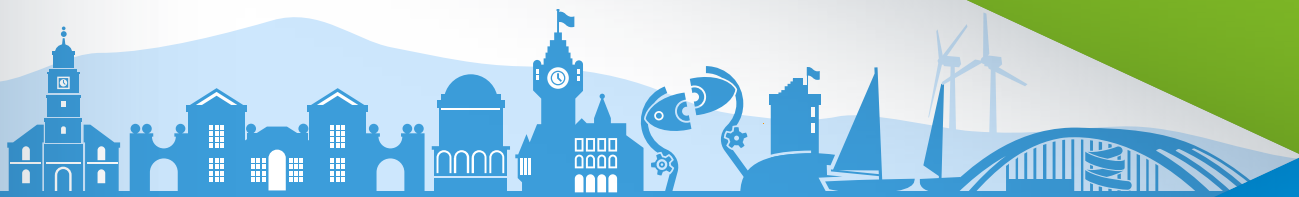




South Lanarkshire
Partnership
Stronger together

Working together to improve
the quality of life for all in
South Lanarkshire

Community Plan for South Lanarkshire 2017–2027



Annual Outcome
Improvement Report
2018–19



Contents

Introduction to Community Planning in South Lanarkshire

- Preface
- What we are?
- Who we are?
- What are we trying to achieve?
- How do I get involved?

Overarching Aim

Community Plan

Performance Highlights

Community Plan Overall Performance at a Glance

Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequalities: how we are making a difference

- 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

Community Safety Partnership Summary:

how we are making a difference

Health and Social Care Partnership Summary:

how we are making a difference

Sustainable Economic Growth Partnership Summary:

how we are making a difference

Getting it right for South Lanarkshire's Children Partnership Summary: how we are making a difference

Working with Communities: How you can get involved

- Community Participation and Engagement
- Community Participation and Empowerment Team
- Neighbourhood Planning and Participatory Budgeting
- Volunteering
- Building and Celebrating Communities
- Community Asset Transfer
- Participation Requests

Appendices

- **Appendix 1** - Links to the National Performance Framework
- **Appendix 2** - Community Planning Partnership Structure

Introduction to Community Planning in South Lanarkshire

Preface

This document is for the people who live and work in South Lanarkshire. It shows the progress of the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership during 2018-19 and gives examples of the work that we are doing to make a difference and how this has impacted on local people and communities.

What are we?

All of our Community Planning Partners are working together to make South Lanarkshire a better place to live and work. We work with each other and with communities to provide the best possible services that local people want and need. Further information can be found on the Community Planning Partnership website www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/

Who are we?

Our partnership includes a wide range of national and local organisations. Some of these organisations you will know well.

What are we trying to achieve?

Our aim is to work with communities to deliver better services targeted at reducing poverty and tackling inequalities and deprivation across South Lanarkshire.

How do I get involved?

There are many ways to get involved in your local community and influence the work of the partnership, for example, through volunteering, joining a local action group or making a participation request. More information can be found in the section "Working with Communities".



Overarching Aim

The main purpose of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) is to reduce poverty, deprivation and inequalities.

Tackling poverty, deprivation and inequalities is not a new area of work for the partners in South Lanarkshire. From the outset, the Community Planning Partnership has recognised the challenges for people experiencing disadvantage, in particular closing the opportunity gap for those communities that are the most deprived. The CPP has further reinforced its commitment to this work by agreeing a single objective in the new Community Plan (2017-2027) which is to "tackle poverty, deprivation and inequalities".

In delivering this objective, the work of the partnership is informed by national research carried out by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (www.jrf.org.uk). This is an independent social change organisation which is working to solve poverty. Partners work together on a range of actions under the following eight key themes.

- Inclusive Growth;
- Financial Inclusion;
- Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare;
- Improving Housing;
- Education, Skills and Development;
- Health Inequalities;
- Safeguarding from Risk or Harm; and
- Improving the Local Environment and Communities.

To complement this work, plans have also been developed to improve the prospects and outcomes for our residents in relation to Children and Young People, Health and Social Care, Community Safety and Sustainable Economic Growth. www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/plans

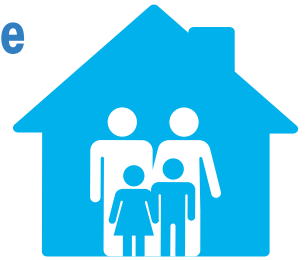


South Lanarkshire
Partnership
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Children in households experiencing both low income and material deprivation after housing costs

South Lanarkshire
18.2%

Scotland 20.7%
(2014-17)



Children who live in families that are unable to afford the basic necessities

South Lanarkshire
38.2%

Scotland 33.6%
(2014-17)



Percentage of working age residents who are employment deprived

South Lanarkshire
11.9%

Scotland 10.8%
(2016)



Percentage of working age residents who are income deprived

South Lanarkshire
13.2%

Scotland 12.5%
(2016)



Community Plan Performance Highlights

81%

of households in South Lanarkshire have access to the internet

55

free digital access points available in South Lanarkshire



There is a significant amount of work being undertaken by the partnership across South Lanarkshire to reduce poverty, deprivation and inequalities. The following gives examples of our performance in relation to some of the key areas of work that we are progressing.

Positive destination outcomes for young people in the 20% most deprived data zones:

South Lanarkshire 93.2%

Scotland 90.4%

(2017-18)



Completed new affordable homes:

271 (2017-18)

476 (2018-19)



Positive destination outcomes for care experienced young people:

South Lanarkshire 90%

Scotland 80.4%

(2018)



Maximising income:

41,353 enquiries

residents over £30 million better off



Working age people employed:

South Lanarkshire 76.4%

Scotland 74.1%

(2018)



Children who have reached their developmental milestones by 27-30 months:

SIMD 1 79.6%;

SIMD 2 86%;

SIMD 3 86%;

SIMD 4 88%;

SIMD 5 92.1%;

Scotland 85%

(2018-19)



Local businesses still trading after three years:

South Lanarkshire 62.5%

Scotland 60.4%

(2014-17)



* SIMD 1 is the most deprived area and SIMD 5 is the least deprived area.

Community Plan Overall Performance at a glance

Status of priority measures

136

15

9

23



136 Improved or Maintained



24 Slipped or Deteriorated

The following provides a summary of our performance against our priority measures and actions. These are:-

- Children and families
- Community Safety
- Fair Work and Enterprise
- Health and Care
- Tackling Poverty, Deprivation and Inequality

The full Community Planning Partnership performance report can be accessed using the following link

www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/cppperformance

Status	Definition
Green	On course to achieve the target or complete the action as planned/the timescale or target has been met as per expectations
Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target
Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target
To be reported later	For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to say whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available

Most improved measures

Numbers of Living Wage Accredited local employers	Establishment and use of digital community hubs
Develop and deliver the scaling up of existing financial wellbeing partnership activity	Engage Modern Apprenticeships and Foundation Apprenticeships in growing future workforce for Early Years Learning
Via the Financial Inclusion Network, working with Home Energy Scotland and other partners, promote access energy saving advice, including grants and loans, and information regarding switching energy supplier	Percentage reduction in the gap for destination outcomes for care experienced young people (linked to national average) and young people SIMD Quintile 1
The percentage of children who have reached their developmental milestones at the time of the 27-30 month Health Review	Work to improve positive destinations for young people in the most deprived areas

Least improved measures

Improve tenancy sustainment for homeless households
Achieve target of lets to homeless households
Work with partners to assess local Scottish Welfare Fund arrangements and promotion with a view to maximising uptake and reducing proportion of refusals
Put women's support plans in place for pregnant women/new mothers substance misusing



Inclusive Growth

Why is this important?

Inclusive growth is growth in the economy that benefits everyone and reduces inequalities, in particular income inequality. Partners have been working with the local business sector and others to develop a new Economic Strategy for South Lanarkshire which will focus on achieving inclusive growth through business; people; and place. Examples of our work includes helping residents to start and sustain their own business; supporting existing businesses; increasing business investment; City Region City Deal, etc. One area of our work is helping residents on a low income to get paid more money for the job that they do.

Promoting the Living Wage How are we doing?

The Office for National Statistics (2018 figures) states that 20.3% of South Lanarkshire residents are in jobs earning less than the living wage. The real Living Wage is independently calculated each year based on what employees and their families need to live. The current UK Living Wage is £9.00 per hour and employers choose to pay the real Living Wage on a voluntary basis. The rates apply to all workers over 18 – in recognition that young people face the same living costs as everyone else. It is key to tackling the high level of in-work poverty which has risen sharply over recent years as a result of not getting enough hours; insecure work and/or low pay, combined with little to no progression routes for many workers on the poorest wages and cuts to in-work benefits. More children in poverty are living in families with parents who work than with parents who are out of work. This is confirmed by local food banks who are providing an increasing number of residents who work with emergency food aid.



The Living Wage Campaign Group has been expanded to cover all of Lanarkshire and works hard to promote the real Living Wage across the area. To encourage employers to become accredited as Living Wage employers we worked with the national Living Wage Accreditation Team in the Poverty Alliance to offer an accreditation discount scheme. For £1,000, 11 employers employing 130 people became accredited and 24 of those people received a pay rise on to the real Living Wage.

In partnership with local business networks we hosted a major business event which attracted over 130 local business representatives from across Lanarkshire to raise awareness of the Living Wage and share the benefits to businesses and employees from adopting the Living Wage and becoming a Living Wage accredited employer.

A further
eight employers
have been accredited
bringing the total to

67



This means that **South Lanarkshire** are now the **4th highest in Scotland** for the number of accredited **Living Wage employers**.

NHS Lanarkshire became the first Living Wage Accredited Geographic Health Board and hosted an event to encourage and support other health boards to follow; and South Lanarkshire Council received the Living Wage Scotland 2018 Anchor Institution Award in recognition of their work which includes promoting the Living Wage to all businesses supported by Business Gateway and through procurement processes.

Priority Next Steps

- We will launch a new Living Wage Accreditation Discount Scheme during 2019 to encourage employers to become accredited with a focus on lower paying employers.
- We will use Living Wage week in November to share good practice, celebrate success and promote Lanarkshire as a Living Wage place.
- We will continue to help residents into and within employment and will do more to help low skilled and low waged staff to progress within their jobs and increase earning potential.
- We will seek to maximise the local training and employment opportunities with an emphasis on fair paid jobs linked to projects such as the regeneration of East Whitlawburn in Cambuslang making sure that local residents have access to these.

Further information

Real Living Wage and Living Wage Accreditation
<https://scottishlivingwage.org>



Financial Inclusion

Why is this important?

Financial wellbeing impacts on all aspects of our lives including our general health and wellbeing and on our quality of life. It can affect the choices and opportunities we have and our aim is to improve financial wellbeing in particular for those who are struggling or failing to get by or are financially vulnerable.

Our focus is on maximising low income households through awareness and uptake of welfare benefits and entitlements; tackling debt and promoting Credit Union saving and affordable borrowing options; reducing costs including fuel bills; and supporting financial capability from school onwards.

Maximising Income

How are we doing?

Welfare benefits are in place to support households whether in, or out of work. However too many individuals and families are still not claiming what they are due. Research by Citizens Advice Scotland suggests that around half a million people are not claiming all the support they are entitled to.

South Lanarkshire Council's Money Matters Advice Service and the Citizen's Advice Bureaus in Cambuslang, East Kilbride, Hamilton and Lanark are the key local services providing money and benefits related advice and support. Others such as Christians Against Poverty (CAP) which provides intensive debt support are contributing too.

