



Dear Member

South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Board

You are requested to attend a meeting of the above Board to be held as follows:-

Date: Wednesday, 15 September 2021
Time: 13:00
Venue: By Microsoft Teams,

The business to be considered at the meeting is listed overleaf.

Members

Councillor Maureen Chalmers
Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive
Paul Manning, Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources
Rhonda Leith, Community Engagement Manager, Finance and Corporate Resources
David Booth, General Manager, **South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture**
Heather Knox, Chief Executive, **NHS Lanarkshire**
Neena Mahal, Chair, **NHS Lanarkshire Board**
Gabe Docherty, Director of Public Health, **NHS Lanarkshire**
John Binning, Principal Policy Officer, **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport**
Stephen Wright, Area Manager, **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**
Alan Waddell, Chief Superintendent, **Police Scotland**
Soumen Sengupta, Director, **Health and Social Care Partnership**
Vacant, Non Executive Board Member, **Health and Social Care Partnership**
Steven Sweeney, Chief Executive, **VASLan**
Theresa Correia, Senior Manager, West Region, **Scottish Enterprise**
Clare Hicks, Local Director for South Lanarkshire, **Scottish Government**
Shona Mitchell, Head of Operations, South West, **Scottish Enterprise**
Elizabeth O'Reilly, Head of Campus Services, **University of the West of Scotland**
Andy Aird, Regional Chair Scotland, **Federation of Small Businesses**

BUSINESS

- 1 **Declaration of Interests**
- 2 **Note of Previous Meeting** 5 - 12
Note of the meeting of the Partnership Board held on 24 June 2021 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached).

Monitoring Item(s)

- 3 **Community Planning Budget and Expenditure Report (to 9 July 2021 – Period 4)** 13 - 16
Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)

Item(s) for Decision

- 4 **Lived Experience Fund Feedback** 17 - 54
Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 5 **Strategic Commissioning Plan 2022-2025**
Presentation by Craig Cunningham, Head of Commissioning and Performance, Health and Social Care Partnership
- 6 **Community Plan Quarter 4 Progress Report 2020-21 and Annual Outcome Improvement Report** 55 - 220
Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 7 **Community Planning Review and New Community Plan Progress Update** 221 - 226
Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 8 **Community Planning Partnership Board Development Sessions – Communities of Interest and Sustainable Development and Climate Change Updates** 227 - 230
Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)

Item(s) for Noting

- 9 **Annual Review of the South Lanarkshire Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2020-21** 231 - 286
Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 10 **Community Wealth Building** 287 - 288
Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)

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| 11 Local Child Poverty Action Report 2020-21 | 289 - 348 |
| Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached) | |
| 12 Local Child Poverty – Examples of Policy and Practice | 349 - 418 |
| Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached) | |
| 13 Welfare Services Support for Households 2020-21 | 419 - 430 |
| Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached) | |
| 14 If Not Now, When – Social Renewal Advisory Board Report and Recommendations and Community Planning Partnership Actions | 431 - 452 |
| Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached) | |
| 15 Community Planning Partnership Risk Register Update | 453 - 462 |
| Report dated 18 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached) | |
| 16 South Lanarkshire Register of Information Report | 463 - 466 |
| Report dated 17 August 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached). | |
| 17 Date of Next Meeting | |
| Thursday 2 December 2021 | |

Any Other Competent Business

- 18 Any Other Competent Business**
Any other items of business which the Chair decides is competent.

For further information, please contact:-

Clerk Name: Helen Calley

Clerk Telephone: 01698 454185

Clerk Email: helen.calley@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Note of meeting held by Microsoft Teams on 24 June 2021

Chair:

Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Depute Leader, South Lanarkshire Council

Partners Present:

A Aird, Regional Chair Scotland, Federation of Small Businesses
D Booth, General Manager, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture
B Cameron, Area Manager, Skills Development Scotland
A Comrie, Senior Transport Planner, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
T Correia, Senior Manager, West Region, Scottish Enterprise
C Hicks, Local Director for South Lanarkshire, Scottish Government
H Knox, Chief Executive, NHS Lanarkshire
R Leith, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council
N Mahal, Chair, NHS Lanarkshire Board
P Manning, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council
E O'Reilly, Head of Campus, University of the West of Scotland
E Paterson, Community Planning and Governance Officer, South Lanarkshire Council
N Reid, Improvement and Community Planning Manager, Finance and Corporate Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
S Sweeney, Chief Executive, VASLan
C Sneddon, Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
A Waddell, Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland
S Wright, Area Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Also attending:

S Dunsmore, Insurance and Risk Adviser, Finance and Corporate Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
L Hinshelwood, Sustainable Development Officer, South Lanarkshire Council
S Keating, Economic Development Manager, Community and Enterprise Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
G McCracken, Team Leader, Community and Enterprise Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
J Miller, Operations Manager, Health Valleys
I Ross, Project Manager, Community and Enterprise Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
T Slater, Administrative Adviser, Finance and Corporate Resources, South Lanarkshire Council

Apologies:

G Docherty, Interim Director of Public Health, NHS Lanarkshire
H Mathieson, Head of Region, South West, Skills Development Scotland
A Murray, Community Planning and Governance Adviser, South Lanarkshire Council

Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed Andy Aird, Federation of Small Businesses, Theresa Correia, Scottish Enterprise and Stephen Wright, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services to their first meeting of the Board.

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Note of Previous Meeting

The note of the meeting of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Board held on 3 March 2021 was submitted for approval as a correct record.

Outcome(s): Note of meeting approved as a correct record.

3 Community Planning Budget and Expenditure Report

A report dated 3 June 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) budget and expenditure at 31 March 2021 (Period 14).

The CPP budget for 2020/2021 was £67,883 and total expenditure as at 31 March 2021 (Period 14) was £28,189.31, with a further £34,670 being carried forward to 2021/2022, as previously agreed by the Board. The anticipated closing balance to be carried forward to 2021/2021 was £39,694, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

The CPP budget for 2021/2022 was £88,044. As at the end of Period 2, there was no expenditure, although totals had been adjusted to reflect proposed expenditure, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report. Arrangements would be made for Partners to be invoiced for their annual contribution to the CPP budget.

An update was provided on the Community Development Officer post, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report, and it was proposed to extend this contract for a period of 1 year. The cost of extending this contract was estimated at £41,731 (excluding any pay awards).

An update on the CCP budget 2020/2021 would be provided at the next Board meeting.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Proposed budget for 2021/2022, as detailed at Appendix 2 to the report, approved.
 - (2) Arrangements to invoice Partners for their annual contribution to the CPP budget noted.
 - (3) Update on Community Planning Development Officer post, as detailed at Appendix 3 to the report, noted.
 - (4) Extension of contract for the Community Planning Development Officer post for a period of 1 year approved.

[Reference: Minutes of 5 December 2019 (Paragraph 3)]

4 Lived Experience Fund Feedback

A report dated 3 June 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the feedback from Healthy Valleys and PAMIS (Promoting a More Inclusive Society) on funding provided to undertake engagement work with communities to capture the lived experience of people who experienced poverty, inequalities and/or deprivation. Julia Miller from Healthy Valleys also provided an update to the Board.

Applications for the funding were restricted to local organisations whose work linked with the Community Plan objective of Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality. The organisations funded during 2020/2021 specifically captured local experiences of the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, most organisations were unable to carry out the engagement work they had planned, however, they had provided an update on how they planned to use the funding as restrictions eased.

All organisations were provided with a 'Poverty Framing Toolkit' to help them have conversations with the communities that they worked with. This focused on the following 3 questions:-

- ◆ What issues do you and others in your community face around poverty?
- ◆ What solutions could help make a difference?
- ◆ Any other comments/experience that you would like to share?

PAMIS supported people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, their families, carers and professionals. This feedback was provided at Appendix 1 to the report.

Healthy Valleys had conversations with individuals living in the rural area of South Lanarkshire, with the focus being on the impact that welfare reform had on families within the Healthy Valleys Resilient Families Project. Information was gathered through telephone conversations and a survey. 38 individuals responded and a summary of those responses and a list of the individual responses were attached as Appendix 2 to the report.

At its meeting on 12 May 2021, the Community Planning Progress Group were provided with the feedback and it was agreed that Partners would review the feedback and provide details of the current interventions and support they provided. This information was detailed, for PAMIS at Appendix 3 to the report and, for Healthy Valleys at Appendix 4 to the report.

As feedback was received from other organisations, this would be submitted to the Board for review and the Council's Community Engagement Team would continue to work with the funded organisations to support them in gathering this information. Feedback would be used as part of the evidence to help inform the priorities of the new Community Plan and to identify policy issues and gaps in service provision.

Further discussions would be held with PAMIS and Healthy Valleys to ensure that individuals and families were aware of the current supports that were available and to discuss any remaining gaps.

The Board commended the work undertaken, discussed the feedback provided and agreed to consider what actions could be taken by the Partnership.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Feedback from Healthy Valleys and PAMIS noted.
 - (2) Current interventions and supports provided across the Partnership noted.
 - (3) Feedback from organisations to be used as evidence to help inform the priorities of the new Community Plan.

J Miller left the meeting following consideration of this item of business

5 Community Wealth Building

A report dated 27 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted seeking nominations from Partners to join a Community Wealth Building (CWB) Commission for South Lanarkshire.

Over the last decade, the concept of CWB had been generating considerable interest as a people-centred approach to local economic development. With widespread recognition that the Covid-19 pandemic had exposed weaknesses in traditional economic models, this idea of CWB had gained renewed impetus. At a national level, CWB has been endorsed as an approach by the Scottish Government and COSLA.

The Council had set out a statement of intent about how it wished to move forward into the period of recovery and renewal and, building on work undertaken at the end of 2020, subject experts from across the Council prepared a CWB strategy which looked at how the Council could support this approach across the '5 pillars' of CWB.

As a key step in driving forward the Strategy, the Council was in the process of forming a CWB Commission with the following Terms of Reference:-

- ◆ Progress and promote the development of a strategic approach to CWB in South Lanarkshire
- ◆ Support the implementation of the CWB Strategy. This would include work to facilitate upskilling and awareness raising, right across the Partnership involved in developing this approach. Partners, staff and communities would all be involved as part of this programme of work
- ◆ Take a partnership approach, securing the involvement of Partners including businesses, government agencies and local organisations in CWB initiatives and promote best practice among stakeholders
- ◆ Review policy and practice to deliver a more inclusive economy
- ◆ Consider a communication and stakeholder engagement plan to develop and include the wider partnerships that would contribute to and support the transformation process.

The Commission would meet on a quarterly basis, with decision-making being by consensus, similar to the Safer South Lanarkshire Board.

The Commission would be chaired by the Leader of the Council and would have cross-party political representation. Members would include the Chairs of the Community Planning Partnership and Integration Joint Board, the Chief Executive of the Council, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) and the Director, Health and Social Care.

The Commission was seeking 4 nominations from Community Planning Partners. In addition, it was anticipated that there would be community representations through the locality groups currently being developed.

Following discussion, various members expressed an interest in being a member of the Commission, however, some concerns were raised in relation to capacity and the possibility of members being required to sit on more than 1 Commission. It was agreed that officers would note the names of potential nominees and finalise the membership. A report on the final membership of the Commission would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board in September 2021.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Establishment of Community Wealth Building Commission noted.
 - (2) Membership and Terms of Reference of the Commission, as outlined in the report, noted.
 - (3) Officers to note the names of potential nominees and finalise the membership.
 - (4) Report on the final membership of the Commission to be submitted to the next meeting of the Board in September 2021.

6 Community Planning Partnership Risk Management – Annual Review of Risk Cards and Risk Register

A report dated 3 June 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the Community Planning Risk Register following the annual review.

A Community Planning Partnership Risk Register and Risk Control Plan was maintained to formally record, assess and aid management of strategic risks faced by the Partnership. A process to review the Risk Register and note progress with the implementation of actions to mitigate risks was approved and it was agreed to report on the monitoring of the Risk Register and Risk Control Plan be a standard item on the agenda of Board meetings.

The annual review of the Risk Cards and Control Plan had been completed by the Community Planning Progress Group, with support from the Council's Risk Management Team on 14 April 2021.

The main changes to the risks were summarised at Section 4.2 of the report and the Risk Register and Risk Control Plan 2021/2022 summarised at Section 5.1. The new risks for 2021/2022 were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report and an update on the progress with the delivery of the actions for the 2020/2021 Risk Control Plan detailed in Appendix 2.

The Community Planning Progress Group would continue to progress actions and monitor and review the Risk Register and Risk Control Plan. The Covid-19 and BREXIT Risk Cards would be reviewed every 6 months and all cards reviewed annually. Any changes to the Risk Cards would be presented to the Board for approval.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Draft Community Planning Partnership Risks, as set out at Section 5 of the report, and the draft Control Plan 2021/2022 approved.
 - (2) Progress in the delivery of the 2020/2021 Control Plan noted.

7 Interim Review of the Community Plan 2017 to 2027 and Update on the New Community Plan

A report dated 3 June 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the draft interim Community Plan 2017 to 2027 and providing an update on the new Community Plan.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 required Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to prepare and publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (known as the Community Plan) which set out the local outcomes which the CPP would prioritise for improvement.

The first South Lanarkshire Community Plan was developed and approved by the Board in 2017 and performance was reported on annually. Following recommendations from the Council's Best Value Assurance Review in 2019, the Board agreed to re-open the Plan for an update on neighbourhood planning activity, the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan and to review the language used. At its meeting on 1 July 2020, it was also agreed to carry out a wider review of the Community Plan to ensure it met current needs and reflected the aspirations of South Lanarkshire communities.

Information was provided on the work undertaken as part of the interim review, which was carried out with support from the Council's Improvement Unit, who produced guidance on developing SMART measures and held a Peer Review Session with the Community Planning Progress Group. The revised draft Interim Community Plan was attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Work to begin the full review of the Community Plan and produce a new Community Plan commenced in March 2021 and this would be aligned to the review of the Council Plan, Connect and other similar partner activity. The first stage of the process would be engaging with communities, which was scheduled to be completed by August 2021. A further update would be presented to the Board in September 2021.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Content of the revised interim Community Plan 2017 to 2027 approved.
 - (2) Progress on the development of the new Community Plan noted.

8 Outcomes from the Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session held on 11 May 2021

A report dated 3 June 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an overview of the presentations that were delivered at the Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session held on 11 May 2021.

The development session, which focused on 'Planning for Place', considered recent legislation, policy and new developments and how these could influence local planning. The key areas of focus included:-

- ◆ Community Wealth Building and Economic Recovery
- ◆ 20 Minutes Neighbourhoods
- ◆ Community Planning and Spatial Planning
- ◆ Town Centre Action Planning

Following discussion at the development session, the following actions were proposed:-

- ◆ that the Board considered all information that was presented and reflected on communities
- ◆ that consideration be given to progressing community led plans so that those were in place for every community in South Lanarkshire
- ◆ that partners consider what arrangements they currently had in place in relation to the Community Wealth Building agenda
- ◆ that a cross-sector Volunteer Strategy be developed
- ◆ that the Board consider the offer of being involved in the next phase of conversations with the Improvement Service and Public Health Scotland in relation to the funded 'Shaping Places for Wellbeing' programme

Outcome(s):

- (1) Actions outlined at Section 5.1 of the report considered.
- (2) Officers to provide more information on the offer of being involved in the next phase of conversations with the Improvement Service and Public Health Scotland in relation to the 'Shaping Places for Wellbeing' programme for further consideration at a future meeting of the Board.

9 Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session – Proposal for October

A report dated 3 June 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the proposed themes for the development session which was due to take place on 20 October 2021.

The development session would commence at 1pm on Wednesday 20 October 2021. Accommodation which adhered to physical distancing had been booked, should public health advice permit meetings at that time. It was likely that the model for meetings and development sessions in the future would reflect a blended option to allow members to attend in person or join remotely.

The proposed themes for the session were:-

- ◆ 'Communities of Interest' which would focus on evidence gathered through engagement with targeted community groups involved in the consultation of the new Community Plan and the Lived Experience Fund process
- ◆ 'Sustainable Development and Climate Change' which would focus on the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Report and be hosted in conjunction with the Sustainable Scotland Network, the Improvement Service and North Lanarkshire Council

Following discussion, members felt that both themes were important. It was agreed that it would be useful to hold the 'Communities of Interest' session prior to considering the new Community Plan and that a further date in November/December should be identified to hold the 'Sustainable Development and Climate Change' session.

An update would be provided to the next meeting of the Board in September 2021.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) 'Communities of Interest' development session to be held on 20 October 2021.
 - (2) Further date in November/December identified to hold the 'Sustainable Development and Climate Change' development session.
 - (3) Update to be provided to the next meeting of the Board in September 2021.

10 Sustainable Development and Climate Change

A report dated 3 June 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted providing an:-

- ◆ overview of partnership working in relation to climate change
- ◆ update on the presentation to the Community Planning Progress Group on further embedding climate action and sustainability in community planning

Following a report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change advising that by 2030 it would be too late to limit warming to 1.5 degrees, a climate emergency was declared for Scotland in May 2019. Since then, other nations had also declared climate emergencies. As well as climate emergency, there was also an ecological emergency. Both were connected and should be tackled together.

While tackling the Covid-19 pandemic was the priority right now, the climate and ecological emergencies had not gone away and the Scottish Government had committed to a 'green recovery' from Covid-19.

Information was provided on the co benefits of addressing the climate and ecological emergencies and sustainable development goals.

At its meeting in March 2021, the Community Planning Progress Group agreed to hold an online workshop with Community Planning Partners to explore the climate emergency and sustainable development as a primary issue in policy-making across the Partnership.

The workshop was arranged for 30 June 2021 and would be hosted in conjunction with the Sustainable Scotland Network, the Improvement Service and North Lanarkshire Council. The findings from the workshop would be presented to the Partnership Board with appropriate recommendations to be considered to further mainstream the sustainable development principal and climate action as part of the review of the Community Planning Partnership structure and Community Plan. The workshop would also help to shape the development of the next Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy for South Lanarkshire for 2022 to 2027, which was currently being developed.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Contents of report noted.
 - (2) Partners to be represented at the workshop on 30 June 2021.

11 South Lanarkshire Register of Information Report

A report dated 27 May 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing a summary of information which had been circulated to Community Planning Partners between 4 February 2021 and 26 May 2021, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

Outcome(s): Noted.

12 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Board would be held on 15 September 2021 at 1.00pm by Microsoft Teams.

13 Any Other Competent Business

There were no other items of competent business.

Report

3

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Planning Budget and Expenditure Report (to 9 July 2021 – Period 4)
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with an update on the Community Planning Partnership Budget and Expenditure as at 9 July 2021 (Period 4).

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation:-

- (1) that the content of the report is noted.

3. Background

3.1. Details of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Budget and Expenditure are reported to every Partnership Board meeting. This provides Partners with an opportunity to seek clarification on the budget and sums spent during the relevant period.

4. Budget and Expenditure

4.1. The total available budget for 2021-22 is £88,044.

4.2. The actual expenditure at the end of Period 4 is £34,769.14. Appendix 1 provides a breakdown.

5. Income and Expenditure during 2021-22

5.1. Specific spend within this period of £99.14 relates to IT costs.

5.2. At the Board meeting of 24 June 2021, the Board approved the extension of the Community Development Officer post for another year. The cost of this from the 2021-22 budget was £23,231. The existing post holder has now moved to a permanent post elsewhere, leaving the Board with 13 months funding agreed to the post. A new recruitment exercise is underway using this committed funding.

- 5.3. In addition, the Board approved a delegated budget of £15,000 for the CPP Participation and Engagement Group to spend on engagement activity. Due to the majority of work so far being online, expenditure from this budget has been low. However, the Group approved the creation of a short term internship using this funding which offered a real life employment opportunity assisting the engagement and research work around the development of the new Community Plan. The cost of this internship will be just over £5,000. We will continue to identify the most effective uses of the rest of this budget through the Group to improve engagement activity across the Partnership.
- 5.4. Total expenditure which has been committed and/or spent so far totals £78,000.14. The remaining £10,000 is largely allocated to printing and reporting costs which will be incurred later in the year and potentially to the cost of an event. We will continue to monitor the possibilities for holding an event safely. A further update will be provided at the next meeting of the Partnership Board on 2 December 2021.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no risk or sustainability issues associated with this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or Consultation implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

South Lanarkshire Council

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Rhonda Leith, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council

Tel: 01698 455783

Email: rhonda.leith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Community Planning Budget 2021-22				
Opening Balance April 2021			£39,694	
Income				
Partner Contributions			Budget	Actual to Date
NHS Lanarkshire			18,350	18,350
South Lanarkshire Council			22,000	22,000
Police Scotland			5,000	5,000
Fire Scotland			3,000	3,000
Total Income			£48,350	£48,350
Total available funding			£88,044	£88,044
			£	£
Proposed Expenditure			Proposed Expenditure	Actual Expenditure
Community Plan Delivery			76,000	34,670
Printing/Stationery/Advertising/General			1,300	99.14
Reports, Strategies and Plans			2,000	0.00
Lived Experience Fund			5,000	0.00
Travel			244	0.00
Community Planning Events			3,500	0.00
Totals			£88,044	£34,769.14
Total Expenditure – Actual/Committed				£43,231
				£78,000.14

*Community Plan Delivery expenditure total has been adjusted to include committed expenditure carried over from the 2020-21 budget. Includes £23,231 committed to the Community Development Officer post and £15,000 delegated to the CPP Participation and Engagement Group.

Report

4

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Lived Experience Fund Feedback
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Provide the Partnership Board with an update on the feedback provided by the Joint Ex Service Veterans Garden, Burnhill Action Group and Agape Wellbeing.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the feedback provided by these organisations is noted; and
- (2) that the current interventions and supports provided across the Partnership are noted; and
- (3) that feedback from these organisations is used as evidence to help inform the priorities of the new Community Plan.

3. Background

- 3.1. As agreed by the Board at their meeting of 17 April 2019, £5,000 from the Community Planning budget was aligned to spend relating to capturing the lived experience of people who experience poverty, inequalities and/or deprivation.
- 3.2. Applications to the fund are restricted to local organisations operating in South Lanarkshire and to those whose work links with the Community Plan objective of Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality. Those organisations who were funded during 2020-21, specifically to capture local experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3.3. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, most of the organisations have been unable to carry out the engagement work that they had planned. Those organisations have provided an update on how they plan to use the funding as restrictions ease. Organisations have been allocated a link officer from the Council's Community Engagement Team to assist them with the process and to ensure that they can be linked into wider work within their community (where relevant). As feedback is received, further updates will be provided to the Board.
- 3.4. This report provides an update on the feedback provided by the Joint Ex Service Veterans Garden, Burnhill Action Group and Agape Wellbeing who have engaged with people who use their services.

4. Lived Experience Feedback

- 4.1. All organisations are provided with a 'Poverty Framing Toolkit' to help them have conversations with the communities that they work with and support. This focuses on three main questions as set out below:-
 1. What issues do you and others in your community face around poverty?
 2. What solutions could help make a difference?
 3. Any other comments/experience that you would like to share?
- 4.2. The Joint Ex Service Veterans Garden is a registered charity which aims to provide food for veterans and provide a location for veterans to attend and find companionship. Discussions took place with 18 veterans and 8 completed a questionnaire on their experiences of poverty and inequalities. This feedback is set out in Appendix 1.
- 4.3. Burnhill Action Group are located in the South Lanarkshire's Burnhill neighbourhood whose aim is to work together to engage with residents to address poverty and inequality and to bridge gaps by increasing awareness of what is available locally, increasing local participation and engagement in a range of activities and events. Approximately 150 people took part in the discussions on their experiences of poverty and inequalities during the pandemic. This information can be found at Appendix 2.
- 4.4. Agape Wellbeing is an organisation which is located in East Kilbride whose aim is to help the local community, from the very young to older people, achieve positive wellbeing through a variety of health and wellbeing activities and services. Agape Wellbeing held multiple community consultations with individuals to reflect how community members were experiencing poverty or inequality during the pandemic. This feedback can be found at Appendix 3.
- 4.5. At their meetings on 6 July and 27 July 2021, the Community Planning Progress Group were provided with the Lived Experience feedback provided by the Joint Ex Service Veterans Garden, Burnhill Action Group and Agape Wellbeing for review. It was agreed that partners would review the feedback and provide details of the current interventions and support that they provide. This information is detailed for the Joint Ex Service Veterans Garden at Appendix 4, Burnhill Action Group at Appendix 5 and Agape Wellbeing at Appendix 6.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1. As the Community Planning Team receive feedback from organisations, this will be submitted to the Board for review.
- 5.2. South Lanarkshire Council's Community Engagement Team will continue to work with funded organisations to support them in gathering this information.
- 5.3. Feedback from these organisations will be used as part of the evidence to help inform the priorities of the new Community Plan and to identify any policy issues and gaps in service provision.
- 5.4. Further discussions will be held with the Joint Ex Service Veterans Garden, Burnhill Action Group and Agape Wellbeing to ensure that individuals and families are aware of the current supports that are available and to discuss any remaining gaps.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. The current yearly Lived Experience allocation is £5,000.

8. Other Implications

8.1. There are no risk or sustainability issues associated with this report.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

9.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

10.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or Consultation implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

South Lanarkshire Council

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Joint Ex Service Veterans Garden Feedback

1. What issues are facing you and/or people living in poverty in your community?

We spoke to 18 ex-veterans and 8 of them completed questionnaires, here is what they told us:

Food Poverty - Many of the men have to make daily decisions about whether they 'heat or feed'. A number of the men said that they bought the cheapest food which they know was the unhealthiest but had no choice and sometimes they relied on foodbanks when things were really tough. Some of them suffer from PTSD, have drink and drug problems due to stress, smoke and unhealthy lifestyles. Most of them had little cooking skills so bought ready meals regularly.

Money and budgeting – most of the men didn't have good budgeting skills and weren't very good with money. Some said they weren't used to budgeting and money as everything was provided for them when they were in service.

Fuel Poverty – Most of the men commented that they thought that fuel bills were too high and a few said that they spend 50% of their benefits on gas and electricity for their homes. A few were made aware of organisations like Citizens Advice but didn't like to ask for help. The surveys showed that very few of them have the IT skills to help switch utilities.

Universal Credit – One person said *"I don't know where to get help, they just give you a leaflet when you leave the army"*. Out of everything else, nearly all of the men said that not knowing what they were entitled to was the biggest issue. Once again the lack of IT skills was mentioned and everything seems to be online and that everything can't be done on a phone.

Health Issues – The men said that most of the activities like going to the gym was too expensive. Some wouldn't go swimming because of the scars and injuries they had as a result of wars they had been involved. A few also said that they think GPs are a waste of time because they don't get to see one doctor like the army, and they have to explain time and time again what is wrong with them.

Housing – Some of the men can't afford the same household goods as normal people, although a few did say that SSAFA – The Armed Forces charity in East Kilbride which can help. Some said that they struggle to pay the rent most of the time. Some were homeless after they left the service and had to 'couch surf' until they found accommodation because single men are at the bottom of the housing list.

Employment and socialising – most said that they struggle to associate with other people, are very proud and don't like to ask for help and find it hard to work with civilians. Two men said they found jobs like truck driving and security were good for working on your own.

2. What solutions could help make a difference?

The men said that they would like more support and information before they left the army about what civilian life was like and where to find help.

A few of the men said that they had used the Citizens Advice service and more specialised services like that would be good.

Most men said that having training/classes to teach them how to cook, budgeting and use computers as soon as possible after leaving the service would be useful.

Another suggestion was more ex-servicemen's clubs, they thought that the community garden was great but more chances to meet other ex-servicemen would help.

Better housing support – they said that they thought there was a lack of appreciation and interest in ex-servicemen and the system dedicated support would help them.

Most of them recognised that they had problems after leaving the service and would benefit from specialist services for addictions like drink, drugs and smoking.

3. Any other comments/experience that you would like to share?

One of the men gave us the following statement:

“There’s a lack of help after leaving the army, when you do leave you get a leaflet then your left to get on with it. I want to be part of the community but I need help or sometimes I’ll shut my curtains and withdraw”.

Burnhill Action Group Feedback

1. What issues do you and others in your community face around poverty?

Over the course of the year, volunteers and support staff worked hard to support local people, in particular in relation to COVID-19 and the impact the pandemic has had on themselves, their families, friends, neighbours etc. The Christmas event, part funded through the Lived Experience Fund allowed us to continue these conversations with local people on how they were coping, what worries or concerns they were experiencing and what they hoped for the future.

Understandably finances were a very high priority for some people. Job losses and furlough were a common thread of conversation and 'just being able to manage' was also a common phrase used by residents. Local people were worried that they would not be able to feed their families and we were able to provide information on the local food response initiative which saw 209 Burnhill residents access food via the Camglen Covid Response. Further funding provided also saw Burnhill Action Group support 30 families in dire need who used the supermarket vouchers provided to purchase food for over the Christmas period, benefitting approximately 120 local people. A number of residents who had to claim benefits for the first time during this period also reported feeling very confused and stressed during the process. Online access is crucial when claiming benefits and at a time when there was little support for this, caused delays to benefit claims – again some families have little or no online access and with public buildings closed, to access this service proved so difficult they were unable to claim when in most need. Additionally, the wait for benefits was discussed and being required to wait 6 – 8 weeks for financial assistance, when some people were left without the most basic of necessities was exceptionally difficult and stressful for some people.

Not surprisingly, most people were very worried about the arrival of Christmas, not seeing their extended families, how they would cope financially and a common theme shared was 'when will this end?' The impact of poverty in an area with high deprivation and varying inequalities has been very significant this year with the stress of attempting to provide a good Christmas for their children having a huge impact on the mental health of local people. The community of Burnhill really pulled together at this time and there were offers of donations to people who would benefit, links shared of organisations who could help families in need etc. 25 families were referred to The Christmas Gift Giveaway and received donations for approximately 80 people which was a massive relief and allowed families to have as good a Christmas as possible.

Going forward, Burnhill Action Group will continue to provide support to any resident who requires this. We have a group of 8 volunteers who are in constant contact with local people, in particular those in most need. We are able to provide free digital access, signpost to relevant agencies and as soon as restrictions allow, re-open our Hubs. These are open to all and provide one to one support, peer support, partner support as well as general activities, information sessions, hospitality and a place for people to access crucial services such as CAB, Money Matters, employment advice etc.

We also look forward to working alongside our colleagues within South Lanarkshire Council in the Neighbourhood Planning process, identifying priorities off hundreds of local people and working as a collective to bring about positive change. The recent Participatory Budgeting voting process saw local people voting on how they would like their budget spent and we will now begin developing a local greenspace which will benefit all.

2. What solutions could help make a difference?

- Re-opening of volunteer run groups
- Increased attendance at support services such as Money Matters, CAB, R2W
- Increased partnership working between local agencies and delivery organisations
- Less waiting time for the processing of benefits
- Access to affordable food (Food Pantry)
- Easier access and reduced waiting times for support services
- Alternative option to online applications when claiming benefits

3. Any other comments/experience that you would like to share?

N/A – all information provided above.

Agape Wellbeing Feedback

1. Thinking about those people living in poverty, who experience deprivation or inequalities that your organisation works with/live in your local community; what has the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic been on them?

The following information was collected during multiple online community consultations and reflects how community members experienced poverty or inequality in East Kilbride during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Financial impact of COVID-19 on those claiming benefits, elderly, mobility issues, ill mental health:

- People within the benefit system experienced less income during the pandemic, so too have people who were furloughed or lost work.
- There was less money being spent in our local economy due to the pandemic.
- More people were relying on foodbanks/food bank deliveries during the pandemic.
- People on benefits had the same amount of money coming in, but had larger outgoings because they were having to shop online/higher delivery fees/less opportunity to shop for bargains.
- Those who were shielding due to older age, ill health or disability were paying out more money on online shopping or travel (fear of going on a bus, having to get taxis instead to doctors/hospital appointments).
- Those on low incomes already struggled to access new clothing. Where they would usually buy from charity shops, these were not open and they struggled to pay supermarket prices for clothes.
- Those who bought books from charity shops or used the library struggled to get things to entertain themselves mentally.
- Some found they were spending more money online/being less careful with money – they found themselves buying things to make them happy and alleviate boredom.
- Some struggled with budgeting and economising money – spending money on things that weren't needed.
- The delivery charge from online shopping is huge for those on benefits.
- People on benefits, those with physical impairments and those with significant mental health issues were at a significant disadvantage financially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Awareness of Financial support services in EK:

- Not enough signposting in EK for financial support services. Very confusing, lots of information.
- People were aware of Money Matters, but this was not advertised/signposted as much as it should have been during the pandemic.
- If you've not previously used Money Mater/ struggled financially, during the pandemic you would not have known who to turn to for support.
- During the pandemic many services were online. This was difficult/impossible for those effected by poverty to access. No libraries open to use computers. (Digital poverty gap)
- People who may not have experienced financial hardship in the past, found themselves facing uncertainty during the pandemic.

Financial Support in East Kilbride during the Pandemic:

- Concerns that places such as housing associations may have had greater awareness over financial options for tenants – but failed to share that information with the tenants themselves. Tenants felt unaware of support available.
- Families who were on benefits before the pandemic were hit with higher gas and electricity bills as they attempted to home school.
- Families on benefits missed out on free school meals resulting in higher food costs and were much worse off financially.
- Carers got 2x bonus of a couple of hundred pounds. Some still feel as though things were very tight financially with food costing more online, having to use taxis to travel for caring responsibilities and a fear of using the bus.
- Older and disabled people have spent more money on travel due to not wanting to use the bus (and therefore their free bus pass) from fear of infection by other passengers. Have used taxis.
- Families under pressure to fit phone lines have internet installed so kids can home school. Resulting in an increase on bills.
- Some people who were members in contact already with support services/charities may have received funded computers or tablets but those who were on the cusp of poverty would not have had previous connections with these services and would not have benefited from the funding.

Accessing financial support services as someone who is experiencing poverty or inequality:

- People with learning difficulties or older people who may have access to the internet still did not feel confident using online services. It is important that people realise they are not stupid, but just do not feel comfortable navigating online platforms on their own. It's not instinctive for everyone.
- People unsure if the council has an option on their website for those who are visually impaired.
- Much harder for people to access support as if you cannot use online services, it's been difficult to reach people over the phone. Less staff and longer waits.
- Someone reported hearing that Q & A staff have been reduced which is a concern because there is already a high demand for that service.
- People are worried that support services might continue with lower staff numbers because they have shown that they can operate with a reduced workforce (during the pandemic), however, people are worried that this might mean stopping face to face contact altogether (or only due to specific circumstances, such as being unable to use a computer).
- It is a huge decision to approach a service for help, it can be embarrassing and requires a lot of confidence. There is already a lot of stress around having to access the job centre requirements online, so removing even more face-to-face services is frightening.
- On the other hand, having blended access to support services can also circumvent the embarrassment people feel walking into an office and can feel more private.
- People are sometimes frightened to approach support services. Sometimes employees can get more information from someone by reading their body language to draw out more conversations around how they are coping. One contributor commented that they would be very upset if they could not see another human face-to-face.

Employment issues identified as a result of the pandemic:

- Restrictions led to the shopping centre being closed. This had a big impact on retail employment – concerns over whether certain shops will ever reopen.
- Click and collect worked well for some small businesses and helped them survive.
- Concerns that East Kilbride residents will be coming out of lockdown with less disposable income (furlough not making up 100% of their wage) and will therefore be spending less money in the local economy. Effects of this on small independent businesses.
- Lack of computer skills prevented some small businesses from setting up an online platform for their companies. The cost involved is not cheap.
- Real worry about a rise in unemployment when we come out of lockdown. Fears about how/where people will find work in the town with local businesses shutting down.
- Suggested small financial injection support for small local businesses to recruit companies who could set them up online. This would take the fear out of learning how to transfer online for small local business owners who are not computer literate.

Transitioning from Benefits to Employment after lockdown:

- Concerns over physical contact with other people after lockdown. People feel as though they are used to being at home now, they're frightened at the prospect of mixing with people again.
- Fears over returning to physically demanding jobs after being on benefits – worried they may not be capable of the labour again.
- People reporting feeling mentally "safe" at home, the threat of being taken out of that safe space and put into busy situations provokes feelings of anxiety.
- People reporting existing mental health issues being exacerbated by lockdown – reporting the idea of going back to work as "scary".
- One person reported their Universal Credit appointed consultant was in constant contact, offering jobs available and access to seminars/webinars/training opps/CV tips. Surprised at how much was on offer. They didn't use the services so unsure how effective they were.
- Concerns over how accessible these services were to those without internet access over lockdown.
- Also these services seemed to only be available to those on Universal Credit. For people already struggling to make ends meet, but who still have a job (albeit furloughed or on reduced hours) they might not have access to these services. (In-work poverty).
- Reports of age discrimination – many people do not have smart phones and cannot access the online Universal Credit services during lockdown.

The effect of the pandemic on those already experiencing ill mental health:

- Isolation – elderly people feel like they were left high and dry.
- People reporting feeling suicidal (those in sheltered housing had no access to communal areas, were shut out of laundry rooms, had no warden, maintenance was not being carried out, contact was completely withdrawn). One unpaid carer reported a man was left for days without a light in his living-room because no-one was available to change the bulb.
- Reported increase in medication.
- Unpaid carers had to take more responsibility. Expected to put themselves at more risk e.g. taking public transport or having to get taxis at a greater cost to them personally.

- People were struggling to differentiate what information about the virus was true and what was false. They experienced conflicting messages which was confusing and frightening. People on their own succumbed to “fake news” and scare mongering. Some found that family/friends who held extreme opposite views on either side, increased their feelings of isolation and confusion.
- People lost confidence in themselves and their ability to look after themselves. Some experienced a gradual deterioration of their mental state.

Mental Health support during the pandemic.

- NHS waiting lists were so high before the pandemic that there is a fear that services cannot start to provide the support now required.
- People believe they are more likely to have anti-depressant/anxiety drugs pressed on them, than be offered someone to talk to.
- Some accessed online services but are concerned for the isolation impact on those without internet or not confident enough to use it.
- The second lockdown had huge detrimental effects on people’s mental health. People are very worried that there will be a huge backlog once services are at their full capacity after lockdown.
- People who were already experiencing ill mental health were often pro-actively contacted by services they were already engaged with, however, for people experiencing ill mental health for the first time during lockdown, they did not know where to turn.
- Some people discovered how dependant they were on mental health services before many shut down (or offered a reduced service).
- Discussion around the introduction of Community Link workers and there was positive interest from other members in the meeting.

2. What solutions did those that your organisation works with/live in your local community say that could help make a difference?

Conclusions/Recommendations:

- People are concerned that face-to-face services may start to disappear as local authorities have learned how to work exclusively online or by telephone.
- Online/telephone services can ease the embarrassment of asking for help from the local authority, however, it's recognised that not everyone has this level of access.
- There was an agreement that a blended model of online support services and face-to-face services would be the best way forward.
- A leaflet of Money Matters details/list of services being circulated would mean those who do not/cannot access online platforms will still have access to information/phone contacts. Also for those who have not experienced financial hardship before and would not know who to contact for support.
- Suggestion that the local authority provides an advocacy service to support people e.g. – people can go to get advice on how to fill in a form, but may require someone to sit with them and go through it. Take time to fully explain the process. There is recognition that this would be a huge undertaking by the local authority to provide this service but it is still one that is much needed.
- Comfort calls to elderly or those with ill mental health could have reduced their feelings of isolation. A suggestion was for this to be introduced should we experience another lockdown.
- A suggestion was made with regards to the issue about council phonenumber recordings directing people to resolve their issues online rather than using the telephone service. Perhaps the telephone operative could offer a walk-through of how to do it online after resolving the immediate issue over the phone. This would mean a longer call time and would possibly require more staff but could lead to an increase in confidence for people to attempt to resolve their issues online in the future.

3. Any other comments/experience that you would like to share?

Contacting the Local Authority:

- Very few people know who to contact in the local council if they had a community related issue. Very little awareness as to who is responsible for what in East Kilbride.
- When people do call their local authority for something, it is an automated service that points them online. Gives impression they are too busy for the call. Many people prefer speaking to a human on the phone and are not confident online. Speaking to a person makes it clear that the message has been put across.
- Long, difficult automated phone call menus or online forms makes it difficult to report smaller issues in the community (the discovery of a broken swing at a park for example). It puts people off coming forward and then things get left unrepaired.
- The digital poverty gap makes reporting identified community issues less inclusive.
- Woman reported being unable to request a wheelie bin during lockdown after hers went missing because she had no internet.

Neighbourhoods/ Community:

- People reported an increase in “community spirit” over lockdown. Spent more time speaking to neighbours than ever before due to isolation from friends and family.
- People have been out and observing their physical community more too and noticed a serious litter problem.
- Noticed there is less benches around than before. This used to be a chance to sit and chat to strangers.

Lived Experience Fund 2019-20 – Joint Ex Service Veterans Garden Consultation Feedback

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
Food Poverty	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership/ SLC Social Work Resources:</p> <p>Veterans 1st Point (Lanarkshire) is one of 8 centres in Scotland whose remit is to assist armed forces veterans and their families (aged over 16) who experience any issues moving from life in the military to living as a civilian.</p> <p>There are 3 Veteran Peer Support Workers (ex-armed forces) and 3 Specialist Clinical Staff attached to Veterans 1st Point (Lanarkshire).</p> <p>These staff will where appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide advice and signposting to specialist organisations who are able to help veterans; • assist veterans in accessing community-based resources and facilities; • provide access to psychological treatments; and • provide links to a variety of organisations. <p>Veteran First Point. Veterans can make an enquiry by calling 0300 303 3051 and leaving a voicemail (we try to pick up all voicemails within 2/3 working days) or emailing: LanarkshireV1P@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk.</p> <p>In terms of the some of the specific concerns mentioned on the form; during COVID we have managed to access a technology fund for those experiencing technology poverty and one of our peer support workers has been trained as a digital champion to help veterans learn how to use smart phones and laptops to access online resources. We also worked with the veteran’s hub to arrange shopping</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>services for those isolating due to COVID. Some of these projects have come to an end but the PSWs are usually pretty good at identifying new and appropriate services and supports that we can make use of for the veterans. Our peer support workers regularly assist with financial and housing issues (often by liaising with ASAP, SSAFA, Vets UK, etc).</p> <p>Access Point - (Drop in: Tuesday afternoons (12pm to 3pm) LAMH Charity Shop, 17/19 Cadzow Street, Hamilton ML3 6EE.</p> <p>Referrals from Veterans 1st Point (Lanarkshire) will, where appropriate, refer their clients to Money Matters for benefits advice and money advice.</p>		
	<p>Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire): Lanarkshire Signposting Information: During the pandemic veterans experiencing food poverty were supported by the following organisations:</p> <p>Craignuek Veterans Community Hub (Facilitation of Vital Emergency Food Parcels to Veterans Across Lanarkshire) Tel: 07840 479 024 Websites: https://vclan.org.uk/veterans-community-hub.html https://twitter.com/vcatthekc?lang=en Email - info@vclan.org.uk</p> <p>Fares4Free (FREE Veterans Transport Service) (Delivery of Vital Emergency Food Parcels To Veterans Across Lanarkshire) Websites: https://www.fares4free.org/ https://www.fares4free.org/contact-us/</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	Foodbank Services Community Website: https://hamiltondistrict.foodbank.org.uk/		
Money and Budgeting	Money Matters Advice Service, SLC (Veteran Advisers): David Harkness and Joseph McMonagle Money Advisor (Audit & Training) Brandon Gate, 1 Leechlee Road, Hamilton ML3 0XB Tel: 01698 453184 Email: joseph.mcmonagle@southlanarkshire.gcsx.gov.uk Email: David.harkness@southlanarkshire.gov.uk		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We offer a Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service, where we will provide a cash guarantee bond for individuals seeking to rent from a private sector landlord but unable to afford the deposit. The applicant then enters into a cash repayment scheme. We have a Tenancy Sustainment Fund for tenants falling into arrears, where we will consider entering a payment arrangement with them over a period of time until an outstanding balance is clear, to prevent eviction. We offer a Homestart Programme where tenants can be offered essential white goods and furnishings for their new tenancy and are also given emotional support.		
	VASLan: Citizens Advice Bureau - Armed Services Advice Project Provides dedicated information, advice and support to current and ex members of the armed forces community in Scotland, including with money and budgeting. SSAFA Lanarkshire SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Families Association) is committed to helping the armed forces community overcome issues including debt.		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire) Signposting Information: Armed Services Advice Project (ASAP Lanarkshire) Website: https://www.motherwellwishawcab.org.uk/services/armed-services-advice-project https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r41p-N4B61w</p> <p>SLC Money Matters Service Website: Money Matters Advice Services</p> <p>MOD Veterans Welfare Service Websites: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/veterans-welfare-service Veterans Welfare Service (Guide) https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans</p> <p>DWP Veterans Champion Central Scotland Morag Sweeney Email: MORAG.J.SWEENEY@DWP.GOV.UK</p>		
Fuel Poverty	<p>VASLan: Citizens Advice Bureau - Armed Services Advice Project Provides dedicated information, advice and support to current and ex members of the armed forces community in Scotland, including with fuel poverty.</p> <p>Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire): Armed Services Advice Project (ASAP Lanarkshire) Website: https://www.motherwellwishawcab.org.uk/services/armed-services-advice-project https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r41p-N4B61w</p> <p>SLC Money Matters Service Website: Money Matters Advice Services</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
Universal Credit	<p>VASLan: Citizens Advice Bureau - Armed Services Advice Project Provides dedicated information, advice and support to current and ex members of the armed forces community in Scotland, including with Universal Credit.</p>		
	<p>Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire): Armed Services Advice Project (ASAP Lanarkshire) Website: https://www.motherwellwishawcab.org.uk/services/armed-services-advice-project https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r41p-N4B61w</p> <p>SLC Money Matters Service Website: Money Matters Advice Services</p> <p>DWP Veterans Champion Central Scotland Morag Sweeney Email: MORAG.J.SWEENEY@DWP.GOV.UK</p>		
Health/Mental Health Issues	<p>LAMH (Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health): Peer Support Service Email contact: Veterans@lamh.org.uk</p>		
	<p>Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: We offer a Housing First Service to homeless tenants, which may include veterans, assessed to have multiple and complex needs with trauma, addiction or mental health, and provide wrap around support until the tenant is no longer requiring or wishing that additional support.</p> <p>Housing options - South Lanarkshire Council</p>		
	<p>VASLan: The Haven at Vanguard Newly formed South Lanarkshire based charity aiming to help address PTSD and other underlying health and wellbeing issues experienced by veterans. Provides equine</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>facilitated learning opportunities, access to counselling, confidence coaches and complementary therapies including yoga etc.</p> <p>Who Dares Cares (SCIO) Scottish charity aiming to support anyone who suffers signs and symptoms of PTSD, whether as a result of trauma, bereavement or other cause. The majority of individuals supported have some form of military background but services are open to all and include weekend retreat facilities, PTSD awareness sessions and peer support walks (established in Lanarkshire and Edinburgh) and groups.</p> <p>SSAFA Lanarkshire SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) helps the armed forces community in many ways, although the focus is on providing direct support to individuals in need of physical or emotional care (including addiction, PTSD, depression and disability).</p>		
	<p>Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire): Mental Health Support & Veterans Peer Support Service Email contact: LanarkshireV1P@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk</p> <p>NHS Lanarkshire Veterans Specific Mental Health Service: Referral Methods; Self-Referral and Referrals from Third Parties i.e. GP, Family, Friends (Must Have Explicit Consent Prior To Submitting Referral On Veterans Behalf)</p> <p>Telephone and Voicemail: 0300 303 3051 Email: LanarkshireV1P@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk</p> <p>Online Enquiries: https://www.veteransfirstpoint.org.uk/drop-center/lanarkshire</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychological Assessment • Evidence Based Treatment Therapies <p>NHS Inform Website 'Healthcare Rights For Veterans In Scotland' Website: https://www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/health-rights/access/health-rights-for-veterans#health-resources-for-veterans</p> <p>NHS Lanarkshire Armed Forces Champion Mr Craig Cunningham Email: craig.cunningham@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk</p> <p>Signposting Potentially Useful Support Organisations: <u>Potentially Useful</u> Online Resources Self Help Guides & Self Care Guides</p> <p>Combat Stress Online Resources: Website: https://selfhelp.combatstress.org.uk/</p> <p>Help For Heroes Online Resources: Website: https://www.helpforheroes.org.uk/get-support/recovery-college/self-help-guides-to-recovery/</p> <p>Mindfulness Scotland: Website: https://www.mindfulnessscotland.org.uk/audio-practices.html</p> <p>Community Addiction Recovery Services: Website: Community Addiction Recovery Services</p> <p>Veterans Organisations Addiction Support Services</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>Veterans Gateway Websites: Veterans Gateway An In-depth Look at Alcohol and Substance Abuse Veterans Gateway</p> <p>Combat Stress Substance Misuse Service Website: https://combatstress.org.uk/get-help/how-we-help/substance-misuse</p> <p>NHS Lanarkshire Services Website: https://www.nhslanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk/services/community-addiction-recovery-service-cares/</p>		
Housing	<p>Housing and Technical Resources, SLC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For many years now, veterans who wish to live in South Lanarkshire, and who meet certain criteria, are awarded the highest priority for housing through the council's housing allocation policy. <p>The priority status is awarded from up to 6 months before date of service discharge to 6 months after discharge. A key aim of this approach being to help prevent homelessness among veterans. The council's approach to housing veterans has been recognised as an example of best practise in the Scottish Government's Social Housing Allocations in Scotland: practice guide.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. We have a dedicated integrated housing options teams, based within each locality in South Lanarkshire, to provide veterans with information and advice covering a range of housing and related options. This help and support aim to ensure that veterans make informed choices about their housing options based on their individual circumstances, to ensure the best housing 		<p>Continue to monitor local and national policy developments specifically in relation to veterans and housing.</p> <p>Continue to work closely with a range of specialist agencies who work with and support veterans both in terms of local and national policy developments in relation to veterans and their rights and also through the provision of practical support and assistance to veterans housed by the council.</p>

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>outcomes are achieved. This includes signposting to a range of advice including health and finance, (e.g. council tax reductions, Scottish Welfare Fund, etc.) and to a range of specialist support (e.g. Veteran First Point, Lanarkshire Firm Base, Force in Mind Trust, etc).</p> <p>3. Where a veteran is housed by the council, a range of housing support is provided as appropriate, for those who need help to prepare for having their own tenancy and/or to manage and sustain their tenancy.</p> <p>Housing and Technical Resources continue to work closely with a range of specialist agencies who work with and support veterans both in terms of local and national policy developments in relation to veterans and their rights and also through the provision of practical support and assistance to veterans housed by the council.</p>		
	<p>VASLan: Citizens Advice Bureau - Armed Services Advice Project Provides dedicated information, advice and support to current and ex members of the armed forces community in Scotland, including with housing.</p> <p>SSAFA Lanarkshire SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) is committed to helping the armed forces community overcome homelessness.</p>		
	<p>Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire): South Lanarkshire Council and Veterans Housing Organisations:</p> <p>South Lanarkshire Council Website: Housing and Homelessness</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>Lanarkshire Firm Base Website Housing Website: https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/vets/info/3/leavers-veterans/9/housing</p> <p>Veterans Housing Scotland Website: https://www.vhscot.org.uk/</p> <p>Housing Options Scotland Website: https://housingoptionsscotland.org.uk/</p> <p>Scottish Veterans Residencies Website: https://www.svronline.org/index.php</p> <p>Haig Veterans Housing Website: https://www.haighousing.org.uk/properties/apply-now</p> <p>Erskine Veterans Housing Websites: https://www.erskin.org.uk/get-support/assisted-living/ https://www.erskin.org.uk/get-support/our-care-homes/</p> <p>Scottish Government Veterans Housing Information Websites: https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-government-support-veterans-armed-forces-community-2020-report/pages/6/ https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-housing-guide-people-leaving-armed-forces-ex-service-personnel-9781787811539/</p> <p>Poppy Scotland Housing Information Guide Website:</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	https://www.poppyscotland.org.uk/docs/default-source/poppyscotland-documents/click-here07a9f57f-5123-432d-858c-4770ee6b6817.pdf?sfvrsn=4fc0f5b7_3		
Employment	<p>Employee Development Team, SLC: Guaranteed interview scheme in place for council vacancies.</p> <p>It doesn't matter how long ago they were employed by the Armed Forces, as long as they meet the minimum criteria. The only stipulation is that the person brings their service record to the interview/selection event.</p>		
	<p>VASLan: Citizens Advice Bureau - Armed Services Advice Project Provides dedicated information, advice and support to current and ex members of the armed forces community in Scotland, including with employment.</p>		
	<p>Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire): Scottish Association Mental Health (SAMH) Poppy Scotland Employ-Able Service Website: https://www.poppyscotland.org.uk/get-help/employment</p> <p>Regular Forces Employment Agency (RFEA) Website: https://www.rfea.org.uk/rfea-contact/</p> <p>MOD Enhanced Learning Credits Scheme Website: https://www.enhancedlearningcredits.com/</p> <p>Open University Disabled Veterans Scholarship Fund Website: https://www.enhancedlearningcredits.com/service-leaver/oudvsf (Annual)</p>		
Socialising	Seniors Together, SLC:		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>Seniors Together worked with two Men Sheds Groups who cover Lanarkshire. Find a Shed - Scottish Men's Sheds Association (scottishmsa.org.uk)</p> <p>Seniors Together also had conversations with Age Scotland's Veterans' Project Age Scotland (ageuk.org.uk)</p>		
	<p>VASLan: Larkhall and District Volunteer Group - Armed Forces Social Group Launched in February 2020, this group provides anyone with a connection to the armed forces with the opportunity to come together, socialise and participate in activities that are determined by group members. The group meets fortnightly on Thursdays at LDVG, 2-4pm (£3 attendance fee).</p> <p>Forth British Legion Provides a social club for current and ex-service men and women as well as their dependants.</p> <p>Hamilton British legion Provides social opportunities for current and ex-service men and women as well as their dependants.</p> <p>Blind Veterans UK National charity supporting veterans of every generation to overcome sight loss. Currently providing a National Creative Project to prevent blind veterans across the UK from feeling socially isolated.</p>		
	<p>Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire): Signposting Information: VC @ the KC: King's Church Veterans Café. Kings Church hall, 128 Airbles Road, Motherwell, ML1 2TQ Fridays from 10am - 2pm. Tel: 07840 479 024</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>Website: https://vclan.org.uk/vc-at-the-kc.html Email: info@vclan.org.uk</p> <p>Refer To KCVC Website and Facebook Page and or contact service directly for more details about reopening and various monthly activity opportunities.</p> <p>Craigneuk Veterans Community Hub 59 Shieldmuir Street, Craigneuk, Motherwell, ML2 7TJ Monday - Thursday, 10am - 2pm Tel: 07840 479 024 Website: https://vclan.org.uk/veterans-community-hub.html Email: info@vclan.org.uk</p> <p>Refer To Craigneuk Veterans Community Hub Website and Facebook Page and or contact service directly for more details and various monthly activity opportunities.</p> <p>Larkhall District Volunteer Group Armed Services Social Group 55 Victoria Street, Larkhall, South Lanarkshire ML9 2BL Fortnightly 14:00 pm - 16:00 pm. Tel: 01698 888 893 Website: http://www.ldvg.org.uk/index.php/activities/veterans-group Email: ADMIN@LDVG.ORG.UK</p> <p>Refer to LDVG Website and Facebook Page and or contact service directly for more details about reopening and various monthly activity opportunities.</p> <p>V1P Lanarkshire Lanark Veterans Access Point Tolbooth Centre 4 High Street, Lanark, South Lanarkshire ML11 7EX Currently Fortnightly 13:30 pm - 15:00 pm.</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>Tel: 0300 303 3051 Website: https://www.veteransfirstpoint.org.uk/drop-center/lanarkshire Email: LanarkshireV1P@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk</p> <p>V1P Lanarkshire Wishaw Veterans Access Point Wishaw Library, Houldsworth Centre, North Lanarkshire ML2 7LP Reopening details still to be confirmed Tel: 0300 303 3051 Website: https://www.veteransfirstpoint.org.uk/drop-center/lanarkshire Email: LanarkshireV1P@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk</p> <p><u>Note ** Veterans First Point Lanarkshire Veterans Access Points are for registered members of the Veterans First Point Lanarkshire service only.</u></p>		
Further Support:	<p>Community Engagement Team, SLC: The Veterans Group have been made aware of the Military Community Support. They are also aware of the specialist service which Citizens Advice can provide. They have recently been linked with one of the Community Link Workers. The group are part of the Whitehill Our Place Our Plan Group and a meeting will be arranged during the Summer 2021 to discuss funding/fundraising/donations and capacity building support.</p> <p>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS): SFRS have a member of staff who is a patron of Veterans Community (Lanarkshire) that supports the veterans' community (ex-Armed Forces Veterans and their families) within the Lanarkshire Area. Their aim is to provide support and guidance to the whole veterans' community.</p> <p>Website:- https://vclan.org.uk/index.html Twitter:-https://twitter.com/vcatthekc?lang=en</p>		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	Facebook:- https://www.facebook.com/groups/875259102613005/about/		
	Veterans First Point (Lanarkshire): Signposting links to potentially useful support organisations and information: Lanarkshire Firm Base Website Website: http://www.lanarkshirearmedforces.org.uk/ Veterans Scotland Information Booklet 2021 Website: Veterans Scotland Information Booklet Veterans Assist Website Scotland Website: http://www.veterans-assist.org/ SSAFA Lanarkshire Veterans Service Website: https://www.ssafa.org.uk/lanarkshire Poppy Scotland Welfare Service Website: Poppy Scotland Defence Medical Welfare Service Website: https://dmws.org.uk/our-service/veteran-support-scotland/ MOD Veterans Welfare Service Websites: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/veterans-welfare-service Veterans Welfare Service Guide MOD Defence Transition Service Website: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-and-support-for-service-leavers-and-their-families		

Lived Experience Fund 2019-20 – Burnhill Action Group Consultation Feedback

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
Employment	Health and Social Care Partnership: Supporting Families programme - (Glenburgh Nursery and associated primary's) – working in partnership to deliver Health Issues in the Community Programme for parents/carers and children. All poverty themes are covered as part of this.	Delivery of activities online but hopefully this will be easier as COVID restrictions lift.	
	Skills Development Scotland (SDS): Individuals can access SDS career services via the public centre and our web-service My World of Work – www.myworldofwork.co.uk . SDS can provide one to one career guidance and employability support from a Careers Adviser, access to vacancies including employability and apprenticeships. Individualised support for anyone under threat of or being made redundant.	Public access centres not fully open due to COVID constraints. The nearest centre that is open is in Hamilton (appointments only). We are working to re-open our premises located in the CTEC Building, Cambuslang. Once COVID restrictions are eased, SDS can deliver services in local community settings.	SDS are happy to work directly with Burnhill Action Group. Initial contact: brian.cameron@sds.co.uk
	Youth, Family and Community Learning Service, SLC: Signpost to job centre and interview skills, access to funding and help with filling out application forms. Weekly phone call to families to offer support.	Over the last year, due to COVID restrictions, it has been difficult to carry out face to face engagement.	
Food Poverty	Health and Social Care Partnership: Greening Camglen - Partnership group looking at community growing programmes across Cambuslang and Rutherglen.		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>Youth, Family and Community Learning Service, SLC: Working with the foodbanks and delivering food parcels. Group work on shopping on a budget and how to make the most of the food that they buy. Partnership with local business allowed us to deliver over 40 Christmas dinners.</p> <p>Staff supported South Lanarkshire Meals on Wheels during lockdown to ensure families got hot food delivered to them, in their home once a day 7 days a week.</p> <p>Staff delivered over 60 meals to families in the first week of lockdown also various food parcels were delivered to families.</p>	Getting groups to work with the restrictions that have been in place has been difficult to work with and not being able to handle other people's food.	
Benefits	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: 'My Life, My Money App' promoted to staff and partners across the area. A resource of information, advice and guidance to enable staff to recognise when poverty may be an issue for a patient and signpost them to where they can get help.</p> <p>Maternal and Infant Nutrition Team supporting local health visitors and relevant services on what is available to families via 'Best Start Grant and Healthy Start Vitamins'.</p>		
	<p>Youth, Family and Community Learning Service, SLC: Signposting and supporting the community to access online applications.</p>	With community members being on furlough and unsure about their future, scared to move jobs in case they lose their money, and with other people working from home it has been	

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
		difficult to get to speak to the same person.	
Digital Exclusion (affordability)	Youth, Family and Community Learning Service, SLC: Support members from the community to get free access to IT and the internet. We have given out over 30 devices with the support of Connecting Scotland devices and wi-fi delivered directly to the surrounding area.	With the rollout it has been difficult if someone does not meet the criteria and contacting people who have limited access to phones.	
Cost of Living	Health and Social Care Partnership: Free Sanitary Provision supported across NHSL and SLC sites. Specifically, Rutherglen Primary Care Centre in the area. Just Ask Condom Distribution Scheme: Working with Youth Family and Community Learning in Cambuslang and Rutherglen to support the implementation of the Just Ask, free condom distribution scheme.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: In terms of payment of rent and arrears, we would confirm that since the onset of COVID, Housing and Technical Resources have taken a sympathetic approach to dealing with council tenants in financial hardship and experiencing difficulties paying their rent. Tenants have been encouraged to speak to their Housing Officer at the earliest opportunity in order to prevent the escalation of arrears. Housing Officers take into account the individual circumstances of each tenant when considering a repayment arrangement and provide advice, assistance and support that is tailored to their circumstances, including signposting and making referrals to other agencies, such as Money Matters and Citizens Advice, as appropriate.		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>Youth, Family and Community Learning Service, SLC: Money Matters drop-in participatory budgeting. Delivering food activity packs which contained food and the ingredients to make cakes, pizza and other meals. These packs also included seed for people to grow their own tomatoes and herbs.</p>	<p>Due to COVID, and the restriction on numbers, it has been difficult to deliver group work and doing this through Zoom has its challenges.</p>	
Mental Health Issues	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: Greening Camglen Group produced an interactive green health booklet to be used with local families as part of the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival. Photos were used from some residents in Burnhill.</p> <p>Partners Grow 73 also support community growing at Rutherglen train station.</p> <p>Individuals can access online programmes such as Calm Distress (via Lanarkshire Mind Matters) https://www.lanarkshiremindmatters.scot.nhs.uk/</p> <p>The 'Well Connected' (Lanarkshire's social prescribing programme) app and 'Lanarkshire Suicide Prevention' app are available to download from the play or apple store.</p>		
	<p>Youth, Family and Community Learning Service, SLC: With lockdown there has been a huge increase in community members requiring support and some of the supports that we signpost to have changed. Weekly zoom meetings and phone calls were carried out to ensure people were keeping in touch and that they could access information.</p> <p>Staff made up over 300 activity packs and delivered them to families. Staff would make garden visits to</p>	<p>Keeping up to date with the changes and what other agencies do and how they have changed.</p> <p>Families changing their phone and not passing on their numbers.</p>	

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	families to offer support and advice and would also promote walks that families could do to support each other.		
Health	Health and Social Care Partnership: Cervical Screening - Women in the Burnhill area are being targeted to raise awareness and encourage those to attend cervical screening.		

Lived Experience Fund 2019-20 – Agape Wellbeing Consultation Feedback

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
Money Worries – Income through Benefits	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: East Kilbride CAB are supported through the HSCP Integrated Care Fund to provide services in East Kilbride (EK).</p> <p>The CAB are also funded to provide a Financial Wellbeing Pathway from GPs and Community Link Workers in EK as part of the Primary Care Improvement Plan.</p> <p>The CAB are funded by NHSL to provide a welfare advice service in the Hairmyres Acute Mental Health Receiving Ward on admission.</p> <p>We have devised a ‘<i>Your Life Your Money</i>’ app.</p> <p>We part fund the Telephone Advice Line within Money Matters which supports referrals from Health Visitors and Midwives.</p>	Not Long-Term Funding	
	<p>Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: Housing Services continue to implement the rent management policy which focuses on early intervention and engagement with tenants experiencing financial difficulties and who are in rent arrears. This includes supporting tenants to access relevant services, advice and supports to tackle debt and maximise income.</p> <p>The Tenancy Sustainment Fund, operated by Housing Services, provides support to tenants in financial difficulties.</p>	Getting tenants to engage with the service at an early stage before financial difficulties escalate. A range of contact methods are used by officers, such as phone calls, emails, text messaging, letters and home visits.	

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	Housing Services Specialist Rent Income Support Team help council tenants affected by welfare reform changes (particularly Universal Credit and the underoccupancy deduction). This includes helping customers to understand how the changes will affect them, providing advice on rent payment options, helping customers to claim other benefits and making referrals to specialist agencies, such as fuel debt and debt advice.		
Benefits for Carers	Health and Social Care Partnership: HSCP commission services in support of Carers and the Carer's Strategy from Lanarkshire Carers Centre.		
Food Poverty	Health and Social Care Partnership: As per Money Worries above, we fund food poverty activity through Healthy n Happy, CCI and Healthy Valleys.		
Fuel Poverty	Health and Social Care Partnership: We have pathways to Home Energy Scotland.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: Housing Services Specialist Rent Income Support Team help council tenants affected by welfare reform changes. This includes making referrals to specialist agencies, such as fuel debt and debt advice.		
Free School Meals	Education Resources, SLC: The Equity Team within Education Resources has been working closely with colleagues from Finance and Corporate Resources, SLC to deliver financial supports to families. Auto enrolment is in place for those eligible to free school meals and footwear and clothing grants. Universal Free School Meals is currently provided for all P1-P3 children regardless of eligibility to certain benefits. From August 2021, this universal provision		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>will be extended to all P4 pupils, with P5 following in January 2022 and P6 and P7 in August 2022.</p> <p>The central Equity Team ensures schools are kept abreast of these financial supports, enabling all schools to signpost these to families.</p>		
Cost of Living	Health and Social Care Partnership: As per Money Worries above.		
Employment	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: Project Search provides work placements for young people with disability. Modern Apprenticeships.</p> <p>Skills Development Scotland (SDS): Individuals can access SDS career services via one of our public centres and our web-service My World of Work – www.myworldofwork.co.uk. SDS can provide one to one career guidance and employability support from a Careers Adviser, access to vacancies including employability and apprenticeships. Individualised support for anyone under threat of or being made redundant.</p>	<p>Public access centres not fully open due to COVID constraints. The nearest centre that is open is in Hamilton (appointments only). We are working to re-open our premises in East Kilbride Town Centre – Employability Hub, next to the Job Centre.</p> <p>Once COVID restrictions are eased, SDS can deliver services in local community settings too.</p>	<p>SDS are happy to work directly with Agape Wellbeing. Initial contact: brian.cameron@sds.co.uk</p>
Housing Options	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: Housing Services have dedicated Integrated Housing Options Teams (IHOT), based within each locality in South Lanarkshire. The IHOT provide a range of information and advice relating to housing to help customers make informed decisions about their housing options based on their individual circumstances. IHOT identify specific housing risk factors and interventions to prevent homelessness.		

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	<p>In addition, the HomeOptions on-line tool provides a range of information and advice relating to housing (social rented, private rented and home ownership) and related issues such as employment/training, money and benefits advice. Once customers use the tool, they are provided with a Personal Housing Plan which is tailored to their individual circumstances.</p>		
<p>Digital Exclusion (affordability/ accessing information)</p>	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: HSCP have made applications on behalf of staff groups to Connecting Scotland for devices, support and data.</p> <p>Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: The South Lanarkshire Tenant Development Support Project (SLTDSP) secured funding for tablets for a central group of tenant representatives, which enabled/facilitated ongoing engagement between tenants and the council during the pandemic and provided tenants with the means to be able to access information and on-line services.</p> <p>The SLTDSP also provided training on how to use the tablets in general and on the use of virtual platforms.</p> <p>Through external funding sources and utilising funding from RRTP, digital equipment and internet access for 2 years was provided to 55 homeless families with children. This allows families to access online services such as employability, training advice, welfare supports and online education resources.</p> <p>Also through external funding, 40 tablets and portable wi-fi devices provided to tenants in sheltered housing to help access information and on-line services/ supports.</p>	<p>Supporting customers to increase confidence and improve skills to ensure effective use of equipment.</p>	

Poverty Theme	Current partner interventions/supports	Challenges	Further comments
	Planned installation of communal wi-fi at both Gypsy/ Traveller sites (September 2021) will improve digital connectivity and provide residents with 3 years free access, enabling access to on-line services and supports and helping to reduce mobile data costs for residents.		
Travel Costs	Health and Social Care Partnership: As per Money Worries above.		
Mental Health Issues/Support	Health and Social Care Partnership: Community Mental Health Services provided by the HSCP as wider work on challenging stigma, reducing suicide, distress brief intervention, reducing loneliness and social isolation and improving mental health through a range of Integrated care funding activities such as Older and Active in East Kilbride. Physical Activity programmes such as physical Activity Prescription, Active Health and Health Walks.		
Impact on Local Economy	Health and Social Care Partnership: Living Wage, Social Benefit in Procurement.		
Access to Services	Health and Social Care Partnership: Social prescribing – Well Connected, Community Link Worker, Green Health Portal, Scotland’s Service Directory, Way Finders in Hunter Health Centre.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: Housing Services established a dedicated Virtual Contact Centre during the early months of the pandemic. Calls are handled and redirected to relevant staff, depending on the nature of the enquiry. This provides a more effective and efficient service to customers. Housing website pages are continually reviewed and updated.		

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Plan Quarter 4 Progress Report 2020-21 and Annual Outcome Improvement Report
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise the Partnership Board of progress made against the outcomes within the Community Plan as at the end of March 2021.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the progress made to date against the outcomes within the Community Plan be noted (see Appendix 1); and
- (2) that the content of the draft Annual Outcome Improvement Report is approved for publication by 30 September 2021 (see Appendix 2).

3. Background

3.1. The South Lanarkshire Community Plan was approved in October 2017 and sets out the priorities and outcomes for the Partnership over 10 years from 2017-2027.

3.2. A report setting out the Community Plan Reporting Framework was approved by the Board on 5 September 2018. This report outlined a plan to meet the requirement to publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan Progress Report as required by the Community Empowerment Act. It was agreed that an Annual Outcome Improvement Report would be published alongside the Performance Progress report from IMPROVe.

3.3. The Community Plan is underpinned by Partnership Improvement Plans (PIPs) which contain detailed action plans and performance measures for each of the Partnership's key thematic areas.

3.4. The Community Plan and the PIPs are accompanied by a comprehensive reporting framework which sets out performance indicators, targets and specific actions for the Partnership over the life of the Community Plan.

3.5. As agreed by the Board in October 2017, the delivery aspects of the Plan will be kept under review and evolve in line with legislative and policy changes and the work of the Partnership.

- 3.6. Following recommendations from South Lanarkshire Council's Best Value Assurance Review in 2019, the Board agreed to re-open the Plan for an update on neighbourhood planning activity, the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan and to review the language used.
- 3.7. It was also agreed at the Board meeting on 1 July 2020, to carry out a wider review of the Community Plan to ensure it meets current needs and reflects the aspirations of South Lanarkshire communities.
- 3.8. In March 2021, the Board agreed to remove the additional layer of Thematic Partnership Improvement Plans, however, the Board have been provided with a final update on performance against these indicators within the attached Appendix 1.
- 3.9. The Community Planning Progress Group carried out a light touch peer review of the Community Plan in early 2021. The revised Community Plan was approved by the CPP Board on 24 June 2021 and the new/revised indicators are now included within the attached Appendix 1.
- 3.10. This report provides a summary of the progress made against the Community Plan up to the end of March 2021 and in line with the target setting requirements of the Community Empowerment Act (stretch targets at years 1, 3 and 10), it sets out performance at year four of the Community Plan (see Appendix 1). It also includes a draft 'Annual Outcome Improvement Report' for 2020-21 as detailed in Appendix 2.

4. Progress To Date

- 4.1. The principles underpinning the framework remain to ensure that the Partnership Board and the Thematic Boards receive clear performance reports which are produced to a common timescale and a common standard across the Partnership.
- 4.2. The outcomes within the Community Plan are reported in full within this Quarter 4 report, using the latest information available. The report shows whether outcomes are being achieved to facilitate change and progress against the associated improvement actions. It also highlights progress on specific outcomes to inform good practice, learning and sharing across the Partnership.
- 4.3. The report uses a "traffic light" system to indicate if there are any concerns about whether a target will be reached or whether an action will be completed as intended. In general, a blue status indicates that the action to achieve change has been completed. A green status indicates that there are no concerns about meeting a target or achieving an action. Amber and red are used to flag up where there might be slippage or deviation from plans. The following definitions are used:-

Status	Definition
Blue	The action to achieve change has been completed
Green	On course to achieve the target or complete the action as planned/the timescale or target has been met as per expectations
Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target
Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target
To be reported later	For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to say whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available
Contextual	A small number of measures are included for "information only", to set performance information in context

4.4. The Community Plan Outcomes Report

There are 194 measures within the Community Plan and there are three tables which give a summary of the progress towards the Community Plan outcomes. The tables are set out as follows:-

No.	Priority	Measure Type
Table 1	Overarching Objective: Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality Progress	Summary of Statistical Measures
Table 2	Overarching Objective: Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality Progress	Summary of Interventions
Table 3	Progress by Thematic Group	Summary of Statistical Measures

Table 1 – Overarching Objective: Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality Progress – Statistical Overview

Priority	Status by year										Total	
	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Report Later/Not Available			
	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20
Reducing Child Poverty	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2
Reduction in Employment Deprivation	0	N/A	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
Reduction in Income Deprivation	0	N/A	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	2
Total	0	N/A	0	3	0	1	0	0	6	2	6	6

Table 2 – Overarching Objective: Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality Progress - Interventions

Priority	Status by year										Total	
	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Report Later/Not Available			
	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20
Inclusive Growth	0	1	16	4	0	0	1	0	4	5	21	10
Financial Inclusion	0	3	9	14	2	1	0	0	1	2	12	20
Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare	2	1	2	7	0	0	0	0	4	2	8	10
Improving Housing	1	1	14	15	0	1	0	0	1	0	16	17
Education, Skills and Development	0	0	7	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	13
Health Inequalities	0	2	9	7	0	1	0	1	13	1	22	12
Safeguarding from Risk or Harm	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	4
Improving Local Environment and Communities	0	1	16	14	6	0	1	0	1	0	24	15
Total	3	9	74	78	9	3	2	1	26	10	114	101

Table 3 – Summary of Progress by Thematic Group – Statistical overview

Thematic	Status by year												Total	
	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Contextual		Report Later/Not Available			
	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20
Community Safety	0	N/A	11	10	1	1	3	6	6	6	0	0	21	23
Health and Care	0	N/A	10	11	8	4	2	2	0	2	0	1	20	20
Sustainable Economic Growth	0	N/A	3	6	3	4	3	2	0	0	3	0	12	12
Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children	0	N/A	4	12	11	3	2	3	0	0	4	3	21	21
Total	0	N/A	28	39	23	12	10	13	6	8	7	4	74	76

- 4.5. Of the 194 measures, 3 (2%) have been completed, 102 (53%) are judged to be on course to achieve the targets set, while 12 (6%) are judged to be considerably off target and a further 32 (16%) are judged to be slightly off target. There are 6 (3%) measures with contextual data and 39 (20%) outcome measures for which no data is available other than the baseline set in the Community Plan.
- 4.6. It is important to note that the data within the report does not always refer to the current reporting year. What is shown is the most recent data available, on the strength of which a judgement is made about whether the targets set in the Community Plan are likely to be achieved.
- 4.7. Progress for the period ending Quarter 4, 2020-21 for the overarching objective and each of the four Thematic Boards has been summarised in the following tables.

4.8.1.

Overarching Objective: Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality												
Number of measures	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Report Later/ Not Available		Total	
	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20
	3	9	74	81	9	4	2	1	32	12	120	107
Red/Amber measures	There are nine amber measures and two red measures for this priority. The amber and red measures are listed below with explanatory commentary.											

Inclusive Growth

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments
Red	Increase number of business start ups	<p>Numbers of new enterprises/ businesses sustained</p> <p>The latest Business Demography figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2019, pre COVID-19) indicates that the 3 year business survival rate in South Lanarkshire (or businesses first registered in 2016 still trading in 2019) has fallen, dropping by -1.9% over the last 12 months, from 56.3% of businesses surviving 3 years (2016-18), down to 54.4% of registered businesses surviving 3 years (2017-19).</p> <p>According to the latest ONS Business Demography figures, the rate of 3 year business survivals in South Lanarkshire has now (as of 2019) dropped below the Scottish average, with 54.4% of businesses registered in South Lanarkshire in 2016 still trading in 2019, -2.1% lower than the Scotland wide figure of 56.5% for 3 year business survivals at 2019.</p>
Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board		
Partner action to improve the outcome		
<p>A new Business Gateway contractor has taken over the Lanarkshire Business Gateway contract and has been tasked with improving both business start-up and business survival rates. The contract also requires the contractor to be more innovative in how it delivers support for business, deliver business accelerator programmes, improve its marketing to attract more businesses into the business support ecosystem, increase collaboration with partners and a new panel of specialist expert help consultants have been procured. In addition, the South Lanarkshire Council's own Economic Development, Business Support Team has recruited new business advisers to increase the level of support and engagement with key sectors. Scottish Enterprise are also undergoing a transition aimed at providing more intensive specialist support to businesses with growth prospects.</p>		

Financial Inclusion

	Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments
Amber	Promote and encourage savings	Increase community awareness of local Credit Union activities, with the aim of securing an increase in adult membership and shares/savings balance	<p>The latest figures confirm that there has been a - 8.8% drop in adult memberships across all the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions during 2020-21, from 25,849 members at 31 March 2020, down to 23,585 at 31 March 2021. All of the Credit Unions in the authority have attributed the fall in memberships over the past year to the effects of the temporary closure of local credit union branches, and the ending of face-to-face services.</p> <p>Despite the fall in memberships, the temporary closure of branches, and the wider negative economic effects of the COVID-19 lockdown, the amounts being saved by people at the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions has increased by +£2.8 million throughout the financial year. A comparison between the 2019-20 and 2020-21 figures indicate that the sums being held in adult shares across all the Credit Unions in the authority has grown from £31.2 million, up to £34 million, an increase of +9.4%.</p> <p>None of the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions reported undertaking activities around promoting community awareness of their products and services over the past 12 months, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, and the effect that the pandemic has had on budgets and staffing.</p>
Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board			
Partner action to improve the outcome			
<p>Although the figures show a drop in memberships over the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, it is worth noting that most of the local Credit Union's recorded an initial fall in memberships in the early months of the financial year during the COVID-19 lockdown but that a number also noted a pick-up in memberships during the summer and autumn as COVID-19 restrictions were eased.</p>			
<p>Some of the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions have also introduced new innovations around the use of digital technology over the past financial year to allow them to compete more effectively with the kind of services offered by the commercial banks. The larger Credit Union's in South Lanarkshire e.g., Lanarkshire and Hamilton have both launched new websites and mobile apps to allow their members to access their accounts remotely. Lanarkshire Credit Union has also introduced immediate withdrawal facilities e.g., auto teller cards, which will allow members to access cash from most high street case machines. It is hoped that the trend in the upturn in memberships recorded in the second half of 2020-21 and the use of new technologies by selected Credit Union's will allow memberships to continue to increase across South Lanarkshire over the next financial year.</p>			

Change Required		Action to achieve change	Comments
Amber	Promote and encourage savings	Sustain the number of young people who are members of the Credit Union	<p>Despite the lack of promotional activity in schools, and the temporary closure of local credit union branches for a large part of the financial year 2020-21, the level of junior memberships across South Lanarkshire has dropped only marginally (by -5.15% or -391 members), from 7,594 at 31 March 2020, down to 7,203 at 31 March 2021.</p> <p>As with adult memberships, although the latest figures suggest that there has been a drop in junior memberships during 2020-21, the amounts being saved by young people at the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions has actually increased throughout the year (by +6.7%), from £1.53 million in junior shares held at 31 March 2020, up to £1.64 million in junior shares held at 31 March 2021.</p>
Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board			
Partner action to improve the outcome			
None of the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions reported undertaking activities in local primary/secondary schools over the past 12 months, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, and difficulty getting access to school premises. Several of the Credit Unions have noted that they have maintained contact with the local schools they had previously worked with however and hold to the ambition to resume promotional work with local schools in the coming year once restrictions are eased.			

Education, Skills and Development

	Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments
Amber	Life chances of young people in the most deprived communities are improved	Continue to work to close the gap in outcomes for the young people in the most deprived 20% data zones and their peers in the least deprived 20% data zones	<p>The Youth Employability Service has continued to engage with all secondary schools and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) to identify those young people at risk of failing to make a positive transition from school with a particular focus on those schools and young people from most deprived data zones.</p> <p>The Aspire service has provided one-to-one support including online and telephone support during periods of lockdown, to engage young people on an individual action plan to support them to a positive destination.</p> <p>The information below shows the gap between school leaver destinations for young people residing in datazones in the most and least deprived 20%. Compared to the previous year there has been a widening of the gap which is now in line with the national rate of 6.3%.</p> <p>South Lanarkshire 6.3 (2019-20) 4.9 (2018-19) National 6.3 (2019-20) 5.3 (2018-19)</p>
Responsibility (Lead): Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire Children's Partnership Board			
Partner action to improve the outcome			
<p>The Youth Employability Service continues to work with schools and SDS to use the 16+ Seemis matrix to identify those young people at most risk of failing to make a positive transition from school. The service will carry out additional analysis of those leavers from most deprived 20% data zones to identify any areas for improvement.</p> <p>From August 2021, the Youth Employability Service will pilot a new Gradu8 work experience programme which will provide additional vocational options for targeted young people in the senior phase.</p>			

Improving Local Environment and Communities

	Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments
Amber	Continuous improvement to environmental quality and communities living more sustainably	Continued development of healthy walking opportunities through the Get Walking Lanarkshire partnership initiative	<p>The Health Walks Programme was suspended due to COVID-19 throughout Quarter 1 with limited resumption during Quarters 2 and 3 and largely suspended again during Quarter 4. However, 1,280 health walk participants were recorded.</p> <p>A Get Walking Lanarkshire Ranger post was recruited in Quarter 3. The Ranger started in January 2021, but the appointee resigned after 5 weeks. The post was re-advertised.</p>
Responsibility (Lead): Safer South Lanarkshire Board			

Partner action to improve the outcome

To further develop healthy walking opportunities through the Get Walking Lanarkshire (GWL) partnership initiative, South Lanarkshire Council has now recruited a GWL Ranger during Quarter 1 (2021/22). This officer will focus on growing the GWL programme within South Lanarkshire.

During Quarter 1 (2021/22), there is steadily increasing levels of activity in health walks, as lockdown restrictions are eased. The new Ranger will concentrate her efforts on increasing participation in existing health walk provisions and in developing health walks in new areas.

Change Required		Action to achieve change	Comments
Amber	Progress/deliver prioritised access improvements to bus and rail	Complete the Clydesdale STAG (Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance) process to identify potential new travel projects for this rural part of South Lanarkshire (i.e. completion of STAG) by March 2022	<p>The Clydesdale STAG Appraisal Part 2 has been submitted for review. This review will be concluded in summer 2021 and it is intended to be published on the council's website.</p> <p>Funding is currently being sought to produce the final STAG Report which would be delivered via a consultant appointed by the Roads and Transportation Service.</p>

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

Funding is currently being sought from external sources and alternatively funding from an existing internal budget will be identified.

Change Required		Action to achieve change	Comments
Amber	Progress/deliver prioritised access improvements to bus and rail	Consider support for innovative and sustainable methods of improving the accessibility of rural public transport support for innovative and services and look to support community-centred approaches	Funding is being sought through the Levelling Up Fund which would support new electrical vehicles for community transport. A decision will be known by August 2021.

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

As progress is dependent on the application being successful it is currently being highlighted as amber due to the development of a strong project and funding is ongoing.

Change Required		Action to achieve change	Comments
Amber	Increase Digital Inclusion	Increase public Wi-Fi access across community facilities, including libraries	This project was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic as targeted community sites for wi-fi installations could not be accessed.
Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board			
Partner action to improve the outcome			
<p>South Lanarkshire Council's (SLC) Digital Inclusion team have identified 6 priority sites in neighbourhood planning areas to provide public wi-fi. There is some existing wi-fi at some of these sites, and this project will upgrade/expand the provision to meet citizen needs.</p> <p>In August/September 2021, SLC IT and South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC) will assess current wi-fi status, survey sites and agree required upgrades. Procurement and installs will then be scheduled between November 2021 and March 2022.</p>			

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments
<p style="text-align: center;">Amber</p> <p>Increase Digital Inclusion</p>	<p>The number of people in South Lanarkshire with access to the internet</p>	<p>The latest figures from the Scottish Household Statistics (SHS) (2019, pre-COVID-19) indicates that 83% of households in South Lanarkshire (SL) have home access to the internet. The figure of 83% represents a -8% drop on the figure recorded for SL last year (91.3% in 2018) and is also below the Scottish Average figure for of 88% of households with home internet access recorded by the SHS in 2019.</p> <p>Since the most recent results of the SHS were published (in late 2019) South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) has undertaken a number of initiatives to try and boost home internet access. These include the development of a new Digital Inclusion Strategy (2020-23) in the summer of 2020, which as of spring 2021 is currently in the process of review. The 2020-23 strategy contained several actions/ measures specially intended to increase home internet access including;</p> <p>(1) To work with partners to improve digital connectivity, including broadband 4G/ 5G across SL, starting in rural areas with poor connectivity;</p> <p>(2) To commence a commitment to provide tablets and broadband to 25 homeless families.</p> <p>In addition to plan/policy initiatives, SLC, in partnership with Third Sector organisations such as Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO), has acted as a lead agency for Scottish Government initiatives such as the Connecting Scotland programme, designed to address the problem of digital exclusion, which has been exacerbated during the COVID-19 crisis. Through the programme SLC has co-ordinated the distribution of free internet access devices (i-pads/chromebooks) to groups traditionally associated with digital exclusion, such as the elderly, disabled, low income families and ethnic minority groups. Through a separate Scottish Government initiative 'No One Left Behind' SLC Education has also co-ordinated the delivery of additional free digital devices to pupils from low income families (entitled to Free School Meals) identified at risk digital exclusion.</p>
<p>Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board</p>		

Partner action to improve the outcome

Economic Development working with South Lanarkshire Information Technology Service have agreed to progress procurement of consultancy services in the procurement of new long term digital connectivity to meet South Lanarkshire Council's requirements and facilitate private sector investment with full fibre roll out in South Lanarkshire. By utilising the council property asset and long term digital connectivity requirements it is intended this will speed up the roll out of full fibre to more communities in South Lanarkshire. The first stage of this is a detailed analysis of the council needs both in service and in economic generation terms and what the market is currently undertaking. This will lead to the preparation of a digital service tender exercise and contract which could generate, £1.1bn GVA over 15 years. The initial consultancy work will commence in the Autumn 2021.

	Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments
Red	Continued support and recognition of volunteers	Develop a partnership volunteering strategy and invest in volunteer training to ensure a good experience for those volunteering with partners	Work has yet to commence although it is intended that this will be progressed in the second half of 2021.

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

This action was set late summer 2021 and due to changes in the leadership at VASLan, is only now emerging as a priority. A presentation was delivered to Community Planning Progress Group on 9 June 2021 to start the conversation and will be built up in the second half of 2021 with key stakeholders.

	Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments
Amber	Continued support and recognition of volunteers	Increase the number of accredited volunteer organisations and recognise and support these across the partnership	<p>Volunteer Friendly Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 groups were awarded their certificates and plaques in 2020-21; • 3 groups are working towards the award for the first time; and • 9 groups are working to renew the award as continued excellence. <p>Volunteer Friendly has been reshaped and relaunched in June 2021, scaling of accredited groups will form part of the partnership volunteering strategy.</p>

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

With the new Volunteer Friendly Award process launched on 1 June 2021, the aim is to double the number of accredited volunteer organisations in South Lanarkshire by raising visibility of the benefits of this recognition, and work with a number of organisations who already demonstrate much of the best practice examples to achieve the target.

4.8.2.

Thematic Board: Community Safety														
Number of measures	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Contextual		Report Later/Not Available		Total	
	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20
	0	N/A	11	10	1	1	3	6	6	6	0	0	21	23
Red/Amber measures		There is one amber measure and three red measures for this priority. The amber and red measures are listed below with explanatory commentary:												
Indicator		Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments									
Red	Reduce crimes committed under S5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 – possession of drugs by 20%	2014-17 (3-yr average) 60.2 per 10,000 population	56.6 per 10,000 population	146 per 10,000 population	<p>In 2020-21, there were 4,679 drug possession crimes reported, a rise of 175% (2,980) from the previous year.</p> <p>Currently there are 146 drug possession crimes for every 10,000 population compared to 53.3 per 10,000 population the previous year.</p> <p>This is a rise from our baseline rate of 60.2 drug possession crimes per 10,000 population and decline from our progress towards our target rate set (Year Four, rate of 55.4 crimes per 10,000).</p>									
Responsibility (Lead): Community Safety Partnership														
Partner action to improve the outcome														
<p>Lanarkshire Police Division has maintained its pro-activity in targeting drug use within Lanarkshire communities, which increases the numbers of drug crime reported. There has been a continuation of stop and search activity, as well as execution of intelligence packages and warrants to target known individuals. Use of mobile devices gives officers instant access to Police systems and intelligence enabling them to more effectively target individuals involved in drug activity, leading to higher crime recording levels.</p> <p>The Coronavirus health pandemic is also assessed to be a main contributory factor in the noticeable change in crime trend. It has created an opportunity among individuals that would be otherwise meaningfully occupied and has impacted on the reactive policing response, for example, significant increases in the number of antisocial behaviour complaints where drug crime is additionally detected. This has also been observed across other crime types and is being monitored.</p> <p>Despite the rise in the number of reported crimes, the proportion attributed to people under 25 years of age has reduced. 15% of all drug possession crime was committed by individuals under aged 25 years, compared to 31% last year. Young people under 25 years is the target group of CSP work, and this demonstrates the progress and impact of prevention initiatives, including the Drug Education Workshop, to reduce drug taking and drug misuse among younger people in South Lanarkshire.</p> <p>There are no concerns relating to the current policing approach.</p>														

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
<div style="background-color: red; color: black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Red</div> Reduce crimes committed under S5(3) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 – possession with intent to supply by 20%	2014-17 (3-yr average) 2.10 per 10,000 population	1.72 per 10,000 population	13.9 per 10,000 population	<p>In 2020-21, there were 445 reported drug supply crimes, a rise of 417% (359) from the previous year.</p> <p>Currently there are 13.9 drug supply crimes reported for every 10,000 population compared to 2.7 per 10,000 the previous year.</p> <p>This is a rise from our baseline rate of 2.10 drug possession crimes per 10,000 population and decline from our progress towards our target rate set (Year Four, rate of 1.93 crimes per 10,000).</p>

Responsibility (Lead): Community Safety Partnership

Partner action to improve the outcome

Lanarkshire Police Division has maintained its pro-activity in targeting drug use within Lanarkshire communities, which increases the numbers of drug crime reported. There has been a continuation of stop and search activity, as well as execution of intelligence packages and warrants to target known individuals. Use of mobile devices gives officers instant access to police systems and intelligence enabling them to more effectively target individuals involved in drug activity, leading to higher crime recording levels.

The Coronavirus health pandemic is also assessed to be a main contributory factor in the noticeable change in crime trend. It has created opportunity among individuals that would be otherwise meaningfully occupied and has impacted on the reactive policing response, for example, significant increases in the number of antisocial behaviour complaints where drug crime is additionally detected. This has also been observed across other crime types and is being monitored.

Despite a rise in the number of reported crimes, the proportion attributed to people under 25 years of age has reduced. 4% of all drug supply crime was committed by individuals under aged 25 years compared to 35% the previous year. Young people under 25 years is the target group of CSP work, and this demonstrates the progress and impact of prevention initiatives, including the Drug Education Workshop, to reduce drug taking and drug misuse among younger people in South Lanarkshire.

There are no concerns relating to the current policing approach.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	<p>Reduce the number of general acute alcohol-related hospital new patient admissions due to acute intoxication by 10%</p> <p>2014-17 (3-yr average)</p> <p>6.62 per 10,000 population</p>	6.42 per 10,000 population	6.83 per 10,000 population	<p>In the financial year 2019-20 there were 402 alcohol related hospital admissions due to acute intoxication (binge drinking) in general acute hospitals in South Lanarkshire, including 219 who were admitted for the first time for this reason. This is equivalent to a rate of 6.83 admissions for every 10,000 population compared to 7.52 the previous year.</p> <p>While reducing, the number of admissions for binge drinking is still above the baseline (6.62). This has been caused by a spike in admission during 2018-19, that is positively declining.</p>
Responsibility (Lead): Community Safety Partnership				
<p>Partner action to improve the outcome</p> <p>In 2019-20 there was a reduction in the rate of hospital admissions as a result of binge drinking among new patients* from 7.52 admissions for every 10,000 people in 2018-19, to 6.83 in 2019-20. Likewise, the rate of public drinking reported to the Police has reduced from 15.6 crimes for every 10,000 people in 2019-20, to 8.2 in 2020-21.</p> <p>These declines reflect good progress to reduce irresponsible drinking behaviours in our communities in the past 12 months. CSP-funded interventions, for example the Alcohol Drama, are targeted towards young people to prevent those irresponsible drinking behaviours that can impact on individual health, result in criminality and impact on the community.</p> <p>While reducing, the number of admissions for binge drinking is still above the baseline (6.62 admissions per 10,000). This slippage was caused by a spike in admissions during 2018-19. The decline, however, was not enough to offset that spike. The Amber RAG rating reflects progress over the last 12 months, while acknowledging the need to monitor due to past slippage.</p> <p>Evidence from the reported figures indicates that current intervention approaches, through CSP-funded interventions and the core intervention work undertaken by various public service agencies is effective.</p> <p>There are no present concerns relating to the current intervention approach.</p> <p>(*New patients are defined as patients who have not been previously admitted to hospital with an alcohol diagnosis, or within the last 10 years).</p>				

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Red	Reduce the number of deliberate secondary fires attended by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service by 5%	2014-17 (3-yr average) 15.8 per 10,000 population	15.6 per 10,000 population	15.8 per 10,000 population	During 2020-21 the Fire Service attended 506 deliberate secondary refuse fires equivalent to a rate of 15.8 refuse fires per 10,000 population. This is a rise from 13.8 refuse fires per 10,000 population the previous year. It equals the baseline (15.8 per 10,000 population) and falls short of progress towards our Year Four target (15.5 per 10,000 population).

Responsibility (Lead): Community Safety Partnership

Partner action to improve the outcome

In the past year there has been a 14% increase in the number of deliberate secondary refuse fires (63 incidents). During the same period there were 174 wilful fire raising crimes reported, increasing by five crimes on the previous year.

An online Fire Reach programme is currently being developed to provide an alternative to face-to-face delivery of the programme, which will be piloted with a view to rolling out across South Lanarkshire. This will enable the programme to be delivered in 2020-21 irrespective of future lockdown restrictions and also allow South Lanarkshire Fire & Rescue to reach a wider audience, enabling it to address the increase of fire-related antisocial behaviour in 2020-21 effectively.

In addition, targeted work will take place in areas where the increase was greatest, through joint activity between South Lanarkshire Fire & Rescue, Lanarkshire Police Division and South Lanarkshire Council's Housing and Technical Resources to address fire-raising behaviour and antisocial behaviour. This has been raised across all South Lanarkshire problem solving groups and they continue to work in partnership with all problem-solving partners to tackle this issue, including the swift removal of items (on council land) targeting patrols in hot spots (community wardens), and working to identify those involved.

Secondary fires are generally small outdoor fires that do not involve people (casualties or rescues) or property of value. They routinely include fires relating to refuse, grassland, derelict buildings or vehicles and are commonly associated with antisocial behaviour. These types of fires in the main are caused by children and young people.

The Fire Reach intervention is a prevention and early intervention programme used to inform and raise awareness on the dangers of fire setting and encourage responsible behaviour and is targeted to young people with a history of fire-setting behaviour to prevent reoccurrence.

With the exception of Clydesdale that experienced a slight reduction in the number of secondary fires, there was an average 25% increase across all other committee areas. The increase was largely attributable to the time period from the first national lockdown through to the end of the summer. A decline in the latter half of 2020-21 was not enough to return positive results.

The Coronavirus health pandemic has been a primary factor in creating conditions that have contributed to the rise, providing an increase in unsupervised time through school closures. This, coupled with the inability to undertake the scheduled face-to-face fire safety interventions in schools and scheduled work targeted towards known offenders is assessed to be the root cause of this increase.

4.8.3.

Thematic Board: Health and Care														
Number of measures	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Contextual		Report Later/Not Available		Total	
	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20
	0	N/A	10	11	8	4	2	2	0	2	0	1	20	20
Red/Amber measures		There are eight amber measures and two red measures for this priority. The amber and red measures are listed below with explanatory commentary:												
Indicator		Baseline		Target		Latest		Comments						
Amber	Increase the life expectancy levels in the 15% most deprived areas of South Lanarkshire to be comparable with South Lanarkshire Average (Female)	2015 81.2 South Lanarkshire Average		Reduce the Gap towards South Lanarkshire figure (79.1)		77.2		Latest National Records of Scotland (NRS) data reports life expectancy for females in the most deprived areas of South Lanarkshire is 77.2 and is on par with the Scottish Average of 77.5. (The average for a South Lanarkshire female is 80.7).						
Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership														
Partner action to improve the outcome														
As part of the Health and Social Care Improvement Agenda we continue working towards improving our population's health and reducing local health inequalities in our services.														

Indicator		Baseline		Target		Latest		Comments					
Amber	Increase the life expectancy levels in the 15% most deprived areas of South Lanarkshire to be comparable with South Lanarkshire Average (Male)	2015 77.7 South Lanarkshire Average		Reduce the Gap towards South Lanarkshire Figure (72.1)		72		Latest National Records of Scotland (NRS) data reports life expectancy for males in the most deprived areas of South Lanarkshire is 72 and is on a par with the Scottish Average of 72.1. (The average for a South Lanarkshire male is 76.9).					
Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership													
Partner action to improve the outcome													
As part of the Health and Social Care Improvement Agenda we continue working towards improving our population's health and reducing local health inequalities in our services.													

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Red	Reduce the rate of pregnant mothers in the 15% most deprived areas who smoke during their pregnancy	2014 16.5% South Lanarkshire Average	Reduce the Gap by 1% towards South Lanarkshire Figure	26.9%	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the data due from the Information Services Division has been delayed. 2018-19 data, based on three year rolling average, shows the rate for the whole population of mothers who smoke in their pregnancy is 14%, the rate for the 20% most deprived is 26.9%.

Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership

Partner action to improve the outcome

We are increasing resources and capacity to support pregnant women who smoke to quit.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Amber	Monitor the percentage of people who have 2 to 4 long term conditions	2016-17 25.7% - South Lanarkshire Average	Maintain below the Scottish Average	40.1%	In 2019-20, 40.1% of the South Lanarkshire population had 2 to 4 long term conditions. This sits above the Scottish Average of 38% for the same period. As part of the Health and Social Care Improvement Agenda we continue working towards improving our population's health and reducing local health inequalities in our services.

Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership

Partner action to improve the outcome

As part of the Health and Social Care Improvement Agenda we continue working towards improving our population's health and reducing local health inequalities in our services.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Amber	Reduce the proportion of the population being prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis	2016-17 21.4% South Lanarkshire Average	Reduce by 0.5%	21.5%	In 2018-19, 21.5% of the population within South Lanarkshire were prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis, this is higher than the Scottish Average of 19.2%. South Lanarkshire increased by 0.3% from 2017-18, the Scottish Average increased by 0.4% in same period.

Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Partner action to improve the outcome				
The Good Mental Health for All (GMHFA) Pan-Lanarkshire Steering Group have agreed that five task and finish groups will explore cross cutting themes and potential gaps in delivering a good mental health for all.				
The aim of these groups is to develop actions relevant to the transition and recording from COVID-19 that could be actioned by the GMHFA Steering Group.				

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Red	Reduce Accident and Emergency Department attendances per 1,000 population (65+)	2016-17 418.1 South Lanarkshire Average 319.0 Scottish Average	Reduce 460 per 1,000	From 2018-19 to 2019-20 the rate per 1,000 (65+) attendances at Accident and Emergency increased from 456.9 to 459.7 in South Lanarkshire. The Scottish rate similarly increased from 334.0 to 336.1.

Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership				
Partner action to improve the outcome				
In conjunction with the Health and Social Care Delivery Plan an action plan in being developed with partners to improve working arrangements across South Lanarkshire to shift reliance from hospital care.				
South Lanarkshire A&E attendances April - January 2020-21 are approximately 77% of pre-COVID levels which is an improvement in the performance on the previous year.				

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Reduce conversion of Accident and Emergency attendances to admissions	2016-17 28% South Lanarkshire Average 25% Scottish Average	Achieve Scottish Average 29.2%	From 2018-19 to 2019-20 the conversion of A&E attendances to admissions in South Lanarkshire increased from 28.9% to 29.2%. The Scottish rate similarly increased from 24.2% to 24.4%.

Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership				
Partner action to improve the outcome				
In conjunction with the Health and Social Care Delivery Plan an action plan in being developed with partners to improve working arrangements across South Lanarkshire to shift reliance from hospital care.				
As a result of the COVID pandemic, A&E attendance to admissions conversions have increased during 2020-21 in line with COVID infection rates.				

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Red	Reduce the Emergency Admission rate per 100,000 population	2016-17 13,867 South Lanarkshire Average 12,265 Scottish Average	Reduce 14,213	Admission rates continue to rise year on year and remain above the Scottish level. Information on the 6 areas of the Health and Social Care Delivery Plan are monitored monthly and formally reported on a quarterly basis to the Integrated Joint Board, Performance Audit and Finance Sub Committee and Social Work Committee, an action plan with partners has been developed to improve working arrangements to shift reliance on hospital care.

Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership

Partner action to improve the outcome

In conjunction with the Health and Social Care Delivery Plan, an action plan is being developed with partners to improve working arrangements across South Lanarkshire to shift reliance from hospital care.

Emergency admissions have decreased during 2020-21 to approximately 87% of pre-COVID levels. Current national data for Q1-Q3 shows a reduction from 11,063 to 8,827 during 2020-21 against the previous year.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Reduce the number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged (per 1,000 population) (75+)	2016-17 1,341 South Lanarkshire Average 842 Scottish Average	Reduce 1,156	While our performance in this indicator has declined from 2018-19 to 2019-20, a protocol has been implemented to increase the number of discharges that meet their planned discharge dates and improvements are being seen.

Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership

Partner action to improve the outcome

Planned Discharge Date (PDD) approach has been embedded and has been successful, from March 2020 Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs) have experienced a significant reduction in standard delay bed days, with most partnerships returning to pre-March levels in the following months. South Lanarkshire HSCP continued to show the improvement in bed days from March 2020 onwards. South Lanarkshire is one of three HSCPs sustaining improved performance.

South Lanarkshire daily standard bed days have reduced from an average of 106 pre-March 2020 to 51 post March 2020. Some of the improvement could be attributable to the introduction of PDD.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Amber	Increase the number of people successfully completing a reablement episode	2016-17 1,425	Increase	1,160	The number of people successfully completing a reablement episode has decreased in the last year from 2,035 to 1,160. This is largely due to a voluntary moratorium for the inhouse Care at Home Service across two localities which has reduced the opportunity to undertake reablement with new service users in these localities. The voluntary moratoriums have ceased and reablement episodes will increase as a result.

Responsibility (Lead): Health and Social Care Partnership
Partner action to improve the outcome
 Continue to promote the Supporting Your Independence agenda through the provision of internal Care at Home service. Voluntary moratoriums have ceased within the internal Care at Home Service and reablement episodes will increase as a result.

4.8.4.

Thematic Board: Sustainable Economic Growth														
Number of measures	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Contextual		Report Later/Not Available		Total	
	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20
	0	N/A	3	6	3	4	3	2	0	0	3	0	12	12
Red/Amber measures	There are three amber measures and three red measures for this priority. The amber and red measures are listed below with explanatory commentary:													

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Red	Increase the number of registered businesses per 10,000	2015 South Lanarkshire 346 per 10,000 Scotland 382 per 10,000	Maintain performance to, at least, match Scottish Average	364 per 10,000 The latest figures available from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2020) indicates that the number of registered businesses per 10,000 in South Lanarkshire has decreased slightly over the past year (by -1 per 10,000) from 365 per 10,000 in 2019, down to 364 per 10,000 in 2020. South Lanarkshire continues to lag behind the Scottish average rate for business registrations, with the difference between the South Lanarkshire figures and the Scottish Average widening from a gap of -29 per 10,000 businesses in 2019, to a gap of -31 per 10,000 businesses in 2020 (e.g. 364 registered businesses per 10,000 in South Lanarkshire, against 395 per 10,000 in Scotland). On this basis the medium term target of maintaining South Lanarkshire's performance against the Scottish average has again been missed.

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

The new Business Gateway contract began on 1 March 2021 and increased rate of business start-ups is a key priority under the new contract. Specific initiatives have been agreed with the contractor including an 'Academic Business Accelerator' programme aimed specifically at under graduates and recent graduates and a key sector specific Accelerator programme is also being devised. Increased support aimed at localities remote from the main business hubs and specific targeting of the rural area of South Lanarkshire is also being progressed. In addition, revised South Lanarkshire Business Support Grants includes a new accessible small grant of up to £3,000 aimed at new and young start-ups.

The wider partnership under the Lanarkshire Economic Forum will also have a focus on increasing the start-up rate.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Amber	Increase Gross Value Added (GVA)	2015 South Lanarkshire £5,784m (3.82% of Scottish total)	Increase share of Scottish GVA	4.65%	<p>Due to the effects of the COVID-19 lockdown on the ONS working practices the most recent data available from the ONS to report on this measure are revised figures from 2019. ONS will not be publishing the 2020 GVA data until March 2022.</p> <p>The 'balanced' GVA figures have again been adjusted to reflect current (2019) prices, this has inflated both the value of the last set of GVA figures (2019), and also the GVA figures for the baseline year (2015). Comparing the adjusted figures from the baseline year (2015) and the most recent figures (2019) South Lanarkshire's share of national GVA has decreased marginally by -0.04% since 2015, from 4.69%, down to 4.65% in 2019. Given the very marginal drop in GVA, and the fact that South Lanarkshire's share of Scottish GVA has remained constant (at around 4.6% to 4.7%), a rating of amber against the measure would continue to be justified.</p>
	Scotland £127,260m				
Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board					
<p>Partner action to improve the outcome</p> <p>Partnership action under the Lanarkshire Economic Forum will focus on economic recovery post pandemic and collaborative action will also have a focus on increasing productivity. However, the impact of both the coronavirus pandemic, coupled with the UK Brexit has made the economic environment more challenging.</p>					

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
<div style="background-color: red; color: black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; font-weight: bold;">Red</div> Maintain Business 3 year survival rate	2011-14 South Lanarkshire 60.7% still trading after 3 years Scotland 62% of businesses still trading after 3 years	Maintain performance to, at least, match Scottish Average	54.4%	<p>The latest Business Demography figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2019) indicates that the 3 year business survival rate in South Lanarkshire (SL) (or businesses first registered in 2016 still trading in 2019) has fallen for a third consecutive year, dropping by - 1.9% over the last 12 months, from 56.3% of businesses still trading after 3 years between 2015-18, down to 54.4% of registered businesses still trading after 3 years between 2016-19.</p> <p>The medium and long term targets of matching the level of business survivals in SL to the Scottish average, has also been missed. The latest ONS Business Demography figures, suggest that the rate of 3 year business survivals in SL has now (as of 2019) dropped below the Scottish average, with 54.4% of businesses registered in SL in 2016 still trading in 2019, -2.1% lower the Scotland wide figure of 56.5% for 3 year business survivals.</p> <p>In light of the fact that the levels of 3 year business survivals in SL has now dropped below the Scottish average, performance against this measure has been assessed as red.</p>

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

The new Business Gateway contract from 1 March 2021 will focus on improving business survivability as well as increased rate of business start-ups. Specific initiatives include an 'Academic Business Accelerator' programme aimed specifically at new and recent business starts and a key sector specific Accelerator programme is also being devised. Increased support aimed at localities remote from the main business hubs and specific targeting of the rural area of South Lanarkshire is also being progressed. In addition, revised South Lanarkshire Business Support Grants include a new accessible small grant of up to £3,000, recovery grants of up to £10,000 and growth grants of up to £20,000 are aimed increasing new start survivability.

The wider partnership under the Lanarkshire Economic Forum will also have a focus on increasing the new business survival rate.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Increase Business Start-ups number of new business registrations 2015 1,260 new businesses registered	Increase numbers of new start businesses	1,195	<p>The latest Business Demography figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2019) suggests that the number of new enterprises (based on VAT registrations) in South Lanarkshire (SL) has increased for a second consecutive year, up by +10 between 2018-2019, from 1,185 new business registrations in 2018, up to 1,195 in 2019.</p> <p>Although the number of new business start-ups in SL has continued to build year on year, the latest 2019 figures are still below that recorded in the baseline year e.g. 1,260 in 2015. The fact that the trend over the past 2 years has demonstrated a rise in new business registrations (in line with the aim of the measure, which is to increase new business start-ups), but that the numbers of new registrations are still (as of 2019) below the levels recorded in 2015 (the baseline year), would advise that performance against this measure should continue to be rated as amber.</p>

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

The new Business Gateway contract began on 1 March 2021 and increased rate of business start-ups is a key priority under the new contract. Specific initiatives have been agreed with the contractor including an 'Academic Business Accelerator' programme aimed specifically at under graduates and recent graduates and a key sector specific Accelerator programme is also being devised. Increased support aimed at localities remote from the main business hubs and specific targeting of the rural area of South Lanarkshire is also being progressed. In addition, revised South Lanarkshire Business Support Grants include a new accessible small grant of up to £3,000 aimed at new and young start-ups.

The wider partnership under the Lanarkshire Economic Forum will also have a focus on increasing the start-up rate.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Amber	Percentage reduction in the gap of positive destination outcomes for young people in the 20% most deprived data zones and their peers in the least deprived 20% data zones	2015-16 Lowest 20% - 89.9% Highest 20% - 95.1% Gap 5.2%	Reduce the Gap to 2.5%	6.3%	The information provided below shows the gap between school leaver destinations for young people residing in datazones in the most and least deprived 20%. Compared to the previous year there has been a widening of the gap which is now in line with the national rate of 6.3%. South Lanarkshire - 6.3 (2019-20); 4.9 (2018-19) National - 6.3 (2019-20); 5.3 (2019-20)

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

The Youth Employability Service continues to work with schools and SDS to use the 16+ Seemis matrix to identify those young people at most risk of failing to make a positive transition from school. The service will carry out additional analysis of those leavers from most deprived 20% data zones to identify any areas for improvement.

From August 2021, the Youth Employability Service will pilot a new Gradu8 work experience programme which will provide additional vocational options for targeted young people in the senior phase.

*This indicator is also detailed within the Getting It Right for South Lanarkshire Children's section of the Community Plan.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
<div style="background-color: red; color: black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; font-weight: bold;">Red</div> <p>Reduce proportion of South Lanarkshire residents earning below the living wage</p>	<p>2016 18.7% of residents in jobs earning less than the living wage</p>	<p>Maintain below the Scottish Average</p>	<p>20.8%</p>	<p>The latest figures (Office for National Statistics, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2020) indicates that there was a +3.2% rise in the percentage of employees in South Lanarkshire (SL) earning less than the living wage over the past year, from 17.6% of resident employees in 2019, up to 20.8% recorded in 2020.</p> <p>For the third consecutive year in a row, SL has continued to register a higher level of employees earning less than the living wage than the Scottish average, with the gap between the SL rate and the Scottish average increasing from a +0.8% gap recorded in 2019, up to +5.6% gap in 2020 (e.g. Scottish average = 15.2%, against the SL average = 20.8%), so in this respect both the medium and long-term targets have or will be missed.</p> <p>Despite the recent rise in the percentage of employees earning less than the living wage, SL has managed to retain a relatively high number of accredited living wage employers over the last 12 months, according to the figures from the Living Wage Foundation/Living Wage Scotland. The figures for 31 March 2021 suggests that SL still records the 4th highest number of accredited living wage employers in Scotland out of the 32 council areas.</p>

Responsibility (Lead): Sustainable Economic Growth Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

CPP partners have been proactive locally in trying to boost the number of local employers paying the living wage in other ways. A pan-Lanarkshire Living Wage Campaign group was established prior to the pandemic. As of March 2021, the group has resumed activities and is continuing to achieve progress, e.g., agreeing to maintain support for the Living Wage Accreditation Discount Scheme for a third year which has helped around 15 local businesses to pay the living wage and ensuring that approximately 100 residents achieve an upgrade in their wages.

The campaign group also plans to continue to support the wider Living Wage Campaign throughout Lanarkshire with new activities e.g., producing a new information leaflet and supporting the continuation of the 4th Living Wage Week, which is scheduled to take place in the Autumn 2021. On the issue of Fair Work and in-work poverty, the campaign group will continue to work, Lanarkshire wide, with local employers and businesses to raise awareness of the various issues involved. The group is currently drawing up an Action Plan going forward into 2021-22.

Thematic Board: Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children Partnership														
Number of measures	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Contextual		Report Later/Not Available		Total	
	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20	20-21	19-20
	0	N/A	4	12	11	3	2	3	0	0	4	3	21	21
Red/Amber measures		There are eleven amber measures and two red measures for this priority. The amber and red measures are listed below with explanatory commentary:												
Indicator		Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments									
Amber	Increase percentage of children within SIMD Quintile 1 who have reached their language development milestones at the time of the 27/30 month child health review and reduce the gap between SIMD 1 and SIMD 5	2016 73% Gap 12.9%	85% Gap 11%	82.5%	<p>The development of a 13-15 month early intervention parental goal setting resource and local pathway of support for parents. As well as videos on twitter, Facebook and Youtube as part of a COVID response while specialist Speech and Language Therapy Services were paused.</p> <p>June 2019: SIMD 1 82.5% SIMD 2 86.7% SIMD 3 88.5% SIMD 4 88.6% SIMD 5 92.1%</p> <p>2019-20 SIMD 1 80.7% (-1.8%) SIMD 2 83.7% (-3.0%) SIMD 3 86.2% (-2.3%) SIMD 4 88.2% (-0.4%) SIMD 5 89.7% (-2.4%)</p> <p>The 2019-20 gap between SIMD1 and 5 is 9%, the 2020-21 gap is 9.6% so the gap has increased by 0.6%.</p>									
	Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board													
Partner action to improve the outcome														
Within SIMD1 the figures of 80.7% this year falls short of our goal of 85% and is a decrease from the previous year. Affected by COVID, work is underway to engage parents at an earlier assessment contact of 13-15 months utilising a parental goal tool to support parents with children experiencing speech concerns. A dedicated Speech and Language Therapist will work with health visitors and early years establishments to strengthen practice and will focus in the most deprived areas of deprivation SIMD 1, alongside a parental goal setting tool and digital supports for parents.														

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Increase percentage of school attendance for children and young people in SIMD 1 2016 91.1%	92%	89.8%	The 2019-20 (partial) school attendance rate was 89.8% (Session 2018-19 - 89.9%). This is a decrease from the total attendance rate of 92.6% from the previous year.
Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board				
Partner action to improve the outcome Supporting attendance of all pupils and especially those in our high poverty areas will be a feature of the recovery work taken by schools and Children's Services partners.				

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Increase percentage of children with no emotional and behavioural developmental concerns at 27-30 months 2016 88.6%	94%	93.64%	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Incredible Years has been paused. The latest figure evidences 93.64%, an increase of 3.74% from last year and below the goal of 94%.
Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board				
Partner action to improve the outcome A new co-ordinator for the Parenting Support Pathway has been appointed and they will be tasked with resurrecting the Parenting Programmes when it is considered safe to do so. Until then, where possible, support and materials will be made available online. These Parenting Programmes provide bespoke early intervention support to parents that help and improve the outcomes for children in general including the milestones at 27-30 months.				

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Increase percentage of P1 children within a healthy weight 2016 86.1%	88%	76.5%	The 2019-20 figure is 76.5% and remains below the medium term target, up 0.1% since the previous year. P1 Weight and Height have been paused during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional Scottish Government funding has been received to set up a specialist service and Early Years Funding third sector to develop community based support.
Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board				
Partner action to improve the outcome A new improvement priority has been included in the Children's Services Plan that will seek to improve the healthy weight of 4-5 year olds.				

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber Increase percentage of all looked after children and young people Health Needs Assessments completed within 4 weeks	2016 59%	85%	79%	79% of children and young people have had their health needs assessment completed within four weeks.

Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

This is a key priority in the refocussed model of support to our care experienced children and young people and will feature in improvement work of the 'Children and Young People Looked After in the Community' thematic group.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Red Reduce percentage of 15 year olds drinking alcohol at least once a week	2014 16.2%	15%	22%	The SALSUS survey 2018 which was published in 2020, shows a figure of 22% which is up 6% on the 2013 figures and 3% greater than the national average.

Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

There has been a refocusing of priorities within the Children's Services Plan and partners will work together to deliver more joined up support to young people. In addition, a more preventative model of support is being developed at the peri-natal/infant stage where substance misusing parents will be offered planned support through a 'Parent's Plan'. Guidance is being developed for staff and it is hoped the implementation of this approach can begin in Quarter 1, 2021-22.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Red Reduce percentage of 15 year olds reporting using drugs in the last month	2014 12%	10%	15%	The SALSUS survey 2018 which was published in 2020, shows a figure of 15% which is up 3% on the 2013 figures and 3% greater than the national average.

Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board

Partner action to improve the outcome

There has been a refocusing of priorities within the Children's Services Plan and partners will work together to deliver more joined up support to young people. In addition, a more preventative model of support is being developed at the peri-natal/infant stage where substance misusing parents will be offered planned support through a 'Parent's Plan'. Guidance is being developed for staff and it is hoped the implementation of this approach can begin in Quarter 1, 2021-22.

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Amber	Increase percentage attendance of care experienced children and young people	2016 85.1%	91%	88.5%	The percentage attendance of care experienced children and young people during 2019-20 (partial) is 88.5%.
Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board					
Partner action to improve the outcome					
A review of Corporate Parenting Support has been put in place as part of our approach to 'keep the promise' to our care experienced children and young people and this will include supporting school attendance.					

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Amber	Increase percentage of care experienced young people achieving a positive destination at initial survey	2016 80% South Lanarkshire Average 69% Scottish Average	90%	85.7%	Positive destination figures have shown a slight drop figures (85.7% from 91.5%), which is ultimately a consequence of COVID-19 and the challenges in delivering the bespoke support that the youth employability offer is built upon. The data however, still compares well to the national average (81.4%) and reflects the investment and knowledge and skill base of the partners to provide the best quality opportunities for our young people.
Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board					
Partners will work together to continue to develop innovative ways to engage school leavers at risk of a negative destination through the My Brighter Future initiative and youth employability as a whole.					

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments	
Amber	Percentage reduction in the gap for destination outcomes for care experienced young people linked to the national average	2016 15.92% Scottish Average 76.4% Gap – 17.4%	Reduce the Gap to 7%	9.1%	Positive destination figures have shown a slight drop in figures (9.1 from 4.2), which is ultimately a consequence of COVID-19 and the challenges in delivering the bespoke support that the youth employability offer is built upon. The data however, still compares well to the national average (11.9) and reflects the investment and knowledge and skill base of the partners to provide the best quality opportunities for our young people.
Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board					
Partners will work together to continue to develop innovative ways to engage school leavers at risk of a negative destination through the My Brighter Future initiative and youth employability as a whole.					

Indicator		Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Reduce percentage of repeat referrals to Reporter on offence grounds	2016 26.5%	25%	46.7%	152 children in South Lanarkshire had 355 offence referrals. Of those, 71 had more than one offence referral in the year (46.7%).
	Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board				
We will work with key partners to try to extend the early intervention project 'Inclusion As Prevention' activity into other localities, with a view to preventing young people beginning to offend and thereby reducing referrals to the Reporter on offence grounds. Inclusion As Prevention also features as one of the twenty priorities in the new Children's Services Plan 2021-23.					

Indicator		Baseline	Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Reduce percentage of referrals to the Reporter for failure to attend school without reasonable excuse	2016 9.3%	7.5%	15.6%	127 children were referred for not attending school. This was 137 referrals out of 816 in total in 2019-20 (15.6%).
	Responsibility (Lead): GIRFSLC Partnership Board				
We will work to support pupils and families to maximise attendance at school where it is safe to do so.					

4.9. Detailed progress against all outcomes and the related interventions contained within the Community Plan is noted within the Quarter 4 Outcomes Progress Report at Appendix 1.

5. Employee Implications

5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Other Implications

8.1. There are no risk or sustainability issues associated with the content of this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information

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South Lanarkshire
Partnership
Stronger together

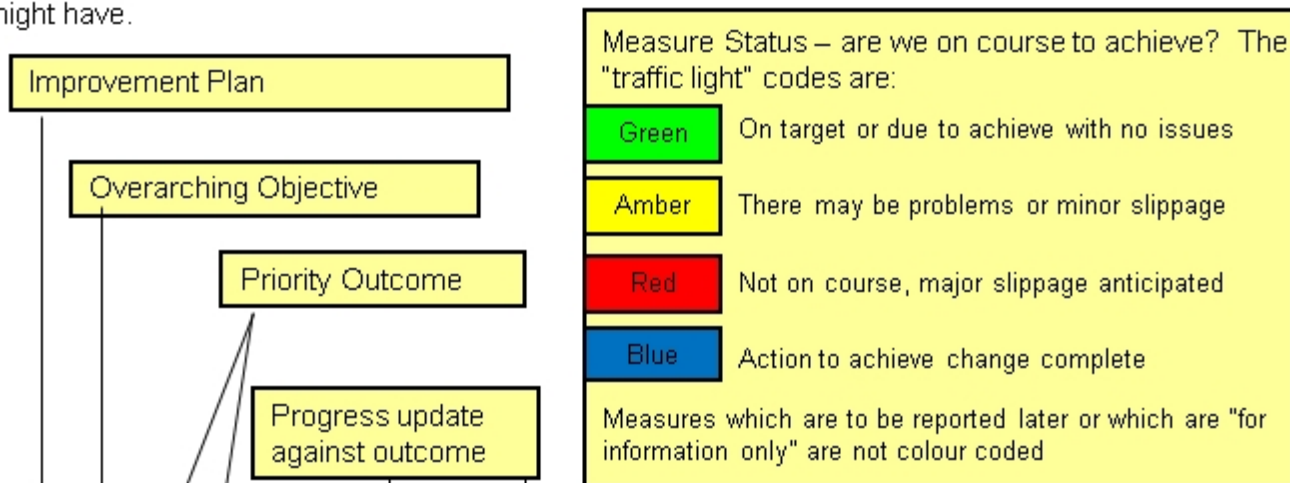
Progress Report

Community Plan 2017-2027

Quarter 4 - 2020-21

How to use this performance report

This performance report is intended to be both informative and easy to use. The guide below is designed to help you get the most out of the report and to answer the most common questions you might have.



Community Planning Partnership - Community Plan 2017-2027

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

Priority Outcome 2: Reduction in Employment Deprivation

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----		
				Data	Period	Annual	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the numbers of working age residents who are employment deprived across South Lanarkshire and reduce the Gap between the South Lanarkshire rate and the Scottish average	The latest figures (SMD 2016) indicate that the percentage of working age residents in South Lanarkshire who are employment deprived is currently 11.9%, +1.1% above the Scottish average of 10.8%. The medium term target is to reduce the numbers employment deprived by -3%. This figure is sourced from the SMD and will not be updated until the next SMD is undertaken in 2019/20.	Report Later	2012 South Lanarkshire 13.8% (26,880) Scotland 12.8%	11.9%	2016	Not set SMD not refreshed until 2019-20	Seek to deliver 3% fall in numbers of employment deprived	Seek to deliver 9% fall in numbers of employment deprived
Reduce the Gap between the South Lanarkshire working age residents who are employment deprived across South Lanarkshire and reduce the Gap between the 20% most deprived communities and South Lanarkshire	The latest figures (SMD 2016) indicate that the gap between the percentage of working age residents in the most deprived 20% of data zones in South Lanarkshire and the South Lanarkshire average who are employment deprived is currently +11.7% (e.g. employment deprivation= 11.9% in South Lanarkshire, against 23.6% for residents in the worst 20% data zones). This figure is sourced from the SMD and will not be updated until the next SMD is undertaken in 2019/20.	Report Later	SMD 2012 South Lanarkshire 13.8% (26,880) 20% worst data zones 26.9% (9,310) Gap = 13.1%	11.7%	2016	Not set SMD not refreshed until 2019-20	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those levels living in the worst 20% data zones	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those levels living in the worst 20% data zones

Community Planning Partnership - Community Plan 2017-2027

Financial Inclusion

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Maximise uptake of benefits and entitlements for low income households	Work with partners to assess local Scottish Welfare Fund arrangements and promotion with a view to maximising uptake and reducing proportion of refusals - Monitoring action. Monitoring of Scottish Welfare Fund operations	The SWF is administered fully in accordance with Scottish Government guidance. The budget provided by the Scottish Government for 2017/18 of £2,099k was fully spent providing 3144 Community Care and 3303 Crisis awards. To ensure that this was achieved and therefore to ensure widespread awareness of the availability of grants from the Scottish Welfare Fund, extensive promotional activity was undertaken which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing a promotional plan for internal and external stakeholders - Attending forums e.g. Financial Inclusion Network - Ensuring a clear and concise Council website - Having leaflets available in all public buildings e.g. Libraries, G.P. Surgeries and Schools Moving forward, improvement measures include improved profiling of SWF claimants to identify areas with potentially lower than expected uptake of SWF.	Green
	Work with the new Scottish Social Security Agency to develop a local Social Security communications plan to ensure community and partner awareness of the new processes for the devolved benefits	It is too early to report on this. The agency is expected to start paying out benefits by Summer 2019. We would expect discussions to start with Agency staff responsible for establishing local partnership arrangements later this year.	Green
	Work with the new Scottish Social Security Agency to develop joint working arrangements including co-location	It is too early to report on this. The agency is expected to start paying out benefits by Summer 2019. We would expect discussions to start with Agency staff responsible for establishing local partnership arrangements later this year.	Green
	Monitor front line staff knowledge and user feedback comments in relation to awareness of the new processes for devolved benefits	It is too early to report on this. The agency is expected to start paying out benefits by Summer 2019. We would expect discussions to start with Agency staff responsible for establishing local partnership arrangements later this year including consideration of awareness raising.	Green
	Citizens Advice Bureaux, Money Matters, local DWP staff and other partners to work together to maximise uptake of benefits and minimise the number and impacts of benefit sanctions/decisions and benefit delays	All key advice providers are working individually and in partnership to provide support to residents to help maximise benefit uptake and minimise sanctions. Representation services are stretched and finding additional funding for this activity has been identified as a key goal. Appropriate funding opportunities including external funds are being considered.	Green
	Universal Credit leaflet circulated to partners and residents	The leaflet has been finalised and will be distributed in digital and paper form in during Summer 2018.	Green
	Gather and analyse relevant data to identify challenges and improvement areas and consider mechanisms to do this periodically, review and refresh collaborative working arrangements	This is a new action and an update will be available at 2018/19 Q1.	Green
	Identify funding to meet an increasing demand for representation services	Funding sources being considered.	Green

Summary - number of measures green, amber, red, contextual and to be reported later under each Priority

Priority Measures	Status					Total
	Green	Amber	Red	Contextual	To be reported later	
Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality	0	0	0	0	6	6
Community Safety	11	1	3	6	0	21
Health and Care	10	8	2	0	0	20
Sustainable Economic Growth	3	3	3	0	3	12
Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children	4	11	2	0	4	21
Total	28	23	10	6	13	80

Summary - number of interventions complete, green, amber, red and to be reported later under each Priority

Priority Interventions	Status					Total
	Complete	Green	Amber	Red	To be reported later	
Inclusive Growth	0	16	0	1	4	21
Financial Inclusion	0	9	2	0	1	12
Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare	2	2	0	0	4	8
Improving Housing	1	14	0	0	1	16
Education, Skills and Development	0	7	1	0	0	8
Health Inequalities	0	9	0	0	13	22
Safeguarding from Risk or Harm	0	1	0	0	2	3
Improving Local Environment and Communities	0	16	6	1	1	24
Total	3	74	9	2	26	114

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

Priority Outcome 1: Reducing Child Poverty in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the proportion of children who live in families with limited resources (after housing costs)	<p>The Children in Families with Limited Resources across Scotland (CFLRS) was originally developed as a set of experimental statistics, based on analysis of datasets/ selected responses from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) and are designed to provide estimates of the proportion of children in families with limited resources by council area.</p> <p>The initial measure for the CFLRS (2014-16) was designed to operate on a 3 year rolling average basis. Due to some of the survey responses not being available from the 2017 SHS meant that the data from that year had to be combined to calculate a 4 year average (2014-17).</p> <p>The Scottish Government had intended to update the survey again with 2018 data in early 2020, but due to some 2014-17 data not available, and after consultation with the stakeholders who assist with the management of the survey, it was felt that further analysis and testing was needed before the 2018 results could be published.</p> <p>Staffing issues and the COVID-19 crisis have further interfered with the publication schedule but it is the intention of the Scottish Government to re-publish the CFLRS with the 2018 and 2019 data at some point later in 2021.</p>	Report Later	2014-16 South Lanarkshire 18.1% Scotland 20.4% Gap - +2.3%	-----		Maintain below the Scottish Average	Maintain below the Scottish Average

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

Priority Outcome 1: Reducing Child Poverty in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the proportion of children who live in families that are unable to afford the basic necessities	<p>The Children in Families with Limited Resources across Scotland (CFLRS) was originally developed as a set of experimental statistics, based on analysis of datasets/ selected responses from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS) and are designed to provide estimates of the proportion of children in families with limited resources by council area.</p> <p>The initial measure for the CFLRS (2014-16) was designed to operate on a 3 year rolling average basis. Due to some of the survey responses not being available from the 2017 SHS meant that the data from that year had to be combined to calculate a 4 year average (2014-17).</p> <p>The Scottish Government had intended to update the survey again with 2018 data in early 2020, but due to some 2014-17 data not available, and after consultation with the stakeholders who assist with the management of the survey, it was felt that further analysis and testing was needed before the 2018 results could be published.</p> <p>Staffing issues and the COVID-19 crisis have further interfered with the publication schedule but it is the intention of the Scottish Government to re-publish the CFLRS with the 2018 and 2019 data at some point later in 2021.</p>	Report Later	2014-17 South Lanarkshire 32.8% Scotland 33.6% Gap + 0.8%	-----		Maintain below the Scottish Average	Maintain below the Scottish Average

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

Priority Outcome 2: Reduction in Employment Deprivation

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the proportion of working age residents who are employment deprived across South Lanarkshire and reduce the Gap between the South Lanarkshire rate and the Scottish average	<p>The data used for this measure is sourced from the SIMD which is re-worked every 4 years. The last update of the SIMD was in 2020, so the next release of new data will not be available until 2024 at the earliest.</p> <p>Comparing the results of the last two (SIMD's 2016 and 2020), the percentage of employment deprived residents in South Lanarkshire has reduced between the SIMD 2016 and the SIMD 2020, from 11.9% down to 9.7%. The SIMD 2020 figures also suggest that the gap between the SL employment deprivation rate and the Scottish average has closed significantly (by -0.7%) since 2016, from a +1.1% gap in the SIMD 2016 (or a 11.8% rate in South Lanarkshire, against a 10.8% rate in Scotland), down to a +0.4% gap in SIMD 2020 (or a 9.7% rate in South Lanarkshire, against a 9.3% rate in Scotland).</p> <p>The medium and long-term targets for this measure talk about reducing the number of employment deprived adults by 3% and 10% respectively. If this method of assessment is used then both targets (3% and 10%) have been achieved, with the number of employment deprived adults in South Lanarkshire, dropping by -18% between the SIMD 2016 and SIMD 2020, from 23,935 adult's employment deprived in 2016, down to 19,617 adults employment deprived in</p>	Report Later	SIMD 2016 South Lanarkshire – 11.9% (23,935) Scotland – 10.8% Gap +1.1%	9.7%	2020	Seek to deliver 3% fall in numbers of employment deprived	Seek to deliver 9% fall in numbers of employment deprived

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

Priority Outcome 2: Reduction in Employment Deprivation

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
	2020.						

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

Priority Outcome 2: Reduction in Employment Deprivation

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the proportion of working age residents who are employment deprived across South Lanarkshire and reduce the Gap between the 20% most deprived communities and South Lanarkshire	<p>The data used for this measure is sourced from the SIMD which is re-worked every 4 years. The last update of the SIMD was in 2020, so the next release of new data will not be available until 2024 at the earliest.</p> <p>The percentage of employment deprived residents in South Lanarkshire's (SL) (most deprived 20% data zones has fallen between the last two SIMD's, from 23.6% in SIMD 2016 down to 19.5% in SIMD 2020. The gap between the percentage of working age adults who are employment deprived in the most deprived 20% data zones and the SL average has also reduced between the SIMD 2016 and the SIMD 2020. The gap has reduced from 11.7% in 2016 (11.9% of working aged adult's employment deprived in SL, against 23.6% in the most deprived 20% data zones), down to 9.8% in 2020 (9.7% of working aged adult's employment deprived in SL, against 19.5% in the most deprived 20% data zones in 2020).</p> <p>In this sense, the two aims of the measure e.g., to reduce employment deprivation in SL and to reduce the gap in employment deprivation between residents in the most deprived 20% data zones and the SL average have both been met, based on the comparison of the data from SIMD 2016 and SIMD 2020.</p>	Report Later	SIMD 2016 South Lanarkshire 11.9% (23,935) Scotland - 10.8% 20% data zones - 23.6% (9,480) Gap 11.7%	9.8%	2020	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those levels living in the worst 20% data zones	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those levels living in the worst 20% data zones

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

Priority Outcome 3: Reduction in Income Deprivation

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the levels of income deprivation and the Gap between the South Lanarkshire rate and the Scottish average	<p>The data used for this measure is sourced from the SIMD which is re-worked every 4 years. The last update of the SIMD was in 2020, so the next release of new data will not be available until 2024 at the earliest.</p> <p>Comparisons between the results of SIMD 2016 and the SIMD 2020 confirm that the levels of income in South Lanarkshire (SL) amongst the population have fallen over the past 4 years, from 13.2% of the population in 2016 down to 12.8% in 2020. The gap in the percentage of the total population in SL and the Scottish average who are income deprived has also fallen between the last two SIMD's, from a 0.9% gap recorded in 2016 (13.2% of the total population income deprived in SL, against the Scottish average figure of 12.3%), down to a 0.7% gap recorded in 2020 (12.8% of the total population income deprived in SL, against the Scottish average figure of 12.1%).</p> <p>Although the gap between the SL rate of income deprivation and the Scottish average has narrowed (by -0.2%) between 2016 and 2020, the medium-term target of reducing the gap between the two to less than 0.5% has been narrowly missed by +0.2%.</p>	Report Later	SIMD 2016 South Lanarkshire 13.2% (41,670) Scotland 12.3% Gap - 0.9%	0.7%	2020	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and the Scottish average to less than 0.5 of a percentage point	Reduce the rate of deprivation in South Lanarkshire to at least the Scottish average
Reduce the levels of income deprivation and the gap between the 20% most deprived communities and South Lanarkshire	The data used for this measure is sourced from the SIMD which is re-worked every 4 years. The last update of the SIMD was in 2020, so the next release of new data will		(SIMD 2016) South Lanarkshire –	12.9%	2020	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

Priority Outcome 3: Reduction in Income Deprivation

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
	<p>not be available until 2024 at the earliest.</p> <p>The percentage of income deprived residents in South Lanarkshire's (SL) most deprived 20% data zones has declined between SIMD 2016 and SIMD 2020, from 27% down to 25.7%. The gap between the percentage of the total population who are income deprived, between the SL average and residents in the most deprived 20% data zones has also reduced over the last 4 years, dropping from a 13.8% gap in SIMD 2016 (13.2% of the total population income deprived in SL, against 27% in the most deprived 20% data zones), down to a 12.9% gap recorded in SIMD 2020 (12.8% of the total population income deprived in SL, against 25.7% in the most deprived 20% data zones in 2020).</p>	Report Later	<p>13.2% of the population (41,670)</p> <p>20% data zones – 27% (16,965)</p> <p>Gap – 13.8%</p>			living in the worst 20% data zones	levels and those living in the worst 20% data zones

Inclusive Growth

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Increased commitment and efforts to promote fair work and tackle in-work poverty	Delivery of South Lanarkshire Living Wage/Fair Work campaign	<p>The Living Wage Campaign Sub Group did not meet during the first 7 months of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has met recently and has agreed to support the Living Wage Accreditation Discount Scheme for a third year. This will help about 15 local businesses ensuring that approximately 100 local residents achieve an upgrade in wages. The group will continue to support the Living Wage Campaign by producing a leaflet and supporting the Living Wage Week campaign in the Autumn 2021.</p> <p>With regards to Fair Work and the issue of in-work poverty the group will continue to work, Lanarkshire wide, with employers and businesses to raise awareness of the various issues involved. It is currently drawing up an Action Plan for 2021-22.</p>	Report Later
	Increase numbers of Living Wage Accredited local employers	<p>The latest statistics supplied by Living Wage Scotland/the Living Wage Foundation indicates that the number of accredited living wage employers (excluding MP's/MSP's) in South Lanarkshire has increased again over the previous year, from 90 at 31 March 2020, up to 93 at 31 March 2021. South Lanarkshire continues to rank as the 4th highest authority in Scotland for the number of accredited Living Wage employers, when compared against the other 32 council areas according to the March 2021 figures, with only Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Highland having higher numbers. It should be noted that Living Wage Scotland have confirmed that accredited companies and organisations with furloughed employees, that are still trading at 31 March 2021, based on furlough support, are also counted amongst these figures.</p>	Green
	Support the Lanarkshire Economic Forum in implementing coordinated partnership actions framed around the themes of People; Place; and Business to aid economic recovery	<p>The Lanarkshire Economic Forum has been established and a Chair from the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) has been appointed. A Terms of Reference has been drafted and full membership to be finalised.</p> <p>Four Thematic Sub-Groups have also been established and will focus on 'Employability and Skills' and 'Place and Business'.</p> <p>To take forward the actions, a range of existing and proposed actions have been collated under the main principles from across all the partners. Thematic Groups will be tasked to examine and rationalise these actions with a view to identifying collaborative actions.</p>	Green

Inclusive Growth

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Increase number of business start ups	Numbers of new enterprises/businesses established	The latest Business Demography figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2019, pre-COVID-19) suggests that the number of new enterprises (based on VAT registrations) in South Lanarkshire has increased for a second consecutive year, up by +10 over the last year that figures are available (2018-2019) from 1,185 in 2018, up to 1,195 in 2019.	Green
	Numbers of new enterprises/businesses sustained	<p>The latest Business Demography figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2019, pre COVID-19) indicates that the 3 year business survival rate in South Lanarkshire (or businesses first registered in 2016 still trading in 2019) has fallen, dropping by -1.9% over the last 12 months, from 56.3% of businesses surviving 3 years (2016-18), down to 54.4% of registered businesses surviving 3 years (2017-19).</p> <p>According to the latest ONS Business Demography figures, the rate of 3 year business survivals in South Lanarkshire has now (as of 2019) dropped below the Scottish average, with 54.4% of businesses registered in South Lanarkshire in 2016 still trading in 2019, -2.1% lower than the Scotland wide figure of 56.5% for 3 year business survivals at 2019.</p>	Red
Increase the engagement of low income/unemployed residents in activity to support progress to and within work supporting economic recovery	Number of residents progressing into sustainable employment	<p>From 1,488 clients engaged in 2020-21 we have 410 Job Entries achieved to 31 March 2021. A large proportion of clients will continue to be supported into 2021-22 with a significant uplift in jobs access expected as we receive additional resources and investment to support job creation through employer recruitment incentives in a recovering labour market.</p> <p>COVID-19 significantly impacted the jobs market, key factors such as economic shut downs resulting in a significant number of employees participating on the furlough scheme and employer closures again all contributing to lack of job opportunities.</p> <p>Male (263) Female (147) Aged 16-24 (204) Aged 25+ (206)</p>	Green
	Number of employees supported to upskill and progress within the workplace addressing in work poverty	120 low income employees were supported throughout the year. COVID-19 has delayed some in work support and progressions due to employer closures, working from home, furloughed employees, health and safety challenges and training provider closures.	Green

Inclusive Growth

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Support a youth guarantee to young people aged 16-24 into work, training or education	Number of young people supported	This funding was provided late December 2020 to support people aged 16-24 who were disproportionately affected by COVID-19. South Lanarkshire Council recruited a number of Key Worker staff to support a Youth Guarantee. In Quarter 4, from January 2021 to March 2021, a total of 58 young people were supported despite challenging labour market conditions.	Green
	Number of young people supported into work (including Employer Recruitment Incentives)	38 people were supported into work from the Youth Guarantee at Quarter 4 2020-21.	Green
	Number of young people supported into education or training	Young people are progressing through services and 12 young people have entered further education/training in Quarter 4 2020-21.	Green
	Number of residents aged 16-24 progressing into Kickstart jobs	The Youth Guarantee provides enhanced funding to South Lanarkshire Council's Kickstart job opportunities and to support the Fair Work Policy and Living Wage focus. There were no starts within Quarter 4, 2020-21 due to the Kickstart posts not starting until 2021-22.	Green
Targeted at communities with high levels of employment and income deprivation and those with significant barriers to work such as substance misuse; disability; poor mental health and criminal convictions	Number of residents with multiple complex barriers supported into work, education or training	477 residents were supported who reside within the worst 15% SIMD areas in South Lanarkshire who have multiple barriers to employment.	Green
	Ensure alignment and integration with key services such as health, financial inclusion, justice etc	South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) has worked in partnership with key internal resources and delivery partners initiating test of change with health, financial inclusion and justice services. Fast Track referrals, joint training and awareness sessions were implemented to enable clients to access interdependent services to facilitate their journey back into sustainable employment. This includes Housing/Homelessness Services (Rapid Re-housing Team), Community Addictions and Recovery Service – A Test of Change working with occupational therapists and our Employability Team to engage those recovering from addictions often with dual diagnosis challenges and offending issues and we are now looking to roll this out across South Lanarkshire). All employability clients are part of our Targeted Recruitment programmes and all clients are automatically enrolled on the council's MyJobScotland jobs portal and matched to council jobs where appropriate. Bespoke employability support for Home care providers who are under contract to deliver care at home on behalf of the council are also provided.	Green
Improved physical connectivity to learning, jobs and business opportunities	Following the conclusion of capital project tendering activity, prepare and submit Full Business Case documentation to the City Deal Programme Management Office seeking funding approval for education and transport projects at Community Growth Area locations in South Lanarkshire	Preparation of the Full Business Case (FBC) for the extension to Glengowan Primary School (Larkhall Community Growth Area (CGA)) is nearing completion. Following completion of the project tender exercise this will be submitted for approval in June 2021. The FBC for Jackton Primary School (EK CGA) will be prepared when tenders are returned in Autumn 2021.	Green

Inclusive Growth

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Supporting unemployment	Deliver 300 Kickstart places supporting young people aged 16-24 into new and additional jobs supporting economic recovery by December 2021	Due to no Kickstart places commencing in Quarter 4 2020-21, this will be reported in 2021-22.	Report Later
	Deliver a youth guarantee for 450 young people aged 16-24 progressing them into employment, training, volunteering or education by 31 March 2022	The Youth Guarantee provides enhanced funding to South Lanarkshire Council's Kickstart job opportunities and to support the Fair Work Policy and Living Wage focus. There were no starts within Quarter 4, 2020-21 due to the Kickstart posts not starting until 2021-22.	Report Later
	Progress 500 unemployed residents into Fair Work opportunities	410 jobs were achieved to 31 March 2021. The target was unable to be met due to COVID-19 employer closures and South Lanarkshire being one of the highest authorities with employees being furloughed. Although it is a challenging jobs market, a further 211 people entered training and education and 83 gained a qualification. Any shortfall in engagements will be reported in 2021-22 and additional Investment in Employer recruitment incentives should drive job creation and jobs access opportunities as we transition from the worst of the pandemic and confidence returns to our local economy.	Report Later
	Align and integrate employability services with Health, Money Advice, Social Work (Scottish Government led group)	This work is currently a work in progress and is still in early developmental stages.	Green
	Support Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE) developments for those facing redundancy as a result of COVID-19	Work is progressing with Skills Development Scotland (SDS) (lead Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE) Partner) and other key partners to prepare for a number of expected redundancies when the furlough Scheme ends in September 2021. At the beginning of the pandemic, a Helpline was established to assist local people access a range of employability and financial assistance. SDS implemented a national helpline to support redundancies at a national level with local provision included to support the local area.	Green
	Support 120 people aged 25 plus into employment training or education	206 people aged 25 plus have been supported into employment.	Green
	Support the No-One Left Behind partnership to target funding and support key employment sectors and client groups who are most disadvantaged	There is a local South Lanarkshire Employability Partnership and a pan Lanarkshire Partnership to support the key principles of the Scottish Government's partnership agreement and policy of No-one Left Behind. This enables resources to be targeted for those who are furthest removed from the labour market who require more intensive support to enter and sustain employment.	Green

Financial Inclusion

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Maximise uptake of benefits and entitlements for low income households	Work with partners to promote the uptake of benefits including those new benefits introduced by Social Security Scotland	Housing Benefit (HB) and Council Tax Reduction (CTR) is widely promoted by council services e.g. Social Work and Housing, Third Party organisations e.g. CABs and on the council's website. CTR is also promoted in all council tax bills. Promotion of HB/CTR is also given prominence on the COVID-19 advice pages on the council's website. This has helped contribute to a 10% increase in CTR awards in 2020-21 compared to the previous year. This has also contributed to an increase in payments to low income households for clothing grants and free school meals.	Green
	Monitor the spend in crisis and community care grants to ensure clients continue to receive financial support when meeting the relevant eligibility criteria and identify actions that could increase the award rate	Management Information is analysed on a minimum monthly basis to ensure customers receive their grant awards as quickly as possible and within the Scottish Government's (SG) set targets of 2 working days for a crisis grant and 15 working days for a community care grant. SLC actual in 2020-21 = 2 and 12 working days respectively and is therefore within SG timescales. Regular review of individual Decision Maker decisions and award rates has contributed to an increased award rate of 4% for both crisis and community care grants compared to the previous year.	Green
	Monitor the level of benefit awards achieved for clients through the provision of support by Money Matters Advice Service and Citizens Advice to ensure clients continue to receive appropriate financial gain from their engagement with the services	A joint Money Matters/CABs Forum to promote good practice and share innovative ideas will be launched later in the year.	Green
	Review and promote the Money Matters/NHS Lanarkshire Telephone Advice Line referral process and service for pregnant women and families with young children, increasing referrals by 5% of the 2020/21 rate by March 2022	Engagement levels have been lower this year due to COVID-19 and the restrictions of home visits and face to face appointments and working from home. Despite this the Telephone Advice Line still had significant engagement with 834 referrals from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. Total annual benefit award of £2,163,673.93 and average of £2,594.33 per household.	Green
	Numbers and proportions of families engaged with the Money Matters/NHS Telephone Advice Line	In 2020-21, 834 families were referred to the Money Matters Advice Service, of these 686 (82%) engaged with the service.	Green
	Improve support for carers with regards to financial wellbeing and ensure systems are in place to identify those carers who require financial support	Continue to monitor the number of new carers and amount of increase in weekly benefits generated by dedicated carer welfare rights officers	As with a number of services, the operation of the Money Matters Service had to change due to COVID-19. The average number of new cases has reduced to 150 per quarter, however, significant sums in weekly benefit and backdated benefits is secured for these carers.

Financial Inclusion

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Improve access to food and crisis aid and ensure those accessing aid receive the advice and support required (money/debt; benefits; housing etc) to find more sustainable solutions	Encourage a partnership approach with the creation and facilitation of the local food network (third and voluntary sectors and partners) to achieve the change required and facilitate knowledge sharing and peer learning	A food network with organisations involved in emergency food distribution was established in November 2020. The network meets every 2/3 months and consists of more than 15 organisations including food banks and community food organisations. Partners are also involved depending on the topic for discussion. The partnership approach led to several initiatives such as the publication of the Good Food Recipe Booklet, publication of a map of local food organisations, organisation of workshops with external partners to discuss dignity principles during emergency food provision, training for food bank employees and volunteers about fuel poverty.	Green
An increasing number of people are involved in food growing	Promote and support sustainable food growing initiatives to increase the provision of high quality food growing schemes	<p>The number of people participating in food growing on council land has increased with a new allotment site in Fernbrae Meadows (69 users) and in Lammermoor (50 users, to open in May 2021), and 70 raised beds installed in Murray Recreation, East Kilbride. Moreover, connections between individuals on the council waiting list for allotment and community growing projects have been facilitated.</p> <p>A food network to link up food growing groups and partners involved in food growing has been established to share knowledge, expertise and resources. Access to funding and learning opportunities have also been facilitated with community groups and schools.</p> <p>The council has also been very active in promoting sustainable practices by sharing information and supporting the development of an appropriate infrastructure on food growing sites.</p>	Green

Financial Inclusion

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Promote and encourage savings	Increase community awareness of local Credit Union activities, with the aim of securing an increase in adult membership and shares/savings balance	<p>The latest figures confirm that there has been a -8.8% drop in adult memberships across all the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions during 2020-21, from 25,849 members at 31 March 2020, down to 23,585 at 31 March 2021. All of the Credit Unions in the authority have attributed the fall in memberships over the past year to the effects of the temporary closure of local credit union branches, and the ending of face-to-face services.</p> <p>Despite the fall in memberships, the temporary closure of branches, and the wider negative economic effects of the COVID-19 lockdown, the amounts being saved by people at the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions has increased by +£2.8 million throughout the financial year. A comparison between the 2019-20 and 2020-21 figures indicate that the sums being held in adult shares across all the Credit Unions in the authority has grown from £31.2 million, up to £34 million, an increase of +9.4%.</p> <p>None of the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions reported undertaking activities around promoting community awareness of their products and services over the past 12 months, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, and the effect that the pandemic has had on budgets and staffing.</p>	Amber
	Sustain the number of local schools where Credit Unions are active	<p>Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the periodic closure of schools and access restrictions, no schools activity (presentations/promotion of services/information) was undertaken by any of the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions during 2020-21.</p>	Report Later
	Sustain the number of young people who are members of the Credit Union	<p>Despite the lack of promotional activity in schools, and the temporary closure of local credit union branches for a large part of the financial year 2020-21, the level of junior memberships across South Lanarkshire has dropped only marginally (by -5.15% or -391 members), from 7,594 at 31 March 2020, down to 7,203 at 31 March 2021.</p> <p>As with adult memberships, although the latest figures suggest that there has been a drop in junior memberships during 2020-21, the amounts being saved by young people at the South Lanarkshire Credit Unions has actually increased throughout the year (by +6.7%), from £1.53 million in junior shares held at 31 March 2020, up to £1.64 million in junior shares held at 31 March 2021.</p>	Amber
Improved financial wellbeing of low income families and vulnerable service users	Establish a financial and welfare advice referral pathway by April 2021 from General Medical Practice into Money Matters Advice Service and CABs for use by GPs and Community Link Workers	A Financial Wellbeing Pathway for referral of patients from General Practice based Community Link Workers and GPs has been agreed in partnership with all South Lanarkshire CABs and Money Matters Advice Service. This pathway for people experiencing financial insecurity will commence on 1 April 2021 and a Service Level Agreement is in place for two years in the first instance until March 2023.	Green

Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Ensure the delivery of 1140 hours Early Learning Childcare for all eligible children by August 2021	Early Learning and Childcare (Education Resources) will implement the delivery of 1140 hours early learning and childcare in line with the revised Scottish Government timetable for 2020-21	<p>During the recent COVID-19 pandemic the Scottish Government relaxed the timeline for the full implementation of 1140 hours for eligible children. They acknowledged the difficulties faced by Local Authorities due to the lockdown of construction of new buildings and the temporary closure of settings. During this time Early Learning and Childcare within South Lanarkshire was provided for children of Key Worker families to allow them to continue to work throughout this national emergency. We also provided places for our most vulnerable children during this time.</p> <p>Now that all Local Authority and Funded Provider settings have reopened, 93% of children within South Lanarkshire are currently receiving their full entitlement of 1140 hours of funded ELC.</p> <p>The Scottish Government has tasked Local Authorities to resume their progress towards the full implementation of 1140 hours funded early learning and childcare for all eligible 2-5 year olds for the year 2021-2022. We have concluded our annual nursery admissions and have been able to allocate 100% of our eligible children a minimum of 1140 hours from the start of the next term at the start of the school year 2021.</p>	Green
	Early Learning and Childcare (Education Resources) will deliver 40 Modern Apprenticeships and 10 Foundation Apprenticeships to meet the needs of future service demand in line with the Scottish Government's guidelines for delivering 1140 hours early learning and childcare	Early Learning and Childcare have delivered 40 Modern Apprenticeships and 50 Foundation Apprenticeships. The Apprentices are based in settings across all 4 localities of South Lanarkshire. They are participating in a high-quality focussed training programme with a wide range of appropriate support throughout their programme. These students are learning valuable skills, knowledge and experience that will be vital as they transition from Apprentices to fully qualified members of our Early Learning and Childcare workforce.	Complete

Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	<p>Early Learning and Childcare (Education Resources) will engage with partner providers to increase the number of providers to 110 to further support the roll-out of 1140 hours of early learning and childcare and to meet the needs of communities by March 2021</p>	<p>We currently have full contracts in place with 104 Funded Providers with 9 in the final stages of the evaluation process of their contracts. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted on the timeline for this as the Funded Providers closed during both lockdowns and they were unable to participate in the process to conclude their evaluations. However, they have all re-opened and negotiations have resumed and are due to be concluded soon. We will then have 113 Funded Providers in contract to deliver funded nursery places for our families. 100% of eligible children placed with Funded Providers are receiving their full entitlement of 1140 hours early education and childcare.</p>	<p>Green</p>
<p>Increase take up of places for eligible 2 year olds by 5%</p>	<p>Early Learning and Childcare (Education Resources) will continue to work with a range of professionals and services who will have contact with eligible families and will promote free Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) for two year olds</p>	<p>During the recent COVID pandemic, the Scottish Government relaxed the timeline for the full implementation of 1140 hours for eligible children. They acknowledged the difficulties faced by Local Authorities due to the lockdown of construction of new buildings and the temporary closure of settings. During this time Early Learning and Childcare within South Lanarkshire was provided for children of Key Worker families to allow them to continue to work throughout this national emergency. We also provided places for our most vulnerable children during this time.</p> <p>Now that all Local Authority and Funded Provider settings have reopened, 93% of children within South Lanarkshire are currently receiving their full entitlement of 1140 hours of funded ELC.</p> <p>The Scottish Government has tasked Local Authorities to resume their progress towards the full implementation of 1140 hours funded early learning and childcare for all eligible 2-5 year olds for the year 2021-2022. We have concluded our annual nursery admissions and have been able to allocate 100% of our eligible children a minimum of 1140 hours from the start of the next term at the start of the school year 2021.</p>	<p>Complete</p>

Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Support low income parents (in particular women) to progress to and sustain employment in well paid jobs	Support 105 low income employed residents to up-skill and maximise earning potential in line with national priority groups	<p>Due to COVID-19, engagement took place with 53 parents, mostly lone parents, to support them into employment.</p> <p>Key challenges around childcare, juggling home schooling and economic shutdowns led to a reduction in the number of parents engaging with the service.</p> <p>The deficit of engagements will be carried forward into 2021-22 as the economy starts to build more resilience.</p>	Report Later
	Support 120 unemployed parents into Fair Work opportunities in line with national priority groups	<p>45 parents have been supported who are experiencing in work poverty challenges. Progression has in part stalled due to employees furloughed and in work support and progression delayed due to training provider closures and employers unable to facilitate in work visits.</p> <p>The deficit of engagements will be carried forward into 2021-22 as the economy starts to build more resilience.</p>	Report Later
	Increase the income of 50 employed parents within their workplace	Due to delays and challenges presented from COVID-19, enhanced employment terms and conditions will be reported in 2021-22.	Report Later
	Increase employment terms and conditions for all parents, tackle under-employment, increase in hourly pay, increase in hours worked	Due to delays and challenges presented from COVID-19, enhanced employment terms and conditions will be reported in 2021-22.	Report Later

Improving Housing

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
<p>Improve housing conditions and local housing affordability</p>	<p>Annual Strategic Housing Investment Plan approved and submitted to the Scottish Government in October each year</p>	<p>Updated Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2021-2026 approved by South Lanarkshire Council's Housing and Technical Resources Committee on 25 November 2020.</p> <p>The SHIP is a 5 year document (which is reviewed annually) prepared by local authorities and submitted to the Scottish Government (SG) every year. The purpose of the SHIP is to set out affordable housing development priorities over the 5 year period. The SHIP guides the way in which SG funding and other resources will be allocated to meet Local Housing Strategy outcomes.</p> <p>Of the 339 affordable homes delivered during the year by the council and it's Registered Social Landlord partners, 107 are properties which are built amenity or wheelchair standard and therefore suitable to meet particular needs within communities.</p> <p>In the design of affordable housing a key objective is to help reduce the cost of living. Council housing developments are built to Silver Greener Standard, ensuring tenants benefit from reduced energy costs and developments are identified in locations close to amenities to minimise transport costs.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
	<p>Build 5,290 new homes by 2022 (1,000 new council houses by 2021; a further 500 affordable homes by 2021; 3,790 new private sector homes by 2022)</p>	<p>In 2020-21, 339 additional affordable homes were delivered, including 197 council homes.</p> <p>Since the Home+ Programme began in 2016-17, South Lanarkshire Council has delivered a total of 668 affordable homes.</p> <p>In the same period Registered Social Landlords have delivered 977 additional affordable homes.</p> <p>Construction of a further 365 homes are underway to ensure the achievement of the target of 1,000 council homes by 2022.</p> <p>In relation to the private sector, a total of 4,546 new homes have been completed since 2017-18 in South Lanarkshire. Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic to the construction sector, it is anticipated that a further 1,000 new homes will also be delivered in South Lanarkshire during 2021-22.</p> <p>To ensure progress continues to be made, the council has ensured there is a five year housing land supply in place to meet any future demand for housing.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Improving Housing

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	Monitor Local Development Plan objectives, and ensure a minimum five year supply of housing land is maintained	The annual housing land monitoring exercise was more limited during 2020-21 due to the pandemic restrictions. However monitoring will be reinstated in the early part of 2021-22 and thereafter the position discussed and agreed with Homes for Scotland. Nevertheless the housing land supply remains healthy and there are no issues with the maintenance of a 5 year supply.	Report Later
	Require private house builders to contribute to meeting affordable housing needs across the council area	The South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2 was adopted by the Council on 9 April 2021. The Plan includes policy that requires developers to contribute to meeting affordable housing needs across South Lanarkshire by providing, on sites of 20 units or more, up to 25% of the site's capacity as affordable housing. This can take the form of serviced land within the site, or a commuted sum, or a mixture of both.	Green

Improving Housing

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Reduce levels of fuel poverty	Deliver housing investment programmes to increase the number of council and RSL properties that meet the Energy Efficiency Standards for Social Housing 2 (ESSH2)	<p>Programmes of work for both the Council and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) are ongoing to improve the energy efficiency of social rented homes across South Lanarkshire.</p> <p>Despite delays to the programme throughout 2020-21 as a result of restrictions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, 4.82% of the council's housing stock now meets the ESSH2 standard, compared with 93.8% that meets ESSH1.</p> <p>Within the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy, the council has set a target of 7% of properties to achieve ESSH2 by the end of 2021-22. This aims to be achieved through a focus on upgrading the fabric of existing buildings, improving their ability to retain heat through new external wall insulation or roofing. Work to upgrade existing heating systems with new decarbonised heat sources will also be progressed.</p> <p>New ESSH2 reporting requirements for both the council and RSL's are also being incorporated into the Scottish Social Housing Charter from 2021-22.</p>	Green

Improving Housing

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	<p>The percentage of all South Lanarkshire households estimated to be in fuel poverty (Scottish Household Condition Survey)</p>	<p>22% of all households and 17% of families in South Lanarkshire are estimated to be affected by fuel poverty according to the Scottish Household Condition Survey (2017-2019).</p> <p>Whilst this is slightly below the national average of 24%, it is clear that further work is required by all partners to ensure households impacted by fuel poverty are supported to access the right financial support and advice, alongside ongoing works to improve homes and heating systems.</p> <p>The Fuel Poverty (Targets, Definition and Strategy) (Scotland) Act 2019 sets a national target for 2040, where no more than 5% of households are in fuel poverty, and no more than 1% of households are in extreme fuel poverty. There are also interim targets set for 2030 and 2035.</p> <p>There are no local targets as such, but the aim is to reduce the number of households estimated to be in fuel poverty.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Improving Housing

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	<p>Work with local partners to promote access to energy saving advice, including grants and loans, and information regarding switching energy suppliers across South Lanarkshire</p>	<p>Through the South Lanarkshire Fuel Poverty Sub-Group, representatives from a range of organisations continue to meet to discuss how they can work together to tackle fuel poverty across South Lanarkshire.</p> <p>Chaired by Housing and Technical Resources, the group aims to ensure partners are aware of how they can support one another to improve the lives of households that may be impacted by fuel poverty. This can be through sharing information or discussing particular challenges and working together to find solutions, or by directly taking actions as part of their own remit.</p> <p>Organisations and services currently involved include South Lanarkshire Council, including Housing and Technical Resources and Social Work Resources, Citizens Advice, Home Energy Scotland, Energy Advice Scotland, East Kilbride Housing Association and NHS Lanarkshire.</p> <p>To support organisations in getting the message out to residents on how to effectively manage their fuel bills, the group developed a 'Tenant's energy guide' that can be distributed by all partners. It offers energy advice, and lists organisations that can help.</p> <p>Supporting households in crisis is a key part of many of the partners responsibilities, and the group looks to ensure that they can work together to do this as effectively as possible. Sharing information on available top-up schemes or debt advice has helped reduce fuel related debt for many residents across South Lanarkshire, with longer term solutions to managing fuel bills also taken forward.</p> <p>Having national advice services such as Home Energy Scotland and Energy Action Scotland not only benefits households, but other local organisations too. With training and support offered to enable local services to continue supporting those who need it.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Improving Housing

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Improvements to affordable local housing supply in sustainable locations	Following the conclusion of capital project tendering activity, prepare and submit Full Business Case documentation to the City Deal Programme Management Office seeking funding approval for education and transport projects at Community Growth Area locations in South Lanarkshire	Preparation of the Full Business Case (FBC) for the extension to Glengowan Primary School (Larkhall Community Growth Area (CGA)) is nearing completion. Following completion of the project tender exercise this will be submitted for approval in June 2021. The FBC for Jackton Primary School (EK CGA) will be prepared when tenders are returned in Autumn 2021.	Green

Improving Housing

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Prevent and reduce impact of homelessness (linking to Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan)	Expand Housing First across South Lanarkshire	<p>Housing First is an approach that aims to secure permanent housing as a priority for homeless households, who are vulnerable with complex needs. By providing secure accommodation first, the homeless person can better access the support they need and address the issues they face. This was introduced in South Lanarkshire in 2019.</p> <p>During the year, 13 households were supported and a total of 26 households are now included within the programme. Of those housed during 2020-21, there has been a 100% tenancy sustainment rate.</p>	Green
	Continue to deliver programme of housing support to prevent homelessness	<p>Commissioned services with the Salvation Army, Blue Triangle Housing Association and Ypeople continue to deliver tailored packages of support to service users with multiple and complex needs while the HomeStart project provides support to all new tenants to set up and sustain their tenancy.</p> <p>During 2020-21, 131 HomeStart starter packs were allocated to new tenants to help with tenancy sustainment and prevent repeat homelessness.</p>	Green
	Develop and implement Housing Options framework for young people	<p>The most prominent reason for homelessness among young people continues to be that parents/relatives can no longer accommodate them. In response, a needs specific pathway tailored to young people is currently being developed to assist with achieving prevention opportunities and increasing tenancy sustainment for young people.</p> <p>The Social Work Throughcare Team is now in place and the service includes resources for the planning and provision of housing support which evaluates the housing needs of young care leavers from early in the transition period.</p> <p>During 2020-21, 12 care leaver applications were received (Throughcare cases), an increase of 6 on the previous year. During the year 15 care leavers were housed. There was an 80% tenancy sustainment rate in relation to care leavers housed during 2019-20.</p>	Green

Improving Housing

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	Develop and implement Housing Options framework for people experiencing domestic abuse and young care leavers	During 2020-21, the existing housing pathway for victims of domestic abuse was reviewed and updated to take account of the Chartered Institute of Housing's (CIH) Good Practice Model and Scottish Women's Aid guidance. The revised pathway will be tested from April 2021 to ensure that the provision of support and assistance is the most appropriate for each individual or family.	Green
	Further develop the partnership approach to preventing homelessness for individuals leaving prison	In 2020-21, funding was agreed for a 12 month extension for an officer responsible for implementing Sustainable Housing On Release for Everyone (SHORE) standards for people entering and exiting prison. The remit of the officer is to support people entering and exiting prison and to provide support to assist in tenancy sustainment and prevent repeat homelessness. During 2020-21, 203 individuals were contacted to discuss their housing circumstances and options. 52 requests were refused, 103 individuals were provided with advice and 48 cases required intervention from the SHORE officer to assist in securing accommodation on release from prison.	Green
	Achieve the annual target of homes directed to homeless households as set out within Local Letting Plans and agreed with HomeFinder partners	61% of lets were directed to homeless households in 2020-21. This is significantly higher than the target of 50%.	Green
	Improve tenancy sustainment for homeless households, by ensuring that support and assistance is provided prior to tenancy commencement and throughout the course of the tenancy as required	The HomeStart project continues to provide advice, assistance and support to all new South Lanarkshire Council tenants to assist them to set up and manage their tenancy. The key aim of the service is to promote tenancy sustainment and prevent the risk of abandonment and repeat homelessness. All new tenants are provided with support from the HomeStart team and in 2020-21 the team worked with 1,511 new tenants. The HomeStart team carry out an assessment of each tenant's support needs to identify the level of support that they require. Where required, support is tailored to the needs of the tenant and varies from basic advice and information e.g. information on how to pay rent, report a repair etc, to providing assistance to apply for benefits or helping the tenant to link in to community services/ organisations, to high support to help the tenant to manage their tenancy.	Green
	Increase access and tenancy sustainment within the private rented sector through the commissioned Access and Sustainment Project, monitoring input and outcomes throughout the year to inform future service priorities	A new Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service was established during the year, replacing the Rent Deposit Scheme. Funding has been allocated to provide guarantee bonds in place of cash deposits for access to the private sector.	Green

Education, Skills and Development

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
<p>Life chances of young people in the most deprived communities are improved</p>	<p>Increase the percentage of school leavers, from the most deprived data zones, entering a positive destination</p>	<p>The Youth Employability Service has continued to engage with all secondary schools and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) to identify those young people at risk of failing to make a positive transition from school with a particular focus on those schools and young people from most deprived data zones.</p> <p>The Aspire service has provided one-to-one support including online and telephone support during periods of lockdown, to engage young people on an individual action plan to support them to a positive destination.</p> <p>The School Leavers Destination Report (SLDR) for 2019-20 was published in March 2021. 94.8% of school leavers entered a positive destination. This was above the Scottish rate of 93.3 but a slight fall from the previous year (95.7%)</p>	<p>Green</p>
	<p>Continue to work to close the gap in outcomes for the young people in the most deprived 20% data zones and their peers in the least deprived 20% data zones</p>	<p>The Youth Employability Service has continued to engage with all secondary schools and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) to identify those young people at risk of failing to make a positive transition from school with a particular focus on those schools and young people from most deprived data zones.</p> <p>The Aspire service has provided one-to-one support including online and telephone support during periods of lockdown, to engage young people on an individual action plan to support them to a positive destination.</p> <p>The information below shows the gap between school leaver destinations for young people residing in datazones in the most and least deprived 20%. Compared to the previous year there has been a widening of the gap which is now in line with the national rate of 6.3%.</p> <p>South Lanarkshire 6.3 (2019-20) 4.9 (2018-19) National 6.3 (2019-20) 5.3 (2018-19)</p>	<p>Amber</p>

Education, Skills and Development

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Reduce the gap in positive destinations of care experienced people	The Multi-Agency Tracking Group will meet on a bi-monthly basis to track the progress of care experienced young people and support transition to positive destinations	The Multi-Agency Tracking Group has continued to meet remotely to ensure that all care experienced young people are identified and provided with support to progress to positive destinations.	Green
	Provide annual reports on the progress and needs of care experienced young people and employment outcomes	The annual report will be published in April 2021 and has been provided to the Corporate Parenting Group. The report highlights the additional work with the newly established Throughcare and Aftercare Team to ensure the transition of young people leaving care is as seamless as possible. Local tracking and monitoring continue to be effective ensuring young people who are care experienced are receiving the best possible employability support through dedicated partners.	Green

Education, Skills and Development

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Step change in the creation of vocational pathways into STEM and other careers ultimately increasing youth employment opportunities and providing in-work progress routes	Monitor and deliver the Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) key performance indicators (KPI) for South Lanarkshire	The Scottish Government has identified DYW funding for all secondary schools to allocate a 0.5 FTE DYW co-ordinator. In South Lanarkshire this funding has been directed to schools and a coordinators are working toward the following KPIs which will be reported on by schools on a six monthly basis: 1. Local partnership agreements 2. Employer partnerships – including written planned approach and delivery plan 3. Targeting work-based learning and employer engagement opportunities	Green
	Introduce and implement the Delivering Young Workforce guidance on employer/school partnerships	All schools have been allocated funding to support DYW co-ordinator posts. A partnership agreement between South Lanarkshire Council, DYW Lanarkshire and Skills Development Scotland has been agreed and all schools are completing action plans designed to achieve the following KPIs: - DYW Regional Groups, including school co-ordinators, to increase employer engagement opportunities, and the number of employers actively engaged in supporting and preparing young people for the world of work. In addition, by working with all those engaged in careers, employment and DYW in the school, devise a local partnership agreement and local working arrangement that embodies “No Wrong Door” to ensure that young people have seamless access to individual support, advice, guidance and engagement with employers. - By working collaboratively with specialist partners, increase work-based learning and employer engagement opportunities for those who would benefit most.	Green

Education, Skills and Development

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	<p>Increase the number of vocational development opportunities for school pupils through the GradU8 and Foundation Apprenticeship programmes</p>	<p>The requirement for social distancing within colleges and training providers has reduced the available places for the GradU8 and Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) programmes in comparison to what had been planned prior to COVID-19. However innovative and flexible approaches including the use of FA hubs within schools and the delivery of pilot construction winter and summer leavers programmes have enabled young people to engage in meaningful vocational learning opportunities.</p> <p>This has included 444 young people participating in GradU8, 30 winter leavers and 40 summer leavers taking part in the construction Level 4-5 FA programme and 374 young people taking part in the Foundation Apprenticeship programme.</p>	<p>Green</p>
	<p>Maximise the number of Modern Apprenticeships (MA's)</p>	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic continues to fundamentally affect the context in which MAs are delivered. Following complete shut down during the first quarter of the year and varying degrees of lockdown since, the UK and Scottish economies have struggled to make any real recovery.</p> <p>The number of MA starts continues to be much lower than previous years as employers have, understandably, focused on immediate issues – including business survival – rather than recruitment or up-skilling of staff. Skills Development Scotland has enhanced existing delivery to provide several new initiatives in 2020-21 to support individuals and employers.</p> <p>These initiatives are now all in operation and include: Adopt an Apprentice, Apprenticeship Transition Plans, Pathways Apprenticeships, Transition Training Fund and Apprenticeship Employer Grants.</p> <p>Year end data will be published in June 2021. The following data is to the end of Quarter 3 (December 2020):</p> <p>MA starts South Lanarkshire Q3 2019-20 – 1,464 (21,240 Scottish Average) MA starts South Lanarkshire Q3 2020-21 – 670 (10,604 Scottish Average)</p> <p>Compared to the previous year, the above drop in MA starts in South Lanarkshire was 46% and slightly higher nationally at 50%.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Health Inequalities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Improve health during pregnancy	Increase the proportion of pregnant women who smoke referred to the Specialist Stop Smoking Service and Pharmacy from the most deprived areas who uptake cessation support (set a quit date) and stop smoking (at 12 weeks)	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the data due from the Information Services Division has been delayed.	Report Later
	40% of eligible women (BMI of 30 or more) are referred to the Healthy Lifestyle in Pregnancy Service by March 2022	To be reported later.	Report Later
	30% of eligible women referred to the Healthy Lifestyle in Pregnancy Service (opt-in) and who engage with the service by March 2022	To be reported later.	Report Later

Health Inequalities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
<p>Improve health in early years of life through efforts to increase breast feeding and Child Development</p>	<p>The percentage of children who have reached their developmental milestones at the time of the 27-30 month Health Review</p>	<p>Improvement activity has continued to reduce inequalities in speech and language at the 27/30 month child health review. The latest figures evidence that four out of five SIMD areas have achieved and some exceeded the national goal of 85% of children meeting their expected developmental milestones. We have seen an upward trend in SIMD 1, including improvement from 73% in 2017, 79.6% in 2018 to 83.6% in 2019.</p> <p>There is no 2020 data available due to COVID. Improvement activity has shifted focus to an early point of 13-15 months.</p> <p>83.6% SIMD 1 85.9% SIMD 2 89.6% SIMD 3 90.8% SIMD 4 92.3% SIMD 5</p>	<p>Green</p>

Health Inequalities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	Reduce the breastfeeding drop off rate between initiation at birth and 6-8 weeks by 10% by 2025	The benefits of breastfeeding for babies, mothers and public health are well established. Breastfeeding and human milk, reduces health inequalities and gives babies a healthy start in life protecting them against infection and lifelong conditions such as obesity and diabetes. Mothers from the most deprived communities are less likely to breastfeed and this can have a negative effect on the health of both the woman and her baby as well as a significant impact on family finances. 8 out of 10 women report stopping breastfeeding before they wanted to, anxiety around feeding outside the home is commonly cited as a reason for women stopping breastfeeding particularly in areas with low breastfeeding rates such as Lanarkshire where bottle feeding is the cultural norm. When women are not supported to reach their breastfeeding goals, it can have a negative effect of maternal mental health as well as reducing the positive effects continued breastfeeding has on the health of both mum and baby.	Green

Health Inequalities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	<p>Breastfeeding attrition (drop off) rate between initiation at birth and 6-8 weeks to be less than 39.1% by March 2021</p>	<p>The stretch aim nationally is to reduce the breastfeeding drop off (attrition) rate by 10% by 2025. The current target for South Lanarkshire is to have an attrition rate of less than 42.2% for year 2019-20 and 39.1% by 2024-25.</p> <p>Data for the year 2019-20 indicate the current attrition rate is 38.5% (lower is better). Quarter 1 of year 2020-21 attrition rate is 37.8%. This is a credit to the ongoing commitment of staff and the high profile breastfeeding has had across both health and social care. It is unclear how COVID will have affected current figures.</p> <p>NHS Lanarkshire has full Baby Friendly Accreditation. The Baby Friendly Initiative (BFI) is transforming healthcare for babies, their mothers and families in the UK, as part of a wider global partnership between the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNICEF. The programme promotes positive and responsive parenting and nurture. This approach can have huge benefits for communities in other aspects of life including improved health outcomes, positive relationships and positive destinations for children and young people.</p> <p>Both Hospital and Community Health Visiting and Family Nurse Partnership services will be reassessed in September and October 2021 with a view to obtaining "Achieving Sustainability Gold award" following successful reaccreditation and working with both North and South Lanarkshire Councils to become the first "Breastfeeding Friendly Local Authorities" in the country.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Health Inequalities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
<p>Reduce the impact of substance misuse on children and young people</p>	<p>The Link Project will work to improve access to services for young people with substance misuse problems and report on progress by March 2021</p>	<p>All young people liberated from Polmont from South Lanarkshire received substance misuse support assisted by the Beacon Hubs.</p> <p>There is improvement in the following domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reintegration to communities - 78%; • Improved family relationships - 92%; • Attendance at Link Service - 97%; and • Early identification at point of remand 100%. <p>This led to improved family relationships, individual release plans for all young people at point of liberation, increased attendance at health appointments, Housing Support, employment opportunities; gym availability, accredited training such as First Aid, healthy eating/budgeting and an evidenced reduction in substance use.</p> <p>Diversionsary opportunities were delivered to address isolation and reoffending.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Health Inequalities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	<p>Partners will provide alcohol/drugs education to young people and the staff who work with them and report on progress by March 2021</p>	<p>There has been a shift in membership of the Children's Services Substance Misuse Group as a refocus on priorities as part of the Children's Services Plan needs assessment and developing revised priorities has evolved. In addition, some partners no longer commissioned by the Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) have dropped out and other more recently commissioned organisations have begun to participate. COVID restrictions/lock down had an impact on support to staff and staff availability and service provision to young people.</p> <p>Revised activity has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing the parents plan and early intervention work; - Family centres looking at how they can achieve an important outreach service to make up for the reduction in the ability to deliver direct parenting support; - Referrals where children in lockdown with parents who are high substance users causing concern; - Provision of preventative services; - Contribution of the third sector and the Chief Officers Group talking about vulnerabilities in communities and lack of resources and focus on flexibility and innovative responses; - Previously more hidden issues coming to attention e.g. finding people had a mild substance use situation and things have escalated and resulted in an increase in child protection cases. <p>In the last year the Police linked in with schools, but this has been much more difficult at the moment due to schools recovery activity and priorities such as Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) activity.</p> <p>There are four hubs commissioned by the ADP to support recovery named Beacons in each locality. These hubs have adopted a whole family approach with SFAD (Scottish Families Against Alcohol and Drugs) and a third sector organisation called 'My Support' day working in partnership with money funded from the Corra Foundation and the challenge fund to do this.</p> <p>The Substance Misuse Group are currently working to agree specific actions and measures as part of the Children's Services Plan performance framework.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Health Inequalities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	Partners will develop activity to raise awareness of the 'no alcohol no risk' guidance and of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and report on progress by March 2021	<p>Due to the global pandemic, there has been a reduction in the number of referrals made to the LAMS service. However, as part of the booking process all eligible women are asked about their alcohol history and are given supported interventions depending on their identified need.</p> <p>6,774 women booked.</p> <p>6,186 women were asked about their alcohol consumption *there are a number of reasons why women are not asked about alcohol i.e miscarriage.</p> <p>321 were identified as requiring further intervention and were offered additional screening using the TWEAK tool leading to 295 brief interventions being delivered.</p> <p>46 women were identified as still drinking in pregnancy.</p> <p>23 referrals were made to the Lanarkshire Additional Midwifery Service (LAMS) due to concern with alcohol and pregnancy.</p>	Green
	Early Years Multi Agency Support Forums (EYMAF) will put in place a 'Parents Plan' tool to improve assessment, planning and support to parents who are using substances and alcohol in pregnancy by June 2021 and audit use by September 2021 to establish a baseline	The work to develop Parents Plans has been incorporated in the improvement work of the Children's Services Plan. It is planned to put in place a Parents Plan template for use by staff and guidance by the end of June 2021. An audit of its use and impact in one locality is planned by the end of September 2021 and this will inform any subsequent roll out.	Green
Promote good mental health through empowering communities and individuals to improve their own health and wellbeing	Establish partnership work programmes on Training and Capacity Building and Challenging Stigma and Discrimination	<p>The Good Mental Health for All (GMHFA) Pan-Lanarkshire Steering Group have agreed that five task and finish groups will explore cross cutting themes and potential gaps in delivering a good mental health for all.</p> <p>The aim is to develop actions relevant to the transition and recording from COVID-19 that could be actioned by the GMHFA Steering Group. The task groups will focus on: Social Prescribing, Training and Capacity Building, Addressing the Physical Health Needs of People with Severe and Enduring Mental Health Problems (SEMH), Leadership Roles in Challenging Mental Health Stigma and Discrimination and Good Mental Health for All Given Strategic Priority.</p>	Green

Health Inequalities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Reducing social isolation by empowering communities and individuals to improve their own health and wellbeing	By March 2022 increase the available delivery capacity within the Third Sector to expand levels of social contact and activities that re-engage people within their communities	VASLan in partnership with Health and Social Care partners issued a call for application to a new release of Integrated Care Funding. Three of the key priority areas are focused on: 1. Encourage people to safely re-engage in their community through regular social contact and outdoor activities; 2. Reduce social isolation, support people to build their confidence and resilience to remain active and independent; 3. Develop wider collaborative local support for people in poverty or those who's health is impacted by unemployment and financial uncertainty.	Green
	Over the period of funded projects 2021-2023, evaluate Integrated Care Funded (ICF) projects to analyse the impact/contribution ICF projects have within their delivery communities	To be reported later.	Report Later
Implement duties contained in the Carers Act (2016) in South Lanarkshire	Establish a Carers Partnership Group with regular meetings scheduled and appropriate partner representation	To be reported later.	Report Later
	Further develop mechanisms to support carer led involvement in the design, development and growth of meaningful carer involvement in shaping services	To be reported later.	Report Later
	Increase the number and range of personal opportunities for Young Carers including learning and development and education opportunities	To be reported later.	Report Later
Empowering communities to improve their own health and wellbeing	Relaunch the Building and Celebrating Communities in the second quarter (April - June) of 2021 through the introduction of an identifiable coordinator to lead on engaging with communities to support and build more proactive, inclusive and collaborative engagement within local communities, providing support to enable the identification of improvements to localised health and wellbeing	To be reported later.	Report Later
	Establish 10 newly funded service initiatives to support communities to take responsibility for their own health, care and wellbeing needs in each of the HSCP localities by April 2022	To be reported later.	Report Later
	By July 2021 identify and engage with key community anchor organisations in all four localities	To be reported later.	Report Later
	Form a baseline level of community engagement with the Building and Celebrating Communities Model	To be reported later.	Report Later
	From Quarter 3, 2021 detail the extent of actual Building and Celebrating Communities improvement activities planned or undertaken across South Lanarkshire	To be reported later.	Report Later
	Shifting the focus from reactive interventions to early intervention and prevention programmes	Increase the number of referrals from GP's and health care staff from the previous year on all physical activity health interventions by March 2022	To be reported later.

