

What does this mean for my locality Partnership – Thurso?

The Caithness Community Partnership (CCP) has identified 5 priority areas (listed below) across locations in Thurso that it will initially focus upon.

We believe that working towards these priorities will have an impact on reducing inequalities and addressing needs in Thurso.

SEP IDENTIFIER WHERE APPROPRIATE	ZONE OR AREA OF NEED	SCORES OUT OF 10 WHERE SEP HAS BEEN UTILISED. (THURSO'S OVERALL SCORE IS 3.56)	PUBLIC FEEDBACK AND INFORMATION	PRIORITY
Wealthier/Fairer	Estimated net equivalent household income after housing costs per week	Score 2	No Job Centre. Have to make use of unreliable bus service to get to Wick. Missed appointments at Job Centre incurs sanctions. Local economy seems to be fast food outlets which are a sign of a dying town, empty shops etc, etc. You can get a varied amount of courses at the local college but sadly it might not lead to a proper contracted job. Don't recall seeing any new business start-up by locals for years. Plenty of charity shops. It's said that the county is awash with wind farm money which only benefit the few. Why not subsidise all electricity to	PRIORITY - 1 The CCP to work with agency partners to ensure that all benefits and allowances are being claimed by households affected.

			everyone in the county? There is still access to training and preparation to work but depends on investment but I think the will is there.	
Safer/Stronger	Rate of emergency admissions to hospital per person	Score 1		PRIORITY – 2 CCP to explore figures which indicate that this area of need is Caithness wide to identify common features.
Smarter	All people aged 16 and over: No qualification. Expressed as a % of the expected count, (Census 2011)	Score 2		PRIORITY – 3 CCP to work with the Thurso ASG to ascertain how these figures are being tracked and what the current plan is in place to improve the %. Clear focus then to be given on actions.
Smarter	% of 16 – 19 year olds not in education or training (Census 2011)	Score 2		PRIORITY – 4 Link in with the priority number x above

The grading of the priorities has to still be agreed by the CCP as these grades have been set by the locality plan lead.

How are we developing this plan?

The majority of the priority areas have been identified through very low scores in the Socio-Economic Performance (SEP) index and information gathered albeit from a not very well attended drop in session held on 24th May 2017 along with responses to surveys that had been either collected at the drop in session and returned or part of an e-mail exercise carried out in July 2017.

What are you telling us? What is life currently like in Thurso community?

Census 2011 figures highlight certain areas of Thurso that are experiencing low household income coupled with high unemployment in the 16 to 74 bracket. Also these areas are recording high levels of people with one or more long term health conditions. High levels of crime are also being flagged up in the Census 2011 reports.

There are high levels of people aged 16 and over who have no qualifications along with a high % of 16 – 19 year olds who are not in education or training.

What are you telling us – what you have said our priorities should be and our community should look like?

With a poor response to our drop in day and the poor return of our circularised surveys the priorities identified have been deduced from the SEP Index figures produced by the Hutton Institute for Caithness.

What are we going to do to get there together with the Thurso community?

Priorities are listed based on the information extracted from the SEP report.

Priority 1 – To improve the net equivalent household income after housing costs per week.

Priority 2 – To reduce the rate of emergency admissions to hospital.

Priority 3 – To decrease the number of people aged 16 and over who have no educational qualification.

Priority 4 – To reduce the % of 16 – 19 year olds not in education or training.