



Community Planning
Aberdeen

Northfield, Mastrick, Middlefield, Cummings Park and Heathryfold Locality Plan Annual Report 2018 - 2019



INTRODUCTION

As a local resident, I was keen to become involved in the Northfield Total Place Locality Partnership Board back in April 2017. I was elected Chairperson in May 2018.

It is a privilege to sit on the Locality Board. Being part of this group has been very educational on so many community issues, from providing a chair at the Moir Green chemist for the benefit of customers to the project on providing information to parents on how to keep our children safe on gaming sites and through social media. Discussing and understanding the different stretch outcomes in the refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan document has been interesting and beneficial.

I would like to thank our Partners on the Board, who bring so much help and benefit to the residents of Northfield, Mastrick, Middlefield, Cummings Park and Heathryfold. It has made the area a better place.

Looking forward, we have the Haudagain Project and other improvements that will bring great opportunities for the community.

Thanks for taking the time to read our Annual Report.



***Garry McNulty, Chairperson,
Northfield Total Place Locality
Partnership Board***

SUMMARY

Northfield Locality Partnership Board has continued to see positive progress in the main in meeting the outcomes of their Locality Plan.

Prosperous Economy

Reductions to barriers to employment are supported through the now annual jobs fair at Northfield Academy and the Pathways service providing support sessions for people getting into or back to work. The Food and Fun project has continued to run during school holiday periods supporting families on low incomes by providing meals during the school holidays. Highlight for the project was the award presented by Aberdeen University for Outstanding Service to the Community. Expansion of Community Food outlets will be a continued priority in the coming year as demand for cheap and free food continues to grow.

Prosperous People

Improving the quality of life has seen increases in community safety through reductions in motorbike annoyance through the Operation Armour project and Police Scotland led community engagement events as in the Moir Green event. Community involvement has shown increasing numbers in volunteering and especially a marked increase in young people receiving awards for their time given. Participatory budgeting and Boogie in the Bar provide opportunities for people to become involved as well as contributing to projects for the benefit of the area.

Substance misuse remains a priority for this locality and although the data within the report indicates a reduction in hospital stays, we aren't complacent with this challenge so the coming year will see resources channelled to ensure we work alongside Alcohol & Drugs Partners.

Prosperous Place

A prime improvement outcome reached has been the increase in number of social housing available with the completion of the Manor Walk scheme due in summer 2019 to add to the Smithfield Development. Improvements have also begun on housing in the Oldtown/Marchburn areas after a participatory budgeting exercise carried out with residents. The completion of works at Heathryfold Park have seen enhancement to the green spaces in the area.

The end of the reporting year sees the Haudagain Improvement Project underway. Already having had a significant impact on the area in the demolition of housing, the Project will bring major employment opportunities for the local community. Further development of the Middlefield Triangle site is anticipated to further enhance the area and bring continued opportunity.

Enabling Technology

City Fibre have completed the project to install fibre cables in Smithfield and Cummings Park. This will allow households to access superfast broadband. The project looking at awareness raising among parents on internet safety and inappropriate gaming completed successfully and is intended to be rolled out to schools in the area.

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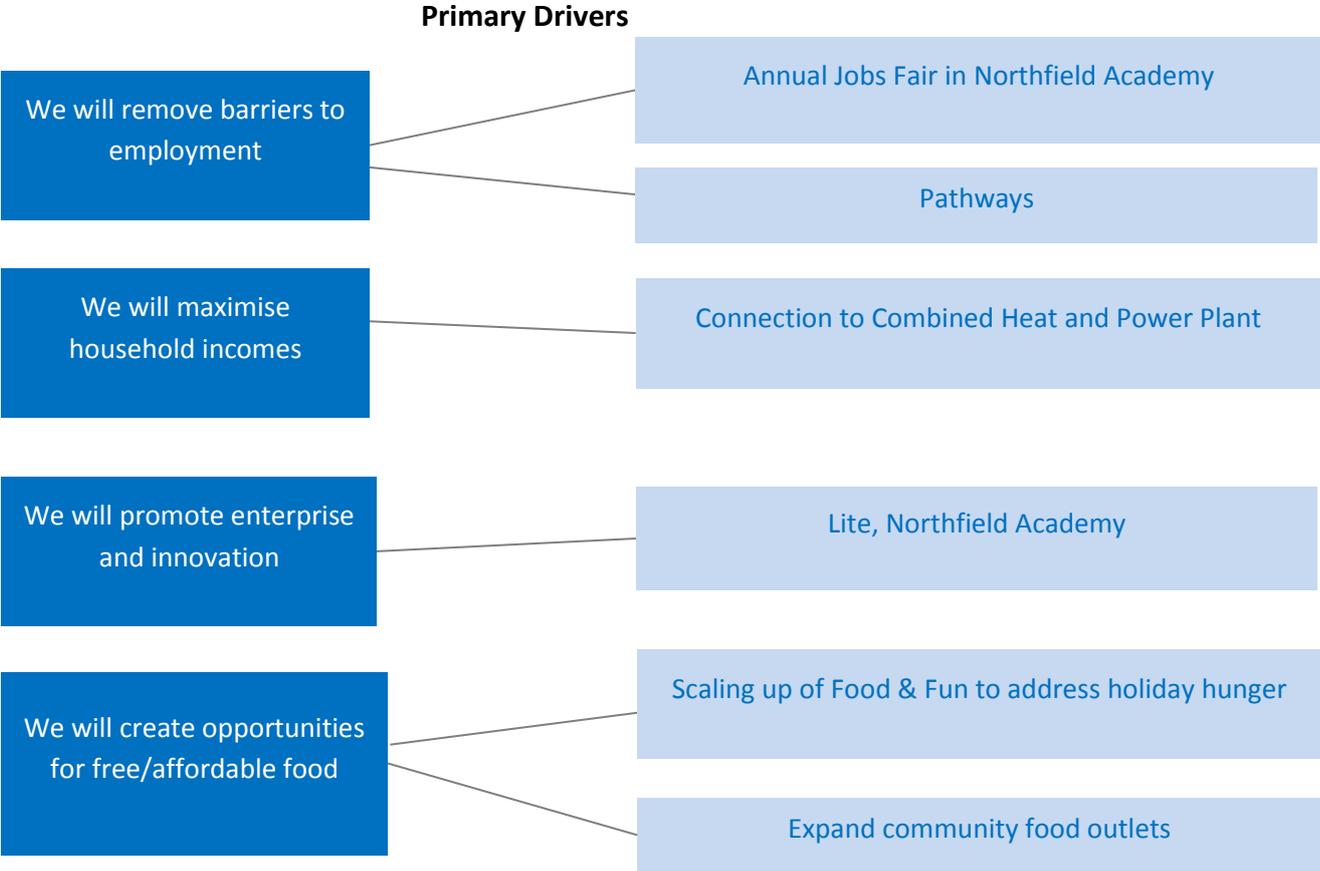
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PROSPEROUS ECONOMY



- **Priority: We will improve employability & income**

Areas where we have made changes during 2018/19



What key changes have we made?

Jobs Fair

Northfield Academy hosted their second Careers Fair in January 2019 with representatives from over 20 companies attending. This year again the afternoon session was for pupils only and the evening session opened to pupils, parents and members of the community. This year several business and services provided more in-depth presentations - NEScol on Foundation Apprenticeships, Robertson Construction, Elevator and Business Gateway, Aldi and Nats-Air Traffic Control.



