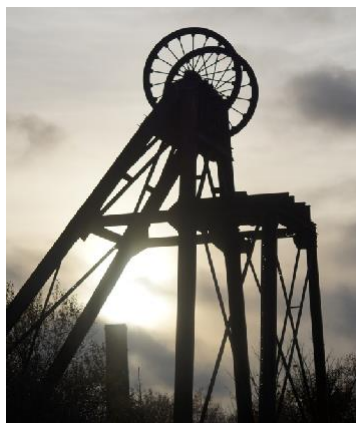


East Lothian Partnership

Preston Seton Gosford Area Plan

2024-2029

“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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Cover photos: Jim Nisbet

Prestonpans Mercat Cross, Prestongrange, Longniddry, Port Seton Harbour

Area Partnership Locations

- Musselburgh
- Fa'side
- Haddington & Lammermuir
- Dunbar & East Linton
- North Berwick Coastal
- Preston Seton Gosford



Foreword

The Preston Seton Gosford (PSG) Area Partnership (AP) Area Plan 2024-29 has been developed building on the 2019-2024 plan and in consultation with the community since 2023.

The 2019-24 plan obviously faced immediate challenges and adaptations very short after its inception with the immense challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID put into sharp focus the polarising impacts of inequality, deprivation, and wellbeing on our society and particularly seeing those in our area with least hit hardest. Despite the tragic impacts COVID had on us as individuals and our area, I am heartened by the ways in which it brought our communities together and immense credit must go to the volunteers who stepped up through resilience initiatives. Since COVID we have seen this trend continue with community-led initiatives (many supported by the Area Partnership) including the constitution of Prestonpans Bloomers, Friends of Preston Tower, among many others.

As we celebrate 10 years of the Area Partnership and the now hundreds of projects supported, we must also reflect on our future direction. For me, the Area Partnership is at its most effective when it provides a conduit for our communities to come together and work together for all our benefit. PSG is immensely fortunate to have strong and dedicated leadership of its three Community Councils and I must thank and acknowledge the efforts of, among many others across the dozens of community groups which constitute the AP, DJ Johnston-Smith, Helen York, Bryan Hickman, Janis Wilson, Jackie Muller, and Shona Brash for their contributions to discussions, support, constructive criticism, and dedication to their communities.

Given the importance of community, as we turn our mind to the 2024-29 plan, one key gauge of our success must be the integration and constitution of the new Blindwells community. On the principle that it takes a village to raise a child, it will take all our efforts to support the raising of a new community.

Much of the key work and impact of the Area Partnership comes from our sub-groups (Children and Young People, Communications, Health and Wellbeing, Heritage and Sustainable PSG). These are at their strongest when they can leverage the expertise and enthusiasm of as wide a section of our community as possible. Ensuring these have enough support and representation is key.

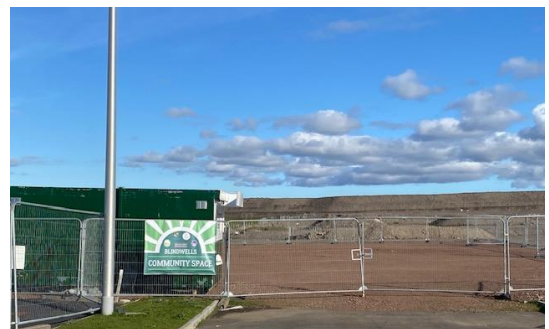
The plan itself must remain an organic and responsive framework as the world we live in develops and changes. In addition to Blindwells, PSG also hosts the former Cockenzie Power Station site which forms one of the most important development sites in the county. It is imperative that our communities have their voices heard in plans for this site.

The latest profile for the Preston, Seton, Gosford area can be accessed at:

www.eastlothian.gov.uk/psgsnapshot

Ben Morse

Chair, Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership



Blindwells Community Space



Blindwells High Street CGI

Understanding Preston, Seton & Gosford

This area plan has been shaped by a wide range of consultation and engagement activity over the last year. Some of this activity was led by community groups and some by Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership, these consultations have given the local community an opportunity to tell us their views on what can be done to make it a great place for everyone.

The **East Lothian Residents Survey 2020** showed that 53% of respondents in the Preston Seton Gosford (PSG) ward rated their neighbourhood as a 'very good' place to live, compared to 51% across East Lothian (EL).

17,714

Preston Seton Gosford Residents

10,460 Prestonpans 5,370 Cockenzie & Port Seton 2,340 Longniddry

- Children & young people
- Working age 16-64
- Pensionable age 65+

Adult Education



23% of PSG residents have no formal qualifications. EL average 28%

8 of ward data zones among Scotland's 20% most deprived and 3 within most educationally deprived in EL

Transport



Only 47% of the ward were satisfied with local bus service the lowest percentage across

10.9% of population considered income deprived

6% of ward have an income under £12,000

EL Average: 7%



Income inequality

Employment inequality

9% of working age in PSG employment deprived EL average: 8.1%

47.5% increase in Universal Credit claims from 20 to 22

Attainment

98.4% of school leavers have positive destinations highest in EL



9% less of PSG leavers enter further / higher education than EL

3689

aged 65+
20 %
population



Older people

Adult Health

Life expectancy lower in Prestonpans than EL

Rise in Mental Health reporting in GPs Practice compared to EL

28.8%

of residents in fuel poverty

EL average: 24.9%



Fuel Poverty

Free School Meals



14.8% primary and 13.3% secondary PSG pupils are registered for free meals

Scottish Child Payment



PSG has the most children in receipt of Scottish Child Payment in East Lothian

17% children living in relative poverty

14% living in absolute Poverty



Child Poverty

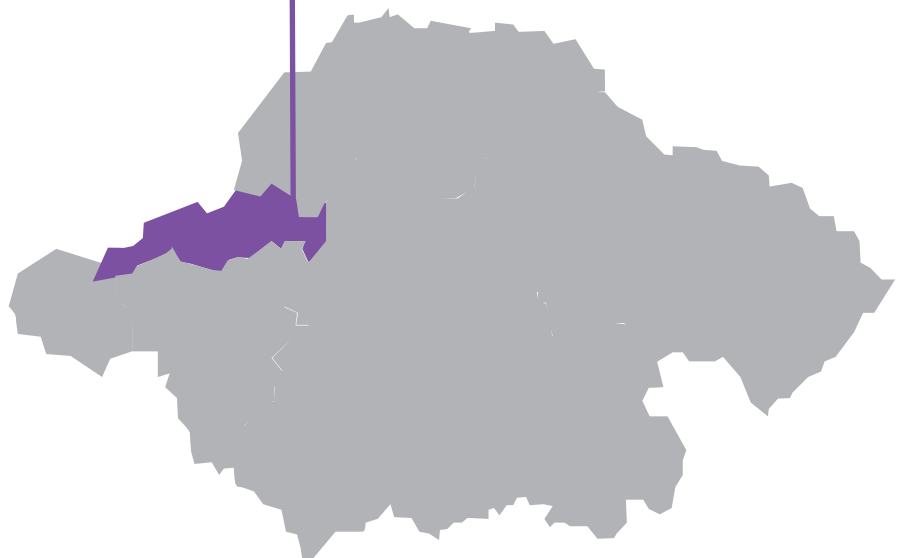
PSG Area Partnership

Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership includes East Lothian Councillors, Community Councillors from Prestonpans, Longniddry and Cockenzie & Port Seton, Tenants and Residents Groups, Pupil and Parent Council representatives from schools and members from local community groups.

The role of the Area Partnership is to:

- Develop an area 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 prevention and 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 area 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.

Blindwells
Cockenzie
Longniddry
Port Seton
Prestonpans
Seton Mains



Devolved budgets



East Lothian Council devolve budgets to the Area Partnerships. The total budget in 22/23 was £200,00. This is not new money it is used to influence how service budgets are spent.

The budgets come from three different sources:

1. Amenities Services

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, children's play areas, grass cutting, street sweeping, street bins, seats, signs and fencing.

2. Roads Capital

Area Partnerships can influence spend on projects identified by the Roads Teams which can include traffic and safety schemes, footway and car park improvements, street lighting, carriageway repairs or resurfacing, signage and/or drainage improvements. Funds can also be sought to support sustainable and active transport initiatives.



3. General Service

To be used for non-recurring general services priorities determined by each Partnership in their Area Plan.

Subgroups

Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership has a number of working subgroups and networks which help to develop the priorities:

Children & Youth Network

Co-ordinating work to support children and young people. Our Support from the Start network is part of this group helping children get the best start in life.

Health & Wellbeing Network

Helping to reduce health inequalities and impacts of poverty

Communications

Promoting the work of the partnership.

Heritage Connections

Making the most of our unique heritage.

Sports Hub

Increasing participation in physical activity and sport.

Sustainable PSG

Promoting walking and cycling and connecting communities. Raising Awareness of Climate Change and action we can take to reduce impact.

The bigger picture

The responsibility for delivering the actions from this area plan rests with both the Area Partnership and East Lothian Partnership (ELP) and they both have a role in reviewing progress on the outcomes detailed in this area plan.

To help reflect the shared roles of our partners in delivering this area plan we have framed the outcomes around those detailed in the East Lothian Plan 2017-2027.

This plan also reflects the recommendations from the East Lothian Poverty Commission^{1*} (ELPC) report “Challenging perceptions. Overcoming poverty” published in 2017 and 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.’

A new ELC Poverty Plan is currently in consultation stage (May 2024).

Our vision for the Preston Seton Gosford area.

The Statement of Intent of the East Lothian Plan 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.”

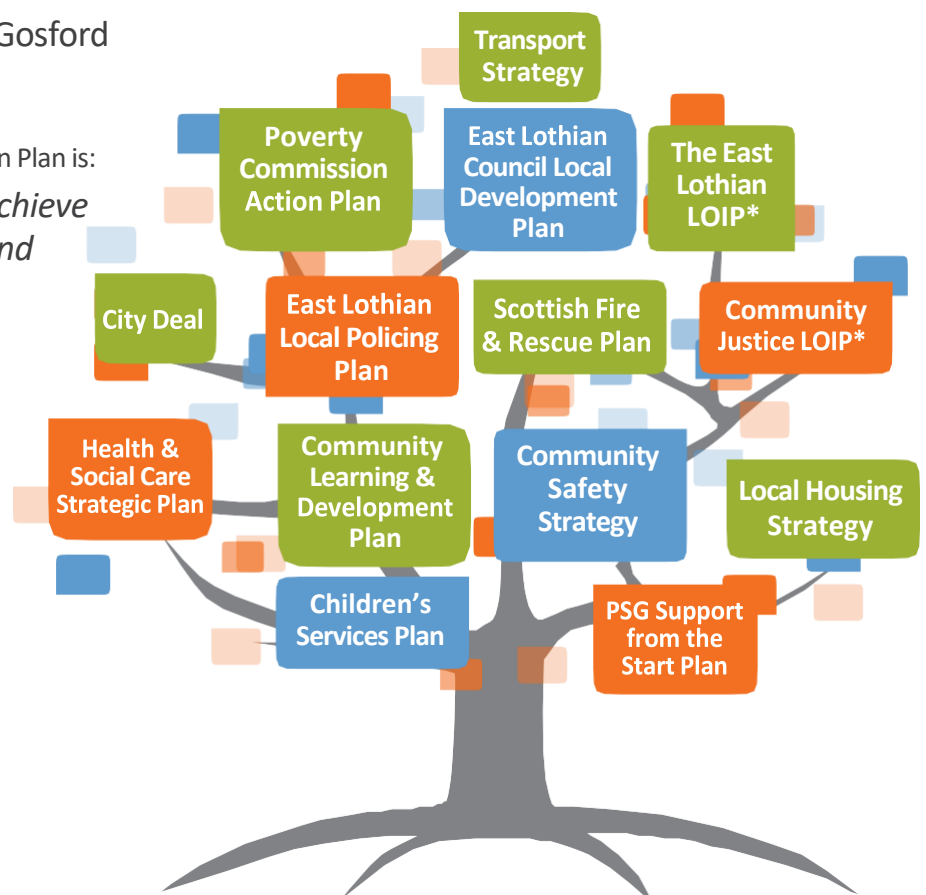
The ELP are determined to build an East Lothian that is increasingly:

- PROSPEROUS
- COMMUNITY-MINDED
- FAIR

Supporting Plans

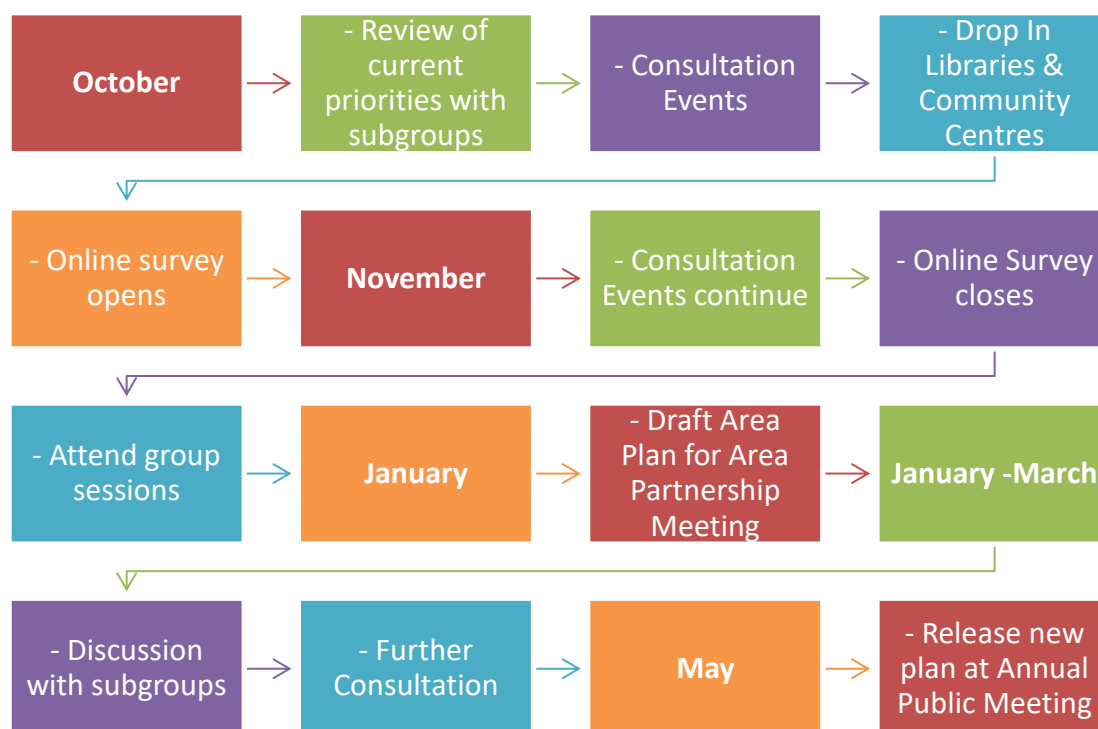
It is important to note that this area plan does not stand alone. It forms part of wider network of plans from other partners that interlink and complement each other in terms of reducing inequalities.

¹ East Lothian Poverty Commission is a group of independent members tasked with focusing on the issue of poverty in the county and how it is affecting people’s lives.



Consultation

The consultation for the new area plan has been taking place over 8 months, working with Area Partnership members, subgroups, and our wider community.



The consultation was undertaken through discussions in sub groups, and public feedback through drop in boards in libraries and community centres, community groups and online surveys.

Online

- We received 21 responses to the online survey



Drop in Boards – Libraries and Community Centres

- We received 45 responses through drop boxes



Community Groups

- We received direct feedback from walking football, Over 60s Lunch, Brew and Blether, Youth Clubs,

Consultation Events

- **100 people** were engaged through **4** consultation events were held, unfortunately all in Prestonpans, due to venue availability in evening around; Health and Wellbeing, Children and Young People, Climate Change and Heritage



Children and Youth Consultation Event

Key Achievements

Area Plan 19-24

- Investment in Heritage in Preston Seton Gosford through the work of the Area Partnership and Salt of the Earth i.e. War Memorial/Civic Square, Murals Trail, Preston Tower, Miners Monument, Prestongrange Heritage Park, school curriculum, heritage videos, heritage trails map and new Salt of the Earth website
- Improved partnership work to support our young people including the new developments in supporting schools, Child Planning Framework Locality Team and joined up work through the Problem-Solving Partnership around ASB.
- Coordination and resourcing of festive and holiday hunger provision across PSG to create three local hubs, pantries and hardship funds including training on advice, benefits and input from East Lothian Work, CAB and Social Security Scotland
- Supporting communities to improve their health and wellbeing through working with Doctors Surgery, Link Workers, Dementia Friendly East Lothian, Health Visitors, Breastfeeding Lense, Libraries and community centres.



Cockenzie Resilience Team Members



Home Deliveries

COVID

Response

COVID lockdowns were initiated in only the second year of our last Area Plan and therefore we must highlight the amazing work of our volunteers, resilience groups, third sector, local businesses and ELC Community Centres. They provided both the immediate response but also lasting projects to support people with isolation, cost of living crisis, their mental health and bereavement.

During COVID we distributed additional funds through the Area Partnership;

£21,600 for food and financial insecurity

- £19,600 to Pennypit Trust for Summer Lunch Club
- £2,000 split between pantries Pennypit, Lighthouse, Port Seton and Longniddry

£5,000 for digital inclusion

- £2,500 to both Pennypit and Port Seton Management Committees to purchase digital equipment for public use

£11,600 Youth Work

- Supporting new 25-hour youth work post for targeted work

A new Fareshare hub was established in Port Seton Centre, which was then moved to Aldhammer House, and continues to support organisations and pantries across East Lothian led by Fundamental Foods



We also supported 13 local business with two COVID Recovery Loves Local campaigns.

Supporting our local high street was a key part of COVID recovery and we secured £10,500 of funding and encouraged use of the East Lothian Gift Card to be spend in PSG.

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 Preston Seton Gosford Area.

The **East Lothian Plan** 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 PSG Area will be a Prosperous, Community-minded and Fair place to live.

PSG Area Partnership has Identified 22 priorities, set out in the following pages, which detail how we can realise our vision and help meet the three East Lothian Plan themes and outcomes.



Preston Tower



Cockenzie Harbour



Prestongrange Heritage Park



Gosford Estate

PROSPEROUS

Making PSG a great place to work

1. **Improve social enterprise and small business development in the area.**

ACTION

- Improve Wi-Fi coverage on the high street by exploring community Wi-Fi boost options
2. **Enable opportunities for local businesses to use locally grown/farmed foods.**

ACTION

- Identify suppliers of local grown produce Y1
 - Encourage their use by communities through joining ELFFN Y2
 - Providing opportunities for local organisations to use local suppliers Y3
3. **Increase participation in learning opportunities to help raise aspirations including employability, volunteering and digital skills.**

ACTION

- Promote EL Works (and other providers) learning opportunities through community centres and organisations
- Scoping volunteer opportunities through a yearly fayre Y1,Y2,Y3
- Organise a community day every 2 years promoting all the local groups and activities
- Working with VCEL to link community organisations to training and support

4. **Influence the future and potential use of the Cockenzie Power Station site.**

ACTION

- Ensure community voice is represented at the Quarterly Community Leader Briefings



Port Seton Harbour

Making PSG a great place to visit

5. **Revitalise Prestonpans High Street and help to encourage the community to use public spaces creatively.**

ACTION

- Carry out community engagement to gather views to influence future plans for Prestonpans High Street
- Scope opportunities for using empty shop fronts for community and visitor information Y1. Working with Economic Development to design shop front displays Y2/Y3/4/5

6. **Enhance support to the heritage network to increase visitors to the area and provide employability skills.**

- Organise a heritage events calendar
- Feed volunteering opportunities into VCEL and yearly Fayre
- Work with tourism and visitor attraction teams to promote heritage of the area
- Work with Friends of Preston Tower and Heritage Network to scope the potential of a traditional employability skills organisation
- Encourage visitors on the John Muir Way to visit local heritage sites including Prestongrange, Civic Square and natural heritage by increasing signage and visitor information

Impact

- More people will have increased their employability skills.
- Prestonpans High Street will see a broader range of shops and increased footfall.
- People will be involved in heritage and cultural related activities in the area.
- Visitor numbers will increase.

COMMUNITY-MINDED

Making PSG a great place to live

7. Promote the sense of a village identity and cultural heritage in the communities of Prestonpans, Longniddry, Cockenzie & Port Seton.

ACTION

- Conduct an audit of community assets and how they are used Y1. Promote opportunities to use community assets Y2
- Organise a heritage events calendar
- Working with Education to develop local curriculum plans yearly
- Improve access to heritage digitally

8. Protect green spaces and connect people with their natural environment within and between communities to improve health and wellbeing.

ACTION

- Work to targets within Climate Change strategy in PSG
- Work with Amenities to develop a sustainable plan for Cuthill Park
- Work with tourism, amenities, countryside rangers to improve beach and shore access for the community while advocating for concerns around erosion and protection measures
- Work with LIL and ELCAN to investigate and encourage use of local recycling initiatives

9. Support families so that children have the best start in life and can access the services they need to develop and learn.

ACTION

- Encourage local places to register with Breastfeeding Friendly Scotland (BFS) and produce a directory or link with BFS directory of breastfeeding places across PSG
- Work with Breastfeeding Lens and Health Visitor to improve training and information
- Implement a joined-up approach to data collection in Pantries with ELFFN

- Promote pantries linking users with wider services to combat poverty
- Identify funding in advance for Holiday Clubs to improve educational attainment and combat holiday hunger
- Work with Whole Wellbeing Family Service, Families Together, to explore and embed family-based spaces following pilot year 24/25
- Develop a families support leaflet
- Support VCEL to link with early years groups and partner with Connected Communities to help them sustain and grow
- Take direction of need from social work, early years, home start and Families Together to co-deliver Parent and Carer training and support RCWC, RTWC, PEEP etc



Preston Tower at Cuthill Park during clear up day



Pennypit Trust Pantry



PSG Lunch Clubs

10. Strengthen the co-ordination of services and support provided for young people across the area.

ACTION

- Map gaps in youth provision across PSG
- Ensure a distribution of services across weekend and holidays
- Keep a localised youth provision flyer up to date including targeted provisions quarterly coordinating with Connected Communities
- Investigate opportunities for cross generational work in PSG by working with Schools and H and W network
- Create a professional directory of Directory of contacts/Link Tree
- Provide upskilling opportunities through Capacity Building Training Calendar and linking with VCEL
- C and Y Network to review a piece of partnership work each year to measure outcomes and impact

11. Increase children's development, educational attainment and attendance through targeted support for both pupils and their families.

ACTION

- Continue link and support with CPF-LT

12. Ensure young people have sustained safe places to meet and develop.

ACTION

- Develop a new Youth Work Organisation in PSG to best meet the needs of young people and their families and link with 10 on addressing gaps in provision
- Coproduce a plan of safe spaces with young people both indoor and outdoor in consultation, linking with sports and libraries

13. Encourage young people to access a range of volunteering and accredited employability opportunities.

ACTION

- Encourage participation in youth awards including Hi5, Dynamic Youth, Arts Award and Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Record a baseline of stats for

23/24 to measure against

14. Promote in easily accessible means the services provided by each library.

ACTION

- Raising awareness of services and support within libraries (including housing)

Impact

- People will have a strong sense of community.
- More families will be accessing the services they need.
- Children and young people will be engaged in school and community activities.
- Fewer children and young people will be experiencing poverty and inequality.



Friday Club Prestonpans Community Centre



Youth Clubs



Sensory Items at Prestonpans Library



FAIR

Making PSG inclusive

- 15. Our communities are better able to make healthy choices, reduce isolation and access the services they need.**

ACTION

- We will work with relevant partners to implement the Poverty Action Plan arising from the work of the Poverty Commission
- Encourage local participation in the Health & Wellbeing Group and support local initiatives which address health inequalities and promote wellbeing
- Work with doctors surgeries and public health to expand opportunities on options for social prescribing for particularly for parents linking with physical activity strategy
- Raise awareness of Eastspace as a resource not solely for mental health support but improving wellbeing
- Work with MH Youth Workers, Specialist Youth Worker, Young Carers Youth Worker, Schools and voluntary agencies to increase the offer of local Mental Health Support pre diagnosis and through group work to build resilience particularly in areas of anxiety, bereavement and loss i.e. delivery of Cool Calm and Connected connecting with parenting pathway
- Encourage local community spaces, cafes and libraries to register for I am Me
- Work with Strategy Team in Public Health and HSCP to identify spaces which offer free period products and wellbeing tests
- Keep a H and W flyer up to date
- Improve accessibility of healthy food and information through network



