

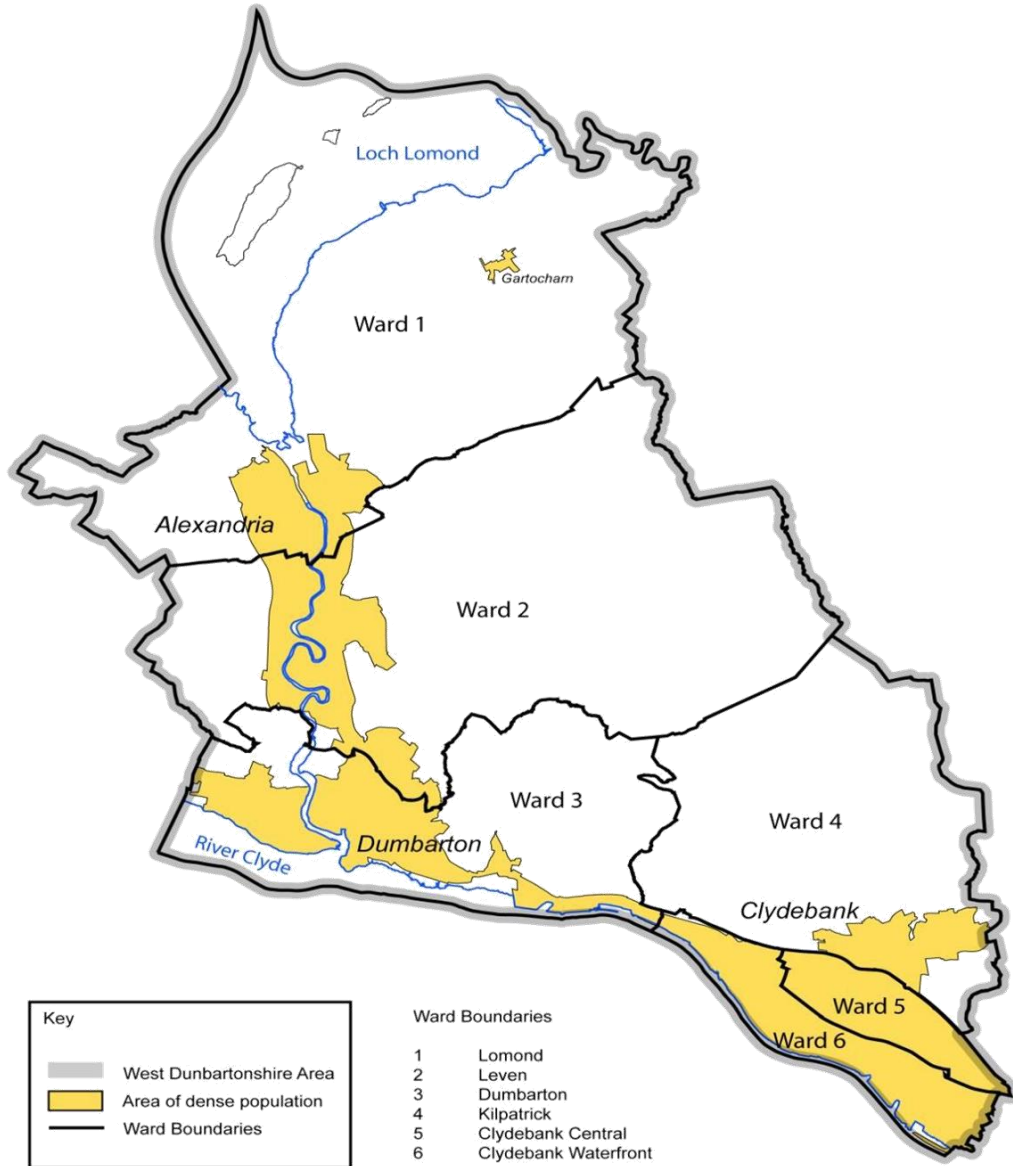


Terms of Reference

West Dunbartonshire Youth Alliance

Updated
11/6/2018

West Dunbartonshire Multi Member Ward Map



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Introduction

The multi-agency West Dunbartonshire Youth Alliance has been established as a community planning vehicle focussed on addressing the challenges faced by our young people and through a Community Learning and Development approach will contribute to achieving commitments in the West Dunbartonshire Plan for Place (Local Outcome Improvement Plan) and Community Learning and Development Three Year Plan (2018-2021).

The lead service is currently Working4U, which also provides secretariat support to the Youth Alliance. The operation of the Youth Alliance is a shared responsibility between West Dunbartonshire Council, voluntary sector partners and other stakeholders.

The Youth Alliance is not a formally constituted body. It functions as a strong network committed to working with all relevant key partner organisations. Where appropriate, partners will strive to share resources and information to improve co-ordinated delivery of services for young people.

Organisations and agencies

The strategy aims to provide a framework for collaborative working amongst organisations directly and indirectly delivering CLD services in West Dunbartonshire or have a strong connected interest in successful provision. This includes organisations and agencies:

- with a specific core function for the of provision of CLD services, this would include Y Sort-it, Tulloch and Haldane Youth Services;
- that have multiple functions, one of which is provision of CLD and that have dedicated staff for this task, including Working 4U and WDC Communities Team;
- that provide a broader specialist education focus or work very closely with CLD practitioners to complement their goals, including Education Services, West College Scotland, WDC Libraries WD Leisure Trust and Work Connect;
- that have multiple functions, and that have staff with generic roles, for example, Police Scotland, WD Community Justice, local authority local housing offices or homelessness teams, health and social care services or community/voluntary sector, third sector services that provide support to a particular client group across a range of issues, including SKapade and Street League.

What is Community Learning and Development?

The Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships: Community Learning and Development (2012) underpins national CLD policy in Scotland and the Guidance sets out a definition of CLD as:

‘a coherent and distinctive set of practices, defined by clearly identified competences; delivered in diverse settings and sectors by practitioners with a wide variety of job titles, working with people of all ages.’ CLD is ‘a distinctive process of engagement and support, with a learning content that is negotiated with learners. Community learning and development (CLD) plays a central part in ensuring individuals, families and communities

across Scotland reach their potential through lifelong learning, mutual self-help and community organisation - and that the available support and opportunities are community-led, built around people's aspirations.

The target of CLD is to support 'primarily disadvantaged or vulnerable groups and individuals of all ages to engage in learning, with a focus on bringing about change in their lives and communities.'

Our Strategic Priorities

- **Nurtured/Flourishing;** *our young people are supported to access opportunities to develop their Skills for Learning, Life and Work.*
- **Empowered/Independent;** *our young people confident and have an effective platform to impact decisions that affect their lives.*
- **Safe;** *our young people live in safe communities where the impact of issue such as drugs and alcohol misuse is addressed, and our young people are supported to improve their emotional and mental health and wellbeing.*

Purpose

- To co-ordinate improved service delivery for young people through an agreed agenda.
- To identify priority geographical areas and generic issues and to co-ordinate multi-agency initiatives to respond effectively to young people's needs and aspirations.
- To develop a high quality youth participation and engagement structure that partners can utilise to inform future service delivery and which gives young people a voice.
- To improve access to a range of joined-up services for young people that will keep them safe and improve their life chances, health and well-being.
- To improve opportunities for young people to gain access to appropriate learning, education, volunteering, training and employment.
- To have a shared approach to funding for youth work/youth services to ensure strategic use of funding across the partnership.

Core Membership

- The Youth Alliance has established a strategic partnership approach, which is responsible for ensuring an action plan is developed with appropriate input from relevant partners and for ensuring that actions and working groups/sub-groups are progressed and monitored on a regular basis
- Membership of the core group comprises a range of key partners from the statutory and voluntary sector.
- Membership will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that the partnership purpose remains valid.

We will ensure:

- That information is shared by individual partners about proposed funding applications to all funding bodies to help to reduce competition between agencies that are striving to achieve positive and shared outcomes for young people.
- That strategic priorities of the partnership are being met.
- That Synergy/collaborative gain is being maximised and there is no duplication.
- That Peer support is encouraged and funding applications are being considered and supported by the partnership.

Partnership working:

- The Youth Alliance (and any sub-groups/working groups) will operate on the basis of consensus and in the spirit of sound partnership. This will take place within the context of statutory accountability and within the priorities of each organisation, reflecting LOIP and CLD plan priorities and within the agreed structure and governance of each organisation.
- This does not mean that each partner is signed up to deliver all of the services and infrastructure necessary to achieve outcomes in the Local Improvement plan and CLD plan. Rather, it is about making a commitment, within the constraints of partners' duties and responsibilities, to take every opportunity to promote and support the achievement of agreed outcomes in plans.
- An annual calendar of meetings will be agreed and circulated. Within this calendar of meetings, partners make every effort to attend and, where possible, send an appropriate substitute when they are unable to attend. Partners can also provide written updates to the Youth Alliance as and when necessary.
- All paperwork for meetings of the Youth Alliance will be circulated five days before each meeting.
- Formal reporting on the progress of the Youth Alliance will be in line with requirements of the Delivery and Improvement Groups.
- Members will inform the Chairperson of any changes in contact details or relevant staff changes, as appropriate.