



Wednesday, 02 September 2026

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, 09 September 2026
Time: 13:00
Venue: Hybrid - Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton, ML3 0AA

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

Members

Councillor Maureen Devlin
Paul Manning, Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
John Binning, Principal Policy Officer, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
Cheryl Burnett, Representative, Cambuslang and Rutherglen Community Partnership
Christine Calder, Manager, Seniors Together
Fiona Cook, Lead Manager, sportscotland
Lynne Cooper, Regional Director, VisitScotland
Julie Coyle, Area Manager, Skills Development Scotland
Stephen Frew, Partnerships (West), Place Directorate, Scottish Economic Development, Scottish Enterprise
Clare Hicks, Director of Education Reform, Scottish Government
Martin Hill, Chair, NHS Lanarkshire Board
Lyndsey Kinnes, Operations Manager, NatureScot
Jennifer Kerr, Community Engagement Manager, Chief Executive's Service, South Lanarkshire Council
Hisashi Kuboyama, Development Manager, West of Scotland, Federation of Small Businesses
Tom Little, Head of Communications and Strategy, Chief Executive's Service, South Lanarkshire Council
Louise Long, Chief Executive, NHS Lanarkshire
Catriona Mason, Chairperson, Seniors Together
Stella McManus, Principal and Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire College
Nick Lansdell, Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture
Paul Mathieson, Group Commander Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Stephen Nesbit, Area Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Elizabeth O'Reilly, Head of Campus Services, University of the West of Scotland
Josephine Pravinkumar, Director of Public Health, NHS Lanarkshire
Soumen Sengupta, Director, South Lanarkshire University Health and Social Care Partnership
Vicky Watson, Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland
Brendan Rooney, Interim Chief Executive, VASLan

BUSINESS

- 1 **Declaration of Interests**
- 2 **Note of Previous Meeting** 5 - 12
Note of the meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Board held on 17 June 2026 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached)

Monitoring Item(s)

- 3 **Community Partnerships Update Report** 13 - 32
Report dated 19 August 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)

Item(s) for Discussion/Decision

- 4 **Community Planning Partnership Budget and Expenditure Report** 33 - 36
Report dated 6 August 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 5 **Community Planning Partnership Risk Management – Annual Review of Risk Cards and Risk Register** 37 - 54
Report dated 19 August 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 6 **Community Plan Quarter 4 Progress Report 2025/2026 and Annual Outcomes Improvement Report** 55 - 162
Report dated 19 August 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 7 **State of the Environment Report 2025** 163 - 174
Report dated 19 August 2026 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)
- 8 **Outcomes from the Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session on the Marmot Place Programme and Population Health Framework** 175 - 182
Joint report dated 19 August 2026 by the Chief Executives (NHS Lanarkshire) and (South Lanarkshire Council). (Copy attached)
- 9 **Local Fire and Rescue Plan for South Lanarkshire** 183 - 206
Verbal update from Scottish Fire and Rescue Services.

Item(s) for Noting

- 10 **Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session October 2026 Update** 207 - 214
Report dated 19 August 2026 by the Executive Director (Education Resources). (Copy attached)

- 11 **Neighbourhood Planning Annual Report 2025/2026** 215 - 252
Report dated 21 August 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 12 **Cost of Living Support** 253 - 262
Report dated 19 August 2026 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources). (Copy attached)
- 13 **South Lanarkshire Register of Information** 263 - 268
Report dated 19 August 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 14 **Date of Next Meeting**
Wednesday 16 December 2026

Any Other Competent Business

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

For further information, please contact:-

Clerk Name:	Laura Cunningham
Clerk Telephone:	07385 370044
Clerk Email:	laura.cunningham2@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Note of meeting held via Teams on 17 June 2026

Chair:

Councillor Maureen Devlin, Leader, South Lanarkshire Council

Partners Present:

P Manning, Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
 C Burnett, Representative, Cambuslang and Rutherglen Community Partnership
 L Cooper, Regional Director, VisitScotland
 J Coyle, Area Manager, Skills Development Scotland
 S Frew, Partnership (West), Place Directorate, Scottish Economic Development, Scottish Enterprise
 J Kerr, Community Engagement Manager, Chief Executive's Office, South Lanarkshire Council
 L Kinnes, Operations Manager, NatureScot
 T Little, Head of Communications and Strategy, Chief Executive's Service, South Lanarkshire Council
 P Mathieson, Group Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 R Park, Police Constable, Police Scotland
 S McManus, Principal and Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire College
 J Pravinkumar, Director of Public Health, NHS Lanarkshire
 S Sengupta, Director, Health and Social Care, South Lanarkshire University Health and Social Care Partnership
 V Watson, Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland
 J Wilson, Interim Chief Executive Officer, VASLan

Also Attending:

U Bartley, Community Planning Lead, Scottish Government
 K Brown, Engagement Manager, Improvement Service
 L Cunningham, Administration Officer, Finance and Corporate Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
 J Fernie, Homelessness and Housing Support Manager, Housing and Technical Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
 S Jaecocke, Co-founder, East Kilbride Integration Network (EKin)
 L James, Programme Manager for the Early Learning and Childcare, Community Planning and Fairer Futures Partnerships Team, Improvement Service
 J McVicar, Locality Manager (East Kilbride) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Education Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
 A Murray, Community Planning Adviser, Chief Executive's Service, South Lanarkshire Council
 E Paterson, Community Planning Officer, Chief Executive's Service, South Lanarkshire Council
 W Stevenson, Asylum and Refugee Resettlement Programme Adviser, Housing and Technical Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
 L Wyllie, Administration Assistant, Finance and Corporate Resources, South Lanarkshire Council

Apologies:

J Binning, Principal Policy Officer, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
 F Cook, Lead Manager, sportscotland
 M Hill, Chair, NHS Lanarkshire Board
 H Kuboyama, Development Manager, West of Scotland, Federation of Small Businesses
 N Lansdell, Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture
 L Long, Chief Executive, NHS Lanarkshire

Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed Lyndsey Kinnes, who had replaced Callum Smith as the representative from NatureScot, to her 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 18 March 2026 was submitted for approval as a correct record.

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

3 Community Partnerships Update

A report dated 27 May 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council was submitted providing an update on the progress of the Cambuslang and Rutherglen, Clydesdale, East Kilbride, and Hamilton Community Partnerships.

Issues raised by each partnership, together with partner updates to those issues were outlined in section 4 of the report.

Appendix 1 to the report outlined Neighbourhood Planning Priorities across 3 areas of the partnership, Clydesdale didn't currently have Neighbourhood plans but instead had local plans in place.

Appendix 2 to the report set out common areas of activity across the 4 partnerships. Appendix 3 to the report set out progress on activities to deliver the Community Planning Partnership Development Plan and Appendix 4 to the report detailed named case studies within the Burnbank Neighbourhood, Hamilton.

There was extensive discussion on various aspects of the report.

Outcome(s): (1) that the Community Partnerships progress updates outlined at section 4 and in appendices 1 and 2, and its intention to continue to progress those areas together with the Community Partnership Community Development Officer and Progress Group, be noted.

4 Community Planning Partnerships Collaboration and Accountability Deep Dives 2026/2027

K Brown, Engagement Manager, Improvement Service, Scottish Government gave a presentation on Community Planning Partnership (CPP) accountability deep dives 2026.

The purpose of this work was to review how statutory partners were meeting their Community Planning duties and to look at accountability, engagement and shared ownership across CPPs.

The deep dives would explore partners' experiences, learning, challenges and opportunities around:-

- ◆ working collaboratively
- ◆ planning and identification of priorities
- ◆ alignment of organisational activities with CPP activity
- ◆ contribution of resource to support delivery of LOIP priorities
- ◆ effective engagement
- ◆ third sector participation
- ◆ identification of good practice
- ◆ build an evidence base
- ◆ exploration of levers to support CPP accountability

The presentation also included the approach, key focus areas, the timeline and scope, and any actions required from partners.

K Brown, U Bartley, and L James responded to members questions and were thanked for their presentation.

5 Marmot 7 Principle: Tackle Racism, Discrimination and their Outcomes

The following presentations from partner organisations were delivered on activities, challenges and opportunities relating to Marmot 7 Principle: Tackle Racism, Discrimination and Inequality:-

- ◆ **East Kilbride Integration Network (EKin)** - S Jaecocke provided an overview of EKin's work supporting positive integration, community cohesion and new arrivals, including ESOL provision, community events and initiatives promoting positive integration.
- ◆ **Housing Services - Asylum and Refugee Resettlement Service** - W Stevenson provided an overview on the role of the Service, current priorities and challenges, service development activity, inequality risks, and examples of support provided to asylum seekers and refugees.
- ◆ **Youth, Family and Community Learning Development Partnership and English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL)** – J McVicar provided an overview of the delivery and impact of ESOL services, the emerging challenges, the importance of early intervention and proposed next steps.
- ◆ **Police Scotland** Chief Superintendent V Watson provided an overview of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 providing information on:-
 - ◆ the definition of a hate crime
 - ◆ Lanarkshire Statistics for 2025/2026
 - ◆ the following equalities outcomes related to public engagement:-
 - ◆ reporting crime and community concerns
 - ◆ accessibility of services
 - ◆ meaningful and committed engagement
 - ◆ violence against women and girls
- ◆ **Interfaith Event** - J Kerr provided feedback from the Interfaith Event held on 19 May 2026, including survey findings, shared values, community tensions, differing perspectives and potential actions to support community cohesion.

All contributors were thanked for their informative presentations.

Partners were invited to provide feedback on any actions required to address the issues highlighted, priorities requiring immediate attention and opportunities for transformational change.

It was agreed that, following feedback, one or more priority actions would be identified and progressed.

Outcome(s): Presentations noted.

6 Community Planning Partnership Budget and Expenditure Report

A report dated 27 May 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council was submitted providing an update on the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) budget and expenditure for 2025/2026, as at 31 March 2026 (Period 14), and to provide details on the proposed 2026/2027 budget and spending plan.

As outlined at Appendix 1 to the report, the total available budget for 2025/2026 was £89,651. This included a carry-forward of £44,301 from the 2024/2025 budget and annual income of £45,350.

Appendix 1 also showed spend for the year of £60,691, which would result in an underspend of £28,960. Of this sum, there was £6,500 of Lived Experience Fund monies remaining which was set out in more detail at section 7 of the report.

The total available budget for 2026/2027 was £74,310. This reflected the balance of £28,960 carried forward and annual income of £45,350. This was outlined in Appendix 2 to the report.

The forecast spend for 2026/2027 was £74,310 and a draft spending plan was attached at Appendix 3 to the report.

Outcome(s):

- (1) Final outturn position on the Community Planning Partnership Budget as at 31 March 2026 noted.
- (2) Proposed budget and spending plan for 2026/2027, as detailed at appendices 2 and 3 to the report, approved.

[Reference: Note of 18 March 2026 (Paragraph 6)]

7 Embedding Marmot Places Programme - Community Planning Partnership Governance Proposal

A report dated 27 May 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council was submitted providing a draft proposal to transition the Marmot Place Programme into the core Community Planning Partnership (CPP) governance and delivery structures post September 2026, when the Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES) pilot would formally come to an end.

Although CHES was due to come to a formal end in September 2026, it would continue to operate as a partnership and build on the work of the 3 pilot areas across Scotland. The scope and format of this continued arrangement had yet to be determined and remained under discussion.

To develop the CHES pilot in South Lanarkshire, community planning partners were brought together through a Marmot Leadership Group and a dedicated multi-agency data group. This created a space for shared discussion, challenge and agreement on priorities across the CPP and defined and drove forward a South Lanarkshire Marmot approach.

The Leadership Group proposed an early years, and child poverty focus for the pilot, using the opportunity to test new models of collaboration and place-based approaches to improve outcomes for young children in Burnbank, where evidence had identified the highest levels of child poverty in South Lanarkshire. It was noted that this place-based pilot would continue beyond the formal end of the CHES partnership. CHES provided an opportunity to develop a more detailed shared understanding of local inequalities, addressing limitations in the available data, which had largely been presented at local authority level. This supported partners to take a more coordinated and prevention-focused approach to improving outcomes for children and young people.

Section 4 of the report outlined a whole systems approach that would be taken to reduce health inequalities and improve healthy life expectancy.

Appendix 1 to the report outlined the initial Marmot programme governance and Appendix 2 outlined the proposed governance approach that integrated Marmot into CPP.

The Leadership Group would meet for the final time in December 2026, by which stage it would have developed a proposed new Terms of Reference for the Early Years Pilot Group.

Appendix 3 to the report outlined next steps to be undertaken to move from data to action.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Formal end of the CHES pilot in September 2026 be noted.
 - (2) South Lanarkshire's learning and embedding of the Marmot approach to continue through the CPP and individual partner organisations in accordance with the transition governance arrangements outlined in Appendix 2.
 - (3) Frequency of Leadership Group meetings to be reduced and new reporting arrangements including a review of the Terms of Reference for the Outcomes Leads Group agreed.
 - (4) Outcomes Leads Group to take forward a co-design workshop with community networks and representative groups to consider options to integrate and strengthen a wider range of the voice of people and the places they live.
 - (5) Development of a shared approach to whole systems, collaborative working around place as part of the CPP's Improvement and Development Plan approved in principle.

8 South Lanarkshire Seniors Together Update Report

A Report dated 27 May 2026 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on South Lanarkshire Seniors Together activity.

According to statistics from the Centre for Ageing Better, ageism was the most prevalent form of discrimination in the UK. The World Health Organisation (WHO) designated an Age-friendly Community as one in which people of all ages could actively participate in activities and where everyone was treated with respect, regardless of age. Such communities were designed to help older people remain connected, healthy, and active for longer, while also providing appropriate support to those who were no longer able to look after themselves independently, an approach that puts older people at the heart of decision making.

There were 8 domains that made an Age-friendly Community which link with current work of the Partnership, at both a local and strategic level, which included:-

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ◆ community and Health Care | ◆ outdoor spaces and buildings |
| ◆ transport | ◆ respect and social inclusion |
| ◆ housing | ◆ civil participation and employment |
| ◆ social participation | ◆ communication and information |

In March 2023, South Lanarkshire became the first Age-friendly Community in Scotland. This was achieved by:-

- ◆ connecting older people to their peers
- ◆ providing information events, with links to other services and organisations that may help people age well

Seniors Together had hosted two events on Mindfulness in partnership with South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC) in May and June 2026, a further Mindfulness event was planned in partnership with Bothwell Futures for 24 June 2026. These events have contributed to the wellbeing of our older population.

South Lanarkshire Council's Digital Team had engaged with Seniors Together to consult on the development of the Council's new website. This was intended to help ensure the site was accessible to its target audience and to mitigate the risks associated with digital exclusion.

It was reported that the Age-Friendly Toilet Map pilot project for Lanark town centre was progressing towards delivery. The map was being co-produced by SLLC, South Lanarkshire Council's Community Engagement Team and Lanark Community Development Trust, with older people helping to steer the direction of the project. A report outlining the survey findings and outputs was included as Appendix 1 to the report. The proposed launch date of the Age-Friendly Toilet Map was 1 October 2026 to align with International Day of Older People. It was delivered in both paper and electronic formats.

Outcome(s): Content of the report noted.

9 Good Food Nation Plan Update Report

A report dated 27 May 2026 by the Chief Executive was submitted providing an update on the upcoming duties for all local authorities on the development of Good Food Nation (GFN) plans and the Council's current progress with its Plan.

The Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 imposed a legislative duty on local authorities to prepare and publish GFN plans.

The national GFN Plan set out 6 overarching outcomes for a GFN, as outlined at paragraph 4.2 of the report.

Section 10 of the Act, which was not yet in force but anticipated to be by April 2027, required relevant authorities to publish a GFN Plan within a period of 12 months. GFN plans should 'have regard' to the scope for food-related issues to affect outcomes of the national plan and legislation, however, local outcomes reflecting the needs of local food systems could also be set.

Information was provided on the:-

- ◆ key requirements in developing a local Plan
- ◆ work being undertaken internally and externally to develop the draft Plan

Regular updates would be provided to the Board, with a proposed draft Plan being prepared within the required timescales.

Outcome(s): Content of the report noted.

10 Community Planning Partnership Board Bulletin

The Community Planning Partnership Board Bulletin of 17 June 2026 was submitted providing information on the following:-

- ◆ self-assessment improvement plan update
- ◆ community wish list/community benefit update

Outcome(s): Noted.

[Reference: Note of 18 March 2026 (Paragraph 14)]

11 Community Planning Partnership Board – Register of Information

A report dated 27 May 2026 by the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council, was submitted providing a summary of information which had been circulated to Community Planning Partners between 23 February to 22 May 2026, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

Outcome(s): Noted.

[Reference: Note of 18 March 2026 (Paragraph 15)]

12 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Board would be held on Wednesday, 9 September 2026 at 1.00pm.

13 Any Other Competent Business

There were no other items of competent business.

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	Community Partnerships Update
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Heather Robertson, Community Planning Community Development Officer, South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Tel: 0303 123 1017 Email: heather.robertson2@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	♦ to provide the Partnership Board with an update on the four Community Partnerships' status and provide solutions and partner updates that are responsive to local communities and members priorities.
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):- (1) that the Community Partnerships progress updates outlined at section 4 and in Appendices 1 to 3 and its intention to continue to progress these areas together with the Community Partnership's Community Development Officer and Progress Group, be noted.
Risks/Challenges:	Section 9 provides a summary of the risks and challenges as set out in the Partnership Risk Register relating to community participation and engagement.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	♦ Ambition 1 - We will invest in people by finding ways to share power and resources. ♦ Ambition 2 - We will make progress by investing in learning together and how we can do things better. ♦ Ambition 3 - We will invest in our planet by putting local areas at the centre of our work. ♦ Principles: Communication and Empowerment; Embracing Change; and Openness and Trust.
Summary of Report:	♦ Section 4 provides an update on feedback from the Community Partnership Members ♦ Section 5 provides an update on current activity of the Community Partnerships. ♦ Appendix 1 provides an update on current Neighbourhood planning themes and priorities

	◆ Appendix 2 provides an update on common areas across the four locality partnerships. ◆ Appendix 3 provides an update on engagement activity and work carried out to progress the Community Partnerships Development Plan. ◆ Appendix 4 provides a case study from the Hamilton Community Partnership on the Hareleeshill Community Garden, Larkhall.
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Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Partnerships Update
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ to provide the Partnership Board with an update on the four Community Partnerships' status and provide solutions and partner updates that are responsive to local communities and members priorities.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the Community Partnerships progress updates outlined at section 4 and in Appendices 1 and 2, and its intention to continue to progress these areas together with the Community Partnership Community Development Officer and Progress Group, be noted.

3. Background

3.1. There are four locality partnerships (Cambuslang/Rutherglen, Clydesdale, East Kilbride and Hamilton) where community representatives Neighbourhood Planning areas, community councils and other community bodies come together to discuss common issues and solutions, and report to the Community Planning Partnership on the discussions and look at improvement actions/options. An update on activity is detailed at section 4.

3.2. The volunteer who currently Chairs the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Community Partnership continues to provide mentoring support to new volunteer members by chairing all meetings, helping to build trust, and to better understand the value of being part of a partnership in their local area, and the benefits of this. It has been agreed that this arrangement will continue until locality partnerships have nominated their own local Chairs. The Community Partnership Community Development Officer (CDO) will oversee, coordinate and link directly with all organisations and individuals prior to and following on from meetings.

4. Local Democracy and Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Participation and Engagement Strategy

4.1. Further to the presentations and discussions with all Community Partnerships on local democracy and the need to develop a new participation and engagement strategy, a presentation was made to each partnership which outlined a complex community representation landscape, and the success of the Community Partnerships in addressing this.

- 4.2. The presentation highlighted that a range of community representation groups would be invited to co-design a workshop to consider how best to strengthen voice and influence with public partners.
- 4.3. Community members across all four Community Partnerships emphasised the value of receiving regular updates through the Community Partnerships, noting that this helps them stay informed about services and enables them to share relevant information within their communities.
- 4.4. Members recognise that their involvement in Community Partnership meetings provides an effective form of community engagement, allowing information to be shared both with partners and local residents. Members welcomed the improvements made to communication and the more regular updates provided, highlighting the importance of maintaining this approach to support ongoing partnership working and community awareness.

5. Current Update

- 5.1. The latest updates on activities within the four Community Partnership areas are as follows:

Cambuslang and Rutherglen Community Partnership:-

The purpose of the meetings of the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Community Partnership which took place in June and July 2026 were to provide updates, discuss progress to date and agree the next steps for moving forwards.

Future Actions

Youth Voice and Engagement:-

- ◆ youth representation continues to be progressed.

Opportunities are being explored to engage young people through existing groups and channels to better capture their voices, experiences, concerns, and inequalities.

Accessibility of Online Meetings:-

The importance of subtitles/captions during online meetings and conversations (e.g., via Microsoft Teams) was highlighted to improve accessibility and inclusion.

The Community Planning Partnership Group (CPPG) discussed solutions to help with future meeting formats which included:-

- ◆ a proposal to alternate meeting formats, with one month held in person and the following month online.
- ◆ the group agreed to discuss this further with the Chair and consider implementation for future meetings.

Digital Inclusion:-

- ◆ a lack of Digital Champions within the Cambuslang/Rutherglen area was identified as a concern.
- ◆ it was noted that Whitlawburn Community Centre is willing to support local residents with technology and digital skills.

Local Service Provision:-

[LEAP](#) offers different activities for older people, including IT classes to help enhance digital inclusion. The class is, however, currently paused over the summer period. The schedule of classes is available [here](#) and is updated regularly to reflect current provision.

[Rutherglen and Cambuslang Citizens Advice Bureau](#)

The Citizens Advice Bureau provides a digital help service which can support with making applications for blue badges and council tax reductions, etc. It can also provide practical support with setting up an email address and how to use it. There is a dedicated digital coach based within the bureau who delivers the service.

[AbilityNet](#) is a UK charity with a healthy volunteer contingent in Scotland, including South Lanarkshire. The charity provides free IT support specifically for older people and disabled people of all ages. People seeking support are matched with a local volunteer who will provide free IT support within their home. There is an online form to complete to make a request for support, but a referrer can do it on behalf of the individual requiring assistance, and there is a telephone option too. A range of IT support is available, from setting up equipment to using online services to stay connected.

[St Columbkille's Catholic Church](#) runs a welfare clinic on the first Saturday of the month which provides a range of support including help with benefit applications and form filling. The project is funded via the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund and although not a specific digital skills project, the application and form filling element may still be of interest.

[Routes to Work South](#), as part of its training offer for unemployed residents in South Lanarkshire, they provide basis IT training opportunities. Their training platform, which includes 'The Pod' also caters for young people aged 18 to 24, offering a range of training opportunities via partners including Skills Development Scotland and South Lanarkshire College.

Support for Weight Management Services:-

The group discussed whether funding might be available to support access to slimming clubs for people in the area who are unable to afford membership or class fees.

Partner Update: South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC)

South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC) receive funding from Health Improvement via the Scottish Government to provide weight management classes within South Lanarkshire. These are free and called '[Weigh To Go](#)' classes which is a 15-week course where you receive information on a variety of topics supporting weight management and are held at Eastfield Lifestyles.

There is also a referral pathway to support patients into physical activity which is called a [Physical Activity Prescription \(PAP\)](#). The person would receive a 4-week membership that can access any class, gym, swim, health suite, and racquet sports.

5.2. Clydesdale Community Partnership:-

Clydesdale Community Partnership has met twice since the last CPP Board meeting. The purpose of the meetings which took place in June and August 2026 was to update, discuss progress to date and agree the next steps for moving forward.

Future Actions

Bus Services and Public Transport:-

- ◆ Duneaton Community Council area has been without a bus service for more than nine years.
- ◆ Questions included:-
 - How many people need to use a bus service for it to be maintained?
 - What is the criteria used when deciding whether routes should continue or be withdrawn?
 - How does Scottish Partnership for Transport (SPT) organise and plan services?
- ◆ Members highlighted that inconsistent bus services can force residents to rely on alternative forms of transport, reducing public transport usage overall, this has led to concerns that bus services appear to have low passenger usage.
- ◆ The lack of consultation with bus users was also highlighted, noting that the last bus from Wanlockhead to Lanark on a Saturday leaves five minutes after the first bus from Lanark arrives which is likely to have an impact on tourist businesses.
- ◆ The group asked for representation from SPT to help better understand the processes and local public transport arrangements.

Partner Update: SPT

The Analysis and Design Team Leader from SPT attended the meeting on 3 August 2026 and gave a presentation. He responded to a range of questions from members and provided an overview of how transport services are currently delivered. He explained that many service changes are driven by funding constraints and passenger demand, with limited resources being prioritised towards routes with higher levels of usage. As a result, some lower-use bus services have been reduced or withdrawn.

He also agreed to investigate a number of issues raised by members, including concerns about bus contractors and the safety of passengers at the Lanark Interchange layover area. He committed to providing feedback on these matters and confirmed that he will attend future Community Planning Partnership meetings to provide updates and respond to ongoing transport concerns raised by local communities.

Partner Update: VASLan

VASLan confirmed that the new Community Transport Mapping and Engagement Officer is now in post. The Officer will help to identify gaps in transport provision and areas most affected by service limitations.

Disability Access and Liability at Lanark Train Station

Members requested a comprehensive update regarding:-

- ◆ Disability access issues
- ◆ Liability and responsibility for accessibility concerns
- ◆ Support and provisions for people with serious disabilities
- ◆ Clarification is required regarding which organisations are responsible for addressing these issues

Members have identified officers within Scotrail who can assist with this enquiry and contact will be made to discuss the access issues further.

Planning and Traffic Concerns

Concerns were raised about the planning process and the response to significant increases in traffic associated with large-scale developments.

Members felt that more robust consideration should be given to the impact of additional traffic on local communities.

Partner Update: SLC Planning Service

The Council's Planning Services have advised that as part of a planning application for a large-scale development, a Transport Assessment would be submitted for review and approval. This involves reviewing policy compliance, existing traffic conditions, road safety records, active travel and public transport provision and forecasting the number of trips the development is expected to generate. The additional traffic is then assigned to the surrounding road network, and key junctions are modelled to assess their future operation with and without the development in place. This information is reviewed to determine whether the network can accommodate the additional demand, and if any adverse impacts can be mitigated through infrastructure improvements, sustainable travel measures, or developer contributions.

Renewable Energy Fund (REF) Administration

A proposal was discussed to allow for more community-based oversight of the REF Fund. Members suggested adopting a funding allocation process similar to that used for the Clyde Extension Fund which is panel based. It was felt that this approach could make the process more straightforward, efficient, and quicker.

Greater clarity is required regarding the allocation and distribution of wind farm funding, who holds funds and how they can be accessed. Representatives at the meeting had very different understandings of how this operated.

Partner Update: SLC Enterprise and Sustainability Development Service

The Council's Programme Manager, Enterprise and Sustainability Development Service, attended the meeting on 3 August 2026 and delivered a presentation on the allocation of Windfarm Community Benefit Funding. The presentation provided members with a clear overview of how funding is distributed, the governance arrangements in place, and the constraints and responsibilities of the service in administering the fund.

The Programme Manager responded to members' questions, clarified the funding criteria and application process, and provided a map identifying the eligible funding areas. He also shared his presentation with the partnership, which included examples of successful projects supported through the fund, current funding opportunities, and the eligibility criteria for applicants. The session helped improve members' understanding of the funding process and the opportunities available to local communities.

Community Asset Transfers

It was noted that village halls serve as vital community hubs, and delays associated with the legal processes surrounding asset transfers are causing significant concern amongst local residents.

Concerns were expressed about the impact of paying double council tax charges on community halls which have uninhabitable accommodation attached. This is an issue as trusts have limited financial resources.

Partner Update: SLC Legal Services:-

The legal process associated with Community Asset Transfer is complex and can take time. In most instances, South Lanarkshire Council meets the legislative timelines to conclude transactions. On occasion, where matters are more complex, the council seeks extension to timescales with applicants.

In terms of the rates issue, prior to any transfer, applicant organisations are given information on how to apply for full rates dispensation as charities. It is incumbent upon the organisation to undertake the steps required when the applicant assumes.

Future Events and Partnership Working

It was proposed that a rural event for the Clydesdale area would be beneficial to raise awareness of the CPP. The event could bring together local groups and partners, offering opportunities to 'meet the partners' and improve engagement and buy-in to CPP.

Partner Update:-

Discussions will continue with the partnership regarding the potential delivery of a community event. Members recognised that many volunteers are already overstretched due to existing commitments, making it difficult for them to organise and deliver additional events. It was suggested that partner organisations consider taking a greater role in planning, coordinating, and funding future events to reduce the burden on volunteers while providing valuable opportunities for local residents and community groups to engage with services and support available in their area.

5.3. East Kilbride and Strathaven Community Partnership

East Kilbride and Strathaven Community Partnership has met twice since the last CPP Board meeting. The purpose of the meetings which took place in May and July 2026 was to update, discuss progress to date and agree the next steps for moving forward.

Future Actions

Waste Management:-

Kirkton Place/Uquhart Place/Drive

Refuse bins should be stored within gardens rather than remaining on streets where possible.

Particular concerns raised in Kirkton Place and Urquhart Place/Drive include:-

- ◆ existing bin shed areas are insufficient to accommodate the number of bins

Partner Update: SLC, Waste Services

Current process is that Waste Services will write to residents and if no improvement this is passed to Environmental Health Services who will consider whether enforcement action is appropriate. Unfortunately, enforcement action ultimately means a report to the Procurator Fiscal.

Partner Update:-South Lanarkshire Council (SLC), Housing Services:-

The local housing team have agreed to look at this in conjunction with Land Services to explore options to address this and will take account of the block composition between owners and tenants, the scope of works required and available budgets.

Fly-Tipping

Ongoing fly-tipping issues in Kirkton Place, East Kilbride.

The group requested a broader review of the area and potential solutions.

Partner Update: SLC Waste Services

The Council's Waste Services will visit and engage with residents on how to manage their waste responsibly and are currently collating data to inform a pilot study which will look at the impact of a range of interventions aimed at encouraging residents to take responsibility for their waste. The various interventions will be analysed and the outcome reported later in the year.

Pavement Parking and Road Safety

The group discussed various concerns regarding pavement parking enforcement, blue badge parking, e-bikes, and scooters.

Partner Update: Police Scotland

Police Scotland gave an in-depth update on dropped kerbs and traffic outside East Kilbride Village post office which is causing poor visibility for young people at lunch time crossing the road.

They also advised that blue badge parking has many areas of restriction. The current understanding is:-

- ◆ bays are not enforceable unless formally designated as disabled parking.
- ◆ yellow markings can be enforceable
- ◆ white-painted bays require appropriate signage mounted on a pole to be enforceable
- ◆ without proper designation and signage, parking bays may be available for general use

E-bikes and Scooters:-

- ◆ awareness work has been undertaken through local high schools and letter drops within Strathaven
- ◆ residents are encouraged to report information directly to Police Scotland and identify individuals involved where possible
- ◆ reporting incidents is important as it helps build statistical evidence and enables community policing teams to respond effectively

Public Awareness and Education:-

Improved public understanding is needed regarding:-

- ◆ the legal status of e-bikes and e-scooters
- ◆ safety risks associated with their use
- ◆ appropriate reporting routes for concerns
- ◆ further community education and awareness-raising activity was suggested
- ◆ current Police understanding is that certain types of e-bikes and e-scooters may only be used on private land with the landowners' permission

- ◆ full-powered e-bikes and e-scooters are not permitted on public roads
- ◆ Police Scotland indicated that enforcement is challenging and that legislative change is required in some areas:-
- ◆ there is currently no legislation preventing the sale of these vehicles
- ◆ Police Scotland is exploring ways to support communities and address associated concerns

Strathaven One-Way System and Traffic Management:-

- ◆ the possibility of reviewing the one-way system was discussed.
- ◆ Community Transport Strathaven has previously undertaken a consultation, and participants would be content for that work to be used where possible.
- ◆ reusing previous consultation findings could help avoid restarting the process from the beginning.
- ◆ north street was highlighted as a particular area of concern.

Partner Update: SLC Roads Service

In terms of the Strathaven One Way Order, the Strathaven Transportation Working Group (STWG) and the Council's Roads, Transportation and Fleet Services have successfully engaged and considered a series of options relating to traffic movement and safety in and around the town centre. The outcome of this was a preferred option for one-way alterations to be introduced on Wellbrae and Bridge Street.

The Council promoted a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for this option; however, the process was then stalled due to objections received and hence a hearing was held on 10 November 2023. Following the hearing, the Independent Reporter reported their findings to the council and recommended that the Order proceed.

This was not progressed further, and the original TRO implementation period has now lapsed. The Council have recently asked whether the STWG remains minded for the Council to promote a new TRO and move towards implementation.

As part of the TRO process, the Council is obliged by law to consult with various organisations and to advertise the proposals to the general public. The whole process of promoting an Order takes between six and nine months though it can take considerably longer if objections are received. Subject to the successful promotion of a new TRO, the availability of funding and resources, and completion of any associated approvals, the council would aim to commence implementation following completion of the TRO process and any required consultation relating to associated junction alterations.

The Council have acknowledged receipt of the consultation exercise undertaken by Community Transport Strathaven and will consider the content of the report prepared as part of the development of the Bridge Street and Wellbrae One Way TRO.

With regards to North Street, the Council have confirmed that the associated mini roundabout at its junction with the A71 Kirk Street/Bridge Street will be considered as part of the development and promotion of any future One-Way Order proposals.

In relation to reusing previous consultation findings could help avoid restarting the process from the beginning, it was noted that a similar discussion took place approximately two years ago, and there is a reluctance to repeat earlier work unnecessarily.

As outlined above, the Council is required by legislation to undertake the statutory consultation and advertisement procedures associated with the promotion of any new Traffic Regulation Order. Whilst previous consultation exercises may help inform the development of proposals, they cannot replace the statutory consultation requirements.

East Kilbride Show Park – Future Plans

Members requested an update on the future plans for the Show Park. Interest was expressed regarding:-

- ◆ the future of the car park and any planned improvements or changes to parking arrangements
- ◆ long-term plans for the football club facilities and associated infrastructure
- ◆ protection, maintenance, and future use of green space within the wider Show Park site

Partner Update: SLC Assets and Estates Team

The Show Park landlords, the East Kilbride Open Cattle Show Society (the Society), terminated the Council's lease with effect from 7 January 2026. Following discussions with representatives of the Society, a report was taken to the council's Housing and Technical Resources Committee on 3 June 2026 recommending that negotiations are undertaken to agree to the termination and progress an exit strategy in the best interests of the Council.

This will enable the Society to take control of the land for its designated purpose as priority greenspace and the Council will have no further remit on the site as a tenant.

Funding Query – East Kilbride Citizens Advice Bureau

Representatives from East Kilbride Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) asked when the Community Fund payments would be made, noting that funding is urgently required to support the ongoing delivery of their services.

Partner Update: SLC Community Engagement Team

The first payment for the year has now been paid to East Kilbride CAB, and the agreement will be issued shortly.

John Wrights Sport Centre

The group discussed concerns regarding the road surface including deep potholes leading into Whitemoss football parks, tennis court and bowling green.

Vehicles sitting on the single-track road at the football pitch are creating serious disruption in the evenings with vehicles leaving pitches as others are arriving. This is damaging the road and the grass areas. The safety of young children crossing from the pitches to the tennis courts has also become dangerous due to the vehicles parking on the grass verges.

Partner Update: SLC Roads Service

The Council's Roads Service will arrange for an engineer to inspect the potholes and identify repair costs. This will then be considered within the Council's available budget. In relation to the football parking, discussions are taking place between partners, and an update will be provided to the partnership at a later date.

5.4. **Hamilton Community Partnership**

Hamilton Community Partnership has met twice since the last CPP Board meeting. The purpose of the meetings which took place in April and June 2026 was to update, discuss progress to date and agree the next steps for moving forward.

Future Actions:-

Mobile Banking Hub – Stonehouse

A mobile banking hub is available at the Lifestyles Centre in Stonehouse, operating Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm. The service provides access to a range of different banking providers, offering a useful local facility for residents who may otherwise have difficulty accessing banking services.

The hub does not provide a general cash service; however, cash can be used where required to make payments such as Council Tax bills. The availability of the hub provides an important local service, particularly for residents who may face barriers accessing traditional bank branches.

Banking Access Issues:-

- ◆ post offices are unable to process cheques as a banking service
- ◆ The group agreed that concerns should be shared with the Scottish Government CPP Place Director for South Lanarkshire to help address banking infrastructure issues at government level, given the responsibility and impact on local communities

Partner Update: Community Engagement Team

The Community Partnership's comments on local banking access have been shared with the Scottish Government Community Planning Place Director for South Lanarkshire. Feedback will be provided to the Community Partnership at a later date. concerns were raised that banking services are becoming less inclusive. There is a need for:-

- ◆ digital skills training within local communities
- ◆ additional support for people with complex needs who may struggle with digital banking services

Local Service Provision

[AbilityNet](#) is a UK charity with a healthy volunteer contingent in Scotland, including South Lanarkshire. The charity provides free IT support specifically for older people and disabled people of all ages. People seeking support are matched with a local volunteer who will provide free IT support within their home. There is an online form to complete to make a request for support, but a referrer can do it on behalf of the individual requiring assistance, and there is a telephone option too. A range of IT support is available, from setting up equipment to using online services to stay connected.

Update from Islamic Centre and Digital Inclusion Discussion:-

- ◆ representatives from the Islamic Centre highlighted barriers to accessing information and services, including language challenges, outdated information on the Council website, unclear grant funding information and difficulty finding appropriate contact details
- ◆ concerns were also raised about the lack of wellbeing and distress-related support within available grant programmes

- ◆ members discussed the impact of increasing digitalisation, noting that some older people and those with limited digital skills, access or additional support needs may be excluded from digital-first services. The importance of maintaining non-digital access routes was emphasised
- ◆ the group also discussed awareness and accessibility of funding opportunities and digital inclusion support. Members highlighted the need for clearer communication about available funding, digital skills training, and local support services, together with better promotion of these resources within communities

Partner Update: VASLan

SCVO Funding Scotland Newsletter: <https://funding.scot/bulletin> (For information)

Partner Update: SLC Customer Contact Centre Manager

The Council is developing a new Customer Experience Strategy which will set out how it will improve the way services are accessed, how customers get information and updates, and contact the Council. A survey is currently open (see link below) and the Customer Services Team plan to undertake follow-up focus groups, providing local residents and community groups with opportunities for more in-depth engagement and feedback.

[Customer Engagement Review - Public](#)

Community Action Fund Discussion

Members of the group suggested that it may be more beneficial to use the Community Action Fund to support the development or reopening of local community-based services that provide residents with information, advice, and signposting to available services.

It was noted that having accessible, local points of contact within communities could help address barriers related to digital exclusion, language differences, and limited awareness of available support.

The group recognised the value of community-based services in improving access to information and connecting residents with appropriate support.

Members expressed the view that South Lanarkshire Council needs to take a more innovative and ambitious approach to addressing community challenges.

It was acknowledged that the adoption of the Marmot Approach may help to drive positive change, however, there was a strong feeling that more fundamental and long-term action is required.

Young People Suggestions

It was recognised/suggested that the Duke of Edinburgh Awards would be a great opportunity for neighbourhood areas. This can open so many opportunities for young people that they may otherwise never experience.

Positive information about Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) pupils in all schools should be shared by education to highlight their accomplishments. League tables shouldn't be the only focus for achievement.

Partner Update: SLC Youth, Family and Community Learning

There is an extensive education programme across schools and Youth Family and Community Learning including an annual celebration event for participants. Young people can access the Duke of Edinburgh Award through their school or through the local Universal Connections.

In terms of commemorating achievements, this is done extensively on social media and in local committees, emphasising schoolwork and HMIE inspections. Success is honoured at the Council's Education Committee meetings during the upcoming session. League tables are not created or maintained by Education Resources. St. John Ogilvie High School, which recently received one of the finest inspections in the nation this month despite having a high (SIMD), approximately half of the cohort, is probably going to be the first school to be emphasised at the committee.

Inviting schools to visit and present some of their work to the group was another recommendation. Schools may want to invite senior students to attend meetings, so they can present parts of their work.

6. Further Information

- 6.1. Appendix 1 provides the current themes across the Neighbourhood Planning areas. Appendix 2 provides an update on the common areas of activity across the four locality partnerships for information. Appendix 3 sets out progress on the activities to deliver the Community Partnership Development Plan. Appendix 4 provides a case study highlighting work being carried out in the Larkhall area.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. The Community Partnership's Community Development Officer is contracted on a full-time basis until 31 March 2027. The development requirements of the volunteers and building community cohesion within the partnership continues to be an intensive area of work for the officer.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. Delivery costs associated with the recruitment of the Partnership's Community Development Officer. This is funded through the Community Planning budget.

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. Risk and Other Implications

- 10.1. The main risks and challenges as set out in the Partnership Risk Register and Risk Control Plan relating to Community Engagement and Participation are set out in the table below. The Board is asked to note that this activity aligns with partnership mitigation actions and the Risk Control Plan. The information provided is an extract from the Risk Cards and more information is available from the Community Planning Team on request:-

Risk Card Reference	Risk Classification	Risk Summary
CPP/2018/001	Very High	Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2022 to 2032
CPP/2018/002	Very High	The CPP fail to engage effectively with communities (as required in the Community Empowerment Act and as a requirement to deliver the new Community Plan) in the planning, design and delivery of improved outcomes and inequalities

11. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

11.1. There are no Impact Assessment implications associated with this report. This report is produced by the Community Partnership in consultation with its members.

Paul Manning
Chief Executive
South Lanarkshire Council

19 August 2026

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Heather Robertson, Community Planning Partnership Community Development Officer,
South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership
Tel: 0303 123 1017
Email: heather.robertson2@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Neighbourhood Planning Priorities

Priorities from the South Lanarkshire local Neighbourhood Plans for Cambuslang/Rutherglen, Hamilton and surrounding areas and East Kilbride South are listed below. The Community Partnership CDO continues to align activities, addressing the top priorities as set out in their local plans:

Top five priorities: - Cambuslang/Rutherglen

1. More Leisure, Recreation Activities
2. Stronger and Better Communities
3. Play Park and Sports Park Improvements
4. Greater Community Safety
5. Physical Environment and Improvements

Top five priorities: - Hamilton/Larkhall/Blantyre

1. More Leisure, Recreation Activities
2. Greater Community Safety
3. Physical Environment and Improvements
4. Stronger and Better Communities
5. Easier to get around/easier to get about

Top five priorities: - East Kilbride South

1. Outdoor green space
2. Play Park improvements
3. Community Activities
4. Local economy
5. Health and Wellbeing

There is currently no Neighbourhood Plans in place within the Clydesdale area, however many areas have their own local plans. These findings will be shared with the Clydesdale Community Partnership to help inform and address issues that are similar to those identified in other areas.

Continuing to use the themes identified through the Neighbourhood Plans will support the activities and work required for Community Partnerships to better align priorities and outcomes.

Common Areas Identified Across All Four Community Partnerships

After an extended period of face-to-face engagement with individuals and community groups across South Lanarkshire, the Community Partnership Development Officer has compiled a list of common areas for development across all communities. The officer will keep working with partnership officers and community volunteers to better understand local issues and challenges and to help develop solutions:

- Digital support
- E-bikes and scooters
- Planning applications (infrastructure needs)
- Transport

Community Partnership Development Plan

Engagement activity and work carried out to progress the Community Partnership's Development Plan continues. The following provides an update on progress to date: -

- **Communications** - Every Community Partnership now has a unique identity, and websites have been created for each of them. Monthly updates on national policy and strategy, as well as local activities and events of relevance to their broader communities, are sent to partnerships.
- **Community Leadership** – The Community Development Officer continues to engage with local organisations and groups to build capacity and increase local awareness of the partnerships. This has led to an increase in the number of new members joining the partnership. Immediate benefits for members have been achieved by introducing groups and organisations to each other, exchanging good practice, information, and offers to support each other. Work continues to have all four Partnerships represented on the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board. They have all agreed this is a priority action and work will continue to support potential/current Chairs/Depute Chairs to participate at that level.
- **Data and profiling** – Review of the Neighbourhood Planning Profiles; Deprivation Profiles; and the Deprivation Heat Maps. These are all longer-term actions. These actions will be revised as the Marmot Place Programme Data Group work develops. Key messages from the Marmot Place Programme data analysis have been shared with Community Partnerships. Partnerships have also been advised that the South Lanarkshire Data Profiler tool has been published for their use.
- **Good Governance** – All partnership Terms of Reference documents are kept under review by the partnerships. The self-assessment process has highlighted several areas for improvement in terms of supporting Community Partnership volunteers, including improving induction arrangements. Work continues to co-produce an induction process and materials for new members.
- **Monitoring and reporting** – A longer-term initiative, the creation of a Community Partnership Performance and Reporting Framework will be aligned with the Neighbourhood Planning areas.
- **Statutory Remit** – In order to raise knowledge of the statutory CPP responsibilities and to share the opportunities provided by the partnerships, where local voices can be heard to enable change, the Community Development Officer continues to meet with local individuals, groups, partner agencies, and organisations.
- **Volunteers** – Local members will gain a better understanding of the CPP and how it may assist them in bringing about change if you keep asking them about their views. In order to better understand the requirements of volunteers, and work is still being done to encourage volunteers' participation in community planning.

