



West Lothian
Council

Bathgate Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

3 February 2015

A meeting of the **Bathgate Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Bathgate Partnership Centre** on **Monday 9 February 2015** at **10:00am**.

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Order of Business, including notice of urgent business
3. 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.
4. Confirm Draft Minute of Meeting of Bathgate Local Area Committee held on Monday 10 November 2014 (herewith).
5. Presentation on Alzheimer's Scotland by Aileen Alland and Sheila Mutch.
6. Presentation on Bathgate Partnership Centre by Jim Saunders (Partnership Centre Manager).
7. Bathgate Multi-Member Ward Quarterly Performance Report - Report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (herewith).
8. Police Report Ward 8 Bathgate - Report by Police Inspector Andrew Elliot (herewith).
9. Report on Recent Successes, Achievements and Priorities for

Improvement in Bathgate Academy - Report by Grant Abbot, Head Teacher Bathgate Academy (herewith).

10. Housing, Construction and Building Services - Report by Head of Housing, Construction and Building Services (herewith).
11. Update from NET's Land & Countryside Services 25 October 2014 - 22 January 2015 - Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith).
12. Community Regeneration Update - Report by Head of Area Services (herewith).
13. Bathgate Local Area Committee 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 BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE of WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL held within BATHGATE PARTNERSHIP CENTRE, on 10 NOVEMBER 2014.

Present – Councillors Harry Cartmill (Chair), John McGinty, William Boyle, Jim Walker

In Attendance – Andrew Blake, Lead Officer, Douglas Benson, Regeneration Officer, David Lees, NET's, Sgt Fleming, Police Scotland, Kate Marshall, Community Health Champion

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. MINUTE

The committee confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 11 August 2014 as a correct record. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3.. UPDATE FROM NETS, LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES – 1 AUGUST TO 24 OCTOBER 2014

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services providing details of recent activity of NETS, Land and Countryside Services for the period 1 August to 24 October 2014. A breakdown of enquiries for grounds maintenance, street cleansing and environmental wardens were attached as a series of appendices to the report.

The report provided details of the work carried out by the Grounds Maintenance, NET's and Street Cleansing Teams noting that with regards to ground maintenance seasonal staff were due to finish on 31 October 2014 and the last grass cut would be in week ending 18 October 2014.

With regards to Environmental Wardens 5 fixed penalty notices had been issued between 1 August and 24 October 2014; 4 were for litter and 1 was for dog fouling. Environmental Wardens would continue to carry out regular patrols and had also been assisting Transportation by carrying out audits of school transport vehicles at various schools.

In conclusion NET's and Land Services would continue to work with all partners within the community and the Environmental Wardens would continue to carry out patrols in all ward areas.

It was recommended that the committee :-

1. Note the work carried out to date and future planned work; and

2. Advise of any areas that required further investigation or inclusion in future work plans.

Decision

To note the contents of the report

4. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE RESOURCE BASED CREWING ARRANGEMENTS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service advising of changes to the way the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) deployed its resources, through a Resource Based Crewing model, at Bathgate Fire Station.

The report recalled how legacy arrangements from Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Services utilised dedicated whole-time fire fighters to crew all specialist appliances. Resource Based Crewing (RBC) was a different approach that had been in operation for a number of years in other local authority areas.

RBC used whole-time fire-fighters to combine crews to maintain fire appliance availability as opposed to having a dedicated crew for each appliance. In achieving the principles of Fire Reform, the SFRS was seeking to employ a consistent approach as to how specialist appliances were crewed across Scotland.

The committee were further advised that there would be no reduction to frontline emergency service delivery in Bathgate and West Lothian areas, as the physical resource (appliances) would remain in place and unchanged. The change related to how SFRS provided crews for these appliances.

Appendix 1 attached to the report provided an overview of the SFRS resources based crewing arrangements within West Lothian.

Appendix 2 attached to the report provided an overview of how the frontline fire and rescue service tender and Incident Support Unit (ISU), based at Bathgate Fire Station, would be mobilised.

Appendix 3 attached to the report provided some contextualisation in the form of scenarios of how frontline fire and rescue tender and ISU, based at Bathgate Fire Station, would be mobilised.

Committee was invited to note the contents of the report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report

5. WARD 8 POLICE REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Inspector Andrew Elliot, Police Scotland, highlighting performance activities and police issues across the ward for the period up to 30 September 2014.

Contained within the report was a table of information demonstrating recorded and solved crimes in Groups 1 to 5 for the whole of West Lothian and for the Bathgate Ward comparing the year-to-date for both 2013 and 2014. The report also provided details of the recorded crimes in the ward for the period up to and including 30 September 2014, comparing the percentage change to the same period in 2013.

The report continued to provide members with information on the activities carried out by preventative patrols within the ward at key hot spot areas, working toward reducing recorded crime and ensuring a safer ward area for residents and visitors. The Community Police Team (CPT) was keen to be visible in the area which would have a positive effect on youth engagement and prevention.

Inspector Elliot continued to advise that alcohol related incidents continued to remain similar to last year and that the CPT would monitor progress during the winter months and over the festive period. Also during the reporting period the team had continued to carry out proactive licensed premise visits and utilise additional resources to provide a visible presence in the town centre at key times.

Details of the following activities and associated initiatives were also provided :-

- Reducing antisocial behaviour within communities;
- Reducing community and social harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse; and
- Violence prevention in the night time economy.

The report concluded within an update on forthcoming events including the lead-up to bonfire night.

Decision

To note the contents of the report

6. COMMUNITY HEALTH CHAMPIONS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive, Community Health and Care Partnership providing an update on the Community Health Champions approach.

The Depute Chief Executive advised that the Community Health Champions approach was continuing to evolve locally and across West Lothian. In accordance with agreed procedures the next stage in the

process would be to deliver training to elected members and to identify interested groups who may already be active in local areas.

With regards to elected member training this would be based on COSLA guidance – *Reducing Health Inequalities and Improving Health – What Councillors could do to make a difference*, issued in February 2013. The training would cover what health inequalities were, the social detriments of health and would include all aspects of the community leadership role, the partnership role, the constituency/representational role and policy and corporate role. The training had been adapted to a 45 minute bite size session and would be delivered by the Health Improvement Team. Training dates arranged to date were for 25 November 2014 and 13 January 2015.

With regards to engagement with community groups, the Community Health Champions hoped to draw on the experience of community members trained in evidence based community health development methodology. Interested community groups would be offered the opportunity to be trained in a shortened version of the well-established, evidence based Health Issues in the Community course, which would be delivered by officers trained in Community Development in Health. Commencing in January 2015, training would be rolled out with a view to achieving active community involvement in all ward areas.

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee note the contents of the report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report

7. HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING SERVICES

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Housing, Construction and Building Services providing an update on Housing, Construction and Building Services for the ward for the period July to September 2014.

The report provided information in relation to Property Void and Let Performance for Mainstream Tenancies and Temporary Tenancies for the period. It was noted that for the year-to-date there had been 47 mainstream tenancies and 27 temporary tenancies let by the Bathgate Team. It was noted that there had been an increase in property turnover in the Bathgate area as a result of the transfer-led Allocation Policy for the new build housing that had created secondary lets. This would mean more stock available to help house more applicants from the lists. Of the 150 units on the new build site, 79 properties had been allocated.

There were currently 19 Policy Voids in the ward due to properties being unable to be let due to health and safety reasons, properties awaiting demolition or being held for decant purposes at Rosemount Court.

Information was also provided on rent arrears noting that the Arrears Task Group would continue to meet throughout financial year 2014-15 as there

remained a number of challenges to the management of rental income due to the on-going phasing in of Welfare Reform, increasing fuel costs and reducing household incomes.

The report also provided commentary on a number of other work streams including Bathgate Area Team Activity, ward specific capital and environmental programmes, new council house build activity and tenant participation updates.

The committee was asked to note the Housing, Construction and Building Services activity update for the ward.

Decision

To note the contents of the report

8. PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2014

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Area Services advising of the allocation that were to be made from Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2014 to groups in the Bathgate Ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

The Head of Area Services explained that council approved the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund each year. In 2014 the total fund amounted to £28,481. This was then divided by the number of beneficiaries which in 2014 was 4,991. This equated to £5.71 per beneficiary. In the Bathgate ward there were 456 beneficiaries and therefore had been allocated £2,603.76.

No substantive changes were expected to be made to the global or ward figures at this time and therefore in anticipation it was proposed that the final allocations would be made to the Voluntary Organisations Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel later in the 2014.

Eight applications had been issued to groups across the Bathgate ward, with all eight returned. It was the intention to support all eight applications. Further details of the applications were detailed in Appendix 1 attached to the report.

The committee were further advised that one application had been made by a Livingston-wide group and two made by West Lothian-wide groups; it was the intention to support all three applications. Appendix 2 attached to the report provided further details of these applications.

Letters had been sent to all groups in week commencing 13 October 2014 advising them of the amount of funding they would be receiving, with payments being made directly into bank accounts during November.

It was recommended that the committee note that eight groups within Bathgate ward had applied to the fund and would be supported.

Decision

To note the contents of the report

9. COMMUNITY REGENERATION – WARD ACTION PLAN MID YEAR REVIEW

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Area Services providing an update of progress made against targets set in the Bathgate Ward Action Plan 2013-15.

The Head of Area Services explained that the regeneration and employability team delivered a range of services to support some of West Lothian's most disadvantaged communities and individuals, with a particular emphasis on engaging with people to build personal and community capacity. The service had produced action plans for the nine multi member wards. The plans outlined the activities to be delivered that would meet the regeneration needs of the individual areas.

Attached to the report at Appendix 1 was the ward action plan for the Bathgate ward and this had been updated to show progress against the targets set. Notable achievements were summarised in the report and included the Bathgate Music Festival, supporting the successful delivery of Wester Inch Community Association events, supporting the Boghall Drop-in towards a successful funding application and the pursuit of funding for the continuation of alcohol diversionary projects throughout the ward.

The report concluded that the achievements to date against planned activity from the Regeneration and Employability Service and its partners aimed at making a significant contribution to improving the quality of life of the citizens in the Bathgate ward.

It was recommended that the committee note the content of the report and progress made against the ward action plan during 2014 including the delivery of successful events throughout the ward.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

10. WORK PLAN

The committee considered the Work Plan (copies of which had been circulated) by the Lead Officer for the Local Area Committee.

Decision

To note the contents of the work plan.



BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

BATHGATE MULTI-MEMBER WARD QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Bathgate Local Area Committee on the activity within Bathgate Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 31st December 2014.

B. RECOMMENDATION

That Committee Members are invited to note and provide comment on the Bathgate Multi-member Ward Quarterly 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 at this stage.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	WL CPP SOA Performance indicators: 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 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 2014 – 2017, which is a requirement under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, Section 41E.

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

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

The seven key priorities within the Bathgate Ward area are as follows:

Continuous Priority

- Local Risk Management and Preparedness.

High Priority

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

Medium Priority

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

E. CONCLUSION

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

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.

Alex Hume

Station Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

January 2015

Appendix 1 - Bathgate Multi-Member Ward Quarterly Performance Report



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Bathgate

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

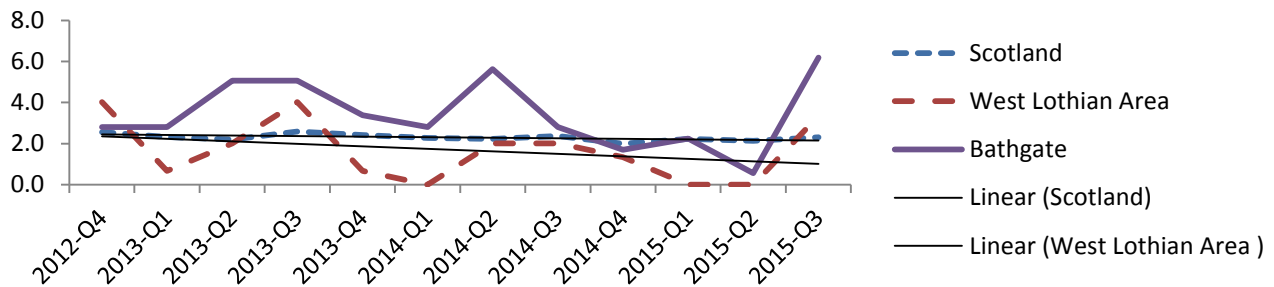
Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Ward Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to ward based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

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.

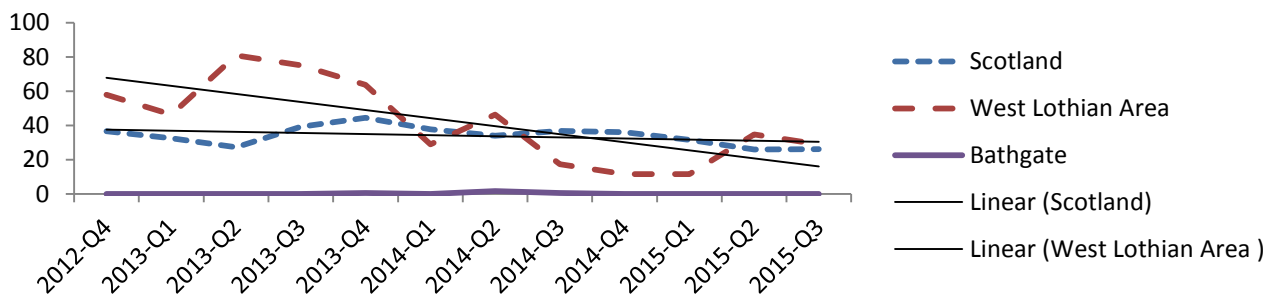
However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



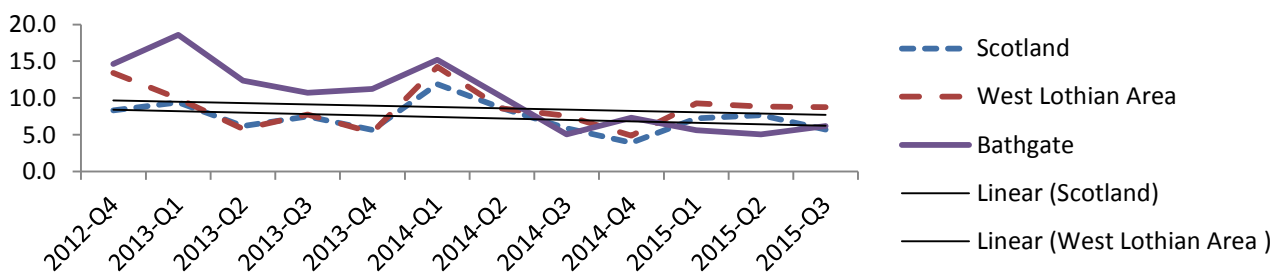
We have seen a 55% increase in incidents attended compared to the same year to-date period in 2013-14. During the 2014-15 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 11 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 5 during 2013-14 year to date reporting period.

Accidental Dwelling Fires (Casualties and Fatalities) Per 1,000,000 head of population



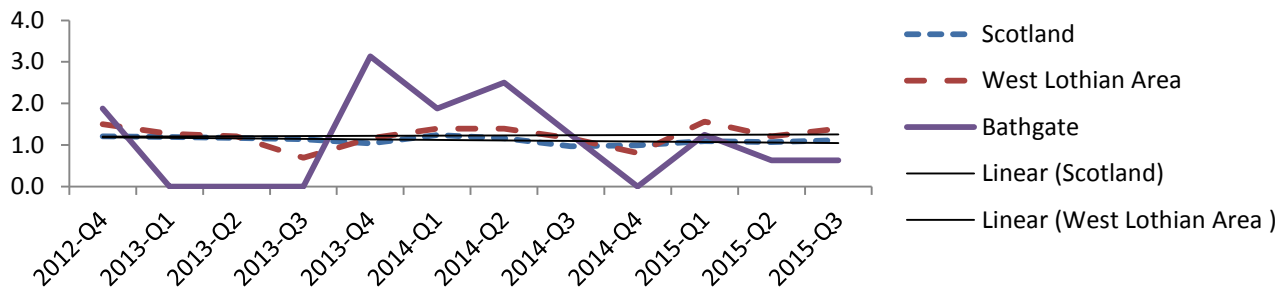
There were no reported Fire fatalities in the reporting period. During the 2014-15 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 1 casualty due to fires in comparison to 1 during 2013-14 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



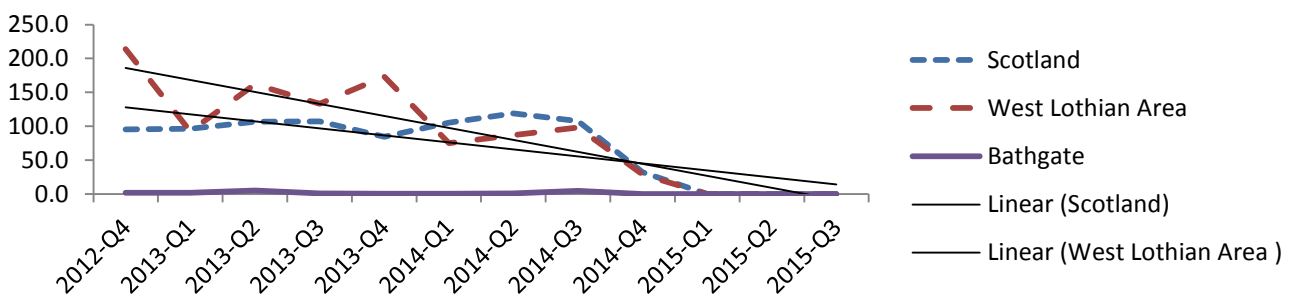
SFRS have dealt with 11 deliberate fire incidents during 2014-15 year to date reporting period in comparison to 9 during 2013-14 year to date reporting period.

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



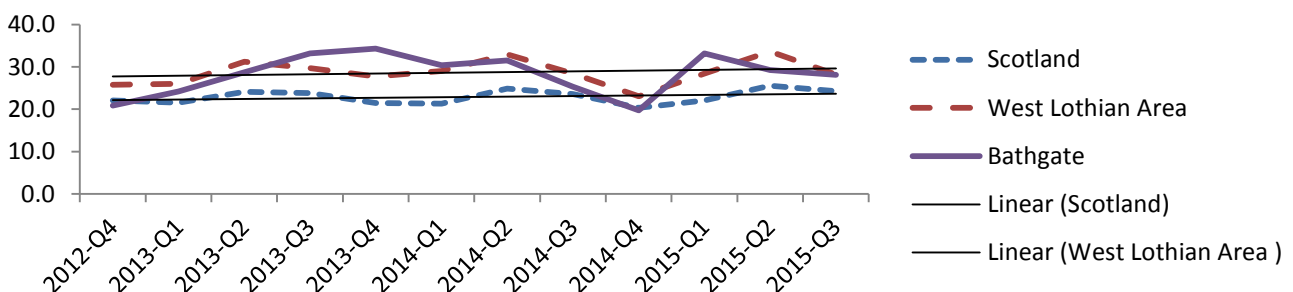
SFRS have dealt with 2 non domestic fire incidents during 2014-15 year to date reporting period in comparison to 3 during 2013-14 year to date reporting period.

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



SFRS have dealt with 0 casualties from non-fire emergencies during 2014-15 year to date reporting period in comparison to 7 during 2013-14 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population



SFRS have dealt with 50 UFAS incidents during 2014-15 year to date reporting period in comparison to 45 during 2013-14 year to date reporting period.

Additional Comments

December 2014 saw the introduction of the Unwanted Fire Alarms Signal (UFAS) policy, where SFRS will work with worst offending premises to identify solutions.



LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

WARD 8, BATHGATE,

REPORT BY POLICE INSPECTOR ANDREW ELLIOT

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

Police Update for Bathgate.

B. RECOMMENDATION

For discussion by the Chair.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values

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

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

**III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to
Officers**

**IV Impact on performance and performance
Indicators**

V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement

VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)

VII Consideration at PDSP

VIII Other consultations

D. TERMS OF REPORT

To update the Local Area Committee on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 31st January 2015

Our Purpose

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

Our Focus

Keeping People Safe

Our Values

Integrity, Fairness and Respect

NATIONAL PRIORITIES – DELIVERED LOCALLY

Police Scotland Priorities

1. Reduce violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour
2. Protect the public
3. Increase road safety and reduce road crime
4. Tackle serious organised crime and terrorism
5. Effectively police major events and threats
6. Maintain high levels of public confidence in policing
7. Deliver our equality and diversity outcomes

WEST LOTHIAN PRIORITIES

Your West Lothian Priorities

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRIORITIES

Your Local priorities

1. Reducing Anti Social Behaviour
2. Tackling Substance Misuse
3. Making our Roads Safer
4. Preventing Violence (in the night time economy)
5. Tackling Acquisitive Crime

PERFORMANCE

Crimes Groups 1 to 5 (Ref: Crime Statistics JG Area Command April-December)						
Area	This year to date			Last year to date		
	Rec.	Sol.	% Sol	Rec.	Sol.	% Sol
West Lothian Area	5877	2454	41.8	6394	2899	45.3
Bathgate (April 14 to June 14)	878	404	46%	880	400	45.5%

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

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

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

ASB performance for period up to and including 31/12/2014
(due to requirement to submit report January figures not available)

Bathgate Ward - to end December 2014					
Month	This month	LYTD	TYTD	% Change	
Youth Calls	11	199	161	-19%	
All ASB Calls	122	1312	1170	-11%	
Hate Crime	3	12	20	67%	
Vandalism & Reckless Conduct	16	193	163	-16%	
Fire-raising	1	20	11	-45%	
Alcohol-related Incidents	34	348	328	-6%	
Public Space Assaults	14	145	114	-21%	

ISSUES OF NOTE

- **Exceptional Reporting on the above**

The Community Policing Team is tasked to carry out preventative patrols at key hot spot areas based on local knowledge combined with an analytical intelligence product. This knowledge and directed tasking can lead to a positive effect in our community and we will continue to work towards reducing recorded crime and ensure a safer Bathgate for residents and visitors.

As can be seen there continues to be a decrease in youth calls. Fire raising calls are significantly lower than last year and are at a low level. Vandalism incidents are showing a slight decrease and this is a positive sign however cars being damaged overnight continue to be a localised issue. Analysis does not indicate any pattern to this and times are over a 12-hour period.

Anti Social Behaviour reports are still lower than this period last year as are public space assaults.

Hate crimes reported are still higher than we would like however some can be attributed to abuse received by police officers in the course of their work however regardless all crimes are vigorously investigated and solvency is presently at 62.5%. The CPT is keen to be visible in their area and this has a positive effect in youth engagement, prevention and ensures a safer community for all.

Alcohol related incidents are similar to last year showing a slight reduction. The figures include the Christmas period. The CPT will monitor this and react accordingly to any intelligence received or increases and will task officer accordingly.

The Community Policing Team is continually looking at methods to further reduce the instances of alcohol related events in the Town Centre of Bathgate. They make every attempt to provide resources in key areas at key times liaise with the licensees via Pub Watch and make licensed premises visits in an effort to detect and deter crime and incidents.

During the period of this report the team have carried out proactive licensed premises visits and utilised additional resources to provide a visible presence in the Town Centre at key times. The CPT monitor calls to licensed premises to establish if there is a pattern to influence patrols and tasking.

PREVENTION

- **Activities**

Reducing antisocial behaviour within our communities

The Community team continue to carry out high visibility patrols in local parks and engage with youths as part of their daily tasking.

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

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

Reducing community and social harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse

The community team continue to carry out stop and searches to deter, disrupt, divert and detect offenders. 2 persons have been reported for possession of cannabis.

Prevent Violence (in the night time economy)

To further address the issue of alcohol related incidents in Bathgate Town Centre the Community Policing Team in partnership with the Licensing department have increased monitoring of licensed premises in order that issues both positive and negative can be highlighted. This may lead to premises being taken to a licensing

review however this is to ensure that local licensees understand their obligations to their patrons and to the wider Bathgate community and assist in making Bathgate safer.

At time of report 2 licensed premises are subject to increased visits due to incidents that have taken place within.

- **Initiatives**

Reducing Anti Social Behaviour

The Community Policing Team work closely with the WLC NRT officer for the area and continue to challenge ASB in the home, issue tenancy warnings, and this can lead to Anti Social Behaviour Orders being issued.

There are presently no 'party houses' identified in the area.

The Community Policing Team continues to make themselves visible and accessible to their community as they value the importance of public interaction and will attend community and resident meetings where possible.

Tackling Substance Misuse

Officers will continue to act on intelligence received regarding misuse of drugs. The Community Policing Team will continue to carry out licensed premises visits and inspections to ensure licensees are supported and patrons can enjoy their night out safely.

Prevent Violence (in the night time economy)

To address issues of violence in the night time economy additional officers have been tasked with patrols in Bathgate during Friday evenings as part of the Force 'Campaign against Violence' days.

The Community Policing Team continues to work at local events and is committed to policing the night time economy when on duty to provide a high visibility police presence in and around Bathgate to 'keep people safe'.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Community Policing Team continue to focus on acquisitive crime and to this end will be engaged in circulating security advice literature to areas where crimes have been reported and also circulating to public areas for people to read.

Operation Quarterlight has been launched by Police Scotland and will be implemented throughout Scotland to identify and target those responsible for vehicle break-ins and thefts.

During February your Community Policing Team will take part in Community Police Action Days focusing exclusively on the local priorities of Road Safety, ASB and Substance Misuse.

Need the Police? – Call 101. The 101 campaign is ongoing in an effort to raise awareness of the number for members of the public to use to call the police.

CONTACTS

Inspector Drew Elliot

Andrew.Elliot@Scotland.pnn.police.uk



Sergeant John Fleming john.fleming@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

Community Bathgate

Mail to: BathgateCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk



PC Gillian Robinson

Safer Neighbourhoods Team Bathgate



PC Hugh Callaghan



PC Alan Dand



PC Lee Brodie

Bathgate Community High School Liaison Officer



PC Darryl Macaulay



BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT ON THE RECENT SUCCESSES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT IN BATHGATE ACADEMY

REPORT BY GRANT ABBOT, HEAD TEACHER BATHGATE ACADEMY

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise the committee regarding the on going work and life of Bathgate Academy.

B. RECOMMENDATION

To note the contents of the report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Not Applicable.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	Not Applicable.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Key performance measures relate to <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SQA Exam results• School Leavers Destination results
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Not Applicable.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Not Applicable.
VII Consideration at PDSP	Not Applicable.
VIII Other consultations	Not Applicable.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

Context

Bathgate Academy is a six-year comprehensive school offering our 850 students in the Bathgate/Blackburn area a relevant, inspiring, challenging and ultimately enjoyable curriculum with opportunities for personalisation and choice. The school has 5 associated primary schools; Balbardie, Blackburn, Murrayfield, Simpson and Boghall.

We offer the full range of National Qualifications and have now starting presenting new Qualifications during this academic year. This brings us into line with all other schools in the country. We aim to provide experiences that result in our students developing relevant skills required for the world of work as well as the attributes, qualities and values that will allow them to positively contribute to society in general.

Bathgate Academy's current Head Teacher was appointed in March 2012. The school has 2 DHTs and 9 PTCs. There are 62 teaching staff and 22 non-teaching/clerical/technician staff. Some staff are employed on a part-time or job share basis.

The school has good facilities within an original building that is 50 years old this year. An extensive refurbishment was completed in 2003 and more work has occurred since then. The school is intending to organise 50 year celebrations later on in the year.

A range of data indicates a changing catchment and improving destination figures even though challenges continue to exist. SMID data indicates that there are domains within the catchment with significant levels of deprivation. SLDR figures indicate positive destination figures for our school leavers with university entrance figures continuing to rise.

Successes and Achievements

- Improving business links and collaborations across nearly all faculty areas
- SQA Results, at Level 5 and level 6 are now at the highest level for more than 10 years
- Embedding inter-disciplinary learning across S1
- Wider achievement opportunities and awards across all age ranges

Priorities for Improvement

- Continuing to raising attainment, particularly with the introduction of National 5 examinations this year
- Building more pathways and opportunities for a small minority of learners who may disengage with formal classroom options
- Develop a growth mindset culture based on an aspirational agenda
- Quality Improvement needs to embed further

E. CONCLUSION

Bathgate Academy is a school making very good progress with significant strengths. The school is well respected within the community and has a capacity to continually improve based on the hard work and enthusiasm of staff and a learner population willing to work hard and aspire to do the best they can.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person: Grant Abbot, Head Teacher, 01506 653725, grant.abbot@wled.org.uk

9 February 2015



BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING SERVICES

REPORT BY HEAD OF HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Local Area Committee with an overview of the service activities within Bathgate ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to note Housing, Construction and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report.

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, Construction and Building Services, specific to the Bathgate Ward

Property Void & Let Performance: Mainstream Tenancies

Void Period	Oct 2014	%	Nov 2014	%	Dec 2014	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	3	43%	4	33%	3	37.5%	65%
2-4 weeks	0	0%	2	17%	2	25%	25%
4+ weeks	4	57%	6	50%	3	37.5%	10%
Total Lets	7	100%	12	100%	8	100%	

Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	Oct 2014	%	Nov 2014	%	Dec 2014	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	3	57%	2	67%	2	40%	70%
2-4 weeks	1	43%	0	0%	2	40%	20%
4+ weeks	1	0%	1	33%	1	20%	10%
Total Lets	5	100%	3	100%	5	100%	

Delays in re-letting can occur for a variety of reasons. The type or location of the property, the completion of void work or the identification of additional works not visible during the initial inspection. Ensuring that vulnerable persons are supported through the viewing and sign up process.

In the year to date there have been 162 mainstream tenancies and 40 temporary tenancies let by the Bathgate Team. We have seen an increase in property turnover in Bathgate area as a result of the transfer led Allocation Policy for the New Build housing that creates secondary lets. This will mean more stock availability to help house more applicants from the waiting list. Of the 150 units on the New Build site 86 properties have been allocated.

There are currently 25 Policy Voids in the ward. Reasons include properties unable to let due Health & Safety reasons, Winter decants or being held for decant purposes at Rosemount Court and properties held to assist with decants due to remedial works.

Arrears Performance

2013/2014	Total £Value	2014/2015	Total £Value
April 13	193,199	April 14	£224,991
May 13	218,340	May 14	£260,496
June 13	N/a	June 14	£274,513
July 13	258,235	July 14	£257,839
August 13	285,772	August 14	£266,199
September 13	314,175	September 14	£271,159
October 13	317,694	October 14	£280,995
November 13	324,228	November 14	£287,296
December 13	308,470	December 14	£254,161
January 2014	312,350	January 2015	
February 2014	305,103	February 2015	
March 2014	206,731	March 2015	

West Lothian Council has for many years been one of the top performing councils in Scotland with respect to rent collection and the council's rent arrears process has been widely

considered to be best practice, engendering a strong payment culture amongst most of its tenants.

For 2014-15 the Arrears Task Group has agreed, as an interim measure, to monitor against a £1m target. This will allow time for some actions from the Rent Strategy to be in place, so the target will be subject to change later in the year.

The workload priorities agreed at the Arrears Task Group ensured that tenants who engaged with the Council were being offered support and advice in relation to applying for Housing Benefit, Scottish Welfare Fund and referrals to the Advice Shop where they can get Money Advice and in making a realistic sustainable payment arrangement.

Articles encouraging tenants to pay their rent were inserted into Tenants News, Applicants News, the Bulletin and on the internet to raise awareness of Welfare Reform changes and their potential impact on our customers.

The Council Executive approved a motion instructing officers to provide additional one-off time limited DHP funding, to address the legacy bedroom tax arrears from 2013/14. Officers have calculated the legacy arrears value by taking the rent arrears position at the end of 2013/14, and assessing the bedroom tax element net of any DHP already received for that financial year. The total value of bedroom tax for both current and former tenants equates to approximately £250,000.

Using existing anti-poverty funding of £200,000 and £50,000 of one-off funding for welfare changes, this will be administered in accordance with the DHP scheme, with funding to be distributed in accordance with the terms of the DHP scheme guidelines.

At the end of December 2014 our arrears caseload was 4,980 totalling £1,636,398.21.

The table shows the level of arrears and the number of tenants in arrears in this Ward from end September 2013 at the start of the Rent Arrears Campaign and the level of arrears at the end of December 2014.

Arrears Banding	Balance 27 Sept 13	Tenants in Arrears	Balance 31 Dec 2014	Tenants in Arrears
£0.01-£49.99	2,895.09	140	2,388.43	120
£50.00-£149.99	19,543.16	214	17,464.11	193
£150.00-£299.99	37,970.09	213	27,610.08	128
£300.00-£499.99	48,947.40	126	37,915.07	97
£500.00-£749.99	55,995.20	91	34,872.66	56
£750.00-£999.99	29,928.46	34	27,047.15	31
£1000.00-£1999.99	72,983.41	53	75,373.48	55
£2000.00+	28,230.09	10	44,685.49	16
Total	305,492.90	881	264,968.04	696

The Arrears Task Group will continue meeting through the financial year 2014-15 as there are many challenges to come in the management of rental income due to the on-going phasing in of Welfare Reform, increasing fuel costs, reducing household income and the negative impact these changes are having on Council Tenants.

Bathgate Area Team Activity

Officers in the team have a number of tenancies under supervision for issues such as child & adult protection, anti-social behaviour and poor tenancy conditions. Our officers' work with a range of services and agencies to ensure tenants and residents are fully supported, tenancies 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. At times dealing with tenants with circumstances that are complex and can take time to get a positive outcome, with some cases not resolved due to lack of tenant engagement. The Housing staff work very closely with the local Police & Safer Neighbourhood Team Officer.

Rent arrears activity continues to be a weekly priority task for the team and will continue to

work with all our tenants in offering the support, advice and assistance, for example, referrals for money and debt advice, benefit health checks, completion of income and expenditure to help set up a sustainable payment plan and where appropriate, assist with application for Discretionary Housing Benefits payments.

Capital Programme and New Build Council Housing

The overall 2014/15 Housing Capital Investment Programme has been progressing since April without major incidents, accidents or issues. Some upgrading programmes are slipping a little due to contractor capacity, but this will be caught up over the remainder of the year and over 2015/16. Any houses in poorer condition have been prioritised. Planned programmes have been progressing on or ahead of programme. Health and Safety programmes such as Hard Wired Smoke Detectors, Electrical safety checks, Gas system checks and Heating upgrades are also progressing on or ahead of programme. Exterior painting and landscaping works are progressing well.

Good progress is also being made on the 1,000 houses new build programme. The first 6 homes were completed in September 2014 and work is well underway for a site for 18 homes in Broxburn. The developer has been selected for 587 homes and a further 363 homes are at tender stage.

New Homes

80 homes will be built at a site in Wester Inch. Lovell Partnerships have been selected to undertake the development and a planning application has been submitted. A site at Windyknowe has been identified for 10 homes. Lovell Partnerships have been selected to develop this site. A site start is anticipated for Summer 2015.

Other Projects

Work at Rosemount Court commenced in August 2014. The project is phased in two parts Housing with care development for 30 homes. Refurbishment of the existing sheltered housing commencing in December 2014. Work is due to complete on the new build at the end of November 2015 and the refurbishment completing in May 2016.

The development of housing at Little Boghead is progressing well with 107 houses handed over. The site is due for completion in Spring 2015.

Tenant Participation Updates

Scottish Social Housing Charter

The first Annual Report called 'Performance Matters' was published at the end of October 2014. Staff worked closely with the members of the Tenant Participation Development Working Group to produce this first report which shows how well we did in key areas including rent collection, tenant and service user involvement, repairs, maintenance and improvements, allocations, homelessness and how we deal with antisocial behaviour and empty properties.

This report is available online at

<http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/5854/Landlord-Report---Performance-Matters-201314>

Homeless Housing Network

The Homeless Development Group members were delighted with the response from service users at the launch of a new Housing Homeless Network in September 2014. Those service users who attended shared their homeless experiences with staff and discussed how they would like to help improve the delivery of services. Network members agreed to meet on a monthly basis on the last Thursday of the month and staff will continue to encourage others to get involved.

Housing Networks

Both Networks continue to meet on a monthly basis to consult with Housing, Construction and Building Services on any changes or developments to service delivery. The Network meetings are held in the third week of the month for more information contact your local housing staff or the Customer Participation Officer's by emailing TP@westlothian.gov.uk

Street Environmental Improvement Projects (SEIP)

SEIP Applications for 2015/16 have been received and members of the Street Environmental Group have made site visits to ensure the projects meet the criteria. Plans for these projects will be drawn up with associated costs and presented to the group for agreement.

Tenants Fun and Information Day

The Tenants and Residents Fun Day is held annually in the Civic Centre and offers tenants and residents from throughout West Lothian the opportunity to meet with staff from Housing, Construction and Building Services and their partners, and discuss any issues relating to their home and community. This year's event was well attended with over 200 tenants and residents coming along. For the third year in a row, it was held in partnership with the Advice Shop, as the culmination to their 'Money Week'. There were three separate consultation events carried out, on the new proposed Allocations Policy, the draft Landlord Report 'Performance Matters' and the proposed rent increase for 2015/16.

Safer Neighbourhood Council Officer Ward Information

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

WLC Officer based in SNT October - December 2014

Joint patrols and visits continue to be undertaken with Police and with the Community Housing Officers where appropriate. Mediation between parties regarding ASB has been successful so far and continues to be monitored. Referrals continue to be submitted to the appropriate services to ensure that the correct provision and support is being offered to members of the community. The SNT officer attended a Case Conference regarding a client in the ward area in order to achieve a satisfactory outcome in going forward. Court action re ASB continues for 1 case and a further new cases has been sent to Legal for action.

Youth Worker based in SNT October - December 2014

During the reporting period the Youth Worker closed the case as the young person had not been involved in any further antisocial behaviour and has now reached a positive destination. A referral has been made for a young person with mental health issues and a referral was received from the Early and Effective Intervention group.

E. CONCLUSION

To note the contents of the report.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

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

Tel: 01506 283414

Date: 9th February, 2015.



West Lothian
Council

BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

UPDATE FROM NET'S, LAND & COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES 25 October 2014 – 22 January 2015

REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise members of the recent activity of the NET's, Land & Countryside Services teams and to highlight future works planned for the locality.

B. RECOMMENDATION

Members are requested to:

Note the work carried out to date and future planned work.

Advise of any areas that require further investigation or inclusion in future work plans.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

Council Values

Focusing on our customers' needs

Being honest, open and accountable

Providing equality of opportunities

Developing employees

Making best use of our resources

Working in partnership

II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment) None

III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers None

IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators None

V Relevance to Single Relates to items 9 - We live our lives free from

	Outcome Agreement	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

D. TERMS OF REPORT

BATHGATE ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT 25 October 2014 – 22 January 2015

Grounds Maintenance, NET's and Street Cleansing

Grounds maintenance winter routine maintenance ongoing and is currently on schedule. Summer hours to commence Monday 2 March 2015. Grounds staff responsible for the filling of grit bins throughout area and filling when required. Staff also assisting Roads section with winter maintenance as and when required. The process for the recruitment of seasonal staff for the summer has started. The bedding plants and hanging baskets are being ordered for 2015. NETs working with Bathgate in bloom in relation to additional hanging baskets columns being installed.

Garden Maintenance scheme – new season due to commence March 2015.

Street Cleansing staff continue to carry out routine maintenance of litter picking and sweeping. Staff assisting Roads section with winter maintenance as and when required.

Enquiries received and dealt with:

30 enquiries were received and dealt with in relation to grounds maintenance issues. (appendix: Grounds20150209)

7 enquiries were received in relation to the Garden maintenance scheme.

102 enquiries were received and dealt with in relation to street cleansing issues. (appendix: Strcleansing20150209)

Environmental Wardens Enforcement Action

6 fixed penalties have been issued in the Ward between 25 October 2014 – 22 January 2015

Litter x 5, Bathgate: George Place – 2, George Street – 1, South Bridge Street - 2,

Dog Fouling x 1, Bathgate: Waverley Street - 1.

59 enquiries were received and dealt with in relation to Environmental Wardens issues. (appendix: Envwar20150209)

Environmental Wardens Community Involvement

The Environmental Wardens have been carrying out regular patrols of the ward area in relation to litter, dog fouling, fly tipping and abandoned vehicles. They are still assisting Transportation by carrying out audits of school transport vehicles at various schools.

Further Proposals and Initiatives

Nairn Pearson has been in contact with Network Rail and they have committed to participate in regular litter picks between Linkston Way and Network Rails depot. The first to be organised shortly.

We will continue to work with all partners within the community and the Environmental wardens will continue to carry out patrols in all our ward areas.

E. CONCLUSION

Routine works for all services is currently progressing as scheduled.

There were 139 enquiries received between 25 October 2014 – 22 January 2015, which were in relation to grounds maintenance, garden maintenance and street cleansing. Winter works continuing with summer hours to commence 2 March 2015. The bedding plants and hanging baskets are being ordered for 2015.

Network rail have committed to participate in litter picks around Linkston way leading up to their depot.

The Environmental Wardens received 59 enquiries between the 25 October 2014 – 22 January 2015, with 6 fixed penalty notices being issued in relation to litter and dog fouling. They are still assisting Transportation by carrying out audits of school transport vehicles at various schools.

We will continue to work with all partners within the community and the Environmental wardens will continue to carry out patrols in all our ward areas.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments:

Copy of breakdown of enquiries for Grounds Maintenance, Street Cleansing & Environmental wardens.

Grounds20150209

Strcleansing20150209

Envwar20150209

Contact Person:

David Lees, Waverley Street, Bathgate. Tel: 01506 776483.

e-mail: david.lees@westlothian.gov.uk

Date: 9 February 2015

Bathgate

Environmental Officer: NORT

<u>Site</u>	<u>Area:</u>	
Academy Street	Bathgate	
Dog Fouling On Paths Roads		1
Bathgate Area		
Dog Fouling On Paths Roads		1
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Belvedere Road		
Env. Enforcement Officers		2
Birniehill Crescent		
Env. Enforcement Officers		1
Boghead Crescent		
Dog Fouling On Paths Roads		1
Bruce Road		
Dog Fouling On Paths Roads		1
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		2
Bruce Street		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Castle Place		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Charles Crescent		
Dog Fouling On Paths Roads		2
Drumcross Road		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Dundas Street		
Dog Fouling On Paths Roads		1
Dykeside Road		
Street Sweeping Enquiries		1
Falside Crescent		
Bonfire Enquiries		1
Glasgow Road		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Gordon Avenue		
Dog Fouling On Paths Roads		2

Bathgate

Environmental Officer: NORT

<u>Site</u>	<u>Area:</u> Bathgate	
Inchcross Drive		
Vehicle Abandoned		1
Jardine Place		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Leyland Road		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		3
Limefield Crescent		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		2
Limefield Road		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Mansefield Court		
Dog Fouled Grass Open Space		1
Marina Road		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		3
Marjoribanks Street		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Marmion Road		
Dog Fouled Grass Open Space		1
Meylea Street		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1
Mid Street		
Litter On Paths Roads Verges		1
Millburn Road		
Vehicle Abandoned		1
Newland Avenue		
Env. Enforcement Officers		1
North Bridge Street		
Litter On Paths Roads Verges		1
Old Well Court		
Vehicle Abandoned		1
Pentland Avenue		
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping		1

Bathgate

Environmental Officer: NORT

Site Area: Bathgate

Plessey Road

Dog Waste Bin New Request 1

Env. Enforcement Officers 1

Puir Wives Brae

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Race Road

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 2

St Marys Place

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 2

Standhill Court

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Whitelaw Drive

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Litter General Enquiries 1

Whiteside

Env. Enforcement Officers 1

Whiteside Court

Litter Bin Full Overflowing 1

Wright Avenue

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Site Area: Rural Bathgate

Knock Hill Farm

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 2

South Mains

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Environmental Officer: WEST

Site Area: Bathgate

Boghead Crescent

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Total for Ward 59

Total 59

Bathgate

Bathgate

Balbardie Park

Burns or Watercourses 1

Belvedere Road

Env. Enforcement Officers 2

Birniehill Crescent

Env. Enforcement Officers 1

Birniehill Road

Grass Cutting Enquiries 1

DALLING ROAD./SYLVAN WAY

Tree Branches Overhanging 1

Dykeside Road

Burns or Watercourses 1

Elizabeth Drive

Tree Branches Overhanging 1

Falside Crescent

Bonfire Enquiries 1

GARDENERS LANE VICINITY

Tree Dangerous or Unsafe 1

Gardners Lane

Tree Dangerous or Unsafe 1

Glasgow Road Cemetery

Tree Broken Damaged or Dead 1

GLENMAVIS

Tree Branches Overhanging 1

Kaim Crescent

Tree Leaves Causing Problems 1

Kirkton Park

Tree Planting Requests 1

Bathgate

Bathgate

Lothian Street

Tree Enquiries General **2**

LOWER BOGHALL 1504

Tree Dangerous or Unsafe **1**

Newland Avenue

Env. Enforcement Officers **1**

Plessey Road

Env. Enforcement Officers **1**

Robertson Avenue

Tree Branches Overhanging **1**

Starlaw Terrace

Tree Leaves Causing Problems **1**

The Green

Tree Leaves Causing Problems **1**

Wallace Road

Tree Dangerous or Unsafe **1**

Tree Enquiries General **1**

Whitburn Road

Tree Dangerous or Unsafe **1**

Whiteside

Burns or Watercourses **1**

Env. Enforcement Officers **1**

Rural Bathgate

Boghall

Bonfire Enquiries **1**

Boghead

Tree Dangerous or Unsafe **1**

Total	30	Less than 3 days	29	Percentage	97%
Total	30	Less than 3 days	29	Percentage	97%

Bathgate

Bathgate

Academy Street

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Athol Terrace

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Bathgate Area

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Birniehill Avenue

Street Sweeping Enquiries 1

Boghead Crescent

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Bruce Road

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 2

Bruce Street

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Castle Place

Dog Waste Bin New Request 1

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Chapman's Brae

Street Sweeping Enquiries 1

Charles Crescent

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 3

Litter Bin Full Overflowing 1

Cherry Avenue

Street Sweeping Enquiries 1

Cochrane Street

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Drumcross Road

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Bathgate

Bathgate

Dundas Street

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Dykeside Road

Street Sweeping Enquiries 1

Edinburgh Road

Glass on Paths or Open Spaces 1

Elizabeth Drive

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Falside Crescent

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Falside Terrace

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Fisher Road

Dog Waste Bin New Request 1

Glasgow Road

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Glen Way

Needles Syringes Abandoned 1

Gordon Avenue

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 3

Hardhill Drive

Street Sweeping Enquiries 1

Hillhouse Avenue

Dead Animals 1

Inchcross Drive

Vehicle Abandoned 1

Inchcross Industrial Estate

Litter General Enquiries 1

Jardine Place

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Bathgate

Bathgate

Kirkton Park

Litter Bin Full Overflowing 1

KIRKTON PUBLIC PARK

Glass on Paths or Open Spaces 1

Leyland Road

COMPLAINT Street Cleansing 1

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 3

Limefield Crescent

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 2

Limefield Road

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Linkston Way

COMPLAINT Street Cleansing 1

Mansefield Court

Dog Fouled Grass Open Space 1

Marina Road

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 3

Marjoribanks Street

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Marmion Road

Dog Fouled Grass Open Space 1

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Meylea Street

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Mid Street

Litter On Paths Roads Verges 1

Mill Road

Street Sweeping Enquiries 1

Millburn Road

Vehicle Abandoned 1

Bathgate

Bathgate

Muir Road

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

North Bridge Street

Litter On Paths Roads Verges 1

North Bridge Street Lane

Street Sweeping Enquiries 1

Old Well Court

Vehicle Abandoned 1

Pentland Avenue

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Philip Avenue

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 5

Glass on Paths or Open Spaces 2

Plessey Road

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Dog Waste Bin New Request 3

Litter General Enquiries 1

Street Sweeping Enquiries 1

Puir Wifes Brae

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Race Road

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 2

Rosebery Crescent

Dog Waste Bin Overflowing 1

Russell Place

Litter On Paths Roads Verges 1

St Marys Place

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 2

Standhill Court

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Bathgate

Bathgate

Waverley Place

Needles Syringes Abandoned 1

Waverley Street

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Whitburn Road

Litter General Enquiries 1

Whitelaw Drive

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 2

Litter General Enquiries 1

Whiteside Cottages

Dog Waste Bin Overflowing 1

Litter General Enquiries 1

Whiteside Court

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Litter Bin Full Overflowing 1

Whiteside Farm Lane

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 1

Windyknowe Crescent

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Windyknowe Park

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Wright Avenue

Dog Fouling On Paths Roads 1

Rural Bathgate

A779>Boghall R/A To Starlaw East R/A

Dead Animals 1

Knock Hill Farm

Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping 3

Bathgate**Rural Bathgate****South Mains****Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping**

				1	
Total for Ward	102	Less than 3 days	100	Percentage	98%
Total	102	Less than 3 days	100		98%



BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY REGENERATION UPDATE

REPORT BY HEAD OF AREA SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update to local members on community regeneration activity in the Bathgate ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the committee notes the progress of community regeneration activity within the ward particularly in relation to the Kirkton Park Christmas event, Kirkton Park tennis provision and a customer landmark for the Bathgate Partnership Centre.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; and 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 included within the Regeneration and Employability key performance indicators. Ward action plans also contain measures to indicate progress towards outcomes.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities. We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities. We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced

	health inequalities.
	We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Actions will be delivered within existing resources.
VII Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

Community regeneration activity within the ward is ongoing, with a variety of services and organisations delivering activities. These activities were outlined in the Ward Action Plan presented to the Local Area Committee (LAC) in June 2013. This report highlights the main developments since the last Local Area Committee in November 2014.

D.2 Kirkton Park

The inaugural Christmas carol concert and fireworks event was held on 20 December 2014. Over 200 people attended the evening despite the inclement weather and it was a great success. Friends of Kirkton Park group and the Bathgate Community Centre Management Committee brought together a wonderful package of entertainment and provided a great starting point to build on for the future.

Discussions are on-going with Bathgate Ski Club to develop proposals for a ski slope within Kirkton Park.

Plans are underway on the redevelopment of the tennis courts. Planet Tennis has now achieved charitable status and there is confirmed funding of £191, 637. It is expected that contracts will be let by March 2015 and work completed by June 2015.

D.3 Bathgate Music Festival

Feedback from the 2014 festival has been very positive with all of the respondents rating the events they attended as part of the festival either good or excellent. More local pubs participated in the event as part of the live and local element than had previously participated.

Planning and activity to seek funding for the event in 2015 is underway. Appendix one contains a breakdown of the findings from the 2014 survey.

D.4 Boghall Community Wing

Since November a number of initiatives and events have been delivered:

Breakfast with Santa

Delivered by volunteers and staff, breakfast was delivered to seventy five people. One of the rooms was decorated as a grotto and Santa's Sleigh was built by volunteers. River Kids and Tesco supported this event.

Volunteer Friendly Award

The Drop-In is working towards achieving the Voluntary Friendly Award for the centre. The volunteer co-ordinator has been leading this piece of work and has liaised with the Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire Team and highlighting recent work carried out. After discussion they agreed to a reciprocal visit in February and that the Centre should be eligible for the award. This is a clear indicator that having a Volunteer Co-ordinator in post has made a huge impact to volunteer development.

Early Years Challenge Fund (EYCF)

17 under 3s and their parent/guardian regularly attend the community wing for structured sessions on a Monday and Tuesday. There is an ongoing waiting list for this group.

A number of new groups are being delivered including:

Autistic Running Group

Phab (Cooking group)

Digital Photography

Driving Ahead which is a seven week course tailored to help people struggling with literacy or the English language which enabled them to get extra support.

D.5 Bathgate Partnership Centre Update

In November 2014, the Bathgate Partnership Centre welcomed its one millionth customer to the centre. There were a number of customers belonging to the same group that came into building at same time, so a small celebration with the group was held to mark this occasion. The group belonged to the “Outsiders” youth club, who meet in the partnership centre every Tuesday evening.

Since opening to the public in September 2011 the Partnership Centre has welcomed in excess of 300,000 customers each year, which equates to more than 800 customers per day.

For the period October to December 2014, the centre:

- Welcomed 78,312 customers.
- Dealt with 51,225 customer transactions.
- Registered 260 new library members.
- 599 adults over 50 participated in structured programmes.
- 451 children under five participated in structured activity programmes.

D.6 Bathgate Town Centre Update - Update by Nairn Pearson, Business Improvements District Manager

This section provides a brief update on the town centre related matters within Bathgate.

Bathgate Street Pastors

The Bathgate Street Pastors have firmly established themselves within the town centre and wider community. The group regularly patrols the town centre on Saturday evenings. The group continues to work positively with local stakeholders and businesses to enhance the overall consumer experience and general safety within the town centre at weekends. The significant contribution that has been made by the

group has been recognised during the second half of 2014, through nomination for 'Community Champions of the Year' by the RBS Finding Scotland's Real Heroes; and by receiving the accolade as winners of the 'Volunteer Group of the Year' at the Voluntary Sector Gateway Volunteer Awards 2014.

Bathgate Fairtrade Fortnight

Bathgate is a Fairtrade Town and forms part of the West Lothian accredited Fairtrade Zone. A number of businesses in Bathgate use or sell Fairtrade products and the Bathgate Town Fairtrade Steering Group would like this to increase/diversify. Fairtrade Fortnight runs from Monday 23 February to Sunday 8 March 2015, and will be promoted within the town centre through the erection of street banners along the precinct and through a diverse range of Fairtrade products available in Bathgate town centre shops and outlets.

Bathgate: Premises Improvement Scheme

The Bathgate premises improvement scheme continues to be available to all those eligible and trading within the Bathgate BID area. Applications and enquiries are actively encouraged prior to the end of the upcoming financial year. The scheme is administered by Enterprising Bathgate, the Bathgate Business Improvement District Company. The fifty percent grant assistance is available to facilitate external and internal improvements to the premises.

The project continues to be a success, and it is anticipated that continuing improvements will result in further uplift to the physical appearance and attractiveness of Bathgate town centre, which in turn, it is hoped, will boost the confidence of local traders, shoppers and visitors to the town.

Wester Inch

Council officers have continued throughout 2014 to work alongside and collaborate with Wester Inch Community Association (WICA) to develop and support mutually beneficial activities with the town centre. The ultimate objective is to raise awareness to Wester Inch community of the offerings. To date, this has included some participation and support for WICA events such including the Autumn Fayre, the unfortunately cancelled, Christmas in Wester Inch and two taster sessions for the Bathgate Music Festival held at Simpson Primary School.

Regular dialogue has taken place with WICA representatives to identify and progress the siting of a second community notice board at Leyland Road and it is anticipated that installation will be complete by March 2015. Council officers in Planning and Economic Development are similarly working with WICA to ensure that the lead developer progresses and meets its obligation to deliver the planned footpath and cycle link from Bathgate town centre to Wester Inch. It is anticipated that this improved connectivity to and from the town centre will increase and open-up options for sustainable travel to, and usage of, the many town centre facilities.

Festive Bathgate

Council officers were actively involved in the organisation, preparation and holding, for the annual Christmas Santa Parade and Torchlight Procession. This was a successful and popular day, despite the adverse weather conditions. The wide range of community groups who turned out for the day should be applauded for their contribution. Rev. Duncan Shaw did an excellent job leading the carol service.

It is proposed to build upon the successes of this event along with the 'Shop Local'

event organised by Enterprising Bathgate in November 2014 and, where synergy exists, create a practical more diversified programme of activities in and around Bathgate town centre. The support and continuing evolution of the town's event calendar by a range of community interests, including West Lothian Council and Enterprising Bathgate, will, it is hoped, encourage local businesses to maximise opportunities from activities and footfall, and also encourage residents to attend and fully participate within the wider community.

D.7 Starlaw Shared Use Path

As part of the Sustrans/Transport Scotland Community Links programme in 2014/15, West Lothian Council was successful in attracting funding to construct a new off-road pedestrian and cycleway along the A779, filling a missing link to connect the existing cycleways on the A89 and A779. It is hoped this link will support existing and new trips by bike and on foot from Bathgate and Boghall to areas of employment. Construction of the path is due to begin in January/February 2015. Appendix two shows the extent of the scheme.

E. CONCLUSION

The actions detailed above contribute to the Bathgate Ward Action Plan and enable Community Planning Partners to support the Single Outcome Agreement at a local level.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: Two

Appendix 1: Bathgate Music Festival Feedback

Appendix 2: Off-road Pedestrian and Cycleway

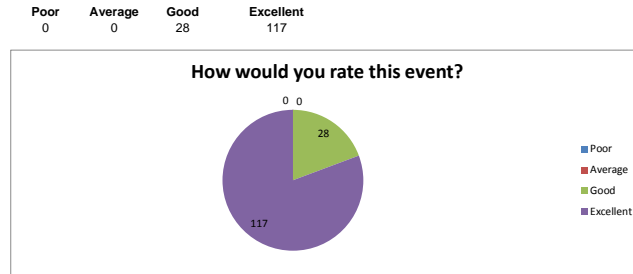
Contact Person: Douglas Benson, Community Regeneration Officer, 01506 281970, douglas.benson@westlothian.gov.uk

Steve Field, Head of Area Services

09 February 2015

Appendix one: Bathgate Music Festival 2014 - Feedback

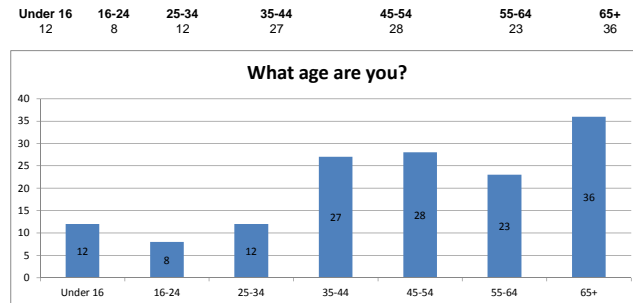
How would you rate this event?



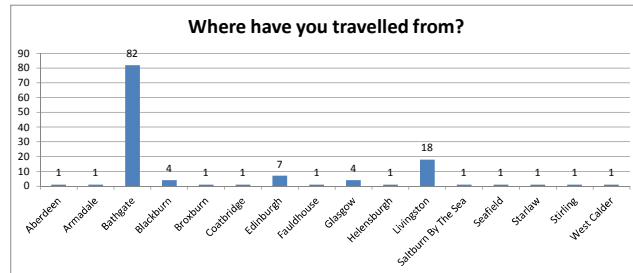
How many events did you attend?

- a) 130 Respondents
- b) 357 events attended
- c) Average Attendance = 2.75
- d) Least attended = 1
- e) Most attended = 12

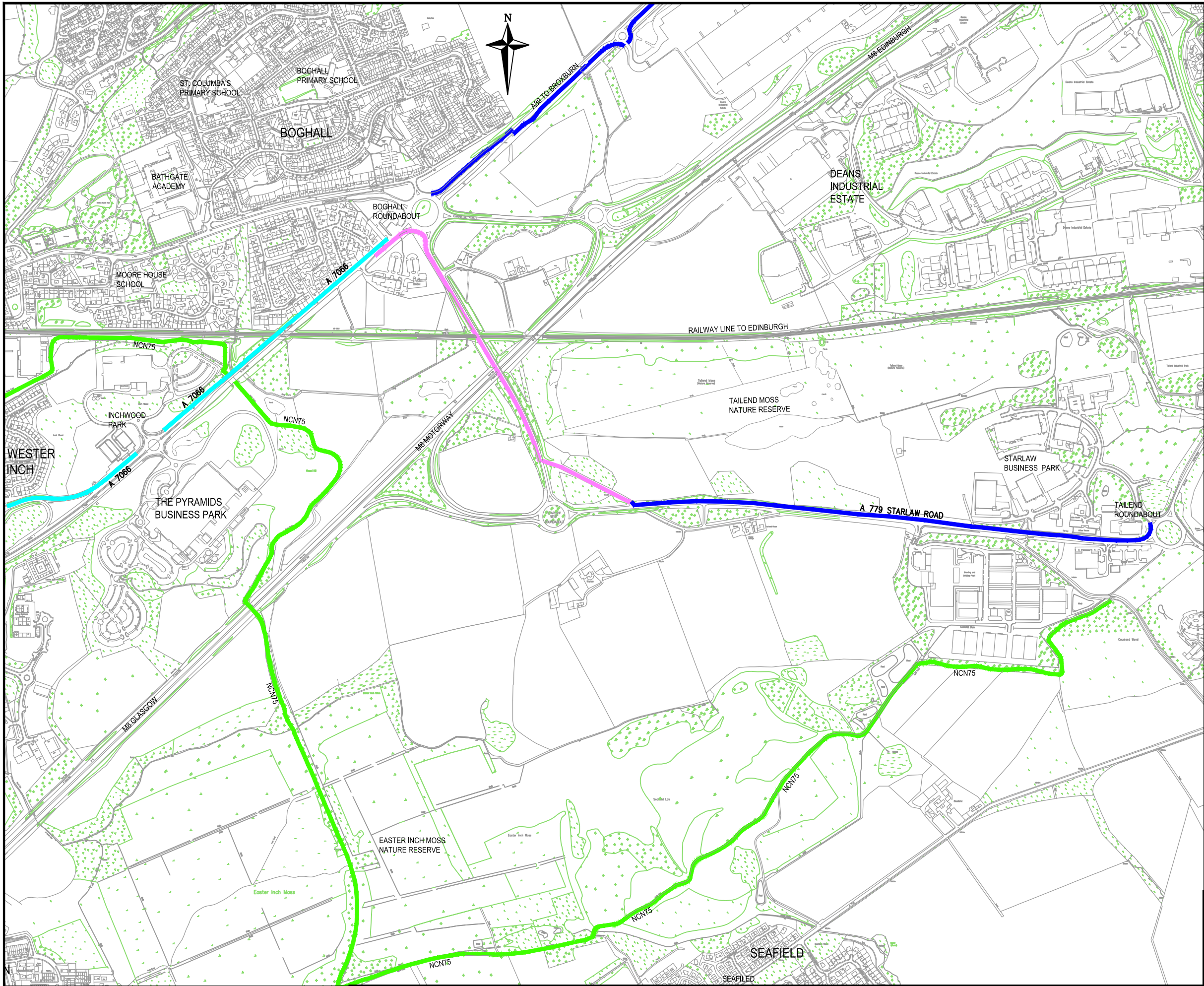
What age are you?



Where have you travelled from?



Aberdeen	1
Armadale	1
Bathgate	82
Blackburn	4
Broxburn	1
Coatbridge	1
Edinburgh	7
Fauldhouse	4
Glasgow	1
Helensburgh	18
Livingston	1
Saltburn By T	1
Seafield	1
Stirling	1
West Calder	1



LEGEND

- PROPOSED ROUTE OF CYCLEPATH
- NCN75
- CYCLEPATH UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL
- EXISTING CYCLEPATH

APPENDIX 2

WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL
OPERATIONAL SERVICES

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION MANAGER
WHITEHILL HOUSE
WHITEHILL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
BATHGATE EH48 2HA
TEL : 01506 282351

PROJECT DESIGN &
& IMPLEMENTATION

DATE: FEB 2014
SCALE: 1:10000 @ A3

DRAWN BY: S.SYME
CHECKED BY: R.FISHER

Drg. No. TP/CLP2014_16/13

DATA LABEL:- Public

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STARLAW WEST TO BOGHALL ROUNDABOUT
CYCLEPATH PROVISION


**BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE
WORKPLAN 2014-15**
FEBRUARY 2015

	Issue	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date	Referral
1	Housing Report	Quarterly update on housing issues	Kate Ward	February 2015	No
2	Police/NRT Report	Quarterly update on police/SNT activity	Inspector Andrew Elliot	February 2015	No
3	Fire Service Report	Report Update on operational plan for 2014-17	Dave Lockhart	February 2015	No
4	NETs Report	Quarterly update on NETS activity	David Lees	February 2015	No
5	Bathgate Academy Report	Update on annual school performance	Grant Abbot	February 2015	No
6	Community Regeneration Report	Quarterly update on Community Regeneration activity/issues in the ward	Douglas Benson	February 2015	No
7	Community Health Champions	To inform members of the plans for Community Health Champions for each LAC	Jane Kellock	May 2015	No
9	Housing Report	Quarterly update on housing issues	Kate Ward	May 2015	No
10	Police/NRT Report	Quarterly update on police/SNT activity	Inspector Andrew Elliot	May 2015	No
11	NETs Report	Quarterly update on NETS activity	David Lees	May 2015	No
12	Ward Action Plan Update	To provide an update report on Ward Action Plan for 2013-15	Douglas Benson	May 2015	No
13	Fire Service Report	Report Update on operational plan for 2014-17	Dave Lockhart	May 2015	No
14	Capital Programme	Reports on Housing and General Capital Programme Budgets for 2014 - 14	Donald Forrest	TBC	Yes