

Dear Member

South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Board

You are requested to attend a meeting of the above Board to be held as follows:-

Date: **Wednesday, 03 March 2021**

Time: **13:00**

Venue: **By Microsoft Teams,**

The business to be considered at the meeting is listed overleaf.

Members

Councillor Maureen Chalmers

Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive

Paul Manning, Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources

Rhonda Leith, Community Engagement Manager, Finance and Corporate Resources

Heather Knox, Chief Executive, **NHS Lanarkshire**

Neena Mahal, Chair, **NHS Lanarkshire Board**

Gabe Docherty, Director of Public Health, **NHS Lanarkshire**

John Binning, Principal Policy Officer, **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport**

Alan Fairbairn, Area Manager, **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**

Alan Waddell, Chief Superintendent, **Police Scotland**

Val de Souza, Director, **Health and Social Care Partnership**

Philip Campbell, Non Executive Board Member, **Health and Social Care Partnership**

Steven Sweeney, Chief Executive, **VASLan**

Mark Newlands, Head of Partnerships, **Scottish Enterprise**

Clare Hicks, Local Director for South Lanarkshire, **Scottish Government**

Hazel Mathieson, Head of Region, South West, **Skills Development Scotland**

Elizabeth O'Reilly, Head of Campus Services, **University of the West of Scotland**

Gillian Cay, Head of Partnerships, **Scottish Enterprise**

BUSINESS

- 1 Declaration of Interests**
- 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting** 5 - 10
Minute of the meeting of the Partnership Board held on 2 December 2020 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached)
-

Monitoring Item(s)

- 3 Community Planning Budget and Expenditure** 11 - 14
Report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
-

Item(s) for Decision

- 4 Community Planning Partnership Risk Register Update** 15 - 22
Report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 5 Local Community Plans** 23 - 32
Report dated 3 February 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 6 Corporate Parenting Partnership Board** 33 - 40
Joint report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Education Resources), South Lanarkshire Council and the Director, Health and Social Care, South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership. (Copy attached)
- 7 Community Planning Review Progress Update** 41 - 64
Report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 8 Challenging Mental Health Stigma and Discrimination** 65 - 68
Report dated 3 February 2021 by the Mental Health Improvement Development Manager and the Head of Health Improvement, NHS Lanarkshire. (Copy attached)

Item(s) for Noting

- 9 Lived Experience Fund Applications 2020-2021** 69 - 72
Report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)
- 10 Community Planning Board Development Session - Planning for Place Update** 73 - 76
Report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)

11 Children's Services Plan Update on Planning and Governance	77 - 118
Joint report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Education Resources), South Lanarkshire Council and the Director, Health and Social Care, South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership. (Copy attached)	
12 COVID-19 Supporting households	119 - 126
Report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)	
13 South Lanarkshire Register of Information	127 - 132
Report dated 3 February 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council. (Copy attached)	

Any Other Competent Business

14 Urgent Business

Any other items of business which the Chair decides are urgent.

For further information, please contact:-

Clerk Name: Hilary Tennant

Clerk Telephone: 01698 454185

Clerk Email: hilary.tennant@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Note of meeting held by Microsoft Teams on 2 December 2020

Chair:

Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Depute Leader, South Lanarkshire Council

Partners Present:

S Baxter, Independent Chair, South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee
 D Booth, General Manager, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture
 B Cameron, Area Manager, Skills Development Scotland
 K Colvan, Youth Employability and Partnership Planning Manager, South Lanarkshire Council
 A Comrie, Senior Transport Planner, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
 T Correia, Partnership Manager, Scottish Enterprise
 C Duffin, Operations and Strategic Manager, VASLan
 C Hicks, Local Director for South Lanarkshire, Scottish Government
 R Leith, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council
 N Mahal, Chair, NHS Lanarkshire Board
 G McCreadie, Superintendent, Police Scotland
 A McKenna, Group Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 A Murray, Community Planning and Governance Adviser, South Lanarkshire Council
 E O'Reilly, Head of Campus, University of the West of Scotland
 E Paterson, Community Planning and Governance Officer, South Lanarkshire Council
 L Purdie, Chief Social Worker, South Lanarkshire Council
 H Tennant, Administration Officer, Finance and Corporate Resources, South Lanarkshire Council

Apologies:

J Binning, Principal Policy Officer, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
 P Campbell, Non-Executive Board Member, NHS Lanarkshire
 V de Souza, Director, Health and Social Care, South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership
 G Docherty, Interim Director of Public Health, NHS Lanarkshire
 A Fairbairn, Local Senior Officer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 H Knox, Chief Executive, NHS Lanarkshire
 H Mathieson, Head of Region, South West, Skills Development Scotland
 P Manning, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), South Lanarkshire Council
 M Newlands, Head of Partnerships, Scottish Enterprise
 C Sneddon, Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council
 A Waddell, Chief Superintendent, Police Scotland

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Note of Previous Meeting

The note of the meeting of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Board held on 21 October 2020 was submitted for approval as a correct record.

Outcome(s): Note of meeting approved as a correct record.

3 Community Planning Budget and Expenditure Report (to 2 October 2020 – Period 7)

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) budget and expenditure at 2 October 2020 (period 7).

The CPP budget for 2020/2021 was £67,883 and total expenditure as at 2 October 2020 (period 7) was £23,797.50, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report. Details of further committed expenditure for 2020/2021, totalling £35,670, was provided in the report. Arrangements to carry forward salary costs of £19,670 into 2021/2022 had been agreed.

An update on the CCP budget 2020/2021 would be provided at the next Board meeting.

Outcome(s): Noted.

4 Community Planning Partnership Risk Register Update

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the Community Planning Partnership Risk Register.

A summary of Community Planning Partnership risks, and progress to deliver a Risk Control Plan, was provided in the report, and in Appendix 1 to the report.

A review of target completion dates for some actions had been required in light of the impact of COVID-19 on service delivery. A revised timetable of target completion dates would be presented for approval at the next Board meeting, at which time the Board would also receive the Annual Risk Update Report.

During discussion regarding Board membership, Partners were requested to advise the Community Engagement Manager, by 31 December 2020, of their organisation's nominated representative to serve on the Board.

Outcome(s):

- (1) Summary of Community Planning Partnership risks noted.
- (2) Progress in the delivery of the action plan noted.
- (3) Partners to advise Community Engagement Manager, by 31 December 2020, of their organisation's nominated representative to serve on the Board.
- (4) Agreed that, due to the impact of COVID-19 on delivery, existing target completion dates be reviewed.

5 Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session Proposal

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing a proposed outline for the development session scheduled for 21 April 2021.

On 9 September 2020, the Community Planning Partnership Board agreed that arrangements be made to hold development sessions on 21 April and 20 October 2021.

In light of the Scottish Government elections due to be held on 6 May 2021, it was considered that an alternative date for the first development session in April 2021 be identified. Details of the revised date would be circulated to the Board following this meeting.

The proposed theme for the first development session was ‘Planning for Place’. As the Partnership moved to a more place-based approach to community planning, this theme provided an opportunity for the Board to consider recent legislation, policy and new developments around ‘Planning for Place’ and how those should influence local planning.

A Partnership place-based approach presented opportunities for joint planning, resourcing and delivery of outcomes which firmly put communities at the heart of planning. The following 4 key areas were suggested as presentation topics:-

- ◆ Community Wealth Building and Economic Recovery
- ◆ 20 Minute Neighbourhoods
- ◆ Community Planning and Spatial Planning
- ◆ Town Centre Action Planning

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Proposed outline for the development session approved.
 - (2) Community Planning Progress Group to progress arrangements as detailed in the report.
 - (3) Agreed that details of a revised date for first development session be circulated to the Board.

6 Employability Supports for Care Experienced Children

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted providing an update on:-

- ◆ employability support currently in place for care experienced young people
- ◆ the ambition to further develop and improve provision

Details were provided on several employability programmes for care experienced young people. Further information on the ASPIRE Council-wide employability pilot programme, facilitated by Skills Development Scotland and the Youth Employability Service within Education Resources, was provided in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Youth Employability Service had provided support to employers to help identify employment and training opportunities within their organisations. The need for a workplace mentor and keyworker support for young people was highlighted. Co-ordination of the keyworker support would be led by the Care Experienced Employability Tracking Group.

Community Planning Partnership Partners were now requested to give a commitment and support to use their role as employers, to provide a range of supported work experience, training and employment opportunities for care experienced young people, as outlined in the report.

Members of the Board indicated their willingness to support this ambition and would work to identify opportunities within their organisations to provide employment, training or volunteering opportunities.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Developments in provision of employability support for care experienced young people noted.
 - (2) Board members' commitment to support the creation of employment and work experience opportunities for care experienced young people noted.
 - (3) Development of a short-term working group to progress provision agreed.
 - (4) Short-term working group would engage with partners to identify opportunities for young people.

K Colvan left the meeting following consideration of this item

7 Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019

A joint report dated 4 November 2020 by the Director, Health and Social Care Partnership and Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the implementation of the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019 and the implications for the South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee (SLCPC).

On 7 November 2020, the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019 became law in Scotland, providing children in Scotland the same protection against assault as adults. Practitioner guidance and briefings would require to be developed to provide key information for the workforce.

Public information campaigns would be funded by the Scottish Government and training costs would be met by SLCPC.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) Implementation of the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019 noted.
 - (2) Continued work of the South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee to progress key activities noted.

8 South Lanarkshire Adult Protection Committee Biennial Report 2018 to 2020

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Director, Health and Social Care Partnership was submitted providing an update on the South Lanarkshire Adult Protection Committee (SLAPC) Biennial Report 2018 to 2020.

The SLAPC Biennial Report 2018 to 2020, attached as an appendix to the report, provided information on work completed over the last 2 years and planned future developments.

The SLAPC Business Plan detailed the work undertaken by SLAPC in relation to:-

- ◆ continuous improvement
- ◆ policies, procedures and protocols
- ◆ public protection
- ◆ key performance statistics
- ◆ source of referrals
- ◆ location of, and type of, harm

Details were provided on the main challenges faced by the SLAPC and the continued commitment to focus on improved outcomes.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) South Lanarkshire Adult Protection Committee Biennial Report 2018 to 2020 noted.
 - (2) Work of the South Lanarkshire Adult Protection Committee to progress activity in relation to the Business Plan and Self Evaluation Strategy noted.

9 South Lanarkshire's State of the Environment Report

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the completion and contents of South Lanarkshire's State of the Environment Report 2019 which had been approved by the Council's Executive Committee.

South Lanarkshire's State of the Environment Report held the data used to monitor and report on Council activity against 57 key environmental indicators. The Report had been prepared using data from across the Council, partner agencies and government bodies. The findings of the State of the Environment Report, detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, showed that:-

- ◆ 24 indicators had a 'Good' rating, with 15 of those showing improvement and 9 unchanged
- ◆ 23 indicators had a 'Fair' rating, with 12 of those showing improvement and 9 unchanged
- ◆ 8 indicators had a 'Poor' rating, with 6 of those showing improvement and 2 unchanged

The State of the Environment Report 2019 had been uploaded to Glow, the digital platform used by all South Lanarkshire Council's schools, to be used as a teaching resource.

An analysis of changes in the status and trend for each indicator between the 2011 and 2019 State of the Environment Reports was provided in Appendix 2 to the report.

- Outcome(s):**
- (1) South Lanarkshire's State of the Environment Report 2019 noted.
 - (2) Dissemination of South Lanarkshire's State of the Environment Report 2019 across partners to inform policy and process, and their Strategic Environmental Assessment, noted.

10 South Lanarkshire Register of Information

A report dated 4 November 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing a summary of information which had been circulated to Community Planning Partners between 23 September and 3 November 2020, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

- Outcome(s):** Noted.

11 Any Other Competent Business

There were no other items of competent business.

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Planning Budget and Expenditure (to 1 January 2021 – Period 10)
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with an update on the Community Planning Partnership Budget and Expenditure as at 1 January 2021 (Period 10).

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation:-

- (1) that the content of the report be noted.

3. Background

3.1. Details of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Budget and expenditure are reported to every Partnership Board meeting. This provides the Partners with an opportunity to seek clarification on the budget and sums spent during the relevant period.

4. Budget and Expenditure

4.1. The total available budget for 2020-21 is £67,883.

4.2. The actual expenditure at the end of Period 10 is £23,918.48 with a further £34,670.00 committed to Community Plan Delivery and £1,000 for a BSL film. Combined this brings the total expenditure to £59,588.48. Appendix 1 provides a breakdown.

5. Income and Expenditure during 2020-21

5.1. Specific spend within this period relates to printing costs.

5.2. A further update will be provided at the Partnership Board on 24 June 2021.

6. Employee Implications

6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or Consultation implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Rhonda Leith, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council

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Community Planning Budget 2020-21			
<u>Opening Balance April 2020</u>		£19,533	
Income			
Partner Contribution		Budget	Actual to Date
NHS Lanarkshire		18,350	18,350
South Lanarkshire Council		22,000	22,000
Police Scotland		5,000	5,000
Fire Scotland		3,000	3,000
Total Income		£48,350	£48,350
Total available funding		£67,883	£67,883
Proposed Expenditure		Proposed Expenditure	Expenditure
Community Plan Delivery		*58,000	57,991
Printing/Stationery/Advertising/General		1,800	478.69
Reports, Strategies and Plans		**1,500	1,118.79
Lived Experience Fund		5,000	0.00
Travel		283	0.00
Community Planning Events		1,300	0.00
Total Expenditure (including committed exp)		£67,883	£59,588.48

*Includes committed expenditure of £19,670 for the second salary instalment; £15,000 for community participation and engagement; and **£1,000 for a BSL film. A small adjustment has been made to the proposed expenditure lines between Community Planning Events and Delivery to account for the revised salary cost.

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject: **Community Planning Partnership Risk Register Update**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Present the updated risk register to the Community Planning Partnership Board.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the summary of Community Planning Partnership risks be noted;
- (2) that progress in the delivery of the action plan be noted; and
- (3) that the Board agree to the revised target completion dates in view of the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. Background

3.1. A Community Planning Partnership risk register and risk control plan is maintained to formally record, assess and aid management of strategic risks faced by the Partnership.

3.2. On 11 September 2019, the Partnership Board approved the process to review the risk register and noted progress with the implementation of actions to mitigate risks. A risk workshop was subsequently held on 5 December 2019 to discuss and review the feedback received and to consider proposed amendments to the risk register.

3.3. Earlier in 2019, a separate risk workshop had been held to identify the risks posed by Brexit which could potentially affect the delivery of the Community Plan. The outcome of this workshop was reported to the Partnership Board on 28 February 2019.

3.4. At the Partnership Board on 12 February 2020, it was agreed that a report on the monitoring of the risk register and risk control plan be a standard agenda item at the Partnership Board meetings. This was followed by approval at the Partnership Board on 1 July 2020 that the Community Planning Progress Group be tasked with completing the draft COVID-19 Pandemic Risk Card.

4. Risk Register

4.1. Following approval of the Risk cards at the Partnership Board on 2 October 2020, the Community Planning Partnership risks are summarised in the table below:-

Risk Category	Key risk	Inherent Risk Score	Residual Risk Score
1 Very High (15-25)	Partners are required to redirect their resources to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. This may result in less support being available to those who are experiencing disadvantage or poverty. This could also lead to the partnership not being able to deliver outcomes within the Community Plan. Risk Number: CPP/2020/002	25	20
	The UK leaving the EU could adversely impact on partner organisations delivery of the Community Plan and those who depend on the services provided. Risk Number: CPP/2020/001	20	16
2 High (8-12)	Failure to have the appropriate structures in place to deliver the outcomes of the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans efficiently and effectively. Risk Number: CPP/2018/008	16	9
	Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2017-2027. Risk Number: CPP/2018/001	20	8
3 Low/Medium (1-7)	Failure to share data/information between partners to deliver the outcomes of the Community Plan. Risk Number: CPP/2018/006	16	6
	Ineffective engagement with communities. Risk Number: CPP/2018/002	20	4
	Differing partner priorities. Risk Number: CPP/2018/004	20	4
	Failure to meet sustainable development principles. Risk Number: CPP/2018/003	12	4

- 4.2. In relation to BREXIT, the UK left the EU on 31 December 2020. A trade deal has been agreed and arrangements are in place for imports and exports. However, there may be longer term impacts which could affect some of the Partnership's risk areas. Given that the deal has only just been agreed, the Partnership will closely monitor developments, reviewing information and guidance from the Scottish and UK Governments with the support from the Council's Risk Management Team, taking action as and when required. Areas of risk identified by partners included issues relating to Procurement and Trade; Finance and Funding; Local communities and economies; and workforce. Following review the key risk residual score has been amended from 20 to 16.

- 4.3. A summary of progress in the delivery of the Risk Control Plan is noted below and additional information can be found in Appendix 1. Of the 14 actions contained in the plan:-

Status	Summary
Complete	Seven actions that were delayed as a result of COVID-19 are now complete.
On target	Two actions that were delayed as a result of COVID-19 are currently deemed to be on target to deliver within the timescale set.
Not started	One action relating to the Board having a clearer understanding of resourcing community planning initiatives has not been started and is on hold as a result of the Board's planned work on structures over the next few months.
Minor slippage	There has been minor slippage for no actions .
Major slippage	Due to COVID-19, targets will not be met for three actions which all link to the new Community Plan and completion of Phase 2 of the CPP structure. While progress can and will still be made, this may be slower than expected and the revised dates will allow for this to be acknowledged whilst still providing a level of challenge and oversight to ensure that actions are progressed where possible. One action relates to agreement of the members of the CPP Board.

- 4.4. At the meeting on 2 December 2020, the Board agreed to a review of some of the target delivery dates in recognition of the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on service delivery. Of the 14 actions to be delivered during 2020-21, it is proposed that the dates for three actions are extended. More information can be found in Appendix 1. These are:-

- ◆ Review of CPP Structures;
- ◆ Review of Governance and Accountability arrangements; and
- ◆ Review of the Community Planning Website.

5. Monitoring and reporting arrangements

- 5.1. The Community Planning Progress Group will continue to progress actions and monitor and review the Risk Register and Risk Control Plan. The COVID-19 Pandemic and BREXIT risk cards will be reviewed every six months and all cards will be reviewed annually.
- 5.2. Any changes to the Risk cards will be presented to the Board for approval. Following the annual review of the Risk cards, the Board will also receive an Annual Risk Update Report.
- 5.3. The next planned review of the full CPP Risk Register and Control Plan will take place during April 2021.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. Failure to demonstrate that risk is actively considered and managed could adversely affect the delivery of the Community Plan and could affect the reputation of the Community Planning Partnership. The work undertaken to identify and review the Community Planning Partnership's strategic risks and to determine the risk controls and actions necessary enabled the Community Planning Partnership to manage the impact.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or consultation arrangement implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Rhonda Leith, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council

Phone: 01698 455783

Email: rhonda.leith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Community Planning Partnership – Risk Control Plan

Status update key: Not started Complete On target Minor slippage Major slippage/Failed to meet target

Key Risk	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
Failure to achieve the outcomes of the Community Plan 2017-2027	Review of CPP Structures	Community Engagement Manager	31/03/21		All Thematic Groups have responded positively to the structure proposals. A draft terms of reference has been developed for consideration by the Board. If approved, Phase 1 of the structure review (the interim structure) will be implemented by 31 March 2021. Phase 2 of the structure proposal will follow when the priorities for the new Community Plan have been developed to ensure that the structure is aligned with delivery of the Plan. Development sessions have taken place with local groups in the Cambuslang/Rutherglen and Clydesdale areas in preparation for the development of the Locality Planning structures in these areas. Work to develop the new plan has started and an initial three month consultation period is planned. It is proposed that the target completion date for delivery of Phase 2 should be changed to 31/03/22.
	Review of governance and accountability arrangements	Community Engagement Manager			This work is aligned to the development of the new structures and is progressing with some actions already implemented. A terms of reference has been developed for the Community Engagement and Participation Group and for the Outcomes Leads. It is therefore proposed that the target date should be changed to 31/03/22.
	SLC Public Relations team to update the CPP communications plan for 2020-21 with input from the CPP Board and implement throughout the year with support from partner communications teams.	Head of Corporate Communications, South Lanarkshire Council	31/03/21		The Partnership Communications Group has updated the Communications Plan and has started work on a delivery plan. This action has been changed to complete as the structure is in place to ensure delivery of the Communications Plan.
Ineffective engagement	CPP Participation and Engagement Strategy to be developed	Community Engagement Manager	30/06/20		This action is now complete. The year one actions were remitted to the Community Planning Progress Group and

Key Risk	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
with communities					have been delegated to the Partnership Community Participation and Engagement Group for implementation.
	Review CPP participation and engagement structures and update the Community Engagement Framework	Community Engagement Manager	31/03/21		The first meeting of the group has taken place and work has started to implement the actions agreed by the Board. This action has been changed to complete as the structure is in place to ensure delivery of the agreed actions.
	Co-produce and publish the first Neighbourhood Planning Annual Reports for the three pilot areas	Community Engagement Manager	30/09/20		The first Neighbourhood Planning Annual reports were considered by the Board on 9 September 2020 and were published by the statutory timescale of 30 September 2020.
	Co-produce and publish Neighbourhood Plans for the priority areas of Fairhill, Hamilton; Burnhill, Rutherglen; and Halfway, Westburn; and the Circuit, Cambuslang	Community Engagement Manager	30/04/20		The Board considered the Burnhill and Cambuslang East plans on 9 September 2020 and these have now been distributed to the community. The Fairhill community has now finalised the content and design of their plan.
	Establish a structure to deliver local community participation and capacity building	Community Engagement Manager	31/03/21		Officers have been identified for the partnership structure which will deliver local community participation and capacity building and the first meeting of the group has been arranged. A number of actions agreed by the Board have been remitted to this group for implementation.
	Establish a structure to align the Board with Neighbourhood Planning activity in priority areas	Community Engagement Manager	31/03/21		To establish the new locality structures development sessions with Community Organisations in the areas of Clydesdale and Cambuslang and Rutherglen have taken place. There is no proposed change to the implementation date for the first two locality structures however it should be noted that the completion date will be determined by the communities themselves.
	Review Community Planning website	Community Planning and Governance Adviser	31/03/21	20	A specification and engagement plan has been developed for the website. The final structure for the website aligns to Phase 2 of the structure review and therefore it is proposed that the target completion date for delivery of Phase 2 should be changed to 31/03/22 however planned changes to the website will continue as directed through the Community Engagement and Participation Group. Work continues to test CONSUL which is a platform for community participation to engage

Key Risk	Action	Responsible person	Target completion date	Status update	Comments
					with the Whitehill Community in the development of their Neighbourhood Plan. The community plan to start their consultation in Spring 2021.
Differing partner priorities	Develop a process to ensure that the Board has clearer oversight of the resourcing of community planning initiatives (resource pooling is a requirement of the Community Empowerment Act – extract from SLC BVAR report April 2019)	Community Engagement Manager	31/03/22		This action is on hold and pending completion of the review of structures and has therefore been revised to 31/03/22.
Failure to have the appropriate structures in place to deliver the outcomes of the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans efficiently and effectively	Review membership of CPP Board to ensure that it is inclusive and representative of all partners	Community Engagement Manager	31/03/20		At the meeting on 9 September 2020, the Board agreed the proposals for a set number of places to be allocated to each partner. It was also agreed that NHS Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire Council also review their current membership and report back to the Board. At the meeting on 2 December 2020, the Board agreed that partners should confirm their Board members by 31 December 2020.
	Establish a structure to align the Board with Neighbourhood Planning activity in priority areas	Community Engagement Manager	31/03/21		To establish the new locality structures development sessions with Community Organisations in the areas of Clydesdale and Cambuslang and Rutherglen have taken place. There is no proposed change to the implementation date for the first two locality structures however it should be noted that the completion date will be determined by the communities themselves.
	Establish a structure to deliver local community participation and capacity building	Community Engagement Manager	31/03/21		Officers have been identified for the partnership structure which will deliver local community participation and capacity building and the first meeting of the group has been arranged. A number of actions agreed by the Board have been remitted to this group for implementation.

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Local Community Plans
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Provide the Partnership Board with an update on local community plans.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) That progress regarding the development of the new Neighbourhood Plans be noted;
- (2) That the forward work plan for developing new Neighbourhood Plans be approved; and
- (3) That the list of communities which have developed/are currently developing plans be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 places a statutory duty on Community Planning Partnerships (CPP) to identify smaller areas within the local authority area which experience the poorest outcomes and to prepare and publish locality plans to improve outcomes on agreed priorities for these communities. These plans are required to set out clear priorities for improving local outcomes and tackling inequalities which are agreed by the CPP and community.
- 3.2. The guidance makes it clear that participation with communities must lie at the heart of community planning and that the partners must engage with the communities identified as requiring specific attention and be more than just consultation but involve active engagement and empowerment.
- 3.3. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act stated that each CPP should have its mandatory locality plan(s) in place and signed off for 1 October 2017. At the meeting of the Board on 14 July 2017, it considered the results of a statistical exercise undertaken at a datazone level to identify the areas experiencing the poorest outcomes in South Lanarkshire relative to the South Lanarkshire average position which resulted in areas within 9 of the Council's 20 wards as being potential neighbourhood planning areas.
- 3.4. At its meeting of 11 October 2017, the Board agreed to pilot the use of neighbourhood planning activity in South Lanarkshire and recognised that this

approach required a longer investment of time within communities to engage and involve people and produce plans.

- 3.5. This report sets out an update on the new local community plans that are being developed and the forward programme for 2021/2023.

4. Progress to Date

- 4.1. Three neighbourhood plans were produced for publication in January 2019, covering phase 1 communities. Annual reports were produced detailing year one progress on these in September 2020.

Neighbourhood Planning Wards	Communities Involved
Ward 11 – Rutherglen South Ward 13 – Cambuslang West	Springhall and Whitlawburn
Ward 17 – Hamilton North and East Ward 18 – Hamilton West and Earnock	Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank
Ward 20 - Larkhall	Strutherhill and Birkenshaw

- 4.2. Learning from the phase 1 areas included the recognition that each area is individual in its capacity and the priorities which it identifies, and that the work which is carried out in neighbourhoods as a result must be individualised. In addition, the neighbourhood planning work should strengthen and empower the community within the neighbourhood, developing their capacity to both engage with potential delivery services and to create and deliver upon their own priorities where this is appropriate.
- 4.3. In September 2019, the Board agreed that the neighbourhood planning processes should be rolled out to the following communities:-

Neighbourhood Planning Wards	Priority Communities
Ward 12 – Rutherglen Central and North	Burnhill
Ward 14 – Cambuslang East	Halfway, Westburn, Circuit
Ward 15 – Blantyre	Auchinraith, Blantyre, High Blantyre, Springwells
Ward 19 – Hamilton South	Fairhill

Burnhill, Cambuslang East and Fairhill plans were produced in April 2020. A plan for Blantyre had already been produced by the community alongside Coalfields Regeneration Trust and work there has centred on supporting this.

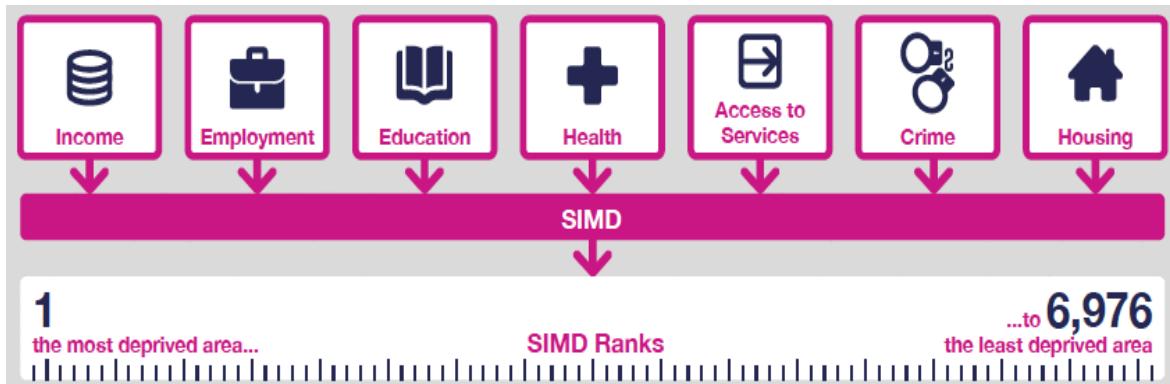
- 4.4. In addition to the work supported directly through the process above, many other communities have identified their own local priorities and produced plans which address these in similar ways to Blantyre. Many of the Clydesdale communities, for example, have worked with consultants to produce their own plans. Westwood in East Kilbride has worked closely with Community Engagement staff to deliver their own planning process with advice and support from the team. A list of all existing plans is attached to this report at Appendix 1.

5. Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

- 5.1. The SIMD is the tool that is used to identify which areas the partnership should target to develop neighbourhood plans with a view to improving outcomes as is required by the Community Empowerment Act. SIMD helps to identify the places where people are experiencing disadvantage across different aspects of their lives. When

considering the SIMD it is also important to link this to local knowledge and data about the area; and to be aware that the rank of an area is relative to levels of deprivation across the rest of Scotland. Areas are ranked against seven main themes which are shown in diagram 1 below; 1 being the most deprived area in Scotland and 6,976 being the least deprived. These are often further described as percentages with 5% being in the most deprived areas in South Lanarkshire. The focus of the work of the partnership to date has been on the areas classed as 20% or lower.

Diagram 1 - SIMD Domains



- 5.2. When using the SIMD information, it is important to bear in mind that households will have very different circumstances and differing experiences and perceptions of where they live. Focusing on the strengths and assets of our communities is also important if we are to work together to make South Lanarkshire a fairer and more inclusive place to live, and this is the approach which we take locally when identifying priorities with communities.
- 5.3. The SIMD is updated every four years and was last published in 2020. This information has been used to identify the areas where neighbourhood planning work should be undertaken during 2021/2023. The previous list of areas focussed on the Hamilton and Cambuslang/Rutherglen areas. The most recent list considers areas of deprivation across South Lanarkshire. It also digs deeper into the data to understand the reasons for deprivation in particular datazones and where there are small pockets of deprivation which would be too small to develop a stand-alone local community plan. Where these exist, the new locality planning structures which are in development through the CPP will have a key role to play in identifying approaches to address them.

6. Future Work Plan

- 6.1. Throughout 2020/2021, work has been progressing in new plans as agreed by the Partnership for Whitehill, Fernhill and several areas within Ward 19 in Hamilton. Due to the constraints of the pandemic, this work has progressed at a slower rate than previous plans. This is to ensure that the plans are developed with the community at the forefront and that enough of the community have been involved in their development to make sure that they are truly representative. Alongside the engagement work to develop the new Council and Community Plan and the development of locality planning structures with communities, it is proposed that the work in these areas continues throughout 2021/2022 to develop robust and community led plans for the areas.
- 6.2. Use has been made of the data from the SIMD 2020 to identify where there are larger areas facing inequality of outcome which have not yet been involved in a planning process. These include some areas in East Kilbride, as well as Lanark, and

Rutherglen Central. It is proposed that neighbourhood planning approaches are rolled out in these areas in 2022/2023 along with continued work with the locality planning groups to develop support to the smaller pockets in their communities.

- 6.3. The areas proposed for neighbourhood planning in the next two years, therefore, are as show in the table below:-

Neighbourhood Planning Wards 2021/22	Priority Communities
Ward 11 – Rutherglen South	Fernhill
Ward 17 – Hamilton North and East	Whitehill
Ward 19 – Hamilton South	Eddlewood, Cadzow, Laighstonehall, Arden, The Glebe, The Bent
Neighbourhood Planning Wards 2022/23	Priority Communities
Ward 12 – Rutherglen Central and North	Rutherglen Central and North
Ward 6 - East Kilbride South	Greenhills, Whitehills, Crosshouse
Ward 2 – Clydesdale North	Lanark

- 6.4 While the CPP will continue to provide intensive capacity building support within these communities in response to the legislated requirement to address inequalities, the aspiration of the partnership is that all communities within South Lanarkshire will lead on identifying their own priorities and in actioning these priorities in appropriate ways. A range of support and guidance is available for this including access to a toolkit and suggested methodologies which communities can lift “off the shelf” to make use of, and advice and training (at present online). For example, Westwood in East Kilbride has already made use of these resources to develop their own plan. Other communities, particularly in the Clydesdale area, have accessed support available through LEADER or other funding, or through national organisations, to develop their own priorities and again, these are shown in Appendix 1.
- 6.5 Local priorities identified by communities will continue to inform the development of the new CPP locality partnerships and priorities at intermediate level, and along with an in-depth programme of further engagement, the strategic priorities for the new Community and Council Plans which will be developed during 2021. Therefore, there is a real opportunity for all communities to take part in their own engagement exercises to identify their local priorities and ensure that these are reflected within the strategic priorities, and support will be provided to community leaders as detailed above to enable them to do so.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required. Consultation on neighbourhood plans are carried out on an ongoing basis with each community involved in the process.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information:

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Current Plans

Title	Date	Town/Village	Area	Link to current plan where available
Blantyre Community Action Plan	2019-2024	Blantyre	Blantyre Area	https://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Blantyre-Community-Action-Plan-2019-2024.pdf
Our Place, Our Plan, Burnhill	2020	Burnhill, Rutherglen	Cambuslang/Rutherglen Area	https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/downloads/file/262/burnhill_neighbourhood_plan_2020-2021
Our Place, Our Plan, Cambuslang East	2020	Halfway, Circuit and Westburn (whole of Ward 14),	Cambuslang/Rutherglen Area	https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/downloads/file/263/cambuslang_east_neighbourhood_plan_2020-2021
ONE Carluke Plan	2020	Carluke	Clydesdale Area	 ONECarluke C19 Action Plan.pdf
Our Place, Our Plan Springhall and Whitlawburn	2019-2029	Springhall and Whitlawburn	Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area	https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/downloads/file/131/springhall_and_whitlawburn_neighbourhood_plan_jan-dec_2019
Carstairs Junction Community Action Plan	2020-2025	Carstairs	Clydesdale Area	https://www.communityactionlan.org/files/CAL/Carstairs_Junction/CJCAPFINAL.pdf
Forth and District Community Action Plan (Coalfields Community Futures)	2015-2020	Forth and District	Clydesdale Area	https://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Forth-Community-Action-Plan-2015-2020.pdf
Lesmahagow Community Action Plan (Community Action Lanarkshire)	2019 - 2024	Lesmahagow	Clydesdale Area	https://www.communityactionlan.org/files/CAL/LesmahagowCommunityLedActionPlanFINAL.pdf
Woolfords, Auchengray and Tarbrax Improvement Foundation Community Action Plan	2018-2023	Woolfords, Auchengray and Tarbrax	Clydesdale Area	http://www.watif.scot/uploads/3/4/8/6/34865641/wat_if_cap_2018 - 2023_web_friendly_.pdf
Kirkfieldbank Community Action Plan	2020-2025	Kirkfieldbank	Clydesdale Area	https://www.communityactionlan.org/files/KFBActionPlan(11_12_2020)Final.pdf

Title	Date	Town/Village	Area	Link to current plan where available
Rigside and Douglas Water Community Action Plan	2018-2023	Rigside and Douglas Water	Clydesdale Area	 RigsideandDouglas WaterCommunityAc
Sandford and Upper Avondale Community Action Plan	2020	Sandford	East Kilbride Area	https://www.communityactionlan.org/files/CAL/Sandford/SANDFORDANDAVONDALECommunityPlan-compressed.pdf
Our Place, Our Plan, Westwood	2020-2021	Westwood	East Kilbride Area	Not available to download online (PDF attached)  FCOR_Can Do OPOP Neighbourho
Our Place, Our Plan, Fairhill	2020-2021	Fairhill	Hamilton Area	https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/downloads/file/292/fairhill_neighbourhood_planning_annual_progress_report_2020-2021
Our Place, Our Plan, Hillhouse. Udston and Burnbank	2019-2029	Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank	Hamilton Area	https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/downloads/file/130/hillhouse_udston_and_burnbank_neighbourhood_plan_jan-dec_2019
Larkhall Community Plan	2020	Larkhall	Larkhall Area	https://9b023211-6aa7-416e-888b-09c0750c9964.filesusr.com/ugd/f38ce0_ac7f3bd4f79d401695e745e9a563512f.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0fjBzcOGe7Llo7HqxP2W_FUTZcV3gSIDXQ6oQMfdgwt4zheZavu7c-nmY
Our Place, Our Plan, Strutherhill and Birkenshaw	2019-2029	Strutherhill and Birkenshaw	Larkhall Area	https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/cp/downloads/file/132/strutherhill_and_birkenshaw_neighbourhood_plan_jan-dec_2019

Plans in development

Title	Town/Village	Area
Our Place, Our Plan	Eddlewood/Low Waters	Hamilton Area
Our Place, Our Plan	Whitehill	Hamilton Area
Our Place, Our Plan Fernhill	Fernhill, Rutherglen	Cambuslang/Rutherglen Area

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Director, Health and Social Care South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership Executive Director (Education Resources) South Lanarkshire Council
Subject:	Corporate Parenting Partnership Board

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with an update of the review of the Corporate Parenting governance structure and the proposal to establish a Corporate Parenting Partnership Board.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations: -

- (1) Approve the establishment of a Corporate Parenting Partnership Board;
- (2) Agree the proposed membership and terms of reference for a Corporate Parenting Partnership Board; and
- (3) Agree the meeting schedule and reporting structure for the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board.

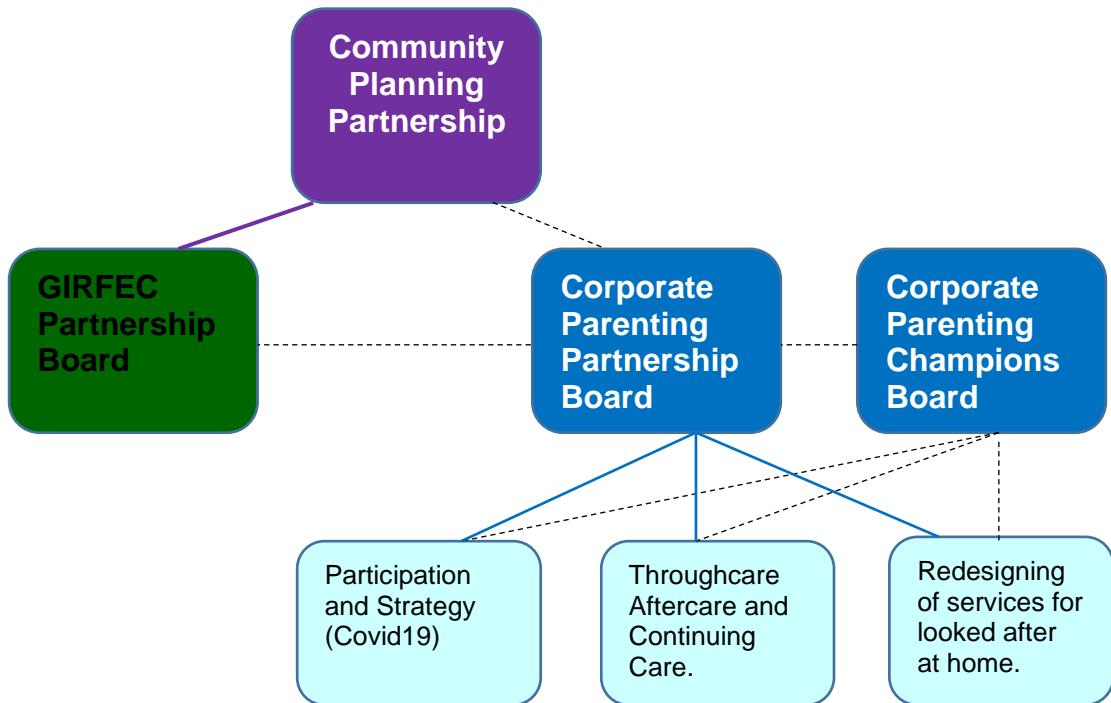
3. Background

- 3.1. Part 9 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 sets out outlines and a range of legislative duties for corporate parents across Scotland. These duties aim to ensure the attention and resources of corporate parents are focused on the task of safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of Scotland's Looked after Children and care leavers.
- 3.2. In November 2019 as part of the evaluation process, the Corporate Parenting Strategy Group started a process of review of what the future priorities should be, based on utilising our joint strategic needs assessment. This process will directly inform our 2020-2022 Corporate Parenting Strategy and plan.
- 3.3. The evaluative process highlighted that due to the maturity of the Corporate Parenting agenda and its significance in legalisation, that we needed to undertake a review of the governance and substructures that support this strategy. It also highlighted a need for incorporation of the newly formed Champions Board and its substructure.

- 3.4. The Joint Inspection of Services for Children in Need of Care and Protection in South Lanarkshire concluded in February 2020, and there are several areas for improvement for the quality of care and outcomes for care experienced young people.
- 3.5. The Care Inspectorate recognised a lot of good work that is being done in South Lanarkshire. However, the inspection highlighted that the Corporate Parenting governance structure did not evidence the same degree of strategic scrutiny and oversight as evidenced for child protection. Within this agenda the Care Inspectorate made specific reference to the need to improve services for young people transitioning from care and improvements in the support for Kinship carers.
- 3.6. Whilst the Care Inspectorate could see that there were active steps being undertaken to address these areas for example the development of a dedicated Throughcare and Aftercare Team for care leavers, it was too early to see the impact of this. In addition, they were also aware that the launch of the Champions Board had taken place on 10 December 2019, but again felt it was too early to evidence the impact of engagement with care experienced young people.
- 3.7. The Partnership has been working closely with our Link Inspector to develop an Improvement Action Plan, which is a requirement of all Inspections.
- 3.8. In October 2016, after meeting with and listening to children and young people in care, Scotland's First Minister announced, "an independent, root and branch review of the care system" to look at "the underpinning legislation, practices, culture and ethos". This is called the Independent Care Review.
- 3.9. The Care Review is "an independent, root and branch review of Scotland's care system", the underpinning legislation, practices, culture and ethos. The Care Review has been built on five foundations of voice; family; care; people and scaffolding and these must be at the heart of how Scotland thinks, plans and prioritizes for its children and families. We recognise that the only way significant improvements can be made is by understanding the full extent of what it means to experience care. The lived experience and wisdom of people has been at the very heart of the Independent Care Review and will be at the very heart of the responses to share care review planning in South Lanarkshire. South Lanarkshire Council's Children and Justice Services has already been involved in work of the Independent Care Review, specifically the stop: go and edges of care work.
- 3.10. In summary, the review has been published in 6 sections and an implementation framework is expected by the end of the year:-
- ◆ **The Promise**:- reflects what over 5,500 care experienced children and adults, families, and the paid and unpaid workforce, told the Care Review in the hope that Scotland is listening. It outlines what Scotland must do to make sure its most vulnerable children feel loved and have the childhood they deserve
 - ◆ **The Plan** - explains how this change must happen.
 - ◆ **The Money and Follow the Money**:- explain how Scotland can invest better in its children and families, and explores the human and economic cost of failure in the current care system
 - ◆ **The Rules**:- demonstrate the current legislative framework and how it must change to achieve The Promise
 - ◆ **The Thank You**:- to the army of thousands who have contributed to the Care Review.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1. Proposal of renewed Corporate Parenting governance and structure (diagram below)



- 4.2. The proposal creates an executive Corporate Parenting Board (representative of senior chief officers across CPP) and locates the South Lanarkshire's Champions Board approach within the current structure. The strategy subgroups which sit underneath this governance structure would be aligned to the priority improvement areas in South Lanarkshire. The priority areas are based on improvement areas from the recent inspection, along with the results of a survey from young people, the Champions Board pledges, and vision of the Independent Care Review.
- 4.3. The Corporate Parenting Strategy Group have been developing a Champions Board approach co-designed with our network of care experienced young people supported by Who Cares? Scotland, who we have been commissioned to support its development. This approach will create forums and some unique space for care experience young people to meet with key decision makers, service leads and elected members to influence and be a part of design and delivery of services which directly affects them.
- 4.4. South Lanarkshire launched its Champions Board approach in an evening event on 10 December 2019. This provided an opportunity for a number of our care experienced young people to present their Champions Board approach to key partners and Elected Members who have Corporate Parenting responsibilities and provided a benchmark on how to take the approach forward in the future. This approach will facilitate more productive spaces/opportunities for discussions with young people and identification of areas for development as well as task driven action planning to achieve the required change.

4.5. The Champions Board representatives:-

Name	Organisation
The Care Experienced Young people (both currently looked after young people and those who were previously looked after)	South Lanarkshire Care Experienced Young People
Callum Holt and Caroline Richardson (Supporting Offices for young people)	Who Cares, Organisation
Cllr Chalmers; Cllr Louden; Cllr Bradley; and Cllr McGavigan (Other representatives as required)	Elected Members from South Lanarkshire
Service Managers from Education	Education
Service Managers from Social Work	Social Work
Representatives from Housing	Housing and Technical Resources
Police Scotland	Police Scotland
Service Managers from NHS	NHS Lanarkshire
Scottish Children's Reporter Administration	SCRA
Representatives from SDS	SDS
Kinship Care and Carers Support	Local carers groups
COVEY	Covey
VASlan representatives	VASlan
Local Colleges	South Lanarkshire College and New College Lanarkshire

4.6. The Champions Board will give care experienced young people the opportunity to discuss and influence areas for development and improvement across the care system. As required, the Champions Board can refer any areas for additional support or direct intervention to the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board which has a responsibility to assist and scrutinise progress to achieve improvements in new service delivery.

4.7. The membership of the proposed, Corporate Parenting Partnership Board (CPPB) is as follows:-

Name	Organisation
Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council (SLC)	SLC, Chair
Tony McDaid, Executive Director (Education Resources)	SLC
Anne Donaldson, Head of Service, Inclusion (Education Resources)	SLC
Val de Souza, Health and Social Care (Social Work Resources)	SLC
Liam Purdie, Head of Service, Children and Justice, (Social Work Resources)	SLC
Daniel Lowe, Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)	SLC
Superintendent Gordon McCreadie, Police Scotland	Police
Heather Knox, Chief Executive NHS Lanarkshire	Health
Geraldine Queen, Child Health Commissioner NHS Lanarkshire	Health
Lyndsay Sutherland, Nurse Director, South Lanarkshire Community Health Partnership	Health
Gerry Docherty, NHS Corporate Parent Lead	Health
Jim McClafferty, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration	SCRA
Caroline Richardson, Who Cares? Scotland	Who Cares (TSI)
Hazel Mathieson, Area Manager	SDS
Supporting Officers	
Aine McCrea, Service Manager, Children and Justice (Social Work Resources)	SLC
Kathleen Colvan, Services Manager, Partnership Planning and Youth Employability (Education Resources)	SLC
Gerry Docherty, NHS Lanarkshire	Health

- 4.8. It is proposed the CPPB meets twice per year (April and November) and considers reports from the subgroups and requests additional reports and information as required. This group will make decisions on actions required and be at the heart of implementing change and improving outcomes for care experienced young people. In addition to the twice yearly meeting the membership will also provide ongoing support to dismantle any hurdles or new actions that may arise.

- 4.9. The CPPB will have the responsibility to monitor and review the quality and effectiveness of services for looked after children to ensure that every child and young person looked after is supported to be safe, happy, healthy and to achieve their full potential. In addition, it has a key role in listening to the voice of children and young people looked after and leaving care. A draft of the proposed terms of reference is attached as Appendix 1.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report,

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy or procedure and there is no requirement to undertake an equality impact assessment.
- 9.2. Consultation and engagement with care experienced children and young people took place as outlined at 4.3 and 4.4 above.

**Val de Souza
Director, Health and Social Care
South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership**

**Tony McDaid
Executive Director, Education Resources
South Lanarkshire Council**

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Email: aine.mccrae@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Terms of Reference			
Group Title	Corporate Parenting Partnership Board		
Chair	Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council	Vice Chair	TBC
Remit Purpose	<p>The Corporate Parenting Board has the responsibility to steer the Community Planning Partnership in its legal obligations to fulfil its responsibilities towards looked after children and care leavers. Primarily the need for cultural and behavioural change to promote better outcomes for looked after children and care leavers.</p> <p>It will be the forum for senior officers to monitor and challenge the effectiveness and quality of service delivery for all looked after children and care leavers, and oversee the implementation of the South Lanarkshire Corporate Parenting Strategy and the achievement of continuous improvements of the actions identified.</p> <p>The Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) acts strategically to ensure that looked after children and care leavers are effectively supported to reach their potential through the provision of excellent parenting, high quality education, and opportunities to develop their talents and skills, and effective support for their transition to adulthood and independent living.</p>		
<p>The Corporate Parenting Board key objectives;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise awareness of the CPPs corporate parenting strategy and responsibilities and ensure all looked after children and care leavers have a positive experience and that the strategy enhances their lives • To ensure that looked after children, care leavers and their carers are listened to and engaged with, and to ensure that their views influence new policy and service development • To encourage all partners, across the partnership work in an integrated manner in the best interests of looked after children and care leavers; to ensure that every child and young person looked after is supported to be safe, happy and healthy and to achieve their full potential • To lead cultural and behavioural change to promote better outcomes for looked after children and care leavers; • To hold all partners to account for their role in the delivery of services to looked after children and care leavers and unlock opportunities for all care experienced young people. 			
Publications Reference:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Parenting Plan and Annual Reports • Children Service Plan and Annual Reports • Community Planning Partnership Plan and Annual Reports • Turning legislation into practice together 		
Meeting Frequency	2 meetings per year		
Reporting & Administration Arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A standard agenda and minute template will be set • Reports will be presented to the group in the standard format. • A meeting Action Log will be maintained to ensure actions are taken forward and implemented 		
Version dated	December 2020		

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject: **Community Planning Review Progress Update**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Provide the Partnership Board with an update on progress of the Community Planning Structure and Governance Review.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the progress made to date with the review be noted;
- (2) that the feedback from the Thematic Groups (as detailed in paragraph 4.1.) be noted;
- (3) that the proposed Terms of Reference and Remit for the Outcomes Leads Group (as detailed in paragraph 4.3.) be approved;
- (4) that the proposed timetable for the review of the Community Plan (as detailed in paragraph 4.4.) be approved;
- (5) that the proposal for Thematic Partnership Improvement Plans (as detailed in paragraph 4.5.) be approved;
- (6) that the proposed Terms of Reference and the Remit for the Partnership Community Participation and Engagement Group (as detailed in paragraph 4.6) be approved; and
- (7) that the draft Communications Plan for 2021 be approved.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Board undertook a Self-Assessment which was facilitated by the Improvement Service during January/February 2019.
- 3.2. Following approval of the Best Value Assurance Report by the Council in June 2019, an extended Community Planning Partnership (CPP) session took place on 11 September 2019 to consider the output of the facilitated self-assessment session along with the outcomes of the Council's Best Value Assurance Report.
- 3.3. A session with representatives from the Thematic Partnership Boards took place on 3 October 2019 and draft implementation plans were prepared on the CPP structure, joint problem solving and scrutiny of the work of the Thematic Boards.
- 3.4. A further session took place with the Board on 23 October 2019 to consider how the CPP Board should be structured and the structures required at a Thematic/Locality level. It was agreed that a proposal would be drafted by the Improvement Service

and the Community Planning Team for consideration by the Board at their December 2019 meeting.

- 3.5. At the meeting on 5 December 2019, proposals were set out for a new structure and the Board agreed that a short-life working group be established to further consider these and develop proposals. A discussion on the CPP Board membership took place at the meeting on 12 February 2020 and the working group were also tasked with developing a membership proposal. An update on the work of the group was also reported to the Board on 1 July 2020.
- 3.6. This report provides an update on the current progress in delivering the new structure and governance arrangements. Whilst some progress has been made this has been impacted by the continued response of partners to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

4. Current progress

4.1. Feedback from CPP Thematic Groups

- 4.1.1. Feedback from the CPP Thematic Groups on the proposed 2-stage plan for the CPP structures was positive with some confirming that they wish to continue to be consulted as the review of structures progresses. Two groups, the Sustainability Partnership and the Youth Partnership provided more detailed feedback.
- 4.1.2. The Sustainability Partnership has provided a general update on a number of areas including a 'green recovery'; their partnership governance arrangements; involvement in the development of the new Community Plan; and mainstreaming Climate Change into the work of the CPP. The Council's Sustainable Development Officer will attend a meeting of the Progress Group in March 2021 to discuss mainstreaming Climate Change into the work of the CPP and a more detailed report on this will be presented to the Board at the meeting on 24 June 2021. The Youth Partnership made proposals for their placement within the CPP structure and reporting routes.
- 4.1.3. The feedback from these groups will be submitted to the Board for consideration at the relevant stage of the review.

4.2. Locality Planning Structures

- 4.2.1. Two areas in South Lanarkshire (Clydesdale, Cambuslang and Rutherglen) have been identified for the development of new locality planning structures. As agreed by the Board, locality boundaries will be defined by the communities themselves and will take into account the legislative requirements relating to localities for the Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 4.2.2. Development sessions with local organisations and groups in the Clydesdale and Cambuslang and Rutherglen areas were held during February 2021. A report which sets out the outcomes from these sessions and further progress will be presented to the Board at the meeting on 24 June 2021.

4.3. Community Planning Outcomes Leads Group

- 4.3.1. The short-term partnership working group has developed a draft Terms of Reference for the new Outcomes Leads Group for consideration by the Board (Appendix 1). In line with the wider review which has two phases, it is suggested that the work of the Outcomes Lead Group mirrors this. See outline below:-
 - ◆ **Short-term** (interim leads) - To have a strategic overview of the implementation of the new Community Planning governance and structural arrangements.

- ◆ **Long-term** – To have a strategic overview of the work of the Community Planning Partnership to deliver the outcomes of the Community Plan.

This would see the new group in the short term having a key role in driving the development of the new Community Plan and structures.

The suggested remit for each stage is set out in the Terms of Reference document. Subject to approval by the Board, the next stage would be to appoint the Outcome Leads. As previously agreed by the Board, officers who would take on this role should be sought from across the partnership and be Senior Officers equivalent to the level of Head of Service or above.

4.4. Community Plan – Interim Review and Development of the new plan

- 4.4.1. The Council's Improvement Unit has been supporting the Progress Group with the planned interim review of the Community Plan which was delayed as a result of the pandemic. Thematic Group Leads have been asked to review their existing measures against guidance provided by the Improvement Unit and update as required. These interim measures including new measures on the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan, Neighbourhood Planning and Food (previously agreed by the Board) will be included in the 2020/2021 Community Plan Performance Report. The interim plan will be provided to the Board on 24 June 2020.
- 4.4.2. It is proposed that the work to begin the full review of the Community Plan starts in March 2021. The Board are asked to note that this work will be aligned with the work to review the Council's Plan, Connect and any other similar partner activity. Research and analysis will also be carried out and the results of this will be reported to the Board.
- 4.4.2 A deliberative approach to engaging with communities through a series of community conversations will be taken to inform the new plan. Information which is already held through engagement, such as the neighbourhood planning processes, and other community led plans, will also be used.
- 4.4.3 Milestone reports on the results from the survey and from the in-depth conversations, as well as on the final consultation stage, will be created to provide feedback to communities and partners at the end of each of these stages. These will also be reported to the Board. An indicative timetable for this work is set out below.

Stage	Action	Timescale
Community Engagement	Community conversations	March - August 2021
Writing	Draft new Community Plan	September/October 2021
Community Engagement	Further consultation with CPP Partners and participants	October/November 2021
Writing and approval	Final Plan drafted for approval by partner organisations	December 2021
Approval and publication	Final approval by the CPP Board and publication of plan	By 31 March 2022

4.5. Partnership Improvement Plan (PIPs)

- 4.5.1. On 12 February 2020 the Board agreed to extend the Partnership Improvement Plans for the four Thematic Boards until March 2021/until completion of the Board

review. The Board are asked to note the following and agree to the removal of the additional layer of Partnership Improvement Plans:-

- ◆ All Thematic Board's contribute to the delivery of the Community Plan;
- ◆ In addition to the Community Plan, three of the four Thematic Groups currently have two Partnership Plans (Children's Services and Health and Social Care Partnership are required to have statutory partnership plans and Economic Growth is currently developing a pan-Lanarkshire plan);
- ◆ Duplication in partnership planning and reporting processes will be greatly reduced;
- ◆ It is recommended that until the new Community Planning priorities have been agreed, the Community Safety Partnership should develop a one year Thematic Partnership Plan for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022; and
- ◆ The reporting processes will be reviewed as part of the development of the new Community Plan.

4.6. Partnership Community Participation and Engagement Group

- 4.6.1. The Partnership Community Participation and Engagement Group has been established and have agreed to meet monthly to progress the action plan that has been set out by the Board. The draft Terms of Reference which includes the remit for the group which was agreed by the Board is attached at Appendix 2. The Board is asked to note that the membership of the group is still being finalised.

4.7. Community Planning Communications Group

- 4.7.1. The Community Planning Communications Group has been established and is meeting regularly. The draft Terms of Reference is attached at Appendix 3. A high level communications plan (Appendix 4) has been developed and the group are now working on a more detailed delivery plan.

4.8. Community Planning Website Review

- 4.8.1. The partnership Website Review Group has completed the first phase of their work and have:-

- ◆ Reviewed other Community Planning websites to inform learning
- ◆ Developed a website specification. This lists the minimum requirements for the website including improved accessibility and other software improvements that could enhance the website
- ◆ Planned for a targeted community consultation during March 2021
- ◆ Looked into CONSUL software which can be used to support digital community engagement and plan to test this with a community that are starting their Neighbourhood Planning journey.

Work will also be starting shortly with the Local Child Poverty Action Group to develop partnership information pages. The second phase will be to update the look and content of the website to align it with the new Community Plan. An update on progress will be provided to the Board at a later date.

4.9. Progress with other governance arrangements

4.9.1. Making stronger links between the CPP and the Public Protection Structures.

The Council's Head of Children and Justice Services felt that there is currently good connectivity between the structures with some members being represented on both Boards and regular reporting on Public Protection business to the CPP Board. It is proposed that these arrangements continue and that there is a clearer line of sight between the structures in the new CPP structure charts which will be developed

when phase two of the review of structures is complete. Arrangements will also be put in place to improve reporting from the Public Protection Chief Officers Group and its constituent groups to the CPP Board.

4.9.2. CPP Board Membership

South Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire agreed to review their membership on the Board. Both South Lanarkshire Council and NHS Lanarkshire have confirmed that there will be no change at present to the members and officers represented on the Board. The membership will remain under review as the new structures develop. Work will take place to build capacity within the Locality Partnership structures to ensure that the views of our communities will be represented and heard at the CPP Board. It is anticipated that, in time, the community representatives who lead locality partnerships will take their place on the CPP Board to ensure that the appropriate linkages are in place between the structures.

4.10. Meeting arrangements

4.10.1. Further to the Board's agreement that meetings should be open to the public when it is safe to do so/when technology is developed to facilitate this, the Board are asked to note that the Council is currently working towards streaming meetings live on the web. At the present time, recordings containing the non-restricted elements of Council business are published after the meeting on YouTube. These films must be edited (subtitled) to meet the requirements of the new digital accessibility regulations. A further progress update will be presented to the Board at the meeting on 24 June 2021.

5. Forward plan of actions to be delivered

5.1. Other actions that will be progressed over the next few months in line with key stages of the structure review include:-

- ◆ The development of a Programme Management approach with an agreed programme of activity which is aligned to the Community Plan
- ◆ A review of the Board agenda (all reports submitted to the Board should be for decision or scrutiny)
- ◆ Development of a new partnership reporting template
- ◆ Revising the Board's terms of reference
- ◆ Developing a partnership agreement.

6. Employee Implications

6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

9. Other Implications

9.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

10.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment implications associated with this report. Consultation has taken place with partners and representatives of the Thematic Boards. Further communication and consultation is required as the implementation of the priority improvement actions progress.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information:

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Rhonda Leith, Community Engagement Manager, South Lanarkshire Council
Tel: 01698 455783
Email: rhonda.leith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

**Outcomes Leads
Draft Terms of Reference**

Name:	Community Planning Outcome Leads
Purpose:	To take a strategic overview of the implementation of the Community Plan and provide guidance to partners (including community partners) in the development of outcome based planning.
Scope:	Short-term (interim leads) - To have a strategic overview of the implementation of the new Community Planning governance and structural arrangements. Long-term – To have a strategic overview of the work of the Community Planning Partnership to deliver the outcomes of the Community Plan.
Authority:	The group has been set up by the CPP with responsibility for undertaking the work set out within this terms of reference.
Chair and Co-Chair:	TBC
Membership:	TBA, Outcome Leads and deputies to be sought from across the partnership
Publications Reference:	<u>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 - Community Planning Guidance</u> <u>South Lanarkshire CPP Community Plan 2017-2027</u>
Meeting arrangements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meetings will be held quarterly; • This meeting will be held in private; • If an Outcome Lead is not able to attend, they should ensure that the Deputy is able to attend; • A minute of the meeting and of decisions will be recorded. A meeting action log will be maintained to monitor progress against actions.
Reporting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance reporting to the Community Planning Partnership Board • Contribute to the statutory annual report for communities • Report to Local Community Partnerships using their preferred format • Report to the Community Planning Partnership Board on a range of partnership matters as required
Budget:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leads will prioritise spending of the partnership's central CPP budget through alignment with partnership priorities.
Remit:	<p>Short-term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To take a lead role in the development of the new Community Plan and the implementation of the new community partnership locality structures. • Utilise the partnership communications network to promote the work of the partnership and to feedback to communities. <p>Long-term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To lead on the development of the required partnership structures that will deliver the outcomes of the new Community Plan; and identify Leads for each outcome. • To ensure the effective review of key strategies and consider how efficiently and effectively these are being taken forward through the partnership; • To identify priority areas for improvement in key strategic areas; • To ensure that effective community participation is at the heart of community planning through directing the work of the Community Planning Participation and Engagement Group; • To ensure that Community Planning priority actions are aligned with local priorities, and reflect relevant national policy and best practice; • To highlight and propose solutions to the CPP Board on any problems and issues raised by the Local Community Partnerships and take the necessary actions to mitigate;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To monitor and evaluate the delivery of key partnership strategies through the development of a new partnership reporting framework; • To create positive challenge where outcomes have not been achieved as expected to improve future performance; • To have a focus on performance trends and long-term delivery of the Partnership's strategic plans; • To identify cross-cutting themes across the work of the partnership to ensure the appropriate linkages are made; • To develop and implement a partnership approach to workforce development to support the effective delivery of partnership priorities; • To support a shift in focus and resources to preventative and early intervention approaches; • To plan and develop joint resourcing of the delivery of partnership activity; and • Facilitate as required, information and data sharing activities related to improving outcomes and reducing inequalities.
Version control:	v5.0

Community Participation and Engagement Group
Draft Terms of Reference

Name:	Community Participation and Engagement Group
Purpose:	To bring together staff from the different strands of locality work being undertaken across South Lanarkshire.
Scope:	The focus of this group is to develop a consistent and co-ordinated approach across partners to engaging with communities to inform a common understanding of how we work with communities in relation to engagement and empowerment; and ensure that links are made across current locality structures.
Chairperson:	To be agreed by the Group
Membership:	Community Engagement Manager (FCR), South Lanarkshire Council Strategy Coordinator (HTR), South Lanarkshire Council Locality Manager (EDU), South Lanarkshire Council Service Development Manager, Health and Social Care Partnership Planning and Performance Manager, Health and Social Care Partnership Station Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Crew Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Operation and Strategic Manager, Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan) Development Services Manager, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture TBC, REGENfx TBC, Healthy Valleys TBC, Community Links TBC, Healthy and Happy TBC, NHS Lanarkshire
Publications Reference:	Community Planning Community Engagement and Participation Strategy Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 - Community Planning Guidance Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships: Community Learning and Development
Meeting arrangements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly meetings will be pre-arranged, however the frequency of the meetings will be adjusted to suit the business required. A minute of the meeting and of decisions will be recorded. A meeting action log will be maintained to monitor progress against actions.
Remit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the implementation of the Partnership Community Engagement Strategy by all partners; To develop an agreed understanding of community engagement and its desired outcomes across all partners; To ensure consistency in the approach to engagement with communities; To co-ordinate engagement activity at community level; To identify/share the resources required to deliver the aspirations of the CPP; To develop a programme of peer learning and share good practice; To develop and deliver employee/community learning and development activities; To build the capacity of staff, community groups and individuals in relation to community engagement;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish and maintain communication with the Neighbourhood Planning Partnership Groups; • To co-ordinate the delivery of qualitative work with communities to shape policy and inform plans; • Develop processes which consider the most appropriate ways to involve and engage communities; and • To organise an annual partnership community event.
Version control:	V2.0

Partnership Communications Group
Draft Terms of Reference

Name:	Communications Group
Purpose:	To ensure that the delivery of the outcomes contained within the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans continue to progress.
Scope:	The focus of this group is to progress the objectives of the Community Planning Partnership through the delivery of the Communications Plan and associated actions.
Authority:	Makes recommendations to the Community Planning Partnership Board
Chairperson:	Public Relations Team Leader, South Lanarkshire Council
Membership:	NHS Lanarkshire (TBC) Superintendent, Police Scotland Partnerships (West), Scottish Enterprise Station Commander/Crew Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Area Manager, Skills Development Scotland South Lanarkshire College (TBC) Public Relations Team Leader, South Lanarkshire Council South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership (TBC) Development Services Manager, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Media and Public Affairs Manager, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport Communications and Marketing Officer, University of the West of Scotland Chief Executive, Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire
Publications Reference:	South Lanarkshire CPP Community Plan 2017-2027 Community Planning Community Engagement and Participation Strategy
Meeting arrangements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly meetings will be pre-arranged, however the frequency of the meetings will be adjusted to suit the business required. A minute of the meeting and of decisions will be recorded. A meeting action log will be maintained to monitor progress against actions.
Reporting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports to the Community Planning Partnership Board as required. Updates will be provided to the Community Planning Progress Group.
Budget:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions to meet the objectives of the group will be met from within existing resources.
Remit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To undertake tasks as directed by the Community Planning Partnership Board; To progress the development and delivery of the overarching objective of the Community Planning Partnership on reducing inequalities, tackling deprivation and reducing poverty through the delivery of the Communications Plan and associated actions; To support the development and implementation of a Communications Plan and associated actions; To support the Community Planning Partnership Board and partners in the promotion of partnership working; To ensure that effective community engagement and participation and is at the heart of community planning; Facilitate learning through identifying best practice activity in other partnerships/organisations; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitate where required, in information and data sharing activities related to improving outcomes and reducing inequalities.
Version Control:	V1.0



**South Lanarkshire
Community Planning Partnership**

Draft Communications Plan 2021

Background

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act

The statutory framework for Community Planning across Scotland is set out in the [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#).

- The Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 17 June 2015 and received Royal Assent, becoming an Act, on 24 July 2015.
- Under the 2015 Act, Community Planning is about how public organisations work together and with the local community to plan for, resource and provide or secure the provision of services which improve local outcomes in a local authority area, with a view to reducing inequalities.

South Lanarkshire Community Engagement and Participation Strategy 2020-2025

Our [Community Engagement and Participation Strategy 2020-2025](#) shows the commitment the partnership are making to involving communities within South Lanarkshire in decision making processes.

- Our aim is to work with communities to deliver better services targeted at reducing poverty and tackling inequalities and deprivation across South Lanarkshire.
- We need you to get involved with us to make sure that we are able to deliver the correct services, that we are making improvements, and that we are supporting you to achieve your own priorities within your communities. The way which we do this should be open, transparent and easy for you to get involved with. This strategy sets out our commitment to working alongside you in South Lanarkshire.

Community Planning

Is a way of working together which helps public organisations involve the community to help plan and deliver better services which make a real difference to people's lives.

The aims of Community Planning in Scotland are:-

- Making sure people and communities are genuinely engaged in the decisions made on public services which affect them; allied to;
- A commitment from organisations to work together, not apart, in providing better public services.

South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership

Is a range of different public and other local organisations who deliver public services in South Lanarkshire. They have a legal obligation that requires them to involve community organisations at all stages of Community Planning and there is a specific focus on reducing inequalities.

The current members of the [South Lanarkshire Partnership Board](#) include:-

- NHS Lanarkshire
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Enterprise
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Scottish Government
- Skills Development Scotland
- South Lanarkshire Council

- South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture
- Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
- University of the West of Scotland
- Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (Community and Voluntary Sectors)

In addition, we engage with a range of other organisations from the public, private, independent, community and voluntary sector.

More information about the [South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership](#) can be found on the website.

Overarching Objective

Tackling Deprivation, Poverty and Inequality

Priority Themes

- Inclusive Growth
- Financial Inclusion
- Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare
- Improving Housing
- Education, Skills and Development
- Health Inequalities
- Safeguarding from Risk or Harm
- Improving the local environment and communities

Objectives

In our communications, everything begins and ends with the objectives: who the objectives relate to, how we communicate them, how successfully they are communicated and how the level of success can inform future communication of them.

All communication activities will therefore be tied to measurably supporting the attainment of the following strategic objectives and outcomes relating to the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership:

Increase awareness and understanding of:

- What Community Planning is and why it is important;
- The work of Community Planning Partners;
- Work to mitigate the effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic;
- Decisions made by the Partnership Board;
- Opportunities for community involvement in the planning of public services;
- Peoples' lived experiences of poverty during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic;
- Opportunities for local residents and organisations to identify their priorities and needs;
- Opportunities for local residents and organisations to develop community led action plans; and
- Opportunities for community involvement in developing activities to help reduce inequalities.

Audiences

Each objective is tied to an appropriate audience to ensure that the right people hear the key information; the information is delivered using the most effective method to reach the intended audience and in the most appropriate terms; and the time spent by partnership employees in

undertaking the work is used most effectively. Audiences will be both external and internal to ensure that the objectives are addressed. The primary audience will be local residents.

Communication Objectives

We will raise awareness of the objectives above with the following groups:

- Local Residents
- Community groups and voluntary organisations
- Community Planning Partners
- Staff of public organisations
- Businesses
- Councillors
- Leaders of public organisations

This list is not exhaustive, and we will work with our community partners which will include community groups, voluntary organisations and Community Planning Partners to identify others who will help us achieve our objectives.

Methods

To achieve our objectives, we will utilise the following range of methods to reach our intended audiences:

- Word of mouth
- Face to face
- Leaflets and Posters
- Newsletters
- Community Noticeboards
- Email
- Social Media
- Websites
- Local and National Radio
- Local and National Press

We will work with our community partners to identify other methods which will help us achieve our objectives.

Approach

Much of the approach will be based on the following factors:

- The number and value of examples of information that people can relate to.
- The need to distribute accurate information quickly, to everyone using a range of methods.
- The commitment to accessible, open, transparent and accountable ways of working.

There will also be a capability to deal on an ad hoc basis with crisis/urgent/unforeseen situations.

The Communications Plan will also be flexible and is intended to be adapted in order to take advantage of communication/publicity opportunities as they present themselves, such as good news, successes achieved, lessons learnt, ideas developed that might be of interest to local and

national press. As well as feedback and two-way communication with people who benefit from the services provided.

Implementation

Delivery of the Communications Plan will be coordinated by the Community Planning Partnership's Communications Group with support from South Lanarkshire Council.

Communications Group

To help monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of actions and objectives from the Communications Plan these will be reported back to the Community Planning Partnership Board. Approval will also be sought from the Communications Group for any changes to existing actions or additions of new actions.

Proactive and reactive communications

Communications to help meet the objectives of the group will be planned, structured, consistent, easy to understand and proactive. Community Planning Partners will be encouraged to contribute information on a regular basis. Some actions are laid out in the table below.

In addition to planned communications, we will be prepared to react quickly and effectively to enquiries from the Press and Media. Enquiries relating to the strategic operation of the Community Planning Partnership should be handled by South Lanarkshire Council's PR office with responsibility for the Partnership communications, under the guidance and subject to the approval of the Chair of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership.

Enquiries relating to operational matters of individual partners should be handled by the press and media relations service of the relevant partner(s).

Evaluation

We will also review, monitor and evaluate what has worked well and what can be improved. To help with this there will be a plan that will set out how actions will be delivered.

Actions

In order to help achieve our objectives we have provided information about what actions we will take.

What is it we want to do?	Who is the audience?	How will we achieve it and when?	Who will help us achieve it?	How will we know it has been a success?
Increase awareness and understanding of what Community Planning is and why it is important.	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses Councillors Leaders of public organisations	Develop an article for the Community Planning Partnership's website that can be shared on at least 6 Community Planning Partners' website/social media every 3 months Send article to community groups and voluntary organisations and ask them to share it on their social media	Community Planning Partners Community groups and voluntary organisations	Community Planning will be referenced in articles and information and at events. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to information available on social media. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get involved.
Increase awareness and understanding of the work of Community Planning Partners.	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses	At least one good news article from each partner every 3 months At least one service update/ information/key facts from each partner every 3 months At least one case study from each partner	Community Planning Partners Community groups and voluntary organisations Local media outlets (press, radio, social media accounts) Support and practical involvement from	The work of Community Planning Partners will be referenced in articles and information and at events. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to information available on social media. Local residents, community groups and

What is it we want to do?	Who is the audience?	How will we achieve it and when?	Who will help us achieve it?	How will we know it has been a success?
	Councillors Leaders of public organisations		stakeholders and elected members	voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get involved.
Increase awareness and understanding of work to mitigate the effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses Councillors Leaders of public organisations	At least one good news article from each partner every 3 months At least one service update/information/key facts from each partner every 3 months At least one case study from each partner Case studies from Community groups and voluntary organisations Sharing and promoting Government guidance and public health information	All stakeholders to have a responsibility to review their activities Community Planning Partners Community groups and voluntary organisations	Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic projects and activities will be referenced in the local press. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to information about Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic projects and activities available on social media. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get involved in Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic projects and activities.
Increase awareness and understanding of decisions made by the Partnership Board	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations	Signposting to information about board papers, public meetings	Community Planning Partnership Board Community Participation and Engagement Team	Community Planning Partnership Board will be referenced in articles and information and at events.

What is it we want to do?	Who is the audience?	How will we achieve it and when?	Who will help us achieve it?	How will we know it has been a success?
	Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses Councillors Leaders of public organisations	Press releases about public meetings and new structures and changes; and how local residents can get involved	Communications Group	Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to information available on social media. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get involved.
Increase awareness and understanding of opportunities for community involvement in the planning of public services through Neighbourhood, Locality and Place Planning	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses Councillors Leaders of public organisations	Press release and articles about Neighbourhood, Locality and Place Planning Press release and articles about the Community Plan and other relevant plans Press release and articles about Community Empowerment including Community Asset Transfer Press release and articles about the Community Engagement and Participation Strategy	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Community Engagement and Participation Team Communications Teams	Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to Neighbourhood, Locality and Place Planning information available on social media. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get involved in Neighbourhood, Locality and Place Planning.
Increase awareness and understanding of peoples' lived experiences of	Local Residents	Press release and articles about peoples' lived experiences of poverty,	Local Residents	Projects and activities about peoples' lived experiences of poverty,

What is it we want to do?	Who is the audience?	How will we achieve it and when?	Who will help us achieve it?	How will we know it has been a success?
poverty, inequalities or deprivation during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic	Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses Councillors Leaders of public organisations	inequalities or deprivation during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic Press release and articles about Community Empowerment Case studies from Community groups and voluntary organisations	Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Community Engagement and Participation Team Communications Teams	inequalities or deprivation during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic will be referenced in articles and information and at events. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to information about peoples' lived experiences of poverty, inequalities or deprivation during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic available on social media. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get involved in improving peoples' lived experiences of poverty, inequalities or deprivation during or after the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
Increase awareness and understanding of opportunities for local residents, community	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations	Press release and articles about Neighbourhood Planning and Locality Planning	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations	Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to information

What is it we want to do?	Who is the audience?	How will we achieve it and when?	Who will help us achieve it?	How will we know it has been a success?
groups and voluntary organisations to identify their priorities	Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses Councillors Leaders of public organisations	Press release and articles about Community Empowerment Case studies from Community groups and voluntary organisations	Community Planning Partners Community Engagement and Participation Team Communications Teams	about opportunities to get involved in identifying their priorities. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get involved identifying their priorities. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will get involved opportunities to identifying their priorities
Increase awareness and understanding of opportunities for local residents and organisations to develop community led action plans	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses Councillors	Press release and articles about Neighbourhood Planning and Locality Planning Press release and articles about Community Empowerment Case studies from community groups and voluntary organisations	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Community Engagement and Participation Team Communications Teams	Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to information about opportunities to get involved in developing community led action plans. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get

What is it we want to do?	Who is the audience?	How will we achieve it and when?	Who will help us achieve it?	How will we know it has been a success?
	Leaders of public organisations	Sharing and promoting information about poverty and inequalities		involved in developing community led action plans. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will get involved in developing community led action plans.
Increase awareness and understanding of opportunities for community involvement in developing activities to help reduce inequalities	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Staff of public organisations Businesses Councillors Leaders of public organisations	Press release and articles about Neighbourhood Planning and Locality Planning Press release and articles about Community Empowerment Case studies from community groups and voluntary organisations	Local Residents Community groups and voluntary organisations Community Planning Partners Community Engagement and Participation Team Communications Teams	Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will respond to information about opportunities to get involved in developing activities to help reduce inequalities. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will contact the Community Planning Partnership to ask how they can get involved in developing activities to help reduce inequalities. Local residents, community groups and voluntary organisations will get involved in

What is it we want to do?	Who is the audience?	How will we achieve it and when?	Who will help us achieve it?	How will we know it has been a success?
				developing activities to help reduce inequalities.

If you would like this information in a different format or language: Please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs. Phone 0303 123 1015. Email: equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Further information:

Brian McQuillan - Community Development Officer (Community Planning)
 Community Engagement Team
 South Lanarkshire Council
 Phone: 0303 123 1017/ 07384 918727
 Email: Brian.McQuillan@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Mental Health Improvement Development Manager and Head of Health Improvement, NHS Lanarkshire

Subject:	Challenging Mental Health Stigma and Discrimination
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Explore the role of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership Board Senior Leaders in supporting 'Addressing Mental Health Stigma and Discrimination' as a cross-cutting theme of the Lanarkshire Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) To endorse the proposal for a sustained campaign to address mental health stigma and discrimination across the partnership with support from Stigma Free Lanarkshire and See Me. This could start with senior leadership support through, for example, digital pledges and then be disseminated across organisations to different staff groups and outward to communities. The campaign could include a champion's programme, workshops, tools and resources and capacity building using the voice of lived experience, and be supported by a multi-agency communications plan.

3. Background

3.1. Challenging mental health stigma and discrimination is at the heart of **Getting It right for Every Person: Lanarkshire Mental Health Strategy 2019-2024**.¹ The strategy highlights how people with mental health problems often experience poorer health and social outcomes compared to the wider population. Discrimination and prejudice in and across services and communities can lead to people not being taken seriously, being excluded, not getting the support they need and not being able to achieve the outcomes important to them. The strategy pledges to create conditions and environments that empower people to speak openly about mental health and that those listening are empathetic and equipped to take action and provide the right support in the right way.

3.2. In October 2020 the Scottish Government launched '**Mental Health – Scotland's Transition and Recovery Plan**' which set out their response to the mental health impacts of COVID-19. The plan notes, 'the renewed focus on mental health presents us with an opportunity to refresh our commitment to overcome the stigma around mental health. There have been more visible conversations about mental health and wellbeing. Like never before, the people of Scotland have embraced the idea that it's OK not to be OK, it's OK to say that out loud, and it's OK to seek help. We must

support each other to maintain that shared awareness. We must cherish and protect an environment which promotes the right to good mental health, and we will embed human rights, equality, dignity, and the voice of lived experience at the heart of our approach'.²

- 3.3. A small specialist team, Stigma Free Lanarkshire (SFL) in partnership with See Me, Scotland's National Organisation for challenging mental health stigma and discrimination, have been working tirelessly on an ambitious programme of work in Lanarkshire over a number of years. This has included actions across four key settings: workplaces; communities; schools; and health settings.
- 3.4. In 2019, the SFL Programme Board, comprising senior leaders within the local NHS Board and Health and Social Care Partnerships, as well as representatives from See Me and both Local Authorities, felt there was a need to do more at a strategic level to help create the right environment for positive change and to aid the work being carried out on the ground by the SFL team. Two seminars were held to bring together senior leaders from Lanarkshire's Health and Social Care Partnerships in late 2019. The event looked at the evidence base for challenging mental health stigma and discrimination, and what that means for the role of Senior Leaders in creating optimum conditions for inclusion.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1. The summary of findings from the two days indicated that setting the scene and creating understanding around stigma and discrimination lays the foundations for effective conversation and strategic and targeted action and that senior leaders have a key role as champions in supporting and enabling this conversation across their organisations and local communities.
- 4.2. As we start to recover the Stigma Free Lanarkshire work programme we are keen to explore how we use the renewed focus on mental health as an opportunity to refresh the pledge by the Community Planning Partnership to addressing mental health stigma and discrimination and build further on the work around the pivotal role of Senior Leaders that was started before the pandemic.
- 4.3. The SFL Team and See Me organisation can play a key role in facilitating actions including supporting leaders as champions, supporting local workshops and training; co-producing and sign-posting to a broad range of useful tools/resources including videos of the voice of lived experience.
- 4.4. We are aware South Lanarkshire Partnership are developing a CPP communications delivery plan and we would propose to link to this group to support delivery of this campaign.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. We may look to develop capacity through training, co-developing resources, tools and workshops and may consider the merits of a champions programme across various employee groupings deemed to be at high risk of poor mental health.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. This workstream does not have a dedicated budget however much of the campaign should be able to be delivered using in-kind resources across the partners with support from the Stigma Free Lanarkshire Team. Any additional costs will be identified as part of the campaign project plan.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

8. Other Implications

8.1. The risk lies mainly in the implications of not driving this work. COVID-19 continues to challenge our efforts to promote positive health and wellbeing. More than ever, we see this work as a priority and a necessary foundation to achieving the outcomes laid out in Lanarkshire's Mental Health Strategy.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

9.1. Addressing Mental Health Stigma and Discrimination is core to Lanarkshire's Mental Health Strategy. Equality Impact Assessments were conducted as part of the development of the strategy. The Mental Health Strategy Board reports to the Integrated Joint Board and Community Planning Partnership.

Jenny Hutton
Mental Health Improvement Development Manager

Elspeth Russell
Head of Health Improvement

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information:

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¹Getting it right for Every Person Lanarkshire Mental Health Strategy 2019-2024
<https://www.nhslanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk/strategies/mental-health-wellbeing-2019-24/>

² Mental Health – Scotland's Transition and Recovery
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/mental-health-scotlands-transition-recovery/>

Report

9

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Lived Experience Fund 2020/2021 Applications
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Advise the Partnership Board of the approved Lived Experience Fund applications for 2020-21; and
- ◆ The allocation of funding from the 2020-21 Lived Experience Budget.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to note the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the Lived Experience Fund 2020-21 applications awarded, as set out in Appendix 1 of this report, be noted.

3. Background

3.1. As agreed by the Board at their meeting of 17 April 2019, a new budget line for spend relating to 'capturing the lived experience' was created. The Lived Experience application form and guidance for applicants was also approved by the Board on 19 June 2019.

3.2. Applications to the fund are restricted to local organisations operating in South Lanarkshire and to those whose work links with the Community Plan objective of Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality.

3.3. All applications need to be supported by a constitution, a copy of the last year's final accounts and a signed Condition of Grants Acceptance Form.

3.4. Following approval at the Board on 21 October 2020, funding applications for 2020/2021 opened on 9 November 2020 and closed on 15 January 2021 (the original closing date of 14 December 2020 was extended). Applications were assessed against standard criteria and all applications received will be reported to the Board at the meeting on 3 March 2021.

3.5. It is anticipated that that information collated by these organisations, and those who were unable to carry out their engagement during 2020, will be reported to the Board during autumn/winter 2021. However, given the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic delays are possible.

4. Application Approval

- 4.1. Due to the timing of the first Board in 2021, applications were submitted to the Chair of the Board for approval. This has ensured that the funding could be provided to the successful organisations timeously.
- 4.2. The Board are asked to note the list of approved applications at Appendix 1. A range of methods are being used to gather feedback, however, all organisations have advised that projects will take place when it is safe to do so and in accordance with the latest public health advice.
- 4.3. Further information on the applications is available to the Board on request.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The current position of the Lived Experience funding allocation for 2020-21 is as follows:-

Total allocation for Lived Experience Funding	£5,000.00
Lived Experience Funding approved	£3,918.00
Remaining balance	£1,082.00

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The risk to the Partnership Board is that lived experience funding is not utilised for the purpose of which it was intended. This risk is mitigated by internal controls including audit procedures and a conditions of grant agreement. Successful applicants are required to submit an expenditure return and to share their findings. A 'Talking about Poverty in your Community' pack has been developed to support applicants to have conversations in their community.
- 8.2. There are no sustainability issues associated with this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or Consultation implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information:

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Email: rhonda.leith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Lived Experience Fund Awards 2020-21

App. No.	Applicant	Amount requested	Purpose of Grant	Amount awarded
001	Cairn Housing Association	£500	To fund a Community Development Worker who will use an action research method to have conversations with residents living in Lochbrae Retirement Court, Rutherglen.	£500
002	Liber8 (The Beacons Initiative)	£480	To support a suggestion from their volunteers and consult with the community and partners re COVID-19 experiences. Engagement plans include a community newsletter distributed across Blantyre and Hamilton; creation of an art board; and a survey which will be online and a paper copy for distribution.	£480
003	Agape Wellbeing	£438	To fund a student to carry out group sessions with existing groups that they already work with in East Kilbride. They will also extend the invitation to get involved in this project to the wider community. They will use the Place Standard tool for the engagement and will support the groups to make improvements.	£438
004	Project 31	£500	To undertake a variety of methods of consultation including online questionnaires, small focus groups and anecdotal recordings to capture experiences of COVID-19. The focus of this work is on families with children aged 0-12 living in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen areas.	£500
005	Reach Lanarkshire Autism	£500	To improve a sensory garden in the Whitlawburn area and purchase activity resources which can be used in the garden to provide sensory feedback to children with autism and high support needs. The garden is open to the wider community.	£500
006	Hamilton South Parish Church	£500	To purchase materials to create a community garden where local people can get involved and socialise; and to continue to provide a weekly social event at which a light meal is provided.	£500

App. No.	Applicant	Amount requested	Purpose of Grant	Amount awarded
007	Fairhill Community Group	£500	To purchase signs, etc. which can be displayed within the local area to raise awareness of the group and the supports available during the pandemic (and beyond).	£500
008	WAT IF?	£500	To support the set-up of a new food larder in Tarbrax and to purchase provisions for safe set up such as benches, signage, sanitising materials, etc	£500

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Community Planning Partnership Board Development Session – Planning for Place Update
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Provide the Partnership Board with an update on the proposed Partnership Board 'Planning for Place' development session which will take place on 11 May 2021.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation:-

- (1) that the update on the 'Planning for Place' development session be noted.

3. Background

3.1. At the Partnership Board on 2 December 2020 it was agreed that a Board development session should take place on 11 May 2021 which focuses on 'Planning for Place'. As the partnership moves towards a more place-based approach to community planning, this focus provides an opportunity for the Board to consider recent legislation, policy and new developments around Planning for Place and how these should influence local planning. This approach presents opportunities for joint planning, resourcing and delivery of outcomes which firmly puts our communities at the heart of planning. The agreed topics for discussion include:-

- ◆ Community Wealth Building and Economic Recovery
- ◆ 20 Minute Neighbourhoods
- ◆ Community Planning and Spatial Planning
- ◆ Town Centre Action Planning.

3.2. The purpose of this report is to give the Board an update on the arrangements for the session.

4. Development Session Update

4.1. Meetings have been held with the Improvement Service/Public Health Scotland and key stakeholders in South Lanarkshire Council to plan for the session. Feedback from these meetings has highlighted further linkages for consideration between place and wellbeing. Opportunities via Public Health Scotland to give long term support on embedding place-based approaches, especially the 20 minute neighbourhood

concept and its application in cities, towns and rural environments, were also highlighted.

- 4.2. A draft outline of the session is attached at Appendix 1.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained within this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. There are no risk or sustainability issues associated with this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or consultation arrangement implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information

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South Lanarkshire Community Planning Board Development Session

**Tuesday, 11 May 2021
1pm – 4pm via Microsoft Teams**

(Draft) Programme

1.00pm to 1.05pm	Welcome and introduction by the Chair
1.05 to 1.20pm	National Context : Wellbeing; 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; Town Centre Planning; and Economic Recovery Irene Beautyman, Planning for Place Programme Manager, Improvement Service/Public Health Scotland
1.20pm to 1.40pm	National Context : Community Wealth Building Miriam McKenna, Programme Manager, Inequality, Economy and Climate Change, Improvement Service
1.40pm to 2.00pm	Local Context : Community Wealth Building; Town Centre Planning and Economic Recovery TBC, South Lanarkshire Council
2.00pm to 2.30pm	Moving forwards, actions for the CPP (group discussion)
2.30pm to 2.40pm	Break
2.40pm to 3.00pm	National Context : Spatial and Community Planning Irene Beautyman, Planning for Place Programme Manager, Improvement Service/Public Health Scotland
3.00pm to 3.20pm	Local Context : Spatial and Community Planning TBC, South Lanarkshire Council
3.20pm to 3.55pm	Moving forwards, actions for the CPP (group discussion)
3.55pm	Closing Remarks by the Chair

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Director, Health and Social Care South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership Executive Director (Education Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject:	Children's Services Plan update on planning and governance
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Update the Partnership Board on the progress in transitioning to a new Statutory Children's Services Plan (CSP) in line with Scottish Government guidance.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) That the content of the second draft of the Children's Services Plan 2021-23 be noted; and
- (2) That the activity planned to publish the Children's Services Plan 2021-23 be noted.

3. Background

3.1. The Children and Young People's (Scotland) Act 2014 introduced requirements for each Local Authority and linked Health Board to prepare and publish the following:-

- ◆ A Children's Services Plan (CSP) covering the period April 2017– March 2020 (and then in a continuing three-year cycle)
- ◆ A Children's Rights Report by March 2020.

3.2. Our current CSP was launched in September 2017 and the final report was due to be published and submitted to the Scottish Government as soon as practicable after 31 March 2020. With the production of a new CSP for the next 3 years, April 2020 until March 2023.

3.3. With the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Scottish Government issued communication to say that while the statutory responsibility to have a CSP in place remains, they were prepared to relax some of the key timescales, as follows:-

- ◆ Local partnerships can submit a new plan for 2020-23 if they have one, or
- ◆ Local partnerships can ‘roll over’ their existing plan for another year.
- ◆ Local partnerships should still publish an annual report, however the timescales for completing those reports and sharing them with Scottish Government, will be for each partnership to consider in light of local circumstances.
- ◆ Local partnerships will work to have a new CSP in place for April 2021 (this would cover the period April 2021 to March 2023, i.e. a two-year cycle).

- 3.4. Our Children’s Services Partnership agreed to roll over the current plan for an interim year, to allow the desired level of participation and engagement of all partners (including services users) in a meaningful way, and to inform the final version of our new CSP, which will run from April 2021.
- 3.5. We produced an annual report covering the period April 2019 – March 2020, based on the reporting returns provided by lead officers and incorporated our (non-statutory) duty to produce a Children’s Rights Report within this document.
- 3.6. In the annual report we make explicit our intention to roll over the CSP 2017-20 for an additional year and develop a new plan on a two-year cycle under the flexibility provided by the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020. This was agreed with the Scottish Government and we are well in line with the national guidance regarding the part three duty of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 3.7. The annual report also contained an update on the most recent joint inspection of services for children and young people in need of care and protection.

4. Progress update

- 4.1. A revised set of actions and measures for our interim year 2020-21 have been agreed and will be reported at quarter 3, to allow time for the content to inform the new plan.
- 4.2. A CSP ‘Executive Writing Group’ was established in October 2020 and has been working with partners to build the current draft of the plan. This group will also co-ordinate any partnership activity towards completing the final version for publishing.
- 4.3. A Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA) has been created to help inform the content of the plan.
- 4.4. The JSNA is an essential component of the planning process and has three distinct components: an analysis of essential data available to partners; perceptions of the children’s services workforce and the voice of children; and young people and families. The Children’s Services Data and Planning Group led on gathering and analysing available data to identify themes, where data trends suggest areas for improvement. All partner organisations were asked to contribute.
- 4.5. The engagement of the wider workforce spanned the period December 2019 to February 2021 and included around 300+ participants in multiagency locality events, an online seminar of 100 staff, and extensive discussions with groups within the children’s services partnership structure. Children, young people and families were consulted using a range of existing and bespoke activity to ensure an inclusive return. This activity included a public online questionnaire, focus groups with school pupils in primary, secondary and special needs education, questionnaires cascaded through targeted services e.g. Family Support Teams, Family Nurse Partnership, children’s houses, and a range of third sector

organisations, which realised around 250 returns. Evidence from existing or core engagement was also gathered e.g. from the recent joint inspection of services to support children and young people in need of care and protection questionnaires (158), which provided a perspective from children and young people who were either looked after, or on the child protection register.

