

PERTH AND KINROSS  
COMMUNITY LEARNING &  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN



2021-24



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The context



## 1.1 What this Plan is for

This Plan sets out the commitments of Perth & Kinross Council, its partners in the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and wider Community Learning and Development (CLD) partners to deliver CLD which enables better outcomes for all and tackles stubborn inequality. Perth & Kinross Council has a statutory duty to coordinate and produce a CLD Plan which contributes to achieving the objectives of the CPP to address inequalities. The CLD approach is founded on working alongside local people and communities to improve their lives. It uses early intervention and prevention to address the root causes, not just the symptoms, of inequality. It is about building strong, resilient, influential and inclusive communities, and improving life chances for everyone through learning, employability, personal development and active citizenship.

The Plan covers the period September 2021 - September 2024. The Council and its CLD partners are determined that the first year in particular of delivering the Plan will focus on mitigating the ongoing impact of COVID-19 and will provide support for the recovery and renewal of our communities as we emerge from the pandemic. COVID-19 has significantly increased inequalities faced by some of our most vulnerable adults, families and young people. We will also be focused on ensuring our third sector partners and community organisations can re-build their capacity to deliver their work with communities. This first year of the Plan will be reviewed in September 2022 and updated with a continued focus on mitigating COVID-19 impact as appropriate.

## 1.2 Who this Plan is for

The focus of this Plan is providing the best CLD to key priority groups – communities of geography and communities of interest – across Perth and Kinross. We use locality profiles to identify community priorities and needs. Through the Council's Stronger Communities Team which oversees delivery of the Plan, we have ongoing engagement with communities, identifying emerging issues and priorities. For example, in summer 2020 we conducted a community survey across Perth and Kinross and asked partners to complete community impact assessments. This information, along with locality profiles, provides the evidence we use to assess and identify needs which we have built into the Plan.

### 1.3 The structure of CLD in Perth & Kinross Council

The Plan is a strategic framework for all Council services and wider CLD delivery partners. Within Perth & Kinross Council, CLD is delivered by a range of core teams embedded in key services and overseen by the Stronger Communities Leadership Group, which reports quarterly to the Corporate Management Group comprising all Chief Officers. Following the Education Scotland inspection of North Perth and Perth City in October 2018, we also implemented a number of improvement actions in relation to governance and leadership and these are set out in section 4.1.

Services for Young People provides youth services and are integrated with Social Work and Education Services and work closely with third sector universal youth work providers.

Community Link Team are part of the Inclusion service and operate within schools and other Education Learning Establishments supporting children and young people to achieve their outcomes.

The Parenting and Family Team are part of the Education and Children's Services working with vulnerable families to develop parenting skills.

Adult Learning is part of the Culture and Communities Service, providing a range of adult learning opportunities, working closely with Perth College and third sector providers.

Community Capacity Building is also part of the Culture and Communities Service and works closely with the Community Planning Team to support community groups to achieve their aims and facilitate locality networks and partnerships to co-ordinate activity.

Community Greenspace support a wide range of environmental groups, including Bloom and Path Groups.

The Tenant Participation Team are part of the Housing Service and work with tenants across a range of housing issues.

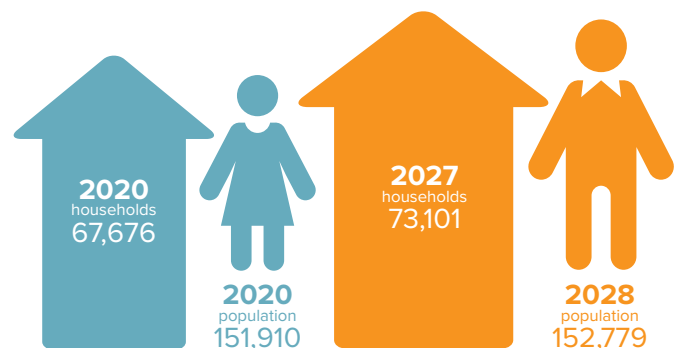
The Health and Social Care Community Engagement Team are based in the Health and Social Care Partnership and work with volunteers and groups with a particular interest in health and social care issues. They work closely with the Council's Community Capacity Building Team and third sector groups.

All key partners are listed in Appendix 2.

### 1.4 Perth and Kinross the Place

#### Population and Households

In 2020, the population of Perth and Kinross was 151,910. By 2028, it is projected to increase slightly to 152,779. We currently have 67,676 households projected to rise to 73,101 households by 2027. Affordable housing continues to be a priority given this.



Perth and Kinross has an older population compared to the rest of Scotland.



#### Perth and Kinross population age 65+ over the next 20 years



In 2018, 16.1% of our population were under 16 (Scottish average 16.9%); 17.1% were aged over 70 (13.6% in Scotland); and 3.2% were aged over 85 (2.3% in Scotland). Over the next 20 years, the number of people aged 65 years and over will increase from approximately 35,200 to around 48,300 an increase of 37%. An increasingly older population is likely to place additional demand on services directed by the local Health and Social Care Partnership, particularly in relation to reducing social isolation and maintaining physical and mental wellbeing. The interface between the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) and CLD is key in this context. Older people are a significant asset in our communities. They are volunteers, befrienders, members of social networks and contribute in many ways across a range of community causes and groups including Community Councils and the Local Action Partnerships which are the local delivery 'arms' of the CPP.

There are significant Polish, Romanian and Bulgarian communities in Perth and Kinross. There are also long-established minority ethnic communities originating from India, Hong Kong and Pakistan amongst other places. Perth and Kinross houses individuals and families classed as refugees and Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children as part of the UK Government resettlement programmes. Recent refugees from Afghanistan are amongst these. Perth and Kinross is also home to the largest settled Gypsy/Traveller population in Scotland.

### Poverty

Poverty, and associated harms are on the rise due to the economic pressures brought about by COVID-19. This is evident in the support people have been seeking, as between April and June 2020 there was a 148% increase in crisis loan applications. Finding work is also becoming more difficult, with 1 in every 8 households feeling the effects of worklessness (source: Office of National Statistics) and recent figures suggest Perth and Kinross now suffers from a job deficit of 2,800 jobs. However, the hospitality, tourism, care and agricultural sectors are all experiencing labour shortages creating new employment opportunities.



As such, currently over 1 in 3 people in Perth and Kinross are living in or on the edge of poverty,



1 in 5 have no savings to fall back on, and 1 in 5 of those in work earn below the Living Wage.

Just under 1 in 3 workers in Perth and Kinross are also in lower paid occupations. Recent figures show the numbers of people claiming Universal Credit (UC) in Perth City was slightly higher than both the Perth and Kinross average and the Scottish average. Before lockdown, 3.1% of people living in Perth City were claiming UC but this rose to 6.4% by May 2020 which exceeded the Scottish average of 6.2% Department for Work & Pensions (DWP).

The latest child poverty figures for Perth and Kinross show that child poverty increased by 2.7% between 2015 and 2020 increasing the numbers of children living in poverty from 4,869 to 5,515 (22.6%). These are pre-COVID-19 figures and are likely to underestimate the number of children currently affected by poverty across Perth

and Kinross. The challenges facing some families are greater than others and we know that some families are more likely to be affected by poverty than others:

- Nearly 1 in 5 parents report a limiting long-term physical or mental health condition which is higher than for Scotland as a whole (1 in 6).
- 1 in 20 first-time mothers is aged 19 and under.
- 1 in 25 households is headed by a lone parent compared with 1 in 20 for Scotland as a whole.
- 1 in 25 households have 3 or more children compared with 1 in 20 for Scotland as a whole.
- 313 families have had their benefits capped (167 - Universal Credit) and 153 (Housing Benefit).
- 3.3% of people in Perth and Kinross were from black Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds in 2011 (Census). Perth and Kinross has a number of migrant families from Eastern Europe, many of whom are affected by poverty.

### **Economy**

In early 2020, 12,046, or 8%, of people in Perth and Kinross were classed as income deprived. This ranges from 4.7% of people in Carse of Gowrie to 13.6% in Perth City North and compares to a national average of 12% of people across Scotland.

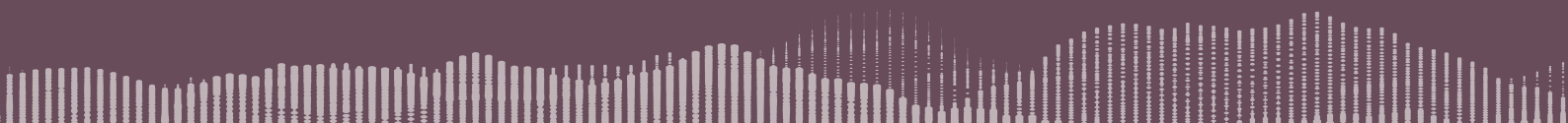
In April 2020, 2% of working age people in Perth and Kinross were claiming unemployment benefits. This increased significantly by

December 2020 to 4.4% but was still below the national average of 5.9% across Scotland.

Perth and Kinross has a low wage economy, with a significant proportion of jobs based on agriculture, hospitality and tourism. In 2020, weekly earnings in Perth and Kinross were 14% below the national average and 7.6% of residents were unemployed, compared to a national average of 7.1%.

The population of Perth and Kinross has been particularly reliant on the Job Retention Scheme, with the joint highest take up rate in January 2021 (19%). However, this dropped to 16% in February 2021, below Highlands 19%. This compares to a national take up of 9.9% as of February 2021. At the peak of the furlough scheme in August 2020, the Perth and Kinross furlough take-up rate was 34%, however by the end of July 2021 the rate had dropped to 5%, the same as the Scotland figure.





