

Community Rights & Information Handbook

The Community Empowerment Act represents a significant change for communities and public services in Aberdeen and throughout Scotland, including:

- Establishment of Community Planning Partnerships
- The Right of Participation Request
- The Right of Asset Transfer Request
- Community Rights to Buy Land, and Access to Allotments
- Common Good
- Participation in Public Decision Making

This Handbook includes:

- Participation and Involvement, Information and Contacts
- Asset Transfer, Information Poster
- Participation Request, Information Poster
- Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016 - 2026 (Easy Read)

This is supported by development of comprehensively updated Request Forms with more Guidance Notes and Information for Communities and a programme of training for Community Planning Partnership staff.

Feedback from communities demonstrates that there is a strong desire to learn more about each of these rights and the opportunities that are available.

All through a variety of methods (in-person, physical and digital) which will reach as many in the community as possible, in an environment which is safe, supported and secure.

It is important that people do not feel overwhelmed by the amount of information available or regulations in place. Instead, we must all make sure that information and opportunities to get involved are as accessible and understandable as possible to all.

This will include promoting an environment where ideas can be fully explored and brought into reality, where communities are empowered to take action and where decisions are meaningfully and demonstrably shaped by public feedback, experiences and ideas.

All of this is essential to truly harness and make the most of these powers, rights and opportunities which are driven by the principal of addressing the issues we face together and achieving our aspirations for the future.

This Handbook is very much a next step on this journey, and highlights the key rights and contacts available to you and your community, among many more.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any question, or would like to learn more about your rights and opportunities for you and your community to get involved!

Jonathan Smith

Community Engagement Group

Participation & Involvement

INTRODUCTION

There are many groups and organisations in Aberdeen, Scotland who have a key focus on promoting and supporting community participation and involvement on areas of interest, to raise awareness of issues and help fulfil aspirations for the future.

This list provides an overview of those that play a key current and active role in achieving this, but is by no means exhaustive as they operate alongside many other groups, centres and sources of support.


COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Community Councils play a vital role in representing the views of the community to Local Authorities and other Public Bodies, and are Statutory Consultees on Planning and Licensing.

www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/communitycouncils 

COMMUNITY CENTRES & LEARNING CENTRES

Community Centres are places at the heart of many neighbourhoods throughout the city where the community can gather together. They host a variety of events, activities, classes, social groups and more, with many also offering cafe facilities.

civicforumaberdeen.com/centrelist 

ABERDEEN CIVIC FORUM


The Civic Forum ensures that the views, priorities and issues of communities from throughout the city of Aberdeen are taken forward to shape strategies, services and policies. It also supports many Community Groups in their development, to take part in decisions that most benefit the city's communities.

civicforumaberdeen.com 



COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM ABERDEEN

The Community Council Forum supports, brings together and promotes the role of Community Councils and the views of their communities in Aberdeen, Scotland.


ccforumaberdeen.com 



COMMUNITY PLANNING ABERDEEN - Locality Partnerships

There are 'Locality Partnerships' in 3 Areas of Priority Action, which bring together all of the Community Planning Partners, Community Representatives and other Stakeholders at the local level. Currently in:

- Torry
- Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Northfield and Heathryfold
- Seaton, Woodside and Tillydone

communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk 



ABERDEEN CITY HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP - Locality Leadership Groups

There are also 'Locality Leadership Groups' which focus on Health & Social Care Priorities. They bring together Health and Social Care Professionals, Partner Organisations, Service Users, Community Representatives and other Stakeholders to help plan how to transform local services and shift towards prevention and a community-focus.



www.aberdeencityhscp.scot/our-delivery/ 

ACVO - Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations

ACVO help to develop, involve, represent and support the third sector in Aberdeen. It offers a wide range of advice and support services, and can provide sign-posting to resources for volunteers and other partners.



acvo.org.uk 

LIBRARIES & SERVICES

Libraries and Learning Centres often serve as the venue for important community events, with opportunities for learning, information and access to Internet & Other Materials.

www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/libraries 



THE ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT STRATEGY

This provides an overview of Agreed Principles and Actions being developed to strengthen community involvement in decisions and services with Community Planning Aberdeen and Aberdeen City Health & Social Care Partnership.

communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk
(Select: Engagement, Participation and Empowerment Strategy)



Participation Requests

Communities & Public Services.

How to Get Involved!



What does it mean to you?

Participation requests are a new means by which **community groups** can request to have a greater involvement in, and influence over, decisions and services that affect their communities and community lives.

Participation requests can help to -

- **start a dialogue** about something that matters to your community – highlighting needs, issues and opportunities for improvement
- have your **voices heard** in policy and service development
- **participate** in the design, delivery, monitoring or review of service provision
- **challenge decisions** and **seek support for alternatives** which improve outcomes

Where can I submit a request to in Aberdeen?

