

REPORT TO: CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - 27 FEBRUARY 2025

REPORT ON: LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

REPORT NO: 59-2025

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to reduce the number of Local Community Planning Partnerships in Dundee through a realignment of some partnerships, making best use of resources, whilst maintaining Dundee City Council's duties under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that committee approves the revised model of operation as set out in section 6 which reduces the number of Local Community Planning Partnerships from eight to six by amalgamating the partnerships in East End and North East and also in Coldside and Maryfield.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The approval of the above recommendation would result in a reduction of 2 FTE Communities Officers (Grade 11) posts that would mean a saving in the Neighbourhood Services Revenue Budget of £115,000 per annum from 2026/27 onwards, £87,000 in 2025/2026. This is part year saving from 1st July 2025.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Local Community Planning Partnerships, developing and delivering Local Community Plans, have been operating in each of Dundee's eight wards since 2003. These were established under a local Scheme of Decentralisation "Bringing the Council Closer to Communities". The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 then created a statutory duty for Community Planning Partnerships to publish locality plans for areas experiencing particular disadvantage.
- 4.2 The principles behind Local Community Planning are to empower the community to:
- participate in decision making,
 - take collective action to reduce inequalities, and
 - engage in civic process and the representation of interests.
- 4.3 Our place-based approach to reducing inequalities through Local Community Planning has been recognised nationally. The Controller of Audit, Audit Report in 2023, recognised the engagement with, and empowerment of, communities as an area of strength. Further, the Education Scotland Community Learning and Development Progress visit of 2024 identified the leadership and partnership around community empowerment within Dundee as an area of Highly Effective Practice to be shared nationally.

5.0 RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

- 5.1 We are confident that a place-based approach to tackling inequalities is an effective model. However, in response to feedback from locality leaders and partners about the resource demand of servicing eight separate plans, partnerships and sub-groups, the Council have looked at ways to reduce the number of Local Community Planning Partnerships whilst maintaining the level of engagement and empowerment of communities.
- 5.2 This change will align local community planning structures in the merged areas more closely to the structures and boundaries of key local community planning partners
- 5.3 The following factors have influenced the rationale for change:
- Local Fairness Initiatives - looking to build on the Linlathen Local Fairness Initiative model creating a focused and targeted approach to neighbourhoods of greatest need.
 - Reducing Duplication – bringing communities together to reduce duplication where neighbouring wards are working separately on the same issues.
 - The requirement for more effective contribution from partners - making it easier for partners to contribute to locality planning by reducing the number of partnerships and meetings and creating capacity for more effective working.
 - Enhancing the link with school catchments - involving more young people, building on the Value Based Leadership work already underway through WM2U and Columba 1400 and developing leadership roles in Local Community Planning for young people.
 - Building on the Cafe Conversation approach of facilitated and themed gatherings - review how meetings are structured to become more solution focussed and allow for greater community involvement.

6.0 PROPOSED FUTURE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING MODEL

- 6.1 In looking at the areas to be covered by partnerships, the following information was considered:
- SIMD data zones ranking,
 - population,
 - geographic spread of the community,
 - non-denominational school catchments and the issues around attendance, attainment; and lack of positive destination for young people and poorer outcomes for families.
- 6.2 The revised Local Community Planning Partnerships will be:
- Lochee
 - Strathmartine
 - Coldside & Maryfield
 - North East & East End
 - The Ferry
 - West End

- 6.3 This will reduce number of partnerships from eight to six, and the number of Communities Officers from seven to five, but will, ensure the Council still meet our requirements arising from Part 2 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. This reduction will be met through the deletion of two temporary posts. There is no proposed change to Grade 8 Community Learning & Development Workers who support this work. There will be engagement with staff and trade unions on these proposals.
- 6.4 The merger of Coldside and Maryfield and North East and East End has been informed by existing good practice across these LCPP structures including Health and Wellbeing and Community Safety sub-groups operating across more than one ward. Within the Communities Service our Youth Work, Community Health and Adult Learning teams also work across more than one ward.
- 6.5 This realignment will also provide the opportunity to revisit the way partnerships work and how the meetings are structured, ensuring they are action focussed, inclusive and meeting the needs of the people within those communities.
- 6.6 New Locality Plans covering the revised partnership areas will be developed. These plans will be focussed on areas with the highest level of need and disadvantage.

7.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This report has been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment to identify impacts on Equality & Diversity, Fairness & Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. An impact, positive or negative, on one or more of these issues was identified. An appropriate senior manager has checked and agreed with this assessment.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 The Council Leadership Team was consulted in the preparation of this report and are in agreement with its contents.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 [Controller of Audit report: Dundee City Council 2023](#)

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31 January 2025

Integrated Impact Assessment

Committee Report Number: 59-2025

Document Title: LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS

Document Type: Service

Description:

A proposed redesign of Local Community Planning Partnerships which would streamline the structure and create greater synergies between neighbouring communities, whilst maintaining Dundee City Council's duties under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

Intended Outcome:

Approved redesign of Local Community Planning Partnerships to streamline the structure This will reduce number of LCPPs from eight to six

Period Covered: 01/04/2025 to 31/03/2032

Monitoring:

Annual Local Community Plan reports to Children , Families and Communities Committee

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Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

Impacts & Implications

Age: No Impact

Disability: No Impact

Gender Reassignment: No Impact

Marriage & Civil Partnership: No Impact

Pregnancy & Maternity: No Impact

Race / Ethnicity: No Impact

Religion or Belief: No Impact

Sex: No Impact

Sexual Orientation: No Impact

Are any Human Rights not covered by the Equalities questions above impacted by this report?

No

Fairness & Poverty

Geographic Impacts & Implications

Strathmartine:	No Impact
Lochee:	No Impact
Coldside:	Positive
Maryfield:	Positive
North East:	Positive
East End:	Positive
The Ferry:	No Impact
West End:	No Impact

Household Group Impacts and Implications

Looked After Children & Care Leavers: No Impact

Carers: No Impact

Lone Parent Families: No Impact

Household Group Impacts and Implications

Single Female Households with Children: No Impact

Greater number of children and/or young children: No Impact

Pensioners - single / couple: No Impact

Unskilled workers or unemployed: No Impact

Serious & enduring mental health problems: No Impact

Homeless: No Impact

Drug and/or alcohol problems: No Impact

Offenders & Ex-offenders: No Impact

Socio Economic Disadvantage Impacts & Implications

Employment Status: Positive

This is seen as an improvement to locality planning allowing greater partnership engagement, more effective contribution from partners - making it easier for partners to contribute effectively to locality planning by reducing the number of partnerships and meetings and creating capacity for more effective working, reducing duplication by bringing communities together where neighbouring wards are working separately on the same issues. We will look to increase engagement through proven methodologies that we have tested elsewhere in the city - such as café conversations and build on the increase in participation we are seeing through neighbourhood capital fund. We are enhancing the Grade 8 Community learning and development worker capacity.

Education & Skills: Positive

Enhancing the link with school catchments - involving more young people, building on the Value Based Leadership work already underway through WM2U and Columba 1400 and developing leadership roles in Local Community Planning for young people.

Income: Positive

looking to build on the Linlathen Local Fairness Initiative model creating a focused and targeted approach to neighbourhoods of greatest need

Caring Responsibilities (including Childcare): No Impact

Affordability and accessibility of services: Positive

Building on the Café Conversation approach of facilitated and themed gatherings - review how meetings are structured to become more solution focussed and allow for greater community involvement.

Fuel Poverty: No Impact

Cost of Living / Poverty Premium: Positive

looking to build on the Linlathen Local Fairness Initiative and Stobswell model creating a focused and targeted approach to neighbourhoods of greatest need.

Connectivity / Internet Access: No Impact

Income / Benefit Advice / Income Maximisation Positive

More effective contribution from partners - making it easier for partners to contribute effectively to locality planning by reducing the number of partnerships and meetings and creating capacity for more effective working.

Employment Opportunities: No Impact

Education: Positive

Enhancing the link with school catchments - involving more young people, building on the Value Based Leadership work already underway through WM2U and Columba 1400 and developing leadership roles in Local Community Planning for young people

Health: Positive

Fewer meetings make it easier for Health to send representation to LCPPs

Life Expectancy: Not Known

Not able to measure this as a direct result of this work

Mental Health: Not Known

Not able to measure this as a direct result of this work

Overweight / Obesity: Not Known

Not able to measure this as a direct result of this work

Child Health: Not Known

Not able to measure this as a direct result of this work

Neighbourhood Satisfaction: Positive

Provide the opportunity for more focussed locality planning and café conversations increasing community involvement

Transport: No Impact

Environment

Climate Change Impacts

Mitigating Greenhouse Gases: No Impact

Adapting to the effects of climate change: No Impact

Resource Use Impacts

Energy efficiency & consumption: No Impact

Prevention, reduction, re-use, recovery or recycling of waste: No Impact

Sustainable Procurement: No Impact

Transport Impacts

Accessible transport provision: No Impact

Sustainable modes of transport: No Impact

Natural Environment Impacts

Air, land & water quality: No Impact

Biodiversity: No Impact

Open & green spaces: No Impact

Built Environment Impacts

Built Heritage: No Impact

Housing: No Impact

Is the proposal subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

No further action is required as it does not qualify as a Plan, Programme or Strategy as defined by the Environment Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Corporate Risk

Corporate Risk Impacts

Political Reputational Risk: Negative

May be some initial negative feedback from the local communities about a perceived reduction in service but will look to mitigate this by providing them with opportunities to have greater involvement in the new LCPP structure

Economic/Financial Sustainability / Security & Equipment: No Impact

Social Impact / Safety of Staff & Clients: No Impact

Technological / Business or Service Interruption: No Impact

Environmental: No Impact

Legal / Statutory Obligations: No Impact

Organisational / Staffing & Competence: No Impact

Corporate Risk Implications & Mitigation:

The risk implications associated with the subject matter of this report are "business as normal" risks and any increase to the level of risk to the Council is minimal. This is due either to the risk being inherently low or as a result of the risk being transferred in full or in part to another party on a fair and equitable basis. The subject matter is routine and has happened many times before without significant impact.