Despite the Job Retention Scheme, there has still been considerable pressure on the workforce with regards to job retention across Perth and Kinross. Claimant counts have reached 7.5% in November 2020. This is more than double the number seen pre-lockdown. The number of pay-rolled employments were around 74,000 lower than in October 2019 and the number of hours worked in August 2020 were down 6.7 million hours compared to 2019.

Between March 2020 and January 2021, the overall unemployment claimant count in Perth and Kinross rose by 119% (up 2220 individuals), with the unemployment rate rising from 2% to 4.4%. Since then, the rate has reduced slightly to 3.6% (August 2021). The 18-24 age group saw an even higher percentage increase, going from 345 (3.3%) individuals to 825 (7.9%), an overall rise of 480 or +139%. Again, this rate has dropped to 6.2% in August 2021 but remains almost double the pre-pandemic rate.

Nationally, it is anticipated that COVID-19 could impact disabled people's employment opportunities more severely, due to their higher share of employment in some shutdown sectors (eg, distribution, hotels and restaurants); previous recessions have had a disproportionate negative impact on their labour market outcomes. It has been estimated that employees in the lowest earnings group are seven times more likely than those in the top 10% of earners to work in a sector that was shut down during the pandemic, and women around a third more likely to do so than men. Single mothers with low qualifications are particularly concentrated in these sectors.

An Economic Wellbeing Plan setting out our response to these challenges was published in 2021. Key themes in the Plan, where CLD can add value are:

- Skills - re-skill and up-skill individuals with an emphasis on core and advanced digital skills as well as meeting the replacement demand employers have expressed.
- Support for young people through DWP Kickstart Scheme and Scottish Government funded Young Person's Guarantee.
- Entrepreneurship - embedding a spirit of enterprise.
- Developing and promoting community wealth building approaches.

### Education and Learning

Perth and Kinross is home to approximately 30,000 children and young people up to the age of 18. Around 3,000 children attend publicly funded early learning and childcare (ELC) settings (nurseries and partner providers), 10,500 in primary schools and 8,000 attend secondary schools. Around one third of these are in Perth City with the remainder distributed across rural towns and a large rural area, the fifth largest in Scotland. Nearly 70 pupils attend Fairview Special School.

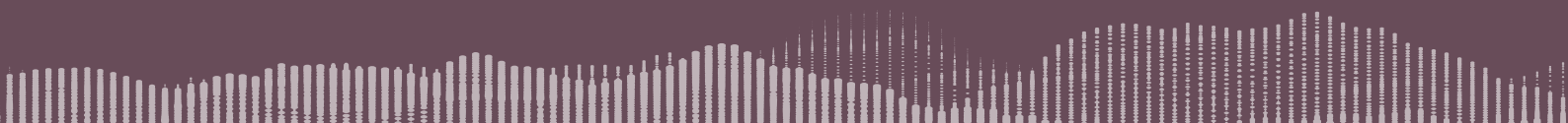
Before they start school in Primary 1, just over 80% of children in Perth and Kinross meet all their expected development milestones. Where developmental milestones are not met this tends to be in relation to speech and language, attention and emotional development.

Over 1400 Perth and Kinross pupils (7.8%) use English as an additional language; 49 home languages are spoken by school pupils, with Polish and Romanian the most common.

Nearly 6,000 children and young people are recorded as having an additional support need, a third of all those in schools.

The Pupil Census 2020 recorded 194 Looked After children in Perth and Kinross Schools. 75% of these children are looked after by Perth & Kinross Council, with the remainder the responsibility of other authorities.

Perth and Kinross continues to prioritise improvements in educational attainment and achievement. In 2021, 93.6% of 16–19-year-olds in Perth and Kinross were in education, working or other positive participation. There has been an increase of participation since 2015 (when it was 90.6%) and it exceeds the national average of 92.2% in 2021. The participation rate does vary from those from the most deprived communities (85.9%) to the least deprived (95.7%). The 2021 level is lower than the previous years and mirrors decreases that have been seen in almost all local authority areas. This is related to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy.

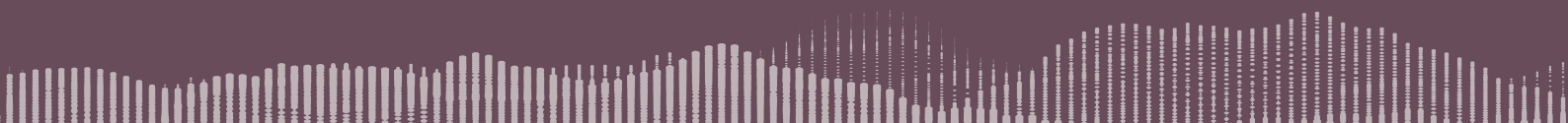


School attainment in Perth and Kinross is generally good. In 2020, 88% of Perth and Kinross school leavers achieved SCQF Level 4 in literacy and numeracy and 69% achieved SCQF Level 5, although numeracy at the more advanced level is slightly weaker than literacy. 69% of leavers achieved 5 or more awards at SCQF level 5 and 70% achieved 1 or more at SCQF level 6 (Higher), again similar to national figures. 2020 data shows that PKC exceeded its virtual comparator in the attainment of our middle 60% and highest 20% of school leavers, but the lowest 20% fell short of this benchmark, highlighting an area for continued focus.

In the summer term of 2018/2019, the Scottish Government's parental involvement and engagement survey was distributed by Perth and Kinross schools to all parents. 70% of parents who responded said they know what their child is learning at school and close to half said that their school provides useful information about how to help learning at home. Looking at involvement in school life, over half of respondents indicated they would like to be more involved in school life. Work commitments are the most common reason preventing parents from being more active in school life. Less than a third had taken part in family learning activities in the past school year but there were high levels of awareness of opportunities.

### **Health and Wellbeing**

Perth and Kinross has generally similar health and wellbeing issues as those in Scotland as whole. When comparing with the Scotland average, it should be remembered that this national figure may not compare favourably with other UK countries or more widely across more-developed nations. Levels of life expectancy and mortality are better in Perth and Kinross than the national average and the incidences of hospitalisation with conditions such as coronary heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and cancer are lower. However, the Scottish Household Survey indicates an increasing proportion of adults with a long-term physical or mental health condition, which at 42% is above the national figure of 30% (2018). Behaviours around smoking and alcohol are less positive and similar to national levels. Women's and children's health is generally better than seen across Scotland.



In Scottish rural communities, 8% of people reported feeling lonely ‘most of the time’ or ‘all or some of the time’, 30% reported feeling lonely ‘some of the time’, and 62% said they felt lonely ‘none or almost none of the time’. Younger participants and female participants reported higher levels of loneliness, with slightly higher levels also seen in those living in remote rural locations. 12% of participants reported feeling down, 4% depressed or hopeless, and 14% reported feeling nervous, anxious or on edge more than half the time, or nearly every day, during the past two weeks (RuralCovidLife Survey: Summary Report, Generation Scotland, January 2021).

Being physically active is good for physical and mental well-being. Live Active Leisure (LAL) offers a range of sport and leisure opportunities across Perth and Kinross and works with partners to provide a range of community-based activity programmes for all ages, particularly children and young people. There are also hundreds of community and volunteer led sports clubs across Perth and Kinross which LAL supports through its development programme.

Perth and Kinross also has a network of Active Schools Co-coordinators who work with schools, parents and communities to offer children and young people the opportunities and motivation to adopt healthy, active lifestyles.

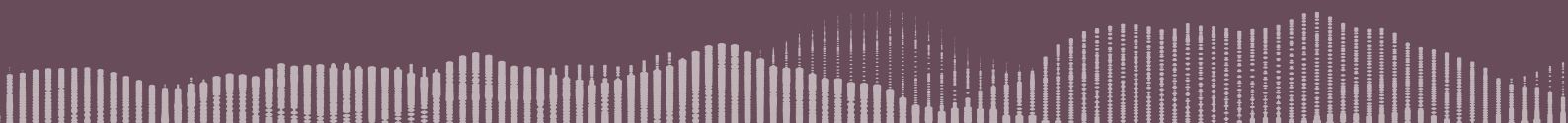
### **Connectivity**

Connectivity means both digital access, and public transport connections. Access deprivation in SIMD 2020 highlights data zones in Scotland which have the poorest access to key services, typically measured by travel time to those services. In Perth & Kinross, we have 37 data zones classed in the 10% most access deprived category in Scotland, including Rannoch and Aberfeldy, which is judged to be the most access deprived data zone in the whole of Scotland. These 37 data zones represent 31,993 people across Perth and Kinross, or 21% of our population.

13% of data zones in Perth and Kinross have more than 50% of households without access to super-fast broadband. All rural localities are impacted by issues with digital connectivity.

In 2019, 68% of residents in Perth and Kinross were very or fairly satisfied with the quality of public transport, equal to the national average.

53% of residents living in ‘accessible rural’ locations were very or fairly satisfied (Source Scottish Household Survey 2019).



In 2019, 19% of commutes in Perth and Kinross were undertaken via public transport, or by cycling, compared to 23.3% across Scotland. This highlights the rural nature of Perth and Kinross and the historical reliance on private cars for journeys. However, COVID-19 has meant increasing numbers of people working from home and no longer needing to travel. This increases people's reliance on digital infrastructure and digital skills but also widens potential job opportunities especially in rural areas if adequate broadband can be provided.

As a result of COVID-19 school closures, significant advances have been made in the delivery of digital learning in schools. This raised challenges in ensuring equity of access that have been addressed by the provision of digital devices funded by Scottish Government. The Council is now offering over 80 external facing services online, 24/7; with the uptake of these significantly increasing.

