

Cowdenbeath Area Community Engagement Actions Update 2024

Community Engagement 1

Improvement focus

Increase community engagement across the Cowdenbeath Area and develop projects to work directly with people and communities.

Planned outcome

The community feel they have a greater voice in local decision making, with the ability to help shape services within their community.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|---|--|
| CE.1.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Action Fife (Engagement Officer) will support engagement work across the area to promote climate action work and opportunities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Climate Action Fife activity leads working in the area around tree planting and active travel engagement. Also LPP/CAP support being provided. |
| CE.1.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Fife will undertake engagement work in Lochgelly. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Engagement Coordinator in post and actively engaging in Lochgelly area. |
| CE.1.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create an advisory groups in Cowdenbeath to encourage ownership and shape programmes | |
| CE.1.5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Scotland - Cuppa with a Copper will run in the Cowdenbeath area between Dec23&Mar24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events held in the Cowdenbeath area with mixed response from different communities. Those where success was found, Cowdenbeath & Cardenden will continue - will relook at other communities. |

Community Engagement 2

Improvement focus

Aim to have new community profiles for each area by the end of 2023/24.

Planned outcome

Each community has a refreshed profile, helping understand the needs within each community for future engagement and service delivery.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|---|---|
| CE.2.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Comm Ed staff to undertake community profiling across the area by the end of 2023, acting as a baseline for future engagement activity. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Draft profiles completed in Jan 24Community Action Plans are being produced for Benarty, Crossgates and Kelty. |
| CE.2.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community conversations to take place to check in with communities that profiles capture all info important to them | <ul style="list-style-type: none">initial community conversations have taken place in all of the communities which make up the Cowdenbeath area. next steps include a schedule of regular engagement and feedback. |
| CE.2.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Partnership will utilise feedback to support programme planning in communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Information from the new Community Profiles will be shared for use with developing projects in each community.In partnership with the local CLD team, FVA ran 8 funding and info workshops in each of the towns and village which make up the Cowdenbeath area, this gave local groups and organisations the chance to chat about topics such as good governance, where to find funding and recruitment and retaining volunteersCurrently a fife wide database being constructed for partnership use which has contact details for all community groups and organisations in the area |

Community Engagement 3

Improvement focus

Develop outreach community engagement opportunities to increase the percentage of people in the Cowdenbeath Area who feel they can influence decisions that affect their local area (e.g. pop up stalls, focus groups, open days).

Planned outcome

Each of the 8 communities have been able to decide on local projects which are delivered as part of the PB work.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|--|---|
| CE.3.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver projects using the £96k allocated by Committee for PB work in the areas. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 of 8 PB excercises have taken place, final two are taking place in October 24 |
| CE.3.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set up Partnership Awareness Sessions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Link with CE.8 |

Community Engagement 4

Improvement focus

Develop outreach community engagement opportunities to increase the percentage of people in the Cowdenbeath Area who feel they can influence decisions that affect their local area (e.g. pop up stalls, focus groups, open days).

Planned outcome

Opportunities for engagement have taken place, with a greater sense within the community of their ability to voice their needs and that this is valued heard.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|---|---|
| CE.4.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Work to increase methods of engagement e.g face to face, QR codes, Social media, Print | <ul style="list-style-type: none">meetings have taken place with council comms team to look at opportunities where engagement can be expanded through various mediums. In partnership with CLD, FVA and FC comms weekly community 'drop in' sessions were promoted and focussed on advice and support.Community education workers have been trained in using QR codes as a means to register for activities, feedback has been extremely positive and we will continue to use this way of working, |
| CE.4.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Engage youth forums and offer additional opportunities to young people in areas where these do not currently exist. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">KY5 project have worked on a young person element and young carers have continued to support and engage young people.Planning for partnership work to engage young people around alcohol abuse has taken place - event to be held in Oct 24Youth forums across the area engaged. |

Community Engagement 5

Improvement focus

Deliver projects to encourage inter-generational work to enhance community engagement across the generations.

Planned outcome

Greater connections across generations, with opportunities to learn and grow from inter-generational work.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|--|--|
| CE.5.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Map existing opportunities to establish baseline and potential pilot of opportunities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">PSYV have carried out work engaging with older peoples housing and its residentsH&SC Partnership have consulted over 65s and looking at the possibilities of intergenerational work |

Community Engagement 6

Improvement focus

Continue traditional ways of communicating information to the community (e.g. posters, flyers, social media, community notice boards) and consider new ways of engagement (e.g. digital engagement opportunities and how we reach the hardest to reach voices).

Planned outcome

Community Engagement has been delivered in a variety of ways to ensure that a number of methods are used to help everyone in the community engage.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|---|---|
| CE.6.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Improve quality of social media platforms and use the data available to shape future use. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">linked to CE4.1Local staff have been involved in a number of upskilling opportunities to enhance the offer e.g. using Microsoft forms, QR codes |
| CE.6.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Partnership Group will implement joined up Marketing / Map of Activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Medium to long outcome needs further explorationFVA have initiated a conversation with 3rd sector organisations which will establish baseline and be shared across the partnership , Year 2 will show results and implementation and Year 3 evaluation |

Community Engagement 7

Improvement focus

Commit to building community capacity by encouraging and increasing involvement, leadership and participation across all demographics including young people through youth Democracy & Participation in Schools and Community settings; adults and older people; communities of interest; protected characteristics; asylum seekers, refugees and the travelling community.

