



Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

31 May 2017

A meeting of the **Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Livingston** on **Wednesday 7 June 2017** at **8:00am**.

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

Public Session

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest - Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration at the meeting, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.
3. Order of Business, including notice of urgent business and declarations of interest in any urgent business
4. Confirm Draft Minute of Meeting of Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Local Area Committee held on Tuesday 21 February 2017 (herewith)
5. Village Improvement Fund Support - Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden - Presentation (herewith)
6. Police Scotland Report - Report by Police Inspector Gregor Forbes (herewith)
7. Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-Member Ward Performance Report - Report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (herewith)

DATA LABEL: Public

8. New West Calder High School Update - Report by Head of Finance and Property Services (herewith)
9. Service Update - NETs, Land and Countryside - Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith)
10. Housing Customer and Building Services Update - Report by Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services (herewith)
11. West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund - Applications - Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
12. Report on Progress of Regeneration Planning - Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
13. Workplan (herewith)

NOTE **For further information contact Anne Higgins, Tel: 01506 281601 or email: anne.higgins@westlothian.gov.uk**

MINUTE of MEETING of the FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE of WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 21 FEBRUARY 2017.

Present – Councillors David Dodds (Chair), Greg McCarra

Apologies – Councillor Cathy Muldoon

In Attendance

Alice Mitchell, Lead Officer, Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley LAC

Laura Wilson, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council

Kate Ward, Housing Services, West Lothian Council

Tony Fleming, NETs, Land and Countryside Services, West Lothian Council

Lisa Grubb, Headteacher, West Calder High School

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair made reference to the meeting being the final Local Area Committee meeting in the current Administration. The Chair thanked Headteachers, other external organisation representatives, council officers, the LAC Lead Officer, Regeneration Officer and Clerk for their contribution to meetings of the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley LAC. The Chair then thanked ward councillors for their support and co-operation during the period 2012-2017.

3. MINUTE

The Local Area Committee noted the minute of its meeting held on 29 November 2016.

4. WEST CALDER HIGH SCHOOL - PRESENTATION BY HEADTEACHER

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Lisa Grubb, Headteacher, West Calder High School. Ms Grubb had been invited to present an overview of the school's performance and levels of attainment.

The Committee was informed that, within West Lothian, the school had the highest number of young people achieving 5 or more National 5 qualifications. Other successes and strengths were:-

- Almost all young people transitioning into positive, sustained destinations
- Revised vision and values

- Improved learning and teaching – Inspired Learning Space
- Staff actively involved in leading improvements
- Meeting learning needs – reduction in exclusions from school
- Positive Relationships Positive Learning
- Assertive mentoring programme
- Strong examples of community and partnership work
- Increased pupil voice and pupil leadership opportunities

The Headteacher spoke about the significant reduction in the number of exclusions in 2016/17 when compared to the previous year.

The Headteacher went on to outline the priorities for the school for 2017-18.

The Headteacher then responded to questions raised by members. In particular, it was noted that the school was well prepared for its move to new premises in 2018 and that there were opportunities for staff to talk to others who had been through a similar transition.

Finally, the Committee heard that there had been little impact on the school due to the closure of the A71.

The Chair then thanked the Headteacher for her informative presentation.

Decision

To note the terms of the presentation.

5. HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES UPDATE

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services providing an overview of the service activities within the ward.

The report examined void performance in relation to both mainstream tenancies and temporary tenancies.

The Committee was informed that the ward position for Q3 of 2016/17 was £258,524 which was a decrease of £36,538 on the previous year's position. The West Lothian overall position had decreased by £245,116 from the previous year and at week 38 was £1,562,678. While there were 60 serious arrears cases (£1,000+), the Committee noted that 55% of cases were in the lower bands (£300 or less).

The report went on to provide an update in relation to the capital programme and new build council housing.

The Committee was asked to note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period 1 October to 31 December 2016.

In response to a question raised, the Housing Manager undertook to

provide members with details of the external wall insulation work being undertaken at Kirk Brae, Longridge.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

6. POLICE SCOTLAND REPORT

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Inspector Gregor Forbes providing an update on performance, activities and issues across the ward for the period up to 31 January 2017.

The report provided statistical information in relation to crime Groups 1 to 5.

The report provided details of forthcoming events. 'Prevention' events organised included: 'Safer Internet Day', 'Act Now – Counter Terrorism Event in High Schools', 'Youth Army Outreach' and various inputs to high school pupils on personal safety, substance misuse and 'No knives better lives' and in the community action against Bogus Workman type activities.

The Committee noted that Police Scotland was not represented at the meeting.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

7. MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an update on the activity within the ward for the period up to 31 December 2016.

Station Manager Ritchie Hall presented the report, highlighting a number of improvements across the key priorities within the ward.

In relation to Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS), 14 incidents were reported during 2016/17 year to date reporting period, compared to 23 during 2015-16 year to date reporting.

In response to a question raised, the Station Master advised that the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2014-2017 would be replaced with a new plan. The Committee noted Councillor McCarra's comment concerning the desire for local input into future plans and the Fire Master undertook to convey the comment back to the service.

The Committee was invited to note and provide comment on the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-member Ward Performance Report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8. SERVICE UPDATE - NETS, LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising members of the recent activity of the NET's Land and Countryside Services teams for the period 1 November 2016 to 31 January 2017.

The report provided statistical information in relation to Grounds Maintenance, Garden Maintenance, Street Cleansing, Parks and Woodland, and Open Space and Cemeteries.

The Committee was informed that main works were complete at Meadow Crescent Park. Improvements included new paths, small football pitch, bins and seating. In addition there had been some tree planting. Outstanding works were currently being pursued with the contractor.

Members were asked to note the work carried out to date and future planned work as outlined in the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9. REPORT ON PROGRESS OF REGENERATION PLANNING

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration informing the Committee of progress towards developing regeneration plans within the ward.

The report recalled that the Regeneration Framework, which had been approved by Council Executive in February 2014, contained a commitment to develop regeneration plans in key areas of deprivation in West Lothian. Eight regeneration areas had been identified, based on the data zones within the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. At present, this process had started in five of the eight regeneration areas, including Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley which covered the communities of Fauldhouse, Stoneyburn, Addiewell and Polbeth.

The report went on to provide details of meetings held in Addiewell, Stoneyburn, Fauldhouse and Polbeth. The key points highlighted in the report were:-

- The Addiewell group had met four times in the Pitstop and the core group consisted on representatives from the community council, gala committee, WLYAP, Addiewell and St Thomas' primary

schools, the Pitstop management committee and staff.

- The group in Stoneyburn had met on three occasions and was making good progress.
- In Fauldhouse, the regeneration group had been well attended but only one community member had attended and the rest were officers and other external agencies. A further meeting had been held at the end of January and was attended by nine residents who had all now joined the group.
- Attendance at the first meeting of the Polbeth steering group was low.

Finally, the Committee was informed that a further update would be brought to the next meeting of the Local Area Committee.

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee note:-

1. That four local regeneration groups had been established; and
2. Community engagement activity would commence in February 2017.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

10. WEST LOTHIAN VILLAGES IMPROVEMENT FUND - APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration advising the Committee of the applications received from within the ward seeking funding from the West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund (WLVIF) in 2016/17.

The Committee was informed that four applications had been received from West Calder and Harburn CDT for this round of funding. These were summarised as follows:-

1. West Calder to Birchwood Right of Way - £9,000 – to open up the first section of an old right of way between West Calder and Harburn, specifically linking West Calder to the Harmand Birchwood.
2. West Calder Lighting - £8,480 – To improve the lighting at the Remembrance Garden and on Union Square.
3. West Calder Gateways - £33,000 – To allow the CDT to enhance and improve the four gateways into West Calder.
4. Heritage and Signage - £25,500 – to improve access and navigation around the village.

In addition, the West Calder Community Education Centre Management Committee had requested £12,000 towards a total project cost of £24,000 to enable them to refurbish all of the toilet facilities within the centre. The remaining 50% funding required would be contributed from the committee's own funds.

In addition to these five new projects, the Committee was asked to increase the grant allocation of £10,000 made to Breich Community Association in June 2016. The association required £26,800 to allow them to purchase and install additional equipment at the village play part. They had secured £10,000 from West Lothian Development Trust but were unsuccessful in their application to Banks Mining from the remaining £6,800. The Committee was asked to support this additional amount being awarded from the Village Improvement Fund.

Copies of the five application forms were attached as appendices to the report.

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee:-

1. Note that five applications had been received for funding.
2. Note that the proposals met the eligibility criteria for supported projects;
3. Supports funding for the projects;
4. Increase funding to Breich Community Association; and
5. Agree that the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration should make an offer of funding as per the details set out in the report.

Decision

1. To note that five applications had been received for funding.
2. To note that the proposals met the eligibility criteria for supported projects;
3. To support funding for the projects;
4. To support the proposal to increase funding to Breich Community Association;
5. To agree that, as only two members were present, the applications be referred to the Council Executive with the recommendation that funding be approved.

11. WORKPLAN

A copy of the Workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

1. To note the Workplan.
2. To amend the Workplan to reflect (i) that the Lead Officer for WC&H CDT was Allan MacLaughlan; and (ii) that the project name was Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden.

Village Improvement Fund Support 2016 – 2017

Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden SCIO

Judith McDermid
Lisa Drinnan



Where we started



Building and site initially



Work prior to Village Improvement Fund



Conditions Before the Underfloor Heating Installation

- Cold, damp, mice
- In winter the building was inhospitable and hard to heat
- Often colder than outdoor temperatures - at or below 0°C
- 25 year old wood burning stove was difficult to use and inefficient



Work of Improvement Fund



West Calder Village Improvement Fund Grant

Item of Expenditure	Cost	Actual Cost
50mm Celotex insulation to floor of building	£1,320.00	£1320.00
Supply and install under floor heating to building, including DPM, edge insulation, and adjustment of bathroom plumbing and sanitary ware to account for higher floor level	£3,914.00	£3,914.00
Liquid Anhydrite screed to cover under floor heating pipes and provide smooth and solid base for final floor covering 50mm thick / min 30mm cover to pipes	£2,950.00	£2,950.00
Supply and install tiling to cover 91m2 @£20/m2, tile adhesive and grout	£3,400	£2,733.60 – lino £435.76 – tiling £389.96 – restoring utilities and altering door heights
Complete & Manage Building Standards Application (Excludes application fees)	£834.00	£834.00
Total	£12,418	£12,577.32

Polbeth Village Improvement Fund

Four phases:

- ✓ First phase was feasibility study with users

Next two in parallel:

- ✓ Straw bale information and workshop

- Conventional build consultation with architect

- Final phase, once the design is finalised, to get drawings made up to apply for planning permission and a building warrant.

Straw bale Workshop



Polbeth Village Improvement Funding

Item of expenditure	Cost	Actual Cost
Straw Bale workshop -	£1000	£1000
Straw Bale Concept Drawings	£800	
Conventional build workshop	£1000	
Conventional Concept drawings	£1000	
Planning drawings for chosen design	£800	
Building regulation and construction drawings for chosen design	£3500	
West Lothian Planning Application fees	£401	
West Lothian Council Building Warrant	to £1480	
Total	£9981	

Feedback

- *“Very informative day on straw bale building held in a very interesting woodland garden, friendly and a lot to see and do and learn. Thank You”*
– Straw Bale workshop participant
- *“A real asset to the district – I wish there had been something like this when I lived in Polbeth from 1947”*
– Ageing Well
Environmental Group
Visit (15 Feb 2017)



FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

POLICE SCOTLAND REPORT

REPORT BY POLICE INSPECTOR GREGOR FORBES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

Police update for Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley.

B. RECOMMENDATION

For discussion by the Chair.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values

Focusing on our customers' needs
Being honest, open and accountable
Providing equality of opportunities
Developing employees
Making best use of our resources
Working in partnership

II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)

III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers

IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators

V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement

VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)

VII Consideration at PDSP

VIII Other consultations

D. TERMS OF REPORT

To update the Local Area Committee on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 30th April 2017.

Our Purpose

To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland

Our Focus

Keeping People Safe

Our Values

Integrity, Fairness and Respect

NATIONAL PRIORITIES – DELIVERED LOCALLY

Police Scotland Priorities

1. Violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour
2. Protecting people at risk of harm
3. Road safety and road crime
4. Serious Organised Crime
5. Counter Terrorism

WEST LOTHIAN PRIORITIES

Your West Lothian Priorities

1. Protecting People
2. Reducing Anti Social Behaviour
3. Reducing Violence
4. Tackling Substance Misuse
5. Making our Roads Safer
6. Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRIORITIES

Your Local priorities

1. Tackling Substance Misuse
2. Preventing Violence and Anti Social Behaviour
3. Making our Roads Safer
4. Tackling Acquisitive Crime

PERFORMANCE

Crimes Groups 1 to 5 (Ref: Crime Statistics JG Area Command) (April 16 – February 17)						
Area	This year to date			Last year to date		
	Rec.	Sol.	% Sol	Rec.	Sol.	% Sol
West Lothian Area	6821	3161	46.3%	6903	2860	41.4%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (April 16 to Feb 17)	528	230	43.6%	532	207	38.9%

* Figures only available up to end of February 2017 due to elections *

Future statistics will be posted on the Police Scotland website that can be accessed via the link below.

Ward plans and community information can also be obtained by using the link to access the website and then tab into 'your community' and enter your postcode to find the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward.

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/>

ASB performance for period up to 30th April 2017.

Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward – End of April 2017				
Month	April-17	LYTD	TYTD	% Change
Youth Calls	22	13	22	69%
All ASB Calls	84	62	84	35%
Hate Crime	1	3	1	-67%
Vandalism & Reckless Conduct	8	11	8	-27%
Fire-raising	1	0	1	#DIV/0!
Public Space Assaults	4	1	4	300%

ISSUES OF NOTE

- Exceptional Reporting on the above**

In March 2016 following a review of the Community Police Team a new model was introduced. This new model allows for 2 dedicated Ward Officers covering the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward supplemented by 10 staff forming the Community Action Team (CAT) on the West Side of West Lothian.

The officers in place have a depth of knowledge and their input and directed tasking of the CAT will lead to a positive effect in our community. We will continue to work towards reducing recorded crime and ensure a safer Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward for residents and visitors.

The above Anti Social Behaviour results are produced by the West Lothian Community Safety Unit and show the figures up to the end of April 2017.

Youth Calls – rise of 69% in the year to date and there were 22 calls reported in April. This equates to 9 more in the year to date.

ASB Calls – rise of 35% in the year to date. 84 reports in April and this year to date there have been 22 more reports to the police.

Hate Crime – fall of 67% in the year to date with there being 1 report in April. The year to date figures 2 less reports this year to date.

Vandalism / Reckless Conduct – fall of 27% in the year to date with there being 8 reports in April. 3 less incidents reported than last year to date.

Fire Raising – There was 1 report in April, which is a rise from last year to date.

Public Space Assaults – Rise of 300% - 4 crimes reported in April. Year to date figure has increased with 3 more incidents this year to date.

PREVENTION

- **Activities**

Reducing antisocial behaviour within our communities

The Ward Officers continue when available to carry out high visibility patrols in local parks and engage with youths as part of their daily tasking.

In an effort to maintain the reduction in youth calls and calls of Anti Social Behaviour the team continue to provide resources at key times in identified areas aimed at reducing ASB and youth calls to the ward.

The Ward Officers review all calls of ASB in an effort to identify offenders and will progress criminal complaints and ASB complaints to conclusion to ensure a positive outcome. This may involve reporting the person involved or tenancy warning via ASB legislation.

There is 1 party house identified in the Ward at this time.

Reducing community and social harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse

The community team continue to carry out stop and searches to deter, disrupt, divert and detect offenders.

In April 7 Crimes were recorded for drug offences. The reports were in relation to production, supply and possession of Cannabis and one in relation to Cocaine recoveries. Information shared with WLC SNT regarding addresses.

The Community Action Team have carried out a number of intervention visits and patrols in relation to intelligence about misuse of drugs associated to Addiewell Prison.

The Ward Officers continue to identify and address key issues around alcohol misuse by young persons and have conducted intervention visits to premises and carried out patrols in all of the villages that make up the Ward.

In response to this a shopkeeper in Polbeth has been charged with offences under Licensing Scotland Act for supplying alcohol to minors.

Making our Roads Safer

The Community team continue to carry out road checks to provide reassurance and carry out enforcement and education of young drivers to work towards reducing the communities fear in regards anti social driving by young persons.

Road Safety - Local officers continue to carry out Speed checks at various locations in the Ward including locations in Breich, Polbeth and West Calder. No offences have been detected.

In addition to this as a result of proactive policing by local officers 2 persons have been reported for Road Traffic offences including failing to stop after an accident and failing to disclose who was driving at time of an offence.

Tackling Acquisitive Crime

There were 3 incidents of acquisitive crime in April. One was to a wind farm outbuilding in rural West Calder and keys for vehicles were taken and 2 cars stolen. There was one attempt break in to a farm outbuilding but security was not overcome. Two males were also seen in a secure compound at a quarry however nothing was taken and no damage caused.

There were no reported domestic housebreakings in April.

- **Initiatives**

Reducing Anti Social Behaviour

The Ward Officers work closely with the WLC Safer neighbourhoods team officers and continue to challenge ASB in the home, issue tenancy warnings, and this can lead to Anti Social Behaviour Orders being issued.

There is presently no party house identified in the ward.

The Ward Officers and CAT officers work to ensure priority locations are regularly patrolled and priority nominals are regularly visited and intervention actions carried out.

At present there is one property causing issue in Stoneyburn and warnings are being raised by the WLC SNT to progress to ASBO application.

2 reports are presently with WLC legal department in relation to Anti Social Behaviour Orders for an individual in Stoneyburn and another in Fauldhouse.

Assaults – 3 of the 4 public space assaults reported are solved. 2 involve offenders that are under 16. The other incident has not got a named suspect and enquiry continues into the incident.

Your local Ward officers are presently planning to hold a multi agency Rural Crime Awareness Day and in addition to this will look to promote and roll out a Farm Watch for the Ward.

Tackling Substance Misuse

Local officers will act on intelligence received regarding misuse of drugs and will continue to utilise their powers where appropriate to stop and search people suspected of being in possession of drugs. A dedicated team acts on recent intelligence and drug warrants are regularly executed in West Lothian to confront drug dealers and take drugs off the streets. The Community Action Team and Ward Officers submit a significant amount of intelligence entries based on improved communications with members of the public as they are out and about in communities being seen.

The CAT officers work closely with the Prison to deter and detect offences both within and externally.

Making our Roads Safer

Officers will be proactive and will continue to identify and deal with road traffic offences in the Ward. The A71 corridor is an identified patrol route and the CAT officers have carried out and will continue to carry out speed checks in the area.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Rural Crime Awareness Day – Sunday 28th May at Beecraigs Country Park.

Your local Ward officers will be active building links with community councils, schools and local organisations.

The CAT officers and Ward officers are planning multi agency days of Action in the area for the coming months. These will be under the name of Operation Pinpoint and will focus on youth alcohol issues, ASB issues and Road Safety issues.

‘Your View Counts’ – Please access the Police Scotland website and submit your views to shape the future of local policing plans.

We also request that people sign up and follow your local policing team on Twitter [@WestLothPolice](#) and Facebook – [West Lothian Police](#)

CONTACTS

Sector Inspector

Inspector Gregor Forbes

Gregor.Forbes@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Sector Sergeant

Sergeant John Fleming

John.fleming@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Community Policing Team West Calder

Mail to:

FauldhouseBreichValleyCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

PC Keith Montgomery and PC Ross Walker

The policing model has been developed providing a funded officer and ward manager (shown above) in each ward in West Lothian.

In addition to this there is a team of 1 + 10 uniformed officers led by Sergeant Hughes known as the Community Action Team available to assist with community enforcement duties and day to day community policing demands in the west side of the area.

Youth Community Officer – PC Helen Woollven



FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT

REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Local Area Committee on the activity within Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 31st March 2017

B. RECOMMENDATION

That Committee Members are invited to note and provide comment on the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-member Ward Performance Report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being honest, open and accountable• Focusing on our customers' needs• Making best use of our resources• Working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Quarterly reports on the Multi-member Ward Operational Plans are being produced to ensure delivery of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan, which is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	WL CPP SOA Performance indicators.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	SOA1304_13 Number of deliberate fires per 100,000 population SOA1304_14 Number of accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 population.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	The council contributes to directly and in partnership to the delivery of the Ward Plan
VII Consideration at PDSP	None

D. TERMS OF REPORT**D.1 Background**

Quarterly reports on the Multi-Member Ward Operational Plans have been produced by SFRS to ensure delivery of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2014 – 2017, which is a requirement under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, Section 41E.

D.2 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-member Ward Quarterly Report

Following the publication of the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-member Ward Operational Plan, the Local Senior Officer for Falkirk and West Lothian has produced a Performance Report detailing activity against the key priorities.

The seven key priorities within the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward area are as follows:

Continuous Priority

- Local Risk Management and Preparedness.

High Priority

- Reduction of Dwelling Fires
- Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties
- Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

Medium Priority

- Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Property
- Reduction in Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies.

E. CONCLUSION

The Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-member Ward Performance Report aligns to the key priorities of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2014 – 2017, the West Lothian Strategic Assessment of Community Safety and continues with the excellent partnership working on Community Safety, which is evident in West Lothian.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.

Ritchie Hall
Station Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
7 June 2017

Appendix 1 - Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-Member Ward Performance Report



West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Year to Date January to March 2017

Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley

DISCLAIMER

The figures included in this report are provisional and subject to change as a result of quality assurance and review. The statistics quoted are internal management information published in the interests of transparency and openness.

The Scottish government publishes Official Statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

Please ensure any external partners in receipt of these reports are aware of this.

Introduction

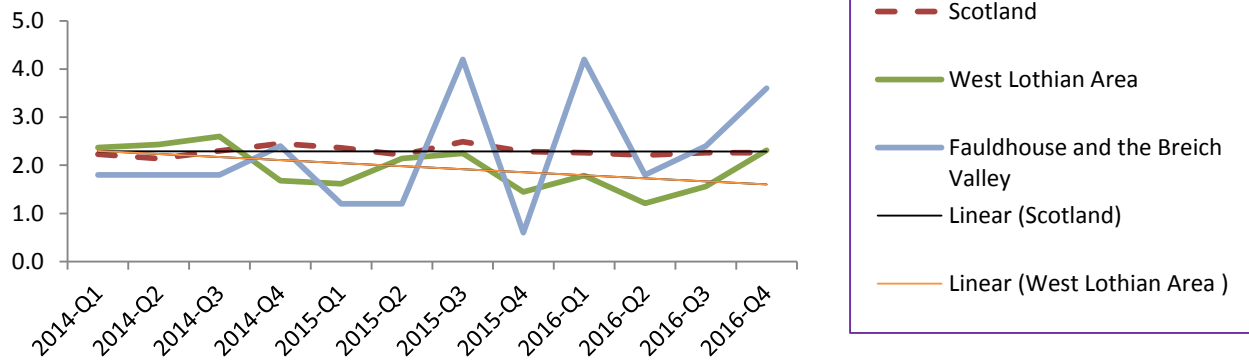
Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Ward Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to ward based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

In addition to historical ward based activity, this performance report provides information on the historic activity in the West Lothian Council area and Scotland. To allow benchmarking to be undertaken, the units of measurement in the performance graphs in the report are based on incidents/events per head of population.

Whilst using historic statistical benchmarking data, consideration must be taken of the somewhat random nature of fire related incidents and events, and how this can pose difficulties in interpreting emerging patterns and trends. This is of specific relevance where ward level data is analysed due to the relatively small number of actual incidents/events that occur in ward areas.

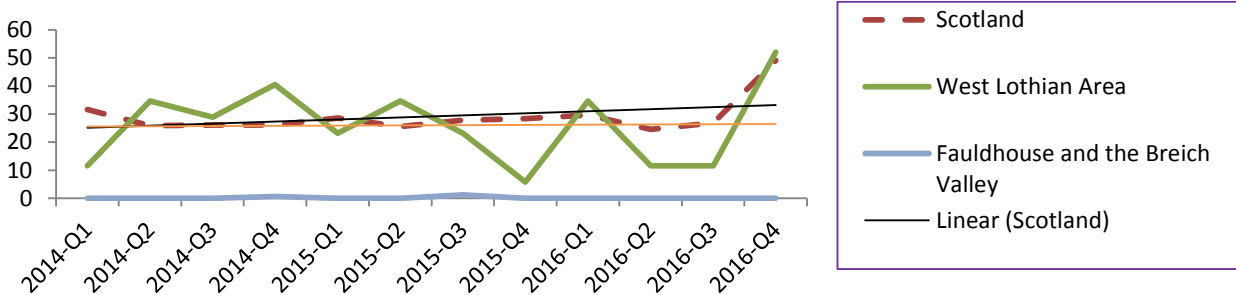
However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



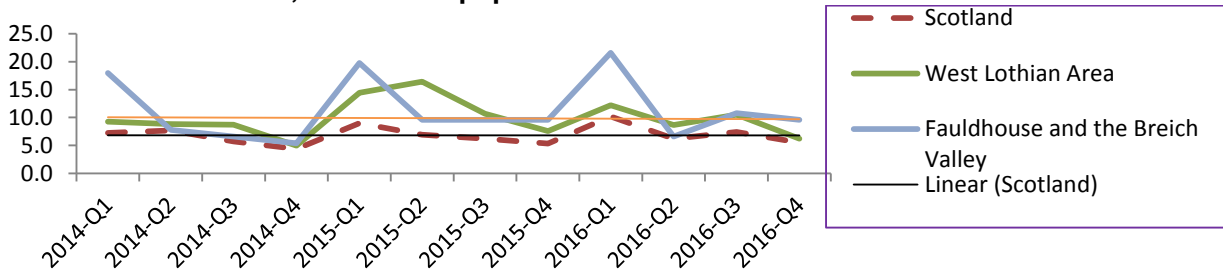
During the 2016-17 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 6 accidental dwelling fire in comparison to 1 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Fire Casualties and Fatalities Per 1,000,000 head of population



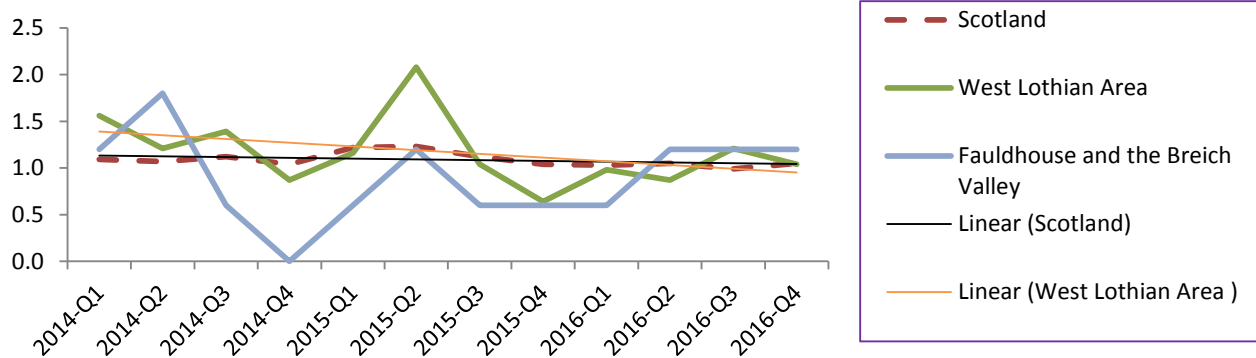
During the 2016-17 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 0 casualties due to fire in comparison to 0 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



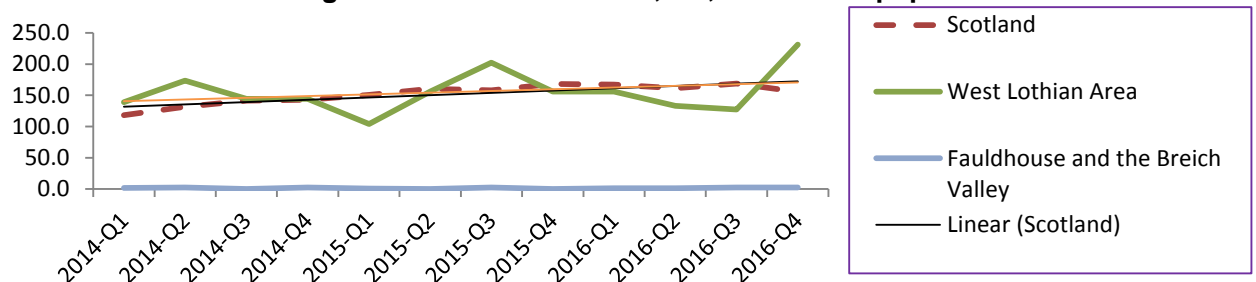
SFRS have dealt with 16 deliberate fires incidents during 2016-17 year to date reporting period in comparison to 18 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Fires In Non Domestic Property Per 10,000 head of population



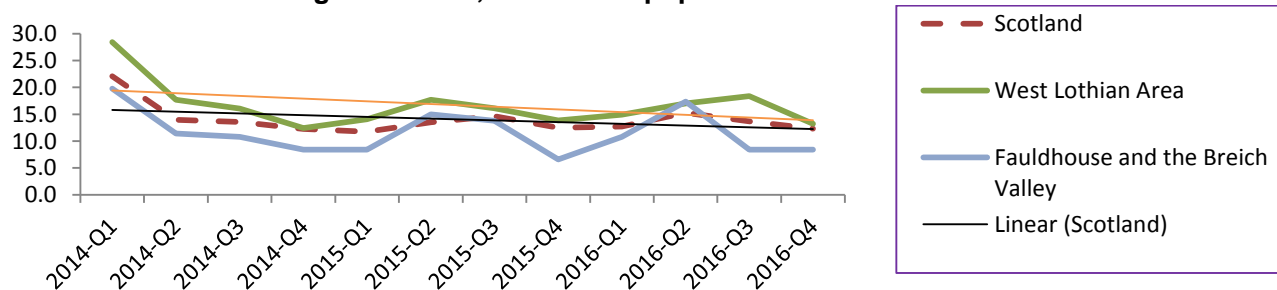
SFRS have dealt with 2 non domestic fires incident during 2016-17 year to date reporting period in comparison to 1 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Non-fatal Non-Fire Emergencies Casualties Per 1,000,000 head of population



SFRS have dealt with 4 casualties from non-fire emergencies during 2016-17 year to date reporting period in comparison to 0 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population



SFRS have dealt with 14 UFAS incidents during 2016-17 year to date reporting period in comparison to 11 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Additional Comments

SFRS is committed to 'Working Together for a Safer Scotland' and to engage with business partners to reduce demand from Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS).



FAULDHUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

NEW WEST CALDER HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

REPORT BY HEAD OF FINANCE AND PROPERTY SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to update the Local Area Committee on the progress of the new West Calder High School.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Local Area Committee notes the progress of the project to date and the ongoing community engagement.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs, being honest, open and accountable, making best use of our resources.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	None.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	The performance measures for satisfactory or better condition and suitable property assets will improve as a consequence of the project.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	<p>The significant investment in the new school will support a number of single outcome agreement performance measures including:</p> <p>Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed;</p> <p>We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built environment.</p>
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Project funding is via a combination of Capital and Revenue as reported to Council Executive 22 November 2016.
VII Consideration at PDSP	Not applicable.

VIII Other consultations

Significant community engagement continues to be undertaken as the project progresses on site. There is ongoing consultation via the community engagement group that has been established.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 BACKGROUND

The Council Executive at its meeting on 28 October 2014 agreed to progress the replacement of West Calder High School with a new school building. On 22 November 2016 Council Executive approved the terms of the Financial Close for the project and noted the delivery timescales.

D2 PROGRESS TO DATE

As a consequence of the pro-active approach adopted, such as progressing enabling site infrastructure works in advance of the main school construction works, the financial close for the project commenced on time.

The council and the development partners HUB South East Limited and Morrison Construction have worked closely and also in collaboration with Network Rail to ensure that the enabling infrastructure works of the new rail overbridge and new access road were completed on time and on budget. This has enabled the majority of site traffic to access the construction site from the A71 thereby mitigating as much as possible the impact on the community of West Calder.

The main school construction works have commenced and are progressing well with phase 1 of the ground engineering works, foundations, initial utilities diversions and installations together with the primary steel structure amongst others all completed. Next phases will include completing structural steel works, formation of floors and concrete form work, together with the external envelope which will all be completed by the end of the summer.

The project remains on target with planned timescales for completion forecast for June 2018 with pupils attending from August 2018.

D3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The council and the development partners have actively engaged with the community including the establishment of a consultation group which meets bi-monthly with the primary aim of facilitating effective communication on the progress of the project and to allow engagement on any issues that should arise.

E. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Proposal to relocate West Calder High School – Education Executive 26 May 2015

Update on proposed West Calder High School – Council Executive 15 September 2015

West Calder High School Update – Council Executive 26 April 2016

New West Calder High School – Stage 2 / Financial Close – Council Executive 22 November 2016

Appendices/Attachments:

None

Contact Person:

Paul Kettrick, Asset Manager, Finance and Estates

Tel: 01506 281826, Email: paul.kettrick@westlothian.gov.uk,

Donald Forrest

Head of Finance and Property Services

Date: 7 June 2017



West Lothian
Council

FAULDHUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

SERVICE UPDATE – NETS, LAND & COUNTRYSIDE

REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise members of the recent activity of the NET's, Land & Countryside Services teams for the period 1st February – 30th April 2017.

B. RECOMMENDATION

Members are requested to:

1. Note the work carried out to date and future planned work.
2. Advise of any areas that require further investigation or inclusion in future work plans.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	None
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Relates to items 9 - We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger & 12 – We value and enjoy our built environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	In line with available revenue and capital budgets
VII Consideration at PDSP	None
VIII Other consultations	None

D1 Terms of Report

Report on activity for period 1st February – 30th April 2017.

D2 Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

The first herbicide visit to shrub beds has been completed, without the use of Glyphosate. Spraying of grass channels has also been completed using a mix of Glyphosate and Flazasulfuron. Weed control on hard standing areas is ongoing and consists of Glyphosate alone.

Trials of alternative weed control methods have started and will continue throughout the summer. The European Chemicals Agency has concluded that the available scientific evidence does not meet the criteria to classify Glyphosate as a carcinogen.

The first grass cutting cycle started on the 10th April and was completed on schedule.

Grounds Maintenance Enquiries

In total 2 grounds maintenance enquiries were received and dealt with during this period.

Shrub Beds Not Maintained – 1

Weeds on Paths or Roads - 1

D3 Garden Maintenance Routine Works

Garden Maintenance Scheme started on 10 April and is on schedule. Dealing with additional work requests from Housing for individual properties.

Garden Maintenance Enquiries

In total 13 garden maintenance enquiries were received and dealt with during this period.

Garden Maintenance General Enquiries – 9

Garden Maintenance Grass Not Cut - 4

D4 Cleaner Communities Routine Works

Cleaner Communities staff are continuing to remove litter, fly tipping and debris on roads, footpaths and open spaces throughout the ward.

Cleaner Communities Enquiries

In total 30 cleaner communities enquiries were received and dealt with during this period.

Dead Animals – 2

Dog Fouled Grass/Open Space – 1

Dog Fouling on Paths/Roads – 5

Glass on Paths or Open Spaces – 3

Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping – 11

Litter General Enquiries – 1

Litter on Paths/Roads Verges – 4

Street Sweeping Enquiries – 1

Vehicles Abandoned - 2

All enquiries regarding fly-tipping if suitable evidence is found are investigated and pursued by Enforcement Officers. Dog fouling patrols are also carried out in an effort to identify anyone failing to clean up after their dog.

Enforcement Action

During the period 1 fixed penalty for a littering offence was issued.

Environmental Community Involvement

Enforcement Officers are continuing to support colleagues from Public Transport and Social Policy by carrying out school transport checks on buses and taxis. Officers are also assisting colleagues in Community Learning & Development Youth Services through the positive destinations programme.

Education & Engagement Officers have attended several residents and community group meetings and are in the process of organising various initiatives over the coming months.

Officers have also engaged in partnership working with various agencies such as Police Scotland, Scottish Canals, WLC Housing and Woodlands Trust Scotland.

D5 Parks and Woodland

Tree and Woodland Routine Work

Routine maintenance will be carried out on the young woodland at Knowes Colliery along with the renewal of the fence adjacent to the cemetery by contractors. This project is currently being managed by Central Scotland Green Network Trust on behalf of the Council.

Parks and Woodland Enquiries (1)

Core Paths or Rights of Way - 1

D6 Open Space and Cemeteries

Open Space Routine Works

Meadow Crescent Park, Fauldhouse

Outstanding works currently being pursued with the contractor include removal of the rubbish and fly tipping, clearance and seeding of the north area of the site, maintenance of the swale, and re-seeding of the pitch.

Parkhead Recreational Ground, West Calder

2017/18 capital money has been approved for development of a skate park. The project will be led by the community with the support of the West Calder and Harburn Development Trust and various council officers.

Capital Programme

Fells Road Play Area, Polbeth is scheduled for refurbishment in the 17/18 Capital programme. Contract has been awarded and community consultation is underway.

Open Space Enquiries (1)

Public Park Enquiries - 1

Cemeteries Routine Works

Spring maintenance and grass cutting now underway across the cemetery estate.

Cemeteries Enquiries (5)

Cemeteries General Enquiries – 2

Lair Enquires - 3

E CONCLUSION

Routine works are currently progressing as scheduled. The weed control trials will be assessed on a regular basis with the outcomes reported at the end of the season.

We have received and dealt with a number of customer enquires relating to various service areas throughout the period. We will aim to maintain our strong performance dealing with enquiries within our target timescales

Garden Maintenance Scheme started 10 April.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Open Space Strategy

Capital Programme

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person: Tony Fleming, Waverley Street Depot, 01506 776437,
tony.fleming@westlothian.gov.uk

Jim Jack
Head of Operational Services
7 June 2017



FAULDHOUSE AND BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

HOUSING CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES UPDATE

REPORT BY HEAD OF HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Local Area Committee with an overview of the service activities within Fauldhouse and Breich Valley ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to note Housing, Building and Customer Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period 1 January – 31 March 2017.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs. Being honest, open and accountable. Providing equality of opportunities. Making best use of our resources. Working in partnership.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 Housing (Scotland) Act 2010
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	There is no impact
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	There are positive impact on the following SOA indicators: SOA4 – we live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities SOA8 – we make the most effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None
VII Consideration at PDSP	Yes
VIII Other consultations	N/A

D. Housing Performance Information

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Area Committee with an overview of the activities of Housing, Customer and Building Services, specific to the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley ward.