Our Customer Service Centre provides services to those without internet access (or those who require additional support to access these services) via telephone and face-to-face provision and continue to support our most vulnerable citizens.

### **Environment and Public Space**

Perth and Kinross is the fifth largest local authority area in Scotland, covering an area of 5,286 km<sup>2</sup>. The City of Perth is our largest settlement and is home to around a third of our population. 13% of our population lives in remote rural areas.

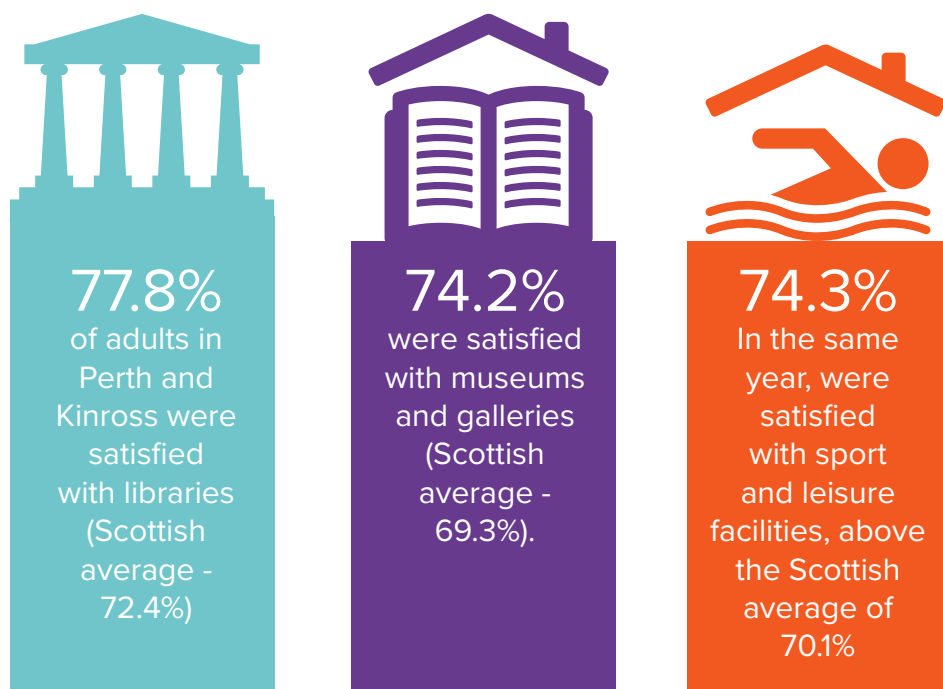
78% of people in Perth and Kinross are satisfied with their nearest greenspace, compared to a national average of 73% (source Scottish Household Survey 2019) and there are a large number of volunteer led Bloom and Path Groups who help maintain our open spaces. During 2019/2020, Community Greenspace worked with 17 paths groups, 48 bloom groups, 2 dementia groups, 19 other parks/greenspace groups,

8 allotment groups to help maintain the open spaces of Perth and Kinross. Beautiful Perth, in partnership with PKC, secured the very prestigious 'Champion of Champions' crown for Perth in the national Royal Horticultural Society Britain in Bloom awards in October 2019, making the city the best in the UK. The coveted Parks and Greenspaces Award for the Riverside Park Heather Collection in Perth was also secured, and Bridge of Earn, first time entrants, were awarded Best Large Village in the UK, with a special award for their work with young people.

### Culture and Leisure

Perth and Kinross has significant cultural and leisure assets, including award winning venues and attractions right across the region. Access to cultural and leisure opportunities can bring significant benefits to mental and physical wellbeing.

In 2019-20



(Scottish Household Survey and Local Government Benchmarking).

### 1.5 Impact of COVID-19 on Perth and Kinross

On 23 March 2020, the UK went into a national lockdown as part of efforts to control and suppress COVID-19. Restrictions remained throughout 2020 and a second national lockdown was experienced at the start of 2021. Society and how people live their lives changed fundamentally and this resulted in significant changes to how services were delivered to communities across Perth and Kinross, including:



See **appendix 1** for full explanation

### 1.6 Key Achievements 2019-2021

Our previous CLD Plan for Perth and Kinross covered the period February 2019 to March 2021. The final year of delivery was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with many staff responsible for CLD delivery redirected to support the emergency response. Despite this, key achievements during the lifetime of the plan include:





### **During 2020/2021 and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic**

- PKC worked with Connecting Scotland to secure more than 170 digital devices and identified 13 digital champions to support tenants to become digitally included.
- Recruited over 1000 residents as volunteers to help support local communities and developed an on-line portal for volunteer registration, mapping these against a GIS database so volunteers could be linked with activity in their local area.
- Produced a volunteer handbook for PKC registered volunteers with advice on handling cash, child and adult protection and adhering to lockdown rules.
- Worked with local community groups to distribute 20,000 leaflets advising people how to keep safe and where to get support.
- Active Schools Co-ordinators provided a flexible approach to supporting schools throughout the pandemic offering online support through recorded engagement sessions to deliver 'household' activities, weekly social media activity newsletter promoting daily activity, remote support for school staff leading physical activity sessions and online motor skills sessions for targeted groups of learners.
- The Perth and Kinross Active Schools Primary Sports Leadership Programme to P6/7 children continued online along with sports and dance leadership programmes.
- Throughout the pandemic, there was a co-ordinated approach to ensuring that those children and young people considered to be most vulnerable were offered appropriate support either at home or in school-based services. A range of resources, both virtual and physical, were provided to alleviate inequalities and disadvantage. This was enhanced by the direct support being provided to young people in evenings and at weekends.
- Collaboration with the third sector secured Youth Work in Education Recovery funding to contract eight third sector organisations to work with secondary schools to support young people to re-engage with education.
- Parenting and family learning was adapted to continue to support parents in new ways. 77 virtual groups were offered, with 316 parents/carers attending at least one session and 241 completing a full programme. Bitesize sessions were introduced on themes such as fussy eaters and predictable routines. Through these supports, 54% of parents participating reported they found their stress/ anxiety levels as a parent had reduced.
- Adult learning opportunities were provided on-line with 110 adults undertaking an accredited course.

- CLD staff worked with colleagues across PKC and a wide range of community groups to provide services and goods for those in need. These included: -
- Providing packs of resources for children.
- 1310 foodbank referrals and delivery of 364 emergency food parcels.
- 400 referrals to community fridges/larders.
- 20,500 calls to a dedicated Community Support and Welfare Fund phonenumber which provided support for people shielding, self-isolating, requiring support grants, low-income pandemic payments or increased crisis grants as well as food referrals and information/guidance/signposting.
- Supported the re-purposing of key leisure venues as emergency coronavirus response hubs for delivering over 5,000 food parcels in partnership with local volunteers.
- Responded to a COVID-19 outbreak in Coupar Angus where a total of 201 cases were recorded in the 2 Sisters factory. By working with the factory, our community planning partners and volunteers, we ensured workers and families were supported. Community volunteers and staff delivered over 700 food parcels and carried out doorstep welfare checks to every affected household including a large number of migrant workers and their families who needed additional support.
- The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the ability of local groups to organise themselves to support the most vulnerable people in their communities and the willingness of people to volunteer informally to support the emergency response. A more targeted approach became necessary during the COVID-19 pandemic as resources were diverted to ensure vulnerable children, young people and families were supported, that foodbanks had sufficient capacity to deal with demand and that key locality anchor organisations were able to support their local communities. CLD staff worked alongside third sector groups to help build their skills and capacity, recruit volunteers and provide advice and guidance on issues such as child protection at the same time as supporting the most vulnerable children, young people, adults and families.
- It will be some time before we understand the full impact of the pandemic on communities, families and children and we recognise the important contribution of CLD functions and their critical role in supporting the wellbeing of young people, families and communities.

### 1.7 Key Strategic Links for the CLD Plan

The CLD Plan has links to other existing strategies and plans which are set out below.

#### 1.7.1 The Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2021

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires the CPP to produce a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP), which identifies the socio-economic inequalities facing people in the area. This is currently being revised for 2022 onwards in light of COVID-19 and wider data and evidence about future priorities and needs for the area as a whole. The CLD Plan sets out the specific responsibilities for the Council and its CLD delivery partners in tackling inequality through CLD provision, within the wider LOIP in addressing these inequalities. Therefore, the priorities of the CLD Plan closely align with the priorities of the LOIP.

The priorities for the LOIP are listed below:

- Child, food and fuel poverty.
- Mental and physical wellbeing.
- Employability.
- Learning, skills and education.
- Digital participation.

### 1.7.2 The Perth & Kinross Offer

CLD functions and partners are central to successful delivery of the Perth & Kinross Offer. We believe everyone has something to offer in their community and we want to help people to help each other; creating opportunities for young people; and designing how we work with our communities in new and exciting ways. We're only able to do this with a strong partnership approach, a commitment to listen, and a willingness to build new relationships with our communities. By focussing our efforts and resources in these areas, we can make a positive difference to people's lives and help everyone in Perth and Kinross to live life well.

Our aim for the Offer is *“Working together so that everyone in Perth and Kinross can live life well”*.

We want the [Perth & Kinross Offer](#) to make a difference where:

- People are at the heart of everything we do; they are happier, healthier and more resilient.
- Communities are empowered to make decisions with resources directed where they are most needed.
- People's needs are met in better ways and working with us is easier.
- Our digital services are improved making accessing services and contacting us much simpler.
- Perth and Kinross is a better, greener and fairer place to live, learn, work, play and visit.

