

Dunterlie Annual Update 2024

About Dunterlie

Dunterlie is an area in Barrhead (East Renfrewshire). Dunterlie Resource Centre, is the main hub for community activities and services in the area where a wide variety of groups bring the community together to create opportunities for local people to learn, grow and build a connection with their community.

Corra's work in Dunterlie began in May 2017 and has focused on making the resource centre the heart of the community again, building relationships, supporting community-led activities, and enhancing local spaces and services. This has included projects like the

Foodshare, Dunterlie Baby and Toddler groups, Dunterlie Men's Group, Happy Dunterlie, Bumps, Babies and Blether, Dunterlie Arts and Crafts and events such as Ceilidhs and storytelling sessions. As the community continues to develop and grow, the focus remains on empowering community members to take the lead in shaping the future of their community while promoting partnership working and collaborations between groups and services.

In this update, you'll find stories from the community about what they've been up to in 2024, why community leaders do what they do, and plans for 2025.



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Dunterlie timeline

You can delve into the detail in each annual update, but here's a taster of what the community has achieved since 2017. For more information on each year visit www.corra.scot/Dunterlie

2017

Work began alongside the community in May 2017. The initial focus was on community engagement, creating connections, supporting community-led activity and building relationships with local partners.

2018

Community-led projects came to the fore this year, this saw increased involvement and partnership development through activities like the Foodshare and expanded access to the Resource Centre.

2019

Continued increases in community engagement, driven by volunteer support and activities such as the Foodshare and School Holiday partnership, with the Resource Centre being considered more of a central community hub.

2020

Dunterlie adapted to pandemic challenges through activities like the Foodshare, which addressed issues around food insecurity, and the School Holiday Partnership moved online, providing digital engagement opportunities. 2020 Dunterlie Update. As lockdown restrictions eased, adapted community activity restarted with a small Big Lunch event and a mental health and wellbeing support café was established that allowed people to come together safely for support and social connection.

2022

There was significant progress this year with the expansion of the Foodshare, the Action Group securing funding and advancing community projects. There were also activities delivered by the School Holiday Partnership and creative activities that contributed toward the recovery and resilience of local activity.

2021

Post-pandemic there was a shift toward activity that focuses on health and wellbeing and the reopening community spaces – thanks to the efforts of the newly formed Dunterlie Action Group. A participatory budgeting process was designed and delivered locally which saw £20k distributed via a rolling grant programme to fund local activity.

2023

Community-led activity continued to flourish in 2023, activities like the Warm Hub, new Men's Group and successful events, such as the Burns Night Ceilidh have highlighted Dunterlie's resilience and its strong sense of community spirit.

Dunterlie big ideas for positive change in 2024

We Need Our Bus Campaign

The 52 bus service connected the community in Dunterlie to vital services and provision.

This includes the local health centre, the library, the leisure centre, cost of living support, council offices, museum, shops, and the wider area offering onward links to Paisley and Glasgow.

Corra believe that neighbourhoods, in all parts of Scotland, should be thoughtfully designed to meet the needs of the people who call them home. This includes through the provision of accessible transport to connect communities with vital services and resources. The Dunterlie Action Group have conducted research and produced the We Need Our Bus Report to demonstrate the need for the bus service to be reinstated.

In May 2024, the Dunterlie Action Group, conducted a survey to understand the full impact that the loss of the 52 bus service has had on the community. The survey was initially conducted to support a response to the Strathclyde Passenger Transport consultation on the Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy.

The survey had 10 questions and was administered both on and offline. 77 people responded. All respondents used the 52 bus service ranging from daily to monthly usage. The survey found that removing the 52 service has negatively impacted

local people's ability to access support with health, finance, and other vital services.

The We Need Our Bus report and the associated public meetings led to the formation of the new Better Buses Barrhead group. Their campaign has had a transformative impact beyond the issue of transport itself. Through their community-led research and campaign, the newly formed Better Buses Barrhead group has gained valuable skills in data collection, analysis, and campaigning, empowering them to effectively represent their community's needs. This campaign has created a sense of collective purpose and strengthened connections within the group, as members worked collaboratively to address shared challenges.

