



# Bainsford & Langlees Community Action Plan

# Introduction

This Community Action Plan summarises community views about:

- *Bainsford and Langlees now*
- *A shared vision for the future of Bainsford and Langlees*
- *Shared priorities for action*

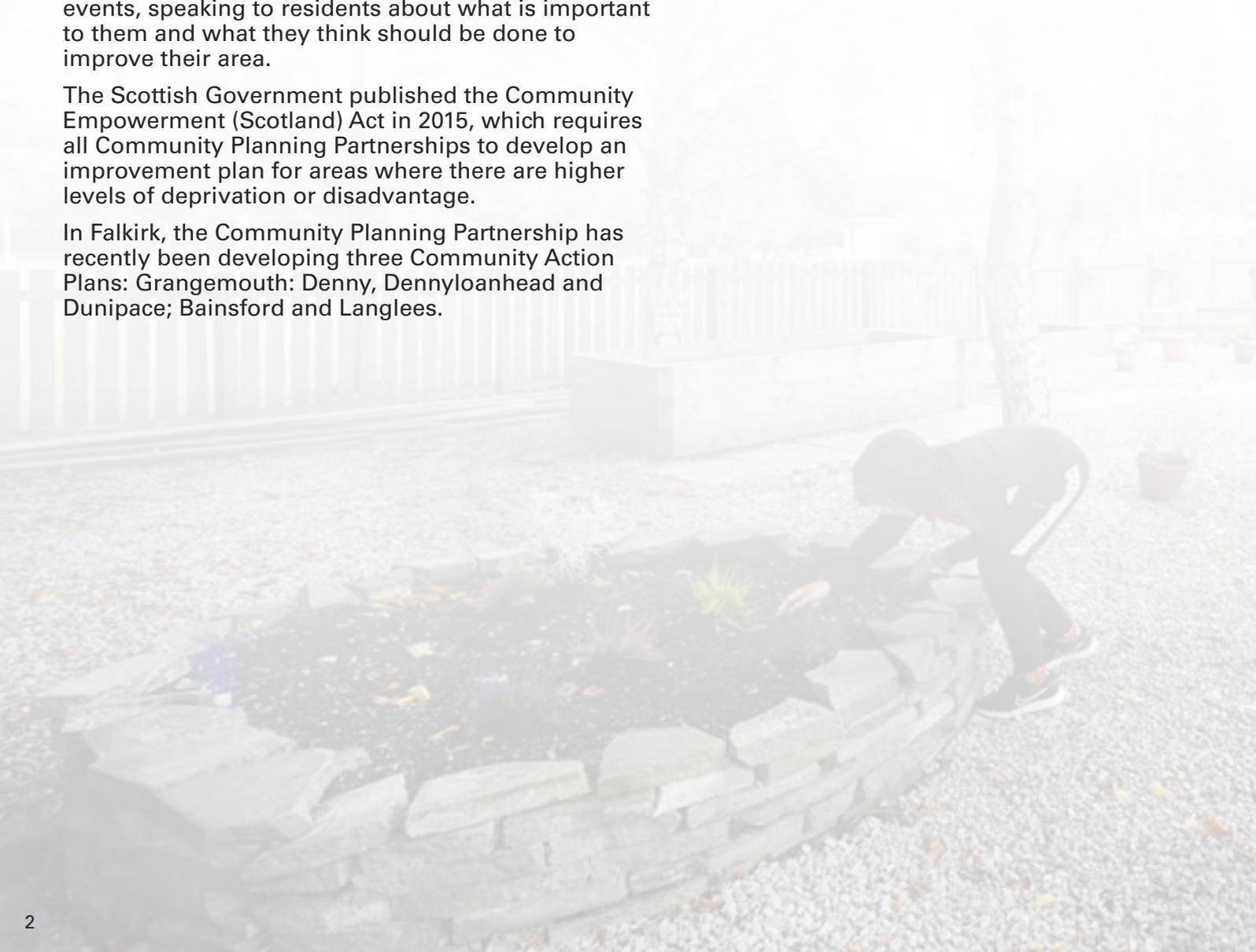
This plan will set out what we, as a community, want to happen over the next 10 years

## Why the Plan was Developed

This plan was developed to help address inequalities across Bainsford and Langlees so we can improve the wealth, health and wellbeing of our residents and workers. The Plan was developed through a range of events, speaking to residents about what is important to them and what they think should be done to improve their area.

The Scottish Government published the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act in 2015, which requires all Community Planning Partnerships to develop an improvement plan for areas where there are higher levels of deprivation or disadvantage.

In Falkirk, the Community Planning Partnership has recently been developing three Community Action Plans: Grangemouth; Denny, Dennyloanhead and Dunipace; Bainsford and Langlees.





## The Community Planning Partnership

This Plan has been developed by the Bainsford and Langlees Community Action Plan Working Group on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership. The Community Planning Partnership is the term used in each Local Authority area to describe the joint planning and priority-setting of local public and third sector organisations, alongside community groups. These organisations work together so they can share their local knowledge and resources to get the best outcomes for the people living there.

In Falkirk partners include:

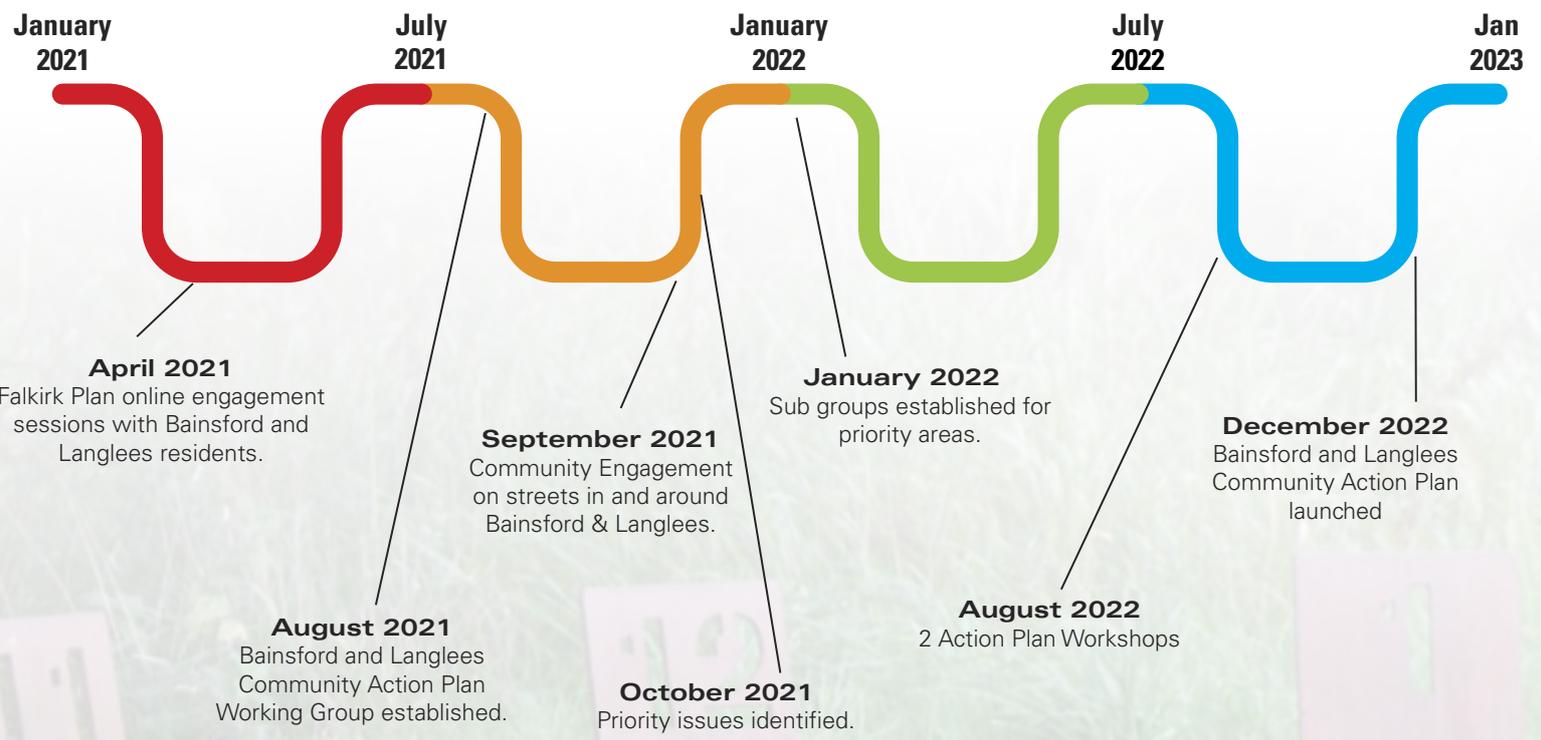
- *CVS Falkirk*
- *Falkirk Council*
- *Falkirk Health and Social Care Partnership*
- *Forth Valley College*
- *Local community groups*
- *NHS Forth Valley*
- *Police Scotland*
- *Scottish Enterprise*
- *Scottish Fire and Rescue Service*
- *Nature Scot (formerly Scottish National Heritage)*
- *Skills Development Scotland*
- *Visit Scotland*

## Bainsford & Langlees CAP Working Group

The Bainsford and Langlees Community Action Plan Working Group was formed in August 2021 to develop a Community Action Plan (CAP) for the Bainsford and Langlees area. This working group was established by the Community Planning Partnership, with representatives from Falkirk Council, NHS Forth Valley, Falkirk Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP), Corra, Central Scotland Regional Equality Council (CSREC), Scottish Families affected by Alcohol and Drugs (SFAD), Falkirk's Mental Health Association (FDAMH), Aberlour Child Care Trust, Falkirk Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), Forth Environment Link, Climate FORTH, and TRACS (Traditional Arts & Culture Scotland) /The People's Parish the Community Alcohol Partnership. The group also involved local residents of Bainsford and Langlees.

The group identified the needs and wants of the community, the assets of the community and the capacity of community groups and partner members to work together on community actions.



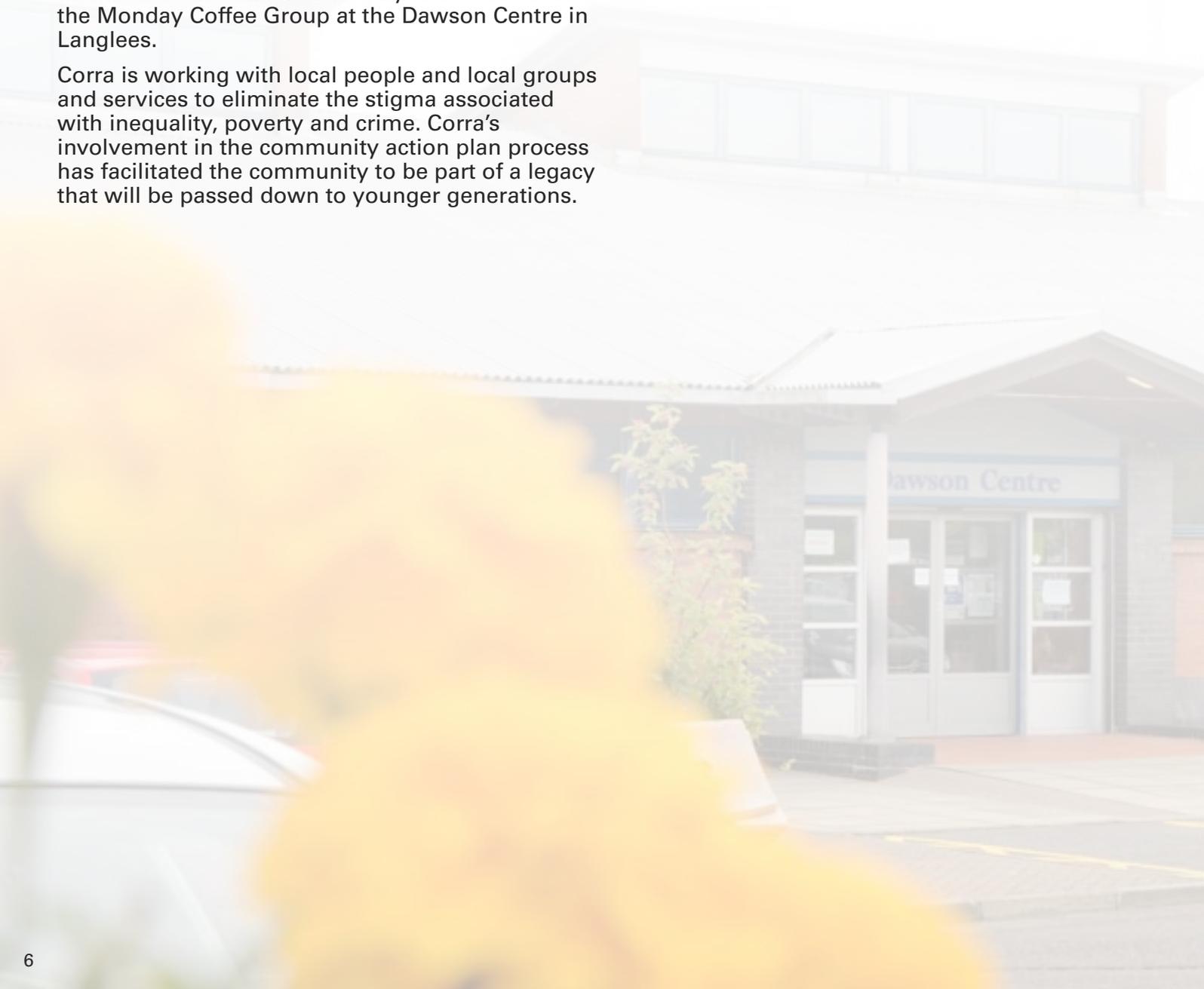


# How Corra Foundation work alongside the community of Bainsford and Langlees

As part of their People in Places programme, Corra attended a series of online discussions to support the development of the Bainsford and Langlees Community Action plan. Engaging with community members was a priority to allow local people the opportunity to create and fully take ownership of the community action plan.

Corra supported local people to come together in a shared space, throughout the implementation of the community action plan. They listened and engaged with community members and formed connections with partner organisations as well as inviting services to come and listen to community members in the safe and friendly environment of the Monday Coffee Group at the Dawson Centre in Langlees.

Corra is working with local people and local groups and services to eliminate the stigma associated with inequality, poverty and crime. Corra's involvement in the community action plan process has facilitated the community to be part of a legacy that will be passed down to younger generations.





# Community Engagement in Bainsford and Langlees

Working Group members conducted On-street community engagement over four days, in September 2021, at various locations across Bainsford and Langlees by members of the CAP working group.

