



## ***Bathgate Local Area Committee***

West Lothian Civic Centre  
Howden South Road  
LIVINGSTON  
EH54 6FF

2 March 2021

A meeting of the **Bathgate Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Webex Virtual Meeting Room** on **Monday 8 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. Confirm Draft Minute of Meeting of the Committee held on 9 December 2020 (herewith).
5. Police Ward Report - report by Police Scotland (herewith).
6. Fire Service Ward Report - report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (herewith).
7. West Lothian Council Local Development Plan Action Programme - First Review (2020) - Update for Ward 8: Bathgate - report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith).

8. Housing, Customer and Building Services - report by Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services (herewith).
9. Service Update: Nets, Land and Countryside - report by Head of Operational Services (herewith).
10. Community Regeneration Update Report - report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith).
11. Workplan (herewith).
12. Proposed Timetable of Meeting Dates - August 21 to June 22 (herewith).

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NOTE      **For further information please contact Lorraine McGrorty on 01506 281609 or email [lorraine.mcgrorty@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:lorraine.mcgrorty@westlothian.gov.uk)**

## CODE OF CONDUCT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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

NAME	MEETING	DATE

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

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

Other key terminology appears on the reverse.

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

## **SUMMARY OF KEY TERMINOLOGY FROM REVISED CODE**

### **The objective test**

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

### **The General Exclusions**

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

### **Particular Dispensations**

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

### **The Specific Exclusions**

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

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

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

MINUTE of MEETING of the BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 9 DECEMBER 2020.

Present – Councillors Harry Cartmill (Chair), Willie Boyle and Charles Kennedy

Apologies – Councillor John McGinty

In attendance -

Marjory Mackie, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council  
Nairn Pearson, BID & Town Centre Manager, West Lothian Council  
Sergeant Keith Jack, Police Scotland  
Stuart McNiven, Local Authority Liaison Officer, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service  
Tony Fleming, Grounds Maintenance Manager, West Lothian Council  
Lorraine Donnelly, Housing Manager, West Lothian Council  
Ronnie McLeod, Bathgate Community Council  
Donald Stavert, Bathgate Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Cartmill declared a non-financial interest in agenda Item 13 as he was appointed by the council to Enterprising Bathgate and had promoted the upgrade of Hope Park Play Area. He was also an ex-officio member of Bathgate CC. He would withdraw from the meeting during consideration of the report.

Councillor Boyle declared an interest in agenda Item 13 in relation to Bathgate CC and Bathgate Community Development Trust. He was as a regular attendee at Bathgate CC meetings but had deliberately refrained from getting involved in any of the bids/projects to ensure he was able to take part in the discussion of the town centre applications at the LAC as an elected representative for Bathgate.

Councillor Kennedy declared a non-financial interest in agenda Item 13 as he was appointed by the council to Enterprising Bathgate. He was also an ex-officio member of Bathgate CC. He would withdraw from the meeting during consideration of the report.

2. MINUTE

The Committee approved the minute of its meeting held on 9 March 2020. The minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. POLICE WARD REPORT

The Committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by PC Sinnet which provided an update on performance, activities and issues across the ward for the period to 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

The Committee was invited to note the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

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 provided a verbal update on the work that was ongoing within the mandatory fire detection systems in homes and expected advice would be forthcoming from the Scottish Government in 2021.

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

Decision

To note the content of the report

6. 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.

7. 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 Bathgate 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.

8. 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 Bathgate 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) Six groups would be supported through the Pensioners' Christmas Fund in 2020-21.

Decision

To note the content of the report.

9. 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 notes:-

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

#### Decision

To note the content of the report

#### 10. 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

#### 11. SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT TOWN CENTRE FUND 2020/21: PROPOSED FUNDING AWARDS

The Clerk advised that Councillor Kennedy had left the meeting due to his earlier declaration of interest and the meeting was therefore inquorate. The Chair also removed himself from the meeting during this item.

As the committee was unable to consider the report, the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration would refer a report on the recommendations for the Bathgate ward to the Council Executive for determination in December.

#### 12. WORKPLAN

A copy of the Workplan had been circulated for information.



Decision

To note the Workplan.



**OFFICIAL**



## West Lothian Area Command

Lothian and Scottish Borders



Ward 8 Bathgate 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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

**B. RECOMMENDATION**

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

**C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I</b>	<b>Council Values</b>	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; and working in partnership
<b>II</b>	<b>Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b>	None.
<b>III</b>	<b>Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers</b>	None.
<b>IV</b>	<b>Impact on performance and performance Indicators</b>	Performance relative to the same period in 2020; set out in the report.
<b>V</b>	<b>Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement</b>	We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger; we take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive society
<b>VI</b>	<b>Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>	None.
<b>VII</b>	<b>Consideration at PDSP</b>	None.
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Other consultations</b>	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.

Bathgate Community Engagement Priorities:

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

**Bathgate Community Officers**

PC Iain Law

PC Francis Sinnet

**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.

Given the restrictions imposed and the limitations of face-to-face interactions, social media posts have been used to engage with the local community highlighting issues and raising awareness. The posts have received a high level of positive local engagement.

Visits to the local young person's residential care homes are being carried out to engage with "cared for children" and build positive relationships. Visits have been well received by staff and young people and it is envisaged that this approach will improve safety through these positive relationships.

Officers have been establishing links with external agencies who can provide invaluable support to the most vulnerable in our community. The aim of this is to increase awareness of these agencies to enable us to signpost vulnerable people we engage with to the best placed organisation with an emphasis on police referrals.

This will allow us to provide support to members of the community who would otherwise turn to a life of criminality and carrying out a positive intervention that will reduce crime, break the cycle of behaviour and improve the life of the vulnerable person and the community they live in.

Interaction with the elderly in the community has been limited due to the COVID 19 restrictions, however officers continue to respond to "concern for" calls in relation to mental health, juvenile and elderly concerns.

- **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.

Officers 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.

There has been one request for information to support an ASBO application completed and case being prepared for legal process.

Ongoing work with WLYAP (West Lothian Youth Action Project) and foot patrols being carried out when possible to show high visibility police presence in problem areas to address youth disorder / ASB.

- **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.

With more people staying at home more often there is a greater awareness in communities of suspicious behaviour. Officers carry out high visibility patrols where possible to vulnerable business and domestic premises to deter acquisitive crime.

- **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%.

Our road Policing units continue to monitor and target areas of concern raised by residents and elected members.

There continues to be positive engagement from the community regarding the cones put in place at Bathgate precinct to prevent vehicles from driving in the prohibited area.

- **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.

Officers continue to engage with members of the public to obtain and submit intelligence in relation to serious and organised crime. Areas of reported drug dealing being given attention where possible to glean further intelligence and carry out interventions.

With the help of the community, the investigation of the recent robbery at a local newsagent in Bathgate has been solved and a male charged for the incident.



