

Turriff LLCPC minutes
 24th November 2020
 11am Microsoft Teams

As a partnership we have set priorities, these being:

Transitions/Resilience	Community Empowerment	Workforce Development	Using data effectively
Young People	Towns Team	Partnership CPD opportunities.	Sharing of data to highlight gaps in need.
Adults			
Community Group			

Present: Annette Holland, CLDW (chair), Colin Mcrae CLDW (WWYP) Stuart Grant CLO, Sam Rawlins (Community Planning Officer). Lee Menzies (Turriff Academy HT), Rebecca Stoker (SDS) , Claire Christie (CAB)

Annette started the meeting asking how everyone was feeling. Its ok to say you are not ok and know that support is there for you.

Updates are taken from the recording of the meeting hence the tense of the note

Lee's update

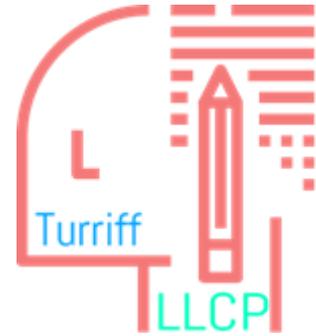
It's pretty relentless in schools and it takes it's toll on everyone, young people and staff. Its constant, hand washing, mask wearing, cleaning. There has to be an acceptance from the community that if there is a Covid case in school it's not the schools fault. There is a lot of pressure on everybody to try to be as safe as possible There has been quite a lot of abuse of head teachers because of Covid cases. Personally I've not had any, but I know colleagues have. You can't switch off until 9pm because you might get a call from the Health Protection Team. If you have a positive case you have to do all the stuff you have to, that's replicated across the 170 odd schools across the shire. Its 204/7 until 9pm.

Update from Mirem

From a community perspective, I'm noticing a similar thing. Where community groups are back up and running, or charity shops where volunteers are back up and running, there is a strain on their volunteers, having to keep up with protocols. The pressure of not wanting to be the person that possibly passes on Covid, or possibly passing on Covid to a vulnerable member of the community or vulnerable volunteer to be in contact with someone with Covid. Noticing the extra pressures among community groups and especially ones that have got face to face contact with the public. The feeling of pressure and responsibility that's involved with that.

I think just to say that we're all here. You know if you need them or not. Somebody picks up the phone and phone somebody in your network or in a different team. We all take responsibility. Its ok not to feel ok. You need that shoulder to burden.

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Update from Colin

The Gateway is closed to staff, and i'm works socially distancing myself from others. The way Turriff Academy has responded to the issues have been really good. Clear information comes out. Feels quite comfortable going into the school. Things take longer but we do get there, and we just have to be careful. Although extra curricular activities were stopped at the Academy the lunchtime football still goes ahead. Things are reviewed as we need to.

Wasn't feeling well last Thursday with no Covid symptoms but as a precaution cancelled the youth group.

Update from Claire

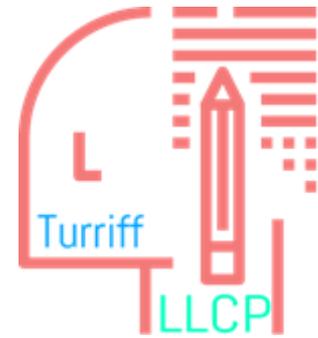
Busier than ever at the moment, with more or less everybody working, wither in the office or working from home. We are busier that we have ever been. We have a 3 or 4 week waiting time, and taking emergencies as we can. Different types of advice people are looking for. A lot of redundancy, and people on zero contracts. A majority of clients are suffering with their mental health. We are all suffering with our mental health and unfortunately, we are seeing some of the really worse of it. It's awful at the moment and our staff have been fantastic. Like everyone else, our advisors are struggling with the clients they are dealing with every day, some of which have many issues. Some clients have so many issues. Staff are exhausted and looking forward to their 2 weeks break. Fortunately, there has been no cases within our volunteers. A set number of staff come to the Bureau each day on a rota system with very strict social distancing measures. See up to four clients a week face to face and only three advisors will see these clients. One advisor will see clients in one day with the rooms fully sanitized before the next client. This gives us the ability to see the most vulnerable people which can't be supported over the phone, zoom or whatever platform. Its taking its toll on everyone.

