



Item 9
5th September 2025

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Canal Area Partnership

Report by Head of Policy and Corporate Governance.

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Area Partnerships Development

Purpose of Report:

To advise members on some of the work that is underway to address child and family poverty across the City and the need to align the development of Area Partnership plans.

Recommendations:

The Partnership is asked to note:

- (a) the work underway to address child and family poverty and the need to align this with Area Partnership Plans; and
- (b) that updates will be provided to Area Partnerships as the work progresses.

Introduction.

1. In January/February 2025, members were presented with a report and timetable for the development of Area Partnership plans; a key action identified for the Council's Communities Team and Area Partnerships. Scheduled for August/September 2025 was an update on the data dashboards that are being developed at electoral ward level to assist members in identifying local priorities for the Area Partnership plan.
2. The dashboards have been presented to members previously and work continues to develop them further however the timeline for identifying priorities has been adjusted. This report will explain why by providing an update on work that is taking place citywide, and in specific wards, to address child and family poverty and the need for strategic and local priorities to be aligned.
3. This report will also cover other proposals to allow more time and space for members to focus on addressing local and strategic issues and priorities.

Child Poverty Booster Wards.

4. Glasgow's Community Plan (also known as the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan) was agreed by the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership (GCPP) Strategic Partnership on [13th February 2024](#), outlining a collaborative commitment to address child and family poverty and reduce inequalities in Glasgow's communities as the main priority for the Community Planning partners from 2024 to 2034. A citywide plan and performance framework are being developed. The development of Area Partnership plans will complement these by identifying opportunities to contribute at a local level.
5. As part of a Child Poverty Pathfinder programme, ten electoral wards with high rates of child poverty were identified across the city. These are: Southside Central, Calton, Canal, Drumchapel/Anniesland, Garscadden/ Scotsounhill, East Centre, Linn, Greater Pollok, Springburn/Robroyston and Govan.
6. With a specific focus on families with children aged 0 to 5 living in deep poverty or on the cusp of deep poverty, three wards are taking an initial lead as Demonstrations of Change, these are Southside Central, Govan and Calton. Govan and Calton will focus on "on the cusp" while Southside Central will focus on "deep" poverty.
7. The work in these area will be evidence and data driven and will test different early intervention and prevention approaches, finding out what works for communities, with their input, and scaling up the successes in reducing poverty across the city.

Community Planning Partnership: Performance Management Framework

8. As mentioned earlier in this report, the Glasgow Community Plan 2024-34 was approved in February 2024. To allow progress towards the aim of reducing child and family poverty, a proposed Performance Framework for the Community Plan

was presented to the GCPP Strategic Partnership on [25th March 2025](#). This detailed the development phase, the proposed framework and a series of next steps to test and refine it.

9. Approval was given by the Partnership to undertake intensive testing over a six-month period. This process includes the collation of measures, testing a shared narrative and the establishment of a baseline for measurement.
10. Over and above this, the testing period will provide scope for more engagement with key stakeholders, to audit community conversations and consider how best to incorporate insights from across the third sector, where community voices are well represented.
11. A high level workplan has been developed to guide the initial testing phase. This consists of a number of focus areas that will be undertaken at the same time. These are: collection of data; gathering insights from the child poverty programme; an assessment of where citizen voices are heard across partners and identify any gaps and how to fill them; engage with other stakeholders not already involved; integrate the data and insights and reflect on where the Framework is fit for purpose and where changes are required; learning from insights gathered throughout the testing process to identify opportunities for refinement as well as the skills, expertise, capabilities and capacity required to deliver the Framework.
12. The outcomes of each of these focus areas will be used to inform refinements to the Performance Framework for consideration and assessment by the GCPP Executive Board in October 2025.
13. While the performance framework develops, the timeline for the development of Area Partnership plans has been adjusted to ensure that they are informed by the strategic priorities of the CPP and the citywide performance framework. The testing stage is due to be completed by October 2025 and the outcomes reported to the GCPP Strategic Partnership. Further updates will be provided for Area Partnerships in due course.
14. In the meantime, the Communities Team will continue to work with partners to refine the Area Partnership dashboards to ensure each Area Partnership has as much evidence of need as possible to shape their local plan. The Area Partnership dashboards can be found here: [Area Partnership Dashboards](#).

Area Partnership Meeting Schedule.

15. Informal meetings with Area Partnership Chairs have been taking place since 2024 to provide support in their role, keep Chairs informed of the service reform process taking place in the Chief Executive's Department and the formation of the Communities team. In addition, agendas have covered the management of Area Partnership meetings and opportunities to improve the experience for all members. This has included informal discussions on the schedule of meetings.

16. A proposal to reduce the number of formal, 'business' meetings that take place each year i.e. where formal decisions are made such as the allocation of funding, and where the Governance Framework is required, has been discussed. The reasons for this were to:
 - a. allow officers to focus on developing richer means of engagement with communities; to allow time to work with local community organisations, networks and citizens; to engage more with communities to ensure they are well equipped to fully participate in local democracy and decision-making, particularly Area Partnership business; focus on the ongoing aim to find richer means of engagement.
 - b. create space in the calendar for thematic discussions, that may also span Area Partnership boundaries, where sufficient time is available to have detailed discussion on priority issues (for example; child poverty, transport, community safety, the environment); and
 - c. reflect the capacity of Community Planning partners to attend and participate in meetings throughout the year.
17. To take stock of progress since agreeing a set of principles as a new forum Councillor McTaggart has invited chairs to a development session to consider and refresh those principles.
18. This will focus on the ongoing aim to develop richer means of engagement, the AP Plans and ensuring staffing and partner resource is sustainable.

Summary.

19. Work across the city is taking place to test methods of addressing child and family poverty in line with the Community Plan for Glasgow. This will culminate in an action plan and a framework for measuring performance over time.
20. Different aspects of this work are moving at different paces, including the development of Area Partnership plans. Therefore, the timeline for completing these plans has been adjusted to align with, and ensure they complement, the work at a city level and in the child poverty booster wards.

Recommendation.

21. Members are asked to note:
 - a. the work underway to address child and family poverty and the need to align this with Area Partnership Plans; and
 - b. that updates will be provided to Area Partnerships as the work progresses.