Much of this activity is being delivered where there are higher levels of poverty and deprivation to ensure that those who need help the most can access it easily. Local hubs in communities such as Whitlawburn and Hillhouse are bringing a range of advice and support services to a central point in the community. This includes help finding a job; money/welfare advice; help to access online services; and Credit Union services.

The financial gain to households as a result of accessing advice services such as this in 2018-19 is over £30 million.

The Welfare Reform Partnership Group has been extended to involve other key partners including the new Social Security Agency. This group focuses on ensuring that benefits are being maximised and that the negative impacts of Welfare Reform, where possible, are minimised. The Partnership held an event to discuss the impacts of Welfare Reform. This was attended by twenty-two local organisations, including Housing Associations, NHS, voluntary organisations, food banks, Citizen's Advice, the Department for Work and Pensions, South Lanarkshire Council, Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Those attending agreed priority areas for improvement which should help to further improve the support provided to individuals and families experiencing the impacts of Welfare Reform. It will also provide an opportunity for organisations to identify ways in which they can work better together. Feedback from the people who attended the event was positive and will be used to inform future events.

“Workshops can be daunting both in terms of time and understanding, this workshop was different – it was relatively short and there was an understanding and an attempt to ensure that it didn't become only for the experts, which was a relief.”

Welfare Reform Event Participant

“Very effective in outlining the challenges faced by both public and third sector organisations.”

Welfare Reform Event Participant

Claire's Story*

Claire is a single mum with two children who attended a local advice clinic as she was having difficulties keeping up with her debts. The Adviser completed all the relevant paperwork and made appointments for her to receive a financial health check and to meet a specialist Debt Adviser.

Through the financial health check, with support from the Adviser an energy price comparison was carried out and Claire found a new tariff which would save her £450 a year on bills. The Adviser also provided budgeting advice.

She then met with a Debt Adviser who considered her full situation and gave her options which resulted in a decision to self-sequester and £30,391 of debt was written off.

**Name has been changed*

Priority Next Steps

- The Welfare Reform Partnership Group will progress the outcomes from the Welfare Reform Event.
- Ongoing work to maximise awareness and uptake of benefits and entitlements including work with families as part of the Local Child Poverty Action Plan. An example of this is working with South Lanarkshire Council staff who register births to promote the new Best Start Grant payments to parents registering a birth.

Further information

When Money is Tight Booklet

www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/whenmoneyistight

Money Matters Advice Services

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/money-advice

Citizens Advice Scotland

www.cas.org.uk

South Lanarkshire Local Child Poverty Action Report

www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/childpovertyactionplan



Supporting Parental Employment and Childcare

Why is this important?

The early years of a child's life are important in shaping the best outcomes for them and funding Early Learning and Childcare Services help provide the basis for positive future outcomes for children and families, including reducing poverty and improving chances of getting a job. We know that helping low income families towards, into and within work through the provision of affordable and accessible childcare has the greatest potential to impact on child poverty. We also know that children who receive high quality child care, enter school with better language and social skills, providing a child with a good start to succeed in school and in life.

In supporting parental employment, the partnership helps those in receipt of welfare benefits to get a job and through upskilling programmes to progress further within their job. We know that barriers to increasing pay can be even greater for those with family responsibilities. Caring for children can often limit the number of hours people can work and the distance you can travel for work.

333

two year olds are currently taking up nursery places - 10% of all 2 year olds. (Scotland - 10%)



Nursery Places for two-year old children and better early support to families with children with speech and language difficulties

How are we doing?

We are making sure that workers from our partner organisations are in contact with families in early childhood and highlight the benefits of using available nursery places for 2 year olds.

Early Years partners have developed an approach that positively promotes free early learning and childcare and highlights the learning and developmental benefits for 2 year olds. We have worked hard to establish positive relationships across Early Years Staff, Health Visitors, Housing Services, Child Minders and other partners. We know that as a result parents are more aware of how to access places for 2 year old children.

A "Starting Nursery Booklet" is available and provides information about how to access a nursery place, this is due to be updated and reprinted shortly.

We know there is an increase in the number of eligible children attending nursery and the current figures show a 6.6% increase in children with no concerns in speech, language and communication at an early age. Through evaluation we can evidence better outcomes for families such as increased self confidence in parents, better planning for children's learning and improved employment chances through the increased training and job opportunities.

Priority Next Steps

- We will develop new promotional materials to publicise early learning and childcare opportunities and encourage parents to talk to other parents about their experiences and the benefits of using the service.



Further Information

Free Nursery Places for 2-3 year olds

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/nursery-2-3years

Upskilling - Tackling In-work poverty

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/upskilling



Improving Housing

Why is this important?

Providing good quality housing that meets people's differing needs now and in the future and which they can afford, is vital to ensuring the health and wellbeing of communities across South Lanarkshire.

South Lanarkshire Council works closely with local people within communities and a range of other partners to improve the supply and condition of housing in South Lanarkshire and reduce levels of fuel poverty. We make sure that existing council homes are maintained to the required standards and new homes meet modern standards in relation to ease of access, space and energy efficiency.

As well as providing good quality affordable homes for rent that are suitable to people's needs, we also work with housing partners to deliver a range of other services aimed at improving the lives of people in South Lanarkshire.

An area of particular focus is working with people who are at risk of homelessness, including those most vulnerable within the community and provide advice, information and assistance to help prevent homelessness. Where homelessness cannot be prevented, we provide advice and support, including temporary accommodation if required, until the person's circumstances are resolved or a suitable home is identified. In 2018-19, the council let 49% of the homes that became available for let to people who were homeless.



Belstane Gate Housing Development, Carluke

Affordable Homes

How are we doing?

All housing partners have agreed to build 5,290 new homes across South Lanarkshire by 2022. As the biggest landlord, the council has set an ambitious target of providing 1,000 high quality, new affordable homes by 2021. In addition, the council will also work closely with Housing Associations to build even more new houses for rent which will help towards meeting the needs of South Lanarkshire residents.

The council's award winning Home+ programme aims to further improve the condition of existing council housing and also ensure the delivery of new council homes. In 2018-19, 476 affordable homes were delivered by housing partners, including 193 council homes across six developments in Hamilton, Lanark, Blantyre and East Kilbride.

All new homes have generous space standards, high quality kitchens and bathrooms and modern equipment such as solar panels. These features ensure that the homes are energy efficient and cheaper to run which benefits both tenants and the environment.

Through Glasgow City Region City Deal, four areas of South Lanarkshire; Newton, Hamilton, Larkhall and East Kilbride have been identified as Community Growth Areas (CGA). The lives of residents in and around the four CGA's in South Lanarkshire will benefit from a £62 million investment to deliver not only more houses but also amenities and services such as shops, transport links, schools and leisure facilities. Recent improvements include the completion of a £4 million extension to Woodhead Primary School in Hamilton and completion of £1.5 million of road improvement work at Highstonehall Road, next to a site being developed for 450 homes for sale and rent.

Priority Next Steps

- South Lanarkshire Council will continue to work towards meeting our target to deliver 1,000 new council homes by 2021.
- Housing partners will continue to work together to provide additional new affordable homes for rent across South Lanarkshire, particularly in areas of high housing demand.

Further information

South Lanarkshire's Local Housing Strategy 2017-22
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/housing-strategy

Glasgow City Region City Deal
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/citydeal

“We are really happy with our new home. The house is cosy, the rooms are a good size and the location is excellent.”

council tenant

“I feel very privileged to be living here and whoever designed these flats deserves a medal.”

council tenant

Maxwellton Housing Development,
East Kilbride



Education, Skills and Development

Opportunities for All - Positive Post School Destinations

Why is this important?

How we support our young people, like those more at risk of poverty and experiencing inequality is a key priority. These young people need the best support that we can give when leaving school to access college, training and other opportunities that will increase their employment chances. Research indicates that being unemployed when young can impact on society for decades. Youth unemployment leads to a higher likelihood of long-term impacts in later life such as lower pay, higher unemployment and reduced life chances. There is also evidence of greater mental health problems when individuals reach their 40s/50s. Significant costs will be incurred in benefit payments, health costs and lower tax returns.

We offer a range of youth employability programmes, with support available for young people who need help moving on from school to training, college or a job. Our focus is on ensuring that those young people who live in our most deprived areas have the same opportunities to progress into further education and work as those from the least deprived areas.

In 2017-18,
96.4% of our **school leavers**
left school with somewhere positive to go.
(up from 94.1% in 2015-16).



Aspire and Training for Trades Programmes

How are we doing?

Youth Employability support has been offered to young people from the most deprived communities over the last three years and we are starting to see some strong progress. The difference between young people who live in the most deprived areas and those who live in the least deprived areas moving into further learning or employment is now 4.6% which is lower than the Scottish Average of 6.8%.

The Aspire Youth Employability Service helps young people who are the most vulnerable to get the support they need to achieve a positive place such as work or further education after leaving school. Each young person receives tailored support to help them to complete their journey which can be from the last 6 months of school right up until their 19th birthday. This includes visiting young people at home, regular meetings and monitoring their progress. This year Aspire has supported 632 young people each one via an individual programme which may include, work experience, vocational tasters, employability skills, volunteering or health and wellbeing support. 84% of these young people moved on to a positive opportunity after leaving school and those who didn't were given ongoing support from the service. Aspire workers also support the Training for Trades programme which ranges from taster days through to longer term vocational programmes and provides opportunities for young people to increase their skill set and develop skills required by employers such as commitment, time keeping, attendance, etc.

John's Story*

John was going through a fairly chaotic time in his life when he joined the Training for Trades Golf Club Green Keeping Programme. He was disengaged from school and was affected by many barriers including substance misuse, homelessness, mental health and low self-esteem. The nature and physicality of the work helped to improve John's mental health. This was complemented by the one to one support that Aspire provided, by ensuring that he also received support from other appropriate agencies such as housing and a local young person's support group. John returned to school and completed his National 4 qualifications and was also linked in with the school nurse. He knew he would like to work outdoors doing a physically demanding job and a work placement with a local fabrication company was secured. Feedback was outstanding and within a short period of time they offered John full-time employment.

**Name has been changed*



Priority Next Steps

- We know there has been excellent progress in supporting our young people in leaving school and our work will focus on continuing to maintain this level of success.

Further information

www.facebook.com/mybrighterfutureslc

My Brighter Future Youth Employability Brochure

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/my-brighter-future-brochure



Health Inequalities

Why is this important?

Health inequalities remains one of the highest priorities for all Community Planning Partners. The World Health Organisation states that "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease". Many factors combine together to affect the health of individuals and communities. Whether people are healthy or not is determined by their social and economic circumstances and wider environment. Factors such as where we live, genetics, income, education, gender, social networks and access to health care services all have considerable impacts on health and can also contribute to health inequality.

The context of people's lives often determine their health and their lifestyle choices. Individuals are unlikely to be able to directly control many of the determinants of health. The partnership is committed to the delivery of preventative and anticipatory care actions such as improving health in the early years of life, reducing the impact of substance misuse, promotion of good mental health and supporting carers to optimise wellbeing and with the potential to reduce health inequalities. One area of focus is Smoking Cessation Support for Pregnant Women.

Smoking Cessation Support for Pregnant Women

How are we doing?

It is important for the health of the mother and the baby to stop smoking during pregnancy as pregnancy and child health outcomes are improved if the mother does not smoke. This work focuses on supporting pregnant smokers from the most deprived areas to set a quit date and stop smoking by their 12 week booking clinic through increasing awareness of staff and pregnant women on

the supports and services available. Services include a Specialist Stop Smoking Service and Pharmacy.

The latest data shows that in 2017-18, 27.4% of pregnant women in the most deprived areas in South Lanarkshire smoked. The long-term ambition of the partnership is to reduce this to 12%.