**everyone** **The Perth & Kinross Offer**  
has something to offer

### 1.7.3 The Tayside Children's Services Plan and the work of the Tayside Regional Improvement Collaborative

The Tayside Children's Services Plan contains 5 key strategic priorities which form the focus for the collaboration of all services working with children, young people and families in Tayside. These priorities all have some relevance to CLD activities and include:

- Priority Group 1: Pre-birth and Early Years
- Priority Group 2: Learning and Attainment
- Priority Group 3: Health and Wellbeing
- Priority Group 4: Care Experienced Children and Young People
- Priority Group 5: Safeguarding and Child Protection
- In particular, the Strategy for Parents, developed by Priority Group 1, has particular relevance to this CLD Plan. The Tayside Strategy for Parents is a commitment from the partner organisations in Tayside that deliver services for children, young people and families to work with parents to improve the information, services, communities and policies that support families.
- The [Tayside Strategy for Parents](#) was developed in consultation with parents, others with a parenting role and service providers. It aims to achieve a vision that 'Everyone who has or will have a parenting role is able to secure positive futures for themselves and their families.'

### 1.7.4 The Promise

The Promise is a national body responsible for driving and monitoring the implementation of system changes demanded by the findings of the Independent Care Review. The Promise Team will support shifts in policy, practice and culture so Scotland's care experienced infants, children and young people grow up loved, safe and respected, and able to realise their full potential.

### 1.7.5 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

The Convention has 54 articles that cover all aspects of a child's life and set out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all children everywhere are entitled to. It also explains how adults and governments must work together to make sure all children can enjoy all their rights. Scotland is set to become the first country in the UK to incorporate the UNCRC into domestic law with specific duties for public bodies across all of their work and the right for children and young people to enforce their UNCRC rights and seek remedy if they are not met. Children (Scotland) Act 2020.

### 1.7.6 The Perth and Kinross Economic Wellbeing Plan 2021-2028

The [Perth and Kinross Economic Wellbeing Plan](#) 2021-2028 sets out a proposed set of partnership actions to assist economic recovery and support growth over time. The role of CLD functions in helping people gain the skills, education and confidence to support economic recovery and to also mitigate the impact of any economic downturn will be critical in the years ahead.

### 1.8 Community Consultation

Over the last 12 months, there has been a significant amount of consultation with both communities of place and interest, much of it focussed on the impact of COVID-19 and the lockdowns. This information has been used to help inform the priorities for the CLD Plan. We will continue to consult with our communities via the Perth & Kinross Offer throughout 2021/2022 and this information will help inform the re-refresh of the CLD Plan in September 2022.

- Community impact assessments completed by Community Planning Partners and teams delivering CLD helped identify emerging needs and priorities across a wide range of services.
- PKC wide online survey focusing on impact of COVID-19 and public service response.
- Following the full-time return of school in August 2020, opportunities were taken to hear directly from children, young people and parents on how the lockdown had been for them and what they wanted to see included in the recovery period. A “Learning from Lockdown” consultation with parents/carers was undertaken from 17 September to 4 October 2020 to inform both the Coronavirus pandemic recovery following lockdown 1, plan for the second period of school closure and Education and Children’s Services ongoing recovery and contingency planning.
- Pupils were surveyed to understand the impact of the first lockdown on their learning and school experience. Three different surveys were developed for schools to use with different age groups of pupils; a visual survey aimed at very young learners, a standard survey for older primary and younger secondary, and a secondary survey aimed at older learners.
- Meetings with local community groups to identify local issues and priorities.
- PKAVS “Picture of a Pandemic” survey examining the impact of lockdown on minority ethnic groups in Perth and Kinross.
- Professional observations completed by CLD staff on emerging priorities for community groups and the communities they are active in.

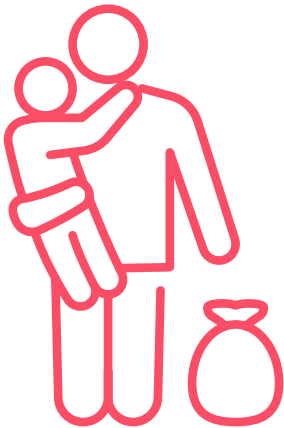
### Key Messages from these consultations:

- Mental and physical wellbeing had been negatively impacted by COVID-19 across all age groups.
- Local community support had been critical to supporting people through the pandemic, providing a range of services such as food deliveries.
- Young people and parents were concerned about “lost learning.”
- Digital connectivity was crucial, and some groups and individuals need additional support to bridge the “digital divide”.
- Adult learners on entry level courses found it difficult to continue their studies on-line with some leaving their courses.
- The COVID-19 pandemic impacted upon minority ethnic groups with regards to income and housing.
- Vulnerable families were negatively impacted upon by COVID-19 with regards to income and job security.
- Informal volunteering rates were high and showed the ability of communities to mobilise and work with public services to protect the most vulnerable.



### 1.9 Priorities for our new CLD Plan

Key priorities for the next three years are:



**Poverty** (including child, food and fuel poverty) are significant issues of inequality and ones which have been increasingly highlighted in Perth and Kinross during lockdown, with demand for emergency food parcels and crisis grants increasing. CLD can work alongside communities to help mitigate the impact of poverty and build sustainable communities. Important new relationships have been forged with local third sector community food providers during COVID-19 and work will continue to develop a sustainable and resilient third sector food network.

**Mental and physical wellbeing** have been hugely impacted as a result of COVID-19. Evidence from services across the CPP shows a significant increase in demand for support, both during lockdown and as we emerge into recovery, particularly from young people and vulnerable adults. CLD will play a vital role in improving everyone's health and wellbeing, alongside physical activity delivered by our leisure trust partner, Live Active Leisure.



**Family Learning.** Our Family and Parenting Team plays a vital role in providing engaging and impactful family learning opportunities to those most in need. Services for Children Young People and Families are leading new work in Letham to co-produce new models of holistic family support in line with The Promise. This is supported by Council budget motion funding and is taking a community development approach. This is linked to work which will test the Well-being Economy Alliance Design Guide to support large-scale engagement and participation of children and young people using the framework of UNCRC.

**Employability and Adult learning.** CLD plays a critical role in skills development, very often working with people who have been excluded from work and everyday life because of their low self-esteem, skills or confidence. For many people, CLD can create their first route back into learning, embedding literacy and numeracy into all of its provision, so that learning and skills development become accessible for many people disengaged from learning. Our adult learning offer delivered in partnership with Perth College and third sector providers has a focus on employability and digital skills with a range of accredited courses available.



**Digital participation** is increasingly important as services and wider society moves online. Lockdown highlighted issues with connectivity, technology and capacity and CLD has a role in building people's skills and confidence. Our Digital Working Group are developing actions to address both digital skills and confidence.

**Raising attainment.** Closing the gaps in the attainment of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing is a priority for all involved in the education of children and young people. For some children and young people their attainment has been further impacted by the requirement to learn at home as a result of COVID-19 restrictions. Teams delivering CLD will work with schools to support children and young people's well-being; help children recover any lost ground in learning and close the attainment gap.

# Part 01

## The Context

**Best start.** Children have a right and need to play and this has been adversely affected as result of lockdowns. Services and organisations will work with communities to plan and provide play experiences outdoors for children and families.



**Community empowerment** is relevant to all parts of the public sector and is an area of increasing importance. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires community planning partners to secure the participation of community bodies in community planning. We will continue to work with the 7 Local Action Partnerships and key third sector organisations to empower communities, develop localised decision making and ensure we are responsive to the needs and priorities of communities across Perth and Kinross.

A commitment to incorporate the **UNCRC** into policy across CLD functions.

We anticipate that over the next 12 months, new needs will emerge as a result of COVID-19 and further research will be needed to help understand these further. Emerging data and feedback from partners suggest that the following areas could be of particular focus:

- Adults who are digitally excluded and unable to access services and support.
- Families and Adults who have experienced bereavement and loss.
- Those who have experienced lost learning, particularly young people and adults on entry level Further Education and Higher Education courses.
- Adults with substance misuse or mental health issues unable to access services due to lack of digital or physical access.
- Minority ethnic groups who may have disproportionately impacted upon by Covid in relation to job security, income and health and wellbeing.
- Looked after children and young people and families whose children are on the edges of care.
- Young carers.
- Victims of domestic abuse.
- Supporting pupil wellbeing and potential gaps in learning.
- The impact of trauma in communities.
- Identifying any widening of inequalities.

### 1.10 Unmet Needs

Several years of analysis show clear inequalities in education, health and other outcomes for certain groups, particularly those living with poverty. Inequalities also exist for Looked After children and young people, especially those looked after at home. Those with additional support needs (ASN) and specific groups such as young carers, families with English as an Additional Language and those from gypsy/travelling communities also experience poorer outcomes than their peers. However, the landscape is complex and no single factors may be important.

We recognise that in these challenging times for all services, including CLD, it won't be possible to reach everyone who may need them, but early CLD intervention and prevention work may stop bigger challenges emerging. PKC does not offer universal CLD across the whole area but targets priority groups and communities. This allows us to disperse delivery across Council services and ensure that this work is built into service management and improvement plans. CLD partners will work together over the lifetime of the plan to make best use of resources to meet the need of specific communities and priority groups.

In April 2021, we completed a Communities Impact Assessment with community organisations and adult learners and received feedback from 70 community organisations. They told us their usual activities had been limited due to restrictions on face-to-face interaction, limited numbers and the closure of venues. They identified they would need support in the next year to access venues, support people with digital skills, recruit volunteers, support with governance and re-engage with participants.

