



Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

9 May 2018

A meeting of the **Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden** on **Tuesday 15 May 2018** at **12:00pm**.

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 27 February 2018 (herewith)
5. Polbeth & West Calder Community Garden - Presentation
6. Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Multi-Member Ward Performance Report - Report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (herewith)
7. Police Scotland Report - Report by Police Constable Ross Walker (herewith)
8. Housing, Customer and Building Services Update - Report by Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services (herewith)

DATA LABEL: Public

9. Service Update - NETs, Land and Countryside - Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith)
10. Report on Progress of Regeneration Planning - Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
11. Workplan (herewith)

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

MINUTE of MEETING of the FAULDHUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE of WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 27 FEBRUARY 2018.

Present – Councillors Cathy Muldoon (Chair), David Dodds, Pauline Clark

In Attendance

Laura Wilson, Regeneration Team Leader

Kate Ward, Housing, Construction and Building Services, WLC

Tony Fleming, NETs, Land and Countryside Services, WLC

Jason Halliday, Public Utilities and Road Works Officer, WLC

Desmond Donnelly, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

PC Ross Walker and Community Officer Tamara Jamieson, Police Scotland

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. ORDER OF BUSINESS, INCLUDING NOTICE OF URGENT BUSINESS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY URGENT BUSINESS

The Committee was informed that a request for a deputation had been made by the Roads Group, West Calder and Harburn Community Council in relation to Agenda Item 8.

The Committee agreed to hear the deputation.

The Chair then ruled that the deputation be taken immediately after consideration of the minute (Agenda Item 4).

3. MINUTE

The Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Local Area Committee approved the minute of its meeting held on 21 November 2017. The minute was then signed by the Chair.

4. CARRIAGEWAY REINSTATEMENTS TO SCOTTISH POWER ENERGY NETWORKS CABLING WORKS IN THE HARBURN AREA

Deputation by Joanna Pearce and Allan McLaughlin, West Calder and Harburn Community Council Roads Group

Allan McLaughlin addressed the meeting, highlighting issues relating to outstanding defects on the carriageway and verges of the U29 between the Station House and Balgreen. The Group advised that SPEN were no longer engaging satisfactorily with the Group and that SPEN were refusing to honour commitments/legal obligations to make good defects, despite assurances being given at public meetings.

In summary, the Group requested that the Council and SPEN consult with the Group and that defects on the carriageway and verges be carried out.

Report by Head of Operational Services

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services providing an update on Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) carriageway reinstatements, resulting from cabling works in the Harburn area.

The report provided background information relating to works carried out by contractors working on behalf of SPEN over the previous 8-9 years. An interrogation of the Scottish Road Works Register relating to these issues was summarised in the report.

The report also outlined concerns raised by the West Calder and Harburn Community Council Roads Group.

The Committee was informed that, under the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005, SPEN were considered to be a Statutory Undertaker (SU). This afforded them certain rights and responsibilities, namely the right to install apparatus in the public road. They were also obliged to make reinstatements in accordance with the relevant code of practice.

The report went on to advise that there were still some issues outstanding in the area: meaning that SPEN would be obliged to return to site to complete these works.

The current position was set out as follows:-

On 18 December 2017, a joint inspection with SPEN had taken place. The route from Harburn Gold Club to Balgreen was walked, and outstanding defects had been highlighted and agreed on site, then recorded on the SRWR.

From Harburn Community Hall to Balgreen, there were a number of outstanding defects which required remedial action. The vast majority of these related to the condition that the grassed verges had been left in, along with two carriageway patches that SPEN were aware of. SPEN had agreed to repair approx. 75-100 m of verges that did not meet the required standard, or had been damaged due to the nature of these works. During this meeting, it had been agreed that the grassed verges would be scraped, levelled, soiled and seeded, along with the two carriageway patches that required remedial work. The U29 was a narrow, rural road with insufficient space for two vehicles to pass; meaning the verges were likely to be the subject to a degree of damage. Once these remedial works were signed off, West Lothian Council would take over responsibility for these. It was not reasonable to expect SPEN to continue to repair verges damaged due to everyday traffic.

It was recommended that the Committee note that carriageway reinstatements and associated defects were being monitored by Roads

and Transportation's Public Utilities Team; that a number of previously identified issues had been rectified by SPEN and that further remedial works were provisionally programmed for April 2018 and would therefore conclude the matter.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report; and
2. To agree that this item of business be placed on the Workplan and that the Local Area Committee be kept updated on progress.

5. ST KENTIGERN'S ACADEMY - PRESENTATION BY HEADTEACHER

The Chair welcomed Andrew Sharkey (Headteacher, St Kentigern's Academy) to the meeting. Mr Sharkey had been invited to provide an overview of the school's performance and levels of attainment.

Mr Sharkey provided some background information to the school, including details of the number of young people who travelled to school on school buses, and the percentage of students with free meal entitlement.

The presentation slides contained a table showing Senior Phase Exam Results for S4, S5 and S6 for 2017, with comparative figures for the years 2010 to 2016.

The Committee was informed that, following an HMle Inspection, the following developments had been identified:-

- Continue to build the leadership capacity of staff at all levels to create a more consistent high-quality strategic approach to school improvement.
- Develop a strategic overview within pupil support to ensure careful and appropriate allocation of resources to ensure all young people were fully supported.
- Further develop approaches to monitor and track learner progress to make sure there was timely, reliable data on the attainment of every learner. Staff could then consider how to put in place mechanisms to share this with young people and their parents.
- Continue to review the broad general education provision. Learning pathways through S3 and into the senior phase needed to provide a smooth transition into courses leading to qualifications.

Mr Sharkey highlighted a number of successful initiatives and programmes and spoke of the school's priorities for the future.

Mr Sharkey then responded to questions raised by members of the Local Area Committee.

The Chair thanked Mr Sharkey for his informative presentation.

Decision

To note the terms of the presentation.

6. POLICE SCOTLAND REPORT

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Constable Ross Walker providing an update on performance, activities and issues across the ward for the period up to 31 January 2018.

