



West Lothian
Council

Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

3 August 2016

A meeting of the **Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Livingston** on **Tuesday 9 August 2016** at **8:30am**.

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

Public Session

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 Fauldhouse and The Breich Valley Local Area Committee held on Tuesday 07 June 2016 (herewith)
5. Multi-Member Ward Performance Report -
Report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (herewith)
6. Police Scotland Report - Report by Police Inspector Gregor Forbes (herewith)
7. Housing, Customer and Building Services Update - Report by Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services (herewith)

8. Service Update - NETs, Land and Countryside - Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith)
9. Placemaking in Fauldhouse - Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
10. Community Regeneration - Regeneration Plans - Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
11. Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund Provisional Allocations 2016 - Report by Head of Planning Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
12. Workplan (herewith)

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

MINUTE of MEETING of the FAULDHUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE of WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 7 JUNE 2016.

Present – Councillors David Dodds (Chair), Cathy Muldoon, Greg McCarra

In Attendance

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

Laura Wilson, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council

Lorraine Donnelly, Housing Services, West Lothian Council

Inspector Gregor Forbes, Police Scotland

Richie Hall, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Jim Stewart, Development Management and Transportation Planning Manager, West Lothian Council

Elaine Nisbet, Anti-Poverty and Welfare Advice Manager, West Lothian Council

Joanne MacKenzie, Development Worker, West Lothian Council

Ian Adair, Rector, Whitburn Academy

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. MINUTE

The Local Area Committee approved the minute of its meeting held on 7 April 2016. The minute was then signed by the Chair.

3. SHOTTS RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION WORKS - A71 WEST CALDER - PRESENTATION BY NETWORK RAIL AND REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising members of works planned by Network Rail as part of the Shotts line electrification project which affected the A71 at West Calder.

Jim Stewart (Development Management and Transportation Planning Manager) presented the report, informing the Committee that Network Rail had been invited to attend the meeting to give a presentation on their proposals and on their consultation strategy, given the significant impact of the proposed works on the A71.

The Chair informed the Committee that the planned presentation by Network Rail would not go ahead as representatives had indicated at short notice that they were unable to attend the meeting.

During discussion, the Committee agreed the need for Network Rail to communicate with communities concerning their proposals.

Decision

1. To note that Network Rail had offered to meet informally with the three ward members.
2. To agree that Jim Stewart should progress the arrangements for the informal meeting in consultation with the ward members and Inspector Gregor Forbes, Police Scotland.

4. WHITBURN ACADEMY - PRESENTATION BY IAN ADAIR, RECTOR

Ian Adair (Rector, Whitburn Academy) had been invited to the meeting to provide an overview of the school's performance and to present a summary of the exam results for 2015.

The Rector presented statistical information and graphs relating to S4, S5 and S6 results, with comparative figures at national level. The key points highlighted were:-

- Best-ever examinations results
- Over 30% University entrants
- Positive destination statistics at 90%+

In relation to S4 results, the presentation showed improvements in the following subjects:- History, Biology, Physics, RP, Music .

PE, Chemistry and Computing had been identified as areas for development.

In relation S5 results, improvements were reported for History and Music. Areas for development were:- Psychology, RMPS, Physics, Chemistry.

The Committee then heard details of the following key initiatives:-

- Tracking and Monitoring
- TLCs
- New Advanced Higher/Higher/N5, 4 & 3/BGE
- Narrowing the Gap

Finally, the Rector spoke of partnership working and initiatives aimed at promoting equality, inclusion and diversity.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair thanked Mr Adair for his informative presentation and congratulated the school on their achievements.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the presentation; and
2. To record the Committee's appreciation of the work undertaken by the

Rector and staff at Whitburn Academy.

5. MACMILLAN@WEST LOTHIAN - PRESENTATION

Elaine Nisbet (Anti-Poverty and Welfare Advice Manager) and Joanne MacKenzie (Development Worker, WLC) had been invited to attend the meeting to present information on the Macmillan@West Lothian project.

The aim of the project was to ensure that anyone affected by cancer in West Lothian had access within their local community to quality cancer information and emotional and practical support.

The Committee was informed that Macmillan@West Lothian was delivered by West Lothian Council and was funded by Macmillan Cancer Support. Other key features of the project were:-

- Currently staffed by 1.5 fte members of staff
- 4 drop in services in partnership centres in West Lothian.
- Information points in public places, signposting to drop in services
- Advisory Group
- Volunteers have key role in delivery

The support provided by Macmillan@West Lothian was listed as follows:-

- Emotional support
- A listening ear
- Time to talk
- Referrals to appropriate services
- Local access to skilled counselling in partnership with Cancer Support Scotland.

Anyone affected by cancer could use the services. It was anticipated that this would include:-

- People with a cancer diagnosis at any point in cancer journey
- Family members
- Carers
- Friends
- Health Professionals and Care Worker
- People worried about cancer

The presentation also provided details of the recruitment of volunteers.

Questions raised by elected members were dealt with by Elaine and Laura.

Finally, the Chair thanked Elaine and Joanne for their informative presentation.

Decision

To note the terms of presentation.

6. POLICE SCOTLAND REPORT - REPORT BY POLICE INSPECTOR GREGOR FORBES

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Inspector Gregor Forbes providing an update on performance, activities and issues across the ward for the period up to 30 April 2016.

Inspector Gregor Forbes explained that a new model of policing had been introduced. The new model allowed for 2 dedicated Ward Officers covering the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward supplemented by 10 staff forming the Community Action Team (CAT) on the west side of West Lothian. The officers in place had a depth of knowledge and their input and directed tasking of the CAT would lead to a positive effect in the ward.

In relation to road safety, it was noted that local officers had carried out speed checks at various locations in the ward including the A71 and at Breich and the A71 at West Calder. 17 conditional offer tickets had been issued for a variety of Road Traffic offences including speeding.

At the request of Councillor Muldoon, Inspector Forbes agreed to make arrangements for the ward members to meet informally with the community policing team.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

7. SFRS MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT - REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

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

Richie Hall (Station Manager, SFRS) presented the report and highlighted a number of improvements across the key priorities within the ward.

The Committee was informed that there had been an increase in the number of deliberate fires incidents during 2015-16 when compared to the reporting period in the previous year.

A question was raised concerning the uptake of the home dwelling visits provided by SFRS to tenants in the ward. In response, Richie Hall undertook to provide figures (and comparative figures for the rest of West Lothian) to the next meeting.

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

8. SERVICE UPDATE - NETS, LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising members of the recent activity of the NETs, Land and Countryside Services teams for the period 1 February to 30 April 2016.

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

The Committee was recommended to:-

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9. HOUSING, BUILDING AND CUSTOMER SERVICES UPDATE

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

The report provided details of the property void and let performance for both mainstream tenancies and temporary tenancies.

There were currently 22 Policy Voids in the ward. Six of these were being used for decants, 7 were being modernised, 1 for insurance works and the remainder were awaiting/undergoing major works.

The report also examined the ward arrears position and provided a table showing the number of tenants in arrears in week 52, with comparative figures for 2014/15.

In relation to the capital programme, Lanrigg Area, Fauldhouse upgrades were continuing in 2016/17. A total of 27 properties had been completed in 2015/16 and a further 14 would be done in 2016/17.

Cuthill, Stoneyburn Upgrades were also continuing in 2016/17. A total of

25 properties had been completed in 2015/16 and a further 7 would be done in 2016/17.

The major upgrading works to Main Street, Fauldhouse were ongoing with the stonework currently being renewed and the new roofs being built.

As previously reported, there was a local programme to build various individual hard standing areas to accommodate communal bins at a number of addresses in Fauldhouse.

The report went on to provide details of Tenant Participation activity.

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

10. PLACEMAKING IN FAULDHOUSE

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration informing the committee of the progress to date of the charrette in Fauldhouse.

Appendix 1 to the report was four newsletters produced by Fauldhouse Focus.

It was recommended that members note:

1. that four newsletters had been circulated, detailing each of the placemaking workshops that took place and the input made by the community representatives and local practitioners;
2. the number of local residents, community organisations, local services and council officers who contributed to the charrette; and
3. that a community feedback session would be held in Fauldhouse Partnership centre on 8 June 2016.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

11. WEST LOTHIAN VILLAGES IMPROVEMENT FUND - APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration advising the Committee of the applications received from within the local area committee area seeking funding from the West Lothian Villages

Improvement Fund in 2016/17.

The report recalled that distribution of funding was based on village size. Total allocations per village were set out in a table within the report, with the remaining budgets in brackets.

The applications received for funding were summarised as follows:-

Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden – Insulation and Heating - £12,418 to enable the community garden to upgrade their current facility by improving the heating in the building.

Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden - Feasibility Study – £8,100
A further grant was being applied for by the community garden to enable them to carry out a feasibility study into how best to extend their facility.

Polbeth Harwood Church - £1500 - was being sought to enable the church to purchase a screen and projector for use by the local community groups.

A copy of the applications were attached as appendices to the report.

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee:-

1. note that three applications had been received for funding;
2. note that the proposals met the eligibility criteria for supported projects;
3. support funding for the projects; and
4. agree that the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration should make an offer of funding as per the details set out in the report.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report and to agree that the Head of Planning and Economic Development should make an offer of funding as recommended in the report.
2. To note the details of the Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden project and to agree that representatives be invited to give a presentation to the next meeting of the LAC.

12. COMMUNITY REGENERATION - WARD ACTION PLAN END OF YEAR REVIEW

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration informing the Committee of progress against the targets set in the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward Action Plan 2015-16.

The updated ward action plan for 2015-16 was attached as Appendix 1 to

the report. The plan showed Regeneration, Employability and partner activity across the ward.

The Community Regeneration Officer presented the report, highlighting a number of significant achievements.

The Committee was informed that the plans would not be continued and would be replaced by targeted regeneration plans for the eight areas identified as being in the most deprived 20% SIMD data zones. The new approach supported the Regeneration Framework agreed by the Council Executive in February 2014.

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee note the progress made against targets in the period October 2015 to March 2016; in particular:

1. the value of successful projects delivered through the Village Improvement Fund and that all eight villages in the ward had now accessed the fund;
2. the development and implementation of a Learning Community Plan in West Calder catchment area; and
3. delivery of effective employability provision in the ward area.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

13. WORKPLAN (HEREWITH)

A copy of the Workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the Workplan and that it would be updated to include the planned presentation by Polbeth and West Calder Community Garden project.



West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Year to Date April to June 2016

Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley

DISCLAIMER

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

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

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

Introduction

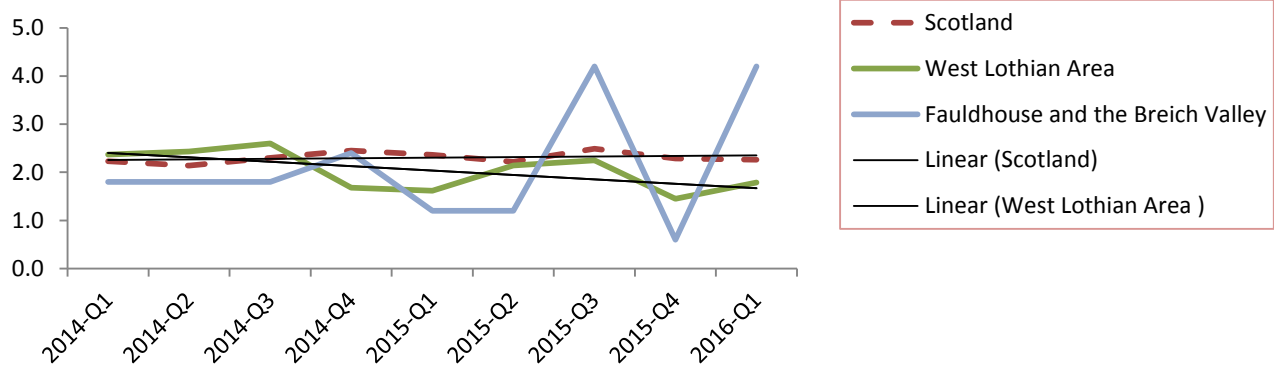
Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Ward Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to ward based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

