

EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY PLAN 2015-2030

Safer Communities Delivery Plan 2024-2027

Year Two Annual Performance Update - 2025/26



**EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY PLAN 2015-2030
SAFER COMMUNITIES DELIVERY PLAN 204-27
PARTNERSHIP ACTIONS UPDATES 2025/26**

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S1 Deliver an effective policing response and work in partnership to reduce violence and prevent further offending	- Deliver the priorities identified within the <u>Local Police Plan 2024-26</u>. - Enhanced prevention and early intervention activity, mobilising the full partnership presence within our communities.	Police Scotland, All Partners
Local Police Plan Priorities: The Local Police Plan 2023-26 performance is reported on quarterly basis at the East Ayrshire Police and Fire and Rescue Committee. The Annual Performance Report 2025/26 was presented to the East Ayrshire Police and Fire and Rescue Committee on the 16 June 2026, showing that overall reported crime increased by 4.8% in 2025/26 with the increase being mainly due to focus on road traffic offences. A detailed analysis of crimes reported against the 12 categories of crime is available in the 2025/26 annual report. Violence Prevention: The Policing Together Division of Police Scotland have developed a National Violence Prevention Strategy for Police Scotland. The strategy for 2025/26 focused on four key themes: - Violence and ASB at Transport Hubs - Violence at Educational and Care Settings - Carriage of Weapons - Preventative Pathways and Interventions East Ayrshire officers continue to work to reduce violence and prevent further offending through activity with partners. This remains a priority to reduce the number of victims of violent crime through prevention and intervention and continue to work with partners to ensure information is shared. Prevention and Early Intervention: An extensive range of prevention and early intervention activity has been undertaken by partners during 2025/26, including the following examples: Locally, T/Superintendent Jim McMillan now chairs a 'Youths affected by Violence' strategic group. This group aims to learn from best practice and implement local policing responses which support all young people, utilising the guidance contained within the national strategy. This is a newly established group in the summer of 2025 and it is hoped that outcomes will be reportable towards the end of the year. MAPPA Offenders: Police Scotland work with partners to assist in the assessment and management of risk of violent offenders who are released into the community. This includes providing information to formulate a risk management plan for offenders.		

Prison Releases: Officers maintain oversight of prisoners who are being released from custody. This early information allows officers to assess the risk posed by an offender or mitigate against potential risk that the individual may pose. Early discussion takes place to ensure any wider community concerns are identified when a prisoner is released.

Operation Stardrop: (young people impacted by violence) – East Ayrshire officers play a vital role in working to identify young people who are impacted by violence (either as a victim or perpetrator). Work is undertaken with local social work partners to gain an understanding of the Risk and Care plans that are in place for those young people. Police continue to share information around Child concerns / Youth offending – this allows social work colleagues to work on safeguarding and interventions for the young person.

Weapon Carrying (Data) Analysis and Stop Search Activity: Officers in East Ayrshire utilise analytical tools to ensure that they are aware of those individuals who carry (or previously known to) carry weapons. This ensures that officers proactively engage and utilise stop and search powers to intervene and ensure that the person is not in possession of a weapon. Analytical tools can also provide geographical locations where acts of violence and weapon carrying are more likely to take place.

Violence and ASB at Transport Hubs: Police in East Ayrshire undertake a multi-agency tasking meeting on a Thursday afternoon. This is a partnership approach to shared situational awareness/ risk assessment and resource allocation. Through the sharing of partnership knowledge resources are deployed to the areas of greatest threat and risk.

School Liaison Police Officers: School Liaison Officers continue to play a vital role in education and prevention within every school campus in Ayrshire. The role these officers have in building relationship with our young people cannot be understated. Officers work with the education service to deliver inputs which includes newly created topics on emerging trends within the area. Having officers based within schools allows the Police to proactively and swiftly intervene when intelligence is received about any potential disorder by youths, which can then be proactively addressed.

EAC Anti-Social Behaviour Team: Effective and partnership working is undertaken as part of everyday working priorities within the Housing Service and the Anti-social Behaviour Team. This process encompasses the established Daily Tasking Meetings held every weekday morning to discuss recent issues around anti-social behaviour and to identify and task appropriate actions from this meeting. The meeting is chaired by the Anti-Social Behaviour Team Manager and discussions are undertaken about local issues and anti-social behaviour to provide an early intervention and preventative approach. Partner agencies involved are East Ayrshire Council Anti-social Behaviour Team, Police Scotland, Health and Social Care Partnership, SFRS, Housing Options and Housing Neighbourhood Coaches.

Barnardos Respect Me programme: This programme is run throughout all our Youth groups across the Kilmarnock area and within our peer mentor programme. Reaching approx. 300 young people. The key elements of the program include; dignity and respect, privacy and confidentiality, choice and participation, safety, and protection, realising potential and equality and diversity.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S2 Engage with the community and partners to identify address and prevent anti-social behaviour (ASB)	- Identify opportunities to further develop partnership reporting and analysis structures to tackle community concerns; develop and implement targeted partnership response initiatives; and make better use of social media to challenge and raise awareness of ASB. - Engage and further develop links with third sector partners to mitigate the effects of ASB. - Further development of support spaces and the flex approach - Raise awareness of the volume and locations of ASB incidents	Police Scotland, EAC Housing & Communities, EAC Regulatory Services, EAC Education, SFRS, Locality Partnerships, Community Councils, Young Peoples Cabinet Vibrant Communities CVO EA
Police Scotland: The Police Performance Report for 2025/26 shows a reduction of 10.2% in ASB this year. PSOS work in partnership with other agencies, most notably EAC, to share information around ASB and agree responses. ASB involving young people accounts for 12.9% of incidents which has decreased from 14.8% from last year. Officers continue to work with partners in EAC to ensure a partnership approach to reducing Anti-Social Behaviour across the communities. This includes the daily sharing of information regarding individuals/addresses or locations of concern to ensure the best partner is placed to address the issue. Police Scotland work closely with Scotrail to reduce the impact of ASB from the rail network (East Ayrshire Officers are part of Safershores). Strong intelligence sharing with British Transport Police (BTP) has allowed officers to prevent crime in Stewarton/Kilmaurs and Kilmarnock from people using the train network. East Ayrshire officers liaise with Stagecoach to ensure that issues on the bus network are known and addressed where necessary. This includes working with Chase Security in Kilmarnock bus station to ensure early intervention takes place to minimise the risk of ASB turning to violence. East Ayrshire Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2026-2031: The draft East Ayrshire Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2026-31 was approved by Council on the 11 December 2025 and is undergoing a public consultation in 2026 prior to finalisation and implementation in 2026/27. The strategy has 4 priorities, they are: - Tackle crime and antisocial behaviour and the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour; - Work with young people to reduce being involved in crime and antisocial behaviour; - Improve community safety in our neighbourhoods and homes; and - Promote child protection and the safety of vulnerable adults. EAC Anti-social Behaviour Team: Regular meetings have been and continue to be facilitated within local communities, Community Councils, the East Ayrshire Federation of Tenants and Residents, Registered Tenant and Resident Groups and local consultation forums to discuss issues of		

concern and provide advice, assistance and signposting to appropriate services and partners and to gather information and intelligence to be able to proactively investigate and tackle the issues that matter and are of concern to the residents of East Ayrshire.

Following case resolution, the Antisocial Behaviour Team continues to seek feedback and updates from tenants and residents through our customer satisfaction surveys that are sent out to all complainants when their case is closed. This action provides opportunities for the team to identify if there are any further issues and to look at continuous improvement for the service and continuing the customer focused approach that we endeavour to achieve.

The Antisocial Behaviour Team Manager is also involved in the Pan Ayrshire Safer Shores programme which brings together a wide range of partners to support safe, responsible behaviour along Ayrshire's coastline. The initiative responds to ongoing public safety concerns, particularly following the recent tragic events at Irvine Beach. This initiative is led by a multi-agency partnership including Police Scotland, British Transport Police, Scotrail, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, the Scottish Ambulance Service, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, the Maritime & Coastguard Agency, the British Red Cross, Coast watch Scotland, the Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team and the three Ayrshire Councils.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Team has worked pro-actively to engage with young people within the education establishments. The team provide presentations and works in focus groups to discuss anti-social behaviour and the impacts this behaviour has on the individual, the people affected and the community as a whole. The team have engaged with young people in the following schools:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robert Burns Academy• Grange Academy• Loudon Academy• Stewarton Academy• Doon Academy• Kilmarnock Academy• St Sophias Primary School• Muirkirk Primary School• Drongan Primary School• Newmilns Primary School• Hillhead Primary School | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shortlees Primary School• Mount Carmel Primary School• Annanhill Primary School• Catrine Primary School• Crosshouse Primary School• Darvel Primary School• Hurlford Primary School• Whatriggs Primary School• Auchinleck Primary School• Lainshaw Primary School |
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The Antisocial Behaviour Team support the "Pitchin' In" programme, facilitated by Police Scotland. This programme focuses on the more challenging young people by engaging in educational work with them and then playing football at Kilmarnock FC to build skills, engage with the issues and challenges they are encountering and in building relationships with partners going forward.

Involvement in "Days of Action" that are undertaken by partners including Police Scotland, Neighbourhood Coaches, Anti-Social Behaviour Team, British Transport Police, SFRS and Greener Communities. These events are undertaken to look at how to tackle various issues of anti-social behaviour

within local communities as and when issues arise. They also seek to highlight Police Scotland's seasonal action plans, and areas of youth disorder such as the bus stations.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Team and Housing Options undertake joint visits to all tenants within temporary accommodation to provide support, advice and assistance with maintaining their home and being aware of their rights and responsibilities as a good neighbour until they transition into a settled housing solution.

East Ayrshire Federation of Tenants and Residents (EAFTR), Registered Tenant and Resident Organisations (RTO), Consultation Forums: EAFTR and RTOs across East Ayrshire have established effective relationships with the Council's Anti-social Behaviour Team and Police Scotland with assistance and support provided on reporting incidents of neighbour nuisance and anti-social behaviour and the roles of all stakeholders. Through the biannual EAFTR newsletter, advice on neighbour nuisance and partner contact details is provided to tenants across East Ayrshire.

Trail Bikes and Quad Bikes: Within East Ayrshire we continue to see the positive impact that Trail and Quad bikes bring to a diverse range of incidents, events and situations.

Both Trail and Quad bikes are operated by 12 specially trained officers in and around East Ayrshire. High risk missing people have been traced in areas where usual conventional policing methods for searching wouldn't have safely located the person. Officers on trail bikes have charged a number of persons with offences including Misuse of Drugs Offences, Road Traffic Offences (with a number of off-road bikes also seized) and ASB in areas where the local community have highlighted concerns.

These assets can be deployed both within town and rural environments and have been used in various policing incidents, including at football matches at Rugby Park stadium in response to resident's concerns about adult ASB pre and post-match (including urinating in public, street drinking and littering). A number of fixed penalty tickets were issued by trail bike based staff as a result with residents highlighting their thanks but also the need for ongoing operations of this nature to ensure their home environments are not unduly impacted. EAC officers are also trained in the use of quad bikes and both the ASB teams and police regularly carry out joint patrols focussing on ASB including fly tipping, thefts and other similar incidents.

To support this ongoing, effective function, funding was secured to procure two further Quad Bikes for use primarily in the Cumnock and Doon Valley area and these vehicles were delivered in March 2026 and are now based at Cumnock Police Station to be utilised as and where necessary when tackling issues around anti-social behaviour identified through community concerns. Two further quad bikes for the Southwest area of the authority are also being purchased. These will be based in Dalmellington for availability for deployment particularly in the Loch Doon Area. This follows significant community concerns around the behaviours of wild campers in Loch Doon and their engagement in nuisance activity including littering and loud music.

Housing's Anti-social Behaviour Team and Mediation: The Anti-Social Behaviour Team engage directly with communities through Anti-Social Behaviour Investigators who cover designated areas. The primary role of the Investigator is to investigate all complaints of neighbour nuisance and anti-social behaviour, engage with complainers, alleged offenders and the local community to effectively tackle the issues raised. They work closely and effectively with partners to tackle issues through information sharing and joint working. All cases undertaken are investigated and follow a customer-focused approach through providing regular contact through home visits, phone calls and email, taking appropriate actions as required. The

team investigates serious and extreme cases and expedite the set process through the various warnings to court if required. There is also an established multi-agency approach gathering all relevant partners to discuss the issues prior to any legal actions. This is undertaken to identify other possible solutions with an aim to achieve resolution prior to progressing with a legal action.

The Anti-social Behaviour Team also work closely and in conjunction with Police Scotland and EAC Legal Services to look at serious and extreme cases and agree the best possible outcomes when it comes to taking an official legal action. This is to ensure that the appropriate and proportionate actions are afforded for each serious or extreme case.

The Anti-social Behaviour Team refer suitable neighbour dispute cases for mediation to Ayrshire 360, who now manage the service. Mediation is a flexible and effective way of finding solutions to all sorts of conflicts and disagreements. It is quick, confidential, and helps find solutions everyone can live with. The mediation process gives individuals the opportunity to be fully heard, and to hear, often for the first time, the other side of the story. Mediation provides a safe, structured and positive environment for people in dispute to come to agreements and better understanding and while it usually involves discussion of issues around past events, its main focus is on what is going to happen and how people will behave towards one another in the future.