The report contained statistical information relating to the six West Lothian priorities. It was noted that there had been a reduction in youth calls in the year to date. Previous issues that were identified in Stoneyburn were now being managed and intervention visits had been conducted to problematic youths by Police and partner agencies. Local ward offices would continue to monitor incidents to the area.

In relation to ASB calls, it was reported that there had been a rise of 20% in the year to date. The overall rise had been a result of a number of 'party houses' identified in the ward during the year. The local ward officers had worked closely with the Safer Neighbourhood Team in dealing with these issues which had resulted in two full Anti-Social Behaviour orders and one interim Anti-Social Behaviour order being issued to three tenants within the ward.

The report provided details of a rural crime event which focussed on livestock worrying and fly tipping. Further events were being planned and further Hi-Viz patrols would continue in the rural communities.

Questions raised by members of the Committee were then dealt with by Police Constable Walker.

The Committee was asked to note the content of the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

7. WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 3 2017/18

A report had been circulated by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an update on the activity within the ward for Quarter 3 2017/18.

The report provided statistical information in relation to the seven key priorities within the ward area.

It was reported that during the 2017-18 year to date reporting period, the service had dealt with 5 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 4 during the 2016-17 year to date reporting period.

The number of unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS) incidents during the 2017-18 year to date reporting period was down to 11 incidents, compared to 14 in the previous year to date period.

In response to a question raised, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service representative provided details of the Cool Down Crew Initiative and the Pheonix Programme.

The Committee was asked to note the content of the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8. 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 for the period 1 October to 31 December 2017.

The report examined property void performance for both mainstream and temporary tenancies. It was noted that there were 17 Policy Voids in the ward and the reasons included properties unable to let due to Health and Safety reasons and being held to assist with decants due to remedial works.

In relation to rent arrears, it was reported that the ward position for Q3 of 2017/18 was £281,563. This was an increase of £39,925 on the previous year's position. While there were 74 serious cases, it was noted that 60% of cases were in the lower bands (£300 or less).

The report provided an update in relation to the work at Cuthill Crescent, Stoneyburn.

The Committee was asked to note the activity as detailed in the ward report for the period 1 October to 31 December 2017.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9. 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 2017 to 31 January 2018.

It was reported that all hedge cutting works had been completed on schedule. Shrub bed maintenance continued over the winter months.

The report went on to examine activity in relation to Grounds Maintenance Enquiries, Garden Maintenance Routine Works, Cleaner Communities Routine Works, Parks and Woodland, and Open Space and Cemeteries.

The Committee raised questions and noted concerns about Polbeth Gala Day and, in particular, a suitable site for the fairground. The Committee was informed that an application for a fairground would be submitted to Licensing Committee and that issues raised by objectors would be dealt with by the Committee.

The Committee was asked to:-

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

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 of applications received from within the ward seeking funding from the West Lothian Villages Improvement Fund in 2017/18.

Two previous applicants had delivered projects but with a slight amendment to what was originally agreed in their applications. These were:-

Addiewell Community Action (Change In Spend) – An application had been approved in 2015 to deliver a series of environmental improvements. During a week of environmental action, it had been agreed to use some of the funding to purchase new bold signage for the school and community centre campus from the funding that had been received. This had resulted in the benches from the original application not being delivered. The benches had now been added to the application from the Youth Action Project, as detailed in the report.

Fauldhouse United FC (Change In Spend) – The Club was awarded £30,000 to make improvements to their ground following their promotion to the Super League. After receiving the funding they were offered a preferential deal on a catering unit and decided to purchase this rather than the turnstile stated in the application as this had presented an opportunity to generate additional revenue.

Copies of new applications were attached as appendices to the report and were summarised within the report as undernoted:-

West Lothian Youth Action Project – Addiewell Environmental

Improvements - Various Groundworks

To allow a number of key areas of the village to benefit from improvements to the environment - Funding of **£19,150** was requested.

The Pitstop – Access Path

To enable a formal path to be created where there was currently a muddy track. This was a main access route to the football field and MUGA, and was used for the annual fun run. Funding of **£15k** was requested.

Fauldhouse CDT – Trishaw and Cycle Project

To allow FCDT to deliver a trishaw and cycle project in Fauldhouse. The majority of the money would fund the purchase of trishaw and cycle equipment and storage facilities. The funding would also cover the cost of feasibility work and additional research into longer term funding streams to support the project to be sustainable in the long term. Funding of **£40k** was requested.

Fauldhouse CDT – Ponds Reinstatement

To allow FCDT to undertake a feasibility study. The project aimed to upgrade and improve the woodland and ponds on the east side of Benhar Road. Discussions had taken place with Forestry Enterprise Scotland, the Central Scotland Green Network and West Lothian Council Construction Services and improvements had been identified. Funding of **£14k** was requested.

Breich Community Association – Play Park Path

To allow the association to improve the path from the park gate to the main area of the park, upgrading it from the muddy trail it was. This would finish off the path to a high specification. Funding of **£2957.71** was requested.

Fauldhouse United FC – Pitch Resurfacing

To allow FUFC to resurface their pitch. The pitch was flooding due to thatching of the grass and root which prevented surface water from penetrating and draining away. A number of matches had had to be cancelled and rearranged due to the issue and the works were therefore urgently required to ensure the club could continue to operate. Funding of **£10k** was requested.

The Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration considered that the applications detailed in the report met the eligibility criteria of the fund.

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee:

1. note that six applications had been received for funding;
2. note that the proposals met the eligibility criteria for supported projects;

3. support funding for the projects;
4. agree to change of spend on two previously approved projects; 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 the terms of the report
2. To support funding for the projects;
3. To agree to a change of spend on two previously approved projects; and
4. To 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.

11. WORKPLAN

A copy of the Workplan had been circulated.

Decision

1. To note the Workplan.
2. To agree to add to the Workplan 'Update on Reinstatements to Scottish Power Energy Networks Cabling Works in the Harburn Area.'
3. To agree suggestion by the Chair that the next meeting be held in the meeting room at Polbeth Community Garden.

12. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2018-2019

A paper had been circulated providing a list of proposed meeting dates for 2018-19.

