![Community Planning Aberdeen Board logo]

Meeting on WEDNESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2023 at 2.00 pm

Committee Room 2 - 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

STRATEGIC BUSINESS

CPA IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

GENERAL BUSINESS

FOR INFORMATION

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COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD
6 SEPTEMBER 2023

Present: Councillor Christian Allard (Aberdeen City Council), Chairperson; Chief Superintendent Graeme Mackie (Police Scotland), Vice Chairperson; Gale Beattie (Aberdeen City Council); Andy Buchan (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); Evone Boyd (Skills Development Scotland); Councillor John Cooke (Aberdeen City Council and IJB Chair); Graeme Dale (Sport Aberdeen, as a substitute for Alistair Robertson); Susan Elston (NESCOL); Iona Mayhew (Scottish Government Representative, as a substitute for Richard McCallum); Paul O'Conner (ACVO for Item 3.1); Councillor Miranda Radley (Aberdeen City Council); and Susan Webb (NHS Grampian).

Also Present: Michelle Crombie; Jade Leyden; Martin Murchie; Graeme Simpson, Chris Smillie and Allison Swanson (All Aberdeen City Council); Phil Mackie (NHS Grampian); and Iain Robertson (Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership).

Apologies: Duncan Cockburn (Robert Gordon University); Peter Edwards (University of Aberdeen); Councillor Martin Greig (Aberdeen City Council); Caroline Hiscox (NHS Grampian); Matthew Lockley (Scottish Enterprise); Richard McCallum (Scottish Government); Alistair Robertson (Active Aberdeen Partnership); and Angela Scott (Aberdeen City Council).

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
	Welcome	The Chair extended a warm welcome to everyone in today's meeting.	
	Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.	
3.	Minute of Previous Meeting of 28 June 2023 - for approval	The Board had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 28 June 2023 for approval. **The Board resolved: -** to approve the minute as a correct record.	
4.	Draft CPA Management Group Minute 9 August 2023 – for information	The Board had before it the draft minute of the CPA Management Group meeting of 9 August 2023 for information. **The Board resolved: -** to note the draft minute.	
5.	CPA Board Forward Planner	The Board had before it the Business Forward Planner. **The Board resolved: -** to agree the Business Forward Planner.	

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
6.	National Update - Scottish Government	The Board received a verbal update from Iona Mayhew (Scottish Government Representative). The update covered the following 4 key points: - (a) Public Service Reform – Ms Mayhew highlighted that the Policy Prospectus was set out by the Scottish Government to 2026 to achieve sustainability. She advised the reform was essential for progression and its key priorities were set out in the 2023/24 budget, thereby reducing child poverty, supporting a transition to Net Zero economy, and delivering sustainable public services. Also included in the Policy Prospectus was the Scottish Government's prioritised reforms, which were equality, opportunity, and community with progress of a ten-year programme of reform. It was mentioned that the Scottish Government had undertaken a new deal approach, to create conditions for transformations with public bodies which focused on efficiency and effectiveness. It was stated that the purpose of reform was to enhance individuals, families, and communities in partnership with public bodies. Ms Mayhew mentioned that on 9 May 2023, the ministerial framework by the cabinet was discussed, and that no new public bodies should be created unless it was essential. (b) Housing to 2040 – it was stated that Housing to 2040 was a long-term strategy for housing in Scotland with a vison for "what we want Scotland's homes and communities to look like by the end of 2040". Furthermore, it was mentioned that the vision was to provide affordable homes for everyone, with standards such as accessibility to essential services, along with homelessness, poverty and fuel poverty had been eradicated. She mentioned that Housing 2040 had a 20-year plan to deliver good quality and energy efficient zero emission homes with accessibility to transportation links, digital connectivity, and community services. Ms Mayhew emphasised that it would involve working with local authorities, housing providers and landlords for it to be successful. She explained that a governance process had been established with a Strategic Board which involved Scottish Ministers, spokespersons, and senior stakeholders. (c) Place Based Approaches to Health and Wellbeing – Ms Mayhew highlighted that there was a large health inequality between and within population groups in Scotland which had resulted in thousands of premature deaths.	

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		It was mentioned that the police and wellbeing programme had provided a long term aim in prevention and addressing the building blocks on health within communities, with support from Scottish Government to reduce health inequalities on local level action. Ms Mayhew also highlighted that the use of national policy guidance and legislation would strengthen local partnerships and enabled them to focus on evidence-based action which addressed the causes of inequalities in some areas. It was stated that local areas had provided access to specialist public health and that the Scottish Government and Public Health Scotland were to provide access to good public health data evidence and intelligence to have the local action informed. (d) Children's Rights – the Board heard from Ms Mayhew as she highlighted the following – (i) that the Scottish Government remained committed to the incorporation of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots law; (ii) that Supreme Court judgment in October 2021 meant that the bill could not receive Royal Assent in its original form, and the intention was that Bill would be amended and returned to the Scottish Parliament via reconsideration stage in the next few months; (iii) that an amended bill could be passed by the end of 2023 and had passed the provisions in the Bill which could be in place by the middle of 2024; and (iv) that on 27 June, there was a statement by the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice to the Parliament that outlined the progress in amending the bill. Partners welcomed the verbal update and provided some feedback to Ms Mayhew regarding the importance of the Community Wealth Building; the North East Population Health Alliance having been endorsed at the last Board meeting; and the reconfiguration of public services and the involvement of the public which was welcomed. **The Board resolved: -** (i) to note the update provided; and (ii) to note that Ms Mayhew would provide the feedback to the Policy Leads.	 Iona Mayhew/ SG
7.	Population Needs Assessment 2023	The Board had before it, a report which presented the 2023 Population Needs Assessment (PNA) for Aberdeen City. The PNA was a key source of evidence which informed the key priorities for Community Planning Aberdeen and Aberdeen City	

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	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
Page 6		Council and provided an updated evidence base for the next refresh of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan. **The report recommended: -** that the Board – (a) approve the Population Needs Assessment 2023 at Appendix 1 as the evidence base for the refresh of the LOIP; and (b) agree that Partners take the final Population Needs Assessment into their respective organisations to consider the key findings alongside their own strategic plans. Michelle Crombie - Community Planning Manager - (Aberdeen City Council), provided an overview of the report and explained that the data was being monitored on an ongoing basis and new data released between now and April would be considered as part of the development process. She advised that Public Health and NHS Grampian had highlighted the areas to be focused on which would be discussed in today's meeting. The Board then heard from Phil Mackie – Public Consultant - (NHS Grampian), who also spoke to the report and advised that the PNA would be viewed by a wide variety of sources. He advised that there would be further statistical evidence which would be interpreted to support future LOIP and its approaches around community well-being. Martin Murchie – Chief Officer - Data and Insights– (Aberdeen City Council) advised partners that the indices on multiple deprivation were reviewed every 4 years nationally, and the next review was expected in 2024. He further advised there had been discussions and connections with Phil Mackie and colleagues at NHS Grampian with regard to health determinants research. Mr Murchie agreed with Mr Mackie that more could be done with regard to Census Data particularly with regard to population demographics. The Board welcomed the report and the opportunities it presented to look at new ways of working. With regard to the mental health network, Susan Webb (NHS Grampian) noted the relevance to the three Community Planning Partnerships in the North East, advised that meetings had taken place between practitioners and offered to report back at a later date.	

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		The Board sought assurance in terms of targeting hard to reach areas and the inclusion of data with regard to access to food and healthy meals. In response, Phil Mackie explained that the Aberdeen Health Determinants Research Collaborative was actively focusing on that area. **The Board resolved: -** to approve the recommendation.	
8.	CPA Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23	The Board had before it a report which presented the Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/23. This was 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. **The report recommended: -** that the Board – (a) approve the Annual Outcome Improvement Report 2022/2023 as contained at Appendix 1 and the summary annual report contained at Appendix 2; (b) 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; (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 (d) note the progress against the Development Plan 2023 contained at Appendix 3. The Board received a presentation from Allison Swanson – Improvement Programme Manager (Aberdeen City Council) who advised that the report detailed the work that has been undertaken by Community Planning Aberdeen between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 to progress the 16 Stretch Outcomes and improvement aims. It also sets out the key achievements, as well as the areas where Community Planning sought to improve in 2023/24 and in advance the refresh of the LOIP. Mrs Swanson provided overview of current position in terms of the Stretch Outcome, and touched upon some of our highlights and areas for improvement under each theme and highlighted that the specific interventions tested to supporting the outcomes are detailed within the report.	

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	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		Mrs Swanson advised that (i) the report would be used by the Outcome Improvement Groups in parallel with the Population Needs Assessment and Locality Annual reports to evaluate progress to date and with the addition of community and stakeholder engagement, to identify their proposed improvement priorities for the period 2024-26; and (ii) the published annual report would be shared with all partners subject to approval in today's meeting. Mrs Swanson was thanked for the presentation. The Chairperson referred to data on life expectancy for women having fallen within the PNA and Mrs Swanson responded that this could be addressed in future reports. **The Board resolved: -** to approve the recommendations.	
9.	Locality Annual Outcome Improvement Reports 2022/23 for North, South and Central Localities	The Board had before it a report which presented the Annual Reports 2022/23 against the North, South and Central Locality Plans published in July 2021. The plans underpinned 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. **The report recommended: -** that the Board - (a) approve the three Locality Plan Annual Reports 2022-23 for North, South and central presented at Appendices 1, 2 and 3; (b) 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 (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. The Board received a presentation from Michelle Crombie - Community Planning Manager - (Aberdeen City Council), and Iain Robertson – Transformation Programme Manager - (Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership), as they provided an overview on progress with the themes – (i) Economy; (ii) People; and (iii) Place, that had been achieved in the three locality areas in North, South and Central of the city. Mrs Crombie explained the purpose of Locality Plans and underlined that Tacking of Poverty was the highest priority in the 3 locality plans. In addition, the presentation	

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Page 9		outlined the achievements of the Locality Plans in the past year under the following themes – Economy - • Raised awareness of community food provision and community pantries. • Stayed warm and well winter road show to promote provision of warms spaces and support for people with fuel bills, insulation, and energy efficiency measures. • Supported people to access benefits through the benefit calculator and booklet for families on child benefits. • Targeted employability support for Ukrainians/ESOL. • ABZ works and your route to work sessions for young people disengaged from school in priority neighbourhoods; and • Business gateways drop-in sessions in priority neighbourhoods to encourage business start-ups. People - • Delivered initiatives to support early learning including Parents as Early Education Partners (PEEP) programme supporting parents and carers to make the most of everyday learning opportunities. • Grow well choices, early years to support people working with children aged 3-5 to deliver learning about healthier lifestyles. • Health Improvement Fund supported 68 community projects across the city. • Promoted volunteering in the community through ACVO, Fairer Aberdeen funded projects and SHMU's community project to support people on prison release; and • Joint working to support people with mental health and wellbeing, and substance misuse. Place – • Increased the number of community food growing projects. • Launched ACC/ Big Issue E Bikes across the city. • Promoted active travel opportunities and funding streams for community members and groups. • Community Learning Development (CLD) Family Learning Teams worked with disadvantaged young people and families to encourage use of green spaces and the city's natural assets for health benefits, creative outdoor learning, and play.	

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		Furthermore, Mr Robertson in his presentation informed the Board that data on the report in relation to cycling in the North and Central Localities would be updated before published. He advised that (a) the Annual Reports would be published on the CPA website and shared with communities and partners after the IJB (Integration Joint Board) Risk, Audit and Performance Committee, and at the Full Council in October; (b) the Locality Planning Team would use the Public Health Scotland Place Standard Tool to engage with communities to inform the refresh of Locality Plans in conjunction with a workshop to held in October; (c) Locality Plans would be refreshed alongside the LOIP in April 2024; and (d) Locality Planning updates would continue to be provided to Community Empowerment Group on a monthly basis. The Board welcomed the report and presentation and commented on the success of the Community Gathering event, stating that it would be good to repeat it in the future. Councillor Cooke commented on a specific reference to healthy eating in the North Locality report linked to poverty. Michelle Crombie undertook to check on the accuracy with the City Voice Analyst. **The Board resolved: -** (i) to approve the recommendations; and (ii) to congratulate the Community Planning and Wider Planning Team for the Community Gathering event.	Iain Robertson Michelle Crombie
10.	Scottish Parliament Report on Community Planning Inquiry – Implications for Community Planning Aberdeen	The Board had before it a report which provided 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. **The report recommended: -** that the Board – (a) note the findings and recommendations of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee following their inquiry into Community Planning; and (b) approve the implications identified for Community Planning Aberdeen. Mrs Crombie provided an overview of the report and emphasised that in most cases local arrangements were already in place. She highlighted parts 23 and 26 of the summary and welcomed that the need for additional resources had been highlighted	

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		and the fact that the evidence provided on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen had been referenced several times within the Committee's report. The Board welcomed the report and felt that it would be appropriate if the relevant officers and partners could be written to thank them for their contributions in terms of providing evidence to the Committee. **The Board resolved: -** (i) to approve the recommendations; and (ii) to thank officers and partners for their work in providing valuable evidence to the Committee.	
11.	CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update and Appendices	The Board had before it a report which provided an update on the progress towards the 16 Stretch Outcomes and 89 improvement projects which spanned the LOIP and Community Empowerment Strategy. The report also presented the new project charters from Stretch Outcomes 4-9 for consideration and two project end reports. **The report recommended: -** that the Board - (a) 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; (b) approve the 11 project charters as contained at Appendix 2 for initiation; and (c) approve the 2 project end reports contained at Appendix 3. The Board received an update from Allison Swanson – Improvement Programme Manager, who provided an overview of progress on the 16 Stretch Outcomes and explained that 3 Stretch Outcomes had been achieved, 12 were in progression and 1 with a challenge. Furthermore, she spoke on the 89 improvement aims, as mentioned, 50 were live; 18 had ended; 11 new Charters at Appendix 2 and 10 further new charters due to submitted to the next meeting of the Board. 2 further project end reports at Appendix 3 to be considered. Mrs Swanson advised that there had been meetings with the Chairs of the groups along with the project managers in relation to the 6 projects within the Improvement programme with red ragging status ensuring that the progress was achieved.	

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	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
Page 12		She introduced Mr Graeme Simpson who spoke to Appendix 2 and Mr Chris Smilie who spoke to Appendix 3. Graeme Simpson – Children's Services Board - (Aberdeen City Council), spoke to the new charters as contained in Appendix 2 Appendix 2 – Project Charters | Ref	Improvement Aim
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4.3	Increase by 40% the number of Peep programmes delivered by multi-agency partners by 2025.
4.4	Improve dental health at primary 1 to the national average by reducing levels of dental health in areas of deprivation to 50% by 2025.
5.2	Increase by 5% the number of S1-S6 pupils who report that they feel confident by 2025.
5.3	Increase by 10% the number of children living in areas of deprivation who feel safe in their communities by 2025.
6.4	80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.
6.5	Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.
7.4	Increase to 50 the number of people completing more integrated health and care courses by 2025.
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.
8.4	Increase by 5% the number of 16/17 year olds who are diverted from prosecution by 2025.
9.3	Increase by 5%, the percentage of young people with additional support needs/ disability entering a positive destination by 2025.
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.
11.3	Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.
11.4	Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023.		

	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		With regard to Stretch Outcome 7 and 9, Councillor Cooke queried on the wordings been used interchangeably in relation to positive destinations and had asked for more explanation. Mr Simpson undertook to take that back to the Children's Services Board and provide the answer outwith the meeting. The Board heard from Chris Smillie – Public Health Coordinator – Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP) who spoke to Appendix 3, specifically on the Project End 11.3 and Project End 11.4 reports as detailed below and highlighted that the reports sought approval to end as the project aims had been achieved. <table><tr><td>11.3</td><td>Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.</td></tr><tr><td>11.4</td><td>Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023.</td></tr></table> In relation to Project End 11.3, Mr Smillie explained that a review had led to improvement in frontline staff feeling more confident in areas such as mental health awareness. Community representation and involvement in key groups and partnerships had also been improved, with staffing support having been put in place. In relation to Project End 11.4, Mr Smillie summarised the work that had been done in terms of the multi-agency approach which focused on prevention, cessation and protection. He highlighted that there had been an increase in the number of organisations signing up to Scotland's Charter for a Tobacco Free Generation. Work was ongoing, particularly with regard to vaping, however data had shown that smoking rates had reduced from 21% to 15%. The Board agreed that a lot more work was required with regard to vaping, however they welcomed the positive update in terms of the reduced smoking statistic. **The Board resolved: -** to approve the recommendations.	Graeme Simpson
21.	Meeting Dates 2024	The Board had before it the following proposed dates for 2024 CPA Management Group and Board meetings:- Management Group :- 31 January, 27 March, 5 June, 28 August; and 30 October (all at 2pm).	

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	Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
		CPA Board: - 29 February, 29 April, 4 July, 25 September, and 27 November (all at 2pm). **The Board resolved: -** to approve the meeting dates and times for 2024.	
22.	Date of Next Meeting – 29 November 2023.	The Board noted that its next meeting would take place on 29 November 2023 at 2pm	

COMMUNITY PLANNING ABERDEEN MANAGEMENT GROUP
25 OCTOBER 2023

Present:- Gale Beatie (Aberdeen City Council) (Chair), Graham Smith (Police Scotland) (Vice Chair), Richard Findlay (as a substitute for Andy Buchan - SFRS), Allison Carrington (Aberdeen Prospers), Heather Crabb (University of Aberdeen), Rab Dickson (Nestrans), Jillian Evans (Sustainable City and NHSG), Nicola Graham (Skills Development Scotland), Maggie Hepburn (ACVO and as a substitute for Michelle Crombie - Community Empowerment Group), Robert Laird (NESCOL), 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), Phil Mackie (as a substitute for Eleanor Sheppard - Children's Services Board) and Clarie Wilson (Community Justice Group).

Also Present:- Allison Swanson (Aberdeen City Council)

Apologies:- Jamie Bell (Scottish Enterprise), Michelle Crombie (Community Empowerment), Eleanor Sheppard (Children's Services Board) and Alison Watson (Robert Gordon University).

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
1. Welcome	The Chair welcomed everyone to today's meeting.	
2. Appointment of Vice Chair	The Management Group agreed to appoint Graham Smith, Police Scotland, as Vice Chair of the Management Group.	
3. Minute of Previous Meeting of 9 August 2023	The Management Group had before it the minute of its meeting of 9 August 2023, for approval. 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 for a second time. However, the Project Manager, was not present today. **The Management Group resolved:** to agree the minute as a correct record subject to the addition of Susan Morrison (ACVO) as being present, and to note that all the actions had been completed with the exception of the submission of project end report 12.6.	Simon Rayner, ACHSCP
4. Draft Minute of Meeting of the	The Management Group had before it the draft minute of the CPA Board meeting of 6 September 2023, for information.	

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
CPA Board of 6 September 2023	**The Management Group resolved:** to note the draft minute.	
5. Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-2026 Refresh: Draft Stretch Outcomes and Improvement Project Aims	The Management Group had before it a report which presented the first draft stretch outcomes and improvement project aims proposed by the Community Planning Aberdeen Outcome Improvement Groups for inclusion in the refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan for 2023. The initial draft proposals were contained at Appendix 1, along with the rationale for the change and comments from the CP Team which had been shared directly with the Chairs. At Appendix 2 the initial proposals were presented in the designed LOIP format. **The report recommended:-** that Management Group – (a) consider and provide feedback on the initial proposed changes to the LOIP received from Outcome Improvement Groups included in Appendix 1; (b) consider and provide feedback on the potential gaps highlighted at para 6.2; (c) consider the balance of prevention and early intervention across the proposed improvement projects highlighted at para 5.2 and detailed at Appendix 2; (d) consider the balance of leadership across the proposed improvement projects highlighted at para 7.2 and detailed at Appendix 2; (e) agree that Stretch Outcome 16 be incorporated within the refreshed LOIP; (f) agree that the thematic sessions take place in January/February 2024 at which Outcome Improvement Group Chairs would present the proposals to wider stakeholders and agree whether these sessions should be open to community members involved in the Locality Empowerment Groups and Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships; (g) agree that the Outcome Improvement Group Chairs present proposals to the CPA Board in February 2024; and (h) note the next steps as detailed at section 8 and that Outcome Improvement Groups would be asked to submit further proposals for the refresh of the LOIP by 11 December 2023. The Management Group noted that the initial proposals were showing that:	

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Page 17	• CPA would continue to have at least 15 Stretch Outcomes, with Stretch Outcome 16 led by the Community Empowerment Group to be incorporated • Stretch Outcome 3 had been achieved and was proposed to be removed with improvement activity in relation to upskilling/reskilling to come under new Stretch Outcome 2 • Stretch Outcomes 1, 2, 10, 12 and 14 are proposed to be changed • 89 improvement project aims would be reduced to 82 improvement aims. In relation to the emerging proposals, it was queried given current financial constraints was retaining the same volume of improvement activity the right approach. In response, it was suggested that all members consider this as they were reviewing the proposals from each of the OIGs. Before hearing from OIG Chairs on proposals, the Management Group agreed to consider the following key areas when looking across all stretch outcomes and proposals: • Potential gaps • Proposed SOs & Improvement Aims –baseline, target and timescale • Prevention and early intervention. • Leadership • Target population The Management then heard from each of the OIG Chairs, or their representative, with the exception the ADP, where the Lead was not present. Across each of the OIG proposals, the comments from the CP Team were noted and agreed that all OIGs were to consider these in full. The comments of the Management Group in relation to both the initial proposals and potential gaps detailed at section 6.2 were reflected at Appendix 1 to this minute. In relation to the potential gap regarding homelessness, it was noted that it was anticipated that a Homelessness Outcome Improvement Group and Stretch Outcome and improvement aims would be proposed and developed for the next deadline. In line with this the current homelessness sub group of RIS would merge or become a sub	All OIGs

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By

Page 18	group of new homelessness OIG. Connection with the Chair of Anti-Poverty Group to be made when developing the proposed homelessness Stretch Outcome and aims to ensure alignment and no duplication of improvement activity.
	
	The cross cutting nature of a number of improvement aims was raised by the Management Group and Chairs to connect with each other to ensure connections were being made and discussed as detailed here
	
	The Management Group resolved:
	(i) to agree that Stretch Outcome 16 be incorporated within the refreshed LOIP;
	(ii) to note that it was anticipated that a homelessness Outcome Improvement Group with a Stretch Outcome and improvement aims would be proposed and developed for the next deadline (11 December 2023);
	(iii) to agree that OIGs consider the feedback from CP Team and Management Group as at Appendix 1 to this minute, as well as the output from the engagement (available w/c 27 Nov) and to submit their refined/further proposals to the CP Team for 11 December 2023;
	(iv) agree that OIGs to consider the following the areas when further developing their improvement aims:
	    • Potential Gaps – as per para 6.1
	    • SMART SOs/Improvement aims and Data– OIGs to ensure we can put a system in place to gather any outstanding data in advance of the final LOIP being consulted on;
	    • Leadership - OIGs to look across their aims and consider if they have got the balance of leadership by core partners right
	    • Target Population - OIGs to provide clarity on the target population when submitting further proposals on 11 December;
	(v) agree that OIGs look across the proposals from the other OIGs and provide any feedback asap to enable them to consider and connect with each other on any cross-cutting areas;
	(vi) agree that OIG Chairs would present the proposals to wider stakeholders and Locality Empowerment Group and Priority Neighbourhood Partnership members at thematic stakeholder sessions that take place in January/ February 2024;
		Michelle Crombie/Martin Murchie (ACC)
		
		Michelle Crombie (ACC)
		Michelle Crombie (ACC)
		
		OIG Chairs
		
		OIG Chairs
		
		OIG Chairs
		
		OIG Chairs

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
	(vii) agree that Outcome Improvement Group Chairs present proposals to the CPA Board in February 2024; and	OIG Chairs
	(viii) note that the draft refreshed LOIP and Locality Plans out for consultation in February 2024.	Allison Swanson (ACC)
6. Prevention of Homelessness and Homewards programme	The Management Group had before it a report which aimed to ensure that the Community Planning Aberdeen were fully sighted on the available opportunities to the community planning partnership arising from Aberdeen having been selected to participate in The Royal Foundation of the Prince and Princess of Wales Homewards Programme. Homewards sets out to deliver a five-year locally led programme which would demonstrate that together it was possible to end homelessness: making it rare, brief, and unrepeated. **The report recommended:-** that Management Group (a) note the content of this report: (b) agree to recommend to the CPA Board the approval of the governance proposals for oversight of the programme within the structures of the community planning partnership, including the proposals for membership of the programme board, programme groups and a series of stakeholder groups; and (c) to ensure the LOIP refresh for (2024-2026) recognised Aberdeen's participation in Homewards as a 5 year commitment from partners. **<u>The Management Group resolved:</u>** to approve the recommendations and noting as detailed at article 5 that it was anticipated that a new homelessness Outcome Improvement Group and Stretch Outcome would be proposed.	Jacqui McKenzie (ACC)
7. CPA Improvement Programme Update and Appendices	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) 8 new project charters under Stretch Outcomes 4-9; and (3) 6 project end reports.	

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
Page 20	**The report recommended:-** that the Management Group (a) 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; (b) discuss the status of the red ragging status as detailed at section 4.3 and in Appendix 1, as well as the risks/issues detailed in each of the Stretch Outcome overviews and (c) determine any mitigating actions required; (d) approve the 8 project charters as contained at Appendix 2 for submission to the CPA Board in November 2023; (e) agree to recommend to the CPA Board in November 2023 that the 2 new charters under Stretch Outcome 9 which were due this cycle be postponed to the next meeting for the reasons detailed at Appendix 1; and (f) approve the six project end reports contained at Appendix 3 for submission to the CPA Board in November 2023. The Management Group noted there were 10 live aims have a red ragging status (1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 3.3, 5.1 ,6.2, 9.2, 11.7, 12.6, 12.9) and 2 aims that were still to be initiated had a red ragging status both of which come under Stretch Outcome 9. In relation to Stretch Outcome 9 the Management Group noted current circumstances where the Group did not presently have a Chair and this had impacted on progress of new and live projects. The Children's Services Board had identified interim measures to mitigate this with ACC taking the Chair to ensure progress was made. 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.	

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
Page 21	Appendix 2 - Stretch Outcome 4-9 Improvement Project Charters <table><tr><th>Ref</th><th>Improvement Aim</th><th>Project Manager</th></tr><tr><td>4.5</td><td>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.</td><td>Pamela Black, AHSCP</td></tr><tr><td>5.4</td><td>Reduce waiting time for interventions starting, by each tier 2/3 service by 5% by 2026.</td><td>Siobhan Crawford, CAMHS</td></tr><tr><td>5.5</td><td>Reduce demand on Tier 3 services by 5% by 2026.</td><td>Siobhan Crawford, CAMHS</td></tr><tr><td>6.6</td><td>80% of care experienced parents will report that they believed they were sufficiently prepared for parenthood by 2026</td><td>Fiona Mielle, NHSG</td></tr><tr><td>7.5</td><td>75% of identified multi-agency staff reporting confidence in identifying and taking action on harm by 2026.</td><td>Lisa Williams, ACC</td></tr><tr><td>7.6</td><td>Increase by 20% the number of young people completing courses aligned to support the digital and tech sector by 2026.</td><td>Charlie Love, ACC</td></tr><tr><td>8.5</td><td>Reduce by 20% the number of care experienced young people charged with an offence by 2025.</td><td>Kim Wood, Police Scotland</td></tr><tr><td>9.5</td><td>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</td><td>Mhairi Shewan, ACC</td></tr></table>	

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
Page 22	Appendix 3 - Project End Reports | Ref	Improvement Aim	Project Manager
2.1	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.	Martin Barry, Scottish Enterprise
10.8	Reduce the number of drug related deaths occurring within 6 months of liberation from custody from 10 to zero by 2023.	Fiona Wright, ACHSCP
11.6	Increase the number of unpaid carers feeling supported by 10% by 2023.	Andrew Falconer/Anna Schmidt, Quarriers
11.8	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.	Grace Milne, ACHSCP
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	Niki Paterson, ACC
12.7	Increase opportunities for individuals who have been at risk of Blood Borne Viruses, being tested and accessing treatment by 2023.	Lisa Allerton, NHSG | **The Management Group resolved:** (i) to approve the recommendations; and (ii) to commend the Project Manager and their team for their achievements and commitment to the projects.	

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
8. #KeepingThePromise Year 2 Evaluation Report	The Management Group had before it a report which provided assurance to the CPA on the progress made by Aberdeen City partners in delivering against Plan 21 – 24. **The report recommended:-** that Management Group recommend to the CPA Board that it instruct the Children's Services Board to fully consider the findings of this self-evaluation as they reviewed and reported the impact of work on the current Children's Services Plan in order to determine if any changes required to be made to the current Children's Services Plan. **The Management Group resolved:** to approve the recommendation.	
9. Aberdeen Health Determinants Research Collaborative Progress Report	The Management Group had before it a report which summarised progress to date to establish the AHDRC and outlined next steps. **The report recommended:-** that Management Group note the update. **The Management Group resolved:** to approve the recommendation.	
10. 47th City Voice Questionnaire Report – Community Empowerment Edition	The Management Group had before it a report which presents the results of the 47th City Voice Questionnaire – Community Empowerment Edition. **The report recommended:-** that Management Group (a) notes the 47th City Voice Questionnaire Report at Appendix 2 ; (b) requests that Outcome Improvement Groups and individual partners consider the results to inform their approaches to community engagement; and (c) requests Outcome Improvement Groups to submit questions for future surveys as per the forward planner at Appendix 1. **The Management Group resolved:** to approve the recommendation.	OIG Chairs OIG Chairs

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Action By
11. Community Planning Budget 2023/2024 – Q2 Budget Monitoring Report	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 July 2023 to 30 September 23. **The report recommended:-** that Management Group note Community Planning Aberdeen Budget's performance during quarter 2 of 2023/24. **The Management Group resolved:** (i) to approve the recommendation; and (ii) to request Michelle Crombie to follow up with the Civic Forum to confirm the status of the current funding which had been allocated to it.	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
CPA Forward Planner	The Management Group had before it the CPA Forward Planner. **The Management Group resolved:** to note the CPA Forward Planner.	
12. CPA Funding Tracker	The Management Group had before it the CPA Funding Tracker. **The Management Group resolved:** to note the CPA Funding Tracker.	
13. Date of Next Meeting	The Management Group noted that its next meeting would be held on 31 January 2024 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
CPA Management Group: 25 October 23/ CPA Board 29 November 23	
CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update	Allison Swanson (ACC)
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)
LOIP Refresh Initial Proposals (Management Group only)	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
City Voice Results	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
The Promise Year 2 Evaluation	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Project End 2.1 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.	Allison Carrington (SDS)
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.	Claire Wilson (ACHSCP)
Project End 11.6 Increase the number of unpaid carers feeling supported by 10% by 2023.	Alison Macleod (ACHSCP)
Project End 11.8 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.	Alison Macleod (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)
Children's Services Board (Stretch Outcome 4-9) New Charters	
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)

Title of report	Contact Officer
CPA Management Group: 31 Jan 2024/Board: 29 Feb 2024	
LOIP/Locality Plan Refresh Engagement Outcome Report	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Draft refreshed LOIP (MG Only)	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Draft refreshed Locality Plans for North, South and Central (MG Only)	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Aberdeen Health Determinants Research Collaborative - Update	Martin Murchie (ACC)
CPA Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report (Management Group only)	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Project End 1.2 Reduce by 50% the number of homes with an EPC rating of F&G by 2023, leading to 100% by 2026.	Martin Murchie (ACC)
Project End 1.3 Ensure 100% of people presenting as homeless have a full financial assessment and access to all appropriate benefits by 2023.	Martin Murchie (ACC)
Project End 1.4 Increase support for those who have been most disadvantaged through the pandemic by 2023.	Martin Murchie (ACC)
Project End 2.2 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.	Allison Carrington (SDS)
Project End 2.4 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.	Allison Carrington (SDS)
Project End 3.3 Increase the number of people within Aberdeen City qualified with ICT and Digital skills at SCQF Levels 7 and above by 10% by 2023	Allison Carrington (SDS)
Project End 6.3 Increase by 100% the number of partners supporting kinship carers by 2023.	Eleanor Sheppard (ACC)
Project End 10.4 100% increase in hate crimes reported to police by 2023.	Claire Wilson (ACHSCP)
Project End 10.5 Decrease the number of incidents of domestic abuse reported to the Police by 15% by 2023.	Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
Project End 11.1 Reduce the rolling 3-year average number of suicides in Aberdeen to below 26 (2019) by 2023.	Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
Project End 11.4 Reduce youth homelessness by 6% by 2023.	Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
Project End 11.7 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.	Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
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 12.3 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.	Simon Rayner (ACHSCP)
Project End 12.9 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.	Simon Rayner (ACHSCP)
Project End 13.1 Reduce public sector carbon emissions by at least 7% by 2023.	Jillian Evans (NHSG)
Project End 13.2 Reduce the generation of waste in Aberdeen by 8% by 2023.	Jillian Evans (NHSG)
Project End 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.	Jillian Evans (NHSG)
Project End 14.1 Increase % of people who walk as one mode of travel by 10% by 2023.	Jillian Evans (NHSG)

Title of report	Contact Officer
Project End 14.2 Increase % of people who cycle as one mode of travel by 2% by 2023.	Jillian Evans (NHSG)
Children's Services Board (Stretch Outcome 4-9) New Charters	
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)
CPA Management Group: 27 March 2024/Board: 29 April 2024	
Final Refreshed LOIP	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Final Refreshed Locality Plans	Michelle Crombie(ACC) /Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
CPA Budget Setting Report	Michelle Crombie(ACC)
CPA Management Group: 5 June 2024/Board: 4 July 2024	
CPA Improvement Programme 2023-26	Allison Swanson (ACC)
LOIP Annual Outcome Improvement Report	Michelle Crombie (ACC)
Locality Plan Annual Reports	Michelle Crombie(ACC) /Alison MacLeod (ACHSCP)
UoA/CPA Synergies Presentation *(Board only – June 2024)*	Pete Edwards (UoA)
CPA Management Group: 28 August 2024/Board: 25 Sept 2024	
CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update	Allison Swanson (ACC)
CPA Management Group: 30 Oct 2024/Board: 27 Nov 2024	
CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update	Allison Swanson (ACC)
TBC	
Community Justice Scotland's Outcome and Performance and Improvement Framework	Claire Wilson (ACHSCP)
New Tobacco Strategy	Susan Webb (Public Heatlth)
Outcome of Event/focus group with employers re modern apprenticeships	Duncan Abernethy/NESCol
YourSafetyMatters Pledge	Graeme Mackie (Police Scotland)

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

Information Report	Prevention of Homelessness and Homewards programme
Lead Officer	Jacqui McKenzie, Aberdeen City Council
Report Author	Rachel Harrison, Aberdeen City Council
Date of Report	10 November 2023
Governance Group	CPP Board – 29 November 2023

Purpose of the Report

This report aims to ensure that all members of the Community Planning Aberdeen Board are fully sighted on the available opportunities to the community planning partnership arising from Aberdeen having been selected to participate in The Royal Foundation of the Prince and Princess of Wales Homewards Programme.

Homewards sets out to deliver a five-year locally led programme which will demonstrate that together it is possible to end homelessness: making it rare, brief, and unrepeated.

Summary of Key Information

1   BACKGROUND

Interventions around homelessness over the last 4 years in Aberdeen have been developed in response to the Scottish Government request for all Local Authorities to develop a Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP). These 5 year plans (2019 to 2024) set out actions to reduce the amount of time that a household experiences homelessness, improve temporary accommodation and attempting to stop the cycle of homelessness re-occurring through projects such as Housing First.

Within our expression of interest to The Royal Foundation, we set how our excellent progress had stalled in towards the end of 21/22 and into 22/23 driven by an increase in homeless applications due to post pandemic movements, increasing rents in the private sector and economic uncertainty. Within the expression of interest we highlighted the data in Aberdeen evidenced

- There had been a 33% increase in applications from secure accommodation.
- A 49% increase in presentations from the private sector.
- Most homelessness in Aberdeen occurs from people being asked to leave unsuitable living arrangements with family and friends, and therefore harm is already occurring by households living in insecure arrangements before presenting as homeless.
- Over the last 15 years **75%** of people applying as homeless have no prior homelessness experience.
- Only 43% of households are assessed as needing support, of this 67% is basic housing support.

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- We know that in Aberdeen 55% of homeless presentation over the last 4 years have been from Parental/Family Home/Relatives or Friends/Partners home and 45% from a tenancy.
- 8% of presentations reason through the same 4 year period are due to actions by landlords in the private sector, 6% due to terminations and 3% due to terminations for arrears.
- 45% of presentation reasons through the same 4 year period are because people have been asked to leave or a non-violent dispute within the home. These are the reasons for homelessness given by the applicant and are set by the Scottish Government. Asked to leave is when an applicant is asked to leave a household they were previously part of (an example would be a person who has reached an age that prohibits the household from claiming child benefit on their behalf). The reason non- violent dispute also includes relationship breakdowns (where violence has not been involved).

The focus of the bid was around Prevention and Early Intervention to reduce the likelihood of homelessness and others harms being experienced. This is in line with the anticipated new duties to be placed on all Public Bodies by the Scottish Government to "ask and act" within their powers to prevent homelessness.