Activities to support staff in assisting women to stop smoking include:-

- Training for the Family Nurse Partnership (a voluntary home visiting service for young mums and families) on Quit Your Way (QYW). Nurses are now aware of the referral process for new mothers, the mechanisms for monitoring indoor air quality and the harms caused by Second Hand Smoke (SHS).
- Providing midwives across Lanarkshire with promotional materials to raise awareness of QYW and the harms caused by SHS.
- Working in partnership with the Burnbank Family Centre's Mother and Baby Group; providing staff and parents with information regarding QYW Service, Nicotine Replacement Therapy, addiction and SHS.
- Providing community midwifery teams with resources such as Carbon Monoxide (CO) Monitors, conversation guides and information about QYW service to help them to support pregnant women to stop smoking.
- Training 80 student midwives on smoking in pregnancy; QYW service provision, harms of second hand smoke and availability of national resources.

"I could attend service with my children which made it easier. I would recommend the service to anyone who was thinking about stopping."

Service User



“The nurses were lovely and suggested different products to suit.”

Service User

“I have stopped for 9 months and have had my baby.”

Service User

Priority Next Steps

- We will improve how we share information, for example, QYW will highlight smoking cessation outcomes of pregnant women to midwives so that they can make a re-referral at the 16 week visit, if necessary.
- We will develop prompts for midwives to support them to make appropriate referrals to QYW and raise the issue of smoking with pregnant women on a regular basis.
- We will explore the feasibility of joint visits with First Steps Workers and QYW nurse advisors.

- We will provide training for midwifery staff on the harms of smoking in pregnancy; carbon monoxide screening and Very Brief Advice; SHS; national resources that are available; and QYW.
- We will develop a referral pathway for pregnant women to access the QYW Pharmacy Service.

Further information

Smoke-free Lanarkshire – For you, for children, forever
www.nhslanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk/download/lanarkshire-tobacco-control-strategy-2018-2023/

Quit Your Way Scotland
www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/nhs-services/helplines/quit-your-way-scotland

QUIT YOUR WAY
with our support

Safeguarding from Risk or Harm

Why is this important?

The aim of public protection involves working with both victims and perpetrators to reduce the risk of harm from abuse, exploitation and neglect to children, adults and the public. Public protection needs agencies in South Lanarkshire to work together to raise awareness and understanding, and co-ordinate an effective response that provides at-risk individuals with the support needed to reduce the risk in their lives. In South Lanarkshire, this work is overseen by a dedicated public protection team which promotes effective partnership working between the Adult and Child Protection Committees, Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and the Gender Based Violence Partnership. One area of focus is to increase the number of professionals engaged in domestic abuse learning and development opportunities.

Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP)

How are we doing?

Violence against women and girls (also known as Gender Based Violence) is carried out mainly by men. The consequences of this are profound and damaging and are a major contributor to inequality. The partnership is committed to working together with key partners in the public, private and third sector to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in South Lanarkshire. Only by working between agencies, across all areas of life, will we successfully achieve the vision and aims set out in Scotland's strategy for violence against women and girls - Equally Safe (www.gov.scot/publications/equally-safe-scotlands-strategy-prevent-eradicate-violence-against-women-girls/).

Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) is a peer education programme that supports young people to safely challenge unwanted behaviours and encourage healthy relationships. Based on the 'bystander' approach MVP motivates everyone to get involved in safely challenging abuse. The programme sees students as a school's greatest resource in achieving this and trains senior pupils to act as peer mentors who then deliver sessions to younger students in the school.

In South Lanarkshire, the programme has:-

- improved relationships between pupils, mentors, and teachers;
- increased confidence and developed leadership skills among pupil mentors and increased confidence among pupils; and
- given pupils the confidence to report incidents of unwanted behaviours.

During 2018-19, another secondary school signed up, bringing the total number of participating schools in South Lanarkshire to 11.

“It encourages you to not be silent, to not be a bystander. When you see a situation it makes you look at what you can actually do, I could maybe help.”

MVP Student Mentor

“The thought provoking nature of the activities was best about the training.”

South Lanarkshire Participant



Priority Next Steps

- We will provide training to professionals and pupil peer mentors in participating schools to support the ongoing sustainability of the programme.
- We will encourage the schools that are not currently participating to take part in the programme.

Further information

South Lanarkshire's Gender-Based Violence Partnership Strategy (2016–2019)

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/gender-based-violence-strategy

MVP Annual Report 2017–2018

actiononviolence.org/mvp-annual-report-2017-2018

www.mvpscotland.org.uk



11 participating schools
in South Lanarkshire

Improving the Local Environment and Communities

Why is this important?

The quality of the environment in which we live and our ability to take part in community life and influence what happens in our communities is key to addressing inequalities and tackling poverty. Within this theme we are working in partnership to build community participation and involvement and produce local plans to address poor outcomes; become more sustainable; tackle digital exclusion; and improve transport to ensure people can access the services and opportunities they require. One area of this work is Digital Inclusion which is about working to ensure that all individuals and communities, including the most disadvantaged, have access to and use of Information and Communications Technology. This includes access to the internet and internet-enabled devices (computers, tablets, mobile phones, etc.) and access to digital literacy training and support to ensure all individuals have the skills and confidence to use the technology.



Digital Inclusion

How are we doing?

Being digitally connected can bring a range of benefits to a family including making savings on a range of goods and services. Households that are not online are missing out on estimated savings of £560 per year from shopping and paying bills online. Being online is also key to accessing and maintaining benefits, employment opportunities and is a necessity for educational purposes for children and parents. More and more health and wellbeing services and supports are also now available online. We know that in communities with higher levels of poverty, fewer households have internet access. This is particularly relevant in some rural areas.

We have worked together to increase the number of free digital access points and support available to residents. There are currently 55 free access points and nine digital hubs across South Lanarkshire. Digital hubs are often based in libraries, community centres, churches and other community facilities. Trained volunteers play a key role here and in some hubs staff from partner organisations such as Citizen's Advice are helping to provide advice on complex benefits and money related issues.

The SELECT project (managed by Community Links South Lanarkshire) supports digital hubs and they have seen an increase in the use of their hubs since the introduction of the Universal Credit full online service. There are currently 6 SELECT community hubs where last year, 22 volunteers were supported to help 236 new hub users (as well as 94 existing members) to get online. The outcomes for volunteers and for those getting help to get online were as follows: 178 clients increased skills and confidence; 55 clients progressed to voluntary opportunities to increase their chances of employment; 75 clients progressed to education or training; and 46 clients secured employment. In addition, similar community led hubs exist in other community facilities including churches.

The most recent data available
(Scottish Household Survey 2017)

suggests that

81% of households in
South Lanarkshire have access
to the internet compared to

85% across **Scotland**



The Brown Family*

We are working with a charity to measure the impacts for a family struggling to get by financially of having a laptop, free home internet access and help to use both from a family support worker. Early findings are that the family is now able to access better utility deals, contact the job centre and complete forms for Universal Credit. The children are using the laptop for homework and in working towards a badge for the Army Cadets. The family are also more aware now of local services and opportunities.

**Name has been changed*

Priority Next Steps

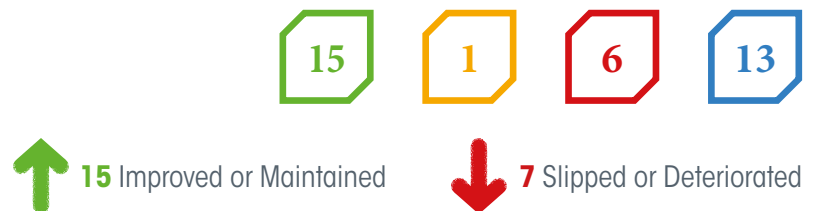
- We will undertake a wider piece of work to look at the digital inclusion needs of residents including the needs of low income families. This work will inform future action in relation to digital inclusion and low income families.
- We will also consider how we can increase public Wi-Fi access within key community facilities, in particular those in areas with higher levels of poverty and income deprivation.

Further information

Free Internet Access Points in South Lanarkshire
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/get-online

Community Safety Partnership Improvement Plan Overall Performance at a glance

Status of priority measures



The following provides a summary of our performance against our priority measures and actions. These are:-

- Contribute to reducing the health, social and economic harm caused by drug misuse;
- Contribute to reducing both the prevalence and impact of domestic abuse upon victims, children, families and communities;
- Contribute to making people safe and feel safe using roads in South Lanarkshire;
- Contribute to reducing the risk of unintentional injuries within the home environment; and
- Contribute to reducing the impact antisocial behaviour has on people's lives.

The full CPP performance report can be accessed using the following link

www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/sslperformance

Status	Definition
Green	On course to achieve the target or complete the action as planned/the timescale or target has been met as per expectations
Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target
Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target
To be reported later	For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to say whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available

Most improved measures

Reduce crime committed under s5(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971

Increase the number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police

Reduce rate of deliberate secondary refuse fires

Least improved measures

Reduce road accident casualties - all killed

Maintain rate of emergency admissions for unintentional injury arising through falls (people aged 65 years and over)

Priority Outcome

1

Contribute to reducing the health, social and economic harm caused by drug misuse

Why is this important?

Drug misuse in South Lanarkshire is increasing. We know that there is a higher rate of problem drug users in South Lanarkshire compared with Scotland (19 for every 1,000 people compared to 16 for every 1,000 people in Scotland) and that drug-related hospital admissions and deaths are rising at a faster rate in South Lanarkshire than in Scotland. We also know that the number of new patients we are dealing with indicates we have a continuing problem. The Partnership is taking a preventative education approach to drug misuse which targets children aged 16 years old and under, particularly secondary school pupils to prevent future drug experimentation and use. This work aligns with the Scottish Government's strategy, Rights, Respect and Recovery. (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/rights-respect-recovery/>)

Drug Education Workshops

How are we doing?

The Drug Education Workshop raises awareness of the dangers, effects, and consequences of drug use. The aim of the programme is to prevent young people from engaging in the misuse of illegal drugs.

As part of Police Scotland's "Choices for Life" educational programme it provides information and raises awareness amongst people aged between 11 and 18 years old of the dangers of substance use and misuse.

It provides young people with knowledge relating to drugs and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) with a view to preventing them from engaging in drug misuse. The workshop is targeted at secondary schools in areas where there is a general high NPS occurrence of drug related crime and drug related deaths. Through attending this workshop pupils have an increased knowledge of the dangers and consequences of drug misuse, including health, safety, and the wider social and criminal consequences.

Feedback from the workshop survey shows that an increasing proportion of pupils have stated they will not take drugs and would be more likely to report concerns of someone else using or selling drugs to an adult. During the 2017-18 school session, 999 pupils participated in the workshops.

There was a social media campaign and posters were placed in schools to highlight the risks associated with drug misuse and a dedicated secure mailbox was provided to allow pupils, parents, and professionals to report any concerns in confidence.

Priority Next Steps

- To complete an evaluation of the 2018-19 school year workshop responses.
- To continue to ensure the initiative is delivered in areas where pupils are assessed to be at higher risk. Five other secondary schools in South Lanarkshire have been identified for workshops during the 2019-20 school year and there is ongoing discussion with those schools to secure participation.

Further information

Police Scotland: Keep your child safe from substance misuse
www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/young-people/supporting-children-and-young-people/keep-your-child-safe-from-substance-misuse

Young Scot: Choices for Life
<https://young.scot/campaigns/national/choices-for-life>

Know the Score
<https://knowthescore.info>



“It made me aware of the dangers of drugs.”

South Lanarkshire participant

“I didn't realise there were so many different kinds (of drugs).”

South Lanarkshire participant

Contribute to reducing both the prevalence and impact of domestic abuse upon victims, children, families and communities

Why is this important?

Domestic abuse is a pattern of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and/or violent behaviour, including sexual violence, by a partner or ex-partner. Domestic abuse is overwhelmingly experienced by women and perpetrated by men. It doesn't matter how old someone is, what race or ethnicity they are, what class they are, whether or not they are disabled, or whether they have children – anyone can be a victim of abuse.

Safe and Together

How are we doing?

The Safe and Together model is designed to improve practice and how we work together with families where there is domestic abuse and concerns about children. It helps workers to partner with domestic abuse victims and engage with people who have committed domestic abuse to enhance the safety and wellbeing of children. It is part of other work that is happening across Scotland to eliminate discrimination against women and to prevent and end violence against women and children. It is internationally recognised training for workers who support children and women who have experienced domestic abuse and gives them training to improve their practice in how they assess, interview, document and plan. During 2019, 39 professionals (mainly social workers) received the training. In South Lanarkshire, 199 children aged 0-15 years were referred to specialist services for support during 2017-18.

Priority Next Steps

The training will be cascaded through 2019-20 to other professionals involved in supporting children and women experiencing domestic abuse.

Further information

Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women and Girls in Scotland
www.gov.scot/publications/equally-safe-scotlands-strategy-prevent-eradicate-violence-against-women-girls/

Safe and Together Institute
<https://safeandtogetherinstitute.com/about-us/about-the-model/>



Contribute to making people safe and feel safe using roads in South Lanarkshire

Why is this important?

Road traffic accidents are largely preventable. The volume of traffic continues to increase and residents and communities rely on the ability to use roads to go about their daily lives. In 2018-19, 4,631 road traffic offences were reported to the Police in South Lanarkshire. There has been a 7% increase in the number of dangerous driving offences, an 11% increase in speeding offences, and a 4% increase in the number of careless driving offences. In 2018, 13 people were killed on South Lanarkshire roads, a decrease of 19% from 2010; however, the fluctuations and progress to reduce fatality levels further, has been challenging.

The Partnership takes a preventative education approach to reduce road traffic casualty levels targeted at drivers and pedestrians to encourage safe behaviour on our roads. This aligns with the Scottish Government's strategy, Go Safe on Scotland's Roads its Everyone's Responsibility: Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020 (www.gov.scot/publications/go-safe-scotlands-roads-everyones-responsibility-scotlands-road-safety-framework/).

We know that in general, drivers do not appreciate the impact of a road accident and that for a small group who know, the risks of an accident occurring or getting caught was not enough to change their behaviour. We also know that pedestrians continue to take risks and in 2018 this was the main reason that seven children were seriously injured on roads.



Pass Plus New Driver Scheme

How are we doing?

Pass Plus gives newly qualified drivers the opportunity to enhance their driving skill by taking additional driving sessions to improve their experience of driving in more difficult roads and road circumstances. New drivers can get a £100 grant towards the cost of Pass Plus (currently £140). This initiative has contributed to:-

- providing a safer road environment for all road users in South Lanarkshire; and
- positively changing attitudes and behaviours of newly qualified drivers relating to road use.

Since its launch in 2007, 1,850 new drivers in South Lanarkshire have benefited. This year the initiative was promoted through social media leading to an increase in take up. The latest feedback from participants shows that:-

- 89% reported that Pass Plus had resulted in major improvements in their attitude and behaviour in a positive way;
- 78% stated that it had significantly improved the safety of their driving; and
- 77% said that the scheme had a major impact on their technical ability to drive.

Priority Next Steps

- We will carry out an evaluation of 2018-19 participants to find out what difference it has made.
- We will increase the number of participants during 2019 by promoting the scheme on social media and through driving schools.

Further information

Pass Plus

www.gov.uk/pass-plus

Pass Plus for Newly Qualified Drivers/Grant Application Form

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/pass-plus



Contribute to reducing the risk of unintentional injuries within the home environment

Why is this important?

Unintentional injuries are preventable. They are a common cause of ill health, disability, and death in children and adults and older people are at increased risk. We know that the risk of admission and of death is also linked to deprivation. We also know that older people are at increased risk of suffering injury requiring them to go to a hospital, for emergency admission, of suffering fractures and head injuries, and of death all because of a fall and these risks increase the older they become. By 2039, 28% of South Lanarkshire's population will be aged 65 years and over compared to 18% in 2014.

The Partnership takes a preventative approach to unintentional injuries which currently focuses on falls. Safety information and advice is provided to older/vulnerable people to help them and their carers recognise the increased risk so they can take action to reduce it. We have established a partnership group which focuses on the health and wellbeing of older and vulnerable residents with the purpose of reducing hospital admissions from issues such as falls, poisonings, burns and scalds, and drowning. This work aligns with the Scottish Government's National Falls and Fracture Prevention Strategy, The Prevention and Management of Falls in the Community Framework 2014 (www.gov.scot/publications/prevention-management-falls-community-framework-action-scotland-2014-2015/pages/3/).



Home Safety Visits

How are we doing?

The Home Safety Visit is an initiative aimed at older residents at risk of suffering a trip or fall at home that could lead to emergency hospital admission. This is important due to the increasing numbers of older people in South Lanarkshire who are a group that are not only at greater risk from falls at home, but at greater risk of needing to be admitted to hospital, of suffering more severe injuries, and are more vulnerable to death because of a fall. This work has increased safety practice to reduce falls at home by providing home safety education, information, and advice; contributed to reducing the number of unintentional injuries arising from a fall at home; and to reducing the number of emergency hospital admissions for unintentional injury.

We have been working with the NHS Lanarkshire's Falls Strategy Group which is reviewing how it manages falls and how the partnership contributes to falls prevention.

The Community Safety Partnership contributes to the funding of items that may need to be purchased to improve safety at home and contributes funding to Care and Repair South Lanarkshire to carry out that work.

Priority Next Steps

- We will deliver partnership roadshow events during 2019 to raise awareness, increase referrals and provide resources to prevent unintentional injuries.
- We will continue to contribute to the work of the NHS Lanarkshire's Falls Strategy Group.
- We will carry out training and briefing sessions to educate local voluntary workers to carry out Home Safety Visit assessments.

Further information

Home Fire Safety Visit

www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/for-householders/home-fire-safety-visit.aspx

NHS falls prevention guidance

www.nhs.uk/conditions/falls/prevention/

South Lanarkshire Council preventing falls guidance

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200227/care_for_the_elderly/742/preventing_falls

Care and Repair South Lanarkshire

<https://careandrepair-sl.co.uk>

Contribute to reducing the impact antisocial behaviour has on people's lives

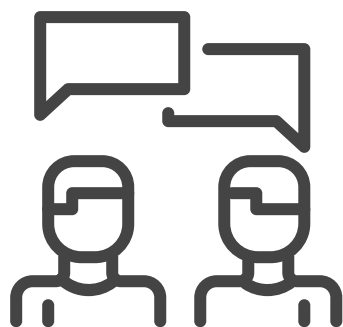
Why is this important?

Antisocial behaviour (ASB) covers a wide range of nuisance or criminal behaviours that affect the mental health and wellbeing of people differently. We know that ASB incidents in South Lanarkshire are reducing (by 15% between 2013-14 and 2017-18) but the number of incidents reported is high (several thousand each year). In 2017-18, over 18,000 incidents were reported to the Police.

One example of an ASB issue for the Fire Service is refuse fires and those in open spaces; three in every five deliberate fires relate to refuse. Dumping household rubbish and household items creates an increased fire risk and there has been a 21% increase (2014-18) in complaints to South Lanarkshire Council about fly-tipping. The partnership takes a preventative approach to ASB which targets children and young people to educate and raise awareness of the impact and consequences of their behaviour to encourage change. This work aligns with the Scottish Government's Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016 (www.gov.scot/publications/fire-rescue-framework-scotland-2016/).

In 2017-18,

over
18,000
incidents
were reported
to the Police.



Fire Reach – It's Your Choice

How are we doing?

Fire Reach is a national Fire Service project that seeks to prevent young people from antisocial behaviour. Training and development opportunities are provided through fire-related activities to give young people knowledge and life skills that can contribute to prevent further antisocial or criminal fire setting behaviour.

The Fire Reach Project aims to develop young people's skills and confidence through team building and independent learning. It encourages them to make positive decisions through changing the attitudes and perceptions of young people towards their community.

During the last year, three Fire Reach courses were delivered to 30 young people who had a history of antisocial behaviour. This included young people who had previously been charged with starting fires. The project gives young people a greater awareness and understanding of the roles of the Fire Service within their communities so that they are able to make more positive decisions in relation to antisocial behaviour. They also gain skills that help provide better social, education, and employment opportunities in the future.

The young people experience the role of a fire fighter and learn about teamwork, leadership and communication skills to increase their awareness and understanding of their community and of the Fire Service. The programme also includes:- self-discipline; problem solving techniques; confidence and communication skills; physical and mental capabilities; citizenship; an awareness of health and safety; an understanding of the contribution that the Fire Service and other agencies make to the community; and basic first aid skills.

As a result of participating in the programme, the young people have a more positive view of their community, there is increased safety for residents, visitors, and businesses and the physical appearance of the area is improved.

Priority Next Steps

- We will schedule further events during 2019-20.
- We will continue to deliver fire awareness sessions to schools and youth groups in South Lanarkshire.

Further information

It's Your Choice - Fire Reach

www.itsyourchoice.co/fire-reach.php

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service initiatives
for young people

[www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/
for-young-people/initiatives.aspx](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/for-young-people/initiatives.aspx)

Universal Connections

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/universal-connections



Alan's Story*

Alan first came to the attention of the Police in 2017. Before long his behaviour was spiralling out of control and he was regularly reported missing from school and home. Alan's parents were concerned about his behaviour which included setting fires in the home.

In May 2017, Alan was referred to take part in a Fire Service youth activity programme by his social worker who was concerned about his behaviour including fire-setting and fire-related antisocial behaviour. At first Alan's fire-setting behaviour stopped but he continued to be involved in antisocial behaviour and was often in trouble with the Police.

Five months later, Alan was attending the local Universal Connections due to continuing low level antisocial behaviour and gained a Youth Award yet he continued to be in trouble with the Police and was often reported to social work for escalating antisocial behaviour including fire-setting.

By 2018, the Police were regularly reporting Alan's behaviour to Social Work and to the Reporter's Administration for antisocial behaviour including causing disturbances, vandalism, shop lifting, and fire-setting. He was placed in a children's unit before moving into a residential school.

In the spring 2018 Alan was invited by Universal Connections to attend a youth group for people who had a history of offending behaviour and over the next six months they met twice a week working together and building up trust and positive relationships.

The group took part in the Fire Reach programme. Despite a reluctant start, Alan quickly involved himself in the activities and opened up about his behaviour. Alan excelled on the course and by the end of the week he told staff he would never set another fire and that he wanted to be a fire fighter.

Since completing the Fire Reach programme in September 2018 Alan has never been involved in fire-setting and the Police have had no concerns to report.

Alan's parents spoke about the positive change in his attitude and behaviour which they believe is due to Alan's involvement with the Fire Service and Universal Connections, and in particular, the Fire Reach course he had attended.

**Name has been changed*

Health and Social Care Partnership Improvement Plan Overall Performance at a glance

Status of priority measures



54 Improved or Maintained

1 Slipped or Deteriorated

The following provides a summary of our performance against our priority measures and actions. These are:-

- Individuals, families and communities are empowered to take preventative action to support positive health and wellbeing with a focus on communities and groups whose health outcomes are poorest;
- Shifting the balance of care from hospital and residential settings to community based alternatives; and
- Carers and in particular those on low incomes are fully supported to access financial advice, information and practical wellbeing support.

