

Business Operations and Partnerships Department

Director of Business Operations and Partnerships: Louise Pringle

Council Headquarters, Eastwood Park, Giffnock, East Renfrewshire, G46 6UG

Phone: 0141 577 3000

website: www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

Date: 24 September 2025

When calling please ask for: John Burke (Tel 0141 577 3026)

e-mail: John.Burke@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

TO: MEMBERS OF THE EAST RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING
PARTNERSHIP BOARD

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

A meeting of the East Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Board will be held in The Edge, Barrhead Road, Newton Mearns, G77 6BB on **Monday, 6 October 2025 at 10.00 am to 12.30pm**.

The agenda of business is as listed below.

LOUISE PRINGLE

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DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence.**
2. **Welcome and Introduction by Chair.**
3. **Minute of meeting of 3 October 2024 and matters arising (copy attached, pages 3-10).**
4. **Community Planning Updates**
 - i) **Annual Performance Report (copy attached, pages 11-54)**
 - ii) **Governance**
 - iii) **Place to Grow Delivery Plan (copy attached, pages 55-74)**
 - iv) **Community Engagement**
5. **Chief Officer's Public Protection Group Report (copy attached, pages 75-82)**
6. **Any Other Business**
7. **Date of Next Meeting**

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MINUTE
of
COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

**Minute of meeting held at 1.30pm in the The Edge, Barrhead Road, Newton
Mearns on 3 October 2024.**

Present:

Councillor O'Donnell, Leader ERC; Councillor Buchanan

Steven Quinn, Chief Executive, East Renfrewshire Council ; Louise Pringle, Director of Business Operations and Partnerships; David McPhee, Place Director, Scottish Government; Mo Rooney, Place Director, Scottish Government; Julie Murray, Chief Officer, East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP); Lee McLaughlin, Head of Recovery and Intensive Services, HSCP; Chief Inspector Graeme Gallie, Police Scotland; Superintendent David Reid, Police Scotland; Anne Marie Kennedy, Chair, VAER; Allan Dick-West College Scotland; John Binning- Policy Lead, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport; Group Commander Alan Coughtrie, Scottish Fire and Rescue; Anthony McReavy, Chief Executive, ERCLT; Ruth Gallagher, Chief Executive, Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire; Susie Scott, Area Manager, Skills Development Scotland; Steven Frew, Stakeholder Engagement, Scottish Enterprise.

Councillor Owen O'Donnell, Chair

Apologies: Councillor Gordon Wallace; Liz Connolly, Principal, West College Scotland; Emilia Crighton, Director of Public Health, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; Colin Neil, Director of Finance, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Attending: Jamie Reid and Julie Breslin, East Renfrewshire Council

INTRODUCTION

1. Councillor O'Donnell welcomed those attending and invited all present to contribute to the discussion.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Board considered and approved the Minute of the meeting on 9 October 2023.

CHIEF OFFICERS PUBLIC PROTECTION GROUP REPORT

3. Councillor O'Donnell invited Ms McLaughlin to introduce the Chief Officer's Public Protection Group Report. The report provides an overview of the partnership working over the last year to protect vulnerable adults and children across East Renfrewshire. The ongoing impact of the pandemic combined with the cost-of-living crisis continues to impact the most vulnerable residents in a number of ways including risk of financial harm, mental wellbeing and domestic violence.

Ms McLaughlin noted work of Child and Adult Protection, Violence Against Women and Girls, MAPPA and the Alcohol and Drug Partnership. She summarised key achievements of those groups over the period, in particular noting the good work done against the backdrop of the post-pandemic landscape and the cost of living crisis.

Good progress was also noted against Care Inspectorate Improvement Plans over the year, with regular oversight meetings taking place to track progress of work against those.

A summary of public protection activity was provided, indicating that Child Protection referrals increased by 48% over the year, with Adult Support and Protection also increasing by 10%. This represented a 27% increase in Adult Support and Protection referrals over the previous 2 years and reflected a growing trend noted since the introduction of new legislation.

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) referrals increased by 16%, and there has been a 33% increase in the number of children discussed as part of MARAC.

Ms McLaughlin also outlined the response to national budget pressures, outlining which services are being prioritised and how those priorities would be met.

Councillor O'Donnell thanked Ms McLaughlin and invited comments and questions from the Board members.

Mr McPhee asked for information on the drivers causing the increase in referrals. It was explained that there were many factors rather than one compelling factor. In particular, the impact of the pandemic on mental health, increase in stress levels, rise in financial abuse, the cost of living crisis and associated impacts on alcohol and drug use were all cited. This situation was mirrored across Scotland in benchmarking data.

Mrs Murray clarified that while the percentage increase seems large, this was relative to fairly low registrations and so small numbers could have a large impact in terms of the percentile.

To add further assurance, Chief Inspector Gallie pointed out that confidence to report on issues had increased nationally and campaigns carried out to encourage victims to come forward had been having a positive impact. While this resulted in more referrals, it also allowed vulnerable individuals to access the support they desperately required. Therefore, in many respects, the increase in referrals could be seen as a positive.

Councillor Buchanan then asked about the progress of the “Bairns’ Hoose” project, with 107 interviews having taken place. Ms McLaughlin noted that the number of children making disclosures had increased significantly. The wellbeing of the child was at the heart of the process and this was having a much more positive impact. She remarked upon the specific training being undertaken by the interviewers involved and the more child centred approach being taken, with improved outcomes as a result.

The recommendations for the Chief Officer’s Public Protection Report were agreed.

- i. Discuss the high-level public protection activity outlined within the report and identify any areas for improvement to the Chief Officer Public Protection group on public protection partnership arrangements within East Renfrewshire.
- ii. Agree the East Renfrewshire Chief Officer Public Protection Group continues to provide annual updates to the CPP concerning public protection scrutiny and improvement activity that provides assurance that people and communities are being kept safe.

ANNUAL REVIEW 2023/2024: COMMUNITY PLAN END YEAR REPORT

4. Councillor O’Donnell invited Ms Pringle to introduce the Community Plan End Year Report.

Ms Pringle advised the purpose of this report is to present progress on the performance of the Community Planning Partnership plan and to demonstrate how the Partnership is meeting its strategic outcomes.

The Community Plan sets out the Community Planning Partnership’s (CPP) long term vision for East Renfrewshire through five strategic outcomes. The Plan incorporates Fairer East Ren, the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan, required under the Community Empowerment Act. Fairer East Ren (FER) is focused on tackling inequalities and closing the gap between communities in East Renfrewshire.

The CPP indicators are mainly national measures as these tend to look at systematic changes across multiple areas including health, community safety and protection and employment. There are also some more local measures taken from the Citizens’ Panel.

Ms Pringle presented the key highlights under each of the five strategic outcomes.

Outcome 1: Early Years and Vulnerable Young People

The Community Plan indicators for this outcome focus on population level measures including life expectancy at birth, the dependency ratio of children and young people, healthy birthweight (which had decreased slightly following a spike in the previous year) and child poverty. Most of these measures have remained static or changed in a positive direction over the last year and compare favourably to the Scottish average. We continue to have higher than average children and young people dependency ratios, which can put pressure on service demand.

Within the Community Plan there are Fairer East Ren intermediate outcomes with a focus on inequalities, including a target to reduce child poverty. Most recent data showed this had decreased slightly, but remains similar to the previous year's figure. East Renfrewshire continues to be below the national average.

Outcome 2: Learning, Life and Work

The proportion of school leavers in East Renfrewshire achieving a positive destination remains above the national average.

The proportion of residents aged 16–65 years who are economically active remains high and above the national average, with FER indicators also showing high levels of participation rates for 16-19 year olds and levels of 16-64 year olds claiming out of work benefits at 1.8%, compared to the national average of 3.1%.

Outcome 3: Environment and Economy

Figures for the adult population with qualifications at RQF level 4 (HND/Degree) and above are over 70%, reinforcing that a high proportion of East Renfrewshire residents are highly skilled.

However, there has been a continued decrease in the percentage of residents who are satisfied or very satisfied with East Renfrewshire as a place to live. This decreased to 82%. Analysis work is underway with the research provider to explore the deeper causes of this.

There had been a slight decrease of Carbon Dioxide emissions per resident, but this was expected to fluctuate slightly across the years, while remaining below the Scottish average. It was noted that Council emissions were 8% of the local emissions.

Outcome 4: Safe, Supportive Communities

Performance under this outcome reinforces East Renfrewshire's reputation as one of the safest places to live in Scotland. This outcome can only be delivered through effective partnership working and where intelligence is shared to target resourcing.

There has been a very slight increase in crimes reported per 10,000 population to 238.5, however, this is well below the national average. Furthermore, there is an increase in residents reporting that they feel a sense of belonging to their community since a dip that coincided with the pandemic.

Outcome 5: Older people and people with long term conditions

The Community Plan indicators do not show any significant change against last year, remaining static.

To ensure our residents are safe and socially connected we measure several indicators through our FER plan including domestic abuse outcomes. Indicators show that there has been a positive impact in outcomes for women experiencing domestic abuse, care at home packages and significant reduction in public nuisance calls.

Ms Pringle also noted the progress made in terms of Locality Planning and referred to the continued work with partners to reduce the inequalities experienced by residents in areas where outcomes in health, employment, education and experience of crime can be disproportionately poorer when compared with other areas of East Renfrewshire. Within East Renfrewshire, these locality planning areas are Auchenback; Arthurlie, Dunterlie, & Dovecothall (ADD2); Neilston and Thornliebank.

Councillor O'Donnell thanked Ms Pringle for her presentation and invited comments and questions.

Chief Inspector Gallie once again reflected upon the crime figures, reporting that Police Scotland's methodology had changed, with crime reports now raised at the first point of contact, which had impacted the figures. He pointed out that East Renfrewshire's population was growing at a 2 to 1 ratio higher than the national average, which also impacts on this particular measure. He also indicated that the latest figures, against the latest census data, showed a 2% decrease in crimes reported per 10,000 population.

Mr McPhee stated that most Local Authorities would be delighted with the figures shown in the report, in particular, he highlighted school leavers in positive destinations. He asked for clarity on what more could be done in this area, suggesting that some individuals, such as students, would not necessarily be logged as "economically active" while still having a positive destination. Ms Pringle assured partners that this was very much part of the thinking in the new Place to Grow document, that would be discussed later in the agenda. The document would consider what success looked like and how to utilise the demographics of the area to the best effect.

Mr Quinn stated that while it was relatively easy for people to get into what is termed a positive destination, sustaining that destination was the real challenge. He pointed out that many young people would leave East Renfrewshire in pursuit of better job prospects so it was important to offer prospects that kept young people in East Renfrewshire by working to improve the number of positive destinations in the local area. However, it would have to be accepted that a number of young people would leave to achieve success.

In response to a question about dependency ratios, Mr Quinn advised that children and retired people were the most resource dependent demographics in terms of public services. It was important to have a population base that, as much as possible, could self-sustain its service requirements. He also noted there was a risk that those working in East

Renfrewshire may find it too expensive to live here. Mrs Murray supported this view, by indicating that many older people were moving to East Renfrewshire from other areas, which had impact on service delivery. She particularly referred to the difficulty in attracting people to care at home posts and the significant number of care home places.

In response to a request for more contextual information relating to the Police reporting statistics, Chief Inspector Gallie agreed that there would be an opportunity within the new Place to Grow vision to provide a more contextual picture.

There was also discussion around the indicators and it was agreed that it was important for they align to more national family of indicators for benchmarking purposes.

In response to a question from Councillor Buchanan, Mr Reid indicated that cost of living data and banking information was being looked at to better identify where partners could provide assistance with financial difficulties for residents. He referred to the work of the Smart Data Foundry, a subsidiary of the University of Edinburgh, which has been commissioned by the Council, to add more information on those issues in future.

This led to a discussion on data sharing when it came to personal debts and financial circumstances of people who had made contact with the Council's Money Advice and Rights Team. Councillor O'Donnell indicated that he was happy with discussions around data sharing in terms of people experiencing financial difficulties where it was appropriate. However, this could be tricky in cases of Domestic Violence and financial coercive control, where the individual may not wish their details to be shared with other organisations.

The recommendations for the Annual Review 2022/2023: Community Plan End Year Report were agreed.

- i. noted the Community Plan and Fairer East Ren End Year Report;
- ii. noted the continued phased progress for Locality Planning;
- iii. approved the Annual Progress Reports on the Community Plan and Locality Plans, in principle, for publication to communities and delegate responsibility to the Council's Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader to make minor amendments as required; and
- iv. noted that additional contextual data would be added to the following year's reports based on the Place to Grow model.

A PLACE TO GROW

5. Councillor O'Donnell invited Mr Reid to introduce the item on "A Place to Grow".

Mr Reid spoke about the existing Community Plan being structured around five outcomes. Over recent years the strategic planning landscape has become increasingly complex, with significant turnover in the Council's and CPPs senior leadership since the pandemic, requiring a shared understanding and stronger relationships to be built among new

Councillors and senior leaders of the area, We have also faced a number of challenges and opportunities over the past few years and we need to reset as a partnership what our key ambitions are for the future. A full engagement process has been undertaken with partners, key stakeholders and elected members to help shape a “A Place to Grow”.

“A Place to Grow” is comprised of three pillars. A future where:-

- our children and young people flourish;
- our communities and places thrive; and
- we all live well.

The importance of each pillar was explained, with a summary of the drivers for change, what the data evidence and consultation process has told us and the sort of place that residents wanted East Renfrewshire to be. The pillars are rooted in the ambitions and aspirations of the residents of East Renfrewshire and will hopefully be relatable and shared by many.

In conclusion, Mr Reid provided some information on how the priority outcomes set out in the document are intended to be achieved. There will be a number of further leadership interviews and partnership workshops taking place to explore the governance requirements for “A Place to Grow” and work is underway on a new Local Outcome Improvement Plan, embedded as part of the Place to Grow Delivery Plans, and expected to take effect from April 2025. A measurement framework is being put in place to track progress; and work was underway on a communications plan to let staff, partners and communities know about the new strategy, as well as details of a community conference to take place in Spring 2025.

Mr Reid went on to summarise how each of the key strategic plans for each of the Community Planning Partners linked in to the shared vision indicated by the three pillars. It was expressed that this document would recognise the strong sense of community, the diversity of those communities and focus on the work being carried out and the important role of each partner organisation. It set out what the Community Planning Partnership will do, to show that meetings such as this were not being held simply for the sake of it, but were to inform better working practices and more efficient, more responsive services that would benefit everyone in the area.

Councillor O'Donnell thanked Mr Reid for his presentation and invited comments and questions.

Broad support for the plan was expressed around the table. In particular, with the scope of the engagement work that had taken place to produce a vision that was very much rooted in East Renfrewshire. There was an acceptance that this is the vision and further work is required to develop the plans that will help us deliver it.

The vision will take us to 2040, and Councillor O'Donnell indicated that this was a significant, ambitious piece of work, with many aspects of public service delivery likely to change over that period, with the HSCP changes being an example. Community ownership

and engagement, alongside strong partnership working, which was already evident in East Renfrewshire was identified as key in ensuring that public services were shaped in a way that best meet the needs of residents. The support of the voluntary sector in helping to shape and deliver services was also recognised.

After congratulating Mr Reid and his team on their work to put A Place to Grow together, the recommendations for A Place to Grow were agreed and the CPP Board:

- i. approved and adopted A Place to Grow as the Community Plan for East Renfrewshire, and to delegate responsibility to the Council's Chief Executive to make minor amendments as required;
- ii. agreed for the development of a new Local Outcome Improvement Plan informed by A Place to Grow; and
- iii. agreed to support the next phase of activity in relation to creating stronger governance structures.

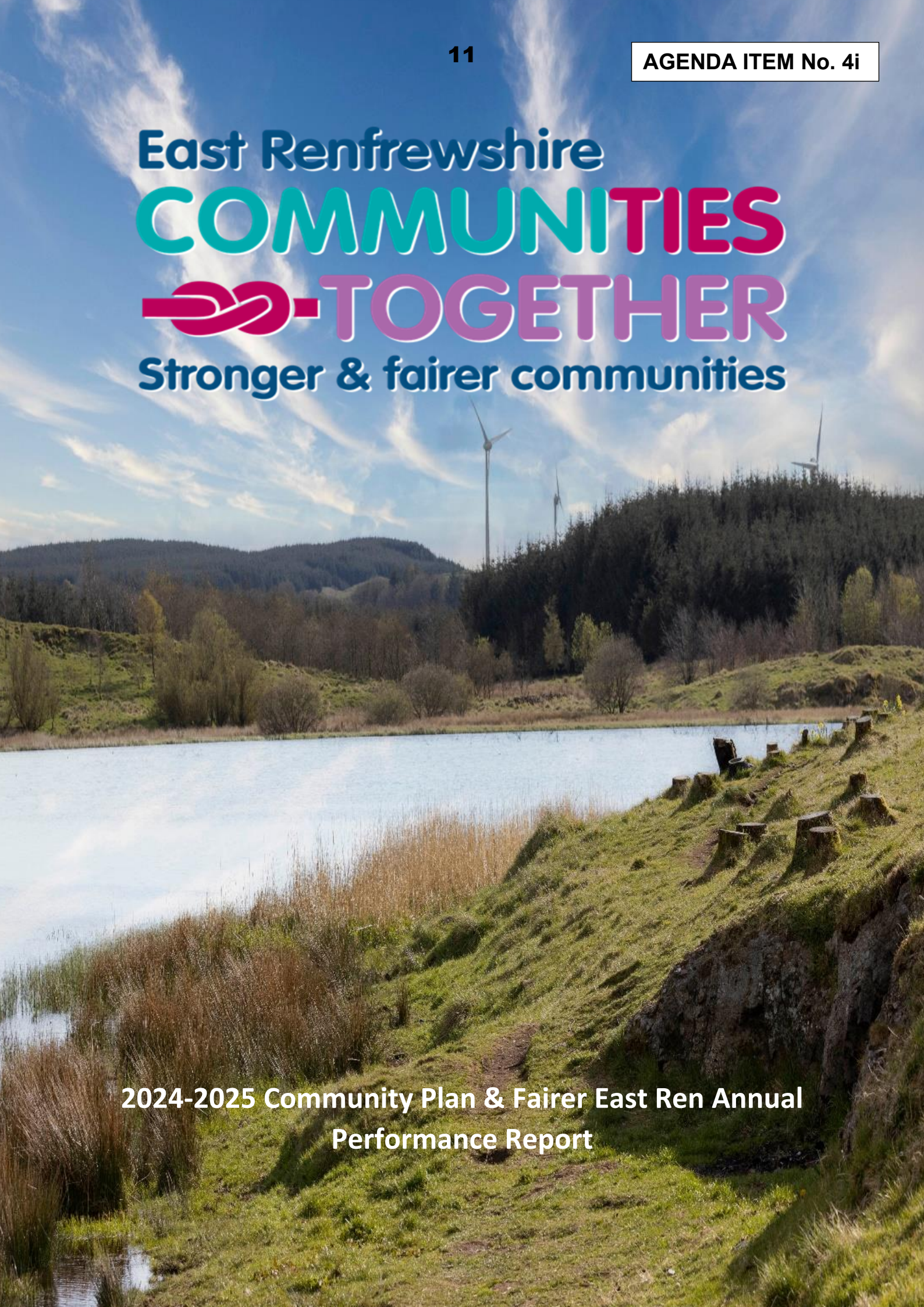
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

6. No other business raised.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7. The next Community Planning Partnership Board meeting would be arranged by Ms Breslin, with partners to be notified once a date was secured.

East Renfrewshire
COMMUNITIES
TOGETHER
Stronger & fairer communities

The logo features the text 'East Renfrewshire' in a dark blue sans-serif font. Below it, 'COMMUNITIES' is written in large, bold, teal letters with a white outline. Underneath that, 'TOGETHER' is written in large, bold, purple letters with a white outline, preceded by a red icon of two interlocking loops. At the bottom, 'Stronger & fairer communities' is written in a smaller, dark blue sans-serif font.

**2024-2025 Community Plan & Fairer East Ren Annual
Performance Report**

The background of the entire page is a landscape photograph. It shows a calm body of water in the middle ground, reflecting the sky. In the foreground, there is a grassy bank with several tree stumps. The background features rolling hills covered in trees, with several wind turbines visible on the horizon under a blue sky with wispy clouds.

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Introduction

The East Renfrewshire Community Plan sets out how local services work together to create stronger and fairer communities with the people of East Renfrewshire.

The Community Plan reflects residents' top priorities and serves as the main strategic document for the East Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP). The Plan also includes Fairer East Ren – our Local Outcomes Improvement Plan - as required by the Community Empowerment Act. Fairer East Ren focuses on reducing inequality of outcomes across groups and communities.

This is the seventh and final annual report of the current Community Plan. It presents key performance data, progress made towards the current five strategic outcomes and highlights good examples of partnership working to deliver these outcomes. [A Place to Grow](#) will be our vision and Community Plan going forward and we will continue to deliver for the communities of East Renfrewshire through its three pillars: Our Children and Young People Flourish, Our Communities and Places Thrive and We All Live Well.

This report demonstrates the commitment of the CPP towards achieving the vision of making East Renfrewshire:

An attractive and thriving place to grow up, work, visit, raise a family and enjoy later life

It provides progress updates against the key indicators for the Community Plan and Fairer East Ren.

About East Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP)

These are our community planning partners:

- East Renfrewshire Council
- NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Scottish Enterprise
- Department for Work and Pensions
- East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust
- East Renfrewshire Integration joint board (Health and Social Care Partnership)
- Skills Development Scotland
- Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
- Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire
- West College Scotland

Our Community Planning Priorities

The Community Plan is structured around five strategic priorities:

1. Early Years and Vulnerable Young People
2. Learning, Life and Work
3. Economy and Environment
4. Safe, Supportive Communities
5. Older People and People with Long Term Conditions

The five Fairer East Ren outcomes below are focused on tackling inequality. These outcomes were determined following extensive community engagement and informed by our local socioeconomic data and evidence of local need.

1. Child poverty in East Renfrewshire is reduced
2. Residents have the right skills, learning opportunities and confidence to secure and sustain work
3. East Renfrewshire's transport links are accessible, attractive and seamless
4. Residents' mental health and wellbeing is improved
5. Residents are safe and more socially connected with their communities

Data Summary

Community Plan indicators	Number of indicators increasing or decreasing <u>as intended</u> over the last year	Number of indicators increasing or decreasing <u>against intended</u> direction of travel over the last year	Number of indicators remaining the around the same level i.e. changing by less than 0.5% or showing similar performance to previous data
			
Outcome 1: Early Years and Vulnerable Young People	3	1	1
Outcome 2: Learning, Life and Work	1	1	0
Outcome 3: Economy and Environment	3	3	0
Outcome 4: Safe, Supportive Communities	1	1	0
Outcome 5: Older people and people with Long Term conditions	2	1	0
TOTAL:	10	7	1

Key

East Renfrewshire's performance significantly exceeds Scottish level performance	
East Renfrewshire's performance is similar to the Scottish level performance	
East Renfrewshire's performance compares unfavourably to Scottish level performance	
No Scottish comparison data available	UNAVAILABLE

Case studies- where names have been changed to protect identify there will be an asterisk

Strategic Priority 1: Early Years and Vulnerable Young People



The outcome we want is...

All children in East Renfrewshire experience a stable and secure childhood and succeed

Our steps along the way to achieving this are...

- Child poverty in East Renfrewshire is reduced (Fairer East Ren outcome)
- Parents provide a safe, healthy and nurturing environment for their families
- Children and young people are cared for, protected and their wellbeing is safeguarded

Community Plan Indicators

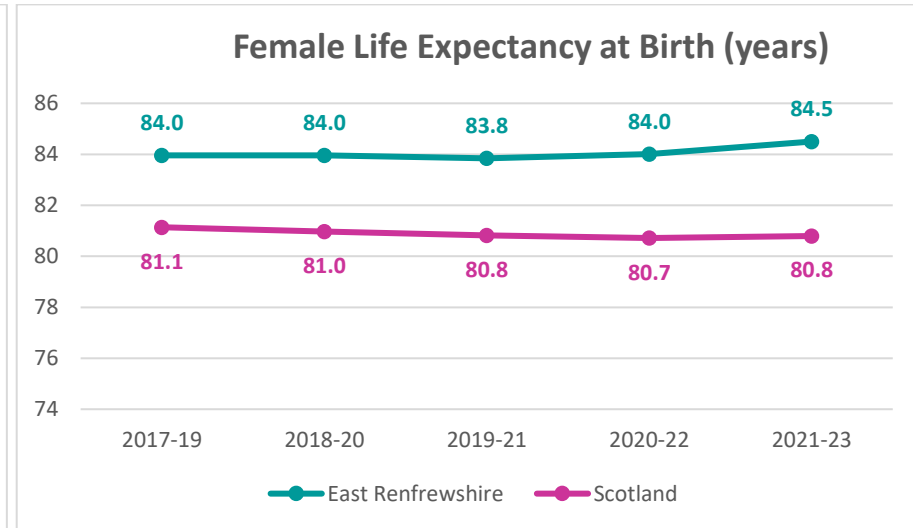
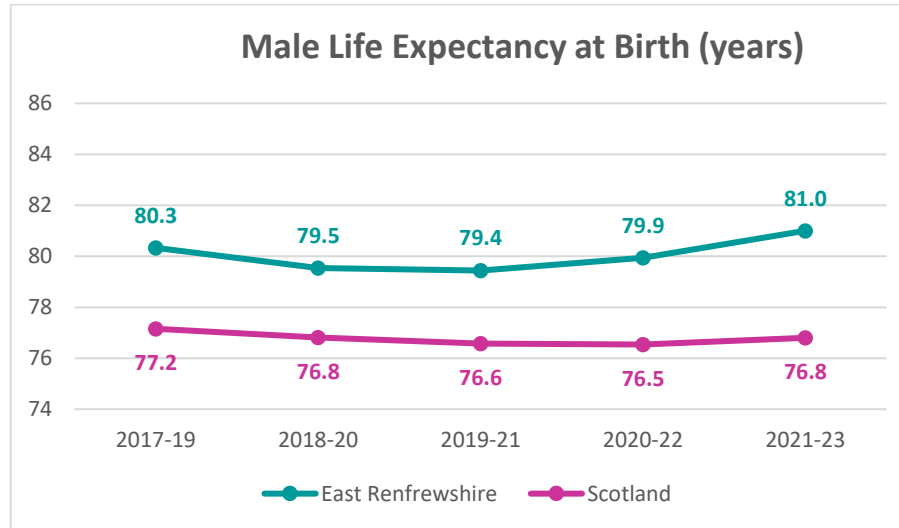
Early Years and Vulnerable Young People								
Indicator	Rationale for inclusion	Aim to Maximise (↑) or Minimise (↓)	ERC Baseline	Previous data	Latest data	Direction of travel since last data update	ERC Performance against Scotland	Comments
Male life expectancy at birth (NRS)	This indicator provides an estimate of the age a baby boy born in East Renfrewshire today can expect to live to, based on mortality rates at the time.	↑	80.5 (2015-17)	79.9 (2020-22)	81.0 (2021-23)	↑	●	Male life expectancy in East Renfrewshire has increased slightly. East Renfrewshire remains consistently above the national average of 76.8 (2021-23).
Female life expectancy at birth (NRS)	Provides an estimate of the age a baby girl born in East Renfrewshire today can expect to live to, based on mortality rates at the time.	↑	83.7 (2015-17)	84.0 (2020-22)	84.5 (2021-23)	↑	●	Female life expectancy in East Renfrewshire has increased slightly. East Renfrewshire remains consistently above the national average of 80.8 (2021-23).
Healthy birthweight (singleton babies) *CPOP Indicator (NHS ISD)	Birth weight that is not within normal ranges (2.5 kg to 4 kg) has a strong association with poor health outcomes in infancy, childhood and across the whole life course, including	↑	80.8% (2018 - 19) ¹	81.8% (2022-23)	80.8% (2023-24)	↓	●	East Renfrewshire's rate of healthy birth weight has decreased by 1.0 percentage point since 2022/23 and is lower than the national average of 81.1% (2023/24).

¹ ERC Baseline figure has been adjusted to reflect the use of a more accurate data source. The data used in previous reports showed a percentage of newborns with a birthweight above 2.4kg, including newborns who had a birthweight above the 4kg threshold. The new source only shows the percentage of newborns who fall within the 2.5kg to 4kg range.

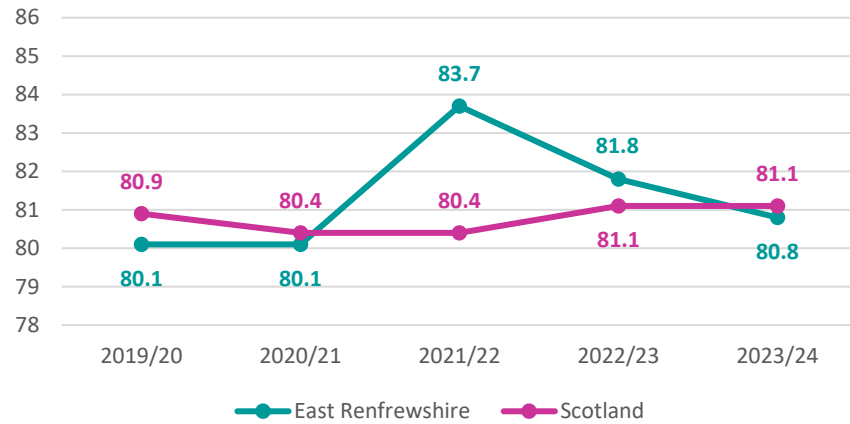
	long term conditions such as diabetes and coronary heart disease.							
Children and Young People Dependency Ratio (NRS)	This is the ratio of children and young people aged 0-15 to the working age population (age 16-64). Data is shown as the proportion of dependents per 100 working-age population.		34.3% (2019) ²	34.6% (2021)	34.3% (2022)			The ratio of children and young people aged 0-15 to the working age population has remained much the same since the previous year and remains much higher than the national average of 25.8% (2022).
Children living in poverty (End Child Poverty)	The is the percentage of children living in relative poverty (as per Scottish Government definition) before housing costs are taken into consideration		14.4% (2021-22)	14% (2022-23)	12% (2023-24)			The rate of child poverty in East Renfrewshire has fallen in the past year, and is below the Scottish average of 22% (2023-24).

² ERC Baseline figure has been adjusted to reflect the use of a more accurate data source. The previous reports used a dependency ratio data combined the 0-15 age bracket with the 65+ age bracket. The new source shows only the ratio of 0–15-year-olds to 16–64-year-olds.

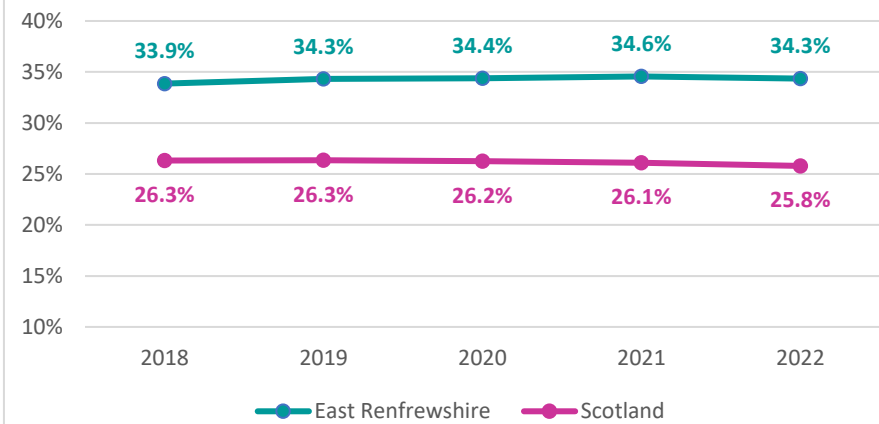
Strategic Priority 1 Charts



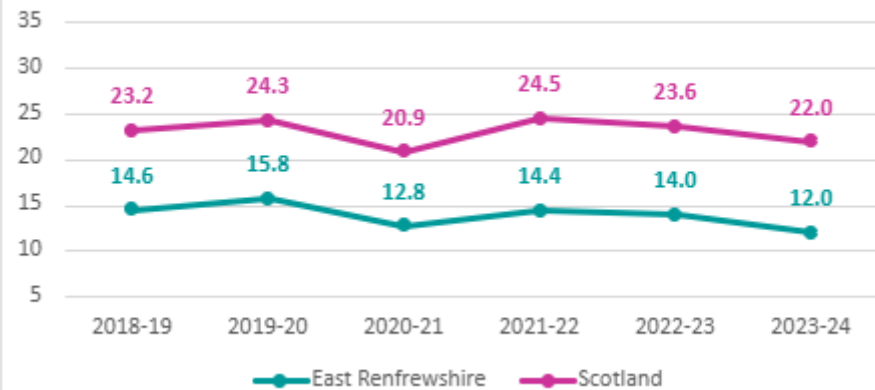
Healthy Birthweight (%)



Children and Young People Dependency Ratio



Children Living In Poverty (%)

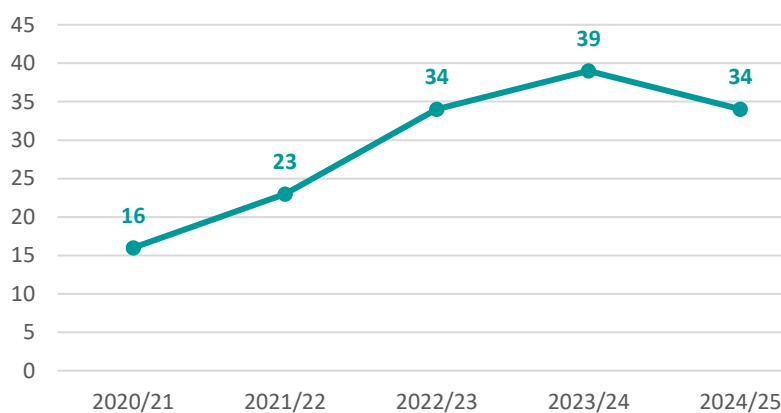


Fairer East Ren Progress

Fairer East Ren indicators have a specific focus on reducing inequality.

The following five indicators provide an update on how we are progressing towards achieving the Fairer East Ren intermediate outcome: **Child poverty in East Renfrewshire is reduced**. Whilst East Renfrewshire has the lowest child poverty rate in Scotland at 12%, this still equates to 2,842 children. There are also areas across the authority, including parts of Barrhead and Neilston, where poverty rates are much higher.

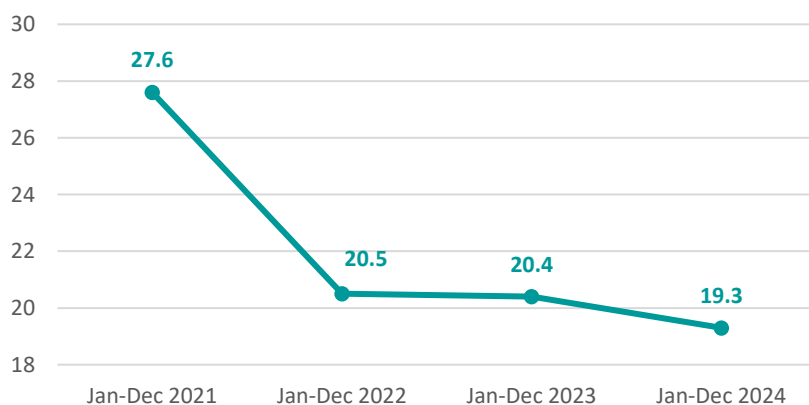
Real Living Wage employers in East Renfrewshire



Source: Living Wage Scotland

East Renfrewshire Council, Business Gateway East Renfrewshire and Living Wage Scotland worked in partnership to promote Living Wage accreditation to employers based in East Renfrewshire. The Economic Development team will continue to promote this in 2025/26.

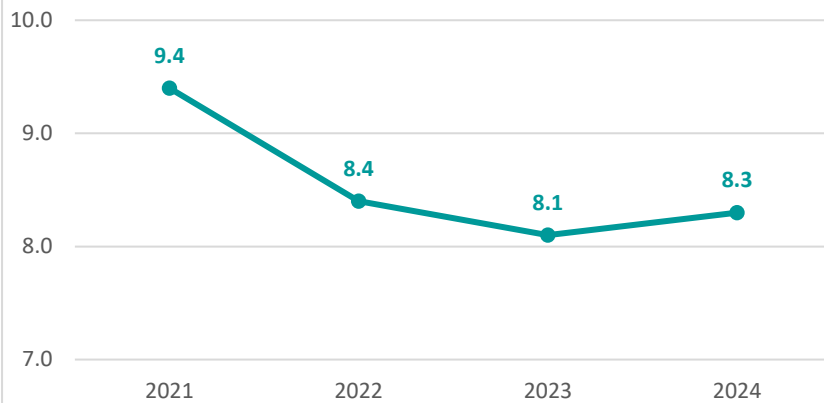
Working age economic inactivity (%)



Source: Nomis

The Scottish average for 2024 is 23%. Work EastRen and employability partners will continue to promote and engage with local residents who are seeking employment.

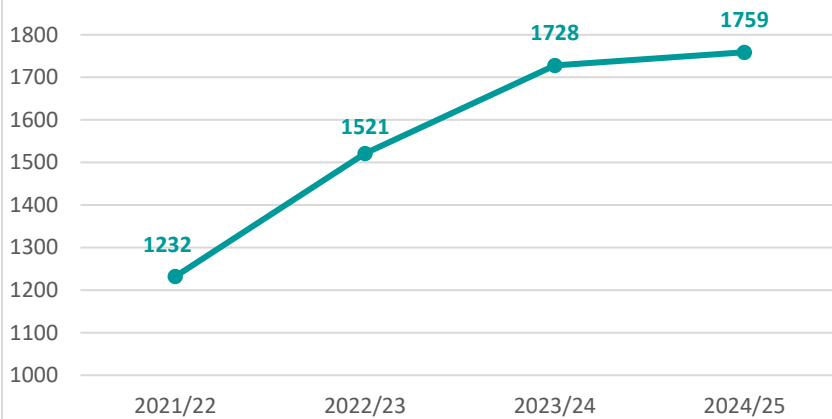
Free School Meal uptake at Primary School



This is the percentage of pupils in P1-P7 who are in receipt of Free School Meal based on low income eligibility criteria.

Source: Scottish Government school roll and local data

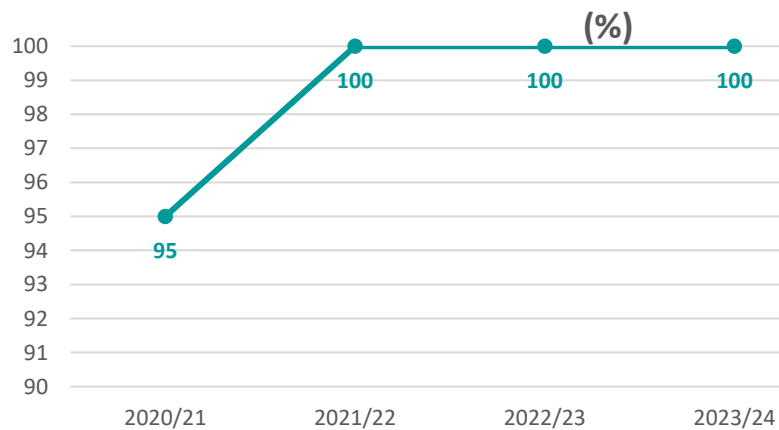
No. of families accessing MART financial wellbeing advice



We have seen a further increase in the number of families accessing financial and wellbeing advice again this year.

Source: Local data

Uptake of funded early learning and childcare entitlement



All eligible 3-4 year olds continue to be registered for their funded early learning and childcare place providing parents with affordable childcare options to enhance their employment opportunities. 2024-25 data will be available in June.

Source: Scottish Government Schools

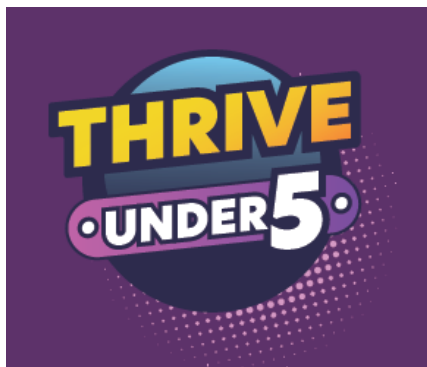
The Local Child Poverty Action Report (LCPAR) provides full details of all the action taken to meet our Fairer East Ren outcome on **reducing child poverty**.

Here are some examples of community planning partners working to ensure **child poverty in East Renfrewshire is reduced**:

- Supporting families with young children

In October 2024, VAER and the HSCP launched *Thrive Under 5*, a new programme designed to help families with young children build healthier lifestyles. More than just healthy eating, *Thrive Under 5* was about connection, confidence and community. One of the cornerstones of the initiative was a series of *Totnosh* cooking sessions delivered in four blocks of six weeks across Newton Mearns, Busby, Eaglesham and Thornliebank. These sessions brought together 80 families, offering hands-on cooking experiences that were both fun and educational. In addition, 64 families took part in cooking classes at Crookfur Family Centre and Madras Primary School, learning practical skills they could take home and use every day and for parents of babies, *Starting Solids* sessions in Busby and Barrhead provided guidance and reassurance, with 41 parents and carers attending with 31 babies.

Thrive Under 5 also planted the seeds for future growth—literally—with the launch of the Family Growing Network, helping families connect with food from garden to plate. The first cooking session welcomed eight families and more are planned for later in the year. As Community connection was a key theme throughout the year, a *Thrive Under 5* community event brought together 21 adults and 24 children, offering a welcoming space for families to learn about local services. The event featured a wide range of partners, including Families First, Childsmile, MART, Community Chef, Work EastRen, Active Schools SLT, CAB as well as smoking cessation services. Recognising the importance of wellbeing beyond the kitchen, *Thrive Under 5* also offered two blocks of *YogaBellies* attended by 16 families supporting both physical and emotional health, creating moments of calm and connection for parents and children alike.



- New opportunities for low-income mum

Emma*, who is a lone parent, had been working 10 hours a week as a carer and ran some community groups on a voluntary basis. She was looking to increase her household income for her family.

She was initially referred to the Money Advice and Rights Team (MART) where she received financial advice. During the summer of 2024 she was supported to access the back-to-school clothing bank for her children. Emma was also looking for another job and was referred to the Work EastRen Team. After applying for a few jobs, she was invited to an interview with a national charity. She was provided with dedicated support from Work EastRen to help her prepare for the interview, with examples she could use for competency-based questions. Emma was then referred to *Dress for Success* where she was given a style appointment. She was successful at her interview and was offered the job. Emma is enjoying her job and is working full-time, which has increased her income to support her family.

Strategic Priority 2: Learning, Life and Work



The outcome we want is...

East Renfrewshire residents are healthy and active and have the skills for learning, life and work

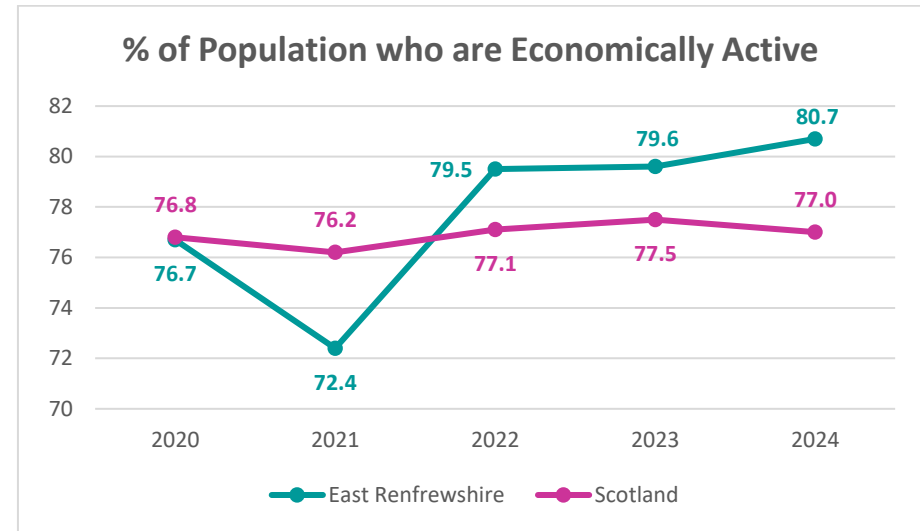
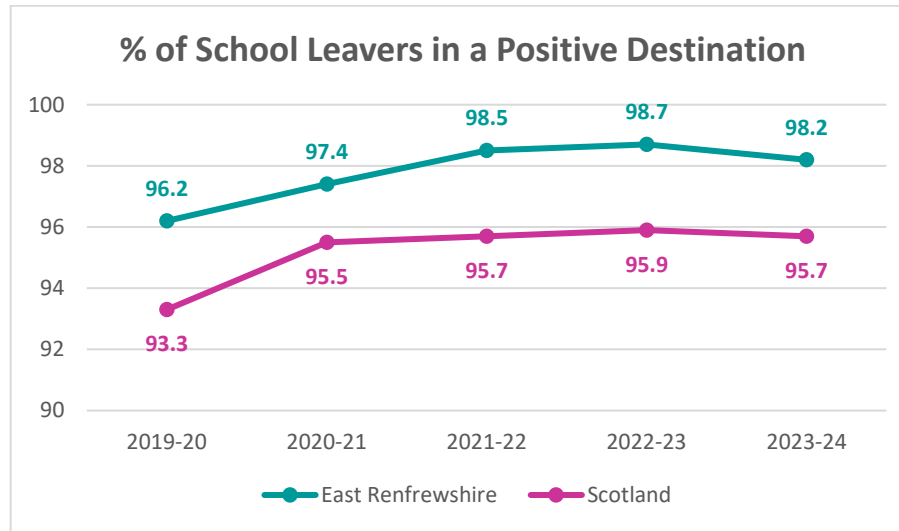
Our steps along the way to achieving this are...

- Residents have the right skills, learning opportunities and confidence to secure and sustain work (Fairer East Ren outcome)
- Children and young people are included
- Children and young people raise their educational attainment and develop the skills they need
- Residents are as healthy and active as possible

Community Plan Indicators

Learning, Life and Work								
Indicator	Rationale for inclusion	Aim to Maximise (↑) or Minimise (↓)	ERC Baseline	Previous data	Latest data	Direction of travel since last data update	ERC Performance against Scotland	Comments
% of School Leavers in a Positive Destination *CPOP Indicator (Scottish Government)	To help raise attainment and support school improvement, information is gathered annually on the attainment and destinations of school leavers across Scotland. East Renfrewshire generally has high levels of positive School Leaver Destinations. This will now be tracked rather than setting targets against this.		96.6% (2016-17)	98.7% (2022-23)	98.2% (2023-24)			The percentage of school leavers in a positive destination has dropped slightly but remains well above the national average of 95.7% (2023-24).
% of East Renfrewshire's population who are economically active (NOMIS, Annual Population Survey)	Proportion of 16-64 year olds in employment or actively seeking employment. East Renfrewshire requires an active working age population to provide the goods and services demanded by our residents.		75.9% (2018)	79.6% (2023)	80.7% (2024)			The percentage of economically active residents has increased by 1.1 percentage points since 2023, that is more than 3.5 percentage points higher than the Scottish average of 77.0% (2024).

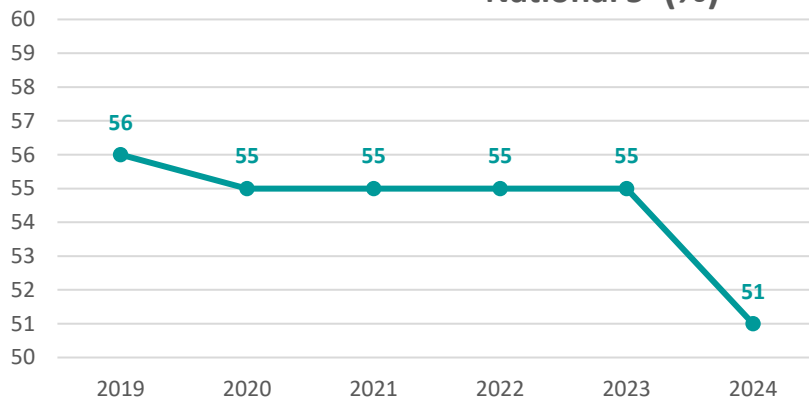
Strategic Priority 2 charts



Fairer East Ren progress

The following five indicators look at how we are progressing towards achieving the Fairer East Ren intermediate outcome: **Residents have the right skills, learning opportunities and confidence to secure and sustain work.** Work East Ren and the East Renfrewshire Local Employability Partnership continue to take an all-inclusive approach to providing a wide range of employability support to a wide range of residents – young people in education, employment and training; young people with additional support needs; care-experienced young people, people in recovery or with mental health issues; people with long-term health conditions or with a disability; people who have re-settled in East Renfrewshire as well as people who are long-term unemployed.

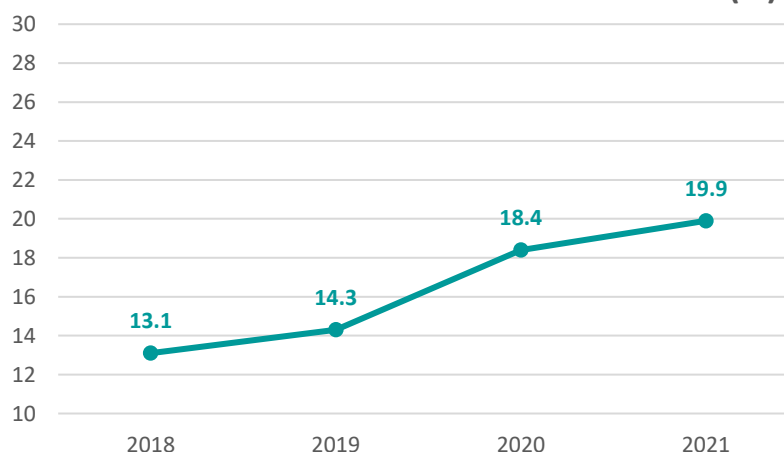
S4 pupils with school meal entitlement that achieved 5+ National 5 (%)



Source: ERC Education department

There was a decrease to 51% in 2024. This cohort was particularly impacted by the pandemic (being in P7 in March 2020) and experienced significant disruptions in their learning. Schools are placing a particular focus on these learners as part of the wider focus to tackle the attainment gap.

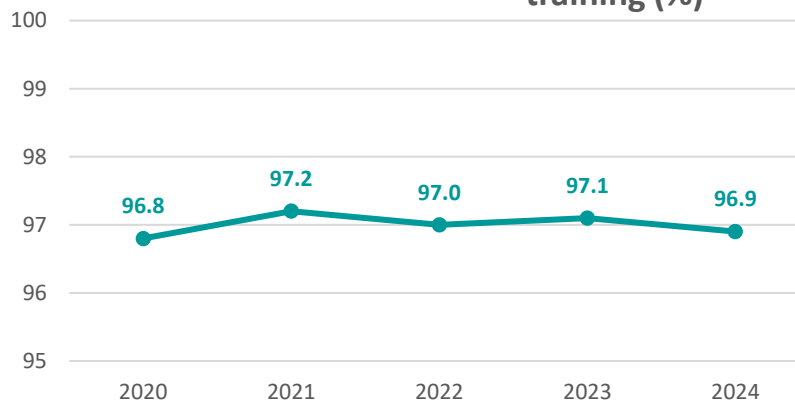
Workless Households (%)



Source: Nomis

There was an increase of 1.5 percentage points between 2020 and 2021, however the sample sizes are too small for reliable estimates to be made for 2022 and 2023.

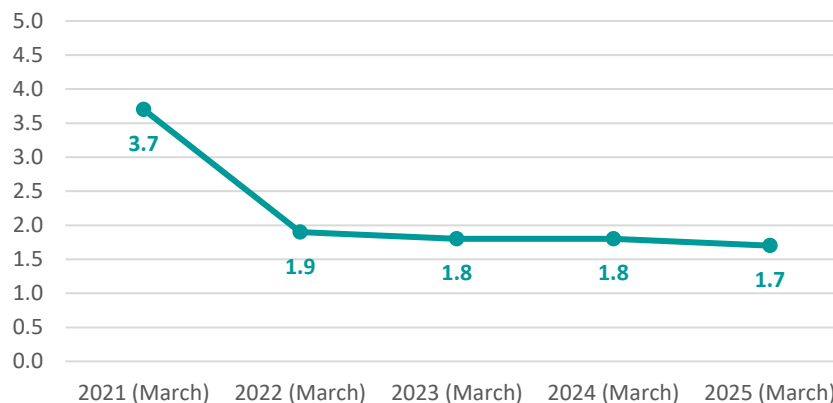
16-19 year olds participating in education, employment, or training (%)



The participation rate has remained largely the same as the previous year. It is above the Scottish average of 92.7%.

Source: SDS Annual Participation Measure Report

16-64 year olds claiming out of work benefits (%)



The percentage of 16-64 year olds claiming out of work benefits has remained largely the same as in previous years and is below the Scottish average of 3.1%.

Source: Nomis

Below is some of the work being undertaken so that our residents have the **right skills, learning opportunities and confidence to secure and sustain work:**

- ***Enable Next Steps*** providing tailored employability support

John*, who has autism and epilepsy, wanted a “hands-on” job in an area such as construction, landscaping or labouring. He wanted to work in a practical environment where he could gain experience, increase his independence and take steps toward sustainable employment. Early engagement with Enable allowed him to explore different employment options, receive support with employability skills and access funding opportunities.

In addition to low confidence and limited social skills, John faced other challenges including a lack of formal qualifications and work experience which restricted his ability to apply for certain apprenticeships. He also had practical barriers such as needing a CSCS card (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) and access to reliable transport. Through tailored and consistent support, these challenges were addressed and John worked closely with his advisor to create a CV, explore training and job opportunities as well as apply for funding through the Independent Living Fund (ILF), enabling him to purchase a laptop, toolbox, bicycle, book driving lessons and complete his CSCS card training. He was also supported with job applications and job fairs.

A suitable local volunteering opportunity was identified with a local charity and John's advisor supported him at a one hour trial. Since then, John has been volunteering in the collection van, working 9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday. He enjoyed the role, which helped boost his confidence and social skills, gave him structure and a daily routine. It also allowed him to build experience that aligned with his employment goals. He has since expressed a strong interest in finding a paid job similar to his volunteering role. With support, John has recently submitted job applications for driver's assistant positions and continues to actively job search with encouragement from his advisor and father. Although John has not yet secured paid employment, his progress has been substantial. He has gained his CSCS card, increased his confidence, improved his social skills, committed to daily volunteering and demonstrated motivation and a clear direction.

"My son has been working with Enable Works over the last few months. [He] is on the autism spectrum and finds it difficult to communicate with people. His key worker has supported him throughout and found a great volunteering opportunity where he goes out in the collection van assisting with deliveries and collecting large items for the shop. [His] confidence is improving by the day and he loves getting out and about rather than sitting in the house. Working with Enable Works has been extremely positive for [him]"

- Youth Employability Programme (YEP) supporting young person on their journey
As he was approaching the end of his Apprenticeship in a local high school with no guarantee of further similar work, Joe was struggling with his next steps. At his initial assessment with YEP client advisor, Mandy, Joe disclosed that he suffers from anxiety. This led to a discussion around further support, should it be required. The focus at first was on preparing a CV, looking for positions and assisting with interview preparation. A trainee sealant applicator post was found with a local employer and Joe was supported to apply as his skillset matched the job description.

"The help I got from Mandy was so good, I did not know how to begin putting together a CV and the interview help made me much more confident"

Joe received a quick response inviting him for interview and with the support of his advisor, completed interview preparation. Following a supported work trial, Joe was offered the position.

"I am settling in very well at my new job and have had no issues whatsoever"

Joe's Manager

"The service we received was excellent from start to finish. The support in advertising the vacancy and finding the right candidate was seamless and professional. Joe has been a fantastic addition to the team – he's settled in quickly, brings great energy to his role, and is already making a real contribution. We're really pleased with how everything has worked out."

Strategic Priority 3: Economy and Environment



The outcome we want is...

East Renfrewshire is a thriving attractive and sustainable place for business and residents

Our steps along the way to achieving this are...

- East Renfrewshire's transport links are accessible, attractive and seamless (Fairer East Ren outcome)
- East Renfrewshire is a thriving place to invest and for businesses to grow
- East Renfrewshire is an attractive place to live with a good physical environment
- East Renfrewshire is a great place to visit
- East Renfrewshire is environmentally sustainable

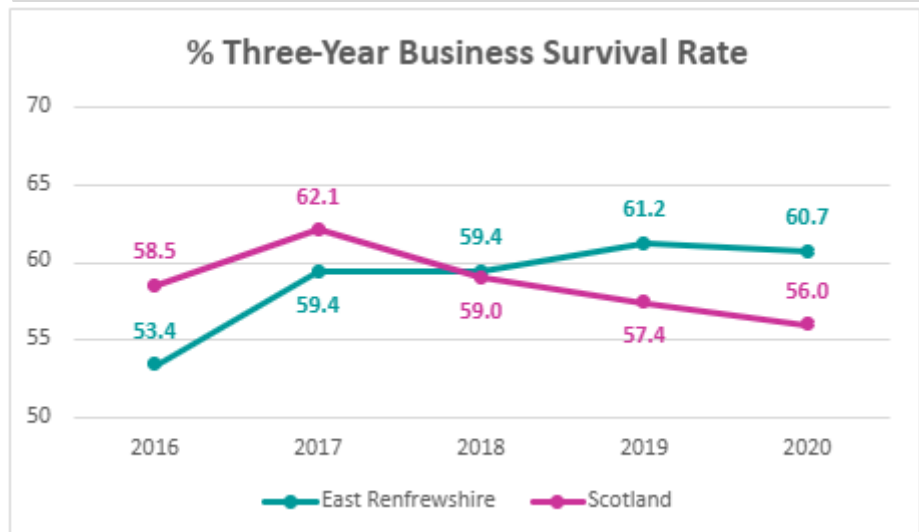
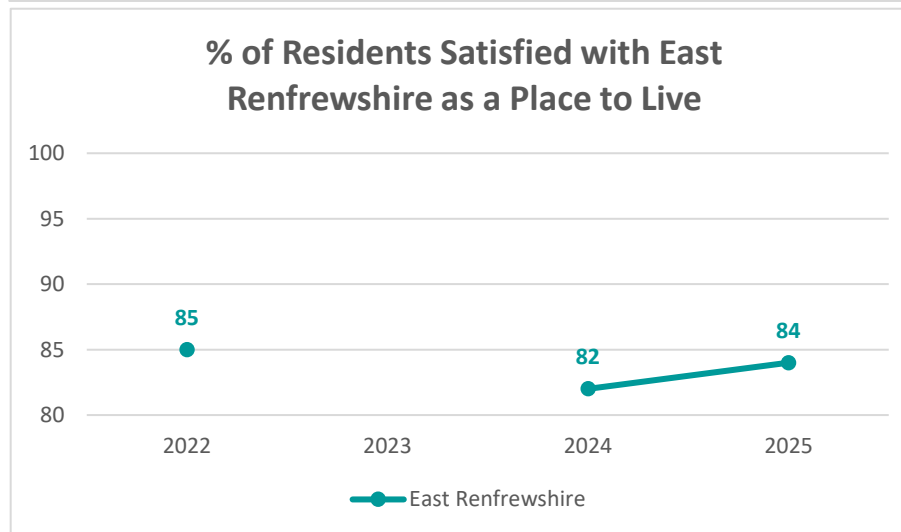
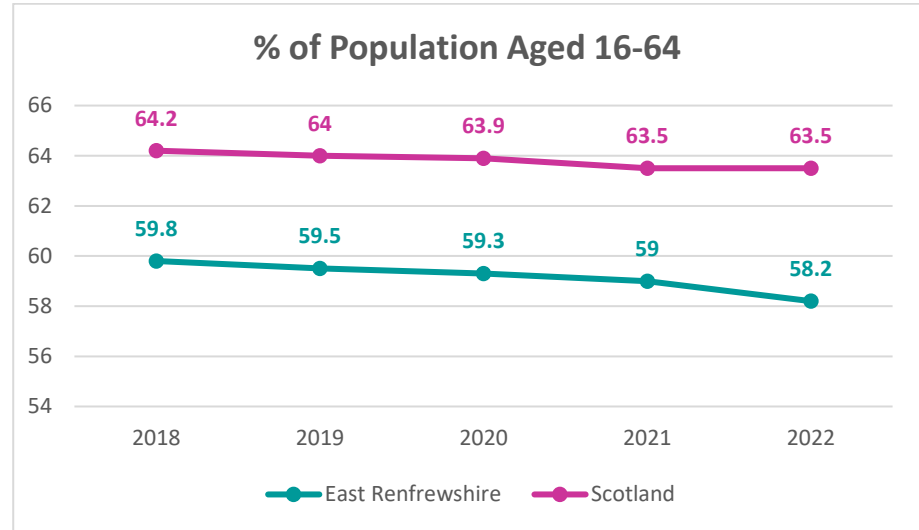
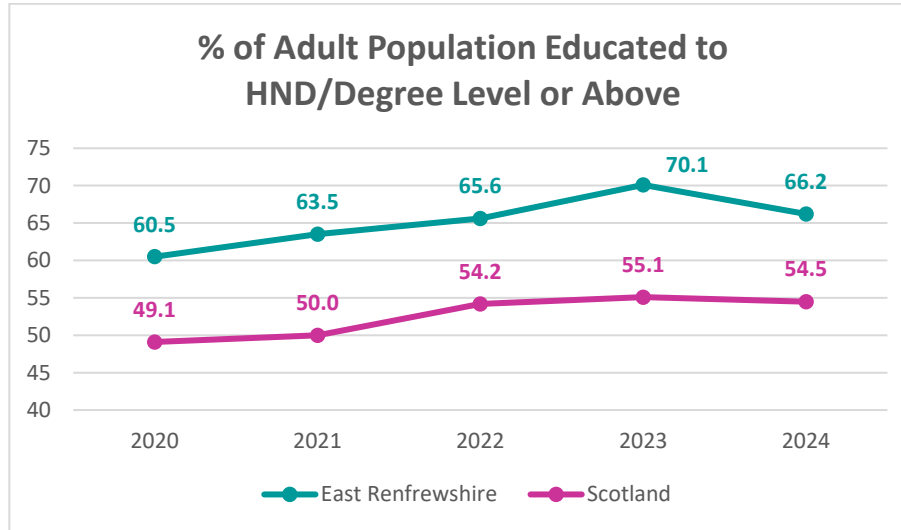
Community Plan Indicators

Economy and Environment								
Indicator	Rationale for inclusion	Aim to Maximise (↑) or Minimise (↓)	ERC Baseline	Previous data	Latest data	Direction of travel since last data update	ERC Performance against Scotland	Comments
% of adult population with qualifications at RQF level 4 (HND/Degree) and above (NOMIS, Annual Population Survey)	Gives an indication of how skilled our working age population is.	↑	54.6% (2018)	70.1% (2023))	66.2% (2024)	↓		Although East Renfrewshire has seen a decrease in the last year, the latest rate of 66.2% is higher than the Scottish average of 54.5% (2024).
% of population aged 16-64 (NOMIS, Annual Population Survey)	East Renfrewshire relies on its working age population to contribute to the production of the local economy as well as providing vital services for our children, young people and older people.	↑	59.8% (2018)	59% (2021)	58.2% (2022)	↓		The working age population has shown a gradual decline over the last few years and the latest figure of 58.2% is lower than the Scottish average of 63.5% (2022).
% of residents who are satisfied or very satisfied with East Renfrewshire as a place to live (Citizens Panel)	Gives a general sense as to how residents feel about living in the East Renfrewshire area.	↑	94% (2019)	82% (2024)	84% (2025)	↑	N/A	Satisfaction with East Renfrewshire as a place to live is 84%, an increase of 2 percentage points since 2024. As the Citizens' Panel survey is bespoke to East Renfrewshire, there are no national comparisons available.

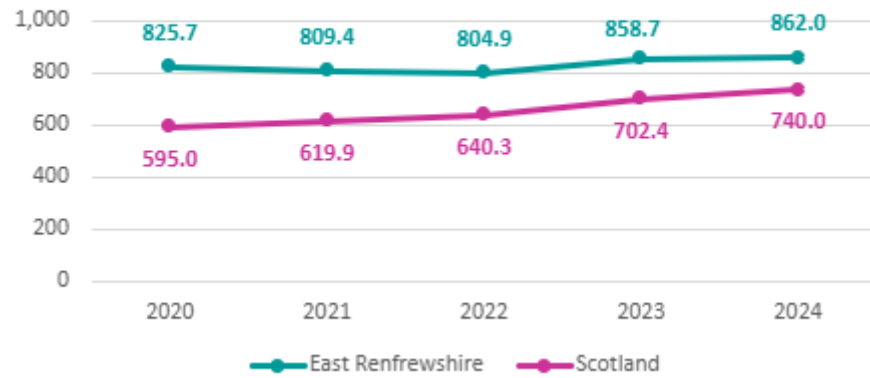
Economy and Environment								
Indicator	Rationale for inclusion	Aim to Maximise (↑) or Minimise (↓)	ERC Baseline	Previous data	Latest data	Direction of travel since last data update	ERC Performance against Scotland	Comments
Business Survival Rates (Scottish Government)	A ratio of the number of businesses still trading after 3 years against the number of new businesses set up at the same time	↑	60.3% (2014)	61.2% (2019)	60.7% (2020)	↓	●	The 3-Year business survival rate for 2020 is 60.7%. That is, 60.7% of businesses that were created in 2020 were still active in 2023. This puts East Renfrewshire above the Scottish average of 56% (2020).
Median Earnings for residents living in the East Renfrewshire area who are employed *CPOP Indicator (Office for National Statistics – Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings)	Provides a measure of median earnings for full-time workers who are resident in the area.	↑	£685.40 (2017)	£858.70 (2023)	£862.00 (2024)	↑	●	The current median earnings has increased and remains significantly higher than the Scottish average of £740.00 (2024).

Economy and Environment								
Indicator	Rationale for inclusion	Aim to Maximise (↑) or Minimise (↓)	ERC Baseline	Previous data	Latest data	Direction of travel since last data update	ERC Performance against Scotland	Comments
Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Emissions per Resident *CPOP Indicator (Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy)	In recent years, increasing emphasis has been placed on the role of regional bodies and local government in contributing to energy efficiency improvements, and reductions in carbon dioxide emissions.		4.6 tCO₂e (2015-16)	3.8 tCO₂e (2021-22)	3.6 tCO₂e (2022-23)			The number of CO ₂ emissions per resident has decreased slightly in the last year and compares favourably with the Scottish average of 4.8 tCO ₂ e.

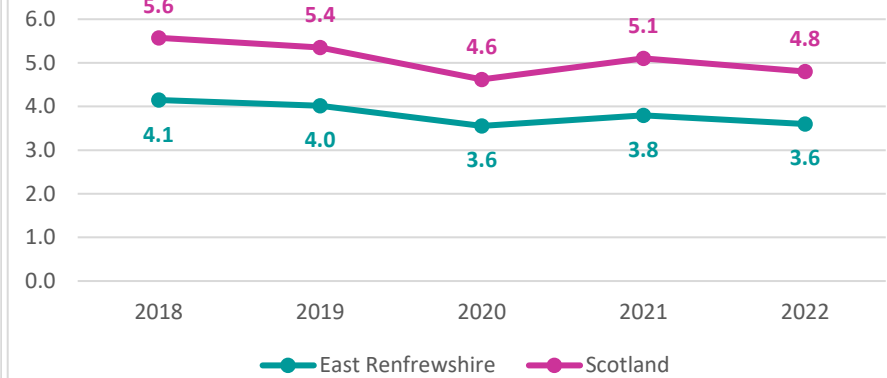
Strategic Priority 3 Charts



Median earnings for residents living in the East Renfrewshire area who are employed (£)



Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Emissions per Resident (tonnes)



Fairer East Ren progress

Fairer East Ren intermediate outcome: **East Renfrewshire transport links are accessible, attractive and seamless.**

Following consultation with a range of stakeholders including third sector partners, community transport stakeholders and East Renfrewshire Citizens' Panel members, a draft Local Transport Strategy (LTS) has been developed. There are five key objectives:

- Enabling more walking, cycling and wheeling
- Support liveable, resilient and thriving communities
- Improve public transport connectivity and accessibility
- Transition to a net zero transport system
- Provision of safe, sustainable, efficient and equitable movement of people and goods

Emerging outcomes from the new LTS will include:

- Increased proportion of journeys undertaken by foot, bike and public transport for everyday or work purposes
- Reduced road transport emissions
- Increased footfall across town and neighbourhood centres, while reducing the number of trips undertaken by private car
- Ongoing year-on-year decrease in casualties on the local road network

Further details regarding our local transport priorities and outcomes will be published during 2025.

