

# Linwood Community Action Plan



Linwood Community  
Development Trust  
for the Community, by the Community



## Foreword from Chair

As Chairperson of the Linwood Community Development Trust, I am delighted to present the Linwood Community Action Plan.

This plan was produced following extensive community consultations including interviews, public meetings and a community survey which included the views of over 2200 residents of Linwood. This then enabled the Trust to use the valuable and personal contributions from hundreds of local residents when compiling a community plan tailored specifically for our town.

The Linwood Community Action Plan reflects what the people in Linwood want to see happening in their town and it is hoped that when you read the contents, you will be inspired to help make Linwood a more attractive, happier and healthier place to live. Together we CAN make a difference!

After all, who best knows what our community needs than the community itself?

Jeanette Anderson  
Chair

2

# Contents

## What is this Community Plan all about?

### Linwood Community Development Trust 3

- Who are we?
- How did we get here?
- Why is this important?
- What are we doing?

### History of Linwood 7

- Linwood village
- Linwood Industries
- Linwood Town Centre

### Linwood today 9

- Every picture tells our story
- What local people like
- What local people do not like
- What local people say Linwood needs

### Facts & Figures 13

### Our approach to regeneration 18

### Support for our approach 19

### Actions we will take 20

### Want to get involved? 22

### Acknowledgements 23





# Linwood Community

## Development Trust

*for the Community, by the Community*

### What is the plan all about?

#### Linwood Community Plan summaries

- Linwood Community Development Trust
- Linwood today
- Facts and figures about Linwood
- Our approach to improving Linwood
- Our Community action plan for Linwood

### Who are we?

Linwood Community Development Trust is a group of volunteers who are looking at ways to improve health and wellbeing, reduce social inequalities and build social capital within Linwood.

We have formed an alliance with other groups to create the positive changes needed to make Linwood a more attractive place with a more vibrant and healthier community.

The Trust is determined to retain and upgrade community facilities for Linwood residents of all age groups. We are looking at current assets, whether it be existing buildings or land within Linwood to develop “fit for purpose” community facilities that will meet the needs of our local community.

Find out about us at [www.linwoodtrust.org.uk](http://www.linwoodtrust.org.uk)

3





## How did we get here?

When the demolition of the current Linwood Community Education Centre was announced to make way for an access road for a new £24m state-of-the-art Sports Hub, local residents raised concerns that the loss of their much loved community centre, that had served the community of Linwood for more than 45 years, would lead to social isolation.

Although the new Sports Hub was welcomed by the people of Linwood, they believed that fragmenting the 1000+ services users of the existing Linwood Community Education Centre into the new Sports Hub and other venues throughout Linwood, would have a negative effect on the quality of life for hard-to-reach groups and would also break down the intergenerational work currently experienced.

On 3rd March 2010, a group of local volunteers formed the Linwood Focus Group (later to become Linwood Community Development Trust), as they were passionate about preserving the recreational, cultural, social networking, educational and personal welfare resources within Linwood.

It became apparent throughout 2010/2011 that the lack of community facilities was a wider issue within Linwood. This was enhanced when:

- It was announced in June 2011 that the overall budget for improving Council assets throughout Renfrewshire had made a saving of £0.6m and this funding would be used to provide a 3G 'All Weather' pitch in Erskine. At the same time it was announced that the budget for Linwood Sports Hub would be reduced by £0.6m and a 3G All Weather Football Pitch would not be included within the current plans
- It was confirmed that the Tweedie Hall was being replaced with a £5.3m community hall as part of the Tesco development; however, to-date there has been no formal consultation with the wider community on the interior design. This now raises concerns whether these plans will meet the needs of Linwood residents

The Linwood Community Development Trust was established on 7 December 2011 and it has successfully brought together community groups and individuals in Linwood who share common concerns about the lack of community consultation during major regeneration projects in Linwood. Together we believe the current projects that are underway will have a significant impact on the community groups who use the facilities at present.

“A community without a community centre is a community without a heart or soul.”

5

## Why is this important?

Community Centres are essential to the survival of sustaining community spirit within local communities as they are not merely buildings but the cornerstone of the local neighbourhood.

Linwood Community Development Trust and supporting groups believe the current projects underway will be large, impersonal venues and will fail to serve the needs of residents seeking a traditional, informal and affordable way to meet with friends and neighbours in their local community.

### Some of these groups include:

650 young people and 60 adult volunteers from youth football clubs

Over 1000 people who use the Community Centre every week that include dance schools, tai chi classes, computing classes, self-help groups, yoga clubs, disability groups and carers' groups

175 older people who use the Community Centre twice weekly

150 members of the Elderly Forum who meet at the Tweedie Hall on a monthly basis

50+ members of the Friendship Group for older people who meet at the Tweedie Hall

100+ young people and volunteers who attend and support Drama Clubs

300+ participants who support and perform at our annual variety shows

100+ members of a Tweedie Hall User group who meet twice weekly

250+ members of Linwood Credit Union

### What did demolishing Linwood's Community Centre mean to people?

“The community centre is a godsend and a lifeline to me. It has given me a sense of belonging and purpose in my life. I will have no social life when it goes.”

“Linwood has a great community spirit and the community centre is witness to this. It is essential that this continues under the one roof so we can retain a sense of belonging, purpose and unity.”

“I use the centre for a few things - especially educational classes. It is the only way for me to learn locally, so I definitely don't want it to close.”

“They should use the road they have had for more than 30 years into the future sports centre and leave our centre alone.”

“The future sports centre isn't just for Linwood but for the whole of Renfrewshire and beyond. They all have community centres. What are they having to sacrifice?”

“The loss of this centre will take away the one place that is affordable for many groups - which is vital to keep this community together.”

“Research,  
advice and  
training  
on land  
ownership and  
acquisition,  
with  
investigations  
on vacant  
and under-  
used sites in  
Linwood”

6

## What are we doing?

The Trust has attended numerous meetings, organised events, and campaigns and been involved in a variety of tasks including:

- Awarded “Our Community Our Future” funding from Scottish Community Foundation to develop Linwood Community Development Trust’s vision for Linwood
- Proposals and discussions with Council Officers and Councillors to receive a proportion of regeneration funding in order to preserve the social, cultural and recreational facilities within Linwood
- A presentation to Renfrewshire Councillors seeking support for a joint approach to managing and designing new community facilities for Linwood
- Extensive community consultations including interviews, public meetings and community surveys. Over 2200 residents have taken part, giving their views about Linwood
- A public meeting to provide feedback from the community consultation. Over 300 residents attended and 120 offered support as volunteers
- A community campaign to ask Renfrewshire Council to give the savings made from the Sports Hub back to Linwood to support the local football clubs
- A Local Government Election Hustings meeting
- Formed a campaign to demolish our derelict Town Centre and received support from House of Commons Scottish Affairs Select Committee via our local MP. This pressure resulted in the long awaited demolition of our Town Centre
- Research and discussions with external contractors on the feasibility and costs of developing and managing all weather pitches in Linwood
- Research, advice and training on land ownership and acquisition, with investigations on vacant and under-used sites in Linwood
- Obtaining support from Oxfam Scotland, the Scottish Community Foundation and the Development Trust Association Scotland
- A joint project with Oxfam to engage local young people
- Prepared funding applications for training and gardening projects
- Started discussions about improving the Christmas Lights and decorations



## History of Linwood

### Linwood village

When Britain was part of the Roman empire, it is said that the Roman soldiers cut down the forest at Linwood to prevent the natives hiding in the trees and attacking Roman camps. The treeless area became Linwood Moss, which today is a haven for wildlife. The Linwood area belonged to the monks of Paisley Abbey, who farmed the land and caught salmon in the Black Cart; later the land was owned by the Abercorn family. For a long time Linwood village was a very small community. Until the early 20th century, there were only two streets: Bridge Street and Napier Street. In this small area were the church, the shops, the school and the mills. Bridge Street took its name from the bridge across the Black Cart which was built by the Cochrane family of Clippens House, in 1776. Napier Street was named after a local landowner.

### Villages of Inkerman and Balaclava

The villages of Inkerman and Balaclava were built to house the workers of the shale coal mines and oil works close to Linwood in the mid 19th century, and named after battles in the recent Crimean War. Balaclava, just south of Clippens House, was a square of earth-floored cottages and one small shop. Inkerman, near Candrens, had three rows of cottages called Row One, Row Two and Row Three, plus a shop, a school and a schoolhouse. Later, Oilwork Row and Store Row were added. The mines closed at the end of the 19th century. For a time a brickworks operated in Inkerman, making bricks from blaes, a waste product from the mining process. By the 1930s the blaes was used up, and the people of Inkerman gradually moved away. Inkerman and Balaclava no longer appear on maps.

### Industries

In 1792 a cotton mill was set up in Linwood beside the Black Cart. The building burned down in 1802, and was rebuilt in 1805. It was six storeys high, and one of the largest mills in the country at the time. At its peak it employed 1800 people. By the middle of the 19th century the cotton trade was declining and the mill was no longer prosperous. In 1872 the Watson brothers took over the mill buildings and changed production from cotton to paper. The paper mill thrived for nearly one hundred years. A small grocer's shop opened by William Galbraith at the corner of Bridge Street and Napier Street grew to be a chain of shops throughout Scotland, and Galbraith's became a household name. Other Linwood enterprises included the Reid Gear Company founded in 1897, Dent & Co & Johnson who made scientific instruments, and the Pressed Steel Company which opened in 1948 making farm machinery, railway wagons and car bodies.

Rootes Motors Ltd opened a new car factory close to Linwood in 1963, and next to the Pressed Steel factory which it later bought over. The first model made in the factory was the Hillman Imp. In 1967 the Chrysler Corporation took over, and continued production with the Hillman Hunter and the Hillman Avenger. However, the factory was troubled by low sales and high production







costs, and a series of industrial disputes. In 1975 the government stepped in with financial aid in a bid to prevent job losses, and a new car - the Chrysler Sunbeam - was launched. The company's troubles continued. In 1979 the French car firm Peugeot-Citroen took over, and renamed the company Talbot, but still the company lost money. In May 1981 the car plant closed, making thousands of people unemployed. This was a severe blow to the economy of Linwood and the surrounding area.

[www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/ilwwcm/publishing.nsf/Content/els-Linwood\(OurHistoryandHeritage\)](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/ilwwcm/publishing.nsf/Content/els-Linwood(OurHistoryandHeritage))

### **Linwood Town Centre**

Linwood's town centre, conceived in 1969, was sold as Scotland's first regional shopping centre. In its prime, the diverse shopping arena had strong independent shop holders, grocers, bakers, local banks, barbers, post office, dentists and paper shop which all served a vibrant community's needs. However, this was short lived and many believe the demise of the Town Centre was due to the closure of the car factory.

In 2000, Balmore Properties purchased the land however, the excessive price demands they made for rent forced local businesses to close or relocate and the town centre became a derelict and hazardous site. In 2005, a campaign was formed to force Balmore out and Tesco saved the day by purchasing the land from Balmore.

In 2008, Tesco secured planning permission to develop the site; however they declared in January 2010 that regeneration work was on hold due to the discovery of a Victorian crypt under the site.

In September 2010, it was reported that Balmore Properties were affiliated to Tesco.

In November 2010, Tesco announced that the original plans submitted in 2008 would have to be resubmitted, mainly because they would no longer include a new Health Centre.

In January 2011, Tesco's website stated works would commence in August 2011 with a completion date of December 2012.

Planning permission was approved in June 2011; however between August 2011 and March 2012 there were ongoing delays involving legal matters.

In the meantime Linwood was awarded the dreaded 'Carbuncle Award' by Urban Realm for being the most dismal town in Scotland and in February 2012, a community campaign organised by Linwood Community Development Trust commenced to ensure Tesco demolished and developed the town centre.

In April 2012, Tesco re-announced a new timeline and confirmed demolition would commence in September 2012 and the redevelopment would be completed by January 2014.





*Welcome to*  
**LINWOOD**



Every picture  
tells our story

Facts and



# What we like

“So much potential to be a nice green place to live”



# What we don't like

“The shops and the social club are a disgrace”



## Linwood today: what local people like

From our community consultation survey, here is what local residents said they liked about Linwood:

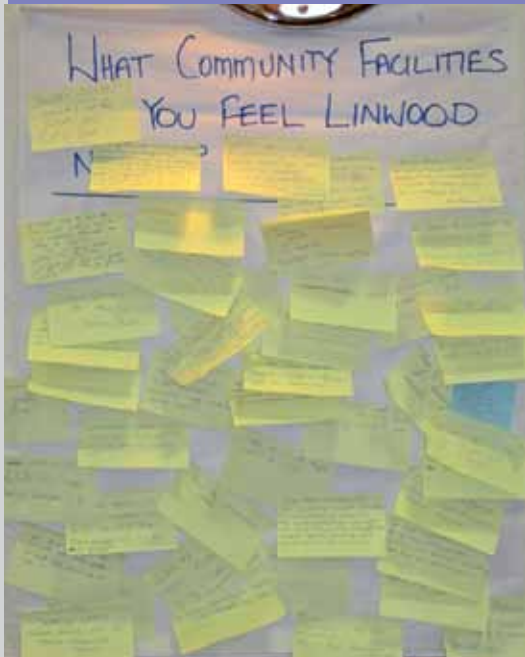
- “The people: they are decent, friendly, fantastic, willing to help and, despite the challenges, are full of hope”
- “Genuine community spirit”
- “The way the community comes together and makes a stand for Linwood”
- “All the community groups, walking and exercise groups and clubs”
- “The new Sports Hub and swimming pools”
- “Great area for bringing up kids”
- “Pretty quiet, do not see much trouble, gangs have mostly gone”
- “So much potential to be a nice green place to live”
- “Bus service”