Community Led Approaches to Tackling Inequalities

Members of the Community Partnership Groups expressed an interest in sharing local good practice with partners and other community members within their report. This case study is from the Hamilton Community Partnership.

Larkhall Community Growers : Hareleeshill Community Garden

Growing Skills, Connection and Community Resilience

Hareleeshill Community Garden (HCG) is a community-focused initiative that brings together prevention, early intervention, and practical support to help people feel more connected, confident, and able to take part in local life. Through food growing, volunteering and shared learning, the project aims to reduce loneliness, support wellbeing and create opportunities for residents to build skills that can benefit them at home, in the community and in the workplace.

What the project supports

The project supports people to develop practical skills for work, volunteering, and everyday life. This includes building confidence, learning how to work with others, understanding routines and responsibilities, and gaining experience that can help people take positive next steps.

A key part of the work is helping people of all ages learn how to grow and cook fresh produce. These activities offer practical, low-pressure ways for residents to take part, share knowledge, learn new skills, and make healthier choices. Food growing and cooking can also create natural opportunities for conversation, friendship, and mutual support.

Working as part of a wider food network

HCG is part of a wider community food network and contributes to a four-way food growing partnership across the four localities. This partnership approach helps connect local knowledge, resources, and community spaces so that food growing activity can be coordinated, shared, and developed in a sustainable way.

Community Voice

Building local relationships and shared action

The work is shaped by community survey findings, action planning, partnership development, and ongoing collaboration. By building relationships at all levels, HCG can better understand local needs, identify gaps in support, and strengthen the collective response across neighbourhoods.

At its heart, the project is about more than food. It is about creating welcoming spaces where people can connect, contribute and grow. By combining early support with practical skills, volunteering and community-led food activity, Larkhall Community Growers (LCG) helps people become more independent while also strengthening the resilience of the wider community.

Local Family Case Study

A local family consisting of two parents and their two adult daughters, both of whom are autistic, became involved with the community garden after making an initial enquiry about volunteering.

One daughter, supported by her personal assistant, was particularly interested in gardening, and after an introductory visit it was agreed they would spend a few hours each week helping to maintain the flower beds at the garden entrance.

Staff soon noticed that not only were the flower beds improving, but the sensory garden was also benefiting from the family's extensive gardening knowledge. Within a short time, the rest of the family joined in, the father, also an experienced gardener, and the second daughter, who enjoys arts, crafts, and contributes painted items for local community celebrations.

What began as a few hours of volunteering each week has grown into a regular two-to-three-day commitment. All four family members, along with the personal assistant, now play an active role in maintaining and enhancing the garden.

The parents continue to value the peaceful environment and appreciate having a calm, welcoming outdoor space they can enjoy with their daughters throughout the year.

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	Community Planning Partnership Budget and Expenditure Report
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Jen Kerr, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council Tel: 0303 123 1017 Email: Jennifer.Kerr1@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	♦ to provide the Partnership Board with an update on the Community Planning Partnership Budget and Expenditure as of 10 July 2026 (Period 4).
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):- (1) that the content of the report be noted.
Risks/Challenges:	Risks identified in the Partnership Risk Register that are associated with the impacts of financial challenges are set out in section 9.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	♦ All ambitions/principles.
Summary of Report:	♦ Section 4 details the budget for the year, projected spend, and actual expenditure as of 10 July 2026; and ♦ Section 5 outlines an update on the specific spend as at Period 4.

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Planning Partnership Budget and Expenditure Report
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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 of 10 July 2026.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

(1) that the content of the report be noted.

3. Background

3.1. Details of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) 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 2026/2027 is £74,310. This consists of a funding balance carried forward of £28,960 and the annual income of £45,350.

4.2. The actual expenditure at the end of Period 4 is £18,082 and a breakdown is provided at Appendix 1 to the report.

4.3. The projected spend for the year is approximately £74,310 as noted by the Board on 17 June 2026.

5. Expenditure during 2026/2027

5.1. Specific spend within this period relates to salary costs and the Lived Experience Fund.

6. Employee Implications

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

7. Financial Implications

7.1. The financial implications are detailed in Sections 4 to 7 of 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. Risk and Other Implications

- 9.1. The main risks and challenges as set out in the Partnership Risk Register and Risk Control Plan relating to Financial Challenges are set out in the table below. The Board is asked to note that this activity aligns with partnership mitigation actions and the Risk Control Plan. The information provided is an extract from the Risk Cards and more information is available from the Community Planning Team on request:-

Risk Card Reference	Risk Classification	Risk Summary
CPP/2018/001	Very High	Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2022 to 2032
CPP/2018/002	Very High	Ineffective engagement and collaborative working with communities
CPP/2018/004	High	Financial Challenges

10. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

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

Paul Manning
Chief Executive
South Lanarkshire Council

6 August 2026

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Jen Kerr, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council
Tel: 0303 123 1017
Email: Jennifer.Kerr1@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Community Planning Budget 2026/2027				
<u>Income Carried Forward from 2025/2026</u>		£28,960	£28,960	£28,960
<u>Income 2026/2027</u>				
Partner Contributions		Budget	Forecast	Actual to Date (10 July 2026)
NHS Lanarkshire		£18,350	£18,350	£18,350
South Lanarkshire Council		£22,000	£22,000	£22,000
Police Scotland		£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
Total Income		£45,350	£45,350	£45,350
Total Available Funding 2026/2027		£74,310	£74,310	£74,310
		£	£	£
Expenditure 2026/2027		Budget	Forecast	Actual to Date (10 July 2026)
Community Plan Delivery		£9,250	£9,250	£1,500
Community Planning Events		£4,000	£4,000	£0
Learning and Development		£2,000	£2,000	£0
Printing/Stationery/General		£3,000	£3,000	£0
Salaries		£56,000	£56,000	£16,582
Travel		£60	£60	£0
Total Expenditure		£74,310	£74,310	£18,082
(Over)/under spend		£0.00	£0.00	£56,228

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	Community Planning Partnership Risk Management – Annual Review of Risk Cards and Risk Register
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Aileen Murray, Community Planning Adviser, South Lanarkshire Council Tel: 0303 123 1017 Email: aileen.murray@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	◆ present the updated Community Planning Risk Register following the annual review; and provide an end of year update on the 2024/2025 Risk Control Plan.
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/ Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:- (1) that the draft Community Planning Partnership Risks as set out at Section 5 of this report and the draft Risk Control Plan for 2026/2027 are approved; and (2) that the end of year update on the 2025/2026 Risk Control Plan be noted.
Risks/Challenges:	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.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	◆ All ambitions/principles.
Summary of Report:	◆ This report sets out the draft Risk and Control Plan and provides an end of year update on the 2025/2026 Risk Control Plan; ◆ Section 4 provides an update on the risk management process which is supported by the council's Risk Management Strategy. An example of the four-stage process which is followed during the review of the CPP Risk Cards and Control Plan is detailed at Appendix 1; ◆ Section 5 notes that all previous risks remain and summarises the main changes to the risk cards; and ◆ Section 6 sets out the level of perceived risk for all risks in the register. The 2026/2027 Risk Control Plan is set out at Appendix 2; and a progress update on the previous year's plan is set out at paragraph 6.3. and Appendix 3.

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Planning Partnership Risk Management – Annual Review of Risk Cards and Risk Register
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:

- ◆ present the updated Community Planning Risk Register following the annual review; and
- ◆ present an end of year update on the 2025/2026 Risk Control Plan.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the draft Community Planning Partnership Risks as set out at Section 5 of this report and the draft Risk Control Plan for 2026/2027 are approved; and
- (2) that the end of year update on the 2025/2026 Risk Control Plan be noted.

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 for 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. Reports on the CPP Risk Register and Risk Control Plan are submitted to the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board in March and September each year to provide an update on progress. Outwith these reporting periods, if a significant change arises to a risk, or a new risk is identified, the board will be advised.
- 3.4. Work started on 1 April 2026 to undertake the annual review of the Risk Cards and the Risk Control Plan. This was completed by the Community Planning Progress Group with support from South Lanarkshire Council's Risk Management Team, then remitted to the Outcomes Leads Group for comment. This report sets out the draft Risks and Risk Control Plan for 2026/2027 and provides an end of year update on the 2025/2026 Risk Control Plan. The risk matrix which is used for assigning risk scores is attached at Appendix 4 for information.

4. Partnership Risk Management

- 4.1. Risk management is one of the principal elements of good governance. It is a continuous and developing process involving the identification of risks, analysis and prioritisation of these risks, and the identification and implementation of actions to further mitigate risks. An example of the four-stage process used to review the CPP Risk Cards and Risk Control Plan is detailed at Appendix 1.
- 4.2. In line with the council's risk procedures, the CPP Control Measures detailed within the Risk Cards were updated using the new three lines of defence methodology:-
- ◆ first line of defence – functions that own and manage risk (operational/day to day management)
 - ◆ second line of defence – assurance by corporate functions (not internal audit) that oversee or who specialise in compliance or the management of risk
 - ◆ third line of defence – functions that provide independent assurance (Internal Audit).
- 4.3. The revised Risk Cards were submitted to the council's Internal Audit Team in June 2026 for further review. They have confirmed that the risk controls have been deemed as reasonable but recommend that there should be a longer-term goal to develop the control descriptions further.
- 4.4. This action will be carried out by the Community Planning Progress Group as part of the 2027 Risk Card Review.

5. Partnership Risk Review Summary

- 5.1. In summary, all risks from last year were reviewed by the Progress Group and the Outcomes Leads Group and deemed still to be valid. This means that the total number of risks has remained at seven. Risk descriptions, controls and actions have been updated on the risk cards where required and every control measure was reviewed and updated. Other key changes to the risk cards are summarised below:-

Risk number/description	Summary of changes
Risk Number: CPP/2018/001 Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2022 to 2032	A control measure has been removed in relation to the 'Performance Management Framework.
Risk Number: CPP/2018/002 Failure to engage and collaborate effectively with identified communities of place and interest	A control measure has been removed in relation to the 'Refresh and launch of the 'Champion's Board' for care experienced children and young people'.
CPP/2018/004 Inability to commit to the delivery of Community Planning ambitions and outcomes due to financial pressures and constraints	A control measure has been removed in relation to the 'Statutory Partnership Plans in place'.
CPP/2018/006 Effective management and use of data owned by partners to support efficient collaborative working practices; to inform a	A risk action has been removed in relation to 'Marmot Data Steering Group to consider a data sharing assurance framework, Privacy Impact Screening and data sharing protocols and

Risk number/description	Summary of changes
shared understanding of communities; decision making processes and target resources to those most in need	agreements as required'. This has been replaced with a new action. The inherent risk score has been reduced from 16 to 15 and the residual risk score has increased from 8 to 12.
CPP/2018/008 Failure to implement integrated locality working structures which take a "whole systems approach" to deliver the priorities of the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans	A control measure has been removed in relation to the 'Progress Delivery Group and Outcomes Leads Steering Group'. The target completion date for the risk action 'Develop a whole system action plan to mitigate health inequity in South Lanarkshire as part of the Marmot Place programme implementation. This will include the pending action of resource pooling which is a requirement of the Community Empowerment Act (extract from SLC BVAR report April 2019)' has been amended from December 2026 to December 2027.
CPP/2018/003 Failure to meet sustainable development principles and respond collectively to the climate and nature emergencies	Three control measures have been removed in relation to 'Partnership activity is aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals', 'Partnership food strategy published' and 'Each individual partner has sustainability targets and controls'.
CPP/2022/001 National and Global Challenges	Two control measures have been removed in relation to 'Third sector and community response network (volunteers support and capacity building)' and 'Community Food Growing Strategy'.

6. Risk Register and Risk Control Plan 2026/2027

- 6.1. The revised Community Planning Partnership risks are summarised in the table below. A full copy of the detailed risk cards are available on request:-

Risk Category	Key risk	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Risk Score
1 Very High (15-25)	National and Global Challenges. Partners are required to re-direct resources to respond to local impacts of multiple national and global challenges including: Biodiversity Loss; Climate Action Failure; Cyber Insecurity; Deep Societal Polarisation; Extreme Weather Events; International conflict; Lack of economic opportunity; Misinformation and disinformation; Shortage of skilled workforce; and Ungoverned Artificial Intelligence (AI) Risk Number: CPP/2022/001	20	16

Risk Category	Key risk	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Risk Score
	Failure to meet sustainable development principles and respond collectively to the climate and nature emergencies. Risk Number: CPP/2018/003	20	16
	Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2022 to 2032 Risk Number: CPP/2018/001	20	16
	Ineffective engagement and collaborative working with communities Risk Number: CPP/2018/002	20	16
2 High (8-12)	Failure to implement integrated locality working structures which take a “whole systems approach” to deliver the priorities of the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans Risk Number: CPP/2018/008	16	9
	Effective use of data owned by partners to support efficient collaborative working practices; to inform a shared understanding of communities; decision making processes and target resources to those most in need. Risk Number: CPP/2018/006	16	8
	Financial Challenges Risk Number: CPP/2018/004	15	15

- 6.2. Following feedback from the Risk Workshop and partners, an updated Risk Control Plan showing the actions for 2026/2027 is provided at Appendix 2, some of the mitigation actions from the previous plan are still valid and being progressed or on hold pending progress of other workstreams.
- 6.3. Appendix 3 provides an update on the progress with the delivery of the actions in the 2025/2026 Risk Control Plan. The following table provides a summary of their status. Of the fifteen actions in the plan: seven have been completed; 0 has major slippage, five have minor slippage; three are in progress and on target; and 0 are on hold. The Board is asked to note that some of these actions, particularly those working with communities are significant areas of work, where we need to work at the pace of the communities involved. The progress update also highlights the actions that have been transferred to the new Risk Control action plan.

Status	Summary
Complete	There are seven actions completed.
On target	Three actions are currently being progressed.
On hold	There are no actions currently on hold.
Minor slippage	There has been minor slippage for five actions .
Major slippage	There has been major slippage for no actions .

7. Monitoring and Reporting Arrangements

- 7.1. The Community Planning Progress Group will continue to progress actions and monitor and review the Risk Register and Risk Control Plan. All cards are reviewed annually however; it should also be noted that risk scores and rankings may be amended if new information becomes known that allows the position to be re-assessed.
- 7.2. 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.
- 7.3. The next planned review of the full Risk Register and Control Plan will take place during April 2027.

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. Climate change, sustainability and environmental risks have been identified for the partnership. Controls and mitigation actions have been included in the relevant risk control cards and actions are included in the 2024/2025 programme of work. Progress is being monitored by the Progress Group and reported quarterly as part of the update contained in Appendix 3 to this report.

11. Risk and Other Implications

- 11.1. 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 has enabled the Community Planning Partnership to manage the impact.

12. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

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

Paul Manning
Chief Executive
South Lanarkshire Council

19 August 2026

Contact for Further Information:

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Community Planning Partnership Risk Review Process



Community Planning Partnership – Risk Control Plan 2026/27

Status update key: ☐ On hold ☒ Complete ☒ On target ☒ Minor slippage ☒ Major slippage/Failed to meet target

Key Risk	No.	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2022/2032 (CPP/2018/001)	1.1	Develop a whole system action plan to mitigate health inequity in South Lanarkshire as part of the Marmot Place programme implementation. This will include the pending action of resource pooling which is a requirement of the Community Empowerment Act (extract from SLC BVAR report April 2019)	Marmot Place Leadership Group/ Outcomes Leads Marmot Steering Group	31/12/26		Action carried forward from 2025/26 plan
	1.2	Evaluate the Neighbourhood Planning approach	Community Engagement Manager	31/3/27		Action carried forward from 2024/25 plan
	1.3	Completion of the CPP Performance Framework	Community Engagement Manager	31/12/26		Action carried forward from 2025/26 plan
Failure to engage and collaborate effectively with identified communities of place and interest (CPP/2018/002)	1.4	Dedicated capacity building and training support provided to the volunteers of the Community Partnerships (VASLan)	VASLan	31/3/27		Action carried forward from 2023/24 plan
	1.5	Develop a process to support the effective participation of communities in the Marmot Place Programme	Marmot Place Leadership Group/ Outcomes Leads Marmot Place Steering Group	30/9/26		Action carried forward from 2025/26 plan
	1.6	Refresh the Partnership Community Engagement and Participation Strategy	Community Engagement Manager	31/12/26		Action carried forward from 2025/26 plan

Key Risk	No.	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
	1.7	Refresh the Partnership Volunteering Strategy	VASLan	31/3/27		Action carried forward from 2025/26 plan
Financial Challenges (CPP/2018/004)	1.8	As part of the development of the Marmot Place approach, undertake an evaluation of resource allocations across South Lanarkshire with the Institute of Health Equity	Marmot Place Leadership Group/Outcomes Leads Marmot Place Steering Group	31/3/28		Action carried forward from 2025/26 plan
Effective use of data owned by partners to support efficient collaborative working practices; to inform a shared understanding of communities; decision making processes and target resources to those most in need. (CPP/2018/006)	1.9	Develop data governance guidance setting out the arrangements for accessing and ensuring the proper use of Marmot Data	Marmot Place Data Group	31/3/27		New action

Community Planning Partnership – Risk Control Plan 2025/26

Status update key:  Not started  Complete  On target  Minor slippage  Major slippage/Failed to meet target

Key Risk	No.	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2022/2032 (CPP/2018/001)	1.1	Following the first volunteer self-assessment process in partnership with the Improvement Service with the Cambuslang and Rutherglen and Clydesdale Community Partnerships implement the Improvement Plan	Community Planning Adviser/ Community Partnership Development Officer	30/3/26	Complete	The Community Partnership Development Officer continues to work with partnership volunteers to support their learning and development needs and build capacity so that they can effectively participate in Community Planning activity.
	1.2	Implement the Improvement Plan for the CPP Board from the national self-assessment	Community Engagement Team/Partners	31/3/26	Complete	Actions from the CPP Board Improvement Plan are currently being progressed through the various Community Planning Working Groups, CPP partners and officers. A CPP Improvement Plan Update report was submitted to the CPP Board on 17 June 2026.
	1.3	Finalise the new thematic Neighbourhood Plan with a Child Poverty focus for East Kilbride South	Community Engagement Team/ Partners	31/12/25	Complete	Action carried forward from 2024/25 plan due to staff changes and asset transfer concluded summer 2025. The East Kilbride South Neighbourhood Plan has been created and presented to the CPP Board on 9 December 2025. The graphic design for the booklet is currently in place and an action plan of how to achieve the outlined priorities is created and underway.

Key Risk	No.	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
	1.4	Establish the foundations for delivery of the Marmot Place Programme in South Lanarkshire	Marmot Place Leadership Group/ Outcomes Leads Marmot Steering Group	31/12/26	Complete	The Marmot Place Programme is in progress and moving into phases 2 and 3. The framework and pilot actions are agreed and in place. This pilot is due for completion in 2026, and the learning will continue to be embedded into the CPP and partners. The target completion date has been amended from 31 December 2025 to 31 December 2026.
	1.5	Implement Stage 1 of the Marmot Place Programme providing an evidence-based understanding of inequalities and an evaluation of resource allocations across South Lanarkshire	Marmot Place Leadership Group/ Outcomes Leads Marmot Steering Group	31/3/26	Complete	The first phase of the Marmot Place Programme was completed by March 2026. The Local Data Group has produced 8 local data packs, a data profiler tool and a series of infographics for public use. The Local Data Group will now focus on data validation and supporting services to make use of the data and will work with partners to embed the approach throughout the CPP on an ongoing basis.
	1.6	Develop a whole system action plan to mitigate health inequity in South Lanarkshire as part of the Marmot Place programme implementation. This will include the pending action of resource pooling which is a requirement of the Community Empowerment Act	Marmot Place Leadership Group/ Outcomes Leads Marmot Steering Group	31/12/26	On target	The Burnbank Early Years pilot has been established. An Embedding Marmot report was submitted and approved at the CPP Board on 17 June 2026 determining the wider Place Based approach to health equity. The Performance Framework for the partnership will outline and monitor health inequity and seek to oversee the closing of the gap. This framework will integrate the Community Plan, Neighbourhood Planning and the Population Health Framework.

Key Risk	No.	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
		(extract from SLC BVAR report April 2019)				Three partners have recently contributed funds of £6m over 3 years to the early years pilot activity. Joint management of the funds is yet to be developed.
	1.7	Evaluate the Neighbourhood Planning approach	Community Engagement Manager	31/3/27	Minor Slippage	Action carried forward from 2024/25 plan. The review and evaluation of Neighbourhood Planning has been delayed pending the outcomes of the Marmot Place Programme. The review of the approach will take account of the new local data information and new place-based approaches that may result. The target completion date has been amended from 31 March 2026 to 31 March 2027.
	1.8	Completion of the CPP Performance Framework	Community Engagement Manager	31/12/26	Minor Slippage	This activity has been delayed pending the completion of the Marmot data work and the publication of the Population Health Framework to integrate them together with the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans. The first workshop took place in March 2026 to develop the Performance Framework with further workshops and development sessions to take place. The target completion date has been amended from 31 December 2025 to 31 December 2026.
Failure to engage and collaborate effectively with	1.9	Dedicated capacity building and training support provided to the volunteers of the	VASLan	31/3/27	On target	Work to refresh the Partnership Volunteering Strategy is progressing alongside the Marmot Delivery Phase and the re-establishment of NHS Lanarkshire's

Key Risk	No.	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
identified communities of place and interest (CPP/2018/002)		Community Partnerships (VASLan)				Volunteering Group. VASLan continues to strengthen volunteering infrastructure across South Lanarkshire, supporting volunteer-involving organisations from all sectors, including Community Planning Partners where appropriate. VASLan has also launched a new website to improve access to volunteering opportunities and information. The target completion date has been amended from 31 March 2026 to 31 March 2027.
	1.10	Finalise the community engagement learning modules for employees and partners	CPP Learning and Development Group	31/8/25	Complete	Two engagement webinars are now complete and accessible to all partners via the Fusion Learning and Development platform. One webinar focuses on the role of staff, while the other is designed to appeal to community members. External partners can access via a link. Partners have been informed of the availability of the training via the Children's Services Partnership structures and the CPP Progress Group. Partners have been asked to encourage all staff to complete the webinar as part of staff upskilling on engagement approaches.
	1.11	Develop a process to support the effective participation of communities in the Marmot Place Programme	Marmot Place Leadership Group/ Outcomes Leads Marmot Place Steering Group	30/9/26	Minor Slippage	Marmot stakeholder communications are taking place with an overview provided to the four Community Partnerships to inform communities and stakeholders on the findings of the data phase. A Communications Plan is in development, and the Embedding Marmot report was submitted and approved by the CPP Board

Key Risk	No.	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
						on 17 June 2026 to clarify community structures. Early Years engagement is taking place within the Burnbank area with children, young people and families. Neighbourhood Planning communities will be engaged in Marmot through a review and evaluation process of Neighbourhood Plans that will take place on a rolling basis across the partnership. This activity will extend beyond the Marmot Place Pilot Programme. The target completion date has been amended from 31 October 2025 to 30 September 2026.
	1.12	Refresh the Partnership Community Engagement and Participation Strategy	Community Engagement Manager	31/12/26	Minor Slippage	This action is ongoing and delayed due to Marmot priorities and processes. An initial workshop was hosted in January 2026. An Embedding Marmot report was submitted and approved by the CPP Board on 17 June 2026 to clarify community structures. The target completion date has been amended from 31 December 2025 to 31 December 2026.
	1.13	Refresh the Partnership Volunteering Strategy	VASLan	31/3/27	Minor Slippage	Work to refresh the partnership work to refresh the Partnership Volunteering Strategy is progressing, alongside the Marmot Delivery Phase and the re-establishment of NHS Lanarkshire's Volunteering Group. VASLan's Supported Volunteering Programme continues to build volunteering capacity across the third sector, and VASLan has launched a new website to improve access to volunteering opportunities and information.

Key Risk	No.	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
Financial Challenges (CPP/2018/004)	1.14	As part of the development of the Marmot Place Programme approach, undertake an evaluation of resource allocations across South Lanarkshire with the Institute of Health Equity	Marmot Place Leadership Group/ Outcomes Leads Marmot Place Steering Group	31/3/28	On target	A partnership Prevention Spend Working Group has been established to develop and pilot a way of undertaking this approach around the Burnbank Marmot project. This action is being progressed by various partners in relation to their own budget lines. This date has been amended to 31 March 2028.
Effective use of data owned by partners to support efficient collaborative working practices; to inform a shared understanding of communities; decision making processes and target resources to those most in need. (CPP/2018/006)	1.15	Marmot Data Steering Group to consider a data sharing assurance framework, Privacy Impact Screening and data sharing protocols and agreements as required	Marmot Data Steering Group	31/3/27	Complete	This action has now been replaced by action 1.9 in the 2026/27 action plan.

Risk scoring matrix, likelihood and impact definitions

Likelihood

Score	1	2	3	4	5
Description	Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost certain
Likelihood of occurrence	1 in 10 years	1 in 3 years	1 in 2 years	Annually	Monthly
Probability of occurrence	The event may occur in certain circumstances	The event could occur	The event may occur	The event will probably occur	The event is expected to occur or occurs regularly

Impact

	Reputation	Financial	Service delivery/ Time to recover	Compliance	Safety
1 Negligible	Public concern restricted to local complaints	<£50,000 per annum	No impact to service quality; limited disruption to operations.	No external interest	Minor injury – no lost time
2 Minor	Minor adverse local/public/media attention and complaints	£50,000-£250,000 per annum	Minor impact to service quality; minor service standards are not met; short term	Very minor attention from legislative/regulatory body	Minor injury – resulting in lost time
3 Moderate	Adverse national media Public attention	£250,000 to £500,000 per annum	Significant fall in service quality; major partnership relationships strained; serious disruption in service standards	Short-term attention from legislative/regulatory body	Major injury or ill health resulting in lost time
4 Major	Serious negative national or regional criticism	£500,000 to £1million per annum	Major impact to service delivery; multiple service standards are not met; long term disruption to operations; multiple partnerships affected	Medium-term attention from legislative/regulatory body	Fatality; Or injuries to several people
5 Catastrophic	Prolonged international, regional and national condemnation	>£1million per annum	Catastrophic fail in service quality and key service standards are not met; long term catastrophic interruption to operations; several major partnerships are affected	National impact with rapid intervention of legislative/regulatory body	Multiple fatalities; Or injuries to large number of people

The assessments for impact and likelihood combine to provide an overall inherent risk score on the scale of between 1 and 25, using the Council's recognised risk matrix.

Likelihood	5 Almost Certain	5	10	15	20	25
	4 Likely	4	8	12	16	20
	3 Possible	3	6	9	12	15
	2 Unlikely	2	4	6	8	10
	1 Rare	1	2	3	4	5
		1 Negligible	2 Minor	3 Moderate	4 Major	5 Catastrophic
		Impact				

Evaluation of risks – inherent

Risks should be evaluated, initially without regard to any mitigation or controls that are already in place. It is a twofold evaluation, which considers both the impact and likelihood of the risk.

Definitions of likelihood and impact are detailed below, but these may vary depending on the project or partnership, where analysis requires to be more specific.

Likelihood is scored on a scale of one to five, with one being the lowest. Descriptions of the scores are as follows:

Score	1	2	3	4	5
Description	Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost Certain
Likelihood of occurrence	1 in 10 years	1 in 3 years	1 in 2 years	Annually	Monthly
Probability of occurrence	The event may occur in certain circumstances	The event could occur	The event may occur	The event will probably occur	The event is expected to occur or occurs regularly

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	Community Plan Quarter 4 Progress Report 2025/2026 and Annual Outcomes Improvement Report
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Jen Kerr, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council Tel: 0303 123 1017 Email: jennifer.kerr@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose:	◆ To provide the Partnership Board with an update on progress made against the outcomes within the Community Plan as at the end of March 2026. ◆ To provide the Partnership Board with the statutory draft Annual Outcomes Improvement Report for approval.
Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/ Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The 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 statutory draft Annual Outcomes Improvement Report is approved for publication by 30 September 2026 (see Appendix 2).
Risks/Challenges:	There are no risks/challenges associated with this report.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	◆ All ambitions/principles.
Summary of Report:	◆ Section 5 sets out the progress made to date against the outcomes within the Community Plan 2022 to 2032; and highlights measures where progress to date has not been as planned and the actions that will be taken to improve this. ◆ Section 6 sets out examples of key actions delivered during 2025/2026 in relation to the Community Plan's six priority themes. ◆ Section 7 sets out an overview of the content of the draft statutory Annual Outcomes Improvement Report.

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Plan Quarter 4 Progress Report 2025/2026 and Annual Outcomes Improvement Report
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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 progress made against the outcomes within the Community Plan as at the end of March 2026.
- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with the statutory draft Annual Outcomes Improvement Report for approval.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (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 statutory draft Annual Outcomes Improvement Report is approved for publication by 30 September 2026 (see Appendix 2).

3. Background

- 3.1. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 sets out that the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) must prepare and publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan. The plan was approved by the Board on 22 June 2022 and is known as the Community Plan. The plan sets out the ambitions and priorities for the partnership over 10 years from 2022 to 2032. Progress against the delivery of the plan is reported and published annually. The partnership has a statutory duty to prepare and publish an Annual Outcomes Improvement Report by 30 September each year and also publishes an Annual Performance Progress Report.
- 3.2. While compiling the Annual Performance Progress Report, some instances were identified where the measures presented within the Community Plan have been amended or superseded by alternative measures. Appendix 3 itemises the Community Plan indicators which have been amended following the review of all indicators which was completed during 2023/2024.
- 3.3. This report provides an update on progress up to the end of March 2026. The Annual Performance Progress Report is attached as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 is the statutory Annual Outcomes Improvement Report for 2025/2026.

4. Delivering the Community Plan

- 4.1. Critical to the successful delivery of the plan is keeping the promise to work together with communities, local organisations, and businesses to deliver the ambitions set out in the Community Plan. To achieve these ambitions, all partners are changing how they work together; taking a more holistic and joined up approach to service delivery through re-imagining current service delivery models; and through developing a clearer understanding of how our work impacts on individuals, families, communities, local organisations and businesses; and the contributions that we make as a whole in our work towards a fairer South Lanarkshire for all.
- 4.2. Following agreement at the CPP Board on 13 December 2023, a CPP Board Development Session focussing on Performance took place on 21 May 2024 which tasked the Partnership to focus on reducing the gaps in health and economic equity as our long-term impact.
- 4.3. In November 2024, the Partnership submitted a successful application to participate in the Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES), the Scottish Marmot pilot, to improve our understanding of poverty and health across South Lanarkshire and what actions we should be taking to address it.
- 4.4. As agreed, a review of the Partnership's priorities and approach to performance monitoring and a new performance framework is being informed by our participation in the Marmot Place Programme and its approach and will be reflected in future versions of this annual report. To commence this process, in March 2026, a second partnership development workshop was held to map the Population Health Framework with the Marmot Principles and work has started to identify the CPP's high level outcomes.

5. Progress to date

- 5.1. The principles underpinning the framework remain to ensure that the Partnership Board receives clear performance reports which are produced to a common timescale and a common standard across the Partnership.
- 5.2. Progress is 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.
- 5.3. 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. 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 may be slippage or deviation from targets and actions. The definitions are as follows:-

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 met or not. These will be reported when available

5.4. The Community Plan Progress Report

There are 73 measures within the Community Plan, and the table below gives a summary of the progress between 2024/25 and 2025/26. There is a reduction of three measures from 2024/25 due to these having been completed.

Summary:-

Priority	Status by year										Total	
	Blue		Green		Amber		Red		Report Later/Not Available			
	25-26	24-25	25-26	24-25	25-26	24-25	25-26	24-25	25-26	24-25	25-26	24-25
Putting learning at the centre	0	0	10	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
Our children and young people thrive	5	2	7	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	14	16
Thriving businesses and fair jobs	0	0	11	10	0	0	1	2	0	0	12	12
Caring, connected communities	3	2	9	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	15
Good quality, suitable housing for everyone	0	1	12	11	2	1	0	1	0	0	14	14
People live the healthiest lives possible	0	0	10	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	10	8
Total	8	5	59	66	5	2	1	3	0	0	73	76

- 5.5. Of the 73 measures, 8 (11%) have been completed, 59 (81%) are judged to be on course to achieve the targets set, while 1 (1%) is judged to be considerably off target and a further 5 (7%) are judged to be slightly off target. There are 0 measures (0%) to be reported later.
- 5.6. It is important to note that the data within the report attached at Appendix 1 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.
- 5.7. There are five amber measures and one red measure, and these are detailed below with explanatory commentary and the partner action to improve the measure.

Putting learning at the centre: We will support young people to progress to further learning, work, or training when they leave school

Outcome: Young people will be supported to progress to sustained positive destinations when they leave school

	Action	Measure	Baseline	2025 Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Support young people to progress to positive post-school destinations	Increase number and percentage of looked after school leavers in a positive destination by local authority	92.5% (SLC) 86% (Scotland)	93.5%	90.8% (SLC) 86.8% (Scotland)	There were 87 young people in this cohort who were 'care experienced'. The positive destination rate is 90.8% for this group of leavers and remains above the national rate.
Responsibility (Lead): Local Employability Partnership						
Partner action to improve the measure The small number in the cohort can result in annual fluctuation in the rate. The Employability Service will continue to work with schools, Skills Development Scotland, and Social Work Resources to provide one-to-one support to young people leaving school and track their destination.						

Our children and young people thrive: We will work to ensure that the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved

Outcome: Every child and young person should be able to access local community services which support and improve their mental health and wellbeing

	Action	Measure	Comments
Amber	Continue roll out of Kooth service and increase the use of this	By March 2024, at least 80% of registered users will report Kooth is effective in supporting them with their emotional wellbeing needs	Kooth continues to be an integral part of the whole systems approach to supporting children and families with their mental health and emotional wellbeing providing reassurance and support to young people who use this platform. Latest data provided evidence that at least 72% of young people are reporting that the platform content was a useful form of support. While the target of 80% was not fully achieved, feedback from young people continues to demonstrate that Kooth provides an important and accessible source of emotional wellbeing support as part of the wider whole systems approach.
Responsibility (Lead): Children's Services Partnership			
Partner action to improve the measure Feedback provided by young people regarding the benefit to their emotional wellbeing will continue to be monitored.			

Our children and young people thrive: We will work to ensure that the life chances of children and young people in need of care and protection are improved

Outcome: Children and young people should grow up loved, safe, respected and listened to

	Action	Measure	Comments
Amber	Support young people from 16 years old to actively manage their Child Trust Fund and/or Junior ISA savings account currently administered by the Share Foundation	70% of young people report they are better informed about financial planning	Whilst quantitative data relating to the percentage of young people reporting that they are better informed about financial planning is not currently available, the focus has been on increasing the number of young people claiming their Child Trust Fund and supporting opportunities to increase the amount of savings.
			Within 3 months of their 16th birthday, all care experienced young people are issued with a letter from the Share Foundation (via their social worker) informing them of their rights to take charge of their Child Trust Fund and how to do it.
			Social Workers are informed of the likelihood that they will need to provide support to the young person undertaking the process of claiming their trust fund. The Continuing Care and Aftercare Team are aware of the council's relationship with the Share Foundation and its relevance to the young people they support.
			Progress has been made in identifying groups of young people who could potentially 'slip through the net'. Family Connections are involved with tracing and contacting those young people who no longer have any social work involvement, but whose trust fund remains with the Share Foundation. Schools have been asked to help trace young people who do not have social work involvement.
			A small number of young people engage with the Stepladder Plus programme, which can earn them up to £1,500 (to be deposited in their trust fund) upon completion of all its stages. This programme is open to young people aged 15 to 17 years and is run by the Share Foundation. So far, £19,150 has been earned by 19 young people, including 9 who have received the maximum amount.
Responsibility (Lead): Children's Services Partnership			

Partner action to improve the measure

The Throughcare and Aftercare Team and the Family Connections Team will continue to support young people in accessing their ISA and Trust Fund entitlements as part of the core support offered to keep the promise. Young people earn money by participating in the Stepladder Plus programme and this is deposited into their Child Trust Fund or Junior ISA to help them save for their future.

While priorities and supporting actions will change as the Children's Services Partnership refreshes the statutory Children's Services Plan, child poverty and maximising income for care experienced children, young people and families will continue to be a key consideration.

Thriving businesses and fair jobs: We will make it easy for businesses and social enterprises get all available help and advice from one place

Outcome: South Lanarkshire is an attractive place to start, grow and locate a business

	Action	Measure	Baseline	2025 Target	Latest	Comments
Red	Number of business support interventions per annum by Economic Development/ Business Gateway (grants, loans, or advice) (Locally set target)	Number and value of grants	£723,000 (Made up of European Regional Development Fund projected. £483,000 Plus £180,000 SLC monies, plus £60,000 UK Shared Prosperity Fund)	£723,000	£100,000	The Economic Development Business Support Grant was significantly reduced this year to a total fund of £100,000, a reduction of 80% from the previous year. This meant a reduction in the number of businesses that SLC could support with their growth aspirations and forward plans.

Responsibility (Lead): Local Employability Partnership**Partner action to improve the measure**

From the 2025/2026 financial year our business support grants will be as follows:-

Business Growth Grant: This will have an annual budget of £500,000 and will also incorporate a Startup Grant; and Industrial Retrofit Grant: This has a budget of £1,000,000 over the next three years.

With the above in mind, it is evident that this outcome will be achieved going forward.

Good quality, suitable housing for everyone: We will increase affordable housing supply and improve access to and choice of housing options that suit people's needs

Outcome: Increase overall housing supply and improve access to, and choice of housing options, that suit people's needs and are affordable

Action		Measure	Baseline	2025-26 Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Deliver the council's Home+ Programme	Maintain the percentage of tenants in council new build properties who are satisfied with their home	91%	91%	82%	Since 2022/2023, tenants across 10 new build housing sites were surveyed, with 134 responses received, representing an overall 58% response rate. Based on the responses received, an 82% satisfaction rate was recorded, which was a slight reduction on previous updates. This related to specific housing management issues within one new-build site that relevant services continue to manage and respond to.

Responsibility (Lead): Housing and Homelessness Service

Partner action to improve the measure

The council's Housing and Technical Resources continues to work with external developers to ensure that where possible, issues highlighted are resolved and considered in future developments. Housing management issues continue to be addressed in line with procedures.

The overall reduction in the satisfaction rate has occurred as a result of views received from tenants of one new development. The response rate from the 25 tenants surveyed was particularly low (54% response), however 64% of those surveyed highlighted that they were fairly/very satisfied with their home.

Satisfaction rates were lower in relation to external aspects of individual house plots, including drying areas and bin storage, as well as street lighting and also some neighbour issues were highlighted. The Resource is considering this feedback in relation to new developments, ensuring issues raised are avoided or resolved.

Good quality, suitable housing for everyone: We will work in partnership to prevent and significantly reduce homelessness and improve outcomes for those at risk of or who experience homelessness

Outcome: Prevent homelessness and improve outcomes for those at risk of or who experience homelessness

Action		Measure	Baseline	2025-26 Target	Latest	Comments
Amber	Deliver Housing Options Service with the aim of preventing homelessness	Reduce repeat instances of homelessness	4.5%	3%	4.16%	Although performance is slightly above target, it has decreased on the baseline position. All repeat homelessness cases continue to be reviewed to identify patterns and to inform future development and delivery of services.
	Responsibility (Lead): Housing and Homelessness Service Partner action to improve the measure At both a local and national level, the operating context in relation to homelessness remains challenging. Addressing repeat homelessness continues to be an area of focus for the council and its partners. In direct response to sustained levels of repeat homelessness, Housing Services have established a new short-life working group to further develop the partnership response. A range of work is already undertaken by the council and its partners to prevent and tackle repeat homelessness. This includes actions progressed through the council's Homelessness Strategic Plan 2026/2027, such as:- ♦ investment in the Housing First Model which aims to identify and prevent repeat homelessness for eligible households ♦ implementation of a new supported accommodation model for 15 nest properties in Rutherglen, in partnership with Social Bite and Salvation Army ♦ continued delivery of housing support internally and through external third sector partners to assist households with tenancy management and sustainment ♦ a dedicated Housing Support Worker based in the Homelessness Access and Assessment Service to ensure early identification of support needs while homeless applications are being investigated ♦ focussed housing options discussions and personal housing plans completed to help ensure offers of housing are suitable and meet expectations and needs of homeless households ♦ close partnership working with Health and Social Care to better understand requirements and service demand in relation to mental health and addiction. We have committed to being involved in the REACH Project, a Pan Lanarkshire project engaging households in temporary accommodation with mental health nurse support ♦ close partnership working with Education and Employability Services to support employment and income stability, ensuring households requiring access to services are supported across a range of service areas such as job training, accessing benefits, financial literacy support, etc ♦ dedicated officers to support high risk groups such as Throughcare, SHORE and those experiencing gender-based violence					

5.8. Detailed progress against all outcomes and the related interventions contained within the Community Plan is noted within the Annual Performance Progress Report at Appendix 1.

6. Key Partnership Actions

6.1. Key actions for 2025/2026 in relation to the delivery of priority themes, are highlighted below:-

Priority Theme: Putting learning at the centre
Achievements: Community Learning and Development Partnership - The FIRES Project (Freedoms, Identity, Rights, Environment and Stories)
This project began as an extension and compliment to the ongoing Expressive Practices Programme and Whitehill Wannabes Group, part of Whitehill's High School offer and Primary 6/7 weekly programming respectively. The project sought to provide opportunities for young people engaging with Whitehill Universal Connections to participate in the arts, to overcome barriers to that participation and to explore the issues that matter most to them in a safe, supported, and freeing environment. A project proposal was drawn up through a collaborative consultation process, leading to a successful bid for funding from the Youth Arts Open Fund administered by YouthLink Scotland and supported by Creative Scotland and the Scottish Government. At the core of the proposal was the desire to provide opportunities to empower young people to express themselves and to gain new experiences in the arts. This was achieved in several ways. Firstly, by delivering workshops with professional working artists in multiple disciplines, providing young people with the materials, new skills, and an expanded vocabulary for self-expression and to produce their own works of art. Secondly, young people were presented opportunities to broaden their horizons by attending exhibitions and performances. To date, the project has engaged 45 young people in over 120 hours of combined input from the artists in activities including: model making with clay and wire armatures; stop-motion animation; storyboarding; sculpture; drawing and painting; physical theatre practice; art as activism; music performance and recording. As the project has progressed and ongoing consultation has taken place between young people, YFCL staff, artists, and in partnership with art and design teachers from Holy Cross High School, the senior group have further developed their artistic skills and held their own exhibition in a professional gallery space on 27 June 2026.
Community Learning and Development Partnership - Young Reporters
The Young Reporters is a podcasting and media creation project for young people. The group started with participants wanting to learn about podcasting and soon incorporated other forms of media journalism, including interviewing athletes, MSPs, attending First Ministers Questions and creating informative media content for local projects. The Young Reporters Group is an innovative, modern, and evolving youth work activity. It is youth led as the participants have full control over their content and its creation. It builds on the skills that young people are developing and challenges them to use them in different environments and forms of media. As we live in an ever increasingly digitised world, these young people are honing their skills in these fields which will enable them to have their voices heard and inspire others. The current senior group are at the stage where they are volunteering their time to help new groups start up and create their own shows and content, thus future proofing the programme to enable other young people to learn these skills and ultimately have a great time doing so. The group have gone on to develop and create a monthly radio show with a local station, and both presented at and hosted the Youth Family and Community Learning (YFCL) Conference in September 2025. Recognised at the highest level, they won the YouthLink Scotland's National Youth Work Award 2025 in the Digital and STEM category, competing against entries from across Scotland.

“Coming to the young reporters has given me so much confidence. I would have never been able to do the things that we have done without it.” Young Reporter

“This is absolutely fantastic. I can’t believe it’s been all free. They learned so much from coming here.” Parent at Young Reporters certificate presentation night.

Local Employability Partnership – Foundation Apprenticeships

The past year has delivered strong results for Foundation Apprenticeships (FA) across South Lanarkshire, with young people continuing to demonstrate the value of work-based learning.

All 65 learners who completed their programmes progressed into positive destinations, reflecting both their commitment and the strength of the FA pathway. Outcomes included one learner progressing to a Graduate Apprenticeship and three securing Modern Apprenticeships with South Lanarkshire Council. Several participants also received University offers, while others moved directly into employment, highlighting the programme’s success in developing skills, experience, and confidence.