# Our Approach



## 2.1 Our Delivery Capacity

### **Local Community Planning: the Local Action Partnerships**

Since 2016, local Community Planning in Perth and Kinross has been delivered by 7 Local Action Partnerships. They bring together community representatives, Councillors and officers from Community Planning partners to make decisions about local priorities and needs. Each Local Action Partnership has a Local Action Plan with particular focus on improving equalities. The Local Action Partnerships provided significant financial support to their communities during the first national lockdown.

Local Action Partnerships use locality profiles and community intelligence to guide the priorities in their Action Plans. The locality profiles contain statistical and wider information about the area. They help the Partnerships and CLD providers to plan, manage and deliver services in the locality and make sure resources are targeted at what matters most for the community. The Partnerships will update their action plans, considering the new priorities of the LOIP and emerging needs as a result of COVID-19 during 2021/22.

### **Youth Work Partnership**

The Gannochy Trust and Perth & Kinross Council have worked together to fund Youth Work Providers in the five localities across Perth and Kinross from 2018-2021. The partnership was formed to provide secure long-term funding and practical support for the delivery of youth work across Perth and Kinross. The providers are supported to address identified issues, such as social inclusion, emotional wellbeing and develop volunteering opportunities for young people. There is a shared understanding of the priorities to support the needs of Young People and aid their recovery from the pandemic. An independent evaluation of the impact of this work by Year 2 was carried out by Catch the Light and this was reported in August 2021. Youth work fluctuated throughout 2020/2021 with restricted permissions of engagement and activities. The report shows how partners worked together to safely reach young people, families and communities and shows that they have reached 1137 individuals across the five areas which represents 15% of the school population. The partnership is currently in its third year and in August 2021, a further two years of funding was approved to end of March 2024.

The providers meet together regularly with staff from Youth Services and The Gannochy Trust to share practice, undertake training and to support funding applications. The partnership has also supported the development of other youth work activities within localities through advice and mentoring.

### **Adult Learning Partnership**

The partnership adds value for learners and communities through collaborative working and developing a shared vision and aims in order to negotiate, plan and deliver adult learning opportunities for learners who require additional support or have not engaged in learning for a significant period of time. Included are accredited learning opportunities that will support adults into employment, training, education and volunteer opportunities. The Adult Learning CLD Partnership will deliver the following:

- Accredited learning opportunities to support adults into employment, training, education or volunteer opportunities.
- Improve learning transition for people from prison to community life and employment.
- Provide clear learner pathways and a range of opportunities for people to engage in learning in a way which suits them and builds confidence.
- Support organisations to be effective, efficient and improve their capacity to improve lives and communities.
- In 2021/2022, partners are delivering learning programmes which contribute to the LOIP priorities of Employability and/or Digital Inclusion.

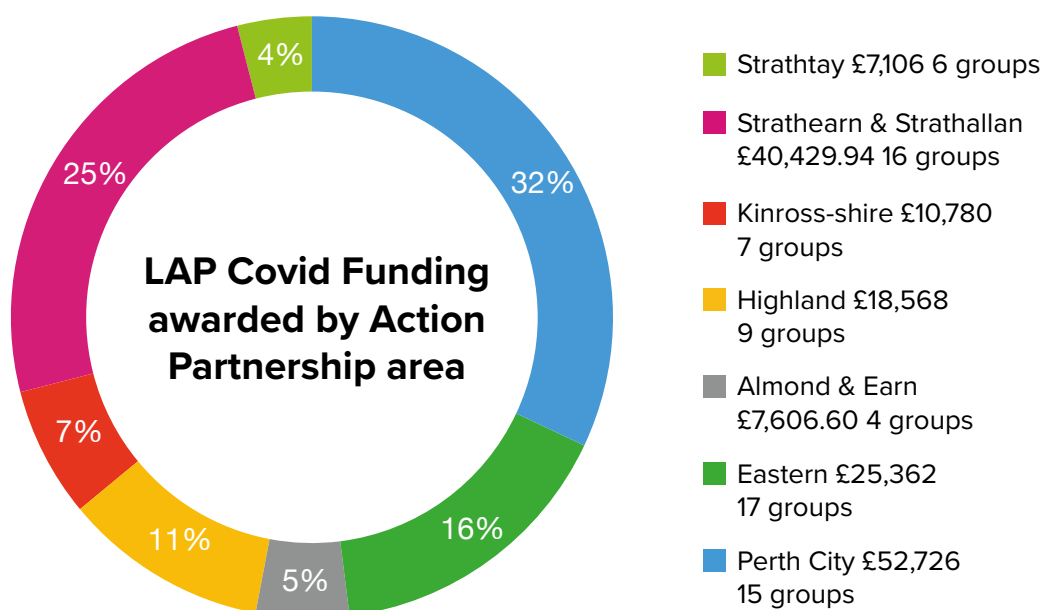
### **Foodshare Network**

As a response to consultation in 2019 and as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020/2021, the establishment of locality Food Share Networks for Perth and Kinross was identified as a positive initiative and an opportunity to develop an integrated approach to the redistribution of surplus food across the Council area. These networks can provide a cohesive mechanism to support community food share organisations to help address on-going community food insecurity issues, support community cohesion, and continue to reduce food waste. COVID-19 has significantly increased food insecurity being experienced by communities across Perth and Kinross, resulting in further hardship. The establishment of these network is in its early stages but are offering the potential to discuss local food poverty issues in a more specific way. PKC allocated £285K of funding in 2021/2022 and staff support to help establish these networks and ensure foodbanks and larders have the correct equipment and resources and are able to effectively signpost residents to additional services such as PKC welfare and benefits teams.



### 2.2 Investing in Communities

- **The Community Investment Fund (CIF)** made £1.2 million available over financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20 for funding for new community led projects and initiatives to help improve equalities across Perth and Kinross, with priorities determined by local people and communities through the Local Action Partnerships and ward Panels. No CIF funding was available during 2020/21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and this funding has been carried forward into 2021/2022 with new criteria based on the new LOIP priorities. A further £600,000 is available for 2021/2022. A wide range of projects have been supported including upgrades to community facilities, digital inclusion and community events.
- **Local Action Partnerships (LAP's) Covid Response Funding.** During 2020, LAP's opened their budgets to support community groups who were responding to a community need during lockdown. The total amount of funding awarded was £162,578. The graph below shows the number of groups supported by each of the seven Local Action Partnerships.



- **Local Action Partnership Community Grants Schemes.** Some Local Action Partnerships have either launched or are planning in 2021/22 to run their own grant schemes from their core funding. In 2020/2021, Eastern Perthshire and Strathtay LAP's ran grant schemes for community groups to apply to for funding of up to £3000. Strathtay LAP made four awards for this funding totalling £5,749.44 going to local community groups. The types of projects that were funded included Community Bloom Groups and one group received funding for maintenance of community defibrillators. Eastern Perthshire LAP have provided £13,473 to community groups across the three ward areas. These grants have ranged from upgrades to community assets, such as sheds and halls to funding for family learning activities.
- **Greenspace.** £100,000 is made available through the Community Environment Challenge Fund every year to allocate to community groups for environmental improvement projects. In addition, there is £63,000 annually allocated to support Local Bloom Groups run entirely by volunteers. There are 18 volunteer led path groups with up to £500 per group available to enable them to purchase tools and materials. Bloom Groups and Path Groups help ensure that the public realm across Perth and Kinross is well maintained and they offer valuable volunteering opportunities which can help peoples physical and mental wellbeing and gain the confidence to learn new skills. Greenspace capital projects are delivered and co-designed in partnership with communities who are able to access external funding to complement our capital spend on our greenspaces which benefits all.

### 2.3 Locality Working

The Council is working towards an Inclusive Communities model to deliver a coordinated network of locality based multi-disciplinary teams, services, people and communities that collectively focus on improving community outcomes and individual needs. It is envisaged that multi-disciplinary teams will build on the strength and resilience of people and communities to achieve improved community outcomes and health, wellbeing and quality of life for people living within that community. This development will, in time, support delivery of the CLD Plan at a locality level.

The overarching approach will be designed around the ethos and approach defined by the Perth & Kinross Offer. To achieve the ambition, the Offer will require an approach and a framework that enables communities to influence service delivery at a local level to meet their differing and specific needs and outcomes. We will enable the move away from provider and consumer to a collaborative approach where priorities are jointly agreed.

### 2.4 Workforce Development

We are committed to ensuring staff and volunteers across Perth and Kinross can access high quality, relevant and role appropriate training and development opportunities. We are committed to encouraging and nurturing a learning culture and we will do this with support from the Tayside & Fife CLD Professional Learning Alliance (the Alliance) and the CLD Standards Council for Scotland.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Education Scotland delivered a series of webinars supporting CLD with on-line delivery, youth work and building Science Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) capacity.

The CLD Tayside & Fife Professional Learning Alliance has delivered the following:

- Digital storytelling techniques to support online delivery.
- Online conference focussing on CLD's role after the pandemic.
- The Alliance will develop briefings and training opportunities for the sector. These will reflect the ambitions in Growing the Learning Culture in CLD, the professional development strategy published by CLD Standards Council for Scotland.

In the first year of the plan, we will strengthen our partnership with Perth College with staff training on SQA and Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN). This will increase our offer of accredited courses with communities and develop progression routes for participants.

The Alliance will deliver the following staff training in 2021/2022:

- Peer evaluation workshops using the new Inspection Framework Quality Indicators
- Accredited training for new literacy/ English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) volunteers
- Develop ESOL and Literacy practitioner networks to share on-line resources and support transition to face-to-face learning
- In 2021/2022, we will be providing a range of training and upskilling opportunities for volunteers active in groups across Perth and Kinross.

### **2.5 Procurement and Social Benefit**

In line with the 2017 Perth and Kinross Fairness Commission recommendations, the Council is working with the business sector to achieve greater social value from public service contracts. We do this by including clauses in tenders requiring bidders to identify social benefits which can be delivered as part of the wider objectives of the contract. Projects are categorised as Improving Skills, Improving Education and Improving Employability. All these can support our LOIP and CLD objectives to support young people and all working age people to find and sustain work. Contractor commitment and delivery is recorded by the Council's Procurement team and reported on in the Annual Procurement Report, which is published at the end of each financial year.

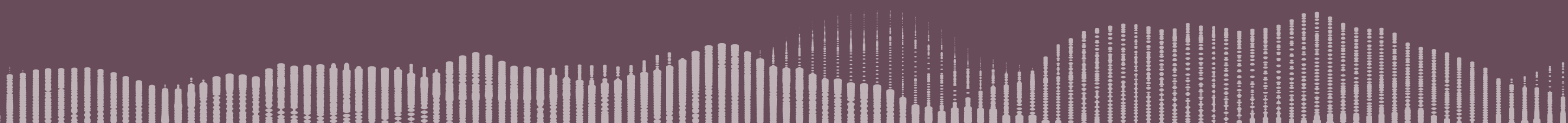
Part

# The Actions 2021-2024



### Strategic Objective - Giving every child the best start in life

Outcome - Families will have improved wellbeing			
We will	How	Who	When
Support for families with children at risk of not meeting their developmental milestones	<p>Target a range of evidence-based family learning opportunities for families</p> <p>Develop Peep Progression Pathway offer to provide parents with accredited learning</p> <p>Provide 1 to 1 support including home coaching and bitesize sessions to meets the needs of parents</p> <p>Volunteer support provided by Home Start Perth</p>	ELC Service	Review progress annually
Provide a range of play opportunities for children to help their physical and emotional development	<p>Promote the importance of play and provide staff development which improve play experiences in playgrounds</p> <p>Provide play experiences at weekends and holidays in parks and school playgrounds</p> <p>Deliver a pilot project for the Gypsy Traveller community</p> <p>Support parents to understand the importance of play and how they provide play experiences at home</p>	ELC Service	Review progress annually



We will	How	Who	When
<p>Support staff to develop their skills to identify needs and motivate parents to engage in parenting and family learning programmes and deliver evidence-based programmes for parents and families</p>	<p>Provide regular training opportunities for staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Parenting Programmes</li> <li>• Connecting with Parents Motivation</li> <li>• Peep learning Together Programme</li> <li>• Solihull Approaches - Foundation</li> <li>• Eat Well Play Well</li> <li>• IT - the parents experience - An insight for practitioners</li> <li>• Engaging and supporting families with family learning</li> <li>• Bookbug</li> <li>• Infant Massage</li> <li>• Community Cook It</li> <li>• Friends for Life</li> <li>• Give Us A Break (loss &amp; bereavement)</li> </ul>	<p>Family and Parenting Team Community Link Team NHS Tayside Schools</p>	<p>Review progress annually and further develop actions based on emerging needs</p>
<p>Provide opportunities for parents and carers of children with ASN to lead and contribute to the development of inclusive school communities</p>	<p>Development of a Parent's Network</p> <p>Delivery of 'shared interest' sessions that enable parents, carers and service providers to come together to share and develop thinking that can inform service developments and planning</p>	<p>Inclusion Service</p>	<p>June 2022</p>

### Strategic Objective - Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens

**Outcome - Young people have recovered from COVID-19 and are engaging positively in education, learning and youth work activities.**

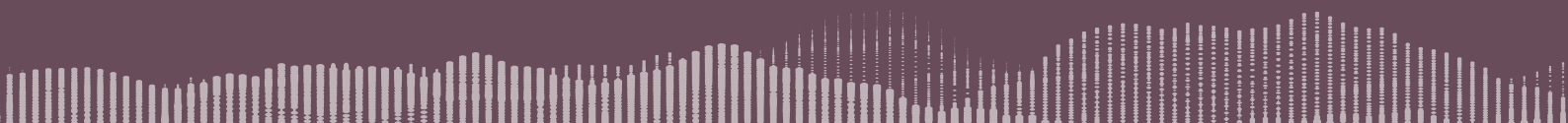
We will	How	Who	When
Re-engage young people with learning to support their educational achievement	Offer 170 per year targeted informal SQA education programmes including Duke of Edinburgh, High five, Youth Achievement and Dynamic Youth to young people who are struggling to re-engage with mainstream school or to move on to a positive destination	Services for Young People in partnership with Universal Youth Services Community Link Team	Review June 2022
	Increase support for children and young people facing barriers through delivery of a 12 month 'Relink' project to focus on reconnecting children and young people in school. Increase support through additional Covid Recovery Pupil Care and Welfare Officers in Secondary Schools	Secondary schools	June 2022
	Launch of Relationships framework and guidance, with related plan for learning and development	Educational Psychology Services (EPS) and Inclusion	June 2022



We will	How	Who	When
Help young people including care experienced young people, to fulfil their right to participate and to make positive changes in their schools and communities	<p>Support schools to achieve Rights Respecting Schools Awards and Citizenship programmes</p> <p>Ensure that practitioners at all levels are aware of their responsibilities in relation to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)</p>	<p>Children's rights officer/Schools</p> <p>Education &amp; Children's Services</p>	<p>This will be dependent on the funding availability</p> <p>Training session using material already produced to be rolled out</p> <p>This will be developed in line with partners over the winter period</p>
	<p>Support development of 5 local youth forums to engage young people to have active positive contributions within their own locality by developing a local youth strategy</p> <p>Support the recruitment and ongoing training to young people who are elected as MSYP's to ensure representation at a national level</p> <p>Ensure the voice of minority groups are represented by continued links and enabling continued participation through recovery</p>	<p>Services for Young People in partnership with Universal Youth Services</p> <p>Services for Young People</p> <p>Services for Young People</p>	<p>4 MSYP's to be elected over summer 2022</p> <p>Support continues virtually but face to face will happen in line with government guidance</p>

We will	How	Who	When
Celebrate the achievements of young people through a wider recognition of their successes	Support young people with Additional Support Needs to have representation on the national Young Ambassadors for Inclusion initiative and in local level forums	Inclusion Service	Ongoing
	In in collaboration with children and young people with additional support needs, develop opportunities for participation in planning and development of inclusive practice and mental health supports, policy and services	Inclusion Service	June 2022
	Support delivery of the Promise by working towards ending exclusions, ensuring practice and planning is informed by the voice of care experienced children and nurturing and sustaining relationships with care experienced children and their families	Education & Children's Services	June 2024
	Produce annual achievement report with anonymised case studies which will give detail of number of awards achieved to promote further engagement	Services for Young People	September 2022
	Enable young people to attend Holyrood Palace to celebrate the gaining of Duke of Edinburgh Gold award	Services for Young People	March 2022
	Enhance reporting of achievement	Schools/ Education Service	June 2023

We will	How	Who	When
Reduce the number of children experiencing barriers to learning, including as a result of Covid	Support implementation of programmes delivered through Youth Work in Education Recovery funding for third sector	YMCA PAS PKAVS Universal Youth Work providers Education Services	Performance reporting June 2022 to Youth Link
	Families empowering communities project will focus on two areas in Crieff and Letham to work collaboratively with local schools to identify and support families whose children are struggling within mainstream school. The project will initially identify the barriers and propose collaborative solutions with families and their community	Services for Young People	Post is being funded jointly between education and services for young people and is being advertised in September 2021. Annual performance reporting to identify number of families engaged
	The recruitment of two mental health practitioners to focus on improving emotional and mental wellbeing amongst young people. The practitioners will work in a flexible manner alongside youth work staff to identify those most at risk emotionally	Services for Young People	Funding has been applied for and if approve negotiation and advertisement will follow



We will	How	Who	When
Support school communities to improve outcomes for those learners at risk of exclusion.	Relationship-based approaches, such as solution oriented or restorative approaches, are used to work with children and families at risk of exclusion	Schools	Review annually
	Alternatives to exclusion are developed through enhanced partnership working in schools	Inclusion Service	Ongoing
	Attendance at secondary school Integrated Team Meeting meetings to offer advice and guidance for alternatives to exclusion including restorative practice	Services for Young People	Ongoing
	Individual work to be undertaken with young people as to the cause of their behaviour and support them to engage in readmission processes	Services for Young People	Ongoing

We will	How	Who	When
Young people have the digital skills for life, study and work as well as have opportunities to lead digital learning and, if required, can learn at home	Through the use of central funding ensure all young people have access to digital equipment	Services for Young People	Review on a quarterly basis through school and partners
	Work with young people and partners to identify social media platforms that are accessible and familiar to young people in order to share information	Services for Young People	A digital modern apprentice is to be appointed in September 2021 to engage with young people and partner agencies
	Train young people, partners and staff in the use of digital platforms to enhance learning and youth work activities	Services for Young People and Young Scot	September 2022
	Provide range of digital learning opportunities to support children, young people and their families to build confidence and learning	Community Link Team Schools	June 2024
	All schools will have achieved the Digital Schools Award	Education & Children's Service	September 2022
	Double our Virtual Campus offer and developed a fuller 'anywhere anytime' learning offer for our children and young people	Education & Children's Service	September 2022

