

Community Planning Support from the Improvement Service

The Improvement Service supports Community Planning Partnerships in a variety of ways, working across several teams. We've created this resource to bring together an overview of the support available, all in one place.

If you'd like to explore how we can support your CPP, please get in touch using the relevant email address. For general enquiries, contact communityplanning@improvementservice.org.uk



Scottish Community Planning Network

Team: Public Service Reform



Scottish Community Planning Network

The Scottish Community Planning Network (SCPN) exists to bring together community planning colleagues from across Scotland to build relationships and identify opportunities to support colleagues by developing good practice examples and sharing learning.

Community Planning related work undertaken

The IS provides secretariat support for the SCPN, hosts network events and spotlight sessions focused on key thematic areas and develops case studies, tools and resources to support community planning colleagues. A weekly roundup email is collated and sent to all on the SCPN distribution list with key community planning updates, info and opportunities.

The IS also offers 1-1 support for CPPs, including workshops, exploratory conversations and critical friend support. This may focus on support with refreshing LOIPs, support with building on findings from a CPP self-assessment, or support with reviewing strategic reporting.

More information

[IS website](#)

[Community Planning Case Studies](#)

Contact: communityplanning@improvementservice.org.uk

Community Planning Improvement Board



The CPIB provides national leadership and drives improvement across community planning in Scotland.

CPIB membership includes the key statutory community planning partners and provides direct links with all 32 Community Planning Partnerships.

Community Planning related work undertaken

The IS provides coordinated support to the Community Planning Improvement Board (CPIB), offering secretariat support and helping to shape and deliver its vision, priorities and workplan. Our offer includes guiding CPIB activity across its four core objectives – national leadership and strategic influence, engagement and co-ordination, support and improvement, and collaborative reform – ensuring CPIB insight informs wider public service reform. We also support the Board to strengthen its governance and operating arrangements and to facilitate two-way engagement between the CPIB and community planning partners and partnerships.

More information

[CPIB website](#)

Contact: emily.lynch@improvementservice.org.uk

CPP Self-Assessment

Team: Public Service Improvement Framework (PSIF)



In 2024, to support partnerships to critically review their 'fitness for purpose' in achieving shared outcomes, the Improvement Service hosted a new national self-assessment. The self-assessment was focused on the strategic Board level using a CPP Checklist and follows the well-established Public Service Improvement Framework (PSIF) Checklist Approach.

Community Planning related work undertaken

The IS facilitated the national self-assessment, which involved the participation of 20 CPPs. Feedback from this initial self-assessment has been very positive and as such, the IS will offer to run the self-assessment again in 2027.

A [national overview report](#) has been published highlighting the key findings from the 2024 self-assessment. In addition to this, work is underway to develop and share good practice case studies highlighting the good work currently taking place across community planning.

More information

[CPP Self-Assessment on the IS website](#)

Contact: thomas.boyle@improvementservice.org.uk

Place Based Approaches

Team: Planning for Place Programme

The Planning for Place Programme supports and enables an improved understanding of what a place based approach means and how to deliver it. Highlighting how it delivers a long term preventative approach to delivering a triple win on wellbeing of people and planet while reducing Scotland's significant inequity.



Community Planning related work undertaken

Resources produced during the Shaping Places for Wellbeing Programme were produced with Steering Groups all with a Community Planning representation. Masterclasses are available online that explain what a place based approach is and the detail behind each element while How To Guides give detailed advice on how to undertake each element.

More information

[Shaping Places Context](#)

[Masterclasses](#)

[How to Guides](#)

[Impact Stories](#)

Contact: placeandwellbeing@improvementservice.org.uk

Community Planning Outcomes Profile

Team: Research/Benchmarking

The Community Planning Outcomes Profile (CPOP) is:

- A tool to help you assess if the lives of people in your communities are improving
- A set of core measures on important life outcomes
- A consistent basis for measuring outcomes and inequalities of outcome in an area
- An analysis tool



Community Planning related work undertaken

The IS hosts and maintains the CPOP, updating and refreshing the data on an annual basis. The tool provides access to the dataset down to data zone level, with built in analysis that highlights the outcomes, communities, and inequalities of interest.

More information

[Community Planning Outcomes Profile](#)

Contact: research@improvementservice.org.uk

Other useful resources

[Community Planning Induction Resource](#)

[Community Planning Case Studies](#)

Community Planning Partnership Board Guidance

This series of notebooks, developed by the Improvement Service in consultation with CPPs, provides tailored information, guidance and support for CPP Board members, particularly those who are new to the role.

- [Notebook 1: Overview of Community Planning](#)
- [Notebook 2: How to be an Effective Board Member](#)
- [Checklist for CPP Board Members](#)

