



# Community Planning Aberdeen Board

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Meeting on **WEDNESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2023 at 2.00 pm**

**\*\*Committee Room 5 - Town House, Aberdeen\*\***

**This is a hybrid meeting and Members may also attend remotely**

## **B U S I N E S S**

### BUSINESS

#### APOLOGIES

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

#### MINUTES AND FORWARD PLANNER

- 1.1 CPA Board Minute of 28 June 2023 - for approval (Pages 3 - 22)
- 1.2 Draft CPA Management Group Minute 9 August - for information  
(Pages 23 - 32)
- 1.3 CPA Board Forward Planner (Pages 33 - 36)
- 1.4 National Update - Verbal

#### STRATEGIC BUSINESS

- 2.1 Population Needs Assessment 2023 (Pages 37 - 132)
- 2.2 CPA Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23 (Pages 133 - 208)
- 2.3 Locality Annual Outcome Improvement Reports 2022/23 for North, South and Central Localities (Pages 209 - 272)

- 2.4 Scottish Parliament Report on Community Planning Inquiry - Implications for Community Planning Aberdeen (Pages 273 - 280)

### CPA IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

- 3.1 CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update and Appendices  
(Pages 281 - 306)
- Appendix 1 – CPA Improvement Programme Overview (Pages 285 - 304 )
- Appendix 2 – 11 New Stretch Outcome 4-9 Project Charters (Page 305)
- Appendix 3 – 2 Project end reports 11.3 and 11.4 (Page 305)

### FOR INFORMATION

- 4.1 Meeting Dates 2024 (Pages 307 - 308)
- 4.2 Date of Next Meeting - 29 November 2023

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Gogo Okafor, email [mokafor@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:mokafor@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

# COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD

## 28 JUNE 2023

**Present:** Councillor Christian Allard (Aberdeen City Council), Chairperson; Chief Superintendent Graeme Mackie (Police Scotland), Vice Chairperson; Councillor John Cooke (Aberdeen City Council and IJB Chair); Pete Edwards (University of Aberdeen for Item 1.4); Chay Ewing (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); Councillor Martin Greig (Aberdeen City Council); William Hardie (Robert Gordon University, as a substitute for Duncan Cockburn); Iona Mayhew, (Scottish Government Representative, as a substitute for Richard McCallum); Councillor Miranda Radley (Aberdeen City Council); Angela Scott (Aberdeen City Council); and Susan Webb (NHS Grampian).

**Also Present:** Duncan Abernethy (NESCOL); John Donaghey (NHS Grampian); Fraser Hoggan (Alcohol and Drugs Action); Niamh O' Connor (Scottish Government), Simon Rayner (Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership); and Tanita Addario; Michelle Crombie; Jim Johnstone; Martin Murchie; Eleanor Sheppard; Allison Swanson (All Aberdeen City Council).

**Apologies:** Gale Beattie (Aberdeen City Council); Duncan Cockburn (Robert Gordon University); Susan Elston (NESCOL); Caroline Hiscox (NHS Grampian); Matthew Lockley (Scottish Enterprise); Richard McCallum (Scottish Government) and Paul O'Connor (ACVO); and Alistair Robertson (Active Aberdeen Partnership)

Page 3	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
	Welcome	The Chair welcomed and thanked Board members for attending today's meeting. He advised that this was his first meeting as Chair since his appointment as Co-leader of Aberdeen City Council and looked forward to working with Partners to achieve the vision of our Local Outcome Improvement Plan.  <b><u>The Board resolved:-</u></b> to note the welcome.	
	2. Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.	
	3. Minute of Previous Meeting of 19 April 2023 - for approval	The Board had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 19 April 2023 for approval.  <b><u>The Board resolved:-</u></b> to approve the minute as a correct record.	
	4. Draft CPA Management Group Minute 24 May 2023 – for information	The Board had before it the draft minute of the previous CPA Management Group meeting of 24 May 2023 for information.  <b><u>The Board resolved:-</u></b> to note the draft minute.	

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5.	CPA Board Forward Planner	<p>The Board had before it a Business Forward Planner</p> <p><b>The Board resolved:-</b> to agree the Business Forward Planner.</p>	
6.	National Update - Scottish Government	<p>The Board received a verbal update from Iona Mayhew - (Scottish Government Representative).</p> <p>The update covered the following areas:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Employability - that the Scottish Government Parliament in the December 23/24 budget had set up a support in this financial year and had provided £110,000,000 to deliver employability for those facing challenges in the labour market. It was mentioned that there were 54,000 starts on Fair Starts Scotland from April 2018 to December 2022, and from April 2019 to September 2022, 29,000 people had received support from the No One Left Behind approach. Ms Mayhew advised there had been a 12-month extension on the Fresh Starts referrals lasting till March 2024;</li> <li>(b) Offending - with regards to reducing offending, it was highlighted that the National Criminal Justice Strategy had recognised that public protection was of greatest importance. Ms Mayhew added that the strategy focused on these national aims - (i) diversion and early intervention; (ii) provision of robust and high-quality interventions; (iii) responsive services which met the needs of individuals and (iv) strong leadership and partnership working. It was mentioned that victims and public safety were the focus of the Scottish Government for the Bail and Release from Custody Bill;</li> <li>(c) Tackling Child Poverty – It was stated that the Scottish Government had focused on those that required support and the Child Poverty Delivery Plan had included the “Every Child, Every Chance” 2018 to 2022, with an estimate of £8.5 billion made available to assist people on low income. Ms Mayhew also highlighted the Best Start Bright Future 2022 to 2026 which had the aim of targeting parental employment support and social security with the purpose of reducing household cost. She highlighted that from 2026 to 2030 the third plan would take place. In tackling Child Poverty, the Best Start Bright Future had commenced in Glasgow and Dundee through Pathfinders. Also included in the plan was the increase of £25 in the Scottish Child Payment for children under the age of 16 from November 2022. Furthermore, it was mentioned that by 2023/2024, 387,000 children would be eligible for the payment;</li> <li>(d) Population Health – Ms Mayhew stated that in Scotland, smoking was the primary preventable cause of ill health and premature death in Scotland and each year</li> </ul>	



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Page 5		<p>tobacco use was associated with around 100,000 hospital admissions 9,000 deaths. It was mentioned that the Scottish Government was working in collaboration with NHS to extend services at pharmacies to those in need of support to quit smoking. In addition to the above, during the pandemic the number of people smoking had reduced, as people relied on free NHS Stop Smoking services. In relation to Alcohol treatment, in 2021, the alcohol related death rate was 1245 which was 5% higher than in 2020 and the highest death mortality rate since 2018. Ms Mayhew highlighted that in 2024, there would be development of Alcohol treatment targets together with the implementation of Stage 2 drug targets. In relation to smoking, Susan Webb advised that they were anticipating a national strategy in September and keen to bring that into LOIP refresh conversations.</p> <p>The Partners welcomed the verbal update and sought clarification on the mechanism for sharing learning at the early stages from Glasgow and Dundee pathfinders. Ms Mayhew advised that she would contact the Policy teams in the various areas and circulate information to partners.</p> <p>Thereafter, the Board heard from Niamh O'Connor - Deputy Director for Population Health Strategy and Improvement for Scottish Government who provided a brief overview of her role and population health and the wider Community Planning involvement in the wellbeing approach with the Scottish Government.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:-</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to note the update provided and that Ms Mayhew would circulate the information on the early learnings from Glasgow and Dundee pathfinders, and Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan Progress Report detailed above;</li> <li>(ii) to agree that a report on the national tobacco strategy be submitted when available; and</li> <li>(iii) to thank Mrs O' Connor and her colleagues for their attendance.</li> </ul>	<p>Iona Mayhew, SG Susan Webb/NHSG</p>
7.	<p>Timeline for the Refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2016 - 26 and Locality Plans</p>	<p>The Board had before it a report which presented the proposed timeline for the development of the refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2016-26 and the underpinning North, South and Central Locality Plans.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b></p>	

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Page 6		<p>that the Board agree the timeline for the approval of the refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016 – 26 and Locality Plans in April 2024, as contained at Appendix 1.</p> <p>Michelle Crombie - Community Planning Manager - (Aberdeen City Council), provided an overview of the report and advised that the last refresh of the Plan had been approved in July 2021. She spoke to the high level timeline at appendix 1, which proposed that the refreshed LOIP and Locality Plans be submitted to the Board in April 2024 for approval.</p> <p>Mrs Crombie mentioned that she had contacted Martin Murchie of Health Determinants Research Collaborative (HDRC), the North East Population Health Alliance and colleagues across the Partnership for their support.</p> <p>The Partners discussed the timeline presented in the report and asked(a) if support was needed from the Partners, and (b) the need for any adjustments on the timeline. In response, Ms Crombie advised that whilst ambitious, she believed the timescale was achievable. Susan Webb advised that the timescale aligned with the Director of Public Health annual report.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved: -</u></b> to approve the recommendation.</p>	
8.	Draft Strategic Partnership Agreement: Public Health Scotland and the North East Population Health	<p>The Board had before it the draft Strategic Partnership Agreement of Public Health Scotland and the North East Population Health.</p> <p>By way of background, Angela Scott – Chief Executive (Aberdeen City Council) – provided an overview of the draft agreement and advised that the North East Population Health Alliance (3 Grampian Councils, 3 Integrated Joint Board, NHS Grampian, Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue), and as a collective and as a place were trying to enhance its relationship with Public Health Scotland.</p> <p>From a city perspective it added to work colleagues were doing in establishing the Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC) funded from National Institute for Health Care and Research (NIHR). First place to establish a draft Strategic Partnership Agreement of Public Health Scotland and hopefully a model for PHS as it interfaces at a place level.</p>	

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Page 7		<p>Mrs Scott advised that The North East Alliance itself could not sign the Partnership Agreement it required approval from each individual Community Planning partner which would then enable the city to sign the Agreement.</p> <p>The Agreement was at draft stage, it was a starter for ten and feedback would be welcomed.</p> <p>During the discussions the partners inquired of the next steps and deadlines for comments. Mrs Scott advised that following any feedback and comments from the partners, a final version would be prepared and presented to partners for their individual approval. Councillor Cooke – IJB Chair- commended the approach and confirmed that the report would be brought to the next Integrated Joint Board (IJB) of 28 August 2023. Susan Webb explained that it was a symbolic start and that it was important to get the feedback from all partners to ensure that there was ownership and buy in.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to note the information provided; and</li> <li>(ii) to agree that CPP partners take the draft Agreement into their respective organisations for consideration and provide feedback on the draft and intimate whether willing to sign up to the Agreement directly to Angela Scott and Susan Webb; and</li> <li>(iii) to note that Susan Webb would prepare a timeline for the approval stages and confirm the deadline for partners providing comments out with the meeting and thereafter the final version of Agreement would then be submitted to partner organisations for sign off.</li> </ul>	<p>All Partners</p> <p>Susan Webb/ NHS Grampian</p>
9.	Scottish Parliament Report on Community Planning: Post legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015	<p>The Board had before it a report which presented the findings and recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee following their inquiry into the Community Planning launched in November 2022.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b> that the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) note the findings and recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee following their inquiry into Community Planning;</li> </ul>	

Page 8	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
10.	CPA Improvement Quarterly Update and Appendices	<p>(b) note the recommendation for the work of Community Planning Aberdeen to be included as a case study example in revised statutory Community Planning guidance; and</p> <p>(c) request the CPA Management Group to consider the implications of the report for Community Planning Aberdeen and report back to a future Board meeting.</p> <p>Michelle Crombie - Community Planning Manager- (Aberdeen City Council), advised that in November 2022, the Community Planning Board became aware of the Scottish Parliament Inquiry into the Community Planning.</p> <p>Mrs Crombie explained that the Committee's findings and recommendations had been published and the next steps would be for relevant Ministers to be invited to join a Local Government, Housing &amp; Planning Committee meeting to discuss their position further after summer recess. Whilst the report recommended that the CPA Management Group to consider the implications of the report for Community Planning Aberdeen and report back to a future Board meeting.</p> <p>With reference to the comment on the timescale of the report back to the CPA Board, Mrs Crombie advised that an update would be provided at the next CPA Board meeting.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:-</u></b></p> <p>(i) to approve the recommendations (a) and (b); and</p> <p>(ii) to request the CPA Management Group to consider the implications of the report for Community Planning Aberdeen and report back to the next CPA Board meeting.</p> <p>The Board had before it a report which provided an update on the progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 Improvement projects spanning the LOIP and Community Empowerment Strategy. The Board also presented 10 new project charters for initiation.</p> <p><b><u>The report recommended:-</u></b></p> <p>that the Board:</p> <p>(a) consider the overview of progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 Improvement projects spanning the LOIP and Community Empowerment Strategy as contained at Appendix 1;</p> <p>(b) approve the 10 of the project charters as contained at Appendix 2 for initiation; and</p>	Michelle Crombie, ACC

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	<p>(c) note that 19 aims had now been achieved and 12 projects ended and that project end reports for 19 out of the 20 improvement aims with a 2022 date had now been submitted.</p> <p>The Board heard from Allison Swanson - Improvement Programme Manager (Aberdeen City Council) as she provided an overview on the progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 improvement projects.</p> <p>With reference to Appendix 1 of the report, Mrs Swanson highlighted that out of the 16 Stretch Outcome, 3 had been achieved. In terms of the 89 improvement aims, 46 were live and 12 had ended, with 6 further project reports to be considered later on today's agenda, along with 10 new charters at Appendix 2 on the agenda would be discussed. Those projects with red ragging status had been discussed at the last meeting of the Management Group to ensure any issues addressed.</p> <p>Mrs Swanson highlighted of the aims meant to be achieved by 2022, 19 out of 20 project end reports had been submitted with 14 aims achieved and 6 had not been.</p> <p>The Board heard from Eleanor Sheppard - Chair of the Children's Services Board (Aberdeen City Council), who provided an overview on the 10 new charters contained at Appendix 2 for which approval for initiation was sought:</p> <table><tr><th>Ref</th><th>Improvement Aim</th></tr><tr><td>4.1</td><td>100% of urgent requests for first stage infant formula and nutritional support for pre-school children are met by 2024.</td></tr><tr><td>4.2</td><td>Increase by 10% the no. of parents with children under 5 who are completing a full benefits check by 2024.</td></tr><tr><td>5.1</td><td>100% of children leaving care are referred to services that can meet assessed mental health needs within 4 weeks of the health assessment being completed by 2024.</td></tr><tr><td>6.2</td><td>100% of children and young people leaving care are offered a health assessment to identify gaps in their health provision and needs by 2024</td></tr><tr><td>6.3</td><td>Increase by 100% the number of partners supporting kinship carers by 2023.</td></tr><tr><td>7.2</td><td>Increase to 3 the delivery of co-located and delivered services by health and education by 2024.</td></tr></table>	Ref	Improvement Aim	4.1	100% of urgent requests for first stage infant formula and nutritional support for pre-school children are met by 2024.	4.2	Increase by 10% the no. of parents with children under 5 who are completing a full benefits check by 2024.	5.1	100% of children leaving care are referred to services that can meet assessed mental health needs within 4 weeks of the health assessment being completed by 2024.	6.2	100% of children and young people leaving care are offered a health assessment to identify gaps in their health provision and needs by 2024	6.3	Increase by 100% the number of partners supporting kinship carers by 2023.	7.2	Increase to 3 the delivery of co-located and delivered services by health and education by 2024.	
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		<table><tr><td>7.3</td><td>Increase by 10%the rate of completion of NPA/FA/HNC courses available to young people across the city by June 2024.</td></tr><tr><td>8.2</td><td>Reduce by 15% the number of care experienced young people reported missing from Children’s homes to Police Scotland by 2024.</td></tr><tr><td>9.1</td><td>Increase by 20% the number of registered young cares accessing support from the Young Carers service by 2025.</td></tr><tr><td>9.2</td><td>Increase by 20% the number of families Children with autism or awaiting diagnosis assessing support prior to diagnosis and reduce the interval between referral and diagnosis by 2024.</td></tr></table>	7.3	Increase by 10%the rate of completion of NPA/FA/HNC courses available to young people across the city by June 2024.	8.2	Reduce by 15% the number of care experienced young people reported missing from Children’s homes to Police Scotland by 2024.	9.1	Increase by 20% the number of registered young cares accessing support from the Young Carers service by 2025.	9.2	Increase by 20% the number of families Children with autism or awaiting diagnosis assessing support prior to diagnosis and reduce the interval between referral and diagnosis by 2024.		
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		<p>Partners welcomed and commended the ambitious and innovative change ideas within the charters and across a number of priority areas such as wellbeing health, and inequalities. The range of partners supporting the improvement activity was also commended as well as the opportunities provided for the children and young people across the city to participate in the design and delivery of the projects.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:</u></b> - to approve the recommendations.</p>										
11.	Project End 3.4: Increase the number of Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships 5% by 2022	<p>The Board had before it a report which (a) presented the results of the LOIP Improvement Project Aim to increase the number of Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships by 5% by 2022 and (b) sought approval to close the project as the aim had been achieved.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b> that the Board:</p> <p>(a) agree that testing had concluded and that this Improvement Project was brought to an end on the basis that growth of over 5% in both Modern and Graduate Apprenticeship numbers had been achieved;</p> <p>(b) note that achievement of the aims had been dependent on funding allocations from the Scottish Government and sustaining the achievement would be dependent on this; and</p>										

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		<p>(c) note that the data set for the overall aim would continue to be reported via the improvement programme dashboard to ensure progress was monitored.</p> <p>Duncan Abernethy - Project Manager (North East Scotland College), provided an overview of the report. Mr Abernethy advised that the aim had been achieved with 68% increase for graduate apprenticeship, and within the NESCOL region there had been an increase in 36% in modern apprenticeship.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:</u></b> - to approve the recommendations.</p>	
12.	Project End 3.5: 80% of young people will successfully complete their Modern Apprenticeship programme by 2022	<p>The Board had before it a report which (a) presented the LOIP Improvement Project Aim 3.5 that sought for 80% of young people to successfully complete their Modern Apprenticeship programme by 2022 and (b) sought approval to close the project.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b> that the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) agree that testing had concluded, and that this improvement project was brought to end on the basis that while the overall aim had not been achieved, the changes had been embedded and would continue to be monitored;</li> <li>(b) note the opportunities for scale up and spread as detailed at section 7;</li> <li>(c) note that the dataset for the overall aim would continue to be reported via the Improvement Programme dashboard to ensure progress was monitored; and</li> <li>(d) note that Aberdeen Prospers would consider any further improvement activity in this area as part of the refresh of the LOIP.</li> </ul> <p>The Board heard from Duncan Abernethy who spoke to the report highlighting that whilst the aim had not been achieved, this had been impacted on the post covid environment and learning from the changes tested had been gathered and that the successful changes had been embedded as business as usual.</p> <p>Partners thanked Mr Abernethy for the report. The Board then had a wide-ranging discussion and recognising the environment post covid had an impact on the aim not being achieved. Specifically, Partners commented on the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The introduction of exit interviews was welcomed; however it was recognised that there was no way at present of knowing why the young person had left and where they were going to.</li> </ul>	

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Page 12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The importance of young people being in employment and recognising the impact of covid on specific cohort of young people and that the supports for that cohort would be distinct. In response to this point. Eleanor Sheppard undertook to look with Martin Murchie at collating an understanding of the impact of the young people affected by covid and to get a strategy developed for the specific groups to support their future transition beyond school.</li> <li>Clear communication explaining the modern apprenticeship journey to young people, parents and employers so all had a clear sense of commitment required at the outset was important. This communication could be through a range of mechanisms, such as ABZ Campus, placements, schools etc but it was important that all knew the commitment required. Partners noted that reviewing the data set post the ABZ Campus would show whether any impact had been had.</li> <li>Ongoing supports for both young people and employers were important and using the learning from this project to put in place appropriate support.</li> <li>Opportunities to have core skills completed in school and in advance of apprenticeship, where appropriate, would be beneficial. Eleanor Sheppard provided an overview of current education landscape, highlighting that language around core skills at present could be confusing and explained that education reform was ongoing with the Cabinet Secretary currently reviewing responses. Once the reforms had been concluded Eleanor Sheppard would provide a summary of changes and potential around core skills in the school environment to the Board.</li> <li>Capturing the learning from employers, both where this apprenticeship has been completed and where it has not, so that the differences can be picked up and employers supported by the learning. Duncan/NESCOL' to hold event/focus group with both sets of employers to capture this learning and to report back to a future meeting of the Board with the findings. Susan Webb advised that Public Health were happy to support.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The Board resolved: -</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to approve the recommendations;</li> <li>(ii) to agree that Eleanor Sheppard provide a report with a summary of Education Reforms and potential around core skills being gained in the school environment once they had been concluded;</li> <li>(iii) to note that Eleanor Sheppard, along with Martin Murchie, would look to collate an understanding of the impact of the young people affected by covid and to get</li> </ul>	<p>Eleanor Sheppard, ACC Eleanor Sheppard / Martin Murchie</p>



	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		<p>a strategy developed for the specific groups to support their future transition beyond school; and</p> <p>(iv) to agree that Duncan/NESCOL hold event/focus group with employers with both completed and not completed modern apprenticeships to capture this learning and identify future areas for improvement and to report back to a future meeting of the Board with the findings.</p>	ACC Duncan Abernethy/ NESCOL
13.	Project End 10.7: Increase by 10% the number of clients who access assessment /support/ treatment /services in relation to mental health issues: - in Police custody on community disposal in HMP Grampian by 2023	<p>The Board had before it a report which presented the results of the LOIP Improvement Project Aim 10.7 which sought to increase by 10% the number of clients who accessed assessment/ support/ treatment /services in relation to mental issues: - in Police custody – on a community disposal - in HMP Grampian by 2023.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b></p> <p>that the Board: -</p> <p>(a) agree that testing had concluded, and this Improvement Project was brought to an end on the basis that the aim had been met in two of the three settings;</p> <p>(b) note that the data set for the overall aim would continue to be reported via the Improvement programme dashboard to ensure progress was monitored; and</p> <p>(c) note the opportunities to scale up and spread the changes tested to the CJSW setting which was not tested during this project for the reasons described above and note that the CJG would consider a new improvement aim focused on the CJSW as part of the LOIP refresh and once the new CJSW recording system was in place.</p> <p>John Donaghey - Project Manager (NHS Grampian Public Health) provided an overview of the changes tested, and outcomes achieved by the project within the custody and prison settings.</p> <p>Partners welcomed the report and had a wide ranging discussion on (a) the importance of settings such as custody and the prison looking at the full journey of the individual and how the individual could be in contact with multiple settings rather than providing a different intervention in each setting, (b) the impact of mental health on policing, (c) mental health support and services available across the city and</p>	

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
Page 14		<p>awareness of the entirety of this across partners and (d) future improvement activity required to be fully upstream in intent thereby reducing the number of people attending these settings with mental health support needs.</p> <p>The Partners were made aware of that Police Scotland report on the impact of mental health on the local policing and was decided that it would be considered as part of the refresh of the LOIP and also by the Council's Committee.</p> <p>Partners recognised that this project was only one part of a wider landscape in terms of mental health support and interventions. In this regard, it was suggested that a mapping of the different mental health supports across all settings within the city, along with data on demand; the voice of people with lived experiences such as those captured at the public health event on Monday which was referenced; and impact on partners (such as the report referenced above) would be beneficial to ensure clarity and awareness across partners. It was noted that this would be discussed outwith the meeting with the governance group(s) to consider such mapping to be determine.</p> <p><b>The Board resolved: -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to approve the recommendations noting that further improvement activity in relation to mental health would be considered as part of the LOIP refresh and in this regard improvement activity should be upstream and considering the whole CJ landscape and an individual's journey; and</li> <li>(ii) to note that Police Scotland was preparing a report on the impact of mental health on policing locally and agreed that this be considered by the appropriate Outcome Improvement Groups as part of the refresh of the LOIP and also by the Council's Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee.</li> </ul>	<p>Gale Beattie, ACC</p> <p>G Mackie, Police Scotland</p>
	14. Project End 12.4: Increase the number of alcohol brief interventions delivered by Primary Care providers and other professionals to above levels achieved in 17/18 by 2023	<p>The Board had before it a report which (a) presented the results of the LOIP Improvement Project Aim 12.4 which sought to increase the number of alcohol brief interventions (ABIs) delivered by Primary Care providers and other professionals to above levels achieved in 17/18 by 2023 and (b) sought approval to end the project.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b></p> <p>that the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) agree that testing had concluded and that this Improvement Project be brought to an end on the basis that whilst the aim had not been achieved, the impact of Covid-19, in particular on delivery of ABIs in primary care had been notable and despite this the changes had been embedded and had led to improvements; and</li> </ul>	

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		<p>(b) to note that further improvement activity in relation to alcohol interventions would be considered by the ADP as part of the refresh of the LOIP.</p> <p>John Mooney - (NHS Grampian Public Health) provided an overview of the report, recognising that whilst the aim had not been achieved, positive outcome had been seen from the changes that had been tested and he highlighted these.</p> <p>The Partners commended and discussed the report during which they recognised the potential to further expand ABIs into wider settings and noted, as per the recommendations, that this would be considered as part of the refresh of the LOIP.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:</u></b> - to approve the recommendations.</p>	
15.  Page 15	Project End 12.5: Increase the uptake of alcohol treatment by improving access to alcohol services and ensuring they are local, integrated and targets areas of greatest need by 10% year on year by 2023	<p>The Board had before it a report which (a) presented the results of the LOIP Improvement Aim 12.5 which sought to increase the uptake of alcohol treatment by improving access to alcohol services and ensured they were local, integrated and targeted areas of greatest need by 10% year on year by 2023, and (b) sought approval to end the project.</p> <p><b><u>The report recommended:-</u></b> that the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) agree that the testing was concluded and that this Improvement Project had ended on the basis that whilst the 10% increase in Integrated Alcohol Service uptake had increased by 10%, the engagement with ADA had surpassed the 10% increase with a particular focus on priority neighbourhoods and the changes had been embedded as business as usual;</li> <li>(b) note the opportunities for scale up and spread, specifically to continue to explore opportunities for social (media) and online marketing strategies to attract higher risk drinkers to information, advice and support/treatment, with a new weekly drop-in service now established at NESCO;</li> <li>(c) note that further improvement activity in relation to alcohol interventions would be considered by the ADP as part of the refresh of the LOIP; and</li> <li>(d) note that the data set for overall aim would continue to be reported via the improvement programme dashboard to ensure progress was monitored.</li> </ul> <p>Fraser Hoggan – CEO, Alcohol and Drugs Action, provided an overview of the report and highlighted the changes that had been tested to increase the number engaged in alcohol services, with a particular focus on our priority neighbourhoods.</p>	

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		<p>He mentioned that within the 3 priority postcodes there had been an increase of engagement of 35% in AB11, 59% in AB16 and 66% in AB24.</p> <p>Partners noted the campaign “<i>Foos Yer Booze</i>”, which targeted those consuming alcohol within Aberdeen city boundaries, and its success in targeting at-risk drinkers.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:-</u></b> to approve the recommendations.</p>	
16.	Project End 12.8: Increase uptake of drug treatment and specifically within Locality Areas by 10% each year by 2023	<p>The Board had before it a report which (a) represented the results of the LOIP Improvement Project 12.8 which aimed to “increase uptake of drug treatment and specially within Locality Areas by 10% each year by 2023’ and (b) sought approval to end the project.</p> <p><b>The report recommended: -</b> that the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) agree that testing had concluded and that this Improvement Project was brought to an end on the basis that the aim has been achieved and the change embedded as business as usual;</li> <li>(b) note that the data set for the overall aim would continue to be reported via the improvement programme dashboard to ensure progress was monitored; and</li> <li>(c) note the plans to scale up and spread the changes tested.</li> </ul> <p>The Board heard from Fraser Hoggan - CEO - Alcohol and Drugs Action, as he provided an overview of the report and highlighted the changes that had been tested to increase uptake of drug treatment, with a particular focus on our priority neighbourhoods. He advised that the project had built on the assertive outreach approach and introduced both a Sharp Response and a Crisis Response Services.</p> <p>The services aimed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and increase access to treatment for those at risk: assertive outreach approach with daily crisis intervention/home visits to individuals identified at risk to provide support in their homes and encourage engagement with services;</li> <li>• Focus on harm reduction: raising awareness of safer drug use practices, sterile injecting equipment to reduce the risk of blood borne infections and sexual health advice;</li> <li>• Engage with communities: raising awareness in the community of risks of drug use; how to respond to an overdose and where support is available; and</li> </ul>	

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Widen referral pathways: a direct referral pathway between ADA and the custody suite, Police Scotland was introduced.</li> </ul> <p>In addition to the above, Simon Rayner (Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership), advised that in relation to drug service support, the Target Operating Model would be blended with a multi-disciplinary approach which would be embedded in our communities, and they would be working in partnership with Justice Social Work and Family Social Work.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:</u></b> to approve the recommendations.</p>	
17.	Child Poverty Plan 2022/23	<p>The Board had before it a report which sought approval of the draft statutory Child Poverty Action Report 2022/23 by the Community Planning Aberdeen Board.</p> <p><b><u>The report recommended:</u></b> - that the Board approve the Child Poverty Action Report 2022/23.</p> <p>Eleanor Sheppard - Chair of the Childrens Services Board provided an overview of the report and highlighted that the Children's Services Board had worked on the statutory guidance that shaped the plan in connection with Child Poverty.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:</u></b> - to approve the recommendation.</p>	
18.	Community Wealth Building	<p>The Board had before it a report which advised on Community Wealth Building as an approach to local economic development which promoted local ownership and control over resources, supported businesses and the local workforce and promoted equity and inclusion to build more sustainable economies. It recommended that a Community Wealth Building approach be implemented and integrated into the strategic plans across the Community Planning Partnership, such as in the upcoming refresh of Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan, thereby maximising the local economic impact and outcome.</p> <p><b><u>The report recommended:-</u></b> that the Board: (a) note the Community Wealth Building as an approach to local economic development and that actions within the Council's Community Wealth Building</p>	

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		<p>action plan support the achievement of Stretch Outcome of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan; and</p> <p>(b) recommend that Community Wealth Building be considered as part of the development of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and anchor institutions strategic plans to ensure alignment and potential to maximise the local economic impact and outcomes and avoid duplication of any activity.</p> <p>The Board received a presentation from Tanita Addario- Employability Project Officer- and Jim Johnstone – Service Manager for City Development- Aberdeen City Council. Mrs Addario provided a background overview on Community Wealth Building and advised that it was an internationally recognised approach to local economic development. She explained that Aberdeen City Council and other Community Planning Partners were Anchor institutions - (local authorities, NHS, Police, education institutions and private organisations) rooted to an area, who tended to employ people and had considerable buying and spending power through procurement. However, it was mentioned that the Community Wealth Building had been embedded between the anchors and local areas.</p> <p>The Community Wealth Building centred on 5 pillars made available to anchor organisations to enable local economies' growth and development: -</p> <p>(a) spending – the spending pillar centred on procurement by maximizing the social economic and environmental benefits from public procurement through delivery of community benefits;</p> <p>(b) workforce – the pillar sought funding opportunities which could be state funding, living wage paid work, experience in the work progression and the fair work principle;</p> <p>(c) inclusive ownership – it enhanced the delivery of business start-up and supported growth which had helped with business gateway whereby it focused on local independence of small and medium enterprises, social enterprises, co-operative and community businesses;</p> <p>(d) finance – it sought to increase the walls of investment within the local economies; and</p> <p>(e) land and property – the pillar sought the use of land and property to strengthen the local economies through Asset Community transfer, vacant units, and properties.</p> <p>Mrs Addario advised that Community Wealth Building as an economic development had distinct characteristics that differentiated it from other approaches;</p> <p>(a) empowered local individuals and groups;</p> <p>(b) allowed collaboration of anchor institutions; and</p>	

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
Page 19		<p>(c) helped deliver action plans.</p> <p>Thereafter Tanita advised of CWB in Scotland and also locally in Aberdeen. In Aberdeen, the Community Wealth Building action plan was approved at Finance and Resources Committee in December 2022, and a working group comprised of officers from procurement, corporate landlord, communities and city growth met fortnightly ensuring the CWB pillars of spending, workforce, land and property were embedded within the organisation. Jim Johnstone advised of the importance of local Anchor Institutions working together collectively and recommended that a Community Wealth Building Cross Anchor Institution Working Group be established and that all partner organisations nominate a representative to participate to share learning and practice and enable CWB to be fully embedded.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:</u></b> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to approve the recommendations; and</li> <li>(ii) to request Partners to nominate someone within their organisation who was best placed to be part of a Community Wealth Building Cross Anchor Institution Working Group to share learning and practice across Anchor Institutions.</li> </ul>	Tanita Addario, ACC
	Aberdeen Health Determinants Research Collaborative Update	<p>The Board had before it a report on which provided an update on Aberdeen Health Determinants Research Collaborative.</p> <p><b><u>The report recommended:-</u></b> that the Board note the update.</p> <p>Martin Murchie – Chief Officer for Data and Insights (Aberdeen City Council) and Director for Aberdeen Health Determinants Research Collaborative which advised that funding had been provided by the National Institute of Care Research to establish a health determinants research collaborative in Aberdeen City in collaboration with NHS Grampian Public Health and in conjunction with the two universities in Aberdeen City. He advised the research would be funded for 5 years and it centred on changing attitude, behaviours within decision-makers and academics.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved:</u></b> - to note the update provided.</p>	Martin Murchie ACC/ AHDR

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
20.	Valedictory	<p>The Chair announced to the Board that it was the last CPA Board meeting for Chay Ewing (Scottish Fire and Rescue Fire) as a board member.</p> <p>Mr Ewing was thanked for his services and support to Community Planning and the Board wished him well on his retirement. Mr Ewing thanked everyone and remarked on the impact the positive partnership working through Community Planning Aberdeen and the LOIP had had across the city.</p> <p><b><u>The Board resolved: -</u></b> to note the update.</p>	
21.	Date of Next Meeting 6 September 2023	The Board noted that its next meeting would take place on 6 September 2023 at 2pm.	



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**COMMUNITY PLANNING ABERDEEN MANAGEMENT GROUP**  
**9 AUGUST 2023**  
**ABERDEEN VACCINATION CENTRE**

**Present:-** Gale Beatie (Aberdeen City Council) (Chair), David Howieson (Police Scotland) (Vice Chair), Andy Buchan (SFRS), Allison Carrington (Aberdeen Prospers), Alan Cooper (as a substitute for Jillian Evans, NHSG), Heather Crabb (University of Aberdeen), Rab Dickson (Nestrans), Sinclair Laing, (as a substitute for Jillian Evans, Sustainable City), Alison MacLeod (Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership and Resilient, Included and Supported Group), Ross Mackay (GREC Co-General Manager), Martin Murchie (Anti-Poverty Group), Maria Jose Pavez (GREC Co-General Manager) and Clarie Wilson (Community Justice Group).

**Also Present:-** Darren Bruce (Community Justice Group), Michelle Crombie, Jenni Lawson, Jade Leyden and Allison Swanson (Aberdeen City Council); and Sandy Reid and Iain Robertson (Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership).

**Apologies:-** Jamie Bell (Scottish Enterprise), Jillian Evans (Sustainable City and NHSG), Nicola Graham (Skills Development Scotland), Maggie Hepburn (ACVO), Robert Laird (NESCOL), Simon Rayner (Alcohol and Drugs Partnership), Eleanor Sheppard (Children's Services Board) and Alison Watson (Robert Gordon University).

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Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
1. Welcome	The Chair welcomed everyone to today's meeting.	
2. LOIP and Plan Locality Refresh Workshop	<p>The Management Group undertook a horizon scanning workshop to support development of the detailed plan for the refresh of the LOIP and Locality Plans.</p> <p>The session covered the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current context</li> <li>• High level timeline for refresh of LOIP and Locality Plans</li> </ul> <p>Thereafter, two exercises were undertaken:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What's on the horizon/what's going on that could feed into the refresh?</li> <li>2. Ideas as to how might we engage with communities and partners at the key stages.</li> </ol> <p>During both exercises the Management Group explored what each partner could contribute to the refresh process and agreeing and next steps.</p>	

Agenda Item 1.2

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
<div>Page 24</div>	<p>The key considerations for all Outcome Improvement Groups were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Performance Framework and National Outcomes Framework</li> <li>• The Sustainable Development Goals</li> <li>• Public Health Priorities</li> <li>• Net Zero Aberdeen and Aberdeen Adapts Framework</li> <li>• Achieving Child Poverty Targets</li> <li>• Preventing Homelessness</li> <li>• Prevention and Early Intervention Focus to respond to budget and resource reduction</li> <li>• Tackling Poverty and Inequalities – Taking a Targeted locality based approach</li> <li>• Community Wealth Building</li> </ul> <p>Considerations for each theme were also identified.</p> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b> to agree that LOIP and Locality Plan development stages be finalised on basis of the output from the two exercises and thereafter that the next steps were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LOIP refresh pack/slides to OIGs - 14 August</li> <li>• Initial workshop/meeting held by OIGs to start development - by 15 Sept)</li> <li>• Initial recommendations made for LOIP from OIGs – 5 Oct</li> <li>• Engagement Exercise – Communities, Stakeholders, Partners - 16 Oct-5 Nov</li> <li>• Outcome of engagement reported – 20 Nov</li> <li>• Further recommendations made for LOIP/Locality Plans – 11 Dec</li> </ul>	<p>Allison Swanson, ACC</p> <p>All Partners/OIG Charis</p>
<p>3. Minute of Previous Meeting of 24 May 2023</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it the minute of its meeting of 24 May 2023, for approval.</p> <p>In relation to item 4 (CPA Improvement Programme Update and Appendices, the Management Group noted that the project end report for improvement aim 12.6 had not been received and submitted to the last CPA Board meeting. However, the Project Manager, whilst unable to be present today, had advised that with the agreement of the Management Group he would have the project end report circulated by the end of the week to the Management Group for comment and approval to enable it to be</p>	

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
	<p>considered by the CPA Board on 6 September.</p> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to agree the minute as a correct record, and to note that all the actions had been completed with the exception of the submission of project end report 12.6; and</li> <li>(ii) to agree that the project end report for improvement aim 12.6 be circulated for consideration by email to the Management Group to enable it to be submitted in time for the CPA Board on 6 September 2023.</li> </ul>	Simon Rayner, ACHSCP
<p>4. Draft Minute of Meeting of the CPA Board of 28 June 2023</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it the draft minute of the CPA Board meeting of 28 June 2023, for information.</p> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b></p> <p>to note the draft minute.</p>	
<p>Draft Aberdeen City Population Needs Assessment 2023</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it a report which presented the draft 2023 Population Needs Assessment (PNA) for Aberdeen City. The PNA is a key source of evidence which informs the key priorities for Community Planning Aberdeen and Aberdeen City Council and provided an updated evidence base for the next refresh of the 2016 Local Outcome Improvement Plan.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b></p> <p>that Management Group –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) consider the current draft Population Needs Assessment 2023 at Appendix 1;</li> <li>(b) note that work is in progress with Partners to address any gaps in information and data and to produce an executive summary; and agree that it be submitted to the CPA Board in September 2023;</li> <li>(c) agree that Outcome Improvement Group Chairs take the draft into their Groups to support the development of their revised sections of the LOIP and to provide any further data/narrative for inclusion by 25th August; and</li> <li>(d) agree that Partners take the final Population Needs Assessment into their respective organisations to consider the key findings alongside their own strategic plans.</li> </ul>	<p>OIG Chairs</p> <p>All Partners</p>

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
	<p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b> to approve the recommendations.</p>	
<p>6. Draft CPA Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23</p> <p>Page 26</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it a report which presented the draft Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23. This is the seventh Annual Outcome Improvement Report since the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) was published in August 2016, and the second to be published since the LOIP was refreshed in July 2021.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b> that Management Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) consider the draft of the Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/2023 as contained at Appendix 1 and the draft summary annual report contained at Appendix 2;</li> <li>(b) agree the submission of the draft Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/2023 to the CPA Board on 6 September 2023 and Full Council on 11 October 2023;</li> <li>(c) consider the report in conjunction with the Locality Plan Annual Reports (Item 2.3) to understand the link with the priority issues being tackled via the three Locality Plans; and</li> <li>(d) consider the progress against the Development Plan 2021 as contained at Appendix 3 and agree that it be submitted to the CPA Board on 6 September 2023.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b> to approve the recommendations.</p>	
<p>7. Draft Locality Annual Outcome Improvement Reports 2022-23 for North, South and Central Localities</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it a report which presented the draft Annual Outcome reports 2022/23 against the North, South and Central Locality Plans published in July 2021. The plans underpinned the refreshed Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan, as well as individual partner plans, to cement a joint and coordinated approach between public services and local communities to improve outcomes city wide and at a locality level.</p>	

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
<div data-bbox="96 730 141 890" data-label="Page-Header">Page 27</div>	<p><b>The report recommended:-</b> that Management Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) approve the draft Locality Annual Outcome Improvement Reports 2022-23 for North, South and Central Localities at Appendix 1, 2 and 3 and agree that it be considered at the CPA Board meeting on 6 September 2023;</li> <li>(b) make suggestions on how to strengthen the reports before submission to the CPA Board; and</li> <li>(c) consider the report in conjunction with the CPA Annual Outcome Improvement Report (Item 2.2) to understand the link with the priority issues being tackled via the city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b> to approve the recommendations.</p>	
<p>Scottish Parliament Report on Community Planning Inquiry – Implications for Community Planning Aberdeen</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it a report which presented the findings and recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee following their inquiry into Community Planning launched in November 2022 and identified implications for Community Planning Aberdeen.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b> that Management Group -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) note the findings and recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee following their inquiry into Community Planning; and</li> <li>(b) note the implications identified for Community Planning Aberdeen and consider any further implications to be included in this report which would be considered by the CPA Board in September.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b> to approve the recommendations.</p>	<p>Michelle Crombie, ACC</p>

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
9. Children's Services Reform –Strand 1  <div data-bbox="91 699 136 858" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 28</div>	<p>The Management Group had before it a report which aimed to ensure that all members of the Community Planning Aberdeen was fully sighted on research being published that might influence the shape of the National Care Service and location of children's social work.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b> that Management Group -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) note the content of this CELCIS stage 1 report;</li> <li>(b) agree that it consider, during the next scheduled refresh of the LOIP, how the Components of Integration within Findings 2 of the Stage 1 report, might support our multi-agency work locally; and</li> <li>(c) instruct further reports on the subsequent strands of work as they were published.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b> to approve the recommendations.</p>	Eleanor Sheppard, ACC
10. Children's Services Reform –Strand 2	<p>The Management Group had before it a report which aimed to ensure that all members of the Community Planning Aberdeen was fully sighted on research being published that might influence the shape of the National Care Service and location of children's social work.</p> <p><b>The report recommended:-</b> that Management Group -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) note the content of this stage 2 report;</li> <li>(b) consider, during the next scheduled refresh of the LOIP, how Findings 5 and &amp; 7 focussed on locality working in the Stage 2 report, might support our multi-agency work locally;</li> <li>(c) consider, during the next scheduled refresh of the LOIP, how Finding 8 of the Stage 2 report, might support improvement in the interface between children's and adult services;</li> <li>(d) continue to consider how the systems features of integration might support our multi-agency work; and</li> <li>(e) instruct further reports on the subsequent strands of work as they were published.</li> </ul>	Eleanor Sheppard, ACC



Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
	<p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b> to approve the recommendations.</p>	
<p>11. CPA Improvement Programme Update and Appendices</p> <p>Page 29</p>	<p>Management Group had before it a report which provided an update on the progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 improvement projects spanning the LOIP and Community Empowerment Strategy. Appended to the report was (1) the overview of progress against the CPA Improvement Programme; (2) 11 new project charters under Stretch Outcomes 4 -9; and (3) 2 project end reports.</p> <p>The report recommended:- that the Management Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) consider the overview of progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 improvement projects spanning the LOIP and Community Empowerment Strategy as contained at Appendix 1, with a focus on those projects with a red ragged status;</li> <li>(b) approve the 11 project charters as contained at Appendix 2 for submission to the CPA Board on 6 September 2023;</li> <li>(c) approve the 2 project end reports contained at Appendix 3 for submission to the CPA Board on 6 September 2023;</li> <li>(d) note that 20 aims had now achieved and 18 projects ended and that project end reports for 19 out of the 20 improvement aims with a 2022 date had now been submitted; and</li> <li>(e) agree to appoint Claire Wilson as the Chair of the Community Justice Group</li> </ul> <p>The Management Group noted there were 7 live aims (1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 11.7, 12.6, 12.9 and 13.2) with a red ragging status.</p> <p>The Management Group approved the following project charters at Appendix 2 for submission to the CPA Board, along with the following project end reports contained at Appendix 3.</p>	

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By																																				
Page 30	<p>Appendix 2 - Stretch Outcome 4-9 Improvement Project Charters</p> <table> <tr> <th data-bbox="465 309 555 384">Ref</th><th data-bbox="555 309 1377 384">Improvement Aim</th><th data-bbox="1377 309 1628 384">Project Manager</th></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 384 555 459">4.3</td><td data-bbox="555 384 1377 459">Increase by 40% the number of Peep programmes delivered by multi-agency partners by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 384 1628 459">ACC, Natasha Martens</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 459 555 571">4.4</td><td data-bbox="555 459 1377 571">Improve dental health at primary 1 to the national average by reducing the levels of dental health in areas of deprivation to 50% by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 459 1628 571">NHSG, Pippa Robbie</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 571 555 646">5.2</td><td data-bbox="555 571 1377 646">Increase by 5% the number of S1-S6 pupils who report that they feel confident by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 571 1628 646">ACC, Gael Simpson</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 646 555 721">5.3</td><td data-bbox="555 646 1377 721">Increase by 10% the % of children living in areas of deprivation who feel safe in their communities by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 646 1628 721">ACC, Craig Singer</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 721 555 833">6.4</td><td data-bbox="555 721 1377 833">80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 721 1628 833">ACC, Amy Evans</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 833 555 908">6.5</td><td data-bbox="555 833 1377 908">Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.</td><td data-bbox="1377 833 1628 908">ACC, Tam Walker</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 908 555 983">7.4</td><td data-bbox="555 908 1377 983">Increase to 50 the no. of people completing more integrated health and care courses by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 908 1628 983">NESCOL, Susan Grant</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 983 555 1094">8.3</td><td data-bbox="555 983 1377 1094">Increase by 5% the no. of 16/17 year olds who are diverted from prosecution by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 983 1628 1094">ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 1094 555 1206">8.4</td><td data-bbox="555 1094 1377 1206">90% of 16/17 year olds appearing at Sherriff Court in relation to Lord Advocate's guidance will have had an assessment of their community support needs by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 1094 1628 1206">ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 1206 555 1318">9.3</td><td data-bbox="555 1206 1377 1318">Increase by 5%, the percentage of young people with additional support needs/disability entering a positive destination by 2025.</td><td data-bbox="1377 1206 1628 1318">ACC, Mhairi Shewan</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="465 1318 555 1473">9.4</td><td data-bbox="555 1318 1377 1473">By 2025, 90% of families with children with an additional support need or disability will indicate that they have access to peer and community support that meets their needs.</td><td data-bbox="1377 1318 1628 1473">NHSG, Anne Brockman</td></tr> </table>	Ref	Improvement Aim	Project Manager	4.3	Increase by 40% the number of Peep programmes delivered by multi-agency partners by 2025.	ACC, Natasha Martens	4.4	Improve dental health at primary 1 to the national average by reducing the levels of dental health in areas of deprivation to 50% by 2025.	NHSG, Pippa Robbie	5.2	Increase by 5% the number of S1-S6 pupils who report that they feel confident by 2025.	ACC, Gael Simpson	5.3	Increase by 10% the % of children living in areas of deprivation who feel safe in their communities by 2025.	ACC, Craig Singer	6.4	80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.	ACC, Amy Evans	6.5	Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.	ACC, Tam Walker	7.4	Increase to 50 the no. of people completing more integrated health and care courses by 2025.	NESCOL, Susan Grant	8.3	Increase by 5% the no. of 16/17 year olds who are diverted from prosecution by 2025.	ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne	8.4	90% of 16/17 year olds appearing at Sherriff Court in relation to Lord Advocate's guidance will have had an assessment of their community support needs by 2025.	ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne	9.3	Increase by 5%, the percentage of young people with additional support needs/disability entering a positive destination by 2025.	ACC, Mhairi Shewan	9.4	By 2025, 90% of families with children with an additional support need or disability will indicate that they have access to peer and community support that meets their needs.	NHSG, Anne Brockman	
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7.4	Increase to 50 the no. of people completing more integrated health and care courses by 2025.	NESCOL, Susan Grant																																				
8.3	Increase by 5% the no. of 16/17 year olds who are diverted from prosecution by 2025.	ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne																																				
8.4	90% of 16/17 year olds appearing at Sherriff Court in relation to Lord Advocate's guidance will have had an assessment of their community support needs by 2025.	ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne																																				
9.3	Increase by 5%, the percentage of young people with additional support needs/disability entering a positive destination by 2025.	ACC, Mhairi Shewan																																				
9.4	By 2025, 90% of families with children with an additional support need or disability will indicate that they have access to peer and community support that meets their needs.	NHSG, Anne Brockman																																				

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By									
	<p>Appendix 3 - Project End Reports</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="468 311 1635 539"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="468 311 566 384">Ref</th><th data-bbox="566 311 1386 384">Improvement Aim</th><th data-bbox="1386 311 1635 384">Project Manager</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="468 384 566 459">11.3</td><td data-bbox="566 384 1386 459">Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.</td><td data-bbox="1386 384 1635 459">ACHSCP, Chris Smillie</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="468 459 566 539">11.4</td><td data-bbox="566 459 1386 539">Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023</td><td data-bbox="1386 459 1635 539">ACHSCP, Chris Smillie</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b>            (i) to approve the recommendations; and            (ii) to commend the Project Manager and their team for their achievements and commitment to the projects.</p>	Ref	Improvement Aim	Project Manager	11.3	Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.	ACHSCP, Chris Smillie	11.4	Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023	ACHSCP, Chris Smillie	
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11.3	Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.	ACHSCP, Chris Smillie									
11.4	Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023	ACHSCP, Chris Smillie									
<p>Page 31</p> <p>12. Community Planning Budget 2023/2024 – Q1 Budget Monitoring Report</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it a report which provided an update on the 2023/24 Community Planning Budget's financial performance for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 June 23.</p> <p><b><u>The report recommended:-</u></b>            that Management Group note Community Planning Aberdeen Budget's performance during quarter 1 of 2023/24.</p> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b>            to approve the recommendation.</p>										
<p>CPA Forward Planner</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it the CPA Forward Planner.</p> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b>            to note the CPA Forward Planner.</p>										
<p>13. CPA Funding Tracker</p>	<p>The Management Group had before it the CPA Funding Tracker.</p> <p><b><u>The Management Group resolved:</u></b>            to note the CPA Funding Tracker.</p>										

Topic	Discussion/Decision						Action By
14. CPA MG/Board Meeting Dates 2024	The Management Group noted the following meeting dates for 2024:						
	Management Group Meeting (all at 2pm)	31 Jan	27 Mar	5 June	28 Aug	30 Oct	
	CPA Board Meeting (all at 2pm)	29 Feb (Thurs)	25 April (Thurs)	4 July (Thurs)	25 Sep	27 Nov	
15. Date of Next Meeting	The Management Group noted that its next meeting would be held on 25 October 2023 at 2pm.						



## Community Planning Aberdeen

### FORWARD PLANNER

The reports scheduled within this document are accurate at this time but are subject to change.

Title of report	Contact Officer
<b>CPA Management Group: 9 August 23/ CPA Board 6 September 23</b>	
CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update	Allison Swanson (ACC)
LOIP Annual Outcome Improvement Report	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Locality Plan Annual Outcome Improvement Reports	Michelle Crombie (ACC)/Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
Population Needs Assessment 2023	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Scottish Parliament Report on Community Planning Inquiry – Implications for Community Planning Aberdeen	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
CPA Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report (Management Group only)	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Project End 11.5 Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023	Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
Project End 11.4 Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.	Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
Education Reform Strands 1 and 2 (Management Group only)	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
<b>Children's Services Board (Stretch Outcome 4-9) New Charters</b>	
Increase by 40% the number of Peep programmes delivered by multi-agency partners by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Improve dental health at primary 1 to the national average by reducing the levels of dental health in areas of deprivation to 50% by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Increase by 5% the number of S1-S6 pupils who report that they feel confident by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Increase by 10% the % of children living in areas of deprivation who feel safe in their communities by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Increase to 50 the no. of people completing more integrated health and care courses by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
90% of 16/17 year olds appearing at Sherriff Court in relation to Lord Advocate's guidance will have had an assessment of their community support needs by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Increase by 5% the no. of 16/17 year olds who are diverted from prosecution by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Increase by 5%, the percentage of young people with additional support needs/disability entering a positive destination by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
By 2025, 90% of families with children with an additional support need or disability will indicate that they have access to peer and community support that meets their needs.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
<b>CPA Management Group: 25 October 23/ CPA Board 29 November 23</b>	
CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update	Allison Swanson (ACC)

<b>Title of report</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
CPA Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report (Management Group only)	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
HDRC Update	Martin Murchie (HDRC)
Prevention of Homelessness and Homewards programme	Jacqui McKenzie (ACC)
Project End 10.8 Reduce the number of drug related deaths occurring within 6 months of liberation from custody from 10 to zero by 2023.	Darren Bruce (Police Scotland)
Project End 12.1 100% of vulnerable young people, who are at-risk of developing problem substance use, have access to evidence-based Prevention & Early Intervention (incl Universal, Selective & Indicated Prevention support) by 23.	Simon Rayner (ACHSCP)
Project End 12.2 To decrease the number of 13 and 15 year olds who have reported using substances in Aberdeen to below the national average by 2023, through curriculum delivery and a whole population approach	Simon Rayner (ACHSCP)
Project End 12.6: Reduce the incidence of fatal drug overdose through innovative developments and by increasing the distribution of naloxone by 10% year on year by 2022.	Simon Rayner (ACHSCP)
Project End 12.7 Increase opportunities for individuals who have been at risk of Blood Borne Viruses, being tested and accessing treatment by 2023.	Simon Rayner (ACHSCP)
Project End 14.1 Increase % of people who walk as one mode of travel by 10% by 2023.	Jillian Evans (NHSG)
Project End 14.2 Increase % of people who cycle as one mode of travel by 2% by 2023.	Jillian Evans (NHSG)
<b>Children's Services Board (Stretch Outcome 4-9) New Charters</b>	
Reduce by 5% the no. of children aged 0-4 who are referred to Children's Social Work as a result of neglect arising from parental mental health, addiction and domestic abuse 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Reduce demand on Tier 3 services by 5% by 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Reduce waiting time for interventions starting, by each tier 2/3 service by 5% by 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
80% of care experienced parents will report that they believed they were sufficiently prepared for parenthood by 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
75% of identified multi-agency staff reporting confidence in identifying and taking action on harm by 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Increase by 20% the number of young people completing courses aligned to support the digital and tech sector by 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Reduce by 20% the number of care experienced young people charged with an offence by 2025.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Increase by 10%, the percentage of children and young people with additional support needs (ASN) and/or a disability accessing full time education by 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
90% of identified multi-agency staff working with children and young people with disabilities will report confidence in identifying and taking action on how harm presents in children with additional support needs/disabilities by 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Increase by 10% the number of children experiencing child protection processes who have access to a professional utilising their alternative communication system by 2026.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
<b>TBC</b>	

<b>Title of report</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
UoA/CPA Synergies Presentation ( <i>Board only – June 2024</i> )	Pete Edwards (UoA)
Regional Economic Strategy	Jamie Bell (SE)
Scottish Enterprise Business Plan	Jamie Bell (SE)
Community Justice Scotland's Outcome and Performance and Improvement Framework	Darren Bruce (Police Scotland)
New Tobacco Strategy	Susan Webb
Outcome of Event/focus group with employers re modern apprenticeships	Duncan Abernethy/NESCol

Acronyms:

ACC	Aberdeen City Council
ACVO	Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations
CPA	Community Planning Aberdeen
HSCP	Health and Social Care Partnership
NHSG	National Health Service Grampian
PS	Police Scotland
SDS	Skills Development Scotland
SE	Scottish Enterprise
UoA	University of Aberdeen

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## Community Planning Aberdeen

<b>Progress Report</b>	Aberdeen City Population Needs Assessment 2023
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Gale Beattie, Chair of the CPA Management Group and Director of Commissioning, ACC
<b>Report Author</b>	Anne McAteer, Research Officer
<b>Date of Report</b>	30 August 2023
<b>Governance Group</b>	CPA Board – 6 September 2023

### Purpose of the Report

This report presents the 2023 Population Needs Assessment (PNA) for Aberdeen City. The PNA is a key source of evidence which informs the key priorities for Community Planning Aberdeen and Aberdeen City Council and provides an updated evidence base for the next refresh of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.

### Summary of Key Information

#### 1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In 2021, Community Planning Aberdeen published a population needs assessment to provide a comprehensive picture of Aberdeen City as seen through a broad range of data sets. The document was used as the evidence base for identifying the shared priorities for public services in Aberdeen and updating the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 approved in July 2021.
- 1.2 Over the last two years the Partnership has been working towards the improvement aims within the LOIP with a view to improve outcomes for the people of Aberdeen. At this two year juncture it is timely to refresh the population needs assessment to understand emerging trends and if the Partnership's current priorities continue to respond to local need.

#### 2 POPULATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2023

- 2.1 The revised population needs assessment for 2023, appendix 1, provides an updated evidence base for the refresh of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 and underpinning Locality Plans. The PNA provides an important sense check to ensure that our priorities for improvement are grounded on what is needed rather than what is nice to do.

- 2.2 As in previous years, the Population Needs Assessment has been aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality and support economic growth which doesn't compromise the climate and nature – issues at the core of our Local Outcome Improvement Plan. The SDGs serve as a framework to cross check against our population needs assessment to help identify any gaps and ensure alignment between our LOIP; the National Outcomes Framework and the SDGs. Narrative on the data in the PNA through the lens of the Sustainable Development Goals is contained as Appendix 1 to the PNA.
- 2.3 A new addition to the PNA for 2023 is the inclusion of a population health commentary, provided by colleagues from Public Health, NHS Grampian. This provides a helpful summary of the PNA findings, drawing out key points and issues to be considered as part of the LOIP refresh process.
- 3 NEXT STEPS**
- 3.1 The PNA will be considered as part of the refresh process for the LOIP and Locality Plans. The PNA is a key source of data for all partners to utilise in their own organisations to consider whether the key findings have an impact on their current strategic plans.

### Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that the CPA Board:

- i) approve the Population Needs Assessment 2023 at Appendix 1 as the evidence base for the refresh of the LOIP; and
- ii) agree that Partners take the final Population Needs Assessment into their respective organisations to consider the key findings alongside their own strategic plans.

### Opportunities and Risks

A robust Population Needs Assessment is an opportunity to consider the current needs of the people of Aberdeen to ensure that, as a Partnership and as individual public service organisations, we are providing an appropriate response. As with any evidence based model, its strength lies in the breadth and depth of the supporting data, and the quality of the analysis. The Council's Community Planning Team has worked with Partners to provide quality assurance throughout the development of the PNA to ensure the integrity of the information contained.

### Consultation

The following people were consulted in the preparation of this report:

CPA Management Group

Michelle Crombie, Community Planning Manager

Martin Murchie, Director AHRDC and Chief Officer, Data and Insights, ACC

Phil Mackie, Public Health Consultant, NHSG

Aberdeen City Council Data and Insights Team

Aberdeen City Council Corporate Management Team Health Determinants Research Collaborative Sustainable Development Team, ACC Data owners across the Community Planning Partnership
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<b>Background Papers</b>
The following papers were used in the preparation of this report.  Aberdeen City Population Needs Assessment 2021 Online Outcomes Framework

Contact details:

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Research Officer  
Aberdeen City Council  
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# Aberdeen City

# Population Needs Assessment

(Draft August 2023)

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# Population Health Commentary

Assessing the needs of a population is not an exact science. Rather, it is a process by which we can better understand the types of things that will bring benefit to people and explore how that can be related to the services and interventions that are being provided. In this report, we start this process by considering the data that is available to us. This can focus on significant life events or the lived experiences of people, it can tell us about what services have been providing and how they are performing, and it can also tell us something about what we could be doing differently. In all these cases, there is a need to recognise that all the data we use requires interpretation.

This document provides Community Planning Aberdeen with an important foundation to work, together with the people of Aberdeen, to better understand the city and its communities and take collective action, through our Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans, underpinning our approach to community planning and improving local outcomes. It is this process that provides the opportunity for the interpretation to take place and a population need assessment to be completed.

## **Our Economy**

A healthy economy is an inextricable link to a healthy population. It is clear that the ways in which economic circumstances affect people can both enhance or reduce their health and wellbeing. Simply put, people who experience economic inequalities have poorer health and wellbeing. People who are economically secure, have better health and wellbeing.

The data included within the population needs assessment regarding our economy presents a picture of an area that is experiencing an economic transition toward a low-carbon economy. The analysis suggests that we are well placed to manage that transition with a clear focus on developing greater diversity in our business sectors. Energy remains a key component in this, though more on developing the renewables sector, with tourism and financial and business services sectors also important in the mix. Even if the wealth gap between the region and Scotland as a whole is narrowing, in 2021 we were still wealthier per head of the population than Scotland.

Against this background, there are still grounds which urge caution. Employment in the city is at its lowest level since 2016, with roughly 1 in 4 of the working age population economically inactive. In 2021 it was estimated that 1 in 7 Aberdeen households had no one within the household working, but households with low income, or likely to be experiencing financial instability, are also important. Data for the city relating to households where there is at least one person in work but are still experiencing relative poverty is not included in the PNA, but indicators of relative poverty in Scotland suggest that about 3 out of 5 (57%) experiencing relative poverty will be within working households, an observation echoed in the data for child poverty. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are still being understood, but the general view is that it has increased poverty across the UK, with women, children, and those in minority ethnic communities more likely to be effected. All of these indicators suggest that there is a real potential for family / household financial insecurity of a type that is being put



under further pressure by the visible fuel and food poverty that is being experienced by local people.

From a population health perspective, it is the ability for the local economy to help create and maintain health and wellbeing which is important. This means practically that it can sustain, high quality employment, that helps people to live in homes suitable to their needs and which can be kept warm and dry. A local economy that can help people and families maintain the types of financial security to put food on the table and to afford the other day to day necessities of everyday life. Beyond the home, the local economy helps to sustain places and communities socially and environmentally in a way that can promote wellbeing.

Taken together, whilst there are encouraging signs within the economic landscape of Aberdeen, there is also evidence that we continue to have factors that are likely to be feeding into household-based, financial instability and economic inequalities. That these can and will feed into health and social inequalities is clear. We need to be addressing the economic inequalities and supporting financial security if we wish to prevent loss of health and wellbeing.

### **Our People: Demography**

To understand the health and wellbeing of our population, the essential starting point is an understanding of the population itself. The relative composition of the population by age, sex, ethnicity, how it is changing over time, and the personal, social and economic circumstances of people are all factors which can tell us much about the types of need which must be met. Changes in the overall health of the population as a whole are also important to understand how to promote or maintain population health.

The population of Aberdeen City peaked in 2015 (230,350) falling slightly to 2021 (227,430). Based on an assessment from 2018, the population is projected to return back to the 230,000+ level by 2028, care is needed here in that this projection suggests that most of this will be due to net inward migration to the City (though this is something which has not been observed 3 of the last 5 years to 2020-21). The total number of births within the City has been lower than the number of deaths for both 2021 and 2022. The current age and sex structure of the population is predominantly made up of people of working age (16 to 64 years (y)) comprising just over 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the population. The remaining 1/3<sup>rd</sup> is roughly equally divided between those under 16y and those of pensionable age. The population projections suggest that by 2028, the proportion of the oldest groups will have increased by over 10% (65-74y – 14.4%, 75+y – 16.1%). For all other groups the projected changes are 5% or under. As might be expected, the increasing proportion of the over 65y population is reflected in a projected increase in the proportion of households where the main householder is over 65y. Overall, even accepting that the population projects may be prone to error, it is likely possible to conclude that any changes in the overall population size will be modest, and most likely to be driven by migration.

Indicators can also tell us something about the health of the population in the round. When considering these within the PNA, we can say that for both women and men increased life expectancy has stalled and that healthy life expectancy is declining. We can say that both life

expectancy and healthy life expectancy vary across Aberdeen, with people from areas with higher deprivation having shorter lives and being more likely to live with poorer health for longer. Whilst this can be difficult to interpret, these indicators suggest that the future health of individuals born in Aberdeen during 2019-21 can expect to live around 20% of their lives in poor health. Here and now we know that 1 in 4 adults describe themselves as having a limiting, long-term illness.

### **Our People: Children & Young People**

Creating good population health and wellbeing starts before birth and continues as the child and young person develops. Ensuring that a child starts well, and is supported as they develop into young people, is essential in creating good population health and wellbeing throughout life. Early support to the child – and to their families or principle care givers – will have a real impact on the future and lifelong physical and emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people. Because of the way in which deprivation affects health, the lower someone's social position is, the worse their health. So early action can help to reduce health inequality.

During the period from before birth to the start of school, the indicators recorded in the PNA present something of a mixed picture. Five indicators relating to the health of babies before and at the time of birth have been included. Of these the most striking is the continued fall in the rate of babies born who have been affected by maternal drug use. This is now at its lowest level ever, even though the actual level of maternal drug use during pregnancy is higher than that seen across Scotland as a whole. At the same time, recorded maternal smoking at beginning of pregnancy remains at about 1 in 8 pregnancies. The other two indicators – which deal with the health of the baby at birth – remain relatively stable. Premature births are similar to the levels seen in Scotland and overall 85% of children are born at a healthy weight. Of course, this means that 15% of children are both with either low, very low, or high birthweights – all of which can be associated with developmental problems. Thankfully the crude infant death rate (which covers deaths of babies and infants up to 12 months) remains low. Once the child has been born, they are entered into the Child Health Surveillance and the Immunisation programmes. From this area, another five indicators are presented covering the period from birth to school-entry. From these indicators three themes emerge. Firstly, and perhaps most importantly, it is clear that the rates of pre-school immunisation by 24 months remain below the national target of 95% coverage. The second area relates to the variation in breastfeeding rates across the City, which are masked by the overall breastfeeding rate which is better than that reported for Scotland. Continuing the important work already underway to address these risks to child health is key. At the same time, this focus on identified issues should not lead to taking a lesser interest in areas which the indicators are either static or only gently declining.

Once children have started a school, the emphasis on health indicators tends to switch more towards maintaining health through managing risk factors. These focus on physical health and mental wellbeing. Physical health indicators of school age children in the PNA consider healthy weight, physical activity, oral health and, early pregnancies. For healthy weight, physical activity, and oral health the issue of interest is not simply the rates observed, but it is the variations that are seen across the City or in different settings. In all three cases, there is clear room for improvement in promoting healthier children, but reducing the variation in

local communities, or settings should also be a significant consideration as these reflect health inequalities that will lead to poorer health in the longer term. The rate of pregnancy amongst girls aged 13 to 15y in the City continues to fall.

We are fortunate in Aberdeen City to have good data relating to the mental health and wellbeing of school-age children. The indicators are based primarily on a schools-based survey and – now that we have two iterations of the survey – we can begin to have more confidence in how we interpret them. The data in relation to children in primary 6 & 7 classes suggest that, on the whole, they feel that they are healthy and that this is improving. Affluence within the family is clearly a factor as the more affluent the family, the more likely the child reported being healthy. Three indicators relating to mental wellbeing explore happiness, wellbeing, and self-confidence in P6 and P7 children. This suggests that the children were broadly happy about most things, though low happiness with “appearance” was noted. In a similar way, reported wellbeing was good for 3 in 4 and feeling self-confident reported by just short of 3 in 5 children. As with general health, there was an effect associated with family affluence that highlighted that children in less affluent families had lower wellbeing and self-confidence rates. Gender was also an issue. Taken together, these data indicate that there are clearly high levels of happiness, wellbeing and self-confidence amongst a majority of P6 and P7 children. However, it would be easy to overlook the observation that this masks a proportion of children who report a less positive experience. And for all, the effects of gender and family affluence should be considered.

For those in secondary 1 through 6 classes, general health was also reportedly high, though the gradient noted for P6 and P7 children relating to family affluence remained. The experience of these young people relating to mental wellbeing are more complex. The low level of happiness with “appearance” was also noted, with a second area of lower happiness seen regarding “school”. That said, the position on both these indicators was seen to be improving (meaning that fewer children were unhappy in relation to “appearance” and “school”). Generally, the rates for wellbeing are also improving, though the impact of family affluence on the wellbeing of secondary school children needs to be explored further. This relationship – where family affluence / deprivation impacts on children’s experience – is the most striking feature of the indicators included for educational attainment and positive destinations post school education.

The message is clear. The life circumstances of children affect their educational attainment. These are the types of educational inequality that can lead into health inequalities in early adulthood and beyond.

### **Our People: Adults**

The health of individuals within the adult population is a complicated area for assessing need. As people age and their life circumstances change, their health will change. In population health terms these changes across the life-course are an important consideration when we think about need and how that translates into the types of health and care services required. As we get older, we tend to need more health and social care support. This is due to a range of reasons including developing long term conditions, or diseases that require ongoing management, or simply a result of increasing frailty. Preventing disease progression or

reducing adopting healthier behaviours is therefore an important element of health and health care amongst adults.

In regard to health behaviours, smoking, obesity, and being physically active are reported in the PNA. These are important as they are closely related to a range of diseases where preventing smoking and obesity or being physically active can help prevent disease. Given that over half of the deaths in Aberdeen City in 2022 were associated with cancers and circulatory diseases, for which smoking, obesity, and physical inactivity are risks, the main message for Aberdeen City is that there is still work to be done promoting healthier lifestyles.

Alcohol and drug misuse is well explored in the PNA with a range of indicators drawn from surveys and service activity. For alcohol, the prevalence of people using alcohol above the recommended weekly guideline was recorded at 1 in 4 of adults in the 5 years 2017-21. The rates at which people are being admitted to hospital due to alcohol have continued to decline and the rate of alcohol-related deaths has been relatively stable over the last few years, although this increased in the most recent data. A different picture is presented in the comparable indicators for drug misuse. Even though the rates for drug-related hospitalisation observed in the City are lower than for Scotland as whole, the drug-related death rate has increased substantially in recent years, with the most recent data being the first to show a decrease since 2010-2014. Continuing to reduce the serious consequences of alcohol and drug misuse will remain a priority for Aberdeen City and its Alcohol and Drug Partnership. However, we also need to recognise the impacts that alcohol and drugs have on the health and wellbeing on the families, friends, and wider communities around those who misuse substances should not be under-estimated.

The data for selected diseases – cancer registrations, coronary heart disease, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease – are all indicative of the demands that are being placed on health care services. However, in all cases it is important to note the variation in the indicators across the City. There is unlikely to be a single cause of these health inequalities and we need to understand that such health inequalities happen as a result of wider inequalities experienced over time. As a result, these types of health inequality are challenges not only for treatment here and now, but reflect a need to place a greater emphasis on future disease preventative intervention happening at the same time. Such wider approaches to early intervention are also going to be important in considering health and care demand in a range of settings, especially for those who are in older age. The indicators included around hospitalisation show that emergency admissions are reducing, including for older people with multiple needs. However, they also show that for a range of care settings outside of hospital, there are high levels of use, which may suggest that there are pressures in the system which need to be managed.

General population indicators of mental health and wellbeing in adults suggest that most people are not experiencing poor mental health or loss of mental wellbeing. However, two indicators suggest that around 1 in 6 adults self-report dissatisfaction with their mental health and around 1 in 7 could be at risk of suffering a mental illness. Against this background, health indicators for the City suggest that more people are being prescribed drugs for anxiety and depression than ten years ago, though the rate of people being in hospital for mental illness has fallen. Deaths from suicides is also falling. None of these indicators take into account the

full effects of the cost of living crisis, suggesting that mental health and wellbeing may deteriorate in the near future. As with physical illness, these indicators emphasise the need for treatment continuing and that a greater emphasis on public mental health promotion is required. Again, early intervention is needed. For example, addressing the number of people feeling socially isolated and for whom local community spaces and opportunities to socialise are perceived to be limited.

## **Our Place**

In population health, it is acknowledged that where we live, where we work, and where we spend our time has an important influence on our health and wellbeing. We refer to “place” to mean the buildings, streets, public and natural spaces that make up the physical environment around us, and to “communities”, (the people, social groups, and the support networks that make up our social environment). How places are designed and built, how they develop and are kept in good order are really important in creating health and sustaining wellbeing for individuals, for families, and for communities. In the chapter of the PNA on place, all of the areas included have an influence of population health and wellbeing and this is reflected in how people talk about the places in which they live and what they hope for their communities.

Having somewhere to live which is affordable, warm, and secure is an essential part of having wellbeing. Indicators relating to the availability of housing, by type, for what relative cost, by the tenure of the property, and how available they may be are included in the PNA. However, these figures can miss some of the factors that affect people’s health. For example, the number of households that are experiencing fuel poverty, or those who – for a range of reasons – are without a secure place to live. The data included also relate to crime and criminal behaviour, describing the actual levels of crime, anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, and diversion from prosecution. It can be difficult to generate a sense of how indicators such as these directly relate to health, but we do know that such factors affect how you feel about a place and how safe you feel being there. Feeling safe within your place and your community are important factors in wellbeing too, so low risk of house fires and being safe when using roads are important.

The natural environment, sustainability and climate change forms a significant element of the chapter with indicators relating to greenhouse gas emissions, extreme weather events, flood risk, and adaptation to climate change. These are all important in the context of human health as climate change is already beginning to affect human health alongside planetary health. Direct health effects associated with climate change include increased mortality and ill-health associated with excess heat and cold and mental health and wellbeing loss associated with flooding and buildings damage to properties to name just two. At the same time climate change has indirect effects to health and wellbeing which happen as climate change makes health inequalities associated with air pollution, access to greenspaces, fuel poverty and food poverty worse. Of course these effects take time to happen. So data associated with – for example – greenhouse gas emissions now will take time for this to translate into effects on the climate that then effect human health. So, as with other things discussed above, what is happening now is a reminder that we have to act now, to prevent future poorer health.

The PNA does include data on environmental factors that have a direct impact on current health. In particular it is good to know that outside air pollution has remained within legal limits at the six, city-wide monitoring sites for particulates for over 6 years. Active travel is increasing with nearly 1 in 4 people using bicycle or walking to work or school. It is recommended that for good health and wellbeing people need to be able to access a green space within 300m of their home, so it is good to see that access to greenspaces and woodland is being protected and that the quality of local blue spaces (water and river sides) is being monitored for its health. These indicators are important as they tell us about the potential that there is for promoting human health and wellbeing, it remains up to individual, families and communities to be encouraged and supported to make use of the City's green and blue spaces.

An ability to participate within ones community is a key element in creating and maintaining wellbeing and being a protection against loss of health. It is good therefore to see the opportunities that there are for participating in community approaches to build assets and participate in local planning and decision making. Of particular interest from a population health perspective is the use of the Scottish Place Standard tool which captures how a community sees itself in relation to many of the factors discussed here that relate to health and wellbeing. There is clearly a real willingness to participate, ensuring that we build on this further will be essential to building better, healthier places and communities across Aberdeen.

**Phil Mackie**  
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# Introduction

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. What is a Population Needs Assessment?

The Population Needs Assessment is a high-level analysis of key groups, priorities, and challenges across public services, including service performance and information available on the customer perspective. The PNA will identify areas where more detailed analysis is required to ensure a greater understanding of existing and potential provider strengths and weaknesses, and opportunities for improvement.

This PNA will update the information provided in the [Population Needs Assessment](#) which was carried out in 2021.

The PNA will include aggregated data under the headings of Economy, People and Place. Whilst it is intended that the PNA will provide a comprehensive overview of the state of Aberdeen across a wide range of indicators, there will be areas which are identified as out of scope for the initial assessment. Where there is an identified need for more detailed analysis, this will be planned for the future. For example, data drilling down into specific communities, service provider or market.

### 1.2. Data used and limitations

Much of the data presented in this document comes from official statistics provided by, for example, the Scottish Government, National Records of Scotland, Public Health Scotland, ONS and NOMIS. Additional data has been provided by Council services and Community Planning Partners.

In general percentages and rates presented have been rounded to one decimal point. Some of these (e.g. life expectancy) will have a degree of error associated with them because of the way they are generated. Technically, these results should be presented with their associated Confidence Interval (usually  $\pm x\%$ ). Differences are said to be statistically significant if confidence intervals do not overlap. However, for ease of presentation, confidence intervals are not shown. A degree of caution is therefore required when interpreting some of the data – particularly for smaller geographies such as neighbourhoods or intermediate zones where there is likely to be greater imprecision around estimates and confidence intervals are likely to be broader.

### 1.3. Consultation

Within this Population Needs Assessment information on the Customer and Citizens perspective has been included. In most cases, this has been done using Aberdeen City Voice. Aberdeen City Voice is Aberdeen's citizens' panel. There are over 800 citizens on the panel who have agreed to give their views on a range of issues. Full access to the questionnaires and reports can be found at [Aberdeen City Voice](#).

### 1.4. Layout

The layout follows the LOIP themes – Economy, People and Place. Section 2 focuses on Economy, Section 3, 4 and 5 relate to People, with Section 3 giving a demographic overview of the City, Section 4 covering Children and Section 5 looking at Adults. Section 6 focuses on Place.

### 1.5. Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations in 2015. They recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality and support economic growth which doesn't compromise the climate and nature – issues at the core of the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan. The goals serve as a framework to cross check against our population needs assessment to help identify any gaps.

Scotland made a commitment to the SDGs in 2015 and there is alignment with Scotland's National Performance Framework. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) sit above a raft of detail (169 targets and 130 indicators) to drive and measure progress towards 2030. A summary table presenting the data in the PNA through the lens of the Sustainable Development Goals is shown in Appendix 1.





# Our Economy



## 2. Our Economy

During the 2010s, the region embarked on economic diversification, actively seeking and attracting investments in other industries such as renewable energy, food and drink, and life sciences. The 2020s mark a period of growth and diversification for Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire's regional economy. Positioned favourably for the transition to a low-carbon economy, the region boasts numerous innovative businesses in the renewable energy sector.

Recent economic indicators for Scotland paint a complex picture. In April 2023, Scotland's GDP experienced a decline of 0.5%. The entire UK faced significant inflationary pressures due to high energy prices and supply chain disruptions, resulting in an inflation rate exceeding 10% in the spring of 2023. Consequently, concerns have arisen about the cost of living across the UK. Projections suggest a real earnings drop of 1.5% across Scotland for the year 2023-24, reflecting the impact of the ongoing cost of living crisis. Aberdeen, was particularly negatively impacted, with average salaries decreasing by £129 per month (in real terms) in October 2022 compared to the previous year – the third largest drop in monthly earnings in any local authority in Scotland and the sixth largest in the UK. However, despite these challenges, average monthly earnings in Aberdeen still outpace the Scottish and UK averages. Looking ahead, Skills Development Scotland forecasts that Aberdeen will grow at an average rate of 0.5% between 2022 and 2025, in contrast to the broader Scottish average growth rate of 1.2%. [1]

### 2.1. Economy

**Gross Value Added (GVA):** In 2021 Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire had a GVA per head of £31,823 (constant prices) showing a slight increase from the previous year (£30,249).

The gap between the wealth of the North East region and both Scotland and the UK has been progressively narrowing since 2015. In 2015, the GVA per head in the North East was 50.8% higher than the Scottish average and 40.4% higher than the UK average. In 2021 GVA per head in the North East was 23.7% higher than Scottish average and 10.6% higher compared to the UK average.

**Growth sector enterprises:** Scotland's Economic Strategy recognises the importance of key industries in the continued growth of the country. The Strategy has identified six sectors where Scotland has a distinct comparative advantage – Food and Drink (including fisheries and agriculture), Creative Industries (including digital), Sustainable Tourism, Energy (including renewables), Financial and Business Services, and Life Sciences. In 2022 there were 4,030 growth sector enterprises in Aberdeen City with almost half of these (48.8%) being financial and business services. Between 2019 and 2022, the number of growth sector enterprises has decreased by 830. In 2021, total employment in growth sector enterprises was 52,630 – down from 60,890 in 2019 [1].

**Oil and Gas:** In the North East of Scotland, the oil and gas industry has been at the core of the region's economy for over five decades, contributing to the region's prosperity and higher average earnings compared to other parts of the UK. However, in the North East, direct employment in the sector declined from its peak of 30,600 in 2015 to 21,000 in 2021. Nevertheless, the oil and gas sector continues to be a significant employer, directly and indirectly (i.e. within the wider supply chain) supporting around 60,000 jobs in the North East. The region is now embracing an economic diversification strategy, transitioning to new forms of renewable energy and supporting the growth of high-value jobs in non-energy sectors. The Energy Transition Zone (ETZ), the largest dedicated energy transition complex in Scotland, has been allocated £53 million by the UK and Scottish Governments to facilitate the shift from oil and gas jobs to green energy. With over 90% of the UK's oil and gas workforce equipped with medium to high skills transferability, the North East emerges as a key energy transition region, well-positioned to adapt to adjacent energy sectors. As the region moves towards renewable energy and the growth of non-energy sectors, the emphasis on diversification aims to pave the way for a more resilient and sustainable economic future.

**Tourism:** In Aberdeen City, the tourism sector has witnessed a revival, with positive trends indicating significant growth. The city welcomed an estimated 160,000 international visitors in 2022, with over 1,241,000 nights spent—a record high since 2018. This increase in tourism led to an impressive expenditure of £134 million by international visitors, setting a new record and resulting in an average spend of £838 per visit [2]. Furthermore, the arrival of cruise ships at Aberdeen South Harbour is set to bring over 8000 passengers to the city in 2023, expected to boost the economic Gross Value Added (GVA) by more than £750k. **Air passengers:** In 2022 there were 1.96 million terminal passengers through Aberdeen Airport. This is up from 1.08 million in 2021 and 0.99 million in 2020, but lower than the 2.91 million passengers in 2019 [3]. **Rail passengers:** In 2021-22 there were 1,536,720 entries and exits at Aberdeen train station. This is down from 2,497,108 in 2019-20 (numbers dropped to 393,982 during 2020-21) [4]. Despite facing challenges during the pandemic, including revenue drops of 60% to 80% for hotels reliant on business or corporate trade, the resilience and promising recovery of Aberdeen's tourism sector indicate a bright outlook for the city's economic growth and continued appeal as a vibrant destination.

## 2.2. Businesses

**Business Outlook:** The North East of Scotland stands as a thriving hub for business activity, boasting over 20% of Scotland's leading businesses. With 568 businesses per 10,000 adult residents, the region surpasses the Scottish average of 393. Notable companies, including FirstGroup, ABRDN, Karro Food, Balmoral Group, Chivas Brothers, Enquest, and Wood, have their headquarters or host major operations in the area. Aberdeen City showcases its commitment to innovation, with business expenditure on research and development more

than double the Scottish average. The region consistently ranks among the top 10 in the UK for foreign direct investment, while also leading Scotland in patent applications per capita since 2015. Furthermore, North East Scotland's international exports per head are more than double the national average, representing 23% of Scotland's total international exports. Emphasizing its dedication to advancing renewable energy, the University of Aberdeen is an integral part of the National Decommissioning Centre partnership for the Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult, a significant Innovate UK initiative. As signs of optimism emerge, the latest Fraser of Allander Scottish Business Monitor report (Q1 2023) reveals that business sentiment has risen to its highest level since 2021, reflecting the region's resilience and promising economic outlook.

**Rateable Value Change:** As of April 2023, Aberdeen was one of the biggest beneficiaries of the revaluation with the city's total rates bill down by 17%. Aberdeen had been experienced big increases in the 2017 revaluation, which reflected buoyant local economic conditions in the 2015 tone date. Business rate bills for Aberdeen shops fell by 19% and Aberdeen's hotels saw valuations fall by 20%.

As of April 2023, every empty unit on Union Street saw a reduction in its rateable value, at an average of a 26% drop, increasing their appeal to prospective tenants.

**Businesses:** In 2022 there were 7,930 enterprises and 10,590 local units in Aberdeen City <sup>1</sup>. This is down from 8,390 enterprises and 11,140 local units in 2021. In 2020, most enterprises (85.7%) were classified as Micro (employing up to 9 people), 11% were small (10 to 49 people), 2.6 were medium (50 to 249 people) and 0.8% were large (employing over 250 people) [5].

**Business births and deaths:** In 2021 there were 860 new businesses in Aberdeen City – a slight increase from 830 in 2020. Between 2015 and 2020, the number of business births each year was broadly stable (between 1065 and 1100) before dropping in 2020. In 2021 there were 1,185 business deaths – higher than 1,035 in 2020. One-year survival rates of 2020 business births was 94.6% in Aberdeen compared to 94.2% in Scotland. Five-year survival rates of 2016 business births was 39.1% in Aberdeen compared to 40.7% in Scotland [6].

**Business Gateway start-ups:** In 2022-23 there were 411 Business Gateway Start-ups – up from 391 in 2021-22. This is equivalent to a rate of 180.7 per 10,000 population – higher than the rate for Scotland of 143.3 per 10,000 population [7].

### 2.3. Labour market

**Labour Market Outlook:** The labour market in Aberdeen has witnessed both challenges and positive developments in recent times. In 2022, the employment rate fell to 71.2%, marking its lowest level since 2016, while Economic Inactivity reached a record high of 24.9%. One particularly affected group has been young people, with the youth employment rate (age 16-24) falling by over 40 percentage points to just above 30% during the pandemic, although it has since recovered to over 50%. Prior to the pandemic, Aberdeen's youth employment rate stood among the highest rates of all local authorities in Scotland, at over 70%. Younger workers, who are over-represented in industries severely affected by lockdown restrictions,

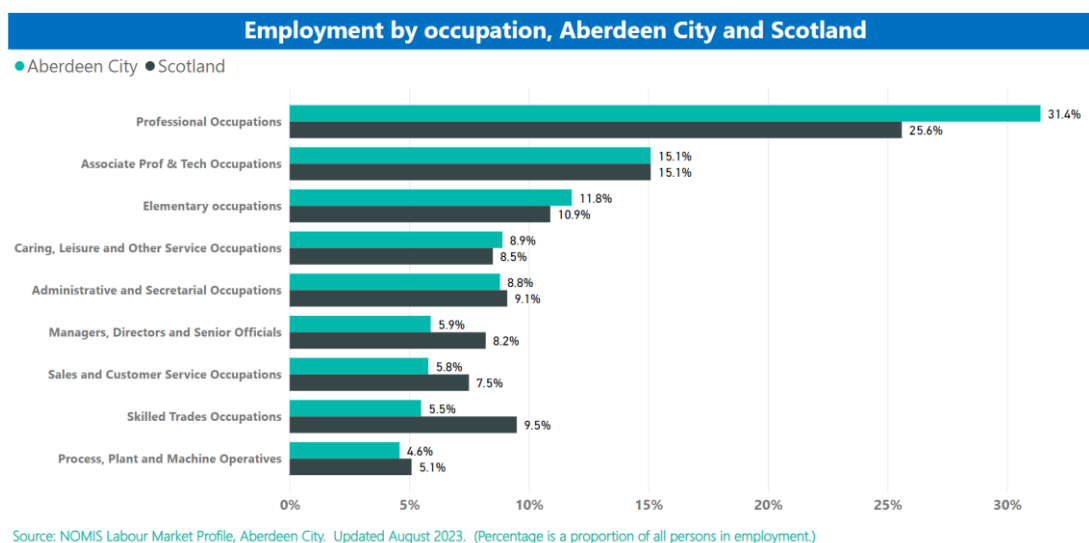
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<sup>1</sup> An enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units (generally based on VAT and/or PAYE records) which has a certain degree of autonomy within an Enterprise Group. An individual site (for example a factory or a shop) in an enterprise is called a local unit.

such as retail and hospitality, experienced significant disadvantage. Despite these challenges, North East Scotland enjoys one of the highest densities of private sector employment in all of Scotland. Throughout the pandemic, Aberdeen experienced a slower recovery in job postings compared to other major cities and the overall Scottish average. However, since August 2022, Aberdeen has surpassed its pre-pandemic level of job postings, reaching a recent high in June 2023. The region's recovery efforts and vibrant private sector offer potential for continued growth and resilience.

**Employment and employment sectors:** In 2021, there were an estimated 158,000 jobs in Aberdeen City (down from 170,000 in 2019) of which 110,000 (69.6%) were full-time and 48,000 (30.4%) were part-time. The most common sectors/industries were Human Health and Social Work Activities (17.1 % of jobs), Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (12.7%), Mining and Quarrying (11.4%) and Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles (11.4%) [5].

