Introduction

The way we plan for place is changing. Traditionally, planning for places in Angus has been carried out with services and partners thinking about their own areas of expertise.

By introducing locality plans we want to encourage a more collective and co-ordinated way of thinking about how we improve outcomes in an area, whether they relate to the economy, people or the physical place.
A vision for the Forfar & District and Kirriemuir & Dean Locality

Our vision for the Forfar and Kirriemuir locality is about ‘Working together for Forfar and Kirriemuir’. Specifically:

**Economy** – The Forfar & District and Kirriemuir & Dean locality (Hereafter referred to as Forfar and Kirriemuir locality) maximises the potential of its unique assets to grow the local economy. Opportunities for business growth are successfully provided and local well-paid employment is developed and sustained. It is a competitive location for employers and a ‘go to’ destination for visitors.

**People** – Children and families in Forfar and Kirriemuir are supported to develop resilience in dealing with others and are encouraged to understand and tolerate difference. Families recognise and support other families in need, often through small but highly-valued contributions to improving the lives of others. Schools are focused on raising the attainment and achievement of all children and young people. Adults and older people are placed at the centre of service planning and delivery to achieve person-centred outcomes.

**Place** – The Forfar and Kirriemuir locality is a desirable place to live, work and visit. Town centres are vibrant, villages are welcoming and value is placed on the spectacular rural landscape and natural environment. It is a connected place, both physically and digitally and has excellent potential for growth.
Working Together for Forfar and Kirriemuir

Over the last two years we have been working to ensure that future plans for the locality are built on evidence as well as contributions from partners, services and communities. By working together will can prioritise what we do and take action to get the best outcomes. We all have a contribution to make if we are to make the vision a reality.

The tree diagram below highlights the statutory planning functions of all partners. All too often these plans are prepared in isolation of each other. By planning at locality level we can all see the interconnections between the relevant plans and be better at joining up service delivery. With an ever-reducing budget it is important that we all get this right, minimise cost and further reduce duplication, while still providing vital services.

Communities have a strong part to play. Locality events and charrettes have helped to highlight what is important to people living in the Forfar and Kirriemuir locality. Communities are leading the way in taking action to deliver their own priorities. Whether it be a parent, business, developers’ forum, or indeed an active community group, we all have our part to play.
Working Together for Forfar and Kirriemuir

LOCAL OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Arbroath Locality Plan
Brechin/Montrose Locality Plan
Carnoustie/Monifieth/Sidlaw Locality Plan
Forfar/Kirriemuir Locality Plan

OUR COMMUNITIES IN ANGUS
Working Together for Forfar and Kirriemuir

Forfar

Population Statistics

- **15,811**
  - Forfar & District Ward
  - Source: National Records of Scotland, 2016 projection
- **116,900**
  - Angus
  - Source: National Records of Scotland, mid 2015 estimate

- **7,686**
  - Male
- **8,125**
  - Female

- **49%**
  - Male
- **51%**
  - Female

- **16%**
  - Children

- **60%**
  - Working Age
- **24%**
  - Pensionable Age

Ethnicity

- White Scottish 91.1%
- White other British 4.6%
- White Irish 0.4%
- White Polish 1.2%
- White Other 1.5%
- Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British 0.7%
- Other Ethnic Groups 0.5%

Education:

Positive Destinations by School

- Forfar Academy 93.6%
- Angus Average 94.2%

SIMD16:

- 1,890 People income deprived and receiving certain benefits/tax credits
- 950 Working age people employment deprived and receiving certain benefits

Free School Meals

- **11.0%**
  - Angus Average
- **11.9%**
  - Forfar Academy

Exam Results 2016, S5

- 52.3%
  - Angus 1+ Higher
- 33.1%
  - Forfar Academy 1+ Higher
- 54.9%
  - Angus 3+ Higher
- 16%
  - Forfar Academy 3+ Higher
- 34.9%
  - Angus 5+ Higher
- 17.4%
  - Forfar Academy 5+ Higher

General Health

- Very Good 49%
- Good 33%
- Fair 13%
- Bad 4%
- Very Bad 1%

Housing

- **58.7%**
  - Owned
- **30.9%**
  - Council or Social Housing
- **10.5%**
  - Private or Other Rented


Source: Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016, Forfar & District Ward.
Kirriemuir

Population Statistics

- Kirriemuir & Dean Ward: 9,933
- Angus Average: 4830
- 50% Male
- 15% Children
- 50% Female
- 60% Working Age
- 24% Pensionable Age

Source: National Records of Scotland, 2016 projection
Source: Angus Council, March 2016 census

Ethnicity

- White Scottish: 88.8%
- White other British: 8.3%
- White Irish: 0.4%
- White Polish: 0.4%
- Other Ethnic Groups: 0.5%
- Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British: 0.6%

Source: Census 2011

Education:
Positive Destinations by School

- Websters High School: 95.3%
- Angus Average: 94.2%

Source: Angus Council, 2014/15

SIMD16:

- People income deprived and receiving certain benefits/tax credits: 930
- Working age people employment deprived and receiving certain benefits: 510

Source: Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016, Kirriemuir & Dean Ward

Free School Meals

- Angus Average: 11.0%
- Websters High School: 10.7%

Source: Angus Council, March 2016 census

Exam Results 2016, S5

- Angus: 52.3%
- Websters High School: 33.1%
- Angus: 60.8%
- Websters High School: 38.4%
- Angus: 24%
- Websters High School: 16%

Source: SQA National, Diet 2016

General Health

- Very Good: 50%
- Good: 34%
- Fair: 12%
- Bad: 3%
- Very Bad: 1%

Source: Census 2011

Housing

- Owned: 58.7%
- Council or Social Housing: 30.9%
- Private or Other Rented: 10.5%

Source: Census 2011
Working Together for Forfar and Kirriemuir

The Angus Community Planning Partnership held four locality events across Angus to bring partners, services and communities together to consider priorities for each of the four localities. The Forfar and Kirriemuir Locality Event was based around ‘open space’. People could raise any points they wanted to and other participants could join the discussion if the issue was important to them. Productive discussion resulted in a small number of priorities receiving support from those who attended.

The key priorities from the locality event for the Forfar and Kirriemuir locality are:–

- Ensuring hard-to-reach families and individuals have access to services, including young people, older people and those without access to digital systems
- Developing natural spaces, outdoor activities and learning Engaging employers to promote employment and employability
- Town Centre regeneration in Forfar and Kirriemuir
- Development of tourism and accommodation
Angus Council has undertaken a programme of charrettes in town centres across Angus. The purpose of the charrettes was to engage as many partners, services and communities as possible and consider how best to improve the vibrancy of our town centres and how we use them in the future. A number of priorities were identified in the Forfar and Kirriemuir charrettes as outlined below:

**Forfar Charrette**

- **A Distinctive Character**
  By enhancing Forfar’s underlying unique features such as buildings, shopfronts and streetscapes.

- **A Forfar for all Generations**
  By creating affordable spaces for all age groups.

- **Consolidating the Centre**
  By making The Cross and town centre a focus for the local community.

- **Better Communication**
  And coordination between all local partners on what is happening in Forfar and greater promotion to the wider world.

**Kirriemuir Charrette**

- **Strengthen Community Connections and Third Sector**
  Cultural, Active, Lively Kirriemuir and Dementia and Youth friendly Kirrie.

- **Celebrate Natural Heritage**
  Gateway to The Glens, National Park, Kirrie Hill and Den, Corrie Fie, Kinnordy Loch, Pride in Place and Kirrie swifts.

- **Unlock Economic Development Opportunities**
  Kirrie CARS, distinctive historical layout, underused assets.

- **Improve Access and Connections**
  Footways, signage, parking and coach parking, bus connections.

Partners and service plans, locality events and charrettes. The evidence base and the priorities for the locality are now becoming clear. The diagram overleaf tries to capture these and demonstrate the overlaps for the economy, the people and the place. It also shows the community at the heart of everything we do and their commitment to being part of the improvements in the locality.
Working Together for Forfar and Kirriemuir

GROW ECONOMY
- Orchardbank
- Town Centre Action
- Digital infrastructure
- Town Centre Living

IMPROVE PLACE
- Greenspace
- Affordable Housing Development
- Green Transport Hub
- National Park

COMMUNITY
- Pride in Place
- Mens Shed
- DD8 Music Events
- Community Asset Transfer
- Active Sports
- Housing for Older People
- Destination Playpark
- Increased Primary Provision
- Traffic Enforcement

SUPPORT PEOPLE
- Forfar Community Campus
- Adult Learning
- Apprenticeships
- Positive Destinations
- Social Enterprise
- Transitions
- Integrated Care, Supporting Care Needs at Home
- Youth Work
- IT in Schools
- Digital Learning & Communications
- Work with Families
- Early Intervention
- Self-Management

Citydeal
- Food & Drink
- Agriculture & Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Farmers & Craft Market
- Accommodation

