

North Lanarkshire Council Report

Communities Committee

Does this report require to be approved?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Ref SP/LP

Date

29/04/24

Community Wealth Building Update

From Stephen Penman, Chief Officer (Strategic Communication & Engagement)

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Executive Summary

The report provides an update on progress with the council and partnership approach to Community Wealth Building and activity to engage key stakeholders. The report outlines progress made in efforts to ensure community and voluntary sector participation in the establishment of a Community Wealth Building Commitment Statement. This is in support of a number of key programme of work streams, thereby ensuring that the council embeds the Community Wealth Building model of economic development into its Programme of Work and associated plans and wider strategies.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Communities Committee:

- (1) Acknowledge work to date to ensure that key stakeholders are involved in the development of the CWB approach.
- (2) Supports next steps in taking forward this approach.

The Plan for North Lanarkshire

Priority	All priorities
Ambition statement	(5) Grow and improve the sustainability and diversity of North Lanarkshire's economy
Programme of Work	Resilient People

1. Background

- 1.1 Community Wealth Building (CWB) is an internationally recognised approach to economic development designed to tackle long-standing economic challenges. It seeks to transform local and regional economies by considering the ways in which the public sector, in partnership with the private, third and community sectors, can ensure more wealth is generated, circulated and retained in communities and localities. The approach is focussed on growing the influence communities have on the economy and

ensuring communities receive more of the benefits from the wealth they help to generate.

1.2 The CWB approach is focussed on five pillars of activity which play a complementary role in the retention of wealth in local places and regions for the benefits of communities. The five pillars of CWB are as follows.

- **Spending** Maximising community and business benefits through procurement and commissioning, developing good enterprises, Fair Work and shorter supply chains. This includes a focus on ways to achieve greater economic, social and environmental benefits such as growing investment in local businesses, supplier development and innovation, and ensuring the delivery of tangible community benefits.
- **Workforce** Increasing Fair Work and developing local labour markets that support the prosperity and wellbeing of communities. Ensuring public sector anchor organisations and other employers embed Fair Work principles, promoting the payment of the real Living Wage; recruiting locally, from groups who face inequalities and are furthest from the labour market; and promoting work that is secure, provides flexible working and training opportunities and supports the workforce to have an effective voice.
- **Land and Property**; Growing social, ecological, financial and economic value that local communities gain from land and property assets. Productive use of anchor organisation land and property, for example through diversified ownership models including community ownership, and tackling vacant and derelict land and buildings.
- **Inclusive Ownership**; Developing more local and inclusive enterprises which generate community wealth, including social enterprises, employee-owned firms and co-operatives. Promoting greater diversity in the business base by encouraging formation and development of inclusive business models which support the local retention of wealth.
- **Finance**; Ensuring that flows of investment and financial institutions work for local people, communities and businesses. Increasing investment and re-circulating wealth within local economies including through access to affordable credit and business finance.

A more detailed overview of the pillars along with some examples of this applies in North Lanarkshire is at appendices 1 and 2:

1.3 CWB seeks to use the economic levers available to “anchor organisations” to support their local and regional economies. Anchor organisations are typically large employers with a strong local presence in an area. Examples of anchor organisations are local authorities, health and social care bodies, housing associations, further and higher education institutions, enterprise agencies and large private sector employers. It is recognised that anchor organisations can exert influence through the commissioning and purchasing of goods and services, through their workforce and employment capacity and by use of their facilities and land assets to affect social, economic and environmental change.

1.4 It is recognised that third sector organisations, community organisations, development trusts and micro-businesses can and often do play a pivotal role in driving forward CWB

and have a range of levers through their spend, employment, assets and local relationships.

- 1.5 The Scottish Government has adopted the internationally recognised Community Wealth Building (CWB) approach to economic development as a key practical means by which progress can be made towards realising our wellbeing economy vision outlined in the [National Strategy for Economic Transformation \(NSET\)](#).
- 1.6 The Programme for Government 2022-23 committed to the facilitation of a consultation on Community Wealth Building legislation to invite the views of a wide range stakeholders on the changes that are required to grow local wealth and give communities a greater stake in the economy. The consultation took place between 31st January and 25th April 2023. The consultation explored which new powers, abilities and duties will enable local authorities, public bodies, wider community planning partners and Regional Economic Partnerships to have more individual and collective influence in taking action to support CWB in their local area or region.
- 1.7 In May 2023 the Enterprise and Fair work Committee approved the councils role in the development of a partnership approach to CWB and this work has been driven through NLP Strategic Leadership Board mechanisms as the Community Planning Partnership for North Lanarkshire.

2. Report

Partnership Approach to Community Wealth Building in North Lanarkshire

- 2.1 Early engagement with Community Planning partners highlighted that a range of activities and approaches that already support the CWB approach are evident across individual agencies and shared partnership activity. Appendix 2 shows examples of some current activity and approaches linked to the CWB pillars. In addition to being threaded throughout specific thematic partnership priorities such as tackling poverty and Climate Change, CWB is already prominent in targeted work to strengthen the partnership and empower local communities through for example:
 - **The 9 Community Boards** as a vehicle for local people to come together in partnership with public sector, third sector organisations and elected members to drive delivery of the LOIP's and ensure local people have a voice.
 - **9 Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIPs)** articulating local priorities and ensuring partnership resources are targeted to working with communities around these priorities. Thematic approaches are emerging in each locality unlocking opportunities to look at maximising delivery through existing shared resource, attraction of additional external funding or income generating opportunities. More information can be accessed [here](#).
 - **CommUnity Agreement** using asset based and Appreciative Inquiry approaches to codesign an agreement, based on a core set of values and principles between the Third Sector, public sector agencies for working together to improve outcomes for local people. More information can be accessed [here](#).
 - **Fair Funding Charter:** Led by Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (VANL) the [North Lanarkshire Fair Funding Charter](#) builds on CWB approaches to funding the third sector in a way that is sustainable and asset based.

- **North Lanarkshire Social Enterprise Framework and Action Plan:** aims to support the social enterprise sector to become more enterprising, more connected and more sustainable to provide support and opportunities to those in the greatest need and facilitate the wider social and environmental changes to improve our communities. More information can be accessed [here](#).
- **North Lanarkshire Volunteering Strategy:** was developed by the North Lanarkshire Volunteering Partnership during 2022 to strengthen volunteering across North Lanarkshire for the benefit of volunteers; residents and communities supported by volunteers; and volunteer-involving organisations. More information can be accessed [here](#).
- **Participatory Budgeting and local project delivery:** There are many local examples of how resources from across the partnership are used to lever in additional resources to deliver key projects and initiatives with and for local communities for example through use of resources from the Community Empowerment Challenge Fund , LDP and Community Solutions Funding to lever additional partner or external resources.

2.2 The agreed North Lanarkshire approach to Community Wealth Building is underpinned by a commitment to ensuring stakeholder engagement and codesign approaches are used to develop and adopt the shared Community Wealth Building Commitment Statement. The intention is that any relevant projects, Programmes of Work, Strategies and action plans must demonstrate how CWB principles and approaches are applied to ensure an integrated, corporate approach, avoid duplication and clear evidence of implementation.

Delivery update

2.3 A partnership CWB working group was established in Spring 2023 to consider Community Wealth Building at a North Lanarkshire Partnership level. The group is made up of representatives from key public sector agencies and the third sector. To date the group has

- Undertaken mapping across community planning partners and stakeholders across the 5 pillars. The mapping is added to after each engagement activity to ensure that a true picture of CWB under each of the pillars is built as well as to help to identify any gaps or improvement actions.
- Responded to and committed to considering the potential impact of the Scottish Government CWB consultation on potential legislation
- Creation of a wider stakeholder and engagement plan including engagement with Elected Members, key staff across Community Planning agencies including the council, community and voluntary sector, social enterprise and business networks
- Ensuring attendance at any national discussions around CWB

Update on stakeholder engagement

2.4 The Stakeholder engagement plan is organised around stakeholder groupings as follows

- Elected Members
- Key staff across CPP agencies
- Community and Voluntary Sector Networks including social enterprises
- Customer and user participation mechanisms (mainly for HSC)
- Business Community

Initial Stakeholder engagement session

- 2.5 61 delegates participated in the session from a range of local organisations from public and voluntary sector agencies, as well as community representatives (including Community Boards) and representatives from the business networks.

The session included an input from Scottish Government related to the national picture and an overview of the proposed North Lanarkshire approach, followed by detailed workshops around each of the CWB pillars. Participants were asked to consider the following questions for each of the pillars

- What do you know of that is working well?
- Where are the gaps?
- What could we do more of?
- What assets (buildings, groups, people, activities etc) are in place in your area?
- Partnership/collaborative opportunities

Feedback from this event was used to add to the mapping and to inform the wider engagement process.

Wider stakeholder engagement

- 2.6 The wider engagement phase ran between January and March 2024 and included engagement as follows

- A briefing and engagement session for Elected Members in February 2024
- 4 CVS locality events covering the 9 community Board areas throughout March 2024 as follows
 - Airdrie and Coatbridge
 - Bellshill and Motherwell
 - Wishaw and Shotts
 - Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and the Northern Corridor.These sessions were aimed at community and voluntary sector organisations operating in these areas
- Presentation at the North Lanarkshire Social Enterprise Network in October 2023. Further engagement with social enterprises took place at a NL Social Enterprise Network Development Session and a Social Enterprise Accelerator Event run in conjunction with Inspirent in January 2024
- NL CVS Conference as part of Strategic Planning workshop and at the CVS locality events run by VANL
- Attending an employee ownership workshop organised by Co-operative Development Scotland and learning journey with further engagement to take place with the business community and representative organisations
- Focus groups with key staff from partner agencies including NHS, HSCP and NLC
- Input to the HSC Engagement and participation Group to ensure links to the Engagement and Participation Strategy
- Delivery of a CWB workshop at the North HSCP Strategic Planning Group in March 2024
- Input to patient engagement mechanisms through NHS Lanarkshire

Next Steps

- Writing group established to review feedback from engagement, update mapping and draft statement and key implementation actions – April – June 2024
- Final engagement with key leadership including update input to NLP SLB and engagement with council leadership planned for May/June 2024
- Final sign off for draft statement August/Sept 2024 – NLP and Enterprise and Fair Work Committee
- Final draft circulation with key stakeholder and communities for final feedback – Aug- Oct 2024
- Launch and implementation from December 2024

3. Measures of success

- 3.1 Adoption of a Community Wealth Building Statement by North Lanarkshire Council.

4. Supporting documentation

- 4.1 Appendix 1- Community Wealth Building Pillars
Appendix 2 - Examples of Current Types of Activities undertaken by North Lanarkshire Council



Stephen Penman
Chief Officer (Strategic Communication and Engagement)

5. Impacts

5.1 Public Sector Equality Duty and Fairer Scotland Duty Does the report contain information that has an impact as a result of the Public Sector Equality Duty and/or Fairer Scotland Duty? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact? Adopting a CWB statement and approach would have a positive impact on the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Fairer Scotland Duty. A full EQIA will be undertaken throughout the process of drafting the statement If Yes, has an assessment been carried out and published on the council's website? https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/your-community/equalities/equality-and-fairer-scotland-duty-impact-assessments Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.2 Financial impact Does the report contain any financial impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant financial impacts been discussed and agreed with Finance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?
5.3 HR policy impact Does the report contain any HR policy or procedure impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant HR impacts been discussed and agreed with People Resources? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?
5.4 Legal impact Does the report contain any legal impacts (such as general legal matters, statutory considerations (including employment law considerations), or new legislation)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant legal impacts been discussed and agreed with Legal and Democratic? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?
5.5 Data protection impact Does the report / project / practice contain or involve the processing of personal data? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, is the processing of this personal data likely to result in a high risk to the data subject? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, has a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) been carried out and e-mailed to dataprotection@northlan.gov.uk Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

5.6	Technology / Digital impact
Does the report contain information that has an impact on either technology, digital transformation, service redesign / business change processes, data management, or connectivity / broadband / Wi-Fi?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?	
Where the impact identifies a requirement for significant technology change, has an assessment been carried out (or is scheduled to be carried out) by the Enterprise Architecture Governance Group (EAGG)?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
5.7	Environmental / Carbon impact
Does the report / project / practice contain information that has an impact on any environmental or carbon matters?	
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?	
A positive environmental/carbon impact is anticipated through a CWB approach whereby wealth is generated, circulated and retained in communities and localities.	
5.8	Communications impact
Does the report contain any information that has an impact on the council's communications activities?	
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?	
Communication and launch plan will be required and to date all event and engagement information has been communicated and targeted appropriately	
5.9	Risk impact
Is there a risk impact?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the key risks and potential impacts, highlighting where the risk(s) are assessed and recorded (e.g. Corporate or Service or Project Risk Registers), and how they are managed?	
5.10	Armed Forces Covenant Duty
Does the report require to take due regard of the Armed Forces Covenant Duty (i.e. does it relate to healthcare, housing, or education services for in-Service or ex-Service personnel, or their families, or widow(er)s)?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the provision which has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the particular needs of the Armed Forces community to make sure that they do not face disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public services.	
5.11	Children's rights and wellbeing impact
Does the report contain any information regarding any council activity, service delivery, policy, or plan that has an impact on children and young people up to the age of 18, or on a specific group of these?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact and the provision that has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the relevant Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).	

If Yes, has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) been carried out?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Community Wealth Building Pillars

Spending Pillar

Definition: Maximising community and business benefits through procurement and commissioning, developing good enterprises, Fair Work and shorter supply chains.

Overview of activity: This includes a focus on ways to achieve greater economic, social and environmental benefits such as growing investment in local businesses, supplier development and innovation, and ensuring the delivery of tangible community benefits.

What this will achieve: Higher levels of spend with Small to Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs), micro-businesses and inclusive business models resulting in business growth and improved, resilient local and regional economies.

Workforce Pillar

Definition: Increasing Fair Work and developing local labour markets that support the prosperity and wellbeing of communities.

Overview of activity: Ensuring public sector anchor organisations and other employers embed Fair Work principles, promoting the payment of the real Living Wage; recruiting locally, from groups who face inequalities and are furthest from the labour market; and promoting work that is secure, provides flexible working and training opportunities and supports the workforce to have an effective voice. What this will achieve: Access to local and fair employment opportunities, fairer wages, skills development opportunities and improved wellbeing of employees.

Land and Property Pillar

Definition: Growing social, ecological, financial and economic value that local communities gain from land and property assets.

Overview of activity: Productive use of anchor organisation land and property, for example through diversified ownership models including community ownership, and tackling vacant and derelict land and buildings. What this will achieve: Land and property are used for the common good and benefit communities, SMEs and micro-businesses and the environment.

Inclusive Ownership Pillar

Definition: Developing more local and inclusive enterprises which generate community wealth, including social enterprises, employee-owned firms and cooperatives.

Overview of activity: Promoting greater diversity in the business base by encouraging formation and development of inclusive business models which support the local retention of wealth. What this will achieve: More inclusive and democratically owned enterprises and assets which means the wealth created locally and by local people stays in those communities in the form of incomes and profits rather than being extracted out.

Finance Pillar

Definition: Ensuring that flows of investment and financial institutions work for local people, communities and businesses.

Overview of activity: Increasing investment and re-circulating wealth within local economies including through access to affordable credit and business finance. What this will achieve:

Money and investment stays in a local area and is available to support communities and businesses.

Examples of Current Types of Activities undertaken in North Lanarkshire

The undernoted examples were gathered through mapping undertaken to highlight key existing areas of activity aligned to Community Wealth Building. Further information will be added from additional engagement activity to help to inform the implementation actions associated with the final CWB statement.

Pillar 1 – Spending

Activity includes:
Procurement Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NLC Procurement Strategy 2023-2024 one of the three overarching purposes of the strategy is to procure the Supplies, Works and Services that we need in a lawful and ethical manner which encourages participation and supports sustainable economic growth for our communities and Scotland as a nation • NHSL Procurement Strategy 2021-2023- This strategy sets out targets for % of spend with Lanarkshire based businesses and this will be benchmarked against other territorial health boards.
Supplier Development Programme – the council actively participates in the Programme which provides free support to local businesses to assist them to become tender ready.
Delivery of Community Benefits in Procurement – A wide range of community benefits are already achieved through contracts delivered on behalf of the council and NHS Lanarkshire in areas such as employment opportunities, work experience, apprenticeships, supply chain development and community project contributions. A working group is in place to review the council's approach to delivering community benefits to maximise opportunities moving forward. In partnership with Public Health Scotland and local boards a community benefits gateway has been established to link suppliers with local 'asks' and locally NHS Lanarkshire has recently started to link with the leads of the community wish lists in both NLC and SLC.
Community Wish List – The council is working with Glasgow City Region on the development of the Community Wish List approach with VANL's representing the 8 Glasgow City Region Third Sector Interfaces (TSIs) on the working group for the Glasgow City Region Wish List.
Delivery of Lanarkshire Meet the Real Buyer events and participation in National Meet the Buyer Events. These events linked to the Supplier Development Programme. They enable local businesses to meet key council buyers to learn more about council procurement opportunities.
Exploration of a Social Value Approach to measure the contribution to the local economy of procurement.
Increased adoption of Fair Work First Principles within Procurement

