



## People in Place – Annual Update 2018: Carbrain, North Lanarkshire

### Introduction

The People in Place programme works at communities' pace, focussing on inclusive engagement and sustainable investment. A dedicated Community Co-ordinator in each place, brings people together for conversations and helps them identify shared priorities.

Shazia Riaz has been working alongside the community in Carbrain since September 2018. Shazia works alongside and in partnership with local people to identify the strengths, talents and skills within the local community. The programme helps facilitate and enable capacity building within the community; widening community participation; seeking out voices that are seldom heard; and ultimately resulting in locally-led actions being taken.

#### What is People in Place aiming to achieve?

By working alongside communities and partners, the People in Place programme aims to support sustainable long-term change in each place and at a systemic level.

The aim is to appreciate the distinctiveness of each local area, understand the aspirations of local people and develop ways to help meet these so that communities can:

- Develop community influence and control
- Ensure assets and resources can be maintained into the future
- Build social connections and networks.

The ambition for each community that we work alongside is set by the people in that place.

Our commitment is to help create the conditions and connections for bold results to be achieved.

It is informed by the following key themes that have emerged from the work to date:

- Voice
- Space
- Participation
- Investment
- Learning & Development

## Snapshot of work during the past year

### Mapping and research

- ☼ Undertook a range of desk-based research to construct a detailed local area profile, so having a holistic view of Carbrain according to demographics and statistical information
- ☼ Mapped community assets, local groups and services in the area
- ☼ Attended community meetings and gaining understanding of local people's history and perspectives of living in Carbrain.
- ☼ Community based research including walkabouts and gaining insight about Carbrain from local groups and individuals in the area.
- ☼ Induction meetings and visits to people and places significant to the area.

### Engagement – Bringing people together

- ☼ Met with local statutory and voluntary organisations and partners and networking to support community involvement in projects and plans.
- ☼ Built relationships and trust with the community through attendance and participation at events and meetings.
- ☼ Worked with and supported the Princes Trust students at New College, Cumbernauld with a community project in Carbrain with support from North Lanarkshire partners.
- ☼ Worked with the college and North Lanarkshire Council surveying the local community to identify needs.
- ☼ Supported the locations of concern multi-agency working group around suicide prevention in the area to overcome stigma around mental health.
- ☼ Supported newly formed parent council to raise funds, plan, publicise and deliver events with support from local businesses and organisations.
- ☼ Worked with and supported Carbrain and Hillcrest Community Council and Cumbernauld Community Council ideas to improve the area.
- ☼ Engaged local businesses such as Tesco's to support community events i.e. Xmas Fayre
- ☼ Planned and engaged with partners i.e. churches, Tesco, Sanctuary Housing and voluntary sector about the development of a carers group.
- ☼ Consulted with local teenagers in the YMCA regarding resourcing their group and the possibility of a boxing club.
- ☼ Networked with partners to ensure new groups are informed of and able to access funding opportunities from partners e.g. Friends of Cumbernauld Train Station
- ☼ Helped local people to complete funding applications and network with other groups and organisations to support and sustain changes. An example of this was to use Oral Health funding to support more than just looking after teeth in the school community but widen it out to include resourcing the school gardens and kitchen to holistically deliver healthy eating classes for parents and children with the support of the local community council.
- ☼ Supported a local resident to take over a parcel of land for a community garden. Worked with the local council, business and volunteers to develop ideas.

## Development of community Ideas Into Action

- ☼ Supported the newly formed parent council to deliver a successful Xmas Fayre that raised funds for the school and developed the skills and confidence of the parents to run future events.
- ☼ Organised a litter pick in Millcroft Park with the Princes Trust students and results from the 60 local surveys undertaken will inform and sustain future community projects.
- ☼ Funded resources for the YMCA as to increase participation from local young people.
- ☼ Supported the development of a carers group with the local community through networking with local community councils, Tesco's and voluntary sector.
- ☼ Successful funding application of Friends of Cumbernauld Train Station has led to improved environment around the station through continuous community engagement.
- ☼ Raised awareness and encouraged community participation in the suicide prevention work where local community will create public artwork to be embedded in the Gully.
- ☼ Supported the development of ideas such a boxing club, uniform bank, cooking on a budget and gardening club and the funding and partnership working for this.

## Brokering role – Provide the glue to stick everything together

- ☼ On-going awareness raising and information sharing of services, organisations and individuals who can help local people.
- ☼ Networked with organisations that have access to limited community spaces like the YMCA / churches about using their facilities as a base for community groups and activities to run from.
- ☼ Progressed and fed back local concerns from residents at different forums with police and politicians i.e litter, crime, CCTV etc
- ☼ Brought together local people, community councils, Tesco's, voluntary sector and churches to support the delivery of a carers group based in Carbrain.
- ☼ Shared contacts of services, organisations and key people who can support local community as well as help partners to work better together and meet the needs in Carbrain.

## Key themes in Carbrain

Shazia started in September 2018 and so has had less time in the community than other Co-ordinators, but some key themes have started to emerge, such as the importance of community ownership and spaces, developing a local plan with partners and enabling community influence and control.

Although the specific circumstances are often very different, key themes are being identified across the communities that we are working alongside. The key themes have been incorporated into a Strategic Framework for the People in Place programme and will be used to inform the development of a local operational plan for Shazia's work in Carbrain.

## Area in Numbers

As part of our learning and evaluation framework we have developed systematic ways to keep track of how we are working in the community, using both qualitative and quantitative data. Below is a snapshot of engagement in Carbrain from August to December 2018.



**2265 people reached**



**72 people engaged or involved in activities**



**25 people engaged through Facebook**

## Case study

### Princes Trust programme New College Cumbernauld

Local students on the Princes Trust Programme at New College Cumbernauld identified the need for the park in Millcroft Road to be cleaned up as part of their community project (one student remembered cutting his leg on the broken glass in the park as a child).

Liaising with Cumbernauld Living Landscapes and North Lanarkshire Council, a litter pick of the park and surrounding area was organised. Sustainability, wider community engagement and support was a key element of the project so a survey of local residents in Carbrain was conducted before the litter pick. This resulted in 60 surveys being completed and identified priorities for subsequent community projects that would benefit the locality. The students were then able to undertake these independently on a rolling basis in Carbrain. Residents who left their contact details were provided with feedback, as well the future ambitions to tackle other areas as identified by the community.

## Look Ahead

**Over the next few months Corra Foundation's People in Place Community Co-ordinator will:**

- ☼ Raise awareness of mental health issues, working with multi-agency partners and the local community, to create public artwork in the Gully with positive messages around mental health. Also encourage local participation in maintenance and upkeep of the artwork in the Gully.
- ☼ Co-ordinate planning of work around the development of a carers group with Sanctuary Housing funding and support from voluntary and statutory partners, business and local churches.
- ☼ Working with Carbrain Primary School Parent Association on plans to deliver the gardening club, healthy eating, family cooking classes, uniform bank and supporting these and other fundraising initiatives.
- ☼ Supporting plans for opening community spaces for local groups.
- ☼ Working with the local residents' associations to support improvements they wish to undertake to improve their environment.
- ☼ Progress with the ideas of developing a community garden with the local resident to involve other volunteers and businesses to support with tools and planting to make this project sustainable in the longer term.

- ☼ Discussions around the development of a boxing club for young men / teenagers in Carbrain to involve local partners and organisations.
- ☼ Supporting North Lanarkshire Council's consultations with local people regarding the new running track and other local initiatives.

## Connections in Carbrain

[The Carbrain network map](#) represents the network of relationships between organisations and groups in Carbrain. As a first attempt, the mapping is from the perspective of Shazia the local Community Co-ordinator. Shazia started working alongside people in Carbrain in September 2018 therefore currently the map shows connections between community groups and organisations and Corra. The software used to create the map, 'Kumu', can be used to highlight key influencers, find the most efficient paths for information to flow through the network, and describe the assets and attributes that each organisation or group has. In future versions, the intention is to seek multiple perspectives from across the community in order to create robust maps that show the development of networks and relationships over time.

## Co-ordinator Contact Details

**Name:** Shazia Riaz

**Email:** [shazia@corra.scot](mailto:shazia@corra.scot)

**Address:** Carbrain Primary School  
Millcroft Rd  
Cumbernauld  
Glasgow  
G67 2LD

**Phone:** 07597660295

[www.corra.scot](http://www.corra.scot)

## Summary of the People in Place programme so far

Corra Foundation understands that the challenges facing communities are complex and dynamic, and that traditional grant making alone will not support communities to address these issues. In response to this, and following an extensive period of research and development, the People in Place programme was launched in 2014.

Since 2015 this pioneering programme has been underpinned by a Funder Collaborative that brings together five partners with a shared commitment to learning and financial investment totaling £1.5M to June 2019.

This combined knowledge and investment has supported Community Co-ordinators to begin working alongside nine communities across eight Scottish local authority areas. Through the delivery of the programme 'on the ground' we have gained rich learning about the challenges and opportunities for specific communities - and broader systemic issues that resonate at national and policy level.

Strong foundations have now been laid for the [Getting Alongside Communities](#) programme and communities to create positive change at an increased pace. This Annual Update provides an illustration of the work in individual communities and draws out key high-level learning points which have been incorporated into the Strategic Framework for People in Place from 2019 onwards.

As People in Place has evolved, additional and integrated areas of work have been developed using investment from Corra Foundation and other sources. These are:

**Appetite for Change:** we are committed to working collaboratively to support the development of new place-based approaches at the scale of a Scottish town or city.

**Place-based Learning & Sharing:** The focus for this work in 2018 was the Place-based Working Project (PBWP). Convened by Corra Foundation, this research project has explored best practice in place-based work along with the policy and legislative frameworks that support (or hinder) its application in Scotland. The project culminated in Scotland's Place Leadership Summit which brought together cross-sector leaders - from communities, third sector, public, private and national government - and launched the [Place Principle](#).

The evidence base and momentum created by the project provides a platform for People in Place to increase collaboration at a range of levels. On the strength of the work to date, **Corra Foundation trustees have confirmed a minimum 10-year commitment to People in Place.**



**Our overall ambition is to support sustainable long-term change in each place and at a systemic level by:**

- 🌿 **Developing community influence and control**
- 🌿 **Ensuring assets and resources can be maintained into the future**
- 🌿 **Building social connections and networks**

**Our work responds to wider societal factors including:**

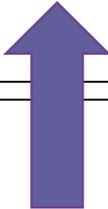
- 🌿 **Power**
- 🌿 **Poverty**
- 🌿 **Inequality**
- 🌿 **Social Isolation**

**Key Themes**

- 🌿 **Voice**  
Seldom heard voices  
Storytelling (individual, community, Corra)  
Citizen Journalism
- 🌿 **Space**  
Supporting use of available space  
Making new spaces available  
Exploring asset transfer and community ownership
- 🌿 **Participation**  
In community/community activities  
In Local Democracy includes ‘active community planning’  
Participatory Scotland  
Participatory Budgeting/grant making
- 🌿 **Investment**  
Helping communities to access funding  
Collective investment (from funders) into places  
Collective investment (across sectors)  
Kinder procurement  
Inclusive Growth/Community Wealth Building
- 🌿 **Learning & Development**  
Sharing what we learn to shape practice [ours & others]  
Sharing what we learn to shift policy  
Linking team and programme development  
Connecting with national and international networks  
Using our learning to support system change

**Our approach is built on some key underpinning principles:**

🌿 <b>Relationships</b>	🌿 <b>Independence</b>
🌿 <b>Bridging</b>	🌿 <b>Building local capacity</b>
🌿 <b>Brokering</b>	🌿 <b>Trust</b>



## Where we are going

Corra Foundation's independence, reputation and commitment to collaboration mean that we are well placed to act as a *catalytic agent* that can support positive change in local communities, nationally, and at a systemic level. Through People in Place:

*We work on system change – bringing together the voices and resources of all those in communities to bring about fundamental change.*

*We convene – as an independent foundation we use our knowledge to facilitate collective work and create the spaces for conversation in places.*

*We listen – because we cannot convene without knowing about a place from the people involved with it.*

*We are curious and adaptive – because where we begin is not the destination and shifting course requires awareness of what is changing with the collective and place.*

Corra Foundation's current 10-year commitment to People in Place extends to 2026. By working alongside communities and partners, **People in Place aims to support sustainable long-term change in each place and at a systemic level.**

**The ambition for each community that we work alongside will be set by the people in that place.** Our commitment to them is to create the conditions, and connections, for bold results to be achieved. We will continually learn, share and adapt our approach across the following programme elements:

**Getting Alongside Communities:** Our existing commitment to working alongside ten communities will continue. Over the next three years our relationship with these communities will evolve as local aspirations, agency and influence grow. The role of Community Co-ordinators will continue to progress from hands-on involvement, to a facilitative role, to the provision of ad hoc support – in turn, this progression will create capacity to support work in new communities.

There is an interest from local authorities we are currently working with in developing 'clusters' of communities and potential to develop Getting Alongside Communities outwith the local authorities that were originally identified.

**Appetite for Change:** In collaboration with Participatory City Foundation and with high interest from the Scottish Government we intend to take forward Participatory Scotland by adapting the place-based model from Barking and Dagenham to a Scottish context. In addition, we are actively exploring other collaborations to design and deliver new place-based approaches at the scale of a Scottish town or city and in coastal and rural settings.

**Place-based Learning & Sharing:** Building on the learning from the 'delivery strands' of the People in Place programme, and the cross-sector collaboration of the PBWP, we will continue to convene broad conversations and focused collective action in specific places to support place-based working as a catalyst for broader system change.