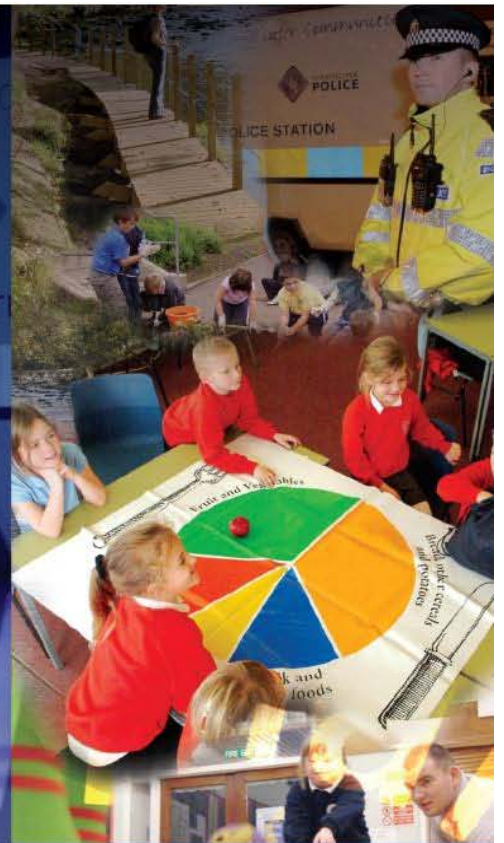




**Community Planning in
EAST AYRSHIRE**

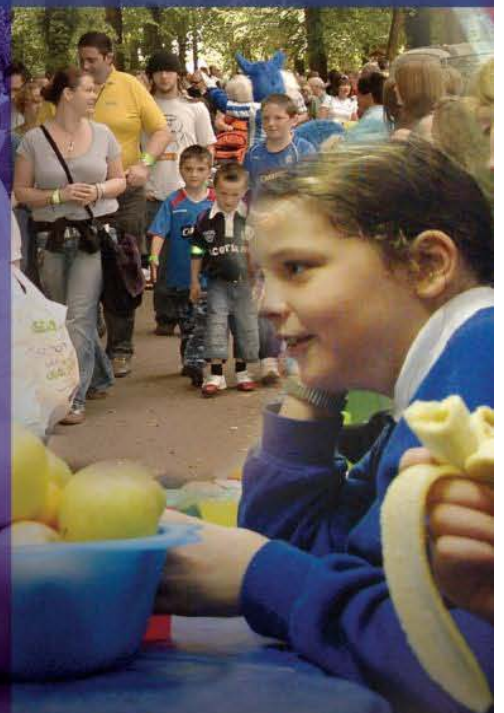


**EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY PLAN
FOUR YEARLY REVIEW
BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

planning together

working together

achieving together





YOU live and work in East Ayrshire. YOU know best the priorities for your communities. This is YOUR opportunity to...

Have your say

The Four-Yearly Review of East Ayrshire Community Plan

Our Vision

"East Ayrshire will be a place with strong, vibrant communities where everyone has a good quality of life and access to opportunities, choices and high quality services which are sustainable, accessible and meet people's needs."

Our Main Themes

Promoting Lifelong Learning Improving Community Safety
Delivering Community Regeneration Improving Health and Wellbeing

How to 'have your say'

It is important that local people contribute to the Community Planning Review and identify their priorities for East Ayrshire as a whole, and their communities in particular, for the period 2011 to 2015. The results of the Review will influence where the resources of the Community Planning Partners are directed. Are the current priorities still relevant, or are there other priorities, which Community Planning Partners should address?

You can 'HAVE YOUR SAY' by completing the Community Planning Four-Yearly Review document, available on the Community Planning website at www.eastayrshirecommunityplan.org. Alternatively, you can pick up a paper copy of the document at your local office or library. Staff will be happy to return your completed document to us or it can be posted to the address on this page. We look forward to hearing your views. **The closing date for returns is 30 April 2010.**

HOW TO CONTACT US

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INTRODUCTION

Community Planning is about working in partnership and sharing resources to deliver quality services which improve the quality of life of and make a difference to individuals and communities in East Ayrshire. The Community Plan is the overarching strategic planning document for the delivery of public services in East Ayrshire over the 12 years from 2003 to 2015 and sets out the overall vision for the local area.

As Community Planning Partners, we recognised from the beginning that priorities change over time and gave a commitment to reviewing the Plan and the related thematic Action Plans on a four-yearly basis. The first review took place in 2006/07 and an updated Community Plan and revised set of Action Plans were implemented from 1 April 2007. The second review will be implemented over 2010/11 to ensure that updated documents are in place for 1 April 2011.

As you live and work in East Ayrshire you know best what the priorities are for your communities. Highlighted on these pages are the priorities of the current Plan under the four themes. It is important that you take the opportunity to consider them and let us know if these are still the priorities for your community or if there are other more pressing issues. This is your opportunity to 'HAVE YOUR SAY'. Detailed on the previous page is a range of ways in which you can do so. Further information on Community Planning in East Ayrshire is available on our website at www.eastayrshirecommunityplan.org.



PROMOTING LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong learning is all of the learning activity undertaken throughout life, whether formal, informal or workplace learning. In addition to the learning that is available in schools, colleges and universities, lifelong learning includes the learning available to young people and adults in less formal settings within their communities, such as libraries, community facilities and workplaces.

Here is a flavour of the progress which has been made.

- Reading, writing and maths skills continuing to improve
- Wide range of community based learning opportunities delivered
- Curriculum for Excellence being implemented
- Increased number of young people participating in active citizenship activity
- High quality educational and community facilities opened at Shortlees Community School, Nursery and Family Centre, St Joseph's Academy and Grange Academy
- Wide range of community based organisations supported across a number of partner agencies
- Work undertaken to develop a robust Third Sector Interface to better involve the voluntary and social enterprise sectors in Community Planning at the strategic level
- Increased number of volunteers recruited and supported through the Volunteer Centre and partner agencies
- Burns Monument Family History Centre opened in Kay Park, Kilmarnock

Current priorities for the Promoting Lifelong Learning Action Plan 2009-2011 are detailed below.

Current Priorities
Increasing educational attainment and wider achievement for learners of all ages in East Ayrshire
Increasing opportunities for learners of all ages to develop skills for learning, life and work
Increasing the number of people who can more actively participate in their daily life by being able to read, use numbers more effectively, and utilise information and communication technology (ICT)
Increasing the number of young people in East Ayrshire who participate in sustainable positive destinations, such as education, training or work
Increasing the number of opportunities for people of all ages to become involved in their community
Supporting the development and continuation of community based organisations



DELIVERING COMMUNITY REGENERATION

Delivering Community Regeneration is about improving the key economic, environmental and social factors, which make our communities better places to live and work. This includes regenerating our town centres and villages; supporting businesses; assisting people into employment through employability programmes and the provision of childcare; attracting people to East Ayrshire; improving our transport infrastructure; and ensuring that housing is available to meet the needs of our residents. Importantly, it is also about protecting our natural and built environment, and considering the effects of climate change.

Here is a flavour of the progress which has been made.

- Good progress in Town Centre Regeneration
- Skills Development and Employability Service established and making a difference
- Reduction in the number of young people not in education, employment or training
- Ayrshire Employment Task Force established to support businesses and redundant workers
- Local services delivered through five co-located facilities, with Crosshouse Resource Centre due to open in summer 2010
- The Palace Theatre, the Grand Hall and the Baird Institute refurbished and audience figures across Arts and Museum venues increased
- New indoor and outdoor sports facilities opened at St Joseph's and Grange Academies
- Coalfield Community Transport's 'Cumnock Connector' established and passenger numbers for CCT increased
- High quality childcare provision available across the area
- Wide range of environmental improvement projects completed

- Recycling rates increased
- Excellent progress made by upgrading 1,734 Council houses to the Scottish Housing Quality Standard
- A number of play improvement projects completed

Current priorities for the Delivering Community Regeneration Action Plan 2009-2011 are detailed below.

Current Priorities
Regenerating our town centres and villages, and dealing with run down areas
Growing and supporting new and existing businesses, including the social economy
Developing employability initiatives to provide people with the skills and training they need to progress in or into work and realise their potential
Growing tourism and increasing visits to and participation in culture and leisure activities
Promoting transport solutions, particularly for rural areas, ensuring that good quality affordable choices are available
Supporting the provision of sustainable housing solutions
Protecting, conserving and enhancing the natural environment
Mitigating against and adapting to the negative effects of climate change
Supporting people to work through the provision of more accessible and affordable childcare



IMPROVING COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community Safety is about tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, and the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, including providing diversionary activity for young people. It is also about protecting the public from accidents at home, on the roads and streets, at work and in our communities, and raising awareness of fire prevention and road safety. In addition, it focuses on protecting vulnerable people of all ages through addressing issues such as Child Protection and domestic abuse.



Here is a flavour of the progress which has been made.

- Risk Management and CCTV Centre opened
- Violent crime decreased
- Wide range of diversionary activities provided for young people
- Reduction in road casualties
- Significant amount of activity progressed to combat anti-social behaviour
- Range of initiatives implemented to tackle alcohol and drug misuse
- Improved targeting of Home Fire Safety Visits to those more at risk through partnership working
- Focused activity to address domestic abuse implemented
- Child Protection improved through a co-ordinated approach involving all relevant agencies

Current priorities for the Improving Community Safety Action Plan 2009-2011 are detailed below.

Current Priorities

Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour

Working with young people to reduce the likelihood of them getting involved in crime and anti-social behaviour

Improving community safety in neighbourhoods and homes, including personal safety, fire prevention and road safety

Promoting child protection and the safety of vulnerable adults



IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Improving Health and Wellbeing is about improving the health of the people of East Ayrshire and preventing illness by helping people make healthy lifestyle choices. Importantly, it is also focuses on addressing the differences in health between those living in more advantaged circumstances and those who are more disadvantaged. It is also about supporting adults and older people with long term conditions to live independently in the community for as long as possible rather than within hospital and care settings; and, recognising the impact of poverty on health.

Here is a flavour of the progress which has been made.

- Increased number of people aged 65+ receiving free personal care at home
- Increased focus on prevention of alcohol misuse
- Child dental health improving
- Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do it! (MEND) programme implemented
- Schools Alcohol Co-ordinator appointed
- High number of young people participating in physical activity through a wide range of programmes
- Role of community pharmacies increased to include alcohol awareness and smoking cessation
- Credit Union membership increased
- Kilmarnock Shopmobility established and number of users increasing
- Substantial additional benefits accessed by Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), Social Work staff and hospital-based Social Work staff, working in partnership with Department of Work and Pensions

Current priorities for the Improving Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2009-2011 are detailed below.

Current Priorities

Making information available in a suitable format and providing services when and where required for those who need them to enable people to make healthy lifestyle choices

Working towards equality in health for the most disadvantaged in East Ayrshire by targeting activity to address factors that contribute to the most prevalent health problems and improving support and care services for the most vulnerable groups

Supporting older people to live independently in the community for as long as possible and improving their quality of life

Supporting people with long term conditions to live independently in the community for as long as possible and improving their quality of life

Promoting wellbeing by providing financial inclusion services which target our most deprived communities and populations



Further information on Community Planning can be found on our website at:
www.eastayrshirecommunityplan.org

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working together

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For further information, please contact:

Community Planning & Partnership Unit East Ayrshire Council,
Barrhill Road, Cumnock KA18 1PG Tel: 01290 428340

At the time of production our Core Community Planning Partners are:

