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Fife Partnership Creating a Fairer Fife

Area Recovery Priority Theme	Strategic Assessment 2022	Desired Outcome	Specific Actions 2023-25
Anti-poverty	A study to explore the impact of COVID-19 for residents, including vulnerable and disadvantaged people, found that food and fuel poverty were issues for the Area. Poverty was seen as a strong issue and linked to many of the problems the individuals faced. Focusing on key aspects such as food poverty, isolation and mental health seemed to be key. Rising living costs are adding to the pressures felt by individual households. It is unclear when this situation will stabilise, and how this will impact on widening inequalities within Fife's communities	Slowdown in the rate and severity of people impacted by the effects of the Cost-of-Living Crisis through a co- ordinated collaborative approach of key partners	Development of new 3-year rural action plan- areas of focus food insecurity, family support, cost of living/crisis support, access to services, income maximisation, climate crisis, social isolation & mental health and lived experience. Support and develop the community food network (pantries/fridges/larders) and expand to incorporate local food growers for longer term sustainable food supply Support and develop the local Big Hoose hub with local partners for distributing to families most in need Making communities aware of the anti-poverty support available in local areas Focus on targeting welfare support to young people aged 16 – 25 years Increasing access and availability for financial inclusion initiatives for those most isolated in rural communities
Mental health/social isolation	Social isolation and impact on mental health was highlighted. Strong social connections are seen as a cornerstone of mental health & wellbeing and community resilience	Increase opportunities for social interaction in communities	Work with local voluntary groups to provide inclusive, safe environments for social connections Increase in befriending opportunities for all age groups

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		Work with partners to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of residents	Support increased Leisure Centre opening times, to provide greater accessibility to residents
			Further work with Health and Social Care and third sector partners is required to analyse locality health data, identify areas with greatest health inequalities and target resource accordingly to improve the health and wellbeing of NEF residents.
Digital inclusion	Technology has become a necessity for keeping connected, working remotely and accessing vital information. Personal use of the internet in the Area is higher than Fife. While levels of internet use continue to grow, people can still be digitally excluded because they lack the skills to confidently and safely navigate the digital world	That all communities can access wifi and internet with high-speed connections	Clear pathway to support and increase levels of Digital skills for all ages Continue to support those most excluded to receive digital devices Expand the public Wi-Fi spaces across NEF Support local groups to access the best available options to increase internet access for buildings without current infrastructure
Affordable housing	Access to suitable housing is seen as a main issue for North East Fife Area. North East Fife's population is projected to increase by around 730 people (1%) by 2030, however, not all Wards are predicted to see an increase. The two growth areas in North East Fife are St Andrews Ward, and East Neuk and Landward Ward	Reduced homeless waiting list. Increase accessible social and affordable housing	Work in partnership to increase positive tenancy support across all ward areas Engaging local communities in any new local housing developments - Linking to LDP and LPP

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Climate change	There is a need to anticipate and plan for the more pressing implications of climate change and how it will affect peoples' lives	Reduce the impact of climate change of local communities in NEF. All ages are educated and aware of how to contribute to reducing carbon footprint and emissions Local people can access local greener, affordable options in purchasing consumables Reducing the need for travel journeys through improved transport infrastructure	<ul> <li>Improving local green space/grassland and making best use of this for local areas</li> <li>Support tree planting in identified areas ensuring sustainable woodlands</li> <li>Engaging communities in local solutions to reducing waste and increase climate friendly approaches</li> <li>Reducing carbon footprint by increasing access to services locally in rural communities</li> <li>Increasing awareness of Flooding &amp; coastal defence</li> <li>Encourage new local developments to include Solar heating as standard</li> </ul>
Transport & access to services	In North East Fife Area, natural space and feeling safe continue to be identified positively, getting around remains an area needing improvement	People living in NEF have a fair and accessible options to travel by public transport Reduce the need for car dependency for those living in rural communities People living in NEF have safe cycle and walking routes	Mapping current travel links and identify gaps for those most excluded/isolated in rural communities Increase the use of the local flexi bus journeys across communities with no or reduced bus services Evaluate the impact of the local concessionary travel scheme with key agencies participating

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Economy & Employability	While much of the coronavirus pandemic has heavily influenced people's health, and their broader wellbeing, it has also had a major impact on people's jobs, and businesses and industries, with many facing a much less certain future than even a few years ago.	People living in NEF have access to local employment that pays the fair working wage	<ul> <li>Promote to young people under the age of 22 in NEF the NEC free bus travel entitlement</li> <li>Develop and promote an affordable and connected travel plan for bus and cycle routes</li> <li>Involving the community in producing local connected travel plans</li> <li>Mapping the current charging network across our Council run venues and centres</li> <li>Support the St Andrews Rail Scheme</li> <li>Coordinated approach to identifying skills audit and gaps specifically targeted at NEF jobs market</li> <li>Increase employability opportunities through partnership approaches for Community Job Club participants and targeted unemployed groups.</li> <li>Increase more locally based training opportunities for young people leave school</li> <li>Tay City deal Development of targeted Pocket of Need parental employment</li> </ul>
Community participation	Most local people in North East Fife Area would like more involvement in decisions that the Council makes that affect their local area	Community Councils and Community Development Trusts are addressing identified local needs.	Develop new ways of recruiting and supporting volunteers from a variety of backgrounds and age groups in local communities

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	55% report that they provide some kind of unpaid (voluntary) help to a group or organisation.	Local communities have had a say in how local services and developments are planned where they live	Development of local place plans, and provide support across the 5 ward areas to access funding to support local community engagement Increase the voices of those with lived experience and most excluded in our local communities to be involved in decision making Encourage communities to revisit and review existing plans to ensure are in line with community needs now because of recovery and renewal approaches