- Aberdeen City Council
- NHS Grampian
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- NESTRANS
- The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Scottish Enterprise
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- The board of management of a college of further education

For more information and contact details for each organisation, please visit www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk

If you want this document translated into another language or format please contact us via above email or telephone.



Community Planning
Aberdeen

Asset Transfer Requests

Communities & Public Services.

How to Get Involved!



What does it mean to you?

Asset Transfer requests are a new means by which **community groups** can request to have a greater involvement in, or take ownership of, buildings and lands that are important to their communities and community lives.

Asset Transfer requests provide communities, the right to:

- Request **ownership**
- Request **lease**
- Request **use**
- Other **rights**

Where can I submit a request to in Aberdeen?

- Aberdeen City Council
- NHS Grampian
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- NESTRANS
- The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Scottish Enterprise
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- The board of management of a college of further education
- Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service
- Scottish Ministers (Agencies such as Forest Enterprise Scotland and Transport Scotland)

For more information and contact details for each organisation, please visit www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk

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Community Planning
Aberdeen



Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) In Summary



Community Planning
Aberdeen

Welcome

A warm welcome from Community Planning Aberdeen. We are a group of public service organisations working in partnership to improve outcomes for and with people across the City, especially those most in need. All Councils in Scotland are required to have a Community Planning Partnership in place, there are 32 across Scotland.

Community Planning Aberdeen has 12 core partners, but we work alongside many more organisations and community groups. We are united in our desire to make things better for the people of Aberdeen through the delivery of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).



What is the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)?

You may have heard people talking about the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) – but do you know what it is and what it means for Aberdeen?

The LOIP is a document which sets out how Community Planning Aberdeen will improve outcomes for and with local people and communities. The vision set out in the LOIP is that Aberdeen will be 'a place where all people can prosper' by 2026. By this we mean that we want everyone in the city to have the same opportunities, regardless of their background or circumstances. To achieve this we have developed 15 goals that we are working to achieve over the next seven years. They cover three themes: Economy, People and Place, with over 100 improvement projects planned to help achieve our goals. This offers 100 opportunities for you to get involved!



The LOIP is a ten year plan which is reviewed in consultation with partners every two to three years to make sure that we are making a difference.

The LOIP is our city wide plan. We are also taking an area based approach to community planning in three priority areas:

- Torry
- Tillydrone, Seaton and Woodside
- Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Northfield and Heathryfold.

These communities experience poorer outcomes than the rest of Aberdeen. We have established a Locality Partnership in these areas to help residents and professionals work together to tackle community issues through delivery of a Locality Plan. The Locality Plans detail the priorities for these communities and the improvement activity planned to help improve the area. For more information on the Locality Plans and Partnerships, visit www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk.

Economy

The Economy section of the LOIP details the actions we will take to improve our economy and increase employment opportunities in Aberdeen. These actions are known as our improvement projects. There are two outcomes in this section and 13 improvement projects that focus on improving Aberdeen's economy.

These projects focus on helping to **diversify Aberdeen's economy**, and **developing our workforce** through skills support and employment opportunities. We are also working to improve investment in the city and encourage economic growth in areas that will create even more opportunities for all.

BY 2026

Employment in priority sectors -
digital and creative,
FOOD AND DRINK,
life sciences, tourism,
CONSTRUCTION,
and social care and health
- will increase by **10%**

90%
of working people
will earn the **Living Wage**



People (Children and Young People)

This section of the LOIP is all about making sure that every child and young person in Aberdeen has equal opportunities to thrive and prosper. In total, there are six outcomes within this section and over 40 improvement projects.

The projects we are working together to deliver include supporting vulnerable families, reducing inequalities for care experienced children and improving outcomes for young people in our priority localities. We want to improve our children and young people's **physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing**. We will be delivering projects that tackle issues in these areas to lead to more positive outcomes. Other projects focus on improving **education experience and post-school opportunities**. Community Planning Aberdeen is also committed to gaining UNICEF Child Friendly City status.



BY 2026

 **95%**
OF CHILDREN
aged 0-5
will reach their
expected developmental
milestones on time

 **90% of**
children and
YOUNG PEOPLE
will report that
they feel **mentally well**

Aberdeen will be a
child friendly city
which supports
ALL CHILDREN
TO PROSPER



 **25% fewer**
YOUNG PEOPLE
under 18
will be charged
WITH AN OFFENCE

95% 
of care experienced children
AND YOUNG PEOPLE
will achieve the same levels
OF EDUCATION,
emotional wellbeing,
and positive destinations
AS THEIR PEERS

 **95% of**
young people living
IN OUR PRIORITY LOCALITIES
will move on to **education,**
EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING
when they leave school

People (Adults)



This section of the LOIP has four outcomes which include increasing **healthy life expectancy** (time lived in good health), reducing unsafe levels of alcohol consumption, **decreasing criminal convictions**, **lowering the number of drug related deaths** and making sure that opportunities are in place for positive, safe and successful lifestyles.

There are 45 improvement projects to help us reach these aims. These projects will focus on improving outcomes for people experiencing vulnerability or disadvantage, **building resilience in communities** and help people with substance misuse. Other projects focus on **early interventions** for people at risk of becoming involved with the justice system, using a **problem-solving approach** to working with people involved in offending, delivering targeted interventions aimed at reducing specific offences and **supporting people and families** affected.

BY 2026



The number of **drug related deaths** WILL BE LOWER THAN the Scottish average

25%



FEWER PEOPLE
each year
will have received
a first court conviction

The rate of HARMFUL LEVELS OF **alcohol consumption** will reduce by **4%**



HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY
- the amount of time
people can expect
TO LIVE IN GOOD HEALTH -
will be five years longer

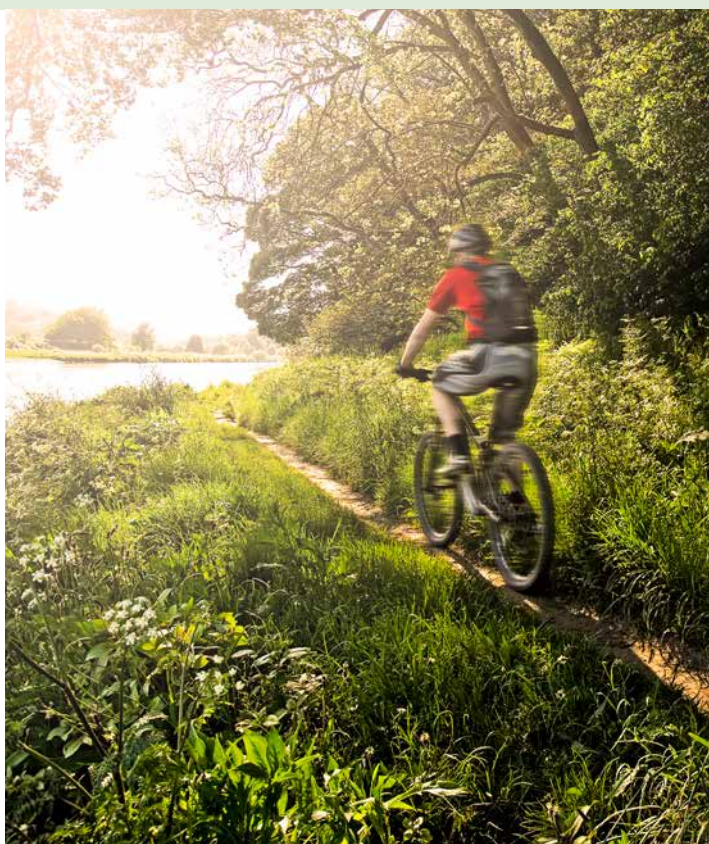


2% fewer people
will be reconvicted
within one year
OF BEING SENTENCED

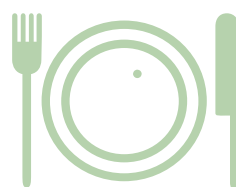
Place

This section of the LOIP is about how we can do even more to promote and improve the positive qualities of Aberdeen as a place to live, work, and visit. The quality of the place we live in can impact on people's health and wellbeing. The outcomes in this section cover **reducing carbon emissions** in the city, **tackling food poverty** and **increasing active travel** across the population of Aberdeen.

There are 9 improvement projects that will help us achieve these aims. These include reducing food poverty through extending food provision, supporting community pantries and promoting the benefits of **community food growing**. We are also working on reducing Aberdeen's carbon footprint through **reducing waste** and supporting active travel i.e. **increasing cycling and walking** across Aberdeen. We are also working with communities to prepare resilience plans to help communities to come together to support each other.



BY 2026



NO ONE
in Aberdeen
will go without food
due to poverty

To help tackle climate change,
Aberdeen's carbon emissions
will have reduced by

42.5%



**38% of people will walk
and 5% people will cycle**
AS THEIR MAIN MODE OF TRAVEL



How to get involved

To find out more and to read the full version of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26, you can visit Community Planning Aberdeen's website, www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk.

If you would like to get involved in any of the improvement projects described in this document and want to be part of achieving our outcomes, please get in touch. We value your contribution and feedback. Please email:

communityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk.