

People in Place – Annual Update: South Lanarkshire

Introduction

This brief update highlights the work being undertaken by Corra Foundation (previously called Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland) in Fernhill and more recently Blairbeth, South Lanarkshire, including the learning gathered so far through the People in Place programme.

➤ Initial community selection process

We first met with Kay McIntosh Tackling Poverty Manager and Michael McGlynn Head of Service and a South Lanarkshire local authority team on 29 February 2016 and followed up with the pledge as to how we would set out to work alongside the communities of South Lanarkshire.¹

This initial meeting was followed up with:

- ✿ Local area team meetings including the Neighbourhood Management team and South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture.
- ✿ Two community walkabouts.
- ✿ Meeting with the Third Sector Interface.
- ✿ Meeting with Community Links.
- ✿ Local community meetings.




As a result of the combined research and community walkabout it was agreed that Fernhill had all the 'ingredients' for the People in Place work. These included:

- ✿ A willing appetite from the local team to support our work.
- ✿ A central venue for the worker.
- ✿ The population size met our criteria.
- ✿ The area is a self-defined community.
- ✿ The area had different community spaces.

Cath McNally was recruited and began working in Fernhill in June 2016. This brief report contains a snapshot of the work she has been undertaking.



➤ Snapshot of work during the past year

Phase	Activity
<p>Mapping and Research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Completion of kindness research within the community to contribute to the Kinder Communities report issued by Carnegie Trust UK.
<p>Engagement</p>  <p>MAGNET bringing people together</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Informal community consultation at community event based in a local Church (Fernhill & Cathkin Parish Church). ➤ Community door to door introductions, consultations and flyer delivery. ➤ Halloween event delivered aimed at children and their parents. ➤ Support provided to develop a group to start a community coffee morning. ➤ Series of community listening events hosted across two venues in both Fernhill and Blairbeth.
<p>Development of ideas into action</p>  <p>TO FIND SOLUTIONS that are appropriate and work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Development of a walk down memory lane discussion. ➤ Delivery of a 6 week facilitated cooking classes in partnership with the Health Board. ➤ Delivery of a weekly walking group. ➤ Partnership project with the local authority and South Lanarkshire Leisure Trust to equip Fernhill Community centre with Wifi and IT equipment. ➤ Delivery of an introduction to computers course working utilising the skills of volunteers. ➤ Development of a weekly community led 'make, do and mend'.
<p>Brokering role</p>  <p>PROVIDE THE GLUE to stick everything together²</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brokered connection between local Gent's bowling group and VASLan for constitution and funding support. ➤ Brokered a connection between staff at Addaction and a local member of the community.



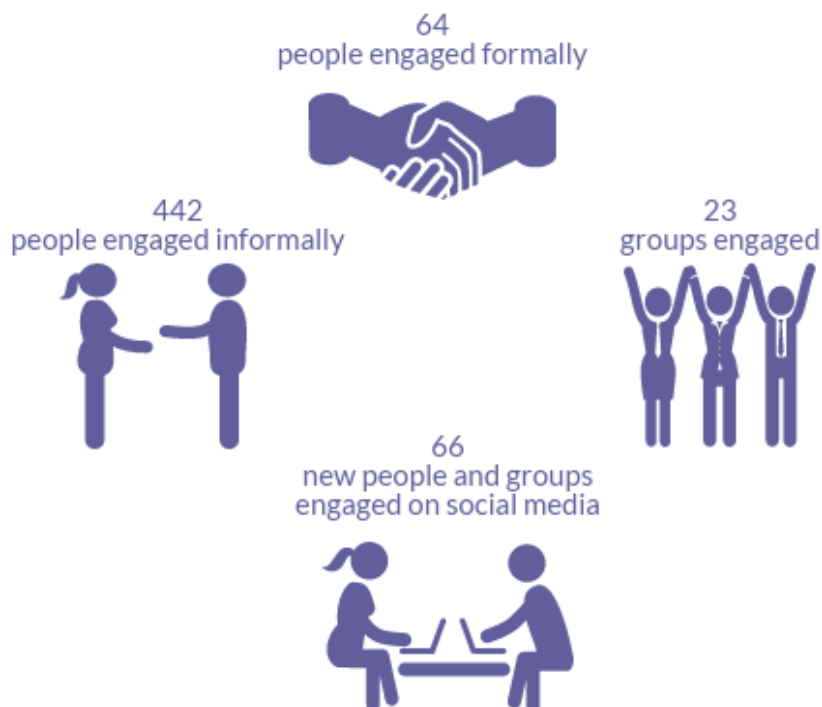
All designed to:  the community to achieve their ambitions.

² A snapshot of some of the connections being made can be found in the 'Connections Mapping' section of this report

Area in Numbers

➤ Engagement numbers

As part of our learning and evaluation framework we have developed systematic ways in which to keep track of how we are working in the community using both qualitative and quantitative data. Below is a snapshot of engagement the Fernhill community co-ordinator has done over the year.



Showcase

➤ Brief case study

Facilitated cooking classes:

A local resident, highlighted that when she was a child she learned how to cook cheap, nutritious and healthy food with her mum and told a story about how upset she was to learn that her grandchildren didn't know how to do this. This resulted in a cookery group being started to help families learn to cook the basics as she had done.

She started to talk to family and friends across the community and realised this was quite common and that people wanted to learn the basics.

In partnership with Lanarkshire Food and Health Partnership we delivered a cooking course in a local Church which helped young families cook together and learn the basics.

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Chef and Chief Taster – Ryley



Recipe and ingredients from course, photo uploaded by Lauren (Ryley's mum)

Look Ahead

➤ Over the next few months Corra Foundation's People in Place team will:

- ❁ Develop the computing classes and increasing the number of volunteers and learners involved.
- ❁ Provisionally developing a parent and toddler café.
- ❁ Continue to support the 'make, do and mend' group.
- ❁ Support a local resident from Blairbeth to bring people together to take part in a mental health themed activity, something which she is very passionate about.
- ❁ Develop a family homework group aimed at primary school aged children and their parents.

Co-ordinator Contact Details

Cath McNally



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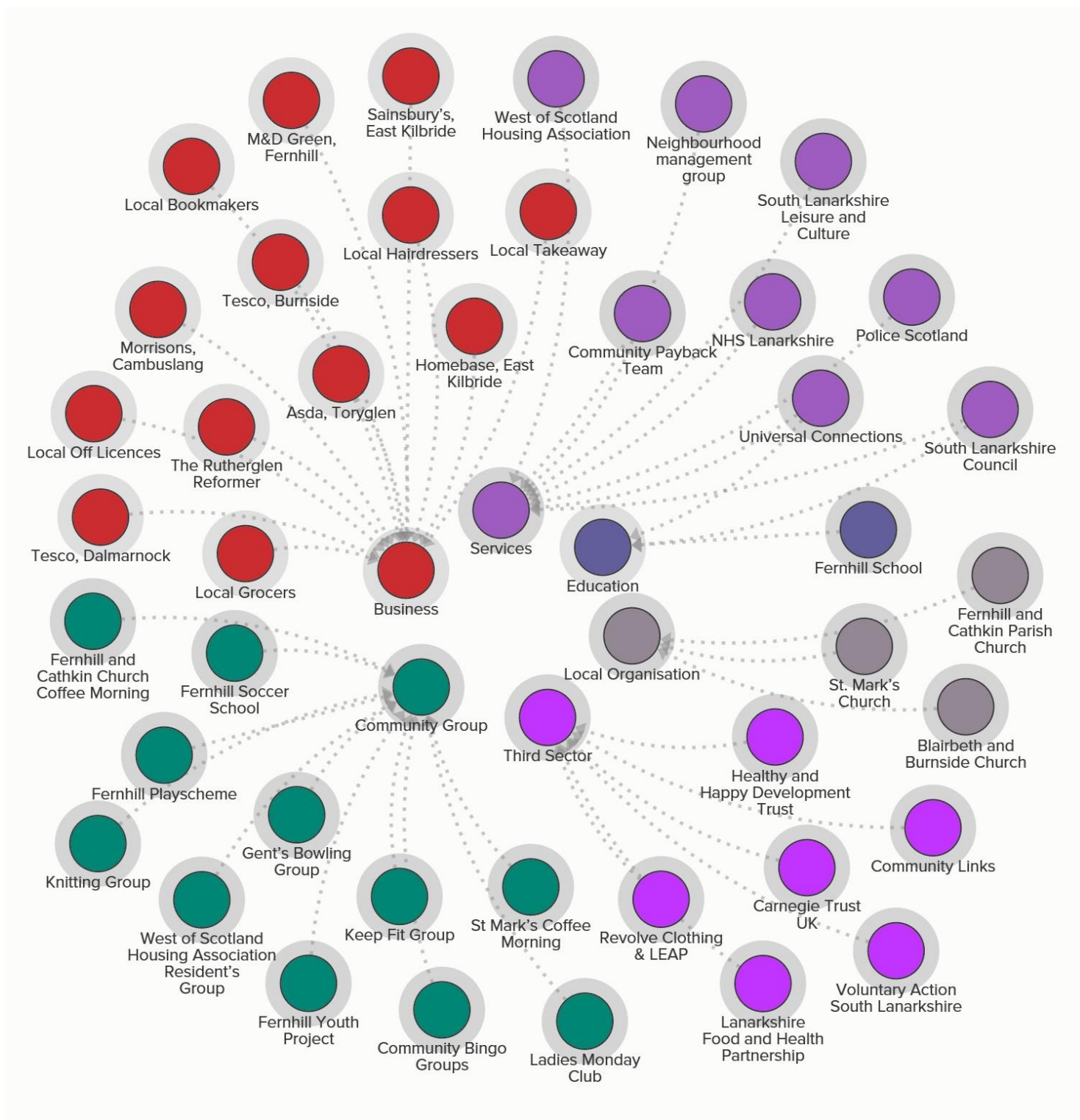
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Connections Mapping

➤ Visual snapshot of the connections being made



Legend

- Connection
- Third Sector
- Community Group
- Local Organisation
- Education
- Services
- Business

Summary of the People in Place Programme

Corra Foundation (previously Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland) launched the place-based programme “People in Place” in 2014 after a strategic review which highlighted that traditional grantmaking was not reaching many of Scotland’s communities, and yet these communities are among those facing the greatest daily challenges. Corra Foundation believes that by supporting communities and increasing participation, individuals and therefore communities will become more confident, more able to challenge the structural barriers that impact on everyday life and in this way the programme will achieve systems change.

People in Place has an overarching theory of change for this work. The key indicators of this are:

- ❁ To reach places in Scotland where Corra Foundation and other grant-makers struggle to reach.
- ❁ To work in partnership with the community to identify assets and encourage participation, engagement and action.
- ❁ To create a network of connections that help to increase resilience and facilitate access to sustainable resourcing for the long term.
- ❁ To increase awareness of the importance of place and how this affects life chances and opportunities, through learning and sharing.

Culminating in creating long term social change.

In 2014 we set out to establish a programme, working alongside communities in nine local authority areas that were in receipt of proportionately less independent grant funding. We are now working alongside eight communities in seven of the original nine local authority areas with the remaining two due to begin in 2018.

Sharing Lessons and Learning at Programme Level

➤ Emerging programme level learning

- ❁ Early insight shows us that by focussing on engaging and listening in small communities we are reaching people who are often seldom heard, working to provide a platform for them to be heard.
- ❁ There is an increased understanding as to why communities do not access independent grant funding. Reasons include:
 - The formal process of having to be a registered charity or fully constituted group.
 - The skills and capacity needed to complete the process.
 - The fear and time it takes to complete applications.
 - The fact that groups need to alter their idea to fit criteria
 - Worry about what will happen if the funding runs out and the impact this could have.
 - For many groups, the idea is short lived or a one off so the formal process of accessing funding is too daunting.

- There is still a big reliance on the council doing things and a belief it is their job. This, coupled with the lack of belief within the communities where the programme is working, means that the great ideas people have never come to fruition as there is a perception that there are too many barriers and they are unsurmountable.
- ❁ Early indicators are that to really foster resilience in place, different financing models need to be developed to fit with the communities' ambitions; this will be a focus for the coming year as the programme grows.
- ❁ Effective engagement takes time, developing trusting relationships to allow participation to increase organically.
- ❁ Community, agenda-free space is vital to foster relationships.

➤ Support groups

- ❁ The People in Place programme continues to benefit from strong commitment from the co-investors who provide ongoing support as well as investment, members of the Place-based Advisory Group (P-bAG), who meet three times a year to challenge and support on the operational aspects of the delivery, and the Observers group, who meet twice a year to focus on the macro impact emerging from working across multiple areas.

➤ Development of the learning framework

- ❁ People in Place has developed a framework through which to capture learning both as individuals and as a team.
- ❁ This framework involves weekly capture of reflections on what is happening in each community using qualitative and quantitative data, and bi-monthly meetings to discuss the learning coming out of these weekly reflections.
- ❁ The evolving evidence base is capturing what works and what doesn't for engaging with people in different communities, and particularly with the people who are identified as being seldom heard in those communities.

➤ Looking forward

- ❁ In the longer term, it is envisaged that this framework will help us to better understand what enables positive change.
- ❁ Support will continue to be given to develop community co-ordinators in their ability to gather evidence and listen to the stories, experiences and aspirations of the people they are working alongside.
- ❁ Our work has led to the Scottish Government funding Corra Foundation to undertake a short-term project to convene a cross-sector group to explore what makes place-based approaches effective and make recommendations for change.