Pathways

After 15 years being based in Middlefield, Pathways have had to move office due to the Haudagain Roundabout improvements. Now based at Powis Community Centre, Pathways have Employability Keyworkers who continue to meet people seeking assistance at weekly sessions at Manor Park Centre, Cummings Park Community Flat, Mastrick and Northfield Community Centres.

Pathways assist people from the age of 16 upwards to identify the job or training that is right for them. Key workers support people to plan job goals, help with CV's, assist in completing application forms and that they also have access to funds to remove barriers to work - clothing or equipment needs.

Clients appreciate the support – someone who had voluntarily given up work due to issues and meaning that they were not entitled to benefits consequently found their confidence seriously set back. Meeting an Employability Key worker weekly, they were assisted to create a new CV and gradually regained confidence. Following a successful interview, they were soon back into work again saying "I am happy to be back to work and that without the help of Pathways I would not have found a job so quickly. I will be telling other people about the service so they too can get help."

A total of 81 clients were supported across the area over the year. The majority received 1-1 support with 80% being supported into full-time work.

Combined Heat and Power

The recently completed housing development at Provost Rust Row/Smithfield Gardens has been connected to the Combined Heat and Power Plant, as well as the Middlefield Community Hub. This has resulted in far more affordable access to utilities for 234 households.

Young Social Enterprise – Lite, Northfield Academy



Northfield Academy Young Social Enterprise Team – ‘Lite’ developed a successful project with the aim of improving mental health awareness through the sale of a range of apparel. The designs on the clothing were inspired to help start conversations and awareness of mental health. The team successfully beat off competition from other schools in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire and were chosen to represent the north-east at the Young Enterprise Scottish final in Glasgow. The Team ‘had a massively successful day’ at Hampden Stadium winning 2 awards for Social Impact and for Best Presentation. The Lite Team were also entered for the People’s Choice award, which residents in the Northfield area were invited to vote in via social media. While unsuccessful in winning the category, the Team came a very

credible fifth out of a total of 17 country wide entries. They are the first team from Northfield to make it through to the national finals and they did extremely well.

Food and Fun

In Summer 2017, we ran a pilot Food and Fun programme with a view to alleviating holiday hunger having run a smaller project in Bramble Brae School at Easter.

In Spring 2018, Elected Members approved budget for scaling up provision of the Food and Fun programme to alleviate holiday hunger citywide.

During the 6-week school summer holidays the programme saw meals provided at:

- Northfield Academy, Northfield

- Riverbank Primary, Tillydrone
- Tullos Primary, Torry

The programme in Northfield was supported by ACC Communities Team staff along with partner agencies Sport Aberdeen through their Active Schools Co-ordinators, coaches, volunteers and senior pupil leaders; Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust coaches and volunteers also ACC Youth Work and Family Learning workers.

All food was provided through CFINE with as much as possible provided through FareShare. Hot meals were provided Monday/Wednesday/ Friday with 'Build your own Sandwich' – where all the ingredients to make a sandwich are put on tables for children to make their own sandwich – on Tuesday and Thursdays. ACC catering cooks provided the hot meal days and kitchen assistants on sandwich days. Roughly 25% of hot meal costs and 50% of packed lunch costs were provided through FareShare and therefore technically 'free'.

A smaller project was run during the October school holidays at Westpark Primary School.

During the Festive period two party events were provided by partners. On Christmas Eve Sport Aberdeen hosted an event at the Beach Leisure Centre. Multiple games were available including affording many children their first opportunity to ice skate. Coaches to and from the venue were provided through AFCCT, a soup and sandwich lunch was provided by CFINE, and selection packs for all children was provided by Sport Aberdeen. On December 27th Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust hosted a disco and hot lunch at Pittodrie. Santa managed to make a visit and supported by one of the First Team players, all children were given a small stationery set.

Supported by CFINE, local families were provided with the opportunity to access food parcels which could be collected in the days before Christmas.

January 16th 2019 saw the Food & Fun project awarded the first Aberdeen University Principal's Award for Outstanding Service to the Community. The award was presented to representatives of the citywide project by the Chancellor of the University of Aberdeen, HRH the Duchess of Rothesay during the installation of Professor George Boyne as Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University.



Community Food

All the community and learning centres across the area serve as distribution points for FareShare food that is delivered by CFINE.

Cummings Park Community Centre has entered a partnership with Tesco's Cloud and collects food that would otherwise go to landfill at least 3 times per week. Foodstuffs vary but there is usually bread and a range of fresh produce that can be collected by anyone who needs it.

Manor Park Centre now has a small community fridge allowing more fresh produce to be distributed locally.

Northfield Community Centre operates a Food Bank twice weekly in partnership with CFINE.

Mastrick Community Centre also collect from Tesco and Greggs food that would otherwise go to landfill for local collection. The centre has experienced growing demand from families with young children and in addition to food offer clothing and toiletries to those in need.

The Cubby

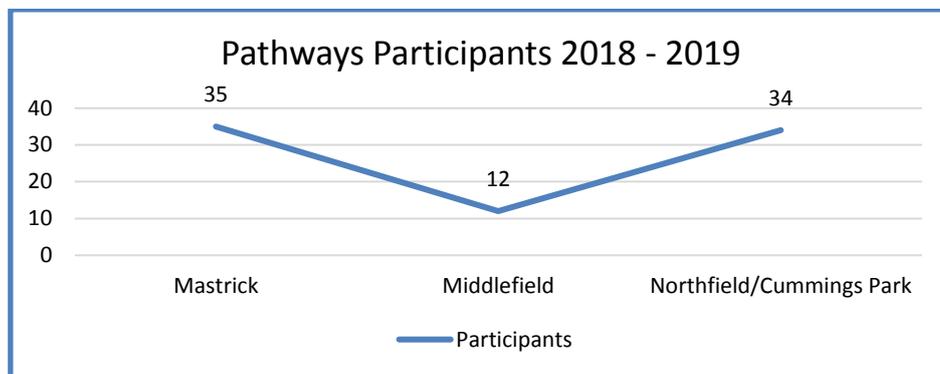
Following a successful application to Participatory Budgeting in early 2019, work has begun on adapting a room in Cummings Park Community Centre into a new improved food distribution point. The funds will be used to install 3 larger fridges and freezers increasing the goods that will then be available for members of the community to collect. A range of frozen, dried and fresh goods will be available to community members who find themselves in need of access to free food. The aim of the project is to contribute to ensuring that no one goes without food due to poverty and that family incomes can be improved.

The project further aims to increase community involvement and participation with the formation of a team of volunteers who will support access to the Cubby several times a week. Volunteers will increase their skills and abilities by attending relative food handling courses which in turn will increase their own employment prospects.

Are our changes resulting in improvement?

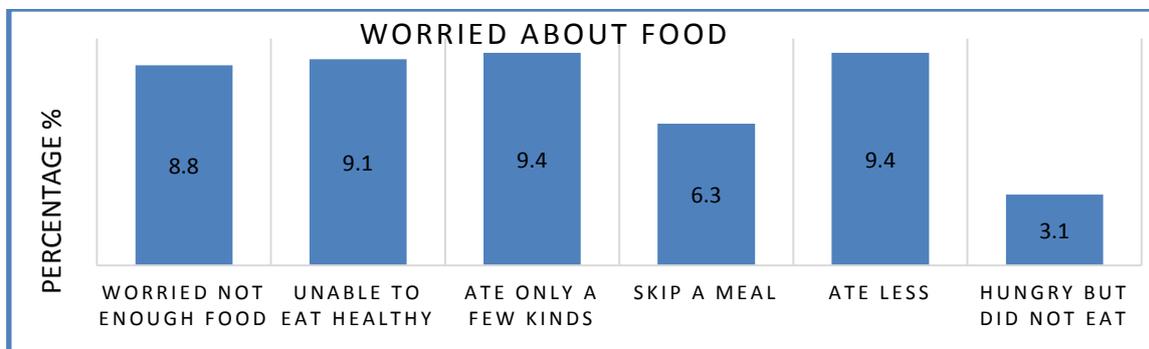
Improving Employability and Income

PATHWAYS participants



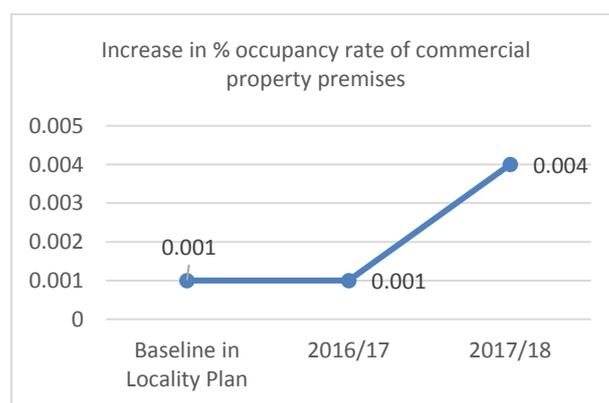
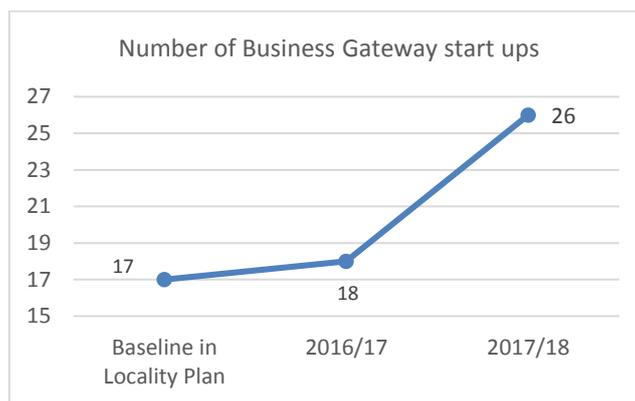
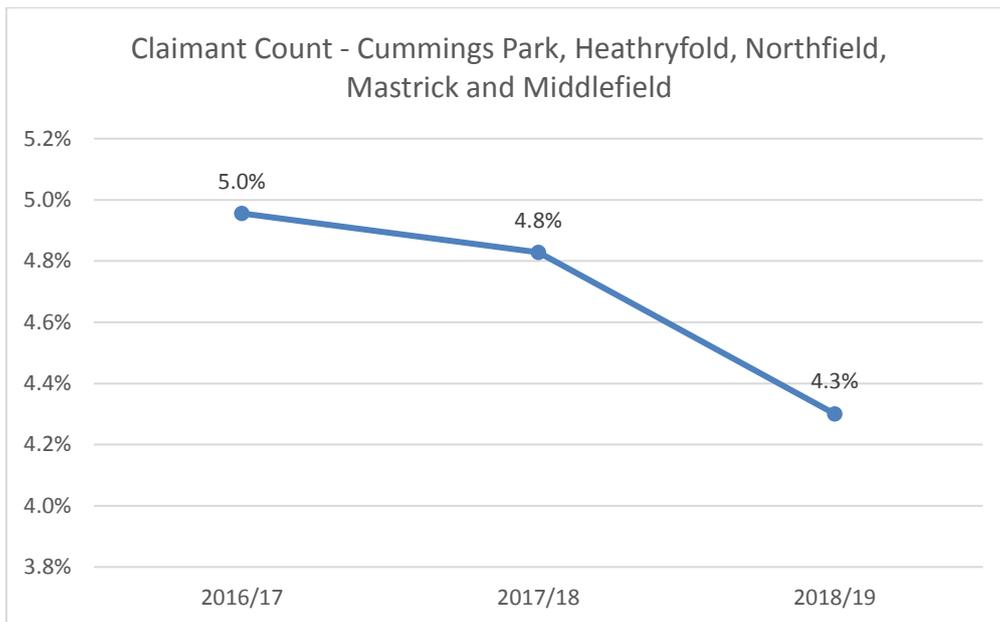
81 people across the area were supported in returning to work

Access to Food



Figures taken from the City Voice Questionnaire in early 2018 show that close to 10% of residents were worried about access to food and not being able to eat healthy options. The expansion in free food provision will go some way to reduce these figures which is the aim of the project based at The Cubby in Cummings Park Centre.

Once again, we've seen a sustained reduction in the number of out of work claimants.





Food and Fun

What is the Aim?

Increase provision of free meals during school holidays to children by delivering 10,000 meals during 2018/19.

Baseline 2017/18 – 1,734 meals (city wide)

How does this support prevention and early intervention?

Feedback from a small scale PDSA in 2017/18 showed us that more than 50% of parents said they find it harder to make ends meet during the school holidays, with 80% stating food bills increased during these periods. Almost a third said they sometimes find themselves without money to buy food.

The project will help address hunger endured by children living in poverty. The provision of healthy food and activities will contribute towards improved health and wellbeing for these children. This approach also contributes to improving attainment objectives because children’s learning can be adversely affected post school holidays if they have not received adequate and nutritious food during the holiday period.

The project aims to support community empowerment, with community representatives making decisions on use of the budget allocated for the project and in the delivery of the food and fun activities for the children.

Improvement data

| | Meals Provided | | |
|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Place | Summer 2017 | Summer 2018 | October 2018 |
| Northfield | 407 | 1011 | 149 |

December 2018 Parties:

Northfield 41

Food Parcels:

38 with 69 children benefitting

What changes are we currently testing?

The Council works with CFINE to utilise fair share food in the programme, likewise other organisations and businesses who may provide free or discounted food for the programme.

We will organise and deliver Food and Fun programme with partners in priority Localities where there is insufficient delivery by community groups.

We will support communities to develop their capability and capacity to deliver programmes in the future.

Community groups providing activities shall be invited to take children to schools in priority localities where food will be prepared.

Aberdeen City Council has allocated £50,000 in 2018/19 for the provision of free meals. Community groups/social enterprises will be invited and supported to seek grants to deliver free food and activities.

Provide welfare advice type services alongside the programme.