The full CPP performance report can be accessed using the following link

www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/hscperformance

Status	Definition
Green	On course to achieve the target or complete the action as planned/the timescale or target has been met as per expectations
Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target
Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target
To be reported later	For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to say whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available

Most improved measures

Develop Telehealth and Telecare approaches and community awareness and take up of these in the most deprived areas and across vulnerable groups

Reduce the number of people in residential care as a percentage of the overall adult population

Grow capacity in the Third Sector to ensure that people are supported to improve their health and wellbeing

Review the scope of and uptake of preventative health and wellbeing services by deprived communities and vulnerable groups for example, Weigh to go; Stop Smoking; Health Screening etc.

Provide dedicated financial wellbeing support to carers

Least improved measures

Maintain the percentage of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role

Individuals families and communities are empowered to take preventative action to support positive health and wellbeing with a focus on communities and groups whose health outcomes are poorest

Why is this important?

To improve the health of the people in our communities; reduce local health inequalities; and reduce demand on our services, we need to work with communities, partners and staff to deliver services that prevent ill health, intervene early and avoid the escalation of health problems. We also need to work with people to support them to care for themselves.

The health of the people who live in South Lanarkshire is generally in line with the rest of Scotland however when we look at smaller areas in communities, the differences in health inequalities can be significant. A range of services are being developed to support individuals for example telehealth, better coordination of Substance Misuse Services, health checks for vulnerable people and physical activity prescriptions. However, we know that poverty is one of the most significant factors of health inequalities and we need to help people to reduce financial strains and to receive the financial support that they are entitled to. One of the services that we have put in place to do this is Health and Welfare Advice Hubs.

Health and Welfare Advice Hubs

How are we doing?

In recent NHS surveys, Doctors have reported increased demands on their time from patients requiring support for social, non-clinical needs. GPs also felt that patients' health was being negatively affected by increasing financial problems.

Placing Health and Welfare advice services in Health Centres (co-location) is one approach to supporting people whose health is affecting, or affected by, such problems. It is also hoped that such services will ease pressures on practices. For example, by supporting patients to fill in welfare benefit forms that might otherwise be brought to GPs.

Hamilton and Rutherglen Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) delivered Health and Welfare Advice Hubs in six deprived areas, Hamilton, Blantyre, Larkhall, Carluke, Douglas and Rutherglen Health Centres. The hubs provide isolated people with mental ill-health and long term conditions; and pregnant and new mums with financial advice, support and representation with a focus on increasing income and reducing outgoings. In the last year, the main area of advice given across all hubs related to social security issues, particularly health and disability benefits, followed by housing and utilities. Referrals for advice have come mainly from Doctors and Community Health staff and the majority of people referred have health conditions which are mostly long term self-limiting (self-limiting means an illness or condition which will either resolve on its own or which has no long-term harmful effect on a person's health).

In Rutherglen, based on the enquiries received over the year, there was a financial gain of £158,815. In the other locations, 345 people were given advice services on 1,562 different issues, achieving a financial gain of £647,800.

The Scottish Government have recently introduced new Financial Health Checks for those more vulnerable to poverty including low income families and older people. The CABs who are delivering this service have supported 122 families to date.

To complement this service, a free integrated app for mobile phones has been developed. This was designed by people who are affected by welfare benefit changes or other money worries. The App consists of four main sections **Money, Housing and Bills, Work and Help now**. Staff can support their patients in using the App or can access information themselves in support of a patient.



Financial gain to households
£806,615

Priority Next Steps

- Work has started to establish welfare advice services in school settings via Healthy Schools Plus which is a partnership approach to supporting health and wellbeing within schools, communities and into family homes.
- A routine enquiry approach has been adopted by Health Visitors and Midwives to raise the issue of money worries with clients at all assessment contact points in HV and at 2 key contacts in Maternity. A reporting system is being developed to record routine enquiry contacts to allow us to monitor the process.

Further information

- Download the FREE app Lanarkshire Money Worries on App Store or Google Play (<https://play.google.com/store>)



*Jane's Story**

Jane is 60 years of age, is married with two grown up children (one with autism); lives with her husband and children; and is unemployed. She also has several long term health conditions including Arthritis and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Jane attended Rutherglen Primary Care Centre with her husband and requested assistance to complete a Personal Independence Payment (PIP) form. She was also advised that she qualified for a council tax reduction and could transfer her marriage allowance to her husband (£230 per year). After three months, Jane was awarded PIP at an enhanced rate of daily living and enhanced rate of mobility. Jane gained £10,924.20 of income.

**Name has been changed*

Shifting the balance of care from hospital and residential settings to community based alternatives

Why is this important?

Whilst there will always be a requirement for care to be provided in places like a hospital, one of the national priorities is to provide more care in the community and within people's own homes. This very much underpins what carers and users of services have told us is their preference. In addition to this, the resources associated with hospital care is significant and does not always support the person to achieve their desired outcomes. Developing and extending the range of options that people can access in terms of how they are supported is a key aspect of the change required; with the aim being to bring about a long-term model of care for the future. Some of the work being undertaken in this area includes care at home medicine management, self-directed support and the implementation of a Community Response Team to help prevent hospital admission. One area of our work is supporting people who need Palliative Care.

Palliative Care Support

How are we doing?

In autumn 2018, Kilbryde Hospice in East Kilbride opened 12 specialist inpatient palliative care beds for the benefit of those who need specialist palliative care support within the Cambuslang, Clydesdale, East Kilbride, Hamilton and Rutherglen areas. This means that people who live in Cambuslang and Rutherglen have access to this type of service within Lanarkshire for the first time. This service is being provided in addition to the beds at St Andrews and Strathcarron Hospices which have been arranged by the Partnership for the benefit of South Lanarkshire residents.

When we asked people to give their views on end of life care they told us that they would prefer to receive care in their own home. This model recognises the importance of hospice provision and the services they provide and

complements the community supports and services already in place. The Lanarkshire model for palliative care services and specialist hospice provision sees community nursing and home care staff – supported by respective specialist clinical staff – working in an integrated way, 24 hours a day/7 days a week to provide palliative and end of life care and support to people in their own homes or in a homely setting. The hospice hosts a joint nurse-led service providing psychological support to patients and carers at home and services include complementary therapies, befriending and chaplaincy.

Priority Next Steps

- Our focus will be on developing the community supports and care services that provide people with palliative and end of life care in locality settings.

Further information

Kilbryde Hospice

<https://kilbrydehospice.org.uk>

Lynn's Story*

My dad was diagnosed with advanced stomach cancer and we were told he would only survive 3-6 months. As soon as he was discharged, the community team visited and explained about the 'just in case' box and gave us information on how to contact them 24/7 if we had any questions, or if my dad needed any additional medication, etc. Over the couple of months we had to contact them numerous times to ask if they could administer additional anti sickness medication or stronger painkillers. Over this time we met many team members and each one was as nice as the last, always reassuring us and keeping my dad as comfortable as possible. I cannot begin to explain what this meant to us as a family knowing that no matter, day or night, someone would be there to help and support us. One day when my dad was near the end of his life the community nurses came in numerous times to try and get his sickness and pain under control. They explained everything they were doing and why they were doing it. At a time like this it makes so much difference knowing that they were there and my dad was their priority at this stressful time. There was numerous occasions that we had to phone them at all hours day and night and each time we were met with caring, patient staff who nothing was a bother.

**Name has been changed*

Priority Outcome

3

Carers and in particular those on low incomes are fully supported to access financial advice, information and practical wellbeing support

Why is this important?

In South Lanarkshire and across Scotland, carers provide a significant input to looking after their family members and friends. Without carers, the demands on an already pressurised health and social care system would increase dramatically, to the extent that existing resources would in no way meet these demands. It is therefore extremely important that the contribution of carers is not only recognised, but is valued and supported. As a Partnership, we need to work with carers to ensure that the support we offer them enables them to continue in their caring role and that whatever we do has a long term impact and can be maintained. The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 (www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2016/9/contents/enacted) introduced new legal rights for carers and young carers in Scotland as well as building on existing rights and good practice.

Short Breaks for Carers

How are we doing?

Our aim is to change how we support carers in line with the requirements of the Carers Act. One of the ways that we will achieve this is by supporting, empowering, informing and enabling carers to understand how to access a short break.

George's Story*

George came into contact with the carers' organisation and through a conversation realised he was a carer. We met with him near his home as he has his own chronic health needs and explored the impact of his caring role and his support needs. George was given advice, information and referrals for adaptations, welfare rights and a funding application through "Creative Breaks" for a short break was made.

Carers can make informed choices which empowers them to maintain their own health and wellbeing.

George decided on the type of break that would be his best option and after some discussions realised his garden would be the place that suited him to get a break. The funding allowed him to buy plants and equipment. He can, when the opportunity arises and at a time that suits him to go and potter around his garden using the equipment his funding bought him.

We know that a short break or Respite (respite breaks and hospitality) makes a difference to carers. The focus of this work is to make connections between local organisations that help support unpaid carers and local hospitality providers such as hotels, guest houses, leisure clubs, etc. who gift experiences for unpaid carers.

Arranging respite breaks is so worthwhile and just the fact that someone is thinking about carers gives us a lift.

**Name has been changed*

In partnership with a range of third sector organisations and local carers we have developed a Short Breaks Services Statement (www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/short-breaks-services-statement). This is available as a booklet in many community locations and is published online.

Priority Next Steps

- As we develop South Lanarkshire's carer services, we plan to undertake a review of the short breaks services, seeking new methods and models of delivery, specifically in the development of a "Shared Lives Scheme" over the period of our Carers Strategy 2019-2022 (www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/carers-strategy).

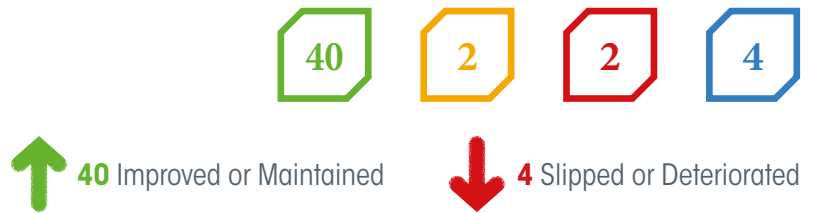
Further information

Short Breaks for Carers - South Lanarkshire Council
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/short-breaks



Improvement Plan Overall Performance at a glance

Status of priority measures



The following provides a summary of our performance against our priority measures and actions. These are:-

- A supportive business environment exists in South Lanarkshire;
- Employment and further education opportunities are maximised for South Lanarkshire’s young people; and
- Residents at greatest risk of living in poverty, whether in or out of work receive the support they need to progress into work that pays and provides opportunities for progression.

The full CPP performance report can be accessed using the following link
www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/sieperformance

Status	Definition
Green	On course to achieve the target or complete the action as planned/the timescale or target has been met as per expectations
Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target
Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target
To be reported later	For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to say whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available

Most improved measures
Maintain business 3 year survival rate
Increase Employment Rate
Increase business spending on Research and Development

Least improved measures
Reduce proportion of South Lanarkshire employees earning less than the Living Wage
Increase Business Start-ups number of new registrations
Increase the number of registered businesses per 10,000

A Supportive Business Environment Exists in South Lanarkshire

Why is this important?