Group members asked the following questions:

- *What are the good points of living in Bainsford/Langlees?*
- *What are the bad points living in Bainsford/Langlees?*
- *If you could make changes which would make Bainsford/Langlees a better place to live what would they be?*
- *Anything else you would like to add?*

Over the four days, 100 people agreed to answer the questions:

- *74% of the respondents are female, and 26% male.*
- *More than half (56%) were between 25 and 44 years old.*
- *59% of respondents live in Langlees, while 35% live in Bainsford. The remaining 6% lived in other areas such as New Carron and Camelon.*

The resulting areas for improvement have formed the basis of the themes of this plan.



## What People Like

- *Sense of community*
- *Family connections*
- *Close to amenities*
- *Green spaces*

***“People should take pride in their place.”***

***“Promote the good things.”***

***“I would not move from Langlees.”***

***“It’s a good place to live.”***

***“I like my house and my neighbours.”***

## What People Dislike

- *Drugs & alcohol*
- *Antisocial behaviour*
- *Fly-tipping / Litter / Bins*
- *Nothing to do*

***“There’s no anti-social behaviour support”***

***“Bad points – the name it gets and what it’s known for.”***

***“I don’t feel safe.”***

***“There’s no pride in the area.”***

***“It used to be a good community.”***

# About Bainsford and Langlees

Bainsford and Langlees is in the Falkirk Council area and has a current population of 3,681.

Originally a separate village, Bainsford has now become part of the town of Falkirk. It sits within the Central Locality and is close to Falkirk Town Centre. The bridge crossing the Forth and Clyde Canal at Bainsford was originally a bascule bridge. In 1905, the bascule bridge was replaced by a heavier swing bridge to accommodate the new tramway. This in turn was replaced by a non-opening road bridge.

Traditionally the area, on the south side of the Carron, was home to a number of farms, including Langlees Farm and Dalderse Mill, some of which were still working farms into the late 20th century.

Langlees was built to house workers in the growing iron and steel industry in the 18th and 19th centuries, which was supported by the Carron Iron Company. The company was famous for its cannons, which were used throughout the British Empire. For many decades the Carron Iron Company was the largest employer and landowner in the area. However, heavy industry has gradually withdrawn from the area over the last fifty years.

Langlees in more modern times was most closely associated with the British Aluminium factory ("The BA"), which opened during WWII and, ultimately closed in 2004. The factory was a major presence in the area, with its social and sports activities being a significant feature of life in Langlees, within living memory.

The area has benefited from episodes of improvement and



regeneration around the time of the canal renovation and the opening of the Helix. However, over the past decade, and particularly through Covid, there is a feeling of a lull in activity locally and a need for a fresh period of renewal.

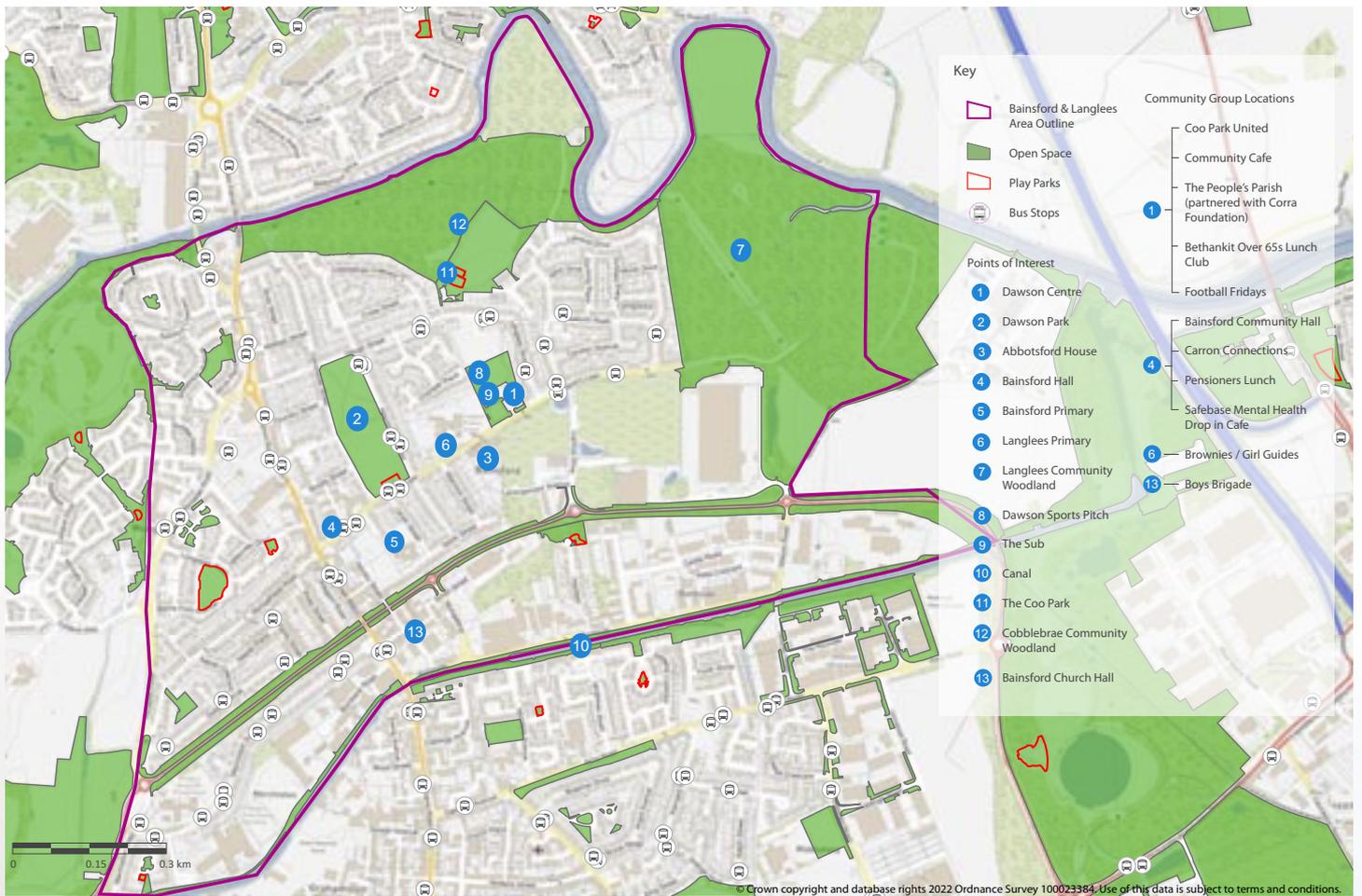
The surveyed residents like living there with lots of positives:

When asked about the good points of living in the Bainsford and Langlees area, three quarters of the respondents said being close to local amenities was a strength. It has ready access to services including GPs and good schools.

- *58% of the people thought there is a good sense of community in Bainsford and Langlees.*
- *14% of respondents stated the best thing about living in the area was that their family lived there, and 10% stated that the people who live in the area, their neighbours, were a good thing about living there. Furthermore, 3% of respondents stated that the fact they had lived in the area all their life and that they knew everyone was their reason for wanting to stay in the area.*
- *16% of respondents highlighted the green space, parks and walking paths as a strength of the area.*
- *12% of respondents praised Langlees Primary School as a strength.*

However, it has higher than average levels income and social inequalities that show proportionally high impacts on its residents.

# Points Of Interest



# The Impacts of Inequality

The economic inequalities in Bainsford and Langlees are high.