Decision

To agree the Timetable of Meetings for 2018-19.



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 2018.

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.

Brian Robertson

Station Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

17th April 2018

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



West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Quarter 4 2017/18

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

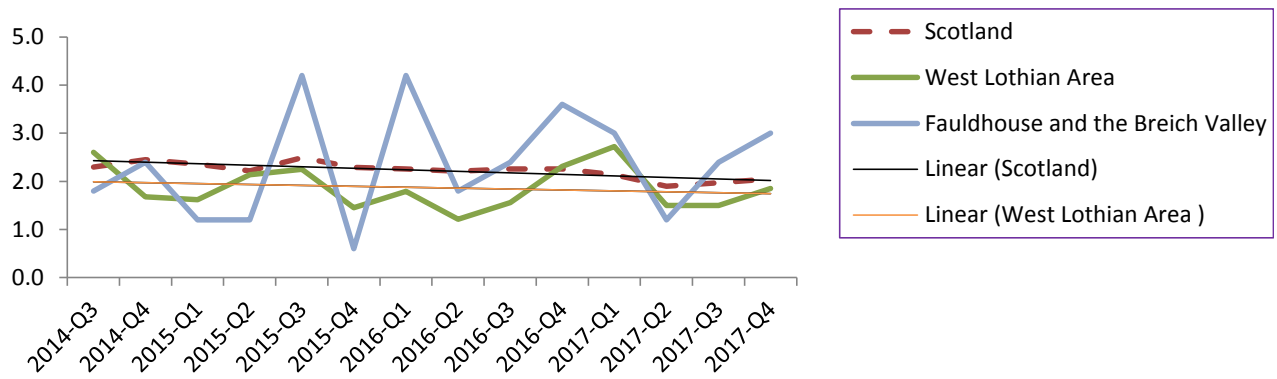
Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Ward Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to ward based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

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.

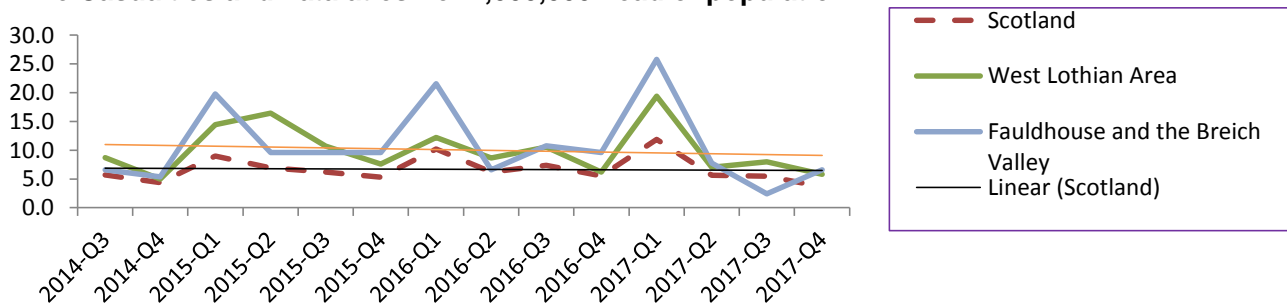
However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



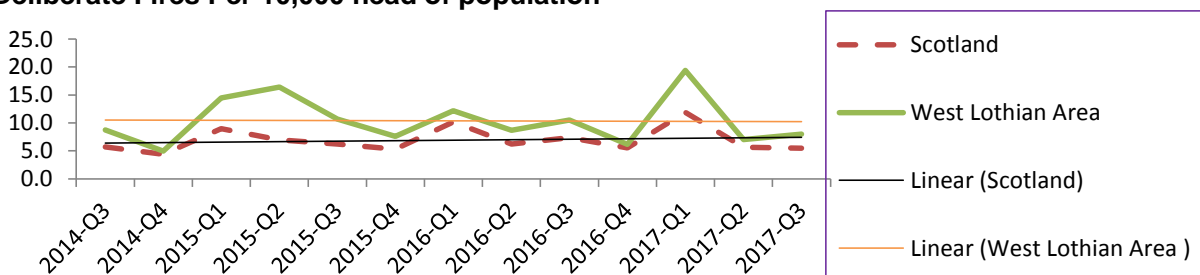
During the 2017-18 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 5 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 6 during 2016-17 year to date reporting period.

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



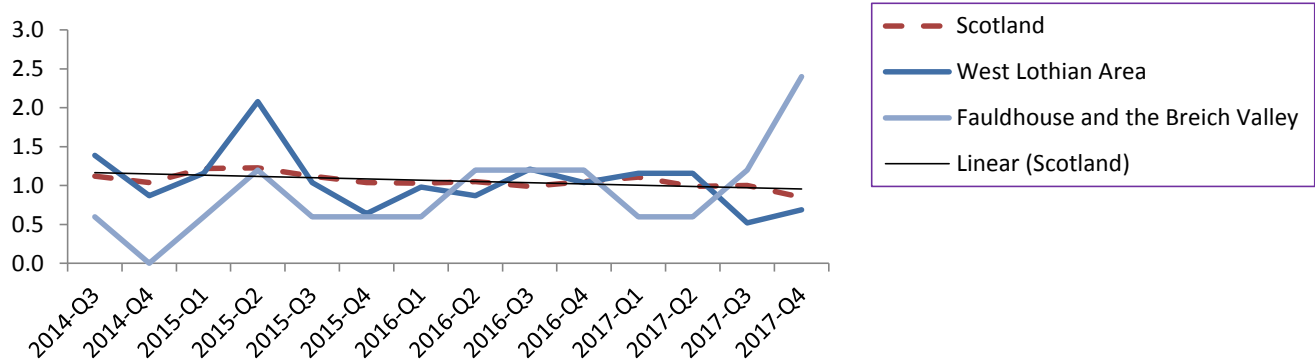
During the 2017-18 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 2 casualties due to fire in comparison to 0 during 2016-17 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



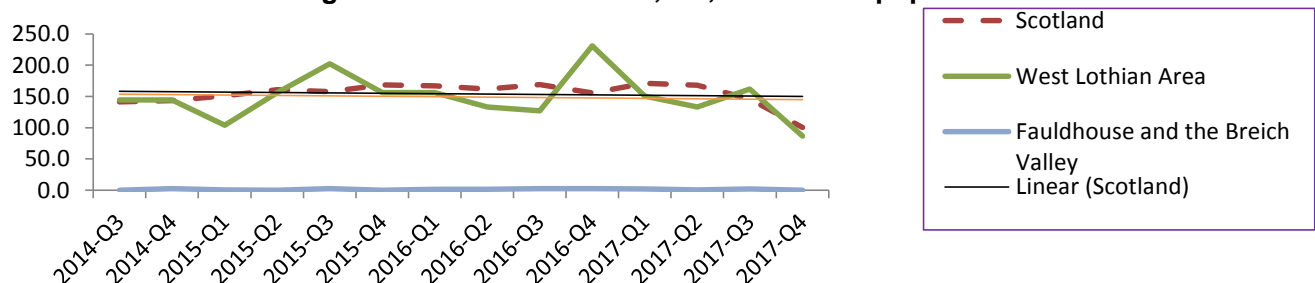
SFRS have dealt with 11 deliberate fires incidents during 2017-18 year to date reporting period in comparison to 17 during 2016-17 year to date reporting period.

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



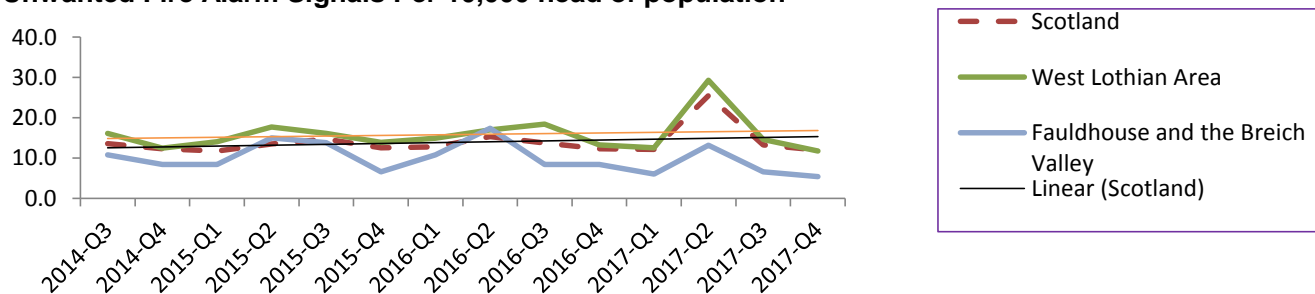
SFRS have dealt with 4 non domestic fires incident during 2017-18 year to date reporting period in comparison to 2 during 2016-17 year to date reporting period.

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



SFRS have dealt with 0 casualties from non-fire emergencies during 2017-18 year to date reporting period in comparison to 4 during 2016-17 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population



SFRS have dealt with 9 UFAS incidents during 2017-18 year to date reporting period in comparison to 14 during 2016-17 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).



West Lothian
Council

FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

POLICE SCOTLAND REPORT

REPORT BY POLICE CONSTABLE ROSS WALKER

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 2018.

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

Statistics are 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 31st March 2018, including end of year performance.

Fauldhouse & Breich Valley Ward						
Month	Mar-18	Mar-17	% Change	TYTD	LYTD	% Change
Youth Calls	12	20	-40%	208	225	-8%
All ASB Calls	75	78	-4%	1104	979	13%
Hate Crime	3	1	200%	37	21	76%
Vandalism & Reckless Conduct	10	9	11%	133	127	5%
Fire-raising	1	0	#DIV/0!	12	10	20%
Public Space Assaults	9	3	200%	72	66	9%

ISSUES OF NOTE

- **Exceptional Reporting on the above**

The Community Police Team model has allowed 2 dedicated Ward Officers covering the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley ward to focus on local issues and priorities supported by Community Action Team, CAT, officers.

The above Anti-Social Behaviour results are produced by the West Lothian Community Safety Unit and show the figures up to end of March 2018 and also include the year to date compared to last year to date.

Youth Calls – decrease of 8% in the year to date and there were 12 calls reported in March. This equates to 17 less in the year to date.

The youth calls within the ward have steadily decreased over the year to date. Previous issues that were identified in Polbeth are now being managed. Intervention visits have been conducted to problematic youth's by Police and partners agencies, which has seen a reduction in incidents reported. Local ward officers will continue to monitor incidents to the area.

Current issues have been identified within Stoneyburn area of the ward and there has been an increase in youth calls to the area during March and April. Local ward officers have conducted Hi-Viz patrols in the area and a number of youths have been identified. Intervention work with partner agencies to be carried out with the youths identified.

ASB Calls – rise of 13% in the year to date and 75 reports in March. This year to date there have been more reports to police, however the report volume has significantly reduced again during the last quarter.

The overall rise in the year to date has been a result of a number of ‘party houses’ identified in the ward during this year. The local ward officers have worked closely with the Safer Neighbourhood Team in dealing with these issues which have resulted in three full Anti-Social Behaviour orders being issued to three tenants within the ward.

Hate Crime – rise of 76% in the year to date with there being 3 reports in March. The year to date figures show 16 more reports this year to date and although the percentage rise is large the numbers of incidents are low.

Your local police continue to work closely with partners to encourage reporting among communities who may suffer in silence. Furthermore there would not appear to any wider community impact as result of the hate crimes reported. No specific trend has been identified.

Vandalism / Reckless Conduct – rise of 5% in the year to date with there being 10 reports in March. 6 more reported incidents reported than last year to date. Despite the slight rise in report volume during this year to date, there has been a steady decrease in call volume during the last quarter.

Fire Raising – rise of 20% in the year to date and there was 1 report in March. 2 more report than last year to date and although the percentage rise is large the numbers of incidents are low.

Public Space Assaults – Rise of 9% in the year to date and there were 9 crimes reported in January. 6 more report of public space assault’s in comparison to last year to date.

The number of public space Assaults for March is slightly higher this month to previous, however over half the crimes recorded are linked to one disorder incident reported in Fauldhouse.

PREVENTION

- **Activities**

Reducing antisocial behaviour within our communities

In an effort to identify those involved in youth calls and calls of Anti-Social Behaviour the community 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.

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 the last quarter 7 Crimes were recorded for drug offences. 4 reports were in relation to possession of a controlled drug, 1 in relation to possession with intent to supply a controlled drug and 2 reports relate to the production of a controlled drug.

Where appropriate information is shared with WLC SNT regarding offenders if offences committed within WLC addresses.

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 – Community Action Team officers continue to carry out Speed checks at various locations in the Ward.

Parking complaints are also commonplace and these are addressed on an individual basis. The 'Parksmart' initiative has been introduced across West Lothian led by Education and supported by local Police at all schools in the area. However, it is important that the Schools take up this opportunity.

Tackling Acquisitive Crime

There were 2 incidents of acquisitive crime in March. 1 incident related to an attempted Housebreaking to a farm outbuilding within the Harburn area and the other related to a shed being broken into in Stoneyburn.

- **Initiatives**

Reducing Anti Social Behaviour

The Ward Officers work closely with the WLC Safer Neighbourhood Team and continue to challenge ASB in the home and local communities. This can lead to tenancy warnings being issued and can thereafter lead to Anti Social Behaviour Orders being granted to problematic offenders.

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

An Action Plan is being progressed to tackle the use of off road vehicles in Fauldhouse.

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. A number of Drug Warrants were executed in Fauldhouse during March.

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.

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 Community Action Team officers have carried out and will continue to carry out speed checks in the area.

Acquisitive Crime

A rural Crime initiative was set up last year within the ward following a large number of quad bike thefts from farms within the rural communities. To date local farms have been visited and were offered Crime Prevention advice in relation to acquisitive crime as well as advice on other issues that were identified.

Following the visits other issues such as Livestock worrying and fly tipping were highlighted therefore a rural crime event was organised by the local ward Officers who invited Partner Agencies in a bid to highlight the issues faced by those in the rural communities to the wider public.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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

The Livestock Worrying Campaign 2018 has commenced and one event has already taken place at Beecraigs Country Park. Another two events are scheduled for the 19th and 20th of May at Polkemmet Country Park and Almondell Country Park.

Off Road Bike day of action is scheduled to take place on 5th May 2018 in Fauldhouse. The event is due to be based at Fauldhouse Partnership Centre with a drop in service available. There will also be a number of Officer's conducting Hi-Viz patrols around Fauldhouse on the day.

'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 Sergeant

Sergeant Vincent Hughes Vincent.hughes@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Community Policing Team West Calder

Mail to: FauldhouseBreichValleyCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

PC Ross Walker



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 2018.

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 2018	%	Feb 2018	%	March 2018	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	2	50%	3	50%	0	0%	55%
2-4 weeks	0	0%	3	50%	0	0%	30%
4+ weeks	2	50%	0	0%	3	100%	15%
Total Lets	4	100%	6	100%	0	100%	100%

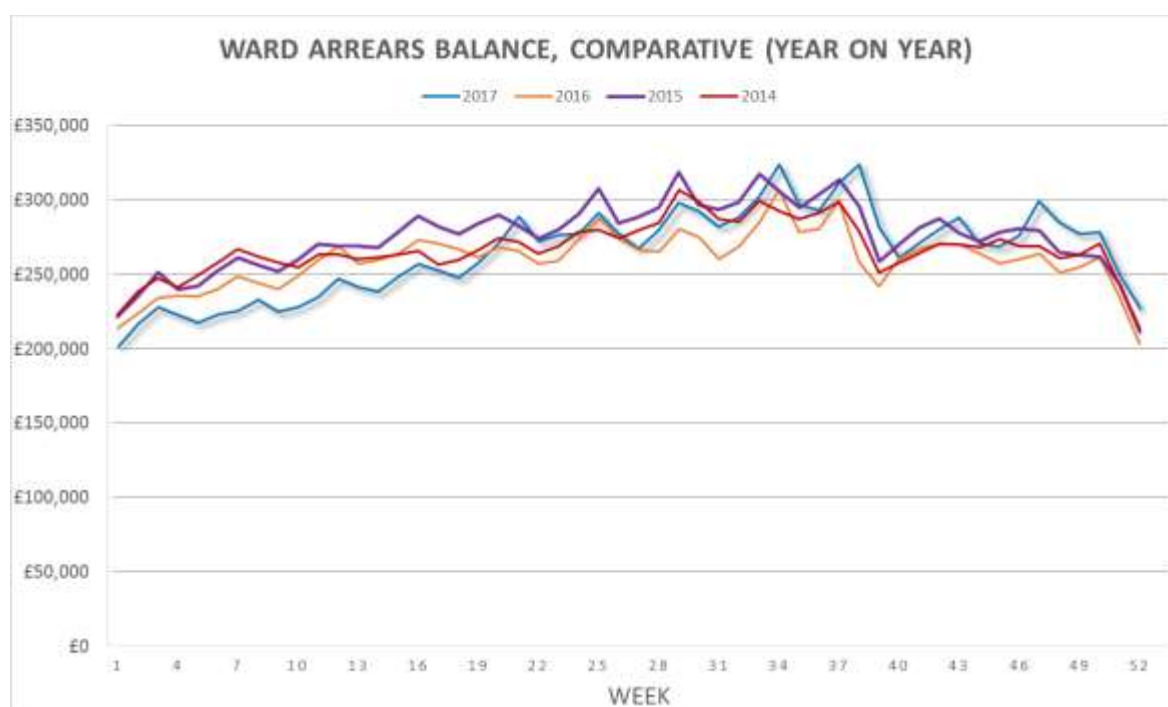
Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	Jan 2018	%	Feb 2018	%	March 2018	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	1	20%	55%
2-4 weeks	4	80%	1	50%	3	60%	30%
4+ weeks	1	20%	1	50%	1	20%	15%
Total Lets	5	100%	2	100%	5	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 107 mainstream tenancies and 46 temporary tenancies let by the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley Team. There are currently 28 Policy Voids in the ward. Reasons include properties unable to let due Health & Safety reasons and being held to assist with decants due to remedial works.

Rent Arrears



	2016/17 (WK52)		2017/18 (WK52)	
Arrears Banding	Balance	Tenants In Arrears	Balance	Tenants In Arrears
£0.01 to £99.99	£6,551	161	£7,338	164
£100.00 to £299.99	£26,622	140	£29,487	154
£300.00 to £499.99	£30,924	79	£34,229	88
£500.00 to £749.99	£36,928	61	£38,417	62
£750.00 to £999.99	£24,723	28	£29,069	34
£1000.00 to £1999.99	£52,330	39	£73,448	55
£2000+	£25,325	9	£15,131	6
Total	£203,402	517	£227,120	563

The Ward position for Q4 of 2017/18 is £227,120. This is an increase of £23,718 on last year's position.

The West Lothian overall position has increased by £181,102 from last year and at week 52 was £1,398,614

While there are 61 serious arrears cases (£1,000+) it should be noted 56% of cases are in the lower bands (£300 or less)

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

Cuthill Crescent, Stoneyburn	95% Complete	This year's work is now on site and while was due to be complete in March 2018 has been delayed by the snow and cold weather. Completion date late May 2018.
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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 for January – March 2018

Tenant Satisfaction Results - the TP Team are looking at ways to address the results of this years Tenant Satisfaction Survey. Customers have been contacted and invited to attend various events. These include:-attending local tenant groups, and networks and an opportunity to take part in training for tenant inspectors and Editorial Panel.

Tenant Led Inspection (TLI) - The latest TLI into our New Build properties was reported back to senior management in March. The inspection team had made 40 recommendations which was favourably received and a date has been set for mid-April for the Strategy and Development Team to address each recommendations and present a detailed plan of action.

Tenant Participation Review – members of the Tenants Panel and Housing Network met with senior managers to agree the TP Action Plan for 2018/19. The plan will include local events, environmental inspections, developing evening networks and tenant inspections.

Tenant Participation Annual Report 2018/19 – The Tenant Participation Annual report is being prepared to highlight the work of the TP Team, local Housing Staff and partners over the last twelve months. The final document will be made available on the Councils website in early May 2018.

New Registered Tenants Organisation – a TP officer has been working closely with the residents of a sheltered Housing Complex in setting up a tenants group. The group is based in the new Rosemount Court complex in Bathgate and membership is open to anyone living in the complex as well as the neighbouring Rosemount Gardens and Jane Place Sheltered Housing Complex. A work plan will be developed to keep the group on track and the off shot for this group is social events are being arranged too.

Street Environmental Improvement Projects – members of the Capital Programme Working Group have visited the sites for this year's applications and have agreed which ones meet the criteria and can be carried forward. From the six applications received, three have been agreed, one will be carried out from another budget and two did not meet the set criteria. All applicants have been informed of the outcome.

Annual Return on the Charter (ARC) Review – Members of the Housing Network participated in a workshop to understand the requirements set out by the Scottish Housing Regulator of the performance criteria they can expect from their landlord. The ARC sets out the outcomes and standards that landlords should achieve. Attendees found the workshop to be very informative and left with a better understanding of the Charter.

TIS Award for Best Innovative Practice – The TP Team have been shortlisted for the Tenant Information Services (TIS) Award under the category of Best Innovative Practice – the team along with the TP Development Working group submitted an application for the work they have been doing contacting tenants by text messaging and through their Facebook group. The winners will be announced in June.

Safer Neighbourhood Team

WLC Officer based in SNT January – March 2018

The Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) continue to work in two teams across the nine multi member ward areas as an integral part of the Community Safety Unit. In all the wards, partnership working involves the local housing team, youth worker, council officer with the SNT and officers from Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service all working together to tackle antisocial behaviour. When necessary, the partners will liaise with partners from the voluntary organisations including Mental Health advisory workers and private landlords in order to reduce antisocial behaviour. The Out of Hours team have now amalgamated with the Safer Neighbourhood team and the 12 officers now work in two zones, the East and the West and there are 3 teams of 2 officers in each zone. All the officers now deal with noise nuisance calls as part of their working remit.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team officers worked closely with Community Police Officers to carry out intervention visits and served a warning following a multi-agency meeting re noise complaints. There were a total of 73 complaints for this quarter for the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley Ward and 37 of these related to loud music.

Two different letter drops were carried out to encourage people to provide witness statements and two warnings were served regarding noise complaints, underage parties and youth disorder with one male being arrested at one incident

E. CONCLUSION

To note the contents of the report.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

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Tel: 01506 283414

Alistair Shaw

Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services

Date: 15th May 2018



FAULDHOUSE 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 NETs, Land & Countryside Services teams for the period 1 February 2018 - 31 March 2018.

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 1 February 2018 - 31 March 2018.

D2 Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

Shrub bed maintenance has been completed. Grass cutting and weed control has now started for the new season.

The latest Land Audit Management score for the West area was 73, the target score is 67.

Grounds Maintenance Enquiries

In total 15 grounds maintenance related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period.

Burns or Watercourses	1
Enforcement Officer Enquiries	2
Fencing Enquiries	1
Flower Bed or Bulb Displays	1
Gala Day Public Event Enquiries	2
Grass Area Damaged	1
Ground Owned Enquiries	2
Neighbourhood Env Teams	1
Tree Branches Overhanging	1
Tree Enquiries General	2
Tree Preservation Orders	1

D3 Garden Maintenance Routine Works

The Garden Maintenance Scheme started on the 9th April. It will only include Housing tenants this year.

Garden Maintenance Enquiries

In total 4 garden maintenance related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period.

Garden Maintenance General Enquires	1
Garden Maintenance Hedge Cutting	1
Garden Maintenance No Longer Required	2

D4 Cleaner Communities Routine Works

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

Cleaner Communities Enquiries

In total 45 cleaner communities related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period.

Dead Animals	1
Dog Fouling on Grass Open Spaces	2
Dog Fouling on Paths/Roads	10
Dog Waste Bin New Request	1
Glass on Paths or Open Spaces	2
Illegal Fly Tipping	20
Litter Bin New Request for Bin	1
Litter General Enquiries	1
Litter on Paths Roads Verges	1
Street Sweeping Enquiries	1
Vehicle Abandoned	5

Environmental Community Action

One Fixed Penalty Notice for Littering was issued.

Enforcement Officers have attended to all enquiries received in relation to various Environmental issues within the area and carried out targeted patrols in respect of Dog Fouling complaints in both Fauldhouse and West Calder.

Illegal Fly Tipping continues to be a problem within the Ward and Enforcement officers continue to investigate with a view to the prosecution of offenders.

Abandoned/Nuisance vehicles have been dealt with and where required removed from streets throughout the ward either through negotiation with the owners or by WLC Contractors.

Enforcement Officers carried out Audits on School Transport Buses and Taxi's on behalf of Transport Department at various schools within the ward. This is designed to ensure the vehicles used are in a fit state and drivers hold the appropriate drivers licence.

Enforcement Officers have been assisting colleagues in Community Learning & Development Youth Services through the positive destinations programme. They have also assisted colleagues from Licencing Department on several occasions by checking Identification and authorisations of window cleaners, carrying out Audits at licensed premises and ensuring the appropriate legal notices are being displayed.

With the assistance of local groups Education and Engagement Officers assisted with clean-ups at various areas within the ward which resulted in a large amount of rubbish being collected.

Education & Engagement Officers attended residents and community group meetings and followed up any concerns raised.

Officers have also engaged in partnership working with various agencies such as Police Scotland, Housing Associations, Woodlands Trust Scotland, Forestry Commission, WLC Countryside Rangers, WLC Housing and WLC Waste Services on a range of issues.

D5 Parks and Woodland

Parks and Woodland

In total 3 Parks and Woodland related enquiries were received during this reporting period. 3 Enquiries were inspected with no works generated for works instructions to programme and 13 Works instructions were completed.

Tree works completed for period	13
Tree works outstanding for LAC area	4
Tree related Enquiries for report period	3
Tree Enquiries not generating works orders	3
Tree Blocking Light	0
Tree Branches Overhanging	0
Tree Broken/Damaged or Dead	0
Tree Dangerous or Unsafe	0
Tree Enquiries General	3
Tree Felling Work Unauthorised	0

Ranger Service Update

No. School groups attending Outdoor Education / Forest School Sessions	1
No. Pupils attending Outdoor Education / Forest School Sessions	12
No. Rights Of Way / Core Path / Patrols carried out	2
No. Access Enquiries	1
No. Conservation Surveys / Tasks	0
No. Volunteer hours	0
No. Ranger Events	0
No. attendees at Ranger Events	0

The Ranger Service welcomed 12 pupils from Woodmuir Primary in Breich to Polkemmet in March, where they had great fun on our pioneering course. This involved the children competing in two teams to complete a series of teambuilding challenges.

A complaint about blocked access to a right of way near Stoneyburn was also investigated by the Rangers, however the blockage had been removed at the time of visiting. Rangers will keep an eye on the situation.

Rangers continue to patrol a number of parks and woodlands sites across the district including Knowes Colliery and Loganlea Bing.

D6 Open Space and Cemeteries

Open Space Routine Works

Bridge Street Play Area, Fauldhouse, has been allocated funding for refurbishment. This work will include play equipment replacement and resurface. This will be completed in 2018/19.

Addiewell Primary School Play Area, Fauldhouse, has been allocated funding for refurbishment. This work will include play equipment replacement and resurface. This will be completed in 2018/19.

Eastfield Road Park, Fauldhouse, pitch replacement works remain ongoing. When works are completed in 2018/19, wider park improvement design will be developed. This will include play equipment and path network.

Caledonian Road Park, Fauldhouse, has been allocated funding for refurbishment and improvement. This work will include play equipment replacement and resurface. Additional new drainage features will be designed and installed to improve the kick pitch surface. This work will be completed in 2018/19.

Breich Green has been allocated funding for improvement. This funding will be supplemented with Village Improvement grant to provide a new path direct to the Play Area from existing footpath. New drainage features will be installed to improve overall drainage in the park and protect this new footpath.

Glenview Playing Field, Stoneyburn, has been allocated funding for improvement. New drainage features will be installed in the south-east corner of the park to alleviate flooding across the path. Existing drainage ditches west of the main pitch will be cleared.

Parkhead Recreation Ground, West Calder, has been allocated funding to support a community skate park project. A planning application will be submitted by the community group in May 2018.

Capital Programme

As part of our capital upgrading programme for play we intend to upgrade Bridge Street Play Park, Fauldhouse and Addiewell Primary School Play Park this financial year

Open Space Enquiries

There was one open space related enquiry received and dealt with during this reporting period.

Childrens Play Enquiries	1
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Cemeteries Routine Works

Spring routine maintenance and grass cutting underway. Grave reinstatement works and burial duties ongoing across the cemetery estates.

Cemeteries Enquiries (13)

Cemeteries General Enquiries	6
Complaint Cemeteries and Burials	1
Lair Enquiries	6

E CONCLUSION

Shrub bed maintenance has been completed. Grass cutting and weed control has now started for the new season.

The Enforcement Officers been involved in a number of community projects within the ward, with the aim of raising awareness of environmental issues.

As part of our capital upgrading programme for play we intend to upgrade Bridge Street Play Park, Fauldhouse and Addiewell Primary School Play Park this financial year.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Open Space Strategy

Capital Programme

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person: Tony Fleming, Whitehill Service Centre, Bathgate 01506 284611,
tony.fleming@westlothian.gov.uk

Jim Jack
Head of Operational Services
15 May 2018



FAULDHOUSE 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, and other ward activity.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes:

1. that community engagement is now complete in all regeneration areas in the ward;
2. that a draft plan is complete for Stoneyburn;
3. Fauldhouse and Addiewell steering groups are currently deciding on themes and priorities and the engagement information is being collated in Polbeth; and
4. the progress made by the Aspiring Communities project in Polbeth.

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 the Community Planning Partnership board.
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.

In addition to this, the Community Empowerment Act 2015 requires Community Planning Partnerships to produce locality plans for their most deprived areas. The CPP in West Lothian have adopted regeneration plans as their locality plans.

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.

Progress across the four village regeneration groups is detailed below.

Stoneyburn

The community engagement in Stoneyburn is now complete. The Place Standard tool was carried out with the steering group and provided valuable and detailed information from the community members, schools and local services present, and 86 h-diagrams have been completed with members of the wider community and generated 500 individual comments. The information gathered from the engagement has now been collated, and by using this and the local statistics available the steering group has determined the themes that the plan will focus on. These are:

- **Transport and moving around** – key issues raised are the lack of walking and cycling routes out of the village and what is perceived as a poor quality public transport service.
- **Play, recreation and facilities** – people value the facilities they have but are keen to see them utilised even more. High on the agenda is additional activities for young people and also for elderly and isolated members of the community. There is a desire to continue to care for the environment through regular litter picks and environmental improvements, and to develop more community events such as the Santa Parade and Fun Run.

- **Poverty, health and wellbeing** – some of the issues the community want to address relate to high levels of poor mental health, particularly those managed by prescription medication; ensuring take up free school meals and school clothing grants by all families who are eligible; and finding other ways to save local families money.

An event was held in Stoneyburn Community Centre on Saturday 24 March to consult the community on the themes and actions in the draft plan. Over 30 people were spoken to on the day and there was universal support for the proposals. There were also some additional actions proposed such as establishing a local walking/jogging/running group and delivering courses on budgeting and cooking healthy, low cost family meals. In addition to the consultation there was also coffee and cake, a pop up thrift shop, bouncy castles and an Easter art corner. The event was funded by the community centre management committee.

Fauldhouse

The Fauldhouse regeneration group continues to be well attended. The group is gathering momentum and is viewed as the key community forum for sharing information and progressing joint projects.

The Place Standard tool was carried out to gather the thoughts and opinions of the steering group members on Fauldhouse as a place to live and work. The information gathered from this exercise, along with 459 comments from 86 h-diagrams, the existing charrette results and statistical information for the area, has now been collated and is being used to determine the themes and issues the regeneration plan will focus on. Early indications are that facilities and amenities (including gap sites), play and recreation, child poverty and community safety are the themes coming through.

Village Improvement Fund money has been secured to deliver a number local projects. Fauldhouse CDT are developing a trishaw and cycling scheme which will target socially isolated people within the community and those experiencing reduced mobility. The project will also be researching the potential to enhance the cycling routes in and out of the village and sources of funding to develop these.

Funding was also secured from the VIF to help to reinstate the ponds to the north of the village. Proposed plans include clearing overgrown areas around the ponds, creating paths to access the areas and installing interpretation boards. The regeneration group were also keen to see trout reintroduced to one of the ponds and this may be a longer term aim if additional funding sources can be identified.

The mining memorial project, led by FCDD, is progressing well. All funding is now in place and a design has been agreed. The sculptor has begun work on the initial clay mould and the CDT will now seek planning permission for the preferred site on the village green.

Addiewell

Community engagement in Addiewell is now complete. There were 87 h-diagrams completed and 308 comments received. The information gathered through these surveys, the Place Standard tool and local statistical information has been collated and the steering group are now determining the themes and actions that will go into the plan. Early indications are that facilities and amenities, play and recreation, feeling safe and the natural environment are the themes coming through.

The Pitstop has now carried out improvements to the exterior of the building, as funded by the VIF. The cladding around the roof has been replaced and the building

has been whitewashed. The works have provided much needed repairs and instantly improved the look of the building.

A further VIF funded project to provide a formal path from the Pitstop along to the football field will be delivered by the council later this year. Operational Services are including the work in a wider tender and an external contractor will be assigned to deliver the path.

Polbeth

There have been 100 h-diagrams completed so far in Polbeth. Further engagement is planned as further responses from children and young people are required. Once the engagement is complete the information from the h-diagrams, Place Standard session and local statistical data will be collated and analysed.

The new Aspiring Communities development worker employed by West Calder & Harburn CDT to work in Polbeth has now been in post for two months. In this short time he has engaged with most of the community groups in the village, established a Polbeth Hub Facebook page, based himself in the village hall and supported the regeneration steering group. In addition to this a 'community blether' coffee morning was held and a family fun day is being planned to consult on the regeneration plan findings.

E. CONCLUSION

Good progress continues to be made in developing regeneration plans within the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward area. The four regeneration steering groups continue to meet regularly and community engagement is complete in three of the four areas.

A further update on progress 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, laura.wilson2@westlothian.gov.uk

Craig McCorriston

Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

15 May 2018

**FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – AUGUST 2018
WORKPLAN 2018-2019**

Issue	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date
Housing report	Quarterly update on housing issues	Kate Ward	All meetings
Police/NRT report	Quarterly update on police/NRT activity	Sgt Vince Hughes	All meetings
LBFR report	Quarterly report on activity	Brian Robertson	All meetings
NETs Report	Update report on NETs activity	Tony Fleming	All meetings
Regeneration Plans	To provide an update on the implementation of regeneration plans	Laura Wilson	All meetings
Harburn Roads Reinstatement	To provide an update on the remedial works to the Harburn roads by SPEN.	Jason Halliday	September 2018
Schools Update – West Calder High School	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school	Julie Calder	September 2018
Pensioners Christmas Fund	To provide provisional allocation details	Laura Wilson	September 2018
West Calder & Harburn CDT	To provide an annual update on activity	Matt Pearce	November 2018
New West Calder High School	To provide an update on the new build project	Paul Kettrick	November 2018
Pensioners Christmas Fund	To provide final allocation details	Laura Wilson	November 2018
School Update – Whitburn Academy	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school	Tracey Loudon	November 2018

Advice Shop Update	To update on Advice Shop activity in the ward	Elaine Nisbet	November 2018
Schools Update – St Kentigern's	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school	Andrew Sharkey	February 2019