The East Renfrewshire Accelerator (ERA) programme, was launched in February 2024 and aimed to help 9 local businesses achieve a turnover of £250,000 and create at least one new job opportunity per business within three years. The Programme provided a wide range of support including technological adoption, sustainability and strengthening the local entrepreneurial landscape.

The participating businesses were provided with tailored support and expert advice, as well as access to co-working space within the Greenlaw Works in Newton Mearns.

During their time as part of ERA, the cohort's combined turnover has risen from just under £900,000 to a projected £3.8 million in 2025 and by 2027 a projected turnover of £14.6m. They have also increased staffing from 23 to an expected 54 employees by next year and by 2027, over 300 new jobs are projected.

Strategic Priority 4: Safe, Supportive Communities



The outcome we want is...

East Renfrewshire residents are safe and live in supportive communities

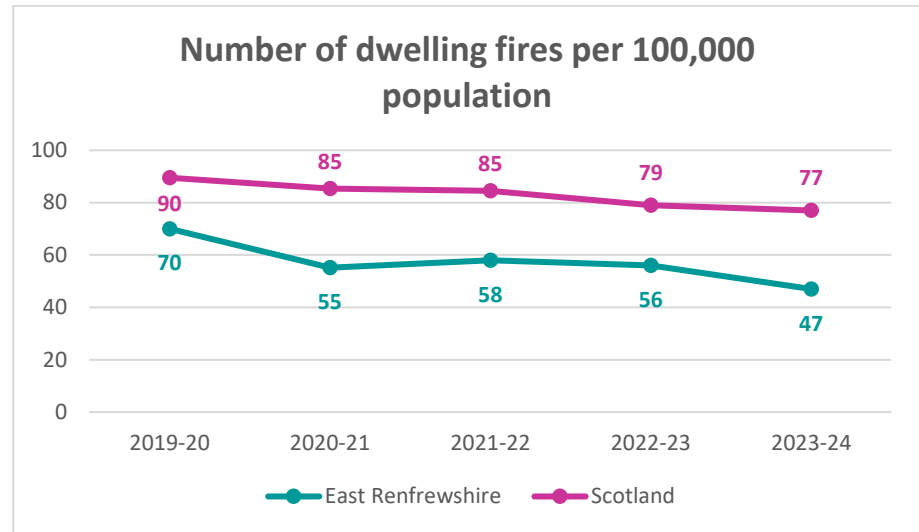
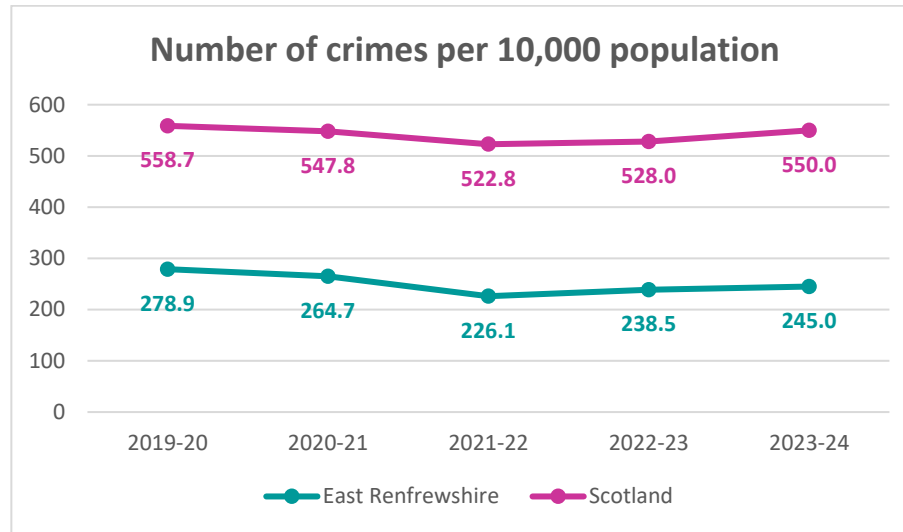
Our steps along the way to achieving this are...

- Residents' mental health and wellbeing is improved (Fairer East Ren outcome)
- Residents live in safe communities with low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Residents are protected from harm and abuse and public protection is safeguarded
- Residents live in communities that are strong, self-sufficient and resilient
- Residents are protected from drug and alcohol related harm

Community Plan Indicators

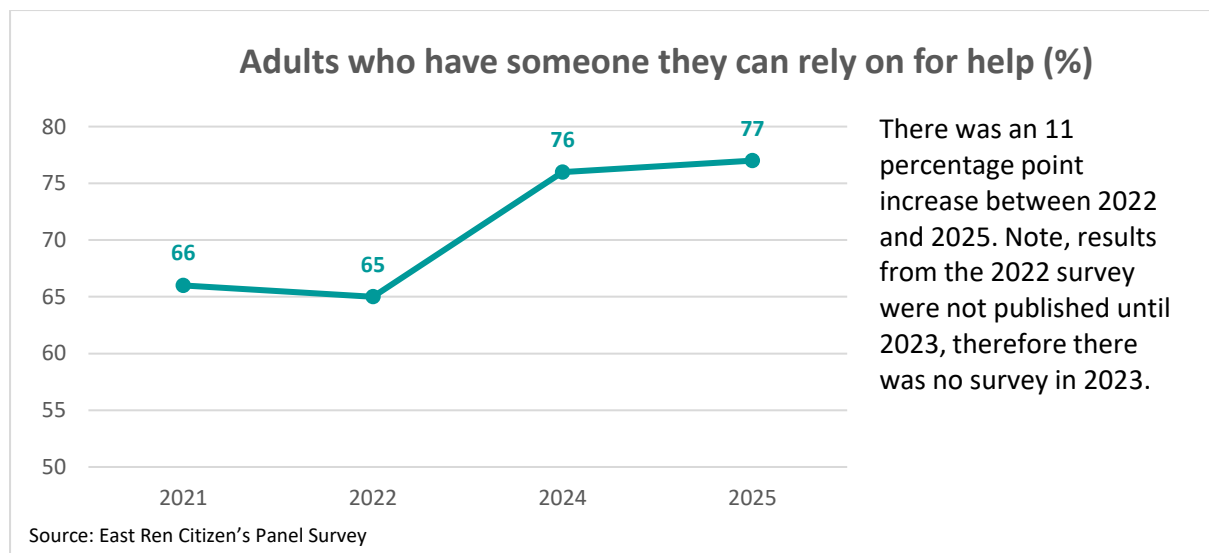
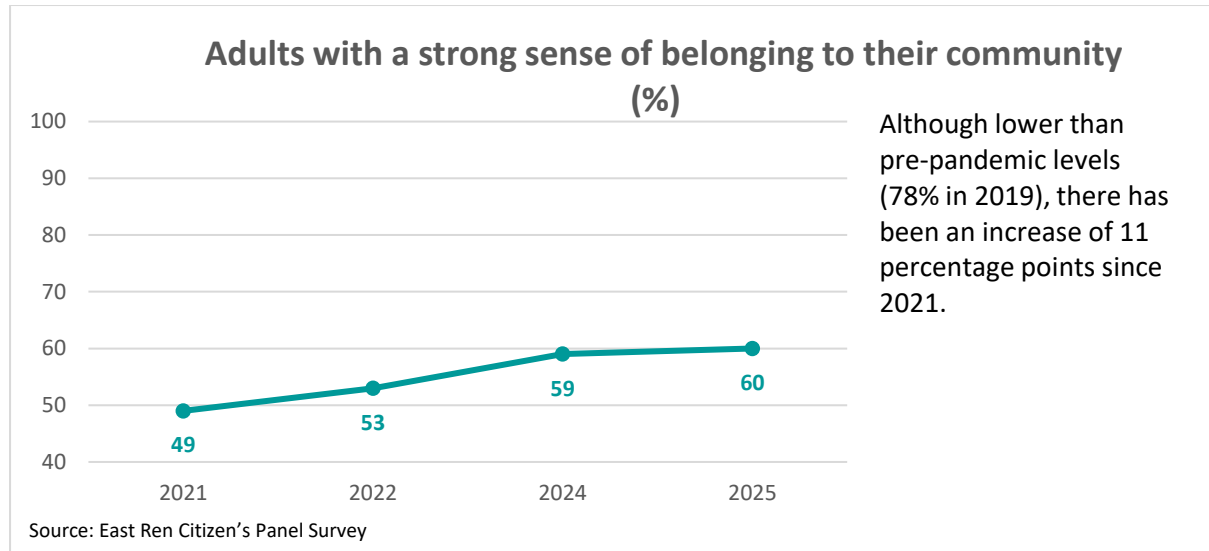
Safe, Supportive Communities								
Indicator	Rationale for inclusion	Aim to Maximise (↑) or Minimise (↓)	ERC Baseline	Previous data	Latest data	Direction of travel since last data update	ERC Performance against Scotland	Comments
Number of crimes per 10,000 population *CPOP Indicator (Scottish Government (Police Scotland))	Measure of crimes taking place in the area, indicating how safe the area is to live in.	↓	312.1 (2017-18)	238.5 (2022-23)	245.0 (2023-24)	↑	●	There has been an increase of 6.5 crimes per 10,000 population to 245.0. East Renfrewshire remains below the national average of 550 (2023-24).
Number of dwelling fires per 100,000 population *CPOP Indicator (Scottish Fire and Rescue (data provided to the CPOP))	Seeks to establish the number of deliberate fires and the work of Scottish Fire and Rescue within the CPP in reducing deliberate fires. Also supports the work of SFR education communities and making residents safer from the risks of accidental fires.	↓	68 (2016-17)	56 (2022-23)	47 (2023-24)	↓	●	This figure has decreased from 56 to 47 since the previous year and remains below the national average of 77 (2023-24).

Strategic Priority 4 Charts



Fairer East Ren Progress

The two indicators for the Fairer East Ren intermediate outcome - **Residents' mental health is improved** – provide a subjective view of how residents feel about their community and their relationships within it. Some of the initiatives that have taken place over the last year to support residents with their mental health include the introduction of a wheelie-based walk in Cowan Park in Barrhead for residents who use walking aids and nine community walks delivered by twenty six volunteer walk leaders who have been trained by our partner organisation, *Paths for All*. On average, 900 walkers attend every week.



Read the two stories below to see what's been happening in communities to **improve residents' mental health**:

- Volunteer walk leader, Elaine, challenging perceptions about disability

Elaine, a volunteer walk leader and wheelchair user at *Barrhead Roll and Stroll*, has raised awareness and encouraged participation at community events. Their advocacy has helped expand the reach of the programme, attracting new participants and fostering a sense of community engagement. Recently, Elaine began living independently for the first time, a transition that presented new challenges, however instead of allowing this change to become a barrier, they proactively sought support through Talking Points (local community hub offering informal support in health & wellbeing), demonstrating their resilience and ability to adapt to new circumstances. As a result, Elaine has applied for three different volunteer positions within the community, showcasing their determination to grow and contribute in new ways. As a wheelchair user, they have broken down barriers and shown that disability is not an obstacle to leadership and community engagement. With the right encouragement and opportunities, they have successfully navigated various roles, gained invaluable experience and continued to seek new avenues for growth. Elaine's dedication and enthusiasm highlight the impact that volunteering can have on both individuals and the wider community, proving that physical limitations do not prevent someone from inspiring others in community activities.

- Celebrating Aileen - a dedicated fundraiser and volunteer walk leader

Volunteer walk leader, Aileen, from Rouken Glen Community Walk, has been fundraising for *Children in Need* for over four decades. Over the years, her efforts have grown from baking and selling cakes to her neighbours to walking with her family in tutus to raise funds. For the past three years, she has organised a special *Children in Need* walk with the Rouken Glen group, featuring memorable moments like a piper in 2023 and a choir in 2024. Her tireless efforts were recognised nationally in 2022 when she was awarded the *Sir Terry Wogan Fundraiser of the Year* award and in November 2024 Aileen raised over £1,000 by organising a walk around Rouken Glen pond, collecting money and setting up a donation page. Aileen's passion and dedication continue to inspire everyone around her and her outstanding contributions were further recognised in February 2025, when she was named *East Renfrewshire Volunteer of the Year*. This prestigious award acknowledges her unwavering commitment to both her local community and charitable causes.

Strategic Priority 5: Older people and People with Long Term Conditions



The outcome we want is...

Older people and people with Long Term Conditions in East Renfrewshire are valued; their voices are heard and they enjoy full and positive lives

Our steps along the way to achieving this are...

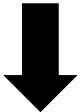
Residents are safe and more socially connected within their communities (Fairer East Ren outcome)

Older people and people with Long Term Conditions stay as healthy as possible

Older people and people with Long Term Conditions live safely and independently in the community

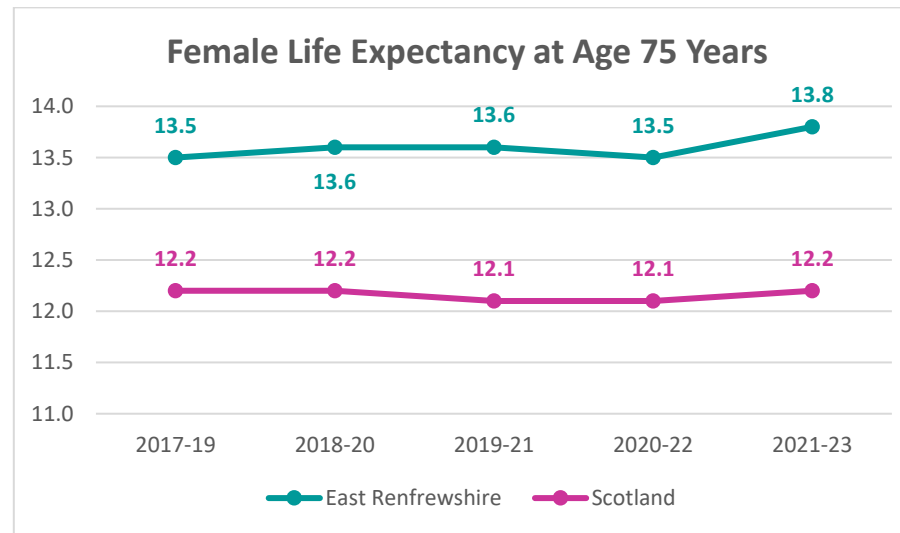
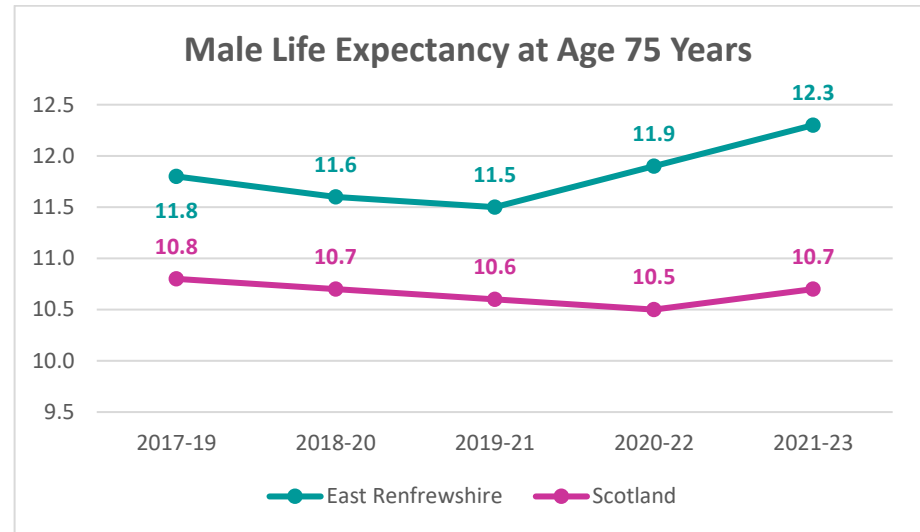
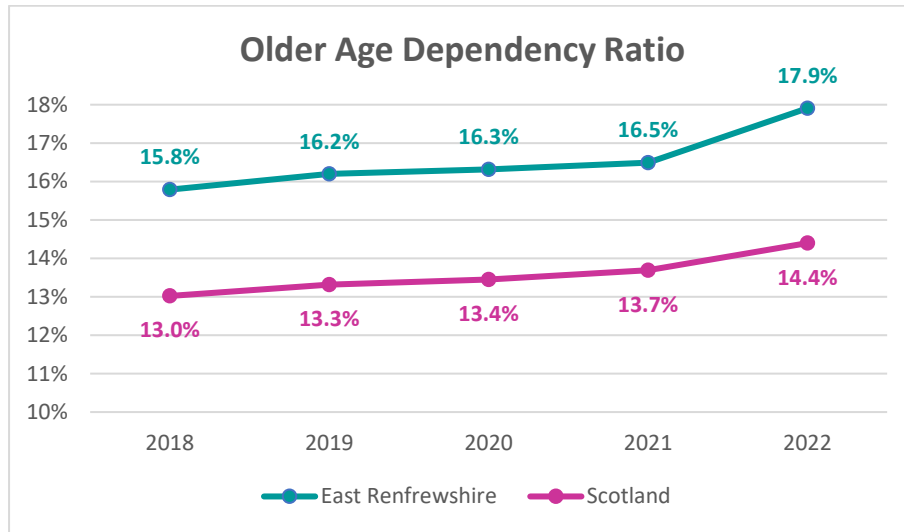
Carers are valued and can maintain their own health and wellbeing

Community Plan indicators

Older People and People with Long Term Conditions								
Indicator	Rationale for inclusion	Aim to Maximise (↑) or Minimise (↓)	ERC Baseline	Previous data	Latest data	Direction of travel since last data update	ERC Performance against Scotland	Comments
Older Age Dependency Ratio (Ratio of people aged 75+ to the working age population aged 16-64) (NRS Population Estimates)	Ratio of older people 75+ to the working age population (16-64). A rise in this ratio, coupled with the cost of care for older people, indicates that the CPP may have a greater challenge in providing care for its older population.		15.8 (2018)	16.5 (2021)	17.9 (2022)			Ratio of older people 75+ to the working age population has shown a gradual increase since 2018. This is a national trend, but East Renfrewshire remains higher than the national average (14.4%).
Male Life Expectancy at age 75 Years (NRS)	Provides an estimate of how many further years a 75-year-old male residing in East Renfrewshire today can expect to live. Based on mortality rates at the time.		11.8 (2015-17)	11.9 (2020-22)	12.3 (2021-23)			Male life expectancy at age 75 has increased slightly. East Renfrewshire has a higher life expectancy rate at the same age than the Scottish average - 10.7 (2021-23).

