

About You	
1.	Your Name
	Alan Gunn
2.	Your Employer / Organisation
	Dundee City Council
3.	Your Position
	Communities Officer
4.	Your E-Mail at Work
	alan.gunn@dundeecity.gov.uk
5.	Your Address at Work
	Douglas Community Centre Dundee DD4 8SD
6.	Your Telephone Number at Work
	01382 438596
7.	Your Role in the Project
	Local Lead
An Introduction to the Project	
8.	Which partner organisations are involved in delivering the project (local authorities, organisations, community groups, etc.)?
	Dundee City Council (within the Council Dundee Partnership, Neighbourhood Services, Housing, Family Services, Environment Department), Public Health Scotland, Money Advice services (e.g. Citizens Advice Bureau, Brooksbank Money Advice Service), Third Sector organisations (e.g. Barnardo's)
9.	Does the project have specific aims and/or objectives? <i>If so, please add to the box below.</i>
	<p>Aims:</p> <p>To lift people out of poverty by improving financial resilience, and addressing impacts associated with poverty, including poor health and wellbeing, social isolation and fuel and food insecurity.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased income from employment - Improved mental wellbeing - Reduced costs of living - Increased income from social security benefits and benefits in kind
10.	Does the project have a title? <i>If so, please add to the box below.</i>
	The Linlathen Local Fairness Initiative.
11.	When did it start?

	Around August 2022.
12.	Has it finished? Is it on-going? Does it have an end date? <i>Please add dates to the box below.</i>
	The project is ongoing and does not have a set end date currently.
13.	Which groups of people, if any, are targeted by the service provided?
	Residents in the neighbourhood of Linlathen where the project is delivered.
14.	How many people have been served by the project?
	<p>The project serves the neighbourhood of Linlathen with 1,871 residents. The object-specific numbers of people served are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Benefit checks and better off calculations offered for up to 152 households, with financial gains reported over £94,000 for these participants. – 57 residents supported to access energy advice and/or help to pay energy bills/arrears. – 469 free lunches and 655 free evening meals provided to local people and families. – 6 activity sessions delivered weekly at Brooksbank Centre – Dundee United Sports Club providing 12 Linlathen families with after school and holiday activities. – 27 local residents took volunteering roles. – 280 residents and 230 children consulted on local issues and environmental improvements. – 6 summer outreach sessions and community galas. – Smoking cessation support provided to 9 people. – 12 parents participating in the Dundee and Angus College Programme for parents. – Up to 72 participants attending weekly family drop in activity with input from other support services. – 18 partners from the Linlathen steering group completed a Value Based Leadership programme delivered by Columba 1400, strengthening the partnership and securing commitment for the year ahead. – 65 families (78 Children) have registered with School Age Childcare funded from Scottish Government Early Adopter Communities Project for funded childcare places.
15.	Where is it delivered?
	Neighbourhood of Linlathen.
The Initial Idea	
16.	Who had the initial idea?
	Personnel from the Dundee Partnership.
17.	How did the idea for the project come about?