- *Bainsford and Langlees is an area of high deprivation with 72% of its population classed as living in SIMD Quintile 1. This compares to 16% in Falkirk and 20% in Scotland.*
- *A third of the population are in receipt of out of work benefits – double both the Falkirk and national average.*
- *34.5% of children live in poverty in 2019/20, which is much higher than Falkirk (19%) and the Scottish average (18.8%).*
- *Almost half the households (49.7%) are single occupancy.*
- *The rate of first-time mothers under 19 years old is more than double the Falkirk (6.1%) and Scottish average (6.6%) in Bainsford and Langlees at 15.5%.*
- *There are higher levels of council tenants in rent arears.*
- *There are higher levels of benefit claimants. A third of the population are in receipt of out of work benefits – double both the Falkirk and national average*
- *94.2% of the Bainsford & Langlees population live in households in Council Tax bands A-C. This is a higher percentage of people than the Falkirk (64.3%) or Scottish average (59.5%).*
- *There are several foodbanks/pantries providing provisions for the people of Bainsford and Langlees; Coo Park Pantry – Dawson Centre, Carron Valley Foodbank – AD Injury Clinic, Bainsford, Rainbow Muslim Women’s Group, Langlees primary & the Corra Foundation run a weekly food initiative.*

People are living less of their life in good health and dying younger in Bainsford and Langlees than in Falkirk and Scotland.

- *Male life expectancy in Bainsford and Langlees is 8 years less than across Falkirk and Scotland.*
- *The rate of deaths aged 15-44 is double the Falkirk and national average.*
- *Premature deaths from cancer and coronary heart disease are also higher (1.5 and 2.5 times respectively)*
- *Hospitalisations for ill health are consistently higher than both Falkirk and Scotland and local residents are less likely to participate in health screening programmes.*
- *Average highest qualification scores are lower in Bainsford and Langlees(4.64) than the Falkirk (5.54) or Scottish average (5.52).*



## Community Choices

Community-led decision-making around the funding of services and facilities is a key element in ensuring that local people have a sense of ownership in their community and are empowered to take action on the things that matter to them. The area has seen significant investment from two rounds of grant-based Community Choices – Falkirk Council’s innovative participatory budgeting programme, run in conjunction with Falkirk Health and Social Care Partnership. The programme offers funding through small grants and place-based capital grants, which are awarded via a public vote.

During Phase 1 and 2, in 2021/2022, the following groups in Bainsford and Langlees received Community Choices funding:

<i>Group</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Short Description</i>	<i>Focus of project</i>
<b><i>Bainsford Hall Community Group</i></b>	£ 190,000.00	Refurbishment of Bainsford Hall	Facilities upgrade
<b><i>Coo Park</i></b>	£ 5,000.00	prog of activities for residents in lowincome area	recreation
<b><i>Bainsford War Memorial Association</i></b>	£10,000.00	war memorial/lecturns, flagpole, booklet	history
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b>£ 205,000.00</b>		

## A Word on Data

In many of the following service delivery areas, data specific to Bainsford and Langlees is not readily available in a way that is reportable within this Community Action Plan (CAP). The actions and data contained in the CAP have been identified through discussion with colleagues across the Community Planning Partnership. Where actions don’t contain specific numerical data these have been included because the issues raised have been identified based on the professional insight and experience of service providers and the community’s residents. The CAP will be monitored on an ongoing basis. As part of this, we will look to provide updates of Bainsford/Langlees-specific data where this is possible.

# Action Plan

## Theme 1: Community Substance Use Concerns

### What local people said:

“Needles being left around, and broken glass.”

“We need to sort the drug dealing.”

“Bad points is drugs and alcohol.”

“We need to reduce drug use in the area.”

### What we know

- In 2019/20 the alcohol related hospital admissions rate for Bainsford and Langlees (751.8 per 100,000 population) was much higher than in Falkirk (392.2 per 100,000 pop.) and Scotland (673.3 per 100,000 pop.)
- A community justice survey undertaken in 2019 found that 59% of respondents who live or work in the Falkirk local authority area felt that reducing alcohol consumption was a “very important” factor in reducing offending.
- Drug related deaths have been identified as a Public Health Emergency in Scotland and, locally, there has been investment in understanding and responding to drug deaths. Research indicates that people living in the most

deprived communities are 15 times more likely to die from a drug related death. This is mirrored locally. Almost 75% of Forth Valley drug related deaths were from Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) areas 1 and 2, which includes Bainsford and Langlees.

- Community members state that it can be hard to avoid the drug dealers, as people are afraid to stand up to / report them.
- Substance use impacts on the wider community. Antisocial behaviour in the area can be linked to substance use: broken glass from discarded alcohol bottles, as well as discarded needles.
- While it has recently been decreasing following a sharp increase, the rate of deaths for people aged 15-44 years in Bainsford & Langlees is currently double the Scottish average. This figure is for all deaths. Further investigation would be needed to see what proportion of these deaths can be attributed to substance use.

### Recent Developments

- The Social Influence Prevention Programme is being embedded within all Secondary Schools across Falkirk on a rolling basis.
- All targeted educational establishments have substance use as a key priority within the Health and Wellbeing / National Improvement Framework (NIF) priorities of School Improvement Planning.
- Scottish Families (SFAD – In partnership with Change Grow Live (CGL), Transform FV, Health Promotions and FVRC have a presence at events/drop-ins/ info sessions/ community groups.
- Community Alcohol Partnership – a Community Alcohol Partnership Action Plan has recently been developed for the Bainsford and Langlees area, following recent engagement in the area. This plan focuses on preventing/reducing underage drinking.
- Falkirk Justice Services have recruited 2 collocated Recovery Workers to improve access to support. The service, which is delivered by CGL, provides justice service users with effective screening and triage to ensure they receive the right package of drug or alcohol support, at the right time.
- An Arrest Referral Service is in operation at Falkirk Police Station to ensure that people are offered support for any drug or alcohol issues from the point of arrest.

Indicator	Data Type	Time Period	Bainsford & Langlees	Falkirk	Scotland
Deaths, aged 15-44 years per 100,000	Rate	2018-2020	259.1	119.8	116.4



### ***Priorities to address together***

It is a priority for our community to reduce the use of and harm from alcohol and drugs and create local support for those affected by substance use. There is a stigma around substance users and their families. The community believe that services need to be in the heart of the community.

