



Glenkens and District Community Action Plan

Research Report and Action Plan
The Glenkens and District Trust

July 2020



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1. Introduction and Background

1.1 Background and Original Drivers

Glenkens and District is a rural community of communities in Dumfries and Galloway. The Glenkens and District Trust was established to support regeneration and development in the local area, to make it a better place to live, work, play and visit.

The owners of Blackcraig wind farm have appointed the Trust to manage and distribute the community fund with the administrative support of Foundation Scotland¹. To support the Trust in ensuring that the funds are distributed wisely and strategically, a community action plan was required. In addition, it was recognised that a community action plan would be a valuable source of data for organisations across the area to assist them in identifying priorities and to develop their own plans. Some good work was undertaken in late 2017 and early 2018 but a plan was not concluded at that time. Community Enterprise was commissioned in late 2019 to gather the existing data together, refresh it with some further community consultation and produce a strategic community action plan that the whole community contributed to and supported.

It is vital to note that, although the wind farm fund distribution was a key driver to initiating a plan, the reach of the plan is beyond projects funded through that source and is a road map for the whole community over the next 5 years and beyond.

1.2 Organisational Context

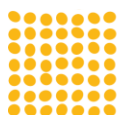
The Glenkens and District Trust was established as a charity in August 2011 (SC042489) with three key purposes;

1. To advance citizenship and community development by distributing Wind Farm Community Benefit finance and other grants to local groups, organisations, or individuals according to criteria and need as defined from time to time for projects (Economic, Employment, Educational, Environmental, Social Well-being) that will benefit local communities within the Glenkens.
2. The advancement of environmental protection or improvement, including the preservation or conservation of the natural environment or particular parts of it, and the promotion of sustainable development. Sustainable development means development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
3. The prevention or relief of poverty including preventing those who are poor from becoming poorer, as well as preventing those who are at risk of being poor from becoming poor.

1.3 Methodology and scope of work

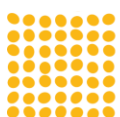
Our work used previous research from 2018 as a key input into this latest round of consultation. The extent of that is set out in section 3.1. Outline thematic areas established from the preliminary research have been used as context to gather more detailed views from the community about vision and key priority projects for the area. Community Enterprise and GDT recognise that engaging with as many people as possible in the local community is a critical part of any Community Action Plan; and so carried out extensive and highly participative research between December 2019 and February 2020 to ensure there was plenty of opportunity to share views. It should be recognised that the research was led objectively by the consultants, but

¹ <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/blackcraig>



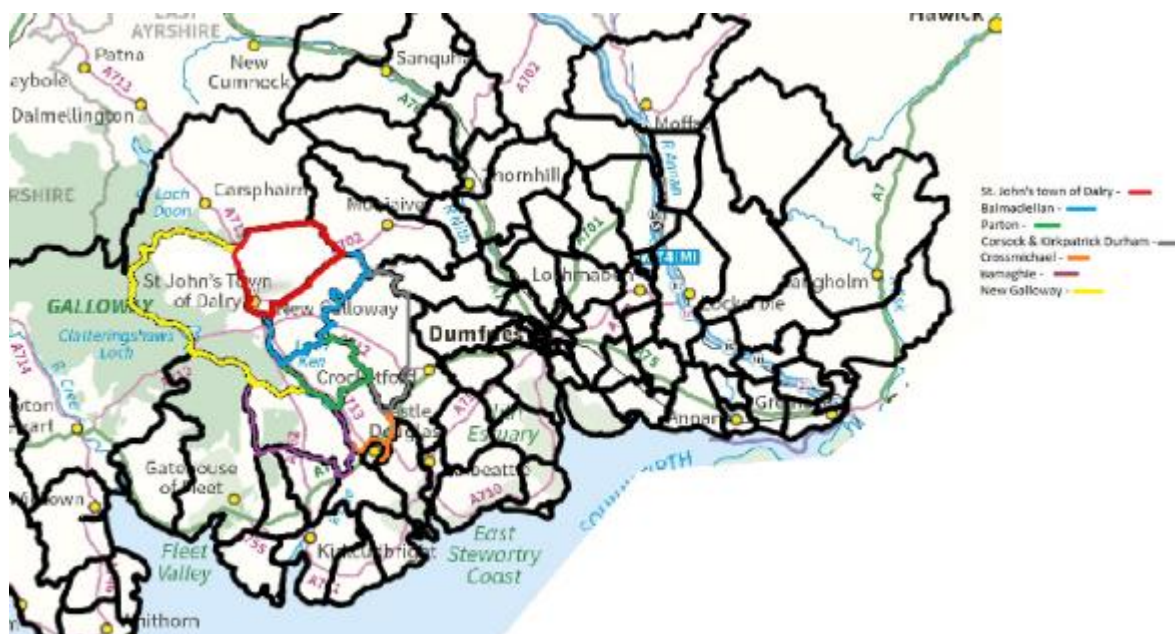
members of the Trust also contributed substantially and provided significant local data from research documentation to a knowledge of local assets.

The methodology can be seen outlined in the graphic below.



2. Research

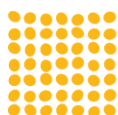
2.1 The Boundary of the Community



Communities included directly are as follows, though many of the initiatives that arise out of the plan will benefit a wider area.

- Balmacellan
- Balmaghie
- Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham
- Crossmichael & District
- Dalry
- Royal Burgh of New Galloway & Kells Parish
- Parton

Carsphairn Community Council decided not to participate formally although they recognise that some of the work will be of benefit to their communities.



2.2 Demographics and Statistics

The area covered by this Community Action Plan (referred to here as “the Glenkens”) relates to seven Community Council areas within Wards 3 and 4 of the Dumfries & Galloway Council local authority area.

Desktop research was conducted on demographics and statistics available for the area², intended as a reference point to support the wider community research. Findings are summarised below, and presented in full in Appendix 1, along with sources for the data.



Population

- The Glenkens (as defined in this study) had a population of 3,715 people in 2018³.
- At 28%, there is a higher proportion of the population aged over 65, compared to the Dumfries & Galloway average (26%) and Scotland average (19%); and at 58%, a lower proportion of the population of working age compared to the Dumfries & Galloway and Scotland averages.
- 14% of the population are aged 0-15, which is 2% less than the figures for Dumfries & Galloway and 3% lower than figures for Scotland as a whole.
- A full comparison of population changes to date and projected changes across the Glenkens, wider Stewartry, Dumfries & Galloway, and Scotland as a whole is set out in Appendix 1. Broadly, the population of the Glenkens has increased since 2001 while, overall, the population for the Stewartry and Dumfries & Galloway has remained relatively flat. The population of Scotland as a whole has increased by a larger percentage.
- The population in Dumfries & Galloway is projected to decrease slightly between 2018-2028, while the population across Scotland increases slightly. At local, Dumfries & Galloway, and Scotland wide levels, the proportion of people aged 0-15 has decreased and is projected to decrease further; while the proportion of people aged 65+ has increased and is expected to increase further.

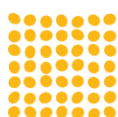


Transport

- There is a high proportion of car ownership in the Glenkens. Under 10% of households do not own a car (compared to around 30% of households in Scotland as a whole).
- The A713 Galloway Tourist Route runs from Castle Douglas through the Glenkens, with the single carriageway A75 running along the south east boundary of the area.
- The Glenkens is served by several bus routes (principally the 520 and 521 routes), but buses are relatively infrequent and do not run later into evenings or on Sundays. Galloway Community Transport provides

² Data are obtained from Community Insight, a software that collects data from over 30 databases including Census Scotland, Department of Work and Pensions, NHS and others. Community Enterprise does not own any of the above data.

³ Mid-Year Estimates (ONS) 2018. See Appendix 1 for more detail on population.



additional weekly and monthly journeys from the Glenkens and provides minibus hire to user groups.

- There is no train station in the Glenkens.
- There are no local taxis.



Economy and Employment

- There is a lower jobs density in Glenkens than in Dumfries & Galloway, or in Scotland as a whole.
- 65% of the population are economically active (i.e. aged 16-74 and either working or looking for work), compared to 69% across Scotland as a whole.
- Compared to the national figures, fewer people in the Glenkens are employed full time (28% compared to 40%); although more are self employed (19% compared to 8%).
- As at the 2011 census, the largest employment sector in the Glenkens was agriculture, forestry and fishing (16% of people in paid employment) followed by health and social work (15% of people in paid employment). These figures relate to jobs undertaken by people living in the Glenkens, and not jobs necessarily based in the area. These figures won't include self-employed farmers though that number will be small.



Housing

- 69% of dwellings are owner-occupied, which is slightly higher than the regional and national averages (64% for Dumfries & Galloway; and 62% for Scotland as a whole). A larger proportion are owned outright (47% compared to 28% across Scotland as a whole).
- At 14%, a higher proportion of housing is privately rented in the Glenkens (compared to 11 % across Scotland).
- The majority of dwellings (58%) belong to council tax bands B, C and D, with relatively few in band A – the least expensive band.



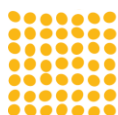
Households

- There are a higher proportion of married and pensioner households than the Scotland average, with fewer student households, one person households, as well as co-habiting or lone parent families.



Health

- Statistics suggest relatively poor geographical access to health services. Good GP services are provided relatively locally in New Galloway (including dispensing of medicines) and Castle Douglas, but A&E, inpatient and outpatient clinics are in Dumfries with people having to travel further afield for specialised treatment.
 - 22% of people have a limiting long-term illness, which is slightly higher than the Scotland average of 20%.
-





Environment and Infrastructure

- The area falls within the Unesco Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Reserve, with some parts of the Glenkens falling within the Galloway Dark Skies Park. The Southern Upland Way passes through St John's Town of Dalry. This is a regional Scenic Area.
- Some parts of the Glenkens are identified by SEPA as Potentially Vulnerable Areas for flooding.
- Renewables provision in the area includes the Galloway Hydro Scheme and several windfarm projects, with global consultancy Natural Power based in the Glenkens - on the Forrest Estate, Dalry.
- Broadband connectivity varies across the Glenkens, although evidence during the research indicates that many areas have a very strong connection.



Education

- 26% of people have no qualifications (similar to the Scotland average of 27%, but lower than the Dumfries & Galloway average of 33%).
- 30% hold higher education qualifications, which is 4% higher than the Scotland average and 9% higher than Dumfries & Galloway.
- The Glenkens is served by primary schools in Dalry; Kells; and Crossmichael, with some children attending Springholm Primary School which sits just outside the CAP area.
- The two high schools serving the area are Castle Douglas High School (school roll 518), and Dalry Secondary School (school roll 52), which share a senior leadership team. Recent inspections rated the schools as Good and Satisfactory.
- There is limited pre-school provision with recent nursery closures.



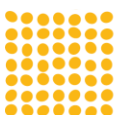
Vulnerable Groups

- Statistics published by the End Child Poverty coalition showed that in the Castle Douglas & Crocketford; Dee & Glenkens wards, 23.4% of children were living in poverty before housing costs, and 28% after housing costs.
- A lower proportion of pensioners are living in poverty in the Glenkens area compared to the Scotland average.
- There are lower proportions of working age DWP benefits claimants in the Glenkens (12% compared to 13%); and Housing Benefit claimants (9% compared to 13%).
- There is a higher proportion of people providing unpaid care in the Glenkens (11%, compared to the Scotland average of 9%).

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation⁴

- Whilst the Glenkens is not an area that could be classified as deprived in terms of education, health or housing, due to its rurality, 71% of people in the area fall within the most deprived 10% in Scotland for geographic access to services.

⁴ The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. It allows effective targeting of policies and funding where the aim is to wholly or partly tackle or take account of area concentrations of multiple deprivation. SIMD ranks small areas (called data zones) from most deprived (ranked 1) to least deprived (ranked 6,976).



2.3 Community Assets

Glenkens and District has a range of assets. The table below reflects these assets and services to shine a light on the nature of the community, to ensure against duplication, to invest in the good things that already exist and to encourage collaboration. It is a snapshot of the area and is not meant to be exhaustive and a fuller list can be seen at appendix 2.

Summary of Assets

Sector	Summary
Schools and childcare	There is a good range of schools in the area, but pre-school and childcare have been identified as a gap, particularly in the light of a need to increase working families in the area and the recent closure of a childcare facility.
Community Assets	There is a significant number and range of physical assets in particular, but evidence in the research indicates that information about them is poor and they operate in isolation. The long-term sustainability of all these assets is potentially an issue as with many community owned assets.
Health services	The GP service have a good reputation. The two main centres are Castle Douglas and New Galloway, but there is a lack of preventative well-being related services to keep people well and living independently in the community as a whole.
Housing	Though there is strong provision from local partners, there is an issue with access to affordable (not necessarily social) housing which meets local need.
Churches	Eight active churches in the area provide a good link to their congregations and deliver on-going services.
A Unique set of businesses	The existing focus on low carbon energy in the economy is an interesting feature of the area which make a net zero target achievable. Companies include <u>Drax, who own and operate Galloway Hydros, Blackcraig Wind Farm, and Natural Power Consultants</u> , all based in the area.
Farming and Food	Agriculture is historically a major industry in the area; dominates the landscape; and is deeply embedded in the culture.
Shops and retail	There is a range of independent and community owned shops indicating <u>local resilience</u> , but also the potential of encouraging a local supply chain. This is backed up with deliveries from the main Supermarkets and a number of local retailers.
Organised Activities	While there is a range of vibrant local activities, both social and artistic, they can be very geographically local and hard to access without transport.
Heritage activity	There is a range of locally controlled heritage groups.
Footpaths and Green space	Although core paths and green space are substantial in the area and recognised as a strength, it can be hard to access for many without access to transport.
Cross area organisations	From the Glenkens Community and Arts Trust to the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership there are a range of region wide initiatives that are well placed to ensure collaboration and a strategic approach to any developments.



2.4 Policy context

National and local policies and strategies have been reviewed to ensure that Actions within the CAP are aligned with wider strategic developments. The full review is set out at Appendix 3 and summarised below.

National Policy Context

Central to national policy is the National Performance Framework, which sets an overall purpose and vision for Scotland. It is intended to inform discussion, collaboration and planning of policy and services across Scotland, encompassing the public sector, businesses, civil society and communities. The Glenkens Community Action Plan should align with the Framework.

The purpose, values and outcomes for the Framework are shown in the adjacent diagram. The Scottish Government will focus activities and spending to help meet these outcomes.

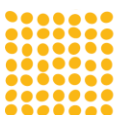


The appendix sets out details of other national policies which have a bearing on the Community Action Plan, including those relating to community empowerment, tackling poverty and inequality, the rural economy, and regeneration.

Regional policy context

Regional policy is relatively consistent in identifying the challenges facing Dumfries & Galloway:

- Policy documents note a **projected decline in population**, with a **projected fall in the number of children and working age adults** while the population aged 65-84 is projected to increase.
- **Economic and employment challenges** including unemployment and underemployment (lack of paid work that makes full use of skills/abilities), low pay and low levels of qualifications.
- **Rurality and lack of access to services.**
- **Lack of appropriate housing** to meet projected demand in areas where people want to live.
- Increasing number of people with **multiple long-term health conditions.**



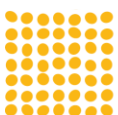
Community planning in the local authority area is taken forward by the Dumfries & Galloway Community Planning Partnership, with local priorities identified in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017 – 2027. The plan aims to deliver positive and tangible changes in respect of 8 outcomes. Ideally, actions within the Glenkens CAP will align with these:

- Everyone who needs help to work receives the right support.
- Learning opportunities are available to those who need them most.
- Health and wellbeing inequalities are reduced.
- There is affordable and warm housing for those who need it most.
- The money available to people on Benefits and low wages is maximised.
- People are safe and feel safe.
- People are well connected.
- Individuals and communities are empowered.

Dumfries & Galloway Council's own priorities for the region are set out in the Council Plan 2017-2022, and fall under four headings: (1) Build the local economy; (2) Provide the best start in life for all our children; (3) Protect our most vulnerable people; and (4) Be an inclusive Council.

Broader regional developments in the South of Scotland relevant to the CAP include the agreement of a Borderlands Deal between 5 local authority areas across the Scottish-English border, intended to deliver £1.1 billion of Gross Value Added uplift and around 5500 jobs in the region; and the establishment of South of Scotland Enterprise, a new economic and community development agency.

Other important thematic areas of regional policy are as follows:



Economy

- The Dumfries & Galloway Regional Economic Strategy 2016-2020 has 6 strategic objectives: (1) More Growing Businesses; (2) Developing Places; (3) Better Skills, Better Opportunities (4) Well Developed Infrastructure; (5) Investment Projects; and (6) Leadership.

Health

- The Dumfries & Galloway Integration Joint Board Health & Social Care Strategic Plan 2016-19 sets out the nine national health and well-being outcomes to be achieved, key challenges for the region, the priority areas of focus for health and social care, and commitments within these areas of focus.
- This is supported by four locality plans. The Stewartry Locality Plan relates to the Glenkens area.

Children

- The Dumfries and Galloway Children's Services Plan 2017 to 2020 sets out 6 priorities to achieve its vision that "All children are safe and achieve their full potential. We will listen to children, young people and their families and work together to make sure they get the right help at the right time".

Tackling poverty

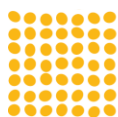
- The Dumfries & Galloway Anti-Poverty Strategy 2015-2020 sets out a vision that "People will be prevented from falling into poverty; supported to escape from poverty; and able to lead; independent, safe, happy and fulfilled lives". There are four supporting objectives.

Education

- Dumfries and Galloway Council is part of the regional improvement collaboration with the three Ayrshire Authorities. Council Education Services produces an Authority Annual Plan to capture the ambitions and actions for all schools in Dumfries & Galloway.

