



Whitburn and Blackburn Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

23 February 2021

A meeting of the **Whitburn and Blackburn Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Webex Virtual Meeting Room** on **Monday 1 March 2021 at 10:00am**.

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, declarations of interest in any urgent business and consideration of reports for information.

The Chair will invite members to identify any such reports they wish to have fully considered, which failing they will be taken as read and their recommendations approved.

4. Minutes -
 - (a) Confirm Draft Minute of Meeting of the Committee held on 7 December 2020 (herewith).
 - (b) Confirm Draft Minute of Meeting of the Committee held on 21 December 2020 (herewith).

5. West Lothian Local Development Plan Action Programme - First Review (2020) - Update for Ward 7: Whitburn and Blackburn - report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith).
6. Fire Service Ward Report - report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (herewith).
7. Police Ward Report - report by Police Scotland (herewith).
8. Service Update - NETS, Land and Countryside - report by Head of Operational Services (herewith).
9. Housing, Customer and Building Services - report by Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services (herewith).
10. Community Regeneration Update - report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith).
11. Town Centre Fund Update 2019/20 & 2020/21- report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith).
12. Workplan (herewith).

NOTE **For further information please contact Lorraine McGrorty on 01506 281609 or email lorraine.mcgrorty@westlothian.gov.uk**

MINUTE of MEETING of the WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 7 DECEMBER 2020.

Present – Councillors George Paul (Chair), Bruce Fairbairn, Jim Dickson and Kirsteen Sullivan

In Attendance –

Ann Marie Carr, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council
Scott McKillop, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council
Michelle Kirkbright, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council
Stuart McNiven, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
Sergeant Keith Jack, Police Scotland
Gary Stoddart, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council
Eirwen Hopwood, Parks & Woodlands Manager, West Lothian Council
Peter Kain, Greenrigg Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest made.

In relation to agenda item 12 -Town Centre Funding, Councillor Sullivan stated that her dialogue with the Football Club had centred around encouraging them to engage with officers to develop a sustainable business plan and not around potential funding sources.

2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair reminded members that they should indicate at the start of each item whether they wished the report to be discussed otherwise they would be taken as read.

3. MINUTE

The Committee approved the draft Minute of its meeting held on 2nd March 2020. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

4. FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE WARD Q1 REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Station Manager McGuire, providing an update on activity across the ward to 30 June 2020.

The committee was asked to note the content of the report.

Decision

To note the content of the report

5. FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE WARD Q2 REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Station Manager McGuire, providing an update on activity across the ward to 30 June 2020.

Stuart McNiven, Local Liaison Officer, provided members with an overview of the challenges that the service had faced during the Covid-19 pandemic. He undertook to feedback suggestions about simplifying reports for future meetings.

The committee was asked to note the content of the report.

Decision

To note the content of the report

6. POLICE WARD REPORT

The Committee considered a report by PC Carol-Ann Wilson (copies of which had been circulated) which provided an update on performance, activities and issues across the ward for the period to 28th October 2020

Sergeant Jack provided members with an overview of the key activities that had taken place in the ward during the reporting period and spoke of recent dreadful events which had impacted on community policing. He gave an update on the actions being taken to alleviate issues at the J4M8 industrial estate, along with an overview of recent detections using the new drug wipe test kits.

The committee heard from that the Lead Officer that the Depute Chief Executive was involved in discussions with Police Scotland to set the terms of agreement to allow a partnership analyst to be appointed.

The Committee was invited to note the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

7. WEST LoTHIAN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 -

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration informing members of the work done to support communities across West Lothian and in the ward during the Covid-19 crisis.

It was recommended that the committee :-

1. Notes the role and partnership work carried out between West Lothian Council and the third sector to support our communities through COVID-19;
2. Notes the funding directed to support the third sector in its response;
3. Notes the opportunities to build on this partnership working in the future; and
4. Notes the work to support local business and employment support.

Decision

To note the content of the report

8. SERVICE UPDATE - NETS, LAND & COUNTRYSIDE

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising members of the recent activity of the NET's, Land and Countryside teams for the period 1 February 2020 – 31 October 2020.

It was recommended that the Committee:

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

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

9. HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES UPDATE -

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 Whitburn and Blackburn ward for the period 1st April to 30th September 2020.

The committee was invited to note the service activity as details in the ward report for the period 1st April to 30th September 2020.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

10. REPORT ON BLACKBURN BONFIRE NIGHT ACTION GROUP

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration updating members on the multi-agency work that had been undertaken to address the anti-social behaviour associated with the bonfire season in Blackburn and on the adaptation that the group had to make to support the community during the 2020 bonfire season.

It was recommended that the committee:-

- I. note the work that the Blackburn Bonfire Night Action Group (BBNAG) had carried out to tackle anti-social behaviour in the Blackburn area around the bonfire season;
- II. note the changes to the way the group had carried out community engagement and awareness raising this year; and
- III. note the planning that was underway to evaluate the work undertaken by the BBNAG.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

11. TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT FUND 2019/20: UPDATE ON PROJECTS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration which updated members on progress in delivering the Town Centre Capital Projects funded via the Scottish Government Fund agreed by committee on 1 October 2019.

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

Decision

To note the content of the report

12. TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT FUND 2020/21: PROPOSED FUNDING AWARDS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration inviting consideration of applications to the Scottish Government Towns Centre Fund and seeking agreement to the allocation of funding for the settlements within the ward.

It was recommended that the committee :-

1. Notes that 12 applications had been received for projects within the ward;

2. Notes the recommendations provided by officers within each town within the ward;
3. Agrees to award funding as set out in the report, including funding conditions outlined in Appendix 1;
4. Notes that if the officer recommendations on funding are accepted there would be an unallocated sum of £1,133;
5. Agrees that the unallocated sum of £1,133 from the ward be allocated to WHI20-04 '7 aside pitch installation' project which would provide a total of £19,981.50 to that project;
6. Notes that the award to the WHI20-04 '7 aside pitch installation' project would be conditional on officers final assessment of whether the project was deliverable within the required timeframe. In the event it was deemed by officers not to be, the funding – including the reallocated underspend in B5 - would be reallocated to the WHI20-02 'Whitburn Inclusive Toddler Play Area' project;
7. Notes that any further unallocated sums would be available for distribution to projects elsewhere in West Lothian and that it would be for Council Executive to decide on the distribution of unallocated funds;
8. Notes that some of the funding costs remained as estimates and delegates the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to finalise award amounts within the overall value of the funding available within the ward;
9. Notes that as projects were implemented the detail and associated costs may change and so delegates the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to agree such changes and to re-allocate any money that becomes available as a result to other projects in the ward, both so long as projects remain within the aims, purposes and overall intent of the original applications and approvals; and
10. Notes the terms and conditions associated to the awarding of grants as set out in the report

Decision

- (a) To note the content of the report.
- (b) To agree to award funding as set out in Appendix 1 of the report to applicants from Seafeld, East Whitburn and Greenrigg.
- (c) To adjourn the applications for both Whitburn and Blackburn to allow officers to conduct further analysis of applications with a special meeting to take place prior to the Christmas break.

13. PENSIONERS GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2020/21

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration advising of the final allocations that were made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2020-21 to groups in the Whitburn and Blackburn ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups.

The committee was asked to note the impact that COVID – 19 had on the application and allocation process regarding the fund and the additional option developed to provide a pre-prepared meal to groups who had indicated their interest.

It was recommended that committee notes:-

- (i) The effect of COVID-19 on the arrangements regarding the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund in 2020-21;
- (ii) The inclusion of a pre-prepared meal option; and
- (iii) Two groups were supported through the Pensioners' Christmas Fund in 2020-21.

Decision

To note the content of the report.

14. WORKPLAN

A copy of the workplan had been circulated for information

Decision

To note the workplan.

MINUTE of MEETING of the WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 21 DECEMBER 2020.

Present – Councillors George Paul (Chair), Bruce Fairbairn, Jim Dickson and Kirsteen Sullivan

In Attendance –

Ann Marie Carr, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council
Scott McKillop, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council

1. DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest made.

In relation to agenda item 5 -Town Centre Funding, Councillor Sullivan reiterated that her dialogue with the Football Club had centred around encouraging them to engage with officers to develop a sustainable business plan and not around potential funding sources. Councillors Paul made the same announcement.

2. TOWN CENTRE FUND 2020/21: PROPOSED FUNDING AWARDS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration inviting consideration of applications to the Towns Centre Fund and seeking agreement to the allocation of funding for the settlements within the ward.

It was recommended that the committee :-

1. Notes that 12 applications had been received for projects within the ward;
2. Notes that the Local Area Committee approved the officer recommendations for Seafield, Greenrigg and East Whitburn at the meeting held on 7 December 2020;
3. Notes that following that meeting and as requested by members additional advice from officers was obtained regarding the WHI20-04 '7 Aside Pitch Installation' and the BLB20-03 'See your Speed' applications and had been summarised in Appendix 1.
4. Notes the recommendations provided by officers for both the Whitburn and Blackburn towns;
5. Agrees to award funding as set out in the report, including funding conditions outlined in Appendix 1;
6. Notes that if the officer recommendations on funding are accepted there would be an unallocated sum of £1,133;

7. Agrees that the unallocated sum of £1,133 from the ward be allocated to WHI20-04 '7 aside pitch installation' project which would provide a total of £19,981.50 to that project;
8. Notes that the award to the WHI20-04 '7 aside pitch installation' project would be conditional on officers final assessment of whether the project was deliverable within the required timeframe. In the event it was deemed by officers not to be, the funding – including the reallocated underspend in B5 - would be reallocated to the WHI20-02 'Whitburn Inclusive Toddler Play Area' project;
9. Notes that any further unallocated sums would be available for distribution to projects elsewhere in West Lothian and that it would be for Council Executive to decide on the distribution of unallocated funds;
10. Notes that some of the funding costs remained as estimates and delegates the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to finalise award amounts within the overall value of the funding available within the ward;
11. Notes that as projects were implemented the detail and associated costs may change and so delegates the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to agree such changes and to re-allocate any money that becomes available as a result to other projects in the ward, both so long as projects remained within the aims, purposes and overall intent of the original applications and approvals; and
12. Notes the terms and conditions associated to the awarding of grants as set out in the report

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

WEST LOTHIAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN ACTION PROGRAMME - FIRST REVIEW (2020) - UPDATE FOR WARD 7: WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to inform the Local Area Committee of the West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP) Action Programme First Review - 2020 as it relates to the Whitburn and Blackburn ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes the contents 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)	<p>The West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP) adopted in 2018 forms part of the development plan alongside the Strategic Development Plan (SDP 1) and provides the statutory framework for land use planning in West Lothian.</p> <p>Numerous planning policies and proposals in the LDP relate to Ward 7: Whitburn and Blackburn.</p> <p>The LDP is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications for development in West Lothian.</p> <p>There are no SEA, or Equality, or Health & Risk issues.</p>
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	The West Lothian LDP provides the policy and development framework to support improving opportunities in West Lothian and sustainable growth.

V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	<p>Outcome 1 - Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.</p> <p>Outcome 2 - We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Outcome 3 - Our economy is diverse and dynamic, and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing business.</p> <p>Outcome 4 - We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.</p> <p>Outcome 8 - We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.</p>
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	The LDP Action Programme (First Review) was reported to the Council Executive on 15 December 2020.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

The West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP) sets out the spatial land use planning policy and development framework for West Lothian up to 2024 and beyond and is a vital component in ensuring economic growth and business support, meeting confirmed housing land requirements in all tenures and ensuring the protection/enhancement of built and natural heritage resources, all within an overarching aim of securing environmental sustainability. The LDP is supported by an Action Programme which provides an update on progress with policies and proposals set out in the LDP.

The LDP Action Programme First Review was reported to the Council Executive on 15 December 2020. In addition to approving the terms of that report, the Council Executive agreed that officers would produce an extract for members to detail matters in the Action Programme which directly relate to their ward. This report relates to the Whitburn and Blackburn ward and provides extracts from the LDP Action Programme in relation to Ward 7.

D2 Development Proposals Affecting Ward 7

A map of the ward area is attached as Appendix 1 and details of all LDP allocations and proposals affecting the ward are set out in Appendix 2.

Housing

There are 19 housing allocations in the ward: ten in Blackburn, one in Seafield, seven in Whitburn including H-WH 3 with multiple phases at the Polkemmet Remainder site and one at Gavieside, West Livingston. Of these housing allocations, five are completed or underway, one is programmed for 2020-21, another has planning consent, and twelve undeveloped due to various constraints.

Site allocation H-WH 3 was consented in 2018 and comprises twenty-three phases across the Polkemet Remainder site, of which four phases are underway with the remaining nineteen aimed to be delivered between 2020 and 2026. A further 900 units on the yet to be progressed areas of this large site are programmed to progress for beyond 2026. There are currently six different developers involved.

Of the four completed sites across the ward, as well as completions at site H-WH 3, this yielded 452 houses and 71 flats.

Employment Sites

There are 19 employment sites allocated within Ward 7.

Of these, one site has been serviced, two sites are being marketed, three sites are now in use, and, a further site has planning consent. Eight sites have not been progressed of which one is a long-term land safeguard (E-LW5). Enforcement action against unauthorised development was necessitated at one site in East Whitburn. Master plans have been prepared for sites at the Five Sister Business Park, West Calder (E-LW3 and E-LW4)

Those sites which are being progressed include:

- E-WH 1 'Heartlands' Business Park: largely serviced and developed;
- E-BB 5 (site c) Pottishaw (J4 – M8): granted consent for depot extension;
- sites E-BB 6 West Main Street Blackburn and E-BB 1 Riddochhill - Inch Muir Road 1, Blackburn: are at marketing stage; and,
- the two Blackburn sites now in use are: E-BB 3 Pottishaw Place (as demolition yard and materials storage) and E-BB 4 Inchmuir Road 3 (as new Council service depot).

Town Centres

In Ward 7 town centre areas are identified at Blackburn and Whitburn. While outwith the delineated town centre, site H-WH 7 Murraysgate, West Main Street, Whitburn is allocated as a mixed-use site though currently remains undeveloped.

The following proposals are updated in the LDP Action Programme and relate to town centres at Blackburn and Whitburn:

- P-11 completion of Blackburn Health Centre as part of Blackburn Partnership Centre, including GP surgery and dentist;
- P-12 completion of Blackburn Partnership Centre including Council Services, Library, CIS, A2E, Macmillan Hub, Credit Union and Community Centre;
- P-81 re-development for Whitburn of a partnership centre to include CIS, museum, housing and community space; and
- various projects arising from Whitburn Charrette (2015) e.g. environmental improvements to East Whitburn approach.

Other Proposals

There are thirteen other proposals within the ward which have been updated in the LDP Action Programme. Of these, seven show no further progress in the interim, and progress on the six actions is summarised as follows:

- P-107 cycle route link between Whitburn and Armadale Railway Station parallel to B8084: funding secured, delayed due to Covid lockdown;
- P-58 Land safeguarding for new primary school associated with Gavieside CDA; school consultation underway

- P-83 express coach service, with associated Park & Ride, Cowhill – ‘Heartlands’: land identified, developers prepared layout in spring 2020;
- P-87 new primary school at ‘Heartlands’, Polkemmet: consultation underway to rebalance education capacity and to assist in facilitating site development;
- P-104 Almond & Breich Valley walkway paths; and
- NP-123 primary school extension, at either Croftmalloch Primary School or Polkemmet Primary School, identified as a new action to assist Heartlands development.

There are no specific development proposals in the LDP identified for Greenrigg. However, the strategic pedestrian and cycle route planned with Sustrans from Inchcross (Boghead) Roundabout, Bathgate along the A706 and B7066 at Whitburn extends to Greenrigg / Harthill and has been designed and funding is being organised with a view to completion by 2024.

D3 Supplementary Guidance and Planning Guidance

Significant progress has been made on the preparation of supplementary and planning guidance in support of the LDP. Full details are set out in Schedule 5 of the [LDP Action Programme First Review](#).

Of particular note are supplementary guidance relating to the provision of affordable housing which requires 15% of the site capacity to be provided for affordable needs. Ward 7 is identified as a Priority 2 area for affordable housing development.

Since publication of the LDP Action Programme in December 2020, Supplementary Guidance relating to Planning and Education, Transport Infrastructure and Cemetery Provision as well as planning guidance on non-employment uses within employment areas has been approved by the Council Executive. Further details of supplementary and planning guidance can also be found on the council's website at [West Lothian Council - Planning guidance and background information supporting the West Lothian Local Development Plan 2018 \(LDP 1\)](#).

E. CONCLUSION

The Local Development Plan (2018) sets out the spatial planning strategy for West Lothian. All development is required to comply with the LDP, unless there are other circumstances to be taken into consideration e.g. more up-to-date policies such as the recent amendments to Scottish Planning Policy. The Action Programme is an important document marking the transition from the plan making stage to the delivery stage and focusing on the specific infrastructure required to facilitate the implementation of the LDP. Significant progress has been made in implementing the LDP since its adoption in September 2018.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

West Lothian Local Development Plan (2018) -
<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/LDP>

West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP): Action Programme (First Review) 2020 – report at Council Executive 15 December 2020 -
<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewDoc.asp?c=e%97%9Dh%96q%7D%8D>

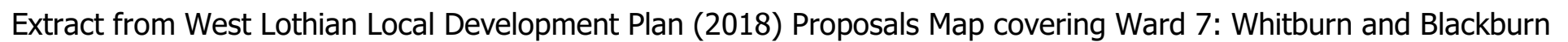
Appendices/Attachments: Two

Appendix 1 - Extract from West Lothian LDP Proposals Map covering Whitburn and Blackburn area
Appendix 2 - Extracts from West Lothian LDP Action Programme: First Review relating to Ward 7

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Craig McCorriston
Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration

01 March 2021



DATA LABEL: Public

APPENDIX 2

Extracts from West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP) Action Programme: First Review - relating to Ward 7: Whitburn and Blackburn

TABLE 1: Housing Allocations

LDP Map Reference/ Location	LDP Action Plan update
BLACKBURN	
H - BB 1 Daisyhill Road, Blackburn	Undeveloped - planning permission was granted 2006; no progress due to ownership and funding constraints.
H-BB 2 Riddochill Road, Blackburn	No consent / no site start.
H-BB 3 West Main Street (West), Blackburn	No consent / No site start.
H-BB 4 West Main Street (East), Blackburn	No consent / No site start.
H-BB 5 16 Bathgate Road, Blackburn	Undeveloped - expired consent from 2008 / No site start.
H-BB 6 11 East Main Street (former garage), Blackburn	Undeveloped – expired consent from 2012 / No site start.
H-BB 7 Redhouse West, Blackburn	Development completed.
H-BB 8 West Main Street (former Adult Training Centre), Blackburn	Undeveloped. No consent / No site start.
H-BB 9 Ash Grove, Site A, Blackburn	Undeveloped. No consent / No site start.
H-BB 10 Ash Grove, Site B, Blackburn	Undeveloped. No consent / No site start.
LIVINGSTON	
H-LV 13 Gavieside Farm, West Livingston [NB: only pars of site north and west of B7015 within Wd. 7)	Undeveloped - site is subject of a live planning application and completions have been programmed to deliver from 2021/22.
SEAFIELD	
H-SF 1 Old Rows, Seafield	Development is underway with 8 of 10 houses having been completed; developer identified as RB Construction.
WHITBURN	
H-WH 1 Polkemmet, Heartlands (1), Whitburn	Development completed.
H-WH 2 Polkemmet, Heartlands, Areas A, B and C, Whitburn	Development completed.
H-WH 3 Polkemmet, Remainder, Whitburn	Planning permission granted for multiple phases. Phases 2A and 2B (Bellway Homes) - development is underway with 98 of 163 houses having been completed. Phase 2 (Allan Water) - development is underway with 23 of 102 houses having been completed.

	<p>Phase 2 (Persimmon) - development is underway with 42 of 117 houses having been completed.</p> <p>Sites below consented were consented in 2018, development has not yet commenced in all cases and future completions programmed as below:</p> <p>Phase 2D (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2024/25 Phase 3A (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2020/21 Phase 3 B (Taylor Wimpey) - to deliver from 2019/20 Phase 3C and 3D (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2022/23 Phase 4 (1) (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2024/25 Phase 4 (2) (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2023/24 Phase 5A (1) (Bellway Homes) - to deliver from 2020/21 Phase 5A (2) (Bellway Homes) - to deliver from 2022/23 Phase 5B (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2022/23 Phase 5C (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2022/23 Phase 6A (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2022/23 Phase 6B (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2022/23 Phase 6C (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2023/24 Phase 6D (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2024/25 Phase 6E (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2024/25 Phase 8A (WE Link Group) Site - to deliver from 2025/26 Phase 8B (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2025/26 Phase 9 (WE Link Group) - to deliver from 2025/26</p> <p>900 units on the remainder of the allocated site have been identified for delivery post 2026.</p>
H-WH 4 Whitdale, East Main Street, Whitburn	Development completed.
H-WH 5 Dixon Terrace, Whitburn	Site has consent and completions have been programmed to deliver from 2020/21; developer identified as Springfield Properties.
H-WH 6 Polkemmet Business Centre, Dixon Terrace, Whitburn	Undeveloped. No consent / no site start
H-WH 7 Murraysgate, West Main Street, Whitburn	Undeveloped. No consent / no site start / but completions are programmed for delivery in 2024/25.

TABLE 2: Employment Allocations

LDP Map Reference/ Location	LDP Action Plan Update
BLACKBURN	
E-BB 1 Riddochhill - Inch Muir Road 1, Blackburn	Development platform completed and site being marketed.
E-BB 2 Inch Muir Road 2, Blackburn	Last remaining site in Estate.
E-BB 3 Pottishaw Place, Blackburn	Delivered - in use as demolition yard and materials storage.
E-BB 4 Inchmuir Road 3, Blackburn	Delivered - in use as new Council service depot: Spring 2018.

E-BB 5 (sites a, b, c, d) Pottishaw (J4 – M8), Blackburn	Site 5c granted planning permission for depot extension.
E-BB 6 West Main Street, Blackburn	Site has been marketed.
EAST WHITBURN	
E-EW 1 Whitrigg North East, East Whitburn	Development occurred without planning permission; enforcement underway.
E-EW 2 Whitrigg South West, East Whitburn	No interest in site.
LIVINGSTON	
E-LV 41 Starlaw Park west, West Livingston	Recent developer interest.
E-LV 42 Starlaw Park central, West Livingston	Delivered; built out.
E-LV 43 Starlaw Park east, West Livingston	No progress.
E-LV 47 Almond North, West Livingston [NB: only west two-thirds of site is within Wd. 7)	Site bisected by N–S ethylene pipeline with standoff. No progress.
E-LV 48 Almond South, Gavieside, West Livingston [NB: only north two-thirds of site is within Wd. 7)	Site bisected by N–S ethylene pipeline with standoff. No progress
E-LV 49 Cousland Wood, West Livingston	Site bisected by N–S ethylene pipeline with standoff. No progress
WHITBURN	
E-WH 1 'Heartlands' Business Park, Whitburn	Site largely serviced; east and SE plots developed
LANDWARD	
E-LW 2 Drum Farm, by Whitburn	No interest in site.
E-LW 3 Five Sisters Business Park – (East) by West Calder	Masterplan prepared for access and servicing.
E-LW 4 Five Sisters Business Park – (West) by West Calder	Masterplan prepared; recent planning application activity.
E-LW 5 Balgornie Farm, north Whitburn	Long term safeguard.

TABLE 3: Town Centres Allocations and Proposals

LDP Map Reference/ Location	LDP Action Plan update - December 2020
P-11 – Blackburn Health Centre at Ash Grove - new site as part of Blackburn Partnership Centre, GP surgery and dentist	Completed.
P-12 – Blackburn Partnership Centre - Council Services, Library, CIS, A2E, Macmillan Hub, Credit Union and	Completed.

Community Centre, Ash Grove north	
P-81 – New Whitburn Partnership Centre to include CIS, Museum and Housing; Community space for events and meetings, Armadale Road / East Main Street	At Construction Stage; contractors appointed.
Other Projects arising from Whitburn Charrette (2015) (Areas shown within orange dashed lines on LDP Proposals Map)	Indicative projects include shopfront improvements, public realm enhancements, gap site development, strategic footpath, greenway and associated environmental improvements. Understood that there are delays related to Covid. East Whitburn environmental improvements completed via CSGNT in 2019 using council's Village Improvement Fund.

TABLE 4: Other LDP Proposals

LDP Map Reference/ Location	LDP Action Plan update – December 2020
P-40 – M8 Linear Art Project, J4 / A801	No further progress - at initiation stage; timescale: not yet known.
P-49 Provision of additional community / health facilities in support of West Livingston (Gavieside) / Mossend CDA	Land identified for additional community and health facilities in the Gavieside CDA area in support of new housing development in West Livingston and Mossend CDA area. Partners and funders include the developer, NHS Lothian, West Lothian Health & Care Partnership. Timescale: beyond 2024.
P-58 Land safeguarding for new primary school associated with Gavieside CDA	School consultation underway to rebalance education capacity to assist in facilitating development; Phase 1 (to 231 capacity) Phase 2 (to 462 capacity). Developer is to forward fund. Timescale 2020-2024
P-76 Road reservation - road corridor linked to Mossend / Cleugh Brae / Gavieside CDA requirements	At proposal stage; timescale 2020-2024
P-78 West Calder new primary school; duplication of proposal P-58 Gavieside	Editing error; not to be progressed
P-83 - Express coach service, with associated Park & Ride, Cowhill – 'Heartlands'	Land identified; requirement of outline consent for the Heartlands development. Developers layout proposals prepared in May 2020.
P-84 - Land safeguarded for road corridor, A706 - B7066 link, via Polkemmet restoration	No further progress since publication of previous Action Programme: at Land Reservation / Proposal Stage.
P-85 - Land safeguarded for southern extension of cemetery, Blaeberryhill Road	No further progress since publication of previous Action Programme: at Land Reservation / Proposal Stage.

P-86 - Replacement school with extended capacity, St Joseph's Primary School, Gateside Road	No further progress since publication of previous Action Programme. Educational infrastructure requirements under review & to be confirmed to inform design work; timescale: beyond 2024.
P-87 - New primary school, 'Heartlands', Polkemmet	School consultation underway to rebalance education capacity to assist in facilitating development.
P-104 Almond & Breich Valley walkway paths	Carried forward from the West Lothian Local Plan – long-term aspiration. Shale Trail project due for completion / opening in Autumn 2020 will upgrade sections of the Almond Valley Walkway. Proposal stage
P-107 - Cycle route link parallel to B8084 between Whitdale Roundabout and Armadale Railway Station	Funding secured from Sustrans, Community Links and West Lothian Council. Land ownership issues have caused delays. Designed and costed CPO in support of route concluded early 2018. Was due on site just before Covid-19 shutdown; reprogrammed for Autumn 2020. Timescale: 2020-2024.
P-117 - New strategic pedestrian & cycle route from Inchcross (Boghead) Roundabout, Bathgate along the A706 and B7066 at Whitburn towards Greenrigg / Harthill	No further progress since publication of previous Action Programme. The project is being progressed in stages: Inchcross Roundabout west to Harthill still to be completed. Sustrans Community Links funding was obtained in principle for 50% of project costs in 2016/17. Further funding needs to be identified to match. Design complete; bid to Sustrans 2018-19 programme part funding / WLC. At Funding Stage / Proposal Stage; timescale: 2020-2024.
NP-123 - 3 Primary school extension (NEW ACTION – Action Programme 2018 Edition), Heartlands Croftmalloch Primary School or Polkemmet Primary School	School consultation underway to rebalance education capacity to assist in facilitating development at Heartlands. Timescale: beyond 2024.

Data Label: Public



West Lothian
Council

WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT

REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Whitburn and Blackburn Local Area Committee on the activity within Whitburn and Blackburn 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 Whitburn and Blackburn 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 Whitburn and Blackburn Multi-member Ward Quarterly Report

Following the publication of the Whitburn and Blackburn 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 Whitburn and Blackburn 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 Whitburn and Blackburn Multi-member Ward Performance Report aligns to the key priorities of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2020, 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.

Gordon McGuire

Station Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

July 2020

Appendix 1 - Whitburn and Blackburn Multi-Member Ward Performance Report



West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Quarter 3 20/21

Whitburn and Blackburn

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.

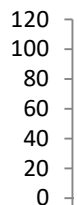
Introduction

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.

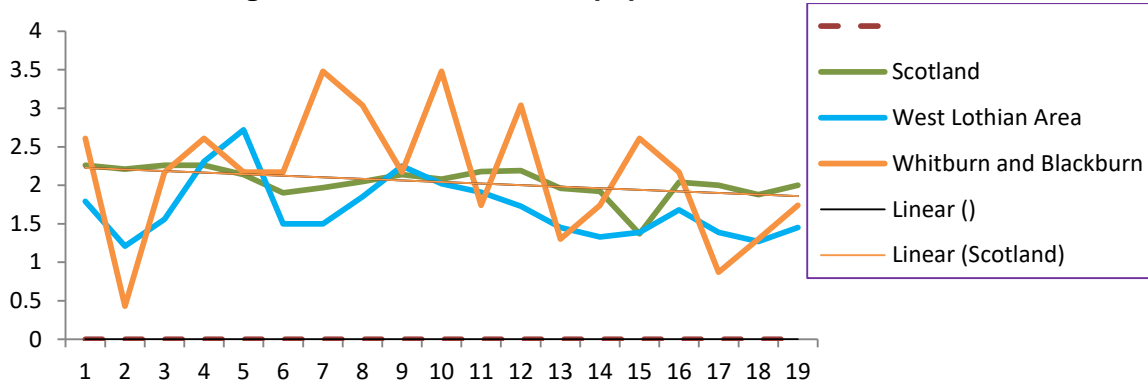
Whilst using historic statistical benchmarking data, consideration must be taken of the somewhat random nature of fire related incidents and events, and how this can pose difficulties in interpreting emerging patterns and trends. This is of specific relevance where ward level data is analysed due to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



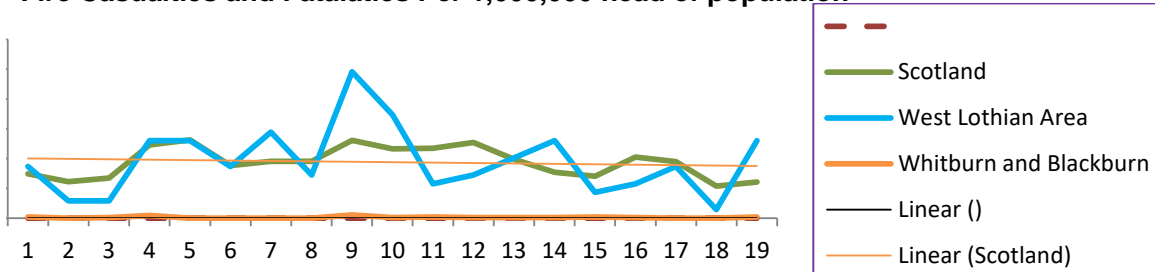
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Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



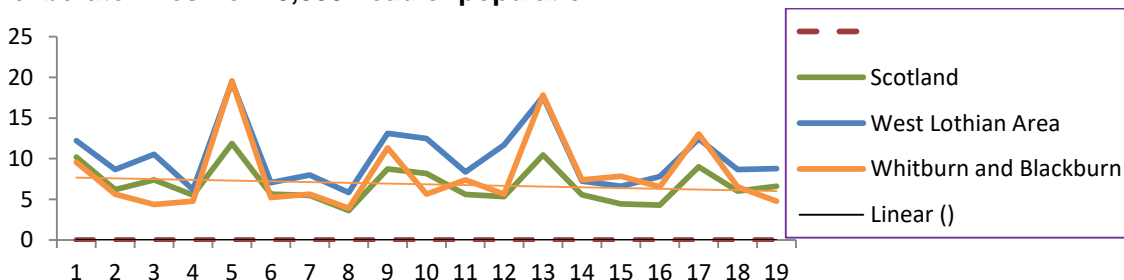
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 4 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 7 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



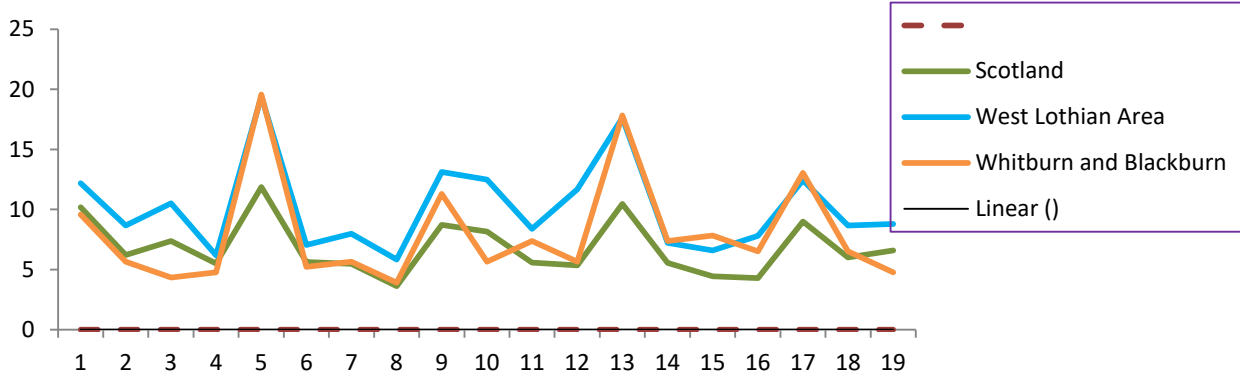
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 3 Casualties and 0 Fatalities due to fire in comparison to 2 Casualties and 0 Fatalities during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



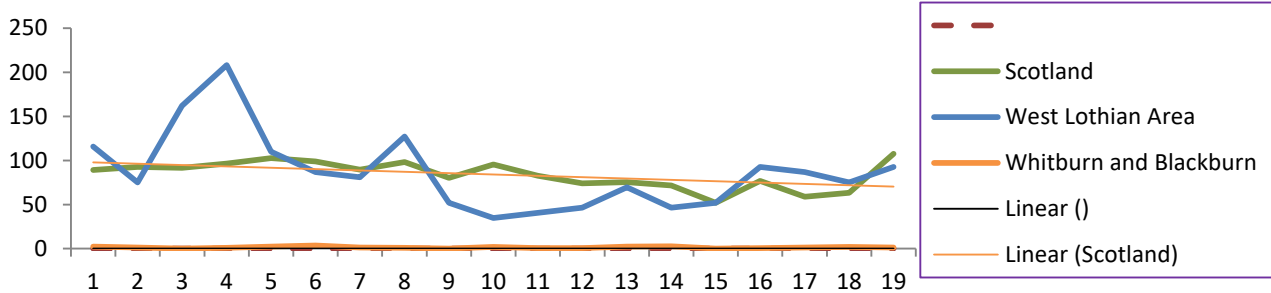
SFRS have dealt with 11 Deliberate fire incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 19 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



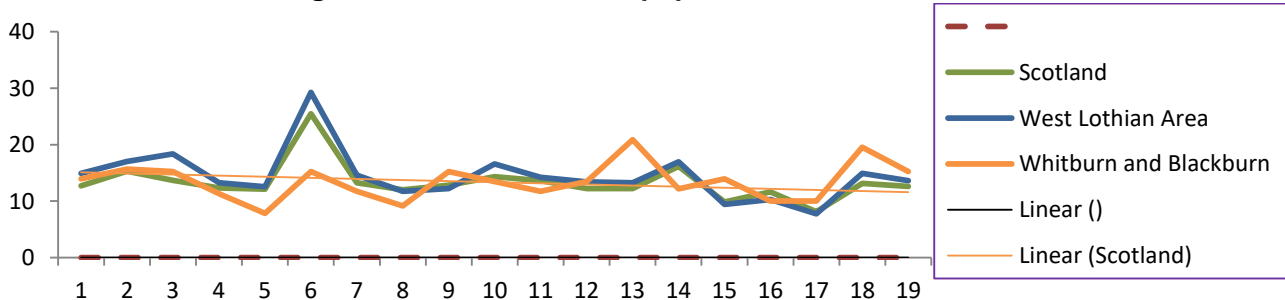
SFRS have dealt with 3 non domestic fires incident during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 2 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



SFRS have dealt with 3 casualties from Special Services during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 3 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population

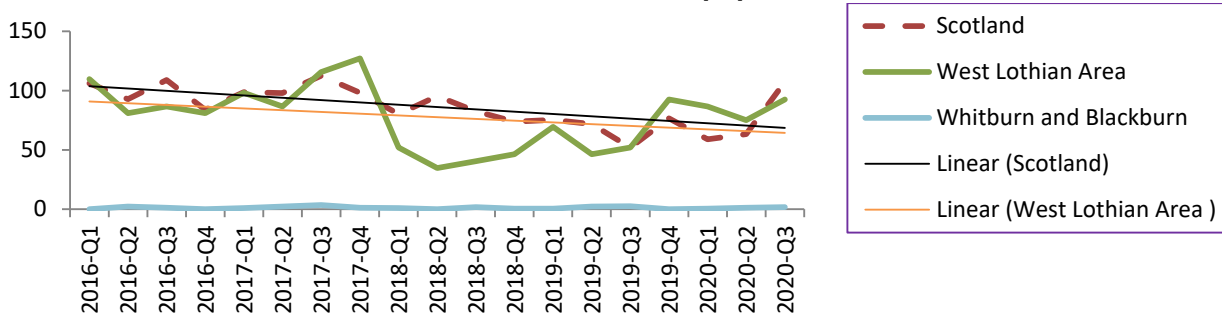


SFRS have dealt with 35 UFAS incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 33 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



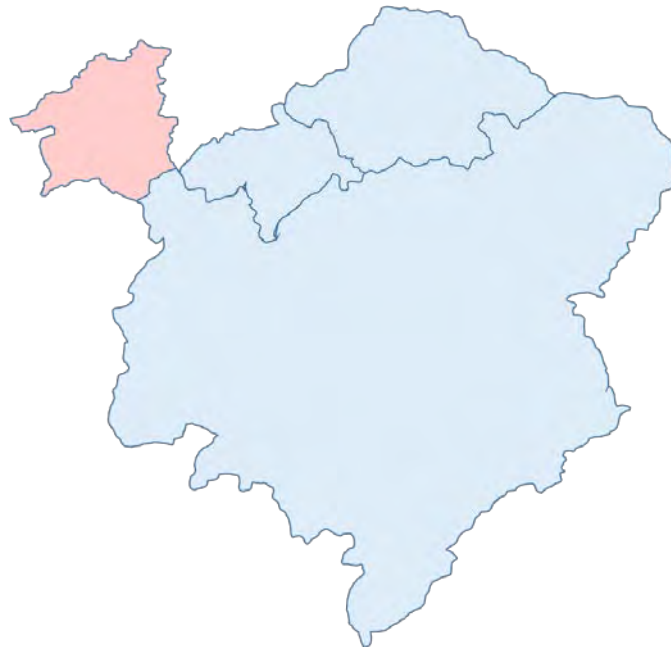
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 3 Casualties and 0 Fatalities from RTC's in comparison to 0 Casualties and 0 Fatalities during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

OFFICIAL



West Lothian Area Command

Lothian and Scottish Borders



Ward 7 Whitburn & Blackburn Multi Member Ward Report

Quarter 3 – 2020/2021

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

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 31st December 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 same period in 2020; 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

OFFICIAL

Introduction:

This document is intended to provide a summary of the performance of West Lothian Area Command for the reporting period of Quarter 3 2020/2021. The report references the police priorities within the Local Police Plan for West Lothian 2020-2023, namely:

- Protecting The Most Vulnerable People
- Reducing Violence and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Reducing Acquisitive Crime
- Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

The data provided in this report is for information purposes to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities.

Whitburn and Blackburn Community Engagement Priorities:

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

Whitburn and Blackburn Community Officers

PC Carol-Ann Wilson

PC Barrie Kennedy

Executive Summary:

Officers in West Lothian have been focused to delivering, with our key partners, our Local Policing Priorities, and meeting our commitment to Keep People Safe.

- **Protecting the most vulnerable people** – Domestic abuse crimes is an area of focus in terms of providing confidence to report, undertaking professional investigations, providing victim support, pursuing perpetrators and managing offenders. An investment of additional resources in these areas has increased solvency in respect of domestic crimes. Due to Covid-19, there has been an increase in domestic incidents reported due to persons being restricted within households where they would not normally be. Tackling criminality that poses the greatest threat and risk is, and will always be, a priority for officers in West Lothian.

Due to ongoing restrictions there have been limited face to face interactions. As such, social media posts have been used to interact with the community and have been very well received.

Visits to residential units for “looked after” children have been positive with engagement from staff and young people, building relationships and tackling issues.

Tackling domestic abuse continues to be a priority. Alongside robust response and enquiry into any reported incidents, we have heavily communicated messages via our social media streams.

- **Reducing Violence and Anti-Social behaviour** - The number of reported incidents has increased compared to the 2019/20 period. Due to personal pressures of Lockdown, new ASB factors have become evident. Tolerance levels are still low and showing a lack of patience with continued restrictions. West Lothian continues to engage with the public and utilise the 4 E's – Engage, Explain, Encourage and Enforce. Officers have continued paying extra attention to public space disorder and engage with partners to address youth-related disorder. Anti-social behaviour incidents are monitored by the Community Safety Partnership, based at the West Lothian Civic Centre, assisting support from Community Officers if appropriate.

Police continue to respond to ASB calls dealing robustly with any criminality. CPT Officers are in constant contact with WLC Housing and SNT sharing information regarding problem tenancies and working together to resolve ASB issues.

Frequent calls continue relating to neighbours breaching current restrictions.

- **Reducing Acquisitive Crime** and working to Protect People by reducing the impact (both financial and personal) that it has on our community's remains a priority for West Lothian. The number of reported Crimes of Dishonesty had dropped including a reduction in Domestic Housebreakings. The “Shut out Scammers” campaign continued into Q3, albeit mainly through Social Media platforms, alongside the International Safer Internet Day which provided advice on internet safety, online frauds and cybercrime.

Door step crime, bogus workmen and opportunists often targeting the most vulnerable is a constant risk. Local officers have been successful in tackling offences as well as utilising our social media outlets for awareness raising.

- **Improving Road Safety** is always a priority for every local authority and officers in the West Lothian area collaborate with partners to educate the public to prevent incidents from occurring. During Q3, Roads Policing officers actively partook in the national speed, seat belt and mobile phone campaign alongside the Festive Drink and Drive campaign, resulting in numerous offences detected. Despite Covid-19 restrictions, YTD, there was an increase of 12.77% in driving offences although a significant reduction in overall road traffic casualties by 42%.

Police continue to receive reports from concerned members of the public regarding speeding and inconsiderate drivers. The new 20mph restrictions have resulted in calls, raising concerns with non-compliance.

Community officers and our roads policing department continue to provide patrols of these areas, educating and enforcing where necessary.

- **Tackling Serious and Organised Crime** by Reducing Drug supply, Production and Cultivation linked to Organised Crime is a policing priority for the West Lothian local authority area and the wider Lothian & Scottish Borders (J) Division of Police Scotland. During Q3, 13 MDA Warrants were issued and executed at various addresses within West Lothian, resulting in a significant volume of drugs, paraphernalia and cash seizures being made.

Reporting Period April – December 2020			
Whitburn & Blackburn	Recorded		
Crime Type	YTD	LYTD	% Diff
Robbery	5	7	- 28.5%
Serious Assault	15	13	15.3%
Sexual Crimes	54	36	50.0%
Housebreaking dwelling	14	20	- 30.0%
Housebreaking non-dwelling (sheds/garages)	6	5	20.0%
Housebreaking Other Premises	8	11	- 27.2%
Theft of motor vehicle	23	36	- 36.1%
Theft from motor vehicle (OLP)	12	17	- 29.4%
Vandalism	149	181	- 17.6%
Total drugs supply	18	13	38.4%
Possession of Drugs	67	66	1.5%
Common Assault	244	190	28.4%
Common Assault - emergency worker	16	10	60.0%
Total Crimes and Offences	1543	1406	9.7%

Through local engagement we will continue to work with communities and partners to deliver a quality service which responds to their needs.

Together we can increase community resilience and prevent crime.

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



WHITBURN & BLACKBURN 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 November 2020 – 31 January 2021.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to:

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

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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	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)	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 November 2020 – 31 January 2021.

D2 Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

All hedges and shrub beds in the ward have now had their annual visit.

All Grounds Maintenance staff have been helping Roads Services deal with the weather emergency works for the whole of January.

The Neighbourhood Environmental Teams continue to react to customer enquiries, mainly the removal of fly tipping, although the weather emergency works have delayed their progress.

Grounds Maintenance Enquiries

In total there were 16 grounds maintenance related enquiries received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2020/21.

	2020/21	2019/20
Bonfire Enquiries	2	1
Burns or Watercourses	1	0
Drainage Flooding Grass Areas	2	2
Enforcement Officer Enquiries	1	0
Fencing Enquiries	1	1
Grass Area Damaged	0	2
Grass Cutting Enquiries	0	3
Grass Left on Paths or Roads	3	0
Ground Ownership Enquiries	1	0
Grounds Property Vandalised	2	1
Hedge Cutting Enquiries	0	1
Public Park Enquiries	0	3
Shrub Bed Enquiries	1	0
Shrub Bed Overhanging Path	2	7
Weeds on Paths or Roads	0	1
Total	16	22

D3 Garden Maintenance Routine Works

The Garden Maintenance Scheme will start again in April.

Garden Maintenance Enquiries

In total there were one garden maintenance related enquiries received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2020/21.

	2020/21	2019/20
Garden Maintenance General Enquiries	0	2
Garden Maintenance Hedge Cutting	1	1
Total	1	3

D4 Cleaner Communities Routine Works

The Street Cleansing Teams have been reduced in size to comply with social distancing guidelines over the period 1 November 2020 – 31 January 2021.

During this period staff have continued to empty street litter and dog waste bins on a regular basis and carry out routine works in the area. Also, litter picking footpaths/ open spaces and road verges and dealing with enquiries as they arise. The street orderly has also continued with their duties over the period clearing litter and emptying litter bins in and around the town centre.

The compact mechanical street sweeper has continued to sweep footpaths and kerb edges and we have two HGV sweepers that are used to clean roads and channels during this time.

Resources have been redirected when required during this period to deal with leaf fall.

We continue to have lots of volunteer's litter picking in the Ward and we have assisted with the uplift of bags and debris that have been collected.

Due to Covid-19 and Street Cleansing Staff assisting other Council Services during the pandemic, a tender has been awarded for a contractor to carry out road sweeping of A, B & C roads. This work is due to start at the beginning of February and be completed by the end of March 2021.

Cleaner Communities Enquiries

In total 107 cleaner communities related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2020/21.

	2020/21	2019/20
Complaint Street Cleansing	1	0
Dead Animals	7	6
Dog Fouled Grass Open Space	1	2
Dog Fouling on Paths/Roads	11	7
Dog Waste Bin Overflowing	2	0
Dog Waste Bin New Request	0	1
Glass on Paths or Open Spaces	0	2
Graffiti Non-Offensive	2	1
Graffiti Racist or Offensive	3	1
Illegal Fly Posting	1	1
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	46	57
Litter Bin Burnt Damaged	1	0
Litter General Enquiries	5	8
Litter in Grass Open Space	1	1
Litter on Paths/Road Verges	6	21
Needles/Syringes Abandoned	0	3
Street Sweeping Enquiries	8	8
Trolleys Abandoned/Dumped	1	0
Vehicle Abandoned	11	13
Total	107	132

Fly Tipping Enquiries (Full Year)

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	261	316	375	276	184

Enforcement Community Action

The Education, Engagement and Enforcement team have continued to deal with enquiries as they are logged following COVID-19 guidance.

Officers continue to deal with enquiries relating to fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles and general enquiries. There have been 46 enquiries in relation to fly tipping for the period compared to 57 for the same period in 2019/2020.

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 been a significant increase in the purchase of litter picking equipment by West Lothian Council as volunteer groups are expanding.

There was no Fixed Penalty Notices issued in Ward 7 for the period of 1 November 2020 – 31 January 2021. For the same period in 2019/2020 there was also no Fixed Penalty Notices issued within the Ward.

Costs for fly tipping for the period 1 November 2020 – 31 January 2021

Fly tipping is covered by the NETs teams who also carry out other non-routine works for Grounds. We are unable to split costs over specific ward areas or from the other works they carry out, but can give the yearly cost for the NETs teams with an estimate of their time spent on fly tipping which we currently estimate as 80% of their time. For 2019 the estimate was 70% of their time.

Weights for fly tipping brought into the transfer station are provided as a weekly total Monday – Sunday.

Fly tipping costs:

1 November 2020 – 31 January 2021	55.1 tonne
Cost of disposal including costs for NETs team/vehicles, October-December	£43,430.00
Contractor removal of fly tipping	£0.00
Removal of asbestos	£148.00
TOTAL	£43,578.00

The number of enquiries received between 1 November 2020 – 31 January 2021 for the Ward was 46 out of 543 enquiries for the whole of West Lothian equating to 8.5% of fly tipping enquiries relating to Ward 7.

Percentage wise this would equate to an approximate cost for the Ward of £3,692.00 for disposal of fly tipping between 1 November 2020 and 31 January 2021 including cost for Staff/vehicles. (This does not include the removal of asbestos by the Councils asbestos team).