## Linwood today: what local people do not like

From our community consultation survey, here is what local residents did not like about Linwood:

- “The Shopping Centre: it’s an eyesore, a disgrace, in a dreadful state of disrepair, desolate and dirty”
- “The shops and the social club are a disgrace”
- “The Environment: too much litter, dog poo, uneven pavements, empty housing and poor lighting”
- “Neglected parks and green space, what happened to the flowerbeds?”
- “Awful looking Christmas tree and decorations”
- “No real heart to the village”
- “The entrance to the village gives a very poor first impression”
- “No central meeting place for all generations to meet up”
- “Since 1963 Linwood had regressed, not progressed”
- “Carbuncle Award”
- “Poor political representation Linwood has had over the years. This has allowed the town to degenerate.”





**“More facilities for the kids and teenagers would be good.”**

11

## What local people say Linwood needs

**From our community consultation survey, here is a sample of what local residents say Linwood needs:**

“More play areas and re-build Clippens Shops.”

“Encourage start-up local business to locate here meaning local jobs for local people.”

“Politicians who work for us and not for their own self-aggrandisement.”

“Not a lot has been done by the council in the 47 years I have lived here - poor in comparison to other communities in Renfrewshire.”

“We need more people involved to step up and bring these local organisations and government bodies to call for the state of our town, there is a lot more they could do to make this a much better and safer place to live.”

“Think we should get young people involved. I am sure there must be some older people who would help out (myself included). After all it is their future we are talking about.”

“For everyone to take responsibility for their area and respect their neighbours. Also report any vandalism or anti-social behaviour in the area.”

“I think the Tweedie Halls should be used for more entertainment. It has a massive stage that could hold live bands, discos/dances/ entertainment for the young and not so young...”

“More facilities for the kids and teenagers would be good.”

“...somewhere nice to go and socialise and eat out.”

“... toilet facilities at Clippens Road terminus to be re-opened...”

“A community centre with different resources...things that don't have to cost the average punter a lot of money.”

“First step demolish town derelict shopping centre in the village and build new local shops, not just Tesco. The council need to intervene more here.”

“Improved social housing would be good for a lot of people who have lived here for years.”

“More fundraising. Also more awareness of what is going on is needed.”







12



“Making it as good an environment as possible to bring children up with affordable community educational facilities.”

“Improving the look and image of the town. The shopping centre has to be developed to put the heart back in the town.”

“More community facilities for **OUR** community. There is a lack of community facilities for young and old, especially community sporting facilities: the fact that Linwood won't have a single 3G football park is shocking!”

“Better litter picking and less dog fouling...clean up the riverside walk and clear the lade or fill it in again as it's a disgrace. If we could just get our town cleaned up it would help the people of Linwood.”

“Something to get residents working together. Raising money for new developments to make it more presentable and welcoming when you enter into the village.”

“We need groups to work together to make Linwood more attractive e.g. flowerbeds and christmas lights.”

“We need investment and affordable rent for people to open shops, cafes and restaurants.”

“Something that will improve the health of our residents, such as projects with healthy eating messages.”

“Linwood needs a bank included in the Town Centre development.”

“Keeping the identity of Linwood by having a community facility for the young and the old to work together...it is important to give the community a base that they can call their own and mix with other residents of their town on an informal basis.”

“Secure property to build a new community centre with substantial land for playing fields to encourage various sports and create a better and secure future for the next generation.”

“To achieve a friendly and active neighbourhood, where various groups within community can work together to get the best results for the people of Linwood.”

“This is our community, our future. Who best knows what our community needs than our community itself.”

“We need investment and affordable rent for people to open shops, cafes and restaurants.”

# Facts & Figures

13

## Figures

### Population & Area

Based on estimates from the 2008 census, Linwood has a population of 8,250.

**Linwood is split into 2 geographical areas:**

1. Linwood South – takes in the bottom end of Linwood up to and including Clippens Shops
2. Linwood North – starts from Clippens Shops up to and including East Fulton and North Clippens

**In Linwood North, compared to Renfrewshire and Scotland:**

- We have a higher than average population of people aged 0-15 year olds
- We have a higher than average population of aged 65 - 74

**In Linwood South, compared to Renfrewshire and Scotland:**

- We have a higher than average population of people aged 65 -74, and aged 75 and over.

**What this tells us about our population is that we must listen to the concerns of both young and old and make sure that these groups:**

- do not lose the community facilities they need for social and recreational purposes
- are involved in the development of any new facilities that they will use
- can afford and access the new facilities

### Life Expectancy

**The good news is that life expectancy for a man living in Linwood North is 81 which is higher (better) than Renfrewshire and Scotland. However:**

- Men in Linwood South have a life expectancy of 74, seven years less than men in Linwood North.

**For women in Linwood, life expectancy is similar to the Renfrewshire and Scottish averages.**

- Women in Linwood North can expect to live to 79
- Women in Linwood South can expect to live to 77

# Facts & Figures



## Deprivation, Unemployment and Income

Linwood's industrial decline has left a legacy of poverty and unemployment. The 2009 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation shows 3 very visible pockets of deprivation in Linwood South, with all 3 ranked among the worst 5-10% in Scotland.

Deprivation in 2 small areas of Linwood South have got considerably worse since 2004. (Source: [www.scottishindexofmultipledeprivation.com](http://www.scottishindexofmultipledeprivation.com)).

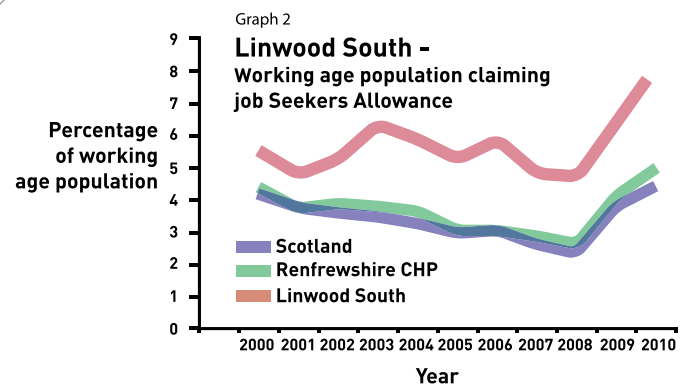
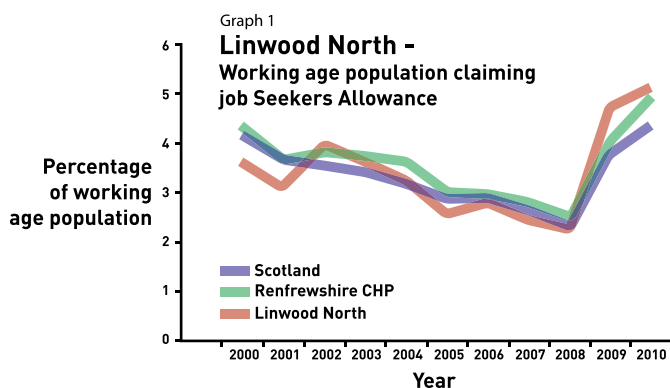
Data on deprivation is a collection of statistics about employment, benefits, income, etc. When we tease out the statistics, we discover that the overall picture for the whole of Linwood is not good.

Both Linwood North and South have averages HIGHER than Scotland for:

- The proportion of the population who are income deprived
- The proportion of the working population who are income deprived
- The number of people claiming job seekers allowance, and this figure is **RISING**
- The proportion of people dependent on out-of-work benefits or child tax credits
- People claiming pension credits

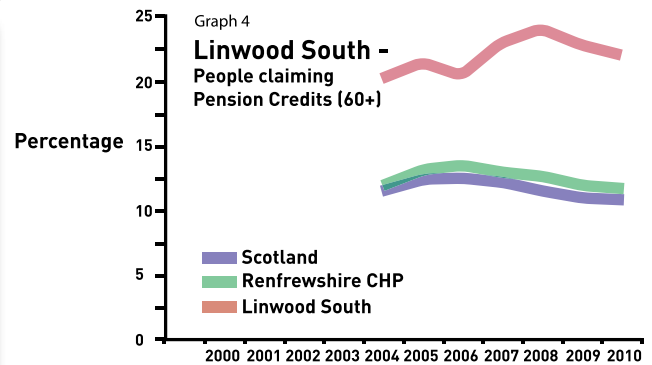
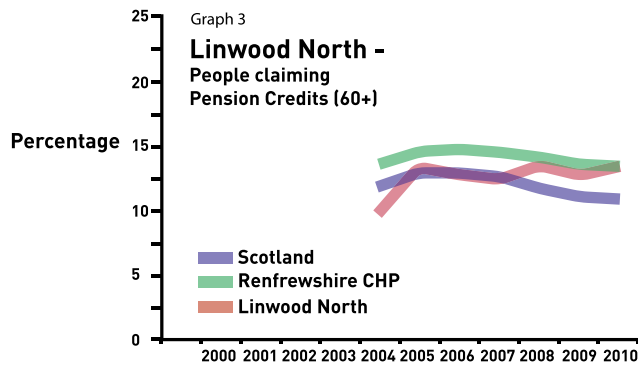
For all of these statistics, Linwood South does not compare well with Renfrewshire. Linwood North does not compare well with Renfrewshire for most of these statistics.

Graphs 1 & 2 below show the number of people claiming job seekers allowance and this figure is **RISING**.





Graphs 3 & 4 below show the number of people in Linwood claiming pension credits and this number is **RISE** in Linwood North.



#### It is clear that

- Deprivation in parts of Linwood is getting worse
- There are increasing number of people in Linwood claiming job seekers allowance and pension credits
- We know that this has a negative impact on health (see next page)
- The Trust is committed to making sure that our work will encourage people to get involved in community activity, volunteer and take part in employability schemes

15





## Health

There is a link between deprivation and health. Hence it is not surprising to find that the health of our population in Linwood is not good.

Here is a list of health measures where both Linwood North and South do not compare well to Renfrewshire and Scotland.

**Linwood North and Linwood South each have a higher than average number of:**

- People hospitalised with COPD (a form of lung disease, often associated with smoking)
- People with diabetes
- Patients hospitalised as an emergency
- Mums smoking during pregnancy
- Primary School children with poor oral health

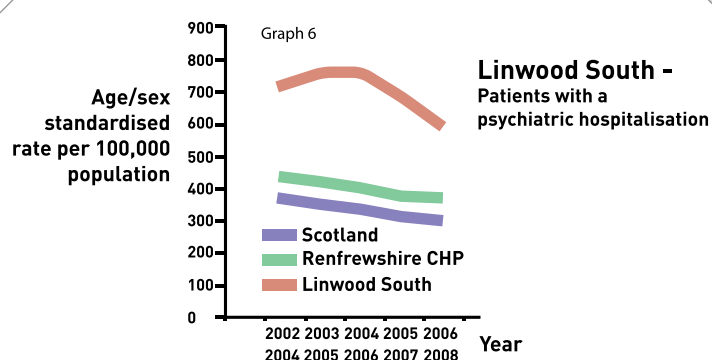
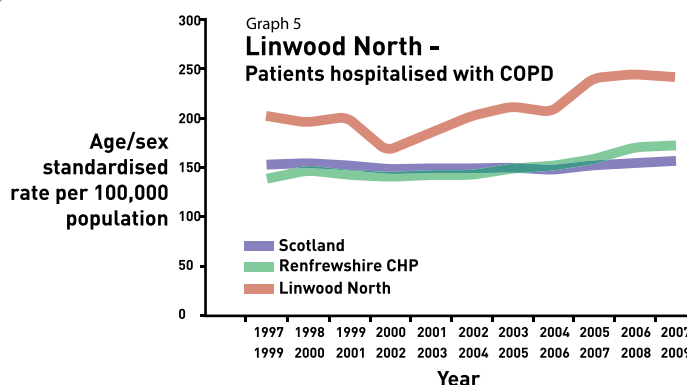
**Linwood North and South each have a lower than average number of:**

- Babies who are exclusively breast fed at 6-8 weeks
- Women attending for breast screening

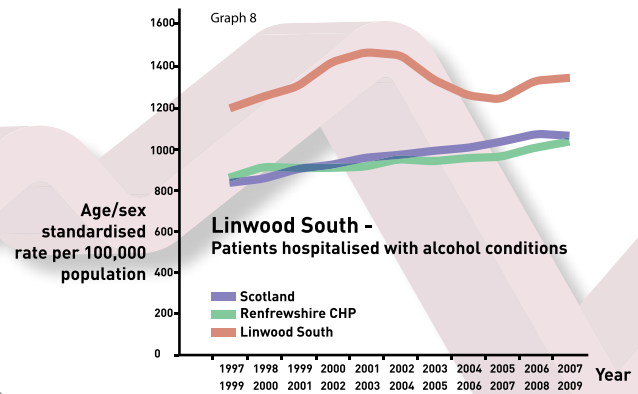
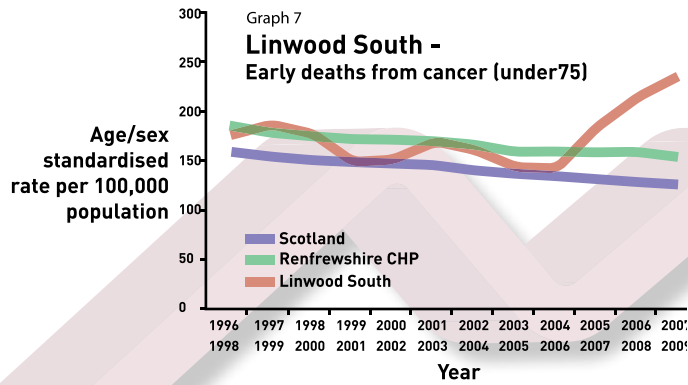
**Linwood South has higher than average number of:**