PROSPEROUS PEOPLE



Participatory Budgeting Awards Day 2018/19

Priority: A Safer Place and increasing community involvement & participation

Areas where we have made changes during 2018/19

Primary Drivers

We will prevent involvement in substance misuse

We will improve community safety

We will increase community involvement

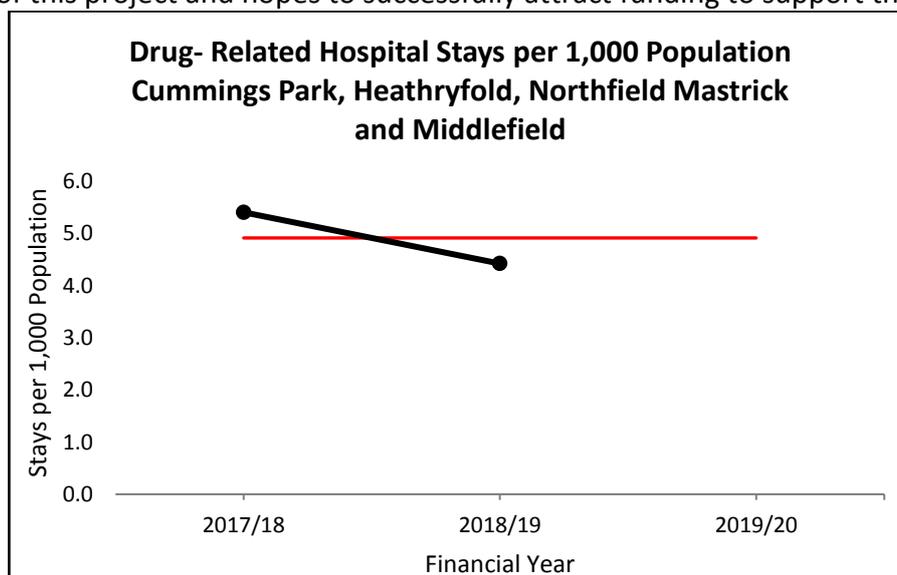
- ADA programme
- Moir Green Community Event
- Operation Armour
- Northfield Youth Action Group
- Volunteering
- AFCCT work in Schools
- Participatory Budgeting
- Boogie in the Bar

What key changes have we made?

Alcohol & Drugs Action

Alcohol and Drugs Action continue to provide weekly outreach sessions at Mastrick and Northfield Community Centres. The outreach service provides a drop-in service for anyone who would like support in relation to their own, a family member or friends alcohol or drug use. A needle exchange which supplies safer injecting equipment and harm reduction advice is available at the sessions. In addition, access to all other Alcohol and Drugs Action services are available.

The work of ADA contributes to the aim of preventing involvement in substance misuse. Following a successful project through Participatory budgeting linking recovering drug users in exercise programmes with the Byron Boxing Club the previous year, the Board is supporting expansion of this project and hopes to successfully attract funding to support this.



Moir Green Community Event

Following on from the success of earlier events held in the Oldtown/Marchburn area an engagement initiative to make improvements and reduce antisocial behaviour in Northfield was held in March 2019. Approximately 700 leaflets were distributed in the Moir and Cummings Park areas of Northfield advising residents of the engagement and in particular about the siting of a mobile office – the Street Pastors pod - positioned in Moir Green, where residents could come and speak to representatives from partner agencies.

Partners who assisted in the engagement week included Police Scotland Crime Reduction Team; Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; staff from Aberdeen City Councils Antisocial Behaviour Investigation Team, City Wardens, Housing Officers and Communities Team; Street Pastors; CFINE and Aberdeen City Council local elected members.

Youth annoyance and antisocial behaviour are issues raised as causes of concern for residents and something partners were keen to tackle.

The policing team held a week of enforcements and activity centred around the Moir and Cummings Park area. This included visits to shop owners to provide advice around security and how they themselves could support efforts against antisocial behaviour.

Police Scotland Road Policing team conducted school safety patrols in and around areas of Provost Fraser Drive and Provost Rust Drive. Around 200 vehicles were checked, and one was warned in relation to speeding. Additional patrols along with the Northfield Academy School Based Officer were held to deter antisocial behaviour amongst local youths.

Around 30 residents visited the Street Pastors pod for advice on a range of issues. For one resident it meant the arrangement of a care package when it became evident, they required additional support. Financial advice was provided to several residents with signposting to other services to attend for more detailed support.

This kind of initiative is likely to be repeated in different areas throughout the community to assist improvements in the area by allowing residents to raise issues and forge greater links between partners and the community.

Operation Armour

Police Scotland continue to pro-actively tackle issues of Road Safety and Road Traffic related crime by targeting those who ride motorcycles in a dangerous or criminal manner. This is a prevalent issue which affects members of the Northfield Community.

Operation Armour is now an annual exercise which runs throughout the summer months. April 2018 saw 23 motorcycle related calls reported by members of the public in Northfield. By August 2018 this had fallen to 2 calls with 8 vehicles seized in the Northfield area. During the period of Operation Armour, across Aberdeen City motorcycle related incidents fell by 65% and 60 individuals were charged with a variety of offences.



Northfield Youth Action Group

Formed a number of years ago to bring partners together to tackle antisocial behaviour by young people in the Northfield area, the group revised their terms of reference in early 2018 and agreed to continue to meet in order to further develop and support initiatives that contribute to reductions in antisocial behaviour which in turn can support community safety.

Member partners include locally based staff from Police Scotland including the School Based Police Officer from Northfield Academy; Scottish Fire and Rescue; Sport Aberdeen Active Schools; Denis Law Legacy Trust – Streetsport; Aberdeen City Council Museums and Gallery staff (specifically Treasure Hub), City Wardens, Youth Work Team – especially the Streetwork Team and the Communities Team. Partners meet every two months, sharing their own activity reports and consider whether initiatives need to increase or be revised.

Active Schools run activities in Northfield Academy and all the primaries in the Associated School Groups. There has been a huge demand for running clubs and there are plans for family events.

The Denis Law Legacy Trust Streetsport regularly see around 20 young people attend sessions at the Allen Douglas Park in Northfield. Friday night sessions at the Bill Burr Astro turf adjacent to Northfield Academy can see approximately 120 young people from across the area attend for a range of sports. These sessions have been credited with a reduction in antisocial behaviour.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service attended primary schools prior to Guy Fawkes to educate children in safety messages about fires and fireworks. This programme was extended to S1 and S2 pupils at Northfield Academy in 2018.

Volunteering in the Locality

Northfield Locality partners continue to support and help further build the important contribution volunteers make in the wider Northfield community.

28% of people volunteer formally (through an organisation or group) in Northfield.

Youth volunteering in particular continues to excel and exceeded expectations within 2018-2019:

- 181 new young people (aged 12-25 years) registered for the Saltire Youth Volunteering Awards which ACVO coordinates in Aberdeen City on behalf of the Scottish Government
- a total of 343 Saltire Award certificates were issued during the period:
 - 168 Saltire Approach Awards (in recognition of 10 and 25 hours volunteering),
 - 155 Saltire Ascent Awards (in recognition of 50, 100, 200 and 500 hours volunteering)
 - 16 Saltire Challenge Awards (for 'one off' team volunteering)
 - 4 Saltire Summit Awards (in recognition of outstanding achievements)
- 5 young people achieved the Bronze award on the Duke of Edinburgh scheme through the Denis Law Legacy Trust

This is a further increase compared with 2017-2018 (which was a record year for youth volunteering in itself) in new registrations of 36% and Saltire Award achievements/award certificates issued of 40% and reflects incredible youth volunteering in Northfield and across Aberdeen.

In addition, organisations involving volunteers active in Northfield have been recognised for the highest standards in volunteer involvement and the positive difference they make for people and the community.