Costs for fly tipping for the period 1 November 2019 – 31 January 2020

1 November 2019 – 31 January 2020	48.5 tonne
Cost of disposal including estimated costs for NETs team/vehicles	£36,688.00
Contractor removal of fly tipping	£100.00
Removal of asbestos	£1,007.00
TOTAL	£37,795.00

The number of enquiries received between 1 November 2019 – 31 January 2020 for the Ward was 57 out of 466 enquiries for the whole of West Lothian equating to 12.2% of fly tipping enquiries relating to Ward 7.

Percentage wise this would equate to an approximate cost for the ward of £4,488.00 for disposal of fly tipping between 1 November 2019 and 31 January 2020 including cost for Staff/vehicles. (This does not include the removal of asbestos by the Councils asbestos team). The removal of fly tipping by contractor was not within Ward 7.

D5 Parks and Woodland

Tree & Woodland Enquiries

In total 12 Parks and Woodland related enquiries were received during this reporting period.

	2020/21	2019/20
Tree Advice or Consultations	1	3
Tree Branches Overhanging	2	3
Tree Broken/Damaged or Dead	0	1
Tree Dangerous or Unsafe	2	3
Tree Enquiries General	6	4
Tree Felling Work Unauthorised	0	1
Tree Leaves Causing Problems	1	5
Tree Roots Causing Problems	0	1
Total	12	21

	2020/21	2019/19
Access Rights Way Core Paths	2	2
Beecraigs Fishery Enquiries	1	0
Country Park General Enquiries	1	0
Total	4	2

Ranger Service Update

No. Rights Of Way / Core Path / Patrols carried out (hours)	30
No. Access Enquiries	2
No. Volunteer hours	30

The Ranger Service have continued with a mixture of home working, site visits and park patrols through November – January, with a Ranger 'on duty' every day.

Access

Country Parks and green spaces continue to receive very high visitor numbers due to the ongoing pandemic. Pressures on the more sensitive path surfaces/locations continue to prove challenging. There is also noticeable friction in some areas between certain user groups e.g. cyclists, families, dog walkers.

The Ranger Service has reached out via the Regeneration Officers and Community Councils to see if they can assist communities in improving access through path upgrades using the Town Improvement Fund. An application was made and has since been awarded to improve Core Paths WL19 East Whitburn to Stoneyburn and Blackmoss Nature Park in partnership with various Community groups. The Ranger Service have also met with the Woodland Trust (who own a section of this route) to coordinate works on Foulshiels Bing. Quotes have been received and the projects have been awarded to a contractor. Works are to begin in mid-2021.

Polkemmet Country Park

The Friends of Polkemmet managed two sessions in November and December, improving one of the river path connections, and improving drainage and cutting back vegetation. They also carried out path and drainage work on the Driving Range Path and also installed a missing waymarker post.

Problems with fireworks and antisocial behaviour reported at Polkemmet Country Park, including large display-sized fireworks being let off in the Play Area during December.

External metal housing for visitor monitoring post at Polkemmet Country Park main entrance was stolen. A replacement has been sought and the post is now back up and running.

Greenrigg Town Centre Fund –The map board and visitor monitoring posts have been installed at the new Greenrigg entrance to Polkemmet Country Park and existing signage moved from old location to new entrance. This concludes the Town Centre Funding projects that the Ranger Service was delivering on behalf of the Community Council. A small surplus will likely be spent on a new bench for the Greenrigg play area, which we are happy to undertake for the Community Council.

D6 Open Space and Cemeteries

Polkemmet Country Park Play Area, Whitburn. Play area will be refurbished and upgraded in Summer/Autumn 2021. Works will include installing additional drainage measures, replacing the sand play area, replacing swings, and replacing park furniture. In addition new toddler play equipment will be added (Town Centre Fund).

Seafeld Green Play Area, Seafeld. The cableway will be replaced in Spring/Summer 2021 (Town Centre Fund).

Open Space Enquiries

There were two Open Space enquiries for this reporting period in 2020/21.

	2020/21	2019/20
Childrens Play Enquiries	1	2
Safety Issues in Play Areas	1	1
Total	2	3

Cemeteries Routine Works

Whitburn Cemeteries

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

There were 98 Cemeteries enquiries for this reporting period in 2020/21.

	2020/21	2019/20
Bench Donations	1	1
Cemeteries General Enquiries	14	6
Complaint Cemeteries & Burials	1	0
Family History Searches	1	0
Lair Enquiries	4	4
Lair Sunken or Uneven	4	2
Memorial/ Headstone Works	21	0
New Interment Booking	38	0
Purchase of Interment Lair	14	0
Total	98	13

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

E. CONCLUSION

The Education, Engagement and Enforcement team have continued to deal with enquiries as they are logged following COVID-19 guidance.

The Open Space Capital Programme is progressing as scheduled.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Open Space Strategy

Capital Programme

Appendices/Attachments: None

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Jim Jack
Head of Operational Services
3 March 2021

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN 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 Whitburn and Blackburn 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 3 - 1st October to 31st December 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 Whitburn and Blackburn ward.

To ensure that our properties are being re-let and that we were meeting our duty under homeless legislation, the Housing Team has continued throughout the Covid19 pandemic prioritise resources to complete the letting process for both temporary and mainstream properties.

Property Void & Let Performance: Mainstream Tenancies

Void Period	October 2020	%	November 2020	%	December 2020	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	1	6%	3	23%	0	0%	55%
2-4 weeks	1	6%	4	31%	3	16%	30%
4+ weeks	14	88%	6	46%	16	84%	15%
Total Lets	16	100%	13	100%	19	100%	100%

Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	October 2020	%	November 2020	%	December 2020	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	3	44%	2	40%	4	27%	55%
2-4 weeks	2	28%	3	60%	4	27%	30%
4+ weeks	2	28%	0	0%	7	46%	15%
Total Lets	7	100%	5	100%	15	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 12 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	2	Structural & Electrical
13 – 16 weeks	3	Structural & Electrical
26+ weeks	5	Used for decant purposes

D2.

Whitburn - Financial Summary

For the Whitburn ward the collection rate for the YTD in Q3 remains excellent at 98.3%. Whitburn has collected £8,282,604 vs a charge of £8,423,439.

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 Whitburn ward had 291 Universal Credit (UC) households. Since then the number of UC households has increased by 170.8%.

The number of tenancies in arrears in this ward has decreased by 206 since last year. Small debt cases (£300 or less), account for 51.6% of households.

There are 210 serious arrears cases (+£1000 in arrears). These cases are 20.1% of all households in arrears in this area, containing 64.8% of the debt.

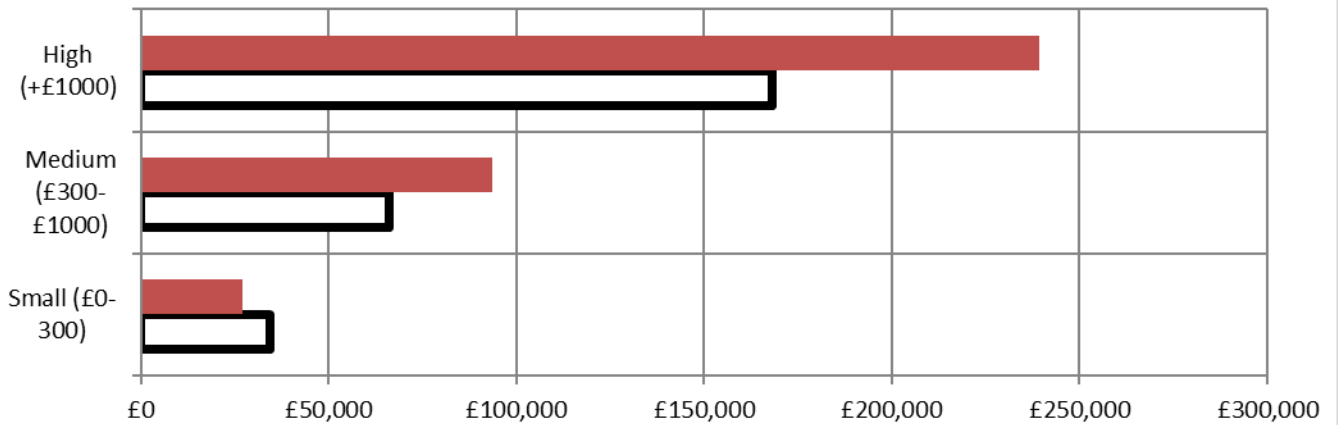
The arrears position for Whitburn Q3 is £628,763. This is an increase of -£96,860 on last year's position. The West Lothian overall position is currently £3,300,988.

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

WHITBURN, DEBT DISTRIBUTION

■ Universal Credit ■ Mainstream



Arrears Banding	2019/20 (WK39)				2020/21 (WK39)			
	Mainstream		UC		Mainstream		UC	
	Balance	#	Balance	#	Balance	#	Balance	#
£0.01 to £99.99	£12,399	299	£807	12	£9,207	198	£3,857	82
£100.00 to £299.99	£59,344	328	£10,650	51	£25,320	134	£23,259	125
£300.00 to £499.99	£49,184	128	£18,708	47	£26,657	71	£31,775	84
£500.00 to £749.99	£54,040	87	£34,950	56	£19,351	32	£34,945	55
£750.00 to £999.99	£41,036	48	£28,091	33	£20,078	23	£26,751	30
£1000.00 to £1999.99	£73,714	55	£103,726	76	£83,087	61	£115,854	80
£2000+	£36,610	14	£43,260	16	£85,194	28	£123,428	41
Group Total	£326,329	959	£240,193	291	£268,894	547	£359,868	497
Movement					(-) £57,434	(-) 412	(+) £119,676	(+) 206

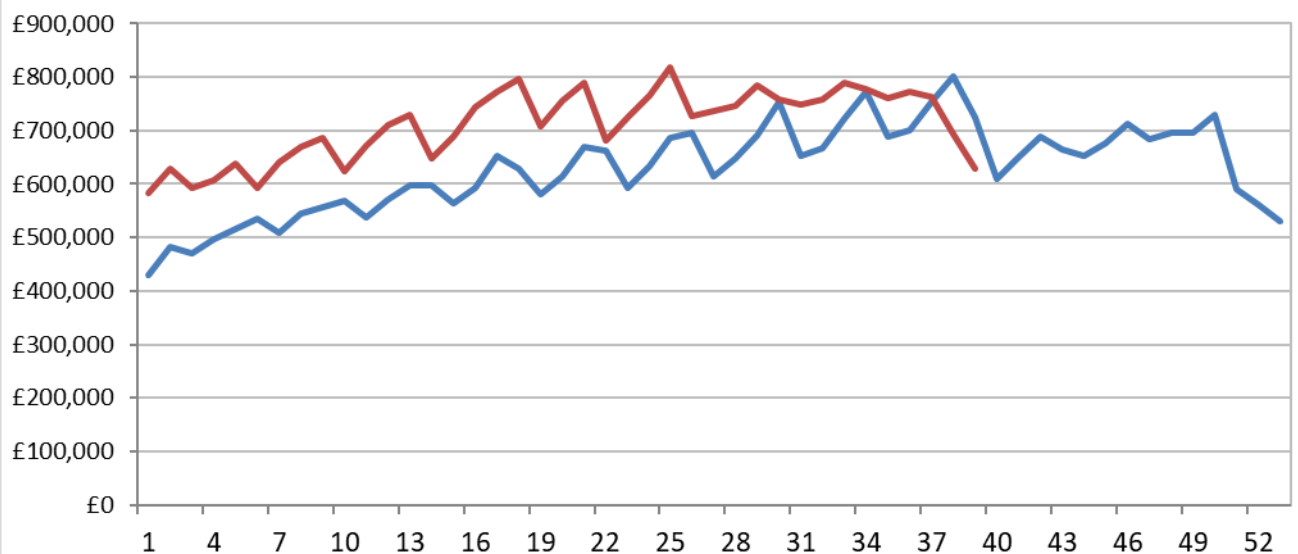
Overall Total
Overall Movement

£566,522 **1250**

£628,763 **1044**
(+) £62,241 (-) 206

WHITBURN, ARREARS BALANCE (YEAR ON YEAR)

— 2019 — 2020



D4 Whitburn Area Team Activity

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 2020 following the rent increase meaning they are losing out on money they are entitled to.

We have continued in the main with home working for staff, we have required to mobilise more officers in order to 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. Two officers from the Whitburn team have been seconded to the Central Void Team. This has been a challenging time for the service and we have worked with our Health & Safety advisor 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

D5. Capital Programme and New Build Council Housing

WLC New Build Activity	Site	No of units	Site Start	No. of Houses Handed Over	Site Completion
WLC	Redhouse	100	Jul-16	100	Sep-2018
RSL Build Activity	Site	No of units	Site Start	No. of Houses Handed Over	Site Completion
West Lothian Housing Partnership	Dixon Terrace	85	Mar-18	85	Mar-20

Whitburn	The Loch Scheme	Structural roof works: Stairs and balcony repairs: Insulation: render	2%	Council's revised scheme of assistnace. It is a Multiple Year projectwith Year 1 commenced in September 2019.
Whitburn	Glebe Road, Union Road, Armadale Road, Manse Avenue, Griffith Drive, Dick Gardens	Roofs & Roughcast to all: Heating upgrades and chimney removal	89%	Year 5 of the programme which is progressing well and nearing completion.

D6. Tenant Participation

During the Autumn months, the TP Team continued to carry out the schedule of meetings with tenants using online resources to ensure TP continues in all aspects of service delivery.

Tenants Panel

Tenant members continued to take part in monthly meetings with senior managers and the Head of Service, discussing service improvements and developments as well as receiving updates from each service area on implementing the changes imposed by the pandemic to deliver services and changes to working protocols. Members have also been involved in performance scrutiny, questioning information and results over this period.

Capital & Repairs Working Group (CaRs)

Managers from Building Services and the Strategy & Development Team met with tenant members to discuss major improvement works, update them on the various projects being carried out and share benchmark information. These meetings ensure that tenants views are taken onboard and offers another method of scrutinising service delivery.

Tenant Participation Development Working Group (TPDWG)

Members meet to ensure TP stays high on the services agenda, looking at ways of engaging with more tenants. They have also been reviewing the current TP Strategy with an emphasise on digital engagement and inclusion. The TP Team have carried out a review of the roles and remit of each group and discussed this with members for their understanding and approval.

Editorial Panel

With the use of Adobe Reader, members are now able to review publications and propose changes online prior to meeting. This was carried out with them in September/October for the services annual Landlord Report, detailing performance information from across the service relating to the Indicators contained in the Annual Return on the Charter; a requirement of the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Scottish Government Consultation

Tenants were supported by staff from Housing Need and TP Team to complete a consultation document from the Scottish Government on the Modifying of Local Connection Referrals. This was completed, agreed and submitted online in just one meeting.

Review of website

The TP Team commenced a review of the TP pages within the council's website which will be discussed and agreed with the Editorial Panel in the new year before changes are made to ensure they are current and relevant to the work we are carrying out.

TP Facebook Group

The TP team continue to see a steady rise in the number of tenants following posts on the TP Facebook Group Page. The team post useful information from various sources such as Scottish Government, NHS and the Council's Corporate websites as well as queries from tenants and light-hearted quotes and phrases. The team are working with the Tenant Participation Development Working Group to ensure they have a method of communicating with fellow tenants.

Tenants Learning & Development Sessions

Tenant sessions resumed in the latter part of 2020 with tenants joining us virtually to learn about the Scottish Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) and a session on 'Land Assembly and New Build Terminology'. A new training schedule for 2021 has been developed and we hope to add to the topics that tenants can learn about as we progress.

TP Scrutiny sessions with other organisations

Tenants and officers attended virtual meetings with tenants and officers from other local authorities and housing associations from across Scotland, to share and discuss engagement and scrutiny methods during Covid-19.

Tenant Information Services (TIS) Awards Ceremony

In November, TP staff and tenants joined the first virtual online award ceremony with TIS. With over 150 people celebrating the success and hard work of all those who have carried out TP activity throughout the pandemic and before. Our own Tenant Inspectors were shortlisted for one of these awards for the work they do as Tenant Inspectors, but unfortunately were not successful in lifting the trophy this year.

D7. Safer Neighbourhood Council Officer Ward Information

The Safer Neighbourhood Team Officers are working a blended model of office/community and home working in accordance with health and safety measures, risk assessments and safe operating procedures. Within the agreed safety guidelines, SNT officers are engaging with complainers and alleged perpetrators, gathering witness statements and evidence for enquiries including witnessing noise nuisance where possible. SNT Officer were also able to meet with Police and other partners for joint visits whilst adhering to the safeguarding measures in respect of Covid 19. Officers continue to provide a telephone service when working from home environment and are able to telephone complainers and alleged perpetrators as well as corresponding with written letters and e-mails. They have provided advice and assistance, telephone mediation, issued warning letters where there was evidence to do so and increase in partnership working.

Within the Whitburn and Blackburn ward there is 1 live and 1 interim ASBO.

INCIDENTS			
No of All ASB Incidents	Oct	Nov	Dec
Whitburn, Blackburn, Seafield and Greenrigg	46	45	21
Count of Case/ Ward - new cases opened	Oct	Nov	Dec
Whitburn, Blackburn, Seafield and Greenrigg	4	7	3

E. CONCLUSION

This has been challenging period where officers have been adapting to a blended approach to working from home and within the office/community, 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

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Date: 1st March 2021

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY REGENERATION UPDATE

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update members on regeneration activity within the ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that members note:

1. updates on activity within Blackburn regarding potential partnership projects being developed, progress with the Health and Wellbeing Group, the Food Group and Blackburn Community Choices;
2. updates on activity within Whitburn regarding Whitburn Services Group, the 'Whole Systems Approach' pilot project to Type 2 Diabetes in Whitburn and Whitburn town centre related matters;
3. the success of the local key community organisations of Community Action Blackburn and Whitburn Community Development Trust in securing funding through the council to enable them to deliver services during 2021/22; and
4. an update on the progress of developing Whitburn Partnership Centre.

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)	<p>Community regeneration reinforces the council's commitment to community planning at a local level.</p> <p>Local authorities have a statutory requirement for developing locality plans for targeted communities in their area. Regeneration Plans fit this requirement for West Lothian.</p> <p>The projects set out do not require a strategic environmental assessment. The projects to different degrees seek to address health and equality issues.</p>

III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Performance indicators relating to the activity within the plans are captured within the set of Regeneration key performance indicators.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities. - We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities. - We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities. - We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The activities set out are funded from existing budgets and relevant external sources. - Town Centres Budget 2019/20: £310,131 allocated to ward. - Town Centres Budget 2020/21: £110,845 allocated to ward.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	Annual updates on regeneration plans will be presented to the Community planning Partnership.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

The report updates the committee on the work of the Community Planning and Regeneration Team and its partners to support communities in the Whitburn and Blackburn ward with a particular focus on the towns of Whitburn and Blackburn. These are two of 13 areas covered by the local plans required by the Scottish Government as part of their Community Empowerment approach and reported through the Community Planning Partnership.

These areas were identified as priority areas due to being within the bottom 20% of data zones in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

Blackburn Regeneration Updates

The regular contact with community organisations in the area has continued with the Community Regeneration Officer offering support over the ever-changing circumstances as they unfold. The strong partnership relationships between different organisation and groups that blossomed at the start of the pandemic, continue to go from strength to strength. Many of the projects started during the initial lockdown are still being delivered and are proving to be essential to some residents of Blackburn.

A partnership between Community Action Blackburn (CAB) and The Larder has begun with a joint application being submitted to the Corra Foundation to support

homeless people in Blackburn and West Lothian wide. Support was provided to CAB in February 2020 by the Community Regeneration Officer (CRO) to apply to the same funders. Due to the pandemic, it was decided by Corra to hold the fund until 2021. Through a more joined up approach to working both CAB and The Larder decided to join forces and work together on joint project and joint application. Support has again been provided by the CRO and colleagues in Housing. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of March 2021.

Meetings have continued to be virtual with the Health and Wellbeing (H&WB) sub-group meeting on a monthly basis and the Blackburn Bonfire Night Action Group (BBNAG) taking a break from meetings until April this year, where they will resume their meetings to plan for the bonfire season 2021.

Blackburn Community Choices

Community Choices is a process that enables local communities to decide how public funding is spent. In Blackburn, this is focusing improving the health and wellbeing of individuals and families in Blackburn and is a pilot project as part of the wider development of Participatory Budgeting (PB) in West Lothian. The chosen theme of Health and Wellbeing is taken from 'Blackburn's Future' regeneration plan which was created by the local regeneration group, Blackburn's Futures Group.

£25,000 has been allocated address issues around health and wellbeing: mental health and wellbeing; children living in poverty; and healthy life choices. It is considered that these issues are still relevant and have become more severe over the last 9 months.

This way of allocating money allows members of the community to decide how the money is spent, and gives groups and organisations an opportunity to show how their project can improve an aspect of health and wellbeing in Blackburn.

Groups and organisations were asked to put forward their ideas and 11 applications have been received. The next stage of the process will be the community vote. Originally, voting was going to be through a public event, however a digital approach is now being used. Information on each of the projects will be posted on the dedicated webpage and the local community will vote on the 3 projects they feel best meet the needs of the community. Anyone who lives in Blackburn, aged 8 and over can vote. Voting will stay open for a period of 3 weeks. The project with the most votes will receive funding, and this will continue until the full amount has been used up.

Blackburn community choices aims to improve different aspects of health and wellbeing in Blackburn by giving local people the opportunity to make decisions on what projects they would like to see in their area.

Health and Wellbeing group

The H&WB group has been heavily involved in the Community Choices pilot for Blackburn. Blackburn Community Choices was originally launched back in February 2020 but had to be postponed due to COVID-19. It has now been re-launched to give groups and organisations the opportunity to help meet the needs of their community at this time, building on the resilience and strength that has been shown over the last few months and to make sure that local people have the opportunity now to be involved in how we support communities to recover from the effects of COVID 19.

Food Subgroup

The subgroup have now amalgamated into the H&WB group and provide regular updates at the monthly meetings. The session is delivered every Friday afternoon from the club house at Blackburn United Football Club. Along with food supplies, Community Action Blackburn (CAB) along with Blackburn Family Centre (BFC) and West Lothian Youth Action Project (WLYAP) have established a successful Dignity Box project that runs alongside the food donations, this is now called the Friday Food & Dignity Box Project (FFDB).

Food donations continue to be collected weekly from Asda in Armadale with additional Fareshare donations of toiletries and sanitary products being received. Volunteers of the project collect items for the local Scotmid that have been kindly donated by the community and Boots, donations are also dropped off at the club house. Fresh food is brought along on a Friday from WLYAP who collect this from the Food Consortium, who have supported the project from its inception. From 23 October to 30 December, 190 individuals attended the FFDB, with the number of people being supported totalling 463 (341 adults & 122 children). The project delivered additional sessions on the Wednesdays of the Christmas and New Year weeks to provide further support over the festive holidays. The session before Christmas Day was the busiest for the project with 65 people (37 adults and 28 children) being provided with food and toiletries.

The FFDB received a large number of donated gifts for Primary school children from Murrayfield Primary children and parents. These, along with donations of gifts from other funds including Tesco, Virgin Media and member disbursement funds were distributed to 93 children/teenagers along with selection boxes and additional toiletry gift boxes.

Community Action Blackburn (CAB) – Funding

CAB has been awarded funding of £34,650.00 from the Modernisation and Improvement Fund. CAB will be able to continue to deliver priority projects meeting the needs of the community. They will continue to work with a range of partners to address physical and mental health and wellbeing of the community linking in with the Blackburn Future Plan.

Some of the projects that they have been funded to deliver include:

- the expansion of the food and dignity box project to meet the increasing demand from the community;
- the development of a community gardening and growing project;
- promotion of mental health and wellbeing with the Change In Blackburn group leading on a mental health awareness week long event;
- a new digital inclusion project where reconditioned IT equipment will be provided for use by individuals and families along with training in use of the equipment to people who require support; and
- a new project for providing a bespoke package of specialist support to assist people through the difficulties experienced from Covid and mental health including transitions from schools or from previous employment towards work, education, training and other positive destinations.

Support is being provided to CAB to help them identify and attract further funding sources to enable them to continue their vital work within Blackburn providing a sustainable outcome for the organisation.

Whitburn Regeneration Updates

Whitburn Services Meeting

A meeting of the Whitburn Services Group was held in October 2020. The purpose of this meeting was to allow services the first such opportunity to share information between them, following the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Much of the meeting was dedicated to Whitburn and District Community Development Trust presenting back the work they had developed during this time, given it had been pivotal in supporting the local efforts in dealing with the Covid-19 lockdown, particularly through the emergence and rapid development of the Whitburn Community Fridge during this time.

