

# **Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2026-36**

**Areas where data and our  
communities tell us we  
could do better.**



# Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2026-36



As we develop the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2026-36 and approach our Aberdeen 2036: Towards a Fairer Future Conference, the slides, along with [video](#), highlight the areas based on the data and community engagement, where improvement is required to achieve a fairer Aberdeen 2036.

To see all of the data and responses from our community engagement, view our:

- [Population Needs Assessment \(PNA\)](#) data and
- [Your Place, Your Plans, Your Future Community Engagement](#)

At the Conference you will hear the emerging proposed new changes to our systems to tackle these. Come ready to share your views on the emerging changes that you hear, as well as your ideas. Together we can achieve a fairer Aberdeen

# Children, Families and Lifelong Learning

## What the data is telling us improve:

**Based on the data, the levels of variation, often associated with deprivation across the city, requires closer consideration:**

- 1 in 5 Children in the city are living in Poverty with 5,615 children in Aberdeen are living in Relative low-income families
- 67.4% of children who were eligible for the 27-30 month review received a 27-30 month review. The proportion of children with one or more developmental concern varies from 1% to 18%.
- 72.9% of Primary 1 children in Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) quintile 1 (most deprived) classified as 'healthy weight' compared to 82% in SIMD 5 (least deprived) .
- Although overall levels of confidence among young people has increased it remains lower in our Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) quintile 1 and 2 communities 45% city wide compared to 36% in Northfield and 41 in St Machar
- Suicide rates among you people has increased slightly from amongst young people aged 11 to 15 years which has increase from 6.2/100,000 population in 2016-20 to 8.2/100,000 for 2018-2022
- 88.5% of young people reported feeling safe in their community. This was lower in our Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) quintile 1 and 2 Communities (87.5% in Lochside; 84% in St Machar; and 82.5% in Northfield)

## What the community is telling us could be better:

**Activities and Facilities for young people:** more and better recreational options for youth; call for more all-weather, safe, youth-focused spaces and community events.

**Affordable and Accessible Facilities –** having more community based projects to combat antisocial behaviour, improve safety and ensure people feel safe in the community

**Inclusivity:** participants raise the need for more inclusive play areas for children with disabilities, opportunities for intergenerational and affordable activities.

**Community-Led Initiatives and Lifelong Learning** should be “prioritised”. Participants would like to see “more community wealth building... in priority neighbourhoods”.

**Access to Healthcare services,** particularly GP and dental services, was highlighted as a concern. Participants report difficulties in accessing these services due to long waiting times and oversubscribed practices. They call for more doctors, better appointment systems, and improved access to healthcare facilities.

# Children, Families and Lifelong Learning

## What the data is telling us improve:

**Based on the data, the levels of variation, often associated with deprivation across the city, requires closer consideration:**

- 590 young people (under 18 years) were identified as an accused – up from 546 in 2021/22.
- In 2023/24 there were 253 young people referred to the Children's Reporter, with 121 being referred on offence grounds – up from 112 in 2022/23
- 36.6% (5,473) of primary pupils and 48.1% (5,386) of secondary pupils had additional support needs
- Qualifications (tariff score) for pupils in SIMD 1 (most deprived) was 481 compared to 893 for the city as a whole and those in SIMD 5 at 1,198.
- 81.3% of Looked After Children were in a Positive Destination compared to 90.1% in the city as a whole
- 82.9% of school leavers in SIMD 1 (most deprived) had a positive destination compared to 95.3% of those in SIMD 5 (least deprived)
- 89.4% of school leavers with Additional Support Needs /Disabilities had an Initial Positive Destination

## What Children and Young People are telling us could be better:

**Feeling Unheard:** Children and young people have expressed that they do not feel heard.

**Where to Voice Opinions:** There is uncertainty about where to go to have a say, and where to voice their opinions.

**Street Lighting:** Children and young people from some communities have expressed a need for better street lighting.

**Greenery:** Children and young people feel that adding more plants and trees would contribute to a more pleasant environment, making the city more enjoyable.

**Bullying** - 43% of children and young people in care (8-11yrs) in Aberdeen reported being afraid of going to school because of bullying compared to 22% of boys.

**Long term health concerns/disabilities:** 35% care leaver indicated that they had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities.

# Economic Stability

## What the data is telling us:

**Overall data on economic position presents a positive picture, but not everyone in the City is benefitting from economic potential:**

- One in seven households in Aberdeen have no one working within them, which equates to 13,700 workless households.
- Economic inactivity for people from ethnic minorities is more pronounced. 65.2%, compared to 75% overall
- 12% of households with a low income, have 3,600 children aged 15 years and under.
- Median gross weekly pay for full-time workers living in Aberdeen was £721.70 (2024) – lower than Scotland of £740.00.
- Estimated 10% of employees in Aberdeen (2024) were earning less than the Living Wage compared to 11.4% in Scotland, up from 8.4% in 2023 and 6.9% in 2022.
- Growth sector enterprises has decreased by 1,150 (23.7%) since 2019. In 2023, total employment in growth sector enterprises was 55,170 – same as in 2022, lower than the 2019 (60,890).
- In 2023 there were 875 new businesses in Aberdeen – down from 895 (2022).

## What the community is telling us could be better:

**Local Job Opportunities and Skill-Building Initiatives** - better collaboration to provide work placements and apprenticeships.

**Economic Decline and Support** - industries moving away due to insufficient government support for oil, gas, and renewables.

**Infrastructure and Public Transportation** should be a focus for investment to boost the economy.

**Repurposing Empty Shops/Buildings** for “housing/community hubs”

**Information and Community Engagement** need to improve, especially around “local volunteering and training opportunities”.

**Supporting and developing tourist attractions, cultural events, and outdoor** opportunities to draw visitors and engage residents.

**Support for Diversification in the Oil and Gas Sector** - investing in renewable energies and offering more training opportunities.

**Visibility of Job Opportunities** needs improvement

**Community-Led Initiatives and Lifelong Learning** should be “prioritised” more community wealth building in priority neighbourhoods”.

## Communities and Housing

### What the data is telling us:

- 5,615 children in Aberdeen were in relative low income families in 2023/24, down from 6,163 in 2022/23.
- 21.8% of Aberdeen's children lived in poverty after housing costs—slightly below the Scottish average of 24%.
- 33.7% (7,212) of Universal Credit claimants in Aberdeen were employed, ranging from 52 in West End to 1,374 in Tillydrone.
- In 2023, 49% of Aberdeen households were managing well, below the Scottish average of 52%.
- In 2024, Aberdeen's sense of identity and belonging scored 4.0 out of 7. People felt more welcomed (4.2) than involved (3.6) in their community.
- The percentage of people wanting to be involved in community decisions in 2024 fell from 70.5% to 59.5%.
- 30% of adults in Aberdeen report taking part in formal volunteering (volunteering with a group or organisation) – an increase from 16% in the previous year and 5% above the national average.

### What the community is telling us could be better:

**Cost Barriers to Events** – financial constraints limit participation in community events and reduce social interaction

**Better Communication and Transparency** – clearer updates, less jargon, and to see how their feedback leads to change

**Community Engagement** - want to “feel included in the decision-making process and see improvements

**More Inclusive and Varied Community Activities** – more alcohol-free, creative, and inclusive events that cater to all people

**Affordable retail options:** Participants expressed a desire for more local shops and affordable retail options

**Views of Children and Young People** – they are feeling unheard. There is an uncertainty about where to go to have a say and share their opinions. They feel that there are "not enough ways to reach out with opinions"

## Communities and Housing

### What the data is telling us:

- As of 2017, 55% of dwellings were flats, 18% terraced, 16% semi-detached, and 11% detached. Seaton had 96.8% flats, while Kingswells had 63.1% detached and only 2.6% flats.
- 1,089 new homes were built: 509 private sector, 387 local authority, and 193 housing association.
- Council-owned housing has declined by 3.4% since 2014. As of March 2023, 3,720 were on the housing list and 1,774 on the transfer list.
- In 2023–24, there were 1,763 homelessness applications, with 1,270 assessed as homeless, involving 1,970 people—including 596 children.
- In 2023–24, there were 481 youth homelessness applications—351 were assessed as homeless, up slightly from 470 the previous year.
- 30 people became homeless after leaving prison in 2023-24 down from 45 the previous year

### What the community is telling us could be better:

**Oversupply of Properties** - oversupply of private housing in Aberdeen has led to unsellable properties and rising negative equity. People question the need for further development

**Affordable & Social Housing** - demand for more affordable homes to buy and rent. Renovating empty buildings is preferred over new builds

**Facilities & Infrastructure** - concerns about lack of community spaces, shops, GPs, and essential services—especially in new developments

**Energy Efficiency** - many homes are poorly insulated with outdated heating. Participants call for investment in green technology to improve energy efficiency and cut heating costs

**Repairs & Maintenance** - long waits, poor repair quality, and a sense that high-profile projects are prioritised over essential maintenance

**Views of Children and Young People** - they have expressed concerns about the maintenance of homes



## Neighbourhood and Environment

### What the data is telling us:

- **Carbon Dioxide Emissions:** 1,063 kt in 2022 (44.3% reduction since 2005) **Public Sector Emissions:** 81 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2022, down from 85 in 2021
- **Household waste generated:** 89,314 tonnes of household waste (2023) up from previous years; waste to landfill down from 58,021 tonnes (2016) to 10,930 tonnes (2023)
- **Climate Awareness:** 73% of City Voice respondents see climate change as urgent (up from 68% in 2012)
- **Flooding Risk:** 32,510 people and 19,530 homes/businesses at risk
- **Renewables:** 3,679 installations (2023), 80.9 megawatts capacity compared to 67.5 in 2022 and 10.3 in 2014.
- **Extreme Weather Readiness:** 45% know where to find prep info; 27.8% have protected homes
- **Protected Land:** 21.3% of city land is protected for nature. 74.5% satisfied with green space (2024) up from 64.5% (2020)
- **Active Travel:** Walking rose to 30% as the main travel mode, cycling fell to 1%, and driving a car the most common at 45%.