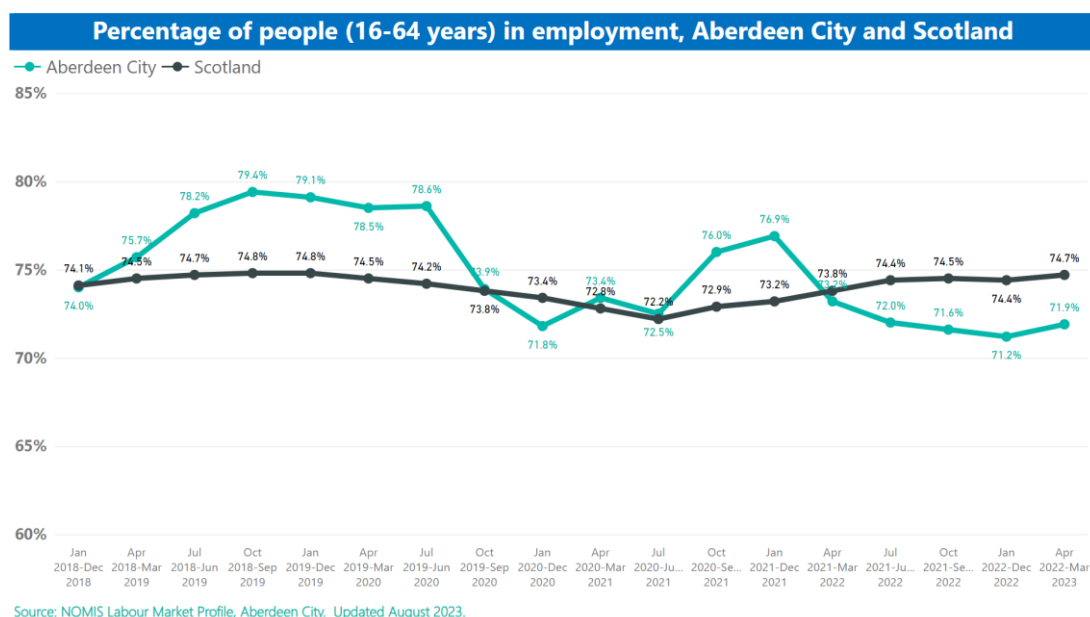
**Employment by occupation:** In the year April 2022-March 2023, almost a third (31.4%) of those in employment in Aberdeen City were in Professional Occupations compared to 25.6% in Scotland. The proportion of those employed in other occupations is similar to or lower than Scotland, with the exception of those in elementary occupations and those in caring, leisure and other service occupations which are higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland [5].



**Economic activity<sup>2</sup>:** In the year from April 2022-March 2023, 76% of Aberdeen's working age population (16-64 years) was classified as economically active compared to 77.4% in Scotland. A slightly higher proportion of males (76.7%) than females (75.3%) were economically active. The proportion of females who are economically active is the same as Scotland (75.3%), while the proportion of males who are economically active is lower than that of Scotland (79.6%).

<sup>2</sup> Economically active refers to people who are either in employment or unemployed. Economically inactive refers to people who are neither in employment nor unemployed. This group includes, for example, all those who are looking after a home or retired.

In the same period, 71.9% of Aberdeen City's working age population were in employment (compared to 74.7% in Scotland). A higher proportion of males were in employment (72.5%) than females (71.3%). The employment rate for ethnic minorities was 63.8% [5].

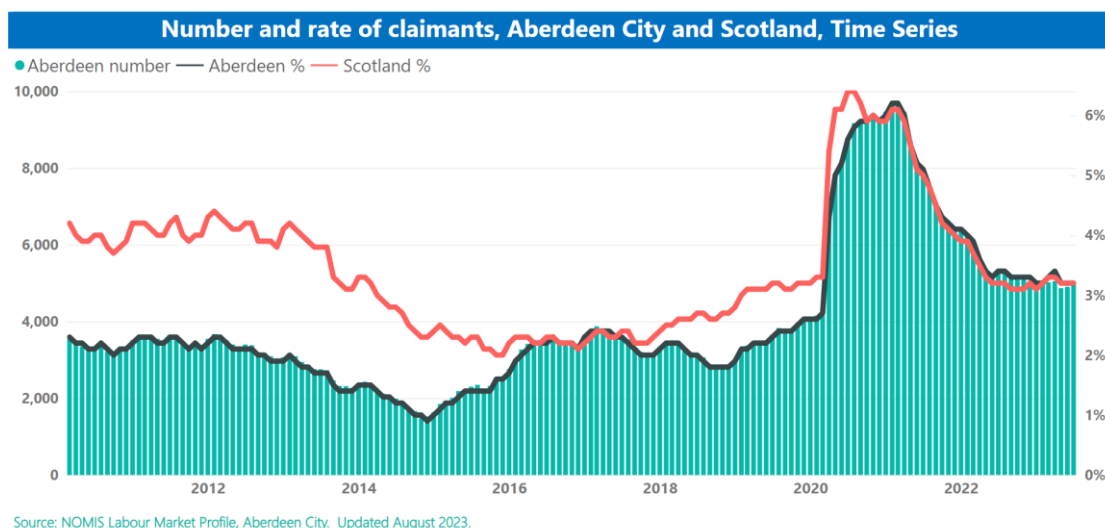


**Economic inactivity:** In the year from April 2022-March 2023, 24% of Aberdeen's working age population were economically inactive. A slightly higher proportion of females (24.7 %) than males (23.3%) were economically inactive. The proportion of males who are economically inactive is higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (20.4%). Of those who were economically inactive, 39.4% were students, 23.9 % were long-term sick, 15.6% were looking after home/family and 8.1% were retired. Over three-quarters (76.4%) of those who were economically inactive did not want a job [5].

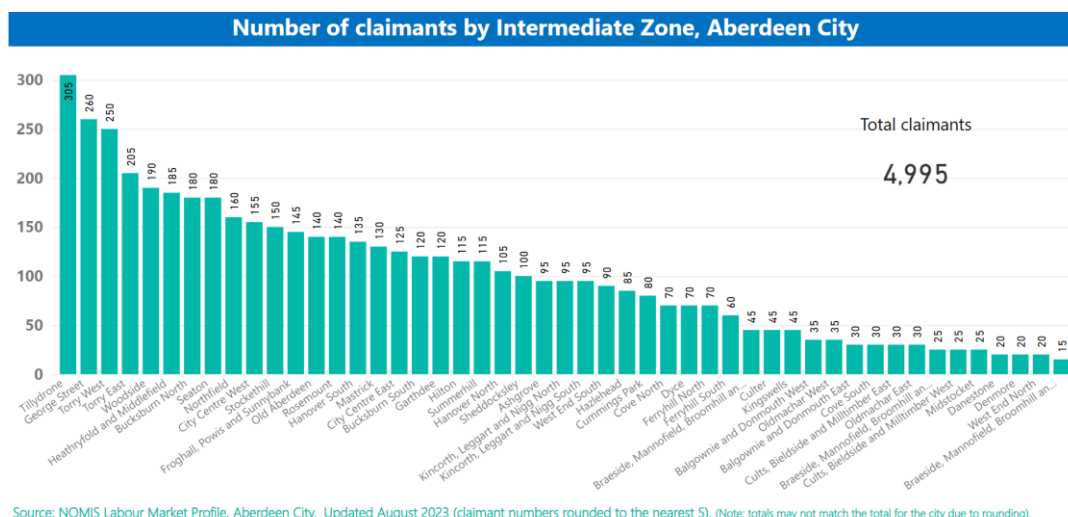
### Claimant count<sup>3</sup>:

In July 2023 there were 4,995 claimants in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to a rate of 3.2% which is the same as the rate for Scotland. More claimants in Aberdeen City were male (2,935) than female (2,060) and most (3,000) were aged 25-49 years. 905 claimants were aged 16-24 years and 1,090 claimants were aged 50+ years [5].

<sup>3</sup> Claimant Count is the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed.



The number of claimants varies across the City (Intermediate Zones), being highest in Tillydrone (305 claimants) and lowest in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafeld South (15). [5].



**Unemployment (model-based):** In the year from January to December 2022, the (model-based) unemployment rate in Aberdeen City was 4.3% - higher than the rate for Scotland of 3.5% [5].

**Employability pipeline:** In 2021-22 there were 2,611 unemployed people assisted into work from council employability programmes – up from 149 in 2020-21. This is equivalent to a rate of 59.3% (of the number of unemployed people based on the model-based unemployment count) compared to a rate of 19.7% in Scotland [7].

**Workless households:** In January to December 2021 there were an estimated 10,700 workless households (i.e. households where no-one aged 16 years or over is in employment) in Aberdeen City – an decrease from 12,500 in 2020. This is equivalent to 13.8% of all households compared to 18.6% in Scotland. In Scotland (no data available for Aberdeen City), it is estimated that 12% of children are in workless households [5].

**Job density:** In 2021 there were an estimated 172,000 jobs in the City – equivalent to 1.12 jobs per person aged 16-64 years (compared to 0.81 for Scotland) [5].

**Qualifications:** In January to December 2021 (no data available for 2022), compared to Scotland, Aberdeen City had a higher proportion of its workforce who are qualified to NVQ4 and above (54.4% in Aberdeen and 50.0% in Scotland) [5].

**Modern apprenticeships:** In 2022-23 Q4, there were 1,076 Modern Apprenticeships currently in training (compared to 1,085 in 2021-22 Q4). The percentage of leavers successfully achieving a Modern Apprenticeship fell slightly from 72.6% in 2021-22 Q4 to 71.8% in 2022-23 Q4 [8]. In 2022-23, there were 700 starts, down slightly from 709 in 2021-22 [9].

**Graduate apprenticeships:** In 2021-22, 60 people in Aberdeen City enrolled in a Graduate Apprenticeship – up from 49 in 2020-21 [10].

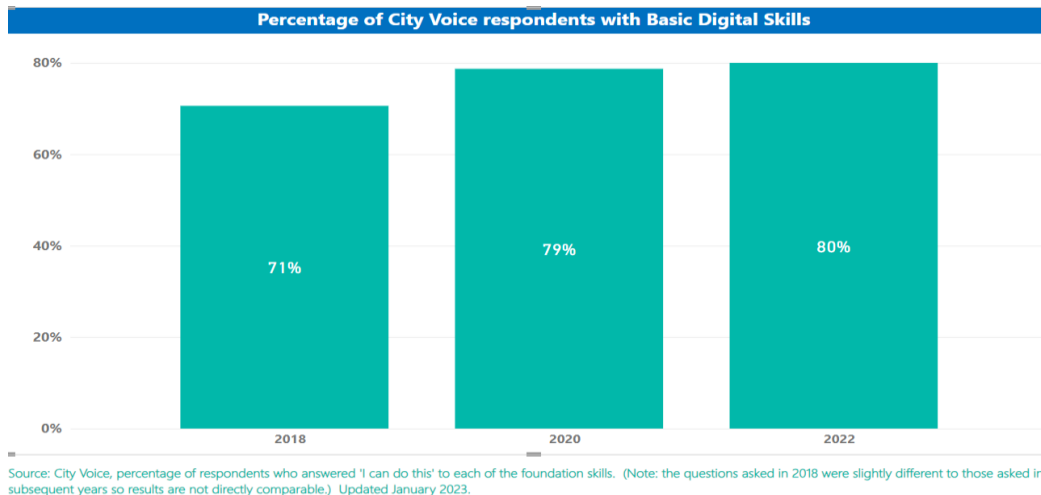
**Digital skills:** The digital technology sector is growing rapidly and is a key contributor to economic growth – creating an unprecedented demand for skills with employers across all sectors. Skills Development Scotland reports that annual vacancies in ICT in Scotland are projected to average 15,600 per annum, a 20% increase on previous estimates, and that employers report that they find it difficult to recruit employees with the right technical skills or experience [11].

In Scotland, between 2008 and 2018, the number of teachers whose main subject is Computing Science fell by almost 23%. Similarly, data from the SQA Annual Statistics Report shows that between 2017-21, National 5 participation in Computing Science fell by 15%. Participation in Higher Computing Science fell by 24% over the same period. Most of the pupils who take Computing Science are males. By the time pupils take the Higher Computing Science qualification, only 17% of them are female on average; an imbalance that continues as they move on through university and into industry [12]. In Scotland, 79% of those undertaking Computing Science courses were males and in 2017, only 23% of digital technology roles were held by women [13].

According to the Department for Digital, Culture and Sport [14], in 2021 half (48%) of businesses were recruiting for roles that required data skills. The most common type of data role sought by businesses was a data analyst (12%). One in ten (10%) were recruiting for a Head of Data, with similar proportions recruiting for a Data Manager (9%), a Chief Technology Officer (8%) and a Data Protection Officer (8%). The need for data skills is not confined to people in specialist data roles; virtually all white-collar workers increasingly need to have a basic understanding of data. As mentioned in the Analytic Britain report, “The data revolution has implications...for the entire workforce. We all need to become more data literate to operate successfully in increasingly ‘data-rich’ environments” [15].

Digital technologies are also part of daily life for most people. Reliance on digital technologies became even more apparent during the pandemic – working from home, connecting with friends and family, and undertaking basic everyday tasks such as shopping and banking. A series of questions relating to digital technology have been asked in the City Voice survey. In December 2022, when asked about access to digital tools, 79% of City Voice respondents reported having access to a laptop or PC, 88% to a smart phone and 68% to a tablet. Overall, 96% of respondents reported having access to at least one of these devices. This is an increase from 2018 when 90% of respondents reported having access to at least one device, with the largest increase being in access to smartphones (increase from 71% in 2018 to 88% in 2022). 91.4% of respondents reported having household access to internet at home. City Voice respondents were also asked a series of questions about their ability to perform digital tasks. Based on responses, 80% of respondents were identified as having ‘basic digital skills’ – an increase from 71% in 2018 [16].





## 2.4. Earnings

**Average weekly wage:** In 2022, the median gross weekly pay for full-time workers living in Aberdeen City was £637.90 – slightly lower than the equivalent for Scotland of £640.30. As in Scotland, the median weekly pay was higher for males (£644.90) than for females (£629.70). The gap between male and female wages has closed in recent years – in 2019 the difference in average weekly wage between males and females living in Aberdeen City was £102.20 compared to £15.20 in 2022. While male full-time workers living in Aberdeen City earned less than those in Scotland (£675.10), female full-time workers earned more (£604.70 in Scotland). [5].

**Living Wage:** In 2022 an estimated 6.7% of employees in Aberdeen City were earning less than the Living Wage compared to 9.0% in Scotland and down from 13% in 2021 [17]. In May 2023, there were 85 employers in Aberdeen City who were signed up to the Real Living Wage – up from 69 in May 2022 [18].

## 2.5. Poverty and deprivation

### Cost of living crisis overview:

While all households in Scotland will be affected by increases in the cost of living, a report by the Scottish Government suggests that it is those with lower incomes and little or no savings who will be most impacted as they spend a higher proportion than average on energy, food and transport and they therefore have less flexibility in their budget to cope with price rises. Low income households with particular characteristics are likely to fare worse. This includes larger families; households in receipt of means-tested benefits (and those narrowly ineligible for means-tested benefits); households who rent their homes; disabled households; households with an unpaid carer; gypsy/travellers; rural and island households; single person households and single parent households. Certain groups are over-represented in these households, most notably minority ethnic groups and women. [19].

More than 8 out of 10 children in relative poverty in Scotland are in at least one of these priority groups:



- lone-parent families
- a household where someone is disabled
- families with three or more children
- minority ethnic families
- families with a child under one year old
- families where the mother is under 25 years of age

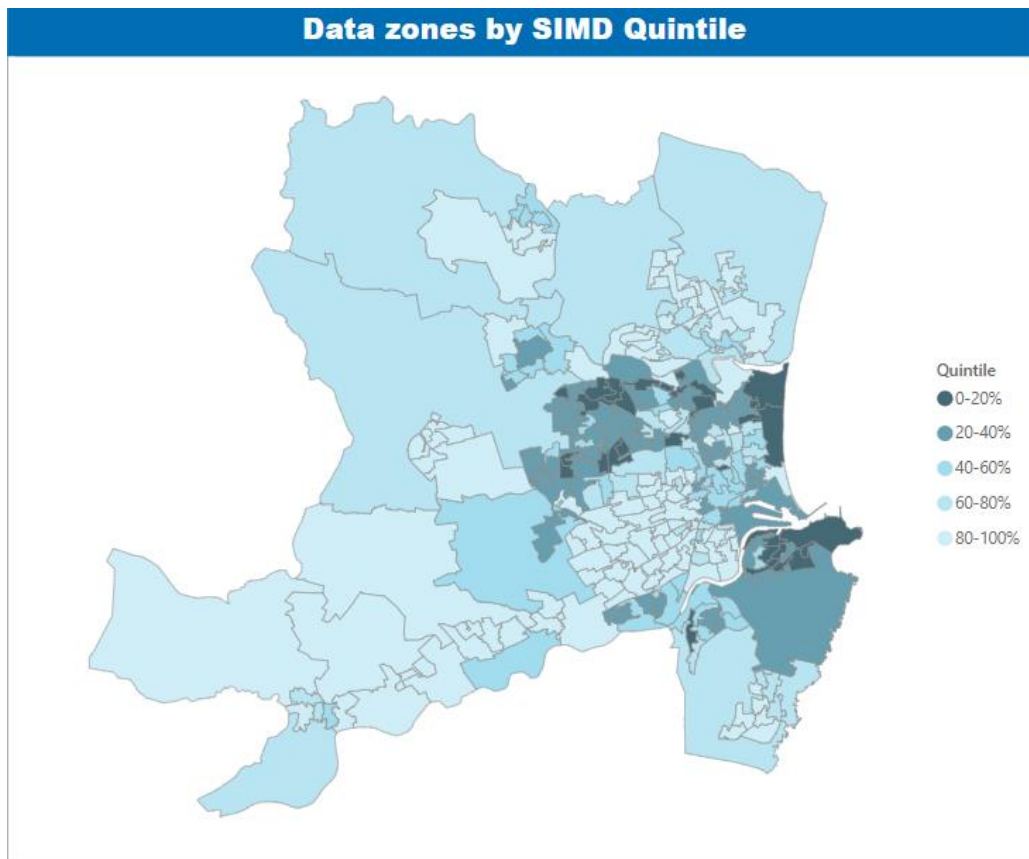
While there has been support for people with the cost of energy, people and families have been affected by the increase in inflation and locally there has been an increase in demand for emergency food provision. Support to mitigate some of the impacts locally has included:

- Increased financial advice provision
- Increased support through Scottish Welfare Fund
- Procurement of suitable food to increase supply of emergency food
- Provision of fuel vouchers
- Provision of Warm Spaces during the winter period to alleviate cost of heating homes

Linked to a rise in poverty is growing financial insecurity. Research by the Money and Pensions Service (November 2022) suggests that one in six UK adults have no savings and a quarter of UK adults have less than £100 put away [20]. More recent research (January 2023) suggests that as many as one in five adults are borrowing to pay for food and other essential bills, with half doing so for the first time [21].

**Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD):** The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation is a relative measure of deprivation. If an area is identified as ‘deprived’, this can relate to people having a low income but it can also mean fewer resources or opportunities. SIMD looks at the extent to which an area is deprived across seven domains: income, employment, education, health, access to services, crime and housing. SIMD ranks all data zones in Scotland from most deprived (ranked 1) to least deprived (ranked 6,976).

The most recent SIMD release was in 2020. Based on overall rankings of deprivation (i.e. All Domains), Aberdeen City’s position worsened between 2016 and 2020. The number of datazones in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland (SIMD Quintile 1) increased from 22 (out of 283) in 2016 to 29 in 2020, and the number of datazones in the 20-40% most deprived areas of Scotland increased from 57 to 65. This means that the proportion of datazones in the 40% most deprived areas of Scotland has increased from 28% to 33.2%. Conversely, while lower than in 2016, Aberdeen City still has a relatively high number of datazones in the 20% least deprived areas of Scotland with 104 (36.7%) datazones in this category [22]. At mid-2021, there were 21,696 people in Aberdeen living in the 20% most deprived areas, of which 3,969 were children [23]. (It should be noted that SIMD is an area-based measure of relative deprivation - not everyone living in a deprived area is deprived, and not everyone who is deprived lives in a deprived area.)



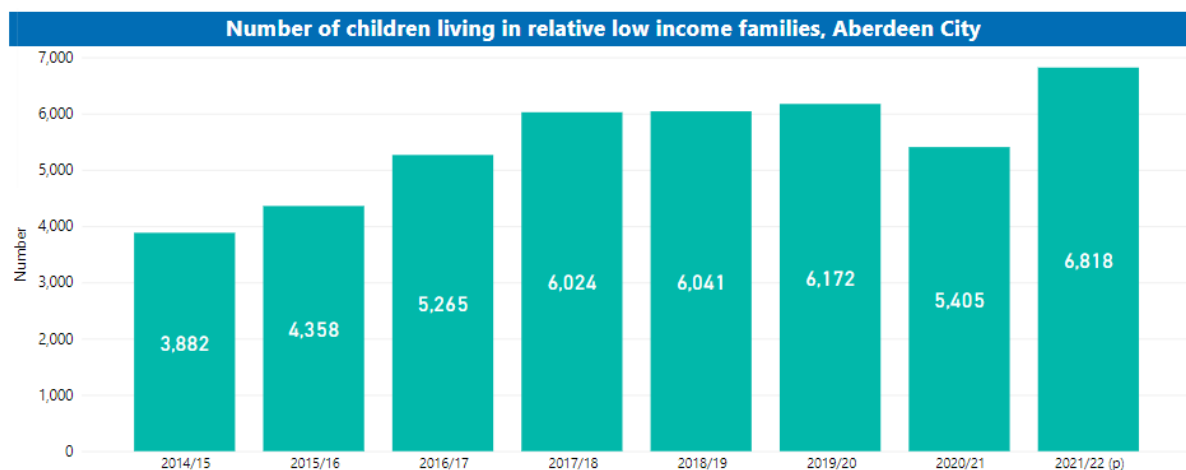
Source: Scottish Government, Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020V2 [22]

**Relative poverty:** In Scotland in 2019/22 an estimated 21% of people were living in relative poverty (below 60% of median income) after housing costs and it is estimated that 57% of those in relative poverty are in working households (i.e. households where at least one person is working). It is estimated that 24% of children in Scotland are living in relative poverty after housing costs [24].

**Children in Low income families:** Provisional data for 2021/22 estimates that 6,818 children in Aberdeen City are living in Relative Low Income families<sup>4</sup> - up from 6,172 in 2019/20. Almost two-thirds (62.7%) are in working families and 27% are under 5 years old. Over half (55.6%) of children living in relative low income families are in lone parent families [25].

The number of children in relative low income families varies across the city ([intermediate zones](#)) ranging from a low of 12 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafield South to a high of 443 in Heathryfold. (Note: Data collection for FYE 2021 and 2022 was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is advised that additional caution should therefore be exercised when making comparisons to previous years.)

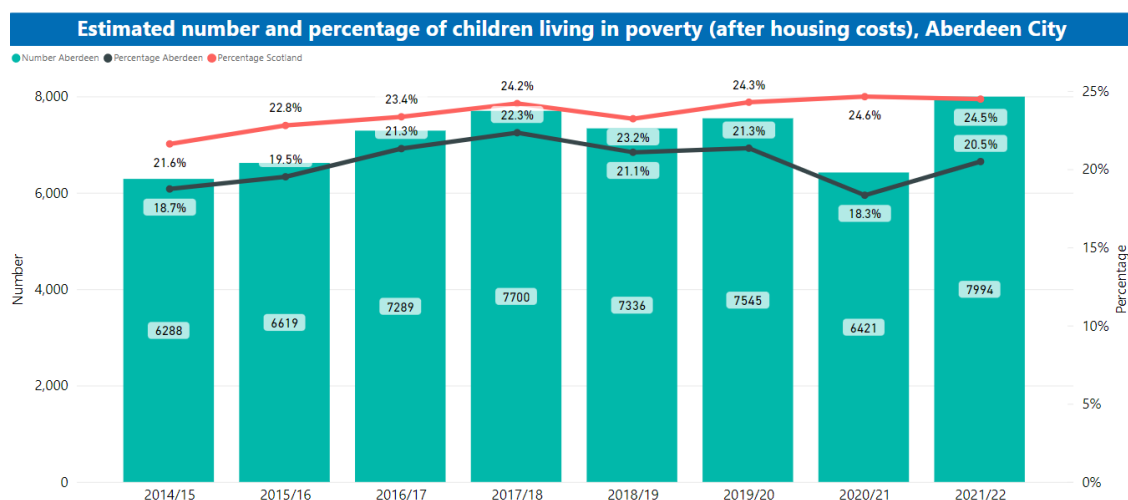
<sup>4</sup> Relative low-income is defined as a family in low income before housing costs (BHC) in the reference year. A family must have claimed one or more of Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Housing Benefit at any point in the year to be classed as low income in these statistics. A person is defined as a child if they are under 16 years old. A person will also be defined as a child if they are 16-19 years old and not married/in a civil partnership nor living with a partner and living with parents/responsible adult and in full-time non-advance education or in unwaged government training.



Source: Stat-Xplore, Children in Low Income Families, Relative Low Income Dataset. Updated April 2023.

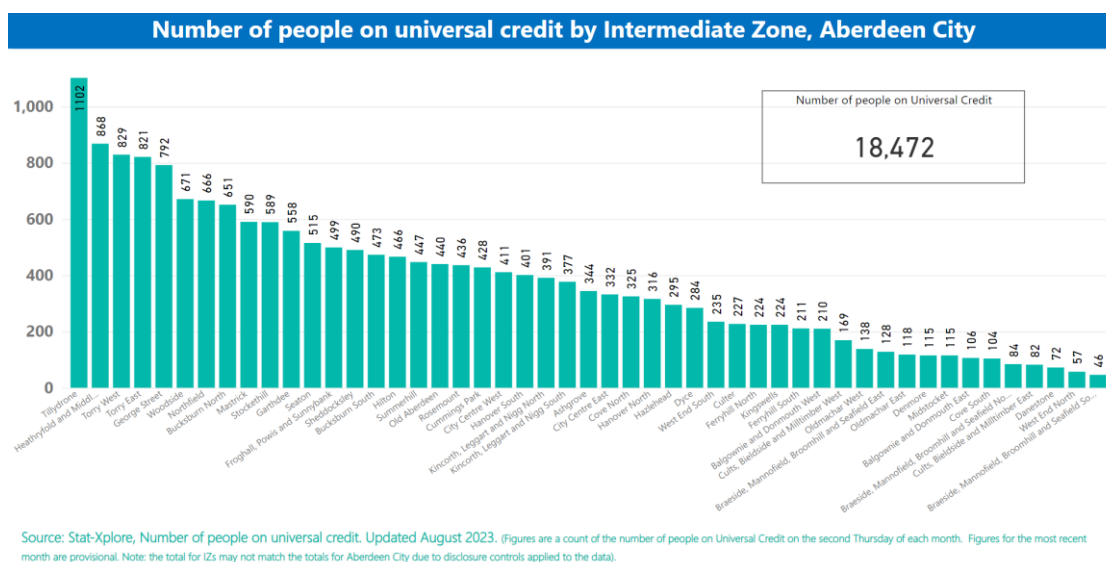
Note: Relative low-income is defined as a family whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of contemporary median income. Gross income measure is Before Housing Costs (BHC) and includes contributions from earnings, state support and pensions. A child is defined as an individual aged under 16 years. A person will also be defined as a child if they are 16-19 years old and are not married nor in a civil partnership nor living with a partner; and they are living with parents/responsible adult; and in full-time non-advance education or in unwaged government training. Data collection for FYE 2021 and FYE 2022 was affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Additional caution should therefore be exercised when making comparisons with previous years.

**Child poverty:** Research published by the End Child Poverty coalition reported that in 2021/22 an estimated 7,994 children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City were living in poverty (below 60% median income after housing costs). This is equivalent to 20.5% of children compared to 24.5% for Scotland and 18.3% in 2020/21 [26]. (Note: Data collection for FYE 2021 and 2022 was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is advised that additional caution should therefore be exercised when making comparisons to previous years.)



Source: End Child Poverty, Child poverty in your area 2014/15-2022/22. Updated June 2023. (Children 0-15 years.) Data collection for FYE 2021 and FYE 2022 was affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Additional caution should therefore be exercised when making comparisons with previous years.

**Universal credit:** In July 2023 there were 18,468 people on Universal Credit in Aberdeen City – up from 17,375 in July 2022 (however as people may be transferring to Universal Credit from the old system, caution is advised in interpreting figures as increases may be due to this). In June 2023, 38.1% (6,962) of those on Universal Credit were in employment [27]. The number of people on Universal Credit varied across the City (Intermediate Zones) from a low of 46 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafeld South to a high of 1,102 in Tillydrone. (Note: the total for Intermediate Zones may not match the totals for Aberdeen City due to disclosure controls applied to the data.)



**Food poverty:** Questions around Food Security have been asked in the City Voice each year from 2018 to 2022. Specifically, the questions ask if during the last 12 months, there was a time when, because of lack of money or other resources:

- You were worried you would not have enough food to eat?
- You were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food?
- You ate only a few kinds of food?
- You had to skip a meal?
- You ate less than you thought you should?
- Your household ran out of food?
- You were hungry but did not eat?
- You went without eating for a whole day

While most respondents did not report concerns around their ability to access healthy or nutritious food due to money or lack of other resources, in December 2022, 18.6% of respondents reported they ate only a few kinds of food, 11.6% that they were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food, 10.6% that they ate less than they thought they should and 8.4% that they were worried they would not have enough food to eat. Since 2021, the proportion of respondents who answered ‘yes’ has increased in most categories, with the largest increase being in the proportion who reported they ate only a few kinds of food (from 12.3% to 18.6%) [28].

### Food security: Percentage of City Voice respondents who answered 'yes' to the question: during the last 12 months was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources you:

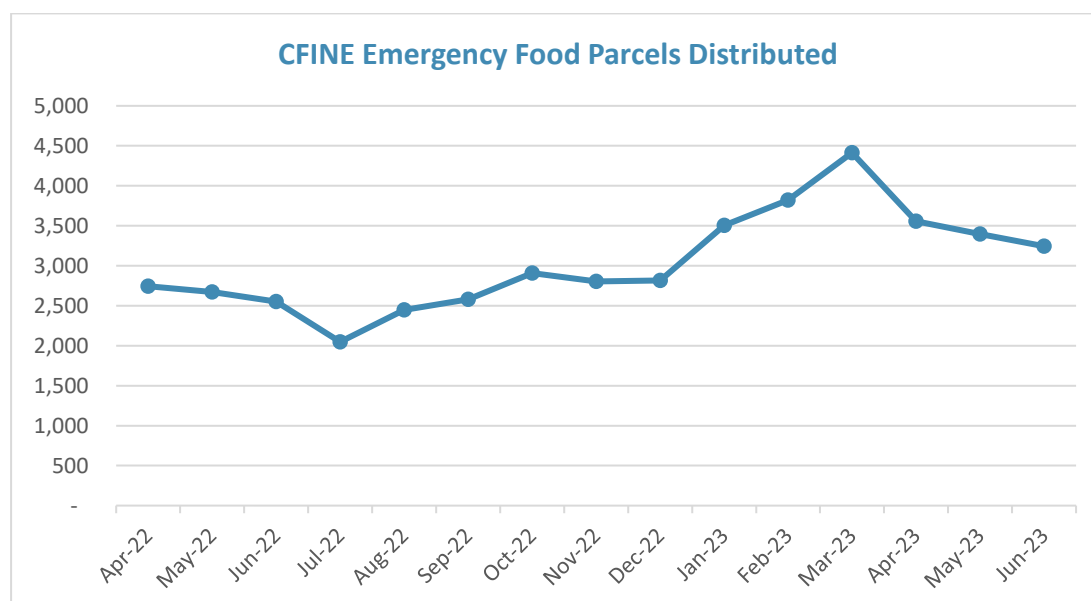
2018 2019 2020 2021 2022



Source: City Voice. Updated January 2023.

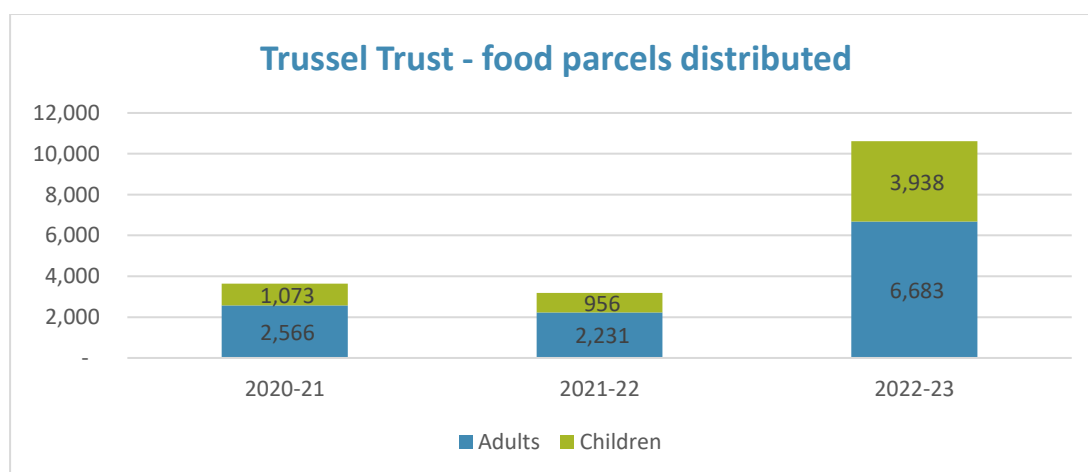
**Foodbank use:** There is currently no single source of data on foodbank use in Aberdeen City. Data for this document has been provided by a four of independent organisations (CFINE, Trussel Trust, Instant Neighbour and Inchgarth) who provide emergency food parcels. Across these four organisations, almost 62,000 emergency food parcels were distributed in 2022/23, averaging over 5,000 parcels every month.

CFINE: In 2022/23, CFINE distributed 35,307 emergency food parcels – an average of 2,942 per month. The monthly distribution of emergency food parcels increased sharply in the first three months of 2023, peaking in March when 4,414 parcels were distributed. In the first three months of 2023/24 a total of 10,197 food parcels have been distributed – an average of 3,399 per month.

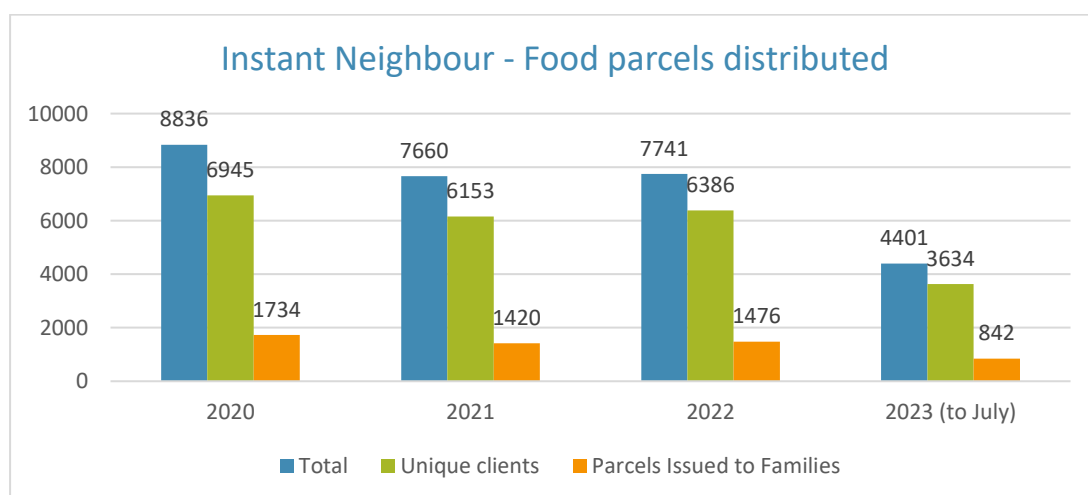


Trussel Trust: In 2022-23 Trussel Trust distributed 10,621 food parcels in Aberdeen City – more than double the amount in 2021-22 when 3,187 parcels were distributed (a 233% increase). There were 1,740 unique clients (some people will have received more than one parcel a year) with an average of 2.5 vouchers (referrals) per client. The most common household types were receiving parcels in 2022-23 were single people (38.4%) and families (30.7%) followed by couples (15.7%) and single parent families (12.3%).

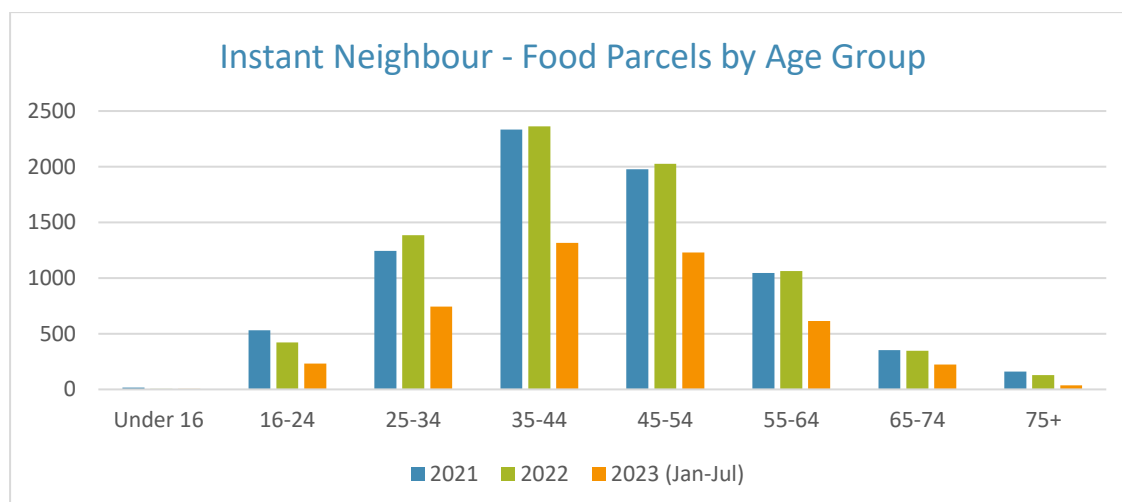
The most common reason for referral was ‘low income’ (3,027 referrals for this reason). The second most common reason was ‘no recourse to public funds’ (490 referrals). Analysis by the Trussel Trust reports disproportionately high levels of no recourse to public fund (NRPF) referrals in Aberdeen. In 2022-23, NRPF referrals across Scotland was the 9<sup>th</sup> highest reason for referral across all food bank referrals. In Aberdeen, it was the second highest. Furthermore, of all the NRPF referrals across Scottish food banks, 15% came from Aberdeen City.



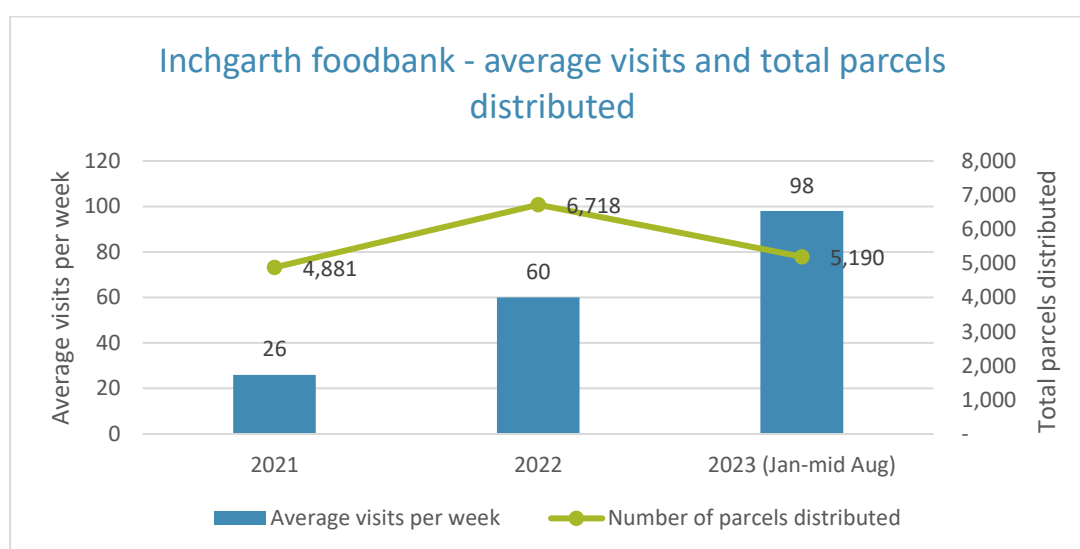
Instant Neighbour: In the first seven months of 2023, Instant Neighbour distributed 4,401 (average of 629 per month) food parcels with 842 of these being to families. Most clients visited the foodbank once in a month (unique clients) with the remainder visiting more than once. Up to July, there were on average 48 new clients each month in 2023. Around 7,700 parcels a year were distributed in both 2021 and 2022.



The age-groups most commonly using Instant Neighbour foodbanks were 35-44 years and 45-54 years.



Inchgarth Foodbank: To date in 2023 (January to mid-August), a total of 5,190 food parcels have been distributed to a total value of £98,439. On average there are 98 visits to the foodbank every week – higher than the average of 60 visits per week in 2022.



**Community Pantries:** Mitigating food poverty through increased memberships of community pantries was highlighted as an area where people could be offered dignity and choice rather than the foodbank offer of crisis provision. While food banks provide vital support to those suffering financial hardship, they do not represent a sustainable means of accessing food. Pantries offer those on low incomes to set up a yearly membership and pay a minimal weekly fee. In March 2023, there were 853 Community Pantry members – up from 487 in April 2021.

Recognising the challenges people can face attending one of our fixed food pantries, a mobile food pantry was launched in September 2021 to increase accessibility within our priority neighbourhoods and widen the reach. The positive response to the mobile pantry has continued throughout this year and is now available in 10 neighbourhoods on a bi-weekly

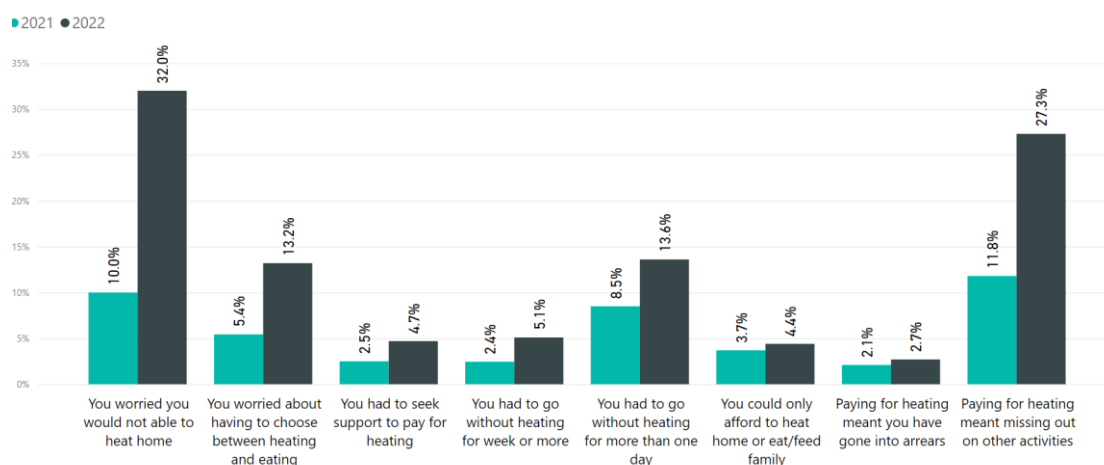
basis, a 67% increase. The areas are: Middlefield, Sheddocksley, Kincorth, Torry, Tillydrone, Seaton, Northfield, Quarryhill, Bucksburn and Hilton. Across all 10 areas there has been a total of 2088 shops at the mobile pantry, a 454% increase since 2021/22 and representing 20% of all pantry shops across the city. This increase has also been seen across the two other food pantries, with an overall increase in the total number of shops across all food pantries from 5,726 in 2021/22 to 10,234 in 2022/23.

**Allotments:** The allotment waiting list continues to grow: 793 households were waiting in 2021, by March 2023 this had risen to 1,047 households [29].

**Fuel poverty:** Official statistics for fuel poverty are now relatively dated with the most recent being for 2017-19 (data collection for the Scottish House Condition Survey was affected by COVID-19 with new local authority figures not expected to be available until early 2026). In 2017-19 an estimated 26.1% of households were in fuel poverty<sup>5</sup> – up from 23% in 2016-18 and higher than the rate for Scotland of 24.4%. A higher proportion of those in social housing were in fuel poverty than those in owner occupied housing (46.2% compared to 12.9%). In 2017-19 an estimated 12.8% of households were in extreme fuel poverty [30].

A series of questions around ability to heat your home were asked in City Voice 45 (August 2021) and City Voice 46 (December 2022). In December 2022, almost a third (32%) of respondents reported being worried they would not be able to heat their home – up from 10% in August 2021. Over a quarter of respondents (27.3%) said that paying for heating meant missing out on other activities (compared to 11.8% in 2021) [28].

**Your heating: Percentage of City Voice respondents who answered 'yes' to the question: during the last 12 months was there a time when, because of lack of money or other resources:**



source: City Voice. Updated January 2023.

**Homeless applications:** In the year 2021-22, there were 1,405 applications under the Homeless Persons legislation in Aberdeen City Council. This is down slightly from 1,463 in 2020-21. There were 50 applications where at least one member of the household experienced rough sleeping the night before their application. In March 2022, 264 households were in

<sup>5</sup> A household is in fuel poverty if, in order to maintain a satisfactory heating regime, total fuel costs necessary for the home are more than 10% of the household's adjusted net income (after housing costs), and if after deducting fuel costs, benefits received for a care need or disability and childcare costs, the household's remaining adjusted net income is insufficient to maintain an acceptable standard of living. For extreme fuel poverty a household would have to spend more than 20% of its adjusted net income (after housing costs) to maintain a satisfactory heating regime.



temporary accommodation, 65 of these households had either pregnant women or children in them (total of 110 children in temporary accommodation) [31].

Provisional data for 2022/23 shows there were 1,772 homelessness applications in the year – an increase of 26.1% from 2021/22.

# Our People

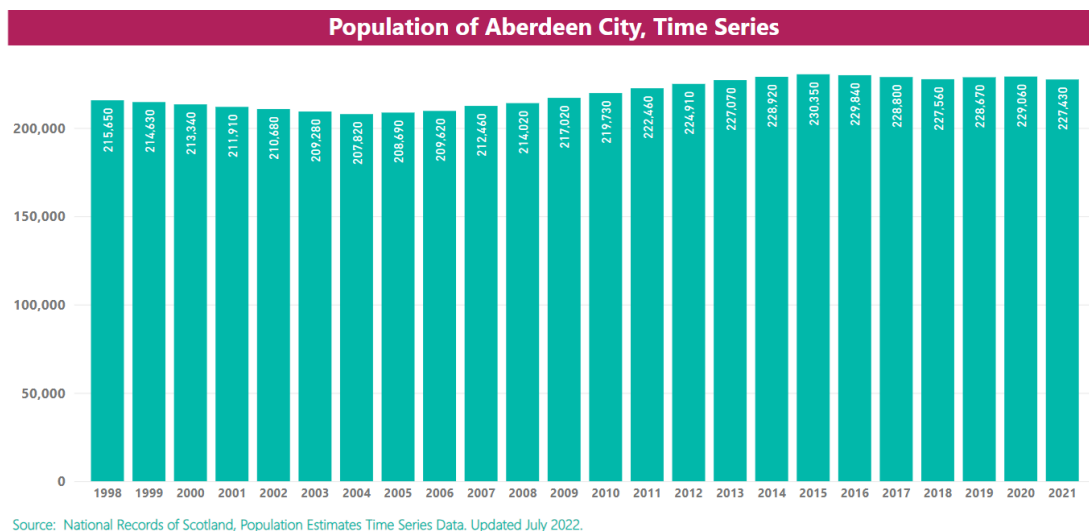


## 3. Demography

### 3.1. Population

**Population:** Due to the delayed Census, the most recent population figures are for 2021 (updated figures due in Autumn 2023). In June 2021, Aberdeen City had an estimated population of **227,430** [32]. This equates to 4.2% of Scotland's total population. In terms of population size, Aberdeen City is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest local authority in Scotland. There are slightly more females (114,242) than males (113,188) in the city with females making up 50.2% of the population. The population varies considerably by [neighbourhood](#), ranging from a low of 1,745 in Cummings Park to a high of 13,554 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield.

**Population change:** Following an 11-year period of year-on-year increases, Aberdeen's population peaked in 2015 (230,350) and decreased in each of the 3 subsequent years before increasing again between 2018 (227,560) and 2019 (228,670). The population fell again in 2021 to 227,430 – its lowest level since 2013. The drop in population between June 2020 and June 2021 was consistent with that seen in other large cities which saw their populations fall during the pandemic while some rural areas saw their populations rise<sup>6</sup>.



<sup>6</sup>“As well as people moving long term out of cities and into the surrounding areas, there may have been students who have moved back to their parents’ addresses temporarily during the pandemic. Another factor could be people who had previously moved updating their address with a GP to make sure they received their COVID-19 vaccination letters. Address information from GPs feeds into our migration estimates. Future reports will tell us if the areas which have gained population sustain those levels in the years ahead.” National Records of Scotland, [City Populations fall in latest estimates](#).

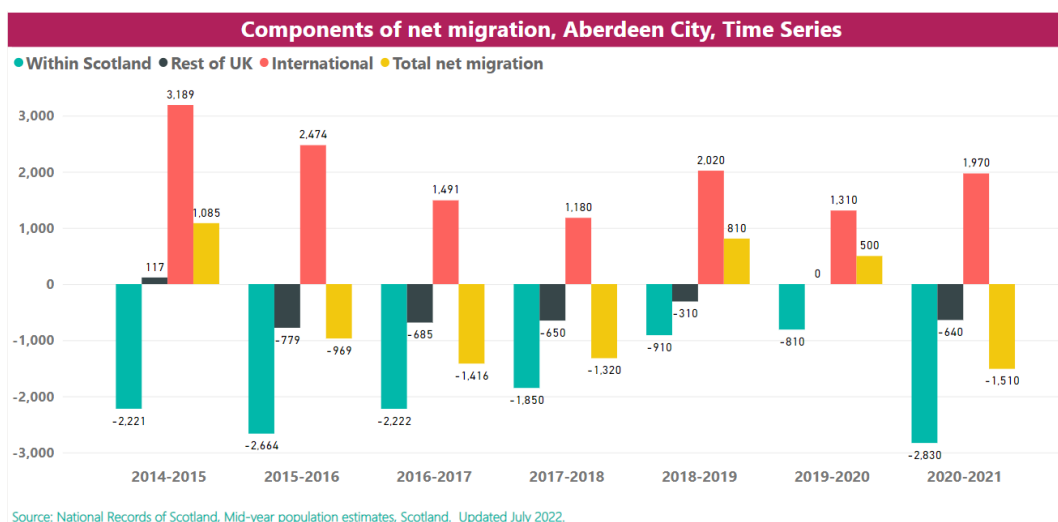
**Age structure:** Compared to Scotland, Aberdeen has a relatively young population. The median age in Aberdeen is 38.3 years compared to 42.2 years for Scotland. Comparison of broad age structures shows that Aberdeen has a higher proportion of working-age people (68.9% compared to 65%) and a lower proportion of under 16 year-olds (15.8% compared to 16.6%) and people of pensionable age (15.4% compared to 18.4%) than does Scotland. Within Aberdeen, however, the age structure varies considerably by neighbourhood. The proportion of children (0-15 years) ranges from 8.2% in City Centre to 24% in Middlefield. The proportion of 16-64 year-olds ranges from 59.5% in Dyce to 84.5% in City Centre and the proportion of people aged 65+ years ranges from 7.3% in City Centre and Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank to 25.5% in Danestone [23].

**Country of birth and Ethnicity:** Aberdeen City has a diverse population. The most recent figures (year ending June 2021) available from National Records of Scotland estimate that 22.5% of the City's population was born outside the UK (compared to 9.7% for Scotland). Of those, it is estimated that 58.8% are from EU countries and 43.1% from non-EU countries (compared to 50% for both groups in the year to end December 2019). The estimated proportion of those born outside the UK has fluctuated in the last few years, from 24% in the year ending June 2017, down to 19% in year ending June in both 2018 and 2019, before rising again to 24.7% in the year to end June 2020 and down to 22.5% at end June 2021 [33]. At the time of the 2011 Census, Aberdeen City had the third highest proportion of non-white ethnic minority people in Scotland at 15.6%. This was more than double the Scotland rate at 7.6% [34].

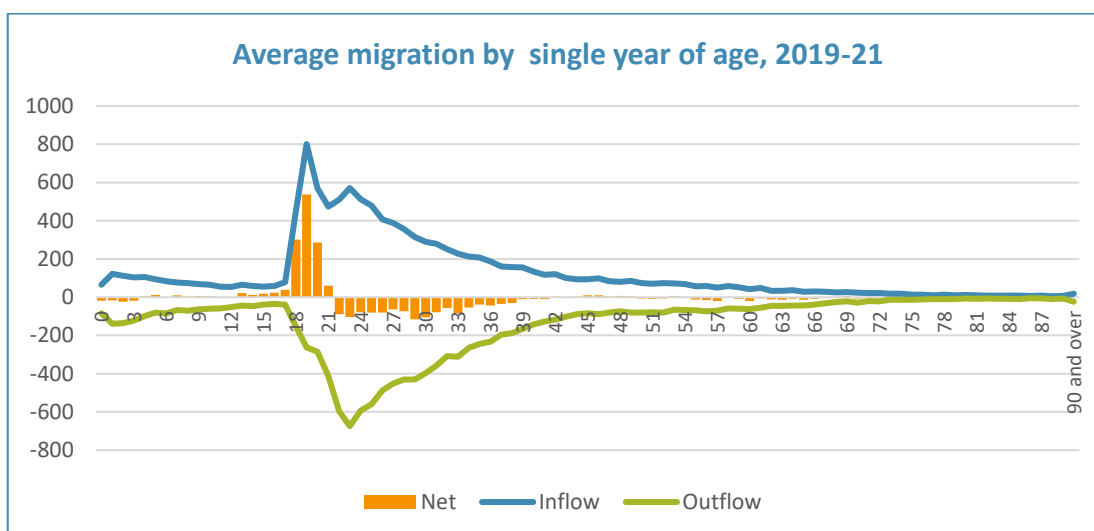
**Disability/health:** Aberdeen City has a slightly higher rate of people (known to the local authority) with learning disabilities at 5.5 per 1000, compared to 5.2 for Scotland as a whole [35]. At the time of the 2011 Census, 26.5% of the population reported having one or more long-term health conditions (compared to 29.9% in Scotland) and 16% reported having a long-term health condition that limited their activities (compared to 19.7%) in Scotland [34]. In the Scottish Health Survey (2017-21), 26% reported having a limiting long-term illness in Aberdeen City compared to 34% in Scotland. This proportion was higher in females (30%) than males (22%) [36].

### 3.2. Migration

**Migration:** Population change is driven by two main components: 1) natural change (births minus deaths) and (2) net migration (the sum of migration to/from Scotland and internal migration). It also includes other changes (e.g. changes in prisoner and armed forces population) although these tend to make up a smaller proportion of changes. The decrease in population between mid-2020 and mid-2021 was mainly driven by high net out-migration from Aberdeen City to other parts of Scotland and the UK (-3,470) as well as negative natural change (-135). While net overseas migration was positive (1,970), this was not high enough to offset net out-migration from Aberdeen to other parts of Scotland and the UK [37].



Migration to the City varies by age with most movement being in younger adults. In 2019-21, average positive net migration was highest in 18-21 year olds and negative net migration highest for people in their early 20s and 30s. The chart below shows in, out and net migration to the City by single year of age [38].



Source: National Records of Scotland, Total Migration to or from Scotland

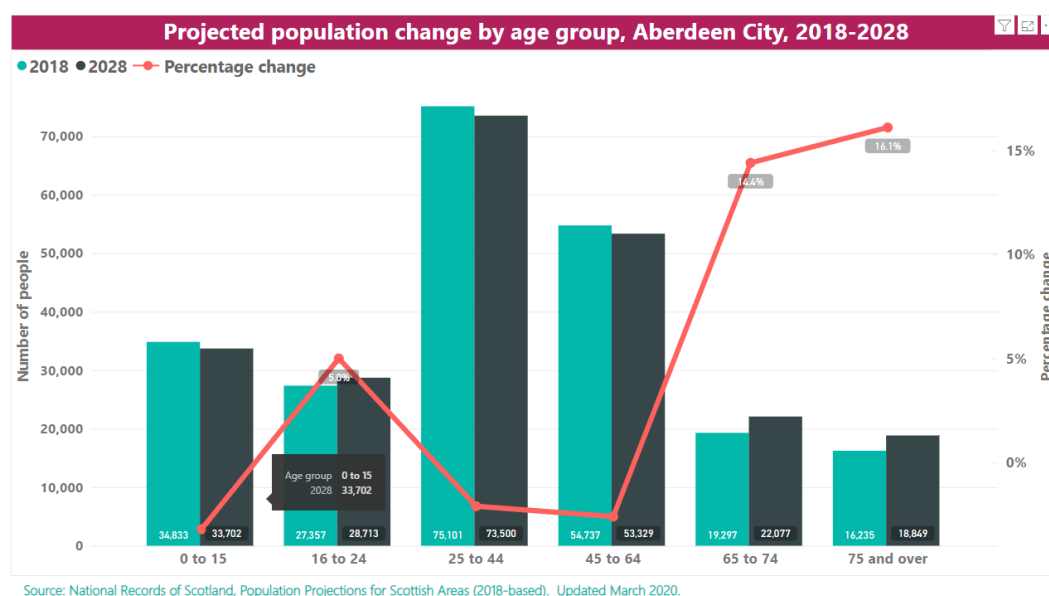
While there is limited data on origin/destination flows for overseas and the rest of UK migration, data on within Scotland migration for 2020-21 show that the highest levels of movement for Aberdeen were between Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire (3,453 out and 2,316 in, giving a net of -1,137), Aberdeen City and Edinburgh (1,091 out and 537 in, giving a net of -554) and Aberdeen City and Glasgow (856 out and 435 in, giving a net of -421). During 2020-21, positive net migration to Aberdeen City from other council areas in Scotland was relatively low with the highest positive net migration being from Moray (238 in and 214 out, giving a net of 24), Inverclyde (31 in and 20 out, giving a net of 11) and Angus (224 in and 215 out, giving a net of 9) [39].

### 3.3. Population projections

**Population projections:** Population projections are now quite dated with the most recent being 2018-based – i.e. before Brexit and COVID-19. Newer projections (based on Census data) are not expected to be available until Spring 2024.

Between 2018 and 2028 the population of Aberdeen is projected to increase by 1.1% to 230,170. Over the same time period, the population in Scotland is projected to increase by 1.8%. Most of the increase in Aberdeen City is projected to come from migration (1%) with natural change accounting for 0.1% of the projected increase. Across Scotland, between 2018 and 2028, 14 councils are projected to see a population decrease and 18 councils are projected to see a population increase [40].

**Projected change by age group:** The projected change is not consistent across all age groups. In Aberdeen City, decreases are projected in the 0-15 year age group (-3.2%), the 25-44 year age group (-2.1%) and in the 45-64 year age group (-2.6%). Increases are projected for the other age groups, with the largest increase being in the 75 years and over age group (16.1%). In terms of size, however, 25 to 44 years is projected to remain the largest age group with the 75+ years group projected to remain the smallest group [40].

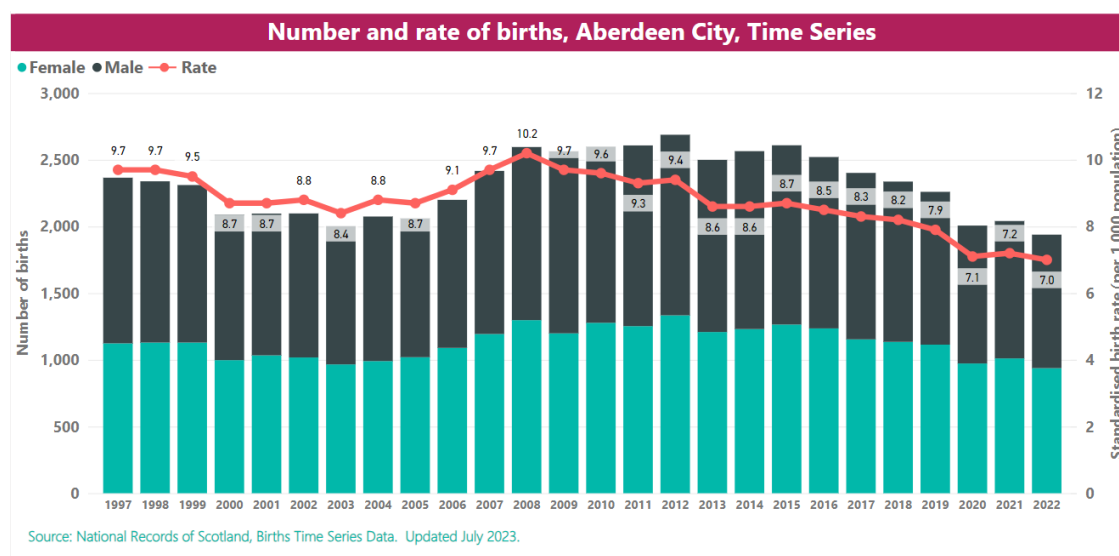


**Projected change by gender:** The projected change differs by gender. The male population is projected to increase by 2.5% over the period, while the female population is projected to decrease by 0.2%. This would mean that by 2022, the number of males in Aberdeen City would, in contrast to recent trends, be higher than the number of females [40].

### 3.4. Births

**Births:** In 2022 there were 1,939 births in Aberdeen City – a decrease of 5% from 2,041 births in 2023. Of these births, 938 (48.4%) were female and 1,001 (51.6%) were male. The standardised birth rate was 7.0 per 1,000 population (compared to 8.6 for Scotland as a whole) and is the second lowest rate in Scotland, with the lowest being City of Edinburgh at 6 per 1,000 population. The most common age group for mothers is 30-34 years and the least

common age group for mothers is 0-19 years. Compared to 20 years ago, more births are now to older mothers, with the number of births to women aged 0-19 years and 20-24 years decreasing (by 86% and 46.1% respectively) and the number of births to women aged 35-39 years and 40 years and increasing by (by 33.1% and 115% respectively) [41]. The number of births varies across the city. The [Intermediate Zone](#) with the highest number of births in 2021 (2022 data not yet available) was Kincorth, Leggart & Nigg South (84 births) and the Intermediate Zone with the lowest number of births was West End North (19 births) [42]. The rate of births (crude rate per 1,000 population) ranged from a low of 5 in Rosemount to a high of 16.5 in Bucksburn South [43].



### 3.5. Deaths

**Deaths:** In 2022 there were 2,248 deaths in Aberdeen City – a very slight decrease from 2,257 deaths in 2021. Of these deaths, 1,131 (50.3%) were female and 1,117 (49.7%) were male. The age-standardised death rate was 11.4 per 1,000 population compared to 11.5 in Scotland. The highest number of total deaths were in the 85-89 years age group (731 deaths). For females, the most common age group for deaths was 90 years and over and for males the most common age group was 80-84 years [44].

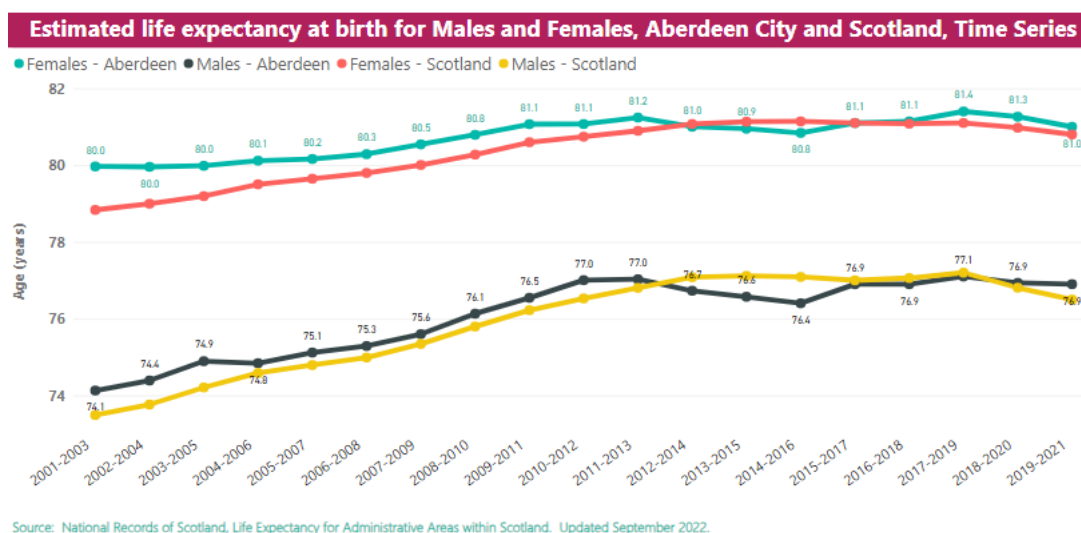
Death rates vary across the city. Based on Intermediate Zones, the most recent data is for 2019-2021 (3-year aggregate). Age-sex standardised rates range from a high of 2,252 per 100,000 population in Woodside to a low of 794 in West End South. The equivalent rate for Aberdeen City is 1,173 [43].

**Early deaths (15-44 years, all causes):** In 2019-21, the rate (age-sex standardised per 100,000 population) for early deaths in Aberdeen City was 94 which is lower than the rate for Scotland of 117. This rate varied by deprivation, being highest in the most deprived areas. The rate for SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) was 202 per 100,000 population compared to a rate of 36 for SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived). The rate for early deaths varies across the City (intermediate Zones). In the period 2019-21, the rate of early deaths ranged from 0.0 per 100,000 population in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafield North, Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill &

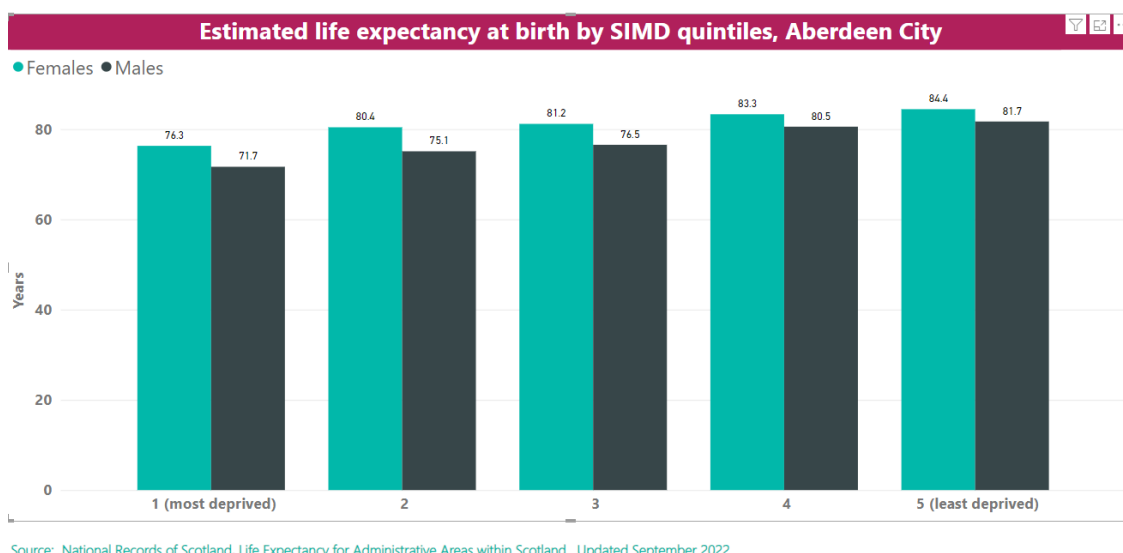
Seafield South and Kincorth, Leggart & Nigg South to 294 per 100,000 population in Woodside. [43].

### 3.6. Estimated life expectancy at birth

**Estimated life expectancy:** In general, Life Expectancy (LE) at birth is higher for females than for males. In 2019-21 in Aberdeen City LE at birth was estimated to be 81.40 years for women and 76.9 years for men, i.e. on average, a baby girl born in Aberdeen City in 2019-21 could expect to live for 81.0 years while a baby boy born in Aberdeen City in the same period could expect to live for 76.9 years. The estimated LE at birth for both females and males is similar to that for Scotland (80.8 years and 76.5 years respectively) [45]. Across Scotland, life expectancy has increased since the early 1980s but has now remained virtually unchanged since 2012-14, with most of Scotland's council areas experiencing a slow-down or a stall in life expectancy growth since that time.



**Estimated life expectancy by deprivation:** Estimated life expectancy is strongly associated with deprivation. In Aberdeen City in 2017-2021, estimated life expectancy for males in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) was 71.7 years compared to 81.7 years for males in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived) – **a difference of 10 years**. For females, the difference in estimated life expectancy was less marked, at 76.3 years for females in quintile 1 compared to 84.4 years for females in quintile 5 – **a difference of 8.1 years** [45]. Comparison with data from 2013-2017 shows that the gap in estimated life expectancy between most and least deprived quintiles in Aberdeen City has increased for males (previously 9.7 years) and females (previously 7.4 years).

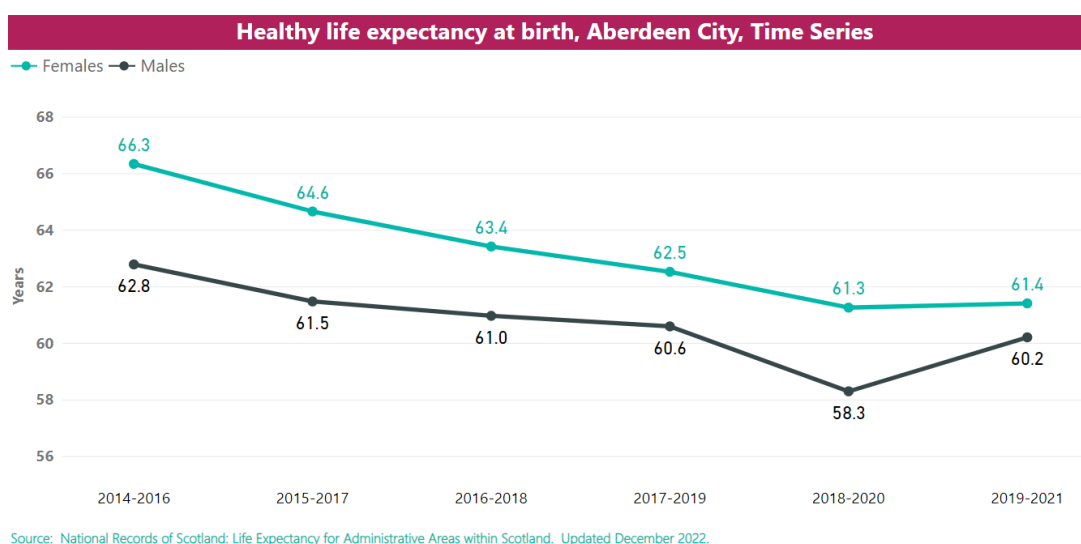


The relationship between estimated life expectancy and deprivation means that for both males and females there are important differences in estimated life expectancy at birth depending on where you live in Aberdeen City. The most recent data available for smaller geographies ([Intermediate Zones](#)) is for the period 2017-2021 (5-year average). For males, estimated LE at birth ranges from a low of 69.4 years in Woodside to a high of 83.1 years in Braeside, Mannofield and Broomhill & Seafield North – a difference of 13.7 years. For females it ranges from a low of 72 years in Woodside to a high of 86.3 years in West End North – a difference of 14.3 years. [43].

### 3.7. Healthy life expectancy

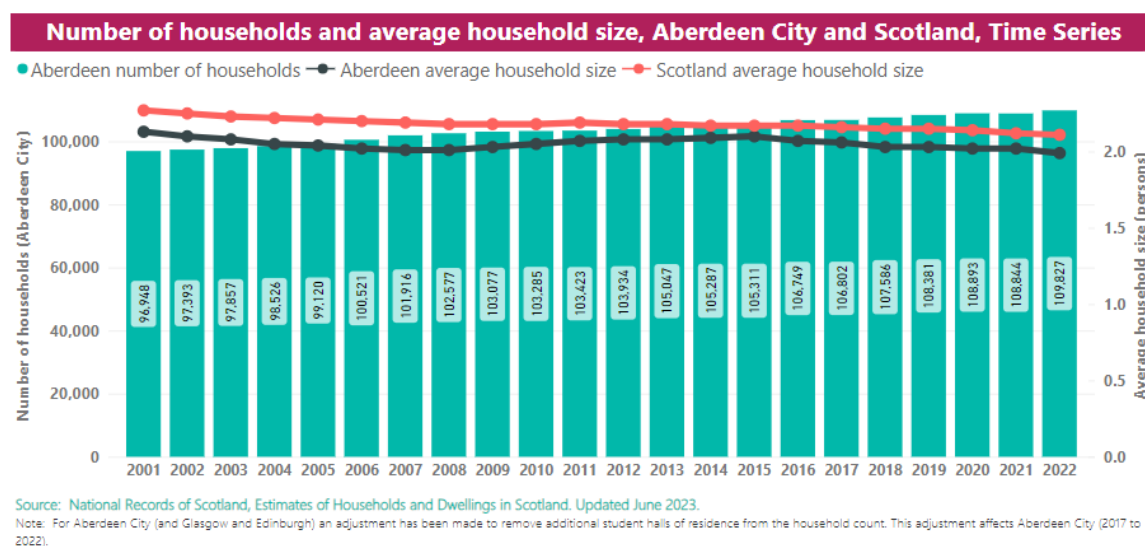
**Healthy life expectancy:** While Life Expectancy (LE) counts total years of expected life regardless of level of health, Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) represents the number of years that an individual can expect to live in good health. In 2019-21, males in Aberdeen City had an estimated life expectancy at birth of 76.9 years and a healthy life expectancy of 60.2 years, giving an expected period of ‘not healthy’ health of 16.7 years. This means that a baby boy born in 2019-2021 could expect to live 78.3% of his life in healthy health. In 2019-2021, females in Aberdeen City had an estimated life expectancy at birth of 81.0 years and a healthy life expectancy of 61.4 years, giving an expected period of ‘not healthy’ health of 19.6 years. This means that a baby girl born in 2019-2021 could expect to live 75.7% of their life in healthy health. So while on average females have a higher life expectancy than males, they also spend a higher proportion of their lives in ‘unhealthy health’. In Scotland, HLE is strongly associated with deprivation. Healthy life expectancy for males in the most deprived areas of Scotland was 26 years lower than in the least deprived areas. For females the difference was almost 25 years. In the most deprived areas, males and females spend more than a third of their life in poor health compared to around 15% in the least deprived areas [46].





### 3.8. Households

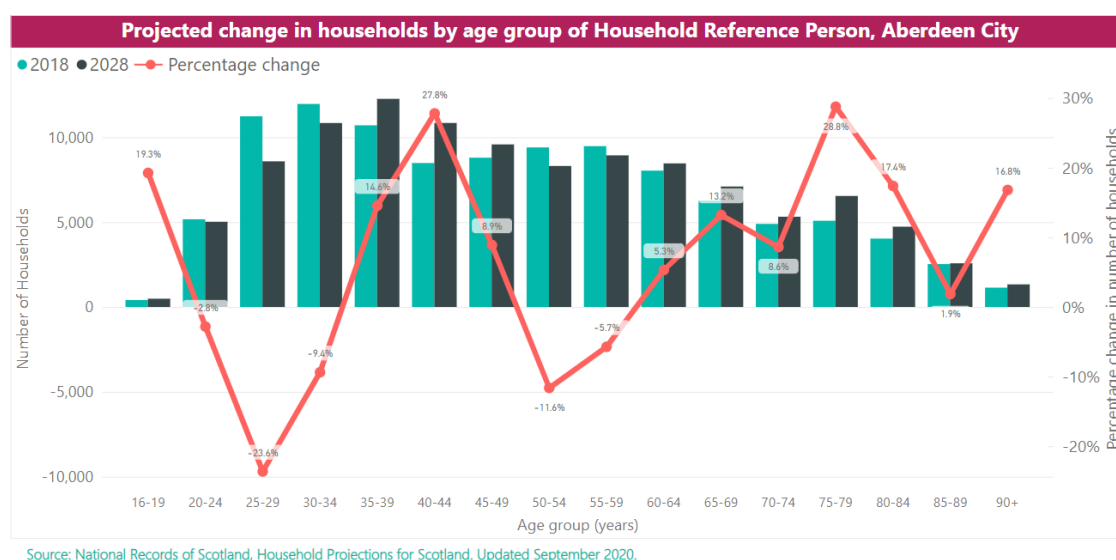
**Households:** In 2022, there were 109,827 households in Aberdeen City – up from 108,844 households in 2021. Since 2002, the number of households in Aberdeen has increased by 12.8% (12,434 households) which is lower than the average rate for Scotland of 15.3%. The average household size was 1.99 compared to 2.11 for Scotland. In both Aberdeen City and Scotland, average household sizes have decreased over the past 20 years (from 2.10 and 2.25 respectively in 2002) [47].



**Household projections:** As with the population projections, the most recent household projections are 2018-based as so relatively dated. New projections are not expected until early 2024.

Between 2018 and 2028, the number of households in Aberdeen City is projected to increase from 107,586 to 110,884. This is a 3.0% increase, which compares to a projected increase of 5.0% for Scotland as a whole. In 2028, the household type “One adult” is projected to remain the most common in Aberdeen City (38.4% of all households in 2018 and 38.9% in 2028) and

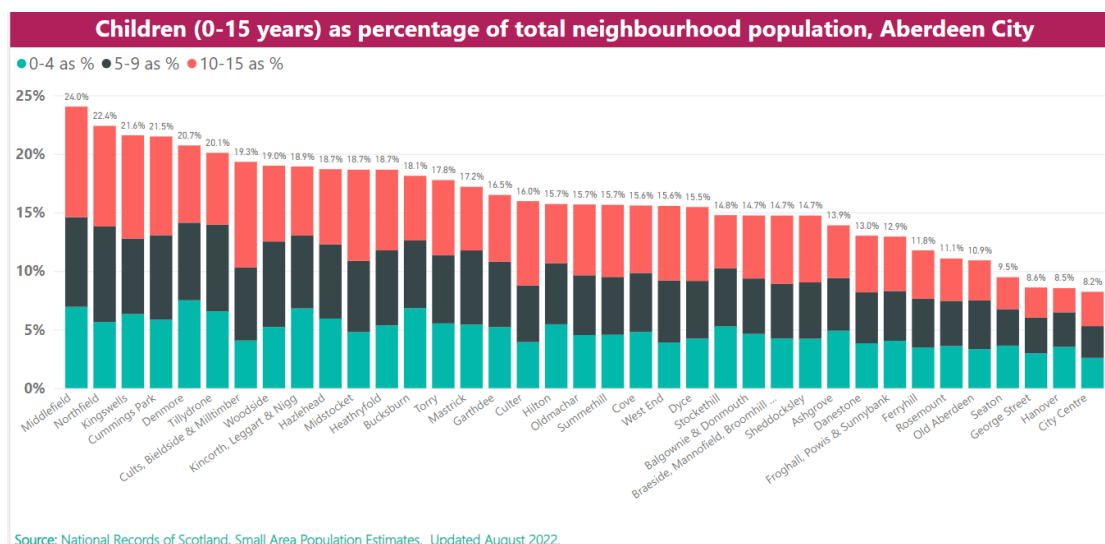
the household type “One adult, one or more children” is projected to remain the least common (3.7% in 2018 and 3.6% in 2028). Between 2018 and 2028, the household type “Three or more adults” is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-5.0%) and the household type “Two or more adults, one or more children” is projected to see the largest percentage increase (5.0%). Based on 5-year age groupings, between 2018 and 2028, the 25 to 29 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-23.6%) and the 35 to 39 age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (28.8%). In terms of size, however, 35 to 39 years is projected to become the largest age group of a Household Reference Person (HRP), compared to 30-34 years in 2018 [48].



## 4. Children & Young People

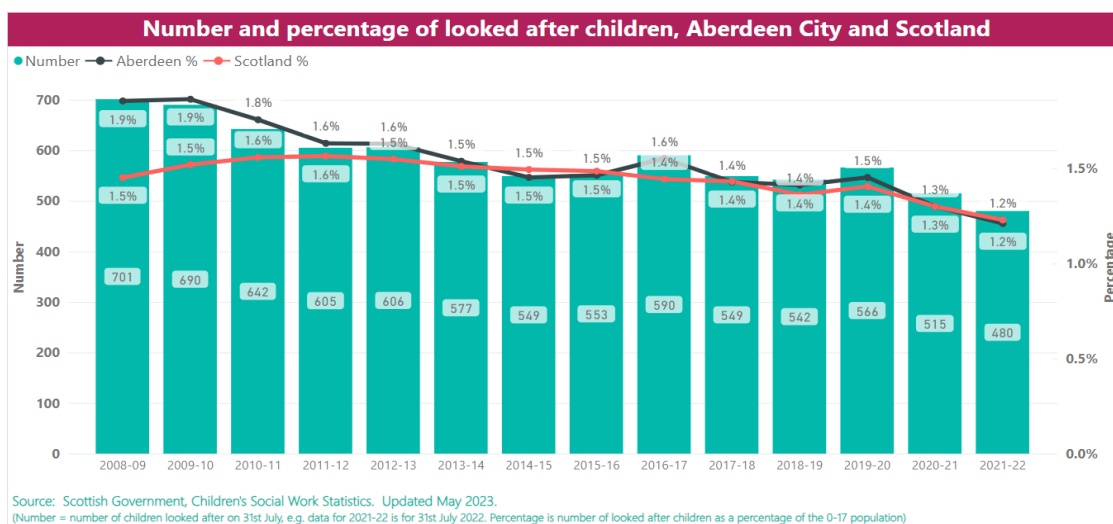
### 4.1. Child population

**Child population:** In 2021, there were 35,860 children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City – 15.8% of the city's population [23]. The number and proportion of children varies by neighbourhood. In terms of numbers, Old Aberdeen has the smallest child population (281) while Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber has the largest (2,431). The City Centre has the smallest proportion of children (8.2% of the population of the neighbourhood) and Middlefield the largest (24.0%).

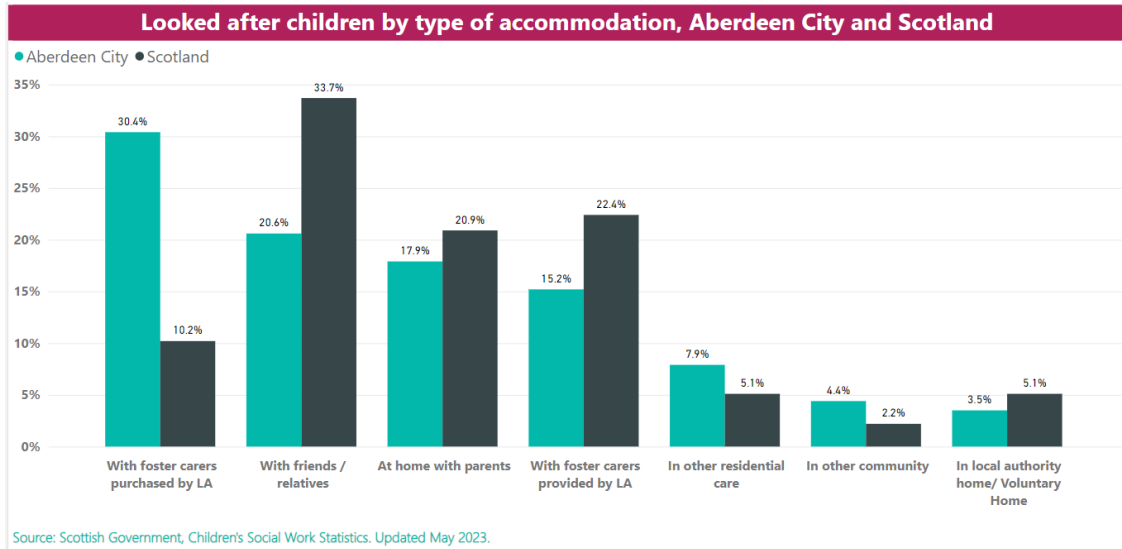


### 4.2. Looked after children

**Looked after children (LAC):** Between 1/08/2021 and 31/07/2022, there were 100 children starting to be looked after and 147 ceasing to be looked after. On 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022 there were 480 looked after children (LAC) in Aberdeen City – equivalent to 1.2% of the 0-17 years population. This is the same as the rate for Scotland. Most (59.1%) looked after children in Aberdeen City are boys, and 17.9% are under 5 years old. Five percent of looked after children are known to be from an ethnic minority group and a quarter (25.4%) are known to have a disability. 16% of LAC are 16 years year or over. [49].



**Accommodation:** Foster care is the most common setting for looked after children in Aberdeen City. At 38.5%, the proportion of looked after children in kinship care (at home with parents or with friends/relatives) is lower in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (54.6%) [49]. In 2020-21, 21.2% of LAC had more than 1 placement in the past year – higher than the rate for Scotland of 16.8% [7].

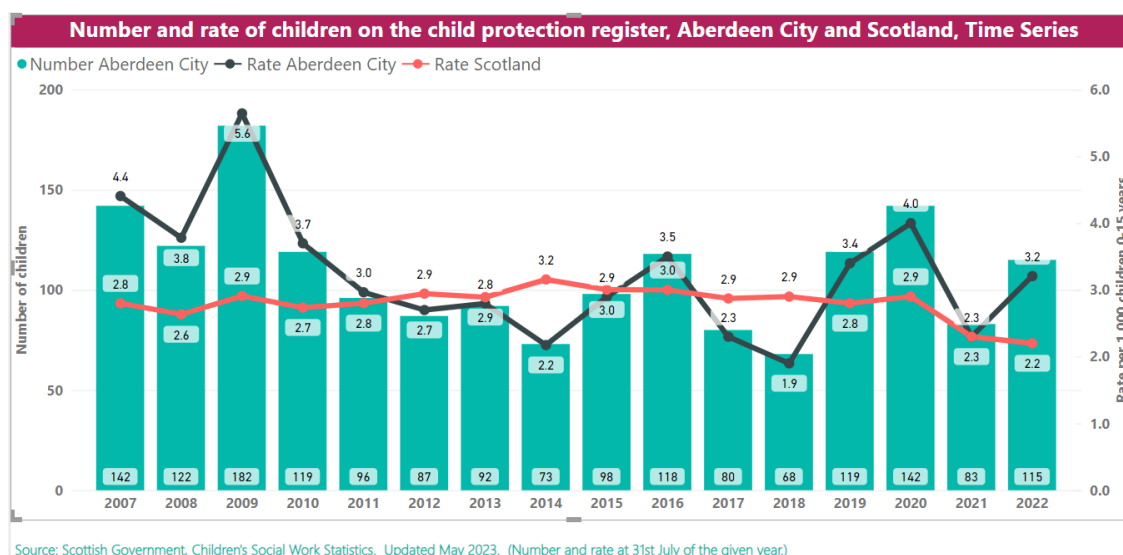


**LAC educational outcomes:** In 2021/22, 76.1% looked after children in Aberdeen City left school with 1 or more qualification at SCQF level 4 – lower than the rate for Scotland of 78.3% but higher than rate of 65.8% in 2020/21 [50]. Attendance and exclusion data is only available every 2 years. In 2020/21 the attendance rates for looked after children in Aberdeen City was 89.1% compared to 87.9% for Scotland. [The exclusion rate](#) (per 1,000 pupils who were looked after) was lower in Aberdeen (76.5 per 1,000 pupils compared to 77.8 per 1,000 pupils in Scotland) [51].

**LAC positive destinations:** In 2021/22, 67.4 % of looked after children in Aberdeen City had a positive destination (based on 9-month follow-up survey and children who were looked after for the full year) compared to 70.4% in Scotland. This is lower than the rate for all children of 90.8% (2021/22) . The percentage of children in a positive destination fell in both Aberdeen City and Scotland compared to 2020/21 from 76.5% and 71.5% respectively [50].



**Child protection:** At 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022, there were 115 children on the Child Protection Register (CPR) in Aberdeen City. This is an increase from 83 in 2021. The rate of children on the CPR (per 1,000 children aged 0-15 years) was 3.2 compared to 2.2 in Scotland [49]. The most common concerns identified at case conferences of children who were on the child protection register at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022 were parental mental health problems (50), neglect (48) and emotional abuse (46). (Note: multiple concerns can be recorded rather than just the main category of concern.) In 2020/21, 2.2% of child protection registrations were re-registered within 18 months – lower than the rate in 2019/20 of 3.1%. In Scotland 7% of child protection registrations were re-registered within 18 months [7].



#### 4.3. Mental health and wellbeing

Information on mental health and wellbeing is informed by the SHINE Mental Health Surveys [52]. Two surveys have been conducted, the first in March 2022 and the second in November/December 2022. During November / December 2022, 9,803 children [52] and young people from P6-S6 completed the Mental Health & Wellbeing Survey developed by the Scottish Schools Health and Wellbeing Improvement Research Network (SHINE), this was a higher return than the previous year (9,428). In real terms this means there were returns from 67% of all pupils from P6 to S6 with a higher proportion of returns from younger year groups. Children and young people from P5-S6 also had the opportunity to undertake a Physical Health & Wellbeing survey developed by the Local Authority. 6,993 pupils completed this survey in November/December 2022.