Officially launched on the 26th and 27th June 2023, The Royal Foundation announced it will work with 6 locations in the UK. Aberdeen is the only Scottish location whose bid was successful for the project, and it has been chosen alongside areas representing the 4 nations of the UK including Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, Lambeth in London, Newport, Sheffield and Northern Ireland.

Prince William announced Aberdeen as a selected location with a visit to Tillydrone Community Campus where he met members of Homewards' initial local coalition including Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Foyer, Turning Point Scotland, and Centre for Homelessness Impact.

They were also joined by a wider coalition of organisations and people who work to reduce homelessness, including people with a lived experience of homelessness, a foodbank, nurses from the Marywell Health Centre, community organisations and Aberdeen City Council housing and support teams.

The aim of the programme, called Homewards, is to demonstrate that it is possible to end homelessness in the UK. The Royal Foundation will convene those who, together, can generate the innovative and transformative impact, which if scaled, could end homeless in the UK – which means making it rare, brief and unrepeated.

In considering Aberdeen's expression of interest, the expert panel, established by the Foundation found that there are strong relationships and trust across both statutory agencies and the voluntary sector, from senior leaders down to frontline staff, where data sharing processes and co-location is already in place. The ability of The Royal Foundation to bring further partners (especially private sector) into the coalition was highlighted as a key opportunity.

The Royal Foundation will work with each location to understand local ambitions and the types of advice, skills and expertise that might support their realisation and match each location with the support they have identified. Homewards will support the development

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of a new coalition which will encompass representation from influential actors and organisations beyond housing and homelessness, including: economic stability, education access and quality, health care access and quality, neighbourhood and build environment and social and community context. Together, these stakeholders will shape locally owned, large scale initiatives that have the potential for long term impact.

An initial seed fund of up to £500,000 will be available to each location, across the lifecycle of the five-year project. This is separate from the initial innovative housing project but may intersect with it. This is separate from the funding for the secretariat function for each location and recruitment has been concluded for a Local Delivery Lead to be based in the city.

The Foundation has selected learning and evaluation partners in Ipsos, Groundswell and Renaisi and they will build local capacity and share learning and data, where needed.

Participation in the programme will provide the opportunity to strengthen our engagement with a broader range of local stakeholders, as well as bringing more monitoring and evaluation across not only the innovative housing project but other preventative solutions delivered under a locally-designed action plan.

Proposals for Local Governance Arrangements

As noted above, the Royal Foundation will develop a new coalition in Aberdeen. Each Homewards Coalition will be unique and emerge out of the ambitions, assets and needs of the place. The Royal Foundation have commissioned Renaisi to develop guidance to support local coalitions, and Homewards Local Delivery Leads, to bring in best practice around coalition building and collaborative approaches to tackling homelessness. This work by Renaisi will support the local coalition to have the ambition, distinctiveness and potential to demonstrate that it is possible to end homelessness.

The local delivery lead for Aberdeen will help convene this coalition and provide the capacity and resource required to support local partners to drive forward change. The coalition will include:
-   key decision makers, senior leaders and individuals with lived experience that can influence the sectors that contribute to the determinants of homelessness and help drive local ambition and change
-   leaders that are engaged in the management of frontline, operational and/or project delivery, alongside individuals with lived experience of homelessness
-   Wider collaborative working groups that focus on thematic areas of change which also include those with lived experience

The Coalition will not be siloed from or duplicate existing programmes, partnerships and forums but provide a space for these to be aligned and mutually reinforcing under a shared vision. The Royal Foundation will work with Aberdeen to consider how best to establish this coalition so that it complements the work of Community Planning Aberdeen.

Set out below are the key next steps for Homewards in Aberdeen:
-   Local Delivery Lead is in post, 27th November
-   Town Hall on the 1st December that will introduce Homewards to a wider set of local stakeholders
-   Coalition forming, supported by Renaisi, Jan/Feb 2024

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| - | Initial scoping session for the initial innovative housing project, Jan/Feb 2024 |
| - | Development of the Local Action Plan commences, March/April 2024 |

Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that members of the CPA Board:

i) Note the content of this report;

ii) To recognise Aberdeen's participation in Homewards as a commitment to ending homelessness by all partners through the development of a Stretch Outcome and improvement aims for inclusion within the refreshed LOIP.

Opportunities and Risks

Opportunities:

Injection of funds and additional capacity to facilitate efforts to prevent homelessness.

An innovative housing project for the city to demonstrate it is possible to end homelessness.

Convening force of the Homewards programme, we are already seeing this through interest of Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and the voluntary sector.

The coefficient factor of research in this area from Homewards and the wider Health Determinants Collaborative.

Ability for Aberdeen to influence Scottish and UK policy in this area, in particular the forthcoming Housing Bill.

Risks:

Additional attention to the programme. Homewards has a specific remit and it is important to establish the boundaries of where Aberdeen City Council and the wider Community Planning Partnership have further responsibility.

Sustainability after the 5 years of the Homeward programme.

Impact of the as yet unreleased Housing Bill.

Consultation

Ending Homelessness in Aberdeen Group, at the same time we have been restricted as to what we have been able to share during the Expression of interest process.

Background Papers

https://homewards.org.uk/

Homewards Aberdeen Launch Video

Ending Homelessness in Aberdeen report to Community Planning Aberdeen Board page 137

Prevention Consultation report to Community Planning Aberdeen Management Group page 13

Contact details:

Name	Rachel Harrison
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Community Planning Aberdeen

Progress Report	CPA Improvement Programme Quarterly Update and Appendices
Lead Officer	Gale Beattie, Chair of CPA Management Group and Aberdeen City Council Director of Commissioning
Report Author	Allison Swanson, Improvement Programme Manager
Date of Report	5 October 2023
Governance Group	CPA Board – 29 November 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 nine new project charters from Stretch Outcomes 4-9 for consideration and seven 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 23 improvement aims (*not including the aims under the previous SO 4-9 replaced in April 2023)* have now achieved their improvement aims and 20 aims have ended. 3 aims were not achieved.

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4 IMPROVEMENT AIMS TO BE ACHIEVED BY 2022 AND 2023

<u>2022</u>

4.1 There were 20 improvement aims to be achieved by 2022, 15 of which have been achieved and 5 were not. 19 of the 20, 2022 improvement aims have now had project end reports approved. The final report in relation to project 12.6 is on today's agenda.

<u>2023</u>

4.2 There are 42 improvement aims to be achieved by 2023, at present 17 have been achieved, 3 have not been achieved and 13 project aims ended. 6 further project end reports are on today's agenda for consideration. The remaining 2023 project aims are scheduled to submit their project end reports 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, 16.5 and 16.6).

5 NEW PROJECT CHARTERS STRETCH OUTCOMES 4-9

5.1 As per the schedule agreed by the CPA Board, the final 10 new project charters for the improvement aims under Stretch Outcomes 4-9 were due to this meeting. 9 of the 10 have been received and are contained at Appendix 2 for approval for submission to the CPA Board. 1 charter under Stretch Outcome 9 has not been received however this has been discussed by Children's Services Board and the final charter will be available for the next meeting.

6 PROJECT END REPORTS

6.1 Seven project end reports are contained at Appendix 3 for consideration.

7 NEXT STEPS

7.1 Projects with aims achieved will continue to report on progress to ensure improvement is sustained and thereafter submit a project end report.

7.2 Project aims with charters approved by the CPA Board 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 9 project charters as contained at Appendix 2 for initiation;

iii)   agree that the remaining new charter under Stretch Outcome 9 which was due this cycle be postponed to the next meeting for the reasons detailed at Appendix 1; and

iv)   approve the seven 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

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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	59	23	20	10	9	27

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	24	0	0	1
4	Community Justice	8	3	5	5	0
5	Resilient, Included & Supported	8	5	3	5	0
6	Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	9	6	3	3	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

- Declining — 3%
- Improving — 33%
- No Data — 3%
- Only Baseline Data — 40%
- Steady — 20%
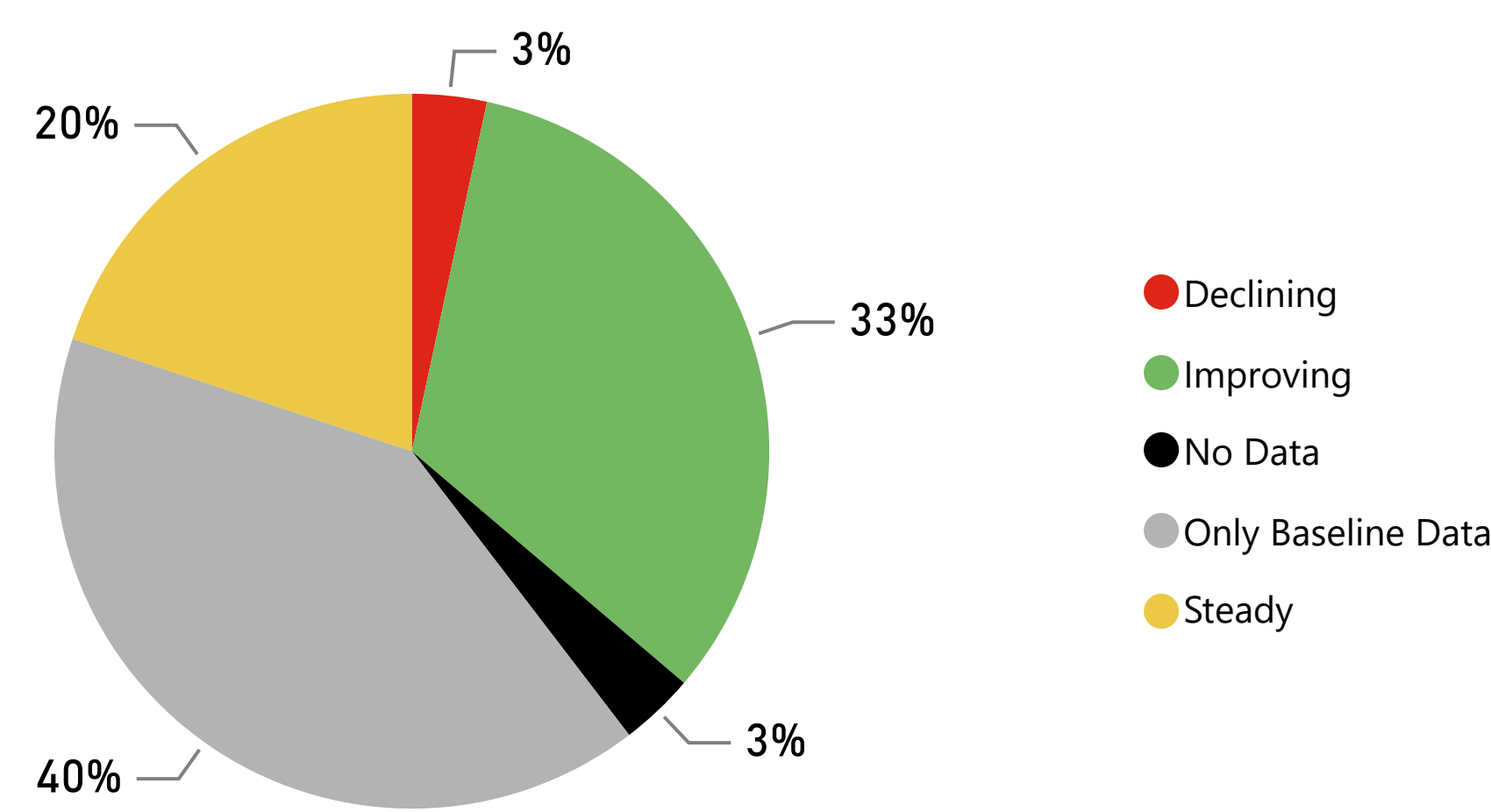
Percentage of Projects by Progress Scale

Progress scale level
- Level 0 (On hold) — 6%
- Level 10 (project complete) — 25%
- Level 4 (Charter approved) — 47%
- Level 5 (designing) — 14%
- Level 6 (Testing)
- Level 7 (improving)
- Level 8 (improvements ac... — 8%
- Level 9 (sustainable impro...

Stretch Outcomes 1-8: 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
1	No one will suffer due to poverty by 2026.	↓ (Declining)	6	4	2	2	N/A	🔴	Projects 1.1 and 1.6 have ended. Updates 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.	↑ (Improving)	4	3	2	1	N/A	🟢	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	↑ (Improving)	5	1	4	4	N/A	🟢	Projects 3.1, 3.2, 3.4 and 3.5 have ended. Data has been provided to show improvement for 3.3 and the project end report is being prepared.
4	95% of all children will reach their expected developmental milestones by their 27-30 month review by 2026	→ (Steady)	5	4	0	0	100	🟢	All live projects progressing and the final new charter is on today's agenda.
5	90% of children and young people report they feel listened to all of the time by 2026.	↑ (Improving)	5	3	0	0	100	🟢	All live projects now progressing. Project 5.1 is still to start testing but has now secured relevant resource and will begin testing in due course
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.	→ (Steady)	6	5	0	0	100	🟢	5 of 6 charters now approved and underway. The final new charter due is on today's agenda. Project 6.2 is still to start testing but has now secured relevant resource and will begin testing in due course.
7	95% of children living in our priority neighbourhoods (Quintiles 1 & 2) will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026.	→ (Steady)	6	4	0	0	100	🟢	All live projects underway and progressing - the final two new charters are on today's agenda.
8	83.5% fewer young people (under 18) charged with an offence by 2026.	→ (Steady)	5	4	0	0	100	🟢	All live projects underway and progressing.

Trend
⬆ Improving ⬇ Declining ➡ Steady ⚫ Baseline data only

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.	🔘 (grey)	7	4	0	0	67	🟢	The Sub Group responsible for oversight of SO9 projects does not presently have a permanent Chair. The CSB has identified interim measures to mitigate this, this has impacted on progress of 1 of the 3 new charters due. This outstanding charter has now secured a Project Manager and the charter will be submitted to the next CPA Board meeting.
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	5	5	3	N/A	🟠	Project 11.2, 11.3 and 11.4 aims achieved and ended. Progress of 11.7 impacted due to PM availability. PM for 11.5 has moved post and new PM TBC. 2 further project ends for 11.6 and 11.8 on today's agenda as aims achieved.
12	Rate of harmful levels of alcohol consumption reduced by 4% and drug related deaths lower than Scotland by 2026.	➡️	9	6	3	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 ends for 12.1, 12.7 and 12.8 on today's agenda.
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	🟠	All 3 projects reporting unlikely to achieve their aims by 2023, despite changes. 13.1 progressing through Green Champs but struggling to report impact towards overall aim. 13.2 identified new changes and PM to refocus and progress. 13.3 progressing.
14	38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026.	➡️	2	2	0	0	N/A	🟠	PM for 14.1 and 14.2 has moved post and new PM TBC. 14.1 to identify further changes to support aim and 14.2 progressing two changes re bike recycling and e-bikes.
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 is progressing.
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	🟢	5 of the 7 projects progressing.

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
⬇ (red)	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	Increase the number of people using community pantries by 20% by 2023.	Cfine, Sam Leys	⬆ (green)	N/A - Project Ended - 6/7/22	N, S & C	10	🏳 (flag)	Aim achieved - Project Ended.
1.2	Reduce by 50% the number of homes with an EPC rating of F&G by 2023, leading to 100% by 2026.	ACC, Mel Booth	⚪ (grey)	Feb 2024	S	6	🔴	Update needed, last update 06/03/23. Project struggling to make progress - no changes being currently tested. Chair of Anti Poverty Group met with the PM to discuss, no progress reported since.
1.3	Ensure 100% of people presenting as homeless have a full financial assessment and access to all appropriate benefits by 2023.	ACC, Angela Kazmierzak	➡ (amber)	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	Increase support for those who have been most disadvantaged through the pandemic by 2023.	SHMU, Dave Black	➡ (amber)	Nov 2023 Feb 2024	N &S	6	🟠	Project manager has now moved job. However is working with the project team on reviewing the data and drafting the project end report for submission to the next meeting.
1.5	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.	Scarf, Lawrence Johnston	⚪ (grey)	Feb 2024	N, S & C	6	🔴	Update needed, last update 02/05/23. Data on progress towards the aim required and project to ensure changes are multi-agency. Chair of Anti Poverty Group met with the PM to discuss, no progress reported since.
1.6	Increase the uptake of unclaimed benefits by 10% across Aberdeen City by 2023.	ACC, Angela Kazmierzak	⬆ (green)	N/A - Project Ended - 30/11/22	N, S & C	10	🏳 (flag)	Aim achieved - Project Ended.

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Key Outcomes/Activity

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 or updates for 1.2 and 1.5 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.

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report

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	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.	⬆	Nov 2023	Scottish Enterprise, Martin Barry	N, S & C	8	🟢	Aim achieved, project end report on today's agenda.
2.2	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.	⬆	Feb 2024	Elevator, Roz Taylor/Guilherme De Rosso	N, S & C	7	🟢	142 referrals of individuals in receipt of universal credits who are investigating starting a business since the start of the programme with 48 individuals starting a business which either takes them off universal credits or significantly reduces their universal credits.
2.3	Support 15 care experienced young people progress to employment through public sector funded employability programmes by 2023.	⬆	N/A - Project Ended 19/4/23	ACC, Angela Taylor	N	10	🚩	Aim achieved - Project End approved 19/4/23.
2.4	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.	⬆	Feb 2024	SDS, Nicola Graham	N, S & C	6	🟢	15 people have been supported into employment so far. Collecting data from DWP and ABZWorks to show impact of changes but confident of achievement of 2023 aim.

Key Outcomes/Activity

2.1 100 employers now living wage accredited across the city. A 92% increase since October 2021.
2.2 48 individuals have been supported by this project to start a business, either taking them off of, or significantly reducing their universal credits.

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

1. In September 2023, there were 18,451 people on Universal Credit – up from 18,402 in August.
2. In September 2023, there were 4,760 claimants in Aberdeen City – down from 4,875 in August. At 3.1%, the rate of Claimants was slightly higher in Aberdeen City than in Scotland (3.0%).

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	4	4	🟢

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	Increase the number of responsible businesses working with Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA) through Community Benefits and CSR activity by 200% by 2023	⬆	N/A - Project Ended 19/4/23	ACC, Charlotte Saunders	N, S & C	10	🚩	Aim achieved - Project End report approved 19/4/23.
3.2	By December 2022, increase by 10% the number of people in Aberdeen who: • Have digital access; and • Feel comfortable using digital tools.	⬆	NA - Project Ended 19/4/23	ACC, Emma Shanks/Margaret Stewart	N, S & C	10	🚩	Aim achieved - Project End report approved 19/4/23.
3.3	Increase the number of people within Aberdeen City qualified with ICT and Digital skills at SCQF Levels 7 and above by 10% by 2023	⬆	Feb 2024	RGU, John Issacs/Aberdeen City Council, Charlie Love	None	8	🟠	Project has achieved aim and project end report is being prepared.
3.4	Increase the number of Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships by 5% by 2022.	⬆	N/A - Project Ended 28/6/23	Nescol, Duncan Aberrnethy	N & C	10	🚩	Aim achieved and project end report approved on 28/6/23
3.5	80% of young people will successfully complete their Modern Apprenticeship programme by 2022.	⬇	N/A - Project Ended 28/6/23	Nescol, Ian Runcie	N & S	11	🏴	Project end report approved on 28/6/23 - aim not achieved.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Stretch Outcome exceeded with 595 people upskilled/reskilled.

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report

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	4	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
4	4.1	100% of urgent requests for first stage infant formula and nutritional support for pre-school children are met by 2024.	⚪	May 2023	NHSG, Emma Williams	6	🟢	Working in partnership with CFine & their SAFE team to support families. The Pathway is now in place.Will be testing pathway over the next four months with the Family Nurse Team in the City.
4	4.2	Increase by 10% the no. of parents with children under 5 who are completing a full benefits check by 2024.	⚪	May 2023	NHSG, Emma Williams	6	🟢	Project are testing an amended Financial Inclusion Pathway with health professionals. 18 families referred from NHS into Financial Inclusion Team The CAB Team are tracking data and have had no referrals in the last few months - pathway being monitored.
4	4.3	Increase by 40% the number of Peep programmes delivered by multi-agency partners by 2025.	⚪	Sept 2023	ACC, Natasha Martens	6	🟢	7 multi-agency partners attended Peep training in Sept. Plans for collaboration with Childsmile and ACHSCP to deliver Peep group sessions for in Nov in Mastrick & Tullos in Jan. Next block of ante-natal Peep with HomeStart in Jan. Peep taster sessions at Torry hub in Nov. Practitioners from ACC library delivering Peep sessions where historically has been a lack of service.
4	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.	⚪	Sept 2023	NHSG, Pippa Robbie	6	🟢	Project progressing. Engaging with CFINE for referrals from SAFE team, offering wraparound support for those in food poverty. Collaborating with HomeStart on 'final group cook' at CFINE kitchens, and joint home visits. 2 Childsmile staff Peep trained. Deeside family centre held first Peep session by team.
4	4.5	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.	⚪	Nov 2023	ACHSCP, Pamela Black	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.

Key Outcomes/Activity

4.1 Cash first pathway for infant feeding in a crisis has been agreed and now being tested over the next 4 months with the Family Nurse Team; 4.2 18 families referred from NHS into Financial Inclusion Team for support to complete benefit check

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

1. In 2021/22, 24% of P1 children were identified as being at risk of overweight or obesity – down from 29.3% in 2020/21. No data is available for 2019/20 due to COVID-19. In 2018/19 the rate was 19.7%.
2. 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	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
5	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.	🔘	Sept 2023	NHSG, Phil Mackie	5	🟠	NHS lead identified and preliminary working group discussions taking place. Data being collated and potential service redesign under discussion.
5	5.2	Increase by 5% the number of S1-S6 pupils who report that they feel confident by 2025.	🔘	Sept 2023	ACC, Gael Simpson	5	🟢	Schools have undertaken a further SHINE survey and we await the results. The learners in S1 at Northfield have also undertaken a further wellbeing survey to target more specific planning for individuals. Grampian Women's Aid are working with the staff in S1 to plan elements of the wellbeing curriculum.
5	5.3	Increase by 10% the % of children living in areas of deprivation who feel safe in their communities by 2025.	🔘	Sept 2023	ACC, Craig Singer	5	🟢	The annual survey for this session was completed by 13 October 2023. The results of this are still being analysed. A Number of Youth Clubs are being tested in location in the city to support young people
5	5.4	Reduce waiting time for interventions starting, by each tier 2/3 service by 5% by 2026.	⚫	Nov 2023	NHSG, CAMHS, Siobhan Cowie	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.
5	5.5	Reduce demand on Tier 3 services by 5% by 2026.	🔘	Nov 2023	NHSG, CAMHS, Siobhan Cowie	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

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	5	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.	⬆	01/08/2023	ACC, Isabel McDonnell	6	🟢	Project progressing. Data for 2022/23 shows an increase of 6% from 2021/22 in the number of eligible care experienced young people receiving multi-agency throughcare/aftercare support with 82% receiving support in 21/22 compared to 88% in 22/23.
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.	⚪	01/08/2023	NHSG, Phil Mackie	6	🟠	NHS lead identified and preliminary working group discussions taking place. Data being collated and potential service redesign under discussion.
6	6.3	Increase by 100% the number of partners supporting kinship carers by 2023.	⬆	01/08/2023	ACC, Nicola Clark	6	🟢	The data shows a more consistent picture of the numbers of partners regularly engaging as is the numbers of carers that are not only continuing to receive support but also being referred to partners on a monthly basis. Overall there has been a slight decrease in the number of partners supporting Kinship care from 15-17 and a drop of 171 to 169 in the number of carers being supported.
6	6.4	80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.	⚪	Sept 2023	ACC, Amy Evans	6	🟢	51 staff to date have been trained through CP Training Workshop. A Draft e-module has now been developed. Testing of content with project group to be progressed in Nov and Dec 2023.
6	6.5	Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.	⚪	Sept 2023	ACC, Tam Walker	5	🟢	Baseline data for October 2023 extracted from Dynamics and Dashboard being created for aim. Awaiting analysis of data
6	6.6	80% of care experienced parents will report that they believed they were sufficiently prepared for parenthood by 2026.	⚫	Nov 2023	NHSG, Fiona Mielle	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.

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Key Outcomes/Activity

6.1 Data for 2022/23 shows an increase of 6% from 2021/22 in the number of eligible care experienced young people receiving multi-agency throughcare/aftercare support with 82% receiving support in 21/22 compared to 88% in 22/23.

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

No new OF data to report

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	4	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.	⚪	Sept 2023	ACC, Mark Jones	6	🟢	All schools have now started contributing towards the Pathways Advocate Tracker. This shows that currently 232 young people are being monitored and supported across the eleven Secondary Schools. It remains too early to identify data showing this resulting in improvement.
7	7.2	Increase to 3 the delivery of co-located and delivered services by health and education by 2024.	⚪	Sept 2023	ACC, Alison Horne	6	🟢	Project progressing changes and aligning to other changes to ensure no duplication. Project is beginning testing of an S1 Health and Wellbeing Class, this will be tested out of school hours initially.
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.	⬆	Sept 2023	ACC, Mark Jones	6	🟢	Based on the data held so far the NPA* and HNC 10% targets have been exceeded with only the FA figure not showing an increase. It should be noted that this is prior to the impact of the launch of ABZ Campus which should see a further impact. The project is now focused on sustaining and exceeding the aim.
7	7.4	Increase to 50 the no. of people completing more integrated health and care courses by 2025.	⚪	Sept 2023	NESCOL, Alesia Du Plessis	5	🟢	Charter approved in Sept 23, project progressing.
7	7.5	75% of identified multi-agency staff reporting confidence in identifying and taking action on harm by 2026.	⚪	Nov 2023	ACC, Lisa Williams	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.
7	7.6	Increase by 20% the number of young people completing courses aligned to support the digital and tech sector by 2026.	⚪	Nov 2023	ACC, Charlie Love	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

1. 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%.
2. 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%.
3. 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 similar to the rate for Scotland of 91.8%.
4. 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%.
5. 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	4	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.	⬆	01/08/2023	Police Scotland, Jordan Walker	6	🟢	Overall ASB calls have decreased between May and September 2023 from 366 down to 245 there has been an increase in Street Sport attendance from 1332 in June to 1410 in August. Youth Hubs are being established in Northfied, Kincorth and Bucksburn. Torry and Kincorth Action Groups are currently being re-established and Sport Aberdeen currently piloting a street sport session.
8	8.2	Reduce by 15% the number of care experienced young people reported missing from Children's homes to Police Scotland by 2024.	⚪	01/08/2023	Police Scotland, Kim Wood/Jen Cordiner	5	🟠	Project progressing. Project team are taking 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 now out with the care system invited to provide insight to their experience to improvement agency support and response. ·
8	8.3	90% of 16/17 year olds appearing at Sheriff Court in relation to Lord Advocate's guidance will have had an assessment of their community support needs by 2025.	⚪	Sept 2023	ACC, Andrea McGIll/Julia Milne	5	🟢	The project is identifying gaps in current processes which inhibit earlier pick up points and test new process to mitigate this. Seeking to explore why release on undertakings is not granted for all under 18 year olds.
8	8.4	Increase by 5% the no. of 16/17 year olds who are diverted from prosecution by 2025.	⚪	Sept 2023	ACC, Andrea McGIll/Julia Milne	5	🟢	Project working on a service user journey and linking to community justice standards. Progress may be impacted by change of rep from PF office, as this key to charter meeting its intentions.
8	8.5	Reduce by 20% the number of care experienced young people charged with an offence by 2025.	⚪	Nov 2023	Police Scotland, Kim Wood	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.

Key Outcomes/Activity

Key Issues/Risks

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

Stretch Outcome 9: 100% of our children with Additional Support Needs/ Disabilities will experience a positive destination 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 ▼
⚪	7	67	4	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.	⬆️	Sept 2023	Barnardos, Carole Chambers	6	🟢	Project progressing see key outcomes - since project established there has been a 16% increase in the number of young carers accessing support between April and October 2023 (113-134). 5 different agencies across the city have been trained and the promotion re self-directed referral for young carers.
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.	⚫	Sept 2023	NHSG, Wilma Paxton-Docherty	6	🟢	The Neurodevelopmental Pathway model (referral, assessment, formulation, diagnosis and post diagnosis planning and support) aimed at increasing the number of families of children with autism or awaiting diagnosis accessing support prior to diagnosis, has been established in Woodside School as a single point of referral. This has shown a promising increase in the number of families accessing support. Resource has been secured to expand the project, a successful pilot was carried out in Bucksburn with a single point of contact model, other schools are now being identified for further testing.
9	9.3	Increase by 5%, the percentage of young people with additional support needs/disability entering a positive destination by 2025.	⚪	Sept 2023	ACC, Mhairi Shewan	6	🟢	Pilot has been established around a group of learners and guidance being developed. There will be parent and agency events to support.
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.	⚫	Sept 2023	NHSG, Anne Brockman	5	🟢	A survey to establish parents and carers experience of Whole Family Support for ASN/Disabilities has now been developed, this will be used to establish a baseline for the project.
9	9.5	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.	⚪	Nov 2023	Mhairi Shewan, ACC	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.
9	9.6	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.	⚫	Nov 2023	ACC, Lisa Williams	3	🟢	Charter on today's agenda.
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.	⚫	01/08/2023	ACC, Claire Graham	3	🟠	Charter due, but requested to be postponed in light of changes to the chairing of SO9 Sub Group. A PM has been confirmed and will progress with developing a charter for the next CPA Board cycle

Key Outcomes/Activity

9.1 The number of young carers accessing support has increased from April 23 – August 2023 from 113 –134 in line with the recorded figures for 2022. 5 different agencies across the city have been trained and the promotion re self-directed referral for young carers, this has seen an increase in the number of self referrals and referrals from agencies.

Key Issues/Risks

The Subgroup responsible for oversight of SO9 projects does not presently have a permanent Chair, the CSB has identified interim measures to mitigate this however this has delayed progress of 1 of the 3 new charters due for the November CPA Board cycle. An Project Manager has now been secured , however whilst additional support is given, it is requested that the final charter be postponed for submission to CPMG/CPA Board until the January 2024 cycle.

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	🟢

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	🏳	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	🏳	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	🏳	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	🟠	Project progressing with 66 members of staff within ACC Third Party Reporting trained and 2 new Third Party Reporting Centres (TPRC) established. 10 TPRCs have engaged with the new network via the TPR Forum – quarterly attendance with increasing attendance for each forum. 14 police officers trained as Hate Crime Advisors – their role is to be deployed at events, protests and similar to support the operational commander with specialist advice around any hate elements. 20 officers trained as Hate Crime Champions. Online ED&I training package is live for local Police Scotland. It is mandatory and all officer have completed it. Officers have to complete this annually.
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	🟢	Data for 22/23 expected in Nov 23. Training ongoing with 2 staff members has now completed the Safe and Together Certified Trainer programme. They are now in a position to deliver Overview and Core training. A further 2 staff members have just started the Certified Trainer programme w/c 4th September. The project is engaging with young people to co-design and create a short piece of media on what domestic abuse looks like for young people. The animation will be designed and created by young people including those with lived experience of domestic abuse.
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	🏳	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	🏳	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	🟢	Project end report on today's agenda.

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.

Key Issues/Risks

Stretch Outcome 11: Healthy life expectancy (time lived 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	5	5	3	🟠

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	Reduce the rolling 3-year average number of suicides in Aberdeen to below 26 (2019) by 2023.	Police Scotland, Barry Stewart	⬇ (red)	Feb 2024	N, S & C	6	🟠	Data from September 2023 indicates the overall rolling 3 year average is 28.6. This shows an increase of 3.3 compared to baseline data in 2019. Project progressing a number of changes however analysis of the impact of these required. Rates of attempted suicide (Police contact only) in Aberdeen continue to fall, from 31 per 100,000 in 2020 to 23 per 100,000 currently.
11.2	Increase opportunities for people to increase their contribution to communities (volunteering) by 10% by 2023.	ACC, Colin Wright	⬆ (green)	N/A - Project Ended - 19/4/23	N & C	10	🚩	Aim has been achieved. Project End report approved on 19/4/23.
11.3	Support 100 people to feel confident to promote wellbeing and good health choices by 2023.	ACHSCP, Chris Smillie	⬆ (green)	N/A - Project Ended 6/9/23	N, S & C	10	🚩	Aim has been achieved. Project End report approved on 06/09/23.
11.4	Reduce tobacco smoking by 5% overall by 2023	AHSCP, Chris Smillie	⬆ (green)	N/A - Project Ended 6/9/23	N & C	10	🚩	Aim has been achieved. Project End report approved on 06/09/23.
11.5	Reduce youth homelessness by 6% by 2023.	ACC, TBC	➡	Feb 2024	None	6	🟠	PM has moved post, new PM to be confirmed. Youth homelessness increasing. Changes being tested, however impact to be considered. Since the launch of Nightstop, 6 hosts have been trained however 5 are currently inactive for the following reasons detailed in project update and unfortunately none of the 5 referrals have resulted in a host stay. Upstream launched in Northfield Academy with 140 students responding. A list of students that identified in high risk for one more of the four areas, have been sent to the guidance team at Northfield Academy.
11.6	Increase the number of unpaid carers feeling supported by 10% by 2023.	Quarriers, Andrew Falconer	⬆ (green)	Nov 2023	N & S	8	🟢	Aim achieved, project end report on today's agenda.
11.7	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.	NHSG, Tracy Davis	⚪ (grey)	Feb 2024	N, S & C	6	🔴	Update needed, status of project unknown and no data to show progress towards the overall aim. Chair of RIS has tried to meet with PM to discuss status and next steps, however this has not been possible. PM has not been engaging with the RIS Group. Therefore, position being escalated to Management Group for discussion.
11.8	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.	NHSG, Ben Elliot	⬆ (green)	Nov 2023	N & C	8	🟢	Aim achieved, project end report on today's agenda.

Key Outcomes/Activity

11.5 - Upstream launched in Northfield Academy with a total of 140 S4-S6 students participating.
11.6 and 11.8 aims achieved

Key Issues/Risks

11.5 Data showing a continued increase in youth homelessness with between Apr 23 and Sept 2023 there were 247 youth homeless presentations, an increase of 9% compered to the same period for 2022 (226) - impact of Nightstop change idea - to do date 5 referrals and none have resulted in a host stay
11.7 Pace and progress of project 11.7 - status of project unknown, PM not engaging.

Stretch Outcome 12: Rate of harmful levels of alcohol consumption reduced by 4% and drug related deaths lower than Scotland by 2026

Overall Progress

No of. LOIP Project Aims	No. of Live Project Aims	No. of Aims Achieved	No. of Aims Ended	Overall RAG
9	6	3	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	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.	↑	Feb 2024	ACC, Steve McConnachie	None	7	🟢	Project progressing and showing on line to achieve aim. Project end report will be submitted to Feb 2024 Board meeting to enable data from final testing to be gathered.
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	↑	Nov 2023	ACC, Niki Paterson	None	8	🟢	Aim achieved, project end report on today's agenda.
12.3	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.	↓	Feb 2024	ACC, Lucy Simpson	N	7	🟠	There were a total of 65 new Aberdeen City sign-ups from 1 July to 30 September 2023. The number of sign-ups peaked in the second week of July, and the first two weeks in August. September sign-ups were low. A total of 54% new users converted into active users, which is defined as someone who enters at least one status day in the reporting period. There were 3037 dry days recorded over the quarter, an average of 30.4 dry days per person. A total of 819 drinking days were recorded over the quarter. The average number of recorded drinking days were 8.2 days per person. There were 325 planned drinking days entered in the quarter. This was an average of 3.3 planned drinking days per person.
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	↓	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	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.	→	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	Reduce the incidence of fatal drug overdose through innovative developments and by increasing the distribution of naloxone by 10% year on year by 2022.	↑	Apr, June, Sept, Nov 2023	ACHSCP, Simon Rayner	S	6	🟢	Project end report is on today's agenda.
12.7	Increase opportunities for individuals who have been at risk of Blood Borne Viruses, being tested and accessing treatment by 2023.	↑	Nov 2023	NHS, Lisa Allerton	C	8	🟢	Aim achieved, project end report on today's agenda.
12.8	Increase uptake of drug treatment and specifically within Locality Areas by 10% each year by 2023.	↑	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	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.	→	Feb 2024	ACHSCP, Simon Rayner	N & C	6	🟠	Project focusing on testing new locations, variety of recovery groups so meeting wide ranging interests and promotion of these groups. As part of this ADA have established a new property with premises to focus on recovery, with facilitated group work and social activities available. An event on the 26th June with 96 attendees to discuss stigma and a human rights approaches to addiction. A charter of rights will be developed as an outcome of that workshop. Funding application to progress a bespoke employability pathway for people in recovery being considered.

Key Outcomes/Activity

12.3 - There were a total of 65 new Aberdeen City Try Dry app sign-ups from 1 July to 30 September 2023. A total of 54% new users converted into active users, which is defined as someone who enters at least one status day in the reporting period.

12.6 - 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.

