

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

2017 - 2027

10 November 2017



Dumfries &

Galloway

Together is
Better

CONTENTS

	Page
1. Introduction	3
2. Background	3
3. Our Community Planning Vision and Principles	4
4. Our Outcomes	4

Appendices

- 1. Regional Profile
- 2. Supporting Plans and Strategies
- 3. Engagement
- 4. Resources
- 5. Monitoring and Reporting Progress

1. INTRODUCTION

The CE(S) A 2015 also supports a change to the culture and basis of Community Planning. It has a greater focus on shared leadership and will see empowerment of communities and individuals in a range of ways including through Participation Requests and Community Asset Transfers. Our Community Planning Partnership here in Dumfries and Galloway is at the forefront of these developments.

We have the advantage of starting from a sound base too - we have well established and mature relationships between organisations in the public, third and private sectors; our volunteering network is a particular strength and continues to develop and grow; and we all share a passion for improving the quality of life for every single person who lives here.

So we are well placed to face the challenges and make the improvements that are set out here, in this our first Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

Councillor Elaine Murray

Chair, Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Partnership Board

Philip N Jones

Vice Chair, Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Partnership Board

2. BACKGROUND

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 Part 2 [CE(S) A 2015] requires each Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to prepare and publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) which sets out:

- (a) local outcomes to which priority is to be given by the CPP with a view to improving the achievement of the outcomes,
- (b) a description of the proposed improvement in the achievement of the outcomes,
- (c) the period within which the proposed improvement is to be achieved, and
- (d) a description of the needs and circumstances of persons residing in the area of the local authority to which the plan relates.

The Act also states that *'in carrying out its functions, the Community Planning Partnership must act with a view to reducing inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage'*. An individual's socio-economic status is a person's social and economic position in relation to others, based on income, education and occupation.

There are seven areas where significant inequalities exist within Scottish society: poverty/low income; access to services; employment; education; health; discrimination; and targeted violence and safety (Equality and Human Rights Commission).

3. OUR VISION AND PRINCIPLES

Our overarching Community Planning Vision is 'working together to create an ambitious, prosperous and confident Dumfries and Galloway where people achieve their potential'.

A number of Principles have been identified as important in guiding partners to achieve the Vision:

Best Value

- providing the right services in the right place, at the right time and at the right price.

Engagement

- listening to, speaking and consulting with individuals and communities, following National Standards and Compact guidance where involving the public and ensuring participation are key elements.

Diversity

- treating people equally and respecting others irrespective of social or cultural differences.

Sustainability

- ensuring long-term economic, social and environmental wellbeing.

Working Together

- finding ways of planning and delivering services in a better way that makes a real difference to people's lives.

4. OUR OUTCOMES

Over the next ten years we want to make positive and tangible changes in our region.

We want to see work at pace, identifying and making service improvements and achieving a significant shift towards preventing problems arising rather than tackling them after they have happened.

We want everyone to fulfil their potential and make the most of our rural and urban places. We understand that inequality and disadvantage affects people living throughout Dumfries and Galloway.

Our Outcomes are based on national and local research and evidence; analysing the relevant Plans and Strategies that have been developed in recent months and years; and, most importantly, by engaging with local people about their experiences and aspirations. The detailed evidence is contained in the Appendices to this Plan.

For each Outcome we have identified the people who face the greatest inequality and set out the improvements that we are going to make to address this. We have identified performance information for each area and this will be monitored and reported on, again the detail is set out in the Appendices.

It is important to recognise that our Outcomes and Improvement Actions are all connected. In most cases, one Improvement Action makes a contribution to more than one Outcome.

Examples of this are:

Outcome 1 which is about helping people into work, needs a contribution from **Outcome 2** which is about learning and contributes to **Outcome 3**, improving people's health and wellbeing.

Outcome 5 is about maximising the amount of money people have, and **Outcome 7** makes a contribution to that by ensuring that people have access to computers to deal with benefit or job applications.

Outcome 1:
**Everyone who needs help
to work receives the right
support.**



We will ensure that there is a range of support available to people across the region who find it difficult to get into and sustain employment - particularly people in the justice system, Looked After young people and care leavers, veterans, women, disabled people and long term unemployed people.

Outcome 2:
**Learning opportunities
are available to those
who need them most.**



We will actively promote lifelong learning in community settings, through schools, colleges and universities. We will focus on Looked After young people and care leavers, those in the justice system, gypsy travellers, LGBT young people, those who are isolated and unemployed people.

Volunteering is a valuable learning experience and we will encourage people to take up opportunities in a way, place and time that suits their needs.

Outcome 3:
**Health and wellbeing
inequalities are reduced.**



We want a region where our ageing population is happy in mind and healthy in body and as independent as possible. We will focus our work around older adults in places where we know that life expectancy is lower than in other parts of our region and those who are isolated.

We want to see our younger generation having good mental health and wellbeing, being physically active and able to eat well. We will encourage opportunities for them and their families to be better informed and supported to do this.

