

MINUTE of MEETING of the LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 14 NOVEMBER 2019.

Present – Councillors Lawrence Fitzpatrick (Chair), Peter Heggie, Peter Johnston and Moira Shemilt

In Attendance –

James Cameron, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council  
Dougie Grierson, Community Regeneration Team Leader, West Lothian Council  
David Lees, Cleaner Communities Manager, West Lothian Council  
Sandy Ross, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council  
Elaine Nisbet, Anti-Poverty Manager, West Lothian Council  
Gordon Brown, Roads and Transportation Manager, West Lothian Council  
Lee Clark, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service  
PC Ryan McCartney, Police Scotland  
PC Ronan McCulloch, Police Scotland  
Suzie Young, Head Teacher, Inveralmond Community High School  
Brian Johnston, Livingston Village Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. MINUTES

(a) The Committee approved the Minute of its meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 subject to the undernoted amendments: -

- Inclusion of Brian Johnston, Livingston Village Community Council, in the sederunt
- Correcting the name of the Police Scotland representative in attendance from Andy McMahon to Alan McMahon.

The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

(b) The Committee approved the Minute of its meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. INVERALMOND HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Suzie Young, Headteacher, Inveralmond Community High School provided the panel with a very informative presentation which set out the school's excellent attainment levels from 2015-2019 against its virtual comparator. She spoke of the breadth of awards that were on offer to students to ensure improved life choices for young people when they left school and outlined the school's efforts to ensure children with additional

challenges left school with the “magic five” awards. The Head Teacher was delighted to advise that 95% of school leavers had left the school with these awards.

The committee then heard about the school’s Improvement Hub which helped pupils feel welcome from the moment they arrived in the door, ensure they were nurtured and cared for all of which had greatly reduced the number of exclusions at the school. The presentation then went on to set out the school’s priorities during the current school year and provided members a taste of the work that was underway to close the literacy gap to ensure pupils could access National 5 qualifications in S4.

The Head Teacher was delighted to tell the members about the school’s achievements including recognition as a Unicef UK Silver Rights Aware school, recipients of a number of Developing Young Workforce Champion Awards and the winners of two Stellar Awards in the categories of Numeracy Award Winners and STEM Award winners.

The Head Teacher concluded her presentation by setting out the schools priorities going forward.

On behalf of the committee, the Chair thanked the Head Teacher and all staff and pupils for their outstanding work and wished them well for the coming year.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report.

#### 4. FIRE REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an update on the activity in the ward for the period up to 30th September 2019.

It was recommended that the committee note and provide comment on the Livingston South Multi-member Ward Performance Report.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report

#### 5. POLICE REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Scotland providing an update on police activity for the ward up to 31st October 2019.

It was recommended that the committee notes the content of the report.

Following consideration of the report, the council’s Roads and Transportation Manager provided an overview of the actions that could be

taken by Police Scotland to control various illegal and inconsiderate parking issues at various locations within the ward which they had been receiving complaints about. They also heard that officers were exploring the introduction of additional waiting restrictions in Eliburn South, Livingston Stadium and Livingston South Station. Police Scotland provided information on their general rule in relation to pavement parking which the Roads and Transportation Manager predicted would be addressed by the Transport Scotland Bill once it was enacted.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report.

### 6. SERVICE UPDATE - NETS, LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services providing an update of activity of the Nets, Land and Countryside Service teams for the period 1 August to 30 September 2019.

It was recommended that the committee: -

- (a) Note the work carried out by the service in the local area; and
- (b) Advise of any areas that require further information or investigation.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report.

### 7. HOUSING REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services providing an overview of the service activities in the Livingston South ward for the period 1st July to 30th September 2019.

It was recommended that the committee note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period 1st July 2019 to 30th September 2019.

In response to a question, the Housing Manager undertook to provide ward members with an update on the number of people currently on the housing waiting list.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report

### 8. ANTI-POVERTY SERVICE UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services providing information on the work undertaken by the Anti-Poverty Service from April 2018 – March 2019.

It was recommended that the committee notes: -

- (i) The Anti-Poverty Service provision in the ward; and
- (ii) The impact provision was having in terms of supporting the outcomes of the Community Planning Partnership's Anti-Poverty Strategy 2018 to 2023.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report and pass on congratulations to the advice shop staff for their excellent work and outstanding success rate at appeals.

### 9. PENSIONERS' GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2019/20

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration detailing the allocations made from the Pensioners' Christmas Fund 2019/20 to groups in the Livingston South ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

It was recommended that the committee notes that seven groups within Livingston South ward had applied to the fund and had been supported.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report

### 10. TOWN CENTRE FUND 2019/20

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration providing an update on progress in delivering the Town Centre Capital Projects agreed by the committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019.

It was recommended that the Committee notes: -

- I. That 18 projects had been agreed within the ward;
- II. That officers were working with applicants to agree the final details to support the delivery of the projects; and
- III. That further progress updates would be brought to committee.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report

11. WORKPLAN

The committee considered the contents of the workplan (a copy of which had been circulated).

Decision

To note the contents of the workplan.