The FA programme continues to support South Lanarkshire’s business community by giving employers early access to emerging talent and helping build the workforce needed for growth. Local employers have been central to this success, providing high-quality placements, mentoring, and practical learning.

This work aligns with the priorities of the South Lanarkshire Local Employability Partnership, supporting fair, sustainable career pathways for young people. These strong outcomes reflect both the determination of participants and the strength of local partnerships driving employability and growth.

Priority Theme: Our children and young people thrive

Achievements: Children’s Services Partnership: Family Support Hubs

Family Support Hubs became a fully embedded and integral part of the whole family support system. The proportion of referrals managed at hub level increased from 61% in 2023/2024 to 75% in 2024/2025 and 76% in the current reporting year, demonstrating sustained progress towards prevention and earlier intervention.

Families increasingly accessed support before issues escalated into crisis, contributing to reduced statutory intervention and improved family wellbeing. Feedback from families continues to demonstrate strong impact:-

- ◆ 97% positive Care Opinion feedback
- ◆ improvements in emotional wellbeing and parenting confidence
- ◆ stronger social connections and reduced isolation
- ◆ improved child behaviour and relationship

Families consistently described feeling more connected, more confident, and better able to cope with challenges.

“I am so thankful for the help they provided as now I can continue and know I can seek support from agencies when needed.” — Parent.

Children’s Services Partnership: Parents Plans and Early Years Multi-Agency Support

Parents Plans and Early Years Multi-Agency Support approaches also contributed to a 67% reduction in pre-birth investigations for unborn babies, helping more babies remain safely within their families through earlier support and planning.

Children’s Services Partnership: Parenting Programmes

Parenting programmes continued to demonstrate strong outcomes:-

- ◆ 96% of parents reported improved understanding of child development
- ◆ 83% improvement in Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) outcomes through Psychology of Parenting Programmes interventions for example incredible years

- ♦ parental confidence increased from 31% to 93.8%

Families described improved confidence, stronger relationships, and reduced isolation.

“I’m happier being K’s mummy and more confident with day-to-day life.” — Parent.

Children’s Services Partnership: Reducing Neglect and Domestic Abuse

The partnership also continued to strengthen approaches to reducing neglect and domestic abuse through earlier intervention, coordinated support and family-led planning. Through Family Support Hubs, Family Group Decision Making, Parents Plans and wider whole family wellbeing approaches, practitioners increasingly worked alongside families to identify strengths, reduce risk, and improve safety for children and young people.

Overall, the partnership has demonstrated significant progress in transforming whole family support across South Lanarkshire. Children, young people, and families are increasingly receiving support earlier, within their communities and in ways that strengthen relationships, improve wellbeing, and reduce the need for crisis intervention.

The partnership has also demonstrated the importance of listening to family voice and building support around trusted relationships. Families consistently reported that feeling listened to, respected, and involved improved their confidence, wellbeing, and engagement with services.

Children’s Services Partnership: Lifelines Lanarkshire

Year 3 has evidenced increased confidence in supporting children and young people in crisis situations. Between April 2023 to March 2026, 27 online and in-person training sessions took place attended by 524 staff and as a result, almost all staff highlighted an increase in confidence, self-harm knowledge and understanding in using Lifelines Lanarkshire guidance materials and being more prepared to support children and young people. In addition, a further 405 staff completed Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), leading to increased confidence across the partnership in using the Lifelines approach and willingness to offer support to children and young people at risk of self-harm and suicide when needed.

“I now feel more confident in my approach should I come across someone who is thinking of suicide.” – Staff member

Children’s Services Partnership: Health and Wellbeing Survey

In 2025, more than 15,000 children and young people contributed to an understanding of wellbeing by participating in a health and wellbeing survey. This represented 48% of the target population of P5 to S6 pupils. The survey was co-designed with children and young people from the Wellbeing Warriors Group, who helped to draft the survey questions. The survey is helping the partnership develop a thorough understanding of children and young people’s perspectives on their health and wellbeing, which will help shape the Children’s Services Plan for 2026 to 2029.

Children’s Services Partnership: Employability Promise

As a partnership we have championed the importance of listening to the voice of children, young people and families and building supportive responses rooted in strong working and trusted relationships. Children, young people, and families consistently reported feeling more listened to, more respected and increasingly involved in their engagement with services, which has resulted in some notable co-designed deliver shifts.

In the final year of the Children’s Services Plan, a sector leading example of the collaborative and participative relationship between the Champions Board and the Promise Board has been the development of the Employability Promise. This initiative is establishing pathways to employment for young people within the council and beyond. Since its inception, seven young people have obtained council positions, while another six have benefited from supported work placements. A total of 59 young people are currently enrolled in the council’s Aspire programme, working through individual action plans and progressing at different levels of work readiness and engagement.

Additionally, the introduction of a corresponding Housing Promise, based on partnership work with Barnardos, Housing, Social Work and the Champions Board, is already enhancing tenancy support for young people transitioning from residential establishments.

Priority Theme: Thriving businesses and fair jobs

Achievements: Local Employability Partnership - Employability Service Project Search ASDA

South Lanarkshire Works launched its second David Forbes-Nixon (DFN) Project Search site in August 2025, delivered in partnership with South Lanarkshire College and hosted at the Torglen Asda store over a nine-month period.

Throughout the programme, participants undertook three work placement rotations across a variety of roles within the store, including security, bakery, online picking, homeware, and grocery. They were encouraged to build strong relationships with their mentors, who supported them during placements alongside the wider Asda team.

Asda colleagues were welcoming and highly supportive, helping participants gain a deeper understanding of the retail environment, workplace culture, and team dynamics. The experience provided a valuable and realistic insight into the world of work.

In addition to developing practical workplace skills, participants benefited from structured, knowledge-based learning delivered by on-site lecturers from South Lanarkshire College. As a result, all participants achieved the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Employability Award and a Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) in Retail Skills, alongside several DFN employability modules.

All participants had a named keyworker who supported them throughout their time on the programme, based within the store and they will also receive a period of aftercare.

The programme recently marked its first-year success with a graduation event, where feedback from all partners highlighted overwhelmingly positive outcomes. Asda mentors expressed how much they valued the opportunity to work with the group, and participant feedback included:

“I feel a lot more confident talking to people and communicating.”

“I surprised myself by getting better at listening to instructions and not feeling overwhelmed.”

“I’m proud to have a job at Asda.”

Recruitment for the 2026/2027 cohort has now been completed, and partners are looking forward to building on the successes of year 1.

Economic Development - Business Gateway Lanarkshire

Business Gateway Lanarkshire is South Lanarkshire Council's primary provider of face-to-face business support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across South Lanarkshire. Responsibility for the service transferred to local authority management in March 2024.

During the period April 2025 to March 2026, Business Gateway Lanarkshire supported 1,446 enquiries from South Lanarkshire residents and businesses. Of these, 998 were from individuals considering starting a business or taking their first steps into self-employment, while the remainder were from existing businesses.

Through its range of support activities, Business Gateway Lanarkshire directly contributed to the establishment of 415 new businesses across South Lanarkshire and provided one-to-one practical advice and guidance to 521 existing businesses, helping them to pursue their growth ambitions and strengthen their long-term sustainability.

Economic Development - Shark Reef Entrepreneurial Event

The Shark Reef Entrepreneurial Event is an innovative, high-impact programme designed by South Lanarkshire Council's Business Support to inspire and develop the next generation of entrepreneurs across South Lanarkshire. Targeted at S3 pupils from local schools, the initiative provides a unique opportunity for young people to explore business creation, build confidence, and develop key employability skills within a supportive and engaging environment. Shark Reef plays a key role in promoting entrepreneurship, creativity, and ambition among young people, while supporting wider economic development objectives by nurturing future talent. It also offers a platform for pupils to develop essential skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and resilience.

Through a series of interactive workshops and mentoring sessions, participants are supported in developing their own business ideas, learning how to identify opportunities, understand customer needs and create viable business plans. These workshops were supported by four guest speakers from businesses within South Lanarkshire, who provided valuable insight into their business experience to enhance the learning journey.

The 2025 programme saw strong engagement, with participation from 11 schools and the development of 17 teams (51 pupils), demonstrating the growing interest in entrepreneurship among young people across the area. Pupils then had the opportunity to pitch their ideas to a panel of "Sharks", comprising local business leaders and partners, simulating a real-world investment environment.

The event was delivered in partnership with Developing the Young Workforce (DYW), alongside support from five South Lanarkshire-based business sponsors who generously contributed prizes for the finalists, helping to ensure the success of the programme. The final event was very well attended, with head teachers, business studies teachers, pupils, and their parents from schools across South Lanarkshire, as well as representatives from Business Gateway and the council's Education and Community and Enterprise Resources.

Priority Theme: Caring, connected communities

Achievements: Statutory Neighbourhood Planning: East Kilbride South Our Place Our Plan

The East Kilbride South Neighbourhood Plan has key themes including community safety which has been taken on board by the East Kilbride Problem Solving Group for advice and consideration. Community safety continues to be a priority for all Neighbourhood Planning areas and a community safety leaflet aimed at promoting public reassurance and public reporting has been published and is available to all communities.

Staff from the council's Community Engagement Team have met with local third sector groups and community planning partners to make local connections to achieve the common thread of community having access to affordable activities. South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture have taken this into consideration for their summer programming which includes a summer of sport with additional funding to provide opportunities in the local community with Youth Family and Community Learning continuing to be supportive partners.

Statutory Neighbourhood Planning - Participatory Budgeting in East Kilbride South

Participatory Budgeting (PB) has successfully catalysed community interest and participation. In August 2025, 743 residents took part in the PB public vote which is significant engagement. Four proposals were received, 2 of which were fully funded, one part funded and one unsuccessful. Funding was received by local groups to support the creation of a men's group, which would be led by a trained facilitator to provide quality support to local men and engage in activities. Funding was also received by a local group to support local children with additional support needs to hold weekly sessions which includes sensory games, crafts, and workshops. This was the first round of place based PB in East Kilbride South and it was very successful and well received in the community.

Priority Theme: Good quality, suitable housing for everyone
Achievements: Housing Services - Partnership working to increase the supply of temporary accommodation
In recent years, there have been significant increases in levels of homelessness both across Scotland and in South Lanarkshire, resulting in a substantial demand for temporary accommodation. Consequently, a priority for the council and its partners has been to ensure that there is a sufficient supply of good quality temporary accommodation to meet need and ensure that statutory duties are met. The model of temporary accommodation in South Lanarkshire is based largely on self-contained homes situated within communities. This approach aims to provide households with accommodation that provides greater privacy, stability and access to local services, schools, and support networks. In addition, there is a smaller supply of rapid access accommodation, which ensures temporary accommodation needs can be met at the point of homelessness presentation, while longer-term temporary accommodation within a community setting is secured. A key part of strengthening the accommodation model has been the opening of Harriett Gardens in Rutherglen in early April 2026. Developed in partnership with Social Bite throughout 2025/2026, the project provides 15 purpose-designed, self-contained supported accommodation units alongside a community hub and 24/7 on-site support delivered by the Salvation Army. This has strengthened the range and quality of supported accommodation available for people with more complex needs, providing a stable environment that helps residents build skills, improve wellbeing, and prepare for independent living. Alongside this, work has progressed at Willow Gate, a new First Stop temporary accommodation service in Hamilton, comprising 15 self-contained units, including space for families. This development will enhance the council's ability to respond quickly and appropriately to homelessness presentations by providing safe emergency accommodation while assessment and next steps are being progressed. These developments sit alongside the continued expansion of self-contained temporary furnished properties across communities, increasing the availability of accommodation that is both good quality and better suited to meet longer-term temporary housing needs. The steps taken to increase supply and improve the balance of temporary accommodation are having a positive effect, with a reduction recorded in less suitable accommodation being used (such as hotels) compared with the same period last year. There is a longer-term aim to reduce temporary accommodation provision, alongside reducing the homelessness backlog, time households spend in temporary accommodation and the number of moves between temporary placements before a settled home is secured. However, while the pressures arising from the housing and homelessness emergency continue, the council and its homelessness partner's immediate priority is to ensure that much-needed temporary accommodation is available in sufficient supply and is of a standard and quality that meets the needs of those who require it.
Priority Theme: People live the healthiest lives
Achievements: Health and Social Care Partnership - Digital Care Systems
During 2025/2026, significant progress has been made in implementing digital care systems to support modern, efficient, and person-centred service delivery across residential services. Person Centred Software (PCS) has now been fully implemented across all three council care

homes and in Blantyre LIFE, providing staff with secure, real-time access to care plans, risk assessments, and daily records. This has improved continuity of care.

Health and Social Care Partnership - Care Messenger Smart TV-based Video Calling

Following a successful pilot at David Walker Gardens, the Care Messenger smart TV-based video calling and messaging system has now been rolled out across all three council care homes and Blantyre LIFE. Using familiar technology, the platform supports simple video calls and messaging, helping residents maintain meaningful connections, reduce digital exclusion and contributing to reduced loneliness and improved wellbeing.

Health and Social Care Partnership: Working Together for Change Programme

A 6-month Working Together for Change programme was delivered in South Lanarkshire to improve how self-directed support (SDS) is planned and delivered for disabled people and unpaid carers. Facilitated by In Control Scotland in partnership with South Lanarkshire HSCP, the programme brought together people with lived and professional experience of SDS across a series of in-person and online sessions. Participants worked collaboratively to identify where SDS processes could be strengthened and to co-design practical improvement proposals aimed at ensuring support is more effective, person-centred, and consistent with the principles of choice and control.

Senior HSCP leadership engaged directly with the programme findings, using them to gain clearer insight into how SDS operates in practice and where change is required. The programme provided valuable, experience-led evidence to inform service improvement, supporting more effective delivery of SDS for people who use services, unpaid carers and staff, and reinforcing the HSCP's commitment to continuous improvement and meaningful co-production.

7. Annual Outcomes Improvement Report

7.1. A copy of the statutory draft Annual Outcomes Improvement Report is attached at Appendix 2. This has been submitted for the Board's approval before publication on the CPP website by 30 September 2025. An outline of the content of the 2025/26 report is set out below:-

- ◆ **Section 1:-**
Introduction to Community Planning in South Lanarkshire;
- ◆ **Section 2:-**
Our Ambitions – Delivery of the Community Plan;
- ◆ **Section 3:-**
Community Plan - Performance Highlights;
- ◆ **Section 4:-**
Community Plan: Overall Performance at a glance
- ◆ **Section 5:-** Places for Wellbeing: how we are making a difference
Putting learning at the centre – Tackling Child Poverty Funding Programme
Our children and young people thrive – Children and Young People Thrive
Thriving Businesses and Fair Jobs – Hamilton and East Kilbride Masterplans/
Community Wealth Building
Caring, connected communities – Community Wish List
Good quality, sustainable housing for everyone – Energy and Retrofit Advice Project
People live the healthiest lives – Helping People Home Sooner
- ◆ **Section 6:-** Working with Communities: How you can get involved
Community Participation and Engagement
Neighbourhood Planning
Volunteering – Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan); Community Partnerships and Neighbourhood Planning
Community Asset Transfer
Participation Requests.

- ♦ appendix 1 – Links to the National Performance Framework and UN Sustainable Development Goals;
- ♦ appendix 2 – CPP Structure Diagram.

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. Risk and Other Implications

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

12. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

12.1. 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
Chief Executive
South Lanarkshire Council

19 August 2026

Contact for Further Information

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Putting learning at the centre

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2023-24 Indicator	New Indicator	Comments
People experiencing barriers to employment are supported into sustainable work	A.1.4	Intervention	14/03/25	Number of young people and adults provided with specialist Employability Support with Additional Support Needs supported into training, employment, and education	Number of young people and adults provided with specialist Employability Support supported into training, employment, and education	Additional Support Needs removed from the indicator as no longer requires to be detailed separately.
Support young people to progress to positive post-school destinations	A.2.1	Statistical	14/03/25	Decrease the gap in the School Leaver Destination Rate (SLDR) initial positive destination rate	Decrease the gap in the School Leaver Destination Rate (SLDR) initial positive destination rate between the most and least deprived data zones	This measure was updated to highlight that the SLDR initial positive destination rate details the gap between the most and least deprived data zones.
		Statistical	14/03/25	Increase number and percentage of looked after school leavers in a positive initial and follow-up destination by local authority	Increase number and percentage of looked after school leavers in a positive destination by local authority	This measure was updated to detail positive destinations of looked after school leavers only and to remove the initial and follow-up information as this is no longer available.

Thriving businesses and fair jobs

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2023/24 Indicator	New Indicator	Comments
People experiencing barriers to employment are supported into sustainable work	C.1.2	Intervention	14/03/25	Number of people participating in sector-based training	Sector based training will be delivered to meet the needs of the labour market	This measure has been amended as it is more beneficial to report on the sector-based training provision rather than numbers.
Thriving town and neighbourhood centres provide a focal point for local communities	C.2.1	Intervention	20/03/25	Complete the South Lanarkshire wide town centre visioning strategy which will give a strategic overview on the engagement and interventions with town centres over the next 10 years, and a series of town specific strategies and action plans will sit below this, giving a template for placemaking within our communities	Deliver the town centre masterplans for East Kilbride and Hamilton whilst continuing to support South Lanarkshire town centres over the next 10 years, and a series of town specific strategies and action plans will sit below this, giving a template for placemaking within our communities	The East Kilbride and Hamilton Masterplans have now superseded the South Lanarkshire wide town centre visioning strategy.

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2024/25 Action/ Measure	New Action/Measure	Comments
Thriving town and neighbourhood centres provide a focal point for local communities	C.2.1	Intervention	03/03/26	Monitor and deliver town centre measures and initiatives in line with town strategies, Community Wealth Building and 20 Minute Neighbourhood approaches. • Town Centre Vacancy Rates – maintain at or below national averages • Businesses supported (including Social Enterprise) – support across towns and places	Monitor and deliver town centre measures and initiatives in line with town strategies, Community Wealth Building and 20 Minute Neighbourhood approaches. • Town Centre Vacancy Rates – maintain at or below national averages • Businesses supported (including Social Enterprise) – support across towns and places • Increasing town centre living	This measure has been updated to include 'Increasing town centre living' which links to 20-minute neighbourhoods and is a key part of delivering the Town Centre Masterplans.
South Lanarkshire is an attractive place to start, grow and locate a business	C.3.2	Statistical	03/03/26	Number of business support interventions per annum by Economic Development/ (grants, loans, or advice) (Locally set target)	Number of business support interventions per annum by Economic Development/ Business Gateway (grants, loans, or advice) (Locally set target)	This action has been amended to include Business Gateway who deliver this support on behalf of South Lanarkshire Council.

				Total number of jobs • Jobs safeguarded	Total number of jobs • Jobs safeguarded (grant support)	This measure has been updated to highlight the inclusion of grant support within jobs safeguarded.
				Total number of jobs • Jobs created	Total number of jobs • Jobs created (grant support)	This measure has been updated to highlight the inclusion of grant support within jobs created.
				Total number of jobs • Increase in Turnover/Sales	Total number of jobs • Increase in Turnover/Sales (grant support)	This measure has been updated to highlight the inclusion of grant support within the increase in turnover and sales.

Caring, connected communities

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2023/24 Indicator	New Indicator	Comments
Communities feel empowered to identify and act on their local priorities	D.1.2	Intervention	17/03/25	Work with local communities in the areas of Hamilton South and East Kilbride South to identify local priorities and prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for their area	Work with local communities in the area of East Kilbride South to identify local priorities and prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the area	This measure has been revised as the Hamilton South Neighbourhood Plan has now been completed.

Good quality, suitable housing for everyone

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2023/24 Indicator	New Indicator	Comments
Prevent homelessness and improve outcomes for those at risk of or who experience homelessness	E.3.2	Intervention	14/03/25	Continue to implement the Rapid Re-housing Transition Plan (RRTP)	Continue to implement the Homelessness Strategic Plan	This measure has been amended to advise that the RRTP has been renamed the Homelessness Strategic Plan.

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2024/25 Indicator	New Indicator	Comments
Deliver the council's Home+ Programme	E.1.1	Statistical	02/03/26	Increase the number of council homes in South Lanarkshire by over 1,300	Increase the number of council homes in South Lanarkshire by over 1,000	In the appendix to the Strategic Housing Investment Plan report presented to the Housing and Technical Resources Committee in December 2025, it was noted that 'due to a range of external factors including rising construction costs and a reduction in available affordable housing supply programme funding in 2024/25, the council is no longer on track to 5 meet this target. Efforts are however continuing to increase supply of council homes, with over 1,000 additional homes currently forecast.'
Support the delivery of schemes to improve energy efficiency in homes across South Lanarkshire	E.2.2	Intervention	02/03/26	Develop and implement the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) Scheme	Promote and monitor delivery of the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) scheme in South Lanarkshire	The measure has been updated to highlight the promotion and monitoring of the delivery of the ECO scheme in South Lanarkshire (progressing from the development and implementation of the scheme).

People live the healthiest lives possible

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2023/24 Indicator	New Indicator	Comments
People, including those with disabilities or long-term conditions, or who are frail, are able to live, as far as reasonably practicable, independently and at home or in a homely setting in their community	F.2.1.	Statistical	10/06/25	Percentage of statutory supervising officer visits completed within timescale for local authority welfare guardianship orders	N/A	The annual, medium, and long-term targets have been reduced by the Senior Management Team from 90% to 75% due to an increased number of referrals for service alongside the number of staff available.
Health and Social Care Services are centred on helping to maintain or improve the quality of life of people who use those services	F.3.1	Intervention	13/03/25	Embed Home First approach across localities to optimise independence of those discharged from hospital/prevention from hospital admission	Embed Home Assessment Team approach across localities to optimise independence of those discharged from hospital/prevention from hospital admission	This measure has been amended to reflect that Embed Home First has been renamed the Embed Home Assessment Team.

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2023/24 Indicator	New Indicator	Comments
People are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing and live in good health for longer	Formerly F.1.2	Intervention	11/03/26	Number of employees trained in Community Led Support approach across all localities	N/A	This indicator has been removed as it requires to be part of a wider discussion across the CPP as to where Community Led Support approaches sit across the CPP and who will lead as the reach is wider than Health and Social Care.
People, including those with disabilities or long-term conditions, or who are frail, are able to live as far as reasonably practicable, independently and at home or in a homely setting in their community	F.2.2	Intervention	11/03/26	Implement Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) standards across all localities	- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standard 1, treatment of patients (provision of prescription) who are ready to commence opioid replacement therapy (ORT) within 24 hours - target 75%. - MAT 3 near fatal overdoses (NFO) and numbers contacted within 24 hours and reviewed within 72 hours - target 75%.	These indicators are aligned to the Strategic Commissioning Plan goals and consistent with those reported to the SL Integration Joint Board (IJB) and the IJB Performance and Audit Sub Committee.

Partnership priority	Community Plan Ref	Statistical/ Intervention Indicator	Date	2024/25 Indicator/Action	New Indicator/Action	Comments
Health and Social Care Services are centred on helping to maintain or improve the quality of life of people who use those services	F.3.2	Intervention	11/03/26	Action: Implement Discharge Without Delay to return people to their home or community safely Indicator: Embed Home Assessment Team (HAT) approach across localities to optimise independence of those discharged from hospital/ prevention from hospital admission	Action: Progress Discharge Without Delay to return people to their home or community safely Indicator: % hours reduced through HAT	This indicator is aligned to the Strategic Commissioning Plan goals and consistent with those reported to the SL Integration Joint Board (IJB) and the IJB Performance and Audit Sub Committee. There is also alignment to the council's Resource Plan measures and reporting.
	F.3.3	Intervention	11/03/26	Number of new carers supported	Number of carers supported	This intervention measure has now been amended to a statistical measure. The number of carers supported will provide clarity on the number of carers supported in the South Lanarkshire area.



South Lanarkshire
Partnership
Stronger together

Progress Report

Community Plan 2022-2032

Quarter 4 2025-26 (April to March)

Summary - number of actions blue (complete), green, amber, red and to be reported later under each Priority

Priority areas of action	Blue	Green	Amber	Red	To be reported later	Total
Putting learning at the centre	0	10	1	0	0	11
Our children and young people thrive	5	7	2	0	0	14
Thriving businesses and fair jobs	0	11	0	1	0	12
Caring, connected communities	3	9	0	0	0	12
Good quality, suitable housing for everyone	0	12	2	0	0	14
People live the healthiest lives possible	0	10	0	0	0	10
Total	8	59	5	1	0	73

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

Key:

Statistical Measures
Project Measures

Putting learning at the centre

We will work with and support people of all ages to help them re-engage with education and learning or to improve their employability skills

Outcome: People experiencing barriers to employment are supported into sustainable work

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
A.1.1	Provide key worker based employability support and learning to targeted groups	Increase the percentage of employability participants progressing to positive destinations	Currently, 66.5% of employability participants completing the programme have progressed to positive destinations. While this represents a decrease of 15.2 percentage points from the previous figure of 81.7%, performance remains above the long-term 10-year target of 65%. This change reflects a deliberate shift towards supporting a higher proportion of participants with more complex and multiple barriers to employment across a wider range of programmes. In addition, the service is now delivering additional programmes focused on early intervention for individuals with long-term disabilities or health conditions who are economically inactive. These programmes typically require longer engagement periods before progression outcomes are achieved. These destinations include employment, further education or training, returning to school or moving on to additional employability support for continued development. The	Green	56.8%	2023-24	66.5%	2025-26	60%	62%	65%

			remaining 33.5% of participants have not progressed, primarily due to early departure from the programme, often associated with changing personal circumstances or periods of disengagement from the service.									
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Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
A.1.2	Provide targeted support to adults facing barriers to employment	Number of people supported into training, education and employment	From April 2025 to March 2026, a total of 1,615 adults signed up to receive employability support. Additionally, some individuals who began their programmes in the previous financial year continued to receive support during this period. As such, all participants, both new and continuing, are included in the reported outcomes. During this time, 621 adults entered employment, while 407 progressed into further education or training. Those who did not achieve an outcome within this period include participants still actively engaging in the programme or those who disengaged.	Green
A.1.3	Provide a range of employability programmes to parents through the Tackling Child Poverty funding programme	Number of parents/carers supported across the six priority groups into training, employment and education	As above, all new and continuing participants are included in reported outcomes. 368 parents/carers from the six priority groups signed up for employability support in the period April 2025 to March 2026. Within the same period, 124 moved into employment and 113 into further education and training. Those who did not achieve an outcome within this period include participants still actively engaging in the programme or those who disengaged.	Green
A.1.4	Provide specialist employability support to young people and adults with additional support needs	Number of young people and adults provided with specialist Employability Support supported into training, employment and education	As above, all new and continuing participants are included in reported outcomes. 212 young people and adults with a disability/additional support need signed up to receive support in the period April 2025 to March 2026. Within the same period, 89 moved into employment and 73 into further education and training. Those who did not achieve an outcome within this period include participants still actively engaging in the programme or those who disengaged.	Green
A.1.5	We will work with and support people of all ages to help them re-engage with education and learning or to improve their employability skills	Learners will be offered opportunities to learn skills that meet their needs across a range of settings. We will work with learners to:- - Enhance their parenting skills - Help parents to support their child's learning	As a result of Community Learning and Development (CLD) work delivered by the Youth Family and Community Learning Service across a range of education and community settings the following has been achieved in 2025-26: 691 learners have enhanced their parenting skills, with 302 better able to support their child during key transitions (such as from primary into secondary school); and 198 learners are better able to support curricular	Green

			learning.	
		We will continue to support learners to progress to other appropriate learning opportunities, ensuring that we meet ongoing needs. We will work with learners to: • Help them re-engage with education/ learning • Help them access volunteering opportunities • Help them access any other appropriate learning programmes or opportunities • Improve their employability skills	As a result of Community Learning and Development work delivered by the Youth Family and Community Learning Service across a range of education and community settings the following has been achieved in 2025-26: • 887 learners have re-engaged with education/ learning; • 174 learners have started to be involved in volunteer activity across the service, and 241 continue to be involved in volunteer activity; • 917 have progressed to other learning programmes or opportunities; and 1,818 have improved employability skills, and 146 have progressed to employment.	Green

Putting learning at the centre

We will support young people to progress to further learning, work or training when they leave school

Outcome: Young people will be supported to progress to sustained positive destinations when they leave school

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
A.2.1	Support young people to progress to positive post-school destinations	Increase the School Leaver Destination Rate (SLDR) initial positive destination rate	3,356 young people left school in 2024-25, 96.6% of whom achieved a positive destination. This was an increase of 0.2 percentage points from 2023-24. South Lanarkshire achieved a higher rate than the national rate of 95.7% and placed joint 11th of the 32 Local Authorities.	Green	96.2% (SLC) 95.5% (Scotland)	2020-21	96.6% (SLC) 95.7% (Scotland)	2024-25	97%	97%	97%
		Decrease the gap in the School Leaver Destination Rate (SLDR) initial positive destination rate between the most and least deprived data zones	South Lanarkshire has a gap of 3.7% which has increased slightly from 2023-24 (3.2%) compared to 4.8% across Scotland.	Green	6.1% (SLC) 4.4% (Scotland)	2020-21	3.7% 4.8% (Scotland)	2024-25	2.9%	3%	3%
		Increase number and percentage of looked after school leavers in a positive destination by local authority	There were 87 young people in this cohort who were 'care experienced'. The positive destination rate is 90.8% for this group of leavers and remains above the national rate.	Amber	92.5% (SLC) 86% (Scotland)	2020-21	90.8% (SLC) 86.8% (Scotland)	2024-25	93%	93.5%	94%

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
A.2.2	Deliver targeted support and learning opportunities to young people in the last 6 months of school through the Aspire programme	Number of young people engaged on the programme	350 young people engaged in the Aspire programme. The Aspire programme has three options for young people to support them as they approach their school leaving date, this includes individualised one-to-one support, college-based leaver programmes and groupwork.	Green
A.2.3	South Lanarkshire Council and Skills Development Scotland will work together to track the destinations of young people aged 16-19 including regular home visits	Number of young people who did not achieve/sustain a positive destination referred to support through tracking and re-engaged	The Employability Service tracked the initial destinations of all South Lanarkshire leavers and conducted a robust tracking exercise in collaboration with Skills Development Scotland to identify and engage young people who did not achieve/sustain a positive destination. In 2025-26, 105 young people were successfully re-engaged through this tracking exercise.	Green

Our Children and Young People Thrive

We will work to ensure children have the best start in life and become everything they can be

Outcome: Every family should get the right support at the right time for as long as they need

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
B.1.1	Four Family Support Hubs to promote a no wrong door approach and GIRFEC Pathways with community, third sector and universal pathways to be strengthened	By March 2025, there will be a 60% reduction in new referrals to Social Work Resources escalating to local office allocations	Family Support Hubs have become a fully embedded and integral part of the whole family support system. The proportion of referrals managed at hub level increased from 61% in 2023/24 to 75% in 2024/25 and 76% in the current reporting year, demonstrating sustained progress towards prevention and earlier intervention. This equates to a reduction of 76% of all referrals being diverted from local offices. The Family Support Hubs have offered accessible locality based support through an integrated team of social workers, family support workers, group workers, peer workers, Children 1st staff and therapists who have offered families a wide range of different types of support with a shared remit of providing whole family support that prevents crisis, reduces inequalities and improves child development, family functioning and wellbeing. As a result of this 'no wrong door approach' for families, 76% of new referrals to Children and Families Social Work were dealt with by the hubs, a 1% increase	Green	60%	2024	76%	2025-26	60%	75	TBC

			from last year. A Parenting Support Pathway has been successfully embedded in the model of support with key partners to ensure a coordinated approach to supporting parents through a range of evidence based programmes and locally developed engagement based on Getting it Right for Every Child. Increasing numbers of families also accessed support through self-referral and community pathways, demonstrating growing confidence and accessibility within the Family Support Hub model.										
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Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
B.1.2	Family Group Decision Making as a core partner to Early Years Multi Agency Service	By March 2024, 80% of families supported will report improvement in involvement in planning supports for their children and their family	Family Group Decision Making is now an integral support offered by the Family Support Hubs. Outcomes have remained consistently strong during the reporting period including: • 93 families involving 401 family members, including 149 children, were supported; • 94% improved safety outcomes; • 91% improved family relationships; • 100% improvement in children's voices being heard in planning; and • No worsening outcomes recorded. The work strengthened participation and ensured children and families were central to decision-making. Families increasingly described feeling empowered and actively involved in planning processes. Earlier family-led planning and strengthened family participation helped identify safe, sustainable solutions within	Green

			families and communities, supporting more children to remain safely within their family networks where appropriate. “It felt like we were working together and not just social work telling me how to be a mum.” - Parent.	
		Implementation of a Parents Plan to prevent escalation to child protection	This is now complete and embedded in practice. The Parents Plan approach was introduced in March 2024. At that stage, the average number of pre-birth investigations was 1.2 per week. It took a number of months to see a sustained shift but from December 2024, the shift below the baseline has been sustained for 14 weeks. The new average per week has reduced to 0.4, which is a 67% reduction in the number of pre-birth investigations initiated for unborn babies. 87% of families referred for social work assessment during the pre-birth stage were supported by the Family Support Hubs rather than Statutory Teams. This is an increase of 7% from year 1. Parents Plans and Early Years Multi-Agency Support approaches also contributed to a 67% reduction in pre-birth investigations for unborn babies, helping more babies remain safely within their families through earlier support and planning. Parenting programmes continued to demonstrate strong outcomes: • 96% of parents reported improved understanding of child development; • 83% improvement in Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) outcomes through Psychology of Parenting Programmes interventions for example incredible years; and • Parental confidence increased from 31% to 93.8%. Families described improved confidence, stronger relationships and reduced isolation. “I’m happier being K’s mummy and more confident with day-to-day life.” - Parent.	Blue
B.1.3	Continue to refine and consolidate the Pathfinders approach	By March 2025, 60% of children and young people accessing Pathfinders will report improvement across three outcome	Pathfinders exceeded planned engagement levels by supporting 20% more young people than anticipated. The work improved school engagement, emotional wellbeing and	Blue

		indicators	participation for vulnerable young people and families. Young people increasingly shaped activities and wider engagement opportunities through trusted relationships with staff. Latest feedback from young people involved has evidenced continued improvements in the following three measures: • 5% annual increase in number of young people showing development in their social skills – actual increase 80%; • 1% annual increase in young people who acknowledge self-management of negative peer influences – actual increase 152.5%; and • 5% annual increase in young people who identify positive development in their health and wellbeing – actual increase 70%. As a result of the learning and impact of the project, Pathfinders has now been mainstreamed and offered to all secondary establishments.	
B.1.4	Test an improvement approach to support at least 10 families with children with disabilities to cope with the financial demands of having a child/children with disabilities	By March 2025, 80% of families supported report an improvement in financial wellbeing and at least one of the other targeted outcomes • Improved health and wellbeing; • Reduced social isolation; and • Increased engagement with education, training or employment	This project is complete and learning from the initiative has been shared with key partners and scrutiny groups. Learning from this work also informed a successful bid to the Scottish Government's Child Poverty Practice Accelerator Fund in October last year with a new test of change focusing on families with children who are neurodiverse. This project is scheduled to begin in April 2026. The target of 80% was achieved by March 2025.	Blue
B.1.5	Four Family Support Hubs to promote a no wrong door approach and GIRFEC Pathways with community, third sector and universal pathways to be strengthened	By March 2026, 80% of parents supported will report improvements in family wellbeing	The Family Support Hubs continue to offer a range of accessible early support for children and families. Families increasingly accessed support before issues escalated into crisis, contributing to reduced statutory intervention and improved family wellbeing. Feedback from families continued to demonstrate strong impact with 97% reporting positive impact recorded on Care Opinion feedback. This includes improvements in emotional wellbeing and parenting confidence, stronger social connections and reduced isolation and improved child behaviour and relationships. "I was working with the Family Support Hub due to my living situation and my mental health. I was undiagnosed and	Green

			struggling emotionally. My worker made me realise that I wasn't going crazy in fact I just needed someone to talk to and not be judged, just supported. I now also attend regular baby classes within the Family Support Hub."	
B.1.6	Health and Social Work to work collaboratively with parents to identify strengths and areas for improvement in relation to neglect	Number of families completing the neglect toolkit by March 2025	The implementation of the 'Working with Neglect Practice Toolkit' in South Lanarkshire has continued to evolve over the three-year reporting period, with a strong focus on strengthening practitioner confidence, improving early identification of neglect and supporting relationship-based work with families. Responding to Neglect training continues to be delivered through the Public Protection Learning and Development Programme and supports practitioners across services to work collaboratively with families to identify strengths, reduce risk and improve outcomes for children and young people. Since 2022, a total of 279 operational frontline staff and managers have completed training, including: • Social Work – 147; • Health – 107; • Education – 18; and • Third Sector – 7. In 2024, refresher training was made available to all previously trained staff, with 34 practitioners attending. During 2026, Practitioner Forums were also introduced to support operational staff to build confidence in using the assessment toolkit and strengthen reflective practice across services. The partnership has recognised the importance of ensuring neglect is identified and responded to earlier through trusted relationships, trauma-informed practice and improved multi-agency collaboration. This work has contributed to strengthening practitioner confidence and improving consistency in assessment and planning approaches across services. While quantitative data relating to the number of families completing the toolkit is not currently available, progress	Green

			across the reporting period has focused on embedding the toolkit into practice, strengthening workforce confidence and improving collaborative approaches to assessment and planning with families.	
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Our Children and Young People Thrive

We will work to ensure that the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved

Outcome: Every child and young person should be able to access local community services which support and improve their mental health and wellbeing

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
B.2.1	Deliver one Mellow Bumps Pregnancy Session in each locality in partnership with the Family Support Hubs	By March 2024, 80% of participants in the Mellow Bumps Pregnancy Sessions will report increased knowledge and understanding about stress, anxiety and self-care	Mellow Bumps continued to provide targeted antenatal support for expectant mothers requiring additional support during pregnancy. The programme focused on improving emotional wellbeing, strengthening early attachment and supporting parents to build positive relationships with their babies before birth. Feedback demonstrated that the programme provided both emotional and practical support, helping parents increase confidence, reduce isolation and better understand infant development. Parents particularly valued the opportunity to build supportive relationships with other expectant mothers and access non-judgemental support within a group setting. Parents described improved confidence and stronger emotional connection with their babies: The programme also supported engagement with parents who may previously have been less likely to access support services. Families described how participation in Mellow Bumps acted as a pathway into wider Family Support Hub and parenting supports, helping strengthen long-term engagement and improve outcomes for both parents and babies. One parent described the significant impact of the support received: “Attending the Mellow Bumps group and receiving support from the Hub, I am happy to say that my son is in my care and his name was removed from the Child Protection Register three months after his birth.” – Parent	Green

			Evaluation feedback demonstrated strong outcomes for participants: • 100% reported feeling better about themselves after taking part; • 100% reported feeling more connected with their baby; and • 68% reported that the group helped them identify personal strengths. Participants identified key strengths of the programme including facilitator support, peer connection, learning about infant development and practical coping strategies. Learning from delivery highlighted that engagement can be challenging due to the short antenatal timeframe available for group intervention. However, overall feedback demonstrates that Mellow Bumps has had a positive impact on parental wellbeing, early attachment and engagement with wider family support services.	
B.2.2	Create and implement training at informed level to be delivered to Children's Services staff through a Learn Online module	By March 2024, at least 50 Children's Services staff will have accessed the Learn Online module and reported an increase in confidence in supporting children and young people at risk of self-harm and suicide	While this target was achieved last year reflecting on practice at year three of the Children's Services Plan has evidenced increased confidence in supporting children and young people in crisis situations. Between April 2023 and March 2026, 27 online and in-person training sessions took place attended by 524 staff and as a result, almost all staff highlighted an increase in confidence, self-harm knowledge and understanding in using Lifelines Lanarkshire guidance materials and being more prepared to support children and young people. In addition, a further 405 staff completed Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), leading to increased confidence across the partnership in using the Lifelines approach and willingness to offer support to children and young people at risk of self-harm and suicide when needed.	Blue
B.2.3	Key members of staff who support children and young people at	By March 2024, at least 75% of staff who have attended Lifelines Lanarkshire training have shown an increase in confidence supporting children and young people at risk	While this target was achieved last year reflecting on practice at year three of our Children's Services Plan has evidenced increased confidence in supporting children and young people in crisis situations.	Blue

	risk of self-harm and suicide to attend Lifelines Lanarkshire training	of self-harm and suicide following the training	Between April 2023 and March 2026, 27 online and in-person training sessions took place attended by 524 staff and as a result, almost all staff highlighted an increase in confidence, self-harm knowledge and understanding in using Lifelines Lanarkshire guidance materials and being more prepared to support children and young people. In addition, a further 405 staff completed Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), leading to increased confidence across the partnership in using the Lifelines approach and willingness to offer support to children and young people at risk of self-harm and suicide when needed.	
B.2.4	Continue roll out of Kooth service and increase the use of this	By March 2024, at least 80% of registered users will report Kooth is effective in supporting them with their emotional wellbeing needs	Kooth continues to be an integral part of the whole systems approach to supporting children and families with their mental health and emotional wellbeing providing reassurance and support to young people who use this platform. Latest data provided evidence that at least 72% of young people are reporting that the platform content was a useful form of support. While the target of 80% was not fully achieved, feedback from young people continues to demonstrate that Kooth provides an important and accessible source of emotional wellbeing support as part of the wider whole systems approach.	Amber

Our Children and Young People Thrive

We will work to ensure that the life chances of children and young people in need of care and protection are improved

Outcome: Children and young people should grow up loved, safe, respected and listened to

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
B.3.1	In conjunction with care experienced young people develop ways that make it easier for them to participate in the ongoing improvement in key decision-making processes and capture the impact of their views and voices	70% of care experienced young people tell us that they feel more able to participate in key decision-making processes	100% of children and young people report they are more able to participate in key decision-making processes as a result of refreshed paperwork in 2025 to support assessment and planning of their needs and support. The Champions Board and other care experienced young people have made valuable contributions to planning and decision-making process throughout the year e.g. they have informed the design (by sharing their lived experience and ideas about what would work best for care experienced young people) of the Employability Promise now delivering permanent jobs with the council for young people and the evolving Housing Promise which is providing sustainable permanent tenancies as part of a transition post care. They contributed to a review of Kinship Care support and helped inform a Care To Move activity and fitness pilot that has now been extended for the next three years and looks like the foundation for a Lifestyle Promise. Care experienced young people are also now becoming involved in staff training e.g. a Promsie Keeper's Award and in staff recruitment where relevant.	Green
B.3.2	Support young people from 16 years old to actively manage their Child Trust Fund and/or Junior ISA savings account currently administered by the Share Foundation	70% of young people report they are better informed about financial planning	Whilst quantitative data relating to the percentage of young people reporting that they are better informed about financial planning is not currently available, the focus has been on increasing the number of young people claiming their Child Trust Fund and supporting opportunities to increase the amount of savings. Within 3 months of their 16th birthday, all care experienced young people are issued with a letter from the Share Foundation (via their social worker) informing them of their rights to take charge of their Child Trust Fund and how to do it.	Amber

			Social Workers are informed of the likelihood that they will need to provide support to the young person undertaking the process of claiming their trust fund. The Continuing Care and Aftercare Team are aware of the council's relationship with the Share Foundation and its relevance to the young people they support. Progress has been made in identifying groups of young people who could potentially 'slip through the net'. Family Connections are involved with tracing and contacting those young people who no longer have any social work involvement, but whose trust fund remains with the Share Foundation. Schools have been asked to help trace young people who do not have social work involvement. A small number of young people engage with the Stepladder Plus programme, which can earn them up to £1,500 (to be deposited in their trust fund) upon completion of all its stages. This programme is open to 15-17 year olds and is run by the Share Foundation. So far, £19,150 has been earned by 19 young people, including 9 who have received the maximum amount.	
B.3.3	Provide targeted support to care experienced young people to engage and sustain participation in South Lanarkshire Local Employability Partnership (SLLEP) funded employability programmes	By March 2024, establish a baseline percentage of care experienced young people engaging with SLLEP funded employability activity progressing to a positive destination	A baseline of 65% was established in March 2024 for care experienced young people progressing to a positive destination. In 2025–26, this target has been significantly exceeded. A total of 139 care experienced young people engaged with Employability Services during the year, with 82% progressing to a positive destination. Breakdown of positive destinations: • Employment/Modern Apprenticeship: 24 • Further or Higher Education: 45 • Progression to next-stage Employability Support: 41 • Volunteering: 1 Those who did not achieve an outcome within this period include participants still actively engaging on the programme or those who disengaged.	Green

			This performance demonstrates strong progress against the baseline and highlights the effectiveness of targeted employability support for care experienced young people	
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Thriving businesses and fair jobs

We will work to make sure everyone has the same opportunities to learn new skills

Outcome: People experiencing barriers to employment are supported into sustainable work

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
C.1.1	Work with employers to progress people to employment	Number of employability participants progressing to employment	The number of employability participants progressing into employment on completion of the programme is 745. This is an increase of 2.8% from last year.	Green	623	2023-24	745	2025-26	625	650	700

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
C.1.2	Deliver sector-based training to employability participants	Demand led sector-based training will be delivered to meet the needs of the Labour Market	A wide range of sector-based training has been delivered to employability participants. This has included provision through the Employability Academy, where flexible, short courses are delivered on a needs-led basis and agreed through the Operational Sub -Group to ensure alignment with Labour Market demand. Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) training and qualifications have been delivered specifically to support young people to access opportunities within the construction sector. In January 2026, four Sector-Based Work Academies were procured in priority growth sectors: Care, Childcare, Customer Care and Construction, further strengthening pathways into employment and meeting identified employer demand. South Lanarkshire Council's own in-house training team have provided support to young people who were applying for SLC Craft Trade and Child Care Modern Apprenticeships. This included preparatory work prior to application, testing examples and interview preparation.	Green

C.1.3	Provide in-work support and training through the Upskilling programme	Number of employed people engaging with the Upskilling programme	20 parents have engaged on the Aim to Achieve (previously Upskilling programme) and accessed in-work support and training. This programme will merge with Supporting Families in 2026-27. This had been planned for 2025-26 but was delayed due to the review of Routes to Work South.	Green
C.1.4	Work with employers to identify vacancies for progression for employability participants	Number of new employer engagement contacts developed and vacancies filled	Throughout 2025-26, the Employer Engagement Team supported 493 employers, including 146 new employer relationships, and successfully filled 335 vacancies with participants from across all employability programmes.	Green

Thriving businesses and fair jobs

We will ensure that the place where you live is at the heart of our response to the climate emergency and help places to become sustainable

Outcome: Thriving town and neighbourhood centres provide a focal point for local communities

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
C.2.1	Deliver the town centre masterplans for East Kilbride and Hamilton whilst continuing to support South Lanarkshire town centres over the next 10 years, and a series of town specific strategies and action plans will sit below this, giving a template for placemaking within our communities	Monitor and deliver town centre measures and initiatives in line with town strategies, Community Wealth Building and 20 Minute Neighbourhood approaches. - Town Centre Vacancy Rates – maintain at or below national averages - Businesses supported (including Social Enterprise) – support across towns and places - Increasing town centre living	Delivery of East Kilbride Town Centre masterplan: - A full professional management team, led by Turner & Townsend, has been appointed to aid the East Kilbride masterplan delivery. - After reaching legal agreement with administrators, Centre West EK was successfully handed over to South Lanarkshire Council on 31 December 2025. - Officers are currently working on three distinct workstreams to implement masterplan delivery. These are: - Demolition of Centre West and associated enabling works – Following a successful procurement exercise, demolition contractor, David Morton, has been appointed for demolition and associated enabling works. Site mobilisation took place on 19 January 2026. - Design and delivery of East Kilbride Town Hall and public realm - This will be a two stage Design (RIBA stage 3) and Build (RIBA stage 4) contract with stage one of the contract due for publication July 2026 with appointment in October 2026. - Design and delivery of a residential scheme to include social housing - Work is currently progressing with the project management team, legal and procurement colleagues to ascertain the best structure for a housing delivery model. Delivery of Hamilton Town Centre masterplan:- - Former Vogue building is now demolished and final site clearance nearing completion. - Town Square - Stage 2 design is now complete.	Green

			• The Project Team led by Gardiner and Theobald are being brought together to deliver a wide variety of elements of the masterplan. • Newcross Centre's first physical works will see demolition of this facility. Scoping and feasibility underway to inform program and next steps. Vacancy rates: 7 of the 10 strategic town centres within South Lanarkshire have a vacancy rate below the national average. Of the 3 remaining, both Hamilton and East Kilbride are going through the masterplan process and are therefore in a period of transition. There is recognition that changes in consumer behaviour have led to a decline in the use of town centres with a resultant rise in town centre vacancy rates. South Lanarkshire Council continues to work with town centre organisations such as Business Improvement Districts and Community Councils, national bodies such as Scotland's Town Centre Partnership and private sector partners to support town centres and identify initiatives aimed at driving footfall and lowering vacancy rates. Town Centre Living: Town Centre living is a national priority through the National Performance Framework 4 (NPF4) and the Scottish Government's Town Centre Action Plan. South Lanarkshire Council supports this through masterplan delivery, working with private and third sector partners to identify and develop sites. The council is working closely with Scotland's Towns Partnership on a project which matches vacant sites within South Lanarkshire with developer need. Town Centre living will be increasing in South Lanarkshire over the next 3-10 years. The East Kilbride Masterplan will provide approximately 180 new town centre homes and Hamilton potentially approximately 350. The other towns have smaller	
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			sites which are being considered.	
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Thriving businesses and fair jobs

We will make it easy for businesses and social enterprises get all available help and advice from one place

Outcome: South Lanarkshire is an attractive place to start, grow and locate a business

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
C.3.1	Number of new South Lanarkshire business starts supported by Business Gateway (Locally set target)	Total number of businesses/social enterprises supported New start-ups	Business Gateway Lanarkshire has two main client groups, one of which is start-up and pre-start businesses. This is the group that has been supported here. Business Gateway Lanarkshire can access facilities across South Lanarkshire Council (SLC), ensuring services reach all communities, which is particularly important for individuals wishing to start a business. 998 individuals or new businesses were supported by Business Gateway Lanarkshire during the year.	Green	500	2023-24	998	2025-26	500	N/A	N/A
C.3.2	Number of business support interventions per annum by Economic Development/ Business Gateway (grants, loans or advice) (Locally set target)	Total number of businesses/social enterprises supported Existing Organisations	1,367 individual interventions were delivered to existing businesses in South Lanarkshire during the year.	Green	1,200	2023-24	1,367	2025-26	1,200	N/A	N/A
		Number and value of grants	The Economic Development Business Support Grant was significantly reduced this year to a total fund of £100,000, a reduction of 80% from the previous year. This meant a reduction in the number of businesses that the council could support with their growth	Red	£723,000 (Made up of European Regional Development Fund projected. £483,000 Plus £180,000 SLC monies,	2023-24	£100,000	2025-26	£723,000	N/A	N/A

			aspirations and forward plans.		plus £60,000 UK Shared Prosperity Fund)						
		Grants awarded to businesses/social enterprises • Funding Leveraged	Through the SLC Business Grant Programme, businesses contributed £213,993 of their own funds to support and accelerate business growth projects.	Green	N/A	N/A	£213,993	2025-26	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Total number of jobs • Jobs safeguarded (grant support)	The Business Support Grant and the Expert Help Programme contributed to the safeguarding of 403 jobs within South Lanarkshire based businesses.	Green	500	2023-24	403	2025-26	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Total number of jobs • Jobs created (grant support)	The Business Support Grant and Expert Help Programme directly supported the creation of 122 jobs within South Lanarkshire based businesses.	Green	N/A	N/A	122	2025-26	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Total number of jobs • Increase in Turnover/Sales (grant support)	The Business Grant and Expert Help Programmes have supported SLC businesses to increase the money they generate by over £56 million. The Expert Help Programme, which give businesses access to fully funded consultancy support, was the main contributor to this.	Green	N/A	N/A	£56m	2025-26	N/A	N/A	N/A

Caring, connected communities

We will continue to support and encourage every community to identify and act on their local priorities

Outcome: Communities feel empowered to identify and act on their local priorities

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
D.1.1	Ensure communities are engaged and supported to participate in local decision making	Develop standards and a framework for the planning, delivery and evaluation of place based Participatory Budgeting programmes	A Participatory Budgeting (PB) Community Advisory Group was established to develop the process for the 10 Neighborhood Planning areas. The role of the Advisory Group was to develop basic rules alongside the guidance outlined by the Shared Prosperity Fund. The recent PB process is currently being reviewed, and an evaluation survey was conducted which will be shared with the Advisory Group to inform feedback from the last round of PB. The Advisory Group will engage to develop the process in line with the South Lanarkshire Council Third Sector Review. Identifying areas for improvement is fundamental to the PB process.	Green
		Strengthen the Neighbourhood Planning and Participatory Budgeting approach by co-producing standards and a framework for the involvement of young people	The Participatory Budgeting (PB) Advisory Group will continue to consider increasing the engagement of young people. Much of the PB funding is directed to youth work and children's activities.	Green
D.1.2	Fulfil statutory Locality Planning duties to reduce inequalities within identified priority neighbourhoods	Work with local communities in the area of East Kilbride South to identify local priorities and prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for their area	The East Kilbride South Neighbourhood Plan has been developed through extensive community engagement and analysis of local data input and consultation. The plan was presented to the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Board in December 2025, and the graphic design of the content is currently being developed. Ongoing local capacity building is in place as the community groups face their own challenges. £5,000 Participatory Budgeting Investment was facilitated in August 2025 enabling local groups to apply for up to £2,500 per organisation. 743 local votes were cast with 3 organisations being successful in receiving funding, one of which was a part award and two groups received the full amount applied for.	Blue

		Evaluate the Neighbourhood Planning approach for South Lanarkshire and implement improvement actions	The evaluation of the Neighbourhood Planning approach has been postponed awaiting the outcomes of the Marmot Place Programme.	Green
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Caring, connected communities

We will bring communities together to share priorities and work jointly on them

Outcome: Communities feel connected, share priorities and work together to create change

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
D.2.1	We will bring communities together to share priorities and work jointly on them	Continue to develop and strengthen the membership of the Hamilton and East Kilbride Community Partnerships	All four Community Partnership areas have now been established. The Community Planning Partnership's Community Partnership Development Officer continues to strengthen and expand engagement by working closely with community groups and partner agencies, whilst also encouraging Neighbourhood Planning Groups to remain actively involved. The groups have also agreed that the current Chair of Cambuslang and Rutherglen will support all four CPP groups by chairing meetings until members of each group nominate a volunteer to take on the role. Work will continue to develop and strengthen all groups.	Blue
		Evaluate the Community Partnership approach with Cambuslang and Rutherglen and Clydesdale Community Partnerships and implement improvement actions	The Community Partnership self-evaluation survey has provided important information about the training requirements of Community Partnership volunteers, including areas that may need more assistance and growth. The Community Partnership Development Officer continues to build volunteer capacity and will keep this under review. All four locations will use the information to support and analyse future goals, develop better procedures, assist training needs, and evaluate process changes.	Blue
D.2.2	Young people will lead the way on actions to tackle climate change and nature loss	Support young people to continue to develop their leadership skills through engagement with the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board on their Climate and Nature priorities	In October 2025, members of the South Lanarkshire Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability took part in their third engagement with the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board. They shared progress on their climate and nature priorities, including actions led within schools, and shared the new targets for the 2025–2026 school year. This ensures their work continues to reflect the	Green

			views and priorities of young people across South Lanarkshire. This engagement is strengthening young people's leadership skills, with increased confidence in presenting, contributing to discussions, and engaging with senior leaders. Young people are actively influencing discussions on local climate and nature priorities and are developing a clearer understanding of how decisions are made at a strategic level. Further engagement opportunities are planned, ensuring young people continue to play a meaningful and sustained role in influencing local decision making on climate change and nature loss.	
		Increase youth voice and influence in Community Planning at a locality level through co-producing an approach to youth participation	Building on the success of previous engagement with young people to assist in activity such as Council Budget setting, a multi-agency group of partners have been exploring methods with children and young people to further design engagement to progress rights-based approaches. The learning from this process will assist wider developments to further youth participation.	Green
D.2.3	Empower communities to improve their own health and wellbeing	Progress the implementation of the South Lanarkshire Age Friendly approach through the development of an implementation plan and supporting the Seniors Community to develop and deliver on actions	A 'Living well in Later Life' conference was held on 22 October 2025 within Hamilton Town House. This was co-produced with the community of older people and delivered in partnership with South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture. Through their involvement, older people created a conference programme which facilitated opportunities to learn healthy habits to keep their brain active and participate in a range of taster sessions to keep physically active in retirement. CPP members were invited to attend the conference. The Seniors Together chairperson provided an update on Age Friendly Communities to the CPP Board on 18 March 2026 where the board endorsed the 'Age Friendly South Lanarkshire Action Plan'. The next stage of the action plan will see the development of the Ageing Well Ambassadors Programme with an ambassador representative for each of the eight	Green

			domains that make up an Age Friendly community.	
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Caring, connected communities

We will involve local representatives in community planning at all levels, including on the Community Planning Partnership Board

Outcome: Community volunteers feel that they can effectively participate in and contribute to community planning at all levels

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
D.3.1	Develop and deliver training/awareness raising activity to ensure that volunteers can participate effectively in Community Planning	Increase the number of volunteers in our Neighbourhood Planning Stakeholder Groups who feel confident about their role in Community Planning through capacity building, training and support	Ongoing support is taking place with Stakeholder Groups to encourage increasing the number of residents participating in Neighbourhood Planning activity. A wide range of engagement approaches have been developed to ensure wide and representative involvement which is being guided by the stakeholder groups. The Stakeholder Groups have been identifying partners to invite to the meetings, and the uptake has been successful. Further plans include more community information events to increase the profile of the Neighbourhood Plan themes and actions to encourage more residents to engage.	Green
		Increase the number of volunteers in our established locality Community Partnerships who feel confident about their role in Community Planning through capacity building, training and support	Over the past year, all four locality Community Partnerships have been successfully established. Membership has remained consistent, with a steady flow of new members joining, demonstrating ongoing engagement and sustainability across all groups. Approximately 150 volunteers representing a range of communities, are attending from across the partnership areas. The Community Planning Partnership's Community Development Officer (CDO) continues to build capacity and strengthen relationships with community-led organisations, Neighbourhood Planning areas and all Community Councils within the area, who have offered their support in identifying local inequalities and ensuring that local voices are heard. The CDO continues to work collaboratively with all Community Partnerships to identify learning and training opportunities, build understanding of local needs, and develop and implement targeted plans to	Green

			address them.	
		Increase community representation on the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board and provide youth voice opportunities	The CPP Community Development Officer has collaborated with council officers and other CPP partners to help grow membership in all localities and find individuals who would like to represent or chair existing partnerships going ahead. Volunteer participation is still increasing, and all four localities are now well-established. The Community Partnerships are interested in creating a forum where young people in each community can express their opinions, where their voices and opinions can be highlighted and brought to the CPP Board through discussions within current groupings and local provisions.	Green

Good quality, suitable housing for everyone

We will increase affordable housing supply and improve access to and choice of housing options that suit people's needs

Outcome: Increase overall housing supply and improve access to, and choice of housing options, that suit people's needs and are affordable

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
E.1.1	Deliver the council's Home+ Programme	Increase the number of council homes in South Lanarkshire by 1,000	The Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) sets out affordable housing development priorities across South Lanarkshire during a five 5-year period. The SHIP 2026-2031, was reported to South Lanarkshire Council's Housing and Technical Resources Committee in December 2025 and confirmed that over 1,000 additional homes are currently forecast to be delivered. During 2025/26, 243 additional council homes were provided (107 new build properties and 136 acquisitions). Between 2022 and March 2026, a total of 750 additional council homes have been provided, and the council remain on track to achieve over 1,000 by March 2027.	Green	N/A	2022	750	2022-26	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Maintain the percentage of tenants in council new build properties who are satisfied with their home	Since 2022/23, tenants across 10 new build housing sites were surveyed, with 134 responses received, representing an overall 58% response rate. Based on the responses received, an 82% satisfaction rate was recorded,	Amber	91%	2022-23	82%	2025-26	91%	91%	91%

			which was a slight reduction on previous updates. This related to specific housing management issues within one new-build site that relevant services continue to manage and respond to.								
E.1.2	Provide settled accommodation to households experiencing homelessness	Achieve the annual Local Letting Plan target for social rented properties allocated to homeless households	The 2025/26 annual target for lets to the Urgent Housing Need list, comprising majority homeless households has been achieved.	Green	55%-65%	2025-26	63%	2025-26	55-65%	TBC	TBC

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
E.1.3	Develop and implement the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP)	Annual approval of SHIP by Housing and Technical Resources Committee	The Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2026-2031 was approved by the council's Housing and Technical Resources Committee on 17 December 2025.	Green
E.1.4	Develop and implement Local Letting Plans (LLP) with proposed annual targets	Annual approval of LLP targets by Housing and Technical Resources Committee	LLP targets for 2026-27, incorporating lets to homeless households, were approved by the council's Housing and Technical Resources Committee on 18 March 2026.	Green

Good quality, suitable housing for everyone

We will work in partnership to improve housing quality and energy efficiency, whilst supporting a just transition to decarbonisation

Outcome: Improve housing quality and energy efficiency whilst supporting a just transition to decarbonisation

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
E.2.1	Improve overall energy efficiency of homes across South Lanarkshire	Increase the average Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) score of all homes with an Energy Performance Certificate in South Lanarkshire	Based on Home Analytics Database, the average SAP score has increased to 67% during 2025-26 as a result of the installation of energy efficiency and decarbonisation measures.	Green	65.1	2021-22	67	2025-26	Increase by 1% from baseline	70	TBC
		Increase number of energy efficiency and decarbonisation measures installed across private homes in South Lanarkshire utilising national funding sources	Area Based Schemes are funded by the Scottish Government and coordinated by councils to provide energy efficiency measures to homes within a local authority area. In 2025-26, through Area Based Schemes in South Lanarkshire there were 114 measures installed, comprising of external wall insulation, cavity wall insulation, cavity extraction and refill, loft insulation. In addition, 344 measures were installed in private homes during 2025-26 through the ECO scheme, improving the energy efficiency of properties. The ECO scheme is a UK Government led scheme to tackle fuel poverty and reduce carbon emissions.	Green	N/A	N/A	458	2025-26	200	600	TBC
		Increase number of energy efficiency and decarbonisation measures installed in council homes	Area Based Schemes are funded by the Scottish Government and coordinated by councils to provide energy efficiency	Green	N/A	N/A	614	2025-26	100 per year	TBC	TBC

Good quality, suitable housing for everyone

We will work in partnership to prevent and significantly reduce homelessness and improve outcomes for those at risk of or who experience homelessness

Outcome: Prevent homelessness and improve outcomes for those at risk of or who experience homelessness

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
E.3.1	Deliver Housing Options Service with the aim of preventing homelessness	Increase the percentage of Housing Option interventions where homelessness is prevented	During 2025-26, 76% (1,791) of homeless cases were prevented. This is an increase on the position reported last year and is above the target of 70%. Prevention of homelessness remains a key priority for the council and partners.	Green	73.5%	2021-22	76%	2025-26	70%	TBC	TBC
		Increase the percentage of former homeless households provided with a council tenancy that maintain their home for more than 12 months	Tenancy sustainment remains strong and the target has been achieved.	Green	88%	2022-23	91.6%	2025-26	TBC	TBC	TBC
		Reduce repeat instances of homelessness	Although performance is slightly above target of 4.16%, it has decreased on the baseline position of 4.5%. All repeat homelessness cases continue to be reviewed to identify patterns and to inform future development and delivery of services.	Amber	4.5%	2021-22	4.16%	2025-26	3%	TBC	TBC

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
E.3.2	Improve access to settled accommodation to homeless households	Continue to implement the Homelessness Strategic Plan	The council's Housing and Technical Resources continues to work with partners to progress actions detailed within the Homelessness Strategic Plan. Progress updates are reported to the council's Housing and Technical Resources Committee biannually, with the most recent update provided in March 2025. This noted that demand for homelessness services remains high in comparison with historical trends.	Green

People live the healthiest lives possible

We will ensure that all of our services work with people as early as possible to stop problems happening

Outcome: People are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing and live in good health for longer

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
F.1.1	We will continue to support people to improve their own health and wellbeing and exercise choice and control	Number of people participating in a co-produced Self Directed Support Assessment to exercise choice and control over their care	To date, 4,104 co-produced assessments have been approved with performance exceeding the annual target of 3,000 assessments. This target has been exceeded year on year, which indicates an established trend of increasing demand for social care input.	Green	2,984	2022-23	4,104	2025-26	3,000	3,100	3,200

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status
F.1.2	We will promote self – care and self-management including technology enabled care	Increase in the number of people supported by Technology Enabled Care to manage their own health and wellbeing	<u>Telecare/Telehealth</u> Progress on phases 2 and 3 of the Amazon Healthcare Project continues, with strong momentum across delivery, training, and evaluation. - Operational readiness improved through further training for the Clydesdale Care at Home Team, including device management platform skills. Remaining technical issues - staff access, Multi-Factor Authentication, and firewall permissions were resolved. - A major milestone was reached in March 2026, when the first virtual medication-prompting device was installed in a service user's home, signalling the transition from preparation to live deployment. - Procurement and roll out of subscriptions licences for 2026-27 covering 300 licences is complete. This work is supported by Glasgow City Region Innovation Programme funding via the TEC Smart and Socially Connected Places project. - Evaluation is ongoing and will provide assurance on	Green

			impact, lessons learned and the project's potential for wider scale-up. <u>Smart TV Messaging Service</u> The Care Messenger Smart-TV video calling and messaging system has expanded from its successful David Walker Gardens, Rutherglen pilot to all three council care homes and in Blantyre LIFE. The familiar TV-based platform helps residents stay connected and reduces digital exclusion. At David Walker Gardens, it has already enabled nearly 500 video calls, supporting reduced loneliness and improved wellbeing. The initiative has also earned external recognition, with the service shortlisted for the Care for Mental Health Award at Scotland's Health Awards.	
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People live the healthiest lives possible

We will increase access, activities and supports that help improve mental health and addictions

Outcome: People, including those with disabilities or long-term conditions, or who are frail, are able to live as far as reasonably practicable, independently and at home or in a homely setting in their community

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
F.2.1	We will continue to protect adults at risk from harm	Percentage of statutory supervising officer visits completed within timescale for local authority welfare guardianship orders	To date, there was a total of 256 local authority guardianship visits due with 90% (230) being completed in time, exceeding the target.	Green	93%	2022-23	90%	2025-26	75%	75%	75%
		Percentage of statutory supervising officer visits completed within timescale for private welfare guardianship orders	To date, there was a total of 1,678 private guardianship visits due with 83% (1,394) being completed in time, exceeding the target.	Green	93%	2022-23	83%	2025-26	75%	75%	75%
F.2.2	We will continue to protect adults at risk from harm	Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standard 1, treatment of patients (provision of prescription) who are ready to commence opioid replacement therapy (ORT) within 24 hours - target 75%	Performance has been variable in the year but is currently sitting at 91%. Reporting timeframes are not in sync with this reporting period and latest available data is shown. At the time of reporting, this data represents the most up to date position for the month of February 2026. Full and validated data will be made available at a future date.	Green	N/A	N/A	91%	Feb 2026	75%	75%	75%
		Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) 3 near fatal overdoses (NFO) and numbers contacted within 24 hours and reviewed within 72 hours - target 75%	Contact with patients following a non-fatal overdose (NFO) has been variable since April 2025, with small numbers resulting in significant fluctuations in percentage uptake. There were no patients recorded in the most recent reporting month. NFO data is drawn from patients accessing Community Addiction	Green	N/A	N/A	0	Feb 2026	75%	75%	75%

			Recovery Services (CAREs); however, this does not capture individuals supported by NHS Lanarkshire Harm Reduction Team or by externally commissioned services in South Lanarkshire.								
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People live the healthiest lives possible

We will provide high quality day-to-day health and social care services that are accessible to everyone in our community who needs them

Outcome: Health and Social Care Services are centred on helping to maintain or improve the quality of life of people who use those services

Ref	Action	Measure	Comments	Status	---BASELINE---		---LATEST---		---TARGETS---		
					Data	Period	Data	Period	Annual	Med (3yr)	Long (10yr)
F.3.1	We will continue to protect adults at risk from harm	Percentage of statutory supervising officer visits completed within timescale for local authority welfare guardianship orders	To date, there was a total of 256 local authority guardianship visits due with 90% (230) being completed in time, exceeding the target.	Green	93%	2022-23	90%	2025-26	75%	75%	75%
		Percentage of statutory supervising officer visits completed within timescale for private welfare guardianship orders	To date, there was a total of 1,678 private guardianship visits due with 83% (1,394) being completed in time, exceeding the target.	Green	93%	2022-23	83%	2025-26	75%	75%	75%
F.3.2	Progress Discharge Without Delay to return people to their home or community safely	% hours reduced through Home Assessment Team (HAT)	In 2025-26, 942 care episodes were completed by the Home Assessment Teams, with care packages reducing by 36% overall when comparing hours required at start of intervention to end.	Green	29%	2024-25	36%	2025-26	30%	30%	30%
F.3.3	We will support carers to maintain their caring role through a personal outcome approach	Number of carers supported	Approximately 3,500 carers are supported annually with their caring role through the combined efforts of health and social care services and commissioned partners.	Green	N/A	N/A	3,500	2025-26	N/A	N/A	N/A



**South Lanarkshire
Community Planning Partnership**

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

**Community Plan
for South Lanarkshire
2022-2032**

**Annual Outcome Improvement Report
2025-26**

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Section 1 - Introduction to Community Planning in South Lanarkshire

What are we?

All 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. Our community partners lead on local planning and area-based Community Partnerships. A full list can be found on our [website](#).

What are we trying to do?

Our Community Planning Partners are working together to make South Lanarkshire a better place to live, learn, play and work. Our aim is to work with communities to deliver better services targeted at reducing poverty and tackling inequalities and deprivation across South Lanarkshire. Further information can be found on the Community Planning Partnership website www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org.

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, helping to find out what matters in your area or getting involved in how decisions are made. More information can be found on the Community Planning website www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/info/74/getting_involved.

How are we improving?

In 2024, the Community Planning Partnership became one of Scotland's first three council's to develop and implement a Marmot Place Programme to better understand inequality and poverty across South Lanarkshire and to collaborate more effectively to tackle it.

A Marmot Place recognises that health and health inequalities are mostly shaped by the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. These conditions are affected by all of our shared priorities and resources across this Community Planning Partnership.

We worked on the Marmot Place Programme collaboratively with Public Health Scotland (PHS) and the University College London Institute of Health Equity (IHE), led by Professor Sir Michael Marmot. As a result of what we have learned, we will work to redevelop the focus and scrutiny of the Community Planning Partnership and develop an enhanced approach to place, which is the core of our ambitions. Future versions of this report will reflect this learning.

Section 2 – Our Ambitions



Our Ambitions

Our Community Plan sets out how we will continue to support the people living in our communities to participate in Community Planning and puts the places where our communities live at the centre of change. We will continue to focus on improving how we work better together to deliver local needs and priorities.

This work will happen across three key ambitions: **People**; **Progress**; and **Planet**.

People – Together, we will take a people first approach to improving everyone’s wellbeing. People told us that empowerment comes from the community and it’s not something that is given to them. We understand that long-lasting change will only be achieved if we all work together, putting our communities at the heart of community planning. We will continue to have community conversations that matter. We will work with communities to ensure that their voices are heard and support them to act on the things that are important to them through a “Can Do” approach.

Progress – Together, we will build on what we have learned to improve how we do things and the wellbeing of everyone. Delivering the right things that matter to people, in the right place and at the right time. We have been inspired by the phenomenal community response to the global pandemic and have seen how our communities “Can Do” more with the right information and support from us. Our focus will be to continue to grow and develop the relationships and the excellent partnership working that has supported our communities to maintain and improve their wellbeing throughout the pandemic.

Planet - Together, we will act in ways that protect our natural world for a healthier future. We will work together to develop local solutions to protect nature and to take action on climate change and support our young people to lead the way. The ambitions set out where we want to see change happening across the themes of Progress, People and Planet. From your feedback, we know that there are six other priorities that are important to you. We are working to improve services in these areas and have plans that show how this is being done. Our Places for Wellbeing model shows how the plan connects through place, ambitions and priorities.



You can read the full Community Plan on the Community Planning website:
www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/info/1/what_is_community_planning/135/our_priorities.

Section 3 – Community Plan Performance Highlights

There is a significant amount of work being undertaken in our communities and by our partners across South Lanarkshire to make places fairer, better and greener. This report highlights some of the work that has been done.

The following are examples of key areas of work:

- **Putting learning at the centre** - 96.6% of young people who left school in 2024-25 achieved a positive destination.
- **Our children and young people thrive** – 93 families involving 401 family members, including 149 children, were supported by the Family Support Hubs.
- **Thriving businesses and fair jobs** – 986 individuals or new businesses were supported by Business Gateway Lanarkshire.
- **Caring, connected communities** – All four Community Partnership areas have now been established within South Lanarkshire.
- **Good quality, sustainable housing for everyone** – 1,791 (76%) of homeless cases were prevented.
- **People live the healthiest lives possible** – 4,104 co-produced self-directed support assessments have been approved.

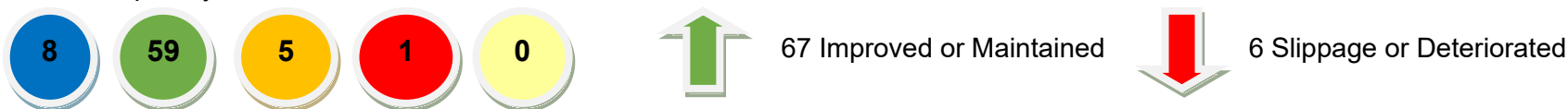
Section 4 – Community Plan Overall Performance at a glance

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

- Putting learning at the centre
- Our children and young people thrive
- Thriving businesses and fair jobs
- Caring, connected communities
- People live the healthiest lives possible
- Good quality, sustainable housing for everyone

The full CPP performance report can be accessed using the following link ([Only web link to full Q4 IMPROVe Community Plan appendix to be added](#)).

Status of priority measures



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

5 most improved measures 	5 least improved measures 
Increase the School Leaver Destination Rate (SLDR) initial positive destination rate	Increase number and percentage of looked after school leavers in a positive destination by local authority
By March 2025, there will be a 60% reduction in new referrals to Social Work Resources escalating to local office allocations	By March 2024, at least 80% of registered users will report Kooth is effective in supporting them with their emotional wellbeing needs
Total number of jobs - Jobs created (grant support)	70% of young people report they are better informed about financial planning
Increase number of energy efficiency and decarbonisation measures	Total number of businesses/social enterprises supported -

installed in council homes in South Lanarkshire	Number and value of grants
Number of people participating in a co-produced Self Directed Support Assessment to exercise choice and control over their care	Maintain the percentage of tenants in council new build properties who are satisfied with their home

Putting learning at the centre – Tackling Child Poverty Parental Employment Programme

Why is this important?

South Lanarkshire Council's Employability Service 'South Lanarkshire Works' provides parental employment support through the No One Left Behind Tackling Child Poverty funding from the Scottish Government, targeting six child poverty priority groups. The service offers a variety of participant-led programmes, activities and interventions accessible to all parents. Each parent is assigned a dedicated key worker and a comprehensive action plan to ensure a holistic and tailored approach to their employment needs. These initiatives help build confidence, self-esteem and belief, empowering parents to work towards a better future. Through early intervention, barrier removal and holistic support, parents are supported to progress into and sustain employment. This, in turn, contributes to improved health and wellbeing, greater financial stability and enhanced future prospects for their families.

How are we doing?

South Lanarkshire Works leads the Local Employability Partnership (LEP), where partners collaborate to identify gaps and reduce duplication of services. In addition, a dedicated sub-group focuses on Tackling Child Poverty opportunities. The Parental Employability Support (PES) Team within South Lanarkshire Works delivers an early intervention programme, Supporting Families, aimed at removing barriers and supporting parents to become work ready. The team works with partners to address a range of needs, including health and wellbeing, financial support to maximise household income, housing concerns, debt resolution, parenting pathways and crisis intervention.

As parents grow in confidence and begin to progress, they can access the Demonstrator programme. This offers paid work placements of up to six months with employers such as NHS, ISS, The State Hospital and various South Lanarkshire Council departments. Dedicated key workers continue to support parents throughout, with the aim of helping them move into sustainable employment.

Mona's Story

"I worked as a journalist in India for seven years, developing strong communication and organisational skills. After relocating to Scotland, I took time to adjust and later paused my career for pregnancy and childcare. When ready to return to work, I wanted a structured, supportive environment, which led me to join the NHS Demonstrator Programme. As someone transitioning into a new professional environment in Scotland, I was looking for an opportunity that would help me build confidence and gain practical experience. The programme provided the right balance of learning, mentorship, and hands-on experience, making it an ideal starting point for rebuilding my career.

One of the main challenges was being separated from my 11-month-old baby when I returned to work. The first few weeks were an adjustment, but after the first month, I settled in well and gained confidence in my role. Being back at work not only helped me regain my professional rhythm but also energised and motivated me. Overcoming this challenge strengthened my confidence, focus, and resilience in the role. Overall, it has provided a solid foundation for my future career progression, where I have now gained a post within the NHS HR department."

Priority Next Steps

The LEP and the PES Team will continue to work with partners and priority families to reduce barriers to employment and create opportunities for improved future prospects. The PES Team will work closely with regional transport providers to develop initiatives that address travel barriers to accessing employment and training. In addition, the Childcare Focus Group will continue to address childcare challenges, including developing opportunities with the Scottish Childminding Association to support parents in becoming self-employed childminders.

Finally, the team will increase its focus on supporting parents to sustain or progress in employment, including access to upskilling opportunities.

Further Information

- [Employability help and support - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

Why is this important?

Improvement is central to how we work together, helping the Community Planning Partnership learn and strengthen support for families. Our shared approach reflects our aspiration that South Lanarkshire's children, young people and families will be safe and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities.

Priority outcomes are:

- Joining up Whole Family Support;
- Improving the health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families, and
- Keeping the Promise to our care-experienced children, young people and families.

This work supports South Lanarkshire's Community Planning Partnership to help children and young people thrive and tackle deprivation, poverty and inequality.

Keeping The Promise

In the final year of the Children's Services Plan (2023-26), a notable example of the collaborative and participative relationship between the Champions Board and the Promise Board has been the development of the Employability Promise. This initiative is establishing pathways to employment for young people within the council and beyond. Additionally, the creation of a corresponding Housing Promise, based on partnership work with Barnardos, is already enhancing tenancy support for young people transitioning from residential establishments.

Over the last three years, partners have made strong progress in helping care experienced students stay on and complete further education, embedding The Promise through an integrated, relational and person-centred approach. This has shown that early, proactive and consistent relationship-based support is key to positive outcomes, alongside clear communication, early identification of need and joined-up working across teams and agencies. Joint work with local schools and partners, including the Building Connections for Future Learners event, has strengthened early engagement, improved information sharing and supported progression pathways.

Strong partnership working between schools, Skills Development Scotland, Social Work, Housing and Student Funding Services has been central to successful school-to-college transitions. Successes are recognised at an end-of-year celebration event, and this approach has contributed to a retention rate of almost 80% and an achievement rate of 69%, reflecting the impact of targeted transition, financial, wellbeing and academic support.

Priority Next Steps

As the partnership transitions to a new statutory three-year Children's Services Plan, the increased understanding of inequalities in South Lanarkshire, informed by our participation in the Collaboration for Health Equity Scotland, will be central to our aspiration to improve life chances for families who experience the poorest outcomes.

We believe the agreed priorities will offer children, young children and families the best start in life, ensuring access to opportunities that support growth and development, creating healthy places, green spaces and quality housing, and making sure they receive the right support at the right time when life is difficult.

To achieve this, we will work across all services and communities to make South Lanarkshire a better place for families where everyone can live well, grow and thrive.

We are committed to listening to the community, learning from experiences and making sure children, young people and families shape service design. In June 2026, families in Burnbank and Hamilton West will be engaged as part of the approach to systems change, to hear about their experiences of accessing services and enabling them to co-design a new offer of support for families with young children. Learning from this test of change will inform what happens next.

Further information

- [Children's Services Partnership](#)

Thriving Businesses and Fair Jobs – Hamilton and East Kilbride Masterplans

Why is this important?

Delivery of Hamilton and East Kilbride Masterplans is a key step in improving the economic outlook of two of South Lanarkshire's Town centres, Hamilton and East Kilbride. Like many town centres across the country, they have faced several challenges in recent times. This includes significant voids caused by changing retailer and shopper preferences, the growth of online shopping and economic conditions. These factors were exacerbated by the COVID crisis which accelerated the popularity of online shopping and fundamentally changed retailer habits. These key shopping centres require to be reinvented to meet current and future requirements.

How are we doing?

To support the delivery of each of the masterplans, Multi-Disciplinary Project Teams have been formed to ensure the successful delivery of these multi-faceted projects. In the case of East Kilbride, the Team has been in place for more than a year and have successfully prepared a demolition strategy for the Centre West structure, a demolition contractor has been appointed, and demolition works are underway. The Project Team are now looking to the future and developing plans for a new Town Hall, public space proposals and residential development sites (to include 25% social housing), the delivery of which will bring new homes to the centre of East Kilbride. Feedback from public consultation events and surveys were used to inform plans. The community continues to be involved via the project communication campaign which includes a permanent display of materials in East Kilbride Central Library, information available at www.ekfuture.co.uk and in person consultation events as the project progresses. Children and young people are also being engaged through art projects.

Hamilton Masterplan Project is supported by two Project Delivery Teams. The first has been looking at public realm and how to strengthen pedestrian links between the various retail areas that form the wider Hamilton Town Centre. Some early design options are already evolving and these are being evaluated. A second team, looking at the wider town centre, has recently been appointed and first actions around the redevelopment of the New Cross Shopping Centre and Baird's Building sites are now being taken forward.

Priority Next Steps

The delivery of the masterplans are long term schemes that will be delivered in a phased basis with support from partners. In terms of East Kilbride, the priority next steps will be the demolition of Centre West which clears the way for future development. The new Town Hall is seen as a vital component of the successful regeneration of East Kilbride and the development of plans for this new public building are also a priority.

The sites at New Cross and Baird's in Hamilton are key to the council's regeneration plans. The Project Team will continue to develop demolition strategies for both buildings with a view to appointing contractors in 2027 or as soon as all preparatory studies and actions have been undertaken.

Further Information

- [Hamilton Town Centre Masterplan](#)
- [East Kilbride Town Centre Masterplan](#)

Thriving Businesses and Fair Jobs - Community Wealth Building

Why is this important?

Community Wealth Building (CWB) seeks to improve the lives of local people by maximising the wealth circulating in a local area and using the influence of anchor institutions to advocate for fair work and opportunities in a mixed and vibrant economy.

A key aspect of CWB is the support for local employment and the targeting of sectors which are recognised as beneficial to the local economy and community. Working in partnership, anchor organisations can offer a wide range of recruitment, job coaching, apprenticeship and mentoring opportunities.

How are we doing?

One of the mechanisms available to South Lanarkshire Council and partners to support the Employment pillar of CWB is Foundation Apprenticeships (FAs). FAs are a national senior phase option, funded by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) and designed to allow pupils in Secondary Years 5-6 to gain valuable, real-world work experience and access to work-based learning while they are at school. Pupils attend college and work placements up to 2 days a week while at school and the qualification achieved is delivered at level 6 (equivalent to a Higher) of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).

South Lanarkshire's FA programme is delivered as a partnership between the council, South Lanarkshire College and New College Lanarkshire with the colleges delivering the learning element and the council managing the overall programme including pupil support, compliance and work placements.

For the 2025/26 academic year, 114 pupils started the programme in August 2025 across 6 subject areas, with 38 returning for the second year of a 2-year programme.

William's story below illustrates the role Foundation Apprenticeships can play in giving young people the confidence and skills to move on from school to a positive destination. It also highlights how targeted apprenticeships can encourage young people to enter work sectors which are experiencing recruitment challenges. Anchor organisations have a key role in supporting such initiatives and councils, in particular, are uniquely placed to facilitate the transition from school to work or college.

William's Story

William was a Carluke High School pupil and attended the Additional Support Needs (ASN) base at St Andrew's and St Bride's High School, East Kilbride. William applied to undertake a FA in Social Services and Healthcare, which involved attending college and a work placement as part of his school curriculum. At first, he was very quiet but over the duration of the course he grew in confidence and mixed well with all the other students. William was supported by the Practice Education Facilitators during his placements at Lanark Lifestyles daycare and Wishaw General Hospital. He was also supported and encouraged by his healthcare lecturer and the Employability Team to successfully complete his FA in Healthcare. Feedback from the college and placement was that William was a good student who integrated himself into college life and work placement very well. William was a willing and very enthusiastic student while on placement and always participated in activities with the service users. On leaving school and completing his FA, William has secured a college place studying HNC Healthcare Practice.

"I enjoyed the insight into college life and getting a feel for what it's like after school while also getting a feel for the job itself through the opportunity of two different placements which for me let me experience a load of new things and see what I like and dislike in the job. Additionally, it was really nice to meet and make new friends that have the same interest in career as you and being able to share experiences."

Priority Next Steps

The Community Wealth Building Commission is reviewing the CWB Strategy in light of the CWB Act which was passed in March 2026. The contribution of new statutory partners and the views of communities will be integral to the new strategy.

Further Information

- [Helping our local economy grow - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

Why is this important?

The Community Wish List has been important in South Lanarkshire because it gives local groups a simple, practical way to ask for the support they need to improve their communities. By connecting community organisations with local businesses and suppliers, it helps turn their ideas into outcomes. Whether that's materials, financial donations or other help. It has supported a wide range of groups, helped build stronger local partnerships and made sure support goes directly to where it's needed most, in a way that is flexible.

How are we doing?

In 2025/26, the Community Wish List has continued to make a real difference across South Lanarkshire, supporting communities in a practical and meaningful way. 135 wishes from local groups were received, with 91 already successfully supported, bringing a total value of £47,864 back into local communities. This support has come in a variety of forms, including financial contributions, donations of goods and materials for community projects and IT equipment to help groups build their capacity and reach more people.

This shows the strength of partnership working across South Lanarkshire, with local businesses and suppliers stepping in to support community-led ideas. From small grassroots projects to larger community initiatives, the Wish List has helped turn ideas into action, making it easier for groups to access the resources they need. It continues to play an important role in strengthening communities, encouraging collaboration and ensuring support reaches where it can have the biggest impact.

Priority Next Steps

A key priority moving forward is the transition from the Community Wish List to the new Community Benefits Hub. This will build on what has already been achieved, while creating more opportunities for groups to connect with a wider range of suppliers and support. The new platform has been designed to make the process simpler, more visible and more effective, and helping to increase the number of requests that are fulfilled. It will also support a more consistent and sustainable approach, giving communities better access to resources and strengthening partnerships across South Lanarkshire.

Further Information

- [Community Wish List](#)
- [Walking group can step into the future with confidence](#)
- [Wish list reaches 100 not out](#)

Good quality, sustainable housing for everyone – Energy and Retrofit Advice Project

Why is this important?

Recognising the impact high energy costs are having on households across South Lanarkshire, the council's Housing and Technical Resources Service commissioned a retrofit advice and advocacy service that aimed to support households to make their homes warmer, more energy efficient and affordable to run.

The innovative Energy and Retrofit One-Stop Shop was launched in October 2025 and is delivered in partnership between the council and social enterprise Changeworks, with funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The service was designed to help residents overcome barriers with free, trusted advice and practical support. South Lanarkshire residents can access advice on energy use, home retrofit and sustainable technologies. For households struggling with energy bills, the service provides expert guidance on cutting costs, managing energy debt and keeping homes affordably warm.

The service also supported those looking to invest in long-term improvements and meet local strategic objectives which are set out in:

- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy
- Local Housing Strategy
- Council Plan
- Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy

How are we doing?

Over the course of the pilot scheme between October 2025 and March 2026, Changeworks engaged with over 56,000 people through the website and leaflet drops and supported 200 households to reduce the burden of the cost of living. 20 households received support to take up energy efficiency measures. During the course of the project, Changeworks attended 24 community events across South Lanarkshire to provide advice and assistance. These events were attended by 334 residents.

An estimated 69,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (CO₂e) reductions were realised as a result of support delivered through the pilot project with all project targets being exceeded.

Priority Next Steps

While the service will no longer be actively promoted to South Lanarkshire residents, residents will still be able to access information online through the Changeworks website and by calling the Changeworks Green Energy Helpline. The links to the relevant webpages will remain on Changeworks' and the council's websites and residents who have already engaged will continue on their retrofit and energy efficiency journey.

In conjunction with Changeworks, the council will review the project to identify what went well and what could be improved in the future. The learning from this One Stop Shop pilot will be shared across the Glasgow City Region (GCR) member authorities to allow the Housing Retrofit Delivery Group (HRDG) to reflect on best practice and learning for developing better local information, advice and support for homeowners. The council will continue to contribute to the work of the GCR HRDG in the delivery of the Glasgow City Region - Home Retrofit Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2028, which was published in February 2025.

Further Information

Links to the Changeworks website:

- [Green Energy Helpline | Changeworks](#)

- [Energy and Retrofit Support Service](#)

Links to South Lanarkshire Council's website:

- [Moving into a new home and setting up your energy - South Lanarkshire Council](#)
- [Support, advice and practical help if you are struggling with energy costs - South Lanarkshire Council](#)
- [Condensation in your home - South Lanarkshire Council](#)
- [Using your air source heat pump - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

People live the healthiest lives possible – Helping People Home Sooner

Why is this important?

Partnership working is driving progress in South Lanarkshire. South Lanarkshire University Health and Social Care Partnership (SLUHSCP) has achieved one of its strongest performances in reducing delayed discharges over the winter period, in particular, helping more people return home or to the right care setting sooner. Local staff and services supported faster recovery for patients and freed capacity for those who were in need of acute care most.

How are we doing?

In December 2025 and February 2026, South Lanarkshire achieved a rate of approximately 32 delayed discharges per 100,000 adults aged 18 years and over, better than the national target of 34.6. Between April and October 2025, improved delayed discharge performance opened up over 2,000 bed days in hospitals, enabling quicker care for other patients.

Reducing delayed discharge is about people, not just numbers. A well-planned discharge helps patients get back to their own home, routines and support networks sooner and that is better for their health and wellbeing. This is making sure that people get the right care, in the right place at the right time.

Supporting staff in hospitals and communities to consistently implement Discharge Without Delay helps reduce patient stay lengths, ensuring timely clinical care for those most in need.

Hospital-based Social Work Teams are working alongside clinical colleagues to plan safe and timely transitions for those patients with particularly complex care needs.

In the community, Home Assessment Teams provide short-term support for people leaving hospital or recovering from illness, helping them regain everyday skills and confidence at home and Care at Home Teams provide ongoing care for people with longer-term needs, enabling them to stay safe, connected and well in their own communities. Together, the teams support families at key moments and help reduce unnecessary time spent in hospital. Recently the Care Inspectorate graded the Hamilton Care at Home Team and the Home Assessment Team as 'very good' providing independent assurance on the quality and consistency of care. Inspectors highlighted the strength of staff teams, effective communication and the dignity, respect and compassion shown to people and their families.

Priority Next Steps

Keeping momentum with improving performance is key for partners as this aid's positive outcomes for patients, families and carers.

Further Information

- [South Lanarkshire University Health and Social Care Partnership](#)

Section 6 – Working with Communities: How you can get involved

Community Participation and Engagement

Why is this important?

Our work as a partnership is intended to improve outcomes for people who live, play and work in South Lanarkshire, particularly in those areas that experience the poorest outcomes. There is a lot of evidence that shows that when people are involved in decisions about services which affect them, outcomes are improved. As a partnership, we want to find ways to speak to communities and encourage them to act themselves and to have an influence on how services are delivered where they live.

The Community Empowerment Act 2015 (www.gov.scot/publications/community-empowerment-scotland-act-summary/) means that legally the partnership has to place communities at the centre of its work, and work together with them to produce locality plans which we call Neighbourhood Plans, in areas which have the poorest outcomes. In South Lanarkshire we are ambitious and work to extend this beyond the legal requirements and listen to and involve communities in a real and meaningful way. The Act also sets out other requirements for public organisations, for example, in relation to Community Asset Transfers and Participation Requests.

During the year, many consultation and engagement activities were carried out by partners with communities in the South Lanarkshire area. The following sections in the report highlight some areas of this work.

Working with Communities: Neighbourhood Planning

Why is this important?

Neighbourhood Planning is a community engagement process in which local residents, local agencies, community groups and organisations work collaboratively to develop local plans for their neighbourhood. The neighbourhoods are identified as some of our most deprived communities in South Lanarkshire and the aim of this process is to reduce inequalities and improve outcomes for residents within these neighbourhoods. The Neighbourhood Planning process works to build a shared understanding of local priorities and work together to make use of resources and enhance community participation.

Neighbourhood Planning Stakeholder Groups and Our Place Our Plan Stakeholder Groups continue to act as a catalyst to empower and build the capacity and participation of local people. An asset-based approach is used in Neighborhood Planning to support building community confidence, enhancing community engagement and aspiration. The delivery of Neighborhood Plans has created opportunities for increased local decision making, partnership working and greater collaboration between local people and those providing services.

Neighbourhood Planning involves communities in real and meaningful ways and has created positive change in these communities. For more information on the progress that has been made in these areas please see the communities' Annual Reports:

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/info/26/community_matters

How are we doing?

South Lanarkshire Council's Community Engagement Team are working with ten communities to progress Neighbourhood Planning.

Place Based Participatory Budgeting 2025-2026

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a democratic process in which local people decide directly how to spend part of a public budget. PB enables the active participation of communities in local financial decision making, enabling residents to have a direct say in how a budget can be used to address locally identified priorities. PB has become central to the advancement of three policy agendas in Scotland: Public Service Reform, Community Empowerment and Social Justice. In South Lanarkshire, Place Based PB is aligned to the development and delivery of Neighbourhood Plans. Each plan has a set of priority themes, and any community led PB proposals are required to meet at least one of these priorities. The allocation of PB funds is decided through a public vote, promoting community empowerment through participatory democracy.

In August 2025, PB took place in ten Neighbourhood Planning areas across South Lanarkshire. A total of £160,000 was invested in community led projects, £40,000 from South Lanarkshire Council and a further contribution of £120,000 from the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund.

The outcome of 2025/26 PB is listed in the table below:

Area	PB Votes Cast	Number of Projects	Brief Description of Funded Activity
Blantyre	878	10 received, 7 fully funded, 1 part funded	• Sustainable Living Example Hub delivering food programmes, waste reduction and cooking workshops. • Monthly cafe sessions where carers of people aged over 50 and living with lifelong conditions such as Dementia, Parkinson's and Strokes come together and connect, share experiences and be supported.

			• Warm welcome providing a free hot meal and company once per week. Option of a free bag of groceries available. • Safe, non-judgemental place for children with Additional Support Needs and complex needs and their families to socialise with their peers and expand their interactions. • Friday night groups to engage young people in positive activities focusing on physical and mental wellbeing. • Christmas boxes for local families, supplying every primary school and nursery child with a selection box • Providing a free community event for up to 500 kids to enjoy. Encouraging our community to come together to enjoy the beautiful nature of their doorstep. • Redevelopment of the local community hall via Community Asset Transfer.
Hamilton South	1,007	7 received, 7 fully funded 1 project did not go ahead	• Scouts Group equipment, tents, and gear to provide the opportunity to explore the outdoors, grow, and thrive together. • Upgrades to community hall to support long term use. • Subsidised Irish Dancing classes to help improve physical and mental health. • Creation of a space at Eddlewood café with outdoor seating, colourful planters, and a public defibrillator. • Community day with lots of activity for all of the community to enjoy such as inflatables, food, drink and stalls. • Coffee morning for tenants and residents in Burnblea to support partner engagement and the suitability of the group.
Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank	1,209	13 received, 12 fully funded, 1 part funded 1 project did not go ahead	• Resources for children's holiday pop-up camps. • Craft group to improve mental health and isolation. • Free Street Dance Workshops for children and young people. • To create a community beekeeping space in the community. • Drop in Digital Mental Health Hub. • Fortnightly workshops for people with dementia and their families/carers to come together. • Additional Support Needs and complex needs individuals and their families to socialise with their peers and expand their interactions. • Winter Warmer to provide free energy saving items and advice to residents to stay warm and reduce bills. • New benches and shared herb garden in Burnbank playpark. • Monthly dementia friendly events bringing generations together. • Free holistic health sessions for women in Hillhouse, Udston, and

			Burnbank • Interactive, environmental educational courses on honeybees and other pollinators, in the form of a 6-week programme once the bees are ready.
Strutherhill and Birkenshaw	1,785	13 received, 7 fully funded, 1 part funded	• After-school activities for primary 1 to primary 7 children in two separate weekly sessions providing food, fun and friendship. • Launch an inspiring podcast and training programme to spotlight local heroes and community groups, energising young people through 1st Larkhall Girls' Brigade and Duke of Edinburgh Award to share uplifting community stories. • Resources and providing new experiences for all in the community. • Community project featuring drama workshops, photography courses and Halloween fun days. • Purchase of MUGA solar lights. • Community Skip Initiative to reduce waste, promote recycling and encourage collective action. • Pensioners Christmas celebration to reduce isolation and loneliness. • Safe, free, enjoyable activity for local young people. Two sessions (age 5–9 / 10–14), promoting wellbeing and offering a safe place to make friends and learn new skills.
Whitehill	386	6 received, 4 fully funded, 2 part funded	• Resources for children's holiday pop-up camps. • Health and Wellbeing Judo Hub for whole community's benefit. • To distribute vouchers and gifts to families and individuals during the Christmas season. This aims to provide essential support and bring joy to those facing hardship within the community. • Weekly two-hour group where kids can be creative and expressive with singing, dancing, acting and artistic in a safe space for all children. • Weekly community corner to tackle isolation and loneliness in the community. • Funding for hall lets to put on more community events for community members to access.
Burnhill	99	4 received, 4 fully funded	• Running costs and promotion of community football team, updating equipment and hosting community event. • Reducing fly tipping and supporting local people to dispose of their additional waste appropriately by hosting skips. • Christmas event for local families promoting community connection, wellbeing and a sense of belonging for all. • Cooking project, health and safety training, encouraging to cook on a budget, follow recipes and introducing new foods.

Cambuslang East	1,091	8 received, 6 fully funded, 1 part funded	• Total renovation of and furnishing of the old library to make it pleasant and accessible hub for all in the community. • Delivery of free pop-up play sessions which include a variety of sports, games, arts and crafts for local families in Halfway Park. • Community events including Gala Fun Day, Halloween Pumpkin Hunt event, Fireworks Spectacular Fun Fair, Christmas Lights Switch-on in Halfway and visit to schools throughout Cambuslang from Santa. • Open space for the Cambuslang East community to connect and shape activities and opportunities they would like to see in their local community. • Community bingo evenings which are accessible to the local community. • Installation of benches in Halfway Park for local people. • Upgrades to changing facilities/locker room in local bowling club for young bowlers and football teams to use.
Fernhill	591	7 received, 7 fully funded	• Weekly Sunday football provision for local children to access for the full year. • Weekly adult 9s football to encourage adults to get engaged in football and fitness. • Support for running costs for local bowling club. • Halloween movie night and family panto for local families to enjoy in the community centre. • Christmas event in the local community for all to access. • Christmas lunch and entertainment for seniors. • Women of Fernhill, will help create a verbatim film and large sculpture/exhibition for 'International 16 Days against Violence'.
Springhall and Whitlawburn	3,186	11 received, 7 fully funded, 1 part funded	• Purchase of chest freezer and cool boxes to enable the foodbank to join the free Fareshare Go scheme. • Movies and memories project dedicated to celebrating local heritage and shared experience to preserve cultural memory. • Women's film and music community celebration and distribution of food, toiletries and cleaning materials. • Purchase of items for community group to strengthen friendships and inclusion in the community. • Free community events, open to everyone to purchase shared community resources. Community events over seasonal themes. • Two seasonal community events to celebrate Christmas and Valentines Day, bringing over 50's and their families together. • Facilitation of a community panto event, allowing for quality family

			time and to build community connections. • Partial award for funding for after school group in a local community space.
East Kilbride South	743	4 received, 2 fully funded, 1 part funded 1 project did not go ahead	• To host a men's mental health group led by a qualified facilitator. • Activity and support for children with additional support needs in the community.

Little Brains – East Kilbride South

"We are incredibly grateful to have received our most recent Participatory Budgeting award. This funding has allowed us to create a sensory regulation space that is genuinely adaptable for all ages and support needs, offering both young people and adults a calm, dignified way to decompress when the world feels too much.

Spaces like this are not a 'nice extra' for our community. For many of the families and individuals who come through our doors, access to a safe, regulated environment is essential for emotional wellbeing, participation and feeling respected rather than managed. Having a space that supports regulation means people can stay longer, engage more fully and leave feeling safer and more settled.

As an organisation, being self-sustainable is incredibly important to us. This means we work with very limited funding and protect our core income carefully so it can always cover regular, essential expenses. Awards like this make a huge difference because they allow us to create things that are truly special for our families without taking away from the funds that keep our doors open week to week.

This support hasn't just helped us improve a room. It has helped us improve experiences, dignity and emotional safety for the people who need it most, and for that we are deeply thankful."

How can you get involved?

If you have an interest in any of the communities that already have a Neighbourhood Plan, you can get involved by supporting delivery of the plan. If you would like more information or would like to get involved in Neighbourhood Planning in your community, please contact the Community Engagement Team. You can call us on 0303 123 1017 or email us at communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk.

Further information

- [South Lanarkshire Community Plan 2022-2032](#)
- [Neighbourhood Plans - Annual Progress Reports](#)
- [South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership](#)
- [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#)
- [National Standards for Community Engagement](#)

Further PB information (national context):

- [PB Scotland - Participatory Budgeting in Scotland](#)
- [The PB Charter for Scotland - PB Scotland](#)

Working with Communities: Volunteering

Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan)

Why is this important?

Volunteering plays a vital role in strengthening communities across South Lanarkshire. It helps reduce isolation, improves wellbeing, builds confidence and skills, and creates stronger connections between local people, services and community organisations. Through volunteering, residents are able to contribute to the issues that matter most to them while gaining valuable experience, social connections and opportunities for personal development.

The Supported Volunteering Programme is particularly important in ensuring volunteering opportunities are accessible and inclusive. The programme supports individuals who may face barriers to participation, including people with disabilities, long-term health conditions, mental health challenges, unemployment or social isolation. By providing tailored support, mentoring and flexible opportunities, the programme helps people build confidence, develop employability skills and become active members of their communities.

“Volunteering gave me confidence again. I met new people, learned new skills and now feel part of my community.” – **Supported Volunteer**

“Our volunteers are at the heart of everything we do. They bring energy, ideas and local knowledge that make a real difference.” – **Community Group Representative**

How are we doing?

South Lanarkshire continues to see strong community involvement through volunteering and partnership working with local organisations, Third Sector groups and Neighbourhood Planning groups. Volunteers continue to make a positive contribution to local priorities and community-led activity. The Supported Volunteering Programme has enabled more people to access volunteering opportunities that meet their individual needs and circumstances. Participants have been supported to gain practical experience, improve social connections and, in some cases, move into further training, employment or sustained volunteering roles.

Partnership working between Community Partnerships, local organisations and volunteers has strengthened the support available within communities and helped increase participation in local initiatives. The following are some of the highlights of 2025-26:

- **950** new volunteers registered.
- **405** individuals supported to address barriers to volunteering.
- **1,729** volunteering placements facilitated.
- **259** new Saltire volunteer registrations.
- **5,018** Saltire hours logged.
- **9** Saltire Group Administrators approved.
- **242** Saltire Certificates issued.

How can you get involved?

There are many ways for local people and communities to get involved in volunteering activity across South Lanarkshire. Community members can support local initiatives, share their skills and experiences, and help shape activities that respond to local needs.

Opportunities are available through community groups, Neighbourhood Planning groups, local events, environmental projects, youth activities and Third Sector Organisations.

Further Information

- [Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire \(VASLan\)](#)

Working with Communities: Volunteering

Community Partnerships

Why is this important?

Community Partnerships give local people a forum to participate in the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board to highlight what is most important to them and their communities. By enabling residents to participate in community-led decision-making and bolster local democracy, the South Lanarkshire CPP seeks to ensure that communities are supported to actively participate in the community planning process.

Community Partnerships focus on local priorities within their community. All four localities within Cambuslang and Rutherglen, Clydesdale, East Kilbride and Strathaven, and Hamilton have established Community Partnership organisations and volunteer engagement is growing.

How are we doing?

The Community Partnerships are run by volunteers who are dedicated to expanding their membership in an inclusive way. Every eight weeks, the Community Partnerships get together to talk about area-wide and local issues. Members also talk about the local challenges they experience and offer solutions to these challenges that could have an influence on the daily lives of the people in their communities. Officers from the various partners within the CPP attend meetings to address these challenges. Every Community Partnership has a space on the CPP Leadership Board's agenda, and they provide quarterly updates that emphasise local issues, solutions and successes.

The Cambuslang and Rutherglen and Clydesdale Community Partnerships completed a self-evaluation on the role and requirements as a member of the Community Partnerships. This was facilitated by the Improvement Service, and findings highlighted the need for training and assistance to continue for the volunteers to engage effectively in meetings and with the Leadership Board.

Priority Next Steps

Training opportunities will be developed in line with the members requirements as the Community Partnerships move forward. The Community Partnerships will continue to review their membership to ensure that it is inclusive and representative of their wider community and there will be continued engagement with officers from the various CPP partners to assist in resolving local issues. Work will continue to identify volunteers to represent their partnership at the CPP Leadership Board.

How can you get involved?

Community Partnerships create a space for local residents to have a greater say and influence in decisions that affect them. Community Partnership members include representatives from Neighbourhood Planning, Community Councils and other local stakeholders such as Community Led Planning Groups. For more information or to discuss how you or your group can become involved, please get in touch with communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or call 0303 123 1017.

“Joining the CPP Hamilton Locality Group meetings has given the opportunity for our local concerns and challenges to be raised and addressed at a higher level. There is a desire that this process will improve how change at a local level, can be influenced, and we fully support this in Larkhall.” -

Hamilton Community Partnership Member

Further Information

- [South Lanarkshire Community Partnerships](#)
- [Cambuslang and Rutherglen Community Partnership](#)
- [Clydesdale Community Partnership](#)
- [East Kilbride and Strathaven Community Partnership](#)
- [Hamilton Community Partnership](#)

Working with Communities: Volunteering

Neighbourhood Planning

Why is this important?

Local community involvement is a key part of successful Neighbourhood Planning. Engagement from residents and volunteers helps shape the direction of the Neighbourhood Plans and ensures local priorities are identified and understood. Bringing community members and stakeholders together through regular meetings supports collaboration and helps identify practical solutions to local priorities.

How are we doing?

Participation is continually encouraged across all Neighbourhood Planning areas. Information is shared through the council's Community Engagement Team's communities email distribution list, including invitations to stakeholder meetings and updates on funding opportunities. The Community Engagement Team aim to maintain regular communication across the ten Neighbourhood Planning neighbourhoods to build capacity and provide support where possible. The team also support wider engagement by connecting communities to opportunities to take part in local democracy and decision-making, including consultations and surveys led by South Lanarkshire Council and Community Planning Partners. This helps to ensure that community voices continue to be heard and represented across South Lanarkshire.

Priority Next Steps

The Community Engagement Team will continue to support communities to tackle their local priorities by bringing together stakeholders to collaborate on how best to work together for the local neighbourhood with the residents and volunteers as the local experts. They will explore a range of ways to enhance engagement, including more informal community conversations to reach those who may face barriers to attending meetings. The team will also work with local groups to review how community meetings are presented to ensure they are welcoming and inclusive. Celebrating local community activity from local groups will be considered further, acknowledging how successful and important these are within their communities and how much they are valued as partners in the delivery of the Neighbourhood Planning priorities. In addition, developing our use of social media and other digital methods is planned to reach a wider audience and encourage greater participation across our neighbourhoods.

Further Information

- [Community Matters - Neighbourhood Planning](#)

Working with Communities: Community Asset Transfer

Why is this important?

Local councils, the Scottish Government and other public authorities, own or rent lots of land and buildings like schools, hospitals, parks and forests. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 gives community organisations a right to ask to take over control of land or a building. If the community organisation's plan is better for people, they will be allowed to buy, rent or have the use of it. This is called Community Asset Transfer (CAT). The Act sets out specific eligibility criteria that needs to be met by community organisations. The ownership or control of community assets is a powerful tool for communities to drive change and achieve their goals.

The CAT process allows statutory partners including the council to work closely with their communities to develop local services and provision that are responsive to the needs of residents. By capitalising on the local knowledge and expertise of those who live in these communities we can assist in the flexible usage of public sector assets and work together to make the greatest impact possible in the communities in which we serve.

How are we doing?

During 2025/26, we continued to support groups and organisations who had taken ownership of properties which had been closed by South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture over the last two years due to budgetary pressures. The majority of these properties continue to operate and grow offering services by local residents for local residents.

In addition, South Lanarkshire Council has received 7 new Community Asset Transfer applications, 6 lease applications and 1 application for purchase, 4 of these have already been granted with the remaining 3 being in progress.

How can you get involved?

CAT is open to any community-controlled body which has the relevant constitution or governance documentation and is open to all members of the community they serve. Any group applying for a CAT must show they have organisational strength to take on and manage an asset, and that they are supported by the community which they serve. The CAT process is an exciting opportunity which can benefit any community but involves a lot of time and effort. In recognition of this, the CAT Officer can provide tailored support to each organisation. This support can be augmented by assistance from other organisations, such as Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan), South Lanarkshire Council's Community and Enterprise Resources, Just Enterprise, Community Ownership Support Services and the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO).

SMILE Children's Charity – Canderavon House, Stonehouse

"The Community Asset Transfer process has provided a valuable opportunity for SMILE Children's Charity to work in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council to bring forward a much-needed service for local families. The support and engagement from officers has helped turn a community-led vision into a realistic and deliverable project that will make a lasting difference."

Further information

- [Community Asset Transfer](#)
- [Community Asset Transfer Register - Scotland - National Data Library](#)

Working with Communities: 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.

In 2025-26, no participation requests were received by Community Planning Partners.

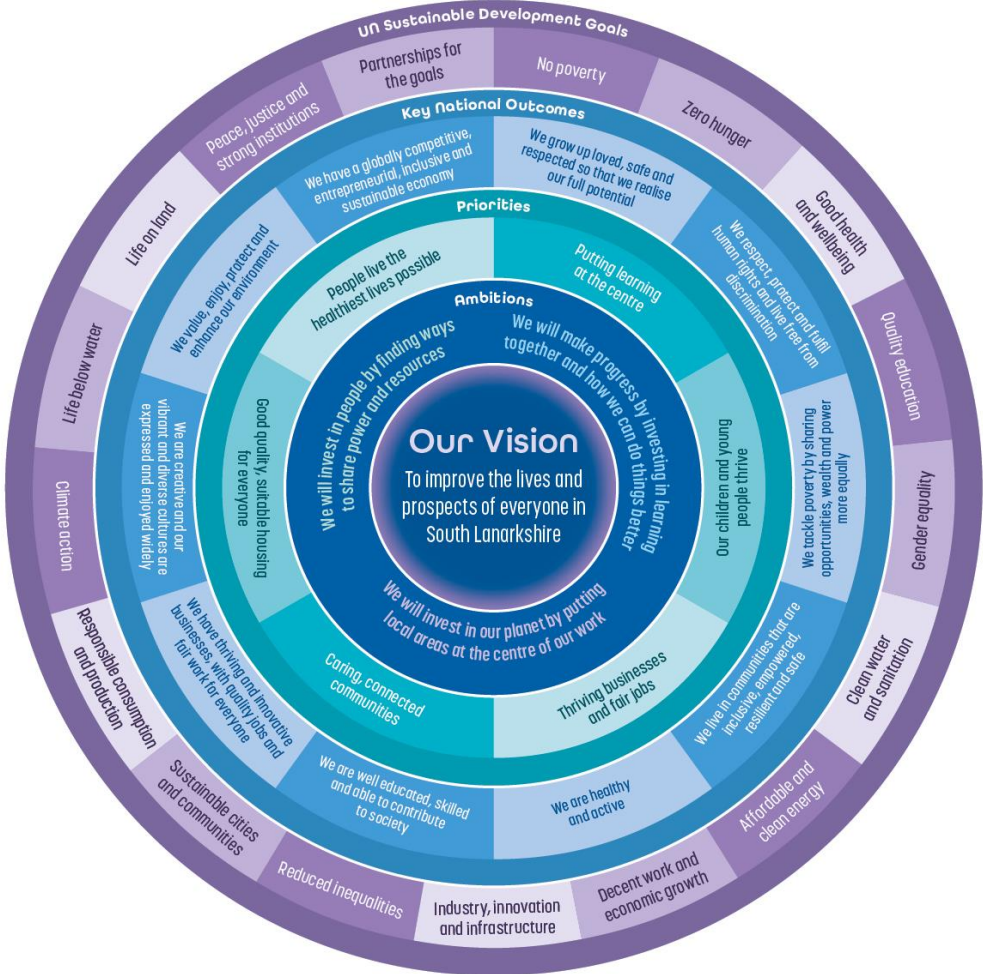
To make a participation request, your group must meet some requirements including having a membership open to your community and working for community benefit. Your first step should be getting in touch with the public body you would like to work with for assistance in getting started.

This 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](#)

Links to the National Performance Framework
and UN Sustainable Development Goals



CPP Structure Diagram



Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	State of the Environment Report 2025
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources), South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Jennifer Murphy, Planning Officer (SEA), South Lanarkshire Council Email: jennifer.murphy@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	◆ Inform the Partnership Board of the completion of the South Lanarkshire State of the Environment Report 2025; and ◆ Report on the key findings from the report.
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:- (1) That the content of the report is noted; and (2) That the findings from the State of the Environment report be disseminated across partners for use in the preparation of plans, policies, programmes and strategies and their Strategic Environmental Assessment and as an information resource.
Risks/Challenges:	There are no risks or challenges associated with this report.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	◆ All ambitions/principles
Summary of Report:	The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act, 2005 requires all public bodies, including the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership, to undertake Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) of all their plans, policies, programmes and strategies (plans). An integral part of the SEA process is the identification and monitoring of a wide range of environmental issues. The South Lanarkshire State of the Environment Report is the body of data used by South Lanarkshire Council to monitor and report activity against key environmental indicators. It is the recognised source for the core data which allows SEAs on our plans to be undertaken. The report provides an effective means of tracking changes in the local environment and helps to promote awareness of local environmental issues and priorities.

	The findings from the Report are summarised in Appendix 1. Changes from the 2023 report are highlighted in Appendix 2.
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Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources), South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	State of the Environment Report 2025
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ inform the Partnership Board of the completion of the South Lanarkshire State of the Environment Report 2025; and
- ◆ report on the key findings from the report.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the content of the report is noted; and
- (2) that the findings from the State of the Environment Report 2025 be disseminated across partners for use in the preparation of plans, policies, programmes and strategies and their Strategic Environmental Assessment and as an information resource.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act, 2005 requires all public bodies, including the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership, to undertake Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) of all their plans, policies, programmes and strategies (plans).
- 3.2. An integral part of the SEA process is the identification and monitoring of a wide range of environmental issues. The South Lanarkshire State of the Environment Report is the body of data used by South Lanarkshire Council to monitor and report activity against key environmental indicators. It is the recognised source for the core data which allows SEAs on our plans to be undertaken.
- 3.3. With the declarations of ecological and climate emergencies, the State of the Environment Report will be a vital resource in outlining South Lanarkshire's progress in reducing its contribution to global warming and associated impacts from climate change on communities, the natural environment and inclusive growth and for protecting and enhancing the area's biodiversity assets.
- 3.4. Alongside these crises, the cost-of-living crisis, the housing emergency and recovery from the global Covid-19 pandemic have had significant impacts on people and communities in South Lanarkshire, as elsewhere. The State of the Environment Report provides an invaluable insight to these environmental impacts.

- 3.5. The first comprehensive State of the Environment Report was prepared in 2009 and has been reviewed biennially to support SEAs and to fulfil the council's monitoring obligations. The report provides an effective means of tracking changes in the local environment. This ensures that we not only have a clear understanding of the current condition of the local environment but also has the accurate environmental baseline data needed to allow statutory SEA and monitoring work to be undertaken. The report also helps to promote awareness of local environmental issues and priorities.
- 3.6. The report itself provides and analyses data across a suite of SEA environmental issues and reports the findings in ten chapters. These chapters are:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ◆ population and human health | ◆ biodiversity, fauna and flora |
| ◆ historic and cultural heritage | ◆ material assets and landscape |
| ◆ waste | ◆ soil |
| ◆ air, noise and light | ◆ water |
| ◆ climate change | ◆ transport |
- 3.7. The trends identified across these issues allow the council and our partners to assess the overall condition of South Lanarkshire's environment. The report captures these as key indicators to consistently identify where there is an opportunity to improve environmental issues and the progress being made towards a more sustainable South Lanarkshire.
- 3.8. Data included within this report has been used to inform the data pack for Marmot Principle 8 – Pursue Environmental Sustainability and Health Equity Together.

4. Development of the Report

- 4.1. The 2025 edition of the State of the Environment Report has been prepared by the council's Planning Officer (SEA) within Community and Enterprise Resources with data and other contributions sourced from across the council, partners, government bodies and external agencies. Development of the report has been overseen by the council's Corporate SEA Working Group.
- 4.2. A healthy environment provides us with natural resources like clean air, clean water, fertile soils, food, energy, medicine and building materials. Our long term economic and social wellbeing ultimately depends on the environment and our natural resources. Sustainable development is about achieving economic and social development in a way that also enables us to protect and enhance our environment both now and for the future.
- 4.3. Sustainable development is a set of fundamental values by which we make decisions and how we chose to live. These values are outlined in the 17 Global [Sustainable Development Goals](#) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Within the 2025 edition of the State of the Environment Report, the relevant Sustainable Development Goal(s) are assigned to each chapter. This will support understanding of how South Lanarkshire can contribute to achieving the Goals at both a national and global level.

5. Key Findings

- 5.1. The 47 indicators in the 2025 report have each been assigned a status of 'good', 'fair' or 'poor', and traffic lighted as green, amber and red, respectively. Each of these indicators also has a directional trend of either 'improving', 'no change' or 'deteriorating'. The basis for the status identified within the tables, and accorded to each indicator along with its trend, is demonstrated by the information contained within

the explanation column included as part of Appendix 1. The status of each indicator is based on an opinion agreed by the Corporate SEA Working Group.

- 5.2. The findings from the report are illustrated in the following table and summarised in Appendix 1.

Status/Trend	Improving	Unchanged	Deteriorating	Total	
Good	11	7	0	18	38.3%
Fair	7	15	0	22	46.8%
Poor	4	3	0	7	14.9%
Total	22	25	0	47	100%

- 5.3. The report highlighted that 18 (38.3%) of the 47 key indicators had 'good' status and that 11 of these have a trend that is improving. There has been a significant improvement in local air quality, with no areas currently in excess of national limits set to protect human health and all Air Quality Management Areas have now been revoked. There has been a continuous reduction in our greenhouse gas emissions and an increase in our renewable energy capacity. Household waste generated and collected is the lowest per household in two decades and the number of complaints received about airborne nuisance have also significantly fallen. In terms of road safety, the council and its partners continue to make a positive contribution towards national casualty targets. The number of child fatalities due to road traffic collisions has remained at zero for the past six years.
- 5.4. Seven of the indicators with a 'good status' had an 'unchanged' trend from the previous edition. These include the number of various historic and cultural assets in South Lanarkshire and the number of people who have not experienced traffic congestion has remained constant over recent years. Similar to the 2023 report, none of the indicators with a 'good' status show a deteriorating trend.
- 5.5. There are 22 (46.8%) indicators with a 'fair' status, seven of which have an improving trend. These cover a wide range of environmental issues and indicators, including improvements to our woodlands, greenspace and recreational land. Despite the housing emergency, we continue to deliver new homes across all tenures. The number of people using public transport has increased since the last report, supported by improved park and ride facilities and concessionary bus passes. However, patronage has yet to return to pre-pandemic levels.
- 5.6. The report identifies 15 indicators with a 'fair' status which have an 'unchanged' trend. This is because some environmental issues have stabilised or where there are limitations on available data. None of the indicators with a 'fair' status have a 'deteriorating' trend.
- 5.7. Seven (14.9%) of the indicators, based on an assessment of the information contained in the State of the Environment Report, are judged to be of 'poor' status. Of these, four are 'improving'. These include an increase in fuel consumption and kilometres travelled for both personal and freight vehicles, although personal vehicles have yet to reach pre-pandemic levels. Active travel uptake remains low but higher than pre-pandemic levels. Active travel amongst school pupils remains constant and the uptake of cycling continues to improve due to initiatives in schools such as Bikeability. Premature deaths in South Lanarkshire remain significant across a range of parameters, particularly cancer and coronary heart disease. There has been a reduction in the number of deaths from alcohol, drugs and suicide in recent years. Severe weather events continue to impact and have resulted in flood incidents across

the area. The council and its partners approach to flood management continues to develop and improve.

- 5.8. Three indicators with a poor status have a trend which is 'unchanged'. These include tree canopy cover and peatland which remain poor. Work to improve these indicators is ongoing but progress is not likely to be evident in the short to medium term. The level of deprivation in South Lanarkshire remains high, although available data suggests that these levels have remained broadly stable over time.
- 5.9. There are no indicators with a 'poor' status and a 'deteriorating' trend.
- 5.10. Ten indicators have seen a change in either status or trend since the 2023 edition of the State of the Environment Report. These are set out in Appendix 2. There is an improving trend in five of these indicators, particularly for local air quality which also saw a change in status from fair to good. Five of the indicators have shown a stabilisation since the 2023 report.
- 5.11. The 2025 edition of the South Lanarkshire [State of the Environment Report](#) is available on the council's website.

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. The State of the Environment Report is a valuable resource for the council and partners in strategic planning. It provides the environmental baseline used in the Strategic Environmental Assessment of all council led plans, policies, programmes and strategies. Strategic Environmental Assessment helps to safeguard South Lanarkshire's natural and built environment and raises awareness of climate change impacts and directs climate action.

9. Risk and Other Implications

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

10. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

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

Kevin Carr

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

19 August 2026

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Jennifer Murphy, Planning Officer (SEA), South Lanarkshire Council
Email: jennifer.murphy@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Key findings from State of the Environment Report 2025

Current status: Good

Environmental Issue	Indicator	Status and Trend	Explanation
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Local Nature Reserves	↑	The council continues to monitor and improve the LNRs within South Lanarkshire for people and nature. This has been supported by accessing national funding.
Material assets and landscape	Vacant and derelict land	↑	The remediation and redevelopment of vacant and derelict land continues to be a priority for the council. The number and area of vacant and derelict land sites continue to decrease through re-development and greening.
Waste	Household waste management	↑	Despite a steady increase in the number of households, the amount of household waste generated and collected by the council is the lowest per household in two decades. Household recycling and composting rates continue to improve but have yet to return to pre-pandemic levels. The tonnage of waste sent to landfill has significantly decreased compared to the baseline figures.
Waste	Environmental waste	↑	Street cleanliness in the area continues to improve and satisfaction levels remain above the Scottish average. The occurrences of fly tipping and the number of reported abandoned cars have increased in recent years.
Air, noise and light	Local air quality	↑	Air quality across South Lanarkshire is generally good and improving with no areas in excess of national limits set to protect human health. As of November 2025, all three Air Quality Management Areas in South Lanarkshire have been revoked.
Air, noise and light	Airborne nuisance	↑	The number of airborne nuisance complaints received has decreased significantly over recent years and is now at the lowest level since this data was collected. Odour and garden bonfires are the main nuisances reported to the council.
Water	Water pollution	↑	There has been continuous improvement in the treatment of sewage and effluent discharges, however, point source pollution remains a threat to the quality of the water environment. This is closely monitored by SEPA.
Climate change	Greenhouse gas emissions	↑	Carbon emissions continue to decrease in South Lanarkshire across all sectors year on year. Emissions per capita remain below the Scottish average.
Climate change	Renewable capacity	↑	South Lanarkshire's renewable energy capacity continues to increase year on year mainly due to wind energy developments. There has been a twelvefold increase since 2011. There is growing interest in other renewable technologies within the area. South Lanarkshire is an energy exporter.
Climate change	Environmental awareness	↑	The council is implementing its Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy. Initiatives such as the Youth Forum, Beat the Street and Eco-schools continue to help raise environmental awareness in schools.
Transport	Road safety	↑	The council is making a positive contribution towards the Scottish Government's 2030 casualty reduction targets. The number of child fatalities as a result of road traffic collisions has remained at zero for the past six years.
Historic and cultural heritage	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	↔	The number of Gardens and Designed Landscapes areas in South Lanarkshire remains unchanged since 2016.

Environmental Issue	Indicator	Status and Trend	Explanation		
Historic and cultural heritage	Historical heritage	↔	The area has a wealth of historic and tourist attractions, including the New Lanark World Heritage Site. These continue to attract large numbers of visitors to South Lanarkshire.		
Material assets and landscape	Built facilities	↔	There are a wide range of education, academia, sport, leisure and cultural facilities in South Lanarkshire. A number of halls and community centres across the area have been subject to Community Asset Transfer.		
Material assets and landscape	Landscape	↔	The importance of quality landscapes in the area continues to be recognised and protected through the local planning process.		
Soils	Soil quality and capacity	↔	Current data indicates good soil quality in a Scottish or regional context. At present there is limited data on soil quality specifically within South Lanarkshire.		
Transport	Traffic growth	↔	Road traffic growth is increasing since the last Report but has yet to return to pre-pandemic levels.		
Transport	Congestion	↔	The number of residents who did not experience congestion in the area has remained consistent over recent years		
↑	Improving	↔	No change	↓	Deteriorating

Current status: Fair

Environmental issue	Indicator	Status and trend	Explanation
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Native woodland	↑	Although total native woodland cover is increasing, further work is required to improve connectivity of habitats, expanding native broadleaf woodland cover.
Historic and cultural heritage	Archaeological sites	↑	The number of archaeological sites recorded across the area continues to increase year on year, as does the number of applications approved with archaeological conditions.
Material assets and landscape	Recreational land	↑	Investment in greenspace will be informed by the Open Space Strategy that is under preparation. The number of community allotments and plot holders has increased considerably from previous years.
Material assets and landscape	Housing	↑	Good progress is being made in delivering the Local Housing Strategy with 77% of indicators on track or fully delivered by December 2025. The housing stock across tenures has increased to 159,645 homes since the last Report.
Air, noise and light	Noise	↑	The number of noise complaints, particularly residential noise complaints, received by the council has decreased since the last report. However, noise complaints about commercial premises have increased.
Climate change	Energy consumption	↑	Gas and electricity consumption has significantly decreased compared to the baseline. This is notable for both South Lanarkshire and Scotland overall from 2021 related to the cost-of-living crisis and the elevated retail gas and electricity prices.
Transport	Public transport	↑	The number of park and ride facilities increased to help facilitate an uptake in public transport. Although the numbers of train and bus passengers have increased since the last report, these have not yet fully recovered from the impacts of Covid-19. A large number of residents are using concessionary bus passes, particularly secondary school pupils.
Population and human health	Demographic	↔	The area's population is growing at a slower rate than the Scottish average, with a proportionally higher growth rate of people aged over 65 years. The population of people aged less than 16 years is declining.
Population and human health	Morbidity	↔	The morbidity status and trend remain unchanged, reflecting stable levels of long-term conditions and multimorbidity across recent years.
Population and human health	Economy	↔	While the Scottish and UK economies continue to experience a period of uncertainty and fragile confidence, driven by rising costs and recent government policy changes, the South Lanarkshire economy is demonstrating notable resilience. Demand for industrial property currently exceeds available supply, and there is growing demand for support from prospective and current entrepreneurs seeking to start or grow their businesses.
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Designated areas	↔	More sites have been surveyed since the previous report as part of NatureScot's drive to improve nature networks and meet biodiversity commitments for 2030. Although there has been some isolated improvement, in general the condition of the designated features remains similar to previous reports.
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Ancient woodland	↔	There is no change in the area of ancient semi-natural woodland cover. There is limited data on the overall condition of this habitat.

Environmental issue	Indicator	Status and trend	Explanation		
Historic and cultural heritage	Built heritage	↔	There has been minimal change in the number of designated built heritage features in South Lanarkshire. The number of Conservation Areas remain constant.		
Material assets and landscape	Countryside and outdoor access	↔	There is an extensive path network across South Lanarkshire. Investment to maintain and improve the condition and standards of paths and other access infrastructure is kept under review.		
Material assets and landscape	Minerals	↔	Minerals remain an economically important resource across South Lanarkshire. Mineral recycling is being further developed.		
Soils	Contaminated land	↔	Approximately 82% of contaminated land sites have been investigated and remediated since 2000 under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.		
Air, noise and light	Point source emissions	↔	The number of permits issued for industrial activities in South Lanarkshire has remained relatively consistent over recent years.		
Air, noise and light	Light	↔	Complaints about artificial light pollution have remained relatively consistent over recent years.		
Water	Water quality	↔	The overall status of rivers under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) has remained consistent over recent years.		
Water	River flow	↔	The annual water flow rates in the rivers across the region have remained similar to previous years with the exception of 2020. The high level is closely linked to the increase in annual precipitation rates, associated with severe weather events.		
Water	Groundwater and wetlands	↔	The number of groundwater bodies with a good status in South Lanarkshire has remained the same since the previous Report. The data available on ponds and wetlands remains limited.		
Transport	Road network condition	↔	The condition of the road network has slightly regressed in recent years although it remains better than the Scottish average. Further deterioration in the road network is expected in the short term. However, it is anticipated that this will stabilise in the coming years due to a modest increase in capital funding.		
Population and human health	Economy	↔	South Lanarkshire's economy is experiencing uncertainty, with fragile confidence and weakening growth driven by rising costs, subdued local demand, and wider structural pressures. Additional strain from recent policy changes, such as higher labour costs, increased taxes, and more complex employment regulations, is further intensifying financial and planning uncertainty for businesses.		
↑	Improving	↔	No change	↓	Deteriorating

Current status: Poor

Current status: 1.00					
Environmental issue	Indicator	Status and trend	Explanation		
Population and human health	Mortality	↑	Premature deaths in South Lanarkshire remain significant across a range of parameters, particularly cancer and coronary heart disease. There has been a reduction in the number of alcohol specific deaths, drugs related deaths and deaths related to probable suicide over recent years.		
Water	Flooding	↑	Severe weather events continue to impact and have resulted in flood incidents across the council area. The council's approach to flood management continues to develop and improve as available resources permit.		
Climate change	Transport emissions	↑	Fuel consumption and kilometres travelled for both personal and freight vehicles have increased since the pandemic, but personal vehicles have yet to reach pre-pandemic levels. This may be linked to the numbers of people who continue to work from home. Work continues to promote the use of electric vehicles and other sustainable transport modes.		
Transport	Active travel	↑	Although the number of people walking and cycling remains low these remain higher than pre-pandemic levels. Active travel amongst school pupils remains constant and the uptake of cycling continues to improve due to initiatives in schools such as Bikeability.		
Population and human health	Deprivation	↔	While deprivation remains high, available data suggests deprivation levels have remained broadly stable over time.		
Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Tree canopy cover	↔	There is no significant change in the area of tree canopy cover or urban tree canopy cover. However, work is ongoing at a regional level through Clyde Climate Forest to increase canopy cover in the longer term.		
Soils	Peatland	↔	The overall condition of raised and blanket bogs across the area is relatively poor with a number of designated sites recorded as unfavourable.		
↑	Improving	↔	No change	↓	Deteriorating

Changes from 2023 SOE Report

Changes from 2020 GCE Report

Indicator	Status and trend								Comment
	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023	2025	
Environmental issue: Population and human health									
Deprivation	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	↓ Poor	↔ Poor	Improving
Economy	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	↑ Fair	↔ Fair	
Mortality	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	↔ Poor	↑ Poor	Improving
Environmental issue: Material assets and landscape									
Built facilities	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↔	Stabilised
	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	
Environmental issue: Soils									
Peatland	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	↓ Poor	↔ Poor	Stabilised
Environmental issue: Air, noise and light									
Local air quality	↓	↓	↓	↔	↑	↑	↑	↑	Improving
	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	
Light	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	↓ Fair	↔ Fair	Stabilised
Environmental issue: Water									
Water quality	↔	↔	↔	↔	↑	↓	↑	↔	Stabilised
	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	
Environmental issue: Climate change									
Energy consumption	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↔	↔	↑	Improving
	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	
Environmental issue: Transport									
Public transport	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	↔ Fair	↑ Fair	Improving

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	Outcomes from the Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session on the Marmot Place Programme and Population Health Framework
Report by:	Chief Executive, NHS Lanarkshire and Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Carol Stewart, Public Health Consultant, NHS Lanarkshire Tel: 01698 752952 Email: carol.stewart@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk Aileen Murray, Community Planning Adviser, South Lanarkshire Council Tel: 0303 123 1017 Email: aileen.murray@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	♦ to provide the Partnership Board with a summary of and the outcomes from the 'Marmot Place Programme and Population Health Framework' Development Session which took place during May 2026.
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/ Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):- (1) that the summary and outcomes of the Board Development Session on the Marmot Place Programme and Population Health framework are noted; and (2) that an integrated improvement plan which will support partners to embed the Marmot Place approach across South Lanarkshire is developed by the CPP Outcomes Leads Group and Marmot Data Group.
Risks/Challenges:	There are no risks or challenges associated with this report.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	♦ All ambitions/principles
Summary of Report:	♦ Section 3 sets out the background and purpose of the Marmot Place Programme and Population Health Framework Development Session. ♦ Section 4 provides a summary of the presentations, Board discussions, and next steps.