- Middlefield Community Project, the Aberdeen Countryside Rangers and Aberdeen City Libraries achieved the Volunteer Friendly Award national quality standard
- Cummings Park Community Flat, CFINE, Aberdeen FC Community Trust, Denis Law Legacy Trust Streetsport, Sport Aberdeen all awarded the Queens Award for Voluntary Service (equivalent to an MBE for voluntary groups).
- Police Scotland Youth Volunteers who are also very active in Northfield were recognised and achieved great success at the National Annual Police Scotland Youth Volunteer Awards. The Aberdeen team were awarded the coveted Group of the Year Award out of 46 Police Scotland Youth Volunteer teams across Scotland in recognition of *“outstanding achievements and contributions to PSYV by committing themselves to volunteering in their community, to learning and developing as a group, to being resilient and reliable, to being excellent role models and working as a team.”*



From nurses to retailers, bankers to engineers, on Wednesday 16th January 2019 Bramble Brae School in Aberdeen welcomed more than 25 volunteers into their classrooms. The event was organised as part of on-going initiative from Primary Futures, a programme run by the charity Education and Employers, which aims to broaden the horizons and raise aspirations of children from the ages

of five.

Supporting volunteering and community involvement continues to be a priority for locality partners.

AFCCT work in Schools

Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust have worked in three schools in the Locality – in Northfield Academy, Manor Park and Quarryhill. Their interventions in the schools for targeted pupils aim to reduce the poverty related attainment gap. AFCCT programmes have increased pupil attendance, pupil engagement in their own education and participation in their local community beyond the school day.



In Northfield Academy through engagement in the School of Football programme the average attendance percentage for S1 School of Football pupils was 91.2%, 3% higher than the average attendance for the whole of S1. The average percentage for S2 School of Football pupils was 88.6%, 7.9%

higher than the average attendance rate for the whole of S2. The overall reduction in School of Football exclusions from the academic year 2017/18 to 2018/19 was 50%. S2 School of Football pupils had a 100% reduction in exclusions in the same time period.

94% of S1 School of Football pupils are on track to gain a National 2 Personal Achievement Award (Silver) and 100% of S2 School of Football pupils are on track to receive the same award.

Over 90% of S1 and S2 School of Football pupils play for the Northfield Academy School Football Team with 75% of S2 pupils playing recreational football for local clubs.

At Quarryhill school 38% of the targeted pupils are recording an improvement in their attendance as of March 2019. The targeted pupils have recorded a 49% decrease in their combined number of lateness for the group. There have been additional positive impacts on their wellbeing including social engagement, confidence and participation levels.

With the introduction of the Breakfast Club, 8 pupils have seen an increase in their attendance records. Pupils attending Breakfast Club engage in 15 – 20 minutes of physical activity ahead of classes – this had helped provide a healthy start to their day by arriving on time for school plus providing that with a nutritious meal to start their day.

The Footy Tea programme is supported in partnership with CFINE. The 13 pupils who attend weekly take ownership of the routine set in place for mealtimes and develop their social skills by sitting at a table and communicating with adults and other pupils. Any additional food supplies are offered to families. AFCCT staff report that families are happy to engage, communicating about home life and the healthy food choices they are now able to make.

At Manor Park School, since summer 2018 the AFCCT staff member has worked with 231 pupils ranging from age 3 to 13. In addition, 26 adults have been worked with through Nursery and family engagement. The number of 235 individuals have been worked with on a frequent basis which has resulted in a total of 4062 participations and 2795.75 hours of activity.

The Dons Family programme has seen 17 families engage with a total of 45 participants. There has been a 92% attendance from families who completed the programme with 12 out of the 17 families who started, completing at least 9 out of the 12 weeks. There have been 348 participations from the children ranging from Primary 1 to Primary 7. Children demonstrate a 100% increase in their knowledge of healthy eating and exercise with the adult figure showing a 70% increase. Families indicate that 60% of them no spend more time as a family having undertaken the programme.



Participatory Budgeting (PB)

A Steering Group of residents have successfully carried out a number of Participatory Budgeting (PB) projects supported by Locality 2 Staff. These projects have enabled local residents to take part in a decision-making process to allocate funding where they think it will benefit the community the most.

2018 - 19

In March 2018 a Participatory Budgeting process and husting event was held at Northfield Academy.

The Steering Group took the criteria from the locality plan: -

- Tackling food poverty
- Combating social isolation and enhancing mental wellbeing
- Reducing antisocial behaviour and crime

From a budget of £16,417 nine projects were awarded grants of between £638 and £3000 to be carried out in the 18-19 financial year. These included projects throughout the Greater Northfield area catering for the needs of all ages including projects for children such as a lunchtime drama club in 2 primary schools, programming workshops and physical activities

for teenagers plus allowing a group to attend Grampian Pride. Older people were catered for by Boogie in The Bar, a dementia friendly disco for older people and a grant to a local Veterans Association. The funding also allowed Mastrick Parish Church to open a community Café.

This led to providing activities and support to well in excess of 5000 local people and provided opportunities for over 60 volunteers.

Benefits reported back were increased access to food, increases in confidence and increases in knowledge about safety and reporting crimes.

Northfield Academy

Funding was made available to carry out a project late 2018. As the Steering Group increased their knowledge and skills using hustings type events, they decided to approach Northfield Academy with the idea of supporting young people to get involved with the aims outlined below.

Aims

To support others to run a PB process

To explore other PB models

To increase the numbers of participants in the process

For the Steering Group to share their skills and knowledge with others

They met with a sub-group of the school Pupil Council consisting of 8 pupils who looked at the Locality Plan and decided on the following criteria: -

- Improve Access to cheap and fresher foods
- Enhancing Physical and Mental Wellbeing
- Combat Drug/Alcohol Misuse
- Support for Older People

They also decided on a maximum bid of £4,000 from a pot of £19,000 funding plus each person voting would get 3 votes.

The opportunity for funding was advertised throughout the community via Facebook, posters and emails. 12 local groups applied.

Those bids were scrutinised by the pupil group to see if they correctly fit at least one of the given criteria. Two bids were refused as they did not meet the application deadline.

In order that pupils could become informed about the bids they were:

- Advertised on school TVs
- Displayed on boards in the school Hall
- Prefects circulated the bids at registration classes
- Bids were presented to pupils at lunch times

In March '19 the bids were presented at 5 different school assemblies and pupils were given the opportunity to vote. 372 voted on the bids they thought best for their community. Pupils helped with the collection and counting of votes.

7 of the 10 project bids were successful. They were invited to a PB Celebration to receive certificates and meet the pupils, steering group and staff involved. Co-Leader of the Council Jenny Laing opened the event and pupils presented certificates to the successful projects.

The pupils and Steering Group also received certificates recognising the amount of effort and time they contributed. Approximately 80 hours of volunteer time was contributed. The results were also fed back at school assemblies.

The steering group and pupils will visit the successful projects in Autumn 2019 in order to witness the changes they have made.

Boogie in the Bar

Boogie in the Bar continues to grow in success with an average of 50 -60 people attending the monthly sessions at the Sunnybank. Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust were successful in receiving funding through the 2018 – 2019 Participatory Budgeting exercise and additional funding is provided through Aberdeen City Council Health and Wellbeing team. The funds are used to provide a light lunch before participants enjoy music and dance. Volunteers prepare the lunch and a volunteer driver transports the majority of the participants from sheltered housing complexes in the area.

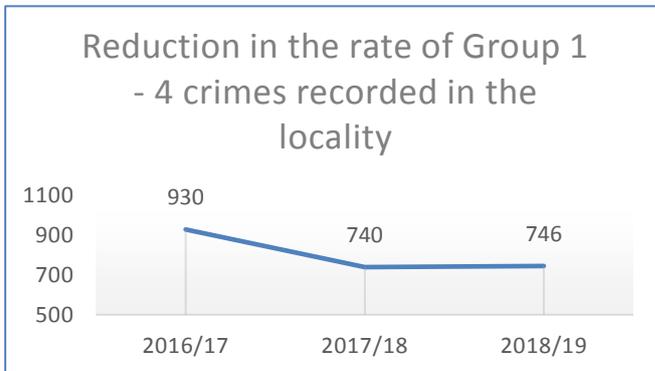


Participants really enjoy attending, reporting that they feel less isolated and many have made new friends.

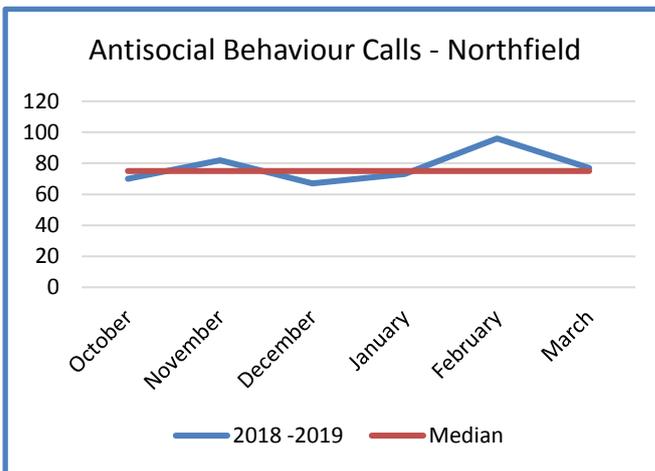
Approximately 550 attendances have been recorded at the sessions over the year.

Are our changes resulting in improvement?

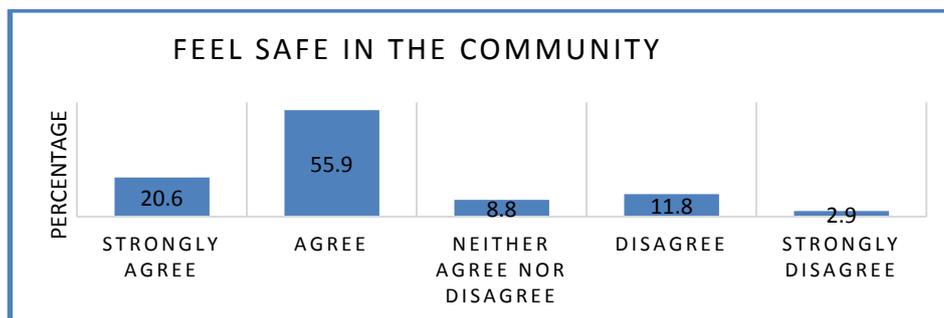
A Safer Place and increasing community involvement and participation



The substantial reduction has been sustained during 2018/19.



Youth Anti- social behaviour calls remain around the expected average apart from the rise in February 2019 - due in the main to snowballs



Figures taken from the City Voice questionnaire 18-19 demonstrate that most residents feel safe in the Community

PROSPEROUS PLACE



Priority: We will work together to improve the area

Areas where we have made changes during 2018/19

Primary Drivers

We will deliver high quality housing and support

- Smithfield & Manor Walk Housing
- Oldtown/Marchburn Improvements

We will improve area facilities

- Co Wheels cars for Middlefield and Northfield
- Heathryfold Park Group
- Middlefield Community Ranger
- Middlefield Community Hub
- Haudagain Project

What key changes have we made?

Smithfield & Manor Walk Housing

Following the completion of the Provost Rust Walk houses, building continued in the Smithfield Gardens development resulting in a further 99 new Council houses being completed by July 2018. The site at Smithfield consists of 42 three and four bedroomed semi-detached properties and 57 one and two-bedroom apartments. The area has quickly developed into a vibrant and thriving new housing estate and what was described as striking was 'how quickly the houses have become homes.'

In addition to the Smithfield homes, a further 80 Council houses at nearby Manor Walk are due for completion in summer 2019. This represents an investment of £26.5 million across the two sites.



The houses and flats feature a number of energy efficiency features including being linked to a local District Heating System and all have achieved the Silver Standard sustainability level.

The development, which caters for families of all sizes and needs, provides semi-detached and detached properties of up to 4 bedrooms and one and two bedroom apartments. Each property benefits from the open green spaces, a revamped play park opposite the site and a western footpath

connecting the new housing with the surrounding community. The site layout has been designed to build on the safety of pedestrians and encourage movement

Oldtown/Marchburn Improvements

On the back of the successful Community Safety campaign last year, staff consulted with tenants and residents in the Oldtown/Marchburn flatted properties. This survey was aimed at establishing what improvements the community would like to see in their area and is aligned to an effective form of Participatory Budgeting.

Works totalling £150,000 – **the biggest programme in the city** – is underway and on completion will see exterior painting completed, installation of new communal front and back doors to the blocks which will strengthen security and improved interior stairwell lighting.

Co Wheels cars

Co Wheels is an independently owned car club, providing low emission, hybrid and electric cars on a pay-as-you go basis for organisations and communities. At the beginning of the year there were three cars available in the area at Mastrick, Byron Square in Northfield and Middlefield Community Hub. As the Mastrick car failed to generate enough usage it was pulled at the end of June 2018. The bookings of the cars at Byron Square and Middlefield Hub continue to rise with Byron rising from 2 in June 2018 to 34 by March 2019. The Middlefield bookings have also been rising from 2 in June 2018 to 21 in March 2019.

Heathryfold Park Group

This group consisting of local residents and elected members have worked with Aberdeen City Council Technical Staff to develop the Middlefield Greenspace Project. This has been funded by Aberdeen City Council, National Heritage Scotland, Sustrans and Nestrans.

Key achievements of the project in the last year have been the:

- Recruitment of a Community Ranger who has been working with community groups to encourage use of the area as a leisure and learning resource.
- Installation of 2 new ambitious play areas after public consultation
- Completion of a dog play area – the first of its kind in Aberdeen
- Group members and children have taken part in numerous planting sessions of bulbs and trees at public sessions and with groups from the Hub
- Many Community Litter Picks have taken place
- Contributions to local community magazine

The group continue to meet regularly and have learned much about the technical and funding aspects of the project. They plan to hold a celebration of the area in late summer 2019.

Middlefield Community Ranger

The Middlefield Community Ranger joined the team in November 2018 to increase local resident interactions with the nearby greenspaces, especially the new landscaped Middlefield / Heathryfold Park through nature-based activities and outdoor learning sessions with schools and families.

In January Manor Park & Heathryburn Primary Schools were involved designing a logo for the Middlefield / Heathryfold Park. Pupils from primary four and five participated in several sessions including the project presentation, a guided walk and a couple visits to verify the logo progression. Additionally, the ranger started delivering weekly outdoor learning sessions to Bramble Brae Primary School and Middlefield Community Project Nursery.

In February Bucksburn Academy received several John Muir Award sessions in Howes Road led by the ranger. Topics delivered included winter tree bud identification, water quality survey in the Burks Burn & litter picks around the area. Moreover, in support of the National Nest Box Week campaign 25 bird boxes were built with pupils of nursery, primary and academy schools and put up in their playgrounds.

In March a partnership with Heathryburn Primary School started to deliver weekly outdoor learning sessions. These sessions are connecting pupils and teachers with their nearby greenspaces while relating nature with numeracy topics. Also, during this month a series of countryside fire awareness talks were delivered to the primary schools and a litter pick took place in Heathryfold Park with the cooperation of the local steering group.