- *Reduce prevalence of substance use (including prescription drugs) by addressing drug dealing, improving local services, including mental health support and more education and awareness raising about the risks associated with excessive drinking.*
- *Reduce prevalence of under-age drinking through education and closer monitoring of proxy buying.*
- *Overdose Prevention saves lives when more people know how to administer life-saving skills, including the provision of Naloxone.*
- *Reducing discarded injecting equipment litter.*
- *Support Recovery through more localised services, education, employment opportunities, pain management support and increased wellbeing and social inclusion activities.*

### ***What will be different in 10 years?***

- *Fewer people develop problem substance use.*
- *People access, and benefit from effective, integrated person-centred support to achieve their full potential.*
- *Children and families affected by alcohol and drug use will be safe, healthy, included and supported.*
- *Vulnerable people are diverted from antisocial behaviour and substance use wherever possible.*
- *A more inclusive community with reduced community safety concerns and stigma.*
- *Community health and wealth building will be at the heart of all services and support to the people of Bainsford and Langlees.*
- *Police Officers, other frontline services and family members / carers will be trained in the emergency use of Naloxone.*
- *Frontline services will be trained to provide support to people affected by substance use in a non-stigmatising way.*
- *Initiatives funded through Community Choices will have a significant impact in Bainsford and Langlees in tackling poverty, inequality and social isolation.*

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who will be involved</b>
1.	Investigate reports of discarded injecting equipment in the area. Ascertain the scale of the problem, and run a targeted campaign with the community to tackle this immediately, if necessary.	Falkirk ADP, FC Housing, FC Place Services, Police Scotland
2.	Reduce incidents of alcohol sales to young people, by reducing proxy purchasing and general supply of alcohol to under 18's, and improve understanding of safe drinking limits and the law relating to the sale of alcohol to young people.	Community Alcohol Partnership, Police Scotland, Falkirk Licencing Forum, retailers, community
3.	Reduce anti-social behaviour associated with substance use (link with ASB Network).	Police Scotland, Falkirk Council Housing Services, FC Community Justice, Falkirk Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, FC Community Learning & Development, community groups
4.	Increase people's awareness of the risks of excessive alcohol consumption.	Falkirk ADP, Community Alcohol Partnership, NHSFV Public Health , NHS Health Promotion, community groups
5.	Scope out the establishment of a multidisciplinary Bainsford & Langlees Focus Group with community groups and people with lived experience.	Forth Valley Recovery Community (FVRC), Falkirk ADP, Police Scotland, FC Community Justice, Community Alcohol Partnership, FC CLD, FC Housing, community groups
6.	Scope out the creation of a safe base and build on this – route in / trusted source.	Community Groups, FC CLD, Falkirk ADP, FVRC
7.	Build on recovery communities through recovery café. Scope out resources / funding required.	Falkirk ADP, community groups, FVRC New Team Lead for Forth Valley Recovery Community: FVRCTeamLead@recoveryscotland.org.uk NHS Mental Health Recovery
8.	Link in with Youth Services, colleges and schools to work to support children, young people and families into activities, education, training and employment.	FC Employment & Training Unit (ETU), FC CLD, FC Children's Services, Forth Valley College
9.	Raise awareness of how to anonymously report drug dealing through a targeted campaign.	Police Scotland, Police Scotland Youth Volunteers, Falkirk ADP, FC Community Justice, Crimestoppers
10.	Raise awareness and provide training on life-saving skills, including the provision of Naloxone. Encourage people to carry this with them. (School children and the wider community)	NHS Education, FVRC, Falkirk ADP, FC CLD, FC Children's Services Scottish Families in Forth Valley can provide Naloxone training to community members in partnership with other organisations and Naloxone kits can be obtained through our Click & Deliver service <a href="https://www.sfad.org.uk/support-services/take-home-naloxone-application">https://www.sfad.org.uk/support-services/take-home-naloxone-application</a>
11.	Promote safer ways to manage pain and improve mental health, such as exercise, mindfulness, NLP, gardening, music and art therapy.	Community groups, Social Prescribing Network, Forth Environment Link (FEL), Falkirk District Association for Mental Health (FDAMH), FC CLD.
12.	Organisations and community groups to address the stigma around substance use.	Falkirk ADP, FVRC, Change Grow Live, Transform FV, NHS FV, FHSCP, FC Housing, community groups, Scottish Families , Corra, FC CLD, Falkirk & Clackmannanshire Carers Centre.



# Theme 2: A Safer Community

## What local people said:

“We need more police patrols – safety.”

“We need more police to be seen in the scheme.”

“We need a safer environment for all ages.”

“Re-introduce Community Wardens.”

“I have really bad neighbours.”

“Antisocial behaviour at weekends.”

“I don’t feel safe.”

“I can’t let [my] children [play] outside.”

“People stuck in house. Too frightening.”

“Policies for dealing with antisocial behaviour need to improve.”

## What we know

While the crime rate in Bainsford & Langlees has decreased, it has consistently been higher than in Falkirk and Scotland and is currently almost double the national average.

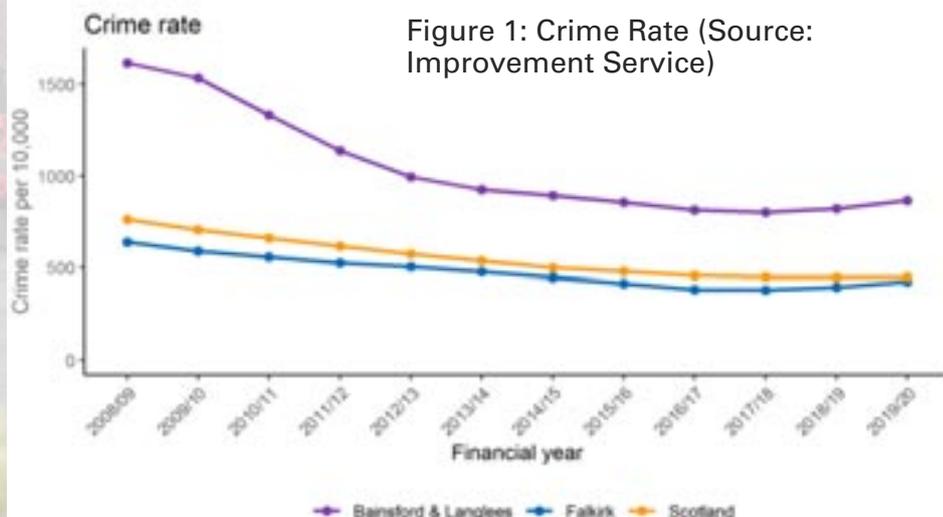
- *Antisocial behaviour (ASB) covers a wide variety of behaviours from vandalism to fly tipping.*
- *It is believed that antisocial behaviour complaints are under-reported in the area, and under-reporting impacts on resources.*
- *There are many complex needs to address to reduce offending and reoffending. A Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment undertaken by the Falkirk Community Justice Partnership in 2019 found that supporting for the following is key: availability of suitable housing; health; substance use; mental health; education and employment; financial concerns; positive relationships with friends and family; and attitudes to offending.*

## Recent Developments

- Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue have recently introduced Friday Night Football at the AstroTurf Pitch in order to build relationships and trust with the community. The sessions currently run fortnightly and are well attended with young children to teenagers.
- An Antisocial Behaviour Subgroup has developed into the ASB Network, who meet regularly to discuss ASB issues and plan activities and events to improve relationships and involvement.
- Coo Park United have used funding from Food Futures to train young people in food hygiene. The young people run a popular ‘Toastie Tuesdays’ at the Community Café. The participants receive an SVQ qualification which helps them access further training and employment.
- The Monday Coffee Group had a visit from ASB officers to raise the issue of the community not knowing how or where to report ASB incidents. It was suggested that a flow chart

or a leaflet similar to how households receive info on recycling might be a useful approach.

- The Employment and Training Unit (ETU) runs Parent Projects at nursery and schools, offering employability support / financial capability.
- Discussions are underway via the ASB Network to conduct a Safer Streets campaign in Bainsford and Langlees, following success in other areas.
- A Falkirk Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan is in place outlining the long-term strategy and actions to reduce reoffending in the Falkirk local authority area.
- The Falkirk Community Justice Partnership have been sharing news stories to improve awareness and understanding of what community justice looks like in action. Recently, this has included news updates on work carried out by the Unpaid Work Team to show benefits of Community Payback Orders for both the local community and the person carrying out the order.