Given that an individual's mental health and wellbeing is influenced by a wide variety of factors, including environmental, social and the interaction between these, the survey looked at how family affluence (using the Family Affluence Scale – low/medium/high) and gender (boy/girl/did not disclose) impacts wellbeing in the most recent survey. In general, those in the low family affluence group were more likely to report a range of negative outcomes across nearly all the measures within the survey. Similarly, amongst both primary and secondary school pupils, those young people who did not disclose their gender were more likely to report a range of negative outcomes and feelings across nearly all measures.

## **Primary 6 & 7**

In November 2022, 3533 pupils from P6 and P7 completed this survey with 119 pupils not providing details of their gender and 46 pupils not identifying their year group. This is a slightly higher return from last year (3,514) and is thought to be due to the rising school roll.

**General health:** 82%, 2897 (80%, 2811 in March 2022) of learners in primary 6 and 7 who responded reported that their health was excellent or good. The proportion of pupils self-reporting Excellent or Good Health in November 2022, with the exception of P6 boys, has improved across combined gender and stage in comparison with March 2022. The percentage who reported their health was excellent or good varied by Family Affluence (from 73% with low family affluence to 89% for those with high family affluence) and gender (61% for those who did not disclose their gender, 82% for boys and 84% for girls).

**Happiness:** Learners were asked to rate how happy they were with various aspects of life (appearance, school, future, health, choice, friends, family, time use, things you have, home and overall). Across P6 and P7, learners were positive about many aspects of their lives. However, across both age groups and gender categories, 'Appearance' was still lower than other aspects of their lives with 24% of P6 learners and 30% of P7 learners noting appearance as a concern (down from 27% and 35% respectively in March 2022). Young people in the lowest family affluence group were more likely to report low levels of happiness across a range of life domains than their more affluent peers. In particular, Those in the lowest group were more than twice as likely to report low levels of happiness with life as a whole, the home they live in, choices available to them, friendships, appearance, their future and school than their peers in the least deprived cohort. Similarly, those who did not disclose their gender were nearly 6 times more likely to be negative about life as a whole than their peers. Only thoughts about free time were in line with peers.

**WHO-5 Wellbeing Index:** This is a five item scale which provides a measure of emotional functioning, with a score of 50 or less indicating low mood. A score of 28 or less indicates at risk of depression. Based on this scale, 75% of those in P6 & 7 did not show evidence of low mood. Again this differed by family affluence with 34% of pupils from the low affluence group reporting low mood compared with 23% in the medium affluence group and 15% of those in the most affluent group. Additionally, the difference between outcomes for those deemed to be at risk of depression was more prevalent with those identified as being least affluent nearly 4 times more likely to be at risk compared to those deemed the most affluent. Low mood also varied by gender with girls (26%) more likely to report low mood than boys (22%), but with those who did not disclose their gender (51%) more than twice as likely to have low mood than their peers. Those who did not disclose were twice as likely to report being at risk of depression (15% compared to 7% for both boys and girls).

**Self Confidence:** Learners were asked about how confident they felt in themselves. 57% of P6 & P7 pupils stated that they always or often felt confident (up from 52% in March 2022). Again this varied by family affluence (low 49%, medium 58% and high 66%) and gender (boy 65%, girl 50% and did not disclose 27%).

## Secondary 1-6

In November 2022, 59% 6270 (60%, 5914 in March 2022) learners from S1-S6 completed the secondary survey with 292 learners choosing not to provide details of their gender and 98 learners not identifying their year group.

**General health:** In November 2022, 73% of learners in S1-6 reported that their general health was excellent or good (up from 70% in March 2022). Levels of self-reported health varied by year group. Reporting good or excellent health was also associated with family affluence with 81% of secondary pupils in the high family affluence group rating their health as good or excellent compared with 61% of those in the low family affluence group. There were also differences by gender with only 39% of those who did not disclose reporting excellent or good health (compared to 69% of girls and 79% of boys).

**Happiness:** Within Secondary Schools, it was clear that the aspects of their lives learners were most happy with are, home, things they had, time use, friends and family, with school and appearance consistently receiving lower scores. Overall, 25% (a reduction of 6% of learners since March 2022) report low happiness linked to 'Appearance' and 20% (a reduction of 3%), linked to 'School'. Although there is a notable reduction in both areas, showing a positive step forward, there continues to be, however from Primary to Secondary, an increase from 10% of primary learners to 20% of secondary learners who report low happiness regarding school. Family affluence heavily influences happiness at the secondary phase. Those in the low affluence group were twice as likely to be unhappy with life in general than those in the highest affluence group. Those in the lower affluence group were 5 times more likely to express unhappiness with the home they live in. In terms of low happiness with life, across nearly all of the measures, pupils who didn't disclose their gender expressed the most unhappiness.

**WHO-5 Wellbeing Index:** This is a five item scale which provides a measure of emotional functioning, with a score of 50 or less indicating low mood. A score of 28 or less indicates at risk of depression. In November 2022, 40% of S1-6 learners self-rated below the 50-score threshold - down from 47% in March 2022. In general, the proportion of learners indicating low mood is higher in girls than boys and increases by year group (although in November 2022 the percentage of both boys and girls expressing low mood dropped between S5 and S6 – from 35% to 31% for boys and from 65% to 54% for girls). Comparison between March and November data shows a reduction in the number of learners at risk of depression in both gender groups and most year groups although the percentage of girls at risk of depression remains higher for girls than for boys. Family affluence strongly influences both low mood and a risk of depression with the percentage of those in the lower affluence group being higher than for those in the higher affluence groups. Those who did not disclose their gender are also more likely to self-report low mood and be considered at risk of depression.

**Self Confidence:** In November 2022, the proportion of S1-S6 pupils who report always or often feeling confident was 41% (up from 35% in March 2022). A higher proportion of boys than girls reported always or often feeling confident across all year groups (with an average of 53.7% for boys and 27.3% for girls).

**Feeling safe:** Learners were asked to consider how safe they felt within various environments and across all schools and year groups, the majority of learners reported that they felt safe always or most of the time in their communities (87%), at home (96%) and in school (81%), however there is a percentage of learners who reported that they rarely or never feel safe in these environments.

**Feeling listened to:** Being available to listen to children and young people, is essential for supporting individual needs and understanding fully what is required. Learners were asked if they had an adult in their lives that listens to them about how they are feeling. 68% positively shared that they always did, showing an increase of 4%. 5% (345) also stated no, they did not have an adult in their life that listens to them about how they are feeling. This is a similar percentage of learners from March 2022.

### **Child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS)**

The NHS in Scotland provides mental health services for children and young people with a wide range of mental health conditions including Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), anxiety, behaviour problems, depression and early onset psychosis. This treatment is provided through Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) services. Data is available by Health Board. In the 12 months to March 2023, there were 4,144 referrals received in Grampian Health Board, of which 3,135 (75.6%) were accepted. At the end of March 2023, there were 335 patients waiting to be seen. Of these 321 (95.8%) had been waiting less than 18 weeks (target period) [53].

## **4.4. Education**

**School and pupil numbers:** In 2022 there were 14,573 primary school pupils and 10,430 secondary school pupils in Aberdeen City. There were also 140 pupils enrolled in Special Schools. The total number of pupils was 25,143 [54].

**Additional support needs/disability:** In 2022, 36.5% (5,315) of primary pupils and 43.5% (4,541) of secondary pupils had additional support needs. The most common reason for support for both primary and secondary pupils was English as an additional language. In 2022, 6,294 (25%) of all pupils in Aberdeen City did not have English as their main home language. The five main home languages (other than English) are Polish, Arabic, Russian, Urdu and Ukrainian. In 2022, 518 school pupils were assessed and/or declared as having a disability and 802 pupils had autistic spectrum disorder [54].

**Attendance:** Percentage attendance is calculated in relation to the total number of possible attendances (half-days). In 2020/21, average attendance in primary schools in the City was 94.3% and for secondary schools the rate was 90.7%. The respective rates for Scotland were 91.4% and 83.2% [55].

**Exclusions:** In 2020/21 there were 408 cases of exclusion in Aberdeen City (77 in Primary Schools and 331 in Secondary schools) – down from 1,221 in 2018/19. This is equivalent to a rate of 17.2 exclusions per 1,000 pupils. The rate of exclusions was higher in secondary schools (105.8) than in primary schools (19.7). The number of pupils excluded was also higher in secondary schools (237) than primary schools (57) [56].



**Free school meals (FSM):** In 2022/23, 77% of primary school pupils in Aberdeen were registered for FSM in mainstream local authority schools. (Note: from the beginning of the 2022/23 school year all pupils up to and including P5 were eligible for FSM under the universal provision. 22.3% of P6 and 18.7% of P7 pupils were registered for FSM.) At secondary school level, 16.6% of pupils were registered for FSM – up from 15.7% in 2021 and 13.9% in 2020. Since 2022, all pupils at special schools all eligible for FSM [54].

**Eco-Schools:** 100 Aberdeen schools are registered with the Eco-Schools programme and 13 have achieved green flags [57].

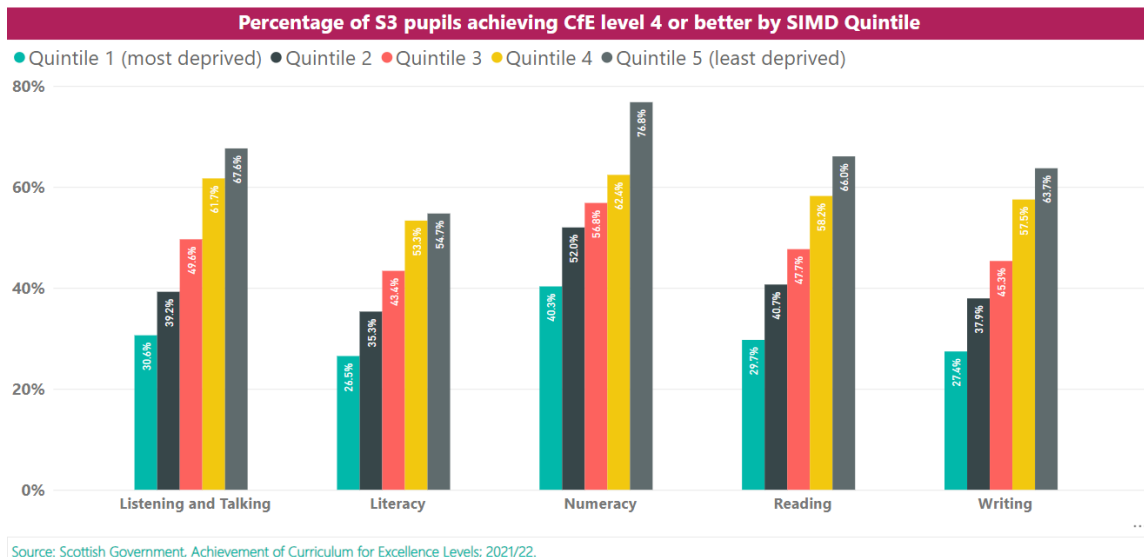
## Attainment

**Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) Levels:** Data on achievement against expected levels (Early Level, First Level, Second Level, Third level or better and Fourth Level) is given at four stages – P1, P4, P7 and S3 – in five areas: reading, writing, listening and talking, literacy and numeracy. In 2021/22, with a few exceptions, the proportion of pupils in Aberdeen City achieving the expected level is similar to or lower than the equivalent proportion for Scotland as a whole [58].

Percentage of pupils achieving expected levels						
		P1	P4	P7	S3	S3
		Early Level	First Level	Second Level	Third Level or better	Fourth Level
Reading	Aberdeen City	76%	76%	80%	84%	51%
	Scotland	79%	76%	79%	88%	54%
Writing	Aberdeen City	74%	69%	74%	83%	49%
	Scotland	77%	70%	73%	87%	52%
Listening and talking	Aberdeen City	84%	86%	85%	85%	52%
	Scotland	86%	85%	86%	89%	55%
Literacy	Aberdeen City	70%	66%	71%	80%	44%
	Scotland	74%	67%	71%	86%	48%
Numeracy	Aberdeen City	82%	74%	76%	89%	61%
	Scotland	84%	75%	76%	89%	59%

Source: Scottish Government, Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence Levels 2021/22 [58]

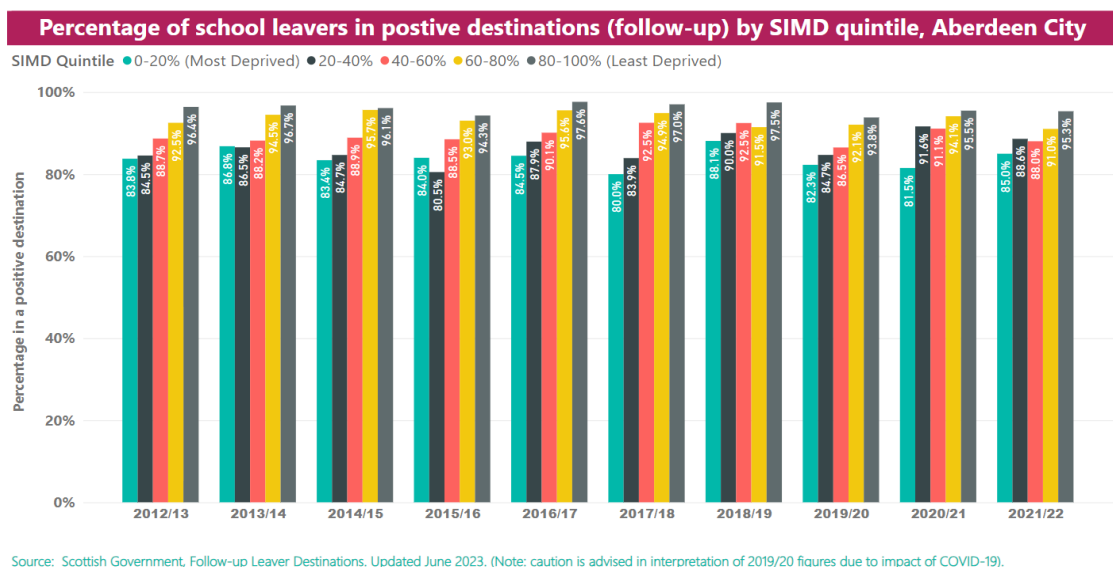
Achievement of expected levels varies by deprivation. In Aberdeen City in all subject areas, a smaller proportion of those in the most deprived 20% (SIMD 2016) achieved the expected level than those in the least deprived 20%. As an example, the chart below shows the percentage of S3 pupils achieving Fourth Level in each of the five areas [58].



**SCQF Literacy and Numeracy:** In 2021/22 88% of school leavers achieved literacy and numeracy at SCQF level 4 or better (same as in 2020/21) and 64% achieved literacy and numeracy at SCQF level 5 or better (compared to 65% in 2021/22) [59]. 70% of pupils gained 5+ awards at SCQF level 5 – up from 63% in 2020/21 [7].

**Positive destinations:** Follow-up destinations for school leavers are for outcomes approximately 9 months after the end of the school year. In 2021/22, 90.8% of school leavers had a positive follow-up destination, a decrease from 92.1% in 2020/21 and lower than the rate for Scotland of 93.5%. The most common destinations were higher education (39.9% of school leavers), further education (24.3%) and employment (24%) [60].

The percentage of school leavers in a positive follow-up destination varied by deprivation (based on SIMD) with 85% of school leavers in the most deprived quintile having a positive destination compared to 95.3% of those in the least deprived quintile [60].



(Note: caution is advised in interpretation of 2019/20 figures due to the impact of COVID-19)

**Participation in Education Employment or Training:** The Skills Development Scotland Participation measure provides information on the current position of all children and young people between the age of 16 to 19 years, where they remain in school or have since left. In 2022, 91.2% of 16-19 year olds were participating in education, employment or training – up from 89.4% in 2021 [61].

**Participation of Disabled Young People:** In 2022, 86.8% of those identified as disabled were participating in education, employment or training – an increase from 83.6% in 2021 but lower than the rate for 2020 of 87.9%. The participation rate for those identified as disabled is lower than participation among non-disabled young people who in 2022 had 91.4% participation rates [61].

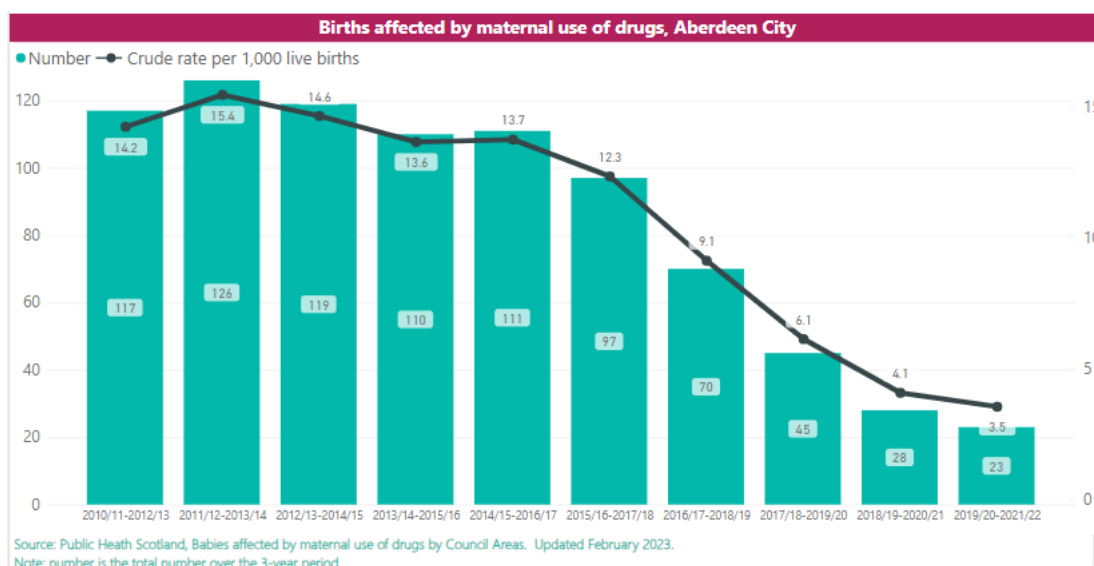
**Participation levels in the 20% Most Deprived Communities:** In 2022, participation rates were lower for those in the 20% most deprived areas (83.5%) than for those in the 20% least deprived areas (95.9%) [61].

**Foundation apprenticeships (FAs):** To date, six cohorts of pupils have participated in FAs (SCQF L6). In 2021/22 there were 117 enrolments for Cohort 6 and there are currently 15 FAs in training, down from 112 in the previous period [62].

#### 4.5. Children – early years

**Smoking during pregnancy:** In 2019/20 to 2021/22 (3-year aggregate), 12.1% of women in the City with a known smoking status were recorded as a 'current smoker' at their first antenatal appointment. Rates of smoking during pregnancy are slightly lower in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (12.9%) and have decreased gradually over the past few years. Rates are highest in the most deprived areas (SIMD quintile 1) at 23.7% compared to 2.9% in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived). Rates of smoking during pregnancy vary across the City (HSC localities) at 11% in Aberdeen South, 12% in Aberdeen North and 13% in Aberdeen Central [43].

**Maternities with drug use:** In the period 2019/20 to 2021/22 there were 121 maternities with drug misuse recorded. This is equivalent to a rate of 18.8 (crude rate per 1,000 maternities) which is higher than the rate for Scotland of 16.6 [63]. In the same period there were 23 babies affected by maternal use of drugs, equivalent to a rate of 3.5 (crude rate per 1,000 live births). The rate of babies affected by maternal use of drugs has fallen substantially in recent years [64].



**Healthy birth weight:** In 2019/20 to 2021/22 (3-year aggregate), 85.1% of babies born in Aberdeen City were a healthy birth weight compared to 84.1% in Scotland. The proportion of babies who are a healthy birth weight has remained relatively stable over the past few years. Rates vary across the City ([Intermediate Zones](#)) ranging from a low of 73.3% in Culter to a high of 95.4% in West End South [43].

**Premature births:** In 2019/20 to 2021/22 (3-year aggregate), 8.3% of births in Aberdeen City were premature, similar to the rate for Scotland of 8.2%. The rate of premature births varied across the City ([Intermediate Zones](#)) from a low of 2% in Culter, Bieldside & Milltimber East to a high of 15% in Summerhill [43].

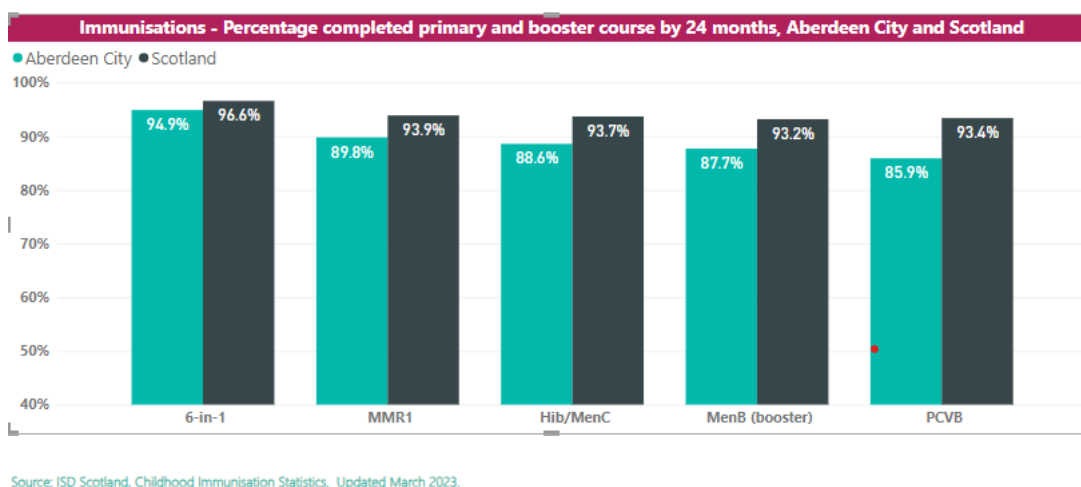
**Infant deaths:** In 2017-21, the rate (crude rate per 1,000 live births) of infant deaths (age 0-1 years) in Aberdeen City was 3.1 – lower than the rate for Scotland of 3.4 but higher than the rate for 2016-18 of 2.5 [43].

**Breast-feeding:** In 2019/20 to 2021/22 (3-year aggregate), 41.2% of babies in the City were exclusively breast-fed at the time of their 6-8 week review. This is significantly higher than the Scottish average of 31.9%. While the overall rate of breastfeeding for the City has increased over the past few years, there is variation across the City (based on Intermediate Zones) with rates ranging from a low of 16.9% in Heathryfold & Middlefield to a high of 76.0% in Culter, Bieldside & Milltimber East [43].

**Exposure to second-hand smoke:** In 2019/20 to 2021/22 (3-year aggregate), 7.6% of babies were reported as being exposed to second-hand smoke at their 6-8 week review. This is slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 6.9%. The percentage of babies exposed to second-hand smoke has remained fairly static in Aberdeen in the last few periods [43].

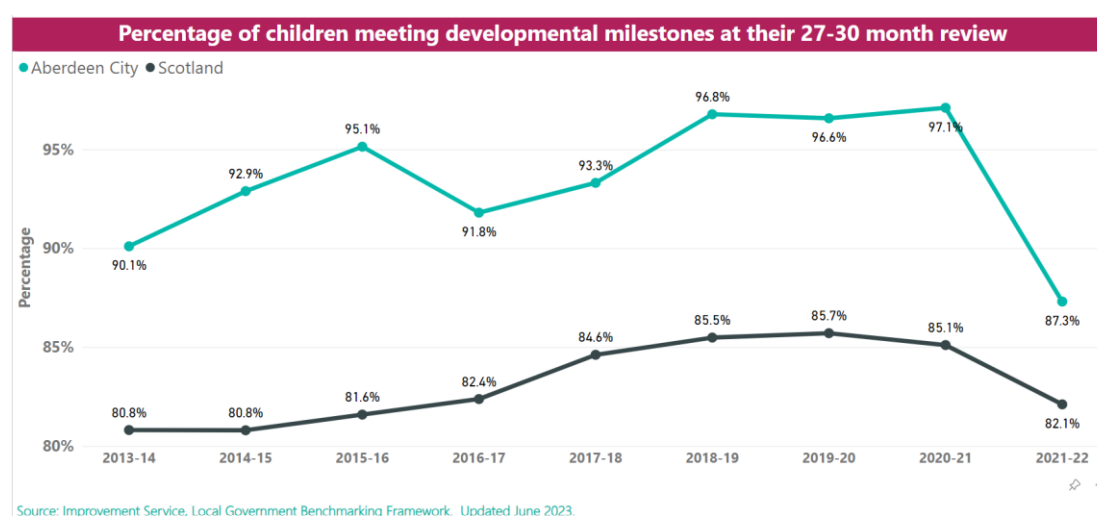
**Immunisation:** In Scotland there is a national target for 95% of children to complete courses of routine childhood immunisations by 24 months of age. In 2022, rates of babies who have completed the primary and booster courses for these immunisations by 24 months are lower in Aberdeen City than in Scotland and are lower than the 95% target [65]. Uptake of immunisation varies by Intermediate Zone. In 2019-21, percentage uptake of 6-in-1 at 24 months ranged from 89.5% in City Centre West to 100% in Hannover North and Oldmachar

East and uptake of MMR ranged from 79.6% in City Centre East to 99.1% in Oldmachar East [43].



**Developmental concerns at 27-30 months:** At 27-30 month reviews, the health professional (normally a health visitor) assesses children's developmental status and records the outcome (e.g. no concern, concern newly suspected as a result of the review, or concern or disorder already known prior to the review) against each of nine developmental domains (social, emotional, behavioural, attention, speech language & communication, gross motor, fine motor, vision and hearing). It has been recognised that an impact of covid/lockdown has resulted in an increase in speech and language concerns being evident at routine reviews. In 2021-22, 87.3% of children reviewed had no concerns identified at the review – down from 97.1% in 2020-21 [7]. In 2021-22 77.6% of children who were eligible for the 27-30 month review received a review - down from 83.3% in 2020-21.

In 2018/19-2020/21, the percentage of children with one or more developmental concern varied across the City (Intermediate Zones) ranging from a low of 0.0% in West End North to a high of 14% in City Centre East (2018/19-2020/21) [43].



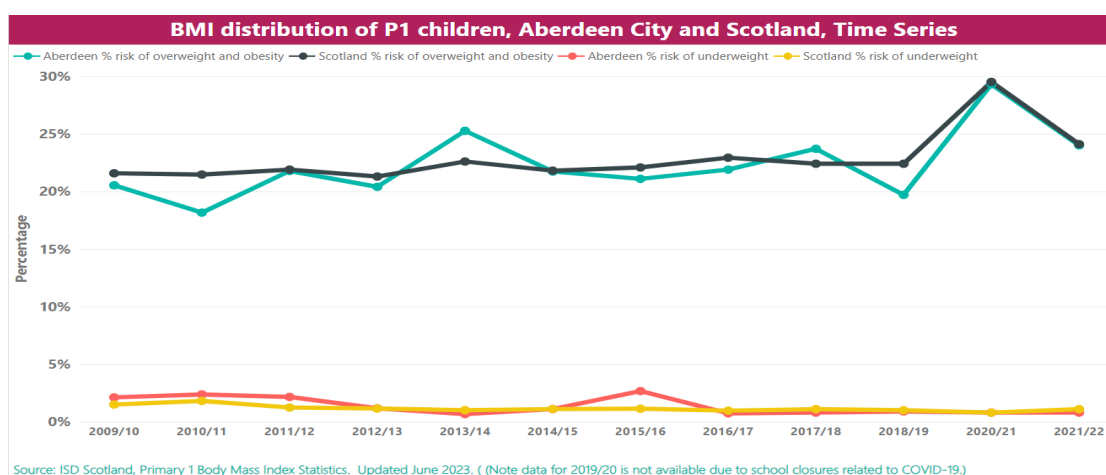
**Unintentional injury in children under 5 years:** In 2019/20 to 2021/22 there were 137 emergency hospital admissions for unintentional injury in children under 5 years (3-year rolling

average number). This is equivalent to a rate of 1,205 per 100,000 population – higher than the equivalent rate for Scotland of 1,005. After steadily falling for a number of years, the rate of emergency admissions for unintentional injuries has remained fairly static over the past few data periods [43].

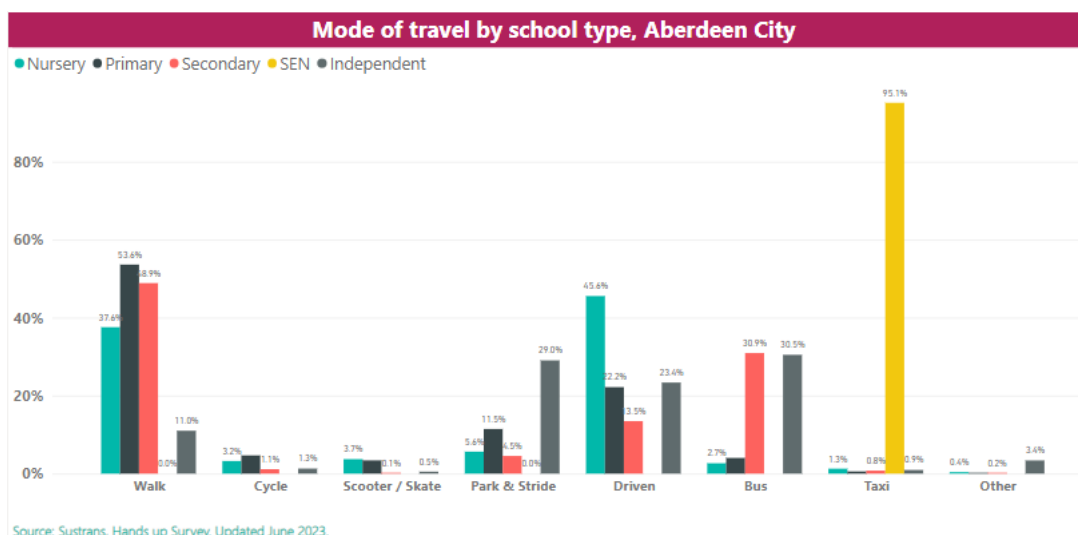
## 4.6. Child health

**Healthy weight/BMI:** In 2021/22, valid height and weight measurements were recorded for 1,972 Primary 1 children in Aberdeen City (equivalent to 80.4% of the 5 year-old population). Of these, 75.3% were classified as ‘healthy weight’ (BMI greater than 2nd centile and less than 85th centile) – slightly higher than the figure for Scotland of 74.7%. Based on 2020/21 data, the percentage of P1 children who were a healthy weight varied across the City ([Intermediate Zones](#)) from 50% in Sheddocksley to 95% in West End North [43].

In both Aberdeen City and Scotland the percentage of P1 children classified as being at risk of overweight and obesity (BMI greater than or equal to 85th centile) spiked in the immediate post-COVID-19 period (from 19.7% in 2018/19 to 29.2% in 2020/21 for Aberdeen City). In 2021/22, the figure dropped to 24% in both Aberdeen and Scotland. The percentage of P1 children classified as at risk of underweight remained at less than 1% (Note: no data is available for 2019/20 due to COVID-19) [66].



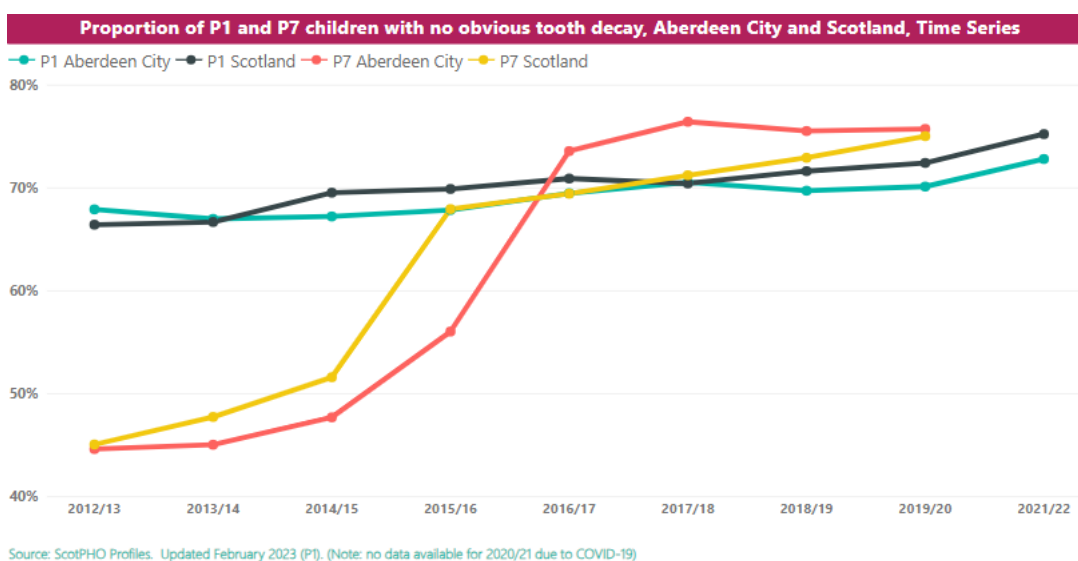
**Active travel to school:** In 2022, the most common mode of travel to school (excluding nursery) in Aberdeen City was walking (49%), followed by being driven (19.8%) and bus (13.2%). Mode of travel varied by type of school. Walking was the most common mode of travel for both primary (53.6%) and secondary (48.9%) pupils, while nursery children were most commonly driven to school (45.6%) with 37.6% walking. Pupils at SEN schools most commonly travelled by taxi (95.1%). The most common modes of travel for pupils at independent schools were bus (30.5%) and Park & Stride (29.0%) [67].



While still relatively high, the proportion of children who walk to school has fallen since 2010, with a noticeable drop between 2011 (58.3%) and 2012 (49.7%). Since then the proportion of children who walk has remained relatively stable at around 49% to 50% with some minor fluctuations.

**Dental health:** In 2021/22, 72.8% of P1 pupils in Aberdeen had no obvious tooth decay – slightly lower than the average rate for Scotland of 75.2%. This rate varied by deprivation, being lowest for those in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) at 55.1% and highest in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived) at 81%. Across the City (Intermediate Zones), the proportion of [P1 pupils](#) with no obvious tooth decay ranged from a low of 44% in Torry East to a high of 90% in both Rosemount and Balgownie & Donmouth East. Since 2012/13 the percentage of P1 children with no obvious decay has increased from 67.9% to 72.8%.

In 2019/20 (no data published for 2021/22), the proportion of [P7 children](#) with no obvious tooth decay was 75.7% compared to 75% in Scotland. Again, there was variation by deprivation (67.9% in SIMD quintile 1 and 81.6% in SIMD quintile 5) and variation across the City with proportions ranging from a low of 50% in Hannover South to a high of 94% in Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber West. The proportion of P7 children with no obvious decay increased markedly between 2014/15 (47.7%) and 2017/18 (76.4%) and but has fallen slightly in the last two periods where data was available [43].



**Uptake of HPV vaccine in S3 girls:** In 2019/20-2021/22, 76.6% (3-year rolling average percentage) of S3 girls had their HPV vaccine – slightly lower than the rate for Scotland (78.8%) and lower than the rate for 2018/19-2020/21 of 78.9%. Rates for uptake of HPV vaccine have decreased in each of the last eight periods in Aberdeen City from 91.4% in 2011/12-2013/14. Rates of HPV vaccine uptake vary by deprivation, being lowest at 63.3% in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) and highest in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived) at 86.6%. Across the city (Intermediate zones) rates range from a low of 38.7% in Tillydrone to a high of 93.5% in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafield East [43].

**Teenage pregnancies:** As in Scotland as a whole, the rate of teenage pregnancies (15-19 years) in Aberdeen City has reduced significantly over the past 10 years from 47.8 per 1,000 population (crude rate per 1,000 females aged 5-19 years) in 2008-2010 to 29.3 in 2018-2020 – slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 27.1. The rate of teenage pregnancies varies by deprivation from a high of 58.2 per 1,000 females age 15-19 years in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) to a low of 10.4 in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived) [43]. The percentage of first-time mothers who are aged 19 years and under varies across the City (Intermediate Zones) ranging from 0.0% to 19.2% (most recent data 2016/17-2018/19) [68]. The rate of pregnancies for females under 16 years has also decreased in recent years - from a high of 10 per 1,000 females aged 13-15 years in 2009/11, to 2.2 per 1,000 in 2019/21 [69].

#### **4.7. Smoking, alcohol, and drug use**

Data on smoking, alcohol and drug use/misuse is available from the Physical Wellbeing Survey [52]. 6,993 learners from P5-S6 completed the Physical wellbeing survey in November and December 2022. This is an increase of 800 (11.4%) pupils from March 2022.

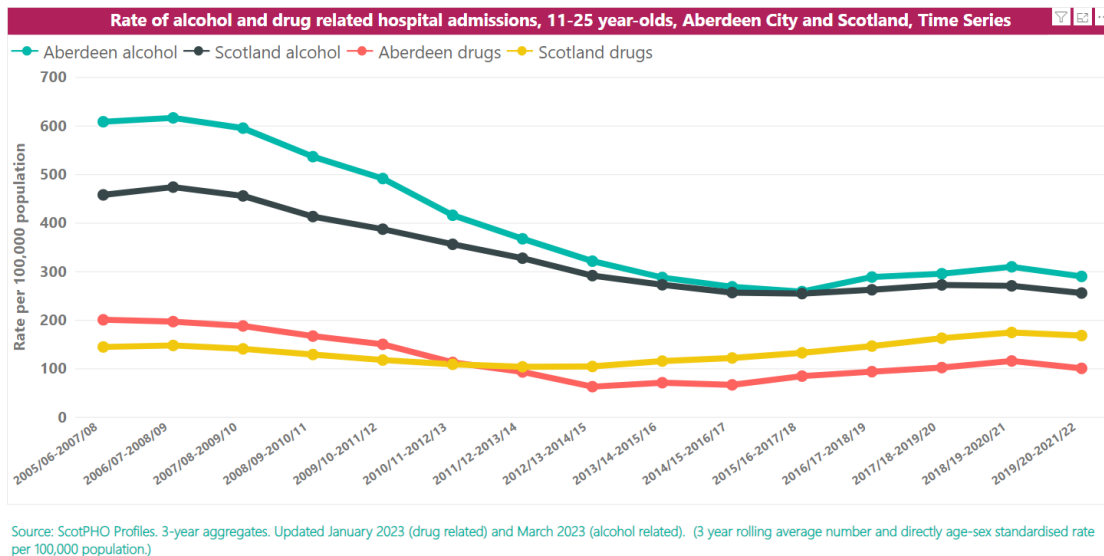
**Smoking:** In November 2022, 6.7% (473) of learners reported that they have tried smoking (either cigarettes or e-cigarettes) – a reduction of 1.3% from March 2022. 2% (149) of young people reported that they use e-cigarettes or vapes once a week or more.

**Alcohol:** Learners were asked about alcohol consumption, regularity and type of alcoholic drinks consumed. 88%, 6137 (84.64%, 5242 in March 2022) of learners stated that they had never had a drink of alcohol. From March 2022 there has been a slight reduction from 80 to 62 learners who state that they get drunk weekly, with Cider, Spirits and Alcopops highlighted as those most often selected for regular consumption.

**Drugs:** Most (6,848) learners stated that they had never used drugs, however 2% (145) of learners reported that they have taken illegal drugs, drugs formerly known as legal highs, solvents or prescription drugs that were not prescribed for the. 21 of our learners also stated that they use drugs daily with the largest number of responses linked to cannabis, followed by Ketamine and Cocaine.

**Alcohol- and drug-related hospital admissions, 11-25 years:** In the period 2019/20-2021/22 the rate (per 100,000 population) of alcohol-related hospital admissions for young people aged 11-25 years was 289 compared to 255 in Scotland. In the same period, the rate of drug-related hospital admissions for young people aged 11-25 years was 100 in Aberdeen City – lower than the rate of 168 in Scotland. While there was a slight dip in the most recent figures, the rates for alcohol and drug-related hospital admissions appear to be on a gradual upward trend [43].





## 4.8. Juvenile crime

**Juvenile crime:** In 2021/22, 588 young people (under 18 years) were identified as an accused – up from 483 in 2020/21. In the same period, the total number of Offences increased from 1,264 to 1,704 and the number of CrimeFiles increased from 654 to 916. In 2020/21, 361 (61.4%) of the juveniles were aged 8-15 years and 227 were aged 16-17 years. Just under three quarters (73.1%) were male. The most common type of offence for 8-15 year-olds and 16-17 year-olds was Miscellaneous offences. Over a third (34.5%) of juveniles appeared on more than one CrimeFile [70].



**Anti-social behaviour:** In 2022, a total of 2,936 Youth Anti-social Behaviour calls were reported to the Police – down slightly from 3,015 in 2021 [71]. Quarterly data from 2023 is being compiled and will be made available in the near future. Following Covid-19, there has been a notable reduction in tolerance for youths by the public. This has resulted in more calls being received regarding youth disorder/annoyance, where the behaviour is in fact normal youth behaviour.

**Referred to Children's Reporter on offence grounds:** in 2022/23 there were 273 young people referred to the Children's Reporter, with 112 being referred on offence grounds – down from

136 in 2021/22. In 2022/23, 69 young people were jointly reported to the Children's Reporter and the Procurator Fiscal, down from 91 in 2021/22 [72] .

**Diversion from prosecution:** In 2021-22, 60 16-17 year-olds were diverted from prosecution – up from 40 in 2020-21 [73].

**Criminal Justice Social Work Reports for 16-17 year olds:** In 2021/22 there were 10 CJSW reports submitted for 16-17 year olds in Aberdeen City, down from 16 in 2020/21 and 30 in 2019/20 [73].

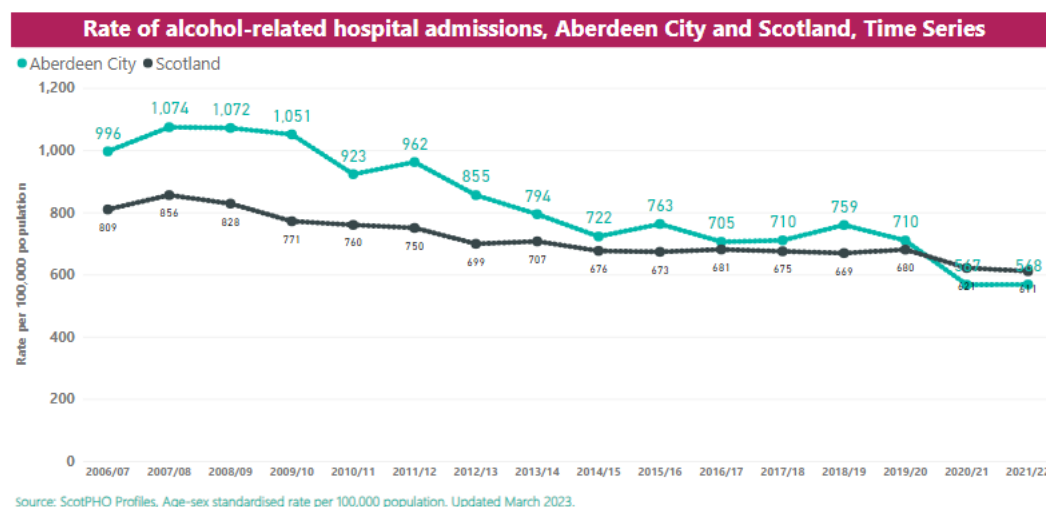
## 5. Adults

### 5.1. Health behaviours

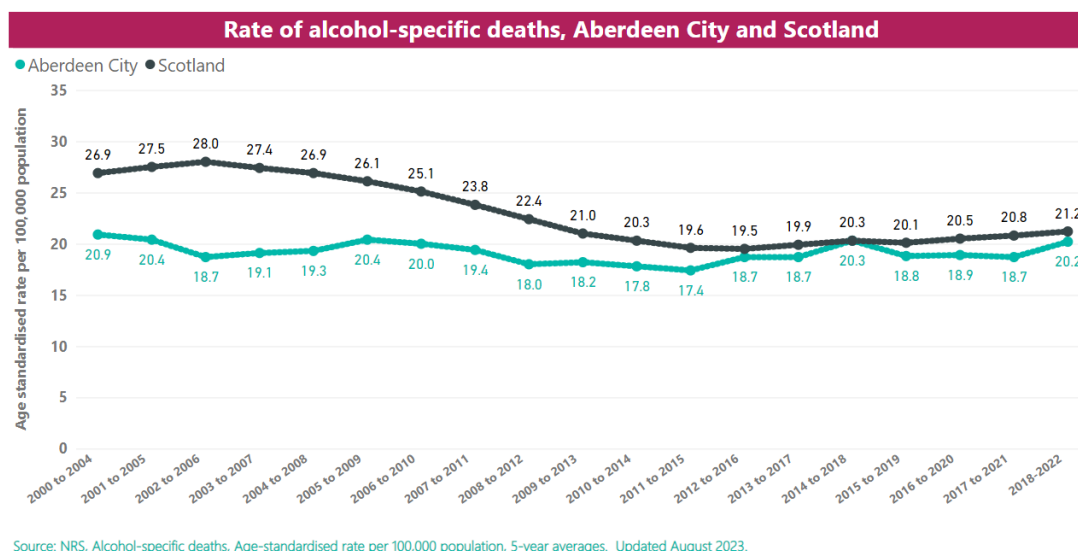
**Alcohol:** In the period 2017-21, 25% of adults in Aberdeen City were drinking above the guideline recommendations of 14 units per week. This is slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 24% and unchanged from the rate in 2016-19 [36]. (Note: data for 2017-2021 does not include data for 2020 due to COVID-19.)

Questions relating to alcohol consumption were asked in City Voice 46 (December 2022). When asked if they knew the maximum number of units of alcohol recommended over a week, less than half (46.7%) of respondents correctly choose 14 units. The next most common response was don't know at 25.9% [28].

**Alcohol-related hospital admissions:** In 2021/22 there were 1,242 alcohol-related hospital admissions in Aberdeen City – equivalent to a rate of 568 per 100,000 population which is lower than the rate for Scotland of 611. Alcohol-related hospital admissions were highest for those in the most deprived areas at 1,092 per 100,000 population for SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) compared to 207 per 100,000 population for SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived). [Across the City](#) (Intermediate Zones), the rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions ranged from a low of 87.3 in Cults, Bieldside & Milltimber East to a high of 2,104 per 100,000 population in Old Aberdeen [43].



**Alcohol-specific deaths:** In 2022 there were 49 alcohol-specific deaths in Aberdeen City – up from 43 deaths in 2021. As the number of alcohol-specific deaths can fluctuate substantially on a yearly basis, a 5-year rolling average number is also given. For the period 2018-22 this figure was 41.8 – higher than the figure of 38.6 in 2017-21. The rate (5-year average age-standardised) of alcohol-related deaths in 2018-22 was 20.2 per 100,000 population – slightly lower than the rate for Scotland of 21.2, but higher than the rate for 2017-21 of 18.7 per 100,000 population [74]. Rates of alcohol-specific deaths are higher for those in deprived areas. In Aberdeen City in 2017-21, the rate (age-sex standardised) for those in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) was 33.1 per 100,000 population compared with 8.1 per 100,000 population for SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived) [43]. Rates of alcohol-related deaths vary across the city (HSC localities, 2017-21 data) from 13.9 per 100,000 population in Aberdeen South, to 15.5 in Aberdeen North and 28.9 in Aberdeen Central [43].



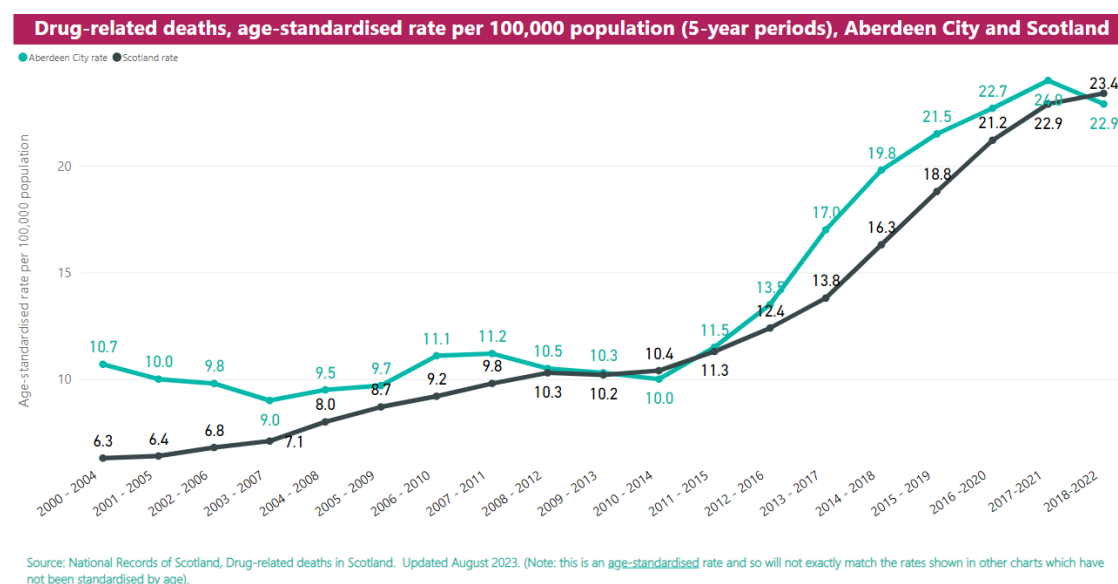
**Alcohol Treatment Services:** In Q3 2022/2023, 90 people accessed specialist alcohol treatment services, down from 106 in Q3 2021/22. Up to Q3, a total of 302 people accessed specialist alcohol treatment services in 2022/2023.

**Drugs use prevalence:** Data on prevalence of problem drug use is limited. In 2015/16 it was estimated that 1.5% of Aberdeen's population have a problem drug use compared to 1.6% in Scotland [75]. Estimated prevalence of problem drug use is higher in males (2.0%) than females (0.9%).

**Drug-related hospital admissions:** In 2019/20-2021-22 there were 438 drug-related hospital admissions (3-year rolling average number) which is equivalent to a rate of 182 per 100,000 population, compared to 228.3 per 100,000 population in Scotland. Following a period of increasing drug-related hospital admissions, the rate has decreased slightly in the past two periods – from 191 in 2017/18-2019/21. Rates of drug-related hospital admissions are higher for those in deprived areas at 466.5 per 100,000 population for those in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) compared to 26.5 in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived). The rate of drug related hospital admissions varies (HSC localities) from 136 per 100,000 population in Aberdeen South, to 175 in Aberdeen North and 250 in Aberdeen Central [43].

**Drug-related deaths:** In 2022 there were 42 drug-related deaths in Aberdeen City – down from 62 deaths in 2021. Of the 42 deaths in 2022, 26 were males and 16 were females. Compared to 2020, females made up a higher proportion of drug-related deaths (38.7% in 2021 and 38.1% in 2022, compared to 23.2% in 2020). As the number of deaths can fluctuate substantially on a yearly basis, annual rates (age-standardised per 100,000 population) for 5-year periods are also given. In the period 2018-2022, the average annual rate for drug-related deaths was 22.9 deaths per 100,000 population. This is slightly lower than the equivalent rate for Scotland (23.4 per 100,000 population) and lower than the rate for 2017-2021 of 24 per 100,000 population. It is the 13<sup>th</sup> highest average annual rate of drug deaths of all local authorities in Scotland (improvement from 5<sup>th</sup> highest in 2018). As in Scotland, rates of drug-related deaths have increased year-on-year since 2010-2014. This is the first drop in 5-year age-standardised rate since 2010-14. In Aberdeen City, drug-related deaths were highest in the 35-44 year [age group](#) and the 45-54 year-old age group (with 54.7 and 58.6 per 100,000 population respectively in 2018-2022) [76].

The rate of drug-related deaths is higher for those living in deprived areas. In Aberdeen City in 2017-21, the rate (age-sex standardised) of drug related deaths for those in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) was 58.1 per 100,000 population compared to 3.6 per 100,000 population in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived [43].



**Naloxone Provision:** Naloxone is a medication that counters the effects of opioid overdose, specifically it counteracts the impact that opiates exert on the central nervous system and on the respiratory system. In 2022/23 a total of 622 Naloxone Kits were supplied to persons at risk – up from 426 in 2021/22 [77].

**Drug Treatment Services:** In Q3 2022/2023, 113 people accessed specialist drug treatment services, up from 84 in Q3 2021/22. Up to Q3 2022/2023, a total of 327 people accessed specialist drug treatment services [78].

**Smoking:** In the period 2017-21, an estimated 15% of adults in Aberdeen City were current smokers compared to 16% in Scotland. A higher proportion of males (18%) than females (14%) were smokers. The percentage of adults who are current smokers has decreased from 18% in 2016-19 and 23% in 2014-17. It is estimated that 5% of adults use e-cigarettes (6% males, 4% females) [36]. (Note: data for 2017-21 does not include 2020 data due to COVID-19).



**Obesity:** In 2016-19 it was estimated that 23% of the City's adult population is obese (classified as a BMI of 30+). This is lower than the rate for Scotland of 29% and a decrease from 25% in 2014-17 [36]. (Note: no data available for 2017-21 due to COVID-19).

**Physical activity:** In the period 2017-21, an estimated 71% of adults in Aberdeen City were meeting the recommended guidelines for physical activity (150 minutes of moderate activity or 75 minutes of vigorous activity per week) compared to 66% for Scotland. 21% percent had low or very low levels of physical activity and 8% had some activity [36]. Based on data from the Scottish Household Survey, in 2021 89% of adults in Aberdeen City had taken part in some form of physical activity (including walking) in the previous month. When walking was excluded, the proportion dropped to 61%. The most common activities were walking (at least 30 minutes) at 82%, multi-gym/weight training at 21%, and running/jogging at 18% [79].

## 5.2. Mental health

**Cost of living crisis – impact on mental health:** Financial strain and poverty are key drivers of poor mental health. People struggling to pay their rent or mortgage, feed their families, or cover essential bills are at higher risk of developing mental health problems including anxiety and depression [80]. While there is no specific data for Aberdeen City, research carried out for Mental Health Foundation Scotland reported that 33% of survey respondents experienced stress, 40% experienced anxiety, and 13% said they felt hopeless due to their financial situation in the previous month [80]. Recent statistics published by the Scottish Government showed that in March 2023, almost half (49%) of Scottish adults reported that their mental health is being negatively impacted by the cost of living crisis, with 13% saying that their mental health was impacted negatively to a large extent. When management of household finances were taken into account, only 3% of those who were 'managing well' reported being negatively impacted to a large extent, compared to 9% for those who were 'getting by ok' and 31% who were 'managing less well' [81].

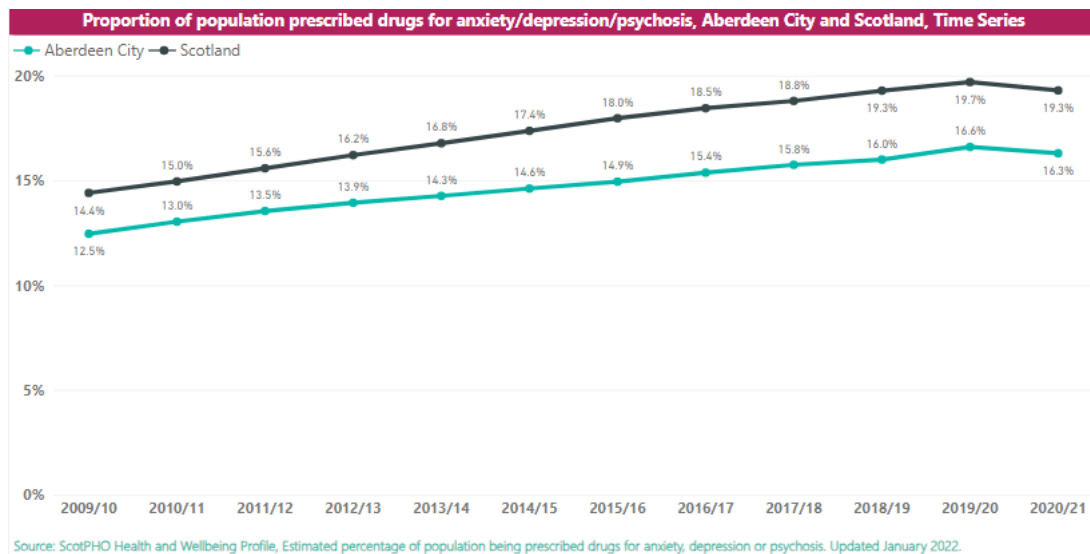
**Dementia:** Alzheimer Scotland estimate that there are 90,000 people with dementia in Scotland with around 3,000 of these being under the age of 65 years [82]. In 2022, Dementia and Alzheimer's disease were the leading cause of death for females in Aberdeen City (12.2% of all female deaths) and the second most common cause of death for males (7.1% of all male deaths) <sup>7</sup> [44].

**Prescriptions for anxiety/depression/psychosis:** In 2020/21, 32,247 people in Aberdeen City were prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis. This is equivalent to 16.3% of the population – lower than the proportion for Scotland of 19.3%. Although the rates for both Aberdeen City and Scotland fell slightly between 2019/20 and 2020/21 (from 16.6% and 19.7% respectively), the proportion of people receiving prescriptions for these conditions has increased in recent years, from (13% in 2010/11 for Aberdeen City). A higher proportion of those from SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) were prescribed (22%) than those in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived) at 12.5%. The proportion of people prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression

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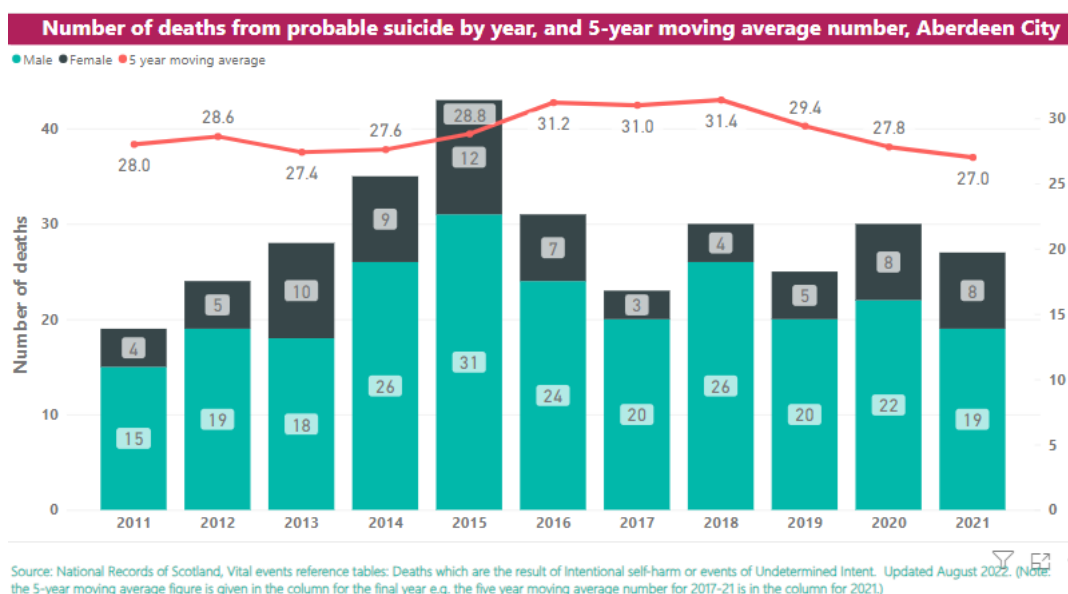
<sup>7</sup> The leading cause of death analysis is based on a [list of causes](#) developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO). There are around 60 categories in total and cancers are grouped separately according to the type of cancer, for example, lung, breast and prostate cancer are all counted as separate causes. If all cancers were grouped together, cancer would be the leading cause of death.

or psychosis varied by HSC locality, at 15.2% in Aberdeen South, 15.3% in Aberdeen Central and 18.6% in Aberdeen North [43].



**Psychiatric patient hospitalisations:** In 2019/20-2021/22 there were 510 (3-year rolling average number) patients discharged from psychiatric hospitals in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to a rate (age-sex standardised) of 228 per 100,000 population – similar to the rate for Scotland of 230 per 100,000 population. Rates of patients with psychiatric hospitalisation have fallen in both Aberdeen City and Scotland in recent years. Rates of psychiatric patient hospitalisation varied by deprivation, being highest in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) at 326 per 100,000 population compared to 160 per 100,000 population in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived). In Aberdeen City, rates were highest in Aberdeen Central (290 per 100,000 population). Rates were similar in Aberdeen North (204) and Aberdeen South (206). [43].

**Deaths from suicide:** In 2021 there were 27 probable suicides in Aberdeen City (19 male and 8 female). The number of suicides in a single year in the City peaked at 43 deaths in 2015 [83]. For the period 2017-2021 the rate (age-standardised per 100,000 population) of 11.6 per 100,000 population is the lower than the rate for Scotland of 14.1 per 100,000 population [83]. In 2017-2021 the rate of deaths from probable suicide was highest for those living in the most deprived areas of the city (15 per 100,000 population in SIMD quintile 1 compared to 6 per 100,000 population in SIMD quintile 5). Rates varied by HSC locality at 10.4 per 100,000 population in Aberdeen South, 10.5 in Aberdeen North and 12.6 in Aberdeen Central [43].



**Mental health and wellbeing:** The General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12) is a standardised scale which measures mental distress and mental ill-health. A score of 4 or more is indicative of a potential psychiatric disorder. In 2017-21, an estimated 17% of people in Aberdeen City had a score of 4 or more – lower than the rate for Scotland of 19% and similar to the rate in 2016-19 of 16%. A higher proportion of females (18%) than males (14%) had a score or 4 or more [36]. Mental wellbeing is measured using the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS). Possible total scores range from 14 to 70 with higher scores indicating greater wellbeing. In 2017-21, the average (mean) score for Aberdeen City was 49.9 – similar to the score for Scotland of 49.5. Mean scores were similar for males (50.1) and females (49.8) [36].

### 5.3. Key diseases

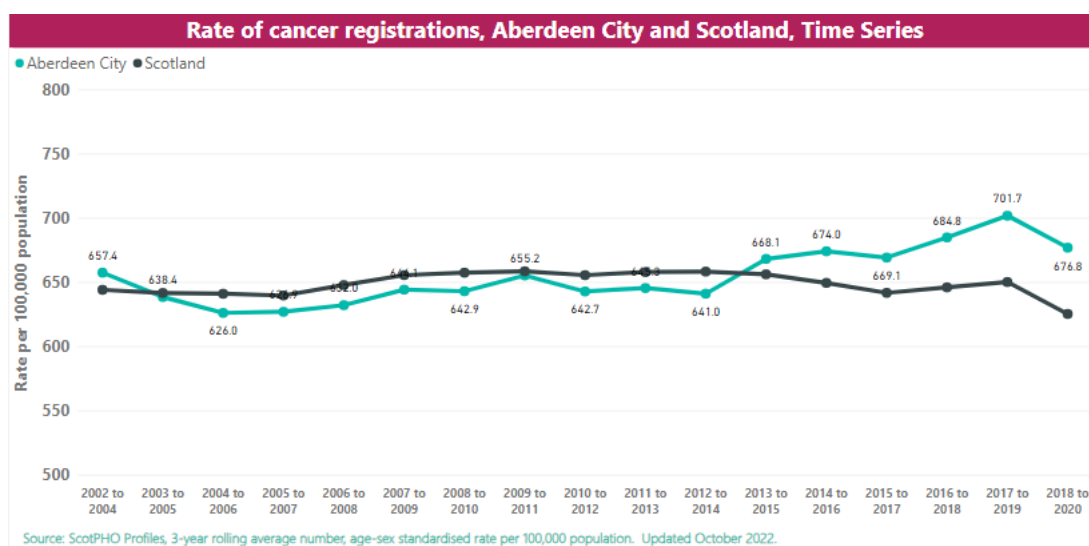
**Key diseases:** In 2022, cancer and circulatory diseases (such as coronary heart disease and stroke) together accounted for over half (51%) of all causes of death in Aberdeen City. In 2022, 27% of male deaths and a 25.7% of female deaths were caused by cancer, and 27.8% of male deaths and 21.7% of female deaths were caused by circulatory diseases [44].

Leading causes of death are also given for specific disease classifications (e.g. types of cancer and circulatory diseases are listed separately). In 2022, Ischemic heart diseases were the leading cause of death for males (14.9% of a male deaths), followed by Dementia and Alzheimer disease (7.1%) and Cancer of the trachea, bronchus and lung (6.7%). For females, Dementia and Alzheimer disease was the leading cause of death for (12.2% of all female deaths), followed by Ischaemic heart diseases (7.3%) and cerebrovascular disease (6.5% of all female deaths).

**Cancer:** In 2018-20 there were 1,287 new cancer registrations in Aberdeen (3-year rolling average number). This is equivalent to a rate (age-sex standardised per 100,000 population) of 676.8 – higher than the rate for Scotland of 625.2. In both Aberdeen City and Scotland the rate of cancer registrations decreased from the rates in 2017-19 (701.7 and 650.1



respectively). The rate of cancer registrations varies by derivation (rate of 781 per 100,000 population in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) compared to 609 in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived)) and by HSC localities, at 644.8 per 100,000 population in Aberdeen South, 692.5 in Aberdeen North and 700.5 in Aberdeen Central [43].



**Cancer early deaths:** In 2019-21 there were 279 early deaths (<75 years) from cancer (3-year rolling average number). This is equivalent to a rate of 153 per 100,000 population – slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 150 per 100,000 population. Overall, the rate of early deaths from cancer has decreased over the last 10 years (from 181 per 100,000 population in 2009-11). The rate of early deaths from cancer is higher in deprived areas at 218 per 100,000 population in SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) compared to 92 in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived) and varies across the City (Intermediate Zones), from a low of 64 per 100,000 population in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafield South to a high of 303 in Seaton [43].

**Coronary heart disease (CHD):** In 2019/20-2021/22 there were 669 patient hospitalisations with coronary heart disease (3 year rolling average number). This is equivalent to a rate of 350 per 100,000 population – slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 342 per 100,000 population. In both Aberdeen City and Scotland, the rate of CHD patient hospitalisations has decreased over the past 10 years. CHD hospitalisations are higher in deprived areas at a rate of 506.4 per 100,000 population for SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) compared to 254.2 in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived). The rate of CHD hospitalisations varies by Intermediate Zone, from a low of 188 per 100,000 population in Ferryhill North to a high of 715 in Tillydrone [43].

In 2019/21 the rate of early deaths (<75 years) from CHD was 50.1 per 100,000 population in Aberdeen City, similar to the rate for Scotland of 52.6. The rate of early deaths from CHD was higher in more deprived areas (73 per 100,000 population in SIMD quintiles 1 and 2 compared to 31 per 100,000 population in SIMD quintile 5) and varied across the city ([Intermediate Zones](#)) from a low of 11.3 in Cove North to a high of 186 per 100,000 population in Old Aberdeen [43].

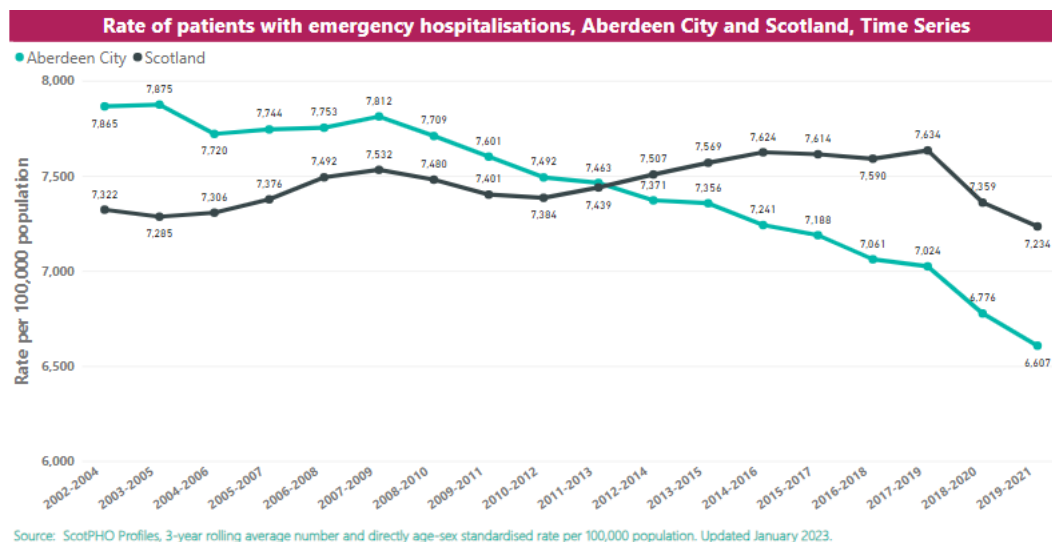
**Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD):** In 2019/20-2021/22, the incidence<sup>8</sup> of COPD in Aberdeen City was 175 (3-year average number). This is equivalent to a rate of 112 per

<sup>8</sup> Total number of patients with a first admission in 10 years who were discharged from hospital or died.

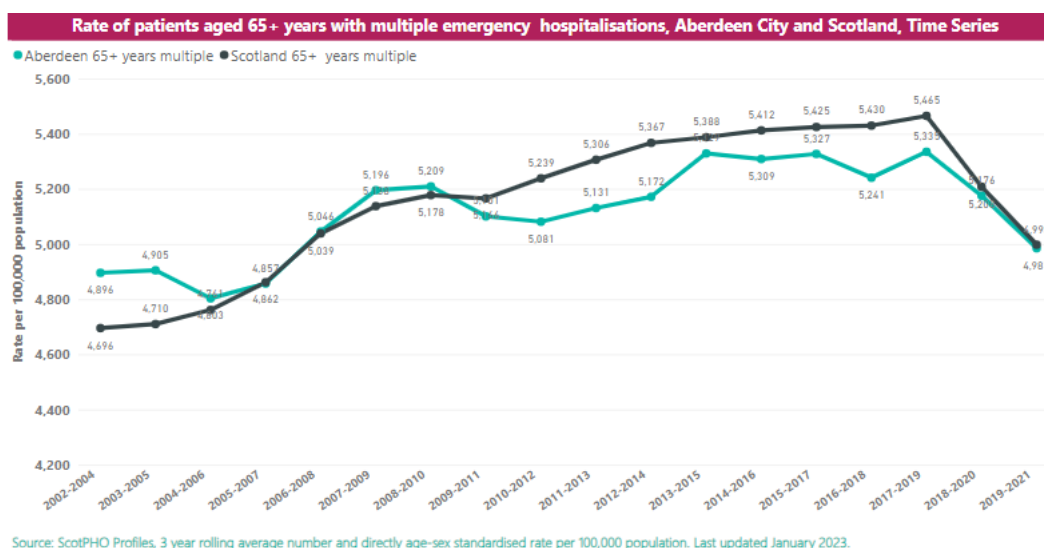
100,000 population which is lower than the rate for Scotland of 126 per 100,000 population. Incidence of COPD has been decreasing in both Aberdeen City and Scotland over the last few data periods. In 2019-21 there were 82 deaths (3-year average), which is a rate of 54 per 100,000 population – lower than the rate for Scotland of 61 per 100,000 population. In 2019/20-2021/22 there were 295 (3-year rolling average number) [patient hospitalisations](#) in Aberdeen City. This is equivalent to a rate of 186 per 100,000 population – lower than the rate for Scotland of 207. The rate of patient hospitalisations for COPD is higher for those in deprived areas at a rate of 425 per 100,000 population for SIMD quintile 1 (most deprived) compared to 59 in SIMD quintile 5 (least deprived) and varied across the City (Intermediate Zones) from a low of 19 per 100,000 population in Kingswells to a high of 857 per 100,000 population in City Centre East [43].

## 5.4. Hospitalisations

**Emergency hospitalisations:** In 2019-21 there were 13,834 emergency patient hospitalisations in Aberdeen City (3-year rolling average) – equivalent to a rate of 6,607 per 100,000 population. This is lower than the rate for Scotland of 7,624. In Aberdeen City the rate of emergency patient hospitalisations has been gradually decreasing over the past 10 years, from 7,601 per 100,000 population in 2009-11. The rate of emergency patient hospitalisations varies across the City ([Intermediate Zones](#)) ranging from a low of 4,257 per 100,000 population in Cults, Bieldside & Milltimber West to a high of 10,922 in Mastrick [43].



**Patients aged 65+ years with multiple emergency hospitalisations:** In 2019-2021 there were 1,778 patients aged 65+ years with 2 or more emergency hospitalisations in Aberdeen City (3-year rolling average number). This is equivalent to a rate of 4,985 per 100,000 population which is slightly lower than the rate for Scotland of 4,997 and a decrease from the rate of 5,176 per 100,000 population in 2018-20. Rates vary across the City ([Intermediate Zones](#)), ranging from a low of 2,602 in Kingswells to a high of 8,690 in City Centre East [43].



## 5.5. Home care and care homes

**Home care:** No figures available for Aberdeen HSCP for 2021/22. In 2020/21 (Census Week), 1,870 people in Aberdeen City were receiving home care (equivalent to a rate of 8.2 per 1,000 population – lower than the rate for Scotland of 11 per 1,000 population). Most (81.6%) of those receiving care were 65 years or over, with 38.2% being 85 years or over. In total, 27,435 hours of care were received during Census week [84].

**High levels of care:** In Aberdeen, in 2020/21 there were 510 people aged 65+ years with high levels of care need who were cared for at home (i.e. who received 10 and more hours of home care purchased or provided by the local authority). This equates to 29% of all people in this age group with high levels of care need – significantly lower than the Scottish average of 38% [43].

**Care homes:** In 2022 there were 55 care homes in Aberdeen City with a total of 1,634 registered places and 1,431 residents. Most of these (1,364/95.3%) were long stay residents. Older people made up the largest portion of care home residents (80.8%). Since 2012 the number of care homes has decreased by 28.6% (down from 77 in 2012) [85].

**Last six months of life:** In Aberdeen City, in 2021/22 there were 2,048 deaths in Aberdeen City (including falls but excluding people who died from other external causes). For these individuals, 91% of their last six months of life was spent either at home or in a community setting with the remaining 9% spent in hospital. This is equivalent to an average of 16 days in hospital in the six months prior to death (same as in 2020/21 but 5 days less than in 2019/20) [86].

## 5.6. Looking After Own Health and Wellbeing

**Own health and wellbeing:** In Aberdeen in 2022, 92% of respondents to the Scottish Health and Care Experience (HACE) Survey reported being able to look after their own health 'very well' or 'quite well' – down slightly from 94% in 2020. In 2022, 67% of respondents agreed that they were supported to live as independently as possible, down from 73% in 2020, but

slightly higher than the rate for Scotland of 65%. The percentage of adults supported at home who agreed they felt safe reduced in 2022 to 69% from 76% in 2020 [87].

**Unpaid carers:** The 2011 Census estimated that there were 222,793 people living in Aberdeen and that 15,571 are Carers with 6,229 stating that they provide more than 20 hours of unpaid care per week [34]. More recently, the Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) presents that 11% of Aberdeen's population identify as a Carer. This is lower than the national average of 15% [36]. This would take us to a figure of 24,507. Of these numbers, there are estimated to be approximately 2000 Young Carers.

There is a significant gap between these estimates and those Carers known to services in Aberdeen [88].

- Adult Carers open to Quarriers Adult Carer Support Service (including enhanced support service) = 1,130
- Adult Carers known to Social Work services (with an adult Carer Support Plan in Place) = 620
- Young Carers open to Barnardos Young Carer Support Service = 135
- Young Carers known to Children's services (education) = 51

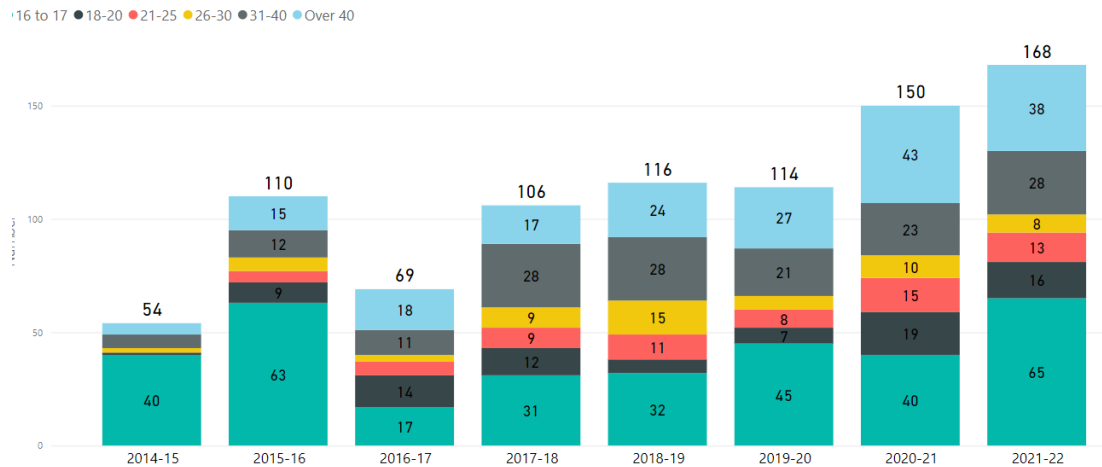
## 5.7. Criminal Justice & Social Work

**First convictions and reconvictions:** In 2019/20, 718 people living in Aberdeen City had a first ever court conviction – down from 739 in 2018/19. Of these, 29 were under 18 years and 104 were aged 18-20 years. Of the 1,597 offenders (over 18 years) in the 2018-19 cohort, 31.1% were reconvicted within a year of receiving their sentence (mean 0.6 reconvictions per offender) [89]. (Note: delay in 2019-20 cohort data being available due to the impact of the pandemic and subsequent court closures on this cohort.)

**Community payback orders:** In 2021-22, 72.6% of Community Payback Orders were successfully completed, up from 67.6% in 2020-21 [73].

**Diversion from prosecution (DP):** In 2021/22 there were 219 referrals for Diversion from Prosecution. 168 Diversion from Prosecution Cases commenced of which 65 were 16 and 17 year-olds and 103 were 18+ years. The number of DP cases commenced has increased from 114 in 2019-20 and 150 in 2020-21 [73].

### Diversion from prosecution - cases commenced by age group, Aberdeen City



Source: Scottish Government, Criminal justice social work statistics: additional tables back to 2004-2005, CJSW local authority tables for diversion from prosecution. Updated February 2023.

**Bail supervision orders:** In 2021-22, 24 Bail Supervision Case were commenced by individuals. These Orders are agreed by the Court so that an individual is supervised by Justice Social Work instead of being remanded in prison (which can lead to negative outcomes for individuals in relation to employment, housing, family relations, etc, which can result in an increased likelihood of further offending) [73].

**Custodial sentences:** In 2020-21, 351 people in Aberdeen City were given a custodial sentence – down from 471 in 2019-20. Of these, a quarter (89) were for a period of up to 3 months [90].

**Voluntary assistance and statutory throughcare:** In 2021/22, 11 individuals received voluntary assistance, down from 21 in 2020/21. In the same period, 196 received statutory throughcare, similar to 2020/21 when 195 received statutory throughcare [73].

# Our Place



## 6. Our Place

### 6.1. Our City

**Area:** Aberdeen City covers an area of 186 square kilometres and has a population density of 1,226 persons per square kilometre (2021). In terms of population size, it is the 8th largest local authority in Scotland.

**Neighbourhoods:** The City contains 37 neighbourhoods – small area geographies that are used (by Community Planning) to differentiate between different areas of the City. (Note: the neighbourhood boundaries do not match official administrative data boundaries. As a result, official data may not be available at neighbourhood level. Intermediate Zones approximate neighbourhood boundaries.)

**Priority localities:** The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivations (SIMD) is the Scottish Government's official tool for identifying small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Scotland. Following SIMD 2020, 13 of Aberdeen's neighbourhoods are recognised as deprived on this basis: Torry, Tillydrone, Seaton, Woodside, Middlefield, Cummings Park, Northfield, Heathryfold, Mastrick, Kincorth, Ashgrove, George Street and Stockethill.

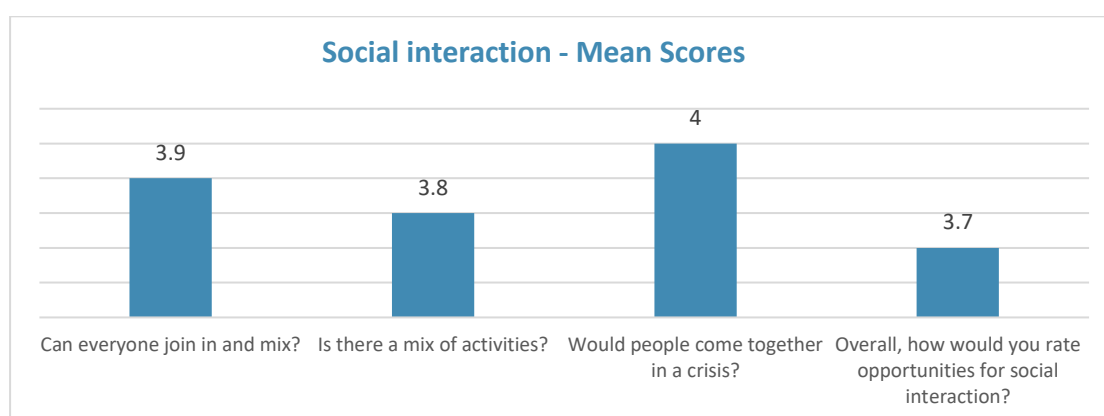
### 6.2. Communities

**Community empowerment:** Following the publication of the [Community Empowerment Strategy](#) by Community Planning Aberdeen's [Community Empowerment Group](#), a Community Empowerment edition of the City Voice was undertaken in June 2023. This asked panellists about current involvement and empowerment in their communities. Some of the questions in City Voice 47 were inspired by the [Place Standard](#) which is a recognised framework used for assessing places. The full City Voice report can be found [here](#) [91].

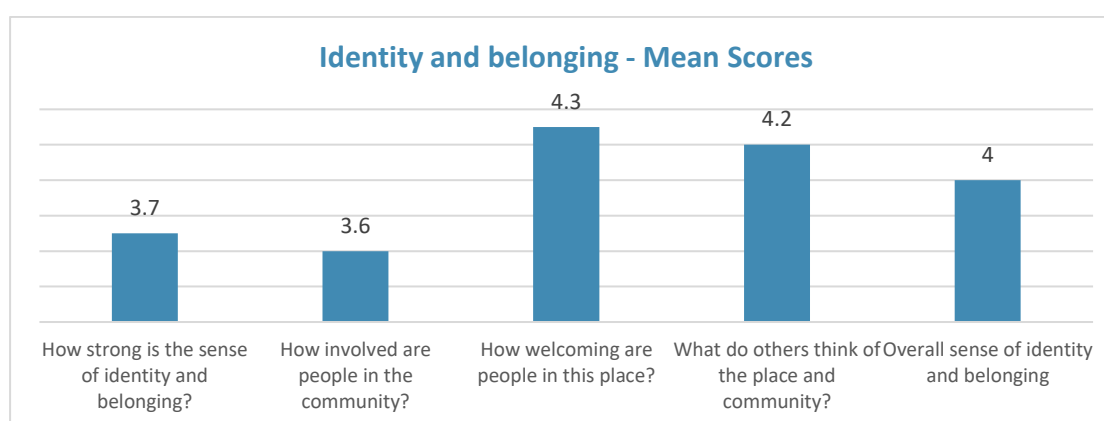
**Social interaction:** The first set of questions asked about where people get together and find out what is happening in their neighbourhoods. Food and drink outlets, local halls and centres, places of worship and schools are all spaces where communities naturally come together. Outdoor spaces such as streets, outdoor seating, local parks/ playgrounds/ walks,

and dog walking areas are also areas where people meet and gather. Unsurprisingly, 69% of people said that they find out about what is happening in their community by talking to friends, family and neighbours. Social media is also an important source of information with 57.3% of people saying that's how they find out what is happening.

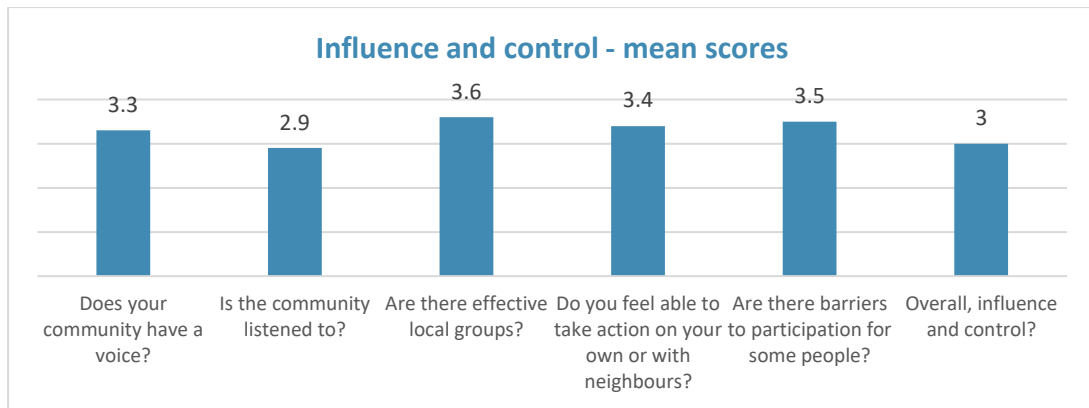
Further questions were then asked about different aspects of social interaction in their neighbourhood, with participants being asked to rate each on a scale of 1-7 (where 1 = little room for improvement and 7 = a lot of room for improvement). Mean scores were calculated for each question. Overall, respondents rated the range of opportunities to meet and spend time with other people in their neighbourhoods as 3.7 (out of a possible 7).



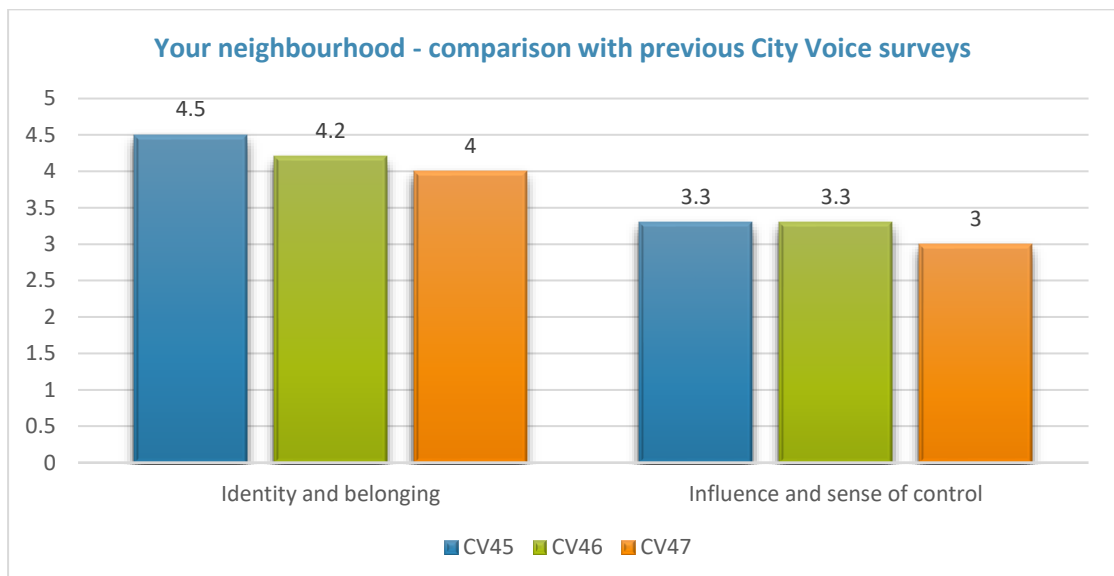
**Identity and belonging:** The next set of questions asked to what extent their neighbourhood has a positive identity that supports a strong sense of belonging. A series of questions relating to different aspects of identity and belonging were asked (see chart below). The average (mean) rating for 'overall, to what extent does your neighbourhood have a positive identity that supports a strong sense of belonging?' was 4 (out of 7).



**Influence and control:** This set of questions was around whether people felt listened to and included in decision-making when things happen in their neighbourhood. Again, a series of questions relating different aspects was included (see chart below). The average (mean) rating for 'overall, when things happen in your neighbourhood, how well do you feel listened to and included in decision-making?' was 3 (out of 7), with the lowest individual score being for the question 'is the community listened to?' (2.9).