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	18 March 2026
Report by:	Chief Executive, NHS Lanarkshire and Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Outcomes from the Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session on the Marmot Place Programme and Population Health Framework
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ to provide the Partnership Board with a summary of and the outcomes from the 'Marmot Place Programme and Population Health Framework' Development Session which took place during May 2026.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the summary and outcomes of the Board Development Session on the Marmot Place Programme and Population Health framework are noted; and
- (2) that an integrated improvement plan which will support partners to embed the Marmot Place approach across South Lanarkshire is developed by the CPP Outcomes Leads Group and Marmot Data Group.

3. Background

3.1. A Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board Development Session took place on 13 May 2026. The purpose of this session was to:-

- ◆ provide the national context for the national Collaboration for Health Equity (CHES) programme and consider how it should be applied locally through the principle of proportionate universalism
- ◆ provide the local context for the programme, data and the early years approach
- ◆ set out the proposed next steps for the South Lanarkshire Marmot Place Programme through considering how this work can complement delivery of the Population Health Framework (PHF) (as set out at section 3.4.), including prevention and reducing health inequalities across the drivers of health; the outcomes of which will be used to develop the future Community Plan Outcomes Framework and Delivery Plan

- 3.2. It was agreed that the outputs of the session would support the development of actions to embed the Marmot approach and will provide the foundation for the development of a CPP Outcomes Framework and inform the Community Plan Delivery Plan. This will help to ensure that it becomes business as usual across the Community Planning Partnership and is reflected in routine planning, engagement, prioritisation and service redesign.
- 3.3. The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the key points from the presentations and for the Board to consider the outcomes from the Development Session and the proposed next steps.

4. Marmot Place Programme and Population Health Framework Development Session Summary

- 4.1. The Development Session considered both the local and national context to the Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES)/Marmot Place programme; and the local and national context to the Population Health Framework.
- 4.2. Presentations were provided by the Chief Executive Officer of Public Health Scotland and the Deputy Director of the Institute of Health Equity on the national context to CHES and the Population Health Framework. Key points included:-

Population Health Framework (PHF) 2025 to 2035:-

- ◆ people in Scotland's most deprived communities will spend a third of their lives in poor health, compared to those in the least
- ◆ health inequalities are caused by national systems which can and should be changed
- ◆ the PHF is a whole-system, co-developed framework that brings together all sectors to collaboratively improve health
- ◆ five drivers of action have been identified: building a prevention-focused system; improving social and economic factors, strengthening places and communities, enabling health living and providing equitable access to health and care

Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES)

CHES is a two-year collaboration focussed on introducing Marmot Places in Scotland with work across both local and national systems.

- ◆ a place-based model of cross agency working that seeks to reduce the social determinants of ill health within specific localities which includes trialling new approaches to place-based working
- ◆ ongoing research to provide clear insights, data and evidence to support and track progress
- ◆ aims to identify the most impactful realistic actions for improving health equity; work out how to reduce the implementation gap between policy intent and action; and act as a catalyst for enhanced action
- ◆ eight marmot Principles applied to design long-term, system-wide interventions that embed health equity into local policies and practices
- ◆ overview of the CHES learning system
- ◆ key messages from the third CHES report including local data
- ◆ approaches to proportionate universalism including allocation of resources; design and delivery of services, tapered eligibility and proportionately greater focus on prevention

- 4.3. In relation to the local context, presentations were provided by the Director of Public Health, NHS Lanarkshire; Public Health Consultants from NHS Lanarkshire; the Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council and the Executive Director of Education Resources, South Lanarkshire Council. Key points included:

Population Health Framework (PHF) 2025 to 2035:-

- ◆ in terms of life expectancy in South Lanarkshire more years of life are lived in poor health. There is an increasing burden of lifestyle risk factors and multimorbidity
- ◆ increasing life expectancy requires action outside health services
- ◆ prevention and early intervention improves health outcomes and ensures sustainable public services
- ◆ prevention already embedded in South Lanarkshire through Marmot
- ◆ vision by 2035 to improve life expectancy and reduce the inequalities gap

Local Programme Leadership Group :-

- ◆ focus on strengthening the CPPs focus on inequality and poverty; to better understand inequality in South Lanarkshire; build shared goals around health equity and shared resourcing of them; and improve how we manage and collaborate as a 'whole system' around place through three workstreams including data and intelligence; strategic alignment; and action
- ◆ the initial focus is on child poverty and early years and to do this we will need:-
 - ◆ better evidence and understanding of poverty and inequality
 - ◆ clear, joined up strategic vision to reduce health inequality
 - ◆ whole systems, collaborative leadership for change
 - ◆ routinely embed prevention approaches to mitigate health inequalities across our partnership
 - ◆ redirect, reshape and share resources where evidence identifies inequality
 - ◆ cultural change will drive policy and system change across our programme – emergent development approach; continuous improvement, testing and feedback; and data literacy and confidence at both strategic and operational levels of decision making
- ◆ transactional change will be tested – spend mapping: place and prevention; and proportionate universalism; redirection and preventative

Marmot Data:-

- ◆ consistent patterns emerge with South Lanarkshire generally siting close to the Scottish average however there are wide differences across areas.
- ◆ one key finding from the data was that some areas feature repeatedly. Through work with the Institute of Health Equity, a new 'sum of ranks' calculation was created. This highlights that the same communities consistently emerged as experiencing the greatest disadvantage and that inequalities are not isolated or random.
- ◆ one of the most important implications of this is that equal access to services does not always produce equal outcomes.
- ◆ the data is important, but it is only the starting point. The next stage is supporting partners to use this evidence alongside professional and local knowledge and lived experience to identify practical actions for delivery.

Early Years Approach:-

- ◆ the South Lanarkshire pilot 'Early Intervention in the Early Years', is a place-based, integrated early years model using a sure start approach
- ◆ the sure start principles consider early intervention and prevention; universal services with targeted support using an integrated, community-based delivery. The core approach will be evidence informed; place-based; relationship-led with multi-agencies involved
- ◆ the pilot will comprise of families with children aged 21 months to 5 years with a longer-term ambition of 0-5 years, and will concentrate on families experiencing poverty, parental mental health difficulties, domestic abuse, substance use, care experience, additional support needs/disabilities and language or cultural barriers
- ◆ the delivery model will include an outreach and home-based support; community early years hubs; coordinated referrals, planning and reviews; and clear pathways and continuity for families
- ◆ the difference this will make for families includes earlier access to help; simpler, clearer routes to support; less duplication and repetition; support delivered in trusted, local settings; and joined-up responses across services
- ◆ key areas of focus include communication, language and learning; parenting, family support and wellbeing; tackling poverty and wider inequalities; and community capacity and co-production
- ◆ what success will look like will be children better prepared for school; improved parental wellbeing and confidence; reduced crisis and reactive interventions; improved engagement with early years and health services; and stronger trust between families and services
- ◆ next steps will be to establish coordination and outreach arrangements; continue community engagement and co-design; implement phased delivery and track outcomes; and use learning to inform wider roll-out across South Lanarkshire

5. Outcomes from the Development Session

- 5.1. Discussion Groups at the Development Sessions took place to consider two questions which were 'What bold actions do we need to take to embed prevention?' and 'What opportunities are there to ensure health equity is at the core of all that we do?'
- 5.2. In relation to the first question "What bold actions do we need to take to embed prevention", themes included:-
- ◆ **Collaboration:**
 - ◆ deliver more integrated services across the partnership
 - ◆ **Communications:-**
 - ◆ individuals and families should be better informed about the services that they can access
 - ◆ individuals and families should have accessible information on how to access services
 - ◆ **Person centred services:-**
 - ◆ holistic services accessed from a single point and delivered to meet the unique needs of individuals and families

- ◆ **Simplicity:-**
 - ◆ streamline service delivery by removing duplication across services and partners
 - ◆ reduce the complexity and barriers for individuals and families navigating current systems across multiple services and partners
 - ◆ deliver services to all while scaling support in line with need to ensure equitable outcomes
- ◆ **Funding and investment:-**
 - ◆ evidence the impact of funding streams and resources
 - ◆ ensure funding is aligned with strategic priorities, local need, and evidence of what works
- ◆ **Collaboration:-**
 - ◆ deliver more integrated services across the partnership
- ◆ **Communications:**
 - ◆ individuals and families should be better informed about the services that they can access
 - ◆ individuals and families should have accessible information on how to access services
- ◆ **Person centred services:-**
 - ◆ holistic services accessed from a single point and delivered to meet the unique needs of individuals and families
- ◆ **Simplicity:-**
 - ◆ streamline service delivery by removing duplication across services and partners
 - ◆ reduce the complexity and barriers for individuals and families navigating current systems across multiple services and partners
 - ◆ deliver services to all while scaling support in line with need to ensure equitable outcomes
- ◆ **Funding and investment:-**
 - ◆ evidence the impact of funding streams and resources
 - ◆ ensure funding is aligned with strategic priorities, local need, and evidence of what works
- ◆ **Community Empowerment:-**
 - ◆ deliver on the priorities that have been identified by local communities in Neighbourhood Planning areas
 - ◆ services must be designed by individuals and families
 - ◆ support community-led leadership and decision making to shape bold preventative actions, building on local strengths, assets, and lived experience
- ◆ **Research and Learning:-**
 - ◆ invest in learning from the experiences of other local authorities and partner organisations (nationally and internationally) to strengthen the design and delivery of preventative, evidence-based interventions which are adapted to local needs

5.3. In relation to the Board's discussion on "what opportunities are there to ensure health equity is at the core of all that we do?", themes included:

◆ **Collaboration:-**

- ◆ targeted partnership working can drive prevention, reduce inequalities and improve outcomes

◆ **Children and Young People:-**

- ◆ embed Health Equity principles within UNCRC implementation to ensure children's rights are realised fairly and consistently across all communities

◆ **Funding and investment:-**

- ◆ direct investment towards reducing inequalities by allocating resources proportionate to levels of need
- ◆ strengthen joint resourcing across partners to support preventative approaches, reduce inequalities, and improve outcomes for communities

◆ **Responsibility and accountability:-**

- ◆ embed shared responsibility and accountability for health equity across all sectors, recognising that reducing inequalities is everyone's business
- ◆ acknowledge and openly address health inequalities, recognising where outcomes differ and where targeted action is required

◆ **Data and evidence:-**

- ◆ combine data, professional knowledge and lived experience to develop a shared understanding of local need and priorities

5.4. The CPP Outcomes Leads Group, with support from the Marmot Data Group, will review the key findings from the development session; and identify measurable actions which will be integrated into their existing improvement plan supporting partners to embed the Marmot Place approach across South Lanarkshire.

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. As one of the eight key principles of delivering a Marmot Place approach is to pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together, embedding this across the partnership is likely to have a positive impact.

9. Risk and Other Implications

9.1. There is a risk associated with not fully embedding the Marmot Place approach as business as usual across the Community Planning Partnership. When more detailed action plans have been developed, a risk workshop will be held to further consider risk implications.

9.2. There are no sustainability issues associated with this report.

10. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

10.1. There are no Integrated Impact Assessment implications associated with this report.

10.2. Consultation has taken place with officers as set out in section 5.0. of this report.

Louise Long
Chief Executive
NHS Lanarkshire

Paul Manning
Chief Executive
South Lanarkshire Council

19 August 2026

Contact for Further Information

If you would further information, please contact:-

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**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

9

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

2026 - 2029

South Lanarkshire

Safety. Teamwork. Respect. Innovation.

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Introduction

A key objective of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is working in partnership with communities and the public, private and third sectors on prevention, protection and response, to improve the safety and well-being of the people of Scotland. The [Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2022](#) was produced to ensure the SFRS delivers the requirements of the Framework on a national level. This Fire and Rescue Local Plan for South Lanarkshire will ensure that the aims of the Framework and [SFRS Strategy 2025-28](#) are delivered taking full cognisance of local requirements and community priorities.

Against the drive of public sector reform, the local planning landscape continues to evolve to provide a greater focus on protecting the most vulnerable and improving community outcomes through collaborative working. This plan sets out how the SFRS will work in conjunction with partners to deliver the objectives of the [South Lanarkshire Community Plan 2022-2032](#).

SFRS is committed to making a difference across our communities through working in partnership with other agencies and the communities themselves to provide a greater platform to introduce changes designed to increase the safety, health, wellbeing and opportunities to improve outcomes for South Lanarkshire communities.

Area Commander Stevie Nesbit
Local Senior Officer (LSO) for Lanarkshire.

National Context and Challenges

Scottish Ministers set out their specific expectations for the SFRS in the [Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2022](#). This Framework provides SFRS with seven strategic priorities and objectives, together with guidance on how the delivery of our functions should contribute to the Scottish Government's Purpose.

The Framework also defines the SFRS purpose as:

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

The SFRS Strategy 2025-28 has been designed to have regard to these national expectations. Set against a complex and evolving backdrop, our Strategy supports delivery of our Purpose, Mission and Vision.

To achieve our ambitions, we have identified five strategic objectives and outcomes. Each objective holds equal value in driving our Strategy forward. As a collective, they define our overall direction and will be central to how we plan our activities and our budget over the next three years.

OBJECTIVE	OUTCOME
Safer Communities through Prevention	Through our work with communities and other organisations, the safety and wellbeing of the people of Scotland improves.
Safe and Effective Response	We are an effective and trusted Fire and Rescue Service where our communities and people are safe.
Investing in our People	Our people feel valued and are supported by a culture that embraces diversity and inclusion, empowerment and accountability.
Improving Performance	Our organisational performance, productivity and resilience continually improves.
Innovation and Investment	We are more innovative and achieve sustained investment in our technology, equipment, estate and fleet, making us more effective and efficient.

This Plan is a statutory Local Fire and Rescue Plan. It sets local direction to meet the strategic objectives and outcomes outlined above; and supports delivery of the SFRS Prevention Strategy. It demonstrates how we will contribute to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) within the Local Authority area.

National Challenges

Over the next three years, the SFRS will operate within a challenging and rapidly evolving national context. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan is developed against a backdrop of sustained financial pressure, changing community risk, and the need for organisational change to ensure services remain effective, sustainable and focused on prevention.

SFRS continues to face real-terms financial constraints despite funding uplifts, with rising costs, inflationary pressures and a substantial backlog in capital investment. Ageing fire stations, fleet and operational systems require modernisation, while the Service must also deliver recurring savings. This national financial environment directly shapes decisions about service delivery models, asset rationalisation and the prioritisation of resources at local level.

Workforce capacity remains a critical national challenge. Recruitment, retention and availability, particularly within the on-call duty system are under increasing pressure, especially in rural and remote communities. Supporting staff wellbeing, skills, training and leadership capacity is essential to maintaining safe and reliable emergency response while adapting to new and emerging risks.

The risk profile across Scotland is changing. While accidental dwelling fires continue to decline, demand is increasing from climate-related incidents such as flooding, wildfires and extreme weather events. These incidents are often prolonged, complex and resource-intensive, requiring increased resilience, specialist capability and effective multi-agency coordination. At the same time, demographic change, health inequalities and housing conditions continue to drive vulnerability and risk within communities.

Prevention remains at the core of SFRS's national and local approach. Reducing harm, protecting vulnerable people and building community resilience are central to managing demand and delivering long-term public value. This requires strong collaboration with partners across health, social care, local government and the third sector.

The SFRS Prevention Strategy 2025–2028 sets out a clear ambition to reduce harm, protect firefighters and communities, and manage demand through a universal prevention offer delivered proportionately according to risk, vulnerability and inequality. Local Fire and Rescue Plans are a key mechanism for delivering the Prevention Strategy at local level. They translate national prevention priorities into locally tailored actions, ensuring that community safety engagement, protection and preparedness activity is informed by local risk profiles, partnership intelligence and community need.

In response to some of the challenges we face, SFRS is progressing its Strategic Service Review Programme (SSRP). A priority for the next three-years, SSRP will focus on providing firefighters with modern facilities, fleet and equipment to enhance community and firefighter safety, how and where we deliver our services from, and ensuring our corporate services are as efficient and effective as possible. These changes are necessary to ensure resources are targeted where risk is greatest, while maintaining public confidence and local accountability.

This local fire and rescue plan translates this national context into local priorities, reflecting the specific risks, needs and characteristics of our communities.

It sets out how SFRS will work with partners to deliver prevention, protection and response activities in a way that supports safer communities while contributing to the Service's wider strategic aims for Scotland.

By focusing on prevention, collaboration and early intervention, this Plan supports public service reform and delivers better outcomes for our local communities.

Local Context

South Lanarkshire Council is the fifth largest local authority in Scotland by population, serving approximately 334,030 residents. The area has experienced population growth in recent years and contains a diverse mix of urban, suburban and rural communities stretching from Rutherglen and Cambuslang in the north to the rural communities of Clydesdale in the south.

- 1 Clydesdale West
- 2 Clydesdale North
- 3 Clydesdale East
- 4 Clydesdale South
- 5 Avondale and Stonehouse
- 6 East Kilbride South
- 7 East Kilbride Central South
- 8 East Kilbride Central North
- 9 East Kilbride West
- 10 East Kilbride East
- 11 Rutherglen South
- 12 Rutherglen Central and North
- 13 Cambuslang West
- 14 Cambuslang East
- 15 Biantyre
- 16 Bothwell and Uddingston
- 17 Hamilton North and East
- 18 Hamilton West and Earnock
- 19 Hamilton South
- 20 Larkhall



Life expectancy within the area remains below the Scottish average, with men living to an average age of 76.1 years compared with the Scottish average of 77.2 years, and women living to an average age of 80.6 years compared with the Scottish average of 81.1 years.

Within South Lanarkshire there are eighty-eight data zones within the 20% most deprived communities in Scotland as measured by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). Approximately 12.8% of the population is considered income deprived, compared with the Scottish average of 12%, while 10% are considered employment deprived compared with the Scottish average of 9%.

There is a well-established correlation between deprivation and increased risk of fire, poorer health outcomes and wider community harm. SFRS will therefore work collaboratively with partners at both local and strategic levels to target prevention, protection, preparedness and response activity towards those communities most at risk.

The partnership agenda is delivered through the Safer South Lanarkshire Board, on which the SFRS is represented by the Local Senior Officer (LSO).

Supporting delivery at locality level are four Community Planning Partnerships:

- Cambuslang and Rutherglen
- Clydesdale
- East Kilbride and Strathaven
- Hamilton

These partnerships support community involvement in decision making, help identify local priorities and strengthen partnership working to improve outcomes for residents and communities across South Lanarkshire.

South Lanarkshire contains a diverse risk profile including areas of deprivation, extensive rural communities, major transport corridors, significant industrial and commercial premises, COMAH risks, Inland water ways and an increasing threat from severe weather-related incidents such as flooding and wildfire.

These risks have informed the priorities contained within this Local Fire and Rescue Plan and will shape how SFRS resources are targeted to deliver improved outcomes for the communities of South Lanarkshire.

Delivering for South Lanarkshire

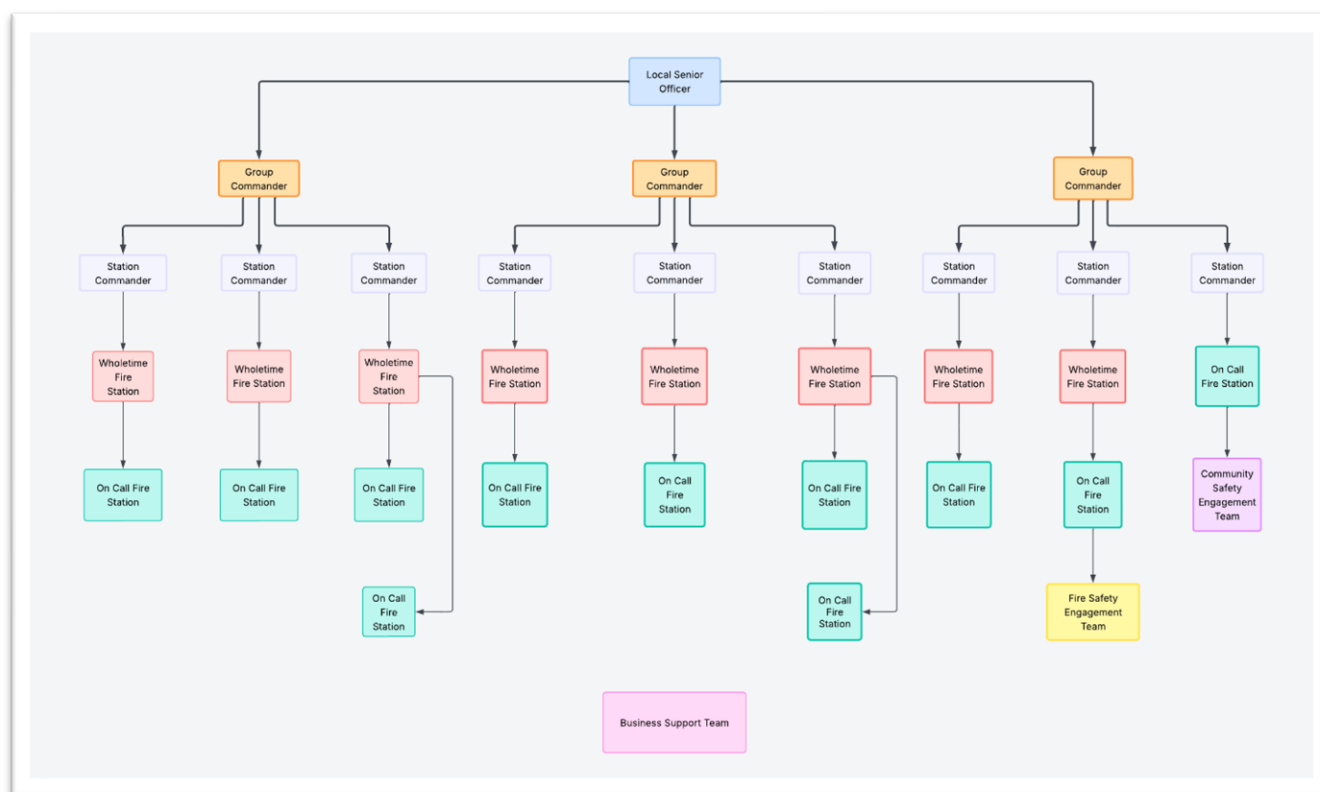
The SFRS delivers services across South Lanarkshire through a combination of Wholetime (WT), On Call, Prevention, Protection and Community Action Team (CAT) resources.

Delivery of this Plan will be led by the Lanarkshire Local Senior Officer Management Team and supported by:

- Local Senior Officer (LSO)
- Group Commanders (GC)
- Station Commanders (SC)
- Wholetime Operational Personnel
- On Call Operational Personnel
- Community Safety Engagement team
- Fire Safety Enforcement team
- Business Support team

Our personnel operate from strategically located fire stations across South Lanarkshire and work closely with Community Planning Partners, communities and elected members to deliver prevention, protection, preparedness and emergency response activity.

Together these resources provide the capability required to reduce risk, support community resilience and respond effectively to emergencies across the area.



Delivering Local Priorities

SFRS will continue to deliver its statutory responsibilities across prevention, protection, preparedness and emergency response activity.

This includes reducing accidental dwelling fires, fire casualties and fatalities, deliberate fire setting, fires in non-domestic properties, Road Traffic Collisions, unintentional harm incidents and unwanted fire alarm signals.

However, this Local Fire and Rescue Plan has been developed to align directly with the South Lanarkshire Community Plan 2022–2032 and the priorities of Community Planning Partners. As such, these activities represent SFRS delivery themes through which the Service contributes to wider community outcomes.

Delivery of this Plan will be supported by Lanarkshire Local Senior Officer Area personnel, wholetime and on-call operational resources, specialist Prevention and Protection staff, Community Action Team personnel and Community Planning Partners operating across South Lanarkshire.

The priorities contained within this Plan therefore focus on the outcomes we are seeking to achieve for our communities and how SFRS will contribute to those outcomes through prevention, protection, preparedness and response activity.

Performance and Scrutiny

Performance within Lanarkshire LSO Area is measured and benchmarked nationally, ensuring delivery across South Lanarkshire meets the standards and expectations set by SFRS. This is underpinned by the commitments set out in the Prevention and Performance Delivery Plan and the Training, Safety and Assurance (TSA) Delivery Plan, providing accountability not only against local priorities but against the broader organisational picture across all LSO areas in Scotland.

Locally, performance is tracked through the Lanarkshire Performance Dashboard, the LSO area's primary management tool, which provides the Lanarkshire Management Team with a real-time view of delivery across all community fire stations in South Lanarkshire, on a quarterly basis and benchmarking current year incident data against the previous year.

The performance for the area will be scrutinised by the Safer South Lanarkshire Board. The Board is made up of elected members from across the Local Authority area. Scrutiny meetings are held on a quarterly basis and SFRS will report on each of the performance targets. The information that will be provided will include targets based on a three-year average, performance for the reporting quarter and the previous year's performance will be utilised as an indicator of current performance.

How SFRS Contributes to South Lanarkshire Community Plan

The SFRS is committed to supporting delivery of the South Lanarkshire Community Plan 2022–2032 through targeted prevention, protection, preparedness and response activity.

While reducing fires, casualties and other emergencies remains a core statutory responsibility, these activities are not ends in themselves. They are the means through which SFRS contributes to safer, healthier, more resilient and more prosperous communities.

The priorities within this Local Fire and Rescue Plan have therefore been aligned directly to the six outcomes contained within the South Lanarkshire Community Plan. This approach demonstrates how SFRS activity supports the wider ambitions of Community Planning Partners while maintaining a clear focus on local risk, vulnerability and operational demand.

The six local priorities are:

1. Good Quality Suitable Housing for Everyone
2. Our Children and Young People Thrive
3. Thriving Businesses and Fair Jobs
4. People Live the Healthiest Lives Possible
5. Putting Learning at the Centre
6. Caring, Connected Communities

Delivering Local Outcomes Through SFRS Delivery Themes

The SFRS delivers a broad range of prevention, protection, preparedness and response activities across South Lanarkshire. While these activities are often measured through traditional fire and rescue indicators, they are undertaken to support wider community outcomes and contribute directly to the strategic objectives contained within the SFRS Strategy 2025–2028.

The delivery themes outlined below provide the practical mechanisms through which SFRS contributes to both the South Lanarkshire Community Plan and the strategic priorities of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Together these activities contribute to:

- Safer Communities Through Prevention
- Safe and Effective Response
- Investing in Our People
- Improving Performance
- Innovation and Investment

The delivery themes are interconnected and collectively support delivery of the six priorities contained within this Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

Delivery Theme 1 – Protecting People in Their Homes

Supports Community Plan Outcomes

Outcome 1 – Good Quality Suitable Housing for Everyone

Outcome 4 – People Live the Healthiest Lives Possible

Outcome 6 – Caring, Connected Communities

Supports SFRS Strategic Objectives

- Safer Communities Through Prevention
- Safe and Effective Response
- Improving Performance

How We Will Deliver This Locally

Safe housing is fundamental to community wellbeing, independent living and community resilience. Across South Lanarkshire, accidental dwelling fires continue to present a significant risk, particularly within households affected by vulnerability, deprivation, poor health, social isolation or other factors that increase the likelihood and consequences of fire.

We will use data, local knowledge and partner intelligence to identify individuals and households most at risk from fire-related harm. Through targeted Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV), safeguarding interventions, smoke and heat detection initiatives, effective referral pathways and partnership working with housing, health, social care and third-sector organisations, we will support people to live safely and independently within their own homes.

We will continue to undertake Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) activity following dwelling fires, providing targeted engagement to those directly affected while identifying learning opportunities that can be shared with communities to reduce the likelihood of recurrence.

Through intelligence-led prevention activity, effective protection measures and an efficient emergency response capability, we will reduce the likelihood and impact of accidental dwelling fires across South Lanarkshire, helping to protect individuals, families and communities.

By focusing resources on those most vulnerable to fire-related harm, we will contribute to healthier communities, support independent living, reduce inequalities and improve outcomes for residents across South Lanarkshire.

Delivery Theme 2 – Reducing Fire Casualties and Fatalities

Supports Community Plan Outcomes

Outcome 1 – Good Quality Suitable Housing for Everyone

Outcome 4 – People Live the Healthiest Lives Possible

Outcome 6 – Caring, Connected Communities

Supports SFRS Strategic Objectives

- Safer Communities Through Prevention
- Safe and Effective Response
- Investing in Our People

How We Will Deliver This Locally

Reducing fire casualties and fatalities remains one of the SFRS's highest priorities. Those most vulnerable to fire-related harm are often affected by age, disability, ill health, social isolation, poverty, substance dependency or other vulnerabilities that increase life risk.

We will use data, local knowledge and partner intelligence to identify those most at risk and deliver targeted interventions designed to reduce the likelihood and consequences of fire.

Through HFSVs, safeguarding activity, effective referral pathways, smoke and heat detection initiatives and partnership working with health, housing and social care services, we will help reduce fire-related injuries and fatalities while supporting safer independent living.

We will maintain an effective emergency response capability and continue to learn from incidents to improve prevention, protection and preparedness activity.

By focusing on life risk reduction and early intervention, we will support safer communities, improve health and wellbeing outcomes and help reduce inequalities across South Lanarkshire.

Delivery Theme 3 – Tackling Deliberate Fire Setting and Antisocial Behaviour

Supports Community Plan Outcomes

Outcome 2 – Our Children and Young People Thrive

Outcome 5 – Putting Learning at the Centre

Outcome 6 – Caring, Connected Communities

Supports SFRS Strategic Objectives

- Safer Communities Through Prevention
- Safe and Effective Response
- Improving Performance

How We Will Deliver This Locally

Deliberate fire setting and antisocial behaviour can have a significant impact on communities, placing unnecessary demand on emergency services and creating risks to people, property and the environment.

We will work alongside Police Scotland, South Lanarkshire Council, Community Planning Partners and local communities to identify areas affected by deliberate fire setting and develop coordinated approaches to reducing risk.

Through youth engagement programmes, education initiatives, targeted intervention activity and partnership working, we will help build resilience, promote responsible citizenship and encourage positive behaviours among children and young people.

We will use incident data, local intelligence and operational learning to identify emerging trends and target resources where they will have the greatest impact.

By reducing deliberate fire setting and supporting safer communities, we will help improve community wellbeing, build confidence and support positive outcomes for residents across South Lanarkshire.

Delivery Theme 4 – Supporting Safe Businesses and Community Assets

Supports Community Plan Outcomes

Outcome 3 – Thriving Businesses and Fair Jobs

Outcome 1 – Good Quality Suitable Housing for Everyone

Outcome 6 – Caring, Connected Communities

Supports SFRS Strategic Objectives

- Safer Communities Through Prevention
- Safe and Effective Response
- Innovation and Investment

How We Will Deliver This Locally

Safe and resilient businesses, public services and community assets are essential to the prosperity and wellbeing of South Lanarkshire. Fires and other emergencies can have significant consequences for employment, economic activity, essential services and community confidence.

We will support businesses, public services and duty holders through a risk-based programme of fire safety audits, inspections, post-fire audits and enforcement activity where required. By promoting compliance with fire safety legislation and supporting effective risk management arrangements, we will help reduce the likelihood and impact of fire within non-domestic premises.

Prevention and protection activity will be informed by local risk, operational intelligence and community need, ensuring resources are directed towards those premises and sectors that present the greatest risk to life, property and business continuity.

Working alongside businesses, local authorities and Community Planning Partners, we will support resilience, reduce risk and help protect the built environment, community assets and local economic activity.

By protecting businesses, supporting compliance and strengthening resilience, we will contribute to thriving businesses and fair jobs, safer communities and the long-term sustainability of South Lanarkshire's communities and assets.

Delivery Theme 5 – Promoting Safer Roads and Reducing RTC Harm

Supports Community Plan Outcomes

Outcome 2 – Our Children and Young People Thrive

Outcome 4 – People Live the Healthiest Lives Possible

Outcome 5 – Putting Learning at the Centre

Supports SFRS Strategic Objectives

- Safer Communities Through Prevention
- Safe and Effective Response
- Investing in Our People

How We Will Deliver This Locally

Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) continue to have a significant impact on individuals, families and communities. They can result in serious injury, loss of life and long-term social and economic consequences.

We will work alongside partner agencies to promote road safety, reduce the number and severity of Road Traffic Collisions and support safer road user behaviours.

Through education programmes, community engagement, youth initiatives and partnership campaigns, we will raise awareness of road safety risks and support positive decision-making.

We will maintain the training, skills, equipment and specialist rescue capabilities required to provide an effective emergency response when collisions occur.

By supporting road safety and reducing harm, we will contribute to healthier communities, safer young people and improved wellbeing outcomes across South Lanarkshire.

Delivery Theme 6 – Preventing Unintentional Harm and Building Community Resilience

Supports Community Plan Outcomes

Outcome 4 – People Live the Healthiest Lives Possible

Outcome 5 – Putting Learning at the Centre

Outcome 6 – Caring, Connected Communities

Supports SFRS Strategic Objectives

- Safer Communities Through Prevention
- Safe and Effective Response
- Improving Performance

How We Will Deliver This Locally

South Lanarkshire faces a wide range of risks including flooding, water-related incidents, severe weather, wildfires and other emergencies that can significantly affect communities.

We will work alongside Community Planning Partners, community organisations and local residents to improve awareness of risk, strengthen resilience and support preparedness activity across the area.

Through targeted water safety, flooding, wildfire and community safety initiatives, we will help communities better understand, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

We will support local resilience planning, community preparedness initiatives and multi-agency exercising to ensure effective arrangements are in place to respond to significant incidents. By strengthening resilience and reducing unintentional harm, we will help create safer, more connected and more resilient communities across South Lanarkshire.

Delivery Theme 7 – Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals and Unnecessary Demand

Supports Community Plan Outcomes

Outcome 3 – Thriving Businesses and Fair Jobs

Outcome 6 – Caring, Connected Communities

Supports SFRS Strategic Objectives

- Safer Communities Through Prevention
- Improving Performance
- Innovation and Investment

How We Will Deliver This Locally

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) create unnecessary demand on the SFRS, reduce resource availability and increase the number of avoidable blue-light journeys.

We will work with duty holders, responsible persons and partner organisations to identify the causes of repeated UFAS and implement measures designed to reduce avoidable demand.

Through data analysis, engagement, enforcement activity where appropriate, and support for responsible persons, we will help organisations improve the management of fire alarm systems and reduce unnecessary mobilisations.

Reducing UFAS will improve resource availability, support business continuity and ensure firefighters remain available for genuine emergencies. This will enable more effective use of public resources, enhance community safety and contribute to stronger and more resilient public services across South Lanarkshire.

	SFRS Delivery Themes Contributing to Community Plan Outcomes						
SFRS and LOIP Outcomes	Protecting People in Their Homes	Reducing Fire Casualties and Fatalities	Tackling Deliberate Fire Setting and Antisocial Behaviour	Supporting Safe Businesses and Community Assets	Promoting Safer Roads & Reducing RTC Harm	Preventing Unintentional Harm and Building Community	Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals
Outcome 1 Good quality suitable housing for everyone	✓		✓			✓	✓
Outcome 2 Our children and young people thrive	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Outcome 3 Thriving businesses and fair jobs		✓	✓	✓			✓
Outcome 4 People live the healthiest lives possible	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Outcome 5 Putting learning at the centre		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Outcome 6 Caring, connected communities	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	

Local Priorities

1. Good quality suitable housing for everyone

Background:

Safe and secure housing is fundamental to community wellbeing, health and independence. Accidental dwelling fires, fire-related injuries and other vulnerabilities within the home continue to present risks for residents across South Lanarkshire, particularly those affected by age, ill-health, disability, poverty, social isolation or other factors which increase vulnerability.

The SFRS contributes to safer housing through targeted prevention, protection, preparedness and response activities which reduce the likelihood and consequences of fire and other emergencies within the home.

This priority brings together activity previously delivered under the reduction of accidental dwelling fires, fire casualties and fatalities, and aspects of unintentional harm prevention.

Why This Matters:

Safe housing supports independent living, protects vulnerable individuals, improves health outcomes and reduces demand on emergency services, housing providers and health and social care partners.

We Will Achieve This By:

- Using data, local knowledge and partner intelligence to identify those most at risk
- Delivering targeted Home Fire Safety Visits
- Strengthening referral pathways with health, housing, social care and third-sector partners
- Supporting safeguarding activity and vulnerability awareness
- Increasing the provision of smoke and heat detection within homes to those most vulnerable
- Supporting residents to live safely and independently within their communities

Performance Indicators:

- Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Fire Casualties
- Fire Fatalities

Activity Measures:

- High risk Home Fire Safety Visits completed
- High-risk referrals received from partner agencies
- Safeguarding referrals submitted
- Smoke and heat detection interventions completed

Community Safety Engagement:

- Targeted Home Fire Safety Visits
- Vulnerability and safeguarding activity
- Community engagement in areas of highest risk

Protection and Risk Reduction:

- Multi-storey residential inspections
- Care home engagement and inspections
- Risk recognition training for partners

Preparedness and Response:

- Data-led operational planning
- Workforce competence and training
- Operational intelligence gathering
- Multi-agency exercising

Expected Outcomes:

- Improved housing safety
- Increased independent living
- Reduced fire-related harm
- Improved health and wellbeing
- Reduced vulnerability and inequalities

2. Our children and young people thrive

Background:

Children and young people should have opportunities to grow up safely, make positive choices and realise their full potential. Early intervention and education can help reduce involvement in deliberate fire setting, antisocial behaviour, Road Traffic Collisions and water-related incidents.

SFRS has an important role in supporting young people through education, engagement and partnership activity.

Why This Matters:

Early intervention supports resilience, confidence and positive life choices while reducing exposure to preventable harm.

We Will Achieve This By:

- Delivering youth engagement programmes
- Supporting school-based education initiatives
- Promoting road safety
- Delivering water safety education
- Working alongside Community Planning Partners

Performance Indicators:

- Deliberate fire setting incidents
- RTC casualties
- Water-related incidents involving young people

Activity Measures:

- Young people engaged through prevention programmes
- Road safety initiatives supported
- Water safety programmes delivered

Community Safety Engagement:

- Schools engagement programmes
- Youth engagement initiatives
- Road safety campaigns
- Water safety education

Protection and Risk Reduction:

- Partnership activity addressing antisocial behaviour
- Joint initiatives with schools and youth services

Preparedness and Response:

- Maintaining specialist rescue capabilities
- Training and exercising relevant to incidents involving young people

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased resilience
- Improved awareness of risk
- Reduced harm involving children and young people
- Safer decision-making and behaviours

3. Thriving businesses and fair jobs

Background:

Businesses, employers and community assets are essential to the prosperity and resilience of South Lanarkshire. Fires and emergencies can have significant impacts on employment, investment and economic growth.

SFRS supports economic resilience through prevention, protection and preparedness activities that reduce risk and support business continuity.

Why This Matters:

Safe businesses and resilient infrastructure support employment, economic growth and community wellbeing.

We Will Achieve This By:

- Delivering a risk-based programme of fire safety audits
- Supporting compliance with fire safety legislation
- Working with duty holders and business communities
- Undertaking post-fire audits and enforcement activity where necessary
- Supporting business continuity planning

Performance Indicators:

- Fires in non-domestic premises
- Deliberate fires affecting commercial premises

Activity Measures:

- Fire safety audits completed
- Post-fire audits completed
- Compliance outcomes achieved

Community Safety Engagement:

- Business engagement activity
- Advice and guidance to duty holders

Protection and Risk Reduction:

- Fire safety audits
- Enforcement activity
- Partnership inspections

Preparedness and Response:

- Operational Intelligence for high-risk sites
- COMAH preparedness and exercising
- Workforce competence for complex incidents

Expected Outcomes:

- Improved business resilience
- Reduced economic losses
- Increased compliance
- Protection of employment and investment

4. People live the healthiest lives possible

Background:

Many emergencies disproportionately affect vulnerable individuals and communities. Fire, Road Traffic Collisions, water incidents and other emergencies can result in significant physical and emotional harm.

SFRS contributes to healthier communities through prevention, protection, preparedness and emergency response activity.

Why This Matters:

Reducing preventable harm improves health outcomes, quality of life and community wellbeing.

We Will Achieve This By:

- Identifying vulnerable individuals and communities
- Delivering targeted prevention activity
- Supporting safeguarding and early intervention

- Reducing fire-related harm
- Reducing RTC casualties
- Supporting water safety initiatives

Performance Indicators:

- Fire casualties
- RTC casualties
- Non-fire emergency casualties

Activity Measures:

- Prevention interventions delivered
- Referrals received and actioned
- Community safety campaigns completed

Community Safety Engagement:

- Water safety campaigns
- Road safety campaigns
- Safeguarding activity

Protection and Risk Reduction:

- Targeted risk reduction initiatives
- Partnership working with health and social care

Preparedness and Response:

- Operational readiness
- Specialist rescue capability
- Multi-agency response arrangements

Expected Outcomes:

- Improved health and wellbeing
- Reduced injuries and fatalities
- Greater resilience
- Reduced demand on public services

5. Putting learning at the centre

Background:

Learning, awareness and skills development play a vital role in preventing harm and supporting safer communities. Through engagement, education and partnership working, SFRS contributes to lifelong learning opportunities that promote safety and resilience.

Why This Matters:

Education helps individuals make informed decisions, build resilience and develop safer behaviours.

We Will Achieve This By:

- Delivering educational programmes

- Supporting youth development activities
- Promoting community learning opportunities
- Sharing risk information and good practice

Performance Indicators:

- Youth engagement reach
- Community education activity

Activity Measures:

- Learning events delivered.
- Educational engagements completed

Community Safety Engagement:

- Schools programmes
- Community learning events
- Safety campaigns

Protection and Risk Reduction:

- Awareness raising activities
- Partner training and guidance

Preparedness and Response:

- Community preparedness activity
- Resilience education initiatives

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased awareness
- Safer behaviours
- Better informed communities
- Improved resilience

6. Caring, connected communities

Background:

Strong communities are more resilient, better connected and more capable of managing risk. Community resilience is strengthened when organisations, volunteers and residents work together to improve safety and wellbeing.

Why This Matters:

Connected communities are better able to prevent, withstand and recover from emergencies.

We Will Achieve This By:

- Supporting community resilience initiatives
- Working with volunteers and third-sector organisations
- Supporting Community Planning partnerships
- Delivering targeted engagement programmes

Performance Indicators:

- Deliberate fire setting incidents
- Unintentional harm incidents

Activity Measures:

- Community engagement activities
- Community resilience projects supported
- Partnership initiatives delivered

Community Safety Engagement:

- Community campaigns
- Volunteer engagement
- Resilience initiatives

Protection and Risk Reduction:

- Partnership work addressing local risks
- Flood and wildfire resilience activity

Preparedness and Response:

- Community resilience planning including flood preparedness activity
- Multi-agency exercising

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased community participation
- Improved resilience with a greater awareness of local risks
- Stronger partnerships
- Safer and more connected communities

Review

To ensure this Local Fire and Rescue Plan remains flexible to emerging local or national priorities a review may be carried out at any time but will be reviewed at least once every three years.

A review may also be carried out if the Scottish Minister directs it or if a new Strategic Plan is approved. Following a review, the Local Senior Officer may revise the Plan.

Contact Us

We are fully committed to continually improving the service we provide to our communities and recognise that to achieve this goal we must listen and respond to the views of the public and our partners.

We use all feedback we receive to monitor our performance and incorporate this information into our planning and governance processes in order to continually improve our service. We are proud that the majority of feedback we receive is positive and we are keen to hear examples of good practice and quality service delivery that exemplifies the standards of service that we strive to provide for the communities of Scotland.

If you have something you would like to share with us or you require additional information, you can get in touch in a number of ways:

Write to:	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Lanarkshire LSO Area HQ Dellburn Street Motherwell ML1 1SE
Phone:	01698 402700
Visit our website:	www.firescotland.gov.uk
Follow us on X	@SFRS_Lan
Like us on Facebook	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service



firescotland.gov.uk

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability CPP Board Development Session October 2026 Update
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources), South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Gillian Reilly, Primary Science, STEM and Sustainability Development Officer, Curriculum and Quality Improvement Service, Education Resources, South Lanarkshire Council Email: gillian.reilly2@southlanarkshire.gov.uk Frank Thomson, Hamilton Locality Manager, Youth, Family and Community Learning Service, Education Resources, South Lanarkshire Council Tel: 01698 552139 Email: frank.thomson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	♦ provide the Partnership Board with an update on the Conference of Schools 4 (COS4) event and the Development Session between members of the Youth Forum and the Board.
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/ Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendations: - (1) that the content of the report be noted; (2) that the success of the Conference of Schools 4 (COS4) event be celebrated and noted; and (3) that the details of the planned Board session for the proposed date of 21 October 2026 be noted.
Risks/Challenges:	Section 9 provides a summary of the risks and challenges as set out in the Partnership Risk Register relating to Nature and Climate.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	♦ Ambition 1 - we will invest in people by finding ways to share power and resources. ♦ Ambition 2 - we will make progress by investing in learning together and how we can do things better. ♦ Ambition 3 - we will invest in our planet by putting local areas at the centre of our work. ♦ Principles: Added Value and Continuous Improvement; Communication and Empowerment; and Embracing Change.
Summary of Report:	♦ Section 3 of the report presents the background to the agreement of a yearly development session between the Board and young people regarding climate loss and sustainability.