Safeguarding from Risk or Harm

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Reduce numbers of direct and indirect victims of domestic abuse. Prevalence in deprived areas nearly double the average. Focus on promoting health and positive relationships	Maintain a minimum of 10 schools participating in the Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme in order to achieve longer term prevention and reduction of domestic abuse	As a result of school closures and social distancing restrictions throughout 2020 due to the global pandemic it was not possible to fully run Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) programmes within schools. 11 secondary schools in South Lanarkshire are currently signed up to MVP with plans in place to re-instate the programme after the summer holidays 2021.	Report Later
Ensure the South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee Business Plan reflects the improvements identified by the National Child Protection Improvement Programme and Systems Review 2017	South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee (SLCPC) will continue to implement the recommendations and themes from the National Child Protection Improvement Programme and Systems Review (2017) through alignment with the national delivery of the programme and report progress annually	There has been a delay by the Scottish Government and the new National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland will now be published in June 2021. It will be supported by a two year strategy for implementation across all Child Protection Committees and partner agencies in Scotland. This task will be supported by a Scottish Government advisor for Child Protection who has just been appointed for this process (23-month secondment). The SLCPC will use the new guidance and all available resources to support full implementation across the multi-agency workforce within this timeframe or sooner in a number of creative ways. Agencies will be required to update their current Child Protection procedures accordingly.	Report Later
Engage with young people of secondary school age, to increase awareness of issues surrounding drug misuse	Police Scotland to engage South Lanarkshire Council's Education Resources with a view to delivering drug awareness inputs in secondary schools across the Neighbourhood Planning areas in 2021/2022	This intervention is targeted at schools in areas where drug offending and drug deaths are highest in South Lanarkshire. Five schools received the input. The Coronavirus health pandemic that resulted in a national lockdown in March 2020 and subsequent shift towards learning impacted on the ability to deliver inputs. Some physical inputs been provided to three of the five identified schools, reaching approximately 330 pupils. In addition, the workshop content has been adapted enabling it to be delivered online and is now currently available for secondary school pupils, S1 to S3.	Green

Improving Local Environment and Communities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Continuous improvement to environmental quality and communities living more sustainably	The next State of the Environment Report outlining the status of the 55 indicators will be produced and reported to the CPP Board in December 2022	An outline plan for preparing the 2021 edition of the State of the Environment Report has been completed. Work to produce the report will commence in April 2021.	Green
	Engage with partners to develop the next Sustainable and Climate Change Strategy by March 2022	Development sessions with partners are ongoing. A meeting was held with the Community Planning Progress Group on 16 March 2021 and it was agreed that a fuller workshop would take place. Further engagement sessions have taken place with VASLan and the wider voluntary sector. Further sessions with partners are being progressed through April, May and June 2021.	Green
	Development of South Lanarkshire's Open Space Strategy by March 2023 to support the Planning for Place agenda	A comprehensive audit of open space within South Lanarkshire was commenced in 2020-21 and will be completed in Q1, 2021-22. In turn the data is being analysed by the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership which will inform the preparation of the strategy. There has been a delay in the Scottish Government publishing a consultation on the associated regulations and guidance for OSS preparation and as a result it is expected the provisions of the Planning Act and secondary legislation will be delayed until early 2022.	Report Later
	Monitor the impact of environmental volunteering	In Quarter 1, an online questionnaire was sent to 80 individuals. 28 questionnaires were submitted. Of these, 100% expressed positive experience/health benefits from participating in environmental volunteering. A review has been undertaken of environmental volunteering supported by Countryside and Greenspace during the last 10 years, with a selection of case studies. This provides a baseline for future monitoring and evaluation.	Green
	Support community groups to manage local environmental projects	COVID restrictions severely curtailed Countryside and Greenspace serviced volunteer groups from operating throughout the year. Locally based management/"friends of" groups continued to function, through social media and online meetings. Some clean-ups and management activities were achieved outside of the lockdown periods, during Quarters 2 and 3. This resulted in an impressive 2,380 volunteer days being recorded, despite all the COVID restrictions. Support provided to community groups during the lockdown periods included: Regular social media contact via the Countryside Rangers Facebook page including video blogs; dissemination/promotion of online capacity building/citizen science training material; holding online networking meetings for community groups through zoom; attending community groups' own online meetings through zoom; establishing an online Lanarkshire Green Volunteering Network for organisations supporting/ providing volunteering opportunities.	Green

Improving Local Environment and Communities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	Continued development of healthy walking opportunities through the Get Walking Lanarkshire partnership initiative	<p>The Health Walks Programme was suspended due to COVID-19 throughout Quarter 1 with limited resumption during Quarters 2 and 3 and largely suspended again during Quarter 4. However, 1,280 health walk participants were recorded.</p> <p>A Get Walking Lanarkshire Ranger post was recruited in Quarter 3. The Ranger started in January 2021, but the appointee resigned after 5 weeks. The post was re-advertised.</p>	Amber
Progress/deliver prioritised access improvements to bus and rail	Produce Active Travel Studies for all the major settlements in South Lanarkshire to identify potential new active travel connections/infrastructure (ie number of completed studies)	<p>Active travel studies are complete for East Kilbride; Cambuslang and Rutherglen areas; Carluke and Law areas; Lanark and Hamilton.</p> <p>At this time, studies are ongoing for Larkhall; Strathaven / Stonehouse and surrounding villages; and Bothwell, Blantyre and Uddingston areas. These are scheduled for completion in summer 2021.</p> <p>Funding is currently being sought from external partners for other studies which could include Kirkmuirhill / Blackwood / Lesmahagow areas; Carstairs / Carstairs Junction / Forth areas and villages such as Abington.</p>	Green
	Complete the Clydesdale STAG (Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance) process to identify potential new travel projects for this rural part of South Lanarkshire (ie completion of STAG) by March 2022	<p>The Clydesdale STAG Appraisal Part 2 has been submitted for review. This review will be concluded in summer 2021 and it is intended to be published on the council's website.</p> <p>Funding is currently being sought to produce the final STAG Report which would be delivered via a consultant appointed by the Roads and Transportation Service.</p>	Amber
	Consider support for innovative and sustainable methods of improving the accessibility of rural public transport services and look to support community-centred approaches	<p>Funding is being sought through the Levelling Up Fund which would support new electrical vehicles for community transport. A decision will be known by August 2021.</p>	Amber

Improving Local Environment and Communities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Increase Digital Inclusion	Provide and promote free digital access and support to enable job search, benefits and other money related services	South Lanarkshire Council and various community partners worked with the Scottish Government's Connecting Scotland programme to provide mobile devices (laptops and tablets) and connectivity to needy residents in the South Lanarkshire area, including school pupils, to ensure that during lockdown people without access to the internet were not further disadvantaged. In addition, assistance was given where required in the use of these devices.	Green
	Improve internet broadband and mobile phone coverage by reviewing current digital infrastructure barriers and opportunities for improvements	Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, progress was made on this plan to improve broadband availability with providers, most notably with fibre investment in Rutherglen and Cambuslang communities and 4G mobile provision in rural areas.	Green
	Establishment and use of digital community hubs	SELECT hubs were opened to provide this support, however, this required to be suspended during COVID-19. During the pandemic assistance was provided, where possible, by South Lanarkshire Council and community partners.	Green

Improving Local Environment and Communities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
	Increase public Wi-Fi access across community facilities, including libraries	This project was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic as targeted community sites for wi-fi installations could not be accessed. This project has been rescheduled to be carried out in 2021-22.	Amber
	The number of people in South Lanarkshire with access to the internet	<p>The latest figures from the Scottish Household Statistics (SHS) (2019, pre-COVID-19) indicates that 83% of households in South Lanarkshire (SL) have home access to the internet. The figure of 83% represents a -8% drop on the figure recorded for South Lanarkshire over the past year (91.3% in 2018) and is also below the Scottish Average figure for of 88% of households with home internet access recorded by the SHS in 2019.</p> <p>Since the most recent results of the SHS were published (in late 2019) South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) has undertaken a number of initiatives to try and boost home internet access. These include the development of a new Digital Inclusion Strategy (2020-23) in the summer of 2020, which as of spring 2021 is currently in the process of review. The 2020-23 strategy contained several actions/ measures specially intended to increase home internet access including;</p> <p>(1) To work with partners to improve digital connectivity, including broadband 4G/ 5G across SL, starting in rural areas with poor connectivity;</p> <p>(2) To commence a commitment to provide tablets and broadband to 25 homeless families.</p> <p>In addition to plan/policy initiatives, SLC, in partnership with Third Sector organisations such as Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO), has acted as a lead agency for Scottish Government initiatives such as the Connecting Scotland programme, designed to address the problem of digital exclusion, which has been exacerbated during the COVID-19 crisis. Through the programme SLC has co-ordinated the distribution of free internet access devices (i-pads/chromebooks) to groups traditionally associated with digital exclusion, such as the elderly, disabled, low income families and ethnic minority groups. Through a separate Scottish Government initiative 'No One Left Behind' SLC Education has also co-ordinated the delivery of additional free digital devices to pupils from low income families (entitled to Free School Meals) identified at risk of digital exclusion.</p>	Amber
	Review the current digital inclusion action plan in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and identify partnership priorities for implementation	The Digital Inclusion Action Plan was reviewed by the Digital Inclusion Sub-Group to learn from the COVID-19 pandemic and inform future priorities.	Green

Community Planning Partnership - Community Plan 2017-2027

Improving Local Environment and Communities

Change Required	Action to achieve change	Comments	Status
Ensure communities are more actively involved in local decision making	Phase 2 priority communities have developed neighbourhood plans meeting agreed criteria regarding participation levels by April 2021 as identified in the Community Planning Partnership work plan	Work is under way in all areas. The CPP Board agreed to an amended timescale for the work plan until April 2022 in recognition of the complications caused by the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Green
	Community priorities identified through planning processes in non-priority areas are included in Community Planning Partnership planning by April 2021	Community priorities are included within the data being used to produce the next Community Plan and the process has been agreed for this.	Green
	Training including toolkits are made available to support communities in non-priority areas to undertake the planning process	A toolkit has been completed and is available to support communities.	Green
	New community partnerships to engage with neighbourhood representative groups will be co-designed in each locality area by December 2020	The Community Planning Partnership Board has agreed that this work should take place during 2021 to align with engagement around the new Community Plan.	Green
Outcomes in our most deprived areas are improved	Yearly reports created for neighbourhood planning priority areas which show progress on achievements, priorities and actions by June 2021	The first reports were published in September 2020.	Green
	Build capacity within communities and support the delivery of priority themes identified through the Neighbourhood Planning process	Work is ongoing within all the existing priority areas.	Green
	Undertake a review of the Community Plan to reflect current community priorities	An interim review was undertaken and work is under way to produce a new Community Plan in 2022.	Green
Continued support and recognition of volunteers	Develop a partnership volunteering strategy and invest in volunteer training to ensure a good experience for those volunteering with partners	Work has yet to commence although it is intended that this will be progressed in the second half of 2021.	Red
	Increase the number of accredited volunteer organisations and recognise and support these across the partnership	<p>Volunteer Friendly Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 groups were awarded their certificates and plaques in 2020-21; • 3 groups are working towards the award for the first time; and • 9 groups are working to renew the award as continued excellence. <p>Volunteer Friendly has been reshaped and relaunched in June 2021, scaling of accredited groups will form part of the partnership volunteering strategy.</p>	Amber

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 1: Contribute to reducing the health, social and economic harm caused by drug misuse

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		----- TARGETS -----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce crimes committed under S5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 - possession of drugs by 20%	<p>In 2020-21, there were 4,679 drug possession crimes reported, a rise of 175% (2,980) from the previous year.</p> <p>Currently there are 146 drug possession crimes for every 10,000 population compared to 53.3 per 10,000 population the previous year.</p> <p>This is a rise from our baseline rate of 60.2 drug possession crimes per 10,000 population and decline from our progress towards our target rate set (Year Four, rate of 55.4 crimes per 10,000).</p>	Red	<p>2014-17 (3-yr average)</p> <p>60.2 per 10,000 population</p>	146.0 per 10,000	2020-21	56.6 per 10,000 population	48.1 per 10,000 population
Reduce crimes committed under S5(3) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 - possession with intent to supply by 20%	<p>In 2020-21, there were 445 reported drug supply crimes, a rise of 417% (359) from the previous year.</p> <p>Currently there are 13.9 drug supply crimes reported for every 10,000 population compared to 2.7 per 10,000 the previous year.</p> <p>This is a rise from our baseline rate of 2.10 drug possession crimes per 10,000 population and decline from our progress towards our target rate set (Year Four, rate of 1.93 crimes per 10,000).</p>	Red	<p>2014-17 3-yr average</p> <p>2.10 per 10,000 population</p>	13.90 per 10,000	2020-21	1.72 per 10,000 population	0.84 per 10,000 population

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 1: Contribute to reducing the health, social and economic harm caused by drug misuse

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce crimes committed under S5(3) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 - possession with intent to supply by 20% (accused aged under 25 years)	<p>In 2020-21, there were 20 drug supply crimes reported, a fall of 33% (10) from the previous year.</p> <p>Currently there are 2.31 reported drug supply crimes for every 10,000 population (<25 years) compared to 3.46 the previous year.</p> <p>This is a reduction from our baseline of 2.55 crimes per 10,000 population and exceeds progress towards our target rate set (Year Four, rate of 2.35 per 10,000 population).</p> <p>Despite a rise in the number of reported crimes, the proportion attributed to people under 25 years of age has reduced. 4% of all drug supply crime was committed by individuals under aged 25 years compared to 35% the previous year.</p>	Green	<p>2014-17 (3-yr average)</p> <p>2.55 per 10,000 population (<25 years)</p>	2.31 per 10,000	2020-21	2.40 per 10,000 population (<25 years)	2.04 per 10,000 population (<25 years)

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 1: Contribute to reducing the health, social and economic harm caused by drug misuse

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce crimes committed under S5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 - possession of drugs by 20% (accused aged under 25 years)	<p>In 2020-21, there were 604 drug possession crimes among people aged under 25 years reported, a rise of 13.5% (72) from the previous year.</p> <p>Currently there are 69.9 drug possession crimes for every 10,000 population (under 25 years) compared to 61.4 the previous year. This is a reduction from our baseline of 87.2 drug possession crimes per 10,000 population (under 25 years) and exceeds progress towards our target rate set (Year Four, rate of 80.2 per 10,000 population).</p> <p>Despite the rise in the number of reported crimes, the proportion attributed to people under 25 years of age has reduced. 15% of all drug possession crime was committed by individuals under aged 25 years, compared to 31% the previous year.</p>	Green	<p>2014-17 3-yr average</p> <p>87.2 per 10,000 population (<25 years)</p>	69.9 per 10,000	2020-21	82.0 per 10,000 population (<25 years)	69.8 per 10,000 population (<25 years)

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 2: Contribute to reducing both the prevalence and impact of domestic abuse upon victims, children, families and communities

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase the number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police by 10%	<p>In 2020-21, there were 3,933 domestic abuse incidents reported, a rise of 9% from the previous year. Currently there are 122.7 domestic abuse incidents reported for every 10,000 population.</p> <p>This is an increase from our baseline of 101.2 reported incidents per 10,000 population and surpassing our target rate set (Year Four, 107.3 per 10,000).</p> <p>Domestic abuse has been under-reported for decades. As society and all services increasingly recognise and identify domestic abuse as being unacceptable, then a rise in reports of domestic abuse to the Police can be interpreted as an indicator of confidence in terms of victims coming forward.</p> <p>However, the lockdown has increased the opportunities for perpetrators to more readily and frequently abuse victims and it is reasonable to conclude the frequency of abuse will have increased. As such, all services must maintain a focus on tackling and eradicating abuse from our communities by promoting healthy relationships and intervening in abusive ones.</p>	Green	<p>(2014-17) (3-yr average)</p> <p>101.2 per 10,000 population</p>	122.7 per 10,000	2020-21	105.8 per 10,000 population	116.5 per 10,000 population

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 2: Contribute to reducing both the prevalence and impact of domestic abuse upon victims, children, families and communities

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Monitor the number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police (victim aged less than 19 years)	In 2020-21, there were 48 domestic abuse incidents reported where the victim was under the age of 19 years, compared to 103 the previous year. Currently there are 7.3 domestic abuse incidents involving a victim under 19 years for every 10,000 of the under 19 years population. This indicator is being recorded for monitoring purposes only at present.	Contextual	Not Established - will report from 2020-21 to allow baselines and targets to be established and allow initiatives to embed.	48 per 10,000	2020-21	N/A	N/A
Monitor the number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police (offender aged less than 19 years)	In 2020-21, there were 80 domestic abuse incidents reported where the offender was under the age of 19 years, compared to 52 the previous year. Currently there are 12.2 domestic abuse incidents involving an offender under 19 years for every 10,000 of the under 19 years population. This indicator is being recorded for monitoring purposes only at present.	Contextual	Not Established - will report from 2020-21 to allow baselines and targets to be established and allow initiatives to embed.	80 per 10,000	2020-21	N/A	N/A

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 2: Contribute to reducing both the prevalence and impact of domestic abuse upon victims, children, families and communities

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Monitor the number of crimes reported to the Police under the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 (All)	<p>In 2020-21, there were 145 domestic abuse crimes reported, increasing from 56 the previous year. This is being recorded for monitoring purposes.</p> <p>Domestic abuse has been under-reported for decades. As society and all services increasingly recognise and identify domestic abuse as being unacceptable, then a rise in reports of domestic abuse to the Police can be interpreted as an indicator of confidence in terms of victims coming forward.</p> <p>However, the lockdown has increased the opportunities for perpetrators to more readily and frequently abuse victims and it is reasonable to conclude the frequency of abuse will have increased. As such, all services must maintain a focus on tackling and eradicating abuse from our communities by promoting healthy relationships and intervening in abusive ones.</p>	Contextual	Not established as legislation not in force. Will report from 2022-23 to allow baselines and targets to embed.	145 per 10,000	2020-21	N/A	N/A
Monitor the number of crimes reported to the Police under the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 (victim aged less than 19 years)	In 2020-21, there were 145 domestic abuse crimes reported, of which seven involved victims aged under 19 years; and compared to two the previous year. This is being recorded for monitoring purposes.	Contextual	Not established as legislation not in force. Will report from 2022-23 to allow baselines and targets to embed.	7 per 10,000	2020-21	N/A	N/A
Monitor the number of crimes reported to the Police under the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 (offender aged less than 19 years)	In 2020-21, there were 145 domestic abuse crimes reported, of which three involved offenders aged under 19 years; and compared to two the previous year. This is being recorded for monitoring purposes.	Contextual	Not established as legislation not in force. Will report from 2022-23 to allow baselines and targets to embed.	3 per 10,000	2020-21	N/A	N/A

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 2: Contribute to reducing both the prevalence and impact of domestic abuse upon victims, children, families and communities

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Number of women and children affected by Violence Against Women and Girls who are referred to specialist services for support	<p>There were 2,879 referrals to specialist services that support women and children affected by Violence against Women and Girls during 2019-20. This is recorded for monitoring purposes.</p> <p>This is the first year of reporting against this statutory measure that is part of a suite of measures aligned to the National Performance Framework to record progress towards the Scottish Government's Equally Safe Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls. This work links to the Scottish Government's Equally Safe Strategy's Priority 3 "Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising the safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people, that includes a focus on providing women, children and young people access to relevant, effective and integrated services.</p>	Contextual	To be established	2,879 per 10,000	2019-20	To be established	To be established

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 3: Contribute to making people safe and feel safe using roads in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce road accident casualties - all killed	<p>Ten people were killed on South Lanarkshire roads during 2020. This is a reduction of 13 (58%) from 2019 levels and a reduction of six (38%) from 2010 levels when the national road safety strategy began.</p> <p>2020 marks the end of the Scottish Government's national performance reporting against road traffic casualties. (2020 statistics provisional pending publication of Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2020, in October 2021.)</p>	Green	<p>2004-08 (4-yr average)</p> <p>16 people</p>	10 people	2020	10 people	Not established - Targets are based on the Scottish Government's National 2020 targets
Reduce road accident casualties - all seriously injured	<p>85 people were seriously injured on South Lanarkshire roads during 2020. This is a reduction of ten (11%) from 2019 levels, and a reduction of 36 (30%) from 2010 levels when the national road safety strategy began.</p> <p>2020 marks the end of the Scottish Government's national performance reporting against road traffic casualties. (2020 statistics provisional pending publication of Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2020, in October 2021.)</p>	Green	<p>2004-08 (4-yr average)</p> <p>121 people</p>	85 people	2020	54 people	Not established - Targets are based on the Scottish Government's National 2020 targets

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 3: Contribute to making people safe and feel safe using roads in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce road accident casualties - children (<16) killed	<p>No children were killed on South Lanarkshire roads during 2020. This is similar to 2019 when no children were killed and is a reduction from 2010 levels when one child was killed on South Lanarkshire roads when the national road safety strategy began.</p> <p>2020 marks the end of the Scottish Government's national performance reporting against road traffic casualties. (2020 statistics provisional pending publication of Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2020, in October 2021.)</p>	Green	<p>2004-08 (4-yr average)</p> <p>1 people</p>	0 people	2020	0.5 people	Not established - Targets are based on the Scottish Government's National 2020 targets
Reduce road accident casualties - children (<16) seriously injured	<p>Seven children were seriously injured on South Lanarkshire roads during 2020. This is a reduction of ten (59%) from 2019 levels and also a reduction of ten (59%) from 2010 levels when the national road safety strategy began.</p> <p>2020 marks the end of the Scottish Government's national performance reporting against road traffic casualties. (2020 statistics provisional pending publication of Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2020, in October 2021.)</p>	Green	<p>2004-08 4-yr average</p> <p>17 people</p>	7 people	2020	6 people	Not established - Targets are based on the Scottish Government's National 2020 targets

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 4: Contribute to reducing the risk of unintentional injuries within the home environment

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Maintain emergency admissions rates for unintentional injury among people aged 65+ years	<p>During 2019-20 there were 1,641 emergency admissions among people aged 65 years and over due to unintentional injury in South Lanarkshire, a rise of seven admissions from the previous year. This is equivalent to a rate of 26.7 emergency admissions for every 1,000 of the 65+ years population.</p> <p>This is a reduction from the baseline and exceeding our target: to maintain the level of emergency admissions at (or below) 26.9 admissions for every 1,000 of the 65+ years population.</p>	Green	2016-17 26.9 per 1,000 population (65+ years)	26.7 per 1,000	2019-20	26.9 per 1,000 population (65+ years)	26.9 per 1,000 population (65+ years)
Maintain emergency admissions rates for unintentional injury arising through falls among people aged 65+ years	<p>During 2019-20 there were 1,348 emergency admissions among people aged 65 years and over due to an unintentional falls' injury in South Lanarkshire, a rise of six admissions from the previous year. This is equivalent to a rate of 21.9 emergency admissions for every 1,000 of the 65+ years population.</p> <p>This equals our rate of emergency admission for unintentional falls' injuries against the baseline and also our target: to maintain the level of emergency admissions at (or below) 21.9 admissions for every 1,000 of the 65+ years population.</p>	Green	2016-17 21.9 per 1,000 population (65+ years)	21.9 per 1,000	2019-20	21.9 per 1,000 population (65+ years)	21.9 per 1,000 population (65+ years)

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 5: Contribute to reducing the impact antisocial behaviour has on people's lives

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the number of reported crimes of drinking in a designated public place recorded by Police Scotland by 50% (offender aged <25 years)	<p>There were 203 crimes reported for street drinking, of which 71 were among people under 25 years of age.</p> <p>Currently there are 8.2 reported public drinking crimes for every 10,000 population (<25 years) compared to 15.6 the previous year. The rate has halved.</p> <p>There has been a reduction of reported public drinking crimes from the baseline of 36.1 per 10,000 population and exceeding progress towards our target rate set (28.9 per 10,000 population).</p>	Green	<p>2014-17 (3-yr average)</p> <p>36.1 per 10,000 population</p>	8.2 per 10,000	2020-21	30.7 per 10,000 population (< 25 years)	18.1 per 10,000 population (< 25 years)
Reduce the number of general acute alcohol-related hospital new patient admissions due to acute intoxication by 10%	<p>In the financial year 2019-20 there were 402 alcohol related hospital admissions due to acute intoxication (binge drinking) in general acute hospitals in South Lanarkshire, including 219 who were admitted for the first time for this reason. This is equivalent to a rate of 6.83 admissions for every 10,000 population compared to 7.52 the previous year.</p> <p>While reducing, the number of admissions for binge drinking is still above the baseline (6.62). This has been caused by a spike in admission during 2018-19, that is positively declining.</p>	Amber	<p>2014-17 (3-yr average)</p> <p>6.62 per 10,000 population</p>	6.83 per 10,000	2019/20	6.42 per 10,000 population	5.96 per 10,000 population

Community Safety

Priority Outcome 5: Contribute to reducing the impact antisocial behaviour has on people's lives

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the number of deliberate secondary refuse fires attended by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service by 5%	During 2020-21 the Fire Service attended 506 deliberate secondary refuse fires equivalent to a rate of 15.8 refuse fires per 10,000 population. This is a rise from 13.8 refuse fires per 10,000 population the previous year. It equals the baseline (15.8 per 10,000 population) and falls short of progress towards our Year Four target (15.5 per 10,000 population).	Red	2014-17 (3-yr average) 15.8 per 10,000 population	15.8 per 10,000	2020-21	15.6 per 10,000 population	15.0 per 10,000 population
Reduce the number of reported crimes of wilful fire-raising recorded by Police Scotland by 5%	In 2020-21, there were 174 wilful fire-raising crimes reported compared to 169 the previous year, a slight 3% rise. Currently there are 5.43 wilful fire-raising crimes reported for every 10,000 population compared to 5.3 the previous year. Despite that slight rise, the rate of wilful fire-raising crime has reduced from our baseline of 5.63 crimes per 10,000 population and exceeds progress towards our target rate set (Year Four, rate of 5.52 per 10,000 population).	Green	2014-17 (3-yr average) 5.63 per 10,000 population	5.43 per 10,000	2020-21	5.55 per 10,000 population	5.35 per 10,000 population

Health and Care

Priority Outcome 1: Individuals families and communities are empowered to take preventative action to support positive health and wellbeing with a focus on communities and groups whose health outcomes are poorest

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase the life expectancy levels in the 15% most deprived areas of South Lanarkshire to be comparable with South Lanarkshire Average (Female)	Latest National Records of Scotland (NRS) data reports life expectancy for females in the most deprived areas of South Lanarkshire is 77.2 and is on par with the Scottish Average of 77.5. (The average for a South Lanarkshire female is 80.7).	Amber	2015 81.2 South Lanarkshire Average	77.2	2018	Reduce the Gap towards South Lanarkshire Figure (79.1)	Reduce the Gap towards South Lanarkshire Figure (81.2)
Increase the life expectancy levels in the 15% most deprived areas of South Lanarkshire to be comparable with South Lanarkshire Average (Male)	Latest National Records of Scotland (NRS) data reports life expectancy for males in the most deprived areas of South Lanarkshire is 72, and is on a par with the Scottish Average of 72.1. (The average for a South Lanarkshire male is 76.9).	Amber	2015 77.7 South Lanarkshire Average	72.0	2018	Reduce the Gap towards South Lanarkshire Figure (72.1)	Reduce the Gap towards South Lanarkshire Figure (77.7)
Reduce the rate of pregnant mothers in the 15% most deprived areas who smoke during their pregnancy	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the data due from the Information Services Division has been delayed. 2018-19 data, based on three year rolling average, shows the rate for the whole population of mothers who smoke in their pregnancy is 14%, the rate for the 20% most deprived is 26.9%.	Red	2014 16.5% South Lanarkshire Average	26.9%	2018-19	Reduce the Gap by 1% towards South Lanarkshire Figure	Close Gap to South Lanarkshire Average (12%)
Monitor the percentage of people who have 2 to 4 long term conditions	In 2019-20, 40.1% of the South Lanarkshire population had 2 to 4 long term conditions. This sits above the Scottish Average of 38% for the same period. As part of the Health and Social Care Improvement Agenda we continue working towards improving our population's health and reducing local health inequalities in our services.	Amber	2016-17 35.7% - South Lanarkshire Average 36.9% - Scottish Average	40.1%	2019-20	Maintain below the Scottish Average	Maintain below the Scottish Average

Health and Care

Priority Outcome 1: Individuals families and communities are empowered to take preventative action to support positive health and wellbeing with a focus on communities and groups whose health outcomes are poorest

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	--- LATEST ---			---- TARGETS ----	
			Baseline Data	Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the proportion of the population being prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis	In 2018-19, 21.5% of the population within South Lanarkshire were prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis, this is higher than the Scottish Average of 19.2%. South Lanarkshire increased by 0.3% from 2017-18, the Scottish Average increased by 0.4% in same period.	Amber	2016-17 21.4% South Lanarkshire Average 18.5% Scottish Average	21.5%	2018-19	Reduce by 0.5%	Reduce to Scottish Average
Maintain the percentage of clients waiting no longer than 3 weeks from referral received to appropriate drug or alcohol treatment that supports their recovery	From 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, 654 referrals were made to the service with 636 (97%) cases starting their treatment within 3 weeks of referral.	Green	2016-17 90%	97.2%	2020-21	Maintain	Maintain
Maintain the number of those newly diagnosed with Dementia who will have a minimum of one year's post diagnostic support	In 2019-20, 618 people with a new diagnosis of dementia were offered one year's post diagnostic support. This compares with 577 people in 2018-19 and importantly shows a commitment to meeting growing demand in this area of service delivery.	Green	March 2017 441	618	2019-20	Maintain	Maintain
Maintain percentage of adults able to look after their health very well or quite well	In 2017-18, 92% of adults were able to look after their health very well or quite well. This is slightly lower than the Scottish Average which had also dipped to 93%. Due to changes in the Health and Care Experience Survey 2019-20 there is no comparable data for this measure.	Green	2015-16 94% South Lanarkshire Average 94% Scottish Average	92.0%	2017-18	Maintain at Baseline (Scottish Average)	Maintain at Baseline (Scottish Average)

Health and Care

Priority Outcome 2: Shifting the balance of care from hospital and residential settings to community based alternatives

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce Accident and Emergency Department attendances per 1,000 population (65+)	From 2018-19 to 2019-20 the rate per 1,000 (65+) attendances at Accident and Emergency increased from 456.9 to 459.7 in South Lanarkshire. The Scottish rate similarly increased from 334.0 to 336.1.	Amber	2016-17 418.1 South Lanarkshire Average 319.0 Scottish Average	460 per 1,000	2019-20	Reduce	Achieve Scottish Average
Reduce conversion of Accident and Emergency attendances to admissions	From 2018-19 to 2019-20 the conversion of A&E attendances to admissions in South Lanarkshire increased from 28.9% to 29.2%. The Scottish rate similarly increased from 24.2% to 24.4%.	Amber	2016-17 28% South Lanarkshire Average 25% Scottish Average	29.2%	2019-20	Achieve Scottish Average	Maintain Scottish Average
Reduce the Emergency Admission rate per 100,000 population	Admission rates continue to rise year on year and remain above the Scottish level. Information on the 6 areas of the Health and Social Care Delivery Plan are monitored monthly and formally reported on a quarterly basis to the Integrated Joint Board, Performance Audit and Finance Sub Committee and Social Work Committee, an action plan with partners has been developed to improve working arrangements to shift reliance on hospital care.	Red	2016-17 13,867 South Lanarkshire Average 12,265 Scottish Average	14,213	2019-20	Reduce	Achieve Scottish Average
Reduce the number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged (per 1,000 population) (75+)	While our performance in this indicator has declined from 2018-19 to 2019-20, a protocol has been implemented to increase the number of discharges that meet their planned discharge dates and improvements are being seen.	Amber	2016-17 1,341 South Lanarkshire Average 842 Scottish Average	1,156	2019-20	Reduce	Achieve Scottish Average

Health and Care

Priority Outcome 2: Shifting the balance of care from hospital and residential settings to community based alternatives

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Maintain the percentage of people who spend their last 6 months in a community setting	In 2019-20, 88.4% of people spent their last six months at home. This is slightly below the Scottish average position of 88.7%. This demonstrates that South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership strategies for shifting the balance of end of life care are progressing well.	Green	2016-17 87% South Lanarkshire Average 87% Scottish Average	88.4%	2019-20	Maintain in line with Scottish Average	Maintain in line with Scottish Average
Reduce number of people in residential care as a percentage of the overall adult population	The total number of people in residential care as a percentage of the overall population remains at 3% as at end of 2020-21.	Green	Jan 2018 3.8%	3.0%	2020-21	Reduce to 3.3%	Reduce to 3%
Increase the number of people successfully completing a reablement episode	The number of people successfully completing a reablement episode has decreased in the last year from 2,035 to 1,160. This is largely due to a voluntary moratorium for the inhouse Care at Home Service across two localities which has reduced the opportunity to undertake reablement with new service users in these localities. The voluntary moratoriums have ceased and reablement episodes will increase as a result.	Amber	2016-17 1,425	1,160	2020-21	Increase	Increase

Health and Care

Priority Outcome 3: Carers and in particular those on low incomes are fully supported to access financial advice, information and practical wellbeing support

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	--- LATEST ---			---- TARGETS ----	
			Baseline Data	Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase the number of new carers identified and supported each year through the Third Sector	Lanarkshire Carers were the successful provider with Adult Carers Support and Services Contract, and Action for Children with Young Carers. In the early stages of lockdown, both providers moved many of their services and supports to digital platforms, and have continued to develop this method of working with carers throughout the pandemic. Regular reporting is provided by both organisations, and both are represented on the Carers Partnership Group.	Green	2017 2,845	4,917	2020-21	Increase	Increase
Monitor the number of people providing 20 to 49 hours of care per week	The latest figures available are from the 2011 Census. Local data tells us where carers also have involvement of home care or social care, the satisfaction levels are 78% and 76% respectively, and there are plans to carry out more regular carers surveys locally to capture more timely data.	Green	2011 5,785	5,785	2011 Cares Census	Monitor for Contextual Purposes	Monitor for Contextual Purposes
Monitor the number of people providing 50+ hours of care per week	The latest figures available are from the 2011 Census. Local data tells us where carers also have involvement of home care or social care, the satisfaction levels are 78% and 76% respectively, and there are plans to carry out more regular carers surveys locally to capture more timely data.	Green	2011 9,030	9,030	2011 Cares Census	Monitor for Contextual Purposes	Monitor for Contextual Purposes

Health and Care

Priority Outcome 3: Carers and in particular those on low incomes are fully supported to access financial advice, information and practical wellbeing support

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Maintain the percentage of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role	Our performance remains consistent with previous years with a slight decrease of 0.9%, we are below the Scottish Average of 34.28%. However, while the National biannual Health and Social Care Survey has shown a decline in carer satisfaction for some years now, the local experience of carers in South Lanarkshire shows increasing satisfaction. Local data tells us where carers also have involvement of home care or social care, the satisfaction levels are 78% and 76% respectively, and the Resource plans to carry out more regular carers surveys locally.	Green	2015-16 42% South Lanarkshire Average 41% Scottish Average	31%	2019	Maintain above Scottish Average	Maintain above Scottish Average
Monitor the number of new carers supported by dedicated Welfare Rights Officers	Our partners organisations work to promote the Welfare Rights Service with referrals being made from the dedicated carer organisations. There were 180 new cases in the fourth quarter of 2020-21 with a total of 546 new cases supported by dedicated Welfare Rights Officers throughout the year.	Green	2016-17 1,010	546	2019-20	Monitor for Contextual Purposes	Monitor for Contextual Purposes

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 1: A supportive business environment exists in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase the number of registered businesses per 10,000	<p>The latest figures available from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2020) indicates that the number of registered businesses per 10,000 in South Lanarkshire has decreased slightly over the past year (by -1 per 10,000) from 365 per 10,000 in 2019, down to 364 per 10,000 in 2020.</p> <p>South Lanarkshire continues to be lower than the Scottish average rate for business registrations, with the difference between the South Lanarkshire figures and the Scottish Average widening from a gap of -29 per 10,000 businesses in 2019, to a gap of -31 per 10,000 businesses in 2020 (e.g. 364 registered businesses per 10,000 in South Lanarkshire, against 395 per 10,000 in Scotland).</p>	Red	2015 South Lanarkshire 346 per 10,000 Scotland 382 per 10,000	364 per 10,000	2020	Maintain performance to, at least, match Scottish Average	Improve performance to continue to match Scottish Average

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 1: A supportive business environment exists in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase Gross Value Added (GVA)	<p>Due to the effects of the COVID-19 lockdown on the ONS working practices the most recent data available from the ONS to report on this measure are revised figures from 2019. ONS will not be publishing the 2020 GVA data until March 2022.</p> <p>The 'balanced' GVA figures have again been adjusted to reflect current (2019) prices, this has inflated both the value of the last set of GVA figures (2019), and also the GVA figures for the baseline year (2015). Comparing the adjusted figures from the baseline year (2015) and the most recent figures (2019) South Lanarkshire's share of national GVA has decreased marginally by -0.04% since 2015, from 4.69%, down to 4.65% in 2019. Given the very marginal drop in GVA, and the fact that South Lanarkshire's share of Scottish GVA has remained constant (at around 4.6% to 4.7%), a rating of amber against the measure would continue to be justified.</p>	Amber	<p>2015 South Lanarkshire £5,784m (3.82% of Scottish total)</p> <p>Scotland £127,260m</p>	4.65%	2019	Increase share of Scottish GVA	Maintain increased contribution to Scottish GVA by SL companies

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 1: A supportive business environment exists in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Maintain Business 3 year survival rate	<p>The latest Business Demography figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2019) indicates that the 3 year business survival rate in South Lanarkshire (or businesses first registered in 2016 still trading in 2019) has fallen for a third consecutive year, dropping by -1.9% over the last 12 months, from 56.3% of businesses still trading after 3 years between 2015-18, down to 54.4% of registered businesses still trading after 3 years between 2016-19.</p> <p>The medium and long term targets of matching the level of business survivals in South Lanarkshire (SL) to the Scottish average, has also been missed. The latest ONS Business Demography figures, suggest that the rate of 3 year business survivals in SL has now (as of 2019) dropped below the Scottish average, with 54.4% of businesses registered in SL in 2016 still trading in 2019, -2.1% lower the Scotland wide figure of 56.5% for 3 year business survivals.</p> <p>In light of the fact that the levels of 3 year business survivals in SL has now dropped below the Scottish average, performance against this measure has been assessed as red.</p>	Red	<p>2011-14 South Lanarkshire 60.7% still trading after 3 years</p> <p>Scotland 62% of businesses still trading after 3 years</p>	54.4%	2016-19	Maintain performance to, at least, match Scottish Average	Improve performance to continue to match Scottish Average

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 1: A supportive business environment exists in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase Business spending on Research and Development	<p>The latest release (2019) from the Scottish Government's Business Enterprise and Research Development (BERD) statistics indicates that there has been a +£3.648m increase in expenditure on R&D within businesses in South Lanarkshire over the past year, from an adjusted figure of £22.631m in 2018, up to £26.279m in 2019.</p> <p>The latest annual figures (2019) also indicates that the level of investment by companies in R&D in South Lanarkshire continues to run at a higher level than it was in the baseline year (2015).</p> <p>In light of the increase in the level of investment in R&D in South Lanarkshire recorded over the past year (2018-19) and the fact that investment levels in South Lanarkshire are continuing to run at a higher level than the baseline year, performance against this measure is again evaluated as green.</p>	Green	2015 South Lanarkshire £18.677m	£26.28m	2019	Maintain level of business support, including spending on R&D and innovation	Maintain level of business support, particularly spending on R&D and innovation

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 1: A supportive business environment exists in South Lanarkshire

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase Business Start-ups number of new business registrations	<p>The latest Business Demography figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2019) suggests that the number of new enterprises (based on VAT registrations) in South Lanarkshire (SL) has increased for a second consecutive year, up by +10 between 2018-2019, from 1,185 new business registrations in 2018, up to 1,195 in 2019.</p> <p>Although the number of new business start-ups in SL has continued to build year on year, the latest 2019 figures are still below that recorded in the baseline year e.g. 1,260 in 2015. The fact that the trend over the past 2 years has demonstrated a rise in new business registrations (in line with the aim of the measure, which is to increase new business start-ups), but that the numbers of new registrations are still (as of 2019) below the levels recorded in 2015 (the baseline year), would advise that performance against this measure should continue to be rated as amber.</p>	Amber	2015 1,260 new businesses registered	1,195	2019	Increase numbers of new start businesses	Increase numbers of new start businesses

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 2: Employment and further education opportunities are maximised for South Lanarkshire's young people

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase the percentage of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment as recorded at the Initial School Leaver Destination	The School Leaver Destination Rate (SLDR) for 2019-20 was released in March 2021 and showed a slight reduction in South Lanarkshire positive school leaver destination rate to 94.8% from 95.7% the previous year. However this maintained the target of being in line with or above the national rate of 93.3%.	Green	2015-16 South Lanarkshire 94% Scotland 93%	94.8%	March 21	Maintain above Scottish Average	Maintain above Scottish Average
Percentage reduction in the gap of positive destination outcomes for young people in the 20% most deprived data zones and their peers in the least deprived 20% data zones	The information provided below shows the gap between school leaver destinations for young people residing in datazones in the most and least deprived 20%. Compared to the previous year there has been a widening of the gap which is now in line with the national rate of 6.3%. South Lanarkshire - 6.3 (2019-20); 4.9 (2018-19) National - 6.3 (2019-20); 5.3 (2019-20)	Amber	2015-16 Lowest 20% - 89.9% Highest 20% - 95.1% Gap – 5.2%	6.3%	March 2021	Reduce the Gap to 2.5%	Reduce the Gap to 1.5%

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 3: Residents at greatest risk of living in poverty, whether in or out of work receive the support they need to progress into work that pays and provides opportunities for progression

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce proportion of South Lanarkshire residents earning below the living wage	<p>The latest figures (Office for National Statistics, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2020) indicates that there was a +3.2% rise in the percentage of employees in South Lanarkshire earning less than the living wage over the past year, from 17.6% of resident employees in 2019, up to 20.8% recorded in 2020.</p> <p>For the third consecutive year in a row, South Lanarkshire has continued to register a higher level of employees earning less than the living wage than the Scottish average, with the gap between the South Lanarkshire rate and the Scottish average increasing from a +0.8% gap recorded in 2019, up to +5.6% gap in 2020 (e.g. Scottish average = 15.2%, against the South Lanarkshire average = 20.8%), so in this respect both the medium and long term targets have or will be missed.</p> <p>Despite the recent rise in the percentage of employees earning less than the living wage, South Lanarkshire has managed to retain a relatively high number of accredited living wage employers over the last 12 months, according to the figures from the Living Wage Foundation/Living Wage Scotland. The figures for 31 March 2021 suggests that South Lanarkshire still records the 4th highest number of accredited living wage employers in Scotland out of the 32 council areas.</p>	Red	<p>2016</p> <p>18.7% of residents in jobs earning less than the living wage</p> <p>Scotland 20.1%</p>	20.8%	2020	Maintain below the Scottish Average	Maintain below the Scottish Average

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 3: Residents at greatest risk of living in poverty, whether in or out of work receive the support they need to progress into work that pays and provides opportunities for progression

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase Employment Rate	<p>The most recent employment figures from the Annual Population Survey (APS) (January-December 2020) suggests that the percentage of the working age population in employment in South Lanarkshire (SL) has increased (by +0.5%) over the past year, from 76.4% in 2019, up to 77.1% in 2020, the highest January to December employment rate ever recorded in the authority.</p> <p>The latest figures (January to December 2020) also indicate that the medium term target continues to be met, with the SL employment rate being maintained (by +3.6%) above the Scottish Average (73.5%). The fact that the SL employment rate continues to run well above the Scottish average provides justification for continuing to assess the performance against this measure as green.</p> <p>Although the latest APS figures suggest that there is currently a record high level of employment in SL, it should be noted that these figures also count employees on HMRC COVID-19 furlough schemes, such as the Self Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) and the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS), as continuing to be in employment. With this in mind, it is hard to predict what impact the pending withdrawal of furlough benefits will have on employment levels locally during the course of 2021, particularly with a view to forecasting whether the long-term target of an 80%</p>	Green	2016 Jan-Dec South Lanarkshire 75.2% Scotland 72.9%	77.1%	2020	Maintain above Scottish Average	Increase to 80%

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 3: Residents at greatest risk of living in poverty, whether in or out of work receive the support they need to progress into work that pays and provides opportunities for progression

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
	employment rate will be achievable by 2027.						
Reduce the proportion of working age residents who are employment deprived across South Lanarkshire and reduce the Gap between the 20% most deprived communities and South Lanarkshire	<p>The data used for this measure is sourced from the SIMD which is re-worked every 4 years. The last update of the SIMD was in 2020, so the next release of new data will not be available until 2024 at the earliest.</p> <p>The percentage of employment deprived residents in South Lanarkshire's (SL) (most deprived 20% data zones has fallen between the last two SIMD's, from 23.6% in SIMD 2016 down to 19.5% in SIMD 2020. The gap between the percentage of working age adults who are employment deprived in the most deprived 20% data zones and the SL average has also reduced between the SIMD 2016 and the SIMD 2020. The gap has reduced from 11.7% in 2016 (11.9% of working aged adult's employment deprived in SL, against 23.6% in the most deprived 20% data zones), down to 9.8% in 2020 (9.7% of working aged adult's employment deprived in SL, against 19.5% in the most deprived 20% data zones in 2020).</p> <p>In this sense, the two aims of the measure e.g., to reduce employment deprivation in SL and to reduce the gap in employment deprivation between residents in the most deprived 20% data zones and the SL average have both been met, based on the comparison of the data from SIMD 2016 and SIMD 2020.</p>	Report Later	SIMD 2016 South Lanarkshire 11.9% (23,935) 20% data zones - 23.6% (9,480) Gap 11.7%	9.8%	2020	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those living in the worst 20% data zones	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those living in the worst 20% data zones

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 3: Residents at greatest risk of living in poverty, whether in or out of work receive the support they need to progress into work that pays and provides opportunities for progression

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the levels of income deprivation and the Gap between the South Lanarkshire rate and the Scottish Average	<p>The data used for this measure is sourced from the SIMD which is re-worked every 4 years. The last update of the SIMD was in 2020, so the next release of new data will not be available until 2024 at the earliest.</p> <p>Comparisons between the results of SIMD 2016 and the SIMD 2020 confirm that the levels of income in South Lanarkshire (SL) amongst the population have fallen over the past 4 years, from 13.2% of the population in 2016 down to 12.8% in 2020. The gap in the percentage of the total population in SL and the Scottish average who are income deprived has also fallen between the last two SIMD's, from a 0.9% gap recorded in 2016 (13.2% of the total population income deprived in SL, against the Scottish average figure of 12.3%), down to a 0.7% gap recorded in 2020 (12.8% of the total population income deprived in SL, against the Scottish average figure of 12.1%).</p> <p>Although the gap between the SL rate of income deprivation and the Scottish average has narrowed (by -0.2%) between 2016 and 2020, the medium-term target of reducing the gap between the two to less than 0.5% has been narrowly missed by +0.2%.</p>	Report Later	2016 South Lanarkshire 13.2% of the population Scotland 12.3% Gap 0.9%	0.7%	2020	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and the Scottish Average to less than 1%	Reduce the rate of deprivation in South Lanarkshire to the Scottish Average

Sustainable Economic Growth

Priority Outcome 3: Residents at greatest risk of living in poverty, whether in or out of work receive the support they need to progress into work that pays and provides opportunities for progression

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce the levels of income deprivation and the Gap between the 20% most deprived communities and South Lanarkshire	<p>The data used for this measure is sourced from the SIMD which is re-worked every 4 years. The last update of the SIMD was in 2020, so the next release of new data will not be available until 2024 at the earliest.</p> <p>The percentage of income deprived residents in South Lanarkshire's (SL) most deprived 20% data zones has declined between SIMD 2016 and SIMD 2020, from 27% down to 25.7%. The gap between the percentage of the total population who are income deprived, between the SL average and residents in the most deprived 20% data zones has also reduced over the last 4 years, dropping from a 13.8% gap in SIMD 2016 (13.2% of the total population income deprived in SL, against 27% in the most deprived 20% data zones), down to a 12.9% gap recorded in SIMD 2020 (12.8% of the total population income deprived in SL, against 25.7% in the most deprived 20% data zones in 2020).</p>	Report Later	2016 South Lanarkshire 13.2% of the population (41,670) 20% data zones 27% (16,965) Gap 13.8%	12.9%	2020	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those living in the worst 20% data zones	Reduce the Gap between South Lanarkshire levels and those living in the worst 20% data zones

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children

Priority Outcome 1: Prevention and Early Support - Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce percentage of all children living in low income households	<p>Relative low-income is defined as a family whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of contemporary median income. Gross income measure is Before Housing Costs (BHC) and includes contributions from earnings, state support and pensions.</p> <p>Number of Children (South Lanarkshire) 11,874 - Rate 21.3%</p> <p>Number of Children (Scotland) 206,327 - Rate 22.4%</p> <p>The figures are for 2019-20 and are provisional and will change on the next release due Spring 2022. The rate is based on those aged zero to 15.</p>	Green	2014 18.1%	21.3%	2020	17.1%	16.6%

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children

Priority Outcome 1: Prevention and Early Support - Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase percentage of children within SIMD Quintile 1 who will have reached their language developmental milestones at the time of their 27-30 month child health review (SIMD 1) and reduce the gap between SIMD Quintile 1 and SIMD Quintile 5	<p>The development of a 13-15 month early intervention parental goal setting resource and local pathway of support for parents. As well as videos on twitter, Facebook and Youtube as part of a COVID response while specialist Speech and Language Therapy Services were paused.</p> <p>June 2019: SIMD 1 82.5% SIMD 2 86.7% SIMD 3 88.5% SIMD 4 88.6% SIMD 5 92.1%</p> <p>2019-20 SIMD 1 80.7% (-1.8%) SIMD 2 83.7% (-3.0%) SIMD 3 86.2% (-2.3%) SIMD 4 88.2% (-0.4%) SIMD 5 89.7% (-2.4%)</p> <p>The 2019-20 gap between SIMD1 and 5 is 9%, the 2020-21 gap is 9.6% so the gap has increased by 0.6%.</p>	Amber	2016 73% Gap 12.9%	82.5%	2021	85% Gap 11%	Maintain national target of 85% Gap 10%
Increase percentage school attendance for children and young people in SIMD 1	The 2019-20 (partial) school attendance rate was 89.8% (Session 2018-19 - 89.9%). This is a decrease from the total attendance rate of 92.6% from the previous year.	Amber	2016 91.1%	89.8%	2020	92%	93%
Increase percentage of children, within SIMD 1 who will have successfully achieved Curriculum for Excellence first level literacy by P4	No data was collected during 2019-20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Report Later	2016 54%	-----	2020	57%	58%

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children

Priority Outcome 1: Prevention and Early Support - Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase percentage of children, within SIMD 1 who will have successfully achieved Curriculum for Excellence second level literacy by P7	No data was collected during 2019-20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Report Later	2016 49%	-----	2020	60%	62%
Increase percentage of children, within SIMD 1 who will have successfully achieved Curriculum for Excellence third level literacy by S3	No data was collected during 2019-20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Report Later	2016 76%	-----	2020	85%	87%
Percentage reduction in the gap of positive destination outcomes for young people in the 20% most deprived data zones and their peers in the least deprived 20% data zones	<p>The information provided below shows the gap between school leaver destinations for young people residing in datazones in the most and least deprived 20%. Compared to the previous year there has been a widening of the gap which is now in line with the national rate of 6.3%.</p> <p>South Lanarkshire - 6.3 (2019-20); 4.9 (2018-19)</p> <p>National - 6.3 (2019-20); 5.3 (2019-20)</p>	Amber	2015-16 Lowest 20% - 89.9% Highest 20% - 95.1% Gap - 5.2%	6.3%	March 2021	Reduce the Gap to 2.5%	Reduce the Gap to 1.5%

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children

Priority Outcome 2: Health and Wellbeing - The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase percentage of children with no emotional and behavioural developmental concerns at 27-30 months	Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Incredible Years has been paused. The latest figure evidences 93.64% an increase of 3.74% from last year and below the goal of 94%.	Amber	2016 88.6%	93.6%	2021	94%	95%
Increase percentage of P1 children within a healthy weight	The 2019-20 figure is 76.5% and remains below the medium term target, up 0.1% since the previous year. P1 Weight and Height have been paused during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional Scottish Government funding has been received to set up a specialist service and Early Years Funding third sector to develop community based support.	Amber	2016 86.1%	76.5%	2020	88%	89%

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children

Priority Outcome 2: Health and Wellbeing - The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase percentage of school roll participating in Active Schools Programme	<p>Due to the situation with COVID-19 in March 2020, the Active Schools programme was disrupted resulting in no traditional in-school delivery taking place in term two or three of the school year.</p> <p>The Active Schools team supported Education's Emergency Childcare Hubs during this time. Across the 20 hubs supported, there were 10,550 attendances from young people with Sport and Physical activity delivered on a daily basis.</p> <p>To ensure children not accessing school hubs could still participate in Sport and Physical Activity, virtual support was provided to all 148 primary schools across the authority, which was also shared with young people at home. A number of online platforms were used to encourage young people to stay physically active while in lockdown, including 25 exercise challenges and various campaigns to encourage dancing, walking and wellbeing.</p> <p>The Active Schools team have also developed and delivered a range of online courses for school staff and senior pupils to enable them to support their pupils and peers with various activities. There have been 1,144 attendances at the online training. Forty-three leadership students have continued to develop their skills through facilitated placement opportunities from the University of the West of Scotland and 109</p>	Report Later	2016 46%	-----	2021	48%	50%

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children

Priority Outcome 2: Health and Wellbeing - The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
	<p>senior pupils from our high schools have achieved accredited awards in Dance Leadership.</p> <p>In January 2021, we also launched our 'Active Schools Live' sessions which offer children and families participating in home learning to take part in live yoga sessions twice a week. Our first session recorded 1,000 pupils taking part. With over 11,089 participants in the programme altogether.</p>						
Increase percentage of all looked after children and young people Health Needs Assessments completed within 4 weeks	79% of children and young people have had their health needs assessment completed within four weeks.	Amber	2016 59%	79.0%	2021	85%	86%
Reduce percentage of 15 year olds drinking alcohol at least once a week	The SALSUS survey 2018 which was published in 2020, shows a figure of 22% which is up 6% on the 2013 figures and 3% greater than the national average.	Red	2014 16.2%	22.0%	2020	15%	13%
Reduce percentage of 15 year olds reporting using drugs in the last month	SALSUS survey 2018 published in 2020 shows a figure of 15% which is up 3% on 2013 figures and 3% greater than the national average.	Red	2014 12%	15.0%	2020	10%	8%

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children

Priority Outcome 3: Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe - The life chances of our children with additional support needs and our most vulnerable children and young people are improved

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Increase percentage attendance of care experienced children and young people	The percentage attendance of care experienced children and young people during 2019-20 (partial) is 88.5%.	Amber	2016 85.1%	88.5%	2019-20	91%	92%
Increase attainment for care experienced children and young people in line with national average and virtual comparator. Care experienced young people obtaining 5 or more awards at Level 5	The number of care experienced pupils achieving 5 awards at national five level is 23.2% which is slightly lower than our comparator authorities but compares well with the national average (19.5%). This figure is based on SQA predicted grades.	Green	2014-15 15.4% South Lanarkshire Average 22.6% Virtual Comparator 9.6% Scottish Average	23.2%	2019-20	23%	25%
Increase percentage of care experienced young people achieving a positive destination at initial survey	Positive destination figures have shown a slight drop figures (85.7% from 91.5%), which is ultimately a consequence of COVID-19 and the challenges in delivering the bespoke support that the youth employability offer is built upon. The data however, still compares well to the national average (81.4%) and reflects the investment and knowledge and skill base of the partners to provide the best quality opportunities for our young people.	Amber	2016 80% South Lanarkshire Average 69% Scottish Average	85.7%	2020	90%	90%
Percentage reduction in the gap for destination outcomes for care experienced young people linked to the national average	Positive destination figures have shown a slight drop in figures (9.1 from 4.2), which is ultimately a consequence of COVID-19 and the challenges in delivering the bespoke support that the youth employability offer is built upon. The data however, still compares well to the national average (11.9) and reflects the investment and knowledge and skill base of the partners to provide the best quality opportunities for our young people.	Amber	2016 15.92% Scottish Average 76.4% Gap - 17.4%	9.1%	2020	Reduce the Gap to 7%	Reduce the Gap to 5%

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children

Priority Outcome 3: Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe - The life chances of our children with additional support needs and our most vulnerable children and young people are improved

Outcome Indicator	Comments	Status	Baseline Data	--- LATEST ---		---- TARGETS ----	
				Data	Period	Med (3 yr)	Long (10 yr)
Reduce percentage of repeat referrals to Reporter on offence grounds	152 children in South Lanarkshire had 355 offence referrals. Of those, 71 had more than one offence referral in the year (46.7%).	Amber	2016 26.5%	46.7%	2019-20	25%	23%
Reduce percentage of referrals to the Reporter for failure to attend school without reasonable excuse	127 children were referred for not attending school. This was 137 referrals out of 816 in total in 2019-20 (15.6%).	Amber	2016 9.3%	15.6%	2019-20	7.5%	7%
Reduce number of pre-birth registrations for babies affected by substance misuse	There were 18 pre-birth registrations for babies affected by parental substance misuse compared to 12 in the previous year.	Green	2016 35	18.0	2021	21	20
Reduce percentage of children affected by parental substance misuse on the Child Protection Register	10% of children on the Child Protection Register were registered due to parental substance misuse.	Green	2017 34%	10.0%	2021	30%	30%



Working together to improve
the quality of life for all in
South Lanarkshire

Community Plan for South Lanarkshire 2017–2027



Annual Outcome
Improvement Report
2020–21



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Introduction to Community Planning in South Lanarkshire

Preface

This document is for the people who live and work in South Lanarkshire. It shows the progress of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership during 2020-21 and gives examples of the work that we are doing to make a difference and how this has impacted on local people and communities.

What are we?

All of our Community Planning Partners are working together to make South Lanarkshire a better place to live and work. We work with each other and with communities to provide the best possible services that local people want and need. Further information can be found on the Community Planning Partnership website www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org

Who are we?

Our partnership includes a wide range of national and local organisations. Some of these organisations you will know well.

What are we trying to achieve?

Our aim is to work with communities to deliver better services targeted at reducing poverty and tackling inequalities and deprivation across South Lanarkshire.

How do I get involved?

There are many ways to get involved in your local community and influence the work of the partnership, for example, through volunteering, joining a local action group or making a participation request. More information can be found in the section "Working with Communities".



Overarching Aim

The main purpose of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) is to reduce poverty, deprivation and inequality.

Tackling poverty, deprivation and inequalities is not a new area of work for the partners in South Lanarkshire. From the start, the Community Planning Partnership has recognised the challenges for people experiencing disadvantage, in particular closing the opportunity gap for those communities that are the most deprived. Partners have further strengthened their commitment to this work by agreeing a single objective in the Community Plan (2017-2027) which is to "tackle poverty, deprivation and inequality".

In delivering this objective, the work of the partnership is informed by national research carried out by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation see www.jrf.org.uk for more information. This is an independent social change organisation which is working to solve poverty. Partners work together on a range of actions under the following eight key themes.

- Inclusive Growth;
- Financial Inclusion;
- Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare;
- Improving Housing;
- Education, Skills and Development;
- Health Inequalities;
- Safeguarding from Risk or Harm; and
- Improving the Local Environment and Communities.

To complement this work, plans have also been developed to improve the prospects and outcomes for our residents in relation to Children and Young People, Health and Social Care, Community Safety and Sustainable Economic Growth. For more information see

www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/plans

Children in low income families
(after housing costs)

South Lanarkshire
23.1%

Scotland 24.3%
(2019-20)



Increase employment rate

South Lanarkshire
77.1%

Scotland 72.9%
(2020)



(these figures include HMRC COVID-19 Furlough Schemes)

Increase the percentage of
16-19 year olds participating in
education, training or employment as
recorded at the Initial School Leaver Destination

South Lanarkshire
94.8%

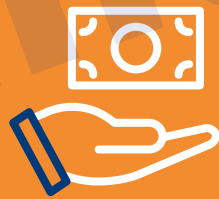
Scotland 93%
(2021)



Community Plan Performance Highlights

There is a significant amount of work being undertaken by the partnership across South Lanarkshire to reduce poverty, deprivation and inequality. Community Planning Partnerships are required to show what will be different for communities at years one, three and ten of their improvement plan. This report and the linked documents consider how well the partnership has done in meeting the targets in year four of the plan. The following gives examples of our performance where we have met the medium term target in relation to some of the key areas of work that we are progressing and focussing towards our long term goals.

93 Living Wage accredited employers
(4th highest in Scotland)



South Lanarkshire Credit Union savings by young people has increased by **6.7%**



Early Learning and Childcare have delivered **40** Modern Apprenticeships and **50** Foundation Apprenticeships



Completed new affordable homes **339** (2020-21)



Home+ Programme
South Lanarkshire Council delivered **668** affordable homes
Registered Social Landlords delivered **977** affordable homes



94.8% of South Lanarkshire School Leavers entered a positive destination (Scotland 93.3%)



11 South Lanarkshire Secondary Schools are signed up for the Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme



1,280 people participated in the Get Walking Lanarkshire Health Walks Programme



Community Plan Overall Performance at a glance

Status of priority measures



The following provides a summary of our performance against our priority measures. These are:-

- Children and families
- Community Safety
- Fair Work and Enterprise
- Health and Care
- Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

The full Community Planning Partnership performance report can be accessed using the following link
www.xxx

the full CPP performance report link – this report will be submitted to the CPP Board on 15 September – link to follow if approved (For info).

Status	Definition
Blue	The action to achieve change has been completed
Green	On course to achieve the target or complete the action as planned/the timescale or target has been met as per expectations
Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target
Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target
To be reported later	For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to say whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available
Contextual	A small number of measures are included for "information only", to set performance information in context

Most improved measures
Work with partners to promote the uptake of benefits including those new benefits introduced by Social Security Scotland
Achieve the annual target of homes directed to homeless households as set out within Local Letting Plans and agreed with Homefinder partners
Increase Employment Rate
Reduce road accident casualties – all killed

Least improved measures
Numbers of new enterprises/businesses sustained
Reduce percentage of 15 year olds drinking alcohol at least once a week
Reduce the Emergency Admission rate per 100,000 population
Reduce the rate of pregnant mothers in the 15% most deprived areas who smoke during pregnancy

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequalities:

how we are making a difference





Inclusive Growth

Why is this important?

Inclusive growth is ensuring economic growth benefits everyone and reduces inequalities, particularly income inequality. In order to address inequalities, improve standards of living and life choices for our communities, we support South Lanarkshire businesses to grow and create employment. In turn, we encourage our businesses to employ local people thereby giving something back to the communities within which these businesses are based. This support has ensured South Lanarkshire has maintained high business start-up and survival rates, positive destinations for young people, and increased levels of investment.

Support for Business: South Lanarkshire Council How are we doing?

Resources were naturally reprioritised during 2020-21 to focus on supporting businesses forced to close or operate under strict restrictions as a consequence of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

During and following the first lockdown, the Economic Development Service in South Lanarkshire Council administered Scottish Government funded grant support in the form of the New Self Employed Hardship Fund to the value of £605,000 and COVID-19 Soft Play and Nightclub Support of £325,000.

When the Break Restrictions were introduced in October 2020, Closure and Restrictions grants, worth £1.39million were administered to eligible businesses.

The Strategic Framework of protection measures came into force in November 2020 and the Economic Development Service has by the beginning of June 2021, provided 1,536 businesses with the Strategic Framework Fund (SFF) Business Grants and paid £12.332 million.

The SFF grants were then enhanced with the delivery of SFF hospitality, retail and leisure sector top up grants - £9,392million to 1,410 businesses.

Discretionary funding has been paid to 469 micro and small businesses of £1.3million and these businesses will also be paid top up funding.

Turning to South Lanarkshire Council funded Business Support grants, many of the businesses being supported were those which were adversely affected by the Government actions to mitigate the impact of the pandemic, it therefore follows that this COVID grant work does not necessarily contribute to those businesses achieving an increase in employment, sales and turnover, rather the focus has been about business survival and not supporting business growth.

However, in terms of direct, local SLC business support, notwithstanding the COVID-19 response, in the year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021; 15 businesses have been assisted with offers of South Lanarkshire Business Support Grants with projected outcomes of 26 jobs created/safeguarded and 160,000 increased turnover.

Next Steps

New Economic Development Officers have now been recruited, from January 2021, with a view to focussing on inward investment, increased business engagement and key sector development. While the new recruits have been required to assist with the COVID-19 pandemic response, progress has been made in terms of working with the Food and Drink sector in collaboration with Scotland Food and Drink and an emerging business-led group under the banner 'Lanarkshire Larder.'

Work has also began in collaboration with VisitScotland, partners and stakeholders to re-establish the tourism network and specific sector support across Lanarkshire.

Economic Development continues to lead the delivery of investment in our town and neighbourhood centres which has acted as a catalyst for additional investment to maximise opportunities for growth. Since the start of financial year 2019-20, Economic Development has secured in excess of £6.6m of capital funding with an additional £5m committed over the next 5 years. This investment has already resulted in excess of £10m additional private sector investment directly linked to the council investment.

The projects have been selected following a bidding process by communities and has led to the delivery of a number of high profile development projects which support town centres across South Lanarkshire. These projects range in scale but are transformational for the towns they are situated in. Examples include the redevelopment of a derelict hotel in Lanark for social housing, a community cinema in Forth, the redevelopment of vacant space in a shopping centre in Hamilton and a new community facility in Carnwath. Combined there are 26 live projects funded through these initiatives which, to the end of financial year 2021-22, will bring a total investment into our towns and neighbourhood centres of £17.4m.

Support for Business: Scottish Enterprise How are we doing?

Throughout 2020-21, Scottish Enterprise focused on delivering emergency COVID Support Grants to companies as opposed to Economic Growth. Scottish Enterprise were responsible for the delivery of four grants. These included:

- The Pivotal Enterprise Resilience Fund (PERF)
- The Creative, Tourism and Hospitality Hardship Fund
- Scottish Wedding Fund
- Early Stage Challenge Fund

PERF was a needs-based grant award for Scottish Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SME) firms that could demonstrate they are vulnerable but can present a strong business case for a viable future. Firms needed to prove that they were vital to the local, regional or national economy. The fund was to support these companies with working capital to help them continue trading or to come out of hibernation when the time is right. Typically, these companies would:

- Be of Local economic importance which would include areas such as, employee numbers relative to place, delivery of essential services, wider economic and community value, plus the socio-economic importance of the business in remote and rural areas.
- Leverage on the wider business community by demonstrating the impacts of your business on supply chain at a local, regional and national level.
- Support Scotland's productive capacity – through wage levels, employment, exports, Research and Development and innovation.
- Be a supplier or potential supplier to the NHS or other COVID-19 vital services.
- Be a supplier to other essential businesses.

In South Lanarkshire 62 of these grants were awarded with grants cumulatively accounting for £4.98m.

The Creative, Tourism and Hospitality Enterprises Hardship Fund was designed for small creative, tourism and hospitality companies in Scotland that are experiencing hardship because they are ineligible for other coronavirus (COVID-19) government grant support or are not yet in receipt of the funds they needed to survive.

The focus was to help companies manage cash flow commitments.

A £20m scheme, grants of up to £25,000 could be accessed in addition to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. However, those that had accessed other support were ineligible.

In South Lanarkshire 63 businesses benefitted from this support amounting to £927k.

The Scottish Wedding Fund aimed to help businesses whose main income comes from the Scottish wedding industry to survive the pandemic and then restart once restrictions ease, thus protecting jobs.

The Scottish Wedding Industry Fund was fully allocated within four weeks. **Across South Lanarkshire 185 businesses benefitted from this support with total grants valued at £1.54m.**

The Early Stage Growth Challenge Fund was aimed at providing support (£50,000 - £300,000) to early-stage, high-growth, innovative Scottish companies (Small and Micro-Enterprises only i.e. 2-49 employees) whose routes to investment and growth were impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding was a combination of convertible loan and grant (which can make up a maximum of 20% of any funding awarded). The convertible loans have a term of 36 months and attract interest at 8% (interest free for the first 12 months). Unlike other COVID support mechanisms this was a competitive process.

In South Lanarkshire, two firms were successful in obtaining this funding. **Together they secured more than £575k.**

Next Steps

In all, these support mechanisms help to stem the economic impact of the pandemic and in conjunction with South Lanarkshire administered funds helped secure the future of many businesses maximising the opportunities for growth as we emerge from the pandemic.

Further information

Business Support
<https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/>

Support for Businesses
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/businesssupport

Business Gateway Support
www.bgateway.com/local-offices/lanarkshire/local-support

Financial Inclusion

Why is this important?

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the number of people requiring support has increased due to a range of circumstances such as, for example, facing a sudden change in their financial situation or finding that family or friends, who may normally offer support and assistance, being unavailable if they are ill or self-isolating. In particular, within South Lanarkshire, 27,750 households or 50,565 people were referred to receive emergency food provision from April 2020 to March 2021 and the number of food parcels distributed by food banks has increased by 93.4% compared to last year.

How are we doing?

South Lanarkshire Council together with partners support the work of the existing voluntary sector and local partnerships in each area of South Lanarkshire to address food poverty, meet the rising demand for food parcels and offer other types of support.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the council has been sourcing food from wholesale suppliers and supermarkets and coordinated the process of distributing food to food banks and other local groups. In addition to food, essential items have been provided such as sanitary products, toiletries and household cleaning products. In total, 26,651 bags of food or 407,540 meals were distributed by the council over the last year (March 2020 to April 2021) to 16 organisations in the four areas of South Lanarkshire, this was funded by the Scottish Government Food Fund and the subsequent Financial Insecurity Fund.

People requesting support have also been able to reach help via the council's Community Wellbeing Line which was launched at the beginning of the pandemic. Among other types of support, the wellbeing line helps to connect households in need of food aid due to health or financial problems to local community food organisations. In total, 3,099 food related requests were received and answered over the last year and this led to an additional distribution of 4,720 bags of food to vulnerable groups, homeless or sheltered housing.



Moreover, local organisations have been receiving food from FareShare. The charity takes good quality surplus food from the food industry to frontline charities and community groups. From March to November 2020, 102 tonnes of food surplus or 244,838 meals were redistributed in South Lanarkshire with support from the council contributing to tackle food poverty and to reduce food waste.

Local food organisations and partners also meet regularly to discuss challenges and share good practices around food insecurity and support provided to people in need. For instance, this led to the publication of the Good Food Recipe Booklet which is distributed with food parcels, the publication of an online map to easily locate local food organisations and the organisation of workshops to discuss dignity principles in the context of emergency food provision.

Priority Next Steps

- Improve uptake of food and crisis aid through the review of existing working relationships between specialist advice and aid services and improve cross referral processes;
- Support the development of dignified and more sustainable options for food provision; and
- Continue to encourage a partnership approach to facilitate knowledge sharing and peer learning

Further information

How to get help – South Lanarkshire Council
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/covid19-help

Worried about food – South Lanarkshire Council
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/worried-about-food

FareShare
<https://fareshare.org.uk/>

Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare

Why is this important?

Children of working families do better in terms of long-term education and employment chances. Work provides a gateway out of poverty, provides self-esteem, resilience and makes a positive contribution to mental health. Every Child, Every Chance (the national child poverty delivery plan) identified 'increasing income from employment' as a main driver of child poverty reduction.

Being in employment does not always guarantee a route out of poverty and parents need to be able to access high quality jobs with a decent rate of pay and with enough hours to meet their family's needs. Over half of families living in poverty have at least one parent working. In South Lanarkshire we have made good progress in delivering sustainable employment opportunities for parents and young people. Benefits include decent rates of pay, good training and support, opportunities for progression and enough hours in work to meet basic family needs.

The level of median pay for South Lanarkshire residents working full time has increased for a 5th consecutive year, up by 7.5% since 2019. This is the biggest single increase recorded in a single year. The level of weekly median pay for South Lanarkshire residents working full time also continues to run well above the Scottish average.

The record levels of full-time weekly pay registered by South Lanarkshire residents over the past year does mask a drop in part time pay rates. While pay levels for full-time employees have increased by 7.5%, pay levels for part time workers have fallen by 4% over the same period. The drop in part time earnings is more telling than the figures for full time earnings, as part time workers are more vulnerable to in-work poverty. The drop recorded may be a reflection of South Lanarkshire's greater dependence on COVID-19 vulnerable industrial sectors as a source of employment, with many jobs in these sectors also being part-time e.g., distribution, hotels and restaurants, other services, manufacturing and construction.

During 2019-20, all areas of life including employment and learning have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and additional challenges have emerged as we hopefully look forward to recovery. Challenges include engaging with families, digital capability and access, lack of employer engagement and strain on family budgets.

In terms of the impact of the COVID-19 economic lockdown on claimant unemployment locally, the April 2021 figures suggest that there has been a 75.9% rise in unemployed claimants in South Lanarkshire since March 2020.

In South Lanarkshire, 19,200 people have been furloughed in the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (March 2021). The Scheme could be masking the full economic impact of the pandemic and we may see an increase in the number of redundancies when furlough is no longer an option for employers.

The number of accredited living wage employers in South Lanarkshire has increased over the previous year, from 90 to 93. South Lanarkshire also continues to rank 4th highest in Scotland for the number of accredited Living Wage employers. Furthermore, the proportion of South Lanarkshire residents who earn less than the Living Wage has fallen from 20.3% in 2018 to 17.8% in October 2019 and the number of employers accredited by the Scottish Living Wage Accreditation Scheme has increased from 50 in 2018 to 93 in 2021.

How are we doing?

Our Local Child Poverty Action Plan outlines a range of actions and measures to support fair work opportunities for families, delivered through our local employability services and the Parental Employment Support (PES) Programme. Delivery is based on the No One Left Behind (NOLB) principles, working with partners, to draw extensively on the lived experience of potential service users and identify best practice.

Partners support a range of activity to support parents develop the skills and experiences to progress to increased and sustained employment. This activity has a key role to play in increasing income from employment for young people and their families. The delivery of such programmes has been extremely challenging during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare

Parental Employability Support

The Parental Employment Support Programme is funded by the Scottish Government and is designed to support parents who are out of work and those who are in work, but in receipt of low incomes. The programme delivers a joined-up model of working with families and 65 parents were supported into fair work opportunities and to enhance their career prospect over the last year.

Additional funding has supported young parents through the provision of additional 1140 hours childcare and supported families where a parent or child has a disability.

The adult No One Left Behind (NOLB) initiative has provided additional employment skills for 120 local unemployed residents, including those with multiple barriers.

Upskilling

The Upskilling Programme helps address the market demand for skilled workers and has supported 120 people (including 57 parents) in work who are in receipt of low incomes or are underemployed, to improve their chances of in-work progression and mitigate the difficulties of in-work poverty.

Gateway to Employment

The Gateway to Employment delivered a range of services to support 463 unemployed adults with multiple barriers preventing them from accessing sustainable work opportunities. The programme matches clients with the needs of employers and provided bespoke pre-recruitment training that meets business recruitment needs. Clients benefited from training including core skills designed to equip individuals with the necessary skills that meet the needs of employers and industry.

Priority Next Steps Key challenges for 2021-22

The employability landscape is currently uncertain due to COVID-19. e.g. once support from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ends, the number of individuals facing redundancy is expected to increase.

Due to the restrictions, there have been no living wage promotional activities in South Lanarkshire over the past 12 months and it is a priority to resume a schedule of activities and promotional events over the next year for this important area of work to address in-work poverty.

Ensuring that families are not disadvantaged by digital exclusion will be crucial in getting the right support to make best use of the online services. Much work has been done already to identify vulnerable families through the work of schools and other partners and we need to make sure no families miss out on being connected. e.g. Hamilton Jobcentre is part of a pilot of regular interaction with some customers using digital video appointments, this is being potentially progressed nationally. Digital access continues to be the preferred method of contact with customers using email, telephone or Universal Credit Journal messaging. The DWP are now delivering virtual sessions to customers, including recruitment events with employers.

Our local action plan outlines a range of actions and measures to support fair work opportunities for families, delivered through our local employability services and the Parental Employment Support (PES) programme. Delivery is based on the NOLB principles, working with partners, to draw extensively on the lived experience of potential service users and identify best practice.

Further Information

Every Child Every Chance
www.gov.scot/publications/child-chance-tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-2018-22/

Employment Support
<https://economicactionplan.mygov.scot/skills/employment-support/>

Parental Employment Support

K is a 21-year-old single parent who resides in Blantyre within one of the worst 20% SIMD areas and was referred to the programme in March 2019.

She started working at a local nursery in Cambuslang where she completed her childcare apprenticeship and gained her SVQ Level 3 (Children and Young People qualification). To further her career and improve her income, she needed to gain additional skills and qualifications.

K was put forward by her Key Worker and employer to complete her Professional Development Award (PDA) in Childhood Practices. As a young single parent this would further expand her knowledge and open job opportunities with her current employer (Local Nursery). She received one-to-one support and guidance and a workplace mentor and key worker support including a structured learning pathway to help her with the qualification linked to her job.

K's progress has been excellent and she completed her PDA in Childhood Practices and a further Paediatric First Aid qualification which enabled her to be promoted to Senior Nurse Practitioner which has since given her an increase in her salary.

