**1. Introduction**

The purpose of this briefing paper is to outline the Scottish Government’s proposed approach to health and social care support services - [Getting it Right for Everyone (GIRFE),](https://www.gov.scot/publications/getting-it-right-for-everyone-girfe/) and to discuss how it relates to the Community Solutions Programme’s strategy and approach.

**2. Getting It Right for Everyone**

**2.1 Approach**

GIRFE is a proposed multi-agency approach to health and social care support and services which aims to improve people’s health and wellbeing by supporting person-centred outcomes (1). The GIRFE model promotes a personalised way of accessing help and support by placing the person receiving support at the centre of all decision making which affects them.

GIRFE is built on the Scottish Government’s existing [Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)](https://www.gov.scot/policies/girfec/) model which provides a consistent framework to provide all children, young people, and their families with the right support at the right time. Similarly, to GIRFEC, GIRFE sets out:

* the person should be at the centre of the process
* people should get support as early and as easily as possible
* all providers of support and partners should use consistent language and a consistent way of working

**2.2 GIRFE Principles**

The GIRFE draft principles are currently being co-designed. The principles are as follows.

* I have the information that I need to make decisions about my own health and social care, and I am trusted to know what is right for me.
* The people who support me take the time to listen and understand me as a person and we consider my whole life when making decisions about my health and social care.
* I know that I can be clear about what matters to me, and I trust that my choices will be respected and understood by the people who support me.
* Treating everyone with kindness, dignity and respect is the foundation of my health and social care support.
* The people involved in the conversations around my health and social care support work together with me to share information and develop a clear understanding of how to support my wellbeing.

**2.3 Co-design**

The GIRFE approach is being co-designed with eight place-based pathfinders (including North Lanarkshire) and two partners, representing 10 Health and Social Care Partnerships. The approach will be tested and developed by pathfinders in local areas, with practitioners and the people the initiative will support.

The pathfinders and partners are aligned to five thematic areas:

* People in prisons
* People in addiction services
* People registered at deep-end GP practices
* Families with multiple and/or complex needs, and young people in transition from GIRFEC and GIRFE
* Older people and frailty

**3. GIRFE Approaches in North Lanarkshire**

**3.1 Health and Social Care Partnership North Lanarkshire (HSCNL)**

[HSCNL](https://www.voluntaryactionnorthlanarkshire.org/index.php/health-and-social-care-north-lanarkshire/) is responsible for planning, commissioning, and overseeing the delivery of community health and social care services across North Lanarkshire.

HSCNL is already delivering the GIRFE approach and principles through their [Strategic Commissioning Plan](https://www.voluntaryactionnorthlanarkshire.org/index.php/health-and-social-care-north-lanarkshire/), which reflects the needs and aspirations of people who use local health and social care services and outlines how services will be delivered to meet those needs.

The key priorities outlined in the plan include:

* Improving access to services
* Reducing health inequalities
* Delivering high-quality, person-centred care.
* Promoting early intervention and prevention
* Empowering individuals and communities
* Fostering partnership working
* Contributing towards the [nine national health and wellbeing outcomes](https://www.gov.scot/policies/social-care/health-and-social-care-integration/)

**3.2 Community Solutions Programme**

[Community Solutions](https://www.voluntaryactionnorthlanarkshire.org/index.php/community-solutions-programme/) is a successful, cross-sector health and social care investment and improvement programme for the North Lanarkshire, governed through HSCNL. The programme - which was established in 2012 - aims to improve people’s health, wellbeing, quality of life and equality by investing in community-led initiatives which build community, family and individual strengths and resources - with a focus on prevention and early intervention.

The programme is supported by a Strategy and Investment Plan which sets out the overall vision, mission, values, and approach of the programme rather than a detailed plan of interventions. The interventions that are funded are informed by:

* the programme's values and context
* information on need and the views of users and carers
* evidence and learning of what works, from sources beyond the programme and through the programme itself (see below)
* creative ideas from the Community and Voluntary Sector (CVS) and others.

The programme’s values and approach are focussed on:

* person-centredness
* community empowerment
* and [co-production](https://www.coproductionscotland.org.uk/what-is-copro#:~:text=Co%2Dproduction%20in%20practice&text=Co%2Dproduction%20goes%20beyond%20participation,make%20our%20communities%20even%20better.).

The programme is organised to support involvement of people needing and receiving support and service providers in the Community and Voluntary Sector (CVS) and public sectors in a positive and participatory cycle of planning, delivery, evaluation, learning and continuous improvement. This approach is informed by a “co-production” approach. (See complementary briefing on Community Solutions and Co- production.)

3.3 HSCNL overall, including the Community Solutions Programme are already aligned to and delivering GIRFE’s approach and principles.

1. GIRFE is complemented by population approaches to public health/health improvement such as improving income; provision of affordable housing and transport; provision of green spaces etc. as outlined in Public Health Scotland’s briefing on the [Public Health Approach to Prevention](https://publichealthscotland.scot/our-areas-of-work/public-health-approach-to-prevention/the-building-blocks-of-health/).

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