### ITEM No ...4......

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 21 JUNE 2021

REPORT ON: DUNDEE FAIRNESS ACTION PLAN / CHILD POVERTY ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT NO: 196-2021

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This annual report for Dundee presents the combined Fairness and Local Child Poverty Action Report (LCPAR) showing progress during 2020/2021. It also highlights the work undertaken by the third Dundee Fairness Commission as well as key action to be taken in 2021/22.

#### 2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Committee
  - a) approves the Fairness and Local Child Poverty Annual Report for 2020/21 (see Appendix 1)
  - b) endorses the Dundee Fairness Commission Report 2021
  - c) notes the provision of match funding to Faith in Community Dundee to deliver development support to Dundee Fighting for Fairness
  - d) agrees to the preparation of proposals for the local community fairness initiatives in Linlathen and Maryfield neighbourhoods.

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The work and projects within this action plan may generate reports and further actions that could have direct financial implications for the Council. As and when required, such reports will be considered by the appropriate Committee(s). An allocation of £100k to support Fairness action was made during 2019/20 and is in place for 2020/21.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Dundee Fairness and Local Child Poverty Annual Report
- 4.1.1 Dundee City Council and the Dundee Partnership adopted the revised Fairness Action Plan for Dundee in November 2016 (Article IV of the Minute of the Policy & Resources Committee on 14 November 2016 refers). This report reflects the recommendations of the final Dundee Fairness Commission which were launched in May 2021.
- 4.1.2 The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 introduced a series of statutory income targets to measure reduction in child poverty in Scotland by 2030 together with interim targets to be met in the year beginning 1 April 2023:

Statutory Income Targets to be achieved by 2030

Less than 10% of children are in relative poverty

- Less than 5% of children are in absolute poverty
- Less than 5% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation
- Less than 5% of children are in persistent poverty

Interim Targets to be achieved in 2023/24

Less than 18% of children are in relative poverty

- Less than 14% of children are in absolute poverty
- Less than 8% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation
- Less than 8% of children are in persistent poverty
- 4.1.3 The Act places a duty on local authorities and health boards to jointly report annually on activity they are taking, and will take, to reduce child poverty. The reports are required to be produced 'as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each reporting year'. It was acknowledged that the Covid-19 pandemic would influence the timing or reports for 2019/20. As a result, Dundee and many other areas produced 18-month reports in November 2020.
- 4.1.4 In May 2021, a further joint letter from the Scottish Government and COSLA acknowledges that the delays in the production of 'year 2' Local Child Poverty Action Reports (LCPARs) would have a knock-on effect on the preparation and publication of year 3 LCPARs. There is an understanding that local focus will be on managing the ongoing covid pandemic response and developing plans for recovery and renewal, but also a desire to bring annual LCPAR reporting back within normal cycles. As a result, this report for Dundee reflects additional progress from November 2020 to March 2021.
- 4.1.5 This report satisfies the requirements for the LCPAR but is wider due to the partnership working and planning associated with our Dundee Fairness Strategy. It was therefore agreed that the Fairness Plan and Local Child Poverty Action Report would be combined and adopted by the whole Dundee Partnership on behalf of the city. Community planning partners have collaborated accordingly, and the third combined report is presented in Appendix 1 for approval.
- 4.1.6 As requested by the Scottish Government, this combined report sets out a full statistical analysis of poverty and deprivation in the city and a full progress report on the commitments made in the ambitious action plan for three years first published in July 2019. Given the duty to produce this annually, there will be ongoing opportunities to make additional commitments.
- 4.1.7 While Dundee has disproportionately high levels of deprivation, nevertheless it is setting itself the ambitious goal of matching the Scottish Government's overall national target of reducing child poverty to less than 10% of children living in relative poverty. The rate of children in relative low-income households after housing costs 31 March 2020 was 27%, demonstrating the scale of change that will be required.
- 4.1.8 Achieving this will require effective action to respond to the longstanding challenges associated with low incomes and insecure employment, substance use and mental health issues and the poverty-related attainment gap. Inevitably, the health, social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will make these challenges even greater.
- 4.1.9 Our response will be shaped by the contribution of the Dundee Fairness Commission (including its recommendations published in May 2021) and the views of our communities captured through the latest phase of Engage Dundee conversations with citizens.
- 4.2 Dundee Fairness Commission Report 2021
- 4.2.1 The second Dundee Fairness Commission was established in March 2019. Despite the challenges presented by the Covid pandemic, it completed its <u>new report</u> and launched its recommendations at an online launch event on 19 May 2021. The full list of the outcomes achieved by members of the Commission and its recommendation are included in Appendix 2.
- 4.2.2 These will be carefully considered by council and partnership leaders and incorporated into new commitments in the Dundee Fairness Action Plan over the coming months. This process will be overseen by the soon to be formed Dundee Fairness Leadership Panel.

- 4.3 Dundee Fairness Leadership Panel
- 4.3.1 In 2018, the Dundee Partnership agreed that the current Fairness Commission would be the last and that a long-term replacement would be established. The Fairness Leadership Panel (FLP) will bring together senior Council members and officers with other partners and community leaders on poverty issues to scrutinise and report on ongoing delivery of the Dundee Fairness Action Plan. The proposed remit and membership of the Fairness Leadership Panel will be developed over the coming months with the aim of holding the first panel meeting in Autumn 2021.
- 4.3.2 The voice of lived experience on the Fairness Leadership Panel will be represented by the organisation established by members of the community who have participated in the Fairness Commission. The group is known as Dundee Fighting for Fairness and has achieved charitable status and £30,500 funding for development support from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) over the next two years. This support will be provided by Faith in Community Dundee which has detailed experience in this area and an ongoing relationship with the community commissioners. JRF agreed to provide the majority of funding on the understanding that Dundee City Council would provide match continue to demonstrate its commitment to this process by making a contribution. This will amount to £7000 in 2021/22 and £8000 in 2022/23. This will be met from Fairness budgets in the Chief Executive's Service.
- 4.4 Local Community Fairness Initiatives
- 4.4.1 During the course of the current Fairness Commission and following the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown, even greater levels of disadvantage and need have been identified. While the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation continues to show that much of the city shows the impact of poverty, particular communities experience in different ways and to greater extents. It is proposed that specific attention be directed towards two neighbourhoods to work with communities and partners to develop long-term approaches that will reduce the scale of inequality felt by those who live there.
- 4.4.2 Linlathen has risen to sit within the 10 most deprived areas in Scotland. There is a desire to properly understand this, explore the causes and consequences and co-produce a local response with local people, voluntary and public partners.
- 4.4.3 The Maryfield area has a particularly high concentration of private sector properties and real evidence of social inequalities. The relationship between these factors makes it a particularly challenging place to live and, consequently, to provide responses that would improve the life chances and circumstance of the people who live there.
- 4.4.4 Introductory discussions have been held with the Community Empowerment Teams in the Maryfield and East End wards. There is an appetite to expand these discussions with a view to developing two local community initiatives that take a focus on fairness into these communities to develop approaches that will reverse social inequalities and provide a model for targeted, non-stigmatising work in neighbourhoods.
- 4.4.5 It is proposed that service managers in Chief Executives and Neighbourhood Services develop this idea further and prepare a further report to committee following relevant local consultation.

#### 5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report was subject to an assessment of any impacts on Equality & Diversity, Fairness & Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. A copy of the Impact Assessment is available on the Council's website at <u>www.dundeecity.gov.uk/iia</u>
- 5.2 The progress presented in this report and all actions in the Fairness Plan for Dundee will make an impact on reducing the levels of poverty experienced by people in Dundee.

#### 6. CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Council Management Team, community planning partners and members of the Dundee Fairness Commission have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

#### 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

Gregory Colgan Chief Executive

DATE: 4 June 2021

**Appendix 1** 



# Dundee

## **Fairness Action Plan**

## **Child Poverty Report**



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## Dundee Fairness Action Plan and Local Child Poverty Annual Report for 2020/21

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#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

This is the second Dundee Fairness and Local Child Poverty Report produced during the Covid-19 pandemic. The impact of the pandemic continues to have a profound economic and social impact on everyone in Dundee but especially those who are struggling against poverty.

Our 2019/20 report was published in November 2020. It incorporated much of the action taken to address Covid and its consequences for the first half of this financial year. As a result, this report provides a more concise update on progress and developments in for the rest of 2020/21 and reflects on activity across the whole year where this information was not available previously. Taken together, these reports give a comprehensive picture of the ever-growing ways that Dundee is attempting to reduce child and household poverty.

And the challenge continues to grow. We believe that all aspects of poverty are likely to be exacerbated by the impact of lockdown and the health and economic aftershocks that will continue to hit disadvantaged communities particularly by perpetuating poor mental and physical health, social isolation, job insecurity and unemployment. Within the last few weeks, Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland confirmed that levels of child poverty are still increasing. If we are to meets our ambitious target to meet the Scottish average, we will have to help over 2100 children to escape poverty in the next two years.

This must and will be a priority as Dundee emerges from lockdown and moves towards a full recovery. Doing this effectively will depend on listening to, and working with, communities experiencing the worst of the impact. We are in the privileged position to benefit from the work done by the final Dundee Fairness Commission. The report it published in May 2021 contains many powerful recommendations and these will influence the next full revision of our Fairness and Child Poverty Action Plan due in June 2022.

Overseeing the development and implementation of our Fairness and Child Poverty planning will be the soon to be formed Dundee Fairness Leadership Panel. This body will bring community representatives with lived experience of poverty together with council leaders and our partners. It is sure to shape our future reports and will be driving the work we will reflect in our 2021/22 report and into the future.

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#### 2. NATIONAL TARGETS AND DUTIES

2.1 The **Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017** was introduced to reinforce the drive for Scotland to be the best place in the world to grow up, and to live up to the Fairer Scotland vision in which eradicating child poverty is central.

It is a key driver for change, as child poverty can undermine health, wellbeing and educational attainment. The Act sets out four ambitious headline targets for 2030, which are shown below. Bracketed figures are the 2016/17 levels and interim 2023 targets respectively;

- Less than 10% of children are in relative poverty (23% / 18%) □
- Less than 5% of children are in absolute poverty (20% / 14%)
- Less than 5% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation (11% / 8%)
- Less than 5% of children are in persistent poverty (10% / 8%)
- 2.2 All four measures are well known and understood by key partners engaged in tackling poverty in Scotland and they provide continuity from the UK-wide Child Poverty Act 2010. Despite the disproportionately high levels of poverty in the city, Dundee is setting itself the ambitious goal of matching the Scottish Government targets.
- 2.3 The Act requires Local Authorities and Health Boards to make a joint annual report on activities undertaken at a local level to contribute to meeting the child poverty targets shown above. Particular emphasis was placed on income maximisation activity and reaching those with protected characteristics.

#### 3. DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 2019/20 FAIRNESS AND CHILD POVERTY REPORT

#### 3.1 National Guidance on Reports for 2020/21

- 3.1.1 In May 2021, a joint letter from the Scottish Government and COSLA acknowledged that local authorities and their partners have faced challenges locally which led to delays in the production of 'year 2' Local Child Poverty Action Reports (LCPARs) and that this is also having a knock-on effect on the preparation and publication of year 3 LCPARs.
- 3.1.2 There is an understanding that local focus will be on managing the ongoing covid pandemic response and developing plans for recovery and renewal, but also a desire to bring annual LCPAR reporting back within normal cycles. This will enable sharing of learning and good practice. The letter provided a reminder that the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 sets a statutory duty on local authorities and health boards to;

"jointly prepare and publish annual LCPARs, capturing action taken in the reporting period, to tackle and reduce child poverty, and action which will be taken in the future"

3.1.3 The letter also stated that the requirements do not set concrete expectations over the level of detail to be provided in each report;

"Therefore, if the year 2 (2019-20) LCPAR has set out considerable detail of your COVID response – which took place in the year 3 (2020-21) reporting period – it is encouraged that a more concise report be prepared for year 3 (2020-21), enabling the reporting cycle to get back on track. As per the Scottish Government's non-statutory guidance, we would ask that LCPARs be published within 3 months of the end of the reporting period, or as near to this time as is practicable. This is in line with the Scottish Government's own reporting requirements and means reports would be published by the end of June each year."

- 3.1.4 It is anticipated that the usual cycle of data from surveys and other mechanisms will no longer match as closely with the realities faced, though the needs of those most disadvantaged will remain and indeed are likely to have been intensified by the impact of the pandemic. Taking this into account, engagement with people and communities is needed to provide the 'live feedback' needed to drive action forward in a way that responds to current needs. Partnership working will be key to gathering this feedback and there is some expectation that the data will not be fully available in time for completion of the year 3 LCPAR.
- 3.1.5 As in the previous two years of reporting, the LCPAR for Dundee will be combined with the fuller Fairness Action Plan Annual Report as part of the response to the causes and consequences of child poverty and all aspects of the Partnership's Fairness Outcomes Framework. Within the report, we will outline additional examples of the efforts taken forward during the crisis that have not already been covered in the delayed 2019-20 report (published in November 2020).

#### 3.2 Feedback from Improvement Service on 2019/20 Report

- 3.2.1 The Dundee Partnership received feedback from the Improvement Service in March 2021 on the 2019/2020 Dundee Fairness Action Plan and Child Poverty Annual Report
- 3.2.2 The Improvement Service acknowledged that the report reflects the significance of partnership work ongoing in Dundee to tackle poverty and empower local communities with particular focus on families. The feedback also recognizes the work undertaken by the Fairness Commission with emphasis on listening to lived experiences to drive positive change and encourages the Dundee Partnership to keep the voices of local residents with lived experience at the centre of the partnership's plans.
- 3.2.3 Strong evidence of collaboration between the Dundee Partnership and NHS was recognized by the Improvement Service with an example of the universal referral pathway for financial inclusion and employability as part of routine assessments for income maximisation. Furthermore, the feedback acknowledges that particular focus is on priority groups and that work undertaken during Covid lockdown was directed at vulnerable families.
- 3.2.4 The Improvement Service proposed that the 2020/2021 Child Poverty Action Plan could be improved by:

- giving consideration to UNCRC in relation to child poverty work
- including additional information on the take up of the Scottish Welfare Fund with an indication of who applied for this and what was awarded
- identifying further relationship between gender and pay differences within priority families
- clarifying trend information for performance indicators by including interim and long-term targets to track progress towards 2030 targets and timescales for completion of actions
- providing figure on changes to child poverty levels in Dundee to document progress and the target figure that Dundee Partnership is aiming for
- including actions to support improvement in affordability and ease of use of public transport with consideration given to Carers and care experienced young people
- providing update regarding Parental Employment Support Fund and other employability initiatives
- 3.2.5 Given that this report provides, in essence, a concise update on the 18-month report published in November 2020, these recommendations will be comprehensively incorporated into the next full year Fairness/Local Child Poverty Report in June 2022.

#### 3.3 **Poverty-related Impact of COVID -19 Pandemic**

3.3.1 The Fairness/Local Child Poverty report for 2019/20 presented the helpful evidence regarding the impact of Covid-19 on the lives of those struggling against poverty in Dundee. The evidence from both the Glasgow Centre for Population Health and the Improvement Service remains relevant. These, the findings of the Dundee Fairness Commission and further planned community engagement will continue to inform our recovery planning.

#### Listening to Lived Experience

"I have a pay as you go meter for my gas I'm struggling to keep this topped up and worry some weeks I'm not going to have hot water if this goes on into the colder months I worry I won't be able to top it up for heating, I pay my electricity by direct debit and that has already gone up in price since this nonsense started I worry being at home more and using more electricity this is going to rise again and I'm going to struggle paying it." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

"For my mum it is due to not being able to access support services but mainly loneliness due to lockdown rules. For me it is mainly due to too much stress caused during the lockdown by trying to care for my mum, work from home and help children with home schooling. I find the constantly changing rules and the public shaming of people a nightmare to be honest." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

"Was ok at the start as my lifestyle didn't need to change much, but as time went on the restrictions began to affect what I would normally do to ease my mental health, such as an occasional visit to pubs or cafes." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

#### 3.4 Mainstreaming Equalities, Outcomes and Linking to Poverty & Fairness

- 3.4.1 The Equality Act 2010 and the Fairer Scotland Duty ensure that public bodies pay due regard to:
  - the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality and foster good relations across the range of 9 protected characteristics, and
  - how they can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage when making strategic decisions.
- 3.4.2 It is clear that both of these align closely with the Dundee's ambitions reduce poverty. It is widely acknowledged that those from the groups with protected characteristics are more likely to suffer from higher levels of poverty and face greater inequality challenges. As a response a new set Equality Outcomes have been adopted to reflect the lived experience of people in Dundee from protected

groups, the impact of Covid-19 and the evolving national policy landscape. These will enable local partners to embed equality and diversity work within the overall vision for Dundee and develop an action plan to improve outcomes, reduce inequality and increase diversity simultaneously.

3.4.3 The full <u>Mainstreaming Equalities report</u> is available containing these outcomes. The action plan will be produced by October 2021 and will include additional commitments to address child poverty; stigma; communities experiencing multiple deprivation; income and benefit maximisation; and the Dundee Fairness Commission recommendations.

#### 3.5 **Responding through the Dundee Partnership**

3.5.1 Taking all of these developments into account, Dundee will tackle poverty and inequality on a collaborative basis. We are proud of our record and reputation for partnership working and this will be rigorously tested in attempting to turn around the current and anticipated levels of deprivation in the city. Our overall community planning approach ties this together at a city-wide level and through our local community planning and empowerment arrangements. The full extent of these can be found in the City Plan and the range of underpinning strategies, partnerships and activities on which this is built is captured in the following diagram:



- 3.5.2 Progress towards our ambitious local child poverty targets are reported to the Dundee Partnership Management Group and the Policy and Resources Committee of Dundee City Council on a regular basis.
- 3.5.3 The following summary shows a range of ways in which Dundee has effectively tackled important aspects of poverty and inequalities over the last 6-12 months:

### - Summary of Key Highlights



Cancer Support. (provisional figures for 2020/21)



#### 4. POVERTY AND DEPRIVATION IN DUNDEE

#### 4.1 Measuring Inequality in Dundee

- 4.1.1 The long-term trends relating to levels of poverty in Dundee remain stubbornly consistent over time and the ongoing social, health and economic impact of the COVID-19 will very probably exacerbate these, it is important that we continue to monitor all available evidence. This will enable us to identify the highest priority groups and local issues as well as monitoring progress towards our child poverty targets.
- 4.1.2 The following summary gives a clear and simple representation of the extent and range of anti-poverty challenges families and communities in Dundee face. A full and detailed fairness/child <u>poverty profile</u> for Dundee can be found at the Dundee Partnership website.



### Attainment and Child Poverty



## 26.8%

of children in Dundee City are in poverty after housing costs. (Source: End Child Poverty 2019/20 data published May 2021)



of children in Dundee live in families with limited resources after housing costs.

(Source: Scottish Government Children in Families with Limited Resources Across Scotland 2014-2017)



85.4%

SCQF level 4.

(Source: Insight 2020)

children looked after in Dundee

City. This represents 1.8% of the

493

## 10,506

children (aged 0-15 years) live within the 20% most deprived data zones, this accounts for 43.8% of children in that age group in Dundee City overall. (Source: SIMD 2020)

The majority of children (0-15 years) who live in East End (79.7%), Coldside (64.3%) and Lochee (54.9%) live in a data zone ranked in the 20% most deprived.

**63.9%** of school leavers of school leavers attaining literacy attaining literacy and numeracy at and numeracy at

SCQF level 5.





of employees aged 18+ in Dundee City were earning less than the living wage. (Source: 2020 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings)





of children aged under 16 were living in working households.

(Source: ONS Annual Population Survey Jan-Dec 2019)



Gross median weekly earnings for full time workers residing in Dundee City in 2020.

(Source: 2020 ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings - Resident Analysis)



Youth Unemployment Rate (Aged 16 to 24). (Source: ONS Annual Population Survey Jan-Dec 2020)

36.6% of the population in Dundee City live in a data zone ranked in the 20% most deprived in the income domain.

(Source: SIMD 2020)



of people aged 16-64 years and economically active in Dundee City were in employment during January December 2020. (Source: ONS Annual Population Survey)

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## - Social Inclusion and Stigma



of lone parents stated that they were currently experiencing or had experienced difficulties with the cost of food in the last year.

(Source: DCC Annual Citizens Survey 2019)



5672 food vouchers issued from food banks. (Source: Dundee Foodbank 2020)



4560 children fed via the foodbank vouchers. (Source: Dundee Foodbank 2020)



with a disability. (Source: ONS Annual Population Survey 2019)

## Health and Inequalities



Children at risk of being obese. (Source: ISD 2019)

(Source: National Records of Scotland Life Expectancy in Scotland 2017-2019)

#### **Housing and Communities** 185 of all households in households children living households with children Dundee City were in temporary in temporary or a pregnant women in estimated to be fuel poor. accommodation in accommodation in temporary accommodation Dundee City. Dundee City. in Dundee City. (Source: Scottish Government, Scottish House Condition Survey LA data 2017-2019 (Source: Scottish Government Homelessness in Scotland 2019-2020 - as at 31st March 2020) 15% 58% £550 of lone parents who participated Median rent for a 2 of all respondents in the 2019 in the 2019 Annual Citizens Survey Annual Citizens survey stated bedroom property in the stated that they have insurance for private sector per month. that they had insurance for the contents of their house. (Source: Scottish Government Private Rent Statistics 2010 to 2020, Dundee and Angus Broad Rental Market Statistics 2020) the contents of their house. (Source: DCC Annual Citizens Survey 2019) (Source: DCC Annual Citizens Survey 2019) Energy Bill 17% 60% of all respondents in the 2019 Annual Citizens of lone parents stated that they -Survey stated that they were currently were currently experiencing or had experienced difficulties with the cost of experiencing or had experienced difficulties with the cost of domestic energy bills in the last year. domestic energy bills in the last year. (Source: DCC Annual Citizens Survey 2019) (Source: DCC Annual Citizens Survey 2019)

#### 4.2 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020/ Child Poverty 2019/20

- 4.2.1 The 2020 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation confirmed the high levels of poverty, social and material deprivation that exist across the city and concentrated in our community regeneration areas. A <u>full briefing on SIMD 2020 results for the city</u> is available on the Dundee Partnership website. It confirms that 70 out of 188 total data zones in Dundee are in the 20% most deprived in Scotland. 37% of Dundee's population live within these areas. Community profiles showing the data at Local Community Planning Partnership area and for smaller community areas within these areas are available here
- 4.2.2 A summary of the data zones ranked in the 20% most deprived in the original and revised SIMD is shown below:

Most Deprived Rankings	SIMD 2020 Original	SIMD 2020 Revised
No. Data Zones Ranked in 5%	22 (22 ranked in Vigintile 1)	21 (21 ranked in Vigintile 1)
Most Deprived		
No. Data Zones Ranked in 10%	43 (21 ranked in Vigintile 2)	45 (24 ranked in Vigintile 2)
Most Deprived		
No. Data Zones Ranked in 15%	58 (15 ranked in Vigintile 3)	59 (14 ranked in Vigintile 3)
Most Deprived		
No. Data Zones Ranked in 20%	72 (14 ranked in Vigintile 4)	70 (11 ranked in Vigintile 4)
Most Deprived		

- 4.2.3 In relation to Child poverty, the 2020 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation also shows that 10,506 children (aged 0-15) live within the 20% most deprived data zones in Dundee City. This accounts for 43.8% of children in that age group in Dundee City overall.
- 4.2.4 2019/20 child poverty estimates by the Child Poverty Action Group published in May 2021 which measures children in low-income households **after housing costs** show that 26.8% of children in Dundee City are living in poverty after housing costs in comparison to 24.3% across Scotland. The table below outlines figures from 2015 to 2020 and shows an increase of 3% in Dundee City and 2.7% in Scotland.

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Dundee City	23.8%	25.0%	26.4%	27.0%	26.2%	26.8%
Scotland	21.6%	22.8%	23.4%	24.2%	23.2%	24.3%

Source: End Child Poverty – Child Poverty in your area 2014/15 - 2019/20 (published May 2021)

#### 4.2.5 **Children in low income households (before housing costs)**

HMRC statistics give the number of children living in low-income families, the term 'low income' refers to being below the poverty threshold. These statistics complement the official child poverty statistics, and are calibrated to the 3-year average estimates for Scotland and the other nations and regions in the UK. Therefore, the total number of children in poverty in Scotland- in this measure matches the official estimates for Scotland. The numbers are lower overall than the End Child Poverty figures shown above as these are before housing costs.

Ward	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20*	Change
Coldside	30.7%	31.0%	31.3%	0.6%
East End	24.9%	26.3%	26.7%	1.8%
Lochee	23.3%	24.0%	21.8%	-1.5%
Maryfield	28.7%	28.3%	25.9%	-2.8%
North East	20.5%	19.9%	22.4%	1.9%
Strathmartine	22.0%	19.8%	21.4%	-0.6%
The Ferry	7.8%	7.1%	9.1%	1.3%
West End	15.2%	16.3%	15.3%	0.1%
Dundee City	21.5%	21.2%	21.6%	0.1%

Source: HMRC

\*2019/20 figures are provisional

Looking further at children in low-income households (before housing costs) the tables below show that in Dundee City 56.6% of these children are within lone parent families and 42.2% are in non-working families.

Lone Parent Families 2019/20*		Non-Working Families 2019/20	
Ward	%	Ward	%
Coldside	11.9	Coldside	12.7
East End	19.3	East End	18.9
Lochee	16.3	Lochee	17.2
Maryfield	8.7	Maryfield	9.1
North East	16.8	North East	16.0
Strathmartine	15.9	Strathmartine	15.5
The Ferry	4.7	The Ferry	3.8
West End	6.4	West End	6.8
Dundee City	56.6	Dundee City	42.2

Source: HMRC \*2019/20 figures are provisional

#### 5. DUNDEE FAIRNESS ACTION PLAN PERFORMANCE IN 2020/21

5.1 Dundee is setting itself the ambitious goal of matching the Scottish Government's overall national target of reducing child poverty to less than 10% of children living in relative poverty by 2030 from a current rate of 26.8%. Our efforts will be directed by the outcomes framework that has been revised to reflect he broad range of factors that will ned to be countered to reduce child and household poverty in Dundee, compounded in recent months by COVID-19.

Dundee Fairness and Child Poverty Outcomes 2020-22 Overarching Outcome - Our city will experience less household and child poverty				
Attainment and Child Poverty	Reduce the poverty- related attainment gap			
Work and Wages	Increase wage levels and Scottish Living Wage Accreditation	Increase learning, skills and employment opportunities for people in poverty	Reduce persistent and rising levels of unemployment and underemployment	
Benefits and Advice	Maximise income from social security and benefits in kind,	Reduce household costs, debt and fuel poverty		
Social Inclusion and Stigma	Increase social and digital inclusion,	Reduce stigma and discrimination of people living in poverty and people with protected characteristics	Improve resilience, aspirations and purpose for people in poverty	
Health Inequalities	Reduce health gaps caused by social inequality	Improve physical and mental health and wellbeing for people in poverty	Reduce causes and consequences of substance misuse	
Housing and Communities	Build social capital, connectedness and trust in disadvantaged communities	Promote safe and supportive environments at home, at work and in the community	Ensure access to basic human necessities including food, heat, medicine and hygiene products	

5.2 We want Dundee City to be the best place for children to grow up in and tackling poverty will contribute a large part of achieving this. The national context sets out goals for Scotland in terms three key areas which have been proven to impact on reducing child poverty, shown in the diagram below. Our <u>Poverty</u> <u>Profile highlights</u>



- 5.3 Our local actions will help to achieve this in a variety of ways and details on the performance achieved are included in section 8 where we measure progress on key indicators, and in appendix 2 where we detail the action we have taken over the last 12 months
- 5.4 Additional issues emerging from the COVID-19 lockdown will be incorporated into the next full revision of the Fairness and Child Poverty Plan in 2022. These will include access to emergency food and medicine, escalating unemployment and employability, digital inclusion, access to benefits and advice, rising household debt, and poor mental health and wellbeing. Local advice officers and partner agencies are particularly keen to support the new opportunities to support children, families and households to benefit from new measures such as the Scottish Child Payment, Scottish self-isolation payment, Child Winter Heating Allowance and options to support those who are destitute due to having No Recourse to Public Funds.
- 5.5 These efforts will be underpinned by Dundee City Council's recent approval for Funding for Covid-19 Supports for 2021/22. A report to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee in May 2021 sets out how recently announced Scottish Government allocations will continue key supports from 2020/21 and effectively respond to other emerging needs of people in Dundee affected by Covid-19 during 2021/22. Three complementary areas are addressed.
  - a) Supporting Individuals At Financial Risk allocated £981,052. Proposals include;
    - Food Insecurity £406,052
    - Fuel Well £400,000
    - Discretionary Housing Payments £155,000
    - Spring Hardship Payment £20,000

#### b) Flexible Funding To Meet Emerging Needs Proposals – allocated £834,000. Proposals include:

- Responding to needs identified through the Helpline £150,000
- Responding to additional demand on Domestic Abuse Services £170,000
- Development of Community Based Integrated Advice Model £200,000
- Community Based Activities to tackle isolation and support wellbeing £60,000
- Expansion of Digital Inclusion/Attend Anywhere/Near Me £20,000
- Review and increase public Wi-Fi capacity in community centres £20,000
- Support for Community Food Organisations £50,000
- Inclusive Communications £10,000

#### c) Other Funding Streams Supporting Vulnerable Groups

Understanding and co-ordination of different funding streams will ensure that all available funding is best used to support the recovery of the City and ensure that any gaps are targeted as appropriate. In addition to the above two funding streams set out, a range of other funding announcements were made during March 2021 to support communities, schools, care experienced young people, mental health services. These include Summer of Play activities, Social Renewal Advisory Board actions, Connecting Scotland Programme, Welfare Rights in GP Practices, Community and Third Sector Recovery Programme, the Tenant Hardship Loan Fund, Pandemic Support Payments, Tackling Child Poverty (including Free School Meals, Scotlish Child Payment, Winter and Spring Hardship payments), Community Lenders funding.

#### 6. SIGNIFICANT FAIRNESS DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTION

6.1 In the eight years since the Dundee Partnership adopted its first Fairness Action Plan, it has highlighted a number of significant developments. These are regularly presented in each annual report as we believe that they offer the potential to underpin measures to reduce the poverty and deprivation seen in our communities.

#### 6.2 Dundee Fairness Commission 2019-2021

#### 6.2.1 Summary of key milestones

In May 2019 the third and final Dundee Fairness Commission met for the first time. It brought together 12 Community Commissioners - people with personal experience of poverty and inequality and 12 Civic Commissioners - people with influence in our city. The overriding objective of the Commission was to search out the issues people are struggling with today, to hear their stories and find ways to make a difference.

In the initial months the Community Commissioners held story sharing sessions during which key themes were discussed and common threads were identified. In the months that followed, the Civic Commissioners shared their thoughts, highlighting where the themes and stories connected with their personal and working lives. Together the Commissioners chose 3 key themes and broke into working groups: Disability; Food & Fuel Insecurity; Treatment from Staff.

The work of the Commission was put on hold due to Coronavirus pandemic. The Treatment from Staff working group then decided to change focus and revisit Mental Health and Wellbeing.

In August 2020 the Commission launched a survey to gather views of how covid had impacted people in Dundee, especially in connection with disability, fuel insecurity and mental health and wellbeing. 452 citizens responded to the survey and submitted their questionnaires. The Commissioners took the key findings from the survey reports, analysed the main issues relating to the three key themes and used them to lay the foundations for their recommendations.

The concluding stage of the Commission took place in the months of April and May 2021, where the recommendations were finalised and prepared to be shared with key partners within the city and beyond.

#### 6.2.2 Dundee Fairness Commission Achievements

In December 2019 Community Commissioners from Dundee Fairness Commission, the Edinburgh Poverty Commission, Glasgow Poverty Truth Community, North Ayrshire Fair for All Commission and Shetland Voices for Equality came together to identify the key themes they believe the Scottish Government should address in their next Fairer Scotland Conversation. Glasgow Poverty Truth Community produced a report on behalf of the group which was then sent to Aileen Campbell, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government.

While the work of the Fairness Commission in Dundee was on hold due to lockdown, Community Commissioners met with Scottish Government representatives in a teleconference, took part in interviews and submitted written feedback about their experiences, the inequalities and poverty emerging as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and how the pandemic affected their own income. They also submitted their views on what could make the future better for people in Scotland, Their input was collated and presented to the Scottish Government Social Renewal Advisory Board.

Four Community Commissioners were interviewed by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's Associate Director Scotland regarding their thoughts on the new Disability Assistance in Scotland. This feedback has been incorporated into their latest briefing - <u>How social security can deliver for disabled people in</u> <u>Scotland | JRF</u>

On a local level, the Food and Fuel working group met with senior management of Dundee City Council and actively participated in the design of the Fuel Well scheme, including the application, format and wording of the questions to increase accessibility. The Mental Health working group shared their feedback with the Council's Communication Manger on the Coronavirus Tier 4 guidance. They group also met with Head of Communication from Dundee, Angus and Perth & Kinross Councils to discuss where people access information, both inside and outside their homes. In August 2020 the Dundee Fairness Commission produced a re-launch report where the Commissioners shared their experiences of lockdown, focusing on the three key themes of disability, mental health and food and fuel insecurity.

#### 6.2.3 Fairness Commission Working Groups

• Disability

The Disability Working group wanted to know what people with disabilities needed services to prioritise, and to learn more about the disability benefits being devolved to Scotland. The group was concerned about the number of people with disabilities still not receiving all the benefits they are entitled to, and how the system treats some of its most vulnerable clients.