Crucially, it has also highlighted the value of community voices in decision-making, demonstrating how grassroots efforts can influence broader discussions about public services. This experience is an example for other communities, showcasing how community-led action research can validate community concerns, build confidence, and create a platform to work towards meaningful change. Group member, Claire said "the group are now looking into alternatives that would serve the community better. Utilising social media to engage with the local community"

"A consultation before removing the bus would have (been) helpful. If they had taken on board people's suggestions to keep the bus running would have been helpful too but they didn't want to listen to anyone or attempt to try and help"

[Click here to see the campaign video](#)





Partnership Working: A year of collaboration in Dunterlie

2024 was a big year for partnership working in Dunterlie, with projects and activities that have seen community groups and local services and organisations coming together to drive meaningful change. The Dunterlie Action Group (DAG) started to play a more central role in shaping the future of the community. Supported by Barrhead Housing Association (BHA), Corra, East Renfrewshire Council's Community Learning and Development (ER CLD), and Economic Growth (ER EG) teams, the group began focussing on their future and long-term sustainability for the Dunterlie Resource Centre. The group have been meeting once a month, identifying priorities and have created the Dunterlie Plan on a Page, which provides a clear framework for the community's objectives and priorities.

Community-led projects flourished throughout the year. The Happy Dunterlie network, supported by BHA and ER CLD, delivered events across the school holidays like Dino Day, a Halloween party and Nerf Wars. These activities not only provided enjoyment but also addressed issues

like holiday hunger and social isolation. Additionally, the "We Need Our Bus" campaign highlighted the community's determination to restore vital bus links after the loss of the number 52 service. A report produced in collaboration with ER CLD gained attention from local politicians and media, sparking wider discussions about public transport. Community members also actively participated in designing the new Multi-Use Games Area alongside the ER EG team, ensuring it met the needs of the community.

As 2024 came to an end, Dunterlie's partnerships demonstrated how collaboration can empower communities to tackle challenges, celebrate their strengths, and plan for a sustainable future. As Claire, from ER CLD put it "partnership working is easier when you have partners that are trying to achieve the same thing. It also makes the work more sustainable for the local community". The groundwork laid this year has been crucial in preparing Dunterlie for what lies ahead.

Vision for Dunterlie Action Group

A resilient and sustainable organisation that supports local people to build and develop community in Dunterlie

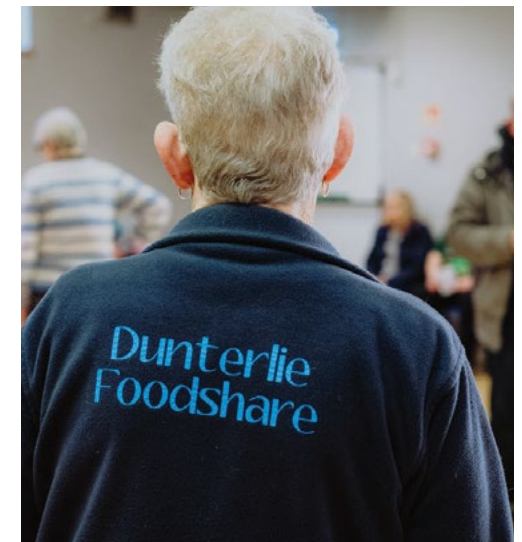
Invitation to get involved

Contact:
Dunterlie Action Group
dunterlie.action.36@gmail.com

Achievements

The community has created a strong sense of momentum, with 17 active groups operating in Dunterlie. Fifteen of these are new, highlighting significant community action in addressing issues like isolation, poverty, and mental health.

Visits to the Centre have increased from less than 100 per week to around 325 every week.



