



Livingston North Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

2 November 2018

A meeting of the **Livingston North Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Council Chambers, West Lothian Civic Centre** on **Thursday 8 November 2018 at 9:30am.**

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

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

Public Session

4. Confirm Draft Minute of Meeting of Livingston North Local Area Committee held on Thursday 13 September 2018 (herewith)..
5. Livingston North Multi-Member Ward Performance Report - Report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (herewith).
6. Police Scotland - Livingston North Local Area Committee - Report by PC's John McLean and Alan McMahon (herewith).
7. Housing, Customer and Building Services - Report by Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services (herewith).
8. Pensioners' Christmas Fund Allocations 2018 - Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith).

9. Community Regeneration Update - Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith).
10. Service Update - Operational Services - Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith).
11. Workplan (herewith).

NOTE **For further information please contact Eileen Rollo on 01506 281621 or email eileen.rollo@westlothian.gov.uk**

MINUTE of MEETING of the LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE of WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL held within CR3, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 13 SEPTEMBER 2018.

Present – Councillors Dom McGuire (Chair), Alison Adamson, Andrew Miller

Apologies – Councillor Robert De Bold

In Attendance –

Jim Jack, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council

Sergeant Iain Wells, Police Scotland

Alan Cunningham, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Ross McDonald, Senior Engineer, West Lothian Council

Sandy Ross, Area Housing Manager, West Lothian Council

Eirwen Hopwood, Park & Woodland Manager, West Lothian Council

Gloria Gibson, Carmondean Community Council

Brian Johnston, Livingston Village Community Council

Steven Egan, Elburn Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. MINUTE

The committee confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 28 June 2018 as a correct record. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. WINTER SERVICE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services providing an insight into how the winter service is operated taking into consideration road priorities.

The report advised that in Scotland, council's statutory responsibilities regarding the Winter Service were defined in the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, which required that a road authority shall take such steps as it considers reasonable to prevent snow and ice endangering the safe passage of pedestrians and vehicles over public roads.

The council's current Winter Service Policy was well established and was based on the Code of Practice "Well-managed Highway Infrastructure – 2016".

The Winter Service Policy included the service standards and a definition for "Extreme Weather Event" a statement on resilience and salt conservation; and the policy promoted the benefits of self-help in line with Government recommendations.

The Head of Operational Services advised that the Winter Service Policy

had proved successful in dealing with the normal UK winters. Additional resources were utilised from NET's Land & Countryside Services to complement resources providing a more robust and flexible rota.

The Head of Operational Services explained that domain based forecasting was utilised with separate forecasts being obtained for the north and south of the county. This allowed treatment plans to be more specific providing an improved service to areas most in need.

Route maps were reviewed and updated to reflect any newly adopted streets, with additions being prioritised in line with policy. Route maps and further information on how the council prioritise gritting can be found on the council's website.

The route coverage within the Livingston North area for primary carriageways and primary footways/paths were shown on the plan appended to the report.

The report recommended that the committee note the content of the report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

4. LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the PC's John McLean and Alan McMahon providing an update on performance activities and issues across the ward for the period up to 31 July 2018.

Sergeant Wells explained that that since May 2018, PC's McLean and McMahon had dealt with numerous neighbour disputes carrying out early intervention and prevention activities. They also continued to work closely with housing and other council partners to address incidents of anti-social behaviour in communities.

With regard to road safety Sergeant Wells advised that parking issues continued in various areas of Livingston North, with Carmondean Train Station being a particular problem and that hotspots would be visited whenever possible. The patrol of areas of concern regarding speeding, mobile phone use and other road traffic offences would be continued

The report concluded with an update on drug misuse and drug dealing.

Sergeant Wells advised the committee that future reports would provide a breakdown of statistics in specific areas of the ward.

The report recommended that the committee note the content of the report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

5. LIVINGSTON NORTH MULTI-MEMBER WARD FIRE SERVICE PERFORMANCE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an update on the activity within the ward for the period up to 30 June 2018.

Attached to the report at Appendix 1 was a series of graphs showing details of accidental fire dwelling, fire casualties and fatalities, deliberate fires, fires in non-domestic properties, non-fatal non-fire emergency casualties and unwanted fire alarm signals.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

6. COMMUNITY REGENERATION UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration, providing an update on progress towards developing a regeneration plan within the ward.

The report recalled that the Regeneration Framework which was approved by Council Executive in February 2014 contained a commitment to develop regeneration plans in key areas of deprivation in West Lothian. In addition to this, as part of the Community Empowerment Act, there was a requirement on all Community Planning Partnerships to develop plans to improve their most disadvantaged areas.

Eight regeneration areas had been identified in West Lothian, based on the data zones within the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. One of the areas identified was Livingston Central, which covered the communities of Knightsridge, Ladywell and Dedridge.

Since the last local area committee meeting there had continued to be progress around a number of identified priorities and included the development of action plans. The Regeneration Group last met on 15 May with a further meeting planned during the school holidays to continue to progress the action plans.

A number of initiatives were being developed under the headings of the Vennie, Mosswood Community Centre, Community Learning and Development, Environmental Visual Audit. The report provided details under each of these headings of some of those initiatives including gala days, and an Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) for the Knightsridge area.

With regards to the EVA an update was provided highlighting issues and actions. A copy of the report following the conclusion of the EVA was

attached to the report at Appendix 1.

In conclusion it was noted that Knightsridge was part of the Livingston Central regeneration area for which a regeneration plan was being developed and that an update on progress would be brought to the next meeting of the Local Area Committee.

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee notes :-

1. The update on progress towards the first version of the regeneration plan for the Knightsridge area, the first draft of which will be provided to the November meeting;
2. The update on activity at the Vennie, Mosswood Community Centre, the recently formed Gala Day committee and community council; and
3. The update on actions from Environmental Visual Audit exercise previously carried out in Knightsridge.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report and the Knightsridge EVA;
2. To agree that members are provided with the numbers of participants that attended the Vennie Summer Programme and an update on the Harvester site.

7. PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2018

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration advising of the groups invited to apply for the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2018 in the Livingston North ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

In 2018, the total amount available was £29,054 with the fund being divided by the total number of beneficiaries. Seven applications had been issued to groups across the Livingston North ward, with two returned to date. The intention was to support all seven groups upon submission of their application. Appendix 1 of the report detailed those groups proposed to be supported and the approximate number of beneficiaries in each.

One application had also been sent to a Livingston-wide group and three applications to West Lothian-wide groups with one returned to date. The intention was to support all of these groups once the applications had been returned. Appendix 2 provided further details on those applications and the approximate number of beneficiaries.

The committee noted that a full report on the final allocations would be presented to the Voluntary Organisations PDSP later in the year with letters to be issued to groups in late October advising of the level of

funding they would receive.

The report recommended that the committee note that seven groups within Livingston North ward had been invited to apply and applications were awaited.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8. HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES

A report 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 property void and let performance for both mainstream tenancies and temporary tenancies.

In relation to rent arrears, the ward position for Q1 of 2018/19 was £247,441. This was an increase of £27,245 on the previous year's position.

The report provided a table showing the sites in the ward which were included in the New Build Council Housing Programme, together with information on site start dates and completion dates.

The report provided details of service activity in relation to Tenant Participation and the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

The Local Area Committee was asked to note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period 1 April 2018 to 30 June 2018.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9. SERVICE UPDATE - OPERATIONAL SERVICES

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services appraising members of the Operational Services activities for Livingston North from 1 May 2018 – 31 July 2018.

The report contained statistical information in relation to Grounds Maintenance Enquiries and Cleaner Communities Enquiries.

In relation to enforcement action, it was noted that there had been one Fixed Penalty Notice for dog fouling.

There were 73 Parks and Woodland related enquires received during the

period of which 43 were inspected but no works were generated. 30 enquiries generated works instructions to programme of which 28 were completed.

It was noted that waste services received and dealt with 1443 customer enquiries from residents which was a reduction on the same period last year.

In conclusion it was advised that good progress had been made with ground maintenance tasks due to the good weather experienced for most of the reporting period. Enforcement Officers attended to all enquiries in relation to various environmental issues within the area.

The Local Area Committee was asked to:-

1. Note the work carried out by the service within the local area.
2. Advise of any areas that required further information or investigation.

A number of issues were raised by Committee members and Community Council members and these were summarised as follows:-

An issue was raised with bins at Eliburn Park not having lids. Comments were also made with regards to speed bumps at Aller Place being unsuitable. An issue was raised with regard to overgrown tree roots and the damage being caused.

There was also an issue raised with regard to common land and the difficulty in trying to establish ownership of this land, particularly when there were issues with the land that required action by the landlord.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report.
2. To agree that a report be brought to a future meeting of the Local Area Committee providing an update on common ground ownership in Eliburn.

10. WORKPLAN

A copy of the workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the workplan
2. To agree that a report on common land ownership in Eliburn be included on the workplan.
3. To agree that a report on Local Public Transport issues in Livingston be included on the workplan.



LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

LIVINGSTON NORTH MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT

REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Livingston North Local Area Committee on the activity within Livingston North Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 30th September 2018.

B. RECOMMENDATION

That Committee Members are invited to note and provide comment on the Livingston North 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
VIII Consultations	West Lothian Citizen's Panel Survey, July 2014.

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 2018, which is a requirement under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, Section 41E.

D.2 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Livingston North Multi-member Ward Quarterly Report

Following the publication of the Livingston North 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 Livingston North 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 Special Services (excluding RTC's).
- Reduction in RTC Fatalities and Casualties

E. CONCLUSION

The Livingston North Multi-member Ward Performance Report aligns to the key priorities of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2018, 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.

Lynne Gow

Station Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

October 2018

Appendix 1 - Livingston North Multi-Member Ward Performance Report



West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Quarter 2 2018/19

Livingston North

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

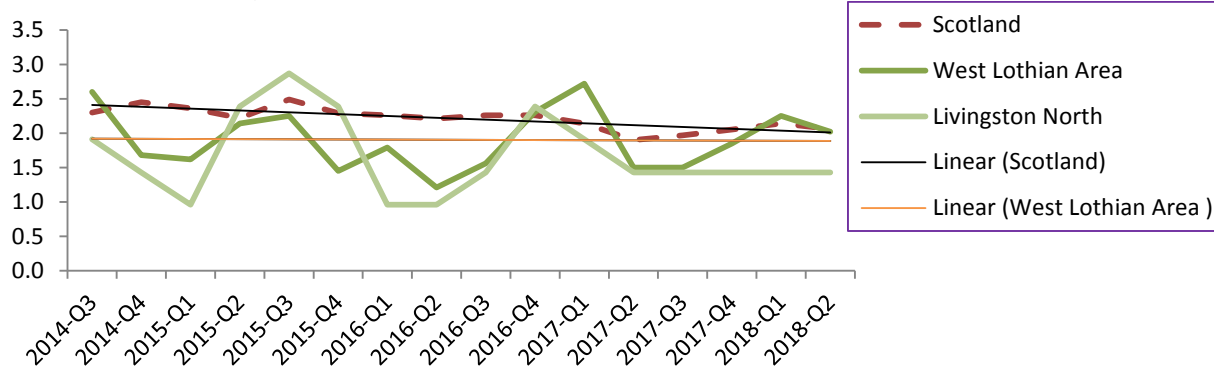
Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Ward Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to ward based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

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.

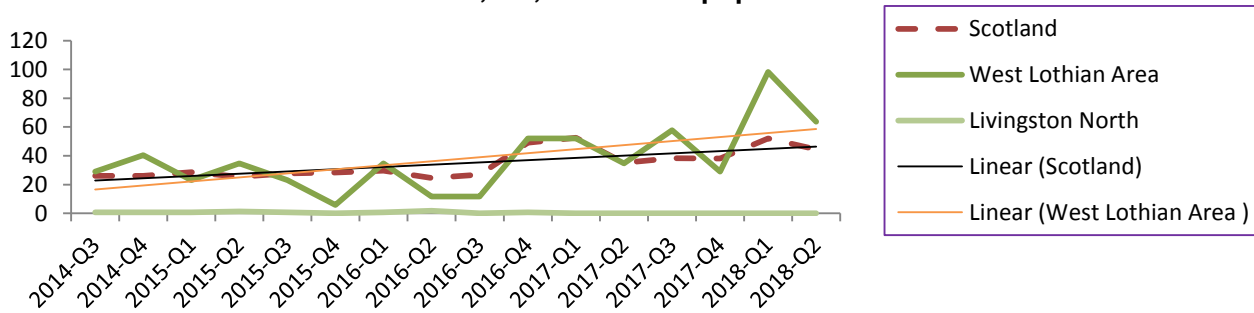
However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



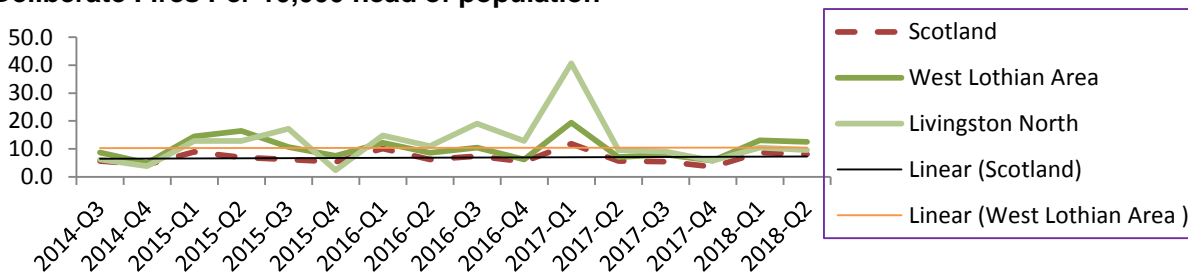
During the 2018-19 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 3 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 4 during 2017-18 year to date reporting period.

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



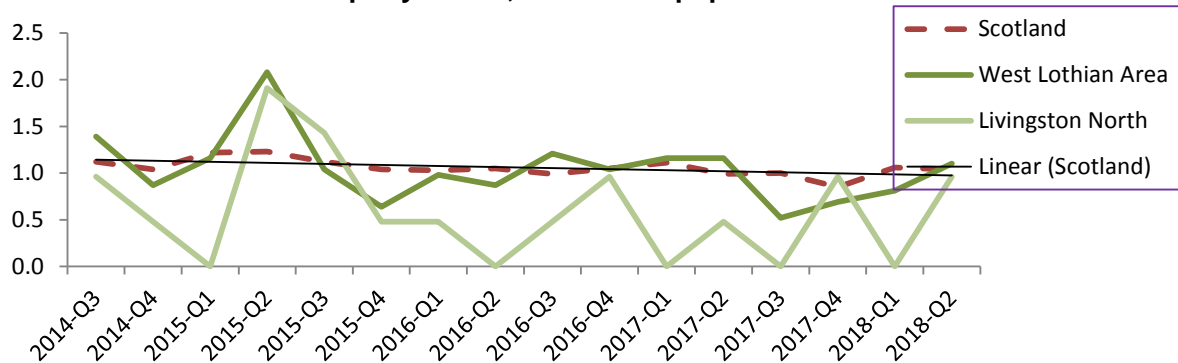
During the 2018-19 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 0 Casualties or Fatalities due to fire in comparison to 2 Casualties and 0 Fatalities during 2017-18 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



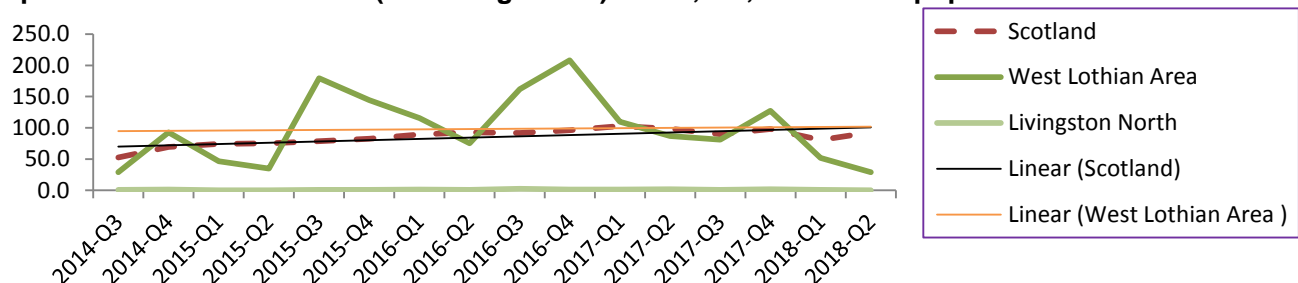
SFRS have dealt with 20 Deliberate fire incidents during 2018-19 year to date reporting period in comparison to 22 during 2017-18 year to date reporting period.

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



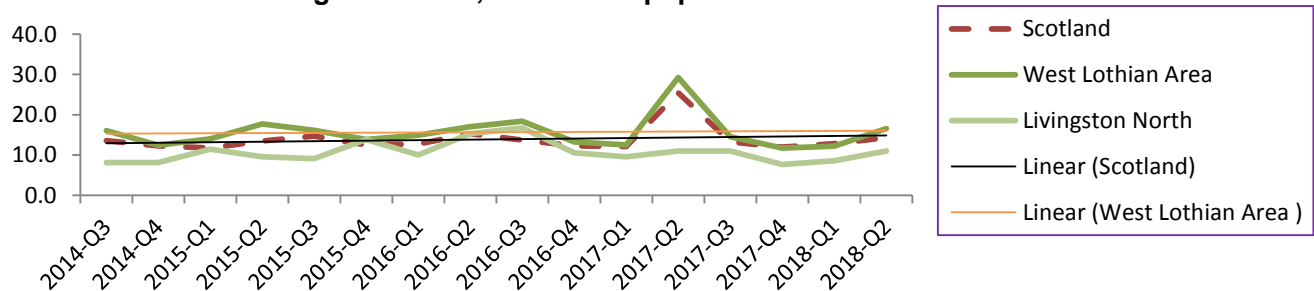
SFRS have dealt with 2 non domestic fires incident during 2018-19 year to date reporting period in comparison to 2 during 2017-18 year to date reporting period.

Special Services Casualties (excluding RTC's) Per 1,000,000 head of population



SFRS have dealt with 0 casualties from Special Services during 2018-19 year to date reporting period in comparison to 3 during 2017-18 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population

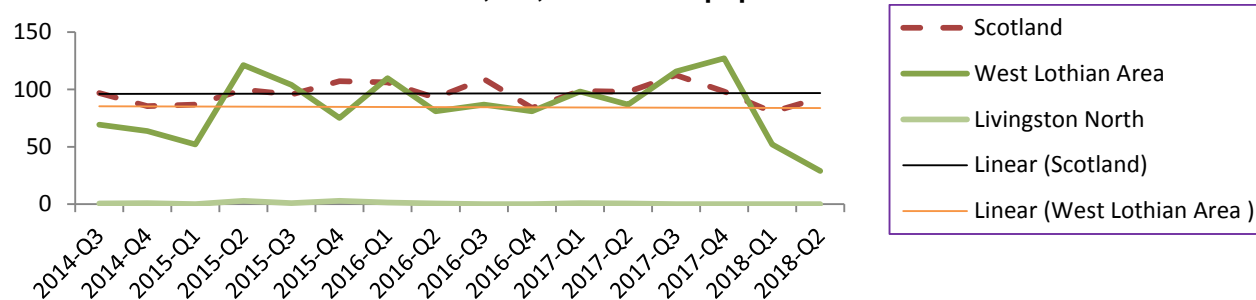


SFRS have dealt with 23 UFAS incidents during 2018-19 year to date reporting period in comparison to 23 during 2017-18 year to date reporting period.

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).

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



During the 2018-19 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 0 Casualties or Fatalities from RTC's in comparision to 1 Casualty and 0 Fatalities during 2017-18 year to date reporting period.



LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT BY PC's John McLean and Alan McMahon

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Area Committee with an update on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 26th October 2018.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes the content of the report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; and 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	Performance relative to the Year Average; set out in the report.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger; We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive society
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

NATIONAL PRIORITIES – DELIVERED LOCALLY

Based on our assessment of national priorities, the following have been identified for tailored action for the communities of West Lothian:

- Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
- Protecting the Public
- Road safety and Road Crime
- Serious Organised Crime and Terrorism
- Major Events and Threats
- Benefits of Reform
- Public Confidence

WEST LOTHIAN PRIORITIES

The community priorities identified for West Lothian through our Community Planning Partnership are:

- Protecting People
- Reducing Antisocial Behaviour
- Reducing Violence
- Tackling Substance Misuse
- Making our Roads Safer
- Tackling Serious Organised Crime

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRIORITIES

Livingston North

- Reducing antisocial behaviour
- Making our roads safer
- Tackling substance misuse

1/ PERFORMANCE

There is currently no partnership analyst in the Community Safety Unit and therefore there is no access to the previously provided statistics.

Police Scotland official West Lothian statistics can be found at (page 190 onwards)

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/assets/pdf/138327/232757/445136/Management-Info-Council-Area-Report-Q1-2018-19>

2/ LOCAL PRIORITIES

Antisocial Behaviour

Since the last LAC report there has been a slight increase in reports of youths hanging about near to local shops in Livingston North, causing anti-social behaviour and asking members of the public to buy them alcohol. On these incidents being reported local community officers and their partner agencies have attended and carried out high visibility patrols of these areas, which are different from previous known hot spots.

On the few occasions when the youths involved have spoken to officers it has transpired that a lot of the youths have travelled from area's outwith Livingston North ward area.

