



OUR PLACE OUR PLAN

Strutherhill and Birkenshaw

Neighbourhood Planning
Annual Progress Report

January 2019 – March 2020

What is Neighbourhood Planning?

Neighbourhood Planning is a long-term commitment on the part of the Community Planning Partnership to work with and alongside communities to improve outcomes and quality of life for all.

Community Planning partners and communities are required to work together to tackle inequalities and improve outcomes over a ten year period. Neighbourhood planning is the way we do this in South Lanarkshire. It means we spend time having a conversation with as many people who live in Strutherhill and Birkenshaw as possible, to find out your priorities, and we now work in partnership alongside you to see how we can deliver on these priorities.

The Our Place Our Plan neighbourhood plan is based on these priorities identified by local people and the Our Place Our Plan Community Group are at the heart of this work.

1	More leisure, recreation, and social opportunities
2	Physical environment improvements
3	Easier to get about / moving around
4	Greater Community Safety
5	Stronger and Better Communities
6	Housing Improvements
7	Better employment and business opportunities
8	Better financial wellbeing
9	Better Education and training opportunities
10	Health Improvements

What has happened this year?

Our Place Our Plan launched in March 2019

89 Local people attended

Participatory budgeting is a process where local people decide how to allocate part of a public budget. Participatory budgeting is a way for people to get involved in decision making and develop a trusting partnership working together to improve the local area.

2019-20 participation budget was £10,000

Series of pop-up events held in July and August 2019 – 201 people participated in the events

Top priorities identified for the budget were:

- ***More leisure, recreation, and social opportunities***
- ***Greater community safety***
- ***Physical environmental improvements***

Other Key Milestones

2019	
March to Sept	Participatory Budgeting pop-up events
April to July	Radworx delivery skateboarding project
May	Community clean-up
June	Summer activities programme provided
June onwards	Harvest café extended to include inputs from various agencies
June	Communication plan development
July	Dad's group formed
July	Traffic management, car free zone and a walking bus explored
August	Community group engaged with the Lovell partnership who are building housing locally
August	Community groups engage with Lidl concerning local job opportunities
October	Challenge poverty week event held
October	Launch of weekly health walks
December	Funding proposal received for the community shed
2020	
January	Smarter Choices Smarter Places funding from Paths for all the shopping bus project.
February	Residents take part in SLC rent management consultation.

What different has it made to people?

Keeping local people at the centre by recognising and acting on what matters to them

"I have enjoyed being part of the OUR PLACE OUR PLAN, meeting new people, helping with the clean-ups, getting a walking group set up and getting things done. It is great seeing things getting done for the kids like the youth club, helping to keep the kids off the streets and getting them meeting with other kids and enjoying themselves. So much has happened in a short time, we have a long way to go but we are definitely on the right track" – Ben Hughes, OUR PLACE OUR PLAN member

Building strong effective partnerships between local people and those delivering services

"I joined the Our Place Our Plan Community group firstly out of curiosity to see what it was all about, expecting it to be full of the staff and old guys complaining about the youngsters of the area and their lack of respect. Once there I was surprised that the meeting was made up of ordinary members of the public, community police officer, and council officials sitting as one around the table for one aim... the good of the community." – Davy McAinch, OUR PLACE OUR PLAN member and Sergeany instructor ACP

Identifying and acting together on local priorities

"I enjoy working alongside the others and helping to shape my area, this is where my young kids are growing up and hopefully they and others will get the maximum benefits from our decisions and actions going forward. I would urge anyone who has an issue be it good or bad to come along to the Our Place Our Plan meetings and share your issue, so that it can be addressed with the help of some of the agencies involved" – Our Place Our Plan Member"

Local structures and local decision making

The Our Place Our Plan community group is made up of local people, groups, organisations, and workers. The group oversees the delivery of the neighbourhood plan and driver forward improvements and developments.

The group meet regularly, and we would like to get more people involved in progressing other locally defined priorities such as employment, education/training, and health. Our priority it to make sure we are building trust, confidence, and resources locally to help you to work with us.

Community capacity building support to help local people get involved has been provided by Community Links and South Lanarkshire Council's Community Engagement team. The approach puts individuals and communities at the centre, recognising the skills, knowledge and experience you have and the physical assets and resources in your neighbourhood. Residents have said that they value the opportunity to come together and discuss solutions, ideas and possibilities rather than problems. Local people and those delivering services are beginning to understand each other better.

What next?

We want to keep talking to and working with you. The OUR PLACE OUR PLAN Community Group are currently considering how best to take forward some of the other priorities themes identified at the POP Up events and through ongoing neighbourhood based conversations. In 2020 the group will also assess local interest in new working groups and promote awareness to help more people get involved in making decision and changes, such the development and delivery of an environmental action plan.

As soon as it is safe to do so we will be back in your community again. In the meantime there are other ways to stay in touch and get involved with neighbourhood planning.

To see a copy of the neighbourhood plan go to www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/plans

To find out more about particularly budgeting go to www.pbscotland.scot

To find out more about community planning go to www.southlanarkshirecommuityplanning.org

To get involved in your neighbourhood contact communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk or Liz@communitylinkssl.co.uk

To stay informed of what's happening as things move forward search for Our Place Our Plan Strutherhill and Birkenshaw on Facebook.