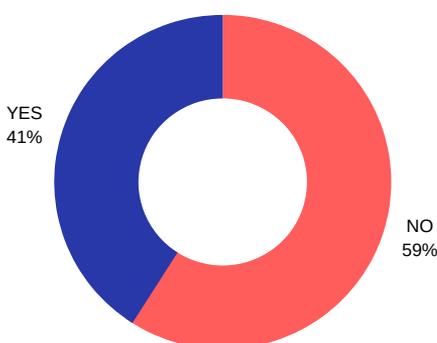
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

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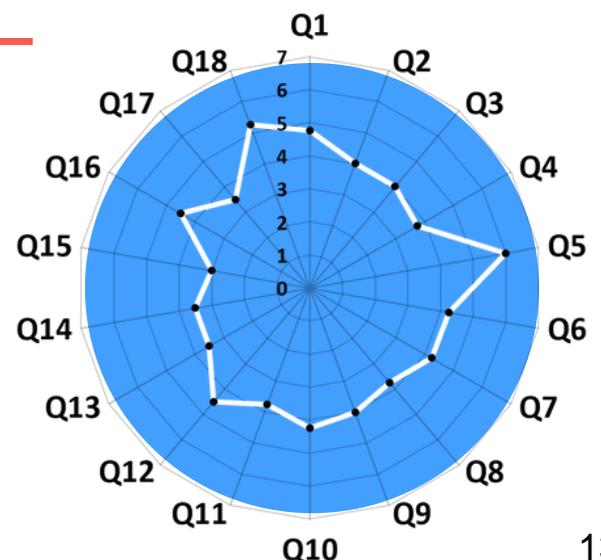
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	3	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	4.5	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	3.5	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	5.25	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. STUDY
2. WORK
3. TRAVEL



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. BENEFITS & WELFARE 3. BULLYING 4. DIET & BODY IMAGE 5. DRUG MISUSE

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. CHILDCARE 2. DISABILITIES 3. EMPLOYMENT 4. GAMBLING 5. TRANSPORT

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	4.5	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	4.75	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	4.75	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	4	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	5.5	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	5.75	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	4.25	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	5.25	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	4	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	4.75	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	3.25	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	6.5	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	4.5	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	4.25	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

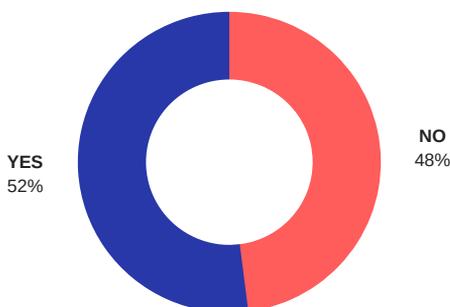
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

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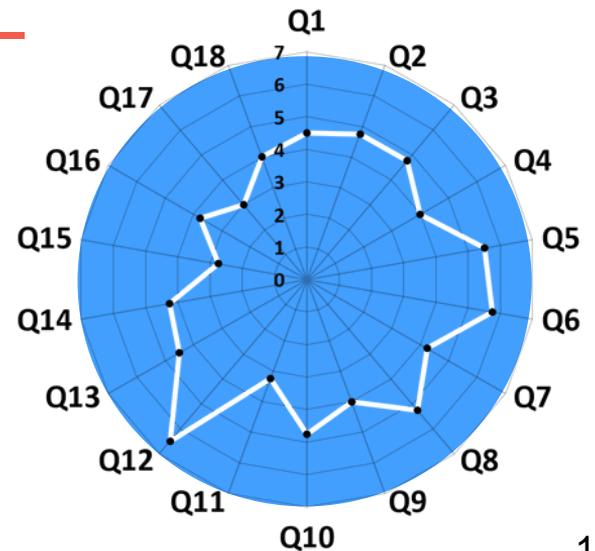
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	2.75	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	3.75	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	3	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	4	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. TRAVEL
2. STUDY
3. WORK



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. BULLYING 2. DRUG MISUSE 3. MENTAL HEALTH 4. SEXTING & PORNOGRAPHY 5. SMOKING

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. DIET & BODY IMAGE 3. DISABILITIES 4. EMPLOYMENT 5. SMOKING

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	4.75	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	5	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	5.25	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	5.25	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	6	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	5.5	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	4.75	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	4.5	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	5.75	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	6.25	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	6.5	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	6	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	4.5	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	5.25	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

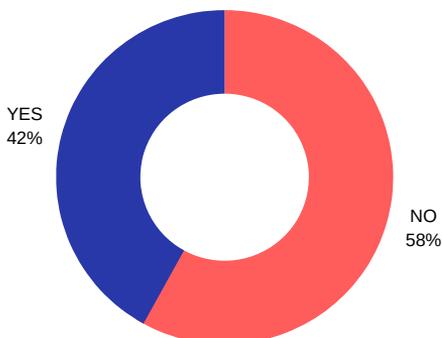
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

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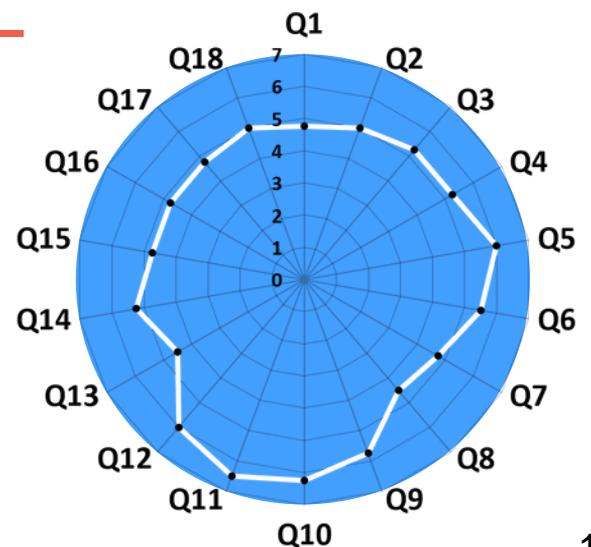
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	4.75	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	4.75	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	4.75	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	5	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. STUDY
2. TRAVEL
3. WORK



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. BULLYING 2. DIET & BODY IMAGE 3. LGBTQI+ 4. MENTAL HEALTH 5. SMOKING

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. CRIME & LAW 3. DRUG MISUSE 4. SMOKING 5. TRANSPORT

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	5.75	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	4.75	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	5.25	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	3.75	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	5	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	3.25	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	3.25	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	3	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	3.75	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	3	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	3.75	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	5.5	Q12. I feel safe here
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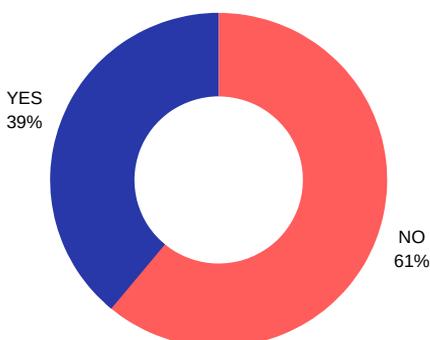
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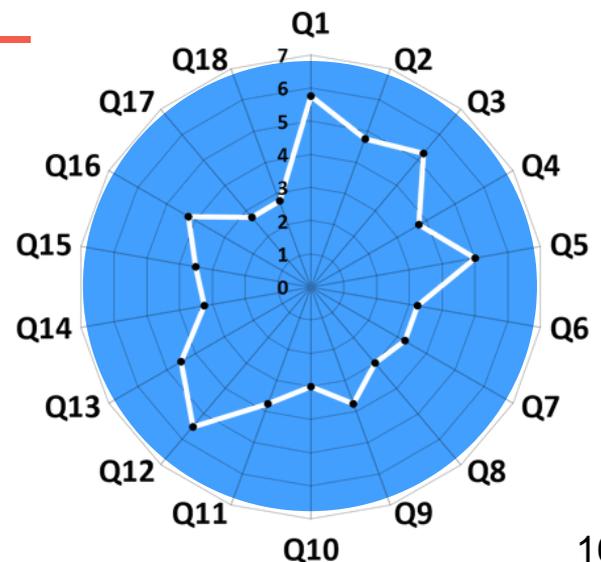
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	3.5	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	4.25	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	2.75	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	2.75	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. WORK
2. STUDY
3. TRAVEL



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. BULLYING 3. DIET & BODY IMAGE 4. MENTAL HEALTH 5. SMOKING

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. DRUG MISUSE 2. CRIME & LAW 3. EMPLOYMENT 4. MENTAL HEALTH 5. TRANSPORT

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	5.5	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	3.75	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	4.75	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	4	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	4.75	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	3.25	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	3.25	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	2.5	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	4	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	5	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	4.5	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	4.25	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	5.25	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	2	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

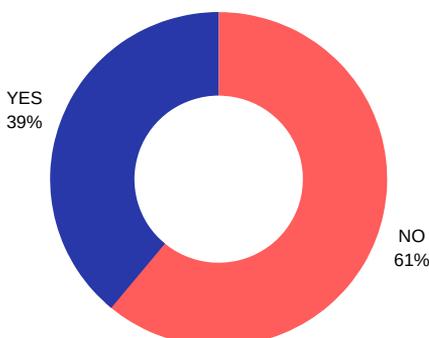
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

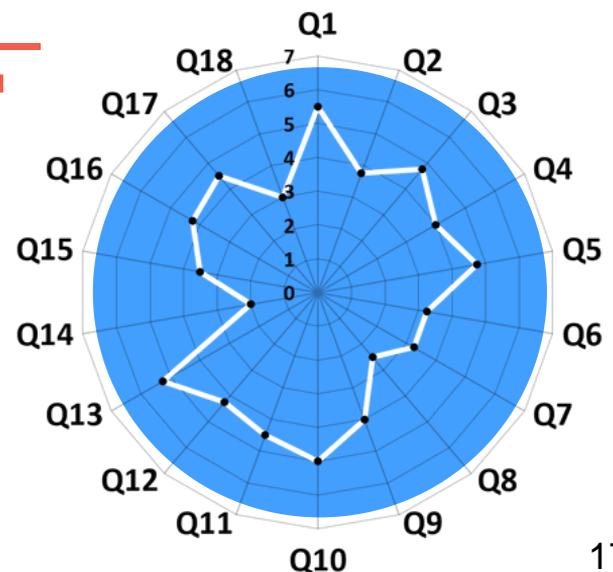
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	3.5	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	4.25	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	4.5	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	3	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. WORK
2. STUDY
3. TRAVEL



TOP 5 ISSUES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WARD

1. ALCOHOL USE 2. BENEFITS & WELFARE 3. BULLYING 4. DRUG MISUSE 5. MENTAL HEALTH

TOP 5 ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON

1. DIET & BODY IMAGE 2. CRIME & LAW 3. EMPLOYMENT 4. GAMBLING 5. SMOKING

THE SURVEY QUESTIONS WERE DEVELOPED USING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS PLACE STANDARDS TOOL

WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
5.25	3.75	Q1. I can easily walk and cycle around using good routes
4.75	4	Q2. Public transport meets my needs
4.75	4.25	Q3. Traffic and parking allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs
4.75	4.5	Q4. Buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around
5.25	4.75	Q5. I can regularly experience good quality natural space
5	4.75	Q6. I can access a range of space with opportunities for play and recreation
4.25	3.75	Q7. Facilities and amenities meet my needs
4.25	3.5	Q8. There is an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work
4.75	4.5	Q9. The homes in my area support the needs of the community
4.75	4.5	Q10. This place has a positive identity and I feel I belong
4.5	4	Q11. There is a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people
5.25	4.25	Q12. I feel safe here
4.75	4.75	Q13. Buildings and spaces are well cared for
4	3.75	Q14. I feel able to take part in decisions and help to change things for the better

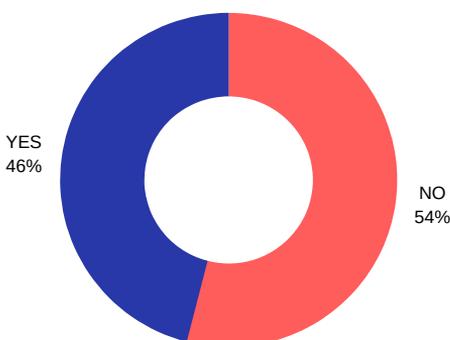
OPPORTUNITIES IN MY COMMUNITY

AVERAGE SCORE

1 = AWFUL 7 = EXCELLENT

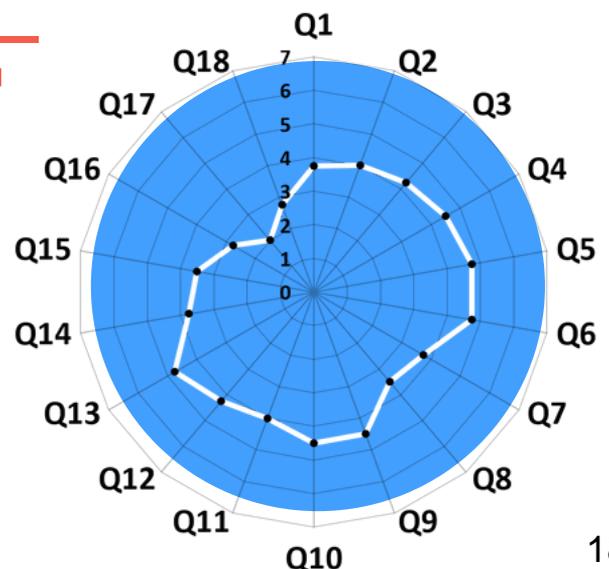
REGIONAL AVE	WARD AVE	QUESTION
3.75	3.5	Q15. Opportunities to meaningfully participate in local service planning and decision making
4.25	2.75	Q16. Opportunities to engage in both formal and informal learning that is relevant to you and your needs or interests
3.5	2	Q17. Opportunities for young people to develop innovative projects and businesses and work within their local area
3.75	2.75	Q18. Opportunities to engage in activities focussed on culture and the arts (performance, production, heritage)

DO YOU INTEND TO STAY IN DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY IN THE FUTURE?



IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STAY IN D&G, WHY WOULD YOU LEAVE?

1. TRAVEL
2. STUDY
3. WORK



The results of our engagement with young people through 10,000 voices has been streamlined in order to provide a clear picture of the current needs and interests of young people across our region, focusing on the key issues in each ward area.

As part of Dumfries and Galloway's Year of Young People Legacy, the information collated within this report will be used to inform a five-year plan for our Council's Young People's Services and will be shared with Community Planning Partners across the region.

We hope, moving forward, that the data contained within the report provides a snapshot of local need and helps organisations build upon the invaluable services, opportunities and experiences we offer our young people.

We would like to thank all of the young people and organisations who participated in and supported 10,000 voices during 2018.



10,000

VOICES

YOUTHWORK

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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FEBRUARY 2019

Item 4**YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY LEGACY****1. Background**

1.1 This report provides an overview on the legacy of the Dumfries and Galloway Year of Young People Plan 2018, in particular feedback from 10,000 Voices an engagement exercise with young people and the establishment of Dumfries and Galloway Youth Council.

1.2 As part of the Scottish Government's programme of themed years, 2018 was identified as the Year of Young People, aiming to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, value their contribution to communities and create new opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and globally.

1.3 This was an exciting opportunity for our region to co-produce an innovative and dynamic calendar of projects, activities and events to celebrate and showcase young people across our region. The Dumfries and Galloway Year of Young People Plan had six key themes; Participation, Equality and Discrimination, Education, Health and Wellbeing, Culture & Enterprise and Regeneration and placed a heavy focus on creating a legacy through 10,000 Voices and the Youth Council.

2 10,000 Voices

2.1 10,000 Voices was the largest collection of young people's views ever undertaken throughout Dumfries and Galloway carried out during 2018 as part of Year of Young People. The project sought to gain the perceptions of 10,000 young people on the communities in which they live through a survey, focus groups, events and issue-based groups.

2.2 10,000 Voices used the Scottish Government's Place Standard Tool developed by NHS Scotland, Architecture and Design Scotland and Her Majesties Inspectorate for Education. The tool enables communities, public agencies, voluntary groups and other organisations identify specific aspects of a place that need targeted in order to improve people's health, quality of life and well-being using a simple framework of standard questions. 10,000 voices involved young people in all stages, from its initial planning and development through to the delivery, analysis and reporting of findings.

2.3 10,000 Voices considered the physical environment, the buildings, streets, public spaces and natural spaces that make up a place and the social environment; the relationships, social contact and support networks that make up a community.

2.4 In total, 10,642 young people aged between 10 and 25 participated in the consultation. This is the views of 46.9% of all young people living, working and studying in Dumfries and Galloway, making it the largest collection of young people's views in Scotland in a single local authority area. The data gathered is considered a robust representation of our young people's perceptions.

2.5 A public launch of the findings took place in April 2019 involving young people, frontline staff from a wide range of stakeholders and community partners. The findings will be used to inform a new five-year strategic plan for Young People's Services and will provide Community Planning partners with a detailed insight into young people's views and priorities for consideration within their organisations.

2.6 A number of the issues highlighted in the Report – for example the top five issues affecting young people: bullying, diet and body image, mental health, smoking and transport; and the lowest scoring survey questions (opportunities to develop projects and businesses, culture and learning) - are reflected in the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan;

3. Youth Council

3.1 In March 2018, Dumfries and Galloway Council's Children, Young People and Lifelong Learning Committee approved the new [Youth Participation & Engagement Strategy](#) for young people aged 12-25 in Dumfries and Galloway. The Strategy set out to deliver a new Regional Youth Council through co-production with partners by early 2019.

3.2 The purpose of the Youth Council is to be a mechanism for meaningful consultation with young people across Dumfries and Galloway, whilst also being a group that is informed and elected to engage with services that affect young people. The regional Youth Council model is made up of 35 Youth Councillors identified through the following routes:

- 2 elected representatives (Youth Councillors) from each of the 12 Electoral Ward areas, responsible for representing their geographical community.
- 7 nominated representatives (Nominated Youth Councillors) who will be responsible for representing the views of young people whose identities and circumstance can often result in them being excluded or seldom held in decision making. Young people in these positions will be elected to represent their community of interest. The nominated representatives will include:

• Young Parents	• Care Experienced Young People
• Ethnic Minority Community	• Gypsy/Traveller Community
• LGBT Community	• Young Carers
• Young People with Additional Support Needs & Disabilities	

- 4 Members of the **Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs)**

3.3 In addition there is also a co-opted position for the Dumfries and Galloway Council Young People's Champion, Councillor Adam Wilson.

3.4 Elections for both the Youth Council and Scottish Youth Parliament took place from 15 – 29 March 2019. 127 young people declared an interest in standing for either the Scottish Youth Parliament or Youth Councillor roles during the Expression of Interest phase between September – November 2018. Of this, 80 young people participated in an introductory and campaign training programme. A total of 51 young people stood for election with over 3000 young people turning out to vote at their local polling place.

3.5 Elections were paper-based and mirrored the voting process that takes place in Scottish Parliamentary elections. This method of voting, as opposed to an online system, allowed for young people to gain real-life experience of the voting process. Information was also made available to young people about ensuring they register to vote in order to have their say in government elections.

3.6 Between April – August 2019, the newly elected Youth Councillors and MSYPs are participating in a robust training programme that will ensure they are equipped with the skills required to be an effective advocate for young people. It is expected that the decision maker (Elected Member, MSP, MP) meeting will take place in late summer once the young people have had the opportunity to settle in to their roles.

3.7 The Youth Council has gathered significant interest amongst young people and professionals since its launch in September 2018. A programme of training designed to develop and maintain the skills required for their new roles as representatives is currently underway and will continue throughout their term.

3.8 Progress will be reported through an annual report to the Children, Young People and Lifelong Learning Committee of Dumfries and Galloway Council and Children's Services Executive Group. Connections with a number of Community Planning Partnership Working Groups are being established for example the Participation and Engagement Working Group and the Equality and Diversity Working Group to maximise opportunities for all.

4. Recommendations

The Board is invited to:

4.1 note the legacy of the Year of Young People in Dumfries and Galloway mainly the 10,000 Voices Feedback report and establishment of the Youth Council;

4.2 note the content of the 10,000 Voices Feedback report and agree for Community Planning Partnerships to consider these findings in the planning of services; and

4.3 note the establishment of the Youth Council and the positive contribution of young volunteers leading the Year of Young People legacy in Dumfries and Galloway.

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Mark Molloy	Manager – Young People (CYPLL)	Mark.Molloy@dumgal.gov.uk 01387 260401

Approved By:

NAME	DESIGNATION
Derek Crichton	Director Communities

Appendices – 1

Appendix 1 – 10,000 Voices Final Report

A Consultation on Public Health Scotland – May 2019

**CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION**

Purpose of this document

1. This consultation document invites views on our proposals for a new national public health body in Scotland, to be known as ‘Public Health Scotland’. The proposals represent our current ambitions for the new body that have been developed by the Public Health Reform Programme and may continue to evolve in light of that ongoing collaborative work and stakeholder engagement.

2. The consultation is structured as follows:

Chapter 1 Introduction

Chapter 2 Overview of the new model for public health in Scotland

Chapter 3 Governance and accountability for the new model

Chapter 4 Outcomes, performance and improvement

Chapter 5 Functions of Public Health Scotland

Chapter 6 Health Protection

Chapter 7 Structure of Public Health Scotland

Chapter 8 Composition of the Board for Public Health Scotland

Chapter 9 Data science and innovation

Chapter 10 Transition arrangements – from existing structures to the new model

Chapter 11 Funding the model for public health in Scotland

Chapter 12 Equalities Impact Assessment

Chapter 13 Business Regulatory Impact Assessment

Chapter 14 How to respond

3. Consultation questions are set out in each of the relevant chapters and are also summarised on pages 56 and 57.

4. For the purposes of this consultation, the following World Health Organisation definition¹ of public health has been used:

4.1 Public health is defined as “the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organized efforts of society” (Acheson, 1988; WHO). Public health focuses on the entire spectrum of health and wellbeing, not only the eradication of particular diseases. Related activities to strengthen the public’s health aim to create and provide the conditions under which people can maintain and improve their health and wellbeing, or prevent the deterioration of their health.

4.2 Some key features help to distinguish a public health approach from other approaches to improving health and wellbeing, such as those delivered through personalised health and care. For example:

a. Public health is *population based* and is concerned with the factors that make populations (e.g. communities, cities, regions, countries) rather than individuals healthier or unhealthier;

- b. Public health emphasises collective responsibility for health, its protection and disease prevention - through *the organised efforts of society*;
 - c. Public health recognises the role of the state and of *the underlying socio-economic and wider determinants of health and disease*, including the distribution of power, resources and opportunities within and across populations; and
 - d. Public health involves *partnership* with all those who contribute to the health of current and future populations.
5. Public health is about creating and protecting the conditions in which people can live healthy lives for as long as possible. Economic prosperity, a good start in life, effective education, rewarding work, good housing and strong, supportive relationships all play their part. A **public health system** can be defined as the set of connected agencies or entities working together that share the common goal to protect and improve the public's health and reduce health inequalities.

Public health functions are the range of activities (such as leadership, service delivery and professional standards) that support public health assessment, policy development and related assurance. **Public health services** are the coherent set of actions that directly benefit members of the public, their families and their communities within the public health system.

Vision

6. The new arrangements for public health described in this consultation are designed to ensure the effective delivery of improved health and wellbeing outcomes for the population of Scotland. If we are to create a Scotland where everybody thrives, we need to address the current challenges – our poor relative overall health status compared with other countries; the significant and persistent health inequalities that exist across Scotland; the need for our care services to respond to the needs of a changing population with more complex needs, such as more older people; and the particular effects of current key issues such as obesity, mental health problems, alcohol and substance misuse.

7. Our future economic success as a nation is dependent on a healthier Scotland. To achieve sustainable economic growth we need to recognise the fundamental importance of environmental, social and economic factors in determining health outcomes and the need to increasingly move towards the prevention of illness. We want to create a genuine '**culture for health**' where citizens achieve the highest attainable standard of health by both taking - and being empowered to take - responsibility for their own health and care, within an enabling environment that makes it possible for them to do so.

Purpose and benefits

8. Consolidating the national public health functions into a single body allows for a new, single public health brand and identity, with revitalised leadership. The body will be committed to partnership working, innovation and meaningful change across the whole system at national, regional and local levels. By including the national data and intelligence function within the new body, we ensure that all public health activity and performance measurement is brought together in one place, providing a basis for innovation and ambition around our digital capability more generally.

Public Health Scotland will support organisations, communities and partnerships to build local capacity and capability, facilitate access to national information and expertise, and share methods and results across Scotland. This will enable better planning, evaluation and targeting of resources across the whole system.

9. This document describes what we expect the new national body will look like and how we expect it will interact with other organisations and frameworks. Some of these arrangements will require legislative change and will be subject to parliamentary scrutiny.