Property Void & Let Performance: Mainstream Tenancies

Void Period	Jan 2017	%	Feb 2017	%	March 2017	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	3	100%	12	80%	6	55%	55%
2-4 weeks		0%		0%	2	18%	30%
4+ weeks	0	0%	3	20%	3	27%	15%
Total Lets	3	100%	15	100%	11	100%	100%

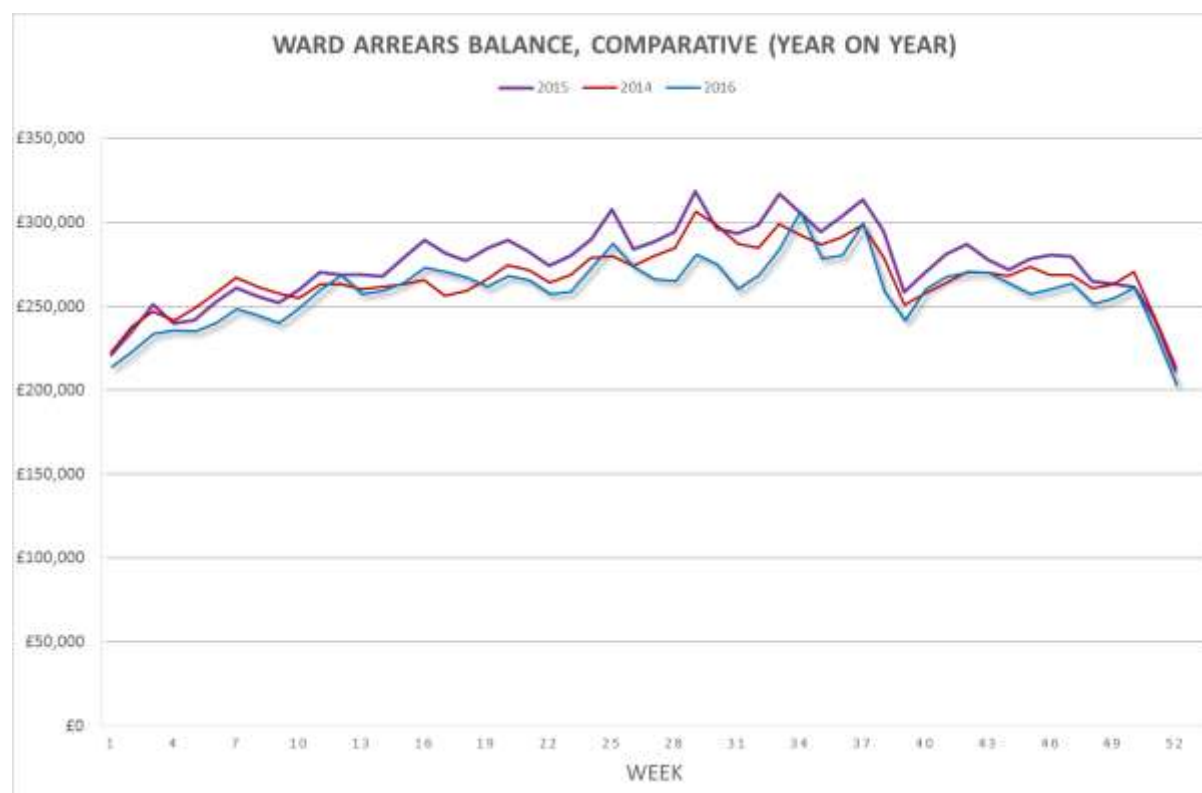
Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	Jan 2017	%	Feb 2017	%	March 2017	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	4	33%	1	50%	2	67%	55%
2-4 weeks	0	0%		0%	1	33%	30%
4+ weeks	8	67%	1	50%	0	0%	15%
Total Lets	12	100%	2	100%	3	100%	100%

Delays in re-letting can occur for a variety of reasons. The type or location of the property, the completion of void work or the identification of additional works not visible during the initial inspection, ensuring that vulnerable persons are appropriately supported through the viewing and sign up process can also add to timeframes. Some of our applicants have specific support requirements which require detailed planning and co-ordination by both Social Work and Housing Services prior to tenancy commencement.

In the year to date there have been 89 mainstream tenancies and 48 temporary tenancies let by the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley Team. There are currently 31 Policy Voids in the ward. Reasons include properties unable to let due Health & Safety reasons, being held for decant purposes at Garibaldi Row (Main Street) and properties held to assist with decants due to remedial works.

Rent Arrears



	2015/16 (WK52)		2016/17 (WK52)	
Arrears Banding	Balance	Tenants In Arrears	Balance	Tenants In Arrears
£0.01 to £99.99	£6,365	188	£6,551	135
£100.00 to £299.99	£28,021	153	£26,622	140
£300.00 to £499.99	£25,773	65	£30,924	79
£500.00 to £749.99	£27,333	45	£36,928	89
£750.00 to £999.99	£23,288	27	£24,723	28
£1000.00 to £1999.99	£55,978	42	£52,330	39
£2000+	£44,275	17	£25,325	9
Total	£211,033	537	£203,402	519

The Ward position for Q4 of 2016/17 is £203,402. This is a decrease of -£7,631 on last year's position.

The West Lothian overall position has decreased by £26,707 from last year and at week 52 was £1,217,512

While there are 48 serious arrears cases (£1,000+) it should be noted 53% of cases are in the lower bands (£300 or less)

Although overall the position remains positive and we are tracking below last year we will continue focusing on the following:

- Arrangements to pay - increase the visibility of tenants with arrangements within the performance model to identify trends in missed payments for follow up action
- Making best use of resources by considering communicating more with customers through email and telephone
- Increase Direct Debit Take Up by targeted work for example tenants who currently pay by Standing Order
- Benchmarking with other local authorities to ensure we identify and consider implementing any best practice
- Performance Monitoring and Reporting will be reviewed and where appropriate streamlined to ensure information is meaningful and robust to assist with improving rent arrears due.

Local Area Team Activity

Officers in the team have a number of tenancies under supervision for issues such as child & adult protection, anti-social behaviour and poor tenancy conditions. Our officers' work with a range of services and agencies to ensure tenants and residents are fully supported, tenancies are maintained and sustained as far as possible and appropriate action taken where necessary.

Rent arrears activity continues to be a weekly priority task for the team and will continue to work with all our tenants in offering support, advice and assistance. Such assistance includes referrals for money, energy and debt advice, benefit health checks, completion of income and expenditure to help set up a sustainable payment plan and where appropriate, assist with applications for Discretionary Housing Payments.

Capital Programme and New Build Council Housing

Capital Programme Update

Main Street, Fauldhouse	The refurbishment and extension was programmed for 23/12/2016, however some remedial works had to be done after practical completion. These were completed on 31/03/2017
Lanrigg, Fauldhouse – Major elemental repairs	The planned 16/17 works were completed within the financial year with no complaints or issues. The 17/18 works are underway and progressing well.
Cuthill Crescent, Stoneyburn	This year's programme was completed in line with the programme and budget. The 17/18 works are underway and progressing well.
Kirk Brae, Longridge – External Wall Insulation	The HEEP:ABS External Insulation and render works were completed within the 16/17 financial year with no concerns or issues raised.

New Build Update

Fauldhouse & Breich Valley	Site	No of units	Site Start	No of Houses Handed Over	No of completions
	Eastfield, Fauldhouse	40	July 2016	0	To Be Confirmed

Tenant Participation January – March 2017

Tenants Participation Annual Report

A tenant participation annual report has been developed. The purpose of the report is to document the substantial development work which has taken place during 2016/17 to promote tenant participation, find new interested tenants and new ways to enable them to participate. The report will be published on the intranet and council website.

Tenant Led Inspections

In January, tenants were invited via email and text to participate in a training session to learn about our inspection process. This attracted several interested tenants who will join our bank of inspectors for future inspections.

- **Asbestos in Void Properties**

An action plan was developed from the recent Tenant Led Inspection into Asbestos in Void Properties and fed back to the inspectors on 17th Feb. The action plan will address each of the recommendations the inspector's made and will be followed up in due course. The TP team have continued to offer direct support to the TLI process throughout.

- **Anti-Social Behaviour**

A second TLI into Anti- social behaviour commenced in February with 5 inspectors. The final report will be presented to Head of Service and senior managers and an action plan developed to meet their recommendations.

Tenants Visit New Build

Members of the Five Sisters Housing Network visited the refurbished properties at Main Street/Garibaldi Row in Fauldhouse. They were very impressed with the layout and the properties in general.

Tenants News

The spring edition of Tenants News was published and sent out to all tenants in West Lothian. This is a very effective method of communicating with tenants. The TP Team are always interested in hearing from staff on any ideas or topics they would like to address by emailing TP@westlothian.gov.uk

Q Buster Sessions

Staff has been out and about talking to customers about the new online Tenants Self-Serve which allow tenants to report repairs and check rent balances as well as offering the opportunity to pay from the comfort of their home.

Safer Neighbourhood Team

The Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) across the nine Multi-Member Wards are an integral part of the Community Safety Unit and are a key feature of partnership working. In the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley ward partnership working sees the local housing team, youth worker, council officer within the SNT and Police officers all working together to tackle anti-social behaviour in the ward.

WLC Officer based in SNT January – March 2017

The officers and other Community Safety Partners continue to provide early intervention to prevent crimes and antisocial behaviour from occurring and the further escalation of incidents. The number of new antisocial behaviour cases varies across West Lothian with some wards having more cases than others. Fauldhouse and Breich Valley ward has had 19 new cases this month. This reflects antisocial behaviour reported to the Police and West Lothian Council in each community. There is no definitive reason for the level of numbers being reported from ward to ward and demographic variations and house type can all contribute to the way in which behaviour from others is tolerated or becomes intolerable to others.

ASBOs are deemed as a last resort to all other methods of curtailing antisocial behaviour within communities. It is only when particular individuals refuse to heed warnings issued, that the Antisocial Behaviour Order is requested through the legal process.

E. CONCLUSION

To note the contents of the report.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person: Kate.Ward@westlothian.gov.uk

Tel: 01506 283414

Date: 7 June 2017



FAULDHUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

WEST LOTHIAN VILLAGES IMPROVEMENT FUND - APPLICATIONS

**REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
REGENERATION**

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise the Local Area Committee of the applications received from within the local area committee area seeking funding from the West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund (WLVIF) in 2017/18.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee:

1. notes that four applications have been received for funding;
2. notes that the proposals meet the eligibility criteria for supported projects;
3. supports funding for the projects;
4. reassigns £5,000 previously agreed funding to West Calder & Harburn Community Development ; and
5. agrees that the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration should make an offer of funding as per the details set out in this report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs. Making best use of our resources. Working in partnership.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	The projects meet the funding eligibility criteria. There is no requirement for a strategic environmental assessment and the projects do not raise any equality or health issues.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	- Our economy is diverse and dynamic, and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing business.

- We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.

VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	A total of £1.65m capital fund is available for projects and the proposal can be met from within this budget.
VII Consideration at PDSP	These projects have not been considered by a PDSP. The overall Villages Improvement Fund was considered by Development & Transport PDSP.
VIII Other consultations	None.

D TERMS OF THE REPORT

D1 Background

In 2012 the Council Executive agreed the eligibility criteria for a West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund (WLVIF). Funding of £1.65m is available to support eligible schemes with the funding phased over five years. The fund has the following two work streams:

1) A shop frontage/shop improvement scheme, to which local independent retailers can apply. This operates in a similar way to the shop frontage improvement schemes for traditional town centres i.e. a grant of up to £750 and no more than 50% of the cost of the shop front improvement.

2) Small scale village improvements and initiatives, this can include a number of types of investment, including both physical improvements to the streetscape and investment in community provision:

- Provision of street furniture such as seating, cycle stands and direction signs.
- Improved village gateways (e.g.; through planting, landscaping and/or signage).
- Improved sense of place in village centres through hard landscaping, planting and soft landscape improvements.
- Tidying and landscaping of gap sites within villages.
- Access improvements in and around villages.
- Investment in projects that engage and support young people.
- Investment in other local community facilities.

Eight villages in the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward are eligible under the scheme. Distribution of funding is based on village size. Total allocations per village are as follows, with the remaining budgets in brackets:

Fauldhouse	£125,000 (£88,014)
West Calder	£125,000 (£0)
Longridge	£55,000 (£47,500)
Stoneyburn	£55,000 (£1136)
Addiewell	£55,000 (£49,700)
Polbeth	£55,000 (£39,968)
Breich	£20,000 (£3200)
Harburn	£20,000 (£0)

D2 Applications

The following applications have been received for this round of funding:

Polbeth Village Gateways

This application from Polbeth Community Council is for £12,350 and will provide for new gateway signage, bulb planting at the gateways and community planters along the A71. It also includes a £5000 contribution to the new high school community art project. This contribution will be added to the £15,000 community benefit from the contractors and £5000 from West Calder & Harburn CDT.

Polbeth/West Calder Skatepark

Polbeth Community Council is applying for £10,000 from their Village Improvement Fund as a contribution to a project with West Calder & Harburn CDT to deliver a skate park between the two villages.

Longridge Woodland Drainage

Longridge Community Association is applying for £7000 towards a £21,000 project. The project will pay for drainage to the community woodland area, including the football field, and a community notice board.

Stoneyburn Bowling Club Green Maintenance

The committee of the bowling club are applying for funding to purchase equipment which is necessary for maintaining the green. The application is for £3000 towards a total cost of £10,756 to purchase a lawn mower, sprayer and roller.

The funds remaining in the Stoneyburn Village Improvement Fund pot are £1136 and, therefore, this is the maximum amount which could be awarded to support this project.

West Calder & Harburn CDT – Reassignment of Funds

West Calder and Harburn CDT are requesting that £5000 of the funding previously awarded to them for their gateway project be reassigned as a contribution to the high school community art project. Along with a matching contribution from Polbeth Community Council, this would give a pot of £25,000 to spend on the project.

E. CONCLUSION

Eight villages within the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward are eligible to apply to the Villages Improvement Fund. The applications detailed above meet the eligibility criteria of the fund and the Local Area Committee is asked to support them.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Reports to Development and Transport PDSP (April 2013), Council Executive (May 2013, April 2014) Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Local Area Committee.

Appendices/Attachments: Three

Appendix 1: Polbeth Community Council - Gateways

Appendix 2: Polbeth Community Council - Skate Park

Appendix 3: Longridge Community Association

Appendix 4: Stoneyburn Bowling Club – Green Maintenance

Contact Persons:

Laura Wilson, Regeneration Team Leader, Tel. 01506 281085, laura.wilson2@westlothian.gov.uk

Hazel Hay, Town Centre Manager, Tel. 01506 283079, hazel.hay@westlothian.gov.uk

Craig McCorriston

Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

7 June 2017

Appendix 1

West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund Application form

- Please refer to the guidance notes when completing this form
- Please complete in the form in **black ink**
- No project should start or commit expenditure before receiving the approval of grant

1. Applicant Organisation Details

Organisation Name	Polbeth Community Council	
Project title	Gateways to Polbeth	
Contact person	[REDACTED]	
Position	Members of Polbeth Community Council	
Address	[REDACTED]	
Telephone number	[REDACTED]	
Email Address	[REDACTED]	
Type of organisation	Community Council	
What date was your organisation formed?		
What is your charity number? (if applicable)	n/a	
What are the main activities of your organisation? (please answer in no more than 100 words)	Representation of the interests of residents of Polbeth and an intermediary with West Lothian Council. Key role in the Regeneration Group for Polbeth and in the production of a Community Action Plan.	
Do you have an equal opportunities policy or statement? If yes please provide a copy	No	
Does your organisation take account of equality issues around age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief?	Yes	
Are you applying for other funding? If so, please detail: No.	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Approved Anticipated </div>	

2. Project details

Council ward	Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley
Project location	Polbeth
Project start date	June 2017
Project finish date	June 2018
Estimated Outcome	Improved gateways to the village. Increased sense of local pride in the area, reinforced sense of identity. Improvement of a key linking area between two close communities including key facilities such as new high school, two primary schools, railway station, community garden and new skate park. Improved partnership working.

Project description

Describe fully the project for which grant is being sought (background and context of the project, description of works).

This project consists of several elements which are physical and landscape improvements primarily to the village gateways and access route (along the A71).

Village Signage: although relatively new, the current Polbeth Village signage does not clearly visually represent an identity. We wish to replace the current signage at the roadside of the A71 with a design that has a consistency in style with the signage being designed for West Calder as part of the village identity and gateways project there. This will both reflect the connectedness and collaboration between the two communities while celebrating their individual identity. We will work with WC&HCDT on design collaboration and expect to make considerable savings by this method.

Gateway Planting: we wish to increase the level of bulb planting in the vicinity of the entrance signs and along the A71 corridor within the Polbeth boundaries. There is extensive bulb planting opposite the existing WCHS but not beyond the current entrance signs into the village. Also there is opportunity to add planting to the recently landscaped area by the new access to the new WCHS and close to the Western village entrance signs.

Community Planters: We plan to place a series of planters along the A71 corridor. These will complement those being provided by WC&HCDT to St Mary's and Parkhead Primary Schools and will also involve the pupils of both schools and the collaboration with P&WC Community Garden who are also involved in the West Calder initiative. This will have the effect of the current Communities In Bloom project of being a real collaborative partnership spanning both local communities.

Community Public Art project: We would like contribute to the community art project being planned for the gateway area to the new WCHS which has the potential to be a local landmark identifying both local communities and their shared new school. It is hoped that a collaborative effort between PCC, WC&HCDT and the WLC Public Art department could produce something better than any could individually. Local community organisations are already involved in the commissioning group for this and we feel that a financial contribution will only serve to increase a sense of local community ownership.

Collectively it is hoped that these elements serve to give the village of Polbeth a boost in terms of sense of identity, pride, involvement and collaboration with our neighbouring community.

Partners involved

(other local organisations you are working with)

Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden;
West Calder and Harburn Community Development Trust

Evidence of need

What evidence is there that your project is needed? It is vital that you show that you have identified the need for your project, eg letters of support, or local survey.

A wide community engagement is currently underway in Polbeth intended to inform a Local Plan later in 2017 but surveys carried out in 2014 and 2016 by Polbeth Community Council (via online media with additional face to face meetings) indicated that physical and visual village improvements were high on the local community's desire list. Such improvements have been mooted anecdotally with in the community and at the Community Council for many years and we feel that initiating such a project now will help galvanise a sense of community which will positively feed into the current engagement and planning.

Outcomes

Describe what your project will deliver.

- 4 No. improved village entrance signs at two locations on the A71
- 12 No. wooden planters at appropriate points along the A71 through the village
- The project infrastructure (in collaboration with PWCCG and WC&HCDT) to plant these as part of a Communités In Bloom project
- Circa 10000 bulbs planted by roadside.
- Contribution to Community Public Art Project for gateway area

Community Facilities: e.g number of facilities improved -Projected usage

3. Project Costs

Amount of funding requested	£12,350
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Item of expenditure	Cost
4 No Village entrance signs based on costings by WLC	2500
Design contribution to creation of signs based on one half day additional design work	250
12 No wooden planters based on the £200 ea including compost budget of WCHCDT project	2400
Seeds and plug plants for two seasons based on WCHCDT cost estimates	400
Contribution to existing £15K Public Art Budget	5000
Approx 10000 bulbs planted along A71 corridor – based on quote by MW Groundworks	1800

Project management

Describe how your project will be managed and administered including details of any:

- Design / plans
- Implementation arrangements e.g contract tenders
- Planning Approval

The project will be managed and delivered by Polbeth Community Council and a sub-group thereof. This sub group will work in conjunction with PWCCG and WCHCDT.

Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden has agreed to grow on the annual bedding plants each year and West Calder and Harburn CDT have agreed to collaborate on community involvement (schools and older peoples) and management of Communities in Bloom project.

The design and commissioning elements are to be undertaken in conjunction with Harburn and West Calder Community Development Trust.

Contracts and planning are to be liaised and agreed with West Lothian Council with support from WCHCDT where appropriate.

4. Declaration

We wish to apply for a Village Improvement Fund Capital Grant. The above is an accurate outline of the proposed project. We have read and understood the guidance notes for applicants and agree to the conditions
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therein. We understand that the grant may be modified or withdrawn if all the conditions are not adhered to. We are willing to co-operate in the monitoring of the grant scheme and to meet with their representatives if required to do so. We will acknowledge the support of the Fund in any related PR activities.

Name	
Position	Members of Polbeth Community Council
Organisation	Polbeth Community Council
Date	14 April 2017

Attachment checklist - as applicable	Please Indicate (x)
Constitution or Articles and Memorandum	x
Committee Members or Directors List	x
Bank Statements - three statements	x
Annual accounts	x

Appendix 2

West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund Application form

- Please refer to the guidance notes when completing this form
- Please complete in the form in **black ink**
- No project should start or commit expenditure before receiving the approval of grant

3. Applicant Organisation Details

Organisation Name	Polbeth Community Council
Project title	Five Sisters Skate Park
Contact person	
Position	Members of Polbeth Community Council
Address	
Telephone number	
Email Address	

Type of organisation	Community Council
What date was your organisation formed?	
What is your charity number? (if applicable)	n/a
What are the main activities of your organisation? (please answer in no more than 100 words)	Representation of the interests of residents of Polbeth and an intermediary with West Lothian Council. Key role in the Regeneration Group for Polbeth and in the production of a Community Action Plan.
Do you have an equal opportunities policy or statement? If yes please provide a copy	No
Does your organisation take account of equality issues around age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief?	Yes
Are you applying for other funding? If so, please detail: No.	Approved Anticipated

4. Project details

Council ward	Fauldhouse and Breich Valley
Project location	Polbeth
Project start date	June 2017
Project finish date	June 2018
Estimated Outcome	New facility for local younger people (mainly!). Better facilities adjacent to local school cluster. Encouragement of outdoor activity and exercise. Partnership and collaborative working between communities.

Project description
Describe fully the project for which grant is being sought (background and context of the project, description of works).
The project is The Five Sisters Skate Park to be built between Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden, the new WCHS and Parkhead Primary School.

This will create a new sports facility for the local community which will be suitable for skateboards, scooters and BMX bikes. It will in part make up for the loss of the old BMX track which has been lost due to development of the new school. It will be a bespoke and specialist designed and built skate park within easy reach of both Polbeth and West Calder communities and help promote the area adjoining both.

The project has been championed by The Five Sisters Skate Park Group (supported by WCHCDT) and has been planned as a joint community facility, a complement to the three school cluster and a key point on an active travel/outdoor activity strategy being developed by The Five Sisters Strategy Group (which consists so far of Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden, West Calder and Harburn CDT, West Calder Community Education Centre and Polbeth Community Council).

The project has received support from WLC in the form of finance of £60K, approval in principal as to site and maintenance adoption and discussions are underway on the detail of the project delivery plan and procurement.

Initial cost estimates for the park are £80K turnkey design and build.

Polbeth Community Council sees this as a great addition to the community's facilities and wish to support the project financially.

Partners involved

(other local organisations you are working with)

West Lothian Council;
West Calder and Harburn Community Development Trust (Five Sisters Skate Park Group)

Evidence of need

What evidence is there that your project is needed? It is vital that you show that you have identified the need for your project, eg letters of support, or local survey.

The Five Sisters Skate Park Group have conducted four demonstration sessions and presentations (Parkhead PS, St Mary's PS, West Calder Community Centre Youth Group and West Calder Spring Festival) to over 600 young people with a very positive response. Support from WLC has been great both in terms of finance and planning. SkateBoard Scotland (the national body) have also expressed support for the project.

The West Calder & Harburn Community Action Plan identifies improved facilities for local younger people as a key objective.

A Skatepark has been discussed within Polbeth Community Council as a possible ambition for the area previously and we see this as an opportunity to support and be involved in this exciting project.

Outcomes Describe what your project will deliver.
A bespoke specialist built skate park suitable for skateboards, scooters and BMX bikes and open to the whole community.
Community Facilities: e.g number of facilities improved -Projected usage
1 facility provided

3. Project Costs

Amount of funding requested	£10 000
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Item of expenditure	Cost
Contribution to estimated £80K cost of delivering Five Sisters Skate Park	£10 000

Project management Describe how your project will be managed and administered including details of any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design / plans - Implementation arrangements e.g contract tenders - Planning Approval
<p>The project delivery plan is currently being agreed between WCHCDT and WLC. This is likely to take the form of a partnership project with specific roles and responsibilities being clearly outlined for development and ongoing management.</p> <p>PCC would expect to be included in this partnership and to nominate an individual to join the planning group.</p>

5. Declaration

We wish to apply for a Village Improvement Fund Capital Grant. The above is an accurate outline of the proposed project. We have read and understood the guidance notes for applicants and agree to the conditions therein. We understand that the grant may be modified or withdrawn if all the conditions are not adhered to. We are willing to co-operate in the monitoring of the grant scheme and to meet with their representatives if required to do so. We will acknowledge the support of the Fund in any related PR activities.	
Name	
Position	Members of Polbeth Community Council

Organisation	Polbeth Community Council
Date	14 April 2017

Attachment checklist - as applicable	Please Indicate (x)
Constitution or Articles and Memorandum	x
Committee Members or Directors List	x
Bank Statements - three statements	x
Annual accounts	x

Appendix 3

West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund Application form

- Please refer to the guidance notes when completing this form
- Please complete in the form in **black ink**
- No project should start or commit expenditure before receiving the approval of grant

5. Applicant Organisation Details

Organisation Name	Longridge Community Association
Project title	Woodland drainage
Contact person	
Position	Chair
Address	Longridge Community Association, School Road, Longridge
Telephone number	
Email Address	Longridgeca@outlook.com
Type of organisation	Community Association (voluntary organisation)
What date was your organisation formed?	March 2015

What is your charity number? (if applicable)	n/a	
What are the main activities of your organisation? (please answer in no more than 100 words)	<p>The provision, or assistance in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation in the interest of social welfare for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of benefit with the object of improving their conditions of life.</p> <p>The advancement of education of the public in the area of benefit by promoting educational opportunities.</p>	
Do you have an equal opportunities policy or statement? If yes please provide a copy	No	
Does your organisation take account of equality issues around age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief?	Yes	
Are you applying for other funding? If so, please detail:	Approved	Anticipated
West Lothian Development Trust	£15,000 approved in March 2017	

6. Project details

Council ward	Fauldhouse and Breich Valley
Project location	Longridge
Project start date	June 2017
Project finish date	Sep 2017
Estimated Outcome	Upgraded green space for community use

Project description
Describe fully the project for which grant is being sought (background and context of the project, description of works).
The association are seeking funding to provide a drainage solution to a significant piece of woodland ground in the village and the installation of a community notice board beside the community wing. The piece of grassed area is just across from the local primary school and community wing on School Road.
The green space is beside the main piece of used community woodland in

the area. The green space is used for playing football, for dog walking and by the local primary and nursey school as part of their current outdoor learning.

In March 2016 the association secured two second hand goal posts that were put on the green space in order to enable football. Before this young people in the area had made their own posts in order to let them play.

Since the posts have been installed the association have seen an increase in young people using the space for football. A local amateur football team have also started to utilise the space for games within their league.

In addition to playing football the biggest single users of the space are dog walkers and young people from the school. The space is used for people walking and training and is used to access the woodland space for forest walks.

Over the years, while the Association are pleased to see an increase in use, the increase in use has highlighted the issues that the area has in terms of drainage. The area is surrounding by wet woodland area and boggy surfaces which hold and retain water. During the winter months, and periods of rain or snow, the area is not accessible by foot. Significantly reducing the amount of areas in the small village available for walking and outdoor activities.

The association are therefore seeking resources to provide a drainage solution to the area that will enable its use all year round. The association will work in partnership with West Lothian Council's Nets and Land Services to provide a drainage solution.

Nets and Land Services within West Lothian Council will project manage the works on behalf of the association. The works will be put out to tender to ensure best value is sought. They are experienced in dealing with this type of project. The support provided will come at no cost to the association. The funding will pay for the contractor, two benches to be installed near the area for sitting and a community notice board to display community information on near the area.

Partners involved

(other local organisations you are working with)

West Lothian Council, Longridge Primary School, Longridge Parent and Toddlers group, Bathgate Thistle amateur football club and Longridge Community Association

Evidence of need

What evidence is there that your project is needed? It is vital that you show that you have identified the need for your project, eg letters of support, or local survey.

The green space is constantly used by young people playing football, occasional fitness classes and by a large number of dog walkers. It is also used by a local football team. This is only when the space is dry enough to

use which is only really during the summer months.

The community have expressed an interest in the establishment of a local juniors football team that would be able to train and utilise the space. Currently young people in the village have to travel to Armadale to play.

Recent consultation exercises carried out by the local Regeneration Officer have highlighted the community's aspiration to see better walking areas within the woodland area next to the green space. This area is used constantly by dog walkers and the local nursery as part of their outdoor learning. Plans have been developed with Central Scotland Forest Trust to take forward some elements of this. Improvements to this green space will enhance these plans and see all the green space along School road utilised.

Outcomes

Describe what your project will deliver.

Village Improvements; e.g Number of sites improved
Area of landscaping

- One area of green space improved for multi-use
- Increase in the use of the space by local residents
- Decrease in the number of games / sports that are not played on the area due to the playing conditions
- Increase use of green space by the local primary and nursery school

Community Facilities: e.g number of facilities improved
-Projected usage

- Installation of a community notice board to inform the community of news and events

3. Project Costs

Amount of funding requested	£7,000
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Item of expenditure	Cost
Drainage works	£ 21,000
Community notice board	£ 1,000

Project management

Describe how your project will be managed and administered including details of any:

- Design / plans
- Implementation arrangements e.g contract tenders
- Planning Approval

The project will be managed by West Lothian Council's Nets and Land Services department. They will include the works in a tender and will manage the contractors and works being carried out.

Regular reports to the association will be provided during the period or works.

6. Declaration

We wish to apply for a Village Improvement Fund Capital Grant. The above is an accurate outline of the proposed project. We have read and understood the guidance notes for applicants and agree to the conditions therein. We understand that the grant may be modified or withdrawn if all the conditions are not adhered to. We are willing to co-operate in the monitoring of the grant scheme and to meet with their representatives if required to do so. We will acknowledge the support of the Fund in any related PR activities.

Name	
Position	Chair
Organisation	Longridge Community Association
Date	17.05.17

Attachment checklist - as applicable	Please Indicate (x)
Constitution or Articles and Memorandum	x
Committee Members or Directors List	x
Bank Statements - three statements	x
Annual accounts	x

West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund Application form

- Please refer to the guidance notes when completing this form
- Please complete in the form in **black ink**
- No project should start or commit expenditure before receiving the approval of grant

7. Applicant Organisation Details

Organisation Name	Stoneyburn Community Bowling Club	
Project title	Upgrade of Green	
Contact person		
Position		
Address		
Telephone number		
Email Address		
Type of organisation	Community Bowling Club	
What date was your organisation formed?	1934	
What is your charity number? (if applicable)	N/A	
What are the main activities of your organisation? (please answer in no more than 100 words)	Bowling Hall for let to community and members	
Do you have an equal opportunities policy or statement? If yes please provide a copy	Yes	
Does your organisation take account of equality issues around age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief?	Yes	
Are you applying for other funding? If so, please detail: No	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Approved Anticipated </div>	

8. Project details

Council ward	Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley
Project location	Stoneyburn (Stoneyburn Bowling Club)
Project start date	15th April 2017
Project finish date	Ongoing
Estimated Outcome	Purchase equipment to upgrade and maintain green

Project description

Describe fully the project for which grant is being sought (background and context of the project, description of works).

To contribute towards the costs of a lawn mower, roller and sprinkler

To improve and upkeep the green

Replace current equipment that is old and not fit for purpose due to deterioration

Partners involved

(other local organisations you are working with)

None

Evidence of need

What evidence is there that your project is needed? It is vital that you show that you have identified the need for your project, eg letters of support, or local survey.

If we do not have the necessary equipment to maintain the green members and guests cannot play.

We want to encourage local schools to use the green to promote healthy living

Outcomes

Describe what your project will deliver.

Village Improvements; e.g Number of sites improved
Area of landscaping

The project will deliver an excellent playing surface for members and guests

Community Facilities: e.g number of facilities improved
-Projected usage

One

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3. Project Costs

Amount of funding requested	£3,000.00
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Item of expenditure	Cost
Lawnmower and pedestrian sprayer	£6,755.99
Roller	£4,000.00

Project management

Describe how your project will be managed and administered including details of any:

- Design / plans
- Implementation arrangements e.g contract tenders
- Planning Approval

Green keeper will be responsible

7. Declaration

We wish to apply for a Village Improvement Fund Capital Grant. The above is an accurate outline of the proposed project. We have read and understood the guidance notes for applicants and agree to the conditions therein. We understand that the grant may be modified or withdrawn if all the conditions are not adhered to. We are willing to co-operate in the monitoring of the grant scheme and to meet with their representatives if required to do so. We will acknowledge the support of the Fund in any related PR activities.

Name	
Position	

Organisation	
Date	25 th April 2017

Attachment checklist - as applicable	Please Indicate (x)
Constitution or Articles and Memorandum	X
Committee Members or Directors List	X
Bank Statements - three statements	X
Annual accounts	x

West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund Application form

- Please refer to the guidance notes when completing this form
- Please complete in the form in **black ink**
- No project should start or commit expenditure before receiving the approval of grant

1. Applicant Organisation Details

Organisation Name	Stoneyburn Community Bowling Club	
Project title	Upgrade of Green	
Contact person		
Position		
Address		
Telephone number		
Email Address		
Type of organisation	Community Bowling Club	
What date was your organisation formed?	1934	
What is your charity number? (if applicable)	N/A	
What are the main activities of your organisation? (please answer in no more than 100 words)	Bowling Hall for let to community and members	
Do you have an equal opportunities policy or statement? If yes please provide a copy	Yes	
Does your organisation take account of equality issues around age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief?	Yes	

Are you applying for other funding? If so, please detail:	Approved	Anticipated
No		

2. Project details

Council ward	Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley
Project location	Stoneyburn (Stoneyburn Bowling Club)
Project start date	15th April 2017
Project finish date	Ongoing
Estimated Outcome	Purchase equipment to upgrade and maintain green

Project description Describe fully the project for which grant is being sought (background and context of the project, description of works).
<p>To contribute towards the costs of a lawn mower, roller and sprinkler</p> <p>To improve and upkeep the green</p> <p>Replace current equipment that is old and not fit for purpose due to deterioration</p>

Partners involved (other local organisations you are working with)	None

<p>Evidence of need</p> <p>What evidence is there that your project is needed? It is vital that you show that you have identified the need for your project, eg letters of support, or local survey.</p>
<p>If we do not have the necessary equipment to maintain the green members and guests cannot play.</p> <p>We want to encourage local schools to use the green to promote healthy living</p>

<p>Outcomes</p> <p>Describe what your project will deliver.</p> <p>Village Improvements; e.g Number of sites improved Area of landscaping</p>
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The project will deliver an excellent playing surface for members and guests

Community Facilities: e.g number of facilities improved
-Projected usage

One

3.Project Costs

Amount of funding requested	£3,000.00
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Item of expenditure	Cost
Lawnmower and pedestrian sprayer	£6,755.99
Roller	£4,000.00

Project management

Describe how your project will be managed and administered including details of any:

- Design / plans
- Implementation arrangements e.g contract tenders

- Planning Approval
Green keeper will be responsible

4. Declaration

We wish to apply for a Village Improvement Fund Capital Grant. The above is an accurate outline of the proposed project. We have read and understood the guidance notes for applicants and agree to the conditions therein. We understand that the grant may be modified or withdrawn if all the conditions are not adhered to. We are willing to co-operate in the monitoring of the grant scheme and to meet with their representatives if required to do so. We will acknowledge the support of the Fund in any related PR activities.

Name	
Position	
Organisation	
Date	25 th April 2017

Attachment checklist - as applicable	Please Indicate (x)
Constitution or Articles and Memorandum	X
Committee Members or Directors List	X
Bank Statements - three statements	X
Annual accounts	x



FAULDHUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT ON PROGRESS OF REGENERATION PLANNING

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Local Area Committee of progress towards developing regeneration plans within the ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes:

1. that four local regeneration groups have been established and are active; and
2. community engagement activity is underway in three areas.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

- | | |
|---|---|
| I Council Values | Focusing on our customers' needs.
Being honest, open and accountable.
Providing equality of opportunities.
Making best use of our resources.
Working in partnership. |
| II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment) | Community regeneration reinforces the council's commitment to community planning at a local level. |
| III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers | None. |
| IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators | Performance indicators relating to the activity within the plans are captured within the set of Regeneration key performance indicators. |
| V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities.- We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.- We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities.- We make the most efficient and effective use |

of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.

VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Activities will be funded from existing budgets or external sources.
VII Consideration at PDSP	Annual updates on regeneration plans will be presented to Partnership and Resources PDSP.
VIII Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

A report was provided to the Local Area Committee in September 2016 outlining the background to developing regeneration plans, including the processes, structures, and timescales involved.

The Regeneration Framework, which was approved by Council Executive in February 2014, contains a commitment to develop regeneration plans in key areas of deprivation in West Lothian. Eight regeneration areas have been identified, based on the data zones within the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. At present, this process has started in five of the eight regeneration areas, including Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley which covers the communities of Fauldhouse, Stoneyburn, Addiewell and Polbeth.

D2 Progress

The Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Local Action Group was established in June 2016 and met on two occasions before the decision was taken by the members to meet at individual village level. The village groups have now met a number of times and their progress is detailed below.

Addiewell

There has been one meeting of the group since the last update. Community engagement activity has commenced in the village, with responses gathered from parents at Addiewell PS parents' night and by some of the group members. Significant engagement is still required and sessions will be planned at the next meeting of the group to ensure that we capture as many views as possible.

Members are still keen to widen the reach of the group and a further invitation will be extended to the community centre management committee and the parent councils at the schools. In addition to this, members of the public who take part in the engagement exercise will be asked to get involved with the group or to sign up to a wider distribution list which will keep them up to date with progress and achievements.

Stoneyburn

The regeneration group in Stoneyburn has also begun to carry out community engagement. Members of the steering group have consulted their own groups and clubs, and a plan to widen the scope of the engagement will be draw up at the next steering group meeting in June.

There is still a need to widen the membership of the steering group and it has been suggested that an evening meeting might allow for greater community participation.

Fauldhouse

The Fauldhouse regeneration group has been significantly strengthened with the addition of nine new community members. The group now has a good spread of representation covering council, CPP, local agencies and the community.

The mining memorial project, led by FCDT, is considering options for how the memorial could look and engaging with the wider community to seek its views. They have also visited the National Mining Museum at Newtongrange and arranged for the museum to carry out workshops with pupils at both local primary schools. The next stage will be to agree designs for the memorial and to source funding.

Further community engagement will be planned over the coming months. The group has agreed that the other projects within the charrette action plan need to be prioritised and that a greater proportion of the community need to be consulted on them before they can be progressed further. There is also a need to carry out more generic engagement, along the same lines as the other villages, to determine the wider themes and issues which will form the basis of the Fauldhouse Regeneration Plan.

Polbeth

Two meetings of the Polbeth Regeneration Group have now taken place. The head teachers from St Mary's and Polbeth nursery attended the last meeting and provided very positive contributions and suggestions of how they and the pupils could work in partnership with the community.

A community engagement plan has been drawn up and members of the steering group, supported by West Calder & Harburn CDT, are currently carrying this out. The next meeting of the group will be scheduled for mid-June.

E. CONCLUSION

The process for developing regeneration plans is underway within the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley area. Local action groups have been established and have begun the process of evidence gathering and statistical analysis. A programme of community engagement is currently underway and the information gathered from this will help to inform the plans.

Plans for the four villages will be drafted over the summer, with the intention of having them in place by October 2017. A further update will be brought to the next meeting of this committee.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

West Lothian Regeneration Framework 2014-2034

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person:

Laura Wilson, Regeneration Team Leader, 01506 281085

laura.wilson2@westlothian.gov.uk

Craig McCorriston

Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

7 June 2017

FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – SEPTEMBER 2017 WORKPLAN 2017-2018

Issue	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date
Housing report	Quarterly update on housing issues	Kate Ward	Sept 2017
Police/NRT report	Quarterly update on police/NRT activity	Insp. Gregor Forbes	Sept 2017
LBFR report	Quarterly report on activity	Richie Hall	Sept 2017
NETs Report	Update report on NETs activity	Tony Fleming	Sept 2017
Villages Improvement Fund Applications	To present all applications received to the VIF	Laura Wilson	Sept 2017
Regeneration Plans	To provide an update on the implementation of regeneration plans	Laura Wilson	Sept 2017
Addiewell Prison Report	To provide an annual update on activity	Ian Whitehead	Sept 2017
School Update – Whitburn Academy	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school	Tracey Loudon	Sept 2017
Fauldhouse CDT Report	To provide an annual update on activity	Julie Smith	Sept 2017
West Calder & Harburn CDT	To provide an annual update on activity	Matt Pearce	November 2017
New West Calder High School	To provide an update on the new build project	Paul Kettrick	November 2017
Schools Update – St Kentigern's	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school	Andrew Sharkey	November 2017

Schools Update – West Calder High School	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school	Julie Fisher	February 2017
Polbeth & West Calder Market Garden	To provide an annual update on activity	Lisa Drennan	May 2018