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 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

No new OF data to report

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 continuing to progress via 75 green champions. However, project struggling to report impact of the current initiatives - limited impact being made towards overall aim. Survey of Green Champs indicates that there is a lot happening in Green Champions which are not recorded. Such as reducing waste in meetings, switching to glasses instead of plastic, and leading sustainable change in their own working groups.
13.2	Reduce the generation of waste in Aberdeen by 8% by 2023.	→	Feb 2024	NHS, Phil Mackie	C	6	🟠	A new PM commenced in July 2023 and has now held multi-agency meeting with to try and utilise external groups more widely in the project. 3 new change ideas have been identified and are being developed. Project Manager highlighted that aim is unlikely to be achieved by 2023 and this is being considered by Sustainable City Group when developing refreshed LOIP.
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	🟠	Community resilience conference held on 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. Project raising that aim may not be achieved.

Key Outcomes/Activity

13.2 The amount of household waste generated in 2022 fell by just under 5,000 tonnes (-5.3%) on 2021 to 88,802 tonnes, reversing the upwards trend of the previous 2 years.
13.3 Community Resilience Conference held on 2 October 2023, a dynamic event focused on building more resilient communities. The conference was aimed at established community groups who are looking to begin or enhance their resilience activities with innovative strategies and practical solutions to enhance community resilience explored.

Key Issues/Risks

1. 13.1 - Project struggling to report impact of the current initiatives - limited impact being made towards overall aim.
2. 13.2 - Status of project - no active changes at present, however new PM commenced and 3 new changes being developed. Project highlighting that aim is unlikely to be acheived by end of 2023.
3. 13.3- project highlighting that aim is unlikely to be achieved by end of 2023.

Latest Outcomes Framework Data

1. In 2022, 88,802 tonnes of household waste was generated in Aberdeen City – down from 93,747 in 2021. 41.8% was recycled in 2022, compared to 45.4% in 2021

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
14.1	Increase % of people who walk as one mode of travel by 10% by 2023.	➡	Feb 2024	Nestrans, TBC	N & C	6	🟠	Project manager has left and new PM TBC. 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. Whilst positive impact was being seen from first follow up pedestrian count, the Project Team were to identifying further changes to be tested to support the aim being achieved. Further data on other change ideas previously tested e.g. health walks, use of SCARF helpline to be provided.
14.2	Increase % of people who cycle as one mode of travel by 2% by 2023.	➡	Feb 2024	Nestrans, TBC	N, S & C	6	🟠	Project manager has left and new PM TBC. The bike recycling project launched on 10 June and data on numbers of bikes being upcycled will be available soon. Big issue E-Bike Hire Scheme in Aberdeen was launched in early November 2022. This is progressing well, with the number of sites across the city increasing. Rents have increased each month since March 2023.

Key Outcomes/Activity

14.2 - e-bike rentals have increased each month since March 2023, with a peak in Aug 23.

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	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.	⬆	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	Increase community food growing in schools, communities and workplaces by 12 2023.	⬆	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	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).	⬆	Feb 2024	ACC, Steven Shaw	S	7	🟢	6 organisations signed up to pledge at least 10% of their land to nature as at Sept 2023.

Key Outcomes/Activity

15.3 - 6 organisations signed up to pledge at least 10% of their land to nature as at Sept 2023.

Key Issues/Risks

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	🟢

Project Aim Status

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	Increase the rate and representativeness of the response to Aberdeen City Voice to 63% by 2024.	⬆	ACC/SHMU, Dave Black	6	🟢	Good progress being made in terms of faster turnaround time for City Voice 47 –the report was sent to participants on31/08/2023 which was a further reduction on previous surveys (see figure 4). We have started testing various approaches to recruitment using new materials. 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-fresh 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	100% of decisions which impact on children and young people are informed by them by 2026 (LOIP Stretch Outcome 8).	→	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. Project now developing further test, based on the place standard tool, for engaging C&YP as part of the development of the refreshed LOIP/Locality Plans.
16.3	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.	→	ACC, Allison Swanson	6	🟢	New templates being tested, with mixed success, but improvement in September/August compared to July. As of September, out of 50 live projects, 16 (30%) reported community ideas were being tested with 41 ideas detailed and 17 (34%) projects did not complete the sections. 15 projects (30%) were at stages 6 (co-designing), 7 (Co-producing) or 8 (Self Determination) on the empowerment ladder. Other changes ideas being designed with a view to rolling out changes once the refreshed LOIP and Locality Plans had been approved in April 2024. Community engagement now added to the QI bootcamp. Project reviewing data from the easy read locality plans to reflect progress towards the aim.
16.4	Increase number and diversity of community members participating in community planning at a meaningful level (Rung 5 and above) by 100% by 2024.	→	ACC/ACHSCP, Jade Leyden & Iain Robertson	6	🟢	The first round of LEG meetings have taken place and change ideas being progressed with community members. Six community engagement sessions will be held during October to capture views on what is working in localities and across the city and what can be improved. This will also seek to increase members of the LEGs/PNPs both via the in person and online engagement. Events will be held across our three locality areas, including all our priority neighbourhoods. The Locality Planning Team will lead these sessions utilising Public Health Scotland's Place Standard Tool. LEG and PNP members will be offered the opportunity to participate and co-design/deliver the sessions
16.5	70% of community led organisations feeling supported by partners to access funding for community led initiatives by 2025.	⚪	ACVO, Maggie Hepburn	5	🔴	Project exploring potential for cross referring and coordinating activity between local funders and are progressing a number of changes to support achievement of the aim and testing with a couple of test organisations/ individuals from each of the local funds and survey them pre- and post-application process. Changes include a funding Channel for local Aberdeen fund holders has been set up on ACVO Teams site - Plan for the hosting of a timeline of local funds on the ACVO Funding page. - Creation of a presentation that can be used by all funders describing each fund with advice and guidance.
16.6	Increase awareness of community led projects across the City and help celebrate and promote at least 70% of known community led projects by 2024.	⚪	SHMU, Murray Dawson	6	🔴	Project update required, data on community groups celebrated at community gathering to be reflected in data.
16.7	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.	⚪	NHSG/Grampian Engagement Network, Elaine McConachie	5	🟠	Project continuing to scope the digital toolkit with a MS Form issued and responses being reviewed to help inform content of the toolkit. The project are utilising the Grampian Engagement Network to develop a staff toolkit and recruit volunteers for community toolkit, opportunities to get involved advertised at SCDC training event and CAN workshop.

Key Outcomes/Activity

16.3 and 16.4 - Engagement, based on Public Health Scotland's Place Standard Tool, to gather the views of all residents to support the refresh of the LOIP and Locality Plans was held from 6 Oct-5 Nov 2023. To ensure all are aware of the opportunity and supported to participate, there were a range of opportunities to participate. These included an online tool; 6 locality in person events; engagement designed for children and young people; and targeted awareness and support for groups of people often not heard from. The 6 community events were held across our three locality areas, including all our priority neighbourhoods. The engagement also raised awareness of the opportunities to get involved in Community Planning.

Key Issues/Risks

Regular data to show impact of the changes and progress towards the overall aim.

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%).

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
4.5	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.	Pamela Black, AHSCP
5.4	Reduce waiting time for interventions starting, by each tier 2/3 service by 5% by 2026.	Siobhan Crawford, CAMHS
5.5	Reduce demand on Tier 3 services by 5% by 2026.	Siobhan Crawford, CAMHS
6.6	80% of care experienced parents will report that they believed they were sufficiently prepared for parenthood by 2026	Fiona Mielle, NHSG
7.5	75% of identified multi-agency staff reporting confidence in identifying and taking action on harm by 2026.	Lisa Williams, ACC
7.6	Increase by 20% the number of young people completing courses aligned to support the digital and tech sector by 2026.	Charlie Love, ACC
8.5	Reduce by 20% the number of care experienced young people charged with an offence by 2025.	Kim Wood, Police Scotland
9.5	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	Mhairi Shewan, ACC
9.6	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.	Lisa Williams, ACC

Appendix 3
Project End Reports

Contents

Ref	Improvement Aim	Project Manager
2.1	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.	Martin Barry, Scottish Enterprise
10.8	Reduce the number of drug related deaths occurring within 6 months of liberation from custody from 10 to zero by 2023.	Fiona Wright, ACHSCP
11.6	Increase the number of unpaid carers feeling supported by 10% by 2023.	Andrew Falconer/Anna Schmidt, Quarriers
11.8	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.	Grace Milne, ACHSCP
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	Niki Paterson, ACC
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
12.7	Increase opportunities for individuals who have been at risk of Blood Borne Viruses, being tested and accessing treatment by 2023.	Lisa Allerton, NHSG

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Community Planning
Aberdeen

Progress Report	#KeepingThePromise Year 2 Evaluation Report
Lead Officer	Chair of Corporate Parenting Group: Graeme Simpson
Report Author	Amy Evans
Date of Report	03 October 2023
Governance Group	CPA Board – 29 November 2023

Purpose of the Report

To provide assurance to the CPA Board on the progress made by Aberdeen City partners in delivering against Plan 21 – 24.

Summary of Key Information

1   BACKGROUND

1.1 The Independent Care Review - The Promise was published in February 2020. This was a seismic report setting out the need for transformational change to how services are delivered to children, young people and families. As a result, the report has implications for all partners across the Community Planning Partnership.

1.2 Plan 21-24 is the first of three 3-year plans developed by Promise Scotland to ensure the recommendations of The Promise are delivered by 2030. Promise Scotland are currently considering if the publication of two further 3 year plans, or one single six year plan would best support Community Planning Partners to #Keep the Promise.

2   PLAN 21-24

2.1 Plan 21 – 24, published in March 2021, set out the priorities for partners to deliver on across five priority areas:
   i.   A Good Childhood
   ii.   Whole Family Support
   iii.   Supporting the Workforce
   iv.   Building Capacity
   v.   Planning

2.2 The majority of change activity outlined in Plan 21-24 requires partners to work collaboratively, however there are also a number of change activities that require a single agency response.

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2.3 Given the breadth of transformational change required it was thought prudent to evaluate progress to date to help inform our work over the final year of the current Promise Plan. Taking this approach has enabled the Children's Services Board to have full oversight of multi and single agency work and identify clear next steps. It should be noted that some aspects of Plan 21 - 24 require legislative change and/or national policy direction and partners remain ready to respond timeously to changes in national policy when known.

2.4 There is a risk that Plan 21 – 24 is viewed as a stand-alone action plan. Given the transformational nature of the Plan, and the shift to providing preventative and early intervention to prevent needs from escalating, there are a number of strategic plans that contribute to delivery of The Promise. These include:
   i.   Local Outcome Improvement Plan
   ii.   Children's Services Plan
   iii.   Child Protection Improvement Programme
   iv.   Corporate Parenting Improvement Plan
   v.   National Improvement Framework

2.5 The attached report (**Appendix 1**) provides CPA Board with a summary of progress made by partners in Year 2 of the 3 year plan. Reviewing progress at this point has helped inform our approach to delivering on Plan 21-24 by the end of 2024.

2.6 Significant progress has been made in Year 2. Joint working has explored the factors that contribute to children being placed within the care system and this improved understanding is helping to better prevent family situations escalating to the point of statutory measures requiring to be put in place. The on-going need to focus on the children and young people on the edges of care, those in conflict with the law, those who experience multiple traumas and children with disabilities has been built into our Children's Services Plan and a number of tests of change are progressing well.

2.7 The CPA Board is asked to note the progress made in Year 2 of Plan 21 – 24 and instruct the Children's Services Board (CSB) to consider the findings of this self-evaluation as they review the impact of work on the current Children's Services Plan. Taking this approach will help the CSB determine if any changes require to be made to the current Children's Services Plan as part of the refresh of the LOIP.

3   NEXT STEPS

3.1 Use the evidence from this report to inform the Statutory Children's Services Plan progress report which requires to be submitted to Scottish Government in Spring 2024.

3.2 In June 2023, The Promise Scotland in their evaluation of progress to deliver on Plan 21 – 24 assessed that Scotland was unlikely to fully deliver on the plan by 31 March 2024. They acknowledged the impact of COVID on staff and services as well as the impact of the cost of living crisis. The impact of these events on vulnerable children and families only serves to reinforce the need for all Corporate Parents to commit to #keepthepromise.

3.3 The Promise Scotland team has identified 3 areas of Plan 21 – 24 they feel need to be prioritised. These are broadly align with our evaluation and include:
- Brothers and sisters
- Educations
- Moving on from care

3.4 The elements of Plan 21 -24 which are anticipated not to be fully delivered within timescale will be included in the next national plan that will shape how Scotland keeps the Promise. The Promise Scotland team are currently working on Plan 24 – 30 which it is anticipated will be published in Spring 2024.

Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that members of the CPA Board:

(i)   instruct the Children's Services Board to fully consider the findings of this self-evaluation as they review and report the impact of work on the current Children's Services Plan in order to determine if any changes require to be made to the current Children's Services Plan as part of the refresh of the LOIP.

Opportunities and Risks

The findings of the Independent Care Review set out the need for a fundamental shift to how services meet the needs of children, young people and families. Adopting a rights based, trauma informed approach and ensuring children's voices are central to the design of services will support children to remain within the care of their family. Children should only be removed from their family where it is unsafe, not because services cannot provide for their needs. It is strongly anticipated that reporting on our collective progress to deliver on The Promise will be mandated in the coming years.

Delivery of The Promise is fully aligned to the LOIP and many of our other strategic priorities/plans. It will require agencies to collaborate and integrate to provide agile and responsive support. Support that more effectively recognises the corrosive impact of poverty and does not further stigmatise children, young people and families. Failure to deliver on the aspirations of The Promise will continue to result in children not achieving their potential as well as requiring high-cost interventions. At a time when public resources are continually reducing the need to drive forward delivery of Plan 21 - 24 has a financial as well as "it is the right thing to do" imperativeness.

Consultation

The progress report has been presented to and endorsed by the CS Board and CPA Management Group.

Background Papers

The Promise - Independent Care Review

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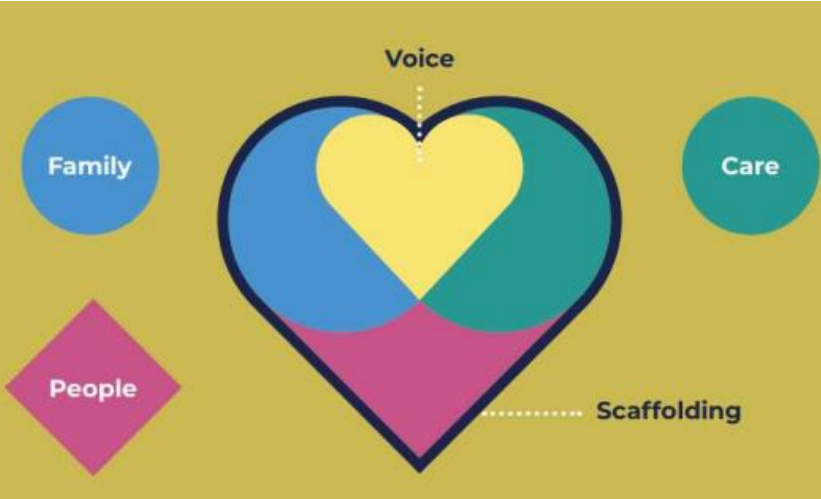
Is Aberdeen Keeping The Promise?

Year 2 Evaluation Report

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR

The Promise made following the Independent Care Review made it clear that the current 'care system' in Scotland isn't working and that families need earlier, preventative supports which are easy to access, support children to remain in their communities, and where that is not possible, that support is provided in ways that do not feel stigmatising.

The Promise can only be kept by Community Planning Partners working together. As a result we have organised all of work to keep the Promise in our partnership Plan for children. Our Children's Services Plan is one of a suite of Statutory Plans supporting delivery of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).

Our Children's Services Plan 2023-2026 takes full account of the foundations of The Promise and of the Priority Areas in Plan 21-24. All partners represented at the Children's Services Board assume collective responsibility for the delivery of The Promise and routinely monitor progress. Taking this approach helps ensure that we focus our time and resources effectively and that we can demonstrate progress towards delivery.

In evaluating our progress, we have reviewed the impact of work undertaken since Plan 21-24 was first published to get a clear sense of where we are, what we still need to do and any barriers to fully delivering on Plan 21-24.

In June 2023, The Promise Scotland assessed that Scotland was unlikely to fully deliver on the Plan 21 – 24 by March 2024. Within their assessment they acknowledged the impact of COVID on staff and services as well as the impact of the cost of living crisis. The elements of Plan 21 - 24 which are anticipated not to be fully delivered within timescale will be carried forward into the next national plan that will shape how Scotland #keepsthePromise. **Plan 24 – 30** is anticipated to be published in Spring 2024.

We intend to continue to adopt many of the data sets informing this evaluation to help us track on-going progress. This will help ensure that we maintain a focus on the areas for action in Plan 21-24 when subsequent Promise Plans are published. We are proud of the changes we have made but recognise there is more to do.

Graeme Simpson
Chief Social Work Officer and Chair of the Corporate Parenting Group

GOVERNANCE

The Aberdeen City Community Planning Partnership has a range of highly effective governance arrangements in place including our Chief Officers Group (COG), Child Protection Committee (CPC) and Children's Services Board (CSB). These arrangements, where candor, curiosity and accountability between partners is actively encouraged, has significantly aided more common practice and a shared and ongoing culture of improvement around public protection.

The Children's Services Board is governed by and accountable to the Community Planning Management Board, which in turn is accountable to Community Planning Aberdeen.
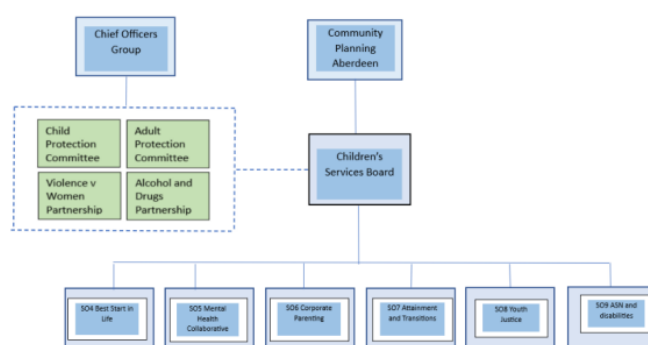
The Children's Services Board has responsibility for:

- The delivery of the Children's Services Plan and associated Stretch Outcomes 4-9 of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

- Working together as a Community Planning Partnership to improve outcomes for children and young people within Aberdeen City

- Leading the implementation of national policy and legislation pertaining to children and young people such as The Promise.

Actions that support delivery of The Promise are embedded within the Action Plans of each of the Sub Groups. As a result, each Sub Group has a direct responsibility in delivering The Promise. We continue to recognise the fundamental and corrosive impact of poverty on the lives of children and families and have deliberately woven actions to address poverty through the work of all Sub Groups. The Children's Services Board routinely report progress against the child poverty agenda to ensure that learning from evaluation in associated areas informs our next steps.

Corporate Parenting Group

Aberdeen City's Corporate Parenting Group is a Sub Group of the Children's Services Board. It has responsibility for delivering on aims set out in the LOIP and associated Children's Services Plan under Stretch Outcome 6 and coordinating our evaluation of progress against The Promise. The Group leads on the delivery of the Corporate Parenting Improvement Plan and quality assurance activity in relation to children and young people with care experience.

The Corporate Parenting Group aims to ensure that; *"95% of care experienced children and young people will have the same levels of attainment in education, health and emotional wellbeing, and positive destinations as their peers by 2026"* and has established a number of Improvement Projects to help realise this aim. These include those designed to:

- Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.
- Ensure that 100% of children and young people leaving care are offered a health assessment to identify gaps in their health provision and needs by 2024.
- Increase the number of young people with care experience by 10% receiving multi-agency throughcare/aftercare support by 2023.
- Reduce the number of children being permanently removed from parents with care experience.
- Increase by 100% the number of partners supporting kinship carers by 2023.
- Ensure that 80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.

In preparing this evaluation, the Corporate Parenting Group has worked with Community Planning Partners to evaluate progress against each of the 25 actions listed in Plan 21-24. These 25 actions are organised under the 5 priority areas, A good Childhood, Whole Family Support, Supporting the Workforce, Building Capacity and Planning.

Our Progress in delivering Priority 1, A Good Childhood

The Promise made a number of commitments to children and young people and Plan 2021-24 highlights 25 priority areas for action over the lifetime of Plan 2021-24. We have listed the policy context and then evaluated our progress against this context to help identify areas to be further progressed over the third year of the Plan 21-24. Next steps that are not yet planned for are included in red, all other next steps listed are already included in currently published Plans. Readers should note that there is some crossover between the 25 priorities for action.

> **On a Good Childhood, The Promise says,** 'Children who have been removed from their family of origin and live in and around the 'care system' will have a good, loving childhood. Ensuring that children in Scotland's 'care system' feel loved, their needs are met, and their rights are upheld is a priority for 21-24. This change is urgent, it must be a focus for all organisations that have responsibility towards care experienced children and young people'.

> **On support, Plan 2021-24 says,** 'Every child that is 'in care' in Scotland will have access to intensive support that ensures their educational and health needs are fully met. Local Authorities and Health Boards will take active responsibility towards care experienced children and young people, whatever their setting of care, so they have what they need to thrive'.

Undertaking strategic analysis

As a Community Planning Partnership we have worked together to explore the factors that contribute to children being placed within the care system to help us better work together to prevent family situations escalating to the point of statutory measures requiring to be put in place. Taking this approach has helped shift our focus to prevention and helped us identify particular groups of children and young people currently more at risk. The need to focus on the children and young people on the edges of care, those in conflict with the law, those who experience multiple traumas and children with disabilities has been built into our Children's Services Plan and a number of tests of change are progressing well.

Establishing our Edge of Care Pilots

The Education Service and Children's Social Work collaborated with partners to develop a shared sense of what is meant by the 'edges of care' in an attempt to ensure that appropriate supports are in place and targeted to help restrict the number of children who experience the care system. This thinking guided the establishment of two Edge of Care Pilots to explore new ways of partnership working and early evaluation is positive. Staff teams within the pilots were empowered to think creatively and consider the needs of children and families more holistically.

Following the initial identification of young people by senior leaders in Education and Children's Social Work, the pilot team brought together information to build a more informed understanding of need, this included building relationships with the families to understand their situation more fully. As the pilot has progressed and relationships have been built, plans for young people have

become more bespoke in response to the critical insight gleaned from families and the young people.

From the outset the pilots recognised the criticality of how young people and families were engaged with. Connecting with the learning gained via the Fit Like Service, staff adopted a relational and trauma informed approach. This ensured that the support offer for each young person was based around the barriers they identified to being able to engage in education. Interventions are therefore individualised and have included:

- play-based support and structured work to explore feelings and emotions
- supporting parents to understand the impact of feelings on behaviours, academic input (literacy / numeracy/ASDAN awards/ dynamic youth awards),
- liaising with schools adapting timetables, strategies and other supports,
- activities including sport, working with others and managing relationships.
- families are supported to access weekly community connection sessions, financial support, support to access health

As the pilots progressed, the benefit of a weekly meeting between a key school link and the pilot team became apparent with a notable positive impact on transitions around school where these structures were in place. This practice has been now been replicated across both settings.

Young people engaging in the pilots are keen to share they feel listened to and value having an adult they can trust to talk to. Families tell us they value having someone who is seen to be neutral in terms of school and other agencies. As the pilot has progressed positive relationships have been built up allowing families to be more honest about the issues being experienced at home and allowing staff to target support more successfully.

The core measures identified to measure impact were the number of young people involved in the pilot, attendance at pilot sessions, exclusions and the number of VPD reports (Vulnerable Person Database). Consideration was also given to a number of indicators that would give an indication of progress towards more positive outcomes.

The number of young people engaging with the pilots has varied over time according to assessed need. Since September 2022, 68 young people have been supported across both ASGs.

Where it was agreed in consultation with staff, young people and families that the pilot was not the most appropriate intervention the family have been supported to access alternative supports. This has included more focused support through the Virtual School (8), Fit Like Family Wellbeing Service (8), RAFT (2), Craigielea (1), Employment (2) or revised supports in school (1). This highlights the need to view the pilots as part of a wider model (or continuum) of Family Support and accept that no one model will work for all children and families.
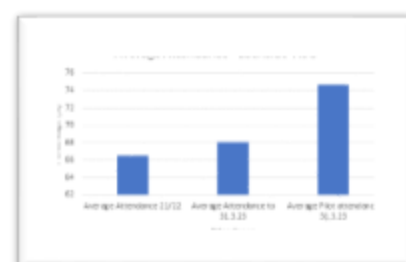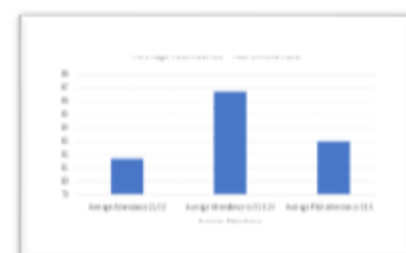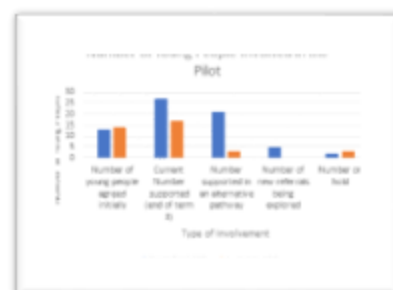
Average attendance for young people engaged in the pilot has improved against levels from the previous session across both schools. In most cases this increase in attendance is thought to be due to a key worker being on site and available to the young person should they require support.

The number of exclusions for young people engaged in the pilot has reduced since the pilot began and this can be attributed to the positive relationships developed and resultant changes being made to the offer available in schools.

As young people have engaged with the pilot there has been a reduction in the number of VPD reports school has received in connection with their behaviour in the community. This could be related to the increase in attendance at pilot sessions however it is too soon to draw firm conclusions given that the pilots have only been fully operational from December 2022.

Sadly, progress in school session 2023/24 has been hampered by the fixed term nature of the resource supporting the two pilots. The loss of staff with established relationships with families is thought likely to be detrimental to the pilots and requires to be considered fully.

As the full evaluation is concluded consideration will be given to how this model might be scaled up as we continue to develop our preventative Family Support model. Nationally defining 'care experienced' and 'edges of care' in legislation would enable easier identification of those who have experienced care in Management Information Systems and aid the easier extraction of data to monitor trends given the very low numbers of those with a current status of 'Looked After' in our schools. The use of grant funding resulting in the appointment of fixed term posts will be considered fully.

Family Support through our Fit Like Hubs
The Fit Like Hub, a multi-disciplinary rights based and family first service established in 2022, continues to help ensure that families can access early and preventative support. Our Fit Like Hubs have supported 1043 families with an increasing percentage of self-referrals (currently 10%). In April 2023 401 young people/families were engaging with the service and 146 of the 401 are families who were being supported for the first time.

There is clear evidence that engagement with the service realises:
- Parents feeling supported to manage their anxieties and worries
- Parents/carers and children and young people feeling listened to and heard
- Strengthened family relationships
- Improved child mental health and wellbeing.
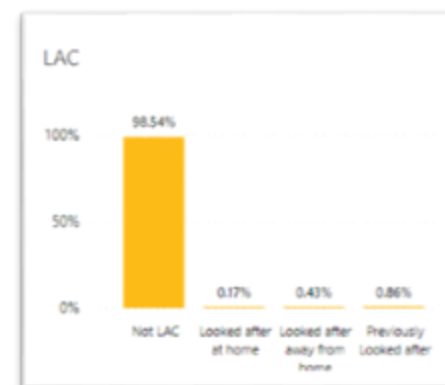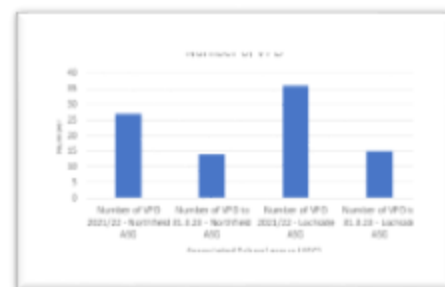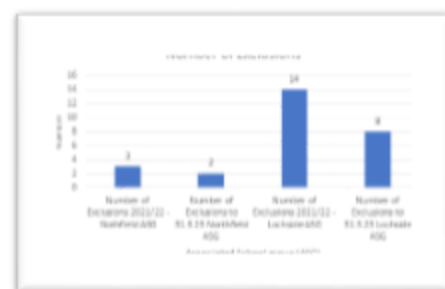
Those accessing the service tell us that it feels like a bespoke service and that it is the first time support has 'felt right'. As a result we have the confidence in our ability to deliver high quality, rights based integrated services that adapt based on what children and families tell us. Families tell us that they appreciate this and other more integrated services and this feedback is helping to shape our work to establish a Bairns Hoose.

Increasing the provision of universal support

Schools are working in partnership with Fit Like Aberdeen and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) colleagues to further develop LIAM (Let's Introduce Anxiety Management) supports. This multi-agency collaboration will continue to build on the current supports we have in place across many schools in order to strengthen the universal offer to children and families. All school nurses are currently trained to deliver LIAM, as are some Fit Like staff. 25 schools also have trained staff with 23 further staff currently being trained.

Supporting the prevention and early intervention model has seen Sport Aberdeen commit to increasing the accessibility of sport and physical activity, ensuring that barriers to participation are removed for care experienced children, young people, their families and support networks. This has included a commitment to offering free 'Get Active' memberships to care experienced children, siblings, parents and carers, with over 600 distributed to date. The introduction of an Active Schools Coordinator has also seen improved access to Active Schools extra-curricular and leadership programmes, with work being undertaken with sports clubs and organisations to bridge the gap into universal services. This places emphasis on working in partnership with children, young people and their families to access community-based sport and physical activity, building connections and promoting wider wellbeing, whilst reducing the negative effects of adverse childhood experiences and trauma. The increase of capacity and therefore focus on increasing provision has been made possible through an increased level of resources being provided by Sport Aberdeen, funding from Aberdeen City Council and the successful application in 2022 for additional funding from Sport Scotland to provide additional staffing resource with a focus on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Integration to provide more targeted support

Health and education offer targeted Early Learning and Childcare at the Links Hub for those families who seek additional support. The popularity of this model has seen enrolments increase from 40 when the setting was first operational in August 2021, to over 110 now as a result of professional or self-referrals by families. Aberdeen Sports Village are working in partnership with the Links Hub to offer learn to swim programmes to the young learners who attend the Hub.

Case Study Links Hub

The partnership between health and (early) education sits at the heart of the work undertaken at Links Nursery and Hub. The setting prides themselves on building trusting, therapeutic relationships, which give families the opportunity to voice their needs and the challenges they face. The focus being to reduce referrals to other services out with the Hub and to increase and improve engagement of families within our service.

There is a weekly children's meeting held within the Links Nursery and Hub to promote information sharing and multiagency working. Speech and Language Therapy, Health Visitor, Centre Manager and Excellence and Equity Practitioners are represented. Robust planning support takes place for children and their families who are facing adversity, with Child A providing an example of how this approach is improving outcomes:

Child A's parent was recently diagnosed with a health condition impacting their capacity to parent. The parent was also struggling with Child A's behaviour, which had deteriorated since the onset of their own ill health. Nursery noted this behaviour change, a change of pattern in attendance, and other family member doing almost all pick-ups and drop-offs. These changes prompted a discussion with health visitor, which resulted in a home visit where parent shared her challenges. This information was conveyed at our meeting, which led to structured support from health and education. Parent was offered one-to-one PEEP (Parents as Early Education Partners) sessions with our Excellence and Equity Practitioner (within the hub) alongside behavioural support within the home. Travel support was also offered to increase the child's attendance. The parent disclosed that they felt a support network now surrounded them.

Outcomes: there has been an increase in engagement with both health visitor and hub centre manager and an improvement in child A's attendance at nursery and at health-related appointments.

It is important to note that families are involved at all levels of future planning support for their children. This new, collaborative way of working at the Links Nursery and Hub involves children at the heart of decisions made to improve their positive future health and education outcomes.

The centre opened in 2021 with 40 registered children and now has around 110 children supported on a daily basis evidencing the desire of parents to access joined up services.

Provision of Intensive Support

All children in care have access to a social worker and a multi-agency plan ensuring health and educational needs are actively addressed. There are well-established formal review processes which have been enhanced following the adoption of D365. Every effort is made to retain children and young people in placements within Aberdeen City. Work has been undertaken by children's social work to achieve parity of service across all groups of looked after children.

Craigielea is an intensive, alternative to care provision which provides a holistic package of support to children, young people and their families with an escalating risk profile. A multi-professional team of social workers, teachers, family resource workers and a mental health practitioners wrap around children/young people and their family to support them to remain at home, within their communities and education provision.

Health continue to offer universal and targeted monitoring of health and wellbeing to ensure children and young people reach their optimal development and opportunity to thrive. A specialist nurse for care experienced children and young people monitors health and wellbeing of those aged up to 26 years and links with other multi-agency partners, including when children are placed out of Authority. Work is ongoing to ensure a stronger CAMHS connection to relevant young people with experience of care.

The Children's Services Board are currently working to streamline referrals for health assessments, with improvement projects specifically aiming for 100% of children and young people leaving care being offered a health assessment to identify gaps in their health provision and needs by 2024 (improvement charter 6.2) and 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 202. (improvement charter 5.1). To achieve this, we are co-designing with young people with care experience, a health assessment pathway for care leavers. One part of this will be referral pathways to specific support for health matters identified during the assessment therefore ensuring that support is provided. Training for multi-agency staff is being developed to increase awareness and confidence in identifying the health needs of care experienced young people and to make the appropriate referral.

Single Points of Contact (SPOC) of Police Sergeant Rank have been identified for all Aberdeen City Children's Homes. These Officers are 'Trauma Informed' to support the building of positive relationships. Work between 'Who Cares Scotland' and the Police to establish a participation group to support the on-going building of positive relationships has not progressed as would have been hoped due to staffing issues. This will be a focus for the coming year.

Establishment of a Bairns Hoose

The Child Protection Committee (CPC) identified the need to prioritise those who have experienced multiple trauma and recognise the establishment of a Bairns Hoose will help reform ways of working with and for this group.

Our ambition is that our Bairns Hoose maximises the potential to fully incorporate the Justice element. This will include having distinct space for Age of Criminal Responsibility interviews but also a remote court suite that enables children and young people to give evidence to Court. This builds on our strong response to the change in legislation around the age of criminal responsibility and our contributions to the national guidance. Discussions with the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) have also identified opportunities for Hearings including the reincarnation of these outlined in Hearings for Children: The Redesign Report

The Aberdeen Health Determinants Research Collaboration is led by the Council and extends across NHS Grampian, University of Aberdeen and Robert Gordon University. It will work with our commissioned external research contractor to support evaluation activity around the Bairns Hoose.

In summary, work is underway but we now need to clearly define and establish our model of Family Support and continue testing the provision against our identified vulnerabilities through a shared evaluation framework aligned to our soon to be established Bairns Hoose. This will help us measure the impact of our model during a time when we see great changes in the needs of children and families. Greater certainty around the impact of the Verity House agreement will also support planning. As a result, this action may not be fully delivered by 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we need to continue with plans to:

- Fully evaluate our Edge of Care Pilots and determine next steps
- Continue to shape our model of Family Support and establish an evaluation framework to test to strength of our model of Family Support

- Increase the number of care experienced young people by 10% receiving multiagency throughcare/aftercare support by 2023.
- Ensure 100% of children and young people leaving care are offered a health assessment to identify gaps in their health provision and needs by 2024.
- Reduce by 5% the number of children entering the care system by 2024.
- Develop our workforce so that at least 80% of the identified multi-agency workforce successfully complete Corporate Parenting training aligned to the Promise by 2025.
- Support care experienced young people prepare for parenthood, with 80% of care experienced parents reporting that they believed they were sufficiently prepared for parenthood by 2026.
- Successfully deliver our Bairns Hoose

On a right to education, Plan 21-24 says:

- Care experienced children and young people will receive all they need to thrive at school.
- There will be no barriers to their (CEYP) engagement with education and schools will know and cherish their care experienced pupils.
- School improvement plans will value and recognise the needs of their care experienced pupils with robust tracking of attendance and attainment so that support can be given early.
- Care experienced young people will be actively participating in all subjects and extra-curricular activities in schools
- The formal and informal exclusion of care experienced children from education will end.
- Schools will support and ensure care experienced young people go on to genuinely positive destinations, such as further education or employment.

Planning for care experienced children and young people

A multi-agency Child's Plan is in place for all children in the care system and they are regularly reviewed, Plans outline what the child or young person needs to thrive at school with appropriate plans to address any barriers to access. Plans reflect the current situation faced by children and young people although some could be deemed to lack aspiration. This will be a balance we continue to strive for. Although many children who experience care thrive at school, there is evidence that only considering the needs of the child, in isolation from those of the family, negatively impacts the child. There is a need for us to consistently take a family first approach in all we do.

For the second year, School Improvement Plans recognise and plan for the needs of children and young people with care experience. This planning is helping realise more creative approaches to meeting the needs of the group. Schools are being asked to scrutinise the performance of this group during quality improvement visits by central. In session 23/24 there will be an increased

level of scrutiny by the Virtual School through termly visits with the Learner Pathways Advocates and designated managers in secondary schools.

