

People in Place – Annual Update 2017: Dunterlie, East Renfrewshire

Introduction

This brief update highlights the work being undertaken by Corra Foundation (previously called Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland) in Dunterlie, East Renfrewshire, including the learning gathered so far through the People in Place programme.

➤ Initial community selection process

We first met with Caroline Innes Deputy CEO and the East Renfrewshire local authority team on 1 February 2017 and followed up with the pledge as to how we would set out to work alongside the communities of East Renfrewshire.¹

This initial meeting was followed up with:

- ✿ Local area team meetings.
- ✿ Two community walkabouts.
- ✿ Local community meetings.

As a result of the combined research and community walkabout it was agreed that Dunterlie 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 a community space.

Laura Mathieson was recruited and began working in Dunterlie in May 2017. This brief report contains a snapshot of the work she has been undertaking.



Pledge.pdf

➤ Snapshot of work during the past year

Phase	Activity
<p>Mapping and Research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Desk based research- including analysis of statistical information. ➤ Community meetings to find out historical accounts and local people’s stories and perspectives on life in Dunterlie. ➤ Production of an area profile was meetings with local partners. ➤ Meetings with local groups, community representatives and community council.
<p>Engagement</p>  <p>MAGNET bringing people together</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Networking meetings with existing groups to understand barriers to participation. ➤ Hosting partner update meetings to linking with local schools, family centres, third sector and statutory partners to understand the landscape as it exists and the changes ahead for Dunterlie. ➤ Delivered Bingo sessions and open days. ➤ Community walkabouts exploring the spaces around the resource centre and hosted discussions about Dunterlie’s past, current challenges and aspirations for the future. ➤ Delivered story sharing workshops in partnership with St John’s Primary School where young people were invited to participate in and work together with older people in the community to explore the topic “This is my happy place....”. The project culminated in a festive celebration.
<p>Development of ideas into action</p>  <p>TO FIND SOLUTIONS that are appropriate and work</p>	<p>Working in partnership with East Renfrewshire Council Communities Team to open the doors of the Resource centre on Wednesdays and Fridays. This supported a range of activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story Share – project with St John’s Primary. • Taster sessions – Messy Play, Cookery, Bread making, crochet, Arts and crafts, drop- in. • Macmillan Coffee morning. • A number of community supported events; Pizza Party, Growing Dunterlie, Green Giggles. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Supporting the Dunterlie Planning and Action group to take forward new activity in Dunterlie to get people involved and make things happen. ➤ Supporting the development of a Baby and Toddler Group to recruit volunteers and to gather donations of toys and materials for the group.
<p>Brokering role</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Connecting groups with local services such as Money Advice and Rights, Prevention Team, Credit Union, Housing, Health and Social Care Partnership.



PROVIDE THE GLUE to stick everything together²

- Supporting groups to come together through events.
- Connecting the local school with the groups who use the centre.
- Creating spaces for ignition – creating spaces for people to come together to generate ideas and take action.
- Working in partnership - we have introduced or developed relationships in Dunterlie with a number of partners including:
 - Credit Union, Money Advice and Rights, East Renfrewshire food and Growing network, Young Person’s Housing Team, ER Council Community Payback team and Environments Dept.
 - As a result, people in Dunterlie have accessed support and information from local services and local practitioners have experienced increased opportunities to interact with community members, creating new points of contact within the community, providing new networks and fresh perspectives. connected them with local people.



All designed to: **SUPPORT** the community to achieve their ambitions.

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 Dunterlie community co-ordinator has done over the year.



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

➤ Brief case study

Opening the Doors of Dunterlie Resource Centre (October – December 2017)

Following the research and listening phase carried out in the first six months on the ground in Dunterlie, one of the key barriers to participation identified was a lack of space in the local community for people to come together.



In partnership with the Communities Team at East Renfrewshire Council, we embarked upon a three-month pilot, opening the doors of Dunterlie Resource Centre on Wednesdays and Fridays offering a range of opportunities for people to come together, to participate in activities and to tell us more about life in Dunterlie.

A number of volunteers and partners were keen to be involved and delivered free taster sessions and activities. Corra Foundation covered the costs of materials and refreshments as well as co-ordinating and supporting events and activities.

The partners involved and activities hosted were selected in response to the needs and aspirations expressed by community members throughout the listening phase. There has been a notable increase in the number of people using the space at Dunterlie Resource Centre. There has been an increase in groups letting the space in the centre, led by local people and supported by East Renfrewshire Council Communities team and Corra Foundation.

Ideas and groups have emerged from this space creation including a baby and toddler group meeting once, sometimes twice a week. A group of local people also expressed an interest in setting up a forum/working group to take forward some new activity in the area and have held a successful event. Following this success, the group are seeking more opportunities to make things happen in Dunterlie.



Look Ahead

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

- ❁ Support volunteers from the baby and toddler group, alongside a staff member from East Renfrewshire Council's Communities team, to access training and development opportunities and take the lead moving the group towards sustainability.
- ❁ Continue to work with the Dunterlie Planning Group to create more opportunities for community connections to be made and more activity to take place – increasing opportunities for participation and supporting more ideas in to action.
- ❁ Work with partners to ensure that individuals and groups in Dunterlie feel included and supported to participate in their wider community.
- ❁ A broad range of partners have plans or have expressed interest in working in Dunterlie over the coming year, we will continue to create spaces for people in Dunterlie to participate meaningfully on their own terms.

Co-ordinator Contact Details

Laura Mathieson

Address:

Dunterlie Resource Centre,
38 Stewart Street,
Barrhead, Glasgow,
G78 1AL

Email: Laura@corra.scot

Phone: 07867500751

www.corra.scot



Connections Mapping

- **Visual snapshot of the connections being made**

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.

Corra Foundation: Riverside House, 502 Gorgie Road Edinburgh EH11 3AF. e: hello@corra.scot t: 0131 444 4020 www.corra.scot
 (The) Corra Foundation is a charity registered in Scotland (No SC009481) and is also a company limited by guarantee (No SC096068). Fortify Social Enterprise CIC is a community interest company registered in Scotland and is also a company limited by guarantee (No SC507457). It is a member of the Scottish Grant Makers, the Association of Charitable Foundations and the Scotland Funders Forum. (The) Corra Foundation was previously called Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland.