Draft Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26: Refreshed 2024 – Consultation Report

Community Planning Aberdeen between 5-25 February 2024 consulted on the draft refreshed Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) which sets out a vision for Aberdeen as 'a place where all people can prosper' regardless of a person's background or circumstances, as well as the underpinning three Locality Plans for the North, South and Central areas of Aberdeen. The draft Plans set out how we will make this vision a reality across the city.

The draft plans had been developed by Community Planning Aberdeen, along with our Locality Empowerment Groups and Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships on basis of a comprehensive process which included gathering and analysing data, as well as feedback from our 'what matters to you?' engagement with citizens and thematic stakeholder sessions, to ensure the refreshed Plans reflected our priorities for Partnership working based on our understanding of what is important to communities.

The consultation gave all citizens of Aberdeen the opportunity to comment on the Plans before they are considered by the Community Planning Aberdeen Board on 29 April 2024.

Views of our children and young people

The views of our children and young people are vital to informing the refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 and ensuring that the priorities are the right ones. To assist with engagement, we have developed a <u>children and young people's version</u> of the Plan, along with a <u>separate consultation</u> to capture their views. This version and form were used by children and young people.

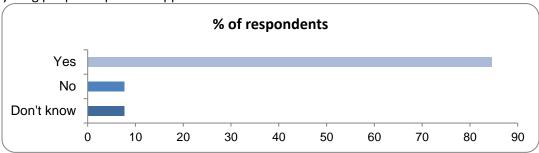
Refreshed LOIP 2016-26 Consultation Responses

In total there were 26 responses to the consultation (13 to the full consultation and 13 to the Children and Young People version). One respondent to the children and young people's consultation identified that they were not a child or young person and therefore this has been excluded from the numbers above and not been included in the analysis below.

WHAT RESPONDENTS SAID

1: Do you support the 16 Stretch Outcomes within the refreshed LOIP?

This question was asked across both versions of the consultation. There were 26 responses across the full and children and young people consultation, with 84.6% (22) responding that they support the 16 Stretch Outcomes within the refreshed LOIP. 100% (13) of children and young people responses supported the 16 Stretch Outcomes.



7.7% (2) of respondents selected that they did not support the Stretch Outcomes and (7.7%) (2) selected don't know. A summary of their comments and the specific Stretch Outcomes they didn't support are below.

Stretch Outcome/Theme	Outcome Improvement Group Response
People (Adults)	
 Focus of Stretch Outcome 10: Suggestion that Stretch Outcome 10 should aim to address inequalities of healthy life expectancy across the city. 	We want Aberdeen to be a place where everyone can live long and healthy lives. In our introduction to the people - adults theme we highlight that the rising cost of living is a key risk to population health and is likely to increase the existing inequalities in healthy life expectancy, with people from areas with higher deprivation having shorter lives and being more likely to live with poorer health for longer. Mitigating the impacts on our citizens and communities, as well as the inequalities currently experienced, can only be achieved

by us working together in partnership and through targeting improvement activity for vulnerable and disadvantaged people, families, and groups. Our improvement activity is focused on supporting the people most vulnerable in the city, as well as making changes to our systems to prevent these harms in the future to reduce inequalities and improve healthy life expectancy of all citizens in the city.

Focus and achievement of Stretch Outcome 12:

 View that the Stretch Outcome could be achieved by not offering appointments. Suggestion that the Stretch Outcome could focus on reducing the number of people becoming homeless, or reduce the incidences of repeat homelessness, increase the number of sustainable outcomes from homelessness presentations as potential alternatives. The Stretch Outcome has been amended from reducing homeless presentations to reducing homelessness using a range of baseline data. Reducing homeless presentations is still important as a strong indicator of prevention. The Homelessness Outcome Improvement Group overseeing delivery of this stretch outcome will ensure that changes being tested are ethical in the pursuit of this stretch outcome and that any unintended consequences are mitigated.

Place

Stretch Outcome 14

Need for better transport infrastructure

 Not all areas are easily accessible and can require 2 buses.

Impact of bus gates

 View that bus gates are creating more carbon emissions in surrounding areas as journeys now longer. Aligned to aim " reduce car kms by 5% by 2026, however decisions regarding bus gates are a matter for Aberdeen City Council.

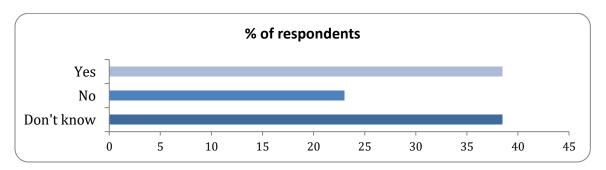
Stretch Outcome 15

Focus of Stretch Outcome 15 -

 View that the Stretch Outcome conflates two different goals: improving residents' perception of the city's green spaces and managing land for nature and that these two areas and the improvement aims might conflict with each other. Therefore, suggestion that they be separated into two Stretch Outcomes It's true that the 2 goals may not always support one another but we wish to accomplish both. We need to find a compromise and balance between the two outcomes, so looking at them together.

2: Looking at the refreshed LOIP document, do you believe these are the right improvement project aims to achieve our stretch outcomes by 2026?

This question was asked in the full consultation only. There were 13 responses with 38.5% (5) responding that they believed these were the right improvement project aims to achieve our stretch outcomes by 2026, whilst 38.5% (5) didn't know and 23% (3) did not agree.



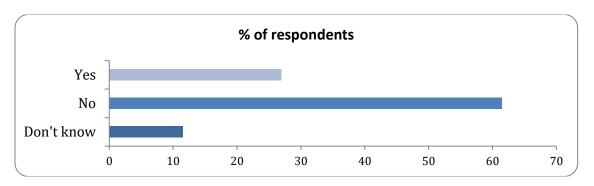
Where a respondent selected no, or don't know they were asked to state why. **C**omments were received by 4 respondents and are summarised below:

Stretch Outcome/Theme:	Outcome Improvement Group response
Place	# -
Stretch Outcome 13	
 Scope of aims to reduce carbon emissions Relies on public sector interventions, there is nothing related to businesses, wider infrastructure and transportation. Consider more radical interventions, such as relocating the airport and heliport further away from the North area of the city to reduce emissions, air and noise pollution. 	A range of changes will be considered as the multi agency improvement projects begin to develop their charters. In developing the project teams and changes, the teams will work with businesses etc in exploring
 13.3 Localities of focus for community resilience plans The targeted areas are some of the most wealthy and affluent areas of the city and view that the communities living in the targeted areas have more resources and influence and can organise themselves – suggestion that area of focus be reviewed. Could more be done to focus on adaptation in addition to capacity to respond. 	opportunities. Improvements in relation to transport are aligned to Stretch Outcome 14. The targeted areas are those recognised as being most vulnerable to flooding, so we're being led by the evidence. Working towards a focus on adaptation.
Stretch Outcome 14	
 14.3 Query on reducing car miles only Query why the aim is only focusing on reducing car miles: what about planes, helicopters, trucks and large vehicles? 	This could be a future development.
Stretch Outcome 15	
Concerns over scope and meaningfulness of the aims	Aim 15.6 has been moved to SO 13

 Suggestion that concrete and significant interventions 	with a focus on adaptation. This
needed and query as to relatedness of aim 15.6	issue emerged as a concern
Clarity of key diver for aim 15.5	following initial LOIP consultation.
 View that this driver was not clear. 	
Query over intent of Stretch Outcome and aims	See point on balance of Stretch
Compared to other decisions such as expansion of	outcome 15 above.
housing, feeling that it is contradictory	

3: Do you believe there are any priority issues which are not covered, in some way, by the stretch outcomes and improvement project aims?

A version of this question was asked in both consultations. There were 26 responses, with 61.5% (16) stating there were no priority issues which were not covered, in some way, by the stretch outcomes and improvement project aims, whilst 27% (7) stated they believed there were priority issues that were not covered. 11.5% (3) stated they didn't know.



Where a respondent selected yes, or don't know they were asked to state why. Comments were received by 4 respondents who answered yes, or don't know to the full consultation and are summarised below:

Stretch Outcome/Theme	Outcome Improvement Group response
All	
 Addressing the root causes and interventions with the biggest impact Need to tackle the underlying causes of the issues, rather than just the symptoms, and identify what interventions would have the greatest impact for long-term outcomes. Example of the impact improving housing conditions, by a programme of retrofitting existing buildings to create warm homes that are affordable to heat was provided. 	All aims in exploring and identifying the changes that will support achievement of the aim will look to identify the interventions with the biggest impact.
Economy and Community Empowerment	
Strategy to optimise community spaces	The Community Empowerment Group
Develop a strategy to ensure that all	recognises the importance of physical spaces
community spaces are used to best effect.	and structures as community assets that can

 Suggestion that there were actions such as installing wifi in all council owned buildings, providing charging points for phones etc that the respondent felt would help to address digital poverty, attract more users, attract more volunteers for community groups and support community empowerment priorities. be harnessed to meet community needs. Whilst there is no specific improvement aim in the LOIP under stretch outcome 16 in relation to community assets this is an action area for Community Planning Aberdeen. A new online community toolkit is being developed that will link to online information, support and advice on community asset transfer and other means of reclaiming community space. At present information and opportunities to access community spaces is on ACVOs website https://acvo.org.uk/opportunities/community-spaces/

Digital inclusion is also an area of importance to Community Planning Aberdeen. Since the pandemic, this has been a priority across partner organisations and a range of support has been put in place for citizens. A decision was made recently to amend the Community Empowerment Strategy to include digital inclusion as a guiding principle in order to continue to influence positive practice in this area by Community Planning Aberdeen and individual partners.

Stretch Outcome 2

Scope of employment related improvement aims

View that aims need more variety and a wider reach.

Across all improvement aims within Stretch Outcome 2, the aim is to support individuals into work across a variety of roles in the city, with aims targeting specific groups of people based on data and protected characteristics with a view to reducing inequalities. As aims are achieved and changes tested resulting in improvement, the CPA will look at opportunities to scale up and spread those changes as appropriate.

Place

Stretch Outcome 14

Improvement of public transport

 Reliability and provision of bus routes needs to be looked at to support reducing the frequency of car usage

Noise and Traffic Pollution:

 Reduction of noise pollution from airport and heliport and heavy-duty traffic on residential roads Aligned to aim 14.3 " reduce car kms by 5% and reduction of noise and traffic pollution may be achieved as a result of this aim also.

Stretch Outcome 15

Improvement of the environment:

 Improvement of the appearance, attractiveness, green spaces and cleanliness of neighbourhoods (excluding the wealthy and affluent areas) Aligned to aim 15.1 and intention is to include change ideas relating to water quality in improvement aims proposed.

Omission of ecological issues and social initiatives:

- The PNA 2023 highlighted the ecological condition of Aberdeen's rivers and coastal water and yet this doesn't feature in stretch outcomes nor improvement projects.
- No reference of 'allotments', eco-schools nor of Aberdeen as a Fairtrade Community.

The areas the respondents (4) to Children and Young People consultation stated that they felt the Plan missed that were important to them are summarised below:

Stretch Outcome/Theme	Outcome Improvement Group response	
People (Children and Young People and Adults)		
Stretch Outcome 8:		
 More sport opportunities for young people with disabilities: Offer more sport opportunities for young people with disabilities, including relaxed sport sessions and sessions to cover the needs of people with disabilities. create some spaces for outdoor gyms that can be used by young people with different abilities 	Support for those with Additional Support Needs and Disabilities is an important focus and key priority for our Childrens Services Board and improved accessibility for this cohort is also something we are looking to address, our Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport (PEPAS) Group, leads on the implementation of this work. Including supporting young people with ASN/Disabilities to take part in physical activity and sport.	
Stretch Outcome 10		
Reducing smoking and vaping	We have improvement aims focused on both reducing smoking and vaping. The aims are: 10.6 Decrease the number of women who are smoking in pregnancy in the 40% most deprived SIMD by 5% by 2026. 10.8 Reduce to 4% the number of 13-18 year olds in regular use of Vaping products by 2026.	
Stretch Outcome 7 and 9		
Visible policing and responding to and reducing crime, particular in areas with highest crime rates.	In response to the our engagement exercise held between 5 October 6	

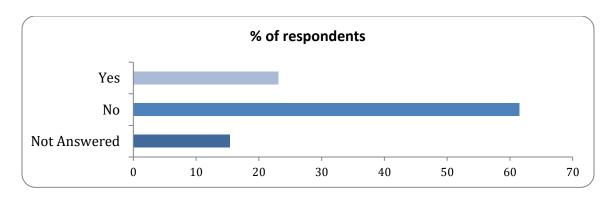
November, improvement aim focused on reducing adult anti social behaviour across the city has been added as a priority. In addition, a continuing priority is focused on reducing youth anti social behavior and there is a specific improvement aim on this.

Under Stretch outcome 9 there are aims focusing on specific crimes, namely domestic abuse and hate crimes with view of reducing the impact of these crimes on both individuals and communities.

Through Stretch Outcomes 7 and 9 we are committed to continue to reduce the number of people and communities affected or harmed by crime through an early intervention approach to offending through preventative aims. We recognise that we need to support people who have offended, to turn their behaviour around and become contributors to society. Research shows that maintaining and building upon protective factors such as access to housing, healthcare, employability, financial stability and professional support, such as intervention and access to drug and alcohol support, assists in reducing repeat offending and a return to custody, with all of the associated financial and human costs and across the Stretch Outcomes we have improvement aims focused on these.

4: Do you think that the proposals set out in the plan could have any potential negative impacts on any groups of people with reference to the listed protected characteristics?

This question was asked in the full consultation only. There were 11 responses to this question, with 61.54% (8) stating that they did not think the Plan could have any potential negative impacts on any groups of people with reference to the listed protected characteristics. 23.08% (3) of respondents answered yes to the above. 15.38% (2) respondents did not answer this question.



Respondents who selected yes, were asked to provide detail of any potential negative impacts. Of the 3 respondents, 66.6% (2) provided detail as to the potential negative impacts as summarised below.

Stretch Outcome/Theme	Outcome Improvement Group	
	Response	
Place		
Stretch Outcome 13		
 Localities of focus for community resilience plans The targeted areas are some of the most wealthy and affluent areas of the city. Communities living in the targeted areas have more resources and influence and can organise themselves 	The targeted areas are those recognised as being most vulnerable to flooding, so we're being led by the evidence. Working towards a focus on adaptation.	
Stretch Outcome 14		
Provision for individuals with mobility issues	This will be considered by all aims	
Lack of care and provision for those who cannot cycle, walk or use public transport	under Stretch outcome 14	