Background

10. A broad range of work is underway to reform public services in Scotland. This includes supporting new ways of working; a focus on tackling inequality; realising a demonstrable shift towards preventative approaches; and enabling individual and community empowerment. Across all of this reform work, national and local government are striving for more innovative and effective partnership approaches to improving the health of Scotland's population and to creating greater equality in health. At the same time, there is a recognition of the need to respond to growing demands, expectations and resource constraints.

11. The Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services² ("Christie Commission") argued for a radical change in the design and delivery of public services to address the intense pressures on budgets and to tackle Scotland's deeprooted

social problems. The recommendations they identified include:

- Recognising that effective services must be designed with and for people and communities - not delivered 'top down' for administrative convenience;
- Working closely with individuals and communities to understand their needs, maximise talents and resources, support self-reliance, and build resilience;
- Concentrating the efforts of all services on delivering integrated services that deliver results;
- Prioritising preventative measures to reduce demand and lessen inequalities;
- Tightening oversight and accountability of public services, introducing consistent data-gathering and performance comparators, to improve services; and
- Driving continuing reform across all public services based on outcomes, improved performance and cost reduction.

12. In response, the Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA - the voice of Local Government in Scotland) have embarked on a shared public sector reform programme based around:

- a decisive shift towards prevention;
- enabling greater integration and collaboration between public services at a local level;
- greater investment in workforce development and leadership; and
- a sharp focus on improving performance.

13. In recent years, this reform work has seen the integration of health and social care. Health Boards and local authorities are now jointly responsible for the delivery of national agreed health and wellbeing outcomes, through the creation of Integration Authorities, with a greater emphasis on joining up services to improve care and support for patients, service users, their carers and their families.

14. There has also been on-going work to strengthen community planning in Scotland. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 introduced provisions designed to strengthen community planning, by placing new duties on public sector partners to play a full and active role in community planning partnerships and to deliver outcomes for communities through effective integrated working. Community planning now has a clear statutory purpose focused on improving outcomes and which will support an environment within which local partners can work closely to strengthen the public's health.

Public Health Reviews

15. A number of reviews have considered Scotland's approach to tackling health inequalities and how related resources are used. These include Audit Scotland's 2012 report on health inequalities in Scotland⁴ and NHS Health Scotland's 2013 Health Inequalities Policy Review⁵. Both sets of recommendations confirm the need for a clearer focus on the public's health in Scotland; greater coordination across structures and different levels of activity; and the need for partnership-based action informed by public health intelligence and evidence.

16. In 2013, the Scottish Government published '*Equally Well*'⁶ which confirmed that our greatest health challenge continues to be the inequalities which exist between the poorest and richest in our society. Subsequently, Scottish Ministers announced in November 2014 that they had asked for a Review of Public Health in Scotland⁷, the report of which was published February 2016. This Review found that Scottish public health needed to be more visible and that it needed to have a clearer vision. It concluded that public health needs to provide leadership which extends far beyond the NHS and health boundaries to influence wider agendas, policies and programmes in the public, private, third and independent sectors.

17. The Public Health Review emphasised the cost-effectiveness of preventive approaches and the need for a more proactive public health effort in Scotland. The Review Group's recommendations were:

- Further work to review and rationalise organisational arrangements for public health in Scotland, including greater use of national arrangements where appropriate;
- The development of a national public health strategy and clear priorities;
- Clarification and strengthening of the role of the Directors of Public Health (DsPH), individually and collectively;
- Supporting more coherent action and a stronger public health voice in Scotland;

- Achieving greater coordination of academic public health, prioritising the application of evidence to policy and practice, and responding to technological developments;
- An enhanced role for public health specialists within community planning partnerships and Integrated Joint Boards; and
- Planned development of the public health workforce and a structured approach to utilising the wider workforce.

18. These recommendations were translated into the relevant commitments within the Health and Social Care Delivery Plan⁸ published in December 2016. This document sets out a clear vision for the Health and Social Care system, including a more meaningful focus on prevention and a recognition that there must be a more comprehensive, cross-sector approach to the public's health and wellbeing. The Delivery Plan also sets out specific commitments to publish public health priorities, **deliver a new public health body** and improve support for local health partnerships.

19. In 2017 Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) established the Public Health Reform Programme to take forward these actions. The programme set a vision for 'A Scotland where everybody thrives', with an ambition for Scotland to be a world leader in improving the public's health, using knowledge, data and intelligence in innovative ways and with an economic, social and physical environment which drives, enables and sustains healthy behaviours. Public Health Scotland will have a key role in leading, driving, supporting and enabling the change we need.

20. In June 2018, the Scottish Government and COSLA published Scotland's Public Health Priorities⁹, following extensive work with a range of partners and stakeholders from across the whole system. The six priorities are:

- A Scotland where we live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities;
- A Scotland where we flourish in our early years;
- A Scotland where we have good mental wellbeing;
- A Scotland where we reduce the use of and harm from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs;
- A Scotland where we have a sustainable, inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all;
- A Scotland where we eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active.

21. These new priorities reflect a widely-held consensus about the public health challenges that we must tackle over the next decade if we wish to see the greatest possible improvement in the public's health and wellbeing. They provide a focus for all public services and wider partnerships across Scotland to improve and protect the public's health and wellbeing, reduce inequalities and increase healthy life expectancy. They also provide a basis, consistent with the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework, to guide everyone working in the health system and beyond to align their efforts to make a real difference to the social conditions in Scotland.

Conclusion

22. The arrangements described in this consultation for a new public health body are informed by each of the reviews described above and by the work to deliver the new Public Health Priorities. The arrangements focus on simplifying the public health landscape at the national level; the need for better, more visible leadership and a stronger voice for the public's health and wellbeing; the need to prioritise the application of public health intelligence and evidence into policy and practice; and the value of data to influence ever more meaningful connections both locally, nationally and in the widest sense. We want to support a step-change in how organisations and communities experience engagement, participation and empowerment in relation to decisions that impact health and wellbeing. This is about supporting the way in which individuals and families, the communities they belong to, community groups, community councils, charitable and voluntary organisations, and people working in the public, private and third sectors, collectively create and contribute to health and wellbeing in their local area.

23. Looking ahead, while there has been continual progress towards improving the public's health and wellbeing over many decades, there is still much to be done. The public's health and wellbeing is a complex issue and significant challenges in terms of the social conditions in Scotland persist, including poverty, homelessness, addiction and mental wellbeing. Additionally, the whole public sector faces financial challenges which make it crucial that we look at how services, including those for the public's health, are planned, designed, evaluated and delivered to create more equal access, improve outcomes and make the best use of resources. In response, we recognise that a coordinated, whole system approach is required. Without such concerted action, the health of some individuals and communities will continue to suffer and health inequalities will remain and become more entrenched. The related economic and social costs are simply unsustainable. We require a shift in mind-set across the whole public services system and need to provide practitioners at a local level with support to think, adapt and work in new ways. Separate activity is underway to support the wider system in relation to delivering on our Public Health Priorities. We want the new public health body to have an important role in this work.

24. Separate work is also underway to consider how our specialist public health workforce should be best organised in Scotland. This work will seek to draw conclusions on how the specialist workforce can most effectively meet the needs of national, regional and local partners to deliver the most effective and efficient public health function for Scotland. This consultation is primarily about the functions and wider role of a new public health body – Public Health Scotland – which we propose will be the way in which we deliver on a number of the recommendations from the Public Health Review, and which will respond to the commitment from the Health and Social Care Delivery Plan to establish such a body.

25. The 6 week consultation will last until 08 July 2019. The new body is unlikely to be established and exercising its functions until April 2020. The current arrangements will remain in place until full implementation is complete.



Consultation on the new national public health body 'Public Health Scotland'

RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be completed and returned with your response.

To find out how we handle your personal data, please see our privacy policy:

<https://beta.gov.scot/privacy/>

Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

- Individual
 Organisation

Full name or organisation's name

Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Partnership

Phone number

01387 260074

Address

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Buccleuch Street
DUMFRIES

Postcode

DG1 2AD

Email

liz.manson@dumgal.gov.uk

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

- Publish response with name
 Publish response only (without name)
 Do not publish response

Information for organisations:

The option 'Publish response only (without name)' is available for individual respondents only. If this option is selected, the organisation name will still be published.

If you choose the option 'Do not publish response', your organisation name may still be listed as having responded to the consultation in, for example, the analysis report.

Item 5 Appendix 2

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

No



CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

Chapter 2

Question 1: Do you have any general comments on the overview of the new arrangements for public health?

1.1 We welcome the concept of a partnership and 'whole system' approach to public health and particularly:

- (para 3.8) that the new national body is to be local facing and the potential for location of the staff of the new body to be in local premises/co-located with partners
- (para 8) the human-rights based approach
- (para 14) the addition of the new body, Public Health Scotland, in the list of partners at Schedule 1 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- (para 17) the recognition of the contribution that community safety and wider health and wellbeing services can play
- (para 20) that planning and delivery of services will be taken forward at local discretion
- The focus on prevention

1.2 Issues to consider in the final arrangements:

- (para 12, 21 and others) The references to partners should be consistent throughout the document with the statutory duties in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and Guidance i.e. list the five bodies with the same statutory duty in relation to Community Planning (local authorities, NHS Boards, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Scottish Enterprise/Highlands and Islands Enterprise and South of Scotland Enterprise (SE/HIE/SOSE); the third sector Interfaces (which are referenced in the Guidance) and then Schedule 1 partners (which includes colleges, universities, Integration Joint Boards (IJBs), Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs) Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) and Sportscotland). This would give clarity to the responsibilities and relationships of the new body, Public Health Scotland (PHS).
- (para 22) the new Community Planning Improvement Board (CPIB) would be an appropriate reference here as it has a role in evidence, strategic planning and leadership and support for Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs)
- The concept of the new body being independent from Scottish Government is ideological because its legal status means that it is not separate. If it had been established on a different basis then it could have challenged aspects of public policy and spending but that it not how it's been set up.

Chapter 3

Question 2: (a) What are your views on the general governance and accountability arrangements?

(para 7) The commitment set out that '*clear lines of strategic, political and operational accountability*' are required is helpful; however the list mixes a number of different people and organisations and it would again be helpful to use a consistent list of organisations to aid the clarity sought (see Issues to consider at Question 1)

(b) How can the vision for shared leadership and accountability between national and local government best be realised?

(para 10) local government being a joint partner is a very positive development (as in the first sentence of the paragraph in relation to strategic planning and performance review process) but it appears inappropriate for COSLA to have accountability for an organisation which reports to Ministers and whose resources are entirely within the Scottish Government. Elected Member and officer involvement through COSLA and Leaders in these five issues would be appropriate.

(para 12) COSLA being '*meaningfully involved in all strategic decision-making and performance monitoring for the body*' is welcome and the experience of new strategic reports and arrangements – e.g. Health and Social Care Strategic Plans and the new Child Poverty Annual Reports being submitted for approval to multiple partners offer possible approaches to how that can operate effectively at local level. This could be reflected at national level, again through COSLA Leaders.

There should be a recognition of the contribution of the other partners, particularly Police Scotland, SFRS, SE/HIE/SOSE; Third Sector Interfaces; and the other Schedule 1 bodies (including IJBs, SEPA, Sportscotland and RTPs) and a programme of engagement in strategic planning and performance reporting set out for them too, to reflect their contribution to the work of Public Health Scotland.

Question 3: (a) What are your views on the arrangements for local strategic planning and delivery of services for the public's health?

(paras 17 – 41) The specific sections on the contributions of individual organisations helpfully set out some of the key roles in their relationship with PHS. However, there are some significant gaps being Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and SE/HIE/SOSE.

(para 35) there should be a commitment to tackling wider issues of poverty, not just food poverty

(paras 48-49) it is difficult to see why Regional Economic Partnerships have been singled out for reference as there are a number of other partnerships not mentioned individually or collectively that have an equally or even greater contribution to public health – e.g. Community Learning and Development Partnerships, Community Safety Partnerships and housing partnerships (in D&G this is the Strategic Housing Forum).

(b) How can Public Health Scotland supplement or enhance these arrangements?

In line with the statement at 3.8, a commitment to having resource available for local partners to access (either locally based or at national level) and being flexible in the support provided, depending on local challenges and opportunities, is key. Building an understanding of the different profiles of each area will improve the efficiency and the effectiveness of PHS support. The principle of a national service with local delivery, similar to policing and fire and rescue services is a helpful model.

Accessing evidence and data easily and having professional analysis will be a particularly valuable resource, especially for smaller partners who don't have this specialist capability.

There needs to be an equitable allocation of resource across all 32 areas.

Question 4: What are your views on the role Public Health Scotland could have to better support communities to participate in decisions that affect their health and wellbeing?

There is an increasingly cluttered landscape with programmes of engagement across partners, both in localities and with communities of interest. Providing support and resource to CPPs and individual partners if and when appropriate, is the most effective and appropriate route to increase participation.

Research and innovation in methodologies would be helpful so as to share good practice with a particular focus on differences e.g. urban and rural; communities of interest and communities of place.

A Participatory Budgeting approach to aspects of the PHS Budget would also be welcome and again, examples of this being undertaken by national bodies would be helpful.

Question 5: (a) Do you agree that Public Health Scotland should become a community planning partner under Part 2 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015?

Yes, it is consistent with other public bodies in Schedule 1 and the ethos of the organisation that it should be subject to Participation Requests

(b) Do you agree that Public Health Scotland should become a public service authority under Part 3 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, who can receive participation requests from community participation bodies?

Yes, it is consistent with other public bodies in Schedule 1 and the ethos of the organisation that it should be subject to Community Asset Transfer requests for its properties

(c) Do you have any further comments?

(paragraph 61) The funding of Third Sector Interfaces is a wider issue and it is not appropriate for this to be included in a Consultation on Public Health Reform.

There are different local models for public health across the country and it would be helpful to see an analysis of the benefits and challenges of each as part of the new arrangements. For example Dumfries and Galloway brings together officers from key related services in our Council and Health Board (mental health, physical activity, Healthy Working Lives) in a Wellbeing Team which is located within our Council's new Safe and Communities Service, along with related services of community safety, environmental health, gypsy travellers, leisure and sport, licensing, lifelong learning, trading standards and youth work. There is also a good relationship with Active Schools.

The Team is managed on a day to day basis by a Council senior manager but there is a reporting line to NHS Board. This therefore promotes joint working across professions, sharing of resources and joint accountability between the funding partners.

Question 6: (a) What are your views on the information governance arrangements?

(paras 70-71) The information governance arrangements appear to be satisfactory and in line with other local and national organisations' arrangements

(b) How might the data and intelligence function be strengthened?

(para 72) the issue of timeliness is of particular interest as local partners have a need for current data and up to date information as well as the academically rigorous information that is the hallmark of the current national bodies that make up the new PHS.

Qualitative information is seen to be increasingly important in giving decision-makers real life and impact assessment to complement quantitative and statistical evidence and the organisation's culture must recognise the value and importance of that.

Chapter 4

Question 7: (a)What suggestions do you have in relation to performance monitoring of the new model for public health in Scotland?

The performance information for the new body could usefully include:

Information about the health of Scotland's people:

- Quantitative information on key health determinants, particularly those relating to inequalities e.g. education, life expectancy, disease, diet and food, housing, income, play and physical activity
- Qualitative information on the impact of the interventions being made e.g. personal testimonies of communities of interest e.g. Protected Characteristics (age, disability, gender, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexuality, transgender); people with lived experience of poverty, the criminal justice system; Carers; and veterans

Information about the efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation:

- Quantitative information on key issues including the financial savings being made as a result of the merger; staff absences, health and safety etc
- Qualitative information including on the culture of the organisation, leadership of public health; and its perception and relationships with key stakeholders including COSLA/local authorities; NHS Boards; Police Scotland; SFRS; SE/HIE/SOSE; Third Sector Interfaces; and the other Schedule 1 bodies; staff

(b)What additional outcomes and performance indicators might be needed?

It would be appropriate to refer to the Local Outcomes Profiling Tool (designed and managed by the Improvement Service to support the performance information for the CPP Local Outcomes Improvement Plans); the Local Government Benchmarking Framework; and other partners Frameworks to develop the performance information for Public Health Scotland, so that its Framework is complementary to existing data collection and analysis and builds on existing material.

Linkages to the LOIPs and the National Framework are important to ensure it is complementary to these existing approaches.

Chapter 5

Question 8: What are your views on the functions to be delivered by Public Health Scotland?

The functions are appropriate and needed, especially the leadership role as the current model and workforce arrangements are not making the step change required in Scotland's health.

(para 4)

Leadership: bullet point 6 - There is a role for professional associations as well as practitioner networks

Support and delivery: bullet point 1 – the advice should be to all stakeholders, not just local government partners; bullet point 2 – it should be for local authorities, not just the Leaders; bullet point 4 - welcome the recognition that there are existing benchmarking arrangements – it is important that any comparisons between areas are appropriate e.g. rural v urban; bullet point 5 – the support programme and toolkit is a good example of the national expertise being made available as additional resource to local areas.

Alignment of resources: bullet point 1 – *advise Scottish Ministers on how funding should be prioritised, including any redistribution....and the better alignment of resources from outwith the health sector* is a cause for concern and is inconsistent with the commitment to local flexibility and decision-making

Chapter 6

Question 9: (a) What are your views on the health protection functions to be delivered by Public Health Scotland?

The functions are appropriate and needed and the focus on prevention is welcome.

(b)What more could be done to strengthen the health protection functions?

(para 7) Perhaps stronger relationships could be developed with the other partners if they are listed specifically so that their contribution is recognised.

Chapter 7

Question 10: (a) Would new senior executive leadership roles be appropriate for the structure of Public Health Scotland?

(para 6) at senior level there needs to be a balance between functional/service roles (e.g. health protection; health intelligence) and thematic leadership roles (e.g. performance management; innovation).

and,

(b) If so, what should they be?

For clarity, the management structure could in the first instance be by service areas, however we would be keen to see service roles reflecting wider health determinants, not just the traditional public health disciplines/the functions transferring to PHS – this would signal the change in culture and the promotion of the whole system approach.

The senior management structure must be designed within the financial and resources available, consistent with other public sector partners.

Models of other national partners operating in a similar context could be reviewed to identify effective and efficient models e.g. Partnership Managers in SE; 32 Scottish Government Directors also being the contact ('Location Directors) for CPPs.

Question 11: What other suggestions do you have for the organisational structure for Public Health Scotland to allow it to fulfil its functions as noted in chapter 5?

All senior officer Job Descriptions should have a high degree of consistency in relation to generic functions including e.g. partnership working; performance and risk management; engagement; and collective leadership of public health.

It is of course possible to have the management structure based on service roles with the post-holders carrying a thematic leadership role, perhaps on a rotational basis. The posts could perhaps also have geographic responsibilities to ensure strong links with localities.

Question 12: What are your views on the proposed location for the staff and for the headquarters of Public Health Scotland?

We strongly support a rationalisation of property requirements of the organisation; co-location with partners; smarter/agile working; and decentralisation from the central belt for appropriate functions as this will deliver financial savings, reduce the carbon footprint of the organisation; offers flexibility for employees; and forge stronger links between PHS and the communities it serves across Scotland.

Chapter 8

Question 13: Are the professional areas noted in the list above appropriate to allow the Board of Public Health Scotland to fulfil its functions?

It would perhaps be helpful to distinguish between the list of sectors where people may have experience:

i.e. academia; business and industry; fire and rescue*; health; judiciary; policing; prison service; local government; and third sector

and areas of expertise

i.e. audit and scrutiny*; communications and media; community development*; criminal justice*; community safety*; emergency planning*; environment*; environmental health*; equalities*; finance*; health services; housing*; human rights; IT; leisure and sport*; licensing*; organisational development and HR*; planning*; social work; and youth work*.

*new suggestions

The involvement of people with lived experience and expertise on human rights is welcome – we would suggest the widest possible definition of that is applied; and also that there is appropriate support for this group.

Induction training for the Board must include diversity and poverty awareness with stakeholders being involved in the delivery of the Programme – again to signal the partnership culture and whole system approach.

Question 14: (a) What are your views on the size and make-up of the Board?

(paras 1-2) The size of the Board should be proportionate to other national organisations in terms of staff numbers and budget so the proposed 13 members appears to be appropriate. If there is appointed representation of local government through COSLA then the appointment of other members must reflect the other backgrounds.

It should be a model of best practice in terms of the range of expertise, geographical representation and any other issues the Public Appointments System promotes.

(b) How should this reflect the commitment to shared leadership and accountability to Scottish Ministers and COSLA?

(para 2) There must be clarity in the arrangements – in line with the statement in paras 7 and 10 and therefore the Board can only be held to account by Scottish Ministers. However, an appropriate reporting arrangement (in terms of frequency and detail and commitment to take forward any recommendations) should be in place with COSLA, Police Scotland, SFRS and SE/HIE/SOSE.

Chapter 9

Question 15: What are your views on the arrangements for data science and innovation?

The functions are appropriate and needed, especially the recognition that personalisation is required to change behaviours as the current approaches are not making the step change required in Scotland's health.

A focus on prevention, meaningful behavioural change and the commitment to digital transformation are all strongly supported.

Chapter 10

Question 16: What are your views on the arrangements in support of the transition process?

(para 4) Local partners are very ready to take on the change agenda- local authorities are all in the process of transformational change in one way or another and so an opportunity to improve co-ordination and more easily access expertise in public health can be incorporated into these arrangements.

(para 7) clarity is required about the statement '*relevant partnerships and partners will be invited to strengthen local arrangements*' – CPPs have established arrangements that the whole system for public health can easily be accommodated at strategic, thematic and local structures.

PHS will be added into relevant partnerships and however the allocation of staff time/contacts is determined connections will be established – this has already been the case for other Schedule 1 bodies e.g. Historic Environment Scotland and VisitScotland.

In addition, CPPs are now into their third year of LOIPs and Locality Plans with established arrangements for the Annual Reports and the information and support available to provide evidence for these Reports will be more accessible from the new PHS.

The timescale of financial year 2020/2021 for the star is therefore realistic for stakeholders.

Although there is no specific question in the Consultation on **Chapter 11**, the funding of the model, it is important to state that the new organisation should deliver proportionate savings in relation to other partners' budgets and staff size.

One of the aims of the new organisation must be to deliver efficiencies in terms of support services (accountancy, HR and OD, IT, property etc) and its senior management complement; and the benefits of the 'whole system approach' must also offer financial efficiencies as well as improved partnership working and public health outcomes. These savings opportunities are recognised in the partial Business Impact Assessment (see Chapter 13) although quantification of these savings is not being proposed for an initial period.

Chapter 12

Question 17: (a) What impact on equalities do you think the proposals outlined in this paper may have on different sectors of the population and the staff of Public Health Scotland?

It would appear that there will be positive impacts on all the Protected Characteristics – the Impact Assessment should also address the impact in relation to the Fairer Scotland Duty; Human Rights; Carbon Reduction and Environmental legislative requirements. If the proposals detailed in this response are followed then there will be positive impacts in all these areas also. A positive IA in relation to carbon footprint of the organisation is particularly important not just for the ethical and moral reasons but the importance of healthy environments (societal, business and personal) to the public health agenda.

(b) If applicable, what mitigating action should be taken?

The Communications Plan referenced in Chapter 10 para 9 will assist in mitigating any negative impacts that may be identified; and ensuring that staff, partners and public are prepared for the introduction of the new body and arrangements.

Chapter 13

Question 18: What are your views regarding the impact that the proposals in this paper may have on the important contribution to be made by businesses and the third sector?

There are significant opportunities for the third sector in relation to the whole Systems Approach and particularly if their treatment, as proposed in Question 1.2 of this response, is followed i.e. they have consistent recognition and involvement in all aspects of the implementation of the new arrangements.

The references to research, innovation, learning and development (particularly in the fields of data and behavioural science) will benefit businesses in the marketing, research, training, IT and analytics sectors as new approaches to the public's health and related systems are developed, tested and evaluated and this is also welcomed.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND CONSULTATION – DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE

1. Background

1.1 Public Health Reform is a partnership between the Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) with the involvement of a number of other partners, reflecting its influence across a number of service areas. Reform is seen to be needed because the current arrangements are not proving effective in tackling the nation's health and particularly that there is increasing inequality.

There have been a number of different events to engage stakeholders, including one in Lockerbie on 15 March 2019, which all CPP Board members were invited to attend.

1.2 There are four main parts to the programme of work:

(1) Public Health Priorities (PHPs): [Scotland's Public Health Priorities](#), were published in the summer of 2018. At its meeting on 16 November 2018, the CPP Board considered a report on the eight Public Health Priorities and gave examples of activity already taking place in our region relating to each of them. The Update Report on our nine key Strategies and Plans on this agenda indicates the contribution that each one is making to the PHPs.

(2) Establishment of Public Health Scotland – this is the next major milestone as the new national body will play a role in helping to make change happen and supporting activity against the Priorities. The new organisation will launch on 1 April 2020. An initial advert for a Chair did not result in an appointment and so an interim appointment is expected to be made, along with an interim executive position. The current consultation focuses on the arrangements (Terms of Reference) for the new body.

(3) Arrangements for the Specialist Public Health Workforce – one of the aspirations of the PHR is to ensure a new approach to the mobilisation of all the services and professions that contribute to Public Health activity. There is a particular focus on the Specialist Public Health Workforce (SPHW), which, at local level, are based in the NHS Boards and/or Health and Social Care Partnerships. Detailed analysis of the options available for the location of the SPHW has been undertaken with the recommended option being the status quo, although with a greater focus on partnership working (especially through Community Planning), collaboration (especially with environmental health) and community engagement.

Community Planning Partnership Board

Here in Dumfries and Galloway we are in a good position with our SPHW already involved in community planning (e.g. in the LOIP Working Group and the Tackling Poverty Co-ordination Group); collaboration (e.g. environmental health is in the same Service grouping as the NHSD&G/Council DG Health and Wellbeing Team, Community Safety, Leisure and Sport and Youth Work); and community engagement (in the Community Planning Participation and Engagement Working Group and the CLD Partnership). There is also a good relationship with Active Schools.

(4) Whole Systems Approach – This is a key element of the PHR that wants to enable “an ongoing, flexible approach by a broad range of stakeholders to identify and understand current and emerging public health issues, where by working together, we can deliver sustainable change and better lives for people in Scotland, together in an integrated way to bring about sustainable change”

The work to date has identified nine characteristics with projects being progressed under each one: systems thinking • learning culture • facilitative and adaptive leadership • purposeful engagement • governance and resourcing • sustainable collaborative working • shared commitment and outcomes • place is important • creativity and innovation

2. Key issues

2.1 A Consultation on the arrangements for Public Health Scotland opened on 28 May 2019 and closes on Monday 8 July 2019.

2.2 The consultation focuses on a number of areas including:

- Governance and accountability
- Outcomes and performance
- Functions and structure
- Future relationships with the wider public health system.

The full consultation document has not been circulated due to its size (59 pages) but can be found here <https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-new-national-public-health-body-public-health-scotland/> and the Introduction is attached as **Appendix 1**.

2.3 Developing the Dumfries and Galloway response

In line with usual practice, individual partner organisations may submit their own response, presenting operational issues for their interests, with the Community Planning Partnership response presenting a more strategic level overview.

The attached draft response at **Appendix 2** is based on our Community Planning Principles, the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan, Risk Register and our Improvement Plan and takes into account the views and/or individual responses from the five statutory Community Planning partners and our Interface, Third Sector, Dumfries and Galloway.

3. Recommendation

Members of the Board are invited to:

- 3.1 Note the background and progress in relation to Public Health Reform;
- 3.2 consider the draft response at Appendix 2 and contribute additions and amendments; and
- 3.3 remit the final response to be agreed by the Chair of the Executive Group in liaison with the Chair and Vice Chair of the CPP Board.

Liz Manson, Community Planning and Engagement Manager
13 June 2019

Appendices - 2

- 1 –Introduction from the Public Health Scotland Consultation paper
- 2 – draft D&G CPP response as at 10 June 2019

SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTATION – COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE

1. Background

1.1 Through Section 41B of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended) the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is legally required to have in place a Strategic Plan which sets out its functions during a period of three years. A review of the Strategic Plan before the end of the three year period is also a legislative requirement.

The current Strategic Plan 2016-19 was approved by the Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs in October 2016. A new 3-year Strategic Plan therefore is required by October 2019.

The Strategic Plan 2016-19 Review Report was presented to the SFRS Board on 28 March 2019. The Report was prepared to inform the development of the Strategic Plan 2019-22. Assessment was made on the delivery of the Strategic Plan 2016-19, relevant scrutiny outcomes over that period, and by considering the views and opinions of stakeholders.

The Review Report recommended that the new Strategic Plan reinforces our commitment to our core duties and to the safety and wellbeing of our people. It also recommended that this should be balanced against our ambitions for continuous improvement and long term sustainability.

The Review also identified four thematic groupings from which the SFRS future strategy should be built around:

- Prevention and protection activities
- Response and service delivery
- Organisational development
- Maximising value.

The draft Plan attached aims to address each of these recommendations.

2. Draft Strategic Plan 2019-22

2.1 The draft SFRS Strategic Plan 2019-22, attached as **Appendix 1**, has been structured to provide background information about the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, how we approach our work, our values and behaviours and what our current challenges are. It also provides information on our operating environment, such as our workforce, money and performance.

The main objective of the SFRS Strategic Plan is to set our strategy for the three years ahead. From this strategy all other business activities should be aligned to achieving its ambitions.

The four thematic groupings identified within the Review Report have been used to inform the development of four longer term outcomes for the SFRS to aspire to:

- Outcome 1 – Our collaborative and targeted prevention and protection activities improve community safety and wellbeing, and support sustainable economic growth
- Outcome 2 – Our flexible operational model provides an effective emergency response to meet diverse community risks across Scotland
- Outcome 3 – We are a great place to work where our people are safe, supported and empowered to deliver high performing innovative services
- Outcome 4 – We are fully accountable and maximise our public value by delivering a high quality, sustainable fire and rescue service for Scotland.

Using the evidence gathered from the Review Report, 16 strategic objectives have also been identified to support the achievement of each outcome and to form the strategy as outlined within the draft Strategic Plan 2019-22.

To ensure the SFRS have prepared a Plan which meets our stakeholder's expectations, the draft Strategic Plan 2019-22 will be released for a 10 week public consultation running from 9 May to 18 July 2019

3. Recommendation

Members of the Board are invited to:

3.1 Note the content of the attached draft SFRS Strategic Plan 2019-22 and provide comments;

3.2 remit the final response to be agreed by the Chair of the Executive Group in liaison with the Chair and Vice Chair of the CPP Board.

Area Manager Craig McGoldrick, Local Senior Officer Dumfries & Galloway, SFRS

Appendices - 1

1 - The SFRS Strategic Plan 2019-22

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



**SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland



**Draft Strategic Plan
2019-22**

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Appendix 1 – How our strategy links to the Scottish Government’s Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016

FOREWORD

It is our pleasure to introduce the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2019-22. This is the third Strategic Plan we have produced since our inception in 2013. In our short history this is perhaps the most important plan we have produced so far. It drives forward our commitments on how we will transform the Service to do more for Scotland and how we will adapt to the changing nature of risks facing communities across the country.

This plan sets out our commitments to the delivery of a first class fire and rescue service for all the people of Scotland. In delivering our services we recognise the significant role we play in helping to achieve the Scottish Government's purpose, which is to focus government and public services on creating a more successful country by increasing sustainable economic growth and providing opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish.

Our successes to date have only been possible because of the dedication and professionalism of our people. To enable us to maintain our high public standing and to forge ahead on our path of change, we aspire to attract and retain the best people, whose diversity is more representative of the communities of Scotland that we serve.

We undertook the Service's first ever staff survey in 2018. The results of this survey were published in January 2019, following which we have engaged with our staff through a series of workshops to explore those areas that matter most to them. The views of our staff expressed in the survey have been used to influence this Strategic Plan. We will continue to engage with our staff, so that the detailed work that will support this Plan each year can also be influenced by on-going dialogue.

To understand wider needs and expectations, we are also fully committed to engaging with other stakeholders, including engaging directly with communities across Scotland. An extensive consultation exercise to gather views on the future of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service was carried out with staff, partners and the public during spring 2018. The consultation set out our need to transform, and presented a vision of how the Service could do even more for the people of Scotland.

The consultation generated 1563 responses – 1426 of which were from individuals and 137 from partner bodies. The data from the exercise was independently analysed by academics from the University of Edinburgh. There was an overall majority backing for the proposals we made in the consultation document.

We will continue such proactive engagement with stakeholders as our transformation journey progresses. Our ambitions for transformation are threaded throughout this Strategic Plan, and will evolve as we continue to engage with our people, their representatives, and other stakeholders across Scotland.

As we transform, we are fully committed to discharging all of our responsibilities as a significant national organisation. This includes ensuring our continued sound and prudent financial management, which to date has meant we have operated within our allocated resource and capital budgets each year since our creation, despite the financial challenges facing all public services. We will continue to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of our people, and our strong, proactive health and safety culture to protect them.

We believe that we can and must continue to provide the highest quality service to the people of Scotland through our community based services. This requires a highly skilled, motivated and engaged workforce and empowered leaders throughout our Service. It means that as well as providing direct operational response, we will become more involved through our prevention and partnership working, in delivering interventions that support the most vulnerable people in our communities.

We aim to operate much more flexibly to achieve a wider range of societal and organisational improvements as we continue to strive to make a difference to the lives of those we serve.

We are excited about the journey that lies ahead of us over the lifespan of this Strategic Plan, and beyond, and invite others to join us on it as we work together for a safer Scotland.

Dr Kirsty Darwent **Martin Blunden Chair** **Chief Officer Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**
Rescue Service **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**

INTRODUCTION

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) was established as a single national service on 1 April 2013 by the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, replacing the eight previous fire and rescue services to become the UK's largest service.

We are described as an 'Other Significant National Body' and have a duty to work with other public services to contribute to the Scottish Government's Purpose and the National Performance Framework (NPF).

Our work is overseen by the Safer Communities Directorate of the Scottish Government. The Directorate sets out its plans for keeping communities safe in its document Justice in Scotland: Vision and Priorities. The vision **"for a safe, just and resilient Scotland"** is supported by four outcomes which our work must also contribute to. These are:

1. We live in safe, cohesive and resilient communities
2. Prevention and early intervention improve wellbeing and life chances
3. Our systems and interventions are proportionate, fair and effective
4. We deliver person-centred, modern and affordable public services.

In support of the NPF and the Justice Vision and Priorities, Scottish Ministers have prepared a Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland which sets out the specific purpose and operating context for the SFRS. Our purpose, as defined by Scottish Ministers in the first Framework 2013 and reaffirmed in the revised Framework in 2016, is:

"To work in partnership with communities and with others in the public, private and third sectors on prevention, protection and response to improve the safety and well-being of people throughout Scotland."

The Board provides strategic direction and closely scrutinises our actions to ensure we are delivering services in an effective and efficient way against this purpose as well as the ten strategic priorities within the Framework which underpin it. The Board also ensures we meet all our legislative requirements and the ambitions of the Strategic Plan.

The day-to-day delivery of our actions is the responsibility of our small executive team comprising of the Chief Officer, Deputy Chief Officer and six Directors who, together, provide strategic leadership to all our organisational functions.

We have successfully navigated through significant and complex reform. We will build on these strong foundations to continue on a journey of transformation to meet ongoing public service challenges. An extensive consultation exercise on our vision for transformation was undertaken in 2018 to scope out how we might deliver services differently in the future, so

we can continue to keep the people of Scotland safe in a changing environment. The outcomes of this have been used to influence our direction outlined in this Strategic Plan.

Our success to date would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our people. We aspire to be a world-leading fire and rescue service and with that we want to create a great place to work. So, by listening closely to our people through the results of a recent staff survey, we have drawn out what is important to them and used this to help shape our strategy.

In preparing this Strategic Plan, we have given full regard to all of these influencing factors so that we direct our resources to deliver what is expected of us.

The Strategic Plan provides some information about us as an organisation and communicates our high level ambitions of what we want to achieve. It outlines the longer term outcomes we aspire to achieve and the shorter term strategic objectives we will work towards to realise these aspirations. A summary graphic of this is provided on the next page.

More specific details of the actions we will take to support our aims will be developed within a flexible three-year programme. An Annual Operating Plan will be drawn down from this programme and published each year. The progress of each Annual Operating Plan will be monitored on a quarterly basis by the Board and our Strategic Leadership Team.

Working Together for a Safer Scotland



ABOUT US

Our primary statutory responsibilities are directed by the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, as amended by the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 and by the Fire (Additional Function)(Scotland) Order 2005. These pieces of legislation lead us to go beyond just fighting fires. These are some of the things we do to keep people safe today:

- Fighting fire in both urban and rural environments
- Promoting fire safety
- Enforcing fire legislation
- Responding to road traffic collisions
- Dealing with the structural collapse of buildings
- Responding to serious flooding
- Responding to serious transport incidents
- Planning for and responding to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) incidents
- Undertaking inland water rescue
- Carrying out rescues at height
- Playing a key role in resilience and emergency planning
- Working with partners to enhance community safety.

Our prevention, protection and response services are delivered through 356 community fire stations across Scotland. These are supported by a single national training establishment, two regional training sites and several local training facilities, three fully refurbished Operations Control Rooms, three modern Service Delivery Area Headquarters, four strategically placed Asset Resource Centres, an ICT Data Centre and a fleet of over 1,500 vehicles.

Our 16 Local Senior Officers and their teams work closely with all 32 local authorities and are fully committed to support each Community Planning Partnership and other local partnership arrangements. These local teams balance the national direction outlined in the Strategic Plan against local needs by tailoring services through Local Fire and Rescue Plans, and by contributing to Local Outcomes Improvement Plans and other local partnership plans such as Community Justice Plans.

We use a risk-based approach. This enables us to target our prevention work and to align our emergency response resources with community needs and calls for help. This involves:

- Identifying people most vulnerable to harm
- Identifying existing and potential risks to the community
- Evaluating the effectiveness of current preventative and response arrangements
- Determining the actions and resource requirements to appropriately respond.

The assessment of risk within communities is achieved by analysing activity patterns of data available to us, such as incident and census data. Increasingly we are making use of our

partners' data to provide a more rounded view of the risk and inequalities in communities. This helps us to understand how we may work better together with our partners. It also promotes a joint response to safeguarding those most at risk of harm and improves life outcomes across Scotland's diverse, unique, and changing communities.

We work closely with our partners. As financial pressures continue to drive the need to reform public services, renewed emphasis has been placed on working in partnership. We continue to be fully committed to working with a wide and diverse range of partners, both locally and nationally, across public, private and third sectors. We absolutely acknowledge the benefits of working together and actively seek opportunities to secure a joined up approach to Scotland's challenges. By engaging and working well with others we can:

- Plan and deliver targeted prevention activity more efficiently
- Prepare for and respond to major emergencies effectively
- Draw on additional support and skills when needed and be available to do the same for our partners
- Share information more freely, increasing knowledge and understanding to meet the needs of our staff and the communities we serve
- Realise efficiencies through sharing assets and resources
- Jointly commit to taking improvement action.

Partnership working at both local and national levels is one of our real strengths. We fully understand the benefits of closer integration within Community Planning Partnerships and within national partnerships arrangements such as the Reform Collaboration Group. This Group for example brings together leaders of the SFRS, Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service to pursue mutually beneficial activity for Scotland's people. Only through robust and transparent partnership working, in conjunction with locally agreed priorities and aligned plans, will we ensure the best services are provided for our communities.

We care about people and will deliver services that meet the needs of Scotland's diverse communities and support our people to fulfil their potential in a safe and inclusive workplace. We fully recognise that excellent public services are designed with human rights and equality at their core.

To achieve this, we will continue to use our Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment process as an improvement tool to develop, implement and monitor our corporate policies and practices that affect communities and employees. Our service delivery analytics and our

Communications and Engagement Strategy provide the basis for continuing to engage and work with our communities and other stakeholders to establish an evidence-based profile of the needs and aspirations of different community groups.

Our employees are the key to delivering excellent public services and must perform their roles in a professional, ethical and compassionate way. In return, we recognise our responsibilities as an employer to provide a working environment where our people feel able to bring their unique personal qualities to the workplace.

We are committed to continuous improvement. As well as looking at ways to develop and redesign business services, we are driving forward a transformation agenda so that we deliver services that continue to protect Scotland's modern day communities.

So that we can respond to and resolve a wider range of societal risks and challenges, plans are already developing to widen the role of our firefighters and reconfigure our frontline workforce. We also want to ensure that we are prepared to respond to severe weather and to deliver a more holistic approach to harm prevention. In doing so the long term benefits of transformation will deliver:

- A more agile Service that is designed to continue to meet the changing and evolving risks facing Scotland
- A strengthened contribution to the prevention and reduction of unintentional harm in Scotland's communities
- A strengthened contribution to building the resilience of Scotland's communities
- A more efficient and productive organisation in how we use our skills, capabilities and resources
- A high level of trust by staff, partners, communities, and other stakeholders in all that we do, including delivering safe and planned changes to the Service.

A transformation [high-level plan](#) has been prepared and approved by our Board with several specific projects identified to take this forward. This portfolio of transformation projects will be closely monitored and robustly managed through our Programme Office arrangements. These projects, and what outcomes they contribute to, are detailed within the Our Strategy section of this Plan.

OUR VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS

In 2015 the Service identified four core values which outline what is most important to us in how we go about our work. They are a reflection of what we believe are appropriate

workplace behaviours and play an important part in building a cohesive culture to help us work together for a safer Scotland.



this by:

Safety of ourselves and others is something we take very seriously. Whether that be on the incident ground, in the office or as we go about our business in the community, safety is always at the core of what we do. Our people demonstrate

- Being accountable and responsible
- Enabling, supporting and promoting a safety conscious culture
- Taking responsibility for safeguarding their own safety and that of the people they work with
- Taking immediate action to highlight and/or remove safety hazards and risks
- Promoting healthy lifestyle and through supporting each other maintain good work/life balance
- Taking action when stress becomes a risk factor to themselves and others, and supporting colleagues who are under pressure.



Teamwork helps us achieve more. It generates and promotes a sense of belonging and enables mutual support and learning. It encourages a blend of skills and knowledge to successfully achieve a common goal. Our people demonstrate this by:

- Being supportive and open, listening to each other, and sharing skills knowledge and experience
- Developing strong relationships across and within the organisation
- Working towards common organisational objectives
- Identifying and pursuing opportunities to work in collaboration with partners and communities to help deliver common goals.



Respect for others improves communications and reduces workplace stress and conflicts. We embrace diversity to increase productivity, knowledge and learning and do not tolerate instances of bullying, harassment, unfair discrimination or unacceptable behaviour. Our people demonstrate this by:

- Displaying a professional attitude at all times, delivering on commitments made, and by having a fair, open, honest and ethical approach to everything they do
- Taking responsibility for the impact words and actions can have on others
- Challenging unacceptable behaviour and resolving differences in a constructive way
- Showing a willingness to work with others, regardless of differences
- Valuing the efforts and contributions of others by acknowledging achievements
- Showing consideration for others and empathy towards their emotional and/or physical wellbeing.



Innovation helps us to grow, adapt and be more responsive to changing needs. Being open and listening to new ideas and ways of thinking will improve the way things are done. Our people demonstrate this by:

- Fostering collaboration and communication, sharing ideas and listening to other people
- Supporting others who are exploring new ways of working
- Being flexible in their approach to achieve a successful outcome
- Evaluating opportunities to take calculated risk, and taking responsibility for the impact of decisions.

OUR CHALLENGES

Society and the environment in which we all live is constantly changing and there are a number of new and ongoing challenges facing Scotland that are likely to have an impact on the services we provide.

So that we can prevent the worst from happening or be fully prepared to respond should we be called, we need to be aware of any new or changing risks which threaten the safety of communities or our workforce. As we prepare for any new or enhanced response we will also work towards securing an appropriate pay and reward package commensurate with any additional responsibilities our firefighters are asked to perform.

Changing population/ demographics

The most recent report published in 2017 by the National Records of Scotland on the Projected Population of Scotland predicts there will be a significant rise in the population of over 75s in Scotland. The report highlights there will be an increase in this age group of 79% over the next 25 years and an increase of 27% over the next ten years making it the fastest growing age group.

While people living longer lives is a positive indicator, as people grow older it is likely that they may require new forms of support to keep them safe from harm. An aging population will increase levels of long-term medical conditions for example. This will generate new demands as Scotland seeks to support the population to age well in safe and resilient communities. Current trends in moving from care in institutional settings towards homebased care will increase the number of people who are potentially at risk of fire and other forms of preventable harm, such as trips and falls, within the home environment.

This further increases the scope for us to work with our partners to deliver effective prevention measures through a more holistic approach to assessing risk and taking action to reduce or remove harm. By widening our prevention and intervention activities, social and financial benefits can be achieved across the wider public sector in Scotland.

Social and economic inequality

In areas of multiple deprivation, communities experience poorer health, lower educational attainment, lower employment, more emergency hospital admissions and reduced safety. Typically, we are called out more often to these areas and to individuals characterised as 'disadvantaged'.

This evidence underlines the close relationship between wider social and economic issues, fire related incidents, unintentional social and personal harm, social inequality and the subsequent challenges this presents to improving the wellbeing of individual citizens. In

response to this we will continue to build effective relationships with our partners so that together we can deliver targeted prevention activities to reduce inequalities.

On an annual basis around 1,250 – 1,400 lives are lost to unintentional harm in Scotland, much of which is preventable. The majority of these are as a result of falls (42%). Unintentional harm also results in approximately 54,500 emergency hospital admissions at an estimated cost to the public purse of £200m per annum.

By utilising our resources and redistributing our capability to support other agencies we can expand our prevention focus. As a trusted public service, gaining access to on average 70,000 households each year to conduct home fire safety visits, we are in a unique position to contribute to reducing such inequalities. By adopting a 'safe and well' approach to home visits we will create a more holistic approach in how we work to prevent unintentional harm among the most vulnerable in our society.

Through our community safety work we engage with a vast array of individuals and groups and this has also given rise to addressing wider inequalities by helping to tackle antisocial behaviour, reduce reoffending, and by working in partnership to tackle domestic violence.

Extreme weather

The climate has changed over the past decade with most areas experiencing a marked rise in extreme and unpredictable weather conditions. Severe storms, widespread flooding, significant snow fall and major temperature fluctuations have devastating impacts on peoples' lives and livelihoods. Prolonged dry spells are welcomed by many, but they can put

Scotland's vast grass and heath moorland at much greater risk of fire.

Specialist resources will be strategically placed in areas where there is a greater risk of flooding for example, and firefighters will be prepared, fully equipped and ready to support and protect communities, whatever the weather. We will also make use of local assets available to us to bolster our response during prolonged or widespread incidents such as wildfire.

Terrorism

For more than ten years the UK has consistently been prepared against heightened threat levels, where a terrorist attack was a strong possibility or highly likely. At devastating incidents such as those we have seen mostly recently at the Manchester Arena and Parsons

We will continue to work very closely with our partners in Scotland and across the UK, to understand current threats and to ensure we have robust multi-agency and Service plans in place should an attack happen. Our crews will be prepared to respond appropriately to prevent further harm to life or infrastructure.

Green Tube Station in London in 2017, fire and rescue services will play a critical response role.

OUR WORKFORCE

Our strategy will be delivered by a dedicated workforce of more than 7,500 people covering a range of frontline operational roles and supporting services across Scotland.

The wholetime operational staff group account for nearly half of all of our staff. This group includes our frontline firefighters who crew our emergency vehicles and our operational commanders and senior managers.

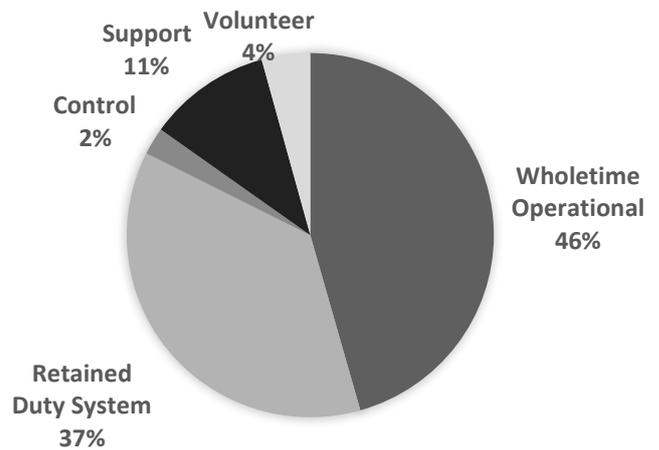


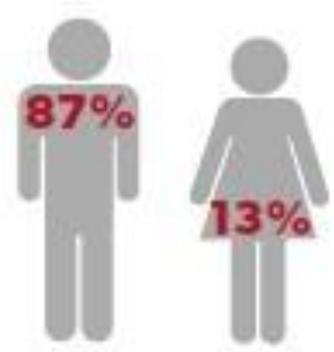
Figure 1 - Workforce Profile as at 31 March 2018

Retained Duty System (RDS) firefighters make up our second largest group. These 'on call' firefighters are critical to providing fire and rescue services in rural and remote rural locations. The operational model that this group, and our volunteers, work within has become very challenging to maintain in today's environment both in Scotland and the rest of the UK.

