

**Community Solutions Locality Hosting**

**Impact and Learning Report - 2022-23**



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**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to share the impact and learning from Locality Hosts, locality consortia, and projects funded through the Locality Activity Fund (LAF) in 2022-23.

**1.2 Background**

The Community Solutions programme is supported at locality level by six Community and Voluntary Sector (CVS) “anchor” organisations that as act as “locality hosts” for the programme. The locality hosts are responsible for:

* Convening and supporting the six Community Solutions Locality Consortia
* Developing and delivering Locality Partnership Development Plans (LPDP) with members of the consortia, other CVS organisations, service users and unpaid carers
* Managing, in collaboration with local consortia and Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (VANL), the Locality Activity Fund for their locality
* Working with VANL to support wider CVS and volunteer capacity building and links with community planning

**1.3 Locality Hosts**

The six Locality host organisations’ role is to:

* Be the main local point of contact for all Community Solutions related activity
* Facilitate consortium meetings and ensure they run smoothly
* Coordinate the annual locality development plan
* Provide support and encouragement to local community groups and voluntary organisations in all aspects e.g. proposal writing, delivery of project, evaluation
* Support and monitor all Community Solutions activity across the locality
* Work with VANL to ensure local activity fund is administered correctly
* Be an active member of the North Lanarkshire wide Community Solutions consortium on behalf of the locality

The locality host organisations for 2022-23 are listed below.



**1.3.1 Locality Consortia**

**Purpose:** to meet at least quarterly to discuss key local issues and support development and delivery of their Local Development Plan and LAF.

Membership: The Community Solutions Locality Consortia comprise representatives from the local CVS and health and social care staff from the council and NHS.

**1.3.2 Locality Activity Fund (LAF)**

**Number and Purpose:** there are six Community Solutions Locality Activity Funds (LAF), providing small grants to CVS organisations in each locality to help them deliver a new or improved activity to support residents.

**Applications and Decisions**: CVS organisations apply to Locality Consortia, who assess applications and make awards on an ongoing basis throughout the year. Assessment of LAF applications by consortia are informed by priorities set out in their Locality Development Plan and Community Solutions general outcomes as listed below.

**Community Solutions Outcomes**

The Community Solutions outcomes are separated for three key groups: adults, carers, and children, young people, and families.

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| **Theme** | **Outcome** |
| Adults: Outcome 1 | People feel more connected, included and safe |
| Adults: Outcome 2 | Improved health and wellbeing |
| Adults: Outcome 3 | People feel more informed and aware |
| Carers: Outcome 4 | Carers feel more informed and aware |
| Carers: Outcome 5 | Carers health and wellbeing are improved |
| Carers: Outcome 6 | Carers are more able to have a life outside of caring |
| Children, Young People, and Families: Outcome 7 | Health and wellbeing improved |
| Children, Young People, and Families: Outcome 8 | Family relationships are strengthened |
| **Theme** | **Outcome** |
| Children, Young People, and Families: Outcome 9 | Children, young people, and families become more resilient |

**LAF Funding Management:** Locality Hosts and VANL support management of the funding awards once consortia make award decisions.

**Performance Reporting:** each LAF funded project is required to capture and share with Locality Hosts key information on the following:

* type of support provided – activities
* numbers of unique individuals supported – reach
* the difference this support made to those receiving support – outcomes (with reference to the Community Solutions outcomes outlined above).

Funded projects collect this data at points prior to, during, and post project delivery from service users, using different methods, including:

* written surveys; online or via the phone
* verbal feedback
* observations

Locality Hosts use the performance data provided by funded projects to complete and submit to VANL a brief evaluation form for each funded project and a LAF monitoring spreadsheet for their locality at six- and twelve-months. VANL’s Senior Evaluation Officer then analyses this information to prepare this and other reports for each year. This approach to LAF evaluation is informed by the [Community Solutions Performance Management, Evaluation, Learning and Improvement Framework](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CRebeccaThomson%5CDownloads%5Cinsert%20hyper%20link) but adapted to allow for the modest size of LAF awards.

**2. Fund Overview 2022-23 – Reach and Impact**

During 2022-23:

* each of the six Community Solutions Locality Consortia had a £30k LAF to allocate – a total of £180k, of which £166.3k was spent
* LAF was distributed to a total of 66 projects in 49 CVS organisations (See Appendix B for a full breakdown of funded projects by locality.)

**2.1 Summary of funded projects and number of people receiving support**

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**2.2 Summary of outcomes**

This information is collected by LAF funded projects using self-assessment from the people their projects support, through methods such as written pre- and post-support surveys, and verbal feedback.



1. **Learning from 2022-23**

Learning from this fund will be strengthened from 2023-24 onwards, with the introduction of the new Community Solution’s Performance Management, Evaluation, Learning, and Improvement Framework (PMELI). The Framework sets out the Programme’s approach to PMELI to support funded projects and the programme as a whole. The Framework sets out the standardised feedback collected from all funded projects and helps them to make the most of their findings for learning and improvement, which will benefit the project, the programme and VANL themselves.

**3.1 Feedback from Funded Projects**

‘The funding application process was simple with no issues.

The partnership working with [Getting Better Together] was smooth and fruitful. The partnership contributed to making this course a success and it will be useful for future projects and other community work.

The course was a success and was received well by participants. I enjoyed delivering the project and it was motivating every week to see (and hear) how beneficial it was to the participants.’

* Big Chef Little Chef, Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership - LAF funded project for Wishaw and Shotts

‘Walking football makes a positive impact on my life way beyond the exercise. It’s simply a wonderful experience’

‘So far, the walking football has benefited ne both physically and mentally since attending last September. It is a great group along with Craig who organises the weekly sessions. No matter what age or ability, everyone is welcome to come along’

* Shotts Bon Accord Football Academy – LAF funded project for Wishaw and Shotts

‘I’ve made new friends and found out about what is happening in the club and elsewhere.’

‘It’s helped me with my self-esteem. I was in a routine of not taking care of my appearance, and some days not getting washed. I look forward to coming here and get myself ready.’

* Caring Cuppa Community Café, Thorniewood Community Council - LAF funded project for Bellshill

‘One elderly gentleman had not cooked a meal in many years but was now cooking once a week for his wife.’

‘A client who had poor nutrition and budgeting skills has stated the course had built his confidence in and around cooking working with others had really boosted his confidence. He stated he felt empowered to make the items independently.’

* Cooking Towards Addiction Recovery, Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership – LAF funded project for Bellshill

‘The classes have helped me to mix with other women and overcome the anxiety I felt at having no other women to chat with. We have all bonded as a group and I feel that we would all help each other out if we could. It is lovely to see the youngsters enjoy exercise.’

‘Fruit Fridays has been great for Shotts. Fruit and veg is always fresh. Also, great to sit in the cafe after getting different stuff. You tend to cook more healthy options and you're stoked up on fruit and veg.’

* Fruity Friday and Fitness Classes, Getting Better Together – LAF funded project for Wishaw and Shotts

‘The course has been fantastic, as was the nutritionist who took the class each week. She explained all recipes in great detail and was so easy to work with, she was amazing.’

‘The only critical feedback was that the course was too short, and the participants wanted more sessions.’

* Summer Family Cooking Project, Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership - LAF funded project for Bellshill

**4. Locality Host Recommissioning**

**4.1 Recommissioning Plan**

Most of the current Community Solutions Locality Hosts were commissioned over ten years ago around 2012, with two hosts commissioned more recently. Whilst this arrangement has worked well, the role and it’s requirements has developed over time.

Therefore, the Community Solutions governance group agreed to a recommissioning exercise for 2023-25

Existing Locality Host Organisations, Locality Consortia, and CVS organisations were advised of the re-commissioning process in September 2022. VANL also issued a funding alert about the re-commissioning process which was sent to all CVS organisations. The current Locality Hosts have confirmed funding until end of March 2023.

**4.2 Purpose of Recommissioning**

The purpose of the recommissioning was to:

* Support the transition of the LPDP to a more strategic Healthy Living, Recovery and Wellbeing (HLRWB) LPDP which also link to Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIPS) and guide allocation of an expanded HLRWB LAF (see complementary SBAR for the HLWB Fund). The HLRWB fund will support piloting of “three conversations” model with linked development of social prescribing. The Group also agreed to review the Locality Hosting arrangements to better support delivery of VANL’s new Community Solutions Strategy and Investment Plan 2022-25.

* Locality support for development and delivery of the Improving Lives Initiative (ILI) and Improving Cancer Journey (ICJ) project over four years – in a way that complements the HLRWB Fund.  To ILI aims to help improve people’s physical, mental and social wellbeing through a locally co-ordinated approach to providing community-based support for vulnerable and equality groups. The ILI provides increased funding for 24 months for our six Community Solutions locality hosts (complementing their existing recurrent funding).
* Work more closely with VANL staff to strengthen links between Community Solutions and Community Planning at locality level.
	+ 1. **Recommissioning Process and Results**

The schedule for the recommissioning is below.

* The closing date for applicants was February 2023.

* The panel comprising representatives from Governance sub-group and consortia members along with staff from VANL met in February 2023 and agreed the new Locality Hosts as follows.



* Locality Consortia were represented on the selection panel, one from the three Locality Consortiums in the West Sector (Airdrie, Bellshill and the North) and one from the three Locality Consortiums in the East Sector (Bellshill, Motherwell and Wishaw).  Nominations for these representatives were in early 2023.  The Selection Panel also involved a member of the Governance Group and staff from the Community Solutions team.

* The Application Guidance document was updated to reflect changes to the Locality Host role.

**5. Appendices**

**Appendix A**

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| **Community Solutions Locality Host Funding 2022-23:** **Total Awards £240K** |
| **CVS Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| A.1 Diamonds in the Community (Airdrie) | Locality Host |  40,000 |
| A.2 Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre (Bellshill) | Locality Host |  40,000 |
| A.3 Glenboig Development Trust (Coatbridge) | Locality Host |  40,000 |
| A.4 CACE (Cumbernauld Action for Care of the Elderly) (Cumbernauld) | Locality Host |  40,000 |
| A.5 The Health and Wellness Hub (Motherwell) | Locality Host |  40,000 |
| A.6 Getting Better Together(Wishaw and Shotts) | Locality Host |  40,000 |

**Appendix B**

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| **Locality Activity Fund Distribution 2022-23** |
| **Total number of projects funded in the six Community Solutions localities: 66** | **Total income for 2022-23: £180,000****Plus, c/f underspend from 2021/22:****£16,174** | **Total spend:** **£166,275** |

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| **Airdrie Locality** |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.1 Airdrie Action Partnership (hosted by Bear Necessities)  | Christmas Appeal  |  3,350  |
| B.2 Airdrie Helping Hands | Christmas Food Parcels |  1,000 |
| B.3 Equal Futures  | Strengthening Social Relationships  |  3,000 |
| B.4 Friends of Airdrie and Coatbridge Islamic Centre (FACIC)  | Cricket for Health and Family  |  3,867 |
| B.5 Nurture Scotland | KIN-ect!  |  1,945 |
| B.6 Parkinson’s Self-Help Group Airdrie  | Time for Me |  5,040 |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.7 The Health and Wellness Hub | Wraparound Wellbeing Support |  5,100 |
| B.8 Upperton Residents Committee | Upperton Allotment Community Shed |  420 |
| B.9 Voice of Experience Forum  | Voice of Experience Forum Calendar 22/23 |  2,440 |
| B.10 Whinhall Allotments  | Muddy Boots Sensory Project  |  504 |
| **No. of projects** **10** | **Total** | **26,666**Balance c/f to 2022-23 |

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| **Bellshill Locality** |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.11 A-Jabs Boxing Club  | Summer Project and Drop In  |  5,354 |
| B.12 Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership  | Cooking on a Budget (Slow Cooker)  |  2,875 |
| Cooking Towards Addiction Recovery  |  2,265 |
| Summer Family Cooking Project |  2,180  |
| B.13 Nurture Scotland  | KIN-etc! |  2,500 |
| B.14 Salvation Army  | Youth Club  |  1,595 |
| B.15 Thorniewood Community Café | Caring Cuppa Community Café  |  3,200 |
| B.16 VIP  | Muddy Feet |  5,150  |
| B.17 YMCA Bellshill and Mossend  | Y Hang Out |  2,880  |
| YMCA Farmbots  |  4,200 |
| YMCA Women’s Health Project |  2,220 |
| **No. of projects****11** | **Total** | **34,419**(Using c/f underspend from 2020/21) |

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| **Coatbridge Locality**  |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.18 Glenboig Development Trust  | Coatbridge Health and Wellbeing PB  |  10,000 |
| B.19 Men’s Shed | Men’s Shed |  1,853 |
| **No. of projects****2** | **Total** | **11,853**Balance c/f to 2022-23 |