Other updates were provided from schools, Business Gateway, West Lothian College, West Lothian Youth Action Project, CLD Work with Young People team, Citizens Advice Bureau and Carers of West Lothian.

Many of the follow-up actions were around sharing updated information of the services available and contact details for any subsequent referring/contacting.

As detailed below, it is intended to reconvene a meeting of the services to raise awareness of the Whole Services Approach pilot in Whitburn, and to use this session to gauge current activity and needs in the town.

Whitburn Community Development Trust (WCDDT) - Funding

WCDDT has received £31,174 from the Third Sector Community Support Funding 2021/22. This funding is to contribute towards all aspects of the (now expanded) range of services the CDDT provides, and matches significant funding that is in place from various other external funders.

The outcomes the funding is intended to help achieve for residents in the town are:

- Increased local access to information on debt and financial management, employability, welfare, health and wellbeing and local community information.
- Increased local access to professional services.
- Increased local access to digital inclusion.
- Increased local access to food and necessities with dignity.
- Support into local volunteering opportunities.

These planned outcomes will be delivered through the continuation and development of their service provision from the Community Support Hub, the Whitburn Community Fridge, and through the delivery of their community initiatives.

In terms of progress over recent months, the Community Fridge has now had 340 members sign up since it moved to its own premises at 57 West Main Street. They have distributed 15 tonnes of food in that time. The service is supported by around 15-20 active volunteers.

West Lothian Citizens Advice Bureau, who provide a dedicated Whitburn service via WCDDT have also been successful in securing funding for another year to allow that service to continue until March 2022.

Whole Systems Approach Pilot – Type 2 Diabetes, Whitburn

In March 2020 members received a briefing on a pilot project for the prevention of Type 2 Diabetes, which is being supported and implemented via the Community Planning Partnership in West Lothian.

This project will be part of the East of Scotland (East Region) Prevention and Remission of Type 2 Diabetes Programme in partnership with the Scottish Government and Health Scotland. It will use a 'whole systems approach' to identify and address barriers to healthy weight in the community, which has been developed by Leeds Beckett University.

The overall objective of the project in Whitburn will be to identify actions and interventions across the 'whole system' that support people living in the community to maintain a healthy diet and weight, therefore reducing the occurrence of Type 2 Diabetes in the pilot area over the longer-term.

There is £60,000 of external grant funding being made available for this project, via an application process. Additional resources will be made available to each pilot and collectively in the East Region. However, local commitment and resource is also required and there is a strong emphasis on partnership working and joint responsibility across multiple partners and stakeholders.

Whitburn was chosen due to a number of factors which ranged from both positive (size of town, current and potential assts within the town) and negative (poor scoring on health and deprivation indicators associated with obesity risk). A working group was created to move the project forward led by the West Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership and involving Community Planning and Regeneration, NHS Lothian and Whitburn Community Development Trust. The latter were invited to be part of the group given their local knowledge and engagement with the community as well as their ability to develop and support projects and initiatives within the community.

Inevitably, the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent disruption to services has meant that progress for implementing the project have been delayed. However, it is hoped that the project can be implemented over the coming months. The approach will require partners hosting a series of workshops (which in the current circumstances are likely to be via an online platform) that it is hoped that there will be involvement from a broad range of council, health and local services as well as representation from community groups and individuals. The working group for the project is currently developing a Communications Plan for the pilot to raise awareness across all stakeholders and encourage participation within the project.

Whilst the focus of this pilot project will be on Type 2 Diabetes, it is expected that there will be other opportunities for partnership working in the town identified which will support wider public health and community regeneration, particularly given the obvious impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on these.

The experience of the Whitburn pilot itself will also be used to inform the whole systems approach to dealing with public health issues which may also be used more generally within West Lothian in future.

Further updates on the planning and implementation of the project will be provided to the Local Area Committee.

More information is available on the East of Scotland Partnership webpages. The links for these in the References section.

Whitburn Town Centre

Christmas - Whilst there was no annual festive event in Whitburn town centre due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place, there was again the erection and display of a festive Christmas tree, located at East Main Street, to the east of Brucefield Church. Thank you once again goes to the local community and key individuals, for their work with the Council in making this invaluable provision available.

Occupancy - Whitburn Town Centre continues to act as a community focal point and 'hub' for local employment opportunities, services and amenities. The town centre is subject to a quarterly occupancy survey, as one measure of its relative vitality and viability. In October 2020 a vacancy rate of c.12%, was noted, although this does not take account of properties subject to refurbishment at the time of survey. The figures have also required to take account of any COVID-19 temporary restrictions that may have been in force at the time of survey. To provide some context, whilst the Whitburn figure remains slightly higher than the national average, this is a gradual improvement from the peak vacancy of 16.2% back in January 2017.

Town Centre Fund 2019/20 - through discussion at Whitburn Town Centre Management Group, additional funding via the Council's Whitburn Town Centre Improvement Fund was granted to the five Whitburn projects that received part funding through the Government's Town Centre Capital monies, see separate report.

Public Art at Whitburn Partnership Centre - It had been agreed through Whitburn Town Centre Management Group to provide funding (£15,000) for the public art element of the new Whitburn Partnership Centre (total public art cost £30,000). This is being provided by the Council's Whitburn Town Centre Improvement Fund. To reflect the recent appointment of new contractors (Maxi Construction) and to accord with the updated build programme for the new centre, the public art project brief is in process of being refreshed and a small commissioning group established. It is anticipated, that the project will be managed by Community Arts and the issued brief will necessitate consultation and engagement with local community groups and schools amongst other requirements. The project will indicatively start late Spring 2021 and aim to complete by Spring 2022.

WW1 Educational Banner Project - Local members will recall that this project was first initiated to help to commemorate the history and impact of the first world war (1914-1918) on Whitburn, its residents and its community. This has since continued on a yearly basis with a new set of banners and content created, manufactured and displayed at the stances set out opposite the War Memorial at Manse Road. The '1921' annual banners have been developed, printed and are awaited ready for display in the coming few months. It should be recognised that community members and others have been fully involved and committed many hours to this truly educational and legacy community project.

Whitburn Partnership Centre Update

Work re-started on site at the end of November 2020 following site closure due to Covid-19 restrictions and the original contractor going into administration. A re-tendering process took place and Maxi Contractors submitted the successful bid to take on the project and were duly appointed.

Maxi carried out a fully clean and tidy of the site as soon as they took possession and have been working closely with the design team to check works carried out so

far for suitability and move the construction process forward.

Currently on site the preparation and pouring of the remainder of the concrete foundations is underway and these should be completed by 17 February 2021, weather permitting. Steel beams for the existing building are being manufactured and work to install these is envisaged to begin in the next few weeks. This work has to be carefully timetabled to ensure the integrity of the existing structure while alterations take place.

Once the internal steel is in a scaffold will again be erected around the building to allow roof works to be re-started.

The key community organisations meetings reconvened in January 2021 and will continue to meet every few months to discuss the project progress and advise partners at West Lothian Council on related community matters. These groups inform and ensure the wider community is kept up to date. Whitburn Community Development Trust lead on these communications.

The museum development group has continued to meet (online) throughout the site closure and is very proactive. The public art project is also moving forward with volunteers from the community in place, as detailed above.

Completion of the project is anticipated to be around spring 2022.

Town Centre Fund Updates

Given the delivery deadlines for both years of this fund are over the coming months, a great deal of focus of the Regeneration Team has been to support groups and services delivering projects to varying degrees, as can be seen in the separate report on the Fund to this meeting of the Local Area Committee.

E. CONCLUSION

Members are asked to note the range of activities taking place across the ward and in particular the work to support regeneration within the Whitburn and Blackburn areas.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

East of Scotland Partnership. *Whole Systems*. <https://www.eost2d.scot.nhs.uk/our-work/whole-systems/>

East of Scotland Partnership. *Working together to reduce Type 2 Diabetes across the East of Scotland*. <https://www.eost2d.scot.nhs.uk/>

Appendices/Attachments: None.

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Craig McCorriston, Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration
1 March 2021.

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

TOWN CENTRE FUND UPDATE 2019/20 & 2020/21

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the committee on progress in delivering the Town Centre Capital Projects agreed by the Local Area Committee on 3 October 2019, 7 December 2020 and 21 December 2020.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the local area committee notes the updates for Town Centre Fund 2019/20 and 2020/21 projects for this ward.

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)	To be assessed on an individual project basis but it is not anticipated that any proposals will require to be the subject of specific assessments.
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	The report sets out specific delegations to the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	<p>Outcome 1 – We make West Lothian an attractive place to do business.</p> <p>Outcome 10 – We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the services we need.</p> <p>Outcome 12 – We value and enjoy our built environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.</p>

VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Across West Lothian, a total of £1.826 million was available through this Town Centre Fund for 2019/20 and a further £658,000 has been available for 2020/21.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	Not applicable.
VIII	Other consultations	Capital Asset Management Board

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

In February 2019 the Scottish Government announced a new Town Centre Fund as part of its budget. The fund is a ring-fenced capital allocation of £50 million for 2019/20. The fund is based on the Scotland's Town Partnership working definition of a town being a place with a population of 1,000 or more, which equates to 484 towns across Scotland, 23 for West Lothian. This allocation for West Lothian is £1.826 million.

In September 2020, the Scottish Government announced a further £30 million capital budget as part of the £230 million economic recovery package aimed at supporting construction activity across Scotland. The Scottish Government agreed with CoSLA and local authority Leaders that £18 million will be provided to local authorities as a top up to the existing Town Centre Fund approved in 2019/20.

Funding allocations would be based upon the same methodology as agreed between Ministers and Council Leaders for the 2019/20 allocations. On that agreed basis a budget of £658,000 has been allocated to West Lothian Council.

Funding is aimed at addressing the core themes of the Scottish Government's Town Centre Action Plan 2013 and the Town Centre First Principle which requested that government, local authorities, the wider public sector, businesses and communities put the health of town centres at the heart of proportionate and best value decision making. It also encouraged a focus on delivering the best local outcomes regarding investment and de-investment decisions, alignment of policies, targeting of available resources to priority town centre sites, and encouraging vibrancy, equality and diversity. It committed to a collaborative approach which understands and underpins the long-term plan for each town centre.

The themes of the Town Centre Action Plan include:

- **Town Centre Living** – footfall is key to achieving thriving, successful towns centre; and, the best footfall is residential for people who will use shops, services, and will care for its safety and security in the evenings
- **Vibrant Local Economies** – creating a supportive business environment including the involvement of Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and other local partnerships

- **Enterprising Communities** – social enterprise, services, arts and events; and, community empowerment and community-based activities which increase the health, wealth and wellbeing of town centres
- **Accessible Public Services** – creating and accessing public facilities and services, supported by economic, service and transport hubs
- **Digital Towns** – exploiting digital technology and promoting WIFI infrastructure to enable access to information, data analytics, marketing opportunities, branding, and communication with the wider world
- **Proactive Planning** – land reform and supporting the creation of sustainable, low-carbon and connected places which promote natural and cultural assets, designed in partnership with local communities and key stakeholders.

D2 West Lothian Council's approach

The Council Executive agreed on 11 June 2019 that the funding detailed above should be allocated to all 23 communities with populations over 1,000 through a grant application process (see background reference below). The deadline from receipt of applications was set for 31 August 2019 to allow for decisions to be taken and projects delivered within the stated delivery deadline of 31 March 2020.

The Council Executive further agreed on 22 October 2020 that the 2020/21 funding detailed above should be allocated to all 23 communities with populations over 1,000 through a grant application process (see background reference below). The deadline from receipt of applications was set for 27 November 2020 to allow for decisions to be taken and projects delivered within the stated delivery deadline of projects having contracts committed by 31 March 2021, and having projects completed by 30 September 2021.

Please note that these delivery deadlines also now apply to the project funded through the 2019/20 allocations, following extensions granted by the Scottish Government early last year.

The process agreed that decisions on the applications would be as follows:

- a) Local Area Committees will consider applications from each community to the fund and have the power to award funding in full or in part as they see fit up to the amount allocated to that community.
- b) After doing so, if there is a balance remaining of the aggregate amount allocated to the ward, Local Area Committees have the power to apply that balance to applications for the ward area which have not already been funded at all or fully.
- c) After doing so, if a balance remains, Council Executive will decide how and where all remaining balances from Local Area Committee should be spent across the whole council area.

D3 Whitburn and Blackburn ward Projects – Update on delivery of projects

The project funded by both years of the fund are listed in Appendix 1, and subdivided by town and then year. As some projects funded in 2019/20 also successfully applied for the 2020/21 fund for additional funding, these are listed as the one project (but indicated by two project prefixes).