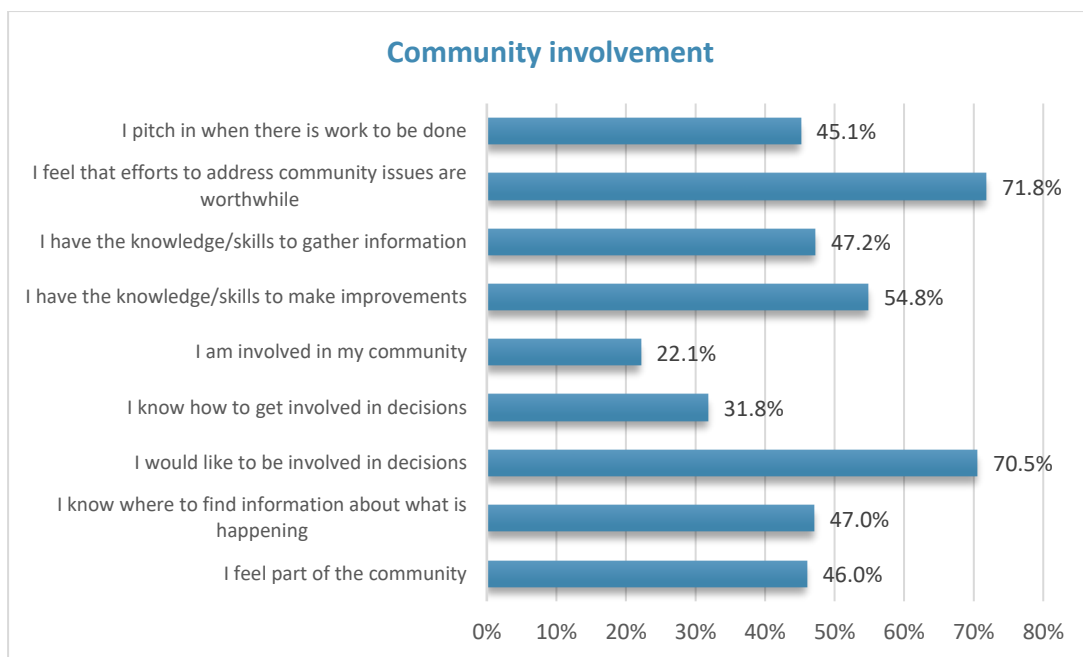


The overall questions relating to sense of Identity and Belonging and Influence and Control have been asked in previous City Voice questionnaires. Comparison with these surveys shows lower score for both areas in the most recent City Voice.

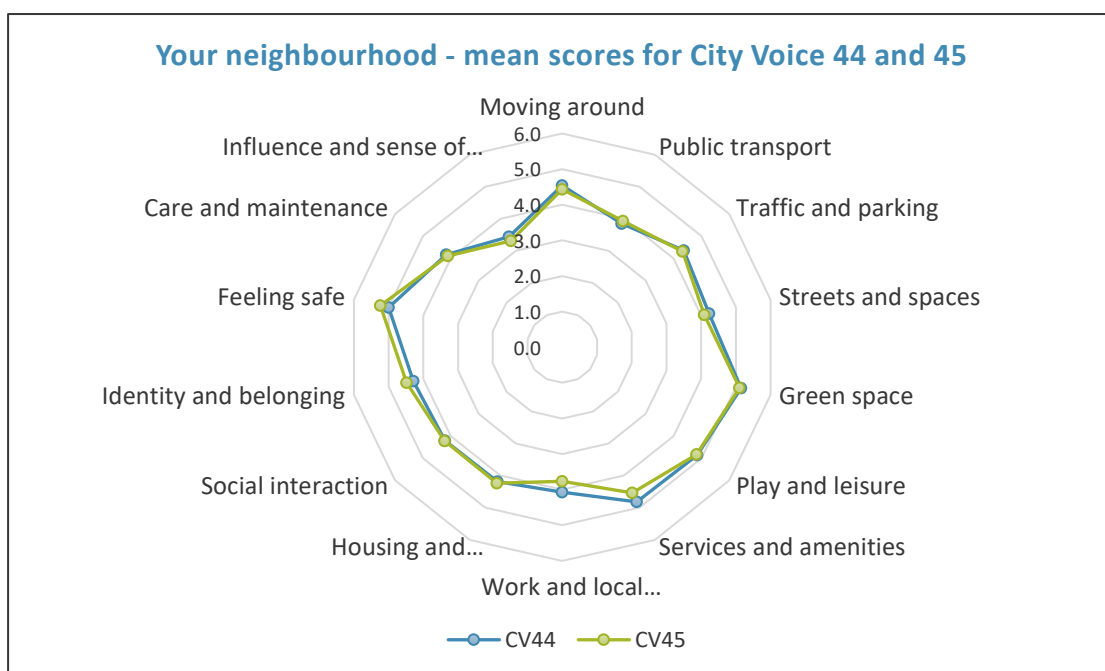


Involvement in community groups: City Voice 47 also included set of questions around involvement in community groups/activities. Most respondents agreed that efforts to address community issues are worthwhile (71.8%) and that they would like to be involved in decisions which affect their community (70.5%). However, only 31.8% said they knew how to get involved in decisions and 22.1% said they were currently involved in their community. Less than half of respondents said they feel part of their community (46%) or that they knew where to find information about what was happening (47%) .





**Your neighbourhood:** A shortened version of the full Place Standard questionnaire was included in City Voice 44 and 45. Participants were asked to answer a series of questions with their local neighbourhood in mind. For each of the 14 topics participants were asked to give a score on a scale of 1-7, where 1 = lots of room for improvement and 7 = very little room for improvement. On the whole, responses were similar across both questionnaires. In City Voice 45, **‘do you feel safe in your neighbourhood?’** and **‘can you regularly experience good quality natural space?’** were the highest scoring areas with mean scores of 5.2 and 5.1 respectively. The lowest scoring areas were **‘do you feel able to participate in decisions and change things for the better?’** (3.3) and **work and local economy** (3.8) [92].



**Volunteering:** There are currently over 80,600 volunteers in Aberdeen City, contributing an incredible 6.2 million hours of help every year in Aberdeen [93]. The high levels of volunteering we have in Aberdeen which ACVO support was highlighted in an analysis of volunteering responses to COVID-19 from Volunteer Scotland which showed that the COVID-19 Support Volunteers role registered with ACVO was the third most popular role in the whole of Scotland and the Bon Accord Care Support Volunteers the eighth most popular one people expressed an interest in. This again reflects the tremendous volunteering and caring/community spirit we have in Aberdeen.

Youth volunteering is also a great strength in Aberdeen, with 2,459 young people (age 12-25 years) undertaking Saltire Awards for volunteering (locality breakdown: Central: 541, North: 1155 and South: 763 people). The Saltire Awards are national awards endorsed by the Scottish Government and delivered in each local authority area by Third Sector Interfaces (ACVO in Aberdeen) to recognise the marvellous contribution young people make volunteering and the achievements of young volunteers. Certificates are awarded in recognition for undertaking 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 and 500 hours of volunteering [93].

We know there is substantial economic and social value in the act of volunteering with research showing increased life expectancy and quality of life values. Through our improvement projects we have built on the volunteering community that was crucial during the covid pandemic and sought to sustain the unprecedented level of volunteering seen during that time by further developing a wide range of opportunities. Between December 2021 and March 2023, we saw a 17.4% (437 to 513 – 76 new opportunities in total) in volunteer opportunities on the volunteer hub as a result of consistent promotion of the Hub across media and in contact with groups and volunteers augmenting ACVO's efforts.

**Using digital and data to help our communities:** The benefits of using data to improve productivity and transform public services have been recognised in the UK Data Strategy 2020 [94] and the subsequent "Roadmap for digital and data, 2022 to 2025" [95]. The Strategy also recognises some of the existing barriers. Presently data is not consistently managed, used or shared in a way that facilitates informed decision-making or joint working across the public sector. Effective use of data and digital technology can help the way we deliver our services and is fundamental to their planning and re-design. It can also empower people in our communities – improving the way they interact, both with each other and with public sector services. Data from the Scottish Social Attitudes Survey 2019 suggests a relatively high degree of trust in public service organisations to use personal data only for acceptable purposes. When asked, 58% of adults said they had either 'a great deal' or quite a lot' of trust in public service organisations, compared to only 15% for private companies [96].

**Aberdeen City Accreditations:** Aberdeen has been a Fairtrade City since 2004. The accreditation renewal process is overseen by the Fairtrade Foundation. The Aberdeen Fair and Sustainable Trade Group, made up of a range of organisational partners and individuals, works to maintain accreditation for the people of Aberdeen.

Aberdeen is also a Sustainable Food Place and was awarded a silver accreditation in the initiative in 2022. The partnership, Granite City Good Food, works to maintain and extend that accreditation for the people of Aberdeen.

### 6.3. Housing

**Dwellings:** In 2022 there were 123,363 dwellings in Aberdeen City – an increase of 1,121 (0.9%) on the number of dwellings in 2021. The number of dwellings varies by neighbourhood from 724 in Cummings Park to 6,691 in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill and Seafield. Most (59.1%) are in [Council Tax](#) bands A-C, with 26.1% being in bands D-E and 14.8% being in bands G-H [47]. The proportion of dwellings within each Council Tax band varies by neighbourhood. For example in Cummings Park, 99% of dwellings are in Council Tax bands A-C, while in Cults, Bieldside & Milltimber, 67% of dwellings are in Council Tax bands F-H [97].

40% of dwellings have a [single adult discount](#) with the proportion of dwellings with these discounts ranging from a low of 25.4% in Cults, Bieldside & Milltimber to a high of 50.1% in Stockethill. 6.7% of dwellings have 'occupied exemptions' (e.g. student households), with the highest levels of exemptions being in Old Aberdeen (33%), George Street (31%), Seaton (26%) and Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank (20%) [47].

Second homes account for less than 1% of all dwellings in the City and in 2022 there were 8,103 vacant dwellings (6.6% of all dwellings) – an increase from 6,733 vacant dwellings in 2020. The percentage of vacant dwellings ranges from a low of 1.8% in Cummings Park to a high of 12.8% in the City Centre.

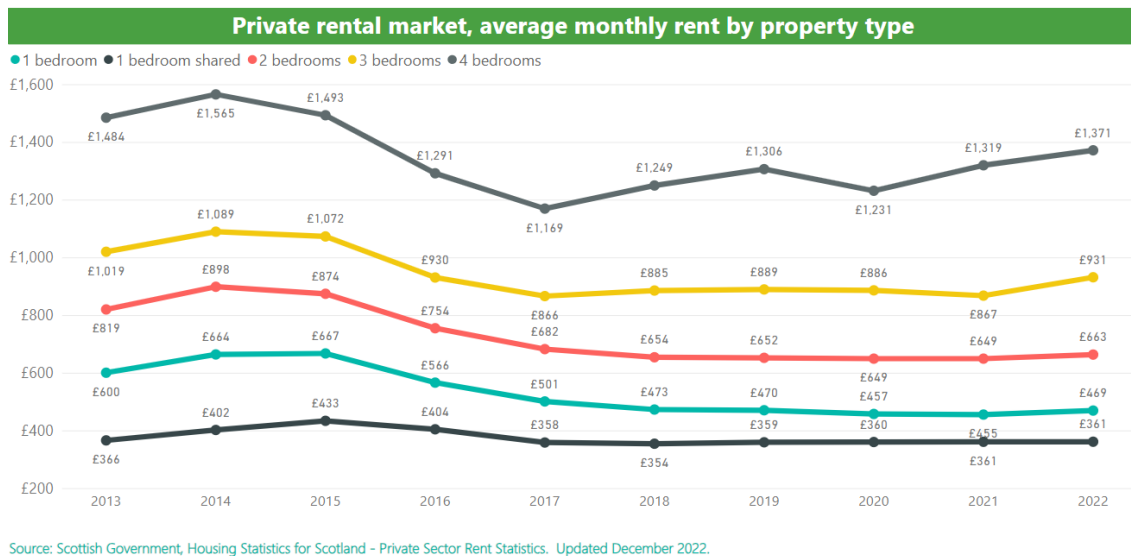
Most (55%) dwellings are flats, 18% are terraced, 16% are semi-detached and 11% are detached (based on 2017 – no update since then). Again this varies by neighbourhood e.g. in Seaton 96.8% of dwellings were flats while in Kingswells only 2.6% were flats and 63.1% were detached. At the time of the 2011 Census, 57.3% of households in the City were owned, 24.2% were socially rented, 17.0% were privately rented and 1.4% were rent-free.

**Housing stock:** In Aberdeen City in 2021 the Local Authority's housing stock totalled 22,104 – a slight increase from 21,936 in 2020. Of the Council stock, 16,730 (75.7%) were flats and 5,374 (24.3%) were houses. Since 2011, the total housing stock owned by the Council has decreased by 2.6% - from 22,704 [98]. At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 there were 4,138 applicants on the waiting list and 1,668 on the transfer list for housing [99].

**Supply of new housing:** In 2022-23, 1,059 new houses were supplied in Aberdeen City. Of these, 629 were private new builds, 375 were local authority new builds and 55 were housing association new builds [100].

**Supported housing:** A range of supported housing is provided by the Local Authority. In 2021, housing for older people included 110 very sheltered, and 1,879 sheltered dwellings (of which 223 are wheelchair adapted) and 1,470 medium dependency. Some 2,681 dwellings have been fitted with a community alarm. Housing for people with physical disabilities included 428 dwellings adapted for wheelchair use, 604 for ambulant disabled and 1,902 with other adaptations [101].

**Private rental sector:** In 2022, the average monthly rent in Aberdeen City and Shire (Broad Rental Market Area) was £469 for a one-bedroomed property, £663 for a 2-bedroomed property, £931 for a 3-bedroomed property and £1,371 for a 4-bedroomed property. These were broadly similar to the average rents in 2021 with the exception of 4-bedroomed properties which increased from £1,319 in 2021. Rents for all property types are lower than pre-2015 levels [102].

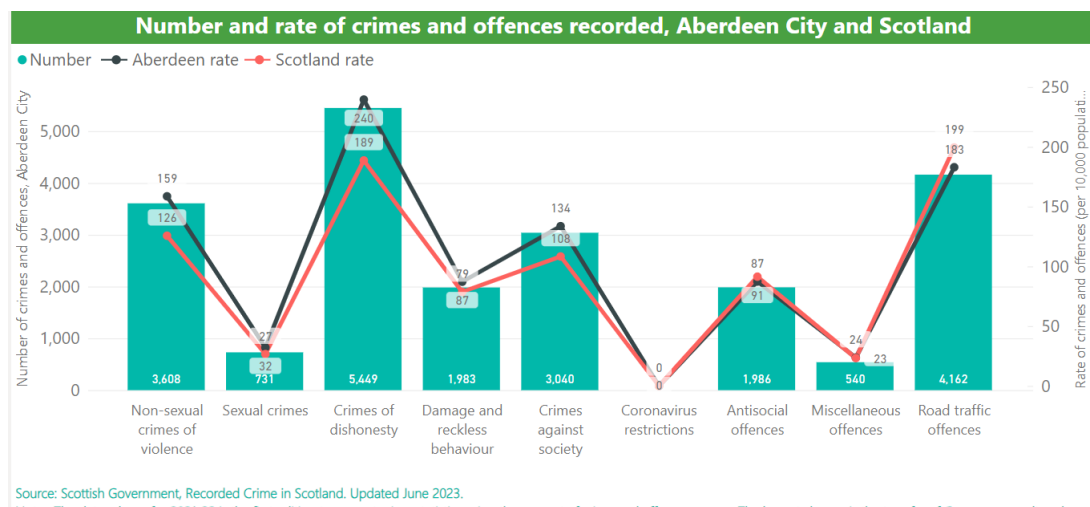


**House sales:** In 2022, the average purchase price for a residential property in Aberdeen City was £187,169 – down from £193,402 in 2021 and considerably lower than the 2015 peak of £220,665. The number of properties sold in 2022 decreased slightly from 4,799 in 2021 to 4,729 in 2022 [103].

## 6.4. Crime

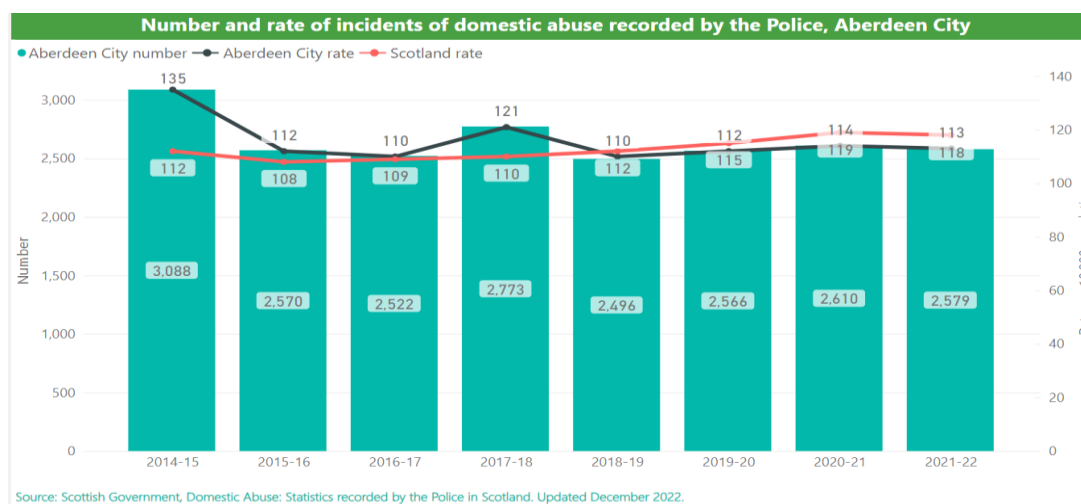
**Crimes and offences:** In Scotland, crimes and offences are classified into groups, with a new group for Coronavirus restriction crimes being added in 2019/20. Data from 2021-22 uses new categories of crime and offence groups. The changes include the introduction of a new set of crime and offence groups and categories. The largest change is the transfer of Common assault and stalking from the miscellaneous offences group to the non-sexual crimes of violence group and by extension the recorded crime total.

In 2022/23 the most common crimes and offences recorded in Aberdeen City were Crimes of Dishonesty (5,449), Road Traffic Offences (4,162) and Non-sexual Crimes of Violence (3,608). The total rate (per 10,000 population) for crime was 651 (528 for Scotland) and for offences was 294 (314 for Scotland) [104].



The rate of crime varies across the City and is relatively low in most areas ([Intermediate Zones](#)). In 2019, the rate of crime<sup>9</sup> range from a low of 4 (crude rate per 1,000 population) in Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill & Seafeld South to a high of 247 in City Centre East [43].

**Domestic abuse:** In 2021/22 there were 2,579 recorded incidents of domestic abuse in Aberdeen City – down slightly from 2,610 in 2020/21 [105]. Not all incidents of Domestic Abuse result in a crime being recorded. In 2022-23 there were 116 recorded crimes for Domestic Abuse – down from 170 in 2021-22 [104].



**Hate Crime Reports:** In 2022/23 there were 344 Police Scotland Hate Crime reports in Aberdeen City, up from 336 in 2021/22 [77].

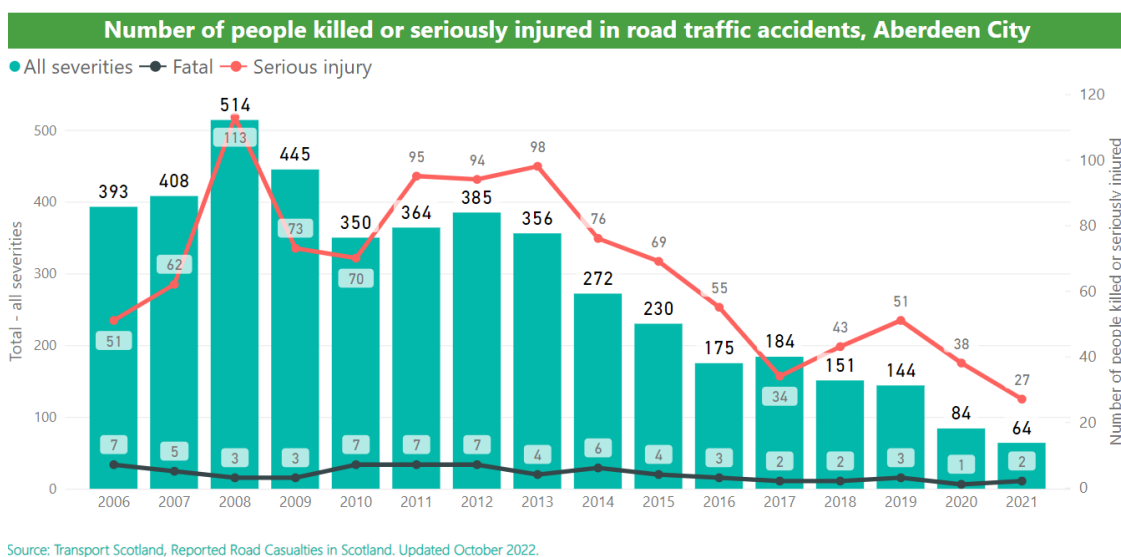
## 6.5. Safety

**Accidental dwelling fires:** In 2021-22 there were 199 accidental dwelling fires in Aberdeen City (down from 222 in 2020-21) which is equivalent to a rate of 163 per 100,000 dwellings compared to 157 in Scotland. Impairment due to alcohol/drugs was suspected to be a contributory factor to accidental dwelling fires in Aberdeen in 18.1% of cases – higher than the rate for Scotland of 14.6%. There were 25 non-fatal casualties and no fatal casualties [106].

In 2021-22 there were also 23 deliberate dwelling fires (rate of 18.8 per 100,000 dwellings compared to 16.4 for Scotland). In total there were 768 fires in Aberdeen City in 2021-22, of which 388 were primary fires, 377 were secondary fires and 3 were chimney fires. This is up slightly from the total of 757 fires in 2020-21 [106].

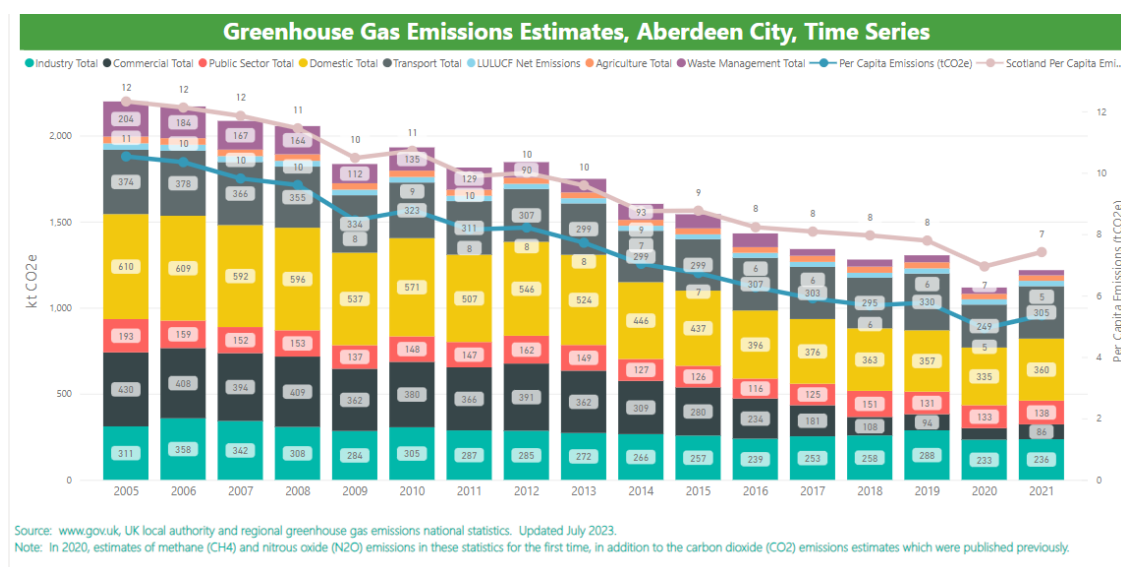
**Road safety:** In 2021 total, there were 64 reported road casualties in Aberdeen City of which, 2 were fatalities and 27 were serious injuries. The number of people injured in road traffic accidents has decreased in each of the last three years (from 151 in 2018) [107]. In 2019-21, the rate of casualties from road traffic accidents varied across the City ([Intermediate Zones](#)) from a low of 5 per 100,000 population in Denmore to a high of 132 per 100,000 population in Torry East [43].

<sup>9</sup> (based on SIMD crimes of violence, sexual offences, domestic housebreaking, vandalism, drug offences and common assault)



## 6.6. Environment – climate change

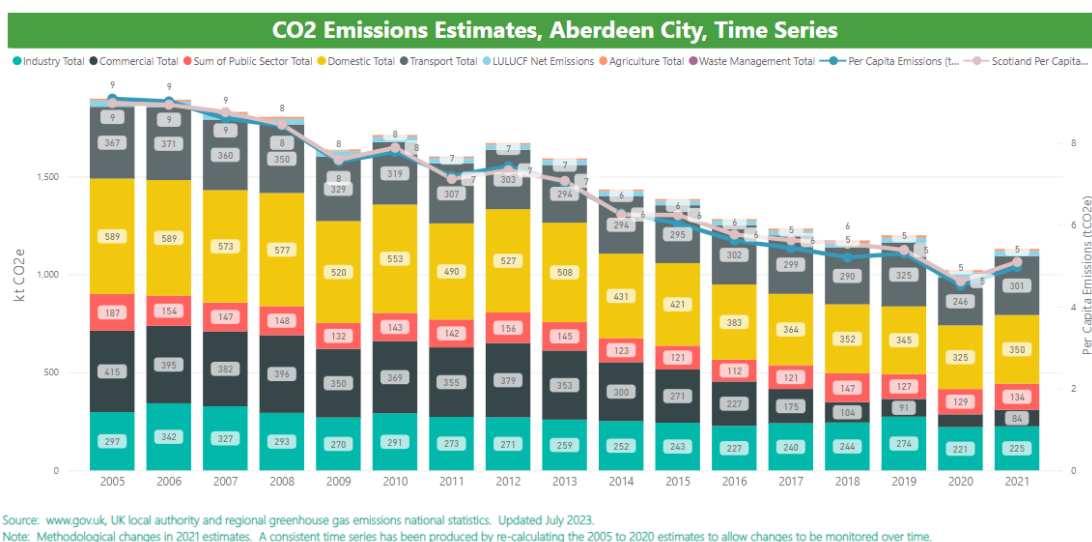
**Greenhouse gas emissions:** In 2020, estimates of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) emissions were included in the published statistics for the first time, in addition to the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions estimates which were published previously. In 2021, data for greenhouse gases was backdated to 2005 to provide a continuous run of data. In 2021, Greenhouse Gas emissions estimates totalled 1,218 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e for Aberdeen City – up from 1,117 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020, but lower than the figure of 1,305 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2019. Domestic use was the single largest contributor (29.6% of all greenhouse gas emissions) followed by travel (25%). In 2021 per capita emissions were lower in Aberdeen City (5.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) than in Scotland (7.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) [108].



Figures for 2021 are higher than those for 2020. The overall increase since 2020 in end-user greenhouse gas emissions allocated to local authorities in the UK was 5.9%, is believed to be

largely as a result of the easing of restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and colder temperatures increasing the use of heating in buildings [108] <sup>10</sup>.

**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions:** In 2021 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Aberdeen totalled 1,130 kt (down 40.4% since 2005) – up from 1,021 in 2020. Since 2005, per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have fallen in both Aberdeen and Scotland, mostly due to the greening of the electricity grid and the Net Zero Vision for Aberdeen has put in place a local commitment to meeting the Scottish Government target of Net Zero Emissions by 2045. In 2021, per capita levels were slightly lower in Aberdeen (4.97 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) compared to Scotland (5.1 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) [108].



**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within the scope of local authorities:** alongside the full dataset, a subset dataset is also published which gives CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within the scope of influence of local authorities (e.g. excludes large industrial sites, railways, motorways, land-use, livestock and soils). In 2021, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within the scope of local authorities totalled 1,046.9 kt – up from 937.5 kt in 2020, but down 42.7% since 2005 (1,827.4 kt).

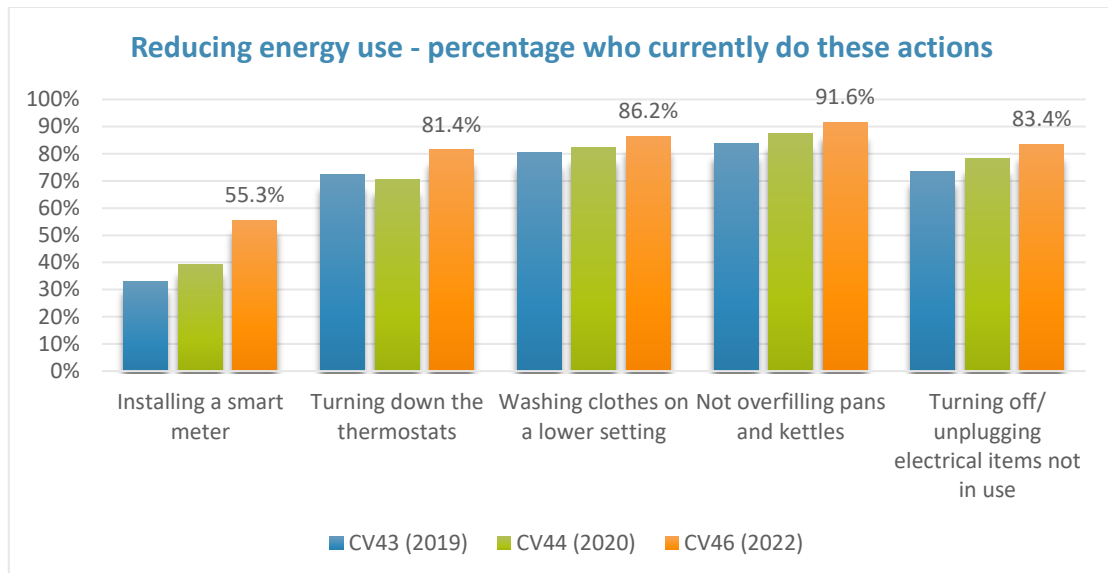
**Public Sector CO<sub>2</sub> emissions:** In 2021, Public Sector CO<sub>2</sub> emissions totalled 134 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e – up slightly from 129 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020. Public Sector Gas made up 81% of emissions.

**Renewable energy:** In 2021, Aberdeen City had 2,248 renewable energy installations (2,234 of which were photovoltaic) compared to 2,010 in 2020 and 789 in 2014. The installed capacity (MW) was 66.3MW in 2021 compared to 18.1MW in 2020 and 10.3MW in 2014. Renewable energy generation was 10,816MWh in 2021 - lower than 12,295MWh in 2020 and 25,704MWh in 2014 [109].

**Reducing energy use and demand:** Questions around reducing energy use and demand have been asked in the City Voice, most recently in December 2022. Overall the results suggest that most respondents are already taking steps to reduce the amount of energy they use e.g. turning down heating thermostats or switching off/ unplugging electrical items not in use. Common other ways of reducing energy use include wearing extra layers of clothing and reducing use of appliances such as ovens, dishwashers or tumble driers. Most respondents

<sup>10</sup> Further information about public sector emissions can be found in the Sustainable Scotland Network Analysis Report 2021 to 2022 [Sustainable Scotland Network Analysis Report 2021 to 2022](#)

also reported that they currently are, or would be prepared to, undertake actions which would reduce energy demand, e.g. install more energy efficient appliances or upgrade insulation levels. The exception to this is installing renewable energy technologies such as solar panels, where over half of respondents (55.4%) reported either they were not prepared to do this, or that this option was not applicable (e.g. those living in rented accommodation) [28].



**Climate Emergency Declaration:** In March 2023, Aberdeen City Council added its voice to the growing number of local authorities around the world to have responded to the global climate change and nature loss crises by declaring a climate and nature emergency. Details of the declaration are available in the [minutes of the full Council meeting of 22 February 2023](#) (see item 18).

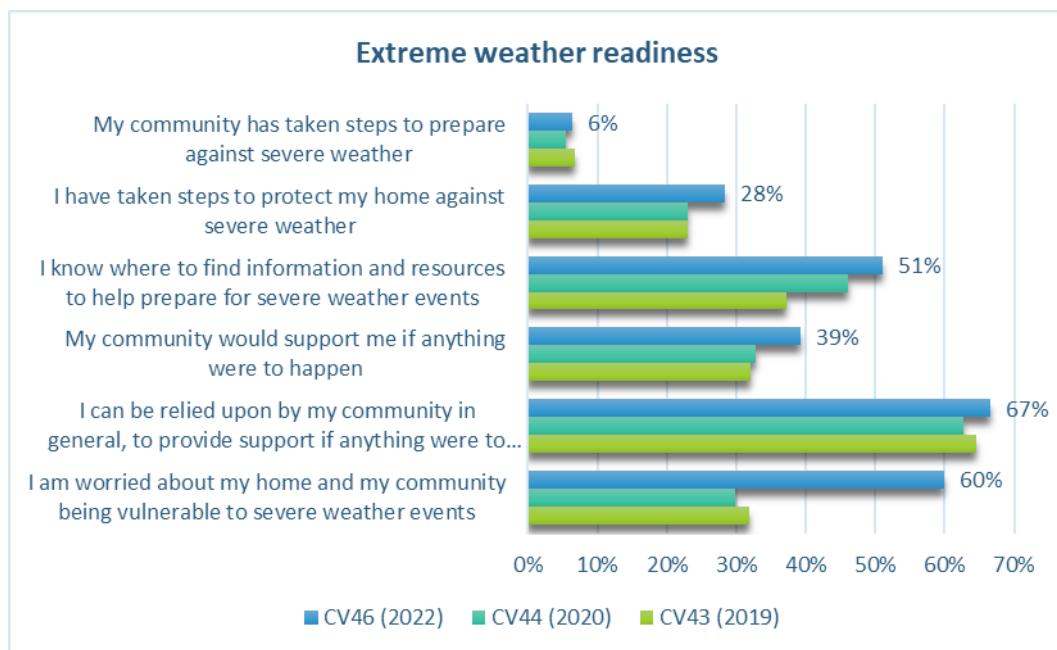
A city-wide [Green Champions](#) network exists to identify areas of improvement, drive change towards sustainable and resource efficient behaviour and promote activities which can benefit both climate and nature, as well as reducing long term costs and carbon inefficiencies. The developing city-wide network (currently six partners) meet up quarterly to support, share, and learn from each other.

**Adaptation:** Climate change is being experienced now across Aberdeen. Changes to local rainfall patterns and weather events are being seen, putting increasing numbers of people and property at risk. A Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) explored severe weather events experienced in Aberdeen over 2014-2019; as well as the impact on Council services. In comparing information with the previous LCLIP 2008-2013, changes in severe weather events, including storms, rainfall and warmer weather, between the two periods were noted. A refresh of Aberdeen Adapts: Climate Adaptation Framework was produced in 2022, alongside an update to the Evidence Base which informs Aberdeen Adapts. The Evidence Base reflected strategic climate risks relevant to the city, taking information from sources including UK Climate Projections (UKCP18).

Results from the 2021 Scottish Household Survey estimate that 83% of people in Aberdeen City see climate change as an immediate and urgent problem – up from 68% in 2019 [79].



**Extreme weather readiness:** Questions about readiness for extreme weather events have been asked in City Voice. Data from City Voice 46 (December 2022), showed that over half (59.9%) of respondents agreed (either strongly agree or agree) that they were worried about their home and community being vulnerable to severe weather events, double the response in 2020 (30%). While 66.6% of respondents agreed that they could be relied upon to by their neighbours or community to provide support if anything were to happen, only 39.3% agreed that their community would support them if anything were to happen. Just over half (51.1%) of respondents said they would know where to find information and resources to help prepare for severe weather events. Over a quarter (28.4%) of respondents reported they had taken steps to protect their home against severe weather and only 6.3% thought that their community had taken steps to prepare against severe weather with the most common response to this final statement being don't know (41.5% of respondents) [28].



**Flood Risk:** Scotland has been separated into 14 Local Plan Districts for flood risk management purposes. These districts are based on river catchments and coastal areas which cross administrative and institutional boundaries. SEPA, working with others, has produced a Flood Risk Management Strategy for each Local Plan District. The most recent Flood Risk Management Strategy produced by SEPA for the North East Local Plan District (2022-2028) identifies 4 areas in Aberdeen City that are potentially vulnerable to flooding – Aberdeen City North (Bridge Of Don, Dyce, Kingswells-north), Aberdeen City – South (Central), Peterculter, Cove and Nigg Bay (Cove Bay and Nigg Bay).

Number of people and properties at risk from flooding for each area:

- Aberdeen City - North (Bridge Of Don, Dyce, Kingswells-north): 7,600 people and 4,200 homes and businesses, 670 people and 610 homes and businesses and 100 people and 50 homes and businesses.
- Aberdeen City - South (Central): 23,000 people and 14,000 homes and businesses
- Peterculter: 790 people and 430 homes and businesses

- Cove and Nigg Bay (Cove Bay and Nigg Bay): 260 people and 150 homes and businesses and 90 people and 90 homes and businesses.

The total number of people at risk from flooding for the North-East Local area is 51,000. The total number of people at risk of flooding for Aberdeen City is 32,510. This means that 63.75% of the number of people at risk from flooding in the North-East are within Aberdeen City.

The total number of homes and businesses at risk from flooding for the North-East Local area are 30,000. The total number of homes and businesses at risk of flooding for Aberdeen City is 19,530. This means that 65.1% of the number of homes and businesses at risk from flooding in the North-East are within Aberdeen City.

Nature based solutions are being employed across Aberdeen, at locations such as at Seaton Park, Stronsay Park, and Maidencraig, to reduce flood risk while delivering additional outcomes for people and wildlife. A recent national Nature of Scotland Award was given to Aberdeen for this pioneering work on natural flood management.

## 6.7. Environment

**Greenspace:** Greenspace is important for a wide range of reasons, including health and well-being, improving biodiversity, climate mitigation and environmental protection. Greenspace also provides opportunities for play and recreation for all ages as well as providing economic benefits and ecosystem services. Greenspaces directly improve our health and wellbeing, benefitting society and helping to reduce costs on local and wider communities, the NHS, other public sector services and local businesses. Well-managed and maintained spaces can support people to interact with each other and promote a sense of place and community pride. Aberdeen has a diverse mix of greenspaces for people and wildlife. The types, quantities, quality and accessibility of these are not evenly distributed across Aberdeen. Areas of social deprivation tend to have lower diversity and quality spaces which in turn can impact on the health outcomes for those communities. Some areas, e.g. Deeside, have much higher prevalence of tree cover than others. Aberdeen has an overall tree canopy cover of 13%, much lower than comparable cities, Scotland as a whole, and national targets. Further analysis of the context, actions and trends in this area is required.

Aberdeen has 1,450 hectares of parks and other greenspaces. Further extensive areas of land are managed for people and nature and other co-benefits by other public, private and community bodies and partnerships, including, Forestry and Land Scotland, The River Dee Trust, the Woodland Trust and individual private land-owners.

The protection and enhancement of high-quality greenspace networks supports the following UN Sustainable Development Goals: 3 Good Health & Well-Being; 11 Sustainable Cities & Communities; 13 Climate Action; and 15 Life on Land. High-quality greenspace networks will also play a key role in helping to achieve the [Net Zero Aberdeen Routemap](#) by helping to store carbon and reduce carbon emissions.

Aberdeen's greenspaces are assessed through a periodic Open Space Audit, with the latest Audit currently being finalised. This Audit will provide information that is critical to directing greenspace management policies and targeted interventions and improvements for all

partners going forward. In December 2022, 69.9% of City Voice respondents reported that they were satisfied with their local greenspace – up from 65% in March 2020.

The amount of blue green infrastructure, including green walls, green roofs and rain gardens, within the built environment must be increased and enhanced to ensure a sustainable balance of blue, green and grey is achieved and to halt urban sprawl and the density of buildings, roads and hard infrastructure devoid of blue and green space.

The [Net Zero Aberdeen Natural Environment Strategy](#) identifies ways how we can all work together to improve greenspaces in the city e.g. by exploring sites to create naturalised grasslands and wildflower meadows across multiple land ownerships and increasing biodiversity and contributing to carbon stores and carbon savings from a reduction in intensive grass cutting on land across the city.

Aberdeen City Council is extending naturalised greenspace management [by improving and creating blue/green habitats in two high profile parks in the city](#). The Council is using a Nature Restoration in Parks grant from the Scottish Government to survey, plan and design work to further improve the parks for nature e.g. by creating/improving wildflower meadow areas for pollinators and tree planting. Aberdeen Flagship Parks for Pollinators Project also supports longer term '[B-lines](#)' pollinator work between Aberdeen City Council and the charity [Buglife](#).

86.9% of respondents to the Open Space Audit 2022 questionnaire visited Aberdeen's greenspace or open space at least once a week (*Open Space Audit 2022 questionnaire results will be published as part of the upcoming Open Space Audit report refresh*).

**Woodland:** Aberdeen has 2,410 ha of woodland - 13% of ACC's total land area. By comparison, Scotland's woodland cover is 18%. Native woodlands account for 22% of the total woodland area in Aberdeen. There are an estimated 115,000 individual street, park and garden and civic trees across the City.

**Water environment:** Aberdeen is a coastal harbour city bounded by two major inland waterways, the River Dee and the Don. These connections to water are important parts of its history, culture, economy, and well-being. Flooding, erosion, pollution, and wildlife impacts are all being experienced at the coast and inland and have significant implications for our people and economy. Further analysis of the context, actions and trends in this area is also required.

SEPA produces a classification system (five quality classes: Bad, Poor, Moderate, Good and High) to assess surface waters. In this system Aberdeen has 18 water bodies. Most of these (83.3%) are categorised as at least 'moderate' condition [110].

The River Don is currently classified as in a 'bad' ecological condition for its 10.7kms from Dyce to the tidal limit. The River Dee is currently classified as in a 'moderate' ecological condition for its 10.4kms from Peterculter to the tidal limit. The Denburn is currently classified as in a 'moderate' ecological condition for its 9.2kms length and the Leuchar Burn 'poor' ecological condition for 9Kms. The coastal water from Don Estuary to Souter Head (50 square kilometers) is classified as in good ecological status. North and south of this strip is in 'high' ecological condition.

The table below provides an overview of the condition of all 18 surface waters for 2020, 2019 and 2018.

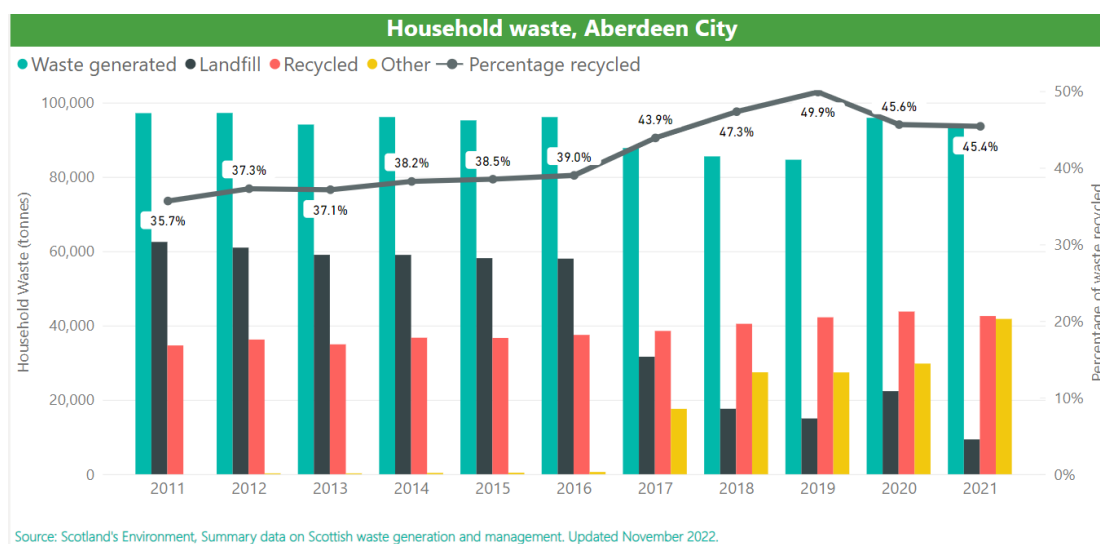
Name	2020	2019	2018
South Mundurno Burn	Good ecological potential	Good ecological potential	Bad
Den Burn	Moderate ecological potential	Moderate ecological potential	Poor ecological potential
River Don - Dyce to tidal limit	Bad	Bad	Poor
Bucks Burn	Moderate ecological potential	Moderate ecological potential	Moderate
Elrick Burn - d/s Newmachar WWTP	Poor ecological potential	Poor ecological potential	Poor
River Don - Inverurie to Dyce	Good ecological potential	Good ecological potential	Good
Black Burn	Moderate ecological potential	Moderate ecological potential	Moderate
River Dee - Peterculter to tidal limit	Moderate ecological potential	Moderate ecological potential	Bad ecological potential
River Dee - Banchory to Peterculter	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Culter Burn	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Gormack Burn	Moderate ecological potential	Moderate ecological potential	Bad
Leuchar Burn	Poor ecological potential	Poor ecological potential	Poor
Brodiach Burn / Ord Burn	Moderate ecological potential	Moderate ecological potential	Bad
Dee (Aberdeen) Estuary	Good ecological potential	Good ecological potential	Good ecological potential
Don Estuary	High	High	High
Don Estuary to Souter Head (Aberdeen)	Good ecological potential	Good ecological potential	Good ecological potential
Cruden Bay to the Don Estuary	High	High	High
Souter Head to Garron Point	High	High	High

**Domestic water supply:** The [River Dee and its tributaries](#), together with a number of private water supplies, provide a domestic water supply for the whole of Aberdeen City and over half of Aberdeenshire. Over 300,000 people drink water supplied by the River Dee each day [111].

Climate change is likely to bring more uncertainty and may exert pressure in areas that have not yet experienced water scarcity. SEPA are responsible for the forecast, monitoring and report of the situation facing Scotland's water resources and produces a during the summer months [112].

**Natural heritage:** The dramatic decline and loss of natural heritage is, alongside climate change, a crisis facing most of the globe. Aberdeen is not immune to this and this places risks on our citizens through impacts on food security, economy and health and wellbeing. Aberdeen has a diverse range of species and habitats and their outlook is currently mixed. Aberdeen has 1 Special Area of Conservation (SAC), 3 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), 4 Local Nature Reserves and 45 Local Nature Conservation Sites. Approximately 17% of our land is protected for wildlife. ACC also manage a significant number of sites for nature that are not designated but provide essential refuge, food and wildlife corridors within Aberdeen. Currently, it is unclear what proportion is managed for nature but undesignated and this requires further analysis to compare to the UK wide target of 30% by 2030.

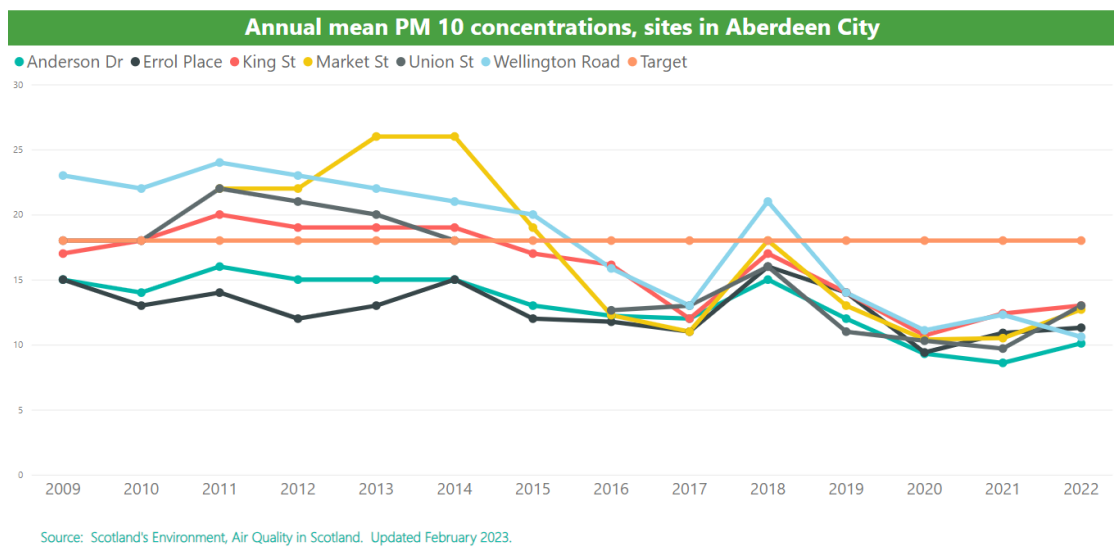
**Household waste:** In 2021, 93,747 tonnes of household waste were generated in Aberdeen City. 2020 and 2021 saw increases in the amount of household waste generated compared to the preceding years. Overall, the amount of household waste going to landfill has fallen from 58,021 tonnes in 2016 to 9,376 in 2021. In the same period, the level of waste being recycled and 'other' diversions from landfill (disposed by incineration, recovered by incineration, recovered by co-incineration and waste managed by other methods) has increased. In 2021, 45.4% of household waste was recycled (slightly less than the previous year) and 10% was sent to landfill. The carbon impact of household waste has fallen from 253,016 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2016 to 224,544 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2019 (although again there were increases in 2020 and 2021 compared to the immediately preceding years) [113].



**Active travel:** In 2021 an estimated 24% of people in Aberdeen City used active travel (walking or cycling) to get to work or education. This is an increase from 21.4% in 2018/19 [114]. In 2021, 34% of people reported that their main mode of travel was walking (up from 21% in 2019 – no data for 2020) and 4% reported that their main mode of travel was cycling (up from 2% in 2019). Driving a car was the most common main mode of travel at 46% [114]. Most City

Voice respondents (89.1%) reported walking as one mode of travel and 14.8% reported they cycled as one mode of travel (December 2022) [28].

**Air Pollution:** Information on PM10 concentrations is available for six sites in Aberdeen City (Anderson Drive, Errol Place, King Street, Market Street, Union Street and Wellington Road) [115]. For PM10, the annual mean concentration for the air quality objective of 18 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , and the daily mean concentration with the air quality objective of 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  - not to be exceeded more than seven times per year - have not been exceeded at any of the six continuous monitoring sites since 2016. The annual mean PM2.5 objective of 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  has also not been exceeded at any of the six continuous monitoring sites since 2016.



**Electric Vehicles:** In 2022/23, there were 79 public chargepoint sockets installed by the Council in order to encourage the use of electric vehicles - up from 56 in 2020 and 30 in 2017. In addition to these, there are a growing number of publicly available charge points that the Council does not have responsibility for.

## 7 Further Information




If you have any queries about the content of this document or would like further information, please contact us using the details below.

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## Appendix 1: An interpretation of the PNA through the lens of the UN Sustainable Development Goals






 <p><b>1</b> NO POVERTY</p>	<p>In 2021/22 an estimated 7,994 children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City were living in poverty (below 60% median income after housing costs). This is equivalent to 20.5% of children compared to 24.5% for Scotland (End Child Poverty 2023). The proportion of children living in poverty has decreased slightly in Aberdeen from 21.3% in 2019/20.</p> <p>The number of datazones in Aberdeen within the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland increased from 22 (out of 283) in 2016 to 29 in 2020. Additionally the proportion of datazones within the 40% most deprived areas of Scotland has increased by 5.2% in Aberdeen between 2016 and 2020.</p>
 <p><b>2</b> ZERO HUNGER</p>	<p>18.6% of City Voice respondents reported they ate only a few kinds of food, 11.6% that they were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food, 10.6% that they ate less than they thought they should and 8.4% that they were worried they would not have enough food to eat.</p> <p>The use of foodbanks has increased. In 2022/23 over 60,000 food parcels were distributed in Aberdeen City (CFINE, Trussel Trust, Instant Neighbour and Inchgarth).</p> <p>22.3% of P6 and 18.7% of P7 pupils were registered for Free School Meals in 2022/23. At secondary school level, 16.6% of pupils were registered for FSM – up from 15.7% in 2021 and 13.9% in 2020.</p> <p>In 2021/22, nearly a quarter of P1 children were classified as being at risk of overweight or obesity. In 2016-19 it was estimated that 23% of the City's adult population is obese (classified as a BMI of 30+). This is lower than the rate for Scotland of 29% and a decrease from 25% in 2014-17.</p> <p>Less than 1% of P1 children were classified as being at risk of underweight.</p> <p>The allotment waiting list continues to grow: 793 households were waiting in 2021, by March 2023 this had risen to 1047 households (ACC Annual Allotments Report).</p>
 <p><b>3</b> GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p>	<p>In 2019-21 in Aberdeen City Life Expectancy at birth has fallen slightly for women (81 years) and remained static for men (76.9 years) and both are similar to the Scotland average of 80.8 years for women and 76.5 for men.</p> <p>The life expectancy gap between the most deprived and least deprived areas of Aberdeen has increased to 10 years for men and 8.1 years for women.</p> <p>In 2017-21, the rate of infant deaths (age 0-1 years) in Aberdeen City was 3.1 per 1000 live births – lower than the rate for Scotland of 3.4 but higher than the rate for 2016-18 of 2.5.</p> <p>The rate of cancer registrations decreased in Aberdeen from 2017 to 2020 but is higher than the Scottish average.</p> <p>In Aberdeen City, the rate of Coronary Heart Disease patient hospitalisations has decreased over the past 10 years as has the rate of early deaths from cancer (under the age of 75).</p> <p>Alcohol-related deaths are the higher than the previous five year period and slightly lower than the Scottish average.</p>



	<p>There were 42 drug-related deaths in 2022. In the period 2018-2022, the average annual rate for drug-related deaths was 22.9 deaths per 100,000 population slightly lower than the equivalent rate for Scotland.</p> <p>In the period 2017-21, an estimated 15% of adults in Aberdeen were current smokers compared to 16% in Scotland (an 8% reduction from 2014-2017). It is estimated 5% of adults currently use e-cigarettes.</p>
	<p>In 2021/22, 90.8% of school leavers had a positive follow-up destination, slightly lower than the previous year and lower than the rate for Scotland. 10.3% more school leavers had a positive destination from the least deprived areas of Aberdeen compared to the most deprived.</p> <p>In 2020/21, average attendance in primary schools in the City was 94.3% and for secondary schools the rate was 90.7%; higher than the rates for Scotland (91.4% and 83.2% respectively)</p> <p>In January to December 2021, compared to Scotland, Aberdeen City had a higher proportion of its workforce who are qualified to NVQ4 and above (54.4% in Aberdeen and 50.0% in Scotland).</p> <p>96 Aberdeen educational settings are registered with the Eco-Schools programme and 13 have achieved green flags Keep Scotland Beautiful   Eco-Schools Map.</p>
	<p>The gender pay gap has improved since 2020. In 2022 the median gross weekly pay for full-time workers living in Aberdeen City was higher for males (£644.90) than for females (£629.70) representing a 2.3% difference. Female full-time workers in Aberdeen earned more however than the Scotland average (£604.70).</p> <p>Recorded incidents of domestic abuse were down slightly in 2021/22 from the previous year and in 2022/23 there were 116 recorded crimes for domestic abuse, 54 fewer than the previous year.</p>
	<p>The River Dee and its tributaries, together with 150 private water suppliers provide a domestic water supply for the whole of Aberdeen City and over half of Aberdeenshire. Over 300,000 people drink water supplied by the River Dee each day.</p> <p>Climate change is likely to bring more uncertainty and may exert pressure in areas that have not yet experienced water scarcity. SEPA are responsible for the forecast, monitoring and report of the situation facing Scotland's water resources and produces a weekly report during the summer months.</p> <p>Drinking water quality is monitored and maintained Drinking Water Quality Regulator for Scotland.</p>
	<p>In 2017-19 an estimated 26.1% of households were in fuel poverty – up from 23% in 2016-18 and higher than the rate for Scotland of 24.4%. 12.8% were in extreme fuel poverty. A higher proportion of those in social housing were in fuel poverty than those in owner occupied housing (46.2% compared to 12.9%)</p> <p>In 2021, Aberdeen City had 2,248 renewable energy installations (2,234 of which were photovoltaic) compared to 2,010 in 2020. The installed capacity (MW) was 66.3MW in 2021 compared to 18.1MW in 2020. Renewable energy generation was 10,816MWh in 2021 compared to 12,295MWh in 2020.</p>



<p><b>8</b> DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p> 	<p>In 2021 Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire had a Gross Value Added per head of £31,823 (current basic prices) showing a slight increase from the previous year (£30,249). This is 23.7% above the Scottish average and 10.6% above the UK average. The gap between the North East, Scotland, and the UK has been narrowing since 2015.</p> <p>In 2022, 75.1% of Aberdeen's working age population (16-64 years) was classified as economically active compared to 77.1% in Scotland. There were 5.5% fewer enterprises and 5% fewer local units in Aberdeen City compared to the previous year. The unemployment rate in Aberdeen City was 3.9% - slightly higher than the rate for Scotland.</p> <p>In 2022, the median gross weekly pay for full-time workers living in Aberdeen City was £637.90 – slightly lower than the equivalent for Scotland of £640.30.</p>
<p><b>9</b> INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</p> 	<p>In 2022, 96% of City Voice respondents reported having access to either a laptop or PC, a smart phone or tablet : an increase from 90% in 2018.</p> <p>In 2022, the most common mode of travel to school (excluding nursery) in Aberdeen City was walking (49%), followed by being driven (19.8%) and bus (13.2%).</p> <p>In 2021, 34% of people reported that their main mode of travel was walking (up from 21% in 2019) and 4% reported that their main mode of travel was cycling (up from 2% in 2019).</p>
<p><b>10</b> REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p> 	<p>In 2022, participation rates for 16-19 year-olds in education, employment or training were lower for those in the 20% most deprived areas (83.5%) than for those in the 20% least deprived areas (95.9%).</p> <p>86.8% of young people identified as disabled were participating in education, employment or training – an increase from 83.6% in 2021 but lower than the rate for 2020 of 87.9% (participation among non-disabled young people in 2022 was 91.4%).</p>
<p><b>11</b> SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p> 	<p>Provisional data for 2022/23 shows there were 1,772 homelessness applications in the year – an increase of 26.1% from 2021/22.</p> <p>In 2021-22 there were 1,536,720 entries and exits at Aberdeen train station. This is down from 2,497,108 in 2019-20.</p> <p>For PM10, the annual mean concentration for the air quality objective of 18ug/m3, and the daily mean concentration with the air quality objective of 50ug/m3 - not to be exceeded more than seven times per year - have not been exceeded at any of the six continuous monitoring sites since 2016. The annual mean PM2.5 objective of 10µg/m3 has also not been exceeded at any of the six continuous monitoring sites since 2016.</p> <p>In 2021, there were 64 reported road casualties in Aberdeen City of which, 2 were fatalities and 27 were serious injuries. The number of people injured in road traffic accidents has decreased in each of the last three years (from 151 in 2018).</p>
<p><b>12</b> RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</p> 	<p>In 2021, 93,747 tonnes of household waste were generated in Aberdeen City. 2020 and 2021 saw increases in the amount of household waste generated compared to the preceding years. 45.4% was recycled in 2021 (slightly less than the previous year) and 10% was sent to landfill.</p>

<p><b>13</b> CLIMATE ACTION</p> 	<p>In 2021, Greenhouse Gas emissions estimates totalled 1,218 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e for Aberdeen City – up from 1,117 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020, but lower than the figure of 1,305 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2019. Domestic use was the single largest contributor (29.6% of all greenhouse gas emissions) followed by travel (25%). In 2020, per capita emissions were lower in Aberdeen City (5.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) than in Scotland (7.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).</p> <p>Data from the most recent City Voice questionnaire (December 2022), showed that over half (59.9%) of respondents agreed that they were worried about their home and community being vulnerable to severe weather events, double the response in 2020 (30%).</p> <p>Results from the 2021 Scottish Household Survey estimate that 83% of people in Aberdeen City see climate change as an immediate and urgent problem – up from 68% in 2019.</p>
<p><b>14</b> LIFE BELOW WATER</p> 	<p>The River Don is currently classified as in a ‘bad’ ecological condition for its 10.7kms from Dyce to the tidal limit. The River Dee is currently classified as in a ‘moderate’ ecological condition for its 10.4kms from Peterculter to the tidal limit. The Denburn is currently classified as in a ‘moderate’ ecological condition for its 9.2kms length and the Leuchar Burn ‘poor’ ecological condition for 9Kms</p> <p>The coastal water from Don Estuary to Souter Head (50 square kilometers) is classified as in good ecological status. North and south of this strip is in ‘high’ ecological condition.</p>
<p><b>15</b> LIFE ON LAND</p> 	<p>Aberdeen has 2,410 ha of woodland - 13% of ACC’s total land area. By comparison, Scotland’s woodland cover is 18%. Native woodlands account for 22% of the total woodland area in Aberdeen. There are an estimated 115,000 individual street, park and garden and civic trees across the City.</p> <p>In December 2022, 69.9% of City Voice respondents reported that they were satisfied with their local greenspace – up from 65% in March 2020.</p> <p>In 2021, 17% of Aberdeen’s land was protected for nature.</p> <p>86.9% of respondents to the Open Space Audit 2022 questionnaire visit Aberdeen’s greenspace or open space at least once a week (Open Space Audit 2022 questionnaire results will be published as part of the upcoming Open Space Audit report refresh).</p>
<p><b>16</b> PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</p> 	<p>The rate of crime varies across the City and is relatively low in most areas. In 2022/23 the most common crimes and offences recorded in Aberdeen City were Crimes of Dishonesty (5,449), Road Traffic Offences (4,162) and Non-sexual Crimes of Violence (3,608)</p> <p>718 people living in Aberdeen City had a first ever court conviction in 2019/20 which is 21 fewer than the previous year. Of these, 29 were under 18 years and 104 were aged 18-20 years. Of the 1,597 offenders (over 18 years) in the 2018-19 cohort, 31.1% were reconvicted within a year of receiving their sentence.</p> <p>In 2022-23 there were 116 recorded crimes for Domestic Abuse – 54 fewer than in 2021-22.</p>
<p><b>17</b> PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p> 	<p>Aberdeen’s relationship with developing countries is expressed through its status as a Fairtrade City and this accreditation is maintained by a partnership of organisations connecting through the <a href="#">Aberdeen Fair and Sustainable Trade Group</a>.</p> <p>Policy coherence across the goals is being assisted locally by the Aberdeen Community Planning Partnership and other important partnerships which include <a href="#">Aberdeen Climate Action</a>, <a href="#">ACVO</a>, <a href="#">Aberdeen Cycle Forum</a>, <a href="#">Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce</a>, <a href="#">Granite City Good Food   Sustainable Food Places in Aberdeen City</a>, <a href="#">North East Scotland Biodiversity Partnership</a>, <a href="#">NESTRANS</a>.</p>

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## Community Planning Aberdeen

<b>Progress Report</b>	CPA Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Gale Beattie, Chair of CPA Management Group and Aberdeen City Council Director of Commissioning
<b>Report Author</b>	Allison Swanson, Improvement Programme Manager
<b>Date of Report</b>	14 August 2023
<b>Governance Group</b>	CPA Board – 6 September 2023

### Purpose of the Report

This report presents the Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23. This is the seventh Annual Outcome Improvement Report since the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) was published in August 2016, and the second to be published since the LOIP was refreshed in July 2021.

### Summary of Key Information

#### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2016-26 was first approved in 2016 and has been refreshed bi-annually since to ensure it remains relevant and focussed on priority outcomes. The refreshed Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) was approved by Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 7 July 2021. Within the refreshed LOIP there were 15 stretch outcomes to be delivered by 2026 and 74 shorter term improvement aims.
- 1.2 The [CPA Improvement Programme 2021-23](#) was approved by the Board on 15 September 2021 and set out the timescales for both initiation of the new aims within the refreshed LOIP, as well as the timescales for the continuing project charters being reviewed, over the next two years up until 2023. Over the last two years the Partnership has been working towards the improvement aims within the LOIP with a view to improve outcomes for the people of Aberdeen.
- 1.3 On 30 November 2022, the CPA Board approved a New Stretch Outcome 16 within the Community Empowerment Strategy which aimed to achieve “100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026”. Within the new stretch outcome there were 7 further improvement aims setting out what we will improve, by how much and by when.
- 1.4 The Community Empowerment Act (CEA) 2015 requires Community Planning Aberdeen to report progress against the LOIP and Locality Plans annually for the period 1 April to 31 March.

## **2. ANNUAL OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2022/23**

- 2.1 The Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23 contained at Appendix 1 is the second progress report against the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) since it was refreshed in July 2021. It provides the Community Planning Partnership and members of the public with an overview of progress made during 2022/23 towards the achievement of the 15 stretch outcomes and 74 improvement project aims within the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26, as well progress towards Stretch Outcome 16 and the 7 improvement aims from the Community Empowerment Strategy 2023-26. Please note that the reporting covers April 2023 to March 2023 and therefore does not reflect the revised Stretch Outcomes 4-9 approved in April 2024.
- 2.2 A summary Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23 is contained at [Appendix 2](#). This provides a summary of our headline achievements during 2022/23 and an assessment of our overall progress across the themes of economy, people (children and young people and adults), place and community empowerment in a concise easy to understand format. The summary also highlights the different ways people can get involved and contribute to the Community Planning Partnership.
- 2.3 Drawing on evidence from the latest data available within our outcomes framework, as well as improvement data captured from our improvement projects, the report demonstrates the achievements of the Community Planning Partnership and highlights priority areas for improvement for 2023/24. As of 31 March 2023, 5 of our Stretch Outcomes had been achieved with 35 projects ended, of which 74% (26) had achieved their aims. The remaining original improvements projects were still in progress with a view to all concluding by February 2024.

## **3. DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

- 3.1 A Development Plan was produced to support the implementation and delivery of the refreshed LOIP and Locality Plans. It was developed in response to feedback gathered from the CPA Board during a session facilitated by the Improvement Service in April 2021 and from a feedback exercise conducted with Project Leads in March 2021. The plan included five themes for improvement under which actions have been identified to provide cross cutting support to colleagues across the Partnership in the delivery of the LOIP and underpinning Locality Plans. [Appendix 3](#) to the report shows the status of the improvement actions contained in the Plan.

## **4. NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1 The Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23 allows the Community Planning Partnership to take stock of what has been achieved over the last year to progress the improvement aims within the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016- 26. The annual report, alongside the revised population needs assessment and Locality Plan annual Outcome Improvement reports, provides the foundation for the partnership refreshing the LOIP 2016-26 to ensure that the current priorities continue to respond to local need. The Outcome Improvement Groups will use these documents to evaluate progress to date and, alongside community and stakeholder engagement, identify their proposed improvement priorities for the period 2024-26.
- 4.2 Subject to approval by the CPA Board the annual report, will be submitted to the Full Council on 11 October 2023 and will be published and circulated to all partners.

## Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that the CPA Board:

- i) Approve the Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/2023 as contained at Appendix 1 and the summary annual report contained at [Appendix 2](#);
- ii) Agree the submission of the Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/2023 to Full Council on 11 October 2023 and for its publication and circulation to all partners;
- iii) Consider the report in conjunction with the Locality Plan Annual Reports (Item 2.3) to understand the link with the priority issues being tackled via the three Locality Plans; and
- iv) Note the progress against the Development Plan 2021 as contained at [Appendix 3](#).

## Opportunities and Risks

Successful delivery of the revised LOIP 2016-26 requires a robust programme management approach to the delivery of the improvement projects and also requires clear process for alignment to the Locality Plans.

Clear governance arrangements with reporting each meeting cycle and annually, ensures that we have effective outcome management arrangements in place to deliver upon the aims in the LOIP in the timescale and supports projects to continue at pace. The annual report provides an opportunity to reflect on progress achieved towards the stretch outcome aims, but also the implementation of the improvement projects. Alongside the revised population needs assessment, provides a foundation for the partnership refreshing the LOIP 2016-26 to ensure that the current priorities continue to respond to local need.

The Community Empowerment Act (CEA) 2015 requires Community Planning Aberdeen to report progress against the LOIP and Locality Plans annually for the period 1 April to 31 March, submission of the report ensures compliance with our duties.

## Consultation

CPA Management Group  
Michelle Crombie, Community Planning Manager  
CPA Outcome Improvement Groups  
CPA Lead Contacts Group  
Integrated Locality Planning Team

## Background Papers

[Refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016- 26 and CPA Development Plan 2021-2022](#)  
[Final Integrated Locality Plans 2021-26 – North, South and Central](#)

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# Annual Outcome Improvement Report

2022/2023



# FOREWORD

## By Councillor Allard and Chief Superintendent Graeme Mackie

Welcome to our Annual Outcome Improvement Report for 2022-23, which sets out the work that has been undertaken by Community Planning Aberdeen over the past year, our key achievements and successes, as well as those areas where we seek to improve.

As you would expect, it has been a challenging year as we continue to respond to the rising cost of living which is impacting all households, but felt most acutely by those on the lowest incomes that are struggling to cover the essentials such as energy and food.

The scale of the challenge is understood and over the last year Community Planning Aberdeen has worked together with communities, businesses and stakeholders to support people in immediate need and mitigate the impacts of the cost of living crisis. At the same time we have continued to look ahead to the future, taking action to secure the longer term recovery of the City.

Our key achievements during 2022/23 include:

- Supporting people and families across the City during the cost of living crisis with 696 households helped with fuel bills to achieve £134,464.52 in fuel bill savings.
- Increasing household income by helping 3578 people to access unclaimed benefits, supporting 23 unemployed people to start a business and helping 595 people to upskill and reskill to access employment opportunities.
- Encouraging the uptake of parenting support by 52% to help secure improved outcomes for children and young people such as 97.1% of children meeting their expected developmental milestones and 94% of pupils achieving a minimum of SCQF level 3 qualifications.
- Helping more young people reach their potential with a 13% increase in care experienced young people achieving a positive destination and 40% reduction in number of under 18s offending, including 21% reduction in the number of care experienced young people offending.
- Supporting people to make healthier choices through a range of community based interventions, contributing to a 8% reduction in people smoking and living a healthier life style.
- Enabling more people involved in the justice system to access mental health support, seeing a 59% increase in access for people in Police Custody and 55% in HMP Grampian.
- Reducing the harm caused by alcohol and drugs through targeted interventions such as alcohol awareness, naloxone distribution and the sharp response and crisis response which has supported 226 individuals.
- Improving the environment by working with green champions to run 59 initiatives over the year and achieve a 122% increase in community run green space.

These are just some highlights, the quantifiable improvements that help us know whether we are on track to achieve the aims and ambitions of our city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan and underpinning Locality Plans.



Whilst there is much to celebrate here, we are not complacent. Tackling poverty and reducing inequality is core to our purpose and achieving our shared vision for Aberdeen as a place where all people can prosper, regardless of their background or circumstances. There are as many areas where we acknowledge we need to do more to improve outcomes for people and communities and throughout the report we identify where further improvement is required.

Areas for improvement during 2023/24 are:

- Raise awareness of support available to communities to reduce energy bills and other ways to increase income to ensure no one experiences extreme fuel poverty.
- Greater focus on supporting young people to get into employment by offering work placements and modern apprenticeships.
- Continue to nurture our care experienced young people to help them thrive and do well in life despite the challenges they have faced through provision of mental health services and a family support model.
- Earlier and preventative interventions for people most vulnerable to harm caused due to poverty, homelessness, mental health and drugs and alcohol.
- Developing approaches to support low income families to have access to and make healthy food choices to support their overall health.
- Continue to tackle hate crime through expansion of Third-Party Reporting Centres and training to teams across the partnership who face and support those victimised by hate crimes.
- Enable and encourage community led action in times of crisis by supporting neighbourhoods and communities to develop their own community resilience plans, particularly in areas at risk of flooding.
- Continue to tackle climate change by making it easier for communities to choose sustainable travel choices such as walking and cycling through initiative such as bikes for all.

We are committed to driving forward these improvements at pace, whilst ensuring we continue to sustain the gains we have already made. We recognise this will take the continued effort, commitment and innovation of all our partners, staff and communities. The progress demonstrated in this report leaves us in no doubt about the ability and drive of our people and we are excited about what the future year will bring.











***Councillor Allard, Co-Leader of Aberdeen City Council and Chair of Community Planning Aberdeen***











***Chief Superintendent Graeme Mackie, Divisional Commander Police Scotland, Vice Chair of Community Planning Aberdeen***

# Summary of progress 2022/23

This is a summary of our headline achievement during 2022/23 and an assessment of our overall progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes (SO) we have set out to achieve in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 and the Community Empowerment Strategy 2023-26. Our assessment is based on current performance compared to 2016 when we started our plan.

ECONOMY		PEOPLE				PLACE	
<b><u>SO1</u></b> No one will suffer due to poverty by 2026.  Page 140	CHALLENGES	<b><u>SO4</u></b> 95% of children will reach their expected developmental milestones. 	EXCEEDED	<b><u>SO10</u></b> 25% fewer people receiving a first ever Court conviction and 2% fewer people reconvicted within one year by 2026. 	EXCEEDED	<b><u>SO13</u></b> Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by at least 61% by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate. 	PROGRESSING
<b><u>SO2</u></b> 400 unemployed Aberdeen City residents supported into Fair Work by 2026. 	PROGRESSING	<b><u>SO5</u></b> 90% of children and young people will report that their experiences of mental health and wellbeing have been listened to by 2026. 	PROGRESSING	<b><u>SO11</u></b> Healthy life expectancy (time lived in good health) is five years longer by 2026. 	PROGRESSING	<b><u>SO14</u></b> 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026. 	PROGRESSING



<div>SO3</div> <div>500 Aberdeen City residents upskilled/ reskilled to enable them to move into, within and between economic opportunities as they arise by 2026.</div> <div></div> <div>Page 141</div>	EXCEEDED	<div>SO6</div> <div>95% of care experienced children and young people will have the same levels of outcome as their peers.</div> <div></div>	PROGRESSING	<div>SO12</div> <div>Rate of harmful levels of alcohol consumption reduced by 4% and Drug related deaths lower than Scotland by 2026.</div> <div></div>	ACHIEVED	<div>SO15</div> <div>Addressing the nature crisis by protecting/ managing 26% of Aberdeen’s area for nature by 2026.</div> <div></div>	PROGRESSING	
		<div>SO7</div> <div>95% of children living in our priority neighbourhoods will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026.</div> <div></div>	PROGRESSING				<div>COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT</div>	
		<div>SO8</div> <div>Child Friendly City by 2026.</div> <div></div>	EMBEDDED				<div>SO16</div> <div>100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026.</div> <div></div>	PROGRESSING
		<div>SO9</div> <div>30% fewer young people (under 18) charged with an offence by 2026.</div> <div></div>	EXCEEDED					

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# What our data is telling us?



## How to make sense of the data in this report

Under each there within this report there is a section called 'What is our data telling us?' These sections include run charts which have been prepared using the data available for the improvement aims within the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26. The purpose of the run charts is to display data over time and help us assess visually whether the changes we are making are resulting in improvement.

-  The coloured line shows CPA performance to date.
-  The black line shows the Stretch Outcome aim and improvement aim, where applicable set within the CPA Improvement Programme for 2021/23 so we can assess if we are on track to achieve our improvement aims set for the year. Where there is no black line the data does not relate to an improvement aim or Stretch Outcome and there will therefore be no ragging for that data.

We have also used a traffic light system to help you see at a glance, where we think we are in terms of improvement. The significance of the variation in data over time will depend on the improvement measure **and** population size it relates to. For example, for some improvement measures a 0.5% increase may be very significant, whilst for others it may need to be a 5% increase to be considered significant.




In applying the RAG (Red, Amber, Green) we have taken a rounded view of performance, taking into account subject matter expertise, local context and consideration of progress towards our improvement aims to answer the question:

### Are our changes resulting in improvement?

- **Yes (Data shows improving trend and / or achievement of aim)**
- **Getting there (Data shows improving or varied trend and / or on track to achieve aim)**
- **Not yet (Data shows declining trend and not on track to achieve aim)**



# Prosperous Economy

What we are working towards		How we are doing	
<b><u>SO1</u></b> No one will suffer due to poverty by 2026.		<b>CHALLENGES</b>	8.4% of City Voice respondents reported that during the last 12 months there was a time when they were worried they would not have enough food to eat – up from 6.5% in City Voice 45.
<b><u>SO2</u></b> 400 unemployed Aberdeen City residents supported into Fair Work by 2026.		<b>PROGRESSING</b>	<b>44% of Stretch Outcome 2</b> achieved with 175 people supported into sustained, good quality employment.
<b><u>SO3</u></b> 500 Aberdeen City residents upskilled/reskilled to enable them to move into, within and between economic opportunities as they arise by 2026.		<b>EXCEEDED</b>	<b>Stretch Outcome 3 exceeded</b> with 595 people upskilled/reskilled.

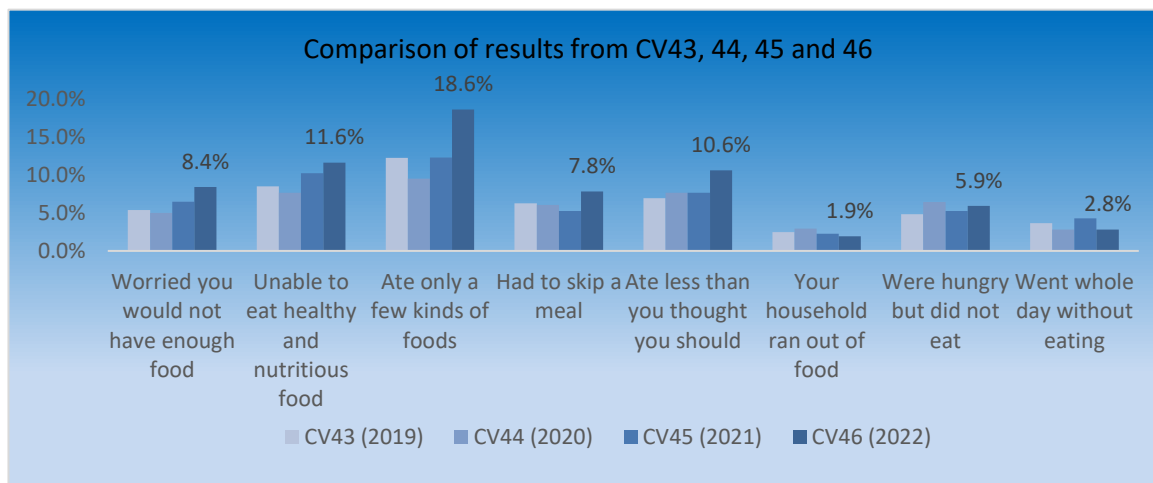


## NO ONE in Aberdeen will suffer due to poverty by 2026

The pandemic had pushed many people into poverty partly due to reduced income and this situation has been compounded in 2022/23 when we have been in the midst of the cost of living crisis. This has had substantial implications for households across the city, with both food and energy prices increasing, resulting in more people being in immediate and acute poverty. The impact has not been evenly spread, with certain groups more likely to experience these negative effects, most often those who were already lowest paid and closest to poverty.

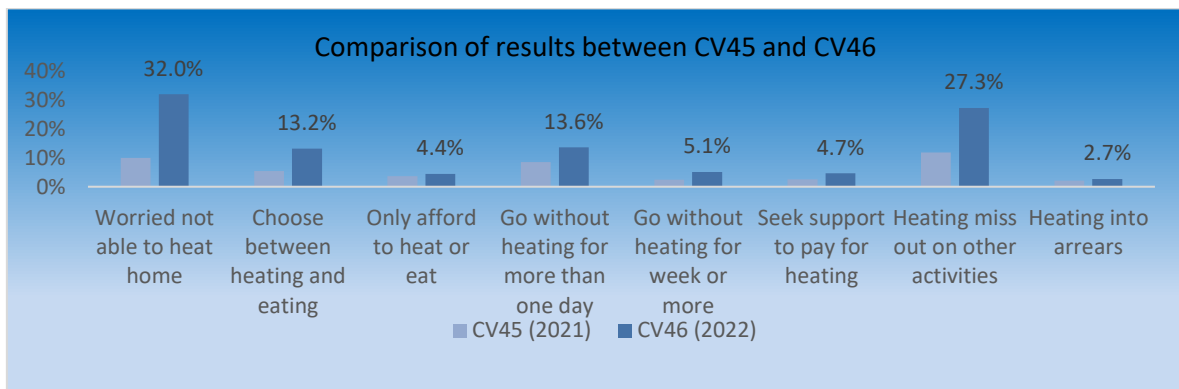
Community Planning Aberdeen recognise the pressure that households are under, in particular the difficult choices many are making on what to allocate their money on. We know that poverty and inequality can lead to negative outcomes and reducing both has always been and continues to be the central ambition throughout the LOIP, with this commitment further demonstrated through Stretch Outcome 1. It provides an additional focus on improvements aiming to mitigate the impact of acute poverty we have seen both through the pandemic and now from the cost of living crisis and supporting all people across the city have access to food, fuel, shelter, and finance.

In the City Voice 2022, panellists were asked about their ability to access healthy or nutritious food. Data shows that since 2021, the proportion of respondents who answered 'yes' has increased in most categories, with the largest increase being in the proportion who reported they ate only a few kinds of food (from 12.3% to 18.6%); 10.6 % reported that they ate less than they thought they should compared to 7.6% in 2021 and 8.4% that they were worried they would not have enough food to eat due to money or lack of other resources up from 6.5% in 2021. However, there was a decrease in the number of panellists responding that they went a whole day without eating from 4.3% to 2.8%.



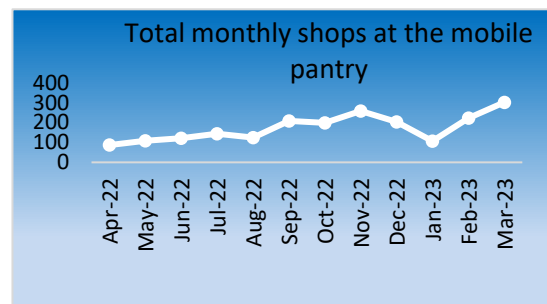
The City Voice also asked about respondents' ability to heat their homes, and there have been increases in the percentage who answer 'yes' across all questions, with the most notable being increases in the proportion of respondents who report being worried about not being able to heat their home (from 10% to 32%) as well the proportion who say that paying for heating has meant they have had to miss out on other activities (increase from 11.8% to 27.3%).





## Widening access to affordable food in our priority neighbourhoods

Increasing access to affordable food continues to be a key focus, particularly with food prices rising at the fastest rate in 40 years and we know that such increases whilst affecting most households, they are more likely to disproportionately affect those on low incomes, as they spend a higher proportion of their household budget on food and drink. As such, through [our community food pantry project](#) we have focused on increasing access to affordable food in our priority neighbourhoods. Recognising the challenges people can face attending one of our fixed food pantries, a mobile food pantry was launched in September 2021 to increase accessibility within our priority neighbourhoods and widen the reach. The positive response to the mobile pantry has continued throughout this year and is now available in 10 neighbourhoods on a bi-weekly basis, a 67% increase. The areas are Middlefield, Sheddocksley, Kincorth, Torry, Tillydrone, Seaton, Northfield, Quarryhill, Bucksburn and Hilton.



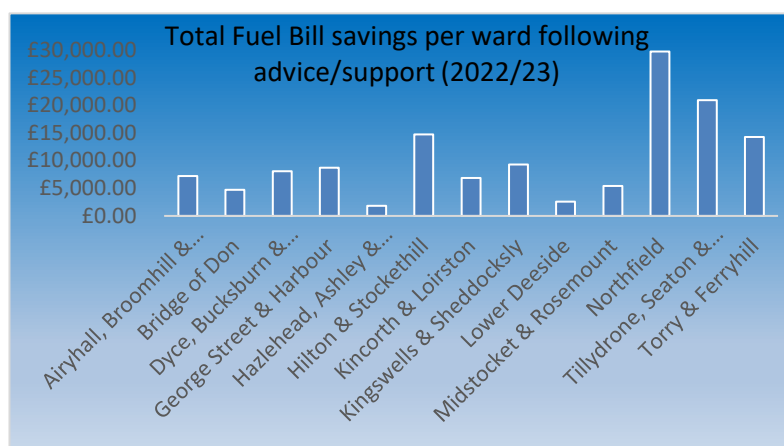
Across all 10 areas there has been a total of 2088 shops at the mobile pantry, a 454% increase since 2021/22 and representing 20% of all pantry shops across the city. This increase has also been seen across the two other food pantries, with overall a 67% in the total number of shops across all food pantries from 5726 in 2021/22 to 10234 in 2022/23.

## Supporting Fuel Energy

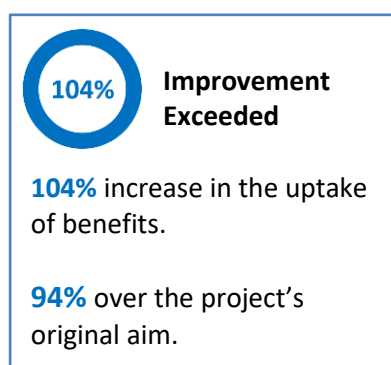
In response to the fuel crisis experienced by households, we have been focused on increasing awareness of the [support available for both fuel bills, insulation and energy efficiency](#). We have been proactively attending a variety of community events, including the various warm spaces established in 2022/23 by Aberdeen City Council and a range of partners. To ensure that the reach and awareness is as wide as possible we've also been training frontline staff across partners so that they can signpost individuals to support available.

During 2022/23 there has been a 20% increase in the number of referrals to SCARF, 2542 referrals to SCARF for fuel poverty support and 1904 direct enquiries. Of those who provided full/partial information, 53% (166) were in fuel poverty and 8 removed as a result of support.

Overall, as a result of the promotion, information sessions, attendance at events, in 2022/23, we have supported 696 households with fuel bills and made approx. 237 home visits to deliver insulation and energy efficiency measures. As a result, a total of £134,464.52 in fuel bill savings was made across the city in 2022/23.



## Enabling People to Claim the Benefits They're Entitled To



Ensuring that household income is maximised through the uptake of unclaimed benefits is a key aspect to supporting households to come out of poverty and improve their financial security. There continues to be barriers such as stigma of claiming, unaware of what they are entitled to, and onerous application processes which can mean people do not claim the benefits they are entitled to. In response, through our [benefit uptake project](#), we have implemented improvements to mitigate these barriers.

During 2022/23, the project has further promoted the online benefit calculator, which enables people to self-serve and check the benefits they're entitled to with privacy, through an ongoing promotional campaign, targeting organisations/community groups supporting people experiencing financial instability and/or poverty. In this reporting period, 4259 people have used the calculator with £627,088.68 benefits identified. Of those who completed the calculator 84% had unclaimed benefits identified, with on average £52,257.40 of unclaimed benefits identified per month, compared to £19,371.35 per month from August 2021 to March 2022. This is a 170% increase since Aug 21/March 22 and a 104% increase since the baseline period in uptake of unclaimed benefits on average per month through the online benefit calculator.



We've also focused on taking a targeted approach using data to identify household who should be entitled to Pension Credits and contacting them directly by letter. Using this approach 410 households were identified who qualified for Pension Credits and would be entitled to £172,218.42 weekly/ £895,357.84 annually. People contacted have feedback that ***without the contact they wouldn't have been aware of entitlement and wouldn't have made the claim.*** This system is now built in with eligible households now contacted as business as usual and the next step is to test a system to auto award benefits where data available confirms eligibility.

Recognising that some people will need support the Financial Inclusion Team have established new referral pathways targeted at specific groups and supported 2995 people. Also as part of our improvement work we are also focused on providing [financial assessments to people presenting as homeless to ensure that they have access to all appropriate benefits.](#) In 2021/22 there was 1,405 homelessness applications in Aberdeen City, a 4% reduction since last year and 18% reduction since

2018. Through our financial assessment, between May 2022 February 2023, 75% of people who have presented as homeless have completed a financial assessment and accessed all appropriate benefits. Of those who have completed an assessment during this period, 81 people (10%) have had additional benefits identified to a value of £434,296.

Finally, the landscape around child age benefits is complex, to ease this a families' booklet was developed to increase awareness and uptake of these benefits such as, Education Maintenance Allowance and School Clothing Grants. The booklet targeted families and provided guidance on how to claim. The evaluation data shows the positive impact of the booklet with 90% of people who responded reporting that they found the families' booklet useful and 25% went on to submit a claim. Feedback also reported that families wanted the information provided on a regular basis and not as a one off and that it needed to be easy to access on an ongoing basis.

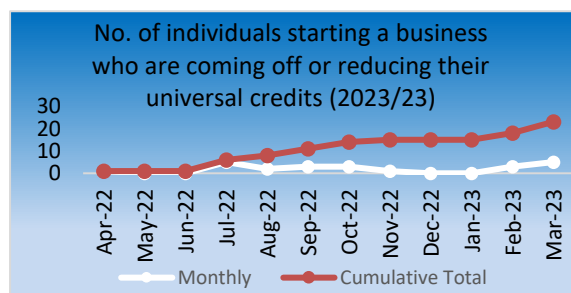


## Supporting people into fair work employment opportunities

**175 PEOPLE**  
supported into  
sustained, good  
quality  
employment

The proportion of our working age population who are economically active has fallen from 76.9% (Jan-Dec 2021) to 71.2% in (Jan-Dec 2022), with 5,090 claimants in Aberdeen in March 2023, down from 9675 in March 2021, but up from 3270 in March 2016. 47% of claimants are from our priority neighbourhoods, down from 53% in March 2020. Community Planning Aberdeen are focused on developing new fair work employment opportunities and supporting people into those opportunities through a variety of improvements ranging from business creation; increasing the number of Real Living Wage employers and providing targeted pathways to support those groups who experience the most disadvantage and inequality.

