

Dumfries and Galloway

Local Outcomes Improvement Plan



2023-2033

Dumfries &

Galloway

Together is
Better

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Foreword

The Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Partnership is delighted to introduce our new Local Outcomes Improvement Plan covering the period 2023-2033.

Following a scheduled mid-term review of our previous Plan which was due to run from 2017-2027, this new Plan has taken into account the significant global issues which have affected our communities over the last few years including Brexit, the Covid-19 Pandemic, the war in Ukraine and most recently the Cost of Living crisis.

Through our Statutory duties outlined in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, this Plan aims to bring Community Planning Partners closer together than ever before, committing to a refreshed and strengthened vision over the next 10 years; and uniting our collective resources and efforts around a number of focused priority areas aimed at tackling inequalities within our communities.

In addition to this, Community Planning Partners will embrace their role as Anchor Organisations, embed the importance of "Place" in Service planning and work with our communities to develop our approaches to Community Wealth Building.

Connecting across three high level themes of "Health and Wellbeing"; "Work"; and "Where We Live" we have identified 12 Outcome areas and a set of four underpinning principles set within the context of our new vision as follows:

*Our vision is simple:
"Working in partnership
to ensure a confident,
ambitious, healthy and
fairer Dumfries and
Galloway for everyone
who lives and works here."*

Our Community Planning Partners are fully committed to working together with our communities to ensure that we can make a real difference to people's lives through the implementation of this new Plan.

Councillor Gail MacGregor
Council Leader

Nick Morris
Chair NHS Board

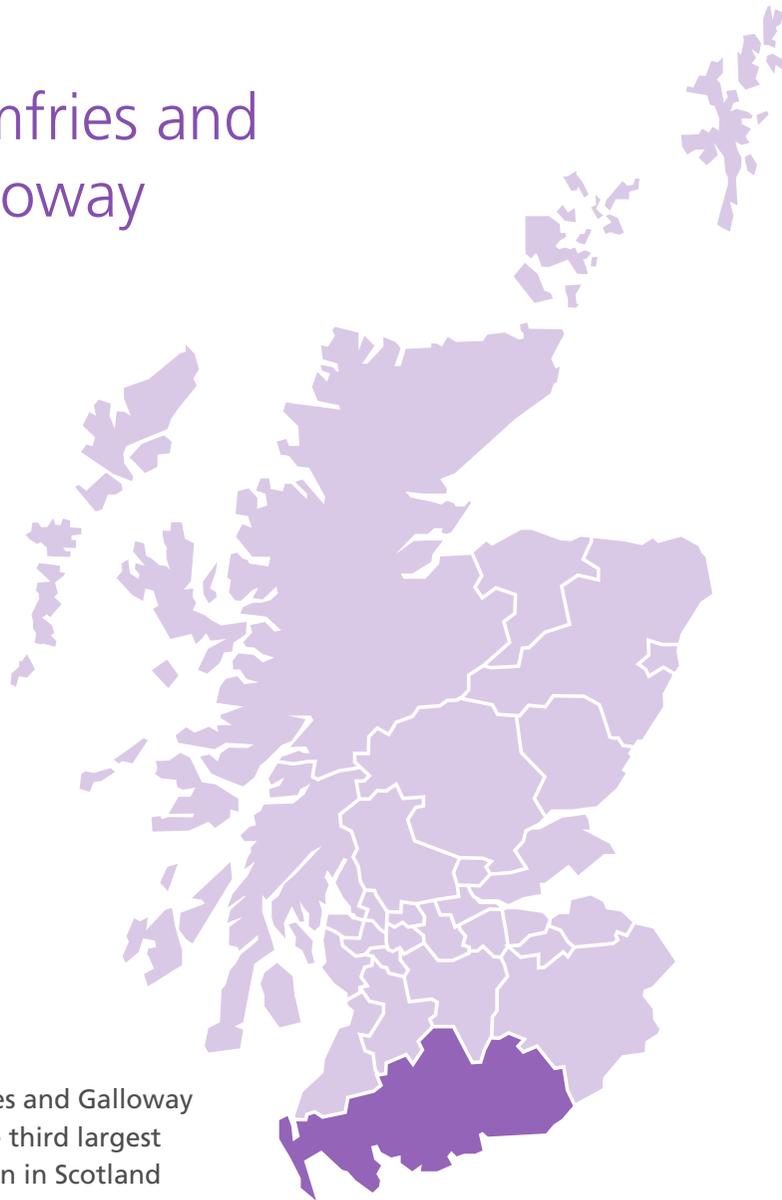
(Co-Chairs of the Community Planning Partnership Board)

Background to Our Region

Dumfries and Galloway is one of the most rural Community Planning Partnership areas within Scotland and defined by its culture, heritage, friendly people, beautiful scenery and coastlines.

Our population of 148,790 is dispersed across a mix of rural and urban settings and is expected to reduce by 2.83% by 2028 to 144,575.

Dumfries and Galloway



Dumfries and Galloway is the third largest region in Scotland with an area of **6,426km²**

There are **70,000** households in our region



Our largest settlements are



Stranraer
13,000

Dumfries
48,000

Annan
9,080

Our population numbers are forecast to decline



2021
148,790

2028
144,575

Change
-2.83%



26.3%
of the population
are 65 and over



24.1%
of the population
are 24 and under



The average age of
the population is
46 years old
(UK 40, Scotland 42)

Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning operating context

- working with and supporting our Communities

A community planning approach was at the heart of Dumfries and Galloway's response to Covid-19, with partners' working closely together and sharing resources and intelligence to ensure that those most severely affected were able to receive the support they needed as a priority.

This collaborative approach led to relationships being strengthened with our local Third Sector partners, particularly around the co-ordination and deployment of volunteers, food sharing approaches, medicine and other essential supplies.

This was further enhanced through focused support to help tackle digital exclusion with devices being issued along with digital skills support being provided to help combat both rural and social isolation.

The strong foundations laid over the last few years is now proving integral to further developing relationships and a shared understanding with the Third Sector and our communities around the key challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Our focus will be on developing a well-being economy in partnership with our communities, where people and the planet are put at the heart. We aim to:

- Support our Communities to thrive;
- Address sector priority workforce shortages and skills;
- Tackle inequalities and the longer-term mental, physical health and wellbeing issues which have affected our communities;
- Improve digital and transport connectivity;



- Tackle climate change; and
- Help build capacity and resilience within our communities.

As part of our Community Planning approach within Dumfries and Galloway, our Poverty and Inequalities Partnership is key in bringing together partners to tackle the root causes of poverty; sharing resources and expertise; learning from lived experience; targeting support at our most vulnerable and being recognised as the single place for our partnership response to the Cost of Living Crisis and this is a critical part of our Community Planning model going forward. Our Employability and Skills Partnership complements this work by actively supporting people into employability and therefore increasing household incomes to help combat poverty.

Community Planning Partners are embracing the concept of Place Planning by adopting a bottom-up approach using community engagement and involvement to help improve local services and population health outcomes. We also wish to capitalise on local and national investment opportunities through the adoption of a Community Wealth Building approach .

How have we developed our new Plan?

A planned mid-term review of our LOIP and Locality Plan arrangements also incorporated a refresh of our existing Community Planning Operating Model.

This has led to the membership of our Community Planning Board being revised along with a new Community Planning Senior Leadership Team being established to help drive forward our new LOIP priorities and embed our Locality Planning approach. An area-based Locality Hub model will also help support a bottom up, evidenced-based approach to Community Planning led by Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway in partnership with a range of key Community Planning Partners.

Over the last few years our communities have been engaged in a wide range of community consultation exercises in relation to the development of new Plans/Strategies which contribute to our LOIP along with refreshed Strategic Needs Assessments being undertaken in relation to health and social care and children and young people.

The second edition of the “10,000 voices” consultation with young people was completed in the first part of 2023 using the Place Standard Tool and has provided a rich source of intelligence to help identify key trends and issues. The exercise itself captured the voices of 10,828 (51.7%) all young people across the region (ages 10-25) and therefore is of significant importance in helping to inform our priority actions for the future.



A main consideration in developing our new LOIP has therefore been to ensure that the key messages from recent consultations, evaluative reports and engagement exercises have informed our new Themes, Outcomes and key actions and this has included consideration of the following:

Impact of Covid-19 on Young People	South of Scotland Third Sector: A Partnership Approach to Covid-19 Response and Recovery Planning
Health and Social Care Strategic Needs Assessment 2018	Development of the South of Scotland Economic Strategy 2021-2031
Development of the Health and Social Care Strategic Commissioning Plan 2022-2025	Children and Young People’s Strategic Needs Assessment 2022/23
Development of CLD Partners’ Plan 2021-2024	Development of a new Local Employability Partnership Delivery Plan 2022-2027
Evaluation of the Dumfries and Galloway Council Anti-Poverty Strategy 2015-2020 and development of future arrangements for tackling Poverty and Inequalities	Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway Digital Exclusion Research 2022
Development of a new Dumfries and Galloway Council Plan 2023 - 2028	10,000 voices engagement with young people 2023
Right Care, Right Place – January 2023 (Dumfries and Galloway Health and Social Care Partnership)	Development of localised data profiles (Public Health Scotland and NHS Dumfries and Galloway – 2023)
Focused stakeholder engagement, surveys and partner workshops which took place during 2022/23.	



