Community Planning Aberdeen

South Locality Plan

2026-2036

South Locality Neighbourhoods:
Culter, Cults, Bieldside, Milltimber & Countesswells, Hazlehead, Braeside, Mannofield, Broomhill, Seafield; Garthdee, Ferryhill, Torry, Cove, Kincorth, Leggart and Nigg





Introduction

What is Locality Planning?

Locality Planning means working together with local communities to create plans that make life better for everyone. Community Planning Aberdeen believes these plans succeed when shaped and delivered with the people who live here. Locality Planning will support the conditions for greater partnership working to maximise the strengths of our partners, communities, local groups, businesses, and faith organisations around common goals.

By law, Community Planning Aberdeen and the Health & Social Care Partnership must create plans for Aberdeen's three localities: North, Central, and South. These plans show where we'll focus our efforts and resources. . Times are challenging, we have less resources and funding at our disposal, we are an ageing society with growing health inequalities who have experienced significant disruption to our local economy caused by the oil and gas downturn, and we are all feeling the impact of climate change. Success depends on us all working together.

What are Priority Neighbourhoods and why do they require additional focus and resources?

Some neighbourhoods face bigger challenges and unfair barriers, so they need more support. Focusing extra resources in Torry and Kincorth helps make sure people who need the most help get it.

This targeted support sits alongside the **universal services everyone can access:**



What's the South Locality Plan?

Our plan sets out what we want to achieve over the next 10 years to reduce inequalities and improve life for everyone in the South Locality. It includes:

- Where we are now – facts, figures, and what communities told us matters most
- Our Ideas – the changes we'll focus on
- How We'll Deliver – working together with partners and communities

Our Journey
Developing the South Locality Plan

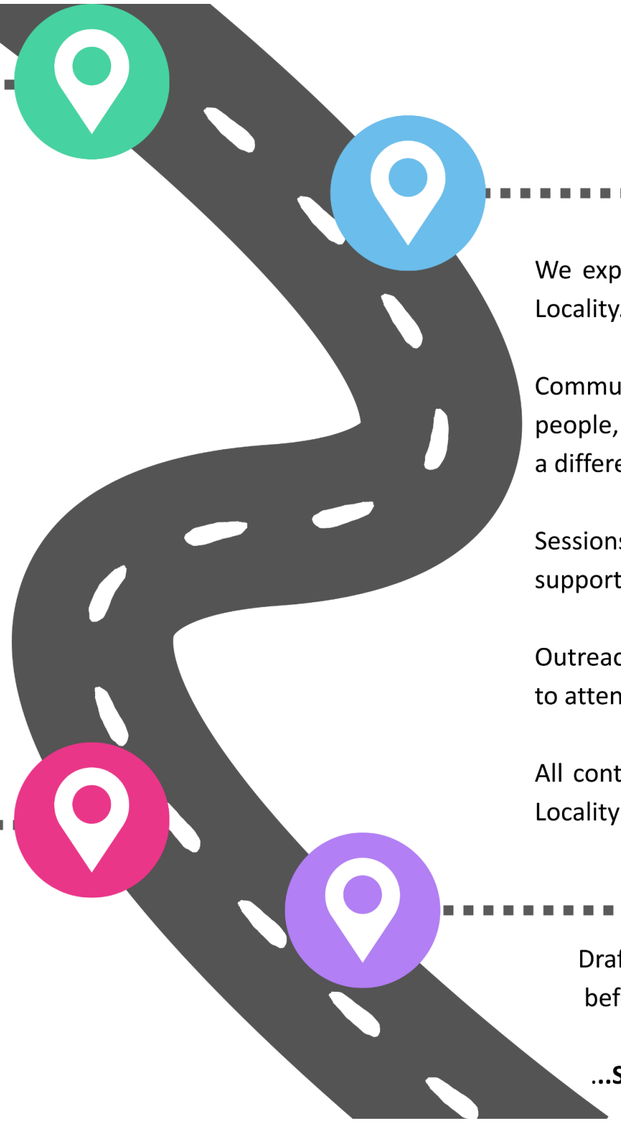
March - May 2025

We invited local people to share what they thought was good and what could be improved in their community.