We will	How	Who	When
Target support for young people to develop leadership skills and gain qualifications	Deliver Sports, Dance and Introductory Sports Governing Body courses	LAL Active Schools Team	Review progress annually with quarterly reporting
Provide enhanced support to those young people who have committed an offence or are at risk of offending.	Work with local police and Community Wardens to identify those young people. Build non-threatening relationships which will encourage further engagement in youth work activities	Services for Young People	This work has begun and will be reviewed in 2022
	Through dedicated staff support for those on bail supervision which will be aimed at reducing reoffending and improving life chances	Services for Young People	Ongoing

### Outcome - Young people have a positive transition from Primary to Secondary education.

We will	How	Who	When
Ensure all P7s have the opportunity for a positive transition from primary to secondary school	Support schools to deliver general transition activities across all school Locality Management Groups (LMGs). For example: class presentations, team building activities, peer mentoring and group activities	Community Link Team	Review progress annually
	Develop opportunities for enhanced transition for pupils with additional support needs. Engage parents within the transition process	Schools	Ongoing. This commenced in 2021 through the use of summer activity money and will be evaluated and further developed for the next cohort
	Work with locality youth work providers in conjunction with Community Link Teams (CLT) to deliver locality based enhanced p7 transition programmes	Services for Young People in conjunction with Universal Youth Services	

### Outcome - Children and Young people have positive school experiences.

We will	How	Who	When
Enabling Parents/carers to support their children's learning experiences	Support parents to establish peer homework clubs within pilot areas	Families empowering communities	These actions are part of a pilot project in Letham and Crieff funded by budget motion monies. The project actions are determined by the community and will be reported on separately.
	Explore opportunities to remove barriers to parental engagement with schools	Families empowering communities	
	Deliver outdoor education and informal education opportunities with 3 local primary schools	LAL	

### Outcome - Volunteers have appropriate skills to support third sector groups and build community capacity

We will	How	Who	When
Support Community volunteers to undertake recognised qualifications and accreditation	Provide funding to enable volunteers to access relevant training	Families Empowering Communities	Dependant on interest but each awards requires different hours to complete
	Work with PKAVS to develop an integrated learning offer for volunteers	Letham4all	
Build the capacity and numbers of formal volunteers	Provide funding to enable volunteers to access relevant training	Communities Service	March 2022
	Work with PKAVS to develop an integrated learning offer for volunteers	PKAVS	



### Strategic Objective - Developing a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy

#### Outcome - Young people to remain engaged in education and learning and progress into positive destinations and become economically active

We will	How	Who	When
Support young people into positive destinations	Embed approaches to Developing the Young Workforce and the Young Person's Guarantee and particularly the Career Education Standard and Career Management Skills	Education Service	Review progress annually
Ensure children and young people are better equipped for the world of work with the appropriate skills.	Develop 8 theme-based skills academies offering young people supported work experience along with recognised qualifications/ accreditations. (Themes are construction, mechanics, outdoors, care, interior design, enterprise, hospitality and digital technology)	Services for Young People and Local partners	Reported annually through Young Person's guarantee
	Establish 5 local job clubs across PKC to support young people through person centred planning gain and maintain a positive destination	Services for young people and Local partners	December 2021
Young people experience a Senior Phase curriculum that is personalised and creative, enabling a smooth and cohesive transition from school to a positive destination	In collaboration with the Transitions Team in Adult Social Work Services all school leavers with ASN will experience effective and comprehensive transition planning which meets their needs	Schools/ Inclusion Service/ Transitions Team	June 2022

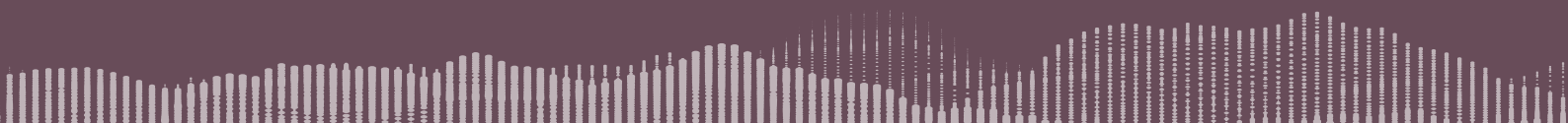
### Outcome - Adult learners have employability and digital skills to secure positive outcomes

We will	How	Who	When
Support adults into employment, training and education	Offer a blended face to face and digital learning model to support adult learners	Communities Service	Review September 2022
	Develop accredited SQA and ASDAN courses aimed at employability and progression	Adult Learning Partnership	
	Commission third sector partners to deliver employability and digital skills training to their clients		
Improve the confidence and skills of adults to engage on-line with services and employers	Identify digital hubs such as libraries for learners to access digital support and learning	Communities Service Culture Perth and Kinross (CPK) Tenant Participation Team	Review September 2022
	Provide training on digital skills and confidence		
Support people from equality protected groups to access employment opportunities	Promote initiatives through Employment Support Team and employability	Equalities Team	Review progress annually
	Targeted Recruitment options eg Modern Apprentice scheme and Employment Monitoring Data	Employment Support Team	

### Strategic Objective – Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives

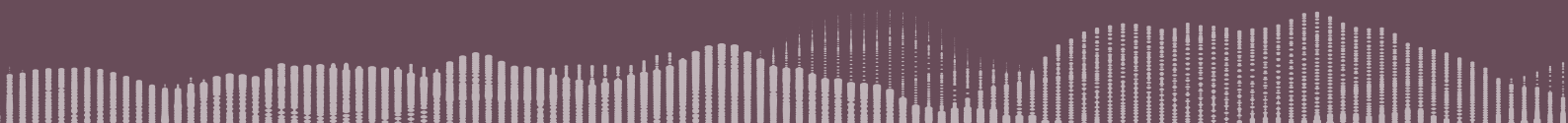
#### Outcome - Adults have improved mental and physical wellbeing, particularly those negatively impacted by Covid

We will	How	Who	When
Provide positive interventions to improve the mental wellbeing of adults	Establish annual Mental Health and wellbeing conference for communities and services	HSCP	Review September 2022
	Work with third sector providers to establish a new Hub which will provide a strong, resilient platform for positive Health and Wellbeing delivery across Perth and Kinross	HSCP (Commissioning Team and Mental Health Strategy Group)	
	Social prescribers will engage individuals and signpost to appropriate non-clinical activities, such as community groups and sports and leisure activities	Social Prescribers	
	Provide Action 15 funding	HSCP	



We will	How	Who	When
Improve the physical and mental wellbeing of those impacted by Covid lockdown or suffering from Long Covid	Support Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) to provide their “Move it or Lose it” programme across Perth and Kinross	Commissioning Team HSCP RVS	Review September 2022
	Support projects that enable people to be physically active in communities such as: ‘Stride for Life’ walking groups	Commissioning Team HSCP LAL Letham4All Church Action for the Homeless (CATH)	
	Support projects that enable people with physical disabilities to be physically active	Commissioning Team HSCP Perth and Kinross Disability Sport Sports Clubs LAL Vision PK	
	Work with Cornerstone Woodlands Wanders Club to deliver John Muir Awards to individuals with learning disabilities and/ or autism	Commissioning Team HSCP Cornerstone	
	Support Saints Community Trust to provide opportunities for physical activity for those with poor mental health	Commissioning Team HSCP Saints Community Trust	
	Support PKAVS Walled Garden project and Mindspace to provide activities which improve mental health	PKAVS Mindspace	

We will	How	Who	When
Support Older Adults to maintain physical wellbeing and reduce social isolation	Use a Participatory Budgeting approach to commission third sector groups to establish locality based: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• befriending services</li> <li>• walking and other physical activity groups</li> <li>• intergenerational projects</li> <li>• social groups eg, 'knit and natter,' arts and crafts</li> <li>• luncheon clubs</li> </ul>	Commissioning Team HSCP Stronger Communities Team LAL	March 2022
Enable people to make informed choices about social care and self-directed support (SDS)	Develop a pilot project with a third sector provider of independent SDS advice and support to provide a community brokerage model	Commissioning Team HSCP	Review September 2022
Ensure volunteers meet the needs of our client groups	Commission and implement an App to coordinate of volunteer recruitment and co-ordination managed by a third sector partner  Match volunteers based on skills, experience and geography	Commissioning Team HSCP third sector partner	Review September 2022
Reduce isolation and loneliness	Remote Responder Technology to be rolled out across all ages and client groups to allow service users to access staff, family or friends for support via a remote response	Commissioning Team HSCP	Review progress annually



We will	How	Who	When
<p>Ensure no matter where you live in Perth and Kinross you have access to high quality Care at Home</p>	<p>Review the Care at Home (CAH) process so that care/support can be delivered by your local community in partnership with a Care at Home provider, or a local volunteer or third sector organisation or a combination of all three</p> <p>Develop an Outcome Focussed Approach within Care at Home</p> <p>Deliver new models of delivery in 3 rural communities via Community Collaborative Groups led by a CAH provider, the HSCP or a Community Group</p>	<p>HSCP</p>	<p>November 2021</p>

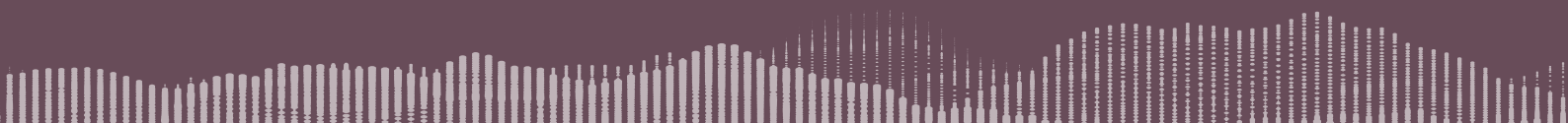
### Outcome - Children and young people have positive mental health and wellbeing and recovered from COVID-19