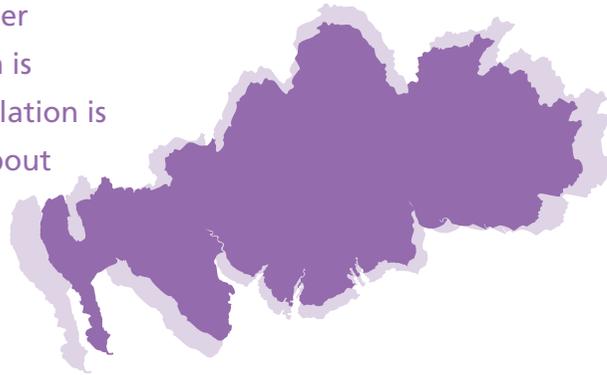
Key Messages for our Community Planning Partnership to Consider

Our intelligence and data that we have considered and assessed to help inform our LOIP tells us the following:

Population

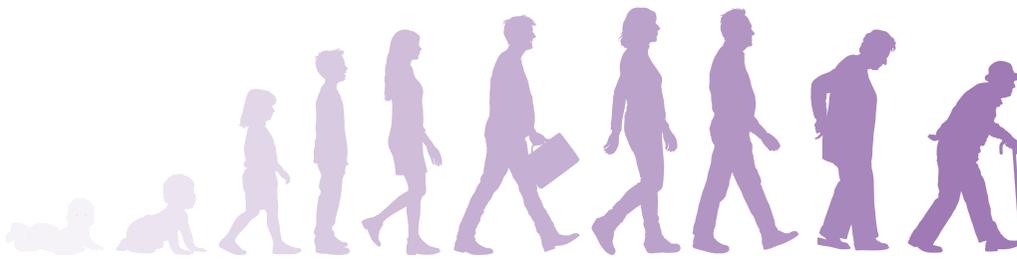
While the fraction of older people in the population is going to grow, the population is projected to shrink by about

10,000 people in 20 years.



1 in 3 - 48,500 people

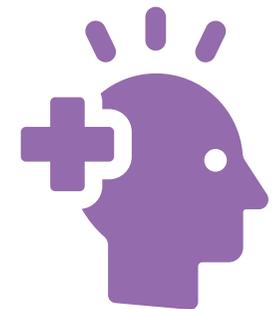
(32% of the population) reported having at least 1 long term health condition that impacted on their day to day lives. Approximately 12,600 people reported having 2 or more long term health conditions.



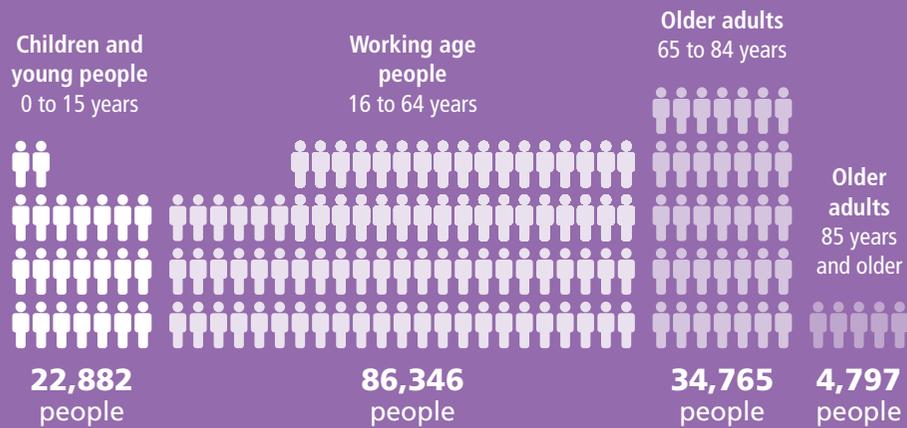
Most people who live in the region are adults and over a quarter of the population is aged 65 and over.

People living in Dumfries and Galloway tend to be older, with an average age of 49.6 years, compared to Scotland's 42 years.

14% of people aged 16+ reported experiencing common mental health problems



Population Age Profile



24% of the population are living in accessible rural areas/ 20% of population living in remote rural areas



Growing our working age population and increasing opportunities for our young people are key priorities.

55.1% of our young people aged 10-25 plan to leave the region for travel, study or work, however 25.1% plan to return to the region in the future.



14,995 people identified as unpaid Carers (10% of the population)

Life Expectancy and Health Inequalities



Life expectancy is decreasing from what it is was around 10 years ago.



Drug related deaths reached their highest figure in 2022 (37) though there is a very recent indication that this is beginning to fall.



Child poverty within Dumfries and Galloway sits at 26% for 2021/22 with more than 1 in 4 children regarded as living in poverty. This is 1.5% higher than the national average.



Death and disease have a social pattern, with people living in the most deprived areas suffering more as compared to those living in the least deprived areas.



People living in the most deprived areas are around 3 times more likely to be admitted to hospital for alcohol-related problems. Alcohol-specific deaths have increased by 44%, from 25 in 2021 to 36 in 2022.

Work and Economy



24,500 people 29% (3 out of 10 working age people in Dumfries and Galloway Council could participate in employability)



28% of people aged between 16 and 64 living in Dumfries and Galloway are economically inactive (i.e. they are not obtaining earnings through work)



2,700 unemployed, 5,900 economically inactive who want a job



By 2043 – For every 10 working age people, 9 will be non-working



The number of people who are of working age is expected to shrink by 13% by 2043



Those aged 75 and over will increase by 58%



Motivation highlighted as a key barrier to engaging digitally across all age groups.

Health and Social Care (HSC)



Demand for HSC services to increase by 20% over the next 20 years



Largest increases in ill health will occur amongst people aged 65-84 years old



A 35% increase in HSC resource needed by 2043



The number of older people living alone is expected to go up from 7,500 in 2019 to almost 10,000 by 2029, and then to around 12,000 by 2037.

Education and Learning



Primary school data shows attainment levels improved in both numeracy and literacy in 2021/22 compared to 2020/21 but have not yet returned to the levels pre-Covid



Annual Participation measure 2022 – 5622 (93.3%) of 16-19 year olds in Dumfries and Galloway were participating in education, employment or training and personal development (increase of 0.2%) from 2021



Positive destinations - The number of young people moving into an initial positive destination has increased by 1.9% year on year to 94.6%. This has been driven by a 9.6% increase in those entering employment. This compared to 95.5% nationally. At the follow up snapshot 94.4% were still in a positive destination compared to 93.2% nationally



Key Messages from the 10,000 Voices Consultation with Young People - 2023

Top 5 issues affecting young people		Top 5 issues which young people want more information on
Smoking/vaping	1	Mental Health
Diet/body image	2	Smoking/vaping
Mental Health	3	Diet/Body image
Bullying	4	Money/budgeting/ Cost of Living
Money/Budgeting/ Cost of Living	5	Bullying



Our Vision, Priorities and Principles 2023-2033

VISION

“Our vision is simple: working in partnership to ensure a confident, ambitious, healthy and fairer Dumfries and Galloway for everyone who lives and works here.”

OUR PRIORITIES

- Health and Wellbeing** Community Planning Partners will target their resources on tackling poverty and improving the health and wellbeing of our communities
- Work** Community Planning Partners will help to build a sustainable and skilled workforce to deliver a wellbeing economy and promote Dumfries and Galloway as an attractive visitor destination
- Where We Live** Community Planning Partners will focus on place; listen to our local communities; improve connectivity; and help tackle key local issues

UNDERPINNING PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Empowering Communities
- ▶ Embracing and embedding Place Planning approaches
- ▶ Working with our communities to build local community capacity, skills and resilience
- ▶ Developing the status of Community Planning Partners as Anchor Organisations and embedding a Community Wealth Building approach
- ▶ Early Intervention and Prevention

Our Outcomes

THEME 1 – HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Help mitigate the impacts of the Cost of Living for those who are affected most	Reduce health inequalities in the areas of our region which experience the greatest negative impacts	Improve the health and wellbeing of our citizens through targeted approaches	Work together as partners to eliminate child poverty
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THEME 2 - WORK

Grow and maximise the potential of the working age population to help increase employability	Address the skills and recruitment gaps in key sector specific posts to increase capacity, capabilities and ease workforce pressures	Increase volunteering opportunities to help develop skills, build capacity and support progression into local employability	Work with our local communities to develop an inclusive, thriving economy and to promote Fair Work
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THEME 3 – WHERE WE LIVE

