



# LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN

## ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

October 2019





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# FOREWORD

I am very happy to be able to present this annual report on the progress that we have made during the second year of the Community Planning Partnership's Local Outcomes Improvement Plan. The plan aims to support our two strategic themes, firstly closing the poverty-related outcomes gap for children and young people who and secondly supporting older people to live in good health. As community partners we do a lot more together than these two areas but these merit special attention and focused work.

This report reflects the extensive work that has taken place over the past year to improve outcomes for people of South Ayrshire. It also shows clearly the collaboration between all of our partners in relation to our four priority areas. From the report, you will be able to see the positive impact that is having in our communities and as a Community Planning Partnership we will continue to support those who need our help the most and will continuously review what we are doing to ensure that we are getting it right.

We want to work with our communities across South Ayrshire to help make sure the places and communities we live in are better for everyone.



**Douglas Campbell**  
Leader, South Ayrshire  
Council

Chair of South Ayrshire  
Community Planning  
Partnership



# INTRODUCTION

## CONTEXT

Reducing inequalities and improving outcomes for people in South Ayrshire is a key focus of South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP).

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 has given CPPs a statutory purpose regarding public service reform at a local level. The Act requires CPPs to produce two types of plans which will provide information on how we can make improvements in our local areas – the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) and Locality Plan:

The LOIP sets out a vision and focus based on agreed local priorities where through collaborative working with our community planning partners and local communities, we can work to reduce inequalities and improve outcomes in South Ayrshire.

A locality plan is a plan to improve outcomes in that locality – in South Ayrshire locality plans will be referred to as ‘local place plans’.

This annual report highlights the progress that has been made during the second year of the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.



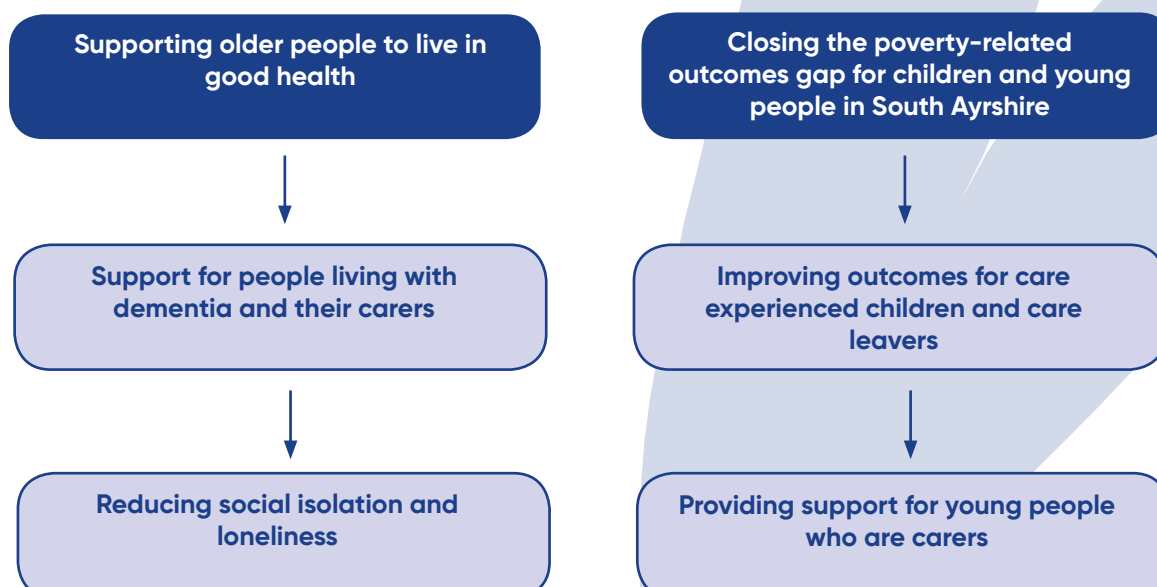
# WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED IN THE PAST YEAR?

Since the publication of our [first annual report](#) in October 2018, extensive progress has taken place to further develop our local outcomes improvement plan (LOIP).

A key piece of work that we did was to refresh our LOIP. Whilst writing our annual report last year it was recognised that the original LOIP needed refinement to ensure that it captured the specific community planning guidance issued by the Scottish Government. The refreshed LOIP has a number of changes including: information on the priority development timeline, reference to long term outcomes and how these will be achieved in the short to medium term. It was also important to recognise the wider community planning work taking place to reduce inequalities and improve outcomes and this is reflected in the [refreshed LOIP 2019](#).



A wide range of activity has taken place and is currently being progressed around the development of implementation plans to support our two strategic themes and supporting four priorities of:



The next section of this report provides an update on our activity that has taken place during the past year to develop the priority areas to support the strategic themes.

# Supporting Older People to Live in Good Health



Work on supporting older people to live in good health continues to be led through the social isolation and loneliness strategy and dementia strategy. Both these strategies are supported by implementation plans which are monitored through the health and Social Care Partnership.

Reporting on the LOIP priorities will take place via the Health and Wellbeing: Communities and Population Health Strategic Delivery Partnership.

## REDUCING SOCIAL ISOLATION AND LONELINESS

### SOCIAL ISOLATION AND LONELINESS STRATEGY 2018-2027

As highlighted in the last year's annual progress report, it was identified that a strategic co-ordinated approach was required to tackle social isolation and loneliness within South Ayrshire therefore a draft Health & Social Care Partnership strategy and implementation plan was developed by the South Ayrshire Social Isolation subgroup following wide consultation with current literature and our local communities.

This nine-year strategy will focus on older people, in alignment with the LOIP priority, for the first three year implementation plan. Consultation on the strategy and action plan included groups such as Voluntary Action South Ayrshire's Senior Action Group, and those concerned with visual impairment such as the Eye Contact Group and Macular Group. Following this consultation period, which ended at the beginning of February 2019, the draft strategy and implementation plan were approved by Strategic Planning Advisory

Group on 4 June 2019 and by the Integrated Joint Board on 26 June 2019.

The South Ayrshire Social Isolation Subgroup has now become the South Ayrshire Social Isolation and Loneliness Implementation Group and will have responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the first three year action plan to tackle these issues within our older population. The strategy and implantation plan will be launched at the South Ayrshire Older People's Conference in November 2019.





## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

The past year of this LOIP priority has seen the development of our knowledge around the issues associated with social isolation and loneliness, including the promotion of a common language. This has been presented throughout the planning structures in South Ayrshire including to our HSCP Strategic Partnership Advisory Group and onwards to the Integrated Joint Board, and also to our Community Planning Partnership's Health & Wellbeing Strategic Delivery Partnership, Community Planning Executive and Community Planning Board. Additionally, these have been presented to HSCP Locality Planning Groups

in response to social isolation and loneliness being identified as a priority for action across South Ayrshire. Other interested groups have included our Primary Care Mental Health Team, Occupational Therapy Teams, Corporate & Housing Policy Team.

The Implementation Group promotes asset-based and place-based approaches in tackling social isolation and loneliness, as utilised by Locality Planning Groups and Community Engagement Officers in particular. These include:

- Promotion of volunteering opportunities for older people (including for those with chronic loneliness) at the Older People's Conference in November 2019;
- Development of Troon's Accessible Book Group - this is an example of a service which has been co-produced to meet the needs of local older people with a sensory impairment and consideration is being given to the development of other groups throughout South Ayrshire;
- The launch of South Ayrshire Connect's Better Health Hub at Biggart Community Hospital in August 2019 – this service considers needs of local older people in terms of sensory impairment and falls prevention and will act as a signpost/referral service for those identified as experiencing social isolation and loneliness within South Ayrshire;
- Development and dissemination of a questionnaire to collect the views of local people on accessing local services by Girvan and South Carrick Locality Planning Group;
- Developing links with South Ayrshire Council Corporate & Housing Policy Team to consider housing options for older people to reduce social isolation and loneliness by influencing briefs to architects to consider these issues, in identifying and reducing loneliness by frontline teams and support services, and measuring loneliness within certain geographical areas as appropriate. There is also the potential for Housing Teams to be trained to identify and appropriately respond to social isolation and loneliness using joined up referral pathways;
- A three-month programme of activities to tackle social isolation and loneliness is active within our sheltered housing units. These activities are accessible to local communities and are promoted via services;
- Activities to support physical activity in older people will be evaluated to consider their impact on loneliness - this includes programmes delivered by South Ayrshire Council Leisure Services;
- Evaluation of 'Chatty cafe' type initiatives to consider their impact on loneliness and promoted locally as appropriate;
- Development of The Haven Cafe (Troon) to include an informal social space for older people to socialise (open September 2019);
- Police volunteers work within our sheltered housing units to maintain and make connections using technology such as smart phones and tablets; and
- Police volunteers have also been working with older people within our Troon sheltered housing units to increase their confidence to leave their homes by engaging them in gardening projects.



The Implementation Group also promotes service co-design and recognises the growing South Ayrshire Seniors Action Group as a key reference group to consult and develop plans for the delivery of services for older people, and in tackling social isolation and loneliness within this target group.

The availability of accessible and affordable transport options is key in tackling social isolation and loneliness within our local communities. South Ayrshire Community Transport provides various transport options for older people throughout South Ayrshire. Additionally, there are transport links being considered and developed within Colmonell to connect people to services and activities out with the village. A network of volunteer drivers is being developed with Voluntary Action South Ayrshire recently recruiting their first driver to support individuals to maintain or make new connections within their communities.

Similarly, technological solutions are key in supporting individuals to maintain or make new connections. Police volunteers have been working within our sheltered housing units to maintain and make connections using technology such as smart phones and tablets. Community Navigators linked to the mPower project introduce our over 65's to eHealth interventions that are available to support social connections as well as helping manage a long-term condition.

Providing a pathway from identification to reconnection is a significant action within our action plan, and will, in essence, link services, across all sectors together for the benefit of the individual. This requires several actions to come together including pathway development across all three strategic outcomes; awareness raising; training development and delivery; and kindness within organisations and communities to work together to provide a co-ordinated approach to tackling social isolation and loneliness throughout our older population in South Ayrshire. Action which has already taken place includes awareness raising/training sessions to Community Link Practitioners, Occupational Therapists, GP practice admin staff on GP re-direction (Carrick cluster) and social isolation and kindness (Ayr/Prestwick, and Troon clusters), and is planned with

South Ayrshire Council Leisure Services (September 2019). The first in a series of briefing papers for professionals has been developed by Public Health to raise awareness of the issues associated with social isolation and loneliness. Social work referral screening paperwork for first contact has been reviewed to include signposting to community services for those experiencing social isolation and loneliness or not participating within their local communities. Self-Directed Support training also provides information on tackling social isolation and loneliness, including for those experiencing chronic loneliness. However, this work requires a more co-ordinated approach and so it was agreed that a subgroup would be formed to consider pathway development at the levels of South Ayrshire and at locality/neighbourhood level.





Within Primary Care (GP Practice) settings the Community Link Practitioners see many older people referred from the Practice who may be isolated and lonely. The Link Practitioners signpost and link people to a range of activities and supports that, in part, address this. Community Navigators linked to the mPower project work to identify and remove barriers to independence by utilising effective conversations to talk about what really matters to the individual and creates a bespoke, deep-dive Wellbeing Plan and Anticipatory Care Plans as required.

New Mental Health Practitioners will shortly be working across GP Practices to support wider mental health need much of it related to

and made worse by loneliness and isolation. The Community Led Support (South Ayrshire Connect) hubs are an additional and important context for identification and support for of people living with loneliness. The signposting activity is underpinned by the [South Ayrshire LIFE resource](#) (both the web-site, help-line and shop front facility) which has identified 1200+ activities to support wider health and well-being in South Ayrshire much of it relevant to people living in social isolation



## SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA AND THEIR CARERS

### DEMENTIA STRATEGY 2018-2023

The [South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership Dementia Strategy 2018- 2023](#) and associated implementation plan was formally launched in County Buildings in October 2018. The strategy sets out:

- an ambitious program to support people living with dementia and their carers; and
- how the HSCP provides formal services for people who have been diagnosed with dementia and their carers (also in the Adult Carers Strategy).