Risk Management Centre (RMC): East Ayrshire Council provides a CCTV review suite within the RMC to allow Police Scotland to view and retrieve images in relation to their investigations. This partnership ensures that data is secured as evidence at the earliest opportunity contributing to the best Community Safety outcomes. The incidents captured are collated by the Police Scotland CCTV Liaison Officer. In response to requests from our partners, we currently have fixed re-deployable cameras in 10 locations across the authority to assist in detecting and deterring crime within specific areas of concern and to assist in the prevention of anti-social behaviour and fly tipping.

The **Community Safety CCTV** Vehicle is used to provide reassurance, a visible deterrent and as a mobile evidence gathering platform. This year it was deployed to areas outlined as part of Police Scotland's action plans and undertaken joint patrols to address fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour. Additionally, it has been present at meetings / outreach events including Fire Reach with SFRS, Licensed premise visits, Football patrols, Intelligence led operations, walk around visits with community groups and council members and taxi rank patrols, vehicle checks with VOSA. It actively monitors areas of concern across the authority and ensures a visible presence is maintained in these hotspots to assist in the detection and deterring of anti-social behaviour. During the period the CCTV vehicle has been used primarily as a visual deterrent monitoring for youth disorder and anti-social behaviour issues in particular Kilmarnock Bus Station. It also continues to offer reassurance to remote communities not covered by traditional CCTV. In addition to this, the Anti-Social Behaviour Team operate a shift pattern to allow for further use of the CCTV vehicle with a dedicated approach. A patrol matrix is utilised to allow for up-to-date and relevant patrolling to provide a visible deterrent and public reassurance.

RMC Operations	2025/26
Number of RMC operated community alarms	4,887
Number of RMC calls received	194,069
Number of times Mobile CCTV Vans utilised	147
Number of Tech Enabled Care systems operated	7,753
Number of Domestic Abuse Calls Responded To	676

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service: We continue to work closely with communities and partner agencies to identify and address anti-social behaviour across East Ayrshire. Our East Ayrshire LALO monitors Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) incidents on a daily basis and acts as the single point of contact for operational crews submitting Community Intelligence Reports (CIRs). CIRs are then shared with appropriate partners for their awareness and action, if appropriate.

An example of this was a spike in fire related ASB within the Stewarton area. This was highlighted by operational crews through a CIR. The LALO worked with Police Scotland to ensure a clear communication pathway was established and that Police Scotland were made aware of all SFRS incidents. Data was compiled for sharing with EAC with a view to deploying mobile cctv and a visit to Stewarton Academy was arranged to deliver fire related ASB presentations to pupils.

The result of this co-ordinated approach was that the fire related ASB has dramatically reduced in the area to almost none.

The LALO also participates in daily anti-social behaviour (ASB) tasking meetings alongside Police Scotland and East Ayrshire Council (EAC). These meetings provide an opportunity to share information on fire-related ASB and ensure we remain informed of emerging trends across the area.

Information gathered from operational crews and partner organisations is used to help direct targeted interventions where they are most needed, complementing our ongoing community engagement activities.

CVOEA GRAFT - Supporting people involved with the justice system and addictions: The GRAFT Project (Gain Respect And Foster Trust) supports the rehabilitation of those involved in the Justice System and individuals with substance use disorder (SUD). GRAFT is a multi-faceted service that aims to alleviate the effects of poverty within our communities, make steps towards addressing its root causes and bring those people at the fringes of our society who are most excluded the chance to get involved in helping others to help themselves.

In 2025/26 the service supported:

- Young people on community orders or diversion programmes
- Adults serving unpaid work as part of a court order or rehabilitation plan
- Individuals at risk of offending, needing one to one placement or needing structure and support
- Women at risk of harm or unable to be allocated to a squad

GRAFT offers affordable maintenance services to those who may not otherwise be able to access them and at the same time gives routes into volunteering to people who are excluded from traditional means. GRAFT combines its community role with commercial work. The core work streams are:

- Grass cutting
- Landscaping jobs: including hedge cutting, weeding, path clearing, laying pathways, weeding and general landscaping.
- Painting and decorating.

This year Graft (unpaid work) have provided vulnerable adults with the opportunity to engage in structured, meaningful work placements within the community. These placements are typically part of rehabilitation or diversion initiatives, helping participants develop skills, discipline, and responsibility while giving back to the community.

During unpaid work placements, our participants have engaged in a variety of structured community activities, including environmental projects such as litter-picking, gardening, and community maintenance, as well as supporting local charities through painting, DIY, or event assistance. These activities are supervised by lived experienced mentors and designed not only to benefit the community but also to help participants develop practical skills, teamwork, discipline and a sense of personal responsibility. Alongside the tasks, mentoring and reflective discussions are facilitated to encourage goal setting, self-confidence and a positive outlook on education, training, and future employment opportunities.

Vibrant Communities: Youth Engagement Roadshows took place in September 2025. These roadshows provide new school pupils with important information sessions delivered by Community Partners. Workshops such as ASB/Youth Disorder, Alcohol and Drugs Harm, Fire setting and Smoking and Vaping from key partners. Some schools requested that the roadshow be postponed until Summer 2026.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S3 Provide an effective, supportive and victim-centred approach to rape with enhanced local support services	- Support the ongoing development and operation of the Willows, a Sexual Assault Response Co-ordination Service (SARCS) in Ayrshire. - Sustain the work of the Police Domestic Abuse Support Team and Sexual Offences Unit - Facilitate and implement the work of specialist support services	Police Scotland , NHS A&A, Rape Crisis Star Centre, SFRS.

Police Scotland: Rape Victim Support Update: Police Scotland maintain strong working relationships in Ayrshire with our partners in NHS and Rape Crisis Star Centre to ensure a victim led approach to all reports of rape and serious sexual offences.

All rape investigations are SIO led with a victim centred and multi-agency approach at the forefront of actions and considerations to progress each enquiry in a sensitive and supportive manner.

If a report falls within the forensic window victim survivors are offered a Forensic Medical Examination which can be conducted within the NHS SARCS facilities at either The Willows in Prestwick or Archway in Glasgow.

All victim survivors are offered the opportunity to consent to a referral to Rape Crisis and often the Star Centre will contact Ayrshire Divisional Rape Investigation Unit directly to arrange police engagement with persons they have been supporting towards having the confidence to report to the police. The Star Centre can also provide accommodation to facilitate SOLO contact and the taking of a SOLO statement in a comfortable, supportive environment.

Feedback processes are in place with both NHS SARCS and Rape Crisis so victim survivors can offer valued insight into their experiences, positive or negative, to support continued learning and improvement in service delivery in this challenging area of work. A similar feedback process exists

between Police Scotland and NHS SARCS to capture, respond to and learn from experiences during the Forensic Medical Examination arrangements, again intended to improve upon and provide the best quality of service.

Police Scotland: The Divisional Rape Investigation Unit and Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit continue to investigate those perpetrators of serious crime. The Domestic Abuse Safeguarding team work with victims to ensure safeguarding is discussed and victims are signposted to relevant partners (Women's Aid, Assist etc).

In East Ayrshire awareness sessions within Ayrshire College and literature shared with Elected Members has been designed to enhance the awareness of the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) – looking to increase the number of disclosures made to reduce the number of potential victims.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: SFRS Community Action Team members have recently received training from Rape Crisis Scotland. This training has put us in a better position to support and signpost victims to appropriate services.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S4 Support people who have committed offences to move away from offending behaviour.	- Promote both the principles and systems of the Whole System approach to Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) and Diversion from prosecution. The later will be directly delivered from April 24 as part of a justice early intervention service including bail supervision and Structured Deferred Sentence - Support the ongoing implementation of the Pan-Ayrshire Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) 2024-2029 - Partners will Investigate and utilise innovative and cost effective approaches to reduce offending behaviours	Community Justice Ayrshire Partnership , which includes EAC Justice Service, CPS; Police Scotland, Vibrant Communities, Third Sector Partners, SFRS, Barnados, Alcohol & Drugs Partnership

Police Scotland: Moving Offenders Away from Behaviour: Prevention is the theme which occurs throughout policing and is a requirement on the Police Service of Scotland (PSOS) under s.32 Police & Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

Campus officers work to prevent criminality by engaging with and educating young people on crime, the dangers and impacts on victims and perpetrators.

Within Ayrshire Custody suites, those arrested for domestic offences, regardless of whether they have been charged, are signposted to Respect, a charity that works with perpetrators of domestic abuse, aiming to keep survivors safe and hold perpetrators accountable - whilst offering them meaningful opportunities to change.

The MAPPA arrangements in place aim to assess and manage risk of sex and/or violent offenders and the framework of MAPPA aims to reduce reoffending.

While the above are mechanisms relating to offenders, Police Scotland are committed to supporting the most vulnerable members of the public and to signpost, support and safeguard them from harm. East Ayrshire has a dedicated preventions and interventions officer who is trained to carry out

crime prevention surveys and offer practical advice or offer safety tools which can include camera doorbells or noise alarms. Police Scotland have a number of campaigns which operate throughout the year which focus on a wide range of topics including fraud and scam prevention and these are communicated on social media channels and in the wider media.

Police Scotland: Work with Recovery Enterprise – Prisoner Throughcare: Police Scotland continue to attend Community Justice Ayrshire meetings where alternatives to custody and managing individuals in the community are discussed on a pan-Ayrshire basis. Work with Recovery Enterprise in Kilmarnock continues, focussing on prison throughcare aimed at reducing the cycle of reoffending on prison release through supportive means and exploring employability routes at the point of entry to the prison system, with the aim of creating stability and structure. Recovery Enterprise regularly receive referrals from Police Scotland where support from them is thought to be of benefit with the aim of reducing reoffending and providing more positive outcomes.

Community Justice Ayrshire Partnership (CJAP): The CJAP Improvement Plan covers 2024-29. In it, local deliverables set out what action the Partnership will take in Ayrshire to meet national priorities, and they align directly to the aims set out in the Scottish Government's National Strategy for Community Justice. Three delivery groups are responsible for progressing the local deliverables:

Diversion, Intervention and Alternatives to Custody (DIAC) Delivery Group - Group priorities are around Diversion from prosecution, arrest referral and bail. Following a focussed session on Diversion last year, the Pan-Ayrshire Diversion Forum has been reconvened and is reviewing all correspondence issued to individuals undergoing diversion and to staff, with the aim of supporting improved understanding and engagement. Preparation is ongoing for a similar focussed session for Arrest Referral in June. Partners and stakeholders will be asked to consider available data, current practice, and future aspirations for the arrest referral approach in Ayrshire, learning from the Saltcoats Custody Navigator Service which concluded in January 2026. Drug and alcohol issues and mental health needs were identified as the two most common areas where individuals sought support and signposting opportunities were explored. National plans are progressing for business cards featuring a QR code to the Community Interventions and Support Directory to be made available within police custody suites. Locally, the CJAP team has undertaken work to increase the representation of services and organisations listed in the directory, ensuring it reflects the breadth of support available across Ayrshire. An initial 'Safeguarding from custody' meeting has taken place with a view to supporting people being released from court with no means to travel home, or where people have been released from remand when they had expected to be returned to custody.

Community Reintegration Delivery Group - The group looks at work around prison liberation in terms of health and social care needs, housing, and throughcare. Working with HMP Kilmarnock to further develop their community reintegration processes has included looking at the coordination of the process to see if it can be made more effective, looking at reviewing/improving information provided within liberation packs when people leave prison, the liberation plan which is in place for individuals, how to increase use of the Prison to Rehab Pathway for those with addiction issues leaving prison, and developing a Partnership Pre-Release Support Pathway document (which outlines the multi-agency process for pre-release support planning and liberation within HMPK for men returning to Ayrshire). Options are being explored as to how drop-in support in East Ayrshire can be facilitated for those who have recently left prison. The new national throughcare service, Upside, has been in place since 1st April 2025. This is a standing agenda item at the Community Reintegration Meeting where colleagues discuss their quarterly report on service delivery in Ayrshire.

Community First Delivery Group - This group looks at the areas of community based sentences, restorative justice, employability, victim's voices, and public confidence in community justice. Following an input from Nova Scotland we have developed new documents informed by research and recommendations from the Scottish Veterans Commissioner which outline key themes, highlights the implications for local practice, and provide clear signposting to relevant support services. The group agreed training delivered by Apex Scotland (recruitment and disclosure), Families Outside (impact of imprisonment) and Three Sisters Consultancy (neurodivergence). These opportunities will support consistent practice and strengthen partner capability across key areas of community justice. Preparations are underway for a targeted resource session to bring partners together to take a strategic view of the national outcome around employability. A second positive pathways event was facilitated in HMP Kilmarnock in September where over 70 men attended and 16 stall holders discussed training/employment/volunteering options for them when they are released from prison. Three webinars took place in September to December where a total of 74 individuals attended. These sessions covered the topics of community sentences, myth-busting, and leaving prison. An in person session "What is MAPPA and how does it keep people safe" was also held in July 2025, and attended by around 80 professionals. The event included a showing of the newly developed MAPPA video. To continue the learning, a suite of short 7-minute briefings is being developed, each focusing on a specific community justice topic or priority area. In addition, a new Inside the Role series is in development to provide partners with greater insight into the diverse roles and responsibilities across the community justice landscape.

Alcohol and Drug Partnership: The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) was successful in 2025-26 in obtaining over £100,000 from digital lifelines funding to provide digital devices and training to drug and alcohol users to facilitate Aim 3 of the CJOIP 2024- 2029 in ensuring that those who have committed offences are able to access treatment services (including online supports), have access to information required to facilitate treatment and are connected to family and social supports.

EA Health and Social Care Partnership: In addition to the established relationships within the Whole System Strategic Group, the Whole System Coordinator has created links with a number of other partners and strengthened the working relationship with current partners.

These include:

- Establishing 4 weekly consultations with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- Creating a Pilot Pathway for CAMHS assessment for children in Police or Court Custody
- Consultations with Speech, Language and Communication which has also led to input at team meetings and the opportunity for practitioners to undertake the Talking Mats training
- Providing opportunities for Group Work through the Leisure Trust aiming at supporting children who are being referred through EEI
- Establishing links with YDance, a national youth dance organisation providing a range of creative and fun opportunities for children and young people
- Linking with Community Justice, CYCJ and Action for Children to support a child through the Restorative Justice Process.

Groupwork Opportunities: In 2024, East Ayrshire established positive links at a national level to provide opportunities for our children and young people. One of these included a partnership with YDance, a national Youth Dance organisation. YDance is a national organisation who provide opportunities for children and young people to engage in sessions which focus on diversionary, fun, physical activity. Their ethos is to help build confidence, resilience, communication skills, team building, expression and creativity.

The group included children from a range of backgrounds including children within our children's houses and our Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC). Eight children attended the initial session and five children consistently attended going forward.

East Ayrshire's Intensive Support Team facilitated, organised and planned the group, alongside YDance and the Whole System Coordinator. They also supported with identifying children who would benefit from the group and supporting the children to attend this each week. The children provided feedback that they really enjoyed the sessions and were keen to return for a group in the future. One child stated that YDance was her 'happy place'.

Barnardo's Safe and Together Service: Supporting children and young people aged 11-17 from across East Ayrshire to reduce their alcohol/drug use to safer levels and to improve their personal outcomes. These include developing a better understanding of the negative impact alcohol/drug use can have; Identify and work towards meeting the needs and challenges which may influence their alcohol / drug use, provide information and guidance through 1-1 intensive support, group work and awareness sessions.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS): The SFRS has developed a strong partnership with HMP Kilmarnock to deliver CPR and Home Fire Safety training to people in custody, particularly those serving 'short-term' sentences and individuals selected for early release in line with Scottish Government legislation. This collaborative approach supports rehabilitation, reduces risk on release, and contributes directly to community safety outcomes across East Ayrshire. Through this partnership, SFRS staff will deliver practical training sessions within the prison environment focusing on life-saving skills, including CPR awareness training and Home Fire Safety awareness. Delivered over 4 sessions, the training will equip participants with essential knowledge and confidence that can be applied immediately on release, benefiting not only the individuals themselves but also the communities they return to.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S5 Provide assurance in regard to public protection and the reduction of serious harm for certain categories offender.	• MAPPA arrangements pertaining to; ○ Sex offenders subject to notification under the sexual offences act 2003 ○ Mentally disordered restricted patients ○ Offenders identified as posing a risk of serious harm by reason of their conviction ○ Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordination Process (MATAC)	HSCP, Police , EAC Justice Service, Children & Families, Education, Housing, NHS, SPS, Third sector partners, MAPPA Office

Police Scotland: Officers in East Ayrshire remain involved in the policing of Registered Sex offenders in the community, this is undertaken through MAPPA and involves specialist officers from Public Protection and local policing. Any Category 3 (violent offenders) remain part of local policing, who will work in partnership with colleagues in Criminal Justice social work to ensure the risk of harm from an offender remains low.

Police Scotland: Sex Offender Policing Unit

MAPPA: The [2024/25 Southwest Scotland MAPPA Annual Report](#) was published in September 2025. The total number of Registered Sex Offenders in Southwest Scotland increased by 5% in 2024/25.

Sex Offenders: Registered Sex Offenders (RSO's) are subject to notification requirements under the terms of the Sexual Offences Act, 2003. Each RSO is subject to management and monitoring by Police Scotland depending on the risk they are assessed to pose. Police Scotland deploys officers to conduct home visits, review devices and intrusively interview RSOs to determine current circumstances, employment status, their movements and associations in order to perform risk assessments.

RSO's are managed under the MAPPA process in conjunction with partner agencies including the MAPPA coordinator, Criminal Justice Social Work, Scottish Prison Service, local Housing officers and Health board representatives. Continual information sharing takes place and those RSOs assessed as posing the greatest risk of harm to communities are subject of frequent MAPPA meetings where the risks are discussed and actions to mitigate these risks are tasked out. Joint Police/Criminal Justice visits with offenders are also commonplace and Police Scotland work in conjunction with third sector agencies to make disclosures where potential victims are identified, with the aim of keeping people safe from harm.

Mentally Disordered Restricted Patients: These patients are managed by NHS however Police Scotland contribute to risk management plans and MAPPA meetings where patients receive escorted or unescorted leave in the community, in situations where patients have made significant improvements in mental health and are being progressed for eventual release. These releases are tightly controlled and only approved where the risk to the community is assessed as low. As with RSOs, regular multi-agency meetings take place to ensure appropriate risk management takes place.

Offenders identified as posing a risk of serious harm by reason of their conviction: Offenders managed under this category are known as Category 3 offenders and are also managed under the MAPPA process. These are managed in a similar manner to RSOs, however they are not subject to notification requirements. They are often subject to licence conditions and are invariably managed by Criminal Justice Social Work, however Police Scotland contribute to MAPPA meetings so that effective information sharing and risk management can take place. Police Scotland support the management of these offenders by conducting bail checks, providing safety advice to potential victims and investigating any potential criminality taking place.

Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordination Process (MATAC): MATAC is a multi-agency police-led process which identifies and targets high-tariff offenders so as to effectively investigate Domestic Abuse perpetrated against multiple partners. Offenders are identified via a variety of means, including instances of domestic abuse or intelligence. Research and analysis takes place to identify potential undisclosed offending against current and previous partners. A multi-agency meeting is held to approve the investigation and exchange information. Police Scotland then proactively engages with current and former partners to identify previous undisclosed offending and build a criminal case against the offender. Safeguarding processes are built into the MATAC investigation, with at-risk victims provided with safety advice and signposted to support agencies. This includes the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) and the Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferencing (MARAC) process, where victims and vulnerable people (including affected children) are discussed, and a safety plan is agreed upon and instigated.

All of the above processes are subject to frequent oversight and governance by senior representatives of the involved agencies to ensure that they are fit for purpose and are used appropriately to manage offenders and keep people safe within the community.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S6 Facilitate effective action against perpetrators of domestic abuse, and all forms of	Support the development and implementation of the East Ayrshire Violence Against Women Partnership Strategic Plan 2024-27 (available December 2024)	EAVAWP , Police Scotland, CJA; HSCP; NHS A&A; Victim Support; EAC Housing & Communities, Education

VAWG; improve the response and support provided for victims of domestic abuse, and all forms of VAWG, and their families	• Continued delivery of the Caledonian Programme for those convicted of domestic abuse. • Work in partnership to strengthen the housing rights of survivors of domestic abuse as a result of the Domestic Abuse (Protection)(Scotland) Bill 2021 • Proactive provision of home safety equipment to mitigate risk of harm for people experiencing domestic abuse	and Legal Services; EA Women's Aid; SFRS; EAC Justice Service; EAC Children and Families; Third Sector partners
Violence Against Women Partnership: The implementation of the East Ayrshire Violence Against Women Partnership (EAVAWP) Strategic Plan 2024-27 is underway. The agreed strategic priorities for the Violence against Women and Girls Strategic plan 2024-27 are: • We will undertake a strategic needs assessment to gain a better understanding of the prevalence and impact of VAWG in our communities, what support is available and where there are key gaps/ areas of unmet need • We will create meaningful and trauma-informed opportunities for victims/ survivors of VAWG to play a key role in shaping and monitoring the work of EAVAWP • We will progress activities to create cultural change around VAWG within key community settings • We will deliver sustainable, informed and safe specialist and universal service responses for victim / survivors that are holistic and meet victim / survivors' individual needs. East Ayrshire Violence against Women Partnership continues to provide a comprehensive offer of training for all employees across the multi-agency partnership. The integrated VAWG calendar is circulated to partners quarterly by the HSCP Protection and Learning Team quarterly. The calendar contains training provided by the MARAC team, the East Ayrshire HSCP Protection and Learning Team, the NHS GBV team, East Ayrshire Women's Aid, the STAR Centre: Rape Crisis Ayrshire and Amina. It also promotes online modules regarding Trauma and Equally Safe in Practice. Trauma Informed Contact & Care (TICC): Trauma Informed Contact and Care (TICC) is a joint Police and Education early intervention, safeguarding and wellbeing initiative. The aim of the initiative is to support children and young people exposed to domestic abuse by ensuring that ECC's and schools are notified by Police Scotland, before the start of the next school day, when an incident has occurred in the previous 24 hours. TICC implementation began at the end of 2021 with rollout being completed in January 2024. This means that all children and young people in an education establishment in Ayrshire are benefitting from a wide range of supports based on their needs. There is a better understanding of domestic abuse and support is offered following established GIRFEC processes. The rollout has been extended further to children and young people who are not in a school or ECC. Education Mentors In Violence Programme: All secondary schools have delivered MVP this year. Regular updates are provided via the MVP Team, termly coordinator meetings and the monthly Health and Wellbeing Newsletter. The pre-MVP mentor and mentee pupil surveys have been completed and schools are in the process of carrying out their post-delivery surveys. Education Scotland's Everyone's Included programme, looks to address gender-based issues in Early Childhood Centres and Primary settings. In 2025-26, the four primary schools who took part in this training during 2024-25 committed to embedding the staff training on Everyone's Included and / or Gender 10 teaching resources in their settings.		

Safe & Together Implementation Plan 2025-26: The key principles of the Safe & Together Model are to keep children who have experienced domestic abuse safe and together with their non-abusive parent, while supporting and acknowledging the non-abusive parents' protective efforts. It ensures perpetrators are held accountable for their abuse, while connecting them to their parenting (figure) role to reduce ongoing risk of harm where safe to do so. The Safe & Together Model focuses on gender bias, survivor strengths, protective factors and the impact of perpetrators' patterns of behaviour on the family functioning. This challenges previous approaches of victim blaming and non-accountability of perpetrators. The aim is to ensure positive outcomes for children in respect of their safety and wellbeing through keeping them safe and together with the non-abusing parent.

Funding for the pan-Ayrshire Safe & Together Lead Officer has been continued until March 2027 through the Scottish Government's Delivering Equally Safe fund. Training delivery continued throughout 2025-26 with Core training being delivered twice a year and four one day Overview training being offered as part of the integrated VAW calendar. Training has now reached the majority of Children & Families Social Workers and Team Managers. Training will continue to prioritise places for those within children's services and overview training is on offer to adult services including mental health and recovery services. An updated implementation plan is being developed and will incorporate four practitioner sessions to support staff to embed practice.

MARAC is Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference which is a coordinated meeting to safeguard victims of domestic abuse who are at significant risk of harm or death. The Ayrshire MARAC commenced operationally in August 2022 and has continued, throughout 2025-26, to make a significant contribution to improving the safety of victims at significant risk due to domestic abuse across Ayrshire. There are three local MARAC meetings – one in each of the local authority areas in Ayrshire, centrally and consistently supported by the MARAC Coordination Team. MARAC meetings themselves take place monthly in East Ayrshire. In 2025-26, 12 meetings took place with 159 cases discussed – 156 female and 3 male victims/survivors. The numbers of referrals into MARAC locally are very consistent with the previous year, although noting a slight increase of 2.58%.

Equally Safe at School (ESAS): is a public health approach to preventing gender-based violence through working with school communities. This year the Equally Safe Delivery Plan (2024/2026) has requested that schools register and carryout the ESAS training with key staff. Throughout 2025-26 and building on the success at St Joseph's Academy and Kilmarnock Academy, the other Academies have been working on these actions. Robert Burn's Academy is presently working with the ESAS lead at Rape Crisis to commence the programme, St Joeseph's Academy has fully completed the project and the progress of the other schools is outlined below:

Schools signed up to ESAS	No. of staff completed e-module
Doon Academy	26
Grange Academy	1
Kilmarnock Academy	84
Loudoun Academy	0
Park School	0
Stewarton Academy	82

Most of the Campus Police Officers and [Mentors in Violence Prevention](#) (MVP) School Coordinators attended an MVP/ ESAS development session on 1st September 2025 where they were supported by staff from Education Scotland, Equally Safe At School (ESAS) and the Star Centre. Supported by the Campus Police Officers, all the secondary schools have delivered MVP this year. Regular updates are provided via the MVP Team, termly coordinator meetings and the monthly Health and Wellbeing Newsletter. The pre MVP mentor and mentee pupil surveys have been completed and schools are in the process of carrying out their post-delivery surveys.

During the 16 days of action, schools carried out their own awareness projects and the MVP mentors continued to deliver MVP scenarios. Staff and MVP Mentors from Stewarton Academy delivered a highly rated workshop at the Engaging Boys and Men Conference, 27 November 2025. Several establishments (P6-S6) participated in the Star Centre's school-based media design competition and the winning entry from Stewarton Academy was issued to participants at the reclaim the night walk.

Education Scotland's Everyone's Included programme, looks to address gender-based issues in Early Childhood Centres and Primary settings. This year, the four primary schools who took part in this training last year committed to embedding the staff training and [Everyone's Included](#) and / or [Gender 10 teaching resources](#) in their settings.

Housing: [The Housing \(Scotland\) Act 2025](#) received Royal Assent on 6 November 2025, marking a significant, long-term shift in Scottish housing policy aimed at strengthening tenant rights, enhancing housing quality, and managing affordability. It also sets out a requirement for all local authority and registered social landlords to publish a policy on how they will support tenants at risk of or experiencing domestic abuse. The Council introduced a Domestic Abuse Policy in 2019 and a Domestic Abuse Housing Staff Protocol was implemented in 2020 with accompanying training to raise awareness of housing and tenancy rights to anyone experiencing domestic abuse.

Risk Management Centre (RMC): Community Alarm devices continue to be provided and monitored in response to partner referrals, providing reassurance and links to Police Scotland when initiated to RMC.

RMC Operations	2025/26
Number of RMC operated community alarms	4,887
Number of RMC calls received	194,069
Number of times Mobile CCTV Vans utilised	147
Number of Tech Enabled Care systems operated	7,753
Number of Domestic Abuse Calls Responded To	676

Barnardo's Safe &Together Service: supports children, young people and their families who are affected by domestic violence where alcohol/substance use is a factor. 1-1 intensive support includes supporting the perpetrator (regardless of gender identity) to look at their behaviours and the impact on others including children; providing a safe space for children to explore their emotions and past and present experiences; ensure a person centred and holistic approach whilst ensuring a tailor-made care/safety plan to meet the needs of the family.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: SFRS as a partner within the MARAC process, SFRS continue to receive referrals for home fire safety visits, for victims of domestic abuse, from our partners. Any referral which carries a threat of fire being used as a weapon is prioritised and a home fire safety visit carried out by the Community Action Team. The team are trained to deal with not only the provision of advice and equipment to mitigate the risk but have also regularly receive training to allow us to interact with victims with compassion.

Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS): The use of the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse continues to increase, which shows an increase in public and partner knowledge of the scheme and the benefits it can have to support decision making in those who may be at risk. In 2025/26 there was an increase in applications / disclosures in East Ayrshire at 192, this is a 9% increase on 2024/25 which had 176 applications / disclosures.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S7 Support and offer public protection with regard to Commercial Sexual Exploitation.	• Raise awareness and gather information about scale of Commercial Sexual Exploitation in East Ayrshire; • Identify support, help and prevention activity available in East Ayrshire; and • Partners will offer public protection support to people looking to remove themselves from Commercial Sexual Exploitation	EAVAWP , Police Scotland, CJA; HSCP; NHS A&A; Victim Support; EAC Housing & Communities, Education and Legal Services; EA Women's Aid; SFRS; EAC Justice Service; EAC Children and Families; Third Sector partners

East Ayrshire Violence Against Women Partnership: There are 4 trainers within East Ayrshire who deliver training on commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) which equips practitioners to identify and support practitioners working with women who sell or exchange sex. Training for staff has been delivered on a quarterly basis, while additional training has been offered via the ADP ROSC lunchtime sessions with a view of supporting staff working with women affected by alcohol or drug use. The Women's Support project's Building Bridges learnpro module is also available to all East Ayrshire Council employees.

The 16 days of Action Conference on Engaging Boys and Men included input from the Women's Support Project on the Sex Industry, maintaining East Ayrshire's commitment to raising awareness about CSE.

Measures to identify CSE amongst female populations are evolving, the MARAC is now capturing this data as part of their annual reporting as are some organisations working with the ADP.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S8 Promote increased awareness of partnership work to improve community safety and safety behaviours (to include water and road safety)	• Implement EA Police Plan and SFRS Local Plan activity to address road safety issues • The Road Safety Group will further explore partnership opportunities to raise awareness of road safety issues • Partnership Approach to Road Safety (PARS) group embedded across Ayrshire; • Partnership Approach to Water Safety (PAWS) group embedded across Ayrshire; • Further develop the partnership approach to Community Resilience through the East Ayrshire multiagency Strategic Resilience Group (the group monitor and plans for a range of resilience and contingencies that includes resilience planning for weather and energy resilience events. • Develop an action plan to highlight risks and identify partnership solutions to improve women's perceptions of community safety • Make use of inclusive design and infrastructure in homes and communities to promote community safety and tackle anti-social behaviour.	Safer Communities Delivery Plan Working Group / Police Scotland; SFRS; ARA; CJA; Ayrshire Council Education; Ayrshire College; Alcohol & Drugs Partnership EAC, NAC, SAC, Coastguard, Police Scotland, RNLI, SAS, Loch Doon Ranger, EAVAW Partnership
Police Scotland: Prevention and Interventions officer continues to work with those most vulnerable across East Ayrshire. This involves personal safety and property safety inputs to individuals and groups. Housing: East Ayrshire's new build development proposals incorporate the principles of 'Secured by Design'. This is a Police Scotland-led initiative that encourages the incorporation of crime prevention principles into the design and layout of new developments. It requires consideration of aspects such as lighting, boundary treatments and door and window specifications, whilst placing an emphasis on passive surveillance and overlooking, to enhance safety and minimise opportunities for crime. These principles are intended to promote community safety and reduce the potential for anti-social behaviour. The Antisocial Behaviour Team Manager is also involved in the Pan Ayrshire Safer Shores programme which brings together a wide range of partners to support safe, responsible behaviour along Ayrshire's coastline. The initiative responds to ongoing public safety concerns, particularly following the recent tragic events at Irvine Beach. This initiative is led by a multi-agency partnership including Police Scotland, British Transport Police, Scotrail, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, the Scottish Ambulance Service, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, the Maritime & Coastguard Agency, the British Red Cross, Coast watch Scotland, the Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team and the three Ayrshire Councils. Alcohol and Drugs Partnership: The ADP has delivered over 150 naloxone kits to services and individuals to reduce the risk of non-fatal overdoses.		

East Ayrshire Violence Against Women Partnership: Each year the East Ayrshire Violence against Women partnership hold a Reclaim the Night march to highlight the risks involved for women accessing public spaces, especially at night. The 2025 Reclaim the night event was also attended by partners from the Town centre regeneration team who conducted a survey about women's safety in the town centre. The march was well attended again with a follow up event at WG13 where the free Hollieguard app was promoted to attendees as a means by which they can keep themselves safe. Hollieguard also contributed to the 16 days of action webinar programme.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service continues to work closely with partner agencies through the Combined Ayrshire Road Safety (CARS) Group, which meets quarterly to strengthen collaboration across East Ayrshire. This partnership approach has helped develop strong working relationships that support effective information sharing, the implementation of best practice, and the creation of educational resources.

Our engagement programme, including educational sessions delivered in Primary and Secondary schools across East Ayrshire, continues to raise awareness among young drivers and passengers about the consequences of unsafe behaviour in vehicles. We are awaiting Virtual Reality headsets that will be utilised to deliver key safety messages to young drivers.

We have also recently had further staff trained in child car seat safety. This will allow us to work with partners in initiatives to advise, adjust and refit car seats where appropriate.

This proactive and coordinated partnership approach will continue to support the effective delivery of emergency response and road safety education across East Ayrshire, while contributing to the objectives set out within the Road Safety Scotland framework.

As a member of the PAWS (Partnership Approach to Water Safety) which focuses on Prevention (implementation of rescue equipment), Improved Response (multi-agency training and Waterside Responder), Review (Drowning & Incident Review (DIR) after significant incidents).

SFRS work closely with our partners in East Ayrshire and Water Safety Scotland (WSS) to promote our message and increase the awareness of risk around potential areas of concern within Ayrshire. We utilise our educational syllabus to engage with pupils in primary and secondary schools across East Ayrshire. This engagement utilises Water Safety Scotland's engagement resources to deliver key messages about the hazards of open water as well as teaching children what to do in the event of an emergency. We continue to contribute to the Vibrant Communities 'Danger Detective' initiative, at which we have been delivering an interactive water safety set and will be heavily involved with supporting EAC RMC's 2026 Water Safety Event at Loch Doon.

Police Scotland: Road Safety: A number of targeted campaigns and action plans were completed to improve road safety across East Ayrshire. This includes Motorcycle Safety Campaigns, Summer Drink & Drug Driving Campaigns, Fatal Five Campaign (NPCC) and Operation Spotlight (NPCC), the latter of which are campaigns supported by the National Police Chiefs Council and held right across the UK.

Police Scotland is committed to protecting all road users, particularly the vulnerable. Ayrshire Roads Policing Unit, part of the national Operational Support Division, undertake targeted patrols within East Ayrshire. This includes joint patrols with locality policing officers to target the fatal 5 offences:-

- Drink & drug driving
- Speeding
- Using a handheld mobile phone
- Careless driving
- Not wearing a seatbelt.

Ayrshire Roads Alliance (ARA): During 2025/26 ARA continued to support the Safer Communities Delivery Plan through delivery of road safety, active travel, traffic management, winter resilience, roadworks coordination and safer streets activity. Key activities included:

- Continued delivery of the ARA Service Plan 2025/26, including performance management, risk management, improvement planning and the ongoing ten-year review of the shared roads service.
- Delivery of the 2025/26 roadworks programme, supporting carriageway, footway, lighting, structures, traffic, transportation, active travel and road safety improvements across East Ayrshire.
- Continued investment in road safety and traffic-related schemes, including traffic calming, safer routes around schools, speed management and accident-reduction measures identified through evidence-led review.
- Implementation of the national pavement parking, double parking and dropped kerb parking prohibitions in East Ayrshire during summer 2025, supporting safer and more accessible streets for pedestrians, wheelchair users, families with buggies and other vulnerable road users.
- Continued partnership road safety education and engagement activity, including Bikeability support for primary schools, child car seat checks, motorcycle safety activity, experienced driver events and iDRIVE road safety events.
- Continued participation in partnership arrangements including the Road Safety Group, resilience planning arrangements, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and other Ayrshire-wide partners.
- Publication and implementation of the Winter Service Plan 2025/26, setting out treatment priorities, operational arrangements and partnership liaison to support safe passage during snow, ice and severe weather.
- Continued coordination of statutory undertaker and utility roadworks through the Scottish Road Works Register, with ARA's role focused on maintaining public safety, minimising disruption and protecting road infrastructure.

Vibrant Communities: Danger Detectives is an experiential learning programme led by Vibrant Communities and delivered in partnership with community planning partners and other key council partners. The 8-day programme aims to build community resilience in young people as active citizens in reducing accidents and crime in their local area. This is achieved by creating a safe environment where young people can actively become aware of their personal safety both indoors and outside, learn how to react to dangerous situations, know what roles the emergency services play as well as how they can protect and support the most vulnerable individuals within their community. Key safety sets are delivered such as fire safety in the home, road and cycle safety, hazard house, countryside safety and water safety. This year 95% of primary schools participated with over 1,600 P5 pupils engaging in these informative, fun and themed workshops.

Vibrant Communities supported the Safer Shores initiative locally, promoting and encouraging safe and responsible behaviours of young people and peers when attending local beaches, rives, lochs etc. The Safer Shores launched the 2025 campaign at Kilmarnock Railway Station in May with key partners attending.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S9 Work collaboratively to promote , support and facilitate community resilience	- Continued development and support of <u>Community Led Action Plans</u> - Proactive support for local people and groups with neighbourhood coaching, advice and training, and provision of equipment - Continued support for communities to develop Community Larders and wider dignified food provision - Consider the role of EA Tenants and Residents Federation and other community based groups for information sharing - Further develop the partnership approach to Community Resilience through the East Ayrshire multiagency Strategic Resilience Group (the group monitor and plans for a range of resilience and contingencies that includes resilience planning for weather and energy resilience events - Improve community resilience - suicide prevention	EAC Housing & Communities ; EAC Education; SFRS; Police Scotland; CAP Steering Groups; Community Councils; Third Sector Partners; Alcohol & Drugs Partnership.

Community Led Action Plans: East Ayrshire Council, Housing and Communities has committed to roll out a programme to work with all communities within East Ayrshire to develop Community Led Action Plans over the next two years. There are currently 35 plans developed and community groups continue to be supported to develop their plans that meet the needs for their respective areas and communities.

EAC Anti-Social Behaviour Team: Regular meetings have been and continue to be facilitated within local communities with Community Councils, the East Ayrshire Federation of Tenants and Residents, Registered Tenant and Resident Groups and local consultation forums to discuss neighbour nuisance issues and provide advice, assistance and signposting to appropriate services and partners and to gather information and intelligence to be able to proactively investigate and tackle the issues that matter and are of concern to the residents of East Ayrshire.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Team engage directly with communities through Anti-Social Behaviour Investigators who cover designated areas. The primary role of the Investigator is to investigate all complaints of neighbour nuisance and anti-social behaviour, engage with complainants, alleged offenders and the local community to effectively tackle the issues raised. They work closely and effectively with partners to tackle the issues through information sharing and joint working. All cases undertaken are investigated and follow a customer-focused approach through providing regular contact through home visits, phone calls and email, taking appropriate actions as required. The team investigates serious and extreme cases and expedite the set process through the various warnings to court if required. There is also an established multi-agency approach gathering all relevant partners to discuss the issues prior to any legal actions. This is undertaken to identify other possible solutions with an aim of achieving resolution prior to progressing with a legal action.

The Team also works closely and in conjunction with Police Scotland and EAC Legal Services to investigate serious and extreme cases and agree the best possible outcomes prior to taking an official legal action. This is to ensure that the appropriate and proportionate actions are afforded for each serious or extreme case.

CVOEA Foodbank: The East Ayrshire Foodbank operates in a number of locations across East Ayrshire, dedicated to providing emergency food and support to individuals and families facing crisis situations. Established in 2012, the foodbank operates under the umbrella of the Trussell Trust network and is managed by CVO East Ayrshire.

East Ayrshire Foodbank operates on a referral basis with individuals in need given an appointment to attend their nearest distribution centre where they are provided with three days' worth of emergency food provision.

East Ayrshire Foodbank conducted a reviewed of our signposting processes in 2025/26. The review assessed how well clients are guided to relevant services and resources. The review included evaluating the clarity of information provided, the accessibility of materials and the effectiveness of staff or volunteers in directing clients to other helpful resources locally. The reviews of signposting processes focused on improving client experience, ensuring that people in need are quickly and accurately informed about all available internal and external support options.

This year East Ayrshire Foodbank has experienced significant challenges due to increased demand and limited resources. Like most Foodbanks CVOEA are seeing a sharp rise in the number of people seeking emergency food support while donations (both food and financial) have been declining.

CVOEA volunteers and staff are always enthusiastic and keen to support those in need but this situation is putting considerable pressure on volunteers and supplies and there is an urgent need for additional support from the community, local organisations, and potential funders.

This year CVO East Ayrshire saw significant progress in strengthening employability pathways through closer collaboration with foodbanks, support staff and local community groups. These partnerships helped reach people who are often the furthest from mainstream services, providing early, relationship-based support at trusted community touchpoints.

Neighbourhood Coaching: Neighbourhood Coaches work closely with community planning partners and the third sector to support tenants to sustain their tenancies, prevent homelessness and ensure our neighbourhoods and estates are clean, green and vibrant. Tenant and community participation is promoted and supported via Neighbourhood Coaches and the Customer Liaison Team. Neighbourhood Coaches link with colleagues in Ayrshire 360 and local tenants and residents in the development of Community Led Action Plans.

Housing Services has introduced an annual Connecting Housing and Tenants (CHAT) visit to every tenant to ensure support is available at the right time when needed and avoid crisis situations from occurring. The CHAT visits enable tenants to highlight any concerns they may have regarding their community and discuss any support needs for the household to enable the Neighbourhood Coach to refer on as appropriate.

The East Ayrshire Federation of Tenants and Residents were involved in the design and testing of CHAT to ensure tenant volunteers had the opportunity to engage in the development of the initiative as well as assist in the promotion via the biannual newsletter and their social media platforms. They continue to feedback into the visit process.

Housing Support continues to be delivered to EAC tenants, including - help to settle in their new home, assistance with budgeting and maintaining their tenancy; supporting tenants to become part of the community; and engagement in community supports and activities.

The East Ayrshire Federation of Tenants and Residents, Registered Tenant and Resident Organisations and Consultation Forums are proactive in highlighting local issues and making recommendations to Council officers on an ongoing basis, working closely with stakeholders to support and engage with local residents. Activities include an open event for Scottish Housing Day in September 2025 at the Federation office, and Financial and Wellbeing Roadshows in Kilmarnock and Cumnock in January 2026 with stallholders from the Welfare Rights Team, Housing Support. Housing Options along with third sector organisations to provide advice and assistance to the local community.

Improve Community Resilience - Suicide Prevention: Community resilience from a suicide prevention perspective is continuously being improved by enhancing community awareness of suicide prevention activities such as The Creating Hope Bereaved by Suicide Peer Led Support Groups which commenced in June 2024. The Scottish Government also funded a Gambling Harm and suicide prevention initiative, 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 planned for the end of May. 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.

Finally, a community champion's award was created for the first time in Ayrshire to celebrate local individuals and groups who make significant voluntary contributions to their communities.

Vibrant Communities: In 2025/26, there were 35 Community Led Action Plans throughout East Ayrshire with more communities being supported to create action plans that meet the needs of their respective areas and communities.

Community Larders: Vibrant Communities continue to support 17 Community Larders across East Ayrshire providing a dignified food option. East Ayrshire Foodbank takes a holistic approach to service delivery, with every referral offered additional support if required. Referral pathways have been enhanced both across external partners and internal supports available through CVO services.

Education Home Link Team (HLT): The SEF Home Link Team service was redesigned in April 2024 to ensure we reached the highest numbers of children and young people impacted by poverty. This change in practice allowed the Home Link Team to provide bespoke early intervention support for 288 children, young people and their families.

We worked with a specific focus on improving school attendance levels for those most at risk of missing out, providing bespoke supports to over 120 pupils. Across the academic session attendance improved for 45% of those children and young people engaged with our SEF HLW team. As a result of this positive impact, the team's 'improving school attendance through partnerships' work was published by Education Scotland.

Education Parental Engagement: The SEF Home Link Team worked collaboratively with external partners and community groups to run innovative, impactful and sustainable programmes with almost 400 parents to support closing the poverty-related attainment gap.

Education Home Link Holiday Programme: Almost two hundred sessions in total were offered across the school holiday periods with approximately 500 families attending. Family cooking programmes, hot meals or packed lunches were offered at these sessions. Young people were able to experience outdoor activities such as bowling, paddle boarding, rock climbing, 'Above Adventure Dynamic Youth Award' activities and sessions at Dean Castle Country Park.

Education Enhanced Transition: Almost two hundred pupils attended enhanced transition sessions across all seven Education Groups. Enhanced Transition sessions were delivered across the summer holiday period, taking place within schools as well as in the local community, including Cherrytrees ECC, Dean Castle Country Park, The Garage, Above Adventure, Hunter Centre Gym, Rozelle Park and Emergency One.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: SFRS are integrated within EAC 'Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest' Strategy. We continue to work with Scottish Ambulance Service and Police Scotland to ensure a common referral pathway is established. This will be followed up with by further training, education, and protection for all workers. We are proactive in delivering our CPR Awareness Training to community groups across EA, specifically where defibrillators have been installed.

Barnardo's Helping Hands Pantry: Helping Hands Pantry is a local community initiative which opened in August 2024 within the Hurlford and Crookedholm area of Kilmarnock. It allows members to join for just £4.50 a week and access a weekly shop for their essential food, grocery, and toiletry items. Pantries support people on a low income or recovering from a crisis. By helping people with their food costs, they are better able to manage other debts and outgoings. They are also more able to afford to eat fresh fruit and vegetables and try new things. The pantry aims to provide:

- Support to people from reaching Crisis provision, as we are not a food bank;
- Dignity and choice – they choose what items to purchase and have influence on what items are stocked;
- Access to holistic, wrap-around support linked to areas such as money advice, housing, health, employment, and skills;
- Access to nutritious meals and increased fruit and vegetable consumption by utilising access to food surpluses and also
- Opportunities to volunteer – we are community led and our members and volunteers keep our shelves stocked and our pantries open.

Food and toiletries are donated by members of the public, shops, and businesses and via partnerships with local food producers. Any monetary donations made, enables us to buy food, and buy specific items that our members have indicated their families would benefit from.

Barnardo's Summer Programme: Providing a range of trips / activities and opportunities, as well encouraging involvement at local events for all children and young people and their families we work alongside during the summer period. All children and young people who attend our Barnardo's youth groups and services participate in our programme.

Barnardo's Seasons for Growth Groups: This aims to help strengthen the building of personal resilience, coping, social skills and increasing participants' sense of belonging while also working to minimise risk factors including social isolation and lack of support networks. Seasons is an 8-week loss and grief program to support young people aged 6-18 years and any adults who are affected by change, loss and grief. Seasons for growth is based on the belief that change, loss and grief are normal and valuable parts of life. It aims to produce a sense of resilience, personal growth and acceptance of change in people's lives. Season's programme runs term time on a 8 week rolling rota based in schools across East Ayrshire.

Barnardo's Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) Is an approach to parenting which aims to promote children's development, manage children's behaviours in a constructive and non-hurtful way. It is based on good communication and positive attention to help children develop. Children who have grown up with positive parenting are likely to develop their skills and feel good about themselves and are less likely to develop behavioural problems. There are five key aspects to the program: Ensure safe interesting environment, creating a positive learning environment, using assertive discipline, having realistic expectations and taking care of yourself as a parent. Positive parenting programme runs term time on a rolling rota every 6 weeks, supporting families. Groups are for families of children aged 0-8 years and 8 years plus to teenagers.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S10 Undertake targeted work with local partners and communities to improve women's perceptions of public safety	- Develop an action plan to highlight risks and identify partnership solutions - Make use of inclusive design and infrastructure in homes and communities to promote community safety and tackle anti-social behaviour.	Safer Communities Delivery Plan Working Group, EAVAW Partnership

16 Days of Action to Eradicate Violence Against Women: The 2025 Scottish theme for 16 days of Action was 'All Together to Prevent and End Gender Based Violence', with local priority being given to engaging boys and men. The 16 days programme consisted of:

- Design a Badge Competition for young people aged 11-25
- Reclaim the Night March and after event
- 16 days Conference on engaging boys and men
- White Ribbon Signings
- Festival of Learning
- Councillor Conversation
- 16 days communication campaign

In the lead up to 16 days, the STAR Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis led on the Design a Badge Competition which was widely circulated through social media and across school and community venues. The competition was open to young people aged 11-25 and there were 80 entries, the 5 shortlisted entries were put out to public vote and following a really positive response the winning entry was selected. This winning entry was made into a badge circulated at Reclaim the Night and the design will be lodged with the Glasgow Women's Library. Well done to Lucy who won!



On Tuesday 25 November, the Reclaim the Night march was the launch event for the 16 days of Action campaign. The march was well attended with between 70-80 people present and approximately 40 people attended the after event. The march was well supported by partners and elected members including Provost Leitch who attended with the chain of office and gave a speech to launch the march.

The post march event was held at WG13 where speeches were heard from the Darcie Hamilton, Student president, Kilmarnock College; Karen Gardner of East Ayrshire Women's Aid and Isabelle Kerr from the STAR Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis.

On the 27th November the 16 days conference took place at Take A Bow and was attended by 91 participants, 40% of whom were male colleagues. The participants heard from speakers:

- Rachel Adamson, Zero Tolerance & Rebekah Cheung, White Ribbon Scotland: What Works? Highlights from Strategic Communication Research
- Emma Hackney, The STAR Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis: Intimate Image Abuse and the Manosphere
- Linda Thompson, Women's Support Project: The Impact of the Sex Industry

The following workshops were offered:

- Zero Tolerance: Many Good Men- cultivating healthy masculinity
- Star Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis: Pornography, Violence, and Young People
- East Ayrshire Education Services: Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP)
- STAR Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis: Understanding Sexual Violence for Professionals Working with Young People.

The conference and all the workshops were positively evaluated in terms of content, impact, pace and learning. The input from the young people who ran the MVP workshop was particularly highly evaluated.

There were white ribbon pledge signings in the following locations:

- Tesco Kilmarnock, West Shaw Street
- Kilmarnock Train station as part of national White Ribbon Scotland/ Scotrail/ Network Rail and British Transport Police event
- Asda Kilmarnock
- Asda Cumnock
- Centrestage Kilmarnock

There were a total of 456 pledges made during the campaign, taking East Ayrshire's total to 2023. It was a positive awareness raising exercise and a number of sensitive and supportive conversations took place.

The following learning opportunities were offered as part of 16 days festival of learning:

- Commercial Sexual Exploitation – Alcohol and Drug Partnership lunchtime Practitioner Sessions – HSCP Protection & Learning Team
- Understanding Technology facilitated Sexual Violence - STAR Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis
- Responding to a Disclosure of Sexual Violence - STAR Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis
- The Hollieguard App- The Hollie Gazzard Trust
- The Domestic Homicide Timeline - Professor Jane Monckton Smith
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation one day practitioner training – HSCP Protection & Learning Team
- Gender Based Violence & the Media – East Ayrshire Women's Aid
- White Ribbon Scotland

2025 saw another successful communication campaigns managed by the Council and East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership with higher engagement with the various modes of communication than the previous year. The STAR Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis also ran a successful social media campaign. Local media coverage was positive, including articles included in the Cumnock Chronicle.

The 16 days programme was evaluated highly by participants.

East Ayrshire Women's Aid: East Ayrshire Women's Aid provide a holistic pathway of services which aim to support women and children experiencing domestic abuse from the point of crisis right through to sustainable safety and independence.

Between 1st April 2025 and 11th March 2026, 459 women, children and young people contacted or were referred to East Ayrshire Women's Aid for the first time. Throughout the year, 570 women, children and young people received support. 20 women and 35 children lived in the refuge.

Throughout 2025-26, Women's Aid has played an active role in EAVAWP including supporting the Safe Spaces Scheme, 16 Days of Action and the implementation of the partnership's Strategic Plan. EAWA provides IDAA support to women referred to MARAC and are members of the MARAC Governance Group.

East Ayrshire Women's Aid also deliver multi-agency domestic abuse training on behalf of the partnership. Courses delivered include:

- The Dynamics of Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control
- Children and Young People's Experiences of Domestic Abuse
- Identifying Risk and Supporting Recovery
- Domestic Abuse & Substance Abuse
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- Violence against Women and Girls Webinars
- Routine Enquiry

ASSIST: Between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, ASSIST received 261 referrals for East Ayrshire, representing a decrease of approximately 12.8% from the previous year's 299 referrals. At year end, 89 cases remained open. Thirty five referrals came through the MARAC process, and over the year ASSIST supported 125 high risk clients through MARAC, with 18 of these cases currently open.

ASSIST continues to receive funding from the Victim Centred Approach Fund (VCAF) and the Scottish Government. Additionally, ASSIST benefits from Delivering Equally Safe (DES) funding, which supports initiatives aimed at preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls. The ASSIST overall funding position remains stable, with all existing funding streams extended until the end of the 2027 financial year. The service continues to be delivered by a team of seven Advocacy Workers, two Lead Advocacy Workers and a Service Manager based in Kilmarnock and Dumfries, covering Pan Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway. ASSIST are also supported by the Children and Young People Advocacy Worker (CYPAW) team for young victims and child witnesses.

Safe Spaces: The Safe Spaces – Smile on Service was developed in 2020 to support those experiencing domestic abuse to access specialist support through a 'safe space' at the Northwest Area Resource Centre, Kilmarnock. This 'safe space' support has been extended to Centre Stage who also host a Smile On Service. Women can access the Smile on Service by attending the NWAC during normal opening hours and going to the Public Dental Services reception and asking for the Smile on Service or, attend Centrestage during opening hours and requesting the Smile On Service.

A staff member will confirm they are there for the Smile on Service and will show them to the confidential Safe Space. Once inside, all the specialist support information will be available to access.

People can:

- Phone the Police to report domestic abuse or access further support;
- Access the National Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline (services for Men are accessible too);
- Access East Ayrshire Women's Aid for confidential support at a time and place that meets a person's safety & needs (services for children are available);
- Access information on support services to take away or use as appropriate.

Housing: A dedicated prevention officer and Neighbourhood Coach continues to be a weekly presence in many of our third sector support hubs throughout the community (EACHa, Centrestage, SL33, Recovery Enterprises and Each Recovery Matters), supporting women with the provision of housing assistance and preventing homelessness.

Reporting of Sexual Crimes: The Police performance report for the East Ayrshire Police and Fire and Rescue Committee shows an 6.8% increase in sexual crime reporting in 2025/26 . Reporting of sexual crimes is down 0.8% on the 5 year average. Police Scotland will continue to relentlessly respond to sexual crime reports to bring offenders to justice and safeguard the public.

Work is ongoing with partners such as 'Expect Respect' (raising awareness of sexual violence and acceptable behaviour in higher and further education) has led to raised awareness of reporting mechanism, and also contributes to increased confidence in reporting. This work is vitally important and ongoing.

You, Me, Together: this programme created by Police Scotland in partnership with Education Scotland teaches secondary school pupils about domestic abuse in young relationships, including coercive control, inappropriate relationships and peer pressure. This programme is very relevant to issues faced by young people and continues to be rolled out.

Evidence demonstrates that domestic abuse can begin in relationships between young people. 'You, Me, Together' is aimed at young people and seeks to influence and address issues at a time when young people are starting to form relationships and behaviours are being learned. It talks about healthy relationships but also about the warning signs when things are not right. It aims to empower young people, giving them advice and information, and helping them make a choice and take action when something doesn't feel right.

The programme was piloted in schools in East Ayrshire and across Scotland during 2022 and feedback from teachers and pupils was used to help develop and refine the package into its final form. It will be delivered within the existing personal and social education (PSE) curriculum. Teachers have a number of resources to work with to help facilitate open and safe discussions about what can be an emotive subject for young men and women.

Victim Survivor Feedback: Police Scotland: An online form has been added to the Police Scotland website to gain anonymous feedback from victims of domestic abuse, rape or other sexual crime, to help improve the quality of the service we provide. The aim of the form is to gain honest feedback from victims and survivors about how Police Scotland handle criminal incidents of this type and where improvements can be made with the service provided. Respondents are not asked to provide any information that could identify them or their location.

Barnardos Child Sexual Exploitation and Online Safety: Bespoke programs aimed for parent / carers as well as children and young people. This allows them to gain the skills to act appropriately and confidentially to protect children and young people. It also further develops awareness and knowledge on how to use the internet safely and how to keep children and young people safe from any form of abuse.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S11 Further embed place-based multi-agency working in the heart of our communities and strengthen partnership capacity for frontline response.	- Review and improve the effectiveness of multi-agency community clinics and partner events to facilitate and improve visibility and proximity of partners to communities. - Maximise partnership involvement in joint public facing community initiatives - Enhanced information sharing across partner agencies. - Enhanced communication to ensure service users are aware of available supports/referred appropriately at first point of contact. - Enhanced delivery of comprehensive Home Safety Visits by SFRS - Continued delivery of CVO Open Doors Initiative - Explore potential Tri-Service officer role	All , Police Scotland, SFRS, Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS), EAC Housing & Communities, Education; CVO; All

EAC Anti-social Behaviour Team: Regular meetings have been and continue to be facilitated within local communities with Community Councils, the East Ayrshire Federation of Tenants and Residents, Registered Tenant and Resident Groups and local consultation forums to discuss neighbour nuisance issues and provide advice, assistance and signposting to appropriate services and partners and to gather information and intelligence to be able to proactively investigate and tackle the issues that matter and are of concern to the residents of East Ayrshire.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Team engage directly with communities through Anti-Social Behaviour Investigators who cover designated areas. The primary role of the Investigator is to investigate all complaints of neighbour nuisance and anti-social behaviour, engage with complainants, alleged offenders and the local community to effectively tackle the issues raised. They work closely and effectively with partners to tackle the issues through information sharing and joint working. All cases undertaken are investigated and follow a customer-focused approach through providing regular contact through home visits, phone calls and email, taking appropriate actions as required. The team investigates serious and extreme cases and expedite the set process through the various warnings to court if required. There is also an established multi-agency approach gathering all relevant partners to discuss the issues prior to any legal actions. This is undertaken to identify other possible solutions with an aim to achieve resolution prior to progressing with a legal action.

The Team also works closely and in conjunction with Police Scotland and EAC Legal Services to look at serious and extreme cases and agree the best possible outcomes prior to taking an official legal action. This is to ensure that the appropriate and proportionate actions are afforded for each serious or extreme case.

Housing Support: The Council's Housing Support Service works closely with Social Work Teams, Radar, Police Scotland, EA Advocacy Service, EA recovery services, GP's Community Connectors and Community groups to enable people to sustain tenancies. Neighbourhood Coaches attend place-based hubs and drop-in sessions to offer advice and assistance to people experiencing financial insecurity or who may be at risk of homelessness.

Housing Support is also delivered on behalf of East Ayrshire Council's Housing Service via an externally contracted provider for dedicated groups in relation to those who require intensive housing support and Housing First intensive housing support.

East Ayrshire Council's Housing Service also commission a dedicated information and advice service for people in prison to prevent and alleviate homelessness.

Resettlement Team: The Council continues to be committed to supporting those displaced by war, conflict and those resettling in East Ayrshire through the recognised UK Resettlement Schemes – UKRS, Ukraine Resettlement Schemes and the Afghan Resettlement Schemes.

East Ayrshire also supports UASC – Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking children either through residential or supported properties.

East Ayrshire is an Asylum Dispersal area, currently supported by MEARS and the Resettlement Team and Housing Options work closely with them and offer support when required.

Embedded within our core resettlement processes is the fundamental recognition of our parental and safeguarding responsibilities.

Prior to families and individuals arriving through UK-wide resettlement schemes, permanent furnished accommodation is identified which is safe and will meet the needs of the children.

On arrival families are appointed a dedicated Key Worker who assists parents and carers with:

- Registration in nurseries and schools, school clothing grant and free school meals applications;
- All health and public Health requirements;
- Benefits claims;
- Budgeting support and guidance; and
- Childcare arrangements were required to afford adults the opportunity to attend community language classes to assist with integration within communities.

Close working arrangements are in place with our Community Planning Partners and with the Scottish and UK Governments to highlight, respond and escalate any safeguarding concerns as required.

Resettlement Scheme	Number of Families	Number of Adults	Number of Children
Ukrainian Resettlement	106	175	98
UKRS (UK Resettlement Scheme)	12	24	10
ARAP (Afghan Resettlement Scheme)	3	6	8
Total	121	205	124

CVOEA Employability: While many employment and skills initiatives successfully support jobseekers ready to enter or re-enter the workplace a significant group remains disengaged and left behind. These individuals often face multiple barriers, including poor mental health, low confidence, limited digital access, caring responsibilities or negative prior experiences with services what prevent them from accessing mainstream employability support in East Ayrshire.

This year CVO East Ayrshire's targeted approach worked to re-engage this group, rebuild trust and create realistic, supported pathways towards meaningful participation whether that was work, training, volunteering or another form of community contribution.

In 2025/26 CVO East Ayrshire worked with 60 participants that were furthest away from the labour market, CVO East Ayrshire:

- engaged or re-engaged with individuals furthest from the labour market who are not currently accessing support.
- supported individuals to address practical, emotional, and social barriers that limit participation.
- ran courses to build confidence, capability, and motivation for future progression.
- connect people to opportunities that match their pace, interests, and circumstances.

Police Scotland - Partnership Clinics: Every 5 weeks (or dependent on demand), Locality Policing Teams hold a Police clinic in their local

community as part of the “You Said, We Did” approach. This has seen some positive feedback in relation to taking action on matters identified by communities during these clinics and importantly being able to feedback on the result of reports / action carried out. Attendance has been variable at clinics with some localities participating more widely in the clinics. As a result the clinic approach continues to be tailored within specific localities and refined to provide a service balanced on the needs and requirements of the community with other policing requirements. As Community Councils have been re-established in most areas the need for the clinics has reduced. Police are contactable in many ways from 101 or our Contact Us’ with contact via their Elected Member.

Barnardo’s Safe and Together Service: The team have provided and scheduled three training / development sessions for all staff who work at the 3 residential houses across East Ayrshire (Benrig, Montgomery and Sunnyside houses). Elements of the training sessions highlighted the following: Assessment Tools and Resources in common substance use and drug trends within the local area; Strategies and Safety Planning for individuals and Sign Posting in relation to substance use as well as other issues that may go alongside this surrounding Mental Health and wellbeing. These training / development sessions have also been offered to partner agencies and within East Ayrshire Council where staff working with the Young People, Sport & Diversion team can also attend where appropriate.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: SFRS have received notification that the delayed Home fire safety visit partner referral application is due to be “soft launched” w/c 27th April. The soft launch is being carried out in two Local Service Areas with selected partners invited to trial the app. The trial will run for several weeks (exact time will be determined by number of referrals received and addressing any issues identified). Once soft launch has been completed and SFRS are satisfied with the applications performance further information will be sent to partners regarding signing up/ training etc.

We will work with partners to ensure that they are comfortable in making referrals, understand what SFRS deem as high risk and are aware of what situations may require a joint visit.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S12 Proactive multi agency response to meet housing needs and support tenancy sustainment	- Continued implementation and development of Housing First, (maintaining tenancies / preventing homelessness) to ensure that people are settled in their homes and linked in to all appropriate partnership services and community supports - Ensure SHORE standards (Sustainable Housing on Release for Everyone) are met - Support asylum seeker dispersal to East Ayrshire to find and maintain a housing tenancy, access local services and integrate within their local host community.	EAC Housing & Communities; EAC Justice Service; HMP Kilmarnock; Private Landlords; Blue Triangle; HSCP; NHS A&A; CJA; SFRS, third sector, Ayr Housing Aid.

Housing: Neighbourhood Coaches work closely with community planning partners and the third sector to support tenants to sustain their tenancies, prevent homelessness and ensure our neighbourhoods and estates are clean, green and vibrant. Tenant and community participation is promoted and supported via Neighbourhood Coaches and the Customer Liaison Team. Neighbourhood Coaches link with colleagues in Ayrshire 360 and local tenants and residents in the development of Community Led Action Plans.

The Council's Housing Support Services work closely with Social Work Teams, Radar, Police Scotland, EA Advocacy Service, EA recovery services, GP's Community Connectors and Community groups to enable people to sustain tenancies. Neighbourhood Coaches attend place-based hubs and drop-in sessions to offer advice and assistance to people experiencing financial insecurity or who may be at risk of homelessness.

Housing Support is also delivered on behalf of East Ayrshire Council's Housing Service via an externally contracted provider for dedicated groups in relation to those who require intensive housing support and Housing First intensive housing support.

East Ayrshire Council's Housing Service also commission a dedicated information and advice service for people in prison to prevent and alleviate homelessness.

EAC Anti-Social Behaviour Team are pro-active in working closely with other departments and teams to promote positive working, tackle anti-social behaviour and increase tenancy sustainability through customer-focused engagement. The Anti-Social Behaviour Team also work closely with Neighbourhood Coaches to tackle anti-social behaviour and any associated problems such as tenancy repairs, garden condition, rent arrears and tenancy sustainment. This is an effective approach to identify and engage the tenant with a range of issues and to offer information, support and assistance as required.

Resettlement Team: The Council continues to be committed to supporting those displaced by war and conflict and supports those resettling in East Ayrshire through the recognised UK Resettlement Schemes – UKRS, Ukraine Resettlement Schemes and the Afghan Resettlement Schemes.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: SFRS have strengthened their partnership work with HMP Kilmarnock. We have carried out sessions with prisoners who are due to be released. These sessions have taught them CPR skills as well as giving home fire safety advice. This is aimed individuals to keep them safe from the risk of fire within in the home upon release. The sessions cover the same advice and highlight the same the risks that would be discussed during a home fire safety visit. Prisoners are given a home fire safety booklet which contains fire safety advice as well as a short directory of support services available.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S13 Minimise the impact of drugs use and excessive consumption of alcohol	- Support the ongoing development and implementation of the East Ayrshire Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Strategic Improvement Plan 2024-2027 - Embed the joint service, Rapid Access to Drugs and Alcohol Recovery (RADAR) - Support those in contact with the justice system to address drug and alcohol problems - EAC Education Service & partner delivery of the Substance Misuse Curriculum - Continued implementation of a range of Health and Homelessness Service initiatives	Alcohol & Drugs Partnership , EAC Education, Community Justice Ayrshire, Police Scotland, HMP Kilmarnock, SFRS, EAC Justice Service, Ayrshire Partnership Services; Vibrant Communities, Barnardos

Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP): During 2025/26 the ADP undertook the follow actions:

- Delivery of alcohol seminar in November 2025 with 60 participants including licensing colleagues and those with living and lived experience to reduce the impact of alcohol related harm.
- Successful £300,000 + bid to early intervention and prevention fund in order to expand peer community outreach provision from 4 to 7 workers.
- Development of part time clinical psychology post to support staff experiencing vicarious trauma as a result of significant increase in drug related deaths.
- Development of initiative with Police Scotland in partnership with RADAR to provide rapid identification and support to individuals who experience a non-fatal drug related overdose.
- Public communication via 500 leaflets and posters, press releases and social media regarding high-risk synthetic opiates and synthetic benosdiazepines.

Police Scotland: Drug Use Officers in East Ayrshire have built strong links with “Each Recovery Matters” in John Finnie Street, engaging those struggling with dependency issues with a focus on working closely with addictions services. Progress is being made alongside Public Health Scotland working closely with police to reduce drugs deaths and raise awareness of trending dangers via social media and personal interaction. Officers have built strong links with statutory partners and the third sector which has led to a reduction in stigma and built trust with officers and those in addiction. With Each Recovery Matters now moving to larger premises, it will allow officers to build upon the relationship with the potential for multi-agency meetings and a safe space.

Police Scotland: Joint working in East Ayrshire to visit those involved in the consumption of drugs, in particular those who have had a near fatal overdose. This approach allows public health care support to an individual and also the opportunity to understand more about what drug has been consumed and where this has been sourced from.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: SFRS officers are trained on the use of Naloxone and carry this in their SFRS vehicles to support early emergency intervention.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: All East Ayrshire personnel now have access to a signposting directory which can be used to signpost individuals during home fire safety visits and operational incidents. The directory was created locally and contains details of local and national support services. RADAR is the first support service listed within the alcohol and drugs section of the directory. Operational crews and support staff have and continue to utilise this directory to signpost those in need to appropriate services, including RADAR.

Barnardos Safe and Together Service: supports children, young people and their families who are affected by domestic abuse where alcohol is a factor. 1-1 intensive support includes: supporting the perpetrator (regardless of gender identity) to look at their behaviours and the impact on others including children; providing a safe space for children to explore their emotions and past and present experiences; Ensure a person centred and holistic approach whilst ensuring a tailor-made care plan to meet the needs of the family. Barnardo’s Safe and Together team have also been providing intensive 1-1 support and group work program in relation to substance use within school at The Robert Burn Academy, Cumnock. This support has included working alongside children and young people aged 11-17 to reduce their alcohol / drug use to safer levels and to improve their personal outcomes. These outcomes have been working towards developing a better understanding of the negative impact alcohol / drug use can have; Identify

and work towards meeting the needs and challenges which may influence their alcohol / drug use and providing any information and guidance surrounding their substance use including how best to keep safe.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S14 Work across organisations and community groups to better understand harm and build capacity to support harm prevention	- Proactively support and raise awareness of the activity and related plans of the Children’s Strategic Partnership, Adult and Child Protection Committees; and Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). Staff training provision to raise awareness of symptoms of harm and abuse and to report to appropriate services as required - Partners will review and develop improved processes in relation to missing person support - Improve community resilience - suicide prevention	All Ayrshire Equalities Partnership
Police Scotland: Police Scotland continue to engage with young people in the community. East Ayrshire Preventions and Interventions Officer attends youth groups such as Scouts and Boys Brigade where he provides inputs on topics like anti-social behaviour, safe use of social media and the dangers of drugs. The annual Danger Detectives programme took place from 8th to 15th June 2025 where young people from Schools across East Ayrshire attended Dean Park and took part in activities from several partner agencies such as Police, SFRS, Ayrshire Road Alliance and RNLI. The aim of these sessions to raise awareness of dangers in and out with the home and how young people can enjoy the summer holidays while remaining safe from harm. East Ayrshire Campus Officers continue to engage with young people in Schools supporting the learning of the curriculum. The “Pitching In” project run by Campus Officers runs from 30th April to 18th June 2025 and has several inputs such as anti-social behaviour, smoking prevention and drugs. Implementation of Signs of Safety & Healing: The implementation of Signs of Safety & Healing assessment and practice began in 2024 as a strengths based, solution focussed framework for Child Protection work. The implementation of Signs of Safety has encompassed a 2 year journey of preparation, multi-agency workforce training, communication and engagement with staff, parents/carers, children and young people and the undertaking of baseline audit activity which offers benchmarking of our improvement journey. 100 lead professional staff from Social Work, Police and Health are now trained in the framework, with 6 multi-agency briefing sessions offered to a further 93 Education, Health, Third Sector and Police colleagues. Service specific training sessions have taken place with Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration and Children’s Reporters, with a programme of continued briefings scheduled throughout Summer 2026. Pan Ayrshire Bairns Hoose Strategic Group: Ayrshire has established a joint investigative interview team, trained in the Scottish Child Interview Model. This team is part of a children’s rights approach to children who have been victims or witnesses of abuse, to provide trauma informed, interview,		

recovery and rights-based intervention within the justice journey. Ayrshire partnership now has Bairns Hoose affiliate status and is providing recovery intervention to children who have been offered a joint investigative interview. The SCIM annual report 24/25 highlights that all joint investigative interviews offered to children are now of the Scottish Child Interview model. The journey continues to find suitable premises in East Ayrshire for our children to be able to have the best care, interview and recovery experience through their justice journey, adhering to the Bairns Hoose standards. Supporting our most vulnerable children and young people through participation and co-production of service design has been a focus of work throughout 2025 and will continue throughout 2026.

Young People at Risk of Harm CPC Subgroup: The Young People at Risk of Harm CPC Subgroup was established in May 2022 as a CPC subgroup. The group continues to be chaired by Moira McKinnon, CPC chair and focuses on areas of concerns such as child exploitation in its varying forms, missing children / young people, trafficking and extra familial harm, the focus of development is our understanding and intervention around contextual safeguarding. Established links to the Children and Young People's centre for Justice (CYCJ) has enabled multi-agency delivery of both an online awareness raising session and a practical application session whereby the Criminal Exploitation of Children Screening toolkit was presented and applied to case examples provided by East Ayrshire partnership staff. The sub-group has oversight of the upcoming Contextual Safeguarding Operational Group, our multi-agency response to disruption and diversion of young people at risk of all forms of exploitation.

In 2025/2026, information sessions were provided by Police Scotland in relation to the National Intelligence Portal and aspirations for its use in communicating, planning and disruption of exploitation of children and young people. This focus shall remain within the work of the Young People at Risk of Harm subgroup as a way of enhancing communication between multi-agency partners where exploitation is identified.

Community Resilience Suicide Prevention: Suicide prevention is continuously being improved by enhancing community awareness of suicide prevention activities such as suicide prevention training which is 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. In total within 24-25, there were 96 members of the community who attended the bespoke Introduction to Suicide Prevention Training. See link to the training calendar [Ayrshire & Arran Suicide Prevention Calendar](#).

Further initiatives include- working in partnership with the Violence Against Women and Girls Lead officer and the Protection and Learning Team to facilitate two International Women's Day events within Cumnock and Stewarton. These events were a great success with women and girls all enjoying treats like a facial treatment and refreshments from the Kiki Bar.

The Scottish Government also funded a Gambling Harm and suicide prevention initiative, 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 planned for the end of May.

Violence Against Women Partnership: The Violence Against Women Partnership hosts a comprehensive training calendar which supports practitioners to understand harm across a broad range of harms caused by violence towards women and girls and children which includes domestic abuse, sexual violence, commercial sexual exploitation and so called honour based abuse, although this list is not exhaustive.

During the 16 days of Action 2025, the Violence against women partnership invited Professor Jane Monckton Smith to deliver an input on the Domestic Homicide Timeline a forensic timeline which captures the escalation of risk within coercively controlling relationships which can ultimately lead to domestic homicide. The aim of the training was to enhance knowledge across the public protection arena.

Similarly the Violence Against Women Partnership has worked to produce Understanding Sexual Violence, Young People's FAQ document which supports practitioners to understand and respond to young people when discussing safety, healthy relationships and consent. This piece of work has been led by the STAR Centre: Ayrshire Rape Crisis.

In February 2025, the Public Protection team and partners held two community events in Cumnock and Stewarton to celebrate International Women's Day. These events were a great opportunity to take public protection messages into the community to reduce harm in relation to adult support and protection, suicide, alcohol and drugs and violence against women and girls while promoting positive messages around health and gender equality.

Multi-Agency Learning & Development: The Multi-Agency Public Protection Learning & Development Programme 2024-27 was refreshed in 2024 and has continued to be delivered across 2025-26. This extensive training programme supports the multi-agency workforce in relation to child & adult protection, suicide prevention, alcohol & drugs, violence against women & girls, trauma informed & responsive, fire safety and MAPPA. Training arrangements are monitored through local Public Protection Committees and Partnerships.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: Within East Ayrshire SFRS have participated in the recent EAC ASP Audit, and our CAT and crews have been educated on the impact of Self Neglect and how to identify notable signs when conducting Home Fire Safety Visits.

Our Community Action Team regularly attend CPD events as well as organise training from partner agencies in order to improve our understanding of harm and how to best respond to it. Recently all operational personnel within East Ayrshire received training on identifying Adults and Children at risk of harm or in need of support. The training aimed to improve our identification of these individuals and improve the quality of our referrals to social work.

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV): PSYV was devised by the then Prince Charles as a way of connecting young people (aged 13-18) in communities with the police, whilst encouraging good citizenship and providing volunteering opportunities. The first group in Scotland (the flagship) commenced at Dumfries House in Cumnock in 2014, with a further 3 Ayrshire groups added since; in Ayr, Kilmarnock and Saltcoats. The Kilmarnock PSYV group started in 2024.

The Cumnock and Kilmarnock PSYV groups meet on a Thursday evening at Dumfries House and Kilmarnock College respectively and consist of 30 young people (9 in Cumnock, 21 in Kilmarnock) and 6 adult volunteers. The Adult Volunteers, who are not police officers, are supported by the PSYV Divisional Co-ordinator, PC Fiona Gibson. Members come from all backgrounds and often include care experienced and neurodiverse young people. Over the last year, members from the two East Ayrshire PSYV groups have completed a combined total of 872 volunteering hours at events such as The Bellfield Fayre, New Cumnock Fit Fest, Dunlop Gala, Kilmarnock 'Roon the Toon', Stewarton Bonnet Torchlight Parade and the Ayrshire Athletics 2-day youth event. In addition to this, members have assisted with leaflet drops and have taken part in the launch of the 'Fearless' campaign at Kilmarnock Train Station. There have also been opportunities further afield at the International Air Show and the Edinburgh Tattoo.

Many PSYV members work towards recognised awards, such as the Saltire Award for volunteering or Progression Awards, all of which are presented at an end of year ceremony held at Dumfries House. Over the next year, PSYV in Cumnock and Kilmarnock will recruit new youth volunteers and will continue to volunteer within communities in East Ayrshire.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S15 Partnership Activity to protect vulnerable people and empower residents to prevent personal and financial harm at home.	• Innovative use of community alarm technology and housing adaptations to assist individuals in their own home in prevention and alert of harm. • Development and implementation of the SFRS Safe and Well Strategy and enhanced home safety visit provision • Explore opportunities for developing and funding a person centred approach to personal and financial harm that includes exploration of approaches such as East Renfrewshire model of Financial Harm Toolkits and Confidence at Home Packages. • Use social media and Granicus to advise of current scams and how to protect against them • Implementation of partnership initiatives such as “Shut out Scammers” and the provision of call blockers to vulnerable people. • Maintain monthly contact with older adults in supported or amenity housing to monitor potential financial harms. • Targeted engagement with East Ayrshire Tenants and Residents Federation and other community based groups. • Utilise Connect Call to protect vulnerable people from financial harm	EAC; Police Scotland; SFRS, HSCP; NHS A&A; EAC Trading Standards; Third Sector Partners. EAC Housing and Communities; Education; Ayrshire College, Adult Protection Committee, CAB and other third sector partners, Independent Care Sector; Youth and Elderly Forums

Police Scotland: A continued focus is on prevention of fraud and financial harm. Work with the remaining retail banks to deliver training around the banking Protocol is vital, this is an intervention before a person becomes victim of a financial fraud. Working with community groups remains important to raise awareness of a more sophisticated landscape around frauds.

Preventions and Interventions officer will use the ‘Scam Van’ in locations around East Ayrshire to demonstrate what small measures can be put in place to prevent becoming victim of fraud.

Police Scotland: Police Scotland continue to engage with young people in the community. East Ayrshire Preventions and Interventions Officer attends youth groups such as Scouts and Boys Brigade where he provides inputs on topics like anti-social behaviour, safe use of social media and the dangers of drugs.

East Ayrshire Campus Officers continue to engage with young people in Schools supporting the learning of the curriculum.

The “Pitching In” project run by Campus Officers from 30th April to 18th June 2025 and had several inputs such as anti-social behaviour, smoking prevention and drugs.

The annual Danger Detectives program took place from 8th to 15th June 2025 where young people from Schools across East Ayrshire attended Dean Park and took part in activities from several partner agencies such as Police, SFRS, Ayrshire Road Alliance and RNLI. The aim of these sessions is to raise awareness of dangers in and out with the home and how young people can enjoy the summer holidays while remaining safe from harm.

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Adult Protection: The East Ayrshire Adult Protection Committee marked National Adult Protection Day and our local ASP week in February 2026 by raising awareness of the different types of harm a vulnerable person may face and raised awareness of where harm may happen. This campaign gave details on how to report harm in East Ayrshire, in addition to further information regarding the topic and links to additional supports available for vulnerable people. Key messages were protecting adults from harm is everyone’s business and we all have a part to play in keeping the most vulnerable members of the community safe.

A full programme of activities was delivered by the multi-agency partners, including: Granicus bulletins circulated to staff, three Webinars delivered; delivery of a social media campaign, covering numerous pertinent topics such as types of harm, power of attorney, fire risk awareness and advocacy support; and information stalls set up in East Ayrshire Community Hospital, Morrisons, Asda, Tesco, East Ayrshire Helping Hands and Galston Community Hub for people to access information on Adult Support and Protection.

We also asked our community to pledge zero tolerance against harm

- Park School, SL33 and UCAN engaged in a poster competition, the young adults designed posters demonstrating what makes them feel safe.
- Lizdean Care Home asked their residents what makes them feel safe and designed a notice board around this.

We attended 'Oor Wee Writing Group' at Centrestage to share the message of adult support and protection, they shared short stories themed around what makes them feel safe.

500 Adult at Risk referrals and 3,248 Adult Concern referrals were received in 2025/26

The East Ayrshire Adult Protection Committee Improvement Plan for 2025/26 went live from 1 January 2025 and will close on 31 December 2026. At this stage it is currently at 70% complete. From the multi-agency ASP Case File Audit undertaken in 2024, alongside local and national trends it was agreed that the focus for the 2025 Audit would be Adults with a Learning Disability. To this end a Multi-Agency ASP Audit case file audit (the Audit) was undertaken in October 2025 where Public Health NHS Ayrshire and Arran supported the Audit process by conducting a literature review around this theme. The outcome of this was that adults with a learning disability within East Ayrshire are not at greater risk of experiencing harm. There has been an improvement in diagnostics and good practice was identified in terms of supporting adults who have learning difficulties but not a formal diagnosis.

The Audit identified a number of strengths and areas for improvement which will help inform the development of the Improvement Plan for 2027/28. These included improving timescales, case recording, multi-agency working, information sharing and professional curiosity.

An analysis of Adult Protection and Child Protection Learning Review activity has been undertaken which identified key themes and areas for improvement across both services. These included self-neglect/neglect, multi-agency working and information sharing, professional curiosity, legal literacy and engagement with individuals and families.

The annual Ayrshire Adult Protection Committee's Development Session focused on Financial Harm which was a key theme from 2024 Adult Protection Day. At this session we heard from the Lead Reviewer from the McCulloch Brothers Learning Review and the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG). The learning from this event was centred around multi-agency information sharing and approach, professional curiosity and links between adult protection and adults with incapacity.

There are a number of crossover themes between the Audit, the learning review analysis, the Ayrshire Adult Protection Development Session and the 2025 ASP Multi-Agency Staff Survey. The Improvement Subgroup of the Adult Protection Committee are taking these areas for improvement forward within the existing Improvement Plan and planning ahead for the 2027/28 Improvement Plan to ensure areas for improvement are sustainable. In terms of public protection joint working, an East Ayrshire Strategic Oversight Communication and Engagement Subgroup has been developed and will support the Public Protection Committees in communicating key messages to colleagues and communities across East Ayrshire, with the purpose of increasing awareness and understanding of public protection concerns, highlighting appropriate services and supports available, and supporting people with lived / living experience to engage and influence the services they access.

In terms of protection challenges experienced in East Ayrshire over the last year, a local service provider continued to be subject to a Large-Scale Investigation (LSI) regarding ASP which commenced in October 2024 due to significant concerns about the safe delivery of care and support. The Provider has now achieved the three identified areas for improvement from the Care Inspectorate, and an action plan was developed to implement improvements. This LSI was formally closed on 31 March 2026 which will see an end to the moratorium. East Ayrshire will continue to support the care provider to sustain the improvements, which will include a six-monthly meeting with the service provider.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service: Within East Ayrshire, SFRS have participated in the recent EAC ASP Audit, and our CAT and crews have been educated on the impact of Self Neglect and how to identify notable signs when conducting Home Fire Safety Visits.

As active members of the MARAC we continue to respond to referrals from partners and carry out home fire safety visits for those identified as being “high risk” as a matter of urgency. We supply fire retardant risk mitigation items (when available) and put processes in place to ensure the appropriate response should any incident be reported at the address of a high-risk individual.

Our Local Authority Liaison Officer attends and contributes to the Violence Against Women Partnership. He is involved with the White Ribbon Steering Group, attending planning meetings and events to promote the campaign.

Our recently launched signposting directory includes contact details for support in relation to financial, food and fuel poverty and highlights where members of public as well as employees and partners can turn to if they find themselves in a position of poverty.

We are currently working on a Fire Safety Risk Recognition training programme that we aim to deliver to partners alongside referral pathway training. This will allow partners to spot risks within domestic settings and make a referral to SFRS for a home fire safety visit.

EAC Anti-social Behaviour Team: Regular meetings have been and continue to be facilitated within local communities with Community Councils, the East Ayrshire Federation of Tenants and Residents, Registered Tenant and Resident Groups and local consultation forums to discuss issues of concern and provide advice, assistance and signposting to appropriate services and partners and to gather information and intelligence to be able to proactively investigate and tackle the issues that matter and are of concern to the residents of East Ayrshire.

East Ayrshire Federation of Tenants and Residents (EAFTR), Registered Tenant and Resident Organisations (RTO), Consultation Forums: EAFTR and RTOs across East Ayrshire have established effective relationships with the Council’s Anti-social Behaviour Team, Housing Service and Police Scotland with assistance and support provided through the biannual EAFTR newsletter, advice on doorstep cold callers, online scams with partner contact details provided to all tenants across East Ayrshire.

Housing Services: If Neighbourhood Coaches or Antisocial behaviour Investigators are worried that a person is, or at risk of being harmed, suffering from neglect or being abused, a referral is submitted to the Health and Social Care Partnership. If Coaches or Investigators are concerned about the immediate safety of a person, Police Scotland are contacted immediately.

Vibrant Communities: All adults in supported accommodation units for EAC tenants receive a 5 – 7 week visit to check alarms, individual wellbeing, update contact details, and raise awareness of local concerns such as fraud and abuse.

Action	Partnership Activity	Partners
S16 Improve understanding of the prevalence and impact of Hate Crime in East Ayrshire	- Implement the partnership activity identified within the <u>Ayrshire Shared Equalities Outcomes 2021-25</u> - Support the development and implementation of the partnership activity identified within the Ayrshire Shared Equalities Outcomes 2025-29. - Partners to expand awareness of hate crime - Partners to improve third party reporting of hate crime Engagement and support for the transgender community experiencing hate crime will be further developed	Ayrshire Equality Partnership; All
Police Scotland continue to monitor hate crime in East Ayrshire, reviewing incidents on a weekly basis to identify trends and repeat victims. East Ayrshire Preventions and Interventions Officer contacts repeat victims to offer a home security survey and also to provide reassurance and practical advice. A hate crime input is available for community groups is available from Police Scotland. Police in East Ayrshire continue to engage in National Campaigns and share corporate social media posts on a regular basis. Awareness Raising: All three Local Area Co-ordinators continue to be involved in the Keepsafe scheme, which is delivered in partnership with Police Scotland and I Am Me Scotland. The aim of the scheme is to create a network of safe places where people with a learning disability can go if they are lost or feel scared or vulnerable when out in the local community. Local businesses and community buildings can sign up to become a Keepsafe place. After completing some initial paperwork they are checked and approved by Police Scotland. Staff then receive Keepsafe Awareness Training and the facility displays a sticker in their window. Anyone who needs assistance can then enter this building and staff will be able to help. Keepsafe Cards are also available for people to carry which contain information about the holder's health conditions, communication needs and emergency contact details. Keepsafe places across Scotland are mapped out on the free Keepsafe Scotland App. Due to a number of staffing changes within Police Scotland progress has been limited during the reporting period however recently PC Allan Mitchell, Preventions & Interventions Officer has taken over this remit and a plan is in place to re-visit all of the existing Keepsafe venues over the coming months to ensure that they still wish to participate and that all staff are fully trained. Following on from this, new venues will be approached to ask if they would be willing to participate. Barnardos Respect Me Programme: This programme is run throughout all our Youth groups across the Kilmarnock area and within our peer mentor programme. Reaching approx. 300 young people. The key elements of the program include; dignity and respect, privacy and confidentiality, choice and participation, safety, and protection, realising potential and equality and diversity. EAC Antisocial Behaviour Team: The ASB Team work collaboratively with Police Scotland to tackle issues around hate crime in East Ayrshire. provide support, information and advice to empower people to report these incidents. Regular signposting to appropriate supports and services and continue to monitor and maintain regular contact with complainants.		

The Safer Communities Delivery Plan captures the actions being taken forward collectively by the broadest range of local partners. It is supported by a number of strategic plans, and their related annual reports contain further detail of the safer communities activity taken forward across our partnership over the last year, including:

[Local Police Plan Annual Report 2025/26](#)

[Scottish Fire and Rescue Service East Ayrshire Annual Report 2025/26](#)

[Report of the Chief Social Worker 2024/25](#) (2025/26 report expected summer / autumn 2026)

[Children and Young People's Services Plan Annual Report 2025/26](#)

[Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Annual Report 2024/25](#) (2025/26 report expected summer / autumn 2026)

[Violence Against Women Partnership Annual Report 2024/25](#) (2025/26 report expected summer / autumn 2026)

[South West Scotland MAPPA Annual Report 2025](#)

[Community Justice Ayrshire Partnership Annual Report 2024/25](#) (2025/26 report expected summer / autumn 2026)

Child Protection Committee Biennial Report 2023-25

Adult Protection Committee - Adult Support and Protection Annual Progress Report 2024-2025 and Chairs Biennial Report 2022-2024

[East Ayrshire H&SCP - Whole System Approach Annual Report 2024](#)