Food and Fuel

The Food and Fuel Working group's main interest was to examine the relationship between low income, fuel poverty and food insecurity. The Commission found that the number of people having to choose between food and fuel increased significantly as a direct result of the pandemic. In the Survey carried out by the Commission in August 2020, almost half of the respondents expressed concerns about running out of fuel during lockdown.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental Health and Wellbeing was one of key themes of the 2017-18 Fairness Commission. However, as the Covid pandemic highlighted the scale of issues that people experience, particularly feelings of isolation, lack of access to support services, fear of the impact of reduced income and reduced employment opportunities, The Commission decided to refocus and revisit Mental Health and Wellbeing as the third key theme. Challenges regarding employability were also identified.

#### 6.2.4 Dundee Fairness Commission Recommendations and Future Steps

Physical Disability Recommendations				
Services and Communication	New Adult Disability Payment	Advocacy		
1.Health and support services for people with physical disabilities must continue to be available during lockdowns or any other emergencies	1. Social Security Scotland, the Dundee Partnership and Dundee City Council collectively organise an awareness raising campaign to ensure that every eligible person in Dundee applies for an	1. The Dundee Partnership and all agencies in the city find ways to increase the availability of independent advocacy for people with physical disability in Dundee		
2. Health and support services for people with physical disabilities must quickly and clearly communicate changes to services to users, patients and carers during lockdown or any other emergencies	Adult Disability Payment 2. The Social Security Scotland Local Delivery Team in Dundee makes arrangements to work in partnership with local advice projects, third sector charities and local disability groups to	2. Social Security Scotland Local Delivery Team work with partners to promote and maximise the take up of the SSS internal advocacy service.		
3. The Dundee Health and Care Partnership should engage with service users and carers to ensure that their recovery plans and plans for any future lockdowns will effectively meet	<ul> <li>and local diodonity groupe to ensure that people are encouraged and supported to apply</li> <li>3. Social Security Scotland finds a way to identify people</li> </ul>			

the needs of disabilities	people with	who lost their Personal Independence Payment following the existing unfair assessment and appeal processes	
		4. The Social Security Scotland Local Delivery Team establishes a lived experience panel of people in Dundee with physical disabilities to ensure that measures to introduce the new Adult Disability Payment are quick, simple and successful	

	Fuel and Food Recommendations				
Fuel Insecurity	Forms and Procedures	Complexity of Fuel Schemes	Food Insecurity		
<ul> <li>1.Dundee City Council carries out an audit of all properties served by district heating schemes, prioritising the Lochee multis, to improve minor energy efficiency issues (such as draughts) to enable residents to maximise the district heating benefits as well as reduce carbon emissions</li> <li>2. Dundee City Council establishes a pilot exercise in one district heating scheme to test the possibility of the wider introduction of a fairer payment scheme based on a flat rate charge with 'fair use'</li> </ul>	1.Money advice services review their forms and procedures to better enable clients to provide the information needed to access fuel support. This review should be done with stakeholder's input	<ul> <li>1.MPs work with their colleagues across all parties to change the Warm Home Discount so that people are able to apply all year long, and that they insist that fuel providers MUST advertise clearly ensuring that people know cut off dates</li> <li>2. Fuel advice projects in Dundee come together to look specifically at fuel insecurity, work together on clear information about support/help available and coordinate their support offers</li> </ul>	1.Dundee develops a local Food Insecurity Strategy focussing on dignified access to food		
<ul><li>monitoring</li><li>3. Dundee City Council creates further district heating schemes</li></ul>		3.Landlords (Council, Housing Associations, and private landlords) fix a laminated fuel support information card next to/on meters			

across the city with a focus on areas of greatest fuel insecurity	in every one of their properties.	

	Mental Health and Wellbeing Recommendations				
Employability Support Agencies and Mental Health	Communication	Social Isolation and Loneliness	The Impact of Financial Uncertainty on Mental Health and Wellbeing		
<ul> <li>1.The Discover Work Service simplifies the employability services pathway</li> <li>2.The Discover Work Service increases access to employability services support for people struggling with Mental Health but are unable to access a referral from another organisation by creating self-referral routes</li> <li>3.The Discover Work Service creates a single point of contact/entry</li> </ul>	<ol> <li>Simplicity of information: Information needs to be really basic for ANYBODY – don't assume people understand technical terms</li> <li>Use different approaches: Use stories; graphics; animations that can be understood, not just words!</li> <li>Where do people learn: Identify where people see and respond to information. For example – bus stops, community</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>1.As services are reopened, these groups are prioritised (including social spaces, such as community centres)</li> <li>2. The Dundee Partnership and other bodies actively seek, adopt and support community solutions to reducing isolation</li> </ul>	1.Services should be more proactive in addressing the impact of financial uncertainty on people's mental health and wellbeing and agencies supporting individuals should work more closely together		
4.The Discover Work Service employability services improve their approach for individuals	noticeboards, newspaper billboards outside newsagents, in places of worship, supermarkets, electronic boards, radio				
5.The Discover Work Service identifies relevant training/info that enables employers to better support employees struggling with mental health and ensure employers in Dundee	4. Involve people from local communities in the review and design of messaging				

have this information and know how to apply it		

- 6.2.4.1 The Commissioners have presented their <u>report and recommendations</u> to the Dundee Partnership Management Group and are scheduled to repeat this at the Council's Policy and Resources Committee later in June. The Commissioners have also approached the new Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government to request a meeting to discuss the recommendations.
- 6.2.4.2 Although this was the final Dundee Fairness Commission in this form, this work will continue through the newly established Dundee Fighting for Fairness (DFFF) group. It is made up of former community commissioners and has secured charitable status to formally represent the voice of local people and communities struggling against poverty. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Dundee City Council are jointly funding Faith in Community Dundee for the next two years to provide development support and help Dundee Fighting for Fairness to play a powerful campaigning role.
- 6.2.4.3 Dundee Fighting for Fairness will join representatives from Dundee City Council on the new Fairness Leadership Panel that is to be established before the end of the year. Once the exact shape of the Panel is agreed, this will be the key long-term group that will drive forward the Fairness Action Plan and keep the focus on reducing social inequalities in every aspect of life in Dundee.

#### 6.3 Cost of the School Day (CoSD)

- 6.3.1 Dundee City Council is a Cost of the School Day authority and all Dundee schools are Cost of the School Day schools. Cost of the School Day initiative aligns with all the work done to reduce the impact of the poverty-related attainment gap, Getting It Right for Every Child, and ensuring equity and inclusion for all children and young people.
- 6.3.2 A full update on progress on this work was presented in the 18-month 2019/20 report in November 2020. The CoSD Action Plans are being continually reviewed, with progress being reported on and actions in the plan related to the Cost of the School Day statement of Intent being implemented to meet the national targets for tackling child poverty in Dundee. The most recent <u>full progress report on Cost</u> of the School Day Initiative was presented to the Children and Families Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

#### 6.4 Alcohol & Drug Partnership – Action Plan for Change

- 6.4.1 The revised Dundee Alcohol and Drug Partnership: Action Plan for Change was agreed in 2020. Although progress with the implementation of the Action Plan for Change has been impacted by the Covid-19 restrictions, a number of new innovative, immediate and flexible responses to emerging issues were developed. These responses are still in place and are expected to remain for the long term. These include:
  - steps taken to continue the safe provision of prescribing and dispensing arrangements in-line with national guidance.
  - Specific measures were put in place to support the large number of individuals needing to shield or selfisolate, including outreach support from a multi-agency group of staff.
  - New arrangements were introduced to ensure continued availability of Injecting Equipment Provision (IEP), and there was a substantial increase in the availability of naloxone to individuals and families.
  - Key life-saving measures such as the work of the multi-agency non-fatal overdoses rapid response team have been strengthened. The team continues to meet during each week-day and the pathway includes the development of an assertive outreach response engaging with every person who experienced a non-fatal overdose within 72 hours, offering those not already in treatment a fast track to access treatment.
- 6.4.2 An application to CORRA to access Drug Death Task Force Funding to support a a Test of Change (ToC) project has been successful. This project will focus on reducing the number of deaths in the city by developing an integrated substance use and mental health response, delivered within community localities, and including crisis interventions available at evenings and weekends. The Dundee Drugs Commission and Independent Inquiry into Mental Health services in Tayside outlined the need for an

integrated mental health and substance use response. Many people experiencing problem substance use are also affected by mental health issues including childhood and on-going trauma. Evidence from front-line services in Dundee highlights the potential benefits of a 24-hours crisis intervention to support those affected by complex needs. The delivery of these elements will add value to the multi-agency community hubs/ locality approach already adopted in Dundee.

- 6.4.3 The Dundee Drug Commission is due to reconvene in July 2021 with a remit to:
  - Review progress achieved in implementing the DDC's recommendations from 2018

• Consider the impact of, and the lessons learned from, measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

• Agree any new findings emerging from the review and make additional recommendations if required

• Prepare a final report for the Dundee ADP and its partners including Dundee City Council, NHS Tayside and the Health and Social Care Partnership

- 6.4.4 The purpose of the review is not to repeat the extensive research and discussions of the initial commission. Instead, the Commission will be asked to focus on the work undertaken in the city to deliver the change set out in the recommendations that were accepted in full by the Dundee Partnership in 2019. To maximise efficiency, it is proposed that the reconvening of the Commission takes place over a 6-month period beginning in July 2021.
- 6.4.5 In preparation, the Dundee ADP will produce a self-assessment document that provides a robust evaluation of the successes in securing improvements and plans for progressing in the short term. This will also state the outstanding challenges faced and the measures in place to overcome these.

#### 6.5 Mental Health Crisis Support

- 6.5.1 Over the last year a Tayside wide project group has been reviewing current Crisis and Urgent Care pathways for people experiencing a mental health crisis, and on 4<sup>th</sup> March a stakeholder engagement session was held to consider potential options for the future. A key purpose of this project group was to begin to disaggregate people experiencing a mental health crisis (that is, with an acute exacerbation of a mental health condition likely to respond to specialist care and treatment) and people experiencing emotional distress (where this emotional distress may be arising from a wide array of more social and interpersonal factors likely to be helped by a more holistic problem-solving approach). Both responses are equally necessary and have equal value.
- 6.5.2 The Group made a single, clear recommendation for a model where Community Wellbeing Hubs (CWHs) will be established in Dundee, Perth & Kinross and Angus which are "always open," operating 24/7 and led by voluntary sector partners. These will be a single point of entry including a single phone number both for people experiencing a mental health crisis and people experiencing emotional distress. NHS24, Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service and a range of agencies will be able to refer into the CWH in addition to service users and carers self-referring.
- 6.5.3 The CWHs will host immediately available support and facilitate access to a wide range of city- wide resources and have direct access to specialist mental health resources for those people presenting with acute mental health crisis. CWHs will be able to support people whilst the clinical assessment process is ongoing and, importantly, if specialist mental health care and treatment is not required, people will already be in the correct place to access the supports available for people experiencing distress. They will also have access to short-term accommodation with support provided by voluntary sector partners.
- 6.5.4 It is envisaged that full implementation of the above model will take up to 12 months to realise. However, given the model has now been agreed, suitable premises can be sought and an incremental approach taken to delivery. Whilst it has taken longer than originally anticipated to finalise local plans, the whole system approach that has been taken was recognised by stakeholders as crucial to future improved support for people

#### 6.6 **Dundee Food Insecurity Network**

6.6.1 The Dundee Food Insecurity network was formed in March 2020 in response to emerging food crisis brought on by the covid pandemic. Co-ordinated by Faith in Community Dundee and with nearly 30 independent food projects based within 7 out 8 of Dundee wards, the Network has been at the forefront of making food available to local communities over the past year either by inviting people to collect food from community-based facilities or making doorstep deliveries.

- 6.6.2 Having secured further funding from Dundee City Council, the Dundee Food Insecurity Network will be able to meet their current commitments for the rest of this financial year with additional capacity should there be an increase in demand. In addition, the funding made available will ensure that the Network will have the capacity to offer other activities and services, as required, to support individuals and families to overcome financial crisis and support wellbeing including household cleaning products, toiletries and basic PPE.
- 6.6.3 At the peak of lockdown, food was being provided to over 4000 people across the city per week and the number has stabilised since the start of 2021 to approximately 2,500 per week to support vulnerable individuals and families.
- 6.6.4 The Network received crucial supply and distribution support from Fare Share and Alexander Community Development. With the easing of lockdown, the supply of provisions from Fare Share's additional emergency stock has now ended. Dundee City Council has purchased a significant quantity of food to enable the Network to operate for the next twelve months subject to a managed transition.
- 6.6.5 It is recognised that as Dundee emerges from the current crisis, the Food Insecurity Network will have to undertake work to transition away from a food emergency provision response to a recovery response. The Network has agreed to develop a strategy that is based on:
  - Dignity maximising income and minimising need for emergency food, giving people choice.
  - Cohesion working together to bring about the best possible outcomes for the most vulnerable in our city.
  - Sustainability ensuring the right resources are available for projects and people for the long-term.
  - Participation this can only be done by listening closely to the local Community Food Projects and people with lived experience of poverty.

#### 6.7 New Advice Strategy for Dundee

- 6.7.1 Partners from the Council, Brooksbank Centre and Citizens Advice Bureau have been developing a new joint advice strategy. The steering group tasked with this has been expanded to include Shelter and Dundee North Law Centre. Understandably, the Covid 19 pandemic has significantly impacted on the provision of advice in the city by limiting access to venues and face to face support. Lessons have also been learned from Shielding/local Covid outbreaks and the suspension of many health services. As a result, the strategy is currently being redrafted in light of the pandemic's impact and the need to redesign services accordingly.
- 6.7.2 A finalised proposal of the Dundee New Advice Strategy is being submitted to Dundee City Council's Policy and Resource Committee later in the financial year 2021/2022. Approval will be sought to begin work on implementation of the Strategy during the current financial year.
- 6.7.3 In the meantime, additional debt management advice capacity is being resourced in the Brooksbank Centre and at Dundee Citizens Advice Bureau. This is being met from the £100k allocated in the 2020/21 revenue budget to aid the implementation of key issues identified by the Dundee Fairness Commission.

#### 6.8 Digital Inclusion

- 6.8.1 Dundee City Council has been offered funding to support individuals and families to help tackle the effects of the pandemic in terms of financial insecurity, food poverty and digital exclusion. £0.861m was used to purchase digital devices and connectivity solutions to address digital exclusion amongst children and young people.
- 6.8.2 Almost 4,000 digital devices were supplied to pupils and care experienced young people to enable online learning. This included support from Connecting Scotland, a Scottish Government initiative aimed at providing digital devices and internet access for those in need which supplied 842 devices to individuals and support for their use.
- 6.8.3 Additional 20 iPads with 12 months of free internet access were distributed in partnership with Children and Families service to families with young children without internet access or devices in early January 2021. The city's initiative on expansion of digital inclusion has received approval for further funding during 2021/2022.
- 6.8.4 Leisure and Culture Dundee recorded Baby and Toddler Rhyme Time sessions and made them available through YouTube and Facebook, and the annual Summer Reading Challenge became a

digital event. While the Scottish Government aims to provide every school child with their own device, this needs to be accompanied with free digital support which library staff and volunteers are well placed to deliver.

#### 6.9 Parental Employment Support Fund

- 6.9.1 Dundee City Council secured a total Parental Employment Support Fund allocation of £804,600 from the Scottish Government in support of the aims outlined in Scottish Government's Child Poverty Action Plan "Every child, every chance: tackling child poverty delivery plan 2018-2022"
- 6.9.2 Dundee PESF approach will be led and informed by members of the Discover Work Partnership, including Third Sector Interface, Dundee City Council, Department for Work and Pensions, Skills Development Scotland, Dundee & Angus College, the Health & Social Care Partnership, NHS Tayside, Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce and Fair Start Scotland.
- 6.9.3 Following facilitated discussions between all stakeholders, it has been decided that ENABLE Works will lead a partnership between a Third Sector Consortium and the Council's Adult and Youth Employability Services to maximise their reach to clients and offer a variety of appropriate support from a range of organisations. The implementation of PESF has started gathering pace in Dundee after initial delay caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 6.9.4 Given the policy drivers associated with the funding and the target groups already supported by the Discover Work Service (primarily those unemployed), it is intended that all of the PESF activities will focus on parents previously supported into employment in the past 12-24 months to identify those who may benefit from PESF in-work support by delivering In Work Development and in Work Progression Service for parents. This is an opportunity to enhance the Employability Pathway's existing services to deliver additional support that focuses on assisting employed clients in the PESF target groups to sustain and make progress in employment. Those clients may be the same people supported into employment by the existing services, as high percentage of those clients fall into one or more of the target groups, allowing for the efforts to concentrate on priority families
- 6.9.5 In addition, PESF services will be promoted to partner organisations (e.g. Welfare Rights, Childcare Providers, DWP, Community Learning and Development, Housing, etc.) to generate the referral of new clients belonging to the PESF target groups.
- 6.9.6 It is also intended that a proportion of PESF is used to leverage additional European Social Fund so that value of funds available to support more clients is increased.