In addition, a key section is concerned with developing South Ayrshire as a 'dementia friendly' place. This sets out nascent activity within localities and also related work carried out in a more thematic way. It also sets out activities supported by commissioned services such as Alzheimer Scotland, Crossroads, South Ayrshire Dementia Support Association and South Ayrshire Carers Centre.



## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

Since last year's annual report, a wide range of additional work has been established or is in development around our dementia friendly communities.

### DEMENTIA FRIENDLY TROON AND VILLAGES



The Dementia Friendly Troon & Villages steering group continues to develop and support a range of activity:

A Dementia Awareness Training Programme has been developed and to date approximately 30 local

businesses and community groups have participated, including The Marine Hotel, Troon Footcare, Troon & Villages Locality Planning Group, Urquhart Optician and a range of local shops and cafes.

A drop-in training session has now been established at The Haven Community café in Troon on the third Monday of each month from 5.30pm, where individuals, groups, organisations and local businesses can drop in for an hour long workshop.



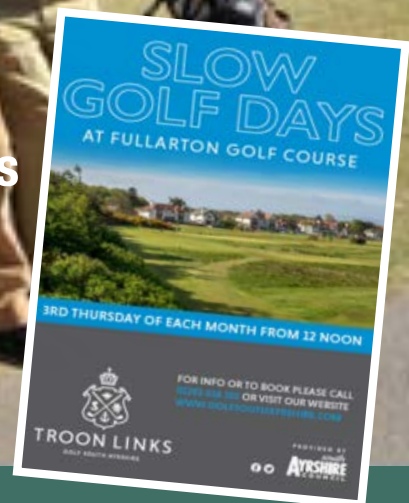
“ the training was a real eye-opener for us in the café about the do's and don'ts associated with the condition and the effect that it has on spatial awareness - it was also good to properly understand how to escalate any concerns that we have about a customer with the local mental health teams. I would recommend these sessions thoroughly ”







## **Dementia Friendly Troon & Villages Relaxed Golf at Portland Golf Club and South Ayrshire Councils Relaxed Golf at Fullarton Golf Course.**



The steering group continues to work in partnership with Troon & Villages Locality Planning and Alzheimer Scotland to establish a Dementia Friendly Allotment and 'Howff' within the Allotments at Fullarton Woods in Troon. The plan is to host a range of activities and volunteer days here, providing an outdoor space for people living with dementia and their families and carers to enjoy. A small working party took place at the allotment to raise awareness and help progress the plot. This went well and we hope to arrange another one in the coming months to encourage new volunteers to join the project.

The steering group continues to promote Alzheimer Scotland Activity Programme locally, for example:

- Dementia Friendly Troon & Villages Reminiscence Afternoon at Church of Nazarene Troon and Music & More afternoon; and
- Dementia Friendly Dog Walk from 'GiveaDogaBone' Troon.







Dementia Friendly Prestwick continues to support people with dementia, and their families/carers, in Prestwick to be included and remain part of their community for as long as possible. This is achieved through raising awareness of dementia locally, in order to reduce stigma and provide education and advice to local residents and businesses.

The Dementia Friendly Steering Group has produced an Impact Report which provides a comprehensive update on the work of Dementia Friendly and the impact that it has had on the local community during the past 3 years. The Dementia Friendly Prestwick Steering Group continues to develop and support a range of activity and a snapshot of the wide range of activity:



## The very successful dementia friendly Prestwick continues with relaxed screenings of classic films.



The weekly dementia friendly walks continue as part of 'Paths For All' Health Walk programme. Walks can take either 30mins or 1 hour and this is followed by tea and coffee in the Parkstone Hotel in Prestwick.

The Steering Group were much encouraged by the visit of Russell Grant, Strictly Come Dancing Celebrity Dancer and Dementia Ambassador who supported both the Dementia Walk and the Sainsbury's work. He also linked local volunteers into a Scotland wide Dance for Your Life event in Edinburgh.



As highlighted in last year's report, Sainsbury's Supermarket in Prestwick launched a relaxed shopping lane to support people who need a bit of extra time or support at the checkout. Sainsbury's plan to continue the relaxed lane initiative and will continue to work with Dementia Friendly Prestwick.



## Film Event with Friends of Broadway

Prestwick Golf Club hosted a special showing of the locally based feature film Tommy's Honour with its Director Jason Connery in attendance. This gave a great opportunity to place dementia issues into a wider context.

*'I am very deeply moved that Tommy's Honour will be shown in Prestwick and in some way helping to not only raise awareness but also raise money to fight this pernicious disease'.*

Jason Connery, Director of Tommy's Honour



## Launch of Dementia Friendly Hotel Room in Carlton Hotel

After a period of development involving members of Dementia Friendly Prestwick Steering Group the first Dementia Friendly Hotel room in Scotland was launched officially in June 2019.



## Dementia Friendly Promenade

Following on from the successful walk, Dementia Friendly Prestwick was successful in bidding to the Walking for Health Fund administered by Paths for All to develop the Prestwick Promenade as the first dementia friendly promenade in Scotland. This has then led to public consultation regarding the potential physical changes that may be made to the promenade.



### DEMENTIA FRIENDLY PUTTING

Opening by: Cllr Hugh Hunter  
Friday 26 May: 2pm until 4pm  
Adjacent to Prestwick Prom

Putting can be enjoyed by anyone living with dementia or experiencing difficulties with their memory, including their families and friends. All are welcome; people who can attend independently and/or for those unable to do so should come with a companion who can take responsibility for them and share the enjoyment. Entry free, donations to support dementia friendly putting welcome.

Weather Check: 07471 914 725



## Trishaw - Cycling for everyone

There are now regular opportunities for people to experience a trip on the Promenade on a Trishaw.



### Tri-shaw rides

Sunday 9th June  
Prestwick Seafront  
Rides from noon - 4pm



Rendezvous by Queen's Drive  
This is where we meet





## Dementia Friendly Activity in Ayr

Dementia related activity in Ayr is in its early stages however plans are progressing to develop a co-ordinated approach including the development of a:

- local group linked to the Locality Planning Group to lead the work and progress action;
- training and awareness raising plan;
- dementia friendly Newmarket Street;
- work plan with Marks and Spencers which is based in Ayr High Street; and
- work plan with Ayrshire Central Shopping Mall.

## Dementia Friendly Activity in Maybole

In Maybole a local group received money through Participatory Budgeting to:

- Carry out a local needs assessment;
- The development of community Dementia Friendly community packs; and
- Learning Disabilities Training for Trainers training for one local staff member and one volunteer to support DF communities approach.

Linking to the Locality Planning Group there is now a sub group leading on local work. There has been some initial investment in training for the local community members and the development of dementia related activity including:

- Dementia Friendly training and awareness raising;
- Work on developing North Carrick as dementia friendly community; and
- Developing a monthly carers drop in with Alzheimer's Scotland.

## Dementia Friendly Activity in Girvan

In Girvan, the process of developing dementia friendly activity has been based on formal research that has been carried out in partnership with the University of Scotland along with a wider public needs assessment. This process has informed a local plan which comprises of ten initiatives led by local community members from the Girvan Town Team comprising:

- Relaxed Golf;
- Men's Shed;
- Classic Cinema (with Milestone Church);
- Drop in Cafes at Glendoune Centre and Town House;
- Pictures to Share involving the Mckechnie and libraries;
- Business engagement regarding dementia training;
- Relaxed shopping (eg Asda);
- Transport access;
- Home Safety (with Trading Standards); and
- Intergenerational work (involving Z1 Youth Project).





# Dementia Friendly Thematic Activity

There is a range of work that is supported by a range of South Ayrshire Council services, Community Planning Partners and other local partners. These areas include:

## Leisure Services

There is a growth of leisure related 'relaxed' activity such as Relaxed Golf. In addition many of the other leisure programs (such as [Invigor8](#)) have significant users living with dementia and who benefit from being included within these core programs.



## Libraries

South Ayrshire libraries continue to offer support to people living with dementia including activities and resources (such as memory related resources) and good quality dementia related information. Staff have been trained to become 'dementia friends'. Particular initiatives supporting people with dementia include: Pictures to Share; Linger Longer; Dementia Story-telling; Reminiscence Boxes and exhibitions; and Reading Well Books.



## Trading Standards

[South Ayrshire Council](#), together with Angus Council and East Renfrewshire Council, are working to develop and evaluate a preventative approach to protect people living with dementia or cognitive impairment from financial scams, so that they can better maintain their confidence and ability to continue living independently at home.



## Ayr United Football Academy

AUFA support people living with dementia in their general activities such as Walking Football and also through their Football Memories sessions often attracting 60+ participants.



## Planning

Initial meetings have taken place to explore how dementia friendly perspectives can be used to inform planning in the South Ayrshire area

## Gaiety

The Gaiety continues to support people living with dementia within its main programme and also with its dementia friendly afternoon concerts.



## Police Scotland

Police staff have undergone a high level of training and awareness of responding sensitively to those living with dementia.

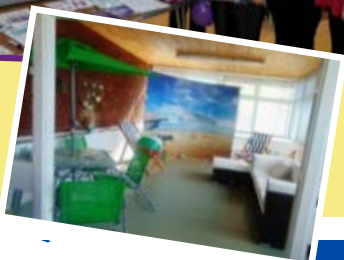


## Scottish Fire and Rescue

Scottish Fire and Rescue personnel have received training and have developed a more refined referral route system to core HSCP services following home fire safety visits.

## Other areas of activity include:

- Ayrshire has now developed a specific 'dementia friendly' section of the South Ayrshire LIFE web based resource;
- Continue to develop training within South Ayrshire delivered by both Alzheimer Scotland and NHS Ayrshire & Arran;
- The new Haven Cafe in Troon run by Belhaven Care is running dementia related activities in conjunction with Alzheimer Scotland;
- Berelands Care Home in Prestwick has now developed a dementia-orientated 'village' space within their premises;
- Nursery Court Summer House Beach Scene; and
- Reminiscence work.



## Alzheimer Scotland

Alzheimer Scotland continue to offer a wide range of training support and a dementia related activity program across South Ayrshire.



## Dementia Awareness Week June 2019

There was a programme across South Ayrshire to support awareness-raising and dementia related activities to promote dementia awareness week that took place in June 2019.

A Relaxed Tea Dance took place in Troon Concert Hall on Thursday 6th June. This was a fantastic Partnership event bringing South Ayrshire Council Sport & Leisure Team together with Dementia Friendly Troon & Villages, Dementia Friendly Prestwick, Dementia Friendly Lochwinnoch and Troon & Villages Locality Planning. The event was a great success with more than 150 people attending on the day. Prior to the event, an environmental Audit was carried out on the venue to highlight additional requirements for the day, which included dementia friendly signage.



## University of the West of Scotland

UWS students wrote a short performance piece on dementia. This performance was carried out at the launch of the dementia strategy. This was used at the Dementia Strategy launch

In addition UWS and NHS staff have now initiated a Carers Academy supporting carers in an informal way. This has been short-listed for a national award.



## Participatory Budgeting/ Decision Day Support

A range of dementia specific activities that have been funded through participatory budgeting include:

- Local access to training;
- Local access to Cognitive Stimulation;
- Dementia Friendly Communities – Prestwick/Troon (including cinema, dementia allotment/howff);
- Arts based activity (musical/poetry group, Little Art School, Musical Memories);
- Library based story telling – Living Well through Stories; and
- Language based work (Lingo Flamingo) – facilitated foreign language learning.





# CLOSING THE POVERTY RELATED OUTCOMES GAP FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Closing the poverty related outcomes gap for children and young people, and in particular, action on improving outcomes for care experienced children and care leavers, and young people who are carers, continues to be led through the work of the South Ayrshire's Corporate Parenting Plan, Champions Board Initiative, Young Carers Implementation Group and the overarching Children's Services plan – all of which report to the Children's Services Strategic Delivery Partnership.

## Children's Services Plan 2017-2020

The [Children's Services Plan](#) is designed for young people –it shows how young people will be treated in South Ayrshire. What the plan means for a young person:

- Giving a young person the best start in life – making South Ayrshire the best place to grow up;
- Treating a young person equally no matter their background;
- Children and young people who are looked after or leaving care will be supported to be the best they can be;
- Opportunities to be healthy - both mentally and physically; and
- A young person's voice will be heard.

Further information on the progress of the Children's Services plan can be found in the [annual report for the period 2018/2019](#).





# IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR CARE EXPERIENCED CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS

## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

Since last year's annual report, a wide range of additional work has been established around **improving outcomes for care experienced children and care leavers**.

### South Ayrshire Corporate Parenting Plan 2018-

#### South Ayrshire Corporate Parenting Plan

was approved by the Integration Joint Board in December 2018 and contained an implementation plan to take forward the plan's action as defined through its strategic objectives. The Corporate Parenting Plan has been developed by South Ayrshire Corporate Parenting Group which is made up of representatives from Community Planning Partners and third sector organisations. Within the plan, the HSCP and Community Planning Partners intend to empower and enable care experienced children and young people in South Ayrshire to achieve their potential and to make improvements needed to make the difference for them. Progress to date against the implementation plan includes the following highlights:

The Improving Housing Outcomes for Young Care Leavers group have continued to deliver and improve and monitor the agreed action plan. The HSCP are working to review the commission framework/housing support contracts to support the needs of young care leavers transitioning into permanent housing.

- The Children's 1st Project to support kinship carers is now established;
- Ensuring advocacy support for young people in care and leaving care is a priority;
- A virtual School Head Teacher has been appointed and will lead a team of Education Welfare Officers to track and monitor the progress and achievements of care experienced children and young people;

- A Leadership Event was held in May 2019 which brought together the Council's Leadership team to discuss South Ayrshire Council becoming a trauma informed workforce. Housing Options and Support have been identified as the pilot service to become fully trauma informed through policy and practice;
- Care experienced young people who wish to complete a Modern Apprenticeship (MA) will be supported to complete a pre-apprenticeship placement where their competency will be assessed and following completion a modern apprenticeship will be ring-fenced. During the period 2018/2019 five care experienced young people started modern apprenticeships; and
- All children's houses within South Ayrshire now have a locality Police Officer identified to carry out the role as single point of contact. Officers have been carrying out regular visits to each of the houses in order to support staff and also build relationships with the young people residing within.

Further detailed information on progress can be found [here](#).

to grow in strength and the team continue to develop the co-production model of participation supporting care experienced young people. The Access to Leisure Scheme was launched in May 2018 as highlighted in last year's

report. Providing free access to leisure for care experienced young children and care leavers has been a real success with the latest figures showing that 356 memberships have been issued with a further 13 children joining the Learn 2 swim/gymnastics/drive programmes. The Champions Board in partnership with CELCIS, through the help of teachers and young people, have developed a project which aims to ensure that care experienced young people at school feel listened to and included. Further information can be found on the CELCIS learning platform [here](#).



Activity over the past year includes:

- Working in partnership with North Ayrshire Corporate Parenting Officer and Connecting Voices East Ayrshire to support Ayrshire College in the following:
  - Participation in Ayrshire College Corporate Parenting Steering Group;
  - Developing and delivery training to key staff; and
  - Organising and promoting care experience week at an Ayr Campus event.
- Hosting quarterly show case events attracting over 100 community planning partners at each event. In addition, the facilitation of 'one off' events such as Care Day celebrations 2019;
- The establishment of a quarterly Champions Board steering group to action changes at a strategic level;
- The delivery of corporate parenting awareness raising sessions – this continues to have a powerful impact on participants;
- Regular meetings of the Champions Board with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People. These meetings create a deeper understanding of the issues care experienced young people face;
- A series of multiple participation groups based

in different locations and settings in South Ayrshire including Girvan, Ayr, Belmont Academy, South Ayrshire wide Care Experience Group (for people who have left care), Carrick Academy and South Ayrshire Children's Houses. This activity has enabled the Champions Board to regularly engage with 67 young people aged 8 to 28

years old over a 1 month period. The average age of young people taking part in participation groups is 14 years and the average age of care leavers who regularly take part in group work activity is 22 years;

- Most of the young people who take part in group activity live in is foster care (37 young people) followed by Kinship Care (24 young people). This mirrors South Ayrshire's overall care population;
- The last year has seen increased involvement from young people living in South Ayrshire who are looked after by another local authority and our work within schools has greatly contributed to this rise as has word of mouth between foster carers;
- An understanding that being part of a group does not suit everyone therefore the development of opportunities to link in with young people individually. This opportunity has mainly grown in response to requests from practitioners who have attended awareness raising sessions and who see the benefit of the mentoring relationships that Participation Assistants can nurture;
- Other people prefer to connect through social media and Facebook reach now extends to 4,000 with 1,600 post engagements. The Champions Board provide weekly 'Motivational Monday' posts and updates on activity;
- A recognition that some young people want to join in ad hoc opportunities based around specific activities and various activities have been hosted including football, hill walking, photography and film-making; and
- Through the small grants activity the distribution of £11,440.16 to 53 young people with care experience. The average age of beneficiaries is 17 years old. The small grant scheme offered an opening to develop new relationships with more young people and adults working across health and social care.





## PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE CARERS

### WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

Since last year's annual report, a wide range of additional work has been established or is in development around **supporting young carers**. Action on providing support for young people who are carers continues to be led by South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership via the Young Carers Implementation Group with support from South Ayrshire Carers Centre.

### Statutory Duty to Young Carers through Team Around the Child

The Carers Scotland Act places a statutory duty on South Ayrshire Council and the HSCP to offer support to all young carers, up to the age of 18 years old, to complete a Young Carers Statement (YCS). This statement gives the young person an opportunity to consider their caring role with a trusted adult and to think through what supports they may require to enable them to continue to care (if that is appropriate) but also have a full life as a child living in South Ayrshire. This support person would likely be some from the team around

the child group and could be a School Nurse, Teacher, Young Person Support Team worker or Social Worker (if they have one) – whoever the young person believes would be most helpful in supporting the completion of the statement. Following the principles of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC), South Ayrshire Children's Services have implemented the 'Team Around The Child' approach to ensure all children, including those who are young carers, receive the optimal level of support to support their wellbeing.