Nationally, the focus has shifted towards improving the quality and equality of economic recovery, ensuring that economic growth is distributed fairly across society and creates opportunities for all. The focus of our work is on creating a supportive business environment and assisting companies to grow. By supporting and sustaining businesses we can create the opportunity for residents to access employment and the range of benefits that secure and rewarding employment brings. There is also a national focus on driving development activity around City Regions as a means of delivering economic growth; and South Lanarkshire's participation in the Glasgow City Region City Deal is an example of this. One of the key areas of work of the partnership is to promote and support Enterprise/Business activity in areas of high deprivation to reduce high levels of income deprivation and increase self-employment.

Support for Business Growth and Start-Ups in areas of high deprivation

How are we doing?

Creating local employment opportunities is a key outcome in our package of support to both new and established growth businesses and our ambition to help them to become established, sustainable and thrive.

We have been working to identify businesses located within priority neighbourhood areas and those within a two mile radius in order to help inform how the support provided to these businesses can contribute to the inclusive growth agenda. Areas of focus include Hillhouse, Springhall and Strutherhill. The aim of this work is to

increase the understanding of businesses of their role in contributing to the wellbeing of the community in which they are based and to help them to recognise the importance of employing locally, especially in those areas which face the greatest challenges in finding employment.

In early 2019 there were approximately 16,663 businesses registered in South Lanarkshire, our initial analysis shows that 2% (361) of our businesses are in the priority areas and 45% (7,608) are within a 2 mile radius, therefore potential employment opportunities are relatively accessible to the people living in our most deprived areas. Businesses understand the need to train their workforce and ensure a supply of labour, but the work of the partnership in relation to skilling local people; assisting access to local and regional markets; and improving business, residential and social environments can be more effectively communicated with businesses in these areas. Partners involved in this area of work are having discussions to promote inclusive growth, encourage businesses to employ local people from within the priority areas, and encourage them to pay the Living Wage and promote the benefits of Living Wage accreditation.



South Lanarkshire 62.5%

of local businesses
survive after 3 years.

Scottish average 60.4%

Priority Next Steps

- We will engage with local people in the priority areas and provide business start-up workshops locally at their request.
- We will improve how we record information about our clients and their business so that it captures all relevant information.

Further information

Support for Businesses
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/support-for-business

Priority Outcome

2

Employment and further education opportunities are maximised for South Lanarkshire's young people

Why is this important?

Unemployment rates in Scotland are significantly higher for young people when compared with adults. The Scottish Government has set out its ambition to improve youth employment levels beyond where they were pre-2008. This requires a significant examination of how we provide, promote, and value a range of learning which leads to a wide variety of jobs. It also means ensuring that all young people whatever the barriers they face have fair access to these opportunities and are supported to achieve their full potential in education and in work.

Fundamentally, this is about ensuring a work relevant educational experience for our young people. It is about valuing and understanding what a rich blend of learning, including vocational education, can offer. It is about employers playing an active role in both shaping and benefiting from Scotland's education system through helping to create the talent pool they need and recruiting young employees. Ultimately, it is about the future workforce, our young people, making informed and ambitious choices about jobs and careers, ready to take their place in the world as effective contributors.

Foundation Apprenticeships

How are we doing?

The latest addition to the employability programme is Foundation Apprenticeships (FA). This programme has been developed by Skills Development Scotland with support from the European Social Fund. This work is delivered in partnership with schools, colleges, employers and training providers. Foundation Apprenticeships bridge the gap between school and work and help young people gain valuable, real-world experience and access work-based learning while they are still at school. They are designed to provide young people with real experience of the world of work and equip them with the skills,

experience and knowledge that they will need when they leave school whilst gaining a qualification at the same level as a Scottish Higher.

South Lanarkshire Council's Youth Employability Team oversees the delivery and co-ordination of the FA programme. This includes tracking and supporting all pupils on the programme across the range of providers as well as delivery of the frameworks directly. The programme enables pupils to gain industry recognised skills and paves the way into occupations such as health and social care, engineering, construction and science related jobs. Some of the highlights from the programme during 2018-19 are as follows:-

- 164 young people started a FA and 18 continued on their journey (from the previous year);
- there was a strong retention rate during the year (above the Scottish Average) with a tracking and support system in place for young people who required additional support to move on to a positive destination;
- there was an expansion of the offer from the South Lanarkshire Council HUBs. Business Skills FA and a Social Services and Healthcare FA have been added to the programme along with the established Children and Young People FA and the Engineering FA; and
- we have in place an offer of 400 learning opportunities within the FA framework for August 2019.

Priority Next Steps

- We plan to add more HUBs and deliver more frameworks in South Lanarkshire schools.
- We will expand the progression routes to Modern Apprenticeships and employment across the frameworks.

Further information

My Brighter Future Foundation Apprenticeships
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/mbf-foundation-apprenticeships

Apprenticeships | Apprenticeships.scot: Work, Learn and Earn
www.apprenticeships.scot



Residents at greatest risk of living in poverty, whether in or out of work receive the support they need to progress into work that pays and provides opportunities for progression

Why is this important?

Finding work is no longer a guaranteed route out of poverty and the partnership recognises the need to look beyond simply supporting people into jobs, to consider how we do more to promote fair work practices including paying the Living Wage, supporting upskilling of low waged and low skilled workers to enable them to maximise their earning potential and tackle underemployment. We will develop new ways of working, including building relationships with new partners and communities to increase the engagement of those who need assistance with a focus on our most deprived communities where the difference in levels of income and employment deprivation compared to the rest of South Lanarkshire are significant; parents on low incomes; individuals and families affected by homelessness; and those with significant barriers to work such as substance misuse and mental health issues.

We also recognise that childcare for many families can be a barrier and will link the employability work with childcare improvements. We will also ensure close links between this work and improvements in relation to supporting financial wellbeing wherever possible, integrating support whether through co-location or otherwise.

Upskilling programme

How are we doing?

Many residents are progressing towards, into and within work with minimal support from local agencies. Our partnership efforts this year have very much focused on those with barriers to finding work or progressing within work. Our Local Employment Partnership brings together a range of local employability agencies and organisations and 3,000 out of work residents received support this year.

In the last year, 285 low paid workers participated in the in-work upskilling programme which is aimed at helping people to progress in their jobs through building skills and knowledge. Of those, 46 were parents and the majority are still going through their qualifications. Examples of qualifications include Health and Social Care, Professional Cookery, Engineering and Construction.

We are currently working in partnership with CCG Construction which is the main contractor for new social rented and private homes in East Whitlawburn, Cambuslang to deliver wider benefits to the community. This work includes the provision of jobs, apprenticeships and training opportunities for people living in the local community, as well as providing curriculum support and work placements for local schools and colleges.

Priority Next Steps

- Implementation of 'No One Left Behind', the Scottish Government's vision to create a more effective and streamlined employability service with a focus on personalised support including a new 'Working for Families' service for unemployed or low income parents in South Lanarkshire.
- Maximise employment and training opportunities from local developments such as the East Whitlawburn Housing programme.
- Work with our most deprived communities to develop local supports including job fairs and outreach employability support.
- Build on our Living Wage Campaign, including the introduction of Living Hours (guaranteed a minimum number of hours) to increase income.

Further Information

South Lanarkshire Works 4U

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/slw4u



The employment rate stands at **76.4%**, one of the highest ever recorded in South Lanarkshire.



Bernadette's Story

Bernadette was referred to South Lanarkshire Council's Upskilling Programme in August 2018. She was a 42 year old, single parent who lived at home with her two children aged 20 and 14. She also had anxiety related issues and finds it difficult to travel on her own.

A volunteering position provided Bernadette with the confidence to apply for her first job which was in a local Care Home. She then moved on to another Home, taking up a job in the kitchen. After a period of time, Bernadette's manager suggested that she would be ideal for working as a personal carer. Bernadette wasn't sure however agreed to a three month trial. After one month she loved the job and accepted a permanent position as a Care Assistant. Bernadette was then referred to the upskilling programme to further develop her employability skills and to undertake a SVQ qualification (a key requirement for her to remain working within the care sector).

The upskilling team met with Bernadette and agreed a workplace package of mentoring and support. An assessment of needs highlighted that she had dyslexia and supports were put in place. The upskilling team kept in regular contact with Bernadette to chart her progress and address her needs. She completed the qualification within 6 months and it significantly changed her health and wellbeing; her confidence has grown and her anxiety is better managed. As a result of completing the qualification, Bernadette has moved on to a higher hourly rate of pay, has a permanent contract of employment, is now fully registered with SSSC and is continuing to study.

Bernadette commented "If you don't try these opportunities in life you will never know. I am grateful I had this opportunity and it has now given me the confidence to go on and do more studying. I am now in the process of doing my PDA in Promoting Excellence in Dementia Skilled Practice which will give me more knowledge of the service users I work with in the care home. I am now able to remain working within the care sector now that I have this qualification".

Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire's Children Partnership Summary:

how we are making a difference



Improvement Plan Overall Performance at a glance

Status of priority measures



34 Improved or Maintained

10 Slipped or Deteriorated

The following provides a summary of our performance against our priority measures and actions. 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; and
- Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe – The life chances of our children with additional support needs and our most vulnerable children and young people are improved.

The full CPP performance report can be accessed using the following link

<https://www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/girlslcperformance>

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Most improved measures		Least improved measures
Continue with initiatives to increase uptake of free school meals	Increase percentage of children within SIMD 1 who will have successfully achieved Curriculum for Excellence first level literacy by P4; second level literacy by P7 and third level literacy by S4	Increase percentage of P1 children within a healthy weight
Health Visiting Teams and Social Work Family Support Teams will work in partnership with the Financial Inclusion Sector to roll out successful work to support the financial wellbeing of pregnant women and low income families	Percentage reduction in the gap of positive destination outcomes for young people in the 20% most deprived data zones and their peers in the least deprived 20% data zones	Reduce number of repeat referrals to Reporter on offence grounds
Increased percentage of children within SIMD 1 who will have reached their language developmental milestones at the time of their 27-30 month health review (SIMD1) and reduce the gap between SIMD 1 and SIMD 5	Percentage of care experienced young people achieving a positive destination after leaving school	

Priority Outcome

1

Prevention and Early Support: Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential

Why is this important?

A move towards prevention and early support offers the best opportunity for preventing future inequalities. Focussing on early child development is a key part of reducing inequalities, targeting those at risk and providing tailored support for those with the greatest need. We have invested in making South Lanarkshire the best place in Scotland to learn through our Schools Modernisation Programme and Raising Attainment and Improvement Collaborative approaches. There is still a need to prioritise support to some pupils and work is underway to close equality gaps in school attendance, attainment and post school destinations for children and young people in the most deprived areas. These actions will impact on long-term outcomes in relation to attainment, poverty and employment.

Our Parenting Support Pathway continues to help staff offer the best possible support programmes to increase parenting capacity and ensure that our children get the best possible support. Increasing the income coming

into households with children is important in reducing child poverty. We know there are rising levels of in-work poverty and families in and out of work need the right level of benefits to provide a decent standard of living. Not everyone has claimed the benefits that they are entitled to which means we need to act to raise awareness of entitlements and increase uptake of benefits by families.

Financial Wellbeing of Pregnant Women and Low-income families

How are we doing?

Health Visiting Teams and Social Work Family Support Teams are working together to improve the financial wellbeing of pregnant women and low-income families by helping them to get support from Money Matters Advice Services and the Telephone Advice Line.

This financial support has now been increased across South Lanarkshire Health Visitor Teams and Midwifery services. Health Visitors and Midwives will raise the issue of money worries with all families they are supporting and make sure that we know what support is required and by whom.