These challenges have inspired our transformation agenda and some changes have already been made to better support this duty system. Improved recruitment practices and enhanced training facilities are part of these changes. However, further innovation is required to strengthen and future-proof arrangements.

We are also fully committed to improving the diversity of our workforce and are working towards a profile that is more representative of the people and communities of Scotland that we serve.

In 2017/18 it was recorded, 87% of our staff were male and 13% were female. Almost two thirds of all staff were over the age of 40, 0.4% identified as having a disability and 1.2% of staff were recorded as belonging to a minority ethnic group. Plans and initiatives will continue to be developed to help attract, recruit and retain people from underrepresented groups and to help reduce the gender pay gap in the SFRS.



We manage our people resources through a Workforce and Strategic Resourcing Plan. This allows us to proactively manage our current, and forecast our future, workforce requirements according to organisational need and budget. Training plays an essential role in installing safety critical, technical, operational and organisational skills and leadership, to enable our workforce to fully support and engage in the design and delivery of excellent services.

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OUR MONEY

We are funded directly by the Scottish Government through Grant in Aid for both our resource and capital expenditure.

In comparison to legacy services' resource funding in 2012/13, we are operating with a £26.3m (9%) reduction in cash terms in 2018-19. After taking account of significant cost pressures, most notably in relation to pay inflation and government policy changes this

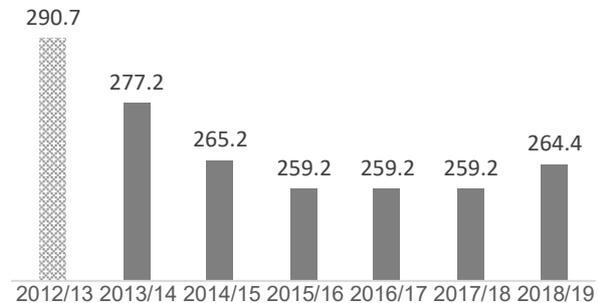
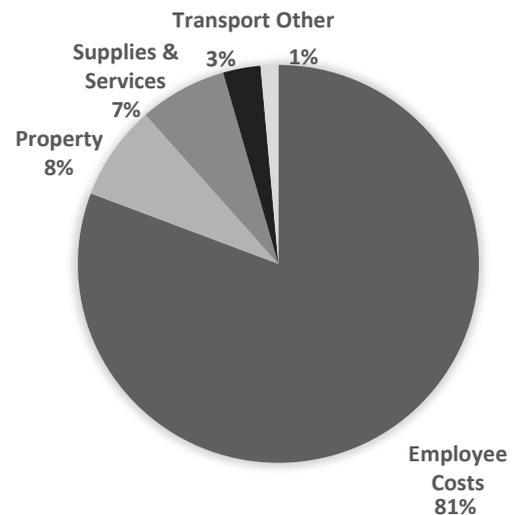


Figure 3 - Resource Funding 2013/13 - 2018/19 (£m)

equates to a reduction in real terms of around £47m (15%) for our day-to-day spending each year.

As our most important asset, it is appropriate that our cost profile is heavily weighted towards employee costs. The chart provides a breakdown of how these costs are distributed.



Our Capital Budget, which we use to invest in our assets, has been variable since 2013/14. Our Capital Budget for 2018/19 was £32.5m, but in contrast in 2016/17 we

received a Capital Budget of £10.8m. This variability in Capital allocations makes *Figure 4 - Resources Budget Allocation 2018/19* financial planning more challenging, as does the inability for us to hold a financial reserve.

Through sound and prudent financial management, to date we have successfully managed our annual budget and have operated within our allocated resource and capital allocations. We are also on track to achieve the cumulative target savings of £328m by 2027/28 set by the Financial Memorandum to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

To ensure we maximise opportunities to secure our future financial sustainability, we have developed a Long Term Financial Strategy 2017-27. This strategy supports our belief that

the greatest public value and best opportunity to secure long term financial sustainability would be delivered by taking on a wide range of new responsibilities supported by appropriate funding.

We continue to operate in a changing environment with high levels of uncertainty around public service funding. As the impact of the UK's withdrawal from the EU unfolds, there are also further potential implications on our spending. This makes financial planning against the ambitions within this Strategic Plan challenging. To be successful, we will remain agile and manage risks and expectations in accordance with our available annual funding.

OUR PERFORMANCE

A priority of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016 was to develop a Performance Management Framework which would support our Strategic Plan. The Performance Management Framework we published provided details of how we manage our performance, and contains a comprehensive set of corporate performance measures. Regular reports are provided to the Board and its Committees on these performance measures so that members can monitor and scrutinise how well we are doing.

The Performance Management Framework and its associated measures will be reviewed and revised to align with this Strategic Plan to ensure our business planning and performance management arrangements are fully aligned.

Further performance data is published in our annual Statistical Bulletins. These are available on our website to provide comprehensive data on fire and rescue incidents, and fire safety and organisational activity. We took on the responsibility of collating and publishing these from the Scottish Government in 2016. To further assure the integrity of our statistics we are working towards becoming formally acknowledged as a 'Producer of Official Statistics'.

Each year the Board is held to account for our performance by the Minister for Community Safety. An Annual Performance Review Report is prepared in advance of a public meeting, outlining our key achievements against the priorities of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland. The performance review meeting is held at a different location around Scotland each year so that members of the public and community representatives have the opportunity to question the Minister and our Board on our activities.

Elected members in each local authority area are also invited to scrutinise and challenge our performance through local performance reports prepared by our Local Senior Officers. Our Local Senior Officers have built strong relationships within their respective community planning partnerships. With our partners we will explore better ways to evaluate the impact of joint activities on communities and to share data and information to further strengthen the local evidence base that underpins priorities within Local Outcomes Improvement Plans.

The infographic below provides a snapshot view of how we have performed against some of our important indicators since 2013/14. We have used data from 2017/18, which is currently the most complete figures available to us, for comparison purposes. More detailed analysis and data relating to our performance is available through Board and Committee Reports and our [annual statistical publications](#) published on our website.

	91,695		
Total Incidents attended 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Increase since 2013/14
	44		
Total fire fatalities 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Increase since 2013/14
	1,113		
Total non-fatal casualties 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Decrease since 2013/14
	26,115		
Total fires 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Decrease since 2013/14
	4,752		
Total accidental dwelling fires 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Little change since 2013/14
	1,925		
Total non-domestic fires 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Decrease since 2013/14
	13,128		
Non-fire Incidents 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Increase since 2013/14
	52,452		
False alarms 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Increase since 2013/14
	69,758		
Home Fire Safety Visits 2017/18		5-Year Trend	Little change since 2013/14

OUR STRATEGY

Outcome 1 Our collaborative and targeted **prevention and protection** activities improve community safety and wellbeing, and support sustainable economic growth.

Objectives 1.1 We will work with our partners to ensure targeted prevention and early intervention are at the heart of what we do to enhance community safety and wellbeing.

By far the best way to avoid injury or fatalities from emergencies is to prevent them from happening in the first place. By working in partnership to target our education programmes and community safety initiatives we are working to reduce the number of emergency incidents so that we improve community safety and wellbeing outcomes.

We will continue to expand our prevention activity, in particular delivering initiatives which directly support casualty reduction. This includes developing new 'safe and well' home visits, which incorporate wider health and social care considerations. We will build our knowledge by working with partners, and jointly utilising intelligence and data so that we can identify those most at risk in our society. Together we will then be able to target our resources more effectively to reduce the risk of fire and other incidents of unintentional harm in the home.

Objectives 1.2 We will enforce fire safety legislation in a risk-based and proportionate manner, protecting Scotland's built environment and supporting economic growth.

Fire in non-domestic properties not only pose a risk to life but also impact on local economies. We have a duty to provide advice and enforce fire safety legislation in most non-domestic buildings across Scotland. We will continue to target fire safety audits using a risk based approach to support those responsible for premises (the duty holders), and ensure they are meeting their responsibilities to keep people safe.

The tragic incident at Grenfell Tower in London highlights the significance of robust and effective building and fire safety regulatory frameworks. In the immediate aftermath of this incident in 2017, we delivered a strategy to provide overt and robust public reassurance; a consistent and timely response to the high volume of information requests; and detailed information and guidance to our staff to deliver a consistent message.

Work to improve the safety of high-rise premises continues. We remain fully committed to supporting the Ministerial Working Group which was established to oversee this work in Scotland. In particular, following a comprehensive review of procedures and practices, work will focus on delivering improved:

- Fire safety regime and regulatory framework in Scotland
- Building standards for fire safety
- Standards for enforcement and compliance

We will respond appropriately to any future recommendations which may arise from the Hackitt Review and Public Inquiry relating to the Grenfell Tower fire.

We will also continue to protect Scotland's built environment and support economic growth through our fire engineering work. Our fire engineers liaise with the construction and academic sectors to ensure safe building design, enabling businesses to grow and flourish. This includes undertaking analysis to increase understanding of modern methods of construction, enhancing the safety of building users and our firefighters.

Objectives 1.3 We will evaluate and learn from our prevention and protection activities and analyse data to ensure our resources are directed to maximise community outcomes.

We are committed to continuous improvement and will create a culture of reflection and review that helps our staff to improve the quality of their work and the services they deliver. Planning and evaluation are ways of using evidence to learn what works and provide a means to inform any necessary improvement actions or highlight and share any areas of good practice.

We will develop robust methods of planning and evaluation so that our prevention work is aligned with local and national priority needs and our impact on communities is maximised and understood.

In addition to evaluation, we will also continue to learn through the investigation of fires. Our fire investigators fully and professionally investigate and report on the causes and contributory factors in relation to significant fires throughout Scotland. Research can then be carried out, providing valuable data and information internally within the Service, and to external partners. This can then be used to inform future prevention, protection and emergency response arrangements.

Objectives 1.4 We will respond appropriately to Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals and work with our partners to reduce and manage their impact on businesses, communities and our Service.

False alarms continue to account for more than half of the incidents we attend. The majority of these calls are generated by automatic fire alarm systems. We encourage the use of automatic fire detection as they help save lives and protect buildings. However, unnecessary false alarms are a drain on our resources and present undue risk for the public from appliances responding to these calls under blue light conditions. They can also cause disruption to people and negatively impact on business continuity potentially affecting business growth.

We will work with duty holders to reduce this type of incident and to reduce the risk to communities and our people through minimising unnecessary blue light journeys. This will allow us to maintain the availability of resources where they are needed most, and increase the time available for operational personnel to undertake training and community safety activities.

Associated Transformation Projects:

- Safe and Well
- SFRS Futures Vision
- Retained and Volunteer Duty System Strategy
- Rural Full Time Posts
- Demand Based Watch Duty System
- SFRS Youth Volunteer Scheme

Outcome 2 Our flexible operational model provides an effective emergency **response** to meet diverse community risks across Scotland.

Objectives 2.1 We will analyse and understand a broad range of community risks across Scotland so that we have the right resources in the right places at the right time.

To enable us to prepare for an effective response we first need to know what the potential risks to communities are, and then ensure we have the most appropriate balance and distribution of capabilities to address them.

Following a comprehensive review we have distributed a range of specialist rescue equipment across Scotland, positioned where it will be most effective. We will now undertake a longer term exploratory review of what Scotland may look like in the future, Our

Futures Vision. We will look at factors such as economic development, infrastructure and housing proposals, and population projections to understand what changes we may need to make to our operational footprint to be able to respond to any new or changing demands.

Objectives 2.2 We will be more flexible and modernise how we prepare for and respond to emergencies, including working and learning with others and making the most of technology.

To realise greater efficiencies we need to review our operating model and duty systems to build in flexibility, reconfiguring resources to where and when they are needed most today. Our people, partners and communities will be fully consulted about any changes we propose.

We also need to take further steps to reconsider the role of firefighters in today's society. Using our widely dispersed resources to support our partners, and increase life chances in roles such as emergency medical response, we could significantly contribute to improving a wider range of community outcomes.

Where it is right that we are able to save more lives in different ways, it is also right that our firefighters are appropriately trained, equipped and have terms and conditions reflective of doing so. We will work closely with staff representative bodies to negotiate terms and conditions to allow these developments to happen.

We have already made some advances in changing the types of appliances and firefighting technology we use. To strengthen our rural firefighting capabilities Rapid Response Units have joined our fleet. These bespoke smaller appliances are fitted with state of the art equipment that can create safer working conditions for our firefighters. We will continue to explore and embrace such technological advances and new ideas which provide a safer environment for our firefighters as we enhance safety within all the communities of Scotland.

Objectives 2.3 We will maintain a strong presence across Scotland to help communities prepare for and recover from emergencies.

Together with our partners, we assess risks, prepare for and respond to any significant threats or major emergencies. National and regional resilience partnerships, in which we continue to play a key part, coordinate the preparation of risk registers and response plans and arrange vital joint training and exercising events.

Through the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP) programme we will also seek to learn valuable lessons and improve how we can work together across command and control structures at the early stages of an incident. This will enable us all to understand each other's capabilities so that we can launch a swift and integrated response whenever and wherever emergencies occur.

Our local teams will continue to support local resilience partnerships to build capacity within communities so that they are prepared and can go some way to help themselves during an emergency situation. We will also help build confidence so that they have the ability to return to normality as quickly as possible after an event.

Objectives 2.4 We will make our frontline service delivery more effective by enhancing our command, control and communications arrangements.

To assure our own resilience, significant investment has been made in our command and control infrastructure. Three modern Operations Control rooms have been established to take calls from all over Scotland. Further investment has more recently been made to procure a new command and control mobilising system which will further enhance our resilience and emergency call handling capability.

We are also actively involved in the Home Office's Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme (ESMCP). This programme was established to replace the current communications network used by the emergency services across the UK. We will work within robust governance arrangements with a range of partners to ensure this critical and complex migration is a success for Scotland.

Associated Transformation Projects:

- SFRS Futures Vision
- Rapid Response Units
- Rural Full-Time Posts
- Retained and Volunteer Duty System Strategy
- Urban On-Call
- Emergency Medical Response
- Demand Based Watch Duty System
- Concept of Operations for Terrorist-Related Incidents

Outcome 3 We are a great place to work where our **people** are safe, supported and empowered to deliver high performing innovative services.

Objectives 3.1 We will build strong leadership and capacity at all levels within the Service, and improve the diversity of our workforce.

We aspire to be an employer of choice. This means we will create a supportive and rewarding workplace environment which attracts and retains the best people to deliver our responsibilities and ambitious programme of change.

To succeed we need leaders throughout the Service who think, plan and act as community leaders in their operational roles and in working with our partners. We are committed to developing adaptable leaders and equipping them to work across organisational boundaries and to solve complex problems with our partners and communities. We recognise that culture is a key determinant of success, and that leaders who demonstrate strong

engagement, communication, collaboration and motivational skills will be a vital part of securing that success.

To be successful in fulfilling our strategic objectives, we will maintain dynamic resourcing and workforce plans which are fully aligned to our business and budget planning processes. These plans will be supported by policies, procedures and practices to ensure the fair and inclusive recruitment, development and retention of committed, talented people.

We are committed to securing a diverse workforce which is representative of the communities we serve. Historically this has been difficult to realise for operational roles within fire and rescue services. By expanding firefighter roles we want to attract a wider range of people into operational roles in the future. We will also continue to explore new and innovative resourcing and development methods, including 'positive action' techniques to encourage and enable underrepresented groups to apply to work for us and to seek promotion opportunities.

We are also committed to delivering the best possible benefits packages for all staff who work for the SFRS. We will continue to work with representative bodies to secure appropriate terms and conditions which are fair and reflective of expanding job roles. We will also look to implement further policies that will promote a healthy work life balance and as a consequence increase motivation and productivity, and support good mental health.

Objectives 3.2 We will embed inclusive learning and development arrangements so that we have the organisational capability to deliver high quality innovative services.

To ensure we have the capability and skills to deliver first class frontline and supporting services we will invest in excellent training facilities and arrangements. We will embed different learning pathways to ensure all our people have access to development opportunities to keep them safe and to support them to fulfil their potential. We will develop our approach to transferring knowledge across the Service ensuring our staff have access to the best practices, learning and information on what works in delivering our priorities.

As we continue to evolve, we will ensure we have empowered, ethical and values based leaders at every level to inspire greater workforce diversity. Challenging existing ways of doing things and innovation will be encouraged and supported so that we can be more progressive in how we meet our current and future challenges.

By embedding effective succession planning we will be able to identify potential leaders for the future, providing opportunities for them in our leadership development programmes, so that they have the right skills to succeed. In doing so developing staff who are multi skilled, flexible, and results orientated in how they work and in how they develop in their current roles and into the future.

Objectives 3.3 We will care for our people through progressive health, safety and wellbeing arrangements.

The safety of our people is paramount and we have created a strong proactive health and safety culture to protect them. Being appropriately trained, and having access to the right information and support is essential to our people's safety and we are fully committed to ensuring we have the resources in place to support that. We will also continue to improve our management information systems so that we can identify trends and areas in need of attention, and recognise positive results and improvements to enable the sharing of good practice across the organisation.

The nature of our Service is such that firefighters, and other members of staff, can be exposed to traumatic and challenging situations. We know that non-work related matters can also impact on the wellbeing of people. In recognising these psychological pressures our people sometimes work under, we are fully committed to creating a mentally healthy environment within which all can work and prosper. We are committed to ensuring mental health is mainstreamed across everything we do and is fully integrated within our culture. To ensure we succeed we will structure, resource and manage our interventions to provide the support our people need to best equip them to meet the challenges they face.

Objectives 3.4 We will engage with our people, and other stakeholders, in an open and honest way, ensuring all have a voice in our Service.

To know if we are getting it right as an employer, we have made a promise to carry out a staff survey every two years. We are fully committed to taking action on what our people say and have used the results of the 2018 staff survey to help shape this Strategic Plan.

As we develop more detailed plans to achieve our strategic objectives, and as we continue on our journey of transformation, we will put in place robust change management practices so that our people can get involved in the decisions that matter to them. We will share

information at appropriate stages and give our people the opportunity to participate in the design of services through safe and open communication channels.

Board meetings will also be regularly held in different towns or cities around Scotland, giving the opportunity for local teams, local partners and communities to engage with Board members and senior leaders on national policy and unique local issues.

Associated Transformation Projects:

- Terms and Conditions
- SFRS Futures Vision
- Retained and Volunteer Duty System Strategy
- Rural Full Time Posts
- Demand Based Watch Duty Systems

Outcome 4 We are fully accountable and maximise our **public value** by delivering a high quality, sustainable fire and rescue service for Scotland.

Objectives 4.1 We will maximise our contribution to sustainable development through delivery of economic, social and environmental benefits for the communities of Scotland.

The National Performance Framework has been designed to link with and promote the Scottish Government's commitment to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. These aim to improve wellbeing across the world. We already undertake many activities that contribute to social equality, economic viability and environmental protection, which are the bedrock to sustainable development. Our commitment as a Service to minimise our direct impact on the environment is strong. We will put detailed plans in place for how we will achieve this. We will work with partners across the public service and beyond in developing our approach and in achieving our ambitions.

Through the implementation of a SFRS Sustainable Development Framework, we will communicate a clear plan from which to showcase and report on the wide range of activities which contribute to sustainable development nationally – in essence making global goals our business.

Objectives 4.2 We will minimise the risks we face through effective business management and high levels of compliance with all our responsibilities.

We manage our business and money appropriately, complying with various regulations, through a robust set of policies, business processes and identified responsibilities. Good governance assures a blend of value for money and accountability with transparent decision making and probity. To respond effectively to emerging risks and challenges and to further strengthen our governance arrangements, we will explore how we can develop more predictive insights and improve evidence led decision making.

This will support improved management of risk which is a fundamental element to successful business administration. Through increased integration with planning and performance management systems, and within the day to day culture of the organisation, we will enhance our ability to identify and respond appropriately to a variety of political, operational, financial and legal risks to safeguard our resources and reputation.

Objectives 4.3 We will invest in and improve our infrastructure to ensure our resources and systems are fit to deliver modern services.

We own or lease a wide range of assets, from land, property and vehicles to operational equipment, ICT and software. These assets are used to support all frontline and supporting activities and must achieve a high level of performance in terms of versatility, reliability, safety and cost.

We are committed to investing in our ICT digital infrastructure to meet the growing demand for effective, efficient and secure systems. We will continue to explore new and innovative ways to use digital technology to realise efficiencies and to ensure our people have access to the right information at the right time to do their jobs well.

We will implement a long term asset management strategy which will redesign our property and fleet portfolio to balance the needs of a modern national service with those of tightening budgets. This will be done through a comprehensive assessment which will determine the assets that we no longer need, the assets we need to maintain, rationalise or develop, and the new assets we will need to acquire.

Objectives 4.4 We will strengthen performance management and improvement arrangements to enable robust scrutiny, challenge and decision making nationally and locally.

The introduction of a new performance management system in 2019, will greatly enhance how we manage our performance in the coming years. Moving from the current disparate manual systems to an all in one solution will fundamentally change how our people, across all functions and areas, manage their actions, risks and performance. Having information at the touch of a button will greatly support improved reporting, communications, scrutiny by the Board and other stakeholders, decision making and realising efficiencies through the removal of duplication throughout the organisation.

We will also employ measured and cumulative actions to improve what we do. We will foster a culture where our people are empowered to use their skills and experience to make improvements in their work. Processes will be embedded to enable lessons learned and good practice to be widely shared with colleagues across the organisation.

The design of our services, systems and processes will also be regularly reviewed to ensure they are delivered in the most efficient, effective and safe way. To support the outcomes of any reviews and subsequent progression of any areas for improvement, we will maintain strong governance assurance arrangements.

Associated Transformation Projects:

- SFRS Youth Volunteer Scheme
- Climate Change
- Station and Appliance Review

DRAFT

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

This draft Strategic Plan 2019-22 sets out what our broad ambitions will be over the next three years. Your views are important to us and you are invited to tell us what you think of our approach.

The formal consultation for this draft Strategic Plan opened on **Thursday 9 May 2019 and will run until Thursday 18 July 2019**. To ensure we review and manage all responses consistently please feedback to us using our online survey. This can be accessed at firescotland.citizenspace.com. After the consultation is closed we will publish the results.

If you cannot access our online survey, or if you would like more information about the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service you can:

Write to: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters

Westburn Drive
Cambuslang
G72 7NA

Phone: 0141 646 4501

Email: SFRS.StrategicPlan@firescotland.gov.uk

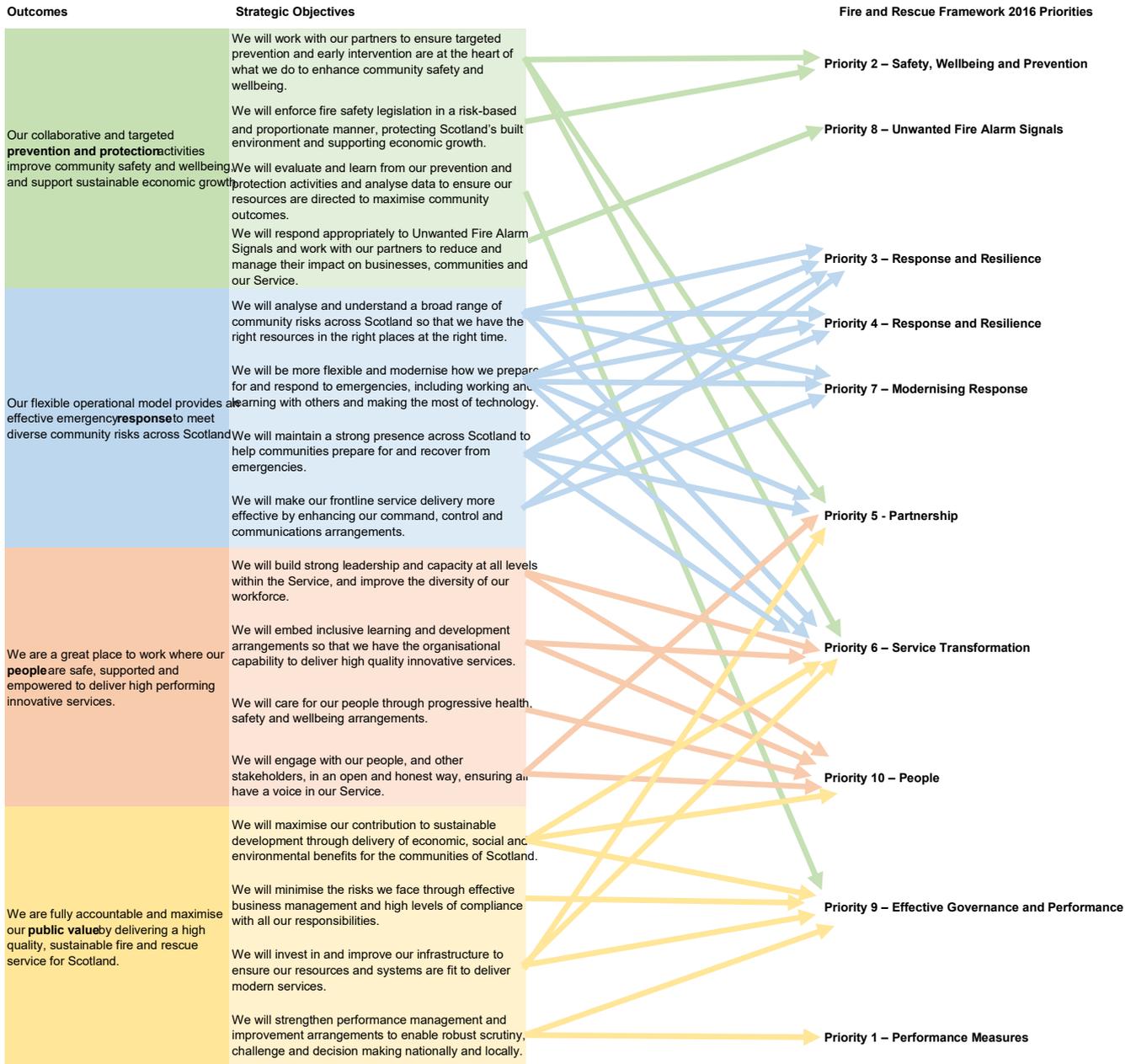
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How our strategy links to the Scottish Government's Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016



UPDATES ON STRATEGIES AND PLANS**1. Anti-Poverty Strategy****1. Background**

The Anti-Poverty Strategy and first Action Plan was agreed at the meeting of Dumfries and Galloway Council on 25 June 2015. In addition, the Dumfries and Galloway Council Plan for 2017-22 was agreed at the 26 September 2017 meeting of Dumfries and Galloway Council. This contains a specific Commitment 'to tackle the causes and effects of inequality and poverty.'