Middlefield Community Café

Middlefield Community Café is now open six days a week and they involve the local community in helping them develop the menu. The Café has been awarded a Healthy Living Award of which they are rightly proud. This means that there is reduced fat and sugar content in most of what they make. They serve healthy, low cost meals including home-made soups, sandwiches, paninis and baked potatoes. There is a Daily Specials Board with a main meal, salads and desserts.

The Café also provides meals for the children in the day nursery and they operate a voucher scheme which pays for a daily meal for the children who attend the part-time nursery.

With the Café being very busy there are 3 paid employees and over this last year there have been 6 volunteer staff. The Project successfully applied to the Scottish Government for funding to support vulnerable young adults into the workplace. This has allowed the Café to provide work for a young person who had previously completed a successful placement at the Café, allowing them to work for another year and develop their skills in the kitchen.

The Café has managed to sustain itself over the past year and is a great success – it provides employment, volunteering opportunities and is a great place for local people to get a healthy meal at an affordable price.

Middlefield Triangle/Haudagain Development

2018/19 saw the regeneration of Middlefield taking a step further with the appointment of a contractor to oversee a £18 million project to end the gridlock at the Haudagain roundabout.

Farrans Construction will take the helm on the Haudagain improvement works, which are expected to be completed in 2021.



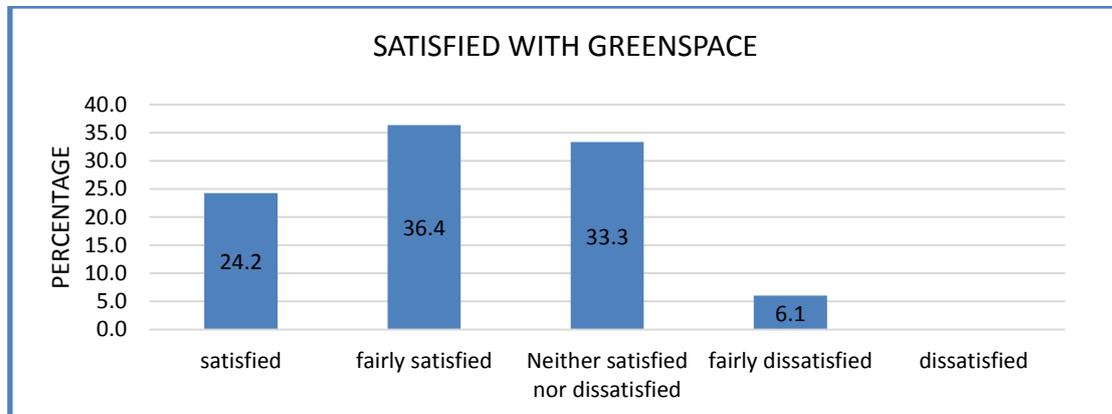
The Aberdeen roundabout was once dubbed the worst of its kind in Europe, and the project will involve the construction of a “bypass” linking North Anderson Drive and Auchmill Road to alleviate some of its regular bottlenecks. This will deliver approximately 500m of new dual carriageway to assist in reducing traffic congestion and improving journey times.



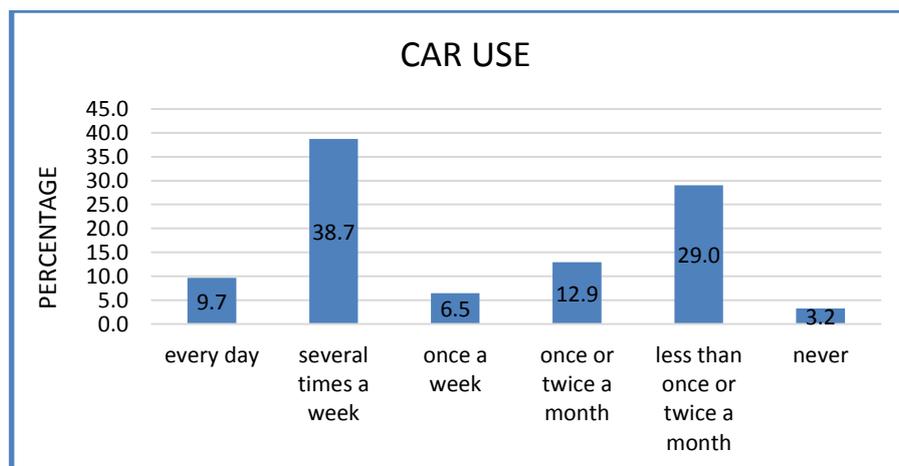
For the project to get underway, it required the demolition of the site commonly known as the Triangle, containing 112 properties. This began in summer 2018 and Aberdeen City Council Housing staff have successfully rehoused a total of 448 tenants.

Are our changes resulting in improvement?

Improving the Area

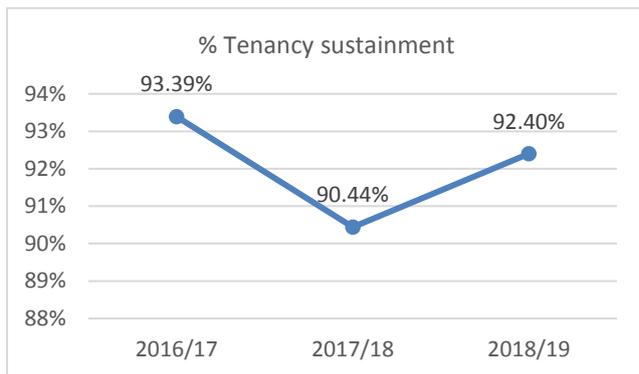


From the City Voice questionnaire 18/19, it shows that 60.6% of residents responding advise that they are satisfied or fairly satisfied with the green spaces throughout the area.



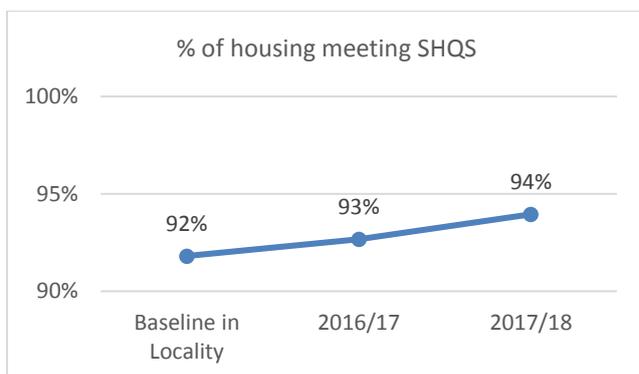
Frequent car usage - indicating ownership - is not high and therefore having Co-wheels cars available will assist residents when they do need a car for transport.

An increase in the number of tenants who remain satisfied with living in our locality

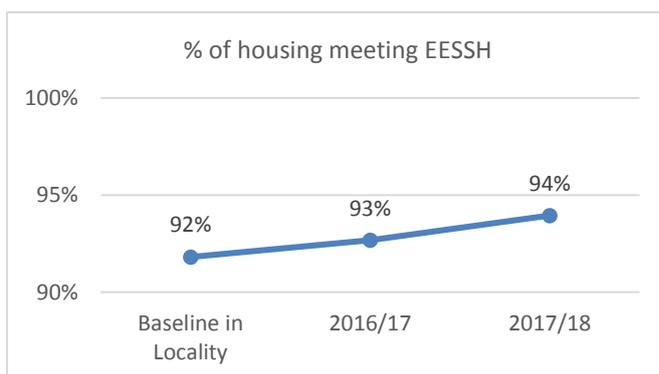


The following graphs illustrate the improvements that have been made to our stock over the last year resulting in achieving high levels of compliance with national indicators.