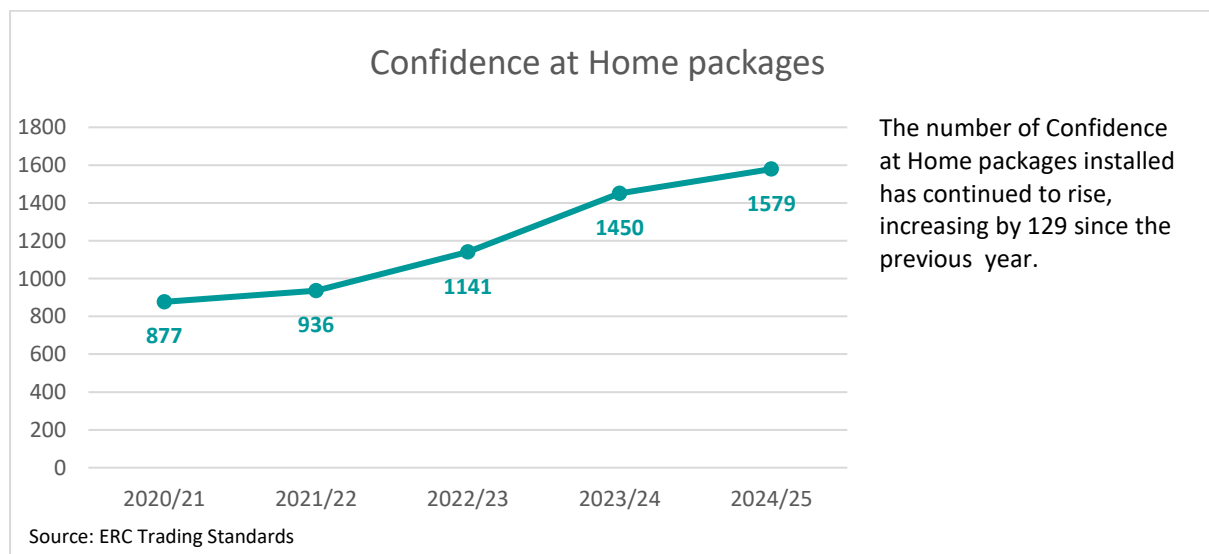
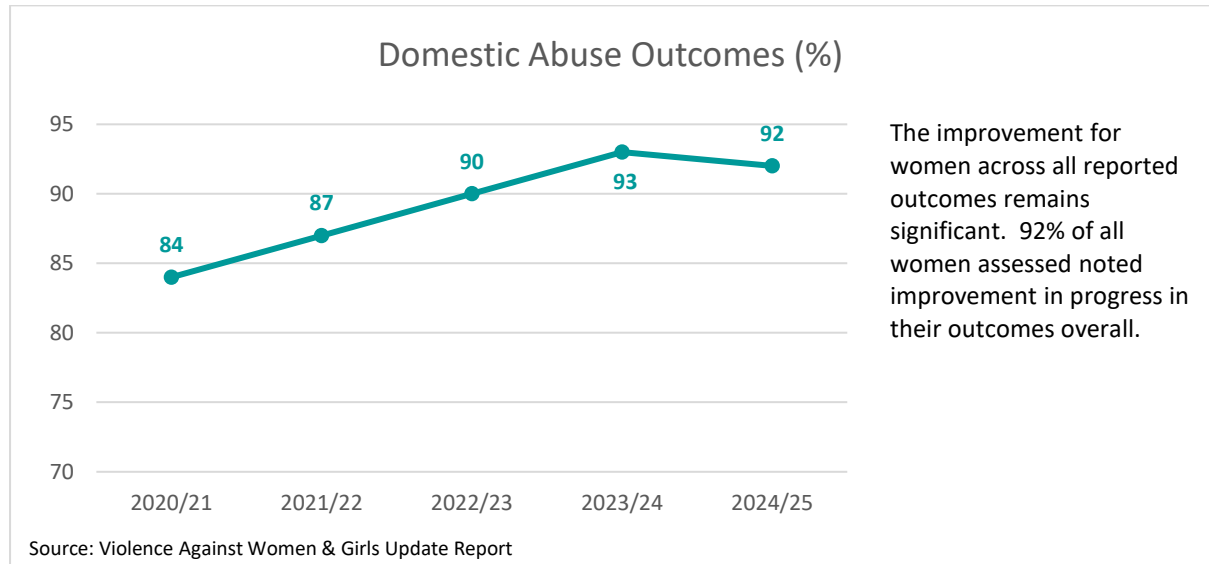
Female Life Expectancy at age 75 Years (NRS)	Provides an estimate of how many further years a 75 year old female residing in East Renfrewshire today can expect to live. Based on mortality rates at the time.		13.1 (2015-17)	13.5 (2020-22)	13.8 (2021-23)			Female life expectancy at age 75 has increased slightly. East Renfrewshire has a higher life expectancy rate at the same age than the Scottish average - 12.2 (2021-23).
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Strategic Priority 5 Charts

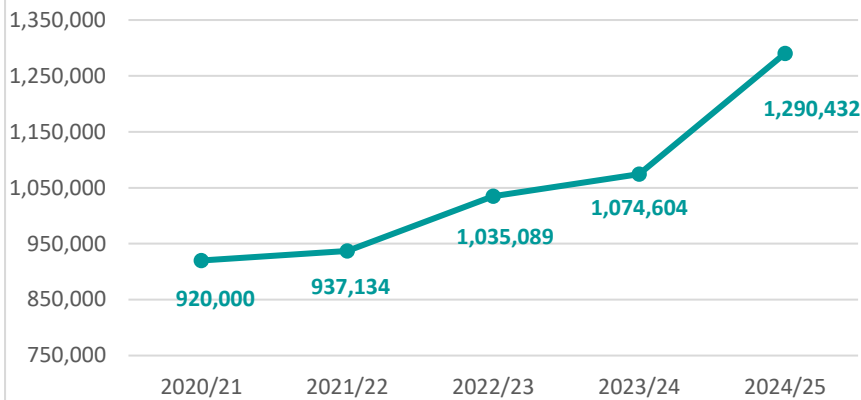


Fairer East Ren Progress

The five indicators below show how **safe and more socially connected our residents feel within their communities**. A total of **622 fire home safety visits** were carried out between April 2024 and March 2025 during which fire and non-fire related risks were identified in residents' homes. In addition, a total of **1,245 scam prevention packs were distributed** to residents providing them with valuable resources and information to help them feel safe.



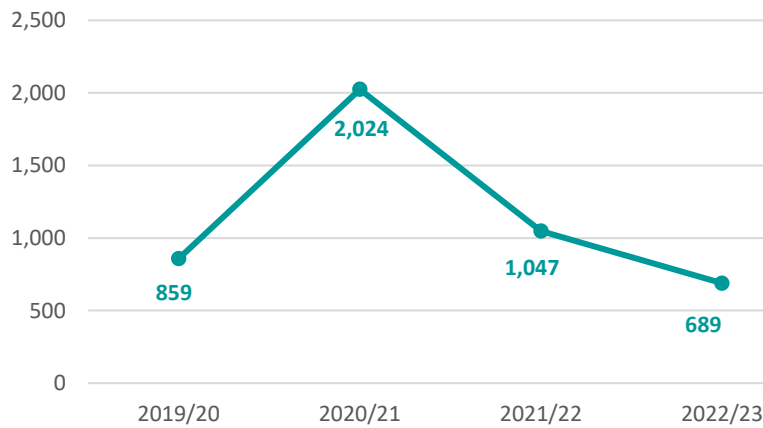
No. of nuisance calls blocked



The number of nuisance calls blocked has risen by 215, 828, a 20% increase.

Source: ERC Trading Standards

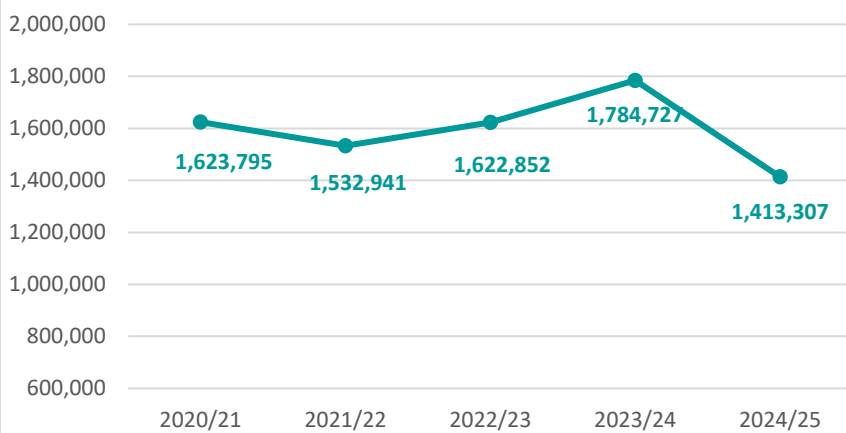
No. of public nuisance calls



The number of public nuisance calls has decreased by more than a third (34.2%) since 2021-22. Public nuisance calls data from Police Scotland for 2023/24 will not be available until June 2025.

Source: Police Scotland

Park footfall (no. of people)



Park footfall has fallen more than 10% during the last year.

Source: Travel and Tourism Business Development Portal

See how community planning partners have been working to keep our residents **safe** and **socially connected within their communities**:

- 92-year-old Fatima *enjoying life again after a fall

During assessment by the Community Rehabilitation team after a fall, Fatima's husband said he had noticed his wife was spending more time sitting rather than being up and about. Over six weeks, the team helped her to improve her strength, balance, mobility and confidence through a rehabilitation programme including exercise and nutrition advice to preserve her independence and ability to move safely and access outdoors. Fatima's husband also took part in the home exercises as he too was keen to keep himself as fit as possible. A Telecare community alarm was installed and referral was made to MART for income maximisation and advice. As neither of them had had a sight test for years, this was also arranged to reduce the risk of further falls.

- George * struggling after stroke

George who is in his nineties was no longer able to participate in the activities he once enjoyed following a stroke, which was negatively impacting his mood. Suitable support options were explored following a needs assessment and George's son was provided with one-to-one and group information on Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland, local memories groups, mobility-friendly activities and local stroke support groups as well as the befriending services offered by Mearns Kirk Helping Hands.

Locality Planning in Auchenback, Barrhead, Neilston and Thornliebank



Our Community Planning Partnership (CPP) continues to work to reduce the inequalities experienced by residents in those areas where outcomes in health, employment, education and experience of crime can be disproportionately poorer when compared with other areas of East Renfrewshire. These areas are Dunterlie, Arthurlie & Dovecothall (ADD2); Auchenback; Neilston and Thornliebank (Locality Planning Areas).

Throughout 2024-25 there have been a number of community engagement opportunities including public meetings, surveys and information sessions for residents to identify key priorities in their community. Progress in the development of refreshed locality plans varies across all four areas.

Thornliebank

Locality planning is led by *Thornliebank Together* who have undertaken a robust programme of community engagement to understand resident priorities for the area. To support local people to get involved, *Thornliebank Together* carried out online and paper surveys and held face-to-face drop-in events. Findings are currently being collated to identify local priorities and the results will be shared with the local community and partners when available.

Neilston

Following several local meetings and drop-in events, residents have worked alongside partners to respond to some of the priorities identified in the consultation process. This included the creation of

a local community directory providing information on the activities and groups which exist in the village. The Community Learning and Development (CLD) team will continue to engage with community members to identify next steps.

Arthurlie, Dunterlie and Dovecothall (ADD2)

The CLD team has held a number of public meetings and drop-in events to engage with residents across the ADD2 area. Unfortunately, these events have not been well attended. Work is currently underway to engage with a variety of community stakeholders to understand their aspirations for their community and how they wish to engage in this process. This will ensure they are central to the development of future plans.

Auchenback

Discussions are underway between Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) and the CLD team to identify opportunities to work in partnership in the creation of a community-led place plan for Auchenback, thus shaping a broader locality plan for the area.

In June 2024, SCDC began a programme of support to help strengthen and improve local community engagement and participation. This was carried out via training workshops which explored the principles, standards, processes and methods that underpin good practice in community engagement.

Eight sessions took place between June 2024 and January 2025 and delivered to 88 participants across the Council. These covered:

- The key values and principles which underpin a good community engagement process and planning and evaluating engagement practice
- The policy landscape associated with engagement and available supporting resources including the National Standards for Community Engagement
- Community engagement methods, from social media to story dialogue
- The core principles of co-production, its position within engagement practices and its successful implementation.

The learning from these sessions will continue to inform how we engage and work with our localities across our community planning structures to support the development and delivery of locality plans that reflect the needs of each individual area.



Report produced by Strategic Services Team, East Renfrewshire Council

Contact:

Claire Coburn, Strategic Services Lead Officer: Claire.Coburn@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE A PLACE TO GROW

Delivery Plan 2025/26

our vision for East Renfrewshire is a place where . . .

our children
and young people
flourish

our communities
and places
thrive

we all
live well



Introduction

This is the delivery plan for the Place to Grow vision which sets out our shared hopes and aspirations between now and 2040 so that in East Renfrewshire:

- **children and young people flourish**
- **communities and places thrive; and**
- **we all live well.**

Under these three pillars we have a set of outcome priorities to help us achieve our vision. This delivery plan presents key partnership and strategic actions against each priority outcome that will help us bring about meaningful change for our communities. We have also developed a family of measures that will tell us if we are making progress towards our priority outcomes. Measuring the impact of 'A Place to Grow' is intended to be more holistic and will evolve over time. This means grouping measures together and using qualitative data and case studies to tell the story in a more rounded, meaningful way.

It is crucial that this plan is delivered in partnership so that we can pool resources, expertise and knowledge to have maximum impact. We will work in genuine collaboration and partnership with our communities, public sector partners and the voluntary and business sectors to create solutions together, and this will involve collective commitment and accountability.

How the plan is laid out

The plan is structured under each pillar however it is important to emphasise the strong synergy and interdependence between the three pillars. Where an action or measure is placed in one pillar it does not mean it will not influence or impact another.



Pillar 1

focuses on creating a community where all children and young people can flourish through our schools, services, community groups, sports, culture and leisure centres and most importantly within their own family home or with those who are caring for them.

Pillar 2

is about ensuring we can all live in a place that supports our wellbeing. It is about having the right homes, a healthy local economy, good transport links and an environment that people are proud to live in and take care of.

Pillar 3

is the ambition that we can all live and age well in East Renfrewshire. It is about ensuring our communities and third sector partners are empowered to lead on solutions for change and good health and we work together to reduce health inequity and poverty. It is about celebrating the diversity of East Renfrewshire.

Under each pillar there is a section with the priority outcomes and the actions that will help us deliver the outcomes - ***“What we will do”***

Below that is a section with the measures we will use to ***“know we are making progress”***. These include population-level measures such as life expectancy or child poverty which we may not be able to directly impact, however with the sum of all our partnership efforts and activity, we would hope to see improve over the long-term. We also have measures on how we are performing as a Community Planning Partnership to ensure the best outcomes for our people, and measures to help understand how people feel about living in East Renfrewshire and the services they receive.

Measures will be grouped into families that, when taken together, with descriptive case studies, provide a more balanced, richer picture tied to our shared strategic ambitions. New measures and ways of measuring progress are expected to emerge, and some traditional measures may become less useful and no longer be reported. Some of the population-level measures may show little change in the short-term so we may not report on them as frequently.

Each activity and measure has a letter **U** or **L** beside it.

U is for **Universal** and
L is for **Lifting**.

If it is **‘Universal’** it is for everyone living and working in East Renfrewshire.

Our **‘Lifting’** activities and measures are where we will be working in partnership to tackle the inequalities and barriers that some people face. This may be due to poverty or trauma or living with a disability or long-term condition. The ‘Lifting’ activities and measures are our Local Outcome Improvement Plan required by the Community Empowerment Act, 2015.



Pillar 1

58

Our ambition for East Renfrewshire is that **every child and young person**, regardless of background or circumstance, will **fully flourish** on their journey to adulthood.



Key Leads and partnerships

Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People Partnership, CLD Partnership, East Renfrewshire Council (ERC), HSCP and Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire (VAER), Barrhead Housing Association, Local Employability Partnership.

Outcome Priority

What we will do (Universal- U, Lifting- L)

Our children and young people will experience love, safety, happiness, good physical and emotional health , have friends and adults they trust, and hope for the future.	Create a better understanding of how children and young people are experiencing love/happiness through developing an outcome measure tool.	U
	Develop a Multi-Agency Parenting Strategy to support families around key child development needs and milestones that includes a specific focus on supporting parents of children with Additional Support Needs and neurodiverse children and young people.	U/L
	Create a baseline of child health and wellbeing measures for target groups.	L
Achievement will continue to improve in all our establishments, with every child and young person in East Renfrewshire learning successfully and being well prepared for their future .	Support our children and young people to know themselves as learners, equipping them with the skills for learning, life and work.	U
	Design a curriculum in partnership, that is based on the needs of our community and ensures all children and young people can flourish.	U
	Ensure equity of access to wider achievement opportunities for targeted groups in community settings.	L
	Strengthen our whole family support for families with children and young people with additional support needs by empowering families and third sector organisations.	L
	Direct and target support to young people at risk of not achieving a positive or sustainable post school destination.	L

Outcome Priority

59

What we will do (Universal- U, Lifting- L)

Children and young people facing challenges and disadvantage will be supported as early as possible in a compassionate and aspirational way that builds on their strengths .	Ensure that all partners understand and deliver key responsibilities linked to The Promise including: - tracking of experience and outcomes for care experienced children and young people; - providing opportunities for engagement and participation; - early intervention of whole family support; and - providing a secure home and community connections to care experienced young people helping them to live successfully in their community.	U
	Work in partnership to respond to the needs of children and young people, particularly those at risk from harmful behaviours, through targeted prevention and early intervention programmes that support their wellbeing, sense of belonging and responsibility to their local community.	L
	Strengthen our strategic focus to reducing child poverty through using data to understand the multiple factors of poverty and target interventions.	L
	Ensure access to high quality support networks and facilitate community-based resources for families of children with complex needs through strengthening community groups and the third sector.	L
The voice of every child and young person will be heard and their rights recognised, respected and nurtured	Strengthen and embed approaches to ensure that we work in partnership with and actively involve children and young people in decisions that may affect them and have effective systems in place to collate and share this information.	U
	Strengthen our capacity and expertise to create a consistent approach to child friendly communications across the Council and wider partnership.	U
	Deliver training to equip our workforce to engage with children and young people from key equity groups e.g. children with additional support needs and care experienced children and young people.	L
	Enhance our technology and tools to support child friendly communication in different forms.	L

We will know we are making progress by:

Outcome Priority	Indicator Universal or Lifting (U/L)	Aim to
Our children and young people will experience love, safety, happiness, good physical and emotional health , have friends and adults they trust, and hope for the future.	% of children meeting their developmental milestones by start of P1 by SIMD area.	U/L Increase
	Child healthy weight in primary 1 by SIMD area.	L Track
	Exclusive breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks in 15% most deprived SIMD data zones.	L Increase
	% of children with child protection plans assessed as having increase in their level of safety.	L Increase
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	% of homes with child play spaces within 5-minute walk (via GIS)	U Tracking
	Happiness measure	U Tracking
	BeWell Survey - wellbeing/resilience/connectedness	U/L Tracking
	Whole Family Wellbeing Scale (Parents/carers accessing holistic family support indicate improvement in wellbeing)	L Increase
	Active Schools participation rate by SIMD schools and for key equity groups	L Increase
	% participation and impact of parenting programme	L Tracking

Outcome Priority	61 Indicator Universal or Lifting (U/L)	Aim to
Achievement will continue to improve in all our establishments, with every child and young person in East Renfrewshire learning successfully and being well prepared for their future .	% of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined achieving expected CFE level in literacy.	U Increase
	% of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined achieving expected CFE level in numeracy.	U Increase
	Annual Participation Measure: 16-19-year-olds participating in education, employment or training.	U Increase
	Number of awards achieved by YP through school and community and number of C&YP achieving awards.	U Increase
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage.</i>	
	Number of volunteer placements for young people.	U Increase
	% of vulnerable children and young people (poverty, ASN and care experienced) accessing sport and physical activities holiday camps / activities.	L Increase
Children and young people facing challenges and disadvantage will be supported as early as possible in a compassionate and aspirational way that builds on their strengths .	Literacy attainment gap (P1,4,7 combined) - percentage point gap between the least deprived and most deprived pupils.	L Decrease
	Numeracy attainment gap (P1,4,7 combined) - percentage point gap between the least deprived and most deprived pupils.	L Decrease
	% of children living in poverty.	L Decrease
	% of Looked-After children being looked after at home.	L Increase
The voice of every child and young person will be heard and their rights recognised, respected and nurtured .	% of pupils indicating their voice is heard.	U Increase
	Case studies that demonstrate care-experienced voice and where young people have had led or influenced.	U Tracking

Pillar 2

We will be an **inclusive, connected and green place**, with a **fair, sustainable and healthy local economy**, that our residents are proud to call home.



Key Leads and partnerships

ERC, Barrhead Housing Association, Local Housing Steering Group, Homelessness Prevention Partnership, Glasgow City Region, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Chamber of Commerce, BIDS (Clarkston, Giffnock and Barrhead), Business Gateway, East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust (ERCL), Local Employability Partnership.

Outcome Priority

What we will do (Universal- U, Lifting- L)

We will have well-designed and sustainable housing options, with more affordable homes	Work in partnership with social housing providers to create a deeper understanding around what is important to residents in terms of their housing needs and homes designed for the future.	U
	Increase the range of housing supply including smaller homes for first time buyers and downsizers as well as family homes, within the land supply available.	U
	Develop approaches to creating more movement in the housing system through: ▪ increasing temporary accommodation; ▪ implementing an empty home strategy; ▪ right-size housing; and ▪ revision of housing allocation policy.	L
	Explore and target homelessness prevention.	L
We will have strong, diverse local businesses , encouraging investment , developing skills and providing a wide range of fair work opportunities.	Develop and deepen our relationships with local businesses to ensure that new start and existing businesses can flourish.	U
	Work with Glasgow City Region to secure future investment aligned to the strategic priorities of a Place to Grow.	U
	Increase commitment and opportunities for Fair Work principles to be embedded by local employers, businesses and the Council's procurement supply chain.	L

Outcome Priority

63

What we will do (Universal- U, Lifting- L)

We will have attractive places that encourage wellbeing and strong community bonds .	Develop our approach to how new developments and places will be built, taking account of the needs, identity and character of a local area to ensure wellbeing and strong community connections.	U
	Supporting the development of our land and buildings to maximise economic, social and environmental benefits for local communities.	U
	Align findings and priorities from engagement with our communities to target investment for regeneration and work together to explore funding opportunities for strategic partnership commitments. e.g. Brighter Barrhead, Locality Plans, Local Action Plans, BHA tenant surveys etc.	U
	Use data from police data/dashboards to allow us to identify heat-spots and areas of concern in terms of anti-social behaviour and higher crime rates to provide evidence for targeting resources.	U
We will have a modern digital infrastructure to keep our residents, communities and businesses connected , able to innovate and make the most of new technological advances.	Support and enhance digital inclusion and economic development through mapping of fibre and 5G coverage across East Renfrewshire.	U
	Strengthen our work and learnings from the Smart and Connected Spaces Programme to support the use and development of digital infrastructure.	L
We will have a network of accessible and connected active travel routes and public transport , providing easy access to work, services, leisure and play.	Strengthen our local and inter-regional transport network options and services to enable our communities to connect, work and play sustainably.	U
	Engage with community and regional transport partners to ensure that our transport network is inclusive for all communities, addressing identified areas with poor transport connections.	L

**Outcome
Priority**

64

**What we will do
(Universal- U, Lifting- L)**

We will be working together to achieve net zero carbon emissions , protect our natural spaces, encourage biodiversity and be well prepared for climate challenges.	Participate in national networks to make a case for realistic and sustainable funding to deliver Net Zero and support retrofitting initiatives.	U
	Progress delivery of Get to Zero Action Plan.	U
	Create a Biodiversity Action Plan for East Renfrewshire to protect our local species and habitats.	U
	Work with Climate Ready Clyde partners in the delivery of our shared vision and Glasgow City Region Climate Adaptation Action Plan.	U
	Work together to strengthen and sustain East Renfrewshire's Climate Action Hub to tackle and prepare for climate change in our communities.	L
	Enhance our knowledge and application of engineering solutions, new standards and technology that deliver heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency in our homes and buildings.	L

We will know we are making progress by:

Outcome Priority	Indicator Universal or Lifting (U/L)	Aim to
We will have well-designed and sustainable housing options , with more affordable homes .	Housing Affordability Ratio (Average House Price / Gross Disposable Household Income per head)	U/L Tracking
	Number of dwellings per hectare (SHCS) (in new developments only and long-term indicator)	U Tracking
	Average length of time in temporary accommodation	L Decrease
We will have strong, diverse local businesses , encouraging investment , developing skills and providing a wide range of fair work opportunities.	Total Gross Value Added (GVA)	U Increase
	% of Procurement spend spent on local enterprises	U Increase
	% Employment in low paid sector/adults earning less than the Real Living Wage	L Decrease
	Differentiation between average earnings per week of people who live in East Renfrewshire against people who work in East Renfrewshire	L Decrease
	% of people unemployed	L Decrease
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	<i>Number of local businesses and employers paying the Real Living Wage</i>	L Increase
	<i>A measure of income spent locally</i>	U Tracking

Outcome Priority	66 Indicator Universal or Lifting (U/L)	Aim to
We will have attractive places that encourage wellbeing and strong community bonds .	% of residents who are satisfied or very satisfied with East Renfrewshire as a place to live- Citizens Panel	U/L Increase
	% of residents who strongly agree or agree they have a strong sense of belonging to their community- Citizens Panel	U/L Increase
	% of adults who agree/strongly agree that there are places to meet up and socialise in their neighbourhood- SHS	U Increase
	Total vacant and derelict land	U Decrease
	% of homes within 10-minute walk of good quality greenspace (by neighbourhood)	U/L Increase
	Number of crimes per 10,000 population	U Decrease
	Perceptions of Local Crime Rate- (SHS)	U Decrease
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	<i>Local-living mapping/property rating via GIS -very broad and need to identify specifics</i>	U Tracking
	<i>Use of public parks, leisure centres and open spaces</i>	U Tracking
We will have a modern digital infrastructure to keep our residents, communities and businesses connected , able to innovate and make the most of new technological advances.	% of 5G and fibre coverage across East Renfrewshire	U Increase
	% premises without available Ultra-fast broadband connection	L Decrease
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	<i>Case studies on business utilization around digital connectivity</i>	

Outcome Priority	67 Indicator Universal or Lifting (U/L)	Aim to
We will have a network of accessible and connected active travel routes and public transport , providing easy access to work, services, leisure and play.	% of adults using active and sustainable travel for work	U Increase
	% of children cycling or walking to school and nursery (HUSS)	U Increase
	Annual Traffic by vehicle type on local roads (All motors/cars & taxis)	U Decrease
	Public transport time to access key services (SIMD)	L Tracking
	Satisfaction with local public transport- Transport Scotland/SHS	U Increase
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	% of people who have concessionary cards issued to disabled people, adults aged over 60 and free bus travel cards issued to young people aged 5 to 22	L Increase
We will be working together to achieve net zero carbon emissions , protect our natural spaces , encourage biodiversity and be well prepared for climate challenges .	Co2 emissions per capita (area-wide)	U Decrease
	Condition of biodiversity on council owned land (DEFRA metric by value/ Biodiversity Net Gain)	U Tracking
	% of energy efficiency programmes grant allocated (EES:ABS)	L Increase
	% of social housing meeting energy efficient standards	L Increase
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	Installation of clean heating systems for homes and buildings (LHESS)	U Increase
	Insulation across homes and buildings (LHEES)	U Increase
	% of homes indicated as 'at risk of climate change impact' being supported to take adaptation measures/Climate Ready Clyde Vulnerability mapping	U Decrease
	Community led action initiatives/hub measures	U Tracking
	Tree coverage by area	U Increase

Pillar 3

Our ambition for East Renfrewshire is that everyone **can live well at all stages of life** and communities will be taking the lead in driving change for **good health and wellbeing**.



Key Leads and partnerships

ERC, CLD Partnership, Child Poverty Oversight Group, Safer ER partnership including Police and Fire and Rescue, HSCP, VAER, East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust (ERCL), Barrhead Housing Association, ER Alcohol and Drug Partnership, Local Employability Partnership, Digital Inclusion Partnership.

Outcome Priority

What we will do (Universal- U, Lifting- L)

Our communities will be stronger, more connected and collaborative and will be leading on solutions to support people to live well.	Build strategic capacity, sustainability and capability of our third sector.	U
	Baseline the state of the third sector to inform targeting of community capacity building supports and create opportunity for co-design and community-led solutions.	U
	Explore creation of a partnership volunteer portal for East Renfrewshire to increase awareness of activities and opportunities and capture hours volunteered, impact and social value.	U
	Ensure grant-making Participatory Budgeting for community groups with lower SIMD areas is strategically aligned to vision.	L
Health inequalities will have significantly reduced , and residents will have routes out of poverty .	Participate in national and regional digital initiatives to impact health and poverty, including Smart and Connected Social Places programme, to ensure East Renfrewshire benefits from emerging technological approaches and solutions.	U
	Explore a social value framework that captures the value of sport, culture, exercise, volunteering and community learning and development, self-management and peer support.	U
	Use data to help us predict future needs of residents with complex health conditions, and those most at risk of experiencing poor health outcomes to target prevention and early intervention responses.	L

Outcome Priority

69

What we will do (Universal- U, Lifting- L)

Health inequalities will have significantly reduced , and residents will have routes out of poverty .	Develop tailored health improvement programmes and activities to target communities with greater health inequalities.	L
	Strengthen a strategic partnership approach to reduce poverty with a focus on sharing data and targeting of shared resources where they will have the most impact.	L
	Design data systems to better understand cost-of-living pressures, support an increase in benefit uptake and income maximisation to residents and families at risk of and experiencing poverty.	L
	Strengthen pathways into meaningful work, particularly for those facing barriers to employment and identify opportunities for upskilling and retraining activity.	L
Our older population will be supported to live healthy, active lives and have opportunities to participate, contribute and thrive.	Build and enable a positive-ageing approach that values and recognises the contribution of our older population in particular around volunteering, childcare and intergenerational activities.	U/L
	Increase public and employee awareness on the benefits of physical and wellbeing action to prevent frailty and loneliness and promote opportunities to increase older people's access and participation in physical and social activity, including Ageing Well programmes (In-person & digital).	U
	Provide high-quality care that is person-centred and ensures people's voices are embedded in the decisions we make.	U
	Identify opportunities for sharing resources and expertise for interventions to reduce financial harm and vulnerability, support independence and safety in the home.	L
Our residents will be enabled and empowered to make healthier choices and have access to high-quality sport and physical activities and facilities .	Provide residents with access to inclusive, accurate and trusted information to encourage them to live healthy lives.	U
	Use partnership resources to deliver targeted interventions and support for life-limiting conditions to enable residents to live healthy lives.	U
	Increase awareness and understanding of how Planning and Licensing criteria can support reducing health inequalities in local areas e.g. alcohol/fast-food/gambling.	L
	Increase participation in sport and physical activity programmes and events and support fair access for all ensuring where there are affordability or accessibility barriers initiatives are undertaken to remove them.	U/L

**Outcome
Priority**

70

**What we will do
(Universal- U, Lifting- L)**

Our residents will have access to creative and vibrant cultural experience and have opportunities to celebrate their diversity of heritage .	Support the development of independent arts and cultural activities and venues as part of wider place-making and development of a vibrant night-time economy.	U
	Work with local communities to co-design a diverse cultural offer celebrating local and national heritage, reflecting East Renfrewshire's changing population and encouraging community-led experiences.	U
	Strengthen community cohesion and ensure equality groups have their diverse voices heard, feel safe and included.	U
	Ensure intergenerational experiences and support is part of our approach to reduce social isolation, promote wellbeing and independent living.	L
	Identify and create opportunities for residents who face barriers to access relevant cultural experiences and events.	L
Life-long learning will be valued and available to all.	Provide lifelong learning opportunities for residents to achieve their learning needs, goals and aspirations and, where appropriate, access wider accreditation and progression opportunities.	U
	Provide opportunities to meet the employability-related learning needs of residents including skills development, accreditation and volunteering.	U
	Provide a programme of support to increase digital inclusion for all.	L
	Deliver a strategic review of local Further Education/Lifelong Learning needs and how well these are being met.	U

We will know we are making progress by:

Outcome Priority	Indicator Universal or Lifting (U/L)	Aim to
Our communities will be stronger, more connected and collaborative and will be leading on solutions to support people to live well.	% of adults with a strong sense of belonging to their community (by locality planning area) (Citizens Panel)	U/L Increase
	% of residents who have people they can rely on in their local area (by locality planning area) (Citizens Panel)	U/L Increase
	% Residents engaged in volunteering & community groups (GGC NHS survey)	U Increase
	Social Enterprise per 10,000 population	U Increase
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	Number of third sector providers	U Increase
	Number of active community-led groups/activities	U Increase
	Number of active volunteers	U Increase
Health inequalities will have significantly reduced, and residents will have routes out of poverty .	Gaps in healthy life expectancy across SIMD areas	L Tracking
	Alcohol-related hospital admissions by SIMD area	L Decrease
	Population prescribed drugs for anxiety/depression/psychosis	U Decrease
	% Difficulty Meeting the Cost of Food and/or Energy by Age, Gender, Deprivation and Limiting Conditions (GGCNHS Survey)	L Decrease
	% of households in Relative low income After Housing Costs (living in households with income below 60% of the median in that year)	L Decrease
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	CAB/MART income maximisation figures	L Increase