2. Performance update

The Strategy and Action Plan continue to be delivered by our Council and all partners with our regular monitoring report (**Appendix 2**) submitted to Dumfries and Galloway Council's Communities Committee Meeting on 11 June 2019. Our Action Plan now contains 50 projects and 6 performance indicators

3. Funding

Dumfries and Galloway Budget for 2019/20 includes an allocation of £880,000 of Policy Development Funding for the continuation and establishment of six development projects to tackle poverty, along with further funding of £495,000 which will now be provided by on-going Education Services Budgets to further reduce the costs of the school day and provide free school meals and study support during all school holidays.

- £200,000 to Involving Communities in Tackling Poverty through Participatory Budgeting
- £200,000 to Area Committee's for tackling poverty initiatives that address local priorities
- £20,000 for Credit Union Development
- £100,000 for the continuation of the Taxi-Card Scheme
- £260,000 to support the most vulnerable from welfare reforms
- £100,000 to tackle child poverty by increasing the Free School Clothing Grant award from £100 to £134 for each child.

Tackling Poverty Co-ordination Group

2.2 The Tackling Poverty Co-Ordination Group continues to deliver its Action Plan, which was agreed on 13 December 2018. At the meeting held on 2 May 2019, Health & Wellbeing Specialists from the DG Health and Wellbeing Directorate of Public Health, NHS Dumfries and Galloway delivered an interactive Workshop on Health Inequalities within Dumfries and Galloway. This was very well received by the members of the Group and the feedback received will be used to inform the development of future workshops on this subject.

Tackling Poverty Reference Group

2.3 The Tackling Poverty Reference Group visited the Scottish Parliament on 25 April 2019 as part of their capacity building and increased understanding of the links between the Scottish Government and local authorities. They were given a guided tour of the building, met with three

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MSP's and also watched a Parliamentary Debate during the afternoon. This away day was very much welcomed by the volunteers and they have benefitted immensely from gaining an understanding of the complexities of the Scottish Government and its mechanisms. Further similar activities are now being planned with the input of the volunteers.

Poverty Awareness Training

2.4 Poverty Awareness Training continues to be delivered by the Poverty Alliance, the Anti-Poverty Officer and officers from the Financial Wellbeing and Revenues Team to Dumfries and Galloway Council staff to raise awareness of why poverty happens and to increase the understanding of the impacts which it has on both individuals and families. The feedback from delegates to date has been very positive. For many of the officers from the Financial Wellbeing and Revenues Team, this is the first time that they have delivered training sessions which is both increasing their capacity and self-confidence whilst also ensuring that we are retaining expert knowledge by further empowering Dumfries and Galloway Council's officers.

Third Sector Tackling Poverty Forum

2.5 The Third Sector Tackling Poverty Forum Meeting held on 27 March 2019, delivered a detailed presentation from the new Social Security Scotland Local Delivery Relationship Lead Yvonne Stewart. This included details on how the new service will be delivered throughout our Region along with features of all of the benefits which this service will be disbursing. Actions agreed included joint advertising between the Department of Work and Pensions, Social Security Scotland (SSS) and Dumfries on Galloway Council, which would clarify which benefits were allocated by which organisation to enable clients to understand where to contact for any queries for both new and existing benefits in the future. This would increase the efficiency and effectiveness of each organisation moving forward and further partnership working would also be developed between SSS and third sector organisations.

Challenge Poverty Week 2019

2.6 This national annual Campaign Awareness Raising Week will be delivered between 7 – 13 October 2019. Joint planning is due to begin shortly with Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway on the various events and activities which can be held and how we will link in with the themes of this campaign week as soon as these are launched by the Poverty Alliance.

3. Contribution to the Public Health Priorities

Our Anti-Poverty Strategy and Action Plan directly contribute to all of the following Public Health Priorities. Please see below the examples of a range of our projects, which have and are directly contributing to each:

Priority 1: We live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities

- Increased support to vulnerable families and victims of those in the Justice System
- Disbursement of Phase 1 and 2 of Participatory Budgeting Funding and Area Committee Funding to tackle poverty to third sector organisations in all areas of our Region
- Develop Family Centres in both Stranraer and Dumfries
- Implementation of the Housing Options and Homeless Service Improvement Team
- Delivery of the Home Energy Help Project to increase the fuel efficiency of homes
- Delivery of the Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland (HEEPS) Area Based Schemes throughout our region

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- Development of enhanced travel choices for residents and expand discounted travel
- Delivery of the Taxi-Card Scheme for vulnerable residents

Priority 2: We flourish in our early years

- Tackling Child Poverty by increasing the Free School Clothing Grant Award to £134 per child.
- Increasing Registrations of Free School Meals and Clothing Grants by identifying all eligible families and automating the registration process for each grant.
- Extension of the Free School Meals and Study Support Programme throughout all School Holidays
- Removal of Period Poverty
- Delivery of the Free Breakfast Clubs
- Removal of Pupil Charges linked to national qualifications within the Senior Phase
- Provision of funding for extracurricular travel
- Free Home Economics and Technical Design Classes
- Delivery of the Anti-Poverty Intensive Family Support Service
- Completion of the Annual Local Child Poverty Action Plan Report

Priority 3: We have good mental wellbeing

- Delivery of the Welfare and Housing Options Support Team to help individuals and families with complex financial issues.
- Removal of barriers to services for people experiencing poverty
- Develop new channels for information and support to remove the barriers for people experiencing poverty
- Protect people from financial harm and abuse

Priority 5: We have a sustainable inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all

- Preparation of both clients and all services and partner organisations to successfully manage the transition to Universal Credit
- Delivery of the Links to Work Project
- Raise the profile of and the number of employers awarding The Living Wage
- Identify and secure additional benefits and assist clients with debt advice
- Support the development and increased sustainability of the Stranraer and the Solway Credit Union to increase the number of borrower's accessing safe, low cost finance
- Mitigating the consequences of welfare reform

Priority 6: We eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active

- Increased numbers of projects disbursing Fare Share surplus produce to those most in need throughout our Region.

Lead Officer: Harry Hay, Head of Neighbourhood Services, Communities Directorate, Dumfries and Galloway Council.

2. Children's Services Plan

2.1. Background

The Children's Services Plan (April 2017 to March 2020) was approved by DG Council on 28 March 2017 and submitted to Scottish Government shortly afterwards. The plan and first Joint Annual Report are available on the Council website at

<https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/16748/Children-s-Services-Plan> and on the Partnership Blog at <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/dgchildrensservices/welcome/dg-childrens-services-plan-2017-2020/>. See also papers on agenda, March 2017

<https://dumfriesgallowayintranet.moderngov.co.uk/CeListDocuments.aspx?MID=1427&RD=Minutes&DF=28%2f03%2f2017&A=1&R=0>

2.2. Performance update

The second Joint Annual Report on the Children's Services Plan is currently being finalised for the reporting year 2018-19. A position statement on the plan is attached as **Appendix 3**. This position statement provides an up-to-date summary of progress against all 6 priorities in the Children's Services Plan as of May 2019. It was prepared for a visit by Scottish Government in May 2019 and is based on the draft Joint Annual Report for 2018-19

2.3. Contribution to the Public Health Priorities

Priority 1: We live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities

- Priority 1 of the Children's Services Plan is: *we will ensure that children and young people are safe and free from harm*. The focus of this priority is child protection and it includes actions about raising community awareness of child protection issues including Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) with the recent launch of the region-wide publicity campaign on CSE in partnership with NSPCC. Further actions under Priority 1 include those aimed at addressing domestic abuse in Dumfries and Galloway and its impact on children.

Priority 2: We flourish in our early years

- Priority 2 in the Children's Services Plan is: *we will ensure children and young people get support at the earliest appropriate time through prevention and early intervention*. This priority focuses on the implementation of Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) and on early years. The focus on the early years includes: the provision of an evidence-based suite of parenting programmes; implementation of 1140 hours of childcare & early learning; development of family centres and implementation of the Family Nurse Partnership and the Health Visiting Pathway. Information on key achievements, strengths and challenges can be found in the attached Position Statement.

Priority 3: We have good mental wellbeing

- Priority 5 in the Children's Services Plan is: *we will deliver the best possible health and wellbeing for all children and young people*. Actions in the plan focus on three areas: prevention, early intervention, and the provision of specialist services. In response to engagement with children and young people, and national and local priorities, we have

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taken an approach that focuses on and prioritises mental health with a range of low-level mental health supports in schools. Please see position statement for further information.

Priority 4: We reduce the use of and harm from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs

- Priority 5 of the Children's Services Plan includes the following action regarding tobacco use: to implement a tobacco policy for all secondary schools in the region; to deliver services for Looked After and Accommodated Children and Youth Justice; and to ensure engagement of young people in the developments of tobacco programmes and work with a local tobacco alliance to increase knowledge and understanding of tobacco laws. With regard to progress: currently all secondary schools have wider policies in place that take account of smoking which addresses smoking in school premises. This work planned by *Quit Your Way* is to further support these policies along with ensuring that Tobacco remains a high public Health priority in the school setting. This has involved providing all secondary schools with written resources for specific Tobacco policies and service information for young people who smoke. Smoking prevention work in our region has been delivered to a high degree of consistency through primary and secondary schools across the region.

Actions to reduce harm from alcohol and other drugs are under Priority 1 of the Children's Services Plan (we will ensure that children and young people are safe and free from harm). Actions include: continued prioritisation of funding for a Young Carers project for children who are carers for their parents who have drug or alcohol problems; examination of the current provision of services to children and young people who have a drug or alcohol problem to ensure that the services provided are in line with government priorities and targets; and development of mechanisms to ensure improved communication for children and young people affected by parental substance misuse (CAPSM) with adult alcohol and drug services.

Priority 5: We have a sustainable inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all

- Priority 4 of the Children's Services Plan is: *we will work to reduce or remove barriers so that all children and young people have equity of opportunity*. This priority includes a range of approaches and actions aimed at reducing barriers such as poverty, disability and caring responsibilities, and promoting equity of opportunity. There are also relevant actions under Priority 6 of the Children's Services Plan: *We will raise attainment and be ambitious for all children and young people* and under Priority 3 - *We will improve the wellbeing and life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people* (i.e. corporate parenting). Please see the position statement for information on key actions and progress.

Priority 6: We eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active

- Preventative and early intervention activities in Priority 5 of the Children's Services Plan include: breastfeeding and infant nutrition; dental health interventions and increasing levels of physical activity. We are sustaining increased levels of physical activity in our schools. Child dental health has shown steady improvement in D&G and the focus on this needs to be maintained through effective partnership working between schools, nurseries and Health. With regard to infant nutrition, we have we have a number of approaches aimed at increasing rates of breastfeeding, but this continues to be a challenge. Champions from Health Visiting teams have been identified to work in all four localities.

Lead Officer: Dr Gillian Brydson, Acting Director, CYPLL; Chair of Children's Services Executive Group.

3. Community Learning and Development (CLD) Partners' Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021

3.1. Background

The CLD Partners' Strategic Plan for Dumfries and Galloway 2018 – 2021 was approved at the Council's Children, Young People and Lifelong Learning Committee on 18 September 2018 and the Community Planning Partnership Board on the 21 September 2018.

<https://dumfriesgalloway.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=144&MId=263&Ver=4>

The most recent meeting of the CLD Partnership took place on 28 March 2019 and focused on the following key outcomes:

Outcome 2 – Our children and young people are experiencing improved outcomes and positive destinations through enhanced partnership working

- The partnership received an update from Regan Jackson, Regional Youth Issues Worker on the key highlights from the Young People's 10,000 voices engagement exercise. This sparked interesting debate across the partners and it was agreed that the CLD partnership had a key role to play in taking forward the priority actions stemming from the research.
- This was followed by an update on the recently appointed Youth Council for Dumfries and Galloway following the recent Elections. Partners' agreed that they would help support Elected Youth Councillors with training/learning opportunities as they could.

Outcome 4 – “The involvement of learners and community organisations in shaping CLD priorities has increased and is leading to positive change”

- The Partnership received an update on the forthcoming NHS Health and Wellbeing Service review and encouraged partners to attend and participate in the scheduled engagement sessions over the coming months.
 - Major contributing factors to this work were highlighted as follows; GP contract coming to a renewal point; Social Prescribing; Community Development approaches.
 - It is expected that options will be presented to NHS Board in Nov/Dec 2019.
 - A short-life CLD reference group was also established to help shape the development of the new Cultural Strategy for Dumfries and Galloway. CLD Partners contributed to facilitated sessions on 15 March and 26 April respectively.
- Outcome 5 – “Our CLD Sector workforce has the necessary skills to deliver on the ambitions of our plans”

- As part of the CLD South West Network, an inaugural cross authority practitioner event was held in Auchinleck on Tuesday 14 May 2019. The session was attended by over 80 practitioners with 20 attending from Dumfries & Galloway and was a great success with the format being as follows:

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- Short mindfulness session
- Opportunities linked to the South West Educational Improvement Collaborative (Fiona McDougall)
- “Sharing and learning from our stories of change” – Brigid Russell (Coach) and Katie Kelly (Depute Chief Executive South Ayrshire Council)
- CLD Standards Council – Membership and CLD competencies – Marion Alison/ Kirsty Gemmell
- Practitioner discussion on themed topics (i.e. volunteering; community empowerment; ESOL, Year of Young People)
- The event was funded through the CLD Standards Council and evaluation feedback is being collated to help identify priority-learning needs for the future.

3.2. Performance update

The CLD Partnership have developed a new performance framework linked to the CLD Partners' Strategic Plan 2018-2021 and the first full collated version of this covering the reporting period 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019 will be available shortly. This will contain a combination of statistical information and case studies.

3.3. Contribution to the Public Health Priorities

Priority 1: We live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities

- Fits within Outcome 1 and Outcome 4 of the CLD Partners' Plan

- The DGC Lifelong Learning Team;
 - provide support to families who have moved to Dumfries and Galloway as part of the Syrian Refugee Resettlement Programme.
 - provide a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities including ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes, literacy and numeracy sessions, digital learning opportunities and family learning programmes, which can lead to other positive destinations such as further learning, volunteering or employment.
 - work with partners to deliver healthy eating and cooking on a budget programmes which help families to eat healthy with the budget they have available.
 - have a dedicated resource working within HMP Dumfries, who supports inmates to improve skills, which can lead to other positive destinations such as further learning, volunteering or employment inside or outside of prison and contributing to wider efforts to minimise reoffending.

- Public Health, in partnership with the Third Sector, is developing a network of local people by offering participatory appraisal training and support to engage with local communities in Dumfries & Galloway. The network has carried out a range of engagement sessions to determine barriers and solutions to a range of issues. Current work includes considering the use of public spaces in Lincluden, looking at the care campus model for the Crichton Development Trust, determining barriers for participation

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in screening and vaccination programmes, raising the awareness of cancer voices groups and determining health needs within the criminal justice system.

- The DGC Youth Work Team;
 - provide a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities to young people aged 12-25 across all areas of Dumfries and Galloway. Opportunities include 1-2-1 support, issue-based group work, and targeted youth groups.
 - provide a range of youth accreditation for young people participating and achieving through youth work activities and supporting wider accreditation through schools.
 - provide volunteering positions, coordination and training for youth and adults volunteers.
 - have a dedicated resource working across the region and within schools to provide youth information across the region.
 - have a dedicated resource promoting and developing youth participation & democracy across the region, including Youth Councillors and Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament.
 - develop and support projects in relation to anti-poverty and young parents across the region.

Priority 2: We flourish in our early years

- Fits within Outcome 2 of the CLD Partners' Plan
- The DGC Lifelong Learning Team;
 - provide Family Centres at Park School and the former Lochside School in order to provide an additional support to families with early years children.
 - deliver the Peep programme with parents across Dumfries and Galloway. These activities are open to all parents but targeted as those with the greatest needs. The evidence-based parenting programme included activities relating to the five strands of child development and enables parents to achieve nationally recognised accredited awards, which are embedded within the programme. These qualifications can support parents to progress to other positive destinations such as further learning, study or employment. The 10-government funded Early Learning and Childcare graduates have also been trained to deliver this programme and will be working with the Lifelong Learning Team to expand delivery of the programme from August 2019
 - deliver a wide range of other family learning activities in schools and communities across Dumfries and Galloway in line with the National Review and Framework. These activities are focused in schools and communities with the greatest needs.
- The DGC Youth Work Team;
 - deliver the Peep programme with young parents across Dumfries and Galloway. These activities are open to all young parents.

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- provide a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities to young people aged 12-25 across all areas of Dumfries and Galloway. Opportunities include 1-2-1 support, issue-based group work, and targeted youth groups.
- provide a range of youth accreditation for young people participating and achieving through youth work activities and supporting wider accreditation through schools.
- provide volunteering positions, coordination and training for youth and adults volunteers.
- have a dedicated resource working across the region and within schools to provide youth information across the region.
- have a dedicated resource promoting and developing youth participation & democracy across the region, including Youth Councillors and Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament.
- develop and support projects in relation to anti-poverty and young parents across the region.

Priority 3: We have good mental wellbeing

- Fits within Outcomes 1, 2 and 5 of the CLD Partners' Plan

- The DGC Lifelong Learning Team provide a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities which provide opportunities for learners to socialise with other people, reducing isolation and loneliness. Some of these learning opportunities such as our art activities also provide opportunities for learners to express themselves using activities other than conversation.

- Public Health - Social isolation and loneliness. These are recognised as key influences on mental health and wellbeing and also impact on physical health needs. Social prescribing can connect people to resources within their communities as an early intervention approach to improve health and wellbeing through primary care. A regional social prescribing framework is being developed.

- Public Health - Improving Mental Health Literacy. A range of training opportunities such as Scottish Mental Health First Aid and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training are provided. Focuses on improving the knowledge and skills of communities in relation to mental health and suicide prevention.

- Building Healthy Communities engage with local people and recruit community champions who will continue to embed health and wellbeing pathways in a community setting;
 - Engaged and recruited individuals with a common interest in community development approaches and social model of health.
 - Facilitated opportunities for people to explore values and principals key to embedding community development.
 - Participated/contributed and represented BHC within a wide range of operational and strategic partnerships.

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- Encouraged and supported local people to engage and participate in identifying appropriate needs led activity.
- To identify and apply for appropriate funding to support the work of BHC and partners.
- The DGC Youth Work Team;
 - provide a wide range of informal learning and social activities across Dumfries and Galloway reducing isolation and loneliness.
 - provide 1-2-1 support for young people in need of more dedicated support.
 - support 'Cool 2 Talk' digital platform for support for young people.
 - provide crisis support for young people in need.

Priority 4: We reduce the use of and harm from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs

- Fits within Outcome 1 of the CLD Partners' Plan
- The DGC Lifelong Learning Team provide a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities including ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes, literacy and numeracy sessions, digital learning opportunities and family learning programmes, which can lead to other positive destinations such as further learning, volunteering or employment.
- The DGC Youth Work Team;
 - provide a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities to young people aged 12-25 across all areas of Dumfries and Galloway. Opportunities include 1-2-1 support, issue-based group work, and targeted youth groups.
 - work with partners to provide issue-based training on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs to young people.
 - support peer education sessions through activities like "The Toon" to raise awareness with young people in Dumfries and Galloway on issues surrounding alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.
 - have a dedicated resource working across the region and within schools to provide youth information across the region

Priority 5: We have a sustainable inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all

- Fits within Outcome 1 of the CLD Partners' Plan
- The DGC Lifelong Learning Team provide a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities which are open to all and free at the point of delivery, although targeted at those with the greatest needs.
- The DGC Youth Work Team;
 - provide a wide range of formal and informal learning opportunities, which are open to all and free at the point of delivery. These are through both targeted provisions and universal provisions and are informed by regular needs assessments to prioritise and inform areas of work.

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- provide support to youth management committees to develop skills and experience in effective operations and funding applications to ensure sustainable projects and ability to adapt to service the needs of the young people in Dumfries and Galloway.

Priority 6: We eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active

- Fits within Outcome 1 of the CLD Partners' Plan
- The DGC Lifelong Learning Team;
 - work with national governing bodies of sport and local clubs to coordinate sport education and development programmes, which supports increased participation in sport and physical activity.
 - work with partners to deliver healthy eating and cooking on a budget programmes, which help families to maintain a healthy weight by eating well with the budget they have available.
 - work with partners to provide holiday hunger provision in targeted communities.
- Building Healthy Communities;
 - have enabled individuals to be supported and participate within the BHC Tai Chi and Qigong programmes.
 - encourage a percentage of service users to manage their long-term conditions through self-help and to support volunteers into training which will build on their assets and create leadership skills by becoming volunteer leaders/anchors.
 - Support Senior and Junior Tai Chi Leaders and Buddies as and when required (open door policy) with two formal 1-1 per year to develop plans & ensuring formal and informal training is available. Sessions run for a 2-year period normally over a 40- week period.
- The DGC Youth Work Team;
 - Deliver programmes including independent living skills and health and well-being activities to promote healthy lifestyles to young people, targeted at specific groups of young people.
 - deliver cooking programmes to support young people make informed choices about meals and ingredients.
 - deliver school holiday programmes with breakfast and lunch provision.

Lead Officer: Stephen Jack, Lifelong Learning Manager, Chair – CLD Partnership

4. Health and Social Care Strategic Plan

4.1 After a formal review, as required in The Public Bodies (Scotland) Act 2014, the Integration Joint Board decided on 5th April 2018 to retain the current Dumfries and Galloway Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan for Health and Social Care. <http://dghscp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Strategic-Plan-2018-2021.pdf>

4.2 The IJB approved the Primary Care Improvement Plan, taking forward work to transform primary care services and implement the General Medical Services (GMS) contract.

4.3 The Dumfries and Galloway Health and Social Care Partnership ended the 2018/19 financial year on budget. The IJB Approved the IJB Financial Plan for 2019/20, which is presented as a balanced position with an in-year gap of £6.850m for which savings are still to be identified.

4.4 Locality performance reports were submitted to Area Committees in May 2019. Ongoing discussions at the IJB have included work to improve delayed discharges and the ongoing development of musculoskeletal and mental health services in the community.

4.5 Audit Scotland published the report Health and Social Care Integration: Update on Progress in November 2018. Available here: http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/uploads/docs/report/2018/nr_181115_health_socialcare_update.pdf The Ministerial Strategic Group for Health and Community Care (MSG) issued a response to the Audit Scotland report, Review of Progress with Integration of Health and Social Care, in February 2019. Available here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/ministerial-strategic-group-health-community-care-review-progress-integration-health-social-care-final-report/> The IJB undertook a self-evaluation exercise against the recommendations in these reports and is currently developing an action plan.