Capitalise on opportunities to collaborate digitally and eliminate digital exclusion	Improve transport connectivity across our region to increase opportunities to access employment, education and leisure, particularly in our most rural areas	Work with our communities to help reduce carbon emissions and positively combat Climate Change through education, behavioural change and supporting initiatives which will make a positive difference	Develop high quality, affordable homes to help meet identified demand and improve the quality of lives of our communities
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A Community Planning action plan will be developed through partners and which will focus on a small number of key actions and the “added value” that can be achieved through Community Planning Partners working closer together and prioritising resources. These actions will be changeable over the lifetime of the Plan and driven by the Community Planning Senior Leadership Team

New Model For Community Planning In Dumfries and Galloway



Our Key Thematic Partnerships and Working Groups



Our Locality Plan Approach

Our previous Locality Plan approach was focused around Foodsharing and this has been integral in supporting our communities through Covid Recovery, with the supporting networks which have been strengthened as a result of this approach being vital in helping to mitigate the impacts of the Cost of Living.

Looking forward over the next phase of our Community Planning Locality Plans, the Place Planning Partnership has considered the current local and national landscape and wish to ensure that there is a true Community Planning collaborative approach adopted across Partners and with our communities around the key areas of:

- Utilisation of local data and intelligence
- Locality Plans (tailored Plans aimed at addressing inequalities in specific areas of our region)
- Local Place Plans (as per the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019)
- Borderlands Place Plans as per the Borderlands Growth Deal
- Places for Wellbeing Programme
- Community Wealth Building and the role of Anchor Organisations
- Community/Action Plans



We are therefore keen to ensure that we avoid duplication/overlap and streamline our processes wherever possible and maximise effort and impact. Through the assessment and consideration of current data and intelligence we have identified the following areas within Dumfries and Galloway which experience some of the greatest inequalities and which would benefit from more focused attention and prioritisation:

Lochside and Lincluden

Upper Nithsdale

Dumfries Central

Stranraer East

Summerville

Annan West

Annan East

Stranraer West



Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal

The Borderlands Partnership exists to unlock the potential for sustainable and inclusive economic growth across the South of Scotland and North of England.

The Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal is a cohesive and integrated investment package with a balance between high profile place-based projects and Borderlands-wide investment programmes that respond to the rural nature of the region. It involves an extensive programme of investment to deliver significant economic benefit for our communities and businesses.

The deal aims to tackle three key socio-economic challenges to help deliver inclusive growth:

Narrowing the
Productivity Gap

Increasing the
Working Population

Achieving
Inclusive Growth

Through £50M worth of UK and Scotland Government Grants, the Place Programme “will support the development and renewal of Towns across the Borderlands Region and is core to our Improving Places Theme” and supporting place-based growth through a series of Place and Town Investment Plans. For Dumfries and Galloway, the Towns identified as part of the programme are detailed as follows:

- ▶ **Gretna**
- ▶ **Kirkcubbin**
- ▶ **Stranraer**
- ▶ **Whithorn**
- ▶ **Wigtown**



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Community Wealth Building and the Role of Our Anchor Organisations

Community Wealth Building is essentially a people-centred and placed-based approach which is gaining traction across Scotland and the wider UK. Like all place-based approaches it seeks to reduce inequality and enhance wellbeing, specifically seeking to take a proactive approach to supporting local inclusive economies. It is built upon the concept of creating a fairer, more socially just economy.

Key to the approach of Community Wealth Building is the role of 'Anchor Organisations'. These are large public, commercial and social sector organisations which have a significant stake in a place. Anchors can exert sizeable influence by adopting strategies which impact upon economic, social and environmental priorities, generating what is commonly referred to as social value.

With this in mind Community Wealth Building approaches should be a key driver and at the centre of all our local strategies and plans.



This approach will ensure fairness and equity underpins everything we do; that we are able to support our people and communities to build resilience; and the outcomes we achieve have real impact on our communities.

Our Community Planning Partnership have recognised and are embracing the opportunities that can be realised through supporting Community Wealth Building approaches across our region and this will be a key focus for Partnership through the implementation of this Plan.