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

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

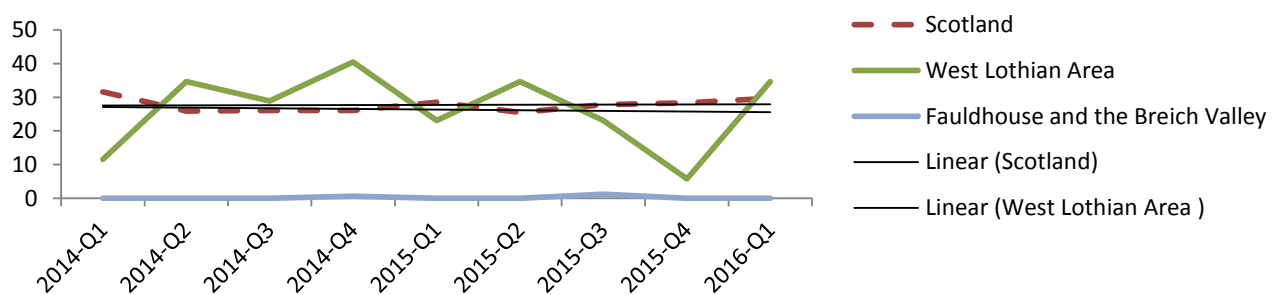
However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



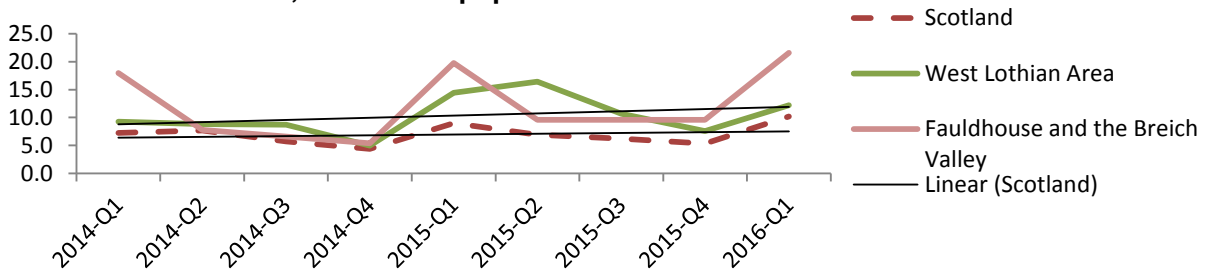
During the 2016-17 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 7 accidental dwelling fire in comparison to 2 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

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



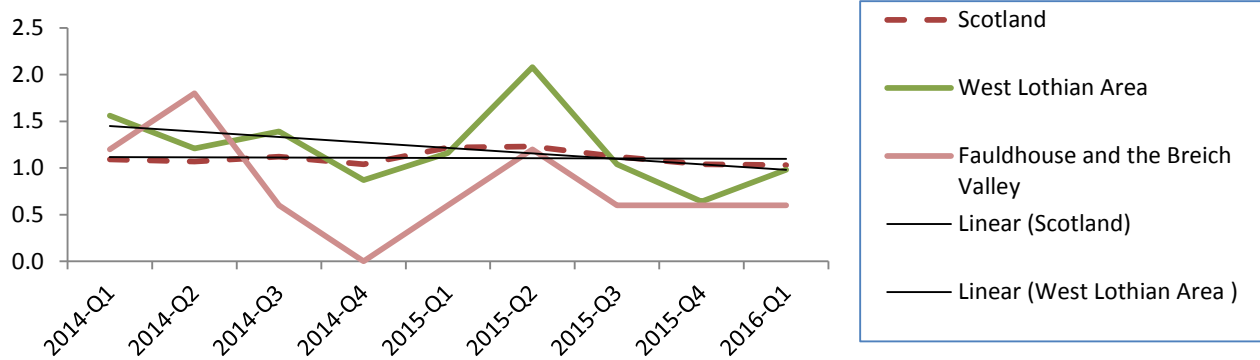
During the 2016-17 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 0 casualties due to fire in comparison to 0 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



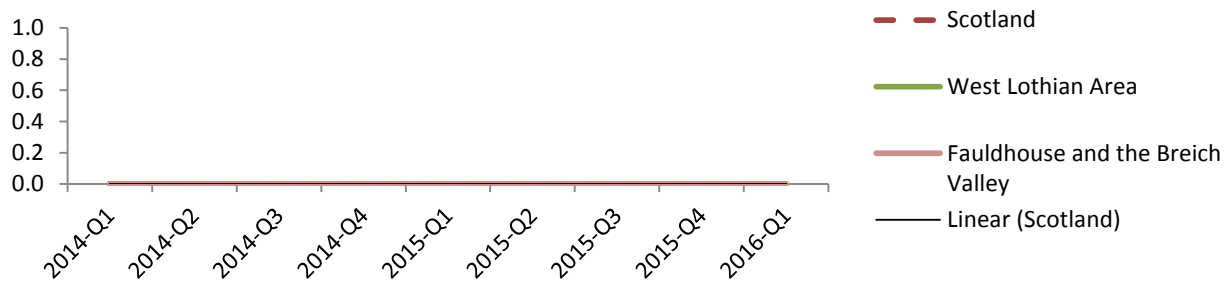
SFRS have dealt with 36 deliberate fires incidents during 2016-17 year to date reporting period in comparison to 33 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

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



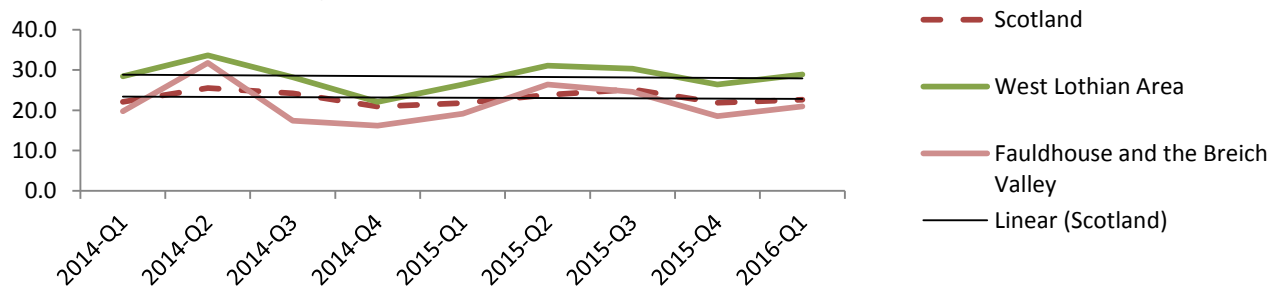
SFRS have dealt with 1 non domestic fires incident during 2016-17 year to date reporting period in comparison to 1 during 2016-17 year to date reporting period.