4.6 Quarterly performance reporting for the Ministerial Strategic Group indicators and summary performance indicators for the NHS Board were presented to the IJB. Highlights from the reports include:

- Acute emergency admissions have risen and are above the desired trajectory.
- Emergency department attendances are lower than anticipated.
- Delayed discharges have risen and the reasons for this are complex
- Waiting times for the musculoskeletal service continue to be a challenge; intensive work to improve this is underway.
- Treatment time guarantee (TTG) was 81%, which is below the 100% target, but above the interim improvement trajectory set by Scottish Government
- 73.3% of people started psychological therapies within 18 weeks of being referred. This is 16.7% below the national standard (90%) but 1.7% below the desired improvement trajectory (75.0%), intended to meet the Scottish average.
- The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) waiting times target is being met

4.3 Contribution to the Public Health Priorities

4.3.1 Public Health work is being taken forward in Dumfries & Galloway that addresses all the six national priorities. Some of the work is led by the strategic Public Health team that is accountable to the NHS Board, while other parts of the work are led by Locality Teams under Health and Social Care Partnership (H&SCP).

4.3.2 Other HSCP Services too have a part to play, e.g. Primary and Community Care and Mental Health Services have roles in supporting good mental wellbeing, Women's and Children's Services have a clear role in supporting positive early years, and the Specialist Alcohol and Drug Service are key in reducing use of and harm from alcohol and drugs.

4.3.4 There are outcome-focussed plans in place for the Public Health Strategic and the Locality Teams. Additionally Directors of Public Health across Scotland are producing statements on their commitments and responsibilities and D&G's Directorate of Public Health will lead on action locally. As there are multiple strands of work involved, it is very important that these are consistent and work together for the greatest effect. To that end, a workshop is proposed for the Partnership to look in depth at work on the national priorities.

Julie White, Chief Officer, Health and Social Care

5. Local Development Plan 2

5.1. Background

The Local Development Plan (LDP) guides the future use and development of land in towns, villages and the rural area. It also indicates where development, including regeneration, should happen and where it should not. The LDP provides the planning framework for Dumfries and Galloway and takes account of the Local Housing Strategy, Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Transport Strategy. The LDP should be a corporate document for the Council as planning authority and its Community Planning Partners. The LDP should apply the land use elements of the Community Plan (LOIP) and other Council and Government strategies into an overall spatial plan for the local area providing a means to join up messages about place and delivery.

5.2. Performance update

The current LDP was adopted in September 2014 and is replaced every five years. Work on LDP2 is well advanced. The Examination into the representations received to the Proposed Plan is complete, Elected Members will be asked to agree the recommendations made by the Reporter at the committee meeting on 27 June 2019. LDP2 should be adopted by September 2019. The contents of both plans have been informed through extensive public consultation and engagement with members of the public, key agencies, elected members, developers and planning agents.

5.3. Contribution to the Public Health Priorities

Priority 1: We live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities

- The Plans Vision is that in 20 years' time, Dumfries and Galloway will be a thriving region with a sustainable economy built on sustainable principles that safeguard the landscape, natural and historic environment, promote growth, maximise the use of existing infrastructure and enhance connectivity.

Priority 3: We have good mental wellbeing

- The policies and strategy of the plan encourage the creation of places where wellbeing is promoted.

Priority 5: We have a sustainable inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all

- Sustainable economic growth is a key element of the Plan's Vision. The Plan acts as a facilitator for economic development, it provides opportunities to grow, develop, diversify and regenerate the economy in a sustainable manner.

Priority 6: We eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active

- All developments are required to incorporate enhance and protect access to open space, green networks and recreational opportunities. Maximise linkages with existing public transport and other sustainable transport options.

Lead Officer: Shona McCoy, Team Leader Local Development Plan

Community Planning Partnership Board**6. Local Housing Strategy****6.1. Background**

The draft Local Housing Strategy was approved by 5 June 2018 meeting of Communities Committee. Feedback on the draft Local Housing Strategy has been received from the Scottish Government following a process of peer review. It will now be updated prior to re-submission as the final draft.

6.2. Contribution to the Public Health Priorities**Priority 1: We live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities**

- The Local Housing Strategy sets out *“the Council’s approach to meeting its statutory responsibilities including tackling fuel poverty, supporting the integration of health and social care and improving house conditions across all sectors. In addition, this document details our strategic response to local priorities such as town centre living, reducing carbon emissions, improving environmental and design standards and supporting the development of sustainable communities”*

Priority 2: We flourish in our early years

- Section 5 of the Local Housing Strategy has the action to *“Work with the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Champions Board and in partnership with key stakeholders to ensure that young people who are care experienced are offered appropriate housing solutions to meet their needs”*

Priority 3: We have good mental wellbeing

- Section 7 of the Local Housing Strategy has actions to *“contribute to the work of the Particular Needs Housing Strategy Group to strengthen existing relationships and create new opportunities for collaborative working”* and to *“identify funding across the housing, health and social care partnership to develop housing for people with complex needs. The Housing First model aims to prioritise the provision of permanent accommodation and allows the tenant to access support services when ready”*

Priority 5: We have a sustainable inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all

- Section 7 of the Local Housing Strategy relates to Specialist Provision and Independent Living. It has the strategic objective to *“work together with the Health and Social Care Partnership to ensure solutions are delivered that enable people to live as independently as possible in community settings”*

Priority 6: We eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active

Section 5.6 of the Local Housing Strategy aims to create sustainable places in recognition that *“well designed places play a key role in ensuring wellbeing, delivering good health outcomes, creating social connections and provide easy access* Section 7 of the Local Housing Strategy relates to Specialist Provision and Independent Living. It has the strategic objective 2 *“work together with the Health and Social Care Partnership to ensure solutions are delivered that enable people to live as independently as possible in community settings”*

Lead Officer: Jamie Little, Housing Strategy and Gypsy/Traveller Co-ordinator

Community Planning Partnership Board

7. Regional Economic Strategy 2016-2020**7.1 Background**

In November 2018, the Regional Economic Strategy Annual Report was submitted to the Community Planning Partnership prior to being presented to a new reinvigorated Economic Leadership Group (ELG). The ELG met in December 2018 to review economic priorities and consider commenting in to the providing evidence towards the need for the South of Scotland Enterprise Bill.

7.2 Performance update

The ELG met again in January 2019 at the Bridge in Dumfries to consider the draft South of Scotland Regional Skills Investment Plan and in reviewing and defining economic priorities into the future. A new Chair, Sheena Horner and Vice Chair have been appointed

7.2.1 The Council along with the South of Scotland Alliance provided evidence the South of Scotland Enterprise Bill in January 2019.

https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Rural/Dumfries_and_Galloway_Council_SSE.pdf

The Council also responded to the Financial Memorandum associated with the Bill. The evidence identified the fact that the new agency will be a member of the Community Planning Partnership and strongly supported the needed for local accountability. The Scottish Government's Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee, as part of its evidence gathering process came to Easterbrook Hall at the Crichton Campus. After informal meeting with interested parties heard evidence from key parties, including Dumfries and Galloway Council's Leader Councillor Elaine Murray and Chief Executive Gavin Stevenson, Scottish Borders Council. Evidence was the committee said there was "no doubt" the body was needed and had "overwhelming support". The Bill is now at Stage 3 in the Scottish Parliament with the Stage 3 Parliamentary debate scheduled for 5th June 2019.

7.2.3 The shape of Britain leaving the European Union (Brexit) continues to be of prime importance to the region. Until a decision is made in Westminster by the UK Government, uncertainty will continue. The UK Government, up to the date of writing is still to provide information pertaining the potential shape of a UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which would replace European Structural Funds, will take. The region's leadership can influence the development of the plans for a UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

7.2.4 Performance**We will have the highest youth employment rate in Scotland by 2020**

Under Universal Credit a broader span of claimants are required to look for work than under Jobseeker Allowance. Following the implementation of Universal Credit Full Service the number of people recorded as being on the Claimant Count is therefore likely to rise. Due to this change, it is not appropriate to compare the percentages under the old and new systems. Similarly, due to the length of the transition period it is not possible to give a ranking for 2017

	JSA only		Universal Credit			
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
D&G	3.0	2.8	3.3			
Rank	20	16	-			
Scotland	3.2	3.0	3.6			

Community Planning Partnership Board

NOMIS

Business growth in the region has grown faster than in Scotland as a whole between 2016 and 2020

£ million	2013 (revised)	2014 (revised)	2015 (revised)	2016 (revised)	2017 (provisional)	2018	2019	2020
D&G	1,940	2,028	2,054	2,188	2,243			
% change	7.32	4.34	1.27	6.12	2.45			
Scotland	122,416	128,930	130,440	135,179	139,338			
% change	4.60	5.05	1.16	3.51	2.98			

Regional Gross Value Added - Income Approach (Table 1) – published annually by Office for National Statistics
Data for 2018 is scheduled for release in December 2019.

We will reduce the wages gap between the regional and national average by 20%

	2015 (revised)	2016 (revised)	2017 (revised)	2018 (provisional)	2019	2020
D&G	458.2	462.0	460.0	476.8		
% change	0.1	0.8	-0.4	3.5		
Rank	32	32	32	31		
Scotland	527.0	536.0	547.4	562.7		
% change	1.6	1.7	2.1	2.7		

Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) – published annually by Office for National Statistics – Table 8.1a Weekly pay gross FT

Lead Officer: Steve Rogers, Head of Economy and Planning, Dumfries and Galloway Council.

8. Regional Transport Strategy

8.1. Background

8.1.1 SWestrans Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) was agreed by the SWestrans Board on 25 April 2008 after an extensive consultation exercise, and approved by Scottish Ministers in June 2008. The RTS Delivery Plan was agreed by the Board on 27 March 2009. They are available at: <http://www.swestrans.org.uk/9691>

8.1.2 SWestrans vision is for a transport system for the South West of Scotland that delivers the internal and external connectivity required to sustain and enhance the region's economy and communities whilst minimising the impact of transport on the environment. In doing this, the RTS should:

- Facilitate access to jobs and public services.
- Support key sectors, vibrant places and inclusive communities.
- Enable goods to reach their markets; provide travel choices that promote equality, social inclusion and support quality of life.
- Enhance the quality and integration of public transport.
- Support walking and cycling, not only as a leisure pursuit but as a means of healthy, active travel.
- Add value to the broader Scottish economy and assist the Scottish Government in attaining its national targets for increased sustainable economic growth, road traffic stabilisation, and reduced carbon emissions.

8.1.3 The RTS covers the period up to 2023 and it was originally intended that a review and update of the strategy would be undertaken every 4 years. No review or update has been undertaken to date.

8.1.4 The SWestrans Board has agreed to undertake a refresh of the Regional Transport Strategy and accompanying Delivery Plan to better reflect current local, regional and national strategies, plans and programme, e.g. the Regional Economic Strategy, the Anti-Poverty Strategy and Health & Social Care Strategic Plan.

8.1.5 Since this decision was taken, the Scottish Government has committed to a full review of the National Transport Strategy (NTS) and advised that due to regional delivery needing to align with national vision, strategy and outcomes that any RTS should follow the publication of the NTS.

8.2. Performance update

8.2.1 South West Scotland Transport Study

Transport Scotland are currently undertaking a study of how the South West Scotland is served by the strategic transport network (The South West Scotland Transport Study). The focus of the study is on how the transport network connects Dumfries and Galloway and southern Ayrshire to the key markets of Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Carlisle and includes a particular focus on access to the Ports at Cairnryan. It aims to identify where the transport network works well, look at issues and seek suggestions for improvement. It is also considering the future transport needs of South West Scotland and cross border connections.

This initial appraisal work will ensure the needs and priorities of the South West are clearly identified and inform the second Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2). It will be critical to the region's future economy and connectivity that we obtain an equitable share of infrastructure investment within STPR2. Any major transport interventions/projects for Dumfries and Galloway that require Scottish Government funding within this timespan should emerge as an option for consideration for STPR2 inclusion.

Dumfries and Galloway Council and SWestrans have been involved in the development of the South West Scotland Transport study brief and continue to be involved in the study Working Group along with Transport Scotland, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and the Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

An Elected Members Briefing session for the South West Scotland Transport Study was held on 26 November 2018 in Dumfries.

Transport Scotland has written to Dumfries and Galloway Council about the formation of Regional Transport Working Groups as an engagement mechanism for local and regional partners involved in transport, land use and economic development planning to input and influence the National Transport Strategy review and STPR2.

It has been agreed that the extensive work undertaken for the South West of Scotland Transport Study can be utilised in the development of a new Regional Transport Strategy.

8.2.2 Transport (Scotland) Bill

The Transport (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament on Friday 8 June 2018.

The aim of the Transport Bill is to make Scotland's transportation network cleaner, smarter and more accessible. The Bill aims to empower local authorities and establish consistent standards in order to tackle current and future challenges, while delivering a more responsive and sustainable transport system for all.

The Scottish Parliament's Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee (REC) published its Stage 1 Report on the Bill on 7 March 2019. The full report is available at <https://digitalpublications.parliament.scot/Committees/Report/REC/2019/3/7/Stage-1-Report-on-the-Transport--Scotland--Bill>.

The REC Stage 1 report included the following in respect of the points SWestrans raised with them:

- noted concerns expressed by stakeholders in evidence that the bus service proposals within the Bill are unlikely to make a marked difference in arresting the decline in bus patronage.
- acknowledged the issue of the objections process when creating a Bus Service Improvement Partnership (BSIP) and called on the Government to be mindful that it is not simply a case of the overall number of objections when regulations in this area are made.
- recommended that the Scottish Government bring forward an amendment at Stage 2 to remove the restrictions, required by the Bill, on local authorities providing local bus services.

The Scottish Government's response to the REC Stage 1 Report was published on 24 April 2019. The response covers all areas of the Bill, and is available at <https://sp-bpr-en-prod->

cdnep.azureedge.net/published/REC/2019/3/7/Stage-1-Report-on-the-Transport--Scotland--Bill/RECS052019R4.pdf

The Bill has progressed to Stage 2.

8.3. Contribution to the Public Health Priorities

Priority 1: We live in vibrant, healthy and safe places and communities

- The Dumfries and Galloway Community Transport Public Social Partnership (PSP) develops and designs transport services to maximise the benefits to the community and develop the capacity of the community transport sector. The progress to date in delivering on these aims has seen four transport services being redesigned/piloted, including providing access to out-of-region and in-region health appointments. Funding for the continuation of the PSP project has not been made available through the Council's 2019/20 budget. Other funding opportunities are being explored.

Priority 3: We have good mental wellbeing

- Transport and travel factors can have an impact on social isolation and loneliness. A Passenger Focus bus survey undertaken in the region in late 2018 showed that some 56% of those using buses in the region have no alternative means of transport. Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG) studies undertaken within the region in 2018/19 highlighted that many residents within the region do not make the journeys they wish to make by rail, as they do not have access to the network.

Priority 5: We have a sustainable inclusive economy with equality of outcomes for all

- Public transport, walking and cycling, are essential for developing labour markets that are both more inclusive and more productive. These modes facilitate the economic participation of the widest possible range of groups, including jobseeker, low-income families, young people, disabled people and older people. All these groups rely on public transport and bus in particular to access opportunities. Public transport, walking and cycling, also keep our region moving in the most efficient way, ensuring that it remains accessible and inclusive.
- SWestrans has a responsibility for procuring socially necessary bus services. All local bus services (public funded and commercial) in Dumfries and Galloway operate on tight margins. Provision is fragile because of this and appropriate funding is needed to prevent any possible market failure. SWestrans has successfully protected the current network from financial pressures, both from increased operational costs and reducing available budgets, though this is unlikely to remain the case from 2020. SWestrans is working in closely with partners to minimise the negative impacts on any future network changes.

Community Planning Partnership Board

- Both SWestrans and the Council have strongly advocated as part of the Transport Bill process for local authorities to be able to directly run bus services to provide us with added flexibility to meet the social transport needs of our residents where it is proven there is no commercial alternative.
- SWestrans continues to develop a case for appropriate transport infrastructure in the south west. This included a response to the Infrastructure Commission for Scotland 'Initial Call for Evidence' in early May 2019. The Commission will provide long-term strategic advice to the Scottish Government on national infrastructure priorities to align investment with long-term inclusive economic growth and low carbon objectives.

Priority 6: We eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active

- SWestrans has secured new grant funding from Transport Scotland for active travel projects. The initial batch of this funding was awarded in late 2018 and was utilised on previously identified active travel interventions prior to the financial year-end. Similar grant funding has been made available for 2019/20 and is available for the projects shown below which is subject to 100% match funding from SWestrans.

Active Travel Scheme	Scottish Government Funding	SWestrans Match funding
Dumfries Learning Town	£30,000	£30,000
Remove Barriers to Active Travel	£39,000	£39,000
Signage Programme	£30,000	£30,000
Cycle parking at Interchanges	£10,000	£10,000
Disabled Programme	£20,000	£20,000
Total	£129,000	£129,000

- Work in partnership with Dumfries and Galloway Council is continuing to develop on various active travel projects. SWestrans provides 100% match funding for the Smarter Choices Smarter Places fund which this year will: work with schools and the surrounding community to promote active travel; support the Healthy Working Lives programmes; support the NHS in social prescribing and the wider multi agency health interest through the Physical Activity Alliance, and; provide funding and support to a number of community empowerment initiatives.

Lead Officer: Douglas Kirkpatrick, Transportation Manager, SWestrans

ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY 2017-2021**PERFORMANCE REPORT 1 APRIL 2018 TO 31 MARCH 2019**

Objective 1: To listen to people and families experiencing poverty and make sure their voice is heard

1.1 Developing new ways of getting feedback from people who use our Services

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 1.1	Continued support, management and development of the Tackling Poverty Co-Ordination Group	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	75%		
P4C1S4_COM 1	Improve Community Participation and Engagement across our Council	01-Oct-2018	31-Mar-2023	36%		

1.2 Talking to people facing poverty about their experiences, how we remove barriers to poverty, what works for them and what we need to do differently

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 1.2	Remove Barriers to Services for People Experiencing Poverty	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	55%		

1.3 Working with individuals experiencing poverty to help shape the solutions and help define front line service delivery that works

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 1.3c	Increased support to vulnerable families and victims of those in the Justice System	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2019	100%		
P4C1S1_COM 3	Support the Management and Development of the Tackling Poverty Reference Group	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	61%		

Objective 2: To support people experiencing poverty to move from dependence to independence

2.2 Develop understanding and awareness of poverty

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 2.2a	Delivery of Poverty Awareness Training	05-Sep-2017	31-Aug-2019	80%		
COMCS_AP0 2.2b	Raise the Profile of Challenge Poverty Week 2017	05-Sep-2017	31-Oct-2017	100%		
COMCS_AP0 2.2b1	Raise the Profile of Challenge Poverty Week 2018	05-Sep-2018	31-Oct-2018	100%		
COMCS_AP0 2.2b2	Challenge Poverty Week 2019	01-Feb-2019	31-Oct-2019	20%		
COMCS_AP0 2.2c	Successfully Deliver a Tackling Poverty in Dumfries and Galloway Conference	01-Apr-2017	16-Oct-2017	100%		

2.3 Work with partners, communities and individuals on resilience and capacity building initiatives

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 1.3b	Distribute the Enhanced Poverty Provision fund - £250k through the Participatory Budgeting Process	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2019	100%		
COMCS_AP0 2.3	Local Anti-Poverty Fund 2018-19	01-Mar-2018	31-Mar-2019	100%		
COMCS_AP0 2.3.1	Improving our Communities in Tackling Poverty through Participatory Budgeting - Phase Two	01-Sep-2018	30-Jun-2019	87%		
P3C1_COM06	Develop the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan	01-Apr-2016	30-Sep-2018	100%		
P3C1S7_COM 2	Annual Reports on Local Outcomes Improvement Plan	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2023	20%		
P4C1S1_COM 1	Develop and Monitor a Commission on Representation and Engagement	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2020	50%		

Objective 3: To ensure our information and services are easy to access

3.1 Improved availability of information

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
P3C1_CYPLL 02	Poverty Awareness Training for staff in schools	31-Aug-2015	31-Mar-2017	100%		
P3C1S7_COM 4	Prepare both clients and all services and partner organisations to successfully manage the transition to Universal Credit	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2019	100%		
P3C1S7_COM 6	Develop new channels for information and support to remove barriers for people experiencing poverty	01-Apr-2017	01-Mar-2020	45%		

3.2 Increased number of integrated facilities

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 3.2b	Open the new Queensberry Square Customer Centre Hub to support people in poverty in all of its forms	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	30%		
P2C1S7_CYP LL1	Develop Family Centres at Lochside (Dumfries) and Park School Children's Services Centre (Stranraer)	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2020	75%		

3.4 Reduce barriers to accessing information and services

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMKEY_P4	Development of a Customer Excellence Strategy	01-Jul-2018	30-Jun-2019	25%		
P3C1S7_COM 5	Implementation of the Welfare and Housing Options Support Project	05-Sep-2017	31-Oct-2019	100%		
P3C1S7_COM 7	Implement the Housing Options and Homeless Service Improvement Team following the Service Review	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2019	100%		

Objective 4: To provide services that meets the needs of people experiencing poverty

4.1 Children and families

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 4.1.2	Completion of the Annual Local Child Poverty Action Plan Report	01-Jan-2019	31-Mar-2023	80%		
COMCS_AP0 4.1.2.1	Tackling Child Poverty – Increasing the Amount and Availability of Free School Clothing Grants and Increasing Registrations for these and Free School Meals	01-Apr-2019	30-June-2020	25%		
COMCS_AP0 4.1a	Delivery of the Anti-Poverty Family Support Team Intervention Activities	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	69%		
COMCS_AP0 4.1b1	Extension of the Food in Schools Project to include holiday meals and during Study Support	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2019	100%		
COMCS_AP0 4.1b2	Home Economics and Technical Subjects	16-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2019	100%		

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 4.1b3	Extra Curricular Travel	01-Jun-2018	28-Jun-2019	75%		
COMCS_AP0 4.1b4	Removal of Period Poverty – Free Sanitary Products in Schools	17-Aug-2018	31-Mar-2019	100%		
COMCS_AP0 4.1b5	Pupil Charges for other curricular subjects linked to national qualifications in the Senior Phase	01-Jun-2018	28-Jun-2019	75%		
COMCS_AP0 4.1c	Delivery of the Better Eating, Better Learning Free Breakfast Clubs Project	05-Sep-2017	31-Oct-2019	75%		
P3C1S8_COM 1	Assess applications to the Council's Town Centre Living Fund	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2019	100%		
P4C1S4_COM 1	Improve Community Participation and Engagement across our Council	01-Oct-2018	31-Mar-2023	36%		

4.2 Employment

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 4.2a	Raise the profile of the Living Wage	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2018	100%		
COMCS_AP0 4.2b	Deliver the Links To Work Project	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	100%		
COMCS_AP0 4.2c	Development of the Increasing Employment Opportunities of People with Offending Backgrounds Project	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2019	100%		
P1C5_CES14	Secure Living Wage Accreditation for our Council	18-Jun-2015	30-Apr-2018	100%		

4.3 Finance

Code	Key Performance Indicators	2018/19			Exception Report
		Value	Target	Status	
P3C1S7COM1	Value of additional benefits identified through Financial Inclusion Advice income maximisation services	£15.994m	£15.670m		
P3C1S7COM2	Monitor the number of clients assisted with debt advice through commissioned services	2,132	1,395		

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 2.3.2	Credit Union Development	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2020	65%		
COMCS_AP0 4.3a	Protect people from financial harm and abuse	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	72%		

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 4.3b	Promote Credit Unions	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	55%		
COMCS_AP0 4.6	Mitigating the consequences of Welfare Reform – Increased Provision of Crisis Payments and Community Care Grants	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2020	95%		
COMCS_AP0 4.6.1	Distribution of additional Crisis Grants (Policy Development Funding 28 Feb 2019)	01-Apr-2019	31-Mar-2020	0%		

4.4 Health & Wellbeing

Code	Key Performance Indicators	2018/19			Exception Report
		Value	Target	Status	
P1C3COM01	Number of affordable new homes agreed through the SHIP process	315	120		
P4C4COM01	Reduce Poverty in the Private Housing Sector by creating property condition leaflets	100%	100%		

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
P1C3_COM08	Development of Annual Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP)	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2018	100%		
P3C1S7_COM 1	Annual Reports on Locality Plan for food sharing	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2023	20%		

4.5 Home Energy & Fuel

Code	Key Performance Indicators	2018/19			Exception Report
		Value	Target	Status	
P4C5COM01	Reduce fuel poverty by delivering the HEEPS-ABS project	100%	100%		
P4C5COM02	Number of capital measures delivered each financial year	71	60		

4.6 Travel & Transport

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
COMCS_AP0 4.4	Develop a Public Social partnership model which is a collaborative approach between the public and third sector to redesign, pilot, and procure services based around the needs of service users	02-Jan-2017	31-Mar-2020	63%		
COMCS_AP0 4.6a	Enhance travel choices for	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	74%		

Code	Improvement Projects	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	Status	Exception Report
	residents					
COMCS_AP0 4.6b	Expand discounted travel	05-Sep-2017	31-Mar-2020	34%		
COMCS_AP0 4.6c	Delivery of the Taxi Card Scheme	01-Apr-2019	31-Mar-2021	40%		

PI Status		Action Status	
	Alert		Cancelled
	Warning		Overdue; Neglected
	OK		Unassigned; Check Progress
	Unknown		Not Started; In Progress; Assigned
	Data Only		Completed

Dumfries and Galloway Children's Services Plan
Position Statement
May 2019

Children's Services Plan 2017-20

The current Children's Services Plan has a clear set of 6 priority areas for action to improve outcomes for children and young people. These priorities demonstrate our relentless focus on protecting and supporting our most vulnerable young people, our aim to reduce inequality and our overarching ambition for all children and young people in Dumfries and Galloway.