	◆ Section 4 sets out the outcome and success of the Conference of Schools (COS) 4 event from the 25 March 2026 to the 27 March 2026, at Hamilton Palace Sports Grounds and Low Parks Museum. ◆ Section 5 sets out the planned Board Development Session for the proposed date of 21 October 2026.
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Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	9 September 2025
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources), South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability CPP Board Development Session October 2026 Update
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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 Conference of Schools 4 (COS4) event and the Development Session between members of the Youth Forum and the Board.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the content of the report be noted;
- (2) that the success of the COS4 event be celebrated and noted; and
- (3) that the details of the planned Board session for the proposed date of 21 October 2026 be noted.

3. Background

3.1. Following agreement by the Partnership Board to the creation of a separate, yearly development session with young people of the South Lanarkshire School Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability, the second of these sessions took place on 22 October 2025. The session was led by members of the South Lanarkshire School Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability. Progress against the actions was reported to the Partnership Board meeting on 18 March 2026.

3.2. This report sets out updates in relation to the success of the COS4 event that took place between the 25–27 March 2026 and provides details of the planned Partnership Board development session on the proposed date of 21 October 2026.

4. Conference Of Schools 4 (COS4) Event

4.1. The COS4 event took place between the 25–27 March 2026 at the Hamilton Palace Sports Grounds complex and the Low Parks Museum facilities. Following on from the success of COS3, the Youth Forum delivered 3 days of activities to over 200 P5–P7

primary students and their teachers from across South Lanarkshire, inspiring meaningful discussions on climate change and sustainability.

- 4.2. The conference was designed with several key objectives in mind:
- ◆ educate and inspire children and teachers about climate change and sustainability through interactive learning
 - ◆ provide hands-on experiences that could be seamlessly integrated into primary school curriculum
 - ◆ foster collaboration between primary schools and young climate leaders, strengthening cross-sector partnerships
 - ◆ empower secondary students by giving them leadership roles in planning and executing environmental initiatives
 - ◆ encourage primary school students to see themselves as active contributors to environmental solutions
- 4.3. The theme for COS4 was “GREEN”, building on previous thematic models and providing a clear and accessible framework for learning:-
- ◆ **G** – Grow Your Own – Discover how growing plants and food connects with nature
 - ◆ **R** – Rethink Rubbish – Understanding waste, recycling and reusing
 - ◆ **E** – Empower – Young voices for change, inspiring leadership and youth voice
 - ◆ **E** – Enrich – Rewilding our Schools, making school grounds richer for wildlife and wellbeing
 - ◆ **N** – Nurture – Change-Maker Challenge, developing ideas and projects that nurture change

These themes guided all workshop design and learning experiences, supporting pupils to explore sustainability in practical and meaningful ways.

- 4.4. Primary pupils actively participated in all workshops, engaging positively with their secondary mentors. Through this process, primary pupils demonstrated curiosity, creativity and enthusiasm.
- 4.5. Teaching staff gained ideas for classroom practice, strengthening their understanding of Learning, and exploring youth-led approaches to learning.
- 4.6. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive with a number of key findings.
- ◆ student experience feedback from primary pupils reflected a very positive and memorable experience, with an average rating of 4.9 out of 5. Pupils particularly valued:-
 - ◆ hands-on, practical activities
 - ◆ interactive and enjoyable learning approaches
 - ◆ the opportunity to work with and learn from older pupils

This highlights the importance of peer-led learning in increasing engagement and understanding.

- ◆ teacher feedback highlighted a highly positive experience across all 3 days of COS4. All respondents rated the event 4 or 5 out of 5, with the majority awarding the highest rating. Teachers praised:-
 - ◆ the strong organisation and smooth running of the event
 - ◆ the quality and confidence of pupil-led delivery
 - ◆ the engaging, practical and interactive nature of the workshops
- ◆ a number of key strengths were consistently identified by staff:-
 - ◆ the leadership, confidence and enthusiasm demonstrated by Youth Forum members
 - ◆ high levels of engagement from primary pupils throughout the day
 - ◆ practical ideas and approaches that could be taken back into classroom practice
 - ◆ opportunities for collaboration and shared learning between schools
- ◆ the conference had a clear impact on practitioner confidence and future practice. Teachers reported:-
 - ◆ increased confidence in delivering Learning for Sustainability
 - ◆ new ideas for interdisciplinary and real-world learning
 - ◆ a stronger interest in developing pupil-led approaches within their own settings

All respondents indicated that they would recommend the event to colleagues and felt that it supported their ability to address climate change and sustainability within their teaching.

- 4.7. In conclusion, the COS4 was a continued success, building on the strong foundations of previous events while further embedding a culture of youth-led sustainability across South Lanarkshire.

The leadership demonstrated by the young people was a key strength of the event. Their ability to confidently plan and deliver high-quality learning experiences highlights the important role learners can play in driving meaningful change.

The overwhelmingly positive feedback from both staff and pupils reinforces the value of this approach. COS4 provided an engaging and inspiring experience, equipping learners and practitioners with the knowledge, confidence and motivation to take forward sustainability within their own settings.

As the Youth Forum on Climate Change and Sustainability continues to grow, COS4 represents another significant step forward in ensuring that climate change and Learning for Sustainability remain central to education across the authority.

5. Board Development Session 21 October 2026

- 5.1. The development session is planned for Wednesday 21 October 2026, from 4:30pm–6:30pm, at Holy Cross High School, 51 New Park Street, Hamilton, ML3 0BN.
- 5.2. Drawing from the work of the Forum and the feedback from young people across South Lanarkshire, the session will focus on key elements of the work plan for 2026–2027, the development of physical engagement within schools on biodiversity and sustainability, as well as updates on progress to date on the 2025–2026 workplan.

Forum members are meeting early in the new school term to agree the content for the development session.

The young people will take the lead on the session as per previous sessions.

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. It is envisaged that our continued commitment to bring about increased awareness and learning for sustainability, and a sense of enhanced collective responsibility will ultimately result in a change in behaviours to assist with the climate emergency.

9. Risk and Other Implications

- 9.1. The main risks and challenges as set out in the Partnership Risk Register and Risk Control Plan relating to partnership Climate and Nature action are set out in the table below. The Board is asked to note that this activity aligns with partnership mitigation actions and the Risk Control Plan. The information provided is an extract from the Risk Cards and more information is available from the Community Planning Team on request:-

Risk Card Reference	Risk Classification	Risk Summary
CPP/2022/001	Very High	National and Global Challenges relating to Biodiversity Loss; Climate Action Failure; and Extreme Weather Events
CPP/2018/003	Very High	The Partnership does not deliver on its priority to take an integrated approach to the Climate and Nature emergencies and deliver its outcomes in a way which is consistent with the principles of sustainable development
CPP/2018/001	Very High	Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2022-2032
CPP/2018/002	Very High	The CPP fails to engage effectively with communities (as required in the Community Empowerment Act and as a requirement to deliver the new Community Plan) in the planning, design and delivery of improved outcomes and inequalities

10. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

- 10.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment implications associated with this report. Following on from the consultation and engagement work to develop the “Planet” ambition of the Community Plan, these events are the first stage of further intensive participation and engagement activity with young people and communities.

Lyndsay McRoberts
Executive Director (Education Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

19 August 2026

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Gillian Reilly, Primary Science, STEM and Sustainability Development Officer, Curriculum and Quality Improvement Service, Education Resources, South Lanarkshire Council

Email: gillian.reilly2@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Frank Thomson, Hamilton Locality Manager, Youth, Family and Community Learning Service, Education Resources, South Lanarkshire Council

Email: frank.thomson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of Meeting:	09 September 2026
Subject:	Neighbourhood Planning Annual Report
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Jen Kerr, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council Tel: 0303 123 1017 Email: Jennifer.Kerr1@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	♦ to present the Partnership Board with the annual report on neighbourhood planning activity across South Lanarkshire.
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendations: (1) that the content of the report is noted; and (2) note the progress made across each area.
Risks/Challenges:	Achieving buy-in from communities and strategic alignment from partners.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	♦ ambition 1 - We will invest in people by finding ways to share power and resources; ♦ ambition 2 - We will make progress by investing in learning together and how we can do things better; ♦ ambition 3 - We will invest in our planet by putting local areas at the centre of our work; and ♦ principles: communication and empowerment; embracing change; and focused delivery.
Summary of Report:	Update on neighbourhood planning activity across South Lanarkshire and Participatory Budgeting (PB) spend in priority areas.

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	09 September 2025
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Update on Neighbourhood Planning across South Lanarkshire
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:

- ◆ present the Partnership Board with the annual report on neighbourhood planning activity across South Lanarkshire.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the content of the report is noted; and
- (2) note the progress made across each area.

3. Background and context

- 3.1. Neighbourhood planning activity was first initiated in South Lanarkshire in 2017, when the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board agreed to pilot the use of a new approach to neighbourhood planning. The aim of this work is to tackle inequalities and to improve outcomes for local people living in some of South Lanarkshire's most deprived areas where poverty statistics are stark, enduring and stubbornly stuck. This work is planned and undertaken in the context of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
- 3.2. The Act places a statutory duty on CPPs to identify neighbourhoods within the local authority area which experience the poorest outcomes and to prepare and publish locality plans. Plans are required to set out clear priorities and be co-produced by communities with other stakeholders and aimed at improving local outcomes and tackling inequalities
- 3.3. Guidance makes it clear that participation with communities must lie at the heart of Community Planning and that the partners must engage with the communities identified as requiring specific attention and be more than just consultation but involve active engagement and empowerment.
- 3.4. In 2017, three areas in South Lanarkshire were selected to test this new approach to neighbourhood planning and by the end of 2025, we have 10 Neighbourhood Plans in place.
- 3.5. The legislation requires that annual progress reports are produced to highlight the progress made in relation to the plans, enabling communities and other stakeholders to understand the direction and scale of progress.

4. Roll out of Neighbourhood Planning

4.1. Three plans were produced for publication in January 2019.

Neighbourhood Planning Wards	Priority Communities Involved
Ward 11 – Rutherglen South Ward 13 – Cambuslang West	Springhall and Whitlawburn
Ward 18 – Hamilton West and Earnock Ward 20 - Larkhall	Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank Strutherhill and Whitlawburn

4.2. In September 2019, the CPP Board approved the further roll-out of neighbourhood planning to include the other 6 wards originally identified as facing poor outcomes, as per the table below. Plans were developed for Fernhill, Burnhill, Cambuslang East, Whitehill and Fairhill, and during 2019/2020, as well as the completion of the Blantyre Plan which was created by Coalfields Regeneration Trust.

Neighbourhood Planning Wards	Priority Communities involved
Ward 11 – Rutherglen South, Fernhill	Fernhill
Ward 12 – Rutherglen Central and North	Burnhill
Ward 14 – Cambuslang East	Circuit, Halfway, and Westburn
Ward 15 – Blantyre	Auchinraith, Blantyre, High Blantyre, Springwells
Ward 17 – Hamilton North and East	Whitehill
Ward 19 – Hamilton South	Fairhill (incorporated into new full ward plan in 2023.)

4.3. A further roll out of neighbourhood planning has taken place in 2023 to 2025:

Neighbourhood Planning Wards	Priority Communities involved
Ward 19 – Hamilton South	Fairhill, Laighstonehall, Eddlewood and Low Waters
Ward 7 – East Kilbride South	Whitehills and Greenhills, Crosshouse

5. Neighbourhood Plan Report and Progress

5.1. A single annual report for all neighbourhood plans is attached as Appendix 1 in the accessible format. Please note the report will also have an accessible, branded and graphic designed versions for sharing with local communities.

5.2. Residents and partners participate together in neighbourhood stakeholder groups that meet regularly in neighbourhood planning areas. A Participatory Budgeting (PB) exercise, detailed in section 6, was aligned to the delivery of each Neighbourhood Plan in 2024/2025 to widen participation in neighbourhood planning to all local residents and invest in community led activities identified as local priorities.

5.3. The report in Appendix 1 highlights of progress in each Neighbourhood Planning area for 2025/2026 while demonstrating different focuses and aims in each neighbourhood.

- 5.4. The neighbourhood planning stakeholder groups across the ten areas have also worked together on a common priority of improving community safety. In 2025, all of the groups launched a community safety card. This card was developed in direct response to residents' concerns about community safety and anti-social behaviour across all areas. The aim of the card is to promote public reassurance and public reporting.

6. Participatory Budgeting

- 6.1. A second significant investment was made in Participatory Budgeting (PB) in 2025/2026 with nine neighbourhood planning areas benefitting from PB at the same time. Tables of results are included by area in the annual report.
- 6.2. £160,000 was available for PB in 2025/2026; £40,000 from South Lanarkshire Council and a further contribution of £120,000 from the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund.
- 6.3. The 2025/2026 PB exercise saw an oversubscribed number of applications and high number of voters to date in South Lanarkshire. The programme generated an increase in community participation both through the projects being delivered and through the voting process itself.
- 6.5. An evaluation was undertaken with the result found to be very positively contributing as a catalyst to community activity with suggestions on how to make the process easier to use and more locally flexible. A community advisory group has been established and is working on reviewing the feedback and developing changes to the programme for further community consultation and agreement, prior to the next Place Based PB programme being run.

7. Next Steps

- 7.1. Across 2026/2027 we will work with Community Planning Partners (CPPs) to review and improve Neighbourhood Planning, incorporating learning from the Shaping Places for Wellbeing Pilot in 2024 and the new Marmot Place Programme pilot evidence base.
- 7.2. The stakeholder groups will support the development of the CPPs Engagement and Participation strategy.
- 7.3. We will integrate Neighbourhood Planning structures into other strategic forums and place models, recognising them as the local partnership body for community development and engagement.
- 7.4. Partners will develop community conversations that broaden local engagement.
- 7.5. We will continue to work with a Participatory Budgeting Advisory Group to co-design PB processes with communities.

8 Employee Implications

- 8.1. The employee implications associated with this report relate to the time for employees across the partnership to deliver Neighbourhood Planning activity.

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 within this report.

11. Risk and Other Implications

- 11.1. There are risks associated with this report that if we do not gain community buy in to the Neighbourhood Planning process or partners strategic alignment and commitment that we will fail to deliver in our duties to improve outcomes for Neighbourhood Planning Areas. This is mitigated through the work of Stakeholder Groups for neighbourhood planning and through investment in community activity.

12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

- 12.1. 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. Consultation on neighbourhood plans is carried out on an ongoing basis with each community involved in the process.

Paul Manning
Chief Executive
South Lanarkshire Council

21 August 2026

Contact for Further Information:

Jen Kerr, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council

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Email: Jennifer.Kerr1@southlanarkshire.gov.uk



Neighbourhood Planning Annual Progress Report

2025/2026

DRAFT V1

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1015 Email: equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

This report provides a summary of the activities and investments of **Neighbourhood Planning** development and delivery across South Lanarkshire between 01 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

Each Neighbourhood Planning area determines its own priority outcomes and reviews these annually. Local activity and investment is coordinated and organised around these Neighbourhood Planning Priorities.

About community planning

The Community Planning Partnership (CPP) in South Lanarkshire is all about organisations and local people working together to make our communities stronger and better for everyone. It brings the Council, NHS, Police, Fire and Rescue, voluntary groups, businesses, and community members around the same table to focus on what really matters, like improving health and wellbeing, tackling poverty, creating safer neighbourhoods, and supporting opportunities for all. By listening to local voices and joining up services, the CPP helps shape positive changes that are led by the community, for the community.

Neighbourhood Planning in South Lanarkshire

Neighbourhood Planning in South Lanarkshire is a community-led process where local people come together to identify what matters most in their area, whether it's better green spaces, safer streets, or support services. Through workshops, surveys, and local meetings, residents shape a clear set of priorities and ideas and take action with partners to deliver them. These "**Neighbourhood Plans**" help guide local investment and influence the Council's decisions making sure change happens in these places are driven by what matters to those who live there. Some of the plans are known as 'Our Place Our Plans' (OPOP) and some have chosen different titles to describe their ambitions.

About the Community Engagement Team

The Community Engagement Team in South Lanarkshire works across 10 priority neighbourhoods on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership to support and facilitate the development and delivery of neighbourhood planning activity.

The team work with local people and groups to help residents identify their priorities, get involved and develop local projects and to work together in **Stakeholder Groups** with public and third sector partners to have a say in services that affect them and to request support from services.

The team support communities to develop the skills and confidence to take forward their own ideas, initiatives and solutions while also bringing local people and partner organisations together, encouraging partnerships that tackle complex and important issues that require a range of skills and expertise from all partners and community members.

Participatory budgeting

Participatory Budgeting (PB) gives residents a direct role in identifying and investing in their local priorities. Local organisations put forward their project ideas and residents vote to make the decision on how to allocate a set amount of public funding across their community as grants. This approach has been implemented across all ten Neighbourhood Planning areas in South Lanarkshire, allowing communities to influence how money is spent in their local area.

PB is a central element of neighbourhood planning, with funding used to support the delivery of neighbourhood plan priorities. The process is shaped and led by local people, following the principles set out in the Scottish Participatory Budgeting Charter.

£160,000 was available for PB in 2025/26, £40,000 from South Lanarkshire Council and a further contribution of £120,000 from the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund. The total value of applications that applied for the fund was £173,326.

Collaborating for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES) :Marmot Place Programme Pilot

The CPP participated as one of three Scottish pilot areas in the CHES programme between October 2024-Dec 2026. The pilot programme has provided an evidence base of inequality driven health outcome gaps across the neighbourhoods of South Lanarkshire. During 2026/ 27, this evidence base will be embedded into the Neighbourhood Planning through a review of the approach and an improved focus on improving outcomes and closing the outcomes gaps.

Blantyre

Blantyre has a population of just under 17,000 residents and is well served by several active and well-established community and voluntary sector organisations who provide a wide range of opportunities for residents of all ages making a significant contribution towards community connectedness and community wellbeing.

Organisations include, Terminal One who provide local youth services. Bonnie Blantyre, Friends of the Calder and Blantyre Soccer Academy who provide social and recreational activities and have asset transferred and developed community venues and hubs. David Livingstone Memorial Church host a Community Hub and High Blantyre Parish Church host A Warm Welcome initiative mitigating social isolation and financial, hardship, and environmental improvement projects.

Neighbourhood planning in Blantyre has had a unique journey which started in 2019 with a community action plan co-created with the Coalfields Regeneration Trust.

In 2021-2022, a new plan called Blantyre Futures replaced the community action plan. The plan was developed in partnership with local stakeholders and community groups along with South Lanarkshire Councils Community Engagement Team. The Blantyre Futures Stakeholder group was formed and is responsible for overseeing the delivery of the Neighbourhood Plan and the annual re-ranking of their plan's priorities to ensure that the plan continues to reflect what matters most to local people.

2025-26 Priorities	2024-25 Priorities
1. Community activities	1. Youth activities
2. Greater community safety	2. Greater community safety
3. Road, traffic and parking	3. Community activities
4. Youth activities	4. Covid recovery
5. Older people activities	5. Older people activities
6. Glasgow Road / shopping	6. Environmentally friendly
7. Environmentally friendly	7. Community transport
8. Community Transport	8. Glasgow Road and shopping facilities
9. Civic pride	9. Civic pride
10. Covid recovery	10. Roads, traffic and parking

Local highlights

- Blantyre Soccer Academy have taken on a Community Asset Transfer to create a new football pitch and changing facilities for community use. This has progressed well in the 2025-26 period with funding being achieved for the project. The pitch is looking to be complete by September 2026 which will provide a space for sporting activity in the local community.
- Community activity is now the number 1 ranked priority and In 2025, Ward Councillors allocated £5,000 to the Stakeholder Group to support community events and connected in the area. Subsequently, Blantyre community events group has been established bringing together community volunteers who are looking to host local free community events. The group has built community connections with a view to host events in partnership with the neighbourhood planning stakeholder group and other local community groups in the coming year.

"While many of our flagship events will take place during 2026, the planning, partnership working and community engagement undertaken during this period have created a strong platform for their success. We have been overwhelmed by the support received from residents, local businesses and partner organisations, demonstrating the appetite for bringing community events back to Blantyre.

As Chair of Blantyre Community Events, one of my proudest achievements has been seeing people come together with a shared ambition to make Blantyre an even better place to live, work and visit. We believe that community events do more than provide entertainment, they create lasting memories, reduce isolation, encourage volunteering and strengthen community pride. We look forward to continuing this journey and delivering events and projects that bring our community together for many years to come." Laura McQuiggan – Chair Blantyre Community Events.

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £17,050 funding available
- £20,202 funding applied for
- 878 votes were cast.
- 10 applications received - 7 were fully funded and 1 part funded

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
Blantyre Community Trust	Sustainable living example hub delivering food programmes, waste reduction and cooking workshops	52	£2480
LEAP project	Monthly cafe sessions where carers of people aged over 50 and living with lifelong conditions such as Dementia, Parkinson's and Stroke to come together and connect, share experiences and be supported.	87	£730
Blantyre Old Parish Church Warm Welcome	Warm welcome providing a free hot meal and company once per week. Option of free bag of groceries available.	117	£2500
ASNsory Crew SCIO	Safe, non-judgemental place for children with ASN and complex needs and their families to socialise with their peers and expand their interactions.	81	£2500
The Blantyre Youth Development Team – Terminal One Youth Centre	Friday night groups to engage young people in positive activities focusing on physical and mental wellbeing.	151	£2500
Bonnie Blantyre	Christmas boxes for local families, supplying every primary school and nursery child a selection box	153	£2500
Friends of the Caulder	Funding for a free community event for up to 500 kids to enjoy. Encouraging our community to come together to enjoy the beautiful nature of their doorstep.	100	£1772.50
Blantyre Soccer Academy	Redevelopment of local community hall via Community Asset Transfer	59	£2500

[Case Studies – heading not to be included in design]

ASNsory Crew

The PB funding, purchased specialist sensory equipment and inclusive resources designed to improve access, regulation and engagement for children with additional support needs. This included a sand and water table specifically shaped to allow wheelchair users to fully

participate, ensuring that children with physical disabilities are not excluded from messy and sensory play.

Having a permanent, inclusive space will give families a sense of ownership and pride in a facility designed specifically for them. It creates a visible, welcoming hub where disabled children and their families feel accepted, valued and connected, contributing to a stronger, more inclusive local community overall.

The Warm Welcome volunteer project

A weekly open door holistic service for everyone in the community. Blantyre Volunteer Ltd provides their minibus which assists those with poor mobility to attend.

Everyone receives a warm welcome and a good hot meal which they enjoy in a warm space. The project prevents social isolation and loneliness in the community by helping to forge new friendships and maintaining old ones. All participants also receive a small bag of essential groceries to help with the cost of living as well as up-to-date information from local services and signposting to the appropriate services.

Participants say-

"I love coming here every week to meet my friends and have a 'catch up'"

"Thank you for the groceries. They are a great help."

"The soup is brilliant. I had two bowls today. Smashing"

"Everyone is so nice and friendly. Can't wait to come next week"

Burnhill

Burnhill is a small community located in Rutherglen, on the South Lanarkshire side of the border to Glasgow. It is part of Ward 12, Rutherglen Central and North, and has a population of around 3,300. The area is known for its strong community spirit, there are vibrant community groups who organise various activities for the community working tirelessly to promote community wellbeing and belonging.

As the neighbourhood plan progressed the dedication and determination of residents who were wanting to make a difference in their community and address priorities that had been identified came together to address a piece of local land which was overgrown and unusable, known locally as The Highbacks.

They formed a local Action group and became key stakeholders in Neighbourhood Planning in the area along with other local groups and residents.

Burnhill's plan sets out priorities identified by residents and highlights the positive things going on for Burnhill.

Burnhill Priorities 2025-26	Burnhill Priorities 2024-25
1. Health improvements	1. More leisure and social opportunities
2. Physical environment and housing improvements	2. Stronger and better communities
3. Better financial wellbeing	3. Physical environment and housing improvements
4. Greater community safety	4. Play Park and sports park improvements
5. Better education, training and employment opportunities	5. Easier to get about/moving around
6. Play Park and sport park improvements	6. Greater community safety
7. Stronger and better communities	7. More variety of shops/businesses
8. More leisure and social opportunities	8. Better education, training and employment opportunities
9. More variety of shops and businesses	9. Better financial wellbeing
10. Easier to get about/moving around	10. Health improvements

Local highlights

- The Highbacks delivered a range of initiatives aligned with local neighbourhood priorities, including community skip events to improve the local environment and reduce fly-tipping, energy advice services to support residents facing cost-of-living pressures, and digital inclusion support through the Virgin Media O2 Community SIM programme, benefiting 20 local residents. Additional support was provided to families through the provision of school uniforms and educational resources, while Summer Camps and a Summer Lunch Club offered food provision and positive activities for young people during the school holidays.
- Better financial wellbeing is a top community priority, consequently, the Highbacks introduced specialist energy advice support for locals to access. Families were able to access guidance on bills, tariffs, heating efficiency and to promote available grants. This has helped residents reduce costs, understand their options and feel more in control during a challenging period.

"As a Burnhill resident, I couldn't be prouder of the community we've created together and the incredible people in it. You've shaped a community within a community, and for many, you've

created a safe space that truly matters. From all of us at The Highbacks — thank you so much. Let's keep going, keep growing, and keep smashing it. Here's to the future and everything we'll achieve together." Burnhill resident

"We are proud of the impact these initiatives have had and grateful to everyone who has contributed, volunteered or taken part." Highbacks staff members

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £13,950 funding available
- £8,100 funding applied for
- 99 votes cast
- 4 fully funded projects

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
Rutherglen Glencairn 20's	Running costs and promotion of community football team, updating equipment and hosting community event	51	£2500
The Highbacks	Reducing fly tipping, and supporting local people to dispose of their additional waste appropriately by hosting skips	7	£2500
The Nurturing Nook	Christmas event for local families promoting community connection, wellbeing, and a sense of belonging for all.	24	£2500
Breakthrough Youth Project	Cooking project, health and safety training, encouraging to cook on a budget, follow recipes and introduce new foods	17	£600

[Case Studies – heading not to be included in design]

Men's Mental Health – MENding minds group Burnhill

Health Improvement priority theme has gone from the lowest to the highest priority in the Burnhill neighbourhood in this current year's re-ranking. Male mental health is a particular topic which has been at the forefront of the community following the suicide of a local young man who attended the MENding minds men's group.

The men's group has fundraised and evolved in response to this tragedy by building a men's shed giving the group a permanent space. Over the year the group have continued to support local men with health, wellbeing and social connection, by providing a safe, informal space to talk, share experiences and access support, helping reduce isolation and improve mental health outcomes. The below quotes are from group members who wanted to share the value of the group to them for content in this report.

"With all the stigma around men's mental health the group is exactly what has been needed in the community for years so men can share any issues and problems there going through with likeminded guys and get help from each other in a safe space where they feel comfortable."

"Mending minds has given me something worthwhile to put my efforts and energy towards and because of this I've been free of drink and cocaine for 6 months. I only wish this had been around when I was younger and it may have helped me sooner." -

"Burnhill mending minds has given me the confidence to get out the house and get some sort of structure, the lads have been so supportive towards me regarding my mental health . I've had the confidence to wear short sleeves revealing many scars due to my self harm caused by voices in my head ..they seem to diminish quite a bit around a cracking environment that the lads at mending offer me . I'm grateful to have such understanding surrounding my issues"

-Group members MENding minds group

Cambuslang East

Cambuslang East Neighbourhood Plan covers the whole ward but focuses on priority areas of Circuit, Westburn and Halfway. The population of Cambuslang East is over 18,000, and it's a lively, diverse community that sits within electoral Ward 14. There are a lot of active groups and organisations that work in the community, who have been coming together to create vibrant, well attended events in the community, play park improvements, taking on local community assets through Community Asset Transfer to continuously work towards the neighbourhood planning priorities. The 10 neighbourhood planning priorities were set out and reprioritised annually through extensive community engagement.

Cambuslang East Priorities 2025-26	Cambuslang East Priorities 2024-25
1. Health Improvements	1. Play Park and sports park improvements
2. Easier to get about/moving around	2. More leisure and social opportunities
3. Physical environment and housing improvements	3. More variety of shops/businesses
4. Stronger and better communities	4. Stronger and better communities
5. Better education, training and employment opportunities	5. Physical environment and housing improvements
6. More variety of shops/businesses	6. Easier to get about/moving around
7. Better financial wellbeing	7. Better education, training and employment opportunities
8. Greater community safety	8. Greater community safety
9. More leisure and social opportunities	9. Health improvements
10. Play Park and sports park improvements	10. Better financial wellbeing

Local highlights:

- Transport is a top priority in the neighbourhood and as a response to this local challenge, LEAP operate a volunteer drivers' scheme, which take group members back and forth to the groups enabling the elderly participants, who have no access to transport, to access health and wellbeing resources at LEAP such as dementia cafes, lunch clubs, befriending.
- Investment in Cambuslang Park has made improvements to the local play area and wider park, which includes new benches being installed. Friends of Cambuslang Park hosted community fun day in collaboration with local community groups and businesses providing free activity for the local community.
- LEAP's friendship groups offer people the chance to get together for a cuppa and a chat and activities and outings that help combat isolation and loneliness. But for some people the groups would be a step too far because that couldn't get to them in the first place, and that is where LEAP's volunteer drivers come in. Sally goes to our group in Barncluith in Hamilton, thanks to our volunteer who drives her and two other ladies to the group and takes her home again. Sally said: "The people at the Barncluith are lovely and I love the group. I don't like to miss it."

"Going to the group really cheers me up and I really look forward to it." - Sally

'Our volunteer has been driving with LEAP for several months now and said: "Sally and the other ladies really look forward to going to the group at Barncluith and taking them there gives me a way of giving something back to my community. "I know for Sally in particular that taking her to the group means she doesn't end up feeling lonely and isolated."

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £15,500 funding available
- £18,995 funding applied for
- 8 applications were received - 6 fully funded - 1 part funded
- 1091 votes cast

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
LEAP Project	Total renovation of and furnishing of the old library to make it pleasant and accessible hub for all in the community	193	£2500
Project 31	Delivery of free Pop-Up Play sessions which include a variety of sports, games, arts and crafts for local families in Halfway park.	142	£2500
Particip8 Overton	Community events including Gala Fun Day, Halloween Pumpkin Hunt event, Fireworks Spectacular Fun Fair, Christmas Lights Switch On in Halfway and visit to schools and throughout Cambuslang from Santa.	173	£2500
R:evolve Recycle	Open space for the Cambuslang East community to connect and shape activities and opportunities they would like to see in their local community.	113	£2495
Circuit Youth Club	Community bingo evenings which are accessible to the local community	146	£2500
Halfway Community Council	Installation of benches in Halfway Park for local people	137	£2500
Halfway and District Bowling Club	Upgrades to changing facilities/locker room in local bowling club for young bowlers and football teams to use	112	£2500

[Case Studies – heading not to be included in design]

The Community Craft Café

PB monies allowed us to promote and launch our new initiative "The Community Craft Café" between September and December 2026. The Craft Café ran from 11-3 every Sunday and created a warm and affordable space for local families to take part in arts and crafts and community activities. Unfortunately match funding we had applied for was delayed by several months therefore our original plans were reduced to accommodate this. However, we still recorded good outcomes for local residents:

- 22.5% increase in engagement in hub activities between 1st Sept -31st Dec 2025, compared to the same time last year.
- 87% of participants who answered stated they felt improved community spirit and pride of place as a result of the project

- 3 volunteers aged below 20 years old participated and improved their employability prospects and we employed 1 young person aged 20.
- Participants told us in our evaluation that one of the main reasons for engagement was activities for their children away from screens and that it was more cost effective for them to come along to the craft café and have access to all the materials and arts supplies, rather than having to buy them and also the added benefit of not having to clear up afterwards.

Participat8

With the PB funding, in-conjunction with the local Boy's Brigade, Park View PP, HCC and other groups we hosted and facilitated a Gala Fun Day at Parkview Primary School & Park, a Halloween Pumpkin Hunt in the Park and Community Hub, a Fireworks Spectacular and Fun Fair, and a Christmas Lights Switch On in the Halfway Civic Area where Santa visited schools and done a tour round the streets for all.

All our events increase community spirit in a community that is blighted by poverty and brings joy and happiness and a great sense of pride for the area and for each other

Fernhill

Fernhill is a small community in Rutherglen that sits on the South Lanarkshire side of the border to Glasgow City Council and has a population of roughly 1,887. In the centre of the community there is a large multi-use modern community centre operated by South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Fernhill which is a hub for local community groups. Fernhill has a very strong network of community volunteers who deliver a variety of activities for the community.

Fernhill's plan was produced by a local community action group whose members are local residents who were joined by representatives from key local agencies and organisations to agree priorities. The plan sets out priorities and highlights the positive things going on for the community of Fernhill.

Fernhill Priorities 2025-26	Fernhill Priorities 2024-25
1. Easier to get about/moving around	1. More leisure and social opportunities
2. More variety of shops and businesses	2. Stronger and better communities
3. Greater community safety	3. Physical environment and housing improvements
4. Health improvements	4. Play park and sports park improvements
5. Physical environment and housing improvements	5. Easier to get about/moving around
6. Better financial wellbeing	6. Greater community safety
7. Stronger and better communities	7. More variety of shops/businesses
8. Better education, training and employment opportunities	8. Better education and training opportunities
9. Play Park and sports park improvements	9. Better financial wellbeing
10. More leisure and social opportunities	10. Health improvements

Local highlights:

- New lighting was installed in March at the paths at Neilvaig and the Craigmuir Steps were refurbished, addressing the top priority of easier to get about/moving around.
- Police Scotland have been working with stakeholders on Community Safety over the last 6 months. The Community Policing team has been building relationships with our community warden colleagues and will be working with the partnership in Fernhill in the coming year on a community wellbeing event for migrant residents in the area. They have trained up more of community policing team to use the quad bikes which are regularly deployed throughout the area. Officers have been regularly carrying out static speed checks in Fernhill to raise awareness, take necessary enforcement action, and provide advice and guidance to the public in relation to road safety. In addition, they have provided additional support and specialist trained colleagues at weekends to address spikes in youth disorder. Part of the effort to reduce youth disorder has brought in youth Scotland volunteers to assist with work to stop the sale of alcohol to underage teens.
- Fernhill Soccer School continues to provide free weekly football sessions for 50 to 70 local children, promoting fun, friendship and physical activity in a supportive environment. The demand for this group in the community is high, particularly for younger age groups, and the project relies on dedicated volunteers, community funding and local business support to remain free and accessible.

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £13,950 funding available
- £13,500 funding allocated
- 591 votes
- 7 fully funded projects.

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
Fernhill Soccer School	Weekly Sunday football provision for local children to access for the full year	104	£2500
Fernhill Wednesday 9's Football	Weekly adult 9s football to encourage adults to get engaged in football and fitness	67	£2500
Fernhill Bowlers	Support for running costs for local bowling club	58	£1500
Fernhill Kids Playscheme	Halloween movie night and family panto for local families to enjoy in the community centre	117	£2500
Fernhill Communities Together	Christmas event in the local community for all to access	114	£2500
Fernhill Seniors Club	Christmas lunch and entertainment for seniors	112	£1500
McWOMEN Art & Wellbeing	Women of Fernhill, will help create a verbatim film and large sculpture/Exhibition for 'International 16 Days against Violence'	19	£500

[Case Studies – heading not to be included in design]

Fernhill Bowlers

Participatory Budgeting funding has made a significant difference to the Fernhill Bowlers. It has enabled us to continue meeting every week, providing our members with a vital opportunity for friendship, support and social connection. For many of our members, the club is their only regular outing and has become a real lifeline, helping to reduce loneliness and isolation.

Beyond the game of carpet bowls, our members benefit from the companionship, shared experiences and peer support that come from being together. The funding has also allowed us to continue creating inclusive opportunities within the community, including welcoming adults with additional support needs to take part in special bowling sessions. Without this support, many of our members would lose an important source of social contact, wellbeing and belonging. PB funding has helped ensure our club remains a welcoming place where people can connect, support one another and stay active within their community.

Fernhill Soccer School

Fernhill Soccer School delivers of free football and fitness sessions for both children and adults in Fernhill, ensuring local people can stay active, connected and supported regardless of their financial circumstances.

For children and young people, the PB funding helped provide weekly football and fitness sessions every Sunday and contributed to costs of park and hall lets. The project supplied new football kits, training equipment, shin pads, grip socks, sportswear, snacks and drinks, ensuring every child could take part without additional costs for families. Attendance regularly reached between 40 and 50 children during the winter months and more than 70 during the summer, including around 15 girls and many new participants from across the local area.

The project brought together children from different backgrounds and communities, helping them develop friendships, improve fitness and build confidence through sport. It also created opportunities for parents and carers to meet new people and strengthen local community connections.

For adults, we were able to continue weekly football and fitness sessions every Wednesday evening. The funding helped cover venue costs and provided new footballs, training equipment, bibs and goals, allowing sessions to remain accessible at a time when many participants were facing financial pressures due to the rising cost of living.

Beyond the physical benefits of exercise, the adult sessions became an important source of social connection and mental wellbeing. For many participants, it was their main opportunity each week to leave the house, meet friends and connect with others. The project also attracted new members from surrounding areas, with younger people becoming involved and under-18s and unemployed participants able to attend free of charge.

“Participatory Budgeting funding has made a massive difference to both our children's and adult football programmes. It has allowed us to continue delivering free weekly sessions, training, resources and kit that many families would otherwise struggle to afford.

The biggest impact has been bringing people together. Children from different backgrounds he made new friends, stayed active and enjoyed football in a safe and welcoming environment, while parents have built their own social connections through the sessions. For many adults attending our Wednesday night football, it's much more than a game. It's an opportunity to get out of the house, improve their mental health, meet old friends and make new ones.

‘At a time when the cost of living is affecting so many people, the funding has ensured nobody is excluded because of cost. We've seen participation grow, community spirit improves and a real buzz return to the group. The impact goes far beyond football and has helped create stronger, healthier and more connected communities.’

– Davy O'Neil Fernhill resident

Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank

Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank is in northwest of Hamilton and has a population of 7,051. Neighbourhood Planning in area began in November 2017.

The Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank Community Stakeholder Group is supported by Community Links in partnership with the Community Engagement Team Officers. The group continued to strengthen partnership working between residents, community organisations and public agencies in 2025/26, bringing together an increased and diverse mix of local residents, community organisations and partner agencies to work collaboratively towards shared neighbourhood priorities.

The Group includes representatives from organisations such as Terminal One, Burnbank Community Hub and Hillhouse Link Tenants and Residents Association, alongside partners including NHS Lanarkshire and Police Scotland, helping to ensure that a range of local voices, experiences and expertise contribute to improving the area.

Hillhouse, Udston, and Burnbank Priorities 2025-26	Hillhouse, Udston, and Burnbank Priorities 2024-25
1. More Leisure, Recreational, and Social Opportunities	1. Housing Improvements
2. Greater Community Safety	2. More Leisure, Recreational, and Social Opportunities
3. Better Financial Wellbeing	3. Greater Community Safety
4. Physical Environment Improvements	4. Better Financial Wellbeing
5. Health Improvements	5. Physical Environmental Improvements
6. Housing Improvements	6. Better Education and Training Opportunities
7. Stronger and Better Communities	7. Health Improvements
8. Better Education and Training Opportunities	8. Stronger and Better Communities
9. Easier to Get About / Move Around	9. Better Employment and Business Opportunities
10. Better Employment and Business Opportunities	10. Easier to Get About / Move Around

Local highlights:

- Hillhouse Link Tenants and Residents Association hosted a variety of activities and events, with highlights including Christmas parties for younger children and teenagers, Halloween celebrations, sports events and a pensioners' lunch. The group continues to improve its growing and recreational space, which provides opportunities for beekeeping, community growing plots, a polytunnel and an outdoor classroom in Hillhouse. Support from OPOP workers to secure significant funding has also enabled the installation of an accessible path network and toilet facilities, CCTV at their recreational area and helped them to work with other partners such as the Community Payback Team and Gear Up to develop cycling and bike-reuse activity. In addition to sessions on helping younger riders develop their confidence for bike safety. by March 2026, funding had been secured for ten bikes, storage, and a bicycle repair station.
- Terminal One provides a range of social and recreational opportunities for young people across the Hillhouse, Udston, and Burnbank neighbourhood provide young people with safe, welcoming spaces to meet friends, take part in activities and build positive connections within their local community and is an advocate for youth voice and engagement in the partnership.

- Community safety remained an important focus in Our Place Our Plan Stakeholder group meetings which gave residents an opportunity to discuss local issues, including antisocial behaviour, vandalism, dog and horse fouling and waste disposal, and helped ensure that these were shared with the appropriate services for action. Community safety considerations were also reflected in discussions about Participatory Budgeting projects, including plans for a robust steel bench in Burnbank Park that would be less vulnerable to vandalism or theft.
- Community Links' Winter Warmer event brought practical climate action together with support for people facing the pressures of keeping warm through the winter. Held in partnership with Burnbank Community Hub provided free warm clothing and useful items such as hot water bottles and draught excluders, alongside hot food and refreshments. The project encouraged a simple 'heat the person, not the home' approach, helping people stay comfortable while reducing unnecessary energy use and household costs. Donated and second-hand winter clothing also gave useful items a new home rather than allowing them to go to waste.

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £27,900 funding available
- £27,538 funding allocated
- 1209 votes cast
- 12 projects fully funded

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
Childcare In the Community	Resources for children's holiday pop up camps	83	£1935
Hillhouse and Earnock Craft Group	Craft group to improve mental health and isolation	84	£2000
The Blantyre Youth Development Team	Free street dance workshops for children and young people	129	£2500
Hillhouse Link Tennant and Residents Association	Interactive, environmental educational courses on honeybees and other pollinators, in the form of a 6-week programme once Bees are ready	138	£2500
Burnbank Community Hub	Drop in digital mental health hub	91	£1845
Supporting Our Community SOC	Fortnightly workshops for people with dementia and their families/carers to come together	168	£2500
ASNsory Crew SCIO	ASN and complex needs and their families to socialise with their peers and expand their interactions	74	£2500
Community Links (Winter Warmer)	Winter Warmer to provide free energy saving items and advice to residents to stay warm and reduce bills	88	£2498
Community Links - (Burnbank Play Park)	New benches and shared herb garden in Burnbank Playpark	76	£2460
Aura Holistic Health and Wellbeing	Free holistic health sessions for women in Hillhouse, Udston, and Burnbank	110	£2500

Backyard Bees	Interactive, environmental educational courses on honeybees and other pollinators, in the form of a 6-week programme once Bees are ready	34	£1820
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[Case Studies – heading not to be included in design]

Burnbank Community Hub

Burnbank Community Hub continues to play a central role within the Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank Our Place Our Plan Stakeholders Group. This group provides a welcoming and accessible weekly drop-in facility at Gilmour and Whitehill Parish Church in the heart of Burnbank. The Hub offers local people a warm welcome alongside free café provision, non-referral food bank support, social activities, and free access to IT and the internet.

A particular focus during the past year has been the development of the Hub as a place where local people can access a wider range of advice and support without the need for an appointment. Working closely with OPOP Development Workers and NHS Lanarkshire, Burnbank Community Hub has helped secure the involvement of a growing number of statutory and third-sector partners who now provide drop-in access to their expertise from NHS Lanarkshire, Lanarkshire Links, Citizens Advice Bureau, Money Matters and Turning Point Scotland, alongside a range of other organisations. These partners include By bringing these services directly into a familiar and trusted community setting, residents can access advice and support relating to money, health and wellbeing and other issues without having to navigate multiple referral processes or wait for an appointment.

This has helped to create a convenient, comfortable relaxed and familiar environment where people can seek assistance, access information and connect with others in their community, while also helping to reduce some of the barriers that can prevent people from engaging with services. Whether someone is looking for advice, experiencing an immediate difficulty or simply unsure where to turn, the Hub provides an accessible starting point and an opportunity to speak directly with the people and organisations able to help.

The continued development of Burnbank Community Hub demonstrates the value of bringing community organisations, statutory services and local people together in one accessible space. Building on the progress made during the year, the Hub and its partners will continue to explore new opportunities to strengthen the range of support available and ensure that local people can access the help, advice and services they need, close to home.

Hamilton South

Hamilton South Ward has a population of over 22,000 people, priority areas for neighbourhood planning activity are Eddlewood, Fairhill, and Low Waters. Although Neighbourhood planning activity across the ward started in Summer 2023, neighbourhood planning in Fairhill had already begun.