Engagement activities included:

- An online survey for adults.
- An online survey designed for children and young people
- Six locality events with activities created by Aberdeen Youth Movement and Aberdeen Ambassadors for children and young people.
- An outreach programme where we visited 98 groups, schools, and locations across Aberdeen to facilitate participation.

We reached out through services, community and third sector groups, personal networks, and social media. Press releases and newsletter stories were issued to encourage involvement.



May-October 2025

We explored key areas for improvement identified across the South Locality.

Community members identified existing strengths and assets—such as people, places, and groups—and brainstormed practical ideas to make a difference.

Sessions encouraged collaboration and community-led solutions, supported and co-delivered by Community Planning partners.

Outreach sessions and a digital option were offered for those unable to attend full workshops.

All contributions were valued and recorded to help shape the South Locality Plan.

October - November 2025

We hosted a final South Locality event at Greyhope Community Hub, with the local community to share findings and gain further insight.

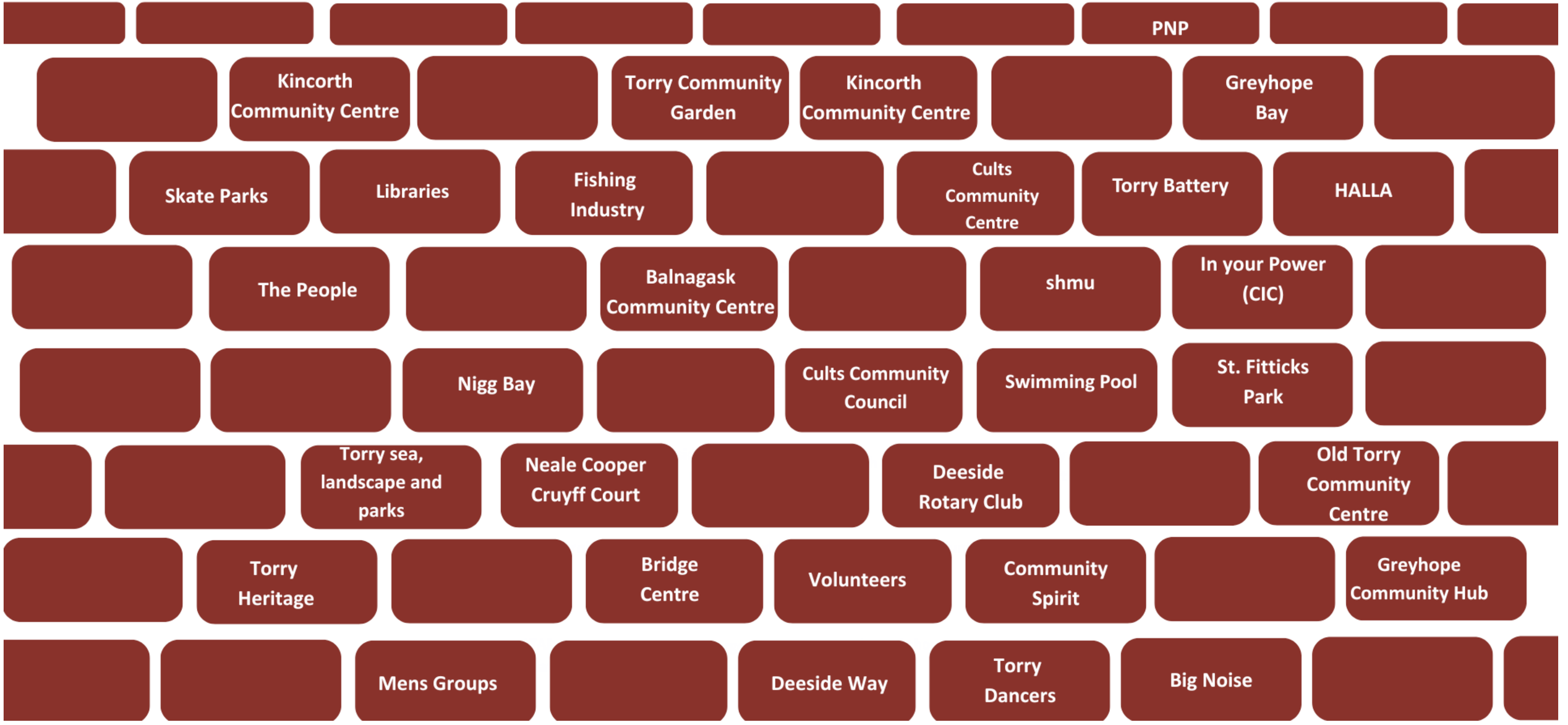
November - June 2025-26

Draft Locality Plans developed and out to public consultation before approval.

...Start working together on delivering our South Locality Plan!

South Community Asset Wall

Our Asset Wall is a visual way of showing all the great things that people value in the South Locality. We use the Asset Wall to celebrate what's good, and to help us build on these strengths as we work towards better outcomes for everyone across the South Locality.



Our Priorities
for the South Locality

Following consultation and engagement with our communities across the South Locality we have identified 6 priority outcomes and have aligned these to the Social Determinant of Health:

Economic Stability *Helping people feel more financially secure*	Health and Social Care ***Improve the physical health and wellbeing of people***	Children, Families and Lifelong Learning ***Helping people learn, grow and thrive at any age***	Neighbourhood and Environment ***Making sure the places people live feel safe, clean and enjoyable***	Communities and Housing ***Creating friendly, connected communities where people feel they belong***
Reduce the number of people living in Poverty **Improve and create job opportunities**	**Focus on early intervention, prevention, and physical and mental wellbeing outcomes**	**Support children and young people to achieve their potential**	**Identify and maximise the use of greenspace and community food growing**	**Increase the number of people and groups involved in making improvements and decisions in their community**

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What are the Social Determinants of Health?

Social determinants of health are the everyday things in our lives that affect how healthy we are. They are not about hospitals or medicine, but about the conditions we live in. People living in priority neighbourhoods may face more health-related challenges due to a range of reasons such as low income, poor quality housing, or a lack of access to community facilities. These communities often show great strengths, but can experience inequalities in access to healthcare, healthy environments, and other supports that influence wellbeing.

Why It Matters

Understanding social determinants helps us see that health is about more than just doctors and medicine. To improve health for everyone, we need to:

- Make sure people have good jobs, homes, and education.
- Support communities and reduce poverty.

Our Plan
Economic Stability

Priority 1: Reduce the number of people living in poverty
Priority 2: Improve and create job opportunities

What the data is telling us…

- **Energy Insecurity:** 10.3% of people in South Locality worried they would not be able to heat their home compared to 16% of people living in Priority Neighbourhoods
- **Unemployment:** As at July 2025, there were 1260 unemployment claimants in South Locality which is up 5% from July 2024
- **Food Insecurity:** 10.4% of people in South Locality worried they would not have enough food to eat, compared to 10.6% of people living in Priority Neighbourhoods
- **Children in low income households:** 1506 children under 15 years of age from South Locality live in low income households

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with (TBC)	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Improve access to food to create meals	Targeted	Torry and Kincorth	Aberdeen City Council Touch of Love CFINE Aberdeen Cyrenians	Number of community meals served Increase in number of people who report they have access to a variety of nutritious and healthy food	**LOIP System Change**: Community Support and Hub Network
Hold an accessible jobs fayre in South Locality	Universal	Garthdee	Local Employability Partnership Pathways Skills Development Scotland	Number of people attending the Jobs Fayre Number of individuals supported with employability within the community outreach model	**LOIP System Change:** Clear Routes Into Growth and In Demand Sectors and Network for Social Enterprises
Support the roll out of Cash First scheme to maximise income of people really struggling with cost of living in South Locality	Targeted	Torry and Kincorth	ACVO Aberdeen Cyrenians	Number of households receiving direct cash support	**LOIP System Change:** Community Support and Hub Network

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Our Plan
Health and Social Care

Priority 3: Focus on early intervention, prevention, and physical and mental wellbeing outcomes

What the data is telling us…

- **Drug related hospital stay rate** in South Locality is 116 people per 100,000 of the population, lower than the City average of 181 people per 100,000
- **Mental Health** 16.9% of people in South Locality are prescribed drugs for anxiety, depression or psychosis, this is lower than the Aberdeen City figure of 17.4%
- **Life Expectancy** in South Locality for 2021-23 was on average 82 years for women, and 79 years for men
- **Suicide** The rate of death from suicide in South Locality is 10.4 people per 100,000 of the population, this is below the Aberdeen City average of 11.1 people per 100,000 of the population