Building a Stronger Organisation

- Community involvement
- Working together
- Building skills & knowledge
- Communications
- Understanding & Connection

- Involve more people in the work of Dunterlie Action Group
- Strengthen partnerships with local groups and services
- Enhance knowledge and skills of Dunterlie Action Group and other local community groups
- Improve communication – more active on social media, create and distribute information about groups & activities
- Build a deeper understanding of the issues affecting the community

Community Centre

- Community ownership
- Partnerships
- Access to community centre

- Working towards community management and/or ownership of centre, and in the long term a new building
- Develop closer partnership with Culture & Leisure to improve running of building
- Community Centre open daily (including weekends) with a friendly reliable welcome

- Develop an evaluation plan to assess the impact of Dunterlie Action Group and associated community groups

Staff, Volunteers & Funding

- Staffing
- Collective impact
- Funding

- Develop ability to employ staff and volunteers
- Demonstrate overall value of the work (paid and voluntary) being done in Dunterlie
- Secure long-term funding for Dunterlie Action Group to support and develop community-led activity

Partners

- Dunterlie Foodshare, In Cahootz, East Renfrewshire Additional Support Needs Parents Action Group, Weigh in, Weigh Less, Dunterlie Arts and Crafts, Dunterlie Men's Group, Happy Dunterlie, Bumps and Babies, Band F, Dunterlie Parent & Toddler Group
- Barrhead Housing Association, East Renfrewshire Council, Corra Foundation, East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure

How we'll work together

Work together in an open and transparent way, be inclusive and strengthen groups and partnerships. Give space for the community to have a voice and explore and test

Hear from some of Dunterlie's community leaders

As part of the annual updates this year, we took time to sit down over a cuppa with a few local people to hear more about what they've been up to this year and plans for 2025.

Bumps, Babies & A Blether by Jolene McNaughton

Bumps, babies & a blether is a support group for mums and babies which started in October 2023 with approximately 10 mums and babies. Now nearly 17 months later we have doubled that number and support around 25 mums and babies every week.

This group is different to how I originally planned as my aim was to engage with breastfeeding mums and offer support and encouragement to 'normalise' breastfeeding. After peer supporting with the National Childbirth Trust (NCT) and helping to set up breastfeeding support group I then decided that this wasn't the type of group mums wanted. The mums I spoke to wanted a relaxed

group, with real stories and experiences from other 'experienced' mums. They also commented on how there is now no baby massage, weaning chats, first time mums groups etc that were previously run by the NHS Health Visiting Team.

This got me thinking about when I had my first child nearly 16 years ago. I attended many of these types of groups free of charge and how this benefited me, and played a big part in reducing the risk of post-natal depression, isolation and loneliness and having no one who really understood. After reflecting on my own feelings and listening to the other mums, most of whom were first time mums I decided that I had to create a group with what these mums really needed.

So, I applied for funding to the Linking Communities PB Fund, Barrhead Housing and Voluntary Action Mental Health & Wellbeing fund and was successful and have used the money to provide a group for not just the babies but also for the mums to enjoy.





Activities so far have included –

- Mum & Baby Yoga, Baby Massage
- Messy Play Sessions
- Weaning & Oral Health Chat
- Baby & Child First Aid (all that attended were provided with first aid kit & booklet)
- Rouken Glen Pottery (all mums got a piece of pottery from their baby for Christmas)
- Mum and baby photoshoot (all received a pic for Mother's Day)
- Moo Music class
- Breakfast & A blether

A lot of our mums are truly grateful that not only have they found a group that they feel comfortable and welcomed at but also that this a group able and willing to provide a service that people don't have to sign up to for 4-6 weeks at a time and doesn't cost them £60-80 which is an unsustainable commitment because of babies being babies and catching all viruses going leaving them be able to attend a class/group they have paid for but unable to gain the benefits of.

"I have enjoyed the social side of the group as being a first time mum its challenging trying to take time to look after yourself and meet new people in the same position. Talking to other mums at the group has helped so much navigating this minefield of being a new mum and the mental health strains of being a new parent, you realise you are not alone in your struggles of sleep deprivation and teething"

Rosanne and baby Isla

"The mum and baby support group has been an amazing group to attend with my baby"

Jen & baby Sophie

"It's a group that I feel like benefits me as a person and a mum"

Sinead and baby John Paul



Finding Our Village: Dunterlie Baby and Toddlers by Cara Doherty

Dunterlie Baby and Toddlers is a local group for children aged 0-5 years and their adults. It is completely volunteer run and is supported financially through sourced funding.

The aim of the group is to create a safe, welcoming, non-judgemental space for children and adults to come and have a lovely morning with their peers. One parent described the group as their "emotional support blanket" surrounded by "like minded mums, dads and carers who support, and guide as well help with kids."

We provide age and stage appropriate toys for our kids and on occasion do art activities as well as themed sessions every week. Families appreciate the regularity and reliability of the group with one saying, "My kids all love coming to group and look forward to it every week, it's a much loved part of our weekly routine." We bring in local organisations to do one off sessions with the kids focused on music, learning and movement, which can be accessed outwith the group, but would be at a high cost to the adults paying for their kids themselves.

We try to keep cost for our families to a minimum, our donation at the group is £1.50 per child and 50p any additional children, this helps towards some minimal resources. We also provide a well-balanced healthy snack for the kids every week, keeping in mind allergies in the group, and a hot beverage and a biscuit for the adults.

We also organise trips for the families every year to destinations of their choosing, this is again no to minimal cost to the families, with them

only paying for their additional kids who don't attend. We provide transport, payment into the destination and snack packs for all the children. Another way we try make it special for the families is Christmas, we do 'Breakfast with Santa' where our Santa comes along and spends time with the children, singing, joining in on their Bookbug sessions and having a snack with them, all the while being photo ready.

Primarily the group runs like a normal baby and Toddlers playgroup you find in any scheme, but we try make sure everyone goes away with something more. From reducing isolation by making connections in their community, to mental health support, we all come together to find our village. Parents highlighted a lack of judgement, with one saying, "I can bring the wee one here and know that I'm not being judged if I'm flustered or he's a bit messy" and another saying that without the group they would "be more isolated" adding that the relationships and connections she and her children have developed through the group have been invaluable, that it is "hard to say just how much that means... I'm not sure how you measure that."

We have strong connections with local organisations and groups within the area and are able to signpost our families to other opportunities and support if needed. The group and volunteers are always looking for new ways to support our families any way possible, through funding, activities, anything to reduce the stress and financial worry.

