

East Lothian Partnership

Dunbar & East Linton Area Partnership

Area Plan

2019-2024

(Updated July 2021)

“We will work in partnership to achieve an even more prosperous, safe and sustainable East Lothian, with a dynamic and thriving economy that enables our people and communities to flourish.”



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Area Partnership Locations



Introduction

Welcome to Dunbar & East Linton Area Partnership's Area Plan.

Area Partnerships were established as the local voice of community planning in East Lothian, and they strengthen links between communities, area-based services, and the East Lothian Partnership. They provide a way for local communities to contribute to the outcomes in the East Lothian Plan and to influence service planning and delivery in their area. The overarching priority for each Area Partnership is to reduce inequalities and poverties across and within its communities.

Our Area Partnership was first established in 2014 and is made up of a broad range of community representatives, all of whom are volunteers and all of whom have also been actively involved in shaping this plan. You can find out more about our members at page 10. Since 2014 we have successfully supported and delivered over 80 projects aimed at improving our communities and making lives better for everyone who live and work here. These projects include delivery of the very popular Dunbar Summer School activity project for children and young people in our Area as well as supporting the improvements to West Barns Village Hall, the installation of superfast broadband in Stenton and improvement works to East Linton High Street. We have delivered projects that help people to live active, safe and healthy lives and are also working to reduce the attainment gap and increase the achievement potential for our young people. Our aim is to continue, and improve, this work by delivering the priorities identified in this plan.

The *Dunbar & East Linton Area Partnership Area Plan 2019-23* has been developed to meet the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. This Act gives greater powers to communities to get involved in local decision making and to have greater control of buildings, land and service provision that will bring benefits to their communities.

Our priorities, detailed in the plan, help identify ways in which we can make the Dunbar and East Linton area an even better place for everyone who lives here.

We have combined local data from a variety of sources such as the East Lothian Poverty Commission (ELPC) 2017 report '*Challenging perceptions. Overcoming poverty*' and our current Area Profile, both of which can be found on East Lothian Council's website.

The plan has also been shaped by a wide range of consultation and engagement activity over the last five years. Some of this activity was led by community groups and some by the Area Partnership. Consultation which provides the local community with the opportunity to tell us what they like about their area and what can be done to improve it for everyone.

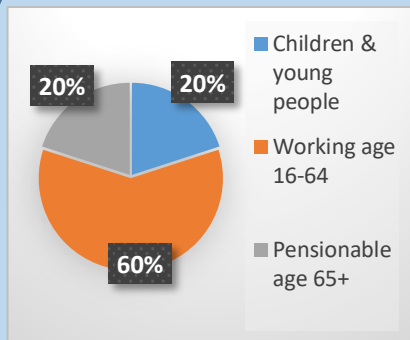
George Robertson

Chair – Dunbar & East Linton Area Partnership
May 2021



Understanding Dunbar & East Linton

In general, the Dunbar & East Linton Ward statistically fairs well against other areas of East Lothian and Scotland. However, there a few issues that impact people's lives such as poor health across the ages and access in and around the rural villages.



Dunbar & East Linton Residents

14,041 population

This is 13.5% of East Lothian's

Fuel poverty

25.2% of private households in Dunbar Town Centre and **23.8%** in the rural section of the Ward are in fuel poverty

15% of children live in poverty

Child Poverty

21.4mb/s

Average download speed

UK average

44.6mb/s

Broadband

The areas around Innerwick and Stenton are the 2nd and 3rd

most access

deprived in East Lothian

D & EL: 98% of people

in the ward rate their neighbourhood as very good / a good place to live

Attainment

96.2% of school leavers have positive destinations

Less D&EL AP school leavers enter training than East Lothian or Scottish averages

1 in 5 residents aged **65+**

Older people

Carers

28% of P6 & S2

pupils across the ward regular help to take care of a family member

23% of carers provide over 50 hours of weekly care

D & EL: 89%

describe health as good/very good

Adult Health

Dunbar has highest rates for alcohol, heart disease and asthma related hospital stays in the D&EL ward

£531.53 difference in weekly income between the least and most affluent areas

Income

Dunbar & East Linton Area Partnership

Set up in 2014 as the local voice of community planning, Area Partnerships are now well established and are made up of members who are representative of their communities. D&EL AP members currently include local Councillors and representatives from:

- Dunbar, Dunpender, East Lammermuir and West Barns Community Councils.
- Dunbar Shore & Harbour Neighbourhood Tenants & Residents Association.
- Hallhill Tenants and Residents Association.
- Dunbar Grammar School Parent Council and Primary Schools Parent Councils
- local groups - Dunbar Trades Association, The Ridge, Sustaining Dunbar, Support from the Start, Tynninghame Village Hall and East Lothian Association of Day Centres.

The role of Area Partnerships is to:

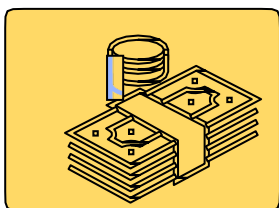
- Develop a plan based on a shared vision for the area, using evidence from the Area Profile and local intelligence - with a focus on reducing inequalities, prioritising early intervention and sustainability.
- Monitor the delivery of the Area Plan and its impact, reporting progress to the East Lothian Partnership at least once a year.
- Oversee resource allocation devolved to the area in accordance with priorities established by the plan.
- Act as the principal point of contact, consultation and engagement on the delivery of local services and service improvement.
- Monitor the effectiveness of stakeholder and community engagement to develop, deliver and review the area plan and local service delivery, drawing on and building on existing activities of local groups and partnerships.

The picture below shows the Area Partnership boundary.



Devolved budgets

East Lothian Council devolve budgets to the Area Partnerships. In 2021/22 this totalled £1.2 million across six Area Partnerships and although this is not new money it is used to influence how service budgets are spent. The devolved budgets are under constant review. The total budget for D&ELAP in 2018 was £300,000 split across the four areas below:



1. Amenities Services £100,000

To be used for services provided by the council's Amenity Services team, this can include maintenance, renovation and minor improvements in parks, sports pitches, open spaces, hard landscaping, rural paths, woodlands and children's play areas; grass cutting, street sweeping; and street bins, seats, signs and fencing. This gives us the ability to direct men and machines to local amenities priorities subject to budget constraints and negotiations with ELC.

2. Roads Capital £50,000

Spending can include traffic and safety schemes, footway and car park improvements, street lighting, carriageway repairs or resurfacing, signage and/or drainage improvements. Funds can be used to support sustainable and active transport initiatives.

3. General Service £50,000

To be used for non-recurring general services priorities determined by each partnership in their area plans.

4. Education Initiatives

Prior to the 2020 financial year, Area Partnerships had a devolved budget of £100,000 for education initiatives. This has now been withdrawn due to ELC Budgetary pressure. Meanwhile, we still have a remit to further improve attainment and achievement, and to reduce inequalities within schools and the wider learning community where possible and within the constraints of our remaining budget.

Examples of some projects already supported through the Education Funding Panel are:

- **Backlands Project** – The Ridge / Dunbar Grammar School: This provision for Dunbar Grammar School pupils who are at risk of permanent exclusion one day a week in the Backlands Garden, run by The Ridge. The impact so far has seen pupils improve attendance and behaviour at school and also leave with literacy / numeracy and ICT qualifications.
- **Community Support Worker** – Dunbar Cluster Schools Groups: A Community Support Worker, works across the partnership area supports families and children to ensure that they are engaging with the early learning process which in turn will help reduce difficulties as they progress through school.
- **Dunbar Cluster Activity Access Fund scholarships:** The Area Partnership, in conjunction with the local ELC Active Schools and CLD teams have created a fund to allow children and young people who, because of family circumstances, are currently unable to access activities and local organisations.
- **In 2017 and 2018 the Group was also responsible for developing and running the very successful "Summers Cool" programme.** This let over 100 children and young people access a week of activities, whose family circumstances would not normally let them have such opportunities.

Sub groups

A Health & Wellbeing Sub Group had its first meeting in April 2019 and continues to focus on health related issues that affect the partnership area.

- Services for older adults including the re-provision of Belhaven Hospital.
- The future proofing of services in the light of new developments - joined up thinking between Planning and Services.
- Development of Future Projects to meet service needs.
- The mental wellbeing of the community post Covid.

The bigger picture

The responsibility for delivering the actions identified in an Area Plan lies with the Area Partnership and East Lothian Partnership (ELP) who both have a role in reviewing progress of its outcomes. To help reflect the shared roles of our partners we have framed our priorities, and related actions, around the themes and outcomes of the *East Lothian Plan 2017-2022*:

www.eastlothian.gov.uk/elothianplan

East Lothian Partnership's Statement of Intent is:

"We will work in partnership to achieve an even more prosperous, safe and sustainable East Lothian, with a dynamic and thriving economy that enables our people and communities to flourish."

Supporting plans

It is important to note that East Lothian's Area Plans do not stand alone. They form part of wider network of plans from partners that interlink and complement each other in terms of reducing inequalities and responding to the climate emergency. Local actions should be linked to ELC's Climate Change Strategy

*Local Outcome Improvement Plan



Our priorities

What we are going to do

Our vision is to work with our community to make life better for everyone who lives, gets around, works, and visits the Dunbar & East Linton Area.

The **East Lothian Plan 2017-27** themes & outcomes:

Theme 1: PROSPEROUS

Outcome 1.1 People are working, are free from in-work poverty and are able to develop and improve their work skills.

Outcome 1.2 Local businesses are thriving and the business base is expanding.

Outcome 1.3 People and businesses in East Lothian have better access to digital infrastructure and the digital skills they need.

Theme 2: COMMUNITY-MINDED

Outcome 2.1 East Lothian has strong, resilient communities, where people respect and support each other.

Outcome 2.2 East Lothian people can live affordably and contribute to a thriving community life in a high-quality environment.

Theme 3: FAIR

Outcome 3.1 We tackle the causes and effects of poverty in East Lothian and we reduce the gap between the richest and the poorest people.

Outcome 3.2 People in East Lothian are enjoying healthier lives

The East Lothian Plan also includes a specific poverty related outcome:

'We tackle the causes and effects of poverty in East Lothian, and we reduce the gap between the richest and poorest people.'

By working together effectively the D&EL Area will be a Prosperous, Community-minded and Fair place to live.

PROSPEROUS

Making DELAP a great place to work

1. Local business will be supported to grow

ACTION

Support the roll-out of superfast broadband across the Area including those "hard to reach" rural areas. We will also promote initiatives to reduce the digital divide and improve access to appropriate equipment, training, and broadband connections.

We will Support ways to provide flexible affordable workspace & shared office accommodation for local enterprises and new business start-ups.

Local Businesses will be supported in low carbon growth and a circular local economy.

2. Young people will have improved post-school employment opportunities

ACTION

Support the development of more opportunities for young people to train and work in the ward. Work with Dunbar Grammar and other local organisations to support training and volunteering opportunities. Work with local organisations to offer Improved assistance to help prepare students for next steps such as CV writing, interview technique, career open days etc.

3. Our Conservation Areas will be promoted and enhanced, and our coastline will be protected, developed and improved

ACTION

Continue to support improvement works on Dunbar and East Linton High Streets.

Promote green tourism, attractions, assets and events to increase footfall in town centres.

Support East Beach regeneration, conserve the natural environment of our coastline, and improve access to our beaches and especially for those with mobility issues.

IMPACT

- Increased access to superfast broadband will benefit business and residents across the area.
- Local businesses will become increasingly sustainable in the circular economy.
- Local young people will have increased employment and skills.
- More people will visit town centres and the wider area using public transport and active travel which will support local businesses.
- Residents and visitors will be able to access a greater range of heritage and cultural related activities in the area.
- The natural environment will be conserved, and biodiversity enhanced.

COMMUNITY MINDED

Making D&EL a great place to visit

4. The work, social and recreational needs of village residents will be met locally

ACTION

Ongoing support for village halls to operate as social, leisure and local service hubs.

Young people will have improved social, sporting and recreational opportunities.

Support the making safe and development of Dunbar Town Centre.

1. Ward Communities are places encouraging a Low Carbon Lifestyle and are prepared for the effects of Climate Change.

ACTION

Promote green networks, outdoor play, local food growing, zero waste, local amenities, and community meeting places where everyone is connected to the outdoors and nature thrives.

Maintain and improve the sections of the John Muir way in our ward.

Support rural pathways and specifically a path between Dunbar and Spott and between Tynninghame village and Binning wood.

6. Encourage increased use of public transport and active modes of travel and ensure our roads are safe.

ACTION

Actively promote active travel opportunities and developments to local residents.

Install and repair benches on paths throughout the area.

Work to ensure that our roads will be safe in and between settlements.

7. Affordable housing, and other Ward assets and events will be developed and promoted

ACTION

Help to promote local facilities and events on offer to help new residents settle in and become valued members of the community.

Housing supply will be improved. And new housing built to the highest standards of energy efficiency.

Diverse village character will be promoted and celebrated.

IMPACT

People will have a strong sense of community.

Young people will feel supported.

More people will be walking or cycling to improve their health, and private car use reduced.

Young people will have more positive destinations after school.

FAIR

Making D&EL inclusive

8. Our communities are supported to enable people to make health choices and maintain a healthy lifestyle and vulnerable / isolated people are supported

1 in 5 of our residents are aged 65+

Dunbar East has highest rates for alcohol, heart disease and asthma related hospital stays in the D&EL Ward.

Dunbar West has the lowest average life expectancy for the Ward. 79.6yrs for females and 77.5 yrs for males.

ACTION

Establish a Health and Wellbeing Group.

Work with local organisations to raise awareness of support for those suffering from dementia and their Carers.

Support initiatives that address health inequalities and promote wellbeing.

Support initiatives that reduce social isolation and mental health issues in local communities.

Address the mental health issues post-pandemic and especially those arising from job insecurity and financial stress.

Work with relevant partners to implement the Poverty Action Plan arising from the work of the Poverty Commission, including providing money advice, energy efficiency advice to those who would benefit.

9. Public transport provides the area with reliable, accessible and regular services to meet the community's needs

The areas around Innerwick and Stenton are the 2nd & 3rd most access deprived in East Lothian and in the top 10% for Scotland.

ACTION

Support initiatives that seek to address the access inequality across our area.

Enhance bus services, coordinate with train timetables, migrate to greener buses, and improve provision for the carriage of bicycles.

Encourage and support the development of solutions that let children and young people travel into Dunbar and across the area to access improved social, sporting and recreational opportunities.

IMPACT

People will feel less isolated in their communities.

More people will be able to access the services they need.

Mental health and physical wellbeing for all residents will be improved and health inequalities will be reduced.

Residents will lead healthier and more environmentally sustainable lives.

Fuel poverty will be reduced.

Member organisations

Dunbar and East Linton Area Partnership Member Organisations:

East Lothian Council
Dunbar Community Council
Dunpender Community Council
East Lammermuir Community Council
West Barns Community Council
Dunbar Shore and Harbour Neighbourhood TRA
Hallhill TRA
Tynninghame Village Hall
Dunbar Grammar School Parent Council
Primary School Parent Councils: Dunbar, East Linton, Innerwick, Stenton, West Barns.
Sustaining Dunbar
East Lothian Association of Day Centres
The Ridge, Dunbar
Support from the Start
Dunbar Trade Association

East Lothian Partnership Member Organisations:

(MEMBER ORGANISATIONS ACROSS THE FOUR BOARD-LEVEL PARTNERSHIPS)
Association of East Lothian Community Councils
Children 1st
Coalition of Community Care and Support Providers in Scotland
East Lothian Council
East Lothian Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board
Edinburgh College
ELTRP
Federation of Small Businesses
Jobcentre Plus / Department for Work and Pensions
Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority
Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce
NHS Lothian
Police Scotland
Queen Margaret University
Scottish Care Ltd
Scottish Enterprise
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Scottish Natural Heritage
Skills Development Scotland
Social Enterprise in East Lothian
Volunteer Centre East Lothian
Visit Scotland



Past Projects

