

# Community Planning Aberdeen Case Study: Improving Outcomes and Partnership Working

## Approach to Improvement

The Community Planning Aberdeen [Local Outcome Improvement Plan \(LOIP\)](#) and [Locality Plans](#) have successfully supported a data led, multi-agency approach to reducing inequalities and their associated vulnerabilities for people and communities across the City.

Community Planning Aberdeen has adopted the **Model for Improvement** designed by the Institute of Health Improvement (IHI) to drive improvement activity across the Partnership. It is a structured **Quality Improvement (QI)** approach which can be used for any area of business and is designed to break down change into manageable chunks.

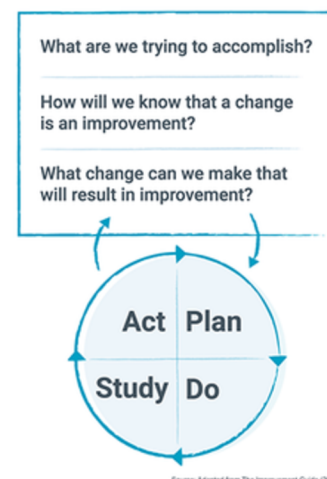
Each small part is then tested to make sure that the things CPA are aiming to improve are actually improving.

The priorities for the city set out in the LOIP and Locality Plans are based on a robust population needs assessment (PNA) which provides the evidence base and informs the business case for more joined up working between partner organisations on key areas. The PNA considers performance against a range of indicators.

This work has allowed **explicit commitment of partners to divert resources towards the achievement of these priorities** to be secured by agreeing **stretch outcomes** that define what the Partnership is aiming to improve, by how much and by when.

To date this has focussed on the added value of the **Community Planning Partnership working together to achieve better outcomes overall**, rather than monitor the contributions of individual partner organisations.

This discipline of defining what, how much and by when continues in the LOIP **improvement project aims** which demonstrate how the CPP will achieve the priority stretch outcomes.



**Figure 1:** Model of Improvement Diagram

## Implementation

To ensure effective, systematic and collaborative scrutiny of the delivery of the improvement aims within the LOIP, an Outcome Management and Improvement Framework was approved by the CPA Board in 2017.



*Figure 2: Community Planning Aberdeen Improvement Framework*

The vision of Aberdeen as a place where all people can prosper is described and measured under the following themes:

Economy

People (Children and young people)

Community Empowerment

People (Adults)


Place

To understand progress towards improvement under these themes the Partnership agreed that it had to focus on the things that really matter, which led to the development of **stretch outcomes** that break the themes down further into specific **improvement aims** for 2026.

These stretch outcomes communicate clearly what will be different by the end of the ten year plan to secure the overall vision and are based on data and insights from the PNA, community engagement and professional judgement. As of 2024, there are 16 stretch outcomes.

This definition and clarity of expectation is essential to ensure partners are clear on what they are working together to achieve to improve outcomes and reduce inequality.

The improvement project aims as set out under the stretch outcomes are summarised in the cities [CPP Improvement Programme](#) (click to learn more).



The CPP Improvement Programme underpins the LOIP and Locality Plans to ensure a **programme management approach** to the delivery of the aims is taken. Each aim correlates to an improvement project, owned by one of the partners, and led by a project manager from within that partner organisation. A Power BI dashboard also exists, which allows data and information to be held on each project and for progress to be considered at each meeting.

Each of the project managers undertakes a one day **QI boot camp** ensuring a **consistency** is being applied to all projects being undertaken across the CPP Improvement Programme.

Resources to support this approach can be found by [clicking here](#).

## Impact

The foundation provided by the LOIP and Locality Plans and the systems put in place to support the delivery of these plans mean that the CPP is able to clearly demonstrate and account for the improvements it has secured.

The refreshed LOIP in July 2021 introduced 15 Stretch Outcomes to be delivered by 2026 and 74 shorter term improvement project aims. Over 2021-2023 the Partnership's Outcome Improvement Groups worked towards the Stretch Outcomes through the delivery of the CPA Improvement Programme which takes a phased approach to the initiation of the improvement projects within the LOIP.

Of the original 74 aims approved in July 2021, **57% of these projects (42) have been achieved** and 43% (32) have not yet been achieved. Of the 98 aims in the LOIP approved in April 2024, 15 aims have been achieved.

## Next Steps

In April 2024, Community Planning Aberdeen approved a refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans. This was the last time the plans would be refreshed before 2026 which marks the end of the current plans' 10 year timeframe of 2016-2026.

A new Local Outcome Improvement Plan and new Locality Plans will be developed for 2026-2036 in order to continue to meet the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.