In K's words:

"During completing my PDA Childhood Practice, my employer was great with me and I felt really supported by them throughout the course. During the course I was promoted to the Nursery Senior Practitioner which gave me the opportunity to perform extra duties within the nursery. By getting a promotion this allowed me to have more insight into what the job entails which helped to complete my units. By getting my promotion I also received a salary increase which helps me immensely financially".

K's Supervisor comment:

"K was able to achieve her PDA Childhood studies, this was a big help to her to be able to achieve her qualification which has had an impact on her practice within the nursery and her knowledge to continue to help improve the running of the nursery and helps the children to be able to develop. This has made K become much more confident within her senior role."

Supporting Families (Access to Childcare)

A parent was referred to the Supporting Families project by a local primary school to get support for the family around childcare, as both parents were studying on full time courses. The mother is studying a Higher National Certificate (HNC) in childcare, which will allow her to then undertake her degree in teaching next year. The father is studying a degree in Graphic Design, allowing him to eventually teach this subject to high school students.

The mother stated that she would have to undertake a placement, which would cause the family difficulties around accessing a childcare place for their youngest child who is currently 2 years of age. In addition, the wrap around hours for the other children (9 and 3) didn't cover school and nursery hours. She indicated that this would have a significant financial impact for the family and on her ability to continue with her studies. The family had few extended family options for childcare, as both grandparents have health issues. However, the parent hoped to work something out with a friend and grandparents for two of the days, leaving two days with no planned childcare. In addition, the childcare issue became more immediate as the college indicated students had one week to arrange childcare, with the placement due to start a week later.

The Family Support Worker arranged some wrap around childcare allowing the parent to undertake her placement and also some financial support for the family with short term funding to enable the flexibility of childcare required.

The worker then contacted the college to find out if there was any eligible funding the family might be able to benefit from and was able to provide the family with further information around the childcare element of funding and discretionary funds available from the college, which the family would be eligible to apply for.

Improving Housing

Why is this important?

The last year or so has shown more than ever how important housing is. Having a home that is safe, secure, maintained to a good standard and affordable to run, is central to a good quality of life and contributes towards positive health and wellbeing outcomes.

For a number of years now, South Lanarkshire Council and a range of partners have been working together to deliver new affordable homes across South Lanarkshire. Homes that are built to modern standards, are energy efficient and can meet both current and future needs, helping to ensure that people can live independently in their home for as long as possible.

At the same time, we are also continuing to invest in our existing council housing stock, to make sure that these homes meet the required building and environmental standards, which in turn helps towards addressing fuel poverty.



How are we doing?

In 2019, the landmark housing-led regeneration of Whitlawburn in Cambuslang began with a plan to transform the area by demolishing 380 existing properties and delivering 311 new homes, including 230 homes for social rent and 81 homes for sale. The £42 million regeneration project which is subsidised through the Scottish Government's affordable housing supply programme, is being delivered through a partnership between South Lanarkshire Council, West Whitlawburn Housing Co-operative, CCG (Scotland) Ltd and hub South West.

The site masterplan for Whitlawburn was developed following extensive engagement with the local community. The new homes developed on the site therefore reflect the needs of the community, with a range of house types and sizes including, family homes, bungalows, amenity and mainstream flats.

Despite the challenges of the last year, 84 homes have already been completed and work will continue until the 170 new council homes are all delivered by the end of 2022. An additional 60 homes for social rent, comprising terraced houses and flats, will be developed by locally based West Whitlawburn Housing Co-operative.

The wider community has also benefited from the regeneration programme through the creation of seven jobs, three trade apprenticeships and four work placements. Support has also been provided to various local community initiatives and projects and this will continue as the regeneration programme progresses.

One happy tenant of a new, modern amenity flat is Gail McGowan, 91. Gail has lived in Whitlawburn for 50 years and was delighted with her new amenity home which has allowed her to continue to live independently in the community, close to family and friends. Gail said, "I am absolutely delighted with the new house. The kitchen is a fantastic size with all mod-cons. The people in this area are all very friendly and go out of their way to help and look out for one another – that's what I love about staying here".



Priority Next Steps

In the year ahead we will continue to:

- Work towards completing delivery of the target of 1,000 additional council homes by March 2022;
- Work with partners to provide additional affordable homes to help towards meeting a range of housing needs across South Lanarkshire: and
- Invest in existing housing stock to improve energy efficiency, meet legislative requirements and ensure the housing stock meets modern standards.



Further information

South Lanarkshire Local Housing Strategy 2017-22
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/housing-strategy

Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2021-26
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/SHIP-21-26

Youtube video of Whitlawburn
www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwNUcaDgHJs



Education, Skills and Development

Why is this important?

Children of working families do better in terms of long-term education and employment chances. Work provides a gateway out of poverty, provides self-esteem, resilience and makes a positive contribution to mental health. Every Child, Every Chance (the national child poverty delivery plan) identified 'increasing income from employment' as a main driver of child poverty reduction.

For the first time in three months the number of young claimants (16-24) has fallen, from 2,390 to 2,350. South Lanarkshire also continues to rank outside of the worst 10 council areas in Scotland for youth claimants according to the latest April 2021 figures, with the authority placing 12th of the 32 council areas for youth unemployment. Despite the fall in young claimants recorded, the gap between the South Lanarkshire claimant rate and the Scottish average has marginally increased and now stands at +0.6%, the widest recorded since last year.

Activity to support young people in the senior phase of education develop the skills and experiences to progress to sustained positive destinations has a key role in increasing income from employment. Young people who experience periods of unemployment at an early age are more likely to experience unemployment in later life and the support provided to young people through effective career management skills, appropriate training and employability skills development can reduce youth unemployment, improve young people's life chances and increase income for young people and their families. The delivery of such programmes has been extremely challenging during the COVID-19 pandemic.

How are we doing?

Youth Employability Support

We have continued to deliver a wider range of employability support to young people during the last year, adapted to reflect the need for social distancing and lockdown restrictions.

Our work with young people to progress into a positive destination post school provides individualised support for employability, skills development and health and wellbeing. The main provider of this initiative is the Aspire Programme, which supported 338 young people over the last year.

Skills Development Scotland has worked to be creative in enhancing existing delivery and have provided several new initiatives to support young people and employers which includes: Adopt an Apprentice, Apprenticeship Transition Plans, Pathways Apprenticeships, Transition Training Fund and Apprenticeship Employer Grants. Skills Development Scotland and partners developed and implemented a new national helpline and digital resources, with 29 employers and 895 young people benefiting by December 2020.

Modern Apprenticeships

South Lanarkshire Council has continued to invest across all their apprenticeship programmes, a particular focus has been on areas where forward workforce planning is a priority such as childcare, social care and roads maintenance. In these programmes the salaries are paid by the council and the training costs are met by Skills Development Scotland. In addition to their 180 existing apprentices, this year the Local Authority recruited 85 additional young people.

In addition, the council have provided a range of Modern Apprenticeships, however the number of starts (670) continues to be lower than previous years (1,926 in 2019-20) as employers have understandably focused on challenges of COVID-19 rather than recruitment or up-skilling of staff.

Scottish Youth Guarantee

We are committed to implementing the Scottish Government's Youth Guarantee, making sure that every young person aged between 16 and 24 will be guaranteed either the opportunity to study at university or college, to take part in an apprenticeship programme, take up a job or work experience, or participate in a formal volunteering or training programme according to their own personal circumstances.

Our local employability partnerships are committed to protecting the diverse range of existing provision and ensuring that the right support is put into place for those who rely on these services. The support helps to address inequalities within the labour market and improve young people's quality of employment, pay and progression. Priorities for the Youth Guarantee resources include employer recruitment, volunteering, key worker support, and supported employment for young people with additional support needs.

School Leaver Destinations

We have worked hard to support school leavers through a wide range of amended activity and while the positive destination rate for South Lanarkshire fell slightly to 94.8% from 95.7% the previous year, we maintained the target to be above the national rate (93.3%).

The Care Experienced Employability Focus Group has continued to meet to track the destinations of care experienced young people and while the positive destination rate for care experienced young people fell slightly to 85.4%, it still remained above the national average (81.4%).

A new Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 4/5 Foundation Apprenticeship programme in construction was established and 200 young people started on the programme in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire College, New College Lanarkshire, and First Steps Future Training. The number included 30 young people who took part in a winter leaver's pilot programme and 40 summer leavers.

Kickstart

South Lanarkshire Council has successfully bid to provide 330 work placement opportunities through the Kickstart initiative. Young people will be offered a work placement opportunity with a wage subsidy for 25 hours per week for 26 weeks and in-work employability support. The initiative will help create new and additional jobs including skills and training to help support young people in the workplace.

Priority Next Steps

Key challenges for 2021-22

This year due to COVID-19, there has been a drop in the positive destination rate for South Lanarkshire, however we remain above the national rate.

The Youth Employability Service will work closely with all secondary schools and partners including colleges and Skills Development Scotland to manage the COVID-19 restrictions and support young people make a positive transition from school. The Youth Employability Service is in the process of moving to a locality model which will widen the ongoing support and tracking of young people across all our programmes.

Care experienced school leavers have unique individual circumstances and intensive support can be required to progress to and sustain post-school destinations. The sustained progress in leaver destinations for care experienced young people has been supported through the tailored approach by the Aspire programme which was highlighted as good practice in the recent joint inspection of services for young people in need of care and protection. Given the difficulties of COVID-19 this targeted approach will be important in supporting care experienced young people at this time.

The Youth Employability Service will work with colleagues in Social Work to deliver a further roll out of the Care Experienced Employability Pilot. The programme was piloted in 2019 and supported five care experienced young people to progress to employment with South Lanarkshire Council. Through the council's role as a corporate parent, the programme developed an innovative and flexible wage placement-based approach to identify training and employment opportunities within the council that met the young people's needs and aspirations. A planned roll-out in 2020 was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will now be delivered from May 2021.

Further information

Every Child Every Chance

www.gov.scot/publications/child-chance-tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-2018-22/

Youth Employability

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/youth-employability

Case Study

D was referred to Aspire by his Social Worker when he was 16 years old and on a supervision order. He was also receiving support from the Intensive Family Support Team and the Adaction project.

From the beginning D engaged really well with Aspire. He saw it as a fresh start and was keen to do well. An action plan was drawn up and D received support with an Aspire worker on a regular basis. The Aspire worker began to build up a good relationship with him and gain an insight into what would be best for D to support him on his journey to employment. D stressed he didn't want to attend college but was willing to try a short employability course to help him reach his goal of employment.

D started on the 'New Horizons' programme with Skills Exchange Scotland. At that time, he had an interest in cookery and hoped to gain a modern apprenticeship as a chef. However, D lost interest very quickly on New Horizons and realised this wasn't for him as he wanted to try to get a job and earn money.

D was supported to produce a CV and he went around local employers dropping off his CV. He was very motivated to find a job, so the worker met him at the library to job search and apply for jobs.

D's confidence increased and he became very focussed on finding employment. He became confident job searching on his own and applying for jobs and received a couple of interviews during this period. Although he was unsuccessful it gave him much needed interview experience.

D was referred to an employment opportunity through South Lanarkshire Council's COVID jobs portal. It was a full-time job with an organisation producing and selling blinds. D attended the interview and did very well. He was offered a work trial for three days and did very well and as a result was offered a permanent full time post which he is thoroughly enjoying.

Health Inequalities

Reducing social isolation by empowering communities and individuals to improve their own health and wellbeing.

Why is this important?

Prior to the initial period of lockdown in March 2020, third sector organisations receiving funds through the Integrated Care Fund were asked to amend their services to support people who would be adversely affected during the lockdown period, these services were seen as essential in reducing health inequalities during an uncertain and concerning time.

How are we doing?

These organisations provided remote support for wellbeing with an estimated average of 1,500 welfare checks having been undertaken every month and more than 600 people receiving personal support to remain connected through video and telephone calls, 1:1 support and group sessions.

Organisations established telephone befriending and a number have set up online group sessions involving activities such as cooking, meditation, quizzes and coffee mornings.



Some provided equipment loans or distributed devices through the "Connecting Scotland" scheme.

A range of activity packs were distributed to keep minds occupied such as mindfulness, colouring or to help self-management e.g. lymphoedema exercise DVD.

Support was provided to reduce food poverty and through two of the organisations, more than 1,000 people received food parcels during the last year.

Another organisation carried out an average of 100 food shops and 24 prescription collections per month. One organisation provided cooked meals for their client group of older people while another supported the community with fresh produce grown on their community farm.

Mental Health and Crisis Support included emotional support, signposting and referring to other agencies, supporting people with mental health issues, domestic abuse, advice and providing representation for those in crisis or adversely affected by the pandemic.

More than 100 people suffering from mental ill-health received specialist support which included 1:1 support, virtual support group sessions and practical self-management tools. The Citizens Advice Bureau supported almost 800 people who were in crisis with face to face and virtual appointments, dealing with benefit issues, unemployment and issues relating to personal relationships.

Through funds provided by William Grant, Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan) as the Third Sector Interface (TSI), distributed 29 small grants to a range of organisations across South Lanarkshire. These grants enabled the support to local community based organisations and 'pop-up' support groups to provide food vouchers, activity packs, IT equipment and wellbeing packs to a wide range of residents who were isolated as a result of the lockdown.



Extracts from service user feedback/case studies

The Haven

"The 'Angel Catcher' journal is the best thing. It's really good and very therapeutic... It helped me see that I had not forgotten (loved one) and it gave me time to reflect and process my grief. It was emotional but it is what I needed." – Bereaved Carer, bereavement focused Wellbeing Toolkit.

"Anyone getting involved in this class will benefit so much, as I have done. You can go at your own pace and Nicola is a fantastic teacher." – client participating in gentle exercise.

Healthy Valleys

"I was worried that when I got into the group I'd have nothing to say and that I'd feel embarrassed just sitting there, but I didn't. I enjoyed talking to people and hearing their chat and I realised that I'm a pretty good knitter! It's been great to be able to help some of the younger ones get going, I've finished each group smiling. If things keep going how they are I think I could keep the group going!" (as a volunteer).

LEAP

William couldn't speak highly enough about the calls. He can't wait for the call every week. Brian makes him laugh. "I feel that with the support from my volunteer and the LEAP staff that I have come along leaps and bounds."

LAMH

"To think at my age I could learn a new skill during such trying times and when I felt most cut off from the outside world! I can't thank the LAMH staff enough for their guidance, support and patience. I was so isolated at home and not seeing my family and friends impacted my mental health in such a way that I started to think what's the point. I can't believe I can now enjoy the benefits of a weekly online group with familiar faces. I have a focus within my week again and a skill I can use to keep in touch with my family. It's wonderful!"

"My son stays in America, he is a doctor. I feel so happy to now be able to contact him using my tablet at home. I would never have been able to use my tablet in this way without the continuous support from LAMH and I am very grateful to the service. I was so overwhelmed when my support worker initially discussed this with me and believed I would never achieve this. It took a lot of patience and I felt the written guides (how to use Microsoft Teams) from LAMH enabled me to break down any further anxieties as well as the time from my support worker. I look forward to seeing everyone online during our weekly Mindfulness sessions, it has been so beneficial to me and a skill I can continue to use to keep me connected to my loved ones".

Further information

Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan)
<http://www.vaslan.org.uk/>

Safeguarding from Risk or Harm

Why is this important?

South Lanarkshire Council's Public Protection Team consists of the Adult and Child Protection Committees, Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and the Gender Based Violence Partnership. The Partnership is committed to working with survivors, victims and perpetrators to reduce the risk of harm to children, adults and members of the public across our community.

To be effective, Public Protection requires agencies in South Lanarkshire to work together to raise awareness and understanding and coordinate an effective response which provide people at risk of violence, abuse and exploitation with the support needed.

One area of focus is educating young people on domestic abuse and gender based violence with the focus being primary prevention, early intervention and support.

This work aligns with the Scottish Government's Equally Safe strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and children produced in partnership with CoSLA, Police Scotland, Health Scotland and specialist Violence against Women support groups like Scottish Women's Aid and Rape Crisis Scotland.

How are we doing?

These are unprecedented times where the current pandemic has resulted in various challenges delivering face to face workshops, initiatives, campaigns and training. The Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme, aimed at young people aged 12 to 25, continues to be prioritised in schools and is run within 11 schools across South Lanarkshire. The Gender Based Violence (GBV) Partnership continues to offer ongoing support to these schools to raise awareness, challenge behaviours, build knowledge and skills in a preventative approach to stop violence before it occurs. GBV is a term that encompasses a spectrum of abuse experienced mostly by women and perpetrated mainly by men including, but not limited to, physical, sexual and psychological abuse, domestic abuse, rape, commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, honour-based violence and female genital mutilation.

Safe and Together is an approach developed in the United States which provides a framework for partnering with domestic abuse survivors and intervening with domestic abuse perpetrators in order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children. The Safe and Together Implementation Plan has been delayed as a result of COVID-19, however, training has now been delivered and the Gender-Based Violence Partnership and Child Protection Committee continue to work together to further embed the model into practice across the multi-agency workforce.

South Lanarkshire Council once again supported the international campaign, 16 Days of Action which showcased its 30th anniversary and commenced on 25 November 2020. The campaign to raise awareness of domestic abuse, gender based violence and push for positive change to increase women's safety seen Hamilton Town House lit up in orange to mark the 16 days. Orange is the unifying colour and a symbol of a brighter future, free from violence against women and girls.



Police Scotland responds to a domestic abuse call every nine minutes attending around 60,000 incidents every year.



Priority Next Steps

- To continue to ensure the Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme is delivered in secondary schools across South Lanarkshire in order to promote early intervention and prevention of gender based violence in line with Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy for Eradicating and Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls; and
- Further role out of the Safe and Together Model across South Lanarkshire's multi-agency workforce through further training and briefing sessions in line with the South Lanarkshire's Gender Based Violence Partnership's Safe and Together Implementation Plan.

Further information

South Lanarkshire GBV Partnership
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/gender-based-violence

South Lanarkshire GBV Partnership Strategy 2020-23
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/gender-based-violence-strategy

South Lanarkshire Public Protection Strategy
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/public-protection-strategy

ASSIST – 0141 276 7400

Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline –
0800 027 1234

Hemat Gryffee Womens Aid – 0141 353 0859

Lanarkshire Rape Crisis – 01698 527003

Mens Advice Line – 0808 801 0327

Police Scotland Domestic Abuse - 101



Improving the Local Environment and Communities



Why is this important?

The quality of the environment in which we live and our ability to take part in community life and influence what happens in our communities is key to addressing inequalities and tackling poverty. Within this theme we are working in partnership to tackle digital exclusion.

How are we doing? Digital Connectivity

In 2020, South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) developed and approved a Digital Inclusion Strategy covering 2020 to 2023. The strategy was based on conversations with South Lanarkshire residents to understand the barriers to accessing the benefits of the internet. These barriers included affordability, skills, poor availability of, or slow broadband connectivity and concerns around data security. This strategy can be viewed on the council's website (see further information). An action plan for the first year of the strategy was agreed and this included actions to address several of these barriers.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, progress was made on this plan to improve broadband availability with providers, most notably with fibre investment in Rutherglen and Cambuslang communities and 4G mobile provision in rural areas. SLC and various community partners worked with the Scottish Government's Connecting Scotland programme to provide mobile devices (laptops and tablets) and connectivity to needy residents in the South Lanarkshire area, including school pupils, to ensure that during lockdown people without access to the internet were not further disadvantaged. In addition assistance was given where required in the use of these devices.

Further information

Digital Inclusion Strategy 2020 - 2023 Plans and policies - South Lanarkshire Council

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/digital-inclusion-strategy

Neighbourhood Planning



Neighbourhood Planning

Hillhouse, Udston, Burnbank

Through relationships built with Community Links and local Neighbourhood Planning, a programme of sport activities has been organised through Uddingston Community Sports Hub, Active Schools and partnership with the Scottish Football Association (#GoFitba) as a targeted intervention for access to sports activities for local children who would not otherwise have the opportunity to take part.

2019-2020

Through Our Place Our Plan, a programme was set up in conjunction with the Harvest Church Hamilton community support group. This was after a local neighbourhood consultation identified sport and physical activity opportunities as a priority for the area. The aim was to provide children from the group the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities which would be led by local clubs. A budget was allocated for the programme through a local participatory allocation process which allowed for more access and the promotion of further opportunities including South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture's (SLLC) ACE and ACE Pop Up programmes. We were also able to remove some barriers to participation for the children by providing these activities as part of a pre-existing homework club with the Harvest Church.

This has resulted in a 6-8 month sports hub programme delivered in kind by clubs with resources made available to the children and access to these sessions. Clubs pictured

supporting sessions are Hamilton Judo and Kirkwood's Martial Arts. We have also been able to develop new opportunities specifically during the October break and Easter school holidays.

COVID-19 Response

As a result of the pandemic, it meant we had to be creative in our response as we sought out alternative options based on the current guidelines. We worked very closely with local partners including those clubs who had their own facility. We also worked with the Scottish Football Association to ensure we could still provide opportunities.



GoFitba'

A Scottish Football Association #GoFitba programme was delivered over the October holidays at the Jock Stein Leisure Centre in Hamilton. The purpose was to combat holiday hunger with a message on healthy eating at each session. 35 local children identified through the Harvest Church community group and Universal Connections attended, each receiving their own football and snacks to take home courtesy of Asda and other local businesses.



Continuation enabled

Through work with leisure management, development services and facilities staff, the club has been able to continue on a Thursday night at the Jock Stein Centre with the same partners and local children. There is also a club pathway/link being developed with Calderglen Thistle who can provide waterproofs for the children.



Community Clubs

Around the same time, discussions were taking place with Uddington Cricket and Sports Club about how we could possibly work together in providing opportunities for these target groups. Given the location of the facility, transport was a challenge but the Harvest Church Group were able to get access to a minibus and teamed up with the club to deliver a 5 week block of sessions free of charge.

Club Delivery

The clubs delivered tasters in Hockey and Rugby and provided a meal, with 16 children attending each week. Even the opportunity to attend the state-of-the-art facility was a unique experience for the group.

“Haven't ever played it till the course and it was good to get to try it.”

Keiva, 9

“I didn't think I would love sports but it made me feel like I could do it.”

“Everyone was so good teaching us sports we didn't know we liked. I would love to play all of the sports again. It made me feel sporty.”

Poppy, 9



Neighbourhood Planning

The under 15s girls section of the club and ladies teams organised a Christmas gift set for every child in attendance. Club partnership with Bothwell Community Action Group worked with the Harvest Community Group to support families (who require) with a Christmas meal and a gift from Santa over Christmas.



Happy and Excited

The children were also treated to a trip to the local Christmas lights and a McDonalds after the final session with the Harvest Church Group.

Moving into 2021

There are plans to continue these projects into the New Year with the same principles outlined above, in partnership with Neighbourhood Planning, Uddingston Community Sports Hub and Active Schools/schools locally as well as the initial plans with 6 community clubs.

Summary and next steps

These activities were the first/only opportunities for many children since the lockdown started in March 2020 having been trapped at home with fewer opportunities to connect than others. Working in collaboration with Our Place Our Plan and the Harvest Church Group has enabled us to engage with a variety of children from different backgrounds and circumstances.

We have allocated £1,000 from the Community Sport Hub resource to develop the Uddingston Hockey/Rugby programme at the sports club. The club are also working with a private investor and Scottish Hockey to develop their own access programme which we will also connect with. Due to COVID and another successful funding bid we still have around £2,000 allocation from Our Place Our Plan to develop a wider sports programme developing access and club links. It is likely this will now be a more focussed access programme with 4 clubs rather than the initial 6. This is additional to the Uddingston Sports Club programme. GoFitba' has now been extended due to additional funding from the SFA with plans to move into 3 other areas of South Lanarkshire developing similar community partnerships.

Children's feedback (club programme)

"Please could we do this all the time as we had so much fun learning all the new sports. I love sports even more now."

Willow, 7

"I really enjoyed taking part in the sports programme, it helped me build confidence and helped me exercise as well, along with having fun with my friends."

Nathan, 10

"I enjoyed making friends and would love to come back."

Lexie, 9

"It was good fun. I would like to do it again for longer"

Gracie, 11

Parents feedback:

“I work as an intensive care nurse and this has allowed me to have peace of mind that the children are taking part in quality activities that are fully supported which has taken the pressure off me for that day.”

“It gave them some fun and got to socialise with other kids. It's been so long since they have been able to have fun at a group together. It let her get away from me and her dad and gain some independence. She's always had mum and dad the past few months and noticed she really didn't want to go out away from us.”

“This continuing would be of such a huge benefit to the community. The children come home after it with such a boost. And ask all week when is it time to go back.”

“It helps my son's social skills. He enjoys this every week and it's an incentive for him so it would be good to have it back”

(child has autism)

“Seeing Katey happy and enjoying taking part and hearing all about the activities she has very much loved doing, excellent programme for the children and I hope it continues.”



Neighbourhood Planning



Beat the Street East Kilbride 2020

Beat the Street East Kilbride is delivered by Intelligent Health on behalf of South Lanarkshire Council, Smarter Choices, Smarter Places and the Scottish Government. Paths for All Smarter Choices, Smarter Places programme supports local authorities in Scotland to encourage more active and sustainable travel choices. To improve air quality the Scottish Government also supports actions to encourage more active, sustainable travel whilst decreasing reliance on private vehicles for shorter journeys. Beat the Street East Kilbride set out to increase active travel and improve health and wellbeing amongst its residents by increasing physical activity. 12,066 people, 17% of the population we targeted, walked, cycled, rolled, jogged and scooted over 124,000 miles over four weeks between 19 February and 23 March 2020. The game phase, due to last 6 weeks, had to end prematurely due to the global outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent restrictions put in place by the UK Government.

This summarises the impact the project has had on individuals and communities by analysing pre and post intervention data provided by participants. It details some of the local engagement activities undertaken before and during the game phase. We explore how Beat the Street took a collaborative approach through the steering group and working with local partners to help embed change.

Registration data was collected from 8,077 children and adults at the start of the game phase, providing key audience insight on who they were and their behaviours. This looks at the behaviour change findings and present them alongside qualitative feedback and case studies.

Background and purpose

Beat the Street is an evidence-based intervention designed to increase physical activity levels across a community. It connects individuals with their local environment and supports long term behaviour change by making physical activity an enjoyable, integral part of everyday life.

Beat the Street encourages participation through game-based strategies and motivates positive behaviour that, over time, becomes the daily norm. Beat the Street addresses some of the physical barriers to being active by using an inclusive, simplistic concept and combats emotional barriers by creating a community-wide social norm. The key to the success of Beat the Street is the behaviour change journey during the game phase. During this time, participants have often discovered new walking/cycling routes and local greenspaces or perhaps just realised that it doesn't take as long as they thought to walk to work or school etc. We continue to support these participants through multi-channel communications, informing them of local events and campaigns.

The Challenge

Physical inactivity is the fourth leading cause of premature deaths in the UK. The cost of inactivity is £7.4 billion with 1 in 6 deaths attributable to inactivity. The Chief Medical Officer recommends that adults should be doing a minimum of 150 minutes of moderate or 75 minutes of vigorous intensity exercise a week. Children under 16 should be doing at least 60 minutes every day in order to stay healthy and prevent developing long-term conditions. Getting everyone to achieve these minimum amounts of activity is still a challenge and currently 21% of adults living in Scotland are inactive (under 30 minutes a week), with women far more likely to be less active than men. For children, 24% are not meeting the current recommended guidelines (Health Scotland). Building walking or cycling into daily routines such as active travel is an effective way to increase physical activity.



21% of adults are physically inactive

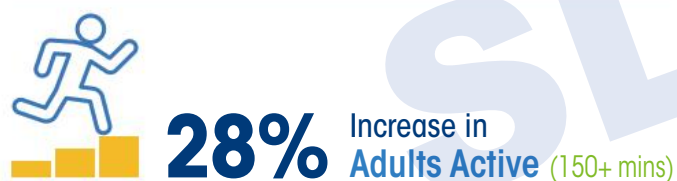


15% of adults in Scotland travel by foot or bike to work



24% of children not meeting recommendations

The Sustained Impact



Local Engagement

Before the game started, steering groups were held with stakeholders from across the air quality, cycling, volunteering, health, education, leisure and culture, community and nature sectors. The steering groups were instrumental in shaping the delivery and direction of the programme as well as contributing towards the development of the in-game events, choosing the local centres to support and helping to raise awareness of Beat the Street across East Kilbride.

31 schools (27 Primary, 4 High Schools with 3 in Special Educational Need category) were invited to take part in Beat the Street East Kilbride. All schools were offered an assembly, with some having multiple assemblies. 42 assemblies were delivered by the Engagement Coordinator and SLLC Active Schools officers. 100% of the schools we targeted took part in the initiative. Schools were sent weekly updates throughout the game to help keep them motivated and to promote upcoming events.

In addition to schools, local community groups, workplaces and sports clubs were encouraged to get involved in the game and the Engagement Coordinator met with numerous organisations to get as many teams signed up as possible. There were 29 community teams, workplaces and sports clubs that signed up and 26 played. These teams included the University of the West of Scotland, Kilbride Hospice, HMRC, Jog Scotland and South Lanarkshire College. These teams could pick up their materials from identified distribution points across the town which included libraries, leisure centres, East Kilbride Arts Centre, Hairmyres Hospital and Hunter Health Centre. The waiting room screens in Hunter Health Centre played Beat the Street videos to encourage patients to play. A framework for Social Cycling has been set up with Universal Connections, The Big Bike Revival and John Wright Sports Centre, to continue when COVID-19 restrictions allow.

Neighbourhood Planning

Launch Event

The game was launched on 19 February 2021 with an event held at Universal Connections. This was attended by stakeholders, including one of the funders, Paths For All, as well as groups from schools, colleges and councillors. A second launch was held on 22 February at the John Wright Sports Centre. The estimated total of attendees across the 3 hour event was 2,000. This is the highest recorded number of participants at a dedicated BTS launch event ever.



Murray 12 walkers

"We started Murray 12 walkers, to try and persuade some equally unfit people to get out and about. By the time Beat the Street came about we had a hard-core of about 25 regular walkers so we had a meeting and decided to give it a bash. We quickly became more competitive and before long tactics became part of the game. This included looking at when double points or treble points will be awarded and making sure that as many people as possible are scoring points wisely. Acquaintances became very good friends and we all looked forward to doing our bit. Encouraging one another including when people felt they were letting the side down when family and working commitments restricted the amount of time we could go into walking. But the group's view was that we were a team and everyone putting points on the scoreboard was doing their bit for the team. Of course, we were sorry that the event had to be cut short due to COVID-19, but if I was being honest my feet were delighted."

I asked the members for their thoughts on what they got out of Beat the Street. Here are some of their comments:

"It was great fun and we were inspired to keep going by yourself." Brian and David

"Also a great way to find unfamiliar areas of the town and find new walking routes."

"As a carer it was great to get out and do something for myself for a wee change, push myself, clear the mind and have a laugh with a great bunch of people."

"Never walked in my life and loved the achievement. An amazing support and great new friends. And still out most days so well chuffed I found you all."

"Started off struggling to walk a mile at a time. With everyone encouraging and supporting me, I was walking 5 miles a day and loving it. Has given me the walking bug, been out almost every day since lockdown. Has really helped me to get out and walk more though I must say better with company. Well done encouraging us all in the beat box competition."

Qualitative Feedback – Children and Adults

“I really enjoyed doing Beat the Street before school started, during school and after. I would Beat the Street after my dinner and before my athletics started in the evening. I enjoyed being with my friends and doing it together was fun.”

Boy, aged 11 and under

“It made me more motivated to go on walks to get more points - I noticed that I made more effort to walk places so I could get points, instead of just taking a bus or car.”

Girl, aged 12-18

“We walked much more and the kids loved getting out to do it! It became a competition for them. The kids didn’t want it to end - hoping it comes back again as it ended early!”

Female, aged 30-39

“Beat the Street got me back into taking a daily walk. I’ve never looked back.”

Male, aged 60-69

Conclusion

12,066 people (17% of the population) took part in Beat the Street East Kilbride before the game ended on 23 March. Of those who took part, 24% of adults self-reported as being inactive at registration. The scheme achieved a 28% increase in adults achieving the recommended levels of activity and a 15% increase in children meeting the Chief Medical Officer’s physical activity guidelines.

Data collected during the game points towards a strong increase in active travel. 26% of all taps recorded throughout the initiative were made during active travel periods.

A six month follow up survey will be sent out to players in August 2021, which will look at long term behaviour change.



Community Participation and Engagement

Why is this important?

The essential building blocks to effective community participation and engagement are community capacity building which increases a collective ability to identify priorities and find solutions and building of social capital which increases participatory, collaborative decision-making.

Collaboration with communities across South Lanarkshire has been a key feature of our work.

All of our work is planned in the context of The Community Empowerment Act 2015 (www.gov.scot/policies/community-empowerment/).

How are we doing?

One of the ways we involve communities is through Neighbourhood Planning. We now have six completed Neighbourhood Plans (can be viewed at: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/neighbourhoodplans) and another two in progress. Neighbourhood Plans involve communities in real and meaningful ways and has been a catalyst for positive change in these communities.

Finding new ways to support participation and facilitate community engagement is always at the forefront. As is ensuring that the processes and approaches used are meaningful, adaptable and productive.

Post first lockdown, in an attempt to re-engage local people in discussion around Our Place Our Plan neighbourhood planning activity in the Springhall and Whitlawburn area, a series of Let's Talk About Our Place sessions were planned. All inputs are based around the 10 priority themes within the Our Place Our Plan Neighbourhood Plan and the aim was to enable residents to find out more about services and activities taking place, planned or being adapted and delivered in response to COVID-19.

The sessions have been taking place on a weekly basis since the middle of November 2020. As of 4 May 2021, 27 sessions have taken place with the principle purpose of re-connecting and connecting local people to Our Place Our Plan.

Using Zoom, residents have been able to take part in a range of short inputs (approx. 15 minutes plus a Q and A) and participants have the opportunity to put forward questions via the chat function or verbally during or post the presentation/inputs offered by the Our Place Our Plan stakeholder organisations.

Building connections between local people and those providing services has been a key feature of the sessions. Contributors have been encouraged to promote new initiatives, planned or proposed, including any community engagement activity and to share their contact details as a first point of contact for local people. Inputs have been across a broad range of topics including mental health, debt financial wellbeing, social prescribing, physical activity, training and learning opportunities, including lots of practical inputs for example, online home safety checks, community growing, cooking classes, reducing energy and food costs and social and recreational opportunities. For their Let's Talk About Session, Springhall and Whitlawburn Youth Development Team produced and presented a video perfectly showcasing the level and quality of youth provision being offered in this area and how services and activities have responded and adapted in the last year to continue to meet the needs of young people.

As part of an overarching commitment to meaningfully engage communities of place and of interest in the process of community planning in South Lanarkshire, early discussions have taken place concerning the development of a local structure/community partnership which will act as an intermediary and provide a mechanism to strengthen local decision making. To build links and interconnections between communities, neighbourhood planning priorities and activities and the wider work of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board. Very early conversations are taking place regarding community partnerships in two localities with a view to roll this out across South Lanarkshire.

Community Participation and Engagement

It is anticipated that a number of benefits, opportunities and positive outcomes will be achieved through this work, including enhanced networking across communities and partnerships and improved understanding of shared priorities which may catalyse new opportunities for co-production. In addition to this, preliminary discussions have taken place with staff and representatives from across the CPP to begin to explore the role and support of partners and how we can work collectively in partnership to harness available advice and expertise to ensure that communities are adequately resourced to pursue, develop or deliver on any emerging priorities.

How can you get involved?

If you would like more information or would like to get more involved in your community please email:

communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

or phone **0303 123 1017**

Further information

South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/site/index.php

Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015
www.gov.scot/publications/community-empowerment-scotland-act-summary/

National Standards for Community Engagement
www.scdc.org.uk/what/national-standards



South Lanarkshire Council

**Can Do
Community**

Having Community Conversations that Matter!

Why is this important?

During the year there were new opportunities to have conversations with communities. The community response to the pandemic was outstanding across South Lanarkshire, and staff from the partnership were able to work alongside and support existing and new groups and volunteers to make sure that everyone in their communities was cared for. New networks developed and relationships were built. The Partnership is keen to continue these conversations and will be working over the next year to build local structures which allow this to happen.

How are we doing?

We continued to talk to communities about their needs and aspirations and supported more to become involved in neighbourhood planning activity over the year. There were also conversations about what recovery meant and how people's experiences of life in the pandemic was, and the results of these contributed to national conversations as well as informing local decisions.

The year was not without its challenges, particularly moving to online methods of holding conversations at very short notice. Despite this, the dialogue with our communities not only continued but grew, particularly through the work of the council's Community Engagement Team and Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan) with the support of other partners.

Priority Next Steps

Over the course of 2021-22, we will continue to hold these conversations and attempt to involve even more of our community in them. We will use what you tell us to identify the priorities we should be addressing, and to write a new partnership plan showing the actions we will be taking to do this.



Participatory Budgeting

Why is this important?

Devolved participatory decision making is a key feature of public service delivery. Participatory Budgeting (PB) actively engages residents in local priority setting, decision making and the allocation of elements of public funds.

How are we doing?

The response by communities during the pandemic has been overwhelming and humbling in equal measure. Never before has the contribution of volunteers and the value of community involvement been put so firmly in the spotlight. We have witnessed an upsurge in community connections, partnerships and community spirit and there's no going back now.

With opportunities to meet together, paused not halted, and with time to consider how best to move forward, online meetings, events and consultations and lots of telephone contact have become very much the order of the day. Securing wide, fair and inclusive representative community involvement has been a huge consideration. Making activities like PB even more important. Participatory Budgeting is all about empowering local people and communities, strengthening and building community connections and actively engaging residents in local priority settings, decision making and the allocation of elements of public funds. Bringing people together to take direct action to bring about neighbourhood based improvements.

9 neighbourhood planning areas in South Lanarkshire are currently benefiting from the PB process. In each area the delivery is at different stages of development and a variety of approaches are being used based on local circumstances.



“The levels of community participation in PB have been incredibly positive and a welcoming surprise particularly given the focus on online voting. Although nothing beats face to face engagement, communities have really turned out and made the very best of this opportunity.”

**Community Engagement
Team staff member**

In Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank, residents and other stakeholders have continued to work together to deliver the local priorities outlined in the Our Place Our Plan Neighbourhood Plan. 898 local residents recently took part in a public vote (participants had the option to vote online or via telephone) allocating a £7,000 budget towards the delivery of local projects including the development of a community outdoor space.

“Our group were delighted to receive £4,400 of Participatory Budgeting funds. It has enabled us to move on to phase 2 of a 5 phase programme within our community project at Dunkeld Gardens. Many thanks from all at Hillhouse Residents and Tenants Association.”

A food initiative

“The allocation of monies from Participatory Budgeting has enabled the continuation of an Emergency Food Supply which operates each Friday from Gilmour and Whitehill Church, Burnbank. This service is very necessary and is much appreciated by all who need to use it.”

**Anne Paul, Session Clerk,
Gilmour and Whitehill Parish Church**

Other PB investment was used to sustain and develop a Homework Club and a Sports Hub. Participation levels in the public were very good and fairly representative across a number of age ranges:

- 16yrs - 24yrs = 25%
- 25yrs - 34yrs = 20%
- 35yrs - 44yrs = 26%
- 45yrs - 54yrs = 17%
- 55yrs - 64yrs = 8%
- 65yrs - 74yrs = 3%
- 75yrs plus = -1/1%

Neighbourhood Planning relies on good relationships and effective partnership. Bringing local people together with other stakeholders to take direct action to bring about neighbourhood based improvements.

Strutherhill and Birkenshaw

As part of their ongoing commitment to maintain the involvement of the wider community in the delivery of the Our Place Our Plan Neighbourhood Plan for Strutherhill and Birkenshaw, in 2020-2021 the Our Place Our Plan Community Group decided to adapt their use of a PB approach. Keeping firmly to the principles of collective deliberative local decision making and striving to best meet local circumstances and the impact of COVID-19. The group considered a range of PB processes to support fair and inclusive community participation and the allocation of £4,200 of available funds.

The consensus was that funds should be devolved to extend and build on previously funded Our Place Our Plan/Participatory Budgeting activity/groups and to organisations (including the school community), recognised the existing assets already contributing and making a positive contribution to people, places and community wellbeing in Strutherhill and Birkenshaw. A list of groups/organisations were developed and an online public vote was held, residents were asked to select 3 preferred options from the list and the budget was proportioned based on the amount of votes received. 192 residents participated in the vote.



Organisations were then asked to work up their project ideas and proposals based on the ten priority themes within the Our Place Our Plan Neighbourhood Plan, all projects will be delivered in this financial year. The following groups and organisations have received funding:

- Craighbank and Robert Smillie Memorial Primary Schools
- Larkhall and District Volunteer Group
- Strutherhill and Birkenshaw Youth Project
- Machan Trust
- Friends of Morgan Glen Group
- Birkenshaw Womens Guilds



“I have enjoyed being involved in the Our Place Our Plan Community Group because it’s run by local people who know the area and what needs done. Working in partnership with other people and staff is really important because in return I believe this will ignite pride in the heart of our community and make the future brighter for all.”

Margaret Gilfillan, Our Place Our Plan Community Group Member

“I've been involved with Our Place Our Plan for a few years and although there could always be more involvement of the local community residents, it hasn’t stopped the brilliant work and great efforts of those who have contributed for the good of the area. Seeing residents making decisions about our own area has to be the biggest achievement and I hope there is more to come.”

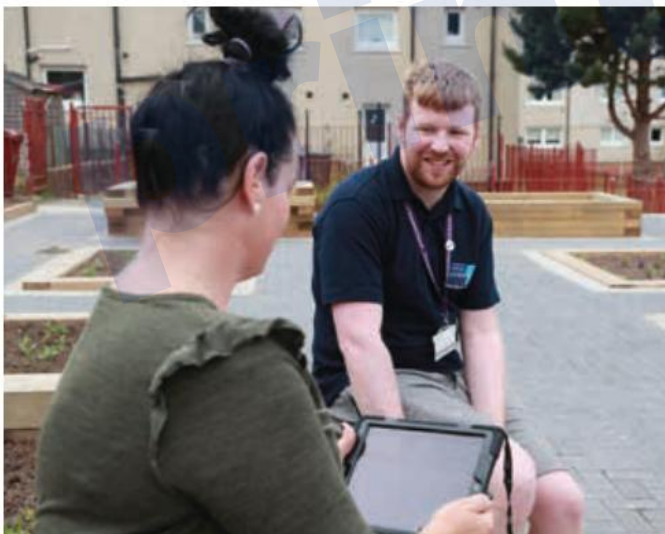
Davy Mcainsh, Our Place Our Plan Community Action Group Member

Participatory Budgeting

Whitehill

Residents in the Whitehill area of Hamilton had their say on how funding is being spent in the community thanks to South Lanarkshire's Participatory Budgeting process. £3,500 was available in small grants of £500 and open to community groups, organisations and local people. Voting took place online from 1 to 12 March 2021 and saw nearly 250 locals take part in the process. The Our Place Our Plan Stakeholder Group agreed the criteria for eligibility, they also decided that all those taking part in the vote should provide their names and have a local address. The following groups were successful:

- Whitehill Fun Day
- Forest School Programme
- Healthy Body, Healthy Minds Whitehill
- Well Fit Project
- Staying out for the Summer
- Adopt A Street Whitehill



“Our Place Our Plan is an excellent approach to connect communities, improve wellbeing, health and fitness and social interaction.

Community voting to decide which projects got the funding was a wonderful idea as the people in the community know us best and are best placed to choose. In addition, it gives the community an added interest on what is going on in their community.”

**Karen Shields, Manager,
Childcare in the Community,
Whitehill**

“The older people in the community will be really pleased with this funding which will help them keep their minds active. I think that asking the community to decide which projects should get funding is a fairer way of doing it. It also provides an opportunity for groups to tell local people about the good work that they do.”

**Jim Cuthbertson, Chairperson,
Adopt A Street Whitehill**

How can you get involved?

If you would like more information or would like to get more involved in your community please email: communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or pb@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or phone: **0303 123 1017**

Further information

Participatory Budgeting Scotland
<https://pbscotland.scot/>

South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/site/index.php

Volunteering

Why is this important?

In an unprecedented year of uncertainty, fear and restrictions, volunteering has never been more crucial. The generosity of spirit within communities to pull together and support each other has been evident in the huge volume of new volunteers coming forward to offer their support, and in the grass roots growth of new voluntary organisations and community response groups with a sole aim of helping those in need.

In such chaotic and uncertain times volunteers have been a shining beacon of stability, support and comfort to thousands of South Lanarkshire residents.

How are we doing?

As the Third Sector Interface for South Lanarkshire, Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan) is committed to supporting volunteering in South Lanarkshire by improving engagement with volunteers, supporting volunteers, promoting good practice in volunteer management, and involving voluntary organisations in consultations, events, partnerships and collaborations that help shape local and national volunteering policy.

Our focus has been to ensure the potential volunteers who have offered their time and support over the last year have been given the opportunity to help. To achieve this, we utilised our "Broadcast" function to immediately share new volunteering opportunities. Significant improvement has been evident in the speed of recruitment for voluntary organisations with requests for volunteers met within minutes.

This year saw the launch of a new Saltire website with additional functionality for voluntary organisations. VASLan encouraged organisations to sign up as group administrators allowing them to now create Saltire certificates on behalf of their volunteers. Saltire Awards are Scottish Government endorsed certificates recognising and rewarding the commitment, contribution and volunteering achievements of young people aged 12 to 25 years old.

The following are some of the highlights of 2020-21:-

- 2,560 new volunteers were registered
- 2,374 volunteering placements were arranged
- 12,028 interaction with volunteers
- 34 "Broadcasts" sent 4,237 emails to 1,648 volunteers
- 52 new volunteering opportunities created
- 8 Saltire Group Administrators approved

Case study

Quothquan and Thankerton Community Council care about their local community and its people and aim to make it a great place to live by bringing people together to make things happen.

With the help of Biggar Community Council and local volunteers, a group was arranged in the wake of COVID-19 to provide support for people who were isolating or requiring urgent help and advice, this included prescription and medicine collection, shopping deliveries as well as various other help.

The year has seen the Community Council and volunteers cutting grass for those that lost the service due to COVID-19 and the replacement of the footbridge decking on the School Lane footpath to enable people to continue to undertake their exercise during the periods of lockdown.

They have also been working on a Community Action Plan to maximise the benefits to the area from the Clyde Windfarm Extension. This plan involved a questionnaire for the people living within the community, but this has been put on hold due to the latest lockdown in order to focus meeting the needs of those who are self isolating or shielding.

It has been a challenging year for Quothquan and Thankerton Community Council, however, they have continued to be an incredible resource for their community.

Further information

Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan)
www.vaslan.org.uk



Community Asset Transfer

Why is this important?

Community Asset Transfer is an important part of the Community Empowerment Act.

The Community Planning Partnership is committed to working with eligible organisations and recognises that the ownership or control of land and buildings is a powerful tool for communities to drive change and achieve their own goals. Community groups can apply to us for any land or buildings they feel they could make better use of. They can request ownership, lease or other rights.

How are we doing?

In 2020-21, one formal application was approved by South Lanarkshire Council for Abington Community Campus, the conversion of the former Abington School building into a small business centre, peripatetic business space, community gym and community space. The Community Asset Transfer is an important part of the overall project totalling £1.6m, combining Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant funding, Renewable Energy Fund and Clyde Windfarm funding to develop the facility. Abington Community Development Group (ACDG) have signed a 30 year lease with South Lanarkshire Council to manage the facility and have secured revenue funding for two initial years.

Katie Thomson from ACDG states "The project is progressing well and we are delighted each week to see how much further construction is coming along. The roof of the Old Schoolhouse is nearly complete and the lime rendering for the brick work has started. The modern extension that will be home to the gym is currently having the roof put on and brick work should be completed soon. Behind the scenes the Community Group are working hard to prepare for advertising the jobs, office space and the facility of the gym and multi-purpose room/community rooms.

We continue to be so grateful to the council for allowing us this incredible opportunity to develop and preserve the building whilst complimenting it with a modern extension. Investing in rural areas is so important and to be able to provide such an amenity and create jobs is a privilege".



Also in 2020-21 there is one formal application being progressed for Douglasdale Real Group, looking at the development of a community woodland, two applications are at an advanced stage of the process in Blantyre and Low Waters, one application formally withdrawn from Strathaven and 13 applications at the discussion/feasibility/early development stage.

How can you get involved?

For South Lanarkshire Council, anyone interested in Community Asset Transfer can contact us at communityassets@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Further information

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015:
Asset Transfer Guidance for Community Transfer bodies
www.gov.scot/publications/asset-transfer-under-community-empowerment-scotland-act-2015-guidance-community/

Participation Requests

How are we doing?

Participation requests are a formal way for community bodies to request to be involved in decisions and put forward their ideas on how services could be changed to improve outcomes for the community. Requests can be made to a range of public bodies including South Lanarkshire Council, NHS Lanarkshire, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue, etc.

During 2020-21, there were no participation requests received by Community Planning Partners.

To make a participation request, your group must meet some requirements including having a membership open to your community and working for community benefit. Your first step should be getting in touch with the public body you would like to work with for assistance in getting started.

They can identify if they are the right public body to contact and they can also help you to get advice and information about any existing consultations or decision making processes that you could be involved in without needing to make a formal participation request.

Further information

Participation Requests

www.gov.scot/policies/community-empowerment/participation-requests



COVID-19 Pandemic Community Response



Clydesdale COVID Coordination Group

The Clydesdale COVID Coordination Group was established by Healthy Valleys as a result of the pandemic, with a view to ensuring communities had adequate support in place during lockdown and that resources were maximised and services not duplicated in the rural South Lanarkshire area.

Membership

Local community groups, Clydesdale Community Initiatives, Healthy Valleys, Clydesdale CAB, Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan), SLC Community Engagement Team and NHS Health Improvement.

Benefits

- Shared ideas and good practice
- Peer support
- Strengthened networks
- Increased information sharing
- Identified gaps where support was needed
- Development Plan in place
- Increased knowledge and understanding of each group/organisation and their roles and responsibilities
- Linked to and part of a global research study on community recovery and resilience
- Provides a 'go to' platform for our public sector partners

Future direction

- Disbands and local groups become members of VASLan's Third Sector Forum
- Changes name and continues to grow independently of the above
- Widens membership
- Contributes to the new locality community planning structures
- Group members become part of the new local structure
- Larger organisations have a role to play in this process too

“It has been a pleasure chairing these meetings and heart warming to hear the amount of time and effort local people have contributed to their communities, ensuring that those in need have received the support required. The type of support has included collecting and delivering prescriptions, freshly prepared cooked meals, food parcels, listening ear service and much, much more. Rural South Lanarkshire is an enriched place to live and work as a result of having these groups emerge during lockdown.”

**Lesley McCranor, Chair, Clydesdale
COVID Coordination Group**



Carstairs Junction Welcome All Hub and digital access in the local community

“Dot at the Carstairs Junction Welcome All Hub has been fantastic, she explained the benefits system to us in a way we could understand, she sat with us and helped us with all the online forms for us to get support. It took a few times before I could manage to talk with my job coach online but the Hub Staff were there to help me. I truly think it's a brilliant resource for our community. I had got myself in a flap when I discovered that I had to apply for the support online but the Hub support really made it less stressful.”

Mr And Mrs F

“The Hub is ace. I needed to complete an online form on behalf of my son. I had no idea how to fill it out so Dot at the Hub did it with me. I then lost my bus pass and I had to go online to reclaim another one, again, Dot at the Hub helped me go online and get it replaced.

I think the Hub is great and I would be lost without the support they give me. I have limited computer understanding and it has helped me access services I would need to travel to Lanark for.”

Heidi Wilson

“Dear Jackie and Dot, Just to say how much the Hub IT room has helped me. Knowing that you can help print, scan and fill out online forms is a huge help, it means I don't need to go to the library in Lanark. Thanks.”

Member 23 (70 year old male)



Links to the National Performance Framework and UN Sustainable Development Goals



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www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Produced for Community and Enterprise Resources by Communications and Strategy. 061332/Sep21

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Planning Review and New Community Plan Progress Update
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Provide the Partnership Board with a progress update on the development of the new Community Plan; and
- ◆ Provide the Partnership Board with an update on progress of the Community Planning Structure and Governance Review.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the progress on the development of the new Community Plan is noted;
- (2) that the progress made to date with the review is noted; and
- (3) that the proposal to live stream Board meetings as of 2 December 2021 is approved.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Board undertook a Self-Assessment which was facilitated by the Improvement Service during January/February 2019.
- 3.2. Following approval of the Best Value Assurance Report by the Council in June 2019, an extended Community Planning Partnership (CPP) session took place on 11 September 2019 to consider the output of the facilitated self-assessment session along with the outcomes of the Council's Best Value Assurance Report.
- 3.3. A session with representatives from the Thematic Partnership Boards took place on 3 October 2019 and draft implementation plans were prepared on the CPP structure, joint problem solving and scrutiny of the work of the Thematic Boards.
- 3.4. A further session took place with the Board on 23 October 2019 to consider how the CPP Board should be structured and the structures required at a Thematic/Locality level. It was agreed that a proposal would be drafted by the Improvement Service and the Community Planning Team for consideration by the Board at their December 2019 meeting.

- 3.5. At the meeting on 5 December 2019, proposals were set out for a new structure and the Board agreed that a short-life working group be established to further consider these and develop proposals. A discussion on the CPP Board membership took place at the meeting on 12 February 2020 and the working group were also tasked with developing a membership proposal. An update on the work of the group was also reported to the Board on 1 July 2020.
- 3.6. A report on the progress in delivering the new structure and governance arrangements was approved by the Board on 3 March 2021.
- 3.7. This report provides details of further progress which has been carried out.

4. Current Progress

4.1. Locality Planning Structures

- 4.1.1. Two areas in South Lanarkshire (Clydesdale and Cambuslang and Rutherglen) have been identified for the development of new locality planning structures. As agreed by the Board, locality boundaries are being defined by the communities themselves and will take into account the legislative requirements relating to localities for the Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 4.1.2. Development sessions with local organisations and groups in the Clydesdale and Cambuslang and Rutherglen areas were held during February 2021. Two further meetings of the Cambuslang and Rutherglen groups have been held and this group is in the process of agreeing a Terms of Reference and current shared priorities, which will be presented to the Board at a future meeting. Further discussions have been held with the Clydesdale local groups who will be represented and a date for a full meeting is being planned for late September 2021. The groups have chosen to name themselves Community Partnerships for their localities.

4.2. Community Planning Outcomes Leads Group

- 4.2.1. At their meeting of 12 February 2021, the Board agreed a Terms of Reference for this group as well as two phases of work for the group:-
 - ◆ **Short-term** (interim leads) - To have a strategic overview of the implementation of the new Community Planning governance and structural arrangements; and
 - ◆ **Long-term** – To have a strategic overview of the work of the Community Planning Partnership to deliver the outcomes of the Community Plan.

Nominations have now been secured from partners for the roles of Outcome Leads and an initial meeting will be held in late September 2021.

4.3. Partnership Improvement Plans (PIPs)

- 4.3.1. At the meeting of 12 February 2021, the Board noted the following and agreed to the removal of the additional layer of Partnership Improvement Plans:-
 - ◆ All Thematic Boards contribute to the delivery of the Community Plan;
 - ◆ In addition to the Community Plan, three of the four Thematic Groups currently have two Partnership Plans (Children's Services and Health and Social Care Partnership are required to have statutory Partnership Plans and Economic Growth is currently developing a pan-Lanarkshire Plan);
 - ◆ Duplication in partnership planning and reporting processes will be greatly reduced;

- ◆ Until the new Community Planning priorities have been agreed, the Community Safety Partnership should develop a one-year Thematic Partnership Plan for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022; and
- ◆ The reporting processes will be reviewed as part of the development of the new Community Plan.

4.3.2. The Board agreed to extend the Partnership Improvement Plans (PIPs) for the four Thematic Boards until March 2021. The final reporting of the PIP statistical indicators are included within the Community Plan Quarter 4 Progress 2020-21 report which will be submitted to the Board on 15 September 2021.

4.4. Partnership Community Participation and Engagement Group

4.4.1. The Partnership Community Participation and Engagement Group has been established and meets monthly. The Group is co-chaired by the Chief Executive of VASLan and South Lanarkshire Council's Community Engagement Manager. The Group has taken a key role in overseeing and promoting the engagement activity around the new Community Plan.

4.4.2. The Board delegated a budget of £15,000 to the group to support engagement activity. Using this, the Group have been able to offer an internship post of 17.5 hours per week for 18 weeks to a student from Stirling University to support the analysis of the quantitative data collected through the Community Plan engagement process and the in-depth conversations which are currently being held. The cost of this is £5,606 and a contribution of £500 has been secured from the University. At present there has been no further spend from this budget.

4.5. Community Planning Communications Group

4.5.1. The Community Planning Communications Group has been established and is meeting regularly. A high level communications plan has been developed and the Group are now working on a more detailed delivery plan.

4.6. Community Planning Website

4.6.1. The partnership Website Review Group have completed the first phase of their work and have:-

- ◆ Reviewed other Community Planning websites to inform learning;
- ◆ Developed a website specification. This lists the minimum requirements for the website including improved accessibility and other software improvements that could enhance the website;
- ◆ Planned for a targeted community consultation during March 2021; and
- ◆ Looked into [CONSUL](#) software which can be used to support digital community engagement and plan to test this with a community that are starting their Neighbourhood Planning journey.

The second phase of work will be to update the look and content of the website to align it with the new Community Plan. An update on progress will be provided to the Board at a later date.

4.7. CPP Board Membership

- 4.7.1. Both South Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire have confirmed that there will be no change at present to the members and officers represented on the Board. The membership will remain under review as the new structures develop. Work is taking place to build capacity within the Community Partnership structures described in Section 4.5. to ensure that the views of our communities will be represented and heard at the CPP Board. In time, the community representatives who lead locality partnerships will take their place on the CPP Board to ensure that the appropriate linkages are in place between the structures.

4.8. Meeting Arrangements

- 4.8.1. Further to the Board's agreement that meetings should be open to the public when it is safe to do so/when technology is developed to facilitate this, it should be noted that the Council is now in a position to live stream meetings. However, currently the Council does not have the technology or equipment in place which would afford the public a good viewing experience of a live streamed blended meeting. Therefore, the Board are asked for their approval to begin live streaming meetings from the meeting of 2 December 2021, using the same technology as currently in place for Council, Council committee and forum meetings.

5. Development of the New Community Plan

- 5.1. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 introduced a number of requirements in relation to statutory plans for Community Planning. This included the requirement for Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to prepare and publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (known as the Community Plan) which sets out the local outcomes which the CPP will prioritise for improvement.
- 5.2. The first South Lanarkshire Community Plan was developed and approved by the Board in 2017 and performance is reported annually.
- 5.3. Following recommendations from South Lanarkshire Council's Best Value Assurance Review in 2019, the Board agreed to re-open the plan for an update on neighbourhood planning activity, the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan and to review the language used.
- 5.4. At the Board meeting on 1 July 2020, it was also agreed to carry out a wider review of the Community Plan to ensure it meets current needs and reflects the aspirations of South Lanarkshire communities.
- 5.5. Between June and August 2021, the first phase of engagement was carried out with communities throughout South Lanarkshire to identify what were the main priorities for their neighbourhoods. This involved residents answering a short, open question survey on their priorities. The survey was also promoted through social media and by the Participation and Engagement Group and Community Planning Communications Group, and at the close of poll on 8 August 2021, over 3,100 responses were received.

- 5.6. Initial examination of the feedback from the survey has identified themes around Education, Communities and Environment, Health Inequalities, Housing, Children's Services and Inclusive Growth. Continued in-depth analysis of this feedback is being carried out. Community Conversation Focus Groups are taking place from August to October 2021 where three conversations will take place which includes in-depth conversations, conversations on these early themes of the survey work and discussions with communities of place and interest.
- 5.7. Further updates on the Community Plan review will be provided to the Board at each meeting. The final draft of the new Plan will be presented for approval at the June 2022 meeting of the Board.

6. Forward Plan of Actions to be Delivered

- 6.1. Other actions that are being progressed in line with key stages of the structure review include:-
- ◆ The development of a Programme Management approach with an agreed programme of activity which is aligned to the Community Plan;
 - ◆ A review of the Board agenda (all reports submitted to the Board should be for decision or scrutiny);
 - ◆ Development of a new partnership reporting template;
 - ◆ Revising the Board's Terms of Reference; and
 - ◆ Developing a Partnership Agreement.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment implications associated with this report. Consultation has taken place with partners and representatives of the Thematic Boards. Further communication and consultation is required as the implementation of the priority improvement actions progress.

Paul Manning

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council**

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Report

8

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Planning Partnership Board Development Sessions – Communities of Interest and Sustainable Development and Climate Change Updates
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Provide the Partnership Board with an update on the proposed Partnership Board 'Communities of Interest' and 'Sustainable Development and Climate Change' Development Sessions.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the update on the 'Communities of Interest' and 'Sustainable Development and Climate Change' Development Sessions are noted; and
- (2) that the proposed outline for the 'Communities of Interest' session is approved.

3. Background

3.1. At the Partnership Board on 24 June 2021, it was agreed that a Board Development Session should take place on 20 October 2021 which focuses on 'Communities of Interest'. This will focus on evidence gathered through engagement with targeted community groups involved in the consultation of the new Community Plan and the Lived Experience process. This will provide the Board with an opportunity to consider feedback from local 'Communities of Interest' and would complement the Development Session held on 11 May 2021, which focused on communities of place.

3.2. It was also agreed at the Partnership Board on 24 June 2021 that a separate Development Session be arranged which focuses on 'Sustainable Development and Climate Change'. This session will take place on 30 November 2021 and will provide the Board with an opportunity to discuss the outcomes from the Pan-Lanarkshire workshop held on 30 June 2021 which was hosted in conjunction with the Sustainable Scotland Network, the Improvement Service and North Lanarkshire Council. This would also coincide with the UN Climate Change (COP26) Conference which is being held in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November 2021.

4. Development Session Update – Communities of Interest

- 4.1. South Lanarkshire Council's Community Engagement Team have been involved in the consultation survey of the new South Lanarkshire Community Plan from June to August 2021. They have been engaging with community groups across South Lanarkshire in gathering responses to identifying the key priorities they would like to see included within the new plan.
- 4.2. The CPP's Lived Experience Fund consultation feedback which has been received from various community groups across South Lanarkshire from 2019-2021 has also provided useful information on the issues which communities have experienced in tackling poverty and inequalities.
- 4.3. This session will further develop this work and build upon the Development Session of 11 May 2021 which focused on placed based work. Communities of Interest are groups of people who share a common set of concerns and as such may be located across several places within South Lanarkshire. The session will offer an opportunity to examine the national context around some of our Communities of Interest, to hear from both partnership officers and those who are part of the communities about local work and future developments, and to identify ways in which the partnership can support this work.
- 4.4. A draft outline of the Communities of Interest Session is attached at Appendix 1 for approval by the Board.

5. Development Session Update – Sustainable Development and Climate Change

- 5.1. A Pan-Lanarkshire Sustainable Development and Climate Change Workshop took place on 30 June 2021. Feedback from this event will be the focus of discussion at this session.
- 5.2. Work is underway to create an outline for the Sustainable Development and Climate Change session and this will be circulated to the Board once finalised.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no risk or sustainability issues associated with this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or consultation arrangement implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information

If you would further information, please contact:-

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South Lanarkshire Community Planning Board Development Session

Wednesday, 20 October 2021
1pm – 4pm via Microsoft Teams

(Draft) Programme

1.00pm to 1.05pm	Welcome and introduction by the Chair
	BAME and ESOL communities:
1.05pm to 1.20pm	The National Context (New Scots and ESOL learners, speaker from Education Scotland TBC)
1.20pm to 1.40pm	Local Progress (local officers and community members)
1.40 – 1.55pm	Moving forwards, Actions for the CPP (group discussion)
1.55-2.00pm	Short Comfort Break
	Senior community:
2.00pm to 2.15pm	The National Context (Scottish Older People's Assembly, speaker TBC)
2.15pm – 2.35pm	Local Progress (local officers and community members)
2.35pm – 2.50pm	Moving forwards, Actions for the CPP (group discussion)
2.50pm – 3.00pm	Short Comfort Break
	Disabled and Carers Communities:
3.00pm to 3.15pm	The National Context (TBC)
3.15pm to 3.35pm	Local Progress (local officers and community members)
3.35pm to 3.55pm	Moving forwards, Actions for the CPP (group discussion)
3.55pm	Closing Remarks by the Chair

Report

9

Report to:	Community Planning Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Annual Review of the South Lanarkshire Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2020-21
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Update the Partnership Board on the completion of the second annual review of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) 2019-2024.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the progress made in delivering the RRTP objectives, as set out in the RRTP Annual Review 2020-21, attached as Appendix 1, be noted;
- (2) that the revisions to the RRTP, detailed in section 5, be noted; and
- (3) that the key priorities to be progressed in 2021-22, detailed in section 8, be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. In October 2017, the Scottish Government established the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group (HARSAG) to develop solutions to ending homelessness and rough sleeping across Scotland. Included in their recommendations was the requirement for local authorities to each develop a five-year RRTP.
- 3.2. HARSAG was reconvened in June 2020 to make further recommendations on actions required to end homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, recognising the increased demand on homelessness services and maintaining a focus on the prevention of homelessness.
- 3.3. South Lanarkshire's RRTP was developed in collaboration with a wide range of partners and stakeholders. The first annual review covering the period 2019-20 was submitted to the Scottish Government on 31 August 2020. The review was approved by the Housing and Technical Resources Committee on 16 September 2020 and reported to the Community Planning Partnership Board on 21 October 2020.
- 3.4. Initial analysis carried out in 2019, to inform the financial requirements to significantly reduce homelessness and achieve rapid rehousing in South Lanarkshire, resulted in a bid being submitted to the Scottish Government for £7.18m. Since 2019, the total sum awarded from the Ending Homelessness Together Fund has been £1,741,000, significantly below the sum identified in the RRTP proposals.

- 3.5. Following confirmation that the actual level of funding to be provided would be significantly below that detailed in the RRTP proposals, a number of key strategic areas were revised to focus on key priorities, with other actions set aside for future consideration.
- 3.6. The co-ordination and implementation of the RRTP is directed and monitored by the Homelessness Strategy Group, a sub-group of the Local Housing Strategy Steering Group and has representation from key partners including Health and Social Care, Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Third Sector organisations.
- 3.7. The first annual review of the RRTP was carried out in advance of the full on-set of the COVID-19 pandemic. Following conclusion of the review, further consideration was given to the impact of the pandemic on the objectives and actions to be pursued during 2020-21 and this was reflected within the Annual Review report. The second Annual Review report also notes that it will be necessary to closely monitor progress and further revise the strategic priorities and actions during 2021-22, in response to the impact of the pandemic on homelessness and service requirements. This includes monitoring any adverse impact on demand for homelessness services as government supports in relation to COVID-19 come to an end, such as the furlough scheme and the moratorium on repossession action.

4. Annual Review 2020-21

- 4.1. The RRTP is structured around five high level priority objectives. There are 52 indicators against which South Lanarkshire Council and its partners monitor progress, comprising 32 actions and 20 measures. In accordance with wider reporting arrangements across the Council, these indicators are categorised into 'blue', 'green', 'amber', and 'red' depending on the progress made against them.
- 4.2. During 2020-21, positive progress was made, with over 96% of the indicators on or only slightly behind target to achieve the projected outcomes within the identified timescales. Table 1 below, details the categorisation of the 52 indicators.

Table 1: Categorisation of RRTP indicators 2020/21

Status	Measures	Actions	Total	%
Blue	0	4	4	8%
Green	7	24	31	58%
Amber	12	3	15	30%
Red	1	0	1	2%
Report later/Contextual	0	1	1	2%
Totals	20	32	52	100%

- 4.3. Table 1 shows that in terms of Year 2, four indicators are complete, 31 are progressing well and on target, 15 show minor slippage and one indicator has been categorised as off target. The red indicator relates to a measure that is no longer appropriate and which is proposed to be removed from the action plan (see section five).
- 4.4. The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted on the way in which homelessness services and supports have been delivered over the last year and partners have had to adapt and transform services in order to respond to the pandemic.

- 4.5. During Year 3, partners will continue to work together to make positive progress in relation to the achievement of the RRTP targets. It will, however, be necessary to continue to monitor the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on all indicators.
- 4.6. The second annual review has, however, confirmed that the Council and its' partners have made good progress towards delivering on the agreed RRTP Year 2 priorities. A summary of key highlights and achievements in relation to each of the five priority objectives for 2020-21 (Year 2) is provided in the Table 2 below.

Table 2: Summary of RRTP Year 2 Achievements

RRTP Priority Objective	Achievement
1. Prevent homelessness occurring and significantly reduce homelessness	<p>339 additional homes for social rent were delivered across South Lanarkshire. This included 286 new build properties and an additional 53 homes secured through the Council's Open Market Purchase Scheme.</p> <p>80% of Housing Options cases were closed with support being provided by the Integrated Housing Options Team to prevent homelessness from occurring. This represents an increase of 17% on the previous year.</p> <p>New approaches were established to assist in homelessness prevention and tenancy sustainment by providing financial assistance and support to council tenants and tenants in the private rented sector experiencing hardship.</p> <p>41% reduction in long term homelessness from 95 households living in temporary accommodation for more than 1 year in 2019-20 to 56 in 2020-21.</p>
2. Significantly reduce time spent by households in temporary accommodation and minimise moves before moving to a settled home	<p>27 homeless households had their temporary tenancies converted (or flipped) to a Scottish Secure Tenancy (SST), providing the household with a permanent home and avoiding the need for further moves. This exceeded the target of 20 per year. Since the introduction of the RRTP a total of 53 properties have been "flipped" to SSTs.</p> <p>Permanent lets to homeless households increased across social housing in South Lanarkshire to 61% of Council and 41.6% of RSL lets during 2020-21, compared to 51.4% and 36.9% respectively in 2019-20.</p>
3. Improve and increase the provision of housing support for households to live independently within communities	<p>The HomeStart Team continued to provide support and assistance to all new tenants, including those who may be at most risk of homelessness. In 2020-21, 217 starter packs were provided to new tenants. Since full roll of the service in 2019, a total of 464 starter packs have been provided to new tenants to help with sustainment and prevent repeat homelessness.</p>

RRTP Priority Objective		Achievement
		Commissioned services with The Salvation Army, Blue Triangle Housing Association and YPeople continue to deliver tailored packages of intensive support to service users with multiple and complex needs.
4.	Expand the scope of Housing First and capacity of our Housing First approach to be the first response for households with multiple complex needs	<p>11 additional individuals engaged in the Housing First Programme which offers intensive support and aids access to settled housing as a foundation to build upon addressing support needs. Since 2019, 24 individuals have engaged in the Housing First Programme.</p> <p>The sustainment rate for the Housing First cases housed during the year is 100%.</p>
5.	Enhance integration of partnership working to embed RRTP through a whole systems approach	<p>Partner Contribution Statements (PCS) are a key feature of the RRTP and are prepared by each partner to support the RRTP by setting out the specific contributions they intend to make towards delivering the five priority objectives.</p> <p>Two Directions relating to health and homelessness included within the Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Commissioning Plan continue to be progressed in partnership with Housing and Technical Resources.</p>

5. Revisions to the RRTP

- 5.1. In addition to reviewing the progress made against the actions and measures set out within the RRTP action plan, the annual review also provided the opportunity to re-examine the RRTP in general to ensure that priority objectives, actions and measures remain appropriate, relevant and measurable.
- 5.2. Eight amendments are to be made to the RRTP action plan. These amendments relate to one new action, four actions were completed in 2020-21 and three actions/measures that have been revised.
- 5.3. Table 3 below provides details of the new action to be added to the RRTP action plan. Table 4 details the revisions to the RRTP and sets out the existing actions/measures to be removed and the corresponding replacement actions/measures, where appropriate. All revisions will be incorporated into the RRTP action plan for 2021-22.

Table 3: New action for inclusion in RRTP action plan

RRTP Reference	Proposed new action	Context
A1.8	Continue to develop and implement approaches to support victims of domestic abuse and prevent homelessness	New action building upon the development of the housing pathway for victims of domestic abuse and taking into account legislative changes and good practice.

Table 4: Revisions to RRTP action plan

RRT P Ref.	Current action/measure	Status	RRTP Ref.	Proposed replacement action/measure (where appropriate)
A1.5	Re-commission and expand Rent Deposit Scheme to support implementation of RRTP	Complete	A1.5A	Monitor progress of the expansion of the Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service administered by YPeople
A1.6	Explore option to provide financial support to private rented tenants to achieve affordability and prevent homelessness	Complete	A1.6A	Monitor the effectiveness of the Private Sector Innovation Fund administered by YPeople for providing financial support to private rented tenants to prevent homelessness
A1.7	Develop Housing Options Framework for young people	Revised	A.1.7A	Continue to develop and implement approaches to prevent youth homelessness, with a particular focus on pathway approach to meeting the needs of care experienced young people
A2.1	Develop procedure for converting temporary accommodation units to SST	Complete	A2.1A	Maximise the potential for converting temporary accommodation to a Scottish Secure Tenancy where the property meets the needs of the household
M3.2	Percentage of homeless households provided with Housing Support Officer assistance	Revised	M3.2A	Percentage of homeless households who require support, provided with Housing Support Officer assistance
M4.2	Number of discharge planning cases handled through multi-professional joint working arrangements in hospitals/prisons and the community	Revised	M4.2A	Number of Housing First planning cases handled by health professional led multi-agency care management approach
A4.3	Review provision of refuge accommodation for female victims of domestic abuse to ensure it is adequate across all divisions	Complete	A4.3A	Complete development of the Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan and progress implementation

6. COVID-19 and Homelessness

- 6.1. During the initial months of the pandemic, the Council and its' partners focused resources on providing an emergency response, ensuring the delivery of critical services to vulnerable customers. The impact of COVID-19 has been closely monitored throughout 2020-21, with local authorities and partners working together to share their experiences and understanding of the impact of the pandemic on homelessness services and the delivery of the RRTP.
- 6.2. COVID-19 resulted in an increase in the level of homelessness presentations received by the Council, from 2,090 in 2019-20 to 2,225 in 2020-21. The most common reasons for homelessness were:-
 - Parents/friends can no longer accommodate (27%);
 - Relationship breakdown (non-violent) (21%);
 - Fleeing non-domestic violence (4%); and
 - Relationship breakdown (violent) (15%).
- 6.3. Across Scotland, the pandemic significantly increased the demand for temporary accommodation from homeless households and limited throughput to settled accommodation. Between September 2019 and September 2020, across Scotland there was a 24% increase in demand for temporary accommodation. The national position was broadly reflected in South Lanarkshire, where a 28% increase in demand was experienced during 2020-21.
- 6.4. The letting of suitable accommodation to homeless households continued to be prioritised by the Council and its RSL partners, however, the restrictions arising from COVID-19 significantly limited the availability of both permanent and temporary accommodation. This resulted in some use of Bed & Breakfast accommodation for very limited periods of time and in out of area placements, particularly during the early stages of the first lockdown.
- 6.5. In response, there has been a significant increase in the supply of temporary accommodation in South Lanarkshire, with an additional 105 temporary furnished properties delivered by the Council, RSL partners and private sector landlords in 2020-21.
- 6.6. In addition, 54 First-Stop/Rapid Access accommodation places were secured as an interim response to the pandemic through innovative partnership working between the Council and the University of West of Scotland, where vacant student accommodation in Hamilton was used to enable increased emergency placements. It is expected that this accommodation will continue to be utilised until September 2021.
- 6.7. It is anticipated that throughput from temporary to permanent accommodation will continue to be constrained during 2021-22 and optimising the supply of temporary accommodation will continue to be a particular priority during the year.

- 6.8. Partners recognise that during the year ahead, the RRTP will require to be sufficiently flexible to ensure resilience against the uncertainty presented by the pandemic. To date, this has been most clearly demonstrated by the requirement to increase the supply of suitable temporary and emergency accommodation to meet the increased demand from homeless households. While this is contrary to the long-term objective of the RRTP, to move away from significant use of temporary accommodation, the provision continues to be essential to meet the specific needs arising from pandemic, and the Council's statutory obligations. The need to ensure the continuing optimum supply of suitable temporary accommodation due to the pandemic has been highlighted in the annual review report.
- 6.9. The annual review report incorporates a section which highlights the impact of COVID-19 on homelessness and homelessness services.
- 6.10. In planning to meet the range of accommodation and support needs, in particular for young people, young care experienced and those fleeing domestic abuse, the Council will continue to work with key partners including Health and Social Care and Women's Aid South Lanarkshire and East Renfrewshire. This will ensure appropriate provision of suitable accommodation and support to meet needs and respond to any increase in demand.

7. National and Local Policy Agenda

- 7.1. The annual report highlights recent national and local policy changes.
- 7.2. During 2020-21 the Scottish Government reconvened the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group (HARSAG) and in October 2020 made a further 35 recommendations. The 'Ending Homelessness Together' Action Plan was subsequently revised to taking account of the learning from the pandemic.
- 7.3. The Homeless Persons Unsuitable Accommodation (Scotland) Order 2014 was extended in May 2020, to cover all homeless households. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, temporary exemptions to the order were put in place until September 2021.
- 7.4. Housing 2040, the Scottish Government's route map for the housing sector for the next 20 years was published in March 2021.
- 7.5. Linked to South Lanarkshire's RRTP and the national agenda around temporary accommodation standards, Housing and Technical Resources reviewed the supply and demand for temporary and supported accommodation. A Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan is being developed which sets out the objectives and actions required for the short, medium and longer-term to ensure optimum supply of suitable accommodation across a range of service user needs. Actions include reshaping and updating the provision of temporary and supported accommodation in some localities.
- 7.6. Building on the strong partnership approach between the Council and Women's Aid South Lanarkshire and East Renfrewshire, work to further develop responses to domestic abuse is being undertaken. A housing pathway for victims of domestic abuse, which aims to prevent homelessness, has been developed and implemented during 2021. This approach links to wider objectives of the South Lanarkshire Gender Based Violence Partnership and takes account of recent developments including the publication of 'Domestic Abuse: A good practice guide for social landlords'; changes in legislation; and internal revisions linked to the Chartered Institute of Housing 'Make A Stand' pledge which Housing and Technical Resources has signed up to.

7.7. Work is ongoing to further develop the existing partnership approach between Housing and Technical Resources and Social Work Resources to create alternatives to homelessness for care experienced young people. Dedicated support provided by officers within both Resources and the implementation of a revised person-centred pathway will ensure that there is a planned and supported approach in place for young people moving on from care. The revised approach will also move forward the introduction of supported accommodation and the planned expansion of the supported carer network to meet a wide range of accommodation and support needs.

8. RRTP Priorities for 2021-22

- 8.1. A key aspect of the annual review process is to consider the appropriateness of the actions identified in the RRTP, with a particular focus on those to be progressed during the future years of the plan.
- 8.2. The review of progress in Year 2 of the RRTP noted that, under very challenging circumstances, significant positive indicators of success have been achieved. COVID-19 has, however, impacted on the ability to fully progress certain actions and consequently the review group expressed support for Year 3 of the plan to broadly mirror Year 2, to allow actions which had commenced to be further developed, monitored and reviewed.
- 8.3. As a result of COVID-19, the current focus remains on delivering critical and essential services and meeting need. There remains, however, a commitment to delivering RRTP priorities both in the short-term and to ensure the longer-term objectives of the plan.
- 8.4. Year 3 priorities will build on key learning points from the initial two years of the plan and also on the progress achieved by working in partnership to deliver services which are focussed on preventing homelessness and minimising the impact of homelessness where crisis cannot be avoided.
- 8.5. Detailed below is a summary of the key priorities to be progressed during Year 3 of the plan (2021-22):
 - Responding to the ongoing impact of COVID-19;
 - Complete development of the Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan and progress implementation;
 - Continue to deliver affordable homes for social rent;
 - Ongoing focus on prevention of homelessness, particularly in relation to households with children;
 - Continue to reduce long-term homelessness;
 - Sustain or increase the proportion of social housing lets directed to homeless households;
 - Further progress the homelessness Directions contained within the Strategic Commissioning Plan;
 - Continue to maintain and develop links to the Local Child Poverty Action Report;
 - Monitor implementation of specific pathways for victims of domestic abuse and young care leavers;
 - Continue to implement specific pathways for individuals released from prison;
 - Continue to focus on pathways and a Housing Options approach for young people;
 - Monitor the Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service;
 - Continue to expand the Council's HomeStart service for new tenants;
 - Continue to expand the Council's Housing First approach;

- Continue to convert temporary units to permanent accommodation;
- Commence review of housing support services and commissioning arrangements for implementation of any new model by 2023; and
- Continue to closely monitor homelessness information to identify any emerging trends, particularly relating to vulnerable customers groups, including those experiencing domestic abuse and veterans.

9. Next Steps

- 9.1. The RRTP Annual Review 2020-21, attached as Appendix 1, was submitted to the Scottish Government on 30 June 2021 and will be published on the Council's website.
- 9.2. The Homelessness Strategy Group will continue to meet regularly throughout the year to ensure that the RRTP priority actions are being delivered and to monitor and report on progress made.
- 9.3. The RRTP was developed to align with key partnership plans and strategies and monitoring of common objectives in key partnership areas will continue to be a focus in the year ahead, in particular:
 - The South Lanarkshire Community Plan;
 - The Children's Services Plan;
 - Engagement with local Registered Social Landlords;
 - The Local Housing Strategy Annual Review;
 - The Health and Social Care Partnership Directions; and
 - The Child Poverty Action Report.
- 9.4. The impact of COVID-19 will be closely monitored, and strategic approaches and priorities adjusted to reflect emerging issues and requirements. This will continue to be reported as part of the annual review process.

10. Employee Implications

- 10.1. There are no employee implications as a result of this report.

11. Financial Implications

- 11.1. The RRTP confirmed the significant level of resources required to be directed towards the prevention and alleviation of homelessness. The Scottish Government has provided £1,733,17 in funding to assist in the development and implementation of the RRTP. This includes £440,000 to support the continued implementation of the RRTP in 2021-22.
- 11.2. As part of the ongoing RRTP monitoring and review process, consideration is given by all partners on how to further embed RRTP activities into mainstream services. At the same time partners will continue to identify opportunities to access additional funding, which is required to meet not only RRTP objectives, but also to support achievement of national objectives detailed within the Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan.

12. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 12.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy which impacts on the natural environment, climate change or sustainability.

13. Other Implications

- 13.1. The content of this report will contribute to the evidence to support the requirements of the Annual Assurance Statement.

13.2. There are no additional risks associated with this report.

14. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

14.1. An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out on the RRTP. The assessment confirmed that the plan will make a positive contribution to the promotion of equalities.

14.2. A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) pre-screening determination was completed as part of the development of the RRTP 2019-24. This confirmed there is no requirement for a separate SEA to be carried out for the RRTP.

14.3. The RRTP was developed and co-produced with a range of key partners and stakeholders. These groups have confirmed their commitment to work together to ensure the delivery of the priority outcomes. Through the Homelessness Strategy Group, these partners have been involved in monitoring and reviewing progress of the plan.

Daniel Lowe

**Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council**

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information

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South Lanarkshire Council

Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan

Annual Review 2020-2021



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Foreword

Councillor Josh Wilson

Chair of Housing and Technical Resources Committee



I am pleased to report that that despite the challenges faced in responding to the impact of Covid-19, the second year of South Lanarkshire's Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan has been a successful one with a wide range of services and partner organisations coming together and working towards our shared aim of addressing homelessness across South Lanarkshire.

This review shows the breadth of work that has been undertaken over the second year of the RRTP. In particular I am pleased to see the good progress on scaling up the council's commitment to a Housing First approach, providing housing and wrap around support for individuals with multiple and complex needs. We have also continued to work towards our commitment to delivering 1,000 additional council homes, alongside significant increases in the numbers of additional affordable housing provided by our housing association partners.

While Covid-19 has had a significant impact on the programme of construction, as we move forward into year three of the plan, I am confident that we will continue to build on the good work and outcomes already achieved. Ensuring we maximise opportunities to increase the supply of affordable housing will provide the essential foundation for delivering the impact on homelessness which we seek to achieve over the remaining years of the plan.

Councillor Maureen Chalmers

Deputy Council Leader

Chair of South Lanarkshire's Community Planning Partnership Board



Over the past 12 months, a broad range of work to tackle homelessness and meet the needs of homeless households has been delivered by partners from across the Community Planning Partnership.

The scale of the homelessness challenge facing local authorities from the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic meant that new approaches were required to streamline systems to ensure that the council's commitment to homeless service users was not compromised. A number of innovative approaches have been put in place using the fundamental strength of our community partnerships commitment to allow continuity of our emergency response to homelessness.

This review highlights just some of the excellent work that is being delivered every day by partners, to improve the lives of people in South Lanarkshire, in particular those who are disadvantaged and vulnerable and who most need help and support. We must ensure that we continue to maintain focus to ensure that we achieve a step change in addressing homelessness across South Lanarkshire.

1. Summary of Year Two progress

1.1 Effective partnership working and a shared commitment to addressing homelessness has enabled good progress to be made during the second year of the South Lanarkshire Rapid Re-Housing Transition Plan (RRTP).

This review, co-ordinated by the Homelessness Strategy Group, confirms South Lanarkshire's commitment to partnership working in the delivery of services and support to those experiencing homelessness, and the progress made in delivering on the outcomes within the RRTP.

A summary of the key highlights from the second year of the RRTP include:-

- The council and its Housing Association partners have continued to increase the supply of affordable housing in South Lanarkshire, delivering a total of 339 additional homes during the year.
- Continued growth of the Housing First approach with a further 13 households with multiple and complex needs supported during the year. A total of 26 households are now included within the programme.
- An 8% reduction in the number of homeless households with children under 16 years of age.
- An increase in the percentage of vacant social rented properties directed to homeless households, 61% of all vacant council homes and 42% of Registered Social Landlord homes compared to 51% and 37% respectively the previous year.
- Reducing long-term homelessness, with 41% fewer homeless households living in temporary accommodation for more than 12 months.
- A 3% increase in the number of homeless households sustaining their tenancies for more than 12 months, to over 91%.
- Reducing repeat homelessness at 4.6%, compared to 6% nationally (latest available annual statistics 2019/20).
- A further 27 temporary homes converted to secure tenancies, reflecting the choice of the homeless household and settled position reducing any further upheaval.
- Significantly increased the supply of temporary accommodation during the year to meet increased demand resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Deployment of full range of support services to meet immediate needs including provision of food and mobile phones, in partnership with internal and external partners, minimising the impact of the pandemic on vulnerable households.
- Establishment of the Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service to support households to access private sector accommodation which met their needs.
- Increased funding available through the Tenancy Sustainment Fund to assist council tenants experiencing financial difficulties.
- Improving homeless prevention outcomes with a 17% increase in the number of cases closing with final outcome prevented homelessness.
- Continuation of the successful HomeStart team which supports and assists all new council tenants to set up and maintain their tenancy.
- Through the continuation of the digital inclusion project, 'Bringing IT Home', 55 homeless families with children have been provided with devices and unlimited internet access for 2 years.
- Continued commitment to meeting the needs of vulnerable groups through the development of specific housing pathways for victims of domestic abuse and care experienced young people.
- Developing a Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan, that links to RRTP objectives and national accommodation standards.

- Partnership approach to creating alternatives to homelessness for care experienced young people, including additional support available via a central throughcare and aftercare team and work to introduce supported accommodation as an alternative to children's house or independent living.
- 'Make A Stand' partnership group completed a review of refuge accommodation which confirmed appropriate provision.
- Continued development of a partnership approach to homeless prevention and response for victims of domestic abuse.
- Continued implementation of SHORE standards.
- Establishment of pathways to housing and homelessness assistance and advice where risk is identified by the new Community Link workers, who receive referrals from GP's.
- Introduction of a crisis response service delivered by Turning Point Scotland which aims to prevent/reduce harm.

2. Background

2.1 National Context

The Scottish Government set a national vision for rapid rehousing transition plans to be developed in 2019 and implemented across Scotland as a way of reducing homelessness.

During 2020/21 there have been further national developments in housing and homelessness policy, some in response to the pandemic, which incorporate objectives which encourage embedding Rapid Rehousing and a Housing First approach into homelessness services. These include:-

- Reconvening of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group (HARSAG) in June 2020, which updated recommendations and required actions to address the impact of the public health emergency, including a top line objective of ensuring ongoing access to emergency self-contained accommodation to minimise infection risk and maximise opportunities locally and nationally.
- Subsequent revision to the 'Ending Homelessness Together' Action Plan to take account of key learning points from the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Extension of the Homeless Persons Unsuitable Accommodation (Scotland) Order in May 2020, to all homeless households and to include new types of temporary accommodation as exempt from the Order (with temporary Covid-19 exemptions in place until September 2021).
- Preventing Homelessness in Scotland, a report by the Prevention Review Group recommending the introduction of statutory prevention duties across public bodies
- Housing to 2040, the Scottish Government's route map for the housing sector over the next 20 years published in March 2021.

2.2 South Lanarkshire Context

South Lanarkshire Council's Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2019-24 (RRTP) was developed in conjunction with a wide range of partners and submitted to the Scottish Government in December 2018, the RRTP builds upon a well-established partnership framework and aims to act upon the unique opportunity to achieve a step change in preventing and reducing homelessness in South Lanarkshire. The vision set out in South Lanarkshire's RRTP is to ensure: -

"Homelessness in South Lanarkshire is significantly reduced, with homeless households moving to a settled home as quickly as possible"

- 2.3 South Lanarkshire Council has a long standing strong commitment to meeting the needs of homeless people. Over a number of years, the council has significantly increased and developed our model of temporary accommodation to meet a range of needs, tested and expanded prevention activity, and, since 2019 the council has undergone a fundamental shift to rapid rehousing, working in partnership with a range of stakeholders who have come together to provide improved services which aim to improve the lives of some of the most marginalised people in our society.

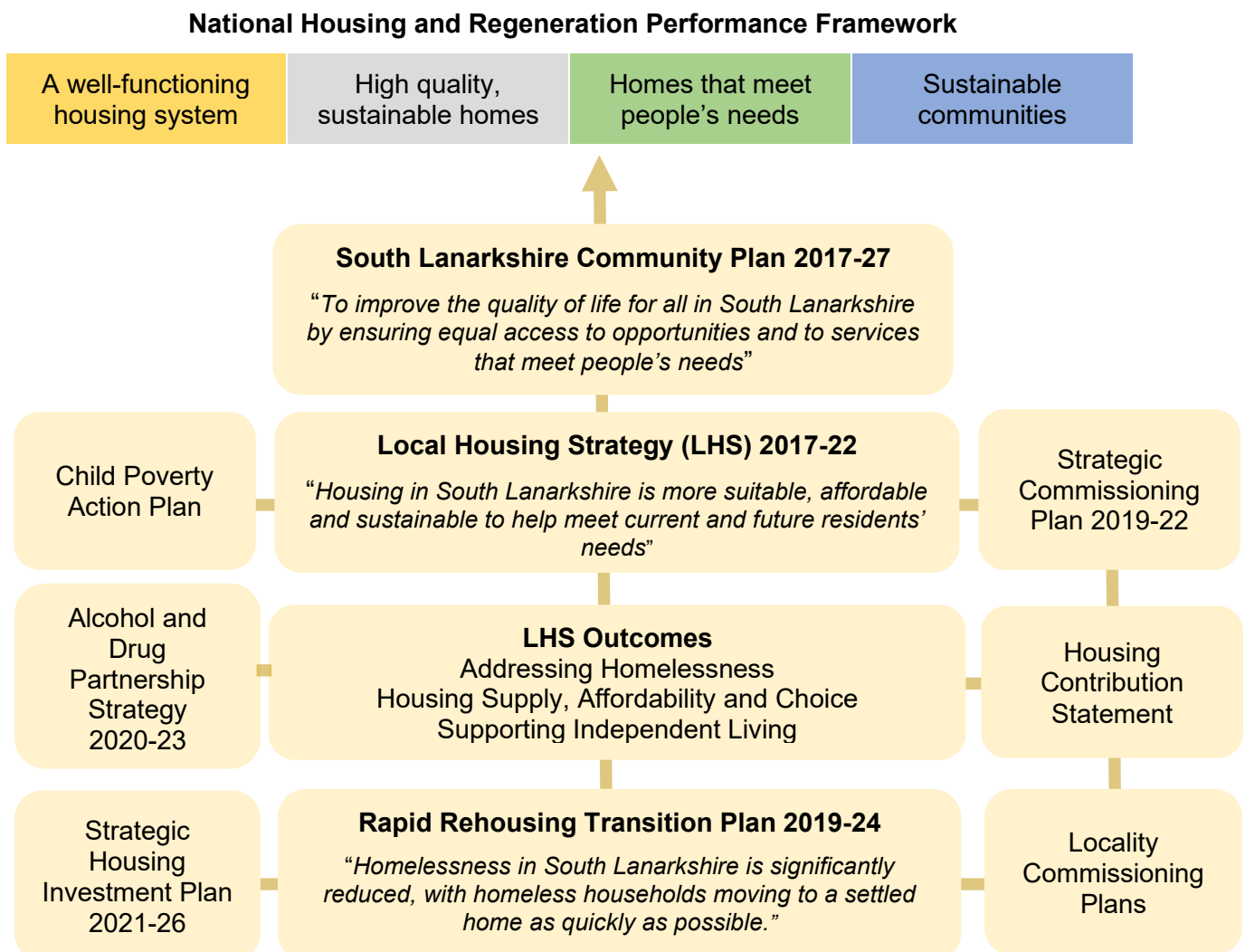
2.4 Co-production

This RRTP was co-produced and the second annual review was also carried out in a co-production way through intensive engagement with key partners and stakeholders, including through the range of well-established partnership groups including the Local Housing Strategy Steering Group, Homelessness Strategy Group, 'Make A Stand' Group, which includes representation by Women's Aid South Lanarkshire and East Renfrewshire, a range of Corporate Parenting groups and boards, Alcohol and Drug Partnership and related groups such as drug death monitoring. The review reflects the progress that has been made against the most challenging of backdrops, namely mitigating the impact of Covid-19. This has meant that the focus proposed within the RRTP and some of the outcomes to be achieved have been paused temporarily while the short-term focus has been to ensure effective mitigation during the public health emergency.

2.5 Links to other Strategies

The RRTP was developed to align closely with a broad range of partner strategies and plans being progressed in South Lanarkshire. Figure 1 below demonstrates the relationship between these and the National Housing and Regeneration Performance Framework.

Figure 1: Diagram showing RRTP Links to other plans and strategies



2.6 During 2020/21, further work continued to strengthen the above links, ensuring homelessness and its wider impact is appropriately reflected in each strategy/plan. Key developments included: -

- the inclusion of particular actions relating to homelessness within the Local Child Poverty Action Plan 2020/21;
- the inclusion of specific RRTP actions within the South Lanarkshire Community Plan;
- the inclusion of homelessness actions and monitoring within the Children's Services (Corporate Parenting) Action Plan;
- the progression of two Homelessness Directions within the Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Commissioning Plan (2019-22);
- the inclusion of action on homeless prevention within the Alcohol and Drug Partnership Strategy 2020-23 (Priority 4 A public Health Approach) and overall emphasis on early intervention and prevention.

2.7 **Feedback**

The Scottish Government provided valuable feedback on the South Lanarkshire RRTP, highlighting a number of key strengths, in particular the strong partnership approach which is in place.

Similarly, a review of all 32 RRTP's in Scotland was carried out by Crisis in 2020. Positive feedback was received in relation to the South Lanarkshire RRTP, highlighting the inclusion of Partner Contribution Statements within the plan as useful in understanding prevention activities from a different perspective. Crisis found the approach of Partner Contribution Statements helpful in solidifying partners' contribution to the RRTP vision.

Positive feedback was also provided in relation to the Plan's focus on enhancing starter pack options for new tenants and on the extension of the personal housing planning approach.

2.8 **Governance**

The South Lanarkshire Homelessness Strategy Group is the partnership responsible for the prioritisation and delivery of actions set out within the RRTP, in addition to the range of actions routinely monitored across the range of partnership plans.

The group meets every eight weeks and have the following remit:-

- monitoring and reporting on progress in relation to the RRTP;
- reviewing and updating key actions and measures/indicators, considering new and emerging policy priorities and resources as required.

The RRTP was developed to ensure that its' priority objectives aligned with the Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2017/22 priority outcomes for addressing homelessness. The chairperson of the Homelessness Strategy Group is responsible for attending and providing regular progress updates in relation to the RRTP and homelessness to the South Lanarkshire Local Housing Strategy Steering Group.

Annual updates on progress against the actions within the LHS are reported to Executive Committee and the RRTP reported to Housing and Technical Resources Committee and the Community Planning Partnership Board.

2.9 Funding

In 2020/21, the second full year of the plan, £453,000 was allocated to South Lanarkshire with a further £282,000 received in March 2021 from the Scottish Government. Scottish Government funding can be carried forward into Year three of the RRTP, in addition to the confirmed allocation of £440,000 for Year three.

In total, the funding allocation to South Lanarkshire from the Ending Homelessness Together fund has been £1,741,000.

The level of funding allocated and secured since 2019 is less than the original calculations made to resource the delivery of the plan. While partners have continued to progress actions utilising all resources available, some actions within the plan have been limited as a result.

A summary of the key areas which have been progressed using funding received from the Scottish Government's Ending Homelessness Together Fund is detailed below:-

- Expansion of existing commissioned services delivering intensive/wrap around support based on a care management approach to meet more complex needs, in particular improving links across housing, health and addiction services.
- Introduction of specialist support services to meet a range of complex need including repeat homelessness, multiple needs in particular addiction and mental health, further supported by Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) funding.
- Scaling up of the Housing First approach and enhanced furniture starter pack provision offering service users greater choice and support in making their house a home.
- Recruitment of specialist officer to support the effective implementation of SHORE standards supporting individuals on release from prison.
- Recruitment of a specialist officer to support delivery and embed a revised pathway for young people moving on from care. The approach strengthens early interventions and ensures a person-centred pathway to support young people to transition to their own tenancy
- Recruitment of specialist officer to support delivery and embed a revised pathway to prevent homelessness for those affected by domestic abuse. This approach takes account of recent changes in legislation and good practice linked to the Chartered Institute of Housing, 'Make A Stand' pledge.
- Revision existing Rent Deposit Scheme to form a Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service which offers an alternative housing option for homeless applicants and widens prevention activities.
- Delivering 'Bringing IT Home', a digital inclusion programme, further supported via Connecting Scotland and Lintel Trust funding.

Other funding sources

The Homelessness Strategy Group is clear on the need to actively consider other potential funding routes to take forward priority activities, and on the need to consider how mainstream services and budgets can be revised or re-focused to help deliver RRTP priorities.

In February 2021, £10,000 was allocated to South Lanarkshire Council from the Lintel Trust's Community Benefit Fund for the expansion of the 'Bringing IT Home', the digital inclusion project for distributing IT equipment and two years internet access to homeless families with children.

Opportunities will continue to be explored to maximise the potential for digital inclusion within the homeless population through the Scottish Government's Connecting Scotland initiative which aims to distribute 50,000 pieces of digital equipment by the end of 2021.

For a second year the Alcohol and Drug Partnership supported delivery of specialist support to meet multiple and complex needs with the allocation of £40,000. This partnership approach led to a joint bid for additional funding to introduce a crisis response service. The bid was successful in securing £63,000 to be committed in Year three to deliver a 1-year programme in partnership with Turning Point Scotland. This service aims to address trends identified in the Hard Edges report published by Heriot-Watt University in 2019, surrounding the increase in deaths among the homeless population. The national trend identified in the report mirrors the position in South Lanarkshire where deaths have risen from 13 during 2018/19 to 15 during 2019/20.

3. Covid-19 and homelessness

3.1 The Covid-19 pandemic has and continues to have a profound impact on society, in particular vulnerable groups, including those experiencing homelessness. Indeed, the updated findings and recommendations from HARSAG highlighted that Covid-19 had a disproportionate impact on some groups of people over others, including those experiencing homelessness and/or the socio-economic factors that contribute to homelessness.

3.2 In South Lanarkshire this can be evidenced by the 6.5% increase in homelessness presentations and the 28.1% increase in demand for temporary accommodation. During 2020/21, this trend mirrored that experienced across Scotland where between September 2019 and September 2020 there was a 24% increase in demand for temporary accommodation.

3.3 Recovery planning

Before the global pandemic, the Scottish Government had published an action plan in November 2018, 'Ending Homelessness Together' which provided a focus across Scotland to tackle homelessness. The onset of the pandemic fundamentally changed many aspects of service delivery and created new challenges and consequently HARSAG were reconvened in June 2020 and produced further recommendations. These recommendations were accepted by the Scottish Government who published a revised national action plan in October 2020.

The revised Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan included a number of key changes which reflected learning from the impact of the pandemic including:-

- Scale up Housing First approach more rapidly.
- Increase proportion of social homes allocated to homeless households for a limited period.
- Build on evidence base to understand the impact of Covid-19 on the risk of homelessness for particular groups.
- Support people to access digital equipment, data and training.

As national and local lockdown restrictions are eased and move through the recovery phases it is important to ensure people facing homelessness during the crisis are supported to move from emergency accommodation to settled housing. By implementing a robust planning approach to the supply of temporary accommodation, the council is in a good position to meet increased demand while at the same time taking a stepped approach to the long-term objective of reducing temporary units as rapid rehousing becomes embedded.

3.4 Local Resilience

The Homelessness Strategy Group continued to meet on an 8-weekly basis on a virtual platform throughout 2020/21 allowing monitoring of key objectives and planning to

continue. Flexibility and resilience became apparent as key learning points from the pandemic.

Housing Services senior managers also attended fortnightly meetings of the Housing Options West HUB meeting, benefiting from shared learning across authorities and Scottish Government updates, which was very helpful early in the pandemic.

The strong partnerships developed through the implementation of the RRTP resulted in close joint working to increase the stock of dispersed temporary accommodation throughout South Lanarkshire as a priority by sharing responsibility with RSL partners.

Community Planning Partners working together also ensured a range of needs were met. This included the provision of a hot evening meal for all individuals accommodated within homeless cluster projects throughout early lockdown periods and continued for as long as clients wished.

The scale of the pandemic meant that new approaches were required to ensure that the council's commitment to provide good quality temporary accommodation was maintained, ensuring resilience to the resulting challenges and increased demand.

This was achieved through the establishment of a unique and innovative partnership with University of West of Scotland to lease former student accommodation in Barrack Street, Hamilton to provide 54 units of First Stop/Rapid Access Accommodation, and 1 family unit as a short-term solution to increased demand for temporary accommodation as a result of the pandemic.

This service is delivered in partnership with The Salvation Army who were commissioned to provide 24/7 support to residents who spend on average 32 days there before moving to settled accommodation. The introduction of this project allowed for immediate and significant temporary accommodation needs to be met throughout the pandemic, limiting use of Bed & Breakfast accommodation and out of area placements. Customer feedback in relation to the accommodation and support provided has been very positive, a testament to the quality of the support provision.

Barrack Street Emergency First Stop Accommodation – Service User

My safety and well-being are better. Staff have supported me through my mental health issues, and I know that I am safe. I was contemplating suicide the day before being placed here. I have been told many times that my support needs are too high for places, but Barrack Street took me in and have supported me through my mental health problems. I have been in hospital many times due to this but now is the first time that I actually feel safe and supported.

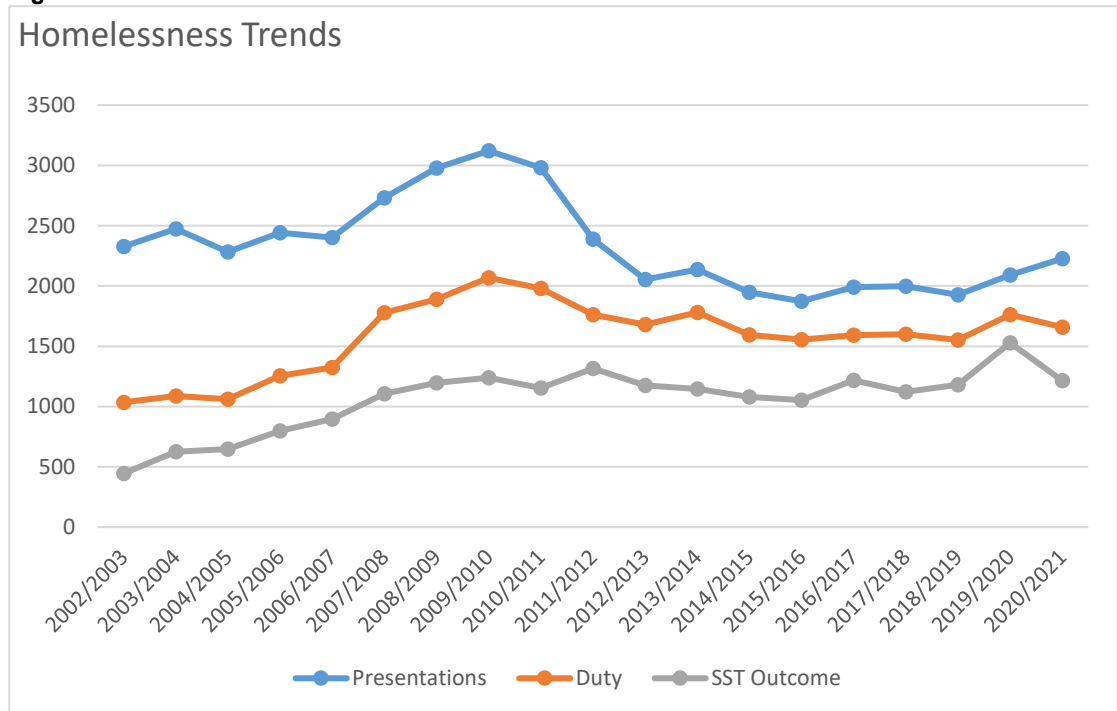
4. Homelessness Trends in South Lanarkshire

- 4.1 In line with national guidance the RRTP incorporates analysis of homelessness trends over the last 15 years. The annual review provides an opportunity to consider any significant changes against the baseline position and projections contained within the RRTP and the actual figures, as at the end of the second year.
- 4.2 The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the trajectory of homelessness trends. Given the degree of uncertainty in relation to the pandemic, it is not possible to predict the longer-term implications for homelessness services. Locally partners will continue to work collaboratively to monitor and respond to emerging trends.

4.3 Homelessness demand

- 4.3.1 Figure 2 below demonstrates the trend in the number of homelessness presentations received between 2002/03 and 2020/21, measured against the number of cases where the council had a duty to house the applicant and the number of cases that resulted in a Scottish Secure Tenancy being allocated upon case closure.

Figure 2 – Homelessness trends 2002-2021



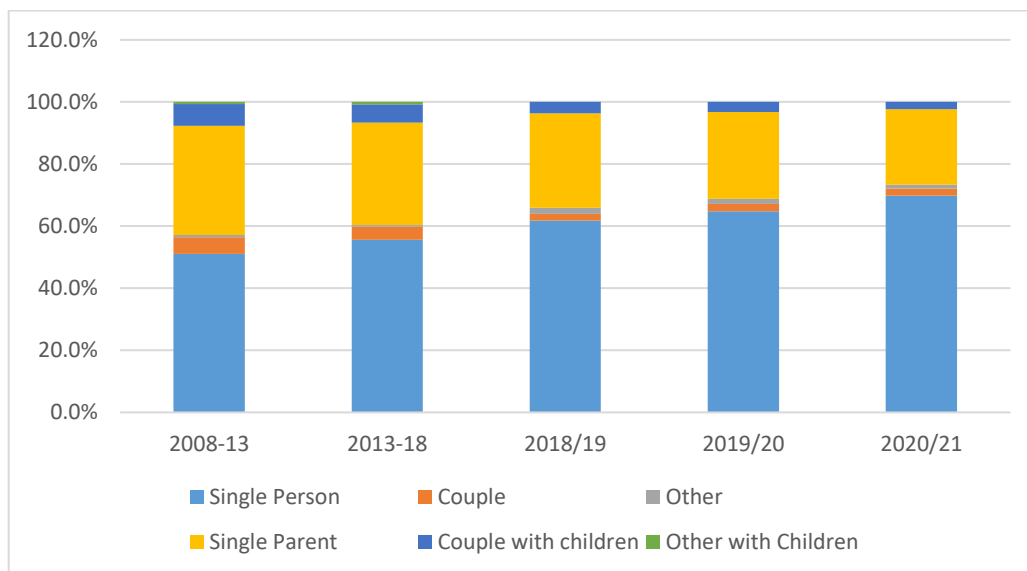
- There has been a 6.5% increase in the number of homeless presentations, from 2090 in 2019/20 to 2225 in 2020/21.
- Of the total number of presentations, the council had a duty to house 75%
- Positive outcomes remain proportionally high with 56% of statutory homeless households being provided with a Scottish Secure Tenancy either by the council or by RSL partners.

- Tenancy sustainment is also improving with 91% of homeless households sustaining their tenancy for over 12 months in 2020/21, compared with 88% in 2019/20.
- There has been a significant increase in the percentage of lets to homeless households in 2020/21 (61%) however the total number of lets has been impacted upon due to the pandemic and therefore the percentage of homeless households being allocated a Scottish Secure Tenancy as an outcome has reduced by 20% (from 1528 in 2019/20 to 1214 in 2020/21).

4.3.2 Profile of homeless households

Figure 3 below provides the profile of homeless households between 2008/09 and 2020/21.

Figure 3 – Profile of homeless households

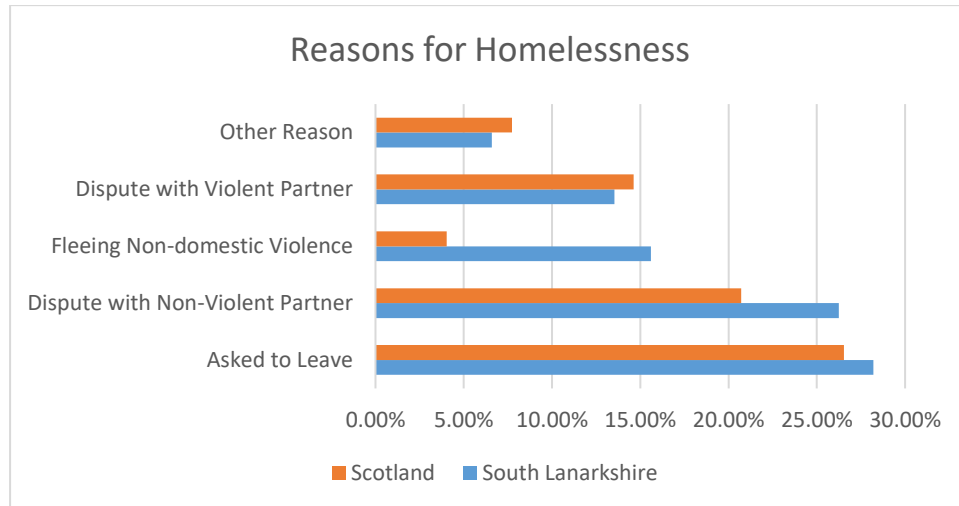


- The majority of homelessness presentations in 2020/21 were made by single people (69.8%). Since 2008 there has been a 19% increase in presentations from this group.
- During 2020/21, there were 672 single men who experienced homelessness and 310 single women.
- Households with children under 16 years accounted for 27% of the total number of homeless households in 2020/21. This is an 8% reduction on the position last year and contributes to a steady decline of 15% since 2008. As at 31 March 2021, there were 219 households with children experiencing homelessness.
- On average approximately 1,000 children in South Lanarkshire experience homelessness each year, although this figure reduced by 6% in 2019/20 and by a further 8% in 2020/21.

4.3.3 Reasons for homelessness

Figure 4 below provides a comparison of reasons for homelessness between South Lanarkshire and Scotland in 2020/21.

Figure 4 – Reasons for homelessness



- Being asked to leave current accommodation continues to be the most common reason for presenting as homeless both in South Lanarkshire (28.2%) and Scotland wide (26.5%).
- Data on reasons for homelessness in South Lanarkshire broadly mirrors Scottish national data with the exception of fleeing non-domestic violence which accounts for 15% of presentations in South Lanarkshire against 4% of Scotland wide figures.
- Relationship breakdown, or disputes, either violent or non-violent, account for 39.7% of all homeless presentations in South Lanarkshire compared to 35.3% across Scotland.
- There is a slightly lower instance of dispute due to having a violent partner in South Lanarkshire, 13.5% compared to the national figure of 14.6%.
- The most common reason for homelessness among households with children during 2020/21 was due to domestic violence, and accounts for 23% of total presentations involving children.

4.3.4 By continuing to monitor RRTP data and its links to the Local Child Poverty Action Report it will be possible to shape support within our homelessness services to meet the needs of these households and attempt to shift the balance of probability of those children going on to experience poverty and homelessness in adulthood.

4.3.5 Where homelessness cannot be prevented the partnership is keen to ensure needs and vulnerabilities are understood at the earliest opportunity in order to mitigate the impact of homelessness on health and well-being.

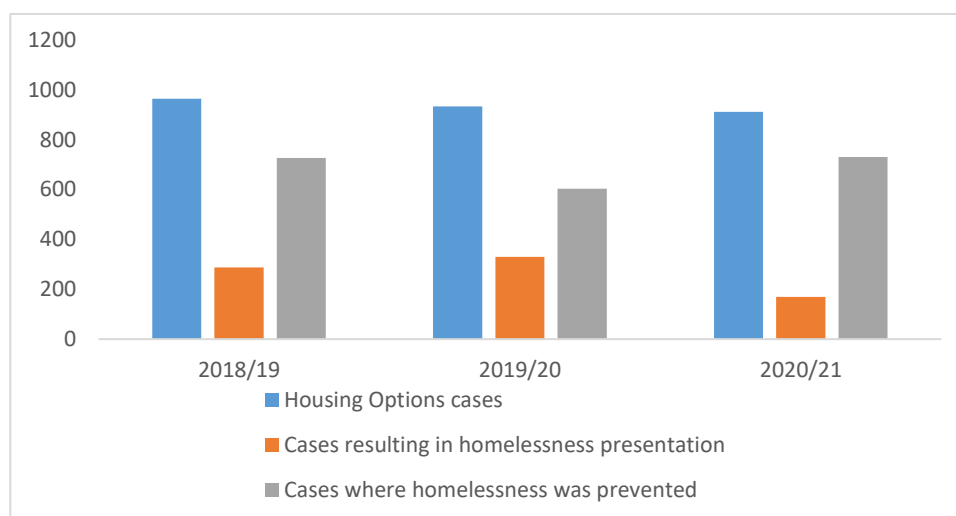
As such in March 2020, South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership Integration Joint Board approved two homelessness Directions: firstly, to prioritise access to health services for homeless households and establish routine enquiry about homelessness with service users. These Directions align with the particular and specific focus on homelessness within the Health and Social Care Partnership’s Strategic Commissioning Plan.

Effectively identifying needs will facilitate positive communication between Housing, Health and Social Care and Education. This will ensure the impact of homelessness as an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) both independently and in conjunction with the collective impact of other ACEs which affect children and young people such as domestic abuse and addictions. The Directions will ensure priority access to required services.

4.3.6 Prevention of Homelessness

Figure 5 illustrates the number of cases managed by the council's Housing Options service between 2018/19 and 2020/21 and details of the outcome of advice provided.

Figure 5 – Number of Housing Options cases and outcomes



- In the three-year period between 2018/19 and 2020/21, the number of approaches for housing assistance to the council's Housing Options services has slightly decreased by 5%, from 964 to 912, although as 2020/21 progressed numbers increased as national Covid-19 restrictions eased.
- There has been a 41% decrease in the number of cases progressing to a homelessness presentation from 287 in 2018/19 to 170 in 2020/21. This underlines the positive difference the Housing Options approach is having on preventing homelessness in South Lanarkshire.

There has been a significant focus on the development of prevention services over recent years, including during the period of the pandemic in preparation for an anticipated increased demand on this important first response to emerging housing need and risks.

4.4 Affordable Housing Supply (Social Rented)

- 4.4.1 Figure 6 below, provides details of the increase in social rented stock (owned by the council and Registered Social Landlords) across each housing division over the last two years.

Figure 6 – Total social-rented housing supply (non-sheltered)

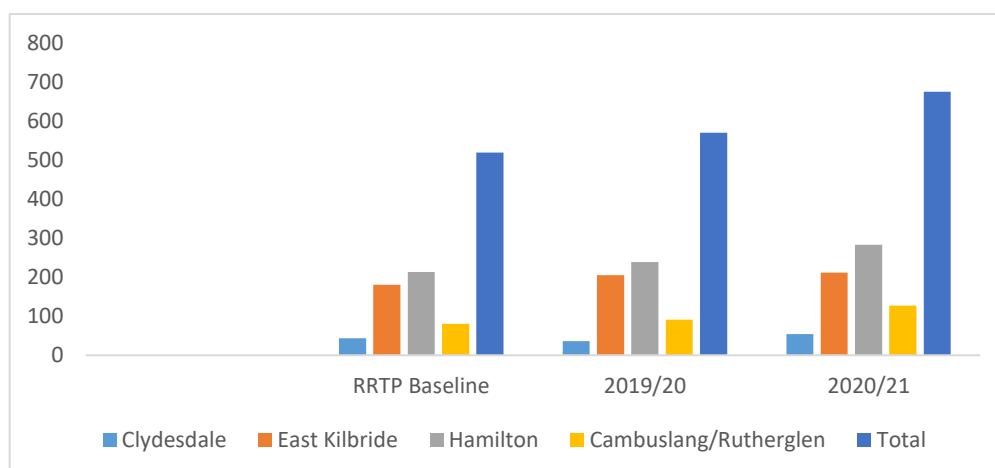
Description	Clydesdale	East Kilbride	Hamilton	Rutherglen/ Cambuslang	South Lanarkshire
RRTP Baseline	6,077	6,261	10,970	6,674	29,982
2019/20 additions	32	107	93	52	284
2020/21 additions	6	210	10	113	339
Total	6,115	6,578	11,073	6,839	30,605

- Throughout the second year of the RRTP and despite the challenges to the construction industry due to Covid-19, the council and its' Registered Social Landlord partners have continued to increase the number of affordable homes for social rent across South Lanarkshire.
- In the 2020/21, a total of 339 additional affordable homes were delivered with 31% (107 homes) designed to meet the needs of those with particular needs, including wheelchair users.

4.4.2 Temporary Accommodation

Figure 7 below provides details of the supply of mainstream (self-contained furnished accommodation) by housing division between RRTP baseline in 2019 and 2020/21.

Figure 7 – Breakdown of mainstream temporary accommodation units by Division.



- During 2020/21, in response to Covid-19, a targeted approach was adopted to increase the supply of temporary accommodation in each division as an interim measure. Figure 7 above shows that over the course of the last year, across South Lanarkshire, there has been an 18% increase in the supply of self-contained furnished temporary accommodation properties (from 571 units in 2019/20 to 676 units in 2020/21).

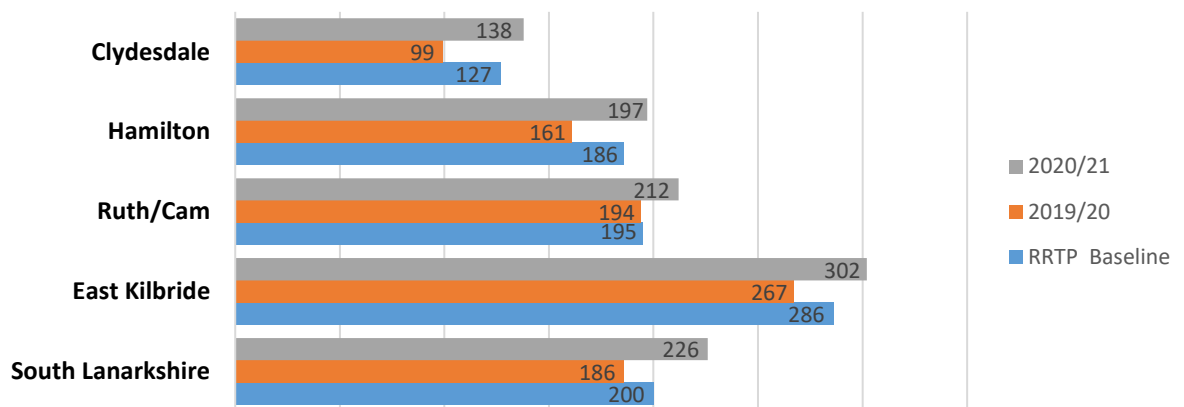
- In addition, there are also 137 units of First Stop/Rapid Access Accommodation, 49 units of supported accommodation and 26 units of refuge accommodation through Women's Aid.

4.4.3 The shift in focus of homelessness services to a rapid rehousing approach aims to ensure that all homeless households spend the shortest possible time in temporary accommodation before moving to settled accommodation. Reducing the need for temporary accommodation was an intended outcome of the RRTP and at the end of Year one there were early positive indications of this. This progress was reversed by the onset of Covid-19, which resulted in an increased demand for temporary accommodation, a reduction in turnover levels and consequently an increase in the time homeless households spent in temporary accommodation. It is however important to note that the increase in the supply of temporary accommodation is anticipated to be short-term measure.

4.4.4 While it has been necessary to increase the supply of temporary accommodation, work towards a rapid rehousing approach, in line with HARSAG recommendations has also continued. The process of “flipping” temporary units to Scottish Secure Tenancies has continued, with 54 units having been converted to a permanent home for homeless households since the implementation of the RRTP in 2019 with a focus on planning for longer term cases.

4.4.5 Figure 8 provides a comparison of the average number of days spent in temporary furnished accommodation (excluding First Stop, Supported or Bed & Breakfast) between 2019 (RRTP baseline position) and 2020/21.

Figure 8 – Average number of days spent in temporary furnished accommodation by Division and SLC



- In 2019 (RRTP baseline) the average time spent in temporary furnished accommodation varied significantly by area, from 127 days in Clydesdale to 286 days in East Kilbride. The South Lanarkshire average being 200 days.
- As a result of actions progressed through the RRTP, the South Lanarkshire average number of days spent in self-contained temporary furnished accommodation decreased by 6% to 187 days in 2019/20, although local variations continued.
- In 2020/21, due to the impact of Covid-19, the average number of days spent in temporary accommodation increased across all areas, with a South Lanarkshire average of 226 days, demonstrating a 20% increase on the 2019/20 position.

- 4.4.6 The increase in time spent in temporary accommodation can be attributed to the impact of Covid-19 which has resulted in significant disruption to movement in the housing market, reducing turnover and subsequently throughput from temporary to settled accommodation for homeless households.

Despite this, a specific focus on reducing long-term homelessness has resulted in a significant achievement in the year with a 41% reduction in homeless households living in temporary accommodation for more than 12 months, from 95 cases in 2019/20 to 56 cases in 2020/21.

- 4.4.7 During 2020/21 work to develop a Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan (TASP) was delayed as a result of the focus on meeting immediate needs related to the pandemic. The plan has now been developed setting out patterns and trends in relation to homeless demand; utilising this information to project forward understanding of need, taking account of RRTP progress, including for example, the impact of Housing First and flipping on temporary accommodation requirements.

The plan sets out the overall strategy covering short, medium and longer-term requirements to meet temporary accommodation needs and realise the partnership's vision of providing safe, secure, comfortable temporary accommodation whenever it's needed within a homely environment. This takes account of the known benefits of creating a psychologically informed environment and is closely linked to the vision set out in related partnership plans such as South Lanarkshire Community Plan and the Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Commissioning Plan.

South Lanarkshire's TASP also takes account of key national developments including the Unsuitable Accommodation Order amendments and the development of associated guidance and introduction of Temporary Accommodation Advisory Standards within the Code of Guidance.

Developing the TASP involved a full review of the portfolio of temporary and supported accommodation in terms of scale, type of accommodation, and standards. From this it is clear the model of temporary accommodation is generally the right fit to meet the needs of South Lanarkshire's household provision.

Supply is largely a range of furnished properties across local communities (council and private sector leased properties).

An established approach to facilitate annual review and adjustment of the temporary furnished portfolio, has been strengthened with the introduction of Temporary Accommodation Standards related to community properties. Standards set out criteria to be considered ahead of use as temporary accommodation as well as review arrangements and maximum use timescales before return to a mainstream property, via flipping or otherwise.

TASP review also considered the council's smaller supply of congregate living temporary accommodation and confirmed a supply of First Stop/Rapid Access Accommodation, within each locality, is an ongoing requirement to meet immediate needs in the short/medium term and maintain the council's strong track record in minimising any use of unsuitable accommodation for this purpose.

Similarly, the ongoing requirement for a small supply of 24 hour supported accommodation was confirmed to meet a range of needs including those with multiple

and complex needs, to best support move onto independent living with appropriate support in place.

The TASP considered the quality of existing accommodation in addition to optimal scale and accommodation types, assessing existing supply against standards.

The review has highlighted that the standard of congregate living accommodation varies and the TASP recommends re-provisioning of 1 unit, a co-located First Stop/Rapid Access and supported accommodation unit to be replaced by smaller separate First Stop and supported units. Other First Stop and supported congregate living projects remain under review as the TASP is further developed, monitoring and assessment continues.

The TASP will be finalised during 2021 with an implementation plan established to deliver on key actions and highlight financial/funding implications.

4.5 Repeat Homelessness

- 4.5.1 During 2020/21, there has been a decrease in the proportion of repeat homelessness cases compared with the previous year. In 2019/20, 5.4% of all homeless presentations were repeated within 12 months compared with 4.6% in 2020/21. An increased focus on support, particularly for cases with complex needs, contributes to improvements in tenancy sustainment and prevention of repeat homelessness. Analysis of repeat homelessness cases is undertaken to inform future service development and to shape financial planning for future service development.

5. Year Two progress

5.1 Tackling homelessness requires a shared commitment from a range of agencies and partners in the public, private and third sectors. As such the RRTP was co-produced with partners and stakeholders involved in the decision-making process for agreeing priority actions contained within the plan.

5.2 Reviewing the plan

The Homelessness Strategy Group has responsibility for monitoring progress in relation to the RRTP and overseeing the annual review, including the evaluation of progress against actions and measures set out within the action plan and consideration of the appropriateness of the actions identified.

In reviewing the second year of the RRTP, it is recognised that progress has built upon the existing foundations of strong partnerships and this will ensure the continuation and further development of key areas of work, particularly around mitigating the impact of Covid-19. Consequently, it has been noted that while the expected progress in Year two has resulted in meeting key objectives whilst adapting to the impact of the public health emergency, a structure is now in place which will allow positive outcomes to be achieved as the country moves through recovery.

The group continues to:-

- Approve financial projections for staffing resources and commissioned services in the coming year.
- Monitor the progress of the action plan and approve amendments.
- Implement key actions to prevent homelessness from occurring and mitigate the impacts of homelessness on health and well-being.
- Initiate joint working approaches between partners to alleviate crisis and address inequalities in the homeless population.

5.3 Key Highlights in Year 2

Detailed below are key highlights of the progress that has been made towards delivering against the actions and measures outlined against Year two for each of the five RRTP priority objectives. Some examples of service user feedback and case studies have also been provided to demonstrate the positive outcomes achieved.

A summary of progress made in Year two, in relation to all actions and measures detailed in the RRTP Action Plan is also attached as Appendix 1.



Priority Objective 1: Prevent homelessness occurring and significantly reduce homelessness

- Improved the availability of affordable housing in South Lanarkshire, a total of 339 additional affordable homes for social rent were delivered in 2020/21. This included 142 new build homes by Registered Social Landlords, 197 additional council homes (including 53 purchased through the Council’s Framework for Open Market Purchase)
- Introduction of a Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service administered by YPeople, replacing the Rent Deposit Scheme and expanding the service to include a new Innovation Fund which provides financial assistance to sustain private sector tenancies and prevent homelessness.
- Continued to develop the Integrated Housing Options model with a focus on early detection of housing risk factors and interventions to prevent homelessness where possible. In 2020/21, 80% of advice cases were closed with support being provided to prevent homelessness from occurring. This represents an increase of 17% on the previous year.
- Continued partnership working through commissioned services with YPeople, The Salvation Army and Blue Triangle Housing Association, to deliver services to support homelessness prevention and tenancy sustainment, with a particular focus on households at risk of repeat homelessness.
- Improved pathways developed between the Integrated Housing Options Team and Adult Employability Services to support adults at risk of homelessness to access work education or training, particularly those facing redundancy due to Covid-19.
- Strengthening of pathway approaches to ensure a planned approach to meeting the needs of young people moving on from a care setting and those affected by domestic abuse with a view to preventing homelessness wherever possible
- Partnership approach to creating alternatives to homelessness for care experienced young people including additional support available via central Throughcare and aftercare team and work to introduce supported accommodation as an alternative to children’s house or independent living as the only options (working with Third Sector partner)

Intensive support service user (Blue Triangle)

“This service has helped because it has given me that bit more help and stability to maintain a house. Also, this service has given me the chance to grow my confidence to socialise and mix with people. I have managed to build an excellent relationship with (support worker), he’s been there since day one and helped me through a lot. It’s not like any other service that I have had or been in and I couldn’t have done it without him.”



Priority objective 2: Significantly reduce time spent by households in temporary accommodation and minimise moves before moving to a settled home

- Over the course of the year a further 27 temporary tenancies were ‘flipped’ to a Scottish Secure Tenancy, providing the homeless household with a permanent home and avoiding the need for the disruption of further moves.
- Since the implementation of the RRTP, a total of 53 households have had their temporary tenancies converted. This has exceeded the original annual target set and has enabled a number of longer-term homeless households to secure permanent accommodation.
- The Council and its HomeFinder Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners agreed an increase to the percentage of lets to be directed to those on the Homeless List. In 2020/21, 61% of council properties were let to homeless applicants, an increase from 51% during 2019/20. HomeFinder RSLs collectively let 42% of vacant properties to homeless households, an increase from 36% in the previous year.
- There continues to be a low incidence of rough sleeping in South Lanarkshire. The provision of additional accommodation and access to alternative procurement methods enabled rapid use of hotel accommodation when required. This ensured there was no need for anyone to have no option but to sleep rough in South Lanarkshire.
- During the year there was a focus and partnership approach to meeting the housing needs of long-term homeless households. As at 31 March 2021, there has been a 41% reduction in the number of households who have spent more than 12 months in temporary accommodation.

Case Study - “Flipped Tenancy”

During the year we have worked with people living in temporary accommodation to identify where it would be appropriate for the person to be offered the temporary property on a permanent basis. Converting a temporary tenancy to a permanent home prevents further upheaval for the household.

In one instance a customer was very pleased with the offer as her son had become very settled in the property.

Her eight year old son had developed severe anxiety due to witnessing violence against his mum in her previous relationship. He would not let his mother out of his sight and had become very isolated and would not mix with other children.

When they were allocated their temporary accommodation the child became settled, started going to the park with other children and his schoolwork began to improve.

Identifying this was a positive move for this family the Housing Support Officer discussed the possibility of offering the property as a permanent settled home and a positive solution to their homelessness. The service user reports

“This really worked in my benefit, I couldn’t believe my luck and I’m over the moon, my neighbours are pleased there is someone in the house permanently, I am a happy customer”.



Priority Objective 3: Improve and increase the provision of housing support for households to live independently within the communities

- The HomeStart service continues to provide support and assistance to new council tenants in South Lanarkshire, including those at most risk of or who have experienced homelessness, to improve tenancy sustainment. This includes assistance to set up and sustain tenancies and providing starter packs where required. In the last year, the HomeStart team provided 217 starter packs to new tenants.
- Partnership work continues with Blue Triangle Housing Association and YPeople Pathways to provide innovative housing support projects across South Lanarkshire. Both Blue Triangle and YPeople provide quality, person centred support in a Psychologically Informed Environment. Support is designed to build personal resilience, strengthen social networks, and empower service users by increasing life skills to support tenancy sustainment. An Intensive Floating Support service is also provided to households with complex needs who have experienced repeat homelessness.
- Three specialist Housing Officer posts extended for 12 months to progress the further development of a Personal Housing Planning approach for vulnerable groups including women experiencing domestic abuse and care leavers and the continued implementation of SHORE standards for the prevention of homelessness on release from prison.
- Partnership work has continued with Women's Aid South Lanarkshire and East Renfrewshire to further develop responses to domestic abuse, including the development of a housing pathway aimed at preventing homelessness. This approach links to wider objectives of the South Lanarkshire Gender Based Violence Partnership and takes account of Chartered Institute of Housing and Women's Aid guidance and recent changes in legislation. The pathway will be fully implemented in the coming year.
- To address digital exclusion in the homeless population, the partnership continued to identify opportunities to improve connectivity for vulnerable groups. In 2020/21 through Connecting Scotland and utilising funding from the Lintel Trust and RRTP, digital equipment and internet access for 2 years was provided to 55 homeless families with children. This will enable the families to access online services such as employability, training advice, welfare supports and online education resources.
- The Complex Case Discussion Panel, involving a range of partners, has continued to review the most complex need homelessness cases. The panel considers the individual circumstances of each case and agrees next steps through the development of a housing and support plan. This approach ensures housing support is not withdrawn for any negative reason, that the service never gives up and every option is explored to meet support needs and secure permanent sustainable accommodation.

Emergency First Stop Accommodation Service User (Barrack Street, Hamilton)

“This service has made a big impact on my life as a whole. I felt safe coming here as it brought me back to where I know. The service has given me a lot of support and I feel confident in myself. I have now linked in with a worker that I lost contact with, I have been meeting with my family as they live in this area too. I feel safe and this is the first time that I have been able to even talk about my trauma. The staff are amazing and if not for this place then I really do not know what I would have done.”

Case Study - Blue Triangle Intensive Floating Support Service

As a child, the service user grew up in a very chaotic home, her mother lived with mental health issues and the service user witnessed drug abuse from an early age, she lost multiple family members through drug deaths and at 16 was introduced to heroin herself.

She is now 35 years of age and has been in the Criminal Justice system for most of her adult life, she has schizophrenia, a personality disorder, she is on a methadone programme and uses street drugs and alcohol.

Every relationship she has had has been extremely abusive and as a result she lost custody of her child 15 years ago and this has escalated into a cycle of failed tenancies and repeat homelessness.

She was identified as a candidate for Intensive Floating Support for moving into her new tenancy and was apprehensive at first however Blue Triangle worked closely with her for several months preparing for a move to a settled home, they discussed options for the most suitable property, advocating for her to ensure her housing and support needs were best met with a focus on the positive opportunities within the community and building trusting relationship.

This service user has been settled in her tenancy since March 2020, this is the longest period of settlement she has had in her adult life.

The intensive support she has been given includes a wide range of assistance to manage a tenancy from budgeting for utilities to purchasing food and items for making her home comfortable. The Service User has indicated that her confidence has grown.



Priority Objective 4: Expand the scope and capacity of our Housing First approach to be the first response for households with multiple complex needs

- The Salvation Army has been commissioned to work in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council on the continued expansion of the Housing First approach, which is consistent with HARSAG revised recommendations. During 2020/21, permanent accommodation with wraparound intensive support was provided to 13 service users. The support provided is flexible and tailored to the needs and circumstances of the service user and includes a 2 week induction prior to moving in where advice is provided on budgeting, Benefit entitlement, managing utility bills as well as introducing the service user to community groups and facilities in the local area. This support has helped to ensure a 100% tenancy sustainment rate for the Housing First cases in 2020/21. Reduced availability of housing in the last year has impacted on timescales to secure settled accommodation however this will be a focus of the Housing First programme in the coming year.
- The extension of the specialist Housing Officer has allowed continuation of the Sustainable Housing on Release for Everyone (SHORE) standards, during 2020/21 203 individuals being detained were contacted to discuss housing circumstances and options before planned release. 52 requests were refused, 103 were advice cases with no further action required and 48 cases required intervention from the SHORE officer to assist with securing accommodation on release.

Housing First Service User

“I cannot believe that I have my own home. I never thought this would be happening to me, but this is all I ever wanted. I understand now that the support that I gain really helps me. I am now looking at volunteering”.

“I have been in and out of different homeless places and at that time I thought that this was just the process. My worker contacts me daily just to check in and see how I am doing. She knows me and has supported me to make better choices. I had such a great feeling ordering items for my house. Yes, it’s my own little house. I don’t feel embarrassed telling people where I live now and this time I am going to make a difference, as my worker says..... I can do this”



Priority Objective 5: Enhance integration and partnership working to embed RRTP through a whole systems approach

- A key feature of the RRTP is the innovative development of Partner Contribution Statements (PCS). These are live documents, prepared by each partner and reviewed annually. They contain the progress of each partner's support to the RRTP by setting out details of specific contributions they will make, individually or in conjunction with other partners, towards ensuring delivery of the five priority objectives. The actions detailed within PCS's are wide and varied reflecting the different roles of partners and the services they deliver. Regular update on partner services is provided to the Homelessness Strategy Group which improves knowledge and understanding of the role of each partner and promotes best practice and consistency for governance of the plan.
- The Homelessness Strategy Group, a sub-group of the LHS Steering Group has collective responsibility for developing and delivering RRTP outcomes, taking account of the voice of lived experience. The group meet every eight weeks to monitor progress against the RRTP action plan and discuss any issues. The group reports quarterly to the LHS Steering Group.
- SLC Housing and Technical Resources continue to work closely with partners in the Health and Social Care Partnership to develop and progress specific 'Directions' within the Strategic Commissioning Plan 2019-22. These unique Directions aim to promote homelessness routine enquiry across frontline health services and prioritise access to services for homeless households, including the introduction of a health and wellbeing assessment for all children affected by homelessness, This is an opportunity to capitalise on existing pathways from health to housing and homelessness services and places South Lanarkshire in a good position to respond to the recommendations of the Prevention Review Group.
- The council is also engaging with the National Health Service on national data trend analysis to understand links between health and homelessness data with a view to aiding preventative activity.
- Supported by ADP, Housing Services were successful in securing funding to deliver an out of hours crisis response service focused on harm reduction and reducing deaths in the homeless population. A partnership implementation group was established which included Housing, Criminal Justice, Nursing, mental health and addiction services. This service, administered by Turning Point Scotland is now live and outcomes will be monitored through 2021/22 with the group continuing to support and inform delivery.
- Partnership bid to Health Improvement Scotland to participate in Homelessness Reducing Harm programme of work.

5.7 Review Scorecard

To monitor progress against each of the five priority objectives in the RRTP, a traffic light scoring system is used. Attached to the priorities are 52 indicators comprising of 32 actions and 20 measures. A further category of blue is an addition to the second annual review and highlights actions which have been completed.

Figure 7 – Traffic light scoring

Colour	Progress
Blue	Complete
Green	Achieved/on target
Amber	Minor slippage
Red	Significantly off target
Grey	Report Later/Contextual

Figure 8 below provides a summary of the position in relation to the progress made towards the achievement of the five priority objectives of the RRTP during 2020/21. Over 96% of indicators were either achieved or were close to target.

RRTP Scorecard 2020/21	Blue	Green	Amber	Red	Grey	Total
Prevent homelessness occurring and significantly reduce homelessness	2	7	4	0	0	13
Significantly reduce time spent by households in temporary accommodation and minimise moves before moving to settled homes	1	6	5	0	0	12
Improve and increase the provision of housing support for households to live independently within communities	0	6	6	0	0	12
Expand the scope and capacity of our Housing First approach to be the first response for households with multiple complex needs	1	7	0	1	1	10
Enhance integration and partnership working to embed RRTP through a whole systems approach	0	5	0	0	0	5
All	4	31	15	1	1	52

Those identified as amber measures and actions will be monitored throughout 2021/22 and those currently listed as “to be reported later” will be progressed or reviewed by the Homelessness Strategy Group during 2021/22.

5.8 The annual review provided the opportunity to assess and report on the progress made against each of the actions and measures contained within the plan it also allowed for a general re-examination of the RRTP, to ensure that the objectives, actions and measures identified, remain appropriate, relevant and measurable.

- 5.9 It is proposed that eight amendments are made to the RRTP action plan. These amendments relate to one new proposed action, four actions which completed in 2020/21 and three actions/measures that have been revised.
- 5.10 In terms of the four completed actions, new subsequent actions are proposed to reflect the ongoing progress to be made in these areas throughout the remaining period of the RRTP. In addition, it is proposed that one action be revised and two measures be replaced with new measures to be reported on in year 3 of the RRTP.
- 5.11 The tables below provide details of the revisions be made to the RRTP action plan. Table A details the proposed new action to be added to the RRTP action plan. Table B details the proposed revisions to the action plan and sets out the existing actions/measures to be removed and the proposed corresponding replacement actions/measures, where appropriate. Following approval, all revisions will be incorporated into the RRTP action plan for 2021/22.

Table A: Proposed new action for inclusion in RRTP action plan

RRTP Reference	Proposed new action	Context
A1.8	Continue to develop and implement approaches to support victims of domestic abuse and prevent homelessness	New action building upon the development of the housing pathway for victims of domestic abuse and taking into account legislative changes and good practise

Table B: Proposed revisions to RRTP action plan

RRTP Ref.	Current action/measure	Status	RRTP Ref.	Proposed replacement action/measure (where appropriate)
A1.5	Re-commission and expand Rent Deposit Scheme to support implementation of RRTP	Complete	A1.5A	Monitor progress of the expansion of the Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service administered by YPeople
A1.6	Explore option to provide financial support to private rented tenants to achieve affordability and prevent homelessness	Complete	A1.6A	Monitor the effectiveness of the Private Sector Innovation Fund administered by YPeople for providing financial support to private rented tenants to prevent homelessness
A1.7	Develop Housing Options Framework for young people	Revised	A.1.7A	Continue to develop and implement approaches to prevent youth homelessness, with a particular focus on pathway approach to meeting the needs of care experienced young people

RRTP Ref.	Current action/measure	Status	RRTP Ref.	Proposed replacement action/measure (where appropriate)
A2.1	Develop procedure for converting temporary accommodation units to SST	Complete	A2.1A	Maximise the potential for converting temporary accommodation to a Scottish Secure Tenancy where the property meets the needs of the household
M3.2	Percentage of homeless households provided with Housing Support Officer assistance	Revised	M3.2A	Percentage of homeless households who require support, provided with Housing Support Officer assistance Target 100%
M4.2	Number of discharge planning cases handled through multi-professional joint working arrangements in hospitals/prisons and the community	Revised	M4.2A	Number of Housing First planning cases handled by health professional led multi-agency care management approach
A4.3	Review provision of refuge accommodation for female victims of domestic abuse to ensure it is adequate across all divisions	Complete	A4.3A	Complete development of the Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan and progress implementation

6. Priorities for 2021/22 (Year 3)

- 6.1 A key aspect of the annual review was to consider the appropriateness of the actions identified in the RRTP with a particular focus on those to be progressed during the future years of the plan.
- 6.2 A sustained focus has been placed on priorities despite the continuing impact of Covid-19. Year three priorities will progress to ensure rapid rehousing is embedded and fully implemented into the projects and actions.
- 6.3 A summary of the key priorities to be progressed during 2021/22 are detailed below: -
- Responding to the continued impact of Covid-19 by recovery plan action management and resilient service provision, including ensuring the supply of temporary accommodation is optimised.
 - Focus on reducing homelessness presentations to pre-COVID-19 levels
 - Continue to focus on pathways and housing options for young people.
 - Continue to deliver affordable homes for social rent in South Lanarkshire in accordance with the Strategic Housing Investment Programme.
 - Ensuring the number of families with children presenting as homeless are further reduced through the range of prevention and partnership support interventions.
 - Continuing progress to reduce long term homelessness by continuing the ongoing programme of delivering affordable housing and converting or “flipping” temporary tenancies into SST’s.
 - Sustain or increase the proportion of social housing allocations to homeless households in line with local letting plans.
 - Remain consistent with the development and implementation of national policy on addressing homelessness and how that is delivered at an operational level.
 - Focus on prevention, early intervention and mitigating the disproportionate effect of homelessness on health and well-being.
 - Liaise with the H&SCP for further progressing the two Homelessness Directions contained in the Strategic Commissioning Plan.
 - Implementation of the actions set out in the Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan developed to meet strategic priorities relating to the provision of temporary and supported accommodation.
 - Implementation of the plan for a programme of homelessness and tackling poverty school lessons as part of education curriculum.
 - Progress the completion of a data sharing agreement with NHS Lanarkshire for identifying trends in HL1 data in relation to community mental health contact, psychiatric admission and non-elective admissions for substance misuse and self-harm.
 - Progress completion of individual information sharing arrangements to notify education or health as appropriate of a child experiencing homelessness.
 - Implementation of revised Housing/Social Work joint Throughcare protocol for care experienced young people in conjunction with service users and Third Sector partners.
 - Monitor the effectiveness of a newly commissioned out of hours crisis response service from Turning Point Scotland on reducing the number of homelessness deaths and providing harm reduction.
 - Ensure continuing links to the Local Child Poverty Action Report 2021 are in place to support and improve outcomes for homeless households with children

- Continue to support victims of domestic abuse through the implementation of specific housing pathways.
- Implement specific housing pathways for individuals on release from prison to ensure SHORE standards are maintained.
- Continue to develop the council's Housing First approach by providing suitable secure accommodation and wraparound support to homeless households with complex needs.
- Continue to focus on provision of good quality trauma informed services to meet a range of needs, including review of overall support service provision and consideration of future procurement arrangements.
- Further develop/refresh service user engagement plan following disruption over last year ensuring plans and developments are progressed on basis of coproduction.
- Continue priorities for digital inclusion by sourcing opportunities for the provision of digital equipment, online access and start-up support to homeless households.

6.4 Funding the RRTP during 2021/22

Scottish Government Funding

During 2021/22, the Scottish Government's Ending Homelessness Together Fund confirmed a funding allocation of £440,000 for South Lanarkshire. Partners agreed that this would be used to further embed and progress the following RRTP actions: -

- The expansion of specialist support services currently provided by the Blue Triangle Housing Association for intensive floating support services to individuals with complex needs.
- Continuation of funding dedicated officer posts to support victims of domestic abuse.
- Implementation of the new Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service and expansion of the Innovation Fund administered by YPeople.
- Continuation of funding dedicated officer posts to support young care leavers
- Continuation of funding dedicated officer to support SHORE standards for individuals entering and leaving prison.
- The continuation of the Housing First programme.
- The further development of the digital inclusion project Bringing IT Home to improve digital connectivity for homeless families.

Other Funding Sources

The Homelessness Strategy Group is aware of the need to consider other potential funding routes in order to meet future resourcing requirements of the RRTP. Partners have committed to work collaboratively to identify funding opportunities in 2021/22.

- 6.5 The scale of the homelessness challenges facing local authorities from the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic has required flexibility, resilience and innovation to ensure that staff remain focussed on the increased demand for services while at the same time retaining the strategic direction to ensuring homelessness becomes rare, brief and non-recurring. Prevention and sustainment remain core objectives for Housing and Homelessness services in South Lanarkshire and its partners and will continue to be a key priority in the year ahead.

Appendix 1: RRTP Action Plan

Priority Objective 1: Prevent homelessness occurring and significantly reduce homelessness					
RRTP Measures		Target	RRTP Baseline	Progress 2020/21	Lead
M1.1	Number of homeless presentations	Reduce 10-20%	1928	2225	HTR
M1.2	Level of homeless households	Reduce 10-20%	892	969	HTR
M1.3	Number of affordable homes added to the housing supply (new and OMP)	Annual target will be set and detailed in the Strategic Local Programme Agreement, developed between SLC and the Scottish Government	RSL 283	RSL 142	HTR / RSL
			SLC 193	SLC 197	
M1.4	New supply affordable housing suitable to meet particular needs	Annual target will be set and detailed in the Strategic Local Programme Agreement, developed between SLC and the Scottish Government	170	107	HTR / RSL
M1.5	Increase the number of accredited landlord properties	+9% from LHS baseline	1068	952	HTR
M1.6	Number of homeless households whose housing needs are met in the private rented sector	Increase 2020/21	50	15	HTR

Priority Objective 1: Prevent homelessness occurring and significantly reduce homelessness				
Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A1.1	Set housing supply targets for new build properties and ensure contribution to meeting homelessness needs are considered in the planning process	Aligned with Strategic Housing Investment Plan. Annual target will be set and detailed in the Strategic Local Programme Agreement, developed between SLC and the Scottish Government.	New build programme progressing in accordance with South Lanarkshire Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2021-26 approved by Housing and Technical Resources Committee in November 2020.	HTR/RSL
A1.2	Increase number of properties acquired through Open Market Purchase (OMP Scheme) to support conversion of temporary accommodation to secure tenancies and rehousing in pressure areas	Annual target to be agreed.	53 additional council homes were purchased through the council's framework for Open Market Purchase (OMP Scheme).	HTR
A1.3	Continue to develop and promote the landlord accreditation scheme	Deliver two private landlord forums per annum in partnership with landlord accreditation scheme	Due to Covid-19 restrictions private landlord forums were unable to take place. Engagement with private landlords took place through email distribution of Spring Newsletter to 10,800 landlords in February 2021. Preparations underway to host virtual landlord forums in 2021/22 as an alternative platform for engaging with landlords	HTR

A1.4	Provide funding to incentivise landlords to access accreditation and training from Landlord Accreditation Scotland		The council continues to fund and work in partnership with Landlord Accreditation Scotland who provide training to private landlords	HTR
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Priority Objective 1: Prevent homelessness occurring and significantly reduce homelessness				
Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A1.5	Re-commission and expand Rent Deposit Scheme to support implementation of RRTP	Incorporate expansion into service re-commissioning in September 2019	Complete – New Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service commissioned. A new Private Sector Access and Sustainment Service was established during the year, replacing the Rent Deposit Scheme (RDS). Funding has been allocated to provide guarantee bonds in place of cash deposits for access to the private sector. (Links to new action 1.5A)	HTR
A1.6	Explore option to provide financial support to private rented tenants to achieve affordability and prevent homelessness	Complete option appraisal. Implementation of preferred option.	Complete – Innovation Fund established to provide financial support to private tenants. Through the Rent Deposit Scheme, an additional £2,500 was allocated to YPeople to establish an Innovation Fund providing financial assistance to tenants within the private rented sector to prevent homelessness and assist with tenancy sustainment. (Links to new action 1.6A)	HTR
A1.7	Develop Housing Options Framework for young people	Building upon development of housing pathway plan for care	Following a delay due to the impact of Covid-19, a pathway tailored to the specific needs of young	HTR

	experienced young people and taking account of broader youth homelessness	people to assist in the prevention of homelessness is now being developed..	
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Priority Objective 2: Significantly reduce time spent by households in temporary accommodation and minimise moves before moving to settled homes					
RRTP Measures		Target	RRTP Baseline	Progress 2020/21	Lead
M2.1	Temporary Accommodation Supply	Maintain levels and reconfigure subject to review during 2019/20 Review options for rationalisation during 2020/21	530	874	HTR
M2.2	Percentage of social housing allocated to homeless households by all social housing providers in South Lanarkshire	50-60% Set target subject to annual review	49.2% SLC 29.4% RSL	61% SLC 42% RSL	HTR/RSL
M2.3	Percentage of homeless households provided with a Scottish Secure Tenancy (SST)	Maintain/improve on LHS baseline of 61.2%	61.2%	56.4%	HTR
M2.4	Percentage of former homeless households provided with an SST that maintain their home for more than 12 months	Maintain/improve on LHS baseline of 88%	88%	91%	HTR
M2.5	Average time spent in temporary accommodation	Reduce from 192 days	192	223	HTR

Priority Objective 2: Significantly reduce time spent by households in temporary accommodation and minimise moves before moving to settled homes

RRTP Measures		Target	RRTP Baseline	Progress 2020/21	Lead
M2.6	Number of temporary accommodation units converted to SST	Up to 100 units converted over 5-year period		27 units (53 in total)	HTR
M2.7	Percentage of all homeless presentations which are repeated (within 12 months)	Reduce to less than 3%	4.5%	4.6%	HTR
M2.8	Number of homeless households who spend more than 12 months in temporary accommodation	Reduce by 50% on baseline	120	56	HTR

Priority Objective 2: Significantly reduce time spent by households in temporary accommodation and minimise moves before moving to settled homes

Actions	Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead	
A2.1	Develop procedure for converting temporary accommodation units to SST	Review best practice and identify suitable households and units	<p>Complete- approach established and in operation</p> <p>In 2020/21 a further 27 units were 'flipped', reducing upheaval for the households concerned and providing a positive outcome and settled accommodation to homeless household, including some long-term homelessness cases and 20 cases with children in the household.</p> <p>Since the introduction of the RRTP a total of 53 units have been "flipped" to SSTs.</p> <p>(Links to new action 2.1A)</p>	HTR

A2.2	Increase percentage of allocations to homeless households as required for each housing division in accordance with annual Local Letting Plans	Aligned with Local Letting Plans. Tailor for HomeFinder and non-HomeFinder RSL partners	Each year, local letting targets are identified for and approved by Housing and Technical Resources Committee. In addition, discussions take place with HomeFinder RSL's to agree a letting target for homeless households, that they work towards during the year (see M2.2 above for 2019/20 targets and performance).	HTR
Priority Objective 2: Significantly reduce time spent by households in temporary accommodation and minimise moves before moving to settled homes				
Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A2.3	Review number of properties currently used as temporary accommodation in line with demand	Implement annual targets for reduction in temporary accommodation based on analysis of demand and supply	A review of temporary accommodation demand and supply was carried out during the year. A number of short, medium and long-term actions have been identified and will be progressed in the year ahead, in line with RRTP strategic priorities in relation to the provision of temporary and supported accommodation.	HTR
A2.4	Regularly review rent charges for temporary accommodation to ensure it remains a financially viable option for all homeless households	Aligned with Homelessness Business Plan	Ongoing review of charges in place, in line with the Homelessness Business Plan with aim to further reduce charges in future years. Processes reviewed for rent charge debt relating to temporary accommodation with a focus on affordability and sustainment.	HTR

Priority Objective 3: Improve and increase provision of housing support for households to live independently within communities					
RRTP Measures		Target	RRTP Baseline	Progress 2020/21	Lead
M3.1	Number of people accessing Housing Options (prevention) services	1,000	964	912	HTR
M3.2	Percentage of homeless households provided with Housing Support Officer assistance	Maintain above 45%	38.3%	32.9%	HTR
M3.3	Percentage of looked after young people accessing and sustaining accommodation that meets their needs	Determine baseline Increase annually	95%	90%	HTR/HSCP

Priority Objective 3: Improve and increase provision of housing support for households to live independently within communities				
Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A3.1	Increase housing support service provision to improve homelessness prevention and support tenancy sustainment	Review current service among all tenures	SLC support services and commissioned services with The Salvation Army, Blue Triangle and YPeople continue to deliver tailored packages of support to service users with multiple and complex needs. New provider Turning Point commissioned for Year 3 of RRTP	HTR
A3.2	Increase provision of support from all services to support new tenancies, including improvements to housing starter/furnishing packs and incentives to encourage uptake of offers.	Review and develop Implement and monitor effectiveness	The HomeStart service has now been established on a permanent basis. During the year, 217 starter packs were allocated to new tenants across South Lanarkshire. Since full roll out in September 2019, 464 starter packs have been provided to new tenants to help with sustainment and prevent repeat homelessness.	HTR

Priority Objective 3: Improve and increase provision of housing support for households to live independently within communities				
Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A3.3	Monitor current Housing Options approach, and ensure adequate resourcing to meet any future increase in demand	Annually monitor resourcing requirements and report through annual review	A review of the Housing Options service was carried out in 2020/21 and a number of service improvements identified. The service improvements are being introduced on a phased basis with the first phase complete.	HTR
A3.4	Deliver Housing Options and homelessness awareness training to young people, targeting high schools in areas identified with high homelessness rates amongst young people	Monitor and report	Due to Covid-19 restrictions it was not possible to deliver Housing Options and Homelessness awareness training within secondary schools. Plans agreed with Education services for the future delivery of training. The aim is to develop a film that will be incorporated into the school curriculum with active participation from homelessness service users.	HTR
A3.5	Review access to Scottish Welfare Fund with a view to ensuring effective and appropriate access for homeless households	Complete Review Implement any actions from review	Liaison continues between Scottish Welfare Fund team and Housing Support workers to prioritise, where possible, cases which have been highlighted as time critical. The review of the process of joint working will be undertaken in 2021/22.	HTR
A3.6	Review current provision and need for outreach housing support and agree future service arrangements	Complete review. Current services/contracts due to end and implement revised arrangements as a result of review	Review of current provision in progress with contracts confirmed to deliver support services up to 2023. Longer term review of future service arrangements underway considering support needs, partnership emphasis and models to deliver quality support services	HTR

Priority Objective 3: Improve and increase provision of housing support for households to live independently within communities				
Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A3.7	Ensure 'care experience' is identified as a support need for any young people presenting as homeless and directed towards appropriate case managed pathway	Monitor and report (annually)	Significant progress has been made in the year with the partnership development of a housing pathway within the wider Children's Services Plan. A Joint Housing and Social work protocol has been refreshed and will be presented to senior management teams during 2021 for approval.	HTR
A3.8	Complete a Wellbeing Assessment for all children and young people who are homeless	Monitor and report (annually)	Housing and Health and Social Care senior management teams approved during May 2021. Integrated Joint Board approval on 18 May 2021. Work now progressing to identify resources to progress areas of work and agree monitoring and reporting arrangements.	HTR
A3.9	Promote digital inclusion for households who are homeless		Following the success of the 'Bringing IT Home' pilot where 25 homeless households were provided with digital devices and online access, £26k of funding was provided in the year to further expand the project. 55 homeless families were identified and will be provided with devices and unlimited internet access for 2 years.	HTR

Priority Objective 4: Expand the scope and capacity of our Housing First approach to be the first response for households with multiple complex needs					
RRTP Measures		Target	RRTP Baseline	Progress 2020/21	Lead
M4.1	Number of current households receiving Housing First Support	Phased increase to 40	3	13 (26 in total)	HTR
M4.2	Number of discharge planning cases handled through multi-professional joint working arrangements in hospitals/prisons and the community	Baseline to be established	-		HTR/HSCP

Priority Objective 4: Expand the scope and capacity of our Housing First approach to be the first response for households with multiple complex needs				
Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A4.1	Expand Housing First across South Lanarkshire	Programme for expansion agreed Framework and necessary resources in place	During the year, 13 households engaged with Housing First. Since Housing First was introduced a total of 26 households are now included within the programme. Of those housed during 2020/21, there has been a 100% tenancy sustainment rate.	HTR
A4.2	Evaluate Housing First pathfinders and increase scale/scope of approach aligned to case conference criteria and pathways approach	Evaluation Report	To be reported later	HTR

Priority Objective 4: Expand the scope and capacity of our Housing First approach to be the first response for households with multiple complex needs

Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A4.3	Review provision of refuge accommodation for female victims of domestic abuse to ensure it is adequate across all divisions	Review and consider extension to current contract with updated requirements	Action complete – initial review complete and agreement across Council and Women’s Aid supply is sufficient to meet requirements with slight reduction appropriate within Clydesdale (2 units). Future provision will be considered in line with routine temporary accommodation review and planning and agreement on sufficient supply within the Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan. (Links to new action A4.3A)	
A4.4	Work with Scottish Prison Service and Addiewell prison to implement SHORE standards for people entering and exiting prison, including a priority focus for short-sentence prisoners on remand. Explore additional options for dedicated staff resources	Implementation plan agreed for implementation from 2020/21	SHORE standards continue to be implemented by the specialist Housing Officer who works closely with the Scottish Prison Service to provide housing advice to people entering and leaving prison and has made contact with 203 individuals detained to provide housing advice or direct intervention to secure housing on release.	HTR
A4.5	Increase awareness and increase training offered to front line services to support people impacted by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) from being homeless	Evaluate requirement to raise awareness of partners in relation to ACEs. Multi-agency training/communication programmes agreed	Relevant Housing/Support Officers included in ACE’s and PIE training delivered on a partnership approach across Housing, Health and Social Care delivered by YPeople. Managers participated in Trauma Informed Practice awareness. Ongoing focus on training included within 2021/22 training plan.	HTR

Priority Objective 4: Expand the scope and capacity of our Housing First approach to be the first response for households with multiple complex needs

Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
			<p>During 2021/22 a key area of focus will be to deliver training to relevant staff on Trauma Informed Practice.</p> <p>Ongoing priority for Health and Homeless Group to ensure programme of training and refreshing focus on further development of trauma informed service delivery across partnership building on training</p>	
A4.6	Identify requirements for intensive trauma informed and PIE residential supported accommodation to meet the needs of extremely vulnerable groups	Complete scoping report	Review of temporary and supported accommodation complete and Temporary Accommodation Strategic Plan being developed, setting out short, medium and long terms accommodation needs.	HTR
A4.7	Promote 'routine enquiry' across all health and care services, including visiting outreach, to identify housing provision and financial security	Monitor and report via Health and Homelessness Steering Group	<p>Homelessness Directions, incorporated within Strategic Commissioning Plan, progressed during the year.</p> <p>Promotion of routine enquiry established across R RTP partnership bodies, including the Community Link team who have included a housing specific question to triage assessment of patients referred by GP's for access to community services.</p> <p>Proposals to further support the implementation of homelessness Directions were reported to IJB on 18/5/21.</p>	HTR/HSCP

Priority Objective 4: Expand the scope and capacity of our Housing First approach to be the first response for households with multiple complex needs

Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A4.8	Prioritise access to general medical and universal health screening services for homeless people, including primary care (GP), prescribing, dentists, etc	Monitor and report via Health and Homelessness Steering Group	Referrals to the Health and Homelessness Nurse established. Aim is to meet the immediate health needs of individuals and families affected by homelessness, providing continuity of health care. Proposals to further support implementation of Homelessness Directions being reported to IJB 18/5/21	HTR/HSCP

Priority Objective 5: Enhance integration and partnership working to embed RRTP through a whole systems approach

RRTP Measures		Target	RRTP Baseline	Progress 2020/21	Lead
M5.1	Number of training and employment pathways for homeless households	To be agreed	To be agreed	4 cases (3-month pilot)	FCR

Priority Objective 5: Enhance integration and partnership working to embed RRTP through a whole systems approach				
Actions		Target/Milestone	Progress in 2020/21	Lead
A5.1	Work with DWP to further develop use of discretionary support funding for homeless households to undertake appropriate training to develop skills and resilience to improve access to employment	Agree target 2021/22	DWP continue to work with the council and a range of third sector organisations on a local level to ensure claimants who are homeless/at risk of homelessness are offered relevant and timely support.	HTR/DWP
A5.2	Explore options for improving digital connectivity for all homeless households, increasing engagement with services and enabling improved tenancy management	Explore options for expansion of project	Utilising Lintel Trust Community Wellbeing Funding, RRTP funding and Connecting Scotland discounts relating to internet access, the Bringing IT Home project was expanded. 55 homeless families have been identified and will be provided with devices and unlimited internet access for 2 years.	HTR
A5.3	Ensure effective training for staff is in place on awareness of third sector support available at a divisional level for at risk homelessness households	Implement improvements as required	VASLAN continue to be represented within the RRTP partnership for raising awareness of third sector support within South Lanarkshire.	TS
A5.4	Contribute to ongoing development and review of homelessness business plan to ensure sufficient resources available to continue to provide high quality services to homeless households	Implemented recommendations as required	Progress against Homelessness Business Plan is monitored on an ongoing basis throughout the year, through monthly performance report and at mid-year and year-end review. Spend within budget provision during 2020/21, with additional Covid-19 related spend separately funded.	HTR

Report

10

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Wealth Building
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Advise the Partnership Board of the Community Planning Partners who will be joining the new Community Wealth Building (CWB) Commission for South Lanarkshire.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to note the following recommendation:-

- (1) that Community Planning Partners joining the Community Wealth Building Commission, detailed in 3.3 below, be noted.

3. Background

3.1. At the meeting on 24 June 2021, the Board considered a paper on the Council's Community Wealth Building Strategy, including plans to set up a CWB Commission to oversee progress and governance arrangements.

3.2. Terms of reference for the Commission are set out below:

- ◆ Progress and promote the development of a strategic approach to Community Wealth Building in South Lanarkshire.
- ◆ Support the implementation of the Community Wealth Building Strategy. This will include work to facilitate upskilling and awareness raising, right across the partnership involved in developing this approach. Partners, staff and communities will all be involved as part of this programme of work.
- ◆ Take a partnership approach, securing the involvement of partners including businesses, Government agencies and local organisations in Community Wealth Building initiatives and promote best practice among stakeholders.
- ◆ Review policy and practice to deliver a more inclusive economy.
- ◆ Consider a communication and stakeholder engagement plan to develop and include the wider partnerships that will contribute to and support the transformation process.

3.3. The Board agreed that four Partners would join the CWB Commission. The Partners are as follows:

- ◆ Andy Aird, Federation of Small Businesses;
- ◆ Heather Knox, Chief Executive, NHS Lanarkshire;
- ◆ Elizabeth O'Reilly, Head of Campus Services, University of West Scotland; and
- ◆ Steven Sweeney, Chief Executive, VASLan.

3.4. The first meeting of the Commission took place on 31 August 2021 and the future meetings will be held quarterly.

3.5. Future updates on the progress of the CWB strategy and the work of the Commission will be brought to the CPP Board as appropriate.

4. Employee Implications

4.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

5. Financial Implications

5.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

6.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

7. Other Implications

7.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

8.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or consultation arrangement implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

South Lanarkshire Council

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information:

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Report

11

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Local Child Poverty Action Report 2020-21
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with an update on the Local Child Poverty Action Report 2020-21.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation:-

- (1) That the content of the report, due for publication on 30 September 2021, is noted.

3. Background

3.1. The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 introduced a new requirement for local authorities and relevant health boards to prepare Local Child Poverty Action Reports (LCPAR) as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each reporting year beginning in June 2019.

3.2. The purpose of the LCPARs is to describe any measures taken in the area of the local authority during the reporting year and planned measures for the year ahead that seek to address and mitigate child poverty. These are organised around the three drivers of Cost of Living, Income from Benefits and Income from Employment. Actions are identified using local data, the lived experience of families and the expertise of partnership staff. Key actions for this year include maximising the impact of advice services, continued focus on reducing the Cost of the School Day, and providing suitable employability support. In addition, the report is cognizant of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to ensure continued awareness of the challenges which may arise for families as a result of this.

3.3. The work described in the report is expected to contribute to the four national income-based child poverty reduction targets to be achieved by 2030:

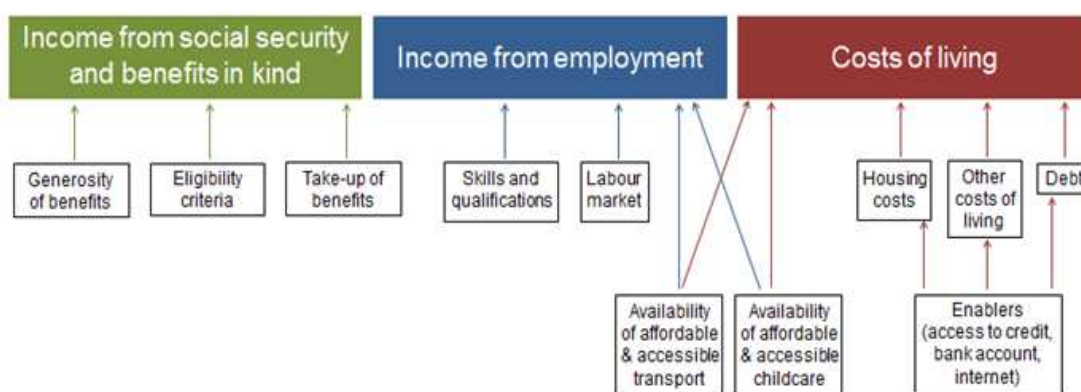
- (1) Less than 10% of children are in relative poverty;
- (2) Less than 5% of children are in absolute poverty;
- (3) Less than 5% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation; and
- (4) Less than 5% of children are in persistent poverty.

- 3.4. The Scottish Government made it clear that the introduction of the requirement to produce LCPARs signals an imperative to undertake new activity and a new approach to tackling child poverty; effectively a step-change in tackling child poverty. Where local partners are continuing with existing activity, they should be clear about the supporting evidence base indicating its effectiveness.
- 3.5. The Poverty and Inequality Commission, tasked by the Scottish Government provide feedback on all the LCPARs. Feedback on the South Lanarkshire LCPAR for 2019-20 and 2020-21 was overwhelmingly positive. In addition, the Improvement Service indicated through feedback sessions that they were continuing to direct other councils towards our reports as an example of good practice.
- 3.6. South Lanarkshire Council, NHS Lanarkshire and other South Lanarkshire Partnership members agreed at the Board meeting on 6 June 2018 to produce a single LCPAR, recognising a collective effort would be more effective.
- 3.7. The Child Poverty Working Group was established in late 2018 to produce the plan. This Group has continued to meet to ensure that the work around the plan remains relevant and focussed on the key actions to address child poverty in South Lanarkshire.

4. Scope of the Plan

- 4.1. Child poverty is caused by a complex blend of structural issues relating to macro-economic and political factors governing the labour market, employment and social security. Social factors make particular groups especially vulnerable to poverty, e.g. children, lone parents, disabled people and Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups. The following diagram from the Scottish Government provides an overview of what its research indicates are the main drivers of child poverty.

Drivers of child poverty targets



- 4.2. We set out to ensure that the LCPAR provides background information, a progress report on South Lanarkshire activity and an action plan (currently organised around the three child poverty drivers).
- 4.3. One area for improvement is the information gathered from those with lived experience of poverty. This has been key in identifying actions for the plan, however, we think we can be much better at supporting partners to engage with families and communities in developing future actions.

5. Impact of COVID-19

- 5.1. In normal circumstances, the expectation would be that the LCPAR would be published by the end of June each year, although this is not a statutory deadline. However, the impact of COVID-19 has meant that work on the report has been delayed slightly and will now be published by the end of September. The ambition for the 2021-22 report will be to return to the end of June publication date in 2022.
- 5.2. It is accepted that there will be a longer term negative economic impact as a result of the pandemic further aggravating inequalities. The impact will be particularly severe for those who are already on low and fixed incomes, suffering from poorer health and in insecure work. Therefore, the challenges already being faced in reducing child poverty are likely to have increased and require future consideration going forward.
- 5.3. In attempting to understand the impact of COVID-19, we have established a small Research Sub-group with the main task of sourcing, collating and analysing recent studies and reports on child poverty in general and the impact of the pandemic in particular. The Group has only just begun to report their findings and this will be a key feature of our work in the short to medium term.

6 The 2021-22 Plan and Ongoing Activity

- 6.1. A proposed draft of the plan is attached as Appendix 1 and as the third iteration, builds upon the good work of previous years. Continuing to focus on the three drivers of Cost of Living, Income from Benefits and Income from Employment, and making use of the data we have and the knowledge and experience of our local families and staff, key action areas have been identified and are outlined in section 6.2. This document is also with our Graphics Team for design work. We will also produce a summary report as in previous years.
- 6.2. As the planning evolves, we continue to focus on areas for improvement, identified by the Working Group from reporting upon last year's plan and in identifying unmet need. These are presented within the draft LCPAR and include:

Chapter 1. Increased income from benefits and entitlements

- Ensure the impact of advice services are maximised, including better digital support and engagement opportunities and face to face opportunities in communities as appropriate, especially when communicating changes in benefits and entitlements.

Chapter 2. Reducing the costs of living

- Continue developing additional childcare/early learning hours to help parents who are working, or progressing towards work;
- Continue to extend the Cost of the School Day activity in our schools;
- Identifying further actions to support access to affordable transport solutions;
- Providing additional activity to support key targeted initiatives e.g. school holiday programmes; and
- Understanding how behaviour change can impact on household income.

Chapter 3. Increasing income from employment

- Ensure that parents, care experienced young people and young people with disabilities have access to appropriate employability support.

- 6.3. We will continue to monitor the impact of the pandemic and any further challenges which may arise to mitigate an increase in child poverty. The Research Sub-group will take the lead in this activity, ensuring that new evidence and research informs our work and decision making. Lived experience feedback from our communities will be a key part of this evidence.
- 6.4. We will work with the Improvement Service to develop activity to address areas for improvement, step change activity and additionality designed to further mitigate the impact of poverty on families. It is likely that this may also include developing links with other authority areas where good practice has been identified.
- 6.5. It is intended that supported improvement activity will begin in September, with sessions facilitated by the Improvement Service and will inform the content of the 2022-23 LCPAR, as well as the activity of the Child Poverty Working Group in general.
- 6.6. It is proposed that members of South Lanarkshire Council's Corporate Management Team be invited to participate in the improvement sessions (time and dates still to be determined) to support the process and provide high level guidance with identified areas of step change.
- 6.7. As part of this approach to developing our planning, listening to the voices of families and communities experiencing poverty issues is crucial and will be a feature of our improvement work.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or consultation arrangement implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director
Finance and Corporate Resources

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information:

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South Lanarkshire's Child Poverty Action Report

Giving Every Child in South Lanarkshire, Every Chance

South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership's progress over 2020/21 and our plans for 2021/22.



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Section 6: Workforce development

Section 7: Area based approaches/Neighbourhood Planning

Section 8: Our Local Child Poverty Action Plan for 2019/20.