D4 Updates

Appendix 1 shows a table of the projects which were funded, the amount they were funded and the status of the project outlining whether the project is completed, ongoing and if there are any significant issues. In addition to this, updates have been provided for the recently completed and 'ongoing' projects below.

Whitburn

WHI02/ WHI20-03 – Whitburn Community Development Trust – Whitburn Community Garden: The lease for the garden is now in place. The Trust report that have been advised by WLC Building Standards that they are required to provide/produce and meet Construction Design and Management (CDM) regulations. This necessitates a Health and Safety file and appointing a principal contractor and some preconstruction information. They have appointed a risk management company who is going to provide this documentation by the end of February after which works will be able to proceed.

The Trust have a local volunteer with a background in electrical engineering offer his hands-on support in coordinating the development of the site. They also have a meeting with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) soon to help progress the wider project.

WHI05 – Whitburn Community Education Centre – Modify Reception of Community Centre and CCTV: The Whitburn Reception Desk and CCTV has been installed. Construction Services are awaiting the final account for this work in order to pay and sign off.

If there is sufficient remaining budget, however, seats may be purchased for the reception area.

WHI06 – Museum Services, WLC – 'Whitburn – Our Community Museum': As the timescale for completion of the Partnership Centre extends beyond the timescales for this fund, officers are contracting a separate cabinet display place to be constructed off-site and put in storage, in order to meet the timescales and other requirements for the fund.

The bespoke museum display units are being priced up by the contractors at present.

Officers are on target for instructing this in to the contract in March (by Architects Instruction) with the units being constructed and the invoice paid by September. The contractor is aware there are time limits on this piece of furniture

WHI20-01 – Whitburn Juniors - Ground Improvements: Whitburn Juniors has reported that they have been progressing this project. They have obtained the grass-cutting equipment and have applied for planning permission. Pending a successful outcome to this, they will then order the portacabin. They have also ordered the slabbing work is yet to be completed.

WHI20-04 - Whitburn FCA – 7 Aside Pitch Installation: Officers received notification from Whitburn FCA advising that they were declining the funding award for this project. As per LAC decision on 21 December, the £19,981.50 funding (consisting of town allocation of £18,848.50 plus the ward underspend of £1,133) has been reallocated to the WHI20-02 '*Whitburn Inclusive Toddler Play Area*' project that Open Space applied for.

WHI20-02 Open Spaces, WLC - Whitburn Inclusive toddler Play: As above. Open Spaces are progressing with issuing the order of works for this project. It is hoped the works themselves can be undertaken prior to the summer.

Blackburn

BLB01 - Community Action Blackburn - Entrance Gateways x 4: The Heritage Walkway project is near to completion with the artwork for the lectern including a brief history of the site and maps of the short walks that can be done on the site are out for consultation with the community council. Once this has been approved, the contractor will establish a date for installation.

The second element of this project is the miner statue that is to be cited at Blackburn Cross. Planning application is being applied for and the artist has completed the design of the statue. A timescale for works has been developed by the artist and the project will be complete prior to the September deadline.

BLB03 - Blackburn Community Council - Heritage Miner and Restoration of Heritage Walkway: The entrance signage for the four routes into Blackburn have been designed and will incorporate an image of the miner statue onto each of the signs. These have been designed by West Lothian Council's Roads department to ensure that they meet the full safety regulations required. Roads will also arrange the manufacture of the signs along with the installation.

BLB20-02 – West Lothian Youth Action Project: Blackburn Primary School Community Garden: have been engaging with pupils using an online platform to finalise designs for the garden. Severe weather has halted plans to carry out work to the fence however this will be picked up once the weather improves. All orders & items of expenditure will be made prior to March 31st 2021 and available to WL Council as required.

BLB20-01 – Blackburn Family Centre - Promoting Health and Wellbeing: Facings on the building are programmed in with a joiner, once this is done the building will be painted in preparation for the artist to come and paint the inclusive mural, this will be complete in March. All equipment has been ordered with all funding committed and the project will be done within the timescale.

East Whitburn

EWH01 – East Whitburn Community Centre Management Committee – Signage: It is unclear at this stage whether this project will proceed. Officers have written to the management committee to ask for confirmation, particularly as the shortening timescale has increased the risks around the deliverability of the project. If this project is not to proceed, then officers will be requesting the return of monies awarded for this project and, if timescales allow it to be possible, consider for reallocation.

EWH02 – East Whitburn Community Centre Management Committee – Inclusive Play: The installation of the new play equipment was completed in July 2020. The works to the entrance way and carpark has now also been completed.

EWH03 - East Whitburn Community Centre Management committee - Brush Cutting: It was reported to the previous meeting of the LAC that the '*committee feel they are unable to progress this project due to the impact of COVID-19 meaning they now are struggling to get a training provider. Volunteers who were initially interested have also reportedly fallen away.*'

The group requested that funding was decommitted for this project and reallocated to the EW20-01 Improving Core Path WL19 East Whitburn to Stoneyburn project. Officers have agreed to this.

EW20-01 – WLC Ranger Services - Improving Core Path WL19 East Whitburn to Stoneyburn: As above, additional funding has been provided to this project due to the reallocation of funds.

A contractor has been appointed for these works. Officers are meeting with contractor in mid-February to discuss schedule of works. It is hoped that works to the paths could be completed by May.

Greenrigg

GRE01 - Greenrigg Community Council - Polkemmet Country Park Greenrigg Entrance Improvement: The map board and visitor monitoring posts have now been installed at the new Greenrigg entrance to Polkemmet Country Park.

GRE04 – Greenrigg Community Council – Polkemmet Road nature area off Greenrigg Primary School: Fencing is completed at Greenrigg Primary School and project is complete.

GRE20-01 – Greenrigg Community Council – Village Entrance Signs Plus Hanging Basket Poles: The Community Council has been advised that Advertisement Consent is required for the village entrance signs and planning approval is required for the hanging basket poles.

Seafield

SEA02 - Seafield Community Centre Management Committee – Christmas Tree Area: The outstanding works for this project was the purchase and installation of the planters. These works are now completed and project signed off.

SEA03/ SEA20-02 - Seafield Community Centre Management Committee – Island Landscaping: The management committee have recently obtained additional funding from the Levenseat Trust for this, as had been outlined in their application to the council.

They can now progress with the final design for the area which is required to be agreed to by NETs, and can then finalise any contracting/purchasing within the March timescale. The committee have advised the intend to meet with NETs manager in early March and have the necessary contracting/purchasing in place by end of that month, as per requirements.

SEA05 - Seafield Community Centre Management Committee – Ramp to Bowling Club: This project was completed in October 2020.

SEA20-01 - Seafield Community Centre Management Committee – Seafield Cableway: Open Spaces have issued the works for this project. There is no estimated start date as yet.

D5 Next steps

Officers will continue to keep in contact with all applicants and service leads to ensure that the projects are going to be delivered within the timescales outlined above. If there are projects that are not able to be delivered within this timescale resulting in an underspend, service leads will identify potential projects that have an

overspend to reallocate the underspend to them.

E. CONCLUSION

The Town Centre Capital Fund offers significant additional capital funding to improve West Lothian's town centres. The projects in the Whitburn and Blackburn ward will deliver community identified projects that would not otherwise have been carried out. The timescales for delivering this work has been extended to consider the difficulty in continuing with work due to the lockdown and the current pandemic which has made the delivery challenging.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Council Executive, 11 June 2019

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=42684>

Whitburn and Blackburn LAC, 3 October 2019: Town Centre Fund 2019/20: Proposed Funding Awards - report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=43744>

Council Executive report, 22 October 2020, Town Centre Fund - Capital Grant 2020/21

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=46496>

Whitburn and Blackburn LAC, 7 December 2020: Town Centre Fund 2020/21: Proposed Funding Awards - report by Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=46984>

Whitburn and Blackburn LAC, 21 December 2020; Town Centre Fund 2020/21: Proposed Funding Awards - report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=47215>

Appendices/Attachments: One: table of funded projects for ward.

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**Craig McCorriston - Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration,
1 March 2021**

**Town Centre Fund 2019/20 and 2020/21 – Whitburn and Blackburn Ward Update –
Appendix 1: table of funded projects for the ward**

Applicat ion Code	Applicant (Group/Service)	Project Name	TCF Award (£)	Status
Whitburn Projects				
WHI01	Visit West Lothian	Leaflet Racks	383.14	Completed
WHI02/ WHI20- 03	Whitburn Community Development Trust	Whitburn Community Garden	25,785.56 + 9,731.50	Ongoing
WHI03	Whitburn Junior Football Club	Ground Improvements on South Terracing	27,778.00	Completed
WHI05	Whitburn Community Education Centre	Modify Reception of Community Centre and CCTV	43,539.16	Completed
WHI06	West Lothian Council	Whitburn – Our Community Museum	3,483.13	Ongoing
WHI20- 01	Whitburn Junior Football Club	Ground Improvements	8,031.00	Ongoing
WHI20- 04	Whitburn FCA	7-a-side Pitch Installation	19,981.50	Decommitted. Reallocated to WHI20-02
WHI20- 02	Open Spaces, WLC	Whitburn Inclusive Toddler Play Area	19,981.50	Ongoing
Blackburn Projects				
BLB01	Community Action Blackburn	Entrance Gateways x 4	12,964.80	Ongoing
BLB02	Community Action Blackburn	Inclusive Swing Redhouse Place Play Area	8,000.00	Completed
BLB03	Blackburn Community Council	Heritage Miner and Restoration of Heritage Walkway	45,908.00	Ongoing
BLB20- 01	Blackburn Family Centre	Promoting Health and Wellbeing	24,301.00	Ongoing
BLB20 -02	West Lothian Youth Action Project	Blackburn Primary School Garden	1,300.00	Ongoing
East Whitburn Projects				
EWB01	East Whitburn Community Centre Management Committee	Signage	2,874.00	Ongoing
EWB02	East Whitburn Community Centre Management Committee	Inclusive Play (also received £4,139.75 ward reallocation +£7,977.94 VIF = total of £52,317.53)	40,199.84	Completed

Applicat ion Code	Applicant (Group/Service)	Project Name	TCF Award (£)	Status
EWH03	East Whitburn Community Centre Management Committee	Brush Cutting	3,866.16	Decommitted. Reallocated to EH20-01
EWH20-01	Countryside Services, WLC)	Improving Core Path WL19 East Whitburn to Stoneyburn	16,574.00 + 3,866.16	Ongoing
Greenrigg Projects				
GRE01	Greenrigg Community Council	Polkemmet Country Park Greenrigg Entrance Improvement	8,344.45	Completed
GRE02	Greenrigg Community Council	Polkemmet Road Play Area Extension	7,709.00	Completed
GRE03	Greenrigg Community Council	Harthill Royal Junior Football Park Upgrade	21,816.00	Completed
GRE04	Greenrigg Community Council	Polkemmet Road nature area off Greenrigg Primary School	6,450.00	Completed
GRE20-01	Greenrigg Community Council	Village Entrance Signs Plus Hanging Basket poles	14,911.00	Ongoing
Seafield Projects				
SEA01	Seafield Community Centre Management Committee	Additional playpark equipment	28,093.00	Completed
SEA02	Seafield Community Centre Management Committee	Christmas Tree area	8,561.00	Completed
SEA03/ SEA20-02	Seafield Community Centre Management Committee	Island Landscaping	3,640.00 + 4,591.00	Ongoing
SEA04	Seafield Community Centre Management Committee	Ramp to Bowling Green	750.00	Completed
SEA05	Seafield Community Centre Management Committee	Picnic Area at Almond Bridge	3,636.00	Completed
SEA08	Seafield Community Centre Management Committee	Seafield Law Tree Seat	2,210.00	Completed
SEA20-01	Open Spaces, WLC	Seafield Cableway	11,964.00	Ongoing



WHITBURN AND BLACKBURN LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE WORKPLAN – AS OF MARCH 2021

No.	Subject	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date
1	Housing Report	Quarterly update on housing issues	Ann Marie Carr	June 2021
2	Police Report	Quarterly update on police/NRT activity	Sgt. Keith Jack	June 2021
3	Economic Development and Regeneration Report	To update local members on Economic Development and Regeneration service activity in the ward.	Craig McCorriston	June 2021
4	Fire and Rescue Report	Quarterly report on activity	Stuart McNiven	June 2021
5	Operational Services Report	Quarterly report on activity	Jim Jack	June 2021