845 referrals

from Midwives and Health Visitors
into the Telephone Advice Line



From April 2018 until February 2019 there were 845 referrals from Midwives and Health Visitors into the Telephone Advice Line. This is a 37% increase from the previous year and we know that 79% of these families benefited financially through an increase in the uptake of available benefits.

When we asked 20 families what difference receiving this service has made to them, they highlighted that they were in receipt of a combined total of £95,995 of additional income.

In addition to the specific referrals to Money Matters Telephone Advice Line from Health Visitors and other services, our third sector partners have been working with families to offer a range of supports to parents/carers and families. These include: local drop-in services which offer help with Universal Credit issues; support to parents and carers on low income; advice services; mentoring support such as referrals to appropriate agencies; financial group work with sessions on financial wellbeing and budgeting; and offering foodbank vouchers, food parcels and Baby Bank, etc.

Priority Next Steps

- We will continue to work to maintain this effective support, which has clearly had an impact on increasing income for vulnerable families.

Further information

Money Matters Advice Services

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/money-advice

Money Advice for Pregnant and New Mums

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/pregnant-new-mums-money-advice

Anne's Story*

Anne was a working mum who was 40 years of age and pregnant with her second child when she was made redundant, leaving her with no income. She was referred to the Money Matters Telephone Advice Line and received support to claim Maternity allowance and Child Benefit (having never applied for her first child). Anne is now better off by £179 per week and received a one off payment of £248 for backdated benefits.

**Name has been changed*



Health and Wellbeing: The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved

Why is this important?

The health and wellbeing of children and families is vital for populations to live longer, live healthier lives and make the most of life's opportunities. Health and wellbeing is affected by a range of wider factors such as income, where we live and the services we use. This can often lead to children and families not having the same opportunities as others.

It is important that all children enjoy a high standard of physical and mental health and are helped to make good lifestyle choices. By offering opportunities for positive lifestyle choices, children and young people are more likely to take these good habits into their adult life. Families can be strengthened by early support to parents and to develop confidence and skills to help their own children's needs. Good health is also central to successful learning and attainment and children should be supported to develop the knowledge to make the right choices needed for being physically and emotionally healthy now and in the future.

The work of the partnership is currently focussed on attachment programmes, healthy weight and use of drugs and alcohol. One area of our work includes the Active and Healthy Schools programmes.



Active Schools and Healthy Schools Programmes

How are we doing?

South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture has worked to increase the quality and range of opportunities offered before/after school and during lunchtime across sport and physical activity. The Active Schools programme encourages pupils to become more involved in sport and physical exercise. There was an increase of 1,277 young people accessing sport/physical activity and leadership opportunities within their own communities over the last year. 21,400 school pupils have participated in the Active Schools programme (this figure represents 49% of the South Lanarkshire school roll). We have engaged with pupils, families and Head Teachers to highlight the opportunities and benefits of participating in activities outwith the school curriculum. Our evidence shows that participation levels are not influenced by inequalities. Children who live in the most deprived areas have similar participation rates as children who live in the least deprived areas.

The preschool membership 'Tiny ACE Membership' was launched in October 2018 with Tiny ACE class provision from Birth to Primary 1. 444 Tiny Ace memberships have been purchased to date with support from Health Visiting Teams and the offer of free vouchers designed to encourage take up. The third sector provide physical activity programmes some of which are delivered in partnership with Active Schools, while others are delivered independently e.g. Liber8's StreetBase diversionary project provides evening and weekend access to assorted sport and physical activities identified by young people and Healthy Valleys provide a programme of supported outdoor play, health walks and exercise opportunities for children and families in a range of community settings.

Healthy Schools is a framework which supports consistent delivery of Health and Wellbeing education throughout schools and communities across Lanarkshire from Nursery through to Primary 7. We have engaged with various partners to highlight the opportunities and benefits provided by the Healthy Schools model. School staff have been trained to deliver the Healthy Schools programme and to offer support to children and families in healthy living choices.

Active Schools Student Volunteering programme

The Active Schools Team recruit, develop and deploy a network of volunteers to build capacity within South Lanarkshire communities. Volunteers include teachers, parents, club coaches, pupils and students. This year over 1,000 volunteers supported 21,000 free activity sessions. All volunteers are offered access to training and mentoring to support them in developing their skills and in some cases to find employment.

Partnerships forged between Active Schools South Lanarkshire and local colleges and universities have created a new pathway for young coaches in the area. With retention of students at an all-time high and a 65% increase in the total number of students deployed, the programme has been celebrated by all involved.

“Employability is a crucial element of university degrees and, thanks to our strong partnership with South Lanarkshire, our students are deeply engaged with sport delivery in real settings throughout their degrees.”

**Lecturer,
University of the West of Scotland**

“From the experiences, student volunteers become better students with improved organisation skills, timekeeping skills, communication and planning skills.”

**Lecturer,
New College Lanarkshire**

Priority Next Steps

- Currently we have 51% of South Lanarkshire schools using the Healthy Schools programmes and we will work together to increase this to 65%.
- The Active Schools Team will continue to work with schools and community partners to increase the number of young people accessing activities within their communities.

- The Active Schools Team will continue to develop successful partnerships and offer high quality opportunities for people to participate in any way they wish, from attending our community based activity sessions to volunteering.
- We will develop the NHS Lanarkshire website to create a dedicated page on “Health Enhancing School Environment” that will support the development of the Healthy Schools and Healthy Schools Plus programmes.

Further information

Active Schools South Lanarkshire

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/SLLC/info/124/active-schools

Film about Active Schools

<https://youtu.be/rDtMiuxLrv0>

@ActiveSchoolsSL (<https://twitter.com/ActiveSchoolsSL>)

share your thoughts and stories with us!

Healthy Schools

<https://healthyschools.scot>



healthySCHOOLS



Priority Outcome

3

Supporting Vulnerable Groups and Keeping Children Safe:

The life chances of our children with additional support needs and our most vulnerable children and young people are improved

Why is this important?

Children and young people can be vulnerable for a variety of reasons and need additional support, protection and on occasion care from different agencies. We recognise the importance of single and multi-agency assessment and planning as a starting point for all our children with support needs. Through our Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) implementation we will continue to drive forward improvements in the quality of our assessment and planning to ensure risks and needs are identified and responded to as timely and effectively as possible. An area of this work is improving the employability, attainment and attendance of children who are looked after.

Positive Destinations for Care Experienced Young People

How are we doing?

Life has not been easy for many of our care experienced young people and many experience difficulties during their school years which can lead to challenges in moving from school to further learning or employment. These young people are less likely than their peers to go on to further or higher education, training or to find employment. With our targeted support we are starting to see improvements in leaver destinations for care experienced young people. Since 2016, there has been an increase of 11.9% in care experienced young people achieving positive destinations.

With regards to employability, we have worked closely to develop support that provides individual help to young people in care and matches them to employment opportunities within South Lanarkshire Council. We support each young person by making sure they are ready for work through mentoring and carefully matched opportunities.



We follow the journey of every young person and make sure they have their very own support package, with regular monitoring as required.

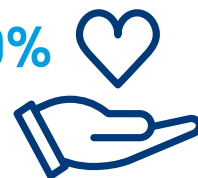
We have a Corporate Parenting Action Plan which includes all our schools having a focus on attendance and attainment. Training has been provided for key staff in schools to help them with their role in supporting pupils who are in care. There have been 10 training sessions and 140 school staff have been trained so far.

For those pupils who are in care, this has resulted in improved attendance, a reduction in the number of exclusions and better chances for school leavers, helping them to have improved life opportunities.

South Lanarkshire 90%

of care experienced young people moved to a positive destination after school;

Scottish Average 80.4% (2018)



Priority Next Steps

We will look to sustain our Youth Employability Partnership Group and work with other partners who will help with the support to access employment within South Lanarkshire Council and other sectors such as health.

Further information

Follow us on twitter - [@my8brightfuture](https://twitter.com/my8brightfuture)

www.facebook.com/mybrighterfutureslc

My Brighter Future Youth Employability Brochure
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/my-brighter-future-brochure

My Brighter Future Foundation Apprenticeships
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/mbf-foundation-apprenticeships



Community Participation and Engagement

Why is this important?

Our work as a partnership is intended to improve outcomes for people who live in South Lanarkshire and there is much evidence that when people are involved in decisions about services which affect them, outcomes are improved. As a partnership, we want to find ways to speak to communities and encourage them to take action themselves and to have an influence on service delivery in their locality.

The Community Empowerment Act 2015 (www.gov.scot/publications/community-empowerment-scotland-act-summary/) means that legally the partnership has to place communities at the centre of its process, and work alongside them to produce locality plans which we call neighbourhood plans in areas which face the greatest inequalities. In South Lanarkshire we are ambitious to



extend this beyond the legal requirements and listen to and involve communities in a real and meaningful way. The Act also sets out other requirements for public bodies such as Community Asset Transfers and Participation Requests.

During the year, many consultation and engagement activities were carried out by partners with communities in the South Lanarkshire area. The following sections highlight some areas of this work.



Community Participation and Empowerment Team



How are we doing?

South Lanarkshire Council has recruited a new Community Participation and Empowerment Team who are responsible for working with communities to help them identify and meet their local priorities. The team have begun to make links locally and find ways to work with people to help them do this. They can also help to find the best people within the partnership to talk to about your community's ideas and how you can progress these.

Through this team, the partnership is also in the process of developing a new Participation and Engagement Strategy showing ways in which people can get involved, how we will listen to and engage communities and how we will use the National Standards for Community Engagement in our work. This will be completed in consultation with our communities over the next few months. We will be talking to groups, organisations and individuals. A final version of the strategy is expected to be available before the end of 2019.

How can you get involved?

If you would like to get involved, speak to your local officer:-

Clydesdale and Hamilton areas: Gregor Leishman:
gregor.leishman@southlanarkshire.gov.uk;

Cambuslang and Rutherglen and East Kilbride areas: Jacqueline Queen: jacqueline.queen@southlanarkshire.gov.uk;

Or with the Community Participation and Empowerment Manager, Rhonda Leith:
rhonda.leith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

The Friends of Westwoodhill Recreation Area (FoWRA) Story

The Friends of Westwoodhill Recreation Area came together to improve and protect their local green space. Having gathered some momentum locally, they needed support and advice on how to grow the organisation and to continue to have their voice heard when decisions about their community were being made.

The council's Community Participation team was able to help with this and more.

Explained Sian Flynn of the team: "Our involvement so far has been around community participation in the Westwood area, and how we can motivate more local people to get involved both in community life and in local decision making."

"As well as that, we have supported the group to identify possible funding options for a number of projects they are keen to pursue. This includes plans to improve the playpark equipment, brighten up the landscape and stage community events."

The team was able to provide a vital link with partner agencies, as well as helping them to make direct contact with the departments and key officers of the council that are best placed to make some of their plans a reality. Looking to the future, FoWRA now wants to look at community uses of the pavilion in the park.

Added Sian: "Another role we can play is to look at assets such as these that are held by the council, and help the group to consider a possible transfer opportunity. Where there are other groups in the area also interested, we would aim to bring them together, looking for a way that an asset can deliver the best, and widest, community benefit."

A FoWRA member praised the efforts of the Community Participation team in supporting them to improve their community: "Since first meeting with the team, they have actively encouraged and supported our group's endeavours. We are sure they will help our community in Westwood become more integrated, as well as enabling greater focus on community initiatives, which ultimately empower residents to have a greater say in community improvement and regeneration."

Neighbourhood Planning and Participatory Budgeting

How are we doing?

