



DRAFT
HILLHEAD & HARESTANES PLACE PLAN

2018-2023

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East Dunbartonshire has been recognised as one of the best areas to live in Scotland based on people's health, life expectancy, employment and school performance. Economic activity and employment rates are high and the level of crime is significantly below the Scottish average. Despite this, inequalities exist across the authority. To try and address these inequalities, East Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) is committing to working with local communities to deliver actions through a number of plans for smaller geographical areas, Place Plans.

What is the Community Planning Partnership (CPP)?

The CPP is made up of local services who work in our communities to make them the best they can be. Members include East Dunbartonshire Council, Police Scotland, the NHS and Health and Social Care Partnership, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Scottish Enterprise, East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action and a variety of other voluntary/third sector organisations.

What is this Place Plan?

Place Plans show what additional services are needed in a community and explain how the CPP will deliver better services with the community as active partners wherever possible.

This Place Plan has been produced by involving people from the Hillhead and Harestanes communities to ensure it reflects their views and experiences and addresses the issues important to them. As part of this process a group of local people have come together with an aim of representing the wider community. They're called 'Hillhead & Harestanes Voice' and they are working with community planning partners to develop an action plan showing community led activities. Over the coming year we will work together to bring these two plans together. If you would like to find out more about becoming a member of Hillhead and Harestanes Voice, you can contact East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action - info@edva.org

The following pages provide a summary of the data we have gathered about Hillhead and Harestanes. A full Hillhead and Harestanes Area Profile is available

IF
**HILLHEAD &
HARESTANES**

**WAS A VILLAGE
OF 100 PEOPLE**

Population

Sex



47

Would be men

53

Would be women



Age



0 - 15

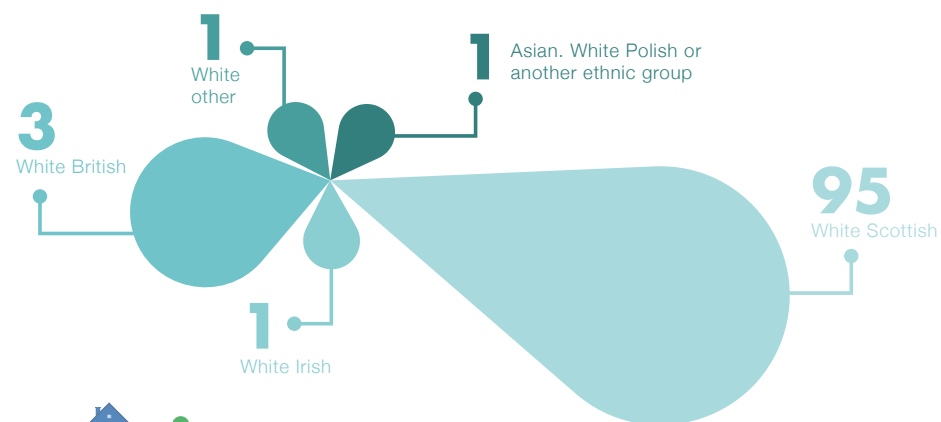


16 - 64



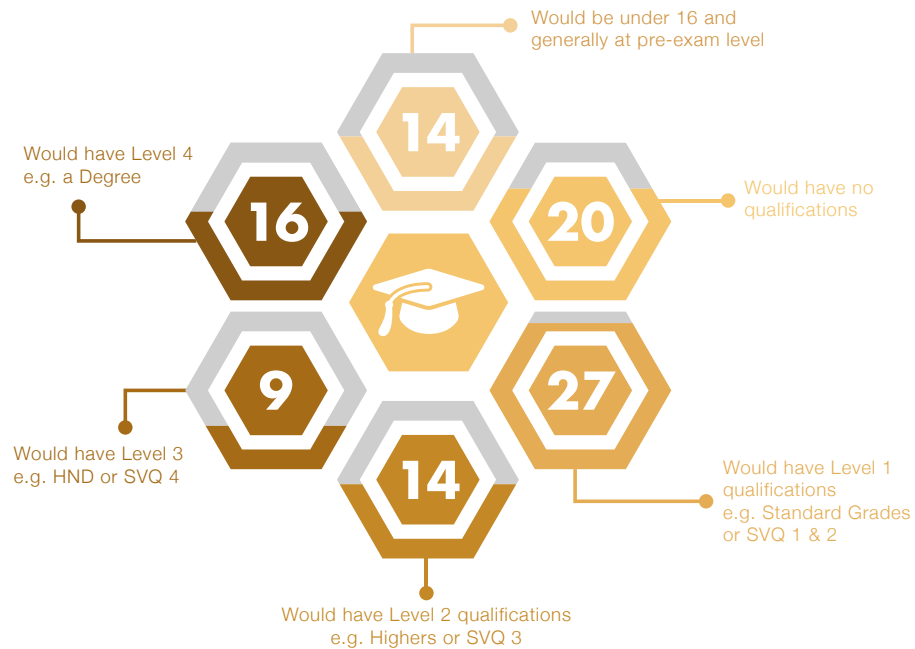
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Ethnicity



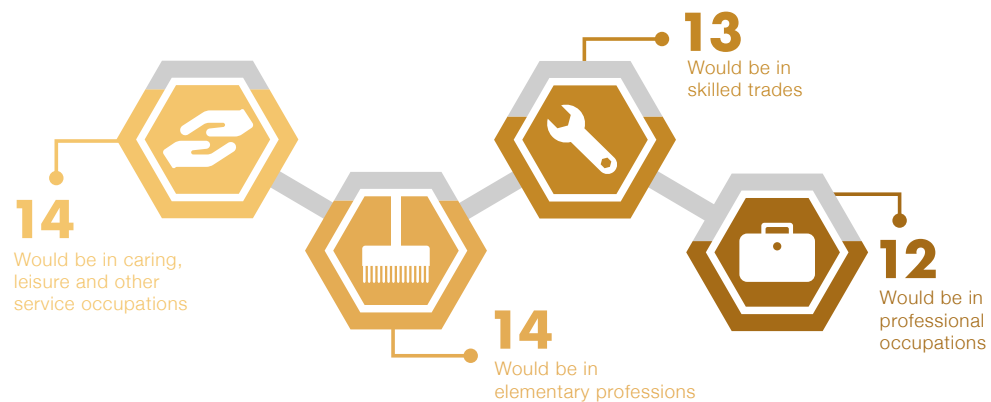
Education and Employment

Education



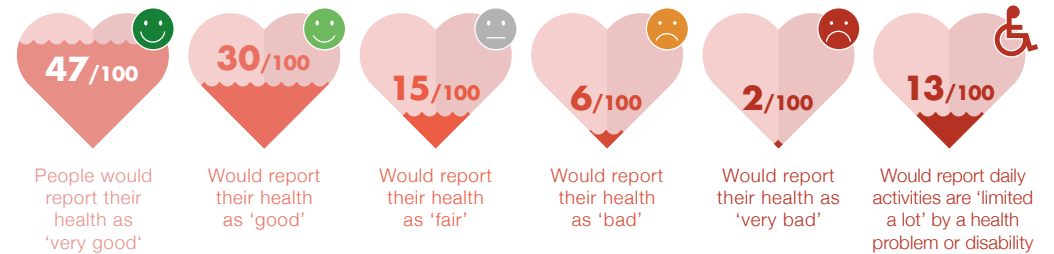
Work

Amongst all those aged 16 and over who are economically active, the four most common occupations would be as follows

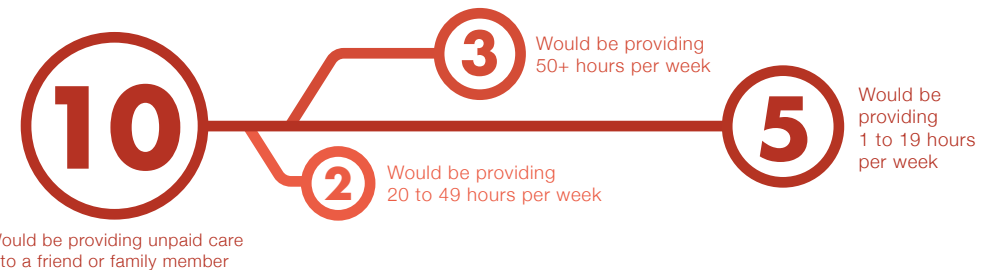


Health and Housing

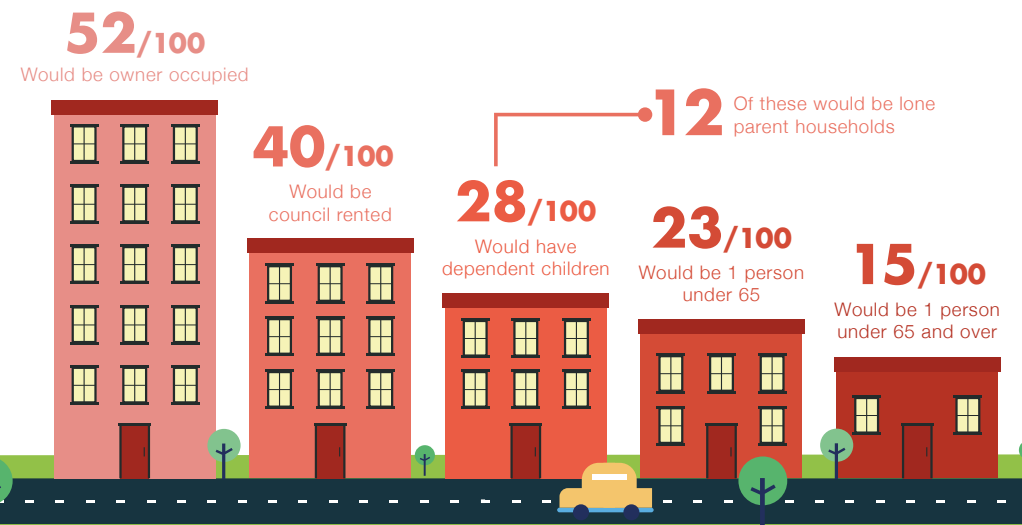
Health



Care



Housing



Community views

Likes

The majority of the local residents we spoke to in Hillhead and Harestanes were positive about their area although there were a number of areas for improvement. People were most positive about local housing and community – they felt safe and there were good facilities and amenities; many noted the Hillhead Community Centre as a great resource. Here are some of their comments

“Good local employment support programmes”

“Good sense of community”

“Significant improvements across the area due to regeneration work taking place”

“Good variety of outdoor spaces”

“Good recycling facilities”

“Hillhead Community Centre and the resources it provides”

“Feels like a really safe place to live”

“Positive impact of Hillhead Housing Association”

“Good police presence in local area”

“Good range of local facilities available”



Dislikes

The priority area for most people was work and the local economy. People commented that there was a lack of employment opportunities, local business and shops in the area. People also thought that local services should listen and more and respond more effectively to their concerns; involving them more in their decisions for the area. Here are some of their comments :

“Lack of local businesses and impact on employment”

“Lack of employment opportunities”

“Difficulties in accessing affordable, flexible childcare”

“Negative perception of the area from those who don’t live there”

“The Council, NHS and public agencies not taking account of views of community when making decisions”



“Poor maintenance of road surfaces and pavements”

“Safety issues and lack of enforcement in tackling inappropriately parked cars”

“Cost and reliability of local transport”

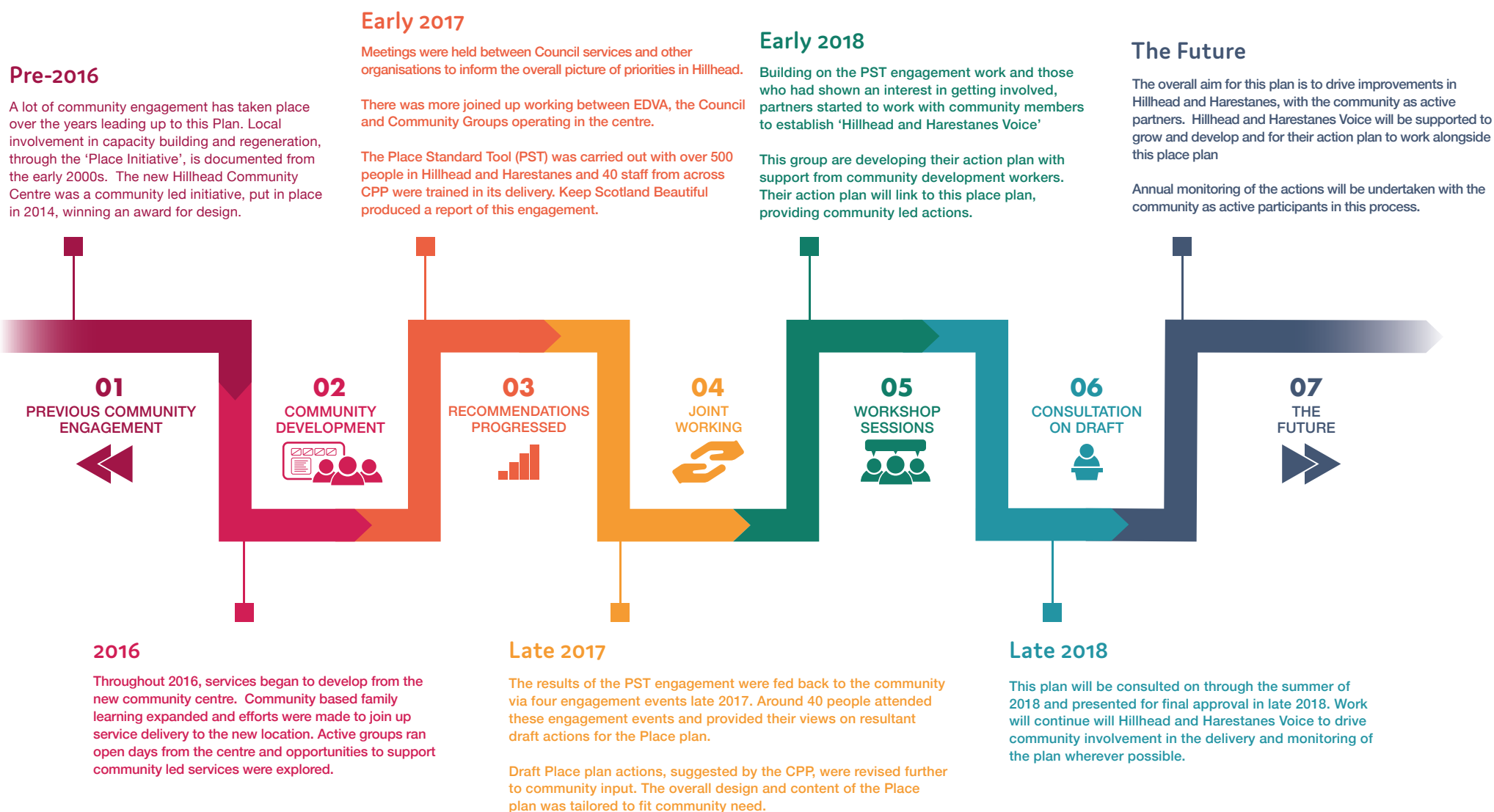
“Poor condition of some areas of local environment”

“Instances of anti-social behaviour”

We have spoken to people in Hillhead and Harestanes throughout the development of this plan, a summary of these conversations and how we intend to continue this in partnership with local people is provide on the following page

Our voice

A timeline of engagement in Hillhead & Harestanes



Community Action Case Study

When the community and local services in the Community Planning Partnership work together great things can be achieved. A recent example of this is the Group Recovery Aftercare Community Enterprise (GRACE) Serenity Garden at Hillhead Community Centre. Over a period of two years, the community, led by Group Recovery Aftercare Community Enterprise (GRACE), campaigned to progress a space where people could take time out to reflect and enjoy some quiet time in a peaceful sensory garden environment. With help from Community Food and Health Scotland and East Dunbartonshire Council GRACE worked with Small Talk Café, Monster Mash Up, STAR and Positive Achievements to contribute to this excellent new resource.



Community Assets

Hillhead Community Centre opened its doors to the public in September 2014, replacing the former community centre, which had stood on the Meiklehill Road site for over 80 years. The award winning, modern, multi-functional space accommodates a wide range of users from the local community and includes a crèche, office facilities, bookable meeting spaces and a large multi-purpose hall and café. Recent additions include a community garden and outdoor seating area. Although many people from Harestanes use the Hillhead Community Centre, the main centre for community activity in Harestanes is the local school and the community huts that are situated on the school premises. A range of community activities such as Brownies and a parent and toddler group convene in the huts regularly and the huts have recently been upgraded to improve the facility for all.

The nearby Merkland Sports Pitches provide centrally located international and Regional Park and sports facilities. The Canal and Luggie Water are also close

by offering good walking routes and cycling routes. Many respondents to the Place Standard Tool engagement requested improved cycle routes, an action being taken forward as part of the Council's Active Travel Strategy.¹

The Luggie Park also offers a skate park and Merkland Local Nature Reserve provides an area of semi-natural open space.

Hillhead and Harestanes Primaries operate locally and the new build school (Holy Trinity) opened in spring 2017 accommodating pupils from the former St. Agatha's and St. Flannan's Primaries. Merkland School also provides education for children with additional support needs.

Local shops and pubs are situated at Merkland Road and Redbrae Road alongside smaller local shops near Harestanes Primary and on Hillhead Road.

See: <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-standards/planning-policy/transport/active-travel-strategy>

A number of Churches (St. Flannan's, Hillhead Church and Harestanes Baptist Church) operate in the area alongside a good number of voluntary sector organisations and community groups including:

Young people

- ① 45 Scout Group
- ② After School Club
- ③ Brownies
- ④ Friday Club
- ⑤ Friday Night Live Youth

Health and well being

- ⑥ Bootcamp
- ⑦ GRACE
- ⑧ Hillhead Community Garden
- ⑨ Kirkintilloch Mens Shed
- ⑩ Rosebank Allotment
- ⑪ Rosebank United Football Club

Children and Families

- ⑫ Hillhead Pre 5's Toddlers
- ⑬ Little Explorers' Nurture Day
- ⑭ Little Monster Mash Up
- ⑮ STAR for Parents
- ⑯ Toddlers Group

Natural or Historical Asset

- ⑰ Lammermoor Gardens
- ⑱ Monday Pensioners Club
- ⑲ St Flannan's Lady Pensioners
- ⑳ Tuesday Friends - Coffee Morning
- ㉑ Whitehill Court Lunch Club

Community Centres

- ㉒ Hillhead Community Centre
- ㉓ Harestanes Huts



Broomhill

4

KILSYTH ROAD
A803

Forth and Clyde Canal

Cleddans

21

Harestanes

2

3

6

16

20

23

HILLHEAD ROAD

HILLHEAD ROAD

REDBRAE ROAD

Eastside

Merkland

1

8

22

15

7

13

14

10

12

Rosebank

REDBRAE ROAD

MERKLAND DRIVE

17

11

WATERSIDE ROAD

KIRKINTILLOCH

B8048

Themes and Priorities for Action

There are a number of services which partners deliver across East Dunbartonshire which are available within Hillhead and Harestanes. These can be viewed at Appendix A. In addition to these 'universal services', the seven priority themes for Hillhead and Harestanes that community and community planning partners identified for additional actions are below.

1. Economy and Employment
2. Children, young people & families
3. Community Safety
4. Community Learning and Development
5. Environment and Transport
6. Financial Fitness
7. Health Improvement for All

The tables that follow outline the issues under each theme and what actions will be taken to address them. As this is a five year plan, short term indicates years 1 to 2, medium term indicates a timescale of up to years 3 or 4 and long term indicates a timescale of up to year 5.

The responsibility for these actions often lies with multiple organisations through the community planning partnership groups. The lead organisations for these groups are as follows:

East Dunbartonshire Economic Development Partnership – East Dunbartonshire Council
 Employability Action Group – East Dunbartonshire Council and Skills Development Scotland
 Delivering for Children and Young People Partnership - East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership and East Dunbartonshire Council
 Community Safety Partnership – East Dunbartonshire Council
 Joint Health Improvement (JHIP) Steering Group – East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership
 Health and Social Care Strategic Planning Group - East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership
 Community Learning and Development (CLD) Partnership – East Dunbartonshire Council
 Financial Inclusion Partnership - East Dunbartonshire Council

Economy and Employment

The community have identified the need for more employment opportunities locally as well as the need for employability support. In addition, there was a requirement for these support measures to have affordable childcare options that would allow parents to attend training and/or work. There is also a requirement to support local businesses to develop and a desire for more support to local people to go into business.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate targeted and tailored business support to support potential, new and existing businesses and social enterprises in the area 	East Dunbartonshire Council and Business Gateway	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the demand for childcare and adult learning and provide adult learning alongside childcare opportunities <p>Promote adult learning opportunities to parents accessing childcare</p>	Employability Action Group	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify where literacies, ESOL and adult learning support is most needed target / promote support 	Employability Action Group	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop provision of early learning and childcare for children 0 to 5 years, as part of the expansion to 1140 hours 	East Dunbartonshire Council – Early years	Medium term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities for skills development and employability in a number of 'green' initiatives such as local food growing and climate resilience initiatives. 	East Dunbartonshire Council – Sustainability Policy Team	Short term and ongoing

Children, young people and families

There have been a number of positive outcomes for children and families in Hillhead and Harestanes as a result of an intensive early years and family learning focus in the area aimed at improving parental confidence and bringing parental led support into local nurseries. However, there is still work to be done to improve outcomes for all. Lower levels of breast feeding, poorer attainment levels and increased exposure to second hand smoke are some of the areas in which improvement is still needed. Parents have indicated they would like to improve youth provision in the area and facilities for outdoor play and physical activity could also be improved to support healthier choices for families.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop services to meet the needs of the children and families in the community, including nurturing approaches, parental involvement and family learning opportunities; and parenting support and advice that is timely and appropriate 	Delivering for Children and Young People's Partnership	Short term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to deliver high-quality early learning and childcare services from Hillhead ELC Centre and introduce improvements ensuring high-quality, flexible, accessible and affordable early learning and childcare services are available to local children and families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare for all 3 to 5 year olds; - Introduce 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare for all eligible 2 year olds, including a 'blended model' with childminders; - Introduce provision for the care of babies within Hillhead ELC Centre - Continue to work with multi-agencies to ensure additional support is provided to families in crisis 	East Dunbartonshire Council – Early Years	Medium Term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop nurturing approaches within schools to support children who require more intensive intervention. 	Delivering for Children and Young people Partnership	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain smoke free play park programme 	JHIP Steering Group	Short term and ongoing

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Pilot the DYLOS system to determine impact of second hand smoking in the home setting	ED Health and Social Care Partnership	Short term and ongoing
Develop breast feeding friendly settings to include breast feeding champions	JHIP Steering Group	Short term and ongoing
Develop community led Buggy Walks	ED Health and Social Care Partnership & ED Culture and Leisure Trust	Short term and ongoing
Explore opportunities to enhance provisions for learning for sustainability, including outdoor education at Merkland LNR and other local sites	East Dunbartonshire Council - Sustainability Policy and Education	Medium term
Maintain 'snack and play' – a scheme that provides free meals and activities in primary schools during school holidays for children most likely to benefit from this	East Dunbartonshire Council – Education & ED Culture and Leisure Trust	Short term and ongoing
Use the Pupil Equity Fund to provide additional support in primary schools aimed at closing the poverty related attainment.	East Dunbartonshire Council - Education	Short term and ongoing

Community Learning and Development

There are a number of active community groups in the Hillhead and Harestanes area who support various activities and community voice. However, not everyone in the area showed awareness of the groups and activities and not everyone felt their needs were being met. It was also highlighted through engagement that many people don't feel empowered to affect change even when their views are sought. Recognising the ongoing challenges experienced in relation to community capacity for involvement and building on the community based opportunities which already exist was a key priority for local people.

Community capacity building will be essential to realise the ambitions in this plan and those of Hillhead and Harestanes Voice. A key challenge in this area over the years has been recruiting and sustaining community involvement and finding ways to share this widely across the community, despite the dedication of a relatively small number of volunteers and community activists.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Continue to develop Hillhead and Harestanes Voice - a local forum to bring local people and groups together to discuss shared challenges and opportunities, actions and priorities	Local community, CLD Partnership	Med Term
Support community involvement through dedicated and ongoing capacity building for individuals and groups.	CLD Partnership	Long term
Improve community networking and communications e.g. regular community newsletter including timetable of upcoming events.	CLD Partnership	Short term
Deliver funder events and better information on funding opportunities	CLD Partnership	Short term
Increase community spirit through shared events such as canal litter pick-ups and commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Hillhead Swing Bridge in 2018.	Hillhead Housing Association, Safer Stronger Together Partnership	Short term and ongoing
Carry out estate walkabouts with local residents to identify areas for attention or improvement.	Hillhead Housing Association supported by McDonald's restaurant	Short term and ongoing
Carry out a mapping exercise on options for reducing social isolation and promote amongst vulnerable groups e.g. through the Asset Map	EDVA and JHIP steering group	Short term and ongoing

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Deliver a new programme of partnership activity utilising the mobile Multi-Use Games Arena (MUGA)	Community Safety Partnership	Short term and ongoing
Investigate options for supporting or enabling more affordable access to local sport facilities and promotion of existing facilities within the community	CLD Partnership	Medium - long term
Raise awareness of the community asset map as a community resource	JHIP Steering Group	Medium Term
Promote and support volunteering and the development of new community groups.	CLD Partnership and EDVA	Medium Term
Upskilling community groups particularly in ICT, planning and marketing.	CLD Partnership, Business Gateway	Medium Term
Hold awareness sessions for local groups on Community Empowerment Act and opportunities it presents	CLD Partnership	Short term
Promote intergenerational activities between children and older adults	Generations Working Together Partnership and Health and Social Care Partnership	Short term

Environment and Transport

Moving around Hillhead and Harestanes by means other than car was highlighted as a particular concern for the local community, which contributes to health related issues and disconnection from other parts of the wider Kirkintilloch area. Although the canal is nearby and provides an ideal route into Kirkintilloch, through consultation people reported concerns over the use of the canal towpaths due to feelings of safety and accessibility issues. The community also felt that public transport was both expensive and infrequent, particularly in the evening. There were a number of positive comments about accessibility to green spaces and opportunities for activities outdoors, such as community gardening, however there was also a feeling that many of the green spaces were poorly maintained.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Conduct analysis and feasibility work which looks specifically at barriers or perceived barriers at the canal path network identified in Place Standard exercise, e.g. not being able to walk at night, poorly maintained paths, cycling unsafe for children etc.	East Dunbartonshire Council - Regeneration and Town Centres, Traffic and Transport	Long term
Through the development of local access and active travel projects, for example as part of the Kirkintilloch Town Centre Masterplan or ED Loop, ensure connections and linkages to neighbourhoods such as HHHS are considered.	East Dunbartonshire Council - Regeneration and Town Centres, Traffic and Transport	Medium term
Explore opportunities for a new cycle and walking path from Banks Road to Tintock Tunnel.	Hillhead Housing Association	Short term
Upgrade and install new fencing and improve the quality of open spaces in the area, in conjunction with Community Garden volunteers.	Hillhead Housing Association	Medium term - 4 phases of environmental improvements to the estate planned for 2018/2020
Develop an Environmental Strategy to address how to improve and upgrade open spaces within their ownership and map out an investment programme over the next 2 years.	Hillhead Housing Association	Medium term - See above
Continued development of Hillhead Housing Association Community Garden in partnership with schools and nurseries and Positive Achievements	Hillhead Housing Association	Ongoing – 12 participants from 2 local nurseries attend the garden weekly. 14 Primary 6 pupils, 18 Primary 1 pupils and 12 Primary 4-7 pupils from 3 local primary schools attend workshops at the community garden on a 3 week rotation during term time. 8 learners aged 18-30 from Positive Achievements attend regular workshops.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Develop management plan for Luggie Park to improve access, woodland management and open space management	East Dunbartonshire Council - Streetscene	Medium Term
Provide new play facilities through gap analysis and audit The existing Open Space Strategy identifies parks in Hillhead and Harestanes for priority action.	East Dunbartonshire Council - Streetscene	Medium – long term
Promote Healthy Habits maps to increase awareness of walking and cycling routes	East Dunbartonshire Council - Streetscene	Short term and ongoing
Redesign and upgrade of play area at Afton View Open Space across from Holy trinity School	East Dunbartonshire Council – Traffic and Transport	Medium – long term
Upgrade paths at Merkland Local Nature Reserve and extension of car park	East Dunbartonshire Council - Streetscene	Medium – long term
Review public transport and work with partners to improve where it does not meet local needs	East Dunbartonshire Council – Traffic and Transport	Medium – long term
Continue provision of food growing initiative at Rosebank and explore opportunities to extend elsewhere in the area where demand is evidenced through East Dunbartonshire's emerging Food Growing Strategy	East Dunbartonshire Council – Sustainability Policy	Short term and ongoing

See: <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/sport-leisure-parks/parks-gardens-and-open-spaces/parks-gardens-and-open-spaces-locations>

Community Safety

Generally speaking, people feel safe living in Hillhead and Harestanes. There are, however, concerns about anti-social behaviour, such as fly tipping, dog fouling and littering, and inconsiderate parking was highlighted as an ongoing issue. Another cause for concern was youth disorder.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Targeted patrols and joint days of enforcement action to tackle parking and traffic issues in known problem areas (e.g. parking at local schools at drop off and pick up times)	Community Safety Partnership	Short term and on-going
Reducing instances of dog fouling, littering and fly-tipping in the communities open public spaces – targeted enforcement patrols and campaigns to reduce instances and offences	Community Safety Partnership	Short term and on-going
Deliver series of youth diversionary activities to tackle youth disorder and antisocial behaviour in known problem areas e.g. KLC 629 and use of Multi-use games arena.	Community Safety Partnership	Short term and on-going
Delivery of targeted preventative campaigns and educational programmes by partners on community safety issues (e.g. People's Dispensary for Sick Animals / PDSA programme, Junior Wardens and Community Litter Picks)	Community Safety Partnership	Short term and on-going
Joint surgeries and co-production days of action delivered by community safety partners within the Hillhead and Harestanes Place area	Community Safety Partnership	Short term and on-going
Delivery of targeted antisocial behaviour and youth disorder patrols by partners in areas where known problems exist or emerging issues are developing (e.g. skate park and Merkland Nature Reserve)	Community Safety Partnership	Short term and on-going
Deliver SFRS Fire Reach course in conjunction with partner agencies for young people in Hillhead and Harestanes	Community Safety Partnership	Medium – medium term
Effective partner tasking and deployment of mobile CCTV where appropriate to support enforcement activity to reduce antisocial behaviour and crime	Community Safety Partnership	Short term and on-going

Financial Fitness

Financial stability is an important factor in improving outcomes for people. The people of Hillhead and Harestanes have highlighted the need for support in accessing and managing their money, including how to navigate complicated benefits systems.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Develop a single referral (cross agencies) pathway to maximise benefits for local people	Financial Inclusion Partnership	Medium term and ongoing
Increase access to Credit Union service	Financial Inclusion Partnership	Medium term
Promote digital skills and free wifi access in Hillhead Centre	Financial Inclusion Partnership	Short term and ongoing
Promote Citizen's Advice Bureau services and drop-ins	Financial Inclusion Partnership	Short term and ongoing
Increase provision of information and assistance in regard to fuel poverty	Financial Inclusion Partnership	Short term and ongoing
Promote Hillhead Housing Association Welfare Rights Services	Hillhead Housing Association	Short term and ongoing

Health Improvement for All

Required Improvement

There are a number of actions that were identified through consultation which could contribute to improved health outcomes in Hillhead and Harestanes. Linked to the theme of 'financial fitness', people felt that sessions on how to cook well on a budget would be beneficial to those on a lower income and also highlighted that carers would benefit from more support to improve their health. Support to stop smoking and reduce alcohol intake were also identified as key to health improvement.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Provide training for volunteers to deliver community cookery	JHIP Steering Group	Short term and ongoing
Deliver community food and nutrition programmes	JHIP Steering Group	Short term and ongoing
Deliver the East Dunbartonshire WALK programme, a programme to introduce walking and other forms of exercise within local communities, in Hillhead and Harestanes	JHIP Steering Group	Medium Term
Explore opportunities for community based training around mental well-being	JHIP Steering Group	Medium Term
Roll out Health Issues in the Community course in Hillhead Community Centre	CLD Partnership	Short term
ED Healthy Environments Action Group to develop 'green health' initiatives such as greenspace prescriptions and local air quality initiatives.	JHIP Steering Group	Medium Term

Making it happen

There is a lot of current and planned activity to help deliver this Plan. If you would like to know more or get involved and you are:

[A local resident or a voluntary sector organisation](#) please contact East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action at info@edva.org or on 0141 578 6680

[A public sector organisation or business](#) please contact East Dunbartonshire Council at communityplanning@eastdunbarton.gov.uk or on 0300 123 4510.

Every year partners will come together to monitor this Plan and communicate updates to the community and the Community Planning Partnership Board. This will include information about progress against the planned actions and any short term changes as a result of them. Longer term change in Lennoxtown will be monitored by using statistics after years 3 and 5. The Place Standard Tool will also be revisited after year 5 to supplement statistical information.



Appendix: Universal Services

These are existing services throughout East Dunbartonshire. This Place Plan adds targeted improvements for Lennoxtown



Provides a wide range of services including:

- Community protection
- Early learning, childcare and education
- Registration services
- Roads
- Economic development
- Housing
- Planning and building standards
- Recycling and waste



Enforces the law and keeps us safe. Local Police priorities are:

- Tackling violence
- Disorder and antisocial behaviour
- Protecting people
- Increasing public confidence and local engagement
- Tackling serious crime
- Responding to major events



Is Scotland's main economic development agency. The organisation works with partners in the public and private sectors to identify and exploit the best opportunities to deliver a significant, lasting effect on the Scottish economy.



In addition to responding to fire emergencies, SFRS also carries out:

- Youth development programmes
- Safety campaigns
- Home fire safety checks
- CPR training
- Traffic collision response



A newly integrated body which brings together a wide range of services including:

- Residential Child Care Service
- Children and Families Services
- Primary Care Services
- Youth Justice Service
- Home Care Service
- Occupational Therapy Service
- Community Alarm & Telecare Service
- Mental Health Services
- Public Health Improvement Services



Is a Charitable Trust established by East Dunbartonshire Council to deliver culture & leisure services. Services are delivered from 3 leisure centres (including pavilions); 8 libraries, a museum, an art gallery and an arts centre.



Provides services to help people achieve career success and support businesses with their goals.



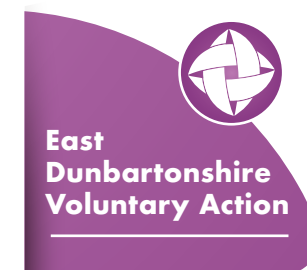
Manages around 780 men on remand, short term, long term and life and extended sentences. Supports people to re-integrate back into the community.



Is recently merged College providing a range of full and part time courses in Computing, Art and Design, Employability and Hair.



In addition to the housing provided by East Dunbartonshire Council, there are fifteen housing associations that provide social housing in East Dunbartonshire.



Facilitates, enables and connects the capacity and engagement of the local voluntary sector, social enterprises, and volunteering.