Pillar 2 – Workforce

Activity includes:
Real Living Wage – As well as North Lanarkshire Partnership organisations being Real Living Wage Employers themselves, VANL is also a Living Hours employer and there is ongoing promotion of Living Wage to NL CVS as employers including promotion of living hours.

Disability Confident Leader – the council, NHS and VANL are all Disability Confident and the council is a champion for Disability Confident within the local and business communities.

North Lanarkshire Employer Charter – The charter contains key principles, which are aligned to drive positive improvements in outcomes in the North Lanarkshire labour market, and which are reflected in the four pillars of the Charter. Business must meet with at least two Pillars of the scheme to achieve an Award under the Charter:

- **Fair Pay** – increasing our average weekly wage in line with the Fairer Scotland Duty
- **Employ North Lanarkshire** – ensuring that job opportunities go to North Lanarkshire residents
- **Buy North Lanarkshire** – enhancing supply chain / procurement / community benefits
- **Be the Best** – ensuring fair work practices which attract and retain employees

NHSL also have a healthy workplace team who work with employers to support staff health and wellbeing.

Employability Support – delivery of a range of programmes and activities to support North Lanarkshire residents to improve their skills and secure employment including the NL CVS Employability Network and ensuring representation of the sector on the NL Local Employability Partnership.

Supported Employment - holistic support tailored to individual needs in order to help people with disabilities and/or multiple barriers to gain and sustain employment.

Support for **Living Wage Accreditation** – the council encourage business to become accredited and can provide financial support towards accreditation.

Employer Support – Tailored recruitment support for local employers including financial assistance through wage subsidy support.

Delivery of the **Workforce for the Future Strategy** – the strategy is underpinned by six strategic commitments which are intended to leverage the full range of our vocational education offerings, our employability and skills programmes and funding, and our employer and other partnership working capabilities to improve outcomes within our labour market and within key sectors.

NHS Lanarkshire **Cost of Living Plan** and **anchor institution action plan**.

Carer Positive Employer – North Lanarkshire HSCP, NHSNL and VANL are all engaged Carer Positive partnership, operating a working environment where carers are valued and supported.

Delivery of the **Tackling Poverty Strategy** which seeks to ensure that our residents are offered opportunities, support, advice and information that will address the three main drivers of poverty: increasing income from employment; maximising income via social security benefits; and reducing the cost of living.

Developing the Young Workforce Plan – the ambitious plan sets out how the council, along with schools and partners will continue to work together to improve employability experiences and increase the number of young people entering positive and sustained post-school destinations.

Pillar 3 – Land and Property

<p>Activity includes:</p> <p>Continued support to communities to facilitate and assist Community Asset Transfer to enable local organisations to gain ownership of assets to delivery local services and activities. Individual community planning partners have their own processes in place to ensure legislative obligations are met suited to the scope and operation of their organisation. However where possible and appropriate collaborative approaches are deployed specifically related to supporting and building the capacity of the CVS in North Lanarkshire</p>
<p>NLC's development of a wider approach to Community Ownership and Management of council owned assets to better align with the ambitions for of TPFNL, support community aspirations around use of assets and build further capacity across the CVS to take ownership and management of assets – this includes community leases and partnerships agreements</p>
<p>Delivery and support for schemes to address issues of Vacant and Derelict land to bring land back into productive use, and maximising funding through Vacant and Derelict Land Fund projects</p>
<p>Securing funding through the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund which supports locally developed place-based regeneration projects that involve local communities, helping to tackle inequalities and deliver inclusive growth in deprived and disadvantaged communities.</p>
<p>Delivery of the Open Market Purchase Scheme to enable the council to buy homes in areas where there is demand for that type and size of property, and to bring empty properties back into use that have been lying empty or derelict for some time to increase the supply of homes</p>
<p>The continued delivery of the council's ambitious New Supply Programme, which aims to provide 5,000 new affordable homes by 2035.</p>
<p>Ongoing Town Centre Regeneration activity bringing town centre properties and land back into productive use and the delivery of Town Visions. This reflects active engagement in community planning work to strengthen the public health influence on planning in line with the ambitions of the new Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. This will include more close working between local authorities, NHS, partners and communities to consider local population health intelligence and local needs and utilise co- production models to influence town planning.</p>
<p>Ongoing development of property and regeneration projects by Fusion Assets to increase the volume of commercial property and industrial units in the area</p>
<p>Development and delivery of Town and Community Hubs to provide services for education and wider sport, leisure, culture and community uses and services.</p>
<p>Delivery of the Food Growing Strategy which aims to increase access to affordable, healthy, sustainable food by increasing opportunities for people in North Lanarkshire to 'grow-your-own' through allotments and other community growing models.</p> <p>NHSL chairs the green health partnership and have expanded growing opportunities within our hospital and community health sites.</p> <p>VANL supports delivery of the NL Food Growing Strategy through the Green Wellbeing Project which is the community and CVS strand of the Action on Climate Together NL.</p>

Pillar 4 – Inclusive Ownership

Activity includes:
Development and delivery of the North Lanarkshire Social Enterprise Framework and Action Plan which seeks to grow and strengthen social enterprises in North Lanarkshire.
Delivery of support through the Lanarkshire Business Gateway to support businesses to set-up and grow to provide local employment opportunities and to increase local wealth.
Delivery of activities to increase levels of entrepreneurialism across North Lanarkshire. This includes the Lanarkshire Women In Business initiative to encourage more women to set-up in business, Dragons' Lair which seeks to work within schools to highlight the opportunities of setting up businesses and social enterprise to young people and engagement between schools and the Social Enterprise Academy.
Provision of grant funding to support businesses to set-up and grow. The council provides a range of financial support to assist businesses to set-up and grow.

Pillar 5 – Finance

Activity includes:
Delivery through the Community Boards and development/creation of 9 Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIP's) articulating local priorities and ensuring partnership resources are targeted to working with communities around these priorities. Thematic approaches are emerging in each locality unlocking opportunities to look at maximising delivery through existing shared resource, attraction of additional external funding or income generating opportunities.
Actions within the Tackling Poverty Strategy to widen access to affordable credit within communities and provision of debt and fuel poverty advice.
Capacity Building and Third Sector support to assist organisations to access external funding and develop other income streams.
Development of the Fair Funding Charter: The NLP Community and Voluntary Sector Partnership Group (CVSPG) is currently consulting on the development of a charter that builds on CWB approaches to funding the CVS in a way that is sustainable and asset based.
Ongoing development and delivery of Participatory Budgeting and leveraging in additional resources to deliver key projects and initiatives with and for local communities for example Local Development Programme, Redesigned approach to Community Grants, PB as a key delivery mechanism for the UKSPF Challenge funds, Community Solutions approach, ad hoc targeted PB to increase engagement of under represented communities of interest, identity and place.
Implementation of the North Lanarkshire Volunteering Strategy
Ongoing delivery of Business Support grants and funding to support growth and sustainability of the business sector
Community Solutions in North Lanarkshire is a strategic partnership between HSCP and the third sector interface VANL which invests in community assets. This funding has been increased over the last two years however is time limited. Sustained investment is required to fully realise the benefit of a community assets based approach to wellbeing.
Ongoing leverage and delivery of external funding to support local economic development and regeneration projects e.g. through Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, Vacant and Derelict Land fund, Levelling up Fund, UK Shared Prosperity Fund to deliver outcomes for local residents, communities, town centres, third sector and businesses.
Delivery of Community Grant funding through GAP, Councillor grants, Recover NL. UKSP Challenge Funds.
Ongoing development and delivery of Commissioning Approaches with the third sector