We will work with groups known to have lower mental health and wellbeing to access opportunities and services to improve their quality of life, in particular Carers, Veterans, the LGBT community, refugees, people affected by substance misuse and people in contact with the Community Justice system

Outcome 4:
**There is affordable and
warm housing for those
who need it most.**



We want to prevent homelessness and support younger adults (especially care leavers), veterans, prison leavers, those leaving hospital after a long stay and single adult households in securing tenancies and living independently.

Houses across our region should be warm, efficient and in good condition. We will provide support to householders, especially older, single people in rural areas, including through Registered Social and Private Landlords to secure this and particularly to address fuel poverty.

**Outcome 5:
The money available to
people on Benefits and
low wages is maximised.**



We want to ensure that everyone has the most money they can have, and this will mean that we support people on benefits to access everything they are entitled to; help people who are in debt to reduce it; and maximise wage levels, promoting the Living Wage. In particular care experienced young people, parents, Carers and disabled people will be supported.

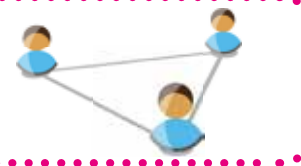
**Outcome 6:
People are safe and
feel safe.**



Everyone in our region should be safe from harm and our local services will have a special focus on prevention, protection and resilience. We will focus on child abuse, domestic abuse, hate crime, substance misuse, bullying, health protection, home and road safety.

People should also feel that they are safe and we will work particularly with people and neighbourhoods who do not feel that way.

**Outcome 7:
People are well
connected.**



We want to ensure that there are physical connections to services accessed through a range of affordable transport options, particularly for disabled people and people who are isolated.

Our geography also means that digital connection is really important and so making sure that there is a good network, innovative use to improve services and help businesses, places that people can access computers and get help in using them is also necessary, particularly for those who are isolated and people experiencing poverty.

**Outcome 8:
Individuals and communities
are empowered.**



We want to ensure that everyone can make a contribution to their community in our region. We will make sure that there are opportunities to do this; we will provide clear information; and give help to people who need it the most to get involved.

There will be a range of ways that people can work with local organisations to improve services and their voice within them.

We will promote, celebrate and recognise the individuality of our people and our diverse communities.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act - The Community Empowerment Act exists to empower community bodies through the ownership of land and buildings, and by strengthening their voices in the decisions that matter to them. It will also improve outcomes for communities by improving the process of community planning, ensuring that local service providers work together even more closely with communities to meet the needs of the people who use them.

Empowerment - authority or power given to someone to do something

Outcomes - The way a thing turns out, a consequence.

Community Planning - Community planning is about how public bodies work together and with local communities to design and deliver better services that make a real difference to local people's lives.

Community Planning Partnership - This is the name given to all those services that come together to take part in community planning. There are 32 CPPs across Scotland, one for each council area. Each Community Planning Partnership is responsible for developing and delivering a plan for its area to improve local services, ensuring that they meet the needs of local people, especially for those people who need those services most.

Reducing Inequalities - A term that refers to the gap between the health of different population groups such as the wealthy compared to poorer communities or people with different ethnic backgrounds.

Socio-economic disadvantage - An individual's or group's position within a hierarchical social structure. Socioeconomic status depends on a combination of variables, including occupation, education, income, wealth, and place of residence.

Equality And Human Rights Commission - The Equality and Human Rights Commission is Great Britain's national equality body. As a statutory non-departmental public body established by the Equality Act 2006, the Commission operates independently to eliminate discrimination, reduce inequality, protect and promote human rights and to build good relations, ensuring that everyone has a fair chance to participate in society.

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/commission-scotland>

Shared Leadership - Is a leadership style that broadens the number of people involved in making important decisions. It is the opposite of a top down management structure.

Participation Requests - Participation Requests are part of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act. It is the legislation that enables communities to request to participate in decisions and processes which are aimed at improving outcomes for their communities.

Community Asset Transfers - Community Asset Transfer is the transfer of management and/or ownership of public land and buildings from its owner to a community organisation (such as a Development Trust, a Community Interest Company or a social enterprise) for less than market value - to achieve a local social, economic or environmental benefit.

Private Sector - The Private Sector is the part of the economy which is run by private individuals or groups, usually as a means of making profit and is not controlled by the State. (Areas of the economy controlled by the state are referred to as the Public Sector).

Public Sector - The public sector is the part of the economy made up of public services. Public services include Councils and government services such as the, police and health care.

Third Sector - another name for the voluntary sector, the part of the **economy** that is made up of **non-profit-making** organisations.

Quality Of Life - Someone's quality of life is the **extent** to which their life is **comfortable** or **satisfying**

Principles - a set of standards or rules of **personal** conduct

Tangible - a set of standards or rules of **personal** conduct

Looked After Young People - A child is looked after when he or she is under the protection of the local authority, provided with accommodation, is subject to a supervision requirement made by a children's hearing. A detailed **definition** can be found [here](#). Registered Social Landlords - A name for not-for-profit housing providers approved and regulated by Government. The vast majority of Registered Social Landlords are also known as Housing associations.

Living Wage - The living wage is based on the amount an individual needs to earn to cover the basic costs of living. Payment of a Living Wage is voluntary for employers. Registered Social Landlords Living Wage



If you would like some help understanding this document or need it in another format or language please contact

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