



COMMUNITY CHOICES FUND

2017/18 REPORT



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Many thanks to participating projects who completed evaluations and provided additional information for the case studies. This report provides a broad overview of participatory budgeting activity related to Community Choices Funding in 2017/18.

February 2019

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Introduction

Participatory budgeting (PB) is recognised internationally as a way for local people to have a direct say in how local money is spent. The Scottish Government supports PB as a tool for community engagement and as a resource to build on the wider development of participatory democracy in Scotland.

PB supports the principles of Public Service Reform and complements the aspirations for the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 which gives communities more powers to take forward their own priorities and ambitions. It can also help deliver the Public Sector Equality Duty by advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between different groups. PB can also help deliver on outcomes in Scotland's [National Performance Framework](#) that "we live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe" and "we tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally".

In Scotland, PB is better known as Community Choices because of the Scottish Government's Community Choices programme to support and promote PB nationally. This programme is delivered in partnership with local authorities, communities and third sector organisations, and is implemented across policy areas from policing to health and social care, transport, and education.

Since 2014/15, the Scottish Government has invested £6.5 million through the Community Choices Fund. More detailed information about Scotland's PB programme can be found in the [Community Choices Fund Report 2016/17](#) when 122 PB events were held across Scotland, funding 1,349 PB projects through the distribution of £2,511,438.

As PB continues to gain pace supported by the Community Choices Fund, it is developing beyond spending a pot of money, to public authorities allocating resources in partnership with local people, to more effectively meet local needs. The agreement in October 2017 between the Scottish Government and COSLA that at least 1% of council budgets will be subject to PB by 2020/21, provides an opportunity to build on this development.

Community Choices Fund 2017/18

To build on PB's success in 2016/17, for the second year running the Scottish Government provided £2 million in 2017/18 to continue supporting PB activity and development. Targeted particularly at work in deprived areas, the fund's aim was to continue opening up opportunities for public authorities, community organisations and community councils to engage with and deliver PB. The fund included £500,000 for a national support programme and £1.5 million available for applications.

The £1.5 million community choices fund was split into two, with half of the money available to public authorities, and the other half open to community organisations and community councils. Applicants could apply for a minimum of £20,000 up to a maximum of £100,000. The funding was available to allocate to Projects plus Support Costs whether small projects or mainstreaming, training and development, capacity building and support for communities.

For public authorities, the funding to allocate to Projects was awarded on a match funding basis only. Also, local authorities were advised that priority would be given to those applying for Support Costs to help meet the target of having at least 1% of their budget subject to Community Choices budgeting. For the first time, all applications from organisations who secured the Community Choices Fund 2016/17 were informed that they would be assessed separately to new applicants. These applicants needed to demonstrate how further funding would add value to their 2016/17 Community Choices programme.

From the £1.5 million fund, a total of 91 applications were received to the sum of £4,953,541; 22 from public authorities totalling £1,295,550 and 69 from community organisations totalling £3,657,991.

Of these 91, 33 organisations were successful; 17 public authorities and 16 community organisations. However, as reported last year, the Church of Scotland's PB activity is also included in this report although it did not apply to the £1.5 million fund. The Church received funding from the national support element of the Community Choices Fund to continue their support for some of Scotland's economically poorest communities to engage in and develop their skills in PB.

This report therefore represents the evaluations for a total of 34 funded organisations. For efficiency of reporting, the Church of Scotland is included among the community organisations.

Preface to this Report

Each organisation was required to submit a self-evaluation report detailing project aims, stakeholder partnerships, levels of community participation and future project sustainability. Building upon recommendations from the 2016/17 report, recipients were also asked to report on any measures taken to increase the inclusion and participation of minority or excluded groups.

The following report collates these responses and is an attempt to give a broad overview of PB activity related to the Community Choices Fund in 2017/18. For ease and consistency of reporting the evaluation reflects the questions within the reports that successful applicants were asked to complete.

Where possible the evaluation presents comparative updated figures provided in the 2016/17 evaluation alongside drawing out examples of innovative practice and learning in the form of case studies. These case studies highlight work around social inclusion and participation alongside examining work towards meeting the target of mainstreaming 1% of local authority budgets into PB activity.

An important caveat to the findings presented in this evaluation is that the reports submitted by recipients of the Community Choices Funding have been completed by individuals closely involved in the design and implementation of local PB processes. Resultantly, it should be acknowledged that these reports have been provided by individuals heavily involved within the PB process. It should also be noted that the level of detail presented within the reports differed across projects with some reports providing supplementary evidence to illustrate outcomes whilst other reports were less detailed.

Where required, the researcher contacted projects for additional information. However, it should be acknowledged that one public authority provided no results and one public authority and one community organisation provided financial data only (no project evaluation).

1. Participatory Budgeting Activity Across Scotland 2017/18

In 2017/18 the Community Choices Fund invested £2 million in PB across Scotland.

Similar to funding arrangements in 2016/17, £500,000 of the funding was set aside for a national support programme to provide consultancy support, learning resources, digital support, website hosting, and training and development to be made available to organisations facilitating PB activity and the wider public sector.

£1.5 million of the fund was opened up to applications from public authorities and community organisations. This funding was for Support Costs and Project Funding. As demonstrated in Figure 1, an additional £2,365,686 of match or additional funding complimented this, bringing the total Project Funding to £3.4 million.

The Figure 1 “At a Glance” financial breakdown indicates how funding was divided between public authorities and community groups. It additionally shows the levels of match or additional funding provided for Projects to the sum of £2.3 million. It should be noted that a large amount of the £2.3 million of additional or match funding from public authorities and communities was generated by Dundee City Council who contributed £1.2 million for their PB activity.

Across community organisations over £117,000 of the additional funding was secured in the majority of instances from local authorities through community planning budgets, health and social care partnerships, renewables funding and the private sector e.g. the Co-operative Community Fund.

Figure 2 provides a snapshot of PB activity in 2017/18.

Figure 1: At A Glance Financial Breakdown of Community Choices Funding 2017/18

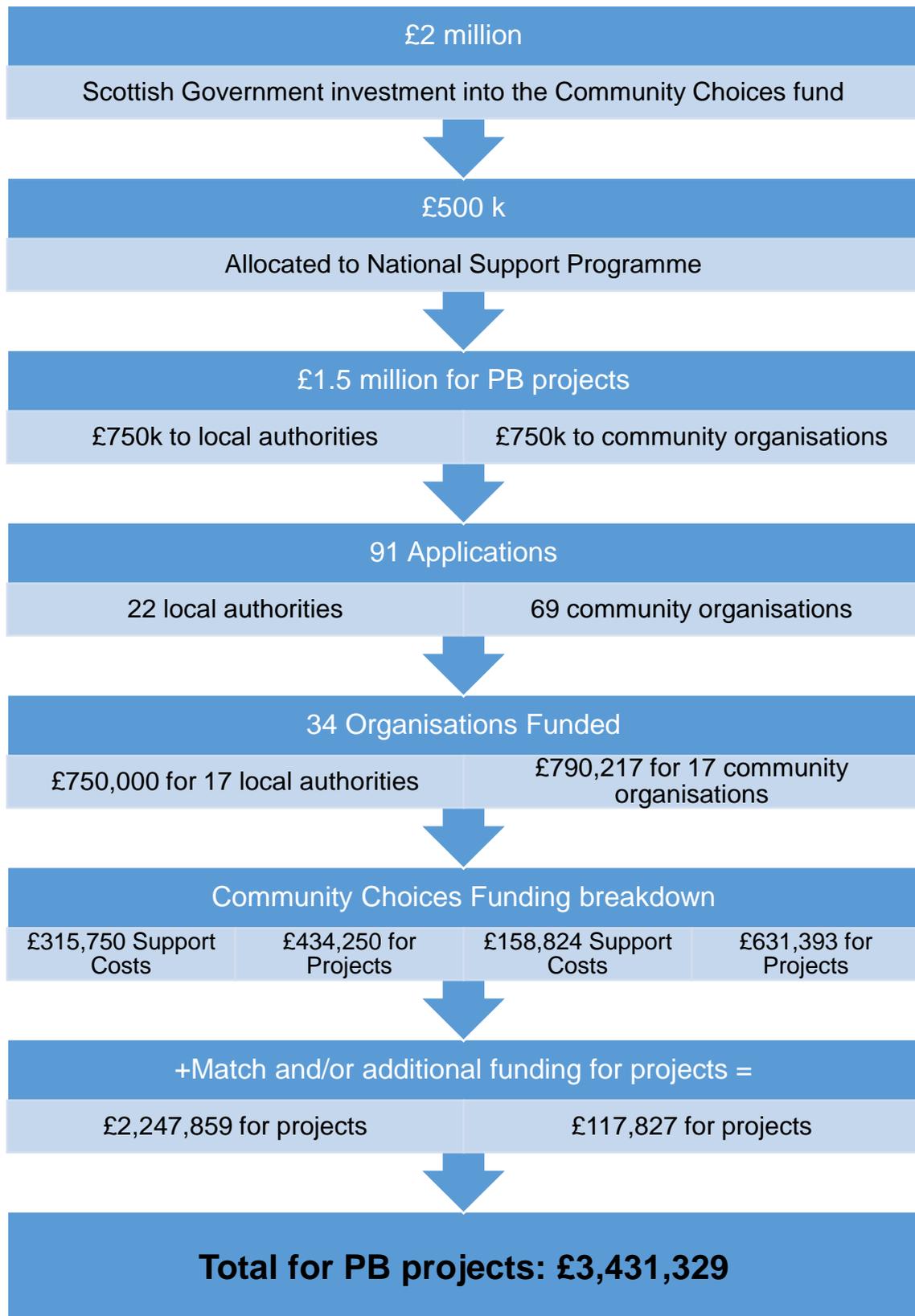
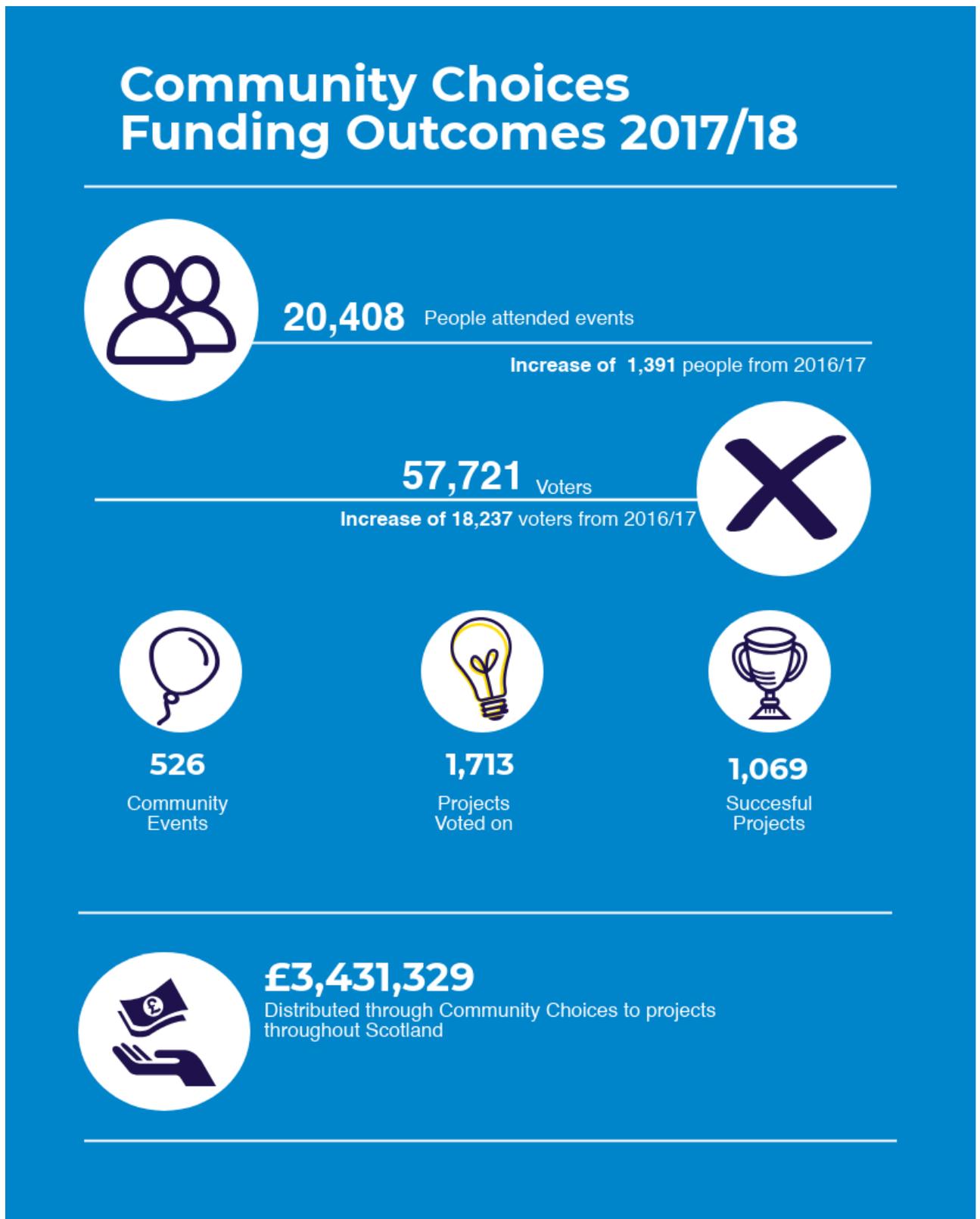


Figure 2: Snapshot of Community Choices Fund Project Outcomes



1.1 Community Choices Fund 2017/18 Key Highlights

- A total of 17 public authorities and 17 community organisations received a share of £1,540,217 funding through the Community Choices Fund to include Support Costs (£474,574) and Project Funding (£1,065,643).
- Match or additional funding of £2,365,686 was provided by local authorities and other stakeholders for Project Funding. That includes £117,827 Project Funding provided for the community organisations, mainly by local authorities.
- A total of £3,431,329 total funds allocated through Community Choices Funded projects, an increase of 36% on 2016/17.
- 526 PB events took place across Scotland (404 more events than 2016/17) *To note Dundee City Council conducted over 400 PB related events.*
- 20,408 people attended PB events, an increase of 7.3% (1,391 people) on 2016/17 figures.
- 57,721 people voted, an increase of 46.2% (18,237 votes) on 2016/17. This includes paper and digital voting.
- 1,910 projects were voted on in 2017/18, a decrease of 7.2% (-148 projects).
- 1,069 projects successfully secured funding, a decrease of 20.7% (-280 projects).
- 559 volunteers and 533 paid staff 'sessions' were involved in supporting PB events across Scotland. In several instances the same volunteer/staff members attended multiple events so 'sessions' have been used to accurately reflect invested resources.

1.2 Project Themes Supported

At a local level the priorities for PB activity were identified in a range of ways. In some instances specific funding was allocated to a local area (geographically defined) and the community voted on how this money should be spent. Several projects used this method to work towards meeting objectives outlined in local community action plans.

In other instances funding was made available across a wider geographic/regional area and allocations were made to projects working towards particular themes (thematically defined). Projects which utilised this approach worked on addressing specific issues such as employability, social inclusion or supporting young people.

Of the 34 organisations funded, the majority (22 projects) allocated funding to specific geographic areas, whilst 12 projects directed funding into addressing thematic issues. There was negligible difference between the thematic/geographic design of projects if they were led by local authorities or community organisations with both organisational type hosting 11 geographically defined and 6 thematically defined PB projects.

Across the 12 thematically defined projects, 5 addressed issues specifically relating to young people, 2 projects addressed in-school child poverty and the remaining projects looked to address a diverse range of issues including local deprivation, improving health outcomes, enhancing employability, and skills and safety.

Within projects, geographically defined funding was primarily used to address community planning objectives (12 projects) or were open to community wide votes across a range of indicators (4 projects). Some projects focusing upon establishing PB activity within specific geographical areas invested Community Choices Funding into developing digital infrastructure for future PB activity (1 project) or to assist local authorities or projects in establishing PB activity in advance of future mainstreaming of budgets (5 projects).

1.3 Stakeholder Partnerships

During reporting, recipients of the Community Choices Fund were asked to provide information on any stakeholder partnerships established in the delivery of PB projects and outline any additional match funding secured. Across all funding recipients, 30 organisations established local partnerships to deliver PB activity demonstrating a strong buy-in from partner agencies to the PB process. As a result of these partnerships an additional £2.3 million¹ of match funding was secured for PB activity. This increased the total funding for PB activity in Scotland to over £3.4 million.

A condition of the funding was that public authorities had to match fund any project funding they were awarded through Community Choices. Typically, public authorities were able to match fund awards with local priority budgets. Of the 17 local authorities awarded funding, 6 sourced match funding from existing budgets including Health and Social Care, Area Partnership Budgets, Community Planning Budgets and Green Health Budgets. Additional funding for community led organisations included public authorities, the Big Lottery Fund, the Cooperative and Renewable Energy Funding. Alongside financial assistance, organisations also generated significant ‘in-kind’ resources to facilitate PB activity. Such in-kind support included volunteer hours, free use of meeting rooms and venues, promotion of events and assistance (primarily directed to community groups) in developing project ideas. Figure 3 below demonstrates the wide range of organisations, by type (size indicating frequency), involved in PB strategic partnerships.



Figure 3: Stakeholder partnerships by organisational type

¹ As noted earlier £1.2 million was generated by Dundee City Council.

1.4 National Support Programme

Projects in receipt of Community Choices Funding were able to access assistance through the national support programme, from PB Partners, the Democratic Society (Demsoc) and the Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC). Whilst the support packages available to groups will have differed on a case by case basis, typically PB Partners advised upon designing PB processes, Demsoc offered assistance with digital tools and SCDC were able to provide support for community organisations to deliver an effective PB process.

Fifteen public authorities reported that they had accessed support from at least one of these agencies, whilst 16 community organisations had accessed some form of support. Overall the majority of projects (31) accessed support. Community organisations were most likely to receive support around community engagement as part of the PB process from SCDC, whilst local authorities were more likely to work alongside PB Partners in the design of participatory processes.

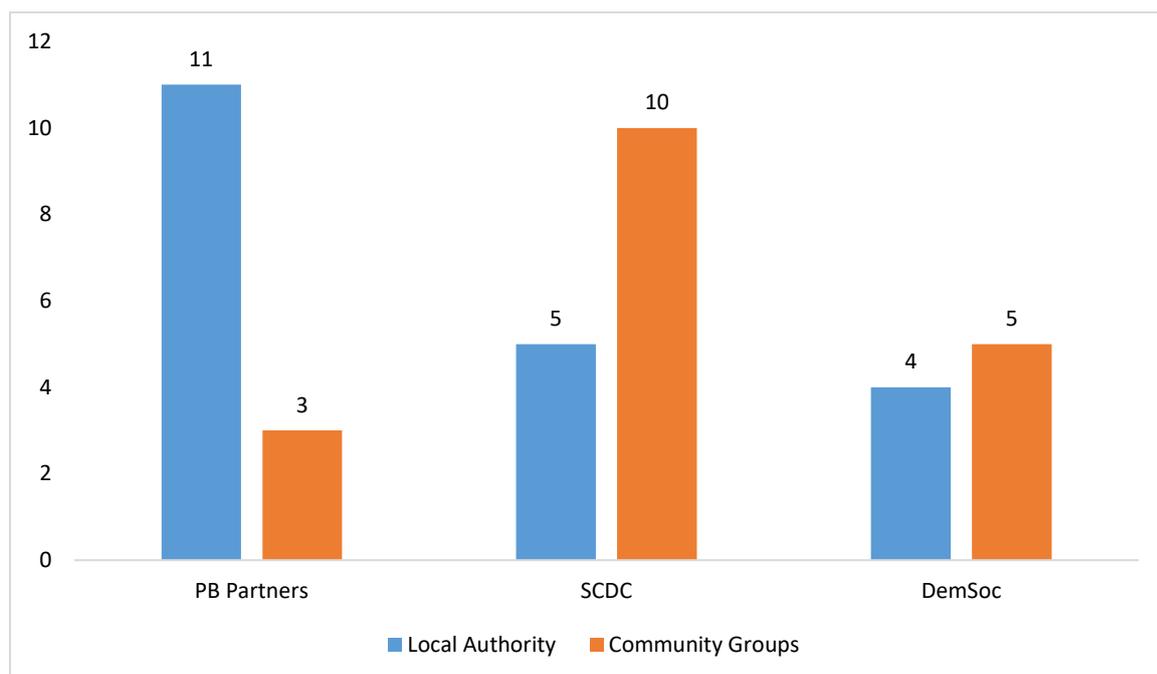


Figure 4: National Support Agencies

Discussion: Participatory Budgeting Activity Across Scotland

Across Scotland there is growing engagement with PB activity demonstrated through an increase in voters, people attending events and the funds available for PB activity.

Reviewing project data there is evidence to indicate that total funding (including match) available for PB activity increased significantly by 36% compared to funding available in 2016/17. As the funding allocated through the Community Choices Funding has remained consistent between the two reporting periods, this increase represents significant financial investment from local authorities as they move towards meeting the 1% target.

Additionally, a 20% reduction in the number of projects successfully awarded funding, alongside the increase in the overall funding awarded shows that successful projects received larger allocations of money through PB activity than in 2016/17.

There is also evidence of a strong network of cross sector partnerships collaborating to deliver PB activity across Scotland. Reports indicated that 'in-kind' support offered to projects through these networks played an important role in the local delivery of PB activities.

The data indicates that the number of voters at PB events increased by over 46%, a large proportion of this increase can be accounted for through new platforms for digital voting e.g. Dundee City Council engaged over 11,000 digital voters. Across all projects, 10 PB processes included a digital voting element (six local authorities and four community organisations). Such increases present encouraging evidence for the future use of digital voting to increase engagement with PB processes.

2. Community Impact

Organisations in receipt of Community Choices Funding were asked to provide feedback on who took part in local PB activities. Evidence to demonstrate participation included summarising the level of community 'buy-in' to the PB process, highlighting diversity amongst participants and detailing how the design of events encouraged wider community participation.

Overall, data provided by recipients of the fund indicated an increase of the level of community engagement with PB - in 2017/18 the number of people voting increased by 46% (18,237) when compared to data from 2016/17.

Supporting local PB processes there were 533 instances of staff and 559 instances of volunteer support reported to have helped facilitate PB events across the country.

Reviewing feedback from recipients of funding it was noted on several occasions that the time required to organise and host events had limited some group's abilities to engage with harder to reach communities. This is a recurrent theme from the 2016/17 evaluation.

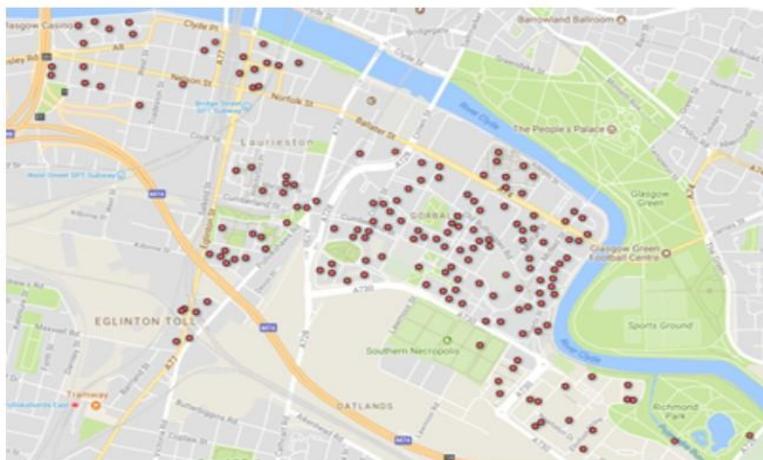
Case studies provided within this section highlight innovative ways in which some projects worked to increase participation and inclusion to good effect.

2.1 Case Study: Spirit of Gorbals

New Gorbals Housing Association Spirit of the Gorbals

The New Gorbals Housing Association is a community controlled housing association, established in 1989 to provide housing and environmental services to over 4000 households across the Gorbals area. In 2017/18 the organisation received £34,350 of Community Choices funding to host participatory budgeting events under the project title '*Spirit of the Gorbals*'. The organisation worked in partnership with Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board, Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Life to deliver events. The project additionally received support from Foundation Scotland.

Community organisations and individuals were invited to apply for different sized 'pots' of funding, £500, £5000 and £15,000 to support project activity. A total of 40 local groups, individuals and projects applied to the fund, with 38 going on to showcase their ideas at community voting events. As a result of Community Choices Funding three participatory budgeting events were hosted in 2018 by NGH. Voting was open to all adults and children over the age of 8 years old and over 450 people turned out to vote at the events. The postcodes of attendees was recorded at each event and a review of where participants lived was fed back into the overall project design. Postcode areas with a low turnout were targeted as sites for future PB activity.



Geographic mapping of attendees at Spirit of the Gorbals events

Following public voting, 31 applications were awarded funds to deliver projects. Of the projects chosen by the community to receive funding, a significant proportion focused upon addressing social isolation for older people and those living in difficult circumstances e.g. lone parents, carers, those with physical and mental health conditions and new residents from outside the UK.

Community Panel

In designing their PB process, the New Gorbals Housing Association established a Community Panel and a Young Deciders panel for those aged 11-19. To ensure consistent engagement with the PB design process travel costs were provided for panel members who needed to travel to attend meetings. These panels were comprised of local residents and were tasked with designing a PB process based upon the ideas and aspirations of community groups. Participants were recruited from the local Gorbals area and were invited to participate through social media, community events and invitations extended via community planning partnerships.

Each panel worked closely with the local community to develop and review the PB process before and after event and to consult on the improvements needed to local services using an 'action research' approach. Action research creates opportunities for community involvement in defining the topics which need to be addressed, deciding how research is to be carried out and how research results are used. As a result of bringing the community into the design process in this way the community panel amended application packs, application forms, voting procedures and the information and marketing materials. As a result of tailoring their PB process to meet the needs of the local community in this way the New Gorbals Housing Association noted increased levels of community buy in to the PB process compared to previous engagement activity. During the project design phase The Spirit of the Gorbals project identified four key aims which were used to inform the allocation of funding through the PB process; to improve individual well-being, improve perceptions towards disability and impairment, overcome isolation and connect people within communities. Projects applying for funding were required to address these issues within their proposals.

Following voting in 2018, the community and youth panels used peer research to gather information and evidence on the activities and services currently delivered in the area, how accessible these were, and any barriers to participation. This research identified gaps and hurdles for engagement with services and formed a basis to facilitate future participatory budgeting and co-production between local people, projects and services provided by NGH. This information will be shared with the local community, third and public sector organisations and local structures, such as the Gorbals Regeneration Group and Third Sector Forum, to facilitate conversations, generate new ideas and solutions and advocate on behalf of the wider community.

Gorbals Ideas Fund...
Gorbals Ideas Fund is a new project that aims to help the community answer questions and solve problems by developing their own ideas & solutions. Local people then decide how funds are used to bring these ideas to life.

For & With the Community
We're inviting local people, who want to make the area an even better place to live, to join us as part of the Gorbals Ideas Fund (GIF) Community Panel.

What is a Community Panel?
A Community Panel is a group of people who come together to take represent their community and take action to address a challenge or issue.

GIF's Community Panel will design, develop and deliver activity that:

- Helps local people and groups develop ideas to solve issues.
- Gives local people a say in how local funds are used.

GIF offers Panel Members...

- Full training & ongoing support.
- All out of pocket expenses.
- An opportunity to meet new people and learn new skills.
- The chance to make a real difference in their community.

Values & Attitudes
Our work is based on values and attitudes, including:

- Understanding & Respect**
Everyone is different, it's important we respect and represent differences fairly and equally in our work.
- Commitment**
We'll set goals together and it'll be easier to achieve them if everyone commits some time & energy to reaching them.
- Civility**
Being curious about other people's experiences and how this impacts upon their lives.
- Positivity**
Making a difference isn't always easy. Being positive helps everyone stay positive.

Being a Panel Member...
The role isn't about meetings. When we do come together it'll be to action plan, share ideas and learn from each other. Being a Panel Member is really about:

- Engaging with people who live in the community.
- Building information on the challenges, experiences and ambitions of people in the community.
- Encouraging ideas and supporting local people and groups to make their ideas real!
- Developing and delivering Participatory Budgeting events to give the community a say on how local funds are spent.
- Representing the community and creating opportunities for local people to influence decisions.
- Finding opportunities for the community to influence the design, development and delivery of services.

Participatory Budgeting

• Gives local people & groups an opportunity to share their ideas with the community.

• Gives the whole community a chance to decide what's most important to them, or what would make the biggest difference to the community.

A new way of doing things that gives the community the ability to decide what we want. After all who is better to decide what's right for our community than our community itself?

Connected projects

To facilitate learning and capacity building opportunities, projects who had been awarded funding were invited to attend 'Connect Sessions' which New Gorbals Housing Association facilitated and developed. These sessions provided projects in receipt of PB funding with an opportunity to connect with other projects, share knowledge, skills and expertise whilst playing an important role in feeding back to develop the participatory budgeting process.

Connect Sessions also provided funded projects with advice, information and support on monitoring and evaluating their work. The organisation developed a Monitoring & Evaluation Quick Guide to support groups and provided financial spreadsheets to make accounting for spend easy. Additionally, training was delivered to assist projects in demonstrating their impact by utilising free online tools including Survey Monkey and Canva.

Sustainability

Following the '*Spirit of the Gorbals*' PB events in 2018, community and youth panel members continue to meet to drive the PB activity forward, share information across the community and encourage people to participate. Project representatives have also attended several national events to share their experiences and knowledge of the PB process. As a result of the '*Spirit of the Gorbals*' project there has been an increased interest in other areas of empowerment activity. The capacity developed through the PB process by the community panels has also resulted in community involvement in discussions on locally-led regeneration and the project team have conducted assessments using the [Place Standard Tool](#) to provide local people with a voice in the design and development of the local built environment.

Since '*Spirit of the Gorbals Funding*' came to an end in March 2018 the organisation have also created a '*Gorbals Ideas Fund*' to provide seed funding for the new projects. A central focus of the '*Gorbals Ideas Fund*' is to maintain momentum for local decision making using a PB model.



2.2 Participation and Engagement

Across projects a broad range of methods were used to engage communities with local PB processes. Public events were reported to be an important way for local communities to learn about the PB process and get information about local groups and projects. Voting events were also noted to have additional benefits of bringing the local community together, creating opportunities for local projects to network, and in several instances, creating an opportunity for the local community to develop a sense of identity through celebratory festivals or street parties.

Of the projects funded by the Community Choices Funding in 2017/18:

- 10 projects primarily delivered their PB process through a digital voting platform. Several of these projects noted the necessity to compliment digital voting with face-to-face support sessions and through the provision of digital tablets to overcome digital exclusion.
- Two local authorities introduced telephone/postal voting to help overcome rural isolation.
- 15 projects encouraged young people to vote, with many of these projects opening voting up to those aged 8 and over.
- Market Stalls were the most popular way of finding out about projects at community events. Presentations were also a popular option with some groups opting to host PB events in a 'cabaret' style which involved a series of presentations to a public audience.
- Project posters and storyboards were used at events to illustrate project aims.
- Prior to public events many projects engaged in community discussions to define the parameters of PB activity e.g. what projects should achieve.
- Many projects also established working groups, comprised of local community members to lead on the delivery of PB events. In many instances these working groups were responsible for publicising the PB process and designing engagement methods suitable to the needs of the local community.
- Three projects indicated that they used interactive displays/screens at events to help those with additional needs access project information (see Summerhill case study).
- Creation of animations and a comic were used to increase engagement with the PB process in the run up to events (See Dundee Case Study).

Feedback from events indicated that many projects experienced unexpectedly high levels of attendance at events. At least three projects noted that they had not anticipated such a large turnout, and in these instances additional events, extended voting times or larger venues were felt to have been needed. Reviewing the feedback from projects, careful planning in relation to

community need was felt to be an important aspect of hosting a successful PB event, for example:

“The response so far has been overwhelming and in fact we were unprepared for the numbers attending the first event – with over 550 attending, queues to get in and people voting to the very end of the event.”

North Ayrshire Council

“For the second year running the PB event has been an overwhelming success and made a very real difference to community groups and their members across the area. We hope to continue to deliver PB events in the future, subject to funding and including subject to accessing wind farm funding. The impact and benefits of the process are beyond measure being a huge fillip to community cohesion, cross-fertilisation of ideas and new connections between groups and individuals. One external observer noted *“in those few hours on that voting day in Tongue I learned more about our northern communities than I have in decades of attending interminable ‘community planning partnership’ meetings and contrived ‘consultation’ events.”*

UpNorth! Community Development Trust

2.3 Case Study: Practicalities of Participation

Ullapool Community Centre Practicalities of Participation

Ullapool Community Trust are an anchor organisation and development trust serving the Highland district area of Lochbroom. The organisation provides support to local third sector organisations to develop capacity and launch local initiatives. In 2017 the organisation were awarded £30,000 of Community Choices Funding to deliver the '3D Fund', a participatory budgeting exercise facilitating local people to Discuss, Decide and Do. The Lochbroom 3-D Fund Decision Day was a partnership PB project between Ullapool Community Trust and Lochbroom Community Council.

In designing the '3D Fund' project Ullapool Community Trust (UCT) took the decision to include local democratically elected members alongside local community and third sector organisations for the project steering group to ensure a fairer representation of the local community within the steering group. Highland Council were also involved in offering advice to the group via the steering group. UCT were also keen to ensure that as a result of partnership working, co-ownership of the project would be achieved between UCT and other local organisations. Applicants to the fund were able to apply for up to £500 (small grants) or £2,500 (large grants). Ahead of the public voting event there were a number of awareness raising and support sessions including an advisory session for interested projects and practical sessions to help projects prepare presentations.

Experiences from the Ullapool Community Trust Decision Day illustrate both the positive impact of a vibrant engaging event and the challenges associated with representing the diverse needs of their local community.

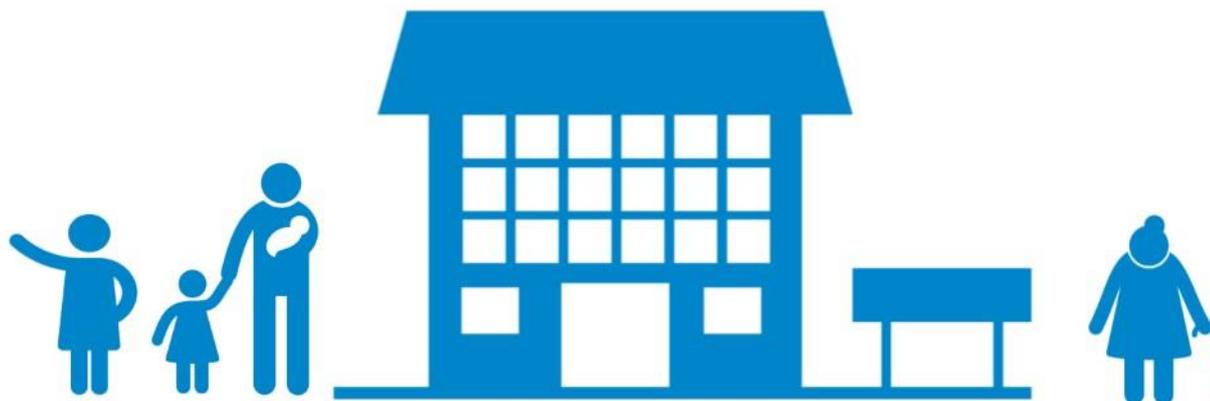
The UCT hosted a half day voting event comprised of 32 three minute presentations from projects looking for funding. The event featured a series of presentations from groups who used dancing, poetry and theatre to express the value and impact of projects. These presentations also provided an opportunity for local groups to raise the profile of their work amongst the local community. On the day 130 local people attended the event with 116 people voting on projects. Of the 32 projects looking for funding 15 were successfully awarded funding. Additionally, following on from the event several projects who were not successful on the day received private donations or additional funding as a result the publicity from taking part in presentations.

"I did not know what to expect at the 3D Fund Decision Day on Saturday in the Hall, but listening to 32 x 3 minute pitches for funding had the potential to be tedious.

Rather to my surprise and delight it turned out to be an enjoyable and uplifting experience, The hall was full with people of all ages and buzzing with anticipation.....

.... So the two and a half hours investment of time that which all voters had to give, became the audiences stake in this community project. Many young people got their first experience of speaking to a big audience and what a good job they did, I am proud of them. Some adults who obviously found it a scary experience still managed to share their work with us and well done to them."

3-D Fund Decision Day attendee



Challenges of participation

Despite the largely positive experiences from those attending the event, some concerns were raised by local community members who had not been able to participate within the voting process. Feedback from local residents who had not been able to attend the voting event indicated that by only hosting a single event they had been excluded from decisions on how local money for their area was spent. These responses indicated that whilst some local residents had been unable to attend, many still wanted a way to participate within the process. These issues were felt most acutely by people with work or caring commitments and was seen to have been exacerbated by the rural location and travel times required to attend. Following on from this experience there were calls from community members for future PB activity to adopt a more inclusive approach to decision making as one community member highlighted.

“The process of physically voting on options is only one measure of democracy. Who votes, who has the option to vote, what proportion of any given community votes, and how informed they are about what they’ve voting on, are all equally important tenets”

Feedback from local resident

Reflecting upon this feedback, the experience of the UCT highlights important issues for community engagement, especially relevant within smaller rural communities. Whilst acknowledging that the organisation of PB events can be time consuming, costly and require a significant investment of volunteer time, following community feedback the UCT were keen to expand future community voting options to accommodate the competing demands upon local residents time.

Whilst many positive responses were received from participants on the day and additional benefits were generated by hosting an interactive series of presentations some community members had felt excluded by the process. Reflecting upon their experience UCT noted that the in-depth approach they had taken had resulted in a positive ripple effect across the community with increased awareness of local projects across the rural community. Taking on board feedback from participants, the organisation are looking to review how future PB activity can include additional voting platforms such as filming presentations for interested community members to view online, an online vote, postal voting or multiple locations for voting activity to occur.

2.4 Inclusion and Diversity

In the 2016/17 evaluation of the Community Choices Fund it was highlighted that the diversity of those participating in PB activity could be improved upon to better represent a wider cross section of communities. Whilst no specific reporting upon attendees at events was required, several projects demonstrated a commitment to enhancing social inclusion by implementing a range of innovative approaches to increase inclusion and diversity at events.

Table 1. Increasing Diversity	
Barriers to Engagement	Solution
Rural Isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting a larger number of events across the local area • Online voting • Postal and ballot voting across the local area e.g. post offices, community centres, schools • Provision of free transport to and from events • Ensuring adequate public transport to and from event locations
Older People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postal voting • Assistance with digital voting at events
Children and Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of specific working groups for young people to guide project design • Family friendly events to entertain young children • Free childcare provided for steering group members • Opening up voting to those over the age of eight
Black Minority Ethnic (BME) Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translators available at local events • Event publicity materials available in a range of languages • Events hosted in culturally appropriate locations
Disabled People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully accessible venues • Hosting events in venues with hearing loops fitted • Provision of assistance at events to help with additional needs • Provision of seating reserved for those in need • Provision of quiet space for those with anxiety or autism

Reviewing reporting data showed:

- 13 projects reported the provision of childcare or children's entertainment and activities at events to ensure events were family friendly.
- 11 projects provided free public transport to help those less mobile or socially isolated to attend events, although many projects report that it was not taken up.
- 17 projects reported hosting events in accessible venues, with some projects hosting events outdoors or in a street party format to encourage participation from a broad spectrum of the community.
- One project reported providing additional training to help build the skills and capacity of steering group members to ensure the inclusion of BME community members.
- Several projects highlighted a need to host events at different times throughout the day, with many events also taking place on a weekend to allow those who worked during the week to attend.
- One local authority project highlighted the use of key staff across multiple departments and locations e.g. housing officer, libraries and community centres to promote the PB process.

Broomhouse Decides noted that: "Community events, e.g. our Street party, are an excellent way to engage as they have a wider purpose in the life of a community and will reach a wider audience. The community do not need to know about the idea of local budgets in advance but are more likely to attend a community event, and then can learn about PB. We found that we engaged more folk at this, e.g. European and Asian families came to the event and they came in part as it is outdoors. There is research that illustrates that new arrivals from different countries to Scotland find it hard to cross 'thresholds' and outdoor community events allow us to reach BME community members and families. This was of concern to us as we have a very international community."

The [National Standards for Community Engagement](#) were found to be a useful tool for designing fully inclusive community events.

As part of the Scottish Government's national support programme to promote PB, Glasgow Disability Alliance (GDA) was commissioned in 2017/18 to explore how disabled people can be supported to engage with PB and what the barriers are. The Action Research Report: *Budgeting for Equality* was published in August 2018 and highlights the experiences and views of disabled people in relation to having their voices heard in decision making processes. The [report](#) and [video](#) are available on the GDA website.

2.5 Case Study: A Social Inclusion Approach

Summerhill Community Centre A Social Inclusion Approach

Founded in 1995 the Summerhill Community Centre and supported by 112 volunteers and two members of staff provides a local hub for community activity to the Summerhill and North West Dumfries area. Following an award of £30,000 from the Community Choices Fund, the organisation hired a project worker to develop and support a PB steering group responsible for planning and designing a programme of participatory budgeting. The project worked with a range of local organisations and Dumfries and Galloway Council to publicise and host their public voting event.

Working within an area of high deprivation the “Your Community Choices Project” looked to adopt an inclusive approach in the design of the PB programme through developing a steering group, and PB process representative of the interests and priorities of its diverse local area.

Capacity Building: PB Steering Group

Local residents throughout North West Dumfries were invited to join the PB steering group. The opportunity was advertised locally using posters, community networks and an open day was held to highlight how involvement with the project may align with individual interests. The project chose not to use application forms as part of the steering group selection process to ensure people were easily able to get involved. The final steering group was made up of 17 members who presented a representative cross section of the local community. Steering group members were aged between 11 and 70, had various levels of education (some still at school, whilst others were university graduates) and all members were residents of local deprived areas. Additional support was also provided to 6 members who required assistance with physical or learning disabilities. Three members of the steering group identified as openly LGBT. Utilising the existing skills of staff members, a trained youth worker and afterschool care worker attended steering group meetings and a minibus was provided to ensure all members were supported to attend meetings regardless of personal commitments.

Meetings were held within the community centre which had disabled toilets, a hearing loop and baby changing facilities on site. Materials for meetings were provided to the steering group on coloured paper (where needed) and information was available in large format (via screens) for the partially sighted.



The steering group were encouraged to take ownership of the project through the continued support of the project worker and were offered training to enhance their skills as part of their voluntary involvement. The project worked with the Scottish Community Development Centre to develop training for steering group members in line with existing models of citizen participation. Steering group members were also encouraged to access online tools and resources from the [PB Scotland website](#). As part of developing the PB process the steering group hosted community outreach and networking sessions, event planning sessions, developed voting criteria and designed the application process. This involved exploring and researching many ideas, talking with the local community and finally planning a community focused PB event that would interest a wide cross section of the local community. To develop organisational capacity, members engaged in confidence and team building activities, training on committee skills and developed in depth awareness of PB models suitable to their local community. Additional community participation training was provided by The Dumfries Community Action Hub. Through volunteering on the steering group community members developed capacity and skills to facilitate future participatory budgeting events.



Celebrating Diverse Communities: The Vote Day

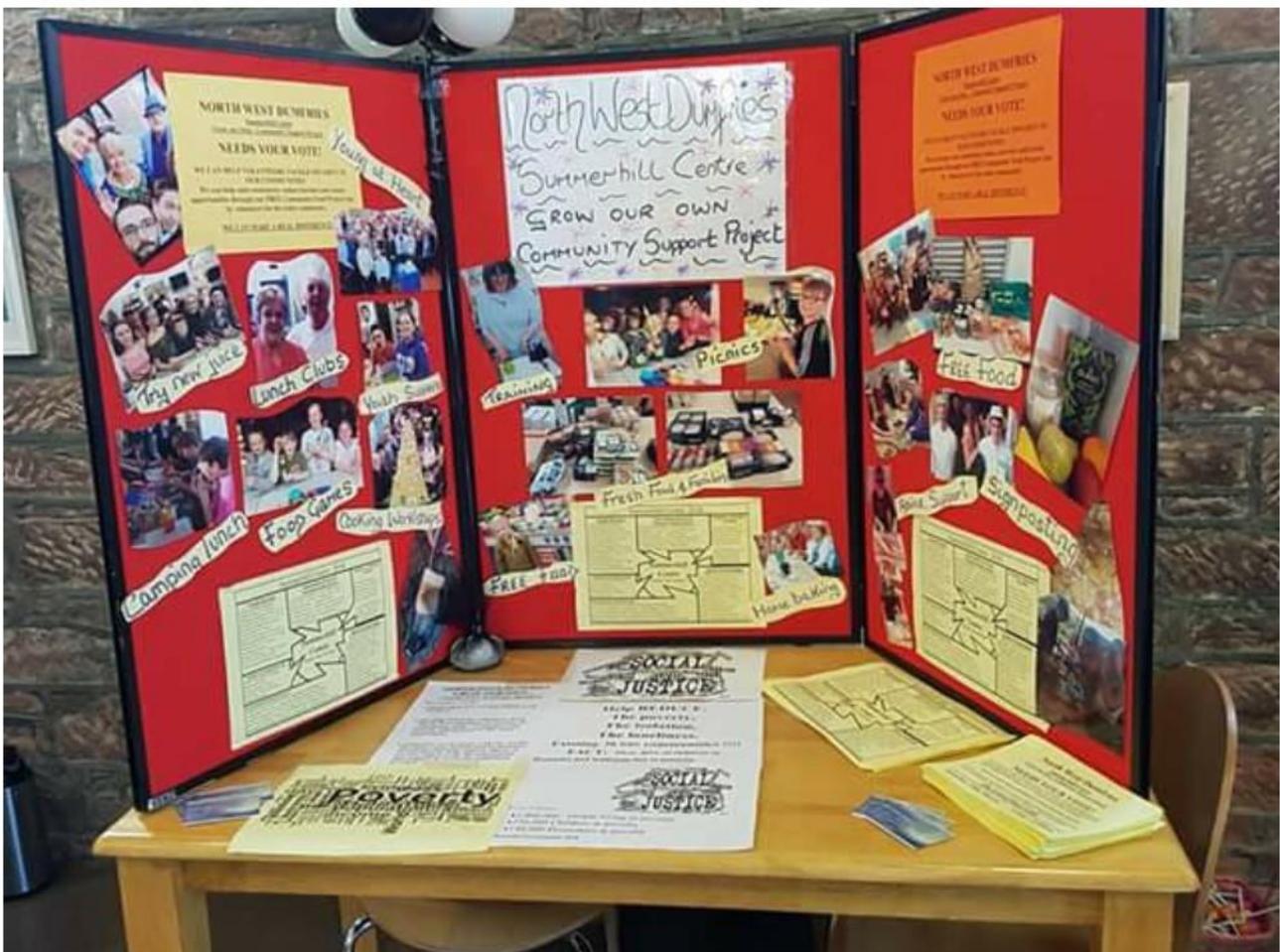
Three public voting events were hosted in the local Community Centre with a total turn out of over 950 people. These events were hosted on the same day to ensure members of the community would be able to attend at different times with voting open from 1 pm until 10 pm. Owing to the input of young people on the PB steering group voting was open to those over the age of 10 and a range of free activities for young people and children were provided to create a family friendly atmosphere.

In designing the voting event specific steps were taken to ensure the event was open to all including ensuring that the venue was wheelchair accessible with hearing loops and baby changing facilities. Door stewards were also on hand to assist those with additional support needs to access the event. A seating area was provided with free refreshments to ensure that those with mobility issues could rest as needed. Additionally a quiet space was available for anyone who suffered sensory overload, panic attacks, or felt overwhelmed to ensure the busier aspects of the voting event did not exclude those with anxiety or autism. A trained mental health first aider was also in place (in addition to a standard first aider) to support anyone who needed to use the quiet space. In addition to the marketplace discussions 3 digital screens displayed short summary videos of projects to ensure those with anxiety, autism, or other barriers which may have prevented them from speaking to applicants were still able to learn about projects and cast their vote. The project worker also transcribed subtitles for those who were hard of hearing.

Embedding Learning

Following the PB process, Summerhill Hall Management created a number new of opportunities for those wishing to get involved in steering groups or management subcommittees across the organisation. They also created a training program to allow members of the community with no prior knowledge of participatory methods, to engage with and take further ownership of existing and future community projects. Building upon the inclusive approach adopted during the PB approach the organisation has reviewed it's policies and procedures and is now able to offer information in additional formats. The longer term impacts of the inclusive approach adopted by the organisation has also been demonstrated by one steering group member with dyslexia and autism going on to study for a degree in events management owing to their involvement in the PB process.

The project are happy to share their advice and experiences of running an inclusive PB process, further information can be found on their [website](#).



One of the stalls at the Summerhill "Your Community Choices Project" voting day

Discussion: Community Impact

Building upon the recommendations made in the 2016/17 evaluation of the Community Choices Fund, several projects demonstrated a specific commitment to embedding inclusion and diversity within the PB process.

Collaboration between PB projects, third sector organisations with specialist knowledge of inclusion practice and academic institutions can all be seen to have helped inform and develop practice in designing inclusive PB processes.

Specific learning from designing inclusive PB processes included:

- Ensuring diversity within PB project planning groups and designing PB voting processes to reflect local area characteristics e.g. rural isolation.
- Provision of additional training, support or care relief was shown to be an important factor in ensuring diversity across working groups.
- Evidence presented within case studies also indicate that many steps can be taken at events to ensure the needs of different community members can be accommodated.

3. Sustainability

Projects in receipt of Community Choices Funding were asked to highlight how local PB processes would continue beyond the life of the funding. Project sustainability was measured in a range of ways including the use of the PB Scotland [website](#) to share learning for future projects, knowledge sharing across local and national networks and the future inclusion of local communities within participatory processes.

As part of this feedback key issues were highlighted concerning sustainability which raise questions for future rounds of PB funding:

- Some community organisations highlighted a need for a support or development budget to assist with the dissemination of learning and outcomes. One group suggested that owing to the voluntary nature of many members involvement, it had not been possible to attend events and share learning. Across projects receiving funding, community groups were less likely to apply for support costs within their funding applications, the experiences of these groups may be of value to other community groups looking to apply for PB funding in future.
- Similarly another community group highlighted that PB was “an extremely time-consuming and labour intensive exercise that needs to continue on an ongoing basis throughout the year, every year, not just for a couple of months of peak activity”. This was felt to be of increasing importance as local authorities moved towards the 1% target. It was suggested that further investment in Information Technology development and technical support was needed to ensure adequate infrastructure was in place as PB activity across Scotland increased.

3.1 Engagement with PB Scotland Website

The vast majority of projects engaged with the [PB website](#); 13 local authorities and 16 community groups reported that they had uploaded information onto the website as a way to publicise their events and disseminate learning. Reviewing report responses local authorities engaged with the website less often than community groups.

Of local authorities:

- 6 reported that they had uploaded material onto the PB Scotland map;
- 4 reported that they had uploaded learning/evaluation materials following events;
- 7 reported using the website to publicise local events.

Of community groups:

- 7 reported that they had uploaded material onto the PB Scotland map;
- 8 reported that they had uploaded learning/evaluation materials following events;
- 3 reported using the website to publicise local events.

3.2 Knowledge Sharing

Within reports, funding recipients were asked to detail if they had attended any events to share their experiences of hosting a PB event. Of the 34 projects, 26 reported that they had engaged in some form of knowledge sharing; of these projects 12 were local authorities and 14 were community organisations.

Analysing evidence from reports, the most frequent form of knowledge sharing happened at a local or regional level, this was particularly the case for community organisations who reported 11 instances of local knowledge sharing. Comparatively, only 5 local authorities noted that they had engaged in a local or regional knowledge sharing exchange. Instead, local authorities were more likely to engage in exchanges via the national PB Champions programme (7 instances), compared to community organisations who only reported two instances of involvement within national PB Practitioner networks.

In project reporting, local authorities and community organisations were also asked to indicate their willingness to share their experiences with others either nationally, regionally or locally; a total of 29 projects offered to take part in further knowledge sharing.

Although 6 projects did not provide information, the evidence indicates disparity in how different types of organisations share their experiences of the PB process. Community organisations tended to engage in knowledge sharing locally. Feedback from community organisations indicated that some organisations had felt limited, through lack of budget or volunteer time, to engage in national events. The under representation of community organisations at a national level may result in the experiences and distinct challenges facing community organisations to be under represented within national policy conversations on PB in Scotland.

During the reporting process all recipients of funding were able to feed back on their experiences. Evidence provided by community organisations do raise important issues for the future development of PB policy.

Learning points raised by community organisations included:

- The ability to apply for support costs was felt to be essential, this was particularly important for smaller communities who may not have resources, capacity or skills to organise projects.
- Inclusion of postal voting needed to be implemented early and publicised well ahead of the event to allow for the longer timescales required.
- Project delays were common, especially for organisations working in partnership or for groups working with volunteers from less stable backgrounds. As a result one project noted that elements of the project had felt rushed and more time to thoroughly engage with the local community was needed.

3.3 Evaluation

Recipients of funding were asked to provide information about how they planned to evaluate projects who had been awarded funding through PB. Of the 34 projects funded, 29 confirmed that they had, or were intending to, complete some form of evaluation (14 local authorities and 16 community organisations).

There was significant variation in how evaluations were to be completed, for example:

- 5 local authorities and 5 community organisations reported that they would be conducting an evaluation upon the conclusion of projects.
- The majority of projects conducting evaluations, 9 local authorities and 12 community organisations, employed ongoing monitoring of successful projects via regular contact with support workers.
- Three projects provided project evaluations which had been conducted by external agencies including Edinburgh Napier University, PB Partners and What Works Scotland.
- Two of the projects that had undertaken digital voting were able to provide evaluation evidence using Google Analytics. The generation of such data through digital voting demonstrates a useful way for future projects to collect evidence.

3.4 Future Plans for Community Involvement in Decision Making

As part of reporting on the impact and success of PB processes, recipients of funding were asked to detail any future plans to continue involving local people and communities in decision making. As a result of the Scottish Government and COSLA's commitment towards a 1% target of local authority

funding to be allocated through PB activity, responses differed depending upon organisational type, as follows:

- Of the 17 local authorities funded through the 2017/18 Community Choices Fund, 14 provided information on planned future PB activity.
- 5 indicated that they would be working towards meeting the 1% mainstreaming target.
- One local authority noted that they would be working towards allocating £1 million pounds of local authority funding by developing their PB process in partnership with local agencies.
- One local authority (see case study on Dundee City Council) had used Community Choices Funding for support costs in 2017/18 to roll out the use of PB for £1.2 million.
- 6 local authorities had secured further funding from existing budgets to continue PB activity.

Across community organisations, plans for future PB activity was focused upon establishing new partnerships and securing future funding. A total of 13 community organisations provided information on future plans for PB activity locally, as follows:

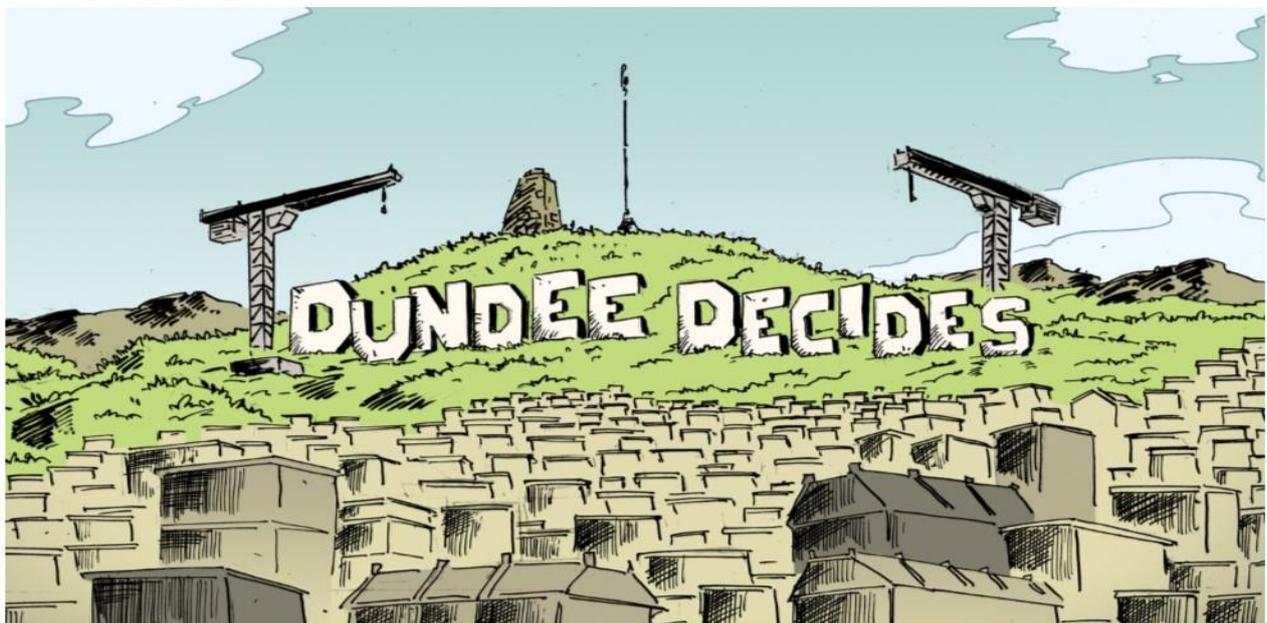
- 6 community organisations reported that they would be engaging in further community engagement work based on their experiences hosting local PB events.
- 4 projects intended to continue promoting PB processes locally through working with local community planning partnerships or local authorities.
- 4 projects already had plans for future projects and a further three projects were looking to secure additional funding to continue their work around PB.
- 2 groups had already secured funding for further PB activity.
- Many projects indicated that as a result of PB activity new forums for participatory engagement had been established and would continue to embed participatory practice within their work going forward.

3.5 Case Study: Towards Mainstreaming

Dundee City Council Towards Mainstreaming

In 2017 Dundee City Council (DCC) piloted participatory budgeting across the city through the Dundee Decides project. Using an award of £80,000 from the Community Choices Fund the LA developed staff skills and a digital infrastructure to allocate £1.2 million of local authority funding using a city wide digital PB approach. These funds represent a significant commitment towards meeting the 1% mainstreaming target. Funding made available for PB voting were drawn from the council's community infrastructure fund. Available money was distributed according to geographical area, with £150,000 allocated to each of the city's 8 wards.

In designing their PB process the local authority secured local political support from the Leader of the Council, the Executive Directors of Neighbourhood Services & City Development and other elected representatives. Elected representatives were found to be broadly supportive of the PB process as a way of engaging with local communities directly. DCC also sought out community views in designing their PB process through a community conference and a large scale community engagement exercise entitled 'Engage Dundee' which received over 6,000 responses over a 9 month consultation period (October 2016- June 2017). Drawing upon the 'Engage Dundee' consultation process and recently completed local community plans, the local authority reviewed community priorities and designed a range of projects to be voted upon which responded to issues raised through the community planning process. Primarily these [projects](#) related to infrastructural developments and local regeneration e.g. play parks, street lighting or public walkways.



To deliver their project, DCC formed a PB steering group who also worked closely with PB Partners and DemSoc to develop an appropriate process which incorporated community outreach alongside digital voting. Reflecting upon the support received from external agencies, DCC reported that PB Partners were able to advise on learning from elsewhere whilst also functioning as a critical friend during the development process. Demsoc provided assistance in choosing an appropriate digital platform and assisted with training of staff on the voting process.

The project worked across local authority departments to ensure proposed projects were not duplicating already existing provision. The development and delivery of Dundee's PB programme relied upon an in-house team of Community Development and Regeneration staff with core skills and interests focused upon local community planning, community engagement and community capacity building. Staff within these team were each tasked to engage with a specifically under represented group (e.g. carers or the partially sighted) and ensure specific measures were taken to bring them into the participatory process.



Public voting was hosted on the Open Active Voting Platform for an eight week period. Community engagement with the voting process was enhanced through facilitating over 400 outreach sessions in community settings to increase voting activity. A key driver behind these events was to ensure participation from a broad range of the population, particularly those under represented within community decision-making. These sessions specifically targeted young people, older people, residents within areas of deprivation, the hearing impaired, refugees and those with English as a second language to enhance the inclusion of marginalised groups. The local authority also took specific steps to overcome digital exclusion during the voting process. Measures to increase digital engagement focused specifically upon providing help to vote within a familiar environment. This was achieved by taking technology (digital tablets) into a community setting and helping people to vote online by showing them how to use their own devices e.g. smart phones, to vote. The local authority also worked with Demsoc to create email accounts, enabling those without email addresses to vote. To promote the Dundee Decides process DCC also worked with DC Thomson Comic School to create a comic strip which explained the voting process visually. The voting process asked community members to 'budget' up to £150,000 for the projects they would like to see funded. This required voters to make trade-offs in relation to the options available.

A total of 11,472 votes were cast during the Dundee Decides digital PB exercises.

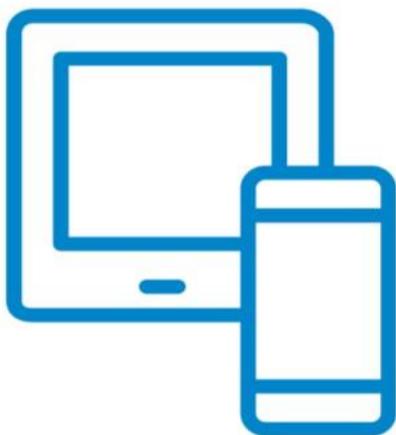
Reflections and Learning from DCC's mainstreaming process:

- In the future allocation of funding, DCC recommended resources being proportioned according to levels of deprivation rather than an equal split across ward areas. DCC acknowledged that the proportioning of funding will depend upon the type of funding available for future PB processes.
- The local authority found it valuable to draw evidence from existing consultation processes and strategies e.g. community action plans to avoid consultation fatigue amongst local residents. DCC will look to create an annual cycle of consultation activity to manage an evolving community engagement strategy in line with existing community planning processes.
- By basing PB voting around community priorities DCC felt that there had been a culture shift across the organisation. Working across departmental 'silos' was felt to have improved.
- Whilst the design process included a broad range of council staff and elected representatives, feedback from residents highlighted that future PB processes should also include community representatives. Whilst community groups were kept updated and informed throughout the process it was felt that there had been little active input into programme design. This was felt to have occurred as a result of needing to 'keep things simple' in the first instance, especially given the time constraints involved.
- Evidence from participant evaluation of 4000 voters in Dundee's PB found that 77% of people surveyed had not taken part in community engagement activities before. Additionally 87% of participants surveyed stated that they would be keen to take part in future PB activity.

An evaluation of the PB process carried out by PB Partners concluded that;

"It's important to recognise that the £1.2 million would have been spent in any case, very possibly on a similar set of interventions, so no extra cost to the Council was incurred in that respect. The added value of the process, over more traditional methods of resource allocation, is evident in the positive response of the voting community."

[PB Partners Evaluation Draft Report](#)



Images reproduced with permission. 'Dundee Decides' Edited by Chris Murray and Phillip Vaughn . Cover art by Catriona Laird. Comic strip art by Norrie Millar, coloured by Rebecca Horner. Script by Chris Murray from a concept by Dundee City Council and inkpot studios.

Discussion: Sustainability

Reviewing evidence from project reports indicates ongoing interest and support for PB activity in Scotland. Many of the projects who received Community Choices Funding in 2017/18 were looking to continue their work in this area. However evaluation of project sustainability data has highlighted two key areas for future consideration in relations to the delivery and broader mainstreaming of PB in Scotland, as follows:

- Owing to the voluntary nature of their involvement within the PB process there is a risk that the experiences of community organisations hosting PB activity may fail to be recognised within national policy discussions. Community organisations highlighted a need for small development budgets and support funding to ensure that they were able to engage within the dissemination of project outcomes. The evidence has indicated that whilst community organisations were more likely to utilise the PB Scotland website they were less likely to be represented at a national level through networks such as PB Champions. Evidence from recipients of Community Choices Funding highlight a need to recognise both the voluntary nature and time commitments required of such organisations to successfully host inclusive participatory events.
- Digital voting platforms were found to be useful for increasing engagement and generating evidence on participants engaging in the PB process (e.g. Google Analytics). Further investment in digital infrastructure to assist the mainstreaming of PB across Scotland was felt to be needed.

4. Conclusions

Reviewing evidence from reports to the Community Choices Fund, there is evidence to indicate growing support of PB amongst communities, public authorities and community organisations. Increases in the number of voters, people attending events and the funds available for PB activity demonstrate increased engagement with PB at a local level. Evidence also suggests that whilst the number of projects receiving funding has decreased since 2016/17, funding has increased. This indicates that the amount of funding being awarded to projects is increasing as the PB process becomes more familiar and the prospect of handing money directly to communities is normalised.

Building upon the recommendations made in the 2016/17 evaluation, several projects demonstrated a specific commitment to embedding inclusion and diversity within their PB processes. Section 2 of this report highlighted the innovative ways in which communities have adapted PB processes to be more inclusive of those with complex needs or those from BME communities. A central way in which projects have been able to ensure social inclusion is through local community members design of the PB processes via steering/working groups. Young people and those with complex needs have also been shown to play a vital role within such groups. The report also highlighted some of the challenges in hosting participatory events, particularly for projects in rural areas where a mixed methods voting approach has been found to be necessary.

Community organisations were also found to face particular challenges engaging in national policy discussions. Owing to their reliance upon volunteers, several community organisations were not able to engage in national events to share their experiences of running PB events. This under representation should be acknowledged within the development of future PB policy and funding programmes. Community organisations unable to participate within this process highlighted a need for a small support budget to be included within the PB project design so that volunteers could attend national events.

It is anticipated that PB activity across Scotland will increase as local authorities work towards the commitment to allocate at least 1% of their budgets through PB. This report has highlighted innovative practice to broaden inclusion of marginalised groups as PB activity grows. It has also suggested specific issues affecting PB in rural areas, and highlighted a need for ongoing support funding for community organisations to ensure their participation in the development of Scotland's PB approach. The importance of including the experiences and innovation of community organisations has been demonstrated in this report which has featured community organisations in 3 out of the 4 case studies.

Appendix i – Community Choices Fund 2017/18

16 Community Organisations and The Church of Scotland

Community Organisation	Project Title	Number at Events	Number of Voters	Number of Successful Applicants	Total for Projects (£)
Barrhead Housing Association, Glasgow	The Better Barrhead Community Fund	700	431	7	£30,000
Broomhouse Centre, Edinburgh	Broomhouse Selects	400	155	11	£19,730
Burnfoot Community Futures Housing, Hawick	Burnfoot bids together again	300	243	11	£30,000
Cranhill Development Trust, Glasgow	Cost of School Holidays	150	138	6	£24,000
Dumfries & Galloway Youth Project Team	Year of Young People D&G PB	1,800	1,758	22	£50,000
Girvan Youth Trust, South Ayrshire	Take 2 South Carrick	94	92	20	£30,000
Joint Community Councils of Moray	Money for Moray All Age Health and Wellbeing	300	244	24	£59,996
Kilmarnock Town Centre Partnership, East Ayrshire	Engaged Communities	526	454	9	£30,000
Leith Links Community Council, Edinburgh	Local democracy at work	1,015	4,000	50	£118,000
New Gorbals Housing Association, Glasgow	Spirit of the Gorbals	469	371	31	£23,044
Up North Community Development Trust, Highlands	Up North! Community Chest	86	86	18	£21,000
North Carrick Community Benefit Company, South Ayrshire	PAR2	404	363	18	£100,000
People's Development Trust, Glasgow	Legacy Youth	275	275	4	£60,000
Royal Burgh of Arbroath and District Community Council, Angus	Arbroath Talks – You Say, We Pay	0	88	4	£50,000
Summer Hill Community Centre, Dumfries	Your Community Choices Project 2018	956	542	8	£20,000
Ullapool Community Trust, Highlands	Discuss, Decide and Do. (The Lochbroom 3D Fund)	208	116	15	£25,000
Church of Scotland		1,452	1,239	63	£58,500
	Total:	9,135	10,595	321	£749,270

17 Public Authorities

Public Authority	Project Title	Number at Events	Number of Voters	Number of Successful Applicants	Total for Projects (£)
Argyll & Bute Council	Your Community, Your Choice	557	4,686	61	£109,861
Dumfries and Galloway Council	People Tackling Poverty (previously People Preventing Poverty)	777	766	20	£240,000
Dundee City Council	Engage Dundee, Community Choices	0*	11,472	30	£1,135,000
East Ayrshire Council	Communities at the heart of everything we do	1,973	1,857	74	£120,000
East Lothian Council	Your Money, Your Choice – the People of East Lothian Decide	469	469	14	£14,000
East Renfrewshire Council	Better Barrhead – You Decide	120	108	32	£100,000
Edinburgh City Council	City of Edinburgh PB Programme	389	389	21	£40,000
Glasgow City Council	Community Changes	0*	2,951	26	£79,000
Highland Council	Highland Decides	539	481	47	£76,597
Midlothian Council	Participate in reducing the cost of the school day	2,097	1,573	50	£58,404
North Ayrshire CPP	Your Money You Decide	1,386	8,124	118	£134,087
Perth & Kinross Council	Everybody Matters	1,845	7,184	151	£221,535
Renfrewshire Council	Our Renfrewshire community Choices	0	0	0	0
South Ayrshire Council	Ayr North & Girvan Decides - We said, We did	526	526	51	£109,000
South Lanarkshire Council	Community Choices - People and Places Participate	0*	187	4	£14,575
Stirling Council	Stirling: Your community- your budget-your decision	395	353	19	£130,000
West Dunbartonshire Council	Community Budgeting	200	6,000	30	£100,000
	TOTAL:	11,273	47,126	748	£2,682,059

* Digital voting only

Total (34 organisations) in 2017/18	Number at Events	Number of Voters	Number of Successful Applicants	Total for Projects (£)
	20,408	57,721	1,069	£3,431,329
Total (33 organisation) in 2016/17	19,017	39,484	1,349	£2,511,438
Total for both years:	39,425	97,205	2,418	5,942,767

Appendix ii – List of partner groups and organisations

1. Active schools and communities
2. Adult learning groups
3. Area Partnerships
4. Arts Live
5. Big Lottery
6. Business associations
7. Child Poverty Action Group
8. Community Action Plan Groups
9. Community Councils
10. Community Development Trusts
11. Community link workers
12. Community Organisations
13. Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
14. Criminal Justice
15. Culture and Leisure Trust
16. Edinburgh Napier University
17. Elected members
18. Employability and Skills Services
19. Fire Scotland
20. Foodbanks
21. Glasgow 2018 European Championships Cultural Engagement Team
22. Glasgow Centre for Population Health
23. Glasgow Community Planning Partnership
24. Glasgow Disability Alliance
25. Glasgow Homelessness Network
26. Glasgow Life
27. Glasgow Third Sector Interfaces
28. Glasgow University
29. Health and social care partnership
30. Health Improvement Team
31. Housing Associations
32. Housing Departments
33. IRISS (Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services)
34. Leisure and Culture
35. LGBT Youth Scotland
36. Local access panels
37. Local Churches
38. Local Colleges
39. Local GP's
40. Local Newspapers
41. Local Radio stations
42. Local schools
43. Locality Planning Groups
44. National Parks

45. NHS
46. North West Voluntary Sector Network
47. One Parent Families Scotland
48. Parent councils
49. Police Scotland
50. Public health
51. Resident Associations
52. Scotland's Rural College
53. Scottish Community Development Centre
54. Scottish Natural Heritage
55. Scottish Refugee Council
56. Skills Development Scotland
57. Social Work
58. Tackling Poverty Reference Group
59. Third Sector Interfaces
60. University of Edinburgh
61. University of Glasgow
62. University of the West of Scotland
63. Voluntary Action Organisations
64. Voluntary Organisations
65. Ward managers
66. West of Scotland Racial Equality Council
67. Young people's working groups
68. Young Scot
69. Youth forums
70. Youth Hubs
71. Youth Work Service

Appendix iii: Links to Community Choices 2017/18 uploads on the PB Scotland Website

Public Authorities

[Argyll and Bute Council](#)

[Dumfries and Galloway](#)

[Dundee City Council](#)

[East Ayrshire Council](#)

[East Lothian Council](#)

[East Renfrewshire](#)

[Edinburgh City Council](#)

[Glasgow City Council](#)

[Highland Council](#)

[Midlothian Council](#)

[North Ayrshire CPP](#)

[Perth and Kinross Council](#)

[South Ayrshire Council](#)

[Stirling Council](#)

[West Dunbartonshire](#)

Community Organisations

[Barrhead Housing Association](#)

[Burnfoot Community Futures Housing](#)

[Cranhill Development Trust](#)

[Dumfries and Galloway Youth Project Team](#)

[Girvan Youth Trust](#)

[Joint Community Councils of Moray](#)

[Kilmarnock Town Centre Partnership](#)

[Leith Links Community Council](#)

[New Gorbals Housing Association](#)

[Up North Community Development Trust](#)

[North Carrick Community Benefit Company](#)

[Royal Burgh of Arbroath and District Community Council](#)

[Ullapool Community Trust](#)

Appendix iv - PB Resources Useful Links

The PB Scotland website at www.pbscotland.scot provides accessible information on events, policy and resources in Scotland, and profiles examples, pictures and videos of Community Choices in action. Useful link are:

[Digital PB in Scotland Learning Report](#)

[Moving Towards The Mainstream Film](#)

[Midlothian Council Cost of the School Day Video](#)

[PB and children's rights - Blog](#)

[Glasgow Disability Alliance Budgeting for Equality - Action Research Report](#)

[Glasgow Disability Alliance Budgeting for Equality - Video](#)

[Hope for Democracy – PB in Scotland: The interplay of public service reform, community empowerment and social justice](#)

[Learning From International PB - Blog](#)

The Scottish Government have commissioned What Works Scotland to conduct a range of research and policy papers.

What Works Scotland papers:

[What Works Scotland Policy briefing – Mainstreaming PB](#)

[PB in Scotland-- An Overview of Design Choices and Principles](#)

[Review of First Generation PB in Scotland](#)

[PB Budget Evaluation Toolkit](#)