- **Chapter 1. Taking action to increase income from benefits and entitlements**
- **Chapter 2. Taking action to reduce the cost of living**
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Foreword

This is our third Local Child Poverty Action Report. It comes at the end of another challenging year, and one which the long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is still unclear. However, we do know that many children continue to live in poverty in South Lanarkshire and that our work to address the problem must progress to find new, innovative ways to improve their lives. We also know that the collaborative approaches we have taken to address the pandemic and our learning from this has given us a solid base to coproduce solutions with our communities and make the greatest positive impact upon lives. As we do this, we will keep an eye to the emerging trends around child poverty and make best use of the information that will tell us how life is changing for our families.

Our report continues to focus on the three main drivers that we can use to reduce child poverty – Income from Benefits, Income from Employment and Reducing the Cost of Living. While all of these are important, we recognise that it is actions linked to the Income from Employment driver that will ensure the best way we can assist families to find long term, sustainable solutions to their poverty related issues. We will continue to provide the support needed for parents, carers and families to gain the skills and confidence to enter employment, and to strive to ensure that good quality employment opportunities which pay a fair wage are available to them, as our key commitment to this work.

Our ambition is for all of our children to have the best start to their lives, without the additional challenges which poverty places upon them, and we will continue to work towards this. We commit to continuing our improvement journey, and through this to identifying and making the changes we need to support our most vulnerable children and families. As part of this we continue to place their lived experience at the heart of our strategy, recognising the importance of the expertise which they bring in informing the services we should deliver. If you are reading this document and would like to talk about your experiences and contribute towards our future development, we urge you to contact us using the details at the end of the report.

We also recognise the hard work of our staff across the partnership, including statutory, voluntary and community sector organisations in producing this report and more importantly, in delivering the actions within it. Thank you for your commitment and for continuing to work with us to make the improvements we all want to see for our children and families.

John Ross
Leader of South Lanarkshire Council

Neena Mahal
Chair of NHS Lanarkshire Board

Section 1: Introduction

In November 2017, the Scottish Parliament passed the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017, which set the following targets to reduce child poverty in Scotland by 2030:

Of children living in households in Scotland

- less than 10% should be living in relative poverty
- less than 5% should be living in absolute poverty
- less than 5% should be living with combined low income and material deprivation
- less than 5% should be living in persistent poverty

The legislation placed a statutory duty on local authorities and NHS Boards to report annually on step change and improvement activity to reduce child poverty in their local area. This is our third Local Child Poverty Action Report for South Lanarkshire and follows a decision taken by the Community Planning Partnership to produce a joint report reflecting the Community Planning Partnership approach to tackling child poverty. The following report is in recognition of the critical contribution all local partners are making to reducing child poverty in our communities.

The Scottish Government has recently (as of June 2021) renewed the focus on tackling poverty and child poverty. The newly published *Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan, 3rd Year progress report 2020/21* while acknowledging the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on child poverty levels, re-commits the Scottish Government to deliver *at pace and scale* to reduce the number of children living in poverty by the end of the decade.

The South Lanarkshire report for 2020/21, outlines the progress made over the past year in relation to the key poverty drivers and how we intend to build on this progress through our action plan for 2021/22. The report and action plan has been produced by our community planning partners including South Lanarkshire Council; NHS Lanarkshire; South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership; Skills Development Scotland, Job Centre Plus and our third sector organisations. Strong partnership working is evidenced right through the report, both in terms of the contribution that the partners have made to the overall design and content, and the co-authorship model used to develop the actions/ measures included in the action plan for 2021/22.

In the development of the Year 3 plan/ report the input of a wide range of stakeholders, other than the statutory partners, were also prioritised. These included testimonies from vulnerable and disengaged families who usually have been reluctant to engage with public services e.g. from fear, embarrassment, or lack of knowledge. Conversations with those with lived experience has been critical to help identify improvement areas within the plan for 2021/22 and this approach will remain important as we move forward into Year 4. The Community Planning Partnership holds to the view that the LCPAR represents a real and enduring opportunity for deeper engagement with families with a lived experience of poverty in order to ensure that their priorities and ambitions continue to steer the planning process going forward.

As with last year's plan, the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions still influence the way in which we deliver our services and the CPP has remained conscious of the need to prioritise support to the most vulnerable families and groups within our communities. The economic effects of COVID-19 in particular and the ultimate cost to the government budgets of interventions such as aid packages and other supports have yet to be fully understood, but it is clear that the financial and social consequences are likely to fall disproportionately upon those who were already experiencing poverty prior to March 2020, further widening inequalities.

Recent research by the Scottish Government (December 2020)¹ on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on household incomes has indicated that it is the families that ranked in the lowest 20% income group before the pandemic, that have experienced the biggest drop in their earnings during the first 6 months of 2020/21, as compared to higher income groups. When assessed against higher income families, lower income households were also found to be twice as likely to have increased their level of debt during the pandemic, to be 50% more likely to be saving less, and to have recorded a higher level of credit card use.

The monitoring and planning approaches that have been built into the Year 3 LCPAR and action plan, will provide the means for the Community Planning Partnership to continue to evaluate the lasting social and economic effects of the pandemic on our local communities and our most vulnerable households in order to ensure that we maintain the right actions to address the difficulties they face.

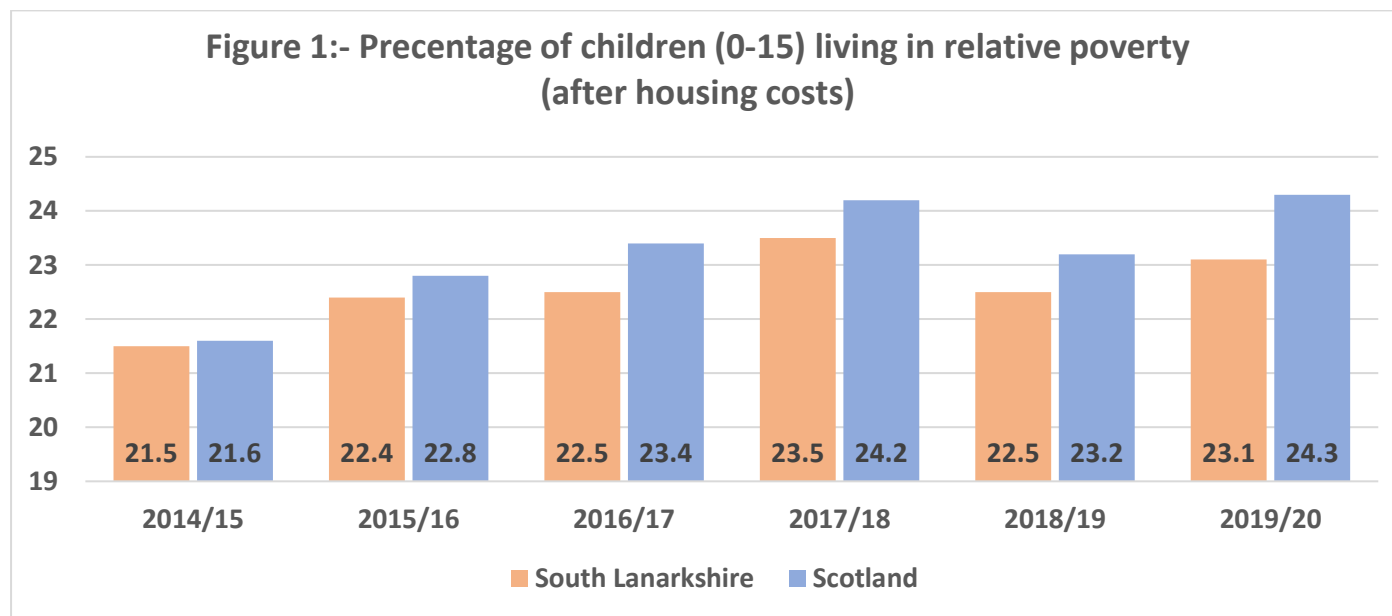
¹ Scottish Government, *Scotland's Wellbeing: The Impact of COVID-19* (December 2020)

Section 2: The scale of the challenge nationally and locally

Earlier this year the Campaign to End Child Poverty/End Child Poverty Coalition (ECPC) published their latest set of figures (2020) on child poverty in local authorities, which confirmed that relative poverty amongst children in households across the UK has been progressively increasing over the past 10 years². The medium-term effect of the post 2009 economic recession, the corresponding policy response by central government in the form of austerity measures over the succeeding years and reforms to the benefits system, such as the introduction of Universal Credit, can all be evidenced to have contributed incrementally to this growth in poverty levels.

The ECPC publication was based on re-modelling work carried out by Loughborough University and confirmed that estimated rates of child poverty (relative poverty) have been rising across all the local authority areas in Scotland in recent years. South Lanarkshire, as with the other 32 council areas, has demonstrated a similar pattern with an overall increase in levels of relative child poverty before housing costs from the baseline year of 2014/15 (see Figure 1 below)

The most recent figure (2020) indicates that just under 13,000 children in South Lanarkshire (23.1%) live in relative poverty once housing costs have been taken into account. This equates to a rise of approximately 1,000 children living in relative poverty in South Lanarkshire during the period 2014/15 to 2019/20.



Source:- Campaign to End Child Poverty/ End Child Poverty Coalition (ECPC)

² Hirsch, H. and Stone, J. *Local Indicators of Child Poverty after Housing Costs 2019/20* (Loughborough University, Centre for Policy Research, May 2021)

*A family is judged to be living in relative poverty if their household income is below 60% of the median average UK household income- this was approximately £24,000 per annum in 2020.

Although overall child poverty levels in South Lanarkshire have either been in line with, or just below the Scottish average since 2014/15, at the ward level it becomes evident that there is much variance in child poverty rates between different local communities, and that there are pockets where levels of child poverty persist well above the Scottish average. When examining the problem at a neighbourhood level it becomes clear that there is a strong correlation between areas of known multiple deprivation and local child poverty levels.

Results from the most recent publication of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD 2020) suggest that residents (including children under 16) living in the 20% most deprived data zones in South Lanarkshire are three times more likely to experience income deprivation, than residents living out with these areas. While no detailed breakdown of the 2020 relative child poverty figures is available at the SIMD data zone level, analysis of child poverty rates at the ward level indicates that for selected communities in South Lanarkshire, the wards with the highest levels of area deprivation (as recorded in the SIMD 2020), also tend to experience the highest levels of child poverty (see Figure 2 below).

Figure 2. Percentage of Children in Relative Poverty (after housing costs) against number/ percentage data zones in SIMD most deprived 20%		
Most deprived 5 wards for Child Poverty	Number/ Percentage of data zones in most deprived 20% SIMD 2020 (as % of ward area DZ's)	Percentage of children in relative poverty (CPAG 2019)
Rutherglen Central and North	8 (42%)	29.2%
Larkhall	8 (33%)	27.9%
Blantyre	9 (36%)	27.7%
Hamilton South	9 (30%)	27.4%
Hamilton North and East	5 (26%)	26.8%
Least deprived 5 wards for Child Poverty	Number/ Percentage of data zones SIMD 2020 in most deprived 20% (% of ward area DZ's in brackets)	Percentage of children in Child Poverty (CPAG 2019)
East Kilbride East	1 (5%)	18.3%
Avondale and Stonehouse	1 (4%)	17.8%
East Kilbride Central and South	0 (0%)	17.5%
Bothwell and Uddingston	1 (6%)	13.7%
East Kilbride West	0 (0%)	10.3%
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE	88 (20%)	22.5%

Source:- Campaign to End Child Poverty (CECP)

A comparison between the most recent 2019 CECP figures and figures published in 2013 confirm that there has also been relatively little movement in terms of levels of child poverty in selected wards and the wider localities in South Lanarkshire over a 6 year period (see Figure 3 below).

The 2019 data illustrates that the same wards continue to rank as the best and the worst for child poverty across all four locality areas, as they did back in 2013. The local figures also reflect both the national and council level trends referenced previously, that levels of relative poverty amongst children have been increasing to varying degrees across all four locality areas in South Lanarkshire, and in the majority of the council wards in the period leading up to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 3. Percentage of Children in Relative Poverty by ward (after housing costs):- Change 2013 to 2019			
Locality / Ward Area & Year	2013	2019	Change 2013-19
Hamilton	21.2%	24.8%	+3.6%
Most deprived ward (Larkhall)	26.5%	27.9%	+1.4%
Least deprived ward (Bothwell/ Uddingston)	12.8%	13.7%	+0.9%
East Kilbride	17.7%	18.3%	+0.6%
Most deprived ward (East Kilbride South)	24.8%	25.5%	+0.7%
Least deprived ward (East Kilbride West)	8.6%	10.3%	+1.7%
Rutherglen/ Cambuslang	21.3%	25.3%	+4.0%
Most deprived ward (Rutherglen Central & North)	26.4%	29.2%	+2.8%
Least deprived ward (Cambuslang West)	17.5%	20.7%	+3.2%
Clydesdale	20.4%	22.4%	+2.0%
Most deprived ward (Clydesdale South)	25.0%	25.1%	+0.1%
Least deprived ward (Clydesdale West)	22.1%	20.6%	-1.5%
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE AVERAGE	20.4%	22.5%	+2.1%

Source:- Campaign to End Child Poverty (CECP)

It is also clear that levels of child poverty differ according to social/ demographic variables, such as the type and size of households or the employment status of parents. Regular analysis by the Scottish Government confirms that household characteristics such as the size of the family, age of parents, whether one or both parents are in employment, families with disabled members and the ethnicity of families are all major determinates of child poverty. The latest detailed statistics published by the Scottish Government (Scottish Government, *Income and Inequality Statistics 2017-20* (see Figure 4 below) suggests that children in households headed by a lone parent, ethnic minority households and households where parents are in part-time employment, are more than a third more likely to experience poverty than the Scottish average.

For other household types, such as where a mother is under the age of 25, or where no adult in the household is in paid employment, the chances of child poverty are two or three times greater than the Scottish average. As with overall levels of child poverty, levels of poverty for children living in these more vulnerable groups has been getting worse in the years running up to 2020.

Figure 4. Child poverty rates amongst selected Priority Groups	% Children in relative poverty 2015-18	% Children in relative poverty 2016-19	% Children in relative poverty 2017-20
Lone Parent households	40%	38%	38%
Households with a disabled person (either or both adult/ child)	30%	30%	29%
Large Families with 3+ children	32%	30%	32%
Minority Ethnic Families.	n/a	n/a	38%
Youngest Child aged under 1yr.	32%	31%	34%
Mothers aged under 25.	55%	n/a	n/a
One or both parents in part-time employment only	38%	37%	41%
One parent only in full-time work	33%	35%	37%
No one in household in paid work	63%	63%	61%
Housing tenure: - Rented from a LA or HA	45%	46%	47%
Housing tenure: - Rented privately	43%	41%	40%
SCOTTISH AVERAGE- RELATIVE POVERTY (CHILDREN IN ALL HOUSEHOLD TYPES)	24%	23%	24%

Source: -Scottish Government, Income & Inequality Statistics 2017-20

More detailed analysis of the latest set of Income & Inequality figures (2017-20) suggests that more than two thirds (68%) of children living in poverty in Scotland live in families where at least one household member is in paid employment, and this increased by 3% over the previous year's figures (2016-19)³. It is also worth noting that almost half of parents with disabilities (49%) that have a child living in poverty are recorded as having a mental health condition⁴.

³ Scottish Government analysis of the Family Resources Survey, *Households Below Average Incomes dataset, 2020*

⁴ Scottish Government, Additional Child Poverty analysis, Disability dataset, 2021

COVID-19 Impact

It is hard to predict the social and economic effects of COVID-19, but it can be presumed that that the pandemic will continue to accelerate the long-term trend of rising child poverty levels into the future. Research carried out by the Institute of Public Policy Research (IPPR) in June 2020⁵ predicted that the COVID-19 crisis had the potential to increase the number of children living in poverty in the UK by between 100,000 to 300,000 by the end of 2020. Projecting forward this would increase the overall total for children living in relative poverty across the UK to over 4 million within the next few years. If the IPPR predictions are correct, then it can be expected that there is going to be an extra 500 to 1,500 children in South Lanarkshire moving into poverty over and above current (2020) numbers in the immediate future.

Recent expenditure commitments introduced by the Scottish Government, such as the introduction of targeted child payments, and a pledge to increase the level of these payments⁶, will help address some of the worst economic effects from the COVID-19 crisis on poverty levels in the short term. Other spending interventions made by local and central government (both Scottish and UK) over the past 12 to 18 months will also have slowed the trend of overall rises in child poverty levels during this period. The early evidence suggests that actions such as increasing access to benefits e.g. removing conditionality around Universal Credit claims, expanding Free School Meals provision and introducing COVID related hardship payments has helped hard pressed families to some extent. The introduction of new Social Security Scotland benefits (e.g. the Scottish Child Payment), temporary changes to housing legislation (such as banning enforced evictions) and the extension of employment furlough schemes and support payments to businesses, have all made a positive contribution in terms of alleviating difficulties.

Although some of the new innovations and policy around child poverty are intended to be permanent (extension of Free School Meals, the new Scottish Child Payment etc), it is also recognised that many of the government commitments made over the past 18 months are temporary measures, and it is expected that many will be discontinued during 2021/22. There is concern that the ambitious child poverty targets set by the Scottish Government for the end of the decade will be missed without sustained and targeted increases in public spending⁷ ⁸. With this in mind the 2021/22 South Lanarkshire LCPAR has been developed in the recognition that the scope and influence of the plan is limited to activity under the control of the council and other CPP partners at the time of writing. The actions that have been included in the plan and the targets that have been set for 2021/22 have been devised on the understanding that both must be realistic and deliverable at the local level taking into account the expected levels of funding available.

⁵ Parkes, H and McNeil, C, *Estimating the Impact of Coronavirus, Microsimulation Estimates* (Institute of Public Policy Research, June 2020)

⁶ Scottish Government, *Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan, 3rd Year progress report 2020/21* (June 2021)

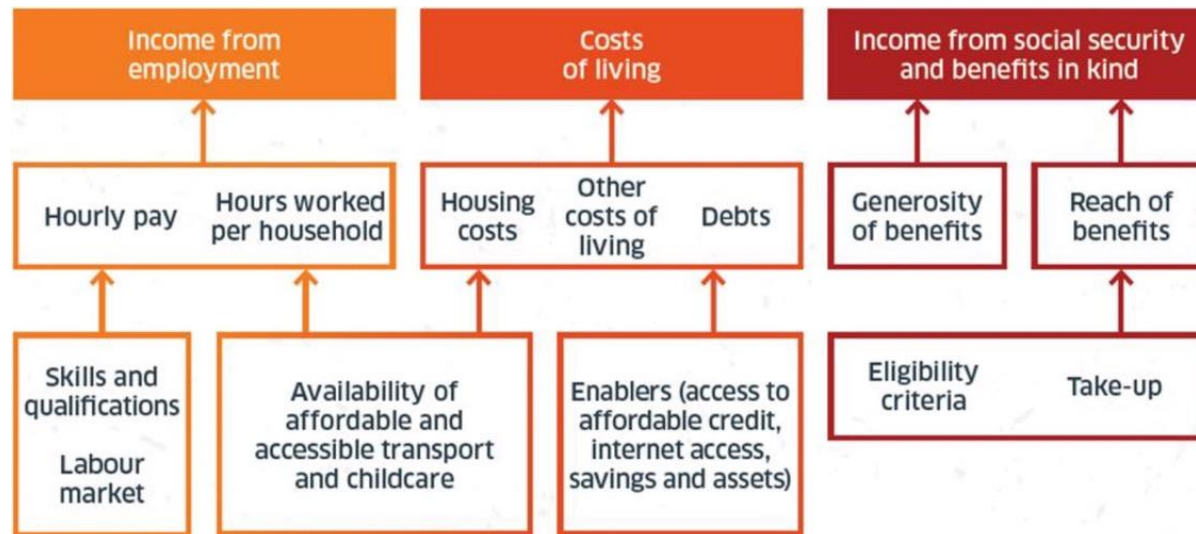
⁷ McKendrick, J. et al *Poverty in Scotland 2021- Towards a 2030 without Poverty* (Child Poverty Action Group, June 2021)

⁸ Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland *Programme for Scottish Government: 2021-26* (June 2021)

Section 3: Scope of the plan and links to others

The Scottish Government, working with a range of national bodies has provided direction and guidance to ensure that both the National Delivery Plan and Local Child Poverty Action Reports are suitably focussed on policies and activity that evidence shows are most likely to reduce the number of children living in poverty. This report therefore continues to focus on the three key drivers of child poverty shown in **Figure 5**. In simple terms the things we need to do to put or keep more money in the pockets of low-income families struggling to make ends meet.

Figure 5: Drivers of Child Poverty



It is important to note that tackling child poverty is not a new priority for the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership and partnership improvement plans have included actions to tackle the causes and impacts of poverty over many years.

In 2018 the Board decided that tackling poverty and inequality would become its single overarching objective within the new community plan (Local Outcome Improvement Plan) for South Lanarkshire 2017- 2027 in line with the Community Empowerment Act 2015. This coincided with the statutory duty on local authorities and local NHS boards contained in the Child Poverty Scotland Act 2017, to produce Local Child Poverty Action Reports.

While this report will focus on the three key drivers above, our Community Plan, Children's Services Plan, Health and Social Care Strategic Commissioning Plan and other partnership plans all contain a wider set of priorities and actions to prevent and mitigate the impacts of poverty on children and families. (*Links to these documents are provided in Appendix 2*).

These actions, including early intervention activity, often from pregnancy and the early years of a child's life, will lessen their chances of experiencing poverty. Working with families to support early child development and enable all our children and young people to achieve their full potential in and beyond school and within their adult lives is central to this prevention and early support philosophy.

The Fairer Scotland Duty (part 1 of the Equality Act 2010) came into force in April 2018 and places a legal responsibility on public bodies to pay due regard to how they can reduce inequalities of outcome, caused by socio-economic disadvantage when making strategic decisions. The work outlined within this report will be an integral part of South Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire's contribution to achieving an equality of outcomes for our residents.

Section 4: Governance and reporting arrangements

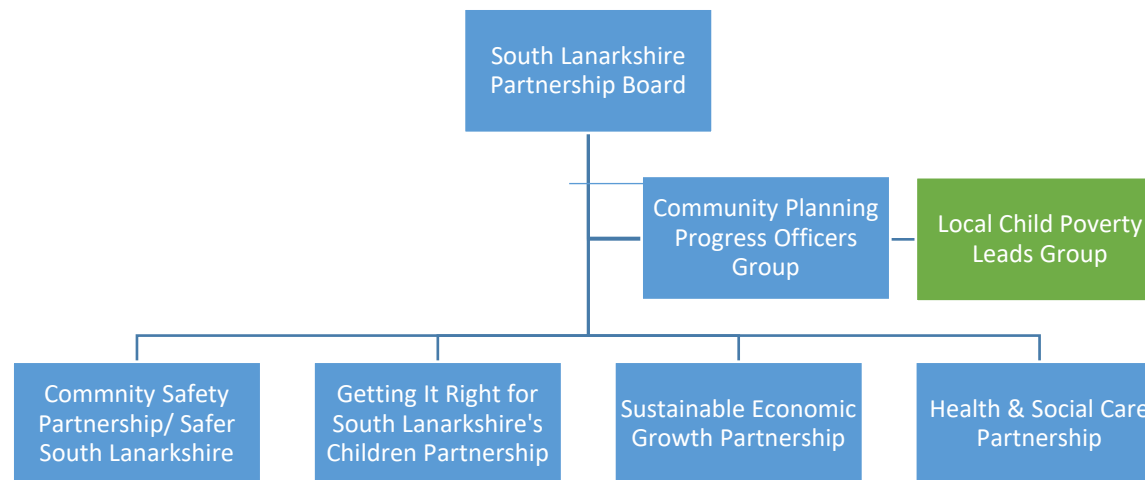
The governance structure shown in Figure 6 highlights how the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership has overall accountability for this report through a hierarchy of relationships to associated groups. The role of the Community Planning Partnership is to provide strategic leadership for the development of the LCPAR and to co-ordinate the delivery of the improvement actions. It also seeks to ensure wider scrutiny amongst the related partnerships maximising buy-in.

A Child Poverty Lead Officer Group was established in 2019 to share experience around child poverty issues between partners and to identify where working together can maximise positive outcomes for families, as well as practically manage the development of the annual action plan and report. The breadth of knowledge and capacity brought by the Lead Officer Group can be evidenced in the content **and** of this report and action plan. Despite the continuing challenges posed by the pandemic over the last year, the group has met regularly and is well integrated into the relevant community planning partnership thematic boards.

The Lead Officer Group will lead on the ongoing monitoring of the progress of the LCPAR, including identifying and addressing areas that have not progressed as planned.

An annual progress report will be presented to the Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children Partnership Board and to the Community Planning Partnership Board, as well as key CPP partner organisations such as the NHS Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

Figure 6: Governance Structure around tackling Child Poverty



Section 5: Using local data and research to shape our plans

The LCPAR is informed by the use of available data and a data profile for South Lanarkshire has been produced that incorporates many recommended national indicators (where data is available locally) and this has been included as an annex to the report.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the difficulties of placing too much reliance on data (both local and national) to give an indication of child poverty levels locally, and the effectiveness of actions and measures in the plan designed to tackle these. The publication of several national surveys and datasets aimed at quantifying levels of household poverty/ child poverty (e.g. Family Resources Survey) have been curtailed due to COVID-19 restrictions. At a council level too, several of our actions and measures outlined in the plan for 2020/21 based on data from local programmes have been difficult to report against due to temporary service closures, a lack of activity, or having to adopt alternative methods of delivery due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The volume of research published over the last 18 months on the impact of COVID-19 on child poverty highlights the rapidly changing environment and the need for LCPAR's to take better account of new emergent themes in child poverty, some of which did not exist prior to the pandemic. Given the recognised limitations with established data sources, it is intended that the South Lanarkshire LCPAR for year three will be a transitional plan in the deployment of data, taking a more selective approach to the use of measures based on local programmes and project activity. Careful consideration has been taken to ensure that the measures included in the 2021/22 plan are robust and take account of potential COVID-19 impacts. Priority has also been given in the year three plan to include actions and measures that are intended to increase step change activity and to promote further joint working amongst partners and services.

We continue to use of the three-step improvement framework to plan and evaluate our work and recognise that all relevant partners need to be involved in the improvement activity. We will make sure our workforce has the relevant skills and knowledge to enable them to make best use of data and other evidence around child poverty, in order to allow the planning and delivery of interventions that guarantees the best possible outcomes for South Lanarkshire's families.

We will also continue to work to improve our gathering and understanding of poverty data at lower geographies/ neighbourhood levels and to increase the voice of those with lived experience of poverty in the development of future reports and plans.

Looking further ahead to our Year 4 LCPAP (2022/23), we intend to focus more on step change and improvement led activity. As part of this approach, we will make greater use of lived experience evidence to agree future priorities and consider new methods for testing and evaluating activity. Locally derived data will be essential to this planning and will complement strategically and nationally held data. Some of this work will be specific to the child poverty plan. However, some will be embedded in the engagement activity around our Children's Services Plan, or part of our broader work with communities to refresh our Community Plan. We plan to make better use of local survey data that already exists and consider new approaches to the collection and use of qualitative data from consultations with children and young people, e.g. such as participatory budgeting in schools.

Our research task group will make a valuable contribution in helping us understand emerging themes in child poverty and to compare and contrast national evidence with local intelligence.

Section 6. Workforce Development

The Independent Advisor on Poverty and Inequality to the Scottish Government recommends that “public service delivery should be respectful, person-centred and preserve the dignity of people in poverty. Pre-employment and in-service training should include the importance of avoiding stigma and developing understanding of the challenges of living on a very low income.”

Our overarching objective to tackle poverty, deprivation and inequality includes a commitment to ensuring our services meet this recommendation. Our greatest resource is our workforce, and we are committed to making sure they have the knowledge, awareness and skills they need to deliver services competently and confidently to support our most vulnerable families.

This year we have, in addition to our usual campaigns and ongoing training, we have encouraged staff across the partnership to undertake the Public Health Scotland modules on child poverty awareness which are available online. We have used social media to spread information about the work being undertaken locally and the themes which impact upon child poverty. We have also been involved in the Challenge Poverty Week campaign, raising staff awareness through internal emails, intranet posts from partners and making use of our communications channels to post news stories to a wider audience in South Lanarkshire.

We continue to promote the Poverty Alliance’s “Stick Your Labels” campaign as widely as we can, encouraging partners to commit to the three pledges:

1. Poverty is not inevitable: It is a problem of political choices. It is neither natural nor acceptable. We all have a role to play in addressing poverty: We will set out our contribution to tackling poverty in Scotland.
2. Attitudes matter: How we talk about poverty and how we portray it can stigmatise and harm people: We will never use language that might stigmatise people experiencing poverty.
3. Actions change attitudes: To change beliefs about poverty requires action across our whole society: We will develop actions that help address negative attitudes towards people experiencing poverty.

We also continue to promote our bespoke online poverty awareness and tackling stigma training to partners and staff, to further build their understanding and commitment.

To increase our shared understanding of the child poverty landscape, we have established a task group who will analyse and summarise ongoing research and intelligence as well as good practice around child poverty and produce a summary of findings to inform our decision making and planning. This is an ongoing piece of work which alongside developing improvement work is a priority for us in the coming year.

Section 7: Area Based Approaches to Neighbourhood Planning

As referred to in section two, there are communities and neighbourhoods in South Lanarkshire where local levels of poverty are significantly higher than others. In response to the duty in the Community Empowerment Act placed on Community Planning Partnerships back in 2017 our partnership agreed to establish a new Neighbourhood Planning approach to develop locality plans for areas where outcomes and life chances are judged to be poorest.

To date (as of June 2021) we have neighbourhood planning activity under way in nine of our communities, with seven of these having produced their own plans based on robust consultation with local residents. Critical to our neighbourhood planning approach, is the ability to bring together local people who understand what it feels like to live in poverty, with partners who can facilitate new and innovative types of intervention and services to improve the lives of everyone living there. This work is centred around the idea of helping communities to build on the activities which they themselves have told us that they already value, along with promoting new ways of engagement in order to identify and develop supports tailored to the actual needs and priorities expressed by local residents. The shared priorities which we have identified across our neighbourhood planning areas are reflected in the content of the LCPAR and have also been used to help us develop our strategic vision going forward.

In addition, other communities across South Lanarkshire are being supported by a range of partners to develop local place plans. We are confident that these community led processes will lead to improvements at a local level that will add value to our activity to address child poverty as articulated through this report.

South Lanarkshire Council and the Health and Social Care Partnership, along with a number of voluntary sector partners have invested significant resources in support to communities e.g., via the Integrated Care Fund (administered via VASLan), community led support in Clydesdale and building and celebrating communities.

All of this reflects our ongoing commitment to change the way we talk and listen with our communities, and to resource them to make the changes needed for themselves, as well as to deliver the best quality services where these are needed to help lift people out of poverty.

Section 8

Our Local Child Poverty Progress Report for 2020-21 and ACTION Plan for 2021-22

This section highlights the range of activity that has taken place in South Lanarkshire to support families and help drive improvements in their ability to manage financially, especially in helping to cope with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The section is organised around the three main drivers of:

- Income from benefits and entitlements
- Cost of living and
- Income from employability

Chapter One – Taking action to increase income from benefits and entitlements

Why is this work important?

Financial wellbeing impacts on all aspects of family life including our general health, wellbeing and it can affect the choices and opportunities our children and young people have to thrive. While households assets are not purely material and comprise much more than financial income, maximising incomes for families is essential for achieving best possible outcomes for children and young people.

'Our aim is to improve financial wellbeing in particular for those who are financially vulnerable, by focusing on maximising low income households through access, awareness and uptake of welfare benefits and entitlements.'

Maximising the income coming into households with children is key to tackling child poverty, including money management, tackling debt, saving and affordable borrowing options, reducing costs including fuel bills; and supporting financial know-how from school onwards. Given the rising levels of in-work poverty, both families in and out of work require welfare benefits to provide an adequate standard of living. Partner actions require a focus on reducing the gap between those entitled to welfare support and the uptake levels. A key aspect of this activity is through raising awareness of entitlements and supporting access to effective support and services.

Welfare Reform has had a negative impact for many families in South Lanarkshire with significant numbers seeing a reduction in payments through the benefit cap, benefit sanctions and other changes. Social security changes are affecting the wellbeing of children, families and the communities that support them. This is further compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) report (July 2020) highlighted the impact of COVID-19 on families living in Scotland and the fact that many families are struggling financially due to inadequate support from the social security system. This includes impact as a result of the benefit cap, tax credits awards stopping when a claim was made for universal credit (UC) to which the family were then not entitled or were entitled to less money. Other negative consequences reported include no longer receiving benefits for 16 and 17 year olds who had left education, but who could not move into work or claim benefits in their own right, and parents being unable to work while schools and childcare providers were closed and in some cases being asked to pay to retain a childcare place.

Research by Save the Children and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation shows that 7 in 10 families surveyed in Scotland about the impact of COVID-19 have had to cut back on food and other essentials. In addition, 51% of families have fallen behind on rent or other household bills, 55% of families on Universal Credit or Child Tax Credit in Scotland have been pushed to borrow money – with many relying on expensive forms of credit and 4 in 10 people claiming Universal Credit took an advance which needs to be repaid.

The Save the Children research focused on **experience of low income families with children aged 0 to 6 years in Scotland**. Many parents reported the pandemic as a ‘tipping point’ having already been in a precarious financial situation, with financial worries often exacerbated by inadequate or gaps in support. Parental wellbeing has suffered due to increased anxiety around money worries, sacrifices made and loss of support networks.

Analysis by Welfare at a Social Distance estimates that around **430,000 to 560,000 people in the UK, who were eligible for Universal Credit** at the start of the pandemic did not claim it. Some were aware that they were eligible but did not claim, some did not want to claim because of perceived hassle, while others did not apply because of stigma.

Analysis by Covid Realities has identified that for England between 2013-2020 there was **a rise in antidepressant prescribing linked with more people claiming Universal Credit (UC)**. For every 1% increase in people claiming UC, there is around a 5.6% increase in antidepressant prescriptions.

Where are we now?

There is no doubt that over the last year COVID-19 has increased further the risk of even greater inequality it is essential that we continue to target our resources as best we can to build on the progress made so far by our child poverty action report.

Uptake in benefits

Partners have worked hard to support families access the benefits they are entitled to. These include Free School Meals, Discretionary Housing Payments and Fuel Payments and Winter/Spring Payments.

As a result, we have seen a general increase in income for many families There has been a 34% rise in applications to the Scottish Welfare Fund (SWF) with the biggest increase being in relation to Crisis Grants applications. Over the past year 17,731 applications have been received with 10,247 awards being made totalling £3.501m. 81% of free school meal awards have been automated using information held in the benefits system an increase of 3% on the previous year. While clothing grant awards are 5% higher during the current school year (2020/21) than for the previous school year (2019/20) which has been helped by an increase in automatic awards made using information held in the benefits system.

The Citizen’s Advice Bureau continue to offer financial health checks with a focus on targeting families. Over the past year 113 financial health checks (for families with children) have been carried out by CABs across South Lanarkshire, which is an increase from 85 in 2019/20. In addition 967 families have been given advice about their benefits. The CABs remained open throughout the pandemic and had to move quickly from predominantly face to face services to largely telephone and email based advice with as little disruption as possible. CAB’s in South Lanarkshire have continued to offer face to face advice for the most vulnerable cases however, when this was in line with Scottish Government guidelines.

COVID-19 has had a massive impact on face-to-face services making it challenging to support families in the local community. The CABs have continued to offer phone advice to those that would have attended in person making good use of strong partnership connections and referral pathways to ensure families continued to receive advice support in these most difficult and challenging times. A total of 961 clients have been referred with a total of £447,205 benefits awarded. People asking for support from CABs presented with a wider range of issues than they did prior to pandemic. These included employment issues relating to shielding and self-isolation and carers rights. Financial assistance through foodbank referrals and help to pay for utilities all increased significantly. Family and relationship matters also increased including support following bereavement due to COVID-19, domestic abuse and difficulty in understanding COVID-19 guidance.

In NHS Lanarkshire a 'Routine Enquiry' approach to supporting people is embedded into practice in Midwifery and Health Visiting services. During COVID-19 there has been a reduction in the number of face-to-face contact with families over the last year. However routine enquiry has remained a key part of support offered and overall, small increases have been recorded. Over the past year 70 families have been supported through the Royal Hospital for Children in Glasgow with a total financial gain of £205, 853. The hospital has seen fewer families than in 2019/20 due to reduced routine appointments and admissions as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions.

A Community Link Worker programme is currently being developed for South Lanarkshire as part of the Primary Care Improvement Plan and the first group of staff started in January this year. Staff provide support patients through GP surgeries, enabling them to identify and access relevant resources or services in their community. To support this work a Financial Wellbeing Pathway has been put in place for referrals in collaboration with CABs and Money Matters Advice Service. This pathway commenced 1st April 2021 and will run for 2 years as part of a pilot phase allowing patients to be referred to financial advice services, or for those patients who might be at risk of homelessness to housing and financial support.

Health Improvement staff have been working with third sector organisations to build sustainable financial inclusion pathways into their local COVID-19 response and increased numbers of NHS staff have been signposting to the wellbeing helpline to support patients access crisis support for food and other financial support. The Test and Protect team have been highlighting financial supports available to people who are required to self-isolate and signposting to local services and pathways.

The Money Matters Advice Line has supported 834 families, slightly lower than last year due to COVID-19 restrictions and reduced face to face contact. However, the continuation of the service during the pandemic has resulted in increased benefits of £2,163,673.93 for South Lanarkshire families e.g. more families accessing grants and Universal Credit for first time due to job loss and a huge increase in fuel poverty, where families have been supported to access charity and grants to help heat their homes.

In addition to increased benefits there have been increased applications for food banks and fuel vouchers due to families all being at home and using more energy and food.

Social Security Scotland staff have supported claimants to gain from a range of benefits including Best Start Grants, Young Carers Grants, Carers Allowance, Scottish Child Payment and Child Winter Heating Assistance. In total over £13.7m in Social Security Scotland support payments have been provided giving much needed income to vulnerable families helping to reduce stress and money worries especially when children are young. Social Security Scotland support and advice has also ensured that families have an increased awareness and understanding of the benefit system and

available benefits.. The Scottish Child Payment was made available from February 2021 and is accessible to families on low incomes with children under 6 an extra £10 per week for each child. It is planned to be extended to children under the age of 16 by the end of this year.

Free School Meals:

Pupils eligible to free school meals have been entitled to £3 per day with payments made on a fortnightly basis during both school closure and holiday periods. Approximately 9,300 pupils have benefitted from this support and additionally pupils who were self-isolated or shielded also received one-off payment of £30 to cover the cost of lunch from November 2020.

Workforce development and support to staff

An important aspect of our strategy is to ensure that our workforce is knowledgeable, informed and confident about providing the best possible support and accurate information to families. With this in mind we have worked hard to provide extra support and training to staff as we aspire towards best practice for families.

The Money Matters Advice Service provide bespoke training for staff however, training events were put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with the exception being Social Care training. New training opportunities are being planned and will be delivered over the next year including a presentation for school staff to raise awareness of how services can assist families and will feature any new benefit changes e.g., the introduction of the new Scottish Disability benefits.

Social Security Scotland delivered several targeted staff sessions to continue to raise awareness of the new agency and associated benefits and are now part of a network of organisations within South Lanarkshire that continue to raise general awareness and engage across a wide range of stakeholders to deliver information on current and future benefits. This financial inclusion network includes South Lanarkshire Council services staff, Money Matters, CAB, VASLAN, NHS Lanarkshire, the Health and Social Care Partnership and numerous third sector organisations.

The following case studies help show where our working together has helped deliver positive outcomes for children and families

Case study one

A client had just received his Universal Credit, but advised that by the time he had paid his bills he only had £50 left for the next two weeks. The client was paid twice per month and also had his housing element paid directly to the landlord. He was paying extra rent separately because he lived in a 2-bedroom property and therefore had a £50 per month shortfall. The client was paying £30 every time he received his Universal Credit, twice per month to cover this.

CAB advised the client that as he had a rent shortfall and that he could apply for discretionary housing payment. As the client was unable to do this online CAB helped with the application and carried out a benefit check to help work out the shortfall. CAB also made a foodbank referral for client and advised of the possibility of a crisis grant. However, the client didn't feel he was in a crisis, just struggling to make ends meet. CAB also made a referral to Home Energy Scotland for a fuel voucher.

Case study two

James is 19 years old single and had experienced trauma in childhood due to difficult relationships with his parents. Because of this he was unable to live at the family home. He has mental and emotional health problems and is subject to frequent spells of overwhelming distress. The only family member that he relied on for support is his grandmother. He is a tenant in single person accommodation, organised with Social Work support and has claimed Universal Credit and gets help with housing costs. His school years were frequently interrupted, and he was referred to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services for ongoing support.

Since leaving school he has been referred for psychotherapy and is currently receiving two counselling sessions a week. James was advised by his psychotherapist that he may qualify for Personal Independence Payment due to the severity of his mental health problems and the significant impact they have on his quality of life. James also lacks motivation due to depression relating to his traumatic childhood. In addition, he has little experience of supporting himself and it is likely that he will continue to need support from both mental health and advice services, if he is to maintain himself independently. James had been advised by Community Mental Health to seek advice and assistance with his benefit claims.

CAB were able to support James with regard to his Universal Credit claim and he has been given assistance to complete and submit a Work Capability Questionnaire and apply for a Personal Independence Payment. As James is well supported by the Community Mental Health Team and his GP, they have provided supporting evidence for his Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payment claim.

James was advised of the help and ongoing support that he can receive through CAB and being allocated to a caseworker from the Health and Welfare Advice Team is an example of the bespoke support CAB can offer.

Looking forward, as James is a vulnerable adult, he will continue to benefit from ongoing casework to support him in living independently. While he is reluctant leave his home unless he is accompanied by his grandmother whom he trusts, James is happy to accept CAB's help to support him to remain in his tenancy.

Case study three

The focus of the case study is a family with three children aged ten, eight and three months, The mother was on statutory maternity leave and getting £151.97 per week, claiming Child benefit for 3 children of £48.95 per week. As the father was working full time, they received no benefits in place as income too high. However, as a result of COVID-19 the father lost his job and was unable to secure alternative work.

A health visitor passed on their details to Money Matters Advice Service as a result of a routine enquiry as the family were unaware of available benefits to apply for. The family had mortgage worries, bills to pay and were concerned about how to feed the family. Money Matters Advice Service contacted the family by phone who were very worried and anxious. They were advised to make a claim for Universal Credit for the family and Job seeker allowance for the father.

Money Matters helped the family to make claims for Universal Credit and a council tax rebate, an application for a Best Start grant and a Scottish Child payment. The family were advised to speak to their mortgage provider to get payment holiday, which provided some temporary relief and their utility provider to temporarily reduce payments.

By phoning the family and building trust with them, Money Matters were able to maximize their income allowing them to their bills and feed the family. In addition, Money Matters were able to get vouchers for Asda from a charity as they were not entitled to any free school meals and they were struggling with food and baby milk. Providing this crucial support and listening to the family at a difficult time meant Money Matters were able to advise what best suited the family and how best they could support them.

Ongoing phone calls with the family make sure that they are getting all the benefits they are entitled to and that the children are financially supported, bills are paid and the family fed. Money Matters report 'the father is very grateful for the help and support that we have given him at this difficult time and he says if he ever gets to meet me he will give me a big hug, or elbow!

Key challenges for 2021-22

Going forward it is essential that partners are aware of the new benefits that are being launched for families, including the Child Disability Payment due to be launched in the Autumn of 2021 as a replacement for Disability Living Allowance for Children. Also the Scottish Child Payment, which was made available to low income families with children under 6 from February 2021 will be extended to children under the age of 16 by the end of this year.

To support these changes Social Security Scotland will launch its local delivery service nationally, including in South Lanarkshire. From autumn 2021, support and advice will be available on 11 Social Security Scotland administered benefits face-to-face at a location within local communities. Social Security Scotland will also continue to offer support sessions for partners as new and devolved benefits are rolled out, ensuring awareness and encouraging uptake.

In addition, as almost all training and events were put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Money Matters Advice Service will develop a strategy to safely resume training and deliver events to support partners in their knowledge about benefits and entitlements and any changes. These training events will utilise digital platforms such as MS Teams, to increase the number of webinars available.

What we will do in 2021/22 - Actions and Measures

No.	Action	Measure(s)	Baseline 2019/20 (unless otherwise stated)	Target 2021/22	Resources Allocated 2021/22	Lead Officer/ Reporting Officer	Who will benefit
1.1 Increase the uptake of benefits & entitlements	Deliver the Scottish Government funded financial health check to families via CAB	Number of financial health checks delivered	280	Continue to target families and increase the number of FHC offered to this target group	Rutherglen CAB= £13,004 EK/ Hamilton/ Clydesdale	Jennifer Howdle CABs consolidated monitoring spreadsheet	Low-income families
		Number of families with children receiving benefits advice	85	Continue to target families with children and increase the number receiving benefits advice			
	Midwives and Health Visitors will deliver a routine enquiry on financial wellbeing of families at key pregnancy and health visiting assessment visits and refer to Money Matters	Percentage of routine enquiries by midwives	76%	80%	£20k NHS Lanarkshire	Vivian Boxall	Low-income families
		Percentage of routine enquiries by health visitors	91.5% across all age groups	92% across all age groups			
	Monitor the impacts of COVID 19 and adapt MMAS service as needed	Percentage of and number of families engaging	1,005 / 77%	Maintain above 70%	£90K SLC MMAS	Angela Martin	Low-income families

		Total amount of benefits awarded	£2,590,075	Maintain above £2,000,000			
CABs will deliver health and welfare advice services in hospital and community health settings	Number of referrals to CAB Health and Wellbeing Hubs	816	Continue to promote the HWA service amongst health professionals and encourage referrals	£42k Rutherglen CAB £100k Hamilton CAB	Jennifer Howdle Sharon Hampson	Low-income families	
		Total benefits awarded	£775,570	Continue to maximise income to ensure households are receiving everything they are entitled to	£5k NHS Lanarkshire (RHC)		
	Number of referrals to the Royal Hospital for Children	323 (Lanarkshire figure)	Target not applicable, Services are demand led		Alana McGlynn		
	Total benefits awarded	£270,271 (Lanarkshire figure)	Target not applicable, Services are demand led				
	Total Scottish Child Payments	New benefit, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	New benefit, target to be established during 2021/22	Existing Resources	Fiona McCormack		Low-income families
Social Security Scotland will continue to raise awareness and promote uptake of the Scottish Child Payment among staff and clients	Total amount of benefits awarded (Scottish Child Payment)	New benefit, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	No target applicable, figure is a cumulative total & will continually increase				

	The NHS Lanarkshire GP Community Link Worker Financial Wellbeing Advice Service will provide support to families referred by GPs	Number of new referrals made to Financial Wellbeing Providers (FWAs)	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	Target not applicable, Services are demand led	NHSL £212k £42k over 3 years from NHSL	Alana McGlynn	Low-income families
		Number of people who engage with a Financial Wellbeing Advisor appointment					
		Financial gain following engagement with Financial Wellbeing Assessment					
	Money Matters Advice Service will deliver financial outreach support to parents through a video developed to be used with schools	Number of schools using the video	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	9 schools	Existing resources	Angela Martin	Low-income families
		Number of enquiries made to MMAS		New programme, target to be established during 2021/22			
		Total financial gain for families		New programme, target to be established during 2020/21			
1.2 Families are more aware of changes in available benefits	Partners will distribute updated benefits information to staff and families using a range of communication methods and social media platforms	Number of Best Start Grant applications and percentage approved	6,470/ 67% (June 2020)	Increase percentage of applications approved	Existing resources	Fiona McCormack	Low-income families
		Total Best Start Grant benefits awarded	£1,244,950 (June 2020)	No target applicable, figure is a cumulative total & will continually increase			

		Total Best Start Foods benefits awarded	£52,339 (June 2020)	No target applicable, figure is a cumulative total & will continually increase			
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Chapter Two – Taking action to reduce the cost of living

Why is this work important?

Rising living costs pose a very significant challenge to many of our families. We know from our front-line staff and volunteers that some families are having to make hard choices about how to make very limited household incomes stretch to cover the costs of running a home, as well as feeding and clothing their children.

Families can very quickly move into poverty, or severe financial hardship through a change of circumstance, unexpected costs or issues relating to benefits, or income. Getting support as early as possible is crucial to minimising the financial and wider impacts for families. The Scottish Welfare Fund is a key source of support for families in these circumstances as are pathways into welfare advice from a range of settings including from health.

Cost of Living factors that impact on families with children include rent, council tax, gas and electricity, food and clothing, school costs and a range of other demands that determine the amount of money families have to live on.

Whilst having an effect on every family in the country, COVID-19 is also likely to have a particularly damaging impact on those children and young people already living in poverty. It is likely that financial pressures that pre-existed the pandemic will continue to grow and low-income families already struggling to budget for unexpected expenses will be hardest hit by the increase in cost of living. Families will have children at home more often and earnings for some parents are likely to decrease.

Families will also have had to increase their use of technology e.g. for schooling, accessing appointments, which they may have had to partially self-fund. In light of this many families are struggling with the cost of food and other household essentials. The end to the furlough scheme, potential job losses, the effects on families that have had to shield, and the end of protection from evictions from private rental, will cause further negative impacts to families at an already precarious time.

Reports from Food banks show an increase in families requiring emergency food aid, but who cannot afford the fuel bills to cook the food. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the number of people requiring food support has increased due to a range of circumstances such as changes in financial situation, self-isolation or limited availability of the support system with people being ill or having to self-isolate. Data collected from food banks in South Lanarkshire show that 27,750 households or 50,565 people were referred to receive emergency food provision from April 2020 to March 2021. The number

of food parcels distributed by food banks has increased 93.4% on the figures recorded last year. In total, 16,133 children have received an emergency food parcel from local food banks in South Lanarkshire during 2020/21. This represents a 171% increase compared to the previous year (2019/20).

Furthermore, the mental health and emotional wellbeing of parents and children have been affected with increased isolation and uncertain short to medium term support from statutory and community organisations, who themselves are experiencing a loss of income from reduced fundraising, disrupted support services to vulnerable families and support only available via telephone or online.

Evidence shows that people living in Households in poverty are more likely to smoke or smoke more heavily, consuming a significant portion of their family's income. On average someone who smokes ten cigarettes per day will spend at least £28 per week, which is £120 per month, equating to £1,460 per year (NHS Inform, calculator). This places an additional burden on household budgets and smoking is associated with almost every indicator of deprivation or marginalisation as well as being a direct contributor to financial hardship.

A report by Alcohol Focus Scotland suggested that 29% of Scotland are drinking more than before lockdown, although the same proportion have reported a reduction in how often they drink or have stopped altogether. Worryingly, high purchasing low-income households have not seemed to have changed their habit as a result of the pandemic. There is evidence of a "alcohol harm paradox" in Scotland, whereby people in higher poverty areas that report consuming less alcohol than those in low poverty areas still experience greater levels of harm. While households in higher poverty areas who do drink, still continue to consume considerably more than those in lower poverty areas.

The Scottish Health Survey highlights that it is not yet clear how COVID-19 will have impacted on alcohol sales and further studies are being undertaken. The early evidence suggests that there has been an increase in alcohol consumption during the pandemic with the highest rise recorded in the over 75 age groups while younger adults have also increased the number of days they drank leading to a greater portion of the household budget being used on alcohol.

Where are we now?

Early years childcare

During the recent COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns, Early Learning and Childcare was provided for children of key worker families to allow them to continue to work throughout this national emergency. In addition, places were provided for our most vulnerable children. Now that all Local Authority and Funded Provider settings have reopened, 93% of children within South Lanarkshire are currently receiving their full entitlement of 1,140 hours of funded ELC.

Cost of the School Day

As a partnership we have worked to reduce financial barriers to education for school age children as part of our Cost of the School Day programme. Almost all of our schools have a Cost of the School Day Position statement and all schools have reviewed their equity policies and procedure as part of their COVID-19 recovery school improvement plan. Schools continue to signpost families to dedicated support and guidance e.g. Hamilton Grammar have worked with Money Matters to develop a series of helpful videos on financial supports for families (they can be found [here](#)).

The Breakfast Club service was put on hold as a result of COVID-19 restrictions, but are now a re-newed priority, as they provide a calm and safe environment before school to help develop social skills and provide the opportunity for additional learning, encouraging pupils to arrive at school on time, or

to attend at all and be ready to learn when the formal school day begins. We know that Breakfast Clubs enhance wellbeing, academic performance and behaviour, especially for children whose parents might not otherwise be able to afford to provide them with regular meals.

Breakfast clubs were re-established from 19th April 2021 and at time of reporting there were 105 clubs operating in schools that are fully established with a further 14 clubs operating a smaller 'toast and go' service to pupils. In addition, innovative solutions were developed to continue the provision of breakfast during the pandemic, such as breakfast deliveries to pupils organised by the Machan Trust, which helped an average of 47 families in the Larkhall area throughout the period when breakfast clubs couldn't operate.

Free school meals

Pupils eligible to free school meals have been entitled to £3 per day with cash payments being made on a fortnightly basis during both school closure and holiday periods. Free School Meals have benefited an average of 9,300 pupils from April 2020 to March 2021. In addition, pupils who self-isolated or shielded also received one-off payment of £30 to cover the cost of lunch from November 2020.

Going forward, Free School Meal payments for school holidays is continuing to ensure that pupils currently in receipt of free school meal provision receive free school meal payments during the Spring holiday period. In addition, a Family Pandemic Payment will be offered to families as two one-off payments of £100, which will be given to help families of children entitled to free school meals (excluding those entitled to universal provision of P1-3 meals). One will be for Summer 2021 and the other will be given in Winter 2021. If there is more than one eligible child, then the family will receive more than one set of payments. The payment is funded by the Scottish Government, will be made directly into parents'/guardian's accounts, and can be used by families for any purpose as they see fit.

Summer Programme

Over the Summer holiday period from 27 June to 3 August 2020, 450 young people accessed the Summer Holiday Hubs that provided high quality activities and support along with a healthy breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack for children in areas of high deprivation. In total, 6,229 free meals were provided in 10 different locations. However, the hubs took a different form than that originally envisaged due to COVID restrictions.

School Clothing Grants

In the 2020/21 academic year 13,369 clothing grant awards were been made, which compares positively to the 12,362 awards made in the previous academic year. Of the awards made, most were automated utilising information already held on council systems on household income and therefore did not require a separate application form. During the year the automated process is refreshed on a weekly basis to ensure any new cases with entitlement to a clothing grant are identified and payment made as quickly as possible.

Transport costs

We have worked to reduce transport costs to school for some families through offering targeted Privileged School Transport Places for pupils entitled to Free School Meals. As a result of effective targeting of privileged school transport places, we have provided 26 privilege places allocated for pupils over the last year. Going forward we will continue this support and advertise this provision from the start of the August term to try and increase the uptake.

To tackle food insecurity during the COVID-19 period, different council services have been involved in emergency food provision. For instance, the Youth Family and Community Learning service (SLC Education) have distributed 786 food parcels to families in need identified thanks to their engagement with the service. An additional 84 themed food parcels including utensils and kitchen electricals' were distributed as well as 200 boxes over the Christmas period. SLC Social Work also delivered meals to vulnerable family with the so-called Child and Family programme. From April to June, a total of 26,113 meals were delivered.

Free sanitary provision (P Card scheme)

As of April 2021 most health premises across Lanarkshire and various teams working with vulnerable people have free sanitary products available to supply to patients and staff. Posters will promote this service and a discrete card can be shown by anyone who requires products. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the promotion of this service has been limited, however throughout the next year this service will be further promoted as restrictions allow e.g. more hospital sites will get added to the scheme.

Digital inclusion

Digital inclusion became increasingly important in our communities throughout the pandemic. Connecting Scotland is a Scottish Government initiative providing iPads, laptops and MiFi devices for communities. 386 devices were secured by NHS Lanarkshire's Health Improvement team for both Family Nurse Partnership teams, Health Visitors and Keep Well and 5442 devices were secured by SLC Education for pupils and families to support their learning as a result of online and blended learning delivery.

Housing support

South Lanarkshire Council is the fifth local largest local authority landlord in Scotland and is one of the most affordable for tenants with the seventh lowest average weekly rent. During 2020/21 there were 1,544 council mainstream properties let during and of these, 32% were to family households providing good quality, energy efficient and affordable homes.



Image above:- New build council housing at Gilbertfield, Cambuslang

The South Lanarkshire Local Housing Strategy 2017-22 includes actions that are responding to the particular needs of children, young people and families and reducing the costs associated with housing. These include:

- **Investment to increase new affordable housing supply**

- By delivering an additional 339 affordable homes in 2020/21, including 53 open market purchase properties, the council and its Registered Social Landlord partners have increased the number of affordable homes available to rent across South Lanarkshire. This included a range of family sized homes, ensuring as many families as possible can access affordable housing. There has been a significant reduction of 41% in the number of households waiting more than a year for permanent accommodation (95 households in 2019/20 to 56 in 2020/21) and of the 56 households, 22 of them had children.

- **Ensuring households affected by homelessness are supported to move to suitable settled homes as quickly as possible**

Launched in 2019, South Lanarkshire Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan 2019-24 (RRTP) sets out how the council and its housing, homelessness and health partners aim to prevent and tackle homelessness over the next five years. Key progress made during 2020/21 was the 'flipping' of 27 properties previously classed as temporary accommodation to allow families to remain in the community they made their home after being homeless. A further six homeless households moved into settled accommodation through the Housing First model with ongoing support provided by Housing and Technical Resources and its commissioned services. There were 1,030 permanent lets made to homeless households during 2020/21 with 30% of those lets made to homeless households with children.

- **Maintaining lower than average rents**

The council continues to ensure rents are kept as low as possible whilst delivering the services and support tenants need. Through working with tenant representatives and extensively consulting with tenants to understand the services they need; the council will continue to ensure rent levels remain affordable.

Fuel Poverty

22% of all households and 17% of families in South Lanarkshire are estimated to be affected by fuel poverty. Lone parents and low-income families living in rural South Lanarkshire are more likely to be affected, often relying on higher tariff methods for paying for the energy they use. South Lanarkshire continues its good track record in terms of partnership actions to tackle and reduce fuel poverty with a dedicated group progressing a range of actions to assist households in reducing their energy bills and making homes more efficient. In 2020/21, the Council's Money Matters Advice Service were able to help households write off over £41,699.85 of energy related debt. Home Energy Scotland also continued to increase the level of advice and support provided to households, with 5,726 appointments provided with 899 of these households estimated to having children under the age of 16.

Active Schools Programme

The Active Schools programme provides a positive and increasing range of sport and leisure opportunities for young people, however the programme was disrupted due to COVID-19. Leisure facilities were also closed for long periods throughout the year and to counter this, the Active Schools team developed alternative ways of working. Sport and Physical Activity were provided to those attending the Education Emergency Childcare Hubs and virtual support was provided to primary schools. Online platforms were utilised to encourage young people to stay physically active while in lockdown e.g. 25 challenges were shared on social media through various campaigns ran to encourage dancing, walking and all round wellbeing. Furthermore, the team developed and delivered a range of online continuous professional development for school staff and senior pupils, with 1,144 attendances at online training. In January 2021 'Active Schools Live' was launched enabling children and families to take part in live yoga sessions from home twice a week. The first session recorded 1,000 pupils taking part.

Other supports to families:

Foodbanks

South Lanarkshire Council has worked with third sector partners to ensure a continued supply of emergency food and up until the end of May 2021 had provided 28,288 bags of food through the Scottish Government Food Fund (equating to 433,732 meals). Some of these were supplied to foodbanks and some to community response groups who helped ensure local access to resources. A small number of packs were supplied to households who were vulnerable in other ways, such as homeless people in temporary accommodation.

The latest figures (2020/21) for the foodbanks operating in South Lanarkshire indicate that over the last year a total of 27,750 households were referred for assistance, with 50,656 people being fed through emergency food distribution an increase of around 93.4%.

Tobacco Control

NHS Lanarkshire's Quit Your Way service, which supports people to Stop Smoking has been adapted and behavioural support to clients is delivered to clients over the telephone and products to support quit attempts are delivered to clients homes. The service has seen a reduction in the number of people attempting to quit smoking, however for those people who have engaged with the service the quit rate has been higher. In South Lanarkshire the 'quit rate' increased from 35% in 2019/2020 to 51% in 2020/21. Smoking cessation support has continued to be provided by community pharmacies and during the pandemic partnerships have been strengthened. A media campaign 'Don't Wait' has been launched to promote services to people who smoke to encourage them to make a quit attempt. The service is also using technology such as the use of 'Smoke-free App' and 'Near Me' video calling with pregnant women.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the service in South Lanarkshire has supported over 448 successful 12 week quits, 263 of which were from our most deprived areas, These successful quitters have saved and/or been able to redirect monies normally spent on cigarettes and tobacco products to cover other costs of living, During COVID-19 clients have potentially saved/been able to redirect monies that they might have previously spent on travel costs to attend Quit Your Way services –

Vitamins

Free Health Start Vitamins are now freely available to all children aged 0-3 years. There was a total of 8,345 pots of vitamins given out between April 2020 and March 2021. To ensure uptake among lower income families there were targeted distribution points within the community i.e. at food banks, and via third sector organisations who are working with the most vulnerable communities.

Case Studies

St Paul's Primary School Hamilton

Staff at St Paul's Primary School identified the need within the community for more local food support. The local food bank is situated at the other end of town and is not greatly accessible for families. As a result, the school formed a partnership with the food bank and have set-up their own local pop-up food bank in the local church each week. The food bank provides bags of food for this, and the school has secured support from local companies who provide fresh food weekly. This is run by the school's linked Youth Family and Community Learning Officer and some local volunteers. It has been vital in supporting families during the remote learning period, as you can see from the parents/carers voices:

"St Paul's foodbank is well stocked and run by the school. The school are doing a great job and really meeting the needs of the community."

"I Couldn't manage without the help of this foodbank, as I can't travel across Hamilton."

"You don't know what this means to me, I have been made redundant recently and we are really struggling. This has been a life saver."



Housing: Moving On

Housing and Technical Resources continue to work with partners to provide support to young people living in temporary accommodation. Recently, a young person living with their parent with various health issues and financial struggles had attended their GP. The GP recognised the need for support and made a referral to the Breaking the Cycle service.

Due to the stress caused by their home circumstances, the young person did not attend school for some time and decided to apply for a house of their own. A dedicated officer from Breaking the Cycle worked with colleagues from across the council to secure the right type of accommodation for the young person and arranged for a package of support to be put in place. This included liaising with health and education services to ensure the young person had everything they needed to live on their own and to start attending school again. Health services identified an issue with the young persons' hearing and provided new hearing aids, and they were also provided with new clothes and equipment to help improve their confidence for returning to school. The officer also arranged for the costs of transport to and from school from their new home to be provided, along with arranging opportunities to allow the young person to meet and build relationships with family and friends.

The support provided to the young person has now led to them securing a permanent tenancy, allowing them to maintain stability in their life. The young person said:

"I can't believe Breaking the Cycle staff did all this for me, got me a safe place to stay, got me bus tokens so I could go back to school, got me in contact with my aunt and uncle and made sure I saw my sister every week. Thank you for everything you have all done for me".

Housing: A Happy Customer

Over the past year Housing and Technical Resources have continued working with families living in temporary accommodation to identify where it would be appropriate for them to be offered the accommodation on a permanent basis. By converting a temporary tenancy to a permanent home aims to prevent further upheaval for the household.

In one homeless household, an eight-year-old child had developed severe anxiety, due to witnessing violence against his parent whilst they were in a previous relationship. The child would not let his mother out of his sight, becoming very isolated and not interested in playing with other children. Following their homelessness application, the household were allocated temporary accommodation that met their needs, in an area that they felt comfortable in. Soon after moving into the accommodation, the child's demeanour improved and they appeared to become more settled. They started going to the local park with other children and the school noted an improvement in the quality of classwork. Recognising the positive impact their temporary move had on the household and the child in particular, the Housing Support Officer discussed with them the opportunity to convert the temporary property into their permanent tenancy. The family accepted the offer and the child was able to continue building their confidence in a new, safe place to call home. The lead tenant said:

“This really worked in my benefit, I couldn't believe my luck and I'm over the moon, my neighbours are pleased there is someone in the house permanently, I am a happy customer”.

Tobacco Control: savings from quitting smoking

During the COVID-19 pandemic the Quit Your Way service continued to provide support to pregnant women and their families to stop smoking. Clients experienced positive outcomes including a pregnant mum living with her partner and three year old daughter. Both her and her partner wanted to stop smoking.

A Quit Your Way specialist nurse assessed both mum and the partner and arranged a support plan. In line with COVID19 guidance, the couple were then allocated a health improvement practitioner to provide telephone behavioural support throughout their quit attempt, as face to face contact was suspended. The practitioner contacted the couple individually every week to provide tailored telephone support and arranged for Nicotine Replacement Therapy to be delivered to the couple's home.

“I wanted to stop smoking as I fell pregnant and for my own health. Also because of financial reasons, and my partner and I both smoked. When the quit your way service called me, that's when my partner decided to try stop smoking too. I've now been smoke free for four and a half months. Being pregnant, it has helped me mentally knowing I am doing the best for my baby, and also financially it has helped as I'm able to prepare for my baby's arrival, fix things around house and treat my three year old daughter. If we wanted to go out for a day trip as a family, we now have money to do it. Just having some freedom to be able to do things as a family – having a disposable income. I was provided with a money tin from the Quit Your Way service, which I gave to my three year old, as we had a savings account which we used for the money we saved. We would give her some small change and she would save it in the tin – we told her that was her pennies as Mum and Dad didn't smoke anymore, which she now gets weekly magazines etc. with the savings.”

Key challenges for 2021-22

We know that those who experienced poverty prior to the epidemic were already pushed into unacceptable hardship and may have been pushed deeper into poverty due to the effects of the coronavirus. There will also be a number of families who have now experiencing poverty for the first time. The one off payments and additional payments to cover holiday food costs are welcome, but so would taking full advantage of benefits checks and income maximisation particularly for those who have not previously engaged with the service. This will be a key feature going forward.

There is still a need to work to increase the uptake of Free School Meals, especially across secondary schools. Additionally, all families that were entitled to receive free school meals will continue to receive vouchers throughout the Summer holiday period.

The impact of COVID-19 has reduced levels of inclusion amongst vulnerable families. Good work has already been put in place to enable families to be digitally included so that school pupils are supported to enable their child's education at home. Consideration needs to be given as to how families can be supported in the longer term, if there is a general move for more services to continue to be conducted online.

COVID-19 has impacted on the way people live their lives, for some they have been able to adopt healthy behaviours such as quitting smoking, increasing exercise, choosing to breastfeed their baby etc that not only provide health benefits, but provide a cost saving in relation to household income. For others, the pressures will have influenced an increase in alcohol consumption, gambling, etc. Services need to continue to support people to adopt and persist with healthy behaviours and cost effective lifestyles.

Actions and Measures What will we do in 2021/22

No.	Action	Measure(s)	Baseline 2019/20 (unless otherwise stated)	Target 2021/22	Resources Allocated 2021/22	Lead Officer/ Reporting Officer	Who will benefit
2.1 Increased uptake of funded and early learning and childcare entitlement for 2- and 3-year-olds	Continue to work with a range of professionals and services who will have contact with eligible families and will promote free Early Learning and Childcare for 2-year-olds	Percentage uptake of funded 2-year-old places	15.5% for 2-year-old children with entitlement	Maintain at 15.5%	Existing resources	Janice Tod	Low Income Families
2.2 Reduction in financial barriers to education for school age children	A South Lanarkshire Cost of the School Day Policy will be in place by the end of 2021/22 and all schools will refresh their position statement on Cost of the School Day during 2021/22	Percentage of schools with a CoSD position statement in place	100% of schools have a CoSD position statement in place (2020/21)	100% of schools will have a refreshed CoSD position statement in place	PEF/SAC funding	Maureen Farr	Low Income Families
	All schools will contribute a minimum of 5% to participatory budgeting activity within the school community by the end of academic year 2021/22	Percentage of schools completing a participatory budgeting process.	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	100% of schools with PEF allocations	PEF/SAC funding	Laura Mitchell	Low Income Families

		Percentage of schools having reviewed their equity policies and procedures	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	100% of schools with PEF allocations	PEF/SAC funding	Laura Mitchell	Low Income Families
	Schools will work with Money Matters and signpost parents and families for appropriate financial help	Number of families referred	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	New programme, target to be established during 2021/22	PEF/SAC funding	David Harkness	Low Income Families
	Work to increase the uptake of Privileged School Transport Places for pupils entitled to Free School Meals and develop new active travel opportunities for pupils	Number of Privileged School Transport Places offered	55	60	Existing resources	Kevin Mullarkey David Hinshelwood	Low Income Families
		Percentage of pupils recorded as using active travel journeys to school	44.1% (2020)	Increase the proportion of journeys to school by pupils using active travel methods	£1.48m spending committed for 2020/21 for all infrastructure projects connected to the promotion active travel	Colin Smith	
	Increase the uptake of Free School Meals through continued automated enrolment (South Lanarkshire Council, Finance and Education Resources)	Percentage of free school meals uptake in primary schools.	65.21%	Maintain primary/secondary at March 2021 levels	Existing resources	Kevin Mullarkey Gerry Donachie	Low Income Families
		Percentage of free school meals uptake in secondary schools.	40.89%	Maintain primary/secondary at March 2021 levels			

	Fund free school meals to eligible children during the holiday periods (£30 voucher per fortnight covering Summer, October, Christmas, February and Easter Holiday)	Number of children receiving vouchers	9,500 (2020/21)	No target applicable, this is a contextual measure. The number of children supported depends on the number of children eligible for free school meals, and this is variable	£1.516m (budget allocated to the council by the Scottish Government)	Helen Gourichon	Low Income Families
	Continue to offer the increased level of School Clothing Grant, currently £130 per child and increase uptake through automated enrolment and additional promotion to encourage uptake (South Lanarkshire Council, Education Resources and Finance Resources)	Number of pupils claiming school clothing grant for pupils claimed	12,537	Maintain at March 2021 levels	£1.738m	Fraser Morrison Louise Harvey	Low income families
		Percentage of pupils claiming school clothing grant for pupils claimed	29.38%				
	Deliver the Scottish Government funded Summer of Fun holiday programme	Number of children and young people attending the programme	New programme, no baseline for 2019/20 or 2020/21	No target applicable, Programme will not be repeated after 2021/22	£850k	Kevin Mullarkey Roz Gallagher	Low Income and vulnerable Families
		Number of meals provided as part of the programme	New programme, no baseline for 2019/20 or 2020/21	No target applicable, Programme will not be repeated after 2021/22			
2.3 Reduced housing costs for families	Maintain affordable rents for Council homes, benchmarked against Scottish average	Average rents for all Council homes and for larger-size family homes	SLC Ave per week= £70.26 Scot LA Ave per week= £75.79	Maintain below Scottish average	Housing Revenue & Capital Account Budget 2021/22	Jonathan Read	Low Income Families

					(£109.401m)		
	Invest and deliver additional affordable housing, built to Housing for Varying Needs standards (meeting higher energy efficiency standards and minimising fuel costs) and ensure this includes allocations to families with children and young people	Number of new affordable homes delivered, including those allocated to households with children	284	Increase the number of new affordable homes built throughout the financial year.	Resource Planning Assumption 2021/22 is £34.99m.	Jonathan Read	Low Income Families
	Deliver regeneration projects to improve housing and built environment in priority areas (East Whitlawburn)	Number of new affordable homes delivered for families in area-based regeneration project	Baseline not applicable, area based project	Increase the number of new affordable homes built in the Whitlawburn regeneration area	Included within above figure	Jonathan Read	Low Income Families
	Support households with children, within minoritised ethnic communities, to access and sustain affordable accommodation including Gypsy/Travellers and refugee families resettled through the UK resettlement scheme.	Number of households with sustained tenancy of one year and over.	New action, No baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	Target not applicable, Services are demand led	Housing Revenue Account and UK Resettlement Scheme Funding Provision	Jonathan Read	Minoritised Ethnic Communities
2.4 Reduced energy costs for families	Target housing investment to improve fuel and thermal efficiency of larger homes and reduce energy costs	Proportion of housing meeting energy efficiency standards for social housing (ESSH2)	4%	7%	Housing Investment Programme - £27.224m	Jonathan Read	Low Income Families
	Promote and administer national funding mechanisms including ECO:Flex and Energy Efficient Scotland: Area Based Schemes to support families within owner occupied and private rented properties.	Total amount of funding secured for 2021-22 for EES: Area Based Schemes	New action, no baseline for 2019/20 or 2020/21	Target not applicable, Services are demand led	Scottish Government Funding	Jonathan Read	Households with children at risk of fuel poverty
		Number of properties improved through ECO:Flex scheme in 2021/22.	New action, no baseline for 2019/20 or 2020/21	Target not applicable, Services are demand led	Energy Company Obligation Funding		
2.5 Reduced homelessness including families with children and young people	Prioritise allocation of available housing for those in need, including homeless households	Number of homeless households with children	238 households 449 children (March 2020)	Reduce against baseline	Housing support and homelessness budgets	Jonathan Read	Low Income Families/Homeless households

		The average time (days) spent as homelessness for households with children	192	Reduce against baseline	Housing support and homelessness budgets		
	Provide housing support service provision to improve homelessness prevention and support tenancy sustainment	Number of households supported including households with children	937	Maintain number of households receiving support	Homelessness Business Plan and Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan funding	Jonathan Read	Low Income Families
	Continue to implement joint working through the care protocol to prevent and reduce homelessness for care experienced young people and support them to move to independent living in the community	Number of care experienced young people supported to plan for and move to independent living in the community	73 through care applicants of which 29 active and 44 deferred (not ready to be permanently housed)	Target not applicable, Services are demand led	Homelessness Business Plan and Social Work Resources Budgets	Jonathan Read	Care experienced young adults
2.6 Improved digital inclusion amongst families in the most deprived areas	Identify and provide support to families with school pupils who require extra help with digital inclusion to enable any blended learning model to take place effectively	Number of families supported	5,442	Target TBC	Scottish Government Connecting Scotland Fund Scottish Government Pupil Equity Fund	Kevin Mullarkey	Low Income Families
2.7 Reduce Food Poverty	Delivery of Breakfast Clubs in schools	Number of Breakfast Clubs operating in schools	88 (June 2019)	124 (all SLC Primary School)	£600,000 allocated for 2021/22	Kevin Mullarkey David Hinshelwood	Low Income Families
		Number of children benefiting from Breakfast Clubs	5,883 (June 2019)	6,500 children benefiting (or a 10% increase)			

	Increase the uptake of free nutritional supplements	Total number of eligible children receiving free vitamin D through the universal vitamin distribution programme	773 pots of vitamins distributed	Increase distribution of free vitamins Increase the number of distribution points for free vitamins	NHSL/ Scottish Government funding TBC	Alana McGlynn Susan Short	Low-income families
2.8 Reduced costs of participation in Leisure and Culture experiences	SLLC will work with schools to maintain targeted delivery of the Active Schools programme where possible throughout the COVID-19 recovery phase	Number of visits pupils make in attending the active schools programme	391, 952 (2018/19)	*155, 000 Visits	18 FTE active schools co-ordinators (funded by Sports Scotland, Education Resources & SLLC) £789,528	Patrick Murphy	Pupils from low income families
		Percentage of school roll participating in Active Schools activities	48% of all pupils (2018/19)	*40% of all pupils			
	Continue to offer the SLLC concession scheme through promotion and awareness raising	Number of concessions taken up	6,005 (2018/19)	*5,000 (by March 31st 2022)	SLC fund/ direct SLLC to deliver Concession scheme	Patrick Murphy	Low Income Families

2.9 Reduce costs associated with health harming behaviours	Support families in higher poverty areas to reduce costs associated with health harming behaviours e.g. tobacco, alcohol and drug use	Number of pregnant women living in 40% most deprived areas of who stop smoking	19 successful quits from pregnant women in the 40% most deprived areas	20 pregnant women living in SIMD 1 and 2 will stop smoking	Existing resources	Shirley Mitchell	Low Income Families
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*Note in all cases the baseline figures (2018/19) are higher than the targets for 2021/22. This reflects the impact that the closure of SLLC/ SLC facilities has had on programmes such as Active Schools and concession schemes during 2020/21

Chapter Three – Taking action to increase income from employability

Why is this work important?

Children of working families do better in terms of long-term education and employment chances. Work provides a gateway out of poverty, provides self-esteem, resilience and makes a positive contribution to mental health. Every Child, Every Chance (the national child poverty delivery plan) identified 'increasing income from employment' as a main driver of child poverty reduction.

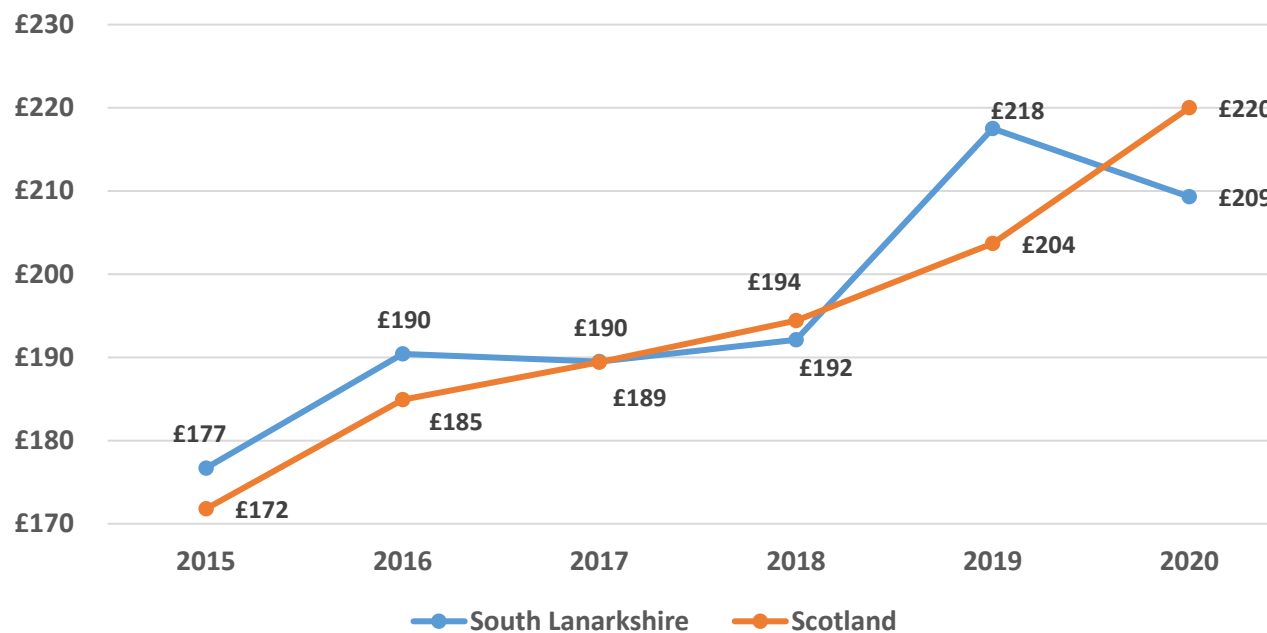
Being in employment does not always guarantee a route out of poverty and parents need to be able to access high quality jobs with a decent rate of pay and with enough hours to meet their family's needs. Over half of families living in poverty have at least one parent working. In South Lanarkshire we have made good progress in delivering sustainable employment opportunities for parents and young people. Benefits include decent rates of pay, good training and support, opportunities for progression and enough hours in work to meet basic family needs.

Activity to support young people in the senior phase of education develop the skills and experiences to progress to sustained positive destinations has a key role in increasing income from employment. Young people who experience periods of unemployment at an early age are more likely to experience unemployment in later life and the support provided to young people through effective career management skills, appropriate training and employability skills development can increase reduce youth unemployment, improve young people's life chances and increase income for young people and their families. The delivery of such programmes has been extremely challenging during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The level of median pay for South Lanarkshire residents working full time has increased for a 5th consecutive year, up by 7.5% since 2019. This is the biggest single increase recorded in a single year. The level of weekly median pay for South Lanarkshire residents working full time also continues to run well above the Scottish average.

The record levels of full-time weekly pay registered by South Lanarkshire residents over the past year does mask a drop-in part time pay rates. While pay levels for full-time employees have increased by 7.5%, pay levels for part-time workers have fallen by 4% over the same period. The drop-in part-time earnings is more telling than the figures for full time earnings, as part time workers are more vulnerable to in-work poverty. The drop recorded may be a reflection of South Lanarkshire's greater dependence on COVID-19 vulnerable industrial sectors as a source of employment, with many jobs in these sectors also being part-time e.g., Distribution, Hotels & Restaurants, Other Services, Manufacturing and Construction.

Median Gross Weekly Pay (Residents)- Part-Time Employees (2015-2020) SLC v Scotland



Source:- Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings (ASHE)

South Lanarkshire's employment rate is currently (as of April 2021) at the highest level recorded since local authority estimates were first published in 2004. The area is also one of only nine local authorities whose employment rate has increased during the period up to 2020.

The largest employment sectors in the South Lanarkshire economy are health and social care and construction, and both predicted to continue to be key to the local economy. The other sectors of significance are tourism, engineering, food and drink, and finance. Tourism and financial services are predicted to remain stable over the next few years and engineering and food and drink may see a small reduction in employees working in these sectors. Delivering good quality and targeted employability interventions will bring the obvious benefit of getting local people into good work opportunities with wider benefits, improving life chances in education and employment and mitigating against health inequalities.

During 2020 all areas of life including employment and learning have been impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic and additional challenges have emerged as we hopefully look forward to recovery. Challenges include engaging with families, digital capability and access, lack of employer engagement and strain on family budgets.

The impact of the COVID-19 economic lockdown can clearly be seen to have had an influence on claimant unemployment locally. The latest claimant unemployment figures (April 2021, at the time of writing) indicates that that there has been a 75.9% rise in unemployed claimants in South Lanarkshire since the first COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020.

On a more positive note the latest claimant count figures (April 2021) also indicates that the number of young claimants (16-24) has started to fall locally e.g. from 2,390 in March 2021 down to 2,350 in April,. The latest data on youth unemployment does suggest however that South Lanarkshire continues to record a higher level of youth unemployment when compared to the Scottish average (e.g. a 7.6% rate in South Lanarkshire, against 6% in Scotland) a long term trend that pre-dates the current COVID-19 pandemic.

In South Lanarkshire, the most recent figures available on furlough support (Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme) records that 19,200 employees in the authority are currently furloughed (as of March 2021). It is likely that government employment supports schemes, such as CJRS, could be masking the full economic impact of the pandemic and we may see an increase in the number of redundancies when furlough is no longer an option for employers.

The number of accredited living wage employers in South Lanarkshire has increased since last year, from 90 at March 2020 up to 93 at March 2021. South Lanarkshire remains as the local authority with the 4th highest number of accredited Living Wage employers in Scotland.

Where are we now?

Youth Employability Support

We have continued to deliver a wider range of employability support to young people during the last year, adapted to reflect the need for social distancing and lockdown restrictions.

Our work with young people to progress into a positive destination post school provides individualised support for employability, skills development and health and wellbeing. The main provider of this initiative is the Aspire Programme, which supported 338 young people over the last year.

In addition, we have provided a range of Modern Apprenticeships, however the number of starts (670) continues to be lower than previous years (1926 in 2019/20) as employers have understandably focused on challenges of COVID-19 rather than recruitment or up-skilling of staff.

Skills Development Scotland has worked to be creative in enhancing existing delivery and have provided several new initiatives to support young people and employers, include: Adopt an Apprentice, Apprenticeship Transition Plans, Pathways Apprenticeships, Transition Training Fund and Apprenticeship Employer Grants. Skills Development Scotland and partners developed implemented a new national helpline and digital resources, with 29 employers and 895 young people benefiting by December 2020.

Modern Apprenticeships

South Lanarkshire Council has continued to invest across all their apprenticeship programmes, a particular focus has been on areas where forward workforce planning is a priority such as childcare, social care and roads maintenance. In these programmes the salaries are paid by the Council and the training costs are met by Skills Development Scotland. In addition to their 180 existing apprentices, this year the Local Authority recruited 85 additional young people.

Scottish Youth Guarantee

We are committed to implementing the Scottish Government's Youth Guarantee, making sure that every young person aged between 16 and 24 will be guaranteed either the opportunity to study at university or college, to take part in an apprenticeship programme, take up a job or work experience, or participate in a formal volunteering or training programme according to their own personal circumstances.

Our local employability partnerships are committed to protecting the diverse range of existing provision and ensuring that the right support is put into place for those who rely on these services. The support helps to address inequalities within the labour market and improve young people's quality of employment, pay and progression. Priorities for the Youth Guarantee resources include employer recruitment, volunteering, key worker support, and supported employment for young people with additional support needs.

School Leaver Destinations

We have worked hard to support school leavers through a wide range of amended activity and while the positive destination rate for South Lanarkshire fell slightly to 94.8% from 95.7% the previous year, we maintained the target to be above the national rate (93.3%).

The Care Experienced Employability Focus Group has continued to meet to track the destinations of care experienced young people and while the positive destination rate for care experienced young people fell slightly to 85.4%, it still remained above the national average (81.4%). A new SCQF level 4/5 Foundation Apprenticeship programme in construction was established and 200 young people started on the programme in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire College, New College Lanarkshire, and First Steps Future Training. The number included 30 young people who took part in a winter leaver's pilot programme and 40 summer leavers.

Kickstart

South Lanarkshire Council has successfully bid to provide 330 work placement opportunities through the Kickstart initiative. Young people will be offered a work placement opportunity with a wage subsidy for 25 hours per week for 26 weeks and in-work employability support. The initiative will help create new and additional jobs including skills and training to help support young people in the workplace.

Parental Employability Support

The Parental Employment Support programme is funded by the Scottish Government and is designed to support parents who are out of work and those who are in work, but in receipt of low incomes. The programme delivers a joined-up model of working with families and 65 parents were supported into fair work opportunities and to enhance their career prospect over the last year.

Additional funding has supported young parents through the provision of additional 1140 hours childcare and supported families where a parent or child has a disability.

The adult No One Left Behind initiative has provided additional employment skills for 120 local unemployed residents, including those with multiple barriers who are adversely impacted by COVID-19 and require intensive employability support to access training that develop skills needed by the labour market. –

Upskilling

The Upskilling Programme helps address the market demand for skilled workers and has supported 120 people (including 57 parents) in work who are in receipt of low incomes or are underemployed, to improve their chances of in work progression and mitigate the difficulties of in-work poverty.

Gateway to Employment

The Gateway to Employment delivered a range of services to support 463 unemployed adults with multiple barriers preventing them from accessing sustainable work opportunities. The programme matches clients with the needs of employers and provided bespoke pre-recruitment training that meets business recruitment needs. Clients benefited from training including core skills designed to equip individuals with the necessary skills that meet the needs of employers and industry.

NHS Lanarkshire have developed an employability action plan for Health Improvement staff to support patient's employability options. This has resulted in an increase in employability knowledge, skills and understanding of staff and has meant that patients, including parents have been better supported with their employability needs. This has been particularly successful in helping people cope with COVID-19 related employability issues and supported access to sustainable fair work. In addition, employability staff are now better placed to support the health and wellbeing needs of their clients.

Digital Inclusion

Housing and Technical Resources delivered a digital inclusion project for Homeless Families, 'Bringing IT Home'. It started as a pilot project and 25 families were identified and allocated digital devices and a year of internet access to assist with education, employment opportunities and accessing government services. Following the success of the pilot this was rolled out so that 55 more families will benefit from IT devices and two years of internet access at a reduced rate. The criteria for support, is families who are identified in the vulnerable and shielded category, or to support disadvantaged children in accessing online content to support their learning.

In addition, we were able to work with 25 local community organisations as part of the Connecting Scotland initiative and were able to support 714 families or care leavers benefit from free IT devices and access to the internet.

This support for families has been particularly important in the current circumstances as service providers have adapted over the past year, moving away from face to face support and onto more digital methods of providing services. There were however exceptions for the most vulnerable service users who were supported in person where and when it was safe to do so.

Case Study

Case study 1(Parental Employment Support - in work)

K is a 21-year-old single parent who resides in Blantyre within one of the worst 20% SIMD area and was referred to the programme in March 2019. She started working at a local Nursery in Cambuslang where she completed her childcare apprenticeship and gained her SVQ Level 3 (Children and Young People qualification). To further her career and improve her income, she needed to gain additional skills and qualifications.

K was put forward by her Key Worker and employer to complete her PDA in Childhood Practices. As a young single parent this would further expand her knowledge and open job opportunities with her current employer (Local Nursery). She received one-to-one support and guidance and a workplace mentor and key worker support including a structured learning pathway to help her with the qualification linked to her job.

K progress has been excellent and she completed her PDA in Childhood practices and a further Paediatric First Aid qualification which enabled her to be being promoted to Senior Nurse Practitioner and has since given her an increase in her salary.

In K's words:

"During completing my PDA Childhood Practice, my employer was great with me and I felt really supported by them throughout the course. During the course I was promoted to the Nursery Senior Practitioner which gave me the opportunity to perform extra duties within the nursery. By getting a promotion this allowed me to have more insight into what the job entails which helped to complete my units. By getting my promotion I also received a salary increase which helps me immensely financially".

K's Supervisor comment:-

"K was able to achieve her PDA Childhood studies, this was a big help to her to be able to achieve her qualification which has had an impact on her practice within the nursery and her knowledge to continue to help improve the running of the nursery and helps the children to be able to develop. This has made K. become much more confident within her senior role."

Case Study 2 (Parental Employment Support – Unemployed)

Kayleigh was referred to the Parental Employment Support (PES) Team by Social Work. She is a 19-year-old, lone parent, who suffers from anxiety and depression and who relied on Universal Credit for income.

The necessary intensive Key Worker support was put in place to help her achieve sustainable employment. After several discussions on skills, strengths and previous experience, a CV was created for Kayleigh to start the process of applying for jobs.

Kayleigh successfully gained employment in January with a local Call Centre working from home full time. A company laptop was provided, and initial training undertaken. There was some confusion with her benefits which resulted in Universal Credit being stopped a few weeks prior to Kayleigh receiving her first wage, which resulted in a temporary financial struggle. The PES Key Worker spoke with Money Matters, who were able to call and offer advice and resolve her benefit issues.

As a laptop was provided by the employer for training purposes only, Kayleigh needed a device to carry out her work duties at the end of her training period. Without this, her employment would be in jeopardy and could have led to employment being terminated. Financial constraints meant the client was unable to afford the proper equipment to carry out the role successfully. The PES Key Worker obtained a suitable device from the Connecting Scotland project which came with MiFi capability.

Kayleigh is now successfully able to work from home and has sustained employment for more than 3 months.

Case Study 3 - Supporting Families (Access to Childcare)

A parent was referred to the Supporting Families project by a local primary school to get support for the family around childcare, as both parents were studying on full time courses. The mother is studying an HNC in childcare, which will allow her to then undertake her degree in teaching next year. The father is studying a degree in Graphic Design, allowing him to eventually teach this subject to high school students.

The mother stated that she would have to undertake a placement, which would cause the family difficulties around accessing a childcare place for their youngest child who is currently 2 years of age. In addition, the wrap around hours for the other children (9 and 3) didn't cover school and nursery hours. She indicated that this would have a significant financial impact for the family and on her ability to continue with her studies. The family had few extended family options for childcare, as both grandparents have health issues. However, the parent hoped to work something out with a friend and grandparents for two of the days, leaving two days with no planned childcare. In addition, the childcare issue became more immediate as the college indicated students had one week to arrange childcare, with the placement due to start a week later.

The Family Support Worker arranged some wrap around childcare allowing the parent to undertake her placement and also some financial support for the family with short term funding to enable the flexibility of childcare required.

The worker then contacted the college to find out if there was any eligible funding the family might be able to benefit from and was able to provide the family with further information around the childcare element of funding and discretionary funds available from the college, which the family would be eligible to apply for.

The parent applied for both these funds with some support and was successful in accessing further funding to support with the family's childcare needs, allowing both parents to continue their studies. The parent was able to start her placement and continue her studies with no further worries around childcare or its costs. The family were extremely grateful for the projects support.

In the parent's words:

"I received a phone call from Margo. The video call was very professional, and she made me feel at ease from the start. I was blown away by how quick, helpful, and in-depth her answers were. She provided a few options and understood when we said we weren't comfortable with one of the options. Without her I would be incredibly stressed out and more than likely dropping out from a course! She went above and beyond for us in a time of need and we will forever be thankful!"

Key challenges for 2021-22

The employability landscape is currently uncertain due to COVID-19. E.g. once support from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ends, the number of individuals facing redundancy is expected to increase.

Due to the restrictions, there have been no living wage promotional activities in South Lanarkshire over the past 12 months and it is a priority to resume a schedule of activities and promotional events over the next year for this important area of work to address in-work poverty.

Ensuring that families are not disadvantaged by digital exclusion will be crucial in getting the right support to make best use of the online services. Much work has been done already to identify vulnerable families through the work of schools and other partners and we need to make sure no families miss out on being connected. E.g. Hamilton Jobcentre is part of a pilot of regular interaction with some customers using digital video appointments, this is being potentially progressed nationally. Digital access continues to be the preferred method of contact with customers using email, telephone or Universal Credit Journal messaging. The DWP are now delivering virtual sessions to customers, including recruitment events with employers.

Our local action plan outlines a range of actions and measures to support fair work opportunities for families, delivered through our local employability services and the Parental Employment Support (PES) programme. Delivery is based on the No One Left Behind (NOLB) principles, working with partners, to draw extensively on the lived experience of potential service users and identify best practice.

Actions and Measures What will we do in 2021/22

No.	Action	Measure	Baseline 2019/20 (unless otherwise stated)	Target 2021/22	Resources Allocated	Lead officer/ reporting officer	Who will benefit
3.1 Reduce Gap in school leavers entering a positive destination between most deprived 20% and least deprived 20% areas	DYW partners will provide early support to school leavers to support positive transitions from school	Percentage gap in positive destinations between the most deprived 20% and least deprived 20%	SL - 6.3% National – 6.3%	Maintain the gap at the national level or better	Additional Scottish Government funding for DYW in schools - £350,000	Brian Cameron	Young People in Low Income Families
	Deliver an SCQF Level 4/5 Construction Foundation Apprenticeship SLC	Number of young people completing the Construction Foundation Apprenticeship	138 completers (2020/21)	229	Up to £500,000 for 229 starts (funded on milestones) Demand led budget	Douglas Hashagen	Young People in Low Income Families

	Youth employability partners work with employers to provide an increase in Modern Apprenticeship opportunities (SDS)	Number of Modern Apprenticeship starts	1,250	1,251		Brian Cameron	Young People in Low Income Families
3.2 Support care experienced school leavers sustain a positive destination	Continue identification of individual support needs of care experienced young people via the Multi Agency Tracking Group consisting of the Council and SDS.	Percentage of care experienced school leavers entering a positive destination	SLC - 86% (2019/20) National – 81%	On or below national level	Existing resources	Brian Cameron	Care Experienced Young People
3.3 Increase employment support for low income parents	Continue to deliver the Parental Employment Support programme (SLC)	By 31 March 2022, 70 parents receive increased hours/pay	32 (2020/21)	70	Scottish Govt funded (SLC allocation TBC during 2021/22)	Gill Bhatti	Low income families
		By 31 March 2022, 110 parents increase confidence	New measure, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	110			
		By 31 March 2022, 50 parents enter job outcomes	16 (2020/21)	50			
	Clyde Gateway will deliver an inclusive employability support programme within the Clyde Gateway corridor supporting families in the Rutherglen Project and	By March 31 2022, 50% of project participants supported will either move to employment from being unemployed, or will increase hours in employment, or have an uplift in salary	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	50%	£139,000 Scottish Government Access to Childcare Fund	Natalie Phillips	Low income families

	Glenburgh Nursery into fair work	By March 31 March 2022, 50% of participants will be supported to access skills development, volunteering, and employability support	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	50%	£50,000 from		
		By March 31 2022, 60% of families supported will have reduced living costs and a reduction in debt	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	60%			
		By March 31 2022, 60% of families will be supported through crisis situations and into stability	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	60%			
		By March 31 2022, 100% of eligible parents take up full entitlements of existing and new social security benefits	New programme, no baseline at 2019/20 or 2020/21	100%			
3.3 Employees being paid the living wage	The Lanarkshire Living Wage Campaign Group will promote the living wage to employers across Lanarkshire to increase the number of employees earning the living wage (SLC)	The number and proportion of employees earning less than the Living Wage	18,000/ 20.8% (2020) (ASHE)	Reduce to below 20%	Existing Resources	Gary Ross	Low Income Families
		The number and proportion of employees earning the Living Wage or more	70,000/ 79.2% (2020) (ASHE)	Increase to 80%			
		Number of accredited employers providing the Living Wage	93 (as of 31 st March 2021)	Increase from baseline			

3.4 Employee upskilling	South Lanarkshire Council will deliver an upskilling programme for staff experiencing low pay, underemployment and a lack of skills and qualifications in the workplace	By March 2022 120 staff will become more financially independent	120 (2020/21)	120	Mainstream Council budget with European Funding match	Gill Bhatti	Low income families
		By March 31 2022, 40% of staff will increase their hours	11 (2020/21)	50			
		By March 31 2022 60% of staff will secure promotion at work	64 (2020/21)	75			
3.5 Trade spend to living wage employers	NHS Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire Council will continue to monitor, and where possible increase, the proportion of trade spend to Living Wage accredited (remove) employers	Proportion of trade spend to living wage employers (as a percentage total spend on contracts to all employers)	NHS Lanarkshire = 2.7% (£6,744,092) SLC= 90% of regulated contracts awarded to Real Living Wage employers	*No target applicable, contextual measure	From existing resources	Craig Fergusson/ Emma Smith (SLC) Euan Erskine (NHSL)	Low Income Families

		Proportion of trade spend to Lanarkshire based employers (as a percentage total spend to all suppliers)	NHS Lanarkshire= 24.8% (amounting to £57,200,000) SLC= 18% (core spend £58.8m)	*No target applicable, contextual measure			
		Proportion of trade spend to supported employers	NHS Lanarkshire= 0.002% (amounting to £3,875) – SLC= 0%	**No target applicable			
<p>*NHS Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire Council cannot actively favour the award of public sector contracts to Lanarkshire based employers or employers that pay the Living Wage (both Real and Accredited) due to current procurement regulations. The proportion of trade spend awarded to Lanarkshire based employers and employers who pay the living wage is also dependent on the number of enterprises that have this status bidding for contracts at any given time as this fluctuates year on year and is subject to variable factors, such as local market conditions, beyond the control of SLC & NHS Lanarkshire. As a consequence SLC & NHS Lanarkshire have a limited ability to influence this measure through the setting of performance related targets.</p> <p>**Over the past two years (2019/20 and 2020/21) the level of trade spend to Supported Employers by NHS Lanarkshire has been minimal, while there has been no trade spend by SLC to Supported Employers during this period.</p>							

Appendix 1. Links to Associated Plans and Policies

Please copy the link into your web browser to access document

Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017
<http://www.healthscotland.scot/media/2184/child-poverty-act-overview-oct2018.pdf>

Scottish Government Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2018-22
<https://www.gov.scot/Publications/2018/03/4093/0>

Scottish Government Child Poverty Delivery Plan Guidance

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2018/07/local-child-poverty-action-report-guidance/documents/2d9c25b9-2e27-4177-adc9-7c9597e41e35/2d9c25b9-2e27-4177-adc9-7c9597e41e35/govscot%3Adocument>

Fairer Scotland Action Plan

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-action-plan/>

South Lanarkshire's Community Plan 2017-27

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/CommunityPlan2017-2027

South Lanarkshire Children's Services Plan 2021-23

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/childrensservicesplan2021-23

South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Commissioning Plan

<http://www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/downloads>

South Lanarkshire's Economic Strategy

http://www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/downloads/file/22/south_lanarkshire_economic_strategy_2013-2023

South Lanarkshire Local Housing Strategy

http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/11758/local_housing_strategy_2017-2022

If you would like to talk to us about the content of this report or be involved in helping us plan further actions, please contact the Community Engagement Team on communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or 0303 123

Appendix 2: Useful links

Advice Line for Pregnant Women and Young Families

Email: telephoneadvice@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Phone: 01698 453154 or 01698 453180

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday 8.45am to 4.45pm; Friday 8.45am to 4.15pm (outwith these times you can leave a message)

Managing Your Money

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200150/managing_your_money

Financial Inclusion within Maternity and Health Visiting Services

www.youtube.com/watch?v=bM7V9S3vKzs#action=share

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200153/welfare_benefits_and_universal_credit/1775/best_start_grant_and_best_start_foods

When Money is Tight Booklet

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/downloads/download/718/

Citizen's Advice Scotland

<https://www.cas.org.uk/>

Money Matters Advice Service

Phone: 0303 123 1008

Email: <http://orlo.uk/KYp5r>

Housing support and homelessness

Online: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Local Housing Office: 0303 123 1012

Out of hours: 0800 24 20 24

Report

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Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Local Child Poverty – Examples of Policy and Practice
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Advise the Partnership Board of the publication of Examples of Policy and Practice in Tackling Child Poverty by the Improvement Service.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the content of the three documents published by the Improvement Service and attached as Appendices 1 to 3 are noted;
- (2) That the South Lanarkshire actions mentioned within the documents, as outlined in section 4.5 are noted; and
- (3) That the consideration of the policy and practice contained within the documents as part of the ongoing Local Child Poverty Action Report process in South Lanarkshire is noted.

3. Background

3.1. The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 introduced a new requirement for local authorities and relevant health boards to prepare Local Child Poverty Action Reports (LCPARs) as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each reporting year beginning in June 2019.

3.2. The purpose of the LCPARs is to describe any measures taken in the area of the local authority during the reporting year and planned measures for the year ahead that seek to address and mitigate child poverty.

3.3. The work described in the reports is expected to contribute to the four national income-based child poverty reduction targets to be achieved by 2030:

- (1) Less than 10% of children are in relative poverty;
- (2) Less than 5% of children are in absolute poverty;
- (3) Less than 5% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation; and
- (4) Less than 5% of children are in persistent poverty.

3.4. South Lanarkshire is using a partnership approach to producing its LCPAR in line with the requirements. Work detailed within is organised around the three drives of Cost of Living, Income from Benefits and Income from Employment.

- 3.5. The Improvement Service has now produced three documents which summarise policy and practice from across Scotland and provide examples of interesting practice in each local authority area. These are not intended to be examples of good practice but rather an overview of practice across the country without analysis or judgement. However, there is potential learning within the documents regarding approaches in other places which may enhance the activity within South Lanarkshire.
- 3.6. The documents invite the reader to consider the following questions in relation to their own area:
- How would this approach work in my local area? Do I know what is already happening in my area and would this approach add to it?
 - What more can I do to ensure that this approach benefits those who are most likely to experience poverty, ie the priority groups?
 - Will the benefit reach those with protected characteristics?
 - If I make the change, how will I know that I am making a positive difference?
- 4. Improvement Service Policy and Practice**
- 4.1. The three overview documents are attached to this report as appendices. Some interesting examples of practice from them are highlighted below, organised around the three drivers:
- 4.2. Cost of Living:
- Glasgow HSCP is testing the funding of free travel passes for vulnerable pregnant women;
 - Angus have introduced a social supermarket, to provide access to in date fresh food that would otherwise be destroyed; and
 - North Ayrshire have provided free “birth to potty” real nappy packs.
- 4.3. Income from Benefits:
- Inverclyde have changed the eligibility criteria for free school meals and clothing grants so that more families are eligible;
 - Dumfries and Galloway and Dundee are providing benefits advice in identified GP practices; and
 - Perth and Kinross are working with those with lived experience to identify the barriers where take-up for specific benefits is low and find ways to address these.
- 4.4. Income from Employment:
- Glasgow have developed a Young Parents Support Base to enable them to gain the best possible start in life for them and their children;
 - Aberdeenshire are targeting in-work poverty through its community hubs by extending opening hours and providing free online training; and
 - Angus and Tayside are bringing together the expertise of key private and public sector engineering facilities in the Tay Cities Engineering Partnership, with the aim of delivering benefits to businesses and the economy.
- 4.5. South Lanarkshire has five actions mentioned within the documents, these are:
- The development and publication of the Good Food Strategy;
 - The up-take in provision of available childcare places for 2 and 3 year olds;
 - The development of the My Money My Life App;
 - The promotion of Fair Work and the Real Living Wage; and
 - The pan-Lanarkshire social prescribing work including welfare advice and the location of community link workers in GP surgeries.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1. The documents will be circulated to the Partnership Group who are responsible for the development of the South Lanarkshire LCPAR. Each of the writing groups, who produce the chapters for each of the drivers contained in the local LCPAR, will be asked to consider the practice and policy contained in the document relevant to them, and in particular to do this by making use of the questions outlined in section 3.6. Any proposed actions identified through this will be included within the LCPAR for 2022, whose development will be under way soon.
- 5.2. The documents have also been presented to the SLC Cross-Party Tackling Poverty Working Group, for their information and discussion.
- 5.3. It should be noted that many of the actions from other areas contained within the report are already being carried out in South Lanarkshire as well in ways that are locally appropriate.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. A Children's Rights Wellbeing Impact Assessment is already being completed as part of the work to develop the 2021 LCPAR.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

South Lanarkshire Council

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Rhonda Leith, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council

Tel: 01698 455783

Email: rhonda.leith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

*The 'go to' organisation for Local
Government improvement in Scotland*



Tackling Child Poverty in Scotland: Examples of Policy and Practice

Driver: Cost of Living



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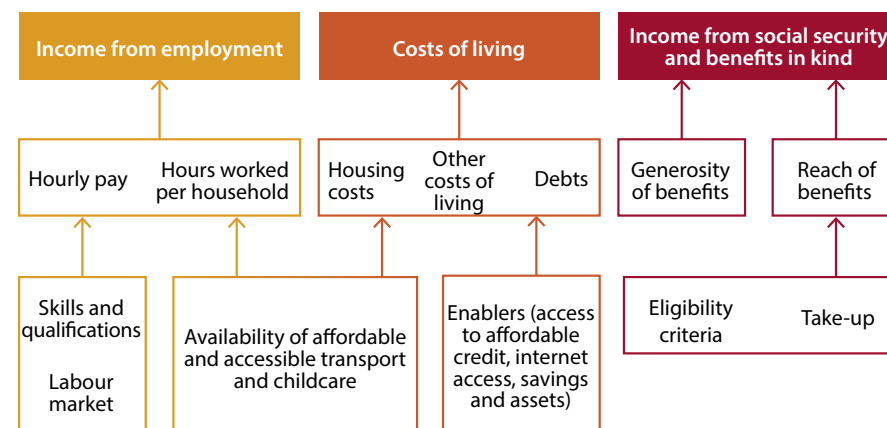
Introduction



The direct drivers of poverty fall into 3 main categories – income from employment, costs of living, and income from social security. The ‘cost of living’ generally refers to the prices of goods and services considered essential to day-to-day life. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation’s Minimum Income Standard (MIS) includes the following

categories of essentials: housing; household goods and services; transport; food and drink; clothing; personal goods and services; social and cultural participation; and childcare. For more information visit <https://www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-annex-2-further-technical-information/pages/2/>.

Figure 1: Summary of the Drivers of Child Poverty



Policy and Practice Examples



These examples of policy and practice in addressing different aspects of child poverty have been drawn from the 2019/2020 Local Child Poverty Action Reports. These have been collected to share practice which will be of potential interest to other local authorities. At this stage these are not formally evaluated and should not be considered as 'best practice'. The intention of this document is not to 'map' the range of activity underway in Local Authorities and it is not an exhaustive overview of examples from reports. It exists simply to provide examples of activity that might inform upcoming approaches to the development of content for reports, or might encourage report authors to find out more about some of the examples included.

The examples have been presented according to the key driver of poverty they might seek to address, although clearly there will be overlap in terms of the number of drivers that some of the following examples could fall within.

Wording has been changed in some of the examples to reduce the amount of text and if any mistakes have been introduced into the text as a consequence of that please let us know.

If you would like to find out more about any of the examples quoted below, please contact the National Co-ordinator for the Local Child Poverty Action Reports who can provide contact details.

In all cases you can ask yourself:

- How would this approach work in my local context? Do I know what is already happening in my area and would this approach add to this?
- What more can I do to ensure that this approach benefits those who are most likely to experience child poverty i.e. the priority groups?

- Will the benefit reach those with protected characteristics?
- If I make a change, how will I know that I am making a positive difference?

Within this section:

1. Fuel Poverty
2. Transport
3. Housing
4. Affordable Credit
5. Food / Food Insecurity /Holiday Hunger
6. Digital Inclusion
7. Other



1. Fuel Poverty

North Ayrshire

Providing Advice on how to Minimise Costs for Energy

The North Ayrshire Corporate Sustainability Team provides general energy efficiency advice to the public on a weekly basis, by responding to enquiries and by using our referral process with internal and external agencies (current average three referrals per week). Corporate Sustainability are also an active member of the Local Energy Advice Forum (LEAF), a partnership which aims to increase domestic energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty within North and East Ayrshire.

A programme to deliver replacement and top up loft insulation and cavity wall insulation for council properties continues to support EESH compliance. In addition, the Corporate Sustainability team continue to promote energy efficiency to the general public as well as other council departments.

The Welfare Reform Advice Team visit our tenants and complete a survey and matrix as part of this visit to discuss fuel poverty and offer referral to Citrus energy for any fuel related issues such as debt, switching suppliers etc. Warm Homes Discount is also discussed and assistance to apply is provided if applicable. As part of the Financial Inclusion Pathway, referrals can be made to HomeEnergy Scotland.

Aberdeenshire

Energy Summit

Families from the Aberdeen Voices lived experience forum worked with Elected Members and energy companies to hold an energy summit to identify ways of reducing fuel costs for low income families.

Argyll and Bute

Tackling the Heat or Eat Dilemma

Fuel poverty in Argyll is at one of the highest levels in Europe, due to poor housing, high energy prices/lack of mains gas, low wages, vulnerable demographics, bad weather and exposure. Fuel poverty affects 1 in 3 households in Argyll. Recent data has revealed a further 5% rise in electrically heated households in fuel poverty across Scotland as a whole. Due to the time-consuming practical difficulties of working across Argyll and Bute, home visits can be costly. Yet ALIenergy's extensive experience has proven that for many vulnerable customers, home energy visits are crucial and far more effective than telephone advice. This is supported by independent research, e.g. Baker (2019) 'Never try and face the journey alone: Exploring face-to-face advocacy needs of fuel poor'.



For 2020/21, funding received from Energy Redress will deliver energy advice sessions and energy efficiency toolkits to households across Argyll and Bute, particularly homes off the gas grid. Electrically heated households on the common THTC and E10 restricted meters pay most and are likely to be under heating their homes as a result. The THTC tariff unit cost is

4.2x higher than mains gas with no simple options for switching. A switch to E7 from THTC could result in 18% saving.

Funding received from the Robertson Trust will continue our work targeting households using foodbanks and facing the eat or

heat dilemma. Funding from RES will provide 100 Winter Warmth toolkits.

Fife

Targeting Flu Jag clinics

The Citizens Advice and Rights Fife (CARF) partnership with Cosy Kingdom, Unforgotten Forces and NHS Fife utilised the 2019/20 flu jag season to engage with people and families with disabilities and at risk of fuel poverty.

Renfrewshire

Energy Advocacy

The Council has an Energy Advocacy service. One of the three advocates works exclusively with families with children and pregnant women. The main source of referral is through our Families First teams. The Advocate also receives referrals from Health Visitors, Social Workers and Housing and Macmillan Cancer Support etc. Advocates visit clients to understand their issues – and can refer to a wide range of services. The Advocates service in 2019/20 has saved 565 clients over £168k in ongoing savings and £66,723 in write offs and Warm Home Discounts. Families First alone referred 141 families, saving them approximately £34,000 in ongoing savings and almost £12,000 in one-off savings.



During 2019/20 Renfrewshire HSCP Planning and Public Health

carried out work to reduce energy costs. The team co-ordinated with Home Energy Scotland to deliver interventions within the Renfrew Health and Social Care Centre. The interventions aimed to support staff and visitors of the centre to increase their knowledge on how to minimise their costs of energy in their homes.

NHSGGC Acute sites access to fuel poverty advice and interventions is available for all patients in partnership with Home Energy Scotland.

budgeting support. THAW funds the electricity vouchers fulfilled by the Foodbank and directly provides Cosy Home packs and Grants

North Ayrshire

Solar Panels

We have installed Solar Panels where appropriate to assist with energy costs. The social housing rooftop photovoltaic (PV) project came to an end in 2020. The final number of PV systems installed on properties is 290 (895kWp) and 165 of these installations (518kWp) were installed before the deadline and successfully registered for the Feed in Tariff (FIT) subsidy.



Orkney

Reducing Fuel Poverty

THAW Orkney provides support to households in fuel poverty to heat their homes. Their mission is “To work for households in all Orkney communities to reduce levels of fuel poverty and achieve affordable warmth”. Services provided include information and advice on energy efficiency, Tariff switching support, assistance with accessing grant funding, advocacy, income maximisation and



2. Transport

Glasgow

Travel pass pilot with SNIPS

To support pregnant women, many of who struggle to meet the additional costs associated with their pregnancy, health and social care partners worked with Money Matters to deliver an enhanced money advice service in the Special Needs in Pregnancy Service (SNIPS) maternity matters service.

This vulnerable group of women includes teenagers; asylum seekers and refugees; women experiencing addictions or mental ill health; with long term conditions or learning disability - and the majority are lone parents.

By the nature of their vulnerability and the need for ongoing advocacy, these women are less likely than others to have the ability

to pay for transport, attend their hospital appointments, and will be least likely to locate and access a travel expenses office.

Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership, as part of its child poverty work, is funding the pilot at a cost of £10,000 to develop and test the provision of free access to transport for these women.

Since lockdown in late March 2020, the SNIP's Maternity Matters project has not been on any of the maternity sites in NHS GGC and travel by public transport was not recommended for pregnant women as a result of Covid-19. This has delayed the pilot.

A proposal that clients are given a prepaid card for their travelling expenses has been put forward to the Maternity Monitoring group and if approved, processes will be put in place to ensure that those in most need will be identified by Maternity Matters and SNIP's Midwives.

East Renfrewshire

Transport Studies

During 2019-2020 East Renfrewshire undertook two transport studies with the aim of explaining how we will make East Renfrewshire's transport links more accessible, attractive and seamless. The studies identified evidence of transport poverty through the use of heat maps and by comparing the costs of transport on the west and east side of the authority; the cost and availability of public transport was higher in the least affluent areas.

Fife

Research

The Let's Talk... about Transporting People project is involving people in designing the future of subsidised passenger transport services. Locally, the North East Fife Anti-Poverty Group commissioned research for a N.E. Fife Rural Transport Study that explores the costs and benefits of establishing a scheme of support for bus travel for the unemployed. Aim is for families in Fife to be able to access affordable transport. (Currently paused 2021)

East Ayrshire

Spot light session on Access to Affordable Transport

Access to affordable transport was identified as a priority in the first LCPAR. The focus during 2019/20 has been ensuring a consistent strategic approach across our partnership to lobbying for effective transport solutions for East Ayrshire. A spotlight session on transport was convened with a wide range of community planning partners. A briefing outlining the partnership position in relation to strategic transport developments, referencing transport as a local driver of child poverty, was subsequently developed and circulated to

partners; and this shared agenda continues to be taken forward through all appropriate forums. An options appraisal in relation to a municipal bus service is also in progress and will be concluded during 2020/21.

Falkirk

Test of Change

Plans in place to start a test of change in paediatric AHP clinics in Falkirk with Falkirk Council's travel lead – halted by the pandemic. Working to gather support from DWP to identify those entitled to concessionary travel cards. Employment and Training Unit have adapted their travel reimbursement process to ensure equality of access to skills development and employability provision. This ensures participants can travel and attend provision regardless of individual financial circumstances and decreases accessibility issues for those experiencing poverty. Participants are issued with a bus pass on a weekly basis while attending provision in the early stages of their interventions support. Those who undertake programmes of more than 3 hours a day will also be eligible for a subsistence payment. Participants who take part in programmes of 16 hours or more a week will be provided with travel and subsistence payments, directly into their bank account in advance of attendance to alleviate the need to pay out expenses and have these reimbursed to them. For those who have issues with bank related debt, referral and support will be sought from community advice services and an alternative payment method established





3. Housing

Inverclyde

COVID response

Inverclyde were allocated £71,000 as a one off sum to Councils to allow more generous Discretionary Housing Payments to be made during the Covid period. Following analysis of the current Housing Benefit and DHP data Inverclyde will award DHP up to 100% of the difference between Universal Credit Housing costs or Housing Benefit entitlement capped at £200 per month with the payment being made for a period of no more than 6 months. This will provide short term help which is in line with the purpose of DHP and would allow households time to improve their circumstances by finding employment or moving to more affordable homes and helping the children and young people living within these households to access their right to adequate housing and a good standard of living (article

26 & 27). This payment would be applicable in the Private Rented Sector.

The Council maintained the payment of Crisis Grants throughout the Covid period and took the decision in March to increase payments by 20% to provide greater financial support to those in most need. It is recommended that the 20% enhanced payment is continued for the remainder of 2020/21. In addition it is proposed that the Community Care Grant which assists with individuals setting up home be paid to not only high priority cases but also medium priority cases. This will allow payment to be made to more individuals and for additional items for the home including washing machines, floor coverings and additional furniture.

West Dunbartonshire

Local Housing Strategy

The Local Housing Strategy has a 10-point success plan. Some of which have a direct impact on the drivers of poverty. These include, for example:

- Maximise the delivery of new affordable housing through the 'More Homes Better Homes West Dunbartonshire' initiative;
- Reduce the impacts of climate change and fuel poverty by supporting energy efficiency measures across all housing sectors;
- Introduce a Housing Options approach to prevent homelessness;
- Work with partners to reduce repeat homelessness and increase tenancy sustainment in the social rented sector;
- Adopt a more holistic joined up approach to improving standards in the Private Rented Sector;
- Improve education, training and job opportunities for West Dunbartonshire residents by building on existing strong links through Working 4U.



Within the context of promoting good quality housing, West Dunbartonshire has introduced a Scheme of Assistance to help home owners with information and advice and practical assistance about improving, repairing and maintaining their homes. This will families to reduce the associated cost of property maintenance.

Scottish Borders

Housing Needs and Aspirations Study

The Housing Needs and Aspirations of Young People in the Scottish Borders Study was developed throughout 2018 and the findings and report were finalised in April 2019.

The focus of this work has been on the housing needs and aspirations of young people aged between 16 and 34 years. The study has been undertaken to support the vision of the Local Housing Strategy 2017-22 in that “every person in the Borders lives in a home which meets their needs”. It also supports the priorities in the Integrated Children and Young People’s Plan 2018-21, particularly priorities 2 and 3.

A progress report on the first year has been produced including key highlights and significant achievements in 2019/20, as well as key developments for the year ahead. Some of these actions are:

- Engage with transport initiatives and seek to link with housing to maximise impact e.g. Explore opportunities to subsidise first months travel for new Modern Apprentices at SBC
- Develop and implement the private rented sector strategy to improve access to and quality in the private rented sector.
- Work with community councils and other community representatives to consider whether there is interest and capacity within communities to enable new community led housing development
- Review model of access to social housing in Scottish Borders across all providers to minimise time in temporary accommodation and achieve Rapid Rehousing Housing leads support the development of the Local Child Poverty Plan.

East Ayrshire

Neighbourhood Coaching



Neighbourhood Coaching is an innovative housing approach which seeks to redefine and reimagine the traditional relationship between social landlord and tenant within East Ayrshire, 're-programming' Housing Officers into Neighbourhood Coaches to deliver three innovations (with emphasis on the customer's strengths and potential, focused

on positives, connecting customers to services and to other customers to build community empowerment – building a network of support and supporting tenancies). There has been a reduction in tenant evictions.

West Dunbartonshire Council

Preventing Destitution

The council has established a process for rent abatement that aims to alleviate/prevent destitution by providing conditional short term relief from housing payments for families where tenancy sustainment is threatened. This approach is designed to encourage early engagement between tenant and landlord and develop short and longer term solutions. In order to prevent re-occurrence tenants should be signposted to support services for financial health checks. In exceptional circumstances Housing services staff have the discretion to award small discretionary sums from a hardship fund to provide short term relief and avoid homelessness. Longer term

solutions will be sought through the provision of ongoing support to address the cause of these prevailing circumstances.

Argyll and Bute

Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

Argyll and Bute Council operates this scheme which can help people to access rented accommodation in the private sector. Instead of a new prospective tenant having to find the deposit that is often required, the council will guarantee that the deposit will be paid if any damage is done to the property while the tenant is living there. The tenant will agree to reimburse the Council for the cost of any loss or damage to the property caused by an act/s of neglect or negligence by themselves or their visitors. In 2019/20 six households were helped with this scheme.



Perth and Kinross

Sustaining Tenancies Fund

A Sustaining Tenancies Fund was introduced in 2018 and supports vulnerable Local Authority households who are struggling financially and who have or may build up rent arrears, potentially placing their tenancy at risk. Since 2019, the fund supported, along with other household types, 59 households with 120 dependent children where financial hardship existed, to clear their rent arrears levels thereby increasing their level of disposable income. These households were supported financially to reduce their outgoings and importantly 120 dependent children did not suffer the threat of homelessness. This financial assistance was provided alongside ongoing engagement with

individual households to maximise their income and assist with budgeting skills.

Private Landlord Forum to be planned, to raise awareness of affordability and child poverty within the private sector. Wider ongoing engagement with local social housing providers. Discussions to be scheduled with RSLs to share information gathered through affordability model and further discussion to promote affordable rents.



4. Affordable Credit

Renfrewshire Council

Affordable Credit Alliance

The Council has worked with the local TSI, Engage Renfrewshire, and others to establish the Renfrewshire Affordable Credit Alliance. It works collectively to support to improve and promote affordable credit provision and discourage use of illegal lending and 'loan sharks'. The Council has also invested in Credit Unions, working with them to aid their development and sustainability. CUs have been promoted as an alternative to high cost lenders and the Council, although no longer providing funding, still meets regularly with the local CUs to offer support. It is intended that CUs will be promoted as part of the Council's developing Staff Financial Welfare Strategy, 'Money Mindful'.

West Dunbartonshire

Understanding Credit (Illicit Money Lending)

During the period 2019/20 we developed a proposal to work with Trading Standards Scotland to highlight the risk of illicit and high interest lending. The project design and preparation has been carried out by the community learning team at West Dunbartonshire Council; the Youth Alliance/Adult Learning Partnership; and West Dunbartonshire Trading Standards Team. Working with Trading Standards Scotland, we have secured funding to employ a project co-ordinator for two years. A project officer will be appointed and a series of learner engagement events and awareness events will be delivered. The initial focus will be on raising awareness of credit/debt and financial capability within schools will be followed by a series of community-based events.

East Dunbartonshire

Debt Reduction Service



The Council supports the local CAB to provide debt reduction services with monitoring reports showing significant gains in debt reduction. They promote the Credit Union through intranet and other communications.



5. Food/Food Insecurity/Holiday Hunger

Glasgow

Children's Holiday Food Programme Spring 2020

The council provided £2million for the 3rd year in succession to fund the Children's Holiday Food Programme that provides a hot meal and snack to Glasgow's nursery, primary and secondary pupils during school holiday periods. The usual format is for children/young people to attend various venues where they are provided with a nutritious meal(s) and some form of activity. However with the introduction of lockdown due to COVID-19 the usual format for the programme was not possible. The lack of activities however meant that there was some unused funding so the food programmes could extend between a further 2 to 6 weeks. Of the 64 organisations funded to provide a service during the Spring Holidays, 57 were able to continue to deliver through their contingency plans. This

meant that 16,967 children/young people benefitted from the Spring Programme reaching a total of 9,953 households.

South Lanarkshire

Good Food Strategy

The South Lanarkshire **Good Food Strategy** has been published that aims to move towards a healthier, fairer and more sustainable food systems – with aims to reduce food insecurity and poverty.

West Dunbartonshire

Free School Meals Expansion

In December 2019 the West Dunbartonshire Council agreed to an expansion of access to free school meals. This major expansion will

be phased in at schools across the area over the next two years. The £950,000 investment in 2020/21 will be partially funded by a rise in Council Tax of 4.84%.



Aberdeenshire

Breakfast in Schools

In 13 Aberdeenshire Academies an extra £1 was added to all FSM accounts from 8.00am Mon – Fri until after the morning break giving pupils £3.85 per day to spend and allows £2.85 to be spent at lunch. At Fraserburgh Academy an additional 50p is added to all FSM accounts; at 3

further Academies the FSM account allowance of £2.85 is available to spend from 8.00am. The launch of breakfast club has greatly reduced the number of late starts.

East Renfrewshire

Breakfasts in schools

During 2019-20 Barrhead High School piloted a breakfast ‘Grab n Go’ initiative following engagement with Glasgow University on evidence-based interventions to support raising attainment. Free breakfasts of toast and fruit were made available to all pupils in partnership with Greggs and supported by PSA training. Focus groups with pupils provided positive feedback across all stages and demographic groups reporting that they now ate breakfast whereas they didn’t before. The school noted a positive impact including on the health and wellbeing of the wider school population. The school intends to continue this for August 2020.

North Ayrshire

Breakfast In School

In the 2019-20 academic year free breakfast provision was provided to young people entitled to FSM in four secondary schools. This is funded through the Scottish Attainment Challenge and is being piloted to assess if this has a positive impact on improving school attendance.

North Ayrshire

Food System

Currently working on a North Ayrshire Food System with North Ayrshire Foodbank and our community organisations to develop networks of community fridges, larders, community supermarkets and food co-ops in line with a more sustainable approach to food with dignity.

Angus

Social Supermarket

LA financial support for families in receipt of FSM to access membership of a local social supermarket (run by a social business) - (social supermarket model, therefore not a foodbank model, open to all, providing access to in-date fresh food that would otherwise be destroyed).



Angus

Holiday Hunger



Parents and children were invited to attend free '**Holiday Food & Fun**' drop-in sessions during October 2019. Partners including VAA, Education and Lifelong Learning, CPP, CAB, Home Start, Fire Service, Welfare Rights, ADHD Support worked together to provide an opportunity for families to access a free and healthy lunch whilst being able to engage with and take advice from various

agencies. Children and parents could access toys, books and games. This is a model which could be used successfully in other localities, however there is a need for staff, co-ordination and funding.

Outcomes:

- 8 different support agencies were on hand to give advice;
- 143 attendees enjoyed a free healthy lunch;
- 9 home fire safety checks were carried out (post event);
- 3 volunteers were identified - developing skills for life and work;
- 27 benefit investigations identified £9,198 of unclaimed entitlements;
- 9 parents and children participated in basic cookery classes;
- £150 Period Poverty products were accessed.

Inverclyde

Food Pantry

In addition to the FareShare community food initiative already being funded for a further 12 months, there is an opportunity to establish local Food Pantries in an area of the greatest inequalities. The Food Pantry organisation is offering to support LAs and the 3rd sector develop a concept and build on their framework of good practice. The Pantry is set out as a shop and displays a variety of good quality food, sourced from FareShare Glasgow, where members of the community can choose from a subscription and/or membership fee. The pantry model targets those on a low income and/or recovering from crisis providing fresh, healthy, affordable food.

North Lanarkshire

The Food Referral Gateway

The Food Referral Gateway continues to be promoted and used. Following COVID there has been a number of food initiatives opened up to try and help their communities. A survey was sent to all providers to help inform a Good Practice Guide as well as identifying any gaps in our localities. The Good Practice Guide has been produced to ensure our vulnerable residents have access to information and advice services to assist them.



Dumfries and Galloway

Holiday Hunger

The approach to Holiday Hunger was changed in November 2019 to include activities as well as food provision. This new model of delivery also ensured that there has been free holiday food provision and activities for P1 to P6 children entitled to FSM in every ward since October 2019 and was delivered in the October, Christmas and February school holidays 2019/2020. This new model of delivery has seen a 34% increased uptake by children and young people.

East Dunbartonshire

Snack and Play Programme

The Snack and Play programme was delivered across the primary schools in Place areas in 2019-20 during school holidays, providing activities and food for children and support for parents. This involved the East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust providing a space for children to learn and have a snack during the holidays at local community centres. Further to the positive evaluation of the Snack and Play programme, from children and parents alike, the Council agreed to extend the programme to cover more school holidays and four more primary schools in 2020-21.

In addition, we carried out our planned participative action research in the Hillhead area of Kirkintilloch. CPP Team led on a pilot summer programme over ten weeks (twice weekly) – working with targeted families identified by schools/early year's workers. A partnership approach was taken by the Community Development Worker including a Family Learning Worker, Leisure and Culture staff and the local foodbank. Food was provided by the foodbank and used to encourage/teach families how to cook and eat together. Links were also made with social work and adult learning for specific individuals.

Ten families took part with a range of outcomes for children and parents including increased confidence, friendships, cooking ability, training and employment accessed arts and crafts, decreased isolation, volunteering and sport – the course culminated in a family sports day. Feedback was positive with children saying their best bit was the food (making pizza), sock puppets and learning together.

City of Edinburgh

Discover Programme

During 2019-20, the Council launched automation of free school meals and continued to develop Discover! in partnership with Edinburgh Community Food. The Discover! programme aims to reduce the cost of the school holidays with children living in poverty being recommended by schools to the programme. It works with families during the school holidays and its aims are reducing food and financial anxiety, fun family learning to help close the poverty related attainment gap; improving health and wellbeing and reducing social isolation. It also offers a range of support and advice services including CHAI, Home Energy Scotland and Skills Development Scotland.



The number of recommendations to Discover! has grown steadily. Feedback from families consistently refers to the difference it is making in terms of food anxiety, fun, high quality learning activities, helping improve family relationships and access to services that help reduce household spending.



6. Digital Inclusion

Scottish Borders

Inspire Learning Programme

Inspire Learning is a £16million 1:1 education transformation programme which

Scottish Borders Council has centrally funded prior to COVID19. By March 2020 every secondary pupil had their own managed iPad to take home, and by July 2020 iPads were provided to primary pupils in classes P6-P7 for the academic year 2020/21. This initiative has assisted greatly with the avoidance of digital exclusion and the widening of access via the provision of technology and equipment has been very well received by schools, students and their families.

- Future Action for 2020/21 Action Plan: Help early years clients with digital inclusion by providing them with a voucher to purchase a mobile Action/phone to enable them to claim grants



7. Other

Orkney

Christmas present drive

Every Child Deserves a Christmas grant programme – 313 grants of £50 distributed across Orkney in December 2019. Help From Home – financial support for families’ travel costs where a child has to attend NHS on Mainland Scotland. Every Child Should be Warm in Bed – 120 Warm Bedding Bundles (£83 each) delivered in 2019. School holiday poverty – specific support to families struggling financially during school holidays

Renfrewshire

Families First Service – potentially better in access to benefits

The service supports families with children aged 0-8 years. It provides help, support and advice in a family focussed way, covering

promoting wellbeing, positive relationships, energy and employment advice and establishing good family routines. The service supports families to maximise their income and manage debts through embedded income advisers. The service has a dedicated Energy Advocate and a designated Employability Officer. Families First takes a holistic approach to supporting families by providing a single point of contact for parents, grandparents and carers. This year the service generated £1.68m for 191 families, by assisting with over 1000 issues

North Ayrshire

Real Nappy Incentive Scheme

The Council became the first in the UK to provide free “birth to potty” real nappy packs. The scheme could save families up to £1,300 per child on the cost of disposables and reduce environmental impact of nappies by 40%. The council already offers a Real Nappy

Incentive Scheme which provides a free trial pack. Those who use the trial pack will be able to request the full new ‘birth to potty’ pack, containing 20 birth to potty nappies, biodegradable liners and a laundry bag. Funded by the reduced costs of the Council sending disposable nappies to landfill.

North Ayrshire

Childcare Provision – Eligible 2’s

Working together with the Children and Young People Improvement Collaborative, a project was undertaken to increase uptake of eligible 2-year-old places within the Garnock Valley area. The project involved the significant role of Universal Early Years staff as a key point of contact to support early intervention and support for



families. The project achieved a 75% increase in uptake and the approach can easily be scaled up. The Early Years Partnership Plan will use the learning from the project to roll out to other areas across North Ayrshire. The eligibility criteria awareness will be shared with other Universal Early Years Teams and partners across the Local Authority.

South Lanarkshire

Eligible 2’s

South Lanarkshire have worked to increase the available childcare provision and support the uptake of funded early learning and childcare for 2 and 3 year olds. They have seen an increase from

10% to 15.5% in the uptake of 2 year old places for children with entitlement over the 12 months to March 2020. Health Visitors and Family Nurses have provided information about free places to parents at the earliest opportunity and especially across families that need to most support at the 13-15 month and 27-30 month health review. Health visitors can help signpost parents to nurseries who can advise parents if they are eligible for either a funded place or would be exempt from charges as a ‘family seeking work’ or through one of South Lanarkshire’s low income exemptions. Early Years staff are also working with the wider workforce designed to encourage parents to take up 2 year old places.

East Ayrshire

Exploring the cost of pregnancy

Evidence shows that there can be cost-related barriers to accessing NHS services, even when universally provided and free at point of access. PHS, GCPH, NHS GGC and NHS AA commissioned research to explore the financial impact of pregnancy and having a new baby on low-income families from urban (GGC) and rural (AA) populations.¹ The research identified cost-related barriers experienced by these families in accessing antenatal healthcare, and exploring what health services can do to support the financial wellbeing of expectant parents. The research findings highlight a range of factors contributed to the financial pressures experienced by expectant and new families in receipt of low income. An action plan has since been developed based on the recommendations from the research.

Cost of the School Day

For examples of activity which seek to reduce the cost of the school day, please visit <https://cpag.org.uk/cost-of-the-school-day>

1. https://www.gcph.co.uk/publications/951_exploring_the_cost_of_the_pregnancy_pathway

Appendix 1



Links to Further Information about Child Poverty in Scotland

- [Knowledge Hub](#)

Taking Action on Child Poverty in Scotland is a group with members who are interested in tackling child poverty in Scotland. It's free to join and you get immediate access a range of information and the opportunity to link with others working to tackle child poverty in Scotland

- [Improvement Service Child Poverty Pages](#) which includes links to all published local child Poverty Action Reports

- [Public Health Scotland](#) Child Poverty Information and Resources

- [Poverty and Inequality Commission](#)

- [Child Poverty Scotland Dashboard](#): national data on child poverty in Scotland

- [Child Poverty Action Group Scotland](#)

- [Poverty Alliance](#)

These resources were pulled together by the National Co-ordinators for the Local Child Poverty Action Reports based at the Improvement Service and Julie Arnot, Senior Health Improvement Officer (Child Poverty), Public Health Scotland.

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Tackling Child Poverty in Scotland: Examples of Policy and Practice

Driver: Income from Benefits

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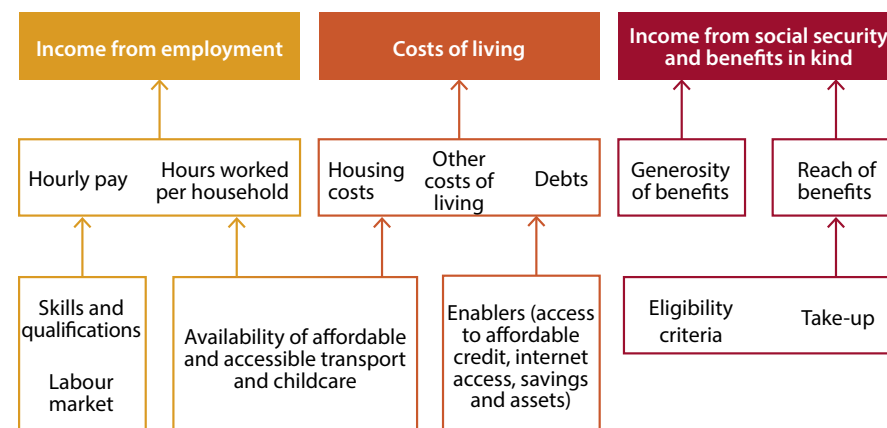
Introduction



The direct drivers of poverty fall into 3 main categories – income from employment, costs of living, and income from social security. Social security payments have a direct impact on poverty by providing or supplementing household income. The system is designed to help particular groups such as those who are out of work or on low

incomes, sick and disabled people, families with children and older people, as well as people in certain circumstances, for example, new mothers or bereaved people. For more information visit www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-annex-2-further-technical-information/pages/2/

Figure 1: Summary of the Drivers of Child Poverty



Policy and Practice Examples



These examples of policy and practice in addressing different aspects of child poverty have been drawn from the 2019/2020 Local Child Poverty Action Reports. These have been collected to share practice which will be of potential interest to other local authorities. At this stage these are not formally evaluated and should not be considered as 'best practice'. The intention of this document is not to 'map' the range of activity underway in Local Authorities and it is not an exhaustive overview of examples from reports. It exists simply to provide examples of activity that might inform upcoming approaches to the development of content for reports, or might encourage report authors to find out more about some of the examples included.

The examples have been presented according to the key driver of poverty they might seek to address, although clearly there will be overlap in terms of the number of drivers that some of the following examples could fall within.

Wording has been changed in some of the examples to reduce the amount of text and if any mistakes have been introduced into the text as a consequence of that please let us know.

If you would like to find out more about any of the examples quoted below, please contact the National Co-ordinator for the Local Child Poverty Action Reports who can provide contact details.

In all cases you can ask yourself:

- How would this approach work in my local context? Do I know what is already happening in my area and would this approach add to this?
- What more can I do to ensure that this approach benefits those who are most likely to experience child poverty?
- Will the benefit reach those with protected characteristics?

- If I make a change, how will I know that I am making a positive difference?

Within this section:

1. Education including clothing grant and free school meals
2. Apps and Online Calculators
3. Health Settings
4. Social Welfare Fund & Community Care Grants
5. Increasing Uptake of Benefits



1. Education including Clothing Grant and Free School Meals

West Lothian

Increasing Awareness of and Access to Education Maintenance Allowance was a Key Action for 2019/20

Core to this service redesign was to involve both young people and parents who would be most likely to benefit. A project team was set up with a time line to complete for the 2020/21 academic year. The team started by speaking with parents/carers at an engagement event held at a busy shopping thoroughfare, then spent an evening speaking to a group of fifth and sixth year pupils. The insights gained from these engagements was used to develop a new online form allowing applicants to check eligibility, apply for EMA and complete their Learning Agreement digitally. Before going live, the team recruited a group of end users to test the new online platform and provide feedback. Suggestions for further improvements at this stage were implemented before the final version of the online

application was released to the public. Feedback from applicants has been very positive.

West Dunbartonshire

Increasing Educational Maintenance Allowance

West Dunbartonshire Council will increase the EMA by applying a £5 additional payment each week for every young person with 100% attendance. The cumulative bonus amounts being paid twice per year, usually in December and July.

Glasgow

Easier Application Process: Educational Maintenance Allowance

Glasgow listened to feedback from the mentors of the MCR Pathways Mentoring Programme, when they told them that some

of their young people were having issues claiming EMA due to the complexity of the application form and the verification process. Glasgow looked at the application process and decided to review it. The council has now amended the qualifying conditions and process for applying for EMA. Parents will no longer be asked for proof of income if they are in receipt of Council Tax Reduction. The Council's online information/guidance and application document have been updated to include a question about accessing income data from our internal systems to allow EMA claims to be processed. Staff have been trained on the amended processes and given access to the appropriate systems.

North Ayrshire

Education Maintenance Allowance Data Matching



Each year North Ayrshire Council cross reference our existing FSM applicants with data from our Benefits system to identify all those who meet the qualifying criteria. They then contact parents and carers to advise them to go online, check and confirm their details and complete or renew their application. This digital process ensures that benefits are awarded as quickly as possible to

those families who need them.

Glasgow

Financial Inclusion Support Officer (FISO) in Targeted Schools

Glasgow City Council have worked with a partner organisation to

develop the role of a Financial Inclusion Support Officer (FISO). Preparation work began on the pilot in September 2019, with 12 schools across the city being identified to take part to receive the FISO service. The FISO activities undertaken at each school were chosen in conjunction with the school staff using the local knowledge and relationships that already existed between



the key school contacts and pupils and parents. The activities undertaken have been underpinned by the creation of a "Support for Families" advice booklet and promotional materials. The outcomes for the period 25 November 2019 to 16 November 2020: The FISO has assisted 165 clients over the four schools. Total financial gains for these clients of £416,793. Managed debt of £37,854. An average financial gain per client of approx. £2,526.

Moray

Single Application Process for Multiple Benefits

In Moray the Benefits team administers a number of benefits in a single application process (Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction, Free School Meals, School Clothing Grants and Educational Maintenance Allowance). The application, once completed by the claimant permits the team to assess entitlement to any of these benefits the claimant and their household may be entitled to.

City of Edinburgh

Maximise!

Maximise! is a Family Advice and Support Project delivered in partnership by Children 1st and CHAI and supported by NHS Lothian, the Council and Capital City Partnership. Based in targeted schools across Edinburgh, the model is made up of integrated teams of



staff offering advice on benefits, debt or housing problems, employability and family wellbeing support. A key development this year has been the roll out to five Early Years Centres across the city. Maximise! has provided advice, employability and family support in 20 schools with their staff team increasing from 3 to 13. Recent impact reports on Maximise! show a total of £670k additional income generated for 380 parents

supported in 2019/20 at a Social Return of £35 for every £1 invested. Now also: Embedding the Early Years Maximise! approach through the Intensive Family Support Service (IFSS), developed across six City Deal local authority areas (Edinburgh, East, Mid and West Lothian, Fife and the Scottish Borders) and started in Edinburgh in July 2020. IFSS focusses mainly on lone parent, low-income households and takes a “whole family” approach to support people experiencing longstanding worklessness and poverty.

South Ayrshire

Information and Advice Hub School Outreach Service

South Ayrshire’s Information and Advice Hub, based in North Ayr,

offers a free, confidential and impartial information and advice service. In 2018/19 the Hub was established as the single point of contact for Financial Inclusion Referral Pathways, in partnership with the NHS. The referral pathway has continued to be utilised during 2019/20 by NHS and HSCP staff with a planned roll out to Education staff members later in the year which was delayed in April due to COVID. In 2019/20 the Hub established a weekly outreach service at Newton Primary School to deliver an advice service to parents of children attending the school. The service proved popular with parents and teachers, however due to COVID the service was placed on hold and it’s hoped to resume once restrictions ease.

West Dunbartonshire

Family Opportunity Hubs

The West Dunbartonshire Hub is a collaborative effort between the Council, Education Services which is partly funded through ESF and SAC funds. The aim is to provide support for families to stabilise their family circumstances and help their children to meet the demands of the school day. The Hubs are located in 3 secondary schools. Hub support is extended to local primary schools and early education and childcare centres. The Hubs are delivered by staff with experience of employability and welfare rights services. Support consists of money, welfare, fuel and financial services. They also support language skills, literacy, numeracy and vocational and non-vocational skills. The hubs in the next 12 months are to increase the number of staff and will be operational from further basis, increasing capacity to deal with referrals from other services such as Housing, Social Work and



NHS. The team will work with colleagues delivering the Connecting Scotland project and with the PESF project.

Inverclyde

Raising the Earnings Cap. Change the Eligibility Criteria for FSM, SCG to allow more families to qualify.

The income threshold for the locally enhanced FSM and SCG scheme has been increased in line with the increase to the Scottish Living Wage for 2020/21 applications. The result of the increased earnings threshold is that by 30 September 2019, 309 additional families qualified. 464 additional pupils received a school clothing grant of £145 and 333 children in Primary 5 and above now have free school meals as a result of the enhanced policy. See also: <https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/news/2019/jul/hundreds-more-families-eligible-for-free-school-meals>

West Dunbartonshire

Increase Access to Free School Meals



In December 2019 the West Dunbartonshire Council agreed to an expansion of access to free school meals. This major expansion will be phased in at schools across the area over the next two years. The £950,000 investment in 2020/21 will be partially funded by a rise in Council Tax of 4.84%.

Dumfries and Galloway

Automatic Registration System for Free School Meals and Clothing Grants

The Council is establishing a new Automatic Registration system for Free School Meals and Clothing Grants. This is largely in place at the time of the publication of their report. The reuse of DWP data is an issue. This has been raised with the DWP/COSLA and Scottish Government.



East Dunbartonshire

Online Forms for Children's Benefits

Families across East Dunbartonshire benefited from the launch of online forms for children's benefit entitlements for the first time this year. An online form for Free Nursery Meals, FSM, EMA and SCG was made available, enabling families' easier access to their benefits and saving busy parents' time and a visit to a Council office. The Business and Digital Change Team has begun work on the next stage of the project concerning auto renewal of payments. The aim is to ensure that annual renewal of benefits is automatic, rather than by submission of a completely new application and supporting documents. There are challenges around data sharing between organisations but the team is learning from other Local Authorities on auto-renewal.



2. Apps and Online Calculators

Scottish Borders

Money Worries App

NHS Borders and Partners (Council, CAB, and a local youth project) developed a Money Worries App designed to help people find services that can help with issues such money/debt advice, benefits, housing and homelessness, home energy/bills and some mental health and wellbeing services at both local and national level. The information will lead to information and contacts for people to use depending on their query. The App also analyses how people use it and will report on what information is looked up so that services and resources can be planned to meet requirements. Now available to download at www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/children-young-peoples-services-directory/health-improvement-team/mental-health-and-wellbeing/money-worries/

South Lanarkshire

My Life My Money App

A new app has been developed to increase access to available benefits and help people address money worries. My Life; My Money Lanarkshire provides comprehensive source of information, advice and support on welfare and money issues. It is available at <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/my-life-my-money/id1491749974>

Angus

Welfare Benefits Online Calculator

Supporting local people in Angus to improve their quality of life by claiming their entitlements has led to a significant outcome over the past 12 months. From the actions identified an online benefits calculator was developed and embedded into the Angus Council

website so residents could access this free tool at any time. It can be used for a variety of reasons, for example, to check:

- if residents are missing out on any entitlements
- if a resident's current entitlements are correct
- what impact a change in circumstances can have on entitlements.



The calculator is free to use, available 24/7 and no personal details are stored which gives the user confidence that any details they provide for the benefit entitlement check are not passed onto a third party. The calculator was invaluable in the early stages of Covid-19 when it was used 1200 times in one week alone and helped identify entitlements totalling £3.4m in that period. The

online calculator is in addition to the entitlement checks which are carried out by the welfare rights team as online digital tools are not suitable for all residents and the partnership wanted to be inclusive.



3. Health Settings

Funding is issued to territorial health board to create local capacity to establish or enhance financial inclusion referral pathways, to plan and deliver training on child poverty, money matters and referral pathways for universal maternity and health visiting workforce, and for the development of formal referral pathways (including consideration of electronic referrals).

West Dunbartonshire

Improving the Cancer Journey Service

West Dunbartonshire Council and Macmillan Cancer Support (funder) have launched the Improving the Cancer Journey Service to help people affected by cancer get the support they need, whether it's financial, emotional, medical or practical. The focus is on those already experiencing disadvantage, including those affected by family poverty. Since launching late April 2019 the service has assisted 300 people in West Dunbartonshire, generating £427,000 in benefit entitlements plus secured heating and white goods.

Reducing debt, improving financial outcomes, and ensuring houses are properly and efficiently heated impacts on outcomes for the entire family unit, not just the person affected directly by cancer.

Dumfries and Galloway

Welfare Advice in GP Practices

Opportunities to provide welfare advice services in identified GP Practices are being explored. Welfare advice for the under 60s is part of the commissioned service with Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service (DAGCAS). In order to expand current

provision early discussions with GP Clusters in Nithsdale and Wigtownshire and DAGCAS has resulted in an interest to deliver additional services where demand is identified. This action will be taken forward in 2020/2021.

Dundee

Welfare Advice in GP Practices

The siting of Welfare Advice within GP practices has been expanded, and now covers eight practices across the city (six covered by DCC Welfare Rights, and two by Brooksbank). This enables the service to be on hand for over 57,000 people. During 2019-20, DCC Welfare Rights staff raised additional income / benefits of £2.8m across the six venues covered, using the equivalent of just over 2 FTE Welfare Rights Officers. This shows that access via GP practices is an exceptionally good return, and a COSLA Gold Award was won as a result.

Lanarkshire

Social Prescription and Welfare Advice



NHS Lanarkshire has employed a community link worker co-ordinator as part of a developing model of social prescription and welfare advice. This will include hubs in targeted health centres with plans to recruit 9 link workers who will be linked with CABs and Money Matters. There are plans to employ 5 welfare advice officers to work alongside the community link workers.

Renfrewshire

Primary Care – GPs

This year Renfrewshire HSCP and Advice Works worked together to deliver a pilot embedding advice in two GP's surgeries. Using evidence from the Community Connectors programme to show at which surgeries the need for money and benefit advice was greatest, an advice worker was placed at the St James surgery in Paisley and at Linwood Health Centre. The pilot started in November 2019, and ran until the Covid-19 outbreak. In the roughly three months of the pilot almost £23,000 was gained for clients and feedback was positive. The main referrals were for benefit checks for clients and completion of PIP and ESA forms.



Glasgow

Embedded Financial Advice within General Practice

This model operates across 30 GP practices in Glasgow City HSCP, supporting patients living in the most deprived areas (mostly practices in North East and North West – 'Deep End' practices). Since December 2015 within the North East, the Deep End Money Advice project has embedded financial, housing, social security and debt advice in 17 GP Practices in three GP clusters, with aims to increase income via improved access to social security and to reduce household outgoings. Indirect impact on increased income via employment as a greater focus is being placed on referrals to employability services. From December 2015 to November 2019, 2,196 patients were referred by GP Practice staff and 1,384 patients



engaged with the service (66% uptake); the majority of patients have not accessed mainstream advice in the last year. 21% of patients had dependent children and 12% were lone parents. Patients have achieved a total financial gain of £5,042,608 over the last four years. A GCPH evaluation (2017/18) identified an average financial gain of £8,254 per patient (median £1,453) and

an average debt managed of £4,356 per patient (median £1,993). The total financial gain includes £1,943,441 in devolved benefits and £3,099,167 in other benefits. The project has helped patients to negotiate total debts of £1,727,025, composed of £463,406 (housing), £1,032,668 (non-housing) and £230,951 (council tax). An investment analysis indicates that the project generates over £27 in financial gains for every £1 invested. In 2019/20, funding for 22 of the Practices was sourced from Primary Care Transformation monies (£132,000), Clyde Gateway funded the remaining 8 Practices in Bridgeton GP cluster (£47,000). For 2020/21, 17 North East locality GP Practices are funded via Scottish Government Investing in Communities (£124,910) and South and North West locality GP Practices are funded by the HSCP.

Dundee

Embedding Financial Inclusion and Employability Questions

The inpatient adult nursing documentation has been reviewed to embed financial inclusion and employability questions as part of routine assessment and at point of discharge. A universal referral pathway and referral form has been established to support

health professionals to raise the question and refer the person to a single point of contact (money advice and employability services). This service will be applicable across Tayside, and a reporting and outcome framework will be developed to report on the progress of this work. An education and training programme has been developed by Public Health and this will be rolled out across services over the next 12 months. Over this period, Public Health colleagues will work with lead health professionals to raise awareness of the new pathways and to work across the system, so that financial inclusion and employability questions are incorporated into standard practice. A rolling programme will be developed with the support of colleagues in Public Health and with partners and service providers who are located within the multi-agency Advice Centre in Ninewells.

Moray

Making Every Opportunity Count Approach

Continue to grow and sustain 'Making every Opportunity Count' (MeOC) at a NHS Grampian and Community Planning Partnership level in Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray. Partners are continuing to grow and sustain MEOC as an overall approach across public and third sector partners in Grampian to support cultural shift - with everyone, every system and service doing a little to enable people to live as well as they can. The aspiration is that MEOC be the framework by which conversations could be had about all aspects of Financial Inclusion. It was



agreed that the ethos and principles of MEOC would provide the structure for the development of the Child Poverty Action Report, incorporating all that is being delivered. Opportunities to introduce the MEOC model have been identified, however there is still work to be done to roll it out more widely and embed it as a sustainable framework.

Moray

Warm Handovers to Financial Support Services

Providing more support to children and families in the hospital setting by providing advice, signposting and warm hand-overs to specialist financial support services, with regard to all aspects of income maximisation. Agreement with SAMH to deliver pilot project for 6 months starting in summer 2020. A Primary Care Link Worker with experience in engaging with families, income maximisation/

financial inclusion knowledge, and strong links with support services would attend the hospital setting one day per week (RACH and Aberdeen Maternity Hospital) to offer direct support to families and/or provide warm hand-over to specialist financial support agencies as required. The service would include all aspects of 'money matters', including debt advice, support to apply for social

security benefits, budgeting, and employability for example. Clinical staff would benefit from the increased confidence of having an 'expert' colleague to offer this support to families, and who will share their knowledge with the wider team as required. This work will also link well with Child Protection and neglect priorities. Anonymised

data will be collected over the pilot period to provide information with regard to numbers of contacts, types of support required, onward referrals and outcomes. The pilot will be evaluated to inform a sustained service implementation. Unfortunately the pilot start has needed to be deferred due to the impact of COVID-19.

Moray

Financial Inclusion Pathways

Good progress has been made to embed a 'Midwifery and Early Years Practitioners' Pathway to financial support services across Grampian using the MeOC model, through delivery of the Universal Health Visitor Pathway and the Family Nurse Partnership Programme. The Financial Inclusion Pathways (FIPs) have been developed to be locality specific, directing to one agreed financial support service to keep the process simple and minimise confusion. A new digitised recording system for Health Visiting is currently being rolled out across Grampian (piloted by Health Visitors in Aberdeen City) and this will enable us to identify the number of Health Visitor contacts made and the number of families signposted, or given a warm handover to, financial support services.



Dumfries and Galloway

Improving Links Between Money Advice and Other Services

There has been substantial work undertaken to improve links between money advice and support services and health services.



This has led to a greater number of referrals to support services and substantial financial gains for families living in Dumfries and Galloway. Referrals and average financial gain have increased between 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 for all services. This could be the result of improved detection of need and/or increasing levels of financial need. Working with the Children and Young People Improvement Collaborative, Health Visiting staff and Dumfries

and Galloway Citizens Advice staff have participated in an Improvement Practicum which has focused on reviewing and enhancing the processes for referral to financial and welfare advice. This has resulted in a more robust referral pathway, development of e-referrals and improved arrangements for feedback loops between the referring organisation and recipient service provider.



Glasgow

Healthier Wealthier Children FI Services for Families

This is the core financial Inclusion service for NHS staff to refer families to for income maximisation. Reporting on uptake of NHS Money Advice Service is shared with Team Leads, Early Years and Financial Inclusion Leads at Locality, Glasgow City and NHSGCC levels. This work is achieved by working collaboratively with Children and Families Teams and Midwifery. Gathering and analysis of referral data is captured at a locality level. Outcomes: From April 2018 to March 2019, 2,259 patients were referred by Community based Health Staff to the Early Years component of the NHS Money

Advice Service. Over £2.6million in Financial Gains for clients across the 3 localities. In addition there has been a further £200k in Debt Managed (£110k Housing debt, £90k non housing debt) and £178k council tax negotiated. This represents an increase on last year's outcomes for clients.

East Dunbartonshire

Healthier Wealthier Children

In East Dunbartonshire, the local Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) provides a wide and varied range of advice and support services, offering a holistic approach to mitigating the impact of financial poverty and was identified as the most appropriate partner in which to deliver the HWC programme within East Dunbartonshire. Following the success of this pilot, the Public Health Improvement Team continued to work with CAB to develop an East Dunbartonshire wide Income Maximisation Service, incorporating both the Children's and a previous Older Persons Income Maximisation programme. There is a commitment from all areas to keep the model going – the scheme is proving effective in increasing referrals and support to vulnerable families with an increase in referrals from 110 to 131 in 2018/19 with a financial gain of £334,315 in total (a 31% increase from previous year). HSCP Health Visiting Team was the most prolific in actively referring clients for Income Maximisation support.

Dundee

Financial Inclusion and Midwifery Services

Public Health colleagues are in the planning stage with Maternity, the Improvement Service and advice services to roll-out financial inclusion support across midwifery and health visiting services. Another year of Scottish Government funding (£20K) will be used to

employ a midwife on secondment to work closely with Public Health and Advice Services, to support the roll-out, including developing training materials, protocols, reports and monthly training by Public Health and Advice Services colleagues. The main mechanism for generating referrals will be via Badgernet, which is a mobile phone app that pregnant women are assigned to at the start of their pregnancy which replaces paper notes. The new app system will enable electronic referrals to be sent directly to advice services across Tayside. This will reduce the time it takes for midwives to complete paperwork in a busy first appointment.

Moray

Promotion of the Neonatal Expenses Fund

Promote the Neonatal Expenses Fund with the aim of identifying vulnerable parents who are eligible, so that they may be supported so spend as much time as possible with their babies while they are receiving care in the neonatal unit. Given the demographic



of Grampian, we know that the cost of travel particularly will be an added pressure to families at a time when they are already likely to be experiencing considerable stress. The Fund is available to all parents with a baby in a neonatal unit, however it needs to be promoted and parents supported to apply for it. All parents who have a baby admitted to the neonatal unit are provided with

the information that they require with regard to the Fund. Through liaison within the clinical management structure, an application form has been included within the universal information pack provided to

all families on admission. The aspiration for the future is to develop a mechanism for data collection, enabling an oversight of uptake of the fund and to use this information to further target promotion so that all vulnerable, eligible families can benefit.

Glasgow

Grants to Parents with Children in Royal Hospital for Children

To help parents with the additional demands on their income, with costs of visiting, loss of earnings etc. parents were able to apply for a grant that helped meet these additional costs. The outcomes were 611 referrals. Overall total financial gains of almost £2.5 million. Average gain per referral was almost £4,500. 243 families shared a total of over £10k in small emergency grants between £5 and £50. 154 families shared a total of over £40k in grants for long stay child patients.



Glasgow

Special Needs in Pregnancy Service (SNIPS) - Maternity Matters

There are 8 specialist midwives working with pregnant women, who have special needs during their pregnancy and who may have disengaged with mainstream maternity services. 3 of the 8 midwives have specialties in teenage pregnancy, homelessness, trafficked women and women who have undergone female genital mutilation. Women referred to the service have a breadth of vulnerabilities and the complexity and the trauma often experienced means that the



majority of women accessing the SNIPS Clinics are at much greater risk of antenatal or postnatal depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and postpartum psychosis. The negative impact of poverty begins before birth and accumulates across the life course. The delivery of this initiative has been shaped by the needs of its clients and Money Matters, who deliver the project, has adapted

to different techniques for communication and engagement. For some clients a money advice service is sufficient but for the most vulnerable a longer term person centred approach with advocacy is essential. 188 successfully engaged with the service. Total financial gain for clients was £539k. Total debt managed was £50k, of that £18k was housing debt.

Glasgow

Embedding Money Advice within Family Nurse Partnership

A pilot project to embed money advice within the FNP was implemented in April to December 2019 to improve families' access to potential grants and benefits that they may be eligible through working in partnership with GEMAP Scotland Ltd. An advisor was embedded within the FNP Programme at Cairnbrook Centre half a day a week to provide a bespoke Money Advice Service for service users and to provide capacity building for staff on Financial Inclusion. The service was tailored to meet the needs of patients referred and included telephone appointments, 1 to 1 appointments and home visits. All clients receive a Financial Health check at the outset. The immediate presenting issue is dealt with first and then

a bolt-on appointment is offered to all clients to deliver the Holistic Needs Assessment. A staff audit tool was developed to identify any staff training needs. Capacity building with staff on Financial Inclusion topics dependant on need delivered on a monthly basis. Outcomes: During this pilot period there were 27 referrals from FNP staff. The engagement rate was 58%. 13 claims for support, this resulted in financial gains of £21,867 and £2,639 of debts managed. A key lesson learned from this work, was that it was not essential to embed an advisor within the service to improve access to money advice services but to improve access for FNP staff to advice and information was more effective. A proposal has now been approved by the FNP Board to progress the work

Dumfries and Galloway

NHS Staff Working Well Strategy

The NHS Staff Working Well Strategy includes actions on financial inclusion for staff. This includes providing information for staff on Credit Unions, and welfare benefits including Universal Credit. Work has also been undertaken to provide information on available sources of support for staff experiencing money worries

e.g. Money Matters, Citizens Advice Service. Web based financial inclusion information for staff on NHS Dumfries and Galloway's intranet site. Information on financial support has been promoted on the Intranet as part of ad hoc news items. There is now a requirement to provide permanent information on financial inclusion/wellbeing the intranet.



East Dunbartonshire

Supporting Employees

Council and NHS local teams have provided financial advice and support e.g. via local intranet pages and promotion of a Credit Union. NHSGGC has consulted with lower paid staff. Many had money worries, so implemented changes to attendance management procedure, wage slip messages and nurse registration processes all to include money worries messages. In addition, staff money worries clinics were piloted.

Fife

Child Maintenance



In 2016 Poverty Alliance conducted research on Child Maintenance in Fife ('Bairns Come First: Fairness for their future') published when Fife Gingerbread launched the Child Maintenance Campaign in 2016. The Fife Child Maintenance Group – a multi-agency group chaired by Fife Gingerbread - wants to renew this campaign to understand the current landscape of child maintenance in Fife.

Glasgow

Single Financial Assessment

When we met with the North West Kinship Carer group they told us that the endless number of forms that they were required to

complete to obtain various benefits and grants was confusing and often put them off applying. We listened to their issues and with the support of the council's IT provider, CGI, agreed to work together on a single financial assessment form that will allow the applicant to complete one form that can be applied across a range of benefits, therefore saving time, encouraging take up and reducing child poverty.

East Renfrewshire

Increasing Awareness of Best Start Grants

All families in receipt of Free School Meals and clothing grants are issued with an annual letter to confirm entitlement. In 2019-2020 these letters were updated to include details about Best Start Grant entitlement to reach all potential applicants. All parents registering a birth with the Registration Service during 2019-2020 were advised about potential social security entitlements and provided with information leaflets relating to the Social Security Scotland Agency, Money Advice and Rights Team and the Citizen's Advice Bureau.

North Lanarkshire

Supporting Kinship Carers

Advice and Information is provided to Kinship Carers across the authority, in order access Kinship Care payments a benefit check is provided with assistance given to make appropriate claims for families. 258 benefit checks have been carried out for kinship carers, resulting in 101 claims, generating £140,293, between April 19 and March 2020.



4. Social Welfare Fund & Community Care Grants

City of Edinburgh

Cash Payments

All foodbank requests via the Scottish Welfare Fund were provided with a cash payment in place of a food parcel.

Angus

COVID Response: Changes to Grant Conditions and Payments

From March 2020 there has been an increase in Crisis Grant payments by 20% to provide greater financial support to those in most need. It is recommended that this continues for the remainder of 2020/21. In addition it is proposed that the Community Care Grant which assists with individuals setting up home be paid to not only high priority cases but also medium priority cases to benefit more

individuals. (Total cost £220K to June 2021 is contained in one off extra funding allocation by the SG for Crisis Grants).

Glasgow

Child Poverty Lens on Unsuccessful SWF applications

Glasgow City Council analysed all unsuccessful SWF applications from six key geographical areas for September 2018 to January 2019, with the focus of analysing applicant information from people who were pregnant or people with children. This pilot process was originally limited to applicants from the Calton and later extended to the top six areas of child poverty in the city: Calton, Canal, Drumchapel, Linn, Springburn and Southside Central (due to higher BME residents). A welfare rights officer was available to applicants when they made their SWF claim with the aim of providing a more

holistic approach and offering unsuccessful applicants benefit advice and alternative providers of assistance. Monitoring of this initiative shows that from July 2019 to March 2020 there have been 166 clients who have been supported to access either a number of charitable grants, obtain additional benefits and receive furniture/white goods, bringing financial gains of £199,994.85. During the



recent Covid-19 lockdown a decision was made to pause the pilot. In partnership with the funder a decision was made to end the pilot and focus on embedding advice services in trusted intermediaries (such as education and health settings), which are witnessing much higher returns and levels of engagement from families.

Falkirk

Improving Pathways to Families in Financial Crisis

Improve support pathways to families in financial crisis through the reduction in the proportion of refused applications for SWF support. Promote SWF to third sector organisations. Increase awareness of SWF across Council and NHS. Promote digital access in communities to support provision of evidence for Scottish Welfare Fund.

Renfrewshire

Council Tax Reduction Review/Other Data Sharing About Benefit

CTR claimants have decreased by c.700 over the last two years and it's unclear why; roll of UC may be one reason. Council Tax debt has been a common amongst those seeking debt advice. The Council

is tackling this by providing an enclosure in bills reminding people that CTR is available and how to claim it. A campaign has also been designed around this, with press and social media releases. A full examination of internal processes is planned, to make things easy as possible for prospective claimants. Stakeholders, such as RSLs are involved in this review. The review will also look at increased automation and linking to Free School Meals in a more holistic way. Working with SG and DWP to look at where we can share data, to allow better benefit maximisation.

Renfrewshire

Family First Service

Families First Service to support families with children aged 0-8 years. It provides help, support and advice in a family focussed way, covering promoting wellbeing, positive relationships, energy and employment advice and establishing good family routines. The service supports families to maximise their income and manage debts through embedded income advisers. The service has a dedicated Energy Advocate and a designated Employability Officer. Families First takes a holistic approach to supporting families by providing a single point of contact for parents, grandparents and carers. This year the service generated £1.68m for 191 families, by assisting with over 1000 issues.



Renfrewshire

The Council has its own Advice Works service, which provides advice on money and benefits. They also provide Families First staff

in our most deprived areas, Claimant Support Officers in our local Jobcentre Plus offices and advisers in our employability service. In 2019/20 this service was contacted by nearly 13,000 people and took on 4433 clients as cases including 1247 benefit appeals and mandatory reconsiderations. This appeals work resulted in gain for clients of £5.4m. The gain from welfare benefit claims was £23.2m. Debt managed for clients through money advice amounted to a further £3,189,739. The Council also funds Renfrewshire CAB.

Glasgow

The Private Rented Sector Hub: Benefit Cap Support



The council has a team dedicated to supporting customers affected by the benefit cap, of which the majority live in private landlord accommodation. The Hub deals mainly with families that have three or more children. They support, advise and refer on behalf of clients to support services on a number of key issues, such as: health, food and fuel poverty, welfare rights,

housing and employability. Since 2019, the hub has made 59 referrals to Jobs and Business Glasgow for employability support. The majority of these referrals are for lone parents who have never had any discussion about finding employment until they engaged with this service. In addition to employability referrals, a dedicated Welfare Rights Officer supports the PRS hub customers, and from June 2019 has delivered financial gains amounting to £241,296.42 as at July 2020. Improvement Services will work with Money Matters to look at social return on investment.

Glasgow

Development of Glasgow Financial Inclusion Strategy 2020-2025.

Financial Inclusion (FI) Team undertook a review of their current financial inclusion monitoring framework. This review resulted in a decision to make available a new online referral and customer relationship management system, the Fast Online Referral and Tracking (FORT) to all Glasgow Community Funded, including the Transition funded FI providers as a condition of grant. The FI team originally invested in the FORT system during the Universal Credit (UC) Support Project that allowed us to capture client information and their journey through the various services and the outcomes from their journey. This information, which we have never been able to capture before, helped us to shape the services to the needs of the client and report confidently the outcomes of the investment by analysing the data this system provides. We continue to work with the supplier to develop the system for our mainstream FI providers who we believe, through partnership working, will assist us in meeting our key objectives e.g. Reduce the level of Child Poverty in Glasgow.



5. Increasing Uptake of Benefits

Glasgow

1. The current birth appointment system with a Registrar was changed to capture the applicant's income details, request for supporting evidence and if the customer had previously applied for the Best Start Grant. At the end of the appointment there would be a handover to the GCC digital suite where the customer would be assisted with their online application for the payment. This meant one visit to register the birth and the applicant would have also submitted a BSG application. Since inception of the new service from January 2019 to February 2020 1,273 families have been supported to make their online application, with estimated financial gains of £763,800. The process was shared with Early Years staff and a quality improvement programme was initiated to increase referrals to money advice services.
2. Identification of those eligible but not applying for various school related benefits (FSM, EMA, SCG) and use of data to generate useful graphics about those most likely to be in poverty. Pre Covid-19 the Civic Centre for Innovation (CCI) was commissioned to identify data across multiple Council systems to help understand the depth of child poverty in Glasgow. CCI produced a report with a full range of data analysis, the Glasgow Child Poverty Report 2020. Using data from the Education system SEEMIS, the CCI was able to accurately identify the gap in those entitled to education benefits, but had not applied. CCI were able to show graphically other factual evidence such as: the number of children living in households that are classed as in poverty; the average weekly earnings from employment; and the average amount of money that households are living below the poverty line.

3. Glasgow has implemented new processes to promote the Early Learning Payment by communicating across all the council and partner nurseries, and linked the application process to the early years additional 1140 hours application form. Furthermore, we provided the link to the School Age Payment application as part of the primary 1 school enrolment process or a placing request form.

Perth and Kinross

1. Perth and Kinross will **identify those social security benefits where take-up rates are low**, find out from those with lived experience what barriers prevent them from claiming their entitlement and use this information to boost social security take-up rates. Perth and Kinross will work with CPPs, third sector and community organisations to **drive up social security uptake in rural areas** to make it easier for families to take up their full entitlement to social security and benefits in kind by ensuring 2,000 families in the priority groups are offered a welfare benefit check.
2. Covid 19 - Perth and Kinross **contacted all 7,500 tenants to undertake welfare checks** and ensured tenants were safe and well. We are providing assurance and support to tenants in rent arrears to ensure that all household incomes are maximised and all is done to avoid building up significant debts.
3. Perth and Kinross plan to run a **Scottish Child Payment Take-up** campaign to ensure that at least 85% of the family income of 9,801 eligible children is boosted.

City of Edinburgh

Estimates for Unclaimed Benefits for Edinburgh

Across the UK, DWP data shows that an estimated £8.1bn of available key income related benefits were not taken up by eligible families in 2017/18. No official estimates are available for this data at local authority level but, using share of population and/ or Edinburgh's share of UK Housing Benefits claimants as a guide, it is likely that Edinburgh residents account for some £70-80m of these unclaimed benefits.



East Renfrewshire

Direct Referrals

The Council Housing Team introduced a new direct referral process to the Money Advice and Rights Team (MART) for any tenant in arrears. MART work with these families to support new social security applications as well as provide income maximisation advice and then work jointly with the Housing Team to support the families as required.

Appendix 1



Links to Further Information about Child Poverty in Scotland

- [Knowledge Hub](#)

Taking Action on Child Poverty in Scotland is a group with members who are interested in tackling child poverty in Scotland. It's free to join and you get immediate access a range of information and the opportunity to link with others working to tackle child poverty in Scotland

- [Improvement Service Child Poverty Pages](#) which includes links to all published local child Poverty Action Reports

- [Public Health Scotland](#) Child Poverty Information and Resources

- [Poverty and Inequality Commission](#)

- [Child Poverty Scotland Dashboard](#): national data on child poverty in Scotland

- [Child Poverty Action Group Scotland](#)

- [Poverty Alliance](#)

These resources were pulled together by the National Co-ordinators for the Local Child Poverty Action Reports based at the Improvement Service and Julie Arnot, Senior Health Improvement Officer (Child Poverty), Public Health Scotland.

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Tackling Child Poverty in Scotland: Examples of Policy and Practice

Driver: Income from Employment

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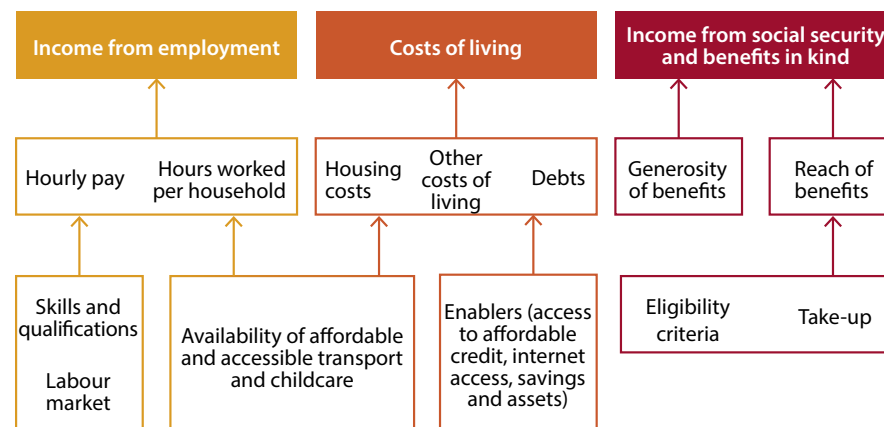
Introduction



The direct drivers of poverty fall into 3 main categories – income from employment, costs of living, and income from social security. Being in employment remains the most sustainable route out of poverty, but it is not a guarantee against poverty. The vast majority of children in poverty live in a household where at least one adult is in paid employment. The number of children in relative poverty

where at least one adult is in full time paid employment exceeds the number of children in relative poverty in families where no one is in paid employment. For more information, visit www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-annex-2-further-technical-information/pages/2/

Figure 1: Summary of the Drivers of Child Poverty



Policy and Practice Examples



These examples of policy and practice in addressing different aspects of child poverty have been drawn from the 2019/2020 Local Child Poverty Action Reports. These have been collected to share practice which will be of potential interest to other local authorities and those involved in work to reduce child poverty. At this stage these are not formally evaluated and should not be considered as 'best practice'. The intention of this document is not to 'map' the range of activity underway in local authority areas and it is not an exhaustive overview of examples from reports. It exists simply to provide examples of activity that might inform upcoming approaches to the development of content for reports, or might encourage report authors to find out more about some of the examples included.