Update from Rebecca - SDS

Providing virtual support to Turriff Academy pupils, to reduce the number of visitors in the building. Its working well, working with Teams in the PSE classes where Rebecca can interact with pupils. Rebecca has had one to one appointments through the school. Really busy with pupils who have left school, who aren't technically unemployed but due to the pandemic haven't secured apprenticeships.

Has a cohort of post school young people doing activity agreements, Employee ability fund etc. Engaging with a couple that are unemployed to get them involved with these too. Employability Fund are able to offer virtual group work and one to one support which has been a benefit with Turriff being so rural. Some young people who may not have been able to get their physically have been able to access virtually. They have had interaction with services like Bernardos and hopefully they might feel confident to

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move on to the face to face support when that is offered. Been busy with the post school side. Busy with adults over the summer but we now have our own team that deals with redundant adults.

There is funding that came out, New National Transition Training Fund. Transition training fund came out in 2015 in response to the oil and gas turndown. Its back again to help people who have been laid off through the pandemic. People come to SDS to apply. Rebecca advised attendees to advise clients to go into the my world of work website. Rebecca to share helpline number. After applying they are matched with a broker, which is a training provider for a year. There is a bit of a waiting list but not to be put off.

Update from Stuart – update on re-opening of facilities

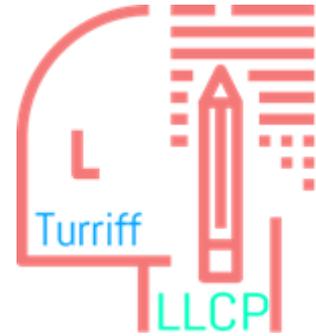
Everything has to go through ESB approval before a building can get reopened. This is a Board or senior management and some elected members. They are making decisions based on the demand, need and the types of buildings. All leisure facilities have now reopened for public use of some sort. There are a couple of these buildings out there that are still operating on a private let bases. Community centres and town halls are going through the process at the moment. We have the agreement that they can be used for somethings. Public use is still not quiet there for a lot of them They are looking at the estate in general as there a lot of rural facilities that there needs to be a decision made as to whether they are going to be retained as assets and then what investment is going to be needed in these types of buildings

The most recent one that went through was around changing rooms for sporting groups that are playing football or other sports that require changing rooms. It is quite difficult. There is an agreement that we can open up a lot of them on a phase two, which is like becoming public toilets. We are not encouraging changing and governing bodies are not encouraging changing therefor the team shouldn't be looking to change there but there is a recognition of the lack of toilets and the impact that was having in various areas. Toilets can be opened in discussion with the teams in these areas but they have been opened on the public toilet basis during the time used by the group with additional cleaning

Another piece of work is looking at facility management where they have hallkeeper and caretakers. Trying to standardise within the Council.

Comment from Mirrem

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Groups are meeting online. Not in the Turriff area, but the groups that have gone back to using community spaces like church halls and community halls are finding the cleaning regime quiet challenging. One group had a young person test positive for Covid and that had implications for all the other young people who attended on that day and how they cascaded the information out. Making sure that contact details were up to date and now considering whether they will continue to hold activities in person or to go back to online because of these challenges. There is a real mixed picture for groups and there are definitely impacts from loneliness, isolation, and mental health. Even groups that are meeting online are struggling. Fatigue from online meetings, the lack of physical interaction even if it is socially distancing. Groups are finding it hard to maintain enthusiasm and engagement and keep the numbers who are attending

Update from Sam

A lot of groups are meeting virtually so they can still continue to meet. Church halls are on reduced numbers so they will be finding it difficult to let larger groups in. This is having an impact on isolation, mental health which we are seeing across the board

Families and Children

- **Mental Health and Wellbeing**
- **approaches and delivery – pandemic lockdown, recovery and impacts**

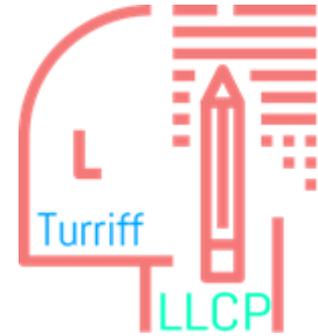
Lee

Its really important to remember having schools open is definitely better that having young people working from home. You see the smiley faces under the mask. Have really good interactions. The whole team meet the pupils coming in and out each day. Better for the pupils well being and mental health. Having the school open is definitely the right thing. Its just that acceptance that you know if there happens to be positive case. Turriff Academy has been very lucky. Although we have had groups of pupils and staff isolating, we've been able to offer them quiet a comprehensive online learning package. The vast majority of them have their face masks on and sanitise going in and out of classrooms.

The technology has improved in school and the junior pupils are getting an online offer from East Coast, an education package. They have up to 10 sessions a week with a teacher and pupils from across Scotland. They get an opportunity to learn in a new way.

Received funding from 250 additional chrome books which has been issued to families so young people have a chrome book each, so they don't have to borrow from school.

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Provided with dongles for people to improve their Wi-Fi at home. In the process of making sure that all staff have a laptop so if they have to work from home they have a laptop rather than a chrome book.

Introduced 2 foundation apprenticeships delivered in school for national 4 and national 5 level pupils. In the past it was always higher and level 6 pupils that would get the opportunity. One on motor vehicle maintenance and there other in construction. This has helped deliver the practical that the pupils weren't getting because they weren't going to college. Things have been tough but developing lots of new things.

Stuart

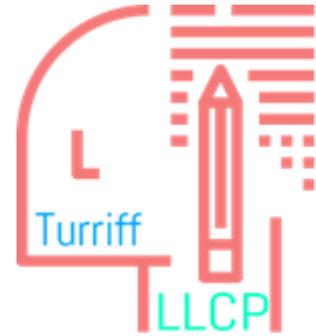
Stuart agrees with Lee that its definitely better for the kids to be at school, particularly when you are working from home as well. Starting to see support coming through for groups and the digital thing is a challenge for some and especially broadband issues in this area. Quite a few have struggled because of the reduction in capacity more than anything else. There are definitely more groups starting to pull back together and are keeping in contact, enquiring if there is any change to our availability. As we progress forward over the next few months, we may well be able to start seeing a change to that. These groups are still keen to getting back together and learning in the future. There are positives and we have to keep supporting these groups. We are looking at how we use spaces differently for example if there are any times at the sports centre where it could potentially be used as a meeting place as opposed to a room in the Gateway Centre. As the sports centre would allow the ability to offer much greater capacity. Beginning to put on more and more activities. it was very difficult at the start with the ever-changing guidance. Its starting to get a little bit easier and we are starting to see more of the young people participating. Starting to deliver swimming lessons again.

Sam

We are failing a number of groups. There are people who cannot access spaces. The social isolation is a massive problem for people and their mental health and don't think we are supporting them. Don't know how we can support them because some of it is rules and regulations. Places opening up to address poverty, food poverty etc but we seem to struggle in Turriff to do any of that. There are various groups collecting donations. Spent time trying to get the groups that are asking for donations to work together. They are all asking for donations to support vulnerable families, individuals as well as older people. It would be better if all the groups could work together to ensure that everyone is being supported and no one is getting missed out. We don't have the connectivity that we think we have. There is anxiety around people going out and about during school breaks and lunchtime as pupils aren't always observing social distancing. It has a knock on effect on our communities with the Turriff area.

Lee

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Turriff Academy are reiterating the message and a letter is going out to parents about antisocial behaviour from Police Scotland when they are out and about. The school has staggered lunch breaks and advised to keep in groups of six.

There is a concern about substance abuse in the community amongst young people and post school age.

There is no evidence in the school. Staff at the doors when pupils come in at break and lunchtime and don't see pupils under the influence. Lee has concerns about substance misuse out and about and working with the Police. Would like the police to be around to see what's happening.

Colin

Regarding substance misuse, perhaps this is the time we need to have a joined up approach and speak to the police about doing a better detached youth work as this is something that's been missing for years. Previously there has been midnight football which was a different model put perhaps time to start looking at something like this. Its apparent that some are drinking in sheds or the den. Detached work in the hot spots would be good to get out there engaging with the young people which must be done safely. I am the only WWYP CLDW in Turriff but will speak to my line manager and see what we can do.

Lee

We only have Colin but he's fantastic. What the young people get from Colin is good on lots of level and the support he provides to staff in school.

The academy is not doing fundraiser because there's no money out there.

Forms sent out last week for youngsters to sponsor a child or family through the Aberlour Trust. We have families who are in real crisis and pupils working from home. We have been given Chrome books but worry in case there have no electricity to charge the chrome book. The school has put together packs for families that don't have paper and pens for home learning.

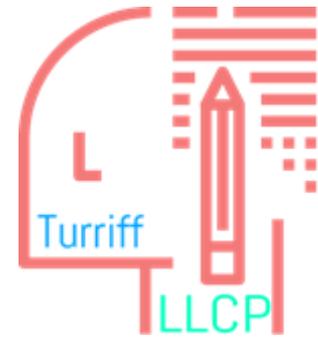
Sam

There is a stigma around asking for help and stuff.

Substance misuse. Might raise awareness and make young people more wary. Recent crime at weekend although Turriff is a relatively safe place. We may see an increase of crime as things get tighter for people. With regard to anti-social behaviours there is nothing else to do. No distraction as nowhere is open. We know that there is nowhere for them to go. They don't have the Gateway at the moment but that isn't necessary the place they want to go.

Partnership Work / projects / developments

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Sam

It's a challenge, and perhaps there are people being missed.

We are trying to get a delivery of a hot meal, or a meal that could be heated up for Christmas by a local business that could benefit from the income because it is shut. We have to wait until December to know if they have decided. Its too late to do that. We will go elsewhere, outwith Turriff to see if we can facilitate it. We are failing people, for example the elderly in Sim Gardens, whose lounge isn't open. Residents are going to other venues in Turriff to meet up rather than having a coffee together in their own building.

Is that something that we could ask volunteers to come in and clean as the lounge is shut. Unsure why the lounge is shut, whether it is due to staff capacity, sheltered housing officer or across the board. There is a door into the garden they could meet there with their coats on. There is a number of things that could be looked at to ensure they stay two metres apart. They could watch a television programme or film together to give them a better connection. There have been deaths and the rooms aren't getting re-let. We need to be thinking about educating them digitally as it's a big issue.

Turriff sits in Formartine, which is in central, but Turriff is in with the North. There has been more stuff going in in Fraserburgh, Peterhead, Macduff and Banff as there is more need and a denser population and more demand. Turriff gets forgotten and we know this from the community impact assessment work. There is need, but how do we raise awareness and ensure that Turriff stops getting forgotten. How do we address it? We are not going to solve it even next year but we are identifying issues but Turriff gets forgotten. The groups aren't joining up. How do we do it? If we can't address it at a younger age, its perpetuating through the generations. If we can address it from a younger age then can we stop that happening? It's been like this for a long time. How do we plug those gaps and work together?

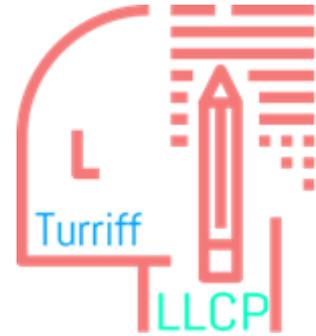
LEE

Agree with Sam, Turriff is forgotten, just look at the facilities in other towns around Turriff and bring this up with ECS. Not talking about the school, as the school is not about a building, its about what happens in the building. We have been able to access the sports centre more than we have in the past due the fact we don't have sports facilities on site at the moment. We will be starting building improvements which will bring the building up to a better spec. People in Turriff are poorly served with services that other communities have. There isn't a quick fix and at a time when there's even less money. We need to make the best of what we have and about working together.

Stuart

Roy McPherson has been appointed as a sports officer for the North in the last couple of months. He is starting to have a lot of conversations with various sporting groups across the North. The aim is to try and develop a sports hub in Turriff. There are a

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few Sports hubs across Aberdeenshire. The hub would be made up of representatives across Turriff coming together having a collective approach, which in turn can help develop and improve sporting provision across Turriff. It's a north post so not just Turriff.

Stuart shared his screen showing a new website that isn't live yet but will be very soon and is focusing on mental health and health and well being within the community.

Health and Wellbeing Team

Live Life Well team have been working throughout. We have had the Live Life at Home page on our website which has been offering various activities, which has been really popular and well received.

The live Life Well team is made up our health and wellbeing officers which have some support

Once the site is live Stuart will send to Annette to distribute to the group.

There has been an increase in participation from the older generation and there is a gap in the middle age group that didn't use to exist. There is an increase in participation from the older generation on things like health walks. There has been live teams classes and supporting GPs and health professionals if somebody has been in some form of care. They are looking at rolling this out to care homes. Successfully delivered a class for National Fitness Day which was held in Dawson Court and streamed to seven or eight care homes across Aberdeenshire.

Stuart left the meeting

Claire

Many clients are refusing food parcels and support as they are saying there is people in more need than them. Single parents with 3, 4 or 5 children refusing food parcels and support with clothing, because they say there must be people worse off than them. Its hard trying to get across that they are entitled to the support and referrals to other organisations. Seeing more people like this now because we are seeing people in situations they've never been in before. They know they are struggling but still making the assumption that there is somebody worse off than them.

How do we get it out to people that they are entitled to the support? Don't know how we combat that. We see it more and more often.

Annette

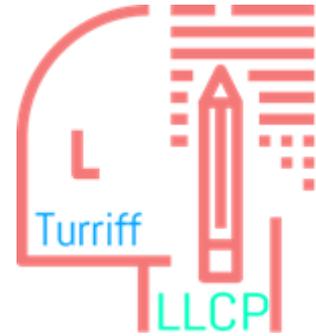
The idea of food larders, does that help the stigma?

Sam, regarding Food distribution

Suggested something like once a month coffee morning with bring and buy. Or if you have something you want to donate you could take something back that you will use. or pay a small donation and take something home. People feel they are providing for others. Community food space but they are not the people to take it forward.

Community Singers collecting donation for them.

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They have cupboards full of food and money but struggling to move the food on before it goes out of date. They do a great job but won't let Sam volunteer. They do a great job but also hold us back to allow identification of the need that is there. Less of a stigma if you have to ask for help. They won't hold a coffee morning.

Meldrum legion holds a soup and sweet for a donation. If you can afford it, put it in, if you can't still come along. Helps with the social isolation.

Turriff Legion won't open up and do it. Must wait until December to find out whether they are going to be prepared to provide meals.

There is so much going on in Turriff. Different groups fighting for whatever reason, whether they want the recognition or what but because of it we fail people.

Lee

Need to put a plan in place. Working with Social Work, Police etc.

Need a planned approach, something to do in the medium to long term.

Start to put plans in place

Concerns over what might happen over Christmas, with 2 weeks off, and out and about

Food issue. Huntly for example is very connected. If you need food in Huntly there's places you can go and pick up food discretely. You can get food at various places, either by putting a donation in or just taking something without having to go to a food bank.

Community spaces, like a phone box where you can drop off a donation or take something.

Look at how to do it differently because it does work in some communities and try to reduce the stigma.

When there has been elections they could be access to food.

Quite passionate about but don't have the time or capacity to get involved, but there is a need to try and make it OK to ask for help.

Sam

The phone box option. Turriff suffers from being too big and too small. Not sure if it would be used in the right way. It may be abused.

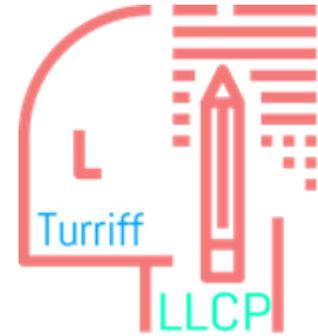
Ellon kirk centre had a cupboard that people could go in and take. Because there is a café there and someone there at all time they would notice if a family are coming in regularly. Is there something more we can do and have the conversation. The church gets invoice.

On the back of this community shop that's going into the RBS building. Whether there is something we can pick up and do in there. Not sure

How do we get over the hurdle. I work and talk to Debbie Rennie quite a lot. Lee and Sam attend the Food Strategy Group and Sam has a food bank meeting this week.

South do such a lot. Is it because they are more rural than Turriff. So much further ahead than Turriff.

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Peterhead and Fraserburgh have got a pantry with the Peterhead Food bank, Cfine etc

It's because they are so under the radar and want to remain that way, they stop us being able to move it forward. That needs to stop because Turriff has got the need.

Claire

They do so much good work and think they are under the radar but everybody refers to them. They don't want to change what they do. We have discussed this so many times and they do good work but refuse to change their outlook or the way they work, or allow anybody else to help and that's a stumbling block. It's identifying that they do a great job, but it could be so much more. If they don't want to join us that shouldn't stop us working together to improve things.

Lee

A comfort cupboard is something we spoke about before lockdown. It would just be for the pupils to have access to, we couldn't have the community coming in due to covid.

We gave all the kids a stationary pack. Everyone got a pencil rubber ruler etc. We have restocked this

Sanitary products are available free and the pupils know which toilets these are available

School discreetly give clothes to pupils when they are in need

Annette

Discussed this many times and tried to change the stigma of a food parcel. It's something you are entitled to. Look at a small working group. Things have changed.. Like the idea of at the election point, having food outside the door.

Change the stigma of a food parcel. It's something you are entitled to.

Sam

I have an issue with cafes as you need money to go and buy something.

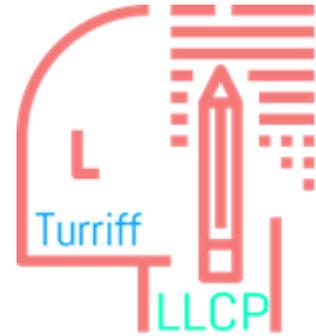
We need to normalise walking out with a pack of food. The theory is right, it how to make it accessible so that people don't have to pay.

Pay it forward. Eg pay for a tea and sandwich for somebody. Eg at celebrations or Murdoch Allans.

Having a space and facilities to do it. We all recognise today that we need to collectively do something.

The little cozy bosie with Live Life Aberdeenshire. Stuff going out to the Families Resource Centre, care homes in Ellon. If there is knitted products that you wanted to take in the school like bobble hats or whatever for the kids, we can facilitate that too.

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Volunteers for a working party to take this forward

Sam, Mirem volunteered Rona (who starts in January) Claire, Lee will ask for a parent council member, parents for the cluster schools

Perhaps all the local primary schools could have a table outside their gates as parents aren't allowed in to the schools at the moment

The nursery are asking for donations to be dropped off there

If we come up with a model that that they are not prepared to do, that compliments rather than takes over. It needs to be easily accessible.

Update from Calvin Little Public Health

Asked some months ago about restarting the health and wellbeing group for Turriff. Need to know the purpose of the group and why they are meeting. It's a public health forum and Calvin will need to lead on it. It's in the Community Plan which is being refreshed as they were out of date from the end of March 2019. Annette asked who would be interested. Lee would put forward 2 senior pupils who are health and wellbeing young leaders. Claire or someone from CAB and Sam also

AOB

If there is anything that you want to publicise share it Sam and she will share in the fortnightly bulletin or on there facebook page.

Annette thanked everyone for attending and will send out the teams invite for the next meeting for February or March 2021

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