Transport

- The 2019 South West Scotland Transport Study considered improvements to road, rail, public transport and active travel on key strategic corridors in the South West of Scotland. 23 options were identified for further appraisal, including development of the capacity and safety of the A75.
- A Dumfries & Galloway Active Travel Strategy has been created to promote opportunities available to residents and visitors that allow for easy, safe and accessible day to day functional walking and cycling.



Housing

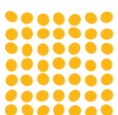
- The strategic vision of the Local Housing Strategy 2018-2023 is that “Everyone in our region will have access to a high quality affordable home that is warm, safe, provides good access to services and meets their needs at every stage of life.” The housing supply target for Stewartry 2017-29 is 952.

Tourism

- Mission of the Dumfries & Galloway Regional Tourism Strategy 2016 - 2020 is to (1) Increase the value of tourism from £300m to £330m; (2) Increase the volume, length of stay and extend the season; (3) Increase direct and indirect jobs; (4) Build the region's reputation as a place to return to and be recommended.
- There is also a Dumfries & Galloway Council Major Festivals and Events Strategy 2018 - 2021, with the intention of developing the region as an internationally renowned rural events destination.

Food & drink

- The Dumfries & Galloway Food and Drink Strategy Action Plan 2019 - 2022 sets out four outcomes to achieve its vision that “Food and drink is the foundation of Dumfries & Galloway’s future economic resilience, creating employment and business opportunities in almost every community of our region”. Notes that this is a sector of under-developed potential and provides significant opportunity for economic growth and job creation across the region.



3. Community and Stakeholder feedback

3.1 Summary of Previous and Recent research

In late 2017 and into early 2018, there was a period of research with local people to identify what people thought about the community and what they felt the priorities were. The raw data was analysed and considered in some detail to ensure comments and responses made were valued and brought into this current vision.

There were a total of 1184 responses to the survey, which were distributed in each area. To complement this, 7 community events took place with a total of 71 attendees.

It was also recognised that a very significant amount of research and consultation had been undertaken across the region by other organisations and agencies. Rather than view these as isolated stand-alone pieces of work, the findings were brought into the thinking about the community action plan. This is distinct from the strategy documents outlined at section 2.4. That research included:

- Balmaclellan Regeneration Plan
- Connecting in Retirement Project Evaluation Report
- Paper for Temporis Capital
- New Galloway and Kells profile.
- Galloway Glens Access Audit
- 1000 Voices- Capturing the voices of over 10,000 young people in Dumfries and Galloway
- Glenkens Youth Voice Report 2017
- New Galloway shop Survey
- Ward Profiles
- Get On It Transport Project
- GCAT Arts Programme - survey data
- GCAT Big Blether. Loch Ken Alive and other events
- Various research reports commissioned by the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership

Analysis of these surveys, open meetings and recent research brought out several key themes which were used as the basis for the recent round of consultation. These themes were used so that local people were not presented with a “blank sheet of paper” but started to build a vision for the future based on community thinking over the past two years. These themes evolved considerably during the consultation process with a particular focus on climate emergency and sustainability, for example, which was not so prevalent in the previous research.

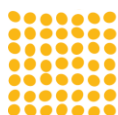
Working Together

This theme was so consistent and important that it could be an underlying approach rather than theme in its own right.

There is a need to ensure that communities in the Glenkens (and the various assets and initiatives that operate there) work together to plan effectively, maximise resources, distribute funding fairly across the area, and that projects or groups don't undermine each other. There should be a coordinated strategic approach. Specific suggestions include:

- The creation of a local forum to take this forward.
- Sharing information (potentially including a website).
- Involvement of young people in decision making.

Importantly an issue rose about the potential risks associated with an over dependence on volunteers. Although there is a strong cohort of volunteers locally, there was a feeling that they are a small number and can be over-stretched indicating a danger or burn out and the need to start to secure paid positions in some areas.



Developing community assets, spaces and local services

This includes the development of community spaces /buildings in particular, but also some other community owned services. Specific suggestions included:

- Dedicated living spaces and support for older people.
- Ensuring a range of affordable housing of all tenures, which can help to attract families and young people.
- Community energy, including potentially discounted utilities / energy for people on low incomes. Some initial work is already underway on a local energy plan.
- Supporting and maintaining local halls as community hubs providing access to community activities and services.
- Space for young people.

Services are vital but can happen in isolation and there were indications of a need for better connectivity through local infrastructures.

Economic Regeneration

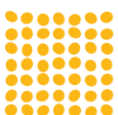
Particularly supporting small and rural businesses providing employment opportunities and local services; and encouraging young people and families to stay in and move to the Glenkens. This will enhance the resilience of the community. Specific suggestions included:

- Improving mobile and broadband connectivity – not just to the centre of villages. This can support business and self-employment.
- Supporting young people in accessing training, education and employment.
- Supporting small and rural businesses.
- As above, affordable housing to enable families and young people to stay in the area.
- Potentially reviewing childcare and holiday care provision.

Improving Transport

There were concerns about transport in each of the consultation areas, the Connecting in Retirement evaluation, Glenkens Youth Voice; and 10,000 Voices. Get On It Transport Initiative notes that for young people this is the *“biggest aspect of living here that they wish they could change, adding to isolation & mental health issues, impacting employment, learning and socialising and preventing young people in the area from feeling like they can make a success of their lives in the area”*. Specific suggestions included:

- Integrating transport between the communities in the area. In particular, developing infrastructure such as walking and cycling paths alongside rural roads (which are properly maintained and signposted), which can also support development of tourism in the area while ensuring a minimised carbon footprint.
- Creating network of public and community transport: review existing public transport and improve connectivity – integrating with community transport where there are gaps.
- Roads, including a desire for the A75 to be upgraded, Roads and verges to be maintained, and traffic calming introduced in some areas (e.g. Corsock). NB: There is also a view that verge maintenance should be seen in the context of protecting biodiversity.



Developing Tourism and celebrating the Glenkens

Each of the SCVS surveys supported the development of tourism in the area, although this will need to be done carefully to preserve the tranquillity of the area, which is highly valued. Specific suggestions included:

- A Tourism Strategy, covering marketing, branding and promotion of the area. The area's USP should be defined.
- Seeking National Park status was mentioned though this was not universally supported. Increased promotion of dark skies park.
- Sharing information about what is on – for both visitors and local community. Potentially involving development of a website.
- Improving infrastructure to support tourism such as paths (also addressed under transport above). Loch Ken was identified as a priority for improvement.
- Some communities in the SCVS survey identified a need for more tourist accommodation, with some support for a campsite and bunkhouse in Dalry.
- Supporting maintenance of the landscape to preserve its natural beauty. Creating a conservation and maintenance plan covering the landscape, wildlife and tourism.

3.2 Stakeholder Summit

38 stakeholders attended representing 24 organisations. The following is a summary of the notes from that meeting. Detailed notes can be seen at appendix 4.

There was consideration initially about the crucial areas of interest and concern, which could become thematic areas in the plan or could be so vital that they were cross-cutting themes that under-pinned the plan. This gave an indication of the long-term change that the Community Action Plan could achieve.

Possible Cross cutting themes

- Climate Crisis / sustainability and resilience
- Connectivity
- Health and wellbeing
- The U.N. Sustainable Development Goals and the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework

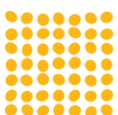
Vision – What Kind of Community Do We Want

Attendees were asked to consider the community they live and work in now and what the aspiration should be for what kind of place this will be. Some of the key thoughts that emerged were;

For people – that this is a happy place with a diverse mix of people who are connected.

For the economy – that this is a vibrant and resilient place with a real focus on sustainability and an economy that has an eye on addressing the climate emergency in a local way.

For the environment – that the lovely environment is protected but also accessible and enjoyed.



Thoughts and Project Ideas to achieve the vision – representative project ideas

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

- Needs a strong area brand and creative marketing
- Flexible workspaces
- More infrastructure for tourists e.g. cycle paths/signposts, places to eat along with other comparable initiatives e.g. North Coast 500, SW 300 and Southern Upland Way
- Build renewable business to serve cities (not the other way around)

COMMUNITY ASSETS

- Protect the assets and services that exist
- Collaborate and co-ordinate existing assets into a suite of different uses
- Enhance and increase access to the local landscape

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY (& MODERNISATION)

- Strong local identity in relation to a carbon negative economy
- Innovative transport schemes such as community car share club
- Enabling people to transition from a fossil fuel heating system to an electric system
- Community transport organisation switching to electric vehicles
- Community energy plan

ISOLATED GROUPS WORKING TOGETHER

- Database with a community calendar and monthly newsletter
- Cross organisation/Groups joint workshop party
- Intergeneration initiatives/skills sharing
- Projects focused on community well-being

A range of attendee organisations indicated a desire to be involved in the implementation of this plan and others were suggested. A full list can be seen at appendix 4.

3.3 Agriculture Farmers and Food Focus Group

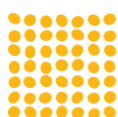
Agriculture is historically a major industry in the area. Although not as large as other sectors in relation to economic output or jobs, it dominates the landscape and is deeply embedded in the culture. We identified this sector not just as ‘farming’ but as ‘the food system’, taking this to encompass the whole network of relationships from production through distribution to consumption. A focus group of 12 representatives met to give the perspective of this sector. The full notes can be seen at appendix 5.

Good Things about the community from a farming and food perspective

- Food week – encourages local growers
- Local food with growing demand
- Opportunity to increase tourism

Challenges in the area

- Traditional farming is changing rapidly
- Nature of work is changing on farms with less full-time work and diversification of activity
- Schools struggle to find work placements for their pupils
- Lack of affordable housing to bring an appropriate workforce in
- Youth outward migration related also to lack of jobs and housing
- Poor social care
- Need to make local shops sustainable
- Massive lack of tradespeople



Project Ideas

- Community-based farming to allow the whole community to develop involvement, on a variety of levels, in the production and distribution of food. Might include development of a medium scale community farm. Should include, learning and support, and retailing, as well as production
- Co-working rural enterprise space
- Affordable Housing
- Care home
- Pool of people with different skill sets - Rural employment agency
- Car sharing (hiring scheme)

3.4 Youth Focus Group

A representative from GCAT led a session with the youth volunteer group and generated ideas that young people would be interested in. The following were their key thoughts.

Working Together	Developing Community Assets	Economic Regeneration	Addressing climate change
☐ Bus go to Carsphairn ☐ Youth club(social space/disco)	☐ Repaint the open shed in the park	☐ Mobile Fish and chip van ☐ Putting on movies	☐ Litter clean up day ☐ Beach cleans ☐ Shared recycle point

3.5 Community Events



Glenkens Community Action Plan

The Smiddy Balmacellan
Thursday 6 February 2020
3-5 pm
7-9 pm

Community Enterprise
Email: info@glenkenscommunityenterprise.co.uk

Come and give your views

The Glenkens and District Trust are looking to the future. We have commissioned independent consultants to build on the previous research and to produce an action plan for the area.

A big vision and key themes are emerging but we need you to come to a workshop and have your say about specific ideas for what should be happening here.

Attendance is free but places are limited to 45 for each session. Please use the link below to confirm your place or call 01606 862227

<https://glenkens-cap.eventbrite.co.uk>

community enterprise

All the research was analysed and a final two interactive meetings took place to pull the community together to agree a final vision and to work together to prioritise project ideas. Full notes can be seen at appendix 6.

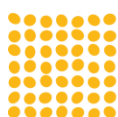


A Vision for the Kind of Community People Want

For people – that this is a generous place that has co-operation and connectedness at its heart. A place where people can thrive, with the support they need.

For the economy – that this is an innovative and entrepreneurial place that creates local wealth and resilience through being resourceful.

For the environment – a place where nature is celebrated and opened up but in a balanced way.



Project Ideas

The following list of ideas was generated during the final consultation meetings. Local residents were given the suggested project ideas generated by the stakeholders and allowed the opportunity to react to them and produce their own



project ideas.

People were then encouraged to debate and prioritise these into short, medium and long term under each of the thematic areas. The full notes can be

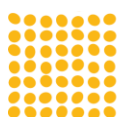


seen at appendix 6 while the following gives a flavour of the ideas that resonated with most people.

Subsequent analysis of the range of project ideas, together with the relative support for each drove the development of the Action Plan (Section 5).

Priority term level	Working Together
Short	• Better transport to connect assets • Monthly community events with transport to bring all villages together • Database of 'What's On' – community calendar • Lift sharing • Joint working between Community Councils • Practical work parties • Database of local volunteers who can help/support • Set up a Glenkens Forum
Medium	• Freelance hub to match short-term (paid) jobs to people who have skills/ability to do them (freelance) • Community database of spaces • Link up resources to what people need - Timebanking
Long	• Improve connectivity via a community development worker • Facilitate network of representative bodies and community enterprises

Priority term level	Developing community assets and spaces
Short	• Glenkens community cinema • Tool and toy library • Bikes – loan or hire • Community assets database • Shared hubs for business use • Space for young people that they can call their own • Investing in current assets • Better signposts on community areas – co-ordination of use of assets and access to buildings • Allotments or garden sharing • Heritage promoted • MTB trails in existing and new forest • More community woodlands and accessible natural reserves i.e. bogs, forest, ponds



Medium	• Ability to accommodate and support the elderly in their own community • Path round Loch Ken • Make more of the Dark Skies Park - a centre within the Glenkens • Changing places/toilet • More outdoor eating spaces
Long	• Buy a boat (electric powered, eco) to do pleasure trips on Loch Ken • Multi-generational housing • Community energy generation • Buy more assets for community ownership

Priority term level	Economic Regeneration
Short	• Better apprenticeships and encouraging the trades • Glenkens website aimed at visitors – create shared gateway • IT infrastructure – support home working • Serviced stops for camper vans • Electric car rallying • More infrastructure for tourists e.g. cycle paths/signposts/walking routes • Support existing business, GAC/Holiday park/shops/etc. • Make hills/lochs accessible
Medium	• Eco- friendly place brand and logo • Electric transport • More places to eat • Light Festival in forest • Kenmure Castle restored • Develop & promote Glenkens as a centre for walkers • Hot-desk hubs • Farm labour coop (with training element) • Music festival
Long	• Electric powered launch on Loch Ken • Bunkhouse/hostel or community owned hotel • Apprentice scheme

Priority term level	Addressing climate change - sustainability, local energy and improving transport and housing
Short	• Electric car hire and car sharing • Affordable rented housing for all • Recruit someone to support the local people to make the best choices for changing to lower carbon usage
Medium	• Buy electric bikes for everyone that wants one • Aim to have a carbon neutral village – like Transition Towns • Provide segregated walking and cycling along the roads • Community transport organisations to switch to electric (but costly) • Community energy plan • Retrofit community spaces to be energy efficient
Long	• More village shops so we can walk or cycle • More micro hydro • Project to enable everyone to transition from fossil fuel to electric system • Free public transport for all • District heating system • Tree planting (mixed deciduous woodlands)



4. Key Findings

4.1 Summary

Key findings identified through analysis of the research and consultation leads to the following picture of the community:

Assets

Geographical and Physical

1. This is any area of significant natural beauty that needs to be protected but more could be made of its attractions and qualities, both for locals and visitors alike.
2. The area falls within the UNESCO Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Reserve. The Galloway Dark Skies Park is located to the East and the Southern Upland Way cuts through the area. There are substantial opportunities to develop sustainable tourism. The new Tourism Strategy supports the development of this.
3. There is a large number and range of physical assets which, though some upgrading may be required, provide significant and positive infrastructure across the community

People

4. The local population contains a high proportion of people with specialist expertise and experience across a wide range of fields. Many of them have acquired a confidence and organisational abilities that are vital preconditions for getting things done.
5. There is evidence that social relationships and the sense of belonging are considerably stronger in the Glenkens than regional and national averages.

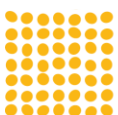
Challenges

A Changing Population

1. There is a higher and growing proportion of people over 65 while the proportion of young people is relatively low. The gap between older and younger populations and the reduction in working age people is likely to widen over time with resulting pressure on certain services. Stakeholders identified a need to attract young families to the area and were acutely aware of the trend for youth outward migration.
2. Overall, the population of the wider Stewartry and Dumfries & Galloway have remained relatively flat, while the population of the Glenkens has increased (particularly since 2013 – albeit with a drop off in 2018). The reasons for this different trend need to be understood and reinforced to maintain this.
3. Local people and research recently support the need to encourage youth involvement.

Work and the economy

4. There is a lower proportion of people in full time work and a higher number of self-employed than the national average while the pattern of work is changing towards greater flexibility and more remote working. The impact of the covid-19 crisis is likely to accentuate that.
5. Despite the higher volume of professional level jobs, there is also a lack of relevant skills including trades, hospitality and farming.



Lack of Access to Services

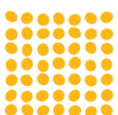
6. Although not an area of multiple deprivation, large parts of the Glenkens are in the most deprived 10% for geographic access to services. 71% of people fall within that 10%.
7. Access to health services, such as, hospitals, pharmacies, dentists and leisure services is poorer than for Scotland as a whole.

Connectedness

8. Although there are a large number of assets, evidence in the research indicates that information about them and what services are available in them is poor and they tend to operate in isolation. This was clearly articulated by the stakeholders who have a good knowledge of the community.
9. There was a consistent concern about transport across all the areas consulted. This related to a range of issues but most specifically the frequency and timing of public transport. This has resulted in people of all ages not mixing as often as they could.

Hidden Deprivation

10. There are pockets of deprivation in relation to income (953 people falling within the most deprived 20-30%); employment (953 residents falling within the most deprived 30-40%)
11. 23.3% of children in the Glenkens area are classified as living in poverty (higher than the Scotland average of 16.8%) while a lower proportion of pensioners are living in poverty in the Glenkens area compared to the Scotland average (12%; Scotland average is 17%).
12. As part of the need to focus on local wealth creation and entrepreneurship, stakeholders considered affordability an important element of working in a rural area.
13. Affordability (e.g. of housing, transport, childcare etc.) is also a vital element to enhance equality and to attract and retain young families and young people to the area.
14. The impact of covid-19 is not yet clear but is likely to increase the financial vulnerability of people locally.



5. Action Plan

5.1 Our goal

The purpose of the Glenkens and District Trust is to resource and enable community development in that part of rural Scotland called the Glenkens along with its surrounding area. The consultative process underpinning this action plan revealed a widely shared sense, right across our community, of the general direction that development should follow. Our goal is that this will be a connected, resilient and carbon neutral place, where people will want to live, to work, to bring up their families, and to grow old. It will be somewhere that other places in Scotland will look to for inspiration. This plan outlines proposals that aim to make that goal a reality.

5.2 Values and Principles

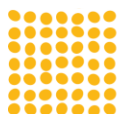
The plan is not set in stone. New ideas and proposals will arise. Moreover, the Covid-19 emergency has brought home to us how quickly circumstances can change, and that flexibility will therefore always be important. But we have a clear direction of travel which is underpinned by a set of key principles:

- Respect for the special environment and rural landscape that has been placed in our trust.
- Partnership – collaboration between all sections of the community will be a key element in our projects.
- Inclusion – a diverse community will include and welcome people of all ages, abilities and ethnicity. We will welcome project proposals put forward by any members and groups.
- Sustainability – projects we support will be outward-looking, flexible and unafraid to take on new challenges. They will provide continuing benefits to the community, and show awareness of the value of community self-reliance.

5.3 Turning Aspiration into Action

The themes in this action plan have been distilled from those suggested by members of the community during the extensive consultation process described in the Research Report. Decisions about what could and should be included have been guided by the goals, values and principles outlined above, by our sense of the breadth and depth of support, and by an assessment of viability and fit with the plan as a whole.

For each of the four themes, the table below outlines the action areas that emerged as the community's main priorities. Alongside these, in a separate column, possible options for implementation are indicated; these also came out of the consultation process and comprise a first attempt to answer the questions 'who?' and 'how?', although at this early stage some options listed are more detailed than others. A third column provides a timescale – an answer to the question 'when?'.



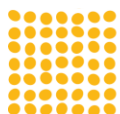
As noted above, this plan can only be provisional. Since the final consultation event in February 2020, the totally unprecedented Covid-19 global pandemic has impacted communities right across the globe, including ours. The pandemic has demonstrated that our communities are ready and willing to take immediate and effective local action to mitigate the effects of the pandemic and to find creative solutions providing support to the isolated and vulnerable, young and old.

These community actions are the embodiment of a central theme which already existed in the developing Community Action Plan, that of the need for greater community coordination, resilience and self-reliance. There are valuable lessons to be learned from the resilience response and a desire to see grassroots support activity maintained and the renewed emphasis on kindness maintained and embedded into community life. However the shock of the crisis has also prompted reflection on the scale of the challenge within this central theme, reflection which in turn poses the questions - are these the right priorities? And are they radical enough?

The Community Action Plan will now move into a set up phase, preparing the route for delivery of the existing community priorities for action while providing scope to ensure that any learning from the pandemic can also be incorporated, both in terms of resilience and ambition. Key to setting out how the community's priorities will be implemented, this set up phase will refine and add detail to the implementation plans outlined in the table below, by supporting the identification of community groups and bodies which might be able and ready to take forward some projects now, enabling effective delivery of the immediate priorities, as well as identifying any gaps that need filled in order to maximise successful delivery of priorities in the future.

To guide delivery of this set up phase, which will run until the end of March 2021, the Glenkens and District Trust (GDT) will form a steering group made up of GDT Trustees and members drawn from the local community and community organisations. GDT will tender for expert external support, to work with the steering group and to deliver the following key pieces of work:

- An analysis of the community priorities outlined in the table below aimed at providing information about where existing groups and agencies might already be in a position to implement some of these and establish where the gaps are.
- Post Covid resilience learning
- A Glenkens Summit in Spring 2021. The Summit will be used to create a community conversation on the findings of the post Covid learning and CAP action analysis, and to discuss delivery gaps and how best to fill them
- Publication of the revised 'Outline Action Plan' component below, which adds some more 'who' and 'how' and 'when' to each priority, based on the findings from the Set Up Phase.
- Creation of a final report incorporating the findings from the above, which sets a clear path for ongoing arrangements for the management of the Community Action Plan.



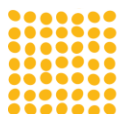
5.4 Monitoring the Community Action Plan

Monitoring and evaluation is an essential requirement of any Community Action Plan to ensure it is being implemented and achieving its aims. The purpose of monitoring and review will be to check on progress and take stock of where things are on a regular basis, stimulating and resourcing ideas as required.

While the Glenkens & District Trust, which commissioned this Action Plan, will play a co-ordinating role, community ownership of these processes is key for successful delivery. GDT itself is exploring ways of changing its structure and membership in order to be more representative of the local community and to increase its capacity to manage the community action plan.

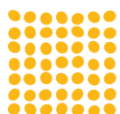
Responsibility for monitoring and review is likely to sit with a grouping evolved from the steering group formed in the Set Up Phase. In addition, we envisage that, building on the proposed Glenkens Summit, monitoring and review will include a role for an ongoing community action forum, meeting twice a year to review progress on the plan. These meetings will be open to other representative bodies and community groups. During the lifetime of the action plan this body, if its value is demonstrated, could take on an extended remit.

Final monitoring and review mechanisms will be determined as part of the Set Up Phase and the updated processes will be published along with the updated Action Plan in April 2021.

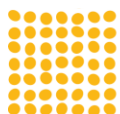


5.5 Outline Action Plan

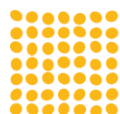
Theme 1: A Connected Community		
Time-scale	Action Areas	Options for Implementation
Short (year 1)	Create a collaboration plan for assets and services across the area – facilities will be complementary, working together rather than in competition. Invest in an effective communication tool for the whole community.	Collaboration with GCAT to develop the Glenkens Gazette.
Medium (year 2-4)	Establish an on and off-line community database of services and spaces, complemented by the enhanced Glenkens Gazette, with well-resourced community journalism. Suite of community events to bring people together.	Links to FE colleges to encourage learning and employability placements to help run database and Gazette.
Long (year 5 and beyond)	Embed gains in community involvement in extended opportunities for cross-area networking, involving community councils, core organisations and community activists.	Build on stories of local resilience from Covid-19 experience. Evolution of community forum that has met bi-annually. Might involve citizens' assemblies to discuss specific issues.



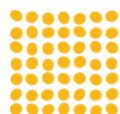
Theme 2: An Asset Rich Community		
Time-scale	Action Areas	Options for Implementation
Short (year 1)	Develop a sustainability plan for current assets and core organisations that cannot be allowed to fail. Create space(s) for younger people, controlled by them, for activities initiated by them.	Coordination based on collaboration plan developed in Theme 1. Clear, objective and transparent decision making process.
Medium (year 2-4)	Develop a rolling and long-term support and investment plan for the halls and community spaces of the area to ensure they are accessible for everyone. Develop a plan to enable people to exercise both in buildings and outdoors. Create Better signage for buildings and green space– opening up access to locals and visitors. Commission a Housing Needs Analysis.	Utilisation of a community DIY approach – reflecting local resilience, links to training and apprenticeships.
Long (year 5 and beyond)	Dedicated living spaces for older people using an innovative model such as co-housing or other approaches. Affordable housing for young people and young families.	Potentially led by Pamela Young Trust or locally active Registered Social Landlords. To bear in mind carbon-reduction strategy (Theme 4).



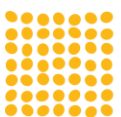
Theme 3: An economically flourishing community		
Time-scale	Action Areas	Options for Implementation
Short (year 1)	Feasibility study into demand for local childcare and overcoming barriers to delivery. Develop a tourism strategy, including developing a brand for the area. Develop plan for more self-sustaining local economy – managing resources, consumption, work and income flows in as ‘circular’ a way as possible. Develop plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce.	Commission in depth research. Liaise with local authority. In collaboration with GGLP and Loch Ken Trust. Embed simple hot-desking and co-working capabilities into the campus of assets across the community with good broadband access. Business support/advice hub - collaboration with South of Scotland Enterprise. Collaborate with schools, community organisation and existing producers. Focus on vegetables,
Medium (year 2-4)	Invest in community based childcare provision based on the findings of the feasibility study. Develop a targeted work and training strategy for the area to retain and develop skills needed locally. Feasibility study into community farm. Develop ‘Eat Local’ strategy involving producers and range of outlets.	Utilise external support such as Just Enterprise to undertake childcare research. Might include: hubs encouraging social enterprise and co-ops, skill share and ‘repair and re-use’ workshops; volunteer led skill share scheme and database of local volunteers centrally co-ordinated stronger links with FE/HE. Partnership with local farmers. Create community run distribution system; encourage new small producers and coordinate with existing ones
Long (year 5 and beyond)	Create a community farm. Further develop local food distribution network. Further develop enterprise hub network.	Could be community owned or community supported. Could include new community run shops/cafes.



Theme 4: A Carbon Neutral Community		
Time-scale	Action Areas	Options for Implementation
Short (year 1)	Research and develop a Local Energy Plan. Promote expansion of already available modes of sustainable transport. Research plan for longer term sustainable transport solutions. Commission masterplan to bottom out investment required for both sought after and existing cycle tracks and pathways across the area.	Build on existing local momentum and collaborate with local energy providers and national agencies. Establish more EV charging points; E-bikes for hire and a community bike library; grants for E-bikes. Potential partnerships with Galloway Community Transport, Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership and Loch Ken Management Trust
Medium (year 2-4)	Publicise our commitment to carbon neutrality. Promote new modes of sustainable social transport. Research and promote plan to move public buildings and households away from fossil fuel use. Investment in cycle tracks, pathways and signage and information about them which will benefit both the community and tourism alike.	Link up with other places aiming at carbon neutrality, and D&G Council. Could include: community car share and car hire scheme; electric community vehicles. Invite/commission proposals for carbon-reduction heating and insulation strategies. Collaborate with Galloway Glens and Loch Ken Trust.
Long (year 5 and beyond)	Glenkens to become a carbon neutral area. Develop an integrated community controlled transport scheme with a range of vehicles. Community energy generation at scale. Invest in moving public buildings and households away from fossil fuel use.	Planning for longer term aspiration. Might include an electric boat for Loch Ken. Community investment in green energy production and battery storage. Partnerships with owners, landlords and other bodies.



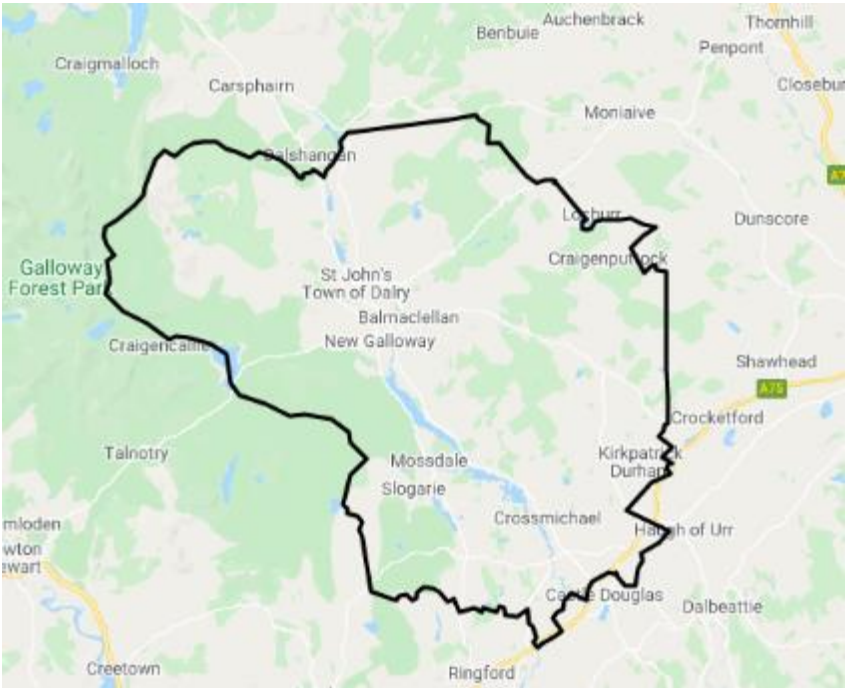
Appendices



Appendix 1: Full Demographics and Statistics

Desktop research was conducted to explore some of the statistics available for the area. The figures below are taken from the Community Insight tool software which collects data from over thirty database sources⁵.

The area covered by this Community Action Plan (referred to here as “the Glenkens”) relates to seven Community Council areas within Wards 3 and 4 of the Dumfries & Galloway Council local authority area, shown in the adjacent map.



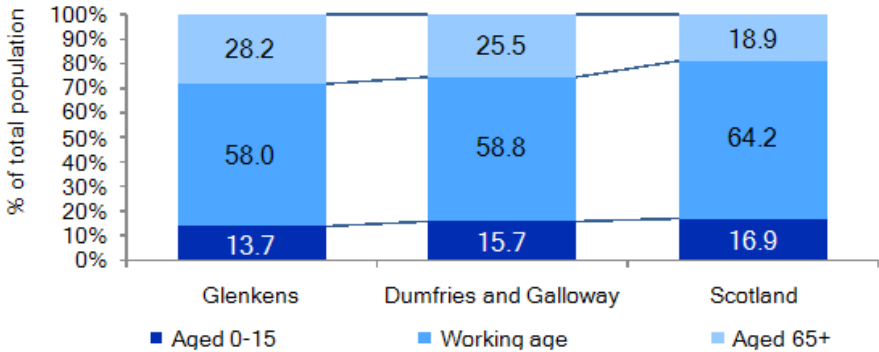
Within this report, various statistical Intermediate and Data Zones (IZ and DZ) were used to capture data for the Glenkens area. Data Zones are the primary geography for the release of small area statistics in Scotland and are designed to have roughly standard populations of 500 to 1,000 household residents. In rural areas such as the Glenkens, Data Zones can be relatively large, and it should be noted that they do not exactly match the Community Council areas making up the Glenkens area⁶. As such, the statistics in this Section are intended as a reference point only.

Glenkens area

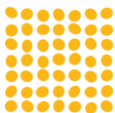
The Glenkens has a population of 3,715 people.



Figure: Population by age
Source: Mid-Year Estimates (ONS) 2018



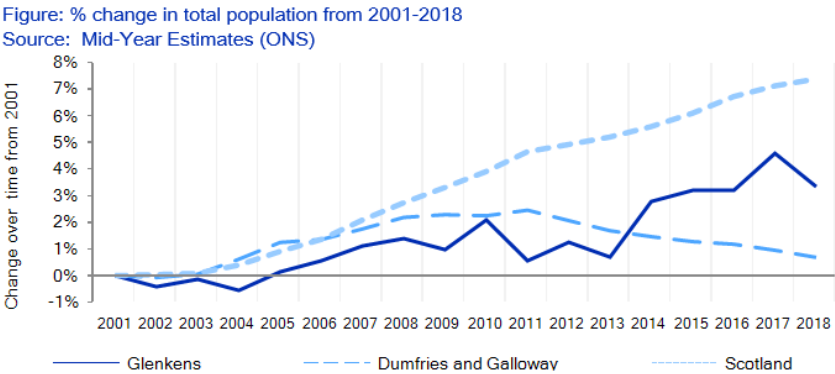
⁵ Data are obtained from Community Insight, a software that collects data from over 30 databases including Census Scotland, Department of Work and Pensions, NHS and others. Community Enterprise does not own any of the above data.
⁶ Details of the Glenkens Intermediate Zone (comprised of individual 5 Data Zones) can be viewed at this link: <https://statistics.gov.scot/atlas/resource?uri=http%3A%2F%2Fstatistics.gov.scot%2Fid%2Fstatistical-geography%2FS02001418> Note that this includes part of the Carsphairn Community Council area which is outside the Glenkens CAP area.



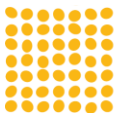
At 28.2%, there is a considerably higher proportion of the population aged over 65, compared to the Dumfries & Galloway and Scotland averages. The proportion of people of working age is slightly lower than the regional figures, but 6.2% lower than national averages. For the youngest age group (0-15 years) the Glenkens average is 2% less than the figures for Dumfries & Galloway and 3.2% lower than the Scottish average.

Population Trends

Population trends have been considered to ensure there is understanding of population changes to date; projected changes in the future; and how population changes in the Glenkens compare to the wider Stewartry, Dumfries & Galloway, and Scotland as a whole. The graph below shows the change in population for the Glenkens, Dumfries & Galloway, and Scotland since 2001. Between 2004 and 2018 the population of the Glenkens has increased. 2017 saw a relatively sharp increase in population, although 2018 saw a subsequent drop to just above 2016 levels.



The following table sets out current and projected population trends for comparison. Note that different sources are not fully consistent in ages ranges or time periods covered – although it is still possible to draw out broad trends despite the limitations of the data sources.



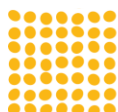
		Glenkens (where available ⁷).	Stewartry ⁸	Dumfries & Galloway ⁹	Scotland ¹⁰
Overall population	Current trend: While recognising the limitations of the data sources, the population for Glenkens appears to have increased - broadly mirroring the Dumfries & Galloway trend up until 2013, but subsequently increasing (albeit with a slight drop-off in 2018). Overall, the population for the Stewartry and Dumfries & Galloway has increased by only a small percentage over this period. At Dumfries & Galloway level the population rose until 2011 but has since dropped back. The population of Scotland has a whole has increased by a larger percentage.	Increase (see above)	Flat (0.8% increase from 2001-2011)	Flat (0.1% increase between 1998 – 2019)	Increasing (7.6% increase between 1998 – 2019)
	Projection: There is no data specifically relating to the Glenkens or Stewartry. Dumfries & Galloway is likely to experience a slight decrease, in contrast to the slight increase projected for Scotland as a whole.	No data	No data	Slight decrease (2.8% decrease projected between 2018-2028)	Slight increase (1.8% increase projected between 2018-2028)

⁷ These statistics relate to the Glenkens Intermediate Zone: note that this includes part of the Carsphairn Community Council area which is outside the Glenkens CAP area.

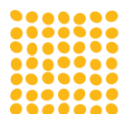
⁸ Sources include the Stewartry Local Area Profile (http://carsphairn.org/docs/Maps/Stewartry_Area_Profile_0415.pdf); and the Stewartry Locality Plan 2016-19 (<http://dghscp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Stewartry-Locality-Plan.pdf>)

⁹ Sources include the Dumfries and Galloway Council Area Profile produced by National Registers of Scotland (<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/council-area-data-sheets/dumfries-and-galloway-council-profile.html>).

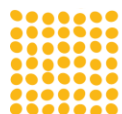
¹⁰ Sources include the National Registers of Scotland annual review of demographic trends (<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files/statistics/rgar/2018/rgar18.pdf>).



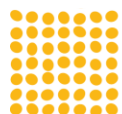
Aged 0-15	Current trend Decrease at Glenkens, D&G and Scotland-wide levels. The decrease in Glenkens is less marked than Scotland as a whole, and particularly Dumfries & Galloway, which shows a significant decrease in the proportion of people aged 0-15.	Slight decrease (decrease of 4.4% between 2002 – 2018)	No data	Decrease (decrease of 19.6% between 1998 and 2019)	Decrease (decrease of 8.1% between 1998 and 2019)
	Projection No data exists for the Glenkens. The projected decreases in proportion of people aged 0-15 for the Stewartry and Dumfries & Galloway are larger than the projected decrease for Scotland as a whole.	No data	Decrease (decrease of 9% from 2011 - 2037 for people aged 0-14)	Decrease (decrease of 14.2% between 2018 and 2028)	Decrease (decrease of 6% between 2018 and 2028)
Aged 15-65	Current trend Challenging to compare the different sources, but broadly, the proportion of working age people is decreasing at Glenkens and Dumfries & Galloway levels, but increasing at Scotland-wide level. At Dumfries & Galloway and national levels the proportion of people aged 25-44 is decreasing, while the proportion aged 45-64 is increasing.	Slight decrease (decrease of 3.5% from 2002-2018 for people aged 16-64)	No data	Overall decrease (0.6% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 16-24 years; 27.4% decrease between 1998-2019 for people aged 25-44 years; and 14.9% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 45-64 years)	Overall increase, but concentrated in the 45-64 bracket (1.4% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 16-24 years; 6% decrease between 1998-2019 for people aged 25-44 years; and 24.9% increase between 1998-



					2019 for people aged 45-64 years)
	Projection No data exists for the Glenkens. Broadly, a decrease in the proportion of people of working age is projected for the Stewartry, Dumfries & Galloway, and Scotland as a whole.	No data	Decrease (decrease of 22% from 2011 - 2037 for people aged 15-64)	Decrease (3.6% decrease between 2018-2028 for people aged 16-24 years; 0.8% increase between 2018-2028 for people aged 25-44 years; and 14% decrease between 2018-2028 for people aged 45-64 years)	Decrease (0.9% decrease between 2018-2028 for people aged 16-24 years; 3.1% increase between 2018-2028 for people aged 25-44 years; and 5% decrease between 2018-2028 for people aged 45-64 years)
Aged 65+	Current trend Increasing at Glenkens, Dumfries & Galloway and national level.	Increase (increase of 8% from 2002-2018 for people aged 65+)	No data	Increase (34.8% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 65-74 years; and 47.5% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 75+ years)	Increase. (29.8% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 65-74 years; and 34.2% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 75+ years)



	Projection No data exists for the Glenkens. Projected to increase at Stewartry, Dumfries & Galloway and Scotland wide level.	No data	Increase (25% increase between 2011-2037 for people aged 65-84 years; and 161% increase between 2011-2037 for people aged 85+ years)	Increase (7.6% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 65-74 years; and 23.7% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 75+ years)	Increase (14.4% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 65-74 years; and 25.4% increase between 1998-2019 for people aged 75+ years)
Net migration overall	Current trend Broadly inward for Dumfries & Galloway and Scotland as a whole; although note that for Dumfries & Galloway, the population is still expected to decrease due to natural change (i.e. more deaths than births).	No data	Unknown, although Local Area Profile states migration is likely to match that of Dumfries & Galloway as a whole.	Slight inward (projected net migration of +2.9% between 2018-28)	Inward (Although net migration has decreased over the past two years, it remains positive)





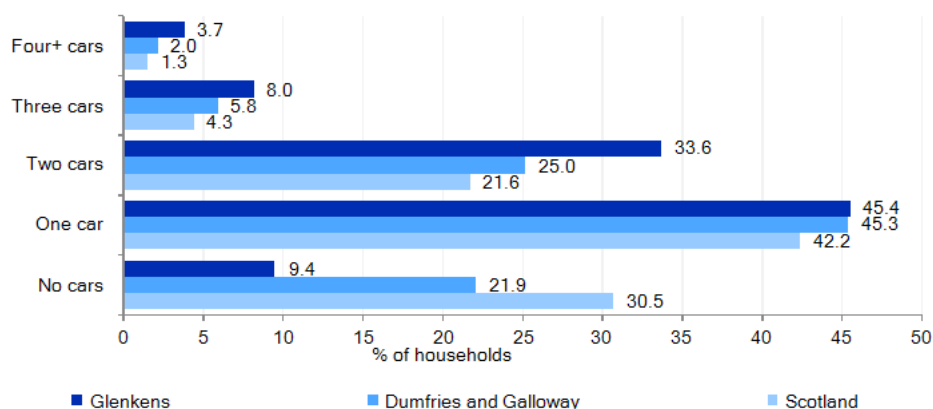
Transport

There is a high pattern of car ownership in Glenkens, likely linked to the rural or semi-rural nature of this area.

As at the 2011 Census, only 9.4% of households do not have a car (compared with the Scotland average of 30.5%). 45.4% of households have access to one car (broadly similar to comparator levels) however, at 33.6% ownership of two cars is considerably higher across Glenkens than regional and national levels. Ownership levels of 3 and 4 cars also broadly reflect this pattern.

Figure: Car ownership

Source: Census 2011



The single carriageway A75 runs along the south east boundary of the area (by Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham, Crossmichael & District, and Balmaghie). The A713 Galloway Tourist Route runs from Castle Douglas through the Glenkens, passing through Crossmichael, Parton, and St John's Town of Dalry.

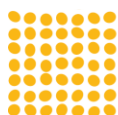
Bus routes in the area are:

- 520 Dalmellington - Castle Douglas (which connects Balmaclean, Carsphairn, Crossmichael, New Galloway, Parton and St John's Town of Dalry). This service runs no more than 7 times per day in each direction (with fewer stops in some villages in the Glenkens), and no services after 18.12;
- 521 - Crichton College Campus (in Dumfries) - Castle Douglas (which connects Balmaclean; Corsock; New Galloway; Glenlochar – Balmaghie, and St John's Town of Dalry). This service runs no more than 7 times per day in each direction, with no services after 18.45.

Neither service runs on a Sunday. Other bus routes are the 503 which connects Kirkpatrick Durham to Castle Douglas; 515 which runs through Glenlochar and Laurieston in Balmaghie; and several services running through Bridge of Dee at the south of the Glenkens area (500, 501A, 502A, 555, and 862).

These are supplemented by Galloway Community Transport which runs weekly services from Dalry to the Castle Douglas Tesco on Wednesday nights, to Castle Douglas Day Centre on Thursdays, and to Newton Stewart on Tuesdays. There are monthly services to Ayr and Carlisle.

There is no train station in the area, with the nearest located in Lockerbie Dumfries and Ayr. Lockerbie has services to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester and London.

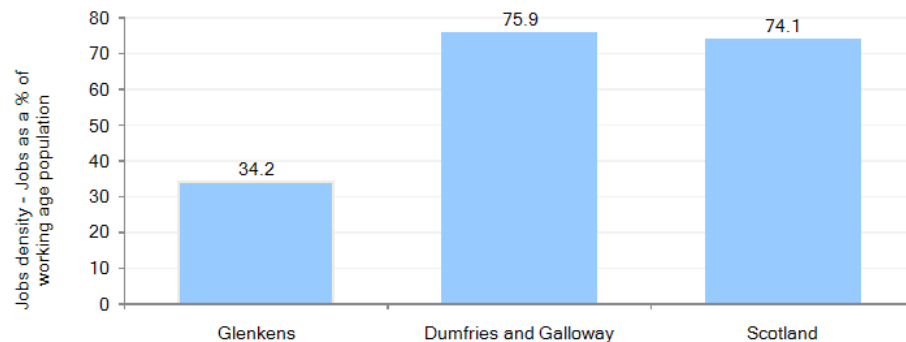




Economy and Employment

There is a significantly lower jobs density in Glenkens than the wider region, and Scotland as a whole (shown below)¹¹.

Figure: Jobs Density (jobs as a % of working age population)
Source: Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES)



The largest industry sector for employee jobs where the workplace is in the Glenkens (by a significant proportion) is Human Health and Social Work Activities (57.7%) followed by Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (only 5.5%) and Education (5.4%)¹². Note that this data source excludes farm-based agriculture.

, As at the 2011 Census, the largest employment sector was Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (16% of people in employment) followed by Health and Social Work (15%) and Retail (11%) (note that these figures relate to people living in the Glenkens area, not where those jobs are based). 2011 Census data on occupational status demonstrated that a much higher proportion of people in employment worked in skilled trade occupations than the Scotland average¹³:

Industrial Classification	% of people in employment - Glenkens	% of people in employment - Scotland
Managerial occupations	10.7%	8.4%
Professional (or associate) occupations	26.3%	29.4%
Administrative or secretarial occupations	8.5%	11.4%
Skilled trades occupations	21.9%	12.5%
Elementary occupations	11.4%	11.6%

As at the 2011 Census, a slightly smaller proportion of the population were economically active than the Scotland average (65.3% compared to 69%). Economically active means people between 16-74 who are either working or looking for work. 28.3% of people were employed full-time, which is lower than the Scotland average of 39.6%, although a higher proportion of people in Glenkens were self-employed (19.4% compared to the Scotland average of 7.5%).

¹¹ Job density is the number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population aged 16-64 in that area. The total number of jobs is a workplace-based measure and comprises employee jobs, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces.

¹² Figures from Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) (2018).

¹³ Classifications are derived from Standard Occupational Classifications. Note that "Skilled trades occupations" includes "Skilled agricultural and related trades".

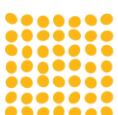
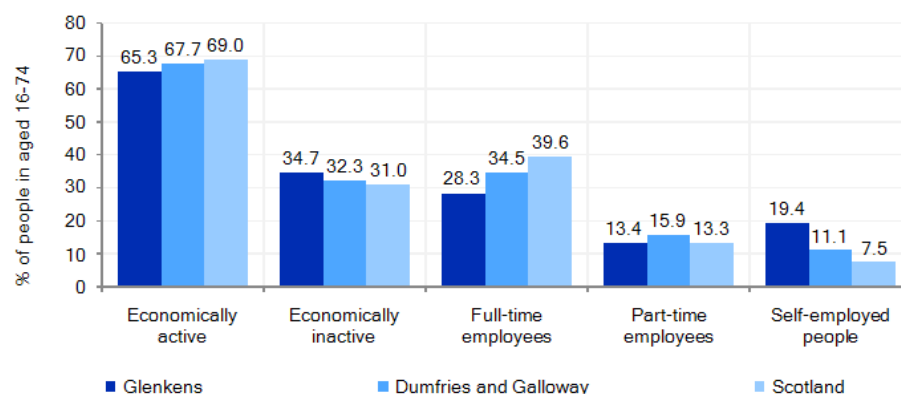


Figure: Economic activity
Source: Census 2011

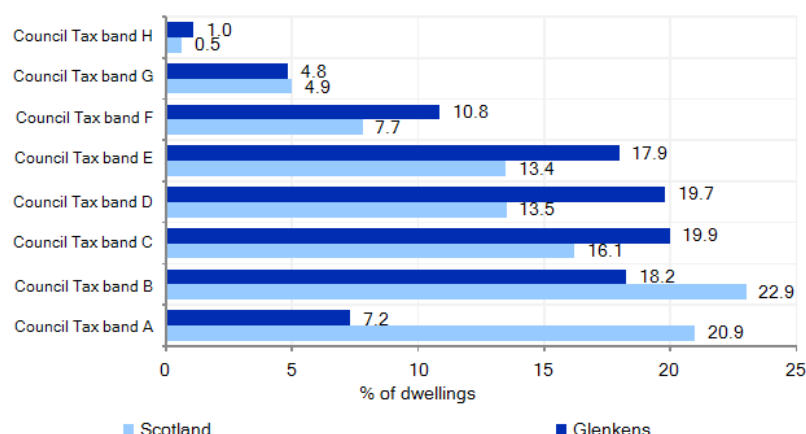


Housing

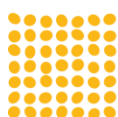
50.1% of dwellings in the Glenkens area are detached and 27.3% are semi-detached – both higher than the Scotland averages of 21.4% and 19.7%. Flats, maisonettes and apartments make up just 2.7% of dwellings, compared with 37.7% across Scotland as a whole.

Council tax bands can be used as measure for property value and levels of affordable housing with Band A properties representing the lowest property value. The majority of dwellings (57.8%) belong to council tax bands B, C and D (Scotland average: 52.6%). 33.5% belong to council tax bands E, F and G (Scotland average: 25.7%). Only 7.2% of homes are classified in the least expensive housing band, 13.7% lower than national averages.

Figure: Dwellings by council tax band
Source: National Records of Scotland, 2018



68.5% of dwellings are owner-occupied, which is slightly higher than the regional and national averages (64.2 for Dumfries & Galloway; and 62% for Scotland as a whole). A larger proportion are owned outright (46.8% compared to the Scotland average of 27.8%). Only 21.2% are owned with a mortgage or loan, which is lower than the Scotland average of 33.7%.



No dwellings are rented from the Council (compared to 13.2% across the country); and only 9.4% are socially rented, with is lower than the regional level of 19.6%. At 14.2% ., a higher proportion of housing is privately rented (Scotland average is 11.1% .).

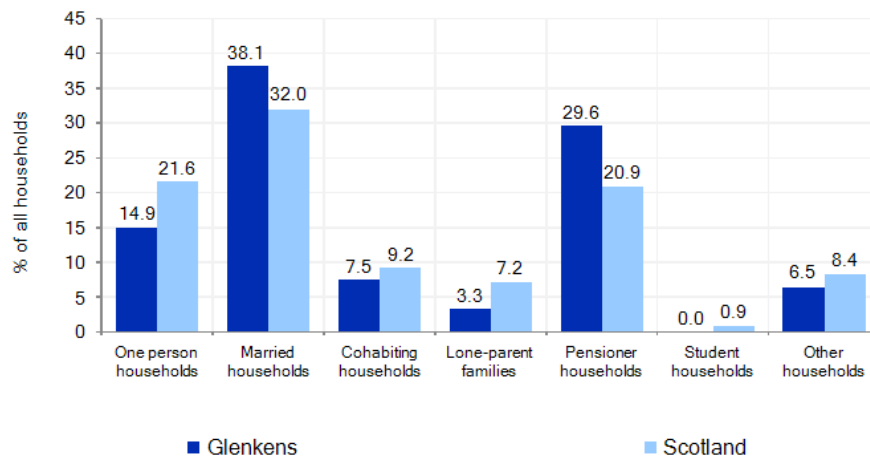
3.9% of homes do not have central heating, which is higher than the Scotland average of 2.3%).



Households

There are a higher proportion of married and pensioner households than the Scotland average, with fewer student households, one person households, as well as co-habiting or lone parent families.

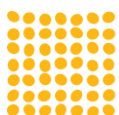
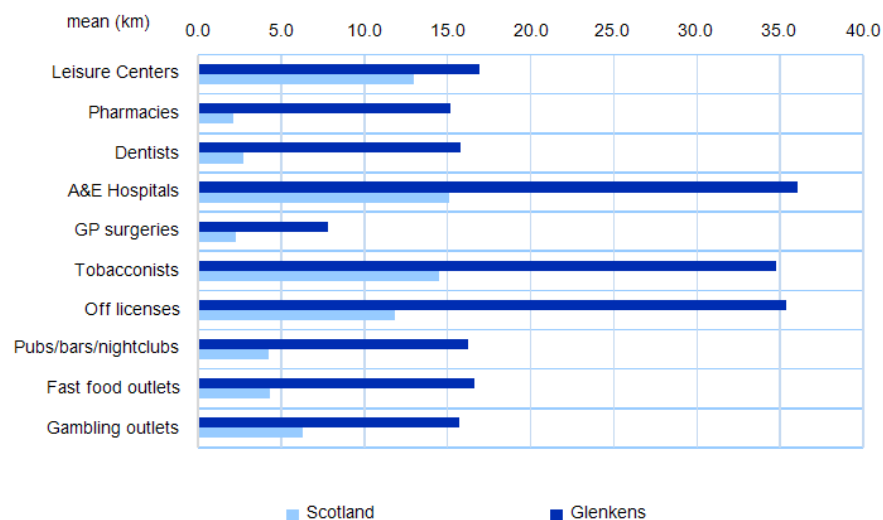
Figure: Population by household composition
Source: Census 2011



Health

In terms of geographic distance, access to health services in the Glenkens is poorer than for Scotland as a whole. The graphic below shows the mean distance in kilometres to health and retail outlets for people in the Glenkens, compared to Scotland as a whole.

Figure: Inputs for retail environment and health services domain
Source: CDRC (2017)

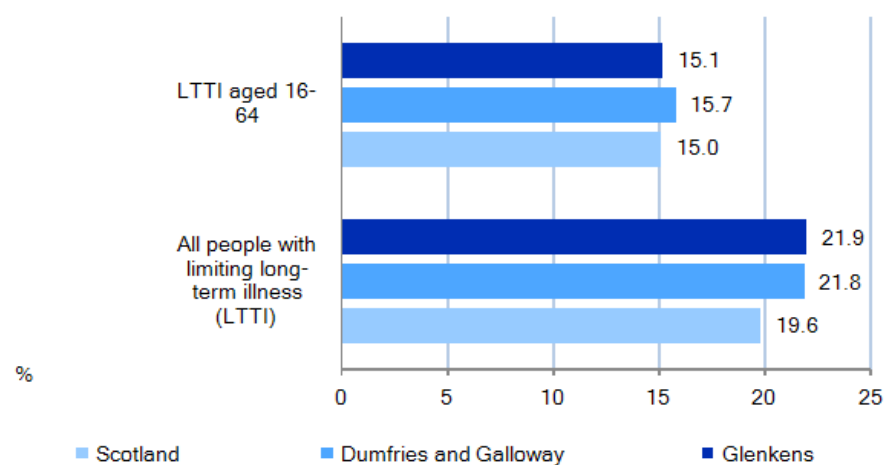


GP services are provided in New Galloway and within Castle Douglas (at southern border of Glenkens area). A&E, inpatient and outpatient clinics are provided in Dumfries (Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary and Mountainhall Treatment Centre). Mental Health facilities are provided at Midpark Hospital, Dumfries. Ayr and Crosshouse are also attended and any cancer treatment is either in Glasgow or Edinburgh. There is also a cottage hospital in Castle Douglas.

Hospitalisation rates (accidents and emergencies) in the area are significantly lower than the Scottish average (8,322 vs. 10,192 per 100,000 population for emergency hospital admissions; and 17,895 vs 25,490 for emergency hospital admissions aged 65+).

Figure: People with a limiting long-term illness

Source: Census 2011



21.9% of people have a limiting long-term illness, which is slightly higher than the Scotland average of 19.6%.

There are lower levels of admissions to hospital for most health conditions other than disease of the digestive system than for Scotland as a whole, where the rate of admission is higher (4,202 per 100,000 population for Glenkens and 3,043 for Scotland).

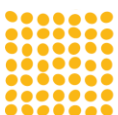


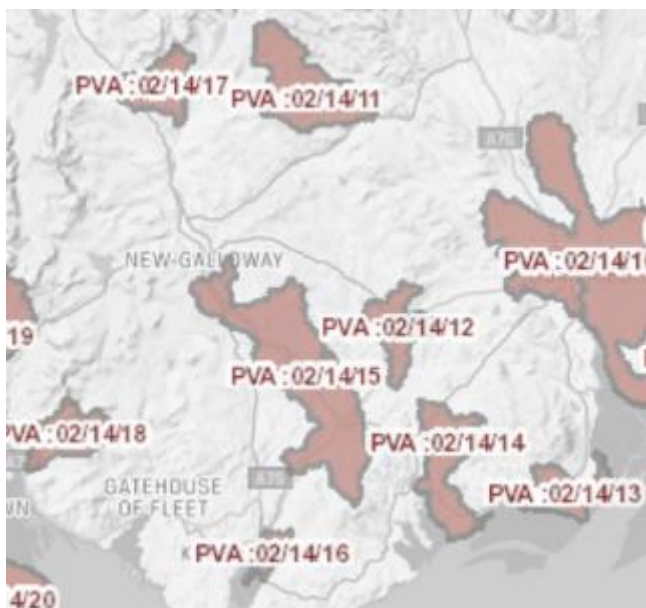
Environment and Infrastructure

The area falls within the Unesco Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Reserve, with Eastern sections of the Glenkens falling within the Galloway Dark Skies Park. The Southern Upland Way cuts through the area, passing through St John's Town of Dalry.

The map below shows Glenkens and the surrounding region, with areas identified by SEPA as Potentially Vulnerable Areas to flooding shown in brown¹⁴.

¹⁴ See <http://map.sepa.org.uk/floodmap/map.htm>





In respect of renewable energy, the Glenkens hosts part of the Galloway Hydro Scheme, consisting of six power stations, eight dams and a network of tunnels, aqueducts and pipelines. This produces enough renewable electricity for 90,000 households.

The 69MW Blackcraig Hill Wind Farm is located in the Glenkens, around 8km to the east of the village of St John's Town of Dalry. There is potential for a further windfarms in the area: (1) Troston Loch wind farm, at the North boundary to the Glenkens area¹⁵; (2) Glenshimmeroch Wind Farm, 6km north east of St John's Town of Dalry¹⁶; (3) Fell Farm, (4) Mochrum Fell, (5) Whiteneulk and (6) Quantans Hill.

Global renewable consultancy Natural Power are headquartered in nearby Dalry.

In relation to broadband connectivity, the average broadband download speed is 18.34 Mbit/s, less than half of Scotland's average (41.80 Mbit/s). 7.4% of connections have low broadband speeds (compared to the Scotland average of 2.5%). Low broadband speeds are defined as those less than 2 Mbit/s. Note that these are averages and broadband connectivity varies across the Glenkens area.



Education

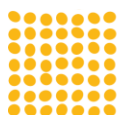
26.2% of people have no qualifications (similar to the Scotland average of 26.8%, but lower than the Dumfries & Galloway average of 32.9%). 30.1% hold higher education qualifications, 4% higher than the Scotland average and 8.6% higher than the regional figure.

The Glenkens is served by primary schools in Dalry; Kells; and Crossmichael. Springholm Primary School is outside the CAP area (to the east of Kirkpatrick Durham), but serves the villages of Springholm, Crocketford, Kirkpatrick Durham, Corsock and the surrounding rural area, much of which falls within the CAP area. Carsphairn Primary School, to the North of the CAP area, is currently mothballed.

The two high schools serving the area are Castle Douglas High School (school roll 518), and Dalry Secondary School (school roll 52), which share a senior leadership team. Some classes at Dalry Secondary School are now undertaken at Castle Douglas.

¹⁵ See <https://www.edf-re.uk/our-sites/troston> Capacity of 67MW.

¹⁶ See <https://www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/glenshimmeroch> Capacity of 36 MW



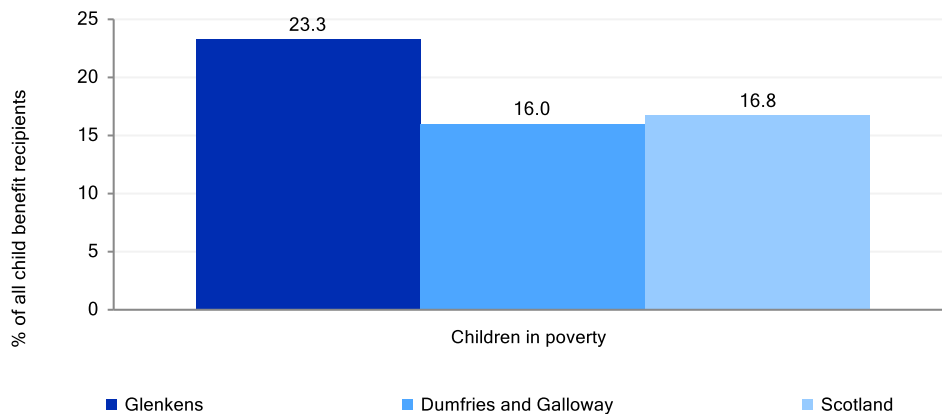
For Castle Douglas High School, during the period from 2013/14 to 2017/18, the school has performed both significantly higher and much higher than the virtual comparator used by Education Scotland when not performing in line with it. This is across a number of measures and year groups¹⁷. In its 2019 inspection, the school was rated as 'Good' for both Learning, teaching and assessment; and Raising attainment and achievement.

An inspection report for Dalry Secondary School was published in March 2020. While the report avoids qualitative terms due to the small class sizes at the school, the school was rated as 'Satisfactory' for Learning, teaching and assessment; and 'Good' for Raising attainment and achievement¹⁸.



Vulnerable Groups

The children in poverty measure shows the proportion of children (aged 0-15) in families in receipt of out of work benefits, or in receipt of tax credits where reported income is less than 60% of median income. 23.3% of children in the Glenkens area are classified as living in poverty (higher than the Scotland average of 16.8%). 13.9% are in 'out of work' households (similar to the Scotland average of 14.9%).



Statistics published by the End Child Poverty coalition showed that in the Castle Douglas and Glenkens ward, 23.4% of children were living in poverty (before housing costs), and 28% after housing costs¹⁹.

A lower proportion of pensioners are living in poverty in the Glenkens area compared to the Scotland average (12%; Scotland average is 17%).

Compared to the Scotland average, there are lower proportions of working age DWP benefits claimants (11.5% compared to 13%); and Housing Benefit claimants (9.1% compared to 13.1%).

There is a higher proportion of people providing unpaid care in the Glenkens (11.1%, compared to the Scotland average of 9.3%).

¹⁷ See <https://education.gov.scot/media/iynlpdru/castledouglashsins280519.pdf>

¹⁸ See <https://education.gov.scot/media/temor25z/dalryssif100320.pdf>

¹⁹ See p 20: <http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/commplan/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=21455&p=0>

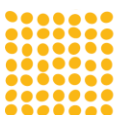
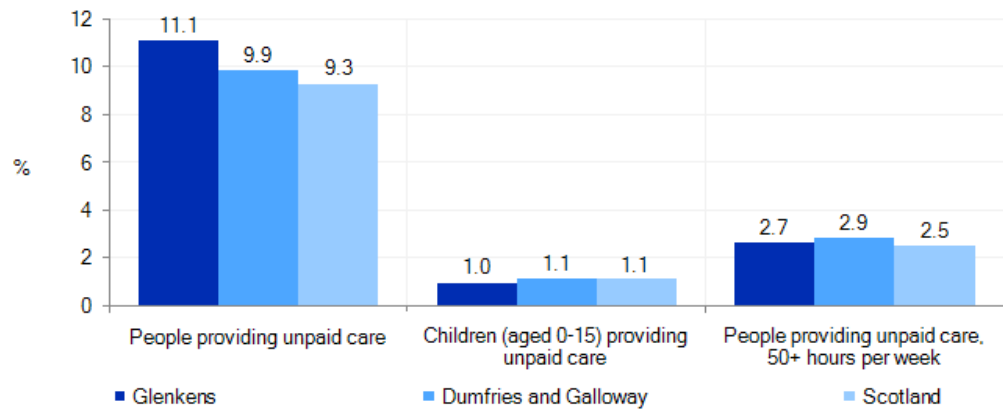


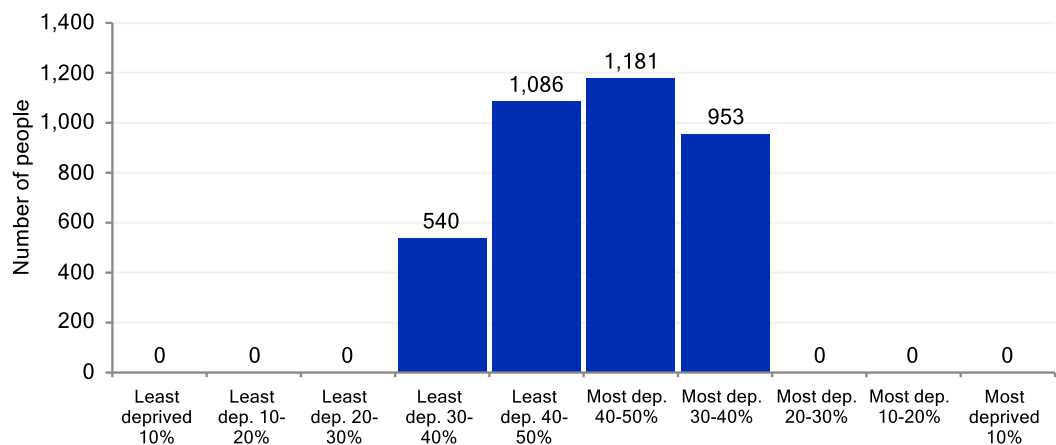
Figure: People providing unpaid care
Source: Census 2011



SIMD²⁰

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation ranks small areas (called data zones) from most deprived to least deprived. Deprivation levels are measured against seven 'domains', namely; income; employment; health; education/skills; housing, geographical access to services, and crime. The majority of people in the Glenkens area are fall within in the middle two 10% bands:

Figure: Number of people in each deprivation decile, Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020

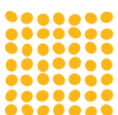


Whilst Glenkens is not an area that could be classified as deprived in terms of education, health or housing, due to its rurality, 71% of people in the area fall within the most deprived 10% for geographic access to services.

There are also pockets of deprivation in the Glenkens area:

- The New Galloway datazone falls within the most deprived 20-30% in relation to Income; and most deprived 30-40% in relation to Employment.
- 967 people within the Glenkens area are in datazones falling within the most deprived 30-40% in relation to Crime.

²⁰ The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. It allows effective targeting of policies and funding where the aim is to wholly or partly tackle or take account of area concentrations of multiple deprivation. SIMD ranks small areas (called data zones) from most deprived (ranked 1) to least deprived (ranked 6,976).

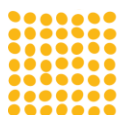


Appendix 2: Asset Map

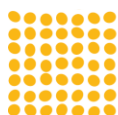
Asset or service class	Name and location	Further detail
Schools and pre school	Crossmichael Primary School	
	Kells Primary School	
	Dalry Primary School	
	Springholm Primary School	Not situated in the area but attended by children from the area
	Dalry Secondary School	
	Castle Douglas High School	Not situated in the area but attended by children from the area
	Crossmichael and Parton Playgroup	Based in Glenlochar
	Springholm Playgroup	Not situated in the area but attended by children from the area
	Dalry Early Learning Centre	
Doctors	New Galloway Medical Centre	
	Castle Douglas Health Centre	Not situated in the area but used by people from the area
Churches still open	Dalry	
	Kells	New Galloway
	St Margaret's	New Galloway
	Balmaclellan	
	Parton	
	Crossmichael	
	Corsock	
	Kirkpatrick Durham	
Rental property providers	Loreburn Housing Association	New Galloway
	DGHP	New Galloway, Dalry
	Pamela Young Trust	Dalry, New Galloway, Balmaclellan
Community Halls and Venues	Dalry Town Hall	
	Glenkens Community Centre, Dalry	Owned by Dalry Community Properties Trust
	Spalding Bowling Club, Dalry	
	Dalry Ex-Serviceman's Institute	
	MUGA	Dalry
	New Galloway Town Hall	
	New Galloway Scout Hut	
	New Galloway Golf Club	
	CatStrand	New Galloway
	Balmaclellan Village Hall	
	Smiddy	Balmaclellan
	Parton Village Hall	
	Mossdale Village Hall	
	Balmaghie Public Hall	Located in Laurieston
	Glenlochar Community Centre	



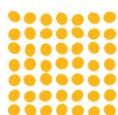
	Former Mission Hall	Bridge of Dee (in private ownership but used by Community)
	Balmaghie Church and Church Hall	
	Crossmichael Memorial Hall	
	Crossmichael Church Hall	
	Hearse House	Crossmichael
	Castle Douglas Rugby Club	
	Corsock Hall	
	The Bothy	Kirkpatrick Durham
	Kirkpatrick Durham Hall	
	Knockvennie Hall	
A Unique set of businesses	Drax who own and operate Galloway Hydros	The bigger businesses based in the area have a focus on low carbon energy which make a net zero target achievable
	Blackcraig Wind Farm	
	Natural Power Consultants	
Shops/Retail	Wrights	Dalry includes post office-privately owned
	Londis	Dalry- privately owned
	Balmaclellan Shop	Privately owned
	New Galloway Shop	Community Owned
	New Galloway Post Office	Privately owned
	Crossmichael Shop	Includes Post Office-privately owned
	CatStrand	Community owned
	Dalry Farmers' Market	Once a month in Dalry Town Hall
	The Gallery	Laurieston
	Fleet Fish	Mobile fishmonger and fruit and veg on a weekly basis
Organised Activities	Glenkens Scout Group	Based in Scout Hall New Galloway
	Brownies and Guides	Based in Glenkens Community Centre
	Toddlers group	New group starting in New Galloway
	Youth arts and drama	Programme organised at CatStrand with GCAT funding from Holywood Trust
	Exercise and yoga classes	Occur at numerous venues across the area
	Dance classes	Various venues
	Gym facilities	Limited across the area, some equipment in Dalry School. Facilities at Castle Douglas Rugby Club
	Filmshows	Dalry Town Hall, CatStrand with some outreach
	Social events such as lunch clubs, quizzes, coffee mornings,	Occur at numerous venues across the area but in a venue specific



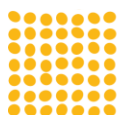
		manner and with limited coordination
	Craft Fairs	Held regularly at venues across the area
	Concerts and drama	Primarily at CatStrand and some outreach in other halls through the GCAT Programme funded by Creative Scotland which brings national and international artists to the area.
	Angling	Various angling clubs based in the area
	Curling	Clubs based in Corsock, Crossmichael and Parton who curl at Dumfries and Lockerbie
	Wild swimming	At various lochs with organised events at Crossmichael and Galloway Activity Centre
	Painting and drawing groups	At various venues across the area
	Writing group	Arranged by GCAT at Smiddy
	Classes such as IT/photography	Programme organised by GCAT, Connecting in Communities based at CatStrand and Smiddy and also at some other venues
	Music and choirs	CatStrand singers, CatStrand ukulele band, tin whistle classes primarily done under GCAT Connecting in Communities. KPD music classes
	Gardening	Garroch Estate walled garden organised by LING. Flower shows at Dalry, Corsock and Crossmichael
	Gala days	Various at different villages
	Men's Shed	Based in Balmaclellan in facilities provided by GCAT
	Alternative Games	Happens annually in New Galloway and attracts a large number of people to the area
	Glenkens Agricultural Show	Happens annually and is an important part of the farming year



	Autumn of Endurance	This is due to take place in September this year and is seeking to bring together a number of events celebrating and using Loch Ken such as wild swimming, cycling, and endurance events.
Heritage activity	Crossmichael Heritage Centre/Hearse House	Crossmichael
	Glenkens Story	Run from CatStrand with regular events
	Dalry Heritage Group	
	New Galloway Heritage Group	
Footpaths and Green space	Ken –Dee RSPB Reserve	In Balmaghie
	Knowetop Loch Reserve SWT	Between Balmaclellan and Corsock
	Crossmichael Community Woodland	
	Playparks/playground/pitches	Dalry, New Galloway, Balmaclellan, Crossmichael all have play parks.
	Core paths	Located across the area
Cross area organisations	Local Initiatives in New Galloway	Run the Town Hall in New Galloway as well as some Galloway Glens projects re upgrading footpaths and Garroch Estate Walled Garden
	Glenkens Community and Arts Trust Ltd	The umbrella group for a wide range of activities which are primarily based at CatStrand and Smiddy. They also arrange arts events across the community in various halls in conjunction with local volunteers. Their Connecting in Communities project organises and delivers classes and activities across the area and at different venues. GCAT publish the Glenkens Gazette, which is widely circulated on a bimonthly basis. Their youth arts Programme provides activity for the 10 to 25 age group. Watson Birds is also under GCAT
	New Galloway Community Enterprise	While this is under the auspices as the same legal entity as the shop in



		New Galloway their Community Engagement Officer arranges delivery of various activities across the area to support a wide range people. Also is instrumental in arranging Glenkens Food Month
	Galloway Community Transport	A subsidiary of GCAT that provides registered bus routes, school buses, passenger transport as well as availability of minibuses for groups. It is used regularly by various groups across the area.
	Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership	This is funded by National Heritage Lottery Fund and is nearly halfway through a 5 year Programme. It has funded capital projects across the area as well as services. It also arranges and facilitates events and training
	Loch Ken Trust	This is in the process of being set up and the aim is to ensure that Loch Ken, the largest freshwater loch in south west Scotland, is both better utilised and protected. They are developing a Plan led by the Loch Ken Alive officer funded by Galloway Glens

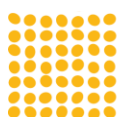


Appendix 3: Full policy analysis

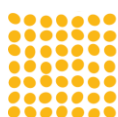
As part of the Action Plan process, national and local policies and strategies have been reviewed and the following summarised as having a direct bearing. It will be important for the Steering Group to align its developments, where possible, with work already underway locally.

National Policy Context

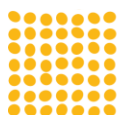
Policy	Key Priorities
National Performance Framework	Provides a vision for Scotland with broad measures of national wellbeing covering a range of economic, health, social and environmental indicators and targets. The Framework is intended to inform discussion, collaboration and planning of policy and services across Scotland, encompassing the public sector, businesses, civil society and communities. The National Outcomes set in the Framework are that people: • grow up loved, safe and respected so that they realise their full potential • live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe • are creative and their vibrant and diverse cultures are expressed and enjoyed widely • have a globally competitive, entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy • are well educated, skilled and able to contribute to society • value, enjoy, protect and enhance their environment • have thriving and innovative businesses, with quality jobs and fair work for everyone • are healthy and active • respect, protect and fulfil human rights and live free from discrimination • are open, connected and make a positive contribution internationally • tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally
A Connected Scotland: our strategy for tackling social isolation and loneliness and building stronger	The Scottish Government's strategy to tackle social isolation is underpinned by four priorities: • Empower communities and build shared ownership • Promote positive attitudes and tackle stigma



social connections, 2018	• Create opportunities for people to connect • Support an infrastructure that fosters connections Recognises key role of third sector and social enterprises in tackling social isolation locally. Highlights impact on older and younger people, those living in rural communities, those with limited access to technology, LGBT people, minority ethnic communities and those living with disabilities.
Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015	Helps to empower community bodies through the ownership or control of land and buildings, and by strengthening their voices in decision making around public services. The Government recognises that asset ownership can provide revenue for community organisations, making them more sustainable in the long term as well as giving local people a renewed sense of pride in their communities, a real sense of a stake in the future of the places they live and work. There are 11 topics covered by the Act, including: • Community Planning – A community planning partnership for each area must prepare and publish a local outcomes improvement plan (see below for review of the Dumfries & Galloway LOIP). • Participation in public decision-making - requires Scottish public authorities to promote and facilitate the participation of members of the public in the decisions and activities of the authority, including in the allocation of its resources. • Participation request - Allow a community body to enter into dialogue with public authorities about local issues and local services. • Community Right to Buy Land - It extends the community right to buy to all of Scotland, urban and rural, and improves procedures. • Asset Transfer Requests - This gives community bodies a right to request to buy, lease, manage or use land and buildings belonging to local authorities, Scottish public bodies or Scottish Ministers. • Common Good Property - Statutory duty on local authorities to establish, maintain and publish a register of all property held by them for the common good. Common good land often has strong emotional or historical value to local communities.
Scotland's Economic Strategy 2015	Scotland's Economic Strategy sets out an overarching framework achieving a more productive, cohesive and fairer Scotland. It focuses on the two mutually supportive goals of increasing competitiveness and tackling inequality, underpinned by four priorities for sustainable growth: • Investing in people and infrastructure in a sustainable way; • Fostering a culture of innovation and research and development; • Promoting inclusive growth and creating opportunity through a fair and inclusive jobs market and regional cohesion; and,



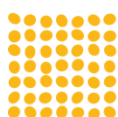
	Promoting Scotland on the international stage to boost trade and investment, influence and networks.
Achieving a sustainable future: Regeneration Strategy, 2011	The vision is “a Scotland where our most disadvantaged communities are supported and where all places are sustainable and promote well-being.”, which must be addressed holistically looking at economic, physical and social needs of communities. Regeneration is defined as “the holistic process of reversing the economic, physical and social decline of places where market forces alone won’t suffice”. Among other points, future sustainability actions should: - Put communities first, effectively involving local residents in the regeneration process and empowering communities. - Be holistic, connecting the physical, social and economic dimensions. - Adopt a long-term vision for a place and focus on the safety and quality of places. - Take account of the specific function of neighbourhoods and integrates regeneration initiatives into wider economic strategies - Make tailored interventions to link economic opportunity and need to address worklessness and deliver sustainable quality employment.
The Fairer Scotland Action Plan, 2016	- Aims to create, “by 2030, a fair, smart, inclusive Scotland, where everyone can feel at home, where fair work helps businesses to thrive and create jobs, where poverty rates are amongst the lowest in Europe, and where there is genuinely equal opportunity for all”. 50 Actions fall under 5 overall ambitions: A Fairer Scotland For All - Ending Child Poverty - A Strong Start for All Young People - Fairer Working Lives - A Thriving Third Age
Scotland's Social Enterprise Strategy 2016-2026	The vision is that “Over the next decade social enterprise will be at the forefront of a new wave of ethical and socially responsible business in Scotland. It will become a far reaching and valued alternative and a key part of the Scottish way of doing business”. There is an intention to work with Local Government and third sector partners to encourage coherent and localised strategies for developing the social enterprise sector in every part of Scotland, There are 3 priorities – to stimulate social enterprise; develop stronger organisations; and realise market potential. The first action plan under the strategy was published in 2017, with the second Action Plan intended to be published in 2020 (prior to covid19).
New blueprint for Scotland's rural	Report and recommendations published by National Council of Rural Advisors to the Scottish Government, to provide advice and



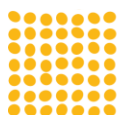
economy: recommendations to Scottish Ministers, 2018	recommendations on future rural policy and support. A Rural Economy Action Group (REAG) has subsequently been established to drive forward implementation of these recommendations. The central recommendation is that a vibrant, sustainable and inclusive rural economy can only be achieved by recognising its strategic importance – and effectively mainstreaming it within all policy and decision-making processes.
Tourism Scotland 2020 (initially launched in 2012)	The goal of the strategy, published in 2012, was to make Scotland a "first-choice destination for a high quality, value for money and memorable customer experience delivered by skilled and passionate people". It recognised that key to achieving its growth ambitions will be turning Scotland's tourism assets into the more rounded, added value experiences that today's visitors want. Actions related to knowing markets; managing the customer journey; building sustainable tourism; strengthening leadership and collaboration; and better data. The new strategy is being researched and consulted on at the moment led by the Scottish Tourism Alliance, and TS2020 has been regularly reviewed. The most recent review in 2020 noted that the overwhelming view from industry and stakeholders is that "the strategy is still valid and relevant for the sector and reflects the make-up of the sector, its assets and priorities for growth". Moving forward, the new tourism strategy should maintain the ethos of TS2020 whilst considering how embracing inclusive growth and sustainability (of sector growth, of businesses and physical assets) will make the sector more robust and improve its potential for growth. Note that there is also an events strategy: Scotland: The Perfect Stage - Scotland's events strategy 2015-2025

Local Policy Context

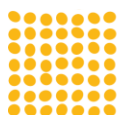
Policy	Analysis
Dumfries & Galloway Council Plan 2017-2022	Council priorities are to: • Build the local economy: Aims to tackle the underlying weaknesses in the region's economy - low pay, not having enough paid work that make full use of skills/abilities (underemployment), above average levels of youth unemployment and the low level of qualifications. Commitments are to (1) Improve the level of skills within our communities and workforce; (2) Support our small and medium sized businesses to be established and grow; (3) Invest in our key infrastructure; and (4) Provide an attractive location to do business. • Provide the best start in life for all our children: This will include investing in five new learning campuses which will benefit 6,000 learners in Dumfries and across the region. Commitments are to (1) Ensure early intervention, in particular to keep our region's most vulnerable children safe; (2) Invest in creating schools fit for the 21st Century, which are at the heart of our communities; (3) Raise



	ambition and attainment, in particular to address inequalities; (4) Support children to be healthy and active. • Protect our most vulnerable people: Focus is on tackling poverty, improving services for the homeless and working with our NHS partners to deliver better health and social care services for people in our region. Commitments are to (1) Tackle the causes and effects of inequality and poverty; (2) Help older or vulnerable people live healthy and independent lives; (3) Ensure our older or vulnerable people receive the care and support they need; and (4) Keep our communities safe. • Be an inclusive Council: Commitments are to (1) Ensure that local people and communities are the heart of our decision making; (2) Empower our communities to make the most of their assets; (3) Increase equality of opportunity. Additional comments on challenges and nature of the area are: • The overall population is projected to decline to nearer 141,000 by 2037, a decrease of 6.1%. Population projections indicate that there will be 3,040 fewer people aged 18 or under living in the region by 2039, a decrease of 10%. The gap between older and younger populations is likely to widen over time. The population aged 65-84 is forecast to increase by 25% by 2037 while the number of children and working age adults is projected to fall. To grow the economy the region needs to retain and attract young people and develop their skills. These statistics are quoted from the Plan – see full analysis of population trends at Appendix 1 of this report. • Dumfries & Galloway is the third highest ranked of the mainland council areas for rurality, with 19.6% of the population living in remote rural locations; and nearly half of all people (45.8%) living in areas classified as rural. Approximately one in five households in the region do not have a car or a van. This means that the services need to be available locally.
Dumfries & Galloway Regional Economic Strategy 2016-2020	Strategic objectives are: • More Growing Businesses: Capitalising on the strength of the region's base to increase productivity and provide the conditions for business-led growth. • Developing Places: Empower the region's communities to address their distinct economic challenges and opportunities. • Better Skills, Better Opportunities: Create a vibrant culture of opportunity in the region to retain and attract people of working age and improve the competitiveness of individual businesses. • Well Developed Infrastructure: Enhancing regional connectivity, removing barriers to business competitiveness and improving access to economic opportunities for individuals and businesses. One of the actions relates to IT infrastructure. • Investment Projects: Large investment projects that will make a significant impact on the regional economy. • Leadership: Attainment of our aspirations requires a shared vision and partnership working across the public, private and third sectors



	along with our providers of further and higher education. Our partners must demonstrate strong, confident leadership and effective partnership working. Challenges include: • Relating to employment: high and growing proportion of part time jobs; rate of unemployment remains higher than before the start of the recession in 2008; significant underemployment; relatively few of those of working age have a high level of qualification; the region's full-time workers receive the lowest average weekly pay in Scotland. • Rurality and lack of access to services; e.g. poor or no mobile coverage. • Region is not visible enough at a national level in terms of policy, lobbying and as a place to do business; and is under- promoted as a place to visit, work and live. • Population is declining and statistics show a rapid increase in the 65+ age group with net outmigration of younger people. Assets in the area are: good transport links to population centres; high number of micro-businesses; rural landscape and coast are major assets; scope to contribute to energy requirements; high quality schools and low crime.
Borderlands Growth Deal – Heads of Terms Agreement, 2019	Agreed by the UK Government, Scottish Government, and five local authority areas of Carlisle City, Cumbria County, Dumfries and Galloway, Northumberland County and Scottish Borders. The UK and Scottish governments will work collaboratively with the Borderlands Partners to deliver a deal that will help to transform the regional economy. The combined investments of the UK and Scottish Governments will commit up to £350 million to the Borderlands Growth Deal. Borderlands Partners predict that the proposed interventions will generate around £1.1 billion of Gross Value Added uplift and deliver around 5500 jobs in the region. Growth deal funding committed by the Scottish Government will be delivered over a 10 year period and UK Government funding over a 15 year period. Commitments relate to: • Place (including creating thriving rural hubs; promoting tourism). • Infrastructure (transport; digital connectivity; and business infrastructure). • Innovation and skills (includes rural innovation such as a dairy innovation centre in Dumfries & Galloway; and Scottish Government will invest up to £7 million in developing the South of Scotland Skills and Learning Network, with a focus on the visitor economy). • Green Growth (including development of a regional energy masterplan).
Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017 - 2027	Outcomes are: • Outcome 1: Everyone who needs help to work receives the right support. Particularly supporting people in the justice system, Looked After young people and care leavers, veterans, women, disabled people and long-term unemployed people. • Outcome 2: Learning opportunities are available to those who need them most: Will actively promote lifelong learning in community



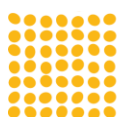
	settings, through schools, colleges and universities. Focus on Looked After young people and care leavers, those in the justice system, gypsy travellers, LGBT young people, those who are isolated and unemployed people. • Outcome 3: Health and wellbeing inequalities are reduced. Work will focus on older adults in places where life expectancy is lower than in other parts of our region and those who are isolated. Will also support young people and groups known to have lower mental health and wellbeing. • Outcome 4: There is affordable and warm housing for those who need it most. Will include tackling fuel poverty. • Outcome 5: The money available to people on Benefits and low wages is maximised. • Outcome 6: People are safe and feel safe. • Outcome 7: People are well connected. This will include affordable transport options, particularly for disabled people and people who are isolated. Digital connection will also be a focus. • Outcome 8: Individuals and communities are empowered.
Dumfries & Galloway Integration Joint Board Health & Social Care Strategic Plan 2016-19	Vision: “Making our communities the best place to live active, safe and healthy lives by promoting independence, choice and control”. Plan sets out how the nine national health and well-being outcomes for people will be delivered. Relevant demographic trends are: reduction in the number of working age people (so fewer people to work in health and care sectors); increase in the number of people living with two or more long term conditions; number of older people (aged 75 and over) living alone is likely to nearly double by 2037; number of children aged 0 – 14 years is expected to decrease by 2,500 (9%) by 2037; the increased proportion of older people means an increase of people with dementia. 10 priority areas of focus: • Enabling people to have more choice and control • Supporting Carers • Developing and strengthening communities. This includes a commitment to strengthen public involvement at all levels of planning health and social care and support. • Making the most of well-being • Maintaining safe, high quality care and protecting vulnerable adults • Shifting the focus from institutional care to home and community based care. This includes commitments to deliver healthcare within community settings as the norm and only deliver it within the district general hospital when clinically necessary; and to develop housing related services and new affordable housing that is designed to reduce both unplanned admissions to hospital and the number of people unnecessarily delayed in hospital. • Integrated ways of working • Reducing health inequalities



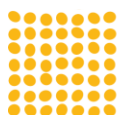
	• Working efficiently and effectively • Making the best use of technology
Health and Social Care Locality Plan Stewartry 2016-2019	One of 4 locality plans that feed into the wider strategic plan. It maps commitments against the equivalents in the wider strategic plan. Identifies local challenges which are: • Health inequalities leading to poorer outcomes for people's health and well-being • Increasing number of people with multiple long-term conditions, including dementia requiring higher levels of support to enable them to live independently at home or in a homely setting in the community • Lack of appropriate housing to meet projected demand in areas where people wish to live, creating unsustainable and imbalanced communities • Increasing number of Carers requiring greater levels of support to reduce any negative impact of their caring role on their own health and well-being • Maintaining high quality, safe care and protecting vulnerable adults in the face of increasing need and reducing resources • Future sustainability of primary and community based services including GPs, out of hours, care home and care at home services • Reducing working age population resulting in fewer people to care for an increasing number of older people • National challenges in relation to the recruitment and retention of health and social care professionals • Current and anticipated rise in hospital admissions and delayed discharges resulting in increased pressures across all of health and social care Comments on the nature of the area: • Due to its rural nature, Stewartry is the least densely populated area of Dumfries and Galloway. It covers 26% of the total area, and approximately 16% of the population. Stewartry also has a lower proportion of younger people (aged under 25) and a higher proportion of older people (aged over 65) than Dumfries and Galloway as a whole. This means that demand on health and social care services is already higher than average and has a considerable impact on how current services are being delivered. These statistics are quoted from the Plan – see full analysis of population trends at Appendix 1 of this report. • Relatively little deprivation in Stewartry compared with the Scottish average, although there can still be hidden deprivation. • Community spirit is viewed as a positive force in relation to quality of life and there is a need to build upon this and create community based opportunities. There is still a need for peer support opportunities to tackle loneliness. • There is limited access to transport leaving many people being unable to access activities or timely support or interventions.



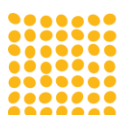
	• Need for more paid carers and lack of respite for unpaid carers. • Requirement for more sheltered housing inter-generational housing options and access to timely home adaptations.
Dumfries and Galloway Children's Services Plan April 2017 to March 2020	Vision is that "All children are safe and achieve their full potential. We will listen to children, young people and their families and work together to make sure they get the right help at the right time." Priorities for delivery of the vision are that: 1. We will ensure that children and young people are safe and free from harm. 2. We will ensure children and young people get support at the earliest appropriate time through prevention and early intervention. 3. We will improve the wellbeing and life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people. 4. We will work to reduce or remove barriers so that all children and young people have equality of opportunity. 5. We will deliver the best possible health and wellbeing for all children and young people. 6. We will raise attainment and be ambitious for all children and young people.
Equalities Mainstreaming Report: 2017 – 2019	Equality outcomes for Dumfries and Galloway Council 2017 to 2021 are: • Employment: support and develop new and existing businesses; enable better digital connectivity; improve employment prospects for our young people. • Participation and Decision Making: ensure that our decisions take full account of equalities considerations; ensure our information and services are easily accessed; ensure young people are more actively engaged in local decision making; understand our customers' communications needs better; encourage participation and engagement of people with Protected Characteristics. • Community safety: ensure interventions are early and effective; prevent violence and promote women's safety and wellbeing; ensure the people who are deemed most at risk from harm will be identified, supported and protected; promote fairness and respect across our organisation and communities • Poverty: tackle the causes and effects of poverty; better meet the accommodation needs of Gypsy/Travellers • Transport: improve accessible transport • Running our business – actions relating to the Council's operations. • Education and Young people: raise attainment, achievement and participation for children with Protected Characteristics; reduce identity-based bullying and harassment in schools; remove barriers so that all children and young people have equality of opportunity. • Licensing: improve numbers of accessible taxis; implement customer training for taxi drivers; reduce the opportunities for children and young people to be involved in gambling behaviours; increase awareness among the licensed trade of the needs of their disabled customers, and promote good practice; reduce opportunity for under-



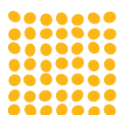
	aged consumption of alcohol especially in and around local outdoor music events.
Dumfries & Galloway Council Community Participation and Engagement Strategy, 2019	A Communities Directorate and a Community Planning and Engagement Unit has been set up within the Council. Strategy contains 8 Objectives: • Objective 1 -To ensure our decision making structures and processes are understood and accessible for individuals and communities. • Objective 2 To increase opportunities for individuals and communities to participate and engage in our Council's services and projects. • Objective 3 To provide opportunities for individuals and communities to engage with Elected Members at a local and strategic level. • Objective 4 To review and implement effective engagement opportunities for Community Councils, MSPs, MPs and MSYPs. • Objective 5 To provide support for those seldom heard to enable them to be involved in our participation and engagement opportunities. • Objective 6 To improve the quality of engagement activity across all Council services. • Objective 7 To ensure that our statutory engagement requirements are effective and efficient. • Objective 8 To make the best use of our resources.
Dumfries and Galloway Education Authority Annual Plan August 2018 – July 2019	Dumfries and Galloway Council Education Services produces an Authority Annual Plan to capture the ambitions and actions for all schools in Dumfries and Galloway over the next school year. Ties into the Council priority to “Provide the best start in life for all our children”. Sets out how the Council will align to National Improvement Framework Priorities; and improvement drivers. Dumfries and Galloway Council are part of the regional improvement collaboration with colleagues within the three Ayrshire Authorities. Key strategic actions within this are: • Priority Workstream 1 Maintain high quality experiences for children while delivering 1140 hours provision. • Priority Workstream 2 Improve pace and challenge for learners through consistency in teacher professional judgements. • Priority Workstream 3 Share effective practice on the use of Pupil Equity Fund and strategies for closing the gap. • Priority Workstream 4 Build leadership capacity to improve the learner journey.
Local Housing Strategy 2018-2023	The strategic vision for housing is that “Everyone in our region will have access to a high quality affordable home that is warm, safe, provides good access to services and meets their needs at every stage of life.’ The housing supply target for Stewartry 2017-29 is 952. The Development Plan targets new housing development at the region’s larger settlements where there are concentrations of facilities, employment opportunities and transport options. In addition, it is projected that 20% of the total HST will be delivered in villages and the countryside. • Strategic Objective 1: Ensure that the available housing stock in our region is fully utilised and new housing development supports the sustainability of our towns, settlements and villages. Includes an action to encourage all developers, with the aid of subsidy, to put in



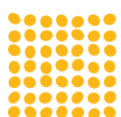
	place innovative methods of delivering affordable housing in our smaller rural communities. Notes that there is an emerging pattern of low demand facing the social rented sector in a small number of areas in our region. However, overall, the evidence demonstrates there continues to be a very high level of unmet housing need. Also notes the A £25 million Rural Housing Fund has been created at a national level, which aims to increase the supply of affordable housing of all tenures in rural Scotland and contribute towards the target to deliver 50,000 affordable homes by 2021. The Council will continue to support the Dumfries and Galloway Small Communities Housing Trust. • Strategic Objective 2: We will work together with the Health and Social Care Partnership to ensure solutions are delivered that enable people to live as independently as possible in community settings. Actions include to Work in partnership with the University of West of Scotland to consider the feasibility of a Care Campus in the region; and to consider allocating funding for delivery of Care and Repair, Food Train Extra and Handyman services targeted at private sector homeowners. • Strategic Objective 3: We will ensure that households who live in the Private Rented Sector have a home that is safe, warm and achieves the required standards. • Strategic Objective 4: “We will help everyone in our region to live in warm, affordable, energy efficient homes”. • Strategic Objective 5: Ensure that people who stay in privately owned property are able to live in homes that are of a high quality and good condition. Notes that demand for dementia friendly design will increase.
On the Up: Dumfries and Galloway Anti-Poverty Strategy 2015-2020	Notes that Dumfries and Galloway is one of the lowest paid regions in Scotland and there is no doubt that this, coupled with the rural challenges faced, contributes significantly to poverty in the region. States that 20% of the households in our region which have no central heating are in the Stewartry. The vision is that “People will be prevented from falling into poverty; supported to escape from poverty; and able to lead; independent, safe, happy and fulfilled lives”. Strategic objectives are: Objective 1: To listen to people and families experiencing poverty and make sure their voice is heard Objective 2: To support people experiencing poverty to move from dependence to independence Objective 3: To ensure our information and services are easy to access Objective 4: To provide services that meet the needs of people experiencing poverty Challenges faced are Low wage/low skilled work economy; national welfare reform; fuel poverty, equality and diversity, and demographics.
Transport Scotland - South West Scotland	Study in June 2019. The key aim of the work is to consider the rationale for improvements to road, rail, public transport and active travel on key strategic corridors in the South West of Scotland, including those served by the A75, A76, A77, A701 and A709 as well as the railway corridors to Stranraer and



Transport Study, 2019	Carlisle via Kilmarnock / Dumfries with a particular focus on access to the ports at Cairnryan. It identifies 23 options for further appraisal. These include: • Development of the Strategic Active Travel Network: Package of measures to develop the Strategic Active Travel Network in the South West of Scotland to better connect communities to key destinations, including cycle paths parallel to trunk roads and improvements to the National Cycle Network. • A75 Capacity Enhancements Development of capacity enhancement measures on the A75, such as partial duelling, town/village bypasses and improved overtaking opportunities. • A75 Safety Measures Implementation of targeted measures, such as improvements to road geometry, bends and junction improvements to improve safety on the A75. Package will also include consideration of safety camera deployments through the Scottish Safety Camera Programme annual site prioritisation exercise.
Dumfries & Galloway Active Travel Strategy	Active Travel is transport by physical activity using our own body energy, such as walking and cycling, and mainly for day to day functional reasons. Main focus of the Strategy is to promote the opportunities available to residents and visitors that allow for easy, safe and accessible day to day functional walking and cycling, particularly for short journeys (walking - under 2 miles; cycling - under 5 miles) to get to and from work, school, shops, health facilities, leisure, sport and to access sustainable transport services. Strategic objectives are to: • develop infrastructure improvements that encourages active travel and seeks to prioritise maintenance of active travel infrastructure. • promote walking, cycling and scooting as alternative transport modes, particularly for short trips. • continue to work with students and school children, staff and parents to encourage more walking, cycling and scooting to and from school/further education. • work with employers and staff to encourage more walking and cycling to and from work. • improve the safety of walking and cycling in Dumfries and Galloway and contribute to national road safety targets. • embed active travel opportunities within new developments. • seek and support funding opportunities for active travel. • encourage and facilitate walking and cycling as leisure and tourist activities to provide benefits to health and the local economy.
Dumfries & Galloway Regional Tourism Strategy 2016 - 2020	States that the Council is committed to the ongoing support for the Tourism sector to assist with developing further growth, employment and income for our Tourism businesses across the whole of Dumfries and Galloway. Vision is that "By 2020 Dumfries and Galloway will be the destination of choice for quality, value and memorable experiences delivered by skilled and passionate hosts". Mission is to (1) Increase the value of tourism from £300m to £330m; (2) Increase the volume, length of stay and extend the season from 2.43m tourist visitors to 2.6m visitors; (3) Increase direct and indirect jobs from



	6,969 to 7,300; (4) Build our reputation as a place to return to and be recommended. There are 3 core themes: ● Providing Authentic Experiences: An all year round offering of great and unforgettable experiences, events and hospitality. Objectives are to develop marine, coastal and inland based product of the highest quality; and create festivals and events. ● Improving the Customer Journey: Providing customers with a consistently high quality experience that will have them return and recommend the area to others. Objectives are joined up communications with the customer; product development; and telling the Dumfries and Galloway story. ● Building our Capabilities: Building a resilient, advised and collaborative local network of businesses and organisations. Developing skills; infrastructure (includes mobile/broadband as well as transport); knowledge; digital; sustainability; marketing; leadership and collaboration.
Dumfries & Galloway Council Major Festivals and Events Strategy 2018 - 2021	The aim of the MFES 2018 – 2021 is to develop and sustain Dumfries and Galloway as an internationally renowned rural events destination that continuously attracts new visitors to the region. Relates to major events, defined as: An event which attracts 1000 or more unique visitors; An event that operates on a net budget that exceeds £30,000; An event that is marketing to a quantifiable set/target market of out of region visitors; An event that can demonstrate an excellent return on public sector investment.
Dumfries & Galloway Food and Drink Strategy Action Plan 2019 - 2022	Notes that this is a sector of under-developed potential. This provides significant opportunity for economic growth and job creation across our region. Vision is that “Food and drink is the foundation of Dumfries & Galloway’s future economic resilience, creating employment and business opportunities in almost every community of our region”. Outcomes for the strategy are: ● Our industry will grow by an average of 5.5% each year. ● Employment and the number of registered enterprises will increase. ● Our local businesses will be able to recruit and retain staff to meet their growth potential. ● Our annual business confidence trends will remain positive.



Appendix 4: Stakeholder Summit Notes

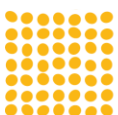
38 stakeholders attended representing 24 organisations. The following is a summary of the notes from that meeting

There was consideration initially about the crucial areas of interest, which could be thematic areas in the plan or could be so vital that they were cross-cutting themes that under-pinned the plan.

Possible Cross cutting themes

- Climate Crisis/ sustainability
 - jobs
 - Biodiversity
- Connectivity
 - Loneliness – older people/youth/families/ EVERYONE
- Health and wellbeing
- The U.N. Sustainable Development Goals

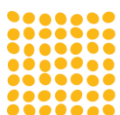
VISION – WHAT KIND OF COMMUNITY DO WE WANT



Attendees were asked to consider the community they live and work in now and what the aspiration should be for what kind of place his will be.

- In 5 years, this community will be –

Connected	Sustainable	Inclusive	Happy
Affordable	Mixed	Innovative	Nurturing
Attractive – viable (brand) – tourism	Healthy	In tune with the landscape	Respectful
	Green	Carbon negative	



Thoughts and Project Ideas to achieve the vision

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

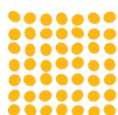
- Glenkens website (not individual villages) containing what's on, history, jobs etc.
- Need more places to eat in the evenings for our locals and visitors. "Pop-up" restaurant
- Dalry needs a café – a community café could be an income generator for the village
- The whole area needs mobile office space for regional organisations trying to get out to the region
- Needs rebranding "Glenkens Signs" - Creative Marketing
- Consistent approach to marketing the place
- Think about more infrastructure for tourists e.g. cycle paths/signposts
- Link with other comparable initiatives e.g. North Coast 500, SW 300 and Sothorn Upland Way
- Ensure enhances tourism infrastructure also benefits community life.
- Promote as an area for walkers/cyclists/bird-watchers/gastronomes/dark skies etc. and a place of local craft skills.
- Create shared info gateway
- Sell local water
- Learning and training as a foundation to developing the economy
 - Different kind of learning
 - Work placement/apprenticeship e.g. outside industry
- Build renewable business to serve cities (not the other way around)
- Bookkeeping/legal advice/trades

COMMUNITY ASSETS

- Protect and roll out multi use games areas
- Outdoor & indoor gym at school / & community wide
- Integrating community assets with the tourist offerings
- GDT could use its "soft power" to facilitate the Glenkens talking a strategic approach to its community assets e.g. do we need a new youth hub in one village if we have an underused community centre in another village and a community transport initiative
- Social hubs in smaller villages
- Our landscape
- Identify community needs & actively buy more assets for community ownership
- Creation of network for similar assets across the area

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY (& MODERNISATION)

- Be clear on its widest definition –
 - Sustainable economy
 - Sustainable community/people
 - Sustainable environment
- This should underpin everything and not be in a separate silo?
- If this also has the potential to give us a U.S.P. as an area for visitors to the bio-sphere reserve – Carbon negative
- We need to look at what happened in cities i.e. car sharing, car rental, insurance by hour, hiring your care to get an income to see how it could develop a plan to reduce the number of vehicles.
- How to enable people to transition from a fossil fuel heating system to an electric system
- Community car share club
- Community bike library
- Community transport organisation switching to EV's & electric minibuses (can be sector-leading) – can promote change to the wider community
- Community energy plan also applies to all areas
- EV charging points



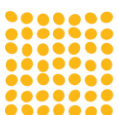
- many more
 - better locations
- Need to widen sustainability
 - Housing stock
 - Heating issue
- Potential micro-hydro projects
- Make sure we embody a balanced approach (based on evidence) i.e. tree planting is good, but not on a deep peat bog and not if it cripples biodiversity
- Help people identify the changes they can make like a Home Energy Report but across your global footprint

ISOLATED GROUPS WORKING TOGETHER

- Dalry CC brought out a resource called 'Clubs and Societies of the Glenkens' but keeping it updated was an issue
- Also related to communities' assets (common issues) – Identify existing community spaces
- Database of 'What's on'
 - community calendar
 - Monthly newsletter of Glenkens events
- Get rid of any sense of competition, there is room for all of us, we will have more impact working together.
- D&G Outdoor Education no longer exists, but the expertise is there. These people could be instrumental in setting up canoeing, climbing etc.
- Cross organisation/Groups joint workshop party
- Share best practice – celebrate success
- Talking between age groups and activities across all age groups
- All need paid resource to make it happen and update it

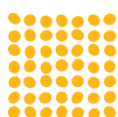
OFF GRID IDEAS THAT DON'T FIT THE FOUR THEMES

- Skills share
- Intergeneration workshops/skills
 - informal befriending
 - meal-sharing
- Voluntary Emergency Resilience
- Business support employee volunteering so people have time to volunteer
- Island/Kayak/BBQ's/Biking
- Positive Pets – involve younger people and the elderly
- Health and social care



DELIVERY PARTNERS SUGGESTED

Glenkens Community and Arts Trust / Catstrand	South of Scotland Enterprise	Galloway Community Transport	Village Hall Committees
Social Groups	Dumfries and Galloway What's Going On (DGWGO)	Local Press	D&G Life
Local Businesses	Dumfries and Galloway Council	Stewarty Health & Social Care Team	Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme
Community Councils	Stewarty Social Isolation Partnership	Visit Scotland	Natural Power
Drax	Forestry and Land Scotland	Developing the Young Workforce	SW300
D&G College & Barony	New Galloway Community Enterprises	Local Initiatives New Galloway	Schools
	Loch Ken Trust	Pamela Young Trust (Social housing in Glenkens)	



Appendix 5: Agriculture and Food Focus Group Notes

Agriculture is historically a major industry in the area; dominates the landscape and is deeply embedded in the culture.

We identified this sector not just as 'farming' but as 'the food system', taking this to encompass the whole network of relationships from production through distribution to consumption.

Areas of opportunity where debate was viewed as valuable were identified in advance as:

- establishing cooperatives and/or social enterprises
- 'community supported agriculture' schemes, potentially across the whole range of food production;
- a local distribution enterprise linking producers, local shops and cafes, and institutions such as schools, and perhaps incorporating a veg box scheme;
- a local food brand (this would be best run as a coop), including producers of any kind
- a training facility, maybe aimed at young people
- 're-wilding' – the most obvious possibility being tree-planting.