Through our varied improvement activity 175 people have been supported into sustained, good quality employment. One such project has focused on supporting people to start a business, with 37 individuals in total, 23 in 2022/23 and 14 in 2021/22 starting a business which has either taken them off universal credits or significantly reduced their universal credits. Of the 37 people who started a business, 3 were from priority neighbourhoods (PNs) in the North, 5 from PNs in South and 8 from PNs in Central. This has been achieved through new bespoke funding streams targeting support to young people and parents to support them start a business.





We've also focused on providing support within the heart of our communities with a dedicated Business Gateway Adviser based in a priority neighbourhood in each locality to help increase the number of direct referrals. As a result, 104 referrals of individuals in receipt of universal credits who are investigating starting a business since the start of the programme.

### Impact of our support

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Carly Stewart, qualified beauty therapist, became unemployed. While relying on Universal Credit, she reached out for 'Expert Support' from Business Gateway in starting up a business of her own. Through Business Gateway services, Carly was connected with Aberdeen City Council & successfully applied for start-up funding through the Parental Support Fund. This enabled her to purchase the commercial equipment needed to start & develop her skin specialist business, Karma Beauty.

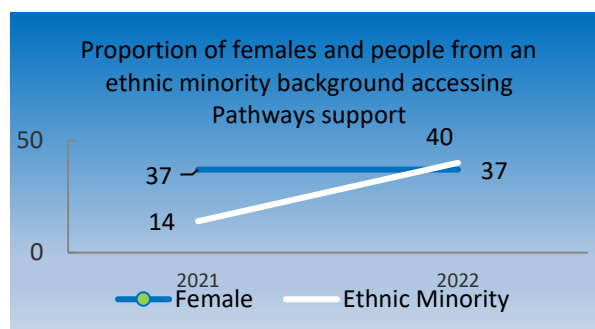
Carly said, describing her 1-1 adviser support, "My adviser Gillian, was brilliant, and helped me throughout the whole process, advising me on how to plan and prepare my business, to supporting me with funding opportunities."

Over the past 6 months, Carly has continued to develop her business. Now working in the medical aesthetics field with a focus on non-surgical injectable procedures. With Gillian's encouragement Carly "has worked incredibly hard to get to where she is, from being unemployed to launching a business in the height of the pandemic. It is fantastic to see how well Karma Beauty is doing and to have been able to support her.

### Targeted employability support to reduce inequalities

Inequalities in society have increased with national reports evidencing that the impacts of the pandemic and the cost of living crisis have not been evenly spread. In light of this, through different projects, we are targeting employability support to those experiencing inequalities, focusing on care experienced young people, females and ethnic minority people initially.

Targeted support has included development and promotion of specific pathways for employability support and as a result of this approach through our [support for people most disadvantaged by the pandemic project](#), in 2022 we have seen a 107% increase in the number of ethnic minority people being referred to Pathways for employability support, along with a 186% increase in the number then accessing support.



Through our [priority neighbourhood and over 50 employment project](#), bespoke employability support events focused on individuals over 50, with a disability and from our priority neighbourhoods have been held. Specifically, three 'Your Routes to Work' employability support events were held in priority neighbourhoods. These were aimed at young people disengaged from school, school leavers, work returners and their wider families to find out information on how to get into employment, training, education or volunteering as well as provide money and benefit advice. 30 people attended the event in Northfield; 42 the Torry event and 16 attended Tillydrone. Exit surveys were completed with a small number of event attendees. Everyone who attended and provided feedback felt the event was useful or very useful and all would be likely to visit a future event. Some people would like the events to include businesses with opportunities so more like a jobs fair.

In addition to the above, in relation to supporting people over 50, particularly from our priority neighbourhoods, a range of employability pilots have been developed and tested since September 2022, these have included dedicated 50+ work coaches, the launch of an employer recruitment incentive scheme, and a pilot Older but Wiser employability pilot support group. The pilot support group ran over an 8 week period and was well received with 7 participants consistently attending the 8 weeks. Travel vouchers were provided to support the participants attend a number of career fairs which occurred over the 8 week period and one participant was able to secure a job at one of these events. As a result of the supports above as at March 2023, 10 people, all from our priority neighbourhoods, have gained employment. We are also seeing positive outcomes with latest Local Government Benchmarking Framework data showing that 2,611 people in 2021/22 were progressing positively through the employability pipeline – considerably higher than the figure for 2022/21 of 149.

## Supporting our care experienced young people

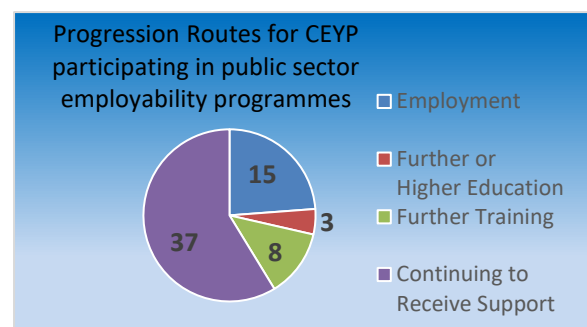


Inequalities are also experienced by care experienced young people (CEYP) who often face significant barriers to employment and will need additional support and mentoring to help them achieve and sustain employment. We are committed to supporting CEYP achieving the same outcomes as their peers and one aspect of this is achieving positive destinations (education, training, formal volunteering), with the ultimate goal of moving into employment.

The journey and support required for each care experienced young person will vary and through our [employability support for care experienced young people](#) project, we have attested a variety of initiatives ensuring that each were designed with needs of the young person being at the heart of that process. Initiatives included:

- a guaranteed interview scheme for CEYP (who fit the person spec)
- a tailored employability support programme, RiteWorks, with work experience,
- pathway planning meeting for CEYP in school
- a tailored induction into work

As a result of the above we are delighted to report that as at January 2023, 63 CEYP had accessed employability support via ABZWorks, with 15 moving into employment; three into further or higher education, eight to further training and the remainder continuing receiving support.



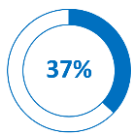
## Impact of our support

Rebekah (Bekah) joined the Council as a Kickstart intern, blazing her way into the organisation, making a great impact and really positive first impressions to everyone she met in the course of her six month post with the Talent team. She took a lead role in the development of our ABZWorks Instagram page and impressed everyone with her knowledge, determination to learn and succeed, honesty, and hard-work.

Bekah tells her own story here [in her LinkedIn post](#). She left Aberdeen City Council at the end of her placement to move elsewhere in the country. She quickly secured work and is doing well.

Another young person, who has faced a number of challenges and lost an apprenticeship, has been supported to set up his own business through seed funding we made available through Young Person Guarantee monies. We worked in partnership with Business Gateway to get a business plan and funding plan developed, provided funding in a staged way to gradually equip him for the challenges of business, provided a laptop and phone, driving lessons, other training, and he is now fully established in a self-employed role. This would not have been possible without steady and structured support.

## 37% increase in employers paying the Real Living Wage



**Improvement  
Project Aim  
Achieved**

**37%** increase in Aberdeen employers paying the Real Living Wage since 21/22

**On track to achieve 5% increase year on year by 2026.**

Our commitment to alleviating in-work poverty remains a key priority and in November 2022, we took a further step forward in our desire to [Make Aberdeen a Living Wage City](#), with the publication of our Aberdeen Living Wage Action Plan, developed by a collaboration of employers and stakeholders from across the public, private and third sectors and led by Scottish Enterprise on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen.



Based on data from Living Wage Scotland, there are currently 84 employers (April 2023) headquartered in the city now Real Living Wage accredited – a 37% increase since 2021/22 and a 91% increase since January 2020. With 20 new employers signing up in 22/23, this is the highest number of new accreditations since the project begun. 1,695 workers have received an uplift in wages since the establishment of the real Living Wage movement in the city which now covers over 42,800 employees. Latest data available showed that 93.3% of employees in the city were in living wage employment, a 6.3% increase since 2021 and a 11.3% increase since 2016. The impact for both employers and employees is reflected in the feedback below:

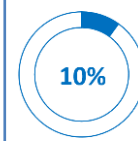
“We just feel that paying the real Living Wage is the right thing to do. A team that has to worry less about money is a happier team. We’ve been paying the real Living Wage for a number of years but we’ve decided to become accredited to demonstrate our commitment to the team. We also hope it’ll encourage other companies to do the same.”  
**Gary Henderson, Managing Director of Grampian Fasteners**

“Aberdeen’s ambition to become a Living Wage City is an essential initiative for the overall economic wellbeing of our region. When people are paid well, with fair contracts, and schedules that they know in advance, people are more productive and able to live better quality lives. They’re able to plan and provide for their families, which is what everyone wants to do. Yet the statistics are stark and we need to encourage all business owners to take this step, to make a real difference to boost the social and economic life of Aberdeen and beyond.” **Andrew Alleway, Managing Director of Tidy Green Clean and Chair of the Aberdeen City Living Wage Action Group**

## Increasing digital access and skills to improve employability opportunities

**595 PEOPLE**  
upskilled/  
reskill to access  
new jobs as  
they arise

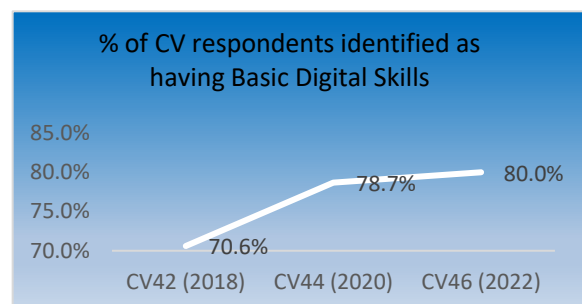
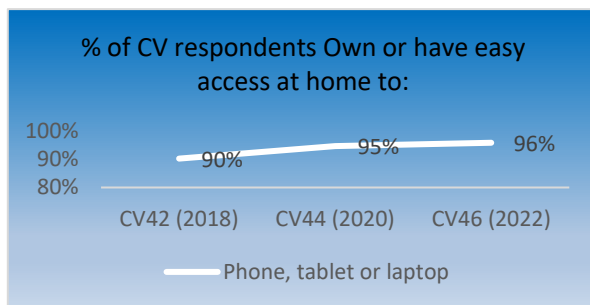
Digitisation will continue to change the world of work and without access to digital devices and basic digital skills our citizens will see their job possibilities restricted. Community Planning Aberdeen are committed to ensuring that all can be resilient in this digital economy and have access to employment opportunities by having the ability to learn new digital skills and to apply them at work. Through our improvement activity we



**Improvement  
Project Aim  
Achieved**

**10%** increase in basic digital skills and 6% increase in access to devices.

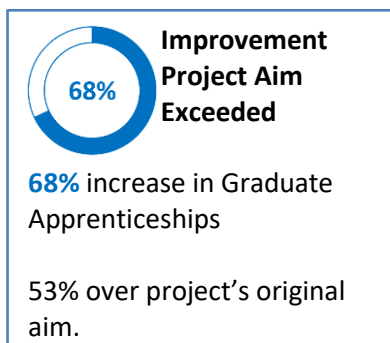
have seen positive outcomes for both digital access and skills with a 9.4% increase in the percentage of respondents to our City Voice identified as having basic digital skills, with 80% of respondents in 2022, compared to 70.6% in 2018. Similarly, there has been a 6% increase in the proportion of respondents who have access to at least one of the devices has increased from 90% to 96%.



In conjunction with the Connecting Scotland programme and similar local schemes, [digital access across the city](#) has improved substantially with 1439 digital devices were issued between March 2020 and March 2021. 320 of the devices were issued to individuals who were unemployed and on low incomes to support employability. In addition, 1798 people/households received MiFi - this has ensured 1798 households now have digital access.

Devices were only part of the support provided, we also rolled out support to develop and improve basic digital skills, again with positive outcomes with 387 people overall directly trained/upskilled to support employability opportunities.

## 68% increase in Graduate Apprenticeships



We are committed to developing and promoting a range of pathways into employment and learning, with a particular focus on routes that remove some of the barriers to learning such as financial pressured. [Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships](#) are two routes enabling people to combine academic and vocational qualifications with on the job experience and therefore enabling people to earn as they learn.

Despite a challenging economic environment, we have achieved positive outcomes resulting from the promotional events for employers and potential apprentices, as well as the introduction of incentives for employers through the Apprentice Employer Grant where employers were offered £5k on recruitment of a new Modern Apprentice (MA). Data shows a 68% increase in Graduate Apprenticeships in 2022/23 compared to 2019/20. As a region, whilst there has been a 15% decrease in MA starts between the baseline year and 2022/23, however in our test area NESCol (where the improvement projects have been trialled), NESCol data demonstrates that the interventions in this period have resulted in a 36% increase from 157 in 2019/20 to 214 in 2022/23.

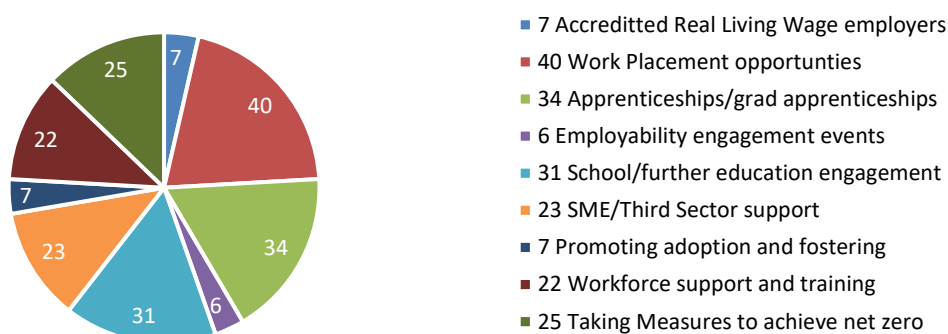
## Responsible Businesses supporting our communities



Our collaboration with businesses continues to grow with positive outcomes for our communities, with a 200% increase in the number of [responsible business partners](#) as at March 2023. Through our Annual Responsible Business Event, as well as partnership working with Business in the Community to create and promote events for members of the business networks and creation of a Community Planning Aberdeen linked in account, Community Planning Aberdeen are now working with 27 Responsible Business Partners all of whom

are contributing to the achievement of our LOIP outcomes. The chart below summarises just some of the outcomes achieved by our Responsible Business Partners in 2022-2023:

Our Network's Impact

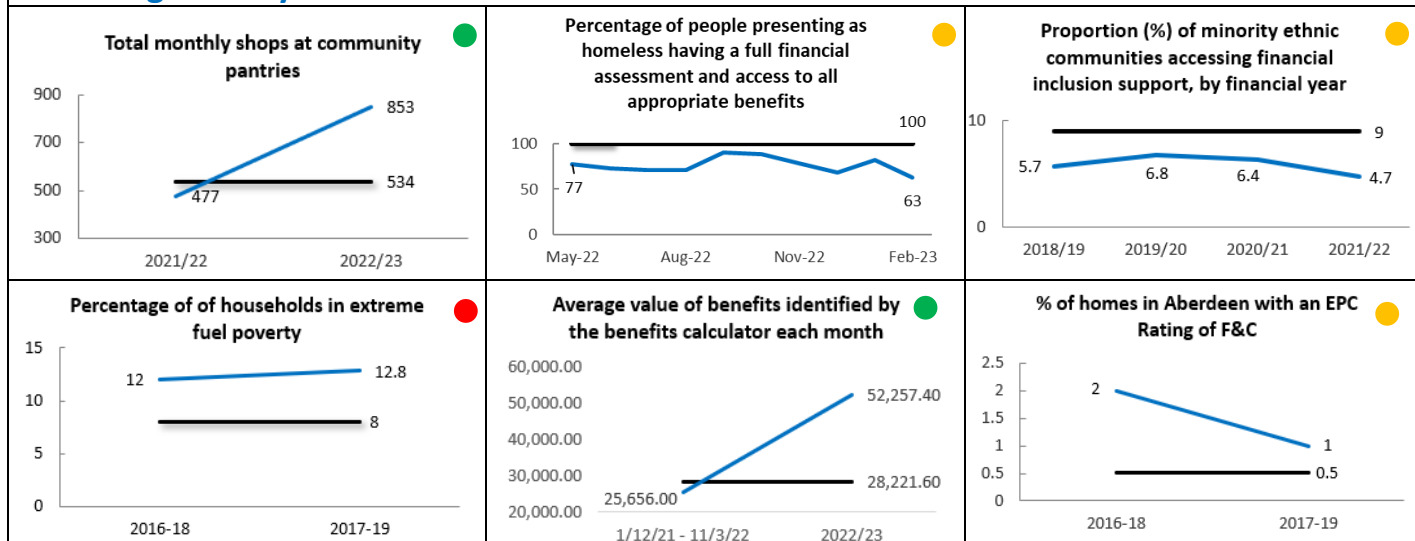


# What impact have we had?

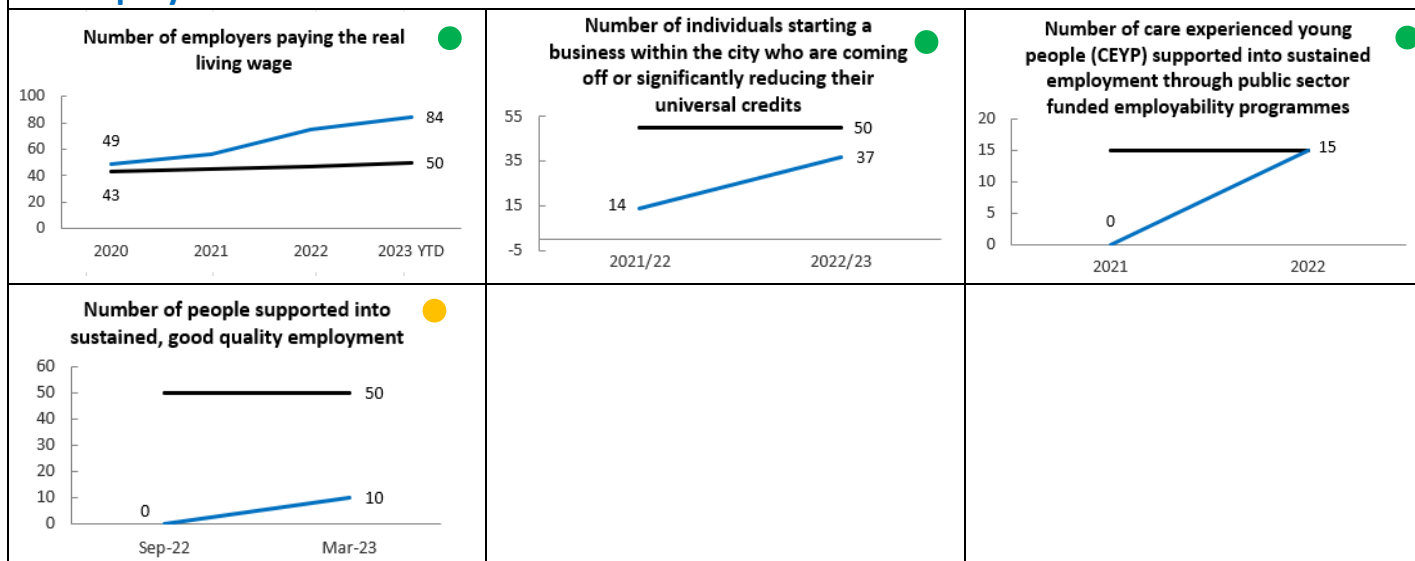
- Yes
- Getting there
- Not yet

22/23 improvement aim Performance

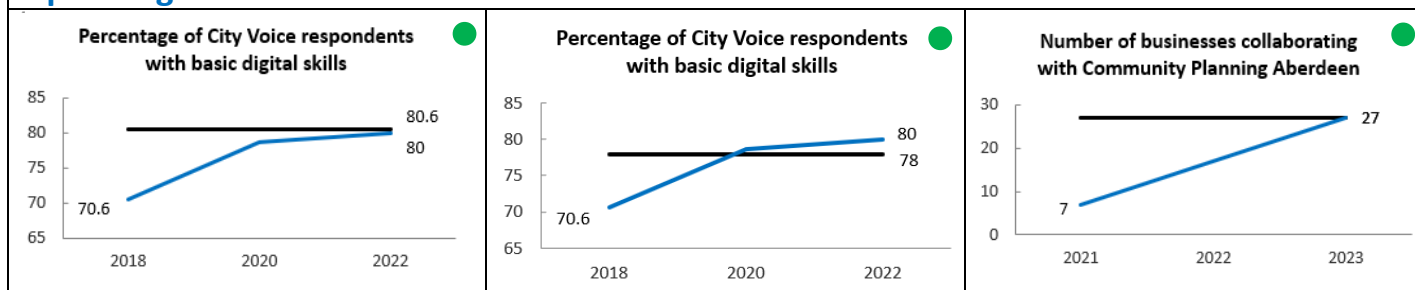
## Reducing Poverty



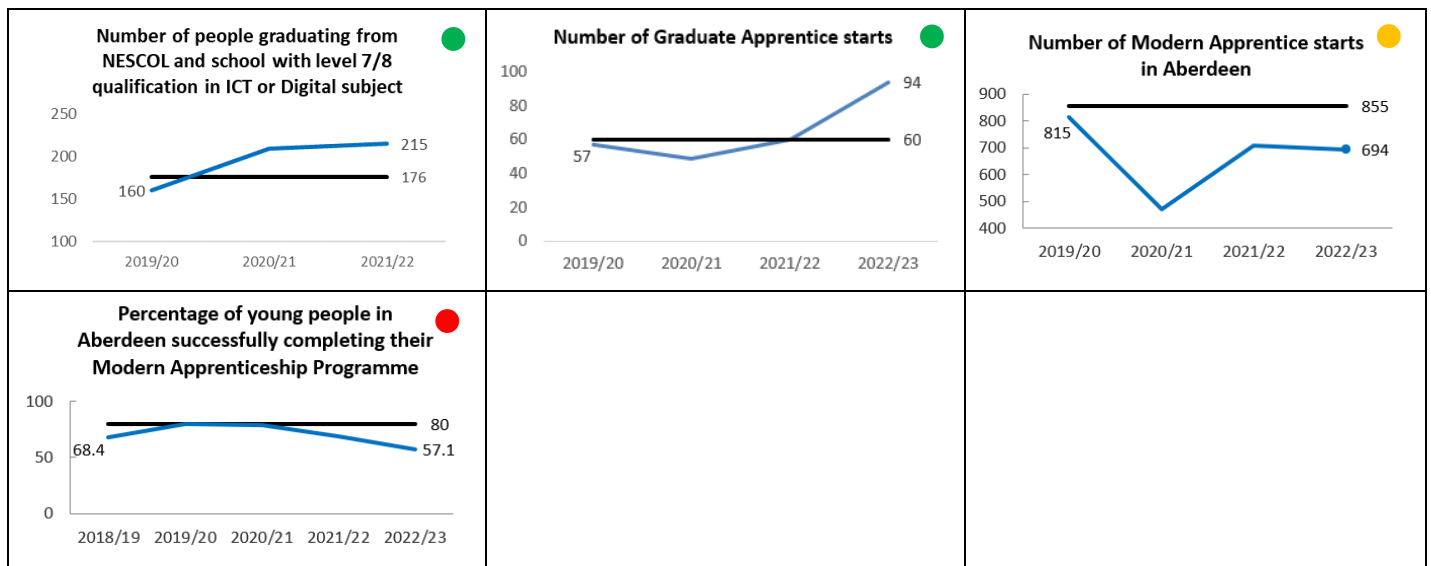
## Unemployed Residents in Fair Work



## Upskilling Residents







## Improvement priorities 2023/24






- Expanding use of data to be able to identify and make direct contact, and where possible, auto award, for other benefits to ensure all are receiving their benefit entitlement.
- Raising awareness of support available to reduce energy bills and the number of households in fuel poverty
- Supporting all households presenting as homeless to complete financial assessments as part of the homelessness assessment to ensure all are receiving their benefit entitlement.
- Outreach by financial inclusion services into community spaces to increase uptake by people within protected groups.
- Supporting individuals to come off, or reduce universal credit by starting up a business.
- Supporting people into sustained, good quality employment, with a particular focus on; those from priority neighbourhoods and people over 50.
- Supporting young people into and to complete Modern Apprenticeships.



# Prosperous People

## Children & Young People

### Our Stretch Outcomes

What we are working towards		How we are doing
<b>SO4</b> 95% of children will reach their expected developmental milestones 	<b>EXCEEDED</b>	<b>97.1%</b> of children having a 27-30 month review met their expected developmental milestones in 2020/21, <b>2.1%</b> over Stretch Outcome 4.
<b>SO5</b> 90% of children and young people will report that their experiences of mental health and wellbeing have been listened to by 2026. 	<b>PROGRESSING</b>	<b>68%</b> of children and young people report they feel listened to all of the time, <b>up 4%</b> since March 2022.
<b>SO6</b> 95% of care experienced children and young people will have the same levels of outcome as their peers.	<b>PROGRESSING</b>	<b>3.1%</b> reduction in the gap between the % of care experienced young people and all young people achieving a positive and sustained destination in 20/21.
<b>SO7</b> 95% of children living in our priority neighbourhoods will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026. 	<b>PROGRESSING</b>	3% decrease in the % of young people from Quintile 1 achieving a positive and sustained destination (81.5% in 20/21 compared to 84.5% in 16/17) and a 3.7% increase in the % of young people from Quintile 2 achieving a positive and sustained destination (91.6% in 20/21 compared to 87.9% in 16/17).
<b>SO8</b> Child Friendly City by 2026 	<b>EMBEDDED</b>	
<b>SO9</b> 30% fewer young people (under 18) charged with an offence by 2026. 	<b>EXCEEDED</b>	<b>40% decrease</b> in number of young people being charged with an offence (985 in 21/22 compared to 588 in 15/16)



# Progress made during 2022/23



## Supporting children have the best start in life

**STRETCH OUTCOME 4  
EXCEEDED WITH 97.1%  
OF CHILDREN reached  
their expected  
developmental  
milestone on time**

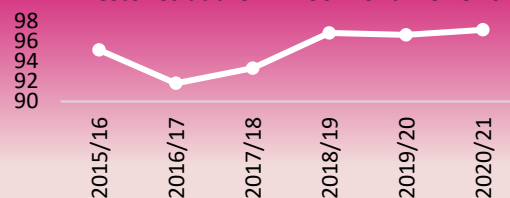


Latest data available at the end of 2020/21 shows that we have sustained and further exceeded our stretch outcome that 95% of children meet their developmental milestones at the time of their 27-30 month review, with 97.1% achieved compared to 96.6% in the previous reporting period and 85.1% for Scotland.

Although in the previous period, the stretch outcome had been achieved, CPA recognised that the COVID pandemic had a substantial impact on our children, young people, and their families, with feedback from education and other early years

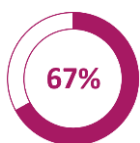
settings stating that there is an emerging gap in children's development and the skills they have before they begin nursery or school compared to pre Covid 19. We needed to do more to support all children get the best start in life and throughout 2022/23 we focused on implementing new approaches that enable families to receive the parenting and family support they need, both pre birth and post and that developed the confidence of staff and families to identify any issues and enable access to the appropriate intervention at the earliest opportunity.

% of children meeting developmental milestones at their 27-30 month reviews



## Reducing preventable harms to children pre and post birth

There are many preventable harms, both pre and post birth, that impact on the health and development of a child. Through our improvement activity we are making changes that are focused on early intervention and prevention, with the aim of reducing harm occurring in the first place and creating a safe and supportive environment for children to thrive in.



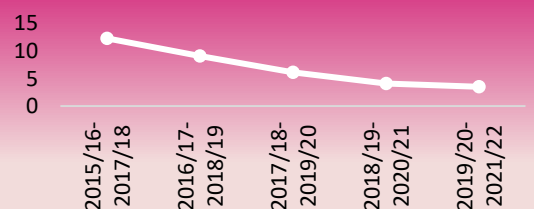
**Improvement  
Project Aim  
Exceeded**

**67%** decrease in the number of births affected by drugs.

Pre birth, we are supporting maternal health and wellbeing and providing information and resources to enable families to make informed decisions on areas that are likely to impact on their unborn child such as substance use and

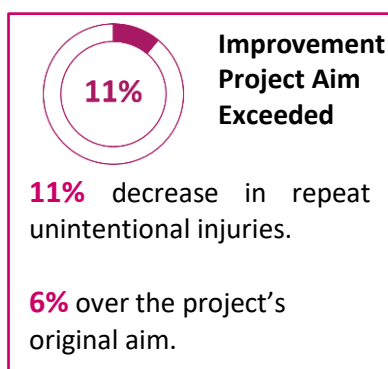
healthy eating. Through our [births affected by drugs project](#), we have developed and promoted a variety of campaigns to raise awareness of sexual health support available and the impact of substances on an unborn child. Recognising that different approaches are required depending on individual circumstances, we have set up an outreach approach to increase availability of contraception and promotion of choice and control to vulnerable people. Between July and December 2022, our Sharp Response 'Crisis Intervention' service had scheduled 259 home visits enabling us to engage with people

Rate of Births Affected by Drugs



who would be unlikely to engage directly with sexual health services. These improvements have secured a continuous downward trend, with a 67% reduction in the total number of births affected over the 3 year period reducing from 70 (2016/17-18/19) to 23 in 2019/20-21/22. Preventative approaches, such as support and information has also enabled us to achieve a continued reduction in the percentage of women in the city who smoke during pregnancy with latest data showing this to be 12.1% which is again lower than the rates in Scotland of 12.9%.

## Preventing unintentional injuries

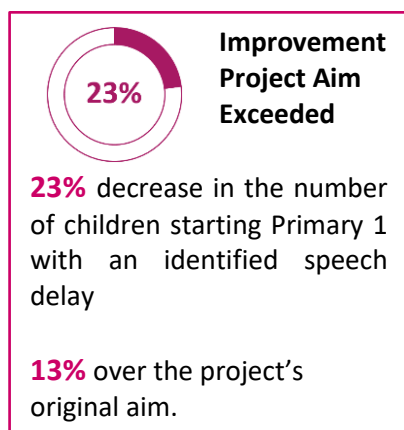


A high proportion of unintentional injuries (UIs) are preventable. Through our [repeat unintentional injuries project](#), we are building the capacity of multi-agency staff who work directly with families to identify potential harms and to support parents to also identify and steps to prevent these. Staff have also been provided with Keeping Kids Safe Packs to discuss and provide to families where potential for risk has been identified, with 75 kits issued by Feb 2023. As a result of the changes, the project has



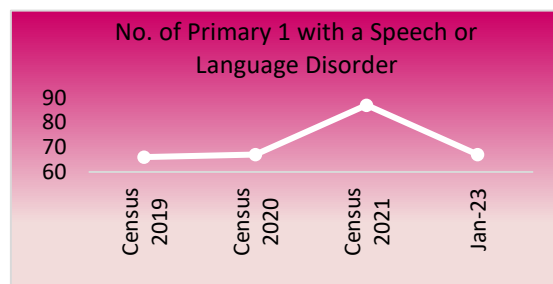
surpassed its aim of a 5% reduction, with an 11% reduction in the number UI repeat admissions between 2017/18 to 2020/21. The data also shows an improvement in the number of overall emergency admissions for UIs in under 5's with a 5.5% reduction between 2016/17 to 2018/19 and 2019/20 to 2021/22.

## Addressing the impact of the pandemic

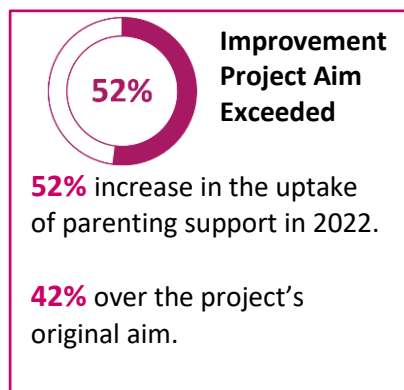


Covid-19 restricted social and family interactions, having a significant impact on young children's development, particularly in speech and language delays. Our [reducing the number of children starting Primary 1 with an identified speech delay project](#) has worked collaboratively across all our early years settings to ensure speech and language is fully integrated in the planning for our children. The Nursery Nurse role is now responsible for identifying developmental issues and a referral pathway has been introduced to ensure children receive the support they need. We have also developed a multi-agency single speech and language parent resource to support parents with early detection and awareness of the pathway for support. To ensure that children facing adversity also have equal

access, we have built on the partnership between health and (early) education through the Links Nursery and Hub and strengthened our collaboration with weekly integrated planning meetings held that cover all areas of developmental need and with a focus on children facing adversity. The interventions have resulted in a 23% decrease since 2021 in the number of primary 1 pupils with a speech or language disorder, exceeding our aim by 13%. However, it is recognised that this is early evidence, and we continue to monitor the impact of the initiative to ensure the improvement is sustained.

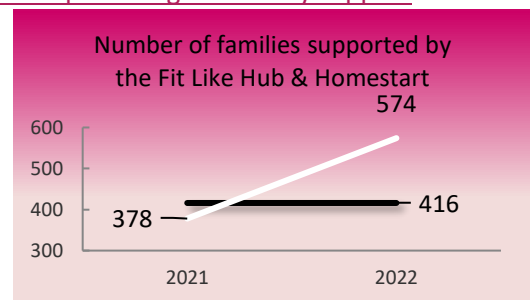


## Removing the barriers to families accessing parenting support



We understand that online resources and signposting is only part of the support needed by families. Health and education staff have provided feedback that during Covid parents had not engaged with the online support available to the same level as face to face interactions. In response to this, we have collaborated with families and early years services to identify barriers and make improvements. This has included streamlining the referral process for both self referrals and for professionals; prioritising families based on their level of need; and providing opportunities to meet in person. Through these approaches, we have surpassed our aim by 42% with a 52% increase in the uptake of parenting and family support between 2021 and 2022,

with 574 families supported through our FitLike Hubs and Homestart in 2022, compared to 378 families in 2021. Similarly, we have seen an upward trend in the number of referrals, with a 77% increase in multi-agency support referrals. In 2022, there was a 49% increase in the number of referrals for parenting and family support, with 1515 referrals made across all services.



## Developing interventions to support children's mental health

**STRETCH OUTCOME 5**  
**PROGRESSING WITH**  
**68% of young people**  
**reporting that**  
**they feel listened**  
**to all the time.**



The number of children accessing mental health support and the seriousness of their concerns have increased since the pandemic. We have implemented a range of supports and interventions through our projects, such as counselling being available in all schools. Through October 2022 – December 2022, 330 young people were being supported with counselling and 100% of the 103 children who had completed an end of session questionnaire, reported an improved wellbeing outcome following this support.

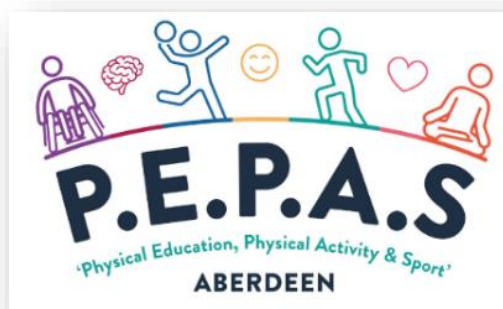
As well as counselling, all school nurses are currently trained to deliver LIAM (Let's Introduce Anxiety Management), as are a team of Fitlike staff, as well as staff in 25 schools. pilot of DBI (Distress Brief Intervention) has extended to 6 Secondary Schools in partnership with CAMHS and Penumbra focusing on learners aged 14-16. The latter pilot offering more targeted support for young people who have been identified or self-identify the need for support and helps some of our most vulnerable learners to access trained staff and a pathway to support through Penumbra and CAMHS if required. We are beginning to see early signs of improvement with data in relation to the Who-5 wellbeing index, reporting a 4% reduction in the % of P6 and 7 learners reporting low mood, which may suggest that earlier responsive intervention is supporting young people previously indicating low mood.



Throughout our lives, the number and strength of relationships can affect our mental and physical wellbeing. The benefits of social interactions and good mental health are significant. Being available to listen to children and young people, is essential for supporting individual needs and understanding fully what is required. We are delighted to see positive outcomes across our improvement activity resulting in 68% of young people reporting that they always had an adult in their lives that listens to them about how they are feeling, a 4% increase since March 2022.

We also recognise the huge potential physical activity has to enhance mental wellbeing and that this needs to be available freely for all children regardless of their circumstances. We are delighted that through our improvement activity 100% of schools are providing free physical activity. Our physical activity improvements have focused on ensuring that the voice and involvement of all children and young people is at the core of the development of activities and promote inclusivity. This has resulted in:

- **3%** increase in young people in S1-S6 reporting that their general health is good or excellent since the last survey in March 2022.
- **13** members on the Active Girls Committee, from 7 (77%) of secondary schools
- **61** care experienced young people through the SPACE (Supporting Physical Activity for Care Experienced) and bespoke programmes and 350 Sport Aberdeen memberships issued
- A Primary PE progression toolkit, providing primary staff with a clear progression of learning in PE and signposts to relevant resource/lessons developed. This is improving the confidence of staff in delivering high quality PE
- **367** volunteers as at Oct 2022 in Active Schools Aberdeen
- Boccia, a sport designed for all, being rolled out in all primary schools and a Boccia Festival where all pupils with disabilities and ASN of all ages taking part is planned for next session.



It helps me concentrate, makes me stay in school and is good for me (Young Person)

My fitness levels have improved and I try new things, I don't play the computer as much. (Young Person)



It is exactly what he needs as it gets him focussing on things away from the classroom (carer)

I have noticed a lot of progress in the young person's confidence, maturity and ability to regulate their emotions since working with you. (Teacher)



## Developing staff confidence to support young people



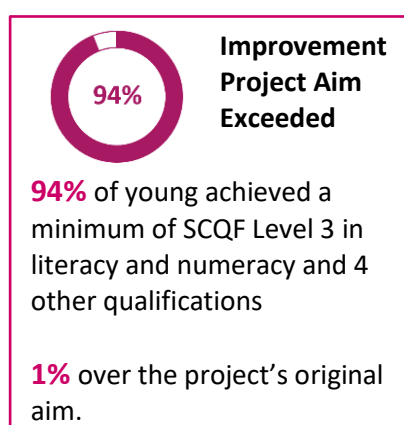
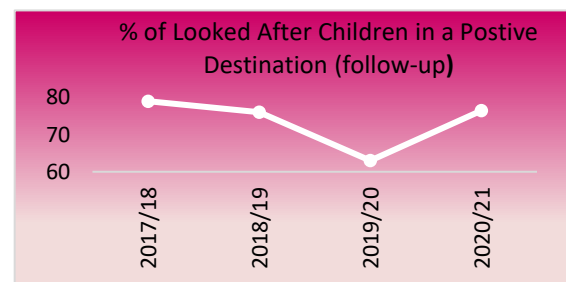
We recognise that our school based staff are crucial for providing direct support, referrals and signposting children and young people to appropriate mental health and wellbeing supports or services. Through our '[Staff Confidence in Supporting Children's Mental](#)' project we have developed a variety of supports for staff including new support sessions, both 1-1 and group to allow professionals to share, normalise and develop positive working relationships. This is in addition to the development of whole school e-learning; resources and a signposting framework for practitioners to support children, young people and their families. As a result, we have seen a 31% increase in the number of staff who agree or strongly agree that they can now support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing, with 86% reporting this.

## Increasing opportunities to enable all young people to achieve their goals

### STRETCH OUTCOME 6 PROGRESSING WITH 76.5% of Looked After Children in a positive destination.

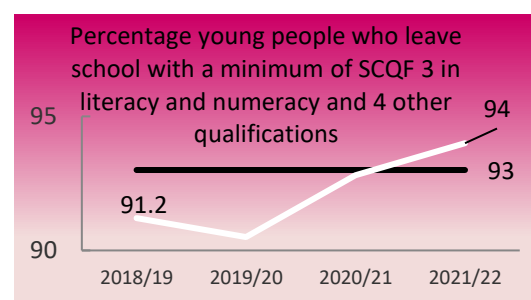
92.1% of children across the city achieved a positive destination in 20/21 the highest ever recorded in the city. We also saw a 13% increase in the percentage of Looked after Children achieving a positive destination in 20/21, with 76.5%, however there remains a considerable gap between their peers and our aim is to remove that gap by

ensuring that there are a range of opportunities and supports available to provide all young people, but particularly our care experienced young people (CEYP) and those living in our priority neighbourhood with the access to the skills and opportunities to achieve their goals and full potential. See above on how we have supported CEYP into employment.



We have been focused on ensuring that young people have the skills, qualifications and experiences that are necessary to enable them to go on to further training, education or into employment. Literacy and numeracy skills are key to this, better literacy and numeracy for individuals contributes to a more just and equitable society. They also provide the foundation our children need to learn, to navigate everyday life and to fully participate in school and their communities and widen access to job opportunities. Through our [literacy and](#)

[numeracy](#) project in 2021/22, 94.29% young people across the city achieved a minimum of SCQF Level 3 in literacy and numeracy and 4 other qualifications, a 4% increase since 2019/20.





This project introduced a variety of supports focused on family learning which has proven to be a powerful method of engagement and learning, fostering positive attitudes towards life-long learning, promoting socio-economic resilience and challenging educational disadvantage. One of the supports introduced was a menu of activities, to support achieve better outcomes for families through programmes which enable them to improve literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing using an asset-based approach. From which, 120 group sessions have been run, with 5 parents accessing counselling services and 6 residentials held where families got to go away together to develop new skills. We have also rolled out PEEP (Parents as Early Education Partners) groups to support parents as early educators of their children; working with Early Learning and Childcare settings to ensure a strong focus on the development of literacy and numeracy skills. See the impact of our range of parenting supports in the [case study](#) below.



## Preparing for the world of work – young people shaping their future

Building on the successful Lift Off, Learner Pathway event reported in the last period, young people have been at the heart of co-designing Lift Off and Grow which was held again in June 2022 with 3805 young people attending, a 154% increase in participants from 2021.

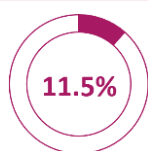


The Lift off events were well received with young people feeding back:

*'It was good to gain a sense of the skills that are generally required to work in these industries.'*

*'Knowing the things that people did and what skills and qualities they needed to develop in order to get where they wanted to be was really helpful.'*

*'The talks helped to motivate me and told me what to strive for in the future.'*



**Improvement  
Project Aim  
Exceeded**

**11.5%** increase in number of courses aligned to growth sector.

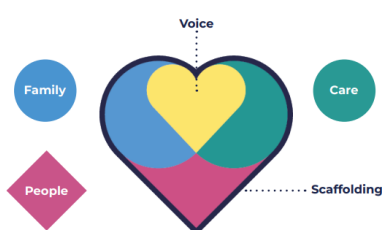
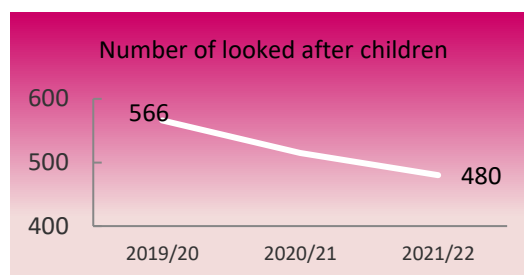
**4.5%** over the project's original aim.

Similarly, the ABZ Works site, which was co-designed with care experienced young people to clarify all of the [opportunities available to young people](#) and the pathways into the many different growth sectors, has continued to be developed and is now an established tool used both by schools and employability teams to support increasing understanding of the opportunities that exist for young people moving into the world of work, with a total 3996 hits in 2022, a 24% increase since 2021. Thanks to the co-design approach taken with young people, the website is easy to navigate with a great user experience and a responsive chatbot. The collaboration and partnerships developed from both the Lift Off events and website has

resulted in the number of courses aligned to the growth sector increase by 11.5% since 2019/20 and 3.6% since 2021/22%.

## Supporting more children and young people to live within their family

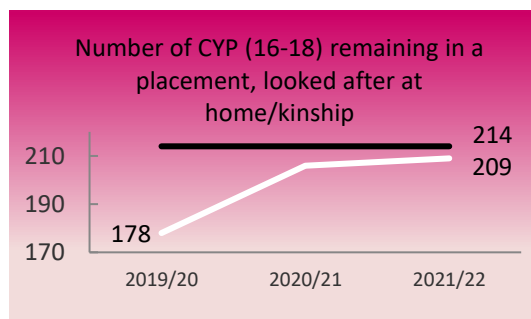
In line with the Promise, CPA is supporting more children and young people, with significant risk factors in their family circumstances, to continue to live within their family with an appropriate multi-agency support plan in place, with the number of looked after children in Aberdeen City fallen by 19%. In 2021/22, there were 480 children looked after by the local authority compared to 590 in 2016/17. This decrease is across all care types mirroring the national trend. However, Aberdeen has a higher % of children and young people placed within a fostering setting compared to the national position and that further improvement is required.



During 2022/23, we have tested improvements to strengthen the support offer to kinship placements, with the view to bolster the longevity and stability of kin placements. Specifically, we provided enhanced packages of support to children when placements were identified as vulnerable, and young people who were facing points of transition. The packages varied depending on the needs of the child and young person and the circumstances of the kinship placement.

Feedback from kinship carers is below and reflected positively on this support and helped them to develop a clear understanding of the needs of the child in their care and the impact of early life events/trauma on their needs and behaviours. This learning will directly feed into how we evolve the role and capacity of the kinship team to support kinship carers going forward.

Through [our supporting 16-18 year olds remain in a placement](#) project, we're also seeing positive outcomes, in the stability of placements where they're required, with a 17% increase in the total no. of 16-18 remaining in placement since 2019/20, from 178 (2019/20) to 209 (2021/22), with transitions being elongated enabling more supported transitions. The impact of this practice is seen in the improvement in the level of tenancy sustainment for our care experienced young people. We continue to see a positive trend in care experienced young people accessing and sustaining tenancies with 93 young people accessing tenancies during 2021/22. There was an 82.8% tenancy sustainment rate for those households, which rises to 94.6% when taking into account people who went on to a positive destination after their first tenancy.



"We became carers for our granddaughter in 2021. Dealing with a teenager with various behaviour issues was to say the least a difficult task for two grandparents in their 60's. Without the help of the family network team this may have been beyond us. We found the group & individual meetings a great help not only for the child but for us as carers. The importance of these meetings cannot be understated. On more than one occasion they were the only thing that kept the relationship between us and our granddaughter in place."

Child F wrote a thank you note to her worker simply noting "Thank you for helping me with my problems".

## Embedding children's rights

Children's rights have been prioritised and intrinsically woven throughout our Local Outcome Improvement Plan and improvement activity. The Partnership recognises the progress that has been made in raising awareness of children's rights and to progress this further, has agreed a new improvement aim under Stretch Outcome 16 "100% of decisions which impact on children and young people are informed by them by 2026" which is overseen by the Community Empowerment Group. This is to ensure that children's rights are incorporated into all our improvement activity and not seen as solely the responsibility of our Children's Services Board. Examples of our children and young people co-designing our projects are shown below.

Training our multi-agency workforce on children's rights has been a key improvement activity over the last year 260 members of staff to ensure that our staff have the understanding and confidence to engage with children and young people and to ensure that they're aware of the impending incorporation of UNCRC.

**260 staff  
trained on  
children's rights  
in 2022/23**



New and refreshed partnership policies and strategies now explicitly reference children's rights, and these extend beyond those traditionally impacting on children to include those on Net Zero and Master planning for example. Staff report that both direct engagement with young people and consideration of their rights is helping them to be bolder in their recommendations. Approaches to participation are becoming more varied and dynamic and nearly 70% of our children and young people tell us that they more actively participate in decision making now. However, this is a 10% reduction from when the survey was last completed 3 years ago, and this reduction is thought to reflect the increased expectation of participation by our children and young people.

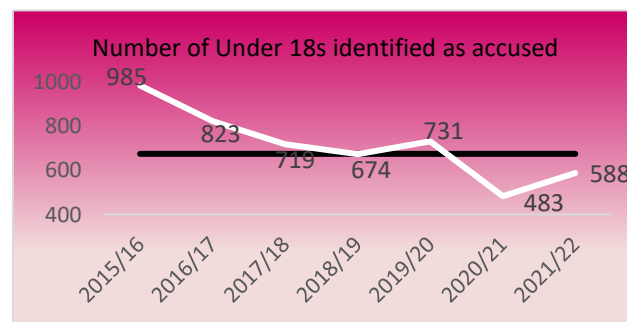
A more detailed evaluation of partnership work to incorporate the UNCRC is available in our [Children's Rights Report](#).

## Keeping children and young people safe and preventing crime

**STRETCH OUTCOME 9  
EXCEEDED WITH 40%  
reduction in number  
of under 18s  
offending**

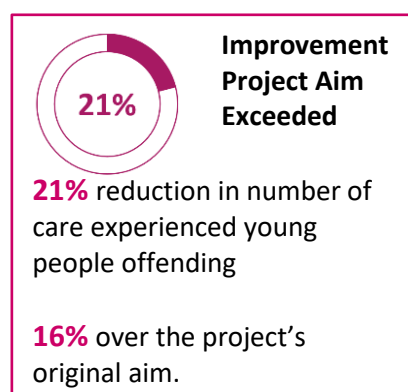
We are delighted to report that latest data shows we have sustained a reduction in the number of under 18s identified as being responsible for an offence of 40% since the LOIP was first published in 2016. Whilst there has been a 22% increase compared with 2020/21 that period was significantly impacted by Covid-19 restrictions. This sustained improvement from the baseline period is reassuring given the removal of all covid-19 measures in this reporting period.

We recognise that young people in conflict with the law are often the most vulnerable young people in our communities and we are taking forward an early intervention and prevention approach by ensuring that we are providing opportunities for all and being flexible and adaptive in provision of support and responding to need.





## Targeted support and access to trauma and bereavement support



Children in conflict with the law experience high rates of bereavement, loss, and trauma and although recognised as one of the vulnerabilities for families being referred to our Fit Like Hubs Family Wellbeing Team, it is likely that bereavement is under reported. Recognising that their needs are complex our [trauma and bereavement](#) project has focused on staff development across all settings to ensure that they're seeing and supporting our children and young people through a needs focused and trauma informed lens and referring into appropriate supports.

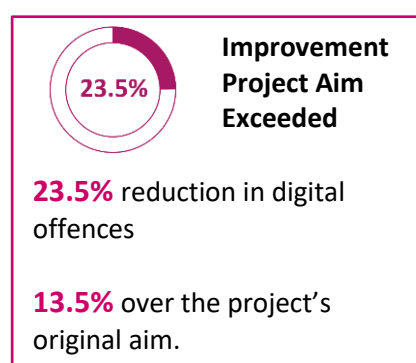
It is important that we are taking an early intervention approach and that young people are not only being offered support at the point in which they came into conflict with the law. To further embed our early intervention approach one of the new pathways for trauma support introduced this year was Seasons for Growth (SfG). SfG is an educational group work programme supporting children and young people who have experienced significant loss and change in their lives. The programme sees a trained group of companions work in pairs to deliver an eight-session programme with two follow up reconnector sessions for the pupils. Resulting from the development of staff and new pathways, we have seen a 21% reduction in the number of 16/17 year olds with higher support needs offending (96 to 73).

Also, 138 children and young people have received trauma and bereavement support via two pathways, the FitLike Hubs and the Seasons for Growth programme. To increase access to trauma support, we now have 51 Seasons for Growth teachers and support staff Companions across 23 schools trained.

"Each of the children who participated in the group became more relaxed and were able to discuss their feelings more freely by the end of the programme. The children became a support for each other and bonded during the course of the sessions." **S4G Companion during evaluation**



## Young people at the heart of co-designing our improvements



Children and young people have supported our digital offences project understand current digital culture and co-designed the content of new digital offending training provided to all schools, young people, and their families. From this, we've seen a 23.5% reduction from 81 (digital offences including both sexual and non-sexual) in 2018/19 to 62 in 2021/22 reduction in both the number of offences of child sexual exploitation and the number of 'digital' offences by Young People (Under 18). The young people on the group reported that they felt ***"valued having professionals listen to their opinion and try and act on same."***



**Improvement  
Project Aim  
Exceeded**

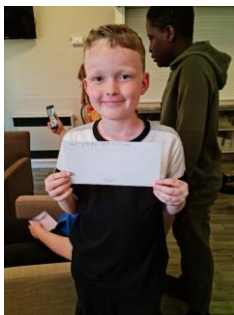
**70%** increase in 10-16 year olds attending community activities.

**20%** over the project's original aim.

Through our youth community activity and reducing anti social behaviour projects we are committed to developing a range of opportunities for children and young people to get involved in their local community and to support a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour. However, we also know that this needs a multi agency approach, with our communities at the heart of it, for this to be sustainable and to meet the needs of our children and young people. Taking this approach, in 2022 we established a new youth group co-designed with children and young people and developed a volunteer led youth group model, resulting in a 70% increase in the number of 10-16 year olds who attended community activities from

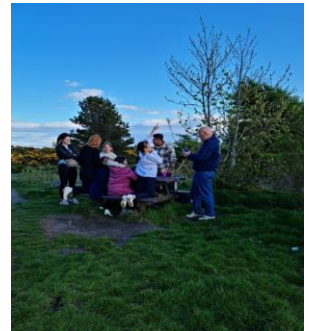
40 in 2019 to 68; and 3 new youth groups established in priority neighbourhoods.

We also saw a 212% increase in overall participation in 2022, with 938 attendances citywide compared to 300 in 2019. Similarly, there has been a 2.6% reduction in the number of youth disorder calls to the police in 2022. Young people were asked what they enjoyed about their group. They said:



Opportunities to meet friends and make new ones.

We get to make friends; it's very fun; you get to do art, sports, games and make food.

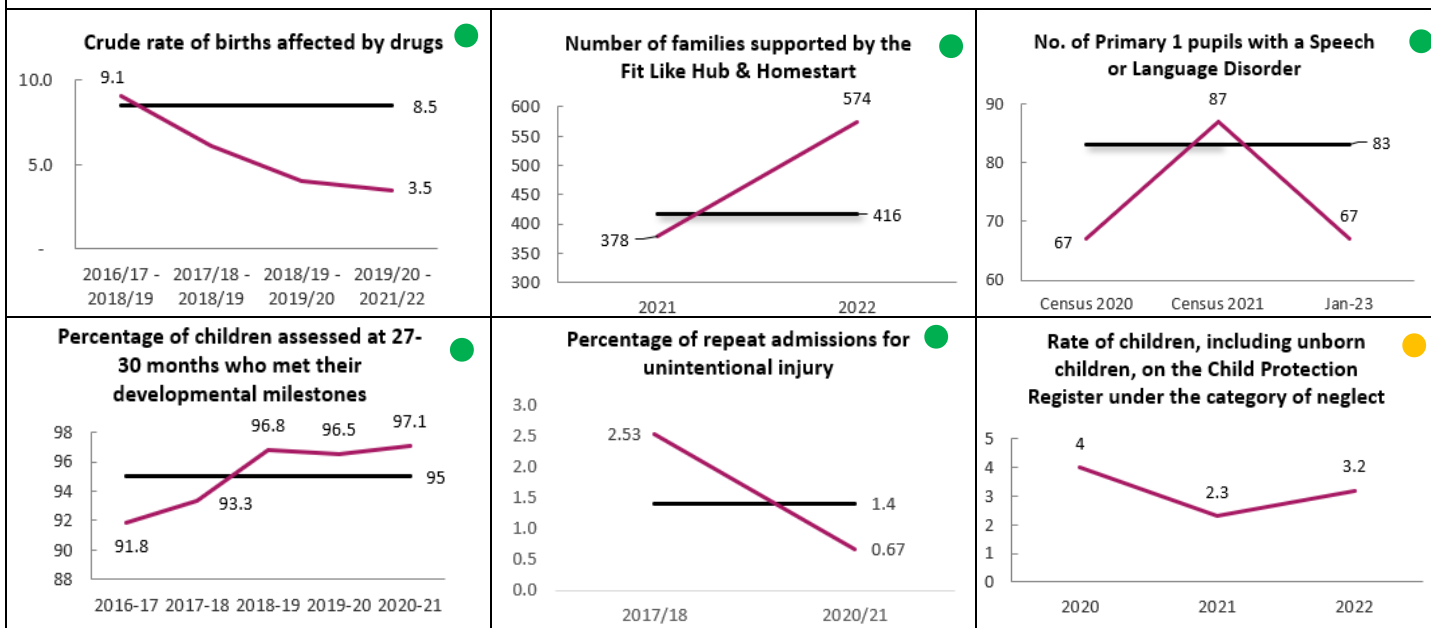


# What impact have we had?

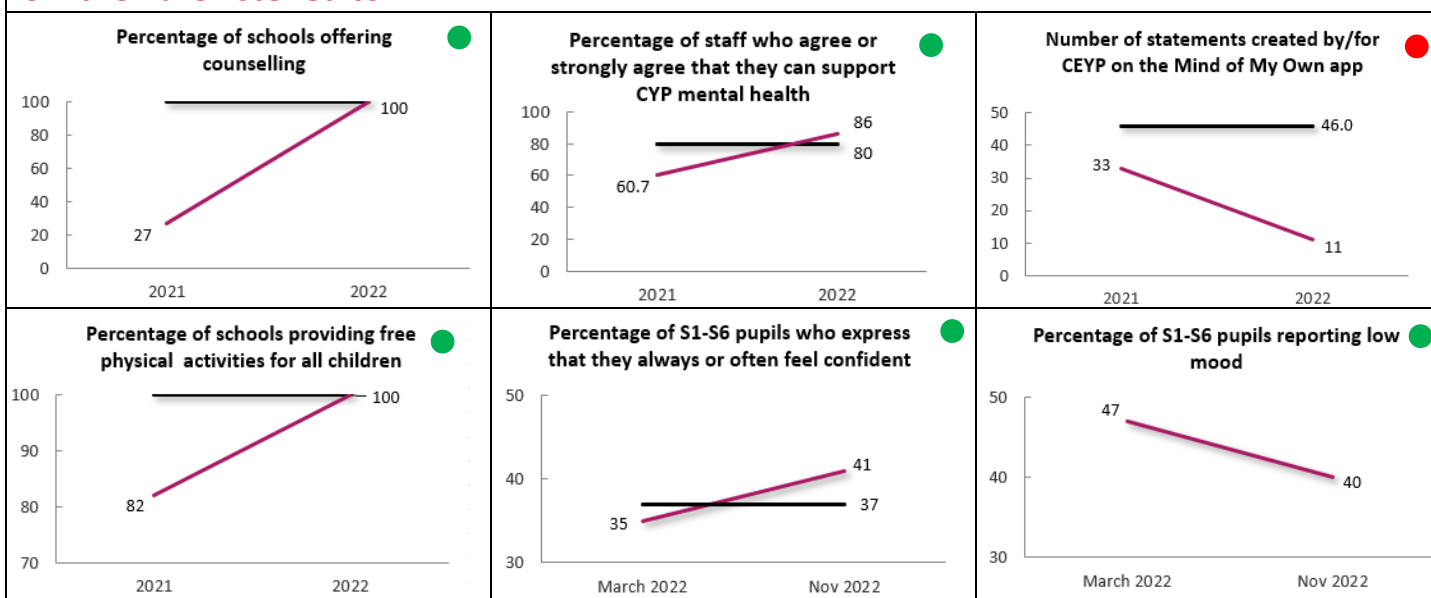
22/23 improvement aim      Performance

● Yes  
● Getting there  
● Not yet

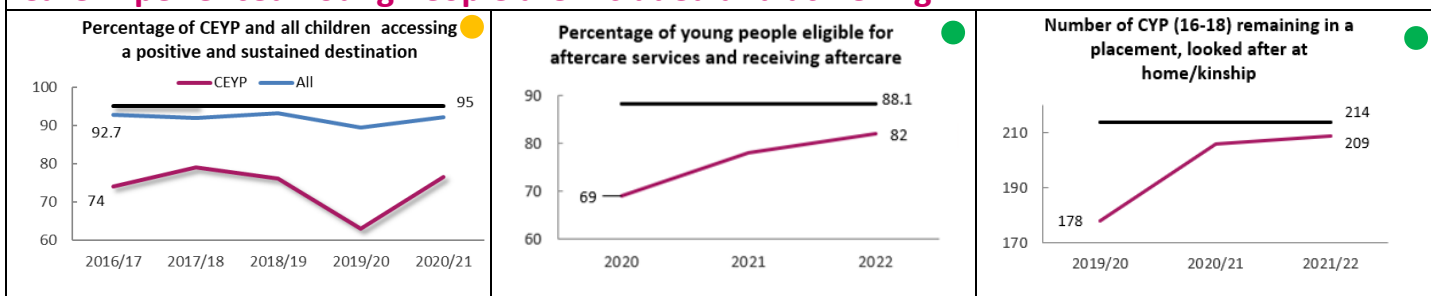
## Children have the best start in life

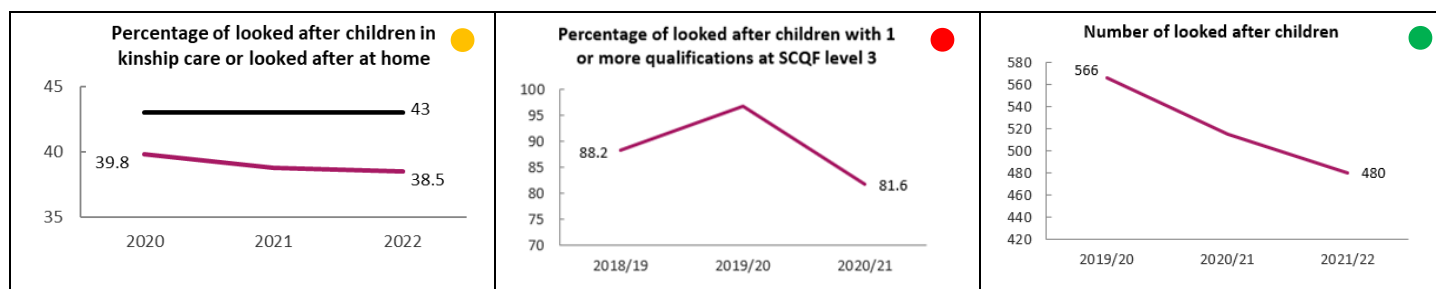


## Children are listened to

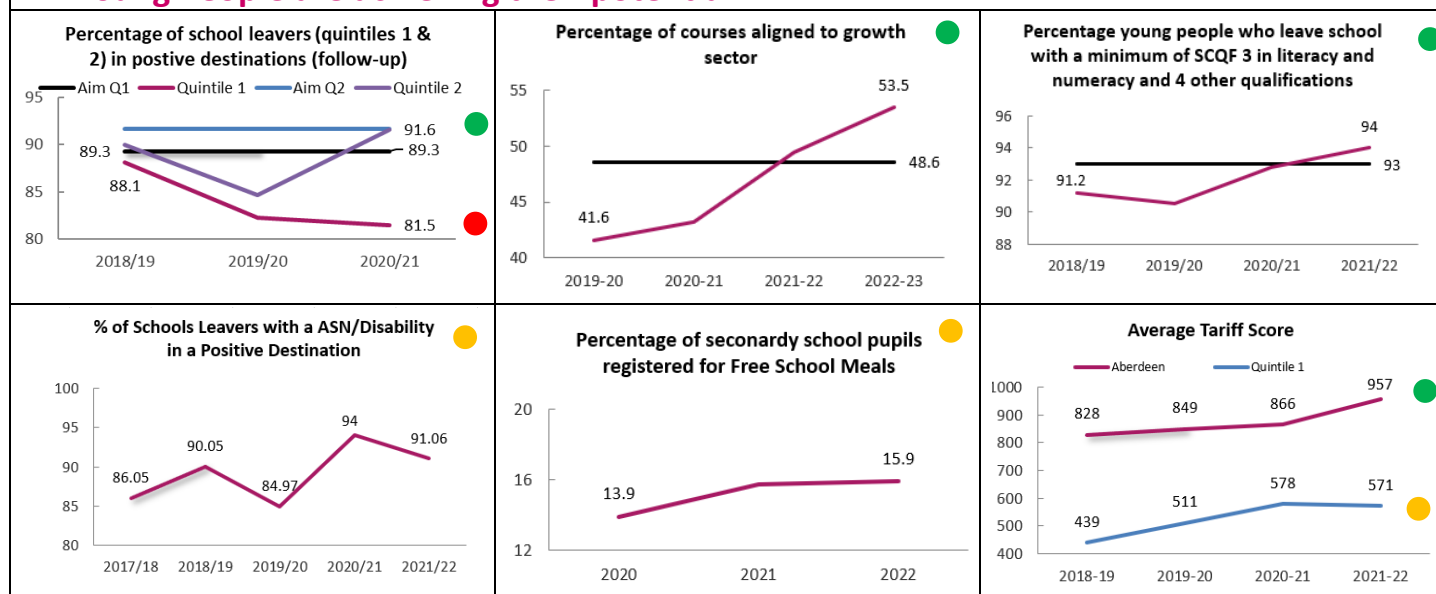


## Care Experienced Young People are included and achieving

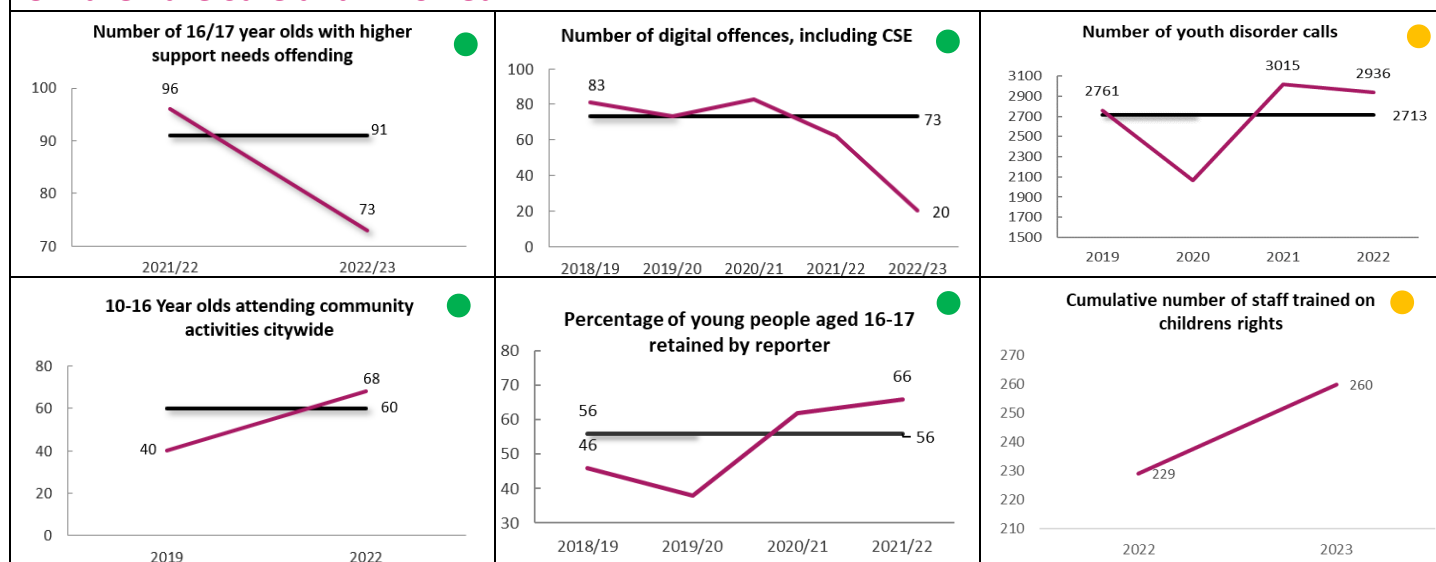




## All Young People are achieving their potential



## Children are Safe and Involved



# Improvement priorities 2023/24

In April 2023, following an extensive development process the Children's Services Strategic Plan 2023-26 was approved, refreshing our children and young people's section (Stretch Outcomes 4-9) within the LOIP and the improvement priorities, see the full priorities within our LOIP 2016-26, summarised below:

- Further streamline support pathways and awareness of supports available
- Continue to address food insecurity including maternal and infant food insecurity to help families access the benefits they're entitled to and have pathways to provide emergency access to emergency first stage infant formula milk and nutritional support to ensure that poor child nutrition does not impact on child wellbeing in the longer term.
- Develop approaches to improving levels of dental health in primary 1 with a particular focus on areas of deprivation.
- Establish a mental health collaborative informed by a young person Taskforce, introducing mental health assessments for care experienced young people and looking at supporting young people from our priority neighbourhoods to feel safe.
- Better prepare care experienced young people for life beyond care, including preparing them for parenthood.
- Develop a Family Support Model to offer earlier and preventative support and intervention with a particular focus on kinship carers and preventing children and young people from entering care and also to reduce offending rates.
- Consider our enhanced support offer to families at a universal and targeted level that mitigates the risk of neglect and harm and reducing the number of children placed on the child protection register.
- Continue to develop a broader range of qualifications and pathways for young people which are aligned to growth sectors to enable them to secure employment in the longer term.
- Introduce new ways, such as Pathway Advocates, to close the gap between the attainment levels of our care experienced young people and children and young people living in poverty from those who do not.
- Increase the number of co-delivered services, such as, an integrated neurodevelopmental pathway improving diagnosis timescales and ensuing timely access to support.
- Supporting children with additional support needs and declared disabled achieve positive destinations by better understanding the lived experiences of this large group and developing our multi-agency continuum of provision more holistically across child and adult services.
- Further tackle child poverty and consider how the needs of the 6 groups identified as most at risk differ in need so that we can respond proactively. Proactive engagement will be important to shape how we respond next.

# Whole Family Approach: Supporting all parents and children to thrive.



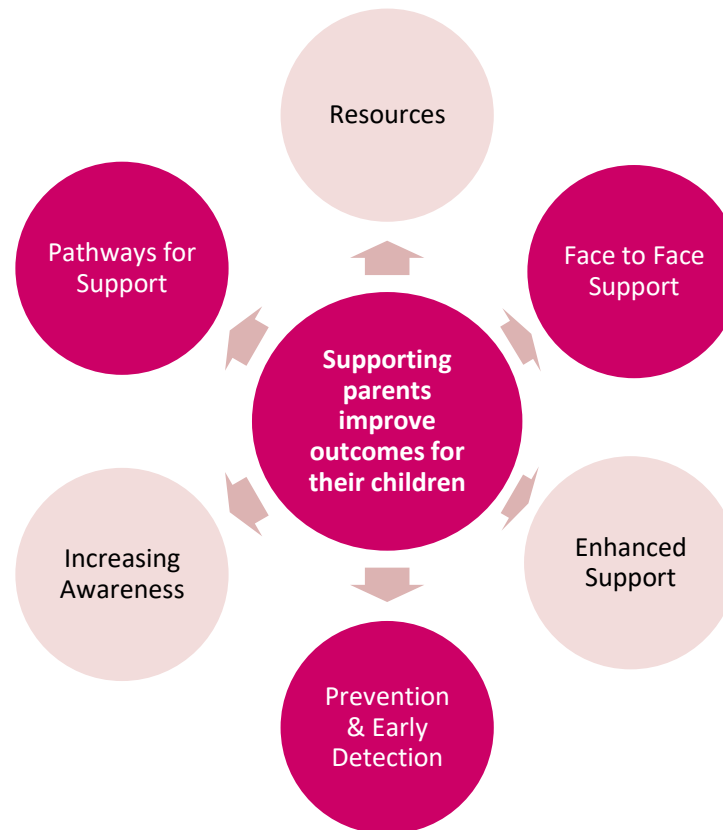
## Supporting Parents and Children Thrive

Parents and families play a critical role in a child's development, and providing a range of supports for parents is vital to creating an environment where both children and their parents can flourish.

## Our Approach

Through our cross cutting improvement projects we are putting in place changes that focus on the whole family approach with a focus on early detection and intervention. Specifically, we've tested:

- Streamlined referral processes for parenting support and implemented a prioritisation system based on level of need
- Developed a speech and language parenting resource to help parents with early detection and awareness of the pathway for support
- Created a menu of activities for parents to attend which enable them to support their child improve literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing using an asset-based approach.
- Rolled out PEEP (Parents as Early Education Partners) groups to support parents as early educators of their children
- Developed enhanced packages of support to kinship carers/families when placements were identified as vulnerable, and young people were facing points of transition
- Provided Keeping Kids Safe packs to reduce preventable harms



## What we've achieved?

- 52%** increase in the uptake of parenting and family support between 2021 and 2022, with 574 families supported in 2022, compared to 378 families in 2021
- 120** group sessions from the menu of activities have been run, with 5 parents accessing counselling support and 6 residentials held.
- 11%** reduction in the number UI repeat admissions between 2017/18 to 2020/21



## What have our parents said?

*"Gained confidence in dealing with my son's meltdowns. Provided courses to help extend my knowledge on emotion training & sleep"*

*"Family Learning for me has been having someone non-judgmental and supportive during a time of struggle with family life, to listen and give advice and also reassure you're doing the best you can"*

*"The support you've given has been invaluable"*

*"This is like a bespoke service for me & my family, it's the first time support has felt right for me and fits for what we actually need"*









# Prosperous People

## Vulnerable Adults

### Our Stretch Outcomes

What we are working towards		How we are doing
<b><u>SO10</u></b> 25% fewer people receiving a first ever Court conviction and 2% fewer people reconvicted within one year by 2026. 	EXCEEDED	<b>67.4%</b> fewer people receiving a first ever court conviction and <b>2.2%</b> fewer reconvicted within one year since 2015/16.
<b><u>SO11</u></b> Healthy life expectancy (time lived in good health) is five years longer by 2026. <b>70-73</b>	PROGRESSING	<b>1.9 years increase</b> in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) at birth for Males (60.2) from 2018-20, 2.6 lower than 2014-16.  <b>0.1 years increase</b> in estimated HLE at birth for Females (61.4) from 2018-20, 4.9 lower than 2014-16.
<b><u>SO12</u></b> Rate of harmful levels of alcohol consumption reduced by 4% and Drug related deaths lower than Scotland by 2026. 	ACHIEVED	<b>4% reduction</b> in harmful levels of drinking and a <b>32% reduction</b> in drug related deaths since 2021 and 22% since 2017 baseline. The 5 year average drug related death rates for Aberdeen are now lower than Scotland.

# Progress made during 2022/23



## Reducing court conviction - Stretch Outcome 10 exceeded

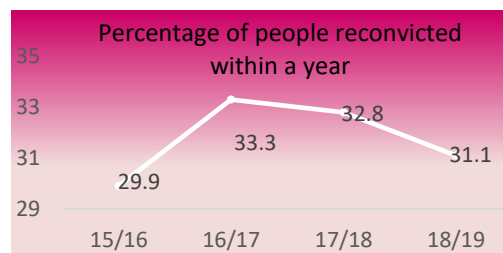
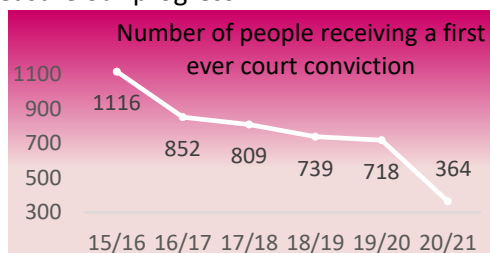


**67.4% FEWER** people receiving a first ever court conviction and **2.2% FEWER** reconvicted within one year.

Data available at the end of 2021/22 shows that Stretch Outcome 10 has been achieved and exceeded with a 67.4% reduction in first court convictions, from our baseline year (2015/16) 42.4% over our 25% reduction Stretch Outcome. The reduction reported in 20/21 will have been impacted by the backlogs in the court system caused by the Covid pandemic. However, taking into consideration the impact, data shows an annual reduction in the number of first ever convictions compared to the baseline period (2015/16).

Latest data available also shows a 2.2% reduction in people reconvicted in one year since the LOIP was published in 2016. As a result of a delay in reporting

resulting from the Covid pandemic, further data on this measure has not been published. Our Community Justice Group, in the next reporting period, as part of the refresh of our Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26, will review the Stretch Outcome and ensure that data is available to measure our progress.



## Supporting People to Make Progress on the Employability Pipeline



### Improvement Project Aim Exceeded

**63** individuals in the Justice System supported to make progress on the Employability Pipeline

**110%** over the project's original aim.

We have been working together to increase the number of individuals who are engaged with different areas of the Justice System being supported to make progress on the employability pipeline. Through our [My Way to Employment](#) project we have exceeded the original aim of 30 people being supported with 63 individuals progressing at least one stage along the Employability skills pipeline. Of the 63 people supported onto the employability pipeline 36 (57%) are in a positive destination.

To achieve these outcomes, the project created two new referral pathways: - a community and prison employability pathway for supporting people onto the employability pipeline. The pathways were supported by a new employability sub-group comprising of

HMP Grampian, DWP, Aberdeen City Council Employability Team, Aberdeenshire Council Employability Team and SDS. Specifically, they tested whether pre release employability support and having a job offer prior to release would better support those being released from custody. This was tested with two employers in the first instance (CFine and Greene King). Through this route a total of 51 were referred for the pre-release employability support. 88% (36) completed the CFine course and another 10 were interviewed by Greene King and offered employment.



## Supporting teams and victims of domestic abuse

Ensuring that people who experience domestic abuse have access to appropriate specialist domestic abuse support is a key priority and is part of our commitment to Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls. There continues to be barriers which lead to people experience domestic abuse not seeking support. These include the stigma and shame, not recognising that what they are experiencing is abuse, not knowing where to access support and/or being prevented from accessing support by their perpetrator. Through our [support for victims of domestic abuse project](#) we have put in place a range of staff development and preventative education sessions for targeted audiences and the public at large to mitigate the barriers; increasing awareness of domestic abuse among the public and those seeking support. As a result, we have seen a 47% increase in the number of people receiving specialist support services because of domestic abuse, with 2945 supported in 2022, up from 2004 in 2021.



**Improvement  
Project Aim  
Exceeded**

**47%** increase in the number of people accessing domestic abuse support.

**27%** over the project's original aim.



Throughout 2022 training was delivered to teams across Aberdeen City Council to develop awareness of domestic abuse and develop Domestic Abuse Champions to perpetuate the learning across the Partnership. Information sessions to increase young people's awareness of local support services have also been held with North East Scotland College students. Across all sessions, an average of 68% students reported an increased awareness of local support services at the end of the sessions.

## Accessing mental health services through the Justice System



**Improvement  
Project Aim  
Exceeded**

**59%** increase in the number of people accessing mental health support in Police Custody and **55%** in HMP Grampian.

**49%** over the project's original aim.

It is well documented that many individuals in the Justice System have mental health issues. Community Planning Aberdeen are committed to ensuring that [people in the Justice System diagnosed with mental illness or experiencing mental ill health are able to access the right support](#), at the right time, from the right service. Our improvement activity has targeted developing new support pathways in HMP Grampian and Police Custody and initiating an early intervention model starting with supportive, non-judgemental conversations about mental wellbeing. We are delighted that as a result of the improvements we have exceeded our aim with a 59% increase in the number of people accessing mental health support in Police Custody and 55% in HMP Grampian.

Specifically, in the Kittybrewster Custody Suite, intentioned conversations with a Custody Nurse were held and, where consent was given, individuals were referred on to appropriate services. However, it was recognised that referrals were only part of pathway and having access to support at the point of need was also needed. To support this the project tested a pilot called "WELL Service". This pilot which started in November 2022 saw Penumbra, mental wellbeing provider, having a member of staff based within Kittybrewster during "out of hours" and accepting referrals to support individuals with a disclosed mental health issue at that point. During November and December 2022, overall, 458 individuals disclosed a mental health issue, of which 359 were prompted to access support and 32 individuals were seen by the WELL practitioner.

In HMP Grampian, a range of low intensity psychological interventions have been developed. The shorter length of these interventions and consequent lower waiting times has meant that patients have increased access to psychological treatment, both on a one-to-one and group basis. These can be a standalone treatment for mild to moderate mental health difficulties or can be a helpful first step in preparation for higher intensity interventions subsequently offered by qualified psychology staff. The delivery of short-term or single-session interventions has also allowed for a greater inclusion of remand prisoners accessing support. Previously, few psychological interventions could be offered to remand prisoners, due to the uncertain length of their time in custody.

In addition to the low intensity interventions, 1:1 including Cognitive Behavioural Therapy appointments and mental health education groups were delivered. Following the introduction of the range of interventions, 450 individuals in HMP Grampian accessed support/treatment in 2022/23, up from 290 in 2020/21 (55% increase). These supports are all now available ensuring that support relevant to the individual's needs are available.

Patients were asked to rate the overall helpfulness of group sessions from (0) very unhelpful to (5) very helpful; the mean rating for all group sessions was between 4 and 5. Qualitative feedback from the Group sessions have been positive with comments including:

*"Overall these groups have great potential to help those open to the ideas and tools. Thank you!"*

*"Opened eyes that we're all in similar position."*

*"[Gained] More understanding of mental health and wellbeing, and the importance of this."*

## Reducing Deliberate Fire Raising through Collaboration



**Improvement  
Project Aim  
Exceeded**

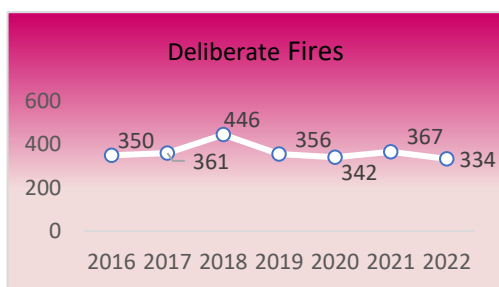
**12%** decrease in the number of deliberate fires.

**2%** over the project's original aim.

Wilful, or deliberate, fires are an indicator of wider anti-social behaviour, consequently, actions taken to address deliberate fire-raising can have a positive impact on wider societal issues. Deliberate fires account for 10% of all incidents attended by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) in Aberdeen and is a considerable pull on SFRS resources as well as that of other emergency response colleagues. Through our [wilful](#) fire project we aimed to take early intervention approaches to reduce wilful fires in the city by 10%. The interventions introduced ranged from engagement with and education of children and young people through

Fire Skills courses with referral pathways with Police Scotland, schools and Sport Aberdeen, mixed media messaging in collaboration with local media, Walk and Talks with video presentations and a Virtual Community Fire Safety Programme for schools and youth groups. We've also developed a leaflet for parents and carers with guidance on how to talk to young people about the dangers of playing with fire.





The changes were tested initially in the Torry and Ferryhill area as this was the area where most incidents had occurred over the baseline period of 2015-19. As a result, data for Torry and Ferryhill shows a reduction in deliberate fires of 48 to 50% year on year compared to the 5 year average. Whilst, over the whole city there has been a 12% reduction from the 5-year average of 334 (2016-20), with 328 deliberate fires recorded in 2022.

## Healthy life expectancy for all

Latest data available at the end of 2022, shows slight improvement in estimated healthy life expectancy (HLE) at birth (2019-2021) with 60.2 years for Males up from 58.3 years in 2018-2020 and slightly lower than the figure for Scotland of 60.4 years. Whilst estimated HLE at birth for Females was 61.4 years, similar to the figure for 2018-2020 of 61.3 years and the figure for Scotland of 61.1 years. Despite the improvement from the previous reporting period, it is recognised that further improvement is required with HLE remaining below the baseline period.

Through our improvement projects we are committed to tackling health inequalities through both preventative and targeted approaches. We have focused on highlighting the impact of our individual behavioural decisions and providing specialist outreach and targeted services for particularly high risk individuals, but also addressing wider environmental factors such as reducing youth homelessness, supporting opportunities to volunteer and be part of our communities and ensuring accessibility of services for all.

## Increasing our communities' capacity to promote good health and wellbeing



The communities where we live, work and play have a significant influence on our health and wellbeing. Through our [good health and wellbeing choices project](#) we have trained 96 people working in our communities with Making Every Opportunity Count (MeOC). MeOC is a brief intervention being rolled out across partners to support staff to make the best of every appropriate opportunity to raise the issues of a healthy lifestyle.

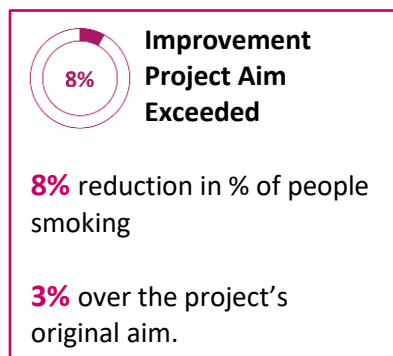


Evaluation has shown increases in:

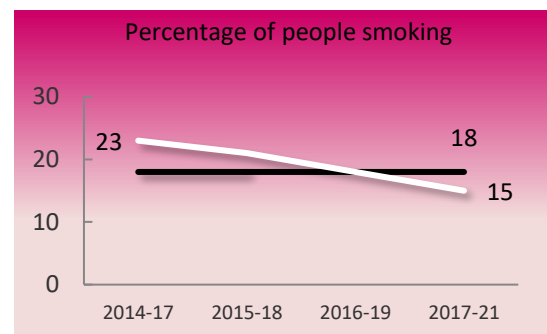
- Awareness of health and social issues that may affect people's health and wellbeing.
- Confidence in speaking about issues which may affect their health and wellbeing.
- Confidence to undertake a very brief intervention to support people to make positive health and wellbeing choices.
- Confidence in the knowledge of health and wellbeing support and signposting to services.

We've also developed a Health Issues in the Community (HiC) course to develop community capacity and increase community participation to tackle inequalities in health. 10 staff from a range of partners undertook the tutor training in March 2023, with the first introduction to HiC course has been delivered to Locality Empowerment Group members. Overall, 114 people have HiC Workshops. The feedback has been positive and provided areas for further development.

*"As a result, when looking at someone's situation I will consider it from a point of view of equity rather than equality."* LEG member

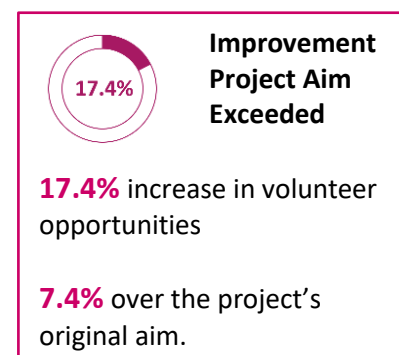


Given the reach of MeOC, and from collaboration with our [reducing tobacco smoking project](#), Smoke Free homes training has now been included in. Through training, raising awareness and promotion of the Charter for a smoke free generation, latest data shows an estimated 15% of people in Aberdeen are 'current smokers' in the period 2017-21, 3%



lower than the last reporting period; 8% lower than the baseline period and lower than the percentage for Scotland of 16%. As at November 2022, 38 organisations in the city had signed the smoke free charter.

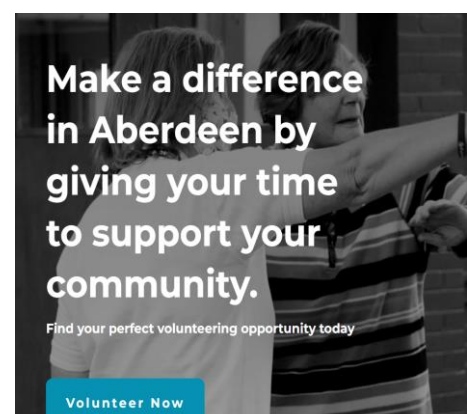
## Maximising opportunities to volunteer and to contribute to our communities



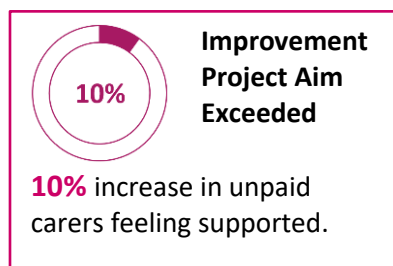
We know there is substantial economic and social value in the act of volunteering with research showing increased life expectancy and quality of life values. Through our improvement projects we have built on the [volunteering community](#) that was crucial during the covid pandemic and sought to sustain the unprecedented level of volunteering seen during that time by further developing a wide range of opportunities. Between December 2021 and March 2023, we saw a 17.4% (437 to 513 – 76 new opportunities in total) in volunteer opportunities on the volunteer hub because of consistent promotion of the Hub across media and in contact with groups and volunteers augmenting ACVO's efforts.

New opportunities developed were varied and many were to support our LOIP projects to connect in our communities and to build community capacity and resilience. We've seen the following impact: -

- Community Resilience: Community Resilience Volunteer Groups established in Culter, Bridge of Don, and Cults and two new groups in the initial stages of starting CRVGs in Ruthrieston and Midstocket and Rosemount,
- Response to Emerging situations: Significant levels of new volunteering around emerging positions such as Ukrainian refugee support and responses to the cost of living crisis, with more than 100 volunteers from across the city have contributed more than 2000 hours of volunteer time, up from c200 volunteer hours in April 2022.