We will	How	Who	When
Meet the mental health needs of young people.	Continue to implement and evaluate counselling in schools for all young people over 10 years old	Inclusion Service/ Schools	Review September 2022
	Launch the local mental health pathway for children and young people	Community Link Team	June 2022
	Work with partners to support implementation of the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and fund a wide range of community support to enable children and young people to choose the support best suited to their needs	Community Link Team	June 2022
	Deliver effective support for children and young people struggling to cope with bereavement, in a timely and focused manner, including where appropriate delivery of the “Give us a break” programme	Community Link Team	June 2022
	Increase support for children and young people facing barriers as a result of mental health through delivery of person-centred approaches delivered by the 12-month ‘Relink’ project to improve children and young people’s participation in school	Community Link Team	June 2022
	Implement the Tayside ‘Connected Tayside’ emotional wellbeing strategy	Inclusion Service and Partners	June 2022
Close the participation gap for children and young people in sports and physical activities	Active schools and other schools-based initiatives	LAL Active Schools Schools	Ongoing with quarterly reviews

### Outcome - Families have recovered from food insecurity brought about by low family income and Covid

We will	How	Who	When
Provide families with activities and access to food during school holidays	Support school holiday provision which addresses food insecurities within that period	Education & Children's Service	September 2022
Ensure children in families experiencing poverty are included	Widen access to instrumental music Remove core curriculum charges in all schools Further implement targeted 'cost of the school day' actions	Education & Children's Service	Ongoing with annual review





### Strategic Objective - Creating safe and sustainable places for future generations

#### Outcome - Third sector food providers have capacity and resources to tackle food poverty and reduce food waste

We will	How	Who	When
Develop a network of community food providers to meet the needs of their local communities	Commission key third sector food providers to deliver food and wrap around services to families in need	Communities Serviv	March 2022
	Develop a third sector food network which meets the needs of local communities	Stronger Communities Team	
	Provide digital skills training and equipment to third sector groups	Communities Service	
	Provide volunteer training to third sector groups	Communities Service	

### Outcome - Vulnerable households will be able to sustain their tenancy

We will	How	Who	When
Support vulnerable households to sustain their tenancies	<p>Develop a network of community volunteers able to support digital inclusion learning activities in their communities</p> <p>Develop a hybrid approach to community engagement with a range of opportunities to participate</p> <p>Deliver a pilot project to support financial and digital inclusion</p> <p>Identify potential community digital hubs</p>	Tenant Participation Team	Ongoing with annual review
Promote wide ranging community engagement in fact finding and evaluation and develop community led activities	New Tenant and Resident Participation Strategy	Tenant Participation Team	Ongoing with annual review
Improve practice and develop resources to inform and support specific communities within Council's tenant and resident community	Making Where We Live Better group for Inclusive Living Homeless Voice Association SURE team	Tenant Participation Team	Ongoing with annual review
Work with individuals, organisations and community groups to increase tenant and resident confidence and build their capacity to identify concerns and address local community issues	Estate Based Initiatives Programme	Tenant Participation Team	Ongoing with annual review

### Outcome - Communities will have capacity to be resilient and manage their own assets

We will	How	Who	When
Enable communities to do more for themselves	Consult communities on their priorities via the Perth and Kinross Offer	PKC Innovation Team	Review September 2022
	Develop the capacity of communities to become more resilient and meet their own needs via formal and informal training and development opportunities	Stronger Communities Team	Review September 2022
	Enable formal and informal volunteering	Community Planning Partners	Ongoing with annual review
	Develop our 1% Mainstream Participatory Budgeting model to meet the needs of local communities	Communities Service	Ongoing with annual review
Support communities to own or manage their local assets	Local Asset Transfer Programme	Communities Service	Ongoing with annual review
	Promote local opportunities to communities		
Develop online resources to support community capacity	Promote the Good Governance Toolkit to groups	Stronger Communities Team	Ongoing with annual review
	Develop on-line resources to support Community Asset Transfers		
Support communities to improve and manage their outdoor spaces	Provide support, advice, funding, training and equipment to community led environmental initiative groups including path groups and bloom groups	Community Greenspace	Ongoing with annual review

Part

# The Governance and Leadership



### 4.1 Governance Framework

Perth & Kinross Council has the statutory responsibility for planning and overseeing delivery of effective CLD services.

Following the Education Scotland inspection of North Perth and Perth City in October 2018, the following improvement actions were implemented in relation to governance and leadership:

Establishment of a Stronger Communities Leadership Group of PKC Service Managers. This is chaired by the Communities Service Manager tasked with improving strategic oversight, coordination, and joint planning across CLD provision.

The Leadership Group reports progress to the Council’s Corporate Management Group and provides progress reports to Executive Officer Team, Lifelong Learning Committee and CPP Board.

A Performance Framework to measure and report on the impact of the CLD Plan was implemented.

A Self Evaluation Toolkit was developed and implemented for use by all CLD partners.



# Appendices



### Appendix A: Key Statistical Information (to be added at design stage)

#### 1.5 Impact of COVID-19 on Perth and Kinross

- Closure of community buildings and facilities meant many groups had to suspend their activities.
- Re-tasking of CLD staff to undertake essential duties in response to lockdown such as food deliveries.
- Cessation of face to face and group based adult learning activities. These were replaced by on-line classes from September 2020 onwards.
- Following a closure period from March 2020 until the summer holiday, pupils returned to school on a phased basis in August 2020, according to the plans that schools and Educational Learning Centres put in place. All pupils who could, then returned full-time on Monday 17 August 2020.
- During lockdown 1, support was provided for vulnerable children and those from key worker homes between 91 to 158 children were accommodated in children's activity centres each day. A total of 113 more vulnerable and 564 individual key worker children were supported at a childminder, partner provider or activity centre.
- Following the return to schools all schools and education learning settings had an enhanced focus on wellbeing, recognising that children and young people would have a variety of experiences and reactions to the prolonged period learning from home.
- A second period of remote learning was required in January 2021, in line with national regulations. During this period, children of key workers and more children and young people who were vulnerable continued to attend their schools to complete their remote learning. During this period, significantly more children and young people were supported to attend than during Lockdown 1; 900 children of key workers and 600 vulnerable children/young people.
- Over the course of the year, 4760 pupils and 430 staff have been required to self-isolate as a result of an in-school contact.

- There was a marked increase in the number of parents who have applied to remove their child or children from the school roll for some schooling. In June 2021, 110 children were known to be educated at home, compared with 63 children in June 2020.
- COVID-19 and lockdowns have had a negative impact on some young people in relation to their mental wellbeing, lost learning and disengagement from the school community. For young people who do not achieve a positive destination when they leave school, they may need additional support to further develop their skills and confidence and secure employment or a place in further education.
- Improved use of digital technology and enhanced access for all school age learners has been made available through national and local funding.
- Cessation of out of school activities such as sports clubs and Duke of Edinburgh award schemes.
- 12,715 welfare checks and calls to vulnerable families were carried out.
- Lockdown 1 saw an increase in demand for food via community foodbanks and larders with 1310 foodbank referrals and delivery of 364 emergency food parcels to people in need.
- 125 people needing pharmacy assistance with delivery.
- 2800 people provided with financial assistance.
- £162,578 worth of funding distributed to community group by Local Action Partnerships to provide financial support for the purchase of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment and cleaning and hygiene products to enable groups to provide healthy meals locally.
- Community groups were supported to promote local provision and ensure key messages regarding lockdown and the support available reached as many people as possible.
- There as a marked increase in mental health concerns – nationally two thirds (65%) of adults and three quarters (75%) of young people with experience of mental health problems said their mental health has gotten worse during lockdown. Over half of adults (51%) and young people (55%) without experience of mental health problems also said their mental health has got worse during this period (The Mental Health Emergency, Mind, April 2020).



### Appendix B: CLD Plan 2021-2024 Performance Framework

<p><b>Objective - Giving every child the best start in life</b></p> <p><b>Performance Measure</b></p> <p>Child poverty rates</p> <p>The proportion of children starting P1 who meet all expected developmental milestones</p> <p>Confidence levels of parents completing parenting or family learning activity</p>	<p><b>Objective - Developing educated, responsible and informed Citizens</b></p> <p><b>Performance Measure</b></p> <p>% of school leavers moving into positive destinations</p> <p>Proportion of Activity Agreements participants moving onto positive destinations</p> <p>Participation Measure by 16–19-year-olds</p> <p>Number of young people achieving awards</p> <p>% of young people referred to Services for Young People and who engaged with the service</p>	<p><b>Objective - Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy</b></p> <p><b>Performance Measure</b></p> <p>Income deprivation</p> <p>Claimant Count</p> <p>Number of unemployed people supported into work as a result of employability programmes</p> <p>Number of adult learners supported to improve their employability or digital skills</p>	<p><b>Objective - Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives</b></p> <p><b>Performance Measure</b></p> <p>Patient survey of mental health service experience and satisfaction level</p> <p>Numbers and outcomes for people supported by Social Prescribers</p> <p>Numbers of people entering and completing counselling programmes</p> <p>% of tenants satisfied with opportunities given to them to participate in the landlord's decision making</p>	<p><b>Objective - Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations</b></p> <p><b>Performance Measure</b></p> <p>Number of community groups supporting environmental improvements</p> <p>Number of volunteer hours spent on environmental projects</p> <p>Number of greenspace sites co-managed with volunteers</p> <p>Numbers of community groups supported to increase their capacity</p> <p>Number of community groups supported in the asset transfer's process</p>
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