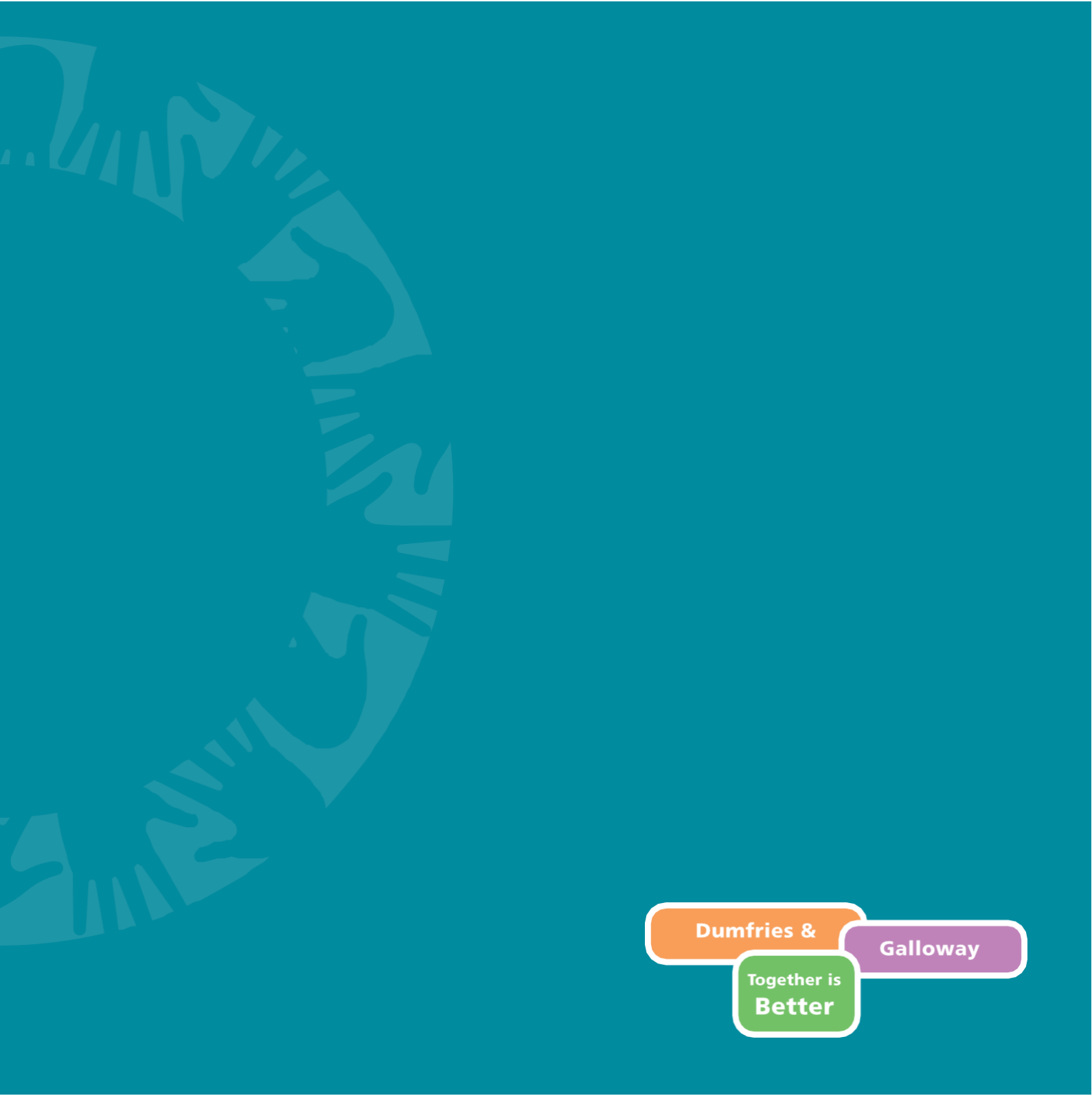


Dumfries & Galloway Poverty and Inequalities Strategy 2021-2026



FOREWORD BY ELAINE MURRAY, CHAIR OF DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP



This new Strategy represents Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Partnership continued commitment to tackling poverty and inequalities throughout our region. The Poverty and Inequalities Strategy builds on the learning from the Council's Strategy and work by other partners. It sets out our Vision and how together all of our partners will engage with all stakeholders within Dumfries and Galloway to contribute to achieving our vision.

Our new Partnership Strategy sets out six Objectives that will guide new and additional work. Its development has included the impact of Covid on our region and the realistic expectation that we will be dealing with the fallout from this worldwide pandemic for many years to come. There may be lasting ramifications of the economic crisis as our region could be particularly vulnerable due to the key business sectors (including hospitality & tourism) on which it relies.

We know that poverty impacts on every aspect of the lives of the individuals and families who experience this and has a profound effect on their life chances. We know that to enable people to escape from poverty we have to increase their incomes and reduce their costs. Our new Strategy will support the development and delivery of both new and existing projects which will directly increase the amount of money in people's pockets, reduce their financial pressures, increase individual, household and community resilience to poverty and reduce barriers to accessing services that tackle poverty, although we understand that there are always going to be factors out with our control and that we could not tackle poverty on our own.

A new Partnership has been formed which includes all Community Planning Partnership key stakeholders. It will be action focused. The development of Sub-Groups within the Partnership will deliver our new Strategy and increase all of our partners' commitment to tackling poverty in all of its forms.

We will continue, and together, to provide a "hand up and not a hand out" approach and together we will reduce both poverty and inequalities throughout our region.

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1. OUR DEFINITION AND VISION

1.1 The European Commission provides a widely accepted definition of poverty within its joint report on Social Inclusion. It defines poverty as the situation for individuals where:

“Income and resources are so inadequate to preclude them having a standard of living considered acceptable in the society in which they live. Because of their poverty they may experience multiple disadvantages through unemployment, low income, poor housing, inadequate health care, and barriers to lifelong learning, culture, sport and recreation. They are often excluded and marginalised from participating in activities (economic, social and cultural) that are the norm for other people and their access to fundamental rights may be restricted.”

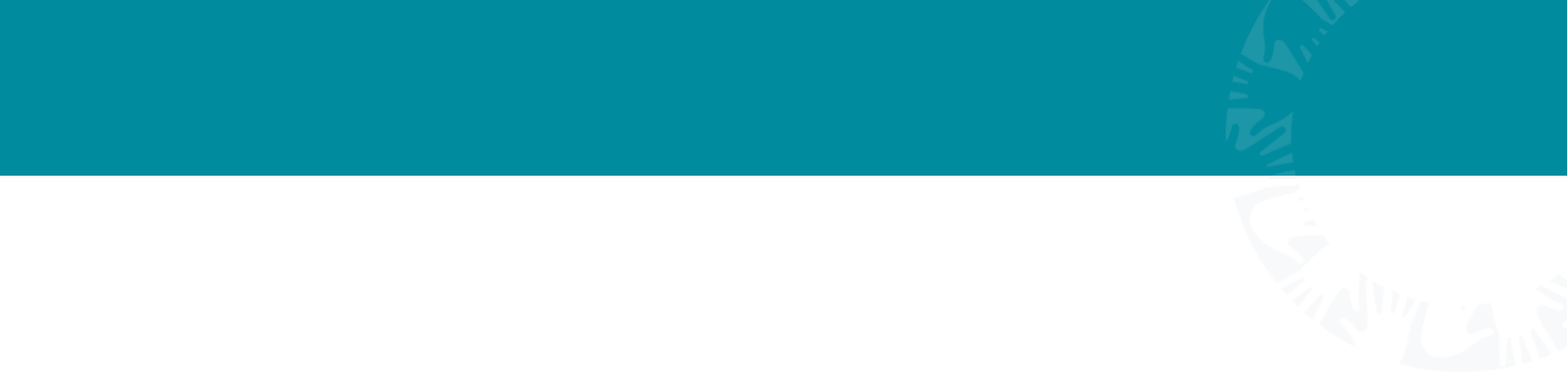
We have agreed to adopt this definition.

1.2 Poverty damages lives and life chances, health and wellbeing, and sits at the heart of many of the social and economic challenges we face in Dumfries and Galloway.

“Our Vision is of a Dumfries and Galloway in which local action has driven poverty as low as possible and has mitigated as far as possible the impact of poverty when experienced. ”

This means a Dumfries and Galloway where:

- Far fewer people experience persistent and severe poverty and destitution.
- Those most vulnerable to experiencing poverty receive the help they need.
- Residents get the support they need from the benefit system.
- Residents in poverty do not face extra costs because of poverty, nor the extra costs of rural of poverty.
- Those experiencing debt get the help they need to deal with it.
- People are not digitally excluded because of poverty.
- People have greater ability to manage financial challenges.
- Individuals and families dealing with poverty can access the support they need in local communities from organisations they trust.
- People needing support to deal with, and /or exit poverty, get to that support at the right time.
- Poverty is not a barrier to accessing public services or employment.



Our Vision for partners working to tackle poverty in Dumfries and Galloway is one which builds on the work already happening in the area, where:

- Local partners maximise their impact through a partnership, whole organisation, whole system and action-focused approach.
- Organisations and staff at all levels within them understand the contribution that their organisation and team, and they personally, can make to tackling poverty in all their work.
- Every initiative taken forward by the public and voluntary sectors considers its impact on people in poverty, and access issues for people in poverty, and their actions do not at any point add to the burden of people in poverty.
- Funding and activity focuses most on those in most need.
- Organisations learn from each other's successes and mistakes.

2. DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGY

- 2.1 Poverty impacts on every aspect of people's lives and life chances. In turn, any aspect of people's lives, the lives of their families, and the communities in which they live, can increase or reduce their risk of finding themselves in poverty, and of staying there.
- 2.2 This Strategy simply reflects relevant commitments taken from the full range of current policies and strategies being taken forward by Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Partnership (CPP) partners. Particularly important is the Local Child Poverty Action Report; the Employability and Skills Plan; and the Community Learning and Development Plan.
- 2.3 A Consultation Mandate was agreed to ensure that the stakeholder engagement was delivered through best practice. The following feedback was received and has been reflected in the Strategy:
- The relationship between vision, objectives and actions should be clear
 - Opportunities for strong engagement with the third sector should be fostered, though this needs to be tightly focused on poverty prevention and reduction.
 - There should be a clear emphasis on preventative approaches and for building resilience and capacity in communities.
 - A new approach should prioritise reaching the most vulnerable people.
 - The extent of additionality should be a clearer factor in resource allocation decisions.
 - The process of changing culture within partner agencies should continue, whereby an anti-poverty culture is embedded across the organisations and not seen as the sole or separate responsibility of anti-poverty or equalities staff.
 - Measurable indicators of success should be developed and incorporated into a revised monitoring and evaluation framework
- 2.4 Benchmarking was undertaken with 11 other Scottish Community Planning Partnership areas which resulted in the following being noted:
- there are many different approaches to leading and coordinating poverty across Scotland and the wider UK - there is no one 'right' model
 - approaches change over time to reflect the needs of citizens, the arrangements within the Council and partner organisations
 - Poverty is a persistent and long-term issue and so the leadership arrangement needs to be sustainable and able to adapt to changing patterns of need
 - The Strategies that have the most impact are where it is a partnership plan and not just a single-agency

2.5 A Stakeholder Impact Assessment was undertaken and the results were as follows:

- Positive Impacts on Age, Disability, Sex, Gender Reassignment and Transgender, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion or belief, Sexual Orientation, Human Rights, Health & Wellbeing & Health Inequalities, Economic & Social Sustainability.
- No impact on Environmental Sustainability, Climate Change and Energy Management.
- No Negative Impacts.

2.6 The Strategy was approved by the CPP Board on 12 March 2021.

3. KEY VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

Every aspect of the delivery of approach set out within this Strategy will be informed by, and in accordance with the following values and principles.

Equality

The delivery of the approach within this Strategy will make a significant contribution to reducing economic inequalities in Dumfries and Galloway, by raising the living standards of those with least. Effective delivery of the Strategy will require that services, projects and practice developed under this approach respond to the specific needs faced by diverse groups and enable people from those groups to access the support they need, including through reaching out specifically to them.

Lived Experience

People affected by poverty will be placed at the heart of the delivery of this Strategy. Their perspective on their needs, their suggestions for responses to their needs, their practical involvement in delivery, their feedback on the delivery of services and projects, and their strategic perspective on priorities will inform every element of the work to be taken forward.

Person-Centered and Empowering

Services, projects and practices under this approach will be built around people in or at risk of poverty, and will be tailored to their specific needs, acknowledging the nuances and complexity of the issues that people face, and the different levels of intensity of support that they will require at different points. Those needing the most intensive support will receive it. All services will take an approach which seeks to build the capacity and resilience of individuals, empowering them to take action themselves on the challenges they face.

Evidence Based and Best Value

In a time of tight and potentially tightening budgets, it is essential that resources are invested in services, projects and practices which are effective, and have the most significant impact on poverty. Services, projects and practices under this approach should reflect best practice and will be subject to appropriately rigorous monitoring and evaluation, with resources redirected to areas that prove to be most effective.

Respect, Compassion, Dignity and Non-Judgement

Services, projects and practices under this approach will treat everyone with respect, with compassion and care, and with dignity. They will be clear-sighted about the issues faced by people in poverty, but will not judge people for the situations in which they find themselves.

Early Intervention and Prevention

Services, projects and practices under this approach will focus on getting help to people as soon as possible in the development of their problems, to prevent issues from worsening and to lift them out of poverty sooner. Effective crisis intervention will be a critical part of this approach, to stop crisis from turning into tragedy, and to stop people from being trapped long term in intolerable situations.

Partnership

No one organisation working in Dumfries and Galloway can provide a comprehensive response to poverty, no one organisation can respond to every issue facing an individual in poverty. The services and projects under this approach will work in partnership with each other to do so. Key practice developments will focus on building relationships between services and the development of the approach will be driven by multi-agency groups.

4. THE CONTEXT OF POVERTY IN DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

The statistics on poverty and Dumfries and Galloway are stark. Around one in five Dumfries and Galloway residents live in poverty. On the tighter definition of income deprivation, 11.5% of the population are considered income deprived.