1. We will ensure that children and young people are safe and free from harm
2. We will ensure children and young people get support at the earliest appropriate time through prevention and early intervention
3. We will improve the wellbeing and life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people
4. We will work to reduce or remove barriers so that all children and young people have equality of opportunity
5. We will deliver the best possible health and wellbeing for all children and young people
6. We will raise attainment and be ambitious for all children and young people

2. Dumfries & Galloway – key strengths, successes, things we're proud of

Overall Approaches to the delivery of Children's Services Planning

- We have significantly strengthened collaborative leadership and have worked well together to establish a shared vision for children, young people and their families. We have reviewed and improved our governance and accountability arrangements and are clear on our respective roles and responsibilities. Examples include a review of CSEG and establishment of Public Protection Committee/ improved data to Chief Officers Group.
- Our use of performance and management data underpins effective planning and prioritisation. We now have robust systems that monitor and track performance across a range of activities. Examples include Public Protection Committee performance reporting / Educational data.
- Dumfries and Galloway have adopted a strategic approach to addressing Poverty which includes an Anti-Poverty Strategy and Action Plan that mirrors the national strategy of the Scottish Government, led by a strategic group which is supported by the Tackling Poverty Reference Group. This Group is comprised of volunteers with a lived experience of poverty. The Anti-Poverty Strategy is delivered by a major investment of ring-fenced resources including Policy Development Funding from the Council. Examples of anti-poverty measures which have been specifically designed to tackle all forms of poverty which affect children and families include: the Intensive Family Support Service, cost of the school day projects including the removal of the costs of Technical Design and Home Economics Classes, introduction of Breakfasts Clubs, the Removal of Period Poverty in all Primary and Secondary Schools and tackling Holiday Hunger throughout each school holiday period plus many more.
- We have engaged effectively in the national agenda and have participated in a number of national developments such as Realigning Children Services Programme. We are outward looking – working with other areas and agencies to support our improvement agenda. Examples include developing with the Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland CELCIS) the minimum data set for Child Protection; working with CELCIS on the Permanence and Care Excellence programme (PACE); developing national training module for basic Child Sexual Exploitation E-Learning and working with other Local Authority areas to develop a pilot approach to develop a model of support for newly qualified social workers.
- We have made considerable improvement in our approach to engaging and working with young people. Examples include the establishment of Youth Councils; our 10,000 Voices survey; our Listen2Us consultation with care-experienced children and young people.
- We are using quality assurance improvement methodology to test and deliver change and improvement – for example with PACE, the development of the Neurodevelopmental diagnostic pathway and implementation of the Health Visiting Pathway.

- We have streamlined our strategic and business planning approach to avoid duplication and make best use of resources – aligning the Children’s Services Plan; Corporate Parenting Plan; National Improvement Framework (NIF) Reporting and Anti-Poverty Plan.
We are maintaining improvements despite severe fiscal environment and capacity challenges.

Specific Developments – Children’s Services

- Development of Children’s Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) – to deliver fast effective multi-agency information sharing and decision making when children and young people are at risk of harm
- Development of Youth Information Service as a low-level mental health intervention in schools – see case studies.
- Child Sexual Exploitation Launch, Publicity Campaign and Action Plan – to raise awareness across the community and support effective identification of young people at risk
- Development of an integrated approach to senior phase across all 16 Secondary schools to deliver more flexible curricular offer to deliver enhanced pathways which maintain the strong positive destinations for young people.
- Investment in our school estate to ensure our children have improved opportunities to learn and develop – examples include Dalbeattie Community Campus and the Bridge in Dumfries.
- Participation and Engagement with young people – Champions Board, Year of Young People, 10,000 Voices, Youth Council
- Focus on increasing physical activity rates demonstrating that we have fewer inactive children and young people
- Delivery of the Incredible Years parenting programme
- Development and delivery of an effective Social Work Out-of-Hours Service which has enhanced a smooth transition between out-of-hours and day services, faster response to child protection concerns and children in need with an overarching improvement in multi -agency communications.
- Delivery of early intervention through the Intensive Family Support Service
(Note that this development, and SW our-of-hours, are not specifically mentioned within the CS Plan)

Case Studies / Practice Examples

Youth Information Workers
 Care-experienced young people attending University
 Cool2Talk
 Primary Mental Health Worker

Challenges

- Capacity of staff generally.
- Workforce challenges include difficulty in recruiting and retaining to a range of roles across all agencies in Dumfries and Galloway.

3. Our Priorities

Priority 1: We will ensure that children and young people are safe and free from harm

Overall evaluation of progress, strengths, and challenges.

Over the course of the last year we have continued to make good progress against key priorities outlined in the Children's Services Plan. As a partnership we work effectively to ensure we identify and respond to children and young people in need of care and protection. We continue to advance an ambitious programme of transformation which reflects the national agenda for change. The establishment of a joint Public Protection agenda has assisted in more effectively managing joint resources and overlapping areas of responsibilities across all areas of Public Protection ensuring deployment of resources more effectively and sharing of best practice.

The following information provides a summary of achievements:

- The development of the child Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). We can evidence improved joint working, effective sharing of information, quick and effective early decision-making and improved outcomes for children and young people.
- We can evidence improved assessment and risk assessment practices. Over the last few years we have focused on securing improvement in this important area. To support improvement, a range of evidenced-based approaches have been introduced including the National Practice Model, the National Risk Framework and the Neglect Toolkit. More recently we have agreed the implementation of Signs of Safety approach. These frameworks provide frontline staff with a menu of evidenced-based approaches which are informed by research. We remain alert to ensuring they are fully embedded in practice.
- We have reviewed, updated and improved our systems, processes and practice in relation to Pre-Birth. We have updated guidance, refined our processes and consolidated our learning. In the last month or so we have introduced changes to referral pathways to ensure our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub now screens and responds to all relevant referrals of concern in this area. This will involve a more effective use of Initial Referral

Discussion to inform decision-making that is timely and effective. An Oversight Group has been established to monitor progress.

- Our strategic and operational approach to identifying and responding to children and young people at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) has progressed well. We have recently engaged with NSPCC and launched a wide-ranging awareness-raising campaign with financial commitment from the partners which will continue throughout the remainder of this year. Key messages are targeted at young people, parents and carers, staff, local communities, taxi drivers, commercial and licensed premises. We have also engaged with Barnardo's to pilot the use of an evidence-based framework that assists frontline staff and managers to recognise and respond to this type of risk.
- We continue to improve our approach to self-evaluation and over the last few years have developed and implemented a comprehensive framework. We are well sighted on key performance issues and have successfully benchmarked our data in this regard. We regularly scrutinise information and take timely remedial action where necessary. We are outward looking and consider innovation in this area. For example, we have engaged with CELCIS to participate in the development and roll out of a minimum national data set after successfully bidding to be a pilot area.
- Training and staff support remain a high priority and we have recently reviewed and updated our supervision arrangements across Social Work and Health to ensure our staff are confident and competent. Our training priorities reflect key needs of staff and more recently we have trained 26 officers in Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) methodology. We believe this will help develop a positive learning culture across our services. Our multi-agency training is accessible to Third Sector colleagues, free of charge.
- As part of a joint approach, Education, and the Violence Against Women and Girls Standing Group have sought to raise the awareness of young people of domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women. We provided inputs into local schools across Dumfries and Galloway and delivered a total of thirty sessions to 629 young people between April 2018 and February 2019. The approach sought to ensure that awareness levels amongst young people were raised and they were provided with key information on the subject. The sessions were well-received, and feedback was positive.
- We are committed through the Community Justice Partnership to increase awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the significant impacts and the importance of resilience with all partners. We have done this through co-ordinated showings of "Resilience" film and the rolling out of trauma-informed practice training to over 200 staff, using existing resources. We remain one of the first areas in Scotland to deliver this local approach on such a large scale.

- We ensure information is provided to support children and families affected by the Justice system throughout the justice journey and encourage community justice partners to use the [Framework for the support of families affected by the Criminal Justice System](#). Our new Public Protection Partnership website was launched in April 2019.

Future Challenges

- We recognise we still have more to do with regard to the involvement of children and young people in their individual care-planning and have plans in place to improve the way we do this.
- We are currently focused on looking to improve the quality and timeousness of our chronologies to ensure they inform risk assessments.
- We remain sighted on the need to continually develop the overall quality and timing of our assessments and risk assessments in relation to Child Protection. This will remain a high priority for the remaining year of the plan.

Priority 2 - We will ensure children and young people get support at the earliest appropriate time through prevention and early intervention

Overall evaluation of progress, particular strengths, challenges:

Dumfries and Galloway's approach to prevention and early intervention has been to continue our focus on GIRFEC implementation and services that support families in the early years. Our early intervention activities also include the review of our Youth Justice service and our diversion processes. In our implementation of GIRFEC, we have reviewed and refined our GIRFEC practice materials and existing support and governance arrangements; and have increased the support available to staff. The focus on the early years includes: the provision of an evidence-based suite of parenting programmes; implementation of 1140 hours of childcare & early learning; development of family centres and our implementation of the Family Nurse Partnership and the Health Visiting Pathway.

The following information provides a summary of achievements;

- The Child Plan Template has been amended to allow for better identification of progress and further supporting guidance has been produced for staff.
- A GIRFEC Practice Log has been introduced to allow a fast, multi-agency response to issues reported by staff and allows us to identify emerging trends or more systemic issues which will require a strategic response.
- A high-quality programme of learning and development is in place and the continued focus on the use of evidence-based tools such as the National Risk Framework and the Neglect Toolkit provides a range of opportunities for staff to reinforce their existing knowledge and skills and learn new ones.

- GIRFEC Locality Groups are being re-established to foster a better understanding of individual agency roles and responsibilities and to improve multi-agency partnership practice. The first round of GIRFEC Locality Groups meetings is current taking place.
- We are making good progress with reviewing the suite of parenting approaches and have a more systematic approach to impact evaluation across the main interventions being offered.
- There has been a significant improvement in access to training for staff in our foundation model of care, Solihull. We now have 5 people trained to deliver training and there is a plan to offer new and updated training over the next year. This will ensure that all those working in the early years in Dumfries and Galloway have a common language and approach which underpins practice.
- Our implementation to date of the Incredible Years programme has been praised by NHS Education Scotland. They noted we are reaching our target area which focuses on families from areas of high deprivation. We exceed the national average for enrolment, retention and improvement in Incredible Years with 86% showing improvement in conduct issues by the end of the group.
- Development of Lochside Family Centre continues to make good progress with an increased number of partners involved and increased use by families.
- We are on target with the delivery of PEEP Learning Together Programme which was initially targeted at identified nurseries in areas of deprivation. Plans are now in place to explore further expansion.
- Good progress has been made in recruiting first-time mothers to the Family Nurse Programme in which specially trained nurses work with first-time teenage mothers to improve the health, well-being and economic self-sufficiency of themselves and their children.
- We have reviewed our Youth Justice Service in line with the national Youth Justice strategy and have reviewed and developed our diversion systems.
- An EEI programme (The 3Rs - Respect, Responsibility & Resilience) which was piloted initially within Annan Academy, has now been extended to two other secondary schools and planning is in place to extend implementation in the West of the region. The programme focusses specifically on provision of intervention at the earliest possible stage by identifying a cohort of S1 pupils who have displayed 'pre-offending' behaviours. Particular emphasis was placed upon improving self-esteem, confidence, communication and relationships amongst the cohort, and it was envisaged that tackling behaviours also had a positive influence on the behaviours of the wider S1 peer group.
- Since January 2019 Police Scotland and Education Services have introduced 8 dedicated Schools & Youth Engagement Police Officers across the 16 secondary schools in the region. This initiative aims to build and support positive engagement with young people to influence attitudes and behaviours;

promote prevention and early intervention and reduce future offending; support named persons and the GIRFEC agenda; ensure young people feel safe and protected, all of which promote a child-centred policing approach. Going forward, through the deployment of these Schools & Youth Engagement Police Officers, we also aim to focus upon and significantly reduce offending by care experienced young people.

- Youth Services continue to build upon the legacy of Year of Young People 2018 through the distribution of Youth Workers across the region, and develop a footprint within secondary schools. The success of out of school activities such as The Toon, Youth Beatz, etc is being extended across region with the introduction of events such as 'I am a Raver' in rural localities such as Newton Stewart, delivering improvements in the accessibility of diversionary activity.
- We have made steady progress in the implementation of the Health Visiting Pathway in D&G.
- The Intensive Family Support Service which is funded through Policy Development Funding and was launched in March 2018, is specifically designed to provide an early intervention service to break the cycle of poverty which families in crisis are experiencing. Over 100 families have been assisted through this Team and positive changes have been made. A Report on the outcomes of the Service to date will be provided later this year.

Challenges

- In light of emerging developments around information-sharing, we need to ensure that the right guidance and supports are in place for staff. This is a focus in 2019-20.
- There has been some quality-assurance activity with regard to GIRFEC implementation, however performance information is limited. We continue to seek ways of addressing this.
- Continued investment in Early, Effective Intervention against a background of diminishing resource continues to be a challenge.

Priority 3 – We will improve the wellbeing and life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people

Overall evaluation of progress, particular strengths, challenges:

Progress against actions for the corporate parenting section of the Children's Services Plan has been mixed. We have made good progress with regard to engagement with our care-experienced children. As a partnership, we have clarified the relationship between the Corporate Parenting Group and the Champions Board and the lived experience of these children and young people is shaping Champions Board action plans. We have significant success in supporting care-experienced

young people into further and higher education. However, we have faced challenges in monitoring and supporting long-term outcomes for our care-experienced children and young people and we continue to seek possible solutions to this.

The following information provides a summary of achievements:

- We have very good progress in relation to engagement with our care experienced children and young people. We have a reinvigorated Listen2Us group who have actively engaged with services. A recent piece of research carried out by this group of young people has resulted in an action plan for almost all corporate parenting partners to consider and change the way we do some activities based on the lived experience of these young people.
- We responded to education data about our looked-after children and young people by identifying a leadership role and establishing the right strategic framework and roles to enable systemic change – in accordance with the Public Services Improvement Framework. This resulted in the setting up of a multiagency group tasked with LAC Raising Attainment and the agreement of an Improvement Plan in June 2018. The aim of the Improvement Plan is to ensure systemic change that promotes early intervention for our Care Experienced young people and closes the attainment gap.
- We now have a dedicated Care-Experienced Education Team to monitor the progress of our care-experienced children and young people in their education and to provide additional teaching support to these pupils. We have seen recent improvements in attendance and reductions in exclusions and these continue to be monitored closely by the Monitoring Exclusions and Monitoring Attendance Groups, with schools supported and challenged to further improve. Attainment levels are clearly a longer-term measure and through data returns from schools three times per year, we are aiming to demonstrate the positive impact of the new Care-Experienced Education Team.
- We have had significant success in supporting care experienced young people in to training and learning. We are currently supporting 15 young people in college and university and have extended young people's placements in order to support this. We also have a range of other options and opportunities for our care experienced young people.
- We have engaged with CELCIS through the PACE work, and have set ambitious targets for permanence planning and used improvement methodology to test key changes to processes with an emphasis on placing the child at the centre. More work is required, and we are introducing "Signs of Safety" to assist with our assessment and care planning which will support our permanence and care planning. When the partnership was notified of capacity issues in Legal Services, we took prompt action to identify budget in order to outsource legal work and address the risk of drift in securing legal orders.

- Our specialist Looked-After Children’s Health Team has increased the percentage of care-experienced children and young people who have had a health assessment within 4 weeks of notification.
- We are aware that most care-experienced children and young people have experienced a degree of trauma and separation in their lives and we have limited specialist services to help children and young people recover from trauma. Our focus has therefore been on upskilling the staff who work with care-experienced children and young people on a day to day basis. With the specialist LAC Health Team, we have trained a large number of staff and carers across the multi-agency partnership in relation to mental health and building nurturing attachments.
- In relation to accommodation options, we automatically award priority status for care experienced young people. We also have a supported lodgings facility in partnership with one of the local housing associations. We are currently supporting 11 care experienced young people in this setting. This will enable them to develop the skills and abilities to better manage their own tenancy.

Challenges:

- We still have to further test the impact of our day-to-day engagement with young people at an individual level and have plans in place to audit this.
- Our care-experienced children and young people still have poorer educational outcomes than other children and young people and we continue to closely monitor their progress and target identified areas to support.
- The temporary funding allocated from the Scottish Attainment Challenge to set up the Care-Experienced Education Team means that we need to ensure the support offered from the team is carried on in schools.
- The PACE work has been more challenging than expected. Progress in the improvement of permanence planning has not been as fast as we would have expected. A review of the programme and new improved targets will help to drive this forward.
- We acknowledge that while we have built capacity to support trauma-informed practice we have more work to do.
- We have reviewed many of our supports for care experienced young people who are leaving care and believe that we are improving outcomes for many at the point of leaving care, for example those in higher education and supported lodgings, but we need to develop systems to measure longer term outcomes with regard to health, learning and training, and accommodation.
- Data from health assessments to inform health interventions remains a gap and data mapping is a priority area going forward.

Priority 4 – We will work to reduce or remove barriers so that all children and young people have equity of opportunity

Overall evaluation of progress, particular strengths, challenges

Priority 4 consists of a range of approaches and actions aimed at reducing barriers such as poverty, disability and caring responsibilities, and promoting equity of opportunity. Progress against Priority 4 has been mixed. Dumfries and Galloway has adopted a systemic approach to addressing poverty with robust governance arrangements and considerable resource allocation. Engagement and participation of young people has been a particular area of improvement, with the development of structures for youth participation and the success of 2018 Year of Young People. Young Carers' services in D&G have been at the forefront of service development nationally, particularly with the development and implementation of our Young Carers Statements in partnership with Social Work and Schools Services. Other actions, for example development of a Disability Strategy and the full implementation of Self-Directed Support within Children's Services, have made progress but this has been slower than planned.

The following information provides a summary of achievements:

- Implementation of Dumfries & Galloway's joint Youth Participation and Engagement strategy that includes establishing a regional Youth Council that consists of youth representation from every ward area across the region as well as 7 protected positions for marginalised groups. The Youth Council will ensure young people's voices are listened to and acted upon by Elected Members and Officers and the goal is to ensure that DGC is accountable to young people
- Continued support for Young Carers including - roll-out of Young Carers Statements and annual reviews undertaken of those already established; awareness-raising in schools of Young Carers and their needs.
- Launch of revised Anti-Bullying Guidance and agreement that this will form part of the 2019/20 School Improvement Plan with arrangements in place to evidence development of school policy.
- In the development of the Disability Strategy we have adopted an 'enablement approach' – influenced by engagement with young people with disabilities.
- A Neurodevelopmental diagnostic pathways group has been established through co-production with parents of children and young people with neurodevelopmental disorders and the Scottish Mental Health Access Improvement Support Team (MHAIST). The newly developed process is being piloted with children and young people using quality improvement methodologies. This development aims to ensure that children and young people with neurodevelopmental conditions have access to fast, effective diagnosis and subsequent support.
- Implementation of Self-Directed Support continues to be the adopted approach for access to care services to better empower families and provide

choice. A full programme of information and engagement events have been held throughout the region over the last year and these will continue as part of the wider implementation of SDS.

- An SDS Brokerage service offered by Compass was introduced in Autumn 2018. Funded by the Scottish Government's Support in the Right Direction project, the brokerage service provides support to individuals across the region, including helping to manage an individual's Direct Payment, employing Personal Assistant staff and administering payroll activities.
- Research was carried out in 2018 across D&G that engaged with young people, professionals and LGBT Youth Scotland to essentially gauge whether the Time for Inclusive Education National Campaign objectives were relevant to the needs and experiences of young people locally. The findings of this research were presented, and the recommendations were agreed by Children, Young People and Lifelong Learning committee last year.
- To address period poverty, we did a significant level of engagement with girls across Dumfries & Galloway to aid our planning for distribution of free sanitary products. We have supplied stock of disposable product to all secondary schools for free distribution to pupils as required, and we are now distributing reusable product across secondary schools. In addition, we extended the reach of free sanitary provision beyond schools to all of our youth work locations across Dumfries & Galloway where provision is available in unlimited quantities to youth work service users.
- Costs of the School Day have been further removed through the successful delivery of all the following projects: removal of costs of Home Economics and Technical Subjects; funding to cover the costs of Curricular Subjects linked to National Qualifications including Art & Design, Drama, Photography, English and Geography; funding for Extra Curricular Travel to sporting and education trips.
- Council agreed further allocation of Policy Development Funding to top up the Free School Clothing Grant to the sum of £134.00 per pupil. This is one of the highest rates for any local authority in Scotland.
- We have developed a new project which has successfully reviewed all parents who would be eligible to receive Free School Meals and Clothing Grants. This has been achieved by sharing databases between our Welfare and Benefits Teams and our Education Teams to identify the families who may not know that there are eligible to apply. 623 children were identified. Work continues on this project to ensure that the take up of the grants are increased.

Challenges

- Officer capacity across all areas has led to slippage across some developments including development of the Disability Strategy;

implementation of Self-Directed Support and development of services to ensure that young people with ASD can continue to live within D&G.

- The recruitment and retention of foster carers across the authority.
- There is still a stigma attached in some areas of our Region to the registering of Free School Meals even though a card system is used within all Secondary Schools for the payment of meals.

Priority 5 – We will deliver the best possible health and wellbeing for all children and young people

Overall evaluation of progress, particular strengths, challenges:

Actions in the plan focus on three areas: prevention, early intervention, and the provision of specialist services. Preventative and early intervention activities include breastfeeding and infant nutrition; dental health interventions; increasing levels of physical activity and sexual health. In response to engagement with children and young people, and national and local priorities, we have taken an approach that focuses on and prioritises mental health with a range of low-level mental health supports in schools.

The following information provides a summary of achievements:

- Engagement with young people and named persons that identified mental health, anxiety and resilience as the focus for the Health & Wellbeing Strategy Group's action plan to support schools. Actions include:
 - 22 Mental Health Ambassadors identified within D&G schools to support peers.
 - Stress Control pilot to help S3/S4 pupils manage their anxiety delivered within identified secondary school. 1-year evaluation complete June 2019
 - 3FTE Youth Information Workers appointed October 2018 and covering all secondary schools 1 day per week. Initial funding secured through Pupil Equity Fund. Youth Information Workers deliver low level psychological support to young people as an early intervention/preventative method of support for young people. They deliver this through one-to-ones and issue-based group work.
- The CAMHS in Primary Care project has resulted in children and young people referred to CAMHS being seen within 4 weeks of referral and has evaluated very well. The project won a National Mental Health nursing award in November 2018.
- Our Cool2Talk service is an interactive digital intervention to provide young people with access to digital health information and support. Top question topics are Mental and Emotional Health (28%), Relationships (26%) and Sexual Health (19%).

- Our teenage pregnancy rate continues to decrease. we have a Pregnancy and Parenthood in Young People Action Plan in place (developed by a multi-agency sub-group) and a Multi-agency pathway which enable staff from all sectors to support young people through the pregnancy and parenthood journey.
- In terms of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP) education, in 2018/19 we have 4 schools fully piloting the new resources with many others testing individual resources and feeding back. This will improve the RSHP education delivered across our early learning settings, primary and secondary schools.
- We are sustaining increased levels of physical activity in our schools.
- Child dental health has shown steady improvement in D&G and we need to maintain our focus on this through effective partnership working between schools, nurseries and Health.

Challenges

- Infant nutrition – we have a number of approaches aimed at increasing rates of breastfeeding, but this continues to be a challenge. Champions from Health Visiting teams have been identified to work in all 4 localities.
- Wellbeing involves complex and inter-linked factors – using data to evidence impact of actions continues to be a challenge.