Role of the Virtual School

A Virtual School Head Teacher has been in place for many years and actively contributes to the sharing of national best practice. There is clear evidence that having this post established has improved the consistency of data being held in the School Management Information System and improved the quality of provision for many. However, there is also evidence that as relationships between the Virtual School and partners has strengthened, relationships with school based designated managers for cared for young people have been compromised. We now need to address this through a review of our Toolkit.

Understanding what it means to be care experienced

A programme for schools that supports the school community to have a greater understanding of 'What it means to be Care Experienced' has been developed with the intention of rolling this out in schools in 2023/24. This programme has taken cognisance of Plan 21-24, UNCRC and Angela Morgan's Review. The delivery of the programme will be further informed by resources and training developed and piloted by Who Cares? Scotland as well as input from the Each and Every Child initiative who have established positive relationships with Education in Aberdeen City.

Strengthening the universal support available

All schools have engaged with the CIRCLE framework to look at the environmental factors that can trigger poor attendance in schools. There is emerging evidence that this is helping to increase attendance and engagement from those who find attending school more challenging. As a result, this work is being embedded in our work to further develop Learning, Teaching and Assessment.

All schools in the city continue to engage with Compassionate and Connected Communities with early impact evident in reduced levels of exclusion. Levels of exclusion continue to reduce but the gap between those who are cared for and their peers remains. Children and young people who have experienced trauma are more likely to present dysregulated behaviours which can be challenging to manage in a busy classroom. Systems are in place to manage and mitigate risks but challenges remain. The education reform programme seeks to place learners at the centre more fully, and this may help provide options in the longer term.

As part of the work of the Children & Young People's Mental Health Task & Delivery Board, as a local authority we are currently piloting the 'One Good Adult' project. This allows us to focus on the voice of children and young people at the heart of our recruitment processes. This was an agreed approach at the Health and Wellbeing Summit in October 2022 and is now established within our recruitment processes for all education staff. This is to be extended to other services within the local authority and partner agencies for those supporting children and young people in their daily positions.

Supporting mental health and wellbeing

We continue to commission Mental Health Aberdeen to support all children from age 10+ with counselling support where required. 100% of children who have completed an end of session questionnaire, report an improved wellbeing outcome following this support.

The pilot of DBI (Distress Brief Intervention) has extended to 6 Secondary Schools in partnership with CAMHS and Penumbra focusing on learners aged 14-16. This programme offers 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 through our data report in relation to the Who-5 wellbeing index, which may suggest that earlier responsive intervention is supporting young people previously indicating low mood.

Sport Aberdeen's SPACE (Supported Physical Activity for Care Experienced) programme has continued to work with Aberdeen City Council's Integrated Children and Families Services, the Virtual School and other third sector organisations to improve access to physical education, alongside positively impacting school attendance and skills development. A child-centred, relational and trauma-informed approach has seen 22 children/young people access bespoke 1-2-1 provision as part of their curriculum, with 4 young people achieving Active Schools leadership qualifications with enhanced pathways into positive destinations.

The SPACE programme has taken an evidence-based approach to improve mental wellbeing through the power of sport and physical activity and has seen the following outcomes:

- 100% of young people reporting SPACE has helped them become more active
- 73% of young people reported SPACE to improve their self-confidence a lot.
- 27% of young people reported SPACE to improve their self-confidence a little bit.
- 55% of young people reported SPACE to improve their mental wellbeing a lot.
- 45% of young people reported SPACE to improve their mental wellbeing a little bit.

The Active School Coordinator has also worked collaboratively with other professionals to upskill their understanding and confidence to embed sport and physical activity across their programmes, supporting physical and mental health and wellbeing of those accessing their services.

The SPACE programme has won several local and national awards, with it winning the UKActive Award in Supporting Communities. Winning a UK wide award within the sport and leisure sector highlights Aberdeen's place of leading the sport and physical activity sector in supporting Care Experienced Young People and how this is helping to keep The Promise.

Improving access to data

Power BI School profiles continue to be used to help track education outcome trends for care experienced children and young people and further enhancements have been made to Broad General Education trackers in advance of the 2023/24 school year. The trackers enable easy analysis at school and local Authority level based on the status of the child and support school and service level improvement Plans. There is a need to now routinely analyse this data to ensure we take an agile response to improving outcomes as circumstances change.

School attendance

Children and young people who are Looked after away from home enjoy school attendance only two percentage points lower than their peers (91.44%). The attendance of those looked after at home is significantly lower at 82.05%, however, there is a marginal increase from the previous year.
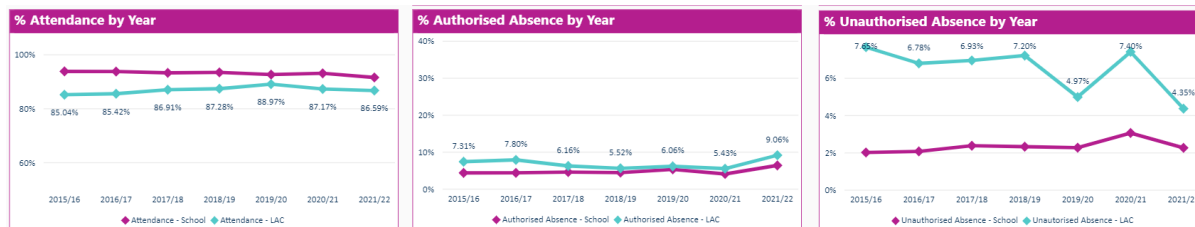
Attendance is tracked monthly and there has been an increased focus on supporting accurate recording of attendance of our Looked After Children, some of whom have a personalised curriculum that involves support by 3rd sector partners and commissioned services. There will be a greater focus in 2023/24 on closer tracking of attendance for all those who are both currently and previously Looked After (Care experienced) both in schools and centrally through the Virtual School.

The majority of cared for young people have attendance greater than 95%. There is a need to understand and address the issues faced by those with poorer levels of school attendance through our Edge of Care pilots.

Exclusion

Exclusions have reduced steadily over the past 5 years with a marginal rise in 21/22 which mirrors that of the city population. This was the first full 'in school' academic year following the covid pandemic. Many children and young people found the transition back into a school setting challenging and required a degree of support to adjust. This is especially true for children with experience of care as a result of their lived experiences. Schools were supported to plan for the transitions and gave consideration to the personalised support that would be required. This transition may account for the marginal rise in number of exclusion incidents. The number of days lost to exclusion continues to be carefully monitored.

Validated data shows that children who are Looked After at home continue to be more likely to be excluded than those Looked After away from home.

19 Looked After children have been excluded to date this academic year with 9 of those having repeat exclusions and accounting for 22 of the 32 total incidents. 14 of the children are Looked After away from home and 5 are Looked After at home. Secondary pupils account for 89% of the exclusions. There is a need to offer a wider range of courses to engage young people more fully in their education and this will be driven through Phase 2 of ABZ Campus.

It is also noted that the 2 highest points for exclusion are prior to both the October and Easter holidays. Schools continue to be alert to the holiday build up for our children with care experience in order to better support. It is hoped that a year round model of support as is being piloted in both Northfield and Lochside ASG, will in time help prevent peaks of dysregulation.

Exclusion Rates per 1000 Pupils				
Academic Year	Temp. Exclusion	No. of Pupils Excluded	No. of Half Days Lost	No. of Days Lost
2015/16	1,400.00	714.89	6,263.83	3,131.91
2016/17	924.30	478.09	3,701.20	1,850.60
2017/18	945.65	586.96	3,494.57	1,747.28
2018/19	1,076.02	742.69	4,017.54	2,008.77
2019/20	500.00	421.69	1,813.25	906.63
2020/21	210.81	194.59	740.54	370.27
2021/22	310.73	242.94	1,310.73	655.37

Number of Exclusions by Year

LAC Pupils Attending School, No. of Temporary Exclusions, No. of Excluded Pupils
(329, 251, 232, 184, 171, 185, 177, 174, 235, 168, 120, 174, 184, 166, 70, 108, 127, 83, 39, 26, 55, 43, 0)

No of Half Days Lost to Exclusion by Year

2015/16	1472
2016/17	929
2017/18	643
2018/19	687
2019/20	301
2020/21	
2021/22	232
2022/23	

Aligning support from the Edge of Care Pilots to our Family Support Model

Two Associated Schools Groups are supporting our exploration of new ways of working in a family first and rights based way to support those on the edge of care. We now need to consider how best to make clear our offer to families given the varied range of provisions available to families through Pupil Equity Funding resource and consider the potential implications of this resource as the Verity House Agreement becomes embedded.

There is also a need to ensure that supports already available through established Partnership Forums and targeted Family Support Model all work together to support vulnerable groups and this alignment is being driven through the development of a Family Support Model evaluation framework.

Actively increasing uptake of Early Learning and Childcare

An increase in the uptake of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) in the city with 94.74% of our eligible population placed in 2022/23 compared to 91.22% in 2021/22, importantly there has been a 50% increase in the uptake of eligible 2s places. This will be maintained.

Priority access to after school activities

Sport Aberdeen's Active Schools programme strives to be inclusive by design, with all extra-curricular activities free for children to access. The Active Schools team work with school staff, social work and third sector organisations to ensure that children who face the greatest barriers to participation are supported to access opportunities including pathways into positive destinations through leadership and volunteering opportunities. Offers are created through a needs-based approach to ensure young people are supported through bespoke timetables to access education and wellbeing opportunities which can be otherwise missed.

Attainment and destinations data

Curriculum for Excellence data for Looked After Children continues to show a gap in both literacy and numeracy between those children who are looked after and their peers and this will be keenly focussed upon despite the small numbers in the cohort (100 across all primary stages and 70 across secondary schools) which can skew data. There is a need to prioritise our use of resource in this area.

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Although a lower percentage of young people who are Looked After move into a positive destination when compared to the virtual comparator, the percentage remains constant. Small numbers in the leavers cohort impacts of the percentage change achieved. There is a need to continue to focus on this area with a range of partners including Further and Higher Education in order to ensure that our looked after children consistently achieve a positive destination. This will be realised through Phase 2 of ABZ Campus and a refresh of the role of the Virtual School.

For the 2021/22 cohort, 5 young people did not move into a positive destination (3 are Looked after at home and 2 are Looked After away from home). All 5 had a high level of complex need and were supported through the Virtual School. 3 have subsequently moved on to college, 1 into employment and 1 on to ABZ works.

From the cohort of leavers, INSIGHT data indicates that 1 young person did not achieve any qualifications and was supported to move on to a college course that did not require qualifications from school. A range of supports were and continue to be in place to support him to succeed but this raises questions around the breadth of the curriculum available to support young people who may be struggling to engage due to family circumstances.

There has been a constancy of attainment at SCQF level 4 for literacy and numeracy over the past 3 years for children who are Looked After. It can be seen that the attainment of those who are Looked After away from home at this level has increased in 2021/22 to close the gap between their peers to 8%.

The attainment levels for children who are Looked After remains relatively unchanged with little year on year fluctuation. The percentage gap between Looked After children and the city population achieving 4 or more qualifications at SCQF level 3 has remained constant in 2021/22. It is anticipated continuing to broaden the range of curriculum pathways available to children and young people through the ABZ Campus alongside focussed work from Pathways Advocates will see an increase in the number of subjects being achieved as well as the level at which they are achieved. This will be an area of considerable focus and impact will be monitored through improvement charter 7.1 which is aiming to increase the % of care experienced learners entering a positive and sustained destination to be ahead of the Virtual Comparator for all groups by 2025. As well as introducing and embedding Pathway Advocates, the project is creating a refreshed programme of termly Pathway Planning meetings for each secondary school, with a robust tracking mechanism and calendar for intervention and partner working.

Pathway planning

A pathway planning process has helped to clarify roles and responsibilities in supporting young people to secure a positive destination. The Virtual School works alongside school staff, the Throughcare and Aftercare Team and ACC employability teams to support the transition onto independent living and a positive destination. Further training is scheduled to take place in September 2023 where there will a concentrated focus on the importance of targeting care experienced young people during any pathway planning process.

Pathways Advocates were introduced in 8 out of the 11 Secondary schools with recruitment to the remaining 3 ongoing. The role of the Pathways Advocate is to provide young people who are care experienced (those currently and previously Looked After) with an opportunity to have an informed advocate based in school to advise and support in the area of choices, vocational pathways and future options. The Advocate is distinct from the Pastoral / Guidance role, and from the expertise offered by SDS, but works alongside these partners.

In schools where advocates are in post, there are early indications of positive relationships being built with young people and school staff, an additional layer of tracking and monitoring being undertaken and information being shared with school staff to help them to better understand the needs of children and young people with experience of care. In some schools the reach of the support has been extended to other young people who may be at risk of becoming care experienced or have other identified needs. This approach will be formally evaluated over school session 2023/4 to determine next steps.

Police Scotland continues to provides avenues of support to CEYP who wish to join the police and provides a commitment to provide a mentor throughout the probationary period.

Further Education supports
NESCoL, in collaboration with the Virtual School, Social Work and Widening Access Partners, work to ensure a smooth transition to and from College takes place. Transition sessions are offered to all young people who identify as care experienced to allow them to familiarise themselves with the College buildings, staff and IT platforms in advance of their course commencing.

The Introduction of NESCol S.P.A.C.E (Student Platform for All our Care Experience) allows the College to routinely poll students with care experience and find out what is important to them. The insight gleaned continues to shape supports such as enhanced support from Academic Tutors/Curriculum Managers and contact with the Student Advice and Support Team. New applicants with care experience coming to college for the first time are contacted by the Student Advice and Support Team to discuss and support their transition. This allows them to be in control of their transition, establish where they feel they need extra support and allow us implement support measures

Mental Health and Wellbeing Support is available to NESCol students via the Student Wellbeing Advisers, in-house Counselling Service provided by ACIS Student, via our online platform Spectrum Life and our regional partnerships with organisations such as Aberdeen Foyer.

Access to mentoring
The MCR Pathways programme has been in place for 3 years. There have been a number of challenges throughout the lifetime of the programme including recruitment for both ACC and MCR as well as the impact of Covid-19.

In total 278 young people have engaged with and report benefiting from the MCR Pathways programme. As of February 2023, of those young people who are active or have previously been active with MCR Pathways, 12.59% are care experienced, 16.14% previously care experienced with the remaining 71.25% being identified as vulnerable. This balance is impacting on the extent

to which the programme impacts on our aim to increase the number of care experienced young people achieving a sustained destination. However, the programme may be helping to reduce the likelihood of needs escalating.

The high number of volunteers (144 trained volunteer mentors and 66 progressing through training) committed to delivering one to one mentoring is exceptionally positive and helping us discharge our Corporate Parenting responsibilities. Our young people who choose to engage with the programme tell us that they value and benefit from time with their mentor and qualitative evidence is strong. There is a need to consider a sustainable long term approach to mentoring over school session 2023/24.

National reform programme

The publication of 'All Learners in Scotland Matter' in Late May 2023 presents an opportunity to respond positively to on-going education reforms. The guiding values and Call to Action steer the service to continue to sharpen its focus on high-quality teaching and learning, continue to widen the range of different learner pathways, establish alternative routes to success, and consider the range of appropriate assessments required to reflect the unique talents of each learner, support their ambitions, and meet the needs of a changing world. The service will continue to work on these key themes and has considered the report fully in establishing priorities for 2023/24.

In summary, work is underway with considerable testing being undertaken to help deliver on Plan 21-24. There is now a need to drive changes in the senior phase curriculum through Phase 2 of ABZ Campus and evaluate the impact of the pilots underway to help determine the shape of the system in the longer term. This will help inform the best use of available resource. Data will continue to be a focus with individual schools now being asked to monitor groups routinely to help identify and share best practice and address issues timeously. The legislative framework around exclusion does not support delivery of The Promise aspiration and this could compromise full delivery of this action by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Implement the new BGE trackers
- Routinely analyse live outcome data for those who are care experienced to enable a more agile response
- Evaluate our Edge of Care pilots, exploring options to scale up
- Evaluate the impact of our Pathways Associates
- Consider a sustainable approach to mentoring
- Broaden the curriculum further through the second phase of ABZ Campus
- Review our Virtual School Toolkit.

On relationships, Plan 21-24 says:

- All children living in and around Scotland's 'care system' will be maintaining safe, loving relationships that are important to them.
- There will be no barriers to 'contact' and children will be supported to have time with people they care about.

Contact arrangements

All infants, children and young people who are looked-after away from home have 'contact', also known as family-time, arrangements considered and regularly reviewed within their child's plans. There is evidence of improved compliance with stated contact arrangements. This is an operational requirement.

Children and young people are supported in their understanding and connections with important relationships to them throughout their lives and in a variety of ways considering their individual needs and stage of development. Children's social work aspire to place children within one-hour distance of Aberdeen and are working with parents across the partnership to enhance contact experiences for the child e.g., by offering parents support to recover from their own trauma. Considerable time has been invested in enhancing the skills of workers undertaking supervision of contact between children, young people and their families.

Trauma informed relationships

Trauma informed, relational approaches are well embedded within children's social work and continue to be extending across the partnership Authority to Accommodate processes have been refreshed to have greater focus on identifying and maintaining family relationships and promoting Kinship options. As a result an increased number of children are now in kinship care arrangements.

Former residents of Children's Homes locally are supported to maintain relationships with staff and other residents after they move out for example by being invited to visit and join for meals. We know many children and young people also maintain contact with and are supported by foster carers they have previously lived with, however, our evidence of this is largely anecdotal and we are considering how we can better capture and evaluate the value of this support.

Support for kinship carers

Our kinship families range from over 75's to early 20's they are great grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles and connected persons. Some have children right from birth to adulthood. Some may have had previous social work involvement and some none at all. The children and young people they care for have all experienced some form of loss and some may also have experienced trauma of varying degrees. All should expect to be loved and nurtured in a family network of carers who are also nurtured and cared for.

In consideration of this our support cannot be a "one size fits all approach", we need a diverse multi agency approach which matches the diverse nature of our carers and that is cohesive and trauma informed.

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Recognising the importance of widening the support available, through our improvement project 6.3 we are aiming to increase by 100% the number of partners supporting kinship carers by 2023. Through this have achieved a 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 an 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.

In summary, work is underway and progress has been made but we continue to rely on a disproportionate provision of external, versus internal, foster carers in comparison to other local authorities which means many of our children and young people are placed far from their existing relationships and communities in Aberdeen. The current challenges in securing placements is likely to compromise our ability to delivery fully on this action by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Aligned to the Hearings System review, further improve decision making to ensure that maintaining relationships for children and young people is aligned to needs of the child
- Establish a mechanism to share information on the safe loving relationships important to young people
- Expand our local foster care provision to readdress the balance of care. The national foster and kinship carers allowance is predicted to have a positive impact on our recruitment of carers, as it will offer equity across the local authorities in Scotland.
- Increase by 100% the number of partners supporting kinship carers by 2023.

On brothers and sisters, Plan 21-24 says:
- Scotland will stop the practice of separating brothers and sisters, unless for reasons of safety.
- Relationships between brothers and sisters will be cherished and protected across decision making and through the culture and values of the people who care for them.

Developing a position statement

In recognition of this important and complex area of work, we established a Brothers and Sisters working group which has set out our pledge to brothers and sisters in a position statement. The group have developed local data collection methods to support our understanding of how many siblings are separated, the reasons why and to ensure these decisions are reviewed where appropriate.

An improvement session on best practice for brothers and sisters was delivered to over 100 children's social work staff. There is on-going work with housing providers to agree flexible options for carers to keep brothers and sisters together.

In summary, there is a strong commitment to making the necessary changes to our practice, however, availability and flexibility of homes for sibling groups remains a challenge. Whilst recognising the complexity of family life, we are working on improving our collection of brothers and sisters data and developing multi and single agency learning and guidance to support practice rooted in maintaining relationships for brothers and sisters. However, given the considerable challenge in securing placements for siblings, we may not have delivered this action fully by 2024. Where brothers and sisters cannot be cared for together planning will ensure that meaningful relationships are maintained.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Launch and embed multi-agency guidance on maintain relationships for brothers and sisters.
- Respond to learning following a review of foster carers registration
- Continue to develop our data sets

On youth justice, Plan 21-24 says:

- The disproportionate criminalisation of care experienced children and young people will end
- 16-and 17-year-olds will no longer be placed in Young Offenders Institutes for sentence or on remand
- There will be sufficient community-based alternatives so that detention is a last resort
- Children who do need to have their liberty restricted will be cared for in small, secure, safe, trauma-informed environments that uphold their rights.

Diversionary work

Considerable multi-agency and diversionary work is in place across the Partnership. We have consistently reduced the number of children and young people being looked after in secure care by providing intense support services to young people and their families. Local policy has been developed to ensure that where a decision about secure care is made, this will be timeously reviewed by the Chief Social Work Officer. In the last year, no 16 or 17 year old have been placed in a Young Offenders Institution. We have reviewed our processes to ensure an early flag for 16 and 17 year olds appearing from court to custody is made so that support for their needs can be considered prior to court appearance. We have engaged with and contributed to the reimagining secure care work and have sought to understand and prepare locally for the changes associated with the Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Bill.

Developing a Bairns Hoose

A key development over the last year has been early planning for the provision of a Bairns Hoose. Our proposed Bairns Hoose will be part of an existing ELC provision, co-delivered by health and education, located within an area of the city well served by public transport and accessible from the Airport and Harbour. The location provides for privacy, anonymity and multiple entry/exit points to ensure that we manage the needs and safety of all who will utilise our Bairns Hoose.

The building has valuable outdoor space to allow children and young people space. The project is committed within the Council Capital Programme as it requires refurbishment and adaption to offer all 4 rooms required. Feedback elicited from children and young people by Children's 1st has informed the outline business case. It is our intention to develop the building in two Phases.

Phase 1 will realise the development of purpose built SCIM facilities providing:
- interview facilities;
- space for co-location of SCIM staff (Police and children's social work);
- location of a 3rd Sector Trauma Recovery Service;
- space for 'safe and well' medicals to be undertaken; and
- exploring viability of locating Police Scotland's 'IRD desk'

Phase 2 will help realise full delivery of all 4 rooms through:
- a further interview space for ACR interviews which could also be used for vulnerable adults
- Remote court facility
- Medical suite with the capacity to undertake forensic medicals
- Shower facilities.
- Multi-purpose space allowing for direct work with families / staff learning / Children's Hearings – SCRA court led processes / wellbeing space for staff.

The financial contribution of all partners is being negotiated and not yet agreed.

Our Partnership recognises more needs to be done to prepare and support children giving evidence to Court. A recent practice review highlighted that current arrangements lead to our children and young people feeling they are not believed, distressed and hurt. We appreciate the importance of building the confidence of children and young people as well as the Court system about utilising a remote court facility. As such the development of this will fall within Phase 2 of our project. We recognise that young people can only take part in Court processes remotely if the Court has confidence in the space and supports.

The provision of a Bairns Hoose has the potential to meet the needs of vulnerable adults who need to give evidence to Court. Where appropriate, and through careful timetabling, provision would be made through our Bairns Hoose. The Crown Officer and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPF's) are an active partner within the Delivery Group and we are engaging with Scottish Courts and Tribunals (SCTS) to fully understand their requirements. We have engaged with a local Sheriff and liaising with the Sheriff Principle to seek their engagement and input.

Our Bairns Hoose Reference group will seek feedback from young people who have given evidence in Court both as witnesses and those accused of harming others to fully inform our plans.

In summary, work is underway and good progress has been made but we now await the recommendations from the secure care redesign and the government's response to the financial memorandum associated with the Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Bill. This could compromise our ability to fully deliver on the action by the end of 2024 although local work remains on track.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Prepare the partnership's workforce for the Children (Care and Justice) (Scotland) Bill and scope readiness for the changes being introduced to inform commissioning processes which intersect with this group
- Move forward with our plans for a local Bairns Hoose

On advocacy, Plan 21-24 says:

- All care experienced children and their families will have access to independent advocacy at all stages of their experience of care.
- Advocacy provision will follow the principles set out in the promise.
- Care experienced children and young people will be able to easily access child centred legal advice and representation.

Preparing for incorporation of the UNCRC

All policies relating to children take full account of the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child with considerable work undertaken to develop our practice in this area as exemplified in our children's rights report. The Partnership remains poised to undertake a rapid review of our readiness for incorporation following publication of statutory guidance on implementation of the UNCRC over school session 2023/24.

Access to Advocacy

Children, young people and their families have access to advocacy beyond the Children's hearing system and we have built in prompts for our workforce to consider the need for advocacy into our multi-agency working, including within IRD processes.

The Rights Service works closely with the local primary and secondary Advocacy Services providers (Who Cares? Scotland and Advocacy Services Aberdeen), to provide independent advocacy for those children and young people who want it at their Children's Hearing.

The Rights Service provide access to independent advocacy for care experienced children, young people, and young adults in line with its remit. This includes those being cared for or living outside of the city. Those children and young people can also access other independent advocacy services, aligned to their current care arrangements. All children/young people involved in child protection processes are considered for referral.

Champions Board

Our well established Champions Board is currently testing a range of approaches to ensure greater involvement and influence in the direction and delivery of strategic plans which impact of their rights. As the Partnership works towards incorporation of the UNCRC, we continue to drive the active consideration of children's rights in all of the work we do including through the development of individual Child's Plans and through the use of Integrated Impact Assessments to support strategic decision making.

In summary, work is underway and supporting access to and provision of advocacy is embedded from a children and young person's perspective, however, the route map for ensuring care experienced people can access lifelong advocacy is unclear. Locally we have difficulty accessing legal representation for children and young people which has created delays whilst provision is sought from legal services in the central belt.

There is a lack of specialised legal and justice professionals who understand children and young people's behaviour and developmental needs. Scotland requires legal support which is individual tailored to children and young people and supports them to access their rights. The Scottish Government have recently intimated their intention to begin consulting on what a lifelong advocacy service will look like. This could hamper our ability to fully deliver on this action by the end of 2024, although local work remains on track.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Fully engage with the Scottish Government's white paper on development of a lifelong advocacy service when published later in 2023/24.
- Consider the statutory guidance on the UNCRC when published to ensure that our young people are enabled to fully claim their rights

On moving on, Plan 21-24 says:

- Decisions about transitions for young care experienced people who move onto independent living or need to return to a caring environment, will be made based on individual need.
- Each young care experienced adult will experience their transition as consistent, caring, integrated and focussed on their needs, not on 'age of services' criteria
- Housing pathways for care experienced young people will include a range of affordable options that are specifically tailored to their needs and preferences.
- Youth homelessness will be eradicated

Housing support

The Throughcare Housing Protocol recognises the statutory duties towards care experienced young people and the requirement to support access to housing resource, reducing the risk of homelessness and associated vulnerabilities which can be lifelong. In April 2021, a Housing

Support Officer became co-located with the Youth Team. This post supports our care experienced young people to navigate Housing systems taking a relational approach and aims to make sure that transitions from care into their first tenancy are as coordinated and transparent as possible. For 2022, the focus will be on developing more resources to support young people and staff to manage these transitions and systems. An evaluation of the impact of this role was undertaken in 2023.

The data indicates the growing numbers of looked after young people remaining in placement on a Continuing Care basis, thus promoting their opportunities for successful transition. The Council has taken on properties to support unaccompanied asylum seeking young people move on to independent living with outreach support.

Young parents with care experience
Responding to the voices of several of our young parents with care experience, enhancing the support and preparation of our young people with care experience for life beyond care, including parenthood, has become a strategic priority in our children's services and corporate parenting planning.

Support for those with a disability
Work is ongoing to improve the transition planning for young people with a disability/enduring health needs. How adult services ensure care experienced people can access lifelong advocacy remains unclear.

In summary, work is underway and we have undertaken a review of support in relation to 'moving on' alongside several of our young people with care experience, to identify gaps in this area and ensure our priorities align with the ask from our children and young people. Improvements are required and as a partnership we particularly need to better understand and respond to the holistic health needs of young people with care experience. There is a need for us to better align systems for children and adults. We hope that our focussed work on Homelessness will help us achieve this action by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Extend access to a specialist care experienced children's nurse up to age 26 years
- Extend access to CAMHS up to age 26
- Continue to expand and develop housing pathways and multi-agency support to care experienced young people, including unaccompanied asylum seeking young people, beyond being 'in care'.
- Continue to strengthen the alignment of planning at transition stages

On physical intervention, Plan 21-24 says:

- All care experienced children, wherever they live, will be protected from violence and experience the safeguard of equal protection legislation. •Restraint will always be pain free, will be used rarely, and only when required to keep a child safe
- There will be well communicated and understood guidance in place that upholds children's rights and reflects equal protection legislation.
- The workforce will feel supported to respond to behaviour in a trauma informed way that reflects a deep understanding of the children in their care*

Clarifying education policy

Our draft guidance - Supporting learners : A relationship and rights focused approach to physical intervention and seclusion has been issued to schools. Initial feedback has been positive highlighting the importance of shared definitions and the supportive nature of the debrief guides. We will update our local guidance in line with any changes once the finalised national guidance is available.

Use of restraint

Restraint is not utilised within our local children's homes and training is provided for kinship carers and foster carers to ensure that physical restraint is not utilised. Commitment to using alternatives to physical intervention has long been established as part of our fostering contracts. We are working to ensure that external providers of care are aligned to our values by supporting staff to be alert to the impact of restraint and ensure debriefing opportunities. We aim to reduce our use of care providers who use physical restraint and include our position on 'use of restraint' within children and young people's Individual Placement Agreements. The Police continues to engage with national OST (Officer Safety Training) and their Partnerships, Prevention and Community Wellbeing Division (PPCW) to discuss the use of restraint and accessing trauma informed training.

In summary, work is underway and we are beginning to develop a means of better understanding use of physical intervention, and other restrictive practices, across the partnership and have ensured that our local policies and guidance promote alternatives and trauma informed care. We are still awaiting the national guidance on the use of restraint and restrictive practices in schools and hope that publication will enable delivery of this action by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Implement the education guidance and monitor compliance and emerging trends to inform service delivery
- Develop means of understanding the use of physical restraint and reporting arrangements across every form of care, particularly with external providers and across every setting (including Police, Education, Health etc).

Our Progress in delivering Priority 2, Whole Family Support

The Promise says,' All families need support at different times of their lives and family support is a crucial emphasis for 21-24. The United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child recognises family as the fundamental group in society and the natural environment for growth and wellbeing. Supporting families is a children's rights imperative. 'Families' means all families including families of origin, kinship, foster and adoptive families. Support will not be predicated on the setting of care. Supporting families to stay together and thrive was an imperative before the pandemic and is of even greater import now.

On Family Support, Plan 21-24 says: The 10 principles of intensive family support will be embedded into the practice (planning, commissioning and delivery) of all organisations that support children and their families, directly or indirectly.

- Holistic and relational
- Therapeutic
- Non-stigmatising
- Patient and persistent
- Underpinned by children's rights
- Community Based
- Responsive and timely
- Work with family assets
- Empowerment and agency
- Flexible

The Children's Services Plan provides the direction of travel for working with community planning partners to shape a model of family support based on the 10 principles of Family Support outlined in The Promise. The trauma-informed recovery service aligned to the Bairns Hoose will operate on a whole family basis, deliver on the 10 principles and be closely aligned with our Fit Like Hub to enable a stepping up and down of support.

Understanding demand and need

Our request for assistance process, which allows us to amend our response in light of live demand data, is being updated to include access for our multiagency partners. Phase 1 is ready for launch and will not only gather information on the number of referrals but will also allow referrals to be tracked from allocation to a worker to the point any agency disengages.

This will allow all services to be more agile, ensure the needs of families are being met and build a stronger picture of the journeys taken by our families. Phase 2, will explore how families can self-refer at the point of need.

An aim for a universal provision of PEEP

A very high proportion of community, health and Early Learning and Childcare staff are now trained to deliver the programme but the number of programmes in place is low due in some cases to confidence and in other cases staffing challenges across Early Learning and Childcare.

Through improvement Charter 4.3, an offer of co-delivery will be tested with the aim of increasing confidence in the delivery of this important intervention in order to further strengthen our universal support offers. As well as ELC staff, to achieve our aim that 40% the number of Peep programmes delivered by multi-agency partners by 2025, we are also committed to expanding delivery to a wider set of partners and we are pairing up partners/services that have similar goals to deliver PEEP together, for example ChildSmile health will be delivering PEEP with nurseries). To support partners commit to PEEP delivery and the required training, we are developing a tiered training criteria, including provision of funded training spaces to mitigate barriers.

Integrated working at locality level

Partnership Forums continue to work to identify the issues being faced across a community to determine priorities, agree how to allocate resources, and identify where gaps in provision remain. Support afforded however, can be inconsistent.

Youth Workers, Family Learning Workers and Financial Inclusion workers were first put in place over 2021/22 as part of the Education Recovery Grant, with a clear remit for early intervention and to target those children, young people and families most at risk of disengaging from education. This resource has been maintained through use of Scottish Attainment Challenge funding. There are numerous examples of where this more flexible allocation of resource has successfully improved outcomes for learners and families with examples highlighted later in this report but there is a need to develop an evaluation framework to more effectively track progress across the range of Tier 2 supports. Taking this approach will enable us to see where further support is required.

Further consideration of Locality working is now required to ensure consistency and to maximise the impact of our collective resource.

Family Learning funded through Scottish Attainment Challenge funding

The primary reason for most of the referrals to the Family Learning service is for support with behaviour, low attendance at school or support for families with a child who has additional support needs. When work begins with families and a trusted rapport is built, other areas in need of support are often discovered, such as poverty, poor mental health and the breakdown of family relationships.

Families being referred for 1:1 support generally present with a higher level of need, with 16% of families currently with social work input, on the cusp of social work support or experiencing child protection concerns. Family Learning frequently support the maintenance of de-escalations from social work, the service is recognised by colleagues as an essential role in the support received by families. The team have developed strong relationships with a wide variety of partner agencies with the goal of ensuring that families access the right support at the right time.

Family Learning Case Study funded through Scottish Attainment Challenge funding

Working together with home and school

A child displaying aggressive behaviours at home and in school was referred to Family Learning. The child was only attending school for 2 hours each morning at the time of referral and found it difficult to be in class, spending most of the time in school in the nurture room. The referral outlined the parents' need for support to understand the child's emotions and to establish structured routines and boundaries within the family home. Family Learning began building positive relationships with the parents and supported them to attend an 'Understanding Emotions' group. 1:1 support was offered in the family home, establishing positive routines and encouraging mum and dad to work together to respond appropriately to the distressed behaviours of their child. At the most recent multi-agency meeting for the young person, there has been a marked improvement.

The child is now accessing a full timetable, and most of his timetable is within the classroom with his peers. The child can recognise when he is becoming frustrated, and there is a system in place to allow space for him to deescalate. Mum and dad are noticing that their young person is less heightened at home, and they are seeing a clear reduction in heightened behaviours.

Family Learning Case Study - Young Parents Group

Family Learning have been running a support group for Young Parents under the age of 25 in Seaton Community Centre since September 2022. This is a space for young parents to meet other parents their own age and develop a peer support network. Participants have said that they previously struggled to access regular parent and toddler groups due to the difference in age between them and the other parents who attend. Each week they make lunch together and take part in an activity which is decided by the participants themselves. A core group now attend regularly. The group have worked on a variety of creative projects and participants have been able to take part in activities they otherwise wouldn't have enjoyed. The participants have had speakers in from services like St Machar Credit Union, ABZ Works and CFINE and have since signed up to access these in the community regularly. Visits have been undertaken to Aberdeen Art Gallery and SHMU, which group members have enjoyed. Some of the participants are quite vulnerable and have a limited support network.

Through engaging with the Young Parent Group they have been able to access 1-2-1 support from Family Learning workers, Family Learning courses and Grounded Counselling. Two of the group members have children transitioning to primary school after the summer and are now thinking about volunteering opportunities in the community and potentially returning to work. Family Learning staff continue to signpost them to appropriate support and opportunities.

Establishing the Fit Like Service

The Fit Like Family Wellbeing Team is a collaboration of children's services, health and voluntary sector working together to support the mental health and wellbeing needs of children, young people, and families in Aberdeen City. The Family wellbeing Team is designed to be an integrated whole system approach to change the way in which early help services support families. Delivery of Fit Like family wellbeing is underpinned by embracing a children's rights approach and work to develop Fit Like Hubs has been and continues to be directly informed by the voices of service users. The service provides holistic early intervention support to children, young people and their families mitigating the need for them to access statutory children's social work services or CAMHS and is staffed by a range of agencies and disciplines including:

- ACC - Education; CSW; Community Learning and Development; Youth services
- NHS - CAMHS; Health Visiting; School Nursing

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- 3rd Sector – Children's 1st;
- ACC Group - Sport Aberdeen

Children 1st, who support delivery of our Fit Like Hubs will support delivery of our Trauma Recovery Service. By connecting our Trauma Recovery Service to our wider Family Support Model we will support families to access community based supports but also allow for them to re-access more intensive supports if required.