The examples have been presented according to the key driver of poverty they might seek to address, although clearly there will be overlap in terms of the number of drivers that some of the following examples could fall within.

Wording has been changed in some of the examples to reduce the amount of text and if any mistakes have been introduced into the text as a consequence of that please let us know.

If you would like to find out more about any of the examples quoted below, please contact the National Co-ordinator for the Local Child Poverty Action Reports who can provide contact details.

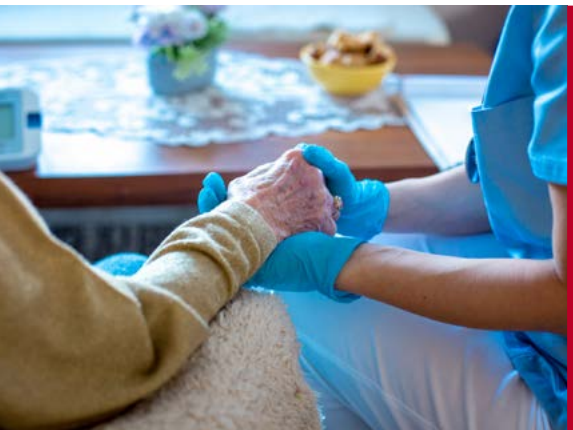
In all cases you can ask yourself:

- How would this approach work in my local context? Do I know what is already happening in my area and would this approach add to this?
- What more can I do to ensure that this approach benefits those who are most likely to experience child poverty i.e. the priority groups?
- Will the benefit reach those with protected characteristics?
- If I make a change, how will I know that I am making a positive difference?

Renfrewshire

Living Wage Accreditation Plan

Renfrewshire's Living Wage Accreditation Action Plan contains a number of different actions which promote the payment of the living wage in Renfrewshire, particularly across the Council's supply base. Renfrewshire Council is committed to the Living Wage and recognises the differences payment of the Living Wage can make to the lives of its employees and in tackling low pay by contractors who provide services funded by the council. The action plan is monitored and reported on by the Living Wage Working Group which makes sure the Council takes part in regular reviews with the Scottish Living Wage Foundation.



Within the Council's Procurement process, Living Wage is considered to be a key indicator of fair practice. Contractors which supply employees must pay them the Living Wage. Following negotiation, all of our contracted Care at Home providers and Supported Living providers have confirmed that care staff are paid the Living Wage, including Out of Area providers.

Businesses which are signing up to Invest in Renfrewshire are given advice regarding the accreditation process. At the moment we have 71 accredited living wage employer, an increase of 14 on last year. We are continuing to work with local businesses, the Living Wage Foundation and Community Planning Partners to increase this number.

Fife

Promote Fife as a Living Wage region

The interim target to double the number of accredited Living Wage employers in Glenrothes from 9 to 18 was achieved within the first six months of this action. It is estimated that Living Wage accreditations have benefited 200 employees in Glenrothes with a total increase in income of £75,000. (They state that Covid 19 has made Living Wage accreditation an unrealistic proposition for businesses etc.



East Ayrshire

Achieving Living Wage Status

In April 2020, East Ayrshire Council secured accredited living wage status. As a direct result of this, 350 of the Council's third-party contracted employees received a real Living Wage of £9.30. As part of the accreditation journey the Council engaged with individual contractors and found that 88% were already committed to paying the real Living Wage. The Council has committed to continuing to work with contractors to get this figure as close to 100% as possible.

South Lanarkshire

Promoting Fair Work and the Real Living Wage

We have developed a booklet to promote fair work and the real living wage to employers. The council also co-hosted a Living Wage

Big Breakfast during living wage week, aimed at local employers. The living wage accreditation discount scheme was launched in March 2019 and has continued with 13 employers taking up the offer of the discount by April 2020 leading to 179 staff receiving a pay uplift due to the scheme. The councils Business Development Support Enquiries now require applicants to confirm if they pay a living wage. The council has also added a requirement within the commissioning process for the Business Gateway to discuss and monitor the living wage with all businesses supported. As a result of this activity the number of accredited living wage employers across South Lanarkshire has grown by over a third compared to last year from 67 in April 2019 to 90 in April 2020. South Lanarkshire



continues to rank as the 4th best authority in Scotland for the number of accredited living wage employers. The Council, NHS Lanarkshire and other partners have prioritised working with supported businesses who are living wage employers and provide employment for people with disabilities or from disadvantaged circumstances e.g. 106 contracts awarded by the

council in 2018-2019, 83 suppliers were committed to paying the real living wage and 24 were accredited living wage employers.

Glasgow

Glasgow Living Wage

Glasgow will continue work to influence partners to pay the Glasgow Living Wage, which is based on the National Living Wage at £9.30 per hour. There are currently around 400 employers with more

than 89,000 staff who pay the Glasgow Living Wage. NHS GGC will become a Living Wage Accredited employer before the end 2020.

Dumfries and Galloway

Regional Economic Strategy

The current RES promoted the Living Wage and directed investment from the Council and Scottish Government Town Centre Funds. The creation of the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership with investment in a range of projects across Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders of £10M; continuing work of the South of Scotland Alliance and Forum; and creation of the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Partnership meant there was continued investment in projects that will support employment across the region and also set a new context for our economic agenda that will further develop in the next LCPAR.

Glasgow

The Young Parent's Support Base

Young Persons Support Base has been operating since 2010 and is a city-wide resource, based at Smithycroft Secondary school with outreach support for young parents across Glasgow. This service meets 2 of the 6 priority groups, i.e. mothers under the age of 25 and parents with a child under 1, and aims to support young parents (men and women up to the age of 19 years) to attain the best possible start in life for themselves and their children. The service works with young parents



who attend mainstream secondary schools, young women who are disengaged from learning but who are of school age and older teenage parents, who have left school. To date 28 of the students have taken up employment with GCC as a Support for Learning Worker, one is awaiting a start date, one took up employment as a Child Development Officer while 6 are awaiting start date and 5 awaiting interview.

Glasgow

City Employability Pipeline

Employability Pipeline Phase 2 mentioning child poverty as a cross cutting theme and all bidders asked how their bids will contribute to addressing child poverty and how they will support parents.

East Ayrshire

Promoting Fair Work Practices

Role model good employer practices across the CPP and work with colleagues in the third and private sectors to promote fair working practices. Engagement with the Scottish Government Fair Work team, including a presentation to the CPP Board, led, in December 2019, to the adoption of a joint pledge by East Ayrshire Council and CPP Board to 'Promote the dimensions of Fair Work within local workplaces with the aim of achieving our ambition for Kilmarnock to become a Fair Work Town by 2025'. The principles of Fair Work (including No Zero Hours Contracts, Tackling the Gender Pay Gap, Workforce Development and Trade Union



recognition) are important to the Community Wealth building initiatives which are being taken forward locally on a pan-Ayrshire basis. Work had commenced prior to the current crisis to enshrine the principles of Fair Work, and it will be more important than ever that this continues. In April 2020, the Council secured accredited living wage status after undergoing a rigorous application process.

Aberdeenshire

Targeting In Work Poverty

The report 'Towards a Fairer Aberdeenshire' has been developed to outline the impact of the Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Strategic group, which covers the whole of Aberdeenshire. There has been funding to target those experiencing in-work poverty through the community hubs in Peterhead and Fraserburgh. Measures such as extending opening hours and provision of free online training as well as working towards The ideal timeframe for Aberdeenshire Council to progress an application for employer accreditation is early November 2020 with a target completion date of April 2021. The new hourly rate of "Real Living Wage" (RLW) will be announced on 6th November 2020 which precedes National Living 13 enhancing workforce planning and pathways. Aberdeenshire Council is taking steps towards gaining accreditation as a Living Wage Employer following its Business Services Committee decision on 23rd April to add the matter to the Outstanding Business List and to seek to progress this within a realistic timescale, bearing in mind the current pandemic situation.



Renfrewshire

Parental Employment Support Fund

A keyworker for unemployed people and 2 keyworkers for employed



people will be funded through this programme to ensure that specific resources are available for both groups. The role of the keyworker will be to guide and support the clients through an employability programme of support which includes assessment of skills, identifying potential career opportunities, employability workshops and support, groupwork for confidence building, CV support and how to

prepare for interviews. Invest will also support the following:

- identify, and work towards, an employment goal
- Fund training or new skills to enhance employment prospects
- Provide financial advice on how to maximise income and benefits
- Help to job search and prepare for interviews
- Link to employers looking for staff with the client's skills and experiences
- Increase income from employment

PESF Funding will be used for activities such as driving lessons to support people working on low incomes in Care and other areas where these could lead to an increased hourly rate and/or more responsibility. Where there is a clear correlation between upskilling

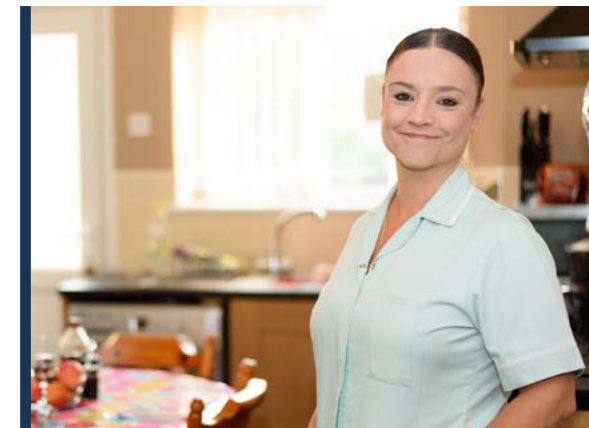
and promoted posts, training provision will also be purchased. Developing new skills and abilities through funded training and traineeship hours will help build skills, CVs and confidence. There has also been liaison between NHSGGC human resources department on their employability initiatives to attract parents on low income and local authority parental employment support fund developments across NHSGGC.

The PESF Project will reduce gender inequality and improve the prospects for women within their workplace by offering access to accredited vocational qualifications which will improve employment and increase earning capacity. The project will mainly target women with the focus on improving pay. This will directly be contributing to reducing gender inequality and will have a positive impact on the gender pay gap. We will continue to promote the Living Wage to local employers and traineeship opportunities created by PESF will all be paid at the Living Wage rate.

Inverclyde & NHSGGC

Various initiatives

NHSGGC provides a range of employability outreach activity, Inverclyde is included in this. In 2020/21, in line with guidance from national Healthy Working Lives partners, NHSGGC aims to undertake a family friendly audit of its policies. In terms of Living Wage Accreditation, Inverclyde will work to influence partners, including the NHS to achieve accreditation.



NHSGGC

Work with lower paid staff

NHSGGC has consulted with lower paid staff. Many had money worries, from the research changes to attendance management procedure, wage slip messages and nurse registration processes all include money worries messages. In addition, staff money worries clinics are being piloted.

North Ayrshire

Skills for Life – lone parents

The Skills for Life initiative is an intensive skills and training programme that helps support the long-term unemployed get back into employment. It's a partnership of the Council, Ayrshire College, DWP, CEIS Ayrshire and Childcare and Recreational Information Service (CARIS). The focus is on single parents – to help provide them with a chance to gain real experience in the workplace. 15 people completed the programme in 2019/20. 11 have secured permanent employment with the council and a further 2 have secured employment in the private sector. Participants are on

average £90 per week better off. The programme has been successfully delivered in North Ayrshire for the past three years with many of its participants going on to secure jobs. The participants will take part in a skills and training academy at the Ayrshire College, receive childcare and money advice and begin a 26-week work placement with the Council in roles such as catering, cleaning,



janitorial staff, admin assistant, care at home assistant and assistant customer service advisor. On completion of the programme, they will continue to be supported by all partners in their quest for employment.

Renfrewshire

HSCP Planning and Public Health

The team have contributed to increasing awareness of employability and the associated health impacts for patients with staff and partners. As reported in Year 1, The Employability Pipeline model has been developed as a framework to support the effective delivery of employability services. Organisations work collaboratively to support and progress each individual through their personal pathway towards, and into, a positive destination.

Renfrewshire HSCP Planning and Public Health team, have developed an employability resource to support professionals across Renfrewshire to raise the issue of employability with participants. The resource is broken down to cover all stages of the Employability pipeline. The resource details services in Renfrewshire which are available to support participants at each stage. In 2019/20 the resource was distributed to Mental Health, Addictions, Allied Health Professionals, Family Nurse Partnership and Community Connectors staff. The resource was also distributed with employability specialist's partners including Invest in Renfrewshire, DWP and third sector partners Recovery Across Mental Health staff.



Recognising the importance of employability and the impact it can have on health outcomes. As a result the Renfrewshire HSCP Planning and Public Health team supported a partnership between NHSGGC Physiotherapy Service and Invest in Renfrewshire to support individuals with Musculoskeletal (MSK) problems access employability support. As a result of this partnership 12 people with MSK problems have received specialist employability support on offer by Invest in Renfrewshire to move along the employability pipeline.

10.26 The HSCP Planning and Public Health team has also worked in partnership with Invest in Renfrewshire to set up a single point of contact for all referrals from HSCP Mental Health and Addictions services into Invest in Renfrewshire's employment support services. Since setup in January 2020 5 individuals have been referred by HSCP Mental Health and Addictions teams for support to progress along the Employability Pipeline.

North Lanarkshire

Supported Enterprise

21 care leavers are being supported through the Family Firm Project (ROOTS) 13 of whom are currently in employment and the remaining 8 are being supported in training, development and finding employment. 215 people with a learning disability have been referred to the service. 175 of whom have been supported into employment and the remaining 40 at different stages of the supported employment five stage model. 79 people with mental health issues have been referred to the service, 59 are currently being supported in work, with the remaining 20 at different stages within the model. 1043 unemployed residents with at least two barriers to entering the labour market were supported into employment. 74% have sustained employment for at least 6 months.

East Ayrshire

Building Thriving Local Economies

Work with Barclays to deliver a three-year economic growth initiative in Kilmarnock, as part of the 'Thriving Local Economies' scheme. Barclays 'Building Thriving Local Economies' Kilmarnock initiative was launched on 11 June 2019 at Ayrshire College, Kilmarnock. A series of further engagement sessions followed, with community planning partners and local business leaders, to inform development of a programme of bespoke support for Kilmarnock and surrounding areas. Three key focus areas were subsequently identified, namely co-ordination of Digital skills, SME support and increased mentoring support. A series of business development sessions were delivered in partnership with the local CVO and, since August 2019, all secondary schools in Kilmarnock gained access to the bank's Life Skills programme, which aims to equip young people with skills they need for the world of work. Further consideration is now being given to tailoring Barclays support to reflect the local covid-19 recovery and renewal agenda.

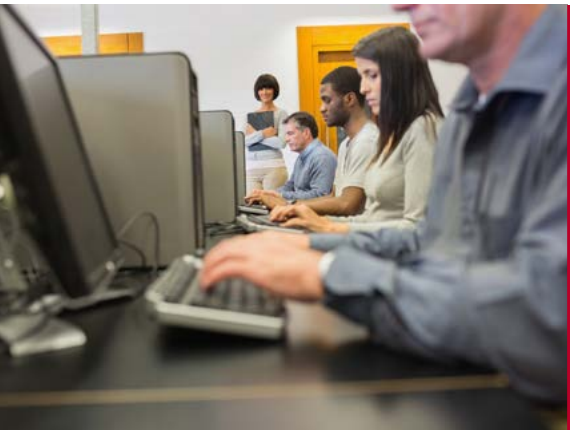


West Dunbartonshire

Access to Further Education

The collaboration between West College Scotland and West Dunbartonshire Council facilitates adults' participation in a range of learning opportunities at a variety of levels. We deliver a range

of subjects many of which are geared towards opportunities in the local labour market. The venues used are located throughout West Dunbartonshire and childcare is provided to facilitate participation



and we use local centres to minimise travel costs and enable learners to engage in the opportunities from within their local communities. We deliver up to 2,000 hours of learning for residents. Services delivered in schools, specifically geared towards attracting parents. This encourages access but also reduces the cost of participation.

Fife

Making it Work for Lone Parents Project

Making it Work for Lone Parents is a partnership project delivered by Fife Gingerbread and Citizens Advice & Rights Fife to support lone parents overcome barriers to employment. Fife Gingerbread supports lone parents to overcome barriers to progression and build resilience through a person-centred approach. CARF are integrated throughout the project providing specialist money advice at all support stages of their employability journey. 2019-20:

- 134 lone parents engaged with project
- £77,945 financial gain through income max. activity
- £38,583 debt identified and support provided
- 16 money advice group sessions facilitated, 354 participants
- 43 work, education and training outcomes were achieved.

Edinburgh

Employability Approach

Edinburgh's employability support is targeted on people who have significant barriers to work such as having a disability or mental health problem or being in recovery from alcohol or drug use. Our services are open to and welcoming of parents but not necessarily targeted at them. Many of the employability services provide people with a 'one stop shop', with support and advice for benefits built in.

Examples of services include All in Edinburgh which supports people with disabilities and long-term health conditions with employment and welfare rights. Many people who use this service have complex benefits arrangements including Personal Independence Payments and Access to Work. The Works, a small-scale service run by NHS Lothian, supports people with mental health problems.

The Next Step programme, started in April 2019, supports unemployed and low-income families across the city, and partners with Citizen's Advice Edinburgh and One Parent Families Scotland. Third Sector grants support smaller client-focussed services for particular client groups such as young people and people leaving prison. LinkNet works specifically with BAME communities, which are known to be at increased risk of being out of work or in poorly paid jobs. The No-one Left Behind initiative provides a more extended range of support to young parents, with help to develop personal, social skills and parenting skills as well as support for employment.



Smaller organisations are also supported to help their clients to get essential financial support and the Joined up for Jobs forum has recently partnered with Turn2Us and Edinburgh Trust to do this. Joined up for Jobs is also working with Social Security Scotland to make sure that people can access the Best Start payment and Job Start payment.

Angus/Tayside

Tay Cities Engineering Partnership



The Tay Cities Engineering Partnership (TCEP) has an ambition to bring together the expertise of key private and public engineering facilities across Tayside in a new collaboration. This collaboration will drive up the skills and technology base of the sector so it becomes more competitive in an international marketplace.

The project will enable the exchange of expertise between industry and education, accelerating the pace of research and development (R&D) and, crucially, delivering benefits to businesses and the economy.

The project aims to:

- create a state-of-the-art centre for training, demonstration and product prototyping
- help increase the uptake of companies using digital technologies and advanced manufacturing techniques for design, prototyping and Proof Of Concept

- increase awareness of employment opportunities in the engineering and manufacturing sector
- increase those gaining vocational/non-vocational qualifications in alignment with industry needs

TCEP will build on the great tradition of engineering innovation within the region. It aims to help deliver a step-change required by Industry 4.0 to:

- meet the capability needs of the sector and its employers
- upskill the region
- encourage R&D
- promote the opportunities of a career in engineering

Appendix 1

Links to Further Information about Child Poverty in Scotland

- [Knowledge Hub](#)

Taking Action on Child Poverty in Scotland is a group with members who are interested in tackling child poverty in Scotland. It's free to join and you get immediate access a range of information and the opportunity to link with others working to tackle child poverty in Scotland

- [Improvement Service Child Poverty Pages](#) which includes links to all published local child Poverty Action Reports

- [Public Health Scotland](#) Child Poverty Information and Resources

- [Poverty and Inequality Commission](#)

- [Child Poverty Scotland Dashboard](#): national data on child poverty in Scotland

- [Child Poverty Action Group Scotland](#)

- [Poverty Alliance](#)

These resources were pulled together by the National Co-ordinators for the Local Child Poverty Action Reports based at the Improvement Service and Julie Arnot, Senior Health Improvement Officer (Child Poverty), Public Health Scotland.

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Report

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Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Welfare Services Support for Households 2020-21
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with an update on the support that has been provided to households in South Lanarkshire during 2020-21 from a range of council services and organisations.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the extensive support provided by a wide range of services and organisations in helping households manage their financial position is noted; and
- (2) the range of support activity planned for 2021-22 is noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. A wide range of national support has been put in place by government and business since the start of the pandemic to assist households manage their financial commitments. This includes introduction of the furlough scheme, business support grants, suspension of eviction action and holds placed on debt recovery action. While this has undoubtedly helped support families, the demands placed on key services and organisations has been significant as many still struggle because of reduced wages or redundancy with a resulting increase in reliance on benefits and food aid.
- 3.2. This report focuses on how council services (Money Matters Advice Services, Benefits and Revenues, Housing and Community Participation), Citizens Advice Bureaus, Scottish Social Security Agency and NHS have responded to the increased need to provide vital support to many households in South Lanarkshire. This support has been delivered by staff agilely throughout 2020-21.
- 3.3. A wide range of data provided by the various services and organisations that demonstrate both the impact of the pandemic and the levels of support being provided is presented in Appendix 1 with highlights included in section 4.

4. Service / Organisation Update

4.1. Benefits and Revenues Service

- 4.1.1. A four-month suspension was placed on council tax collection activity early in the pandemic and throughout the year council tax staff have provided support to those

households who have fallen into arrears or are experiencing difficulty with payment, with the main support centring on the uptake of council tax reduction. There has been a 46% increase in applications for council tax reduction this year due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, resulting in over £2m of additional support being provided compared to 2019-20.

- 4.1.2. There has been a 34% increase in applications to the Scottish Welfare Fund (SWF) with the biggest increase being in relation to Crisis Grants. As at the end of March 2021, 17,731 applications had been received to the SWF with 10,247 awards being made totalling £3.501m.
- 4.1.3. A range of specific payments were made by the service following receipt of Scottish Government funding to support many low-income families including free school meal (FSM) payments during school holiday and closure periods, those self-isolating, £100 winter and spring payment to FSM children and £50 fuel payment to each household. In addition, low-income households have received £100 to each child attending an Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) establishment and £100 to each child aged 0-3 years old. A £50 fuel payment has also been made to households in temporary accommodation.

4.2. Money Matters Advice Service (MMAS)

- 4.2.1. The service has seen a 63% increase in the number of enquiries coming through the general enquiries line with many clients approaching the service for advice relating to loss of employment or reduction in the number of hours worked and the corresponding effect on incomes and ability to meet debt commitments.
- 4.2.2. The number of telephone benefit checks have increased 46% due to the move away from face-to-face service delivery and increased demand for this type of service. Levels of debt written off has reduced to £1.126m at March 2021, compared to £2.251m at March 2020. This reduction is attributable to lenders suspending recovery action. Benefits awarded totalled £17.733m, lower than in 2019-20 due to the suspension of assessment activity and limited reporting capability in the early phase of the pandemic.

4.3. Citizens Advice Bureaus

- 4.3.1. The CABs have experienced a significant number of enquiries relating to Universal Credit (UC), legacy benefits and other benefits, with approximately 27% relating to UC, 9% legacy benefits and 64% other benefits. One CAB dealt with 1,006 UC enquiries, 324 legacy benefit enquiries and 2,339 other benefit enquiries.
- 4.3.2. The value of debt written off was lower than in the previous year, with £0.502m compared to £0.892m for 2019-20. Benefits awarded totalled £4.715m, also lower than in 2019-20. The reasons for the reductions are similar to those for MMAS.
- 4.3.3. The CABs have also been able to assist clients in crisis by referring to foodbank agencies or for assistance from council services (e.g. the Scottish Welfare Fund). This is in addition to providing a range of advice including employment, consumer and utilities all delivered in an agile way.

4.4. Food Aid

- 4.4.1. Significant resources have been applied to the sourcing and distribution of food aid. The council has worked with third and community sector partners to ensure supply and up until the end of 19 May 2021 had provided 28,288 bags of food through the Scottish Government Food Fund (equating to 433,732 meals).

4.4.2. The latest figures for the foodbanks operating in South Lanarkshire (Hamilton district; Cambuslang and Rutherglen; Clyde, Avon and Nethan Valley; East Kilbride district; Clydesdale; EK Loaves & Fishes; EK Share Alike) indicate that over the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, a total of 27,750 households were referred for assistance, with 50,656 people being fed through emergency food distribution during the past 12 months.

4.4.3. Other initiatives to support residents include a recipe booklet for foodbanks and COVID-19 support groups, wellbeing and cleaning packs and young people packs.

4.5. Housing

4.5.1. New claims for UC made by council tenants from March 2020 to March 2021, increased from 25% to 33%. As at March 2021, there were 7,915 council tenants on UC, of which 58% were in rent arrears. This is in comparison to 31% of all tenants in arrears.

4.5.2. For tenants on UC the total amount of arrears owed rose by 21%. There is an expectation that as furlough ends in September 2021, the level of UC claims and rent arrears will increase again.

4.5.3. Housing Services have successfully introduced an enhanced Tenancy Sustainment Fund, to provide financial assistance to support tenants who have rent arrears to maintain their rent account, sustain their tenancy and prevent homelessness.

4.5.4. There continues to be an increasing pressure on homelessness services, particularly from individuals and households facing financial hardship, and an associated demand for temporary and permanent accommodation.

4.6. Universal Credit

4.6.1. There has been an increase of 70.3% in the number of households receiving UC from March 2020 to March 2021. Of these, 66.5% of claimants were not in employment and 33.5% of claimants were in employment. 48.1% of households receiving UC at February 2021 were receiving a child element in their payment, an increase of 48.1% since February 2020.

4.6.2. There has been a 42.6% increase in the number of households taking advantage of the Scottish Choices more frequent payment option, again an indication of the financial pressure some households were under.

4.6.3. The number of people having sanctions imposed by the DWP reduced from 125 at February 2020 to 31 at February 2021, reflecting an easing by the DWP on the impact of the pandemic on individual's ability to find employment.

4.7. Social Security Scotland

4.7.1. Social Security Scotland is currently delivering 10 benefits with the latest new benefit to be launched was the Scottish Child Payment from Monday 15 February 2021. The new benefit will give eligible families on low incomes with children under 6 an extra £10 per week for each child. It is planned to be fully rolled out to eligible families with children under the age of 16 by the end of 2022. Published statistics up to 31 March 2021 report benefits of £0.210m being paid out for the new benefit to families in South Lanarkshire.

4.7.2. The current local delivery staff recruited in South Lanarkshire have secured a base within Brandon Gate, Hamilton and are currently working from home.

4.8. NHS

- 4.8.1. Midwives, Health Visitors and Family Nurses work with families to help identify any money worries and make referrals to money advice services. During April 2020 and March 2021, there were 834 referrals which is lower than last year (1,005) due to the impact of the social restrictions in reducing face-to-face appointments with annual award for benefits accumulated to £2.164m.
- 4.8.2. During 2020-21, a total of 30 Lanarkshire families received support from the Family Support and Financial Inclusion - Royal Hospital for Children initiative with a total financial gain of circa £0.206m. Most of the beneficiaries were families caring for children with a disability under the age of 19 years.
- 4.8.3. Hamilton and Rutherglen CAB working in partnership with South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership, supported 390 clients to provide advice, support and representation at First Tier Tribunal over the period with a total of 589 outcomes leading to a client financial gain of £0.493m.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1. 2020-21 has seen significant demand placed on a range of welfare services and organisations to support those households most affected by the pandemic. Staff across the services and organisations referred to in the report have responded effectively in delivering support to those in need through both existing channels (e.g. SWF) and new (e.g. Winter/Spring payments, ELC support and Tenants Sustainment Fund).
- 5.2. Funding from national and local government has allowed local government and DWP to provide direct financial aid to many. Advice Services have also helped to ensure households claim the benefits there are entitled to while remaining proactive in referring households to other specialist sources of financial help and advice, for example Money Matters Advice Service and DWP.

6. Outlook

- 6.1. Looking to 2021-22, the end of furlough in September may result in a loss of employment and an ongoing increase in debt recovery activity may result in more households seeking support. However, the experience of delivering services during the height of the pandemic leaves services and organisations well placed to deliver future support effectively.
- 6.2. COVID-19 Briefing 13/2020 – Funding to support low-income households, outlined a range of supportive actions to be taken in 2021-22 following receipt of additional Scottish Government funding. Actions included a £0.500m increase for SWF, £0.075m support for carers, £0.100m for clothing essentials for young people and £0.330m for a COVID-19 response fund.
- 6.3. Other examples of the support that is expected to assist households affected by the pandemic include: -
 - The roll out of new benefits by the Scottish Social Security Agency will also provide direct financial support to eligible households.
 - The new Community Wellbeing Helpline will be available to offer households support and signposting with an outreach initiative planned with Education Resources.
 - A GP Community Link Worker (CLW) programme is currently being developed. The GP CLWs will support patients, enabling them to identify and access relevant resources or services in their community. To complement these generic link worker roles a financial wellbeing pathway has been put in place for referrals from GPs and Community Link Workers in collaboration with South

Lanarkshire CABs and Money Matters Advice Service. This pathway commenced on 1 April 2021 and will run for 2 years in the first instance as part of a pilot phase.

- £520 bridging payments for the Scottish Child Payment in 2021 and 2022.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. The increased demand for welfare support from households has impacted on the workload across the services and organisations referred to in the report. At times this has placed staff under significant pressure to ensure households receive the necessary support. However, staff have worked tirelessly and often in challenging circumstances to make this happen.
- 7.2. Employees have also adapted quickly to new ways of working to ensure households continue to be supported and the move away from conducting routine face-to-face appointments in advice services has helped increase efficiency.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. The Scottish Government has provided additional funding to councils to allow for increased financial support to be provided to those individuals affected by the pandemic. This funding is often a consequence of decisions taken by the UK Government that results in increased funding being directed to Scotland.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. There remains a risk that the services delivering support to households are unable to cope with the expected continuing increase in demand for services over the coming year. Services have adapted quickly to new ways of working and are engaging with customers in new ways that are proving more efficient, thereby reducing the risk.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 11.2. Ongoing dialogue will continue with trade unions, community groups, the DWP, CAB, national and local forums, neighbouring local authorities and the NHS.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information

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Welfare Reform Data

Organisation / Service	Measure	How will the measure improve understanding of the impact of Welfare Reform and the support provided?	March 2020	March 2021	Commentary
SLC / Benefits and Revenues	Number and value of awards for council tax reduction	The measure will highlight uptake levels	29,428 £19.760m	31,743 £21.859m	Increase in caseload due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
	Number of applications and awards for the Scottish Welfare Fund	The measure will show trends and resource implications for those in crisis or requiring support to live in the community	13,259 7,220	17,731 10,247	Significant spike in demand in 2020-21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
	Number and value of discretionary housing payments	The measure can highlight the impact of different Welfare Reforms e.g. benefit cap, Local Housing Allowance (LHA), size criteria and hardship	7,026 £3.613m	8,858 £4.350m	Increase in cases unable to meet any shortfall in their rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
	Number of automatic awards for free school meals	The measure will show the number of families in receipt of the benefit through the auto enrolment process	Auto families only – 4,954 All families – 6,386	Auto families only – 5,049 All families – 6,247	The increased Council Tax Reduction caseload as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in an increase in automated awards of FSM
	Uptake of school meals	The measure will show the number of children benefitting from the award	9,964	9,677	Reduction reflects children who no longer qualify for free school meals either due to them leaving SLC education establishments or changes in their household income.
	Number of clothing grants provided	The measure will show the number of children benefitting from the award	12,362	13,021	Increase in 2020-21 due to increased entitlement to low-income benefits as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
	Number of educational maintenance allowances provided	The measure will show the number of children benefitting from the award	1,116	1,055	No significant change (figures as at February 2018).
	SLC / Money Matters Advice Service	Number of cases for benefits advice	The measure will show the number of people seeking benefit advice and will also show	5,543	2,802

Organisation / Service	Measure	How will the measure improve understanding of the impact of Welfare Reform and the support provided?	March 2020	March 2021	Commentary
		trends and resource implications			signposting and not included in March 2021 position.
	Number of cases for money advice	The measure will show the number of people with multiple debts, including rent and council tax arrears who require assistance to negotiate with creditors to arrange manageable repayments and access statutory debt solutions	907	486	Moratorium on debt collection reduced the number of cases. The suspension of evictions during 2020-21 also help to minimise the number of cases.
	Number of general enquiries	The measure will show the number of people who had their problem or enquiry resolved at the time of presentation without the need for follow up work and will show trends and resource implications	6,535	10,634	Significant increase is attributable to COVID-19 impact on individuals income, the need for advice on employment and furlough and UC enquiries.
	Number of people provided with a telephone benefit check	The measure will show the number of people seeking benefit advice and will show trends and resource implications	2,305	3,368	Increase due to the need to support individuals experiencing an impact on their income and employment
	Value of annual benefit awards	The measure will show the financial gain for clients as a result of the support provided by MMAS	£28.489m	£17.733m	Benefit assessments suspended due to COVID-19 and reporting capabilities.
	Value of backdated benefit awards	The measure will show the financial gain for clients as a result of the support provided by MMAS	£4.718m	£3.443m	Benefit assessments suspended due to COVID-19 and reporting capabilities.
	Number of people entering into a debt arrangement scheme	The measure will show the number of people receiving the statutory protection offered by a debt arrangement scheme and will show trends and resource implications	60	17	Reduction due to suspension of debt recovery activity by organisations
	Value of debt written-off	The measure will show the financial gain for clients as a result of the	£2,251m	£1.126m	Reduction due to suspension of debt recovery

Organisation / Service	Measure	How will the measure improve understanding of the impact of Welfare Reform and the support provided?	March 2020	March 2021	Commentary
		support provided by MMAS. Debts can be written off for various reasons including mental health issues as well as formal debt solutions i.e. Bankruptcy			activity by organisations
	Number of appeals	The measure will show the number of appeals to Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service supported by MMAS. Numbers indicate the standards of decision making	1,371 73.33% successful	563 74.25% successful	Appeals were suspended during the first half of 2020-21 moving to telephone based in second half of the year.
Citizens Advice Bureau	Number of cases for benefits advice	The measure will show the number of people seeking benefit advice and will show trends and resource implications	10,415	7,760	Volume is attributable to UC its complexity and issues with legacy benefits.
	Number of cases for debt advice	The measure will show the number of people with multiple debts, including rent and council tax arrears who require assistance to negotiate with creditors to arrange manageable repayments and access statutory debt solutions	2,780	2,104	Moratorium on debt collection reduced the number of cases. The suspension of evictions during 2020-21 also help to minimise the number of cases.
	Value of benefits awarded	The measure will show the financial gain for clients as a result of the support provided by CAB	£5.549m	£4.715m	Reduction reflects suspension of benefit assessment
	Number of people entering into a debt arrangement scheme	The measure will show the number of people receiving the statutory protection offered by a Debt Arrangement Scheme and will show trends and resource implications	69	31	Reflects demand for the service and support provided.
	Value of debt written off	The measure will show the financial gain for clients as a result of the support provided by CAB. Debts can be written off for various reasons including mental health issues as	£0.892m	£0.502m	Reduction due to suspension of debt recovery

Organisation / Service	Measure	How will the measure improve understanding of the impact of Welfare Reform and the support provided?	March 2020	March 2021	Commentary
		well as formal debt solutions i.e. bankruptcy			
	Court activity - prevented homelessness and sequestrations	The measure will show the extent of activity in defending court actions	84	22	Reflects demand for the service and support provided.
Food Banks	Number of food vouchers / parcels issued	The measure will show the extent to which Welfare Reform is impacting on residents' ability to feed themselves and their families	26,211	50,656 (people fed) *Partial figures	This combines the position for the South Lanarkshire Trussell Trust and other local food banks including EK Community, Clydesdale, EK Loaves and Fishes and Share Alike. EK Loaves and Fishes data on people fed, adults and children, not available at this stage.
	Profile of food bank clients	As above	N/A	Households 27,750 Adults* 34,523 Children* 16,133	*Partial figures
DWP - Universal Credit	Number claiming UC (People on UC)	The measure will show the extent of the roll out of UC across South Lanarkshire and therefore the number of people experiencing a change to the way their benefits are calculated, paid and administered	17,466	29,743	Accounts for 14.7% of all those aged between 16 to 64. Number of people claiming Universal Credit has increased by 12,277 or by 70.3% compared to a rise of 83.5% in Scotland as a whole.
	Percentage of UC claimants in work (based on people on UC)	The measure will show the extent to which those in work are in receipt of UC and therefore impacted by Welfare Reform	30.5%	33.5%	In March 2021, of Universal Credit claimants 33.5% were In Work.
	Percentage of UC claimants child element (Based on households on UC)	The measure will show the extent to which families are affected by UC. (This is additional monies paid for children up to the	38.8%	Figures not released at present	In September 2020, 33.5% of Households receiving Universal Credit were receiving a

Organisation / Service	Measure	How will the measure improve understanding of the impact of Welfare Reform and the support provided?	March 2020	March 2021	Commentary
		age of 16, 19 if they are still at home and not in an advanced college or university course)			child element in their payment.
	Percentage of UC claimants – more frequent payment (Based on households on UC)	The measure will show the extent to which claimants are exercising the option to receive more frequent payment indicating possible financial pressure	24.6%	Figures not released at present	In September 2020 a total of 5,061 households had taken advantage of the Scottish Choices More frequent payment option.
	Percentage of UC claimants – no payment (Based on households on UC)	The measure will show the percentage of claimants that are not in receipt of a payment for UC and may therefore be in need of financial support and advice	6.3%	Figures not released at present	In September 2020 a total of 3,922 households did not receive a payment in this month, or had a nil award. This represents 15.6% of all South Lanarkshire Universal Credit claiming households and was the highest proportion recorded.
	Number of UC sanctions (based on people on UC)	The measure will show the number of claimants having sanctions imposed by the DWP and may therefore be in need of financial support and advice. (Reflects monies deducted from a claimants benefit due to non-adherence of their agreed responsibilities. An example of this would be not looking for work as agreed within their Claimant Commitment.)	163	Figures not released at present	In September 2020 there were 27 Universal Credit claimants' payments being reduced due to a sanction. This was the lowest number of sanctions ever recorded and a decrease of 226 or 89.3% over the year from September 2019 to September 2020.
	UC sanctions rate based on people on UC)	The measure will show the percentage of claimants having sanctions imposed by the DWP and may therefore be in need of financial support and advice	0.9%	Figures not released at present	At 1.2%, the proportion of South Lanarkshire Universal Credit claimants who had their payment

Organisation / Service	Measure	How will the measure improve understanding of the impact of Welfare Reform and the support provided?	March 2020	March 2021	Commentary
					reduced due to a sanction was lowest equal since at least March 2018. The proportion at 0.1% was the same as experienced in Scotland as a whole.
SLC / Housing Services	Number of tenants in receipt of UC	The measure will track the level of tenants who are moving on to UC	6,163	7,915	Level of increase reflects the number of people submitting new claims for UC or reporting a relevant change in circumstances.
	Number of tenants on UC in arrears	The measure will track the level of tenants on UC in arrears	4,219	4,566	Slight increase relates mainly to individuals moving on to UC who are already in arrears.
	Number of tenants impacted by the benefit cap	The measure gives an understanding of the numbers of households affected by the Benefit Cap		58% 31%	Numbers continue to be relatively low, no specific issues or trend.
Registered Social Landlords (RSL) / Housing Associations	Number of tenants in receipt of UC	The measures will track the level of tenants who are moving on to UC	1225	November 2020 1,788	Discussions ongoing with RSLs to provide actual figures. Estimate from DWP Stats Xplore tool.
	Number of households impacted by the benefit cap	The measure gives an understanding of the numbers of households affected by the Benefit Cap	3114	November 2020 4897	Numbers continue to be relatively low, no specific issue or trend.
Private rented sector tenants	Number of tenants in receipt of UC	Over time this figure can be tracked to give an understanding of any movements in the prevalence of households in receipt to UC within the private rented sector. This will assist in establishing the role that the sector is playing in meeting housing needs within SL	92	16	Will consider trend for year when information is available from DWP. Source - DWP Stats Xplore tool.

Report

14

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	If Not Now, When? – Social Renewal Advisory Board Report and Recommendations and Community Planning Partnership Actions
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Provide the Partnership Board with an update on the Social Renewal Advisory Board report and recommendations.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the Social Renewal Advisory Board report and recommendations are noted;
- (2) that the current/planned activity of the Community Planning Partnership in relation to these recommendations are noted; and
- (3) future plans to work through the feedback from the Community Planning Progress Group, included as Appendix 1, to identify any other actions which could be taken, is noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. In June 2020, the Scottish Government announced the creation of a Social Renewal Advisory Board with the aim to build on the shifts in policy and practice that have come about as a result of the pandemic across portfolios and in partnership with those who deliver frontline services in local government, the Third Sector and communities with an emphasis on delivering equality and social justice.
- 3.2. The Board's focus was on reducing poverty and disadvantage, embedding a human-rights based approach and advancing equality and this was operated through a series of 'policy circles' that were tasked to work on recommendations and solutions. The circles focused on addressing low income, community-led and place-based renewal, cross-cutting delivery, financial security, food, the housing system, Third Sector and volunteering. A detailed programme to bring in the voices of people with lived experience was also undertaken.
- 3.3. The Board published their findings within the [If Not Now, When?](#) Report on 21 January 2021.

- 3.4. The Scottish Government published its initial response to the report on 23 March 2021 - [Social Renewal Advisory Board: our response - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/social-renewal-advisory-board-our-response/pages/1-introduction.aspx). The response welcomes the ambitious and innovative Calls to Action set out in the Board's report. It outlines the work that the Scottish Government is already taking forward to address a number of the Board's recommendations in areas such as housing, fair work, supporting parents and young people into employment and investing in our communities; and some further steps that an incoming administration might take forward following the upcoming Scottish elections. The response reaffirms the importance of local partnership working, preventative action and holistic support around the needs and priorities of local communities; with Christie principles remaining front and centre.
- 3.5. This report sets out the recommendations made by the Social Renewal Advisory Board and highlights some of the current/planned actions of the partnership that closely align with these.

4. Report Recommendations and Related Community Planning Actions

- 4.1. The report contains 20 Calls to Action (see Appendix 1) which aim to improve the outcomes for people in Scotland. These have been framed with reference to the 2011 Christie Commission report '[Future Delivery of Public Services](#)' and are structured around the following three themes:-
- **Money and Work** – everyone should have the basic level of income from employment and social security;
 - **People, Rights and Advancing Equality** – everyone should see their rights realised and have access to a range of basic rights, goods and services; and
 - **Communities and Collective Endeavour** – we believe that we need to work together to deliver a fairer society and we need to give more power to people and communities and empower frontline teams.
- 4.2. A central recommendation within the report is for the public sector to give more control to people and communities over the decisions that affect their lives. It also asks for the 'grounding' of the benefits of the Calls to Action into building stronger, more resilient, fairer and healthier communities, which meet social, climate and economic equity requirements.
- 4.3. Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality has been the main focus of the current Community Plan meaning that some of the Calls to Action are not new to the Partnership. The following sets out some examples of the work of the Partnership. This information has been taken from the annual Community Plan Performance Report for 2020-21 which will also be reported to the Board on 15 September 2021. It should be noted that many of these updates contain figures that are pre pandemic.
- 4.3.1. **Money and Work Partnership Activity.** The reduction of child poverty is a key focus through the Local Child Poverty Action Group and is monitored through the Local Child Poverty Action Report and Community Plan. The gap between the most and least employment deprived and income deprived communities has reduced. The latest figures show that number of people employed (the employment rate, sourced from the Annual Population Survey (APS) January to December 2020) has increased and sits above the Scottish Average (SL 77.1%; Scotland 73.5%). Although the latest APS figures suggest that there is currently a high level of employment in South Lanarkshire, it should be noted that these figures also count employees on HMRC COVID-19 furlough schemes, such as the Self Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) and the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

(CJRS), as continuing to be in employment. Employability actions include fair work opportunities, the Kickstart, Youth Guarantee and No-one Left Behind programmes, ASPIRE, etc. South Lanarkshire has the 4th highest number of accredited living wage employers in Scotland. The Community Plan also contains actions to maximise income for low income households and carers and encourage saving through Credit Unions. Through the delivery of the 1,140 hours Early Learning and Childcare, 100% of eligible children have been allocated a minimum of 1,140 hours from the start of the next term. In May 2021, there were 29,702 people claiming Universal Credit in South Lanarkshire - 14.4% of the population aged 16 to 65. Between May 2020 and May 2021, the numbers of Universal Credit claimants in South Lanarkshire increased by 1,410 or by 5%. In relation to the Unemployment Claimant Count, in May 2021 there were 11,610 people unemployed and claiming work related benefits in South Lanarkshire – 5.7% of the population aged 16 to 64 and the lowest rate experienced since April 2020. Over the May 2020 to May 2021 period, the numbers of Claimant Count unemployed claimants in South Lanarkshire decreased by 1,640 or by 12.4%.

4.3.2. **People, Rights and Advancing Equality.** Since 2016-17, South Lanarkshire Council has delivered 668 affordable homes and Registered Social Landlords have delivered 977. Private housing developers' building sites with more than 20 units are required to provide 25% of the sites capacity as affordable housing which can take the form of serviced land or a commuted sum. Work continues to reduce levels of fuel poverty through work to meet energy efficiency standards for social housing and to promote energy efficiency advice. The latest figures (2017-19 from the Scottish Household Condition Survey published on 23 February 2021) show that 22% of all households and 17% of families are estimated to be affected by fuel poverty, below the Scottish average of 24%. Fifteen organisations including food banks and community food organisations attend the local food network which was established in November 2020 work is also taking place in relation to food growing. Work is taking place to prevent and reduce the impact of homelessness through Housing First, an approach that has sustained 88% of tenancies, pathways for young people, people experiencing domestic abuse and leaving prison.

4.3.3. **Communities and Collective Endeavour.** The importance of volunteering will be further recognised through the Partnership's plans to develop a strategy during 2021-22. There continues to be a strong emphasis on place which focuses on the needs and aspirations of local communities. This work includes the continuing development of the Neighbourhood Planning approach to tackle inequalities, Community Led Plans and the new locality level "Community Partnerships". More recently, the Board's "Planning for Place" Development Session took a holistic view to collaborative working focussing on place through a range of interconnected approaches which include Wellbeing, Economic Growth, Community Wealth Building, 20 minutes Neighbourhoods, Town Centre Action Planning and Spatial and Community Planning. National support was also offered from Public Health Scotland and the Improvement Service in relation to a funded programme "Shaping Places for Wellbeing".

5. Achieving Social Recovery

5.1. The Board advises that to achieve social recovery there is a need to:-

- Focus on making sure people have enough money as an essential pre-condition of social renewal rather than focusing on small pots of money for policy responses;
- An unwavering focus on the protection of the people and communities who are hardest hit in every crisis. There must be a significant shift of resources to low-income households and advancing equality and human rights needs to be front and centre;

- A new partnership between people, the government and services that acknowledges and redresses issues of power and inequality. Partnership needs to be based on responding to the needs of people, communities and place and understand the real nature of the problem as well as what matters to the people that organisations are there to help;
- A strong focus on place itself and a place-based approach is simply a more joined-up, participative way to deliver changes to services, land and buildings, and across sectors – all within a place. These approaches aim to bring about increased opportunities for people and communities to shape their own lives and better outcomes for everyone; and
- Equality must move from the margins of policymaking and service delivery to its very centre. All public bodies, including the Scottish Government, need to scale up their capacity to address racism, sexism and ableism.

- 5.2. In relation to ‘Community and Collective Effort’, this calls for a focus on giving more power to people and communities, empowering frontline teams, developing new arrangements for local governance, and collectively focusing our thinking, actions and behaviours in improving places. This is not all about funding but about leadership, culture, values and an enduring commitment to change.
- 5.3. Action should be taken to empower frontline teams so they can act quickly and flexibly to solve problems that individuals and families cannot sort out by themselves.
- 5.4. Community Wealth Building (CWB) is a people centred approach which has a practical local focus, as well as being a cross-Scotland means to deliver a wellbeing economy. CWB purposefully redirects wealth back to communities by encouraging more democratic and inclusive forms of economic ownership of land and economic activity more generally.

6. Closing the Gap between Promise and Practice

- 6.1. The Social Renewal Advisory Board have set out what they believe needs to change and how to do it.
- 6.2. Closing the gap between promise and practice, to ensure good intentions result in better lives, means early attention must be given to the ‘vital signs’ that will tell if we are having the impact we want to see.
- 6.3. The final Call to Action by the Social Advisory Renewal Board is for decision makers to commit to co-designing the means of measuring the progress being made towards renewal. This will require:-
- Assessing how we are faring nationally and in local places across Scotland, leading to deeper engagement with people and communities with first-hand experience of poverty, inequality and restricted life chances;
 - Consideration of policy commitments already in place, asking tougher questions about how they contribute to long-term goals on climate change, child poverty and human rights;
 - Consistent use of equalities and human rights data to improve capacity to monitor, alongside independent evaluation of how far investment is driving renewal and for whom;
 - A consistent focus on place-based approaches to strengthen communities, reduce inequalities and make the most of the opportunities where we live and work. Place underpins, in fundamental ways, all the Calls to Action within the report; and

- Participatory approaches to measuring progress. The National Performance Framework is a valuable asset but should become a live dashboard, informed by people’s experiences as well as current outcome measures, improving our ability to strengthen effective approaches, change course and address gaps.

7. Next Steps

- 7.1. In terms of recovery and renewal, this report sets out that there should be a clear focus on the people who are most affected by the pandemic across policy priorities and partnership work should continue to reduce the equality gap. Those most affected by the pandemic include: people from areas of socio-economic deprivation, women, lone parents, minority ethnic communities, refugees, disabled people, carers and older and younger workers.
- 7.2. A review of the Calls to Action was carried out by the Community Planning Progress Group on 27 July 2021 on the current or planned interventions, challenges and proposed actions by partners and this is detailed within Appendix 1.
- 7.3. Short term and longer term partnership actions that are currently being delivered/are planned that would support this agenda include:-
- The continued focus on those actions set out in the current Community Plan to address poverty and inequalities and to reduce the gap, examples of which are set out at section 4.3. above;
 - The community conversations which will tell the story of how people have been affected by the pandemic and their priorities for recovery and renewal which will inform the work of the Partnership moving forward;
 - Continuing dialogue on taking a collaborative approach to recovery and renewal through the “Planning for Place” approach;
 - The role of the Board in Community Wealth Building as ‘anchor organisations’ working alongside business and social anchors, to help ensure that the opportunities, employment and wealth generated through for example procurement, commissioning and land use stays within our local communities; and
 - The report which recommends that the Board continues their focus on the “Planning for Place” theme and approves “Communities of Interest” as the focus of their next Development Session in October 2021. This would have a specific focus on the groups set out at 7.1. and will be informed through feedback from the Lived Experience Fund and the ongoing community conversations.

8. Employee Implications

- 8.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

10. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 10.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

11. Other Implications

- 11.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 12.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or Consultation implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information:

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Social Renewal Advisory Board – Calls to Action

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
Money and Work:			
1. Commit to a Minimum Income Guarantee for all as a long-term aim.	NHS Lanarkshire: Living Wage Employer – NHSL are a living wage employer and promote this to other Lanarkshire businesses in partnership with the Lanarkshire Living Wage Campaign Group. NHSL were the first NHS board to achieve this.		
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living Wage Accreditation (partnership); and Community Links. 	Gig economy; 0hrs contracts; Self Employed; Ability to pay Real Living Wage; Cost of accreditation?	
2. Develop an approach to anti-poverty work, including personal debt, which is designed around the needs of the individual.	Education Resources, SLC: Child Poverty Action Plan 2021-22.	To introduce improvement actions where possible and encourage a 'step change' culture across the partners involved. To increase the involvement and ownership of the activity of partners at the highest level.	Specific actions to be agreed as soon as possible.
	Health and Social Care Partnership: HSCP have a Financial Inclusion and Employability Plan and support welfare advice through a range of referral pathways e.g. Telephone Advice Line for referral from Health Visiting and Maternity Services, Health and Welfare Advice Hubs in		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	Hamilton, Community Link Worker GP Financial Wellbeing Pathway across South Lanarkshire and welfare support within the Acute Mental Health Receiving wards of Hairmyres Hospital.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: Continue to implement our Rent Management Policy with a focus on early intervention and engagement. Support customers to access relevant services, advice and supports to tackle debt and maximise income. Implementation of tenancy sustainment fund to support tenants in financial difficulties. Rent Income Support Team.		Monitor implementation of the Rent Management Policy to ensure outcomes are achieved. Implementation of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP).
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit unions; and • Citizens Advice Bureau. 	Financial Resilience.	
3. Work in partnership to develop a new social contract on Fair Work.	NHS Lanarkshire: Within NHSL we have Fair Work as part of our procurement process. Over the last few years we have started to gather data around the contracts given to companies who pay the living wage and have accreditation, with a view to increasing this. Procurement are part of the Living Wage Campaign group.	Incentives for encouraging businesses to undertake Fair Work practices would be helpful. The weighting for Fair Work practices during procurement is often low and solutions to this would be welcomed. Fair work vs cost/ experience? Our employability programme (Project Search) has been	The Anchor Institution approach has been proposed as a strategic framework to address much of this area - tying into other policy areas - Community Wealth Building/ Wellbeing Economy.

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	<p>We also have recently launched a National Community Benefits Portal in partnership with NSS and Public Health Scotland to enable local Third Sector Organisations to input to this. Some local Lanarkshire organisations have already been supported through this.</p> <p>We are considering the Living Hours scheme for NHSL, working together with SLC and setting an example to other organisations in Lanarkshire.</p> <p>We benchmarked NHSL with the National Fair Work Framework and were meeting all the requirements. Across all NHS Boards, there is a staff governance standard which addresses lots of areas above pay and conditions.</p> <p>Our Healthy Working Lives Team work with businesses across Lanarkshire to encourage participation in the awards scheme which rewards Fair Work practices.</p> <p>We are engaged Nationally and locally with conversations around NHS as an anchor institute which would provide a strategic framework for actions around procurement and employability.</p>	<p>challenging during the pandemic as NHS staff have been redeployed elsewhere. Capacity of recruitment staff has also been challenging. There is a recognition that whilst some departments e.g. health improvement have been progressing the employability agenda with partners, more can be done in this area. The Anchor Institute Framework has been proposed to address this strategically.</p>	

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	<p>NHSL have an employability programme called project Search which provides support for disabled people to gain experience and employment within NHSL.</p>		
		<p>VASLan: Unfamiliar language to groups; Training.</p>	
<p>4. Focus Fair Work actions on those most affected by the pandemic.</p>	<p>NHS Lanarkshire: We have recently hosted 2 events looking at inequalities - for our NHSL Board and CPP, where we considered those most affected by the pandemic and how we can adapt any approach moving forward. Internally, we support carers and parents working within our organisation through a range of HR policies.</p> <p>We are part of the Lanarkshire Employability Partnership and Lanarkshire Economic Forum where we support partnership actions to those most affected by the pandemic.</p> <p>The Health Improvement Employability Plan covers those most affected by the pandemic, with a specific focus. We promote programmes through our networks and social media.</p> <p>We have launched a free sanitary products scheme within NHSL in</p>		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	partnership with SLC where patients, visitors and staff can get access to products when needed.		
		VASLan: Who? Health / Employability.	
5. Extend free early learning, childcare and social care so all parents and carers can access the childcare they need, when they need it.	Education Resources, SLC: Child Poverty Action Plan 2021-22.		To be confirmed.
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childcare providers?; • Carers (unpaid); and • Day-care. 	Is it only kids or adults (dementia)?	
People, Rights and Advancing Equality			
6. Incorporate the right to an adequate and accessible home in Scots Law.	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track progress with legislation; • Respond to consultations; • Consider through Resource Equalities Group; • Discuss with key Local Housing Strategy (LHS) and Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners; and • Implementation of the RRTP. 	Realisation of any right in context of people who cannot afford to meet housing costs.	Continue to implement the RRTP.
	NHS Lanarkshire: NHSL leads a Health and Homelessness Strategy Group with a specific focus on prevention, linking into and working with Local Authority RRTP Strategy Groups.		
7. Make sure there are enough homes that are safe, warm,	Education Resources, SLC: Child Poverty Action Plan 2021-22.		
	Health and Social Care Partnership:		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
accessible, affordable, and in places people want to live.	Sign-posting from health services into Home Energy Scotland is established in many services.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Housing Strategy; Delivery of the Affordable Housing Supply Programme; Strategic Housing Investment Plan; Empty Homes Service; Open Market Purchase Scheme; Housing Allocation Policy; and Housing Investment Programme. 	Availability of sufficient funds to support development of new housing and invest in existing stock while maintaining rents at affordable levels.	Implementation and delivery of Housing 2040.
	NHS Lanarkshire: NHSL are represented on the Place Sub Group of the Lanarkshire Economic Forum where we can feed in issues around health inequalities in respect to planning and place.		
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Associations; Tenants and Residents Associations; Shelter; and Blue Triangle (and others). 	Suitable homes in suitable places.	
8. Ensure everyone can access nutritious, culturally appropriate and affordable food.	Health and Social Care Partnership: HSCP support many healthy eating initiatives including access to healthy food provision mainly through our financial and programme support of third sector provision.		
	NHS Lanarkshire:		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	<p>NHSL has a healthy eating policy for staff and visitors.</p> <p>We have a maternal and infant nutrition programme which encourages and supports breastfeeding and we also ensure access to Best Start Foods and the free provision of universal pregnancy vitamins and vitamin D for infants through midwives, health visitors and community distribution points, including food banks.</p>		
	<p>VASLan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foodbanks; • Healthy Valleys; • Lunch Clubs; and • Healthy and Happy. 	<p>Easier and cheaper to access unhealthy food; Marketing.</p>	
<p>9. Set a target to end digital exclusion in the next parliamentary term.</p>	<p>Education Resources, SLC: Child Poverty Action Plan 2021-22.</p> <p>Health and Social Care Partnership: We are cognisant of digital exclusion in all of our services and have accessed support through 'Connecting Scotland' for the recipients of our services.</p> <p>As part of our service recovery, we developed digital inclusion briefing papers for staff and asked for them to consider this area when recovering or redesigning any services, particularly where Near Me and virtual consultations were being developed.</p>		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: Tenant Development Support Project secured funding to deliver tablets to tenants – enabled and facilitated ongoing engagement during the pandemic.	Training/developing skills and confidence. Unwillingness of some customers to engage digitally.	Continue to identify funding opportunities.
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Links; • Connecting Scotland; and • AbilityNet 	Wi-Fi and broadband speed/availability; Availability of devices; Cost.	
10. Adopt the principles of Universal Basic Services.	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track progress with legislation; and • Respond to consultations. 		
		VASLan: Language; Awareness raising.	
11. Incorporate key international human rights instruments into Scots Law so as to deliver real change.	Education Resources, SLC: A Children’s Rights and Participation Working Group has been established to support the wider partnership workforce with incorporation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into domestic law.	Encouraging all staff to view children’s rights as relevant to their jobs.	Consultation with as wide a sample of public sector staff as possible. Provide recommendations on staff development activity needed and support for the workforce as a result of the outcome of the staff consultation.
	Health and Social Care Partnership: N/A Our Equality and Diversity Plan and Impact Assessment is human rights based.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC:		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track progress with legislation; Respond to consultations; and Consider through the Resource Equalities Group. 		
		VASLan: Language; Awareness raising.	
12. Take action to realise the human rights of disabled people.	Education Resources, SLC: As per No.11 above, a Children's Rights and Participation Working Group has been established to support the wider partnership workforce with incorporation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into domestic law.	Encouraging all staff to view children's rights as relevant to their jobs.	Consultation with as wide a sample of public sector staff as possible. Provide recommendations on staff development activity needed and support for the workforce as a result of the outcome of the staff consultation.
	Health and Social Care Partnership: Engagement with disabled interest groups takes place regarding making services accessible and appropriate HR policies and monitoring is in place. Some programmes are in place to support employability for disabled people e.g. Project Search.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider through the Resource Equalities Group; and Consideration of gaps in relation to existing data collection processes – to inform development of the new integrated Housing/Property Management System. 	Current data gaps.	

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-Directed Support (SDS); and • Take Control. 	Training; How to be an employer.	
13. Build inclusive communication into all national and local government funding requirements.	Health and Social Care Partnership: N/A		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: Consider through the Resource Equalities Group.		
	VASLan	Awareness raising.	
14. Strengthen approaches to prevent and address hate crime and public sexual harassment.	Health and Social Care Partnership: We collaborate with partners to deliver a Community Safety Plan and there are actions to reduce anti-social behaviours such as hate crime e.g. third party reporting. We also work in partnership to raise awareness and train staff about gender-based violence and gender inequality. We deliver programmes of learning and develop resources for the school setting on relationships and respect.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong partnership working approach with Police Scotland and Housing/Anti-Social Behaviour Services; and • Accountability through the Safer South Lanarkshire Board. 		
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's Aid; • Faith Groups; • Rape Crises; 	Culture change; Early intervention.	

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniformed Groups; • Youth Groups; and • LGBT+. 		
15. Apply the rights and entitlements in this report to all migrants.	Health and Social Care Partnership: We have and will continue to support refugee placement programmes to ensure that their health needs are met and deliver health improvement programmes targeting where need is greatest and migrants are included amongst the beneficiaries.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refugee Resettlement Team; and • Strong partnership approach to supporting refugees. 		
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Place Our Plan; and • Healthy and Happy. 	What Report?	
Communities and Collective Endeavour			
16. Further shift the balance of power so individuals and communities have more control over decisions that affect their lives.	Education Resources, SLC: Develop a planned approach to engagement and consultation across the Children's Services Partnership.	All partners see relevance of planned approach to engagement.	Produce a calendar of activity that matches the timescale of the current Children's Services Plan. Develop a mechanism for gathering the key messages from the wide range of engagement processes.
	Health and Social Care Partnership: HSCP have an asset-based community development programme called Building and Celebrating Communities and have Community Led Support in the Clydesdale Area.		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	<p>We have co designed and co-produced initiatives for health and wellbeing within our communities e.g. Co-Creating Libraries for Wellbeing.</p> <p>We fund and support significant provision through third sector organisations and groups which responds to the needs of the community. We are committed to robust engagement in our planning processes and aspire to increase the level of co-design and co-production in our service planning and delivery.</p> <p>We invest in our Third Sector Interface to build capacity within the third sector and communities in support of social prescribing and commissioning.</p> <p>We deliver 'Health Issue in the Community' courses for community participants which supports and enables them to make changes locally to improve health and wellbeing in relation to an issue that's important to them.</p> <p>We have a Funding and Development Officer that supports applications to attract funding for initiative predominantly through the third sector.</p>		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	<p>Housing and Technical Resources, SLC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing engagement with tenants and other customers; • Tenants Groups/Forums; • Tenant Scrutiny Groups; • Tenant Participation Co-ordination Group (including Policy Review Sub-Groups); • Areas for involvement agreed annually; • Focus Groups; and • Customer involvement approach to Estate and Environment improvements (budget). 	<p>Securing tenant/customer involvement.</p>	<p>Review of customer engagement approach/structures – linking to wider engagement structures.</p>
	<p>VASLan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Place Our Plan; • Self-Directed Support (SDS); and • VASLan 	<p>Unsustainable projects offloaded to communities; Power shift.</p>	
<p>17. Improve service delivery and design by empowering frontline teams and the people and communities they serve.</p>	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: As above and through Building and Celebrating Communities HSCP plan to develop our staff as assets and want to empower and support deeper conversations with service users such that creative solutions, which are not always care based, can be found.</p> <p>The new Community Link Worker (CLW) programme allows General Practice based CLWs to spend much more time than a GP with services users with complex needs and link them to a range of community</p>	<p>Staff time to be released for leaning and to have deeper conversations with service users about ‘what’s important to them’ is limited due to capacity.</p>	

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
	<p>supports. This will allow us to gather intelligence about need, local supports and what's missing.</p> <p>VASLan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC); • Community Councils; and • Our Place Our Plan. 	Training.	
18. Build on new ways of working, based on what has worked well during the pandemic, and develop new arrangements for local governance.	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: Building on new ways of working has been a central theme in our service recovery process and work-around to the social restrictions have been tested and are often more efficient and will be retained in service models going forward e.g. Near Me virtual consultations, Condoms by Post.</p>		
	<p>Housing and Technical Resources, SLC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of virtual platforms; and • Improved customer contact approaches – virtual call centre. 		
	<p>VASLan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larkhall Network; • Community Links; • Clydesdale Community Network; • Supporting Our Communities; • Healthy and Happy; and • East Kilbride Network/Collaborative. 	Conflicting personalities/priority.	
19. Focus everyone and all activities on building more resilient, fairer,	Education Resources, SLC: Children's Services Plan.		Performance Framework available as soon as possible.

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
healthier and stronger communities and places.	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: This is central to how we are building back and health and social inequality is very much in focus in all that we do and in the refresh of strategic commission and health plans.</p> <p>We are very aware of the direct and indirect impacts of the pandemic and are incorporating activities into our plans to mitigate or respond to these impacts e.g. service provision to respond to long-Covid, work with a COVID Response Group in East Kilbride to attract investment to build on this social capital.</p>		
	<p>Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: Strong partnership working approaches in place.</p>	<p>Availability of budgets and resources – already limited/stretched.</p>	<p>Further develop and strengthen existing partnership working approaches.</p>
	<p>VASLan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Links; • Third Sector and other forums; • VASLan Chief Officers Group; and • Community activists / Grass Routes. 	<p>Motivation.</p>	
Closing the Gap between Promise and Practice			
20. Co-design how we assess progress towards renewal, incorporating deeper engagement with those people and communities who have first-hand	<p>Health and Social Care Partnership: As with number 16, we understand the importance of hearing about lived experience and utilise this in much of our learning and planning work e.g. Senior Leaders Event on understanding and challenging mental health stigma included</p>		

Poverty Themes	Current or Planned Interventions	Challenges	Any Proposed Actions
experience of poverty, inequality and restricted life chances.	speakers who shared their lived experience.		
	Housing and Technical Resources, SLC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider through the Resource Equalities Group; • Annual Policy Review Schedule process in place; and • Approach to consultation agreed with tenants. 	Securing tenant and customer involvement.	
	VASLan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC); • Community Councils; • Community Networks; and • Community Anchor Organisations. 	Language; How do you assess progress?; What is progress?	

Report

15

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Planning Partnership Risk Register Update
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Present the updated risk register to the Community Planning Partnership Board.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the summary of Community Planning Partnership risks be noted;
- (2) that progress in the delivery of the action plan be noted; and
- (3) that the updated COVID-19 Pandemic Risk card is approved.

3. Background

3.1. A Community Planning Partnership risk register and risk control plan is maintained to formally record, assess and aid management of strategic risks faced by the Partnership.

3.2. On 11 September 2019, the Partnership Board approved the process to review the risk register and noted progress with the implementation of actions to mitigate risks. A risk workshop was subsequently held on 5 December 2019 to discuss and review the feedback received and to consider proposed amendments to the risk register.

3.3. Earlier in 2019, a separate risk workshop had been held to identify the risks posed by Brexit which could potentially affect the delivery of the Community Plan. The outcome of this workshop was reported to the Partnership Board on 28 February 2019.

3.4. At the Partnership Board on 12 February 2020, it was agreed that a report on the monitoring of the risk register and risk control plan be a standard agenda item at the Partnership Board meetings.

3.5. The annual review of the Risk Cards and Control Plan was completed by the Community Planning Progress Group with support from South Lanarkshire Council's Risk Management Team on 14 April 2021 and reported to the Partnership Board on 24 June 2021.

4. Risk Register

4.1. Following approval of the Risk cards at the Partnership Board on 24 June 2021, the Community Planning Partnership risks are summarised in the table below:-

Risk Category	Key risk	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Risk Score
1 Very High (15-25)	Partners are required to redirect their resources to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. This may result in less support being available to those who are experiencing disadvantage or poverty. This could also lead to the partnership not being able to deliver outcomes within the Community Plan. Risk Number: CPP/2020/002	25	16
	The UK leaving the EU could adversely impact on partner organisations delivery of the Community Plan and those who depend on the services provided. Risk Number: CPP/2020/001	20	16
2 High (8-12)	Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2017-2027. Risk Number: CPP/2018/001	20	9
	Failure to have the appropriate structures in place to deliver the outcomes of the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans efficiently and effectively. Risk Number: CPP/2018/008	16	9
	Failure to meet sustainable development principles and respond collectively to the climate emergency. Risk Number: CPP/2018/003	20	9
	Failure to share data/information between partners to deliver the priority outcomes of the Community Planning Partnership. Risk Number: CPP/2018/006	16	8
3 Low/ Medium (1-7)	Ineffective engagement with communities. Risk Number: CPP/2018/002	20	4
	Differing partner priorities. Risk Number: CPP/2018/004	20	4

- 4.2. A summary of progress in the delivery of the Risk Control Plan is noted below and additional information can be found in Appendix 1. Of the 21 actions contained in the plan:-

Status	Summary
Complete	There are no actions completed.
On target	Nineteen actions are currently deemed to be on target to deliver within the timescale set.
Not started	Two actions are currently on hold. These relate to the Board having a clearer understanding of resourcing community planning initiatives and has not been started as a result of the Board's planned work on structures over the next few months and Community Led Planning work which will include discussions and actions around resilience work to be carried out.
Minor slippage	There has been minor slippage for no actions .
Major slippage	There has been major slippage for no actions .

6. Monitoring and Reporting Arrangements

- 6.1. As advised at the Partnership Board on 24 June 2021, work would be carried out with the Council's Risk Management Team to update the COVID-19 Pandemic Risk card (CPP/2020/002). The card shows a revised risk score of 16 which is a reduction from 20, reflecting the significant measures implemented by partners in response to the pandemic since March 2020. The updated card is shown at Appendix 2.
- 6.2. The Community Planning Progress Group will continue to progress actions and monitor and review the Risk Register and Risk Control Plan. The COVID-19 Pandemic and BREXIT Risk cards will be reviewed every six months and all cards will be reviewed annually. It should also be noted that risk scores and rankings may be amended if new information comes to light that allows the position to be re-assessed.
- 6.3. Any changes to the Risk cards will be presented to the Board for approval. Following the annual review of the Risk cards, the Board will also receive an Annual Risk Update Report.
- 6.4. The next planned review of the full CPP Risk Register and Control Plan will take place during April 2022.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. Failure to demonstrate that risk is actively considered and managed could adversely affect the delivery of the Community Plan and could affect the reputation of the Community Planning Partnership. The work undertaken to identify and review the Community Planning Partnership's strategic risks and to determine the risk controls and actions necessary enabled the Community Planning Partnership to manage the impact.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or consultation arrangement implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council**

18 August 2021

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Community Planning Partnership – Risk Control Plan (New for 2021-22)

Status update key: Not started Complete On target Minor slippage Major slippage/Failed to meet target

Key Risk	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2017-2027	A new Community Plan reflecting current community priorities to be developed and approved by June 2022	Community Participation and Engagement Group	30/06/22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Community Plan consultation is underway and the survey closed on 8 August 2021. Further conversations will take place with community Focus Groups and feedback will be analysed and used to develop the new Community Plan.
	Develop new Neighbourhood Plans for Fernhill, Whitehill, Eddlewood/Low Waters	Community Engagement Team/Partners	31/03/22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consultation work for the new plans is underway in Fernhill and Whitehill, and planned for Eddlewood/Low Waters, Hamilton.
	Review of CPP Structures	Community Planning Outcomes Leads	31/03/22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carried forward from the 2020-21 Risk Control Plan. Temporary structures agreed by the CPP Board and final structures will reflect the new Community Plan when developed.
	Review of governance and accountability arrangements	Community Planning Outcomes Leads/ Community Planning Team	31/03/22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carried forward from the 2020-21 Risk Control Plan. Temporary arrangements agreed by the CPP Board and final arrangements will reflect the new Community Plan when developed.
Ineffective engagement with communities	Promote the development of Community Led Plans to communities across South Lanarkshire	Community Participation and Engagement Group	31/12/21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This action is being carried out through the development of Community Partnerships and raising awareness of community led plans with all representative groups.
	Review the Community Planning website	Community Planning and Governance Adviser	31/03/22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carried forward from the 2020-21 Risk Control Plan. Phase 1 of the review has been completed by the Website Review Group which includes a review of other websites to inform learning, a website specification being developed, planning of targeted community consultation and a review of IT software to support digital community engagement. Phase 2 to be commenced to consider the content of the site and align to the new Community Plan.
Failure to meet sustainable development principles and	Deliver a partnership workshop which considers an integrated approach to the climate emergency and sustainable	Sustainable Development Officer, South Lanarkshire Council	30/09/21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A Pan-Lanarkshire Sustainable Development and Climate Change Workshop took place on 30 June 2021. A further CPP Board Development Session has

Key Risk	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
respond collectively to the climate emergency	development. Provide the CPP Board with recommendations for implementing an integrated approach using feedback from the workshop.				been arranged to take place on 30 November 2021 to agree an implemented approach.
	Support community-led action on climate change	Community Engagement Team/ Sustainable Development Officer, South Lanarkshire Council	31/03/22		Actions from the CPP Board Development Session to be held on 30 November 2021 will be implemented.
Failure to share data/information between partners to deliver the priority outcomes of the Community Planning Partnership	Identify barriers to better understand issues related to sharing data between Partners and Community Organisations and develop and implement improvement actions	VASLan	31/03/22		Work is planned for Quarter 4 2021.
	Carry out work to identify the data that Community Organisations have and can share which could be used to inform partnership planning	VASLan	31/12/21		Work is planned for Quarter 4 2021 and Quarter 1 2022.
	Raise awareness with Community Organisations regarding data collection and sharing	VASLan	31/12/21		Work is planned for Quarter 4 2021 and Quarter 1 2022.
Failure to have the appropriate structures in place to deliver the outcomes of the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans efficiently and effectively	Establish the new Outcomes Leads model	Community Planning Team/Community Planning Outcomes Leads	30/09/21		Draft Terms of Reference agreed and nominations received. First meeting of the group will take place in September 2021.
	Implement locality level Community Partnerships in Rutherglen/Cambuslang and the Clydesdale areas by December 2021	Community Engagement Team/Partners	31/12/21		Carried forward from the 2020-21 Risk Control Plan and wording revised. The original action was "Establish a structure to align the Board with Neighbourhood Planning activity in priority areas". Work progressing in both areas to complete Terms of Reference for the groups and develop initial agendas for action.
Differing partner priorities	Develop a process to ensure that the Board has clearer oversight of	Community Planning Outcomes Leads	31/03/22		Carried forward from the 2020-21 Risk Control Plan. This action is on hold and pending completion of the

Key Risk	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
	the resourcing of community planning initiatives (resource pooling is a requirement of the Community Empowerment Act – extract from SLC BVAR report April 2019)				review of structures and has therefore been revised to 31/03/22. The development of community partnerships, initially in Cambuslang/Rutherglen and Clydesdale but later in all four localities, will provide a process to resource initiatives at locality level and a direct link to Board oversight of this.
The UK leaving the EU could adversely impact on partner organisations delivery of the Community Plan and those who depend on the services provided	Continue to monitor developments, reviewing information and guidance from the Scottish and UK Governments with the support from the council's Risk Management Team, taking action as and when required	Community Planning Team/council's Risk Management Team	31/03/22		The UK leaving the EU (Brexit) will continue to be monitored by the council's Risk Management Team and will advise the Community Planning Team of any actions that are required.
Partners are required to redirect their resources to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. This may result in less support being available to those who are experiencing disadvantage or poverty. This could also lead to the partnership not	Economic recovery and renewal plans to be developed and presented to the Community Planning Partnership Board	Pan-Lanarkshire Economic Forum	31/12/21		The Economic Recovery Plan is being drafted with the intention of reporting to South Lanarkshire Council's Community and Enterprise Resources Committee in December 2021 and subsequently will be presented to the CPP Board early in 2022.
	Work with Public Health Scotland to develop a proposal for the Board on actions for recovery and renewal that they will support	Community Planning Team	31/07/21		Mentoring offered to the partnership through the Shaping Places for Wellbeing programme.
	Community led planning work should be further developed to encompass community resilience planning including plans for food security and climate change	Community Participation and Engagement Group/ Sustainable Development Officer/ Policy Development Officer (Food Development), South Lanarkshire Council	31/03/22		Future community led plans will include discussion and actions around resilience work.

Key Risk	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
being able to deliver outcomes within the Community Plan.	Consider the digital inequalities highlighted as a result of the pandemic, review their current action plan and identify partnership priorities for implementation	Digital Inclusion Group	31/09/21		The Digital Inclusion Action Plan was reviewed by the Digital Inclusion Sub-Group to learn from COVID-19 pandemic and inform future priorities.
	Develop a partnership volunteering strategy and invest in volunteer training to ensure a good experience for those volunteering with partners	All partners, VASlan lead	31/03/22		Work has yet to commence although it is intended that this will be progressed in the second half of 2021.
	Increase the number of accredited volunteer organisations and recognise and support these across the partnership	All partners, VASlan lead	31/03/22		Volunteer Friendly has been reshaped and relaunched in June 2021, scaling of accredited groups will form part of the partnership volunteering strategy.

Risk Number	CPP/2020/002 (Appendix 2)	
Key Risk:	COVID-19 Pandemic Partners are required to redirect their resources to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. This may result in less support being available to those who are experiencing disadvantage or poverty. This could also lead to the partnership not being able to deliver outcomes within the Community Plan.	
Risk description	Root cause	The partnership does not have sufficient or appropriate services/plans in place to help those in poverty or who experience deprivation/inequality to recover from the pandemic.
	Trigger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale of the impact of COVID-19 on those in poverty/experience deprivation/inequality • Lack of robust recovery support plans (collaboration – overall CPP recovery plan) • Lack of appropriate services to meet new challenges • Mental health challenges
	Impact	Community Plan Theme/Impacts Effect on inclusive growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of businesses failing as a result of lockdown measures • Economic impacts on local communities • Reduced transport provision as a result of physical distancing measures • Reduced transport provision (impact on relatively remote communities and communities with low car ownership (primarily due to cost of car ownership); equalities; access to jobs, education, healthcare and food and other retail might be compromised both at present and potentially in the future) • Increased levels of job-related training and re-skilling due to unemployment • Disruption to supply chains and business continuity Effect on financial inclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased food insecurity • Increasing levels of welfare advice required • Increasing financial hardship and inability to make regular payments for rent, heating, etc. • Inability to plan due to uncertain future income Effect on supporting parental employment and childcare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional childcare pressures as a result of the closure of schools due to lockdown measures including the impact on ability to work/access employment opportunities/education and training opportunities due to reduced childcare (re-opening of childcare) • Furloughing of employees (currently reducing 100% ends July) • Home working policies (in the longer term) • Increased unemployment due to failing businesses • Increasing levels of employability advice required • Increasing levels of in-work poverty due to the reduction in hours/childcare issues Effect on improving housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased levels of homelessness • Increased fuel poverty Effect on Education, Skills and Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the poverty related attainment gap • Reduction in training/FE/employment opportunities for young adults (school leavers) and adults/parents/carers looking to improve employment situation (confusion re future job market post COVID) • Impact on Modern Apprenticeships (challenges regarding work placements in the short term)

		<p>Effect on Health Inequalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased mental health and emotional wellbeing issues • Increased impact of loneliness and social isolation on health • Closure of public facilities such as leisure services • One third of third sector will no longer provide services • Increased numbers of people stopping smoking; cycling and walking (impact of increased car commuting/weather) • Increased risk on the BAME community • Widening of health inequalities between the least deprived and the most deprived • Increased impact of poverty on health and wellbeing <p>Effect on safeguarding from risk and harm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of incidents of domestic abuse • Less visibility of child protection issues and risks go unnoticed • Less visibility of child and adult protection issues and risks go unnoticed • Increase in the use of alcohol and drugs increasing risks <p>Impact on improving the environment and communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in public disorder – Police resources deployed in other areas • Digitally excluded unable to access online services and information • Increase in the number of Anti-Social Behaviour incidents – (Police Scotland, SFRS and SLC) • Increase in volunteering which we know has a positive impact on health and wellbeing • People feeling reconnected with their families • Increased sense of community and helping neighbours • People recognising problems as their own and seeking help to improve their life • Increased emissions due to switch from public to private transport • Partnership staff need appropriate training in emergency response skills 			
Classification		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational, continuity and performance • Reputational • People • Financial 			
Inherent impact:	5	Inherent likelihood:	5	Inherent risk score:	25
Existing Control Measures:					
1	Test and Protect measures in place and individuals and families being supported through the Wellbeing Helpline. Implementation of the National Health Protection and Social Distancing guidance.				
2	CPP Board meetings				
3	Monitoring of national guidance – Government/Scottish Government				
4	Third sector and community response network (volunteers support and capacity building)				
5	Community Plan focus on tackling poverty, inequalities and deprivation				
6	Scottish Welfare Fund/Money Advice Services				
7	Free school meal payments				
8	Scottish Government food fund supporting emergency food provision				
9	Mental Health and Wellbeing supports				
10	Connected Scotland project				
11	A number of partnership plans are in place including Rapid Re-housing Transition Plan (RRTP); Children's Services Plan; and Child Poverty Plan.				
12	Extend partnership involvement (Money Matters/Advice Services)				
13	Monitoring the cumulative impacts of concurrent risks such as Brexit, Pandemic				
14	Local Resilience Partnership (LRP)				
15	Green space investment				
16	Partnership Response to Redundancies				
Assessment of effectiveness of existing	Peer/Adequate/Good				

control measures:				
Risk treatment	Transfer/Reject/Accept/Mitigate			
Residual impact:	4	Residual likelihood:	4	Residual risk score: 16
Residual Risk Score Rationale	Despite robust resilience arrangements and numerous controls having being implemented to manage the impacts of the pandemic, the nature, scale and prolonged period of the issues arising from COVID-19 and its potential impacts present unprecedented challenges to the partnership, most of which are outwith the partnership's control.			
Action Plan (Additional control measures required to mitigate the risk)				
No.	Action:	Responsible person:		Target completion date:
1	Economic recovery and renewal plans to be developed and presented to the Community Planning Partnership Board	Pan-Lanarkshire Economic Forum		31/12/21
2	Work with Public Health Scotland to develop a proposal for the Board on actions for recovery and renewal that they will support	Community Planning Team		31/07/21
3	Community led planning work should be further developed to encompass community resilience planning including plans for food security and climate change	Community Participation and Engagement Group/ Sustainable Development Officer/ Policy Development Officer (Food Development), South Lanarkshire Council		31/03/22
4	Consider the digital inequalities highlighted as a result of the pandemic, review their current action plan and identify partnership priorities for implementation	Digital Inclusion Group		31/09/21
5	Develop a partnership volunteering strategy and invest in volunteer training to ensure a good experience for those volunteering with partners	All partners, VASlan lead		31/03/22
6	Increase the number of accredited volunteer organisations and recognise and support these across the partnership	All partners, VASlan lead		31/03/22

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	15 September 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	South Lanarkshire Register of Information Report
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with a summary of the information that has been circulated to Community Planning Partners.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation:-

- (1) that the content of the report is noted.

3. Background

3.1. This report provides a summary of the information circulated to Community Planning Partners and gives partners an opportunity to seek clarification or an update on any matters contained therein.

4. Period Covered – 27 May 2021 to 17 August 2021

4.1. Appendix 1 provides a summary of the information circulated from 27 May to 17 August 2021.

5. Employee Implications

5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Other Implications

8.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

9.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or Consultation implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

17 August 2021

Contact for Further Information

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Register of Information circulated to the Partnership

From 27 May to 17 August 2021

Date	Subject	Received From	Summary	Action taken
28/05/21	COVID-19 and Contact Tracing Tactical Operating Model COSLA Workshop	COSLA	Details of the COVID-19 Contact Tracing Tactical Operating Model Workshop arranged by COSLA to be held on 3 June 2021.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
03/06/21	A New Future for Mental Health	Scottish Recovery Network	Publication of the Scottish Recovery Network's new three year Strategic Plan which highlights working with others to create a recovery focused mental health system and information on the launch of the Peer2Peer Development Programme .	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
06/06/21	Central Research Unit Briefings	South Lanarkshire Council	List of briefings created by the Central Research Unit during Quarter 2, 2021 for information and published on the council's website.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
06/06/21	Briefing on initial data on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labour market in South Lanarkshire	South Lanarkshire Council	Briefing provided by the Central Research Unit regarding the initial data on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labour market in South Lanarkshire and is based on both administrative data and the results of official surveys.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
11/06/21	Briefing on Centre for Social Justice Report on Community Spirit	South Lanarkshire Council	Briefing provided by the Central Research Unit regarding a survey of 5,000 people across Britain carried out by the Centre for Social Justice on what a thriving community means to them and the key lessons they have drawn from the responses.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
15/06/21	Scottish Fire and Rescue Future Vision	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	Public consultation on the long-term vision of Scottish Fire and Rescue and welcome views on their plans for how the service should	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.

Date	Subject	Received From	Summary	Action taken
			evolve over the next decade and beyond. The consultation period closes 18 July 2021.	
21/06/21	Briefing on Tackling Lone-Parent In-Work Poverty in Scotland	South Lanarkshire Council	Briefing provided by the Central Research Unit regarding a report published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation on Tackling Lone Parent In-Work Poverty in Scotland.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
05/07/21	Briefing on the Scottish Climate Citizens Assembly Action Plan	South Lanarkshire Council	Briefing provided by the Central Research Unit regarding a report by Scotland's Climate Citizens Assembly providing recommendations for action which includes 16 goals and 81 recommendations in tackling the climate emergency in a fair and effective way.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
06/07/21	Benzodiazepine Harm Reduction Interim Guidance - Feedback Request	South Lanarkshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership	Survey on the Benzodiazepine Harm Reduction Interim Guidance which is seeking views on the draft document and particularly from those with lived experience. The consultation period closes 23 July 2021.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
20/07/21	Community Ownership Fund	UK Government	Information pack received from the UK Government regarding the launch of the Community Ownership Fund. This fund forms part of the UK wide levelling up interventions to help support recovery, build opportunity and empower communities to improve their local places.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
27/07/21	COVID-19 Champions Network – Drowning Accidents	NHS Lanarkshire	Water safety message provided by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for parents, carers, teachers and young people: https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/water-safety.aspx	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
04/08/21	Litter Strategy 2022-27 Consultation	South Lanarkshire Council	Launch of a short survey to capture the views, ideas and issues experienced by communities across South Lanarkshire which will help develop a comprehensive five year Litter Strategy.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.