	<p>There was a need and a drive to work in and with the neighbourhoods where majority of the population lives in areas that are in the first decile of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. The Council wanted a coordinated multi-agency approach to reduce poverty and child poverty levels that had been static for a long time. Supplemental data coordinated through Dundee City Council provided a picture of the challenges in the communities (e.g. NHS data on mental health and substance use, DCC data on positive destinations for young people and Citizens Advice data on enquiries about benefits). The Council also observed lower levels of community activity in Linlathen than in other parts of the city with less services available.</p>
<p>18.</p>	<p>Did you draw on any published reports / papers / research evidence or practice you had seen elsewhere to inform your plans? <i>If so, please add details to the box below.</i></p> <p><u>A Narrative Inquiry to inform project on local perspectives:</u></p> <p>Community Learning and Development, Dundee Partnership, third sector partners and Housing worked with a researcher from Dundee University and Edinburgh-based media company Media Education to produce a significant piece of social research to inform the project. The result was a multi-stage research project that sought to develop an understanding of how the local people in the neighbourhoods saw and experienced the challenges the Council had identified from the data.</p> <p>Local people took photographs from their areas for the project and participated in putting together a photo exhibition. There were over 80 residents and 70 partners and stakeholders involved. From this engagement, the project team identified five key themes around cost of living, quality of housing, green spaces and employment. These were then used as the focus for the narrative inquiry to start individual interviews with community members. Around 15 people participated in these deep-dive interviews.</p> <p>At the end of the project a report was produced with a list of recommendations. Ultimately the research combined Council and lived experience data from the communities to produce a more holistic overview of the situation. The Narrative Inquiry project also directly contributed to the development of the aims of the project with the five themes identified corresponding to independent aims listed earlier.</p>
<p>19.</p>	<p>Who was involved in developing the initial idea of the project?</p> <p>Peter Allan and Paul Davies from Dundee Partnership.</p>
<p>20.</p>	<p>Were those with lived experience of poverty involved in developing the initial idea of the project?</p> <p>Lived experience was brought into the development of the project through the Narrative Inquiry research outlined in QS 18.</p>
<p>21.</p>	<p>What funding was used, if any, to support the development of the initial idea of the project?</p> <p>The Dundee City Council funded the research project that aided the development of the Local Fairness Initiative based on a research proposal developed by the research team.</p>

22.	What in-kind resources were needed when developing the initial idea of the project?	
	Facilities	Local community facilities that were given for the use of the project by organisations on the ground.
	Equipment	N/A
	Local Knowledge	From the community members. This was a resource and of great significance to the development of the project.
	Food and Drink	N/A
23.	What, if any, barriers did you have to overcome when developing the initial idea of the project?	
	Mistrust of the community towards the Council. The social issues and levels of poverty have not happened overnight, and the community felt they had not been heard and that similar projects have not made a difference in the community. This had to be worked on with building back trust and trying to effectively involve local communities in the project to get rid of the idea of it as something that was delivered top down, and the community did not have a say in it. The key aspects of building back trust have been consistency in continuing to deliver the Initiative and services associated in the area, and actively keeping the residents of Linlathen informed on the progress of the Initiative and the impact the Narrative Inquiry Research has had.	
24.	What, if anything, was helpful when developing the initial idea of the project?	
	Local grassroots organisations and local knowledge of the issues.	
25.	Did you conduct a feasibility study? (if yes, please describe what you did and what you concluded)	
	Not formally.	
26.	What was the timeline between the initial idea and the start of the project?	
	-	
27.	Who made the decision to introduce the project?	
	Dundee City Council.	
Pilot Project		
28.	Did you run a pilot project?	
	No	
The On-going Development of the Project		
29.	Has the Initiative changed through time?	
	Yes	
30.	In what ways has it changed?	
	Scale	There is increased engagement from the community and from the Dundee City Council.
	Location	No changes.
	Population	No changes.

	The Offer	No changes.
31.	What were the reason for these changes?	
	Building trust over time and showing the project is not another short-term project. Successful results showing progress with the levels of engagement.	
Accessing the Service and Engaging with Service Users		
32.	Is there a referral process? If yes, how does the referral process work (self-referral, referred by other agencies, identified from an existing database)	
	Some parts of the Initiative are referral based as it consists of a range of different interventions. E.g. a Scottish Government funded out of school care service and a three year out of school care service at Rowantree Primary is referral based and coordinated by children and families.	
33.	How are potential clients made aware of the project?	
	The Initiative raises attention about itself in a variety of ways. They do consultations and knock on doors to talk to people at their doorsteps, use social media and have their partners on the ground promote the Initiative. They work with Brooksbank Centre, one of their third sector partners, and the Centre produces an informative newsletter that contains information on the Initiative and is posted through the doors in the neighbourhoods.	
34.	How do you keep in touch with service users? Do your service users have a preferred method of contact?	
	<p>There is no one set method for keeping in touch with those engage with the Initiative. There has not been a massive demand to continue to be involved in every part of the initiative from those who have engaged. People usually come along with an inquiry and once it has been dealt with, they do not continue to engage.</p> <p>The project engages with the local residents through a range of local community engagement opportunities such as through free family activity sessions, community café, food larders, advice drop-ins and through the local primary school. A community WhatsApp chat has also been established which allows information to be shared regularly.</p>	
Working With People with Lived Experience of Poverty		
35.	Are those with lived experience of poverty involved in <u>delivering</u> the project? <i>If so, please describe below.</i>	
	<p>Yes. There is a volunteer led local group within the initiative who support the local food larder and free cycle project. This is a part of the Initiative's key theme on food insecurity.</p> <p>There is also an active group of local parents supporting the running of weekly free family tea clubs and holiday activities.</p>	
36.	Are people with lived experience of poverty involved in <u>managing</u> the project, <u>supervision</u> within the project, or project <u>governance</u> ? <i>If so, please describe below.</i>	
	Yes. There is a community (steering) group in its early stages. The group sits on the Community Planning Partnership. The Initiative hopes they will be the conduit for keeping local people involved in steering the project in longer term.	