Community Wealth Building

- Empowers local communities to take control
- Making the most of local assets(land and property)
- Re-invests in local economy
- Secure and fair work



Wellbeing Economy

- Designed with people and the planet at its heart
- Fairness
- Ensures basic needs are met
- Sustainable development
- Everyone benefits

Our Locality Planning Model



Links to the National Performance Framework

Dumfries and Galloway LOIP Outcomes	National Performance Framework Outcomes										
	Entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy	Open and connected	Tackle poverty, share wealth and power more equally	Inclusive empowered, resilient and safe	Loved, safe and respected	Well educated and skilled	Thriving and innovative businesses, quality and fair work	Healthy and active	Value, enjoy and protect our environment	Creative, vibrant and diverse cultures	Human rights and free from discrimination
1 Help mitigate the impacts of the Cost of Living for those who are affected most	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			
2 Reduce health inequalities in the areas of our region which experience the greatest negative impacts	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
3 Improve the health and wellbeing of our citizens through targeted approaches				✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
4 Work together as partners to eliminate child poverty			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
5 Grow and maximise the potential of the working age population to help increase employability	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
6 Address the skills and recruitment gaps in key sector specific posts to increase capacity, capabilities and ease workforce pressures	✓					✓	✓			✓	✓

Dumfries and Galloway LOIP Outcomes	National Performance Framework Outcomes										
	Entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy	Open and connected	Tackle poverty, share wealth and power more equally	Inclusive empowered, resilient and safe	Loved, safe and respected	Well educated and skilled	Thriving and innovative businesses, quality and fair work	Healthy and active	Value, enjoy and protect our environment	Creative, vibrant and diverse cultures	Human rights and free from discrimination
7 Increase volunteering opportunities to help develop skills, build capacity and support progression into local employability				✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
8 Work with our local communities to develop an inclusive, thriving economy and to promote Fair Work	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
9 Capitalise on opportunities to collaborate digitally and eliminate digital exclusion		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
10 Improve transport connectivity across our region to increase opportunities to access employment, education and leisure, particularly in our most rural areas	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			

Dumfries and Galloway LOIP Outcomes	National Performance Framework Outcomes										
	Entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy	Open and connected	Tackle poverty, share wealth and power more equally	Inclusive empowered, resilient and safe	Loved, safe and respected	Well educated and skilled	Thriving and innovative businesses, quality and fair work	Healthy and active	Value, enjoy and protect our environment	Creative, vibrant and diverse cultures	Human rights and free from discrimination
11 Work with our communities to help reduce Carbon Emissions and positively combat Climate Change through education, behavioural change and supporting initiatives which will make a positive difference	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
12 Develop high quality, affordable homes to help meet identified demand and improve the quality of lives of our communities	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

Glossary of Terms

Community Wealth Building	A term used to describe economic growth in local communities via large organisations such as Councils, NHS, Colleges, Housing Associations, etc, to help attract investment, make best use of local assets such as property and land and deliver more and better jobs. The term is also used as a synonym for the term “circular economy” to describe how community wealth is retained and recycled through preferential use of local suppliers of goods and services.
Wellbeing economy	An economic approach/ system that prioritises wellbeing, emphasising happiness, health, social cohesion and the environment along with more traditional outcomes such as Gross Domestic Product. There is also a focus on the environment and the planet and making economic decisions with the future in mind.
Place Planning	A community- led approach where local groups via wide community engagement develop a plan to describe local needs and aspirations. Local authorities and partners support the community to develop ideas, build capacity and secure future investment and resources towards implementation.
Community Empowerment	Communities are given more opportunities to have greater control and involvement over situations and decisions that affect their local area and are supported to become more self- reliant and independent.
Community Engagement	Facilitating opportunities for communities to have their say on key issues that matter to them, to be listened to, to influence decision makers and feel like they have contributed to making a positive difference.
Anchor Organisations	Key institutions or organisations within a community that serve as a foundation and catalyst for growth/ positive change. An anchor can lever its resources, expertise and relationships to provide stability, leadership and drive positive innovation. An example of this is how assets and land can be used to benefit local communities.
Capacity Building	Increasing knowledge, skills, confidence and capabilities to do more as opposed to relying on others.
Shaping Places for Wellbeing	“Shaping places for wellbeing” refers to the purposeful design and planning of physical and social environments in a manner that promotes and enhances the overall health, happiness, and quality of life of individuals and communities.
Borderlands	An investment deal involving Dumfries and Galloway Council, Carlisle City Council, Cumbria County Council, Scottish Borders Council and Northumberland County Council which aims to increase sustainable and inclusive growth.
SIMD (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation)	A statistical tool used to compare communities across a range of factors including health, education, housing, employment and a range of other measures and helps to identify those communities experiencing the greatest challenges and inequalities.