Clarifying our offer of Family Support

Work is currently underway to develop a clear information visual of our Family Support Model and associated evaluation framework. Taking this approach will enable us to test our model against identified vulnerable groups and will allow us to fully maximise the support of community based supports around a common purpose by making use of data from our request for assistance system.
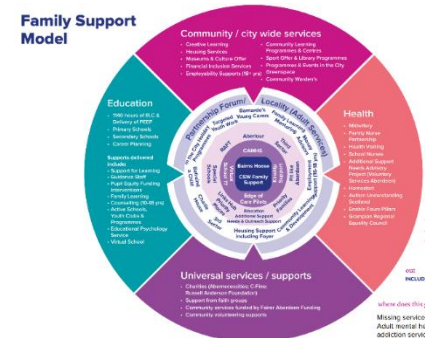
Children's social work have undertaken research with a number of families to better understand their experiences of support and are looking to develop a sustainable feedback loop to ensure that our planning for family support is informed by the voices of those who have accessed it.

In summary, work is well underway and our developing family support model is aligned to the 10 principles advocated in The Promise. Going forward we hope to collaborate with partners to better include the contributions of services which address parental support needs. We believe that this area will be fully delivered by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Develop multi-agency learning and guidance in relation to realising children's rights when they are in need of care and protection
- Ensure we have early, accessible and aligned support services for parents and carers in place which complement our family support model
- Recommission our family support services, ensuring that services offered are aligned with the 10 principles of Intensive Family Support.
- Develop and deliver on a Bairns Hoose
- Take forward shared learning from use of the whole family wellbeing fund
- Consider how best to empower staff working across localities

There are a wide range of Third Sector supports available to children, young people and their families in the City. A Promise lead has recently been appointed as a Third Sector interface and the post holder now sits on our Children's Services Board.

Provision of holiday programmes

The education service continues to work with officers from across the organisation and local partners to plan and deliver holiday programmes during Summer, October and Easter school holidays. The offer consists of a priority programme for those families at greatest risk of poverty and a universal offer. Evaluations from parents and young people continue to be consistently high sitting at 9.7 out of 10. The allocation of £100,000 as part of the council budget 23/24 and allocation of a central Officer to coordinate is enabling provision over school session 23/24.

Support to manage family finances

Financial inclusion advisors have been attached to schools as part of our approach to education recovery. Over the period April 2022 to March 2023 the enhanced Financial Inclusion Team's advisors helped families achieve the following:

- Financial Gains of £1, 077, 325.24
- Assisted/Assisting 194 households with debt issues
- Helping with total debts of £1, 129, 447.58
- 381 household with given full benefit checks only
- Assisted 57 households to claim benefits
- Assisting 12 household to challenge being turned down for benefits

The service continues to be promoted to ensure all parents have access to advice and support. As well as financial support we are developing pathways to ensure that 100% of urgent requests for first stage infant formula and nutritional support for pre-school children are met by 2024.

Through improvement charter 4.1 we are Establishing a pathway where health professionals & emergency food providers can access a cash first approach for urgent first stage formula, nutritional support for the whole family and income maximisation support. This coincides with a reporting system collating the number of referrals and repeat referrals for emergency first stage formula and nutritional support to ensure demand can be monitored and areas for targeted support identified.

To ensure awareness of available supports, we are adapting the trusted sources of information such as our "Pathways to Support" live document to include an infant feeding early years section where urgent first stage formula support, nutritional support and early years income maximisation.

We are committed to increasing by 10% the no. of parents with children under 5 who are completing a full benefits check by 2024. Through our improvement charter 4.2, we are establishing new direct referral route for staff supporting/engaging with parents with children under 5 to both the Council's Financial Inclusion Team and to the Money Talk Team. In embedding the referrals we are developing and holding staff training sessions to ensure that staff are aware and using the referral routes. Finally, we're also co-designing and testing news ways of promoting how to access support to families with children under 5 & pregnant women, such as social media promotion, via their health professionals and community groups.

Parenting Support

A range of supports are available from the 3rd Sector and it is hoped that the inclusion of the 3rd Sector in our Children's Services Board will help map provision across our communities to increase visibility. There is also a need to look at how supports funding by the Council through various grants are contributing to the emerging model of Family Support.

Partnership work with Save the Children was positively received last session and provided key supports to parents in some of our pilot settings. Heathryburn and Woodside schools were trained to embed a Families Connect programme, a facilitated network for parents of pupils aged 3-6.

The Peep Learning Together programme has a peer-led element and 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.
- Community groups are free and available to any parents and carers with children from birth to 5 years. Information on locations and times are available on request.

Peer support groups are also available for families who may need either additional or specific support, such as low mood, young parents, looked after children, English as an additional language. These groups are available by self-request or via a Health Visitor or other professional.

Safer schools app

In June 2021, the Safer Schools app was launched for pupils, parents/carers and staff and provides relevant and current information on a wide range of safeguarding, wellbeing, and online safety subjects. The app has been well received by our parent forum members and our child protection committee, as proving a useful resource for all. All schools have signed up to the app, which was shared with all parents via a range of communication channels – direct email, text message and social media. A focus on the Safer Schools app has been included in the monthly newsletter to parents/carers. A new version of the app, Safer Schools (Scotland), will be launched soon and will provide usage data for adults using the app.

In summary, work is underway but there is a need to further join up services delivering targeted supports. The appointment of a Third Sector Promise lead is exceptionally positive and will help us move this recommendation forward more fully. We remain optimistic that this action will be fully delivered by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Develop our use of communities and volunteers to support preventative activity
- Map Tier 2 provision and include these supports in our evaluation framework to help us measure the strength of our local system
- Encourage the Third Sector to engage with the refreshed Request for Assistance tool and work collaboratively to help mitigate risk

On service integration, Plan 21-24 says: Scotland's family support services will feel and be experienced as integrated to those who use them.

Delivery of SCIM

Community Planning Partners (CPPs) led the implementation of the Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM) on behalf of the region in November 2022. Regional co-delivery of SCIM builds on over 20 years of co-located practice with colleagues from the Police and children's social work. Our implementation has been recognised as best practice nationally. As a result of this maturing relationship, feedback from children and young people is directly shaping SCIM practice as well as informing our thinking around our Bairns Hoose.

Effective multi-agency working

Our 2019 Joint Inspection of Children's Services highlighted a commitment to multi-agency working. The Joint Inspection noted that 'Joint working was effectively promoted by leaders who collaborated and shared a clear vision, values and aims'.

Since publication of the 2019 Joint Inspection report, and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Community Planning Partners have had considerable success in delivering integrated rights based services. Our multi-agency workforce, who have experienced such integration, speak openly about the transformational nature of integration for those they serve and of the impact on the multiagency workforce.

Recognising that children's needs will move up and down, we continue to actively engage with Children's 1st to deliver a trauma recovery service. Children's 1st independence will enable honest reflections from children, young people and families and live connections with wider community based services within our Family Support Model to provide effective scaffolding for families. Children 1st already support delivery of Tier 2 services in the city and Moray Council enabling seamless transition between services and access to more holistic support through established services.

Integrated provisions

The Partnership has a focus on prevention, Leaders have encouraged the deliberate utilisation of a number of policy levers, such as the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare, to progress opportunities for co-location and integration and more rights based approaches. There is strong local evidence of the impact of integration on staff and those accessing services. Now partners (including Police and Health) are based in the Council Headquarters and this is further strengthening our relationships and shared decision making. The partnership is keen to explore wider alignment across the region to better reflect the geographical reach of Police Scotland and NHSG.

Operationally children's social work already have a Housing Support Officer and Drugs worker embedded within the Youth Team, an integrated Health and Social Work maternity hospital team and have integrated Includem into Intensive Support Services at Craigielea to improve children, young people and family's experiences of services and support.

We are committed to increasing the delivery of co-located services by health and education by 2024 to improve health and educational outcomes for young people and their families. Through improvement charter 7.2 we are co-designing with young people and partners a Healthy Hub model to be located within Northfield Academy that could then be spread to other areas. The project is working with young people to name the hub and to explore community data in order to help identify target groups and support required to be provided/available through the Healthy Hub and to produce modern child friendly communication plan to launch and to encourage young people to attend the Hub.

The Hub will promote healthy lifestyle choices to support physical and mental wellbeing and help support young people through a (vocational) pathway (in hospitality or care for example) and into a positive and sustained destination.

Two Children's social work teams are in the process of locating to city schools.

Shared policies and goals

The following effective multi-agency partnerships and governance arrangements are already in place:

- Chief Officers Group (COG)
- Child Protection Committee (CPC)
- Children's Services Board (CSB)
- Alcohol & Drugs Partnership (ADP)
- Adult Protection Committee (APC)
- Violence Against Women Partnership (of which the COG has an oversight role).
- Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

Managing the move from child to adult services

Multi-agency partnership interface across transitional points e.g. from children's to adult's services needs to improve. We aspire to offer family support services which as easily accessible, prevent families from having to re-tell their stories, and are experienced as integrated by all who use them.

In summary, work is well underway and considerable progress has been made in ensuring that services are experienced as being more joined up. This will continue to be developed over the lifetime of our Children's Services Plan. 'Moving on' has been identified by The Promise Scotland team as a priority for this year. We are confident that this action will be delivered by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Learn from the current review of commissioned family support services with a view that they will continue to operate in a collaborative and collegiate bases.
- Continue to explore and maximise opportunities for integration
- Take advantage of the changes coming from legislation and policy e.g. the Care and Justice Bill to work with colleagues in other services to deliver support to children and families
- Further develop our transition planning for young people transitioning to adult services

> **On family therapies, Plan 21-24 says:** All families will have direct and clear access to family therapies and specific support across a range of issues, so that accessing support is seen as something that a range of families may need throughout life.

An Aberdeen approach to Family Group Decision Making is being considered as part of our improvement work. . There are a range of therapeutic supports within the Third Sector that families can access.

Bairn's Hoose and SCIM

In Autumn 2022, Aberdeen City's Public Protection Chief Officers Group unanimously committed to delivering an Aberdeen City Bairns Hoose on a collaborative basis. A multi-agency Bairns Hoose Delivery Group was established in early 2023 to drive this work forward on behalf of the CPC and CSB and has responsibility for:

- Planning, implementation, and delivery of a Bairns Hoose to provide trauma-informed recovery, support and justice
- Ensuring that delivery of trauma recovery support aligns to the wider Family Support Model
- Ensuring as a partnership that trauma recovery lens is central to the delivery of IRD's (Interagency Referral Discussions) and SCIM (Scottish Child Interview Model) interviews.
- Developing the capacity of a Bairns Hoose to deliver a trauma-informed remote Court facility for children and young people.

- Engaging with partnerships across the North East of Scotland to explore opportunities for co-delivery and shared learning to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Therapeutic care

Aberdeen City Council has an established therapeutic approach to provision in our residential children's homes that is based on the Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy (DDP). DDP is used to help children and young people who have been traumatised by hurt and/or neglected within their families in their early years, making it difficult for them to feel safe and secure. The approach aims to help children and young people address difficulties with attachment (finding it hard to feel safe with parents or in primary relationships) and inter-subjectivity (finding it hard to give and take relationships). Theraplay training is provided to kinship & foster carers with the Family Network Team offering intensive therapeutic family support.

In summary, work is well underway and considerable work has been undertaken to shape services around The Promise. We now need to progress plans to develop and implement our Trauma Recovery Services, associated with our Bairns Hoose, and finalise an evaluation framework to help us test the strength of our arrangements. We are hopeful that this area will be fully delivered by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Commission a trauma-recovery service aligned to SCIM across the North East
- Learn from the 'Supporting Birth Parents who have had children permanently removed Project' to improve our support offer.
- Wellbeing
- Supervision and support

Our Progress in delivering Priority 3, Supporting the Workforce

The Promise says, Children experience the 'care system' through people. Over Plan 21-24, support for people who care and continue to care if times get tough, will improve. There will be consistency of approach, values and understanding across Scotland's workforce.

On workforce values, Plan 21-24 says: There will be a national values-based recruitment and workforce development framework in place and adhered to by all organisations and professions involved in supporting children and their families.

Multi-agency planning for the workforce

Aberdeen City's Corporate Parenting Group has responsibility for the delivery of the Corporate Parenting Improvement Plan, collation and monitoring of data and quality assurance in relation to children and young people with experience of care, delivering on identified aims set out in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) and driving the implementation of The Promise across the Partnership. The Corporate Parenting Group engages with children and young people with experience of care and seeks to ensure all improvement activity takes full account of their views and lived experiences.

Specifically, the group has oversight of the refreshed LOIP Improvement Project Stretch Aim 6; *"95% of care experienced children and young people will have the same levels of attainment in education, health and emotional wellbeing, and positive destinations as their peers by 2026"*

In September 2022, training on Corporate Parenting and The Promise was jointly delivered by the Virtual School, Lead Officer Corporate parenting and the Principal Planning development officer to all probationer teachers in Aberdeen City. The session was well attended and received. Feedback from these sessions is informing ongoing work to develop and refresh our Corporate Parenting training, including a reworking of the mandatory e-learning module for all Aberdeen City Council staff and creation of local multi-agency training, to ensure relevant policy and legislative changes are included. The training delivered to probationer teachers has been expanded in 2023/24 to include a more in-depth look at The Promise.

Children's social work

Children's social work recruitment practices have moved from being overly competency focused to better balancing competency and values. A workforce Wellbeing Event was held in early 2023 where ongoing supports to staff were showcased. A CSW specific induction programme, cognisant of wellbeing and trauma-informed practice, has been developed and trialled with newly qualified social workers.

In summary, work is underway and well established systems are in place and these continue to be kept under review to ensure that they reflect national best practice. We welcome the anticipated establishment of a National Social Work Agency. This will ensure a more consistent approach to staff learning and development on a national basis. Although this may not be fully

established by 2024, locally we are confident that this area will be fully delivered by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Continue planning for and embedding of the SSSC Supported Year
- Continued planning for and embedding of the National Trauma Training Programme

On trauma informed, Plan 21-24 says: Organisations that have responsibilities towards care experienced children and families and those on the edge of care will be able to demonstrate that they are embedding trauma informed practice across their work and within their workforce.

Ensuring our multi-agency workforce is trauma informed and where necessary trauma skilled is a priority of our Corporate Parenting Plan. We are embedding the national child protection guidance, which is aligned to trauma-informed principles, and there is ongoing work in relation to building trauma-informed universal workforce development plan, drawing upon existing national tools and applying a local lens.

Compassionate and Connected Communities

All schools continue to engage with the Compassionate and Connected Communities (CCC) programme. We have built the capacity of 11 further members of staff to act as trainers for the programme. Taking this approach of on-going training for trainers ensures that we maintain a full 64 trainers across the city with a trainer available in each city school. This ensures an on-going focus on trauma informed practice.

Emotional Literacy Support Assistants

ACC Educational Psychology Service have now trained 52 Support Staff in the Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA) programme, with cohort 3 just completing their training. ELSA is a programme grounded in Psychology, written by Educational Psychologists and with strong evidence of outcomes from its widespread use in England and Wales. ACC EPS data shows the training was rated very highly, that outcomes were seen for individuals in Schools with trained ELSAs. ELSA is an intensive training programme with the equivalent of 6 full days of training. The training builds capacity in staff to deliver targeted individual programmes of education in relation to developing self-esteem, resilience and the overall emotional literacy and regulation of learners. Following completion of the training ELSAs receive career-long psychological group supervision 6 times a year, a total of 12 hours per year. This intensive and in-depth training for ACC's Support Staff maps onto the aims of the Scottish Government's 'Pupil Support Staff - Professional Learning Framework'.

Other training offered by ACC EPS that support staff have engaged with include Emotion Coaching, Seasons for Growth, Positive Psychology and Mindfulness. Training evaluation returns remain positive. Three new schools did whole school training, including support staff, on Emotion

Coaching this year. Two new cohorts of support staff have been trained as Seasons for Growth *Companions* this year. Seasons Companions lead small groups of learners.

Companions help the group learn the skills to cope with and make sense of significant loss and change, and help the learners create a peer network of support. Once trained as a companion, twice yearly re-connector sessions are offered as ongoing support and development. Seasons for Growth has very positive outcome ratings for the support staff trained.

Training for Police Officers

Police Trauma Informed sessions have been completed in Aberdeen City with plans for the same in Aberdeenshire and Moray. Probationers now receive an hour and a half input on being trauma informed. Police Scotland now have a cadre of 40 plus Trauma Informed Champions covering the North East. Future plan for mandatory training for all currently being progressed with IT.

Police Scotland CYP team is responsible for driving the Promise; with commitment to improve the care system in conjunction with partners, and in accordance with the Corporate Parenting Plan, whilst supporting workforce development in areas such as Trauma Informed approach and upskilling partners in areas such as CCE. All in accordance with UNCRC. This work is carried out by Risk and Harm Reduction Officers who also work primarily with care experienced children and young people, but also any other children and young people following missing episodes, and also conduct their return home discussions, and attend subsequent IRD, MAM, CARM, etc.

Police Scotland provides regular updates to guidance documents and inputs to care home staff and foster placement services. Police Scotland participation group work will feed into this. Local workforce will meantime continue with WRAM sessions as part of their ongoing Trauma Informed training

Training for Children's Social Work

All of our local residential staff continued to be trained in trauma-recovery principles (DDP). Children's social work are working towards increasing staff training levels to Trauma skilled and Trauma specialist. A workforce survey was undertaken with staff across children's social work to establish perceived levels of Trauma Knowledge and Skill and was used to inform a local pilot approach to training for social workers.

Children's social work are represented at the Scottish Government's Trauma Responsive Social Work Services Expert Advisory Group which provides advice, informs, shares and discusses the implantation of the national trauma training programme for social work services.

In summary, work is well underway and good progress has been made in this area. A Multi-agency training plan is currently being developed for approval by the Children's Services Board. We are confident that this area will be fully delivered by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Establish and implement trauma-informed universal workforce development plan

Of on-going relationships, Plan 21-24 says: There will be no blanket policies or guidance that prevent the maintenance of relationships between young people and those who care for them. Settings of care will be able to facilitate the protection of relationships that are important to children and young people.

Relational approaches

Relational approaches are well embedded in local residential care with many young people maintaining relationships with staff and others beyond moving on. Relational approaches are embedded across fostering service via increase in continuing care numbers and relationships being sustained beyond formal arrangements. Police Scotland, as Corporate Parents, uphold our NE Divisional Pledge to support any care experienced young person should they seek our advice in respect to personal and home safety when moving into their own home for the first time. This is also extended to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children who are new to the area and require extra support.

A review of policies has confirmed that there is no policy framework which prevents the maintenance of relationships between young people and those who care for them. A dedicated Throughcare and Aftercare outreach post has supported the maintenance of relationships and connection and Pathway Planning should account for how relationships are sustained.

Adopters, kinship and foster carers' training has been enhanced to include supporting relationships for children and young people in care and maintaining relationships is emphasised in our current preparation of adopters.

In summary, work is well underway and good progress has been made in this area. We are confident that this area will be fully delivered by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Develop our understanding of why adopters have been unable to maintain relationships for children and young people to better inform our guidance and support

On workforce support, Plan 21-24 says: A new framework of support will be in place to ensure people involved in the care of care experienced children and young people feel valued, encouraged and have supportive relationships for reflection with high quality supervision and environmental conditions.

Learning and development

We have a long established delivery model of shared learning and development which will be maintained. Effective professional supervision will also be maintained with Organisational Development on hand to support team development as required.

We are keen to ensure that we can respect the wishes of the young people wherever possible, particularly in identifying their central point of contact. We have a commitment from the

partnership that staff, irrespective of the job role, will be released to support a child or young person wherever possible.

Peer support networks have been established in schools and provided key support to those supporting pupils directly.

Staff across CSW are provided with professional supervision and support recognising the complexity of the role and personal impact working intensively with children, young people and families who have experienced significant trauma has on the workforce. A review of Supervision practices within CSW has been undertaken with staff and managers and a working group has been established to create consistent guidance, skills and resources across the service.

I summary, work is well underway and good progress has been made in this area and effective systems are in place. We are confident that this area will be fully delivered by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Further develop workforce wellbeing supports
- Give consideration to alignment within social work supervision policy across adults and children's social work

Our Progress in Delivering Priority 4, Planning

The promise says, There needs be a different approach to investment and planning. National partners have a significant role to play in ensuring a new context for funding, investment and planning. Children and families live in local communities and use local services. It is important that their experiences and outcomes are not determined simply by which local community they live in or local service they use. Planning and investment should be nationally coordinated to ensure that children and families get what they need. Whilst the majority of the promise relates to matters which are reserved to The Scottish Parliament, the English Independent Review of Children's Social Care has relevance in respect of cross-jurisdiction issues.

On planning, Plan 21-24 says: Scotland will have a national, strategic planning process in place that ensures that children who are cared for away from their family of origin 'belong to a loving home.'

The planning process will reflect the needs of Scotland's children and young people whilst operating with the expectation that more children will remain with their families. It will reflect the principles of the promise ensuring:

- Scotland's most vulnerable children are not profited from,
- Standards of care are consistent
- End to the selling of care placements to Local Authorities outside Scotland
- Acute and crisis services are phased out to promote early intervention and prevention

Reviewing commissioned services

We have undertaken a review of our commissioned services and expanded our development offer to Kinship and Foster Carers emphasising the importance of love and trauma recovery.

National policy changes

Locally we have welcomed the Hearings System Working Group's recommendation report. As the report recognises, there is significant work already underway, either through existing groups, such as the Children's Hearings Improvement Partnership, or through new policy, legislation and practice development. These include, but are not limited to, the introduction of Bairn's Hoose, the updated Child Protection Guidance, GIRFEC refresh, Secure Care Redesign, and the Children's Care and Justice Bill, alongside the proposed National Social Work Agency, amongst others. This individual, and combined, improvement work must be seen in the context of improving systems and practices for and with children, young people, and their families and all will have a positive impact on the children's hearing system, directly or indirectly.

In summary, work is underway locally. We welcome the national changes being proposed and continue to reflect the direction of travel advocated in The Promise in our commissioning arrangements. Considerable work is required at a national level and this is likely to compromise our ability to deliver on this action by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Continue to develop local services which promote early intervention and prevention
- We recognise that there remain differences between the care provided in Aberdeen City versus the external care provision we commissions e.g. we do not use restraint in any of our local care settings, however, further work is required to embed this change nationally
- It remains challenging to set our next steps in the absence of change at a national level. What is required moving forward is a cohesive and joined up approach to improvement, across local and national government and with The Promise Scotland and that existing policy, practice and legislative change do not happen independent from each other, or from the work resulting from the Hearings for Children report.

On investment, Plan 21-24 says: Investment in the lives of children and families will be considered strategically and holistically in the context of their experiences. The Human and Economic Cost modelling that underpinned Follow the Money and The Money reports will be embedded into organisational and budgeting processes across Scotland. That process will have involved organisations working together to spread investment and align budgets.

Considerable progress has been made in pooling resource across the universal services with examples of health and education co-designing and delivering services to vulnerable groups and health funding Place2Be in a local primary school as a test of change.

There is a commitment from all partners to resource the Bairns Hoose in terms of both workforce and the costs of the physical infrastructure. The business case for the physical infrastructure are now at an advanced stage although the final business case has still to be approved

Partnership commissioning principles have been agreed. All grants for children are overseen by the Children's Services Board.

The use of the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund continues to be a focus and evaluated. We are one of the 6 local authorities participating in independent evaluation of the fund.

In summary, work is underway. We continue to explore opportunities to pool resources and will need to carefully consider next steps in light of the Verity House agreement. Despite this uncertainty, we remain hopefully of fully delivering on this action by the end of 2024.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Continue to review the impact of resource allocations to inform future investment and planning

> **On information sharing, Plan 21-24 says:** Organisations with responsibilities towards children and families will be confident about when, where, why and how to share information with partners. Information sharing will not be a barrier to supporting children and families.

GIRFEC arrangements

Well established GIRFEC arrangements are in place and the workforce has a clear understanding of when and how to share information in line with legislation. Operational Guidance reflects updated national guidance.

Data sharing arrangements

The partnership has existing data sharing agreements that enable the routine sharing of appropriate data to produce multi-agency data sets. CELCIS have engaged with the data reporting of our Child Protection Committee to inform national approaches to data reporting. Challenges remain in complex organisational systems which create barriers to identifying and sharing information and data.

Data dashboards

Multi-agency data is frequently scrutinised by a range of partnership groups including the COG, CPC and CSB.

IRDs

Out Interagency Referral Discussion processes have been reviewed over the last year and continue to be fully aligned to the updated National Child Protection Guidance and considered best practice.

In summary, there are already well established systems in place across the Community Planning Partnership. It is anticipated that this area will be fully delivered by the end of the lifetime of Plan 21-24.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Implement the Request for Assistance process to enable us to better analyse the impact of services supporting children and families

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Our Progress in Delivery Priority 5, Building Capacity

The Promise says: Over the next 3 years, there will be a focus on work that ensures that the structural underpinning of the 'care system' is orientated to the needs of children and families. This work to build capacity and coherence reflects the planned obsolescence of The Promise Scotland. It will not always be there to provide oversight and accountability and the structures need to move to ensure that the scaffolding around the 'care system' facilitates and upholds children's rights

On legislation, Plan 21-24 says, Over the course of the next Parliamentary term, there will be identifiable progress made towards ensuring Scotland's legislative framework around the breadth of the 'care system' is coherent and cohesive, upholds the conclusions of the Independent Care Review and is compliant with the UNCRC.

The Children's Services Board is alert to and looks out for proposed legislative change. A local review of policies and guidance has been undertaken to ensure UNCRC compliance and strategic planning is informed by and aligned to upholding the UNCRC.

Planning, at a local level with steer from the Scottish Government, to consider the implications and requirements of the Care and Justice Bill is ongoing.

We have an established multi-agency group (CSW, SCRA and CHS) to ensure Children's Hearings, held locally, are as effective and child-centred as possible. This forum enable practice issues to be raised adopting a learning approach. It will also be well placed to respond to the findings of the ongoing review of Children's Hearings.

In summary, change is required at a national level. It is not anticipated that this area will be fully delivered by the end of the lifetime of Plan 21-24.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Continue horizon scan for legislative change and work to consider what this will mean and require of us locally.

On the Children's Hearing system, Plan 21-24 says: The Children's Hearing System will have gone through a redesign process.

That redesign process will bring together children and families, and organisations that hold the responsibility, to rethink the structures, processes and legislation that underpin the hearing system.

The aim will be to ensure there are coherent, cohesive and collaborative proposals on an operating framework for The Children's Hearings System that has been designed with children and families.

That redesign process will be underpinned by:

- giving effect to the promise;
- ensuring compliance with the UNCRC,
- upholding the original intention of The Kilbrandon Review that children involved in offending need care and protection; and
- ensuring The Children's Hearing System and The Courts can facilitate child friendly justice that upholds children's rights and enables their effective participation.

We have welcomed the [Hearing Systems Working Group's Recommendation report](#) and whilst we await change at a national level we continue to work closely with local and national colleagues from SCRA and CHS. Grampian-wide tests of change are anticipated.

Practice and culture change is being promoted to consider how we will best support 16 and 17 years olds, in line with proposed changes to the Children's Hearings system and legislation anticipated from the Care and Justice Bill.

In summary, change is required at national level. It is hoped that this area will be fully delivered by the end of the lifetime of Plan 21-24.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Await the Scottish Government's formal response to the HSWG review
- Explore change at a local level to improve our processes, practice and culture.

On inspection and regulation, Plan 21-24 says A new, holistic framework for inspection and regulation that values what children and family's value, will have been scoped and developed. It will understand the necessary legislative change required to focus on children's experiences and will be underpinned by the principles set out in the promise and give full effect to the secure care pathway and standards.

We have a local interface with our Link Inspector and participated in the Secure Care Pathway Review which is anticipated to publish its recommendations report in September 2023.

In summary, change is required from the Care Inspectorate and we will take learning from the Secure Care Inspection to inform local change. It is hoped that this area will be fully delivered by the end of the lifetime of Plan 21-24. However we also recognise that work to 'reimagine secure care' will take far longer than the lifetime of Plan 21 – 24.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Conversations with the Care Inspectorate and at a national level to continue
- Reflect on and embed learning from secure care review into local practices and processes

On policy coherence, Plan 21-24 says: There will be cohesive alignment in the policy initiatives and frameworks across Scotland. Policy development across Scotland will reflect the realities of people's lives and create a coherent policy environment. The focus of the 21-24 period will be on implementation and alignment not inquiries and reviews.

All policies in place across education and children's services, reflect what is known about incorporation of the UNCRC and The Promise.

Our LOIP, Children's Services Plan, Child Poverty Plan and other local and national strategic plans have been aligned with The Promise and UNCRC.

Locally we have convened a National Care Service (NCS) multi-agency group to ensure early planning and consideration of decisions made in relation to NCS.

In summary, work is advanced in this area. We continue to proactively plan for changes in policy and welcome greater coherence nationally. It is anticipated that this area will be fully delivered by the end of the lifetime of Plan 21-24, although recognise that decisions in relation to the proposed NCS and incorporation of UNCRC will have an impact here.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Create a coherent policy environment across the partnership, informed by the findings of the reviews being undertaken to inform NCS planning
- Policy coherence across the partnership will be supported by local development and implementation of the Bairns Hoose model

- We intend to align reporting of the child protection improvement plan to children's services planning to further support coherence

> **On data mapping and collection, Plan 21-24 says,** Scotland will have a cohesive central picture of all data on the processes and systems that directly and indirectly impact on children and their families, including wider socio-structural factors. The data picture will have been used to fully align data systems, collection and analysis methodologies to what matters to children and families, and the needs of those who take decisions on how best to support children and their families.

A suite of multi-agency data to support monitoring of children's services activity and tracking of trends for our children and young people across the partnership has continued to develop and mature.

Better consistency of data is required at a national level to support benchmarking and a review of what data is collected and reported upon, and whether this really matters to children and families.

In summary, good progress has been locally. It anticipated that this area will be fully delivered by the end of the lifetime of Plan 21-24.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Continue to engage with the Local authority social work services (LASWS) children and families group and Promise Scotland to inform national change
- Our corporate parenting data collected across the partnership relates specifically to looked-after children and we hope to develop routine collection of care experienced data to help us better understand a child/young person's experiences and outcomes beyond care better. Work to improve our workforce's understanding of the language of care is underway to support achievement of this.

> **On governance structures, Plan 21-24 says**, All public appointments to any of Scotland's Boards and Public Bodies which have an impact on the 'care system' will ensure that the values of the promise are embedded in recruitment frameworks. The governance landscape around the various Boards, networks and groups that sit around the 'care system' will be rationalised to enable effective and accountable shared working around the lives of children and families.

Principally this is an area of work for the Scottish Government, however, locally the following work is underway and all members of the partnership are represented at the board and all subsidiary groups responsible for multi-agency accountability and implementation of The Promise.

We have established regional approaches, such the North East Leaders of Public Protection Group and our SCIM arrangements, enable the maximisation of our plans for a regional connection.

The Aberdeen City Community Planning partnership has a range of highly effective governance arrangements in place including our Chief Officers Group (COG), Child Protection Committee (CPC) and Children's Services Board (CSB). These arrangements, where candour, curiosity and accountability between partners is actively encouraged, has significantly aided more common practice and a shared and ongoing culture of improvement around public protection. Local Government benchmarking outcome data for children suggests we are the most improved Partnership.

The Children's Services Board is governed by and accountable to the Community Planning Management Board, which in turn is accountable to Community Planning Aberdeen.

In summary, sound governance arrangements are in place locally. It not anticipated that national governance arrangements will be fully delivered by the end of the lifetime of Plan 21-24.

To fully deliver on Plan 21-24 we now need to:

- Change is required at a national level
- Remain engaged with partners at a national and local level to prepare for timeous implementation of change locally as national direction becomes clearer

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

Local and National Context

We are now 3 years into our journey to #KeepThePromise and Plan 21-24 is coming to an end. Plan 21-24 was the first of three intended plans and began on 1st April 2021. Undertaking this evaluation has helped confirm many of the next steps we had already identified and identify further two further areas for action which are to:

- Review our Virtual School Toolkit.
- Establish a mechanism to share information on the safe loving relationships important to young people

In its second report, The Promise Oversight Board, acknowledged the challenging context within which The Promise and Plan 21-24 were launched, referencing the disruptive impact of the Covid pandemic and cost of living crisis on people and organisations. The Board was realistic in stating that due to the worsening circumstances for so many and the current pace of change, they do not believe that delivering the original aims of Plan 21-24 is realistic by 2024. However, they reiterated that The Promise is non-negotiable and must be kept by 2030.

As our self-evaluation reflects, there is a lot of positive work underway that is making a difference to the lives of children and families which must be celebrated and built on.

The Promise Scotland have advised that they now think that the time period left, between now and 2030, would be better served with a single 6-year plan, with proper monitoring and accountability built in, rather than the original three 3-year plans, and we remain engaged with colleagues nationally to support our local response to future Promise plans.

The Promise Oversight Board's second report identified 3 priority areas for change in Scotland based on the national data available:

- Education
- Brothers and Sisters
- Homelessness

Whilst we have made significant progress locally in all 3 of these areas, we agree that improving the educational outcomes of our looked-after and care experienced children and young people,

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keeping brothers and sisters together and connected and ensuring young people leaving care have everything they need should remain local priorities too.

We remain dedicated to developing and embedding our local Family Support Model to deliver on early and preventative support to children, young people and their families with the aim of increasingly preventing them from coming into our care at all.

Summary of Progress

In 2022, we reported our progress against the 25 priority actions from Plan 21-24 as of 31st March 2022.
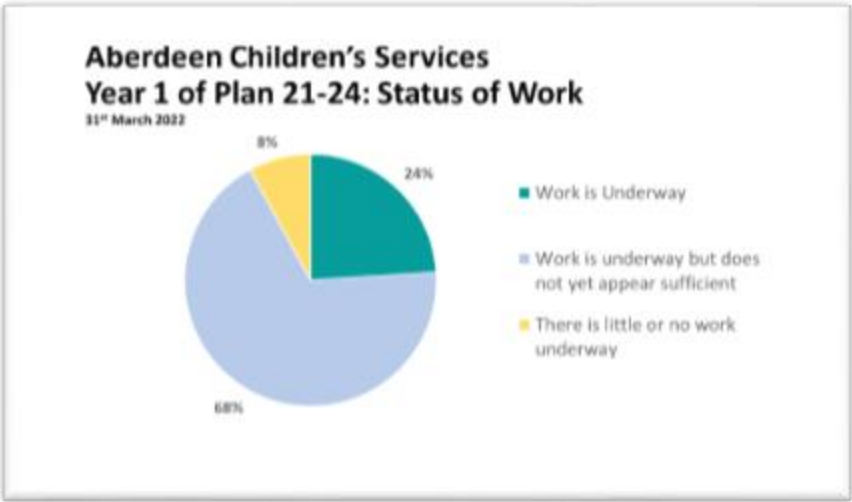
From this year's self-evaluation against the 25 priority actions from Plan 21-24 we can see that significant progress has been made in the last year and notably we have identified no areas where there is 'little or no work underway'.
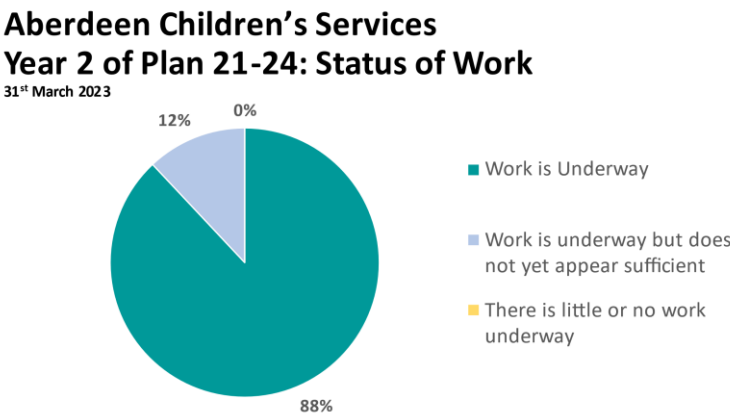
The 3 priority actions, planning, legislation and governance structures, where we have identified 'work is underway but does not yet appear sufficient' require change at a national, systems level e.g. by the Scottish Government or Children's Hearings system, before a local response can be made.

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Community Planning Aberdeen

Information Report	AHDRC Progress Report
Lead Officer	Martin Murchie, Aberdeen City Council
Report Author	Helen Cannings, Aberdeen City Council
Date of Report	16 November 2023
Governance Group	CPP Board – 29 November 2023

Purpose of the Report

This paper summarises progress to date to establish the AHDRC and outlines next steps.

Summary of Key Information

Workstream 1 – Leadership

We have recruited and inducted a Centre Manager; Administrator; Promotion, Involvement & Engagement Coordinator, Senior Research Fellow and Research Fellow.

We have continued to carry out foundational stakeholder engagement with the aim of ensuring that the AHDRC is working with, and integrated into, relevant networks and initiatives in the city and the region to maximise both the reach and sustainability of our work. This has included presenting to the board of Public Health Scotland, connecting AHDRC work with the broader agenda of the new North East Population Health Alliance, continued regular engagement with the Council's Corporate Management Team, the Community Planning Aberdeen Board and Management Group, and the Aberdeen Health & Social Care Partnership.

We have supported the Council's Corporate Management Team to develop a new approach to evaluation for the council and will be providing targeted support to test and refine this approach on a number of interventions during 2023/24, provisionally including a pathfinder "Bairns Hoose" in Aberdeen, a programme to end homelessness, health and wellbeing implications of the Local Transport Strategy and physical city developments (i.e. beach front) and the granular identification of those at risk of financial exclusion.

