



**Community
Planning
Aberdeen**

South Locality Plan

2026-2036

South Locality Neighbourhoods:

Culter, Cults, Bielside, Milltimber & Countesswells, Hazlehead, Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill, Seafield, Garthdee, Ferryhill, Torry, Cove, Kincorth, Leggart and Nigg



Introduction

What is Locality Planning?

Locality Planning means working together with local communities to create plans that make life better for everyone. Community Planning Aberdeen believes these plans succeed when shaped and delivered with the people who live here. Locality Planning will support the conditions for greater partnership working to maximise the strengths of our partners, communities, local groups, businesses, and faith organisations around common goals.

By law, Community Planning Aberdeen and the Health & Social Care Partnership must create plans for Aberdeen's three localities: North, Central, and South. These plans show where we'll focus our efforts and resources. Times are challenging, we have less resources and funding at our disposal, we are an ageing society with growing health inequalities who have experienced significant disruption to our local economy caused by the oil and gas downturn, and we are all feeling the impact of climate change. Success depends on us all working together.

What is the South Locality Plan?

Our plan sets out what we want to achieve over the next 10 years to reduce inequalities and improve life for everyone in the South Locality. It includes:

- Where we are now – facts, figures, and what communities told us matters most
- Our Ideas – the changes we'll focus on
- How We'll Deliver – working together with partners and communities

Our Commitment

Community Planning Aberdeen will provide services for everyone, while giving more help to people who need it most. This means everyone's outcomes improve, but improvement happens fastest for those facing the greatest disadvantage in line with Fair Society, Healthy Lives (Marmot Review, 2010).

We will:

- Make sure there is a basic level of support available to everyone in the South Locality
- Direct resources and effort to areas and groups with higher levels of need
- Start new or more intensive work in communities where challenges are greatest, then expand what works to other areas
- Build fairness and equity into all planning, funding and design decisions

Our Commitment



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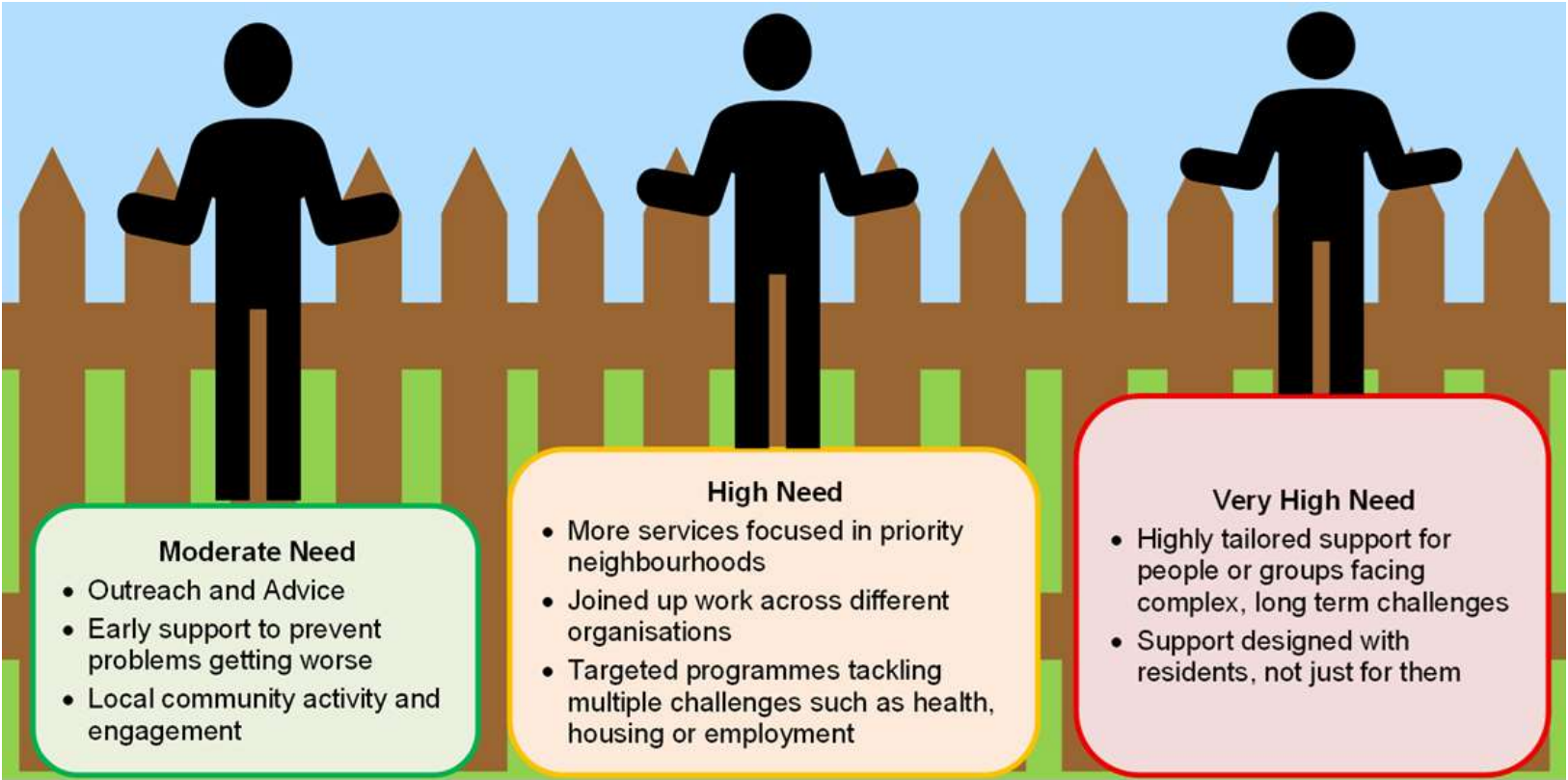
What everyone can expect (our universal offer)