Priority 6 – We will raise attainment and be ambitious for all children and young people

Overall evaluation of progress, particular strengths, challenges

Our focus has been on improving attainment; continuing to improve our delivery of services to children and young people with additional support needs; ensuring we have a suitably skilled workforce to deliver increased early learning and childcare; improving curricular choice; raising aspirations; support for positive destinations, and effective partnerships between schools and employers. Overall some progress has been made in improving attainment for all 5-18 and in narrowing the attainment gap. We have continued to improve our delivery of services to children and young people with additional support needs in the context of increased demand and reduced resources. We have made very good progress in the development of our early learning and childcare workforce. Curriculum planning is taking place collaboratively, informed by young people's voice and demand for skills and qualifications driven by economically important sectors in our local area and nationally. We are maintaining positive destinations and an increased number of young people are accessing accredited work-based learning through the DG Employability Award.

The following information provides a summary of successes:

- Overall some progress has been made in improving attainment for all 5-18. However, attainment information regarding the senior phase shows a greater level of improvement in performance than across the Broad General Education (BGE). A reduction of the gap between the 20% most disadvantaged and the 20% least disadvantaged does however show an improvement in overall performance in the BGE.
- Our approach to Inclusion and the Presumption of Mainstream is well embedded across our schools. Of the 8,211 children and young people currently identified as having an additional support need, 98% are being supported in mainstream
- The majority of our 8,211 children and young people with additional support needs are experiencing a varied curriculum tailored to meet their needs. The high numbers of children identified evidences how additional support needs are identified early.
- There is evidence of sustained efforts in working with parents, carers and partners; including acknowledging their expertise in knowing and supporting children and young people. Needs are identified and reviewed in consultation with families and partners.
- We are improving our use of data to ensure that we are more able to respond quickly and more effectively target children and young people at greater risk of not meeting their full potential – including looked after, children with disabilities, young offenders and those experiencing exclusion and low attendance.
- With regard to our childcare workforce, we have 13 members of staff undertaking BA in Childhood Studies (12 due to complete in August 2019) in partnership with University of West of Scotland and 15 more will commence the programme in August 2019. 10 Scottish government funded graduates (Senior Practitioner) have been recruited to support nurseries in areas of high deprivation. Further local authority staff are undertaking HNC in Childhood Practice and SCQF Level 7 Social Services (children and young people).
- The majority of secondary schools now make a wider range of options available to pupils across wider geographical areas. School partnerships have been established and strengthened in Dumfries Learning Town, Network East and Stewartry Link.
- 58 students from 8 schools are registered for D&G Employability Award which provides accredited work-based learning.
- The latest participation measure (published August 2018) shows that we are maintaining positive destinations with 92.2% of our 16-19-year-olds are participating in training, education or employment compared to 91.8% nationally and 92.2% the previous year.
- Our Employability Coordination Guidance (ECG) provides a framework to ensure systematic identification of vulnerable young people who do not have

a secure destination in preparation for leaving school and this has been recognised as good practice by other authorities. Collaborative pre-engagement work in school building positive relationships and offering early intervention, advice and ESF targeted support secured a positive destination for 21 young people referred through the ECG.

- For those who required extra support we offered Activity Agreements on leaving school. Of the 53 young people we supported with activity agreements - 83% of them are still in a positive destination.

Challenges

- Continuing to improve attainment and close the attainment gap.
- Continuing to improve delivery of services for children and young people with additional support needs in the context of increasing demand and reducing resource.

4. Next steps

We are participating in the Scottish Government's Realigning Children's Services (RCS) Programme and have just completed the wellbeing surveys across almost all schools in Dumfries and Galloway. The next phase of the RCS programme will support our partnership in identifying joint priorities for our next Children's Services Plan (2020 to 2013).

Planning for the next Children's Services Plan will begin in September 2019 and will be informed by our participation in the RCS programme. While Dumfries and Galloway will continue to seek to deliver improved outcomes for all children and young people, given the financial challenges, the next Children's Services Plan will maintain its focus on vulnerability and particularly those children in need of care and protection.

CURRENT KEY STRATEGIC ISSUES UPDATE – JUNE 2019

1. Background

The Board has identified nine key Strategies and Plans that support the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan:

- Anti Poverty Strategy
- Children's Services Plan
- Community Justice Improvement Plan
- Community Learning and Development (CLD) Partners' Strategic Plan
- Health and Social Care Strategic Plan
- Local Development Plan 2
- Local Housing Strategy
- Regional Economic Strategy
- Regional Transport Strategy

2. Update reports

2.1 Lead officers for eight of the Plans and Strategies have provided progress reports for this meeting and they are detailed in the **Appendices**.

2.2 At the last meeting of the Board, it was agreed that each update should outline their contribution to the Public Health Priorities – this is to evidence linkages across the Plans and support the 'Whole Systems Approach' that is being promoted through Public Health Reform.

3. Recommendation

Board Members are invited to:

3.1 scrutinise and note the progress being made in the key Strategies and Plans that support the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan; and in particular

3.2 note the contributions to the Public health Priorities across these key Strategies and Plans.

Liz Manson, Community Planning and Engagement Manager and lead officers
10 June 2019

Appendices - 3

- 1 - Updates on key Strategies and Plans
- 2 – Performance Report on the Anti-Poverty Strategy
- 3 – Position Statement on the Children's Services Plan

LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 1 APRIL 2018 TO 31 MARCH 2019

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK – DRAFT AS AT 10 JUNE 2019

Outcome 1 Everyone who needs help to work receives the right support

(Key groups – people in the justice system, LAYP, care leavers, veterans, disabled people and long term unemployed people)

Indicators	source
Unemployed/inactive/disadvantaged participants supported to access employment with a recruitment incentive	DGC (EEI)
Young people not in education, training or employment supported by an Activity Agreement	DGC (CYPLL)
Projects	
Develop increasing employment opportunities for people with offending backgrounds	Anti-Poverty Strategy Action Plan
Develop a framework and network of support to enable Looked After Young People and Care Leavers to access suitable training and learning opportunities to help get them into work	DGC (CYPLL)
Case Studies and Personal Testimonies	
A veteran's journey into work	TSD&G
A young person's journey into work	Links to Work

Outcome 2 Learning opportunities are available to those who need them most

(Key groups; lifelong learning in community settings; LAYP and care leavers, justice system, gypsy travellers, LGBT young people, isolated and unemployed people; volunteers)

Indicators	source
LAC leaving school who have achieved literacy and numeracy at National Level 4	Children's Services Plan
Gypsy traveller children school attendance	DGC (CYPLL)
Number of Saltire Awards issued (Young People's volunteering awards)	TS,D&G Business Plan
Number of new volunteering opportunities	TS,D&G Business Plan
Projects	
Links to Work	DGC (EEI)
Case Studies and Personal Testimonies	
Steps to Excellence	H&SCP
A Learner's Journey	CLD Action Plan

Outcome 3 Health and Wellbeing inequalities are reduced

(Key group: lower life expectancy; Carers, young people, mental health, Carers, veterans, LGBT, refugees, substance misuse and justice system)

Indicators	source
Premature mortality rate per 10,000 people	H&SC Strategic Plan
Increased support for vulnerable families and victims of those in the justice system	Anti-Poverty Strategy Action Plan
Drug and alcohol treatment waiting times	H&SC Strategic Plan
Proportion of LAC that have a health check completed within 28 days	H&SC Strategic Plan
Number of Children and Mental Health Services patients who started treatment within 18 weeks	H&SC Strategic Plan
Percentage of Carers who feel supported in their caring role	H&SC Strategic Plan
Cumulative Number of Looked After Children and Care Leavers gaining free access to leisure and sport activities	DGC (CYPLL)
Project	
Delivery of the UK Syrian Refugee Resettlement Scheme in D&G	DGC (Communities)
Case Studies and Personal Testimonies	
Adult Carer Support Plans	H&SC Partnership
Increasing physical activity of children and young people in Lochside and Lincluden	Let's Get Sporty
Dumfries Veterans Garden	TSD&G

Outcome 4 There is affordable and warm housing for those who need it most

(Key issues and groups younger adults esp. care leavers, veterans, prison leavers, leaving hospital after a long stay, single adult households; older single people in rural areas; fuel poverty)

Indicators	Source
Number of homelessness applications received where someone has been a Looked After Child by the local authority within the last five years	DGC (CYPLL)
Number of affordable new homes through the SHIP	LHS
Projects	
Home Energy help for fuel poor households in D&G	APS Action Plan
Tenancy Sustainment Support for 18-25 year olds	LHS
Develop supports and improve planning and housing policy to ensure that young people leaving care will be able to access suitable accommodation and appropriate support to sustain tenancies.	DGC (CYPLL)
Case Studies and Personal Testimonies	
Crichton Care Campus	Crichton Development Company
Housing for veterans	
Telecare loop system	DGHP
	Loreburn Housing Association

Outcome 5 - the money available to people on Benefits and low wages is maximised

(key issues and groups: people in debt, maximise wage levels, promoting the Living Wage; care leavers, Carers and disabled people)

Indicators	source
Crisis grants processing time	DGC (Communities)
Number of days to process housing benefit (new claims)	DGC (Communities)
D&G average gross weekly pay	DGC (EEI)
Projects	
Increased promotion of the Living Wage	APS Action Plan
Development of Credit Unions	APS Action Plan
Increased provision of crisis payments and community care grants	APS Action Plan
Review social care charges, with a focus on fairness and starting with adults with disabilities	DGC (CYPLL)
Case Studies and Personal Testimonies	
Tackling personal debt	DAGCAS
Welfare advice in health settings	H&SCP

Outcome 6 People are safe and feel safe

(key issues child protection, domestic abuse, hate crime, substance misuse, bullying, health protection, home and road safety)

Indicators	source
% of children on the Child Protection Register for more than 36 weeks	CSP
% residents who feel safe in their local neighbourhood	DGC (Communities)
% detection rate for hate related crime	PS
Target perpetrators of domestic abuse and % detection rate	PS
number of drug deaths	RSP
number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads	RSP
number of accidental dwelling fires	PS
number of acquisitive crimes (housebreakings at residential properties)	
Projects	
Delivery of the Adult Protection Family Support Team Intervention Activities	APS Action Plan
Case Studies and Personal Testimonies	
Improving health screening arrangements for vulnerable people (bowel, breast, cervical)	H&SC Strategic Plan
Overcoming mental health issues to contribute	LGBT Youth

Outcome 7 People are well connected

(key issues and groups: affordable transport options for disabled people and isolated people; Broadband helping businesses; access to computers with assistance for isolated areas and people experiencing poverty)

Indicators	source
proportion of D&G residential and non-residential addresses that are able to access next generation broadband speeds greater than 24Mbps	DGC (EEI)
Projects	
Expand discounted travel	DGC (EEI)
Implementation of Active Travel Strategy	DGC (EEI)
Transform our customer experience and improve our digital offer	DGC (Communities)
Implement 'Cool2talk' interactive digital intervention to provide young people with access to digital health information and support	DGC (CYPLL)
Case Studies and Personal Testimonies	
Stewartry Isolation Partnership	H&SCP
Effective use of technology in health services	H&SCP
Public Social Partnership on social transport	TSD&G

Outcome 8 Individuals and communities are empowered

(key issues and groups: opportunities to contribute to you communities; people working with local organisations to improve services; having community voices heard; individuality of our region and diverse communities)

Indicators	source
% people who say 'I can influence decisions affecting my local area'	SHS
% young people and adults who report an improvement in their confidence, skills, individual, community family or working life following participation in youth work, lifelong learning and wellbeing activities	DGC (CYPLL)
Projects	
Independent advocacy having positive impact on health and wellbeing	H&SCP
Development of Participatory Budgeting	DGC (Communities)
Case Studies and Personal Testimonies	
Transforming Wigtownshire – co-production	H&SCP
Community Asset Transfer	DGC
Individuals in D&G who have gained confidence to play an active role in community or public life	DGMA (Charis) DGVoice (Michael)

Abbreviations

CSP – Children’s Services Plan

DGC – Dumfries and Galloway Council

CYPLL – Children Young People and Lifelong Learning

EI – Economy Environment and Infrastructure

APS - Anti-Poverty Strategy

H&SCP – Health and Social Care Strategic Plan

LHS – Local Housing Strategy

PS – Police Scotland

RSP – Road Safety Plan

TS, D&G – Third Sector, Dumfries and Galloway

LOCALITY PLAN DRAFT PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ANNUAL REPORT 1 APRIL 2018 – 31 MARCH 2019

Outcome 1: People are able to meet their own food needs

(Key groups – food share providers, families on low incomes, individuals on low incomes, supermarkets)

Indicators	
Fruit and vegetable consumption	SHS
Projects	
Community Food Growing Strategy	DGC (Communities)
Removal of pupil costs for Home Economics and Technical Subjects	DGC (CYPLL)
Case Studies/Personal Testimonies	Source
Cooking project	Action for Children
Food growing and cooking project	Rhubarb/Berry Fest KKDT
Food pricing in supermarkets	DAGCAS
Community Food Sharing Project	FareShare Upper Nithsdale Partnership – KKDT & BHC

Outcome 2: Support is available to people who need help with food where, when and how they need it.

(Key groups – food share providers, families on low incomes, individuals on low incomes, Revenues and Benefits Team, FIAT Team, DWP).

Projects	Source
Prepare both clients and all services and partners organisation to successfully manage the transition to Universal Credit	APS Action Plan
Implementation of the Welfare and Housing Options Support Project	APS Action Plan
Participate in 'A Menu for Change' initiative	DGC Communities
Extension of the Food in Schools Project to include holiday meals and during Study Support	DGC (CYPLL)
Delivery of the Better Eating, Better Learning Free Breakfast Clubs Project	DGC (CYPLL)
Contribute to 'Challenge Poverty Week' 2018	APS Action Plan

Indicators	
School Meals (uptake) based on school roll	DGC (CYPLL)
% of people worried about running out of food due to lack of money or resources during the previous 12 months	SHS
% people who eat less than you thought you should because of lack of money or resources	SHS
% of households that ran out of food because of a lack of money or other resources	SHS
Case Studies/Personal Testimonies	
Local food projects from across the region who are minimising the impact of food insecurity	SCVS (three churches)
Local food projects from across the region who are minimising the impact of food insecurity	Lewars Avenue Project-LCA
Provision of home cooked food and social connection	Meal Makers

Outcome 3: Involvement in food sharing helps with other aspects of people's lives

(Key groups – food share providers, families on low incomes, individuals on low incomes, lifelong learning and Employability and Skills Service).

Projects	Source
Delivery of Links to Work project (those involved in food projects)	DGC
Indicators	
<i>No of Volunteers</i>	<i>TSD&G</i>
Case Studies/Personal Testimonies	
<i>Volunteering with food related project</i>	Kate's Kitchen
Safe and secure access to wider support services	Fed up Café
Benefits of allotments/Community Gardens	Incredible Edibles – Contribution to Community Garden Projects Dalbeattie Allotments

Outcome4: Food sharing arrangements are as efficient and effective as possible

(Key groups – food share providers, families on low incomes, individuals on low incomes)

Case Studies/Personal Testimonies	Source
Participation in FareShare	North West Dumfries Umbrella Group and Stranraer Group
Insights into the benefits of projects decided through Participatory Budgeting (drawing on Performance Reports submitted to DGC Communities Committee)	

1. Situation

1.1 The Local Governance Review (LGR) was jointly launched in December 2017 by the Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) to consider how powers, responsibilities and resources are shared across national and local spheres of government, and with communities.

1.2 There are two strands to the LGR:

- (1) community level decision-making; and
- (2) public service governance.

Latest Developments

1.3 On 16 May 2019, the Scottish Government and COSLA published a [newsletter](#) advising of latest developments in the LGR. The newsletter provides links to a [joint statement](#) from Aileen Campbell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government and Cllr Alison Evison, COSLA President setting out their vision for the next stage of the Review; and links to two reports detailing what was learned during the first engagement phase of the LGR.

2. Strand 1: Community level decision-making

2.1 This Strand focuses on communities and is called 'Democracy Matters' (DM).

2.2 The Scottish Government and COSLA have published a 42 page [analysis of responses](#) to DM.

Public engagement

2.3 There were five DM questions to support people to have discussions in their community:

- Tell us about your experiences of getting involved in decision-making processes that affect your local community or community of interest?
- Would you like your local community or community of interest to have more control over some decisions? If yes, what sorts of issues would those decisions cover?
- When thinking about decision-making, 'local' could mean a large town, a village, or a neighbourhood. What does 'local' mean to you and your community?
- Are there existing forms of decision-making which could play a part in exercising new local powers? Are there new forms of local decision-making that could work well? What kinds of changes might be needed for this to work in practice?
- Do you have any other comments, ideas or questions? Is there more you want to know?

The analysis

2.4 There were 334 submissions to DM: 127 submissions from community conversations, 161 submissions from individuals and 46 submissions from organisations. In addition, 226 people attended regional events.

2.5 The COSLA and Scottish Government analysis estimates that 4,240 people from a very diverse cross-section of communities in Scotland took part in DM.

2.6 The analysis sets out, in broad terms, people's experiences of local decision-making:

Positive experiences

- Political action and protesting
- Making their voices heard and influencing
- Being directly involved and taking decisions

Negative experiences

- Poor communication
- Tokenistic engagement
- Lack of representation
- Inability to effect change/inaction
- Unwelcoming structures

Recurring themes about the barriers that prevent people getting involved in local decision-making

- Lack of information
- Complexity
- Accessibility
- Lack of support for engagement
- Style of participation

2.7 The analysis states that 'the clear evidence from the submissions [to DM] is that people do want to have more control of decisions on issues that matter to them'.

2.8 Responses from communities identified a range of changes to how they are involved in local decisions:

- To be treated better by public authorities
- To be better connected
- To be able to participate in decisions about their community
- For decisions that affect their community to be based on

knowledge and experience, and for those decisions to lead to action to improve their lives

Changes needed to enable decision-making at community level

2.9 The submissions identified a range of measures for better community involvement in, or control over, decisions:

- Knowledge and education about people's rights and responsibilities as citizens, information about how (and which) public authorities take decisions that affect their communities, and information about how they can get involved in decisions
- Practical training and organisational development for community groups and organisations to enable them to take on more responsibility
- Greater influence over decisions made by public authorities and the means to hold those authorities better to account for those decisions
- Community participation in/membership of existing decision-making institutions/structures (e.g. area committees, local community planning groups)
- New structures of community governance: either changing the functions and/authority of existing community organisations such as community councils, or development trusts, or community-run housing associations; or designing completely new structures at the community level

3. Strand 2: Public service governance

3.1 This Strand focuses on public service governance and the 22 page Scottish Government, COSLA and Improvement Service [report](#) summarises the responses to this element of the LGR consultation.

The analysis

3.2 There were 44 submissions, including 20 from Local Authorities and 6 from Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs). The latter included a response from the Dumfries and Galloway CPP Board informed by its member organisations, including our Council.

3.3 The following main themes were identified across responses:

- One size does not fit all
 - The current landscape is complex
 - The LGR presents opportunities to amend legislation to facilitate better local governance and partnership working
 - There should be a continued focus on engagement and capacity building with local communities; proper funding from Scottish Government is required to support this
 - Some communities do not necessarily want control/responsibility, but generally wish to have greater influence on decision-making
 - Structural change, changes to governance or empowerment of communities need additional Scottish Government funding and/or greater fiscal control on raising revenue given
 - Progress is constrained by short term budgets; there is not always alignment of budgeting across partnership organisations
- Too much of Local Authority budgets are ring-fenced which constrains innovation and flexibility. Fiscal autonomy is key for meaningful local decision-making
 - Too much centralised decision-making
 - There are opportunities to build on CPP arrangements or develop single or integrated Public Authority models
 - Shared data and evidence/open data is key
 - There is Local Authority appetite for the adoption of the European Charter
 - There is Local Authority appetite to replace the Power to Advance Wellbeing with a Power of General Competence
 - The role of Community Councils should be reviewed
 - Consideration needed about 'place' for service delivery

3.4 Other comments to the consultation included:

- Importance of leadership capacity
- Representation
- National work delivered locally
- Christie Commission principles for public service reform should be followed
- Internal systems
- Community Wealth building
- Technology and engagement
- Cities
- Inclusive growth
- Economic Policy
- Inputs versus Outcomes
- Democratic Accountability
- Participative democracy versus representative democracy
- Future Proofing

3.5 The responses also identified issues for particular sectors e.g. transport, health, the cities, and community justice.

3. Assessment

3.1 Dumfries and Galloway CPP Board's response to Strand 2 of the LGR covered budget planning across public services; delivery of national strategies locally; enhancing engagement and empowerment at a local level; informed evidence-based decision making; local accountability for national organisations; and a review of challenges for our region linked to travel, housing and access to learning.

3.2 Most of the issues in our local response appear to be reflected in the summary report. The Council's Policy Officers will consider all of the main issues in the report and assess alignment/fit with the Dumfries and Galloway response to identify any additional important/pertinent matters

raised that the Council could consider and, similarly, any significant matters that we have expressed in our response that the summary report has not picked up.

4. Next Steps

The information in these published reports will guide the Scottish Government as to what needs to happen next. This will involve Scottish Government coming back out to communities across Scotland 'to test new arrangements which put communities in control'. There will be no legislation within this parliamentary term.

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BUSINESS UPDATE – JUNE 2019

1. Background

This Briefing provides an update on recent developments and since the last meeting of the Board on 15 March 2019.

2. Key issues

2.1 Membership

2.1.1 The new Third Sector representatives have been agreed as the Chair Iain Boddy and Vice Chair Helen Keron of Third Sector, Dumfries and Galloway Board.

2.1.2 The Local Senior Officer for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Hamish McGhie, is retiring on 1 July 2019 with his replacement being Craig McGoldrick.

2.1.3 The Private Sector representative was considered at the Economic Leadership Group meeting on 30 May 2019, and the new Chair, Sheena Horner, was appointed.

2.1.4 Community Council representative – five Community Council Gatherings took place in March - May 2019, with one of the topics being their preferred approach to identifying a Community Councillor to take up the one community representative place on the CPP Board. There was strong support overall for their involvement; two of the Gatherings proposed that should be more than one representative (either two or four) given the large size of our region, although this perhaps is because there is not a full appreciation that their role at the Board is strategic rather than geographic representation; and their preferred methodology was to invite expressions of interest then have an election. It is intended that this would be postal voting and held after the Community Council Elections in October 2019.

2.2 Review of Locality Partnerships

The background work on the locality partnerships has now been completed, and lists of local eligible organisations for each area are available. The Third Sector Area Local Partnerships are now well established, along with the Third Sector Roadshows. Engagement can therefore now be arranged. The emerging agenda on “place” and locality planning will be picked up during this next stage.

2.3 Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) and Locality Plan on Food Sharing – Annual Report 2018/19 Performance Management Frameworks

2.3.1 The LOIP Development Group met on 14 May 2019 and agreed the outline Performance Management Framework (**Appendix 1**). The draft Annual Report will be presented to stakeholders and the Community Planning Executive Group before being submitted for agreement to this Board on 15 September 2019.

2.3.2 The Locality Plan officers met on 31 May 2019 and agreed the outline Performance Management Framework (**Appendix 2**). The draft Annual Report will be presented to stakeholders and the Community Planning Executive Group before being submitted for agreement to this Board on 15 September 2019.

2.4 Community Planning Improvement Board

2.4.1 A new national group has been established to provide improvement service for community planning in Scotland through three main roles:

- Evidence
- Collaboration
- Tailored support and capacity building

2.4.2 It is chaired by Steve Grimmond (Chief Executive of Fife Council) and has members drawn from NHS, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Government, Skills Development Scotland, Audit Scotland, EVOG, What Works Scotland and the Scottish Community Planning Network.

2.4.3 The Workplan is currently in development, with consultation sessions having taken place with Community Planning Managers.

2.4.4 Further information including Community Planning Improvement Board meeting papers, are available at <http://www.improvementservice.org.uk/cpib.html>

2.5 Local Governance Review

The Local Governance Review has recently reached a milestone with the publication of the results of the consultation. A Briefing is attached as **Appendix 3** with key messages about changes needed to enable decision-making at community level; and public service governance. A key message is in section 3.2 which indicates that most of the issues in our CPP submission have been reflected in the Report, and that work is ongoing to identify specific activity required of local partners.

3. Recommendations

The Board is invited to:

- 3.1 note the position of the issues in this report including those being dealt with by the Executive Group;
- 3.2 agree the number of community representatives on the Board as highlighted at paragraph 2.1.4; and
- 3.2 agree the performance Management Frameworks for the LOIP and the Locality Plan for the 2018/19 Annual Reports as set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2

Liz Manson, Community Planning and Engagement Manager
10 June 2019

Appendices – 3

Appendix 1 – draft LOIP Annual Report PMF

Appendix 2 – draft Locality Plan Annual report PMF

Appendix 3 0 Briefing on the Local Governance Review