Planned outcome

Capacity has increased within the community, with all demographics having been included and considered by design.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|---|---|
| CE.7.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Undertake mapping of community groups to understand who is doing what. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">FVA undertaking database exercise to map all existing community groups, this info will be shared across the partnership when completeCommunity engagement worker has mapped all 'hubs' in Lochgelly |
| CE.7.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to support Youth Forum and Scottish Youth Parliament | <ul style="list-style-type: none">3 youth forums currently run in the area and are supported by CLDOne MSYP and one vacancy currently being recruited for, being supported by the CLD team |
| CE.7.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Work across the partnership to look at potential offering for local people to be more involved in the decision making processes | <ul style="list-style-type: none">WEA can offer a range of courses and workshops including Political Literacies - needs further exploration with local people to see which level they would like these programmes to run |
| CE.7.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increase youth participation in the Cowdenbeath Area | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Education staff have been looking at initiating youth forum activity in Kelty, new youth forum formed in Cowdenbeath.Police Scotland Young Volunteers formed in April 24 and have 20 young volunteers supported by 7 adults. |

Community Engagement 8

Improvement focus

Support social groups to establish and flourish, which can enhance the sense of belonging and social inclusion. These groups can also be key to supporting wider community engagement with the Council and partners.

Planned outcome

Social groups have increased, with the community being better engaged and included. Groups feel supported by services and there is a legacy of feeling supported.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|---|---|
| CE.8.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">We will make a Promise to Partners highlighting what Community Use can offer as partners. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Poster sent to partnership and poverty action group. |
| CE.8.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Partners will carry out comprehensive community engagement at local events | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pop up events, family fun days, coal race have taken placeRecruitment of a engagement officer at FVA working in the Cowdenbeath areaWelfare roadshows, joint community group workshops |
| CE.8.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Work with WEA to deliver a range of groups in the area. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">WEA have offered support to lead on organising a range of Groups e.g. Football Discussion Group, Music Discussion, Creative Writing, Book Groups etc |
| CE8.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increase awareness of the range of social groups (help promote) to sustain existing groups, | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mapping to look at what is available in the area is ongoing continuesSupport from CLD team to increase the number of offerings include women's group in Lochgelly, 50+ group in Kelty and community choir in CowdenbeathWork from CLD Community education workers to promote and increase the range of wellbeing related groups available |

Community Engagement 9

Improvement focus

Work with communities to develop revised Community Action Plans and look to provide financial support so that actions can be delivered (Participatory Budgeting).

Planned outcome

Each community has a revised action plan and has participated in a Participatory Budgeting exercise, where local projects have been identified and developed by the community.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|--------|--|--|
| CE.9.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide training event/opportunities for community groups and services to understand the community engagement toolkit and methods, so they can apply them for their own engagement activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work to Link in with funding workshops and create peer to peer exchanges is ongoing• Partners have delivered session to increase the knowledge of those attending the people and place meetings to be better informed, have taken place by Health & Social Care around community chest, the police and Foodbank |
| CE.9.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide additional support for community led plans to encourage a climate friendly approach to be integrated in ideas that emerge via Climate Action Fife support that is available. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revised action plans have been developed for Benarty, Crossgates and Kelty. These communities have also developed local place plans which have all been submitted to FC planning dept, all were accepted. |
| CE.9.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish links with local schools to build capacity around these processes e.g. CAP, engaging pupil councils/forums. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase in the number of youth forums in the area• Year 2 plans to engage pupil councils |

Community Engagement 10

Improvement focus

Take advantage of the community engagement toolkit and National Standards of Community Engagement to provide a high quality and consistent approach to engagement. Train representatives from across the partnership to ensure a co-ordinated approach to reduce consultation fatigue.

Planned outcome

Community Engagement across the Cowdenbeath Area is delivered in a way which demonstrate best practice, with all partners confident in undertaking engagement in a way which follows the National Standards of Community Engagement.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|---------|---|--|
| CE.10.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">As a partnership, we will co-ordinate between other Fife Council Services / organisations re consultation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Further work needs done on this - year one assisted in building relationships and trust, further partnership work going forward will look at better coordination of consultation |
| CE.10.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">On Fife will share the 'relevance' approach with partners | <ul style="list-style-type: none">On fife staff held a session with local Community development Team manager and the council community engagement officer |
| CE.10.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">We will offer training on the Fife Council Community Engagement programme to partners. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">training session took place in May for partnership, toolkit has been adapted so non FC partners can utilise resources also |
| CE.10.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Local staff trained by SCDC to use the Visioning Outcomes in Community Engagement online service | <ul style="list-style-type: none">10 CEW's trained Feb 2024, |

Community Engagement 11

Improvement focus

Build upon the positive engagement achieved around Lochore Meadows Country Park, using this as a springboard to continue engaging and listening to the Community.

Planned outcome

The community are able to engage and contribute to discussions around the development of Lochore Meadows and feel their contribution is valued.

| Ref | Action | Year 1 - Updates |
|---------|---|--|
| CE.11.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Engage with Friends of Lochore Meadows group to ensure community based input within the park. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">staff team working well with the FOLM group |
| CE.11.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recruit and train volunteers | <ul style="list-style-type: none">FOLM have recruited 3 additional trustees to their board |