### Authorisation Cards for Young Carers

There is work ongoing at a national, Ayrshire-wide and local levels to support young carers in relation to information and support and the possible provision of authorisation cards for young carers:

- Nationally this is being considered around the Community Pharmacy supporting young carers, for example providing information on medications for the 'cared for' person;
- Locally, consideration is being given within broader GP practice developments so that carers and young carers are recognised and linked to key support mechanism – a 'team around the practice' including GPs and a range of other clinical and care support will become an important support for all carers. Any work will be sensitive to the needs of young carers but also consideration of the wishes of the 'cared for' person and the need to main confidentiality; and
- Within NHS acute settings there are seconded workers from local Carer Centres to support the carers and young carers of patients at the point of (or just before) discharge so that they have sufficient supports in place.

## Young Carers Package of Non-Cash Benefits and Young Carer Grant

Young Scot launched the Young Carers Package of Non-Cash Benefits and Young Carer Grant in June 2019 for young carers aged 11-18. This explicitly links to the national young scot card. Sign up in South Ayrshire to the package has been slow and to remedy this, an officer from our Community Learning and Development Team will be working with the National Lead of the Young Carers package to promote the package and some of the opportunities available through it.

As part of the new young carer element to the Young Scot Card, the Scottish Government is working with Young Scot to design a card holder sleeve that has a young carer symbol. Young carers could choose to use their card out of the sleeve as normal or

keep it in the sleeve as an identification tool.

Staff from South Ayrshire Council (Community Learning and Development Team) have met with the Young Carers Centre youth groups to inform young carers of the new young carer element to the Young Scot Card and will work with them to create a 'young carers information online page' which will be part of the local South Ayrshire Young Scot website. There is also an opportunity via the young scot package to arrange first aid training for a group of young carers and this will be arranged.



## Access to Leisure for Young Carers

HSCP and South Ayrshire Council Sport and Leisure Officers have worked in partnership to finalise proposals for free access to leisure for young carers in South Ayrshire. The proposal will allow any young carer (aged 8 to 18 years, or 18 years and in full time education) who is registered with South Ayrshire Carers Centre to sign up to South Ayrshire Council's Sport and Leisure 'Active8' scheme. This will be formally launched on 1st November 2019.



## Young Carers Website

The young carers [website](#) has been refreshed and updated and provides a range of information including what a young carer may help someone with, information on the young carers statement and where to access support.

## Young Carers Service

South Ayrshire Carers Centre provide a [Young Carers Service](#) for:  
time out and fun | information and support |  
someone to talk to | advice.

There is also the opportunity for young carers to:  
meet other young people | try new activities | learn  
new skills | catch up with schoolwork.







## (Special Thanks and Recognition) September 2019

These awards recognise and highlight the outstanding work of volunteers who are making a real difference in our communities. Council employees had the opportunity to nominate individuals and teams from across South Ayrshire who they felt really stood out for their positive contribution to their local community. Over 90 nominations were received and South Ayrshire Young Carers were finalists in the Outstanding Team category:

***'The young carers have a vital role in raising awareness of the Young Carers Act. They take part in a range of workshops and consultations, sharing their experience and discussing how the act will be implemented locally.'***

***'They have also helped to develop the South Ayrshire Young Carers Strategy, attending numerous consultation events to ensure the views and values of young carers in South Ayrshire are represented. At a national level, one of the group members was recently elected as a member of the Scottish Youth Parliament for Carers Trust Scotland.'***

***'This group dedicates so much time to their families and are strong amazing advocates for other young carers'.***

### Children and Families Disability Team

The Children and Families Disability Team provides support to siblings affected by the disability of a brother or sister. This support has included group work activities and also access to short breaks from their caring responsibilities through the Day Care Link service. Day Care Link uses local registered child care services to provide short breaks (including afterschool and/or holiday support) to children with or affected by disability. This may include access to a local childminder, out of school service and/or a sitter service. Where possible, services are within the child's local community and provide an opportunity for the children to enjoy social experiences and have time out from their caring role.

With all supports provided by the Children and Families Disability Team, the primary

referral is for the child with a disability. Using the GIRFEC model of assessment, the wider family's needs are considered within this. Such assessments can sometimes identify the need for siblings to either have more time with their parents (by provision of short breaks to child with a disability) or to provide social experiences within the community to the 'young carer'.

There is an established framework for this type of support within the Day Care Link service and it may be worthwhile to further develop this model of support in the future.



# SUPPORTING WIDER WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

As highlighted in last year's report there is already a broad range of community planning work underway focused on priorities which will reduce inequalities and improve outcomes which complement the LOIP plan. Much of this work is developed through the Strategic Delivery Partnerships and Community Planning partners. In this year's annual report we would like to focus on the three following areas: Child Poverty, Holiday Meals and Free Access to Sanitary Products - all of which contribute to the priorities within this LOIP.

## Child Poverty

The Scottish Government, through the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 (the Act), set out highly ambitious poverty mitigating related targets to be achieved by Community Planning Partnerships by 2030, with interim targets set for 2023. The key drivers that impact on child poverty have been stated within the Act's Delivery Plan as:

- Income from employment;
- Cost of living; and
- Income from social security and benefits in kind.

The South Ayrshire Local Child Poverty Action Report was the first in Scotland to be published following approval by the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) on 1st November 2018. Since the publication of the first Plan in November 2018, a number of strategic steps and actions have been taken forward by the CPP to prevent and mitigate child poverty within South Ayrshire. An example of some of these case studies can be found in the updated [Local Child Poverty Action Plan Report 2019](#)



## Holiday Meals

South Ayrshire Council and its partners extended the project of free **Holiday Lunches** this summer. Schools in Troon, Maybole, North Ayr and Girvan provided lunches throughout the 7 week summer holiday period. Children were able to go to the schools in Troon and Maybole on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 12 noon and 2pm to enjoy a free healthy lunch and participate in fun activities run by volunteer parents and Council staff. In Girvan, with partners Glendoune Community Association, Girvan Youth Trust and the Community Sports Hub, the service ran for four days per week. In North Ayr the initiative continued to run five days a week in partnership with 10:10 Trust and a number of other groups. We have also extended the service to provide ambient food at leisure centres for children using their services. Almost **37000** holiday lunches have been provided since the start of the initiative in 2017.







[south-ayrshire.gov.uk/wee-white-bag](https://south-ayrshire.gov.uk/wee-white-bag)



South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership is supporting the Scottish Government's commitment of aiming to increase the number and range of places where **free** sanitary products are available for anyone who menstruates.