The statistics on child poverty are of particular concern:

- 6,141 children (26.2%) across our region live in households below 60% median income before housing costs.
- This proportion has increased by 2.8% since 2015, the fifth highest increase amongst Scottish local authorities.
- 18% of children in the region are reliant on free school meals.

There are concentrations of poverty, in North West Dumfries, Stranraer and the Rhins, Mid and Upper Nithsdale, Annandale South and Nith, but poverty is broadly spread across our region. The extent of that spread often masks the impact and extent of the issue.

Poverty in Dumfries and Galloway is driven by trends in the labour market and exacerbated for many of our residents by the “poverty premium”, in particular higher costs in the rural parts of our region.

Wages are comparatively low across the region, reflecting our reliance on agriculture, hospitality and tourism. This is exacerbated by the seasonality of work and the fact that the low paid work available is often insecure, based around part-time or zero hours contracts. Earnings in Dumfries and Galloway were lower than the national average in 2019 at £480.80 per week compared with £577.70 nationally and are growing more slowly than elsewhere in Scotland; increasing by 4.9% compared with 9.6% nationally between 2015 and 2019.

Economic activity and employment levels are only slightly lower in Dumfries and Galloway than elsewhere in Scotland:

- 25.6% of the working age population are economically inactive compared to 23.2% of the Scottish working age population.
- 73.1% of the working age population are in employment compared to 74.2% of the Scottish working age population.

- 18.1% of people live in workless households compared to 17.7% of the Scottish population.

8.8% of the working age population in Dumfries and Galloway are considered employment deprived, being unemployed or unable to work due to illness. The highest rates of unemployment are to be found in Annandale and Eskdale, and Wigtown; the highest rates of employment deprivation in North West Dumfries; and, the highest rate of claimants in Stranraer and surrounding areas.

Turning this around will be challenge; 33% of people in Dumfries and Galloway aged 16+ do not have any formal qualifications, higher than the Scottish average of 27%. Wigtown has the highest proportion of local residents with no qualifications, Stewartry the lowest. There also particular issues with high levels of residents with no qualifications in North West Dumfries and Upper Nithsdale.

The region faces issues around retention of young people and having a significant population of older people with fixed incomes, including those who have not worked for a long time, living in post-industrial areas and now beginning to hit retirement age. Economic development remain.

Overall, the image of Dumfries and Galloway as an affluent area, held by many both within and out with the area is not born out by the reality captured in the statistics above. That gap creates challenges in terms of generating support for action locally and accessing external funding support for such action.

Detailed information is available in the updated Report on Poverty and Deprivation, published in December 2020. <https://dumgal.gov.uk/media/23800/Report-Poverty-and-Deprivation-in-Dumfries-and-Galloway-2020/pdf/Poverty-and-Deprivation-Position-Report.pdf?m=637424348890330000>

5. THE IMPACT OF THE COVID PANDEMIC

The full social and economic impact of Covid is still to be felt and the extent of that impact is still uncertain. In the short term, it was mitigated by furlough and other policies, and by people relying on their own household financial buffers such as savings, although the latter will gradually erode.

During the Pandemic, local organisations reported that more people are seeking their help than ever before as a result of reductions in their income, with many of those people new to experiencing poverty, unemployment, and to needing help. There has been increased demand for advice and increased demand for crisis help.

Our realistic expectation is that Dumfries and Galloway will be dealing with the fallout from Covid for many years. The region may be particularly vulnerable due to the sectors, hospitality and tourism in particular, on which it relies. The loss of even smaller employers in some of our rural communities may be devastating.

There may be lasting ramifications of the economic crisis in terms of reduced employability and confidence amongst those who have lost work, and a weaker SME (Small to Medium Enterprise) Sector on which to build recovery. Some young people will disengage from the systems that can support them, and it will be very difficult to bring back.

It seems certain that Covid will mean that more people will experience poverty, and more of the people experiencing poverty will be in deeper poverty and will spend longer in poverty. That will have knock on effects across the range of issues faced by individuals, families, communities, and the services that support them.

If Covid has put those with least under more pressure, and put more people under pressure, it has at least helped more clearly identify the weaknesses and inequalities in our society, and our safety net. It has also pushed local public and third sector services to adapt to enormous challenges in ways that they might not previously have thought possible and has generated a real response from local communities to the needs of their neighbours. Building back better, implementing the Strategy and doing better on poverty in the future need to make good use of all of those public, voluntary and community assets.

Individual partners have developed Recovery Plans and our Partnership has agreed a joint Recovery Plan which this Poverty and Inequality Strategy will contribute to.

6. LOCAL AND NATIONAL POLICY CONTEXT

The context for this Strategy is set by a suite of national and local policies, plans and strategies setting out a range of commitments which will impact on poverty and people in poverty.