We have facilitated engagement activities between Council staff and academic collaborators to bring teams to co-design PhD studentship proposals aligned to the AHDRC's priorities. Based on the commitment from University of Aberdeen and Robert Gordon University to fund four paid PhD studentships, we have approved and advertised co-designed PhD studentships around social prescribing, hip fractures, arts-based public engagement and lived experience.

The AHDRC is now being regularly engaged by a variety of partners to advise, support or participate in bids for further research funding. A number of these are live through UKRI, NIHR and the Scottish Government.

Workstream 2 – Evidence

To date we have focused on understanding the evidence base as it applies to the priority areas for Aberdeen City Council. We have mapped food security services in Aberdeen City and identified

some gaps. These were presented and discussed with academics and stakeholders at a webinar held on the 12 May 2023. Work is underway on two systematic reviews to explore (i) the factors associated with and (ii) interventions to address, infant food security. These are on track for completion by November 2023. A workshop has been planned in September 2023 to bring together ACC, AHDRC and third sector colleagues to plan next steps and shape our work plan going forward. We have supported application for funding from the Scottish Government for "Cash First: Towards Ending the Need for Food Banks in Scotland", primarily led by local voluntary sector organisations, and "Child Poverty", ACC led.

AHDRC researchers have completed a systematic review of financial incentives for fuel poverty and submitted this for publication to a peer-reviewed journal. AHDRC, through the Grampian data safe haven have supported the Warm Homes Prescriptions pilot in Aberdeen City by ascertaining eligible participants and providing data for evaluation. The pilot was carried out in Aberdeen and three areas in England. 486 of the 823 participants across the four areas (59%) were from Aberdeen. This work was led by Energy Systems Catapult and a Value for Money assessment was carried out by Sheffield Hallam University. The Grampian pilot work was presented at the Public Health Scotland short life working group on cost of living on the 20th of September. Discussions are ongoing with ESC and partners to progress further data analysis and consider next steps for refining the intervention and improving ascertainment of potentially eligible participants.

We have started preliminary work to support ACC colleagues to work up a research funding bid to explore innovative tests of change to prevent drug deaths.

AHDRC are supporting a research proposal and application for funding for a local study on the impact of the universal expansion of Early Leaning & Childcare provision; we are facilitating ongoing engagement with Scottish Government and the Improvement Service who are conducting an evaluation of this policy nationally, with a view to avoiding duplication, exploiting synergies and ensuring that an Aberdeen focused study can yield evidence which impacts nationally.

We have supported the delivery of a data rich "Population Needs Assessment" for Community Planning Aberdeen in advance of the refresh of the City's "Local Outcome Improvement Plan", which sets joint priorities across multiple partners for the city under the themes of people, place and economy. An AHDRC co-applicant provided a population health analysis for this document. The AHDRC will play a central role in the interpretation of this data, identification of improvement projects and future research priorities.

Workstream 3 – Data Ecosystem

We have developed a data governance model for the AHDRC to enable research. We have connected our objective to develop a health determinants atlas for Aberdeen with similar work through the North East Population Health Alliance with the aim of driving an atlas which is extensible and can be developed for use across the wider Grampian region.

Workstream 4 – Organisational Culture and Skills

We have baselined Aberdeen City Council's staff research culture and capacity. We have input to wider review of the Council's Capability Framework for its staff, which forms the basis for staff review and performance appraisal, to ensure appropriate 'research and evidence' performance indicators are included different types of job roles across the Council.

We have a calendar of internal events with key existing staff networks and leadership forums, including a targeted session for Council Elected Representatives on data and evidence. We are working with our academic partners to provide a curated offering of taught postgraduate modules which will be targeted at relevant ACC staff.

Workstream 5 – Stakeholder Engagement

The recruitment, appointment and induction of a dedicated Promotion, Involvement & Engagement Coordinator in May 2023 has allowed progress in this area to be accelerated. The AHDRC now has an established PPIE Core Group, which includes three members of the public. This Core Group meet fortnightly and have developed a detailed workplan for public and community engagement activities. This workplan and all activities carried out to date have been shaped iteratively through feedback and involvement of the wider community through these engagement activities and events.

In early May the AHDRC ran a workshop session as part of a wider Community Planning Aberdeen Public Gathering to gather initial views from attendees on 'research', and to make initial contacts with public interested in finding out more about becoming involved in research. The AHDRC hosted a further community engagement events at July and August to start conversations and gather feedback about areas of priority interest for the public.

Community Planning Aberdeen's Local Improvement Outcome Plan is currently being refreshed and we are providing expertise to develop, support and supplement a programme of public engagement activities which shape the local outcome improvement priorities. As these priorities form the basis for the AHDRC's research agenda this ensures a foundational level of public engagement influences all our activity.

The PPIE Core Group have agreed a programme of monthly public engagement surgeries which are based in community centres, these will enable members of the public and council staff to come together around areas of shared interest. We have carried out a range of early engagement with community groups which include publicising the AHDRC and our aims in a local community magazine, and agreeing a future hackathon with Aberdeen based not for profit organisation 'Code the City'.

Our PPIE Core Group has been making links and developing relationships with the wider PPIE community across Aberdeen City, through participation at PPIE events at Robert Gordon University and Aberdeen University to explore how best the AHDRC can support and foster a joined up citywide public engagement ecosystem.

Engagement activity so far has resulted in six members of the public who are keen to become more involved in the AHDRC's work. Two of them are established as 'community connectors' on Community Planning Aberdeen Improvement Projects, two are keen to get involved as Citizen Researchers (people who will assist research projects by going out and collecting data/evidence/whatever is needed), and another is keen to help review public-facing documents but on an ad-hock basis. 1 person is keen to be a full member of the Public Advisory Group. The PPIE Core Group are working with public stakeholders to establish terms of references for the Public Advisory Group and will progress recruitment into the Public Advisory Group through further planned community events to ensure this group is representative and includes people who are interested into the AHDRCD's priority areas.

We also have a growing wider group of members of the public who are interested in being kept informed about the AHDRC's work so they can become involved in future projects in areas which interest them. It has also resulted in the development of Public Engagement Strategy and core promotional and engagement materials for the AHDRC.

Workstream 6 – Dissemination
We have established an AHDRC website with initial content about our work, as well as established dedicated AHDRC social media presence on Linked In, Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter).

Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that members of the CPA Board:

i)   Note the content of this report.

Opportunities and Risks

Recruitment of appropriately qualified staff to some AHDRC posts has remained our major challenge and has acted as a brake on faster progress toward our objectives in this reporting period: three posts (Data Engineer, Information Governance Officer, Health Economics Research Fellow) are still vacant. These are high demand, specialist posts, and we have been unable to recruit following two cycles. We will be re-advertising the health economics post and investing in paid advertisements to try and attract a stronger field of candidates. We are currently considering options for the two vacant data posts including readvertising; redesigning the posts; or defining potential "project" tasks and engaging alternative external resource.

Whilst we have been successful in recruiting to other key posts in some cases there have been long timelines associated with getting staff in post; this is primarily due to long notice periods of preferred candidates in current academic positions, so this has also impacted progress to date toward our objectives.

Scheduling, diary management and communication across the four core partners in the AHDRC has been challenging but this has now been mitigated with the appointment of a dedicated Administrator post for the AHDRC.

Learning from this reporting period has shown very quickly the mutually beneficial potential value of bringing together practitioners and academics into networks around research AHDRC priority areas, but has also shown the importance of allowing practitioners and academics sufficient time to build relationships, and to develop an understanding of each other's organisational cultures, priorities and expertise. This has developed our understanding of volume and nature of support that both our Co-Applicants and wider networks of practitioner and academic collaborators need from the central AHDRC Team, which has informed our proposal to NIHR to reprofile our budget so we can add three more posts to accelerate progress.

We have also experienced a small number of situations where opportunities are opened for the HDRC's which, subsequently, are confirmed to be open to English HDRCs only. This includes Doctoral Local Authority Fellowships and specialist research support for local authorities. We are pursuing this both with NIHR and Scotland's Chief Scientist Office.

As outlined above in the challenges section, the recruitment challenges which have slowed progress toward some of our objectives have also led to a significant underspend for 2022-23 and a projected underspend for 2023-24. To ensure we are able to achieve the outcomes we identified we have proposed to NIHR a re-profiling of this actual and projected underspend as follows:

- Creation of a full time Knowledge Management Officer role to support us deliver on our workstream 6 objectives, with a projected start date of June 2024, for a fixed term of 40 months.
- Supplementing our resources aligned to our workstreams 2 with the addition of an additional full time Research Fellow with a projected start date of June 2024, for a fixed term of 40 months.

Supplementing the resources aligned to workstream 4 with the addition of a full time specialist in organisational development and culture to drive culture change with the Council, with a projected start date of June 2024, for a fixed term of 40 months.

Consultation
CPA Management Group

Background Papers

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Community Planning Aberdeen	

Progress Report	47th City Voice Questionnaire Report – Community Empowerment Edition
Lead Officer	Michelle Crombie, Chair of Community Empowerment Group and Community Planning Manager, ACC
Report Author	Michelle Crombie, Community Planning Manager Anne McAteer, Research Officer
Date of Report	17 October 2023
Governance Group	CPA Board – 29 November 2023

Purpose of the Report
This report presents the results of the 47th City Voice Questionnaire – Community Empowerment Edition.

Summary of Key Information

1   BACKGROUND

1.1   Aberdeen City Voice is a panel of residents who have agreed to give their views on a wide range of issues which impact on the local community. Management of the panel and city voice questionnaires are coordinated by Aberdeen City Council on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen. Further information on the panel and copies of past questionnaires are available from the City Voice webpage.

1.2   Following a review of City Voice in March 2022, a number of changes are currently being tested to improve the response rate and representativeness of the panel. For example, the panel has been refreshed and targeted recruitment to address under-represented groups is ongoing. Surveys are shorter, more frequent and themed; relacing the previous longer annual survey. Also, more timely reporting of results to panel members is expected to keep panel members more engaged in between surveys.

1.3   The questions included in the community empowerment edition of City Voice have been chosen by the members of Community Planning Aberdeen's Community Empowerment Group. The results will help us gain a better understanding of how we can work better with communities and realise Community Planning Aberdeen's ambition for all communities across Aberdeen to be equal community planning partners, as set out within the Community Empowerment Strategy. Many of the questions have been inspired by the Place Standard which is a recognised framework used for assessing places.

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2 COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT EDITION: KEY FINDINGS

2.1 Getting Together and Keeping Informed

2.1.1 Our first line of questioning was about where people get together and find out what is happening. The answers to these questions are important as they tell us where to go and how best to connect with communities. 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.

2.2 Social Interaction and Identity & Belonging

2.2.1 Our aim is to help create the conditions for community empowerment and support individuals to come together as a local community to take action and influence change for the better. This benefits the individual and the community because it creates strong social relationships and builds collective power. Our next line of questioning was about how connected to their community people currently feel. On a scale of 1-7 people scored 3.7 for overall opportunities for social interaction but scored more positively (higher) when breaking down their answers. For example, people scored 4 for coming together in a crisis and 3.9 for opportunities that everyone can join and mix. People scored 4 overall for sense of identity and belonging. When breaking down their answer, people scored 3.6 for how involved people are in the community and scored 4.3 for how welcoming people are in this place.

2.2.2 These answers give us some confidence that, in the main, communities do have the right conditions for community empowerment where people have the opportunity to meet and take part in their local community. However, sub analysis of the data shows that this is not the case for people across all communities. Feeling isolated can be damaging to our health and wellbeing and a person's sense of identity and belonging can affect how they interact with their local community.

2.3 Influence and Sense of Control

2.3.1 Ultimately, we believe community empowerment is when people have a voice and ability to influence what happens to them and their community. Therefore the success of our Community Empowerment Strategy 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%). When breaking down the answers, the lowest score was 2.9 for the community feeling listened to, which gives us some indication for the reason for the low score overall, but it is

imperative that we explore the reasons more fully with communities. Panel members will be invited to join a focus group to explore their views about this topic and what we can do to address the barriers to people's feelings of influence and sense of control.

2.4   **Involvement in Community Groups**

2.4.1   We are extremely fortunate in Aberdeen to have so many community groups making a vital contribution to the City's people, place and economy. The outbreak of COVID-19 shone a light on the essential work that these groups do to support people across the City and in most neighbourhoods. Community groups are led by local people and rely on volunteers giving up their time and sharing their knowledge and skills. By volunteering, people can make a valuable contribution to the community while learning new skills and improving their health and well-being. Community empowerment cannot exist without community involvement. This line of questioning was to understand people's levels of motivation to get involved in their community and to increase our awareness of the community groups operating in Aberdeen. Although a high proportion of people answered that they felt 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%); levels were much lower for people who are currently involved in their community (22.1%) and know how to get involved in decisions which affect their community.

2.4.2   However we are delighted through this survey to learn that 24.5% of panellists are involved in a community group and grateful to the 90 respondents who shared the name of their group so that we can find out more about them. We also note the idea put forward by one panel member to create a 'life in your community' website to help share information about the 'many groups doing wonderful work in the community'. We will consider this as part of our community capacity building project mentioned below.

2.4.3   We know already that one of the barriers to people getting involved in the community is that they don't know how to or they lack the skills and confidence to work with others in a community setting. This was identified as an area for improvement in our Community Empowerment Strategy and we have a project already underway to create tools and resources for communities and staff to build their capacity to take forward improvement in and with the community. We are engaging communities in the development of the toolkit and in June invited people to participate in a workshop to explore this as part of our Community Gathering. Questions about skills, tools and support included in this survey were directed only to those who had indicated they belonged to a community group and indicated a high level of skills and knowledge. Although, only 25% did not feel that they needed any additional support. In future we will open up this line of questioning to all panel members. In the meantime, we will continue to engage with staff and communities as part of our capacity building improvement project and have invited panel members to get involved.

3

2.5   Working with Community Planning Aberdeen

2.5.1   We wanted to gauge how aware people and communities are of Community Planning Aberdeen and their experiences of being engaged by the Partnership overall and individual partner organisations. This is the first time we have asked this question and so the answers provide us with an important baseline of where we currently are on Community Planning Aberdeen's ladder of empowerment.

2.5.2   Only 28.7% of respondents said that they had been aware of Community Planning Aberdeen before joining the panel. 23.4% said they were aware of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan but only 18.2% were aware of Locality Plans. Lower still, 13.9% were aware of the Community Empowerment Strategy. 16.8% were aware of our improvement projects. Whilst these results may seem low, we believe them to be fair. We recognise that people may connect with community planning primarily through their involvement and engagement with a partner organisation or community group and may not recognise this as working with Community Planning Aberdeen. For example, young people engaging with Police Scotland as part of Community Planning Aberdeen's project to reduce anti-social behaviour. A family accessing affordable food through one of our community pantries as part of Community Planning Aberdeen's food poverty project. A community member joining a Locality Empowerment Group as part of our integrated locality planning model with the Health and Social Care Partnership. We celebrate and exploit the power of our member organisations to reach and engage more people, groups and organisations in our shared improvement activity. We also recognise that the formal community planning structures are not right for everyone and part of our ambition is to align more closely with the work that is organically taking place in communities.

2.5.3   We will continue to increase awareness of Community Planning Aberdeen and promote the benefits of working together, at the same time as ensuring that our scarce resources are channelled to where they are needed most – improving outcomes for all our people. The information specific to individual partner organisations is shared for their consideration and action.

Partner Levels of Engagement Where Happening

Legend: Informed, Consulted, Engaged, Co-designed, Co-produced

Categories: ACC, NHSG, CPA, PS, UoA, ACHSCP, RGU, ACVO, SFR, NESCol, SDS, NESTRANS
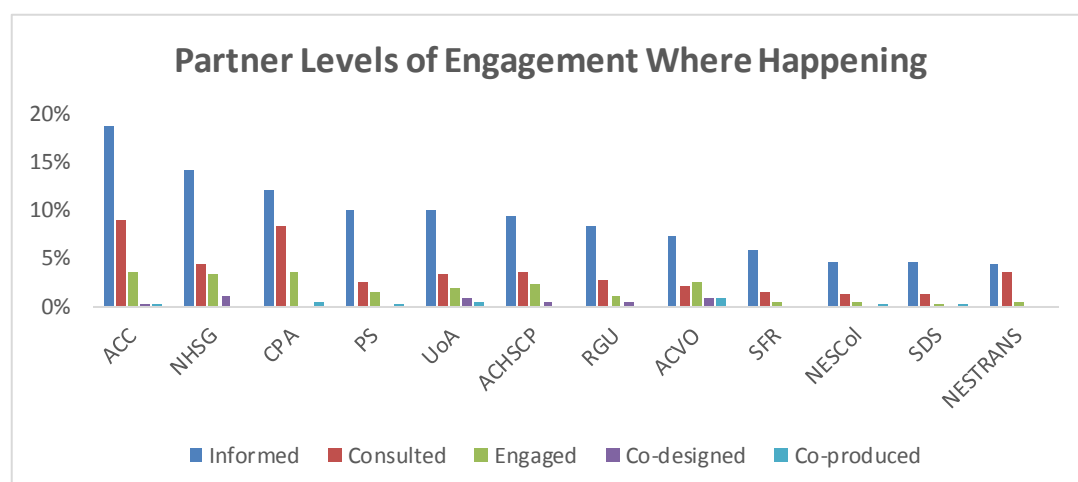
2.5.4   See Appendix 2 for the full report.

3   NEXT STEPS

3.1   The results of the 47th City Voice Questionnaire have been shared with panel members. The information gathered is informing our approach to engaging the public in the current refresh of the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans. It will also be used by our community empowerment improvement project teams to develop and test changes to achieve the improvement aims within the Community Empowerment Strategy. Sub analysis has been shared with the Locality Planning Team to help them take a more targeted approach to supporting neighbourhoods which do not have many opportunities for social interaction and/ or a strong sense of identify and belonging.

3.2   See Appendix 1 for City Voice Forward Planner 2023/24

Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that the CPA Board:

i)   Notes the 47th City Voice Questionnaire Report at Appendix 2 ;
ii)   Requests that Outcome Improvement Groups and individual partners consider the results to inform their approaches to community engagement; and
iii)   Requests Outcome Improvement Groups to submit questions for future surveys as per the forward planner at Appendix 1.

Opportunities and Risks

City Voice is just one way we gather the views of people and communities across the City. 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 to meet local need.

Consultation

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

Community Empowerment Group

Background Papers

The following papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Review of City Voice March 2022

Contact details:

Michelle Crombie
Community Planning Manager
Aberdeen City Council
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APPENDIX 1   CITY VOICE FORWARD PLANNER 2023/24

Date	Theme and Possible Areas of Questioning	Responsible OIG
June 2023	**Community Empowerment** • Your neighbourhood • Involvement in groups and activities • Working with Community Planning Aberdeen	Community Empowerment Group
November 2023	**Place/Travel and Transport** • Place satisfaction (Place Standard-some qns) • Travel • Low emission zone • Health and wellbeing (relating to travel) • Parking • Environment and sustainability (travel related)	Sustainable City Group
January 2024	**People** • Corporate Parenting/LAC • Young people (ASB)) • Hate Crime legislation • General health and physical activity • Mental wellbeing • Attitudes towards mental health in • Carers Community Safety • Community Justice • Alcohol purchase and promotion	Children's Services Board/ Community Justice Group Resilient, Included, Supported Group Alcohol and Drugs Partnership
April 2024	**Economy** • CC Masterplan (these are all covered in Travel and Transport qns.) • Cost of Living • Food security • Your heating • Homelessness • Digital access/skills • Employment • Living wage • Attitudes to online learning	Anti-Poverty Group Aberdeen Prospers Group
August 2024	**Place** • Climate change/nature biodiversity • Green space • Your neighbourhood/Place Standard • Energy use and climate change	Sustainable City Group

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City Voice
47th Survey Report

Community Empowerment Edition

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background

1.1.1. Aberdeen City Voice, Aberdeen's citizens' panel, is run by Community Planning Aberdeen. Community Planning Aberdeen is a partnership of public, private and third sector organisations working together to improve outcomes for people and communities across the City.

1.1.2. Members of the panel are contacted on a regular basis, either via postal or email questionnaire survey, to ask for their views on a range of issues that affect the community. Community Planning Aberdeen have produced a Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2016-26 (refreshed July 2021) which sets out how public services in Aberdeen are working together to improve our City. The City Voice surveys focus on the three themes which run through the LOIP: Prosperous People, Prosperous Place, and Prosperous Economy. Findings from the surveys are used by Community Planning Partners to inform and shape service provision and policy and to measure performance.

1.1.3. At the start of 2022, a review of the City Voice was carried out. This identified a number of recommendations. A copy of the full report and the summary report can be found on the City Voice website. The first of the review recommendations was to undertake a refresh of the panel as low response rates to recent surveys indicated that a large proportion of people on the panel were no longer participating. The refresh involved contacting existing panel members to see whether they wished to remain on the panel, as well as a recruitment exercise to bring new members onto the panel. This exercise has now been completed and this was the second City Voice questionnaire that went out to the refreshed panel.

1.1.4. Other recommendations from the review include moving from producing one long questionnaire each year, to several shorter (themed) questionnaires. In line with this recommendation, this was the first of the themed questionnaires. The theme of the questionnaire is '**Community Empowerment**'. The topics included in this survey are as follows:

- **Your neighbourhood**
  - Social interaction
  - Identity and belonging
  - Influence and sense of control
- **Your role in the community**
  - Involvement in community groups/activities
  - Skills and support needed to succeed
- **Working with Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA)**
  - Awareness of/involvement with Community Planning Aberdeen
  - Asset Transfer
  - Participation Requests
  - Engagement with CPA and individual Partner Organisations

1.1.1. The survey opened on 1st June 2023 and closed on the 19th June 2023. Extra time was given for receiving paper questionnaires with a cut-off of 30th June. At the time of the survey, there were a total of 805 people on the City Voice panel. Of the 793 panel members who received the questionnaire (i.e. excluding those which were undelivered), a total of **400** completed questionnaires were returned. This gives a **response rate of 50.4%.**

1.1.2. 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-fresh conducted in 2022 (see Figure 1.1). 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. Additionally, the survey was sent out in June so it may be that some panellists were on holiday and therefore did not receive the questionnaire in time.

Figure 1.1

Survey Response rate over time
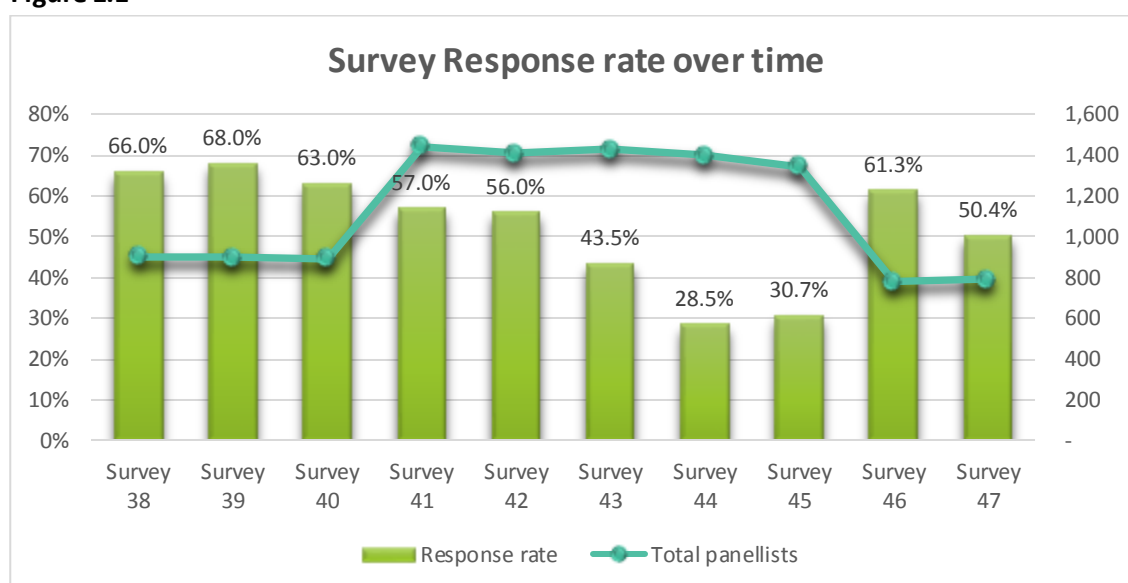
1.1.3. Of the 400 completed questionnaires received, 64 were paper questionnaires and 344 were online. The response rate for those receiving paper surveys was lower (44.3%) than the response to the online survey (51.9%).

1.1.4. A detailed profile of survey respondents is provided in Table 1.1 below, along with a profile of current panellists and the Aberdeen City population. This shows that while there was a relatively strong response across all areas of the city, the profile of survey respondents indicates that some groups of the wider Aberdeen City population are better represented than others. In particular, younger panellists are under-represented compared to the wider population and those in SIMD Quintile 5 (least deprived) are over-represented.

Table 1.1: Profile of survey respondents and comparison with panel and Aberdeen City

	CV47 Survey respondents (n=479)	City Voice Panel (n=805)	Aberdeen City population
	Number (Percentage)	Number (Percentage)	Percentage
Gender			
Male	187 (46.8%)	370 (46.0%)	49.8%
Female	212 (53.0%)	433 (53.8%)	50.2%
Missing	1 (0.3%)	1 (0.1%)	
Age Group			
16-34 years	10 (2.5%)	41 (5.1%)	30.1%
35-54 years	67 (16.8%)	173 (21.5%)	26.6%
55-64 years	103 (25.8%)	202 (25.1%)	11.7%
65-74 years	113 (28.2%)	184 (22.9%)	8.9%
75+ years	78 (19.5%)	132 (16.4%)	7.1%
Missing	29 (7.2%)	73 (9.1%)	
Median age (of those who provided Date of Birth)	65 years	62 years	38 years
Location			
North	120 (30.0%)	241 (30.2%)	31.3%
South	148 (37.0%)	285 (35.8%)	33.9%
Central	132 (33.0%)	270 (33.9%)	34.8%
Missing	-	1 (0.1%)	
SIMD Quintile			
1 (most deprived)	23 (5.8%)	59 (7.3%)	10.1%
2	59 (14.5%)	144 (17.9%)	22.4%
3	48 (12.0%)	98 (12.2%)	16.0%
4	66 (16.5%)	122 (15.2%)	14.4%
5 (least deprived)	204 (51.2%)	380 (47.2%)	37.1%
Missing		2 (0.2%)	
Ethnicity			
Scottish	303 (75.8%)	591 (73.4%)	75.3%
Other British	55 (13.8%)	96 (11.9%)	7.6%
Other White	19 (4.8%)	50 (6.2%)	9.1%
African or Caribbean	5 (1.3%)	21 (2.6%)	2.5%
Arab	1 (0.3%)	2 (0.2%)	0.1%
Asian	4 (1.0%)	11 (1.4%)	4.3%
Other	9 (2.3%)	23 (2.9%)	0.9%
Missing	4 (1.0%)	11 (1.4%)	
Survey type			
Online	334 (83.5%)	656 (81.5%)	-
Paper	66 (16.5%)	149 (18.5%)	-

Source: Data for Aberdeen City population estimates are based on National Records of Scotland, mid -2020 population estimates. Percentages for Ethnic groups for Aberdeen City are from 2011 Census. SIMD comparison is based on population at SIMD20 (V2).

1.2. Analysis and reporting

1.2.1.   This report presents basic descriptive analyses for each of the survey questions. Not all respondents answered every question, so the base level may not be the same for each question. Therefore, for ease of comparison, the results are generally presented as percentages of those who responded, and a base level is provided. (Note: for some questions, participants only had the option of ticking or not ticking the given options. In these cases, the base level is taken as 400, i.e. the full number of respondents).

1.2.2.   Several questions included a 'comments box' which gave respondents the opportunity to expand on their responses. This report will give only a brief overview/sample of these comments. **However, all comments will be sent to the relevant services to allow more in-depth analyses**.

1.2.3.   A few of the questions included in this year's City Voice have also been in previous City Voice questionnaires. Where relevant, findings from previous questionnaires have been included to give an indication of trends/changes over time.

1.2.4.   The level of responses received is sufficient to provide robust overall survey results and to permit more detailed analyses for specific groups – allowing us to look at potential variation in results across a range of socio-demographic groups. Additional analyses were conducted for five groups (age group, gender, SIMD quintile, locality and ethnicity). While the results of these analyses are not presented in the body of this report, an Appendix is attached which provides a breakdown of the results by each sub-group. Where there is a statistically significant difference between groups (95% confidence level) the figures have been highlighted in red. Caution is advised in interpreting these results as the numbers in some sub-groups may be very small.

2.   Your neighbourhood

In this first section of the questionnaire, panellists were asked to answer the questions with their local neighbourhood in mind, but to think about/consider the wider area it sits in if this helped them to answer the questions. While everyone will have their own idea about what a local neighbourhood is, for the purpose of these questions we suggested an area within a 15 minute walk from home would be relevant.

2.1. Social interaction

Good places have a mix of spaces and opportunities to meet and spend time with other people. Some places also have active websites or social media networks to help people meet and take part in the local community. Feeling isolated can be damaging to our health and wellbeing. The following questions asked about opportunities in 'your' neighbourhood for social interaction.

2.1.1.   The first question asked, **where do people get together**? A list of options was given and respondents could tick any that applied. There was also an option to give a free text

response. The most commonly selected option was **food and drink outlets** which was chosen by 63.7% of respondents. Other common places were **local halls and centres, places of worship** and **schools** (over 50% in each case).

Figure 2.1: Where do people get together
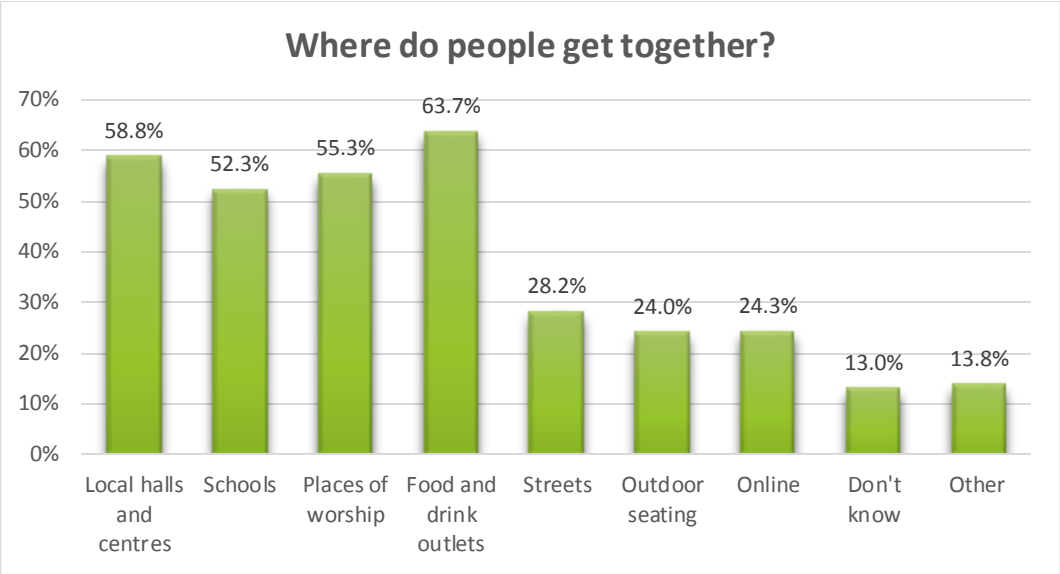
Base = 400

79 comments were received in the free text box. Other places identified included:

- Local parks/playgrounds/walks
- Dog walking
- Neighbours' homes/gardens
- Sports clubs/centres/venues

2.1.2. The next question asked **how do you find out what's happening?** The most common response was through **friends/family/neighbours** at 69% with **social media** being the next most common at 57.3%

Figure 2.2: How do you find out what is happening?
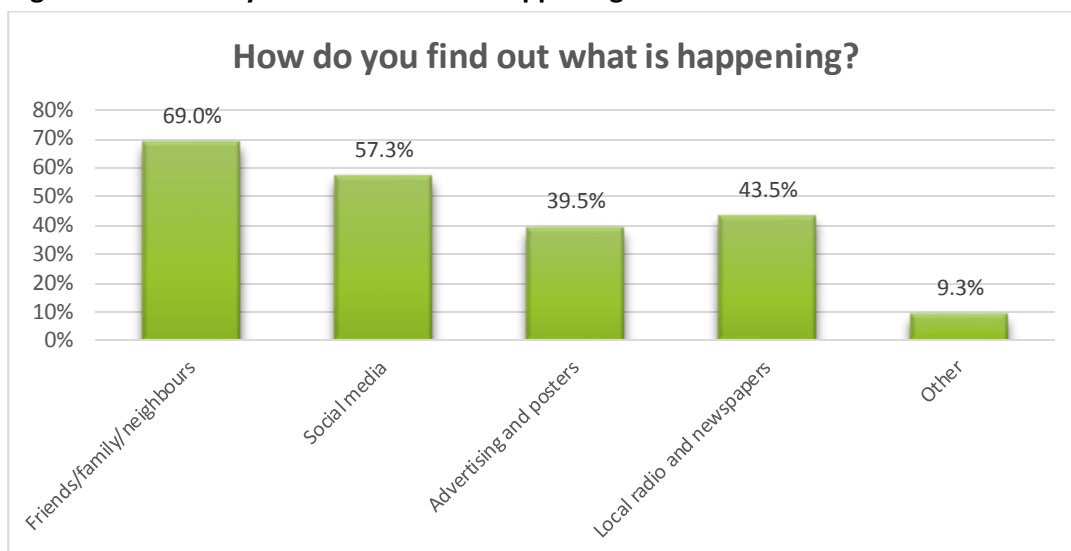
61 comments were received in the free text box. These included:

- Work colleagues
- Community Council newsletter
- ACC website
- Community Centre
- Difficult to find out what's happening

2.1.3. In the next questions, 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. Participants were also given a don't know option. The average (mean) scores for each topic (excluding don't knows) were then calculated. The table below gives an overview of the results for each question.

Three 'leader' questions were asked on the topic of social interaction (see Table 2.1), and a final question where participants were asked "**Overall, considering your responses to the questions above, how would you rate the range of opportunities which allow you to meet and spend time with other people?**"

2.1.4. For the leader questions, the most common response was 'Don't know' (over a fifth of respondents for each question). The mean scores were similar for each of these questions with **would people come together in a crisis** scoring highest at 4.0.

The mean score for **overall opportunities for social interaction** was lower than the leader questions at 3.7. The table below gives an overview of the results for each question.

Table 2.1 Social interaction

Questions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Don't know	5 and above	Base	Mean Score	Base excluding 'don't knows'
Can everyone join in and mix?	8.9%	9.1%	11.6%	19.7%	16.2%	9.9%	3.3%	21.3%	29.4%	395	**3.9**	311
Is there a mix of activities?	9.8%	9.1%	12.6%	14.9%	19.2%	10.6%	1.5%	22.2%	31.3%	396	**3.8**	308
Would people come together in a crisis?	8.6%	8.9%	11.1%	15.2%	15.4%	15.2%	3.3%	22.3%	33.9%	395	**4.0**	307
Overall, how would you rate opportunities for social interaction?	13.6%	9.8%	16.3%	21.6%	17.3%	11.1%	2.5%	7.8%	30.9%	398	**3.7**	367

2.2. Identity and belonging

How a place looks, its history and what other people think of it can affect how we feel. A positive identity can also attract people and businesses to move into an area.

In all questions in this section, 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. Participants were also given a 'don't know' option. The average (mean) scores for each topic (excluding don't knows) were then calculated.

2.2.1.   Four 'leader' questions were asked on the topic of Identity and belonging (see Table 2.2) with a final question asking **"Overall, considering your response to the questions above, to what extent does your neighbourhood have a positive identity that supports a strong sense of belonging?"** The lowest scoring of these leader questions was **how involved are people in the community** which had a mean score of 3.6. The highest scoring was **how welcoming are people in this place,** which scored 4.3.

The mean score for **overall sense of identity and belonging** was 4.0. The table below gives an overview of the results for each question.

Table 2.2 Identity and belonging

Questions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Don't know	5 and above	Base	Mean Score	Base excluding 'don't knows'
How strong is the sense of identity and belonging?	13.6%	9.8%	16.3%	21.6%	17.3%	11.1%	2.5%	7.8%	30.9%	398	**3.7**	367
How involved are people in the community?	9.6%	11.6%	18.2%	17.4%	16.4%	6.6%	1.8%	18.4%	24.8%	396	**3.6**	323
How welcoming are people in this place?	5.5%	7.8%	12.8%	19.4%	25.7%	17.6%	3.3%	7.8%	46.6%	397	**4.3**	366
What do others think of the place and community?	6.8%	5.8%	12.3%	18.4%	20.9%	11.6%	5.0%	19.1%	37.5%	397	**4.2**	321
Overall sense of identity and belonging	8.0%	11.6%	15.3%	19.6%	20.4%	14.3%	3.8%	7.0%	38.5%	398	**4.0**	370

2.3. Influence and sense of control

Having a voice in decision-making can help to build stronger communities and better places. Having a sense of control can make people feel positive about their lives.

In all questions in this section, 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. Participants were also given a don't know option. The average (mean) scores for each topic (excluding don't knows) were then calculated.

2.3.1. Five leader questions were asked on the topic of Influence and Sense of Control (see Table 2.3) with a final question asking panellists to give an overall rating for how well their community feels listened to and included in decision-making. The lowest score was for the question **is the community listened to** which had a mean score of 2.9 with the highest score being for the question **are there effective local groups** which scored 3.6.

The **overall score for influence and sense of control** was 3.0. The table below gives an overview of the results for each question.

Table 2.3: Influence and sense of control

Questions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Don't know	5 and above	Base	Mean Score	Base excluding 'don't knows'
Does your community have a voice?	13.6%	15.2%	18.2%	13.1%	15.2%	7.8%	1.0%	15.9%	24.0%	396	**3.3**	333
Is the community listened to?	22.3%	15.7%	17.5%	11.9%	10.4%	4.3%	0.8%	17.2%	15.5%	395	**2.9**	327
Are there effective local groups?	10.9%	13.2%	14.9%	16.7%	10.4%	12.9%	2.3%	18.7%	25.6%	**395**	**3.6**	321
Do you feel able to take action on your own or with neighbours?	15.9%	13.4%	14.9%	18.5%	11.6%	10.4%	2.5%	12.7%	24.5%	395	**3.4**	345
Are there barriers to participation for some people?	8.8%	8.6%	18.7%	15.9%	9.8%	5.3%	1.5%	31.3%	16.6%	396	**3.5**	272
Overall, influence and control?	21.0%	16.2%	17.9%	14.4%	9.6%	6.3%	0.8%	13.9%	16.7%	396	**3.0**	341

2.4. Comparison with previous City Voice surveys

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.

Figure 2.3: Your neighbourhood – comparison with previous City Voice surveys

Your neighbourhood - comparison with previous City Voice surveys

	Identity and belonging	Influence and sense of control
CV45	4.5	3.3
CV46	4.2	3.3
CV47	4	3
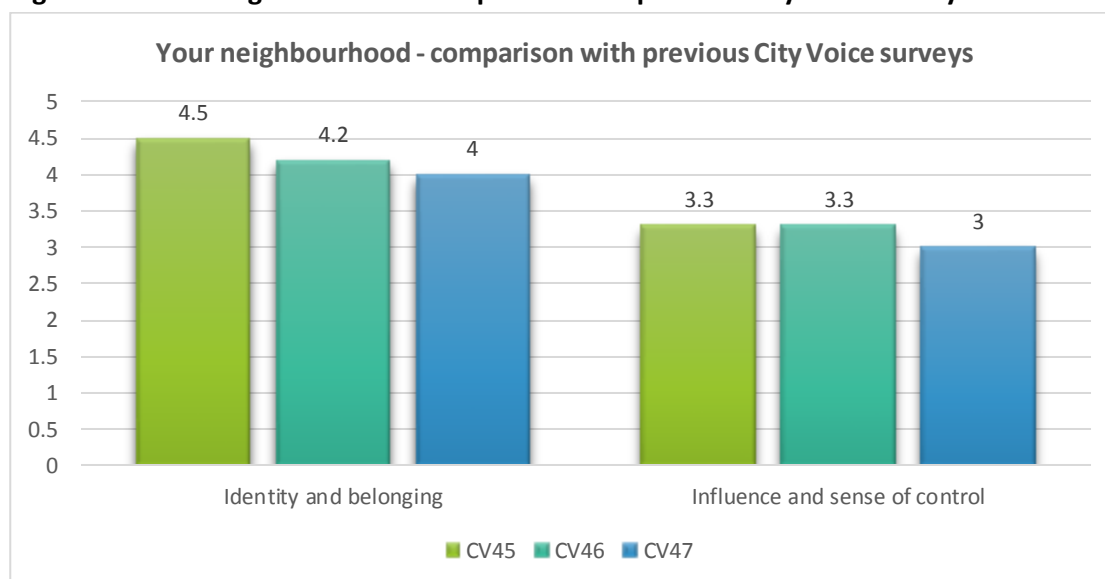
3. Your role in the community

3.1. Involvement in Community Groups/Activities

3.1.1. In this section of the questionnaire, panellists were asked to rate their agreement with a range of statements relating to involvement in community groups or activities. A **don't know** option was also given.

Agreement was highest for the statements 'I feel that efforts to address community issues are worthwhile' (71.8% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement) and 'I would like to be involved in decisions which affect my community' (70.5%). Agreement was lowest for 'I am involved in my community' (22.1%) and 'I know how to get involved in decisions which affect my community' (31.8%). The statements which had the highest proportion of respondents selecting 'neither agree nor disagree' were 'I feel part of the community in the area where I live' (34.4%), 'I am involved in my community' (34.3%) and 'I pitch in when there is work to be done' (34.2%). (See Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: Involvement with community groups – level of agreement with statements

	I feel part of the community	I know where to find information about what is happening	I would like to be involved in decisions	I know how to get involved in decisions	I am involved in my community	I have the knowledge/skills to make improvements	I have the knowledge/skills to gather information	I feel that efforts to address community issues are worthwhile	I pitch in when there is work to be done
Strongly agree	8.3%	7.3%	19.1%	5.8%	4.8%	12.1%	9.6%	20.7%	9.4%
Agree	37.7%	39.7%	51.4%	26.0%	17.3%	42.7%	37.6%	51.1%	35.7%
Neither agree nor disagree	34.4%	23.8%	22.2%	22.0%	34.3%	26.3%	30.1%	14.9%	34.2%
Disagree	12.3%	17.0%	3.3%	26.3%	28.4%	10.9%	13.1%	5.8%	10.7%
Strongly disagree	5.5%	7.8%	1.3%	10.6%	12.9%	2.8%	3.3%	3.3%	4.6%
Don't know	1.8%	4.3%	2.8%	9.3%	2.3%	5.3%	6.3%	4.3%	5.4%

3.1.2.   The next question in this section asked participants if they currently belonged to any community group (i.e. any local group that they give their time or support to). Almost a quarter of respondents (24.5%) reported that they belonged to a community group. 90 respondents gave the names of the groups they were involved in, with 74.5% of these agreeing to be contacted to find out more about the groups. This information will not be given in this report but will be passed to the Community Empowerment Group for follow-up.

3.2. Skills and support needed to succeed

3.2.1.   The next set of questions were only for those who had indicated that they belonged to a community group (number = 98) and related to whether they felt they had the necessary support, tools or skills to succeed. Participants were asked to rate their agreement with a series of statements. A don't know option was also given.

Most respondents who reported that they currently belong to a community group agreed (agree or strongly agree) that they knew where to find information about support or training available either to themselves (59.8%) or to their group (60.9%) and where to find information about connecting with other (similar) groups (53.2%). A smaller proportion agreed that they knew where to find information about funding available to their group (40.2%). Only 25% agreed with the statement that they did not feel they needed any additional support.

Figure 3.2: Know where to find information/support

Know where to find information about:

	Support available to me	Support available to our group	Funding available to our group	Connecting with other groups	Don't need additional support
Strongly agree	14.4%	12.4%	9.3%	11.5%	1.0%
Agree	45.4%	48.5%	30.9%	41.7%	24.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	24.7%	20.6%	29.9%	22.9%	34.4%
Disagree	7.2%	10.3%	13.4%	12.5%	26.0%
Strongly disagree	4.1%	3.1%	7.2%	5.2%	9.4%
Don't know	4.1%	5.2%	9.3%	6.3%	5.2%

Base = 98

4. Working with Community Planning Aberdeen

4.1. Aware of Community Planning

In this section of the questionnaire, panellists were asked questions relating to their awareness and understanding of Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA).

4.1.1. The first question in this section asked panellists if, before joining the City Voice panel, they were aware of Community Planning Aberdeen. Most respondents (56.1%) said that they had not been aware of CPA before joining the panel.

Figure 4.1: Awareness of Community Planning Aberdeen

Aware of Community Planning Aberdeen

Yes	No	Not sure
28.7%	56.1%	15.2%
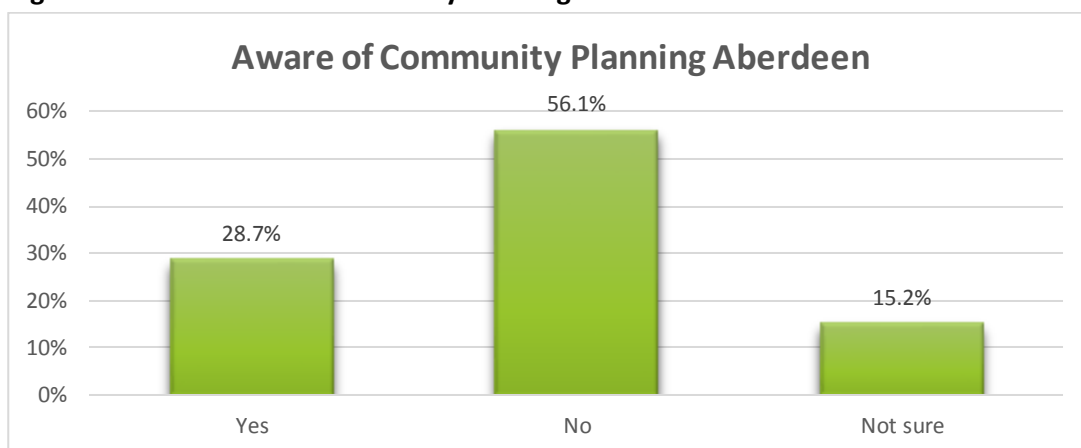
Base = 394

4.1.2. The next question asked participants if they were aware of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) and other complementary plans and projects (Locality Plans, Community Empowerment Strategy and Improvement Projects). Most respondents (approximately two thirds in each case) said they were not aware of any of these. Awareness was highest for the LOIP at 23.4%.

Figure 4.2: Awareness of CPA Plans and Projects

Awareness of CPA Plans/Projects

	LOIP	Locality Plans	Community Empowerment Strategy	Improvement Projects
Yes	23.4%	18.2%	13.9%	16.8%
No	61.2%	64.5%	69.1%	64.0%
Not sure	15.4%	17.4%	17.0%	19.3%
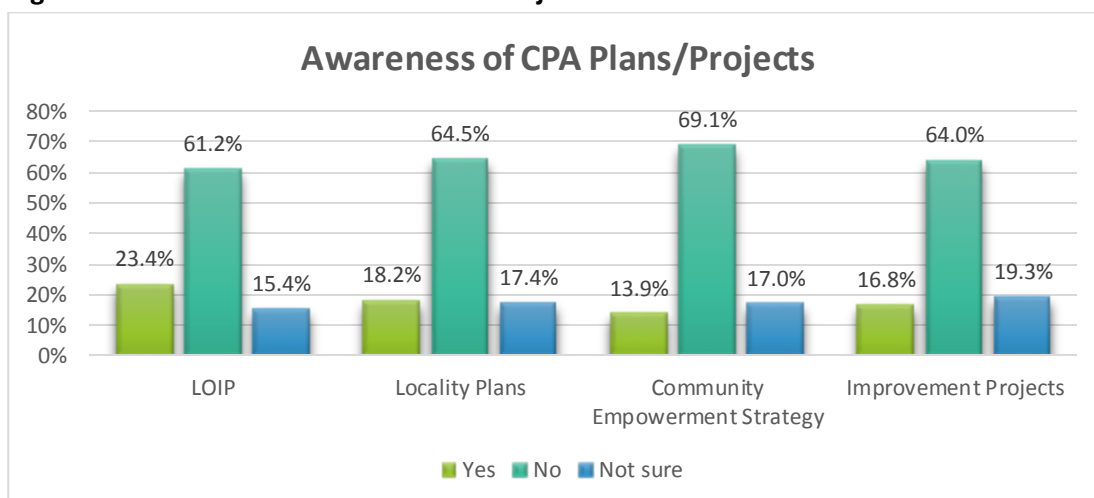
Bases: LOIP = 397, Locality Plans = 391, Community Empowerment Strategy = 395, Improvement Projects = 394

4.1.3.   Panellists were then asked if they were aware of the opportunity to get involved through a number of different ways (City Voice Panel, Locality Empowerment Groups, Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships, Improvement Project Teams and signing up for community emails). There was also an option to indicate interest in being involved.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the highest awareness was for the City Voice panel with 72.8% of respondents saying they were aware of the opportunity to get involved. For all other choices, most respondents said they were not aware of the opportunity to get involved.

As well as being asked to indicate awareness of opportunities to get involved, respondents were also given an option to indicate interest in being involved. The highest levels of interest were for signing up for community email updates (17.8%) and Improvement Project Teams (14.5%).

Figure 4.3: Aware of opportunities to get involved
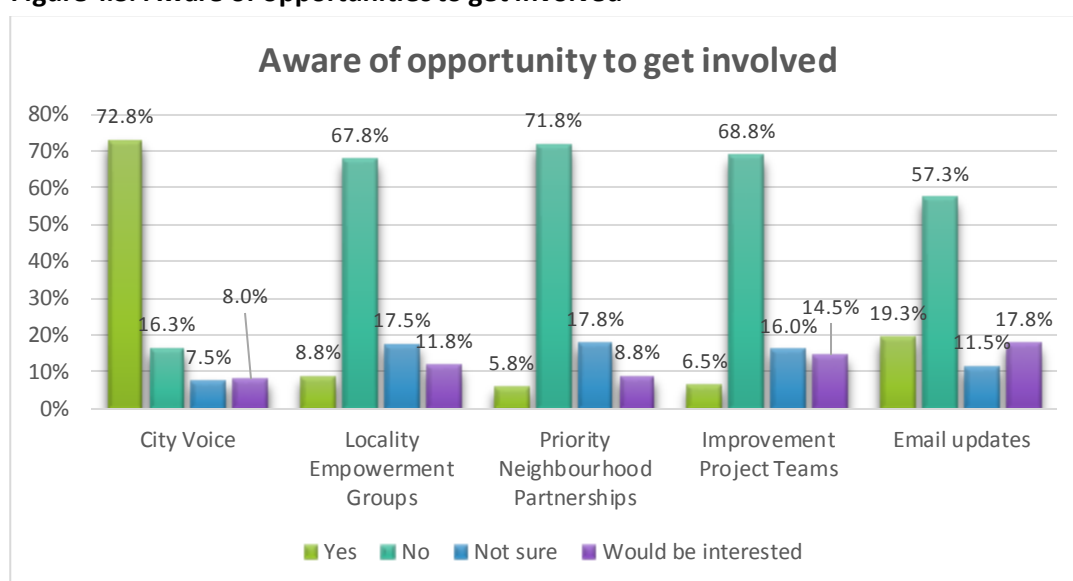
Base = 400

4.1.4.   The next question asked participants who had indicated an interest in being involved in an Improvement Project in the previous question, what project might they be interested in. (Note: while this was intended to be solely for those who indicated that they would be interested in being involved in an Improvement Project (number = 58), the survey tool could not be constrained and so this question was also answered by some respondents who had not indicated an interest. These responses have been included.)

Highest levels of interest were for Improvement Projects around Improving the Environment (56.7%) and Engaging and Empowering Communities (42.3%). A third of respondents (33%) indicated they might be interested in an Improvement Project around Supporting Vulnerable People, with over a quarter expressing interest in the three other projects (Tackling Poverty, Growing an inclusive Economy and Nurturing Children and Young People).

Figure 4.4: Interest in Improvement Projects

Which project might you be intested in?

- Tackling Poverty: 28.5%
- Growing an inclusive Economy: 28.0%
- Children and Young People: 28.4%
- Vulnerable People: 33.0%
- Improving Environment: 56.7%
- Engaging and Empowering Communities: 42.3%

■ Yes
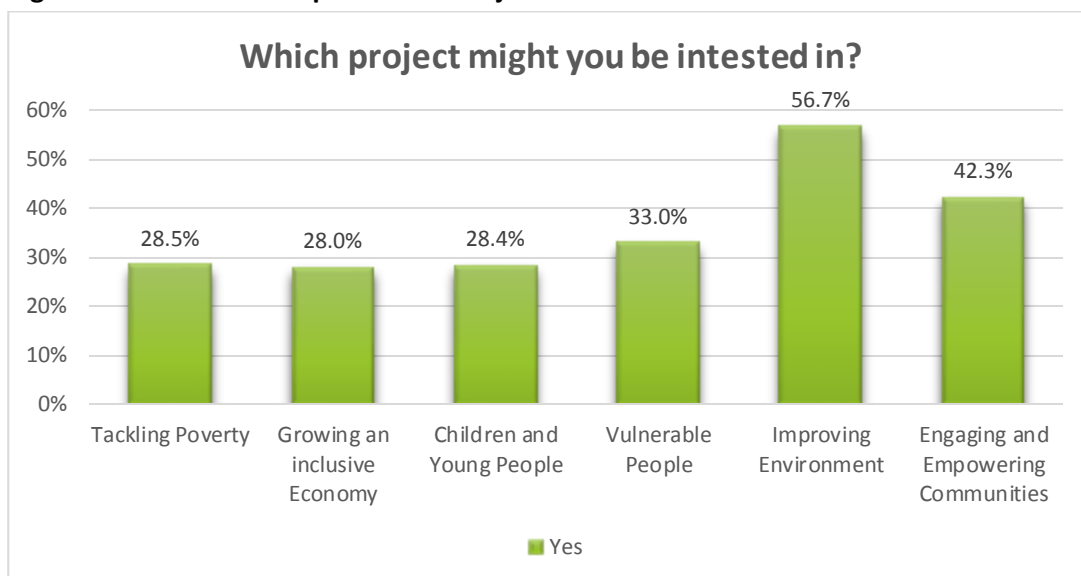
Bases: Poverty = 302, Economy = 304, Children = 303, Vulnerable = 303, Environment = 321 and Communities = 310.

4.2.   Asset Transfers and Participation Requests

4.2.1.   Asset Transfers introduce a right for community bodies to make requests to all local authorities, Scottish Ministers and a range of public bodies for any land or building they feel they could make better use of.

Participants were firstly asked if they were aware of Asset Transfer. Less than a quarter (23.5%) of respondents said they were aware of Asset Transfer. (Base = 395)

When asked if they knew where to find information and support about making an Asset Transfer request, only 7.5% said 'yes', with 14.8% saying they would like more information about Asset Transfer. (Base = 400)

Figure 4.5: Asset Transfer

Asset Transfer

- Know about Asset Transfer: 23.5%
- Know where to find information and support: 7.5%
- Would like more information: 14.8%
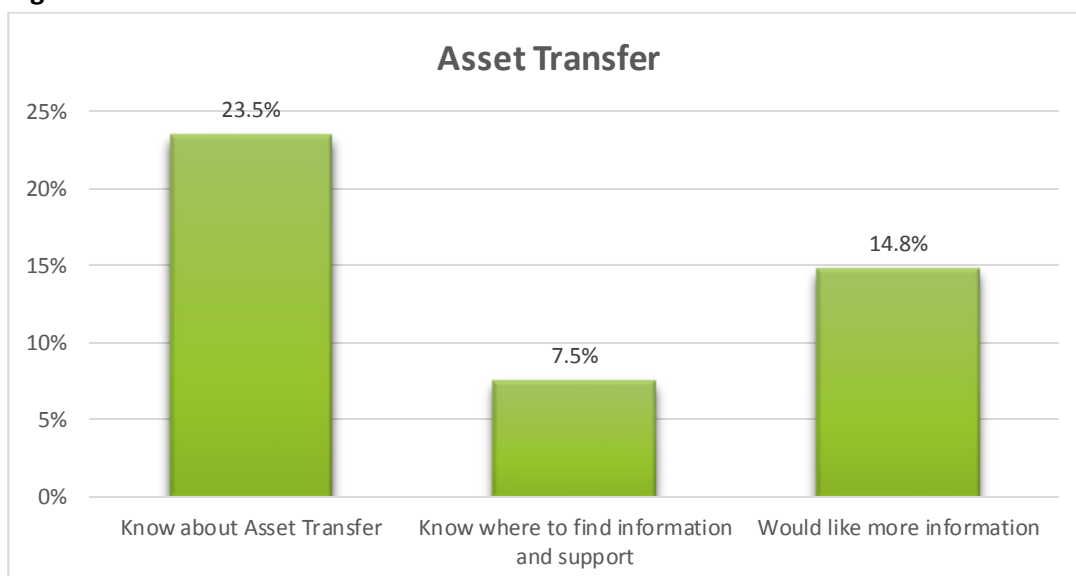
4.2.2.   Participation Requests are a new means by which community groups can request to have a greater involvement in, and influence over, decisions and services that affect their communities and community lives.

When asked if they were aware of Participation Requests, only 6% of respondents said 'yes'. (Base = 399)

When asked if they knew where to find information and support about making a Participation Request, 5.5% said 'yes' with 18.5% saying they would like more information about Participation Requests.

Figure 4.6: Participation Requests
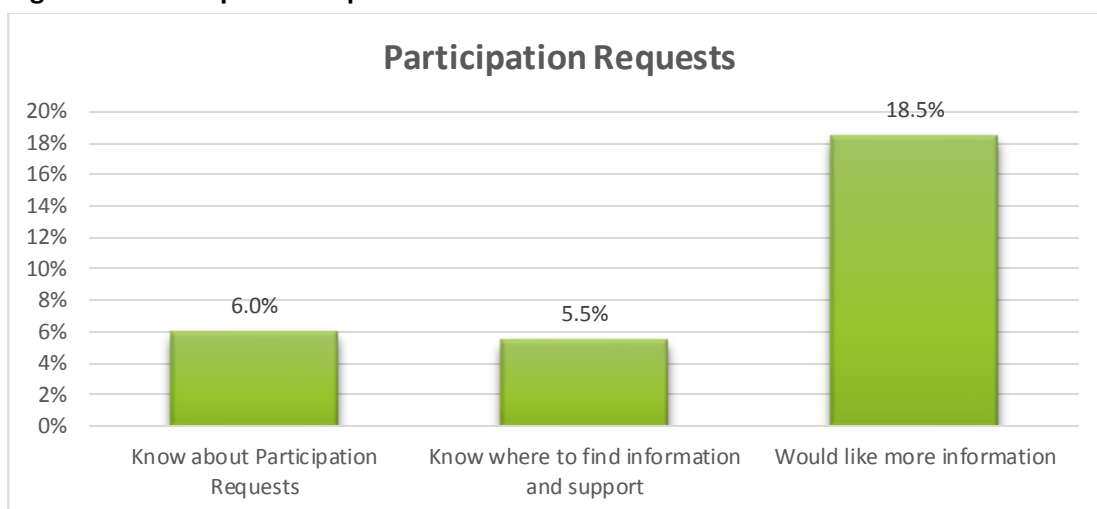
4.3.   Engagement with Community Planning Aberdeen and Partners

This set of questions aimed to find out what, if any, experience panellists may have had of engaging with Community Planning Aberdeen as a whole and with individual Partner organisations.   Each organisation was listed and respondents were asked to indicate their level of engagement.   Levels of engagement identified in the question were:

- None
- Informed (e.g. told what was happening)
- Consulted (e.g. had the opportunity to give feedback)
- Engaged (e.g. had regular opportunities to express your views and influence decisions)
- Co-designed (e.g. involved in decisions and designing solutions)
- Co-produced (e.g. where everybody worked together as equals to come to a solution)

A don't know/not sure option was also given.

The most common response for CPA as a whole and all individual Partner organisations was **None,** with over half of all respondents choosing this for all of the organisations. Percentages ranged from 51% for Aberdeen City Council to 76% for Grampian Regional Equality Council.   With the exception of Aberdeen City Council and NHS Grampian, **Don't**

know/not sure was the next most common response for all organisations (ranging between 11.8% for RGU and 16.5% for Community Planning as a whole).

In terms of actual levels of engagement (i.e. informed, consulted, engaged, co-designed and co-produced), the most commonly chosen for all Partner Organisations was **Informed** (ranging from 3.8% for GREC to 18.8% for Aberdeen City Council). **Consulted** was the next most common (ranging from 1.3% for Skills Development Scotland to 9% for Aberdeen City Council). Levels for **Engaged** were low for all Partner Organisation and ranged from 0.3% (Skills Development Scotland and GREC) to 3.5% (Community Planning as a whole and Aberdeen City Council). Very few participants indicated being involved in either **Co-designing** or **Co-producing.** Percentages for each of the categories for all organisations are given in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Engagement with Community Planning Aberdeen and Partner Organisations

Organisations	None	Informed	Consulted	Engaged	Co-designed	Co-produced	Don't know/not sure	Not Answered
Community Planning as a whole (CPA)	57.5%	12.0%	8.3%	3.5%	0.0%	0.5%	16.5%	1.8%
Aberdeen City Council (ACC)	51.0%	18.8%	9.0%	3.5%	0.3%	0.3%	14.0%	3.3%
Police Scotland (PS)	68.5%	10.0%	2.5%	1.5%	0.0%	0.3%	14.5%	2.8%
NHS Grampian (NHSG)	60.8%	14.2%	4.3%	3.3%	1.0%	0.0%	13.0%	3.5%
Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP)	66.0%	9.3%	3.5%	2.3%	0.5%	0.0%	14.8%	3.8%
Scottish Fire and Rescue (SFR)	73.3%	5.8%	1.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	14.2%	4.8%
Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations (ACVO)	69.3%	7.2%	2.0%	2.5%	0.8%	0.8%	13.3%	4.3%
North East Scotland College (NESCol)	73.3%	4.5%	1.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%	14.8%	5.5%
North East Scotland Transport Partnership (NESTRAN)	71.8%	4.3%	3.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	14.8%	5.3%
Skills Development Scotland	74.0%	4.5%	1.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	14.5%	5.3%
University of Aberdeen (UoA)	66.8%	10.0%	3.3%	1.8%	0.8%	0.5%	12.5%	4.5%
Robert Gordon University (RGU)	70.5%	8.3%	2.8%	1.0%	0.5%	0.0%	11.8%	5.3%
Grampian Regional Equality Council (GREC)	76.0%	3.8%	1.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	14.0%	4.3%

Base = 400

Figure 4.7 below shows levels of engagement (informed, consulted, engaged) for each of the core partner organisations (which include all above, except GREC) and Figure 4.8 shows the percentage of respondents who said there had been no engagement.

Figure 4.7: Levels of engagement where happening:
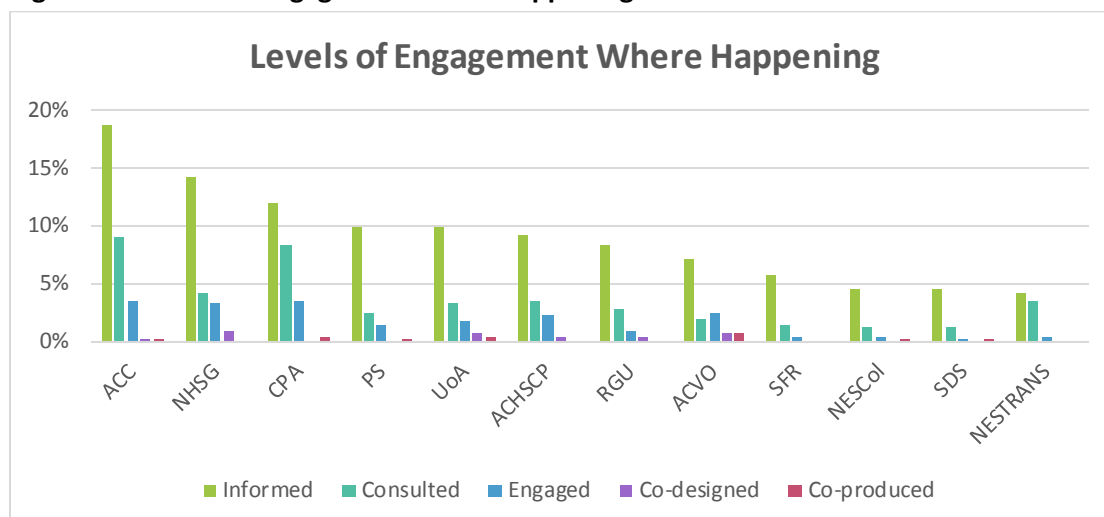
Note. GREC is a small third sector partner. Its scope for engagement is much narrower than our core community planning partners and therefore has not been included in the chart above.

Figure 4.8: Percentage of respondents who said there was no engagement with communities
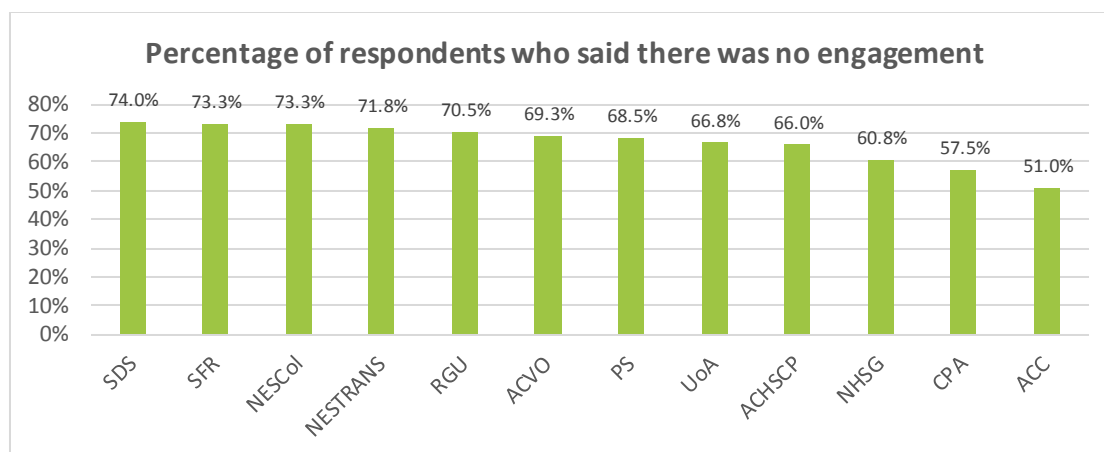
Note. GREC is a small third sector partner. Its scope for engagement is much narrower than our core community planning partners and therefore has not been included in the chart above.

Respondents were given the opportunity to provide any comments on their responses to this question. A total of 46 responses were given. These will be passed to the service for action, but a sample is given below:

- Too many organisations???
- This has made me aware of a real lack of communication
- Volunteering helps
- No access to computer so not able to get info in this way. Should be more older ways to inform older people like me
- I'm sure there are many groups out there doing wonderful work in the community but finding the right online space to get all the info you need is becoming more difficult. The ACC should do more to link all the groups together under a "life in your community" website.

4.3.1.   Participants were then asked what changes they thought would help improve community engagement in the City. Up to three suggestions could be given.

A total of 395 suggestions were received. These will be passed to the Community Empowerment Group for full consideration. A small sample of suggestions is given below.

- *Make it easy. Displays in the community.*
- *LISTEN! Ensure anyone attending is sure of why they are there and that they feel valued. Make sure any actions or discussions are followed up. Too many civic events take place and attendees hear nothing afterwards.*
- *Closer integration of community centres in their communities. There's a bunch near me but I don't know what's going on at them. They could be supported to make better use of social media, schools and church networks etc. If you can get folk back to community centre's then you can get them engaging in their communities.*
- *Give more power to local communities to make decisions to improve their local areas.*
- *Perhaps door to door questionnaire so people can give their views.*
- *Workplaces could be an avenue to give information.*
- *Use of social media as a means to communicate? Also posters in libraries, coffee shops, GP surgeries for the elderly and schools, community centres for the young*
- *People tend to just get on with their lives, and family and friends tend to come first. A regular bulletin circulated by mail, email etc just giving a summary of what the various organizations are, and how they interact might be helpful.*
- *Give people for information about projects and how they would benefit the community*
- *People chapping doors - more face to face engagement*
- *Involve people who do not bring their own agendas to the forum, and keep politics out of the equation.*
- *Creating a one stop informing point for people who want to get involved and be a part of their community, but don't know how. Either as an up to date webpage or a physical place or a combination.*

4.4. Focus Groups

4.4.1.   We are planning on developing resources and information to help people get involved in their communities. The final question asked participants if they would be interested in taking part in a focus group to share their ideas. 160 (40%) of respondents said they would be interested in taking part.

5.   Service Response

5.1.   The questions included in this community empowerment edition of City Voice have been chosen by the members of Community Planning Aberdeen's Community Empowerment Group. The Group's ambition is for all communities across Aberdeen to be equal community planning partners. The Community Empowerment Strategy sets out this ambition along with

the different ways we will achieve this. To help us understand if the strategy is making a difference, we wanted to ask panel members about how empowered they feel in their local community now. Many of the questions have been inspired by the Place Standard which is a recognised framework used for assessing places.

5.2. Getting Together and Keeping Informed

5.2.1. Our first line of questioning was about where people get together and find out what is happening. Your answers to these questions are important as they tell us where to go and how best to connect with communities. We learned that 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.

5.2.2. Community Planning Aberdeen and individual partner organisations are always seeking more effective and intuitive ways of reaching our communities. This information will be shared with staff across Community Planning Aberdeen to inform how we connect with communities. We will also think about how we can use these spaces, community networks and social media to inform and engage members of the public in the refresh of the Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans by April 2024. Through our community empowerment improvement projects we aim to encourage more people and community groups to get involved in their community to make improvements in their neighbourhood and so we will also share this feedback with our community empowerment project teams so as to inspire new ways of working.

5.3. Social Interaction and Identity & Belonging

5.3.1. Our aim is to help create the conditions for community empowerment and support individuals to come together as a local community to take action and influence change for the better. This benefits the individual and the community because it creates strong social relationships and builds collective power. Our next line of questioning was about how connected to their community people currently feel. We learned that on a scale of 1-7 people scored 3.7 for overall opportunities for social interaction but scored more positively (higher) when breaking down their answers. For example, people scored 4 for coming together in a crisis and 3.9 for opportunities that everyone can join and mix. People scored 4 overall for sense of identity and belonging. When breaking down their answer, people scored 3.6 for how involved people are in the community and scored 4.3 for how welcoming people are in this place.

5.3.2. These answers give us some confidence that in the main, communities do have the right conditions for community empowerment where people have the opportunity to meet and take part in their local community. However, sub analysis of the data shows that this is not the case for people across all communities. Feeling isolated can be damaging to our health and wellbeing and a person's sense of identity and belonging can affect how they interact

with their local community. Our Locality Planning Team is reaching out to people to encourage all individuals who have the available time, resources and capacity to be active in their community and help make a difference in their area through helping develop and deliver their Locality Plan. The sub analysis has been shared with the Locality Planning Team to help them take a more targeted approach to supporting neighbourhoods which do not have many opportunities for social interaction and/ or a strong sense of identify and belonging. The results will also be shared with members of our Locality Empowerment Groups and Priority Neighbourhood Partnership for consideration when developing the refreshed Locality Plans.

5.4. Influence and Sense of Control

5.4.1. Ultimately, we believe community empowerment is when people have a voice and ability to influence what happens to them and their community. Therefore the success of our Community Empowerment Strategy 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%). When breaking down the answers, the lowest score was 2.9 for the community feeling listened to, which gives us some indication for the reason for the low score overall, but it is imperative that we explore the reasons more fully with communities. Panel members will be invited to join a focus group to explore their views about this topic and what we can do to address the barriers to people's feelings of influence and sense of control.

5.4.2. In the meantime, acting on the feedback from this survey that communities do not feel listened to, we will ensure that we report back to communities how we are using their feedback to make improvements. This service response demonstrates the commitment of the Community Empowerment Group to model best practice behaviours and engage in honest dialogue with our people and communities. We expect the service responses for future questionnaires to be similarly detailed and indeed this is an expectation we introduced as part of the City Voice Review we carried out last year.

5.4.3. There are several engagement exercises being planned over the course of the next year as part of the refresh of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans. We will ensure that we report back to communities on the outcome of these engagements and how their feedback has informed these new plans.

5.5. Involvement in Community Groups

5.5.1. We are extremely fortunate in Aberdeen to have so many community groups making a vital contribution to the City's people, place and economy. The outbreak of COVID-19 shone a light on the essential work that these groups do to support people across the City and in most neighbourhoods. Community groups are led by local people and rely on volunteers giving up their time and sharing their knowledge and skills. By volunteering, people can make a valuable contribution to the community while learning new skills and improving their health and well-being. Community empowerment cannot exist without community involvement. This line of questioning was to understand people's levels of motivation to get

involved in their community and to increase our awareness of the community groups operating in Aberdeen. Although a high proportion of people answered that they felt 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%); levels were much lower for people who are currently involved in their community (22.1%) and know how to get involved in decisions which affect their community.

5.5.2.   However we are delighted through this survey to learn that 24.5% of panellists are involved in a community group and grateful to the 90 respondents who shared the name of their group so that we can find out more about them. We also note the idea put forward by one panel member to create a 'life in your community' website to help share information about the 'many groups doing wonderful work in the community'. We will consider this as part of our community capacity building project mentioned below.

5.5.3.   We know already that one of the barriers to people getting involved in the community is that they don't know how to or they lack the skills and confidence to work with others in a community setting. This was identified as an area for improvement in our Community Empowerment Strategy and we have a project already underway to create tools and resources for communities and staff to build their capacity to take forward improvement in and with the community. We are engaging communities in the development of the toolkit and in June invited people to participate in a workshop to explore this as part of our [Community Gathering](). Questions about skills, tools and support included in this survey were directed only to those who had indicated they belonged to a community group and indicated a high level of skills and knowledge. Although, only 25% did not feel that they needed any additional support. In future we will open up this line of questioning to all panel members. In the meantime, we will continue to engage with staff and communities as part of our capacity building improvement project and would welcome panel members involvement in this process.