### What the community is telling us could be better:

**Cycling & Walking:** Need for more dedicated cycle lanes, better signage. Uneven pavements pose risks, especially for the elderly and disabled.

**Lighting & Safety:** Improved street/path lighting and regular pavement gritting in winter needed for safety.

**Public Transport:** Desire for more reliable, frequent, and affordable services with better connections.

**Roads & Car Parking:** Poor road and car park conditions, safety and accessibility. Concerns about blocking pavements, expensive city centre parking, and lack of spaces.

**Alternative Modes:** Calls for better alternatives to car use

**Natural Green Space:** Feedback highlights the importance of protecting and increasing natural green spaces for recreation, air quality, and biodiversity. Participants suggest better maintenance of parks, more tree planting, and accessible green areas, especially near residential neighbourhoods.

**Views of Children and Young People:** emphasise safe routes to schools, the need for well-maintained play areas and parks, and better access to outdoor spaces for socialising and physical activity.

## Health and Social Care

### What the data is telling us:

**Social and economic deprivation is strongly linked to poorer Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy.**

**Life expectancy (LE)** in Aberdeen for 2021-23 was 80.9 years for women and 76.9 years for men year, similar to Scotland.

**Healthy life expectancy (HLE):** in Aberdeen for 2019-21 was 61.4 years for women and 60.2 years for men.

**Prescriptions for mental health conditions** are higher in deprived areas (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 1: 23.8% compared to least deprived (SIMD 5): 14.3%).

**Alcohol-specific deaths:** (2019–23): 40.4 per 100,000 population in most deprived areas (SIMD 1) compared to 10.5 per 100,000 in least deprived (SIMD 5).

**Drug-related deaths:** (2019–23): 57.3 per 100,000 in SIMD 1, compared to 5.2 per 100,000 in SIMD 5.

**Probable suicides:** 29 in Aberdeen (2023) (24 male, 5 female). 5-year moving average (2019-2023): 28 suicides (stable trend).

**Illnesses:** Leading cause of death for females (13.4%), second for males (7%) in 2023. 50.4% of all deaths in 2023 were from cancer and circulatory diseases.

### What the community is telling us could be better:

**Availability of Facilities:** Need for more and better-timed community spaces, facilities, sport and gym libraries, and public spaces, especially in new developments.

**Tackling Social Isolation** – among older adults and youth, especially where financial barriers limit social opportunities

**Inclusivity:** More inclusive play areas for children with disabilities.

**Variety and Affordability of Activities:** Desire for intergenerational, affordable, alcohol-free activities; participation limited by finances and lack of advertising.

**Cost of Community-led Events:** concern that social interaction is inhibited by financial considerations.

**Access to Healthcare:** Concerns about GP and dental service availability.

**Affordable retail options:** Desire for more local and affordable shops.

## Health and Social Care

### What the data is telling us:

**Weight:** 23% of people had a Body Mass Index 30+ (2016-19), down from 25% (2014-17) and lower than rate for Scotland of 32% (2023)

**Physical Activity:** In 2023, 87% of adults active in the last month; 53% when walking excluded.

**Social interaction:** In 2024, City Voice panellists rated opportunities for social interaction at 3.7, out of 7

**Adult Offences:** In 2024-25, 1,243 adults were charged with more than one offence, down from 1,279 in 2023-24.

**Crime rate:** was 663 per 10,000 population (Scotland: 550), and the offence rate was 320 (same as Scotland).

**Anti-social offences:** 1,956 recorded in 2023-24, slightly down from 1,986 in 2022-23. The rate was 87 per 10,000 (Scotland: 88).

**Domestic abuse:** 2,512 recorded incidents of domestic abuse in 2023-24, up from 2,488 the year before (rate: 110 per 10,000; Scotland: 116).

**Hate crime:** 316 hate crimes were recorded in 2023-24, up from 291 in 2022-23 but down from 361 in 2021-22.

### What the community is telling us could be better:

**Safety and initiatives to support substance use:** Issues with antisocial behaviour, substance use, and neglect in public spaces. City centre is perceived by some participants as unsafe, especially at night.

**Maintenance and cleanliness:** Need for better facility upkeep, more public toilets, cleaner sports fields, and control of dog waste, litter, vandalism.

**Integration and Inclusion:** Better support for international residents and more positive city promotion requested.

**Views of Children and Young People:** want barriers for hills to prevent accidents, fewer things that spin to avoid dizziness and sickness, and easier access to information about the parks. There is also a desire to reduce groups of people who might make others feel wary and more free stuff to do.