- 4.6. The table below shows the outcome of this process:-

Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential	The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved	The life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people are improved
Reducing perinatal substance use	Improving the mental health and emotional wellbeing of children, young people and parents	Supporting sustained positive destinations for care experienced young people
Improving parental mental health in pregnancy	Healthy Weight (Physical activity, diet and nutrition)	Supporting care leavers transitions
Improving language development in early years (SIMD1)	Breastfeeding	Improving outcomes for care experienced children and young people
Developing inclusion as prevention to offending	Reducing dental decay	Improving care planning and reviews
Supporting Young Carers	Substance use by young people	Supporting Kinship Carers
Preventing domestic abuse	Parental substance use	Addressing neglect
Additional Support for Learning		Extending advocacy services for vulnerable groups

- 4.7. These proposed areas have been discussed with groups throughout the Children's Services governance structure, including the Continuous Improvement Group, Early Intervention and Prevention Sub-Group, Neglect Sub-Group and the Substance Misuse Sub-Group.
- 4.8. Further engagement has also taken place with service users throughout to build on what had already taken place. Virtual focus groups facilitated conversations with children, young people and parents about a number of themes around the plan, and a questionnaire has enabled those to respond who were unable to participate in the focus group programme.
- 4.9. The discussions with our partners and service users have helped inform the second draft of the plan (Appendix 1). The draft plan contains distinct sections covering key themes such as Children's Rights, Engagement and Participation, The Promise (Independent Care Review) and Child Protection.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1. The Executive Writing Group will continue to meet on a fortnightly basis to develop the plan and ensure that all stakeholders have an opportunity to contribute towards its content.
- 5.2. We will work with graphic designers from January 2021 onwards to create an animation to go with the plan, to help bring the content to life.
- 5.3. A stakeholder webinar is being planned for mid-February 2021 which (as in previous years) will incorporate workshops for the plan as well as other areas of partnership activity including Children's Rights and examples of improvement activity.
- 5.4. The Executive Writing Group will continue to revise the plan as engagement activity continues and ensure that the plan reflects all stakeholder contributions as best it can.
- 5.5. An Equality Impact Assessment and Children's Rights Wellbeing Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of the planning process.
- 5.6. Once agreed by the Children's Services Strategy Group and Getting It Right For South Lanarkshire's Children Partnership Board, the plan will be submitted for sign-off by the Council's Corporate Management Team (CMT) and NHS Lanarkshire's Board by mid-March. A detailed timeline is attached in Appendix 2. The two signatories for the plan will be the Chief Executives of South Lanarkshire Council and the NHS Lanarkshire Board.
- 5.7. The plan will be published and submitted to the Scottish Government by the end of March 2021.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. In developing the new children's services plan, an Equality Impact Assessment will be completed along with a Children's Rights Wellbeing Impact Assessment and extensive consultation with stakeholders including staff, service users and the wider community will inform the planning process.

11. Children's Rights Considerations

- 11.1. A Children's Rights Wellbeing Impact Assessment will be completed as part of the work to build the Children's Services Plan 2020-23.

11.2. The work to engage children, young people and families in developing the plan is central to our continuing commitment to the UNCRC and in particular the following Articles:

- ◆ **Article 12 (respect for the views of the child)** Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.
- ◆ **Article 13 (freedom of expression)** Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

Val de Souza
Director, Health and Social Care
South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership

Tony McDaid
Executive Director, Education Resources
South Lanarkshire Council

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information

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Draft 2

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children, Young People and Families

Children's Services Plan

2021-2023

Working together: making a difference

A foundation for recovery

Contents

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Section One: Foreword

Welcome to “**Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire’s Children, Young People and Families 2021-2022**”, our children’s services plan.

This plan builds on our achievements from previous children’s services plans to ensure that our commitment to providing the best outcomes possible remains central to all we do. We continue with the statutory responsibilities of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

Our commitment to three high level themes and their linked outcomes which act as the organisers for our plan, with a slight refocusing of our third theme around the landscape of child protection and corporate parenting:

- **Prevention and early support:** Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential.
- **Health and wellbeing:** The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved.
- **Children and young people in need of care and protection:** The life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people are improved.

In working towards our outcomes, our strong partnership arrangements provide a robust network of partners to achieve what we need to over the next two years and beyond. Our children’s services partners are committed to working together to get it right for every child, young person and family in South Lanarkshire and the wellbeing indicators are key drivers for our planning processes.

We also consider other recent drivers that inform and shape our plan and help us to improve outcomes for children and families.

- The independent care review and the resulting Promise to keep children with their families where it is safe to do so and value the importance of relationships with families
- The clear direction provided by the joint inspection for children and young people in need of care and protection, carried out in partnership with the Care Inspectorate
- The key guidance provided by the National Performance Framework
- The refocused governance structure of South Lanarkshire’s Community Planning Partnership

To support our vision the plan will focus exclusively on activity carried out by partners working together to use our resources more efficiently and provide a more focussed approach to meeting families needs.

We will work together to strengthen our planning and investment in services where possible to ensure effective targeting for our most vulnerable children and families.

We acknowledge the impact COVID-19 has had on our work as a partnership in 2020, affecting our planning and delivery of services and interrupting the desire to make this iteration of our plan a continuation of the momentum we have built up. We also recognise the innovative and creative responses put in place to continue to support children and families throughout the pandemic and mitigate the negative impact the virus has caused. As a result, the new two-year plan will provide synergy with the national planning cycle and create a framework around which to organise our work, to aid the recovery process for children, young people and families. In taking this approach we have been appreciative of the flexibility provided by part 3, paragraph 8 of Schedule 6 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 (“the 2020 Act”). This has enabled us to take advantage of the flexibility provided by that Act to postpone compliance with the children’s services plan duties to produce a final report in April 2020 and a new three year plan covering the period April 2020 - March 2023.

Section Two: Our Partnership

In South Lanarkshire we have a shared vision that:

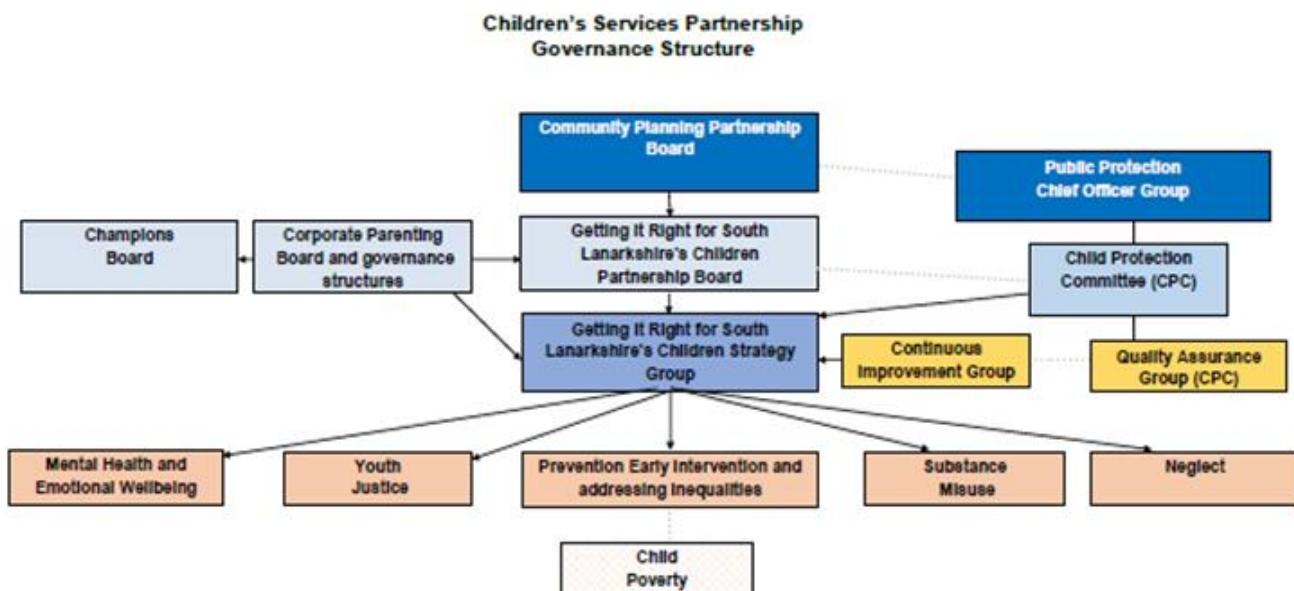
South Lanarkshire's children, young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities.

This vision is underpinned by a continued commitment to:

- Tackling inequality, discrimination, and poverty
- Promoting early support and prevention
- Targeting resources on those areas where working together will make the biggest impact on children, young people and families
- Ensuring a multi-agency approach to continuous improvement and
- Implementing a workforce development strategy that builds the competence and confidence of our staff

Our children's services partners in South Lanarkshire are: most importantly our children, young people and families, South Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership, NHS Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA), Police Scotland, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture and Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLAN) on behalf of the vibrant and valuable third sector organisations working with children and families.

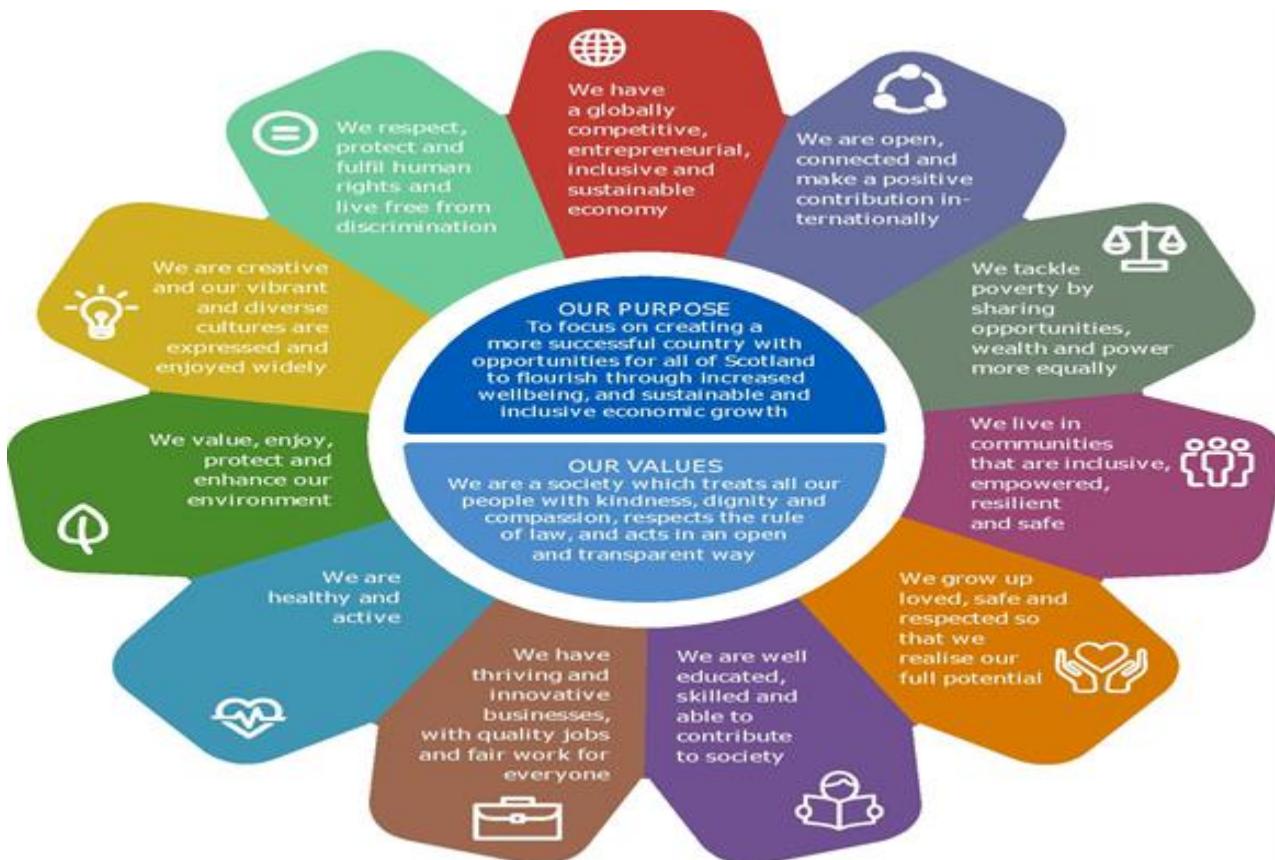
The diagram below shows the governance structure that oversees the work of the children's services partnership and the delivery of our children's services plan.



The structure supports and oversees the progress reporting through our annual report, engagement with national networks, consultations and related structures and planning processes.

By working together in partnership and sharing information appropriately, we can better support children and families. We recognise that every child is entitled to be supported throughout their childhood into adulthood, getting the help they need, when they need it.

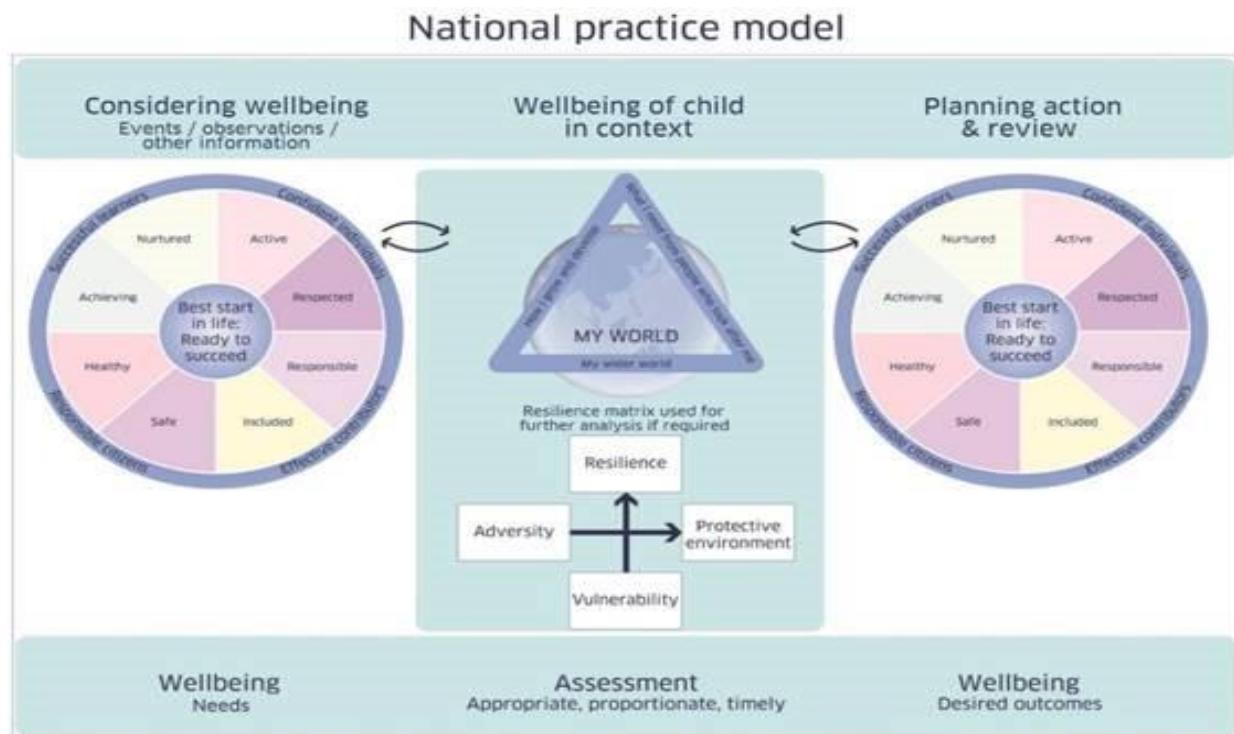
In developing this plan, we have paid close attention to Scotland's **National Performance Framework**.



The key to successful outcomes, is the provision of good quality services which are well organised and equipped to deliver, joined-up, responsive support to children and their families.

This plan is for all children and young people in South Lanarkshire and helps inform the ability to provide services against a backdrop of tightening budgets. There is a need to target our services to where there is greatest need. For approximately 80% of our children, universal services offer the support necessary to ensure positive outcomes are achieved. However, some children and young people need extra help. Inequalities in health and attainment exist between children and young people from our more deprived communities when compared to those from our more affluent ones, as well as specific vulnerable groups e.g. children who are looked after, or young carers.

The GIRFEC National Practice Model provides the necessary tools to ensure proportionate and timely intervention, making sure we keep the child at the centre.



The Getting it right for every child approach is based on shared values and principles. It recognises the fundamental right of children and families to be involved in decisions which affect them and for everyone to be accountable for their actions. We want South Lanarkshire to be a place where children can access all the opportunities and support that they need, when they need it. We believe every child has the right to be active, achieving, nurtured, respected, responsible, included, healthy – and above all, safe. At the heart of our approach is a commitment to engage children, young people and their families in having a say about the services and support that are made available.

Our children's services partnership is committed to ensuring that the various plans and strategies are joined up to maximise benefits and to implement a common goal to tackle disadvantage and inequality. We aim to do this in way that informs the use of our available resources in a shared manner.

The following legislation provides important direction and guidance for our planning:

- The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and
- The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 (includes rights for young carers)

A more comprehensive list of legislation is detailed in the Useful Links Section.

In addition, the following documents have helped to create provide a strong context for the priorities identified.

- South Lanarkshire's Community Plan
- South Lanarkshire Council's Plan – 'Connect'
- Local Child Poverty Action Report
- Integrated Health and Social Care Strategic Commissioning Plan
- Child Protection Business Plan
- Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan
- Youth Justice Strategy and Action Plan
- Lanarkshire's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Strategy
- NHS Lanarkshire Child Health Plan
- Education Resources Plan
- Social Work Resources Plan
- Chief Social Work Officer Report
- Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Strategy
- Community Learning and Development Strategy
- Youth Strategy

Between 2015 and 2017 South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership worked with the Scottish Government as part of phase one of the national Realigning Children's Services programme. As we move into a new plan we continue to embrace the ethos of the RCS programme and ensure that our gathering of data and use of other evidence directs how we can use our available resources to achieve best possible outcomes.

As a partnership we have spent some time understanding and analysing our data trends and carrying out conversations with our children, young people and families and listening to our workforce. The result is a comprehensive Joint Strategic Needs Assessment that has informed our plan and reflects the voices of children, young people and families and the views of our wider workforce. This assessment will also help guide our partnership in a range of other planning and decision-making processes as we move forward.

Section Three: What we know about children, young people and families in South Lanarkshire

In 2019, South Lanarkshire was home to 320,530 people, of which 17.3% were 15 and under. The area covers 180,000 hectares of land stretching from a few miles from the city centre of Glasgow to close to the Scottish Border (with a 80% Urban and 20% rural split and is one of the largest and most diverse areas of Scotland. There are four localities that are aligned to support planning across Education, Health and Social Work and 17 learning communities with 20 secondary establishments, 124 primary schools and 72 early years establishments.

The key characteristics of our children and young people can be seen in the profiles below.

Population statistics

Age	Number and % of population	The percentage projected changes in the Under 25 populations to 2036 period.
Aged Under 5 –	16,803 – 5.3%.	-6%
5-14	35,281 – 11.1%	-4.5% (5-9), + 4.1% (10 -14)

15-19	16,828 – 5.3%	-4.4%
20-24	17,757 = 5.6%	-8.6%

Parents, carers & families are supported from the earliest stages to give children a healthy start & ensure they grow up loved & NURTURED

28% of Babies are exclusively breastfed at six to eight weeks – rates are nearly three times higher in least deprived areas compares with the most deprived

Around 1 in 6 women reports smoking during pregnancy – this varies from 1 in 4 in the most deprived areas to 1 in 29 in the least deprived

In 19/20 35.7% of antenatal women reported they had a mental health well-being issue at booking.

Families have adequate incomes and affordable, warm homes to ensure children have the best start in life

In the 2020 South Lanarkshire had 431 data zones – 20.4% of South Lanarkshire's data zones were amongst the **20% Most Deprived**.

24% of children are living in relative poverty, above the Scottish average and a 1% increase from the previous year – This varies by locality and ward, with East Kilbride South increasing by 4.7% in the last years

68.8% of those registered for free school meals actually take them – below the Scottish figure of 73.5 %.

In 2019/20 there were 965 homeless households of which 392 were households with children, a total 41%.

Children and young people are SAFE, protected from abuse, neglect and harm in their communities & homes

For every 1000 children under 5 years, 7 will have an emergency admission for an unintentional injury - rates are 50% higher in the most deprived areas than the least deprived

In July 2019 116 children and young people (2.1 per 1,000) aged under 16 were on the child protection register - below Scotland and a decrease of 2.1 per 1000 from the previous year. The highest category being neglect.

725 children and young people were looked after - 10.6 per 1,000 population and lower than the national figure of 14.3 %. Of these, during the reporting period:

- **27% of children and young people were Looked After at Home with parents** - 1% above the Scotland total of 26%,
- **29% with Kinship Carers Friends/Relatives** - 1% above the Scotland total of 28%,

- **33% with Foster Carers** - 8% above the Scotland total of 24%, 1% with Foster Carers purchased by Local Authority, 9% below the Scotland total of 10%,
- **1% in other community settings** (includes prospective adopters) - the same as the national figure

Children & young people are RESPECTED & RESPONSIBLE, including being involved in decisions that affect them

12.5 per 1,000 children and young people are referred to the Children's Reporter for offending - higher than the comparator authorities of Renfrewshire and Fife, but lower than the Scotland average. Rates are 17 times higher in the most deprived areas than the least deprived.

4366 children and young people engaged in Youth, Family and Community Learning sessions on antisocial behaviour, bonfire/fire safety, mentoring and South Lanarkshire's Leisure and Culture Coaching Academy.

Children & young people have good mental & physical HEALTH & live in communities which support health, including play, being ACTIVE & eating well

1 in 10 children in primary are at risk of obesity – children in the most deprived area are at twice the risk of obesity as those in the least deprived.

Last year 20,421(47%) of pupils participated in the Active Schools programme, an increase of 2% from the previous year.

SALSUS data shows an increasing trend in reported mental health issues. There has been a **7% increase in 13-year-olds reporting a mental health concern and a 12% increase in 15 year olds reporting a mental health concern**.

Children & young people are INCLUDED by addressing inequalities & are supported to learn & to develop & ACHIEVE

3 of every 5 young people leave school with at least one level 6 qualification - In the most deprived areas this falls to 2 out of every 5

In 2019 17% of children at their 27mth review had a concern in at least one area of their development. This is higher than the Scottish figure of 13.5%. Speech, language and communication and emotional and behavioural concerns were the areas where most concerns were raised. Children living in the most deprived data zones had 5% higher levels of concerns in comparison to the least deprived.

30% less pupils from the most deprived data zones achieved their Curriculum for Excellence levels in S3 compared to least deprived.

In 2018/19 93.5% of pupils in most deprived data zones achieved a positive school leaver's destination, above the Scottish average of 93.4% - South Lanarkshire has been above the national average every year since 2012/13

Children, young people & adults affected by childhood adversity & trauma have the right support in place, where needed, to improve health & life outcome

Traumatic events can have a lasting effect on health and wellbeing. Data from 2020 highlights concerns raised during the child protection process show the following rates:

Abuse - emotional 35.3%, physical 12.1%, sexual 4.9%

Neglect – includes emotional and physical 60.3%

Household challenges - domestic violence 26.7%, substance use 43.1%, parental mental health 20.7%



Section Four: Our investment in children, young people and families

Resources

South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership has overall governance of the provision of Children's Services. Structures are in place to facilitate effective partnership working that aims to align services priorities and establish a set of jointly agreed outcomes. This also sees the alignment of partnership resources both financial and staffing to achieve the outcomes agreed.

Our strong focus on early intervention and prevention across all partners which at a time of public spending reductions makes the best use of our limited resources.

The CPP has regular budget reporting and agreement around budget planning across the partnerships to ensure best outcomes as well as ensuring that any savings do not impact on the joint priorities agreed.

Over the last 2 years the CPP has led the way in the design and delivery of public services which are responsive to local need and also the establishment of neighbourhood planning areas for targeted interventions. These are a key element of the Children's Service Planning agenda.

In 2019/20, over £396m was provided for the provision of universal and targeted services for children and families including Education Services (£287m), Health Services (£63m) and Social Work Services (£35.6m). A large proportion of the children's services budget was provided to primary and secondary school-aged children (32% and 37% respectively) and fifteen percent of the budget was spent on the early years and 4% on preschool-aged children. Post school-aged young people received around 2% of the total budget.

In addition, there are an increasing number of funding streams being made available to the partnership to support areas of national policy at a local level. These funding streams include the Care Experienced Children and Young People Attainment Fund, Infant Mental Health funding, Counselling Through Schools and Community Access Mental Health Services resources. The partnership also contributes to the commissioning of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership services for children with substance misuse issues and the shared resourcing of the Parenting Support Pathway activity. South Lanarkshire's third sector provides valuable capacity to deliver crucial support services to children, young people and families of approximately £11m in value.

We aim to use our combined resource effectively to ensure we deliver services which promote wellbeing, prevent adversity and provide the right help at the right time to those who need it.

Finance

In 2019/20 over £396 million was spent on services for children and their families across Education and Health and Social Care

Commissioned services	Prioritised partnership spending with aligned funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• South Lanarkshire Young Carers Service (Action 4 Children)• VASLAN contribution to children's services partnership• Silverton Short Breaks Service (Action for Children)• Counselling through Schools providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parenting Support Pathway (£75k)• Infant Mental Health Fund• Mental Health Community Access Fund• Pupil Equity Fund• Scottish Attainment Challenge Fund• Youth Guarantee Fund

Section Five: Children's Rights and # the right to be myself

Our children's services partnership is committed to the process of incorporating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots law and the additional commitments that come with it, which we hope will help children to access their rights more readily.

Our expectation is that the incorporation will improve outcomes, although we are aware that there is still a lot to be done in terms of raising awareness of the importance of children's rights, especially amongst vulnerable groups. Key adults supporting children require to understand the UNCRC and the bill, ensuring that those working in education, child protection and with care experienced children and young people are competent and confident in their use.

We encourage and welcome a proactive culture in making children's rights central to our work. Recognising, respecting and promoting the rights of all children and young people is crucial to improving outcomes and increasing life chances. We are confident that a strong rights-based approach can make a significant difference to children and young people's lives and improve the quality and impact of services.

Building from a strong baseline we have set out to understand the wide range of practice that reflects the 42 articles in the United Nations Convention Rights of the Child. We recognise that children and young people want the right to be themselves **# the right to be myself** and this is a feature of our approach to children's rights.

In late 2019, a series of locality events helped reflect on rights-based practice and set the agenda for further improvement on the importance of working towards best practice in children's rights. We are listening more to young people than ever before through a wide range of participation and engagement practice, much of which is articulated within this section.

In building this plan, the voices of children, young people and parents have been central to agreeing what our priorities will be for the next two years and how they are articulated in this document.

To support our approach in developing children's rights we have developed a handbook for staff that helps provide support and guidance in recognising the importance of children's rights and inspiring staff to best practice. ([Handbook link to come](#))

What we will do to continue our commitment to children's rights in South Lanarkshire over the next two years:

In progressing the children's rights agenda, the Partnership will seek to deliver on the following commitments as part of our plan of action to make children's rights-based practice in South Lanarkshire the best it can be.

- Continue to use the Children's Rights Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) model in developing South Lanarkshire's Children's Services Plan 2020-23, the refreshed Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan and other areas of policy and strategy affecting children and young people
- Further develop awareness of Children's Rights into workforce development opportunities provided to the children's services workforce
- Enhance the voices of our care experienced children and young people through the Champion's Board

- Further develop our **Right to be Myself** approach e.g., consider the impact of gender issues and how we are open and responsible in supporting children and young people through their experiences
- Be imaginative in engaging with children and young people who are less likely to engage in traditional consultation process. For example, make use of social media to provide platforms for children and young people to share their views and experiences in a safe environment
- Provide opportunities for children and young people to participate in locality-based events and explore how we can develop more creative opportunities for participation
- Work with parents and carers to raise their awareness of children's rights and ensure children having a better understanding of responsibilities along with rights
- Enhance the rights of young carers through the commissioned Young Carers Service
- Extend and enhance advocacy support to children and young people

Section Six: Engagement and Participation

Engagement with children young people and families

As a partnership we are keen to hear the lived experiences of those children and young people we work with. We do this in a variety of ways and our approach to engagement and participation is guided by both Article 12 of the UNCRC, which states that children and young people should have their say when adults are making decisions that affect them and their opinions are taken seriously and the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, which seeks to ensure that children's rights are realised and influence the design and delivery of policies and services.

Creating ways to engage with our children and young people in conversations designed to maximise their voices has been central to this planning process and continues to be a key influence on all our joint planning. Some recent examples include:

- Establishing a Champions Board for our care experienced children and young people
- Carrying out an online survey with children, young people families and communities to inform this plan
- Supporting a comprehensive questionnaire/survey as part of the 2019 inspection for services to support children and young people in need of care and protection
- Implementing the 'Mind of My Own' app for care experienced young people
- Carrying out an extensive biennial Youth Services survey
- Listening to children and young people's experiences and concerns of the impact of COVID-19
- Conversing with service users through focus groups and questionnaires in the Autumn of 2020 to ensure that we were considering the latest experiences and voices of children and families as our plan came together and as the COVID-19 pandemic evolved

In addition, as we move through the process of delivering this plan we will look to improve how we embed our work around the 'voice of the child' into our core business, through areas like care planning and universal services, gathering key messages from children, young people and families and using this to inform planning and decision making. One specific way of doing this will be through six specific tests of change, designed as part of the Inclusion As Prevention Initiative in partnership with Dartington Design Lab, the Centre for Criminal Justice and Action For Children. This activity will be a particular feature throughout the two years of this plan and will be important in our co-design activity.

Our approach is informed by the national standards for community engagement and the recently produced 'National Standards for Community Engagement - Recovery and Renewal' guidance, which

supports engagement following the COVID-19 pandemic. <http://www.voicescotland.org.uk/support-materials/>

Through our engagement activity, our children and young people tell us that:

- They want us to be more creative in tackling child poverty and inequalities and helping families and they worry about their family's own money issues
- Parental health and wellbeing, particularly mental health can have a major impact on the health and wellbeing of children and young people
- The unfairness of coronavirus worries them, including missed school/learning, the impact on their future choices and the difficulties maintaining contact with friends
- They worry about homelessness and how that affects other families and young people
- The lack of the right transport can mean they miss out on crucial services and supports
- Families should find it easier to get all the help they need, e.g., through an integrated model of support (get help at one place, not many places)
- Often the culture, stigma and embarrassment at needing help for some things e.g., mental health, finance puts people off asking for support
- They are not aware of what support is available e.g. hearing about entitlements from friends, rather than at the earliest point automatically

Engagement with staff

Engagement with staff is a highly valued aspect of our work. Regular multi agency events enable staff from all partners to contribute to our planning and evaluation and reflect on progress against key targets. Last year around 600 staff from across all the partners attended at least one of these events and 1162 members of staff responded to a survey carried out as part of the recent inspection. Over 100 staff participated in an online seminar in January 2021.

This provided a strong perspective of what is working well for our children and families and what needs to be better going forward. This perspective is included as an integral part of our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and has helped to inform our agreed priorities.

Key issues arising from our engagement activity with staff include the following themes:

Provide early support based on better identification and understanding of need

The importance of emotional wellbeing based on access to the right services and well trained and supported staff

Improve the number of children with a healthy weight, including providing easier ways to be active and develop healthier eating habits

Improve parental engagement in services and facilitate increased opportunities to share views and

experiences
Address poverty through affordable childcare, access to benefits, increased employability options and digital inclusion
Supporting care experienced children through transitions better and offer improved supports to kinship carers
Addressing the lack of preventative support for substance use issues of young people and address problems caused by parental substance use at the earliest point
Provide better joined up working, including integrated approaches focused on the whole family and shared training opportunities such as locality events and practice sharing sessions
Support staff's understanding and confidence in relation to trauma-based practice through high quality training and awareness raising

What we will do to continue our commitment to engagement with our stakeholders in South Lanarkshire over the next two years:

1. Develop a bespoke Engagement and Participation Strategy for the Children's Services Partnership
2. Engage in conversations with children, young people and parents as part of our core activity and develop ways to share this feedback across the partnership
3. Contribute towards other engagement activity taking place including around the development of a new Council Plan and Community Plan for 2022 onwards.
4. Collate Mind of My Own outcome data to ensure any developing themes identified
5. Produce a child/young person friendly version of our plan

Section Seven: The Promise (Independent Care Review)

The Care Review is “an independent, root and branch review of Scotland’s care system”, the underpinning legislation, practices, culture and ethos. The Care Review has been built on five foundations of voice; family; care; people and scaffolding and these must be at the heart of how Scotland thinks, plans and prioritises for its children and families.

We recognise that the only way significant improvements can be made is by understanding the full extent of what it means to experience care. The lived experience and wisdom of people has been at the very heart of the Independent Care Review and will be at the very heart of the responses to share care review planning in South Lanarkshire. South Lanarkshire Council Children and Justice Services has already been involved in work of the Independent Care Review, specifically the stop: go and edges of care work.

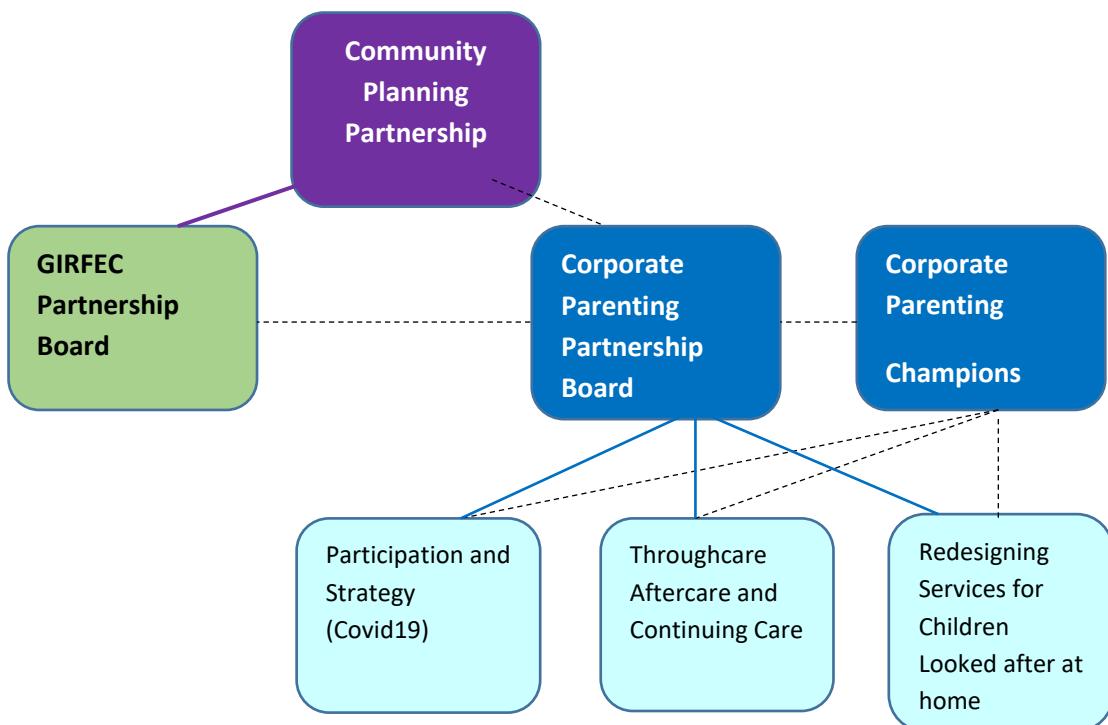
We refer to ‘The Promise’ as opposed to recommendations, recognising that there must be unwavering commitment to radical change that transforms the culture of care.

At its core, is the commitment to keep children with their families where it is safe to do so and above all else, value the importance of relationships with families.

While work is beginning to cascade responses across Scotland, in South Lanarkshire we are working to shape local practice and involve service providers, professionals and volunteers involved in the lives of children to implement change. Our progress will be reported to our Champions' Board, which was launched in December 2019 and our Corporate Parenting Strategy Group/Board. The work is supported through three multiagency thematic groups:

- Redesigning Services for children looked after at home
- Throughcare and aftercare and continuing Care
- Engagement and participation of care experienced children and young people

Proposal of renewed Corporate Parenting governance and structure (diagram below)



Section Eight: Child Protection

The South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee (SLCPC) is the local strategic planning partnership responsible for developing and implementing child protection policy and strategy across and between agencies as described in the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland.

The SLCPC performs a number of functions in South Lanarkshire including the development of policies, procedures and protocols in ensuring the effectiveness and quality of local child protection services. It provides high quality learning and development opportunities for a range of professionals, practitioners and managers.

The core business function of South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee is linked to continuous improvement in the context of a set of quality indicators, based on the Five Key Questions set by the Care Inspectorate that provide a framework for evaluation across the partnership.

South Lanarkshire Committee (SLCPC) members meet quarterly at core meetings and within associated subgroups to consider local and national child protection matters and make collective decisions on how to keep children and young people at the centre of our work. The SLCPC routinely reports to the Chief Officers Group (Public Protection) and offers regular updates to the Integrated Joint Board (IJB), the Children's Planning Partnership (CPP) the Community Justice Partnership (CJP) and the GIRFEC Partnership Board. It works to ensure outcomes are being achieved and that we uphold Article 12 (UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989) by working;

- Collaboratively to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in South Lanarkshire
- SMART^[1] in developing and implementing plans focussed on improving outcomes for children, young people and families.
- Together in reviewing, evaluating, monitoring and publishing multi-agency protocols, procedures and guidance relating to child protection and public protection.
- In partnership to ensure oversight of data (qualitative and quantitative) about child protection to inform improvements.
- To promote key messages about protecting children, young people and families in our communities; and
- Together to develop and deliver high quality training, learning and development opportunities for the multi-agency child protection workforce.

The SLCPC has a number of sub groups who take forward the agenda as set by the Child Protection Improvement Programme in 2017 and National Guidance. It has in place, a number of processes to identify good practice and disseminate lessons learned from past and current practice, including learning from significant case reviews, inspection reports, case file audits, consultation events and other self-evaluation activity and inquiry reports both at local and national level. The SLCPC celebrates success and uses these to strengthen partnership working at every opportunity.

The SLCPC listen to children, young people, families, communities and our workforce to produce public information about protecting children and young people. By working in partnership, we can continue to deliver key messages about keeping safe from, harm, abuse or neglect in South Lanarkshire.

More information is available at www.childprotectionsouthlanarkshire.org.uk

Section Nine: Continuous Improvement

Continuous improvement is an integral part of our partnership governance structure and our approach has been informed by the national policy and local scrutiny of practice, both internal and external. Our Continuous Improvement Group maintain a shared improvement plan based quality assurance activity, which is reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Most recently the 2019 joint inspection for children and young people in need of care and protection, carried out in partnership with the Care Inspectorate provided a valuable opportunity to evaluate our

progress in the delivery of key services. The resultant published report in June 2020 provided a clear direction for activity that is articulated in the children and young people in need of care and protection theme of this children's services plan.

Our commitment to continuous improvement also includes carrying out a range of activity designed to improve standards, e.g.:

- Using the key self-evaluation documents '*How well do we protect children and meet their needs?*' (HMIE, 2009), '*How well are we improving the lives of children and young people?*' (Care Inspectorate 2014) and '*A quality framework for children and young people in need of care and protection*' (Care Inspectorate 2018) to support of understanding
- Carrying out multiagency self-evaluation
- Auditing agreed joint processes and using information to promote best practice within and across agencies
- Engaging children, young people and families to hear their views and experiences of accessing services, life circumstances, hopes and aspirations

The Continuous Improvement Group has devised an Improvement Framework ([insert link](#)) to inform the above work and to encourage quality assurance activity on a multi-agency basis, which includes the Scottish Government's Three Step Improvement Framework.

Workforce development is an integral part of our improvement agenda and increasing demands to support new priorities and evidenced need mean that as a partnership, we continually build the capacity of our staff through good quality training opportunities and increased skills, knowledge and confidence to deliver the rights support at the right time. Throughout the duration of this plan we aim to provide training opportunities to support staff in a number of important areas, including:

- Mental health and emotional wellbeing of children and young people
- Trauma based practice
- Children's Rights and in particular the incorporation of the UNCRC into Scots' law
- Attachment
- Parenting support programmes
- Provide important opportunities for networking and the sharing of effective practice

In 2019 we introduced a Staff Handbook, which helps staff understand fully how the work that they do contributes towards our goal of improving outcomes for our children, young people and families. [Staff handbook link](#)

What we will do to support workforce development during this plan:

1. Provide training awareness raising around children's rights
2. Continue with our multiagency events
3. Deliver additional training to support the contribution to the Parenting Support Pathway
4. Provide important opportunities for networking and the sharing of effective practice
5. Continue to support our workforce develop a greater understanding and confidence in approaching trauma-based practice

Section Ten: Developing our priorities

We have produced a comprehensive Joint Strategic Needs Analysis [link](#) which is built on three essential sections including the collection, analysis and understanding of available data. Our Data and Planning Group recorded data showing trends over time, the scale of inequality and areas where early intervention could reduce the likelihood of further problems in the future. A prioritisation tool was used to support this process and data gaps were identified and areas for improvement were agreed.

In addition, the voices and experience of children and families and the perception of the wider children's services workforce (explained further in section six) provide crucial evidence to add to the understanding of data and create a more holistic understanding of need.

As a result of this improvement activity, we have agreed three high level priorities, each with a high-level outcome. These are:

- **Prevention and Early Support:** Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved.
- **Children and young people in need of care and protection:** The life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people are improved.

The table below shows the outcome of this process.

Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential	The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved	The life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people are improved
Reducing perinatal substance use	Improving the mental health and emotional wellbeing of children, young people and parents (Infant mental health, counselling through schools, community access framework, reducing suicide, COVID-19 impact)	Supporting sustained positive destinations for care experienced young people
Improving parental mental health in pregnancy	Healthy Weight (Physical activity, diet and nutrition)	Supporting care leavers transitions
Improving language development in early years (SIMD1)	Breastfeeding	Improving outcomes for care experienced children and young people
Developing inclusion as prevention to offending	Reducing dental decay	Improving care planning and reviews
Supporting Young Carers	Substance use by young people	Supporting Kinship Carers
Preventing domestic abuse	Parental substance use	Addressing neglect
Additional Support for Learning		Extending advocacy services for vulnerable groups

The Community Planning Partnership works ensure that any duplication in planning and reporting is kept to a minimum. Tackling child poverty remains an overarching priority for our partnership and to help mitigate child poverty, in addition to the above priorities articulated in the children's services plan, a

range of actions have been incorporated into the Local Child Poverty Action Report, which can be found [here](#)

These include:

- Affordable childcare
- Food poverty
- Homelessness
- Access to benefits and entitlement
- Digital inclusion
- Parental employability

Section Eleven: Our priority outcomes

Our plan has three priority themes:

- **Prevention and early support:** Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential.
- **Health and wellbeing:** The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved.
- **Children in need of care and protection:** The life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people are improved.

1. Prevention and Early Support

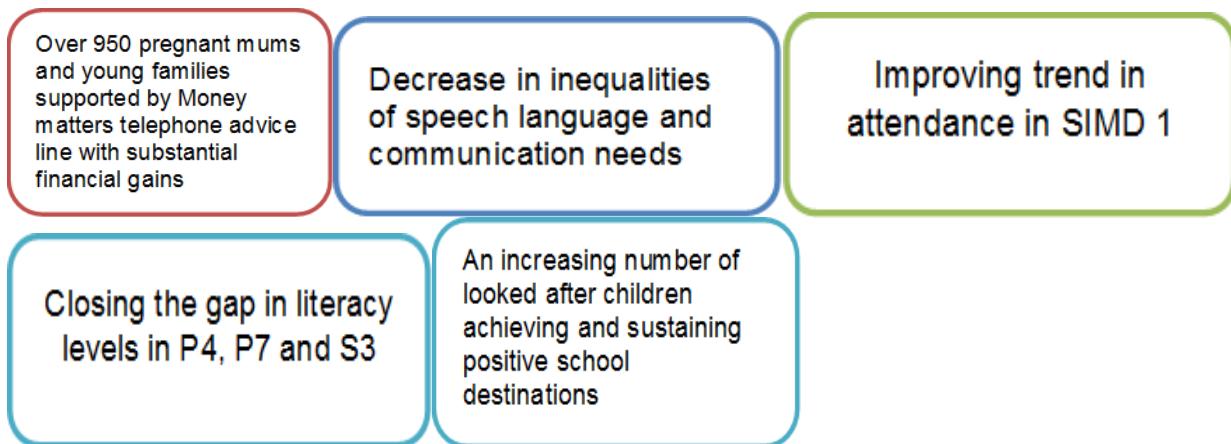
Why is it important?

All children deserve the best possible start in life and to grow up loved, safe and respected so that they achieve their full potential. Several key documents outlined in the appendix have identified the need for change from a reactive to a preventative approach to stop problems occurring or getting worse with early identification of need and support through both universal and targeted approaches. These are delivered by a range of services, through education, health, social work and the third sector.

If a child with a concern does not benefit from early intervention, there are multiple risks for example—negative impact on their wellbeing, emotional and behavioural problems, Language and literacy difficulties, lower educational attainment, worklessness, challenges to mental health and, in some cases, a progression into offending and substance misuse later in life. It is estimated that 40% of current spending is on interventions that could have been avoided by prioritising a preventative approach.

A shift towards using strengths-based approaches with families/parents and communities alongside preventive spend offers the best opportunity for tackling inequalities on an individual, family, community and societal level. Reducing future demand in services, more effective use of resources and resulting in better outcomes for children, young people and families.

Achievements from our previous Children's Services Plan



Where are we now?

Over the last three years we have seen substantial investment and commitment both nationally and locally around improving preventative services and early intervention, including: the implementation of our parenting support pathway for 0-8 year olds, the roll out of the national universal health visiting pathway, targeted school nursing approaches, extending our early learning and childcare provision and development of early intervention services within Social Work, for example the Fas project.

Within our schools, the Scottish Attainment Challenge and Pupil Equity Funding (PEF), helps to provide additional opportunities for targeted and innovative solutions to address the poverty related attainment gap.

We use a quality improvement model to accelerate the achievement of the national Children and Young People's Improvement Collaborative and improve outcomes for children and young people. This activity has focused on key developmental, literacy and numeracy and health and wellbeing milestones, as well as sustained positive post school destinations for children within each SIMD data zone.

Our parenting support pathway provides evidence-based programmes for parents on a universal and targeted basis and supports parenting skills and attachment to build strong family relationships. The pathway focuses on parents and carers of children 0-8 years and is currently being reviewed. The pathway will be extended to the 9-16 age range during the lifespan of this plan. In addition, we recently launched our attachment strategy, which provides an informed approach at an early stage for all professionals working with children. Attachment theory forms a core underpinning framework for all work with children in universal services as well as specialist provision.

There is increasing incidence of maternal mental ill health during pregnancy with 2019/20 figures showing 35.7% of antenatal women reporting a range of emotional wellbeing issues. Supporting evidence suggests poor parental mental health can have a detrimental effect on the health and development of children, leading to an increased risk of mental health problems for the children themselves.

Achieving developmental milestones at 27months of age has seen the gap close by 4.7% in the last year for children living in the most deprived areas, who were more likely than those living in the least deprived

areas to have a development concern. Most concerns remain related to speech, language and communication, with inequalities which can impact on literacy skills in school years.