#### 6.10 Council Advice Services

- 6.10.1 Council Advice Services have continued to work throughout the period of the pandemic, maintaining existing workstreams while also adding methods of service delivery to respond safely to customer need. Scottish Welfare Fund provision has continued with the statutory timescales for decision making having been met in 2020/21 despite huge increases in applications.
- 6.10.2 In 2020/21 the Scottish Welfare Fund dealt with 21,390 calls and processed 9918 Crisis Grants and 2562 Community Care Grants securing over £1.7 million for to families in need throughout the pandemic.
- 6.10.3 The anticipated total gains raised by the Council Advice Services for households in the financial year 2020/21 through welfare and debt advice and appeal representation have been provisionally calculated to reach £10,283,994.43. Activity included:

#### March 2020 - August 2020

At the outset of the pandemic Dundee citizens and households were faced with a situation where lockdown was imposed on the population at very short notice, causing families to experience shortages of money, social contact, employment, wages and food. Very quickly, food insecurity became a major issue, especially for those individuals who were required to shield themselves, either due to age or an underlying medical condition.

Processes were quickly set up to respond to customer need, using the Firmstep Platform. Initially Customer Services or Council Advice Services staff took calls either directly from local citizens or from the Scottish Government's national helpline. The initial questions covered areas such as need for food, access to cash for crisis situations, help with medicine delivery and access to priority supermarket slots. Over time the questions were expanded, and a more holistic approach was embedded.

In the last 14 months there have been 14,877 approaches for support provided with 2428 food requests and 751 medicine requests. Alongside these there were approaches for advice and information, benefit checks, Scottish Welfare Fund applications and other issues faced by those affected by the pandemic. This holistic approach in turn informed the work around fuel poverty (below).

#### September 2020 - March 2021

Fuel Poverty over the 2020/21 winter period was highlighted as a major issue by the Dundee Poverty Commission research in their August 2020 report. Many issues have been highlighted over the 2020 lockdown period and beyond by people with lived experience in Dundee and the fear was that over the winter period socioeconomic issues would continue to affect those on low incomes or with limited resources to combat financial shock.

In October 2020 Dundee Energy Efficiency Project energy advisers were asked to provide ideas as to how any future funds could be used to tackle fuel poverty over the winter months. The fuel poverty social enterprise SCARF and the Dundee Fairness Commissioners were consulted to add their expertise to these proposals. Latterly Dundee Volunteer and Voluntary Action and some likely trusted intermediary organisations (e.g. Social Prescribers) were also consulted on the scheme and how their customers could be assisted.

Building on the Firmstep self-service model referred to above the Council Advice Services developed a wraparound, holistic service to explore customers heating and wider financial inclusion issues. Targeted questions were developed focussed on those areas of fuel poverty and socioeconomic need that could be supported through part of the Scottish Government's Grant allocation.

By allowing customers to self-serve or apply via 3rd party organisations or supportive friends or family, the scheme, entitled Fuel Well Dundee, aimed to offer the option of a full holistic service, access to fuel support costs, income maximisation, debt advice as well as mental health supports and links to various social community activities that could help people in their local areas.

#### Ongoing work

As advice services start to come out of lockdown and restart services again there is a need to consider possible impacts of the pandemic and how services can be restructured to capitalise on work done throughout the last 14 months but also revert to the main areas of welfare benefits advice and money advice.

Existing and new pathways working through the pandemic include:

- Primary Care co-location services in 7 GP surgery locations across Dundee continued to provide a telephone service to patients. Despite not being physically based within surgeries the 7 surgeries still yielded £1,248,448 (provisional amount) in extra benefits for their patients in 2020/21
- The Macmillan Welfare Rights Benefits Service continued to take referrals from Cancer Nurse Specialists and other clinicians in 2020/21 and as a result saw £2,479,166 of provisional gains raised for clients affected by cancer and their families.
- Maternity and Health Visitor referral pathway has been set up to encourage referrals from midwives and health visitors in Dundee. A standard approach to income maximisation advice and support at various points in a child's birth and development is being undertaken with each case being referred via the NHS Badgernet system. From December 2020 to March 2021 the pathway dealt with 18 referrals and generated £21, 279 in welfare benefits. Feedback to midwives and health visitors is being done in all cases and we hope to increase referral numbers in 2021/22.
- A schools referral system into advice is being finalised based on the principles of the Bellahouston Academy model being developed in Glasgow. The referral system will start in Morgan Academy as a test of change in June 2021.

#### 6.11 Discretionary Housing Payment and Homelessness prevention

6.11.1 Discretionary Housing Payments can be awarded if a person's Housing Benefit or Universal Credit Housing Costs does not cover all of their rent and they are having difficulty paying the shortfall. A significant number of claimants have been affected by various welfare reforms such as introduction of a benefit cap, changes to the Local Housing Allowance shared room rate or the introduction of the size criteria in the Social Rented Sector causing accumulation of rent arrears. Additional pressures presented by the Covid-19 pandemic meant that household incomes were stretched even further. To mitigate this and therefore reduce the risk of homelessness and evictions, Dundee City Council pledged additional funds to be allocated to claimants facing difficulties in meeting their rent shortfall or those who have fallen into rent arrears.

6.11.2 The total DHP spend for 2020/2021 was £3,210,587, of which £2,452,169 was paid to those affected by the under-occupancy regulations and a further £758,418 was paid to mitigate the effects of all other welfare reforms and Covid 19.

#### 6.12 Scottish Welfare Fund

- 6.12.1 Coronavirus pandemic put additional pressures on individuals and families in the city. As a result of furlough, reduced income, job losses and increased usage of fuel due to home working and home learning in the 2020/21 financial year, the Scottish Welfare Fund saw an increase in Crisis Grants applications by 29%. However, as fewer people were moving into new tenancies, there was a reduction in applications for Community Care Grants by 13%. The vast majority of the claims was processed within their statutory time limits of 1 working day for Crisis Grants and 15 working days for Community Care Grants. The total value of Crisis Grants awarded in 2020/21 was £644,894.57 and the value of Community Care Grants was £1,076,010.47
- 6.12.2 Overall, 9918 Crisis Grant applications were received and of those 6,758 were awarded (68%). 2,562 Community Care Grants claims were made in 2020/21 and 1,514 were allocated (59%). The data available shows that 2,435 applications to the Scottish Welfare Fund (both for CG and CCG) were made by lone parents, which accounts for almost a fifth of all claims. In the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021 Scottish Welfare Fund advisers took 268 Crisis Grants and 74 Community Care Grants applications. A total of 342 new claims over a seven-day period. This was a record-breaking amount of applications since the Scottish Welfare Fund started in 2013.
- 6.12.3 Despite the fund reaching thousands of individuals in need, some claimants who apply do not meet the criteria or their claims do not progress for other reasons. To enable as many individuals and families as possible to receive much needed support, Dundee City Council devised its own white goods scheme, in partnership with local companies which operate based on a social enterprise model. The scheme is aimed at supporting those individuals who did not qualify for an award of Community Care Grant.

#### 6.13 NHS Tayside and Financial Inclusion

6.13.1 Welfare Advice within Carseview - April 2021-March 2022

Brooksbank Centre & Services have been awarded 1-year funding by NHS Tayside from the Mental Health Outcome Framework Funding to deliver inpatient debt and benefit advice within Carseview Centre in Dundee with a Tayside-wide approach. The post-holder will deliver quarterly reporting and a full end of year report. This will be supported by Public Health and colleagues within Quality Improvement to establish referral pathways and integration of financial support within care planning.

6.13.2 Scottish Government Funding to Health Boards to Maximise Income for Families – May 21-Nov 22

Following on the from the successful evaluation of Angus Midwifery Pilot project, Public Health has allocated its remaining funding from Scottish Government to maternity services. They have recruited a project midwife for 18 months to work closely with Public Health to address child poverty and financial inclusion support within the context of the Tayside Regional Improvement Collaborative (TRIC) plan for **Priority Group 1 – Support for Families (Welfare & Poverty - 0-5 years)**.

The post holder will be responsible for working alongside key universal services and colleagues within Maternity Services, Health Visiting, Family Nurse Partnership and Early Years education settings. This also includes leading on service improvement activity, developing pathways, training, data collection and analysis. The project will include quarterly reporting and end of project evaluation.

#### 6.13.3 Nursing Admission Documentation & Training

The core nursing admission and discharge documentation which included questions on money worries and employment was due to be implemented during Year 2 reporting but due to Covid-19 restrictions this was paused. The documentation is now being piloted in Perth Royal Infirmary with a view to going live in the coming months. Public Health colleagues will support the roll-out of the documentation, which will include delivering training on how to raise the issue of money worries and employment and referral pathway and form to advice services.

- 6.13.4 The NHS Tayside referral portal has been built for clinicians. Financial Inclusion has been added as a referral option for patients with money worries.
- 6.13.5 Public Health have worked with colleagues within the Improvement Academy and Welfare Advice Services in Local Authorities to introduce a direct Financial Inclusion Referral pathway from General Practice. Training will be delivered by Public Health colleagues and Welfare Rights Services to GP's as part of a wider training programme during 2021-22. This will complement co-located welfare officers.
- 6.13.6 Roll out of financial inclusion referrals for Midwifes via the BadgerNet App. The BadgerNet UK App is designed for entering, viewing, and communicating information relating to the maternity care pathway. The app is designed for those users that require a portable solution to record and view all events. It can be used in the community or as part of your in-hospital solution. All midwifes in Tayside now use BadgerNet for referring clients and have access to a single point of contact within each Local Authority Welfare Rights Service. All areas are now regularly referring pregnant women for income maximisation and benefit support.
- 6.13.7 Health Visitors & Family Nurse Partnership colleagues are now using EMIS to refer clients to Local Authority Welfare Rights Services. This was introduced in April 2021 and referrals have been regular across the three localities. Health Visitors report that they find this a very useful resource for them and the clients. Quarterly reports will be collated, along with a full end of year report.
- 6.13.8 Public Health Tayside colleagues delivered monthly training to midwives across Tayside on child poverty and financial inclusion by MS Teams.
- 6.13.9 Public Health Tayside delivered training to over 100 Health Visitors & Family Nurse Partnership colleagues on child poverty and financial inclusion.
- 6.13.10 Public Health Tayside successfully recruited Project Midwife for an 18-month secondment to deliver on the actions of TRIC PG1 – Support for families (Welfare & Poverty – 0-5 years) and to address child poverty & financial inclusion support.
- 6.13.11 Public Health Tayside has worked closely with the Family Nurse Partnership to identify families who may be digitally excluded and as part of the successful Connecting Scotland bid, were able to provide 30 families across Tayside with either a laptop or tablet along with free Wi-Fi. Recipients are supported to use their new device by NHST Digital Friend volunteers.

#### 6.14 Kinship Carers

Provision of a Kinship Allowance ensures that kinship carers have a secure basic income which is supplemented with child related benefits. In late 2019 it was identified that 43 kinship carers, (total of 45 children) did not migrate onto the new allowance scheme and their payments have continued unchanged. For those kinship carers on the new scheme, when the children reach an age of entitlement to an increased allowance (through one of the age gateways – 0- 4years, 5-10 years, 11 – 15 years and 16 -18 years) this is triggered automatically by the council's internal case management system MOSAIC. For the group of carers referred to above, as the children in their care have become older, changes have not been triggered as they are not registered via mosaic. This caused an underpayment for 26 families. After updating the kinship carers' financial statements, and moving them to the new scheme, as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 a backdate of the allowance was calculated totalling £61,827. The other 13 carers have also been moved onto the new scheme which will ensure they are never in an underpayment situation when children move up the age groups.

#### 7. DELIVERING FAIRNESS FOR DUNDEE

- 7.1 The following sections record the progress towards implementation of the commitments made in the Fairness and Child Poverty Plan for 2019-22. firstly, for the plan as a whole and then in detail for each of our Fairness outcomes.
- 7.2 Each section sets out context setting quotes collected by partners in surveys capturing the lived experience of communities facing long-term poverty and the further impact of COVD-19; new data in relevant performance indicators; estimates of progress achieved on each action plan commitments; and case studies that show how we are putting Fairness into practice. At this time, the performance indicators are presented as a baseline using the most recent data available from the sources identified in each table. These will be developed further in future annual reports to include trend information, interim and long-term targets to track progress towards the 2030 national targets, and benchmarking comparisons with relevant local authorities elsewhere in Scotland.



#### 7.3 **Overall Annual Progress**

#### 7.4 Detailed Progress by Fairness Outcome

#### 7.4.1 ATTAINMENT AND CHILD POVERTY

#### 7.4.1A Listening to Lived Experience

"More access to activities for children. The price for kids is getting ridiculous, and this is really stressful for parents. When parents can't afford activities, it isolates the children. There also needs to be more organised kids activities, especially indoor activities in the winter, that are at a reduced rate." (Feedback from Fairness Commission to SRAB)

"With families being at home when they would normally all be out, - energy and power costs have increased for everyone. Families on low incomes have been greatly impacted, however so have families where parents work and have been furloughed - dropping 20% of your monthly income has had a huge impact on those families who wouldn't normally need support." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

*"I have concerns over childcare costs, school uniform and no savings over the summer since lockdown."* (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

"My children are already disadvantaged enough being born into SIMD 1, this sort of thing (pandemic) just widens the already massive wealth gap." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

#### 7.4.1B Measuring Our Progress – Performance Indicators

Children in poverty after housing costs	
(Source: Child Poverty Action Group – Child Poverty in your area 2014-15 – 2019/20 published	
May 2021)	26.8%
Children who live within the 20% most deprived data zones	
(Source: Scottish Government SIMD 2020)	43.8%
Looked after children in Dundee City as a percentage of 0-17 years population	
(Source; Scottish Government, Child Social Work Statistics 2019/20)	1.8%
Children in families with limited resources after housing costs	
(Source: Scottish Government – Children in Families with Limited Resources Across Scotland	
2014-2017)	30.1%
% of school leavers attaining literacy and numeracy at SCQF level 4	
(Source: Insights 2020)	85.4%
% of school leavers attaining literacy and numeracy at SCQF level 5	
(Source: Insights 2020)	63.9%

#### 7.4.1C Measuring our Progress – Action Taken



The following actions have been completed:

- Deliver a Breakthrough Mentoring Programme for Looked After Children in schools (Action was completed October 2019, however due to the circumstances created by the lockdown, the Breakthough Programme ended January 2021)
- Provide 1140 hours of Early Learning and Child Care for Every 3, 4 and Vulnerable 2-year-old (September 2020)
- Implement an, Eat, Play and Learn Well Pilot (Phase 2 completed April 2019 action marked as completed May 2021)

The progress of actions that are currently ongoing are shown in the table below:

Actions in the Dist. Attainment and Obild Deverty	
Actions in the Plan – Attainment and Child Poverty	Progress %
Accelerated closure of the poverty attainment gap	40%
Improved pupil attendance within primary and secondary sector	25%
Reduce levels of exclusion across primary and secondary sector	60%
Implement the recommendations of the cost of school day research and pledges	70%
Implement actions in local school plans to improve results and positive destinations for Looked After Children and those who have experience of care in Dundee	80%
Establish Holiday Programmes to ensure targeted families have access to free food and activities during the school holidays	60%
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Implement 365 community-based schools/campus model of education and support	35%
Implement CELCIS Programme addressing neglect and enhancing wellbeing	50%
Deliver the Big Noise Programme in Douglas	80%
Ensure all schools implement the guidance on the provision of sanitary products during term-time, weekends and school holidays	93%
Increase uptake of Continuing Care by care experienced Young People	NEW
Schools continue to focus on CoSD activity, particularly increasing uptake of sport by emphasising free access to clubs and ensuring cost does not impact on P7 pupils participating in school trips	NEW

## 7.4.1D Putting Fairness into Practice – Case Studies

## Young Scott Attain

Young Scot Attain is part of the Attainment Challenge: National Strategic Partnership – a collaboration between the Scottish Government, Young Scot, Dundee City Council, Transport Scotland, the Improvement Service and the National Entitlement Card Programme Office.

Dundee City Council joined Young Scot to support local young people facing barriers to their attainment. Objectives were to improve the health and wellbeing of young people living in Dundee who face barriers, take away the financial constraints when engaging in education, extra-curricular activities and employment, give access to free services and support without stigma.

345 young people were offed free travel, meals and Young Scot Rewards, which they were able to access by using their Young Scot National Entitlement Cards. The young people who benefited from this initiative included young parents, care experienced young people, and young carers.

A local bus company, Xplore Dundee added free smart bus travel tickets to the Young Scot NEC cards to enable young people to save £6000 on bus travel. Free bus travel will be valid until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

Young people taking part in the YS Attain were able to access free meals at the two community centres in Dundee – Menzieshill Community Centre and Ardler Centre, during periods of relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions. Over 60 participants received free meals by joining #YS Attain.

Young people were also able to earn Young Scot Rewards points for completing surveys, attending workshops, youth groups and extra-curricular activities – and then exchanged these for rewards, such as vouchers for supermarkets, mobile phone top-ups, clothes, or even local leisure facility passes and tickets for local attractions such as Camperdown Wildlife Park and Dundee Science Centre.

Any young person who had benefitted from the YS Attain project has been given the opportunity to apply for a 'Brainbox - well-being kit'. Each kit typically contains a variety of craft activities, mindfulness colouring, playing cards, as well as herb growing kit. 250 were purchased and are 'held' for young people to access when they want to. Pupil Support workers helped ensure those eligible were aware of the offer.

## 7.4.2 WORK AND WAGES

## 7.4.2A Listening to Lived Experience

*"People with disabilities are seven times more likely to be unemployed than the average unemployment rate." (Pensioners Forum meeting, March 2021)* 

"I'm concerned about applying for jobs, the market was scarce prior to covid and is even worse now. The job centre have tried to push me into jobs that I cannot do due to my chronic fatigue and threaten to cut my benefit off. (Fairness Commission Survey Response) "I am currently working from home and would prefer to have heating on during the day. Normally this would only be needed in the morning and evening as the house would be empty during the day. I may be faced with having to choose to be cold during the day so that I can afford to heat the house when all family members are here." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

"Reduced income, as worked with an agency prior to lockdown, then was not entitled to any of the so-called self-employed grants or entitled to any kind of welfare benefit and or Housing Benefit" (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

"I do not think that I will be able to find work and the anxiety of dwindling finances is difficult. Support groups will not be running for some time and so there is going to be prolonged isolation." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

## 7.4.2B. Measuring Our Progress – Performance Indicators

Employees aged 18+ in Dundee City were earning less than the living wage (Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2020)	12.0%
Gross median weekly earnings for full time workers residing in Dundee City (Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2020)	£559.7
Population living in the 20% most income deprived data zones (Source: Scottish Government SIMD 2020)	36.6%
Children aged under 16 living in working households (Source: ONS Annual Population Survey Jan-Dec 2019)	57.3%
Youth Unemployment Rate (Aged 16 to 24) (Source: NOMIS ONS Annual Population Survey 2020)	16.8%
Employment opportunities provided by the Youth Employment Service (Source: Dundee City Council, Corporate Services)	281

## 7.4.2C Measuring our Progress - Action Taken



The following actions have been completed:

- Develop Discover Work Employability Challenge Fund Pathway which will enable people to progress into better paid employment and tackle in-work poverty (Completed October 2019)
- Increase the number of young people benefiting from, and taking part in, Dundee and Angus College's Child Poverty Project (Completed March 2020)
- Establish an Employability Development Network Implementing the Recruit with Conviction Approach (Completed September 2020)
- Develop a single gateway Scottish Work and Health Service that will provide early support and interventions to those with a health condition or disability who are in work, off sick from work or recently unemployed (Completed September 2020)

The following action has been cancelled:

Develop a programme to reach, engage and provide intensive early support to those most at risk of longer-term unemployment – This action has been cancelled as the project never developed due to difficulties in identifying who, in any group of short-term unemployed people was likely to become long term unemployed. This action has increasingly become less relevant as employability services have evolved.

Actions in the Plan – Work and Wages	Progress %
Improve the range of training and qualifications available as part of the "other activity" element of the unpaid work requirement of a Community Payback Order	70%
Maximise Community Benefits delivered through Dundee City Council's Procurement (including Scottish Living Wage)	90%
Increase Scottish Living Wage Accreditation across Dundee	90%
Promote payment of Scottish Living Wage in central waterfront locations & businesses	45%
Work with employability service providers and employers to improve knowledge of deaf culture, available support and best practice	5%
Develop opportunities for Care Experienced young people to improve their skills for work	NEW
Create Employability Support Forum to enable allocation of appropriate resources to specific young people	NEW
Increase positive destinations for Care experienced young people and those with Additional Support Needs through the Young Persons Guarantee	NEW
Implement the PES Service across all partner organisations while promoting the full range of offers available including a person centred 'Upskill Fund' of up to £900 per person	PESF NEW
Engage parents belonging to the PES target groups by: reengaging those previously supported into employment by existing services; promoting the PES service via out of school childcare providers and nursery providers; and, working with a range of employers, including CPP members, to identify employees who may benefit from advice, guidance and support from the PES service.	PESF NEW
Work in partnership with employers to create / identify opportunities for existing employees to progress in their workplace with assistance from the PES Service.	PESF NEW
Through the implementation of the Stepping Up service across all Secondary Schools in Dundee, ENABLE Works will work in partnership with schools, to support young people to transition from school, and support their families, where appropriate, through the PES service to increase household labour market positions.	PESF NEW
Ensure that services are informed by individuals with lived experience, through the collation of Feedback and information, and provision of research findings and reports.	PESF NEW

## 7.4.2D Putting Fairness into Practice – Case Studies

## **Discover Work Partnership**

Dundee's Local Employability Partnership, known as the Discover Work Partnership, has members including Skills Development Scotland, Dundee and Angus College, the Department for Work and Pensions, Dundee City Council, the Third Sector Interface, the Health and Social Care Partnership, NHS Tayside and Fair Start Scotland.

This multi-agency Partnership is overseen by the Discover Work Executive Group which is responsible for the impact of the Discover Work Service and supports the commissioning of services, allocation of funds and monitoring the performance of Delivery Partners.

Existing provision within the Discover Work Service includes the Employability Fund, Community Jobs Scotland, National Third Sector Fund, Fair Start Scotland, Employment Support Service, Healthcare Academy and an Employability Pathway. The latter is funded by sharing of resources from Dundee City Council, Delivery Partners, our initial allocation of No One Left Behind funding and European Social Funds.

The support available in the full Discover Work Service includes: Careers Information and Guidance; Sector based Skills Academies; Volunteering; Mentoring; Work Placements; Tailored support such as Supported Employment and Individual Placement and Support; Training in general employability skills such as CV writing, Job search, and Interviews; Specialist support such as debt management and budgeting advice; and other general advice on matters such as childcare providers and wider support to remove barriers that prevent people entering employment.

In response to local need, as evidenced by local labour market information, the Discover Work Service has a targeted approach, via the Employability Pathway, in supporting those furthest from employment. The Employability Pathway focuses primarily on clients not yet in work (unemployed / inactive). The priority customers groups are jobless people who: are Long-term Unemployed / Inactive, present with Physical and/or Mental Health Conditions including those considered as a disability. reside in the Most Employment Deprived Areas, belong to a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Group, are aged 24 and under (NEET) or aged 45+ (particularly men).

The targeted approach of the Discover Work Partnership continues to improve outcomes for individuals experiencing inequalities in Dundee. As shown by Employability Pathway data gathered in the last two years, of the clients who have been supported:

- Period of Joblessness:
  - 28% had never worked
  - 41% had been jobless for less than 1 year
  - 20% had been jobless for 1 5 years
  - 11% had been jobless for 5 years+
- 65% Male and 35% Female
- 45% 16-24 Years of Age
- 39% Live with Parent(s) / Carer(s) / Relatives / Others
- 55% Live in the 15% Most Employment Deprived Areas (SIMD) in Dundee
- Circa 47% Live in a Jobless Household
- 55% presented with a Mental Health condition
- 21% presented with a Disability and/or Long-term Physical Health condition
- 45% Entered a Positive Destination (+11% compared to the previous programme)
  - 39% Entered Employment or Self Employment (+15% compared to previous programme)
  - 6% Entered Further / Higher Education or Training (-4% compared to previous programme)

#### Youth Employability Service

**Nathan** contacted the Youth Employability Service (YES) through their Facebook page. After discussions with his key worker it was clear that Nathan wanted to become a mechanic but a combination of a lack of relevant qualifications, experience and timing were a major barrier for Nathan gaining an apprenticeship or undertaking motor vehicle engineering at college.

After looking at various options with his key worker, both felt undertaking training via the Employability Fund offered by Helm would be a great opportunity. Not only could Nathan gain experience and qualifications in their Spic and Span garage, but he could also progress into a work placement.

Nathan did well at Helm and subsequently he was offered a work placement with Tannadice Motors. Nathan continued to do well there, growing in confidence and experience and while they would have liked to have kept him on, unfortunately due to financial implications it looked unlikely they would be able to do so. To address this, Nathan's former YES key worker approached the Employer Liaison Officer for Dundee City Council. They were able to offer Tannadice Motors funding which allowed Nathan to be employed as a trainee mechanic.

Nathan's journey has come full circle, as he started off at YES looking for support and his employer has now been supported too. A story of commitment and partnership working by all.

Nathan's said, "If It was not for the support of the Youth Employability Service back then and now I would not have been able to pursue my dream of being a mechanic."

**Gary,** who is a young care leaver, always had an interest in sport, outdoor pursuits and in keeping healthy. At the age of 17 Gary and his Through Care and After Care support worker met with a Vocational Training Co-ordinator to explore his interests and skill set in terms of employment and to discuss Modern Apprenticeships. Gary was encouraged to apply for an upcoming MA with Leisure & Culture Dundee for a post of an Assistant Outdoor Education Worker.

Although Gary performed well at his interview, he was not the preferred candidate. He received detailed feedback on how he had performed and was given guidance on future interviews and skills.

The recruiting Manager offered Gary voluntary work at the centre where he had the opportunity to gain experience of outdoor sports and education which would increase Gary's chances of employment in the future.

Encouraged by the positive feedback, Gary applied for a new MA post, again with Leisure & Culture Dundee, as an Active Schools Assistant. Gary was shortlisted for an interview. Although he was not the preferred candidate he was a close 2nd.

Following on from this experience Gary took time with his Vocational Training Co-ordinator and his support worker to hone his interview skills, creating a good competency-based application, developing interview etiquette and techniques for more confident speaking.

Gary applied for a 3rd post with Leisure and Culture Dundee – this time with the Sports Development Team specialising in Football. Gary was interviewed and was offered the post where he spent the next 18 months working with his Mentor and other staff learning the role of Sports Development worker. Through hard work and perseverance Gary achieved his SVQ 3 in Leisure Management. Gary also achieved additional industry recognised qualifications in football and trampolining. Gary demonstrated an interest and aptitude in Trampolining and was involved in this latterly, expanding his opportunities for longer term and secure employment.

During regular Review and development meetings and discussions with his Mentor, Gary noted his interest in joining either the Armed Forces or Police Force. Arrangements were made for Gary's Support Worker to facilitate applications to these agencies.

Following his Apprenticeship, Gary started sessional work with Leisure and Culture Dundee. The experience and skills he gained allowed him to build his confidence and with the support of his Mentor he has since been successful in joining the Army training programme.

## 7.4.3 BENEFITS AND ADVICE

### 7.4.3A Listening to Lived Experience

"Fuel schemes like Fuel Well are not well known. Everything is promoted online – this cuts off 40% of elderly people right away." (Pensioners Forum meeting, March 2021)

"Stop complicating the benefit system. Make sure people have a basic income that is a safety net and takes away any stress or worry about being sanctioned and not being able to afford fuel, rent, or food. Reduce impact on MH. Universal Basic Income! Everyone has the same, everyone has food in their bellies and a roof over their heads." (Feedback from Fairness Commission to SRAB)

"The uncertainty of Universal Credit – it's good that it's been raised, but it won't be good if it goes back down to a smaller amount next year. If people on UC are getting their full rent paid for this year because of the pandemic, but then if they take that away next year this could really mess people up. I think people will be sensible and continue paying in or saving, but if it's not clearly communicated what the long-term plan is, it could really catch some people out if they come to rely on that wee bit extra." (Fairness Commission Feedback to Cabinet Secretary)

#### 7.4.3B. Measuring Our Progress – Performance Indicators

Children aged under 16 years and living in relative low-income families (Source: HMRC Children in low income families 2019/20 provisional figures)	22%
Pupils registered for free school meals (those in primary 4-7) (Source: Scottish Government Healthy Living Survey 2020)	28.2%
% of Children who are in low income households (before housing costs) and within lone parent families (Source: HMRC Children in low income families 2019/20 provisional figures)	56.6%

## 7.4.3C Measuring our Progress - Action Taken



The following actions have been completed:

- Maximise take up of school clothing grants, free school meals, Educational Maintenance Allowance and Best Start Grants (Completed March 2020)
- Make a case to participate in the introduction of the Citizens Basic Income Scheme for Scotland (Completed October 2020)

Actions in the Plan – Benefits and Advice	Progress %
Prepare and implement a new advice strategy for Dundee incorporating the recommendations of the Dundee Fairness Commission	75%
Adopt an "advice first" principle and strategy response to food insecurity, ensuring people in financial crisis are supported to access all the financial support to which they are entitled	60%
Adopt more effective and supportive ways of communicating with clients/tenants about money matters and debt	60%
Examine repeat Scottish Welfare Fund applicants and identify preventative approaches to achieve longer-term solutions	80%
Work in partnership with the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) and Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to ensure prisoners have access to their appropriate benefits on release	60%
Increase fuel debt write-off cases by 10% through Dundee Energy Efficiency Advice Project	60%
Increase take-up of warm home discounts by 7% through the Dundee Energy Efficiency Advice Project	40%
Provide affordable lending and saving opportunities through Discovery Credit Union	60%
Promote financial capability for school pupils through the Save by The Bell Project	66%
Establish Dundee Funeral Link Service on a longer-term basis	50%
Maximise take up of the new council promoted Respectful Funeral Service Package	75%
Service Improvement Review of discharge planning to address socio-economic concerns	85%
Promote uptake of Council Tax reduction to Care Leavers and other eligible young people to ensure their eligibility for Council Tax reduction is in place	NEW
Introduce a benefit adviser in Morgan Academy to maximise income and to provide access to money advice for low income families	NEW
Deliver training to Support Workers in partnership with Welfare Rights to provide advice within their teams	NEW
Increase capacity for support and advice within Support Worker teams by providing training in partnership with Welfare Rights.	NEW

# 7.4.3D Putting Fairness into Practice – Case Studies

#### Fuel Well

A significant number of Dundee citizens face fuel poverty due to socio-economic inequalities. This has been exacerbated by the pandemic and the fact that households were using more fuel as a result of spending more time indoors whilst working from home, home schooling, or self-isolating. It was also recognized that people may have heating systems or home insulation that is inadequate and causing high energy bills. Fuel Poverty over the 2020/21 winter period was highlighted as a major issue by the Dundee Fairness Commission research in their August 2020 report

In response to these issues, Dundee City Council, in partnership with SCAR, launched the Fuel well Programme to support people struggling to heat their homes during winter months.

Council Advice Services developed a wraparound, holistic service to explore customers heating and wider financial inclusion issues. Targeted questions were developed focussed on those areas of fuel

poverty and socioeconomic need that could be supported through part of the Scottish Government's Grant allocation.

By allowing customers to self-refer or apply via 3rd party organisations or supportive friends or family, Fuel Well aimed to offer the option of a full holistic service, access to fuel support costs, income maximisation, debt advice as well as mental health supports and links to various social community activities that could help people in their local areas.

By the end of the project 3279 applications had been received, 3457 awards had been made to 2700 households, with £295,643 of grant payments having been made. Ancillary supports noted included:

•	Fuel Meter Debt	566
•	Other Fuel Debt	371
•	Ben Check	408
•	Local Community Org referral	545
•	EU Settlement Scheme help	37
•	Heating System solution	1134
•	Food support	1015
•	Help to manage consumer debt	215
•	Access to computers	284
•	Access to employment	314
•	Access to children's warm school clothin	ıg 755
•	Mental Health Support	602

Accessing volunteering opportunities 246

Staff are still working their way through the data and continuing to assist customers off the back of Fuel Well. For example, recent feedback from Cosy Bairns saw 369 families and a total of 659 children each receive a £100 voucher for warm school clothing as a result of referrals from Fuel Well Dundee.

#### **Provision of Free Period Products**

The Council is committed to tackling period poverty. Free period products have been available in schools since autumn 2018, and in October 2019 products became available in 50 public buildings across Dundee, including community centres, libraries and sports and leisure facilities.

With schools and public buildings closed due to the pandemic, the Council provided a free, contactless delivery service of period products to citizens across the city. In April 2020 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic a dedicated phone line and email address, managed by Council employees, was rapidly set up, and by early April, residents were able to place orders directly. All those requesting products received a three-month supply delivered to their homes by our third sector partner Dundee Volunteer and Voluntary Action. From April 2020 to March 2021, over 500 households received a delivery.

In March 2021 the Council then partnered with Hey Girls to provide an ongoing home delivery service. To date over 300 households have received a delivery.

Feedback from those receiving products has been very positive including:

Thank you so much for the really quick delivery of sanitary products, what a great service. I really appreciate all of the help I've had during this time, it has made things so much easier for me. I don't think you will be thanked very often so thank you from me and my family!

Wow! Got my contactless delivery today. Thank you so much! Wasn't expecting so much - this is a huge help in this current climate!

What an amazing amount of supplies I can distribute to my young girls and ladies - heartfelt thanks to you all on behalf of this patient group. Keep up the wonderful work in these difficult times. (Clinical Nurse Specialist with Cystic Fibrosis Service)

Many thanks. I received the sanitary pads. This service has been a godsend for me as I struggle with anxiety. Thank you so, so much for the products.

As of April 2021, a pilot exercise is underway with Children and Families workers to make provision of specialist products and education around these products to older primary school pupils as part of their regular Health and Wellbeing sessions, ongoing work will see this rolled out across the City.

The Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Bill came into force on in October 2020. The Bill placed further legislation on Education Authorities to make period products available to pupils who need them who are accommodated in a hostel provided or maintained by them (Residential Children's' Houses) ". Since January 2021, seven children's Houses across the City are now in receipt of ongoing supplies.

### Maternity Referral Case Study

A lone parent was referred to Dundee Welfare Rights, 9 weeks pregnant with twins and already has 3 Primary School aged children.

Client currently has her own health problems and is on ESA Support Group of £361 per fortnight, Personal Independence Payment Standard Rate for both Daily Living £59.70 and Mobility £23.60 per week. She gets full Housing & Council Tax Benefit with a 25% discount for being a single person. She also receives Child Benefit for all three children at £48.95 per week and Tax Credits of £173.75 for the three of them. At the time we spoke, the client was struggling financially and wasn't due a benefit payment until the following week so a Crisis Grant application was made and she was awarded £75 and a food parcel requested.

The advice given during the conversation about maternity benefits was assuming her circumstances when you reach 24 weeks are still the same benefit wise, she can apply for the Best Start Grant. When applying for twins and because she has other children under 16 you will receive a payment of £900. This is made up of £300 for each twin and extra £300 because you are having twins. She would also be entitled to the Best Start Foods payment card. The payments for twins of Best Start Foods are £34 every 4 weeks during pregnancy, £68 every 4 weeks from the children being born up until they're 1 year old then £34 every 4 weeks between the ages of 1 and 3.

It was nearing Christmas time, so a referral was made to a local charity and Christmas presents for the three children were delivered.

During the conversation about any other disabilities in the household we identified a potential Disability Living Allowance claim for her youngest child. This was made and an award of Middle Rate Care was made of £59.70 per week. This entitled her to an extra £60 in her tax credits for a disabled child and meant the client could claim Carers Allowance and an underlying entitlement gave her an extra £37.50 per week in her Employment and Support Allowance.

#### 7.4.4 SOCIAL INCLUSION AND STIGMA

#### 7.4.4A Listening to Lived Experience

"My neighbour hasn't been past her front gate for a year... how is she going to be supported to re-engage with her groups. Older people don't like to be seen as needy, but we're scared, and our mental health has suffered and there needs to be support to get out of our houses again." (Pensioners Forum meeting, March 2021)

"Zoom meetings can be really helpful for people who can't get out of their house, but they should not become the only way people can talk to someone" (Feedback from Fairness Commission to SRAB)

"People are sociable and enjoy personal contact. There is an expectation in the wider world that this can be replaced by online activities. People cannot access online if household computer is very old and not able to function fully, if broadband costs are too high or have been cut off due to debts, if person at home uses it for work so no one else can access, if mobile phone is just a basic one as others cost too much and if no experience of IT. Apart from delivering food, few organisations have been creative enough to do anything else but online activities which have not reached lots of poor people." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

*"I am exempt from wearing a mask but try to avoid shops or anywhere that requires them due to the mask bullies and I don't always have enough money to shop online not enough is being done to emphasise mask* 

exemptions and you shouldn't have to wear a lanyard or any kind of label saying your exempt as your medical condition is a private matter between yourself and your doctor." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

## 7.4.4B. Measuring Our Progress – Performance Indicators

Lone parents stated that they were currently experiencing or had experienced difficulties with the cost of food in the last year (Source: Dundee City Council Annual Citizens Survey 2019)	41.3%
Food vouchers issued from foodbanks in 2020 (Dundee Foodbank 2020)	5672
Children fed via the foodbank vouchers in 2020 (Source: Dundee Foodbank 2020)	4560
Employment rate for those with a disability (Source: ONS Annual Population Survey 2019)	46.4%

## 7.4.4C Measuring our Progress - Action Taken



The following actions have been completed:

- Develop and Implement Recovery Friendly Lochee Initiative (Completed March 2020)
- Expand Poverty Sensitive Practice Training (Completed September 2020)
- Involve people with lived experience of food insecurity in decision-making about preventing and responding to financial crisis (Completed October 2020)
- Offer Poverty Sensitive Training to NHS midwifery and health visiting staff (Completed May 2021)
- Facilitate third Dundee Fairness Commission and present report and recommendations (Completed May 2021)
- Develop a joint campaign with local media to challenge and change public perceptions (Completed May 2021)

Actions in the Plan – Social Inclusion and Stigma	Progress %
Implement 2019-22 Fairness Action Plan and produce annual child poverty delivery reports	90%
Establish Fairness Leadership Panel	80%
Produce guidance and materials to enable all service providers to attract, recruit, train and support staff with the right values and attitudes towards people who are experiencing poverty or who are in recovery	60%

Launch a new public campaign for a #FairerDundee with new, positive anti- poverty messages and non-stigmatising stories	60%
Undertake research to understand the stigma and challenges experienced by people struggling against in-work poverty	80%
Reduce the barriers to education, employability and volunteering for those with convictions by increasing referrals to Dundee employability, education support services and volunteering agencies from community justice partners	60%
Expand the awareness of Impact of Poverty Training delivered by NHS Tayside in partnership with DCC Welfare Rights Team	33%
Review and co-ordinate local activity to tackle loneliness and social exclusion	35%
Identify measures to reduce street begging	30%
Work with the Scottish Prison Service to develop a Community Custody Unit (CCU) for Women	55%
Design and deliver training events responding to the stated learning needs of kinship carers.	NEW
Improve update of Free School Meals (FSM) by surveying Young People to establish why they opt in/out of free school meals	NEW

## 7.4.4D Putting Fairness into Practice – Case Studies

## Cosy Bairns

Covid 19 guidance for schools had led to much more outdoor provision and classrooms were being wellventilated, making for a much colder school day. Parents had been asked by schools to provide extra layers of clothing for children, as well as additional kit for outdoor P.E or outdoor learning. The additional costs to parents for providing such clothing were challenging as families were already struggling with the economic impact of the covid pandemic. Many struggling families who relied on Dundee's Food Insecurity Network for meeting their essential needs expressed their difficulties with providing their children with extra warm clothing.

In response to these concerns, one of the city councillors asked a local food charity, Dundee Bairns, whether they could adapt its mode of delivery of food to children in Dundee to help children stay warm as well as fed, active and stimulated.

An initial survey of Dundee Schools established that there were at least 1,500 Dundee children who would benefit from a supply of essential cosy clothing. An estimated cost was drawn up of £90-£100 per primary/nursery child and around £50-£75 for each Secondary pupil referred. This led to a rough estimate for the entire project of £87,000. A bespoke referral form was sent to all schools and returned within the deadline of the end of November. The number of children identified rose to 2,926.

The charitable funds for Cosy Bairns were obtained from a variety of different sources and were matched with £31,415 funding in a decision made by Dundee City Council group leaders to allocate Covid Emergency Funding for this purpose. Public donations were made over the period of the Cosy Bairns project via a targeted Facebook post which was helpful in raising the profile of the project. Secondary school teachers were consulted about the most appropriate pack for older pupils.

Clothing orders were collated within three weeks and all primary school and secondary school orders were completed and delivered by the week ending 22nd January 2021.

The project has made a meaningful difference in nurseries, primary and secondary schools for staff, children and families who have received support during what has been a challenging and very cold winter period. Following on from the success of Cosy Bairns, Dundee Bairns is hoping to develop a follow-up service that will meet specific needs of children and families in the city.

"Families with more than one child who were struggling to cope with the demands of clothing their growing children along with managing the financial demands of Christmas. Cosy Bairns has given them new clothes so that they feel the same as their friends and not disadvantaged by wearing old clothes. Thank you so much for the support of our families"

### **Brooksbank Wellbeing Boxes**

Since the introduction of lock down, Brooksbank Centre & Services has found that people with young children/caring commitments and/or those with severe mental health issues could be experiencing additional financial pressure as a result of Covid-19. Brooksbank received funding from the Scottish Government's Wellbeing Fund in order to carry out a more holistic assessment of people's needs and address them by focusing on improving emotional wellbeing, resilience and personal safety provided to two target groups: low income families and people experiencing mental health issues.

The funding allowed Brooksbank in partnership with other projects in Dundee to deliver 500 free, tailored wellbeing packs. All of the packs included a forehead thermometer and information on how to use it, and when to contact NHS. The information sheets also gave clear accessible information about debt & benefit services, the Scottish Welfare Fund and energy assistance available for families in need. Three hundred of these Wellbeing boxes were delivered to low income families. These contained additional items such as toys for children and pets, family first aid kits with an easy read 1st aid book. Brooksbank were also able to supply thermal heat protectors for hair straighteners, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, hand wipes, recipe books and more.

Two hundred of the wellbeing packs catered for people struggling with severe mental health issues; in addition to the forehead thermometer and information sheet, toiletries and adult colouring in books and pencils were provided. Suitable products were discussed and supplied based on the household composition.

Individuals could either contact Brooksbank directly or be referred by their healthcare professional or a local organization such as Parent to Parent, Citizens Advice Bureau or Dundee Money Action. Each recipient of the wellbeing box had their needs assessed, with a full benefit check offered. Additional issues were also discussed, such as housing, debt, fuel poverty, child safety, and care needs. If the person needed further support from services not offered by Brooksbank, a referral to an appropriate agency was made.

Brooksbank reported 100% engagement, where every person referred for a wellbeing pack has been reached. Many have required a referral to a money adviser, meaning that underlying issues that affect long-term wellbeing were also being addressed

## 7.4.5 HEALTH AND INEQUALITIES

## 7.4.5A Listening to Lived Experience

"A lot of disabilities are something that you have to live with for a long time, and so disability services, like physio, are seen as not important." (Pensioners Forum meeting, March 2021)

"Mental health cannot be an afterthought." (Feedback from Fairness Commission to SRAB)

"My challenges are with anxiety and depression. The presence of a clear set of rules to live by has actually helped me, even if some things have been more challenging." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

"As lockdown eases and more people return to normality, the impact on services will be horrendous and I'd imagine waiting lists have increased greatly during lockdown, so no telling how long we will have to wait for appts. and treatment." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

"When I go to collect my medication, I have to queue outside of Boots and I can't stand for very long. But I found out that Boots deliver for a fiver, but when I phoned up they said they'd deliver to me for free because I'm over 70." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)

#### 7.4.5B. Measuring Our Progress – Performance Indicators

First time mothers aged 19 years and under as a percentage of all first-	
time mothers	
(Source: statistics.gov.scot-ISD data set age of first-time mothers date period figure for period 2016/17-2018/19	11.88%
Life Expectancy (Male) years	
(Source: National Records of Scotland – Life Expectancy in Scotland 2017-2019)	73.92

Life Expectancy (Female) years (Source: National Records of Scotland – Life Expectancy in Scotland 2017-2019)	79.48
Children at risk of being obese (Source: ISD Scotland 2019)	11.3%
Percentage of adults reporting a limiting long-term health physical or mental health problem – households with children (Source: Statistics.gov.scot - Disabilities data set – Scottish Government, Scottish Surveys Core Questions 2019)	22.0%

## 7.4.5C Measuring our Progress – Action Taken



The following actions have been completed:

- Implement the PAUSE programme for women at risk of children being taken into care (Completed June 2020)
- Developing a city-wide approach to social prescribing and enhancing skills of health professionals (or staff) working in GP practices to use social prescribing approaches (Completed October 2020)
- Expand the Family Nurse Partnership to First Time Mothers (Completed October 2020)

Actions in the Plan – Health and Inequalities	Progress %
Re-model mental health and wellbeing community services by developing early intervention services and crisis care models, including services delivered from GP Practice and 'peer navigation' services within acute hospital and accident and emergency setting	60%
Extend the AIM (Anxiety in Motion) programme within all secondary schools to support attainment of targeted S1/S2 young people with mental health and wellbeing needs	84%
Implement actions to support the prevention of drug related deaths, taking into account the findings of the Dundee Drugs Commission	40%
Improve harm reduction service and responses to non-fatal overdoses	65%
Target and support groups of young people at risk from early initiation into alcohol/drug use	40%
Increase delivery of mental health awareness training	70%

Reduce teenage pregnancy and implement a Pregnancy and Parenthood in Young People Strategy	30%
Expand and scale up the Making Recovery Real Network approach in localities	80%
Improve access to mutual-aid and peer-support recovery groups to help people avoid relapse into harmful substance use	68%
Increase Crisis and Suicide prevention training to front-line staff and communities	65%
Deliver smoking cessation financial incentives	10%
Deliver a range of Mental Health Awareness Training including Mentally Healthy Workplace, Resilience and Wellbeing and Scottish Mental Health First Aid	75%
Re-start the face to face drop in service for care experienced young people to allow for support, guidance and discussion to improve overall wellbeing	NEW
Develop Counselling service for young people in secondary schools	NEW
Develop a targeted plan for young carers to access health checks in partnership with the Corner to improve health outcomes and wellbeing	NEW

## 7.4.5D Putting Fairness into Practice – Case Studies

## The Family Nurse Partnership & Case Study

The Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) is a home visiting programme for first-time young mums and families. This is offered in all NHS Tayside areas. It is a voluntary home visiting programme for young mums who are aged 19 or under at the start of their pregnancy. The programme is also targeted to some eligible first-time mums who are aged between 20-24 years old. A specially trained Family Nurse will get in touch with eligible clients to discuss if this programme is right for them. The Family Nurse can fit the programme around their client's individual needs and circumstances.

When a client enrols with the Family Nurse Partnership programme, which is in early pregnancy, they continue to receive maternity care from a midwife as normal. When a client's baby is born their Family Nurse will deliver the child health reviews as part of the Scottish Child Health Programme (pre-school) and the core public health elements of the universal Health Visiting Pathway using an FNP approach until their child turns 2 years of age, at which point they will be transferred to their Health Visitor.

The delivery of the Child Health Surveillance Programme is complimentary to the delivery of the FNP programme and supports the Family Nurse's ability to make good clinical assessment of the needs of the child and family.

## Why have a Family Nurse?

Research has shown how important maternal health in pregnancy and the positive relationship between a mother and her baby is for a child's future health, happiness, relationships, and how well they do at school.

We also know that mums (and dads) who take part in the Family Nurse Partnership are more likely to achieve what they want for themselves and their children. We know dads are important to their babies, so we welcome dads or partners to join in during the home visit, if the mum would like them to.

A Family Nurse will help parents to make decisions which:

- Increase chances of a healthy pregnancy
- Improve their child's development
- Build a positive relationship between a young parent and their baby, and others
- Help plan for the future
- Enable young people to make lifestyle choices, which gives their child the best possible start in life

In Tayside, over 1,000 young people have benefitted from the FNP programme since it commenced in 2011; which includes 904 young people living in the Dundee council area.

Anyone can notify the FNP team of an eligible client or to discuss any aspects of the programme including eligibility criteria by contacting us by telephone on 01382 443520 or emailing TAY.FNP@nhs.scot

Please see the link below from NHS Education for Scotland which features a client story from the Family Nurse Partnership in Tayside: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFa1QYqpbAo

#### 7.4.6 HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

#### 7.4.6A Listening to Lived Experience

"We need to keep homeless people housed, don't send them back out on the street" (Feedback from Fairness Commission to SRAB)

"The price of bus fares a week is enough to feed you for a week! Transportation costs need to be accessible to people – most people can't afford to get the monthly discounted schemes." (Feedback from Fairness Commission to SRAB)

"Lines of communication – keep the communication between the people 'at the bottom' with the people at the top is key. Inform decisions and policies. The communication lines that have opened up here in Dundee because of the Food Forum Covid-response has created faster and more holistic support for incredibly vulnerable people" (Feedback from Fairness Commission to SRAB)

*"Listen to local community groups more – give them more responsibility and the chance to lead on things." (Fairness Commission Survey Response)* 

#### 7.4.6B. Measuring Our Progress – Performance Indicators

Household who were fuel poor (Source: Scottish Government, Scottish House Condition Survey LA Data 2017-2019)	31%
Number of households assessed as homeless (Source: Scottish Government – Homelessness in Scotland 2019-2020)	1445
Number of children living in temporary accommodation (Source: Scottish Government – Homelessness in Scotland 2019-2020 figures as at 31st March 2020)	185
Households with children or pregnant women in temporary accommodation (as at March 2020) (Source: Scottish Government – Homelessness in Scotland 2019-2020 figures as at 31st March 2020)	65
Lone parent households with no contents insurance (Source: Dundee City Council – Annual Citizens Survey 2019)	83%
Lone parents who experiencing difficulties with the cost of domestic energy bills in the last year (Source: Dundee City Council – Annual Citizens Survey 2019)	60%
Median private rent per month (Source: Scottish Government Private Rent Statistics 2010 to 2020 – Median private rent for 2-bedroom property – Dundee and Angus Broad Rental Market as at Sept 2020)	£550
Percentage of council dwellings that are energy efficient (Source: Dundee City Council, Neighbourhood Services)	87.1%

## 7.4.6C Measuring our Progress - Action Taken



The following actions have been completed:

- Review temporary accommodation to ensure it meets changing needs going forward (Completed September 2020)
- Complete Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) (Completed September 2020)
- Apply Care Leaver Protocol to ensure young people exiting care are sustaining tenancies (Completed September 2020)
- Improve affordability and ease of use of public transport (Completed October 2020)
- Provide external wall insultation to 400 private flats per year to reduce fuel poverty (Completed May 2021)

Actions in the Plan – Housing and Communities	Progress %
Homelessness and Complex Needs - Implement a Lead Professional Model	40%
Build 1000 new units of affordable housing from 2017 to 2021	45%
Increase the number of accredited private sector landlords by 5%	76%
Increase the number of private sector landlords signing up to Homefinder Projects to improve standards	60%
Develop district heating schemes in non-domestic sectors with a view to expanding into households when and where appropriate	5%
Support to enable private tenants to making Repairing Standard referral to the First Tier Tribunal and Third-Party Referrals	50%
Introduce the Scottish Government funded Sanitary Products initiative in community settings	90%
Secure funding to develop a long-term co-ordinated project around food insecurity, working with local communities, faith communities and partner agencies	90%

## 7.4.6D Putting Fairness into Practice – Case Studies

### **Homelessness Prevention Pilot**

In early 2021 Shelter Scotland and Dundee City Council Housing team formed a partnership in their joint efforts to reduce the risk of homelessness once the Scottish Government's emergency legislation preventing evictions expires. This project's core focus is taking a proactive approach to working with tenants in the Private Rented Sector to prevent build-up of arrears and reduce the risk of homelessness. This collaboration is set to last for a period of 12 months in preparation and response to Covid-19 emergency measures coming to an end later this year. A dedicated adviser is to be appointed to work on the project, employed by Shelter Scotland. Their work will focus on income maximisation and increasing tenants' knowledge of their housing rights through a series of housing rights awareness workshops.

Dundee Council Private Sector Services will share information with Shelter to enable landlord engagement. Shelter will work with local accredited private landlords to ensure that correct procedures are followed and that they can support their tenants in getting help they need to reduce the risk of eviction.

The project is coordinated by Shelter Hub manager. Monthly Steering Group meetings are to be held to monitor progress and quarterly review to be carried out for ongoing assessment of the project.

#### **APPENDIX 2 – DUNDEE PARTNERSHIP FAIRNESS ACTION PLAN 2019-2022**

This report shows the status of all ongoing actions

**Theme: Attainment and Child Poverty** 





Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			schools started with nursery children, P1 to P3 pupils and young people in the senior phase needing access to practical classes able to attend schools. The current government aim is to have schools fully open with all pupils attending all of the time following the Easter holidays.		
Reduce levels of exclusion across primary and secondary sector	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The use of exclusions in Dundee's schools continues to reduce. In the period August to December 2019 there were 171 exclusion incidents in Dundee. Over the same period in 2020 there were 156 exclusions, a 9% reduction. The closure of schools due to Covid-19 means we are lacking full-year data to compare.		60%
Implement the recommendations of the cost of school day research	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2026	Covid-19 has caused schools to shift their Cost of School Day (CoSD) practice. Head Teachers (HTs) and support staff are very aware of the fact that more families may be affected by poverty due to loss of earnings, increased food bills, increased fuels bills as a result of having to spend more time at home. A concerted effort was made to ensure that young people were able to access home learning and most schools are now reporting that the engagement from remote learning is vastly improved Jan - March 2021 compared to Mar - Jun 2020. A number of schools have opened larders and resource stores (providing paper, pencils etc) which families can access freely. Working in partnership with Dundee Bairns food and warm clothing has been given to those who require support. Through their social media channels and other means of family contact schools have publicised additional support and benefits available. This session there have been no school trips and with that no additional costs to families. Active Schools have been limited in their offer but going forward there is a guarantee that school clubs held during the day will be free to all.		70%
			The CoSD steering group continues to meet regularly and intends to pull together examples of successful practice of		

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			addressing CoSD through Covid/lockdown to share with others.		
Implement actions in local school plans to improve results and positive destinations for Looked After Children and those who have experience of care in Dundee	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2020	Throughout lockdown Looked After pupils continue to be supported by schools and the team of Pupil Support Workers (PSW) Looked After Children (LAC). A recent survey shows that of those that participated 75% were attending school and all had the necessary resources to access learning. Recent guidance published by CELCIS to support assessment, estimates and moderation of care- experienced young people's work ensuring they are given the best possible chances to achieve has been shared with schools. Unfortunately, the loss of Breakthrough has left a gap in the support being offered via mentoring but it is hoped the local authority will actively look to find a solution.		80%
Establish holiday programmes to ensure targeted families have access to free food and activities during the school holidays	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Aug-2020	Dundee Bairns delivered approximately 500 meals to schools during the school Christmas holidays. Thereafter, the programme delivered approximately 200 meals to 3 schools where Tea Clubs were run, Downfield, Rowantree and St Francis. The number of meals would have been much greater at Tea Clubs, but due to the closure of schools and other Covid-19 restrictions, not all clubs operated and the expected number of meals was not delivered.		60%
			<b>Dundee Bairns</b> is a local charity providing meals to vulnerable families experiencing holiday hunger due to poverty-related issues. Dundee Bairns will be running the Fun and Food Programme during the April school holidays and are expected to deliver 3000 lunches and 500 breakfasts.		
Implement 365 community- based schools/campus model of education and support	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	30-Jun-2022	The initial consultation period began as planned in October and due to Covid-19 restrictions, this primarily involved surveys being distributed online and directly to households in the Kirkton area. Key stakeholder		35%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			consultation and some desk-based planning has also been undertaken.		
			Unfortunately, the second lockdown which began over the festive period resulted in officers involved in the project being diverted into other operational priorities. As a result of this, the work has been significantly delayed.		
			The post-consultation planning phase began in January 2021 and officers have so far carried out primarily desk- based activity to map out and understand:		
			•Further research and review of models operating elsewhere		
			• Current usage and activities in each facility – numbers, times, types of space required, etc		
			•Current operational and governance arrangements including agreements, policies and practices that may need changed/reviewed/agreed		
			•Resources available across services and premises to operate a new model		
			Work on the financial implications of a new model and building adaptions is required before a further report can be finalised. It is anticipated that the planning work detailed above, including the financial modelling and assessment of building adaptations can be completed by the end of June.		
			Plans are also being put in place to carry out further engagement work during August, with the Kirkton LMG and groups using the Kirkton Community Centre. Additional discussions with other stakeholders will also take place shortly afterwards, in order to ensure that a complete picture of local views is gathered before a further		

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			report is prepared for Policy & Resources Committee. This is expected after the summer recess (end of August).		
Implement CELCIS Programme addressing neglect and enhancing wellbeing	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2026	Despite COVID restrictions the work has been progressing well. The multi-agency implementation team has been strengthened and took part in a learning series for capacity building in Dundee in Active Implementation Science. This knowledge and deeper understanding is now used by team members in work across Dundee and spreading beyond the specific aspects of ANEW across Dundee.		50%
			All three workstreams are part of Dundee-wide working groups and guidance for two of them (family engagement and practice for practitioners in named person roles) is being implemented across Dundee. Additionally, there is active collaboration with other projects under the general umbrella of Family Support and Keeping the Promise, such as FORT and What Matters To You.		
			Additionally, deep learning is expanding into the secondary school sector for the first time. This means that children and young people from pre-birth (health visiting services) to end of secondary school will benefit from the work, an expansion of the initial target group in order to get it right for EVERY child in Dundee.		
Deliver the Big Noise Programme in Douglas	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	Despite the many challenges this year Big Noise Douglas continue to build stronger relationships with families by adapting their ways of working within the community and feedback has been very positive. During periods of lockdown, the most vulnerable children were prioritised with instrument drop-offs and doorstep and garden visits. Musicians made over 100 pre-recorded video lessons, uploaded to Vimeo and shared with the children. Following the summer holiday; Baby Noise, Nursery and Community Orchestra continued online, with P1-3 sessions resuming in school. Big Noise Douglas resumed face-to-face delivery in September. From January onwards, musicians		80%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			created weekly video lessons for nursery and P1-3 children at both schools. 68 children are currently signed up between P4-P6 for online sessions and lessons have begun again in P1- P3.		
Ensure all schools implement the guidance on the provision of sanitary products during term-time, weekends and school holidays	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Bill was launched in April 2019 and passed through Parliament in October 2020. All Secondary Schools, Specials Schools and over 91% of Primaries are implementing the Dundee Schools Policy Guidelines which embrace the National Guiding Principles. A review of the funding and processes with be undertaken with Children and Families Service and the Chief Executives Service to ensure school and communities models are effectively aligned.		93%

Action Status				
Cancelled	Overdue	Check progress	In Progress	Completed

# Theme: Work and Wages

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Improve the range of training and qualifications available as part of the "other activity" element of the unpaid work requirement of a Community Payback Order	Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	There was a ten-fold increase in Other Activity during covid. This was in response to group unpaid work being subject to a national suspension between April and September 2020. Group unpaid work was suspended again from 26 December 2020 to 26 April 2021. To comply with Public Health guidelines a great deal of Other Activity moved to an online format and staff helped those subject to Orders to identify the most helpful life and employment skills courses provided by a range of agencies such as Open University and Skills Development Scotland. Several people obtained certificates of completion.		70%
			Dundee City Council also partnered with Angus Council and a charitable organisation called Streetcones that worked with ten individuals to express their journey through creative writing and group drama. As the topic related to their journey away from addiction and offending, this was permitted as Other Activity. Dundee CJS continued a link with Access to Industry who offered individual employability sessions during lockdown. This too counted as Other Activity. Plans are underway for small group employability, with links to potential qualifications delivered by Access to Industry, delivered in compliance with Public Health. It must be noted that legally Other activity can only be 30% of unpaid work hours and this sets a cap on what is possible. However, the catalyst of being required to be more creative during covid has increased the range of activities offered as Other Activity.		

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Maximise Community Benefits delivered through Dundee City Council's Procurement (including Scottish Living Wage)	Corporate Services, Dundee City Council	30-Apr-2022	Community Benefits Update March 2020 – March 2021 The Community Benefits programme has continued to deliver outcomes across Dundee but has also been impacted by the Covid Pandemic, in the first lockdown non-essential sites were closed for a period of months and projects which were due to start in Spring of 2020 were delayed. Community Benefit monitoring was affected with Community Benefit staff at some contractors on furlough and some unfortunately made redundant.		90%
			When activity did begin again it was with restrictions including limits on the number of people on site. Many of the Community Benefit programmes including Shared Apprentice, Work Placement programmes and awareness raising activity has been affected. Despite these challenges it has also resulted in innovation from construction contractors who in time have developed virtual work placement programmes and virtual work placements to continue to support groups despite restrictions.		
			In December 2020 the Community Benefits programme was tasked with supporting the Development of Community Wealth Building Approach for Dundee City Council. This process has begun and will report in the summer of 2021.		
Increase Scottish Living Wage accreditation across Dundee	Chief Executive's Services, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	Despite the economic impact of Covid-19, local firms are still expressing interest in accrediting as Living Wage employers. The Dundee Living Wage City Action Group has been nominated for a national award as a Living Wage Place.		90%
Promote Payment of Scottish Living Wage in Central	City Development, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	Clear process for requiring new tenants to pay Real Living Wage. All tenants that have signed leases to date are committed to paying real living wage		45%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Waterfront Locations & Businesses					
Work with Employability Service Providers and Employers to Improve Knowledge of Deaf Culture, Available Support and Best Practice.	Services, Dundee City Council		No further progress has been made on this action since the September 2020 update. Progress is however expected in the near future following the appointment of two Equality & Fairness Officers to the Community Planning Team		5%

Action Status				
Cancelled	Overdue	Check progress	In Progress	Completed

# Theme: Benefits and Advice

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Prepare and implement a new advice strategy for Dundee incorporating the recommendations of the Dundee Fairness Commission	Corporate Services, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The advice strategy group is currently working on the revised strategy with a publish date expected of 01/07/2021. The Covid-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the priorities of any Dundee City advice strategy and also significantly altered the likely level of need beyond the current lockdown period.		75%
Adopt an "advice first" principle and strategy response to food insecurity, ensuring people in financial crisis are supported to access all the financial support to which they are entitled	Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The Food Insecurity Group chaired by Faith In Community has now been meeting weekly for the last 12 months to meet the needs of, showcase the practice of and tackle the pressures on the main Food organisations within the city. Council Advice Services have linked up with this group in the last 12 months and advice first principles have led to significant numbers of referrals to the service. Pathways to advice and employability have also emerged through these weekly group meetings culminating in roll out of Fuel Well Dundee which is currently tracking referrals into advice from Food Organisations and the resulting outcomes.		60%
Adopt more effective and supportive ways of communicating with clients/tenants about money matters and debt	Chief Executive's Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	Significant developments have been achieved through collaboration with the Food Insecurity Network to ensure that every household presenting with a food crisis has the opportunity to access advice. This is due to expand through the new food security strategy that is to be implemented over the remainder of 2021/22.		60%
Examine repeat Scottish Welfare Fund applicants and identify preventative approaches to achieve longer- term solutions	Corporate Services, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	Establishment of pathways to advice within food organisations and promotion of an advice first principle for those individuals in crisis has led to the establishment of Fuel Well Dundee asked questions related to Scottish Welfare Fund applications. Fuel Well holistic work will now target a cohort of those SWF repeat applicants who have applied to Fuel Well for holistic help to resolve their issues and track their progress and repeat applications over time		80%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			to see whether holistic support can resolve longstanding financial issues.		
Work in partnership with the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) and Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to ensure prisoners have access to their appropriate benefits on release	Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The second period of Covid lockdown has meant that external agencies have still not re-gained physical access to prisons to meet with prisoner's pre-release. The Dundee Prison Release Multi-agency group has worked on some mitigation, with contact via telephone and email. DWP are a member of the multi-agency group.		60%
Increase fuel debt write-off cases by 10% through Dundee Energy Efficiency Advice Project	Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	In 2020/21 fuel debt write off cases were achieved in 62 recorded cases compared to 30 cases in 2019/20. The intention is to now continue to track fuel debt write off by households and extend the collection of data to include the Fuel Well Dundee scheme work which is currently ongoing.		60%
Increase take-up of warm home discounts by 7% through the Dundee Energy Efficiency Advice Project	Corporate Services, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	Access to households was limited due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. Despite this, 769 applications for warm home discount were taken in 2020/21, down from 973 in the previous financial year. However, mitigation was achieved via the Council's Fuel Well Dundee Scheme which captured the applications of 2700 households across Dundee. Those households will now be added to the list of potential WHD recipients to be contacted when 2021/22 Warm Home Discounts are rolled out. DEEAP will encourage households to apply based on their supplier and offer help to claim for those not capable of applying due to issues such as digital exclusion.		40%
Provide affordable lending and saving opportunities through Discovery Credit Union	-	31-Mar-2022	The past year has been difficult for credit unions across the country. Discovery Credit Union's primary aim for this and next financial year is to take a prudent approach to a recovery plan to increase lending thereby hoping to see an increase in income for the business to reduce the current challenging financial position.		60%
Promote financial capability for school pupils through the Save by The Bell Project		31-Mar-2022	The Save By The Bell Project has been allocated funding for a further year and is providing a service adapted to covid circumstances.		66%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
0	Chief Executive's Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	During the 12 months from 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2019 to 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2020 Funeral Link received contact from 122 individuals seeking support. Of these, 92 individuals and their families were bereaved and 30 were not. During this period, they saved 37 families a total of £70,725.		50%
			The average age at death for those whose families they supported was 56.8 years, significantly younger than the Dundee average of 76.65 years. 12 of the deaths during this period were known to have involved substance use and the average age at death for this group was just 44 years.		
Maximise take up of the new council promoted Respectful Funeral Service Package	Neighbourhood Services, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The Respectful Funeral Service contract has been extended at the beginning of April 2021 for a final year; DCC are partnered with two local Funeral Directors. The uptake continues to be low. COVID - 19 is cited as one of the main factors for low numbers. Environment Management and Procurement staff continue researching alternative models currently being delivered by other Councils and will actively engage with the Funeral Director market during this final year.		75%
Service Improvement Review of discharge planning to address socio-economic concerns		31-Mar-2022	Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the new nursing documentation was unable to be implemented. The documentation is currently being trialled in Perth Royal Infirmary with a view to going live in May 2021. Public Health Tayside have co-delivered a number of Financial Inclusion webinars for NHS Tayside colleagues, to encourage health professionals to raise the issue of money and employability and to refer people via a formal pathway. Public Health Tayside will increase the education and training sessions for staff throughout 2021-22 once the documentation goes live.		85%

Action Status				
Cancelled	Overdue	Check progress	In Progress	Completed

# Theme: Social Inclusion and Stigma

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Implement 2019-22 Fairness Action Plan and produce child poverty delivery reports	Chief Executive's Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The third Dundee Fairness Commission published its report on 19 May. This will be reflected in the Fairness /Local Child Poverty report that will be presented to the Policy and resources Committee on 21 June 2021.		90%
Establish Fairness Leadership Panel	Chief Executive's Service, Dundee City Council	31-Oct-2021	The arrangements for the Fairness Leadership Panel are being finalised. Community commissioners have established an independent campaigning organisation to represent the voice of lived experience on the panel. It is anticipated that the first meeting will take place in Autumn 2021.		80%
Produce guidance and materials to enable all service providers to attract, recruit, train and support staff with the right values and attitudes towards people who are experiencing poverty or who are in recovery	Service, Dundee City	31-Oct-2021	Various training courses on poverty sensitive practice and associated subjects including Human Rights and Equality and Diversity have been delivered over recent years. These are being reviewed to develop a further phase of poverty informed training over the course of the next Fairness Plan period.		60%
Launch a new public campaign for a #FairerDundee with new, positive anti-poverty messages and non-stigmatising stories	Chief Executive's Service, Dundee City Council	31-Oct-2021	New messages are being developed to accompany the publication of the new Fairness Commission report. A number of the report's recommendations relate directly to effective communication with the public.		60%
Undertake research to understand the stigma and challenges experienced by people struggling against in- work poverty	Chief Executive's Service, Dundee City Council	31-Oct-2020	The Fairness Commission published the results of its survey on the impact of Covid and the overlap with poverty late in 2020. This has informed recommendations relating to mental health and employability.		80%
Reduce the barriers to education, employability and volunteering for those with convictions by increasing referrals to Dundee	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	There is a range of agencies to support people with convictions. These include Access to Industry, Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and Dundee Employability Services. The changes introduced within the Management of Offenders Act has also reduced some disclosure		60%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
employability, education support services and volunteering agencies from community justice partners			periods. Set against this it is also the case that the employability market is much more complex and challenging with the ongoing public health crisis. Participation in employability activities has been accepted as "Other Activity" for people on Unpaid work Orders, particularly relevant as the public health environment makes completion of Unpaid work more complex.		
Expand the awareness of Impact of Poverty Training delivered by NHS Tayside in partnership with DCC Welfare Rights Team	NHS Tayside	31-Mar-2022	Due to Covid-19, all face-to-face training has been on pause. In the meantime, the Workplace Team have proactively promoted the Public Health Scotland Poverty and Stigma Learning Hub to workplaces. This has been through information on relevant e-learning sent to all workplaces registered with Healthy Working Lives, promoted on our Healthy Working Lives Facebook page which currently has over 500 followers and by links with partners including Business Gateway Tayside and Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce.		33%
			Our ongoing work with workplaces has included information on how to access financial support during the pandemic. Examples are:		
			Regular newsletters, including a Financial Health edition in November 2020		
			<ul> <li>A wellbeing pack sent to all Care Homes in Tayside</li> </ul>		
			<ul> <li>A training package and Recovery Document developed for small to medium enterprises (SMEs) in Tayside to provide support when reopening or restarting their workplaces following restrictions.</li> </ul>		
			•Ongoing Occupational Health and Safety advice including information on workplace grants and funding and support to business on how to safely operate during this period, allowing individuals to maintain incomes when possible.		
			The Workplace Team are working with the Senior Health Promotion Officer (SHPO) for Financial Inclusion to explore best ways to continue this training in the future.		

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			Online sessions are currently being advertised and it is hoped that face to face session can resume in the future.		
Review and co-ordinate local activity to tackle loneliness and social exclusion	Chief Executive's Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	No additional progress has been made on this action since the previous update in October 2020. Dundee Volunteer & Voluntary Action have however recently employed a Social Isolation Coordinator. It is also		35%
			anticipated that DCC Officer capacity will allow for more attention to be given to this action in the coming months.		
Identify measures to reduce street begging	Chief Executive's Service, Dundee City Council	30-Sep-2020	The Covid-19 pandemic has continued to impact on officer capacity to take this action forward, and so forming an operational group as described in the October 2020 update is still on hold until restrictions are eased.		30%
			Related to this action, steps are independently being taken to better coordinate Mental Health Services and Substance Use Services as a result of the reports from the Dundee Drug Commission and the Strang Report on Mental Health in Tayside. As both mental health and substance use have both been identified as large factors in promoting street begging for most of the individuals involved, it can be expected that a more joined up service helping people with these will have a useful impact on the incidence of street begging (though this is likely to be seen over the long rather than short term).		
Work with the Scottish Prison Service to develop a Community Custody Unit for Women	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	Scottish Prison Service report that the Community Custody Unit (CCU) remains on schedule for opening in spring 2022. This will be co-ordinated with the opening of the Glasgow CCU and the new National facility at Corton Vale. The CCU Project Board continues to meet regularly, as does the Health and Social Care sub-group. Progress has also been made regarding liaising with community groups to select a name for the Unit and to progress a civic sculpture donated as a community benefit. A first meeting has been held with senior staff in the Glasgow CCU Board		55%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			to compare issues and solutions and further joint meetings are planned.		

Action Status				
Cancelled	Overdue	Check progress	In Progress	
Cancellea			= in rogicss	completed

# Theme: Health and Inequalities

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
wellbeing community services by developing early intervention services and crisis care models, including services	Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership	31-Mar-2022	A range of support is now available within GP practices, including link worker social prescribers and a listening service. Specialist mental health practitioners are in place within 2 GP cluster areas, with plans to extend to the 2 other clusters over the coming months.		60%
delivered from GP Practice and 'peer navigation' services within acute hospital and accident and emergency setting			2 Peer Navigators are in place within the Emergency Department of Ninewells, providing support for people with a range of complex needs.		
emergency setting			Urgent and crisis care pathways have been reviewed and there are a range of improvements planned which will support people facing a mental health crisis and people experiencing distress. A community wellbeing hub will be established over the coming months, a crisis vehicle will be in operation by Autumn 2021 to provide an immediate response for people, Distress Brief Intervention support will be available during 2021.		
Extend the AIM (Anxiety in Motion) programme within all secondary schools to support attainment of targeted S1/S2 young people with mental health and wellbeing needs	Children & Families Service, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	AIM has supported all young people throughout lockdown since December 2020 through outreach and targeted attendance at Kirkton Community Centre (KCC) for some young people. Engagement rates have been high through remote learning.		84%
Implement actions to support the prevention of drug related deaths, taking into account the findings of the Dundee Drugs Commission	Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership	31-Mar-2022	Progress is being made with the Action Plan for Change and new resources brought to the city to support this progress. Regular reports are provided to the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP), Chief Officers Group (COG) and Policy & Resources Committee (P&R). A self-assessment exercise will be conducted (completed by end June 2021) on progress and in preparation for the Drugs Commission return in July 2021.		40%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Improve harm reduction service and responses to non-fatal overdoses.	Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership	31-Mar-2026	The work of the Non-Fatal Over Dose Rapid Response Team continues to progress and improve. We now have specialist women's services part of the team. Plans are developed to expand the remit of this team. Dedicated and immediate harm reduction messages are shared across the city and more organisations participate in the naloxone programme.		65%
Target and support groups of young people at risk from early initiation into alcohol/drug use	Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership	31-Mar-2026	The Prevention Subgroup is developing the Glasgow Prevention Framework to fit the needs in Dundee. Progress has been slowed around the Youth in Island model due to lockdown.		40%
Increase delivery of mental health awareness training	Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership	31-Mar-2026	The range of available mental health awareness training available for the workforce and public continues to increase. Wellbeing and recovery following the impact of the pandemic now features as a theme within many programmes.		70%
			Virtual trainings are currently being reviewed by public health colleagues and others to produce a recommended list for distribution.		
			Voluntary sector colleagues continue to provide peer led workshops including managing anxiety, sleeping well, confidence and self-esteem, self-care and personal wellbeing.		
			Let's End Stigma and Discrimination workshops are run by DVVA, as are short courses "Living e-Motions (exploring and taking ownership of your mental health recovery story) and Peer 2 Peer (learn how to use your lived experience of recovery to help support others)		
			A range of Mental Health and Wellbeing and Resilience workshops continue to be offered cross sector within the workforce.		

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Reduce teenage pregnancy and implement a Pregnancy and Parenthood in Young People Strategy	NHS Tayside	31-Mar-2026	Public Health Intelligence has been focused on providing Covid data and as a result we have not received local teenage conception data since summer 2020. This was not flagged at the October update as the data was still expected after that date. The Sexual Health & Blood Borne Virus Managed Care Network (SH & BBV MCN) were largely redeployed to support the Public Health response to Covid 19 and Test & Protect so all work stopped with the exception of contingency plans for essential services. Recovery planning is now commencing and we hope to have teenage conception data to help inform this further by late summer 2021.		30%
Making Recovery Real Network	Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership	31-Mar-2026	Making Recovery Real in Dundee recruited a Communications Worker from September 2020 – March 2021. The aim of the role was to assist the Peer Recovery Development worker to develop and coordinate mental health awareness raising activities, highlight good practice/stories and to build capacity and provide learning opportunities around communication for staff, volunteers and network members.	y I J J S S f a I S S Y	80%
			Through this work we have increased awareness of Making Recovery Real through increased social media engagement on Facebook, Dundee Women's Festival activity, recorded video chats and presented at events such as Compassionate Communities Workshop, Abertay University and NHS Tayside Living Life Well Community event.		
		<b>Peer Recovery Network &amp; Volunteers :</b> Peer Recovery Network has 37 members and network activities have included weekly PDA Mental Health Peer Support Study Group, Weekly Social Gatherings and a Peer Group Supervision for Paid Peer Workers.			
			Recruited 7 Making Recovery Real Volunteers who are involved in podcasting, conversation cafes and planning of living e-motions course.		

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			<b>Training</b> : Part of the Suicide Prevention Training working group. The purpose is to ensure that there is sufficient availability, sustainability and quality control of suicide prevention training across Tayside.		
			<b>Story Sharing:</b> Launched pilot 8-week online course with 8 participants called Living e-Motions which seeks to use storyliving to enable people to explore their experiences and emotions and develop the tools and confidence to use them in a positive way.		
			<b>Recovery Conversations:</b> Launched a Making Recovery Real Podcast mini-series called 'MRR Talks to' which aims to raise awareness and bridge the gap between Dundee mental health and wellbeing strategies and the local community, have released 3 episodes.		
			Delivered 3 online Conversation Cafes as part of Time to Talk day and the Say Something Dundee/Truacanta Project.		
Improve access to mutual-aid and peer-support recovery groups to help people avoid relapse into harmful substance use	Social Care	31-Mar-2026	It is still the case that due to lockdown groups cannot meet face to face. There are additional online SMART Groups available for people in Dundee.		68%
prevention training to front-line	Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership	31-Mar-2026	Covid has impacted upon delivery of Suicide Prevention Training and there has been no face-to-face delivery since February 2020 (due primarily to decision by NHS Scotland.)		65%
			Dundee has developed some e-learning training and is in discussion with Dundee University to commission new training alongside other Tayside authorities.		
			Suicide awareness, intervention and prevention training is an ongoing need as confirmed nationally via the 2018 Suicide Prevention Action Plan for Scotland 'Every Life		

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			Matters'. Locally this is also identified as a priority through evidence from the Tayside Multiagency Suicide Review Group and within local Suicide Prevention Strategic Documents and Action Plans. The Scottish Government letter of May 2019 asks all NHS Boards (this is expected to be extended to Health & Social Care Partnerships) to include the requirement for all staff to receive appropriate suicide prevention training as an essential element of their Workforce Development Plans.		
			The Mental Health Improvement and Prevention of Self Harm and Suicide Knowledge Skills Framework has been produced by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and NHS Health Scotland. It has been designed to enable individuals, their teams and managers to identify and understand the values, knowledge and skills expected of them in mental health improvement and the prevention of self-harm and suicide. The framework articulates the knowledge and skills required across 4 levels of practice – informed, skilled, enhanced and specialist. These are based on the nature and frequency of contact staff have with people who may be at risk of, or affected by, mental ill health, self-harm or suicide.		
			NHS Health Scotland and NES are currently developing new resources to support the informed level of this framework. These take the form of animations for which facilitator notes are currently being produced.		
Deliver smoking cessation financial incentives	NHS Tayside	31-Mar-2022	The smoking cessation team have not yet fully returned to substantive posts. The numbers of people accessing smoking cessation in the community has significantly reduced due to the pandemic. Now that restrictions are being lifted it is expected that the increased numbers of the public will access the service and we intend to promote the service over the next 2 months.		10%
Deliver a range of Mental Health Awareness Training	NHS Tayside	31-Mar-2022	Due to Covid-19, all face-to-face training has been on pause. NHS Tayside Healthy Working Lives Team have		75%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Up	date	Status	Progress Bar
including Mentally Healthy Workplace, Resilience and Wellbeing and Scottish Mental Health First Aid			to workpla Health & S	elevant e-learning alternatives via a newsle ces. This includes Public Health Scotland Safety Executive modules on Mentally Hea s and Stress in the Workplace.	and	
			partners ac deliver info suicide aw	Health Mental Health team are working v cross Tayside to build capacity and capabilit ormed level mental health improvement areness training across Tayside. The follow we been progressed:	y to and	
			• Establish Dundee	ment of a working group to take this forwar	d in	
			• Developn	nent and delivery of a pilot online workshop		
				nent and promotion of a mental wellbeing in online workshop (due to run on 11th May 20		
				will continue to progress and develop du ncluding online training options at skilled lev		
Action Status						
Cancelled	Overdue		Check progress	In Progress	Completed	

# Theme: Housing and Communities

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Homelessness and Complex Needs - Implement a Lead Professional Model		31-Mar-2022	The Lead Professional Model is embedded within the culture across the Homelessness Partnership involving the Housing Service and Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership. Further investment is underway to progress and formalise the operational processes and monitoring and establish a platform and pathway.		40%
Build 1000 new units of affordable housing from 2017 to 2021		31-Mar-2021	This is significantly below target. The main cause of reduced numbers of completions in 20/21 has been delays in appointing contractors or in contractors progress on site, some of which are Covid-19 related. Other delays include difficulties associated with developing brownfield sites (e.g. surface water drainage, ownership and meeting planning requirements). There are 341 units in the pipeline which should be completed in 2021/22.		45%
Increase the number of accredited private sector landlords by 5%	Neighbourhood Services, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	149 landlords/letting agents, managing 4,855 properties are currently accredited. This is an increase of 2 since last reported and represents 31% of registered properties in Dundee.		76%
Increase the number of private sector landlords signing up to Homefinder Projects to improve standards	Services, Dundee City	31-Mar-2022	Since last update in September, Homefinder have recruited a further seven landlords providing good quality affordable accommodation in the private sector.		60%
Develop district heating schemes in non-domestic sectors with a view to expanding into households when and where appropriate	City Development, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The district energy hub at the Regional Performance Centre for Sport (RPC Dundee) was completed in Autumn 2019 and became the fifth district heating scheme. High- level feasibility studies have been prepared for other potential schemes throughout the city as well as potential expansion of RPC Dundee. Officers are engaging with the Scottish Cities Alliance and Scottish Government to assess which potential schemes are best placed to be considered for Investment Grade Business Cases.		5%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
Support to enable private tenants to making Repairing Standard referral to the First Tier Tribunal and Third-Party Referrals	Neighbourhood Services, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	The First Tier Tribunal, Housing and Property Chamber (HPC) are the statutory body tenants can approach if their landlord fails to maintain the property to the Repairing Standard. Where a tenant is having difficulty with their landlord we will provide support to enable them to submit a referral to the HPC. Where a tenant is unwilling or unable to make the referral themselves, we can make a Third-Party Referral to the HPC on their behalf. This is a reactive service Tenant support to make HPC referrals 23 September 2020 to 1 April 2021- 29		50%
			Third Party Referrals to HPC 23 September 2020 to 1 April 2021 - 0		
Introduce the Scottish Government funded Sanitary Products initiative in community settings	Chief Executive's Services, Dundee City Council	31-Mar-2022	Phase two of communities roll out was underway prior to the Covid 19 pandemic, a number of GP surgeries and community health services were added to the list of premises. During the lockdown period a home delivery service was established in partnership with Dundee Volunteer & Voluntary Action (DVVA), 500 home deliveries were made between April 2020 and March 2021. In March a home postal service was initiated with Hey Girls to provide direct delivery to homes, this is a pilot project until July 2021.		90%
Secure funding to develop a long-term co-ordinated project around food insecurity, working with local communities, faith communities and partner agencies	Faith in Community	31-Mar-2022	In response to the pandemic a network of community food providers has formed, Dundee Food Insecurity Network, providing a coordinated response to food insecurity across the city. We coordinate this Network, bringing together statutory, third sector, faith communities and business partners to create a cohesive response to the crisis. A longer-term food insecurity strategy is being developed, focussing on the 'cash first' and dignified approaches to		90%

Action Name	Owner	Due Date	Latest Update	Status	Progress Bar
			Part funding has been secured by Faith in Community Dundee to continue the coordination of this Network and delivery of this strategy. We continue to work with key partners - DCC Community Planning Manager; DCC Senior Manager (Council Advice Services); DVVA Chief Executive: Cllr Lynne Short; Alexander Community Development and over 30 local community food providers, including the 2 main foodbanks in Dundee.		