

Forfar & Kirriemuir

Locality Plan 2017



Sept
2017

Economy
People
Place



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Introduction

The way in which we plan for our communities and people in Angus is changing. Traditionally, local planning has involved organisations, services and partners thinking about their own areas of knowledge and expertise and not about the whole place for which they were planning. That will be different in the future.



This first locality plan for Forfar and Kirriemuir has been prepared on behalf of the Angus Community Planning Partnership and was developed through a cooperative process involving local residents, community organisations and partner agencies in the voluntary, private and public sectors.

In that process, we have been thinking about what we can all do together to improve the quality of life for people who live in the area.

Our first locality plan for Forfar and Kirriemuir will:

- explain why we want to work better together locally
- set out a range of areas for action to bring about positive change, and provide some information on how we have arrived at these areas for action
- describe some of the ways in which we are going to work differently in the future



Why Locality?

We all know that the Forfar and Kirriemuir area is a place where most people enjoy a good quality of life. However, that isn't the case for all members of the community and our commitment is to change that. We want everyone to live in a community which is safe, secure and vibrant and in which they can achieve success and enjoy good physical, mental and emotional health and well being.

Our best chance of achieving this goal is to put people and communities at the centre of our planning and delivery. This means working with people to tackle the things that matter most to them and to make a positive difference to their lives and communities. It also means recognising that communities can and do achieve things for themselves. We need to build on this and increase the level of influence and control that local people have over the decisions and services that have an impact on their lives and communities.

We think that we can achieve more and make a bigger difference if we work better together at a local level.



Because of all this, the Angus Community Planning Partnership has changed its structure and has now identified four localities which will be the building block for its planning from now on. Forfar & Kirriemuir is one of those localities. If we put localities at the heart of our planning processes, we will be able to develop new ways of working which focus less on who we work for and more on how our collective efforts can make our communities stronger. By doing this we will help to achieve the wider ambitions which the Angus Community Planning Partnership has set for itself in the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan. This is a plan which the partnership has created through a development process involving communities and all of the partners. It sets out a number of ambitions for reducing inequalities in Angus and building services around people and communities.



We recognise that the localities we have identified are made up of a number of communities and that each of these communities is unique. We also understand that they do not operate in isolation from each other and that economies of scale can be achieved by working in bigger units. Our challenge is to honour the uniqueness of each community while taking the advantage that can be gained by linking communities together for some things.

If we are to meet our commitment to achieve the highest quality of life for all of the people of Forfar and Kirriemuir, then we need to combat the effects of poverty and inequality. This means targeting our efforts and resources to those who will benefit most in a way that we haven't done before. We are determined to do this.

We believe that the locality approach we are taking in Angus is the right one for us. It is also consistent with wider research and social and economic policies.

This first locality plan for Forfar and Kirriemuir identifies the areas in which we will take action to bring about positive change in the area, based on our understanding of the communities that make up the locality and what matters to the people who live and work there. It is a plan for the whole community and for all aspects of its development – economic, social and physical.



The Story So Far...

We have been working towards the publication of the Forfar and Kirriemuir Locality Plan for some time.

The areas for action which are included in the plan have emerged from a wide range of consultation and engagement activity over the past three years. Some of this activity has taken place across Angus, to help us prepare plans and provide services in important areas such as health and social care, housing, services for children and young people, community safety and community learning.

Existing Angus Strategies



Most of the activity has been local and designed to provide people who live and work in localities with opportunities to tell us what they know about the place, say what matters most to them and come up with ideas and proposals for making the locality a better place for everyone.



Our Vision For Angus

The Angus Community Planning Partnership has a vision for Angus.

National Objectives	Wealthier & Fairer	Smarter	Healthier	Safer & Stronger	Greener
Our Vision	<i>Angus is a great place to live, work and visit</i>				
Our Priorities	Tackling inequalities Building services around people and communities Focusing on prevention Working together effectively				
Our Cross-Cutting Themes	Economy	People	Place		
Our Local Outcomes	<p>an inclusive and sustainable economy</p> <p>a reduced carbon footprint</p> <p>attractive employment opportunities</p> <p>the best start in life for children</p> <p>more opportunities for people to achieve success</p> <p>an enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment</p> <p>safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities</p> <p>a skilled and adaptable workforce</p> <p>improved physical, mental and emotional health and well being</p>				