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with (TBC)	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Increase drug alert messages in the community	Universal	Cove, Garthdee, Leggart and Nigg, Torry	Aberdeen Drugs Action Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership	Number of drug alert messages on roadway signs and billboards in South Locality	**LOIP 2031 Improvement Aim:** By 2031, 10% reduction in deaths in Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 1 from alcohol and drugs and coronary heart disease and a 10% reduction in suicide rate city wide.
Support the development of a Torry Men's Shed	Targeted	Torry	Torry Health Matters	Number of men attending the Torry Men's Shed	**LOIP 2031 Improvement Aim**: Increase by 5% the percentage of residents from Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 1 who report feeling connected to their neighbourhood

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Our Plan
Children, Families and Lifelong Learning

Priority 4 : Support children and young people to achieve their potential

What the data is telling us…

- **Youth Volunteering:** 1123 young people from South Locality received a Saltire Award for volunteering
- **Counselling:** 100% of schools in South Locality offer counselling and Active School activities
- **Anti-Social Behaviour:** 3,303 Youth Anti-Social Behaviour calls were reported to the police (2024)
- **Crimes:** The most common crimes and offences in Aberdeen City were crimes of dishonesty (234 offences per 10,000 of the population), Road Traffic Offences (4,769 offences per 10,000 of the population), and non-sexual crimes of violence (3,412 offences per 10,000 of the population)
- **Road Safety:** In 2023, there were 109 reported road casualties in Aberdeen City of which, 4 were fatalities and 53 were serious injuries. The number of people injured in road traffic accidents has increased in each of the last two years (up from 64 in 2021 which is a 70% increase)

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with (TBC)	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Explore funding and opportunities for local youth led activities such as street work, music projects and a youth cafe	Targeted	Torry, Kincorth	Big Noise Torry CLD Strategic Partnership Torry Dancers Touch of Love	Value of successful external funding applications to support youth projects in Kincorth Number of youth led activities active in Kincorth	**LOIP System Change**: Safe, co-designed spaces for at-risk young people offering onsite support, person centred activities, and healthy relationship programme
More free/low cost groups for people with young families	Universal	Torry, Kincorth, Cove	Big Noise Torry Torry Dancers Touch of Love Balnagask Community Centre Aberdeen City Council Kincorth Community Council	Number of new free/low cost community groups set up by community partners	**LOIP 2031 Improvement Aim:** Reduce the proportion of people choosing between eating food and heating homes by 6.5% by 2031
More safe places for children	Universal	Ferryhill, Torry	Aberdeen City Council Touch of Love Sport Aberdeen	% of young people engaged in the safe space report a 'strong' relationship with trusted professionals Number of young people using the safe spaces	**LOIP System Change**: Safe, co-designed spaces for at-risk young people offering onsite support, person centred activities, and healthy relationship programme

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Our Plan
Neighbourhood and Environment

Priority 5: Maximise use of outdoor space

What the data is telling us…

- **Severe Weather** 49.6% of people in South Locality were worried about severe weather on their homes and local community. This compares to 73.7% of people who live in priority neighbourhoods
- **Greenspace Satisfaction** 69.6% of South Locality respondents to the City Voice survey reported being satisfied with the overall quality of greenspace/open space compared to 47.4% of people living in Priority Neighbourhoods
- **Active Travel** 15.6% of people in South Locality cycled compared to the citywide average of 9.5%

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Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with (TBC)	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Support communities to set up neighbourhood groups with a focus on community safety	Targeted	Across the South Locality	Police Scotland Community Safety Partnership	Number of active community safety neighbourhood groups across North Locality	**LOIP 2031 Improvement Aim**: Achieve a 15% increase in the proportion of residents who report feeling safe in their communities.
Develop a tool/gardening equipment library	Targeted	Garthdee, Torry and Kincorth	Torry Health Matters Social Juice Aberdeen Cyrenians	Number of tool/gardening libraries set up	**LOIP System Change:** City For Nature Movement - Expanding Access to Nature Through Pocket Parks, Growing Spaces and Green Travel Routes
Support community groups to develop underused greenspace in Torry and Kincorth	Targeted	Torry and Kincorth	Friends of St. Fitticks Park Social Juice Aberdeen City Council Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership	Number of new pocket parks Number of areas of new land for growing food % Satisfied with local Greenspace	**LOIP System Change:**. City For Nature Movement - Expanding Access to Nature Through Pocket Parks, Growing Spaces and Green Travel Routes

Support communities to improve local areas through litter picks and clean ups	Targeted	Hazlehead, Seafield, Ferryhill	Friends of St. Fitticks Park	% of neighbourhoods with community groups supporting nature & environment	**LOIP System Change:** City For Nature Movement - Expanding Access to Nature Through Pocket Parks, Growing Spaces and Green Travel Routes
Increase cycle tracks in neighbourhoods to encourage cycling	Universal	Culter, Torry	Cycling Scotland	Number of new cycling tracks across South Locality % of people who currently cycle % of people prepared to cycle more	**LOIP System Change:** City For Nature Movement - Expanding Access to Nature Through Pocket Parks, Growing Spaces and Green Travel Routes
Improve safety of cycling and e-bikes	Universal	Braeside, Broomhill Mannofield, Garthdee, Torry,Seafield	Cycling Scotland Touch of Love Walk Wheel Cycle Trust	% of casualties at A&E involving a bike or e-bike	**LOIP 2031 Improvement Aim:** Increase by 5% the percentage of residents from Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 1 who report feeling connected to their neighbourhood and reduce by 10% the percentage reporting barriers to accessing nature by 2031.
Maintain benches along the Deeside Way	Universal	Bieldside, Cults, Culter, Ferryhill, Garthdee, Milltimber and Countesswells		Number of good condition benches along the Deeside Way % of people who currently walk	**LOIP 2031 System Change:** City For Nature Movement - Expanding Access to Nature Through Pocket Parks, Growing Spaces and Green Travel Routes

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Our Plan
Communities and Housing

Priority 6: Increase the number of people and groups involved in making improvements and decisions in their community

What the data is telling us…

- **Community Information:** Just over half (50.4%) of City Voice respondents from South Locality agreed they would know where to find information about what is happening in their community
- **Identity and Belonging:** South Locality's sense of identity and belonging scored 4.2 out of 7 during the Place Standard community engagement exercise (2025)
- **Community Cohesion:** 46% of City Voice respondents in South Locality agreed they felt part of the community they live in

Our ideas about how we will achieve this together	Universal or Targeted Provision	Where we will test our ideas	Community Partners we will work with (TBC)	Data that will tell us if we are improving	Link to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Repurpose underused community spaces as co working hubs	Universal	Across the South Locality Community Assistance Hubs	Aberdeen City Council Aberdeen Cyrenians	Number of Community Assistance Hubs across South Locality Number of people receiving support at community assistance hubs	**LOIP System Change:** Community Support and Hub Network
Recruit and support more local volunteers	Universal	Braeside, Mannofield, Leggart and Nigg	ACVO Pathways Aberdeen Cyrenians	% increase in local volunteering	**LOIP 2031 Improvement Aim:** Increase by 5% the percentage of residents from Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 1 who report feeling connected to their neighbourhood and reduce by 10% the percentage reporting barriers to accessing nature by 2031.
Police to give talks in schools, along with local people and those with lived experience	Universal	Cults, Hazlehead, Torry, Kincorth, Cove (Lochside ASG)	Police Scotland Aberdeen Cyrenians	Number of talks delivered by Police in South Locality schools % of 12-18 year old boys reporting sense of belonging or connection to peers Number of misogynistic incidents in schools	**LOIP System Change:** Safe, co-designed spaces for at-risk young people offering onsite support, person centred activities, and healthy relationship programme
Strengthen communication with our communities through updated noticeboards, more community websites and you said, we did updates	Universal	Across the South Locality	Connect Torry SHMU Aberdeen Cyrenians	% of people who are aware of Locality Planning % of people who know where to find information about what is	**LOIP 2031 Improvement Aim:** Increase proportion of people that score positively for feelings of influence and sense of control by 7% by 2031

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				happening	
Set up forums to facilitate community conversations between New Scots, asylum seekers, refugees and local people	Universal	Garthdee, Ferryhill, Torry	Aberdeen City Council	Number of community conversation forums held Number of people with diverse lived experience engaged	**LOIP System Change:** Community Collaborative Approach
Support Communities to host Community Galas	Targeted	Torry and Kincorth	Torry Health Matters Kincorth Community Council Torry Dancers Social Juice Friends of St. Fitticks Park Balnagask Community Centre Touch of Love	Number of community galas hosted by community partners across South Locality	**LOIP 2031 Improvement Aim:** Increase by 5% the percentage of residents from Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 1 who report feeling connected to their neighbourhood and reduce by 10% the percentage reporting barriers to accessing nature by 2031.
Tenant feedback loops supported by Locality Partnerships and Tenant Participation	Universal	Across the South Locality	Aberdeen City Council	% of tenant feedback actions addressed	**LOIP System Change:** Increase proportion of people that who feel they have influence and sense of control by 7% by 2031

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Get Involved!