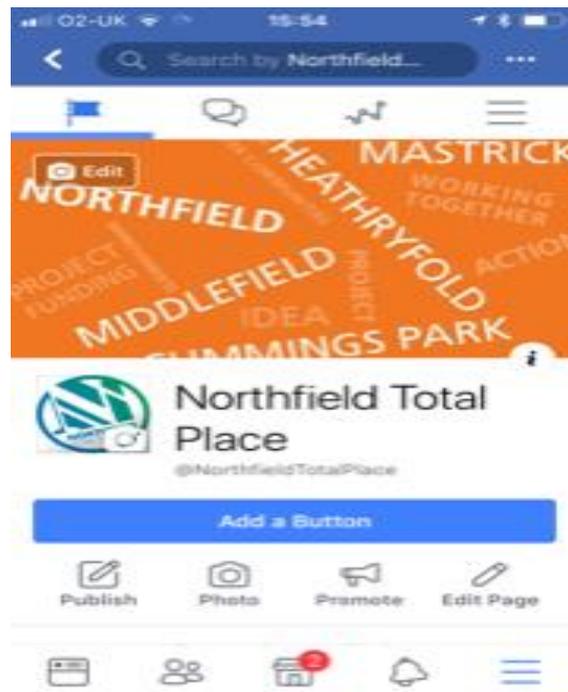
Scottish Housing Quality Standard



Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing



ENABLING TECHNOLOGY



Priority: Creating a digitally enabled community

Areas where we have made changes during 2018/19

Primary Drivers

We will improve accessibility, safety, security and awareness

We will increase awareness of age appropriate activity

We will share information locally

City Fibre

Silver Surfers

Gaming progress

Social Media

What key changes have we made?

City Fibre

The work being delivered by GCU Ltd on City Fibre's behalf, started in Cummings Park and was followed by Smithfield. The company use modern build techniques to deploy the network quickly, while working closely with the council and local communities to ensure a fast and successful roll-out with minimum disruption to residents. Residents have been kept up to date about the project with visits and information newsletters delivered to each house. At the end of the project all households will have the opportunity to connect to superfast broadband.

Currently, fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) is available to less than four per cent of premises across the UK. This will give homes in Cummings Park and Smithfield broadband speeds of around 900Mbps - about 20 times the current UK average - and will allow customers to surf the Internet, download HD films, play games online and upload videos at the same time, using multiple devices, without interruption.

Silver Surfers

The Silver City Surfers provide weekly sessions to an average of 4 participants at Cummings Park Community Flat, offering a range of support for people over the age of 55 years to come to terms with modern technology from cameras to laptops. Volunteers offer free tutoring and support on a one-to-one level. The friendly, inclusive sessions make for a pleasant experience. The volunteers assist clients to become familiar with new devices and increasingly are offering support to people needing digital skills for getting back to work.

Gaming

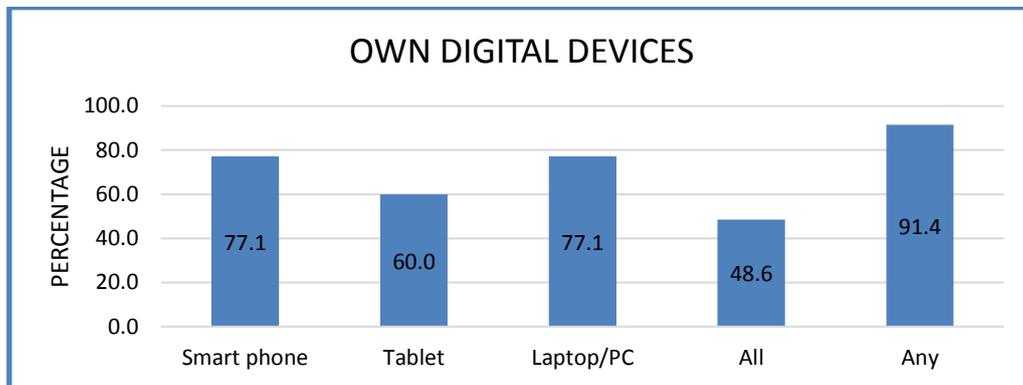
Following developing an information leaflet for parents, children and young people work continued along with students from Aberdeen Law Project to develop an information session on internet safety and the age appropriateness of games. A total of 15 parents and staff attended an evening session where a very thought provoking video was shown – if the characters from video games and people who children and young people can be contacted by through the internet, physically knocked on your front door would you even consider letting them in? The students then went on to give detailed information on a range of situations and issues that can present through the internet and how parents can try to ensure safety.

Social Media

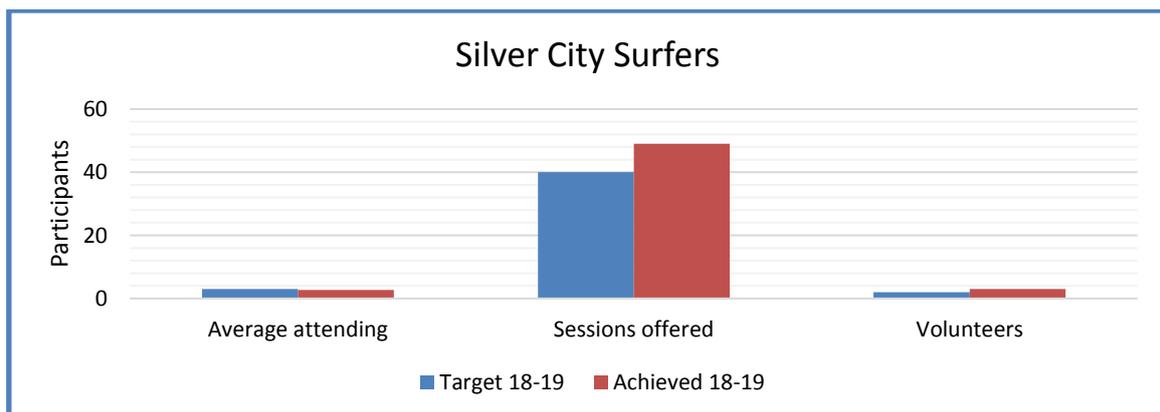
We use our social media channels particularly Facebook to promote the locality, our work and our people. All the Community and Learning Centres, several of the churches, most schools, community groups and Middlefield Community Project all have Facebook pages. This allows for a wide range of information to be shared across the area and beyond. Key messages and posts from partner agencies and many services are also shared.

Are our changes resulting in improvement?

Enabling Technology



The number of residents owning digital devices shows almost three quarters own device.



Silver City Surfers managed to exceed the number of planned sessions they provided during the year and increased their volunteers by one.

Locality Partnership

Cummings Park, Heathryfold, Northfield, Mastrick and Middlefield

Martin Smith, Locality Inclusion Manager

Northfield Locality Partnership Board is a well-established and well supported partnership group within the CPA structure. We work together to achieve improvements for the Locality around the themes of people, place, technology and economy and to ensure it is a place where all people can prosper.

Membership

- *4 Community Representatives*
- *1 Community Council Representative*
- *1 Community Project Representative*
- *1 Community Centre Representative*
- *1 Aberdeen City Council*
- *1 AHSCP Representative*
- *2 Police Scotland Representatives*
- *1 ACVO / Third Sector Representative*
- *2 School Captains*
- *1 Deputy Head Teacher*
- *2 Elected Members*