Pennypit Centre Computer Club

- 16. Ensure all neurodivergent children and young people (and their families) can access services and support.**

ACTION

- Work with STAND to raise awareness of provision for children, young people and families in PSG including training and local groups

- 17. Encourage older people so they can live independently in the community with access to the support they need, as and when they need it.**

ACTION

- Link local projects with H and W group to share expertise and knowledge
- Support the development of dementia friendly and inclusive spaces
- Improve support for carers through working with Carers of East Lothian and raising awareness of support linking with Carers Strategy

- 18. Individuals and families of individuals with pre-diagnosed neurodivergent individuals of any age know what support is available for them.**

ACTION

- Work with local groups, carers of East Lothian, HSCP and health care professionals to identify and raise awareness of pre-diagnosis support available

- 19. Enhance the voice of underrepresented groups.**

ACTION

- Promote opportunities for people with health and wellbeing inequalities to have their voices heard in local decision making i.e. Area Partnership or HSCP
- Prioritise opportunities for underrepresented young people in PSG to have their voice heard on issues that matter to them and feed into the AP and subgroups; charity youth boards, youth forum, SYP and EL Foodbank growing and changing
- Work with Promise lead and UNCRC policy to raise awareness of rights with children, young people and their parents to ensure their voice is at the heart of all developments
- Develop a child friendly area plan

20. **Work effectively with local communities, police and other public agencies to ensure the area remains a safe place to live.**

ACTION

- Ensure community representation at CAPP to identify local priorities to working with local police, amenities and housing

21. **To raise awareness of local housing development and the availability of affordable homes.**

ACTION

- Support the implementation of the housing strategy to promote local housing options
- Welcome residents from new housing developments within our growing community, particularly Blindwells, through TRA, Community Councils and Area Partnership

Making PSG a great place to get around

22. **Improve access to the places, spaces and facilities for everyone.**

ACTION

- Raise awareness of transport services available to supermarkets, hospital and doctors appts at low or no cost
- Publicise transport and hail services through local community newsletters
- Ensure pavements, paths and public transport are promoted within communities and keep lists of improvements required via a tracker to ensure issues can be followed up quickly within communities

23. **Improve active travel and public transport links within PSG and connected areas.**

ACTION

- Identify gaps through scoping exercise of public transport and active travel routes including all ability access (including longniddry-aberlady cycle path) Y1
- Encourage use through identifying funding to improve signage and new routes for active travel Y2
- Promote active travel through Go Jauntly, Sustainable PSG and social media

24. **Help ensure roads and pavements are safe and accessible.**

ACTION

- Increase participation in the Sustainable PSG

IMPACT

- Our area will be easy to get around and more people will be walking or cycling to improve their health.
- We will have good path and cycle ways linking our towns and villages.



Cuthill Park Clear Up



Youth Cycling Activity



Go Jauntly Heritage Trails Map and App

Preston Seton Gosford Area Partnership Member Organisations

East Lothian PSG Ward Councillors

Prestonpans Community Council

Cockenzie and Port Seton Community Council

Longniddry Community Council

Cockenzie & Port Seton Tenants & Residents Association

Preston Lodge High School Parent Council

St Gabriel's Roman Catholic Primary School Parent Council

Prestonpans Tower Primary Parent Council

Cockenzie Primary School Parent Council

Longniddry Primary School Parent Council

Pennypit Community Development Trust

Prestonpans Community Sports Hub

Cockenzie & Port Seton In Bloom

Pennypit Centre Management Committee

Port Seton Management Committee

Longniddry Centre Management Committee

Prestonpans Centre Management Committee

Cockenzie and Port Seton Gala

Prestonpans Childrens Gala

Volunteer Centre East Lothian (VCEL)

Longniddry Gala

Longniddry Parish Church

Lighthouse Central

Chalmers Memorial Church

East Lothian Partnership Member Organisations

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

JobcentrePlus / 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

VCEL

Visit Scotland



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https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/12861/area_partnership_area_plans