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| **Cumbernauld and the North Locality**  |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.20 Cardowan Community Meadow  | Cardowan Health and Wellbeing Project  |  3,000 |
| B.21 Gartcosh Tenants and Residents Association  | Gartcosh Social Inclusion Project |  1,850  |
| B.22 Landed Peer Education  | Positive Smoke Free Role Models  |  1,850  |
| B.23 Moodies Blues 50+ Discovery Award Group  | Community Christmas Fun Day  |  550  |
| B.24 Moodiesburn Youth Club  | Health Project for Young People  |  3,000 |
| B.25 Never Alone  | Depression Peer Support Group March  |  2,000 |
| Depression Peer Support Group July  |  1,400 |
| B.26 New Adventures Community Group  | Marketing for Our Future  |  1,550  |
| B.27 Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Scotland  | Sowing Community Seeds |  5,000 |
| B.28 Strathcarron Hospice | Bereavement Support Group  |  1,110 |
| Community Loss and Bereavement Resource Boxes  |  2,000 |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.29 TRASH Music  | Drumbernauld/Jambernauld – Musical Youth Club for Cumbernauld   |  4,713 |
| **No. of projects****12** | **Total** | **28,023**Balance c/f to 2022-23 |

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| **Motherwell Locality** |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.30 Befriend Motherwell  | Intergenerational Cookery Project  |  1,060  |
| B.31 Craigneuk Lifelong Learning Association | Craigneuk Christmas Community Celebration Project  |  2,000 |
| B.32 Dalziel St Andrew’s Church  | Carpet Bowls  |  1,000 |
| B.33 Economic Forum for Women Empowerment  | Community Meals  |  2,000  |
| B.34 Elim Befriending  | Pantomime Outing  |  500 |
| B.35 Forgewood Housing Cooperative  | Food for Forgewood |  1,200 |
| B.36 Fresh Start NL (North Lanarkshire)  | Widening the Welcome in North Lanarkshire  |  1,000 |
| B.37 Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership  | Big Chef Little Chef  |  3,018 |
| Cooking with ESOL Learners |  2,705 |
| Men’s Cooking Club  |  2,705  |
| B.38 Motherwell Citizens Advice Bureau  | Community Engagement Project  |  4,539 |
| B.39 Motherwell Salvation Army  | Motherwell SCRAN Youth Club  |  2,725 |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.40 North Lanarkshire Disability Forum (NLDF) | NLDF Connect  |  5,190  |
| B.41 The Miracle Foundation  | Wall of Hope  |  1,750  |
| **No. of projects** **14** | **Total**  | **31,392**(Using c/f underspend from 2020/21) |

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| **Wishaw and Shotts Locality** |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.42 The Brave Jnr | Esports: For the Players: SCQF Level 6 |  1,950  |
| Esports Livestream Project |  2,120  |
| B.43 Elements NC | Netball Club |  2,109  |
| B.44 Garrion Peoples Housing Cooperative  | Winter Wonders @ Law View |  1,500  |
| B.45 Getting Better Together | Walking Football  |  2,300 |
| Breakfast Club and Walking Bus Project |  2,730  |
| B.46 Lanarkshire Community Food and Health Partnership  | Big Chef, Little Chef |  2,814 |
| Big Chef, Little Chef 2 |  2,082  |
| Men’s Cooking Club |  2,407  |
| Men’s Cooking Club 2 |  2,226  |
| B.47 Nurture Scotland  | KIN-ect!  |  2,245 |
| B.48 People at Leisure Scotland (PALS)  | People at Leisure Scotland (PALS)  |  1,476 |
| **Organisation** | **Project** | **Total Funding Amount (£)** |
| B.49 Salsburgh Mother and Toddler Group | Pre-School Play for Learning   |  2,383 |
| B.50 Shotts Bon Accord Football Academy  | Shotts Bonny! Play and Spray Project |  1,650  |
| B.51 Shotts Golf Club  | Sunday Sweep  |  400 |
| B.52 Wishaw YMCA  | Crafting Club  |  2,880  |
| Jam Sessions  |  650  |
| **No. of projects** 17 | **Total**  | **33,922**(Using c/f underspend from 2021/22) |

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