	As the steering group is in its early stages (early 2024) their role in the project is not yet firmly established.
37.	Are people with lived experience of poverty involved <u>in any other aspect</u> of the project? <i>If so, please describe below.</i>
	Not mentioned.
Leadership, Governance and Partnership Working	
38.	Who has overall responsibility for the Local Fairness Initiative?
	Alan Gunn. The governance sits between the Dundee Partnership and the Council.
39.	Is this the only responsibility of the person managing the project? <i>If not please describe the manager's wider roles and responsibilities.</i>
	No – Alan co-ordinates community planning across the East End Ward in Dundee, but has prioritised resources to allow for a more targeted approach in Linlathen.
40.	Is there a Project Steering or Advisory Group or Organising Committee? <i>If yes, who is involved in this and how does it work.</i>
	Yes. The Linlathen Steering Group and an overarching project board that sits above that.
41.	If there is no Steering Group, what governance arrangements are in place to review strategy and performance?
	The Project Board that sits above the Steering Group reviews the performance and strategy of the project. The board takes under it both fairness initiatives, in Linlathen and Stobswell West.
Staffing	
42.	Are there any paid staff? <i>Please describe their role and their contribution.</i>
	Yes. In addition to Alan there is a number of staff involved in the different services working with the initiative. As the staff is delivering on outcomes for the specific services, they are involved in the Initiative through common outcomes but not directly.
43.	Are volunteers involved in delivering the project? <i>Please describe their role and their contribution.</i>
	Yes – in different parts under the Initiative. The most tangible ones are the group working on the food larder, Friends of Linlathen Community Group and the Rowantree Family Activities Group. Whether volunteers are compensated somehow depends on the initiative which they are volunteering with.
Links to Wider Policies, Strategies and Statutory Requirements	
44.	Is the project part of a wider anti-poverty strategy? <i>If so, please give details.</i>
	Yes, the Initiative is referenced strongly in the Dundee City Plan.
45.	Is the project part of any other strategy? <i>If so, please give details.</i>
	Yes, Dundee's Fairness Strategy.

46.	Is the project delivering a service that is a statutory commitment. <i>If so, please give details.</i>	
	Yes, a part of the Initiative fits around the Local Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Initiative reports back to the local Community Planning Partnership.	
Funding		
47.	Who funds the project? <i>Please give details.</i>	
	Dundee City Council	
48.	How is the project funded?	
	Funding was allocated for fairness work, and it was directed to this project. There is no specific funding for this project apart from the funding that went into the Social Research Project in the beginning. Different types of funding go to parts of the Initiative and the services underneath it.	
49.	What is the budget for the project / how much does it cost to deliver?	
	Not disclosed (medium cost, between £10,000 and £100,000)	
50.	Is future funding based on pre-agreed outcomes or outputs being delivered? <i>If so, please give details</i>	
	No, funding has been pre-allocated by the City Council for the project.	
Resources		
51.	What in-kind resources do you need to deliver your project?	
	Facilities	Spaces to deliver services within the Initiative.
	Equipment	Voice recorders for the interview as a part of the research project.
	Local Knowledge	Knowledge of the types of issues and experiences of the locals.
	Food and Drink	Not under the general initiative, individual projects under the Initiative have their needs that sometimes involve food and drink.
52.	For each of the in-kind resources listed above, who provides it?	
	Facilities	Local organisations on the ground, e.g. Primary Schools or third sector organisations who are letting the Initiative use their spaces.
	Equipment	Council funded.
	Local Knowledge	The Linlathen Steering Group and the Social Research project at the beginning. The Group is volunteer-led and the project was funded by the Council.
	Food and Drink	The services that deliver the individual projects under the Initiative.
53.	Did you have to buy or develop new IT systems, software (databases, apps) or technology to deliver your project? <i>Please describe below.</i>	
	Had to buy recording equipment for the interviews that were a part of the research project.	

54.	Was additional staff training required to deliver your project? <i>If so, please describe.</i>	
	Yes. Training on research techniques and filmmaking around the narrative inquiry process of the research project informing the Initiative.	
Formal Monitoring and Evaluation		
55.	What information, if any, do you collect about your project?	
	Number of users	The partners collect data on the number of users.
	Profile of users	-
	Experience of users	Yes, individual projects and services collect user feedback.
	Anything else	Outcomes for those engaging with the projects and services under the Initiative are recorded. E.g. educational and employment outcomes by the Money Advice drop in developed at Brooksbank Centre.
56.	How often is data collected? Who collects the data?	
	The individual projects and services under the Initiative collect their own data. Because the Initiative is a complex range of interventions in its early stages, they are still working on the approach for analysing and utilising this data. Public Health Scotland has identified Dundee as a Pathfinder and is collaborating with the Initiative to help them identify the right indicators across the range of interventions.	
57.	Do you have baseline data on what things were like before the start of the project or before users started the project? <i>Please describe the type of baseline data that you have.</i>	
	Yes – the primary baseline data was the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation statistics that indicated the need to target Linlathen and identified the areas in the lowest income percentile. Supplementary data such as NHS data on mental health and substance use, DCC data on positive destinations for young people, and Citizens Advice data on enquiries about benefits were used to give an idea on the types of challenges present in the community.	
58.	Do you produce an annual report? <i>Please provide details of what this includes.</i>	
	No specific annual report but the Initiative produces a report when required so by the Planning Partnership and the Council (approximately twice a year).	
59.	In what ways, if at all, do you use the data that you collect to adapt the service that you provide?	
	The Initiative is in its early stages and hopes to collate the data from service providers to better understand their impact.	
60.	Have you employed an external organisation to formally evaluate your project? <i>If yes, please provide details.</i>	
	No apart from the evaluative support from Public Health Scotland that is in its early stages.	
61.	If yes, in what ways, if at all, have you used the External Project evaluation to adapt the service that you provide.	