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



SFRS have dealt with 2 casualties from non-fire emergencies during 2016-17 year to date reporting period in comparison to 0 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population



SFRS have dealt with 35 UFAS incidents during 2016-17 year to date reporting period in comparison to 34 during 2015-16 year to date reporting period.

Additional Comments

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



FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

POLICE SCOTLAND REPORT

REPORT BY POLICE INSPECTOR GREGOR FORBES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

Police update for Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley.

B. RECOMMENDATION

For discussion by the Chair.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values

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

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

III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers

IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators

V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement

VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)

VII Consideration at PDSP

VIII Other consultations

D. TERMS OF REPORT

To update the Local Area Committee on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 31st July 2016.

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

PERFORMANCE

Crimes Groups 1 to 5 (Ref: Crime Statistics JG Area Command) (April 16 – June 16)						
Area	This year to date			Last year to date		
	Rec.	Sol.	% Sol	Rec.	Sol.	% Sol
West Lothian Area	1835	834	45.4%	1940	812	41.9%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (April 15 to March 16)	131	66	50.4%	152	62	40.8%

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

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

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

ASB performance for period up to 30th June 2016.

Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward – End of June 2016					
Month	Jun-16	LYTD	TYTD	% Change	
Youth Calls	20	58	53	-9%	
All ASB Calls	59	286	188	-34%	
Hate Crime	3	5	8	60%	
Vandalism & Reckless Conduct	7	45	24	-47%	
Fire-raising	1	4	4	0%	
Public Space Assaults	7	20	11	-45%	

ISSUES OF NOTE

- **Exceptional Reporting on the above**

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

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

The above Anti Social Behaviour results are produced by the West Lothian Community Safety Unit and show the figures up to the end of July 2016.

Youth Calls – down by 9% in the year to date and there were 20 calls reported in June.

ASB Calls – down 34% in the year to date and this equates to 98 less reports to the police.

Hate Crime – 3 reports in June and a year to date rise from 5 to 8 being 60%.

Positive lines of enquiry on

Vandalism / Reckless Conduct – down 47% from last year. 7 crimes recorded in June being 21 less than last year to date.

Fire Raising – 1 report in June with there being 4 reports in year to date.

Public Space Assaults – Down 45% - 7 crimes reported in June.

PREVENTION

- **Activities**

Reducing antisocial behaviour within our communities

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

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

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

There are no party houses identified in the Ward at this time.

Reducing community and social harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse

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

In July, four persons were reported for drug offences, including, concerned in the supply of Cannabis (x1 Prison), production of a drug namely growing cannabis (2 persons reported) and possession of cannabis.

Making our Roads Safer

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

Road Safety - Local officers continue to carry out Speed checks at various locations in the Ward including the A71 and at Breich and the A71 at West Calder. 11 Conditional offer tickets have been issued for a variety of Road Traffic offences including speeding.

In addition to this as a result of proactive policing by local officers 6 persons have been reported for Road Traffic offences including dangerous driving, no insurance, drive whilst under influence of alcohol, no MOT and fail to obey a red light.

Tackling Acquisitive Crime

There was an attempt housebreaking in July when efforts were made to enter a barn at a farm in Harburn, no entry was gained / property stolen.

A garage was forced at a croft in West Calder area and a quad bike stolen.

An attempt to break into a house in Polbeth was made by smashing a rear patio window, enquiries continue into this.

- **Initiatives**

Reducing Anti Social Behaviour

The Ward Officers 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 is presently no party house identified at this time in the ward.

The CAT officers and Ward officers completed a multi agency day of Action in the area on the last day of school. The focus was on ASB and alcohol issue. There were no reported issues in the ward and no youths were identified for any issues of alcohol misuse or anti social behaviour.

Tackling Substance Misuse

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

The CAT officers work closely with the Prison to deter and detect offences both within and externally. A person was reported in July for trying to take drugs into the prison.

Making our Roads Safer

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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

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

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.

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

CONTACTS

Sector Inspector

Inspector Gregor Forbes

Gregor.Forbes@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Sector Sergeant

Sergeant John Fleming

John.fleming@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Community Policing Team West Calder

Mail to:

FauldhouseBreichValleyCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

PC Keith Montgomery and PC Ross Walker

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

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

Youth Community Officer – PC Helen Woollven



FAULDHOUSE AND BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

HOUSING CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES UPDATE

REPORT BY HEAD OF HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to note Housing, Building and Customer Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period 1 April – 30 June 2016.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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

D. Housing Performance Information

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

Property Void & Let Performance: Mainstream Tenancies

Void Period	April 2016	%	May 2016	%	June 2016	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	4	57.1%	5	45.5%	3	60%	55%
2-4 weeks	0	0%	1	9.1%	0	0%	30%
4+ weeks	3	42.9%	5	45.5%	2	40%	15%
Total Lets	7	100%	11	100%	5	100%	100%

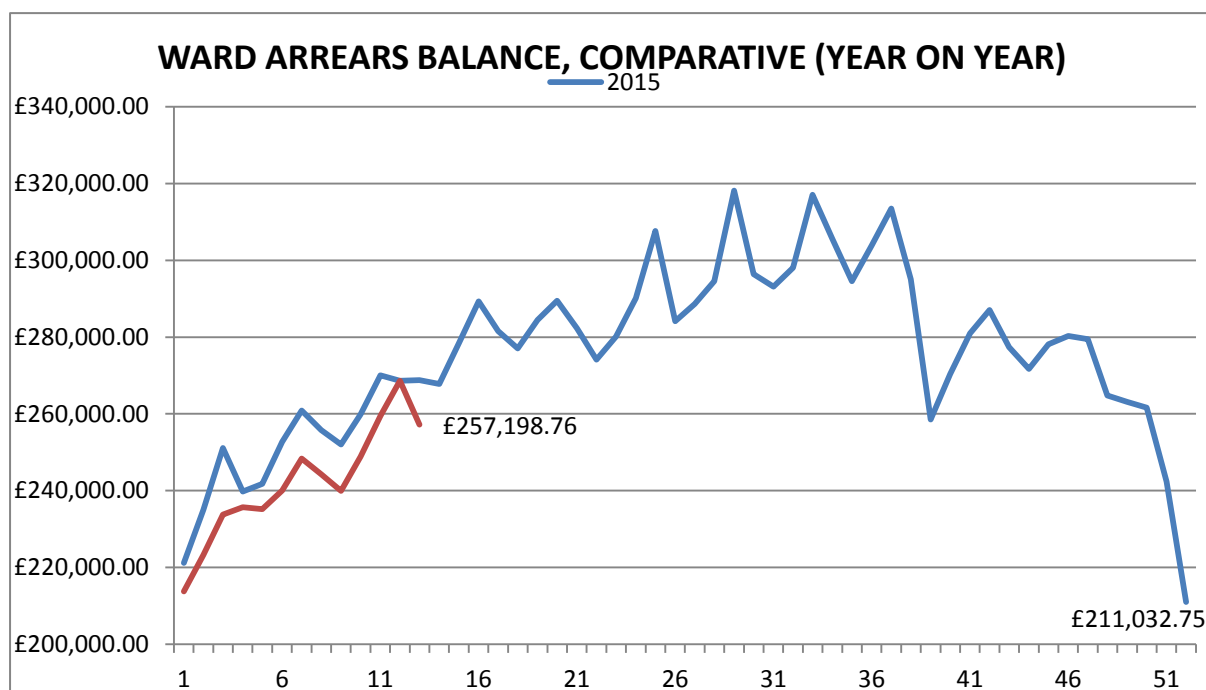
Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	April 2016	%	May 2016	%	June 2016	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	6	85.7%	5	100%	3	75%	55%
2-4 weeks	1	14.3%	0	0%	0	0%	30%
4+ weeks	0	0%	0	0%	1	25%	15%
Total Lets	7	100%	5	100%	4	100%	100%

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

There are 16 Policy Voids in the ward. Twelve of these are being held for modernisation (Main Street, Fauldhouse), 1 held for decant and 3 are awaiting/undergoing major works (asbestos removal and electrical).

Rent Arrears



	2015/16 (WK13)		2016/17 (WK13)	
Arrears Banding	Balance	Tenants in Arrears	Balance	Tenants in Arrears
£0.01-£49.99	£2,424	119	£2,727	133
£50.00-£149.99	£18,610	205	£19,031	206
£150.00-£299.99	£22,176	104	£20,521	97
£300.00-£499.99	£33,332	87	£43,826	116
£500.00-£749.99	£36,868	59	£37,660	61
£750.00-£999.99	£34,078	39	£34,822	40
£1000.00-£1999.99	£60,592	44	£50,206	35
£2000.00+	£60,748	24	£48,405	17
Total	£268,828	681	£257,199	705

The ward position for the 1st quarter of 2016/17 is £257,198.76. This is a slight decrease on last year's position of £268,828. However, the overall West Lothian position has significantly improved by £102,375 from last year and at the end of June was £1,529,785.

Although there are 52 serious arrears cases (£1,000+) it should be noted 48.1% of cases (339) are in the lower bands (£300 or less).

The strategy for 2016/17 will focus on the following areas:-

- Arrangements to Pay – increase the visibility of tenants with arrangements within the performance model to identify trends in missed payments for follow up action

- Making best use of resources by considering communicating more with customers through email and telephone
- Increase Direct Debit Take Up by targeted work for example tenants who currently pay by Standing Order
- Behaviour Changes using behavioural analysis and nudge techniques
- Benchmarking with other local authorities to ensure we identify and consider implementing any best practice
- Campaign Programme to reinforce the message that paying rent is not a matter of choice and we are here to help and assist tenants experiencing financial difficulties
- 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
- Rent Strategy 2017-22 work will start in the summer to develop the strategy for the next 5 years to align with future new build plans and annual rent increases

Local Area Team Activity

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

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

Capital Programme and New Build Council Housing

Capital Programme Update

Main Street, Fauldhouse	The refurbishment and extension of the Garibaldi Row at Main Street, Fauldhouse is well advanced and works are expected to be completed in September.
Lanrigg, Fauldhouse – Major elemental repairs	External upgrading of roofs and roughcast is on-going. This year's work is 58% complete.
Cuthill Crescent, Stoneyburn	External upgrading of roofs and roughcast is on-going. This year's work is 69% complete

New Build Update

Fauldhouse & Breich Valley	Site	No of units	Site Start	No of Houses Handed Over	No of completions
	Eastfield, Fauldhouse	40	Jul-16	0	0

Tenant Participation

The Tenants Panel (Financial Scrutiny) won the Tenant Information Services (TIS) National Excellence Award for the Most Inspiring Scrutiny Group category. This was announced at the recent TIS Conference held in Glasgow and was in recognition of the excellent work being carried out by the

Tenants Panel over the past 12 months on scrutinising the Housing Revenue Account, in partnership with Finance and HCBS.

A new facebook group has been set up for West Lothian Council tenants. It is for tenants to participate and be consulted on housing matters. It is a closed group and will be monitored by the TP Team.

The TP Team have been accompanying the Housing Strategy and Development Team along to their consultation sessions on the Local Housing Strategy to promote tenant participation in general. The pop up sessions were held in various locations throughout West Lothian including Bathgate Partnership Centre, Linlithgow Library, Strathbrock Partnership Centre, Fauldhouse Partnership Centre, Armadale Community Centre and Whitburn Library. An extra session was arranged in Blackburn Mill Centre upon request from a tenant via our new facebook group.

A Tenant Led Inspection (TLI) into asbestos in void properties is ongoing. This will be ready to feedback to senior managers in early August 2016.

The Homeless Network meets monthly to support those who are affected by homelessness. They recently met with the Care Commission to discuss their views on the service they received and are currently reviewing the information customers receive when moving into temporary tenancies.

Invited tenants were given the opportunity to attend training sessions on the new tenants portal prior to going live. This website will allow tenants to check their rent balances, make payments, set up direct debits and report and check the progress of any repair issues.

The summer edition of Tenants News was delivered to all households in June 2016.

Safer Neighbourhood Team Ward Information

The Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT's) across the nine multi member ward areas are an integral part of the Community Safety Unit and are a key feature of partnership working. In all the wards, partnership working involves the local housing team, youth worker, council officer with the SNT and officers from Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service all working together to tackle antisocial behaviour in the wards. When necessary, the partners will liaise with partners from the voluntary organisations including Mental Health advisory workers and private landlords in order to reduce antisocial behaviour.

An interim ASBO was granted against a tenant for a case in Polbeth in previous months. This property has now been terminated as it became clear to SNT and Housing that the property was no longer being used by the tenant as their principal home. The property will subsequently be let sensitively due to the problems previously suffered by neighbours.

Joint partnership working has been completed in relation to a case involving 2 vulnerable males who continually report issues regarding each other. Agreements were met and expectations of their future conduct. To date, there has been no new reports or calls.

Two Floorwalk operations have taken place with Police Scotland, SNT, Youth Action and WLDAS to target youth hotspots for ASB and alcohol misuse. These mainly targeted Polbeth and Fauldhouse areas. During the operation a quantity of alcohol was seized with 4 youths spoken to and parents made aware. During the operation there was a reduction in youth ASB calls.

A case in Stoneyburn has been closed after intervention from SNT and Police Scotland. Noise calls were received and subsequent referrals to support agencies were made to assist. No further calls have been received and one of the parties has since moved to an alternative address.

Youth Worker Update – Two cases are currently live in the ward to the Youth Worker.

E. CONCLUSION

To note the contents of the report.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

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Alistair Shaw

Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services

Date: 9 August 2016



West Lothian
Council

FAULDHUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

SERVICE UPDATE – NETS, LAND & COUNTRYSIDE

REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise members of the recent activity of the NET's, Land & Countryside Services teams for the period 1st February to 31st May 2016.

B. RECOMMENDATION

Members are requested to:

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

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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

D1 Terms of Report

Report on activity for period 1st February - 31st May 2016.

D2 Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

The open space grass cutting operations started on the 12th April and all cycles to date have been completed on schedule.

The first weed control visit has been completed. A new chemical was trialed, along with the normal one, with initial results positive.

Discussions ongoing with Fauldhouse CDT regarding the hanging baskets within the village green, although too late to get something in place this year.

Construction of the new grass football pitch has started, with the delivery of excavated soil from another project being delivered to the site. The works should be completed by the end of the summer, although some drainage works will possibly need to wait until grass is established next spring.

Grounds Maintenance Enquiries

In total, 23 grounds maintenance related enquires were received and dealt with.

Drainage Flooding Grass Areas – 1
Fencing Enquiries – 5
GalaDay Public Event Enquiries – 2
Gardens Competition Enquiries – 4
Grass Cutting Missed Not Cut – 1
Ground Ownership Enquiries – 1
Ground Property Vandalised – 1
Hedge Cutting Enquiries – 1
Neighbourhood Env. Teams – 1
School Grounds Enquiries – 1
Shrub Bed Not Maintained – 1
Shrub Beds Obscuring Sightline – 1
Sports Facility Enquiries – 2
Sport Pitch Marking Requests - 1

D3 Garden Maintenance Routine Works

The Garden Maintenance scheme has started for the coming season with the first grass cut started on 11 April 2016. Works ongoing to carry out additional requests received from Housing offices.

Garden Maintenance Enquiries

In total, 19 garden maintenance related enquires were received and dealt with.

Garden Maintenance General - 6
Garden Maintenance Grass Not Cut – 8
Garden Maintenance No Longer Required – 3
Garden Maintenance Scheme Charges – 1
Garden Maintenance Standard of Cut - 1

D4 Street Cleansing Routine Works

Street cleansing staff continues to clean up roads, footpaths and open spaces throughout the ward.

Street Cleansing Enquiries

In total, 145 street cleansing related enquiries were received and dealt with.

Dead Animals – 13
Dog Fouled Grass/Open Space – 5
Dog Fouling on Paths/Roads – 31
Dog Waste Bin New Request – 12
Dog Waste Bin Overflowing – 4
Glass on Paths or Open Spaces – 1
Graffiti Non Offensive - 1
Graffiti Racist or Offensive – 1
Illegal Fly Posting – 1
Illegal Fly Tipping Dumping – 35
Litter Bin Burnt/Damaged – 1
Litter General Enquiries – 4
Litter on Paths/Roads/Verges – 9
Street Sweeping Enquiries – 11
Vehicle Abandoned – 13
Environmental Enforcement Officers - 3

Enforcement Action

During the period 2 fixed penalty notices were issued for littering and 5 were issued for dog fouling throughout the ward.

Community Involvement

During the period a number of community groups and schools participated in local clean ups. Those taking part were:

- Stoneyburn Future Vision Group
- Parkhead Primary School
- Longridge Primary School
- Woodmuir Primary School
- St John the Baptist Primary School

D5 Parks and Woodland Routine Work

Windblow has continued to affect Knowes Colliery Wood, Fauldhouse. CSGNT (Central Scotland Green Network Scotland) will investigate funding for clearing and replanting the affected areas.

Parks and Woodland Enquiries

Golf Enquiries – 2
Tree Blocking Light – 1
Tree Branches Overhanging – 6
Tree Broken Damaged or Dead – 2
Tree Dangerous or Unsafe – 3
Tree Enquiries General – 7

Tree Felling Work Unauthorised – 2
Tree Roots Causing Problems – 1

D6 Open Space and Cemeteries

Open Space Routine Works

Meadow Crescent Park, Fauldhouse

Work is almost complete at Meadow Crescent. Any new bulb/tree planting will be done in the autumn.

Open Space Enquiries

Public Park Enquiries – 2
Children Play Enquiries – 1

Cemeteries Routine Works

Routine grounds maintenance operations will continue as usual.
Staff will be constructing new foundation strips in the new extension as time and resources allow.
We will aim to maintain our strong performance dealing with enquires within our target timescales.

Cemeteries Enquiries

Cemeteries General Enquiries – 10
Lair Enquiries – 4
Lair Sunken or Uneven - 2

E CONCLUSION

Routine works are currently progressing as scheduled.

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

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Open Space Strategy

Capital Programme

Appendices/Attachments: None

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Jim Jack
Head of Operational Services
9 August 2016



FAULDHOUSE AND BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PLACEMAKING IN FAULDHOUSE

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform the committee of the progress to date of the charrette in Fauldhouse.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommend that members note that:

1. all community engagement associated with the charrette has now been carried out; and
2. a full report detailing the findings from the charrette is currently being collated by the consultants.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs. Being honest, open and accountable. Making best use of our resources. Working in partnership.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	The "Fauldhouse Focus" initiative reinforces the council's commitment to community planning at a local level. Any projects arising from the placemaking engagement will be assessed for their environmental equality and health impact.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Our economy is diverse and dynamic, and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing business.- 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.

VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	£20,000 part funding has been awarded by the Scottish Government Charrette Mainstreaming Programme. Match funding has been provided from the council's Village Improvement Fund.
VII Consideration at PDSP	N/A
VIII Other consultations	Finance and Property, Housing, NETs, Education.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

Following the approval of the charrette being awarded to consultants PAS, it was agreed with the steering group that the charrette would be known as Fauldhouse Focus and would run from Wednesday 11 May to Saturday 14 May 2016.

A series of events and workshops took place over the four days of the charrette. The output from these discussions and conversations will result in a community oriented action plan. A total of 108 school children engaged with the consultants during their pre-charrette work and over 100 local people contributed their views during the four days of the event.

D2 Feedback sessions

On Wednesday 8 June, four weeks after the charrette took place, feedback sessions were held throughout the day in Fauldhouse Partnership Centre, Fauldhouse Community Development Trust Hub and the village green, where information was given to the local community on the progress already made on some projects, along with displays showing how some of the other suggestions could take shape.

Some potential projects identified during the charrette include:-

- Better pedestrian access to the railway station and bus/cycle access.
- Pedestrian priority in the centre.
- Options for developing vacant shops and sites.
- Better access to social housing.
- Support for new businesses.

The feedback sessions provided another opportunity for the community to have their say on the options that they think will best shape the future of Fauldhouse. A total of 74 local people engaged with the consultants during these sessions.

E. CONCLUSION

Fauldhouse Focus created the opportunity to employ a placemaking approach within the village. At the feedback sessions on 8 June information was given on the progress of projects/ ideas generated during the charrette and further opportunity was provided for the community to agree on options for their village and help to shape an action plan to take forward.

A full report detailing the findings of the charrette is currently being prepared by the consultants. This report will be presented to the next meeting of the Local Area Committee.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Persons:

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Craig McCorriston

Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

9 August 2016



FAULDHUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY REGENERATION – REGENERATION PLANS

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 process for developing and implementing regeneration plans.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes:

1. that regeneration plans will be developed in eight targeted West Lothian communities; and
2. the timescales for implementation of the plans.

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. The projects set out do not require a strategic environmental assessment. The projects to different degrees seek to address health and equality issues.
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 and Employability key performance indicators.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	- We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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)	The activities set out are funded from existing budgets.
VII Consideration at PDSP	Annual updates on regeneration plans will be presented to Partnership and Resources PDSP.
VIII Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

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. These are:

- Armadale
- Blackburn
- Boghall
- Bridgend
- Craigshill
- Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley (Fauldhouse, Stoneyburn, Addiewell, Polbeth)
- Livingston Central (Knightsridge, Ladywell, Dedridge)
- Whitburn

Community planning partnerships are required, by October 2017, to have locality plans in place for areas experiencing the poorest outcomes. Regeneration plans meet the requirements for locality plans, will address the themes within the Regeneration Framework at a local level, and will focus on developing local actions. The themes in the framework are:

- Employability and Employment
- Early Years and Family Learning
- Health and Wellbeing
- Economic Development
- Community Capacity and Cohesion

The framework provides a long-term plan for targeted action to improve the life chances of people living in the most disadvantaged communities in West Lothian. It gives fresh impetus and greater clarity to the targeting of interventions to address deprivation and economic exclusion within specific areas. Not all interventions will apply in every area. Plans will be developed dependent on the needs of each target area, and the assets available.

D2 Process and timescales

The process to develop the regeneration plans is set out below:

- Launch events
- Formation of steering groups
- Asset mapping/evidence gathering
- Identifying themes and issues
- Draft plans created

Launch events have been held to bring together all relevant local partners and stakeholders. The events have introduced the regeneration planning concept and process, and have provided an opportunity for discussion as well as participation in two themed workshops.

It is anticipated that draft plans will be presented to Local Area Committees towards the end of 2016, with finalised plans implemented by April 2017.

D3 Structure of the steering group

Steering groups will be established in each area as the vehicle for development and delivery of the regeneration plans. The groups will be co-ordinated by Community Regeneration Officers but it is anticipated that they will eventually be community led. Members of the group will include Key Community Organisations (KCO) that have been identified in each regeneration area; local Community Planning Partners such as Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue and NHS; council services, community councils and other relevant agencies. Plans will detail which organisations and services are represented on the steering group, with some steering groups having involvement from more than one KCO.

D4 Mapping of community assets

Mapping exercises will be carried out in each regeneration area. Physical and social assets will be documented and the information will help steering groups to identify themes and issues in each area. Initial work has been carried out in several of the regeneration areas and, where appropriate, this will be built upon.

D5 Evidence and statistical information

Statistical analysis will be undertaken for each regeneration area. Information will be gathered from a variety of sources such as SIMD (new data is expected August 2016), Scottish National Statistics, Census, local Police statistics and West Lothian Citizens Panel. Local engagement, of both community and services, will also be carried out; ensuring that the evidence gathered is a robust mix of primary and secondary research.

In Whitburn and Fauldhouse significant information will be available from the charrette process, and this will form the basis of the local evidence for those communities.

D6 Themes and issues identified

Regeneration plans will be live documents. Their format will reflect the need for long term transformational change and, as such, will allow for short, medium and long term processes, actions and targets to be detailed within the plans.

The information gathered through statistical analysis, community engagement and asset mapping will be used to determine the local issues to be addressed and the key

themes that regeneration plans will focus on.

Once themes and issues have been identified specific actions and interventions can be developed and delivered. The focus will be on long-term, process related actions which develop capacity, knowledge and assets within communities.

D7 Performance monitoring and reporting

The overarching target, as set out in the Regeneration Framework, is to reduce the gap between the most deprived 20% and the West Lothian average over 20 years. High level indicators have been determined across each of the five themes in the framework and baseline figures have been established for each indicator, allowing measurement of progress towards the 20 year targets.

Local targets and indicators will be determined as the regeneration plans are developed, using the same approach. This will ensure that robust baseline information is available, allowing monitoring of progress over the short, medium and long term.

Community Regeneration Officers will have a responsibility to ensure that plans link with the Regeneration Framework and the Single Outcome Agreement. They will ensure there is operational alignment with the emerging Learning Community Plan relevant to each regeneration area and with the Integrated Joint Board Locality Plans.

A Regeneration Framework Steering Board has been established to support the regeneration planning process. This board is chaired by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration and has a named lead for each of the five themes within the framework. Community Regeneration Officers also attend the board and provide the link from the board to the eight regeneration plan groups.

Quarterly update reports will be presented to Local Area Committees, and an annual report will be prepared for Partnership and Resources PDSP. Updates will also be presented to the Community Planning Board annually.

E. CONCLUSION

Regeneration plans are being developed in eight targeted regeneration areas in West Lothian. The plans will be flexible, working documents which will provide a long-term targeted action to improve the life chances of people living in the most disadvantaged communities in West Lothian. They will give fresh impetus and greater clarity to the targeting of interventions to address deprivation and economic exclusion within specific areas.

Plans will be developed with communities over the next six months and implemented by April 2017. Quarterly updates will be provided to the relevant Local Area Committees and annually to Partnership and Resources PDSP

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.

Appendices/Attachments: none

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Craig McCorriston
Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration
09 August 2016



FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND PROVISIONAL ALLOCATIONS 2016

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 provisional allocations made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2016 to groups in the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the committee notes that two groups within Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward have applied to the fund and will be 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. The fund is design to assist with health, wellbeing and equality. There are no Strategic Environmental assessment issues raised by the report.
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 £29,106.54 agreed by the council. £2,237.40 will be distributed in the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley 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 eight Local Area Committees.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

Council approves the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund each year. In 2016 the total fund amounts to £29,106.54 (£28,736.72 in 2015). The fund is divided by the total number of beneficiaries which, in 2016, provisionally, is 2,862 (4,943 in 2015). By using that number the provisional global unit cost for 2016 is £10.17 (£5.82 in 2015) per beneficiary (£29,106.54/2,862). In Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward there are 220 beneficiaries and a provisional allocation of £2,237.40. These figures are provisional as nine organisations have not yet returned an application form and this is being followed-up. If any substantive changes arise in regards to Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward, the Local Area Committee will be advised. Otherwise, a full report on the final allocations will be made to the Voluntary Organisation PDSP later in the year. Letters will be issued to groups in late October advising them of the amount of funding they will receive and payments will be made directly to the bank accounts of groups during November via PECOS.

D2 Applications 2016: Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward

Eleven application forms were issued to groups across Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward, with two returned to date. The intention is that both groups will be supported. The remaining nine applications will be followed up. Appendix one shows the organisations to be supported and the provisional allocation to each.

D3 Applications 2016: Livingston-wide and West Lothian-wide organisations

One application was sent to a Livingston-wide group. The application form has not been returned and this is being followed-up. Two applications were issued to West Lothian-wide groups, with one returned to date. The intention is that this group will be supported. Appendix two shows the organisations and the provisional allocation to each.

E. CONCLUSION

This report advises of the provisional allocations that are proposed to be made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2016 to groups in Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley 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 will be issued to groups in late October advising them of the amount of funding they will receive, and payments will be 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: Appendix 1: Provisional Allocations 2016 Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward

Appendix 2: Provisional Allocations 2016 Livingston-wide and West Lothian-wide Organisations

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Craig McCorriston
Head of Planning Economic Development and Regeneration

Date: 9 August 2016

FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND PROVISIONAL ALLOCATIONS 2016

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

Appendix 1: Provisional Allocations 2016 Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward

Group	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount
1. Blackfaulds Court Tenants Association	0	£0.00
2. Fauldhouse Monday Club Old Age Pensioners	160	£1,627.20
3. Longridge Over 50's Group	0	£0.00
4. St John the Baptist Social Care Group	0	£0.00
5. St John the Baptist Over 50s Group	0	£0.00
6. Stewart Court Sheltered Housing Day Centre	0	£0.00
7. West Calder Community Centre Management Committee	0	£0.00
8. West Calder Community Centre Management Committee	0	£0.00
9. Breich Community Council (Woodmuir Social Club-Ladies Section)	0	£0.00
10. Willow Wood Residents Association	60	£610.20
11. Stoneyburn and Bents Old Folks Treat	0	£0.00
Totals	220	£2,237.40

Note: Nine groups have not applied to the fund and these will be followed up.

FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND PROVISIONAL ALLOCATIONS 2016

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

Appendix 2: Provisional Allocations 2016: Livingston-Wide & West Lothian-Wide Organisations

Group	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount
Braid House Day Centre	0	£0.00
Total	0	£0.00

Group	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount
West Lothian Visually Impaired Club	0	£0.00
West Lothian 50+ Network	180	£1,830.60
Total	180	£1,830.60

**FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – AUGUST 2016
WORKPLAN 2016-2017**

Issue	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date
Housing report	Quarterly update on housing issues	Lorraine Donnelly	November 2016
Police/NRT report	Quarterly update on police/NRT activity	Insp. Gregor Forbes	November 2016
LBFR report	Quarterly report on activity	Richie Hall	November 2016
NETs Report	Update report on NETs activity	Tony Fleming	November 2016
Schools Update – St Kentigern's	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school	Andrew Sharkey	November 2016
Villages Improvement Fund Applications	To present all applications received to the VIF	Laura Wilson/Alice Mitchell	November 2016
Regeneration Plans	To provide an update on the implementation of regeneration plans	Laura Wilson	November 2016
Fauldhouse Focus	An update on the charrette	Laura Wilson	November 2016
Pensioners Christmas Fund	To inform the LAC of the proposed payments to eligible groups in the ward.	Laura Wilson	November 2016
Fauldhouse CDT Report	To update on activity	Julie Smith	November 2016
West Calder & Harburn CDT	To provide an annual update on activity	Rob Pooley	November 2016
Schools Update – West Calder	To provide an annual report on activity and	Lisa Grubb	February 2017

High School	attainment at the school		
School Update – Whitburn Academy	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school	tbc	August 2017
Addiewell Prison Report	To provide an annual update on activity	Ian Whitehead	tbc