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**To: Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board**

**On: 26 October 2021**

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**Report by: Director of Communities and Housing Services**

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**Heading: Get into Summer**

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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 On 23 March 2021, a £20 million commitment was announced by the Scottish Government for the provision of activities during the 2021 summer holiday period to improve the wellbeing of children and young people particularly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. On 30 April 2021, COSLA Leaders approved the allocation of £15 million of this funding to Local Authorities to enhance local delivery.
  - 1.2 Renfrewshire Council was allocated £436,000 of the funding, which was used to deliver a highly successful programme of activities for children, families and young people, encouraging them to reconnect with their environment, their communities and their peers following the periods of isolation that were required during lockdown. Over 10,000 attendances were recorded at activities over the summer period
  - 1.3 This report notes the multi-agency, universal and targeted work developed and delivered across Renfrewshire throughout the summer holidays as part of the National Get into Summer initiative. The final detailed evaluation report submitted to Scottish Government on 24 September 2021 is attached as an appendix for the information of Members.
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## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members of the Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board are requested to:
  - (i) note the ambitious and successful Summer of Play programme developed and delivered during the summer of 2021 in Renfrewshire as set out in section 3 of this report ; and

- (ii) note the comprehensive evaluation report submitted to Scottish Government in line with the required submission date of 24 September 2021 and attached as an appendix.
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### **3. Renfrewshire Get into Summer Programme 2021**

- 3.1 Following the announcement of funding for the Get into Summer national summer of play programme, a multi-agency working group was established in Renfrewshire to develop a programme that would meet the needs of all children and young people in Renfrewshire. The group was led by officers from the Community Learning and Development service.
- 3.2 The approach taken was to develop a programme that would offer a number of core activities open to all on a universal basis throughout the summer, supported by a number of targeted activities aimed at particular groups or families known to have been particularly impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic. Both universal and targeted activities were developed in consultation with, and shaped by children, young people and families to reflect their expressed and identified needs, hopes and interests. The approach also built on tried and tested programmes and interventions and the feedback on learning and engagement previously undertaken with young people during the COVID-19 restrictions.
- 3.3 Care was taken to work closely with services such as Children's Social work and other partners to identify groups of young people that were particularly impacted or vulnerable and to signpost them towards and sign them up for universal activities. The aim was to develop a programme of integrated provision wherever possible rather than create streams of siloed provision that would maintain the barriers and isolation being particularly felt by some vulnerable people following the lockdown periods.
- 3.4 Activities were delivered outdoors wherever possible and included the provision of healthy meals and snacks – Over 11,900 lunches were distributed to young people and families participating in the programme; 9,185 of which were healthy packed lunches targeting those most in need. Additional snacks, treats and water were also available. All activities were compliant with current COVID-19 national government guidance and local restrictions. Universal provision was also targeted to ensure ease of access for communities that were known to have particular vulnerabilities or numbers of low-income households including:
- Renfrew – Arkleston PS, St James PS Moorpark and Gallowhill PS
  - Erskine – Bargarran /St John Bosco PS,
  - Paisley – West Primary School, Glencoats PS, St Pauls PS, Foxbar Youth Drop in, Morar Drive MUGA, Glenburn Go Zone, Skye Crescent MUGA, Beechwood Community Centre MUGA and Mary Russell PS.
  - Linwood – Riverbrae PS, Woodlands PS and Our Lady of Peace PS
  - Johnstone - West Johnstone shared campus and McMaster Centre MUGA.

3.5 Over the summer holiday period over 7000 attendances were recorded for universal provision and activities included:

- Morning sessions for 5-8 years old including: Multi-sports and Dance activities
- Afternoon and evening sessions for 8-16 years old including: Cooking skills; STEM activities; Creative writing; Drama and performance; Samba Drumming; Murals and urban art; Podcasting and vlogging workshops; Kayaking; Outdoor play and games; Sports activities; Gofitba; Groupwork; Archery; Escape room challenge; VR gaming; Laser quest session; Den Building; Chalk art; Dance; Orienteering; Camping skills; Treasure hunt; Team games; Arts and craft activities; High ropes course; Crate climb; Map reading; Bushcraft; Reading challenge; Mental Health toolkits; Movie night; Raft building and Kite-making.
- Specific provision to support Young Leaders & Youth Voice including: Youth Leadership Residential; Youth Led sessions; Duke of Edinburgh Skills training programme - day walk and overnight camping experience.
- Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue visited to interact and educate young people on water safety and deliver community safety messages whilst joining in and having fun with a much needed cool down with the fire hoses.
- Renfrewshire Leisure Active Schools and Sports Development provided additional sports-based programme that linked into community-based Sports Hubs.

3.6 In addition to the range of universal provision, a number of targeted activities were delivered with a focus on supporting the specific groups that were known to have been particularly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic – including those that were families of children in P1-P3 and ESOL, young carers, care experienced, young refugees/asylum seekers, ASN, LGBTi and young people experiencing mental health issues. Over 3000 attendances were recorded for targeted programmes.

3.7 Over 120 families joined the programme of 4-week family fun sessions. Families were identified through their participation in family learning, ESOL and Personal and Social Development classes and groups, and through referrals from schools and family support agencies. Over 235 children brought their mums, dads or grandparents to activities.

3.8 Programmed activities included:

- Outdoor Learning, Digital and creative media, Cooking and life skills, Personal and Social Development sessions, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme, and day trips.

- Story Telling, Bug Hunting and making insect hotels, bird spotting and making bird feeders, local nature walks, planting seeds, making gardens and terrariums, arts and crafts, tie-dying t-shirts, constructing play doh volcano, making lava lamps, scavenger hunts, traditional games, sports and gala days.
- 3.9 180 families took up the offer of support for families, and fun engaging activities and free play time over 4/5 days a week at the Riverbrae ASN Playscheme which ran for 5 weeks and provided:
- Free transport for parents within Renfrewshire
  - A nutritious meal and healthy snacks throughout the day
  - Indoor and outdoor activities – including sports and creative arts
  - Much needed social interaction with other young people
  - Staff who could respond to each individual child's needs
  - Support for families adjusting to restrictions being lifted
- 3.10 A key focus of the programme delivered was to develop a legacy of changing behaviours – encouraging young people and families to continue to engage with social activities and their communities beyond the programmed sessions held over the summer.
- 3.11 Vouchers and rewards for participants were developed and issued over the 7 weeks which included rewards from:
- Gravity
  - Smiggle
  - JD Sports
  - Foot Asylum
  - Swim passes from Renfrewshire Leisure to be used by end December 2021 that will allow up to 5,000 people to access a swim – either as individuals or families of up to 2 adults and 2 children. Swim passes were distributed through the universal provision and also through Social Work Area teams and Primary Schools targeted at families and young people in higher areas of need.
- 3.12 Children and young people were also offered the opportunity to achieve or work towards nationally recognised awards through Hi5, Dynamic Youth Award, Arts Award and Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme.

## **4. Background**

- 4.1 On 23 March 2021, a £20 million commitment was announced by the Deputy First Minister and First Minister for the provision of activities to improve the wellbeing of children and young people during the 2021 summer holidays.

- A Targeted Summer Offer - £15 million to local authorities to deliver enhanced holiday activities and experiences, integrating food and wider family support where needed, and targeted at low income families, children and young people particularly adversely affected by the impacts of the pandemic.
- A National Summer Offer - £5 million was invested directly in national partners to enhance opportunities for all children and young people to participate in activities and experiences this summer.

4.2 The priority across this investment was to improve the wellbeing of children and young people, providing opportunities for them to socialise and reconnect with peers during the summer through delivery of a range of activities, with food and family support integrated where needed within local communities. Local authorities were encouraged to work with local and national partners to coordinate and deliver holiday activities and experiences, integrating food and wider family support where needed, and targeted at low-income families, children and young people particularly adversely affected by the impacts of the pandemic.

4.3 The investment was part of the Scottish Government's social renewal agenda following the pandemic and was focused on getting it right for every child by promoting the wellbeing of children and young people as Scotland recovers from COVID-19. It also complemented wider investment in holiday support through free school meal replacement for those eligible for free school meals on the basis of low income, and wider investment in education recovery.

4.4 The priority for the £15 million investment was to help address the negative impacts associated with extended periods of isolation and lack of participation in normal activities during the pandemic. This was in acknowledgement of the hugely difficult time children, young people and families across Scotland have experienced.

4.5 While Community Learning and Development and Communities and Public Protection services led on the development and delivery of the Get into Summer programme the success of the Renfrewshire Get into Summer initiative would not have been possible without the support and great partnership working within the Council and from other organisations including:

- Aspen Outdoors
- DofE Scotland
- Erskine Youth Council
- Lapwing Lodge Activity Centre (West Region Scout Council)
- Moxie Creative Kids Events
- Oliver Cox Music
- Pachedu
- Police Scotland
- Prickly Thistle Video
- Renfrewshire Council Children's Services, Environment & Infrastructure, Finance & Resources
- Renfrewshire Leisure
- Renfrewshire Young Carers

- Renfrewshire Youth Work Network (Right2Dance, Paisley YMCA, Renfrew YMCA, Active Communities, CREATE Paisley),
  - Renfrewshire Youth Voice
  - RECOAT (Urban art)
  - Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
  - St Mirren FC
  - Star Project
  - Tannahill Centre
  - Who Cares? Scotland,
  - Young Scot
- 4.6 The evaluation is also showing that the Get into Summer Initiative brought communities together with positive economic benefits including
- Employment opportunities
  - Work for local businesses
  - Respite/Support for parents/carers
  - Free activities for all
  - Sharing of resources across partners
- 4.7 The legacy of the Get Into Summer programme will be based on the lessons learned and self-evaluation process, and capitalise on the positive strong partnership working across council services and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector youth agencies. Efforts will continue to build on achievements, and to re-connect children, young people and families to community spaces. Targeted work will continue through the Community Learning and Development partnership to recover education and promote learning opportunities in the autumn and winter community-based programmes, in recognition that the recovery from the impact of COVID-19 will require sustained intervention and provision. Part of this legacy includes the provision of activities and support up to and including the October School break.

## Implications of the Report

1. **Financial –**  
The full costs for delivering the Get into Summer programme were funded by Scottish Government as outlined in section 1.2 of this report.
2. **HR & Organisational Development –** none.
3. **Community/Council Planning –**  
The multi-agency, universal and targeted work developed and delivered across Renfrewshire throughout the summer holidays as part of the National Get into Summer initiative contributed to key areas of activity relevant to Community Planning priorities and Renfrewshire's Council Plan strategic outcomes; outlined below.
  - Our Renfrewshire is well - Supporting the wellness and resilience of our citizens and communities.
  - Our Renfrewshire is fair - addressing the inequalities that limit life chances.

- Reshaping our place, our economy, and our future - Promoting learning and skills for life.
  - Building strong, safe, and resilient communities - Empowering communities and Delivering community-based services.
  - Tackling inequality, ensuring opportunities for all – Promoting skills and learning for life, Celebrating youth! Improving mental health and wellbeing; Addressing health inequalities; and Promoting active lifestyles.
4. **Legal** – none.
  5. **Property/Assets** - none.
  6. **Information Technology** - none.
  7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
  8. **Health & Safety** - none.
  9. **Procurement** – none.
  10. **Risk** - none.
  11. **Privacy Impact** - none.
  12. **COSLA Policy Position** –not applicable.
  13. **Climate Risk** – not applicable.

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#### **List of Background Papers**

None

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## SUMMER OF ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE REPORTING TEMPLATE

Local Authority: Renfrewshire Council

Please complete this form using information gathered from your delivery partners. Please answer the following questions as fully as possible.

Please return your completed form to summer2021@gov.scot by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September.

### 1. Delivery Partners

<p><b>Who was involved in the delivery of summer activities?</b></p> <p><b>Please include a reference to both existing and new partnerships, if applicable</b></p>
<p>Renfrewshire Council Community Learning and Development made up of Youth Services and the Adult and Family Learning Services, worked in partnership with Children's Services and key partners to deliver a universal and targeted programme of summer activities for children, young people, and families across Renfrewshire throughout the summer.</p> <p>Local youth work partners and specialist organisations were engaged to deliver the programme of activities, providing opportunity to promote participation across a range of methods and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Renfrewshire Youth Work Network:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paisley YMCA,</li> <li>• Renfrew YMCA,</li> <li>• Active Communities,</li> <li>• CREATE Paisley,</li> <li>• Right 2 Dance</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) St Mirren FC and Street Stuff Programme</li> <li>c) Moxie Creative Kids Events</li> <li>d) Recoat (Contemporary Urban Art company)</li> <li>e) Oliver Cox Music</li> <li>f) Lapwing Lodge Activity Centre (West Region Scout Council)</li> <li>g) Who Cares? Scotland</li> <li>h) Renfrewshire Young Carers</li> <li>i) Renfrewshire Leisure</li> <li>j) Star Project</li> <li>k) Aspen Outdoors</li> <li>l) Young Scot</li> <li>m) Paisley FM</li> <li>n) Renfrewshire Youth Voice</li> </ul>



- o) Art Boss (Young Producers)
- p) Erskine Youth Council
- q) Riverbrae school campus
- r) Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme Scotland
- s) Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- t) Police Scotland

## 2. Activities delivered

### 2.1 What activities have been delivered?

**Please explain the types of activity, including ways in which food, childcare and wider family support may have been integrated.**

#### Overview

The approach taken in Renfrewshire was to develop a programme that would offer a range of core activities open to all on a universal basis throughout the summer, in conjunction to targeted activities aimed at identified groups and families known to have been impacted by COVID-19 pandemic. Both universal and targeted activities were developed in consultation with, and shaped by children, young people, and families to reflect their expressed and identified needs, hopes and interests. This approach demonstrated building on good practice models and incorporating the feedback on learning and engagement previously undertaken with children, young people, and families during the COVID-19 restrictions.

Partnership working with Children's Services and other community learning and development partners helped to identify groups of children and young people that were particularly impacted or vulnerable, and to signpost them towards universal activities. The aim was to develop a programme of integrated provision wherever possible rather than create streams of siloed provision that would maintain the barriers and isolation experienced by some people following the lockdown periods.

#### Get Into Summer - Universal Programme

The Get Into Summer Universal Programme was delivered to three age ranges, in communities across Renfrewshire during morning, afternoon and evening sessions, over 6 days a week within the 7-week summer school holidays.

The programme was advertised via a direct link from the Get Into Summer Parent Club website to the Renfrewshire Council website, which also contained details on how to register and book a place along with weblinks to both the Renfrewshire Young Scot Portal and Street Stuff website which published information on an area-based guide to programmed activities. There was also a comms strategy to advertise and raise awareness and promote the programme through social media.

#### a) 5–8-year-olds:

Morning sessions were delivered by Street Stuff and Right to Dance offering children safe and structured play and sporting activities at various venues.

- Sports activities including football and multi-sports and outdoor games
- Dance classes including a mixture of dance styles were offered including contemporary and hip hop/street dance

**b) 8–16-year-olds:**

The afternoon and evening youth work programme involved a partnership delivery where a variety of youth work partners and organisations working alongside Youth Services youth work staff to provide a mixed activity programme with a focus on building relationships and re-connecting with young people in their neighbourhoods.

Youth Services co-ordinated the activity-based sessions and ensured there was additional informal engagement to support young people as they talked about their experiences of lockdown, and the disruption to their lives, education, and family life. Most of the activities encouraged working in groups and team building and supporting young people as they re-adjusted to meeting others and taking part in activities outside their immediate home and reduced social circles. A focus was on listening and building on promoting health and wellbeing and the national youth work outcomes.

**The Youth Work programme included:**

- Cooking skills – learning about healthy eating
- STEM activities – using equipment and resources to play and explore
- Creative writing – encouraging young people to expressing themselves creatively
- Drama and performance – games and interactions leading to drama play
- Samba Drumming – rhythm and music for creating fun and noise in groups
- Murals and urban art – designing and producing outdoor urban art
- Podcasting and vlogging workshops – skills training on recording youth voice
- Kayaking – outdoor activity and sense of adventure
- Outdoor play and games – spending time outdoors and energising play
- Groupwork – informal discussions around issues that matter to young people
- Archery – outdoor activity as a try a sport
- Movie night – enjoying watching together with popcorn and healthy snacks
- Escape room challenge – problem solving and working as a team
- VR gaming – exploring virtual reality technology as a new experience
- Laser quest session – working in teams to take on challenges
- Den building – kits to play and build outside
- Chalk art – creative art on pavements and playgrounds
- Dance – exploring dance and movement working towards performance
- Orienteering – learning about map reading and using a compass
- Camping skills – learning skills for camping with low impact on the environment
- Treasure hunt – finding and solving clues to achieve success
- Team games – working together and having fun
- Arts and craft activities – small, focussed activities along themes
- High ropes course – high challenge to overcome fears and support working together
- Crate climb – individual challenge to reach high
- Map reading – learning skills on how to read maps and plan routes
- Bushcraft – learning about the environment and introduction to outdoor skills
- Mental Health toolkits and activities – supports for young people experiencing anxiety and signposting for support

- Raft Building – team building and working together
- Kitemaking – STEM and creative art for making kites at home

Children and young people were also offered the opportunity to achieve or work towards nationally recognised awards through Hi5, Dynamic Youth Award, Arts Award and Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme.

#### **The Street Stuff Programme included:**

Two sessions per day, both in the afternoon and evening in targeted communities encouraging young people to have fun in healthy activities in local communities. Young people from all backgrounds attended the universal activities often travelling to different community locations following where activities were being delivered.

- Multi sports including football, dance, basketball, netball, and other outdoor games including skipping, hula hoops, etc. to encourage fun and healthy activity
- Digital activities including on-line gaming through mobile Wi-Fi on some of the Street Stuff buses
- "Gofitba"

### **Get Into Summer – Targeted Provision**

The targeted programme recognised the need to respond to groups who face barriers to participation. Effort was made to reach out to groups who were vulnerable, and ensure they were provided with support to take part.

#### **Youth Work Programme**

This programme was co-ordinated and delivered by Youth Services.

##### **a) Young Leaders & Youth Voice:**

- Young Leaders designed and delivered sessions with support from youth workers at community based Get Into Summer programmes, focussing on Youth Voice and consultation on community needs, and delivering fun activities e.g., Escape room activity.
- Youth Voice Residential covering youth leadership and team building training, reflection on lockdown and impact of pandemic on young people, and planning for future events and programmes.
- LGBTi group was supported to meet outdoors during the summer and to discuss future champion's work.

##### **b) Outdoor Learning Programme:**

The programme made use of local green spaces to encourage outdoor learning and to promote health and wellbeing, including Gleniffer Braes, Boden Boo, local parks, and Lapwing Lodge Scout centre.

- Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme was delivered over the summer including introductory days, expeditions skills training programme; day walks, campcraft

skills training and an overnight camping experience. An Open group was formed which is now working toward Bronze and Silver level of Award as part of the summer of play legacy programme.

- Into the Wild programme offered a safe space for vulnerable young people including LGBTi. This group followed a Forest Schools model and is continuing to meet as part of the Summer of Play Legacy programme and will achieve a John Muir Award.
- Groups of young carers and care experienced groups were able to take part in new experiences and try outdoor activities they had not tried before.

## **Family Learning Programme**

This programme was co-ordinated and delivered by Adult and Family Learning Services. Targeted families were invited to 4 half-day weekly activity sessions on the themes of literacy, STEM, exploring the natural world and wellbeing. The sessions were structured to include opportunities for families to reconnect with each other through play and fun activities which could be replicated at home.

- Activities included: story telling; bugs hunts and making insect hotels; treasure hunts; making bird feeders, planters, and fairy gardens; terrarium building; giant bubble solutions; tie dyeing t-shirts; making lava lamps; building playdoh volcanoes; traditional sports days; shadow art and yoga.
- Renfrewshire Libraries Scoobmobile attended the Family Learning sessions to promote this year's Summer Reading Challenge and to encourage library membership and use. Each participating family was provided with a play pack to take home at the end of the programme which included a variety of toys and games such as play tents and tunnels, family garden games, picnic blankets and cool bags. The contents were chosen to encourage whole family involvement in outdoor play.

## **Renfrewshire ASN Playscheme**

This provision was co-ordinated and delivered by Children's Services. 250 families of children attending the Riverbrae school, St Pauls and St Anthony's Primary Schools were offered a place at the ASN Playscheme, as well as some children from The Mary Russell school. 180 families took up the offer of support for families, and fun engaging activities and free play time over 4/5 days a week. Whole day programmes, where all activities were carried out both indoors as well as outdoors.

- Sensory resources - these resources and activities and toys can be a brilliant relaxation tools for kids with all sorts of complex needs, including autism and developmental delays.
- Creative Craft and messy play for all age groups daily. Children loved taking their creations home and this develops their self-esteem.
- Outdoor group planned activities for all ages and abilities, parachute games, obstacle courses, circle time, dance, and exercise.
- Electronic games for children who enjoyed participating in this type of activity, although this was monitored as parents informed us to limit screen time
- Construction toys, imaginative play, quiet spaces, tents
- Life skills - gardening, sandwich making, meals together with peers, choice of their own activities, promoting good hygiene at all time

- Sports including football, walking, dancing, cycling (Using equipment) and soft playrooms where children could relax
- Music and art - which relaxed some pupils
- Story time and talk time; giving children the opportunity to express themselves and understand about the feelings of others
- Making friends; and having the opportunity to develop these friendships out with the playscheme
- Planned outdoor activities provided structure to each morning and afternoon and brought everyone together in a relaxed atmosphere with lots of encouragement for the children and staff to participate in mini circuits, dancercise, talent show and obstacle courses enabling the children to play with friends and meet new young people and adults.

**Please explain the types of activity, including ways in which food, childcare and wider family support may have been integrated.**

- Over 11,900 lunches were distributed to young people and families participating in the programme; 9,185 of which were healthy packed lunches targeting those most in need. Additional snacks, treats and water were also available.
- 1,000 Family and 1,000 individual swim passes were issued to children, young people, and families to that they could access leisure activities out with the programme. Passes were also issued to partners who could target families in need, and to encourage signposting to the available sessions in the programme that they could access in their local communities.
- Social Work Area Child Care Teams: targeting families and care experienced children and young people encouraging them to participate in activities near their homes by reducing barriers and supporting them to sign up their children to activities and a packed lunch.
- Continued partnership working with Who Cares? Scotland over the holiday period meant that groups of young people in kinship care could receive additional support and opportunity to take part in activities and gain a family experience together.
- Care experienced young people were also encouraged to take part in a trip to trampoline park with peer and siblings who they had not had a chance to do since lockdown.
- Renfrewshire Young Carers groups and individuals were offered wider opportunities beyond their support group to meet others and take part in outdoor activity days.
- The Renfrewshire Young Carers Choir started over the summer and were able to meet with a packed lunch and socialise before heading outdoors for their singing session.
- The Renfrewshire HomeLink service were able to include young people who receive additional support and vulnerable and isolated by offering them swim passes and supported them to participate in social and leisure activities in the universal programme.
- Adult and Family Learning Services; targeting families who are engaged in family learning programmes to offer continuity and to reaffirm confidence building and access to free resources over the school holiday period.
- Parents of Additional Support Needs pupils from Riverbrae were given the opportunity to see the weekly menu offered for their child. There was a vast choice every day of healthy hot and cold meals. Staff were always happy to provide for a child's particular like. Water, fruit, and healthy options were available throughout the day.

- Every child who attended the ASN playscheme, attended on the date's parents/ carers requested. There was also transport provided for all who requested. Both supported working parents and offered childcare on the days they required it.
- We were able to invite some families with very challenging home circumstances additional days at the ASN Playscheme and this additional family support offered helped greatly
- Mary Russell ASN Youth Club were offered a different community venue for their summer activity programme, where they could meet outside school and see their peers and take part in activities they would not normally experience.
- Street Stuff tied in with the Scottish Football Partnership to deliver the 'Go Fitba' programme which is an exciting football-based health and wellbeing project for primary school kids delivered by the Scottish Football Partnership Trust in association with community football clubs. The project offers children a platform for fun, physical activity and takes them on a weekly interactive educational journey to discover how they can stay active and lead a healthier lifestyle through diet and nutrition.
- Vouchers and rewards for participants were developed and issued over the 7 weeks which included rewards from:
  - Gravity
  - Smiggle
  - JD Sports
  - Foot Asylum

## **2.2 Please explain how the funding has allowed you to expand on your usual summer holiday provision. What has been different?**

### **Youth Work Programme:**

- Funding allowed for the provision of an increased range of both universal and targeted youth work opportunities
- Activities were available on a daily basis across all communities of Renfrewshire
- Legacy elements allow for ongoing engagement with vulnerable young people as part of an integrated programme of activities – building on and consolidating the success of the enhanced programme
- Targeted youth work was developed and delivered in dialogue with partners and in a joined-up way - reducing any risk of duplication or gaps in provision
- Greater focus on integrating identified vulnerable groups into mainstream universal provision rather than developing separate activity programmes in isolation
- Food was provided as a consistent part of all activities
- Enhanced rewards programme that sustains legacy benefits and encourages individual activity to be sustained – including swim passes
- Catch up programmes for D of E and other awards to ensure that young people don't lose opportunity to gain national accreditation due to the pandemic restrictions

### **Family Learning Programme:**

- Size and scale of programme offered was able to be scaled up and offered to more families across multiple communities
- Provision of lunches for participants was possible and made a difference for those families taking part

- Resources for activities e.g., a book for every child to take home during literacy week leading to legacy benefits and ongoing engagement
- Providing play pack for families to promote more physical activity outdoors.

#### **ASN Playscheme:**

- Additional funding was secured 3 weeks prior to the ASN Playscheme beginning. This allowed us to increase the intake of children per day from 35 to 40, thus enabling us to provide a further day for each child to attend.
- We were able to employ more staff, this ensured that children with very complex needs would have support from at least 2 staff members
- We purchased more outdoor and indoor resources which were suitable for all age groups

#### **Street Stuff**

- Allowed the extension of the age range to include 5 – 8-year-olds – increasing the age range from the core age group of 8+.
- Allowed the provision of additional locations of delivery for children and young people to attend.
- Additional equipment / consumables purchased to allow a wider range of multi-sporting activities to be delivered.
- More sessional staff were employed to deliver activities – delivering employability and career development benefits for local young people coming through the street stuff programme

### **3. Participants**

#### **3.1 Approximately how many children have participated in the activities?**

**Please include information on the approximate number of children and young people reached from the target groups as outlined in the guidance.**

#### **Overall Attendances:**

Universal attendees:		7003
Targetted attendances:	Community-based Programme	1247
	ASN Summer Programme	1920

**Total Attendances = 12,090**

#### **Legacy Swim passes**

- 1,000 Family (2 adults & 2 children) swim passes; 4000
- 1,000 Individual swim passes 1000

**Potentially 5,000 beneficiaries**

#### **Opportunities provided:**

- 539 sessions delivered through 7 weeks of summer holidays

- 284 sessions delivered Universal provision = 53%
- 255 sessions delivered Targeted Provision = 47%

**Please include information on the approximate number of children and young people reached from the target groups as outlined in the guidance.**

**Targeted groups included:**

Families invited to participate:

- Family Learning P1-P3 programme in schools in SIMD deciles 1 & 2
- ESOL learners' families
- young parents' groups
- Total number of families engaging: 128
- Total number of participating children: 238

The Adult and Family Learning Services do not collect or record personal information as indicated in target groups. However, the following was volunteered by families:

- No of children from minority ethnic families: 53
- No of children with a disability/ ASN: 15
- No of children experiencing significant transitions: 35  
(this is mainly children transitioning from Early Years to P1)

**Youth Services Membership**

- Total number of young people engaging in youth work activities: 784
  - No of young people from SIMD 1: 36%
  - No of young people from SIMD 2: 21%
  - No of young people from SIMD 3: 16%
- Total SIMD1-3: 73%**

**3.2 Please provide information on any target groups who did not participate, and any reflections on why that was the case.**

All target groups were represented at activities and participated – however in some cases individuals from within target groups chose not to participate and the following comments reflect why participation did not reach 100% of target groups:

- 150 target families were invited to participate, however not all attended for reasons including work commitments and local COVID-19 spikes.
- The family sessions were timetabled concurrently with Street Stuff children-only outdoor play sessions and some families chose the alternative option.
- Due to the short notice and the quick turnaround required to plan and deliver the programme, there was not enough time to establish the relationship with some care experienced young people, who tend to require more reassurance and relationship building in order for them to participate. There was interest but it was



difficult to then “convert” that interest into participation due to reticence and anxiety about contact and something out with their “comfort zone”.

- Marketing material was only available to schools just before the summer break which reduced opportunities to further target children, young people, and families in need.
- The reliance on digital skills to be able to access the online booking system due to COVID-19 restrictions did create barriers, and the lack of community-based services to be able to provide support to complete this for young people and families, impacted on who could make and confirm advance plans to take part – although participants were able to turn up and register for activities at the start of each session.
- The target group offered the ASN Playscheme places were pupils who attend Riverbrae, St Anthony’s and St Pauls. All parents/carers who were eligible to attend received an invitation. It was then their decision whether they attended. A few children from The Mary Russell school in Paisley who are currently not eligible to attend, were accommodated and this need will be reviewed in any further provision offered in future years.
- Due to the tight timeframe, the offer to support schools to deliver and recover their DofE expeditions and training was not taken up widely. The offer was welcomed and was seen as a positive way to build back loss of learning, to support young people to complete and achieve their award and allow school based DofE centres to “catch-up”. However, teachers and leaders were not able to mobilise or contact young people in time before the start of the summer school holidays – due to the short time period between award of funding and the break-up of schools. This is an offer that will be re-visited for future summer holiday periods on schools’ return.

### **3.3 Please provide information on how the views of children and families informed planning.**

Children, young people, and families who were supported by Community Learning and Development were consulted on their experiences during lockdown and the impact of COVID-19 through continuing engagement online and during engagement sessions outdoors. This learning was of great assistance in developing and targeting the programme activities and ensuring all priority groups were included.

Partners were also able to reflect and share in the planning process to design the programmed activities and had identified that the COVID-19 pandemic had resulted in an increase in poor mental health and social isolation, and issues around poverty and lack of aspiration and hope about the future.

The priority was to provide free fun activities that would support children, young people, and families to feel safe as the restriction levels were easing and to help them to reconnect with their peers, and with support services in their communities.

The focus was on getting outside and promoting healthy activity and positive mental health and wellbeing and re-connecting with each other and with services.

On-going review during the programme allowed staff across the whole programme to respond to feedback and comments by children, young people and families taking part. E.g., the preferred type of sandwiches, choosing certain activities and games to play, organising extra sessions of VR following successful experiences.

## **4. Outcomes and Reflections**

#### 4.1

- What difference has the delivered activities made for the wellbeing of children and young people?
- What have children, young people and their families told you about their experiences?

#### Youth Work Programme:

Young people were offered the opportunity to comment and feedback their thoughts and experiences of the programme, ranging from stickie notes, to dynamic outdoor reviewing methods, to collages and feedback sheets. Youth workers completed session recording sheets to ensure any impact of youth work delivery was noted including any issues or concerns to follow up. Here are some of the comments recorded:

*"I've never made smoothies before; Really enjoyed making the smoothies, tastes great; would like to do more cooking"*

*"I loved my shot on the VR it was so cool" "it was the first time i have ever tried vr and enjoyed it" "can't wait to get another shot of the VR next week"*

*"I wish the club ran every day of the summer" "It's been good to make new friends"*

*"I loved recording today"*

*"The best part for me was writing about what I would do if I ruled the world"*

*"Recording my voice using the podcast equipment was cool "*

*"I'm looking forward to next week's session" "I made new friends today"*

*"A young person talked about her bullying experience and how she overcame this and also talked about going back to singing lessons as a result of feedback from staff. She loved the session and said she would be back the next week. She said she loved making new friends during the daytime session."*

*"Nice to be outside as a group"*

*"Best day of my life; very fun - never done it before; easy to do; loved using the spray cans (as part of the mural urban art project)"*

*It's been good to work with other organisations, and hope we can do more of this going forward"*

*Conversation with parent - young person distanced on first visit but has come out of shell and joining in: "this has been so good for (my son) who has felt completely lost with no clubs and no contact with anyone and had become very withdrawn. It is a relief for me to see that he is smiling and hearing him laugh when I arrived to pick him up. He had lots to say"*

Feedback has revealed that the opportunity to get together with others was fundamentally welcomed, it became clear that there are significant levels of fear, anxiety, loss of

confidence and some children, young people and families are living with the long-term impact of social isolation, ill health, digital and food poverty.

### **Family Learning Programme:**

Adult and Family Learning Services ensured recording, reviewing and evaluation was carried out during the whole of the programme. This allowed staff to listen to children and families. Here is some of the feedback received:

*"Massive difference kids have never been out since lockdown it was great for the interaction of other kids and done safe helping them to socialise again"*

*"It has made a huge difference, the past year or more has been so hard not being able to do to any clubs or meet up with other families. I have noticed a difference in eldest with confidence in talking to other kids and making friendships"*

*"Being more confident to go out and socialise and play after lockdown. It was great that they met other families from the other school in area and adults".*

*"Socialising with other children & parents. Varied activities which have kept them interested. Breaks up boredom & they are having fun! "*

*"The children love it when parents take part"*

*"Making time is my problem due to work so just being here makes my day seeing these two have fun"*

*"It has helped me spend time with my kids"*

*"Made me enjoy my time with my child more"*

*"It has been a godsend for me, keeps me stress free"*

*"This has made a positive impact on both my children as it sets them up in a good mood for the rest of the day-they look forward to coming! Things are becoming more normal again!"*

### **Renfrewshire ASN Playscheme:**

Children completed daily diaries with emotions emojis, if children were unable to complete these, staff supported. The children evaluations carried out and this highlighted the views of the children on the type of activities they wanted offered, the healthy food they would like and if there was anything that would make their experience better.

Parents were consulted via email, mobile and face to face whenever we required their input and additional information on their child. A parental questionnaire was sent to all parents and the feedback has been extremely positive. Here are some of the parents' comments.

*"My son loved the youth clubs which were run in Riverbrae in the evenings. I think it is important for my son to interact with children who have similar interests as him. With the Inclusion Agenda (which is terrifying me - but I know it is for a different forum!) to have places where ASN children can be themselves and given the opportunity to part take in a*

*variety of activities but especially sporting activities to keep them active and engaged anything which can promote this can only be a positive resource"*

*"Me personal and other parents agreed at the time, some of our children do not wish to go to the school building in school holidays and would benefit more from being taken out and about in small groups."*

*"To be included within their community with activities"*

*"My son thoroughly enjoyed his time the daily diary sheets were perfect I do not think there is anything needed to improve the service all the staff were amazing. The only thing I would like is more days for my son although I know that's out with your control"*

*"I thought it was great to be given four days to come to the play scheme, my son really enjoyed it. More days would have been great, but I realise that it is not possible. Keep up the good work! We always appreciate everything you do for our son and our family"*

*"I only have great thing to say about the playscheme!"*

*"My son absolutely loves his time at Playscheme, and it plays an important part in his wee life."*

*"It gives him something to look forward to when school is closed as it is difficult for children like my son to mix with other children out with school."*

*"I feel the playscheme goes above and beyond with the things they do and make."*

*"I was very impressed this summer with the things my son brought home, he loved showing them off to his big brothers."*

*"The staff at Playscheme are all lovely and know him well from previous visits which is very reassuring for me. I sent them in a box of chocolates as a thank you for looking after him so well!"*

*"My son also seemed to be placed with a member of staff from Riverbrae which reassured me as I was able to communicate with them at the end of the session as my son found this summer holiday particularly challenging after his unstable school year for to the COVID situation."*

*"Riverbrae is a fantastic location offering great outside space where the children can play in a safe environment. The activities were varied giving many options catering for all needs."*

### **Street Stuff**

Street stuff emailed parents/carers throughout the 7-week programme and asked them to complete a survey to find out what worked, what didn't and what should we do different for future holiday periods.

Feedback included:

*'Both my children really enjoyed it'*

*'Ben loved the camp; staff were very friendly and happy when dropping off and collecting. Ben did mention about the groups and that he couldn't always choose what he wanted to do. I understand this may be to do with Covid and bubbles. He still enjoyed it all'.*

*'Kids enjoyed it, got them off the Xbox at home. Keeping similar ages together helps'*

*'My child really enjoyed the camp and can't wait to get back we wouldn't change anything'*

*'The lunches - better variety and a selection of sandwiches without butter. Apart from that, the service is fantastic'.*

## **4.2**

- **What do you think worked well and what could be improved?**
- **Is there anything from what you have done differently this summer that you will look to continue in the future?**

### **Youth Work Programme**

#### **a) Worked well:**

- Renfrewshire's Young Scot portal is recognised as being sector leading in terms of content development on the local pages of the portal. Young Scot feedback was very positive, recognising the high-quality design of the Get into Summer campaign – it described the range of activities well and was user and youth friendly. Other local authorities were signposted to the pages as good practice.
- Positive feedback from parents around the level of interaction with others in their community and children and young people feeling safe
- The digital experience of VR provided a new insight into technology and “whole new magical world” and huge interest from young people to do more
- Access to venues that were not available before, and the importance of being in accessible community bases to re-connect with young people
- Partnership working emphasised the importance of shared skillset and resources and benefits gained
- Some youth work interventions and conversations with young people were continued and developed positively. E.g., coercive control, mental health, and coping strategies
- Sense of community and family were broadened, and people felt part of a group again.
- Youth workers observed that young people were using the summer activities as a way of developing a positive mindset for returning to school, returning to socialising
- Some young people who were engaged in targeted youth work were going onto access universal opportunities too
- Business Support was able to provide excellent back-up and administrative support to assist the programme delivery, monitoring of budget and co-ordination of resources and equipment.

**b) Improve:**

- Some young people who took part had not experienced youth work before and expressed a need for activities to continue beyond summer
- Collaboration and integration are recognised as the way forward and partners will continue to seek opportunities to deliver together
- An easier on-line booking system and the ability to provide frontline support to complete this process for those who need assistance
- Restrictions meant that trips and visits were curtailed to a minimum, and it would be good to follow up with this as a way of extending the learning and engagement achieved in future
- The universal community-based programme was successful in attracting 8–14-year-olds, but a more “teen” orientated programme which could be accessed in venues other than primary schools would have been beneficial and could have reached and targeted the older young person age range who are also in need.

**c) Do differently:**

- Longer lead in time for greater engagement of targeted groups
- Funding awarded in advance to allow for planning and to complete additional recruitment of staff to enhance delivery.
- Challenges involving transporting young people to venues and locations; lack of drivers, and restrictions on minibus travel in place as legacy of COVID.
- Some community centres and spaces were not available for use due to restrictions on the capacity of janitorial and cleaning staff and resources to recover these spaces in time as they were “mothballed” during lockdown and needed deep cleaning and health and safety checks prior to reopening.

## **Family Learning Programme**

**a) Worked well:**

- All the activities were well received.
- Using themed weeks ensured the programme had plenty of variety and activities was matched to the ages and stages of the children.
- Families enjoyed using local green spaces for some of the activities and this has encouraged them to continue doing so throughout the summer – as a legacy benefit.
- Providing lunches was appreciated by all families
- The play packs were very well received, especially as target families are financially disadvantaged.
- Providing the sessions in the local primary schools meant families were in familiar surroundings and within walking distance of home.
- The strict adherence to health and safety guidance in relation to COVID-19 and modelling good health and safety practice helped lessen people’s anxiety about meeting others.

**b) Improve:**

- Having more lead-in time would enable additional liaison with partners wanting to refer families.
- Timetabling sessions to avoid coinciding with other partner provision creating difficult choices for participants

**c) Do differently:**

- It is aimed to offer a similar summer programme for families again next year

**ASN Playscheme**

**a) Worked well:**

- Staff training: all staff whether experience or new had to attend training on epi pen training, epilepsy, oxygen apparatus, child protection and health eating
- The bubbles worked very well as some staff were offered the opportunity to be room leaders. Staff stated that this has helped to build their confidence and leadership skills.
- Child-led environment to enable free-play experience
- One to one companion
- Team leaders within assigned bubbles
- Staff training programme given all staff the confidence to support children who required additional attention and more complex needs than children in mainstream.
- Full time nurse
- Lead roles for outdoor activities

**b) Improve:**

- A follow up programme in response to parents' feedback that could continue into the Autumn/Winter

**c) Do differently:**

- Future development of community based ASN holiday programmes

**4.3 Do you have any other comments or reflections?**

Key partners and members of the Renfrewshire Youth Work Network were able to feedback on the universal community based and targeted youth work programme:

- positive comments on their experience of being engaged to deliver activities; well-organised, locations, groups involved and safety procedures in place
- Experience of good partnership working alongside the youth work staff
- Responses and level of engagement from young people who engaged in their activity and eager to try new experiences
- The use of outdoor spaces and green places was welcomed
- All commented on their observations that children and young people were happy, expressing they were having a good time.
- All agreed they would want to return and build on the work achieved and would be happy to work on a similar model of delivery in future.

Get into Summer brought communities together with positive economic benefits including:

- Employment opportunities
- Work for local businesses
- Respite/Support for parents/carers
- Free activities for all

- Sharing of resources across partners

As part of the self-evaluation process carried out by Youth Services, the Youth Work programme delivery was measured against the How Good is the Learning and Development in our Community and against the National Youth Work Outcomes:

**1. Young people are confident, resilient, and optimistic for the future**

Young people's confidence increased throughout the summer programme after a long period of social isolation. The range of activities meant young people remained engaged and positive throughout the programme. Drama activities played a particularly important role in increasing confidence and social skills. Additionally, young people had conversations about the future regarding school, employment, relationships, and youth work. Young people were excited about the prospect of engaging in similar youth work in the future. Many expressed the need for support, and the concerns they had about returning to school, and what lies ahead for their future. There was an expression of interest and need for accessible supports for them in areas they live and not just in school, that welcomes young people and is free.

**2. Young people manage personal, social, and formal relationships**

Young people managed personal social and formal relationships very well over the course of the summer programme. They were able to bond with one another over the six weeks and develop new friendships. They were able to settle disagreements between one another by themselves and make sure that everyone felt included. They were able to effectively manage relationships with staff, showing respect when required but feeling comfortable to open up and discuss important topics and feelings.

**3. Young people create, describe, and apply their learning and skills**

The broad range of activities planned for sessions throughout summer allowed the young people to create new experiences and skills. It also allowed them to socialise with others and build new friendships as well as see familiar faces. The sessions created a fun and safe for the young people to attend, where they felt comfortable to talk and interact with others.

**4. Young people participate safely and effectively in groups**

The young people were aware and respected any guidelines set in place surrounding covid safety. They took into consideration those around them when attending sessions. The young people were also able to work cohesively as a group as well as finish tasks independently. Staff made sure to support any young people attending sessions, so as the young people were confident enough to carry out tasks such as creating duet work for dance. Everyone was comfortable enough to get involved and mingle with new friends as well as old. The group charter exercise mentioned above seemed to be a key factor in establishing a mutual respect and made everyone feel more comfortable and safer to participate. The young people were confident enough to explore outside of their normal friendship groups and make new friends as well as try new experiences. Young people often helped staff when clearing any messes made during sessions. When attending the young people managed their own behaviour appropriately.

**5. Young people consider risk, make reasoned decisions, and take control**

The young people could express how they felt and what they wanted to do when attending sessions. This was extremely helpful for staff as it gave us all an idea of



what to implement into sessions now and for the future. The young people were aware of certain dangers which could occur when using a blender, spray painting camping equipment, and followed safety measures. This not only made them confident in activities but also gave staff reassurance that the young people were trustworthy when taking part in activities. The young people were great in considering those around them and made sure that not only themselves were safe but other participants too. Personal and mini-risk assessments aided the young people when considering their environment and how to keep themselves safe as well as others. Respect was shared between the staff and young people this allowed everyone's voice to be heard and ensured everyone's happiness.

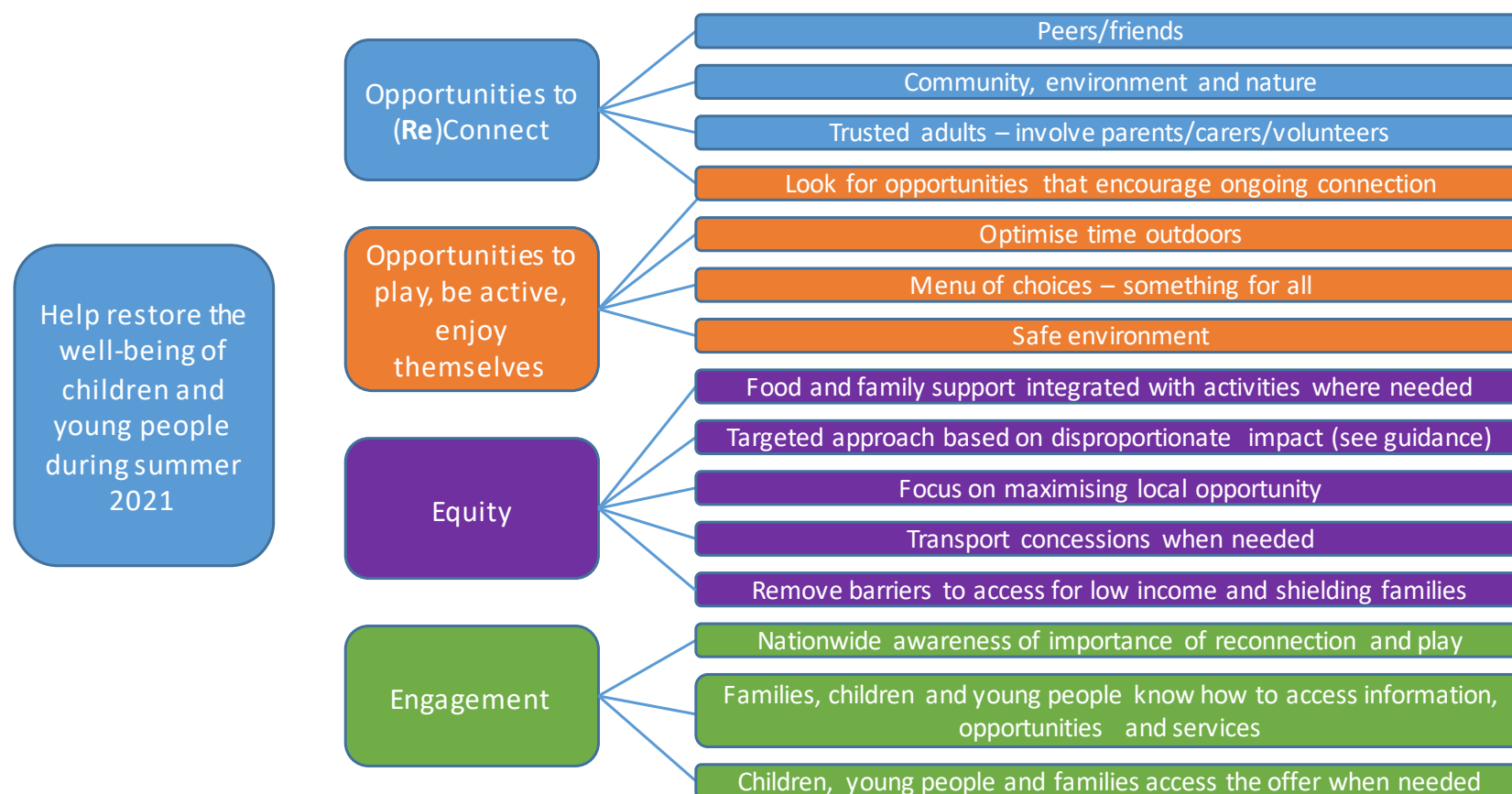
**6. Young people express their voice and demonstrate social commitment**

Throughout the summer young people were given an opportunity to express their voice and did so while discussing issues that affect their communities. Various things were talked about like Youth Voice and Scottish Youth Parliament where young people raised issues and discussed solutions and ideas for change. Young people were given leadership roles and took a lead on certain activities such as dance and drama. Young people had the chance to choreograph dance and performance. Young people designed murals to be displayed within their communities and discussed what kind of youth work they would like to take part in and what they would like to see in their communities for young people.

**7. Young people broaden their perspectives through new experiences and thinking**

Throughout the course of the summer programme young people broadened their perspectives through a range of activities. Some young people were initially reluctant to partake in dance and drama (especially) but ended up enjoying themselves and developing skills and confidence within these areas. Young people were also able to try out VR and certain arts and crafts activities for the first time, allowing them to channel their creativity through new mediums. Some young people thrived outdoors and become more engaged and able to participate easily and interested in learning more about the environment and outdoor activities.

## Annex B: Summer Offer Driver Diagram



A rights based, stigma-free approach, shaped by what children, young people and their families tell us, aligned with GIRFEC  
Build on what we have - enhance and co-ordinate services and assets locally and nationally - in partnership