



Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

30 October 2020

A meeting of the **Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Webex Virtual Meeting Room** on **Friday 6 November 2020 at 9:30am**.

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

Public Session

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest - Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration at the meeting, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest
3. Order of Business, including notice of urgent business and declarations of interest in any urgent business
4. Confirm Draft Minutes of Meeting of Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Local Area Committee held on Friday 06 March 2020 (herewith)
5. Police Ward Update - report by PC Russell Rosie and Fiona Bell (herewith)
6. Service Update - Nets, Land and Countryside - report by Head of Operational Services (herewith)
7. Housing, Customer and Building Services Update - report by Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services (herewith)
8. Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Quarter 1 2020/21 Performance - report by Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (herewith)

DATA LABEL: Public

9. Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Quarter 2 2020/21 Performance - report by Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (herewith)
10. Partnership Facilities in Winchburgh - report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
11. Workplan (herewith)

NOTE **For further information please contact Val Johnston, Tel No.01506 281604 or email val.johnston@westlothian.gov.uk**

CODE OF CONDUCT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

This form is to help members. It is not a substitute for declaring interests at the meeting.

Members should look at every item and consider if they have an interest. If members have an interest they must consider if they have to declare it. If members declare an interest they must consider if they have to withdraw.

NAME	MEETING	DATE

AGENDA ITEM NO.	FINANCIAL (F) OR NON-FINANCIAL INTEREST (NF)	DETAIL ON THE REASON FOR YOUR DECLARATION (e.g. I am Chairperson of the Association)	REMAIN OR WITHDRAW

The objective test is whether a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard the interest as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your discussion or decision making in your role as a councillor.

Other key terminology appears on the reverse.

If you require assistance, please ask as early as possible. Contact Julie Whitelaw, Monitoring Officer, 01506 281626, julie.whitelaw@westlothian.gov.uk, James Millar, Governance Manager, 01506 281695, james.millar@westlothian.gov.uk, Carol Johnston, Chief Solicitor, 01506 281626, carol.johnston@westlothian.gov.uk, Committee Services Team, 01506 281604, 01506 281621 committee.services@westlothian.gov.uk

SUMMARY OF KEY TERMINOLOGY FROM REVISED CODE

The objective test

“...whether a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard the interest as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your discussion or decision making in your role as a councillor”

The General Exclusions

- As a council tax payer or rate payer or in relation to the council's public services which are offered to the public generally, as a recipient or non-recipient of those services
- In relation to setting the council tax.
- In relation to matters affecting councillors' remuneration, allowances, expenses, support services and pension.
- As a council house tenant, unless the matter is solely or mainly about your own tenancy, or you are in arrears of rent.

Particular Dispensations

- As a member of an outside body, either appointed by the council or later approved by the council
- Specific dispensation granted by Standards Commission
- Applies to positions on certain other public bodies (IJB, SEStran, City Region Deal)
- Allows participation, usually requires declaration but not always
- Does not apply to quasi-judicial or regulatory business

The Specific Exclusions

- As a member of an outside body, either appointed by the council or later approved by the council
- The position must be registered by you
- Not all outside bodies are covered and you should take advice if you are in any doubt.
- Allows participation, always requires declaration
- Does not apply to quasi-judicial or regulatory business

Categories of “other persons” for financial and non-financial interests of other people

- Spouse, a civil partner or a cohabitee
- Close relative, close friend or close associate
- Employer or a partner in a firm
- A body (or subsidiary or parent of a body) in which you are a remunerated member or director
- Someone from whom you have received a registrable gift or registrable hospitality
- Someone from whom you have received registrable election expenses

MINUTE of MEETING of the BROXBURN, UPHALL AND WINCHBURGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within ADULT LEARNING ROOM, ENTRANCE B, STRATHBROCK PARTNERSHIP CENTRE, BROXBURN, on 6 MARCH 2020.

Present – Councillors Angela Doran (Chair), Diane Calder and Chris Horne

Apologies – Councillor Janet Campbell

In Attendance

Dougie Grierson, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council

Stuart Pollock, Scottish, Fire and Rescue Service

PC Russell Rosie, Police Scotland

Phyllis McFadyen, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council

Courtney Gemmell, Housing, West Lothian Council

Grant Walker, Housing, West Lothian Council

Tony Fleming, Nets, Land and Countryside, West Lothian Council

Tim Ward, Social Policy, West Lothian Council

Keith McLeod (Broxburn Community Council)

Nick Knox (Winchburgh Community Council)

Irene Bishop (Uphall Community Council)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

2. MINUTE

The committee approved the Minute of its meeting held on 15 November 2019. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. FIRE UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an update on the activity within the ward for the period up to 31 December 2019.

Attached to the report was a series of graphs showing activity across a number of priorities and included comparisons with previous years.

The Fire Officer reported that in relation to deliberate fires the main cause behind the data was the setting on fires of refuse bins and that the advertising of this on social media only exacerbated the situation amongst youths.

The committee was invited to note and provide comment on the Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh multi-member ward performance report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

4. POLICE WARD UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by PC Russell Rosie providing performance, activity and issues in the ward up to 31 January 2020.

PC Russell Rosie then explained all the various initiatives that were taking place across the ward by Police Scotland and included bogus callers as the weather started to improve; parking on Main Street, Broxburn; and parking on pavements.

PC Rosie continued to advise committee of some overall initiatives that Police Scotland was undertaking and included changes to some shift patterns so there was a stronger police presence when licensed premises were closing; the commencement of drug testing at the roadside for the use of cannabis and cocaine; advising businesses on enhanced security to avoid break-ins; and working with fire colleagues in relation to blue bins being set on fire.

With regards to attendance at meetings of community councils, PC Rosie advised committee that it was his hope and intention to try and attend these meetings. However, it was a matter of available resources and at the moment a lot of officers' time was being taken up by training new recruits in preparation of the Climate Emergency conference taking place in Glasgow later in the year.

PC Roise concluded his report by reminding committee that the police relied on members of the public reporting incidents and to do so regularly so they could collect the necessary intelligence to take investigations forward.

The committee took the opportunity to ask questions of PC Rosie and in doing so requested if it would be possible for future police reports to contain statistics relevant to speeding offences and drug offences in the ward.

Decision

1. To note the content of the report;
2. To note the initiatives being carried out by Police Scotland across the ward and the whole of West Lothian; and
3. To request that future police reports include statistics in relation to speeding offences and drug offences in the ward.

5. CRIMINAL JUSTICE UNPAID WORK PRIORITY PLAN 2020-24

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy outlining the council's position and priority plan, including a consultation response, on the unpaid work elements of

Community Payback Orders (CPO).

The report provided an overview of the activity that had been undertaken over the past twelve months by the unpaid work scheme. Also contained in the report was details of the consultation carried out by the council in July and August 2019 on elements of the scheme.

In relation to the bike recycling scheme the committee sought further information on this worthwhile scheme noting that a number of the refurbished bikes were distributed to Riverkids, a local West Lothian charity. Additionally, any parts that could not be used and were subsequently scrapped for money, that money also went to charity.

Committee then suggested that in relation to the bike recycling scheme contact could be established with the bike library based in Livingston and/or refurbished bikes could be provided to members of the public so they could access both The Shale Trail and The Heritage Trail.

Committee continued to explore the support offered to those undertaking the unpaid work, noting that many of them required support and treatment for drug and alcohol addiction. They were advised that the council and other stakeholders worked in partnership to support the reduction in reoffending.

It was suggested that in order to provide committee with a better understanding of the work provided to those in the community with drug and alcohol addictions then an invitation to the West Lothian Drug & Alcohol Service (WLDAS) be extended to attend the next local area committee meeting.

The report concluded by advising that details on how to access the scheme were contained in the appendix attached to the report.

It was recommended that the committee notes the priorities within the plan, the content of the consultation response and shares views and comment where necessary.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report;
2. To request that local ward members and community representatives be provided with further information on the recycling bike scheme;
3. To request that officers investigate the possibility of providing bikes to the Bike Library based in Livingston or for use by the public at The Shale Trail and The Heritage Trail; and
4. To ask representatives of WLDAS to attend a future meeting of the local area committee to provide an overview of their service provision to the communities of West Lothian.

6. SERVICE UPDATE - NETS, LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising of the recent activity of the NETS, Land and Countryside Service teams for the period 1 November 2019 to 31 January 2020.

Committee noted the information pertaining to fly tipping and sought clarity on how the increase in fly tipping in recent years had been attributable to a media campaign. Concerns were also raised as to whether the increase in fly tipping was attributable to the change in hours of operation of the council's recycling centres or indeed to the charges being imposed on bulky uplifts.

Additionally, committee had previously requested information in reports relating to the costs associated with fly tipping but this had not been included.

Officers undertook to investigate the points raised and provide further information to local ward members and community representatives at a later date.

It was recommended that committee note the work carried out to date and future planned work.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report;
2. To agree that officers provide clarity on how an increase in fly tipping in recent years was attributable to a media campaign; and
3. To agree that costs associated with fly tipping be included in future committee reports.

7. REPORT ON KIRKHILL CYCLE PATH AND ISSUES AT FIVESTANKS PLACE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services providing an update on the current status of the cycle path leading to Fivestanks Place from the new build council housing development at Kirkhill.

Attached to the report at Appendix 1 was a list of issues that had been previously been raised at local area committee meetings, along with action undertaken and progress to date. The issues included flooding at Fivestanks; anti-social behaviour and crime; and the path linking the existing estate to the new estate.

The committee discussed a number of continuing problems at the estate and it was noted that if dirt bikes continued to use the path then residents were encouraged to report all such incidents to the police. This would

allow the police to build up intelligence over a period of time and allow them to better tackle the situation.

The committee were also advised that housing would continue to monitor the situation with regards to litter on the estate, noting that responsibility for this had now transferred from Lovell to the council. Also, the future of the Heras fencing, which had been installed to protect the new plants and shrubs, would be reviewed in light of it having been vandalised on a number of occasions.

In concluding the report committee requested that officers should contact the residents on the estate to advise them of the latest position on those issues they had previously raised.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report;
2. To note that the council has assumed responsibility for litter picking on the estate;
3. To note that the future of the Heras fencing needed to be considered in light of it having been vandalised on a number of occasions;
4. To note that residents were being asked to report all incidents of dirt bikes using the local path network to Police Scotland; and
5. To agree that council housing officers provide residents with an update on all those raised they had previously raised at local area committee meetings.

8. 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 within the Broxburn ward.

The local area committee was asked to note the contents of the report for the period 1 October to 31 December 2019.

In noting the contents of the report information was requested in respect of a number of points; these being how the council managed work with firewalls where there was a mixture of tenancies; maintenance of block P and Q at the Winchburgh development site; and to ask that officers promote the use of DHP payments amongst tenants.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report;
2. To request further information on what the council were doing when undertaking work with firewalls between properties where

there was a mixture of tenancies;

3. To request further information in relation to the maintenance of the open space areas at block P and Q at the new Winchburgh development site; and
4. To request that officers promote and encourage tenants to consider the use if DHP payments.

9. TOWN FUND CENTRE 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 committee on 4 October 2019.

It was recommended that the local area committee :-

1. Notes that 11 projects within the ward were being funded;
2. Notes that officers were working with applicants to agree the final details to support delivery of the projects;
3. That the Scottish Government has advised local authorities that they were extending the expenditure deadline for all projects to 31 March 2021 and the completion deadline for all projects to 30 September 2021; and
4. That further progress updates would be brought to the committee.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

10. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2020/21

The committee considered the timetable of meetings for 2020/21 (a copy of which had been circulated).

Decision

To approve the timetable of meetings for 2020/21.

11. WORKPLAN

The Committee considered the workplan for its future meetings.

Decision

To note the workplan.

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



West Lothian
Council

Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh , LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT BY PC Russell Rosie and Fiona Bell

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Area Committee with an update on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 28th October 2020.

B. RECOMMENDATION

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

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; and working in partnership
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	None.
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Performance relative to the 5 Year Average; set out in the report.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger; we take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive society
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

WARD 2 – Broxburn, Uphall, Winchburgh, Dechmont and Ecclesmachan

OFFICIAL: POLICE AND PARTNERS

NATIONAL PRIORITIES – DELIVERED LOCALLY

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

- Violence
- Public protection
- Terrorism
- Serious and organised crime groups
- Antisocial behaviour
- Drug and alcohol misuse

WEST LOTHIAN PRIORITIES

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

- Reducing community and social harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse
- Protecting vulnerable groups
- Reducing antisocial behaviour within our communities
- Reducing casualty rates from fires and road traffic collisions

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PRIORTIES

Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh

- Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
- Substance Misuse
- Acquisitive Crime
- Road Safety

WARD 2 – Broxburn, Uphall, Winchburgh, Dechmont and Ecclesmachan

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PERFORMANCE

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

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

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

Livingston South and Craigshill Community Officers

PC Russell Rosie
PC Fiona Bell

The Covid-19 pandemic and national guidance, restrictions and legislation, has created new demands on police. All aspects of policing have been affected accordingly.

Violence, Disorder and Anti-social Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour rose in all wards across West Lothian creating unprecedented demand. Night-time economy issues dropped dramatically, as would be expected with the restrictions on public houses and we refocused our activities to attending dwellings and public spaces across the area and across all days of the week.

Despite the significant increase in calls, there was not much difference year on year in relation to fireraising, malicious mischief, vandalism and reckless conduct. The vast majority of calls related to the public calling in to report neighbours and various COVID breaches from 0800 hours through to 0200, as opposed to most 'traditional' public nuisance being reported during the 1700-2100 hours windows. Children were at home rather than in school, many people were furloughed or working from home resulting in an increase of Covid related issues.

The current situation makes ASB comparisons very challenging. Officers continue to lead the "4Es" approach, and whilst the vast majority of the public comply with guidance, enforcement has become increasingly necessary, particularly where repeat addresses or incidents are identified.

Hate incidents – the vast majority of incidents were verbal abuse with a common thread again appearing to be general Covid related frustration manifesting as intolerance and abuse.

WARD 2 – Broxburn, Uphall, Winchburgh, Dechmont and Ecclesmachan

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In the run up to the Halloween and Bonfire seasons, the police are working in partnership with Scottish Fire and Rescue (SFRS), West Lothian Council and WLYAP on an agreed strategy to minimise the impact on local communities.

This fits in with the localised 'Operation Torsion' and the national 'Operation Moonbeam' both of which is Police Scotland's response to address ongoing issues surrounding both Halloween and Bonfire night. Their aims are to protect communities and emergency services, whilst at the same time they can call on a range of specialist resources and specially-trained officers to deal with any spontaneous incidents of disorder that occur.

Bangour Hospital site – following a viral social media post and hundreds of persons descending on the site of the old Bangour Hospital a partnership approach between the developers, elected members, Dechmont Community Council, local residents, WLC and Police Scotland resulted in a strategy to minimise the impact. This resulted in police supporting the on-site security and enforcement of the TTRO for the C9 road. As a result few crimes were reported to the police and in general there was compliance from those attending the area.

Greendykes bing – Off road bikes ASB resulting in significant peak in illegal use of bing during Covid lockdown period. Ongoing developing partnership approach to deal with this longstanding issue.

Making Our Roads Safer

In response to the new 20MPH restrictions. Police Scotland remains firmly committed to reducing casualties on roads across West Lothian and officers routinely carry out speed checks to enforce speed limits.

We prioritise those locations which represent the greatest risk. This could include sites of previous collisions where speed has been a factor and areas with vulnerable road users, for example near schools.

The dangers of speeding are well-known. People who speed not only put themselves at risk, but also other members of the public.

Police Scotland will continue to monitor the 20 mph trial as it develops and through collaboration with our colleagues at West Lothian Council will take enforcement action where it is assessed as necessary and proportionate to the circumstances.

Police continue to receive a number of complaints regarding inappropriate/dangerous parking in and around schools throughout West Lothian, however, it is of note that after investigating many of these complaints, often the problem can be attributed to volume of traffic and congestion which causes subsequent frustration for other road users.

Ward Officers continue to support the Parksmart Scheme which has been adopted by many schools across the county and encourage all schools to sign up to it.

The schools all have access to the relevant materials.

There have been several complaints regarding driver behaviour in the Livingston town centre and surrounding area. Road Policing dept have been linking in with the WARD 2 – Broxburn, Uphall, Winchburgh, Dechmont and Ecclesmachan

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various businesses and with the organisers of the 'cruises' to address concerns. Again Covid has resulted in a significant increase in 'pop up' cruises with Operation Kazoo providing a national, co-ordinated response to these incidences. Roads Policing officers continue to target this anti-social and dangerous driving.

Tackling Substance Misuse

Local Policing Teams and specialist resources continue to disrupt drug dealing and production in the local area. After gathering intelligence on subjects, a number of operations have taken place and dwellings across the West Lothian area have been searched under warrant, resulting in the seizure of several cannabis cultivations, other drugs and the recovery of large sums of cash. Several offenders have been reported to the procurator fiscal as a result of these operations. Relevant disclosures are also provided to the registered social landlords for the affected premises.

Members of the public are always encouraged to report suspicious activity, so that police can continue to gather intelligence and disrupt those who deal and misuse controlled drugs. This can be done directly by phoning 101 or anonymously by using Crimestoppers by email or 08005551111.

Roads policing officers have also been utilising the new drug wipe kits, which can instantly test drivers for cocaine and cannabis through their saliva. This has resulted in several persons being reported

4/ Contacts

Details of your Community Policing can be found at:

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

WARD 2 – Broxburn, Uphall, Winchburgh, Dechmont and Ecclesmachan

OFFICIAL: POLICE AND PARTNERS

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



BROXBURN, UPHALL & WINCHBURGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

SERVICE UPDATE – NETS, LAND & COUNTRYSIDE

REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise members of the recent activity of the NETs, Land & Countryside Services teams for the period 1 February 2020 – 30 September 2020.

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

The report covers the activity for the period 1 February 2020 – 30 September 2020. However, it should be noted that due to Covid19 Lockdown restrictions, all non-essential services were suspended during the national lockdown period between mid-March and early August.

For NETs, Land and Countryside this meant that with the exception of the Cemeteries Service and the NETs teams that were classified as essential services, all other service areas were deemed as non-essential services and were suspended from mid-March and reinstated on a phased basis during June, July and early August.

The impact of the service suspensions on each service area is outlined within each section of the report.

D2 Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

The Ground Maintenance Service was suspended from mid-March and was reinstated on a phased basis, based on risk, from late June through to early August. To protect essential council assets, it was agreed that priority grass cutting could resume in late June. This included cutting grass in schools and sports pitches, as well as carrying out essential maintenance on golf courses and bowling greens. Grass cutting in residential areas, general open spaces and parks, as well as weed management operations were reinstated in July and early August.

The grass cutting teams have been reduced in size to comply with social distancing guidance. Starting the grass cutting in June and July was challenging for the teams as the grass had grown considerably in length to 600mm in some areas; impacting on the time taken to complete the first cutting cycle. However, the grass cutting teams have now successfully recovered the service standards for grassed areas across the ward and have successfully completed 6 cutting cycles.

Weed management operations were reinstated in July and were initially focused on road/footpath channels and hard surfaces in all wards. The priority was amended in early August to ensure schools were as weed free as possible for them returning after the summer break.

The winter programme will commence in October and will include annual hedge cutting and the maintenance of shrub beds and overgrown bushes.

Neighbourhood Environmental Teams delivered a continuous service throughout the period, predominately responding to fly-tipping enquiries.

Land Audit Management (LAMs) inspections were suspended over the past six months while the service was concentrating on getting things back to an acceptable standard.

D3 Grounds Maintenance Enquires

In total 121 grounds maintenance related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Allotment Enquiries	1	0
Ball Game Enquiries	3	3
Bench or Seat Enquiries	0	1
Burns or Watercourses	0	3
Complaint Grounds Maintenance	1	7
Drainage Flooding Grass Areas	2	1
Enforcement Officer Enquiries	3	4
Fencing Enquiries	3	5
Flower Bed or Bulb Displays	0	2
GalaDay Public Event Enquiries	2	0
Gardens Competition Enquiries	0	3
Grass Area Damaged	1	1
Grass Cutting Enquiries	32	39
Grass Cutting Missed Not Cut	4	9
Grass Highway Verges	2	20
Grass Left On Paths or Roads	1	3
Ground Ownership Enquiries	1	2
Grounds Property Vandalised	6	2
Hedge Cutting Enquiries	7	12
Illegal Adverts Estate Signs	1	0
Manholecover Damaged In Grass	0	1
Public Park Enquiries	6	7
Shrub Bed Enquiries	3	2
Shrub Bed Overhanging Path	31	43
Shrub Beds Not Maintained	4	3
Shrub/ Vegetation Sight Lines	0	3
Weeds General Enquiries	7	11
Weeds on Paths or Roads	0	6
Total	121	193

Garden Maintenance Routine Works

The Garden Maintenance Scheme was deemed a non-essential service, with the service commencing on the 20th July. This was necessary to comply with Scottish Government guidance and for the council to protect a vulnerable customer group.

The late start to this year's programme combined with the lengthy periods of wet weather have resulted in only three cutting cycles being completed. However all the gardens included on the scheme have been successfully returned to normal standard. New applicants were accepted on to the scheme if eligible but were informed that we were unable to cut their gardens this year.

Having got the existing gardens back to normal, the team are now concentrating on these new gardens to ensure they are able to be cut on route as normal when the scheme re-starts in April 2021. Additional ad-hoc requests from Housing Office staff will also be completed before the end of the year.

Garden Maintenance Enquiries

In total there were 34 garden maintenance related enquiries received and dealt with during this reporting period.

	2020	2019
Complaint Garden Maintenance	1	2
Garden Maintenance Change Of Address	0	1
Garden Maintenance General Enquiries	13	25
Garden Maintenance Grass Not Cut	15	21
Garden Maintenance Hedge Cutting	2	4
Garden Maintenance Standard Of Cut	3	6
Total	34	59

D4 Cleaner Communities Routine Works

The Street Cleansing service was deemed a non-essential service with the service being reinstated in July 2020.

However, some essential activities such as the emptying litter and dog fouling bins, twice weekly, continued throughout the lockdown period.

All areas within the wards have been successfully recovered to a normal standard.

Cleaner Communities Enquiries

In total 350 cleaner communities related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Complaint Street Cleansing	1	2
Dead Animals	13	22
Dog Fouled Grass Open Space	0	3
Dog Fouling on Paths/Roads	36	30
Dog No Fouling Sign Request	1	1
Dog Waste Bin New Request	1	5
Dog Waste Bin Overflowing	13	13
Glass on Paths or Open Spaces	6	13
Graffiti Non-Offensive	0	2
Graffiti Racist or Offensive	4	12
Illegal Fly Posting	2	0
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	167	130
Litter Bin Burnt Damaged	2	5
Litter Bin Full Overflowing	8	5
Litter Bin New Request For Bin	3	2
Litter General Enquiries	14	7
Litter in Grass Open Space	0	2
Litter on Paths Roads Verges	20	21
Needles Syringes Abandoned	0	1
Street Sweeping Enquiries	16	20
Trolleys Abandoned/ Dumped	1	0
Vehicle Abandoned	42	48
Total	350	344

Fly Tipping Enquiries (January - December)

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	188	139	119	131	98

Environmental Community Involvement

The Education, Engagement and Enforcement team have continued to deal with enquiries as they are logged with all going as planned until COVID-19, and the restrictions hit us.

Despite the movement restrictions imposed by the Government in a bid to tackle the spread of the virus, Enforcement Officers still managed to cover some enforcement as they liaised with other teams on the ground (essential workers) to retrieve information of environmental crime committers.

Once restrictions were eased, officers were able to return to work. Since returning officers have been working to catch up on enquiries relating to fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles and general enquiries. There have been 167 enquiries in relation to fly tipping for the period which has shown a significant increase in fly tipping offences during the lockdown.

Some fly tipping hotspots have been identified within the ward with plans which will enable the deployment of overt surveillance getting finalised.

In dealing with abandoned vehicles, officers have gained compliance from vehicle owners with said vehicles getting removed from the streets and where appropriate, requests have been sent to WLC contractors for removal.

Throughout, West Lothian officers continue to engage with volunteering groups, attend regeneration group meetings and render the necessary assistance needed to encourage the exercise they currently perform. There has also been a significant increase in the purchase of litter picking equipment's by the Council, as volunteer groups are expanding.

The Education Officers are also looking at working with Campus Officers within the High Schools to get schools more involved in community welfare.

D5 Parks and Woodland

Trees and Woodland Enquiries

In total there were 64 Trees and Woodland related enquiries were received during this reporting period.

	2020	2019
Tree Advice or Consultations	2	4
Tree Affecting Public Utility	1	1
Tree Blocking Light	1	2
Tree Branches Overhanging	9	33
Tree Broken Damaged or Dead	9	6
Tree Dangerous or Unsafe	5	5
Tree Enquiries General	31	24
Tree Felling Work Unauthorised	2	0
Tree Leaves Causing Problems	2	1
Tree Planting Requests	1	1
Tree Roots Causing Problems	1	0
Tree Woodland Enquiries	0	1
Total	64	78

Woods in and Around Towns Project – Almondell

This project has continued and extensive woodland felling and tree surgery works have been undertaken over the period. The strip next to the South Drive was felled in the Spring, with works being halted with the Covid restrictions in March. The contractors returned to site at the end of August and have continued with the felling of mainly larch and ash. The effects of Ash Dieback Disease have become increasingly evident throughout West Lothian and in particular in areas like Almondell situated along the River Almond. Many of the large, mature trees, which had been planted around the time of the building of Almondell House in the 1790s, are gradually coming to the end of their life. Those which have become compromised by disease and are within falling distance of main paths in the area of the park downstream from the Naismith Bridge have been felled or pruned.

A number of failing trees, mainly ash, have been identified further upstream and in particular overhanging the canal feeder. Access to these to undertake the work and logistics are currently being investigated.

The replanting of the felled areas and the upgrading of paths is due to commence within the next three-month period.

Updates on activities continue to be posted on the council's website and Facebook page. <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/almondell-and-calderwood>

Part of the ward has been summarily surveyed as part of an information gathering exercise to establish the extent of Ash Dieback within West Lothian.

Planning process for Winchburgh development is still ongoing, many trees having been affected.

Ranger Service Update

	2020	2019
Access Rights Way Core Paths	11	2
Country Park General Enquiries	1	1
Total	12	3

No. Rights Of Way / Core Path / Patrols carried out (hours)	37
No. Access Enquiries	5
No. Conservation Surveys / Tasks	3
No. Volunteer hours	826

The Ranger Service have been doing a mix of home working, site visits and park patrols since May with a Ranger now 'on duty' every day. There have been no Public Events or School sessions this year as a result of COVID-19.

Since the start of the pandemic we have seen a huge increase in the number of people are accessing their local parks and the wider countryside. As a result of this as well as a considerable increase in enquiries received relating to access, the Ranger Service has devised and published a 'Ranger Service Guide to Responsible Access' on WLC Facebook page and Council website – a general post about access rights, followed by user-specific guidance for dog encounters, horse encounters, bikes and walkers. The series was well received and shared widely.

The Ranger Service have now completed a full audit of all Core Paths and Rights of Way throughout West Lothian. These routes have been scored and prioritised, where actions are needed, to inform path network improvements going forward.

Almondell & Calderwood Country Park

Almondell Historic Wall Project progressing with landscape architect and engineer assessing for tender. Friends of Almondell practical tasks postponed but much time has been spent working alongside the Ranger Service on the Historic Wall Project and Interpretation Panels, researching with the Local History Library and Sybil Cavanagh. Construction Services awaiting estimates for Almondell Historic Wall Project. Work with schools and communities as planned on hold for now.

The Ranger Service have been investigating options and ways for volunteers to return to assist with essentials tasks – volunteer sessions are planned to commence in October.

BBC Radio Scotland visited Almondell & Calderwood Country Park to record a piece for 'Out of Doors', with contributions from the Friends group and the ranger service. An interview with the outgoing president of Ramblers Scotland, was broadcast on 29th Feb, and the piece about the country park was broadcast on 7th March - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000g5ks>

The Ranger Service undertook additional safety patrols at Almondell & Calderwood Country Park, looking for storm damage and dangerous trees after the bad weather in February.

Ranger Service responded to public reports of a large beech tree that had come down at Almondell, and a landslip alongside the canal feeder. We cordoned both off, reporting the former to Tree & Woodland Safety Inspectors and the latter to Scottish Canals. We also investigated a public report of a new landslip at Almondell, downstream of the Nasmyth Bridge. Liaised with WLC Flooding unit, who attended site and subsequently advised that we close the link path above the landslip. Parks & Woodland Operatives installed barriers at either end, and rangers provided signage.

Pollution incident on River Almond from WWTW that had occurred in June reported to WLC Flood Prevention team. Assessed on site by the Rangers and advisory signage placed (although some days after the incident). Led to set up of River Almond Communications meeting and procedure development for sharing info. Joint meeting held for River Almond Communications – several organisations together looking to improve communications when there is a pollution incident.

Preliminary meeting held with contractor from team planning weir works at Mid Calder. Project planned for 2021 and access currently being investigated.

Concerns about speed and number of cyclists using Almondell path network. 'Slow Down' cycle signage produced and placed on paths.

Plans for Play Area upgrade ongoing and works to commence shortly.

Caffeine Fix back on-site trading in accordance with guidance in June.

Almondell very busy with walkers, cyclists and walkers. Some issues raised regarding number of cars in car parks and groups gathering for walks – national guidance promoted.

Planning

The Ranger Service collectively studied plans for the proposed Bangour development, and provided feedback and recommendations to WLC Planning on potential access and biodiversity issues.

Conservation

The Ranger Service have completed this year's annual badger sett surveys in Almondell & Calderwood Country Park. A number of otter surveys have been carried out on the south bank at Almondell.

D6 Open Space and Cemeteries

Open Space Capital Programme

Kirkhill – Working with CSGNT (Central Scotland Green Network Trust) to put together some costed plans for a new play area and a park refurbishment, before going back out to consultation.

Holmes Park - all works are complete apart from signage. A new Golden Weeping Willow has been planted in the park by SRUC (Scotland's Rural College) Oatridge students. The tree was bought using Saugh Tree funds from the Town Centre Management Group.

The Open Space Officer continues to advise Broxburn and Uphall Community Councils on Town Centre Fund projects. These include planters and fruit trees/bushes in parks and the designation of a new 'local' park in Uphall.

Open Space Enquiries

There were 18 open space related enquiries received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Children Play Enquiries	15	12
Glass or Litter In Play Areas	1	1
New Play Area Problems	0	1
Play Area Property Vandalised	1	1
Safety Issues In Play Areas	1	2
Total	18	17

Cemeteries Routine Works

Routine grass cutting and weed control tasks have been completed. Seasonal maintenance works and lair reinstatement and burial duties are ongoing across the cemetery estates.

Cemeteries Enquiries

In total 180 cemeteries related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Bench Donations	1	0
Cemeteries Accidnt Ins Claim	0	1
Cemeteries General Enquiries	21	15
Cemetery Property Vandalised	1	2
Complaint Cemeteries & Burials	0	2
Family History Searches	0	1
Lair Enquiries	17	6
Lair Sunken or Uneven	0	1
Memorial/ Headstone Works	39	0
New Interment Booking	76	0
Purchase of Interment Lair	25	0
Total	180	28

(Please note difference in totals due to a configuration in reporting)

E. Conclusion

Over this period the Cleaner Communities team have continued to deal with Street Cleansing enquiries, with the NETs teams dealing with fly tipping.

The Woods in and Around Towns Project at Almondell is ongoing, with extensive woodland felling and tree surgery works being undertaken.

The Open Space Officer continues to advise Broxburn and Uphall Community Councils on Town Centre Fund projects.

F. Background Reference

Open Space Strategy

Capital Programme

Appendices/Attachments: none

Contact Person: Eirwen Hopwood, Beecraigs Country Park, 01506 284500
eirwen.hopwood@westlothian.uk

Jim Jack

Head of Operational Services

6 November 2020

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



BROXBURN LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

HOUSING CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES

REPORT BY HEAD OF HOUSING CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period Quarter 1 & 2 - 1st April to 30th September 2020.

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

D1. 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 Broxburn ward.

Housing staff have been working from home as a result of the Covid19 measures, however we have deployed a small number of officers who have been working alongside our central void team in order to ensure that our properties were being relet and ensuring that we were meeting our duty under homeless legislation in providing temporary accommodation.

Property Void & Let Performance: Mainstream Tenancies

Void Period	Apr 2020	%	May 2020	%	Jun 2020	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	2	33%	55%
2-4 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%	30%
4+ weeks	0	0%	0	0%	3	50%	15%
Total Lets	0	100%	0	100%	6	100%	100%

Void Period	Jul 2020	%	Aug 2020	%	Sep 2020	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	1	33.3%	1	20%	0	0%	55%
2-4 weeks	1	33.3%	1	20%	0	0%	30%
4+ weeks	1	33.3%	3	60%	1	100%	15%
Total Lets	3	100%	5	100%	1	100%	100%

Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	Apr 2020	%	May 2020	%	Jun 2020	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	2	14%	3	50%	1	33.3%	55%
2-4 weeks	1	29%	0	0%	1	33.3%	30%
4+ weeks	7	57%	3	50%	1	33.3%	15%
Total Lets	7	100%	6	100%	3	100%	100%

Void Period	Jul 2020	%	Aug 2020	%	Sep 2020	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	4	50%	55%
2-4 weeks	3	60%	3	50%	0	%	30%
4+ weeks	2	40%	2	40%	4	50%	15%
Total Lets	5	100%	5	100%	8	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 were 6 policy voids in the ward for this period a reduction in last reporting period.

Void period	Number of properties	PV reasons
<4 weeks	2	Structural & electrical
4 – 12 weeks	1	Upgrading
13 – 16 weeks	3	2 Tenancy dispute, 1 upgrading works
26+ weeks	0	

D2. Arrears

Income management information is contained in appendix 1 and 2 attached.

D4 Broxburn Area Team Activity

Officers in the team have over the period in Q1 and Q2 have been working from home as a result of lockdown measures. Officers initially were making contacting with as many tenants as possible to officer advice and assistance to ensure that any support and guidance was given and signposting to other services such as Advice Shop and Foodbank.

The focus on rent arrears activity has continued 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. Such assistance includes 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 applications for Discretionary Housing Payments. Officers have also been doing targetted work to encourage tenants to update their universal credit journals as many have not updated their housing costs in April following the rent increase meaning they are losing out on money they are entitled to.

During Quarter 2 whilst we have continued in the main with home working for staff, we have required to mobilise more officers in order we could progress requests for mutual exchanges and other essential housing management tasks which has required a presence within the office/community, whilst adhering to health and safety measures. This has been a challenging time for the service and we have worked with our Health & Safety advise and Trade Unions to ensure we have safe operating systems, risk assessments and personal protection equipment so that we are safe guarding our staff whilst undertaking key essential tasks at this time

Community Housing Officer, Tony Dickson who was a long standing officer left us for pastures new and we wish him well.

D5. Capital Programme and New Build Council Housing

Ward 2 Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Broxburn	Almondell Road	Upgrade rear enclosure	complete	All environmental works are complete including demolitions, tree removal and new paths and lights. The only outstanding position is the repair of the tall rear wall which is being affected by plants and trees growing in the cavity, causing potential collapse.
	Midhope Place	Firewalls	Near completion	Firewalls are identified across the district as needing done, and are to be carried out to increase safety. 1 house remaining

D6. Tenant Participation

Officers have continued to engage during with our tenants and customers during the period and have as many others out tenants' network have embraced our virtual meetings. In addition to this we have undertaken a survey of residents at Kirkhill to seek out opinions and views on a toddler play area. This information is being reviewed and we will communicate with residents further on options as we have received some mixed views.

D7. Safer Neighbourhood Council Officer Ward Information

The Covid19 pandemic has impacted on the service that officers are able to provide and ability to take formal legal action is restricted as a result. The lockdown period at end March 2020, the SNT service have had officers working from home and therefore have restrictions/limitations on the ability to undertake full duties in respect of interviewing, witnessing noise nuisance/ anti-social behaviour.

SNT officers have provided a telephone service and followed up wherever possible to engage with both complainants and perpetrators. Officers have provided advice and assistance, telephone mediation, issuing letters to residents seeking further information to assist with corroboration and also issuing warning letters where evidence to do so has been obtained.

Officers have continued to liaise with Scottish Fire Rescue Service and with Police Scotland to access supporting information /corroboration to assist with case management. The most serious cases, SNT have consulted with Legal Services to progress to Court, albeit this has been limited.

The SNT service has very recently remobilised with officers able to undertake greater engagement in communities with a blended approach of community work and home working. The mobilisation planning progressed as the Covid19 Route Map from Scottish Government emerged over the summer period. The Service revised staff risk assessments, safe systems of work processes and engaged with trade unions and staff to ensure the safe return of staff to undertake their duties at this challenging time.

Within the Broxburn ward there are 4 live ASBOs. There is one case where the ASBO has been breached and whilst we have lodged the case in court no further action can be taken in terms of progressing to eviction due to current Covid 19 emergency legislation.

INCIDENTS						
No of All ASB Incidents	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	37	37	46	79	57	13
Count of Case/ Ward - new cases opened	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh	3	2	7	4	3	0

E. CONCLUSION

This has been challenging period where officers have been adapting to working from home, embracing new ways of working and change.

Officers have been providing advice and assistance to tenants and customers and working with colleagues in other services areas to ensure that service delivery continued as far as possible.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments:

Appendix 1 Q1 Broxburn ward financial summary
Appendix 1 Q2 broxburn ward financial summary

Contact Person: Phyllis McFadyen, Housing Manager, Housing, Building and Customer Services

Email; phyllis.mcfadyen@westlothian.gov.uk

Tel: 01506 284345

Date: 6th November 2020

Appendix 1

Q1 Broxburn Ward - Financial Summary

For the Broxburn ward the collection rate for the YTD in Q1 remains excellent at 93.0%. Broxburn has collected £1,520,958 vs a charge of £1,635,631.

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

In the same week last year Broxburn ward had 46 Universal Credit (UC) households. Since then the number of UC households has increased by 700.0%.

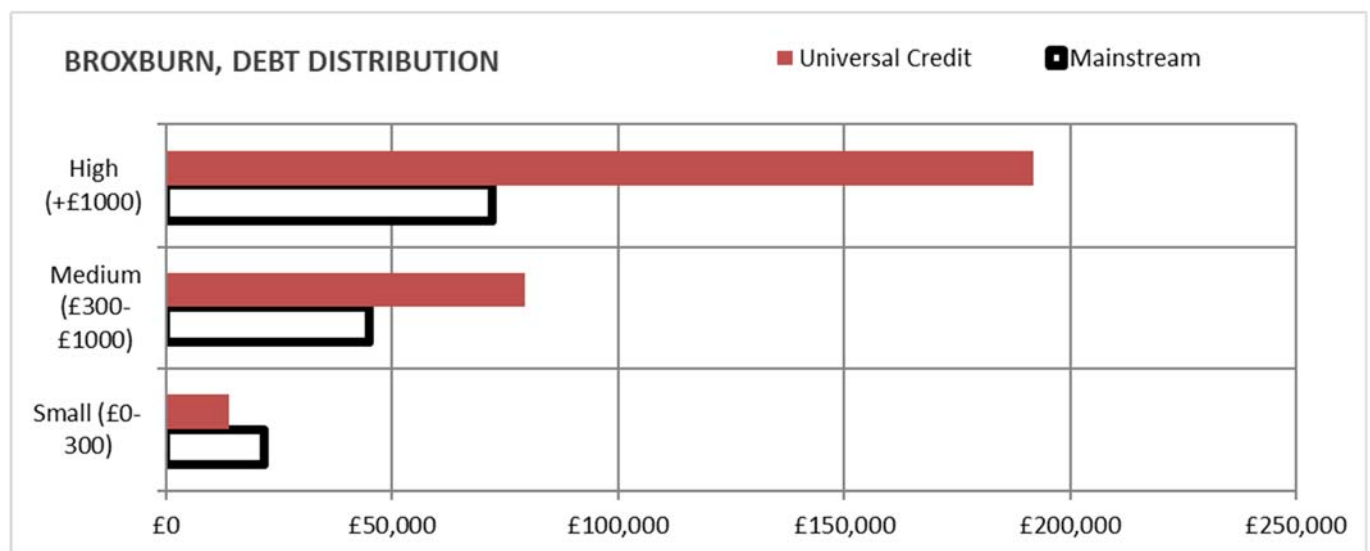
The number of tenancies in arrears in this ward has increased by 127 since last year. Small debt cases (£300 or less), account for 47.9% of households.

There are 137 serious arrears cases (+£1000 in arrears). These cases are 20.5% of all households in arrears in this area, containing 62.3% of the debt.

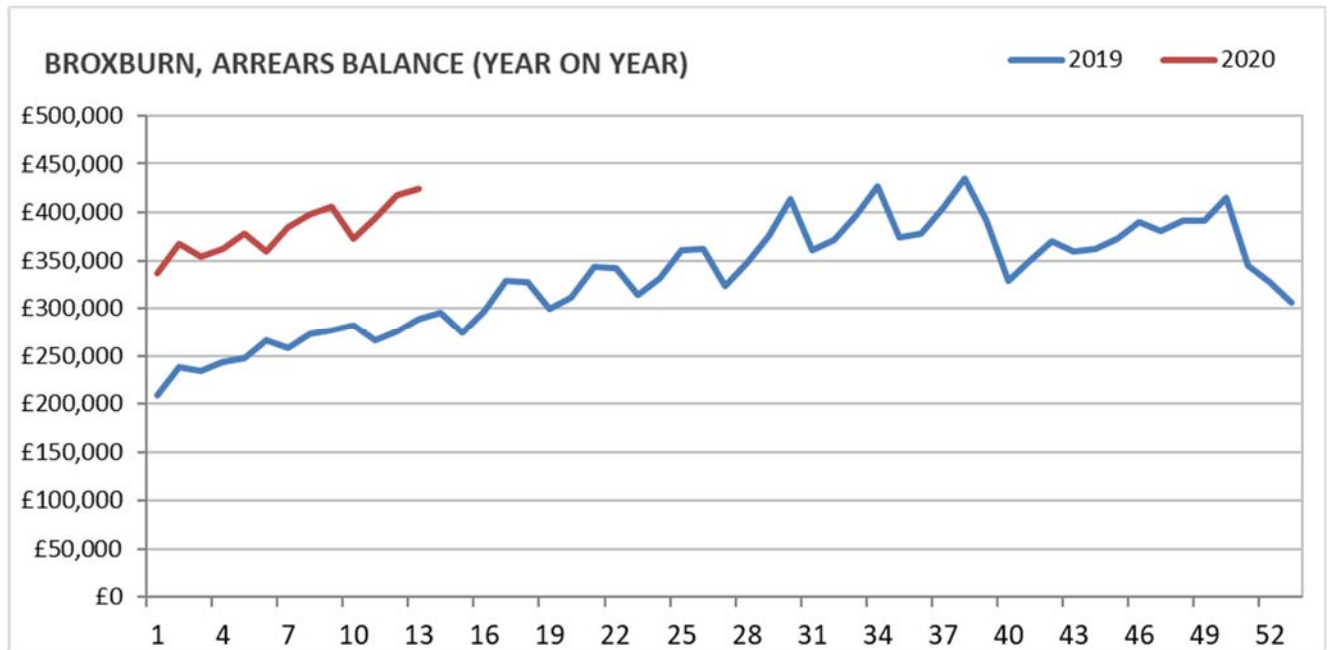
The arrears position for Broxburn Q1 is £423,996. This is an increase of £134,934 on last year's position. The West Lothian overall position is currently £3,682,519.

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

- Making best use of resources by considering communicating more with customers through SMS, email and telephone
- Benchmarking with other local authorities to ensure we identify and consider implementing any best practice
- Performance Monitoring and Reporting will be reviewed and where appropriate streamlined to ensure information is meaningful and robust to assist with improving rent arrears due.
- Promote Alternative payment methods, particularly the Tenant's Self Service Portal



	2019/20 (WK13)				2020/21 (WK13)			
	Mainstream		UC		Mainstream		UC	
Arrears Banding	Balance	#	Balance	#	Balance	#	Balance	#
£0.01 to £99.99	£10,675	207	£279	5	£6,780	135	£2,294	39
£100.00 to £299.99	£28,658	149	£3,093	15	£15,003	88	£11,664	58
£300.00 to £499.99	£22,475	58	£3,035	7	£17,334	44	£16,250	40
£500.00 to £749.99	£15,703	26	£3,686	6	£14,287	24	£32,080	52
£750.00 to £999.99	£15,661	18	£3,514	4	£13,216	15	£31,058	36
£1000.00 to £1999.99	£41,701	30	£10,405	8	£40,360	29	£98,534	69
£2000+	£17,984	7	£3,105	1	£31,723	11	£93,412	28
Group Total	£152,857	495	£27,117	46	£138,704	346	£285,292	322
Movement					(-) £14,154	149	(+) £258,176	276
Overall Total			£179,974	541			£423,996	668
Overall Movement							(+) £244,022	(+) 127



Appendix 2

Q2 Broxburn Ward - Financial Summary

For the Broxburn ward the collection rate for the YTD in Q2 remains excellent at 95.5%. Broxburn has collected £3,128,313 vs a charge of £3,274,812.

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

In the same week last year Broxburn ward had 104 Universal Credit (UC) households. Since then the number of UC households has increased by 317.3%.

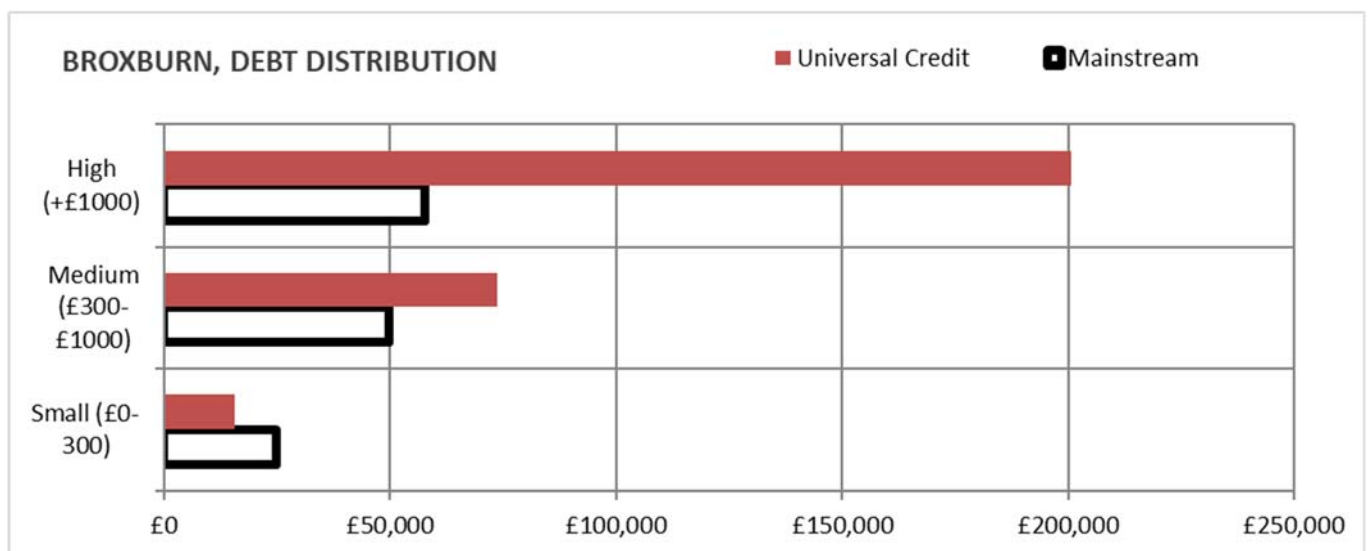
The number of tenancies in arrears in this ward has increased by 58 since last year. Small debt cases (£300 or less), account for 48.3% of households.

There are 124 serious arrears cases (+£1000 in arrears). These cases are 18.9% of all households in arrears in this area, containing 61.2% of the debt.

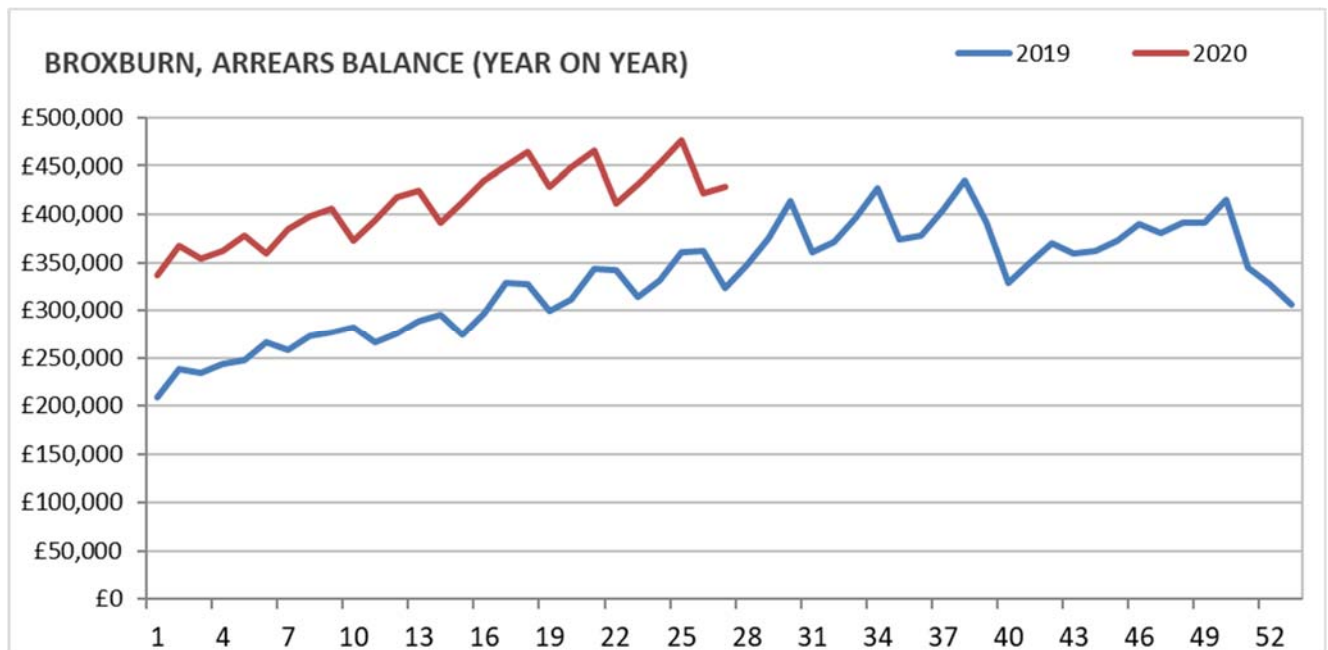
The arrears position for Broxburn Q2 is £422,033. This is an increase of £59,706 on last year's position. The West Lothian overall position is currently £3,716,171.

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

- Making best use of resources by considering communicating more with customers through SMS, email and telephone
- Benchmarking with other local authorities to ensure we identify and consider implementing any best practice
- Performance Monitoring and Reporting will be reviewed and where appropriate streamlined to ensure information is meaningful and robust to assist with improving rent arrears due.
- Promote Alternative payment methods, particularly the Tenant's Self Service Portal



Arrears Banding	2019/20 (WK26)				2020/21 (WK26)			
	Mainstream		UC		Mainstream		UC	
	Balance	#	Balance	#	Balance	#	Balance	#
£0.01 to £99.99	£7,255	164	£575	9	£4,710	106	£1,635	31
£100.00 to £299.99	£33,807	186	£3,027	17	£19,978	109	£13,920	71
£300.00 to £499.99	£22,213	58	£6,458	16	£14,071	35	£21,526	55
£500.00 to £749.99	£17,654	29	£15,404	27	£20,097	33	£28,133	46
£750.00 to £999.99	£11,227	13	£7,844	9	£15,663	18	£23,911	28
£1000.00 to £1999.99	£47,109	35	£35,353	24	£19,555	13	£84,984	62
£2000+	£25,113	9	£4,899	2	£38,113	12	£115,736	37
Group Total	£164,378	494	£73,559	104	£132,188	326	£289,845	330
Movement					(-) £32,190	168	(+) £216,286	226
Overall Total			£237,937	598			£422,033	656
Overall Movement							(+) £184,096	(+) 58



Data Label: Public



BROXBURN, UPHALL AND WINCHBURGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

BROXBURN, UPHALL AND WINCHBURGH MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT

REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Local Area Committee on the activity within Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 30th June 2020.

B. RECOMMENDATION

That Committee Members are invited to note and provide comment on the Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-member Ward Performance Report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being honest, open and accountable• Focusing on our customers' needs• Making best use of our resources• Working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Quarterly reports on the Multi-member Ward Operational Plans are being produced to ensure delivery of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan, which is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	WL CPP SOA Performance indicators.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	SOA1304_13 Number of deliberate fires per 100,000 population SOA1304_14 Number of accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 population.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	The council contributes to directly and in partnership to the delivery of the Ward Plan
VII Consideration at PDSP	None

VIII Consultations

West Lothian Citizen's Panel Survey, July 2014.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

Quarterly reports on the Multi-Member Ward Operational Plans have been produced by SFRS to ensure delivery of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2018, which is a requirement under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, Section 41E.

D.2 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-member Ward Quarterly Report

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

The seven key priorities within the Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Ward area are as follows:

Continuous Priority

- Local Risk Management and Preparedness.

High Priority

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

Medium Priority

- Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Property
- Reduction in Casualties from Special Services (excluding RTC's).
- Reduction in RTC Fatalities and Casualties

E. CONCLUSION

The Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-member Ward Performance Report aligns to the key priorities of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2018, the West Lothian Strategic Assessment of Community Safety and continues with the excellent partnership working on Community Safety, which is evident in West Lothian.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.

Dougie Tait
Station Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
July 2020

Appendix 1 - Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-Member Ward Performance Report



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Quarter 1 20/21

Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh

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

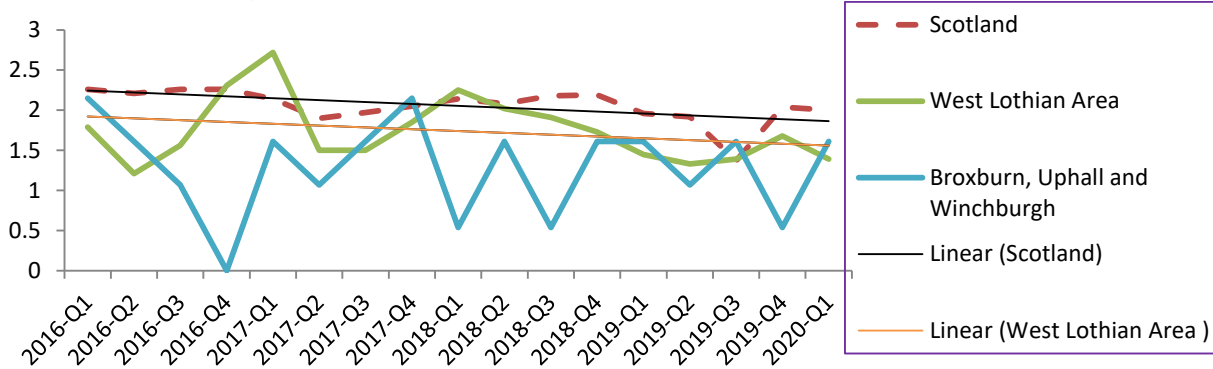
Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Ward Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to ward based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

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.

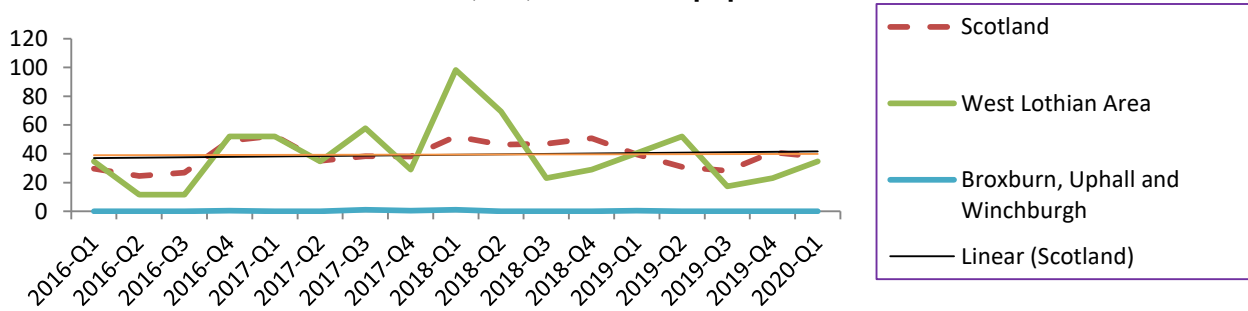
However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



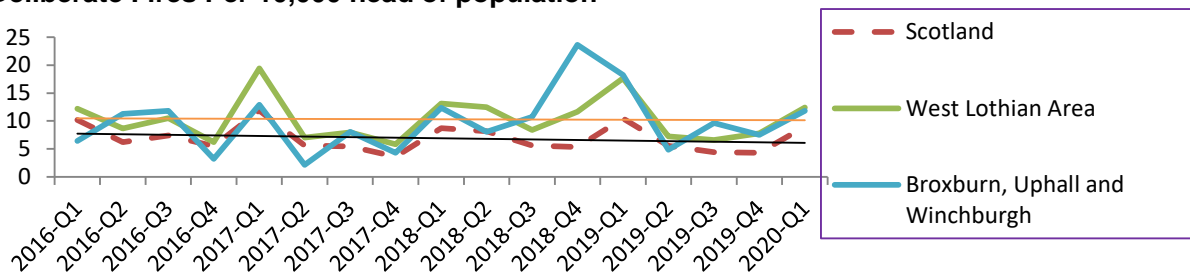
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 3 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 3 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



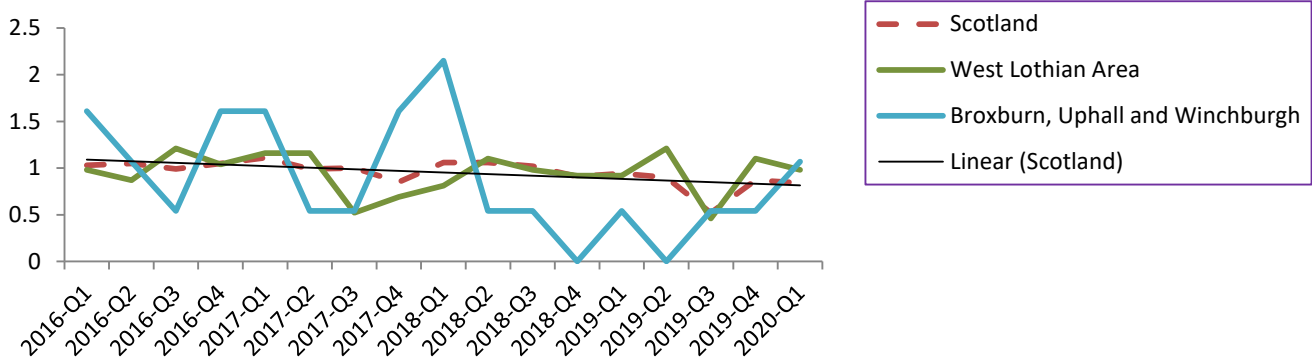
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 1 Casualty and 0 Fatalities due to fire in comparison to 1 Casualty and 0 Fatalities during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



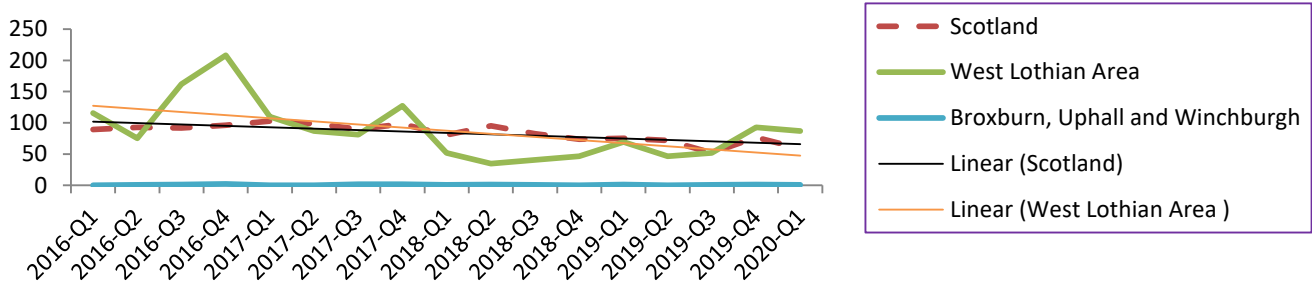
SFRS have dealt with 22 Deliberate fire incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 36 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



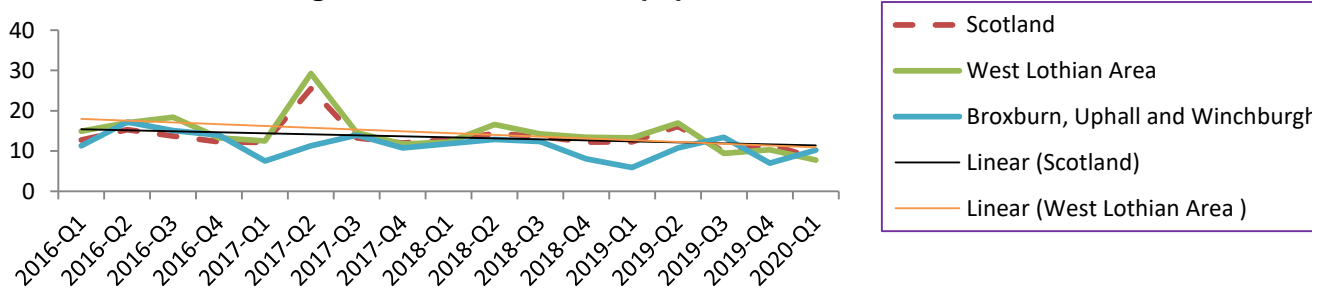
SFRS have dealt with 2 non domestic fires incident during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 1 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



SFRS have dealt with 1 casualty from Special Services during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 4 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population

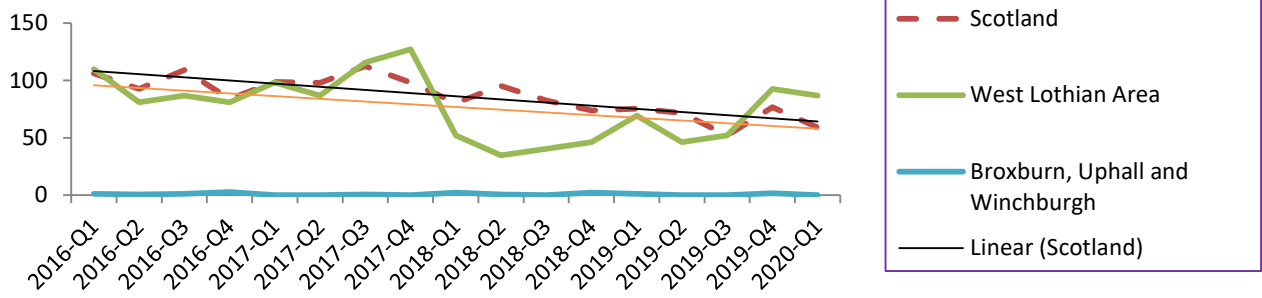


SFRS have dealt with 19 UFAS incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 12 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

Additional Comments

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

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



During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 2 Casualties and 0 Fatalities from RTC's in comparison to 0 Casualties and Fatalities during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

1

Data Label: Public



BROXBURN, UPHALL AND WINCHBURGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

BROXBURN, UPHALL AND WINCHBURGH MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT

REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Local Area Committee on the activity within Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 30th September 2020.

B. RECOMMENDATION

That Committee Members are invited to note and provide comment on the Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-member Ward Performance Report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being honest, open and accountable• Focusing on our customers' needs• Making best use of our resources• Working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Quarterly reports on the Multi-member Ward Operational Plans are being produced to ensure delivery of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan, which is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	WL CPP SOA Performance indicators.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	SOA1304_13 Number of deliberate fires per 100,000 population SOA1304_14 Number of accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 population.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	The council contributes to directly and in partnership to the delivery of the Ward Plan
VII Consideration at PDSP	None

VIII Consultations

West Lothian Citizen's Panel Survey, July 2014.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

Quarterly reports on the Multi-Member Ward Operational Plans have been produced by SFRS to ensure delivery of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2018, which is a requirement under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, Section 41E.

D.2 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-member Ward Quarterly Report

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

The seven key priorities within the Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Ward area are as follows:

Continuous Priority

- Local Risk Management and Preparedness.

High Priority

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

Medium Priority

- Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Property
- Reduction in Casualties from Special Services (excluding RTC's).
- Reduction in RTC Fatalities and Casualties

E. CONCLUSION

The Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-member Ward Performance Report aligns to the key priorities of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2018, the West Lothian Strategic Assessment of Community Safety and continues with the excellent partnership working on Community Safety, which is evident in West Lothian.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.

Dougie Tait
Station Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
September 2020

Appendix 1 - Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh Multi-Member Ward Performance Report



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Quarter 2 20/21

Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh

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

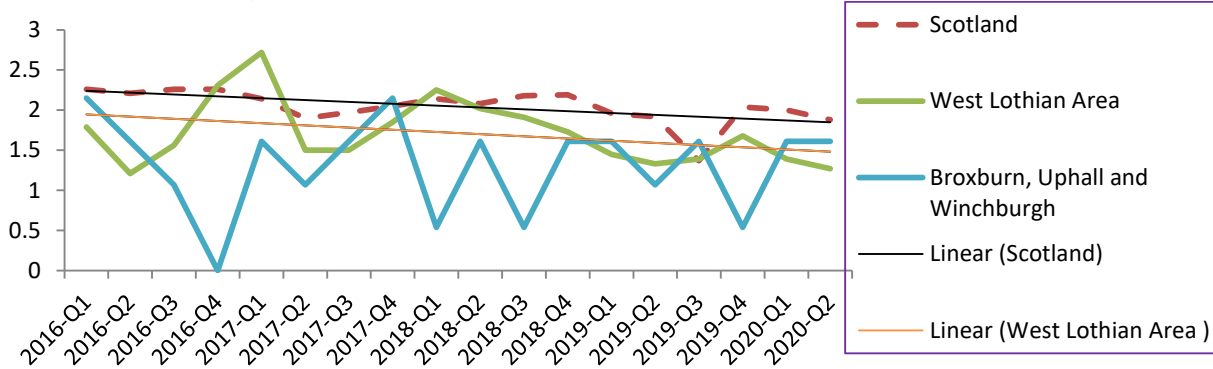
Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Ward Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to ward based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

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.

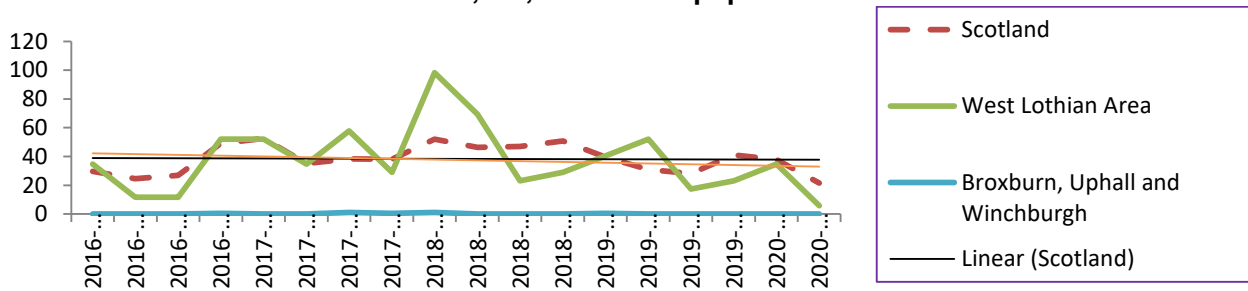
However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



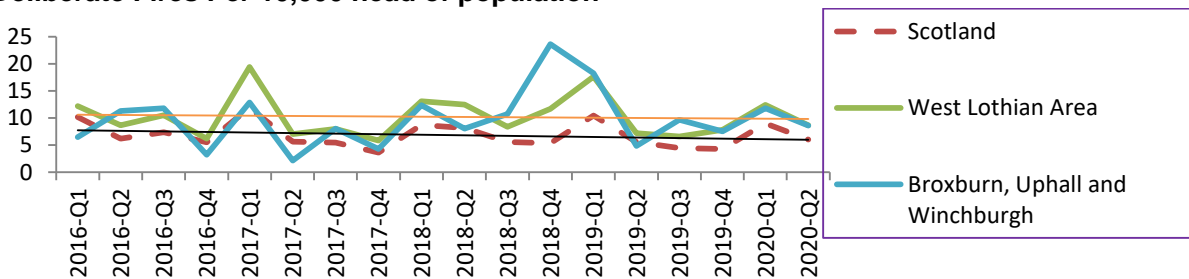
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 3 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 2 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



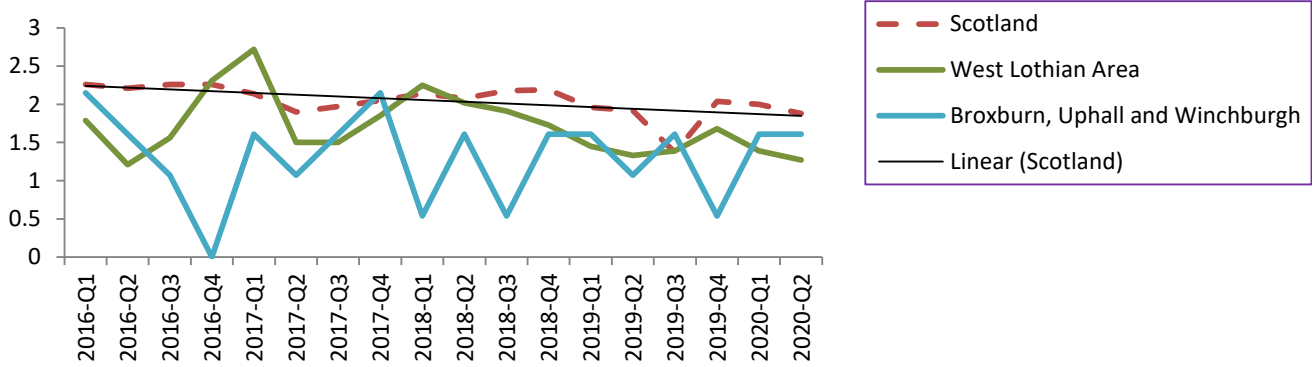
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 1 Casualties and 1 Fatality due to fire in comparison to 0 Casualties and Fatalities during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



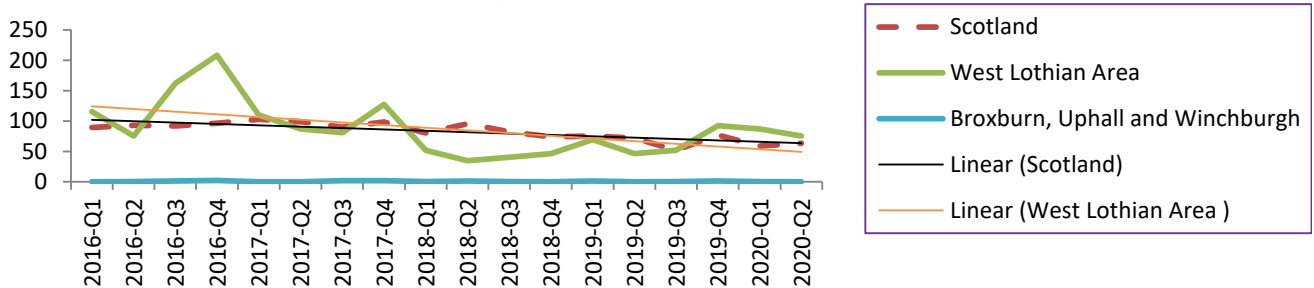
SFRS have dealt with 16 Deliberate fire incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 10 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



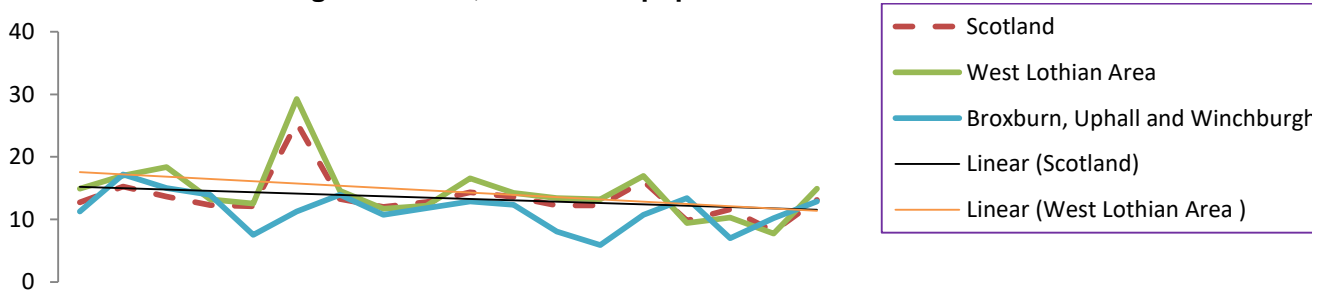
SFRS have dealt with 0 non domestic fire incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 0 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



SFRS have dealt with 4 casualties from Special Services during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 2 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population

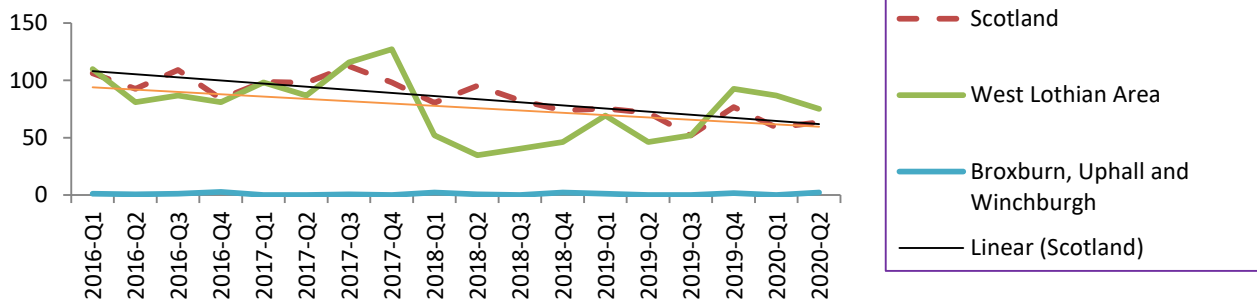


SFRS have dealt with 24 UFAS incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 21 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

Additional Comments

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

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



During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 4 Casualties and 0 Fatalities from RTC's in comparison to 0 Casualties and Fatalities during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

1

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



BROXBURN, UPHALL & WINCHBURGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PARTNERSHIP FACILITIES IN WINCHBURGH

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the local area committee on the delivery of community and partnership facilities in Winchburgh.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is for the Local Area Committee to:

1. Note the terms of the Developer Obligation (Section 75 Agreement) with respect to partnership facilities;
2. Note current arrangements for delivery of partnership and community facilities in Winchburgh; and
3. Note the current position with development and delivery of services and facilities by partners.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	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)	This report does not raise any specific strategic environmental assessment, health or equality issues. The report does however, consider future arrangements for delivery of health services in the expanded village
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	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 Developer Obligation (Section 75 Agreement) places obligations on the developer to make contributions to the delivery of some community facilities. Other aspects will have to be funded by the capital and revenue budgets of partner organisations.
VII Consideration at PDSP	The framework for the delivery of the expanded village at Winchburgh has been reported at various stages to Development & Transport PDSP.
VIII Other consultations	None, although the framework for delivery has been the subject of wide consultation through planning procedures.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

In 2011 planning permission was granted for a significant expansion of the village of Winchburgh. The village is identified as a core development area in the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Strategic Development plan and the council's Local Development Plan. Planning permission has been granted for around 3,500 houses together with a range of community facilities including, two new secondary schools, a primary school, a district park on the remediated land fill site at Aulldcathie, a railway station, motorway junction and marina.

Prior to planning permission being granted, the developer agreed a Developer Obligation (called a Section 75 agreement) which obligates the developer to do certain things at certain times, including making contributions to the cost of schools and affordable housing. Some 'stop points' are included in the obligation which prohibit the developer from going beyond fixed numbers of house completions until the required contributions have been made

The agreement obligates the developer to make land available, should it be required, for a Partnership Centre. The agreement does not obligate partners to deliver a partnership centre or to provide any particular services in a partnership centre. The timing and format for delivery remains matters to be agreed by the partners themselves.

As set out above the obligation requires the developer to make land available for a Partnership Centre should that be required by the partners. The obligation has two definitions which are relevant to the delivery of community facilities in a partnership centre as follows:

“Land for Winchburgh Partnership Centre” means the whole area of land which may be required for the Winchburgh Partnership Centre.

“Winchburgh Partnership Centre” means a partnership centre which will have a gross floor area not exceeding 1500 square meters in Winchburgh to provide local residents with a range of services (intended to include but not limited to Library, Police Station, Health Centre, Pharmacy, Community Centre).

D.2 Current Position

Negotiations on the Section 75 Agreement extend back as far as 2004 and the agreement itself was signed in 2012. In the intervening period there have been significant changes in the organisational arrangements of the potential partners and also in the way services are delivered. Proposals for the development of other facilities, such as schools, have also changed in the intervening period to reflect changes in service delivery.

While the definition of the Winchburgh Partnership Centre in the Section 75 is not definitive it does set out potential services which could be delivered in a partnership centre if one was to be delivered. The position with each service is as follows:

Library - no decision has been taken on the provision of library facilities in the town. A number of potential options exist and will be subject to a business case.

Police Station – the Section 75 agreement was signed prior to police services in Scotland being brought together as Police Scotland. Police Scotland has confirmed that they have no plans to establish a new police station in Winchburgh.

Health Centre – NHS Lothian has indicated that it is likely to require a new health care facility in Winchburgh but does not currently have any detailed plans to do so. It is understood that development of plans has been delayed as a result of COVID. NHS Lothian has, however, asked for the land identified for partnership centre use in the masterplan to be retained for potential use as a health care facility.

Pharmacy – a pharmacy is operating from one of the new retail units in the town centre.

Community Centre – community facilities continue to be available at the Community Education Centre at Craigton Place. That property remains fit for purpose and there is existing capacity for increased utilisation of that facility should the community require it. In addition the new schools, while not operating as community schools, will have a range of sports facilities and meeting spaces which can be used by the community.

Of the indicative uses identified in the Section 75 only two are services delivered by the council – libraries and community centres. In the latter case, community centres are currently managed by arms length community centre management associations rather than by the council itself. The council also continues in its statutory obligation to promote community asset transfers as a means of empowering our communities by transferring control of public facilities over to community bodies. Nevertheless, of the two council functions, existing provision will be maintained and enhanced by the provision of new space useable by the community, mainly in the new schools, and provision of library services.

The council is not in control of the investment decisions of partners but it is clear that any public sector use of the land reserved for a partnership centre is likely to be driven by NHS Lothian as the biggest user. As a result, the delivery of any partnership activities on the site will be dependent on a commitment by NHS Lothian to invest in additional or replacement health care facilities.

D.3 Next Steps

The council will monitor the investment decisions of partners in so far as these impact on the council's own investment decisions, particularly with regards to Library facilities. However, given the lack of certainty over the level and timing of any such investment by partners the council will continue, in parallel, to look at options for provision of services in the expanded village.

E. CONCLUSION

The Developer Obligation (Section 75 Agreement) for the expanded village at Winchburgh reserves land for a Partnership Centre in the new town centre. However, since that agreement was signed the way in which services are delivered have changes and some partners have withdrawn. Alternative provision for some of the services anticipated in the partnership centre has already been made.

Delivery of partnership services from the identified site will be reliant on the investment priorities of other partners. The council will continue to review the options for provision through joint investment with partners but must also explore other potential options for delivering services in and around Winchburgh.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Person: Craig McCorriston, Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration. Tel: 01506 282443. Email: craig.mccorriston@westlothian.gov.uk

Craig McCorriston
Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration

6 November 2020



BROXBURN, UPHALL AND WINCHBURGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – NOVEMBER 2020 WORKPLAN 2020/21

	Issue	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date
1	Police Report	Quarterly update on Police/NRT activity in the ward	Sgt Iain Wells	All meetings
2	Fire Report	Quarterly report on activity from SFRS	Stuart McNiven	All meetings
3	Housing report	Quarterly update on Housing related activity	Phyllis McFadyen	All meetings
4	NETS & Land Services Report	Quarterly update report on NETs activity	Tony Fleming	All meetings
5	Pensioners Xmas Fund Allocation 2020	To provide update on allocation of pensioners fund to groups in the ward	Douglas Grierson	TBC
6	Winchburgh Developer Contribution	To update on Winchburgh CDTs development of a strategic plan to support the release of developer funding.	Douglas Grierson / Winchburgh CDT	TBC