Outcome Priority	72 Indicator Universal or Lifting (U/L)	Aim to
	<i>Uptake of benefits</i>	L Increase
	<i>Employment pathways for targeted groups</i>	L Increase
	<i>Change in women's domestic abuse outcomes</i>	L Increase
	<i>Percentage of people with alcohol and/or drug problems accessing recovery-focused treatment within three weeks.</i>	L Increase
	<i>Number of self-managed/peer-recovery groups sustained 1+ years</i>	L Increase
Our older population will be supported to live healthy, active lives and have opportunities to participate, contribute and thrive.	Health Life expectancy at 65 (male/female)	U Tracking
	Proportion aged 65+ Belonging to Social Clubs, Associations, Church Groups or Similar (GGC NHS Survey)	U Increase
	% of 65+ who meet the Target of 150 Minutes of Exercise Per Week (GGCNHS Survey)	U Increase
	Level of satisfaction with life for over 65s (Citizens Panel)	U Increase
	% of people reporting 'living where you / as you want to live' needs met	L Increase
	% of over 65s who are victim of financial crime	L Decrease
Our residents will be enabled and empowered to make healthier choices and have access to high-quality sport and physical activities and facilities.	% who meet the Target of 150 Minutes of Exercise Per Week by Deprivation and Limiting Conditions	L Increase
	Alcohol consumption: % of Harmful/hazardous drinking (AUDIT score 8+)	U Decrease
	Smoking attributable hospital admissions by areas	L Decrease
	% consuming five or more portions of fruit/vegetables per day by area	L Increase
	Adults assessing their general health as good or very good	U Increase
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	<i>Proximity of access to sport, leisure, cultural and community facilities.</i>	U Tracking

Outcome Priority	73 Indicator Universal or Lifting (U/L)	Aim to
Our residents will have access to creative and vibrant cultural experience and have opportunities to celebrate their diversity of heritage.	% of adults satisfied with leisure facilities	U Increase
	% of adults satisfied with libraries	U Increase
	% that feel a sense of belonging to community (Citizens Panel)	L Increase
	% who feel people from different backgrounds get on well (Citizens Panel)	L Increase
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	% of adult population (by demographic) engaged in - cultural activity - Leisure centre attendances - Library visits	U Increase
Life-long learning will be valued and available to all.	% of working age adults with qualification by area	L Increase
	% of adults participating in evening classes or new learning opportunity in past 12 months (Citizens Panel)	U Increase
	<i>These are potential measures that we can develop over time as part of a family of measures. Included for indicative purposes only at this stage</i>	
	% of Unemployed People Assisted into Work from Funded Employability Programmes	L Increase
	Numbers accessing digital learning courses/Digital inclusion	U Increase

EAST RENFREWSHIRE
A PLACE TO
GROW

COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP



Chief Officer's Public Protection Group Report

Report by Chief Executive

Annual Report from Chief Officers Public Protection Group 2024/2025

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This report provides the Community Planning Partnership with an overview of the work of the Chief Officers Public Protection Group 2023/2024.

REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE CHIEF OFFICERS PUBLIC PROTECTION GROUP

2. The Chief Officers Public Protection Group provides strategic leadership, scrutiny and the oversight of quality assurance and improvement of public protection arrangements within East Renfrewshire. This is achieved by providing strategic direction on priorities concerning risk and clear expectations for partnership arrangements on the safe delivery of services that keep people and their communities safe. It ensures that partnership working within East Renfrewshire meets with national standards around risk management and in addition considers how effective the local planning arrangements are.
3. The core business of the group is as follows:
 - Child Protection
 - Adult Protection
 - Violence Against Women
 - Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Offender Management (specifically Sex Offenders and potentially dangerous offenders)
 - Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTION

4. The group is chaired by the Chief Executive of East Renfrewshire Council and has the following core members:
 - Chief Executive East Renfrewshire Council
 - Chief Officer Health & Social Care Partnership
 - Nurse Director NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
 - Divisional Commander of Police Scotland G Division (East Renfrewshire)
 - Chief Social Work Officer and East Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee Chair
 - East Renfrewshire Adult Protection Committee Independent Chair

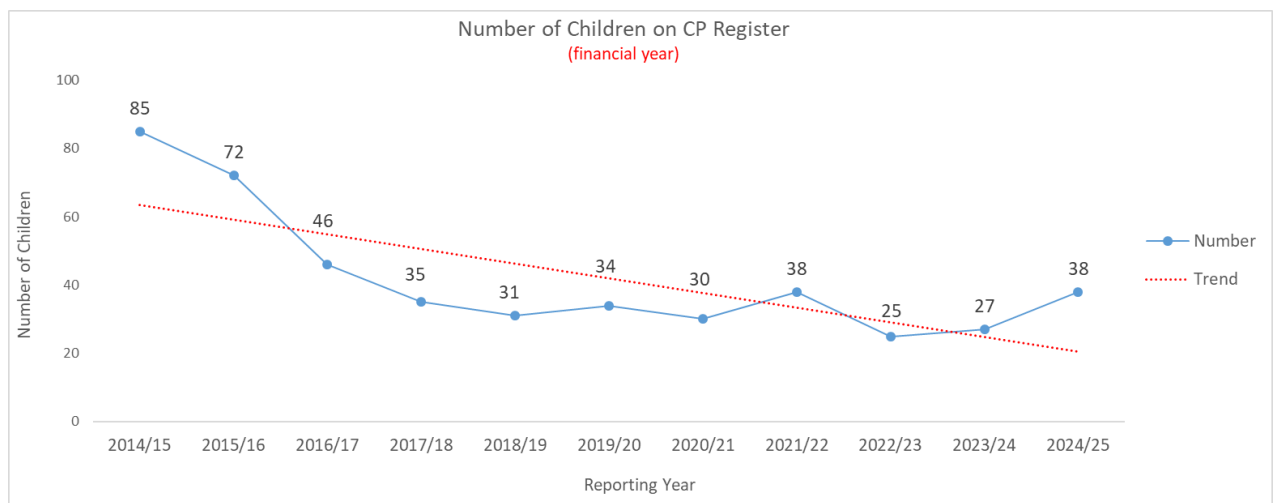
5. In addition, there are associate members that may be called upon by the core group to attend when needed. These include:
 - The Lead Officers for Public Protection (child, adult, MAPPA and violence against women / girls).
 - The Lead Officer for Prevent.
 - The locality Reporter (SCRA) and the Director of Education.

The group meets bi-annually in May and November.

6. A summary of the functions of Chief Officers Public Protection Group are as follows:
 - Provide leadership and accountability across all public protection arrangements within East Renfrewshire.
 - Coordinate strategic developments within public protection.
 - Approve annual plans, scrutinise self-evaluation of public protection activity and approve associated improvement plans.
 - Review and direct improvements on performance and audit.
 - Provide direction to chairs and members of Child Protection Committee, Adult Protection Committee and Violence against Women / Girls on local priorities.
 - Approve and consider the learning from Significant Case Reviews and be provided with assurance that the improvements and actions required are in place across the local authority.
7. Public protection arrangements require agencies and partnerships to work together strategically, operationally, and effectively and this is supported through robust planning and quality assurance processes. Partners are required to provide significant commitment and contributions through the Child Protection Committee, Adult Protection Committee, MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group and Violence against Women / Girls, by contributing to the development of strategic plans and measures that identify and mitigate risk as well as promoting best practice. Alongside these statutory plans the Chief Officers are provided with regular data, quality assurance and improvement activity that assures that people and communities are kept safe from harm.
8. Our responsibility to keep people protected and safe from harm is fundamental to the work of the HSCP and underpins the other strategic priorities set out in our strategic plan. Our plan recognises that everyone has the right to live in safety and be protected from neglect, abuse and harm. We respond to the identified key risk areas and new risks and vulnerabilities as these emerge, taking actions with our partners to prevent and respond and learning from each other to improve the ways we support and protect vulnerable people.

SUMMARY OF AREAS OF ACTIVITY 2024/2025

9. Our staff have continued to respond in a timely and effective manner to support individuals at risk of harm creatively in a person centred, asset-based approach to help increase self-efficacy.
10. Additional funding was provided to deliver the Transforming Trauma Programme (NTTP) and the Newly Qualified Social Worker pilot, although the latter has now ceased.
11. There has been continued rollout out of the Level 2 and 3 training across the wider workforce, including relevant partners across the Council and Health and Social Care Partnership.
12. Public protection activity has continued to increase, with significant growth in referrals experienced across the partnership:
 - Child Protection registrations have increased by 41%.
 - The graph below highlights the number of children subject to child protection registrations from 2014/15 until 2024/25.
 - Adult Support and Protection referrals have increased by 4%.
 - Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) referrals increased by 16%.



13. The Supporting People Framework has been fully embedded across the East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and is now applied to all new and existing cases. This framework ensures that support is prioritised for individuals with the most significant needs. It reflects a strong commitment to equity, transparency, and sustainability in service delivery.
14. The implementation of Supporting People Framework has been resource intensive and required a refocusing of workers across the partnership. We can offer assurance however that the staffing of our public protection and initial

response teams has been considered a priority in ensuring our timely response to concerns and in meeting increasing demands.

Child Protection

15. Oversight and scrutiny of child protection activity is maintained via the Child Protection Committee, its subgroups and the Child Protection Committee Business / Improvement plan. This includes regular updates in relation to audit activity and National Minimum dataset.
16. The Child Protection Committee continues to develop a robust self-evaluation framework to critically examine data, audit outcomes, and implementation findings, ensuring these insights effectively inform future planning and improvement activity. This approach provides a strong understanding of the critical issues and needs facing our children and young people at risk of harm, as well as the challenges and support requirements of our workforce.
17. We have continued support of the implementation of the Signs of Safety approach, which focusses on relationship-based practice as well as keeping the child and their network at the centre of all assessments and plans. There has been a refresh of our Signs of Safety Programme, identifying areas where staff require additional support to consolidate their knowledge and skills.
18. We have continued to provide training and development for all frontline workers and managers in Signs of Safety.
19. We are now moving towards a self-sustaining Signs of Safety training model whereupon our staff will lead and deliver appropriate training to multi agency partners.
20. As part of North Strathclyde Partnership, we are now considered a Pathfinder following a successful application via Scottish Government Bairns' Hoose Team.
21. 100% of our joint investigative interviews are conducted using the Scottish child interview model. By March 2025, 80% of our interviews took place in our Bairns' Hoose.
22. There is assurance that concerns in relation to children are easily reported by the public through the Council's website and signposted to the appropriate point of contact.

Adult Protection

23. Through oversight and scrutiny of Adult Protection Committee, its subgroups and improvement activity; monthly quality assurance reviews confirm that activity is consistently delivered to a good or very good standard.
24. The 2023–2025 improvement plan has been completed, and a new plan for 2025–2027 has been developed, focusing on chronologies, self-evaluation, and

multi-agency collaboration. Updated procedures and forms have been adopted to align with the national dataset.

25. A comprehensive training programme has been delivered, including:
 - Council Officer and Second Worker training.
 - Risk assessment and investigative interviewing.
 - Forums for officers and managers to discuss legislation and practice.
26. These courses are provided both as a part of our Public Protection Development Programme, but also as bespoke session for partners and providers to support their improvement.
27. Data use has been enhanced through a national dataset and dashboard, enabling trend analysis and strategic planning. Data is routinely shared across agencies and reported to the Scottish Government, with ongoing discussions about reporting frequency.
28. The Adult Support and Protection Committee's work aligns with national public protection priorities, including learning from reviews, workforce support, information sharing, and continuous improvement through the Quality Improvement Framework and national self-evaluation initiatives.

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

29. The Justice Service continue to engage with our colleagues within the Community Justice Partnership and ensured all Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) meetings are held in line with statutory responsibilities.
30. During 2024/25, work progressed at the national level on the revision of Moving Forward Making Changes to Moving Forward 2 Change (MF2C). Final preparations have been prepared for the rollout of Moving Forward 2 Change in June 2025.
31. In the absence of the Caledonian Programme, to keep women and children safe the Justice Team commenced preparations throughout 2024/25 to use a domestic-abuse perpetrator programme delivered by Respect.
32. MAPPA cases continue to be reviewed and monitored jointly by East Renfrewshire and the North Strathclyde MAPPA unit.

Violence against Women and Girls

33. There remains continued oversight and scrutiny of the Violence Against Women & Girls Partnership, subgroups and improvement activity, including data, audit and self-evaluation.
34. Domestic Abuse, Risk Assessment, MARAC and Safe and Together training continues to be delivered in addition to the provision of bespoke sessions for key partners.

35. Through our multi-agency approach we work collaboratively to deliver a significant range of actions to ensure an effective and sustainable approach to preventing, reducing and responding effectively to domestic abuse and all forms of violence against women and girls. This includes the implementation of Routine Sensitive Enquiry, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and Safe and Together practice ensuring a perpetrator pattern based, child centred, survivor strengths approach to working with domestic abuse.
36. We continue to strengthen the capacity of our services and action across the whole system to address the long-term effects of trauma and abuse experienced by women, children and young people.
37. Over the course of the last year 100 staff were trained across a range of organisations and disciplines in Domestic Abuse, Risk Assessment, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference and Safe and Together practice. We have implemented a series of in person and online training on the Domestic Abuse Homicide Timeline delivered by international expert Professor Jane Monkton Smith.
38. We have delivered comprehensive awareness and media campaigns to ensure victims are aware of the range of services and supports available and to raise awareness of gender-based violence.

Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

39. The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership continues to ensure a robust approach to improving outcomes for people at risk from alcohol and drug harm as well as identify opportunities for prevention and early intervention. The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership is currently preparing progress report on the Alcohol and Drugs plan and the eight strategic priorities.
40. There has been significant progress made in design and implementation of the recovery hub, due to open in 2026, initial designs developed with architects, and with community involvement from the recovery community.
41. The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership has established a Lived Experience Network which has been actively engaged in providing feedback and contributing to planning.
42. Recent Alcohol and Drugs Partnership development session agreed there would be enhanced focus on community wide prevention of alcohol harm, which will be informed by deeper data analysis, and how we provide early help for young people affected by alcohol and drug harms. This work will be progressed over coming months.

EXTERNAL VALIDATION

Child Protection

43. The 5th Anniversary progress update on implementation of The Promise in East Renfrewshire demonstrates the breadth and depth of implementation locally and the importance of the partnership in making this happen. The report is structured around the foundations of Voice, Care, Family, People, Scaffolding and indicates the partners who contribute to each area.
44. Amongst other areas of success, the report notes that East Renfrewshire continues to have one of the lowest rates of young people in secure care in Scotland and this has been sustained over a ten-year period. To maintain vulnerable high-risk young people at home in their community and safely requires the commitment of considerable resources along with ways of working with young people and their families that is relational based, and trauma informed.

Adult Protection

45. The Adult Protection Committee improvement plan 2023–2025 has been completed, and a new plan for 2025–2027 has been developed, focusing on chronologies, self-evaluation, and multi-agency collaboration.
46. Updated procedures and forms have been adopted to align with the national dataset.

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

47. Audits of MAPPA cases were undertaken by the staff from the MAPPA unit, health, police and social work. Previous audits have highlighted robust risk management practice within East Renfrewshire and that information sharing between agencies was achieved, this being reiterated at a recent audit.

Violence Against Women and Girls

48. We work together with East Renfrewshire Women's Aid Service to provide direct support for women and children who have experienced domestic abuse.
49. The service reported significant change and improvement in women's safety and wellbeing outcomes with 92% of women assessed noting overall improvement in their outcomes.

Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

50. National Assessment of Progress on Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standards. Following the assessment of East Renfrewshire's evidence, we received highly positive feedback. In addition to receiving feedback that all ten standards are fully implemented, 3 standards were rated as Blue (which means improvement is "sustained and embedded").

51. The graphics below show East Renfrewshire's improvement over the last four years as well as performance in relation to other areas of Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

East Renfrewshire – Improvement 2022-2025

Reporting Year	MAT 1	MAT 2	MAT 3	MAT 4	MAT 5	MAT 6	MAT 7	MAT 8	MAT 9	MAT10
2022						not assessed in 2022				
2023										
2024										
2025										

Key

Blue - Sustained and embedded improvement over 2 years

Green MAT Standard met in year

Provisional Green MAT Standard expected to be met next year

Provisional Amber - improvements required

Amber - improvements required



DISCUSSION POINTS

52. It is recommended that the CPP Board:

- Discuss the high-level public protection activity outlined within the report and identify any areas for improvement to the Chief Officer Public Protection group on public protection partnership arrangements within East Renfrewshire.
- Agree the East Renfrewshire Chief Officer Public Protection group continues to provide annual updates to the CPP concerning public protection scrutiny and improvement activity that provides assurance that people and communities are being kept safe.

Report Author:

Raymond Prior,
 Head of Children Services and Justice, Chief Social Work Officer
 0141 451 0748
 Raymond.Prior@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk