

## LCPP Café Conversation East Wards

28<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at Drumgeith Community Campus

Supported by DCC Community Empowerment Team, facilitated by What Mattes 2  
You learning partner Jo Kennedy

57 attendees, from a wide range of partners from across both wards, including 19  
community representatives.

Dawn Cattanach (+Luna) - Volunteer	Margaret Hogg – Douglas LMG
Geoff Leask - WM2U	Doug Millar - Rowantree
Shambhain Mayue - DVVA	Steph Dolan – The Roundhouse
Carole Jenkins - DCSG	Sharon Feeney – Douglas Medical Practice
Johnny Lothian – DCC/Drumgeith Campus	Christine Dallas - CHT
Julie Lorimer – DCC/Neighbourhood	Tammie Brown – Community Volunteer
Emma Burnett - Homegroup	Joe Good - Newfield
George Barr - Fairfield	Angela Bradley – Newfield Cafe
Mark Spence – DCC/SWD	Moira Tierney - CRF
Robert Cook – DCC/SWD	Steven Rome - DCC
Brogan Murray – Thursday Club	Audrey Millar - OPFS
Jayne Bond – Friends of Linlathen & Mid Craigie	Shannon Henderson - OPFS
Mary Sneddon - Dundee	Phillippa Macdonald – NHS Tayside
Caitlyn Paterson – Fintry SFDW	Sarah Paterson – DCC Housing Options
Jacki Low - CHT	Elaine Sword - CHT
Geoff Findlay - Lifegate	Nick Toner - DCSG
Alex – Whitfield Greenspace	Kevin Geddes – DCC Housing
Gerry Conway - DCC	Nicky Taylor - DHSCP
Sue Turner – Douglas CC	Nicola Strike – NHS DHSCP
Sasha Ritch - DCC	Genna Millar – Dundee Bairs
Margaret Jenkins - MOM	Jade Cargill – FFG Finmill
Dorothy - MOM	Stephanie Low – St Pius Primary
Gemma Watson - DCC	Cath McBennet – Dundee Bairs
Louise Mackay – Finmill Playgroup	Sam Hutchison – Claypotts PS
Carly Ward – Abertay Housing	Kim Meek - CHT
Jennifer McCartney – Newfield Cafe	Mia Gonzalez-Noda – NHS Tayside
Jennifer Hanson – Douglas Food Cupboard	Lydia Banks – Angus Housing

**Attendees self-selected the topic they wished to discuss.**

### 1 Fairness

**What works well and what we should celebrate?**

- Partnership working between Dundee City Council and Third Sector

- Community Café's – in particular Newfield Medical Group at Whitfield
- Dundee Bairns

### **What could be improved?**

- **Community Café's**
  - Bigger space at Whitfield – take forward with Dundee City Council to gain the space vacated by the library
  - Better co-ordination of cafes so that there is not duplication
  - Better promotion of Community Café offerings though a shared monthly bulletin co-ordinated by:
    - Newsletter
    - IYN Facebook
    - Word of Mouth
    - Newsletter
    - School Text system (seesaw)
    -
- **Dundee Bairns**
  - More upstream work with cluster schools using the new posts recruited
  - The school as a focal point
  - More face to face work – not a sticking plaster approach and a whole family approach instead

## **2 Health Wellbeing and Recovery**

### **What works well and what we should celebrate?**

- Mental health strategic planning for mental health plan 25 – 30 led on by DVVA
- Important to have kids school and community mixing to ensure children see all aspects of life and growth
- Strong sense of community belonging in the East – great initiatives in Community Centres
- Great example of intergenerational work in Douglas CC – recovery group and Mums and tots on a Thursday
- Fantastic community cafes across the community
- Great community facilities which need to be supported
- Peer Support work
- Community Voices
- When things are on, families will attend and start opening up and being aware of what's on
- Fun days – not everyone is on seesaw – need better communication
- Recognition there is a health and wellbeing problem – not enough on for kids – football stopped
- More community groups are working in localities
- Visibility of health inclusion nurses so people can access healthcare
- Local people taking ownership of own health and needs
- Simple approach can have big rewards

- Housing rent spaces out for £1 – good use for community groups
- Good social networks reducing isolation

### **What Could be Better?**

- Better support for volunteers from CLD and other workers
- Recognition that some processes volunteers must understand are complex e.g. Changes to Disclosure and Charity Law
- More realistic timescales for funding deadlines which can be very short
- Actively listen to people before making decisions which directly affect people's lives
- Provide evidence that engagement has taken place with communities
- Honesty and transparency
- Communication and promotion – no central place to find out information – Brooksbank Newsletter is out 4 x a year
- Hub is shut and lack of community resource in Linlathen/mid
- More for older teenagers
- More of a scope for neurodivergent children
- Services are not joined up as well as they could be
- Not much choice for fresh food and produce
- Funding
- Cooking groups/classes – the Roundhouse is full – a place to sit and eat – Maxwelltown model in the area
- Referrals system needs improving
- Less professional ownership of area
- Facilitators to offer broad range of services/groups
- Where do we share information? Need more than social media/snapchat/email etc – buddy system, door knocking, face to face engagement