Partnership working between West Lothian Council Safer Neighbourhood Team and Community Police officers continues to improve after they were located to the same office space within West Lothian Civic Centre. Both Safer Neighbourhood Officers and Community Police officers have welcomed this change as it has cemented what was already a very good working relationship.

An example of which was when recently dealing with a problem council tenant, many of the incidents reported to the police were identified as not being crimes, however came under the umbrella of ASB. As a result, partnership measures were put in place to address the issues.

Making Our Roads Safer

Since the start of the new school term there has been a decrease in the number of complaints received regarding inappropriate/dangerous parking in and around schools in Livingston North.

It is thought that The Parksmart Scheme, operated by West Lothian Council is having an impact on this and parents are looking at the way they are parking. Police Scotland continue to support this initiative and would encourage all schools to sign up to Parksmart.

The schools will have access to the relevant materials however should there be any issues, the contact within West Lothian Council is Karen McCubbin.

Karen.McCubbin@westlothian.org.uk

Ward officers continue to patrol areas of concern in terms of inappropriate speed, use of mobile phones whilst driving, and other Road Traffic offences. We continue to remind drivers of expected driving standards via our social media platforms.

Tackling substance misuse

Members of the public are always encouraged to report suspicious activity, so that police can continue to gather intelligence and disrupt those who deal and misuse controlled drugs.

Through intelligence led policing, numerous persons have been found in possession of controlled drugs and reported.

When engaging with members of the public, the vast majority of them do not report their concerns to the police for fear of getting involved/ reprisals. However if this is the case they are encouraged to contact Crimestoppers on either 0800 555 111 or by e-mail at crimestoppers-uk.org

West Lothian Drug and Alcohol Service have recently started a family and friends group in relation to family members or friends who suffer from alcohol and or substance abuse. These groups are held throughout West Lothian, however in particular to Livingston at St Johns Psychology Dept, 7pm – 9:30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. More details can be obtained by contacting WLDAS on 01506430225 or WLDAS.com

Dishonesty

PC's McLean and McMahon would like to continue to highlight and promote the existence of Neighbourhood Watch Scotland's Alert scheme and the ability for members of the public / organisations to self-register. Details of this can be found at:-

<https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk>

However, on-line frauds and scams are still a nationwide problem. Further information can be found at:-

www.actionfraud.police.uk

Drug Dealing and Misuse

Pro-active Crime Reduction Officers continue to make detections across West Lothian and have made a number of positive drug searches in recent months. These detections often stem from intelligence gleaned from the local community and members of the public are always encouraged to report suspicious activity so that police can continue to gather intelligence and disrupt those who deal and misuse drugs.

Carmondean, Deans, Knightsridge, Eilburn and Livingston Village

The community policing team are continuing to monitor the Carmondean, Deans, Knightsridge, Eilburn and Livingston Village areas, providing visibility, reassurance and engaging with residents and young persons, focusing on ASB taking place near to local shops.

In the run up to Bonfire season, the police are working in partnership with SFRS/ various council depts and WLYAP on an agreed strategy to minimise the impact on local communities.

This fits in with the national Operation Moonbeam which is the Police Service of Scotland's response to address these issues, to protect communities and emergency services and can call on a range of specialist resources and specially-trained officers to deal with any spontaneous incidents of disorder that occur.

3/ CONTACTS

Details of your Community Policing can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/the-lothians-and-scottish-borders/west-lothian/linlithgow/>

Email: LivingstonNorthCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

You can also follow us on Twitter: @WestLothPolice



LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

HOUSING CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES

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 Livingston North Ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period 1st July 2018 – 30th September 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. TERMS OF REPORT

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 Livingston North ward.

Property Void & Let Performance: Mainstream Tenancies

Void Period	July	%	August	%	Sept	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	1	20%	1	12.5%	0	0%	55%
2-4 weeks	0	0%	1	12.5%	1	100%	30%
4+ weeks	4	80%	6	75%	0	0%	15%
Total Lets	5	100%	8	100%	1	100%	100%

Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	July	%	August	%	Sept	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	2	66.7%	0	0%	4	80%	55%
2-4 weeks	0	0%	3	100%	1	20%	30%
4+ weeks	1	33.3%	0	0%	0	0%	15%
Total Lets	3	100%	3	100%	5	100%	100%

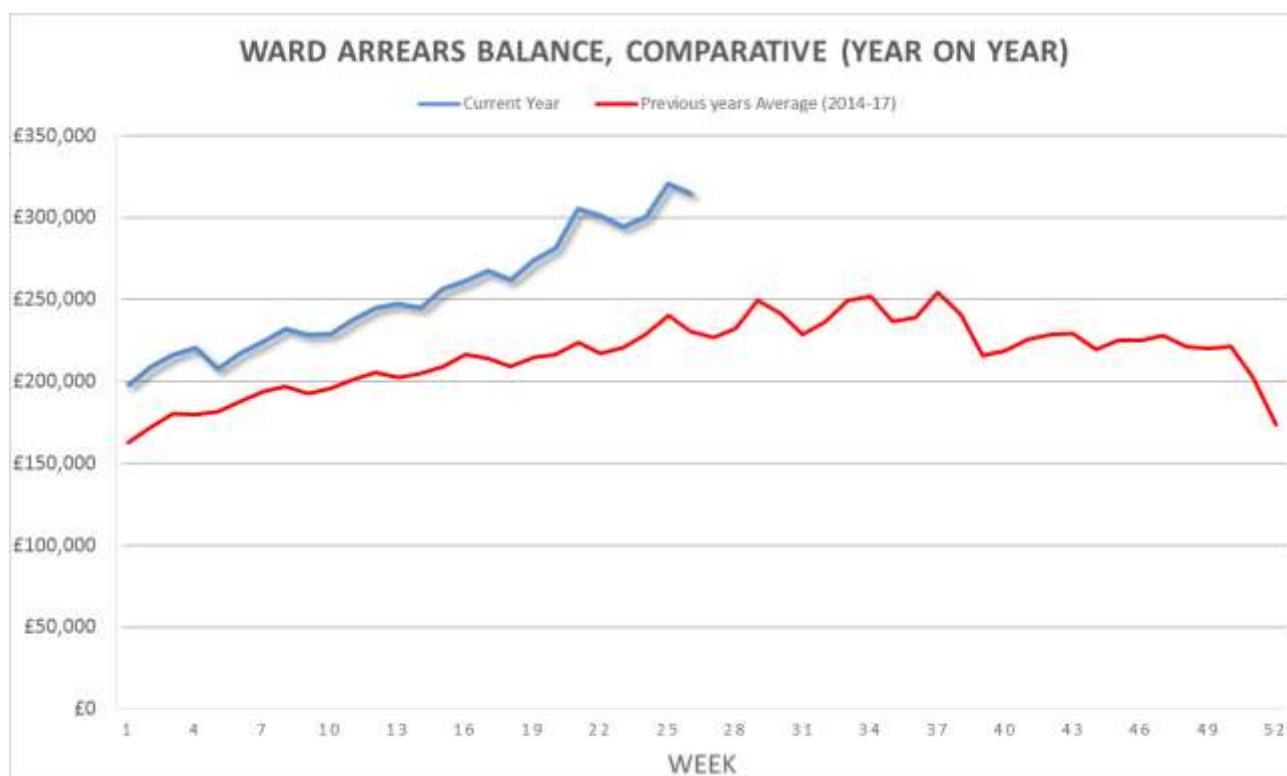
There was 14 mainstream and 11 Temporary tenancies re let during Q2.

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 and time taken ensuring that vulnerable persons are supported through the viewing and Sign up process. 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.

There are currently 7 policy voids in the ward that is 6 due to major works and 1 decant use.

Rent Arrears

For this ward the cumulative rental charge this year (debit) for the housing stock is £2,992,006 and £2,852,391 has been collected giving a strong collection rate of 95.3%



	2017/18 (WK26)		2018/19 (WK26)	
Arrears Banding	Balance	Tenants In Arrears	Balance	Tenants In Arrears
£0.01 to £99.99	£7,069	169	£8,369	200
£100.00 to £299.99	£34,901	193	£34,045	191
£300.00 to £499.99	£37,282	95	£43,766	112
£500.00 to £749.99	£32,597	54	£33,997	55
£750.00 to £999.99	£29,898	35	£39,323	45
£1000.00 to £1999.99	£65,805	49	£82,308	62
£2000+	£44,406	15	£72,996	24
Total	£251,958	610	£314,804	689

The Ward arrears position for Q2 is £314,804. This is an increase of £62,846 on last year's position.

The West Lothian overall position has increased by £593,408 from last year and on 01 October was £2,405,181

While there are 86 serious arrears cases (£1,000+) it should be noted 57% of cases are in the lower bands (£300 or less)

The overall increased arrears in comparison to last year are as a result of Full Service Universal Credit being introduced in West Lothian from May 2018, along with other Welfare Benefit reforms and the current economic climate

During the course of this year we plan to focus on the following:

- 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.
- Promote Alternative payment methods, particularly the Tenant's Self Service Portal.
- Undertake a root and branch review of our arrears process to ensure we maximise rental income.

Team Activity.

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.

Officers in the team have a number of tenancies under supervision for issues such as child 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 maintained and sustained as far as possible and appropriate action taken where necessary, as well as ensuring, that where the situation arises, other members of the community affected are also supported.

Capital Programme and New Build Council Housing

Ward 3 Livingston North	Site	No of units	Site Start	No. of Houses Handed Over	Site Completion
	Appleton Parkway	10	Nov-2016	10	Sept -2017
	Deans South Phase 1	54	March 2017	0	February - 2019 (estimated)
	Deans South Phase 2	37	To be confirmed	0	To be confirmed

Deans South update.

McTaggart Construction is progressing with the development of 54 new build council houses at the east end of the estate.

Lovell Partnerships are developing their proposals for new build council housing on the west side of the estate. Council Executive agreed on 19 December 2017 to reduce the number of new build houses on this part of the estate from 63 to 37. The 26 new build units removed from Deans South are to be replaced in the capital programme by 26 Open Market Acquisitions.

Officers continue to explore how redevelopment proposals for the balance of the estate can be taken forward. It was reported to Council Executive on 17 April 2018 that Wheatley Group are working with Springfield Properties and some of the remaining owners to re develop the site for housing.

Springfield / Wheatley have now submitted a planning application for the balance of the estate.

Tenant Participation Update

Tenant Led Inspection – The latest Tenant Led Inspection into areas of Homelessness commenced in August with two experienced tenant inspectors and one new to the process, the team meet weekly to look at how relevant policy and procedures work as well as carrying out interviews with staff and customers. The

final report will be presented to Senior Management in December with a full action plan developed soon afterwards.

‘Al Nour’ (meaning Light) the new community group for Syrian Refugees has welcomed new families to West Lothian. The Group was established to allow families an opportunity to meet in a safe and secure environment to become more confident in communicating in English allowing them to integrate into their communities and become more independent. The group have received Office Bearer training and have now elected office bearers and drawn up a workplan

TIS Event the TP Team and a member of the Tenants Panel were asked to take part in an event where they gave a presentation on West Lothian approach to scrutiny of the Housing Revenue Account which was received with great enthusiasm

Street Environmental Site visits Members of the Capital Programme Working Group visited a few sites with the potential to have work carried out through the Street Environmental projects in the coming months.

New Tenants Groups - the TP Team have been working with local offices to support them in starting up new tenants groups. Staff in Broxburn and West Calder have held initial meetings with tenants from our new build sites in the Kirkhill and Fauldhouse areas who are interested in setting up a tenants group.. It is hoped more tenants will come along and discuss local issues pertinent to them and their communities.

RTO in Bathgate East – For several month the staff in the local office and the TP Team tried to encourage tenants and residents from the Bathgate East area to get involved with their local group but with many failed attempts the existing membership continued to fall and those few remaining felt it could no longer fulfil the aims of the group. At the September meeting it was agreed that the group would be dissolved.

Housing Networks continue to meet on the third Tuesday of the month at th Tenants Resource Centre in Whitburn. Members of the Network discuss with staff areas of Housing Services and look at performance information to ensure we are accountable for our results.

Tenants who have shown an interest in joining an evening Network will be invited to the first meeting which will be held at the beginning of November.

Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Ongoing issues in Ladywell continue and a method of resolving the situation is now developed driven by the SNT to bring all the necessary agencies together to resolve the situation.

Several warnings previously served have produced successful outcomes and no further complaints received. Area patrols have also been conducted in the ward area resulting in a number of customers spoken to re minor ASB issues.

Reassurance visits were carried out to owners and council tenants in relation to repeat disturbances in the area due to ambulances and police attending an RSL property.

Police have charged an individual following a joint visit for a report of ASB at a tenancy where ASB warnings were previously administered.

E CONCLUSION

To note the contents of the report.

BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person: Sandy Ross, Area Housing Manager, Livingston Housing Office, 01506 283973
Sandy.ross@westlothian.gov.uk

Alistair Shaw, Head of Housing Customer and Building Services

Date: 8th November 2018



LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PENSIONERS' CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2018

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 the allocations made from the Pensioners' Christmas Fund 2018 to groups in the Livingston North ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the committee notes that seven groups within Livingston North ward applied to the fund and have been supported.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Being honest, open and accountable. Focussing on our customers' needs. Making best use of resources. Working in partnership.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	The duty of Best Value is set out in the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	The Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration has the delegated authority to make the final allocations and payments.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	SOA 5 - Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Total fund of £29,054 agreed by the council. £1,595.43 will be distributed in the Livingston North ward.
VII Consideration at PDSP	Following consideration at all nine Local Area Committees, an update will be prepared for the Voluntary Organisations PDSP.
VIII Other consultations	Similar reports will be prepared for the other

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

Council approves the Pensioners' Christmas Fund each year. In 2018 the total fund amounts to £29,054. The fund is divided by the total number of beneficiaries which, in 2018, is 5,663. By using that number the global unit cost for 2018 is £5.13 per beneficiary (£29,054 / 5,663). In Livingston North ward there are 311 beneficiaries and an allocation of £1,595.43. A full report on the final allocations will be made to the Voluntary Organisation PDSP later in the year. Letters were issued to groups in late October advising them of the amount of funding they will receive and asking for any outstanding information. Payments made directly to the bank accounts of groups during November via PECOS.

D2 Applications 2018: Livingston North ward

Seven application forms were issued to groups across Livingston North ward, with all seven being returned and the groups supported. Appendix one shows the groups supported and the allocation to each.

D3 Applications 2018: Livingston-wide & West Lothian-wide organisations

One application was sent to a Livingston-wide group. The application form was returned and the group has been supported. Three applications were issued to West Lothian-wide groups, and two have been returned. The two groups will be supported. The third group, West Lothian Visually Impaired Club has now dissolved. Appendix two shows the groups and the allocation to each.

E. CONCLUSION

The report advises of the allocations that have been made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2018 to groups in Livingston North ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

A full report on the final allocations will be made to the Voluntary Organisation PDSP later in the year. Letters were issued to groups in late October advising them of the amount of funding they will receive and asking for any outstanding information. Payments made directly to the bank accounts of groups during November via PECOS.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Voluntary Organisations Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel, Review of the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund Process 2011, Report By Head Of Area Services.

Appendices/Attachments: Two

Appendix 1: Allocations 2018 Livingston North Ward

Appendix 2: Allocations 2018 Livingston-wide and West Lothian-wide Organisations

Contact Person: Scott McKillop, Community Regeneration Officer, scott.mckillop@westlothian.gov.uk

Craig McCorriston
Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

Date: 15 September 2016

LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2018

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

Appendix 1: Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund Allocations 2018 in Livingston North Ward

Group	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount
Deans Senior Citizen Club	30	£153.90
Hanover Court Residents Association	23	£117.99
Livingston Village Community Education Association	50	£256.50
Mosswood Community Centre Management Committee	70	£359.10
Pentland View Court Social Club	32	£164.16
Restondene Social Fund	26	£133.38
Society of St. Vincent De Paul (St Peter's, Livingston) Conference	80	£410.40
Totals	311	£1,595.43

Note:

LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2018

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

Appendix 2: Allocations 2018: Livingston-Wide & West Lothian-Wide Organisations

Group	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount
Braid House Day Centre	150	£769.50
Total	150	£769.50

Group	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount
West Lothian 50+ Network	350	£1,795.50
West Lothian Financial Inclusion Network	400	£2,052.00
Total	750	£3,847.50

Note: West Lothian Visually Impaired Club has now dissolved.



LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY REGENERATION UPDATE

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Local Area Committee of progress towards developing a regeneration plan within the ward, and other related activities.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes:

1. the first version of the Knightsridge Regeneration Plan;
2. an update on the local regeneration group for Knightsridge area; and
3. update on the local projects and activities in the Knightsridge area which contribute towards regeneration efforts.

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.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 PDSP.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

Background

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. One of the identified areas is Livingston Central, which covers the communities of Knightsridge, Ladywell and Dedridge.

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.

Regeneration Plan

The first version of the plan has been developed and agreed by the Knightsridge Regeneration Group, and is in Appendix A.

As the LAC will be aware, this is built on the wide community engagement exercise which was undertaken across last year (2017) and involved 160 short interviews with local residents of all ages and demographics. Following further consultation with residents, this led to the following three priorities being agreed to focus activity on which the action plan has been structured around:

- a) Improving access to services and amenities
- b) More community activity, play and learning opportunities
- c) The environment and community safety

Whilst this is the first version of the plan, partners have already identified areas for further action with the plan which will be worked on in the meantime and built into the next version of the plan. Based on the discussion at the meeting, future consideration will be given to:

- how the plan can present the capacity building work which is ongoing and whether this should be a cross-cutting theme across the existing priorities or whether it should be a priority in itself.
- how we can reference the wider objectives of bringing in external funding to the community, developing volunteers/ volunteering and generally making the best use of local resources.

The Vennie

Updates from the Vennie project are as follows:

- 12 children and young people from the Vennie were accompanied by four staff members and volunteers on a week-long expedition to the youth residential facility, Hopscotch, in the western Highlands. Activities included horse riding, gondola ride, hillwalking, beach playing, sea life centre, food prep and serving, life skills, capacity building and group work.
- The Saturday night project in partnership with CLD Youth Services starts on 3 November. This was initially trialled for four Saturday's during the summer holidays and is looking to target older young people which has been identified locally as a gap in provision. This will run for 7 weeks until Christmas time and will be monitored and evaluated and, pending it being a success, further funding will be sought to continue it into 2019.
- The Vennie hosted a Halloween party for its young people.
- The Vennie were successful in gaining £1000 from the Livingston Round Table's Dragons Den events and received £400 in donations from local benefactors.
The Vennie will be preparing food hampers and toys for local deserving families this Christmas.
- The Vennie received a cheque of £200 donated by the Linlithgow Folk Festival.
- Young people from the Vennie may be going to support the Pensioners Christmas Lunch on 8 December. Plans are also in place for the annual Santa's Grotto event which takes place at the Community Garden.

As the LAC will be aware, the Vennie are one of the organisations who have been ring-fenced to apply to the council's Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration Revenue Grants 2019/20. The Community Regeneration Officer will be supporting the project over the next month in their development of an application to this.

Knightsridge Facilities Community Survey

The survey has been finalised. Local residents who are on the Regeneration Groups helped carry out in excess of 40 surveys at a parents evening's at Knightsridge Primary School in early October. More surveys will be carried out, putting this online will also be considered. A volunteer with the Vennie is helping to collate the results.

Bus Provision

Following the success of the Regeneration Group's approach to First Bus to include a bus link to Carmondean neighbourhood centre as part of their re-provisioning in summer 2018. As part of these new provisions, however, the bus link to Bathgate was lost which had been identified as a concern by residents at the time it was a proposal. However, the new X27 Lothian Country service provides this missing link which means there has been no loss of service for the community following the changes.

Mosswood Community Centre

In early October, a volunteer from the management committee provided a First Aid training session for management committee members as well as the Gala Day committee and Vennie staff. This will help enable these groups to run activities and events in the community going forward.

Community Learning and Development - Youth Services (CLD – Youth Services)

In terms of the previous Tuesday and Friday children's clubs which ran in Mosswood, CLD Youth Services have advised the management committee that they will not be continuing the Tuesday club, which previously had a weekly average of 5.5 young people per week. However, the Friday club will continue (which had an average of nine young per week) from 14 September to 7 December. CLD Youth Services have advised the committee that if they wish the Friday club to continue beyond December they will need to fund this. The management committee have agreed to review the success of the new format before deciding on this.

Environmental Visual Audit (EVA)

The Community Regeneration Officer will be looking to follow up on the outstanding actions from the EVA action plan which will be reported on at the next meeting of the Local Area Committee.

There has been progress on one of the main actions since the last Local Area Committee. The Area Housing Manager had a site visit with the chair of the community council to the environment around the Logan Way shop. In the meantime, the Area Housing Manager has actioned Building Services to undertake remedial work to the bricked beds there.

E. CONCLUSION

Knightsridge is part of the Livingston Central regeneration area for which a regeneration plan is being developed. An update on progress will be brought to the next meeting of the Local Area Committee.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

West Lothian Regeneration Framework 2014-2034.

Appendices/Attachments: One

Attachments: Appendix A – Knightsridge Regeneration Plan

Contact Person: Scott McKillop, Community Regeneration Officer, 01506 281082
scott.mckillop@westlothian.gov.uk

Craig McCorriston, Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

8 November 2018.

Knightsridge

Draft Regeneration Plan 2018-27

Version 1: October 2018



Assets

Priorities

Action

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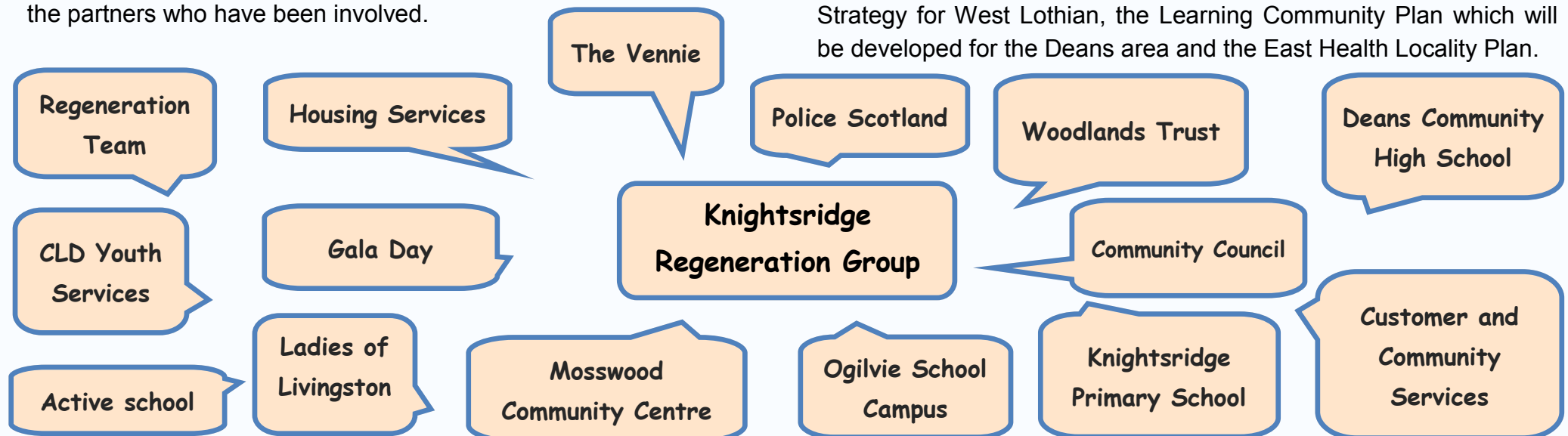


INTRODUCTION

Why Regeneration Plans?

The Community Empowerment Act 2015 states that all Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland must develop plans for those communities which experience the poorest outcomes. These plans must identify local priorities and detail actions to be taken to reduce inequalities. In West Lothian thirteen 'regeneration areas' have been identified, of which Knightsridge is one. All of the identified regeneration areas have data zones within the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

This plan has been created by the Knightsridge Regeneration Steering Group. The group was brought together with the specific purpose of creating this long term plan for the area and it is made up of people from local community groups, council services and other agencies who work or live in Knightsridge. The boxes below detail the partners who have been involved.



The plan has been created by using information from a number of sources. Firstly, community views have been gathered through a process of local engagement and consultation. The engagement data has then been collated and considered alongside statistical information from sources such as the Census, Scotpho and SIMD, and the local knowledge of the partners on the steering group.

This is a living document covering the next ten years and will evolve and develop with the community. The plan will describe how we are going to work better locally and in partnership. It will summarise the consultation taken place so far and set out a number of actions to be taken to create positive change in the community. In addition, this plan will link to other areas of work which we know affect or will have an impact on Knightsridge. Examples of this include the Anti-Poverty Strategy for West Lothian, the Learning Community Plan which will be developed for the Deans area and the East Health Locality Plan.

HISTORY OF THE AREA

Knightsridge is situated in the town of Livingston. Livingston is Scotland's fourth new town, designated in 1962 to ease the pressure of overcrowded cities. They chose this area on the banks of the River Almond due to its scenery of the Pentland hills to the south and Bathgate hills to the north. A key factor in its success has been its location. It is about fifteen miles west of Edinburgh and thirty miles east of Glasgow situated beside the M8. Livingston also has three railway stations: Livingston North, South and Uphall Station. Livingston is considered one of the most successful out of the five new towns and acts as the administrative, economic and shopping centre for the whole of West Lothian.

Not long after the construction of Craigshill and Howden began, the construction of Knightsridge started in 1968 and finished in 1980. The streets are named after surnames with the suffix Way i.e. Davidson Way, Barclay Way, and Gordon Way. Knightsridge is home to the Mosswood Community Centre which provides a facility for groups such as the Ladies of Livingston.

There is a community garden and the Vennie runs community projects focusing on the young people in the area. Knightsridge has a primary school and nursery and the young people access high schools in other areas.

The area also has Mosswood Community Centre, which has a café area, computer suite, hall, nursery area and youth room.

Knightsridge has seen many changes over the past 30 years, at one point the area was thriving and had an active community centre, hair dressers, butchers, lawyers, post office, pub and various clubs and activities available for children and young people to take part in. In the recent years though Knightsridge has been unfortunate to lose many of these facilities.



RECENT ACTIVITY IN THE AREA

Previous community consultation

In 2015, residents who took part in a Health Issues in the Community course undertook a questionnaire with 350 local people of all ages. The findings from this were that people wanted to see more family activities, sports and more of a choice of activities.

Along with the Ladies of Livingston, they put on a four week summer programme of daily activities.

Ladies of Livingston

The Ladies of Livingston started to meet in 2014 and are an active friendship group of local women of all ages from the community. They meet weekly and activities are a mix of arts and crafts activities and outings. They are supported by the council's Adult Learning Team.

Star Paths

Young people from the 'Vennie Voice' youth forum have been working with Young Scot and SEStrans (South East of Scotland Partnership) over the past two years as part of a project across Scotland to look at young people developing solutions to safe active travel.

The young people had the idea of glow-in-the-dark discs being embedded within pavements to increase visibility in the dark and make them less intimidating. They were selected to develop their idea which they have called 'Star Paths'. Two paths in Knightsridge along the railway are being trialled for this.

The Vennie

The Vennie project, in its current form, was initiated in 2008. It provides children's and youth work from the Vennie building which also

has the adventure playground and skate park next to it. The Vennie also provides the community garden, next to Mosswood Community Centre. They run holiday programmes and have community events including Santa's Grotto. In 2018, as part of a consortium of community groups in West Lothian they received funding which has enabled them to employ a community development worker in Knightsridge to help make things happen in the community.

Knightsridge Gala Day

A new committee formed in the summer of 2018 and they are planning to provide its first gala day in May 2019. They held a community fundraising event in September 2018

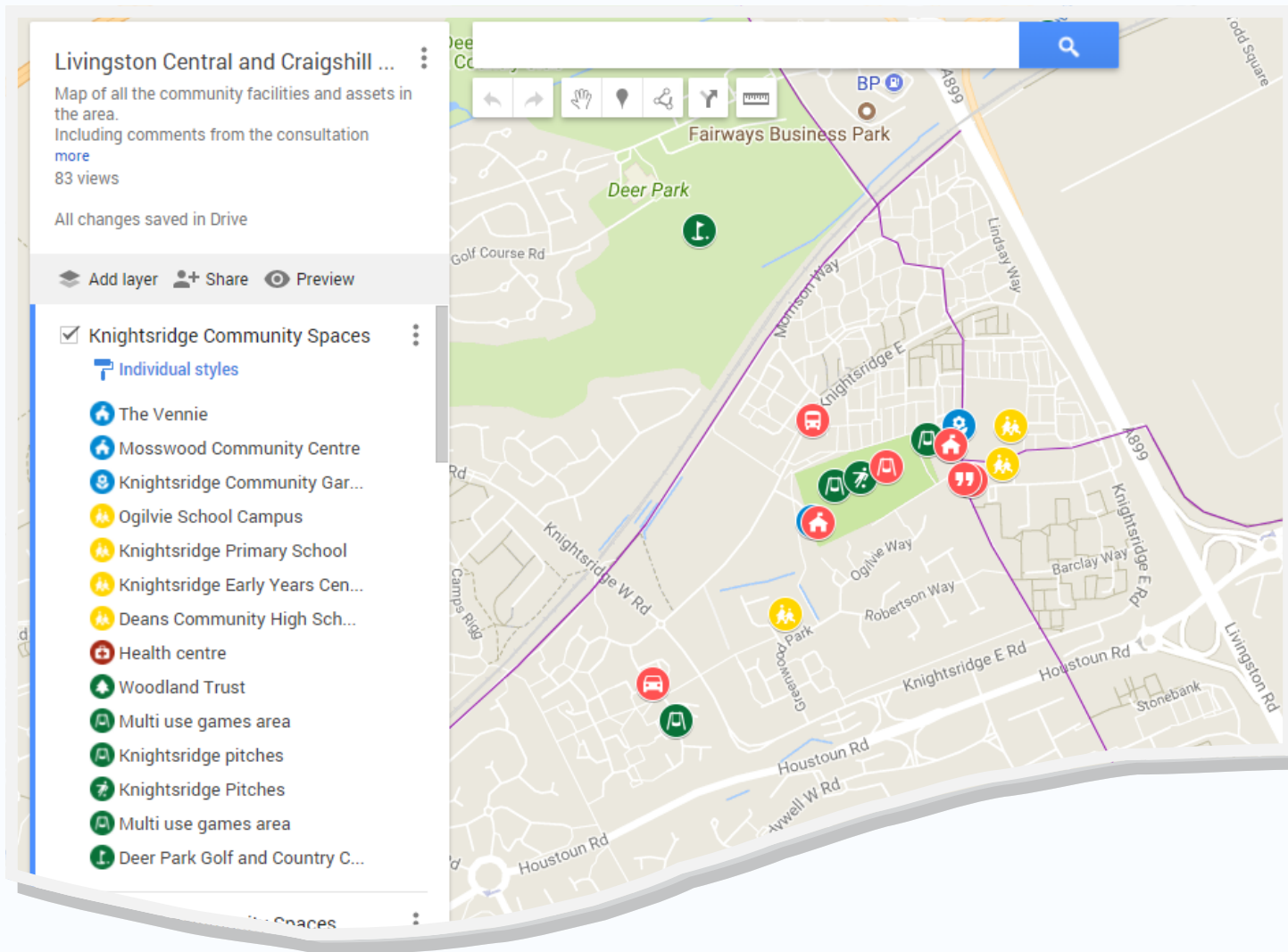
Mosswood Community Centre

There has been a management committee in place for a number of decades now. The centre includes a modern sports/assembly hall and café area which is seen as a real community asset which the rejuvenated management committee are looking to utilise again.

Community Council

The Community Council in Knightsridge formed in the summer of 2018. An interim election for the community council took place in September due to the high level of interest from people wishing to get involved in order to allow more people to join. In addition to their meetings, they are undertaking regular walkabouts around the community with a focus on improving the environment in and around Knightsridge.

AREA PROFILE: Interactive map



Community Map

This is Knightsridge's interactive community map. It is part of Livingston Centrals and Craigshill map. You can find it on our website:

**[www.cragroup.co.uk/
livingston-central](http://www.cragroup.co.uk/livingston-central)**

Click on the icons to find out what is happening there.

Interactive maps are being developed for the regeneration areas across West Lothian. These provide partners on local regeneration groups a place to store all their information on activities, facilities and even plans for their communities. The information can be used for leaflets or newsletter and is available online and can be used as part of webpages or Facebook posts.

AREA PROFILE

OUR COMMUNITY

3,920

Estimated population of Knightsridge¹



Life expectancy



77.9yrs Knightsridge

77.9yrs West Lothian



81.9yrs Knightsridge

80.5yrs West Lothian

Community assets and strengths

The Vennie

Community Garden

Mosswood Community Centre

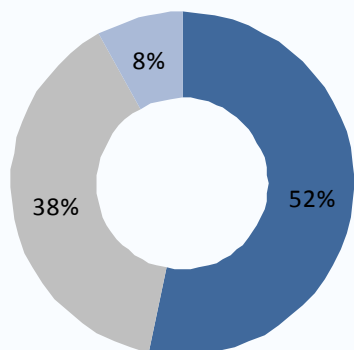
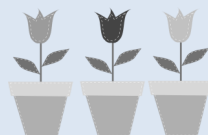
Ladies of Livingston

Path links

Community Council

Knightsridge Gala Day

New bus links



- Owner occupied
- Social Rented
- Private Rented



There are 1,643 dwellings with 99% occupied¹

KEY STATISTICS



13% of young people are not in education, employment or training compared to the West Lothian average of 7%⁴



2 out of the 5 neighbourhoods are within the 20% most deprived in Scotland according to the SIMD⁴



19% is the percentage of children in poverty in Livingston North compared to the West Lothian average of 22%⁵



The crime rate is **306** this is slightly higher than West Lothian's (287)⁴ This is the number of crimes per 100,000 people per year),



15% employment deprivation. This is higher than the West Lothian average (10%)⁴



The annual median income is **£31,429** compared to West Lothians £32,994³

Sources: ¹Census Data 2011; ²Scotpho 2011; ³Local Level Average Household income estimates 2014; ⁴SIMD 2016; ⁵Campaign to End Child Poverty 2018

CONSULTATION: METHODS

'H-Diagrams'

The 'H-diagram' is a simple tool which we have used to engage with those who live in the area. It consists of asking people, in person, what they **like** about their area, **don't like** and any **ideas** they have to make it better. These were conducted as mini-interviews which, though more time consuming, meant we were able to drill down to the details of the issue or idea. For example if someone said they liked the park we would ask them to explain what it is about the park that they like. On the back of the H-diagram is demographic information questions this allowed us to make sure we got a good representation of the community.

The information gathered is to support the Community Regeneration process; plan, develop and coordinate services and activities. If you would like a copy of the report or to be kept informed please leave your contact details below.

Name.....Address.....Contact Number.....E-mail.....

Please Note The equality information will be collected and used for statistical purposes to support the work of the Community Regeneration Action Group. This statistical information will also be available to the West Lothian Community Planning Partnership to help shape services at a strategic level for the West Lothian Communities. We are happy for the equality information to be collected and used for the above purpose please sign and date the form.

Signature.....Date.....

Who have we spoken to?

We undertook short interviews with 160 residents

- Visiting Carmondean Health Centre;
- Speaking with parents outside Knightsridge Primary School gates;
- Community representatives speaking with their neighbours;
- Knightsridge customers engaged with at the Council Information Service at Arrochar House on Almondvale Boulevard;
- The Vennie speaking with young people who use the facility, plus parents and volunteers;
- Members of the Ladies of Livingston;
- Street interviews.
- 'Knightsridge Angels' coffee morning
- Knightsridge Primary School P5/4 pupils
- Local young people who attend Youth Action Project groups.

Following this, and after collecting all the responses, the Regeneration Group held an online survey asking for the communities views on the findings, 60 residents responded.

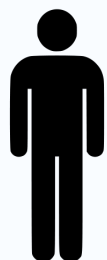
CONSULTATION: WHO TOOK PART

160 people completed the survey



56%

Females

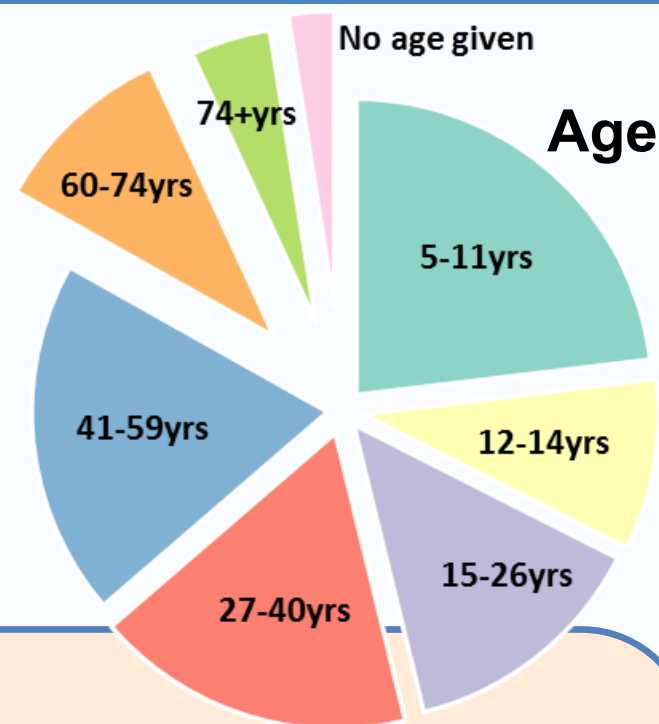


38%

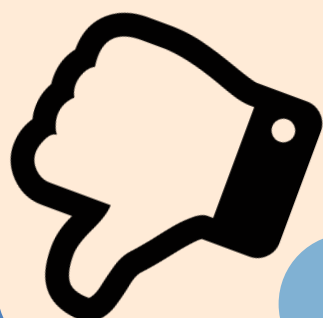
Males

6% Non disclose

32% of people who provided their postcode live in SIMD most deprived 20%



What you rated Knightsridge out of 10



2
(3%)

3
(7%)

4
(6%)

5
(20%)

6
(10%)

7
(26%)

8
(17%)

9
(5%)

10
(7%)



CONSULTATION: FINDINGS

All the information from the H Diagrams and Place Standards were gathered together. The comments on the H Diagrams were split up under the place standard themes. When we asked people what they liked about Knightsridge this allowed us to identify what the communities assets were. By asking what they don't like and any ideas to make it better, this has helped identify priorities and areas for action.

What we like



Play and Recreation 113 comments

The Vennie– Football pitches– parks– clubs for kids

Social Interaction 91 comments

Friends close by– everyone is friendly– neighbours

Identity and Belonging 66 comments

Family live here– community spirit– grew up here

Learning and Education 50 comments

Good schools– teachers are nice and helpful

What we don't like



Facilities and amenities 134 comments

Care and maintenance 102 comments

Feeling safe 62 comments

Play and recreation 38 comments

Our ideas



Facilities and amenities 94 comments

Play and recreation 78 comments

Care and maintenance 43 comments

Feeling safe 25 comments

CONSULTATION: MAIN THEMES

This section sets out the four main themes that came out through the consultation. These are the themes which had the highest comments under what you don't like and ideas to make Knightsridge better. These themes have been used to help set the priorities for Knightsridge. As described on the following pages. Under each is examples of comments from the consultation.

Theme 1

Facilities and amenities

Facilities and amenities include shops, schools, nurseries, libraries, GP surgeries and place to eat and meet friends.

Snapshot of consultation comments:

"Local shops closing down"

"Need to go to Ladywell to get money"

"Pub being closed means there is little for the community"

"would like a community café where people can meet friends"



Theme 2

Play and recreation

Good opportunities for play and recreation can improve the health and wellbeing of the community.

Snapshot of consultation comments:

"Nothing for young children to do"

"Lack of children's groups"

"More and bigger parks"

"More community activities"

"More groups for youths and younger children"

"More activities for teenagers particularly older age groups"

"need a decent park use the space outside school"



Theme 3

Feeling safe

How safe people feel in their area affects their wellbeing. Places that have been well designed can help reduce crime and antisocial behaviour.

Snapshot of consultation comments:

"Too many drugs around"

"Drunks on a Saturday night"

"more police"

"Fighting and arguments between neighbours"

"only see the police after the event"



Theme 4

Care and maintenance

If an area is taken care of and has good maintenance it makes people feel positive and those that are not have the opposite effect.

Snapshot of consultation comments:

"Litter and rubbish being dumped in the trees next to the football field"

"Dog mess especially on school paths and grass"

"Graffiti"

"The area looks run down and needs some attention"

"Littering and fly tipping next to the houses"

"More litter bins"

"need a community clean up"

"introduced fines for dog poo"

CREATING PRIORITIES

In terms of developing priorities, the community consultation detailed on the last few pages has identified a number of issues and opportunities within the community.

Whilst the responses were categorised using the Scottish Government's Place Standard themes, the regeneration group felt that we need to stick with the issues as local people seen them, hence they are slightly different.

Following the initial consultation, the regeneration group proposed four priorities based on the responses and an online survey was created in which the community provided feedback on these.

Following the online survey, the four priorities were merged into the three priorities on the other side of this page, and which the action plan is based on.

Moving forward, continuing to speak with the community and involving more members of the community in the activity of the group, will help us further understanding of the needs, skills and opportunities in the community. This may mean the priorities alter as time goes on, also as circumstances in the community change over time

There needs to be a better understanding the circumstances affecting those who experience deprivation in the community. There are two neighbourhoods in the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple

Deprivation (which ranks every neighbourhood in Scotland in order of 'deprivation', with the bottom 20% being classed as those areas which require most support) which are the Davidson Way—Gordon Way and the Lindsay Way—Nicholson Way areas.



CREATING PRIORITIES

Priority A: Access to Amenities & Engagement with Services

This priority relates to the services and amenities provided by this area. It was also recognised however, that it can relate more generally to accessing services, given some of these are at Carmondean (the health centre, Morrison's supermarket, the train station and, now, to access the post office) which will incorporate greater access to that area i.e. via the bus service.

The loss of the Harvester has had an impact on the community and once the building is demolished, the future use of the site is both of concern and interest to the community. More broadly, and related to the poor statistics for deprivation in the Knightsridge neighbourhood, it is recognised that some people in the community are isolated or requiring a lot of support and some may find difficulty in accessing the services and information that would support them.

The ongoing pressures to public finances to public services (i.e council services, policing, health services) and to voluntary/ community groups in the area, and the impact this could have on Knightsridge in the longer term. Therefore the need to plan

for these and see how local public services can work better together to counteract this. Consideration needs to be given to see whether there could be additional outreach services provided within Knightsridge but acknowledged these cuts would make that difficult without a case.

CREATING PRIORITIES

Priority B: Activities & play/ learning opportunities in the community

This priority reflects the desires from the consultations to see more activities and opportunities for the community, in particular, but not exclusive, to young people.

The regeneration group recognises that part of the perception of some in the community that there isn't 'much to do' may be due to a lack of awareness, that there is not a lot of information out there about what happens in Knightsridge that residents can easily access. However, there are some existing things that could be built on i.e. there is a noticeboard outside the shops and there is a school newsletter. It was noted there was no Knightsridge correspondent at the Courier currently and felt that a Knightsridge community Facebook page may be a simple method for communicating with those who are online.

It was agreed that promoting all this could involve a number of methods but this would require people from the community to get involved to help identify events and activities, and assist in the promotion of these.

It was noted that the feedback from the consultation also included outdoor play opportunities.

The potential for more activities and use of Mosswood Community Centre has been identified to increase community interaction and in terms of the 'more things' residents would like to see happen, the regeneration group is looking to survey residents on the types of activities they would like to see and participate in, so that community groups and services can then look to see what could be provided.

One 'gap' which has been identified by the group is a lack of activity for men in the area, therefore this will be an early action to speak with men in the area and see what activities would interest them.

CREATING PRIORITIES

Priority C: The Environment & Community Safety

This priority covers issues to do with anti-social behaviour, in particular to do with the environment such as vandalism, littering, fire-raising, dog fouling and perceptions of the area being unsafe.

It was also suggested the positive improvements to the general environment (in the open space areas or built environment like streets paths) would help the regeneration of the community.

Following the community consultation, an 'Environmental Visual Audit' was carried out, led by Police Scotland. This identified a number of areas for improvement, some of which were resolved right away whilst other will require long-term attention.

Since formed, Knightsridge Community Council has also had a particular interest in the outdoor environment and undertaken a number of regular walks around the area.

Knightsridge also has very good path and cycle links, open space and woodland areas which provides opportunities for the schools and community.



PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS: Priority A

Priority A1	Regeneration Plan Priority: Access to Amenities and Engagement with Services		
Key Issues /needs identified: Improve the shopping precinct			
Current position: The precinct has lost the post office and the loss of the Harvester has meant there is less in the neighbourhood centre. The condition of the area has also deteriorated despite relatively recent investment in the area.		Outcome:	
How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: Our economy is diverse and dynamic, and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing business Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment. Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Maintain contact with the Post Office to ensure that the vacancy for a postal service in Knightsridge continues to be promoted and is available	????		
Bringing the café in Mosswood back into use.	Management Committee		As of October 2018, the committee is looking to re-open the café through volunteers. There has also been other interest utilising the café.
Improvements to the Cameron Way shops: ⇒ power-wash the outside of the block of shops ⇒ encourage the shop owners to take up the council’s Shop Front Improvement Scheme	West Lothian Council/ potentially the tenants	Following clearance of Harvester site	
Continued promotion of the vacant shop in the block of units at Cameron Way	Property Management and Development (WLC)		

PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS:

Priority A2	Regeneration Plan Priority: To provide better support to people in Knightsridge experiencing poverty		
Key Issues /needs identified: Two datazones or ‘neighbourhoods’ in Knightsridge are within the bottom 20% in Scotland (one of which is in the bottom 5%). These areas score poorly across all domains apart from ‘Housing’. As part of the wider community development, increased engagement and support from services is required to provide the most effective support to the most disadvantaged individuals and families.			
Current position: There is a lack of clarity and detail around the scale and depth of the work public services and charities are doing in Knightsridge, and the specific needs of some groups in the local community		Outcome: There will be an evidence base for Knightsridge to better plan services and local interventions on and activities that support the most disadvantaged people are developed.	
How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• People most at risk are protected and supported to achieve improved life chances• We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities.• Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Carry out survey of services that operate within Knightsridge to identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ the scale and depth of services working in the area-⇒ the issues those services see people in the community facing⇒ gaps in service which may provide opportunities for volunteering/community projects⇒ enhance partnership working opportunities	Various	To have report provided prior to end of December 2018.	
Engage with residents in the community to get better understanding of how they can be better supported	Various	Early 2019	
Consider options for how to support people on low incomes in the absence of access to cash i.e. credit union support, mobile cash service.	Regeneration Group		
Development of food initiative which would be provided in Mosswood utilising the cafe	Vennie Mosswood		
Look into developing a local activity which pulls in local isolated, older people	Red Cross volunteers Vennie, Regeneration		

PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS: Priority A

Priority A3	Regeneration Plan Priority: Access to Amenities and Engagement with Services		
Key Issues /needs identified: Improve transport links with Carmondean Centre			
Current position: There is currently no bus that goes straight to Carmondean Centre		Outcome: Those in Knightsridge can access Carmondean Centre with ease.	
How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: Our economy is diverse and dynamic, and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing business			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Approach First Bus to request deviation of the 27/28 services routes to include Carmondean centre, and consideration of subsequent response.			First Bus has included this deviation as part of their proposal to change their routes.
Implementation and promotion of any further action following response from First Bus.			

PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS: Priority B

Priority B1	Regeneration Plan Priority: Activities & play/ learning opportunities in the community		
Key Issues /needs identified: More community activities and play opportunities: The consultation identified there was a lack of these. This will look at a number of aspects regarding better use of existing facilities, new and varied activities, especially but not exclusively for young people. Also improving informal play and leisure opportunities within parks.			
Current position:		Outcome:	
How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Create Knightsridge community news sections of the Courier	Vennie		Knightsridge section now well established and managed by Community Development Worker at the Vennie.
Creation of Facebook ‘Knightsridge Community News’ page.	Aspiring Communities		Page is now established and managed by Community Development Worker at the Vennie.
Explore potential link between local community pages/newsletters to Primary School newsletter.	Regeneration Group, KPS + DCHS		
Use and develop the Knightsridge Community Map (Google MyMap) as a promotional tool.	Vennie/ Regeneration Group		

PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS: Priority B

Priority B2	Regeneration Plan Priority: Activities & play/learning opportunities in the community		
Key Issues /needs identified: to increase the amount of community activities			
Current position: the community consultation identified a number of overlapping issues and wants related to more activities		Outcome:	
How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Undertake community survey around activities and facilities in the community	Vennie Mosswood Community Council Regeneration CLD Youth Services	October 2018	Survey created and will be carried out from the 9/10th October at Knightsridge PS Parents Evenings.
Engage with young people via focus groups from the schools, based on the community survey.	Vennie Regeneration CLD Youth Services Education	To be included in report provided prior to end of December 2018.	
Sub-group of local activity/ facility providers (Vennie, Mosswood etc.): -meet to discuss finding of survey and see what is possible ⇒ Identify the activities that people would like to see provided and see how they can be taken forward. ⇒ Promote agreed activities including the use of the interactive map for Knightsridge through Facebook any local websites.	Mosswood Vennie Other providers		
First Aid course undertaken through/by Mosswood Management Committee for volunteers from the committee, Gala Day committee and local childminders to enable groups to be able to put on more community events and activities	Mosswood, Gala Day, Childminders.	9 people trained. Further session on 21 October	

PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS: Priority B

Priority B3	Regeneration Plan Priority: activities & play/ learning opportunities in the community		
Key Issues /needs identified: whilst most of the ‘more activities/more things to do’ comments in the community consultation were general or vague, an element of these were for more things for young people, in particular ‘older young people’.			
Current position: the below actions are in addition to the core work that the Vennie project provides from its building and its range of youth clubs for different ages and boys/girls groups.		Outcome: partners take a joint approach to ensure provision for young people meets their needs, makes best use of partners resources and utilises external funding.	
How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunitiesWe live in resilient, cohesive and safe communitiesWe live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Joint approach of local youth providers for a Saturday night youth drop-in aimed at teenagers	Vennie CLD Youth Services	October – December 2018	
Continuation of Friday club in Mosswood for P1-P&7 young people	CLD Youth Services Mosswood	October – December 2018.	The club be reviewed with CLD Youth Services and Mosswood Management Committee.
Partners look for opportunities to bring in external funding into the area to support youth provision	Various		
Reinstate missing piece of equipment in park at Moncrieff Way (based on community consultation)	Nets, Land and Country-side Services	June 2018	Completed in June 2018
The Vennie project continues to provide children’s/ youth work *NEED TO EXPAND*	Vennie		
Look into the potential for a new playground which is fully accessible for disabled people	Community Council WLC Playparks		

PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS: Priority C

Priority C1	Regeneration Plan Priority: The Environment & Community Safety		
Key Issues /needs identified: Feeling safe: This is related to a range of anti-social behaviours and problems with neighbours and substance misuse. Also relating to littering vandalism, fly-tipping, dog-fouling etc.			
Current position :		Outcome:	
How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment. We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Explore possibility of tool lending scheme.	Aspiring Communities Community Garden		
Use community events to raise awareness of environmental issues in relation with woodland areas.	All partners/ Woodlands Trust		
Litter picking campaign with the schools, culminating in events at local venues. - involving the three local schools—Knightsridge P.S., Ogilvie Campus and Deans C.H.S.	The Vennie, Local Schools, Woodland Trust	May— Mosswood June— Gardens August— Vennie	Litter pick campaign completed and deemed very successful.
Organised litter picks in the longer term following very successful litter pick campaign across the summer in 2018.	Community Council	Spring 2019	

PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS: Priority C

Priority C2	Regeneration Plan Priority: The Environment & Community Safety		
Key Issues /needs identified: The need to identify hotspot areas within the community that require attention			
Current position :		Outcome:	
How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan: We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment. We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Undertake an Environmental Visual Audit of Knightsridge looking at areas of concern informed by the community consultation and problem areas for services such as Police, Fire and Council.	Police Scotland Vennie Woodland Trust Residents Council (various)	May 2018	This was completed and identified the below areas for improvement
Implementation of the EVA action plan. Remaining actions include: ⇒ Removal of fly-tipping from along the railway line ⇒ Fixing of drainage issue in Nicholson Way underpass			
Consider developing a proposal to remedy and improve the common areas outside the shop at Logan Way	Housing Community Council NETs	???	
Remedial works to brickwork planters and fences in common areas outside Logan Way	Housing		Improvements were due to commence on 10.9.2018 and last for four weeks.
Consideration of project to improve the underpasses	Community Council		

STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE

This plan will be updated as the communities priorities change over the next 10 years.

- The plan is fluid in that it will be developed on an ongoing basis. This is likely to mean that new action and themes will be added and some initial actions and themes drop off.
- Whilst engagement and consultation have helped to shape the initial actions and themes opportunities to consult and engage community members will be built in to help to keep the community up to date.
- The Plan itself will be updated each year to update the community and partners and refresh the plan going forward.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Useful links:

The Vennie's website

<http://www.thevennie.co.uk/>

Mosswood Community Centre

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/6477/Mosswood-Community-Centre>

'Your Community Livingston' Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/yourcommunitylivingston/>

'Knightsridge Community News' Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Knightsridge-Community-News-346610455851309/>

Knightsridge Gala Day Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/knightsridgechildrensgaladay/>

REGENERATION
OFFICER

Name: Scott McKillop

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LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

SERVICE UPDATE – OPERATIONAL SERVICES

REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To appraise members of the Operational Services activities for Livingston North from 1 August 2018 – 30 September 2018.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to:

1. Note the work carried out by the service within the local area.
2. Advise of any areas that require further information or investigation.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

Focusing on our customers' needs; making best use of our resources; working in partnership	
I Council Values	
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 August 2018 – 30 September 2018.

D2 NETs, Land and Countryside Services

Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

Routine grass cutting and weed control continue in the ward. There have been five grass cutting visits with the reporting period, the second herbicide application on shrub beds and channels/hard areas have also been carried out. Other minor tasks have also been undertaken, mainly as a result of public enquiries. Hedge cutting is currently ongoing, with shrub bed renovation works scheduled to start in November.

The Land Audit Management score for September in the East area was 67, which is the target score.

D2.1 Grounds Maintenance Enquiries

In total 45 ground maintenance related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period for 2018.

	2018	2017
Ball Game Enquiries	1	2
Bench or Seat Enquiries	1	
Complaint Grounds Maintenance	1	1
Drainage Flooding Grass Areas		2
Enforcement Officer Enquiries	4	5
Fencing Enquiries		4
Garden Competition Enquiries	1	
Grass Area Damaged	2	5
Grass Cutting Enquiries	5	6
Grass Cutting Missed Not Cut	1	1
Grass Highway Verges		1
Grass Left on Paths or Roads	1	
Grounds Ownership Enquiries	1	6
Grounds Property Vandalised		2
Hedge Cutting Enquiries	2	6
Public Park Enquiries	2	
Shrub Bed Enquiries		7
Shrub Bed Overhanging Path	16	14
Shrub Beds Not Maintained	3	1
Shrub Bed Obscuring Sightline	1	1
Weeds General Enquiries	3	6
Weeds on Paths or Roads		3

(73)

D2.2 Garden Maintenance Routine Works

The routine grass and hedge cutting programmes were completed in mid-October.

D2.3 Garden Maintenance Enquiries

There were 12 garden maintenance enquiries received during this period for 2018.

	2018	2017
Complaint Garden Maintenance	1	
Garden Maintenance General Enquiries	4	4
Garden Maintenance Grass Not Cut	5	2
Garden Maintenance Hedge Cutting	1	1
Garden Maintenance Standard of Cut	1	1

(8)

D2.4 Cleaner Communities Routine Works

The ward is covered by a mobile cleansing team consisting of five operatives and one compact sweeper. There is a backshift team of three operatives covering school routes, hot spot areas and enquiries throughout West Lothian. There is also a reduced level of staff on at the weekend covering West Lothian. We have two HGV sweepers that cover the whole of West Lothian.

Staff are continuing to deal with enquiries and 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 82 cleaner communities enquiries were received and dealt with during this period in 2018.

	2018	2017
Complaint Street Cleansing		1
Dead Animal	4	5
Dog Fouled Kids Play Area		1
Dog Fouling on Paths/Roads	3	5
Dog Not Fouling Sign Request	1	
Dog Waste Bin New Request	3	5
Dog Waste Bin Overflowing	3	
Glass on Paths or Open Spaces	1	6
Graffiti Non Offensive	4	
Graffiti Racist or Offensive	2	1
Illegal Fly Posting	2	
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	31	15
Litter Bin Burnt Damaged	1	
Litter Bin Full Overflowing	1	1
Litter Bin New Request for Bin		2
Litter General Enquiries	2	6
Litter in Grass Open Space		1
Litter on Paths/Roads/Verges	3	6
Needles Syringes Abandoned	1	
Street Sweeping Enquiries	6	9
Trolleys Dumped in Livingston	1	
Vehicles Abandoned	13	19

(83)

D2.5 Enforcement Action

The team consists of two Senior Enforcement Officers, two Education Engagement Officers and eight Enforcement Officers. They are split into two teams of six officers to cover seven days a week on shifts, with one team on shift at a time.

Abandoned/nuisance vehicles have been dealt with throughout the ward gaining compliance following negotiation, verbal warnings, warning letters, official notices served or WLC contractor removal.

Compliance gained with a number of enquiries with tenants, owners or landowners. Removal of fly tipping following visits by Enforcement Officers - by giving verbal warnings or issuing warning letters, and then conducting follow up visits to ensure removal.

Officers have also engaged in partnership working with various agencies such as Housing Associations, Letting Agents, Woodlands Trust Scotland, Forestry Commission and WLC Waste Services.

Enforcement Officers have attended to enquiries in relation to various environmental issues within the area and carried out regular patrols of enquiries.

Education & Engagement Officer facilitated Community Spring Cleans registered with Keep Scotland Beautiful with youths from The Vennie. This was around Knightsridge, Livingston United Parish Church and Fells Rigg Area.

Education Officer carried out Dog Fouling stenciling around surrounding Knightsridge Railway Paths and also Middlewood Park area of Deans following complaint, and have participated in 'Give Your Litter a Lift' a national campaign being conducted by Keep Scotland Beautiful. They also took part during September with the Chewing Gum Action Group in a campaign where five temporary signs were erected at the roadside throughout West Lothian in relation to disposing of your gum in the bin.

Enforcement Officers have been assisting colleagues in Community Learning & Development Youth Services through the positive destinations programme by carrying out visits on their behalf as well as assisting colleagues from the licencing team to deliver urgent correspondence, complete licencing audits and checks within ward.

D2.6 Parks and Woodland Enquiries

In total 74 Parks and Woodland related enquiries were received during this reporting period. 20 enquiries were inspected but no works generated. 60 enquiries generated works instructions to programme and 4 works instructions were completed.

	2018	2017
Tree works completed for period	4	n/a
Tree works outstanding for LAC area	78	n/a
Tree enquiries not generating works orders	20	n/a
Tree Advice or Consultations	1	1
Tree Blocking Light		1
Tree Branches Overhanging	17	26
Tree Broken Damaged or Dead	7	1
Tree Dangerous or Unsafe	24	2
Tree Enquiries General	23	12
Tree Felling Work Unauthorised		1
Tree Planting Requests	1	
Tree Woodland Enquiries	1	

(44)

Dechmont Law - The press release for the new UFO trail around Dechmont Law was picked up by the press in September resulting in good coverage in the national newspapers and on television.

Ranger service carried out 8 hours work on Rights Of Way / Core Path / Patrols in the area.

Tree and Woodland Planned Works Update - Partnership working with Woodland Trust Scotland (WTS) to prepare a Long-term Forest Plan for the WLC and WTS woods throughout Livingston is continuing. The plan will outline the proposed felling, thinning and replanting required to ensure the future sustainability of these important urban woods. Consultation on this plan is due over the next few months.

Two Urban Woodland Plans, including tree work, path upgrades and associated works, have been drafted for the River Almond Woods and the Eliburn, Howden and Peel Woods in preparation for grant applications for Woods In and Around Towns Grants, administered by Forestry Commission Scotland.

D2.7 Open Space Capital Programme

Livingston North Blue/Green Network – the masterplan, report and WIAT (Woodlands In and Around Towns) grant applications are in the final stages.

Kestrel Brae Play Park upgraded as part of the Play Park Capital Programme.

Conclusion

The Capital Programme is progressing as planned.

Open Space Enquiries

There were three open space enquiry received during this period in 2018.

	2018	2017
Childrens Play Enquiries	2	
Glass or Litter in Play Areas	1	

D3 Roads and Transportation Service

Street Lighting Routine Works

Routine maintenance and repair work is currently progressing as scheduled in Livingston North.

During the period we received and dealt with 55 customer enquiries from residents. Throughout the same period last year we received 54 enquiries from residents.

Roads Maintenance and Operations - Capital Road Maintenance Programme

No works were carried out within the area, but designs are currently being undertaken for maintenance works to be carried out on Deans Road between Deans Roundabout and Barracks Roundabout and at Caputhall Road in Deans.

Knightsridge Road is also in this year's programme for carriageway resurfacing between Erskine Way and the turn off for Ladywell East. The left hand slip-road at this junction is also being removed as part of the council's road safety measures.

Works are also in the programme for carriageway patching at Livingston East Roundabout at Deer Park and Dechmont Roundabout. The playground at Carmondean Primary School is also being assessed for resurfacing.

D4 Waste Services

Customer Enquiries

During the period we received and dealt with 601 customer enquiries from residents in Livingston North. During the same period last year we received and dealt with 1020 customer enquiries.

118 customer enquiries were received and dealt with relating to missed bin collections in the local area. During the same period last year we received and dealt with 128 customer enquiries.

184 customer enquiries were received and dealt with relating to new bin grey, blue or brown bin requests for local residents. During the same period last year we received and dealt with 169 customer enquiries relating new bins.

E. CONCLUSION

Routine grass cutting and weed control continue in the ward.

Enforcement Officers have attended to enquiries in relation to various environmental issues within the area and carried out regular patrols.

Designs are still being undertaken for maintenance works to be carried out in the ward.

There has been a decrease in Waste customer enquiries and a decrease in the number of missed bins for local residents, compared to the same period last year.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Open Space Strategy

Capital Programme

Appendices/Attachments: NA

Contact Persons:

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Jim Jack
Head of Operational Services
6 November 2018



LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – AS OF NOVEMBER 2018

	Report	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date
1	Housing Report	Quarterly update on Housing Services activity	Sandy Ross	January 2019
2	Operational Services Report	To provide a quarterly update report on activity	Jim Jack	January 2019
3	Economic Development and Regeneration Report	To update on regeneration activity within the ward	Craig McCorriston	January 2019
4	Update on Ability Centre	To update the LAC on future plans regarding the Ability Centre	To be determined	January 2019
5	Report on common ground ownership in Eliburn	To provide members with a plan highlighting the council's ownership and maintenance responsibility for the common grounds in Eliburn Area.	Andy Johnston/Paul Kettrick	January 2019
6	Fire and Rescue	To provide an update on Operational Services activity	Desmond Donnelly	March 2019
7	Economic Development and Regeneration Report	To update on regeneration activity within the ward	Craig McCorriston	March 2019
8	Bus routes within ward	To inform members of the bus routes (commercial and publicly funded) operating within the ward area	Nicola Gill	March 2019
9	Housing Report	Quarterly update on Housing Services activity	Sandy Ross	May 2019
10	Operational Services Report	To provide a quarterly update report on activity	Jim Jack	May 2019
11	Economic Development and Regeneration Report	To update on regeneration activity within the ward	Craig McCorriston	May 2019

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC

12	Police Report	Quarterly update on police/NRT activity	Insp. Adam Smith	June 2019
13	Fire and Rescue	To provide an update on Operational Services activity	Desmond Donnelly	June 2019
14	Economic Development and Regeneration Report	To update on regeneration activity within the ward	Craig McCorriston	June 2019