	N/A
62.	<p>Do you intend to employ an external organisation to evaluate the service that you provide in the future? <i>If yes, please provide details.</i></p> <p>The project is developing an evaluation framework and performance indicators with Public Health Scotland to assess overall impacts of the initiative and if the outcomes are being achieved.</p>
Impact	
63.	<p>What difference has the project made?</p> <p>Despite being a long-term project in its early stages, the Fairness Initiative has increased community engagement significantly in the neighbourhoods where the Initiative is being delivered. The Local Fairness Initiative has reduced costs of living in the neighbourhoods, improved mental health provision, increased uptake of benefits, and supported people with transitions to employment.</p> <p>They have been able to reduce social isolation through the amount of social opportunities that are more readily available and present in the communities. As a result of the Initiative's community and place-based approach local people have been more connected to advice and support services.</p>
64.	<p>How do you know this? What evidence demonstrates impact (metrics, interviews, feedback)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anecdotal evidence from individual case studies. These studies have featured individuals who have lived in the neighbourhood for years and been very isolated and are now engaged in several projects, groups and with services. - Information on the range and number of services on housing, finance etc. that are now available to people more locally because of the Initiative. - Significant amount of financial gain from the work around benefits. - Through the project placed at the Primary School there are 40 families being supported in accessing out of school and after school childcare, and surveys from this project indicate there are parents who have been moving in to work because of this project. <p>See more aim-specific data below.</p>
65.	<p>To what extent have the aims of the project been achieved?</p> <p>Aim specific progress is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Increased income from employment:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 12 parents have achieved qualifications through flexible learning; o 27 adults moved into volunteering roles; o "Linlathen Works" Drop-In delivered at Brooksbank centre two days per week. - <u>Improved mental wellbeing:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Improved access to green space through building 3 new play trails;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 90 young people attending new youth work provision three nights a week; ○ 40 families attending weekly evening family support drop in at Rowantree Primary; ○ The Yard supported with Asset Transfer of DCC building to deliver activities and support for children and families with additional support needs. <p>- <u>Reduced costs of living:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ financial commitment from DCC to insulate Council Tenancies in Linlathen; ○ 65 families registered with Scottish Government Funded free School Age Childcare service; ○ over 1,000 free family meals provided at family activities; ○ 57 residents supported to access energy advice and/or help to pay energy bills/arrears. <p>- <u>Increased income from social security and benefits in kind:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 152 families have accessed money advice drop-in at Brooksbank Centre with financial gains reported as over £94,000 for these participants. <p>Progress towards the aims has been shared with the local community to ensure people understand the Narrative Inquiry was not a standalone process and has made difference.</p>
66.	How, if at all, has the demand for the service provided by the Fairness Initiative changed since it started?
	An increase in the engagement and uptake.
67.	If yes, has the project had the capacity to meet these changing conditions and demand? <i>Please describe and explain below.</i>
	Yes at the moment, but the Initiative continues to look into this to ensure the continuity.
68.	Has the project had any unexpected or unintended outcomes? <i>If so, whether positive or negative, please describe.</i>
	No.
69.	<p>In your opinion, is the project having an impact on tackling poverty? If so, please describe in what ways.</p> <p>Yes. Particularly through the part of the project that delivers a hub of advice services in the Linlathen community on Tuesdays and provides access to support where it wasn't previously. The Initiative understands most of the work is a plaster rather than a route out of poverty and recognises the need to move beyond work like benefit maximisation on this.</p>
Learning from Experience	
70.	What is working well?
	The partnership working in terms of the investment from a broad range of partners is working well. The message of Linlathen as a priority area has been received and taken up on well. The local people setting the agenda for change

	in their words was the catalyst for people being interested in working in the area.	
71.	What, if anything, is working less well?	
	The Initiative recognises the need to go back and regularly make sure they and their partners have the capacity to be targeting Linlathen. The capacity to continue the project is not dependent on a single entity, as Dundee City Council heavily relies on a large number of third sector partners for the delivery.	
72.	What are the key learning points that you'd like to share with other practitioners? For example, is there anything that you would do differently?	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Logic modelling event was useful at the start of the project to harmonise a set of shared aims and outcomes and map the project based on them. - Successfully engaging the community members at the beginning and throughout the development of the Initiative has been a key to the successful start of the project. 	
73.	What plans do you have to develop or expand the project in the future?	
	No current plans in place but aspirations. The Child Poverty Pathfinder is a partner project working alongside the Linlathen Local Fairness Initiative, and there is an appetite to look at scalability.	
74.	How easily do you think your project could be replicated in another setting?	
	There are steps in the model in terms of data usage in the beginning, community engagement, and governance structure that are replicable. Communities' individual needs and characteristics need to be recognised, but the framework from the Initiative could be replicated easily with the correct resources. A similar project is also running in Stobswell in Dundee.	
Social Media		
75.	Please enter social media contact details and weblinks to supporting documents or resources below:	
	Web Pages	N/A
	Facebook	'In Your Neighbourhood East End' Facebook profile IYN East End Facebook call for participants for the Linlathen Local Fairness Initiative social research project
	Instagram	N/A
	Twitter	N/A
	Tik-Tok	N/A
GDPR Consent (Add yes or no in the box)		
I give my permission to be named in the tackling poverty locally directory and associated public outputs.		Yes
I give permission for our organisation to be named in the tackling poverty locally directory and associated public outputs.		Yes
I give permission for me to be contacted by directory users.		Yes
I am willing to be contacted if more details are required		Yes



**Tackling Poverty Locally Online Directory
Proforma for Researchers to Complete**



Request to review (Add yes or no in the box)

Did the interviewee request to review a draft before it I sent to referees for review

Yes