Our Vision For Forfar & Kirriemuir

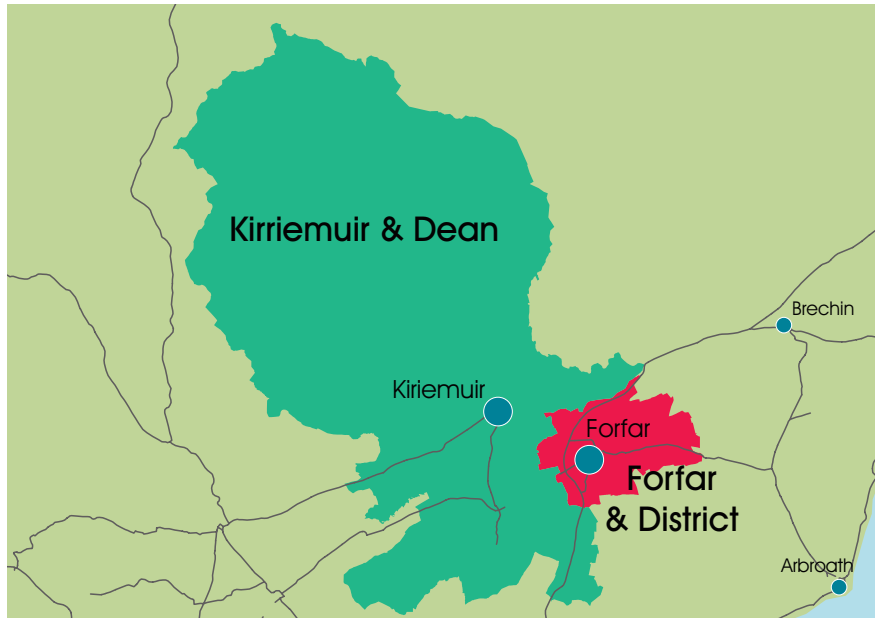
We See A Future For Forfar And Kirriemuir In Which:

Economy – our economy is strong and growing and we make the most of its unique assets. There is local well-paid employment which people access to meet their needs. Our area is a competitive location for employers and a 'go to' destination for local, national and international visitors

People – our people enjoy good physical, emotional and mental wellbeing. They live healthy and active lives, free from the impact of poverty and inequality. Children and families in the Forfar and Kirriemuir area are well supported by everyone to develop their resilience and improve their quality of life. Our children and young people all achieve and attain at the highest possible level. People of all ages are involved in service planning which is focussed on delivering the services they need to achieve what matters most to them. Services which support people are delivered flexibly to take account of access issues and ensure that people are not disadvantaged by where in the locality they live

Place – the Forfar and Kirriemuir locality is a good place to live, work and visit. Our town centres are vibrant places with a mix of social, residential and retail activity. Our villages are welcoming and we place a high value on the spectacular rural landscape and natural environment. Forfar and Kirriemuir is a "connected place", which has good road and path networks. Transport arrangements make it easy for people to move about the locality and to access other places in Angus and beyond. Everyone in the locality has access to good digital connections which make it possible for them to socialise, work, access services and take opportunities easily

What We Know About The Forfar & Kirriemuir Locality



The Forfar and Kirriemuir locality stretches from Letham in the East to the Glens of Clova and Isla in the West. The two principal settlements are the towns of Forfar and Kirriemuir. The population of 25,744 lives predominantly in those towns, and in the villages of Glamis and Newtyle. The remainder of the population is spread throughout the rural area including the Glens of Isla, Prosen and Clova. The locality is one of the most rural localities in Angus. Due to its large geographical area, it is the least densely populated locality in Angus with only 23 people per square kilometre.

There are two electoral wards in the locality, the Forfar and District Ward and the Kirriemuir and Dean Ward. The wards are served by seven elected members in total, four in Forfar and District and three in Kirriemuir and Dean.

There are eight community councils in the area: the Royal Burgh of Forfar, Lunanhead and District, Glamis, Inverarity, Kirriemuir, Kirriemuir Landward East, Kirriemuir Landward West and Newtyle and Eassie.

Forfar is a traditional market town providing a wide range of services and facilities to the large rural surroundings. It is one of the main towns in Angus and is an important employment and service centre. The administrative centre for Angus Council is located here alongside large companies including major textiles and manufacturing plant. The town is known internationally for the famous Forfar Bridie. The fertile land surrounding Forfar means

that for many years agriculture has had a major impact on local industry and employment, and there are several local businesses based on agricultural, engineering, potato breeding and distribution.

Kirriemuir lies at the gateway to the Angus Glens, providing a wide range of services and facilities for the town and other communities in the rural area. The town is located on a south-facing slope and was formed by consolidating the central area with the communities of Northmuir and Southmuir. The rural nature of Kirriemuir results in a strong emphasis on agriculture and forestry. The town contains a number of listed buildings and a conservation area. A number of properties have recently been improved through the Kirriemuir Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme.

The locality has two secondary schools, Forfar Academy and Webster's High School, and twelve primary schools. Whitehills Primary School in Forfar incorporates a dedicated area for a Gaelic pre-school class and a Gaelic class for pupils in P1 to P7 which serve all of Angus.

There is range of community organisations in the locality. These organisations work to promote and develop the towns and the outlying areas. They include volunteer led youth organisations, tenants' groups and networks, action networks, cultural and sports organisations. Community organisations plan and deliver a range of annual events including the Kirrie Show, Bonfest, Live in the Den and Forfar Gala Week. Community-based organisations deliver a range of services and manage facilities across the locality. Examples include the Camera Obscura, a community pub in Kirriemuir, Community Connections (dementia project), the Pitstop (Forfar) and Forfar Open Garden. Active organisations in both towns and villages carry out pride in place activities that enhance the appearance of the area and contribute to a deeper sense of 'community'.

Forfar has a community campus, which opened in 2017 and houses the town's leisure and community facilities and the secondary school. In Kirriemuir the swimming pool and leisure facilities are located next to the secondary school and there is shared community and school use.

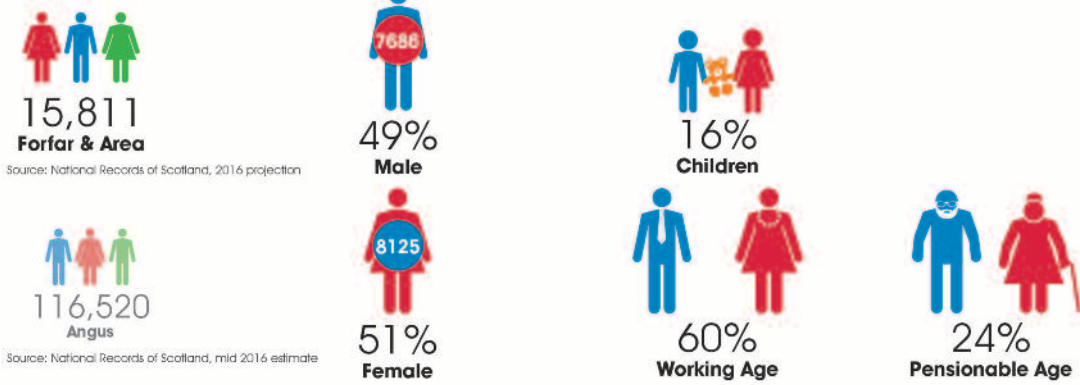
There are regular bus links between Forfar and Kirriemuir and onward to Dundee which are well used. However, transport links to other areas of Angus and to local hospitals are less frequent. There are no public transport links between Newtyle and Kirriemuir.

The two towns have reasonable internet connection in general but this is not true of the whole locality.

What The Data Is Telling Us

Forfar

Population Statistics



Ethnicity

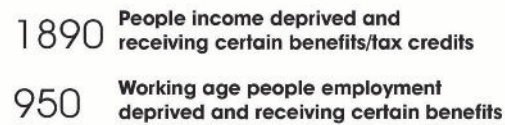


Education: Positive Destinations by School

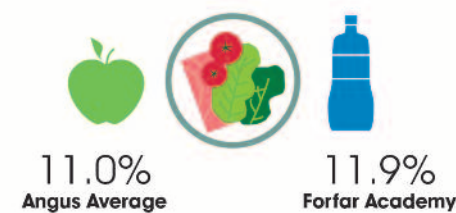


Positive Destination: School leavers moving into further education, higher education, employment or training. Source: Angus Council, 2014/15

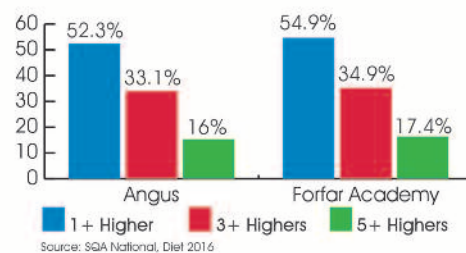
SIMD16:



Free School Meals



Exam Results 2016, S5



General Health

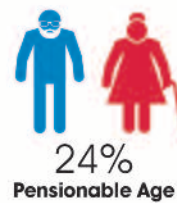


Housing

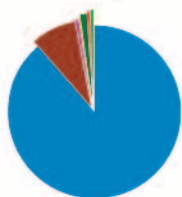


Kirriemuir

Population Statistics



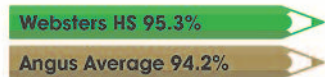
Ethnicity



- White Scottish 88.8%
- White other British 8.3%
- White Irish 0.4%
- White Polish 0.4%
- White Other 1.0%
- Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British 0.6%
- Other Ethnic Groups 0.5%

Source: Census 2011

Education: Positive Destinations by School



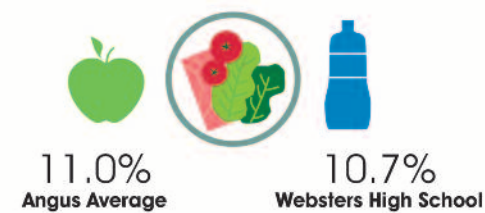
Positive Destination: School leavers moving into further education, higher education, employment or training. Source: Angus Council, 2014/15

SIMD16:

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

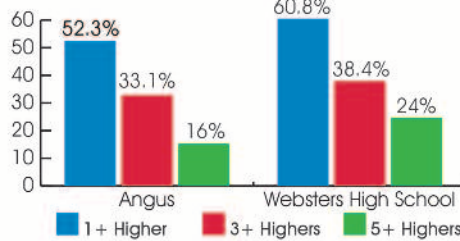
Source: Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016, Kirriemuir & Dean Ward

Free School Meals



Source: Angus Council, March 2016 census

Exam Results 2016, S5



Source: SQA National, Diet 2016

General Health



Source: Census 2011

Housing



Source: Census 2011

Inequalities

While most of the people living in the Forfar and Kirriemuir locality enjoy a good quality of life, significant numbers do not. There is a number of areas and aspects of life in which some people do less well than others in the locality, across Angus and in comparable communities elsewhere in Scotland. The aspects of life in which parts of the area – in particular Forfar Central - do less well include:

- parts of Letham and Glamis, Kirriemuir Landward and the Angus Glens fall into the 5% most deprived areas in Scotland in relation to access to services such as a GP surgery, post office and schools
- in Forfar central young people are attaining less well at school than those elsewhere. Overall people living in this area fair less well in education and fewer young people move on from school to a positive destination
- child poverty rates in Forfar Central and Forfar West are above the Angus baseline and those in comparable areas
- in Forfar Central and Kirriemuir Landward, people over the age of 65 are more likely to be admitted to hospital as an emergency than in comparable areas





- the number of people who are prescribed drugs for anxiety and depression in Forfar Central and West is well above national and local averages
- the percentage of older adults receiving pension credits in Forfar Central is significantly higher than in Angus as a whole
- the number of people receiving out of work benefits in Forfar Central is higher than the Angus baseline and those in comparable areas
- over 22% of people in parts of Forfar West and Forfar Central are regarded as income deprived, placing these areas in the worst 20% in Scotland on this measure
- almost 1 in 5 (18%) of people living in parts of Forfar West are regarded as employment deprived
- Forfar West and the Kirriemuir landward area are experiencing significant depopulation, which goes against the overall trend for Angus.

More detail is available at www.angus.gov.uk/cpplocalities

What People Are Telling Us



Our Priorities And What We Are Going To Do

We have worked together to analyse all of the information that we have about Forfar and Kirriemuir and used this to help us decide the areas in which we need to take action if we are to achieve our outcomes. These areas of action have emerged from:

- the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and other shared plans
- conversations between people and partners
- the data we have about the area

Economy	Areas for Action
An inclusive and sustainable economy	Together we will ensure business sustainability and growth by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting existing businesses • growing new business
A skilled and adaptable workforce with attractive employment opportunities	Together we will increase visitor accommodation with a focus on accommodation available during large events in the locality Together we will increase the number and variety of apprenticeship opportunities available to young people in the town
Attractive employment opportunities	Together we will improve public transport links in rural areas Together we will improve the digital infrastructure Together we will market and connect tourism locally, nationally and internationally by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making better use of the natural environment • further developing farmers' markets • developing and promoting events • promoting existing tourist attractions • supporting Angus-wide campaigns Together we will promote and support the development of social enterprise

People	Areas for Action
<p>The best start in life for children</p> <p>More opportunities for people to achieve success</p>	<p>Together we will increase children and young people's levels of achievement and attainment through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • early intervention • targeted support • greater pupil equity • curriculum development and flexibility
<p>Improved physical, mental and emotional health and well-being</p>	<p>Together we will improve progression and transition for people with additional support needs by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing flexible learning opportunities • creating and extending pathways <p>Together we will reduce the number of people who have to stay in hospital when they are well enough to be discharged</p> <p>Together we will promote emotional and mental wellbeing by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tackling anxiety and stress • building on existing strategies and initiatives • developing opportunities for vulnerable and older people to be active and involved in the community <p>Together we will Increase digital learning capabilities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing affordable access • expanding learning opportunities <p>Together we will tackle social isolation related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health and mobility • age • rurality <p>Together we will take early action to support families and communities at risk from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • domestic abuse • drug and alcohol use • criminality • anti-social behaviour • impact of disabilities

Place	Areas for Action
An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment	<p>Together we will improve the quality of Forfar and Kirriemuir town centres by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving the physical appearance • achieving higher occupancy of property • Improving traffic flow and parking
A reduced carbon footprint	<p>Together we will create housing opportunities which help to develop and sustain our communities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilitating new housing, including large scale greenfield residential development at Turfbeg and Westfield in Forfar and land South of Beechwood Place in Kirriemuir • developing Chapelark and Viewmount for affordable housing • Increasing and improving town centre living in Forfar and Kirriemuir • increasing and improving housing for older people • implementing initiatives to tackle fuel poverty
Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities	<p>Together we will develop initiatives to make better use of the outdoor spaces in Forfar, Kirriemuir and the surrounding rural areas by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making improvements to Kirrie Den • supporting initiatives to increase activities in rural areas <p>Together we will develop sustainable solutions to concerns arising from right turning traffic at Lochlands junction</p>

More specific and detailed actions will be included in appropriate shared and single agency plans.

Our Commitments

Tackling Inequality

We are committed to combating poverty and inequality in Angus. We will use our resources purposefully to make Angus a fairer place for everyone to live. This means that we will have to move some of those resources between localities to make sure that we are committing them where they are most needed and will make the biggest difference.

But we will take action in all four of our localities. In Forfar and Kirriemuir our priorities will be to:

- doing everything that we can to lessen the impact which poverty and inequality are having in our communities
- making services more accessible to people living in the rural areas of the locality
- targeting our efforts to improve the quality of life for people in parts of Central and West Forfar
- supporting all of our children and young people to achieve and attain at the highest level they can
- supporting vulnerable people and carers to reduce social isolation



Working Together

In Forfar and Kirriemuir we will work together to achieve the best possible outcomes for the locality. This will involve:

- putting local people and places at the heart of our planning and delivery, involving individuals and groups in the design, delivery and evaluation of services and initiatives
- leaders in the community and all organisations providing inspiration and clear direction, with a focus on building a strong culture of joint working, based on shared values. They will also assume collective responsibility for delivering the changes and improvements that we all want to see
- working within a set of values which we share. As we develop our work together, we will demonstrate that we
 - actively care about each other and our communities
 - are committed to achieving a fairer and more equitable Forfar and Kirriemuir
 - are committed to tackling problems and developing solutions together

- respect each other as equal partners in a joint enterprise
- developing new ways of working that are right for Forfar and Kirriemuir. This will help us to make the biggest possible difference to the people and community. We will be innovative, flexible, smarter and open to taking considered risks. We are committed to learning from experience and will use all of the information available to help us keep developing and improving the services we deliver
- establishing a Locality Implementation Partnership. The members of this partnership will be key leaders from the community and from voluntary, private and public sector organisations. The partnership will be focussed on action and charged with responsibility for ensuring that the actions and commitments set out in this plan are delivered
- holding at least two wider partnership events each year, which will be open to all of the organisations that are active in the area
- working with the Executive Group for Angus Community Planning Partnership which will both oversee and support the work of the Locality Implementation Partnership. This is the group which will be responsible for looking across Angus and helping to ensure that resources are committed where they are most needed.