- Early deaths from cancer
- Patients hospitalised with alcohol conditions
- Patients admitted to hospital with a psychiatric condition

**Information about health in Linwood is illustrated in the following graphs:**







These differences in health, often called health inequalities, tell us that we must:

- Consider how our work will influence health in a positive way
- Continue to support community based health opportunities for our population
- Look for local solutions to help people improve their health and well-being





“assessing  
assets  
alongside  
needs would  
have given  
a better  
understanding  
of our  
community”

18



## Our Approach to Regeneration

The information and data we have provided clearly shows that Linwood has serious issues with its image, its derelict shopping centre, increasing levels of poverty and deprivation, especially amongst older residents, an increasing burden of poor health and the closure of community facilities.

Traditionally the approach taken by service providers to regeneration of poor communities is one of “deficit” which sees communities as the “problem” needing to be “fixed”. Using this approach, communities are rarely consulted, solutions are imposed, and, if they do not work, the negative perception of that community is reinforced.

The Trust believes that there is a history of deficit model regeneration work in Linwood which has resulted in reproducing the local problems (such as the shopping centre only ever getting worse) and created new problems (such as a new Sports Hub which may be too expensive for many people in Linwood).

The Trust is determined not to repeat the mistakes of the past and is using an “asset” based approach to their work. This approach recognises the resources that individuals and communities have that can be built on, rather than focusing only on the ‘deficits’ that are perceived to exist.

### **Some of the key features of an asset-based approach to regeneration are:**

- Community ownership of the process
- Change of focus: from needs to assets
- Communal ownership of resources
- Those involved are proud of their culture and their struggle
- Strong community activists and networks
- World-wide vision

### **Here are some of the main advantages of an asset-based approach:**

- It is flexible and culturally appropriate
- Communities gain control of their own development
- Those involved foster lifetime relationship
- Improvements in inter-generational relationships
- Sets a precedent for future development projects
- Benefits come through both the outcomes and the process

The Trust believes that assessing assets alongside needs would have given a better understanding of our community during major investment/regeneration projects such as the £23.4m sports facility and the £20m supermarket development. This approach would have been a better way of working with the community and their assets to develop services that help address the health and social issues that our residents face.

**“Communities doing things for themselves can often be the best way of delivering change”**

19

## Support for our approach:

We know that there is a range of national policies to support our approach, but we are concerned that there is little or no evidence of it working at grassroots level in Linwood. The Trust plans to challenge and change that.

### On an asset based approach:

*...we should ask “what makes this place good and where do opportunities lie?” and “what expertise and skills do local people have?” instead of labelling particular areas and people as a “problem”*

From Achieving a Sustainable Future – Regeneration Strategy, Scottish Government, 2011

### On community ownership of assets:

In developing new legislation the Scottish Government will examine *“how to make it easier for communities to take on ownership of un-used and underused publicly owned assets and how they can do more about vacant land and derelict property in their communities”*

From the process of developing the Community Empowerment Renewal Bill, expected to be introduced to the Scottish Parliament in 2013/14

### On community empowerment:

*“...heralds a change in how we address the big issues we face”*

*“...stimulates and harnesses the energy of local people to come up with creative solutions to local challenges”*

*“Communities doing things for themselves can often be the best way of delivering change”*

From the Community Empowerment Action Plan, Scottish Government and COSLA, 2009

### On the future delivery of public services:

*“Reforms must aim to empower individuals and communities receiving public services by involving them in the design and delivery of the services they use”*

*“We must prioritise expenditure on public services which prevent negative outcomes from arising”*

From the Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services, known as the Christie Report, Scottish Government, 2011

“We will ensure that all profits generated from our future projects are reinvested back into supporting the needs of Linwood residents.”

20

## Actions we will take

The main aim of the Trust is to look at an asset transfer approach to secure land and/or property in Linwood on a long term lease at a peppercorn rate or by community ownership in order to build a community facility that will support the needs of the community i.e. a facility that will be accessible and affordable for all.

The Trust will set up small working groups to progress the actions outlined in this plan. Whenever appropriate the Trust will co-opt members with specific expertise. The Trust will use local newspapers, public meetings, newsletters, Facebook and Twitter to report progress, together with our website: [www.linwoodtrust.org.uk](http://www.linwoodtrust.org.uk)

### Working Together

- We will engage and work with community groups and organisations, local service providers, the voluntary and private sectors who can all contribute to the major improvements needed to make Linwood a better place in which to live, work, invest and play

### Community Consultations and Campaigns

- We will conduct community consultations on all major projects and developments we undertake
- We will organise community campaigns on any issues that may have a negative impact on Linwood and its residents.

### Volunteering

- We will build social capital through volunteering by ensuring all our work provides volunteering opportunities for residents of all age groups.

### Land transfer

- We will gather information about various vacant and unused sites in and around Linwood
- We will open up discussion with the relevant partners and owners of these sites to assess the feasibility of land transfer and building a community facility

### Fundraising and finance

- We will organise fundraising campaigns and approach funding bodies to support our work
- We will prepare robust business plans for major projects we undertake
- We will establish strict financial governance procedures to ensure maximum benefit for the community
- We will ensure that all profits generated from our future projects are reinvested back into supporting the needs of Linwood residents



**“We will encourage good health through participation, volunteering and healthy lifestyles.”**

21

### **Facilities**

- We will continue to work with all partner organisations, the voluntary sector, community organisations and groups to ensure that local facilities in Linwood meet the social and cultural needs of our community.
- We will work closely with the Linwood Football Clubs and providers of all-weather pitches to develop much needed local facilities in Linwood.

### **Environment**

- We will organise and set up environmental improvement sub-groups to support projects to make Linwood beautiful such as flower beds, litter removal, Christmas decorations.
- We will promote the use of green space around cycling, and green gym initiatives in Linwood for health and leisure activities such as walking.

### **Young People**

- We will encourage young people to get involved in community activity through volunteering, employability projects and intergenerational work.

### **Older people**

- We will work with and support community-led organisations and groups for older people to ensure that their needs are listened to and met, and that they have access to the best possible and affordable facilities.

### **Health**

- We will encourage good health through participation, volunteering and healthy lifestyles.
- We will ensure all our work has positive health impacts for the local community.
- We will encourage and promote a wide range of community based healthy opportunities such as dancing, football, drama, yoga, tai chi, tea dances, walking and cycling.
- We will open up discussions with relevant partners to assess the feasibility of a volunteer-led food co-op offering access to affordable fresh fruit and vegetables. This would also offer messages on how to eat healthier on a budget and provide cooking demonstrations/workshops.



“We will ensure all our work has positive health impacts for the local community.”

22

## Want to get involved?

So far, we have had a great response and a lot of support from local residents and community organisations in Linwood for the work we are doing. In addition, we have met with the newly elected members of Renfrewshire Council and they are keen to support our efforts on land transfer.

All our work is voluntary, so, we still need lots of help and support from everyone who is interested in making Linwood a better place.

If you would like to get more involved in our work to improve Linwood, please get in touch on our e mail address: [linwoodcdt@gmail.com](mailto:linwoodcdt@gmail.com)

Write to: Linwood Community Development Trust, Unit 19, Mossedge Industrial Estate, Moss Road, Linwood, PA3 3HR



**“Perseverance  
is a great  
element of  
success, if you  
only knock  
long enough  
and loud  
enough at the  
gate you are  
sure enough  
to wake up  
somebody.”**

Henry Wadsworth  
Longfellow

23

## Acknowledgements

Linwood Community Development Trust gratefully acknowledges the tremendous support they have from local residents and community groups in Linwood and many others including:

Linwood Community Council  
Linwood Elderly Forum  
Linwood Credit Union  
Local Churches  
Linwood RYC  
St Convals FC  
Tweedie Hall User Group  
Oxfam Scotland  
Scottish Community Foundation  
Development Trust Association Scotland  
Chrystal & Hill Ltd  
Scottish Community Development Centre  
Scottish Community Alliance  
Fresh Ideas Scotland  
City Build Cooperative  
TCV Green Gym  
Independent Community Health Consultancy  
Notts Sport UK  
Senscot Legal

Email Address: [linwoodcdt@gmail.com](mailto:linwoodcdt@gmail.com) Website: [www.linwoodtrust.org.uk](http://www.linwoodtrust.org.uk)

The data is part of the community health profile for Renfrewshire which can be found on the website [www.scotpho.org.uk](http://www.scotpho.org.uk).

We wish to kindly acknowledge the support from Information Services Division Scotland in preparing the data for this report.

This report was commissioned by Linwood Community Development Trust.

Published: September 2012



# Linwood Together



*Gardening Project*



*Community Facility Project*



*Health & Wellbeing Project*



*Christmas Lights Project*



Linwood Community Development Trust is a registered Scottish charity  
(Charity No: SC043633)

Registered in Scotland (Company No: SC428650)

Registered office: Unit 19, Mossedge Industrial Estate, Moss Road, Linwood, PA3 3HR