Our Inclusion As Prevention work in the Rutherglen locality is a £800,000 funded investment over five years from 2019 to redesign early support services with children and young people to demonstrate better outcomes through a co design and improvement model aimed at reducing the number of young people going into the criminal justice system. Through developing exemplar project modelling and recognising rights of all children to have their voice heard, children and young people are involved in decisions that affect them. It will be built around an initial six mini projects, or tests of change that support improvement across youth justice and other thematic areas.

Children and young people affected by substance use in pregnancy remains an area of need. In June 2020 data showed that the proportion of women stating they were drinking 1+ units at their antenatal booking visit was 50.2%, significantly higher than the Scottish average of 26.4%. The impact of parental substance use is well researched and shows children are more likely to be at risk of abuse and neglect and at increased risk of developing substance use, behavioural and/or mental health issues themselves.

Domestic abuse has a devastating impact on children and young people that can last into adulthood and is defined as an adverse childhood experience (ACE). Children can experience both short and long term effects as a result of witnessing domestic abuse. However, we are aware that each child will respond differently to trauma and some may be resilient and not exhibit any negative effects.

Over the last few years domestic abuse incidents have increased as a whole. However, South Lanarkshire still remains below the Scottish figure of 108.1 per 100,000. Within the last year the incidences of domestic abuse where children were present has increased slightly to 1369 (2019) from 1237 the previous year. During COVID 19 the vulnerable children weekly data report collated by the Scottish Government is already evidencing an increase of 13.6% between 2019 and 2020 data.

We are seeing an increasing number of young carers being identified and our understanding of their needs is improving constantly. Providing the right support at the right time is essential to achieving best possible outcomes for this group. One response has been to commission a new Young Carers Service for South Lanarkshire that has now recently been established and already provides support to over 100 young carers. We estimate there may be around 660 young carers under 16 in South Lanarkshire.

Children and young people who face additional barriers to learning account for around 25% of all pupils in South Lanarkshire. It is important that they are included fully and have a say in their learning journey, in their schools and communities. Those working with them need to be aware of and be sensitive to individual needs. As a result of the recent Additional Support for Learning Review, we will ensure that the recommendations are embedded into our planning processes going forward.

THEME 1: Prevention and early support

Areas for action	Outcomes
1. Substance use in pregnancy	Enhanced delivery of support services which focus on prevention and early intervention for parents using substances in pregnancy
2. Parental mental health in pregnancy	Maternal health and wellbeing is improved before, during and after pregnancy
3. Speech and language in early years	Developmental outcomes for infants and children in their early years are improved and the difference in outcomes between socioeconomic groups is reduced
4. Youth Justice	Preventative support to children and young people to reduce offending behaviour is improved
5. Supporting young carers	Better identification and support to young carers leads to improved attainment and attendance
6. Domestic abuse	Preventative and early intervention programmes challenge domestic abuse and result in reduced incidents recorded
7. Additional support for learning	Quality learning and support for pupils with additional support needs leads to improved achievement and positive post school destinations

6. Health and Wellbeing

Why is it important

The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is vital for populations to live longer, healthier lives and make the most of life's opportunities. Health and wellbeing is affected by a range of wider factors such as deprivation, where we live and the services we have access to.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 places a definition of wellbeing in statute. Wellbeing is defined by a set of eight indicators to provide a common language for children, families and practitioners to ensure a holistic view of wellbeing is considered i.e. that children and young people are Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included. It is recognised that these indicators are all connected and overlapping with emotional wellbeing being a key building block to each.

Curriculum for excellence has health and wellbeing as a key component from early years through to secondary education and beyond. It supports every child and young person to feel cared for and valued as an individual regardless of their background or financial circumstances. Learning about health and wellbeing helps them cope with uncertainties in life, have confidence to try new and different things and make the most of opportunities that come along.

Positive Infant mental health is created and supported primarily through the development of early relationships between a baby and caregivers from conception onwards. However key factors can influence this in a negative way through parental abuse, neglect and household challenges for example parental mental ill health.

Children's and young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health is nurtured primarily through parents and carers, but early intervention and specialist services can and do make a difference. Universal services supporting parents and carers are a key way of promoting children's emotional wellbeing during the perinatal stage and in the early year's. A secure parent/child relationship is vital for the development of positive attachment and helps to build emotional resilience in children.

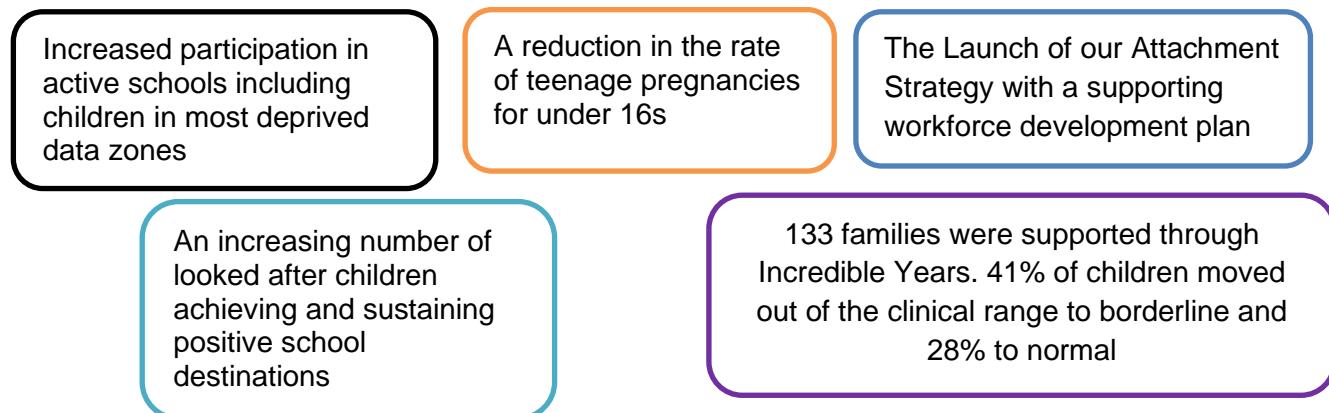
For older children and young people, support for parents and carers remains important. There is also evidence that schools and other agencies can enhance children and young people's emotional wellbeing for example by reducing risk taking behaviour, building self-esteem and resilience and supporting the development of social and emotional skills.

The recently launched Lanarkshire Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Strategy sets out four key strands, that provide a framework for planning services to improve the mental health and emotional wellbeing of children and young people. A focus on increasing access to services and supporting earlier intervention is central to the strategy. We have received funding from the Scottish Government counselling through schools and the community access framework. In September 2019 there were 2,091 open cases in CAMHS.

Equally important is children maintaining a healthy weight by participation in regular physical activity and a nutritional balance diet. Ensuring our children have the best possible start in life is essential to reducing childhood obesity and enjoying the highest standard of health possible. We will pay particular attention to our most deprived communities, so people are enabled to make healthier choices to significantly reduce health inequalities. Achieving change also requires a joined-up approach to food and we will ensure there is a strong link to South Lanarkshire's Food Strategy, which will inform our approach.

Substance misuse can have negative effects on children at different stages in their lives. During pregnancy, drinking and drug use can put babies at risk of birth defects, premature birth, being born underweight and withdrawal symptoms and is addressed in theme one of this plan. In later years, substance misuse can put children at risk of physical and emotional abuse or neglect, behavioural or emotional problems, having to care for their parents or siblings, poor attendance at school, experiencing poverty or being exposed to criminal activity. In South Lanarkshire the children's services partnership and ADP are working closely to develop strategies and supports to reduce the number of children, young people and families being affected by substance use.

Achievements from our previous Children's Services Plan



Where are we now?

COVID-19 has brought huge challenges and changes to all our lives. In the context of school and education, all children and young people have experienced unexpected challenges such as school closure and extended time at home. Health and wellbeing is central in the mitigation of any negative impact relating to these changes, and how they potentially affect the ability of children and young people to learn.

A gap was identified this year around Infant mental health and to compliment services for maternal mental health we have begun to plan and develop an Infant Mental Health (IMH) service (pre-conception to 3 years) to meet the wider needs of families experiencing significant adversity, including infant developmental difficulties, parental substance misuse, domestic abuse and trauma.

The SALUS survey in 2018 outlined the level of mental health and emotional wellbeing of young people showing 36% of 13 year olds had a borderline/abnormal SDQ an increase of 16 % from 2013 and 41% of 15 year olds a 12% increase from 2013.

Other data evidences an increasing trend in suicides in young people 11-25 (deaths caused by self-harm or of indeterminate intent) in 2018 the latest figure was 7.56 per 100,000. Overall Scottish data mirrors the local picture showing there has been a slight increase in females under 14, however overall males rates remain higher and twice as high in the 15-24 age range.

Within South Lanarkshire we have improved access to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and most recent figures show that 95% of children and young people are seen within 18 weeks (Scottish average is 79%).

Overweight and obesity levels in P1 children are continuing to increase, impacting on health and wellbeing now and in future years by increasing risk of chronic conditions such as Type 2 diabetes and problems such as low self-esteem. In 2017-18 the proportion of P1 children with unhealthy weights was 14.7% with the overweight category being the highest.

While we continue to meet Physical Education in schools' targets, we have identified a decline in physical activity levels from S3 particularly in girls. In response we are developing wider integrated approaches. 'Active Schools' aim to provide more opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity before school, lunchtime and after school. The programme contributes towards the health and wellbeing curriculum in schools and sends out a strong message on the importance of physical activity within school and the wider community. Last year 20,421(47%) of pupils participated in the Active Schools programme, an increase of 2% from the previous year.

Latest figures show in 2018/19 that 73.1% of primary one pupils had no obvious signs of tooth decay, an improving trend and consistently higher than the Scottish average. However, primary seven pupils recorded 73.4% with no obvious signs of dental decay, the highest figure recorded but below the Scottish average of 77.1%.

Over the last year the breastfeeding data shows an improving trend and the gap closing between deprived communities by 3.6%. However, a 15.2% gap remains and our rates continue to be below the national average.

Data from the national SALSUS survey shows an increasing trend in young people reporting smoking, drinking alcohol and using illegal drugs. Smoking results are closely mapped to Scottish trends and there is a dramatic change in young people reporting that they get someone to get them for them, as a result cigarettes appear to be easier to get hold of. In addition, the use of E-cigarettes appears to be on the rise. The Lanarkshire Tobacco Control Strategy gives prioritisation to prevention and protection actions e.g., reducing exposure to secondhand smoke. Parents and families are supported from the earliest stages to give children the best start in life, to be born free from tobacco and to live in a smoke-free community.

Alcohol use in 13 years olds has gone up as it has for 15 year olds, with 13 year olds more likely than average to not think it's okay to drink alcohol. 13 and 15 year olds that have got drunk more than 10 times appears to be significantly worse in South Lanarkshire than in comparator authorities. Drug use is higher than the Scottish average and appears to be increasing, with some evidence of more pro-drugs attitudes in young people than the Scottish average.

Theme 2: Health and wellbeing

Areas for action	Outcomes
8. Mental health and emotional wellbeing	Effective support for children, young people and parents leads to improved mental health and emotional wellbeing
9. Healthy weight	Increased participation in physical activity and improvement in diet increases the number of children being recorded as having healthy weight
10. Breastfeeding	More parents are encouraged to breastfeed longer as a result participation in the Breastfeeding Friendly Scotland Scheme
11. Dental decay	Early intervention support for families reduces the number of children experiencing dental decay in early childhood
12. Substance use by young people	Targeted interventions reduce the number of at-risk young people using substances
13. Parental substance use	Targeted interventions reduce the number of parents using substances

3. The life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people are improved

Why is it important

There are some children in South Lanarkshire that need extra support, protection and sometimes care from children's services partners. Those children and young people deemed to be most at risk will be subject to child protection procedures to help safeguard their wellbeing. Our partnership works together to make sure that those children and young people who need the extra help to be safe and protected, get that help.

The [National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014](#); provides a national framework for agencies and practitioners to understand and agree processes for working together to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children. This guidance is currently been revised and strengthened, taking account of practitioner and stake holder experience, inspections, research and learning form Significant Care Reviews. In addition the revised child protection guidance is based upon the protection of children's rights in accordance to the United Nations Convention on Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Whilst we promote the upbringing of children by their families, in so far as it consistent with safeguarding the promoting their welfare, there are occasions where this is not possible and children require to be 'looked after', either on a voluntary basis if families work with Social Work, or through the Court or Children's Hearing system where legal measures are required to ensure safeguarding. Children can be looked after at home, with foster carers, in residential homes or external residential establishments like schools or secure units. For those children unable to return home, permanent alternative care arrangements are considered to promote wellbeing.

Due to the difficult childhood experiences that looked after children have been exposed to, they will present with different issues around being safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included for which they will need targeted support to address.

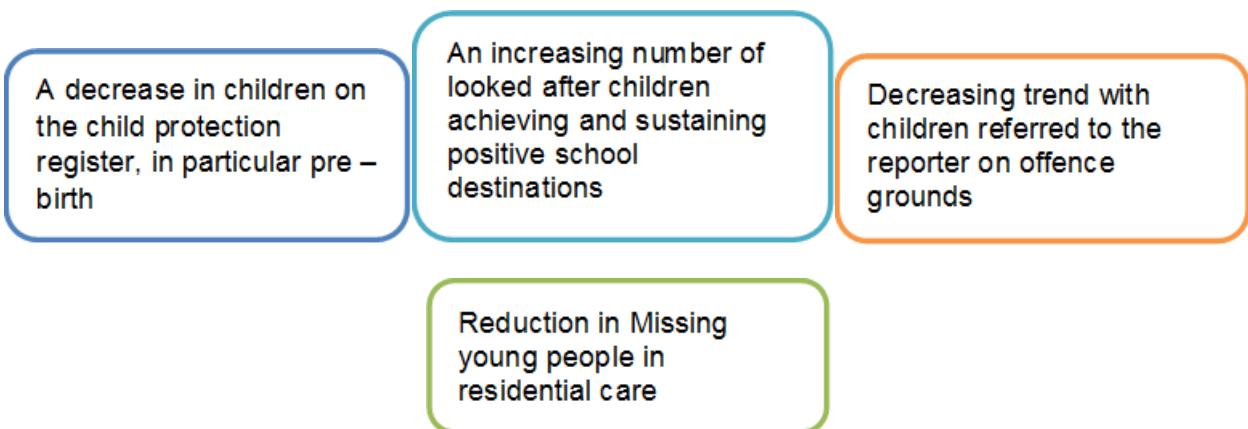
The Getting it Right for Looked After Children and Young People strategy launched in 2015 by the Scottish Government, recognises looked after children often have poorer outcomes in respect to health (including mental health) and education. Due to the poor attachments and parenting experienced by these children, they are more likely to have greater social and behavioural difficulties. As a partnership we recognise the importance of working together to address the multi-faceted issues these children can experience.

For those children who are most vulnerable in our communities, the South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee maintains an oversight of how well partners are working together to address issues of safeguarding. The Child Protection Committee is a multi-agency strategic partnership responsible for the design, development, publication, distribution, dissemination, implementation and evaluation of child protection policy and practice across the public, private and wider third sectors. The South Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee promotes partners working to address all wellbeing concerns and increase the life chances of the most vulnerable children.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 places duties and responsibilities on Corporate Parents for all looked after children from birth and potentially up to their 26th birthday. In South Lanarkshire there is commitment to improve outcomes for looked after children and care leavers. Over the last three years South Lanarkshire has had an average of 660 children and young people who are looked after at any one time. Our second Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan 2018 – 2020 strengthens and streamlines our core commitments providing a framework showing our aspiration to improve the lifelong outcomes of looked after children and young people.

Taking steps into adulthood and independent living is a crucial transition for looked after young people. Supporting best possible outcomes for care leavers and those in continuing care is essential to them developing well as adults. Continuing care and throughcare and aftercare provision should support the shared understanding that leaving care is a life event for looked after young people and corporate parents require effective systems which reflect that milestone in their life and provide ongoing support for care leavers for as long as they need it.

Achievements from our previous Children's Services Plan



Where are we now?

We aspire to have a transformative impact on all aspects of the lives of children in need of care and protection. We have worked hard, both individually and collectively, to bring about the positive change required to ensure that children and families have improved life chances.

The Care Inspectorate recently undertook an inspection of services for children in need of care and protection in South Lanarkshire. The report was published in 2020.

The Care Inspectorate in its conclusion reported that: The Care Inspectorate and its scrutiny partners are confident that South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership has the capacity to continue to improve and to address the points for action highlighted in this report. This is based on:

- ◆ a strong commitment to collaborative working and improvement
- ◆ improvements already demonstrated in the wellbeing of many children, young people and their families supported by a wide range of effective services
- ◆ the potential for continuing improvements through developments which had already begun
- ◆ the support and confidence demonstrated in senior leaders by staff across all sectors
- ◆ the partnership's own joint self-evaluation which identified many of the strengths and areas for development highlighted in this report
- ◆ positive discussions in partnership meetings held during the course of this inspection which demonstrated a clear commitment to improvement and learning

Moving forward, we have developed an action plan based on the findings on the Inspection to strengthen our approach to children in need of care and protection.

Our corporate parenting partners have the highest ambitions and aspirations for our care experienced children and young people's futures and are committed to providing the right support so that children and young people are resilient and well equipped with skills for life and work. To this end, we have re-established a Throughcare and Aftercare Service to deliver on our statutory responsibilities by ensuring care leavers are well supported through purposeful, positive relationships with staff and carers to achieve their potential, we are in the process of delivering a range of well-planned effective services to support the successful transition into adulthood.

We are committed to reviewing and improving our Corporate Parenting governance structures to ensure that we have clear checks and balances in place, over areas identified as priorities both by the Inspection and young people in receipt of services. In addition, we will pay particular attention to ensuring successful transitions into adulthood for our care leavers. We have identified four key areas which focus on assessment / planning and review, health and wellbeing, housing and accommodation pathways and finally education employment and training.

For all children in need of care and protection we want to ensure that care plans consistently address how the specific needs of children and young people are met and are tailored to the needs of the individual child or young person. The involvement of children, young people and parents will be a focus of this work in the establishment of care plans and their review.

As a partnership we have taken significant steps towards shifting the balance of care and maximised community-based supports to ensure children benefit from family life and remain connected to their home communities. For those children who require alternative care and where family and friends are not a suitable option, we aim to ensure they are placed in foster placements ensuring that they experience consistent relationships with the adults who care for them. The number of foster carers we have recruited has risen steadily over the last three years with seven applications approved in 2017/2018, nine in 2018/2019 and fourteen in 2019/20.

Our efforts have resulted in 88.5% of our children and young people being looked after in community-based settings, with a notable increase in children and young people living in kinship placements. We will focus on improving how we support kinship carers in this plan, ensuring that kinship carers are well supported to respond appropriately to children's needs. We have furthered our commitment with the appointment of a Kinship Carer Support Worker and a development of a support network. We have also increased direct support via Covey Befriending / mentoring to children and young in Kinship care. Our Family Placement Team offer training to kinship carers and the Short Breaks Service has improved our ability to support families through offering respite for families.

We can evidence that care experienced young people have improved life chances as a result of effectively targeted employability support in school and are encouraged to access the opportunities to move to positive and sustained destinations when leaving school. As a result the school leaver initial destination figures have increased year on year and are now the best they have ever been at 90% sitting a full 10% above the national average.

On average in South Lanarkshire there are around 660 children and young people looked after at any point in time. The newly established Redesigning Services for Children Looked After at Home group will focus on key areas of support, including attainment, attendance, and exclusions.

Over the past three years there was on average 262 children registered on the child protection register each year. The main indicators of concern relate to neglect, emotional abuse (this includes exposure to

domestic abuse in the household), physical abuse and parental substance misuse. The partnership will work together to identify and provide appropriate supports to these children, young people and families to help reduce any impact on their life chances. In particular, addressing the impact of neglect on our children and where child protection intervention is necessary, the Neglect subgroup will seek to mitigate the harm by working together to provide a joint response to minimise this.

The most vulnerable children in our communities can often be left without a voice, over the past two years we have introduced the Mind of My Own app, that allows care experienced children and young people to share their views and worries at any time with their social worker. The app allows us to see any common themes that are emerging direct our resources to those areas children and young people highlight. We launched a Champions Board in December 2019 that will enable care experienced young people to be connected at the highest level with their corporate parents having a say in how services are designed and run. We are currently planning to extend the advocacy support on offer to include children and young people subject to a child protection order to ensure that their views are heard as effectively as possible. Our approach to engaging with children and young people continues to evolve; the lockdown periods during Covid-19 have provided a catalyst to using different platforms, increasing accessibility for support.

THEME 3: Children and young people in need of care and protection

Areas for action	Outcomes
14. Positive destinations for care experienced young people	Care experienced young people achieve sustained positive destinations and the gap in destinations for those looked after at home is reduced
15. Care leaver transitions	Care leavers achieve best possible outcomes and transition successfully into adulthood
16. Care experienced outcomes	A redesign of corporate parenting support improves outcomes for all looked after children and young people and especially for those looked after at home
17. Care planning	The number of children, young people and families who are satisfied by their participation in the care planning and review process increases
18. Kinship care	The number of Kinship Carers reporting satisfaction with the support they receive from service providers increases
19. Neglect	The incidences of neglect in families are reduced as a result of the increased confidence and competence of the workforce
20. Advocacy	Children and young people record high levels of satisfaction with having their voice heard

11. Important links and appendices

- Continuous Improvement Framework document or a summary of with a link



Getting it right for
South Lanarkshire's

- Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan
- Community Learning Development Strategy and Action Plan
- Child Health Plan NHS Lanarkshire
- Children's Rights Handbook
- Engagement and participation strategy
- Service Directory
- GIRFEC practice guidance
- Children and Young People (Scotland) Act
- Universal Health Visiting Pathway
- Early years Framework
- Education (Scotland) Act 2016
- Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011
- Self-Directed Support (Scotland) Act 2011
- Carers (Scotland) Act 2016
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- European Convention on Human Rights
- Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009
- Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007
- Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2011
- Children (Scotland) Act 1995
- Scotland's National Performance Framework
- South Lanarkshire Council's Plan – 'Connect'
- Integrated Health and Social Care Strategic Plan
- Child Protection Plan
- Corporate Parenting Strategy
- Early learning and Childcare Plan
- Community Learning and Development Strategy
- NHS Lanarkshire Healthcare Strategy
- NHS Lanarkshire Children and Young People's Health Plan
- Lanarkshire's Tobacco Control Strategy "Smoke-free Lanarkshire – For you, for Children, forever: Lanarkshire Tobacco Control Strategy 2018-2023"
- Education Resources Plan
- Social Work Resources Plan

[i] SMART – Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely.

Children's Services Plan 2021-23**11****Timetable 2020-21**

Timeline to inform development of new Children's Services Plan 2021-23		
Action	Due date	Complete
Joint Strategic Needs Analysis	1 December 2020	Complete
Completed consultation with Children, Young People and Parents	1 December 2020	Complete
Children's Services Strategy Group (Progress update)	Each meeting	In place
1 st Draft ready for consultation	10 December 2020	Complete
Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children Partnership Board	12 January 2021	Complete
Senior Manager's/ Workforce Online Event	17 February 2021	Complete
2 nd Draft to Graphics	18 February 2021	On track
VASLan and 3 rd Sector Chief Officers Group	tbc February 2021	On track
Final Draft CSP	1 March 2021	On track
CPP Board	3 March 2021	On track
Children's Services Strategy Group	17 March 2021	On track
Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children Partnership Board	March 2021	On track
Corporate Management Team (CMT) South Lanarkshire Council	March 2021 (tbc)	On track
NHS Lanarkshire Board	24 March 2021	On track
Publication - Children's Services Plan	31 March 2021	On track

Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council
Subject:	COVID-19: Supporting households

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with an update on how the impact on household income as a result of the current health pandemic has led to increased demand across a range of services and organisations; and
- ◆ provide details of the support that has been provided in response.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the significant need from many households for direct and indirect financial support as a direct result of the effect of the health pandemic on income be noted; and
- (2) that the extensive support provided by a wide range of services and organisations in helping households manage their financial position be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. From the start of the current health pandemic there has been concern over the potential impact on households' income across South Lanarkshire. As the infection rates have increased and restrictions on peoples' movement tightened, many households experienced a reduction in incomes. For many this has resulted in difficulties in managing financial commitments.
- 3.2. A wide range of national support has been put in place by government and business. This includes introduction of the furlough scheme, business support grants, suspension of eviction action, and holds placed on debt recovery action. While this has undoubtedly helped support families, the demands placed on key services and organisations has been significant as many still struggle either because of reduced wages or redundancy.
- 3.3. The report focuses on how Council services, Citizens Advice Bureaux, Scottish Social Security Agency and NHS have responded to the increased need to provide vital support to many households in South Lanarkshire.

4. Advice and Support Services

Money Matters Advice Services and Citizens Advice Bureaux

- 4.1. Since the first lockdown, Money Matters have succeeded in maintaining services by remote provision, mainly via telephone and by email. There has been a significant increase in the numbers of clients approaching the service for advice relating to loss of employment or reduction in number of hours worked and the corresponding effect on incomes and inability to meet debt commitments.
- 4.2. There has been a substantial increase in the overall number of enquires being managed by the service, with numbers for the first six months of 2020/2021 being 7,831, nearing the number for the whole of 2019/ 2020 at 8,074. Many of the enquiries relates to Universal Credit (UC).
- 4.3. The value of annual benefit awards for the first half of 2020/2021 is £8.297 million and is on track to exceed the equivalent for 2019/2020. The number of cases requiring support for debt issues has reduced, largely because of lenders suspending recovery action. Levels of debt written off has also been low at £0.195 million to September 2020, compared to £1.316 million for 2019/2020.
- 4.4. The Citizens Advice Bureaux (CABs) have faced similar circumstances and adapted very quickly to setting up home working arrangements from home for paid staff and a number of volunteers to continue to provide telephone and email based holistic advice service. Outreach services were suspended, and a level of office-based provision continues to be provided.
- 4.5. The CAB's were able to continue with their specialist national services by phone and webchat, including Help to Claim and Money Talk.
- 4.6. The overall number of enquires managed by the CABs for the first six months of 2020-21 were 4,029 with the value of benefits awarded £2.373m. Again, a significant number of enquiries related to UC and issues with legacy benefits. The value of debt written off was lower than in the previous year, with £0.126 million compared to £0.892m for 2019/2020.
- 4.7. Measures put in place by government have had the effect of deferring the impact on household's consumer debt liability, but this position is expected to change and is likely to further increase the demand for these key providers of financial advice.

Food banks and local partners

- 4.8. While figures are collated yearly from food banks, the anecdotal evidence so far is that there will be a much larger increase in distribution throughout the current year. They reported a 9% increase in the number of food parcels distributed from March 2019 to March 2020 (26,211 parcels provided in 2019/2020). The table below provides a comparison of parcels issued (where information is currently available) over a six month period:-

Food Bank/ Area	1st April 2019- 30th September 2019	1st April 2020- 30th September 2020
Hamilton District	1,853 household food parcels/ feeding 4,294 people (including 1,479 children)	2,158 household food parcels/ feeding 4,955 people (including 1,713 children)
Rutherglen and Cambuslang	1,262 household food parcels/ feeding 2,251	1,933 household food parcels/ feeding 4,170 people

Food Bank/ Area	1st April 2019- 30th September 2019	1st April 2020- 30th September 2020
	people	
Clydesdale	541 household food parcels/ feeding 1,032 people	1,232 household food parcels/ feeding 2,612 people
East Kilbride Community	3,514 household food parcels (including 185 children)	4,812 household food parcels/ feeding 9,029 people (including 347 children)
Loaves and Fishes (East Kilbride)	900 household food parcels approx.(including 40 children)	1,200 household food parcels approx. (including 130 children)

- 4.9. In some cases, local partners are stating approximately 400% increases on the same month's figures last year. Some of this is due to the stay-at-home restrictions, particularly early in the pandemic while online shopping systems were not able to provide the capacity to meet the demand for those in vulnerable categories, while some is due to the increased financial insecurity and reduced income from the pandemic.
- 4.10. South Lanarkshire Council has worked with third and community sector partners to ensure supply, and up until the end of September 2020 had provided 18,106 bags of food through the Scottish Government Food Fund. Some of these were supplied to food banks and some to community response groups who helped ensure local access to needed resources. A small number of packs were supplied to those who were vulnerable in other ways, such as homeless people in temporary accommodation.
- 4.11. As well as this, hot meals were provided from April to June 2020 for vulnerable families identified through Social Work, those living in homeless cluster accommodation, and children attending childcare hubs at schools.
- 4.12. Work has continued to support the capacity of the established and new third and community sector food groups, including the establishment of a network to share good practice and development ideas.

Benefits and Revenues Service

- 4.13. A four-month suspension was placed on Council Tax collection activity early in the pandemic and throughout Council Tax staff have continued to provide support to those households who have fallen into arrears or encountering difficulty with payment, with the main support centring on the uptake of Council Tax reduction. There has been a 58% increase in applications for Council Tax reduction due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. This has helped to minimise the loss of Council Tax income with collection 1% lower than last year.
- 4.14. There has been a 36% increase in applications to the Scottish Welfare Fund (SWF) with the biggest increase being in relation to Crisis Grants. As at the end of December 2020, 12,769 applications had been received to the SWF with 6,900 awards being made totalling £2.184 million.
- 4.15. There has been a 15% increase in awards for free school meals in 2019/2020 with a 83% automatic award rate this year to date.

- 4.16. Clothing grant awards are 3% higher during the current school year than for the previous full school year, facilitated by the high levels of automatic awards made using information held in the benefits system.
- 4.17. Specific payments made by the service to support many low-income families are detailed below:-
- ◆ Receipt of Free School Meals
 - ◆ £30 per fortnight to each child to cover holiday and school closure periods
 - ◆ £30 payment to children who have been asked to self-isolate
 - ◆ £100 winter payment to each child
 - ◆ £50 fuel payment to each household.
 - ◆ Discretionary housing payments (£3.855m for first 9 months of 2020-21 compared to £3.613m for 12 months in 2019-20); and
 - ◆ In temporary accommodation
 - ◆ £50 fuel payment.
- Housing**
- 4.18. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the proportion of council tenants on UC has increased from 25% to 30% accounting for 63% of arrears and 5,074 tenants. The total value of arrears rose across this period as Council tenants faced considerable financial hardship, and for tenants on UC the total amount of arrears owed rose by 24%.
- 4.19. Council tenants continue to be supported with the management of their UC claim and housing costs by the Rent Income Support Team (formerly Benefits Are Changing Team) and their local housing teams. Since the pandemic, and the suspension of face-to-face meetings and outreach work, this support has been primarily by phone and email. A total of 2,362 tenants who have made new UC claims have been offered support from the beginning of April to the end of December 2020.
- 4.20. Since March, many cases requiring support have been more complex. Many claimants had never made a claim for benefits before, had limited digital skills, or were experiencing some degree of impact on their mental health and wellbeing.
- 4.21. In response to the pandemic, Housing Services have introduced an enhanced Tenancy Sustainment Fund, which is aimed at providing financial assistance to support tenants who have rent arrears to sustain their tenancy and prevent homelessness.
- 4.22. Housing Services have maintained support and advice to tenants in financial hardship through the pandemic, re-designing its call handling approach so that this could be seamlessly delivered by staff working remotely from home. Staff continue to be pro-active in referring tenants to other specialist sources of financial help and advice, for example Money Matters Advice Service, DWP, etc.
- 4.23. In terms of communication with tenants, the service ensured web content remained up to date, and also issued a tenants newsletter last summer which covered financial advice and support.
- 4.24. In terms of private sector tenants, existing Council services continue to support in respect of UC. Money Matters Advice Service regularly offers advice to private sector tenants covering a range of specific issues, including providing advice and assistance to challenge decisions, and appeal representation where required.

- 4.25. Additional services are available for all tenants, including financial assistance through Discretionary Housing Payments and the Scottish Welfare Fund.
- 4.26. In relation to the wider impact of the pandemic, this has seen an increasing pressure on homelessness services, including from individuals and households facing financial hardship, and an associated demand for temporary and permanent accommodation.
- 4.27. From the analysis above it can be concluded that all services are experiencing a significant increase in demand because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

5. Universal Credit update

- 5.1. There is currently no new date for starting the process of moving remaining legacy benefit and tax credit claimants onto UC because of the health pandemic. A pilot scheme involving 10,000 people commenced in July 2019 in Harrogate, to ensure that the move to UC can be delivered successfully, was suspended. No revised date has been set for moving other welfare claimants onto UC.
- 5.2. New data sourced from Stat Xplore, a web tool providing access to benefit data held by the DWP, reveals the following in relation to UC:-
 - ◆ 29,828 people on UC at August 2020, an increase of 98.2% on August 2019;
 - ◆ 65.5% of claimants were not in employment and 34.5% of claimants were in employment;
 - ◆ 24,960 households claiming UC at August 2020, an increase of 82.4% on the previous year;
 - ◆ 8,365 or 33.5% of households receiving UC at August 2020 were receiving a child element in their payment, an increase of 62.2% since August 2019;
 - ◆ 20.3% of households claiming UC at August 2020 have taken advantage of the Scottish Choices more frequent payment option (an increase of 53.4% from August 2019);
 - ◆ In August 2020, a total of 3,796 households did not receive a payment in this month or had a nil award. This represents 15.2% of all South Lanarkshire UC claiming households;
 - ◆ 87 people had sanctions imposed by the DWP at August 2020, a reduction of 155 at August 2019; and
 - ◆ The proportion of UC claimants who had their payment reduced due to a sanction reduced from 1.6% to 0.3% over the period August 2019 to August 2020.

6. Scottish Social Security Agency

- 6.1. Social Security Scotland is currently delivering 7 benefits:
 - ◆ Best Start Grant (incl Maternity and Baby payment, Early Years Payment and School Age Payment)
 - ◆ Best Start Foods
 - ◆ Carers Allowance Supplement
 - ◆ Funeral Support Payment
 - ◆ Job Start Payment
 - ◆ Young Carers Grant
 - ◆ Child Winter Heating Assistance.
- 6.2. In the last financial year Social Security Scotland delivered benefits amounting to £6,843,822 in South Lanarkshire.

- 6.3. The next new benefit to be launched is Scottish Child Payment, which opened early for applications from Monday 9 November 2020. Applications are being taken ahead of its introduction on Monday 15 February 2021 to help manage the expected demand. The new benefit will give eligible families on low incomes with children under 6 an extra £10 per week for each child. It is planned to be fully rolled out to children under the age of 16 by the end of 2022.
- 6.4. Figures from the Scottish Fiscal Commission forecast indicates that in the first full year of Scottish Child Payment approximately 11,100 children may be within eligible households in South Lanarkshire. A focus on maximising uptake through various engagements and campaigns is underway.
- 6.5. In autumn 2021, the Child Disability Payment will be launched. This is the replacement for Disability Living Allowance for Children, currently administered by the Department for Work and Pensions.
- 6.6. In summer 2022, the Adult Disability Payment will be launched. This is the replacement for Personal Independence Payment, again currently administered by the Department for Work and Pensions.
- 6.7. People who currently get UK Government disability benefits will be transferred to the new Scottish system in stages after the new benefits are introduced. This work is expected to be completed to the previously announced timeline of 2025.
- 6.8. The Local Delivery Relationship lead for South Lanarkshire is continuing virtual engagement with groups and services across South Lanarkshire to raise awareness of Social Security Scotland, the benefits it will be delivering and the role of Local Delivery in the community.
- 6.9. The current Local Delivery staff recruited in South Lanarkshire have secured a base within Brandon Gate, Hamilton and are currently working from home.
- 6.10. The Local Delivery service is planned to launch nationally in autumn 2021 to coincide with the introduction of the Child Disability Payment. Recruitment will be taking place during 2021 across Scotland, including South Lanarkshire, for Local Delivery positions.

7. NHS

- 7.1. A free app was launched through social media in March 2020 to support NHS Lanarkshire staff and communities to access comprehensive, up to date local information to support routine enquiry or self-help in relation to welfare or money issues. It was accessed 300 times in its first month and an official launch will follow.
- 7.2. NHS are developing a Health Improvement employability action plan and have been seeking support for a whole-systems approach in NHS Lanarkshire. NHS continue to support employability partners with routine enquiry and signposting information to health and prevention services.
- 7.3. Midwives, Health Visitors and Family Nurses work with families to help identify any money worries and make referrals into money advice services. During April 2020 and December 2020 there were 649 referrals to the Money Matters Telephone Advice Line for pregnant women and young families. 99.5% of families engaged with the service and as a result there has been substantial financial improvement for many families, with an average increase in household income of £2,593.21 per year.

- 7.4. Asking pregnant women and young families about money worries is now part of the job that Midwives, Health Visitors and Family Nurses do.
- 7.5. The Maternal and Infant Nutrition Team have been promoting financial inclusion through their vitamin distribution scheme, and promotion of Best Start Foods and Best Start Grant.
- 7.6. The Family Support and Financial Inclusion - Royal Hospital for Children initiative is funded jointly between NHS Lanarkshire and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. During the period October to December 2020, 13 South Lanarkshire families received support with a total financial gain of £0.039 million.
- 7.7. Hamilton CAB work in partnership with South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership to provide advice, support and representation at First Tier Tribunal to all people who have been referred to this service from primary care settings. GPs, Community Nurses and Allied Health Professionals refer patients requiring support. This service is provided in health centres and through home visits, and targets the most deprived communities, including people who may be vulnerable or isolated due to their health conditions. Rutherglen CAB provide a similar service at Rutherglen Primary Care Centre once a week.
- 7.8. During the period April to November 2020 there were 170 outcomes achieved for 123 beneficiaries of the primary care welfare services leading to a client financial gain of £0.295 million. The number of new people accessing the service and active cases more than doubled in comparison with the same period in 2019/2020. A more diverse range of advice was provided reflecting the impact of COVID-19 including employment issues raised by people shielding or self-isolating, emergency food and fuel requests and relationships.
- 7.9. Discussions have taken place this year with Money Matters Advice Service and CABs in South Lanarkshire to agree the provision of welfare advice in support of the Lanarkshire GP Community Link Worker model, in support of General Practice in South Lanarkshire.
- 7.10. Connecting Scotland is a Scottish Government initiative. iPads, laptops and MiFi have been secured for Family Nurse Partnerships (70), Health Visitors (305) and Keep Well (11). The team continue to work in partnership with local authorities and third sector interfaces to support creative solutions to getting more people online.

8. Next Steps

- 8.1. The impact of the pandemic on household finances and the subsequent impact on welfare services has been significant and is likely to be long-lasting. This points to a need for the following:-
 - ◆ Continued close working across the services and organisations
 - ◆ Continued provision of additional financial support to low-income client groups (whenever external funding is provided)
 - ◆ Continued signposting to support services
 - ◆ Provision of support for staff often dealing with sensitive and distressing cases
 - ◆ Continued development of service delivery models to ensure effective support is provided to households
 - ◆ Continued support to those considered most vulnerable.

9. Employee Implications

- 9.1. The increased demand for welfare support from households has impacted on the workload across the services and organisations referred to in the report. At times this has placed staff under significant pressure to ensure households receive the necessary support. However, staff have worked tirelessly and often in challenging circumstances to make this happen.
- 9.2. Employees have also adapted quickly to new ways of working to ensure households continue to be supported and the move away from conducting routine face-to-face appointments in advice services has helped increased efficiency.

10. Financial Implications

- 10.1. The Scottish Government has provided additional funding to councils to allow for increased financial support to be provided to those individuals affected by the pandemic. This funding is often a consequence of decisions taken by the UK Government that results in increased funding being directed to Scotland.

11. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 11.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

12. Other Implications

- 12.1. There remains a risk that the services delivering support to households are unable to cope with the expected continuing increase in demand for services over the coming year. Services have adapted quickly to new ways of working and are engaging with customers in new ways that are proving more efficient, thereby reducing the risk.

13. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 13.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 13.2. Ongoing dialogue will continue with trade unions, community groups, the DWP, CAB, national and local forums, neighbouring local authorities and the NHS.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Report

Report to:	Partnership Board
Date of Meeting:	3 March 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) South Lanarkshire Council

Subject: **South Lanarkshire Register of Information**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Partnership Board with a summary of the information that has been circulated to Community Planning Partners.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Partnership Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the content of the report be noted.

3. Background

3.1. This report provides a summary of the information circulated to Community Planning Partners and gives partners an opportunity to seek clarification or an update on any matters contained therein.

4. Period covered – 4 November 2020 to 3 February 2021

4.1. Appendix 1 provides a summary of the information circulated from 4 November 2020 to 3 February 2021.

5. Employee Implications

5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Other Implications

8.1. There are no issues in terms of risk associated with this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

9.1. There are no Equality Impact Assessment or Consultation implications associated with this report.

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)
South Lanarkshire Council

3 February 2021

Contact for Further Information

If you would like further information, please contact:-

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Register of Information circulated to the Partnership

From 4 November 2020 to 3 February 2021

Date	Subject	Received From	Summary	Action taken
04/11/20	A Consultation on the Digital Strategy for Scotland - Scottish Government - Citizen Space	Scottish Government	The Scottish Government, in partnership with COSLA, are seeking views on the updated Digital Strategy for Scotland to reflect the changing digital landscape. The consultation will run until 23 December 2020. https://consult.gov.scot/digital-directorate/digital-strategy-for-scotland/	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
09/11/20	Build Back Better Report and Animation	Scottish Recovery Network	Following consultation, the Build Back Better Report and Animation have now been published highlighting the need for lived experience, peer support and communities to be at the heart of creating and delivering mental health support.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
09/11/20	Bus Partnership Fund Launch	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport	Transport Scotland have launched the Bus Partnership Fund which will provide a long-term investment of over £500m to deliver targeted bus priority measures on local and trunk roads. This is intended to reduce the negative impacts of congestion on bus services and address the decline in bus patronage. www.transport.gov.scot/BusPartnershipFund	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
30/11/20	Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme - Online Survey	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport	Online survey being carried out by SPT on behalf of the Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme Joint Committee regarding a review of the Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme. This review will examine all options for the Scheme's future financial sustainability that will continue to achieve the Scheme's objectives for improving access for older and disabled people living in the Strathclyde Region and for	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.

Date	Subject	Received From	Summary	Action taken
			island communities. The closing date for the survey is 18 December 2020. http://www.spt.co.uk/scts	
01/12/20	Encouraging and Enabling Physical Activity - e-learning module	Public Health Scotland	Launch of Public Health Scotland's new physical activity e-learning module called 'Encouraging and Enabling Physical Activity'. This is aimed to support anyone who has a role in urging physical activity and those working directly in physical activity, to encourage and enable people to be more active. Further information and to access the module can be found here .	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
02/12/20	Launch of the Larkhall Community Plan – Online Event	Larkhall Plan Partnership	Launch of the Larkhall Community Plan will take place at an online event on 3 December 2020 at 7pm. This follows a two-month consultation by the Larkhall Plan Partnership embodying the views of 1,800 local people to reflect their hopes, concerns and priorities for Larkhall, Netherburn, Ashgill and Dalserf.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
07/12/20	Connecting Scotland	Scottish Government	The Connecting Scotland programme which provides support digital support to vulnerable groups has launched a second round of applications which will run from 24 November 2020 to 18 January 2021. Further details can be found on the Connecting Scotland website.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
07/12/20	Young Scot Support Package	Scottish Government	A new support package has been launched by Young Scot to help with the 'next steps to employment' for 16-25 year olds who are not in employment, training or education. The campaign is live at young.scot/ysnext and the main information can be found here .	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
11/12/20	Destitution in the UK 2020	Joseph Rowntree Foundation	Findings report and full report published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation regarding research into destitution within the UK.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.

Date	Subject	Received From	Summary	Action taken
			JRF Findings Report - Destitution in UK 2020 / JRF Full Report	
11/12/20	South Lanarkshire Council Budget Consultation 2021-22	South Lanarkshire Council	As part of South Lanarkshire Council's budget setting process for 2021-22, the first phase of budget consultations includes a short survey which asks general budget questions to provide views on council services and what is important in South Lanarkshire. The survey will run until 31 December 2020.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
21/12/20	Police Scotland Corporate Parenting Plan Engagement Survey	Police Scotland	As part of the ongoing work to create the new Police Scotland Corporate Parenting Plan for 2021-24, a short survey has been created to hear the views of partners to help shape the plan. The survey will run until 11 January 2021.	Circulated to the Community Planning Partnership Board and Progress Group for information.
06/01/21	Route Map to Prevent Homelessness	Homelessness Network Scotland	The Homelessness Network Scotland and the Everyone Home Collective have produced a road map to inspire local conversations with partners and have called for more action to prevent people losing their homes as concerns rise over the impact of COVID-19 on household financial situation and the increased risk of homelessness.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
12/01/20	Appointment of new VASLan Chief Executive Officer	VASLan	Confirmation of the appointment of the new VASLan Chief Executive Officer.	Circulated to the Community Planning Partnership Board and Progress Group for information.
15/01/20	Joseph Rowntree Foundation Report - UK Poverty 2020-21	South Lanarkshire Council	Briefing on the Joseph Rowntree Foundation Report into UK Poverty 2020-21 highlighting the impact of COVID, poverty levels and in-work poverty.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
15/01/20	Accessible Travel Delivery Plan: Progress Report - 2019/20	Transport Scotland	Publication of the Accessible Travel Delivery Plan: Progress Report - 2019/2020 by Transport Scotland which details progress made against the 2019-20 annual delivery plan for Scotland's ten year Accessible Travel	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.

Date	Subject	Received From	Summary	Action taken
			Framework.	
21/01/21	Mental Health Matters	NHS Lanarkshire	Issue No.42 of Mental Health Matters published by Lanarkshire Links providing the latest information on mental health.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
25/01/21	If Not Now, When?	Social Renewal Advisory Board	Publication of the ' If Not Now, When? ' report which is the final report of the Social Renewal Advisory Board which contains 20 'calls to action' structured around the themes of 'Money and Work; People, Rights and Advancing Equality; and Communities and collective endeavour'.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
25/01/21	Ask the Family - a survey for people accessing family support services	South Lanarkshire Alcohol Drug Partnership	Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs is working with the Scottish Government and partner organisations to understand more about experiences of family support services. The survey is open to anyone aged 16+ in Scotland who is affected by alcohol or drug use (their own or someone else's) and who is being supported by family support services. The survey will run until the end of January 2021 and findings will be used to help shape a new national 'Whole Family Approach'.	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
29/01/21	ScotRail Timetable	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport	Circulation of the new ScotRail Timetable effective from 1 February 2021 advising of reduced services which reflect current lower demand whilst sustaining services for key workers and essential travel. https://www.scotrail.co.uk/february-2021-timetable-change	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.
02/02/21	A vision for recovery in Scotland	Scottish Recovery Network	Publication of the findings from the national engagement on a vision and strategy for mental health recovery in Scotland. Full Report	Circulated to the Community Planning Progress Group for information.