5.6.   **Working with Community Planning Aberdeen**

5.6.1.   We wanted to gauge how aware people and communities are of Community Planning Aberdeen and their experiences of being engaged by the Partnership overall and individual partner organisations. This is the first time we have asked this question and so the answers provide us with an important baseline of where we currently are on Community Planning Aberdeen's [ladder of empowerment]().

5.6.2.   Only 28.7% of respondents said that they had been aware of Community Planning Aberdeen before joining the panel. 23.4% said they were aware of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan but only 18.2% were aware of Locality Plans. Lower still, 13.9% were aware of the Community Empowerment Strategy. 16.8% were aware of our improvement projects. Whilst these results may seem low, we believe them to be fair. We recognise that people may connect with community planning primarily through their involvement and engagement with a partner organisation or community group and may not recognise this as working with Community Planning Aberdeen. For example, young people engaging with Police Scotland as part of Community Planning Aberdeen's project to reduce anti-social behaviour. A family accessing affordable food through one of our community pantries as part of Community

Planning Aberdeen's food poverty project. A community member joining a Locality Empowerment Group as part of our integrated locality planning model with the Health and Social Care Partnership. We celebrate and exploit the power of our member organisations to reach and engage more people, groups and organisations in our shared improvement activity. We also recognise that the formal community planning structures are not right for everyone and part of our ambition is to align more closely with the work that is organically taking place in communities.

5.6.3.   We will continue to increase awareness of Community Planning Aberdeen and promote the benefits of working together, at the same time as ensuring that our scarce resources are channelled to where they are needed most – improving outcomes for all our people. The information specific to individual partner organisations will be shared with them for their own particular consideration and action.

5.6.4.   Thank you City Voice panel members for your thoughtful and considered responses to our questions. We really do appreciate your feedback, suggestions and ideas for improvement. If you are interested in getting involved in working with Community Planning Aberdeen, please contact us by emailing communityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk.

Best wishes from the Community Empowerment Group.

6. Finally

This report has provided an overview of the results from the 47th City Voice survey, the Citizens' Panel for Aberdeen. If you have any comments or queries about this report, please contact: cityvoice@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Opportunities for communities to get involved in our work

Join the Community Empowerment Network

Sign up for receiving more information through community update emails

Find out more about Community Planning Aberdeen

Appendix 1 – Sub-group analyses

The tables below provide a breakdown of responses by sub-groups. Where there is a statistically significant difference in responses by sub-group, the figures have been highlighted in red. For ease of presentation, the tables do not give the full results. Rather, for most questions, the percentage of responses for one answer 'option' has been provided (e.g. the percentage who said 'yes' or who 'agree' with the statement).

Table A1: Responses by SIMD quintile

	SIMD Quintile					
	1 (most deprived)	2	3	4	5 (least deprived)	All
Social Interaction						
Where do people get together:						
Local halls and centres	47.8%	56.9%	54.2%	50.0%	64.4%	58.8%
Schools	43.5%	48.3%	43.8%	57.6%	54.6%	52.3%
Places of worship	39.1%	48.3%	54.2%	45.5%	62.4%	55.3%
Food and drink outlets	39.1%	50.0%	62.5%	60.6%	71.7%	63.7%
Streets	17.4%	24.1%	31.3%	30.3%	29.3%	28.2%
Outdoor seating	17.4%	19.0%	27.1%	22.7%	25.9%	24.0%
Online	39.1%	12.1%	18.8%	27.3%	26.3%	24.3%
Don't know	8.7%	19.0%	20.8%	15.2%	9.3%	13.0%
Other	17.4%	10.3%	8.3%	16.7%	14.6%	13.8%
How do you find out what is happening:						
Friends/family/neighbours	52.2%	63.8%	66.7%	59.1%	76.1%	69.0%
Social media	60.9%	56.9%	60.4%	48.5%	59.0%	57.3%
Advertising and posters	21.7%	32.8%	31.3%	40.9%	44.9%	39.5%
Local radio and newspapers	47.8%	32.8%	37.5%	42.4%	47.8%	43.5%
Other	13.0%	8.6%	10.4%	13.6%	7.3%	9.3%
Mean Scores:						
Join in and Mix	3.8	3.6	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.9
Mix of activities	3.4	3.7	3.6	4.0	3.9	3.8
Come together in a crisis	3.4	3.8	3.7	4.4	4.1	4.0
Overall social interaction	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.7
Identity and belonging						
Mean Scores:						
How strong is sense of identity and belonging	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.7
How involved are people in the community	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.8	3.7	3.6
How welcoming are people in this place	3.5	3.7	4.0	4.6	4.5	4.3

What do others think of the place and community	2.8	3.3	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.2
Overall identity and belonging	3.2	3.2	3.9	4.2	4.2	4.0
Influence and control						
Mean Scores:						
Does your community have a voice	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.3
Is the community listened to	2.9	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.9	2.9
Are there effective local groups	3.4	3.2	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.6
Do you feel able to take action	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.4
Are there barriers to participation for some people	3.1	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.7	3.5
Overall influence and control	3.5	2.4	2.7	3.0	3.1	3.0
Involvement in groups/activities						
% Agree						
I feel part of the community	43.5%	43.9%	47.9%	36.9%	49.3%	46.0%
I know where to find information about what is happening	43.5%	41.1%	39.6%	38.5%	53.7%	47.1%
I would like to be involved in decisions	82.6%	66.1%	72.9%	67.7%	70.7%	70.5%
I know how to get involved in decisions	26.1%	36.8%	31.3%	23.8%	33.7%	31.8%
I am involved in my community	22.7%	20.0%	22.9%	16.9%	24.0%	22.1%
I have the knowledge/skills to make improvements	73.9%	56.1%	45.8%	51.6%	55.4%	54.8%
I have the knowledge/skills to gather information	56.5%	51.8%	39.6%	41.5%	48.5%	47.2%
I feel that efforts to address community issues are worthwhile	56.5%	66.7%	72.9%	67.7%	76.0%	71.8%
I pitch in when there is work to be done	39.1%	41.8%	53.2%	35.9%	47.8%	45.2%
% Yes						
Do you belong to any community group	26.1%	25.9%	20.8%	18.2%	26.8%	24.5%
Are you happy to be contacted	30.4%	31.0%	29.2%	15.2%	24.9%	25.0%
I know where to find:						
% Agree						
Support available to me	16.7%	85.7%	60.0%	58.3%	58.2%	59.8%
Support available to our group	33.3%	78.6%	70.0%	58.3%	58.2%	60.8%
Funding available to our group	50.0%	64.3%	30.0%	25.0%	38.2%	40.2%
Connecting with other groups	33.3%	85.7%	50.0%	66.7%	44.4%	53.1%
Don't need additional support	16.7%	21.4%	33.3%	25.0%	25.5%	25.0%

Community Planning Aberdeen						
% Yes						
Aware of CPA	26.1%	28.6%	27.7%	30.8%	28.6%	28.7%
Aware of LOIP	30.4%	26.3%	25.0%	18.5%	23.0%	23.4%
Aware of Locality Plans	34.8%	22.2%	14.9%	15.9%	16.7%	18.2%
Aware of Community Empowerment Strategy	26.1%	26.3%	12.8%	10.8%	10.3%	13.9%
Aware of Improvement Projects	34.8%	23.6%	18.8%	9.2%	14.8%	16.8%
Aware of opportunity to get involved:						
City Voice	56.5%	67.2%	75.0%	66.7%	77.6%	72.8%
Locality Empowerment Groups	13.0%	17.2%	10.4%	6.1%	6.3%	8.8%
Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships	13.0%	13.8%	6.3%	4.5%	2.9%	5.8%
Improvement Project Teams	17.4%	10.3%	4.2%	4.5%	5.4%	6.5%
Email updates	26.1%	24.1%	20.8%	19.7%	16.6%	19.3%
Which project would you be interested in:						
Tackling Poverty	61.1%	37.0%	40.0%	25.0%	20.5%	28.5%
Growing an inclusive Economy	36.8%	40.0%	31.4%	28.8%	22.2%	28.0%
Children and Young People	38.1%	40.9%	40.0%	22.6%	22.7%	28.4%
Vulnerable People	60.0%	47.8%	38.2%	26.9%	25.8%	33.0%
Improving Environment	57.1%	58.3%	52.8%	50.9%	58.9%	56.7%
Engaging and Empowering Communities	35.0%	63.3%	48.6%	30.8%	38.8%	42.3%
Asset Transfers and Participation Requests						
% Yes						
Aware of Asset Transfer	30.4%	31.6%	27.7%	23.4%	19.6%	23.5%
Know where to find information	17.4%	15.5%	0.0%	4.5%	6.8%	7.5%
Would like more information	17.4%	17.2%	14.6%	10.6%	15.1%	14.8%
Aware of Participation Request	21.7%	19.0%	6.3%	4.5%	1.0%	6.0%
Know where to find information on PRs	17.4%	13.8%	4.2%	4.5%	2.4%	5.5%
Would like more information on PRs	21.7%	22.4%	16.7%	13.6%	19.0%	18.5%
Engagement with CPA (% who had some level of engagement)						
Community Planning as a whole	27.3%	15.7%	19.6%	24.6%	22.6%	21.9%
Aberdeen City Council	22.7%	27.5%	21.7%	32.8%	33.2%	30.3%
Police Scotland	17.4%	11.8%	10.6%	10.9%	14.6%	13.3%
NHS Grampian	34.8%	21.6%	15.6%	16.9%	21.7%	20.9%
Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership	26.1%	21.6%	8.7%	9.5%	13.5%	14.1%

Scottish Fire and Rescue	8.7%	19.2%	4.4%	6.5%	5.6%	7.7%
Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations	21.7%	10.4%	4.3%	12.7%	11.9%	11.5%
North East Scotland College	9.1%	11.3%	6.8%	5.0%	5.1%	6.4%
North East Scotland Transport Partnership	4.5%	15.1%	4.2%	3.1%	9.5%	8.2%
Skills Development Scotland	13.0%	12.0%	6.7%	3.2%	5.1%	6.3%
University of Aberdeen	8.7%	19.2%	14.0%	13.8%	16.1%	15.5%
Robert Gordon University	8.7%	16.0%	13.0%	11.1%	11.9%	12.3%
Grampian Regional Equality Council	9.5%	11.1%	8.5%	1.6%	4.6%	5.8%

Note: Caution is advised in interpreting results as the numbers in some groups may be very small.

Table A2: Responses by Locality

	Locality			
	North	South	Central	All
Social Interaction				
Where do people get together?				
Local halls and centres	53.0%	57.5%	64.9%	58.8%
Schools	51.5%	51.7%	53.4%	52.3%
Places of worship	56.1%	42.5%	64.9%	55.3%
Food and drink outlets	66.7%	60.0%	64.2%	63.7%
Streets	32.6%	19.2%	31.8%	28.2%
Outdoor seating	27.3%	22.5%	22.3%	24.0%
Online	25.0%	20.8%	26.4%	24.3%
Don't know	12.9%	16.7%	10.1%	13.0%
Other	16.7%	9.2%	14.9%	13.8%
How do you find out what is happening?				
Friends/family/neighbours	68.2%	61.7%	75.7%	69.0%
Social media	52.3%	63.3%	56.8%	57.3%
Advertising and posters	53.8%	67.5%	60.8%	60.5%
Local radio and newspapers	41.70%	40.80%	47.30%	43.50%
Other	8.30%	9.20%	10.10%	9.30%
Mean Scores:				
Join in and Mix	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.9
Mix of activities	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.8
Come together in a crisis	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.0
Overall social interaction	3.5	3.6	3.9	3.7
Identity and Belonging				
Mean Scores:				
How strong is sense of identity and belonging	3.5	3.6	3.9	3.7
How involved are people in the community	3.2	3.5	3.9	3.6
How welcoming are people in this place	4.2	4.1	4.5	4.3
What do other think of the place and community	3.8	4.2	4.5	4.2
Overall identity and belonging	3.8	3.9	4.2	4.0
Influence and Control				
Mean Scores:				
Does your community have a voice	3.2	3.1	3.7	3.3
Is the community listened to	2.9	2.5	3.1	2.9
Are there effective local groups	3.6	3.2	3.9	3.6
Do you feel able to take action	3.3	3.1	3.8	3.4
Are there barriers to participation for some people	3.4	3.1	3.8	3.5
Overall influence and control	3.0	2.6	3.2	3.0
Involvement in Groups/Activities				
% Agree				

I feel part of the community	43.8%	37.5%	54.7%	46.0%
I know where to find information about what is happening	46.1%	43.3%	51.0%	47.1%
I would like to be involved in decisions	73.6%	70.8%	67.6%	70.5%
I know how to get involved in decisions	30.8%	21.2%	41.2%	31.8%
I am involved in my community	22.2%	14.2%	28.4%	22.1%
I have the knowledge/skills to make improvements	63.6%	47.5%	53.1%	54.8%
I have the knowledge/skills to gather information	52.7%	40.8%	47.6%	47.2%
I feel that efforts to address community issues are worthwhile	72.9%	64.2%	77.0%	71.8%
I pitch in when there is work to be done	50.4%	38.1%	46.2%	45.2%
% Yes				
Do you belong to any community group	26.5%	18.3%	27.7%	24.5%
Are you happy to be contacted	29.5%	20.0%	25.0%	25.0%
I know where to find:				
% Agree				
Support available to me	58.8%	63.6%	58.5%	59.8%
Support available to our group	64.7%	63.6%	56.1%	60.8%
Funding available to our group	50.0%	36.4%	34.1%	40.2%
Connecting with other groups	58.8%	59.1%	45.0%	53.1%
Don't need additional support	30.3%	22.7%	22.0%	25.0%
Community Planning Aberdeen				
% Yes				
Aware of CPA	23.3%	26.9%	34.9%	28.7%
Aware of LOIP	30.0%	17.5%	22.4%	23.4%
Aware of Locality Plans	22.7%	13.8%	17.7%	18.2%
Aware of Community Empowerment Strategy	17.8%	9.2%	14.4%	13.9%
Aware of Improvement Projects	24.2%	13.3%	13.0%	16.8%
Aware of opportunity to get involved in the following ways				
City Voice	71.2%	70.8%	75.7%	72.8%
Locality Empowerment Groups	11.4%	5.8%	8.8%	8.8%
Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships	7.6%	5.0%	4.7%	5.8%
Improvement Project Teams	10.6%	2.5%	6.1%	6.5%
Email updates	22.7%	20.0%	15.5%	19.3%
Which project would you be interested in:				
Tackling Poverty	36.1%	28.6%	20.4%	28.5%
Growing an inclusive Economy	30.8%	28.9%	24.3%	28.0%
Children and Young People	33.0%	35.1%	17.5%	28.4%
Vulnerable People	41.7%	27.8%	28.6%	33.0%
Improving Environment	66.7%	49.5%	53.0%	56.7%
Engaging and Empowering Communities	51.4%	36.6%	38.2%	42.3%

Asset Transfers and Participation Requests				
% Yes				
Aware of Asset Transfer	30.2%	16.9%	23.0%	23.5%
Know where to find information	9.8%	3.3%	8.8%	7.5%
Would like more information	13.6%	12.5%	17.6%	14.8%
Aware of Participation Request	10.7%	2.5%	4.7%	6.0%
Know where to find information on PRs	6.8%	5.8%	4.1%	5.5%
Would like more information on PRs	17.4%	16.7%	20.9%	18.5%
Engagement with CPA				
(% with some level of engagement)				
Community Planning as a whole	24.0%	17.9%	23.4%	21.9%
Aberdeen City Council	37.8%	20.9%	31.7%	30.3%
Police Scotland	13.9%	10.3%	15.3%	13.3%
NHS Grampian	27.3%	19.1%	16.8%	20.9%
Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership	21.3%	10.8%	10.5%	14.1%
Scottish Fire and Rescue	9.8%	5.4%	7.6%	7.7%
Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations	15.0%	8.0%	11.3%	11.5%
North East Scotland College	8.9%	6.4%	4.2%	6.4%
North East Scotland Transport Partnership	8.1%	7.1%	9.2%	8.2%
Skills Development Scotland	10.4%	2.7%	5.6%	6.3%
University of Aberdeen	19.5%	7.8%	18.3%	15.5%
Robert Gordon University	13.9%	8.8%	13.6%	12.3%
Grampian Regional Equality Council	8.1%	4.3%	4.9%	5.8%

Note: Caution is advised in interpreting results as the numbers in some groups may be very small.

Table A3: Responses by Gender

	Gender		
	Male	Female	All
Social Interaction			
Where do people get together?			
Local halls and centres	55.1%	61.8%	58.8%
Schools	50.3%	54.2%	52.3%
Places of worship	50.3%	59.9%	55.3%
Food and drink outlets	65.8%	62.3%	63.7%
Streets	32.1%	25.0%	28.2%
Outdoor seating	23.0%	25.0%	24.0%
Online	27.3%	21.7%	24.3%
Don't know	10.7%	15.1%	13.0%
Other	12.3%	0.0%	15.5%
How do you find out what is happening?			
Friends/family/neighbours	72.7%	65.6%	69.0%
Social media	55.1%	59.4%	57.3%
Advertising and posters	40.1%	39.2%	39.5%
Local radio and newspapers	48.7%	39.2%	43.5%
Other	9.1%	9.4%	9.3%
Mean Scores			
Join in and Mix	4.0	3.7	3.9
Mix of activities	3.9	3.7	3.8
Come together in a crisis	4.0	4.0	4.0
Overall social interaction	3.8	3.5	3.7
Identity and belonging			
Mean Scores			
How strong is sense of identity and belonging	3.8	3.5	3.7
How involved are people in the community	3.6	3.5	3.6
How welcoming are people in this place	4.3	4.3	4.3
What do other think of the place and community	4.3	4.0	4.2
Overall identity and belonging	4.1	3.8	4.0
Influence and control			
Mean Scores			
Does your community have a voice	3.2	3.4	3.3
Is the community listened to	2.7	3.0	2.9
Are there effective local groups	3.6	3.7	3.6
Do you feel able to take action	3.3	3.5	3.4
Are there barriers to participation for some people	3.5	3.4	3.5
Overall influence and control	3.0	3.0	3.0

Involvement in Groups/Activities			
Agree %			
I feel part of the community	49.2%	43.3%	46.0%
I know where to find information about what is happening	45.7%	48.6%	47.1%
I would like to be involved in decisions	71.5%	69.5%	70.5%
I know how to get involved in decisions	31.2%	32.5%	31.8%
I am involved in my community	20.1%	23.9%	22.1%
I have the knowledge/skills to make improvements	58.8%	51.4%	54.8%
I have the knowledge/skills to gather information	53.2%	42.1%	47.2%
I feel that efforts to address community issues are worthwhile	68.8%	74.8%	71.8%
I pitch in when there is work to be done	44.8%	45.7%	45.2%
% Yes			
Do you belong to any community group	22.5%	26.4%	24.5%
Are you happy to be contacted	10.0%	15.0%	25.0%
I know where to find (% Agree)			
Support available to me	57.1%	61.8%	59.8%
Support available to our group	61.9%	60.0%	60.8%
Funding available to our group	42.9%	38.2%	40.2%
Connecting with other groups	54.8%	51.9%	53.1%
Don't need additional support	19.5%	29.1%	25.0%
Community Planning Aberdeen			
% Yes			
Aware of CPA	28.9%	27.8%	28.2%
Aware of LOIP	21.4%	25.4%	23.4%
Aware of Locality Plans	21.4%	15.4%	18.2%
Aware of Community Empowerment Strategy	14.1%	13.9%	13.9%
Aware of Improvement Projects	15.7%	22.1%	19.3%
Aware of opportunity to get involved:			
City Voice	72.2%	73.6%	72.8%
Locality Empowerment Groups	10.7%	7.1%	8.8%
Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships	7.0%	4.7%	5.8%
Improvement Project Teams	8.6%	4.7%	6.5%
Email updates	18.2%	20.3%	19.3%
Which project would you be interested in:			
Tackling Poverty	24.3%	32.2%	28.5%
Growing an inclusive Economy	27.3%	28.9%	28.0%
Children and Young People	25.2%	31.8%	28.4%
Vulnerable People	26.8%	38.6%	33.0%
Improving Environment	55.4%	58.3%	56.7%
Engaging and Empowering Communities	42.5%	41.7%	42.3%

Asset Transfers and Participation Requests			
% Yes			
Aware of Asset Transfer	24.3%	23.0%	23.5%
Know where to find information	6.4%	8.5%	7.5%
Would like more information	8.0%	6.8%	14.8%
Aware of Participation Request	7.0%	5.2%	6.0%
Know where to find information on PRs	5.3%	5.7%	5.5%
Would like more information on PRs	20.3%	16.5%	18.5%
Engagement with CPA			
% who had some level of engagement			
Community Planning as a whole	22.2%	21.3%	21.9%
Aberdeen City Council	33.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Police Scotland	15.3%	11.2%	13.3%
NHS Grampian	18.9%	22.3%	20.9%
Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership	6.6%	7.2%	14.1%
Scottish Fire and Rescue	9.1%	6.4%	7.7%
Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations	9.1%	13.3%	11.5%
North East Scotland College	6.4%	6.4%	6.4%
North East Scotland Transport Partnership	10.2%	6.5%	8.2%
Skills Development Scotland	8.0%	5.0%	6.3%
University of Aberdeen	16.7%	14.5%	15.5%
Robert Gordon University	14.9%	10.1%	12.3%
Grampian Regional Equality Council	3.1%	2.6%	5.8%

Note: Caution is advised in interpreting results as the numbers in some groups may be very small.

Table A4: Responses by Age Group

	Age Group						
	16-34	35-54	55-64	65-74	75+	No DoB	All
Social Interaction							
Where do people get together?							
Local halls and centres	40.0%	52.2%	57.3%	64.6%	61.5%	55.2%	58.8%
Schools	40.0%	53.7%	51.5%	55.8%	48.7%	51.7%	52.3%
Places of worship	20.0%	46.3%	58.3%	56.6%	61.5%	55.2%	55.3%
Food and drink outlets	70.0%	62.7%	69.9%	61.9%	61.5%	55.2%	63.7%
Streets	20.0%	26.9%	35.9%	24.8%	26.9%	24.1%	28.2%
Outdoor seating	40.0%	28.4%	20.4%	20.4%	29.5%	20.7%	24.0%
Online	30.0%	25.4%	24.3%	21.2%	29.5%	17.2%	24.3%
Don't know	20.0%	13.4%	15.5%	8.8%	11.5%	20.7%	13.0%
Other	20.0%	10.4%	14.6%	11.5%	21.8%	3.4%	13.8%
How do you find out what is happening?							
Friends/family/neighbours	50.0%	61.2%	64.1%	76.1%	73.1%	72.4%	69.0%
Social media	100.0%	77.6%	60.2%	49.6%	41.0%	58.6%	57.3%
Advertising and posters	20.0%	34.3%	41.7%	45.1%	37.2%	34.5%	39.5%
Local radio and newspapers	0.0%	19.4%	46.6%	52.2%	53.8%	41.4%	43.5%
Other	10.0%	10.4%	9.7%	7.1%	11.5%	6.9%	9.3%
Mean Scores:							
Join in and Mix	2.9	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.3	3.9
Mix of activities	3.0	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.2	3.8
Come together in a crisis	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.0	4.2	3.9	4.0
Overall social interaction	3.0	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.7
Identity and Belonging							
Mean Scores:							
How strong is sense of identity and belonging	3.0	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.7
How involved are people in the community	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.6
How welcoming are people in this place	4.9	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3
What do other think of the place and community	3.7	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.2
Overall identity and belonging	3.7	4.0	3.8	3.9	4.4	4.0	4.0
Influence and Control							
Mean Scores:							
Does your community have a voice	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.6	2.8	3.3
Is the community listened to	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.3	2.2	2.9
Are there effective local groups	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.6	4.0	3.1	3.6
Do you feel able to take action	3.9	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.4

Are there barriers to participation for some people	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.5	3.5
Overall influence and control	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.9	3.4	2.7	3.0
Involvement in Groups/Activities							
% Agree							
I feel part of the community	20.0%	43.3%	52.4%	42.0%	45.5%	55.2%	46.0%
I know where to find information about what is happening	20.0%	41.8%	47.6%	52.3%	48.7%	42.9%	47.1%
I would like to be involved in decisions	80.0%	77.6%	81.6%	63.1%	58.4%	72.4%	70.5%
I know how to get involved in decisions	20.0%	27.3%	30.1%	33.0%	40.3%	25.0%	31.8%
I am involved in my community	10.0%	19.4%	25.7%	18.2%	23.4%	31.0%	22.1%
I have the knowledge/skills to make improvements	50.0%	62.7%	62.1%	51.4%	43.4%	55.2%	54.8%
I have the knowledge/skills to gather information	30.0%	58.2%	50.5%	45.5%	37.7%	48.3%	47.2%
I feel that efforts to address community issues are worthwhile	70.0%	67.2%	76.5%	68.8%	67.5%	89.7%	71.8%
I pitch in when there is work to be done	60.0%	47.8%	51.0%	36.7%	42.7%	51.7%	45.2%
% Yes							
Do you belong to any community group	20.0%	20.9%	24.3%	23.0%	30.8%	24.1%	24.5%
Are you happy to be contacted	40.0%	23.9%	24.3%	22.1%	32.1%	17.2%	25.0%
I know where to find (% Agree)							
Support available to me	0.0%	42.9%	58.3%	69.2%	66.7%	57.1%	59.8%
Support available to our group	0.0%	64.3%	50.0%	73.1%	62.5%	57.1%	60.8%
Funding available to our group	50.0%	42.9%	33.3%	34.6%	41.7%	71.4%	40.2%
Connecting with other groups	50.0%	42.9%	45.8%	56.0%	58.3%	71.4%	53.1%
Don't need additional support	50.0%	14.3%	26.1%	26.9%	20.8%	42.9%	25.0%
Community Planning Aberdeen							
% Yes							
Aware of CPA	20.0%	22.7%	37.9%	27.7%	24.3%	27.6%	28.7%
Aware of LOIP	20.0%	30.3%	30.1%	21.4%	14.3%	17.2%	23.4%
Aware of Locality Plans	10.0%	18.2%	24.2%	18.0%	11.8%	17.2%	18.2%
Aware of Community Empowerment Strategy	20.0%	19.7%	16.5%	13.5%	6.5%	10.7%	13.9%
Aware of Improvement Projects	20.0%	24.2%	19.6%	16.2%	9.1%	10.7%	16.8%
Aware of opportunity to get involved in the following ways:							
City Voice	60.0%	62.7%	77.7%	71.7%	73.1%	86.2%	72.8%
Locality Empowerment Groups	10.0%	7.5%	8.7%	7.1%	11.5%	10.3%	8.8%

Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships	10.0%	6.0%	4.9%	4.4%	6.4%	10.3%	5.8%
Improvement Project Teams	10.0%	7.5%	7.8%	3.5%	6.4%	10.3%	6.5%
Email updates	30.0%	19.4%	21.4%	19.5%	17.9%	10.3%	19.3%
Which project would you be interested in:							
Tackling Poverty	60.0%	46.2%	34.7%	21.2%	15.3%	14.3%	28.5%
Growing an inclusive Economy	60.0%	49.1%	35.5%	21.2%	10.2%	9.5%	28.0%
Children and Young People	40.0%	37.0%	30.3%	24.4%	18.3%	38.1%	28.4%
Vulnerable People	50.0%	37.0%	38.2%	27.7%	28.3%	30.0%	33.0%
Improving Environment	90.0%	67.3%	65.9%	48.3%	46.8%	40.9%	56.7%
Engaging and Empowering Communities	80.0%	59.3%	46.3%	32.9%	28.8%	40.9%	42.3%
Asset Transfers and Participation Requests							
% Yes							
Aware of Asset Transfer	40.0%	26.9%	28.4%	19.8%	19.7%	17.2%	23.5%
Know where to find information	10.0%	6.0%	11.7%	5.3%	6.4%	6.9%	7.5%
Would like more information	0.0%	13.4%	13.6%	15.9%	17.9%	13.8%	14.8%
Aware of Participation Request	20.0%	4.5%	9.7%	5.3%	3.9%	0.0%	6.0%
Know where to find information on PRs	20.0%	6.0%	6.8%	4.4%	3.8%	3.4%	5.5%
Would like more information on PRs	20.0%	19.4%	13.6%	20.4%	20.5%	20.7%	18.5%
Engagement with CPA							
% with some level of engagement							
Community Planning as a whole	22.2%	28.1%	22.7%	22.4%	18.7%	11.1%	21.9%
Aberdeen City Council	30.0%	34.4%	32.3%	33.9%	26.0%	8.3%	30.3%
Police Scotland	22.2%	16.7%	14.1%	13.0%	9.3%	11.5%	13.3%
NHS Grampian	40.0%	23.1%	21.9%	20.2%	16.7%	19.2%	20.9%
Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership	22.2%	15.9%	12.5%	15.9%	12.2%	11.1%	14.1%
Scottish Fire and Rescue	10.0%	10.6%	9.3%	6.6%	4.1%	7.4%	7.7%
Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations	30.0%	12.9%	11.2%	8.7%	14.9%	4.0%	11.5%
North East Scotland College	33.3%	7.6%	7.2%	4.7%	4.2%	3.8%	6.4%
North East Scotland Transport Partnership	0.0%	7.6%	10.0%	7.5%	8.8%	7.7%	8.2%
Skills Development Scotland	20.0%	12.3%	5.1%	5.6%	4.3%	0.0%	6.3%
University of Aberdeen	33.3%	20.3%	11.5%	17.0%	10.8%	19.2%	15.5%
Robert Gordon University	30.0%	18.5%	5.2%	11.9%	11.6%	19.2%	12.3%
Grampian Regional Equality Council	0.0%	13.6%	3.1%	6.4%	4.1%	0.0%	5.8%

Note: Caution is advised in interpreting results as the numbers in some groups may be very small.

Table A5: Responses by Ethnicity

	Ethnicity				
	Scottish	Other British	Other White	Other	All
Social Interaction					
Where do people get together?					
Local halls and centres	59.7%	63.6%	31.6%	56.5%	58.8%
Schools	51.2%	63.6%	31.6%	56.5%	52.3%
Places of worship	55.8%	58.2%	26.3%	65.2%	55.3%
Food and drink outlets	64.0%	67.3%	57.9%	56.5%	63.7%
Streets	26.1%	43.6%	21.1%	26.1%	28.2%
Outdoor seating	24.1%	25.5%	21.1%	21.7%	24.0%
Online	22.1%	27.3%	42.1%	30.4%	24.3%
Don't know	12.5%	12.7%	21.1%	13.0%	13.0%
Other	13.9%	14.5%	15.8%	8.7%	13.8%
How do you find out what is happening?					
Friends/family/neighbours	69.0%	70.9%	52.6%	78.3%	69.0%
Social media	57.8%	58.2%	52.6%	52.2%	57.3%
Advertising and posters	38.6%	43.6%	36.8%	43.5%	39.5%
Local radio and newspapers	44.9%	43.6%	36.8%	30.4%	43.5%
Other	8.9%	12.7%	5.3%	8.7%	9.3%
Mean Scores:					
Join in and Mix	3.8	4.3	3.7	3.8	3.9
Mix of activities	3.7	4.6	3.3	3.9	3.8
Come together in a crisis	4.0	4.3	3.7	4.2	4.0
Overall social interaction	3.7	4.1	3.1	3.3	3.7
Identity and Belonging					
Mean Scores:					
How strong is sense of identity and belonging	3.7	4.1	3.1	3.3	3.7
How involved are people in the community	3.5	4.0	3.4	3.5	3.6
How welcoming are people in this place	4.2	4.4	4.0	4.8	4.3
What do other think of the place and community	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.2
Overall identity and belonging	3.9	4.3	3.8	4.6	4.0
Influence and Control					
Mean Scores:					
Does your community have a voice	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.3
Is the community listened to	2.7	3.1	3.1	3.7	2.9
Are there effective local groups	3.5	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.6

Do you feel able to take action	3.4	3.7	2.9	4.0	3.4
Are there barriers to participation for some people	3.4	3.4	3.6	4.3	3.5
Overall influence and control	2.9	3.2	2.5	3.6	3.0
Involvement in Groups/Activities					
% Agree					
I feel part of the community	45.2%	49.1%	36.8%	56.5%	46.0%
I know where to find information about what is happening	44.8%	61.8%	44.4%	43.5%	47.1%
I would like to be involved in decisions	69.3%	70.9%	73.7%	82.6%	70.5%
I know how to get involved in decisions	30.4%	36.4%	21.1%	47.8%	31.8%
I am involved in my community	21.9%	21.8%	21.1%	26.1%	22.1%
I have the knowledge/skills to make improvements	52.2%	58.2%	63.2%	73.9%	54.8%
I have the knowledge/skills to gather information	46.8%	43.6%	47.4%	60.9%	47.2%
I feel that efforts to address community issues are worthwhile	70.3%	74.5%	78.9%	78.3%	71.8%
I pitch in when there is work to be done	44.9%	37.0%	57.9%	56.5%	45.2%
% Yes					
Do you belong to any community group	21.5%	32.7%	26.3%	43.5%	24.5%
Are you happy to be contacted	22.8%	25.5%	36.8%	43.5%	25.0%
I know where to find (% Agree)					
Support available to me	59.4%	61.1%	60.0%	60.0%	59.8%
Support available to our group	59.4%	55.6%	60.0%	80.0%	60.8%
Funding available to our group	42.2%	22.2%	60.0%	50.0%	40.2%
Connecting with other groups	54.0%	44.4%	60.0%	60.0%	53.1%
Don't need additional support	25.0%	29.4%	20.0%	20.0%	25.0%
Community Planning Aberdeen					
% Yes					
Aware of CPA	30.4%	25.5%	36.8%	4.8%	28.7%
Aware of LOIP	23.9%	20.0%	31.6%	18.2%	23.4%
Aware of Locality Plans	18.5%	13.0%	36.8%	9.5%	18.2%
Aware of Community Empowerment Strategy	14.0%	10.9%	21.1%	13.6%	13.9%
Aware of Improvement Projects	17.1%	14.5%	21.1%	14.3%	16.8%
Aware of opportunity to get involved through the following ways?					
City Voice	71.0%	87.3%	68.4%	65.2%	72.8%
Locality Empowerment Groups	7.6%	12.7%	10.5%	13.0%	8.8%

Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships	6.3%	0.0%	10.5%	8.7%	5.8%
Improvement Project Teams	6.6%	3.6%	10.5%	8.7%	6.5%
Email updates	18.5%	16.4%	31.6%	26.1%	19.3%
Which project would you be interested in?					
Tackling Poverty	28.6%	17.1%	44.4%	36.8%	28.5%
Growing an inclusive Economy	24.6%	28.6%	38.9%	55.0%	28.0%
Children and Young People	28.6%	26.3%	16.7%	40.0%	28.4%
Vulnerable People	31.6%	35.9%	35.3%	42.1%	33.0%
Improving Environment	53.4%	65.9%	68.4%	65.0%	56.7%
Engaging and Empowering Communities	41.4%	42.5%	38.9%	55.0%	42.3%
Asset Transfer and Participation Requests					
% Yes					
Aware of Asset Transfer	23.5%	25.5%	26.3%	17.4%	23.5%
Know where to find information	7.3%	9.1%	10.5%	4.3%	7.5%
Would like more information	13.9%	14.5%	15.8%	26.1%	14.8%
Aware of Participation Request	5.3%	9.1%	10.5%	4.3%	6.0%
Know where to find information on PRs	5.6%	5.5%	10.5%	0.0%	5.5%
Would like more information on PRs	18.2%	14.5%	21.1%	30.4%	18.5%
Engagement with CPA					
% with some level of engagement					
Community Planning as a whole	20.8%	30.2%	15.8%	21.1%	21.9%
Aberdeen City Council	27.7%	44.2%	36.8%	25.0%	30.3%
Police Scotland	13.0%	13.5%	15.8%	15.0%	13.3%
NHS Grampian	20.6%	24.5%	16.7%	20.0%	20.9%
Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership	15.0%	15.7%	0.0%	10.0%	14.1%
Scottish Fire and Rescue	6.2%	14.3%	10.5%	9.5%	7.7%
Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations	11.3%	5.9%	15.8%	25.0%	11.5%
North East Scotland College	5.6%	14.0%	5.9%	0.0%	6.4%
North East Scotland Transport Partnership	8.0%	14.0%	0.0%	4.8%	8.2%
Skills Development Scotland	4.5%	14.6%	5.6%	14.3%	6.3%
University of Aberdeen	14.5%	25.0%	23.5%	0.0%	15.5%
Robert Gordon University	11.1%	16.0%	11.8%	20.0%	12.3%
Grampian Regional Equality Council	4.8%	7.8%	10.5%	10.0%	5.8%

Note: Caution is advised in interpreting results as the numbers in some groups may be very small.

'Other' = African or Caribbean, Arab, Asian, 'Other' and those for whom there was no data (n=4)