A local stakeholder group was formed representing residents, elected members and staff working in the area representing community planning partners.

The neighbourhood plan for Hamilton South sets out ten priority themes using the plan created for Fairhill but widening its scope to cover all areas. Identifying targets to benefit both the individual and collective communities.

Hamilton South has many community assets and a vibrant community infrastructure. local groups and organisations, who contribute to wider community wellbeing because their principal priorities are to promote improve community involvement, strengthen community spirit and connectedness.

Hamilton South Priorities 2025-26	Hamilton South Priorities 2024-25
1. Easier to get about/moving around	1. Physical Environment
2. Stronger and better communities	2. More leisure and social opportunities
3. More variety of shops and businesses	3. Greater Community Safety
4. Housing improvements	4. Easier to get about/moving around
5. Better financial wellbeing	5. More variety of shops and businesses
6. More leisure and social opportunities	6. Housing improvements
7. Health improvements	7. Stronger and better communities
8. Better education, training and employment opportunities	8. Better financial wellbeing
9. Greater community safety	9. Health improvements
10. Physical Environment	10. Better education, training and employment opportunities

Local highlights:

- Eddlewood Football Club enhanced local facilities through the installation of two wooden picnic benches, colourful planters and a publicly accessible defibrillator. This has been a way in which to support developing into a stronger community and to enhance community spirit.
- Low Waters Community Hall is a local community asset transfer which has been providing a valuable community facility, offering space for local groups, clubs, meetings and events to take place within the community. The local stakeholder meetings have been held in this facility. This supports ongoing community participation and activity within the local neighbourhood.

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £21,700 funding available
- £15,200 funding allocated
- 1007 votes cast
- 7 fully funded projects

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
112th Lanarkshire Scout Group	Scouts group equipment, tents, and gear to provide the opportunity to	127	£2500

	explore the outdoors, grow, and thrive together.		
Low Waters Community Group	Upgrades to community hall to support long term use	154	£2500
Scott Murray School of Irish Dancing	Subsidised Irish dancing classes to help improve physical and mental health	53	£2000
Eddlewood Football Club	Creation of a space at Eddlewood café with outdoor seating, colourful planters, and a public defibrillator	260	£2500
Eddlewood Activity Group	Community day with lots of activity for all of the community to enjoy such as inflatables, food, drink and stalls.	256	£2250
Burnblea Gardens Tennant's and Residents Association	Coffee morning for tenants and residents in Burnblea to support partner engagement and support the suitability of the group	59	£950

[Case Study – heading not to be included in design]

Eddlewood Football Club

Eddlewood Football Club used Participatory Budgeting (PB) funding to enhance facilities at Eddlewood Park, creating improvements that benefit both grassroots football participants and the wider community. The funding helped purchase outdoor benches, planters and a publicly accessible defibrillator (AED), contributing to the ongoing transformation of the park into a welcoming community hub.

The benches have been installed within the new community café seating area at the refurbished pavilion, providing a comfortable place for families, spectators, park users and local residents to sit, relax and socialise. The addition of planters has helped improve the appearance of the area, creating a more attractive and welcoming environment. The club has also worked with local community groups, including the Low Waters group, to explore opportunities for community planting projects, encouraging local involvement and pride in the space.

A significant aspect of the project was the purchase of a publicly accessible defibrillator, which will be installed externally at the pavilion in a secure cabinet. This ensures life-saving equipment is available not only for football activities but also for anyone using the park in the event of a medical emergency.

Eddlewood Football Club said:

"Participatory Budgeting funding has made a real difference to Eddlewood Park and the wider community. The benches, planters and public access defibrillator have helped create a safer, more welcoming environment for everyone who uses the park. The funding has supported our vision of developing the pavilion and surrounding area into a true community hub where people can meet, socialise and enjoy the space together. It has also strengthened our football facilities, supporting players, families and volunteers, while creating lasting benefits for local residents and community groups."

Springhall and Whitlawburn

Springhall and Whitlawburn has a population of approx. 3,414 people and sits slightly north of Cathkin braes.

The Our Place Our Plan Stakeholder Group continued to meet to progress local priorities and strengthen partnership working across Springhall and Whitlawburn.

Throughout 2025/26, partners have continued to focus on increasing community participation, supporting local volunteering and delivering activities that improve the local environment and strengthen community connections.

The group has continued to work collaboratively to identify local needs, share resources and support projects that contribute to the priorities identified within the neighbourhood plan, with a continued focus on building stronger communities, improving local places and increasing opportunities for residents to become actively involved in shaping their neighbourhood.

The neighbourhood has a strong and thriving community and voluntary sector providing a range of services and activities for all ages. Including youth services, activities for pre fives and for older people, opportunities for child and family learning, social and recreational activities as well as activities that promote physical activity, mental health and wellbeing.

Springhall & Whitlawburn Priorities 2025-26	Springhall & Whitlawburn Priorities 2024-25
1. Housing Improvements	1. More Leisure, Recreation, and Social Opportunities
2. More Leisure, Recreation, and Social Opportunities	2. Building Stronger and Better Communities
3. Building Stronger and Better Communities	3. Housing Improvements
4. Better Financial Wellbeing	4. Greater Community Safety
5. Greater Community Safety	5. Better Financial Wellbeing
6. Physical Environmental Improvements	6. Physical Environmental Improvements
7. Better Employment and Business Opportunities	7. Health Improvement
8. Health Improvement	8. Better Employment and Business Opportunities
9. Better Education and Training Opportunities	9. Better Education and Training Opportunities
10. Easier to Move Around	10. Easier to Move Around

Local Highlights:

- Age Active volunteers have continued to strengthen the local community by taking on increased leadership roles within the group. A number of local volunteers successfully completed Elementary Food Hygiene and Emergency First Aid at Work training, equipping them with the skills and confidence to lead more aspects of the group's activities independently. The volunteers now play a key role in planning, preparing and serving meals for older residents at the twice-monthly Age Active sessions, helping to create a welcoming environment that reduces social isolation while providing opportunities for friendship, activities and peer support.
- Young people from the Springhall Afterschool Group have made a significant contribution to improving their local environment through the ongoing regeneration of the Springhall Cage Unit and raised bed garden. Working alongside Healthy n Happy staff, they helped clear fly

tipping, remove weeds and improve the appearance of the site, creating a cleaner and more welcoming community space.

- As part of the Rutherglen 900 celebrations, the group also participated in a creative spray-painting project led by local artist Tragic O'Hara. The young people learned new artistic and design skills before working together to create a colourful mural on the Springhall Cage Unit. The project has fostered creativity, teamwork and pride in the local area, while leaving a lasting legacy for the wider community to enjoy.
- Residents are already beginning to see the positive impact of the Skip into Action initiative, funded through the Local Action Fund. The project has provided skips within the community to help tackle fly tipping and encourage responsible waste disposal. By making it easier for residents to dispose of unwanted household items, the initiative is helping to improve the appearance of neighbourhoods, promote civic pride and support cleaner, safer streets.

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £15,500 funding available
- £20,485 funding applied for
- 3186 votes
- 11 applications received
- 7 fully funded projects and 1 part funded

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
St Anthony's & St Marks Foodbank	Purchase of chest freezer and cool boxes to enable the foodbank to join the free Fareshare Go scheme.	249	£470
Whitlawburn Movies and Memory's	Movies and memories project dedicated to celebrating local heritage and shared experience to preserve cultural memory	587	£2322
Whitlawburn Community Christian Fellowship	Women's film and music community celebration and distribution of food/toiletries and cleaning materials	451	£2500
Camglen Buddies Leisure and social club	Purchase of items for community group to strengthen friendships and inclusion in the community	234	£1988
Future Communities	Free community events, open to everyone to purchase shared community resources. Community events over seasonal themes.	497	£2500
Springhall and Whitlawburn Youth Development Team	Two seasonal community events to celebrate Christmas and Valentines Day, bringing over 50's and their families together	357	£2465
Healthy and Happy on behalf of Age Active	Facilitation of a community panto event, allowing for quality family time and to build community connections	275	£2500
Springhall Afterschool Club	Partial award for funding for after school group in local community space	212	£2500

[Case Study – heading not to be included in design]

Strutherhill and Birkenshaw

Strutherhill and Birkenshaw is situated in the South of Larkhall and has a population of 3,554. The area was identified by the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) in 2017 as one of the early Neighbourhood Planning pilot areas.

Across 2025-26, the Our Place Our Plan Stakeholder Group continued to pursue resident priorities including community safety, fly-tipping, road safety and environmental improvements, while strengthening collaboration between residents and partner agencies.

This very active Stakeholder group has welcomed a range of partners at its meetings this year to collaborate with residents and groups on local priorities, including Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Money Matters, Citizens Advice Bureau, housing services and health improvement.

Community Links continue to support the Stakeholder group in partnership with the Community Engagement Team, working directly with the community to take forward community activity and to liaise with partners in the area.

Strutherhill & Birkenshaw Priorities 2025-26	Strutherhill & Birkenshaw Priorities 2024-25
1. Physical Environmental Improvements	1. More Leisure and Recreational Opportunities
2. Greater Community Safety	2. Greater Community Safety
3. More Leisure, Recreational and Social Opportunities	3. Physical Environmental Improvement
4. Better Education and Training Opportunities	4. Housing Improvement
5. Stronger and Better Communities	5. Health Improvement
6. Housing Improvements	6. Stronger and Better Communities
7. Better Financial Wellbeing	7. Better Education and Training Opportunities
8. Health Improvements	8. Better Financial Wellbeing
9. Easier to Get About / Move Around	9. Better Employment and Business Opportunities
10. Better Employment and Business Opportunities	10. Easier to Get About / Move Around

Local highlights:

- A local skip initiative collected 32 tonnes of bulky household waste, which otherwise residents would have been unable to dispose of properly. As a result, Waste Services are reviewing their service availability and access. A school and community sponsored litter pick also brought everyone together to work towards the top priority of physical environmental improvements.
- The OPOP Stakeholder Group worked with partners in Police Scotland to address traffic safety concerns through the periodic siting of mobile speed cameras in locations identified by residents as high risk. Police Scotland also arranged monthly 'Brew with the Police Crew' drop-ins in community locations to provide informal and accessible opportunities for local residents to raise concerns and seek advice.
- The OPOP Stakeholders Group worked with local residents and Education services to install solar-powered lighting around the local MUGA pitch. The improved lighting

allows the facility to be used safely for longer during darker evenings, while also helping to improve visibility in the surrounding area and deter anti-social behaviour, contributing to a greater sense of safety for local people.

- Strutherhill and Birkenshaw Action Group host a Brew n Blether which has provided a regular weekly space for residents to meet, access support and reduce social isolation. The initiative has hosted a range of activities and events throughout the year, a particular highlight being the East event which was attended by 52 children and 42 adults. The event provided free refreshments, community conversations and access to information and advice services.

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £18,600 funding available
- £26,346 funding applied for
- 1785 votes
- 13 applications received- 7 fully funded, 1 part funding

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
Machan Trust	After-school activities for primary 1 to primary 7 children in 2 separate weekly sessions providing food, fun and friendship	169	£2500
1 st Larkhall Girl's Bridgade	Launch an inspiring podcast and training program to spotlight local heroes and community groups, energising young people through 1st Larkhall Girls' Brigade and Duke of Edinburgh Award to share uplifting community stories.	116	£1845
Youth at UC	Resources and providing new experiences for all in the community for young people in the community.	119	£1900.80
Strutherhill and Birkenshaw Action Group (SAB Action)	Community project featuring drama workshops, photography courses Halloween fun days	197	£2500
David McAinsh	Purchase of MUGA solar lights	178	£2500
Our Place Our Plan Skip Initiative	Community Skip Initiative to reduce waste, promote recycling, and encourage collective action.	210	£2500
Birkenshaw Welfare Guild	Pensioner Christmas celebration to reduce isolation and loneliness	237	£2500
Larkhall Thistle Community FC	Safe, free, enjoyable activity for local young people. Two sessions (age 5–9 / 10–14), promoting wellbeing and offering a safe place to make friends and learn new skills	208	£2500

[Case Study – heading not to be included in design]

Local Skip Initiative

In Strutherhill and Birkenshaw, 14 residents took part in the Our Place Our Plan Community Group during the year. The Group continued to provide an important space where local people could come

together, share their experiences and raise the issues affecting everyday life in the neighbourhood. These included community safety, road and pedestrian safety, fly-tipping, drainage, potholes, street lighting and opportunities to improve local parks and green spaces.

The year also showed how concerns raised through neighbourhood planning can be turned into practical community action. Residents had highlighted both the problem of fly-tipping and the difficulties some households experienced when trying to dispose of larger items. In response, the Community Group worked closely with the Strutherhill and Birkenshaw Action Group to develop an ambitious community Skip Initiative.

The idea progressed from initial discussions about the project and possible funding in June and July 2025 to detailed planning and partnership development during the autumn. Twelve local volunteers helped shape, organise and deliver the initiative, which culminated in a successful and well-attended community event in February 2026 where skips were made available in an easily accessible community location and local people could bring their bulky items for disposal.

During the event, 76 residents made use of four skips, all of which were filled to the brim. Additional support was provided for people who were unable to transport larger items themselves, with the Community Payback team completing 18 doorstep collections and local volunteers carrying out a further seven.

The positive response from residents demonstrated both the practical value of the initiative and what can be achieved when local people, community organisations and public services work together. Building on that success, the Group has already begun considering future events and other improvements that could make a positive difference across Strutherhill and Birkenshaw.

South Lanarkshire Council Waste Services supported the delivery of the skip initiative and, impressed by the level of participation from the community, have committed to looking at the barriers to local people accessing waste services and reviewing their systems and processes to improve access. The event was a great opportunity for waste and re-use education.

Whitehill

Whitehill is in North Hamilton and has a population of around 2,500 people. Over the past 20 years the area has benefited from developments including social housing, a care facility for older people and a Neighborhood Centre.

The Whitehill Neighborhood Centre provides an invaluable focal point for community activity and offers a base to Youth, Family, and Community Learning staff, Universal Connection and Child Care in the Community.

The area benefits greatly from vibrant community groups and organisations, and their ongoing efforts contribute significantly to promoting community spirit, community connections and wellbeing.

Whitehill Priorities 2025-26	Whitehill Priorities 2024-25
1. Easier to get about/moving around	1. Play park and sports park improvements
2. Health Improvement	2. More leisure and social opportunities
3. More variety of shops and businesses	3. Stronger and better communities
4. Better Financial Wellbeing	4. Physical environment and housing improvements
5. Stronger and better communities	5. Easier to get about/moving around
6. Physical Environmental and Housing Improvements	6. Better education, training and employment opportunities
7. Better Education and Training Opportunities	7. Greater community safety
8. More leisure and social opportunities	8. Health Improvements
9. Greater community safety	9. Better financial wellbeing
10. Play Park and sports park improvements	10. More variety of shops and businesses

Local highlights:

- An ongoing priority for the Whitehill community is the lack of public transport from the neighbourhood beyond 6pm when the last bus service finishes. How to advocate for this to change is being considered by local residents.

- The Whitehill Action Group have hosting regular community events and activities in the community centre that are accessible for residents. They have also hosted a series of seasonal trips, providing transportation and opportunity for residents to have new experiences together.
- Hamilton Judo Club now host a monthly inclusive community café within Whitehill Neighbourhood Centre creating work experiences and learning opportunities for those attending the Judo Club and offering a social space for residents to meet within their community centre.
- The Stakeholder group collaborated with local Councillors and the local MP to advocate for the reinstatement of post box. The appeals process with the post office has now been exhausted, and unfortunately, a positive outcome was not reached. However, the community mobilised around this issue, initiating a community petition and they worked collaboratively with elected representatives to lobby a service decision that affected them.
- A partnership approach has been taken to Health Improvement in the Whitehill neighbourhood by Hamilton Judo Club, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture and NHS Lanarkshire Health Improvement, whereby a five week falls prevention programme was facilitated in the community to combine gentle, adapted, judo-based movement sessions with health and wellbeing support.
- PB funding was used to cover the costs of community hall lets, ensuring local groups and residents Access to affordable community space enabled groups to focus their resources on delivering activities rather than covering venue costs. Access to safe, welcoming spaces where they could meet, connect and take part in activities and increased participation and opportunities. The funding removed a significant barrier for community organisations.

'Participatory Budgeting funding has made a real difference to our community by ensuring local hall spaces remain available and accessible for community groups. The funding has allowed activities and events to continue, bringing people together, reducing isolation and creating opportunities for new friendships and support networks. Having a regular place to meet has strengthened community connections, helped local groups grow in confidence and capacity, and created a stronger sense of belonging for everyone involved. The impact goes far beyond simply funding a venue; it has helped build a more connected, inclusive and resilient community.'

– Whitehill Activity Group on behalf of OPOP Whitehill

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £10,850 funding available
- £13,935 funding applied for
- 7 applications received - 4 fully funded, 2 part funded

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
Childcare in the Community	Resources for children's holiday pop up camps	66	£1935
Hamilton Judo Club	Health and Wellbeing Judo hub for whole community benefit	41	£2500
Whitehill Activity Group	To distribute vouchers and gifts to families and individuals during the Christmas season. This aims to provide essential support and bring joy to those facing hardship within the community	115	£2500

The holding space SCIO	weekly 2-hour group where kids can be creative and expressive with singing, dancing, acting and artistic, a safe space for all children	41	£2500
Community Corner	Weekly community corner to tackle isolation and loneliness in the community	65	£1000
Whitehill OPOP Group	Funding for hall lets to put on more community events for community members to access.	58	£1000

[Case Study – heading not to be included in design]

Community Café

Hamilton Judo Club Inclusion's monthly Community Café has become a popular and welcoming event for local families, club members and residents. The café provides a friendly space where people can enjoy a tea or coffee, meet others in the community and access information about local services and opportunities.

As part of the café, children have also had the opportunity to take part in free sports activities, encouraging them to stay active, make new friends and try something new while parents and carers relax and socialise.

The Community Café has also created valuable work experience opportunities for young people who attend the club's Inclusive Judo sessions, as well as pupils from local high schools. With support from volunteers and coaches, they have gained hands-on experience serving customers, learning kitchen processes and developing important customer service and communication skills in a welcoming, supportive environment.

The Community Café continues to strengthen community connections while promoting inclusion, confidence and independence. It reflects Hamilton Judo Club Inclusion's commitment to making health, wellbeing and opportunities for personal development accessible to everyone.

East Kilbride South

East Kilbride South Plan was completed and agreed by the Community Planning Partnership Board in December 2025. The priorities below were developed through community engagement across a two year period.

During this time, there the community landscape was enhanced by Loaves and fishes, local foodbank charity, taking over the Greenhills Community Centre via community asset transfer. The Greenhills Hub building is also shared with Waist Not Want Not, which is a charity shop who host local groups and South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Library Services who have a small library space available part time to the public. This transfer galvanised community around a common goal and greatly enhanced the engagement process for the development of the plan.

The development of the Neighbourhood plan unmasked hidden indicators of child poverty in the area and led to an intentional engagement with children for this plan. The development of the CHES evidence base has improved understanding of the issue and will support action with partners.

The development process highlighted a few local groups experiencing financial and governance vulnerabilities and a need for more community development activity in the area to both increase and strengthen community activity which Neighbourhood Planning has successfully supported in the more established area.

East Kilbride South Priorities 2025-26
1. Outdoor Green Spaces
2. Play Park Improvements
3. Community Activities
4. Local Economy
5. Health and Wellbeing
6. Community Safety
7. Housing
8. Sporting Activities and Facilities
9. Transport and Connectivity
10. Community Halls and Community Facilities
11. Cleaner Community

Local highlights:

- East Kilbride South Men's Zone group was launched in September 2025, creating a welcoming space for local men to connect, build friendships and support their wellbeing. The group has grown steadily into a valued weekly activity, helping to reduce isolation, strengthen peer support and provide a safe, stigma-free environment where men can share experiences, develop confidence and take part in activities shaped by their interests.
- The launch of Loaves & Fishes at Greenhills Community Hub was a significant success, celebrating the community asset transfer completion. The launch attracted strong community support and brought together residents, partners and volunteers. This provided an opportunity to showcase their work and the impact of the services. The launch generated £2,100 in donations.

- Waist Not Want Not launched their new premises in June 2025 in the Greenhills Community Hub, which has space for a charity shop, swap shop, community room, wellness classes and their own community sewing / crafts room. The space has been creatively designed to be an asset for local people to enjoy.

Participatory Budgeting 2025-26

- £5,000 funding available
- £9,025 funding applied for
- 743 votes
- 4 applications received - 2 fully funded, 1 part funded but later withdrawn

Group / organisation	Project activity	Votes received	Funding awarded
Waist Not Want Not	To host men's mental health group led by a qualified facilitator	184	£2280
Little Brains	Activity and support for children with additional supports needs in the community	219	£2100

[Case Study – heading not to be included in design]

Little Brains

PB funding has enabled *Unmasked at Little Brains* to provide a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment for neurodivergent children and young people who often find it difficult to access mainstream activities. During the year, the project offered regular weekly sessions where young people can be themselves without the pressure to mask their behaviours, helping them build confidence, develop friendships and feel a genuine sense of belonging.

Through a mix of games, creative activities and relaxed social opportunities, participants have been able to connect with others who share similar experiences. As trust in the project has grown, attendance has steadily increased, with families recommending the sessions to others within the community. For many parents and carers, Unmasked has become one of the few places where their child feels fully accepted, understood and supported.

The funding has also helped establish Little Brains as an accessible community facility, providing a dedicated space for support sessions, social groups and wellbeing activities tailored to the needs of neurodivergent young people. In addition, the project has created valuable learning opportunities for volunteers and placement students, helping them develop skills in inclusive practice, safeguarding and community support.

“Participatory Budgeting funding has made a life-changing difference to the children, young people and families who attend Unmasked. The funding has allowed us to create a space where neurodivergent young people can feel accepted, valued and free to be themselves without fear of judgement. Many of our families have experienced isolation and difficulty accessing mainstream activities, but through Unmasked they have found friendship, understanding and a genuine sense of belonging. The project has not only benefited the young people attending but has also helped build a supportive community of families, volunteers and young leaders who are working together to create a more inclusive environment for everyone.”

– Unmasked at Little Brains

Collaboration across all Neighborhoods

Stakeholder groups across all neighborhood planning worked collaboratively to develop a community safety card which was launched during Tackling Poverty Week 2025. The launch event was attended by local groups, elected members and community planning partners. The creation of the community safety card was in response to community safety being a key priority across all neighborhood plans in the prior year. The aim of the card is to promote public reassurance and public reporting. This has been distributed in all neighborhood planning areas in locally available spaces and community groups.



Spaces to Talk Hubs

Spaces to Talk hubs are community-based drop-ins designed to make it easier for people to access advice, information and support with everyday health and social care questions or concerns. These have been coordinated by health and social care services and delivered in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council, community organisations and the third sector. The hubs bring local support into familiar community settings where people can speak informally with organisations attending that week. Thus, highlighting the importance of accessible, place-based support within communities. By creating opportunities for early conversations, Spaces to Talk hubs help people access the information before issues escalate, strengthen links between services and service accessibility in local communities and support a more joined-up approach to health, wellbeing and prevention.

Neighborhood Plan priorities for 2026-2027 include:

- Working with local stakeholder groups to develop their action plan for the year ahead.
- Work with Community Planning Partners to review and improve the Neighbourhood Planning, seeking to incorporate learning from the partnership's Shaping Places for Wellbeing Pilot in 2024 and the new Marmot Place Programme pilot evidence base.
- Develop wider integration of Neighbourhood Planning with other strategic forums and place models.
- Develop community conversations that broaden local engagement.
- Continue the development of a Participatory Budgeting Advisory Group to co-design PB processes with communities.
- Increase participation of Stakeholder Groups in locality wide Community Partnerships.
- Community Capacity building in all areas
- Participate in the co-design of the Community Planning Partnership's Participation and Engagement Strategy.

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	Cost of Living Support
Report by:	Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources, South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Craig Fergusson, Head of Finance (Transactions), South Lanarkshire Council Tel: 01698 454951 Email: craig.fergusson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	♦ provide the Partnership Board with an update on the welfare support that has been provided to households in South Lanarkshire by a range of council services and organisations to 31 March 2026.
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/ Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s): (1) that the welfare support provided by a wide range of services and organisations in helping households manage their financial position be noted.
Risks/Challenges:	While a broad range of support was provided throughout 2025/2026 with a significant level of financial resources, the actions outlined in the report are not expected to be sufficient to fully mitigate the worst effects of the cost-of-living crisis experienced by many households in South Lanarkshire. This reflects the scale and depth of the crisis and the need for significant input from other sectors such as governments and the energy sector.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	All ambitions/principles.
Summary of Report:	The report outlines the range of financial and welfare support provided by council services and partner organisations to support households in South Lanarkshire during 2025/2026. This support is explained by the provision of key performance data and includes comparison with the previous year. The report also details statistics that are indicators of poverty levels in South Lanarkshire.



Report to: **Partnership Board**
 Date of Meeting: **9 September 2026**
 Report by: **Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources),
 South Lanarkshire Council**

Subject: **Cost of Living Support**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with an update on the welfare support that has been provided to households in South Lanarkshire by a range of council services and organisations to 31 March 2026.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the support provided by a range of services and organisations in helping households manage the effects of the cost-of-living crisis be noted.

3. Background

3.1. The cost of living continues to present significant financial pressures for many households. The conflict in the Middle East has put sustained pressure on oil prices, that in turn has impacted the price of many commodities notably fuel, energy and heating oil. Inflation was 2.6% for the 12 months to June 2026. The Bank of England base rate is currently 3.75%, with the Bank noting they need to make sure higher energy costs do not lead to sustained higher inflation.

3.2. The report focuses on how a range of council services (Money Matters Advice Services, Benefits and Revenues, Housing, Social Work and Education), Foodbanks, Citizens Advice Bureaus, Social Security Scotland and NHS Lanarkshire provided vital welfare support to many households in South Lanarkshire during 2025/2026.

4. Cost of Living Support

4.1 Money Matters Advice Service

4.1.1. During 2025/2026, the Money Matters Advice Service (MMAS) continued to support residents across South Lanarkshire to maximise income, provide emergency assistance and address issues relating to over-indebtedness.

- 4.1.2. By 31 March 2026, the Service had supported 12,723 unique clients in relation to 31,803 issues. This included 11,769 residents who contacted the Service during 2025/2026, together with clients whose cases had been carried forward from 2024/2025. The final financial gains achieved during the reporting period are set out below:-

Type of Gain	2025/2026
Total welfare/benefit financial gain	£24.89 million
Total debt write-off	£2.58 million
Total Financial Gain	£27.47 million

- 4.1.3. The Community Wellbeing Team made the following referrals for energy top-up vouchers and food bank vouchers during the reporting period:-

Type of Referral	2025/2026
Energy Top Up Voucher Referrals	2,682
Foodbank Referrals	1,855

- 4.1.4. Importantly, 97% of all clients receiving food bank and fuel bank referrals received support on the same day that they contacted the service.
- 4.1.5. MMAS continues to work with a range of fuel bank voucher providers, including the Fuel Bank Foundation and Scottish Power. During 2025/2026, the service also had access to a modest allocation of vouchers funded through SGN, a British gas distribution company, which could be issued directly by MMAS.
- 4.1.6. Additional support provided by the Community Wellbeing Team to residents experiencing food and fuel crisis was available through the Cash First Scheme, delivered in partnership with local Citizens Advice Bureaux. The scheme provided £50 vouchers and was launched in October 2023 using Scottish Government Local Authority Covid Economic Recovery funding. The project concluded in September 2025.
- 4.1.7. A total of 99% of eligible applicants received their cash voucher on the same day that they applied. Overall, 8,763 vouchers were issued and redeemed over the duration of the scheme, representing a combined financial value of £438,150. This substantial level of support demonstrates the scale and impact of the project in helping to address immediate food and fuel insecurity across South Lanarkshire.
- 4.1.8. In addition, referrals were made to specialist Welfare Rights, Money Advice, or Energy Advice services, ensuring clients received comprehensive support beyond their immediate crisis needs.
- 4.1.9. MMAS continues to work with SGN, and was awarded £0.070 for 24 months, to employ an additional temporary Energy Adviser until March 2028. This is to provide a variety of support including provision of energy advice.
- 4.1.10 MMAS continues to work collaboratively with a range of other internal and external partners to enhance support for South Lanarkshire residents. This includes joint initiatives with Employability Services to improve financial stability and sustain employment; partnership working with Macmillan Cancer Support to provide specialist

welfare rights advice to individuals affected by cancer; and close collaboration with NHS Lanarkshire to support NHS teams and patients experiencing financial hardship because of ill health and the cost-of-living crisis. These partnerships ensure a coordinated approach to advice provision, improve access to specialist support, and maximise the overall impact of the service.

4.2. Benefits and Revenues Service

- 4.2.1. Support for households who have fallen into arrears or are experiencing difficulty with payment of Council Tax, continues to centre on the award of Council Tax Reduction (CTR). There are currently 30,189 active claims for CTR in South Lanarkshire. The actual value of awards for 2025/2026 was £24.976 million and the projected value of awards for 2026/2027 is £26.719 million; 7% higher than last year.
- 4.2.2. There continues to be significant demand for grants from the Scottish Welfare Fund (SWF). Applications received up to 31 March 2026 were 0.8% more than the same time last year. The award rate up to 31 March 2026 was 60%, up 4% on the same time the previous year. Grants to a value of £2.726 million were awarded up to 31 March 2026.
- 4.2.3. To 31 March 2026, the service made payments to low-income households of £3.702 million covering School Clothing Grants (£2.181 million) and Free School Meal (FSM) payments for holidays (£1.521 million).

4.3. Housing Support for Tenants

- 4.3.1. Housing Services continues to support all council tenants with rent arrears, this can include providing financial assistance through the successful Tenancy Sustainment Fund, which aims to sustain tenancies and prevent homelessness. During the last financial year, this fund has helped 489 individual households, including 207 children, with awards totalling £0.3 million. The service also continues to promote supports available to tenants through the council's social media platforms and in the Housing news.
- 4.3.2. The council declared a housing emergency in 2024 due to sustained pressure on housing and homeless services, driven by increasing demand for homelessness assistance, including temporary accommodation, alongside a reduction in available housing options. These pressures have been compounded by cost-of-living increases and a contraction in the private rented sector. While the position has since stabilised to some extent, with a slight reduction in homelessness presentations, levels remain above pre-pandemic trends. The cumulative pressure on the system continues to have a lasting impact, particularly on the time taken to resolve homelessness and pressure on temporary and permanent housing.
- 4.3.3. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Managed Migration Programme (Move to Universal Credit (UC)) is nearing completion with the majority of housing benefit and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) claimants now migrated. Housing Services will continue to work with and support tenants to help them make a successful claim for UC and manage their rent payments to reduce this impact.
- 4.3.4. Households at risk of or experiencing homelessness remain vulnerable to financial insecurity and hardship, particularly in the current economic climate. To address these challenges, housing options advice is provided at an early stage to support homelessness prevention, with targeted support offered to those with an assessed need. This support is tailored to individual circumstances, helping households secure and sustain permanent accommodation and reduce the risk of repeat homelessness.

4.4. Care Experienced Young People

4.4.1. In 2025, funding of £0.040 million was used to reach and support more than 200 young people. The funding allowed continuation of the targeted winter support provided in previous years.

4.4.2. As before, the criteria and distribution approach were reviewed to ensure support reached the following groups. Winter Support Delivered Funding enabled a range of practical and meaningful supports throughout the winter period, including:-

- ◆ enhancement of the food larder in the Continuing Care Hub from November to March
- ◆ crisis support for young people returning from custody or external placements
- ◆ provision of warm clothing through vouchers and supported shopping
- ◆ increased sessions for The Champions and other care-experienced young people throughout winter

4.5. School Meal Debt

4.5.1. Grant funding to support councils in the write off of school meal debt was received in 2024/2025 and to date has been used to write off over £0.200 million of school meal debt in line with the guidance. This relates to school meal debt for 4,147 children. Work continues to support families in hardship and the introduction of school meals for eligible children who are in receipt of Scottish Child Payment provides further support to families.

4.5.2. Education Resources and Facilities Services review school meal debt on a quarterly basis and provision is made for further write off for families in financial hardship should this be required. The council continues to provide a school meal for all children who require one, even if they are unable to pay on the day.

4.6. Schools Support

4.6.1. Education Resources remain dedicated to the principles of the South Lanarkshire Council Cost of the School Day (CoSD) guidance. As part of ongoing work to support CoSD and deliver on our Strategic Equity Fund stretch aim for all schools to have a CoSD policy in place, 20 schools were identified as having the strongest written policies for implementation in their context during session 2025/2026.

4.6.2. This included 18 primary schools and 2 secondary schools. Several of the primary schools also incorporated nursery classes. Analysis work was carried out with 20 schools participating in individual follow up meetings.

4.6.3. The purpose of the follow up meetings was to gather evidence of progress made in implementation the school's plan.

4.6.4. Upon conclusion of the meetings the overarching aim is to collate approaches/challenges and successes in reducing stigma and poverty-related barriers to learning and produce a guidance document exemplifying effective approaches to reducing the CoSD early in the 2026/2027 term.

4.6.5. Schools involved have been extremely positive so far about this collective approach. Consideration will be given as to how to continue to support our work on CoSD in a more sustainable way with potentially some of the lead school reps taking on a leadership role in ensuring further discussions take place in clusters/locality meetings during the remainder of this term and throughout 2026/2027.

4.8. Food Aid

- 4.8.1. There were seven foodbanks that made a return as part of the annual reporting for year 2025/2026, down from the eight that reported in 2024/2025. The 2025/2026 figures exclude Share Alike foodbank which closed during the year.

Across the seven food banks 29,822 households were either referred to or attended for assistance during 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026. The table below breaks down this information to the locality level where possible:-

Households referred on to or accessing foodbanks 2024/2025 and 2025/2026

Area/Locality	1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025	1st April 2025 and 31st March 2026	Change
Clydesdale	2,589	2,592	+0.1%
Rutherglen/ Cambuslang	7,477	7,427	-0.7%
Hamilton, Larkhall	4,791	3,817	-20.3%
East Kilbride	15,511	15,986	+3.1%
Total	30,368	29,822	-1.8%

- 4.8.3. While the household figures have reported a decrease, the foodbanks also provide information on the number of people fed through emergency food parcels which is reporting an increase, indicating more households with children in them have been accessing foodbank support.
- 4.8.4. In total 57,305 people in South Lanarkshire were fed through emergency food parcels during 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026, an 11% increase compared to the 51,655 people receiving parcels in 2024/2025.
- 4.8.5. Overall, 37,340 adults were fed through emergency food parcels between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, an 8.9% increase compared to the 34,276 reported in 2024/2025. It is worth noting that at the end of March 2025, this figure had reduced in comparison with the previous year by 4% and is now on the rise again.
- 4.8.6. The number of children being fed through emergency food parcels between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026 was 19,965, a 14.9% increase compared to 17,379 children receiving parcels in 2024/2025.
- 4.8.7. Across all households accessing foodbanks in South Lanarkshire during the period 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, 54% of them attended the food banks in East Kilbride. This represented an increase in the locality share compared to the same time period last year. One of the reasons for the higher percentage of people and households accessing the foodbanks in East Kilbride is that the access policy of the East Kilbride foodbanks does not operate a referral system that restricts the number of times a user can access.
- 4.8.8. There were 71 organisations and public service providers across South Lanarkshire that referred people onto the four local foodbanks that use a referral system during 2025/2026.

- 4.8.9. Financial support was provided by the council to the foodbanks following agreement by the council's Executive Committee in February 2026. Payments totalling £0.040 million were made in 2025/2026 utilising an underspend in the Areas Grants budget from 2024/2025.
- 4.8.10. South Lanarkshire's foodbanks continue to look at alternatives to emergency food parcels through utilising cash first approaches to meet demand, with 586 retail vouchers issued to clients to buy fresh food and vegetables between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, a drop of 48% on the 1,116 vouchers distributed by the food banks in 2024/2025.
- 4.8.11. Help to clients with issues such as fuel/energy poverty also continued to be provided by the local food banks with 931 fuel/energy vouchers dispensed between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, a drop of 17% compared to the 1,116 vouchers issued during 2024/2025.

4.9. Citizens Advice Bureaux

- 4.9.1. Benefits remain the top area of advice, with debt, energy and finance support the second and third biggest areas of advice respectively, with clients struggling to afford energy debt and ongoing their liability making up the majority of enquiries.
- 4.9.2. The value of benefits awarded for the 12 months to 31 March 2026 totalled £7.235 million with £1.370 million of debt written off for clients. Across South Lanarkshire Citizens Advice Bureaux there has been another significant increase in demand for both benefit and debt advice.
- 4.9.3. The Citizens Advice Bureaux have sustained the increase to the outreach advice and have continued to provide accessible advice services, which is available in local, community venues. This ensures the Citizens Advice Bureaux reach the most vulnerable who would historically not access our main offices.
- 4.9.4. Citizens Advice Bureaux and MMAS continue to work in close partnership, complementing each other's strengths to ensure that residents receive timely access to advice and support. Both services work collaboratively to support community hubs, make cross-referrals where appropriate, and ensure clients are directed to the organisation best placed to meet their needs.
- 4.9.5. This flexible partnership ensures that the strengths and capacity of both organisations are utilised effectively, improving resilience across the advice sector and helping residents access the right support at the right time.

4.10. Social Security Scotland

- 4.10.1. Social Security Scotland is now delivering 15 different benefits. The range of benefits provide support for families, unpaid carers, disabled people, young people and support for warmer homes.
- 4.10.2. Anyone applying for Scottish benefits can access direct support from the Local Delivery Team. The service is now fully operational in all 32 Scottish local authorities, and support is being delivered to clients in various ways; home visits, outreach venues within the local area and by phone or video.

4.10.3. The Local Delivery Team provides person-to-person support from trained staff. The team has a base in Brandon Gate, Hamilton. Client Support Advisers work from outreach venues, client's homes and a blend of office/home working. Current outreach venues are in Hamilton, Larkhall, East Kilbride, Cambuslang and Lanark.

4.10.4. Social Security Scotland provides a range of data in relation to the benefits paid to South Lanarkshire on its website. Since being introduced, 12,260 applications for Adult Disability Payment have been approved. In total £420.0 million has been paid (up to 31 January 2026). At 31 December 2025, 19,395 children in South Lanarkshire are benefitting from Scottish Child Payment. A total of £90.1 million has been paid. To 31 March 2026 there has been 4,730 authorised new applications for Child Disability Payment. A total of £122.0 million has been paid. At 31 January 2026 there has been 1,560 authorised new applications for Pension Age Disability Payment. A total of £24.9 million has been paid. Further statistics can be found on the Social Security Scotland website.

4.11. NHS

4.11.1 Midwives, Health Visitors and Family Nurses work with families to help identify any money worries and make referrals to Money Matters Advice Services. In the period April 2025 to March 2026, there were 188 referrals from these key staff groups, leading to a client financial gain of £0.023 million. When including all NHS-linked referrals, including those from Primary and Secondary care, the total number rises to 1,013 referrals and a total financial gain of £0.403 million .

4.11.2. From April 2025 to March 2026, 32 South Lanarkshire families received support from the Family Support and Financial Inclusion - Royal Hospital for Children initiative with a total financial gain of £0.105 million. In addition, families were supported with housing and non-housing debt management to the amount of £0.078 million.

5. Outlook

5.1. Council services and organisations have provided an extensive range of support to households during 2025/2026. However, the cost of living remains high with prices continuing to increase and energy costs forming a significant proportion of household's costs. The impact of the war in the Middle East on the prices of everyday essentials will negatively affect household finances well into 2026/2027.

5.2. The council and organisations will continue to provide support to households from the wide range of services and budgets available.

5.3. In 2026, a neurodiversity project has been launched with support from the Scottish Government Child Poverty Accelerator Fund. The project aims to increase early and successful take-up of Child Disability Payment (CDP) and related benefits for families whose children have Autism, Aspergers or other neurodivergent conditions. It aims to generate new evidence, improve access, and establish a model of specialist support designed around the needs of neurodivergent children and their carers. The fund has provided £0.046 million for the MMAS to meet the costs of an advisor for one year.

6. Employee Implications

6.1. There are no employee implications from the report with employees from many different services engaged in providing cost of living support to residents.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. There are no financial implications from the report, with the cost of support met from existing budgets.

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. Risk and Other Implications

- 9.1. While a broad range of support was provided throughout 2025/2026 with a significant level of financial resources, the actions outlined in the report are not expected to be sufficient to fully mitigate the worst effects of the cost-of-living crisis experienced by many households in South Lanarkshire. This reflects the scale and depth of the crisis and the need for significant input from other sectors such as governments and the energy sector.

10. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

- 10.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 10.2. There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Jackie Taylor

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

19 August 2026

Contact for Further Information

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Craig Fergusson, Head of Finance (Transactions), Finance and Corporate Resources, South Lanarkshire Council

Tel: 01698 454951

Email: craig.fergusson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Community Planning Partnership Board Executive Summary

Date of meeting:	9 September 2026
Subject:	South Lanarkshire Register of Information
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
Contact for Further Information:	Jen Kerr, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council Tel: 0303 123 1017 Email: jennifer.kerr@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Purpose of the Report:	♦ to provide the Partnership Board with a summary of the information circulated to Community Planning Partners.
Community Planning Delivery Partners:	All partners
Key Recommendations/ Decisions/Action Required from Partners:	The Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):- (1) that the content of the report be noted.
Risks/Challenges:	There are no risks or challenges associated with this report.
Links to Community Plan Ambitions/Principles:	♦ All ambitions/principles
Summary of Report:	♦ Details of information circulated to Community Planning Partners which gives partners an opportunity to seek clarification or an update on any matters contained therein

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	9 September 2026
Report by:	Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	South Lanarkshire Register of Information
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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 circulated to Community Planning Partners.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the content of the report be 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 – 23 May to 14 August 2026

4.1. Appendix 1 provides a summary of the information circulated from 23 May to 14 August 2026.

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. Risk and Other Implications

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

9. Integrated Impact Assessment and Consultation Requirements

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

Paul Manning
Chief Executive
South Lanarkshire Council

19 August 2026

Contact for Further Information

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Register of Information circulated to the Partnership

23 May to 14 August 2026

Date	Subject	Received From	Summary	Action taken
27/05/26	Review of the Byelaws Prohibiting the Consumption of Alcohol in Designated Public Places	South Lanarkshire Council	Views of the CPP Board were sought on the review of South Lanarkshire Council's byelaws prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in designated public places as required by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. Specifically, the Board were asked for their comments on whether there remains a need for these byelaws, and if so, whether any changes are needed to the terms of the byelaws and/or the areas covered. This consultation closed on 8 July 2026.	Circulated to the Community Planning Partnership Board for information.
05/06/26	Scottish Community Planning Network Weekly Round Up	Scottish Community Planning Network (SCPN)	SCPN Weekly Round Up Newsletter from the Improvement Service dated 5 June 2026.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
29/06/26	Help Shape Conversations About Substance Use in Young People	NHS Lanarkshire	NHS Lanarkshire's Health Improvement - Alcohol, Cannabis and Vaping Team are undertaking a survey consultation project on substance use among young people. This work has been informed by insights gathered through engagement with young people across Lanarkshire. Two surveys have been developed for completion. One for young people (aged 13–25) and one for parents/carers. This project aims to engage both young people and parents/carers from a wide range of backgrounds.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
06/07/26	CHES Learning System Webinar:	Public Health Scotland	Publication of Public Health Scotland's latest webinar regarding the Collaboration for Health	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for

Date	Subject	Received From	Summary	Action taken
	Community Voice, Commissioning and Health Equity		Equity in Scotland (CHES) – Community Voice, Commissioning and Health Equity which took place on 19 May 2026. This session explored how commissioning can help improve health equity by involving communities directly in decisions about funding and services. This can be viewed using the following link: Past webinars - CHES Learning System - Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland - Environmental health impacts - Population health - Public Health Scotland	information.
13/07/26	Scottish Community Planning Network Weekly Round Up	Scottish Community Planning Network (SCPN)	SCPN Weekly Round Up Newsletter from the Improvement Service dated 10 July 2026.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
17/07/26	Scottish Community Planning Network Weekly Round Up	Scottish Community Planning Network (SCPN)	SCPN Weekly Round Up Newsletter from the Improvement Service dated 17 July 2026.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group and Outcomes Leads Group for information.
11/08/26	People's Stigma Free Network	Stigma Free Lanarkshire	Details of the People's Stigma Free Network meeting taking place on 1 September 2026 which will explore the everyday realities faced by unpaid carers and how overlapping stigmas can impact their health and rights.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
13/08/26	Understanding and Addressing Mental Health Stigma Workshop	Stigma Free Lanarkshire	Details of the free interactive workshop which is taking place on 24 September 2026 which will explore the impact of stigma and discrimination on every aspect of people's lives.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.