6.1 UK and Scottish Level

The most significant changes to UK Government policy impacting on people in poverty over the last decade have been those brought in under the welfare reform process.

This has involved:

- Three transitions to newly created benefits; from six legacy benefits/ tax credits to Universal Credit; from Disability Living Allowance to Personal Independence Payment for working age disabled people; and from Incapacity Benefit to Employment and Support Allowance for people unable to work due to ill health.
- The “salami slicing” of entitlements through small but significant changes to rules (e.g. the “Bedroom Tax” and the “two child limit” for Universal Credit;
- The erosion of the value of many benefits through the benefits freeze.

Many of these changes have reduced real and/or cash incomes, with the benefit freeze being responsible for the largest proportion of the overall negative impact. These impacts have been worst for households with children, households with disabled members, women and Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities.

The Scottish Government has assumed more responsibility for social security over the last decade, initially through the creation of the Scottish Welfare Fund in response to the devolution of the Social Fund, then through work to mitigate the impact of some aspects of welfare reform and finally through devolution of control over eleven benefits as part of the post-independence referendum settlement; the legislative framework for this set out in the Social Security Act 2018.

Key aspects of this new settlement are the assumption of powers over disability-related benefits, Carers’ benefits, and some support to children, and creation of the power to top-up UK reserved benefits. The creation of Social Security Scotland, including new local teams charged with promoting awareness and take up of the new benefits, is a key part of the context in which this Strategy will be delivered, and the latter a key asset for its delivery.

The Fairer Scotland Action Plan 2016 sets out the Scottish Government's commitment to achieving a Fairer Scotland for All, to end child poverty, provide a strong start for young people, ensure fairer working lives and a thriving third age; it identifies 50 actions to deliver these goals.

The Fairer Scotland Duty places a legal duty on public bodies in Scotland to actively consider how they can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage when making strategic decisions.

The Child Poverty Scotland Act 2017 sets out the Scottish Government's targets on child poverty which are, by the end of 2030/31, to have reduced level of child poverty to:

- 10% of children living in relative poverty- 18% by the 2023 milestone.
- 5% of children living in absolute poverty, 14% by 2023.
- 5% of children in combined low income and material deprivation, 8% by 2023.
- 5% children in persistent poverty, 8% by 2023.

It also places a duty on Scottish Ministers to report annually on progress towards these targets and on the delivery of the Child Poverty Delivery Plan, and on local authorities and health boards to report back on the delivery of local child poverty plans.

The national Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan includes actions focused on: work and earnings; public sector pay; the costs of living and fuel poverty; income maximisation; the work of Social Security Scotland; improving partnership working; and, assessing impact.

The Social Renewal Advisory Board (Calls to Action) were published in its Report 'If Not Now, When?'. They are group in four areas:

Money & Work

- People, Rights & Advancing Equality
- Communities & Collective Endeavour
- Closing the Gap between Promise and Practice

6.2 Local Level

The Community Planning Partnership's Local Outcomes Improvement Plan for 2017-2027 is the highest level document setting the direction for the region. It sets out eight Outcomes for the area as detailed below. Whilst the fifth Outcome is reflected most directly in this Strategy, the proposals set out here will support successful delivery of each of the other Outcomes, and this Strategy has the same overarching concern to focus on those with greatest needs.

1. Everyone who needs help to work receives the right support.
2. Learning opportunities are available to those who need them most.
3. Health and wellbeing inequalities are reduced.
4. There is affordable and warm housing for those who need it most.
5. The money available to people on benefits and low wages is maximised.
6. People are safe and feel safe.
7. People are well connected.
8. Individuals and communities are empowered.

6.3 The Poverty and Inequality Strategy is one of the CPP Key Strategies and Plans and it therefore links to the following 11 key Strategies and Plans:

Children's Services Plan

Community Learning and Development Partners' Strategic Plan

Community Justice Improvement Plan

Covid Recovery Plan

Employability and Skills Plan

Health and Social Care Strategic Plan

Local Child Poverty Action Report

Local Development Plan 2

Local Housing Strategy

Regional Transport Strategy

South of Scotland Regional Economic Strategy

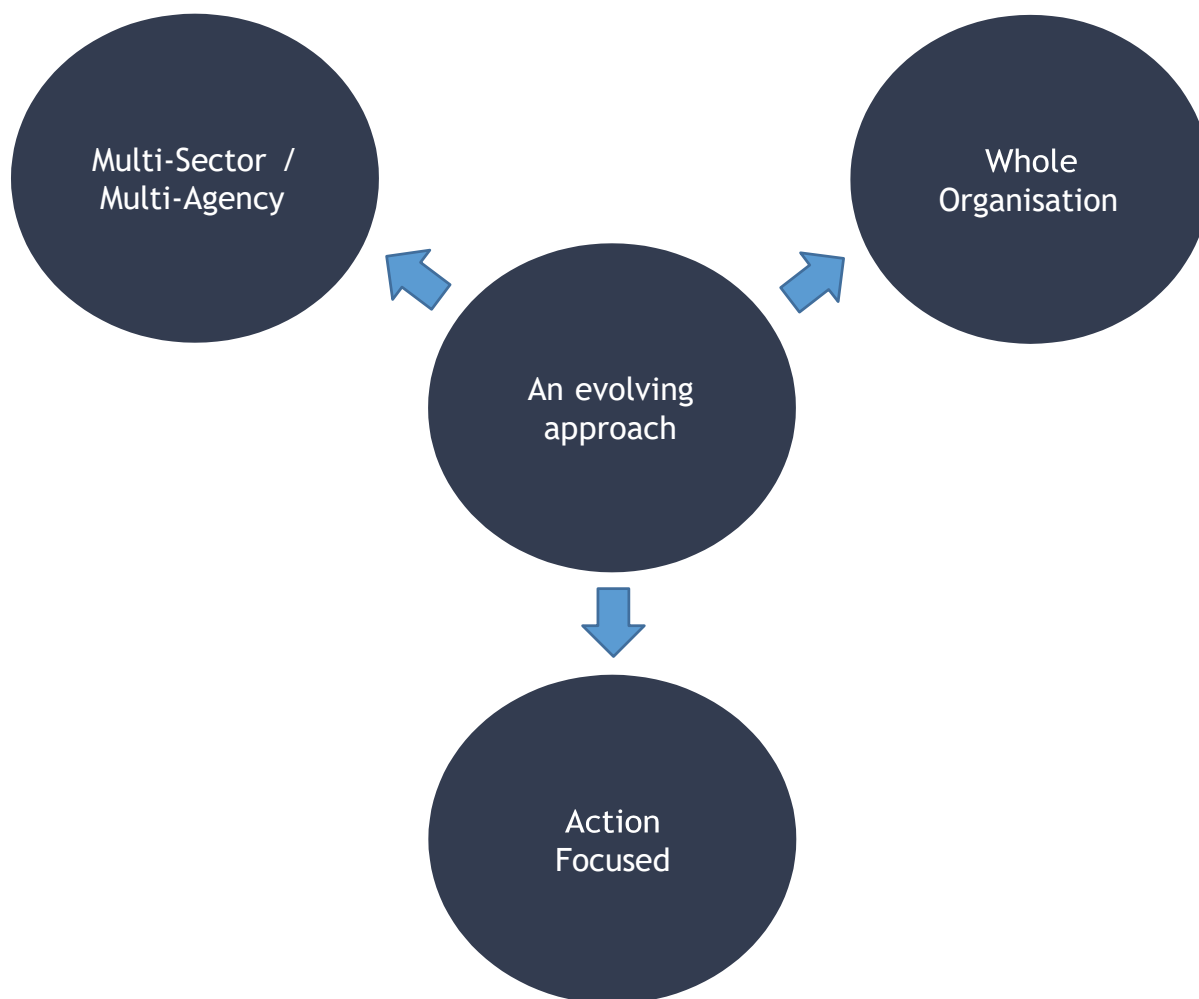
6.4 It also has a key contribution to the public sector partners' Equality Outcomes <http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/communityplanning/11576>

7. KEY ELEMENTS OF OUR APPROACH

Overview of Our Approach

- *Partnership working*
- *Varied contributions*
- *Embedded in Community Planning*

- *Development of understanding of role and capacity to respond*
- *Poverty auditing*
- *Poverty proofing*



- *Clear, shared, THEMATIC objectives*
- *Supported by ENABLING objectives*
- *Effective structures and engagement*
- *Learning and continuous improvement*

The approach is:

- Multi-agency and multi-sectoral, acknowledging that no one organisation can tackle poverty, and that the assets on which a comprehensive approach can be built exist across sectors and organisations.
- Reliant on all staff/ whole organisations/ the whole “system” understanding, developing and then maximising their impact on tackling poverty.
- Action-focused, with objectives leading to clearly identified additional actions to be taken.

Our approach is **Multi-Sector / Multi-Agency** because:

- Poverty cannot be effectively tackled by one organisation or organisations working in isolation.
- The Strategy should be fully reflective of the extensive contribution of the following organisations/ sectors to tackling poverty and should build on the unique assets of each in doing so:
 - Different departments of Dumfries and Galloway Council.
 - The third sector in the area.
 - The HSCP and NHS Partners.
 - Local RSLs.
 - Social Security Scotland.
 - SOSEP (South of Scotland Economic Partnership).

Partners are committed to:

- The vision and principles outlined in this Strategy.
- Using a common language on poverty.
- Supporting delivery on the themes outlined within it.
- Participating in the structures that will push forward action.

- Developing joint strategies and action plans through those structures.
- Working with partners to take forward new actions and initiatives.

Our approach is a **whole organisation/ whole system** approach that should apply across partners because poverty can only be tackled comprehensively by:

- Building a shared understanding of poverty across partners.
- Ensuring that new initiatives and policies are “Poverty proofed”; that their impact on people experiencing poverty is properly identified and responded to.
- Ensuring that partners carry out robust “Poverty auditing” of their existing work, analysing the impact of the poverty on their engagement with clients/ service users and the achievement of their objectives, the activities they undertake to tackle poverty, and identifying opportunities to work more effectively, themselves and in partnership with others.

Our approach is **action-focused** because the test of the effectiveness of this approach, the value of the work and resources that will be invested in it, will be whether it results in new ways of working, new initiatives, new projects and services, which demonstrably make a difference to the lives of people living in poverty, or at risk of living in poverty, within Dumfries and Galloway.

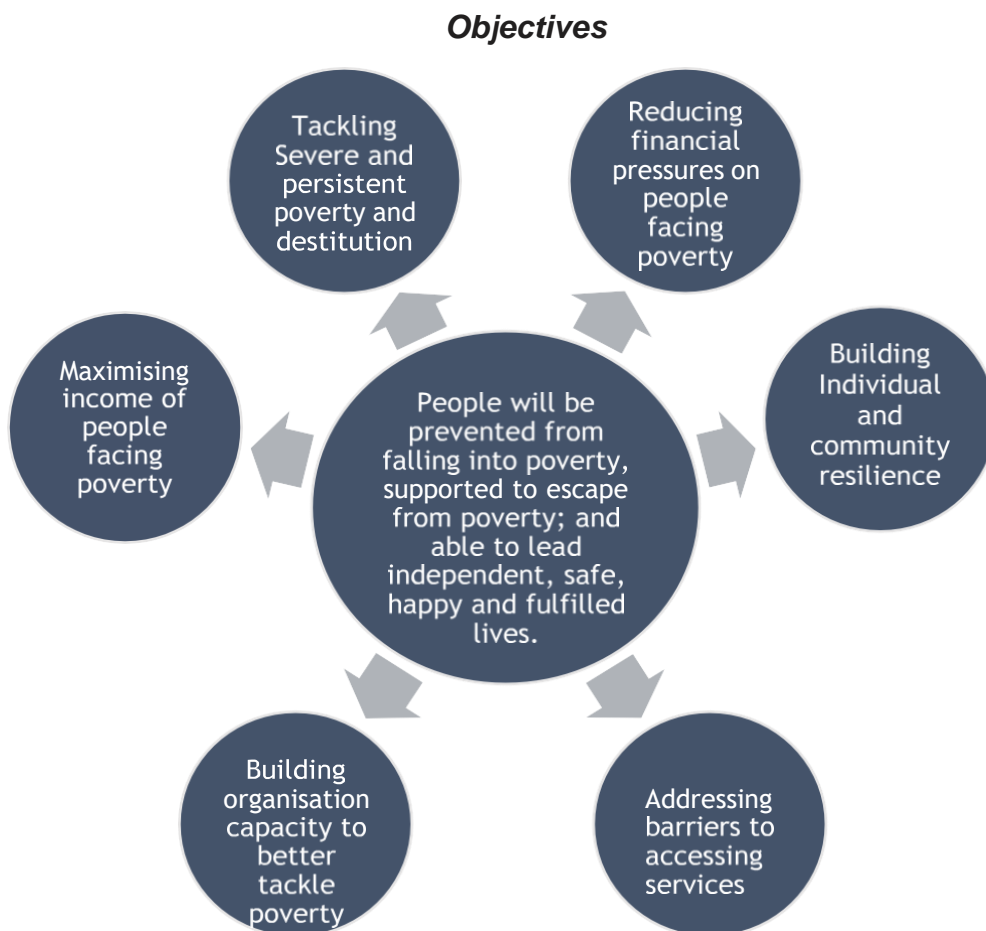
This new Strategy aims to build on that work to drive new actions that are right for the present situation. It sets out:

- Clear themes for action, and a clear rationale underpinning each of those themes.
- Objectives under those themes to guide the first phase of action planning, which will be driven by stakeholders and the ideas they bring forward.
- Clear links to existing actions.
- A governance structure that is fit for the purpose of identifying and implementing actions and pushing them forward.

8. OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK

8.1 Our approach is based around six objectives.

Four of these objectives are focused on directly delivering specific outcomes for individuals and families, we have termed those “outcome objectives”. Two of these we have termed “Enabling” Objectives, which will focus on the culture, policy and practice changes that partners will need to make to tackle poverty effectively.



8.2 Four of the objectives are focused on directly delivering specific outcomes for individuals. Two are "enabling" objectives, which will focus on the culture, policy and practice changes that partners will need to make to tackle poverty effectively.

