

Report

Report to:	Hamilton Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 September 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership – Area Community Partnership Update
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide the Committee with the background to Community Partnerships and an update on the progress of the development of the Community Partnership for Hamilton and its surrounding areas

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation:-

- (1) that the progress being made in respect of the Hamilton Area Community Partnership be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board undertook a self-assessment which was facilitated by the Improvement Service during January/February 2019. Following approval of the Best Value Assurance Report by the Council in June 2019, an extended Community Planning Partnership session took place on 11 September 2019 to consider the output of the facilitated self-assessment session along with the outcomes of the Council's Best Value Assurance Report.
- 3.2. A session with representatives from the CPP Thematic Partnership Boards took place on 3 October 2019 and draft implementation plans were prepared on the CPP structure, joint problem solving and scrutiny of the work of the Thematic Boards.
- 3.3. A further session took place with the Board on 23 October 2019 to consider how the CPP Board should be structured at a thematic/local level. Proposals drafted by the Improvement Service and the Community Planning Team included the formation of local community-led partnerships. These were approved by the CPP Board in December 2019.
- 3.4. These recommendations brought together community planning areas into 4 collaborative, area-level, Community Partnership Boards. These are Rutherglen and Cambuslang; Clydesdale; East Kilbride and Strathaven; and the Hamilton area which is currently being developed. The Hamilton area also includes communities in Blantyre, Bothwell, Larkhall, Stonehouse, and Uddingston. These partnerships include representatives from development trusts, community councils, neighbourhood planning action groups and other local community anchor

organisations. They are chaired by community leaders who have a place on the CPP Board.

- 3.5. These Area Community Led Partnerships provide a link for the Community Planning Partnership to take forward the Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plans alongside its Community Partners.

4. Current Progress

- 4.1. Work is progressing in the areas of Blantyre, Bothwell, Hamilton, Larkhall, Stonehouse, and Uddingston to develop their partnership. Meetings are taking place with local groups to discuss the benefits of joining the partnership. The Community Planning Development Officer is currently mapping local groups within the area to ensure that the new partnership will be representative of the local communities in the area. This work has also included face-to-face and online communication of CPP objectives and activities.
- 4.2. At the meeting of the 22 March 2023, the CPP Board agreed that £2,000 will be allocated to each Community Partnership from the Lived Experience Fund. The Partnership will be supported to use this funding to gather the experiences of local people to inform a better understanding of inequalities.
- 4.3. Neighbourhood Plans as required by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 have been produced for [Blantyre](#), [Fairhill](#), [Hillhouse](#), [Udston and Burnbank](#), [Strutherhill and Birkenshaw](#), and [Whitehill](#) areas. Work is ongoing with communities in the Hamilton South Ward to develop a Neighbourhood Plan which will set out local priorities for action. Communities in the [Bothwell](#) and [Larkhall](#) areas have also developed their own plans.
- 4.4. Established community partnerships are starting to develop area wide priorities. This provides the opportunity for partners to support actions to improve outcomes and to work in partnership at a larger, area wide level. When established, the Community Partnership will be at the forefront of this activity in ensuring that the voice of communities is heard at the CPP Board.

5. Participatory Budgeting (PB)

- 5.1. Participatory Budgeting (PB) was significantly developed in the priority areas in 2022. Additional Council investment of £200,000 was added to the usual £40,000 budget and £64,000 was secured from the National Lottery Communities Fund, including £44,000 to match the core PB fund. The full amount will be spent during 2023.
- 5.2. Full PB processes have been held in Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank (HUB). Voting has doubled in this area with 4,694 local votes. The other areas are re-prioritising their local plans and PB will be distributed based on the new priorities. Strutherhill and Birkenshaw are focussing on play and community land initiatives in the area and PB resources will be directed to these key projects identified through community consultation.

6. Next Steps

- 6.1. The first meeting of the new Community Partnership for Hamilton and the surrounding areas, with the support of the Community Engagement Team, is likely to take place in September 2023. The 2 established Community Partnerships (Clydesdale and Cambuslang/Rutherglen) plan to engage with this partnership and the East Kilbride and Strathaven Partnership.

7. Can Do Community Challenge Fund

- 7.1. The ['Can Do Community Fund'](#) is a one-year investment fund from South Lanarkshire Council for neighbourhoods in the Community Partnership area that do not have PB funding. This funding aims to address specific needs, and targets projects identified through consultation with local communities. Monies are not available in areas where a Neighbourhood Plan is in place.
- 7.2. Community organisations, including Community Councils, have the opportunity to apply for grants up to £10,000 to tackle identified issues within their areas, whether they require revenue, capital funding or a combination of both. The fund has a £200,000 limit for the whole of South Lanarkshire and could benefit a minimum of 20 projects.
- 7.3. Area Committees will be requested to make the final decisions on those applications that have met the funding criteria and have evidenced community support.

8 Employee Implications

- 8.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1. Financial resources to support Community Partnership activity are outlined at 4.2. and Council funding available for community groups at 7.2.

10. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 10.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment associated with this report.

11. Other Implications

- 11.1. There are no risk or sustainability issues associated with the content of this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 12.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required. Consultation on local community plans and neighbourhood plans is carried out on an ongoing basis with each community involved in the process. Consultation with Community Partnerships is ongoing.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

29 August 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

Values

- ◆ Focused on people and their needs
- ◆ Working with and respecting others
- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Ambitious, self-aware and improving
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable

Priorities

- ◆ We will work to put people first and reduce inequality
- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places
- ◆ We will work to recover, progress and improve

Outcomes

- ◆ Our children and young people thrive
- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities
- ◆ People live the healthiest lives possible

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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