Tourism
- Farmers & Craft Market
- Accommodation

Adult Learning
- Apprenticeships
- Positive Destinations
- Social Enterprise
- Transitions

Forfar Community Campus
- Early Intervention
- Self-Management

Positive Destinations
- Social Enterprise
- Transitions

IT in Schools
- Digital Learning & Communications
- Work with Families

Active Sports
- Housing for Older People
- Destination Playpark
- Increased Primary Provision
- Traffic Enforcement
Having analysed all of the information from the evidence gathered, planning processes, locality events and charrettes, we think there is a range of opportunities for collective action, as set in this summary. These will be the subject of further conversations over the next few months to ensure that everyone is clear about the actions we can take together. It is anticipated that these actions can, and will, change.

We have a responsibility under the Community Empowerment Act 2015 to prepare plans that take account of the locality, but these locality plans will be the result of a huge effort by partners, services and communities to collectively understand what is important for the Forfar and Kirriemuir Locality.
Economy - opportunities for action

- Work with existing businesses to explore growth opportunities for a sustainable economy, working with local business as well as attracting new business.
- Market the area for agricultural and enhanced manufacturing developments.
- Promote opportunities for growth in the food and drink sector and create diversity in employment opportunities.
- Develop a green transport hub.
- Undertake an assessment of the skills available now and anticipated skills in the workforce.
- Encourage uptake of employment in the care sector.
- Explore and develop digital capacity and improvement.
- Further develop a destination farmers & craft market and build on gala week.
- Grow the available accommodation offer.
- Market and connect tourism more widely eg develop a witches walk, promote the tower, make better use of natural environment etc. through an events group.
- Investigate options to promote the built heritage of Forfar town centre.
- Work with local town centre traders to ensure business sustainability and growth.
- Make bids to attract new creative retail offerings.
- Increase opportunities for volunteering.
- Develop and support ideas for the creation of social enterprise in the most deprived areas.
People - opportunities for action

- Identify opportunities for the development of targeted early intervention for pregnant women and young families.
- Be responsive to those with additional support needs and develop flexible learning pathways for those with significant needs.
- Develop approaches to the use of technologies that are adaptive and prepare our young people for the future.
- Raise attainment for all.
- Review school catchment areas to respond to changing demographics and promote smooth transitions between sectors.
- Ensure a modern, fit for purpose curriculum that encourages school staying-on rates.
- Provide out-of-school activities and other support to reduce antisocial behaviours by young people.
- Develop a language and a love of learning across our communities to encourage aspiration.
- Support the development of apprenticeship opportunities.
- Support the development of housing solutions for those with enduring mental health problems, learning disabilities and autism.
- Increase community awareness of self-management resources for people with long-term conditions and introduce self-management plan for every person with a long-term condition.
- Create a local support network for carers.
- Ensure delayed discharge from hospital is minimised and support adults under 65 with conditions such as early onset dementia.
- Achieve a replacement for the Gables.
- Ensure opportunities for social interaction for children and adults in the rural hinterland.
- Increase support to families affected by drug and alcohol use.
- Develop plans to reduce alcohol misuse by older people.
- Develop plans to achieve a reduction in domestic violence.
- Make better use of green space to increase physical activity opportunities.
Place - opportunities for action

- Increase housing numbers in Forfar
- Support large scale greenfield residential development at Turfbeg and Westfield in Forfar and land South of Beechwood Place in Kirriemuir
- Develop a new primary school as the Westfield development comes forward in Forfar.
- Review catchment boundaries for secondary schools in Forfar and Kirriemuir
- Support the development of a new school in partnership with Dundee and Perth & Kinross Councils
- Address right turning traffic at Lochlands junction and develop a solution.
- Support the growth of housing for older people in Newtyle, Letham, Forfar & Kirriemuir.
- Develop further sites in Forfar for mixed housing which is barrier free and includes shared equity.
- Develop Chapelpark and Viewmount for affordable housing.
- Undertake a programme of home improvements to Council housing stock.
- Further develop initiatives to tackle fuel poverty.
- Bring empty properties in the town centres back into use – potentially for housing.
- Review traffic flows and parking in Forfar.
- Make better use of green space.
- Seek fibre and other broadband network arrangements in new developments.
- Identify site and develop a new recycling facility while finding alternative uses for current sites in both Forfar and Kirriemuir.
- Develop strategies to ensure equity of access to green spaces.
- Facilitate community partner and business action in both towns to assist with the development and delivery of aspirations from charrettes and locality planning events.