Notes from the meeting

Good Things about the community from a farming and food perspective

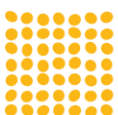
- Food week – encourages local growers
- Local food
- Opportunity to increase tourism
- Leading industry
- People want to find local produce

Challenges in the area

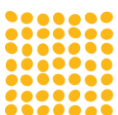
- Schools struggle to find work placements for their pupils
- Nature of work is changing
 - Can farming change
 - Part time land work
 - Part time other initiatives
 - No longer office based
- Family – poor 'bleak' industry
- Downward trend in employment - need to diversify
- Transport
- Housing
- Youth outward migration – no housing – always sold for holiday homes
- Challenging to find local food here
- Social care missing
- Need to make local shops sustainable
 - Older generation = customers reducing
- Jobs – can't attract young people to come, stay or come back
- Massive lack of tradespeople
- Challenge to find staff at busy time

Project Ideas

- Community farming – rent land from a farmer and allow the whole community to get involved in real production.
- Larger scale community farm
 - E.g. selling eggs
 - E.g. walled garden locally – is this accessible to local folk
 - Opening up growing – not just for farmers demystifies growing
 - Develop into a learning hub – education
 - Schools etc. would visit



- Farmers / growers may get involved to give something back
 - Local growers = local pride
- Co-working space
 - E.g. Crieff – farmers booking space to get away from the farm e.g. to do their books
- New rural enterprise space with support
 - Links to SOSEP
- Affordable Housing
 - May be needed for growing workforce in relation to tourism
 - Pamela Young Housing Trust
 - Not needs based housing but Mid-Market rent e.g. Closeburn = 3 passivhaus
- Care home or care providers – so that people stay here
- Pool of people with different skill set
 - Rural employment agency
 - Online learning e.g. some with no driving licence
 - Link to SOSEP – hub and spoke
 - Do they need teaching (learning hub) and upskilling / apprenticeship
 - Link to transport
 - Need trades (plumbers, electricians, etc.) hospitality – big demand
- Central Depot to do repairs etc. for the farmers e.g. at Dalry.
- Mentoring Scheme on the land
 - Supporting vulnerable young people
- Community allotments
- Sold / retailed to local pubs, shop etc.
- Farm shop – farm van with local produce grown locally – sold locally
 - Good for mental health
- Pick your own fruit
- Community led delivery scheme.
- Car sharing (hiring scheme)
 - Time very precious for farmers
- Community kitchen
 - Learning
 - Cooking

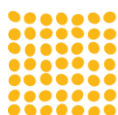


Appendix 6: Community Events Notes

All the research was pulled together and a final two interactive meetings took place to pull the community together to agree a final vision and to work together to prioritise project ideas.

What Kind of Community Do you Want?

- Generous
- Innovative
- Appreciative
- Vibrant
- Community orientated
- Sharing
- Caring
- Co-operative
- Safe
- Thriving
- Inclusive
- Supportive
- Connected – people – digital
- Resourceful
- Natural
- Multi-generated
- Fun
- Communicative
- Coveted
- Mobile
- Flexible
- Positive
- Entrepreneurial
- Low carbon
- Diverse
- Equitable
- Healthy
- Considerate
- Fair
- Happy
- Hostile
- Self-reliant
- Visionary
- Fit
- Young
- Fit
- Diverse
- Resilient
- Regenerative
- Balanced
- Beautiful
- Growing
- Steady state



Project Ideas Long List

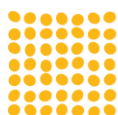
The following is the long list of ideas that was generated during the final consultation meeting. Local residents were given the suggested project ideas generated by the stakeholders and allowed the opportunity to produce their own project ideas. People were then encouraged to debate and prioritise these into short, medium and long term under each of the thematic



areas. It is clear that this is not a scientific process but has helped to create momentum towards the final action plan.

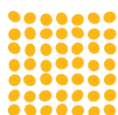


Priority term level	Working Together
Short	• More diverse voices – Not just the usual suspects • Bus or 7 seat car to loop round Glenkens and Loch Ken • Monthly community events with transport to bring all villages together ◦ Ceilidh with transport • Database of 'What's On' – community calendar ◦ Issue with maintenance and upkeep ◦ Needs to include as much as possible, ideally everything on the go, would need an administrator ◦ There are existing websites • Lift sharing • Learn from other similar communities • 'Hitch-hiking' benches • Local Energy Plan • Involving school 1140hrs nursery to address childcare • Local skills audit • Set up regular network/social event – take turns updating each other informally of latest projects/developments and opportunities and help sought • Joint working between Community Councils – stronger voice collectively • Practical work parties • Database of local volunteers who can do what to help/support • Learning offers e.g. language skills such as Men's Shed • Similar to time banking for volunteering services – local barter scheme skills and goods (L.E.T.S.) • Master Guide – Walkers, Cyclists, Heritage to create linkage and tourist traffic. • A subgroup to focus on ◦ 'Active Travel' to include all ideas on segregated walking, cycling, flexible routes. ◦ Adopt a process for community communication, decision making, dispute resolution

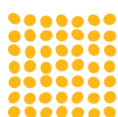


	• Set up a Glenkens Forum to ◦ Address the current democratic deficit (Too many organisations with minimal accountability) ◦ Pump ideas and criticisms into those organisations. To be run through citizens assemblies
Medium	• Cross organisation/Groups joint working party • Freelance hub to match short-term (paid) jobs to people who have skills/ability to do them (freelance) 'micro-jobs' • Better/closer relations with funders • Monthly newsletter of Glenkens events ◦ Monthly newsletter not required. We already have the Glenkens Gazette ◦ Glenkens Gazette to widen coverage • Community database of spaces ◦ Great idea • Interactive community website/social media • Is there a role for a part-time communications worker (distinct from community development) to bring together all the posters/flyers/regular groups into said database/website? • Really active twinning with another area in a different country, possibly Scandinavian, for exchanges, young people exchanges, year 'life swaps' trade and enterprise exchanges etc. • Transparency of organisations and how things work in the community • Multifaceted, centralised, coordinated communication • Business individuals and community organisations work together and support each other • Merging of smaller job opportunities from different organisations to offer longer freelance posts that are more viable. • Bigger organisations supporting smaller groups/community projects – need support and capacity to do this • Link up resources to what people need e.g. car and spare time to make lift
Long	• Improve connectivity via a community development worker for the Glenkens • Each community should have:- ◦ A community council ◦ One charity or trust who can apply for grants ◦ One community organisation who can generate trading income all working together to optimise their impact and community assets while minimising the number of volunteers required ◦ Role of GDT as a facilitator as well as a funder • Space Centre same as North of Scotland, Glenkens plenty of open spaces

Priority term level	Developing community assets and spaces
Short	• Lauriston needs lower speed limits. It's got lots of children living there, but no sidewalks/pavement for children to walk safely to the park. • More capacity for kids at Crossmichael Primary School • Glenkens community cinema and big screen sport • Tool library • Toy library • Bikes – loan or hire

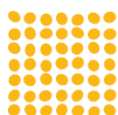


	• Community assets database and store – Insurance • Community kitchen • Indoor gym equipment moved to a community space • 24hr gym e.g. shed, fob access • Shared hubs for business use supplying fast broadband • Space for young people that they can call their own • Investing in current assets e.g. MUGA playing field Dalry – transport, maintenance, access • Map of local community areas & put online • Community outdoor equipment • Better signposts on community areas – co-ordination of use of assets • Access in buildings • The hills, lochs, wildlife spaces • Find an approach to collective litter collection sustainability • Bikes – Make it fun, not a chore • Zip wire in the park! Also, a mud kitchen for toddlers • Allotments or garden sharing. Keen gardener with little land tends bug garden of someone with no time/energy – share produce • Health & wellbeing clubs for kids – sailing/kayaking etc. • Heritage promoted ○ Burns ○ Lowland clearances ○ Covenanters • MTB trails in existing and new forests • More community woodlands and accessible natural reserves i.e. bogs, forest, ponds • Open hills for wildlife and people • As a personal trainer, I think some sort of suitably equipped space for fitness
Medium	Ability to accommodate the elderly in their own community in residential care. • Soft assets e.g. professional skills. Could we have mentors for young people? • More bike tracks, safer routes on or avoiding 'A' roads • Community transport • Take more areas into community ownership • High number of assets in the area is not equally shared. • Path round Loch Ken • GDT to co-ordinate community assets • Laureston needs a much better village hall • Outdoor & indoor gyms across the community • Integrating community assets with the tourist offerings • Make more of the Dark & Black Skies - development of a centre • Village field required in Corsock • Get massive lorries off our roads (or dual the roads) A713 • Changing places/toilet • Rationalise community assets (e.g. halls) & coordinate with effective transport • More outdoor eating spaces in parks with lighting, BBQ pits, picnic tables (accessible) and midgie-busters • Web-based guides e.g. walking, cycling, car, birds - web page • Investing in the landscape

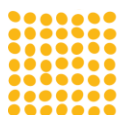


	• Refurbish toilets and draw into community ownership. Ensure network of them on all routes • Community woodland for woodlots, firewood, wildlife, tourism etc. • Diversification of uses of existing community assets e.g. halls
Long	• Buy a boat (electric powered, eco) to do pleasure trips on Lock Ken & bus tours • Multi-generational housing with 'on-tap' tech services that can be 'turned on' as the occupants needs change. Opportunity for large collaborative project, including industry partners. (needs roll over of funding) • Community energy generation • Creation of network for similar assets across the area • Buy more assets for community ownership ○ not buildings ○ But make sure the community has capacity (skills & time) to manage them • Each community asset (e.g. hall) should have a niche that is optimised for & doesn't compete, as well as supporting its local community. • A comment was made 'There are lots of assets in the area' - there are, but not in Corsock. • Sustainable capital of Europe • Cycle track around Lock Ken – All ability, tourism, health, business e.g. cycle hire, green travel. – Connecting to local community hubs – can you cycle safely from North to South?

Priority term level	Economic Regeneration
Short	Better apprenticeships and encouraging the trades • Glenkens website (not individual villages) aimed at visitors – create shared gateway • Better connectivity to data/mobile @ proper speeds • Broadband for business • IT infrastructure – support home working • Support for small local business • More jobs • Duke of Edinburgh for young people, trips into the hills • Buddy up schools and workplaces so kids know what is available • Tourism, keeping it how it is but sharing how great it is • Options for local wool products from sheep • Serviced stops for camper vans ○ Sewage disposal ○ Water fill ○ Pre-bookable food boxes • Stop growth, have a steady state economy • Stop fossil-fuelled car rallies • Electric car rallying • Think about more infrastructure for tourists e.g. cycle paths/signposts/walking routes ○ And the community • Paths (off road) connecting villages/pubs (Parton heritage trail is a good example) • The challenge with the Glenkens brand is that Corsock and Balmaghie are not in the Glenkens – poetic licence

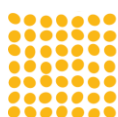


	- Needs rebranding 'Glenkens Signs' creative marketing - Kenny the Loch Ken Monster "you are now entering the Glenkens" – not only useful but would advertise the project - Promote area connection with Mary Queen of Scots – smallest trail, Royal Burgh - The whole area needs mobile office space for regional organisations (& locally bussed) - Collaborative working between Private Sector and Third Sector – Circular Economy - Educate re Biosphere and Dark Sky park branding - Biosphere – grow sense of place, community buses, people and future - Support existing business, GAC/Holiday park/shops/etc. - Tap into Borderland initiative funds - Preserve what's good about the area, appreciate what's here – Need balance - Improved toilets and information on where they are situated throughout Glenkens - Dalry needs facility to support walks on Sutherland Upland way – bunkhouse/campsite and a café - Make good footpaths for mountain biking and walkers - Make hills/lochs accessible - Ensure existing paths are used paths and be aware of erosion - Windfarm access everywhere (recreation)
Medium	Eco- friendly place brand and logo Electric transport - More places to eat - Especially in Winter - In the evenings - Vital for B&B & Self Catering industry - Start-up grants for entrepreneurs X2 - Light Festival in forest - Quality of tourist offer – training and family visits for current businesses - Kenmure Castle - Reinstate gardens/produce food - Camping pods inside structure of castle - Wedding venue - Boat trips to & from sailing centre, Balmaghie & castle - Kenmure Castle restored - Promote as an area for walkers/cyclists/bird-watchers/gastronomes/dark skies etc. local craft skills – hiking tours/trails - Develop & promote Glenkens as a centre for walkers - Hot-desk hubs – private & public sector and communities coming together - Strategy to develop economy suited in population as it changes/develops - Market quality of life for working age people % share of windfarm to community profits rather than cash to communities - Skills development training, work experience and incentives to stay for young people based locally - Support sustainable business & enterprise - A bespoke bikers café for the 1000's of bikers who pass through the area

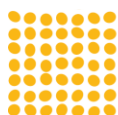


	• Repair and recycle hub, with a range of skills • Workspace hub with office space and workshop space, and with access to business advice and need funding • Farm labour coop (with training element) designed to supply part-time labour in a range of skills on demand • Education matched to local business aspirations and school and for adults • The whole area needs mobile office space for regional organisations • Link with other comparable initiatives e.g. North Coast 500 SW 300 • Music festival • Community farm (specialising in fruit and veg) with training element and linked to delivery network (shops, cafes, etc.) • Connecting people and skills • Childcare outside and statutory provision e.g. 0-3yrs, breakfast clubs, after-school clubs to allow both parents to work.
Long	Electric powered launch on Loch Ken • Bunkhouse/hostel – a good one • School trips/young travellers/facilities • A massive treehouse • Sell our water ○ Free water stations ○ Glenkens spring water in sustainable/refill bottles ○ What water is publicly owned for us to sell • Dark Skies and National Park – National branding, support them • Active promotion of area to businesses • Apprentice scheme to create local employed/self-employed tradesman type positions • Young people drawn back to the area after being away • More jobs • Footpath/segregated cycling path along Lock Ken to facilitate more tourism. • Infrastructure for freelance working • Improve accommodation quality. Many bunkhouses to chalet parks to 5* • Walk (Inclusive) round Lock Ken • Selling Glenkens area to region as well as further afield. Attract working-age families who are mobile • Could we have a usual place equivalent accessible employer training place for a Glenkens young people who would benefit • Interaction between business and community groups work well. • Fully self-sustaining hotel for the area • Everyone working together for the future • Bigger groups collaborative working, bigger results

Priority term level	Addressing climate change - sustainability, local energy and improving transport and housing
Short	• The Galloway diet – ties in with land for all – small parcels of land for (young) growers, lessons in regenerative farming, mob-grazing, micro-dairies, silvoculture, composting toilets, permaculture. • Education for farmers, help them to stop using industrial, carbon-omission – high farming methods, and to do just as well without chemical pesticides, pesticides, fertilisers and discover the joy and increased bio-diversity and soil and animal health of high density, short duration, long recovery grazing.

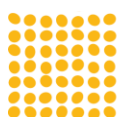


	• Link with housing strategy locally e.g. extra care housing /w-housing. • Community cars, electric to hire • Pay for 17 year olds to pass their driving test • Community electric bike library • Affordable rented housing for all • Community car sharing and community car hiring • E-bike library • Community seed bank for growing food • Give people a chance to help with growing vegetables • Have a share in a food producing farm • Glenkens bus loop • Recruit someone to support the local people to make the best choices for changing to lower carbon usage • Promote SW300 • Ensure climate considerations underpin everything • Dial a ride
Medium	• Buy electric bikes for everyone that wants one • Aim to have a carbon neutral village – like Transition Towns • Make the foodbank bike-able • Community bike library • Glenkens to commit to zero carbon • Provide segregated walking and cycling along the roads • Reduce car speed limits • Create a community resource of information • Community car sharing co-ordinated • Community transport organisations to switch to electric (but costly) • Community heating networks • Create a “house of the future” • Purchase land for banks of solar panels – with room between for biodiversity • Community energy plan • EV charging points • Re-open viaduct across the loch • Electric minibus for Galloway Community Transport • Be welcoming to refugees and asylum seekers • Community heat pumps (water / air / ground source) • More social or affordable housing • Retrofit community spaces to be energy efficient • Help private landlords and tenants to retrofit housing
Long	• Bring back the railways • More village shops so we can walk or cycle • Upgrade grid to support EV charging • More micro hydro • Project to enable everyone to transition from fossil fuel to electric system • Housing for older people • Micro-hydro project • Protect the peatlands • Free public transport for all • Universal basic income – enabled via wind farm investment • District heating system • Tree planting (mixed deciduous woodlands)



	• Regenerate farming – carbon sequestration • Zero carbon action plan • Community turbine • Major energy project including storage, community owned micro-grids, hydroponics etc. • Water bus / taxi for loch ken • Glenkens electric vehicle • Residential home for older people • Community “charabanc” with pedal power • Community hub with facilities for elderly etc. and a community garden • Become the climate capital of Europe
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Priority term level	Other Ideas
Short	• Limited camping spots ◦ These can support cafes/jobs ◦ Places for people to camp & perhaps a cooker breakfast for a fee • Micro hydro ◦ Like Laureston Hall • Need to address inequality ◦ Encourage young people to join ◦ Encourage that culture • Positive pets • Health, especially mental health and dementia • Collaboration with health professionals • Community councils to meet together • Use the UNESCO badge • Create a care farm • Informal befriending ◦ Can support vulnerable people to be more involved ◦ More cross-generational initiatives ◦ Wedding venues ▪ Employment for young people • Grants Fund – specifically for young people to apply for (e.g. primary/secondary/ 16-1) – to get them into the way of thinking about what they want for the community and making it happen – annual with support to generate ideas and apply • Community equipment share scheme e.g. tools, food production equipment ◦ Flexible for young people studying – skills bank – work that can fit around our lives
Medium	• Skill share scheme ◦ Community resilience & adaptability ◦ Support highlighting volunteering • Health and social care services • Voluntary Emergency Resilience • Positive Pets – involve young people and the elderly • Business support through employee volunteering • Mentoring scheme • Time banking • Link our plan to other area plans • Hot desk hubs



Long	• Build a hospice • Business support employee volunteering so people have time to volunteer • Empty houses – could these be taken into community ownership & used as affordable housing? • What about apprenticeship's/ building work to restore these ○ Hard to get trades people. Handy man scheme
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