## **3 Environment / Green Spaces**

### **What works well and what we should celebrate?**

- Some great natural resources such as Trottick ponds on the door step, and the Dighty burn. The Dighty is used by Mill o Mains primary school to do John Muir project visits.
- Cycleways are good, more improvements and expansions are due. Upgraded playparks across the wards are a great asset – mention made of Fintry, Longhaugh, Ballumbie the ABC park, Newpark at Douglas Green and and Pitairlie.
- Alongside a few parents, the community empowerment team organised family play sessions at some of the parks in the north east over the summer holidays which were great. From workers point of view – good contacts to report things. AHA – Have good face to face contact/office to report issues.
- Good walks/Green spaces. Good travel routes – improving. Good Community facilities/larders. People. Good gardening group/environmental groups. Good general facilities i.e. shops. Local produce going into larders/cafes from local growing groups

- New housing – affordable heating/clean energy. Good garden sizes. Different houses to suit different needs being built.

**What could be better/opportunities for the 2 wards coming together?**

- General maintenance of the environment by DCC is not satisfactory, open space maintenance, litter picking, street cleaning etc. Little public ownership to take pride in the area and very few local people are involved in community clean ups etc.
- Requests for litter picking hubs which encourage community action have not been delivered.
- \*DCC env colleague to report and chase concerns above. It was noted that the Take Pride Initiative will see additional street cleaners allocated to Douglas and Fintry. Concerns about inaction should be reported to [env.mgt@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:env.mgt@dundeecity.gov.uk)
- A local community planning environmental sub group across the 2 wards, with relevant partners and community representatives could provide a strong voice, identifying need, championing and taking part in improvements.
- More pop up play sessions and organised use of green spaces like what happens at the Douglas Green Space beside the Comm Centre. Possibility of joint (both wards) environmental works and celebration events at mutual sites such as Drumgeith campus and Finlathen Park.
- Making better connections across two wards/sub ward areas. More joint events to encourage more people. Better services, currently lack of front facing DCC housing/services buildings.
- Fly tipping – Immediate environment needs improved i.e. gardens/areas full of waste. Maintenance of green spaces. More housing will impact on green spaces
- Lack of voice/representative structures. Poor communication between service providers. Apathy – Lack of volunteers. Consultation fatigue/no meaningful consultation. Reduced sense of community/isolated communities. Anti-social behaviour/Parks being ruined. Need more ownership/pride of areas. More community run spaces/growing spaces. In work poverty – time/money/support out with working times is lacking. Lack of dogs bins/not picking up.
- Need outdoor WI-FI space for young people.
- Better lighting – Dighty/walkway areas off beaten track/not on the street.
- Roads – need improved.
- Implementation of safer streets – not working, people still parking i.e. Fintry P.S.
- Concerns about new community schools and safety.

What would I like to do	What would I like to ask someone else to do
Commit to walkabouts around areas to develop from health, housing, environment, community (Elaine Sword CHT)	Tenancy officer walkabout – better joined up estate walk abouts (Lydia AHA/DCC) More partners to be involved in walkabouts even if not direct work for them

Organise community litter picking groups (Alex) Happy to work with other partners re litter picks (Lydia AHA) Volunteer to clean park (Douglas) Volunteer to clean burney	Better provision of waste bins for community projects (Alex)
Support – be available to identify issues (Julie Lorimer)	Community health team to coordinate monthly list of services in the community
Join a working group to produce a quarterly NE/EE newsletter	ask others to help produce a NE/EE community newsletter (Christine Dallas)
Create a community that wants to look after greenspaces	Connect with environment dept for reporting re community toolbox etc
Run a forest school on the Dighty with lockable toilets – star key?	Make sure every primary school has a school and family development worker (Louise)
Further development of local groups we run (Jade)	Rolling assessment of need in the communities
SFDWs – utilise us more we are connected to 100s of families across the wards – we can share, invite and support (Caitlyn)	<b>Better partnerships</b> if anyone is doing family related groups/supports etc connect with us – we can share instantly (Caitlyn)
Buddy new people to attend group for the first time (Dawn Cattanach)	a greater presence from the community empowerment team
Engage more in the East End wards (mid NHS N and D)	Request an answer for a bigger space for Newfield Café
	DVVA to be the contact point for direction and support for disclosure Establish a PVG champions group who can help individuals/groups to get help
More volunteering (Jackie)	Open East District Housing Office x 2
Keep making time to attend meetings and spread the word about groups/events to tenants when speaking to them (Kevin DCC Housing) Offer additional drop in within community re housing advice (Sarah Paterson DCC Housing)	DCC to listen to residents concerns re recovery village – DCC planning dept to attend one of Mill of Mains Town Hall meets re recovery village
Looking to improve communication more effectively	Coordinate
Speak directly to councillors and community police	Create opportunities for intergenerational work with young people who could help groups who have 'techy issues'
NRS/rep structure (Joanne DCC CET)	
Identifying individuals to be involved in development improvements (Natalie M)	Wider support to undertake better engagement (Natalie)

<p>I would like to become more involved in creating a safe place/group for young people with additional support needs (Louise)</p>	<p>Further information and support for funding for local groups and organisations More workers in schools for additional support needs whether physical support/mental health support (Jade)</p>
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