All residents will have access to a minimum standard of services and support, no matter where they live.
This includes:



Extra support where it's needed

Everyone should benefit from our universal offer, but we recognise that some people need additional support to achieve the same outcomes. Using local data, evidence and community experience, we will target extra, proportionate support where need is greatest to help reduce inequality across Aberdeen.



Priority Neighbourhoods and why they require additional focus and resources

Some neighbourhoods face more challenges than others, whether that's around jobs, health, housing or access to services. These challenges can build up over time, making it harder for people to get the same opportunities as others across the city.

There can also be everyday barriers- like not having easy access to transport or clear information about support—that make things even tougher.

By putting extra time, funding and support into areas like Torry and Kincorth, the aim is to make sure help is reaching the people and communities who need it most.

This could mean more local services, support for families and young people, help into work, or working more closely with community groups. Just as importantly, it's about listening to local people and shaping support around what matters to them.

The goal is simple: to make things fairer, improve everyday life, and help every community across the city to thrive.

Our Journey

Developing the South Locality Plan

March - May 2025

We invited local people to share what they thought was good and what could be improved in their community.

Engagement activities included:

- An online survey for adults.
- An online survey designed for children and young people
- Six locality events with activities created by Aberdeen Youth Movement and Aberdeen Ambassadors for children and young people.
- An outreach programme where we visited 98 groups, schools, and locations across Aberdeen to facilitate participation.

We reached out through services, community and third sector groups, personal networks, and social media. Press releases and newsletter stories were issued to encourage involvement.

October - November 2025

We hosted a final South Locality event at Greyhope Community Hub, with the local community to share findings and gain further insight.

May-October 2025

We explored key areas for improvement identified across the South Locality.

Community members identified existing strengths and assets—such as people, places, and groups—and brainstormed practical ideas to make a difference.

Sessions encouraged collaboration and community-led solutions, supported and co-delivered by Community Planning partners.

Outreach sessions and a digital option were offered for those unable to attend full workshops.

All contributions were valued and recorded to help shape the South Locality Plan.

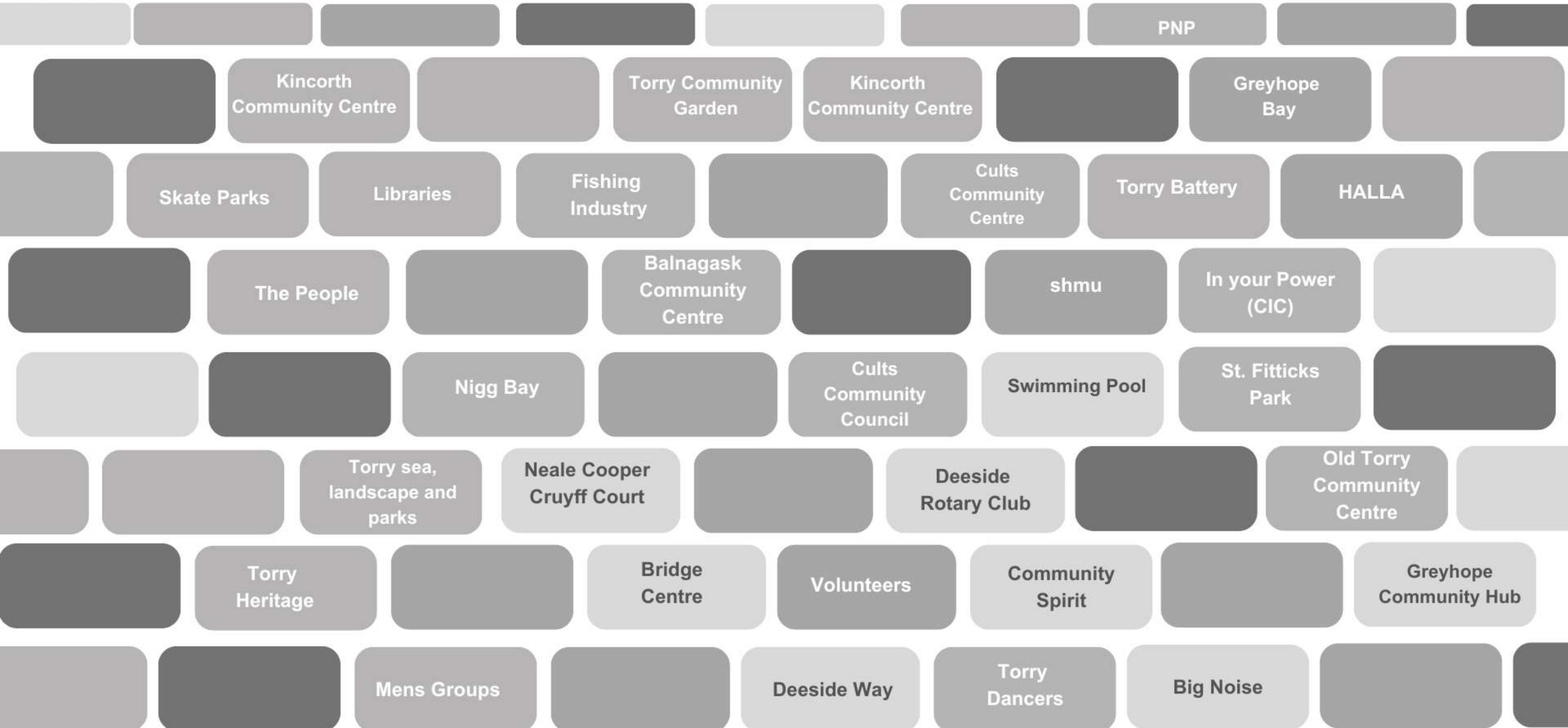
November - June 2025-26

Draft Locality Plans developed and out to public consultation before approval.

...Start working together on delivering our South Locality Plan!

South Community Asset Wall

Our Asset Wall is a visual way of showing all the great things that people value in the South Locality. We use the Asset Wall to celebrate what's good, and to help us build on these strengths as we work towards better outcomes for everyone across the South Locality.



Our Priorities for the South Locality

Following consultation and engagement with our communities across the South Locality we have identified 6 priority outcomes and have aligned these to the Social Determinant of Health:

Economic Stability <i>Helping people feel more financially secure</i>	Health and Social Care <i>Improve the physical health and wellbeing of people</i>	Children, Families and Lifelong Learning <i>Helping people learn, grow and thrive at any age</i>	Neighbourhood and Environment <i>Making sure the places people live feel safe, clean and enjoyable</i>	Communities and Housing <i>Creating friendly, connected communities where people feel they belong</i>
Reduce the number of people living in Poverty Improve and create job opportunities	Focus on early intervention, prevention, and physical and mental wellbeing outcomes	Support children and young people to achieve their potential	Identify and maximise the use of greenspace and community food growing	Increase the number of people and groups involved in making improvements and decisions in their community

What are the Social Determinants of Health?

Social determinants of health are the everyday things in our lives that affect how healthy we are. They are not about hospitals or medicine, but about the conditions we live in. People living in priority neighbourhoods may face more health-related challenges due to a range of reasons such as low income, poor quality housing, or a lack of access to community facilities. These communities often show great strengths, but can experience inequalities in access to healthcare, healthy environments, and other supports that influence wellbeing.

Why It Matters

Understanding social determinants helps us see that health is about more than just doctors and medicine. To improve health for everyone, we need to:

- Make sure people have good jobs, homes, and education.
- Support communities and reduce poverty.

Our Plan

Economic Stability

- Priority 1: Reduce the number of people living in poverty
- Priority 2: Improve and create job opportunities

What the data is telling us...

- **Energy Insecurity:** 13% of people in South Locality worried they would not be able to heat their home, this increased from 10.3% in 2024
- **Unemployment:** As at December 2025, there were 1230 unemployment claimants in South Locality which is no change from December 2024
- **Food Insecurity:** 7.1% of people in South Locality worried they would not have enough to eat, which improved from 10.4% in 2024
- **Children in low income households:** 1197 children under 15 years of age from South Locality live in low income households

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
Improve access to food to create meals	Targeted	Torry and Kincorth	Touch of Love CFINE Aberdeen Cyrenians Church of Scotland Torry Health Matters Balnagask Community Centre Ruthrieston Community Centre University of Aberdeen Rowett Institute Kincorth and Leggart Community Council	Number of people who report they have access to a variety of nutritious and healthy food	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: Reduce the proportion of people in relative poverty and homelessness by 6.5% by 2036 LOIP System Change: Families and Communities Support Model
Hold an accessible jobs fayre in South Locality	Universal	Garthdee	Pathways Skills Development Scotland Local Employability Partnership SAMH Cults, Bielside, and Miltimber Community Council	Number of people attending the Jobs Fayre Number of people (by locality and vulnerable group) gaining or achieving employment through access routes	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: 95% of young people in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 1 and vulnerable groups achieve a positive destination on leaving school by 2036 LOIP System Change: Inclusive routes to Emerging and Growing
Support the roll out of Cash First	Targeted	Torry and Kincorth	ACVO	Number of households receiving financial	

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
scheme to maximise income of people really struggling with cost of living in South Locality			Aberdeen Cyrenians	and wraparound support Number of community hub network partners enabling access to joined services and support	Sectors

Our Plan

Health and Social Care

Priority 3: Focus on early intervention, prevention, and physical and mental wellbeing outcomes

What the data is telling us...

- **Drug related hospital stay rate** in South Locality is 116 people per 100,000 of the population, lower than the City average of 181 people per 100,000
- **Mental Health** 16.9% of people in South Locality are prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis, this is lower than the Aberdeen City figure of 17.4%
- **Life Expectancy** in South Locality was on average 82 years for women, and 79 years for men
- **Suicide** The rate of death from suicide in South Locality is 10.4 people per 100,000 of the population, this is below the Aberdeen City average of 11.1 people per 100,000 of the population

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
Support the development of a harm reduction network	Targeted	Torry and Kincorth	Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Aberdeen Drugs Action SHMU DSM Foundation	Number of staff naloxone trained Number of staff completed level 1 Harm reduction training Number of community groups, staff and service working in the locality signed up to the harm reduction network	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: 20% reduction in deaths in Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 1 from alcohol and drugs and a 20% reduction in suicide rate LOIP System Change: New recovery model for people with existing and emerging complex needs
Support the development of a Torry Men's Shed	Targeted	Torry	Torry Men’s Shed Torry Health Matters SHMU	Number of men attending the Torry Men's Shed % of people engaged with approaches attending peer to peer support % of adults reporting that they are able to manage their own health and wellbeing ‘very well’	

Our Plan

Children, Families and Lifelong Learning

Priority 4 : Support children and young people to achieve their potential

What the data is telling us...

- **Youth Volunteering:** 1336 young people are now registered with Saltire Awards in South Locality. The young people have logged 9787 hours of volunteering, a 25% increase from 2024-25. With 273 Saltire Awards issued to volunteers, an increase of 15% from 2024-25
- **Counselling:** 100% of schools in South Locality offer counselling and Active School activities
- **Anti-Social Behaviour:** 3,303 Youth Anti-Social Behaviour calls were reported to the police (2024)
- **Teenage Pregnancies:** 20.9 girls and young women per 1000 recorded pregnancies in South Locality. This was just above the Aberdeen City average rate of 19.8 per 1000 girls and young women

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
Explore funding and opportunities for local youth led activities such as street work, music projects and a youth cafe	Targeted	Torry, Kincorth	Big Noise Torry CLD Strategic Partnership Torry Dancers Touch of Love Kincorth Community Centre Police Scotland Balnagask Community Centre Befriend a Child Jesus House Aberdeen Youth Movement Ruthrieston Community Centre Church of Scotland King’s Community Foundation SAMH Torry Community Council	Value of successful external funding applications to support youth projects Number of young people (by locality) using safe spaces % of 12-18 year old boys reporting sense of belonging or connection to peers Number of youth anti-social behaviour calls Number of neighbourhood-level services co-produced with communities	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: 95% of young people in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 1 and vulnerable groups achieve a positive destination on leaving school by 2036 LOIP System Change: Safe, co-designed spaces offering onsite support, person centred activities and individual progression pathways for young people at risk
More safe places for children and young people	Targeted	Ferryhill, Torry, Kincorth	Touch of Love Sport Aberdeen	Number of young people using safe spaces	

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
			Police Scotland Balnagask Community Centre Befriend a Child Jesus House Lochside Associated School Group SHMU King's Community Foundation SAMH	Number of neighbourhood-level services co-produced with communities	
More free/low cost groups for people with young families	Universal	Torry, Kincorth, Cove	Big Noise Torry Torry Dancers Touch of Love Balnagask Community Centre Kincorth Community Council Church of Scotland Balnagask Community Centre Befriend a Child Jesus House SHMU Ruthrieston Community Centre King's Community Foundation Torry Community Council Cults, Bielside, Miltimber Community Council Kincorth and Leggart Community Council	Number of neighbourhood-level services co-produced with communities	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: Reduce the proportion of people in relative poverty and homelessness by 6.5% by 2036 LOIP System Change: Families and Communities Support Model

Our Plan

Neighbourhood and Environment

Priority 5: Maximise use of outdoor space

What the data is telling us...

- **Severe Weather:** 49.6% of people in South Locality were worried about severe weather on their homes and local community. This compares to 73.7% of people who live in priority neighbourhoods
- **Greenspace Satisfaction:** 69.6% of South Locality respondents to the City Voice survey reported being satisfied with the overall quality of greenspace/open space compared to 47.4% of people living in Priority Neighbourhoods
- **Walking:** 76% of people in the South Locality walk as a form of physical activity, this increased from 64.2% in 2024

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
Support communities to set up neighbourhood groups with a focus on community safety	Targeted	Across the South Locality	Police Scotland Community Safety Partnership Lochside Associated School Group	Number of active community safety neighbourhood groups across South Locality	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: Increase proportion of people from SIMD 1 who feel they have influence and sense of control by 10% LOIP System Change: A Community-led System for Sustainable Neighbourhoods
Develop a tool/gardening equipment library	Universal	Garthdee, Torry and Kincorth	Torry Health Matters Social Juice Aberdeen Cyrenians Nestrans Ruthrieston Community Centre Kincorth and Leggart Community Council Cfine	Number of tool/gardening libraries set up Number of new pocket parks/areas for growing food and proportion of land for nature	
Support community groups to develop underused greenspace in Torry and Kincorth	Universal	Torry and Kincorth	Friends of St. Fitticks Park Social Juice Nestrans Balnagask Community Centre University of Aberdeen King’s Community Foundation Torry Partnership Cults, Bielside, and Miltimber Community Council	Number of new pocket parks/areas for growing food and proportion of land for nature % Satisfied with local greenspace	

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
			Kincorth and Leggart Community Council Balnagask Community Centre		
Support communities to improve local areas through litter picks, clean ups, and community ice crews/resilience groups	Universal	Hazlehead, Seafield, Ferryhill, Torry, Altens	Friends of St. Fitticks Park Nestrans Jesus House Ruthrieston Community Centre Church of Scotland King’s Community Foundation Torry Community Council Kincorth and Leggart Community Council Cults, Bielside, and Miltimber Community Council	% Satisfied with local greenspace Number of neighbourhood-level services co-produced with communities	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: Increase proportion of people from SIMD 1 who feel they have influence and sense of control by 10% LOIP System Change: A Community-led System for Sustainable Neighbourhoods
Improve uptake, infrastructure, and safety of bikes	Universal	Braeside, Broomhill, Culter, Mannofield, Garthdee, Torry,Seafield	Cycling Scotland Touch of Love Walk Wheel Cycle Trust Nestrans Cults, Bielside, and Miltimber Community Council Ruthrieston Community Centre	Number of road collisions involving a cyclist % of people walking, cycling and wheeling	
Maintain benches along the Deeside Way	Universal	Bielside, Cults, Culter, Ferryhill, Garthdee, Milltimber and Countesswells	South Locality Community Councils on Deeside Way Nestrans	Number of good condition benches along the Deeside Way % of people walking, cycling and wheeling	

Our Plan

Communities and Housing

Priority 6: Increase the number of people and groups involved in making improvements and decisions in their community

What the data is telling us...

- **Community Information:** Just over half (50.4%) of City Voice respondents from South Locality agreed they would know where to find information about what is happening in their community
- **Identity and Belonging:** South Locality’s sense of identity and belonging scored 4.2 out of 7 during the Place Standard community engagement exercise (2025)
- **Community Cohesion:** 46% of City Voice respondents in South Locality agreed they felt part of the community they live in

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
Repurpose underused community spaces as co working hubs	Universal	Across the South Locality Community Assistance Hubs	Aberdeen Cyrenians Ruthrieston Community Centre Kincorth and Leggart Community Council	Number of community hub network partners enabling access to joined services and support	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: Reduce the proportion of people in relative poverty and homelessness by 6.5% by 2036 LOIP System Change: Families and Communities Support Model
Police to give talks in schools, along with local people and those with lived experience	Targeted	Cults, Hazlehead, Torry, Kincorth, Cove	Police Scotland Aberdeen Cyrenians Lochside ASG DSM Foundation	% of 12-18 year old boys reporting sense of belonging or connection to peers	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: 95% of young people in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 1 and vulnerable groups achieve a positive destination on leaving school by 2036 LOIP System Change: Safe, co-designed spaces offering onsite support, person centred activities and individual progression pathways for young people at risk
Recruit and support more local volunteers	Universal	Across the South Locality	Pathways Aberdeen Cyrenians Befriend a Child	Number of people (locality and vulnerable group) employed or volunteering in	LOIP 10 Year Outcome: Increase proportion of people from SIMD 1 who feel they have influence and

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)
			ACVO Jesus House King's Community Foundation	growth sectors	sense of control by 10% LOIP System Change: A Community-led System for Sustainable Neighbourhoods
Strengthen communication with our communities through updated noticeboards, more community websites and you said, we did updates	Universal	Across the South Locality	Connect Torry SHMU Aberdeen Cyrenians Torry Community Council Connected Torry Cults, Bielside, and Miltimber Community Council	% of people who are aware of Locality Planning % of people who know where to find information about what is happening	
Set up forums to facilitate community conversations between New Scots, asylum seekers, refugees and local people	Universal	Garthdee, Ferryhill, Torry	Church of Scotland King's Community Foundation SHMU Community Cohesion Network	Number of equality groups represented and directly engaged in policy decision making processes	
Support Communities to host Community Galas	Universal	Torry and Kincorth	Torry Health Matters Kincorth Community Council Torry Dancers Social Juice Friends of St. Fitticks Park Balnagask Community Centre Touch of Love Church of Scotland Balnagask Community Centre Jesus House Ruthrieston Community Centre King's Community Foundation SHMU	Number of neighbourhood-level services co-produced with communities	
Tenant feedback loops supported by Locality Partnerships and Tenant and Resident Groups	Targeted	Across the South Locality	Aberdeen City Tenant and Resident Partnership Locality Planning Team	Number of tenant feedback actions addressed	

Get Involved!

The South Locality Empowerment Group and the Torry Priority Neighbourhood Partnership are two ways we connect with our local communities in the South Locality. As a member of a Locality Empowerment Group or the Priority Neighbourhood Partnership you will be able to provide a voice on behalf of the people and communities across your neighbourhood.

What's in it for you?

Our existing community representatives had this to say about what they get from participating:

- Staying physically and mentally active
- Learning new skills and gaining confidence
- Receiving support from staff
- Building stronger sense of community and improving their neighbourhood
- Making new connections with like-minded people
- Participating in social events and local projects
- Increasing trust in communities
- Strengthen local knowledge and sharing

Use the *Wishing Wand* to bring your idea to life!



Have an idea that could make a difference in your community? We'd love to hear it. The Locality Planning Team is here to help you develop your idea and explore ways to bring it to life, from partners. Whether your idea is fully formed or just starting out, we'll support you to take the next step.

Small wishes can grow into real projects. [click here](#) to share your idea and help bring Locality Plan priorities to life!

Your South Locality Planning Team

We understand the importance of working with communities to build a thriving environment for everyone. By engaging with local communities through our dedicated Locality Planning team, we aim to become more receptive, supportive and action oriented. Community input is extremely valuable to this work. The Locality Planning Team includes staff from Aberdeen City Council and the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care partnership working together to support improved outcome across all our localities and neighbourhoods. In the South Locality your locality planning contacts are Emma and Teresa.

Emma Dobson

Health Improvement Officer
Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partners
Tel. 01224 045990

Teresa Dufficy

Community Development Officer
Aberdeen City Council
Tel. 01224 069477



Stay Updated!



Join the Journey!

There are a number of ways to stay updated on what is going on in your neighbourhood. You can find out more, including our performance data on our Community Planning Aberdeen [website](#) here you will find:

- How we report back on our progress
- How to get involved in your next local community meeting
- Minutes of previous meetings
- Annual Reports
- Information and support around getting involved and making a difference to your local community

You can find out what's on your local area by visiting the ACVO [Events Calendar](#) or on Facebook by clicking [here](#)!

Interested in finding out more? Our Locality Planning Team are happy to help! contact us on:

Localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk



Supporting Information

Not every idea could be included, and here's why:

- Some improvements are already happening—we'll let services know if people weren't aware.
- Ideas outside locality planning's remit were shared with the right teams, like citywide plans or education services.
- Others couldn't progress yet due to limits on budget, time or resources, or they would impact on other plans for the City

Every idea matters - Even if something couldn't be included this time, your input helps shape priorities and conversations for the future.

Local Place Plans – these are different to locality plans!

[Local Place Plans](#) give communities a say in shaping where they live, work, and play. Introduced by planning legislation, they let communities create their own plans to influence the next Local Development Plan. These plans set out local ideas and aspirations for how *land* is used and developed—and they're created by the community, for the community.

It's important to us that everyone's voice is heard—including our young people. Through the **Aberdeen Youth Movement**, their ideas are not only reflected in the locality plan, but they're also helping to drive real change across our city. Want to find out more? Check out their [Linktree](#)!