Funding has been made available for the purchase and supply of a range of products and these are already available from a range of locations in South Ayrshire including all our schools, Council services and from third sector organisations. Over the summer months of 2019, distribution locations increased to over 65 locations across South Ayrshire to allow for wider public access, including libraries, housing offices, council buildings, community centres, activity centres, swimming pools, public conveniences and Customer Service Centres. We will continue to work with our partners to extend the distribution locations.

A [webpage](#) has been created allowing members of the public to see where products can be easily accessed.

To remove the risk of any form of stigma, and to encourage the uptake of the free sanitary products available, the distribution has been aided by the branding of the '**The Wee White Bag**'. This branding is aimed at breaking down barriers and addressing the overarching gender equality and dignity issues that affect everyone who menstruates, regardless of their income. Members of the public will be able to access free products in public accessible toilets or at display areas featuring the '**Wee White Bag**' symbol. Each '**Wee White Bag**' contains a small supply of sanitary products. South Ayrshire residents are being encouraged to take what they need, when they need it, as being able to access sanitary products is fundamental to equality, dignity and rights for all people who menstruate.



## LOCAL PLACE PLANNING

Within South Ayrshire, the council has adopted a corporate approach to placemaking and this will be used in the development of 'place plans' supported by the 'Place Principle' which has been developed by the Scottish Government in conjunction with the Improvement Service. As the approach is developed, opportunities will be explored to align services with places in response to local priorities and South Ayrshire Council will work closely with key partners to ensure that plans are delivered collaboratively and efficiently.

In line with our Local Outcomes Improvement Plan, the two pilot areas for these local place plans in South Ayrshire are Girvan and Ayr North. Existing data identifies these two areas as areas where poorer outcomes are experienced and where targeted work should take place to support outcome improvement. There is already a broad range of collaborative work undertaken within both of these areas, and this has been further developed this year, by engaging a range of groups within each area in completing the Place Standard Toolkit. Feedback from undertaking this process with

local communities has been very positive, and the outcomes of this exercise will inform the development and delivery of place plans in these two pilot areas.







## WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

Innovation and collaboration is a key factor in the development of action at both strategic and community levels and is reflected throughout this annual progress report which demonstrates the commitment of our community planning partners, third sector agencies and local communities to reduce inequalities and improve outcomes for people living in South Ayrshire.

Dementia friendly communities continue to excel demonstrating the commitment to partnership working and the valuable contribution made by volunteers within the community.

An innovative social isolation and loneliness implementation plan will reduce the stigma associated with social isolation and loneliness.

The nomination of Young Carers at the recent STAR awards exemplifies their positive contribution to our local communities ensuring that the views and values of young carers are heard in relation to the Young Carers Act.

Our Champions Board continues to hold Corporate Parents to account and ensure that services are tailored and responsive of the needs of care experienced young people.

# NEXT STEPS FOR SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This section provides information on the main areas of focus for the next 12 months.

## Reducing social isolation and loneliness

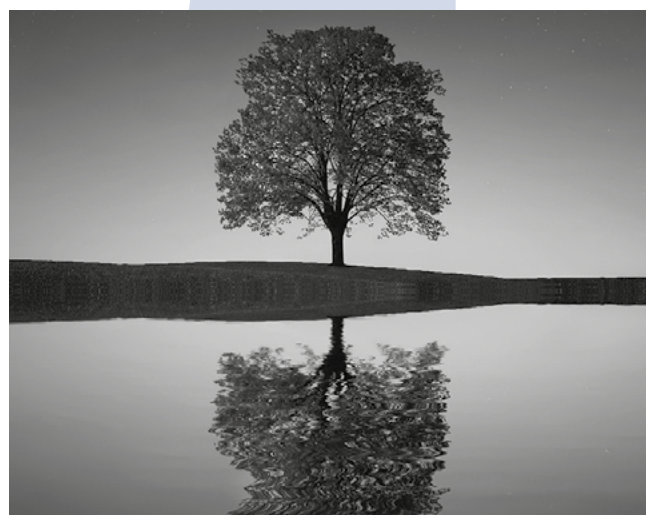
The Implementation Group recognises that there are three main actions to be taken forward during 2019-20 and 2020-2021:

- Information and campaign development;
- Development of pathway from identification to reconnection at South Ayrshire and locality/neighbourhood levels; and
- Development and delivery of training/awareness raising.

It has been agreed that three subgroups will be formed around these actions and report to the Implementation Group. Additional resource to support these actions will come from Integrated Care Funding which will provide a post, employed by Voluntary Action South Ayrshire but reporting to the Implementation Group, from September 2019 to March 2020.

Work has commenced on performance management to support our implementation plan. Pentana will be used to monitor

progress of actions and discussion is underway to identify suitable performance indicators. Social isolation and loneliness is not routinely measured within our population, however the addition of question to measure loneliness have been added to two national surveys: The Scottish Health Survey and The Scottish Household Survey. Locally, we have added questions to our SA1000 Quality of Life Questionnaire and initial results from this should be available within the next few months.



## Support for people living with dementia and their carers

The HSCP has allocated £15,000 from the Integrated Care Fund for 2019/20 to further consolidate, strengthen and grow the dementia friendly work across South Ayrshire. This will fund a part time post hosted in a local 3rd Sector Dementia related organisation and the post will have a key role in broadening the work, liaising with key sectors and building up local volunteer capacity.





## Improving outcomes for care experienced children and care leavers

Focus for the Champions Board over the next year includes:

- Care proof policy and practice across South Ayrshire Council and Health and Social Care Partnership;
- Finalise Corporate Parenting Training;
- Extend Corporate Parenting Champions;
- Develop champions boards in another 2 secondary schools in South Ayrshire; and
- Continue to contribute to National Practice Root and Branch review of Care and Participation network.

## Young Carers

As previously highlighted sign up in South Ayrshire to the Young Scot Young Carers package has been slow and to remedy this, an officer from our Community Learning and Development Team will be working with the National Lead of the Young Carers package to promote the package and some of the opportunities available through it with young carers.


Work is underway to engage with young carers by the Children and Disability Team to produce a specific young carer's tool which is currently being tested.

Authorisation cards for young carers will be considered as part of ongoing national and local work as highlighted in the young carer's update.



## COMMUNITIES REFERENCE GROUP

We are going to set up a Communities Reference Group. This group will comprise community representatives from each of our Strategic Delivery Partnerships and Voluntary Action South Ayrshire and will inform our process of widening community engagement within a community planning setting. One of the first areas of focus for this group will be to organise a 'Communities Conference' to provide local communities with an update on progress in relation to our LOIP and wider community activity.



## Monitoring and Review

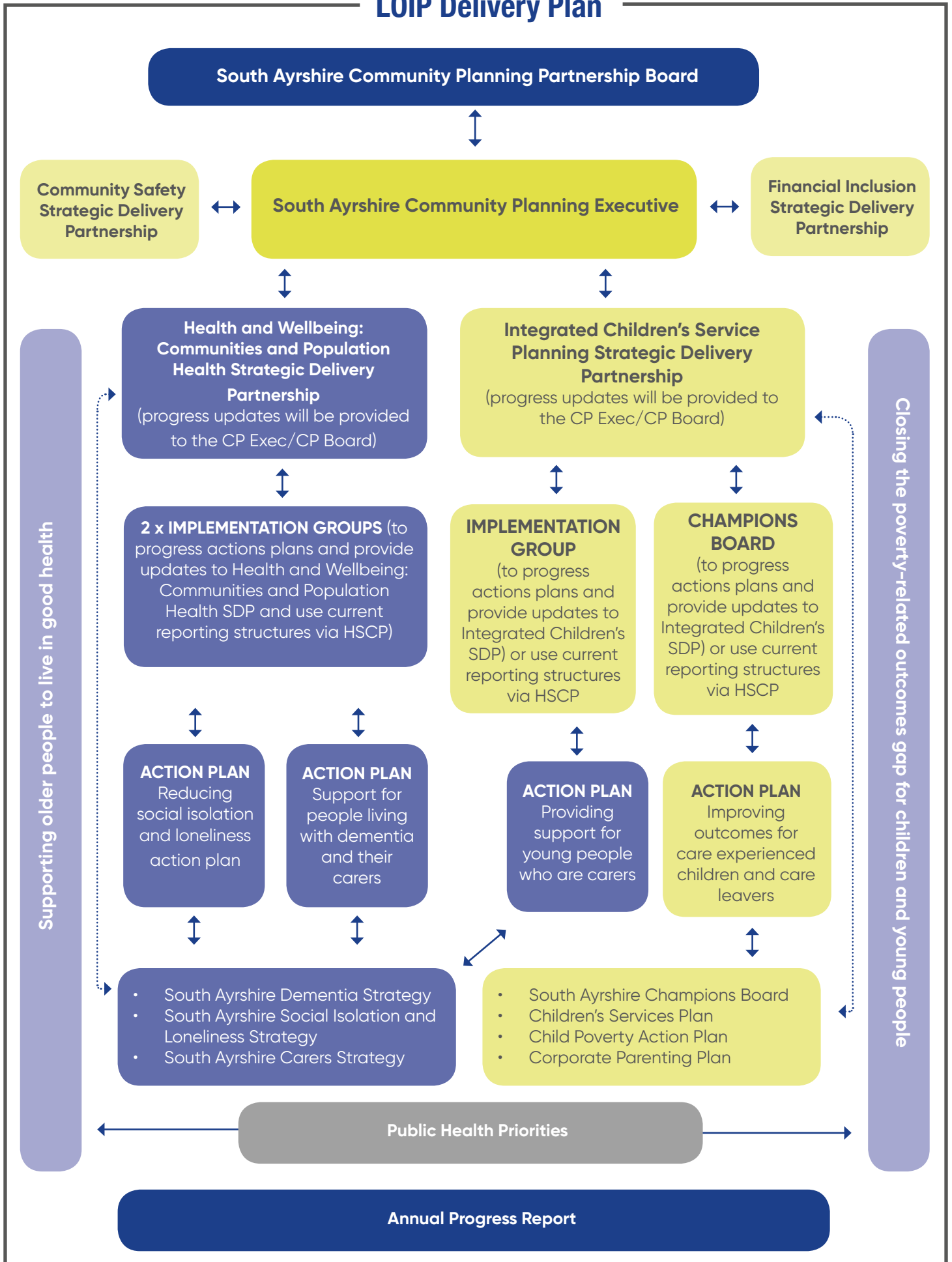
The flowchart on the next page outlines the delivery plan which is in place to support the implementation of the LOIP and the mechanism to deliver the 4 priority areas of:

- reducing social isolation and loneliness;
- supporting people living with dementia and their carers;
- improving outcomes for care experienced children and care leavers; and
- providing support for young people who are carers.

Actions plans have been developed and these will be overseen by implementation groups that will lead on activity and performance management. These strategic themes are being taken forward by our Integrated Children's Services Strategic Delivery Partnership and South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership. Performance will be monitored through Pentana.



# LOIP Delivery Plan



This information can be made available, on request, in braille, large print or audio format and can be translated into a range of languages. Contact details are provided below.

درخواست کرنے پر یہ معلومات شریکا افراد کے لئے آہلئے حروف، بڑے حروف یا لکڑی میں مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں اور اسکا مختلف زبانوں میں ترجمہ بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ رابطہ کی تفصیلات نیچے فراہم کی گئی ہیں۔

本信息可应要求提供盲文，大字印刷或音频格式，以及可翻译成多种语言。以下是详细联系方式。

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ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਮਿਲ, ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸ਼ਰਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਡਾਟ ਵਰਗੀ ਲਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ, ਅਤੇ ਇਹਦਾ ਡਰਸਮਾ ਹੋਰ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

Niniejsze informacje mogą zostać udostępnione na życzenie w alfabecie Braille'a, w druku powiększonym lub w formacie audio oraz mogą zostać przetłumaczone na wiele języków obcych. Dane kontaktowe znajdują się poniżej.

Faodar am fiosrachadh seo fhaighinn, le bantas, ann am braille, clò mòr no clàr fuaim agus tha a comasach eadar-theangachadh gu grunn chànanan. Tha fiosrachadh gu h-ìosal mu bhith a' cur fios a-steach.

**South Ayrshire Council**  
**Customer Contact Centre**  
**03001230900**