The South Locality Empowerment Group and the Torry Priority Neighbourhood Partnership are two ways we connect with our local communities in the South Locality. As a member of a Locality Empowerment Group or the Priority Neighbourhood Partnership you will be able to provide a voice on behalf of the people and communities across your n

What's in it for you?

Our existing community representatives had this to say about what they get from

- **Staying mentally and physically active**
- **Learning new skills and gaining self confidence**
- **Receiving support from staff**
- **Building a stronger sense of community and improving the neighbourhood**
- **Making new connections with like-minded people**
- **Participating in social events and local projects**
- **Strengthening local knowledge and sharing important information**
- **Increasing trust in communities**

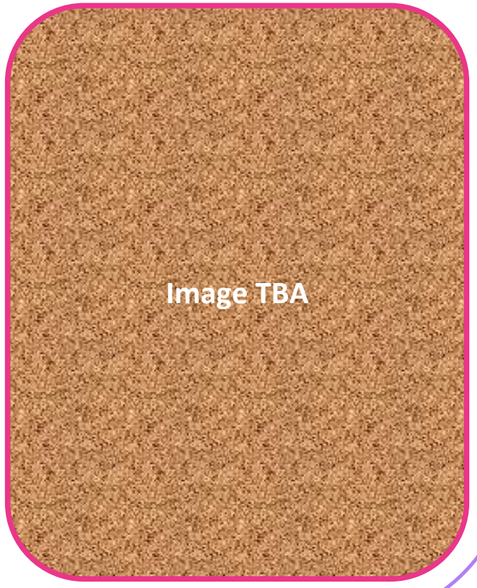
Interested in finding out more? Our Locality Planning Team are happy to help! contact us on:
Localityplanning@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Your South Locality Planning Team

We understand the importance of working with communities to build a thriving environment for everyone. By engaging with local communities through our dedicated Locality Planning team, we aim to become more receptive, supportive and action oriented. Community input is extremely valuable to this work. The Locality Planning Team includes staff from Aberdeen City Council and the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care partnership working together to support improved outcome across all our localities and neighbourhoods. In the South Locality your locality planning contacts are Emma and Teresa.

Emma Dobson
Health Improvement Officer
Aberdeen Health and Social Care Partnership
Tel. 01224 045990

Teresa Dufficy
Community Development Officer
Aberdeen City Council
Tel. 01224 069477



Stay Updated!

Join the Journey!

There are a number of ways to stay updated on what is going on in your neighbourhood. You can find out more, including our performance data on our Community Planning Aberdeen website here you will find:

- How we report back on our progress
- How to get involved in your next local community meeting
- Minutes of previous meetings
- Annual Reports
- Information and support around getting involved and making a difference to your local community

You can find out what's on your local area by visiting the ACVO Events Calendar or on Facebook by clicking here!

Supporting Information

Not every idea could be included, and here's why:

- Some improvements are already happening—we'll let services know if people weren't aware.
- Ideas outside locality planning's remit were shared with the right teams, like citywide plans or education services.
- Others couldn't progress yet due to limits on budget, time or resources, or they would impact on other plans for the City

Every idea matters - Even if something couldn't be included this time, your input helps shape priorities and conversations for the future.

Local Place Plans – these are different to locality plans!
Local Place Plans give communities a say in shaping where they live, work, and play. Introduced by planning legislation, they let communities create their own plans to influence the next Local Development Plan. These plans set out local ideas and aspirations for how *land* is used and developed—and they're created by the community, for the community.

It's important to us that everyone's voice is heard—including our young people. Through the **Aberdeen Youth Movement**, their ideas are not only reflected in the locality plan, but they're also helping to drive real change across our city. Want to find out more? Check out their Linktree!

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