This is a relatively new approach that began late 2017 in three areas of South Lanarkshire (Strutherhill and Birkenshaw; Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank; and Springhall and Whitlawburn) where both residents and local agencies and organisations committed to working together to develop local plans for their communities.

This work aims to reduce the inequalities that exist in our most deprived communities and improve outcomes for residents. Key to this is supporting communities to drive the process and work alongside partners and service providers. Together they build a shared understanding of local needs and priorities and respond to these making the most of our shared resources.

Local action groups have been established in all three areas with the community working with representatives

from partner organisations. From the start, local people were involved in shaping the engagement process, determining the content of a survey, designing branding and identifying the best ways to secure wide and representative community involvement. A period of intensive community engagement took place between November 2017 and February 2018. The findings of the survey, key local priorities and ideas for early action now form the basis of the Our Place Our Plan (www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/plans) neighbourhood plans. These plans set out the priority themes to be acted upon over the next 10 years and include a range of early actions to be delivered during 2019. Improving the environment was a priority in all three areas and the local action groups have already made great progress.

Participatory Budgeting (often known as PB) is a way for people to be involved in deciding about how money is spent in their area. During the year, communities involved in neighbourhood planning took part in small PB exercises to decide which local projects they wanted to see delivered. These projects include the Skip Initiative which allowed residents to keep their personal and community spaces clear at no cost to households. The cost of the skip hire and removal was covered by PB funding that the community had access to and voted to use for this purpose.

The Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank residents journey during 2018-19





How can you get involved?

If you live in the areas of Strutherhill and Birkenshaw; Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank; and Springhall and Whitlawburn and would like more information/want to get involved in improving outcomes for your area and the people who live there, please call:-

- Community Links on 01698 454843 if you live in Strutherhill and Birkenshaw or Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank.
- Healthy N Happy on 0141 646 0123 if you live in Springhall and Whitlawburn and say you are interested in Our Place Our Plan.



Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank Our Place, Our Plan
www.facebook.com/OurPlaceOurPlanHUB/

Springhall and Whitlawburn Our Place, Our Plan
www.facebook.com/ourplaceourplanspringhallandwhitlawburn

“I loved being part of the process, didn’t realise I could help make changes happen in my neighbourhood”

Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank resident

“Didn’t realise I could get so much enjoyment out of being involved”

Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank resident

“A marvellous opportunity to have a say in the future of our community”

Strutherhill and Birkenshaw resident

“I became involved because this area deserves better - together we can achieve a lot”

Strutherhill and Birkenshaw resident

“It’s been great to be part of Our Place Our Plan, I like being able to share good news with people in my community and let them know that changes are coming”

Springhall and Whitlawburn resident

“The early actions highlighted in the plan offer something for everyone – it’s fantastic”

Springhall and Whitlawburn resident

Volunteering

Why is this important?

Volunteering is one of the most important things someone can choose to do; it helps build better communities and provides benefits to volunteers such as gaining valuable new skills and experiences, and boosting confidence.

The simple act of doing something that benefits someone else changes lives and communities for the better.

How are we doing?

As the Third Sector Interface for South Lanarkshire, VASlan is committed to supporting volunteering in South Lanarkshire by improving engagement with volunteers; promoting good practice in volunteer management and involving voluntary organisations in consultations, events, partnerships and collaborations that help shape local and national volunteering policy.

In doing so we have hosted and delivered a variety of events including a PVG consultation and a Volunteers Week celebration along with quarterly Third Sector Forums with regular input on volunteering topics such as youth volunteering, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and child protection.

We have delivered four Bridge to Volunteering Courses and a Volunteer Recruitment Fair to support those who are not yet ready to volunteer into a positive volunteering journey while Volunteering Advisors based in the University of the West of Scotland facilitate weekly term time drop in sessions to encourage and facilitate student volunteering.

Our involvement in the Lanarkshire Green Health Partnership helped secure funding through Scottish Natural Heritage to employ a development officer to support the partnership in developing green health volunteering opportunities. An East Kilbride Volunteering Collaborative has also been established to look at improving the integration of volunteering recruitment, inductions and training between Health and Social Care providers in both the public and Third Sector.

We have a database that ensures volunteers are tracked and supported throughout their volunteering journey whilst also providing robust statistical data to determine targeted approaches to supporting volunteers and volunteer involving organisations.



The following are some of the highlights of 2018-19:-

- **7** Third Sector organisations achieved a Volunteer Friendly Award;
- **161** new volunteering opportunities were advertised on behalf of the Third Sector;
- **459** new volunteers were registered;
- **1,174** volunteering placements were arranged;
- **1,047** Saltire certificates were issued to South Lanarkshire young volunteers;
- **651** young people registered for a Saltire award; and
- **50,941** hours' worth of Saltire certificates were claimed.

Saltire Awards are Scottish Government endorsed certificates recognising and rewarding the commitment, contribution and volunteering achievements of young people aged 12–25 years old.

Steve's Story*

Steve had been struggling with his health, suffering anxiety, depression and isolation issues, which made it difficult for him to socialise.

"I was given a volunteering opportunity with a furniture project in Carluke. It provided furniture to the likes of homeless people who had been found new homes by Social Work, so amongst other things I helped with deliveries. I was also involved in a project, toys for Christmas, for people struggling with money."

"Now I'm doing a bit of peer mentoring myself as a senior lad. I feel that I'm making a contribution when I'm encouraging younger people and getting them along to volunteer at events. It makes me feel superb. I'm hoping to get work soon as a van driving assistant."

**Name has been changed*

How can you get involved?

If you would like to discuss any aspect of volunteering with VASlan please contact our Advisors on 01698 300390 or email volunteer@vaslan.org.uk

Further information

VASlan www.vaslan.org.uk

Volunteer Scotland www.volunteerscotland.net

Saltire Awards <https://saltireawards.org.uk>

Lanarkshire Green Health Partnership
www.nature.scot/professional-advice/contributing-healthier-scotland/our-natural-health-service/green-health-partnerships/lanarkshire-green-health-partnership

Building and Celebrating Communities

Why is this important?

In the summer of 2017, South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) launched its Building and Celebrating Communities (BCC) programme with a series of high profile events. BCC is based on the principles of Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD). ABCD challenges the traditional approaches that try to solve urban and rural development challenges by focusing on the needs and deficiencies of individuals, and communities. ABCD demonstrates that people, local assets and individual strengths are key to ensuring that people have a life of their own choosing and that community development is sustainable.

The key objectives of the launch of BCC was to explore how we could generate more space for communities to create the things that matter to them - and how the partnership can support these activities. In short, we wanted to engage with communities. We wanted to listen and open up an honest and meaningful conversation. This formed the foundations of an ongoing, active philosophy in our HSCP.

A key priority of the partnership is early intervention and prevention and the BCC programme has a crucial role to play in this agenda. HSCP communications efforts, have been dovetailed with efforts to empower all partners in best practice. Communication workshops, led by the HSCP Communication Manager, have enabled, inspired and driven community-based action, and support early intervention and prevention via the programme.

How are we doing?

Success, in some instances was rapid. We heard from one man who wanted to spread the immense benefits of walking football in dealing with depression. With help from the partnership, he's now recruited around 24 strangers together in a weekly fixture that's forged lasting friendships and caught the imagination of an entire community. This has been evidenced in Ricky's film: <https://vimeo.com/228646765>.

In December 2018 a communication workshop was run with members of Clydesdale Health and Social Care Forum. The purpose was to talk the forum through some basic communication strategies, with examples, to enable and empower them to communicate more effectively to

key audiences. In the workshop, we identified/confirmed that a priority of the forum was focusing efforts to recruit new members at a local level. With all existing members' input, we devised the basis of a plan for them to take forward and drive themselves with partnership support as needed. Feedback included comments that the session was: 'motivational', 'thorough' and 'just what we needed.'

The partnership is taking a similar approach in other areas, including the village of Tarbrax, where existing community endeavours are being supported by a number of partners.

Local voices helped shape the foundation stone of the programme of work and strength-based philosophy we intended to set, as captured in this film: <https://vimeo.com/224470868>. An ongoing priority, is to help amplify these voices and ideas. The very essence of the BCC programme is about harnessing the power of locally-driven ideas.

It is about creating an environment and conditions where these very ideas can thrive and take root. Overall, what emerged is that there is a genuine commitment to improving the lives of people around us, no matter the sector or group people had come from. Having identified specific areas for action, we're now continuing to build and nurture those strengths where possible and (crucially) where required.

How can you get involved?

If you would like to get involved contact: Euan.Duguid@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk

Further information

www.slhscp.org.uk



Community Asset Transfer

How are we doing?

Local councils, the Scottish Government and other public authorities own or rent lots of land and buildings, like schools, hospitals, parks and forests. The Community Empowerment Act gives community organisations a right to ask to take over control of land or a building. If the community organisation's plan is better for people, they will be allowed to buy, rent or have the use of it. This is called Asset Transfer. The Act sets out specific criteria that needs to be met by community organisations.

During 2018-19, South Lanarkshire Council was the only partner that received applications. The council worked with 14 organisations through the various stages of the process and three of these organisations have gone on to achieve formal asset transfer. Applications approved were as follows:- Blantyre Soccer Academy purchased the Rowans Hall, Blantyre; East Kilbride United Community Football Club were leased the Kirktonholme Pavilion in East Kilbride and two associated football pitches; and Grow 73 were leased the unused bowling greens at Overtoun Park, Rutherglen.



Rowans Hall
before refurbishment



Blantyre Soccer Academy Community Hub
(formerly Rowans Hall, after refurbishment)

Purchase of Rowans Hall

Blantyre Soccer Academy is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) that has been active in the Blantyre community for more than 9 years, working directly with 400 young people and engaging more than 2,000 people through a range of sporting and community activities managed by the Academy. The Academy has been keen to find a permanent base for some time and saw Community Asset Transfer as an ideal means of achieving this. Working closely with the council over 18 months, the Academy has focused on the transfer of Rowans Hall as a new base for activities and staff including their community laundry and bike development scheme. This work resulted in the transfer of the facility on 21 November 2018. After securing planning permission major refurbishment work on the hall began. The Academy has secured the services of South Lanarkshire College which is using the hall refurbishment as practical work for their technical students with many of these students also living in the Blantyre area.

Jimmy Whelan of the Academy said "Blantyre Soccer Academy is delighted to be part of South Lanarkshire Council's Community Asset Transfer process and one of the first examples of successful transfer under the new Community Empowerment Act. Though the timescales took longer than we hoped, the end result is a building now owned by the Soccer Academy that will deliver real positive change for the community of Blantyre and particularly the young people of the area."

Further information

Scottish Government's Asset Transfer Summary Guide
www.gov.scot/publications/asset-transfer-summary-guide/

Community Asset Transfers - South Lanarkshire Council
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/community-asset-transfer



Participation Requests

How are we doing?

Participation requests are a formal way for community bodies to request to be involved in decisions and put forward their ideas on how services could be changed to improve outcomes for the community. Requests can be made to a range of public bodies including South Lanarkshire Council, NHS Lanarkshire, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, etc.

During 2018-19, no Community Planning Partners received a participation request.

To make a participation request, your group must meet some requirements including having a membership open to your community and working for community benefit. Your first step should be getting in touch with the public body you would like to work with for assistance in getting started.

This can identify if they are the right public body to contact and they can also help you to get advice and information about any existing consultations or decision making processes that you could be involved in without requiring to make a formal participation request.

Further information

Scottish Government Participation request guidance.

www.gov.scot/policies/community-empowerment/participation-requests/




Links with the National Performance Framework



Community Planning Partnership Structure





If you need this information in another format or language,
please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1015 Email: equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

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