Objective 1: Tackling severe and persistent poverty and destitution Rationale: Poverty varies, both in terms of its duration, and in terms of its severity. Particular groups are at risk of experiencing deeper poverty and/ or more persistent poverty.

Objective 2: Maximising income of people facing poverty Rationale: One of the major investments that local partners make in tackling poverty is in benefit advice services which maximise the income of clients by ensuring that they claim all the benefits to which they are entitled.

Objective 3: Reducing the financial pressures on people in poverty: Rationale: People living in poverty in Dumfries and Galloway will often pay a 'poverty premium', higher costs, for basic goods and services than those on higher incomes; for example higher interest rates on loans and higher energy prices per unit.

Objective 4: Building individuals and communities' ability to deal with the effects poverty: Resilience against poverty and its most significant effects is built on people's: Psychological wellbeing and their household stability; Social capital and their recourse to informal support from family and access to the labour market; Skills at managing their finances; and access to financial products and assets which act as a buffer against problems.

Objective 5: Building organisational and system capacity Rationale: This strategy is based on the central contention that tackling poverty is the business of every public and third sector organisation working in Dumfries and Galloway.

Objective 6: Addressing barriers to access Rationale: A consistent theme in the consultation process that contributed to the development of this strategy was the need for more effective joint working between organisations engaging with people in poverty, and the lack of understanding and awareness of the work of partner agencies which could contribute to tackling the poverty of clients/ service users

8.3 As part of the Implementation of the Strategy, detailed objectives will be developed in the Action Plan to direct operational activity.

9. DELIVERY AND ENGAGEMENT STRUCTURES

9.1 The CPP Board has established a Poverty and Inequalities Partnership (PIP).

9.2 The remit and membership is:-

- to drive forward the Community Planning Poverty and Inequalities Strategy through a shared Action Plan
- to work on and develop collaborative projects that tackle poverty and inequalities
- to share advice from a “lived experience” perspective
- to access expertise from other areas and at national level and share our work with them
- to identify any hidden barriers to access and participation and ways of overcoming them
- to create opportunities for engagement between partner organisations and people experiencing poverty
- act as a forum for consultation, engagement and information exchange
- to take a partnership approach to the monitoring and evaluation of the shared Action Plan reporting to the Community Planning Partnership Board.

The Members will ensure that they have two way feedback within their organisation. Membership includes all of the following:

Public Sector:

- Department of Work and Pensions
- Dumfries and Galloway Council
- NHS D&G
- Social Security Scotland

Third Sector:

- Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service
- Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership
- Loreburn Housing Association
- Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway
- Community Planning Diversity and Equality Working Group (representative from the equality groups)

- **Tackling Poverty Reference Group – Two representatives**
- **Living Reference Group on the Scottish National Action Plan (SNAP) on Human Rights**
- **Independent Volunteer Chairperson**

- 9.3 The CPP Board also agreed that the Chair of the Poverty and Inequalities Partnership should be an independent appointment and Professor Malcolm Foley was appointed in June 2021 and will serve for a two year period.
- 9.4 The Poverty and Inequalities Partnership is to set up sub groups to develop the detailed objectives and partnership Plan to implement the strategy.
- 9.5 The Tackling Poverty Reference Group continues to bring together people with lived experience of poverty. It will act as a key stakeholder group and its development and increase in its membership over the coming year will ensure that our work is grounded.
- 9.6 Dumfries and Galloway Council provides secretariat support for the Poverty and Inequalities Partnership and the Tackling Poverty Reference Group. The Chairs of the Sub-Groups will provide secretariat support for their groups' activities.
- 9.7 Funding for the delivery of projects and activities in the Plan will be secured from partners.

10. MONITORING, LEARNING & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

10.1 An Annual Report on the development and operation of the Poverty and Inequalities Partnership is submitted to the Community Planning Executive Group, and then to the Community Planning Partnership Board. It ensures active participation of members, fulfilment of the Action Plan and that member training and development is effective and efficient.

10.2 The Action Plan will contain qualitative and quantitative measures - a short life Working Group is to develop the first Performance Management Framework.

10.3 A quarterly performance monitoring report on the Action Plan is to be submitted to the Community Planning Partnership Board. Individual partners should also ensure performance reporting throughout their own decision making and governance frameworks for their activities.

10.4 The Poverty and Inequalities Partnership will embrace good practice from its various disciplines and national networks including:

- Gather monitoring information on an ongoing basis, proportionate to the intensity of activity and level of funding.
- Fully evaluate the most strategic projects.
- Support funded organisations to learn as they deliver.
- Share best practice and learning between partners.
- Respond rapidly to situations in which projects are not delivering intended outcomes.

Dumfries & Galloway Poverty and Inequalities Strategy 2021-2026



For more information, please contact

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**If you would like some help
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Dumfries &

Galloway

**Together is
Better**