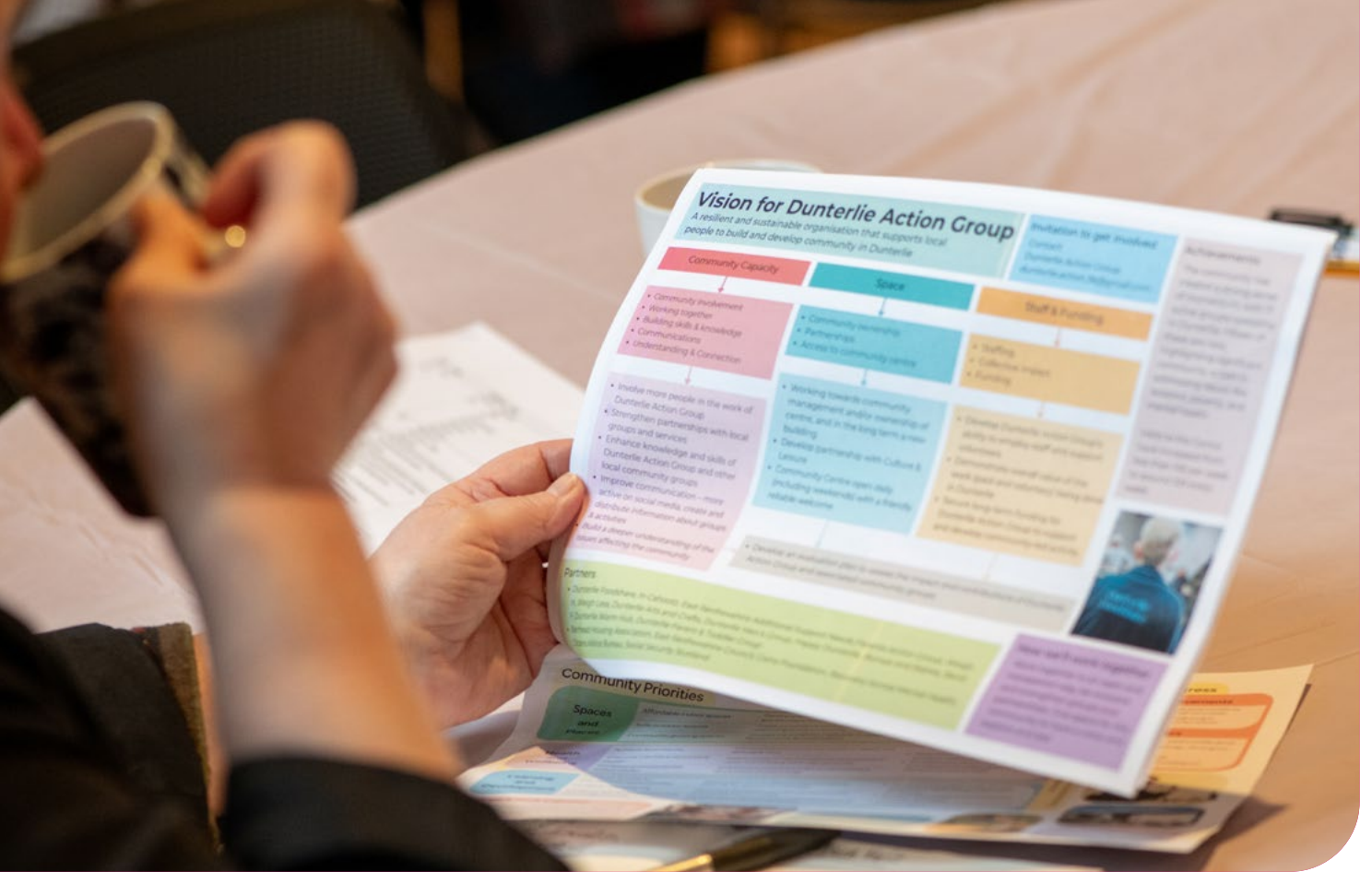
Where are the opportunities to make positive change?

Scotland's communities need funders, including the public sector, to provide support and resource in ways that work for them. In Dunterlie, funding and support from Corra, East Renfrewshire Council, Barrhead Housing Association and others have been vital in sustaining activities like the Foodshare, allowing it to continue providing essential services to the community. However, challenges remain around ensuring these projects remain community-led and can be sustained in the long term.

Positive change happens when we listen to communities – the people who call Scotland's neighbourhoods home. The development of the "We Need Our Bus" Campaign is a great example of empowered local people coming together to campaign for change.

Place-based working centres the knowledge of residents to drive positive changes in their communities. The work of the Dunterlie Action Group in 2024 highlights the importance of centring this community knowledge in planning. The group have taken on a leadership role in the creation of a Plan on a Page that will guide future developments in Dunterlie.





What next?

From March 2026, our relationship with communities will change. We are supporting community leaders to establish their priorities, plans, and partnerships to sustain community-led change. We will walk alongside community leaders through the Community Leadership Collective ensuring that communities have the skills, connections, and support to take their ideas into action. We will work to ensure that Scotland's communities are supported and resourced in ways that work for them.

Throughout 2025, we will support the Dunterlie community to realise their plan, with specific actions including:

- Support the delivery of Dunterlie's Plan on a Page.
- Support community leaders to develop skills and build networks through Corra's Community Leadership Collective.
- Support new and existing groups to establish and keep going and develop their ideas.



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