## Priorities to address together

- Community groups working together to build trust, relationships and connections by supporting and encouraging local groups to work together. Build on and connect services to the existing successful meeting spaces such as the community café, and the Friday Football. Creating a Langlees / Bainsford Community Representation Group and continuing the work of the ASB Network.
- Developing engagement and skills [including intergenerational activities] so that people of different age groups can support each other. This could include initiatives to increase the confidence of community members, through advice and training will improve skills, self-esteem, employability and mental health and wellbeing, providing a range of youth activities and engaging with the homeless hostel to help residents be able to sustain their own tenancy and provide support to training or employment.
- Create a safer community where everyone thrives by raising awareness of the benefits of engaging with services and reporting

incidents. A Safer Streets programme could create a youth network with training through police Scotland Youth Volunteers and peer to peer learning and continue to build better relationships between services and community.

## What will be different in 10 years?

- The level of anti-social behaviour will have decreased significantly, and community members feel safer.
- Young people will be engaged in a range of activities coordinated by local services and partners, resulting in a sense of pride and ownership of the area.
- There will be an open and trusting relationship between community members and services.
- Information regarding anti-social behaviour will be better communicated across services, enabling a timely and appropriate response.
- People will be less likely to reoffend and have better access to positive opportunities away from crime.

## A Safer Community Actions

No.	Action	Who will be involved
13	Support / encourage local groups to work together	FC Community Learning & Development (CLD), Corra, Community Groups, Falkirk CVS
14	Create a Community Council or Langlees / Bainsford Community Representation Group.	CLD, Corra, Community Groups, Falkirk CVS
15	Continue ASB Network	Police Scotland, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS), Corra, FC Housing, Community Planning, SACRO
16	Connect with Bainsford Residents Group	ASB Network, Bainsford Residents Group
17	Raise awareness of the benefits of engaging with services and reporting incidents. For example, services could create flow charts or leaflets to show the steps necessary, where to go, what number / email to use, etc.	FC Housing, Police Scotland, SFRS, SACRO, FC CLD, community groups
18	Scope out a Safer Streets project	ASB Network
19	Support community members to engage in positive activities [including intergenerational]	ASB Network, FC CLD
20	Develop ways to engage with local homeless hostel, Seaforth House	Police Scotland, Community Justice, FC ETU, FV College

# Theme 3: Things to do

## What local people said:

- "We need new groups."
- "We need more things for people to do."
- "We need a healthy eating (cooking club)."
- "We need] gym and exercise classes."
- "[We need a] community café."
- "We need youth clubs."
- "We need a change of use for the community centre."
- "Nothing for the kids to do."
- "We need more facilities."
- "We need more things for the community to do."
- "We need more shops open. People are not using shops."
- "Community Garden would be good (Bainsford). Get kids involved."
- "We need local mental health support."
- "I don't know where to go for certain services."
- "A local newsletter is needed."
- "There needs to be more community led action."
- "There's nothing for the children. They hang round the streets instead, causing trouble because of boredom."
- "We need to bring the community together."
- "Having somewhere to go and chill, have a meal and meet others. Activities for pensioners in the area, something like a soup kitchen in the area. More information about what's going on in the area for people who don't use internet."

## What we know

- *There is a diverse range of demographics that make up the population of Bainsford and Langlees to connect and involve inclusively.*
  - *(16-65 years) is 66.9% in Bainsford and Langlees*
  - *Population over 65 years old in Bainsford and Langlees is 14.3%*
  - *There are a number of ethnic minority groups living in the Bainsford and Langlees area, as well as Ukrainian refugees.*
  - *The rate of first-time mothers under 19 years old is Bainsford and Langlees at 15.5%.*
- *People have reported:*
  - *a lack of literacy, numeracy and ICT support in the community.*
  - *Young people feel that they have a lack of job opportunities and progression.*
  - *There are things on offer, but groups and services want to reach more people.*
  - *People believe that there are not enough things for teenagers to do in the Bainsford and Langlees area.*
- *Social isolation and mental health issues have been exacerbated by the pandemic across all of the population.*
- *There is some conflict amongst local community groups from time to time and there is a perceived benefit to resolving this and working together.*

## Recent Developments

- *The Monday Coffee sessions at the Dawson Centre provides activities over tea/coffee and cake. Services providers are invited to come along and engage with community members in an informal setting.*
- *The Central Scotland Regional Equality Council (CSREC) can offer a wide range of advice and support to people, as well as capacity building support for community groups or organisations.*
- *Coo Park United run a range of activities from their base at the Sub, opposite the Dawson Centre including Toastie Tuesdays for young people who are participating in food hygiene training, where they prepare, cook, take orders, serve food and wash up. This project provides them with a qualification, work experience and confidence building to help them move onto further training or employment.*
- *Climate FORTH has secured lottery funding to work on a local resilience plan for Bainsford and Langlees. They are exploring some options with community reps and then will then co-design and deliver work from 2023 – 2026. This work will build on the priority issues and actions contained within this community action plan.*
- *Forth Environment Link will work with local community groups to help deliver many of the actions contained within this community action plan, e.g., helping with community growing, litter picking, tree planting, youth groups, active travel*

to help build some skills and knowledge in the community, as well as promoting some community spirit and pride in the area.

- Bainsford Hall Community Group are in the process of taking over the lease of the hall, which will be used for groups, activities and events and have won Community Choices funding through a community vote to upgrade the hall.
- The Employment and Training Unit provides School Support to high school pupils about to leave school, as well as to Primary School parents to help them get into employment and training.
- Corra and the People's Parish have been running activities and events to capture stories from the community. Stories are captured and recorded orally as well as in photographs.
- Local churches are trying to be more active in Bainsford and Langlees, e.g., "Messy Church".

### **Priorities to address together**

- Partners wish to encourage, co-location, shared resources and joined-up approach across community groups. It was felt that more collaboration between community groups is needed as well as a willingness from groups to work together and cooperate for the good of the community.
- Increase groups and activities for all ages and ensure these groups are inclusive and widely accessible, target different age groups and abilities.

- Improve communication between groups and of what is going on in the area so more people know who and where to participate.
- Increase, support and upskill volunteers through training and peer mentoring.
- Improve access to funding sources for community groups

### **What will be different in 10 years?**

- There will be things for everyone going on that are accessible to all and well attended.
- People know what is going on through a central hub and can participate.
- Everyone is happy.
- A busy buzzing, vibrant, economically active community



<b>No.</b>		
21	Organise conflict resolution meeting chaired by independent person	FC CLD, Corra, community groups, CVS Falkirk, Community Planning
22	Develop ways to encourage co-location, shared resources and joined-up approach across community groups.	FC CLD, Corra, community groups, CVS Falkirk, Community Planning, Forth Environment Link (FEL) & Climate Forth
23	Develop ways to improve accessibility – language, disability, etc.	FC CLD, Corra, community groups, CVS Falkirk, CSREC, Carers Centre, Falkirk HSCP
24	Gather baseline information to establish needs of the entire community.	FC CLD, Community Planning, Falkirk HSCP, FC Children’s Services, community groups and CPP partners
25	Scope out ways to improve communication of what is going on in the area, e.g., a newsletter and a Street Ambassador programme.	FEL, FC CLD, Corra, CVS Falkirk, community groups
26	Gather new and previous case studies of work going on in the area and the difference it has made.	FC CLD, Corra, community groups
27	Scope out what is needed to upskill volunteers.	FC CLD, Corra, CVS Falkirk, community groups
28	Establish peer mentors for groups and volunteers.	FC CLD, Community Planning, CVS Falkirk, community groups
29	Improve access to funding sources for community groups and encourage joint applications / shared resources.	FC CLD, Community Planning, CVS Falkirk, TCV, community groups
30	Establish a Central Hub for the community	FC CLD, CVS Falkirk, community groups, community planning partners
31	Scope out a Bainsford & Langlees Local Resilience Plan – Climate FORTH	Climate FORTH, CLD, Corra, community groups, CVS, Community Planning, FEL, TCV
32	Deliver creative approaches to storytelling where people identify the best way to tell their story.	Corra, People’s Parish



# Theme 4: Tidying Outdoor Spaces

## **What local people said:**

"We need to make the place look nicer on the outside."

"There is broken glass and needles in the parks."

"Some parts look dirty with rubbish piled up."

"People should take pride in their place."

"We need litter picking."

"Bins in flats – nowhere to store. Bins left out. Pens not used."

"Bins a nightmare"

"Bins on the pavements"

"Do something around Coo Park that benefits the entire community."

"Gardens are terrible."

"Sort the fly tipping issue."

"The place is not inviting for visitors/outsiders to look at."

"A big tidy up is needed."

"Everything seems run down."

"Dog Fouling"

"There is a need for maintaining grass areas."

"The area is a bit neglected."

"There should be more bins."

"There are shabby houses."

"Graffiti"

"Shabby benches"

"Need more flowers"

"Falkirk Council – Repairs take too long."

"More dog bins please."

"Park needs upgraded."

"There is littering and broken glass [and a] lack of bins."

"It is an unsightly environment."

"Cleaning streets more regularly would make it a better place to live."

There's no pride in the area because of the rubbish."

"It's a bit run down. It needs a lift and modernizing. Public

spaces need upgraded and re-vamped, for example, Dawson Park, the community centre on David's Loan needs urgent renovation."

"People's gardens need doing."

"Clean up mess."

"Improvements needed – maintaining the grass areas."

"

## **What we know**

- *Local residents are dissatisfied with the condition of local outdoor spaces and wish to do more about it.*

## **Recent Developments**

- *Climate FORTH's local resilience plan for Bainsford and Langlees will build on the priority issues and actions contained within this community action plan.*
- *Forth Environment Link will work with local community groups to help deliver many of the actions contained within this community action plan.*
- *A representative from the Conservation Volunteers in Scotland (TCV) joined the CAP Working Group because she is a local resident. However, she brings not only her local knowledge, but also a good knowledge of environmental issues and activities.*
- *People's Parish, Dandelion and Dig in have been working together to scope out potential community growing opportunities in Bainsford and Langlees. Their combined knowledge and expertise will help achieve many of the actions contained within this community action plan.*

## **Priorities to address together**

- Increase outdoor activities with groups, such as food growing allotments, environmental training & learning opportunities, educational resources, annual clear ups, tree planting, community orchard and a tool library.
- Find ways to engage community in green initiatives such as tree planting and litter picks, Community events, school engagement, business engagement, visioning exercise for bowling area.
- Identify permission for growing spaces.

## **What will be different in 10 years?**

- *People are proud to live here.*
- *Community have more ownership and influence over the local environment, a shift away from the Council led to community led and organised.*
- *The area is a nice clean, safe, happy place to live.*
- *Community cohesion: everyone helping each other out*

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who will be involved</b>
33	Establish a litter / tidy-up group to oversee litter picks, etc.	FC Waste Services, FC CLD, Corra, Forth Environment Link (FEL), TCV, community groups
34	Allocate an area – Recycling – Put skips in – direct people to it. Empty regularly. Additional advice on correct use of bins and services to support e.g. bulky waste service/reuse etc would secure improvements.”	FC Waste Services, FC CLD, Corra, TCV, community groups (new litter / tidy-up group)
35	Engage all schools in area to litter pick. Teach them young to keep area clean.	FC Waste Services, FC CLD, Children’s Services, Dandelion, (new litter / tidy-up group)
36	Pick an area or park to start clean up, then make area more presentable, i.e., flowers, tree planting.	FC Waste Services, FC CLD, Corra, TCV, community groups, FEL, (new litter / tidy-up group)
37	Scope out how litter picking equipment can be kept local –e.g. community centre could lend out.	FC Waste Services, FC CLD, Corra, community groups, (new litter / tidy-up group)
38	Scope out a training programme – older peoples’ gardens.	FEL, FC CLD, Corra, People’s Parish, community groups, (new litter / tidy-up group) Restorative Justice, Cyrenians
39	Identify permissions to establish Community growing spaces.	FC CLD, Corra, community groups, Forth Environment Link, People’s Parish, Dandelion, FEL
40	Help to enhance the sub youth facility garden, as well as set up a larger growing space.	FEL, FC Community Growing Officer, FC CLD, Coo Park, Corra
41	Establish a Shared Tool Library.	FC CLD, Corra, community groups
42	Scope out the creation of allotments at the shop in Langlees.	FC Allotment Waiting List, FC CLD, Corra, People’s Parish, community groups
44	Create visual prompts for dog waste to be binned.	FC Waste Services, FC CLD, Corra, community groups, Falkirk Council Waste Services, (new litter / tidy-up group)
45	Review Food Futures project and scope out future work.	FC CLD, Coo Park
46	Establish peer mentoring with other communities who have well established litter/green groups., i.e. Inspire Denny & gLitter Team.	FC Waste Services, FC CLD, Corra, People’s Parish, TCV, community groups, (new litter / tidy-up group)
47	Set up a rewilding group to clear the woodland of rubbish, thin it’s canopy and instal/encourage understory species growth.”	FC Waste Services, FC Biodiversity Officer, FEL, Falkirk Council Children’s Services, Falkirk Council Place Services, (new litter / tidy-up group)
48	Conduct a visioning exercise for outdoor spaces.	FC CLD, Corra, People’s Parish, community groups
49	Scope out how to create a community orchard &/or farm, i.e., an enhanced food growing area for the community.	FC Estates Development, People’s Parish, Dandelion, FC CLD, Corra, community groups, FEL
50	Organise an annual / 6-monthly clear up of the community, with intergenerational involvement.	FC Waste Services, FC CLD, Corra, TCV, community groups, (new litter / tidy-up group)
51	Scope out tree planting activities / locations.	FEL, FC CLD, Corra, TCV, community groups

# Theme 5: Transport and Roads

## What local people said:

"They changed the bus route. Took away from bottom of Haugh Street."

"Lack of services, i.e. bus does not serve everyone."

"Buses are off [at] 3 o'clock for [the] school run."

"Pavements blocked"

"[We need] better pavements and roads. Get rid of cracks."

"Bus changes – not suitable. David's Loan bus route been taken off – changed. [This is] not suitable [for] elderly people. [We] need to change bus to go to Stirling."

"[We need better] school crossing, [as there is] no lollipop lady."

"[We need to] tackle speeding."

"[We need to] improve transport infrastructure."

"[We need to] increase road safety."

"Parking at school [is an issue]."

"Bus service is disgraceful! We need [better] transport links. There is no bus infrastructure."

"Build bus station next to rail station."

"[We] need to stop parents parking [outside the school]."

"Speeding in Main Street, Bainsford [is an] accident waiting to happen."

"Some of the roads in the estate need more speed [cameras] because there's a lot of speeding. I've talked about with the Council but they've done nothing. There are many children and teens and it's bound to cause accidents."

"We need more speed bumps."

## What we know

- A transport Hub is planned at Grahamston Train Station as part of Falkirk's Growth Deal.
- First Bus have experienced driver shortages since the pandemic.
- Due to a 21% increase in costs on previous years, the number of bus services running across the Falkirk area have been reduced as of Monday, 15 August 2022.
- The Council continues to spend over £1million per year to ensure communities retain several services that operators said are not commercially viable.

## Recent Developments

- Falkirk Council is currently refreshing its Local Transport Strategy (LTS) which will include public transport (bus and rail) as well as active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling). As part of this process Falkirk Council consulted with residents for their views in Spring 2022. Survey results will help the local authority update its Local Transport Strategy (LTS) and create its first area-wide Active Travel Strategy. Together the plans will not only set out the Council's roads and transport plans for the next 10 years but also highlight how it will create a safe, reliable, convenient, accessible, and sustainable transport system for those living in, working in, and visiting the Falkirk Council area.
- Falkirk Council's 20mph strategy is being introduced across the Falkirk Council area.
- The Scottish Government introduced free bus travel for young people through the National Entitlement Card in early 2022. The card also entitles the holder to a third off rail travel.
- Commercial operators who tendered to run the subsidized service cited the pandemic, fuel prices and the broader economic impact of Brexit and the Ukraine conflict for significantly higher bids.
- These bids far exceeded the money the Council had available to spend. To bring costs back on budget, several early morning, evening, and Sunday services – selected due to low usage – will no longer operate.

### **Priorities to address together**

- People should have access to an inclusive transport structure and good quality options for walking, wheeling, cycling, and public transport.
- Bainsford and Langlees need to be better connected to neighbouring communities, Forth Valley Royal Hospital and beyond.
- Road safety needs addressed for all residents in Bainsford and Langlees, in particular, safer routes to and from school.

### **What will be different in 10 years?**

- Cycling will be accessible to all residents living in the area.
- Improved roads and pathways will allow for safer cycling and walking routes.
- Parking near schools will be restricted.
- There will be community transport options to fill the gaps of commercial providers.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who will be involved</b>
52	Active Travel: Promote walking and cycling routes.	Falkirk Council Place Services (Transport Planning Unit (TPU)), CLD, Corra, community groups, Forth Environment Link (FEL), Climate FORTH
53	Active Travel: Scope out potential e-bike provision.	FC Place Services (TPU), FEL
54	Promote "walking bus" to Primary Schools. Work to ensure safest route to/from Falkirk High School for all.	Falkirk Council Children's Services, Parent / Community volunteers
55	Road Safety: Promote safe parking / no-parking zones near schools	FC Children's Services, Place Services (Roads)
56	Road Safety: Promote road safety and cycle safely for school children.	FC Children's Services, Place Services (Roads)
57	Road Safety: Review updated guidance from Scottish Government to all Local Authorities on the implementation of 20mph speed limits.	FC Place Services (Roads)
58	Public Transport: Assess the current accessibility and affordability of public transport in Bainsford and Langlees area and make recommendations to improve provision.	FC Place Services (TPU)
59	Public Transport: Deliver new multi-modal travel hub at Falkirk Grahamston Station, providing bus / rail / e-bike interchange.	FC Place Services (TPU)

# Theme 5: Addressing Poverty

## What we know

- *Bainsford and Langlees is an area of high deprivation with 72% of its population classed as living in SIMD Quintile 1. This compares to 16% in Falkirk and 20% in Scotland.*
- *Bainsford & Langlees has higher levels of unemployment due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in line with the rest of Falkirk*
- *There are higher levels of council tenants in rent arrears.*
- *There are higher levels of benefit claimants. A third of the population are in receipt of out of work benefits – double both the Falkirk and national average*
- *Bainsford and Langlees has higher levels of children living in low-income households compared to Falkirk and Scotland.*
- *Over a third (34.5%) of Bainsford and Langlees children were living in poverty in 2019/20, which is much higher than Falkirk (19%) and the Scottish average (18.8%).*
- *Recent cost-of-living increases and the substantial rise in fuel costs have placed additional stress on families.*

## Priorities to address together

- *People are struggling financially, due to Covid-19 and recent cost of living rises, including fuel: More work needs to be done to strengthen networks of support within communities so people who are struggling are aware of where they can receive support.*
- *Related issues are affordability of public transport, and incurring debts linked to delays in payment of Universal Credit.*
- *An inclusive local economy: people are concerned about training and job opportunities, and high levels of deprivation.*

## What will be different in 10 years?

- *Work will continue to ensure people experiencing poverty will have access to a wider range of support.*
- *Community health and wealth building will be at the heart of all services and support to local communities in Bainsford and Langlees.*
- *Initiatives funded through Community Choices will have a significant impact in Bainsford and Langlees in tackling poverty, inequality and social isolation.*



<b>No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who will be involved</b>
60	Further develop the community led food pantry, the role of the Community Food Worker, subscriptions service and local volunteers.	Community groups, Falkirk Council CLD, Falkirk HSCP, Corra
61	Explore additional community projects to address food poverty, such as cooking on a budget, community kitchens, training on hygiene, nutrition and allergens etc.	Community groups, FC CLD, Food Futures, Corra
62	Consider local energy-efficiency education, for example keeping heat in homes, energy-efficient cooking etc. (Explore funding options.)	Community groups, FC CLD, Corra, CVS Falkirk
63	Consider sustainable food projects, such as community growing, reducing food waste, local and seasonal food education etc., and explore funding options for these initiatives.	Community groups, Food Futures, Forth Environment Link (FEL)
64	Investigate local training needs, and design local projects with local communities	Community groups, FC CLD, CVS Falkirk, FC Employment & Training Unit, Skills Development Scotland
65	Work with communities to combat negative perceptions of those in poverty, and consider local events related to Challenge Poverty Week	Community groups, FC CLD, Corra
66	Develop ways to expand digital inclusion, particularly for young people, such as creating safe digital spaces, coding, peer support, tackling online bullying.	FC CLD, CVS Falkirk, community groups
67	Develop ways to address fuel poverty in Bainsford and Langlees.	FC Community groups, Corra, FC CLD
68	Develop ways to address child poverty in Bainsford and Langlees, such as providing food during the school holidays	Community groups, Corra, FC CLD
69	Develop a network of local providers which makes best use of household goods and furniture.	Community groups, FC CLD, CVS Falkirk
70	Ensure people have the opportunity to work with the Community Planning Partnership to share their experiences in order to improve services around mitigating the impact of Universal Credit and other benefit issues.	Employment and Training Unit, (ETU), Falkirk Community Advice Team, Falkirk Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB), community groups

## **Monitoring this plan**

This Action Plan shows what will be done to improve outcomes in Bainsford and Langlees over the next 10 years. Each action will be delivered by local people and supported by third sector organisations, statutory services and other community planning partners.

This plan will be monitored and reported on annually so trends and progress can be measured.

## **How to get involved**

This plan is for anyone who lives or works in the Bainsford and Langlee area. The actions in this plan will be jointly delivered by organisations within the Community Planning Partnership, local community groups, members of the local community and anyone else that wants to be involved.

If you are interested in discussing what is in this plan, or want to get involved in any way, please contact the Community Planning Partnership at [communityplanning@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@falkirk.gov.uk).



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