LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2024-2027

ANNUAL REPORT YEAR 2

Community Planning in EAST AYRSHIRE



Introduction

2025/26 is the second year of reporting against our three year East Ayrshire Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2024-2027.

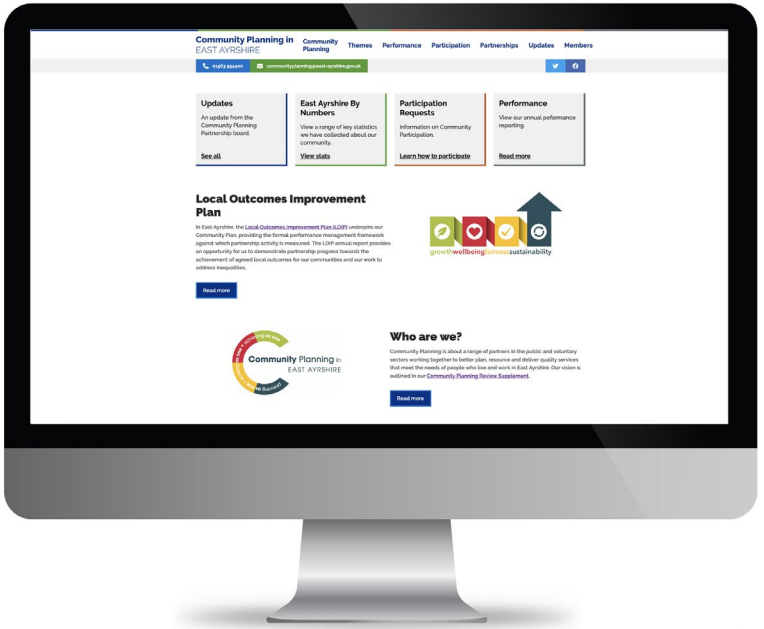
This overview report is part of a suite of annual performance materials that has been prepared to help us to understand how we are performing as a partnership, what we are doing well and where we could be doing better.

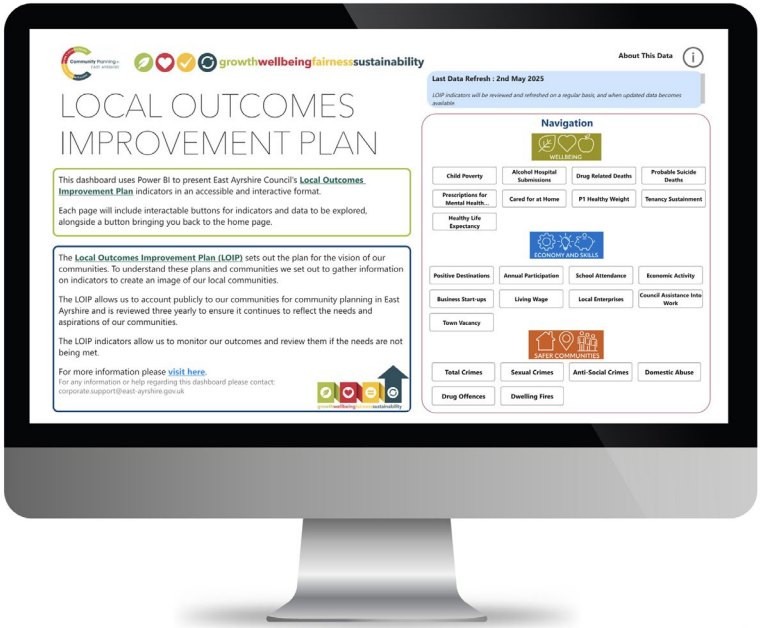
This report has been prepared to supplement our LOIP Dashboard which is available at www.eastayrshirecommunityplan.org

The dashboard presents time series data for the indicators that we have chosen to measure our partnership performance, with national/ benchmarking comparisons where these are available.

In this report we present additional contextual information to help better understand the dashboard data, highlighting our ongoing work to drive positive change in East Ayrshire. Importantly we also acknowledge the significant challenges that we face, which can only be addressed by genuine collaborative partnership working at local level and beyond.

Increasingly, we are working at regional level and with a wider range of local and national partners, and this is reflected in the annual reporting materials presented. We are proud of our commitment to the public service reform agenda, which we are well placed to deliver thanks to the strong and effective relationships that are in place across our CPP.





Community Empowerment

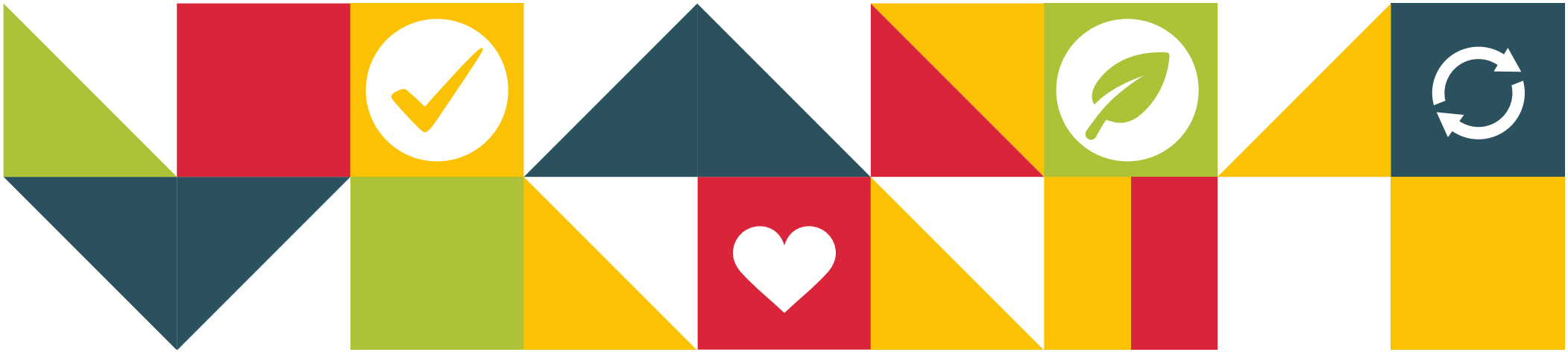
The 2015 Community Empowerment Act is the legislative framework for community planning. In East Ayrshire we put this into practice through effective community representation in our community planning structures, and genuine partnership working with our communities.

Work has been taken forward over the last year to review and strengthen our locality planning arrangements, with the aim of fully integrating our community planning and Health and Social Care Partnership localities. Following extensive engagement with relevant stakeholders, the new integrated locality planning framework was agreed by the CPP Board in March 2026, and is now being implemented with the support of Ayrshire360.

A lived experience group has also been established, as part of our Anti-Poverty and Inequalities work. This Tackling Poverty Reference Group (TPRG) is coordinated by Cumnock based third sector partners, The Nest, and aims to put local people who have encountered poverty at the centre of local-decision making, service design and delivery. Their experience helps increase our understanding of the barriers people face and the changes that could make a difference.

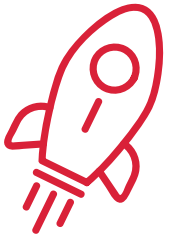
The voice of children and young people in our partnership has been strengthened with the use of Children's Voice, and progress in this regard is set out in greater detail in the East Ayrshire UNCRC Implementation Report 2025/26.

Our equalities forum continues to meet, providing challenge and input to the design and delivery of partnership services. We also continue to work ever more closely with third sector partners, taking services into the communities where they are needed and making sure that they are delivered by the most effective partner for the job.



Our Performance

What is going well.....



School leavers sustaining positive destinations

96.4% of East Ayrshire Secondary School leavers sustaining a positive destination after 9 months, compared with a Scottish average of 93.5% (2024/25 data).

This figure represents a 4.4 percentage point increase from last year and is now considerably above national average. While initial positive destinations has fallen slightly, from 95.2% to 93.3%, the increase in both sustained positive destinations and annual participation in education, training and employment rates for 16-19 years (from 91.8 to 93.5%) confirms that good progress is being made.

This is reflective of the effective collaborative working that is taking place between schools, Ayrshire College, third sector providers, local employers and our growing network of employability hubs. More information about our enhanced employability offer can be found at page 8 of this report.



Anti-social crimes

Anti-social crimes reported per 10,000 population in East Ayrshire has fallen from 98 to 92 (2025/26 data).

This figure is trending down year on year and we have closed the gap between East Ayrshire and the national average (92.9). The Police Performance Report for 2025/26 shows a reduction of 10.2% in ASB this year, and that ASB involving young people accounts for 12.9% of incidents, compared to 14.8% in the previous year.

Multi-Agency procedures are in place to support the daily sharing of information about individuals/addresses or locations of ASB concerns. Police Scotland work closely with Scotrail to reduce the impact of ASB from the rail network, supported by strong intelligence sharing with British Transport Police. East Ayrshire officers also liaise with Stagecoach to ensure that issues on the bus network are known and addressed. Wider partners are currently involved in the development of a new Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2026-31, including East Ayrshire Council (Housing and ASB teams), the Health & Social Care Partnership and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.



Alcohol related hospital admissions

Alcohol related hospital admissions have reduced from 484 to 438 per 100,000 (2024/25 data).

This figure is trending down based on the last 5 years and also sits comfortably below the national average. While we acknowledge that alcohol misuse remains a significant challenge, the positive impact on this data set is a testament to the proactive work being taken by our Alcohol and Drug Partnership (link). Early and effective intervention allowed 99% of people to start treatment within three weeks of referral in 2025/26, and a network of third sector partners work tirelessly to provide support where it is needed.

Continuing this focus on taking supports and services to people in their own communities, plans are in place to expand the ADP 'Peer Outreach Engagement Worker' initiative into three additional rural/semi-rural areas where unmet need has been identified: Cumnock/New Cumnock; Stewarton/Kilmaurs; and Newmilns. We know that asking vulnerable people, particularly in more rural communities, to travel to access services on our terms can prevent them from getting the help that they need, and this peer led approach seeks to address this.

Our Performance

Some progress, ongoing challenges.....

School Attendance

School attendance rates per 100 pupils have increased from 88.3 to 89.1 (2024/25 data).

Although East Ayrshire currently sits slightly below the Scottish average (91 per 100 pupils), the pattern of reducing levels of school attendance throughout and immediately after the Covid-19 pandemic, and levelling off thereafter, is in line with the national trend.

The improvement seen locally reflects the collaborative efforts and strategic actions taken to combat this continuing issue, with attendance improvement identified as a service-wide priority and embedded in all school and quality improvement plans. The recent appointment of a dedicated Quality Improvement Manager (QIM), responsible for improving attendance, has strengthened our use of associated attendance data in both local and national contexts. Collaborative work between the QIM and all establishments is designed to ensure targeted and intensive support and scrutiny is appropriately deployed to improve attendance levels.

Drug Deaths

Drug related deaths per 100,000 (5 year) reduced from 31.4 to 27.9 in the latest published data (2020-2024).

Although the reported figures suggest that drug deaths are trending down, the real time data that we have in relation to suspected drug-related deaths and non-fatal overdose shows a significant increase in 2025, a trajectory that continues into 2026.

As members of the Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP), East Ayrshire Council, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, and Police Scotland remain acutely aware of the high number of suspected drug-related deaths and non-fatal overdoses recorded locally. The Ayrshire Suspected Drug Death Review Group meets regularly to assess the circumstances within each death to identify any pertinent themes, patterns or service gaps, data which is being shared with partners to inform future prevention and intervention activity.

Child Poverty

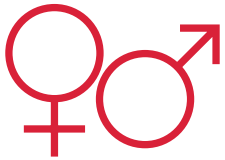
The proportion of children living in poverty (after housing costs) has reduced slightly from 17.2% to 16.7% (2024/25 data).

Although the reported child poverty rate shows a reduction, East Ayrshire remains above the Scottish Average (14.8%). It is also important to note that the figures for 2023/24 onwards are not comparable with previous years. These DWP based, after-housing cost figures (now adopted by the Local Government Benchmarking Framework as the standard measure) cover only children under 16, whereas previous datasets included 16–19 year olds, making the new figures appear lower.

Whatever the measure, we know that there are still children living in poverty within our local communities, and addressing this remains a key partnership priority. For more information, our annual Local Child Poverty Action Report is now presented within in our Children and Young People's Services Plan Annual Report 2025-26.

Our Performance

Where we want to be doing better.....



Male and Female healthy life expectancy

Female healthy life expectancy has dropped from 55.4 to 53.5, compared to a Scottish average of 59.4 (2022-24 data). Male healthy life expectancy has dropped from 55.8 to 54.2, compared to a Scottish average of 59.1 (2022-24 data).

Our healthy life expectancy is dropping year on year and is quite significantly lower than the national average. We therefore recognise the essential importance of evidence based prevention and early intervention, notwithstanding the budgetary pressures across the public sector, and the Council's Early Intervention and Prevention Fund is just one example of this commitment in practice.

The recently published NHS Ayrshire & Arran Director of Public Health Report 2025 details the origins and challenges of the high levels of health and social care need in the NHS Ayrshire and Arran population, from multiply disadvantaged urban communities; to clusters of rural deprivation; isolated communities; and an ageing and frailer population. The Report details how the seeding of poor health risk lies in the complex intersections of socioeconomic factors (40%) the physical environment (10%) that influence health related behaviours (30%) and health care needs (20%). This data reinforces the importance of a collaborative preventative approach to improving healthy life expectancy in East Ayrshire.



% of population prescribed medication for mental health conditions

22.9% of the East Ayrshire population prescribed medication for anxiety, depression, psychosis (2024/25).

This figure has been trending up year on year and remains consistently above the Scottish average figure (20.8% in 2024/25).

The promotion of alternative positive mental health supports remains a focus for the partnership, as set out in the Wellbeing Delivery Plan Update 2025/26. The Economy and Skills Update also highlights the work being taken forward by partners as employers to support mentally healthy workplaces. Our Community Planning Partnership Board has also recently agreed a renewed focus on embedding a trauma-informed and responsive approach across teams and services.

Importantly, we recognise the essential preventative benefits of supporting our children and young people with their mental resilience, and this work is reflected in our Children and Young People's Services Annual Report 2025/26.



% of people earning less than living wage

People earning less than the living wage has increased from 14.3% in 2023/24 to 15.1% in 2024/25.

From a low of 8.7% in 2022/23 this figure has increased for the second year in a row, and remains significantly higher than the national average of 11.3%. This issue is being addressed as part of our wider 'fair work' agenda. Action taken in 2025/26 includes support for early learning and childcare providers to pay the increased new Real Living Wage of £12.60 per hour. This came into effect from 1 April 2025, made possible by Scottish Government funding to East Ayrshire Council.

75 companies and organisations across East Ayrshire are currently listed as accredited Living Wage employers on the Living Wage Scotland employer database, which represents a slight increase on the previous year. Partners also lead by example within their own internal workforce strategies, actively reducing temporary and bank contracts in favour of permanent, substantive positions; and by holding accreditations such as Living Wage and Carer Positive Employers, setting a benchmark for the private sector.

A Flash Report, drawn from our LOIP data dashboard and setting out the end of year position for the identified LOIP indicators, is attached at Appendix 1.

Our Work

Our partnership activity is framed around the priority areas of work that we identified for 2024-2027.



Delivery is coordinated through our three delivery plan working groups, Economy & Skills, Safer Communities and Wellbeing, overseen by the CPP Executive Officers' Group and a designated Strategic Lead officer.

Details of the activity taken forward in partnership by each delivery group can be found in their annual update reports, and an overview of our collective progress (and challenges) in relation to the priority areas of work is provided below.

Growth

Sustained economic growth remains central to our ambitions for East Ayrshire, and we continue to work in partnership to deliver the education and skills reform needed to allow us to grow our own future workforce.

Our work in 2025/26 has focused on:

Regional Economic Development

A Shared Regional Economic Development Service has been established between East and North Ayrshire, to help both Councils plan for the longer-term deliverability of essential services and to fully support delivery of the Regional Economic Strategy. This shared service, effective from 1 June 2026, will be led by North Ayrshire Council, with a single management team led by a Regional Economic Director and services located within each local authority. While strategic leadership and planning will operate at a regional level, services will remain rooted in local communities – ensuring strong local knowledge, relationships and responsiveness are retained.

Employability

Following a cross-cutting review of employability service delivery across East Ayrshire Council, a new management and operational structure was introduced in 2025/26. Services previously undertaken jointly by Education and Economic Growth have now been consolidated within the new Education and Skills Service, recognising the links to the existing Skills and Learning model within that service. The new combined service is being led by the Director of Education and Skills. Looking forward, all staff have a clear and shared vision for delivery of employability services in East Ayrshire via the well established strategic skills pipeline.

Enhanced Local Service Provision

Building on the success of SL33 in Kilmarnock and SL66 in Cumnock, the new SL99 hub in Dalmellington delivered integrated skills training for clients from across the Doon Valley during 2025/26. Development of the new Galston employability hub was also completed in March 2026. Both new facilities will support individuals gain the skills to progress into work and learning, offering a one-stop-shop to streamline communication and referrals and eradicate duplication. Specific service delivery includes bespoke support for school leavers, vocational pathways, support for care-experienced clients, a sector skills programme for clients of all ages with disabilities and parental employability programmes.

Challenges

- **Making better use of data and data sharing across organisations remains challenging. To help address this, Scottish Government funding was secured by the Regional Economic Partnership in March 2026 to take forward the development of an Ayrshire regional intelligence hub, to address a significant gap around access to economic data.**

Impact

- **East Ayrshire Council's Jobs and Training Scheme:**

  40 new trainees (33 Modern Apprentices and 7 Graduate Interns) were appointed to posts within East Ayrshire Council in 2025/26. Through the Economic Development Recruitment Incentive Grant (RIG), a further 29 Modern Apprentices and 6 Graduate Interns were appointed to posts within local businesses. Future funding for this successful initiative has already been committed through the Early Intervention and Prevention Fund.

- **No One Left Behind:**

  NOLB funding supported 489 East Ayrshire participants during 2025/26. Of the 489 participants, 51 progressed into employment, 3 started their own business, 41 secured Modern Apprenticeship places and 54 moved into further education.

- **CoRE Skills:**

  A new vocational training programme launched as part of the AGD's ambitions to upskill residents in Cumnock and Doon Valley, enabling them to access employment in the emerging electric vehicle and hydrogen automotive sector. The pilot project is a key component of the Community Renewable Energy project (CoRE) to develop new skills aligned to the needs of local employers, who have identified a shortage of skills in this sector.

- **Foundation Apprenticeships:**

  All secondary schools in East Ayrshire committed to the introduction of FAs in 2025/26. Again aligned to local skills gaps, the offer included the successful Food and Drink Technologies Programme at Loudoun Academy, the Social Services programme at Kilmarnock Academy and a specialised EV/Hydrogen pathway (aligned to the AGD CoRE project) at Robert Burns and Doon Academies.

- **East Ayrshire Council's Business Support Team:**

  Supported the development of 289 new businesses in East Ayrshire.

- **Ayrshire Innovation Park:**

  Construction of the at Ayrshire Innovation Park at Moorfield, commenced in late 2025. The Park will host two AGD projects: Ayrshire Manufacturing Investment Corridor (AMIC) and the Ayrshire Engineering Park. Works will be carried out on a phased basis over the next three years. The construction phase will create 245 local jobs and a further 280 jobs will be created within the food, drink and engineering sectors.

Wellbeing

Population health is fundamental to the achievement of our ambitions for East Ayrshire and we continue to take a life-course approach to improving health and wellbeing.

The Health and Social Care Partnership Annual Report 2025/26 and Wellbeing Delivery Plan Update (link) provide a comprehensive overview of partnership wellbeing activity, undertaken under the priority areas of Starting Well – Living Well – Aging Well – Dying Well

Our work in 2025/26 has focused on:

Pressures on the Health and Social Care System

Audit Scotland highlights that Integration Joint Boards (IJBs) face pressures from rising demand, workforce challenges and constrained funding. Nationally there is a reliance on reserves, vacancy management and short-term savings that are not sustainable. The Audit report calls for IJBs, NHS Boards and councils to collaborate to strengthen financial planning, redesign services and make difficult decisions on service delivery. Locally, East Ayrshire Council and the IJB have established a Review and Redesign Team to drive forward demand management and service design across social care.

Ensuring our children and young people get the best start in life

Revised governance arrangements have been embedded, providing clearer strategic oversight and a more integrated, outcome-focused approach to service delivery. A joint leadership development programme, supported by Insight Discovery has helped to further strengthen collaborative leadership and shared ways of working. These groups bring together senior representation from across local authority services, health and social care partnerships, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, Police Scotland, SCRA, third sector partners and other key agencies. Collectively, they provide strategic leadership, governance and oversight of planning and performance for children and young people.

Whole Systems Approaches

Progress has been made in expanding community-based supports and enhancing access to early help for families experiencing financial hardship and wider vulnerabilities. Initiatives such as income maximisation support, family wellbeing services, and inclusive community programmes are being further integrated to create a more seamless system of support. Importantly, partners continue to prioritise the voices of people with lived experience, ensuring that services are shaped by those who use them.

Challenges

- **Resources across health and social care are increasingly focused on critical need, limiting capacity for prevention and early interventionand placing further pressure on acute and community services.**
- **Access to shared and real time data to support integrated planning, resource.**

Impact

- **The Family Nurse Partnership (FNP)**

  Is an intensive, evidence-based home visiting programme that supports young first-time mothers and their families from early pregnancy until the child turns two. During 2025/26, a Test of Change was implemented to improve early recruitment, increasing the proportion of clients enrolled by 16 weeks and 6 days gestation from 52% to 61%. Early engagement supports stronger therapeutic relationships and takes advantage of the increased motivation for positive change seen in early pregnancy.

- **Grow Together**

  Guidance Resilience Opportunity Wellbeing (GROW) is a CVO run family wellbeing hub in Kilmarnock town centre. Funded by the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund, this project was introduced to improve family wellbeing, reduce inequalities between the most and least disadvantaged communities and to help reduce the number of families needing crisis interventions. In the first quarter of 2026, the service has supported 215, including 187 families who have not previously been supported by CVO services.

- **Health & Wellbeing Officer in Schools**

  A Health and Wellbeing Officer has been employed to support drugs and alcohol work in schools as part of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP)'s approach to prevention, upstreaming and early intervention. This Officer will take a joined-up approach to supporting children and young people in schools, initially focusing on secondary school pupils but also expanding their role to include work at the school cluster / campus level as appropriate..

- **Preventing Drug Deaths**

  The ADP has also funded a joint initiative between Police Scotland and the NHS Rapid Access to Drug and Alcohol Recovery (RADAR) link which allows an early partnership response to Scottish Ambulance Service information about non-fatal overdoses. Police and RADAR professionals undertake joint visits to engage with the individuals concerned, offering early access to the appropriate supports but also gathering valuable information and intelligence regarding current drug trends, substances in circulation, and emerging risks.

Fairness

Community Planning in East Ayrshire is at its heart about addressing inequalities, but the flip side of this is wanting to build a more equitable society where everyone has a chance in life and people feel safe. Some of the priority areas of work in the last year are highlighted below.

Tackling Poverty

The East Ayrshire Anti-Poverty and Inequality Strategy was agreed by the CPP Board in September 2025 and targets partnership interventions across five interconnected themes: Household Poverty, Child Poverty, Health and Wellbeing, Organisational Change and Capacity and Individual and Community Resilience. In support of this work, East Ayrshire Council allocated £1m to set up a Grants Programme to fund innovative projects that will help tackle poverty. Applications were invited in June 2025 and to date, 40 grants have been awarded to voluntary sector partners across the authority area.

Prevention and Early Intervention

We have previously reported on the East Ayrshire Council Prevention and Early Intervention Fund, through which the Council set aside around £4m each year, for ten years, to invest in positive action to reduce service demand and address social and economic issues within our communities. A summit was convened in April 2026 to reflect on the progress and learning from the funded projects to date, with input from the Joseph Rowantree Foundation. Feedback included a clear call for flexible, person-centred delivery models which reflect the complexity of people's lives, such as community based family hubs. This learning has informed the future

Community Safety and Hate Crime

Hate Crimes are reviewed daily to ensure all investigative opportunities are seized and the victim is supported by the police following a report of hate crime. Officers work closely with victims of hate crimes to identify the right support – this has led to multi agency discussions with partners looking at housing options or increasing police visits to local shops where victims work. Officers also work closely with minority communities, and continue to monitor the UK policing assessment of the increase in Anti-Immigration Protests. Although some incidents have occurred, East Ayrshire is not a focal point for such activity.

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

VAWG remains a priority for partners, recognising its significant impact on health, wellbeing and community safety. A Local Area Needs Assessment has recently been undertaken to better understand the level of need and the experiences of service users, to help identify potential areas for improvement. Specialist VAWG services and community-based organisations, such as The NEST Wellbeing Hub, received positive feedback, but the assessment found that we still need to make it easier for people to access and navigate services. These findings will inform development of the new VAWG Action Plan and future service planning.

Challenges

- **Increased demand for the services provided by the community, voluntary, third and social enterprise sectors, who are also seeing increased complexity of need.**

Impact

- **Fairer Futures Partnership**

  This East Ayrshire Council collaboration with third sector partners CentreStage, The Zone and YipWorld is being used to take forward tests of change that are designed to tackle child poverty. Across the three projects, around 450 people have received support which promotes wellbeing, enhances skills or delivers basic 1-1 or in-home support. The projects are showing that sustained, one-to-one support, in the home or local community, builds trust with people and gets them to open up about their different challenges, creating a basis for long-term progress, improving wellbeing and gradually reducing the barriers

- **Partnership Pre-Release Support Pathway**

  The point at which an individual is released from prison is one of the most critical stages in the justice journey and the successful reintegration into communities which reduces reoffending. Community Justice Ayrshire partners have developed a Partnership Pre-Release Support Pathway which sets out the multi-agency process for pre-release planning and liberation within HMP Kilmarnock and details the agencies involved, the support available both within the prison and in the community, and the timeline for key interactions and interventions.

- **Gambling Harm and Suicide Prevention**

  The Scottish Government funded a Gambling Harm and suicide prevention imitative, where three community events were hosted in Stewarton, Cumnock and Kilmarnock and gambling harm training was facilitated by the RCA Trust to staff within Ayrshire 360 and a further training session for NHS staff. Suicide prevention training has been delivered via the Pan Ayrshire Suicide Prevention Training Team and bespoke Introduction to Suicide Prevention training has been delivered locally to members of the community within East Ayrshire to raise awareness and resilience towards suicide prevention.

- **Pitching In**

  The Council's Antisocial Behaviour Team support the "Pitching In" programme which is facilitated by Police Scotland. This programme is designed to engage students with low school attendance and behavioural challenges by using the power of football as a tool for personal development and re-engagement with education. The programme has been co-designed with pupils, setting their own ground rules in their own shared, safe space, before taking in an hour of educational input, and following positive engagement and behaviour, an hour of exercise, playing football at Kilmarnock FC.

Sustainability

This cross-cutting priority captures several different but complimentary challenges that we now face – the sustainability and resilience of the partnership services that we deliver, and of our communities and our environment.

Service Sustainability - Public Service Reform

The Scottish government rightly recognises the important role of Community Planning Partnerships in the delivery of public service reform. Consequently we have sought to use our strong existing partnership relationships as the basis for honest conversations about new ways of working. These focus on driving efficiency while also improving both service delivery and outcomes for local people.

- **A new Ayrshire Transformation Board** (ATB) has been established to strengthen integrated working across all three Ayrshire Councils, the three Integration Joint Boards, and NHS Ayrshire & Arran. The ATB aims to identify, investigate and make recommendations to improve performance, deliver financial efficiencies, and maximise integration opportunities across the whole system, in line with the Once for Ayrshire approach.
- **Ayrshire360** launched in April 2026, a rebranding and expansion of the former East Ayrshire Leisure Trust which has now taken on a number of services previously delivered by East Ayrshire Council. This change aims to support the future sustainability of enhanced service provision through access to alternative funding and delivery models.
- The previously referenced **Shared Economic Development Service** is another example of public service innovation on a regional basis, while an ongoing Strategic Transport Review, being undertaken by East Ayrshire Council in partnership with Ayrshire Roads Alliance, Core / AGD team and the Health and Social Care Partnership, has the potential to deliver new ways of working and environmental as well as operational benefits.

Community Sustainability – Our future citizens

The annual Youth Conference took place in November 2025 and focused on three themes that are pertinent to young people in relation to safety and wellbeing. 14 schools participated in workshops which discussed the following topics:

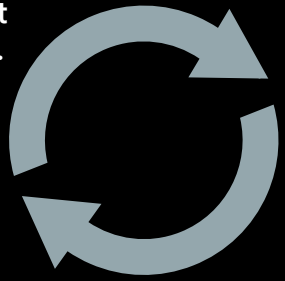
- **My Rights, Your Rights, Everyone's Rights** - With the UNCRC embedded in Scots Law and being promoted throughout East Ayrshire, the workshop highlighted the importance of young people's rights, supported them to understand their rights and how they can use them to positively affect change;
- **Looking After Your Wellbeing** – This workshop was designed to teach young people about positive affirmations and the power they have on our mental health; and
- **Deepfake AI Detectives** – With the dangers of artificial intelligence (AI) images, the workshop focused on the dangers of AI images, deepfakes, social media behaviours and consequences, encouraging young people to not put themselves at risk and to interact safely whilst online.

Environmental Sustainability

The three Ayrshire Councils recently finalised the Ayrshire Energy Masterplan (AEM), which aims to create an evidence-based pathway for Ayrshire to achieve its clean growth ambitions. It will help the region to deliver Net Zero by providing a plan for Net Zero infrastructure and low carbon energy systems, which will underpin economic growth, community wealth building and resilience. For the Local Heat ad Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) to be delivered at scale it must be embedded across council and partnership services. At regional level this is achieved through the Clean Growth workstream.

Challenges

- **Community and Service Sustainability - Demographic Change:** The East Ayrshire population is both aging and declining. This generalisation, although accurate, masks the significantly divergent forecasts for different areas of the authority. The former mining communities in the south of the authority are forecast to decline significantly over the next 20 years, while the commuter areas around Kilmarnock are expected to grow. A new Strategic Response to Demographic Change has been approved by both Council and CPP Board.
- **Environmental Sustainability – Funding our Ambitions:** The financial position of public sector remains challenging and to date, dedicated funding to support the Scottish Government's Net Zero ambitions has not been reflected in local funding settlements. Partners need therefore to balance ambition with what is achievable in the short term.



Impact

- **Carbon Reduction**

  Since the baseline year of 2012/13, East Ayrshire Council has reduced its carbon emissions by 64.4% from just over 43,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) to just over 15,000 tCO2e in 2024/25. This represents a reduction of nearly two thirds of its original carbon footprint over a 12-year period, demonstrating sustained progress towards the Council's ambitious target of achieving Net Zero by 2030.

- **EnerPhit Certification**

  With the official re-opening of St Sophia's Primary School, Galston, in June 2026, East Ayrshire became the first authority in the UK to have an EnerPHit certified school. A deep retrofit of the existing building was undertaken, transforming its energy within the existing footprint and structure. The project had a total capital budget of £5.8m and was delivered as part of the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Investment Programme.

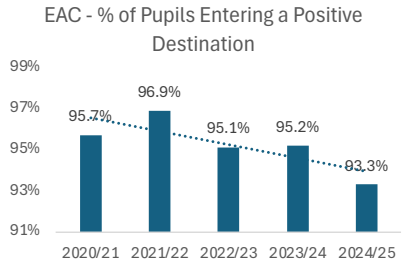
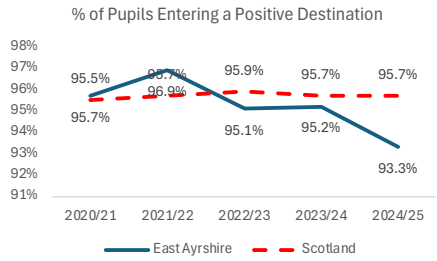
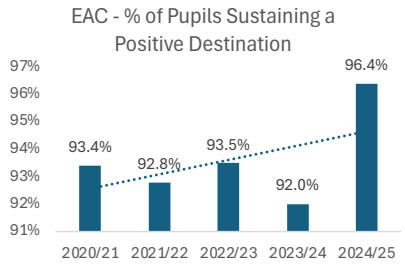
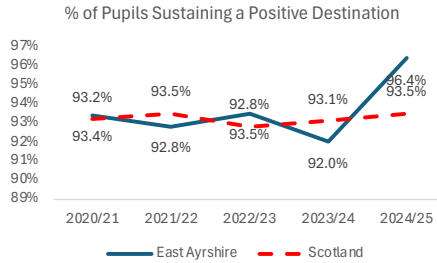
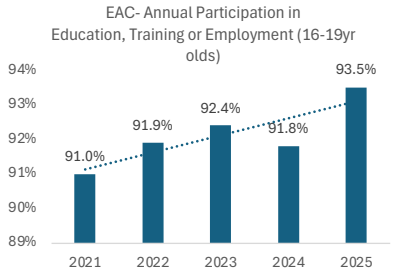
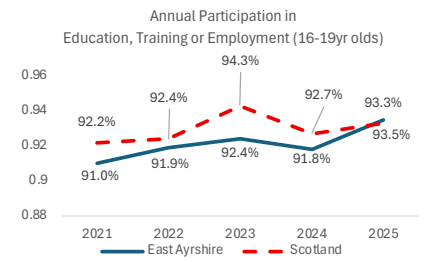
- **Clean, Green Schools**

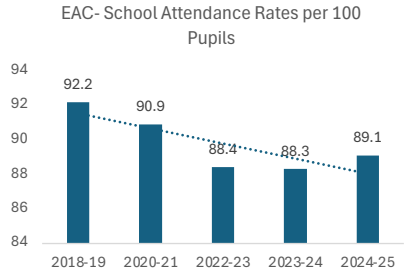
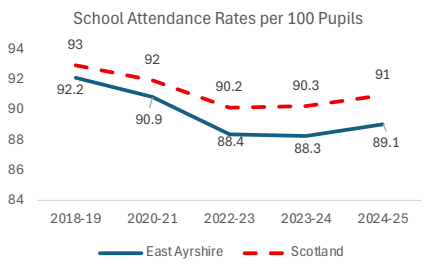
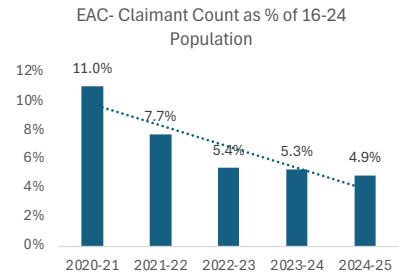
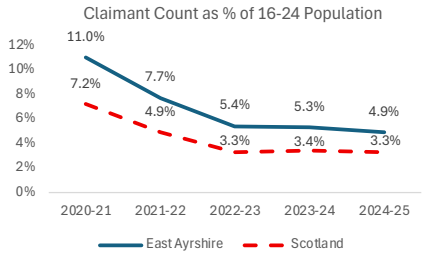
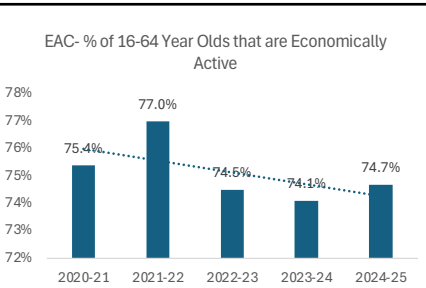
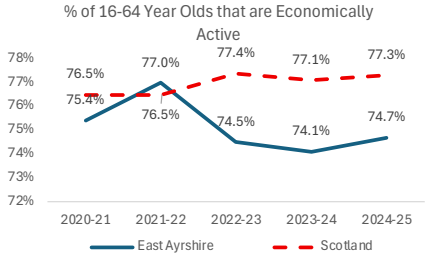
  In recognition of the robust climate action work within East Ayrshire, Keep Scotland Beautiful continue to have a unique partnership with us and recognise our Clean Green Award. This means all East Ayrshire Clean Green accredited schools also have their Eco Schools Green Flag. During 2024/25, we continued to have the highest percentage of schools within Scotland (79%) who have received their Eco-Schools Green Flag status. Nurture Nature was also officially launched in the spring term, encouraging young people to play an active part in increasing biodiversity in their local communities by completing Enriching Nature and Embracing Nature Quests. In a short time, eleven establishments have already gained either their Green Guardian or Expert Environmentalist Awards.

Appendix 1

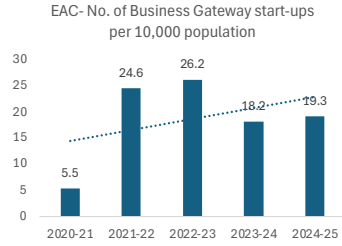
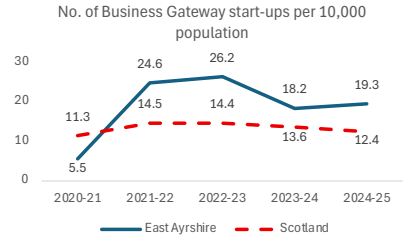
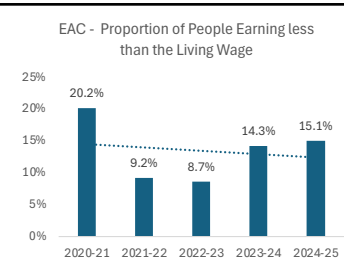
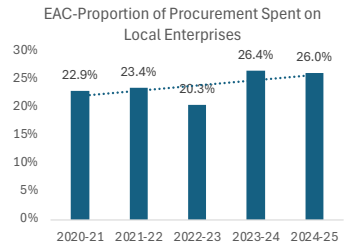
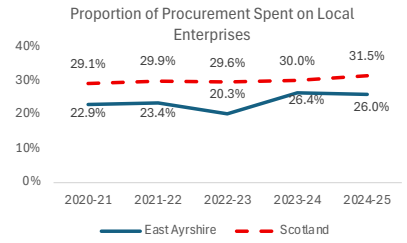
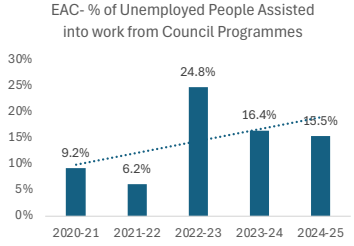
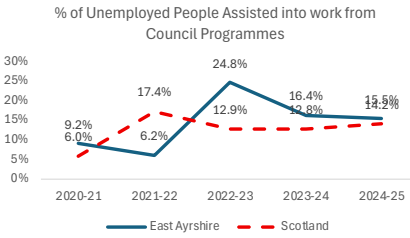
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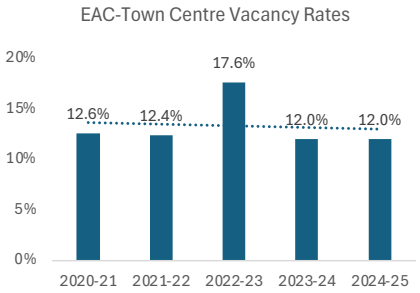
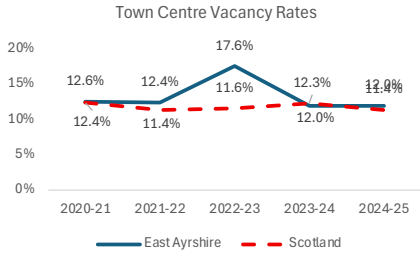
LOIP Indicator Flash Report 2024/25

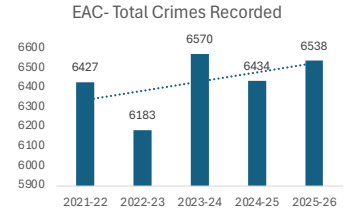
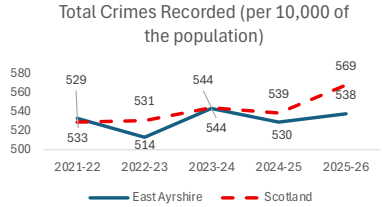
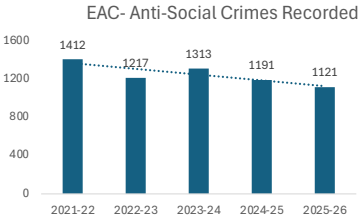
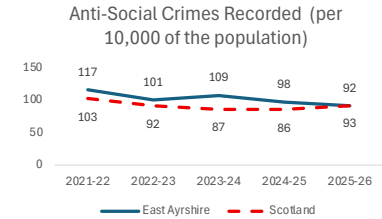
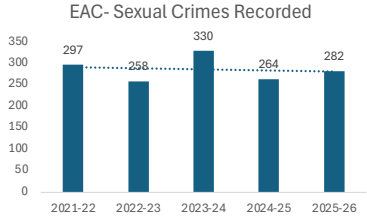
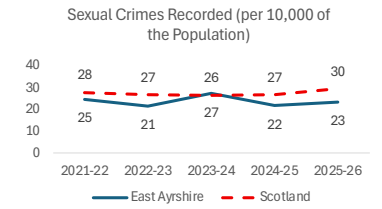
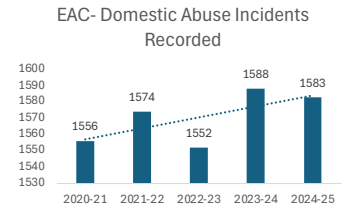
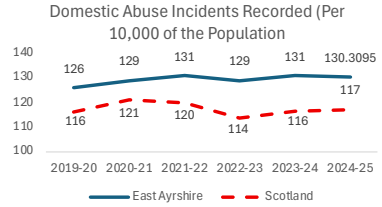
LOIP Performance Indicators				
Our Community Plan's Vision	**What will success look like?**	**How will we measure our progress?**	**Performance Trend**	**Comparison against National Performance**
Make East Ayrshire a destination of choice for business growth and investment. **Develop a confident, successful, appropriately qualified and skilled workforce.** **Embed ambition, aspiration and entrepreneurship in our culture.**	Our young people will be well educated and provided with the opportunity of a posltive desitnation when leaving school	% of secondary school leavers entering positive destinations		
		% of secondary school leavers sustaining a positive destination after 9 months		
		Annual participation in education in training or employment (ages 16-19)		

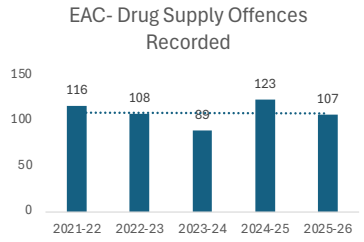
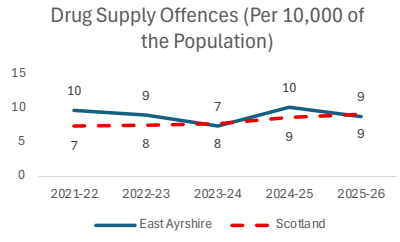
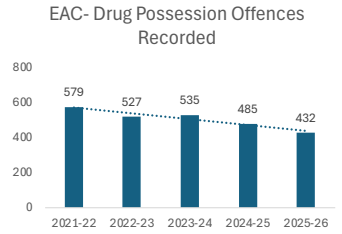
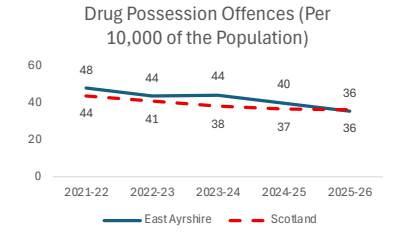
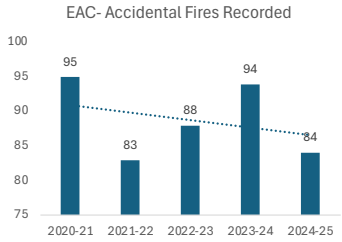
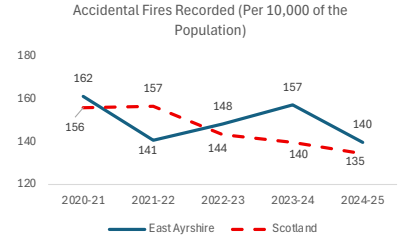
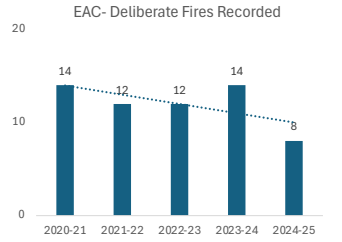
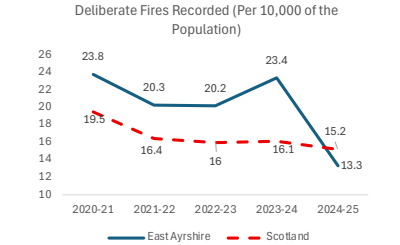
LOIP Performance Indicators				
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Make East Ayrshire a destination of choice for business growth and investment. **Develop a confident, successful, appropriately qualified and skilled workforce.** **Embed ambition, aspiration and entrepreneurship in our culture.**	Our young people will be well educated and provided with the opportunity of a posltive desitnation when leaving school	School Attendance rates per 100 Pupils		
	We will have adapted the provision of employability services and will provide re-training and upskilling opportunities for all our communities.	Claimant Count as % of 16-24 Population		
		% of 16 - 64 year olds that are economically active		

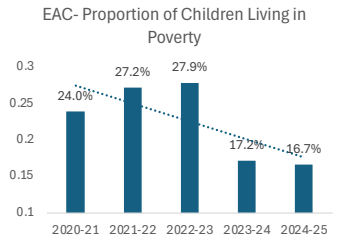
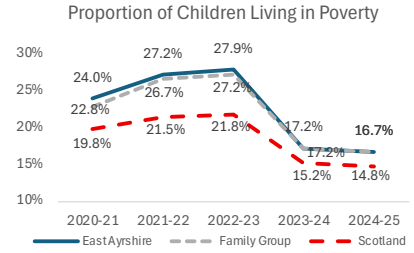
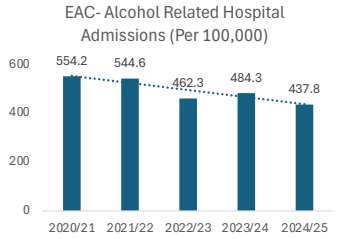
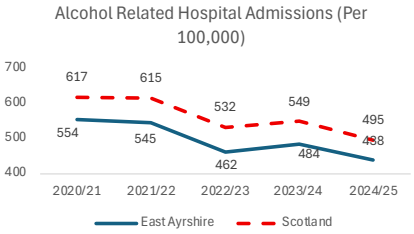
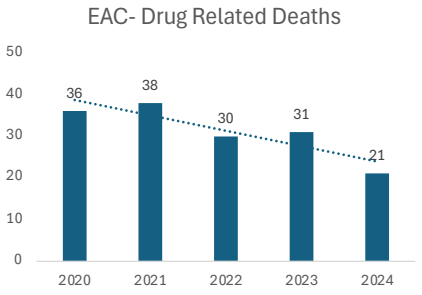
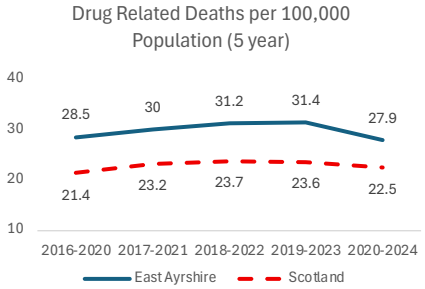
LOIP Performance Indicators

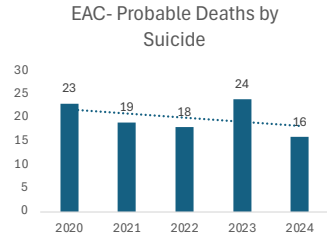
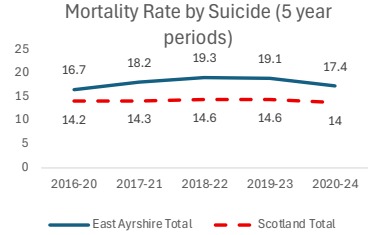
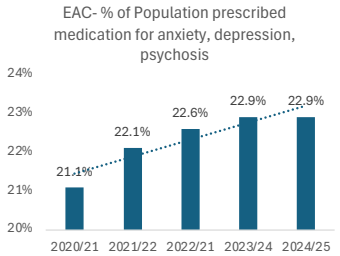
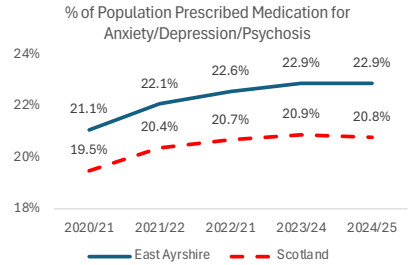
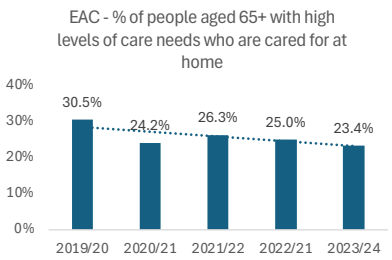
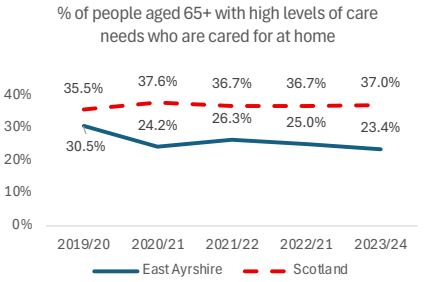
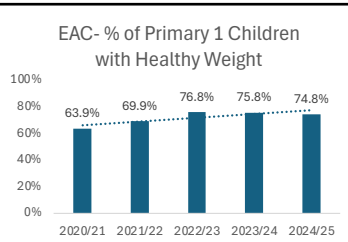
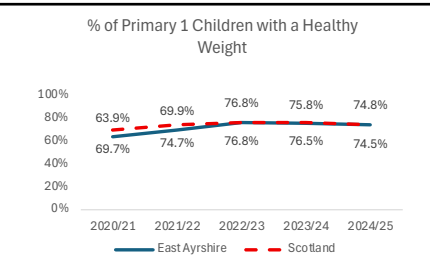
Our Community Plan's Vision	What will success look like?	How will we measure our progress?	Performance Trend	Comparison against National Performance
Make East Ayrshire a destination of choice for business growth and investment. **Develop a confident, successful, appropriately qualified and skilled workforce.** **Embed ambition, aspiration and entrepreneurship in our culture.**	We will have a well-established and growing business base. We will have grown our enterprise culture to support our entrepreneurs. We will have stronger and more diverse economic growth opportunities. We will work with employers to ensure that opportunities created locally adhere to the principles of Fair Work, including payment of the Living Wage and high standards. Local businesses will be able to take advantage of public sector procurement opportunities, helping to increase their competitiveness nationally and internationally	Business Start-ups		
		Proportion of people earning less than the living wage		
		Proportion of procurement spent on local enterprises		
		Percentage of Unemployed People Assisted into Work from Council Programmes		

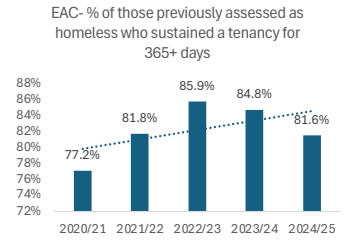
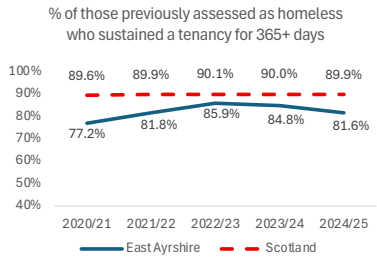
LOIP Performance Indicators				
Our Community Plan's Vision	**What will success look like?**	**How will we measure our progress?**	**Performance Trend**	**Comparison against National Performance**
Make East Ayrshire a destination of choice for business growth and investment. **Develop a confident, successful, appropriately qualified and skilled workforce.** **Embed ambition, aspiration and entrepreneurship in our culture.**	Kilmarnock and Cumnock town centres will be places where local people and visitors want to spend time and money. We will have a flourishing cultural and tourism economy.	Town Centre Vacancy Rates		

LOIP Performance Indicators				
Our Community Plan's Vision	**What will success look like?**	**How will we measure our progress?**	**Performance Trend**	**Comparison against National Performance**
Make East Ayrshire a safe, secure and attractive place to live, work and visit. **Improve community safety in neighbourhoods and homes, and protect and support our most vulnerable individuals and families.** **Promote our vibrant communities by encouraging active and responsible citizenship.**	Our residents will feel safe and protected in their homes and in their communities.	Total Crimes Recorded		
		Anti Social Offences Recorded		
	We will have reduced and will continue to reduce the number of sexual crimes within our communities.	Sexual Crimes Recorded		
	We will have reduced instances of domestic abuse.	Domestic Abuse Incidents Recorded		

LOIP Performance Indicators				
Our Community Plan's Vision	**What will success look like?**	**How will we measure our progress?**	**Performance Trend**	**Comparison against National Performance**
Make East Ayrshire a safe, secure and attractive place to live, work and visit. **Improve community safety in neighbourhoods and homes, and protect and support our most vulnerable individuals and families.** **Promote our vibrant communities by encouraging active and responsible citizenship.**	We will have improved the uptake of drug/ alcohol prevention and diversionary activities, in particular in areas where the need is greatest.	Drug Supply Offences		
		Drug Possession Offences		
	We will have reduced fire related incidents through prevention and early intervention approaches to fire safety.	Accidental Fire Incidents		
		Deliberate Fire Incidents		

LOIP Performance Indicators				
Our Community Plan's Vision	**What will success look like?**	**How will we measure our progress?**	**Performance Trend**	**Comparison against National Performance**
Children and young people, including those in early years and their carers, are supported to be active, healthy and to reach their potential at all life stages. **All residents are given the opportunity to improve their wellbeing, to lead an active, healthy life and to make positive lifestyle choices.** **Older people and adults who require support and their carers are included and empowered to live the healthiest life possible.**	Our children will have better life chances, particularly those in our most deprived communities.	Proportion of children living in poverty (after housing costs)		
	We will have reduced the impact of alcohol and drugs misuse through a focus on recovery-oriented care.	Alcohol related hospital admissions		
		Drug Related Deaths		

LOIP Performance Indicators				
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		% of population prescribed medication for anxiety, depression, psychosis		
	Older and vulnerable people will live independently in their own homes and be well cared for in the community.	% of people aged 65+ with high levels of care needs who are cared for at home		
	We will have halted the levels of overweight and obesity among children and adults.	% of Primary 1 Children with Healthy Weight		

LOIP Performance Indicators				
Our Community Plan's Vision	**What will success look like?**	**How will we measure our progress?**	**Performance Trend**	**Comparison against National Performance**
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	People who use our services will have a healthy life expectancy and an improving quality of life.	Healthy Life Expectancy	