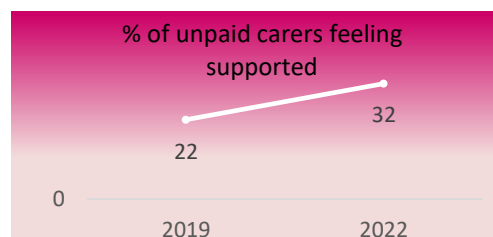


## Supporting our unpaid carers



Community Planning Aberdeen recognises the vital role unpaid carers play in meeting social care needs across the city. It also recognises the challenges faced by unpaid carers and we are committed to ensuring that they receive consistent support to carry out their caring role and to take a break from caring with a range of options for respite and short break available.

Through our [unpaid carer project](#) we are testing a variety of initiatives to increase the range of support available. Data from the Health and Care Experience survey (HACE) in 2022 reported that 32% felt supported, a 10% increase compared to 2019. Similarly, there has been a 71.3% increase in the number of adult carers accessing support (594 in 2021/22 compared to 1018 in 2022/23). One initiative we've tested is the Respite Bureau which sought to increase the uptake of short breaks for Carers. Since the Bureau started in June 2022, 320 people have been referred for a short break as of March 2023. 3 further tests promoting different types of Carer Breaks were also tested this year, Doorstep Breaks, Scot Spirit and Time to Live.



We are also piloting a Wee Blether Group in the Middlefield Community Hub which aims to reduce social isolation by bringing Carers together for company and a chat, and to build better links to the local community. The Wee Blether groups are targeted at our unpaid Carers aged 55+ and they are welcome to bring their Cared-for person along. Part of our support is signposting them to ongoing activities and groups within the local community providing additional support. A second group is set to begin in July at the Bon Accord Centre. We are looking to establish a further 3 groups and all locations are based on postcode of carers to concentrate support and community building to areas where Carers are based.



## Reducing harmful levels of alcohol consumption and drug related deaths

**STRETCH OUTCOME 12 ACHIEVED WITH 4% reduction in harmful levels of alcohol consumption and 22% reduction in drug related deaths.**

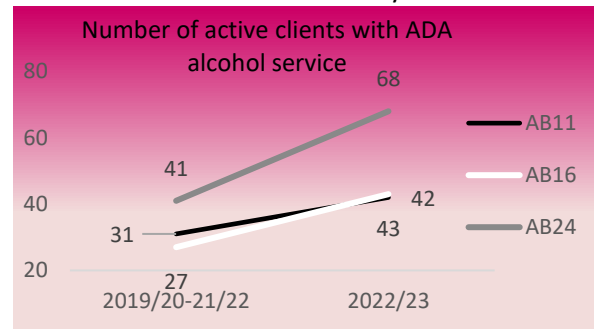
Alcohol is one of five lifestyle behavioural risk factors which contribute to the majority of chronic and non-communicable disease in our population. Latest data available at the end of 2022 shows that we have sustained our stretch outcome with a 4% reduction in the adult population drinking to hazardous/harmful levels in 2017-21 at 25%, down from 29% in 2014-17. The rate of alcohol related hospital admissions was 568 per 100,000 population compared to 611 in Scotland. Although in the previous period, the Stretch Outcome had been achieved, we know that the effects of harmful drinking on individuals, their families and communities are wide-ranging, and we strive to sustain the reduction achieved and have taken forward a

range of interventions in 2022/23 to achieve this.



Latest data has also shown that the 5 year average drug related death rate for Aberdeen is now lower than Scotland. Data shows that in 2022 there were 42 drug related deaths, a 32% reduction since 2021 and 22% since 2017 baseline. Whilst the Stretch Outcome has been achieved, we are not complacent and know that there is more to do and the development of innovative approaches to further reduce drug related deaths remains a priority for the Partnership.

Throughout 2022/23 we have focused on increasing awareness of alcohol risks and [widening access to alcohol interventions and support](#), including the development of a new alcohol audit screening tool to increase referrals for support both from professionals and individuals directly with a corresponding promotional campaign. As a result of the interventions and targeted campaigns we have seen the number of active clients with Alcohol and Drugs Action (ADA) Duty Drop-in service in 2022/23 increase in each of the three priority neighbourhoods against the 3-year baseline. Specifically, data shows a 35% increase in AB11, 59% increase in AB16, 66% increase in AB24 and a 112% increase in other areas.



As part of reviewing lifestyle choices, it is important that we take a moment to consider alcohol consumption: particularly as we move away from the COVID restrictions of the last few years, and now as we enter another period of difficulty with the rise in the cost of living.

We are asking anyone who consumes alcohol to check in by taking the short and anonymous quiz, and get some valuable feedback.

**Foos yer booze?**

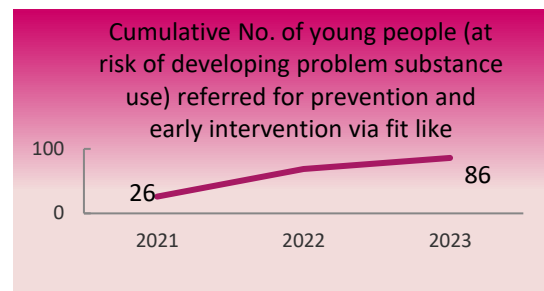
**TAKE THE QUIZ...**  
[www.alcoholaberdeen.org.uk](http://www.alcoholaberdeen.org.uk)

Similarly, as a result of the increased awareness of staff and the community through information sessions and resources we have seen substantial increase in the number of referrals for alcohol support, with a 322% increase from health, 22% from criminal justice and 77% from self. A new referral pathway from police has also been piloted with positive feedback to date. We have also continued to widen the number of [settings for Alcohol Brief Interventions \(ABIs\)](#), with ABIs now delivered in custody, HMP Grampian and due to commence in the housing service. This is ensuring that the access to support is accessible as possible and available directly in our priority neighbourhoods and not reliant on primary care settings.

Positive outcomes have also been seen through the targeted social media campaign and the subsequent levels of engagement with the 'Alcohol Aberdeen' online 'quiz' (AUDIT screening tool). Between June 2022 and March 2023, 455 people have completed the 'quiz', a 99% increase compared to the previous tool available in 2020/21. Of those completing the tool, 23% were identified as hazardous, harmful, or dependent and therefore support required. 92% of the 455, completed the tool in Nov/Dec 2022 directly correlating with the campaign.

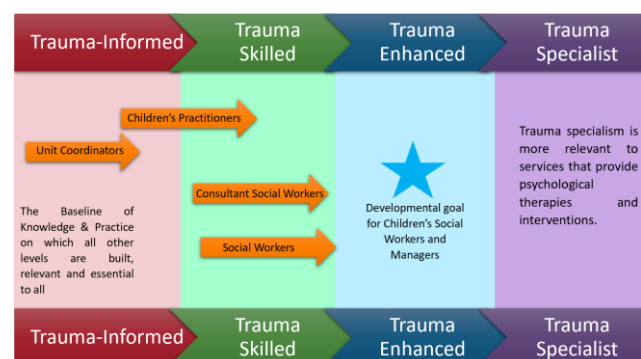
## Support for vulnerable young people at risk of substance use

There is a strong correlation between where children grow up around substance use and those young people developing patterns of substance use characterised by increased frequency and experience of problems as well as a multitude of other adverse health outcomes. Through our [support for vulnerable young people at risk of substance use](#) project we have developed a process to identify young people who would benefit from receiving selective or indicated prevention/early intervention supports, which go beyond the scope and reach of universal prevention. We are seeing positive outcomes from this targeted approach with 100% of vulnerable young people, identified by Education as being at risk of substance use referred for support from the FitLike Hubs.



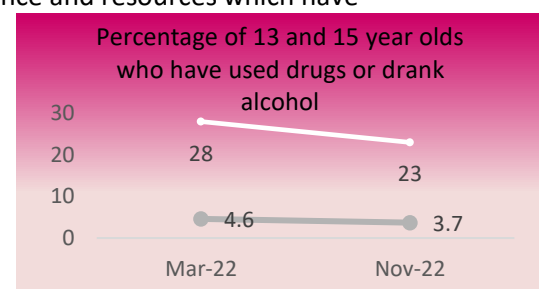
We've also introduced a post to deliver a service to care experienced young people in the transitional phase of moving through continuing care support and to Assertive Outreach has seen 18 young people received direct support and approximately 50 young people over all supported.

One pathway for support will not suit all young people, therefore, a key improvement has been developing all our frontline Children's Social Work staff to be trauma informed and deliver trauma responsive services to ensure that all young people have access to the required support at point of first contact. A Skills and Knowledge Framework for Prevention and Early intervention (co-produced with parents) has been introduced and trauma Skilled training is now mandatory for all Children's Social work staff.

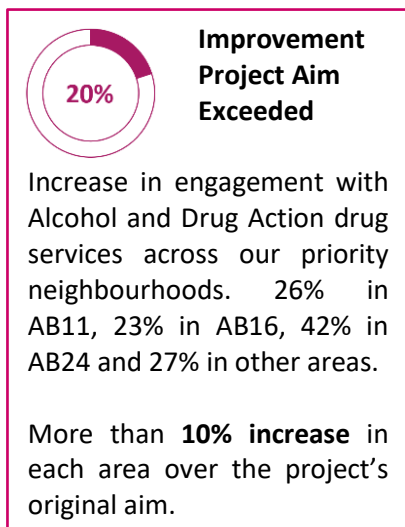


## Reduction in the number of 13-15 year olds reporting having used alcohol or drugs

100% of our schools have access to new substance use guidance and resources which have streamlined guidance and reporting process. In addition, materials for parents are available and parental workshops on various topics held as required. Through the Aberdeen City Health and Wellbeing Survey undertaken across all schools in November 2022, data shows that compared to March 2022 there has been a 5% decrease from 28% to 23% of 13-15 year olds having had a drink and a decrease from 4.6% to 3.7% of 13-15 year olds who have tried drugs.



## Reaching out to people at risk and removing barriers to accessing drug supports



There are many barriers to people engaging with drug services and we know that a range of interventions and approaches based in the heart of our communities are required to increase engagement rates, particularly in our priority neighbourhoods. In July 2022, building on our assertive outreach approach, our [uptake of drug treatment and reducing drug related deaths projects](#) have introduced both a Sharp Response and a Crisis Response Services.

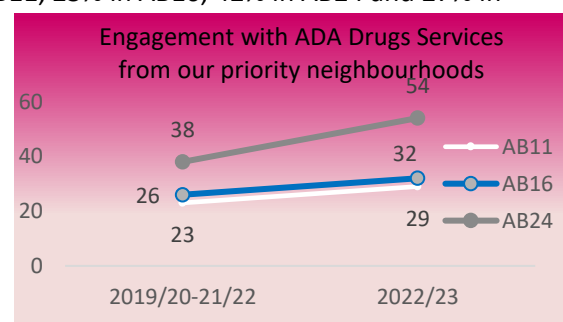


The services aimed to:

- **Identify and increase access to treatment for those at risk:** assertive outreach approach with daily crisis intervention/home visits to individuals identified at risk to provide support in their homes and encourage engagement with services.
- **Focus on harm reduction:** raising awareness of safer drug use practices, sterile injecting equipment to reduce the risk of blood borne infections and sexual health advice, read our [harm reduction case study](#) below.
- **Engage with communities:** raising awareness in the community of risks of drug use; how to respond to an overdose and where support is available; and
- **Widen referral pathways:** a direct referral pathway between ADA and the custody suite, Police Scotland was introduced.

Between July 2022 and March 2023, 226 individuals overall have been supported, with 65 individuals receiving a service through the sharp response service and 282 visits being undertaken by the Crisis Response service. In addition, there were 72 referrals from Kittybrewster Custody Suite. From the targeted approach, data has shown a 1.5% increase in uptake of drug treatment at Integrated Drug Service (IDS) from 1276 (2021/22) as an average across the year for the number of active clients at IDS to 1295 in 2022/23.

Similarly, there has been increased engagement with ADA Drugs Services from our priority neighbourhoods in 2022/23, with a 26% increase in AB11, 23% in AB16, 42% in AB24 and 27% in other areas compared to 2019/20-21/23 3 year average. There has also been a 34% increase in referrals to Assertive Outreach (AO) in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22, which has led, to referrals to the Sharp Response and Crisis Response services. In 2019/20 - 2021/22 the rate of drug-related hospital admissions in Aberdeen City was 182.4 per 100,000 population – down from 189.5 in the previous period and lower than the rate for Scotland of 228.3.





Through the Crisis Response service, a team is available daily to check in with partners in Housing (ACC), ARI (NHS), Assertive Outreach (AO) team and others to identify those at risk and who are requiring support/access to treatment. Daily crisis intervention/home visits are then undertaken, enabling rapid assessment and referral to the appropriate service. Crisis Response clients have said:

'I can't thank them enough for your help. This is above and beyond anything I ever expected.'

'Thank you for coming out and helping me again. This has been so important to me. Thank you'

## Increasing access to Naloxone – saving lives



### Improvement Project Aim Achieved

32% reduction in drug related deaths since 2021.

As above, latest drug related death data shows a 32% reduction (62 to 42) in drug related deaths since 2021 and 22% since 2017. The Partnership through our [fatal drug overdose projects](#) are focused on reducing drug related deaths (DRDs) through innovative developments and by increasing the distribution of naloxone. Naloxone is an emergency medication that can reverse the effects of an overdose of opioids like heroin or methadone and can save someone's life.

Reviews from past DRD have shown than many of those people who died were not in any drug treatment service but had come to the attention of many other services. By increasing the number of services who can distribute and administer Naloxone to those in need, we can get the life saving drug out to those people at risk of overdose, as well as to family members/friends of those in need. During this year, we have widened access to naloxone by increasing the number of non drug and alcohol services able to supply and/or administer naloxone. Most notably, Aberdeen City Council commenced distribution of naloxone supplier and as of w/c 1 December 2022, the following ACC service points were stocking Naloxone: Marischal College Housing Team, Cummings Park Centre, Kaimhill Centre, West North Street, Len Ironside Centre, Spring Gardens, Unpaid Work, Court Team, and Central Library.

As a result of this, along with a wide ranging campaign run across International Overdose Awareness Day and throughout December 2022, there has been a 40% in the total number of naloxone kits issued, not including the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) data, with 1151 kits supplied in 2022/23, compared to 821 in 2021/22. Similarly, for 2022/23 there have been 622 kits supplied to persons at risk (excluding spares and SAS), compared to 426 in 2021/22, a 46% increase. Of the kits issued, 56 kits were reported as used, a 27% increase from 2021/22; 5% of overall kits supplied and 9% of kits supplied to people at risk. We have also seen increased supply in each locality, with a 40% increase in Central (226 kits), 35% increase in South (135 kits), 38% increase in North (120 kits) and 94% increase in other (64 kits) compared to 2021/22.

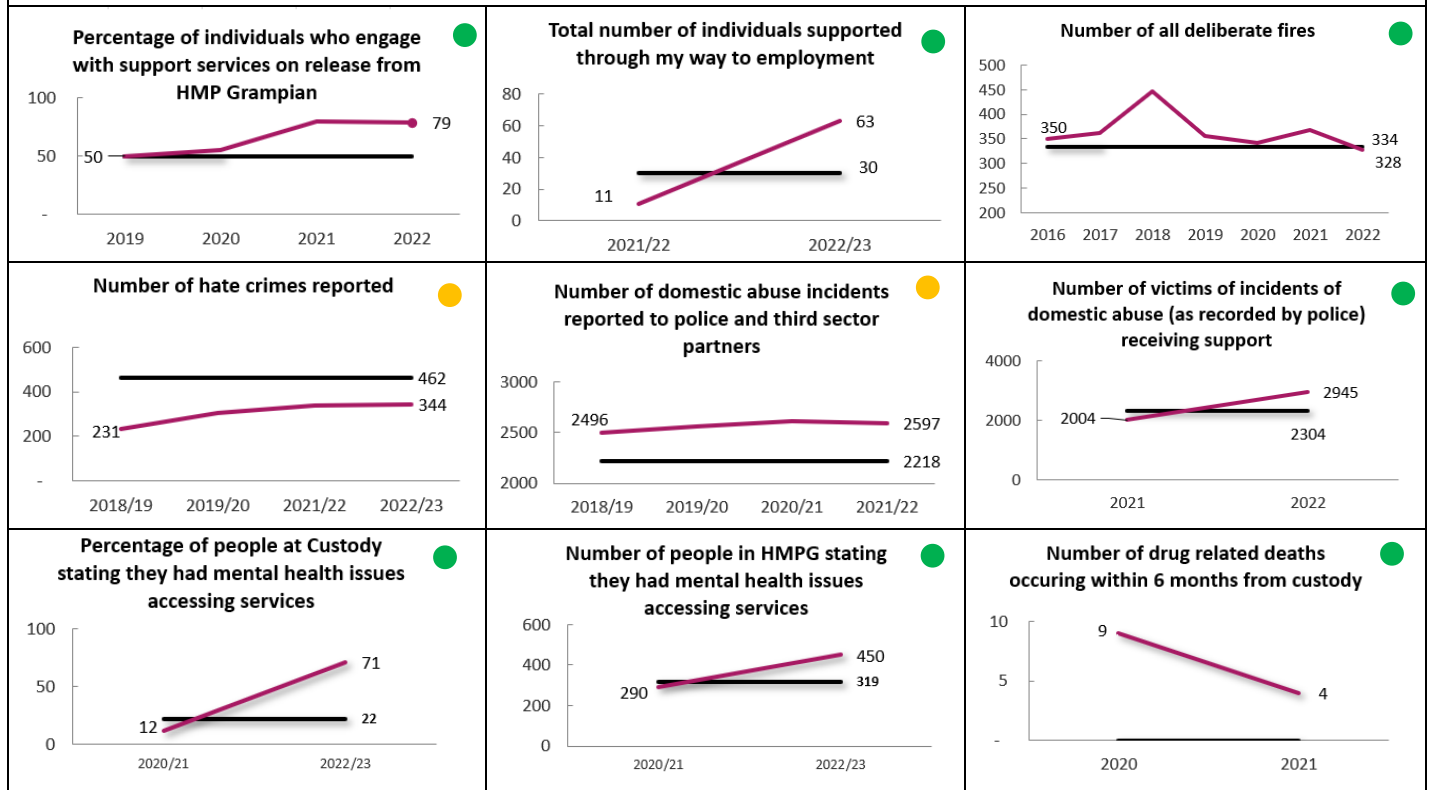


Our projects are also focusing on targeting interventions and providing support at the various settings where people are attending and needing support. We are seeing the impact of this approach. For example, through our improvements focused on **people liberated from prison** we have seen a 56% reduction in drug related deaths of people liberated within 6 months from 2020 to 2021. Various improvements have been developed, including a joint working protocol between Alcohol and Drugs Action, Justice Social Work, Integrated Drug Service and HMP Grampian to provide a clear pathway for people at risk from drug related harm on release to ensure that the various potential touchpoints are connected, and all are clear on responsibilities. Naloxone/Nyxoid kits are also now available at point of liberation (custody or prison) and between October 2022 and April 2023, 127 kits have been collected.

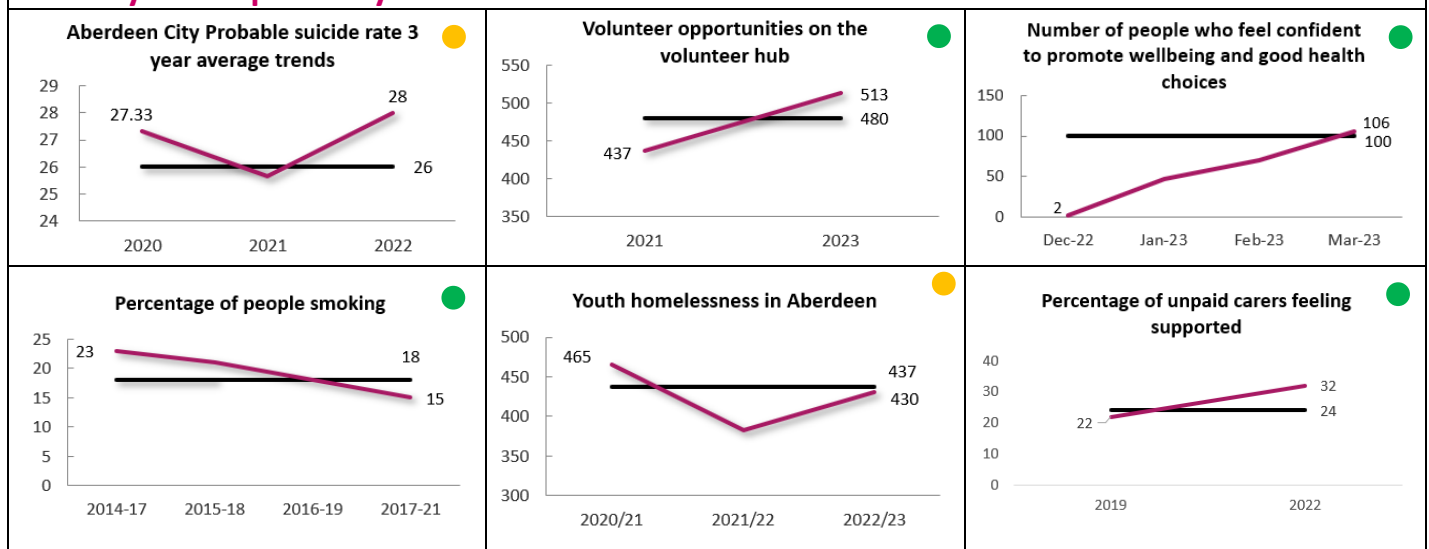
# What impact have we had?

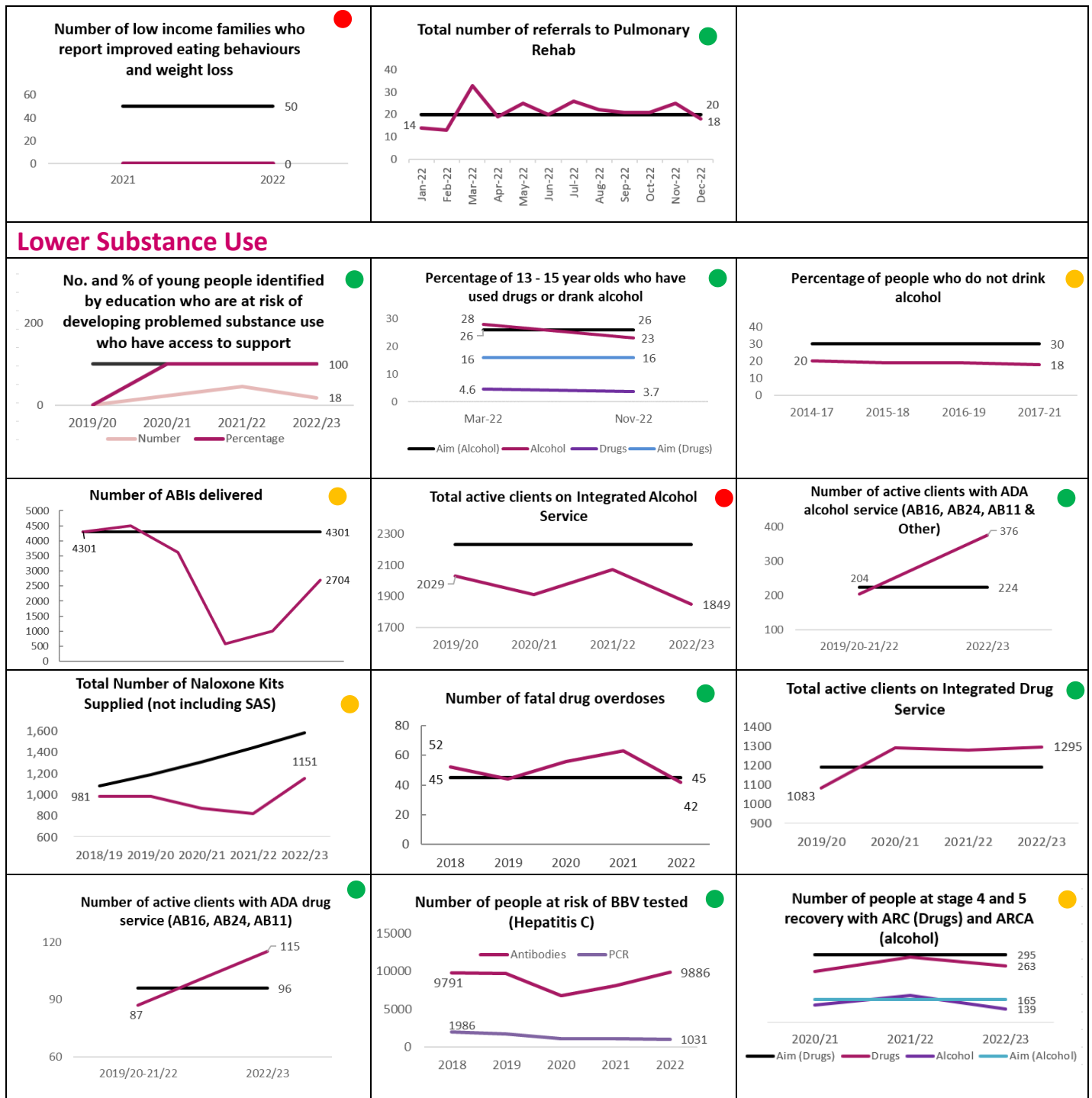


## Fewer Convictions and Reconvictions



## Healthy Life Expectancy





## Improvement priorities 2023/24

- Expand collaboration with local businesses to provide support and respite opportunities for unpaid carers, in particular incorporating shorter day breaks for carers throughout the year, as per carers request.
- Test a new respite facility for a year at Chapelton retirement village to provide carers with more options for respite near the city.
- Test innovative approaches to preventing homelessness through participation in the Royal Foundation of the Prince and Princess of Wales Homewards Programme.
- Using data to identify areas for targeted supports to take preventative measures to reduce suicides and improve mental health.
- Developing approaches to support low income families to have access to and make healthy food choices to support their overall health.
- Continue to tackle hate crime through expansion of Third-Party Reporting Centres and training to teams across the partnership who face and support those victimised by hate crimes.
- Further develop the whole family approach to support a reduction in drug related deaths and increase availability of naloxone through in our priority neighbourhoods.
- Spread the use of alcohol brief interventions to wider frontline settings to increase support available directly in our priority neighbourhoods.
- Utilise new recording systems in Criminal Justice Social Work to expand the access to mental health support project beyond custody and prison.

# Substance Use Harm Reduction: Improving Access to support in our Communities.

## RAPID TESTING FOR HEP C INFECTION

### What are we trying to achieve?

We are aiming to reduce the harms for people using substances such as blood borne viruses, by increasing awareness and improving ways to access testing, support and treatment.

### What are we testing?

Through our multi agency project we tested several improvements, including:

- Sharp response **mobile needle exchange delivery**



- A **Cepheid Machine** which allows testing for Hepatitis C to be offered in the heart of our communities (alongside testing for Hepatitis B and HIV) providing individuals with direct access to treatment.
- A public awareness campaigns highlighting the opportunity to cure people of Hepatitis C and tackling the stigma associated with HIV. This also includes a new HIV quiz to check your knowledge of HIV and find out where you can get tested, treated and supported if necessary.



### The Cepheid Machine

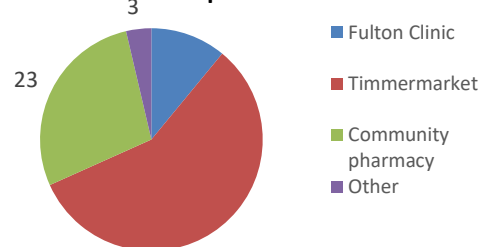
#### What are the benefits?

- Completes a quick finger prick test, producing a Hepatitis C result within an hour. If someone is reactive for Hepatitis C, treatment can be arranged to start within the same appointment.
- Is mobile which means testing can be offered testing in venues at the heart of the community, giving people flexibility in choosing where to come for a test. Some people would never be tested without the use of Cepheid in some settings.
- Testing for Hepatitis B and HIV is also offered via Dry Blood Spot (DBS) Testing, a similar finger prick method but slightly longer result turnaround times (generally within a week).

#### What outcomes have been achieved?

- **82** samples obtained using the machine, **96%** in a community setting.

Location of Cepheid Test



- Of the **82**, Hepatitis C reactive was detected in **12%** of cases, **60%** of which have commenced treatment.
- Read the impact on the next page

### Mobile needle exchange delivery

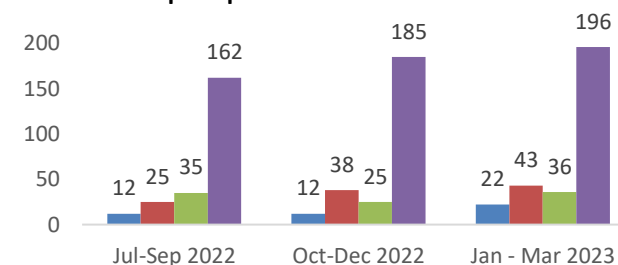
#### What are the benefits?

- Provides sterile equipment reducing the risk of people using contaminated needles and the infection of blood borne viruses.
- Increasing engagement and referrals to treatment services
- Provides advice and support for other services, such as sexual health.

#### What outcomes have been achieved?

- **543** injecting equipment deliveries between July 2022 and March 2023
- **46%** of deliveries were to our 3 priority neighbourhoods

Sharp Response Services IEP Deliveries



#### What impact have we had?

*'The people delivering to my house were perfect, extremely nice and always checking in on me and showing genuine concern and care'. A Sharp Response client*

# What impact has this had?

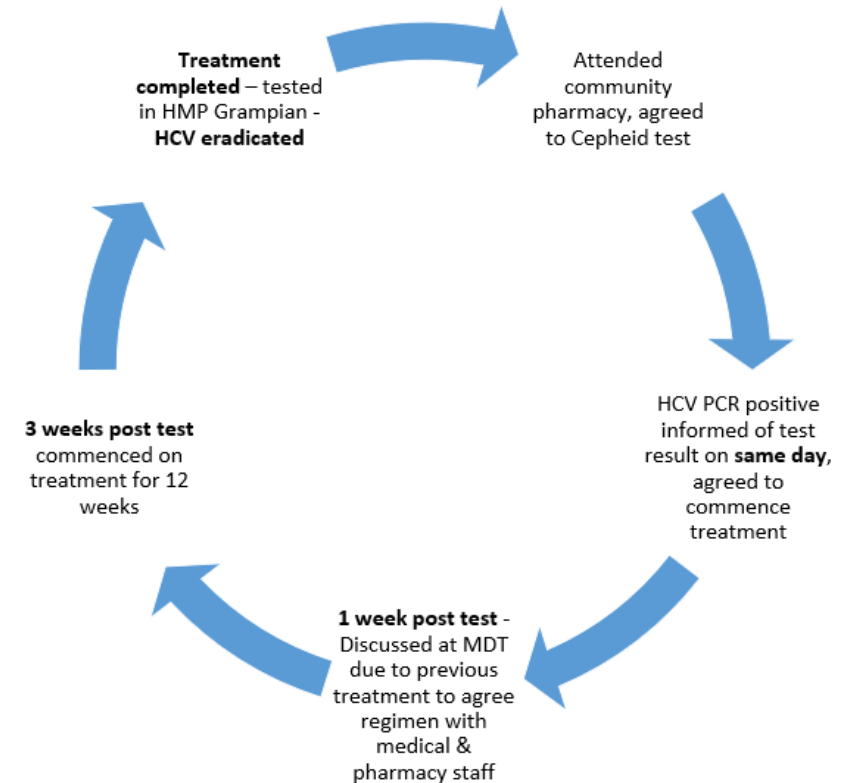
## Example of trying to engage an individual in BBV testing prior to Cepheid machine:

**machine:** Person A was known to have risk of BBV due to prior injecting use of substances. Person A not on any opiate replacement therapy (ORT) so did not attend a community pharmacy (where DBS testing can be completed). Person A was known to have Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) antibodies, but no test had been completed to confirm ongoing infection (HCV PCR). However, had through other routine medical appointments suggested they would like treatment if required.

Person A attends hospital and cannot have a traditional sample (blood) taken. A DBS sample is obtained and their liver is checked for fibrosis via a scan. The test result is returned around 16 days later but the person has been discharged. The person is contacted several times but there is no response. A month later the person is reviewed by a Community Psychiatric Nurse, who lets them know their test result and refers them for treatment. It is around **two months** from the test being completed to the person starting treatment.

**If using Cepheid:** The patient would have had the result on the same day and treatment agreed whilst still an inpatient and the process would have been smoother and quicker and potentially would have been cured of their infection in the same timeframe (treatment usually taking anything between 8-12 weeks to complete).

**Engagement with Cepheid machine available:** Person B is known to be injecting substances and has been in and out of prison previously. They self-report sharing injecting equipment, which presents a risk of infecting others with BBVs. Person B has some recall of being treated previously whilst in prison but cannot remember if they cleared (cured) the virus. When tested again; result shows ongoing infection. They are offered an appointment to attend for treatment but do not attend. They latterly attend a community pharmacy where Cepheid is being offered:



**Cepheid** re-engaged this person in treatment and cured them of their virus quicker and reduced the risk of onward transmission to others.





# Prosperous Place

## Our Stretch Outcomes

What we are working towards	How we are doing	
<b><u>SO13</u></b> Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by at least 61% by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate	PROGRESSING	46.3% reduction in carbon emissions from baseline.
<b><u>SO14</u></b> 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026.	PROGRESSING	34% of people walking, a 6% increase from 2017. 4% of people cycling, a 1.6% increase from 2017.
<b><u>SO15</u></b> Addressing the nature crisis by protecting/ managing 26% of Aberdeen's area for nature by 2026	PROGRESSING	17% of land is protected for nature and this has remained static.

# Are our changes resulting in improvement?

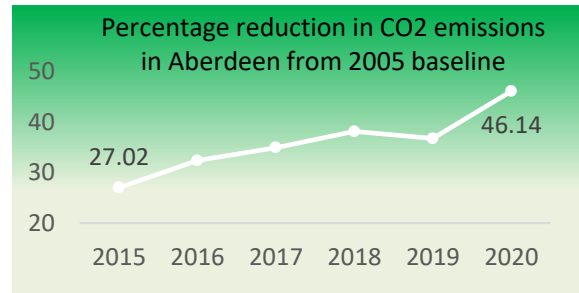


## Stretch Outcome 13 progressing with 46.3% reduction in carbon emissions and initiatives to reduce carbon emissions

### STRETCH OUTCOME 13 PROGRESSING WITH 46.3% reduction in carbon emissions.



Latest data available at the end of 2022 shows that we have continued to reduce our carbon emissions with a further 7.7% reduction since the last reporting period with 1,010.6 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e down from 1,166.9 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2019 and a 46.3% reduction since our baseline of 2005.



It is heartening to see the positive outcomes through national and system based efforts, as well as through our collective improvement aims. Our improvement activity through Community Planning has multiple positive benefits on health and environment including active travel, nature for health, and food growing. It is all part of the movement we are trying to cultivate and there are successes from improvements in infrastructure, technology and changes to our lifestyles and behaviour all of which contribute to the Aberdeen Climate and Nature Pledge that has been developed and launched this year. The Pledge was launched, in conjunction with the Net Zero Aberdeen Route map and Aberdeen Adapts Framework, to accelerate action towards net zero, climate resilient and nature-positive city.



Through our Green Champions, staff volunteers that help identify areas of improvement and drive change within our partner organisations to encourage sustainability, we have seen 8 green initiatives tested over 2022/23 with 204.944kgCO<sub>2</sub>e carbon emissions saved since the project started in June 2021. Initiatives have included:

**GREEN CHAMPIONS**

Summary of activities 2022-23

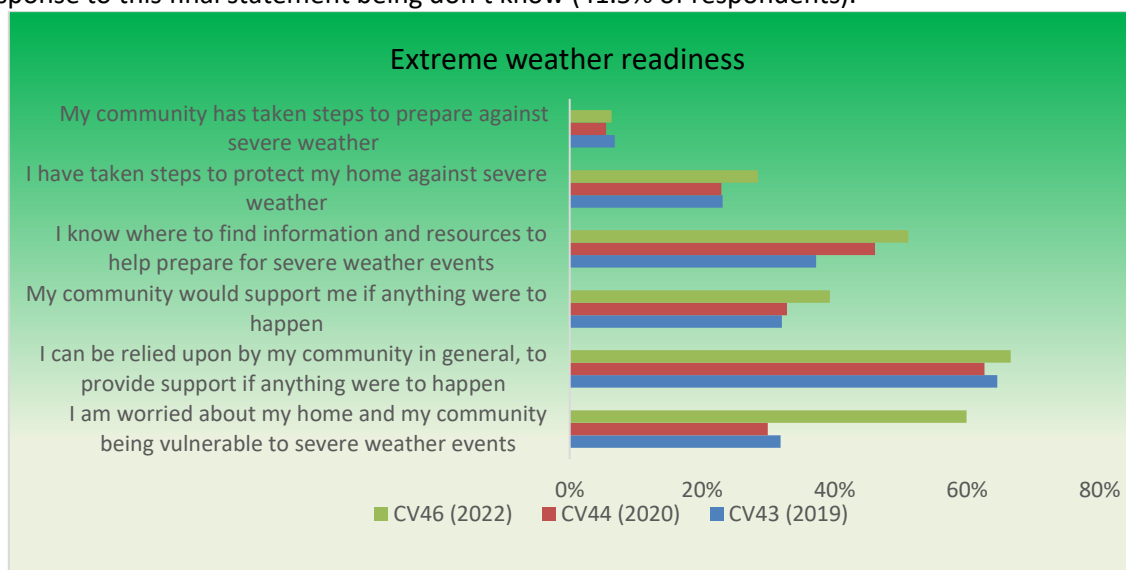
**8 INITIATIVES**

- Food Waste Collection
- Clothes collections for Ukraine- 145.5kg collected
- Step Challenge
- Love to Ride/Cycling Challenging- 620 miles cycled
- Workplace Growing- Spring-harvest visit to nurseries
- Repair What you wear series.
- Pass it on Museums & Galleries crates upcycled for community projects
- E-Learn Competition

## Building community resilience

We know that when emergencies happen that there are many people keen to help their community but are not sure how. During winter 2021/22 when we experienced storms Arwen, Malik, and Corrie we saw the importance and impact that the Peterculter, and Cults and Milltimber, Community Resilience Groups formed by the areas' Community Councils had on supporting the community to respond to these storms. Resilience groups keep people informed, have a role for all, they bring residents in a community together, helps communities feel safe and prepared for emergencies, and people become more community spirited.

Data from our City Voice in 2022, showed that over half (59.9%) of respondents agreed (either strongly agree or agree) that they were worried about their home and community being vulnerable to severe weather events, double the response in 2020 (30%). While 66.6% of respondents agreed that they could be relied upon to by their neighbours or community to provide support if anything were to happen, only 39.3% agreed that their community would support them if anything were to happen. Just over half (51.1%) of respondents said they would know where to find information and resources to help prepare for severe weather events. Over a quarter (28.4%) of respondents reported they had taken steps to protect their home against severe weather and only 6.3% thought that their community had taken steps to prepare against severe weather with the most common response to this final statement being don't know (41.5% of respondents).



Through our [community led resilience project](#) we are focused on building on this and supporting the establishment of Community Resilience Volunteer Groups in each of our communities, particularly those at risk of flooding, to ensure that our communities, where possible, are trained in what to do and how to best help the emergency services in these situations.

The project led by Aberdeen City Council and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has helped organisations set up their own resilience group by providing help with training, grants, developing a resilience plan and insurance, which will help communities feel safe and prepared for emergencies. Resilience groups keep people informed, have a role for all, bring residents in a community together, helps communities feel safe and prepared for emergencies, and people become more community spirited. As a result, we currently have 3 Community Resilience Groups, namely: Culter; Cults Milltimber and Bieldside and Bridge of Don & Danestone all of which have resilience plans in place.

"We are delighted with the privilege to partner with the council and other agencies located in north of the city to provide community support as part of the community resilience volunteer group and be there for people when they need us".

**Spokesperson for The King's Church Aberdeen**



As well as development of resilience plans, we have supported resilience with 47 community emergency resilience boxes issued in December/January 2023 to a variety of community locations. Battery generator packs are also being provided to the 3 existing Community Resilience Groups to assist the overall response to a power outage emergency.

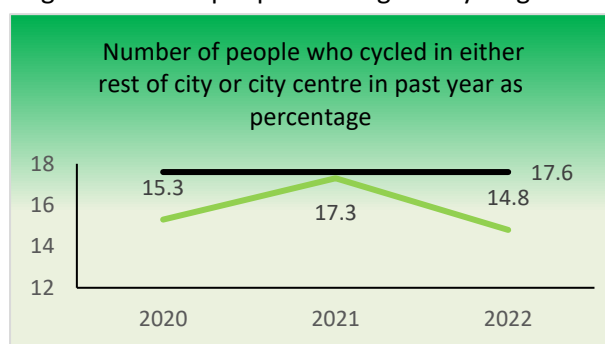
## Promoting Walking and Cycling

Small changes to the way we travel can play a big role in helping to reduce the impact of climate change, as well as health benefits individually and for our communities. We are working with our communities to promote and enable everyone to walk, wheel or cycle for recreation and transport and to therefore support our environmental and health outcomes.

Data from City Voice in 2022 shows that walking has increased as the mode of travel most commonly reported as easy or very easy and is the most common choice for travel within the City Centre, with 76.8% compared to 63.2% in 2021. Similarly, there has been an 11.3% increase in respondents who walked as one mode of travel in the past year, 89.1% up from 77.8% in 2021. Throughout 2022/23 our [walking project](#) has been working on a project that came about as an improvement idea from the Central community to make walking more accessible and encourage more people to walk to appointments at the Foresterhill Campus, having highlighted that it was not accessible for all to walk the full distance in one go. This has involved a variety of partners to get a series of park benches installed on Hutcheon Road and Westburn Road to the Foresterhill Campus to test if having places to stop and rest on their journey encouraged more people to walk. Nine locations were identified along the route and working with the landowners by March 2023, eight of the nine benches were installed. Pedestrian counts pre and post bench have been scheduled and we will report the impact in the next reporting period.



Whilst, walking is increasing, City Voice shows that the percentage of people using a standard pedal bike was lower in 2022 than in 2021, with 14.8% of respondents cycling as one mode of travel in the past year – down from 17.3% in 2021. This may be a levelling out linked to the pandemic and the large increase in people walking and cycling that was seen during the Covid-19 restrictions.



We continue to recognise the importance of road safety and of children and adults having access to training to build their confidence to cycle. Through our [cycling project](#) we are encouraging people to undertake adult cycling courses, but also to increase capacity of courses encouraging people to be cycling trainers. This year seven people have become certified to conduct risk assessments, plan, develop and deliver cycling sessions based on the National

Standard for cycling to anyone that wants to cycle. We also recognise that not everyone has access to a bike comes at a cost and not all can make this financial commitment, particularly with the cost-of-living crisis. In response to this and to support our reduction of waste project, a new bike recycling initiative will commence from June 2023 which will see bikes recycled, repaired, and reused and will provide discounted and affordable bikes, as well as a referral scheme for those who otherwise may not be able to own their own bike. As well as making bike ownership accessible, it helps the circular economy, reducing the needless waste of unwanted bikes going to landfill.

## Communities developing green spaces and food growing



### Improvement Project Aims Exceeded

**122%** increase (23 to 51) in the number of community run green spaces and **1733%** (3 to 55) increase in food growing projects.

Our community run green space and food growing projects have continued to thrive and achieve positive outcomes with 55 food growing projects in schools, communities, and workplaces as at March 2023, an increase of 52 since February 2022. This was made up of 19 in North, 14 in South & 22 in Central Localities. Similarly, there were 28 new community run green spaces established in 2022/23, a 122% increase (23 to 51) since March 2022 and a 920% since the project started in February 2021. Volunteers from communities across the city have enabled these outcomes to be achieved and we are delighted to report that 4792 volunteers are helping manage green space across the city, a 16% increase since 2021/22 (4125 people). 68% of respondents to the City Vice reported being satisfied with the overall quality of green / open spaces in the City – up from 64.5% in 2021.

## Collaboration is at the heart our approach to climate change Nature preservation

Scotland's nature is in decline. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are embedded throughout the LOIP and help create a common understanding and goal across all our stretch outcomes of the impact and role we all play in creating a sustainable environment. Climate change alongside habitat loss and pollution is threatening our diverse wildlife and environment and we are committed to working together to manage at least 10% of our land for nature. In November 2022, we launched the Aberdeen Climate and Nature Pledge. The Aberdeen Climate and Nature Pledge is open to businesses, organisations and members of the public to pledge their support and actions towards our city-wide goals of reducing emissions and adapting to the effects of climate change and recovering nature across our city. Between November 2022 and March 2023, 70 organisations and individual/household pledges were made, of which 20 organisations have given their pledge to manage at least 10% of their land for nature.

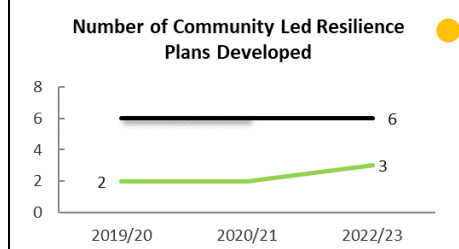
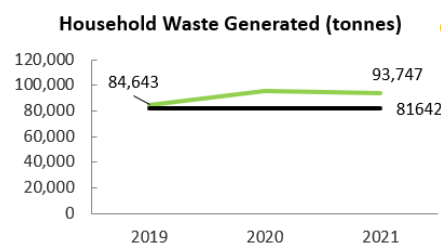
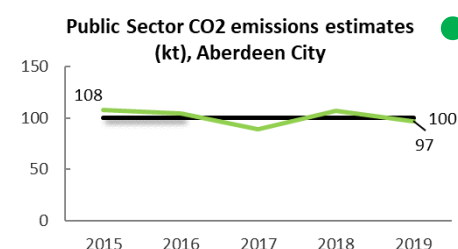


# What impact have we had?

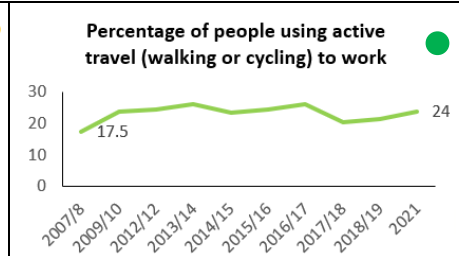
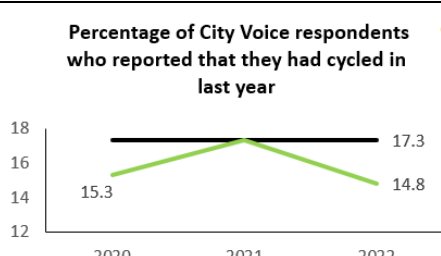
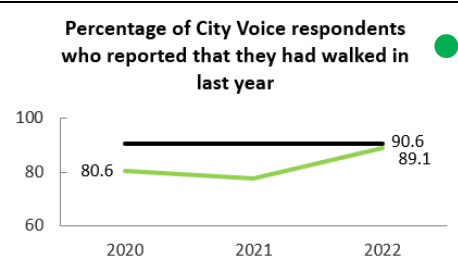
— 22/23 improvement aim — Performance

● Yes  
● Getting there  
● Not yet

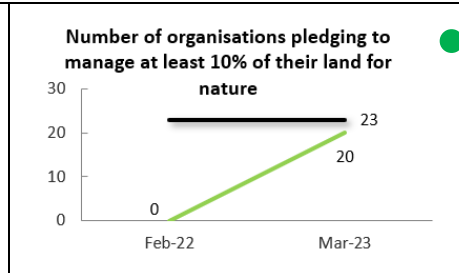
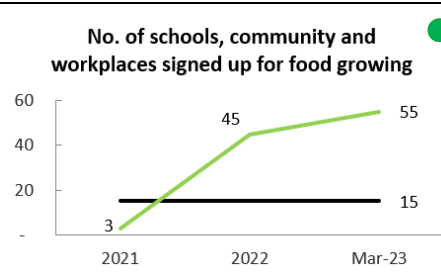
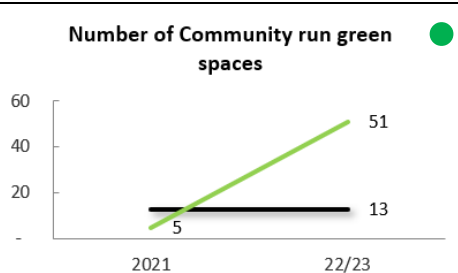
## Climate Change



## Walking and Cycling



## Protecting Nature



## Improvement priorities 2023/24

- Support communities to develop community resilience plans, with plans in place for all communities at risk of flooding.
- Develop and implement innovative improvements to reduce waste.
- Explore the development of community reuse hubs.
- Launch the bike recycling project increasing access to bikes for all to support both an increase in people cycling and reducing waste.
- Pilot social prescribing for nature.
- Continue to promote and increase number of organisations pledging to manage at least 10% of their land for nature.





# Community Empowerment

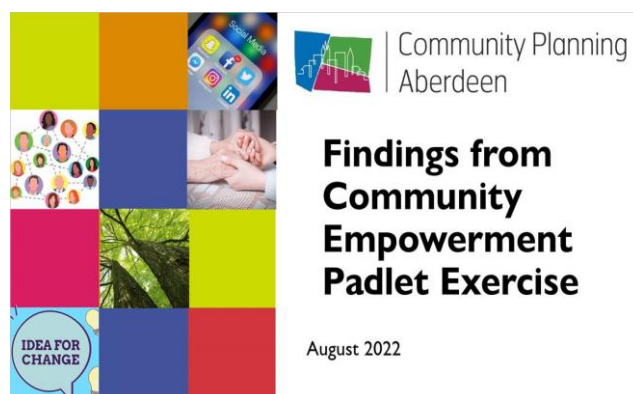
## Our Stretch Outcome

What we are working towards	How we are doing
<p><b>SO16</b></p> <p>100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026</p>	<p><b>PROGRESSING</b></p> <p>24% of City Voice respondents scored 5 and above (out of 1-7) feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better.</p>



## New Community Empowerment Strategy published

In 2022 we sought the views of the public, our partners and stakeholders on what success in community empowerment looks like for them through a padlet exercise, an online whiteboard to support the development of the new Community Empowerment Strategy. The [Padlet Findings](#) were explored through workshops at the Community Empowerment Network meeting held on 28 July 2022 which was open to all. The feedback from the engagement helped define the overall aim of the strategy and the themes for improvement.



Then, in November 2022, Community Planning Aberdeen approved a new Community Empowerment Strategy to complement and support the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), recognising that we need an active and inclusive citizenship where all people have a voice and ability to influence what happens to them and their community. The ambition of the Community Empowerment Strategy is for all communities across Aberdeen to be equal community planning partners in realising the LOIP's vision.



At the beginning of the year, following publication of the Strategy, the Community Empowerment Group started making visits to community groups as part of the Community Empowerment Network Road Show. This will continue throughout the year as part of ongoing efforts to work more closely with communities.

## New Stretch Outcome 16

The strategy defines what improvement in community empowerment will look like by 2026 by introducing a new 16<sup>th</sup> Stretch Outcome which aims to achieve a:

**“100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026.”**

Underpinning Stretch Outcome 16 are [seven improvement project aims](#). These are the projects that the Community Empowerment Group has prioritised to achieve the overall stretch outcome each of these commenced in April 2023. They include:



## Communities coming together

As part of the launch of the new Community Empowerment Strategy, the Community Empowerment Group held the first Community Gathering event on 13 May. The event provided an opportunity for people and community groups from across the City to come together to connect and find out about what is going on in their local community.

121 people attended (87 general admission, 28 exhibitors and 69 workshop participants), not including people who dropped in on the day. The main event was an exhibition of community information with 25 community exhibitors. People gathered to wander around the stalls and learn about the different opportunities to get involved in their local community.

Community Planning Aberdeen

# COMMUNITY Gathering

**Free Admission** Saturday 13 May 10-1.30pm Cowdray Hall (via Aberdeen Art Gallery)

**Drop in and join the fun**

**COME AND JOIN US**  
Find out what's going on in your community, connect with community groups, find out how to volunteer.

Sign up → to participate in workshops on the day.

Tea, coffee, food, stalls, raffles, activities for children.

NIHR Health Departments Research Collaborative Aberdeen  
acvo  
grec

Attendees were also invited to book onto the three workshops on the following areas throughout the morning:

1. What does good community engagement look like and what support and resources do we need to be more active in our communities?
2. How can we improve the health of our communities? Come and find out more about the role of a citizen researcher?
3. Child friendly participation activities for children and young people aged under five and aged 5-12



Read a summary of the workshop findings in the full [Community Gathering Event Playback Report](#)

## Communities taking action

Our three Locality Empowerment Groups (LEGs) are made up of local people interested in improving the quality of life for people living in their community. Members use their own knowledge and experiences to influence priorities, help determine solutions and drive the development and delivery of the North, South and Central Locality Plans. As well as the LEGs we have three Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships (PNPs) which focus on some areas of the City which experience the greatest disadvantage. These partnerships were set up in 2017 before we had LEGs and continue to meet to discuss local community issues. The LEGs and PNPs work together to take shared priority issues forward. [See table 1 below for our localities, neighbourhoods, and priority neighbourhoods.](#)

To support our LEGs/PNPs, a new integrated Locality Planning Team was created in February 2023. Since February 2023, the team have undertaken a rationalisation exercise of the community ideas captured within the North, South and Central Locality Plans; prepared easy read versions of the three Locality Plans; and developed annual reports. They will be used to re-new community interest in Locality Planning and getting involved through their local community group or by joining a Locality Empowerment Group or Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships. The Locality Empowerment Groups relaunched in April/ May 23, whilst the Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships have continued to meet since 2017.

**Table 1. Localities, neighbourhoods and priority neighbourhoods**

Localities	North	South	Central
Neighbourhoods	1.Dyce	1.Culter	1.Tillydrone
	2.Danestone	2.Cults, Bieldside,	2.Old Aberdeen
	3.Oldmachar	Milltimber &	3.Seaton
	4.Denmore	Countesswells	4.Woodside
	5.Balgownie &	3.Hazlehead	5.Hilton
	Donmouth	4.Braeside,	6.Stockethill
	6.Bucksburn	Mannofield,	7.Ashgrove
	7.Heathryfold	Broomhill & Seafield	8.George Street
	8.Middlefield	5.Garthdee	9.Frogghall, Powis &
	9.Kingswells	6.Ferryhill	Sunnybank
	10.Northfield	7.Kincorth, Leggart &	10.Midstocket
	11.Cummings Park	Nigg	11.Rosemount
	12.Sheddocksley	8.Torry	12.City Centre
	13.Mastrick	9.Cove	13.Hanover
	14.Summerhill		14.West End

<b>Priority neighbourhoods (Based SIMD analysis)</b>	7.Heathryfold 8.Middlefield 10.Northfield 11.Cummings Park 13.Mastrick	7.Kincorth 8.Torry	1.Tillydrone 3.Seaton 4.Woodside 6.Stockethill 7.Ashgrove 8.George Street
<b>Locality Empowerment Group</b>	<b>North LEG</b>	<b>South LEG</b>	<b>Central LEG</b>
<b>Priority Neighbourhood Partnership</b>	<u><a href="#">Wider Northfield</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Torry</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Seaton, Woodside &amp; Tillydrone</a></u>
<b>Locality Plans</b>	<u><a href="#">North Locality Plan</a></u>	<u><a href="#">South Locality Plan</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Central Locality Plan</a></u>

Through our LEGs/PNPs members are supporting our LOIP projects develop, and test improvements identified by their community. They provide a community voice on the project team and help ensure the Community Planning Partnership is listening to community ideas. One example of this, is from our active walking project. In this project, the Central community had an improvement idea that installing benches on a key walking route between Hutcheon Road and Foresterhill Campus would make walking more accessible and encourage more people to walk to appointments at the Foresterhill Campus, having highlighted that it was not accessible for all to walk the full distance in one go. Working with the community connector the project identified locations for the with nine locations identified along the route and working with the landowners by March 2023, eight of the nine benches were installed. Pedestrian counts pre and post bench have been scheduled and we will report the impact in the next reporting period. Through the community promotion of the benches is now being developed.

## Building the capacity of our communities to get involved

There are many ways people can get involved in the work of Community Planning Aberdeen to make things better for their local community and influence how public services are delivered in their area to meet their needs. We are committed to enabling all citizens to participate should they wish to. To support this, in partnership with SCDC, we have been offering free training sessions for community members and partnership staff on what good community engagement looks like using the national standards for community engagement. Partner staff and LOIP improvement project teams are being encouraged to attend this training to strengthen their engagement with community members. This is in addition to the development of the online tools and resources webpage for communities. 51 community members attended the engagement training.

Training on the improvement methodology to upskill all who want to be involved and build their confidence in being involved in multi-agency improvement projects has also been developed and initial testing completed with the community. By actively encouraging communities to be involved in our improvement projects we hope to avoid the need for communities to make a formal participation request. Over the last year we have had 0 participation requests.



**Are you enthusiastic about improving your community?**  
**We need you!**

**Involvement could include...**

-  Providing a voice on behalf of the people and communities across your neighbourhood
-  Sharing your knowledge, skills and experience
-  Getting involved in work to improve your community
-  Supporting the development and delivery of Locality Plans

 This is a QR code, scan using your phones camera and it will take you to the Community Planning Website where you can find out more!

 Community Planning  
Aberdeen

## Community Learning & Development

Community Learning and Development (CLD) empowers people of all ages to work individually or collectively to make positive changes in their lives, and in their communities. Whether someone wants to better their personal situation or make things better for their family or the wider community, it is about giving people the skills and confidence to be able to go after what they want and to succeed regardless of their background or current circumstances. Key improvements and outcomes across Youth Work, Community Development and Adult Learning are detailed below:

### Youth Work

- Youth work activities engaged 2074 young people (aged 10-18 years) and 689 children (aged 5-9 years) in positive experiences developing new skills and abilities, with 1648 of those young people reporting improved mental health and wellbeing as a result of their engagement with youth work.
- The Saltire Awards in Aberdeen continue to recognise and enhance volunteering by young people in the city for 2,459 young people. These awards, which are for volunteers aged 12-25 and co-ordinated by ACVO, continue to contribute positively to employability skills.
- Children and young people in the majority of primary and secondary schools in the City continue to benefit from youth work support through Scottish Attainment Challenge Funding and over 100 young people identified as unlikely to secure a positive destination benefited from youth work programmes.
- Youth Participation and Empowerment is central to our work with young people. Alongside schools and community-based engagement programmes, the youth work team continue to provide support to 3 key groups who represent the views of young people across the city locally, regionally, and nationally, these being Aberdeen Youth Movement (AYM) (formerly Aberdeen City Youth Council), Northern Alliance – Youth Advisory Group and Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP).
- The new youth-voice group Aberdeen Youth Movement (AYM) was established in 2023. A new approach to youth participation, the AYM aims to provide a place for young people to express their views and use their voice in a less formal environment than was the case with Aberdeen City Youth Council. A key goal is to represent all groups of young people, capturing the hidden voices, and communicate their needs and wants both locally and nationally.
- During 2022/23, 1888 children and young people registered to take part in youth work activities and 644 activities. Children and young people are reporting that participation in youth work activities is having a positive impact on their emotional and mental wellbeing.
- During 2022/23, 31 children and young people gained a Dynamic Youth Award and 73 gained a Hi-5 award. The CLD youth work is supporting partners to deliver Dynamic Youth Awards.
- The youth diversionary hub in the Mastrick area of the city continues to provide young people with opportunities to meet up out-with school time and take part in sports and arts activities. Antisocial behaviour in the area continues to decline. It is now in its second year and its positive impact on reducing vandalism and promoting young people's wellbeing continues. As an offshoot of the Hub a group for primary 6 and 7's was set up in the local community centre.



### Community Learning and Development Community Projects

Community groups have been funded to provide Community Learning and Development (CLD) in priority neighbourhoods, focusing on working with vulnerable and disadvantaged people and families affected by poverty, including those most impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis. The funded projects continue to contribute to the LOIP Stretch Outcome 1: No one will suffer due to poverty by 2026, by mitigating the causes of poverty and supporting vulnerable people, families, and groups in priority communities, and to the Community Learning and Development Plan 2021-24. The projects provide a range of activities and support, including access to free food and food pantries and support on fuel poverty, welfare reform, benefits, financial inclusion, employment, health and wellbeing, isolation, and social exclusion. As a result:

- Over the year 3,937 people participated and over 261 volunteers contributed 32,625 volunteer hours. 2,569 adults, 808 young people and 560 children were supported.
- 806 children and young people took part in CLD activities, 357 young people participated in diversionary activities, 236 took part in programmes that were explicitly about promoting good mental and physical health, and 423 reported that their confidence had increased.
- 849 adults took part in CLD activities, and 70 moved on to positive destinations (education, employment, training, volunteering). 309 people took part in programmes that were explicitly about promoting good mental and physical health, and 90 participated in employability activities.
- Support was given to 3,833 people affected by poverty, 193 ethnic minority households, 327 disabled people, 21 people with no recourse to public funds, 959 lone parents, 1585 families with children, 91 larger families (3+ children), 27 kinship carers, and 23 care experienced young people were supported.
- 14,811 people were provided with free food and 321 with fuel vouchers through the projects.

### Adult Learning continues to support our communities

2314 adults have been engaged in adult learning activity and the city-wide family learning offer provided 250 activities to 481 adults (and their 389 children/young people), resulting in an improvement in knowledge, skills, confidence, access to additional support services and the removal of barriers to future learning and engagement.

Adult Learners are equipped to meet key challenges and transitions in their lives including digital inclusion, literacy, numeracy, ESOL and financial resilience. Many learners are supported to move on to further learning, volunteering, and employment opportunities. Key achievements include:

- 818 adults reported improved mental health and wellbeing outcomes because of their engagement.
- 54 adults completed nationally recognised awards through CLD activity (SCQF levelled and awards such as Adult Achievement Award)
- The Adult Learning Network (started in September 2021) continues to develop as means for partners to network, reduce duplication of adult learning opportunities and co-ordinate new provision. A range of partners including WEA, NESCOL, Aberdeen University, Skills Development Scotland, Aberdeen Science Centre, LEAD Scotland, GREC, SHMU, Police Scotland, ACC Adult Learning/Family Learning/Healthy Minds/Refugee/Libraries/Creative Learning teams have been involved over the last year.
- The English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) subgroup has been working well for the last year and has developed a streamlined ESOL service across all providers in Aberdeen. CLD Adult Learning team assessed the learning needs of over 600 Ukrainian learners since May '22 and delivering more than 40 ESOL classes at Beginner/Intermediate level, to Afghans, Ukrainians, and wider communities.

### Supporting those in need through Community Development:

- 171 Community Groups supported, 1064 adults and young people reached and engaged with through one off promotional events/drop-ins/community events/engagements.
- Increased levels of community volunteering
- Ukrainian integration - Over 100 volunteers helped bring properties to standard to welcome refugees totalling upwards of 2000 volunteer hours.
- The Healthy Minds teamwork with adults in recovery of an enduring mental illnesses to access learning opportunities across the city by building confidence and skills – 74 participants in the last year with 96% reporting increased confidence and 92% improved knowledge and skills; 7 learners supported in the Blair Unit (Forensic unit at Cornhill Hospital) with literacy, numeracy, and digital skills.

### Fairer Aberdeen Fund 2022-23

The Fairer Aberdeen Fund is allocated by Aberdeen City Council to tackle poverty and deprivation, contributing to the LOIP Stretch Outcome 1: No one will suffer due to poverty by 2026. The Fund is allocated by a deliberative participatory budgeting approach, with a Board made up of Elected Members, Community Planning Partners, and community representatives with lived experience. The Fund supports initiatives and services in priority areas, as well as vulnerable groups across the city. In 2022-23 £1.6m was made available to support this work. Over 45,000 people were involved or benefitted from the 36 funded initiatives within the programme and 739 volunteers contributed 114,280 hours of volunteering with a value of over £2m.

706 people took part in employability programmes and 251 people moved into work. 4,651 people received money and income maximisation advice, with 1230 of them receiving a total financial gain of £2,323,811 the equivalent of £1,890 per person. 444 parents and families with complex needs were supported, and 373 people accessed mental health counselling provision provided locally. A Community Support Fund was also available for community engagement and an Employment Support Fund addressed financial barriers for people getting back into work.

### Fairer Aberdeen Fund Participatory Budgeting (PB)

The Fairer Aberdeen Board allocated £25,000 to undertake a PB event in the Garthdee area during October 2022. A steering group made up of partners and community representatives prioritised the funding for initiatives to improve the community, support social inclusion, and tackle isolation and loneliness.



10 applications were received from organisations working in the area, and funding was awarded to the 9 projects that were most popular in the public vote on the day. Activities focused on bringing people back together after the isolation of the pandemic, with youth groups, football and athletics for young people, outdoor initiatives including allotments, road safety, a forest garden, and community benches, and a Big Christmas Party to bring the whole community together.



# What impact have we had?

- Yes
- Getting there
- Not yet

22/23 improvement aim      Performance

## Community Empowerment



## Improvement priorities 2023/24

- Increase the rate and representativeness of the response to Aberdeen City Voice
- Developing Community Engagement Training for managers, project leads, frontline staff and communities
- Co-designing a digital community engagement toolkit to support staff and communities to work together to make improvements in the community
- Refresh of the Locality Plans and identification of community ideas for improvement that can be co-designed with communities and tested through our LOIP projects and CPA partners
- Award ceremony for community groups sponsored by Aberdeen Responsible Business
- Testing with children and young people different methods of engagement on decisions which impact them.
- Support for community led organisations to access funding for community led initiatives.

# Ways to get involved

There are many ways people can get involved in the work of the Community Planning Aberdeen to make things better for our citizens and the wider community. Our ambition is for all communities across Aberdeen to be equal community planning partners and we are reaching out to all individuals, community groups and organisations to get involved in our work to make the City a place where all people can prosper, regardless of their background or circumstances.

Find out more about the different ways you can get involved by clicking on the links below.

**[Find out more about Community Planning Aberdeen](#)**

**[Sign up for community updates](#)**

**[Join a Locality Empowerment Group](#)**

**[Join a Priority Neighbourhood Partnership](#)**

**[Become a member of our Citizen Panel](#)**





**[Find out about other ways of working with communities](#)**

**[Learn about our Community Empowerment Network](#)**

Or simply get in touch by emailing [communityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk)



# Who's Who

**CPA Board and Management Group** Provides strategic leadership and direction.




<p><b>Chair CPA Board</b></p>  <p>Councillor Allard, ACC</p>	<p><b>Vice-Chair of CPA Board</b></p>  <p>Graeme Mackie, Police Scotland</p>	<p><b>Partners involved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• NHS Grampian</li> <li>• Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership</li> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Robert Gordon University</li> <li>• SFRS</li> <li>• University of Aberdeen</li> <li>• Skills Development Scotland</li> <li>• North East Scotland College</li> <li>• Nestrans</li> <li>• Active Aberdeen Partnership</li> <li>• Scottish Enterprise</li> <li>• Civic Forum</li> <li>• ACVO</li> </ul>
<p><b>Chair Management Group</b></p>  <p>Gale Beattie, ACC</p>	<p><b>Vice-Chair of Management Group</b></p>  <p>David Howieson, Police Scotland</p>	

## Outcome Improvement Groups




**Anti-Poverty Group** Preventing suffering due to poverty.

<p><b>Chair</b></p>  <p>Martin Murchie, ACC</p>	<p><b>Vice Chair</b></p>  <p>Lawrence Johnston, SCARF</p>	<p><b>Lead Contact</b></p>  <p>Susan Thoms, ACC</p>	<p><b>Partners involved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership</li> <li>• ACVO</li> <li>• CFine</li> <li>• Civic Forum</li> <li>• DWP</li> <li>• GREC</li> <li>• NHS Grampian</li> <li>• North East College Scotland</li> <li>• SCARF</li> <li>• University of Aberdeen</li> </ul>
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## Aberdeen Prospers Responsible for improving our economy.

Chair	Vice Chair	Lead Contact	Partners involved
 <p>Allison Carrington, SDS</p>	 <p>Duncan Abernethy, NESCOL</p>	 <p>Charlotte Saunders, ACC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• Skills Development Scotland</li> <li>• North East Scotland College</li> <li>• Nestrans</li> <li>• Robert Gordon University</li> <li>• Scottish Enterprise</li> <li>• Civic Forum</li> <li>• ACVO</li> <li>• DWP</li> </ul>

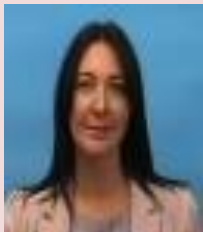


## Children's Services Board Ensuring children are the future.

Chair	Vice Chair	Lead Contact	Partners involved
 <p>Eleanor Sheppard ACC</p>	 <p>Tracy Davis, NHS Grampian</p>	 <p>James Simpson, ACC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• ACVO</li> <li>• Children's Hearings Scotland</li> <li>• NHS Grampian</li> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Scottish Children's Reporters Association</li> <li>• Scottish Fire and Rescue</li> <li>• ACHSCP</li> <li>• Active Aberdeen Partnership</li> <li>• Skills Development Scotland</li> </ul>




## Resilient, Included & Supported Group Helping people live independently.

Chair	Vice Chair	Lead Contact	Partners involved
 <p>Alison MacLeod, ACH&amp;SCP</p>	 <p>Andy Hislop, SFRS</p>	 <p>Grace Milne ACHSCP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership</li> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• ACVO</li> <li>• NHS Grampian</li> <li>• Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</li> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Alcohol and Drugs Partnership</li> <li>• Active Aberdeen Partnership</li> </ul>




## Community Justice Group Improving outcomes for people involved in the justice system.

Chair	Vice Chair	Lead Contact	Partners involved
 <p>Claire Wilson, ACHSCP</p>	 <p>Darren Bruce, Police Scotland</p>	 <p>Chris Parker ACC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• Health and Social Care Partnership</li> <li>• Crown Office &amp; Procurator Fiscal</li> <li>• NHS Grampian</li> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Scottish Courts and Tribunals</li> <li>• Scottish Fire and Rescue</li> <li>• Scottish Prison Service</li> <li>• Skills Development Scotland</li> <li>• ACVO</li> <li>• Alcohol and Drugs Partnership</li> <li>• Civic Forum</li> <li>• Active Aberdeen Partnership</li> <li>• Community Justice Scotland</li> </ul>

## Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Tackling issues arising from substance misuse.

Chair	Vice Chair	Lead Contact	Partners involved
 <p>Gale Beattie, ACC</p>	 <p>Dermot Craig, TBC</p>	 <p>Simon Rayner, ADP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership</li> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• NHS Grampian</li> <li>• ACVO</li> <li>• Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</li> <li>• Scottish Prison Service</li> <li>• Active Aberdeen Partnership</li> <li>• Alcohol and Drugs Partnership</li> <li>• Aberdeen in Recovery</li> <li>• Civic Forum</li> <li>• Aberdeen in Recovery</li> </ul>






## Sustainable City Group Creating a safe, attractive, welcoming environment.

Chair	Vice Chair	Lead Contact	Partners involved
 <p>Jillian Evans, Public Health, NHS Grampian</p>	 <p>David Dunne, ACC</p>	 <p>Jacqui Bell, NHS Grampian</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• Active Aberdeen Partnership</li> <li>• ACVO</li> <li>• Civic Forum</li> <li>• NHS Grampian</li> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</li> <li>• Sport Aberdeen</li> <li>• Nestrans</li> <li>• SEPA</li> <li>• Scottish Natural Heritage</li> </ul>

## Community Empowerment Group Ensuring community perspective.








Chair	Vice Chair	Vice Chair	Partners involved
 <p>Michelle Cochlan, ACC</p>	 <p>Maggie Hepburn, ACVO</p>	 <p>Jonathan Smith, Civic Forum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen City Council</li> <li>• ACVO</li> <li>• Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership</li> <li>• Civic Forum</li> <li>• Grampian Regional Equality Council (GREC)</li> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Scottish Fire &amp; Rescue Service</li> <li>• NHS Grampian</li> <li>• University of Aberdeen</li> </ul>

## Community Planning Team Provides strategic support to Partnership colleagues.

 <p>Michelle Cochlan, Community Planning Manager, ACC</p>	 <p>Allison Swanson, Improvement Programme Manager, ACC</p>	 <p>Charlotte Saunders, Improvement Programme Officer, ACC</p>
 <p>Anne McAteer, Research Officer, ACC</p>	 <p>Martin Wyllie, Transformation and Improvement Advisor, ACC</p>	



**Integrated Locality Planning Team** Responsible for delivering our three Locality Plans.

<p><b>City Wide</b></p>  <p>Iain Robertson, Transformation Programme Manager, ACHSCP</p>	<p><b>South</b></p> <p>Vacant, Public Health Coordinator, ACHSCP</p>	<p><b>Central</b></p>  <p>Chris Smillie, Public Health Coordinator, ACHSCP</p>	<p><b>North</b></p>  <p>Katie Cunningham, Public Health Coordinator, ACHSCP</p>
<p><b>City Wide</b></p>  <p>Jade Leyden, Community Development Manager, ACC</p>	<p><b>Torry</b></p>  <p>Teresa Dufficy, Community Development Officer, ACC</p>	<p><b>Tillydrone, Seaton, Woodside</b></p>  <p>Graham Donald, Community Development Officer, ACC</p>	<p><b>Northfield, Mastrick, Middlefield Heathryfold, Cummings Park</b></p>  <p>Kev Donald, Community Development Officer, ACC</p>

## Further Information:

If you have any questions about this report or Community Planning Aberdeen please contact:  
[CommunityPlanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:CommunityPlanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

To find out more about community planning please visit:  
[www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk](http://www.communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk)





## Community Planning Aberdeen

<b>Progress Report</b>	Locality Plan Annual Outcome Improvement Reports 2022-23 for North, South and Central Localities.
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Michelle Crombie, Chair of CPA Community Empowerment Group Alison Macleod, Chair of ACHSCP Strategic Planning Group
<b>Report Author</b>	Jade Leyden, Community Development Manager, ACC Iain Robertson, Transformation Programme Manager, ACHSCP
<b>Date of Report</b>	29 August 2023
<b>Governance Group</b>	CPA Board – 6 September 2023

### Purpose of the Report

This report presents the Annual Reports 2022/23 against the North, South and Central Locality Plans published in July 2021. The plans underpin the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan, as well as individual partner plans, to cement a joint and coordinated approach between public services and local communities to improve outcomes city wide and at a locality level.

### Summary of Key Information

#### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Since 2021, Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership has been working together to facilitate and deliver an integrated locality planning model on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen. The approach ensures that Community Planning partners are meeting their locality planning duties in respect of both the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 and the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. At the same time, this joint working enables more efficient and effective working between partner staff and communities to secure better outcomes for the economy, people and place. Integrated locality planning is an innovative approach in Scotland.
- 1.2 In July 2021, Community Planning Aberdeen published Locality Plans for the North, South and Central [Localities of the City](#). This approach sees every neighbourhood in Aberdeen covered by a Locality Plan. The plans incorporate improvement activity for the whole locality and/or targeted at specific neighbourhoods – in most cases priority neighbourhoods. Priority neighbourhoods are those areas within the North, South and Central localities which experience poorer outcomes as a result of their socio-economic status, as identified by SIMD data. These include: for the North, Heathryfold, Middlefield, Northfield, Cummings Park and Mastrick; for the South, Torry and Kincorth; and for Central, Tillydrone, Seaton, Woodside, Ashgrove, Stockethill and George Street.
- 1.3 This report presents the annual reports against the Locality Plans for 2022-23.

## **2. NORTH, SOUTH AND CENTRAL KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2022/23**

- 2.1 The three Locality Plan Annual Reports 2022-23 contained at Appendices 1, 2 and 3 provide the Community Planning Partnership and members of the public with an overview of progress made in the last 12 months to address priority issues, some highlights from each plan are set out against the Economy, People, and Place themes below:

### **2.2 CENTRAL LOCALITY**

#### **2.2.1 Economy:**

- We launched the online benefit calculator to help more people find out what benefits they are entitled to. This has been accessed 7274 times across the city during 2022-23, with 887 of those being from Central priority neighbourhoods.
- We supported 696 households with their fuel bills and made approximately 237 home visits to deliver insulation and energy efficiency measures. As a result, a total of £49,829.28 fuel bill savings were made in the Central Locality.

#### **2.2.2 People:**

- Of the 68 Health Improvement Fund (HIF) projects in 2022-23, 33 HIF projects were either from bidders based in the Central Locality or aimed to support health improvement activities within Central Locality.
- 431 unpaid carers accessed the Quarriers Adult Carer Support Service in the Central Locality which was an increase of 38.1% on the 312 unpaid carers who accessed the service during 2021-22.
- The rate of drug related hospital stays for the Central Locality was 249.6 people per 100,000 of the population, this was a slight increase on 2021's data, where the rate stood at 244.3 admissions. The Central Locality was the only locality in Aberdeen City where drug related hospital stays increased between 2021-22. The Central Locality continues to have the highest rate of drug related hospital stays across Aberdeen City.

#### **2.2.3 Place:**

- 16 new community green spaces were established in Central Locality by June 2022. 67.4% of Central Locality respondents to the City Voice survey reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces, compared to 68% for the city as a whole.
- 91.6% of Central Locality residents regularly walk compared to 89.1% of citywide respondents. People in the Central Locality are most likely to walk regularly in Aberdeen City.

### **2.3 NORTH LOCALITY**

#### **2.3.1 Economy:**

- Across the City, 2749 families were supported to access additional child age benefits, with 792 families in North Locality seeing an increase to their benefits.
- Within the North Locality there were 928 shopping visits at the mobile food pantry, with 106 people accessing the pantry at CFine at Poynemook Rd.
- 92.6% of school leavers from the North Locality achieved a positive destination in 2021-22, this is lower than the 96.2% of school leavers in 2020-21 and lower than the Aberdeen City average of 93.8%.

#### **2.3.2 People:**

- All schools in the North Locality offer counselling and 100% of schools have signed up to the Safer Schools App. The app launched in 2022 and is promoted widely in

school newsletters and is accessible to all parents and carers. Initial feedback from parents and carers has been positive.

- Of the 2459 Aberdeen Saltire Award recipients between December 2021- March 2023, 1155 young people were from the North Locality. This is the highest number by locality area in Aberdeen City.

#### **2.3.3 Place:**

- Bridge of Don and Danestone were identified as areas most at risk of flooding in Aberdeen City. A pilot community resilience group in Bridge of Don was established which is made up of several local organisations, including Kings Church, Local Men's Shed, and the rotary club. The group are currently being supported to develop a community resilience plan.

### **2.4 SOUTH LOCALITY**

#### **2.4.1 Economy:**

- According to the City Voice Survey carried out in 2022, 28.3% of people in the South Locality worried they would not be able to heat their home compared to 55.6% of people living in Torry and Kincorth.
- Insulation and energy efficiency measures has led to South Locality households making £32,725.77 in fuel bill savings last year.

#### **2.4.2 People:**

- 21 of the 36 Fairer Aberdeen Fund projects benefited the South Locality.
- Alcohol related mortality rates in South Locality have been improving since 2019, with a rate of 13.91 per 100,000 recorded in 2021, compared to 17.31 in 2018. South Locality now has the lowest alcohol related mortality rate across Aberdeen City.

#### **2.4.3 Place:**

- CLD's Family Learning Team has supported approximately 46 families in the South Locality to access outdoor learning opportunities as well as others who attended residencies throughout the year.

### **3 WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES**

- 3.1 Working with communities to deliver the Locality Plans is facilitated by our Locality Empowerment Groups and Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships. Locality Empowerment Groups (LEGs) restarted on 27 April 2023, having not met since February 2022. Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships have continued to meet regularly since they were established in 2017. The groups are facilitated by the Locality Planning Team and agenda items are driven by community members. Meetings provide an opportunity for community members to influence and shape what happens in their neighbourhoods and wider locality. Work also goes on in between formal meetings to support collaboration between partner staff and community members on specific areas for improvement.

### **4. NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1 The progress demonstrated and areas for improvement identified in these reports will inform the refresh of the North, South and Central Locality Plans in 2024.

## Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that the Board:

- i) Approve the three Locality Plan Annual Reports 2022-23 for North, South and Central presented at Appendix 1, 2 and 3;
- ii) Agree the submission of the three Locality Plan Annual Reports 2022-23 to Full Council on 11 October 2023 and for their publication and circulation to all partners; and
- iii) Consider the report in conjunction with the CPA Annual Outcome Improvement Report (Item 2.2) to understand the link with the priority issues being tackled via the city wide Local Outcome Improvement Plan.

## Opportunities and Risks

The outcomes of poor health and wellbeing are inextricably linked to the wider determinants of public health that the Community Planning Partnership is seeking to improve through its stretch outcomes 1-16. The Locality Plans help direct resources to people and communities in greatest need of support across a range of outcomes. They underpin the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Strategy, as well as other Partner strategies. Most importantly, they enable stronger collaboration between community groups and public services to pull resources, assets, and skills to achieve shared priority outcomes.

## Consultation

Allison Swanson, Improvement Programme Manager  
CPA Management Group  
CPA Lead Contacts Group  
ACHSCP Senior Leadership Team  
ACHSCP Strategic Planning Group  
North, South and Central Locality Empowerment Group members  
Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships

## Background Papers

[Refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016- 26 and CPA Development Plan 2021-2022 Final Draft Integrated Locality Plans 2021-26 – North, South and Central](#)

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# Aberdeen City - Central Locality

## Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022-23



### Central Locality Neighbourhoods:

Ashgrove, City Centre, Froghall, George St, Hanover, Hilton, Midstocket, Old Aberdeen, Powis, Rosemount, Tillydrone, Seaton, Stockethill, Sunnybank, West End and Woodside

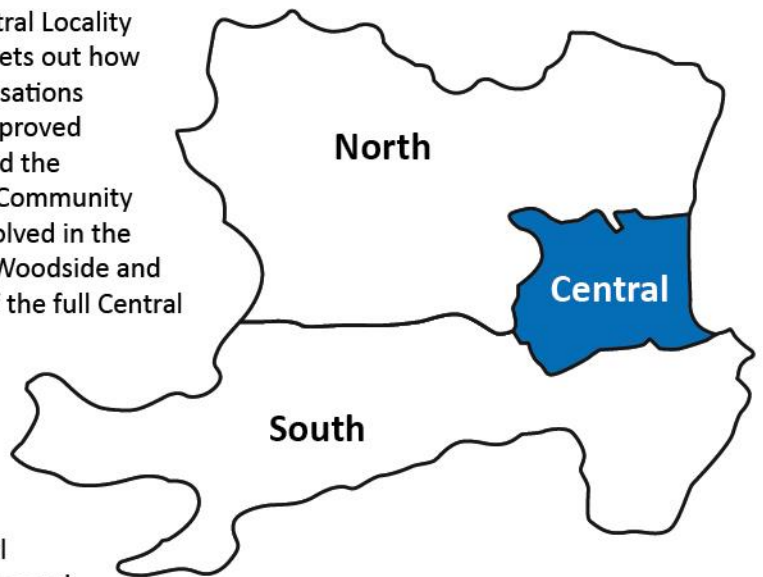




# WELCOME

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Welcome to our second annual report against the Central Locality Plan first published in 2021. The Central Locality Plan sets out how Community Planning Aberdeen and its member organisations will work together and with communities to deliver improved outcomes for the 14 neighbourhoods in the locality and the locality as a whole. The Locality Plan was prepared by Community Planning Aberdeen staff and community members involved in the Central Locality Empowerment Group and Tillydrone, Woodside and Seaton Partnership. Click on the links to view a copy of the full Central Locality Plan and Summary Locality Plan. Also see the end of this report to find out more about the organisations and community groups involved in preparing the plan.



This report provides an update on progress made against the priorities that were identified in the Central Locality Plan. It includes information about key activities and initiatives and also the impact that these have in the Central Locality and in target neighbourhoods. The information and data within the report demonstrates success in many areas. However, we also recognise where we need to do better and have identified priorities for improvement next year.

Our focus is always on impact on outcomes for communities. Central to our approach is involving and empowering communities which we have made clear in our new Community Empowerment Strategy published in 2022. Behind the scenes, Community Planning Aberdeen has also made some changes to ensure member organisations are working better together to empower communities. Our new locality planning team has been in place since February 2023 and epitomises our renewed vigour for working together with local communities. This report provides an important baseline for how we are currently performing in the Central Locality and a commitment to improvement going forward.

This report is split into the following sections:

<b>Our Economy</b>	<b>page 3</b>
<b>Our People</b>	<b>page 9</b>
<b>Our Place</b>	<b>page 18</b>
<b>Community Empowerment</b>	<b>page 20</b>



## OUR PRIORITIES

The Central Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out two priorities to improve our local economy:

**Priority 1: Reduce the number of people living in poverty**

**Priority 2: Ensure people have the digital means to ensure they do not miss out on opportunities**

## PROGRESS MADE DURING 2022/23



### *Supporting communities who experience poverty & our most vulnerable families*

#### **Community food provision and community pantries**

With food prices rising at the fastest rate in 40 years we have been working with CFine to increase access to affordable food across the locality, particularly for our most vulnerable communities and low-income families. Through our community food pantry project, we have focused on increasing access to affordable food in our priority neighbourhoods which include Tillydrone, Woodside, Seaton, Ashgrove Stockethill and George Street in the Central Locality. Recognising the challenges people can face attending one of our fixed food pantries, a mobile food pantry was launched in September 2021. CFine has 192 members of the Central Locality shopping at the pantry at Poynerook Rd on a regular basis. The mobile food pantry also had 810 visits from residents of the Central locality during 2022-23.

#### ***Affordable Food Providers in Central***

[CFine](#) operates a mobile food pantry on Thursdays at:  
-Tillydrone Church 1pm-1:40pm  
-Seaton Aulton Pitches 1:50pm -2:20pm

The [Woodside Pantry](#) is also available in the Central Locality, alongside other local [Food Banks](#).

#### **Supporting communities with financial inclusion**

Ensuring that household income is maximised through the uptake of unclaimed benefits is a key aspect to supporting households to come out of poverty and improve their financial security. There continues to be barriers which can mean people do not claim benefits they are entitled to, such as stigma of claiming, unaware of what they are entitled to, and onerous applications processes.

We have made progress with a number of initiatives to help remove these barriers. For example, we launched the online benefit calculator last year to help support more people to find out what benefits they are entitled to. This has been accessed 7274 times across the city during 2022/23, with 887 of those being from the Central priority neighbourhoods. We have also taken action to identify households who should be entitled to Pension Credits and have contacted them directly by letter. Using this approach 410 households were identified from across the City which qualified for Pension Credits. Finally, a booklet for families was developed to increase awareness and uptake of child benefits such as Education Maintenance Allowance and School Clothing Grants. The booklet targeted families and provided guidance on how to claim. Across the City 2749 families benefited financially by accessing additional benefits with 1067 families in the Central Locality benefiting financially by accessing additional benefits.

## Fuel poverty/ affordable heating

**Staying  
Warm & Well  
Winter Roadshow**

Thursday 8 December,  
10am - 2pm  
Central Library,  
Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen

Pop in for a free cuppa  
and chat to friendly staff  
who will share  
information and advice.

**WARM SPACE**  
We are open and the heating's on


As the cost of living increases it is important that we work together to do everything we can to support every household in Aberdeen. We have been working together with partner organisations across Aberdeen to provide a range of public warm spaces that will provide an opportunity for people to come together, share and use resources. Every warm space is unique however all warm spaces offer a friendly welcome and comfortable environment to meet friends or socialise. There are 18 warm spaces across the Central Locality but of course people are free to visit any warm space across the City. You can find your nearest warm space by visiting [here](#).

As well as providing warm spaces we have been increasing awareness of the support available to households during a variety of community events and we have trained frontline staff. As a result of the promotion of support available and an increase in home visits to deliver insulation and energy efficiency measure a total of £134,464.52 fuel bill savings was made last year across the Central Locality.

## Support English as Second Language (ESOL) families to access services

The CLD Adult Learning Team assessed 900 learners in the year 22/23 (which included over 600 Ukrainian Learners). The assessment learners were either offered a class or sign-posted to the most appropriate provider for their ESOL needs. The Adult Learning team has delivered 197 classes at an average of 45 classes per term. That is an average of 150 learners per term receiving a minimum of 2 classes per week. The classes range from pre-beginner to pre-intermediate. In addition to our mainstream classes, we have offered additionality of walk and talks, employability short courses and x2 ESOL for the Care Sector which has resulted in all but 1 participant either getting employment or a paid placement.



***Strengthening opportunities for Business Growth.***

## Support development of Social Enterprises and small businesses.

Local community start-ups benefit everyone. Not only do they help get people back into employment, they can also create new jobs and bring new money into the community. We are delighted to have secured local community support for people wishing to start their own business. Through Business Gateway we now have a Community Business Advisor attending the Tillydrone Community Campus to provide a monthly drop-in service. Over the last 12 months the service has attracted an average of 2 attendees per drop in which has resulted in 8 people starting their own business.





## Social Enterprise, Community Case Study

### *Seaton Community Café, Seaton Community Centre*

The idea for the community café grew from a post covid plan to encourage over 55s back into a social environment. Initially we formed a Community group with help from ACVO for the Constitution and offered a free Soup & Sandwich Lunch with transport and entertainment once a month. A year later we run the event twice a month and frequently sell out, capacity is 28 for each event and we get around 40 customers a month. In addition, we ran the Seaton Warm Space and the Seaton Pantry.



We had always intended to open a Community Café and the Warm Space Initiative, and the Community Pantry allowed us to meet more of the community. Now we had a real idea of what we wanted to achieve and why, the Cost-of-Living Crisis just made us even more determined.

With initial funding from the HiF fund and support from Communities and Health and Social Care Partnership we opened the Café in its current form four months ago. The café is open twice a week in the afternoons and attracts around 70 customers each week. There were seven volunteers for the Soup & Sandwich team, all of whom passed their Food Hygiene. In addition, we had four committee members, but we soon added another six. These volunteers also supported the Pantry which ran twice a week.

We work with a range of partners - Fresh Wellness, Aberdeen in Recovery, Shmu, Tree Life and CLICC to promote use of the café, pantry and the community centre. We are members of Social Enterprise Scotland and are intending to continue the development of this. In addition, we are working on a new Green project with Nescans which will include the target of Carbon Zero. For the Café we plan to develop an external catering service, initially for fellow Third Sector groups with a view to expanding. Plans and costings are very positive although we need to consider working towards becoming a SCIO which will allow us to access funds.






## *Developing approaches to support employment opportunities.*

### **Local employability support and job opportunities**

Supporting people into employment is a top priority for the locality. Over the year we have delivered a range of employability support events targeted at people who face barriers and challenges. For example, we have delivered sessions for people over 50, people with a disability and people living in our priority neighbourhoods in the Central Locality.

Partners Aberdeen City Council, Skills Development Scotland, DWP and Business Gateway have also delivered 'Your Route to Work' sessions through our ABZ works initiative. These are aimed at young people living in priority neighbourhoods who are disengaged from school, school leavers, work returners and their wider families. During these sessions participants can find out information on how to get into employment, training, education or volunteering as well as receive money and benefit advice. There were 16 attendees at the Tillydrone event. Exit surveys were completed with a small number of event attendees. Everyone who attended and who provided feedback felt the event was useful or very useful and all would be likely to visit a future event.



**ABZ WORKS**  
Your route to skills, training and work


**Your Route to Work**





**Thursday 1st June 2023**  
**Drop-in 4pm - 7pm**

**Tillydrone Campus, AB24 2UY**

We'll help you plan for your future and provide information on work, training, education and benefits.  
The event is open to all including school leavers and people looking to return to work.

Free to attend  
Refreshments provided  
Register here - <https://bit.ly/44Unkor>



### **Increase the number of Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships**

We are committed to creating accessible pathways to both employment and education, two such paths are Modern and Graduate apprenticeships. These apprenticeships offer people the opportunity to blend academic qualifications while also gaining practical experience on the job. This enables people to earn as they learn, creating more realistic and inclusive opportunities for local people. Across Aberdeen City, North East of Scotland College (NESCoL) data shows that the promotional events for employers and potential apprentices, focus groups with pupils from St. Machar Academy, as well as the introduction of incentives for employers through the Apprentice Employer Grant where employers were offered £5k on recruitment of a new Modern Apprentice (MA) have resulted in a 36% increase in [Modern Apprenticeships](#) from 157 in 2019/20 to 214 in 2022/23.







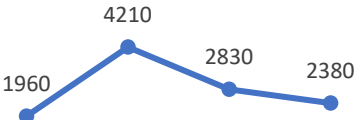
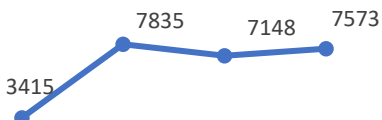






## *Improved digital access and increase skill base across the community*

### **Digital Access**

Through our digital improvement project, we have seen positive outcomes for both digital access and skills. This work included the promotion of existing access and new access to digital devices such as library computers, council digital resources and universities. In addition to this Silver City Surfers continue to offer face to face tuition for over 55's in the City helping them to become more comfortable using digital tools, and offering support to community members in the central locality at the Central Library.

**79.4%** of City Voice respondents in the Central Locality reported they had at least basic digital skills.

Tackling Poverty		
<b>Food Insecurity</b>  <p><b>9.7%</b> of people in the Central Locality worried they would not have enough to eat compared to <b>18%</b> of people living in Tillydrone, Woodside, Seaton, Ashgrove, Stockethill and George Street. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Food Poverty</b>  <p><b>4.3%</b> of households in the Central Locality ran out of food compared to <b>1.9%</b> of households Citywide (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Affordable Food</b>  <p><b>1,002</b> families in the Central Locality accessing <b>affordable food</b> at their local community pantry (mobile and located in Tillydrone and Seaton)</p>
<b>Fuel Insecurity</b>  <p><b>34.8%</b> of people in the Central Locality worried they would not be able to heat their home compared to <b>43.1%</b> of people living in Tillydrone, Woodside, Seaton, Ashgrove, Stockethill and George Street. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Fuel Poverty</b>  <p><b>5.4%</b> of households in the Central Locality have had to seek support for paying for heating, compared to <b>8.3%</b> of households in Tillydrone, Woodside, Seaton, Ashgrove, Stockethill and George Street. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Fuel Bill Savings</b>  <p><b>£134,464.52</b> fuel bill savings made across the Central Locality through energy efficiency measures and support such as provision of <b>18</b> warm spaces</p>
<b>Claimant Count</b>  <p>Has decreased after a spike in 2021. 49% of claimants live in central locality priority neighbourhoods</p>	<b>People on Universal Credit</b>  <p>Has increased in the central locality since 2020. 52% of UC claimants live in priority neighbourhoods</p>	<b>Benefit Maximisation</b>  <p>The online benefit calculator has been accessed <b>887</b> times by people from Central priority neighbourhoods</p>
<b>Children in low income families</b>  <p>Child poverty has increased in the central locality since 2019. 54% of children in low income families live in priority neighbourhoods</p>	<b>Business Start Ups</b>  <p><b>8</b> people in the Central Locality supported to start their own business.</p>	<b>Digital Access and Skills</b>  <p><b>79.4%</b> of City Voice respondents in the Central Locality reported they had at least basic digital skills. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>

- Make childcare more affordable and accessible to increase parental employment
- Utilise empty premises to encourage new businesses.
- Grow the number of job opportunities in the locality.
- Strengthen relationships with local businesses.
- Support 50 people to start a business.
- Increase the number of responsible businesses working with Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA).
- Ensure support extends to Priority Neighbourhoods Ashgrove, Stockethill and George Street as well as Tillydrone, Woodside and Seaton.



## OUR PRIORITIES

Central Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out three priorities to improve outcomes for our people

**Priority 3. Improve Mental Wellbeing of the Population**

**Priority 4. Ensure People can access services timely** through a person-centred approach where the needs of the whole population are considered.

**Priority 5. Create safe and resilient communities** where hate crime will not be tolerated and develop initiatives which reduce the impact of substance use and anti-social behaviour.

## WHAT PROGRESS HAVE WE MADE DURING 2022/23?



### *Improve Health and Wellbeing*

The Health Improvement Fund supports initiatives that improve the health and wellbeing of people across Aberdeen. During 22-23, 68 projects received funding, with initiatives ranging from community gardening and lunch clubs to birthing classes and Virtual Reality (VR) training. In a bid to streamline funding opportunities across the City, the Health Improvement Fund linked up with ACVO Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund and Aberdeen City COVID Recovery Fund to ensure an additional 14 applications could receive funding. Funded projects are evaluated to measure impact and achievement of the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP) priorities.

Of the 68 HIF funded projects, 33 were either from bidders based in the Central Locality or aimed to support health improvement activities within Central Locality. The Health Improvement Fund received 122 applications, of which 63 were from, or would benefit Central Locality. **Gerrard Street Lunch Club** received HIF funding to set up a new lunch club at Gerrard Street Baptist Church, run by volunteers. The aim of the lunch club is to



***"The volunteers do a great job organising the lunch club, the sandwiches are always tasty!"***

provide community members with a free nutritious lunch while tackling social isolation. The club now has a core group attending with friendships being made and is always open for new attendees to pop along.

## Volunteering in the Community



We have continued to build our volunteering community across the City that was so crucial during the covid pandemic. Between December 2021 and March 2023, we saw a 17.4% increase in volunteer opportunities being advertised across the City on the volunteer hub run by ACVO. Volunteering across the Central Locality is invaluable in supporting stretched public services. For example, through the Fairer Aberdeen Fund 739 volunteers contributed 114,280 hours of volunteering with a value of over £2m. Over 45,000 people were involved or benefitted from the 36 funded initiatives within the programme and 33 of the Fairer Aberdeen Fund projects benefited the Central

Locality. Another project to support volunteering is Station House Media Unit's (SHMU's) community project to support prisoners in HMP Grampian, offering them post-release support and engaging them in opportunities at SHMU upon release. including employability, volunteering, and meaningful activity.

### Supporting Unpaid Carers

In January 2023, Aberdeen City Health and Social Partnership published the new Carers Strategy which acknowledged the huge contribution that Carers make and seeks to support all unpaid Carers in Aberdeen City.

During the development of the new strategy there were several key inputs including: the National Carers Inquiry, publication of the National Carers Strategy from Scottish Government, the dedicated work and support of the Carers Strategy Implementation Group and most importantly the wider consultation and engagement of Carers across the City.

The new Carers Strategy identifies four key priorities to support Carers:

- Identifying as a Carer and the first steps to support
- Accessing advice and support
- Supporting future planning, decision making, and wider Carer involvement
- Community support and advice for Carers

In 2022-23, 431 carers accessed the Quarriers Adult Carer Support Service in the Central Locality which is an increase of 38.1% on the 312 carers who accessed the service in 2021-22.

Since the Respite Bureau started in June 2022, 320 people have been referred for a short break as of March 2023. Three further tests promoting different types of carer breaks were also tested this year, Doorstep Breaks, Scot Spirit and Time to Live. Data from these tests will be evaluated and shared for future learning. More information on the Carers Strategy and how carers can access services and support can be found [here](#)



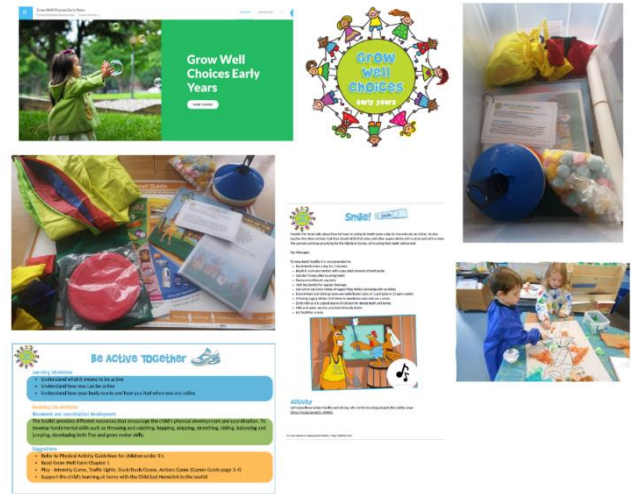
### *Create opportunities to upskill knowledge and understanding*

#### **Use digital tools to support Mental Health and Wellbeing for young people**

All schools in the Central Locality offer counselling, and each provides free physical activity to enhance the mental wellbeing of children, regardless of circumstances. The Safer Schools app was launched in 2022 with 100% of schools signed up in the Central Locality. The app includes features to help parents and carers navigate challenges such as absence reporting and safeguarding concerns, as well as develop easier channels of communication. All local parents and carers can access the app, which has been promoted widely in school newsletters. Initial feedback from parents has been positive, and formal evaluation data will be available for future reporting periods. We recognise the role physical activity plays in supporting good mental health and through the Active Schools Programme, all Central Locality schools provide free physical activity opportunities for pupils.



**Grow Well Choices early years (GWCEYS)** is a toolkit which supports people working with children aged 3-5 to deliver learning about healthy lifestyles. In 2022, in partnership with NHS Grampian, ACHSCP engaged with those using the pack, allowing improvements to be made and the pack to be relaunched. In March 2023, 20 people from the Central Locality attended the virtual awareness session for updated toolkit.



The ACHSCP Public Health Team train practitioners to deliver the **PEEP programme (Parents as Early Education Partners)**. PEEP recognises that parents and carers are children's first and most important educators.

The Peep Learning Together programme supports parents and carers to:

- value and build on the home learning environment by making the most of everyday learning opportunities.
- build and strengthen attachment relationships with their child through listening, talking, playing, singing and sharing books together.
- help babies and children to make the most of their opportunities by becoming confident communicators and active learners, ready for school

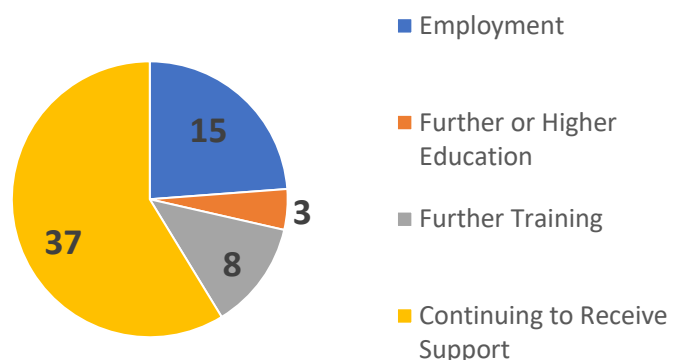


There were 36 referrals to PEEP from the Central Locality during 2022. Four people from the Central Locality were also referred by Health Visitors to the Family Learning Service.

## Positive Destinations for Care Experienced young people

Positive destinations mean that young people go on to attend further or higher education, a voluntary placement, begin an apprenticeship, or go into paid employment. In 2021-22, 96.17% of Central Locality school leavers achieved a positive destination which was slightly below the 2020-21 figure of 96.5%, but above the Aberdeen City average of 93.8%. Care experienced young people (CEYP) often face significant barriers to employment and need additional support and mentoring to help them achieve and sustain

Progression Routes for CEYP participating in public sector employability programmes



employment. We are committed to supporting CEYP to achieve the same outcomes as their peers and one aspect of this is achieving positive destinations, with the ultimate goal of moving CEYP into paid employment. The journey and support required for each care experienced young person varies and through our employability support for care experienced young people project, we are testing a variety of ways to support them, such as a guaranteed interview scheme, tailored employability support programme, pathway planning and induction into work. A good example of youth volunteering is the Saltire Awards, which is the Scottish Government's way of celebrating, recognising and rewarding the commitment, contribution and achievements of volunteers aged between 12-25 in Scotland. Of the 2459 Saltire Award recipients in Aberdeen City between December 2021-March 2023, 541 young people were from the Central Locality.

### Supporting priority families via Fit Like hubs

[Fit like? Family Wellbeing Hubs](#) are a group of services working together to support children and young people's mental wellbeing. The Hubs help with:

- Finance and benefits
- Family relationships and communication
- Coping with daily pressures
- Promoting positive emotional and mental wellbeing
- Talking about traumatic things that have happened

The Fit Like Hub operates out of Tillydrone in the Central Locality.



### *Increase knowledge and understanding of Health Provision in Locality*

#### Granite City Gathering: 24 June 2023

The ACHSCP Wellbeing Team deliver a number of initiatives under the **Stay Well Stay Connected** programme, which targets older people and those with disabilities who are at risk of becoming socially isolated or having poor health and wellbeing outcomes. A number of the sessions they deliver in the Central Locality are set out below:

The Granite City Gathering 2023 was a public health event held on 24 June at Kings Church Bridge of Don. The gathering helped people explore how to support themselves and retire positively. The aim and purpose of the gathering was to help people to understand and explore what a good retirement could look like, in their own communities and have a real sense of purpose and opportunity to contribute.



167 attendees  
Targeted at those aged 45+  
Aberdeen City Residents  
1 Choir  
6 crafting and art groups  
1 Yoga group  
1 gigong and taichi  
Ballroom dancing  
22 community groups and charities  
4 speakers  
20 volunteers



## Highlights

- The gathering focused on people who are planning to retire soon, or have already retired and live in Aberdeen
- The event had a number of taster sessions where people could try new activities such as movement with gigone, Tai chi, chair based yoga, sing in a choir, have a boogie at the gathering, try out crafting or an art session
- There was an opportunity for delegates to meet representatives of community groups and charities who told them about who they were, and what services they provide
- The speakers ranged from Horseback, UK; to Japanese wellbeing tips 'Ikigai'; to exploring what an Age Friendly Aberdeen could look like

**Boogie in the Bar** provides an opportunity for people at risk of social isolation to meet up at a local venue to have a blether and a dance. A monthly Boogie in the Bar is held in Dee Street with an average of 90 people attending throughout the year. Work is underway to create a resource for future Boogies so that they share the same ethos. It is important that we learn from the successes of the Boogies so that future sessions are sustainable and meaningful for those who attend.

**Relaxed Match Day Experience** aims to create a dementia and neurodivergent friendly environment providing a calm area for those who may have sensory or mental health challenges. The experiences are a truly intergenerational project and benefits can be captured in feedback by both young and older people attending. The Wellbeing Team so far have been allocated 3 sessions for participants to attend, and a total of 18 people from across the city have benefitted to date. Participants include people living independently and people living in care settings. Feedback has been incredibly positive for this project:

*"The staff at Pittodrie were extremely welcoming and helpful when we arrived and left."*

*"The elation created a fantastic atmosphere at the service as others got caught up in the excitement of the day being retold."*

**Meno & Pause Co-lab Café** at Pittodrie Stadium began in March 2022. Sessions are delivered in partnership between the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership Wellbeing Team and Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust. The first event was a facilitated session to explore what support currently exists in Aberdeen, where the gaps are, and how these could be filled. Sessions continued for 5 months, covering topics including friends and family, nutrition and sharing experiences. As a result of this engagement, all menopause work going forward has been rebranded 'The Mighty Oaks'.

The team has also worked in collaboration with an instructor from Aberdeen Sports Village to provide a menopause course. This included a combination of group exercise sessions, followed by a Q&A and discussion. This has now evolved into a weekly exercise class, delivered at Powis community centre, with the majority of those from the original course continuing to participate. A weekly menopause health walk has also started, lasting one hour, with the option of staying for an additional hour for a cuppa and chat. These walks will be starting in different areas throughout the city in the coming months.





## Innovative approaches to health issues



**The Tillydrone Health and Wellbeing Project at the Tillydrone Community Flat** is an initiative to increase relaxation and wellbeing by providing complementary therapies to Tillydrone residents. Complementary therapies – including Reiki and Reflexology - engage with the patient as a whole person rather than treating a specific symptom or symptoms. Therapies are called ‘complementary’

because they complement conventional health and medical treatments. Many individuals accessing treatments at the Flat are also using conventional medical treatments for long standing physical, mental or psycho-social health conditions. They report the complementary therapies are highly beneficial as a secondary treatment, helping relieve pain, lower stress and enhancing wellbeing and relaxation.

### Female, 43

*I have a child with Additional Support Needs and every day is different and brings different challenges. The treatments relax me and the mere aspect of taking time out of the day for myself makes me feel that I am my own person. The treatments have a positive impact on my mental health and I really notice the difference if I miss an appointment.*

## Upskilling communities and partners knowledge of Suicide Prevention

Suicide is more prevalent in middle-aged white males from deprived areas. However, being male, white, middle-aged, and living in a deprived area are not precursors to suicide. Trauma or events that lead up to suicide are more likely to occur in that demographic and this group is less likely to seek help in those circumstances. In an effort to fully understand the leading contributing factors in deaths by suicide in the North East, Police Scotland analysed all Death Reports since the start of 2021 and tracked all contributing factors that were highlighted in the reports including medical and family history and events leading up to the person's death. These were not geographical or locality specific. The circumstances behind suicides are constantly changing, research is ongoing to keep abreast of these changes and to adapt training, information and resources accordingly in Aberdeen City and across the wider North East. The rate of death from suicide in Central Locality is 10.5 per 100,000, which is below the citywide average of 11.1 per 100,000 of the population.



## Create Educational Opportunities

The communities where we live, work and play have a significant influence on our health and wellbeing. Through our good health and wellbeing choices project we have trained 70 people working in our communities with **Making Every Opportunity Count (MEOC)**. MEOC is a brief intervention being rolled out across partners to support staff to make the best of every appropriate opportunity to raise the issues of a healthy lifestyle. Evaluation has shown increases in:

- Awareness of health and social issues that may affect people's health and wellbeing
- Confidence in speaking about issues which may affect their health and wellbeing
- Confidence to undertake a very brief intervention to support people to make positive health and wellbeing choices
- Confidence in the knowledge of health and wellbeing support and signposting to services

Across February and March 2023, six Making every Opportunity Count (MEOC) awareness sessions were held on Microsoft Teams for Library staff. A small number of Communities (Aberdeen City Council) and Third Sector (Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust) staff also attended the sessions to support their work in Warm Hubs. The awareness session lasted approximately two hours depending on the interaction from participants and was comprised of short videos and infographics highlighting health inequalities across Aberdeen City to highlight the importance of MEOC as a prevention and early intervention approach. A breakout room allowed participants the opportunity to consider a delegated scenario and discuss what information could be provided and then each group fed back upon returning to the main meeting area.

## **Tackling Hate Crime**

We are committed to developing a range of community safety initiatives. We continue to tackle hate crime through expansion of Third-Party Reporting Centres and the provision of training to teams who support those victimised by hate crimes. We also acknowledge the need to work with people to improve community safety. In 2022 we established a new youth group co-designed with children and young people, resulting in a 70% increase in the number of 10-16 year-olds attending community activities (from 40 in 2019 to 68). Three new youth groups were also established in priority neighbourhoods. Similarly, we saw a 2.6% reduction in the number of youth disorder calls to the police in 2022. Indeed, latest data shows a sustained 40% reduction in the number of under 18s identified as being responsible for an offence since 2016.



## ***Support those affected by substance use***

### **Raise awareness of substance service and provision**

Latest Aberdeen City drug related death data shows an increase from 56 to 62 deaths in 2021. The Aberdeen City Alcohol and Drugs Partnership through its fatal drug overdose projects are focused on reducing drug related deaths through innovative developments and by increasing the distribution of naloxone. Naloxone is an emergency medication that can reverse the effects of an overdose of opioids like heroin or methadone and can save someone's life. Reviews from past drug related deaths have shown that many of those people who died were not in any drug treatment service but had come to the attention of many other services. By increasing the number of services who can distribute and administer Naloxone to those in need, we can get the lifesaving drug out to those people at risk of overdose, as well as to family members/friends of those in need. Over the past year, we have widened access to naloxone by increasing the number of non-drug and alcohol services able to supply and/or administer naloxone. We have seen increased supply of naloxone in each locality, with 226 kits supplied in the Central Locality. As well as naloxone, increasing education and access to a variety of treatments, the Partnership are taking a targeted approach, focusing on interventions and supports required at the various touchpoints. We are seeing the impact of this approach. For example, through our improvements focused on people liberated from prison we have seen a 56% reduction in drug related deaths of people liberated within 6 months.

### **Reducing harms from alcohol use**




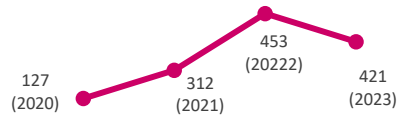








Alcohol is one of five lifestyle behavioural risk factors which contribute to the majority of chronic and non communicable disease in our population. Throughout 2022/23 we have focused on increasing awareness of alcohol risks and widening access to alcohol interventions and support, including the development of a new alcohol audit screening tool to increase referrals for support both from professionals and individuals directly with a corresponding promotional campaign. As a result of the interventions and targeted campaigns we have seen the number of active clients with Alcohol and Drugs Action (ADA) Duty Drop-in



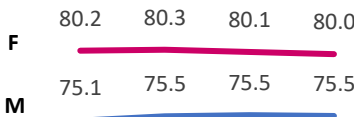


service in 2022/23 increase in each of the three priority neighbourhoods against the 3-year baseline. In the Central Locality, data shows a 66% increase in clients from AB24 postcodes. Other interventions ADA have taken during 2022-23 include:

- The piloting of a new referral pathway from Police to ADA
- Widening the number of settings for Alcohol Brief Interventions, including HMP Grampian
- Targeted social media campaign and subsequent levels of engagement with the 'Alcohol Aberdeen' online 'quiz'

## WHAT IMPACT HAVE WE HAD IN 2022/23?

<b>Community Funding</b>  <b>33 community projects</b> in Central Locality were funded through the Health Improvement Fund.	<b>Positive destinations</b>  <b>96.17%</b> of school leavers from the Central Locality achieved a positive destination in 2021-22, this is similar to the 2020-21 figure of 96.5%, and higher than the Aberdeen City average of 93.8%.	<b>Young People Confidence</b>  <b>41%</b> of S1-S6 pupils reporting feeling confident compared to 35% last year.
<b>Young People Mental Health</b>  No. of referrals each month to NHSG's children and adolescent mental health services have increased since 2020	<b>Counselling for Young People</b>  <b>100%</b> of schools in the Central Locality offer counselling and Active School activities	<b>Working Together with Parents</b>  <b>36 referrals</b> were made to the Parents as Early Education Partners (PEEP) programme from the Central Locality in 2022.
<b>Young People Volunteering</b>  <b>541</b> young people from the Central Locality received a Saltire Award during 2022.	<b>Healthy Eating</b>  <b>11.7%</b> of people in the Central Locality said they were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food due to poverty. <b>20%</b> of people living in the locality said they ate only a few types of food. (City Voice 46, 2022)	<b>Unpaid Carers</b>  <b>431 unpaid carers</b> were supported in the Central Locality by Quarriers Adult Carer Support Service during 2022-23, this is an increase of <b>38.1%</b> on 312 unpaid carers supported last year.
<b>Alcohol Awareness</b>  <b>30.8%</b> of people in the Central Locality said they didn't know how many units are in the alcoholic drinks they consume. <b>42.9%</b> of people living in the Central Locality said they didn't think about units at all. (City Voice 46, 2022)	<b>Drug Related Deaths</b>  <b>226 naloxone kits</b> were supplied in the Central Locality in 2022.	<b>Drug Related Hospital Stays</b>  The rate of drug related hospital stays for the Central Locality in 2022 was <b>249.6 per 100,000</b> . This is a slight increase from 244.3 per 100,000 of the population in 2021.

Alcohol Related Mortality Rates	Deaths from Suicide	Life Expectancy
 <p>The alcohol related mortality rate in Central Locality in 2021 was <b>28.87 per 100,000</b>. This has increased since 2019 when the rate was 25.52 per 100,000 of the population.</p>	 <p>The rate of death from suicide in the Central Locality is <b>10.5 per 100,000</b>, this is above the citywide average of 11.1 per 100,000 of the population. This is an improvement from 2021 where the suicide rate for Central Locality stood at 13 per 100,000 of the population.</p>	 <p>Has stayed stable in the Central Locality since 2018 for males and females. But it is lower in priority neighbourhoods at 78.1 (F) and 72.8 (M)</p>

## AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT 2023/24?

- Renewed focus on active and accessible Travel
- Create more opportunities for young people
- Renewed focus on promoting Healthy Weight Management
- Scale up Stay Well Stay Connected programme
- Increase the number of priority families accessing PEEP programme
- Increase the number of people attending Health Issues in the Community sessions and increase the number of trained practitioners

## OUR PRIORITIES

The Central Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out one priority to improve our local place:

**6. Maximise the spaces in communities to create opportunities for people to connect and increase physical activity.**

### WHAT PROGRESS HAVE WE MADE DURING 2022/23?



#### *Develop resilience plans*

##### **Resilience Plans**

Through our community led resilience project, led by Aberdeen City Council and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, a pilot community resilience group in Aberdeen has been established, which is composed of several local organisations. This group are currently being supported to develop a community resilience plan, this will be a flexible document that can be used as a template for further community groups, with sections that can be added and removed, depending on specific risks a particular community might have, including but not limited to flooding. Community resilience packs have been issued across community centres in the Central Locality this year. Example box contents include: small power banks for mobile devices, wind up torches and radios, head torches, table lanterns battery, load hangers, first aid kits, stationary, space blankets, hi vis vests, free standing portable emergency lights. Battery generator packs are also being provided to the 3 existing Community Resilience Groups, to assist the overall response to a power outage emergency.



#### *Supporting outside activities*

##### **Promote and improve accessible, active travel**

During the year, Aberdeen City Council, in partnership with Big Issue eBikes launched an electric bike hire scheme in the city. [Big Issue E-Bikes](#) are available in 40 locations across the city and aim to make shorter journeys easier and affordable. The scheme will also have a positive impact on our environment.

The City Voice survey found that 16.8% of people in the Central Locality regularly cycled compared to the citywide average of 14.8%. People in the Central Locality are most likely to cycle regularly in the city.



##### **Develop Green Space**

There are 45 food growing projects in schools, communities, and workplaces as at November 2022, an increase of 42 from February 2022. 15 of the 45 food growing projects are in the Central Locality, with 16 new community run green spaces established as at June 2022.

**Woodside Wee Forest** The first Wee Forest has been planted in Aberdeen thanks to the joint efforts of Aberdeen City Council's Environmental Services team, NatureScot, and pupils and staff of Woodside Primary School. The Woodside Wee Forest will join a group of 20 such forests across Scotland which are being planted.

Led by NatureScot, the programme aims to give people the opportunity to help tackle the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss by creating and caring for their own forest in their own neighbourhood.

To create each forest, around 600 native trees will be planted by "Wee Foresters" in an area the size of a tennis court. Volunteer keeper teams will look after the forests over the long term and schools will use the forests for outdoor learning.

The 600 plants, which include alder, cherry, Scots pine, crab apple, holly, juniper, elder, willow, oak, rowan, and hazel trees along with dog roses, broom, gorse, blaeberry, heather, hawthorn, and blackthorn, have been planted by staff and pupils in a grassy area across Clifton Road from the school with help from the City Council's Countryside Rangers.




Pupils contributed many fantastic designs for the project and the overall winner demonstrated excellent design principals which will fit the Wee Forest ideals.



Woodside Primary School created a fantastic [film](#) to accompany the launch of the wee Forest.

## WHAT IMPACT HAVE WE HAD IN 2022/23?

This is a fantastic project, and it is thanks to the efforts of everyone involved that generations to come will enjoy the benefits of these native trees which have been planted in this green space.

Satisfaction with Green Space	Community Growing Spaces	Cycling
 <p><b>66.5%</b> of Central Locality respondents to the City Voice survey reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces, compared to <b>70.2%</b> of people living in Tillydrone, Woodside, Seaton, Ashgrove, Stockethill and George Street. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	 <p><b>45</b> food growing projects happening across the Central Locality</p>	 <p><b>90.3%</b> of people in the Central Locality regularly cycled compared to compared to <b>91.5%</b> of people living in Tillydrone, Woodside, Seaton, Ashgrove, Stockethill and George Street. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>

## AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN 2023/24

- Develop and implement innovative improvements to reduce waste and recycling opportunities
- Support communities across the Central locality to develop resilience plans





**Working Together**

## Community Empowerment Strategy

Community Planning Aberdeen is committed to working with communities to improve outcomes across each locality and indeed the City as a whole. In 2022 we launched a new Community Empowerment Strategy setting out our vision for all communities to be equal community planning partners. A number of improvement projects are now underway to strengthen community participation in community planning and ensure they have a voice and ability to influence what happens to them and their community.



This year, we have been pleased to see the return of in-person community-based events, including two citywide events, the Community Gathering and the Granite City Gathering.



These events provided a great chance to bring our community and partners together, make connections, and share learning and opportunities. Both events were open to people across the City and were an exhibition of community information and provided a chance for attendees to wander around the stalls and learn about the different opportunities to get involved in their local community. There were 25 stall holders on the day showcasing the work they do in local communities and approximately 121 people attended the gathering. Of the registered attendees, 48.6% were from the Central Locality. You can read the Community Gathering report for more information [here](#).

In addition to our citywide events, the Central Locality Empowerment Group (LEG) restarted on 27 April 2023, having not met since early 2022. Meetings are now held on a two monthly cycle and alternate between virtual meetings and in person meetings at a community venue. Meetings provide an opportunity for LEG members to influence and shape delivery of the Central Locality Plan and hold Community Planning Partners to account. LEGs also provide the Locality Planning Team and Outcome Improvement project managers an opportunity to involve community members in their projects and gain valuable feedback. The Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton Priority Neighbourhood Partnership has continued to meet throughout 2022-23.



**Find out more & Get Involved!**

The [Central Locality Empowerment Group](#) and the [Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton Priority Neighbourhood Partnership](#) are two of the main ways we connect with our local communities in the Central Locality. As a member of a LEG and Torry Partnership you will be able to provide a voice on behalf of the people and communities across your neighbourhood.

## What's in it for you?



Influence what happens in your community



Help make a brighter future for all



Connect with others



Participation can lead to credits for the Saltire Award (young people, age 12-25)

Following a recent training session provided by SCDC in partnership with ACC/AHSCP, the community had this to say about community engagement:

*"Talk to us and talk to us early. Don't make decisions and then get it approved by us. Communities have knowledge and skills to know what's best for us. We're the local experts about our places"*

*"Community Engagement is where people grow"*

If you are interested in getting involved in helping achieve these aims in your local community, follow this link to find out more: [Our Communities - Community Planning Aberdeen](#) or email [localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk).

## Further Information

We understand the importance of working with communities to build a thriving environment for everyone. By engaging with local communities through our dedicated locality planning team, we aim to become more receptive, supportive and action-oriented. Community input is extremely valuable to this work.

The Locality Planning Team includes staff from Aberdeen City Council and the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care partnership working together to support improved outcome across all our localities and neighbourhoods. In the Central Locality your locality planning contacts are Iain, Jade, Graham and Chris.



Iain Robertson,  
Transformation Programme  
Manager, Aberdeen City Health and  
Social Care Partnership



Jade Leyden,  
Community Development Manager,  
Aberdeen City Council



Graham Donald, Community  
Development Officer, Aberdeen City  
Council



Chris Smillie, Public Health Coordinator, ACHSCP

Please take a moment to complete this [survey](#) and let us know how we can enhance our service delivery and collaboration with you. Together we can make a positive impact and create a place where all people can prosper.

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# Aberdeen City - North Locality

## Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022-23



### North Locality Neighbourhoods:

Dyce, Danestone, Oldmachar, Denmore, Balgownie & Donmouth, Bucksburn, Heathryfold, Middlesfield, Kingswells, Northfield, Cummings Park, Sheddocksley, Mastrick, Summerhill





# WELCOME

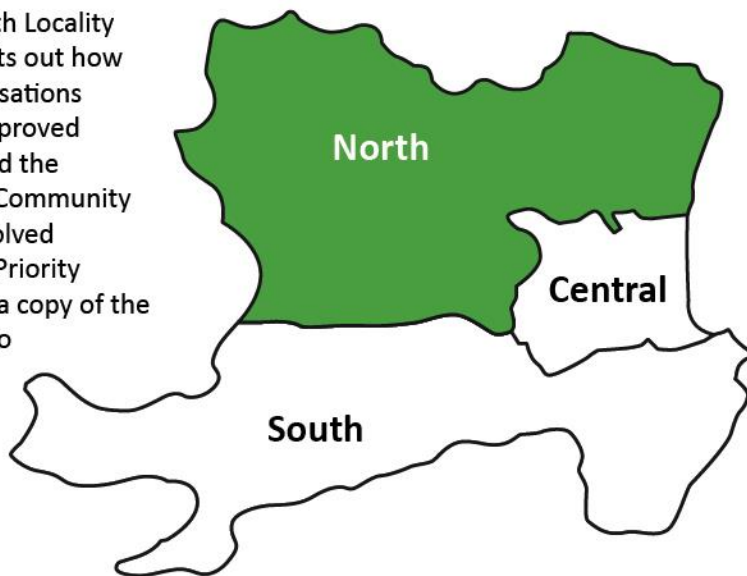
Welcome to our second annual report against the North Locality Plan first published in 2021. The North Locality Plan sets out how Community Planning Aberdeen and its member organisations will work together and with communities to deliver improved outcomes for the 14 neighbourhoods in the locality and the locality as a whole. The Locality Plan was prepared by Community Planning Aberdeen staff and community members involved in the North Locality Empowerment Group and North Priority Neighbourhood Partnership. Click on the links to view a copy of the full North Locality Plan and Summary Locality Plan. Also see the end of this report to find out more about the organisations and community groups involved in preparing the plan.

This report provides an update on progress made against the priorities identified in the Plan, including information about key activities and the impact these have had in the Locality. The information within the report demonstrates success in many areas. However, we also recognise where we need to do better and have identified priorities for improvement next year.

Our focus is always on impact on outcomes for communities. Central to our approach is involving and empowering communities which we have made clear in our new Community Empowerment Strategy published in 2022. Behind the scenes, Community Planning Aberdeen has also made some changes to ensure member organisations are working better together to empower communities. Our new locality planning team has been in place since February 2023 and epitomises our renewed vigour for working together with local communities. This report provides an important baseline for how we are currently performing in the North Locality and a commitment to improving going forward.

This report is split into the following sections:

<a href="#">Our Economy</a>	<a href="#">page 3</a>
<a href="#">Our People</a>	<a href="#">page 7</a>
<a href="#">Our Place</a>	<a href="#">page 15</a>
<a href="#">Community Empowerment</a>	<a href="#">page 17</a>



## OUR PRIORITIES

The North Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out two priorities to improve our local economy:

**Priority 1. Reduce the number of people living in poverty**

**Priority 2. Increase digital access and skills across the locality**

## PROGRESS MADE DURING 2022/23



### *Supporting our most vulnerable families*

#### Supporting communities with benefit uptake

Ensuring that household income is maximised through the uptake of unclaimed benefits is a key aspect to supporting households to come out of poverty and improve their financial security. There continues to be barriers which can mean people do not claim benefits they are entitled to such as; stigma of claiming, unaware of what they are entitled to, and onerous applications processes.

We have made progress with a number of initiatives to help remove these barriers. For example, we launched the online benefit calculator last year to help support more people to find out what benefits they are entitled to. This has been accessed 7274 times across the city during 2022/23, with 724 of those being from the North priority neighbourhoods. We have also taken action to identify households who should be entitled to Pension Credits and have contacted them directly by letter. Using this approach 410 households were identified from across the City which qualified for Pension Credits. Finally, a booklet for families was developed to increase awareness and uptake of child benefits such as Education Maintenance Allowance and School Clothing Grants. The booklet targeted families and provided guidance on how to claim. Across the City 2749 families benefited financially by accessing additional benefits with 792 families in the North Locality benefiting financially by accessing additional benefits.

#### Affordable heating

As the cost of living increases it is important that we work together to do everything we can to support every household in Aberdeen. We have been working with partner organisations to provide a range of public warm spaces that will provide an opportunity for people to come together, share and use resources. Every warm space is unique however all warm spaces offer a friendly welcome and comfortable environment to meet friends or socialise. There are 15 warm spaces across the North Locality but of course people are free to visit any warm space across the City. You can find your nearest warm space by visiting [here](#).

As well as providing warm spaces we have been increasing awareness of the support available to households at a variety of community events and have also trained frontline staff. As a result of the promotion of support available and increase in home visits to deliver insulation and energy efficiency measure, a total of £51,909.47 of fuel bill savings was made last year across the North Locality.

**Staying Warm & Well Winter Roadshow**

Thursday 8 December, 10am - 2pm  
Central Library, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen

Pop in for a free cuppa and chat to friendly staff who will share information and advice.

**WARM SPACE**  
We are open and the heating's on



## Community food provision and community pantries

### ***Affordable Food Providers in the North***

[CFine](#) operates a mobile food pantry on Tuesdays at:

- Middlefield Community Centre from 10-10.30am
- Sheddocksley Sports Centre from 12-12.30pm

[Mastrick Community Centre](#) runs one of several [Food Banks](#) available to people experiencing food insecurity across the North.

With food prices rising at the fastest rate in 40 years we have been working with CFine to increase access to affordable food across the locality, particularly for our most vulnerable communities and low-income families. Through our community food pantry project we have focused on increasing access to affordable food in our priority neighbourhoods which include Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park and Heathryfold and Northfield in the North Locality. Recognising the challenges people can face attending one of our fixed food pantries, a mobile food pantry was launched in September 2021. CFine has 928 members of the North Locality shopping at the pantry at Poynerook Rd on a regular basis. The mobile food pantry also had 106 visits from residents of the North locality during 2022-23.



***Create opportunities for fair work***

## Social Enterprises and small businesses

Local community start-ups benefit everyone. Not only do they help get people back into employment, they can also create new jobs and bring new money into the community. We are delighted to have secured local community support for people wishing to start their own business. Through Business Gateway we now have a Community Business Advisor attending the Cummings Park Community Centre to provide a monthly drop-in service. Over the last 12 months the service has attracted an average of 2 attendees per drop-in which has resulted in 3 people starting their own business.







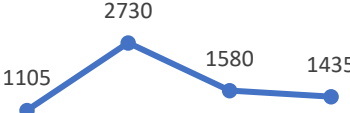
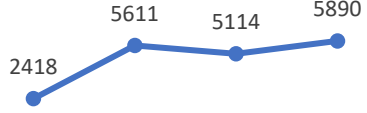

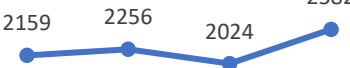




**Drop in sessions!**

## Local employability support and job opportunities

Partners Aberdeen City Council, Skills Development Scotland, the DWP and Business Gateway have delivered 'Your Route to Work' sessions aimed at young people living in priority neighbourhoods that are disengaged from school, school leavers, work returners and their wider families to find out information on how to get into employment, training, education or volunteering as well as provide money and benefit advice. This has been done through our ABZ works initiative. There were 30 attendees at the Northfield event. Exit surveys were completed with a small number of event attendees. Everyone who attended and provided feedback felt the event was useful or very useful and all would be likely to visit a future event.



Tackling Poverty		
<b>Food Insecurity</b>  <p><b>8.3%</b> of people in the North Locality worried they would not have enough to eat compared to <b>29.4%</b> of people living in Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Heathryfold and Northfield (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Food Poverty</b>  <p><b>6.3%</b> of households in the North Locality ran out of food compared to <b>18.8%</b> of households in Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Heathryfold and Northfield (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Affordable Food</b>  <p><b>1,034</b> families in the North Locality accessing <b>affordable food</b> at their local community pantry (mobile and located in Middlefield and Sheddocksley)</p>
<b>Fuel Insecurity</b>  <p><b>33.6%</b> of people in the North Locality worried they would not be able to heat their home compared to <b>62.5%</b> of people living in Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Heathryfold and Northfield (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Fuel Poverty</b>  <p><b>2.8</b> of households in the North Locality have had to seek support for paying for heating, compared to <b>12.5%</b> of households in Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Heathryfold and Northfield (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Fuel Bill Savings</b>  <p><b>£51,909.47</b> fuel bill savings made across the North Locality through energy efficiency measures and support such as provision of <b>19</b> warm spaces</p>
<b>Claimant Count</b>  <p>Has decreased after a spike in 2021. 39% of claimants live in North Locality Priority Neighbourhoods</p>	<b>People on Universal Credit</b>  <p>Has increased in the North Locality since 2020. 43% of UC claimants live in Priority Neighbourhoods</p>	<b>Benefit Maximisation</b>  <p>The online benefit calculator has been accessed <b>724</b> times by people from North priority neighbourhoods</p>
<b>Children in low income families</b>  <p>Child poverty has increased in the North Locality since 2019. 51% of children in low income families live in Priority Neighbourhoods</p>	<b>Business Start Ups</b>  <p>3 people in the North Locality supported to start their own business.</p>	<b>Digital Access and Skills</b>  <p><b>82.6%</b> of City Voice respondents in the North Locality reported they had at least basic digital skills.</p>

- Support families with English as a second language to access services
- Increase the number of vulnerable learners entering positive and sustained work or training.
- Increase uptake of warm spaces
- Support and develop employment opportunities for young people.
- Strengthen relationships with local businesses.
- Develop locally available employability support
- Make childcare affordable and accessible to increase parental employment.
- Buy debt

## OUR PRIORITIES

North Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out three priorities to improve outcomes for our people

**Priority 3. Improve the physical health and wellbeing of people**

**Priority 4. Support local volunteering opportunities**

**Priority 5. Early intervention approach targeted at those who are involved in, or at risk in offending behaviour**

## WHAT PROGRESS HAVE WE MADE DURING 2022/23?



### *Providing support to existing services*

#### Volunteering in the Community



We have continued to build our volunteering community across the City that was so crucial during the covid pandemic. Between December 2021 and March 2023, we saw a 17.4% increase in volunteer opportunities being advertised across the City on the volunteer hub run by ACVO. Volunteering across the Locality is invaluable in supporting stretched public services. For example, through the Fairer Aberdeen Fund 739 volunteers contributed 114,280 hours of volunteering with a value of over £2m. Over 45,000 people were involved or benefitted from the 36 funded initiatives within the programme and 27 of the Fairer Aberdeen Fund projects benefited the North Locality. Another project to support volunteering is Station House Media Unit's (SHMU) community project

to support prisoners in HMP Grampian, offering them post-release support and engaging them in opportunities at SHMU upon release - including employability, volunteering, and meaningful activity.

#### Supporting Unpaid Carers

In January 2023, Aberdeen City Health and Social Partnership published the new Carers Strategy which acknowledged the huge contribution that Carers make and seeks to support all unpaid Carers in Aberdeen City.

During the development of the new strategy there were several key inputs including: the National Carers Inquiry, publication of the National Carers Strategy from Scottish Government, the dedicated work and support of the Carers Strategy Implementation Group and most importantly the wider consultation and engagement of Carers across the City.

The new Carers Strategy identifies four key priorities to support Carers:

- Identifying as a Carer and the first steps to support
- Accessing advice and support
- Supporting future planning, decision making, and wider Carer involvement
- Community support and advice for Carers

In 2022-23, 359 carers accessed the Quarriers Adult Carer Support Service in the North Locality, an increase of 79.5% on the 200 carers who accessed the service in 2021-22.



Since the Respite Bureau started in June 2022, 320 people have been referred for a short break as of March 2023. Three further tests promoting different types of carer breaks were also tested this year, Doorstep Breaks, Scot Spirit and Time to Live. Data from these tests will be evaluated and shared for future learning. More information on the Carers Strategy and how carers can access services and support can be found [here](#)



## *Creating opportunities to upskill knowledge and understanding*

The Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership Wellbeing Team deliver a number of initiatives under the **Stay Well Stay Connected** programme, which targets older people and those with disabilities who are at risk of becoming socially isolated or having poor health and wellbeing outcomes. A few of the sessions they deliver in the North Locality are set out below:

**The Granite City Gathering 2023** was a public health event held on 24 June 2023 at Kings Church, Bridge of Don. The gathering helped people explore how to support themselves and retire positively. The aim and purpose of the gathering was to help people to understand and explore what a good retirement could look like in their own communities and have a real sense of purpose and opportunity to contribute.



167 attendees  
Targeted at those aged 45+  
Aberdeen City Residents  
1 Choir  
6 crafting and art groups  
1 Yoga group  
1 gigong and taichi  
Ballroom dancing  
22 community groups and charities  
4 speakers  
20 volunteers

## **Highlights**

- The gathering focused on people who are planning to retire soon, or have already retired and live in Aberdeen
- The event had a number of taster sessions where people could try new activities such as movement with gigong, Tai chi, Chair based yoga, sing in a choir, have a boogie at the gathering, try out crafting or an art session
- There was an opportunity for delegates to meet representatives of community groups and charities who told them about who they were, and what services they provide
- The speakers ranged from Horseback, UK; to Japanese wellbeing tips 'Ikigai'; to exploring what an Age Friendly Aberdeen could look like.



## Supporting people to make healthy choices

### Health and Wellbeing

**Boogie in the Bar** provides an opportunity for people at risk of social isolation to meet up at a local venue to have a blether and a dance. A monthly Boogie in the Bar is held at Sunnybank Football Club with an average of 40 people attending throughout the year. Work is underway to create a resource for future Boogies so that they share the same ethos. It is important that we learn from the successes of the Boogies so that future sessions are sustainable and meaningful for those who attend.



**Roving Day Care Wee Blether** is a partnership between Care Management, Quarriers and the Wellbeing Team and it aims to deliver an alternative to traditional day care. The group meet on Mondays at Middlefield Community Hub in the North Locality where people can come and enjoy a light lunch alongside some great company and conversations. The *conversation café* element of this can be moved to any location that can cater to a café based activity, for example the group have met at the Aberdeen Art Gallery. Currently, there are around six participants attending and plans are in place to create a further two Wee Blethers in the city.



**Men's Hub at Middlefield Hub** was launched in January 2023 to enable men to socialise over a hot cooked breakfast, which they cook themselves. After breakfast, the men can play different games or just chat. There is a monthly programme where attendees go on visits to venues such as Fettercairn Distillery or Pittodrie Stadium utilising Middlefield Hub's bus. So far, these sessions are regularly attended by 12 men.

**The Health Improvement Fund** supports initiatives that improve the health and wellbeing of people across Aberdeen. During 2022-23, 68 projects received funding, with initiatives ranging from community gardening and lunch clubs to birthing classes and Virtual Reality (VR) training. In a bid to streamline funding opportunities across the City, the Health Improvement Fund linked up with ACVO Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund and Aberdeen City COVID Recovery Fund to ensure an additional 14 applications could receive funding. Funded projects are evaluated to measure impact and achievement of the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP) priorities. Of the 68 HIF funded projects, 29 were either from bidders based in the North Locality or aimed to support health improvement activities within the North. The Health Improvement Fund received 122 applications, of which 51 were from, or would benefit the North Locality. Evaluation data has found the North Locality submitted the fewest applications for HIF funding across the three locality areas. A good example of how HIF funding was used in the North Locality was the funding allocated to **Friends of Westfield Park** to build a Sensory Garden in Westfield Park. This project has involved the whole community and the Bridge of Don & Districts Men Shed volunteers built wooden plant beds

*"It has been fabulous how many people have helped and become involved. We have even had a local resident filling up our water carriers from his tap."*

**Friends of Westfield Park volunteer**

which have been adopted by Braehead Primary, Scotstown Primary, Bridge of Don Academy, Aberdeen Family Learning and the Bridge of Don Community Council. Aberdeen Action for Disability are growing seeds to share with the project and some of members are also making signs for the beds. The Sensory Garden has been created so all members of the community can have the opportunity to learn about gardening and food growing.



## ***Provide activities for children and young people***

### **Community activities for young people**

Through our youth community activity and reducing anti-social behaviour projects we are committed to developing a range of opportunities for children and young people to get involved in their local community and to support a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour. Last year a youth work community-based activity project, co-designed with children and young people was launched in the Mastrick area. It was set up to cater for children who are too young to take part in the diversionary programme known as the Mastrick Hub. Attendance numbers so far show that the club is popular with the target audience. Nine children participated in the Mastrick Group at the start of 2023 with 42 attendances overall. At the request of the community centre, the group operates a ratio of four children to one member of staff. With a staff complement of three, the group will not exceed 12.

When asked what they liked about the group, attendees said they particularly enjoyed *“doing things with friends and getting to do cooking.”*

The **Northfield Community Centre Youth Group** was started by Community Centre volunteers this year and, owing to its popularity with young people, required additional staff and volunteers. The Project has been supported by the project team through the draft community led youth group model, which includes guidance on health and safety, safeguarding for children and young people, and how to run a youth group. The Northfield group is more informal than the other two youth groups in the city which have a programme of activities decided by the participants themselves. During 2019 there were three registered participants from Northfield taking part in ACC youth work community-based activities, however, by 2022, there were 43. Participants said it was a chance to hang out with friends, make new friends and take part in fun activities.

**The Middlefield Youth Flat and Under 11s** is an initiative to support young people especially those with low confidence, low literacy skills, and additional support needs which are not always picked up in the education system. The project provides positive adult support that meets their needs, challenging their view of the world, understanding the barriers they face and supporting them to overcome these challenges.



## Young People's Mental Wellbeing

All schools in the North Locality offer counselling, and each school provides free physical activity to enhance the mental wellbeing of children, regardless of circumstances. The Safer Schools app was launched in 2022 with 100% of schools signed up in the North Locality. The app includes features to help

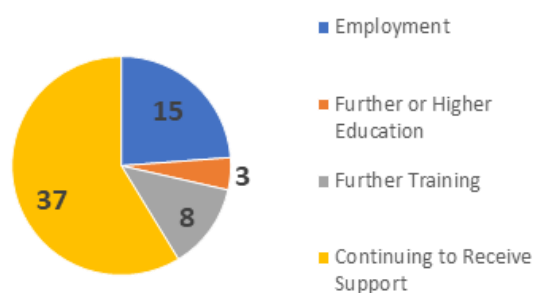


parents and carers navigate challenges such as absence reporting and safeguarding concerns, as well as develop easier channels of communication. All local parents and carers can access the app, which has been promoted widely in school newsletters. Initial feedback from parents has been positive, and formal evaluation data will be available for future reporting periods. We recognise the role physical activity plays in supporting good mental health and through the Active Schools Programme, all North Locality schools provide free physical activity opportunities for pupils.

### Positive Destinations for Care Experienced young people

Positive destinations mean that young people go on to attend further or higher education, a voluntary placement, begin an apprenticeship, or go into paid employment. In 2021-22, 92.6% of North Locality school leavers achieved a positive destination which was below the 2020-21 figure of 96.2% and the Aberdeen City average of 93.8%. Care experienced young people (CEYP) often face significant barriers to employment and need additional support and mentoring to help them achieve and sustain employment. We're committed to supporting CEYP to achieve the same outcomes as their peers and one aspect of this is achieving positive destinations, with the ultimate goal of moving CEYP into paid employment. The journey and support required for each care experienced young person varies and through our employability support for care experienced young people project, we're testing a variety of ways to support them, including a guaranteed interview scheme, tailored employability support programme, pathway planning and induction into work. A good example of youth volunteering are the Saltire Awards, which is the Scottish Government's way of celebrating, recognising and rewarding the commitment, contribution and achievements of volunteers aged between 12-25 in Scotland. Of the 2459 Saltire Award recipients between December 2021-March 2023 in Aberdeen City, 1155 young people were from the North Locality. This is the highest number by locality area across the City.

Progression Routes for CEYP participating in public sector employability programmes



### Supporting priority families via fit like hubs

[Fit like? Family Wellbeing Hubs](#) are a group of services working together to support children and young people's mental wellbeing. The Hubs help with:

- Finance and benefits
- Family relationships and communication
- Coping with daily pressures
- Promoting positive emotional and mental wellbeing
- Talking about traumatic things that have happened

The Fit Like Hub operates out of Manor Park School in the North Locality.

## Training community groups on issues impacting children

The ACHSCP Public Health Team train practitioners to deliver the **PEEP programme**. PEEP recognises that parents and carers are children's first and most important educators.

The Peep Learning Together programme supports parents and carers to:

- Value and build on the home learning environment by making the most of everyday learning opportunities.
- build and strengthen attachment relationships with their child through listening, talking, playing, singing and sharing books together.
- help babies and children to make the most of their opportunities by becoming confident communicators and active learners, ready for school



There were 14 referrals to PEEP from the North Locality during 2022. Six people from the North Locality were also referred by Health Visitors to the Family Learning Service.



## *Supporting those affected by substance use*

### **Raise awareness of substance service and provision**

Latest Aberdeen City drug related death data shows an increase from 56 to 62 deaths in 2021. The Aberdeen City Alcohol and Drugs Partnership through its fatal drug overdose projects are focused on reducing drug related deaths through innovative developments and by increasing the distribution of naloxone. Naloxone is an emergency medication that can reverse the effects of an overdose of opioids like heroin or methadone and can save someone's life. Reviews from past drug related deaths have shown that many of those people who died were not in any drug treatment service but had come to the attention of many other services. By increasing the number of services who can distribute and administer Naloxone to those in need, we can get the lifesaving drug out to those people at risk of overdose, as well as to family members/friends of those in need. Over the past year, we have widened access to naloxone by increasing the number of non-drug and alcohol services able to supply and/or administer naloxone. We have seen increased supply of Naloxone in each locality, with 120 kits supplied in the North Locality. As well as Naloxone, increasing education and access to a variety of treatments, the Partnership are taking a targeted approach, focusing on interventions and supports required at the various touchpoints. We are seeing the impact of this approach. For example, through our improvements focused on people liberated from prison we have seen a 56% reduction in drug related deaths of people liberated within 6 months.

### **Reducing harms from alcohol use**

Alcohol is one of five lifestyle behavioural risk factors which contribute to the majority of chronic and non communicable disease in our population. Throughout 2022/23 we've focused on increasing awareness of alcohol risks and widening access to alcohol interventions and support, including the development of a new alcohol audit screening tool. As a result of the interventions and targeted campaigns we've seen the number of active clients with Alcohol and Drugs Action (ADA) Duty Drop-in service in 2022/23 increase in

each of the three priority neighbourhoods against the 3-year baseline. In the North Locality, data shows a 59% increase in clients from AB16 postcodes. Other interventions ADA have taken during 2022-23 include:




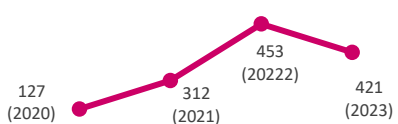





- The piloting of a new referral pathway from Police to ADA
- Widening the number of settings for Alcohol Brief Interventions, including HMP Grampian
- Targeted social media campaign and subsequent levels of engagement with the 'Alcohol Aberdeen' online 'quiz'

## Suicide Prevention






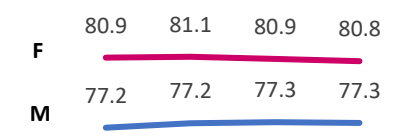
Suicide is more prevalent in middle-aged white males from deprived areas. However, being male, white, middle-aged, and living in a deprived area are not precursors to suicide. Trauma or events that lead up to suicide are more likely to occur in that demographic and this group are less likely to seek help in those circumstances.

In an effort to fully understand what are the leading contributing factors in deaths by suicide in the North East, Police Scotland analysed all Death Reports since the start of 2021 and tracked all contributing factors that were highlighted in the reports including medical and family history, and events leading up to the person's death. These were not geography or locality specific. The circumstances behind suicides are constantly changing, research is ongoing to keep abreast of these changes and to adapt training, information and resources accordingly in Aberdeen City and across the wider North East. The rate of death from suicide in the North Locality of 12.6 per 100,000 is above the citywide average of 11.1 per 100,000 of the population. This is the highest amongst the city's three locality areas.

## WHAT IMPACT HAVE WE HAD DURING 2022/23?

<b>Activities for Young People</b>  <b>43 young people</b> from Northfield were involved in community based youth work activities in 2022, a <b>93% increase</b> from 2019.	<b>Positive destinations</b>  <b>92.6%</b> of North Locality school leavers achieved a positive destination. The citywide average was 93.8%.	<b>Young People Confidence</b>  <b>41%</b> of S1-S6 pupils reporting feeling confident compared to 35% last year.
<b>Young People Mental Health</b>  <p>127 (2020) 312 (2021) 453 (2022) 421 (2023)</p> <p>No. of referrals each month to NHSG's children and adolescent mental health services increasing</p>	<b>Counselling for Young People</b>  <b>100%</b> of schools in North Locality offer counselling and Active School activities	<b>Working Together with Parents</b>  <b>14 referrals</b> were made to the Parents as Early Education Partners (PEEP) programme from the North Locality in 2022
<b>Young People Volunteering</b>  <b>1155 young people</b> from the North Locality received a Saltire Award during 2022. The highest per locality in Aberdeen City.	<b>Healthy Eating</b>  <b>13.8%</b> of people in the North Locality said they were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food due to poverty. <b>19.8%</b> of people living in the locality said they ate only a few types of food. (City Voice 46, 2022)	<b>Unpaid Carers</b>  <b>359 unpaid carers</b> were supported in the North Locality by Quarriers Adult Carer Support Service during 2022-23, this is an increase of <b>79.5%</b> on 200 unpaid carers supported last year.



Alcohol Awareness	Drug Related Deaths	Drug Related Hospital Stays
 <p><b>20.3%</b> of people in the North Locality said they didn't know how many units are in the alcoholic drinks they consume. <b>48.4%</b> of people living in the North said they didn't think about units at all. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	 <p><b>120 naloxone kits</b> were supplied in the North Locality in 2022.</p>	 <p>The rate of drug related hospital stays for the North Locality in 2022 was <b>175.2 per 100,000</b>. This has improved from 193 per 100,000 of the population in 2021.</p>
Alcohol Related Mortality Rates	Deaths from Suicide	Life Expectancy
 <p>Alcohol related mortality rates in North Locality in 2022 are <b>15.54 per 100,000</b>. This has improved since 2018 when the rate was 16.86 per 100,000 of the population.</p>	 <p>The rates of death from suicide in the North Locality is <b>12.6 per 100,000</b>, this is above the citywide average of 11.1 per 100,000 of the population.</p>	 <p>Has stayed stable in the North Locality since 2018 for males and females. But it is lower in priority neighbourhoods at 78.3 (F) and 75.4 (M)</p>

## AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT 2023/24

- Increase the number of people volunteering in the North Locality
- Increase the number of successful Health Improvement Fund applications from the North Locality to tackle health inequalities
- Increase the number of priority families and community groups we work with through programmes such as PEEP and Health Issues in the Community
- Renewed focus on increasing community capacity and capability building
- Scale up Stay Well Stay Connected programme

# Our Place

## OUR PRIORITIES

The North Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out one priority to improve our local place:

**Priority 6. Maximise use of disused outdoor space to increase food growing Opportunities**

## WHAT PROGRESS HAVE WE MADE DURING 2022/23?



### Supporting greenspace development

**Friends of Westfield Park** received funding from the Health Improvement Fund to build a Sensory Garden in Westfield Park. This project has involved the whole community. The Bridge of Don & Districts Men Shed built wooden plant beds which have been adopted by Braehead Primary, Scotstown Primary, Bridge of Don Academy, Aberdeen Family Learning and the Bridge of Don Community Council. Aberdeen Action for Disability are growing seeds to share with the project and some of members are also making signs for the beds. The Sensory Garden has been created so all members of the community can have the opportunity to learn about gardening and food growing.

*"It has been fabulous how many people have helped and become involved. We have even had a local resident filling up our water carriers from his tap."*



  
Community  
Led



### Encourage healthy outdoor activities

#### Promote and improve accessible, active travel




In 2023, Aberdeen City Council, in partnership with Big Issue eBikes launched an electric bike hire scheme. [Big Issue E-Bikes](#) are available in 40 locations across Aberdeen and aim to make shorter journeys easier and affordable. The scheme also hopes to have a positive impact on our environment.

The City Voice survey found that 11.8% of people in the North Locality regularly cycled



## WHAT IMPACT HAVE WE HAD DURING 2022/23?

compared to the citywide average of 14.8%. People in the North Locality are least likely to cycle regularly (vs people living in the South and Central Localities).

Satisfaction with Green Space	Community Growing Spaces	Cycling
 <p><b>66.5%</b> of North Locality respondents to the City Voice survey reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces, compared to <b>64.7%</b> of people living in Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Heathryfold and Northfield (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	 <p><b>19</b> food growing projects happening across the North Locality</p>	 <p><b>91%</b> of people in the North Locality regularly cycled compared to <b>95.7%</b> of people living in Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Heathryfold and Northfield (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>

- Increase community food growing in schools, communities and workplaces.
- Renewed focus on promoting active and accessible travel

#### AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT 2023/24



**Working Together**

## Community Empowerment Strategy

Community Planning Aberdeen is committed to working with communities to improve outcomes across each locality and indeed the City as a whole. In 2022 we launched a new Community Empowerment Strategy setting out our vision for all communities to be equal community planning partners. A number of improvement projects are now underway to strengthen community participation in community planning and ensure they have a voice and ability to influence what happens to them and their community.



This year, we have been pleased to see the return of in-person community-based events, including two citywide events, the Community Gathering and the Granite City Gathering.



These events provided a great chance to bring our community and partners together, make connections, and share learning and opportunities. Both events were open to people across the City and were an exhibition of community information and provided a chance for attendees to wander around the stalls and learn about the different opportunities to get involved in their local community. There were 25 stall holders on the day showcasing the work they do in local communities and approximately 121 people attended the gathering. Of the registered attendees, 24.3% were from the North Locality. You can read the Community Gathering report for more information [here](#).

In addition to our citywide events, the North Locality Empowerment Group (LEG) restarted on 31 May 2023, having not met since early 2022. Meetings are now held on a two monthly cycle and alternate between virtual meetings and in person meetings at a community venue. Meetings provide an opportunity for LEG members to influence and shape delivery of the North Locality Plan and hold Community Planning Partners to account. LEGs also provide the Locality Planning Team and Outcome Improvement project managers an opportunity to involve community members in their projects and gain valuable feedback. The Middlefield, Mastrick, Cummings Park, Heathryfold and Northfield Priority Neighbourhood Partnership has continued to meet throughout 2022-23.



## **Find out more & Get Involved!**

The [North Locality Empowerment Group](#) and the [Cummings Park, Heathryfold, Northfield, Mastrick and Middlefield Priority Neighbourhood Partnership](#) are two of the main ways we connect with our local communities in the North Locality. As a member of a LEG and Torry Partnership you will be able to provide a voice on behalf of the people and communities across your neighbourhood.



## What's in it for you?



Influence what happens in your community



Help make a brighter future for all



Connect with others



Participation can lead to credits for the Saltire Award (young people, age 12-25)

Following a recent training session provided by SCDC in partnership with ACC/AHSCP, the community had this to say about community engagement:

*"Talk to us and talk to us early. Don't make decisions and then get it approved by us. Communities have knowledge and skills to know what's best for us. We're the local experts about our places"*

*"Community Engagement is where people grow"*

If you are interested in getting involved in helping achieve these aims in your local community, follow this link to find out more: [Our Communities - Community Planning Aberdeen](#) or email [localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk).



## Meet your Locality Planning Team

We understand the importance of working with communities to build a thriving environment for everyone. By engaging with local communities through our dedicated locality planning team, we aim to become more receptive, supportive and action-oriented. Community input is extremely valuable to this work.

The Locality Planning Team includes staff from Aberdeen City Council and the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care partnership working together to support improved outcome across all our localities and neighbourhoods. In the North Locality your locality planning contacts are Iain, Jade, Katie, and Kev.



Iain Robertson,  
Transformation Programme  
Manager, Aberdeen City Health and  
Social Care Partnership



Jade Leyden,  
Community Development Manager,  
Aberdeen City Council



Kev Donald, Community  
Development Officer, Aberdeen City  
Council



Katie Cunningham,  
Public Health Coordinator, ACHSCP

Please take a moment to complete this [survey](#) and let us know how we can enhance our service delivery and collaboration with you. Together we can make a positive impact and create a place where all people can prosper.

# Aberdeen City - South Locality

## Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022-23



### **South Locality Neighbourhoods:**

Culter; Cults, Bieldside, Milltimber & Countesswells; Hazlehead; Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill, Seafield; Garthdee; Ferryhill; Torry; Cove; Kincorth, Leggart & Nigg





# WELCOME

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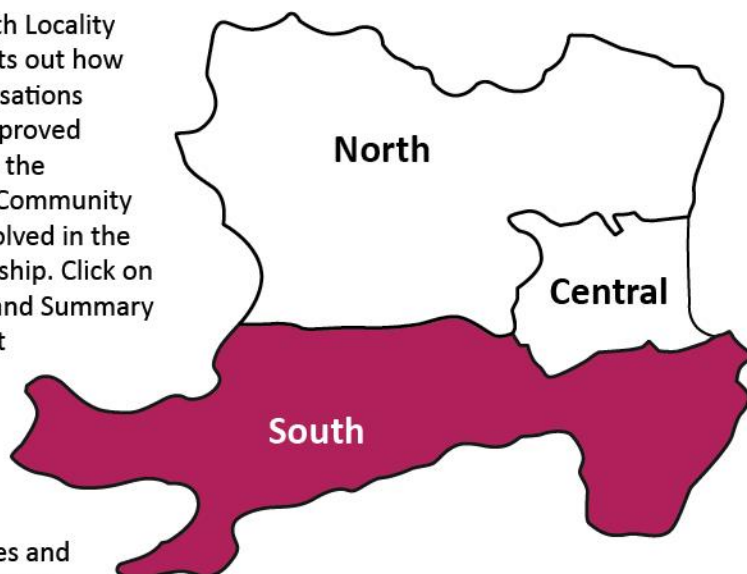
Welcome to our second annual report against the South Locality Plan first published in 2021. The South Locality Plan sets out how Community Planning Aberdeen and its member organisations will work together and with communities to deliver improved outcomes for the 9 neighbourhoods in the locality and the locality as a whole. The Locality Plan was prepared by Community Planning Aberdeen staff and community members involved in the South Locality Empowerment Group and Torry Partnership. Click on the links to view a copy of the full South Locality Plan and Summary Locality Plan. Also see the end of this report to find out more about the organisations and community groups involved in preparing the plan.

This report provides an update on progress made against the priorities that were identified in the South Locality Plan. It includes information about key activities and initiatives and also the impact that these have in the South Locality and in target neighbourhoods. The information and data within the report demonstrates success in many areas. However, we also recognise where we need to do better and have identified priorities for improvement next year.

Our focus is always on impact on outcomes for communities. Central to our approach is involving and empowering communities which we have made clear in our new Community Empowerment Strategy published in 2022. Behind the scenes, Community Planning Aberdeen has also made some changes to ensure member organisations are working better together to empower communities. Our new locality planning team has been in place since February 2023 and epitomises our renewed vigour for working together with local communities. This report provides an important baseline for how we are currently performing in the South Locality and a commitment to improving going forward.

This report is split into the following sections:

<a href="#">Our Economy</a>	<a href="#">page 3</a>
<a href="#">Our People</a>	<a href="#">page 7</a>
<a href="#">Our Place</a>	<a href="#">page 14</a>
<a href="#">Community Empowerment</a>	<a href="#">page 16</a>



## OUR PRIORITIES

The South Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out three priorities to improve our local economy:

**Priority 1. Reduce number of people living in poverty**

**Priority 2. Improve and create employment opportunities.**

**Priority 3. Identify and embed opportunities to mitigate digital exclusion**

## PROGRESS MADE DURING 2022/23



### *Supporting our most vulnerable families*

#### **Community food provision and community pantries**

With food prices rising at the fastest rate in 40 years we have been working with CFine to increase access to affordable food across the locality, particularly for our most vulnerable communities and low-income families. Through our community food pantry project, we have focused on increasing access to affordable food in our priority neighbourhoods which includes Torry and Kincorth in the South Locality. Recognising the challenges people can face attending one of our fixed food pantries, a mobile food pantry was launched in September 2021. CFine has 284 members of the South Locality shopping at the pantry at Poynerook Rd on a regular basis. The mobile food pantry also had 350 visits from residents of the South locality during 2022-23.

#### ***Affordable Food Providers in the South***

[CFine](#) operates a mobile food pantry on Wednesdays at:  
-Kincorth Sports Centre from 10-10.30am  
-Abbey Road, Torry from 11.30 to 12pm

[Touch of Love](#) is one of several [Food Banks](#) available to people experiencing food insecurity across the South.

#### **Benefit uptake**

Ensuring that household income is maximised through the uptake of unclaimed benefits is a key aspect to supporting households to come out of poverty and improve their financial security. There continues to be barriers which can mean people do not claim benefits they are entitled to, such as stigma of claiming, unaware of what they are entitled to, and onerous applications processes.

We have made progress with several initiatives to help remove these barriers. For example, we launched the online benefit calculator last year to help support more people to find out what benefits they are entitled to. This has been accessed 7274 times across the city during 2022/23, with 737 of those being from the Torry and Kincorth priority neighbourhoods. We have also taken action to identify households who should be entitled to Pension Credits and have contacted them directly by letter. Using this approach 410 households were identified from across the City who qualified for Pension Credits, this includes 28 people in the South Locality that have benefited from an uplift in their Pension Credits. Finally, a booklet for families was developed to increase awareness and uptake of child benefits such as, Education Maintenance Allowance and School Clothing Grants. The booklet targeted families and provided guidance on how to claim. Across the City 2749 families benefited financially by accessing additional benefits with 890 families in South Locality benefitting financially by accessing additional benefits.

## Fuel poverty/ affordable heating

As the cost of living increases it is important that we work together to do everything we can to support every household in Aberdeen. We have been working together with partner organisations across Aberdeen to provide a range of public warm spaces that will provide an opportunity for people to come together, share and use resources. Every warm space is unique however all warm spaces offer a friendly welcome and comfortable environment to meet friends or socialise. There are 14 warm spaces across the South Locality but of course people are free to visit any warm space across the City. You can find your nearest warm space by visiting [here](#).

As well as providing warm spaces we have been increasing awareness of the support available to households during the at a variety of community events and training frontline staff. As a result of the promotion of support available and increase in home visits to deliver insulation and energy efficiency measure, a total of £32,725.77 fuel bill savings was made last year across the South Locality.



**Staying Warm & Well Winter Roadshow**

Thursday 8 December,  
10am - 2pm  
Central Library,  
Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen

Pop in for a free cuppa and chat to friendly staff who will share information and advice.

**WARM SPACE**  
We are open and the heating's on

Logos: ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL, ABERDEEN CITY LIBRARIES, Care & Repair, CF, Communities, healthpoint, HOME ENERGY SCOTLAND, scarf (INSULATION CONSULTANTS), Social Security Scotland



## *Supporting businesses and young people into employment*

### Social Enterprises and small businesses

Local community start-ups benefit everyone. Not only do they help get people back into employment, but they also create new jobs and bring new money into the community. We are delighted to have secured local community support for people wishing to start their own business. Through Business Gateway we now have a Community Business Advisor attending the Old Torry Community Centre to provide a monthly drop-in service. Over the last 12 months the service has attracted an average of 2 attendees per drop in which has resulted in 5 people starting their own business.



### Local employability support and job opportunities

Supporting people into employment is a top priority for the locality. Over the year we have delivered a range of employability support events targeted at people who face barriers and challenges. For example, we have delivered sessions for people over 50, people with a disability and people living in our priority neighbourhood Torry.

Through our ABZ works initiative, partners Aberdeen City Council, Skills Development Scotland, DWP and Business Gateway have also delivered 'Your Route to Work' sessions aimed at young people living in priority neighbourhoods that are disengaged from school, school leavers, work returners and their wider families to find out information on how to get into employment, training, education or volunteering as well as provide money and benefit advice. There were 42 attendees at the Torry event. Exit surveys were completed with a small number of event attendees. Everyone who attended and provided feedback felt the event was useful or very useful and all would be likely to visit a future event.

Further support for people over 50, through dedicated 50+ work coaches; 50+ pilot in Torry; the launch of an employer recruitment incentive scheme, the outcomes of which to be reported in the next report and a



pilot Older but Wiser employability support group. The pilot support group ran over an 8-week period and was well received with 7 participants consistently attending the 8 weeks. Travel vouchers were provided to support the participants attend several careers fairs which occurred over the 8-week period and one participant was able to secure a job at one of these events. As a result of the supports above, 10 people have gained employment.



The Torry Skills centre, ideally situated in the heart of the community on Victoria Road, has now been open a full year. Community partner Pathways has delivered 43 group sessions at the centre and over 350 one-to-one sessions to provide people with assistance to find the job they want. There have been 34 referrals since April 2022 to March 2023 from the Torry area alone and of these 31 clients have been assisted into sustainable employment. The Foyer has also delivered 85 one-to-one sessions at the Torry Skills Centre over the same period and 12 group sessions.






## Supporting digital access and skills




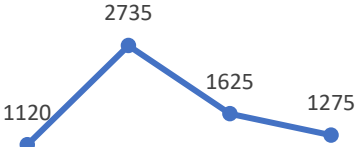
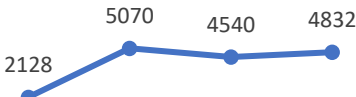




### Digital Access

Through our digital improvement project, we have seen positive outcomes for both digital access and skills. This work included the promotion of existing access and new access to digital devices, such as library computers, council digital resources, and universities. In addition to this, Silver City Surfers continue to offer face to face tuition for over 55's in the City helping them to become more comfortable using digital tools, offering support to community members at the Central Library.

**78.3%** of City Voice respondents in the South Locality reported they had at least basic digital skills.

## WHAT IMPACT HAVE WE HAD DURING 2022/23?

Tackling Poverty		
Food Insecurity	Food Poverty	Affordable Food
 <p><b>7.2%</b> of people in the South Locality worried they would not have enough to eat compared to <b>22.2%</b> of people living in Torry and Kincorth. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	 <p><b>1.7%</b> of households in the South Locality ran out of food compared to <b>11.1%</b> of households in Torry and Kincorth (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	 <p><b>634</b> families in the South Locality accessing <b>affordable food</b> at their local community pantry (mobile and located in Torry)</p>

<b>Fuel Insecurity</b>  <b>28.3%</b> of people in the South Locality worried they would not be able to heat their home compared to <b>55.6%</b> of people living in Torry and Kincorth. (City Voice 46, 2022)	<b>Fuel Poverty</b>  <b>5.6%</b> of households in the South Locality have had to seek support for paying for heating, compared to <b>11.1%</b> of households in Torry and Kincorth (City Voice 46, 2022)	<b>Fuel Bill Savings</b>  <b>£32,725.77</b> fuel bill savings made across the South Locality through energy efficiency measures and support such as provision of warm spaces
<b>Claimant Count</b>  <p>Has decreased after a spike in 2021. 52% of claimants live in south locality priority neighbourhoods</p>	<b>People on Universal Credit</b>  <p>Has increased in the south locality since 2020. 50% of claimants live in priority neighbourhoods</p>	<b>Benefit Maximisation</b>  The online benefit calculator has been accessed <b>737</b> times by people from Central priority neighbourhoods
<b>Children in low income families</b>  <p>Child poverty has increased in the south locality since 2019. 55% of children in low income families live in priority neighbourhoods</p>	<b>Business Start Ups</b>  5 people in Torry supported to start their own business.	<b>Digital Access and Skills</b>  <b>78.3%</b> of City Voice respondents in the South Locality reported they had at least basic digital skills.

## AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN 2023/24

- Strengthen relationships with local businesses as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility
- Encourage more people to start their own business and promoting local business gateway services across the wider locality
- Ensure support extends to Priority Neighbourhood Kincorth as well as Torry

## OUR PRIORITIES

South Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out two priorities to improve outcomes for our people

**Priority 4. Support children and young people to achieve their potential**

**Priority 5. Focus on early intervention, prevention and re-enablement actions**

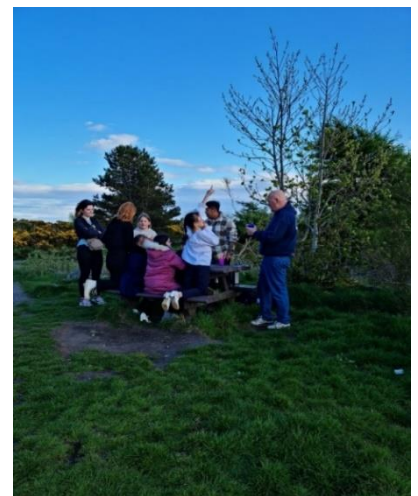
## PROGRESS MADE DURING 2022/23



### *Providing activities for Children and Young People*

#### Opportunities and activities

Through our youth community activity and reducing anti-social behaviour projects we are committed to developing a range of opportunities for children and young people to get involved in their local community and to support a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour. There was a need identified in Kincorth to tackle anti-social behaviour with 282 calls in 2021. In response to this, young people, and local people in Kincorth co-designed a community-based activities group based in Kincorth Community Centre. This was chosen as it has a games hall, classrooms, kitchen, and a coffee bar, all of which widen the scope of what can be offered and the facility had to be attractive to the target audience. The Group meets weekly from 6.15pm to 8pm. The new group was highly successful, attracting 34 young people from Kincorth attending between March - December 2022. The group has also helped reduce the number of calls relating to antisocial behaviour in Kincorth area, which decreased from 282 calls in 2021 to 238 calls in 2022. The change idea of establishing co-designed youth groups in target areas has been successful.



*“we get to make friends; it’s very fun; you get to do art, sports, games and make food.”* **Kincorth Young person**

We have also been working with children and young people in Torry and Ferryhill to address deliberate fire-raising which accounts for 10% of all incidents attended by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) in Aberdeen. Activities have included engagement with local young people, delivery of Fire Skills courses, media campaigns and a Virtual Community Fire Safety Programme for schools and youth groups. A leaflet for parents and carers with guidance on how to talk to young people about the dangers of playing with fire has also been produced. Changes were tested initially in Torry and Ferryhill as this was the area where most incidents had occurred between 2015-19. As a result, data for the area shows there has been approximately a 50% reduction in deliberate fires when compared to the 2015-19 average.





## *Supporting vulnerable children and young people*

### **Young People's Mental Wellbeing**

All schools in the South Locality offer counselling, and each provides free physical activity to enhance the mental wellbeing of children, regardless of circumstances. The Safer Schools app was launched during 2022 with 100% sign up by South Locality schools. The app includes features to help parents and carers navigate challenges such as absence reporting and safeguarding concerns, as well as develop easier channels of communication. All local parents and carers can access the app, which has been promoted widely in school newsletters. Initial feedback from parents has been positive, and formal evaluation data will be available for future reporting periods. We recognise the role physical activity plays in supporting good mental health and through the Active Schools Programme, all South Locality schools now provides free physical activity opportunities for pupils.

### **Training community groups on issues impacting children**

The ACHSCP Public Health Team train practitioners to deliver the PEEP (Parents as Early Education Partners) programme. PEEP recognises that parents and carers are children's first and most important educators.

The Peep Learning Together programme supports parents and carers to:

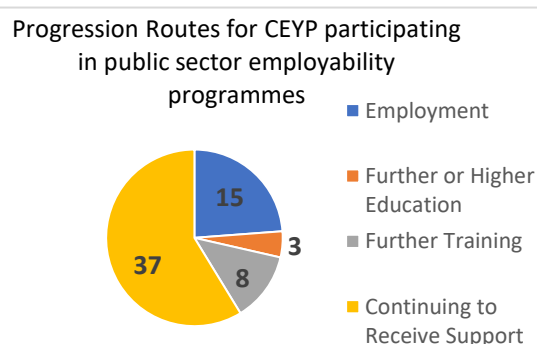
- Value and build on the home learning environment by making the most of everyday learning opportunities.
- build and strengthen attachment relationships with their child through listening, talking, playing, singing and sharing books together.
- help babies and children to make the most of their opportunities by becoming confident communicators and active learners, ready for school



There were 30 referrals to PEEP from the South Locality during 2022, in addition five people from the South Locality were referred by Health Visitors to the Family Learning Service.

### **Positive Destinations for Care Experienced young people**

Positive destinations means that young people go on to attend further or higher education, volunteer, begin an apprenticeship or go into paid employment. In 2021-22, 90.5% of South Locality school leavers achieved a positive destination which was below the 2020-21 figure (92.9%) and the Aberdeen City average (93.8%). Care experienced young people (CEYP) often face significant barriers to employment and need additional support and mentoring to help them achieve and sustain employment. We are committed to supporting CEYP achieving the same outcomes as their peers and one aspect of this is achieving positive destinations, with the ultimate goal of moving CEYP into employment. The journey and support required for each care experienced young person varies and through our employability support for care experienced young people project, we are testing a variety of ways to support them



such as a guaranteed interview scheme, tailored employability support programme, pathway planning and induction into work. A good example of volunteering is the Saltire Awards, which is the Scottish Government's way of celebrating, recognising and rewarding the commitment, contribution and achievements of volunteers aged between 12-25 in Scotland. Of the 2459 Saltire Award recipients between December 2021 to March 2023 in Aberdeen City, 763 young people were from the South Locality.

### **Supporting priority families via Fit Like hubs**

[Fit like? Family Wellbeing Hubs](#) are a group of services working together to support children and young people's mental wellbeing. The Hubs help with:

- Finance and benefits
- Family relationships and communication
- Coping with daily pressures
- Promoting positive emotional and mental wellbeing
- Talking about traumatic things that have happened

There is a Fit Like Hub based in Tullos Community Centre in the South Locality.



### ***Providing additional support to existing services***

#### **Volunteering in the Community**



We have continued to build our volunteering community across the City that was so crucial during the covid pandemic. Between December 2021 and March 2023, we saw a 17.4% in volunteer opportunities being advertised across the City on the volunteer hub run by ACVO. Volunteering across the South Locality is invaluable in supporting stretched public services. For example, through the Fairer Aberdeen Fund 739 volunteers contributed 114,280 hours of volunteering with a value of over £2m. Over 45,000 people were involved or benefitted from the 36 funded initiatives within the programme and 21 of the Fairer Aberdeen Fund projects benefited the South Locality. Another project to

support volunteering is Station House Media Unit (SHMU's) community project to support prisoners in HMP Grampian, offering them post-release support and engaging them in opportunities at SHMU upon release. including employability, volunteering, and meaningful activity.

#### **Support for unpaid carers**

In 2023, Aberdeen City Health and Social Partnership published the new Carers Strategy which acknowledges the huge contribution that Carers make and seeks to support all unpaid Carers in Aberdeen City. During the development of the new strategy there were several key inputs including; the National Carers Inquiry, publication of the National Carers Strategy from Scottish Government, the dedicated work and support of the Carers Strategy Implementation Group and most importantly the wider consultation and engagement of Carers across the City.

The new Carers Strategy identifies four key priorities to support Carers:

- Identifying as a Carer and the first steps to support
- Accessing advice and support
- Supporting future planning, decision making, and wider Carer involvement
- Community support and advice for Carers

In 2022-23, 239 carers accessed the Quarriers Adult Carer Support Service in the South Locality which is an increase of 42.3% on the 168 carers who accessed the service in 2021-22.

Since the Respite Bureau started in June 2022, 320 people have been referred for a short break as of March 2023. Three further tests promoting several types of carer breaks were also tested this year, Doorstep Breaks, Scot Spirit and Time to Live. Data from these tests will be evaluated and shared for future learning. More information on the Carers Strategy and how carers can access services and support can be found [here](#)

### **Raise awareness of substance service and provision**

Latest drug related death data shows an increase from 56 to 62 in 2021. The Partnership through our fatal drug overdose projects is focused on reducing drug related deaths through innovative developments and by increasing the distribution of naloxone. Naloxone is an emergency medication that can reverse the effects of an overdose of opioids like heroin or methadone and can save someone's life. Reviews from past drug related deaths have shown that many of those people who died were not in any drug treatment service but had come to the attention of many other services. By increasing the number of services who can distribute and administer Naloxone to those in need, we can get the lifesaving drug out to those people at risk of overdose, as well as to family members/friends of those in need. During this year, we have widened access to naloxone by increasing the number of non-drug and alcohol service able to supply and/or administer naloxone. We have seen increased supply of naloxone in each locality, with 135 kits supplied in the South Locality. As well as naloxone, increasing education and access to a variety of treatments, the Partnership are taking a targeted approach, focusing on interventions and supports required at the various touchpoints. We are seeing the impact of this approach. For example, through our improvements focused on people liberated from prison we have seen a 56% reduction in drug related deaths of people liberated within 6 months.

### **Reducing harms from alcohol use**

Alcohol is one of five lifestyle behavioural risk factors which contribute to the majority of chronic and non-communicable disease in our population. Throughout 2022/23 we have focused on increasing awareness of alcohol risks and widening access to alcohol interventions and support, including the development of a new alcohol audit screening tool to increase referrals for support both from professionals and individuals directly with a corresponding promotional campaign. As a result of the interventions and targeted campaigns we have seen the number of active clients with Alcohol and Drugs Action (ADA) Duty Drop-in service in 2022/23 increase in each of the three priority neighbourhoods against the 3-year baseline. In the South Locality, data shows a 35% increase in clients from AB11 postcodes. Other interventions ADA have taken during 2022-23 include:

- The piloting of a new referral pathway from Police to ADA
- Widening the number of settings for Alcohol Brief Interventions, including HMP Grampian
- Targeted social media campaign and subsequent levels of engagement with the 'Alcohol Aberdeen' online 'quiz'



***Supporting people to make healthy choices***

### **Health and Wellbeing**

ACHSCP's Wellbeing Team deliver several initiatives targeting key target groups such as older people and those with disabilities who are at risk of becoming socially isolated or suffer from poor health outcomes. All

the activities and initiatives outlined below support people in the South Locality to make better health and weight management choices.



**Boogie in the Bar** provides an opportunity for people at risk of social isolation to meet up at a local venue to have a blether and a dance. Monthly Boogie in the Bars are held in the Foundry Bar and Abbott Bar with an average of 65 people attending throughout the year.

Work is underway to create a resource for future Boogies so that they share the same ethos. It is important that we learn from the successes of the Boogies so that future sessions are sustainable and meaningful for those who attend.

**Soup and Sarnie Sessions** are now up and running across the city. These sessions are run in partnership with CFINE, The Wellbeing Team, AFCCT and the centre in which the sessions are hosted. Torry Soup and Sarnies begun in May 2023 out of the Old Torry Community Centre and after two sessions, interest and uptake has been very positive.

**The Health Improvement Fund** supports initiatives that improve the health and wellbeing of people across Aberdeen. During 2022-23, 68 projects received funding, with initiatives ranging from community gardening and lunch clubs to birthing classes and Virtual Reality (VR) training. In a bid to streamline funding opportunities across the City, the Health Improvement Fund linked up with ACVO Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund and Aberdeen City COVID Recovery Fund to ensure an additional 14 applications could receive funding. Funded projects are evaluated to measure impact and achievement of the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP) priorities.

Of the 68 HIF funded projects, 34 were either from bidders based in the South Locality or aimed to support health improvement activities within the South. The Health Improvement Fund received 122 applications, of which 52 were from, or would benefit the South Locality.

An example of HIF funding being used successfully in the South Locality was at Inchgarth Community Centre who recognised the importance of people being able to access physical activity opportunities without a cost barrier. Health Improvement Funding covering the cost of 100 annual gym memberships was awarded to Inchgarth providing free access to the Inchgarth fitness gym for people who are unemployed, in receipt of benefits, the elderly, on low incomes, and young people who wish to access the fitness gym under supervision. Those joining the gym are given an induction to ensure they know how to use the equipment and are encouraged to attend other activities/groups that are on offer at the Community Centre.





## Upskilling communities' knowledge of health and wellbeing services

The Stay Well Stay Connected – Granite City Gathering 2023 was a public health event held on 24 June at Kings Church Bridge of Don. The gathering helped people explore how to support themselves and retire positively. The aim and purpose of the gathering was to help people to understand and explore what a good retirement could look like in their own communities and have a real sense of purpose and opportunity to contribute.



167 attendees  
Targeted at 45+  
Aberdeen City Residents  
1 Choir  
6 crafting and art groups  
1 Yoga group  
1 gigong and taichi  
Ballroom dancing  
22 community groups and charities  
4 speakers  
20 volunteers

### Highlights




- The gathering focused on people who are planning to retire soon, or have already retired and live in Aberdeen
- The event had a number of taster sessions where people could try new activities such as movement with gigong, Tai chi, chair based yoga, sing in a choir, have a boogie at the gathering, try out crafting or an art session
- There was an opportunity for delegates to meet representatives of community groups and charities who told them about who they were and what services they provide
- The speakers ranged from - Jock at Horseback, UK; to Japanese wellbeing tips 'Ikigai'; to exploring what an Age Friendly Aberdeen could look like.

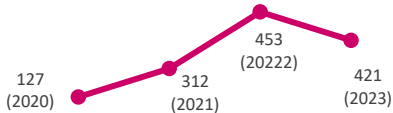










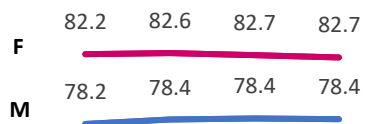
## Suicide Prevention

Suicide is more prevalent in middle-aged white males from deprived areas. However, being male, white, middle-aged, and living in a deprived area are not precursors to suicide. Trauma or events that lead up to suicide are more likely to occur in that demographic and this group is less likely to seek help in such circumstances.

To fully understand what the leading contributing factors in deaths by suicide were in the North East, Police Scotland analysed all Death Reports since the start of 2021 and tracked all contributing factors that were highlighted in the reports including medical and family history and the events leading up to the person's death. These were not geography or locality specific. The circumstances behind suicides are constantly changing and research is ongoing to keep abreast of these changes and to adapt training, information and resources accordingly in Aberdeen City and across the wider North East. The rate of death from suicide in the South Locality of 10.4 per 100,00 is below the citywide average of 11.1 per 100,000 of the population. This is the lowest amongst the city's three locality areas.

## WHAT IMPACT HAVE WE HAD IN 2022/23?

Youth Anti-Social Behaviour	Positive destinations	Young People Confidence
 <p>238 anti-social behaviour calls were received in Kincorth during 2022, this is <b>down 15.6%</b> from 2021</p>	 <p><b>90.5%</b> of South Locality school leavers achieved a positive destination. The citywide average was 93.8%.</p>	 <p><b>41%</b> of S1-S6 pupils report feeling confident compared to 35% last year.</p>

<b>Young People Mental Health</b>  <p>No. of referrals each month to NHSG's children and adolescent mental health services increasing</p>	<b>Counselling for Young People</b>  <p><b>100%</b> of schools in South Locality offer counselling and Active School activities</p>	<b>Working Together with Parents</b>  <p><b>30 referrals</b> were made to the Parents as Early Education Partners (PEEP) programme from the South Locality in 2022</p>
<b>Young People Volunteering</b>  <p><b>763</b> young people from the South Locality received a Saltire Award during 2022.</p>	<b>Healthy Eating</b>  <p><b>10.1%</b> of people in the South Locality said they were unable to eat healthy and nutritious food due to poverty compared to <b>16.7%</b> people in Torry and Kincorth. 17.5% of people living in the locality said they ate only a few types of food compared to 22.2% in Torry and Kincorth. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Community Empowerment</b>  <p>167 people attended the Stay Well Stay Connected – Granite City Gathering to explore ways older people can support themselves in the community and retire positively.</p>
<b>Alcohol Awareness</b>  <p><b>22.9%</b> of people in the South Locality said they didn't know how many units are in the alcoholic drinks they consume <b>32.4%</b> of people living in the South said they didn't think about units at all. Compared to 30% and 43.3% in Torry and Kincorth. (City Voice 46, 2022)</p>	<b>Drug Related Deaths</b>  <p>135 naloxone kits supplied in South Locality in 2022</p>	<b>Drug Related Hospital Stays</b>  <p>The rate of drug related hospital stays for the South Locality was 135.7 per 100,000 of the population. This was an improvement from 147.2 per 100,000 in 2021.</p>
<b>Alcohol Related Mortality Rates</b>  <p>Alcohol related mortality rates in South Locality are now <b>13.91 per 100,000</b>. This has improved since 2018 when the rate was 17.31 per 100,000.</p>	<b>Deaths from Suicide</b>  <p>The rate of death from suicide in the South Locality is <b>10.4 per 100,000</b>, this is below the citywide average of 11.1 per 100,000 of the population.</p>	<b>Life Expectancy</b>  <p>Has stayed stable in the South Locality since 2018 for males and females. But it is lower in priority neighbourhoods at 79.6 (F) and 73.9 (M)</p>

## AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN 2023/24

- Explore piloting a programme with vulnerable young people at Camphill
- Increase positive destinations for vulnerable learners
- Renew our focus on community capacity and capability building
- Explore proposal for pump track in Torry with communities
- Enhance our child friendly practice
- Increase the number of priority families accessing PEEP programme
- Increase the number of people attending Health Issues in the Community sessions and increase the number of trained practitioners



## OUR PRIORITIES

The South Locality Plan 2021-26 sets out three priorities to improve our local place:

**Priority 6. Identify and maximise use of green space**

### WHAT PROGRESS HAVE WE MADE DURING 2022/23?



#### *Supporting greenspace development*

##### **Encourage community growing spaces**

Our community-run green space and food growing projects have continued to thrive and achieve positive outcomes with 14 food growing projects in schools, communities, and workplaces across the South Locality as of March 2023. For example, the **Tullos Community Garden** has been a work in progress since early 2018, when the paths around the garden were put in place and they had 8 planters (4 of which are accessible to those in wheelchairs) installed to grow vegetables and herbs for the local community. The volunteers continue to work on the best way for their produce to be used by the local community but encourage people to help themselves to anything they would like when it is ready. Previously a box of lettuce and other fresh produce was delivered to George's shop for people to take free of charge. They have also donated to CFINE and the Zero waste cafe when that was running and hope to supply to more community free meal initiatives in the future.

The volunteer group is hosting a garden party on Saturday the 19th of August 2023. This will be the first big family event that the volunteers have put on since before lockdown so it is hoped that many people from across Torry will come along to celebrate the garden and enjoy free food, face-painting, craft activities, planting with One Seed Forward and children's fun and stories.

**St Fitticks Edible Garden** also began in 2018 in response to the Torry Older People's Network wanting to turn the disused council depot site into an orchard and edible garden. It also faced the challenges of lockdowns and, in this case, water supply but it is still growing and thriving with entries into the Keep Scotland Beautiful competition with awards as well. The garden now has a part-time coordinator/grower who organises community growing sessions, community events and business plus charity involvement. the project has just made a start on a more substantial toolshed. In addition, a wellbeing

course with CFINE and Mindstore is due to start. This will be held in the garden and recently and the project has had a fairy garden activity with children from Barnardo's.



## Encouraging the use of greenspaces for healthy benefits

Community Learning and Development's (CLD) Family Learning Team have been committed to using the abundant outdoor resources the city has to offer; from the incredible beaches and scenic Torry battery to the plethora of woodland and greenspaces. Working in partnership with various agencies the Family Learning Team identifies children and families most in need of support throughout the City of Aberdeen.

With this need recognised, an array of thought provoking, imaginative, and creative outdoor learning experiences are offered. These connect children and families, assess risk, build resilience, confidence and skills through creative activities and play- all throughout the academic year.

The offer is city-wide with sessions happening in each locality. Within the South Locality there has been Geronimo, Coastal Project, Wellbeing Walks, Holidays of Play as well as families accessing a residential in Cullen looking at environmental issues and the impact humans have on the climate.

CLD's Family Learning team has supported approximately 46 families in the South Locality to access outdoor learning opportunities as well as a number attending the residentials throughout the year.





### Deevale Community Garden



Work is underway to create a community garden in for residents of Deevale Gardens care home in Kincorth. Residents have shared their ideas for the garden with support from the Community Development team, which will be delivered in partnership with local organisations including CFINE.

## WHAT IMPACT HAVE WE HAD IN 2022/23?

Satisfaction with Green Space	Community Growing Spaces	Community Managed Green Spaces
 <b>71.6%</b> of South Locality respondents to the City Voice survey reported being satisfied or fairly satisfied with the overall quality of green/open spaces, compared to <b>50.1%</b> in Torry and Kincorth.	 <b>14</b> food growing projects happening across the South Locality	 <b>3</b> community groups being supported to look after community green space in Torry and Kincorth

## AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN 2023/24

- Ensure support extends to Priority Neighbourhood Kincorth as well as Torry
- We will support communities to collaborate food growing efforts with schools and workplaces



**Working Together**

## Community Empowerment Strategy

Community Planning Aberdeen is committed to working with communities to improve outcomes across each locality and indeed the City as a whole. In 2022 we launched a new Community Empowerment Strategy setting out our vision for all communities to be equal community planning partners. Several improvement projects are now underway to strengthen community participation in community planning. This will ensure that communities have a voice and an ability to influence what happens to them and their community.



This year we have been pleased to see the return of in-person community-based events, including two citywide events: the Community Gathering and the Granite City Gathering.



These events provided a great chance to bring our community and partners together, make connections, and share learning and opportunities. Both events were open to people across the City and were an exhibition of community information and provided a chance for attendees to wander around the stalls and learn about the different opportunities to get involved in their local community. There were 25 stall holders on the day, showcasing the work they do in local communities. Approximately 121 people attended the gathering. Of the registered attendees, 27% were from the South Locality. You can read the Community Gathering report for more information [here](#).

In addition to our citywide events, the South Locality Empowerment Group (LEG) restarted on 27 April 2023. This was its first meeting since early 2022. Meetings are now held on a two-monthly cycle and alternate between virtual meetings and in person meetings at a community venue. This provides an opportunity for LEG members to influence and shape delivery of the South Locality Plan and hold Community Planning Partners to account. LEGs also provide the Locality Planning Team and Outcome Improvement project managers an opportunity to involve community members in their projects and gain valuable feedback. The Torry Partnership has continued to meet throughout 2022-23.



**Find out more & Get Involved!**

The [South Locality Empowerment Group](#) and the [Torry Partnership](#) are two of the main ways we connect with our local communities in the South Locality. As a member of a LEG and Torry Partnership you will be able to provide a voice on behalf of the people and communities across your neighbourhood.



## What's in it for you?



Influence what happens in your community



Help make a brighter future for all



Connect with others



Participation can lead to credits for the Saltire Award (young people, age 12-25)

Following a recent training session provided by SCDC in partnership with ACC/AHSCP, the community had this to say about community engagement:

*"Talk to us and talk to us early. Don't make decisions and then get it approved by us. Communities have knowledge and skills to know what's best for us. We're the local experts about our places"*

*"Community Engagement is where people grow"*

If you are interested in getting involved in helping achieve these aims in your local community, follow this link to find out more: [Our Communities - Community Planning Aberdeen](#) or email [localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk).



## Meet your Locality Planning Team

We understand the importance of working with communities to build a thriving environment for everyone. By engaging with local communities through our dedicated locality planning team, we aim to become more receptive, supportive and action orientated. Community input is extremely valuable to this work.

The Locality Planning Team includes staff from Aberdeen City Council and the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care partnership working together to support improved outcome across all our localities and neighbourhoods. In the South Locality your locality planning contacts are Iain, Jade and Teresa.



Iain Robertson,  
Transformation Programme  
Manager, Aberdeen City Health  
and Social Care Partnership



Jade Leyden,  
Community Development  
Manager,  
Aberdeen City Council



Teresa Dufficy, Community  
Development Officer,  
Aberdeen City Council

Please take a moment to complete this [survey](#) and let us know how we can enhance our service delivery and collaboration with you. Together we can make a positive impact and create a place where all people can prosper.

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## Community Planning Aberdeen

<b>Progress Report</b>	Scottish Parliament Report on Community Planning Inquiry – Implications for Community Planning Aberdeen
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Gale Beattie, Chair of the CPA Management Group and Director of Commissioning, ACC
<b>Report Author</b>	Michelle Crombie, Community Planning Manager, ACC
<b>Date of Report</b>	1 August 2023
<b>Governance Group</b>	CPA Board – 6 September 2023

### Purpose of the Report

This report presents the findings and recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing & Planning Committee following their inquiry into Community Planning launched in November 2022 and identifies implications for Community Planning Aberdeen.

### Summary of Key Information

#### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In November 2022 the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing & Planning Committee launched an inquiry into Community Planning as part of their scrutiny of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Part 2 of the Act sets out shared duties for how community planning is delivered by Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) through the development and delivery of Local Outcomes Improvement Plans and underpinning Locality Plans. The Act identifies statutory Community Planning Partners and places upon them a duty to work together, and with communities, to improve outcomes for their local area.
- 1.2 The inquiry examined the impact of the Act on community planning and how CPPs have responded to significant events such as the Covid-19 pandemic and the current cost-of-living crisis. The Committee invited views from a wide range of stakeholders including CPPs, communities and individuals about the impact that Community Planning Partnerships have had. A joint response to the call for views was made on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen by the deadline of 13 January 2023, as agreed at the CPA Board meeting on 30 November 2022. The response can be viewed [here](#). In addition, the Community Planning Manager gave evidence to the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee on 7 March.



- 1.3 The Committee's findings and recommendations have now been published on the Scottish Parliament website at [Community Planning: Post-legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of the Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Parliament](#)

## **2 SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Community Planning Aberdeen is referenced several times within the Committee's report as we are highlighted for our outcomes focus, collaborative working with ACVO Third Sector Interface, our integrated locality planning arrangements with Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, and our community led priority neighbourhood partnerships. We are the only CPP to be mentioned in the summary of findings with a recommendation for us to be used as a case study example in revised statutory community planning guidance.
- 2.2 A summary of the key findings and recommendations of the Committee is provided at Appendix 1 along with suggested implications for Community Planning Aberdeen.

## **3 NEXT STEPS**

- 3.1 A joint response to the findings of the inquiry is being prepared by the National Community Planning Network on behalf of all Community Planning Partnerships. The Scottish Government and relevant Ministers will be invited to join a Local Government, Housing & Planning Committee meeting to discuss their position after summer recess.

### **Recommendations for Action**

It is recommended that members of the CPA Board:

- i) Note the findings and recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing & Planning Committee following their inquiry into Community Planning; and
- ii) Approve the implications identified for Community Planning Aberdeen.

### **Opportunities and Risks**

The inquiry into Community Planning has provided an opportunity to reflect on the work taking place in Aberdeen and to examine what impact Community Planning Aberdeen is having on making a difference to people's lives. Our strong outcomes focus ensures that we can clearly evidence the positive impact that we are having across the City as well as the areas where we need to make further improvements.

### **Consultation**

CPA Management Group  
CPA Board

## Appendices

1. Scottish Parliament Report on Inquiry into Community Planning – Implications for Community Planning Aberdeen

## Background Papers

[Community Planning: Post-legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of the Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Parliament](#)

### Contact details:

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## APPENDIX 1 Scottish Parliament Report on Inquiry into Community Planning – Implications for Community Planning Aberdeen

[Community Planning: Post-legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of the Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Parliament](#)

Finding (numbers relate to the Summary within full report)	Implications for CPA
<p>18. The Scottish Government should ensure that its current review of the Community Empowerment Act addresses the variation in performance between CPPs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In future CPPs should have a clear and defined role in any national guidance on the local response to emergency situations (such as another pandemic).</li> <li>• Where there are examples of CPPs demonstrating best practice the Scottish Government and Cosla should ensure that this is actively shared across CPPs to help improve standards.</li> </ul>	<p>Variation in performance may not be negative as different CPPs have different local priorities. The principle of Community Planning Aberdeen being independent and individually responsible to local citizens and local partners is an important one to maintain. Raising the performance of all CPPs should be the aim.</p> <p>The clarification of the respective roles and responsibilities of Resilience Planning structures and CPPs would be welcomed by Community Planning Aberdeen.</p> <p>The Scottish Community Planning Network already provides a forum for the exchange of operational best practice between CPPs and partner organisations, and equally, a safe place for constructive dialogue about lessons learned. However, a more formal approach to capturing, documenting and sharing best practice across CPPs would be beneficial for Community Planning Aberdeen.</p>
<p>20. The Scottish Government should consider refreshing the Community Planning Guidance in view of the comments made in this report by stakeholders. In particular this should include future-proofing the guidance so that it reflects new national priorities such as Community Wealth Building and what CPPs' role will be in this, and also the increasing regionalisation of economic development.</p>	<p>Community Planning Aberdeen support the refreshing of the CP Guidance through co-production with a wide range of stakeholders. The involvement of CPP Managers, as happened in the drafting of the existing material, is particularly important.</p>
<p>21. The Scottish Government should consider amending the Act to require CPPs to invite the local Third Sector Interface ('TSI') and local anchor organisations to be partners.</p>	<p>ACVO TSI is a core partner of Community Planning Aberdeen, represented at all levels from CPA Board to Locality Empowerment Group. However, an amendment to the Act and associated guidance would help clarify their responsibility for participation. Similarly so for anchor organisations.</p>

<p>22. The Scottish Government should consider during its review of Part 2 of the Act how CPPs can best encourage the involvement of the private sector in community planning, for example through Business Gateway which is delivered by local authorities.</p> <p>It should also explore how CPPs can best contribute to increasing economic regionalisation and encourage collaboration between CPPs within regions.</p>	<p>Increased private sector involvement in Community Planning Aberdeen is supported and facilitated through the Aberdeen Responsible Business initiative. Greater involvement of representative organisations such as Chambers of Commerce and other Economic Forums, which more focused on engagement than Business Gateway would be welcome.</p> <p>The new North East Public Health Alliance will bring together the three Councils, three HSCPs and NHSG Public Health team operating within the Grampian region. Any further support and initiatives that support these collaborations are welcome. It is for each CPP to determine what is the right arrangement to address its priorities and local circumstances.</p>
<p>23. The Scottish Government's review of the Act should explore whether its ambitions for community planning are realistic without being backed up by direct investment. CPPs may have an important role to play in new priorities such as Community Wealth Building and the Scottish Government should ensure that they are sufficiently resourced before creating any additional statutory requirements.</p> <p>It should also explore further how community planning partners should best direct their own resources to underpin CPPs' work.</p>	<p>Community Planning Aberdeen welcomes recognition of the need for additional resourcing for CPPs to enable them to fulfil their potential. However, it is important that the funding is not ring-fenced for specific initiatives but again is for the CPP to determine its use for local pressures and priorities.</p> <p>Planned national work to review the support by individual local partners to their CPP has not yet been undertaken and so this recommendation is welcomed. While local arrangements are the most appropriate approach, some consistency/a formula for recommended support would be helpful as Guidance for local partners and would evidence their commitment to and support of CPs.</p>
<p>24. The Committee believes that given the important part statutory partners other than local authorities have in community planning, Audit Scotland's routine audit of them could include the effectiveness of their participation in community planning.</p>	<p>Community Planning Aberdeen supports the approach that all partner's auditing and inspection bodies and regimes should include an assessment of their participation in community planning.</p>
<p>25. The Scottish Government should explore how the complex lines of accountability for community planning partners could best be streamlined.</p>	<p>Community Planning Aberdeen supports further consideration being given to accountability and the legal status of CPPs – this could include revisiting the concept of incorporation of CPPs. The importance of self-determination by CPPs and their local partners about their arrangements is essential and therefore the outcome of this work should be Guidance/Options available to CPPs.</p>

<p>26. The Scottish Government should take the opportunity during its review of Part 2 of the Act to help renew CPPs' focus on the importance of empowerment and participation through identifying opportunities to drive improvement and share best practice. This could include increasing the funding provided to the Improvement Service.</p>	<p>Community Planning Aberdeen welcomes the possibility of increased resources to support sharing of best practice.</p>
<p>27. CPPs should take proactive steps to ensure that communities of interest or identity are fully included in planning processes to avoid further marginalising key groups who are already at increased risk of inequality. Their voices should for example be clearly reflected in LOIPs and locality plans.</p>	<p>Through our Community Empowerment Strategy, Community Planning Aberdeen has committed to ensuring all communities in Aberdeen are treated as equal community planning partners. Under stretch outcome 16 the strategy identifies several improvement aims to improve participation. Stretch outcome 16 will also be incorporated in the LOIP as part of our next refresh in April and, as always, communities will be engaged and consulted in the process of developing the refreshed LOIP and Locality Plans.</p> <p>Community Planning Aberdeen would also welcome refreshed national guidance and increased opportunities for sharing best practice across CPPs would to provide support in making further improvements.</p>
<p>28. Community engagement requires a professional skill-set that cannot be met solely by busy CPP officers in local authorities who may lack experience. The Scottish Government should explore how it can support community planning by resourcing a network of local community engagement officers within local authorities, and by encouraging local authorities to ensure they have sufficient community planning officers.</p>	<p>Additional support for community engagement is warmly welcomed but CPP community engagement is not only an issue for the community planning team of Aberdeen City Council. Additional resources/networks and support to build skills and capacity to engage communities should be available to all statutory partners to ensure policy alignment and address inequalities.</p>
<p>29. The Scottish Government should consider commissioning research into the impact made by CPPs in improving inequalities. This could explore how CPPs are, and should be, linking interventions with outcomes data at a local level and outlining a framework for CPPs to use.</p>	<p>This is strongly supported and ties in well with work underway in Aberdeen as part of the new North East Public Health Alliance. We are exploring how the Aberdeen Outcomes Framework could link with the national care and wellbeing dashboard to provide a model for every CPP in Scotland. It makes sense that there is a uniform approach to looking at health determinants data for Scotland and being able to drill down into LA area and locality.</p>

<p>30. There is a need to better align outcomes across the public sector, from the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework through to local delivery by statutory partners. This would better underpin the delivery of improved outcomes at all levels and also enable the evidencing of those improvements.</p> <p>The Scottish Government's review of community planning should consider whether Aberdeen CPP's work to align objectives should be used as a case study and incorporated into the Strategic Guidance for CPPs.</p>	<p>Community Planning Aberdeen welcomes the opportunity to showcase our strong outcomes focussed approach.</p>
<p>31. The Scottish Government's review of the Act should consider how to foster more sharing of and continuity in CPP leadership, for example through minimum terms or rotating Chairs amongst partners.</p> <p>It should also explore what training is needed to enable effective leadership of CPPs and how this could be provided.</p>	<p>Community Planning Aberdeen has put in place effective arrangements for its circumstances. However, examples of practice through Case Studies and discussion forums are always helpful. The development of training materials for optional use is also welcomed for CPP leaders and CP Officers.</p>
<p>32. In its development of a Community Wealth Building Bill, the Scottish Government should give early consideration to the role of CPPs in delivering the policy ambitions, whether any legislative changes to their role would be required to facilitate that, and should ensure sufficient guidance is provided to CPPs about their role in community wealth building.</p>	<p>Reference in the CWB Guidance about the role of CPPs is warmly welcomed and there are examples in other Guidance (e.g. Children's Services Plans, CLD Strategic Action Plans) that could be drawn on. Legislative changes would not be supported by Community Planning Aberdeen as this can inhibit and date material.</p>
<p>33. The work that the Scottish Government and Cosla are jointly undertaking to review Local Governance in Scotland should incorporate the role that CPPs have, and any conclusions reached should provide clarity for all partners on the importance of community planning.</p>	<p>The role of CPPs is already part of the Local Governance Review but this recognition is welcome as to the important place of CP in our country's arrangements.</p>



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<b>Progress Report</b>	CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update and Appendices
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Gale Beattie, Chair of CPA Management Group and Aberdeen City Council Director of Commissioning
<b>Report Author</b>	Allison Swanson, Improvement Programme Manager
<b>Date of Report</b>	14 August 2023
<b>Governance Group</b>	CPA Board – 6 September 2023

### Purpose of the Report

This report provides an update on the progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 improvement projects spanning the LOIP and Community Empowerment Strategy. The report also presents the new project charters from Stretch Outcomes 4-9 for consideration and two project end reports.

### Summary of Key Information

#### BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The refreshed Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) was approved by Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 7 July 2021.
- 1.2 On 30 November 2022, the CPA Board approved a New Stretch Outcome 16 within the Community Empowerment Strategy which aimed to achieve “100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026”. Within the new stretch outcome there were 7 further improvement aims setting out what we will improve, by how much and by when.
- 1.3 On 19 April 2023, the Board approved the Children’s Services Strategic Plan 2023-26. As well as approving the Plan, the Board also agreed that the Children and Young People section (Stretch Outcomes 4-9) of the current Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) be amended to reflect the revised Stretch Outcomes and multi-agency improvement aims within the Children’s Services Plan 2023-26. Within the new Stretch Outcomes 4-9 of the updated LOIP there are 34 multi agency improvement aims, 3 of which are continuing projects and 31 of which are new aims. The timescales for initiation of the new aims within the updated Stretch Outcomes 4-9, as well as the timescales for the continuing project charters being reviewed, were approved, which would see all projects initiated by the end of 2023.
- 1.4 As at May 2023, CPA has 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 improvement projects spanning the LOIP and Community Empowerment Strategy.

#### CPA IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME 2021-2023 – OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS TO DATE

- 2.1 Appendix 1 to the report, provides a high level overview of progress across all 16 Stretch Outcomes (SO), as well as a spotlight on each Stretch Outcome, and the underpinning improvement projects.

#### 3 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AIMS ACHIEVED

- 3.1 20 improvement aims (*not including the aims under the previous SO 4-9 replaced in April 2023*) have now achieved their improvement aims and 18 aims have ended.

#### **4 IMPROVEMENT AIMS TO BE ACHIEVED BY 2022 AND 2023**

##### 2022

- 4.1 There were 20 improvement aims to be achieved by 2022, 14 of which have been achieved and 6 were not. 19 of the 20, 2022 improvement aims have now had project end reports approved. 1 final report in relation to project 12.6 has been postponed twice and was due to be considered today but has been delayed.

##### 2023

- 4.2 There are 42 improvement aims to be achieved by 2023, at present 14 have been achieved, 2 have not been achieved and 11 project aims ended. 2 further project end reports are on today's agenda for consideration. The remaining 2023 project aims are currently scheduling their project end reports for submission by February 2024 and this is reported at Appendix 1.
- 4.3 6 live aims have a red ragging status (1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 11.7, 12.9 and 13.2)

#### **5 NEW PROJECT CHARTERS STRETCH OUTCOMES 4-9**

- 5.1 As per the schedule agreed by the CPA Board, 11 new project charters for the improvement aims under Stretch Outcomes 4-9 are contained at Appendix 2 for approval.

#### **6 PROJECT END REPORTS**

- 6.1 Three project end reports were due for today's meeting, two of which (11.3 and 11.4) have been received and are contained at Appendix 3 and one has been delayed (12.6). 12.6 are now reviewing latest drug related death data and project end will come to next meeting.

#### **7 CHAIR OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE GROUP**

- 7.1 Claire Wilson, Chief Officer, Social Work – Adults, Health and Social Care Partnership, has been appointed by the CPA Management Group as Chair of the Community Justice Group.

#### **8 NEXT STEPS**

- 8.1 Projects with aims achieved will continue to report on progress to ensure improvement is sustained and thereafter submit a project end report.
- 8.2 Project aims with charters approved by the CPA Board in September will move to progress reporting.

#### **Recommendations for Action**

It is recommended that the CPA Board:

- i) note and consider the overview of progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 improvement projects spanning the LOIP and Community Empowerment Strategy as contained at Appendix 1;
- ii) approve the 11 project charters as contained at Appendix 2 for initiation; and
- iii) approve the 2 project end reports contained at Appendix 3.

## Opportunities and Risks

Successful delivery of the revised LOIP 2016-26 and Community Empowerment Strategy 2023-26 requires a robust programme management approach to the delivery of the 89 improvement aims. The phased approach to the initiation of the projects in the LOIP to help ensure we are channelling our resources to those projects which are most likely to have the biggest impact. The clear governance arrangements for both continuing and new project charters also ensures that we have effective outcome management arrangements in place to deliver upon the aims in the LOIP in the timescale and supports projects to continue at pace.

## Consultation

Michelle Crombie, Community Planning Manager  
CPA Outcome Improvement Groups  
CPA Lead Contacts Group  
CPA Management Group

## Background Papers

[Community Empowerment Strategy 2023-26](#)  
[Refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2026-26](#) (as updated in April 2023)  
[Children's Services Strategic Plan 2023-26](#)  
[Final Draft Integrated Locality Plans 2021-26 – North, South and Central](#)

### Contact details:

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# CPA Improvement Programme 2021-2023

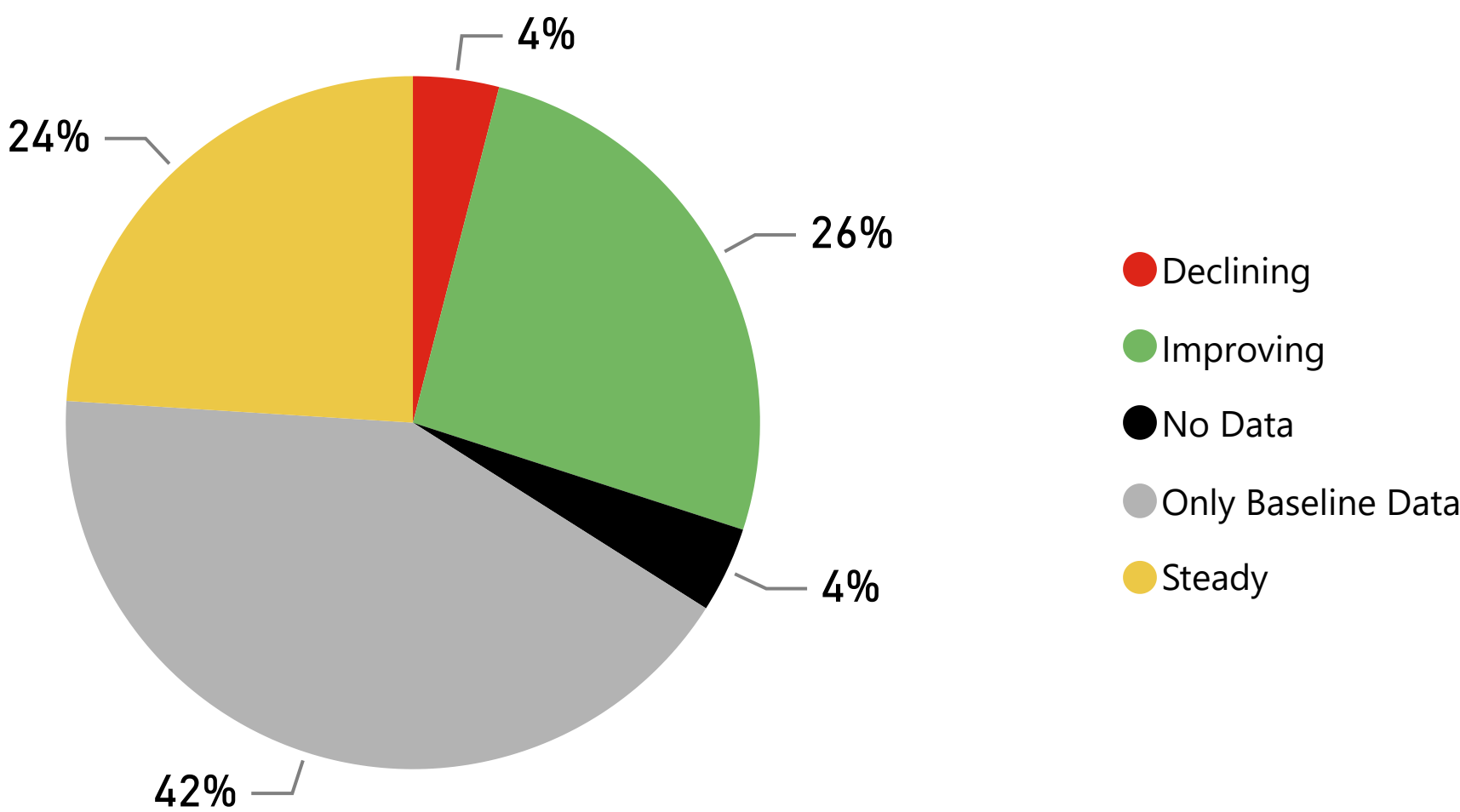
## Overview of Progress to Date

No. of Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	No. of New Charters Due	No. of New Charters Received	Months Since LOIP Published
89	50	20	18	11	11	25

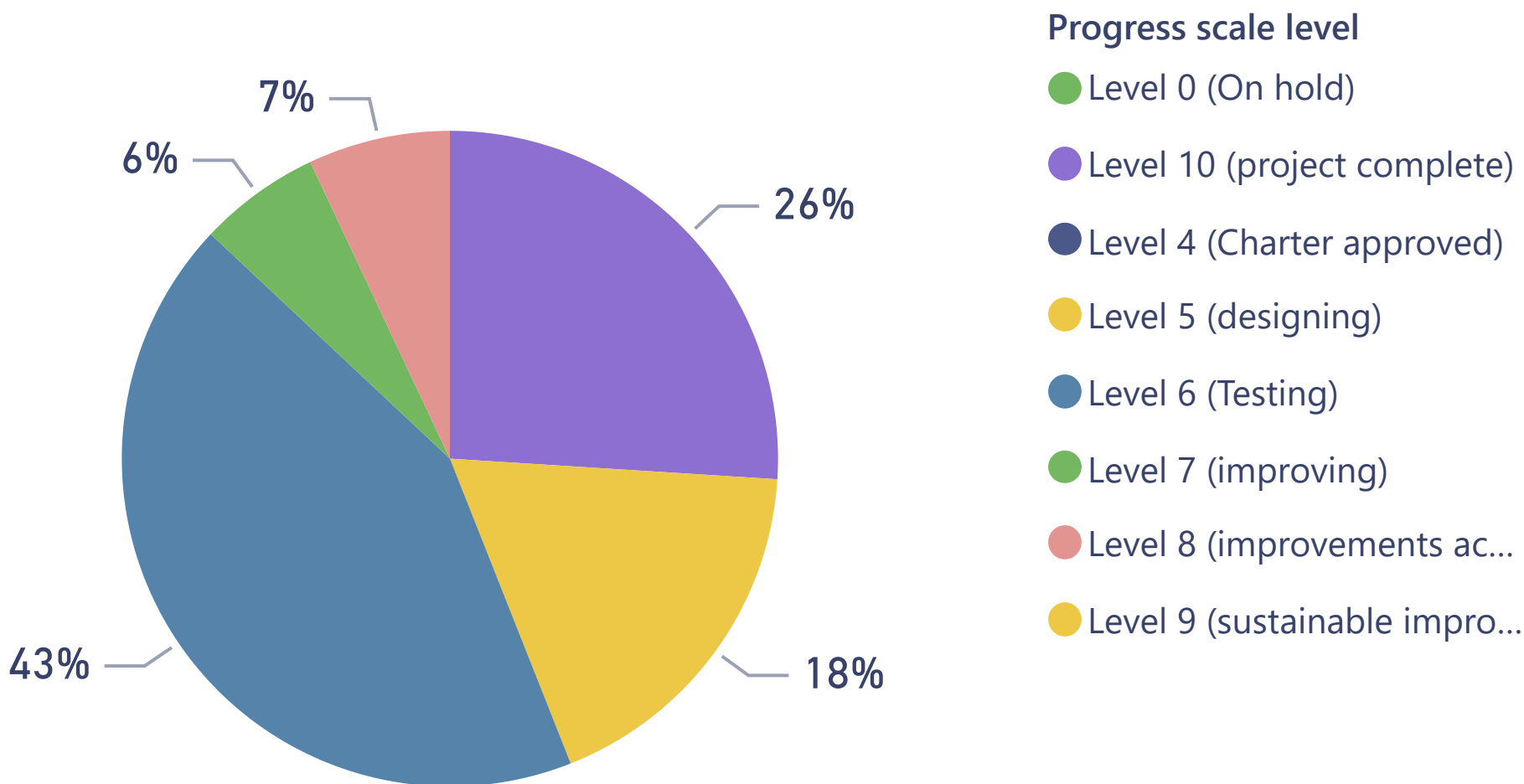
## Overview of Progress by Outcome Improvement Group

Index	OIG	No. of Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Project Aims Ended	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of New still to be submitted
1	Anti-Poverty	6	4	2	2	0
2	Aberdeen Prospers	9	4	5	6	0
3	Children's Services Board	34	13	0	0	10
4	Community Justice	8	3	5	5	0
5	Resilient, Included & Supported	8	7	1	4	0
6	Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	9	6	3	1	0
7	Sustainable City	8	6	2	2	0
8	Community Empowerment Group	7	7	0	0	0

Percentage of Live Projects by Aim Trend



Percentage of Projects by Progress Scale





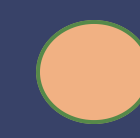
SO	Stretch Outcome	SO Trend	No of. Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	% of New Charters Due Submitted	Overall RAG	Summary and reason for Overall Status
1	No one will suffer due to poverty by 2026.	↓	6	4	2	2	N/A	Off track	Projects 1.1 and 1.6 have ended. Updates needed from all other projects required. Chair meeting with each PM to discuss status.
2	400 unemployed Aberdeen City residents supported into Fair Work by 2026.	↑	4	3	2	1	N/A	On track	Project 2.3 has been achieved and ended. All others are actively testing and showing signs of improvement. See key activity/outcomes.
3	500 Aberdeen City residents upskilled/ reskilled to enable them to move into, within and between economic opportunities as they arise by 2026	↑	5	1	3	4	N/A	On track	Projects 3.1, 3.2, 3.4 and 3.5 have ended. Data has been provided to show improvement for 3.3 but update needed to capture the impact of the change ideas.
4	95% of all children will reach their expected developmental milestones by their 27-30 month review by 2026	→	5	2	0	0	100	On track	4.1 and 4.2 charters have been approved and projects have commenced. Both charters due are on today's agenda.
5	90% of children and young people report they feel listened to all of the time by 2026.	●	5	1	0	0	100	On track	5.1 charter approved and project has commenced. Both charters due are on today's agenda.
6	By meeting the health and emotional wellbeing needs of our care experienced children and young people they will have the same levels of attainment in education and positive destinations as their peers by 2026.	→	6	3	0	0	100	On track	Two projects charters approved on 28/6/23 and one revised charter approved by the CSB in May 23 - all underway. Both charters due are on today's agenda.
7	95% of children living in our priority neighbourhoods (Quintiles 1 & 2) will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026.	→	6	3	0	0	100	On track	Two new charters approved on 28/6/23 one revised charter approved by the CSB in May 23. All live projects underway. One charter is due and is on today's agenda.
8	83.5% fewer young people (under 18) charged with an offence by 2026.	→	5	2	0	0	100	On track	One new charter and one revised charter approved and both projects underway. Two new charters on todays agenda as per schedule.

## Stretch Outcomes 9-16: Current Status

## Overall Rag Key

## On track

## Off track



## At risk

SO	Stretch Outcome	SO Trend	No. of Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	% of New Charters Due Submitted	Overall RAG	Summary and reason for Overall Status
9	100% of our children with Additional Support Needs/disabilities will experience a positive destination.		7	2	0	0	100		Two projects charters approved on 28/6/23 and underway, two further charters are due for today's meeting and both are on the agenda.
10	25% fewer people receiving a first ever Court conviction and 2% fewer people reconvicted within one year by 2026		8	3	5	5	N/A		Projects 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.6 & 10.7 have been achieved and ended. Others progressing.
11	Healthy life expectancy (time lived in good health) is five years longer by 2026.		8	7	4	1	N/A		Project 11.2 aim achieved and ended. Progress of 11.7 impacted due to PM availability & challenges with the number of families volunteering to get involved. Project ends for 11.3 and 11.4 are on today's agenda.
12	Rate of harmful levels of alcohol consumption reduced by 4% and drug related deaths lower than Scotland by 2026.		9	6	1	3	N/A		Project end reports for 12.4, 12.5, 12.8 approved by CPA Board on 28/6/23. 12.4 and 12.5 did not achieve their aims. Project end for 12.6 is overdue and will be submitted to next meeting to enable latest drug related death data to be reflected. Status of change ideas for 12.9 also required.
13	Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by at least 61% by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate		3	3	0	0	N/A		No progress in relation to 13.2 however workshop held, with a new PM and changes identified which are now to be taken forward. 13.1 & 13.3 progressing, however 13.3 highlighting that aim may not be achieved.
14	38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026.		2	2	0	0	N/A		14.2 is testing the bike recycling project which commenced in June 23. 14.1 has one change being tested which is showing postive outcomes, however a workshop is being held to identify further changes. Both to consider if pace/changes will enable aims to be achieved.
15	Addressing the nature crisis by protecting/ managing 26% of Aberdeen’s area for nature by 2026		3	1	2	2	N/A		Projects 15.1 and 15.2 have been achieved and ended. 15.3 progressing. Data for the area of land managed for nature is being collated.
16	100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026		7	7	0	0	N/A		All 7 project charters approved in April 2023 and projects progressing as per updates.

**Trend Key:**  Improving  Declining  Steady  Baseline data only



# Stretch Outcome 1: No one will suffer due to poverty by 2026

## Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of aims achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
↓	6	4	2	2	●

## Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref. ▲	Project Aim	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Project Aim Trend	Project End Due	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
1.1	<u>Increase the number of people using community pantries by 20% by 2023.</u>	Cfine, Sam Leys	↑	N/A - Project Ended - 6/7/22	N, S & C	10	■	Aim achieved - Project Ended.
1.2	<u>Reduce by 50% the number of homes with an EPC rating of F&amp;G by 2023, leading to 100% by 2026.</u>	ACC, Mel Booth	●	Feb 2024	S	6	●	Update needed, last update 06/03/23. Project struggling to make progress - no changes being currently tested. New Chair of Anti Poverty Group met with the PM to discuss, no progress reported since.
1.3	<u>Ensure 100% of people presenting as homeless have a full financial assessment and access to all appropriate benefits by 2023.</u>	ACC, Angela Kazmierzak	↑	Feb 2024	None	6	●	Project unable to start testing with Housing Options Officers as planned due to continued staffing issues and increased demand on the service. The Financial Inclusion Team had continued with the current process which did not always mean we can reach everyone until the beginning March 2023. However, due to demand have been unable to continue this since. No current activity.
1.4	<u>Increase support for those who have been most disadvantaged through the pandemic by 2023.</u>	SHMU, Dave Black	→	Nov 2023	N & S	6	●	Update needed. Project taking forward a new test to see how training individuals from community groups on the financial advice/support available in the City increases uptake of services from people in minority ethnic communities - data on new test now being provided.
1.5	<u>Decrease the number of households in extreme fuel poverty in Aberdeen by 4% by 2023; and reduce the rate of socially rented households in fuel poverty in Aberdeen by 8% by 2023.</u>	Scarf, Lawrence Johnston	●	Feb 2024	N, S & C	6	●	Updated needed, last update 02/05/23. Data on progress towards the aim required and project to ensure changes are multi-agency. New Chair of Anti Poverty Group met with the PM to discuss, no progress reported since.
1.6	<u>Increase the uptake of unclaimed benefits by 10% across Aberdeen City by 2023.</u>	ACC, Angela Kazmierzak	↑	N/A - Project Ended - 30/11/22	N, S & C	10	■	Aim achieved - Project Ended.

## Key Outcomes/Activity

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## Key Issues/Risks

1. Pace & progress of projects 1.2,1.3,1.4 and 1.5 and data for all on progress towards aim and impact of change ideas - no active tests for 1.2 since Feb 2023 and all to ensure multi agency project team meetings are being held to ensure changes are not single system/BAU. 2. 1.3 change idea of testing using the Housing Option Officers to complete the benefit check as part of the homelessness assessment has been delayed due to staffing issues. It is expected this change would enable the aim to be achieved, in meantime the Financial Inclusion Team had continue to complete the assessments, however due to demand have been unable to continue this since March 2023.
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## Latest Outcomes Framework Data

1. In 2021/22, an estimated 20.5% of children (0-15 years) in Aberdeen City were living in poverty (after housing costs) - up from 18.3% in 2020/21 but lower than the rate for Scotland of 24.5%.
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Stretch Outcome 2: 400 unemployed Aberdeen City residents supported into Fair Work by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of LOIP Aims Ended	Overall RAG
↑	4	3	2	1	●

Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	Project End Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
2.1	<u>Increase employer sign up to the Real Living Wage by 5% year on year to 2023 to achieve Real Living Wage City Status by 2026.</u>	↑	Nov 2023	Scottish Enterprise, Martin Barry	N, S & C	8	●	91 employers headquartered in the city are now real Living Wage accredited – a 100% increase since the project started and a 29% increase over the last 12 months. 1,800 workers have received an uplift in wages since the establishment of the real Living Wage movement in the city. Further accreditations are in the pipeline.
2.2	<u>Supporting 50 people to start a business in Aberdeen who will be coming off the benefits system or significantly reducing their benefits through starting a business by 2023 and 100 by 2026.</u>	↑	Nov 2023	Elevator, Roz Taylor/Guilher me De Rosso	N, S & C	7	●	120 referrals of individuals in receipt of universal credits who are investigating starting a business since the start of the programme with 41 individuals starting a business which either takes them off universal credits or significantly reduces their universal credits.
2.3	<u>Support 15 care experienced young people progress to employment through public sector funded employability programmes by 2023.</u>	↑	N/A - Project Ended 19/4/23	ACC, Angela Taylor	N	10	■	Aim achieved - Project End approved 19/4/23.
2.4	<u>Support 50 people into sustained, good quality employment by 2023, and 100 by 2026, with a particular focus on; those from priority neighbourhoods and people over 50.</u>	↑	01/12/2023	SDS, Nicola Graham	N, S & C	6	●	10 people have been supported into employment so far. Project is gathering data from recent activities including a jobs fair where 150 people from priority neighbourhoods got the chance to speak with a coach from DWP. A number of change ideas are in early stages of testing and we can expect to see data coming from these in coming months.

Key Outcomes/Activity

2.1 Real Living Wage - 91 employers headquartered in the city are now real Living Wage accredited – a 100% increase since the project started and a 29% increase over the last 12 months. 1,800 workers have now received an uplift in wages since the establishment of the real Living Wage movement

2.2 Start up businesses – 120 referrals of individuals in receipt of universal credits who are investigating starting a business since the start of the programme with 41 individuals starting a business which either takes them off universal credits or significantly reduces their universal credits.

2.4 Older but Wiser employability support group pilot ran over 8 weeks. Pilot was well received with 7 participants consistently attending the 8 weeks. Travel vouchers were provided to support the participants attend a number of careers fairs which occurred over the 8 week period one out in Dyce and one in Pittodrie.

Key Issues/Risks

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Latest Outcomes Framework Data

In 2021, GVA per head in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire was £31,823 – up slightly from £30,249 in 2020 and higher than the figure for Scotland of £25,736.



Stretch Outcome 3: 500 Aberdeen City residents upskilled/reskilled to enable them to move into, within and between economic opportunities as they arise by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
↑	5	1	3	4	<div></div>

Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	Project End Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
3.1	<u>Increase the number of responsible businesses working with Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA) through Community Benefits and CSR activity by 200% by 2023</u>	↑	N/A - Project Ended 19/4/23	ACC, Charlotte Saunders	N, S & C	10	<div></div>	Aim achieved - Project End report approved 19/4/23.
3.2	<u>By December 2022, increase by 10% the number of people in Aberdeen who: • Have digital access; and • Feel comfortable using digital tools.</u>	↑	NA - Project Ended 19/4/23	ACC, Emma Shanks/Margaret Stewart	N, S & C	10	<div></div>	Aim achieved - Project End report approved 19/4/23.
3.3	<u>Increase the number of people within Aberdeen City qualified with ICT and Digital skills at SCQF Levels 7 and above by 10% by 2023</u>	↑	Nov 2023	RGU, John Issacs/Aberdeen City Council, Charlie Love	None	8	<div></div>	Data has been provided to show continued achievement of aim, but impact of change ideas still to be provided.
3.4	<u>Increase the number of Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships by 5% by 2022.</u>	↑	N/A - Project Ended 28/6/23	Nescol, Duncan Abernethy	N & C	10	<div></div>	Aim achieved and project end report approved on 28/6/23
3.5	<u>80% of young people will successfully complete their Modern Apprenticeship programme by 2022.</u>	↓	N/A - Project Ended 28/6/23	Nescol, Ian Runcie	N & S	11	<div></div>	Project end report approved on 28/6/23 - aim not achieved.

Key Outcomes/Activity

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Key Issues/Risks

3.3 - Project update needed to show impact of change ideas
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Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report
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Stretch Outcome 4: 95% of all children will reach their expected developmental milestones by their 27-30 month review by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	% of New Charters Due Submitted	No. of LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	Overall RAG
➡	100	5	2	0	<div></div>

Project Aim Status

SO	Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	New/Revised Project Charter Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
▼								
4	<a href="#">4.1</a>	<a href="#">100% of urgent requests for first stage infant formula and nutritional support for pre-school children are met by 2024.</a>	<div></div>	May 2023	NHSG, Emma Williams	5	<div></div>	Charter approved, project reporting to commence. Working in partnership with CFine & their SAFE team to support families. Pathway almost agreed. Exploring the logistics of a cash first approach. Current pathway is only for office hours, need to create one that supports evenings/weekends. Project have almost completed the official pathway to test. On the advice of parents, the proposed pathway has been renamed and now incorporates breastfeeding in a crisis (food insecurity & maximising income). Baseline data still required.
4	<a href="#">4.2</a>	<a href="#">Increase by 10% the no. of parents with children under 5 who are completing a full benefits check by 2024.</a>	<div></div>	May 2023	NHSG, Emma Williams	5	<div></div>	Charter approved, project reporting to commence. About to test the expansion of the pathway to allow other NHS staff to create a direct referral to the Money Advice Team. This will incorporate teams that work with families e.g. Childsmile etc. Also need to review current pathway for health referrals to the Financial Inclusion Team.
4	<a href="#">4.3</a>	Increase by 40% the number of Peep programmes delivered by multi-agency partners by 2025.	<div></div>	Aug 2023	ACC, Natasha Martens	3	<div></div>	Charter on today's agenda.
4	<a href="#">4.4</a>	Improve dental health at primary 1 to the national average by reducing the levels of dental health in areas of deprivation to 50% by 2025.	<div></div>	Aug 2023	NHSG, Pippa Robbie	3	<div></div>	Charter on today's agenda.
4		Reduce by 5% the no. of children aged 0-4 who are referred to Children’s Social Work as a result of neglect arising from parental mental health, addiction and domestic abuse 2026.	<div></div>	Oct 2023	ACHSCP, Pamela Black	3	<div></div>	Project team and charter being developed. Project scoping to see what is available for signposting families and working with child protection specialist nurse to see if opportunities from record audits for earlier intervention.

Key Outcomes/Activity

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Key Issues/Risks

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Latest Outcomes Framework Data

In 2021-22, 87.3% of children met their developmental milestones – substantially lower than the figure for 2020-21 of 97.1% but higher than the figure for Scotland of 82.1%.













Stretch Outcome 5: 90% of children and young people report they feel listened to all of the time by 2026.

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	% of New Charters Due Submitted	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
	5	100	1	0	0	

Project Aim Status

SO	Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	New/Revised Project Charter Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
5	<a href="#">5.1</a>	<u>100% of children leaving care are referred to services that can meet assessed mental health needs within 4 weeks of the health assessment being completed by 2024.</u>		May 2023	NHSG, Phil Mackie	5		Charter approved, changes being designed. Project team currently exploring the potential for linkage to Request for Assistance V2 platform
5	<a href="#">5.2</a>	Increase by 5% the number of S1-S6 pupils who report that they feel confident by 2025.		Aug 2023	ACC, Gael Simpson	3		Charter on today's agenda.
5	<a href="#">5.3</a>	Increase by 10% the % of children living in areas of deprivation who feel safe in their communities by 2025.		Aug 2023	ACC, Craig Singer	3		Charter on today's agenda.
5		Reduce demand on Tier 3 services by 5% by 2026.		Oct 2023	NHSG, CAMHS, Siobhan Cowie	3		Project team and charter being developed.
5		Reduce waiting time for interventions starting, by each tier 2/3 service by 5% by 2026.		Oct 2023	NHSG, CAMHS, Siobhan Cowie	3		Project team and charter being developed.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report

Stretch Outcome 6: By meeting the health and emotional wellbeing needs of our care experienced children and young people they will have the same levels of attainment in education and positive destinations as their peers by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	% of New Charters Due Submitted	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
➡	6	100	3	0	0	●

Project Aim Status

SO	Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	New/Revised Project Charter Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
6	6.1	Increase the number of care experienced young people by 10% receiving multiagency throughcare/aftercare support by 2023.	●	May 2023	ACC, Isabel McDonnell	6	●	22/23 data awaited. Recent audit in May 2023 of a sample of files of young people aged 16-19 years old was undertaken. The audit was of Children’s Social Work case files they (who met the local criteria for having a pathway plan) were reviewed to identify the presence of 1. multi-agency planning and 2. multi-agency support. The audit team found that the voice and views of young people in their planning and support arrangements were evident. The writing of the pathways plans in first-person, and the co-production of this with young people themselves, were seen to be tangible examples of listening to the young person and their influence over the planning and support provided.
6	6.2	100% of children and young people leaving care are offered a health assessment to identify gaps in their health provision and needs by 2024.	●	May 2023	NHSG, Phil Mackie	5	●	Charter approved, changes being designed.
6	6.3	Increase by 100% the number of partners supporting kinship carers by 2023.	●	May 2023	ACC, Nicola Clark	5	●	900% increase in the number of partners supporting kinship carers, from 2 to 20 from Jan to June 2023. During this period we have also seen a 89% increase in the number of carers receiving specific support. 36 partners and carers attended the information events, following which we’ve seen a direct increase in number of partners supporting kinship carers.
6	6.5	Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.	●	Aug 2023	ACC, Tam Walker	3	●	Charter on today's agenda.
6	6.4	80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.	●	Aug 2023	ACC, Amy Evans	3	●	Charter on today's agenda.
6		80% of care experienced parents will report that they believed they were sufficiently prepared for parenthood by 2026.	●	Oct 2023	NHSG, Fiona Mielle	3	●	Project team and charter being developed.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

At 31st July 2022, there were 480 looked after children in Aberdeen City – down from 515 the previous year. The percentage of LAC is 1.2% - the same as Scotland.

At 31st July 2022, 38.5% of LAC were in kinship care (at home with parents or with friends/relatives) – similar to the previous year at 38.8%.

In 2021-22, 100% of care leavers had a pathway plan – same as in previous 3 years and higher than the rate for Scotland of 69%.

At 31st July 2022, 16% of LAC were 16+ years - up from 14% the previous year.



Stretch Outcome 7: 95% of all our children, including those living in our priority neighbourhoods (Quintiles 1 & 2), will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	% of New Charters Due Submitted	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
➡	6	100	3	0	0	●

Project Aim Status

SO	Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	New/Revised Project Charter Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
7	7.1	Increase the % of learners entering a positive and sustained destination to be ahead of the Virtual Comparator for all groups by 2025.	●	May 2023	ACC, Mark Jones	5	●	Project progressing change ideas. A meeting with Pathways Advocates has been scheduled for 14th June, with the topic to be on monitoring & tracking. A set of expectations will be shared at that meeting for implementation prior to the summer break.
7	7.2	Increase to 3 the delivery of co-located and delivered services by health and education by 2024.	●	May 2023	ACC, Alison Horne	5	●	Charter approved, project reporting to commence. Following focus group with S5&6 pupils in July, options for further tests of change from the group being discussed.
7	7.3	Increase by 10% the rate of completion of NPA/FA/HNC courses available to young people across the city by June 2024.	●	May 2023	ACC, Mark Jones	6	●	ABZ Campus Phase 1 launched w/c 5th June. Detailed discussions are already under way to progress Work Focus areas for Phase 2.
7	7.4	Increase to 50 the no. of people completing more integrated health and care courses by 2025.	●	Aug 2023	NESCOL, Alesia Du Plessis	3	●	Charter on today's agenda.
7		75% of identified multi-agency staff reporting confidence in identifying and taking action on harm by 2026.	●	Oct 2023	ACC, Lisa Williams	3	●	Project team and charter being developed.
7		Increase by 20% the number of young people completing courses aligned to support the digital and tech sector by 2026.	●	Oct 2023	ACC, Charlie Love	3	●	Project team and charter being developed.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

In 2021/22, 90.8% of school leavers were in a positive destination at follow-up – down from 92.1% in 2020/21 and lower than the rate for Scotland of 93.5%.

In 2021/22, 85% of leavers from SIMD 1 were in a positive destination at follow-up – up from 81.5% in 2020/21 but lower than the rate for Scotland of 89.7%.

In 2021/22, 88.6% of leavers from SIMD 2 were in a positive destination at follow-up – down from 91.6% in 2020/21 and lower than the rate for Scotland of 91.8%.

In 2021/22, 64% of leavers achieved literacy and numeracy at Level 5 – down slightly from 65% in 2020/21 and lower than the virtual comparator at 67%.

In 2021/22, 88% of leavers achieved literacy and numeracy at Level 4 – same as in 2020/21 and slightly lower than the virtual comparator at 89%.

Stretch Outcome 8: 83.5% fewer young people (under 18) charged with an offence by 2026.

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	% of New Charters Due Submitted	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of LOIP Aims Ended	Overall RAG
➔	5	100	2	0	0	●

Project Aim Status

SO	Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	New/Revised Project Charter Due	Lead Organisation, Project Manager	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
8	8.1	Reduce by 15% the number of instances of youth anti-social behaviour calls to Police Scotland by 2025.	●	May 2023	Police Scotland, Jordan Walker	6	●	Change in PM. Jordan Walker (Police Scotland) an will lead on the ASB Project and will utilise the Community Safety Partnership for development and testing of changes.
8	8.2	Reduce by 15% the number of care experienced young people reported missing from Children’s homes to Police Scotland by 2024.	●	May 2023	Police Scotland, Kim Wood/Jen Cordiner	5	●	Project progressing. Project team have met and agreed to take forward the first change re referral pathway. The project are developing this change with a process map reflecting the roles of partners and to identify referral pathway to test. CEYP are also inputting into the design of the referral pathway. PM has changed due to change in position.
8	8.4	Increase by 5% the no. of 16/17 year olds who are diverted from prosecution by 2025.	●	Aug 2023	ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne	3	●	Charter on today's agenda.
8	8.3	90% of 16/17 year olds appearing at Sherriff Court in relation to Lord Advocate’s guidance will have had an assessment of their community support needs by 2025.	●	Aug 2023	ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne	3	●	Charter on today's agenda.
8		Reduce by 20% the number of care experienced young people charged with an offence by 2025.	●	Oct 2023	Police Scotland, Kim Wood	3	●	Project team and charter being developed.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

In 2021/22, 588 juveniles were identified as accused – up from 483 in 2020/21.



Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	% of New Charters Due Submitted	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
	7	100	2	0	0	

Project Aim Status

SO	Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	New/Revised Project Charter Due	Lead Organisation, Project Manager	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
9	9.1	Increase by 20% the number of registered young carers accessing support from the Young Carers service by 2025.		May 2023	Barnardos, Carole Chambers	6		Charter approved, project progressing.
9	9.2	Increase by 20% the number of families of children with autism or awaiting diagnosis accessing support prior to diagnosis and reduce the interval between referral and diagnosis by 2024.		May 2023	NHSG, Wilma Paxton-Docherty	5		Charter approved and project progresseing. Baseline data being developed and report on resourcing of the tests to be considered by the next CSB.
9	9.3	Increase by 5%, the percentage of young people with additional support needs/disability entering a positive destination by 2025.		Aug 2023	ACC, Mhairi Shewan	3		Charter on today's agenda.
9	9.4	By 2025, 90% of families with children with an additional support need or disability will indicate that they have access to peer and community support that meets their needs.		Aug 2023	NHSG, Anne Brockman	3		Charter on today's agenda.
9		Increase by 10%, the percentage of children and young people with additional support needs (ASN) and/or a disability accessing full time education by 2026.		Oct 2023	Mhairi Shewan, ACC	3		Project team and charter being developed.
9		90% of identified multi-agency staff working with children and young people with disabilities will report confidence in identifying and taking action on how harm presents in children with additional support needs/disabilities by 2026.		Oct 2023	NHSG, Jill Gibbon	3		Project team and charter being developed.
9		Increase by 10% the number of children experiencing child protection processes who have access to a professional utilising their alternative communication system by 2026.		Oct 2023	ACC, Claire Graham	3		Project team and charter being developed.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report

Stretch Outcome 10: 25% fewer people receiving a first Court conviction and 2% fewer people reconvicted within one year by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
▼ ↑	8	3	5	5	<div></div>

Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Aim Trend	Project End Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
10.1	Increase by 10% those individuals, aged 21+ and not subject to statutory throughcare arrangements, who access support services upon release from HMP Grampian by 2022.	↑	N/A - Project Ended - 6/7/22	SPS, Mike Hebden	None	10	<div></div>	Aim achieved - Project End report approved on 6/7/22
10.2	Increase to 30 in total, the number of individuals who are on a custodial sentence, on a Community Payback Order with a Supervision Requirement, on Unpaid Work Orders, on Remand or who have been Diverted from Prosecution who are being supported to make progress on the Employability Pipeline by 2022	↑	N/A - Project Ended - 15/2/23	SDS, Nicola Graham	N	10	<div></div>	Aim achieved - Project End report approved on 15/2/23
10.3	Reduce the number of wilful fires by 10% by 2022	↑	N/A - Project Ended 19/4/23	SFRS, Andy Buchan	None	10	<div></div>	Aim achieved and project end report approved on 19/4/23
10.4	100% increase in hate crimes reported to police by 2023.	↑	Feb 2024	GREC, Ross MacKay	C	6	<div></div>	New PM started in July 23. Project on Track. From the baseline period, the 22/23 data is showing a 49% increase in reporting from the baseline of 231, with 344 crimes reported. Community members have been involved in the development of the poster awareness campaign, including feeding into what messages to promote, as well as the look of the poster. The poster has now been finalised and launched in July.
10.5	Decrease the number of incidents of domestic abuse reported to the Police by 15% by 2023.	→	Feb 2024	ACC, Lucy Simpson	N	6	<div></div>	Project progressing. Data for 22/23 expected in Nov 23. Training ongoing with 517 staff have completed Domestic Abuse Training in 2022 and 94 between Jan-June 23. 77 women in total received Own My Life Training in 22/23 with 8 further receiving this in Q1 23/24. In addition, in house Core Safe and Together training took place in May with 9 staff members attending. Further sessions are being organised for September and October. Positive feedback on the training detailed in update. Engagement with young people planned to co-design media on what domestic abuse looks like for young people.
10.6	Increase by 15% victims of domestic abuse receiving support by 2022.	↑	N/A - Project Ended - 15/2/23	ACC, Lucy Simpson	C	10	<div></div>	Aim achieved - Project End report approved on 6/7/22
10.7	Increase by 10% the number of clients who access assessment/support/treatment/services in relation to mental health issues:- in Police custody; on a community disposal; in HMP Grampian by 2023.	↑	N/A - Project Ended 28/6/23	ACHSCP, John Donaghey	None	10	<div></div>	Aim achieved and project end report approved on 28/6/23
10.8	Reduce the number of drug related deaths occurring within 6 months of liberation from custody from 10 to zero by 2023.	↑	Nov 2023	ACHSCP, Fiona Wright	None	7	<div></div>	Number of drug related deaths occurring within 6 months of liberation from custody has reduced by 5 in 2021, data for 2022 awaited. Sharing of information has started between prison, court and IDS to track potential unplanned liberations from prison, coming through court and are on Medication Assisted Treatment, 10 individuals indetified for joint working model between Mar-June 2023. 26 naloxone kits distributed by Justice Social Work between Sept 22-Jun 23) 101 Naloxone/Nyxoid kits have been collected at point of liberation between October 2022 and April 2023. Plans for community engagement and codesign of change ideas are in discussion

Key Outcomes/Activity

10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.6 & 10.7 have all achieved their aims and projects ended. 10.4 From the baseline period, the 22/23 data is showing a 49% increase in reporting from the baseline of 231, with 344 crimes reported. 10.5 There has been a 31% increase in the number of self-referrals for support to ACC Domestic Abuse Team were made from 42 in 21/22 to 55 in 22/23. Promotion of the new domestic abuse phoneline is ongoing to raise awareness of the service and ability to self-refer for support.

Key Issues/Risks



Stretch Outcome 11: Healthy life expectancy (timelived in good health) is five years longer by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
➡	8	7	4	1	●

Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Project Aim Trend	Project End Due	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
11.1	<u>Reduce the rolling 3-year average number of suicides in Aberdeen to below 26 (2019) by 2023.</u>	Police Scotland, Barry Stewart	➡	Feb 2024	N, S & C	6	●	Project progressing. Following a suspension during the pandemic, ASIST Training for Trainers courses are now available and two are being run in the coming months as such, the scope for offering ASIST training in Aberdeen will increase significantly. Impact of changes to be provided.
11.2	<u>Increase opportunities for people to increase their contribution to communities (volunteering) by 10% by 2023.</u>	ACC, Colin Wright	⬆	N/A - Project Ended - 19/4/23	N & C	10	■	Aim has been achieved. Project End report approved on 19/4/23.
11.3	<u>Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.</u>	ACHSCP, Chris Smillie	⬆	June 2023 Aug 2023	N, S & C	8	●	Project end report on today's agenda.
11.4	<u>Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023</u>	AHSCP, Chris Smillie	⬆	Aug 2023	N & C	8	●	Project end report on today's agenda.
11.5	<u>Reduce youth homelessness by 6% by 2023.</u>	ACC, Graeme Gardner	➡	Feb 2024	None	6	●	Data is showing that the rates of homelessness amongst young people reduced in 21/22 with the improvement aim achieved. However, data for 22/23 showed an increase amongst young people. We're testing a community hosting model to prevent young people from presenting as homeless. A small number of hosts have been recruited and a "soft launch" agreed. Also testing whether provision of continued support to 16 and 17 year olds who leave the homeless process without a tenancy or completing their time in supported accommodation reduces repeated presentations.
11.6	<u>Increase the number of unpaid carers feeling supported by 10% by 2023.</u>	Quarriers, Andrew Falconer	⬆	Nov 2024	N & S	8	●	Aim achieved and project end report being prepared for the next meeting
11.7	<u>To support 50 low income families in priority neighbourhood to improve eating behaviours and adopt positive lifestyle choices to help towards a healthy weight by 2023.</u>	NHSG, Tracy Davis	●	Feb 2024	N, S & C	6	●	Update needed, no data to show progress towards the overall aim. Chair of RIS meeting with PM to discuss status and next steps. Support to promote the project across communities, school newsletter to reach target population offered, however no comms received to date.
11.8	<u>Refer 20% of people living with COPD or other respiratory conditions into specific PR physical activity and other support programmes delivered in community settings by 2023.</u>	NHSG, Ben Elliot	➡	Feb 2024	N & C	7	●	Project progressing. Data improving as a result of increasing face to face appointments and AHP Remobilisation, however there was a delay in leaflet production and the project will test this change to Oct 23 to assess the impact on self-management numbers. Data streams are starting to come from partners Sport Aberdeen and RGU to see true benefit on partnership leaflet. All colleagues from Pulmonary Rehab support have been linking in with the new Community Respiratory Team to maximise understanding of support across the city.

Key Outcomes/Activity

11.3 and 11.4 end reports on todays agenda.  
End Homelessness - On Tuesday 27 of June, we were delighted to welcome Prince William to the Tillydrone Campus as part of his UK tour to launch Homeward. <https://homewards.org.uk/> Aberdeen has been selected as one of 6 areas of the UK to demonstrate that it is possible to end Homelessness. The programme gives Aberdeen access to £500,000 of funding to develop this work, a network of international and UK experts on homelessness and the chance to build a flagship project with the foundation. As the programme develops, we will weave together the Ending Homelessness Group and the Homeward project to ensure they support each other.  
11.6 - Launch of Wee Blether Pilot. Wee Blether is a test for change pilot scheme aimed to reduce social isolation by bringing Carers together for company and a chat, and to build better links to the local community by working with partnership with local authorities. The Wee Blether groups are targeted at our unpaid Carers aged 55+ and they are welcome to bring their cared-for person along. We have 2 WB group up and running in the Middlefield Community Hub every Monday and at the Bon Accord Centre. The Wee Blether group are postcode-centred in order to concentrate support and community building to areas where Carers are based.

Key Issues/Risks

11.1 data showing an increase  
11.5 Data showing a 22% increase amongst young people (18-24 year old) compared to the same period in 21/22  
11.7 Pace and progress of project 11.7 - recruitment of families to get involved in testing has been slow - update needed



Stretch Outcome 12: Rate of harmful levels of alcohol consumption reduced by 4% and drug related deaths lower than Scotland by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
↑	9	6	1	3	

Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	Project End Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
12.1	<u>100% of vulnerable young people, who are at-risk of developing problem substance use, have access to evidence-based Prevention &amp; Early Intervention (incl Universal, Selective &amp; Indicated Prevention support) by 23.</u>	↑	Nov 2023	ACC, Steve McConnachie	None	6		Project progressing with 100% of vulnerable young people, identified by Education via requests for assistance, who may be at-risk of developing problem substance use, having had access to evidence-based Prevention & early Intervention. Data in relation to vulnerable young people supported by Children's Social work being gathered
12.2	<u>To decrease the number of 13 and 15 year olds who have reported using substances in Aberdeen to below the national average by 2023, through curriculum delivery and a whole population approach</u>	↑	Nov 2023	ACC, Niki Paterson	None	7		Project progressing see key outcomes. New substance use guidance launched across all schools late May 23. A launch 'surgery' so that school leaders could ask any questions around the guidance so that implementation is fully understood was held. Two copies will be issued - full guidance plus a shorter' pick up and use' version for practical purposes.
12.3	<u>Increase % of the population who feel informed about using alcohol responsibly and Increase by 10% the percentage of adults in Aberdeen City who are non drinkers or drink alcohol in a low risk way by 2023.</u>	↓	Feb 2024	ACC, Lucy Simpson	N	6		Try Dry app launched the first week of July to coincide with Alcohol Awareness week. Data continues to be awaited from ADA from the 'alcohol' quiz. This data will be broken down by priority neighbourhood. 44 ACC staff have been trained in alcohol awareness in Feb 2023 and further to this Alcohol Brief Intervention training commenced with 9 Housing and Support Staff trained to date, this is expanding the reach of ABIs and increasing access within our priority neighbourhoods.
12.4	<u>Increase the number of alcohol brief interventions delivered by Primary Care providers and other professionals to above levels achieved in 17/18 by 2023</u>	↓	N/A - Project Ended 28/6/23	NHS, John Mooney	None	11		Project end report approved on 28/6/23 - aim not achieved.
12.5	<u>Increase the uptake of alcohol treatment by improving access to alcohol services and ensuring they are local, integrated and targets areas of greatest need by 10% year on year by 2023.</u>	→	N/A - Project Ended 28/6/23	ADA, Fraser Hoggan	N & C	11		Project end report approved on 28/6/23 - aim not achieved.
12.6	<u>Reduce the incidence of fatal drug overdose through innovative developments and by increasing the distribution of naloxone by 10% year on year by 2022.</u>	↑	Apr, June, now Sept 2023	ACHSCP, Simon Rayner	S	6		Project end report was to be considered by CPA Board on 28/6/23, however was not submitted. Project now reviewing latest drug related death data and project end will come to next meeting.
12.7	<u>Increase opportunities for individuals who have been at risk of Blood Borne Viruses, being tested and accessing treatment by 2023.</u>	→	Nov 2023	NHS, John Mooney	C	6		Antibody testing returned to pre-Covid levels in 2022 and this year is expected to exceed them, with a projected total of 11,072 tests. There has been a notable increase in testing by drugs services and the Cepheid machine has been used for an additional 82 tests (May 2022-May 2023), in a range of locations across the city. Cepheid has been instrumental in reaching those who would not engage with the usual services, and may be more acceptable because it is non-invasive.
12.8	<u>Increase uptake of drug treatment and specifically within Locality Areas by 10% each year by 2023.</u>	↑	N/A - Project Ended 28/6/23	ADA, Simon Pringle	N & C	10		Aim achieved and project end report approved on 28/6/23
12.9	<u>Increase the number of people undertaking recovery from drug and alcohol issues who are being supported to maintain drug / alcohol free lives in their community by 2023.</u>	→	Feb 2024	ACHSCP, Simon Rayner	N & C	6		Update needed, no confirmation of active testing and status of planned tests re employability and incentives required.

Key Outcomes/Activity

32% reduction in drug related deaths since 2021 and 22% since 2017 baseline. The 5 year average drug related death rates for Aberdeen are now lower than Scotland.

12.1 100% of vulnerable young people, identified by Education via requests for assistance, who may be at-risk of developing problem substance use, have had access to evidence-based Prevention & Early Intervention.

12.2 Compared with last year as a percentage of the total cohort there has been a decrease from 28% to 23% of 13-15year olds having had a drink and a decrease from 4.6% to 3.7% of 13-15year olds who have tried drugs.

12.3 - Try Dry app launched the first week of July to coincide with Alcohol Awareness week. 8 Housing and Support Officers have been trained in ABI so far. Further training will be arranged for after the summer.

12.7 82 blood borne virus tests using the cepheid testing completed, of which there were 10 positive cases, of which 60% engaged in therapy for Hepatitis C.

12.9 There has been a 125% increase in no. of people completing stage 4/5 recovery with ARC (drugs) in 2022/23 (18 people compared with 8 in 21/22). There has been a 9% decrease in the number of people at stages 4/5 recovery with ARC from 288 in 21/22 to 263 in 22/23.

Key Issues/Risks

12.3 Percentage of City Voice respondents reporting that they are aware of drinking guidelines of 14 units per week has decreased from 66 to 47%. A further survey will be undertaken in Sept 2023.

12.9 - status of tests required. There has been a 14% decrease in no. of people completing stage 4/5 recovery with ARCA (alcohol) in 2022/23 (51 people compared with 59 in 21/22). Similarly, there has been a 21% decrease in the number of people at stages 4/5 recovery with ARC (alcohol) from 177 in 21/22 to 139 in 22/23.

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

1. In Q3 2022/23, 113 people accessed specialist drug treatment – up from 97 in Q2.
2. In Q3 2022/23, 90 people accessed specialist alcohol treatment services – down from 95 in Q2.



Stretch Outcome 13: Addressing climate change by reducing Aberdeen's carbon emissions by at least 61% by 2026 and adapting to the impacts of our changing climate

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No. of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
↑	3	3	0	0	

Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	Project End Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
13.1	Reduce public sector carbon emissions by at least 7% by 2023.	→	Feb 2024	ACC, Kat Ramsay	None	6		Project progressing with 75 green champions, a 127% increase since June 2021 and currently have 1 initiative ongoing - repair what you wear. Since the project started 204.944kgCO2e carbon emissions have been saved from the initiatives undertaken by the Green Champions.
13.2	Reduce the generation of waste in Aberdeen by 8% by 2023.	→	Feb 2024	NHS, Phil Mackie	C	6		No project activity this year. A new Project Manager has been agreed along with identification of new change ideas. Project now focusing on changes linked to community hubs and food waste. Project remains red until progress of the new changes reported.
13.3	Community led resilience plans in place for areas most vulnerable to flooding by 2023, leading to resilience plans in place across all areas of Aberdeen by 2026.	→	Feb 2024	SFRS, Richard Finlay ACC, Fiona Mann	N & C	6		Project planning a community resilience conference is happening on Monday 2nd October 2023 at the Beach Ballroom – for public sector colleagues and the public in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. Aim is to promote resilience and will be held annually for 3 years. SSEN have given £125K to support vulnerable people (e.g. batteries to those whose lives depend on electrical equipment). Other work has stalled over last few months due to capacity issues of leads and has shown that community resilience groups are not yet self-sustaining

Key Outcomes/Activity

13.1 Since the project started 204.944kgCO2e carbon emissions have been saved from the initiatives undertaken by the Green Champions. In June 2021, the project started with 33 green champions within ACC, there are now 75 Green Champions across 4 CPA partners – a 127% increase.

Key Issues/Risks

- 1. 13.1 - data on impact of initiatives being taken forward by all partner green champions being collected.
- 2. 13.2 - Status of project - no active changes at present and data on the impact of the single change idea tested to date and how it supported achievement of the overall aim is not available.
- 3. 13.3- project highlighting that aim is unlikely to be achieved by end of 2023.

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report

Stretch Outcome 14: Increase sustainable travel: 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of LOIP Aims Ended	Overall RAG
➡	2	2	0	0	●

Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	Project End Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
<a href="#">14.1</a>	<a href="#">Increase % of people who walk as one mode of travel by 10% by 2023.</a>	➡	Nov 2023	Nestrans, Kelly Wiltshire	N & C	6	●	Project just testing one change at present - which is to get a series of park benches installed on Westburn Road and around the Foresterhill Campus. This was raised by a Community Connector to encourage more people to walk to the Foresterhill Campus, if there were places to rest and stop. Positive impact being seen from first follow up pedestrain count - see key outcomes/progress. Project Team now identifying further changes to be tested.
<a href="#">14.2</a>	<a href="#">Increase % of people who cycle as one mode of travel by 2% by 2023.</a>	➡	Nov 2023	Nestrans, Kelly Wiltshire	N, S & C	6	●	Bike recycling project commenced on 10 June. Data from cycling counters still to be analysed.Project to ensure impact of changes can be provided and to consider timescales for testing and if changes/pace of testing will achieve the aim.

Key Outcomes/Activity

14.1 First follow up pedestrian count on Westburn Road/Hutcheon Street held in June 2023 following installation of the park benches to see whether they had an impact on walking numbers. Count shows an increase in the number of people walking, with a 3% increase at site 1 (Westburn Road) from 956 to 988 and a 25% increase at site 2 (Hutcheon Street) from 1747 to 2188.

Key Issues/Risks

14.1 & 14.2 - Pace of testing and reporting of data on the impact of the change ideas tested

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report

Stretch Outcome 15: Addressing the nature crisis by protecting/managing 26% of Aberdeen's area for nature by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
➡	3	1	2	2	🟢

Project Aim Status

Live Project Ref.	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	Project End Due	Lead Partner, Project Manager	Locality Link	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
15.1	<a href="#">Increase the number of community run green spaces by a minimum of 8 that are organised and self-managed for both people and nature by 2023.</a>	⬆️	N/A - Project Ended - 6/7/22	ACC, Steven Shaw	N, S & C	10	🟢	Aim achieved - Project End report approved on 6/7/22
15.2	<a href="#">Increase community food growing in schools, communities and workplaces by 12 2023.</a>	⬆️	N/A - Project Ended - 30/11/22	ACC, Steven Shaw	N, S & C	10	🟢	Aim achieved - Project End report approved on 30/11/22
15.3	<a href="#">At least 23 organisations across all sectors in Aberdeen pledging to manage at least 10% of their land for nature by 2023 (23BY23) and at least 26% by 2026 (26BY26).</a>	🟡	Feb 2024	ACC, Steven Shaw	S	6	🟡	Update needed. Further change ideas identified and to be taken forward to support achievement of the aim and overall Stretch Outcome.

Key Outcomes/Activity

To date 80 organisations and individual/ household pledges have been made. 21 organisations have given their pledge, of which 5 have committed to the managing land for nature part of it. 17% of Aberdeen land area protected for nature. Data for the area of land managed for nature is being collated.

Key Issues/Risks

Baseline data for protected area being managed for nature for overall Stretch Outcome required - group looking at this at present.

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report



STRETCH OUTCOME 16: 100% increase in the proportion of citizens who feel able to participate in decisions that help change things for the better by 2026

Overall Progress

SO Trend	No of. Project Aims ▼	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
	7	7	0	0	

Key Outcomes/Activity

16.2 The Aberdeen Young Ambassadors are a group of children and young people who have been working with Creative Learning, to ensure that C&YP’s voice is amplified and considered within the City centre and Beach Master planning process, In June 23 they went of research visit to meet with other C&YP in Regensburg as part of Burgerfest to experience and learn how Article 12 in the UNCRC ‘I have the right to be listened to and taken seriously’ are embedded in the City. There will be a report to follow based on their learning and how that can inform what we do in Aberdeen.

16.4 - There have been approximately 14 notes of interest in LEG meetings since the community gathering on the 13th of May. These have been responded to and we will see if they attend the next scheduled LEGs in their area. The Central LEG meeting held on 13 June was attended by two community members who had registered their interest in locality planning at the Community Gathering.

16.6 - The Woodside community website has been designed and includes key themes and functionality which have been influenced by community volunteers and key community stakeholders. Following a presentation at the Woodside Network meeting on 7th June, a meeting is being planned with key community stakeholders where the website will be introduced and tested. Roles and responsibilities for content uploading and moderation will be decided and training delivered. The site will then go live.

A coordinated campaign for Mental health Awareness Week took place from 15th – 21st May 2023. This included most of the key statutory and third sector organisations supporting this area of work in the city.

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

A Community Empowerment edition of City Voice was carried out in July. Stretch Outcome 16 is measured by the answers to the questions we ask the panel about influence and sense of control. The overall score for influence and sense of control was 3 out of 7, with 16.7% of people scoring 5 and above. This is significantly lower than when we last asked this question in 2021 (24%) and in 2020 (27%).

Live Project Ref. ▲	Project Aim	Project Aim Trend	Lead Organisation, Project Manager	Current progress scale	Project Progress RAG	Summary and Reason for RAG
16.1	<u>Increase the rate and representativeness of the response to Aberdeen City Voice to 63% by 2024.</u>	▲	ACC/SHMU, Dave Black	6		At 50.4%, the response rate for City Voice 47 is lower than the response rate for City Voice 46 (61.3%) but higher than the response rate achieved in surveys prior to the panel re- refresh conducted in 2022. The reason for the lower response rate is difficult to determine. This was the first ‘themed’ questionnaire so it may be that panellists who were not interested in the topic, decided not to take part.
16.2	<u>100% of decisions which impact on children and young people are informed by them by 2026 (LOIP Stretch Outcome 8).</u>	▲	ACC, Margaret Stewart	6		As of June 2023, 60% of reports to the CPA Board seeking a decision that impacts children and young people were informed by them. Project testing a variety of different approaches to consulting with children on matters that affect them in relation to the city were tested in a drop-in, one-off setting. The approaches ranged from; form filling, to gamification and non-verbal ways of capturing the feedback of children aged 5-12 years of age. In each instance learning was identified that will inform guidance and tool kits for CPA partners to consider and deploy when consulting with this age group in a drop in context, as well as making recommendations on how activities can be adapted to other settings and time frames.
16.3	<u>Increase the number of community ideas identified within locality plans being tested by CPA and partners where communities are involved in the design process to at least 50% by 2024.</u>		ACC, Allison Swanson	6		New templates being tested, with mixed success, but improvement in August compared to July. As of August, out of 50 live projects, 17 (36%) reported community ideas were being tested with 52 ideas detailed and 24 (48%) projects did not complete the sections. 14 projects (28%) were at stages 6 (co-designing), 7 (Co-producing) or 8 (Self Determination) on the empowerment ladder.
16.4	<u>Increase number and diversity of community members participating in community planning at a meaningful level (Rung 5 and above) by 100% by 2024.</u>		ACC/ACHSCP, Jade Leyden & Iain Robertson	6		The first round of LEG meetings have taken place and two other changes ideas being designed.
16.5	<u>70% of community led organisations feeling supported by partners to access funding for community led initiatives by 2025.</u>		ACVO, Maggie Hepburn	5		Meeting of project group planned week of 28th August to identify survey recipients and questions and next steps. Project agreed that a targeted survey across applications of local funds should be used to help establish a firmer baseline which would make it easier to take potential measure from.
16.6	<u>Increase awareness of community led projects across the City and help celebrate and promote at least 70% of known community led projects by 2024.</u>		SHMU, Murray Dawson	6		Project progressing three changes, see key outcomes.
16.7	<u>Increase the number of people (staff and communities) who state they have the skills, tools and support they need to work together to make improvements in the community by 50% by 2025.</u>		NHSG/Grampian Engagement Network, Elaine McConachie	5		Project continuing to scope the digital toolkit with a MS Form issued to help inform content of the toolkit.



# Improvement Project Key

Overall Rag Key

On track

Off Track

At Risk

Trend Key:

Improving

Declining

Steady

Baseline data only

No data

Project Progress Scale	Description
0	Project on hold
1	Project area identified and agreed
2	Draft Outline Project Charter and team in place
3	Understanding baseline of current system
4	Project Charter endorsed by CPA Board
5	Change ideas and project measures developed
6	Testing underway
7	Initial indications of improvement
8	Improvements achieved
9	Sustainable improvement
10	Project complete



**Appendix 2**  
**STRETCH OUTCOME 4-9**  
**Improvement Project Charters**

Click on the links to access the charters/reports for Appendices 2 and 3

Contents

Ref	Improvement Aim	Project Manager
4.3	<a href="#">Increase by 40% the number of Peep programmes delivered by multi-agency partners by 2025.</a>	ACC, Natasha Martens
4.4	<a href="#">Improve dental health at primary 1 to the national average by reducing the levels of dental health in areas of deprivation to 50% by 2025.</a>	NHSG, Pippa Robbie
5.2	<a href="#">Increase by 5% the number of S1-S6 pupils who report that they feel confident by 2025.</a>	ACC, Gael Simpson
5.3	<a href="#">Increase by 10% the % of children living in areas of deprivation who feel safe in their communities by 2025.</a>	ACC, Craig Singer
6.4	<a href="#">80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.</a>	ACC, Amy Evans
6.5	<a href="#">Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.</a>	ACC, Tam Walker
7.4	<a href="#">Increase to 50 the no. of people completing more integrated health and care courses by 2025.</a>	NESCOL, Susan Grant
8.3	<a href="#">90% of 16/17 year olds appearing at Sherriff Court in relation to Lord Advocate's guidance will have had an assessment of their community support needs by 2025.</a>	ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne
8.4	<a href="#">Increase by 5% the no. of 16/17 year olds who are diverted from prosecution by 2025.</a>	ACC, Andrea McGill/Julia Milne
9.3	<a href="#">Increase by 5%, the percentage of young people with additional support needs/disability entering a positive destination by 2025.</a>	ACC, Mhairi Shewan
9.4	<a href="#">By 2025, 90% of families with children with an additional support need or disability will indicate that they have access to peer and community support that meets their needs.</a>	NHSG, Anne Brockman

**Appendix 3**  
**Project End Reports**

Contents

Ref	Improvement Aim	Project Manager
11.3	<a href="#">Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.</a>	ACHSCP, Chris Smillie
11.4	<a href="#">Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023</a>	ACHSCP, Chris Smillie

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# Community Planning Aberdeen

## CPA MG/BOARD MEETING DATES 2024

	Feb Board	Apr Board	July Board	Sep Board	Nov Board
Management Group Meeting (all at 2pm)	31 Jan	27 Mar	5 June	28 Aug	30 Oct
CPA Board Meeting (all at 2pm)	29 Feb (Thurs)	29 April (Mon)	4 July (Thurs)	25 Sep	27 Nov

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