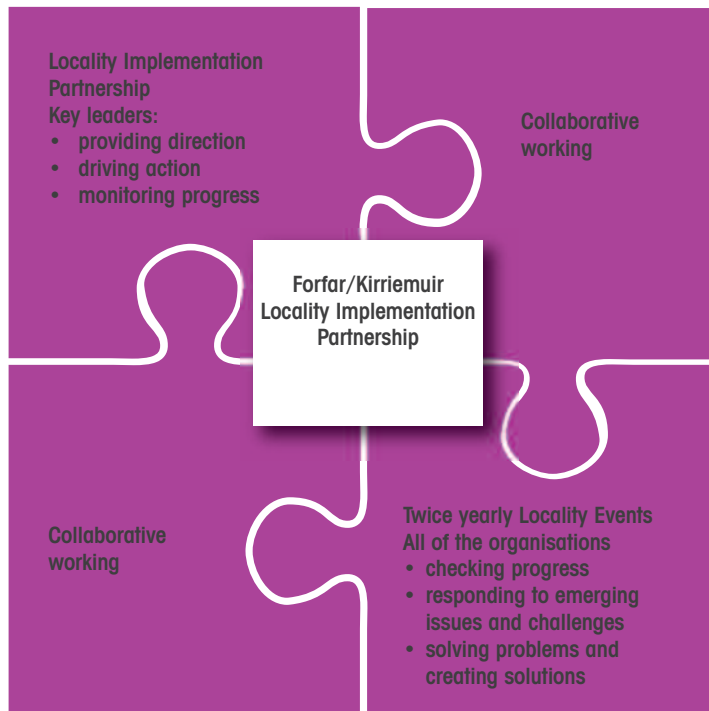
Localities Empowering Opportunities
Prevention Communities Democratic
Values
Work Together Fairer Actively Care
Respect Engage **Equitable**



Angus Community Planning Partnership



Forfar And Kirriemuir Locality Implementation Partnership



Resources

Together we will do everything we can to make sure that all of the resources available in Forfar and Kirriemuir are used to help us achieve our ambitions and deliver this plan. In order to do that we will have to:

- develop our understanding of the resources which are available. In addition to the budgets and staff of partner organisations this needs to include an understanding of the many contributions that communities make through:
 - formal and informal volunteering
 - their social, community and work networks
 - the knowledge they have
 - the community resources and facilities they control
- develop a better understanding of how we are using resources now and where our challenges lie if we are to shift them to help us address our shared priorities
- make sure that the actions and ambitions set out in this plan drive activity and the deployment of resources within each of our separate organisations. This will help to ensure that we are fully committing to a locality way of working and to our shared vision and ambition
- invest in our people. By this we mean all of the people who have a contribution to make and not just those who work in public services. We need to recognise the skills, knowledge and experience which people have and allow them the freedom to use these to help us achieve our goals. We also need to provide the learning and support that people need to help them deliver change
- be prepared to share and shift resources. This means thinking about resources in a more collective way as one total “pool of resources” for the locality. If we develop this type of thinking, we will open up new possibilities for using resources differently and targeting them where they will make most difference. This is a major challenge, but one which we want to take on because it is the right thing to do.



Prevention

Together we will do everything we can to shift our resources to where we think they can make the biggest difference in the long term. This means giving greater priority to ensuring that children and young people get the best possible start in life and that – across the range of our work – we take early action when things start to go wrong. This will help us to reduce the amount of time and money we spend responding to problems and situations that could have been avoided if we had acted sooner.

Accountability

Together we are committed to developing the new ways of working, delivering on the actions and achieving the ambitions that are set out in this plan.

We want to be accountable to each other for all of this, and will achieve this by:

- keeping everyone informed of what we are all doing and achieving. We will do this in a variety of ways including online media, the local printed press, and updates to local groups.
- updating on progress at the twice yearly locality events we will hold
- carrying out a yearly “sense check” with members of the community to find out if things are improving for them
- making regular progress reports to the Angus Community Planning Partnership Executive Group and, through it, to the Partnership Board
- publishing our progress reports
- reviewing the plan







Angus Alive
Angus Council
Community
Department of Work & pensions
Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce
Dundee & Angus College
Federation of Small Businesses
Forestry Commission
Integration Joint Board
NHS Tayside
Police Scotland
Private Sector
Scottish Enterprise
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
Scottish Fire & Rescue
Scottish Natural Heritage
Skills Development Scotland
Sports Scotland
TACTRAN
Third Sector Collaborative
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