Reporting Period April – December 2020			
Bathgate	Recorded		
Crime Type	YTD	LYTD	% Diff
Robbery	8	3	166.6%
Serious Assault	12	18	-33.3%
Sexual Crimes	39	41	-4.8%
Housebreaking dwelling	15	14	7.1%
Housebreaking non-dwelling (sheds/garages)	10	7	42.8%
Housebreaking Other Premises	11	10	10.0%
Theft of motor vehicle	28	32	-12.5%
Theft from motor vehicle (OLP)	12	12	0.0%
Vandalism	170	151	12.5%
Total drugs supply	10	16	-37.5%
Possession of Drugs	46	66	-30.3%
Common Assault	211	164	28.6%
Common Assault - emergency worker	19	12	58.3%
Total Crimes and Offences	1627	1474	10.3%

**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



West Lothian  
Council

## **BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

### **BATHGATE MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT**

#### **REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

##### **A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To update the Bathgate Local Area Committee on the activity within Bathgate Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

##### **B. RECOMMENDATION**

That Committee Members are invited to note and provide comment on the Bathgate Multi-member Ward Performance Report.

##### **C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I Council Values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Being honest, open and accountable</li><li>• Focusing on our customers' needs</li><li>• Making best use of our resources</li><li>• Working in partnership</li></ul>
<b>II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b>	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.
<b>III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers</b>	None.
<b>IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators</b>	WL CPP SOA Performance indicators.
<b>V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement</b>	SOA1304_13 Number of deliberate fires per 100,000 population SOA1304_14 Number of accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 population.
<b>VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>	The council contributes to directly and in partnership to the delivery of the Ward Plan
<b>VII Consideration at PDSP</b>	None
<b>VIII Consultations</b>	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 2020, which is a requirement under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, Section 41E.

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

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

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

Continuous Priority

- Local Risk Management and Preparedness.

High Priority

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

Medium Priority

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

## **E. CONCLUSION**

The Bathgate 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**

**January 2021**

Appendix 1 - Bathgate Multi-Member Ward Performance Report



## West Lothian Council Area

### Ward Performance Report

Quarter 3 20/21

## Bathgate

#### **DISCLAIMER**

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

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

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

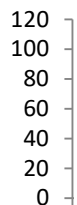
## Introduction

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

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

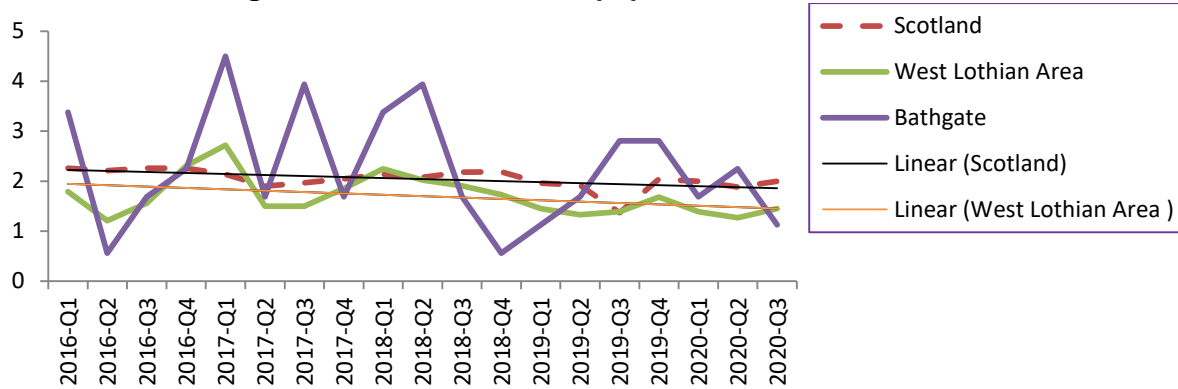
Whilst using historic statistical benchmarking data, consideration must be taken of the somewhat random nature of fire related incidents and events, and how this can pose difficulties in interpreting emerging patterns and trends. This is of specific relevance where ward level data is analysed due to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

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



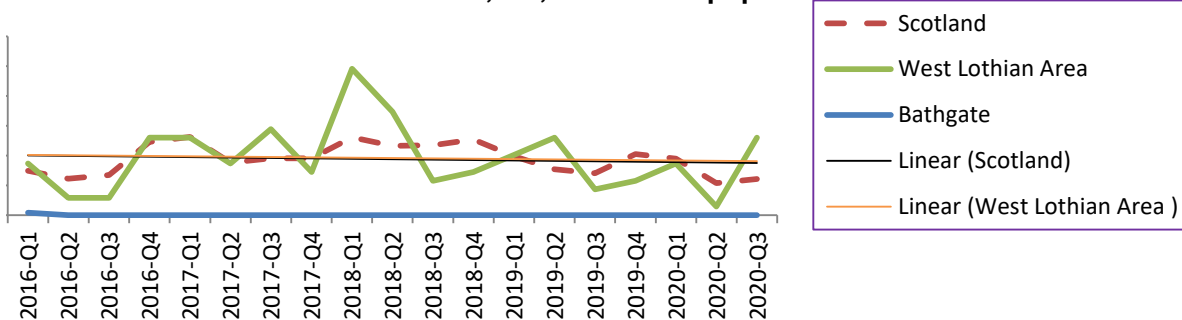
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### Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



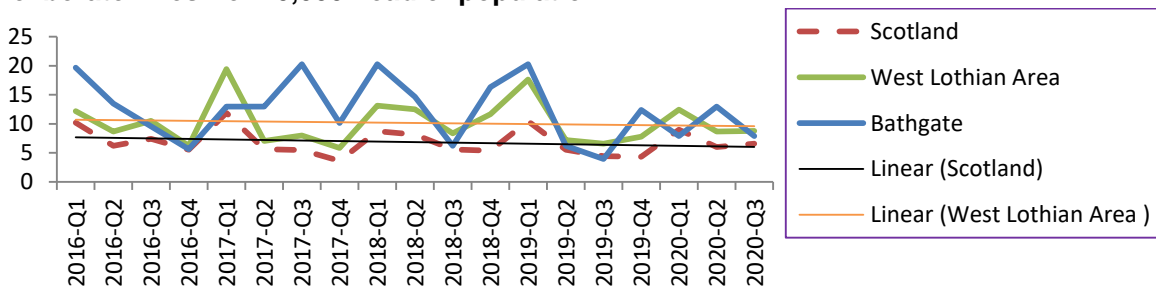
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 2 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 6 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



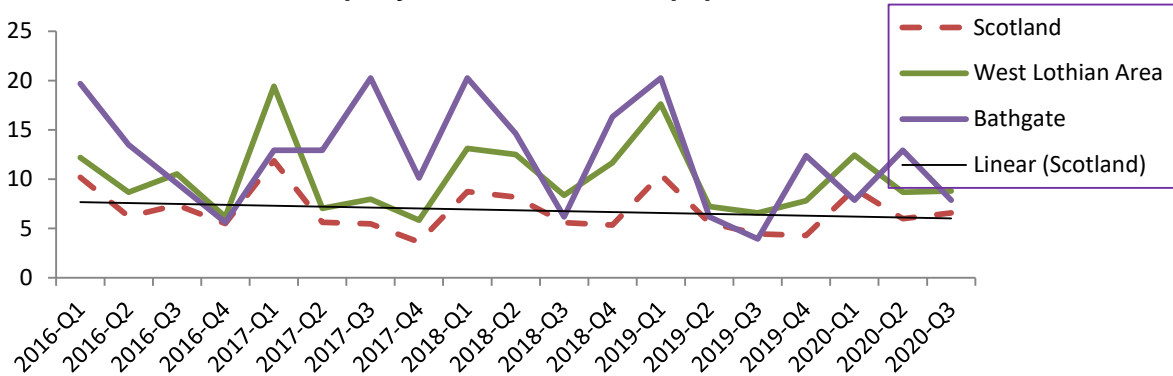
During the 2020-21 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 1 Casualty and 0 Fatalities due to fire in comparison to 1 Casualty and 0 Fatalities during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

### Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



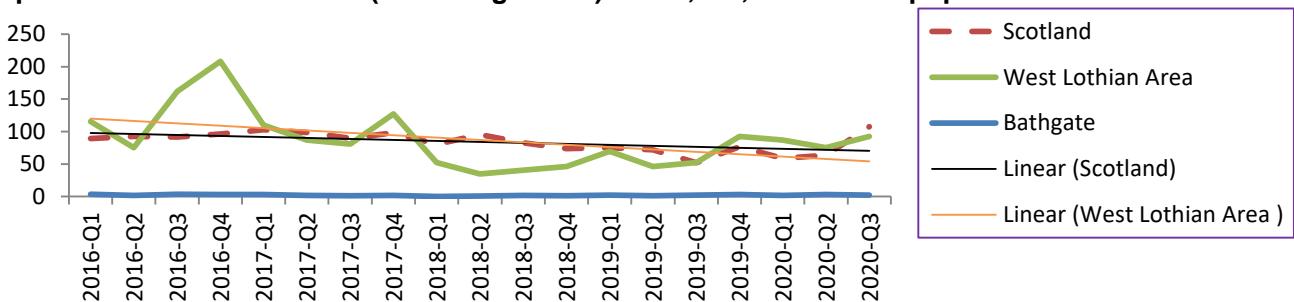
SFRS have dealt with 14 Deliberate fire incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 8 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



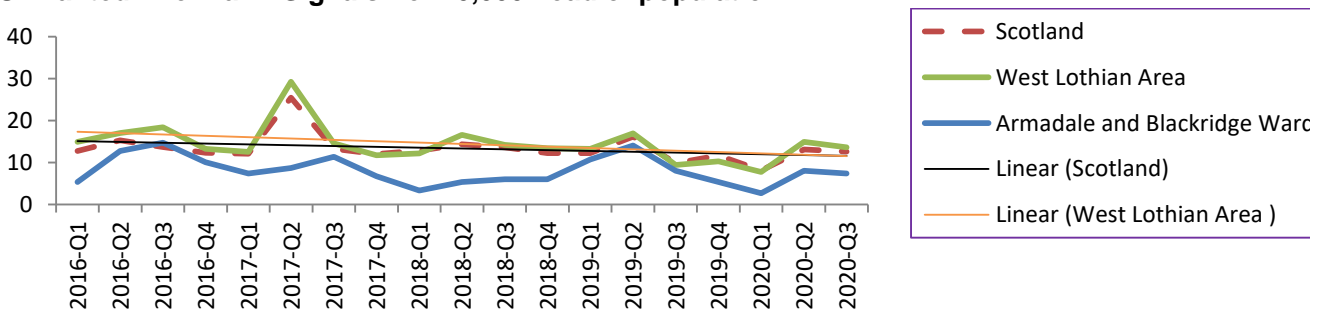
SFRS have dealt with 1 non domestic fires incident during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 1 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

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



SFRS have dealt with 0 casualties from Special Services during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 0 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

### Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population



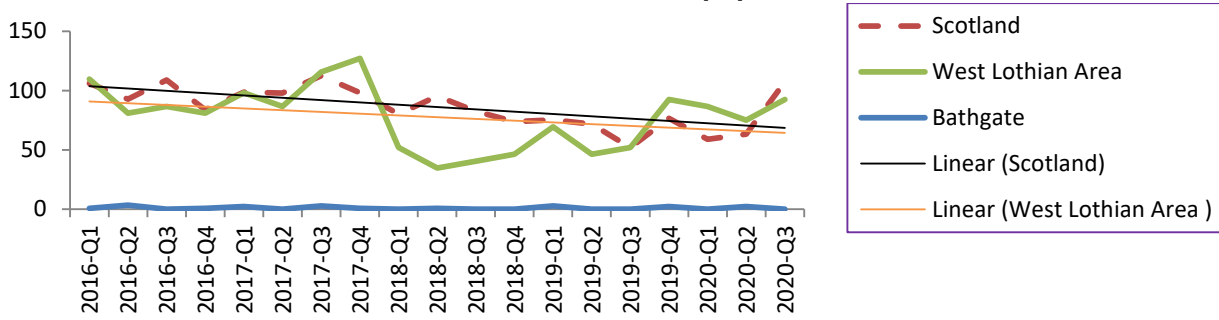
SFRS have dealt with 10 UFAS incidents during 2020-21 year to date reporting period in comparison to 20 during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

#### 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 0 Casualty and 0 Fatalities from RTC's in comparison to 1 Casualties and 0 Fatalities during 2019-20 year to date reporting period.

1



DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



## **BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

### **WEST LOTHIAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN ACTION PROGRAMME - FIRST REVIEW (2020) - UPDATE FOR WARD 8: BATHGATE**

#### **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 Bathgate ward.

##### **B. RECOMMENDATION**

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

##### **C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I Council Values</b>	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; and working in partnership.
<b>II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b>	<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 8: Bathgate.</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 &amp; Risk issues.</p>
<b>III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers</b>	None.
<b>IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators</b>	The West Lothian LDP provides the policy and development framework to support improving opportunities in West Lothian and sustainable growth.

<b>V</b>	<b>Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<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>
<b>VI</b>	<b>Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>	None.
<b>VII</b>	<b>Consideration at PDSP</b>	None.
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Other consultations</b>	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 a simple guide / summary for members on what developments were proposed for their ward. This report relates to the Bathgate ward and provides extracts from the LDP Action Programme in relation to Ward 8.

### **D2 Development Proposals Affecting Ward 8**

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 30 housing allocations in the ward and three windfall sites that have gained planning consent. Eight sites have been completed amounting to 879 homes, three are under construction providing 75 homes; four sites have the benefit of planning consent but construction has not commenced; seventeen sites do not have the benefit of a planning consent but are allocated for development.

Finally, there is one site, Sibcas (H-BA 6) which has the benefit of a planning consent as the original consent from 2005 has been activated but no completions have ever been made.

Most of the completed sites are from Wester Inch (H-BA 2, H-BA 8 – H-BA 11), with sites at Standhill (H-BA 3), Windyknowe Glasgow Road (East) (H-BA 14), and Mid Street / Rosemount Court (H-BA 20) also contributing.

The three sites under construction include 11 homes being built by I & H Brown at Balmuir Road (H-BA 1) ; 22 affordable homes at Standhill (Site B) (H-BA 4) on behalf of the council and 42 affordable homes at Jarvey Street (H-BA 13) by Dunedin Canmore.

Sites that have planning consent and are expected to come forward include Hardhill Road (former creamery garage) (H-BA 18); Inchcross, Main Street and Sibbald's Brae.

There are several sites that do not have planning consent, but are expected to come forward for development. These include sites H-BA 16 and 17 – Whitburn Road (Sites A and B) as there was some developer interest in the two sites. H-BA 24 Guildiehaugh depot is currently in the council's Strategic Housing Investment Programme (SHIP) and site H-BA 27 Blackburn Road currently has a planning consent under consideration.

There are 12 sites where construction has not started, nor do the sites benefit from a live planning consent. These include:- H-BA 5 Napier Avenue; H-BA 7 Little Boghead Remainder; H-BA 12 Main Street; H-BA 15 Windyknowe, Glasgow Road (West); H-BA 19 Bloomfield Place; H-BA 21 Meadowpark, 13-15 Glasgow Road; H-BA 22 Bathgate Community Education Centre; H-BA 23 Wester Inch; H-BA 25 Waverley Street Depot; H-BA 26 Blackburn Road; H-BA 28 Mid Street (former swimming pool site); H-BA 29 14-20 Glasgow Road and H-BA 30 Standhill Farm.

There are three windfall housing sites i.e. sites with planning permission for housing development and not allocated for development in the LDP – these are Main Street, Inchcross and land south of Sibbalds Brae/ West of Falside Crescent.

### **Employment Sites**

There are 3 allocated employment sites with several employment areas. All three allocated sites have planning consent. E-BA 1 Easter Inch has part been built out; E-BA 2 Inch Wood South has been built out and E-BA 3 West Inch has been marketed but no interest shown.

### **Other LDP Proposals**

Details of other LDP proposals are set out in Table 3 of Appendix 2. Several LDP proposals have been completed including extensions at Boghall Primary school (P-7), Simpson Primary school (P-8), St. Mary's RC primary school (P-9) and Balbardie Primary school (NP-125).

MUGA and school drop-off and collection access improvements have been made at Windyknowe Primary School (NP-121). An extension at Bathgate Academy school (P-10) is not considered feasible and is not being progressed. An alternative catchment review solution is to be identified instead.

Upgraded paths and improved accessibility to Beecraigs Country Park and Bathgate hills (P-113) are currently under design following Scottish Government funding, via Sustrans.

### **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 8 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 Bathgate

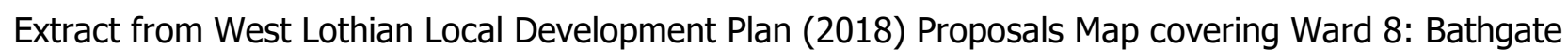
Appendix 2 - Extracts from West Lothian LDP Action Programme: First Review relating to Ward 8

Contact Person: Margaret Stone, Planning Officer, [margaret.stone@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:margaret.stone@westlothian.gov.uk)

**Craig McCorriston**  
**Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration**

8 March 2021







**DATA LABEL:** Public

## **APPENDIX 2**

**Extracts from West Lothian Local Development Plan (LDP) Action Programme: First Review - relating to Ward 8: Bathgate**

**TABLE 1: Housing Allocations**

<b>LDP Map Reference/ Location</b>	<b>LDP Action Plan update</b>
<b>BATHGATE</b>	
H-BA 1 Balmuir Road (Former Woodthorpe Garden Centre)	Development is under construction and near to completion.
H-BA 2 Wester Inch (land to east of Meikle Lane)	Development complete
H-BA 3 Standhill (Site A) Inchcross Grange	Development complete
H-BA 4 Standhill (Site B) Inchcross Grange)	Under construction
H-BA 5 Napier Avenue	Expired consent from 2013 / No site start.
H-BA 6 Eastoun Road/Balmuir Road (Sibcas site)	Site has consent from 2005 but is not currently being developed and there is no known programme
H-BA 7 Little Boghead Remainder	No consent / No site start
H-BA 8 Wester Inch, Area S	Development complete
H-BA 9 Wester Inch, Area X,Y,Z, & AA (Wester Grove and The Lays)	Development complete
H-BA 10 Wester Inch, Areas U & V (Queen's Gait and Reiver Grange)	Development complete
H-BA 11 Wester Inch, Phase 3	Development complete



H-BA 12 Main Street	Expired consent / no site start
H-BA 13 Jarvey Street	Under construction
H-BA 14 Windyknowe, Glasgow Road (East)	Development complete
H- BA 15 Windyknowe, Glasgow Road (West)	No consent / No site start
H-BA 16 Whitburn Road (Site A) (former foundry)	Planning consent has expired but completions expected from 2023/24
H-BA 17 Whitburn Road (Site B) (former foundry)	Planning consent has expired but completions expected from 2023/24
H-BA 18 9 Hardhill Road (former Creamery garage)	Application granted on appeal on 21/05/18 Site has consent from 2018 / programmed to deliver from 2021/22
H-BA 19 Bloomfield Place	Undetermined application from 2015 / No known delivery programme at this time
H-BA 20 Mid Street/Rosemount Court	Development complete
H-BA 21 Meadowpark, 13-15 Glasgow Road	Expired consent from 2014 / No site start
H-BA 22 Bathgate Community Education Centre	No consent / No site start
H-BA 23 Wester Inch	No consent / No site start
H-BA 24 Guildiehaugh Depot	Site has no consent but completions have been programmed to deliver from 2023/24
H-BA 25 Waverley Street Depot	No consent / No site start
H-BA 26 Blackburn Road	No consent / No site start

H-BA 27 Blackburn Road (former abattoir)	Site is subject of a live application and completions have been programmed to deliver from 2022/23
H-BA 28 Mid Street (former swimming pool site)	No consent / No site start
H-BA 29 14-20 Glasgow Road	No consent (refused planning permission in 2018 due to failure to conclude S75 Agreement securing developer contributions)
H-BA 30 Standhill Farm	No consent / No site start
Windfall	
Main Street	Planning consent granted 2017. Completions programmed 2021/22
Inchcross	Planning consent granted 2018. Completions programmed 2021/22
Land South of Sibbalds Brae and West of Falside Crescent	Outline planning consent granted by appeal. Completions programmed 2022/23

**TABLE 2: Employment Allocations**

LDP Map Reference/ Location	LDP Action Plan Update
E-BA 1 Easter Inch	Planning Permission in Principle granted on part of site Scottish Enterprise Two sites remaining in estate.
E-BA 2 Inch Wood South	Built out
E-BA 3 Wester Inch	Planning Permission in Principle granted Private Developer Marketed – no interest

**TABLE 3: Other LDP Proposals**

LDP Map Reference/ Location	LDP Action Plan update – December 2020
P-6 Hardhill Road Cemetery, Boghead	Land safeguarded for extension to cemetery Land Reservation / Initiation Stage
P-7	Completed

Boghall Primary School – extension	
P-8 Simpson Primary School – extension	Completed
P-9 St Mary's RC Primary School – extension	Completed
P-10 Bathgate Academy School Extension	Extension not considered feasible and not being progressed, alternative catchment review solution to be identified
P-113 Upgraded paths and improved accessibility to Beecraigs Country Park and Bathgate hills	Scottish Government, via Sustrans identified scheme for funding from post Covid-19 recovery and granted funded in June 2020. Under design
P-117 New strategic pedestrian & cycle route from Inchcross (Boghead) Roundabout, Bathgate along the A706 and B7066 at Whitburn towards Greenrigg/Harthill	<p>No further progress since publication of previous Action Programme.</p> <p>The project is being progressed in stages: Inchcross Roundabout west to Harthill still to be completed.</p> <p>Sustrans Community Links funding was obtained in principle for 50% of project costs in 2016/17. Further funding needs to be identified to match.</p> <p>Design complete; bid to Sustrans 2018-19 part funding/WLC.</p>
NP-121 Windyknowe Primary School - MUGA and school drop-off and collection access improvements	Completed
NP-125 Balbardie Primary School - hall extension	Completed
NP-126 A801 dualling	Developer for Armadale CDA submitted a S.75A to remove planning obligations relating to the upgrading of A801. Planning application was granted at appeal, therefore the contributions will be removed from the existing Section 75 agreement.



DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



**BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES UPDATE**

**REPORT BY HEAD OF HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES**

**A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide the Local Area Committee with an overview of the service activities within Bathgate 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

**C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I</b>	<b>Council Values</b>	Focusing on our customers' needs. Being honest, open and accountable. Providing equality of opportunities. Making best use of our resources. Working in partnership.
<b>II</b>	<b>Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b>	Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 Housing (Scotland) Act 2010
<b>III</b>	<b>Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers</b>	None
<b>IV</b>	<b>Impact on performance and performance Indicators</b>	There is no impact
<b>V</b>	<b>Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement</b>	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
<b>VI</b>	<b>Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>	None
<b>VII</b>	<b>Consideration at PDSP</b>	Yes
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Other consultations</b>	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 Bathgate 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	Oct 2020	%	Nov 2020	%	Dec 2020	%	WL Target %
0-2 wks	3	19%	2	25%	4	40%	55%
2-4 wks	1	6%	0	0%	0	0%	30%
4+ wks	12	75%	6	75%	6	60%	15%
<b>Total Lets</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	Oct 2020	%	Nov 2020	%	Dec 2020	%	WL Target %
0-2 wks	0	0%	1	12%	1	17%	80%
2-4 wks	1	50%	5	63%	3	50%	15%
4+ wks	1	50%	2	25%	2	33%	5%
<b>Total Lets</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

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 17 policy voids in the ward for this period a reduction in last reporting period.

Void period	Number of properties	PV reasons
<4 weeks	2	Tenancy dispute & structural Work
4 – 12 weeks	3	Structural Work
13 – 16 weeks	5	Fire & Structural Work x 4

26+ weeks	7	Health & Care Committee, surplus to long term requirements x 2 Being Used as a Decant x 2 Structural Work x 3
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## D2 Rent Arrears

Income management information is contained in Appendix 1 attached.

## D3. Bathgate Area Team Activity

Officers in the team continue to work from home as a result of Covid 19 lockdown measures, to safeguard staff and tenants. However, essential housing management tasks are being prioritised and Duty Officers ensure that these are being completed timeously in accordance with health and safety measures, risk assessments and safe operating procedures. 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.

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.

## D4. Capital Programme and New Build Council Housing

Street	Works	Update
Balbardie Avenue & Crescent	New roof coverings	Complete. Snagging Only
Race Road and Glasgow Road	Roof & roughcast	90% Complete.

### Local New Build Update

WLC New Build Activity	Site	No of units	Site Start	No. of Houses Handed Over	Site Completion
WLC	Wester Inch	86	Jul-17	85	Jun-20
WLC	Glasgow Road	9	Oct-15	9	Oct-16
WLC	Rosemount Gardens	30	Aug-14	30	May-16
WLC	Rosemount Court Refurbishment	16	Jul-16	16	Apr-17

WLC	Standhill	22	Jan-20	0	July-21
WLC	Hopetoun Street (Conversion of former Newlands House)	4	Nov -20	0	Apr -21
RSL Build Activity	Site	No of units	Site Start	No. of Houses Handed Over	Site Completion
West Lothian Housing Partnership	Jarvey Street	42	Mar-17	0	June-21

Covid19 impact for most of the HSD work due to construction being delayed

#### **D5. Tenant Participation Update**

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.

#### **D6. Safer Neighbourhood Team**

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 Bathgate Ward there is 1 Interim ASBO in place.

INCIDENTS				
No of All ASB Incidents		Oct	Nov	Dec
Bathgate		76	58	31
Count of Case/ Ward - new cases opened		Oct	Nov	Dec
Bathgate		8	8	3

Regular virtual meetings over the Webex platform are being held with key community safety partners and taking forward joint working with Police Scotland to tackle anti social behaviour in the ward.

- Essential gathering of evidence to tackle allegation of illegal selling of drugs in one location and investigation is ongoing with Police Scotland.
- Complaints of youth anti social behaviour in Boghall resulted in a referral being passed to West Lothian Youth Action Project and to Scottish Fire Rescue Service, who carried out engagement with the young people. No further issues were reported. Similarly, with reports of youths in the Wester Inch area of Bathgate.
- ASB Warnings continue to be issued where officers have the evidence to do so, officers have seen some improvement following these warnings with less repeat complaints. Number of reported incidents reduced between October and December 2020 and in the main the majority of calls relate to noise nuisance and coping with the challenges of the pandemic measures adding strain in community relations.

## **E. CONCLUSION**

This has been a challenging period where officers have been adapting to working from home, embracing new ways of working and change. Officers have been providing advice and assistance to tenants and customers and working with colleagues in other services areas to ensure that service delivery continued as far as possible.

## **F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES**

None

### **Appendices/Attachments:**

Appendix 1 Q3 Bathgate ward financial summary

Contact Person: [Kate.Ward@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Kate.Ward@westlothian.gov.uk)

Tel: 01506 283414

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.

## Appendix 1

### Q3 Bathgate Ward - Financial Summary

For the Bathgate ward the collection rate for the YTD in Q3 remains excellent at 98.5%. Bathgate has collected £6,299,281 vs a charge of £6,396,837.

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 Bathgate ward had 175 Universal Credit (UC) households. Since then the number of UC households has increased by 160.0%.

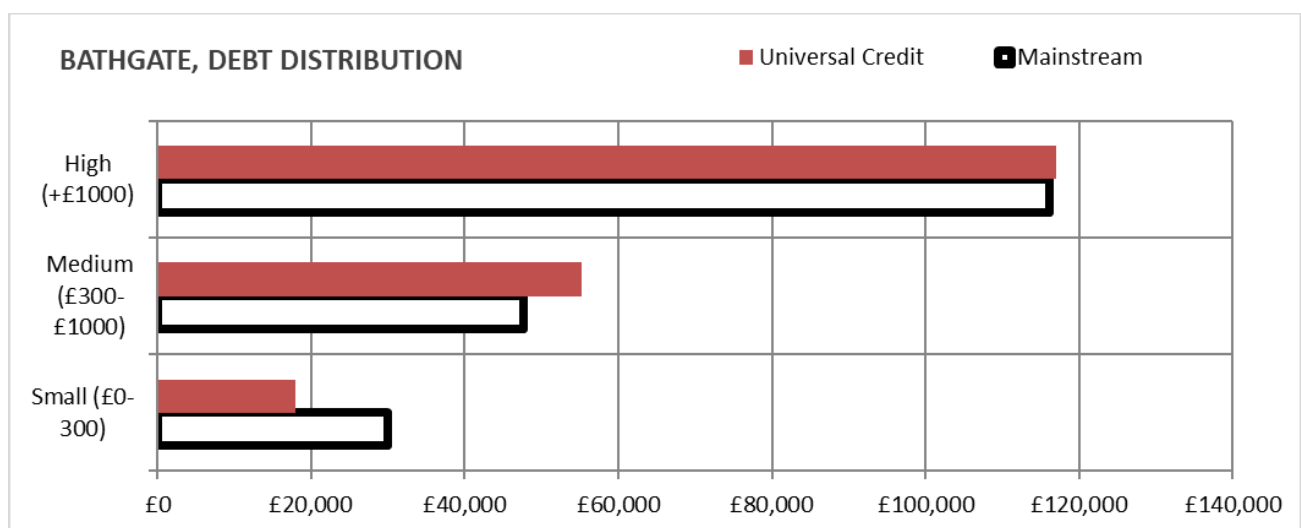
The number of tenancies in arrears in this ward has decreased by 117 since last year. Small debt cases (£300 or less), account for 59.4% of households.

There are 105 serious arrears cases (+£1000 in arrears). These cases are 14.8% of all households in arrears in this area, containing 60.7% of the debt.

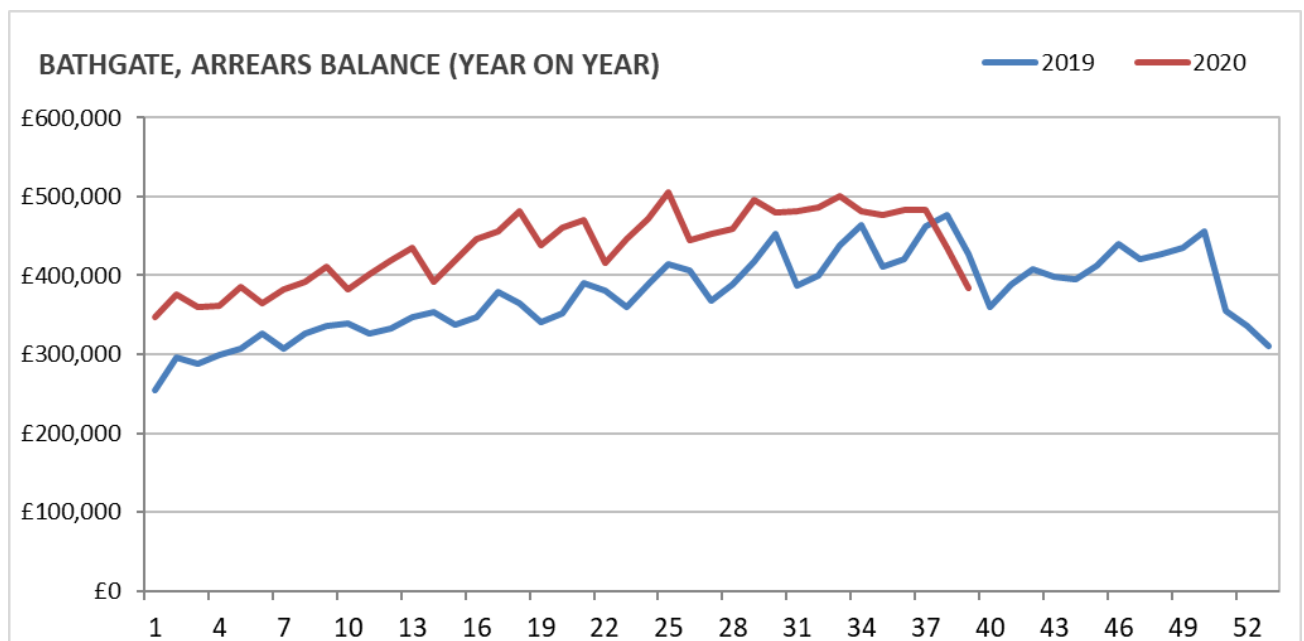
The arrears position for Bathgate Q3 is £384,013. This is an increase of -£42,370 on last year's position. The West Lothian overall position is currently £3,300,988.

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



Arrears Banding	2019/20 (WK39)				2020/21 (WK39)			
	Mainstream		UC		Mainstream		UC	
	Balance	#	Balance	#	Balance	#	Balance	#
£0.01 to £99.99	£8,278	198	£885	14	£8,951	175	£2,947	51
£100.00 to £299.99	£49,657	273	£5,943	30	£21,080	116	£14,974	79
£300.00 to £499.99	£29,341	77	£8,393	22	£14,912	38	£16,959	44
£500.00 to £749.99	£23,939	39	£13,868	22	£21,017	36	£14,671	24
£750.00 to £999.99	£20,586	24	£27,359	32	£11,807	14	£23,566	27
£1000.00 to £1999.99	£43,118	33	£55,262	40	£38,058	27	£45,857	34
£2000+	£20,773	7	£36,631	15	£78,065	23	£71,150	21
<b>Group Total</b>	<b>£195,693</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>£148,341</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>£193,889</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>£190,124</b>	<b>280</b>
<b>Movement</b>					(-) £1,803	(-) 222	(+) £41,783	(+) 105
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>£344,034</b>	<b>826</b>			<b>£384,013</b>	<b>709</b>
<b>Overall Movement</b>							(+) £39,979	(-) 117



DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



**BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**SERVICE UPDATE – NETS, LAND & COUNTRYSIDE**

**REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

**A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To advise members of the recent activity of the NET's, Land & Countryside Services teams for the period 1 October 2020 – 31 December 2020.

**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**

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

## D1 Terms of Report

The report covers the activity for the period 1 October 2020 – 31 December 2020.

## D2 Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

The winter maintenance programme was progressing well, with all hedges cut and 90% of shrub beds in Bathgate tidied, however all Grounds Maintenance staff have been helping Roads Services deliver the Weather Emergency service since late December and all through January. The remaining beds in Bathgate and Boghall should be completed by the end of March.

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

The most recent Land Audit Management (LAMs) score for the West area was 57. The target score is 67.

### Grounds Maintenance Enquiries

In total 34 ground maintenance related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Bench or Seat Enquiries	2	1
Bonfire Enquiries	0	1
Burns or Watercourses	0	1
Complaint Grounds Maintenance	1	0
Drainage Flooding Grass Areas	1	1
Emergency Tree Out of Hours	0	1
Enforcement Officer Enquiries	1	0
Fencing Enquiries	2	2
GalaDay Public Event Enquiries	1	1
Grass Cutting Enquiries	2	1
Grounds Property Vandalised	4	3
Hedge Cutting Enquiries	5	0
Public Park Enquiries	3	3
Shrub Bed Enquiries	1	0
Shrub Bed Overhanging Path	9	3
Shrub Beds Not Maintained	1	2
Weeds on Paths of Roads	1	0
Total	34	20

## D3 Garden Maintenance Routine Works

The Garden Maintenance Scheme will restart in April.

## Garden Maintenance Enquiries

In total there were nine garden maintenance enquiries received and dealt with during this period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Complaint Garden Maintenance	1	0
Garden Maintenance General Enquiries	3	0
Garden Maintenance Grass Not Cut	2	2
Garden Maintenance Hedge Cutting	2	1
Garden Maintenance Standard of Cut	1	0
Total	9	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 October – 31 December.

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. They are 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 126 cleaner communities enquiries were received and dealt with during this period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Dead Animals	3	4
Dog Fouled Grass/Open Space	0	1
Dog Fouling on Paths/ Roads	11	12
Dog No Fouling Sign Request	1	1
Dog Waste Bin New Request	1	0
Dog Waste Bin Overflowing	1	0
Glass on Paths or Open Spaces	2	6
Graffiti Non-Offensive	2	0
Graffiti Racist or Offensive	4	0
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	39	37
Litter Bin Burnt Damaged	1	3

Litter Bin Full Overflowing	1	4
Litter Bin New Request for Bin	1	0
Litter General Enquiries	3	1
Litter on Paths Roads Verges	19	9
Needles/Syringes Abandoned	2	1
Street Sweeping Enquiries	8	8
Trolleys Abandoned/Dumped	1	3
Vehicles Abandoned	26	5
Total	126	95

### **Fly Tipping Enquiries (January-December)**

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	201	161	149	151	154

### **Environmental 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. For the period of the report there have been 39 enquiries in relation to fly tipping compared to 37 for the same period in 2019.

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 8 for the period of 1 October 2020 – 31 December 2020. For the same period in 2019 there was also no Fixed Penalty Notices issued within the Ward.

### **Costs for fly tipping for the period 1 October 2020 – 31 December 2020**

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:

<b>1 October 2020 – 31 December 2020</b>	72.8 tonne
Cost of disposal including costs for NETs team/vehicles	£47,973.00
Contractor removal of fly tipping	£0.00
Removal of asbestos	£1,385.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£49,358.00</b>

The number of enquiries received between 1 October 2020 – 31 December 2020 for the Ward was 39 out of 545 enquiries for the whole of West Lothian equating to 7.2% of fly tipping enquiries relating to Ward 8.

Percentage wise this would equate to an approximate cost for the Ward of £3,454.00 for disposal of fly tipping between 1 October 2020 and 31 December 2020 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 October 2019 – 31 December 2019

<b>1 October 2019 – 31 December 2019</b>	53.4 tonne
Cost of disposal including estimated costs for NETs team/vehicles	£39,615.00
Contractor removal of fly tipping	£100.00
Removal of asbestos	£313.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£40,028.00</b>

The number of enquiries received between 1 October 2019 – 31 December 2019 for the Ward was 37 out of 490 enquiries for the whole of West Lothian equating to 7.6% of fly tipping enquiries relating to Ward 8.

Percentage wise this would equate to an approximate cost for the ward of £3,011.00 for disposal of fly tipping between 1 October 2019 and 31 December 2019 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 8.

## D5 Parks and Woodland

### Parks and Woodland Enquiries

In total there were 15 Tree and Woodland related enquiries were received during this reporting period.

	2020	2019
Tree Advice or Consultations	2	3
Tree Branches Overhanging	4	2
Tree Dangerous or Unsafe	1	2
Tree Enquiries General	2	7
Tree Leaves Causing Problems	5	3
Tree Roots Causing Problems	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>

	2020	2019
Access Rights Way Core Paths	1	0
Animal Attraction or Deer Farm	1	0
Country Park Forestry or Woods	0	1
Total	2	1

### Ranger Service Update

No. Rights of Way / Core Path / Patrols carried out (hours)	4
No. Access Enquiries	1
No. Conservation Surveys / Tasks	1

The Ranger Service have continued with a mixture of home working, site visits and park patrols through October – December with a Ranger ‘on duty’ every day.

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 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.

Comments and concerns were sent to Planning regarding a Planning Application submitted for a development at Falside.

Easton Bing was patrolled, with the whole site walked and litter-picked: Four bags-worth of litter were removed, including large fire site on summit, duvet, gazebo etc. Encroaching vegetation was cut back from the path network. A dangerous tree over a path was reported to the Trees & Woodland team. Silt scraped back from narrowing paths, and lets were dug to improve drainage. Signposts audited, and path condition assessed and scored against West Lothian-wide access priorities. Repeat visit in December to remove damaged tree and remaining fire litter.

### Hillstop Car Park (Gordon’s View)

Hillstop Car Park which is locally known as Gordon’s View was closed out of hours by the council in October 2020 due to ongoing issues with fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour. The closure was promoted via social media but it is acknowledged that there was no wider engagement with Bathgate Community Council or other stakeholders before formalising the closure.

Therefore, at the request of the Community Council and local members, the council has agreed to re-open the car park from 1 February 2021 for a period of 12 months to allow officers sufficient time to undertake a wider consultation with all stakeholders whilst all monitoring the use of the car park over the period; recording any incidences of fly-tipping and/or anti-social behaviour. The findings from the consultations and monitoring period will be reported to a future meeting of the Local area Committee. This will provide the Committee with an opportunity to discuss the issues and the future management of the car park. The council may opt to shorten the monitoring period from 12 months if there is evidence of significant instances of fly-tipping and/or anti-social behaviour during the period.

## D6 Open Space and Cemeteries

Balbardie Park Play Area, Bathgate. Rotten timber retainer will be removed and a basket swing will be replaced (with two regular swings) in Spring/Summer 2021.

Balbardie Park. £60k put towards a new floodlit pump track (bike track) for the park. Planning permission has been granted. Match funding being sought from sportscotland and also landfill funding - applications currently pending. Funding processes delayed due to Covid. Working in partnership with Green Action Trust (formerly CSGNT).

Meadow Park, Bathgate. Installation of new picnic table and bench seating complete. Small goal and basketball hoop will be replaced with a new dual-purpose goal (football/basketball) in Summer/Autumn 2021.

Kirkton Park Play Area, Bathgate. Replacement of sand toddler/junior play area and other surface upgrades will be complete in Summer/Autumn 2021. Replacement toddler/junior play area will have increased inclusive value.

Wester Inch Pond Play Area, Bathgate. Play area refurbishment complete, included installation of new multi-unit and swings, as well as additional surfacing and landscape works. Additional seating overlooking play area and ponds will be installed in Summer/Autumn 2021.

### Open Space Enquiries

There were 12 Open Space enquiries for this reporting period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Children Play Enquiries	12	6
Complaint Childrens Play Areas	0	1
Glass or Litter in Play Areas	0	1
Safety Issues in Play Areas	0	1
Total	12	9

### Cemeteries Routine Works

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

## **Cemeteries Enquires**

There were 115 Cemeteries enquiries for this reporting period in 2020.

	2020	2019
Cemeteries General Enquiries	8	6
Family History Searches	0	1
Lair Enquiries	7	3
Lair Sunken or Uneven	1	1
Memorial/ Headstone Works	31	0
New Interment Booking	50	0
Purchase of Interment Lair	17	0
War Memorial Enquiries	1	0
Total	115	11

(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

Contact Person:

Tony Fleming, Whitehill Service Centre, 01506 284611, [tony.fleming@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:tony.fleming@westlothian.gov.uk)

**Jim Jack**

**Head of Operational Services**

**8 March 2021**

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



**BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**COMMUNITY REGENERATION WARD UPDATE**

**REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION**

**A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to update the Elected Members on regeneration and related partners activities within the Bathgate ward.

**B. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Elected Members note the content of this report.

**C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I</b>	<b>Council Values</b>	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; making best use of our resources; working in partnership.
<b>II</b>	<b>Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b>	Appropriate assessments will be carried out as required.
<b>III</b>	<b>Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers</b>	None.
<b>IV</b>	<b>Impact on performance and performance Indicators</b>	None. Performance indicators relating to this activity are captured within the community regeneration key performance indicators.
<b>V</b>	<b>Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<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>

<b>VI</b>	<b>Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>	<p>The activities set out are funded from existing budgets and relevant external sources.</p> <p>£1.826 million is to be made available through the Town Centre Fund 2019-20 and £658,000 from the Town Centre Fund 2020-21.</p> <p>Bathgate ward has been allocated a share of this overall budget, representing £161,674 in 2019-20 and additional £59,124 in 2020-21.</p>
<b>VII</b>	<b>Consideration at PDSP</b>	Not applicable.
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Other consultations</b>	None

## **D. TERMS OF REPORT**

### **D1 Bathgate Locality**

This report updates the Elected Members on the work of the Community Planning and Regeneration Team and its local partners to support communities within the Bathgate ward, as one 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.

The Bathgate areas were identified as priority areas due to being within the least prosperous 20% of data zones in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

During the past year, the key focus of regeneration and related activity within the Bathgate ward has been to support the local community and business during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst current restrictions remain in place, considerable time and support has more recently been extended to assist those local groups in achieving implementation of town centre projects (see D3 below).

It is now intended to reconvene a meeting of the locality group in March/April 2021 and to use this session to gauge current activity and needs in the town. This will be the first opportunity to share meaningful experiences from the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and will look to establish a preferred way forward in terms of future group structure, meetings and planning. It will explore whether there exists an appetite to initiate a short community survey to hear how COVID-19 and its associated impacts have affected Bathgate groups, services and activities.

### **D2 West Lothian Third Sector Community Support Fund**

There are two Bathgate based organisations that have successfully secured funds from the Council's Third Sector Community Support Fund to support their ongoing work and activities during 2021/22. This includes SMILE Counselling who have been awarded £26,000 and Kidz-eco CIC who will receive £28,392.

Whilst some other Bathgate groups were unsuccessful in application as part of the Third Sector Community Support Fund process, in recognition of their valuable work carried out in the community, additional funding has been made available by Council Executive approval to utilise monies held in reserve for Modernisation and Improvement Fund 2020/21. Boghall Drop in Centre has been awarded a sum of £37,215 and the West Lothian 50+ Network awarded £12,134.

The latter group has most recently taken a peppercorn 'licence to occupy' of second Bathgate town centre property as an additional activity centre to allow for groups to restart in a safe environment when COVID restrictions should permit.

### **D3 Bathgate Town Centre**

The Council facilitated Bathgate Town Centre Management Group has continued to meet on a monthly basis by means of virtual discussion since August 2020, having ceased face to face meetings in March 2020 due to COVID restrictions. The group discuss town centre related matters and seek to develop projects, that will utilise the Council's Town Centre Improvement Fund. This forms part of Council's 5-year capital expenditure programme running to 2022/23.

Bathgate town centre acts as a focal point and 'hub' for community 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 January 2021 a vacancy rate of c.9%, 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 COVID-19 temporary restrictions that may have been in force at time of survey. To provide some context, Bathgate continues to position itself favourably in relation to wider national vacancy rates.

The Elected Members will be familiar from previous reports made to Committee, that officers from Economic Development and Community Regeneration have been, and continue to actively support local community groups to deliver a number of Scottish Government funded town centre projects. This involves 12 projects within Bathgate (7 in 2019/20 and 5 in 2020/21).

This level of support continues to take up considerable time for both the successful local groups as well as council officers and services, as collectively we strive to achieve delivery of these important local projects, all within a tight timescale prescribed by the Scottish Government's funding terms and conditions. A brief update on project delivery status is provided below for each town centre project.

#### **BAT01 – Creation of Volunteering and Third Sector Hub**

This project has been completed.

#### **BAT 02 – Visitor Leaflet Rack Display**

This project has been completed. It is planned that the display will be placed in the Bathgate Partnership Centre once it re-opens safely.

#### **BAT05 – Improving Bathgate Profile**

Conceptual designs developed and application made for planning permission. The project will be contracted and delivered within the prescribed timescales.

#### **BAT06 – Reconnect Regal Reface**

Contractual arrangements are in place with preferred specialist contractors, to allow for internal and external works to commence when COVID restrictions permit. The project will be contracted and delivered within the prescribed timescales.

#### **BAT07 – Town Centre Tree Lighting**

Arrangements in place to contract and complete external lighting works within the prescribed timescales.

#### **BAT09 – Creating a Sense of Place**

This has a number of project components, some of which are complete or ongoing.

There is continuing support and dialogue with applicant and Council officers, and advised that project will be contracted and delivered within prescribed timescales.

BAT13 – Putting Bathgate on the Map

This has a number of project components, some of which are complete others are ongoing. Support and dialogue continue with the applicant, and we are advised that all project work will be contracted and delivered within prescribed timescales.

BAT20-02 – Town Centre Plan

This has three components: each are being procured, designed and contracted to comply with prescribed timescales as set out in funding conditions.

BAT20-03 – Welcome to Bathgate

Sign designs and locations are being finalised and discussed with Council services to allow for planning permission to be applied, contracts to be put in place and project delivery to be achieved within prescribed timelines.

BAT20-04 – Precinct Winter Lighting

Lighting scheme design and tenders/procurement is being finalised for discussion with Council services and completion within the prescribed timeline.

BAT20-05 – Seating

Equipment (and preferred location) being identified for procuring with selected external suppliers and for discussion with Council services. It is anticipated that contracts and any works will be completed within the agreed prescribed timelines.

BAT20-07 – Festive Tree Light Enhancement

Procurement arrangements are in place to contract and complete the purchase of the lighting equipment within the prescribed timescales. This will be stored until such time as being installed at festive period by in-house Council lighting.

**D4 Bathgate Partnership Centre**

The Partnership Centre currently remains closed to the community. Whilst most services have ceased face to face contact, a majority of Council staff continue to provide services remotely with limited staff working from the building.

The payment office remained open for customers to pay rent and council tax, although it is encouraged that other methods be used e.g. online/by phone. In the period from 7 November 2020 to 31 January 2021, 361 welfare fund crisis grant payments (£51,490) had been paid; and during that same time 4,041 transactions made equating to £308,601 in income collected.

West Lothian Libraries continue operating a click and collect/phone and collect service for customers. The Simpson Library had 651 issued during November and December 2020. In December 2020, there was online Christmas Bookbug session and a festive craft demonstration. In January 2021, staff undertook an online Robert Burns craft session and prepared a themed window book display.

The Bathgate Registration Office continue to offer customer appointment system to enable sign/pick up registration certificates only.

Bathgate Community Centre within the Partnership Centre continued offering a restricted service to Simply Play after school club until the end of December 2020, at which time the service closed and relocated due to a reduction in numbers. The Bathgate playgroup continue to provide morning sessions to under 3 years old, on a Monday and Wednesday. Since the introduction of Level 4 protection measures no



other user groups have returned.

**E. CONCLUSION**

Elected Members are asked to note the range of activities taking place across the ward and in particular the variety of work to actively support ongoing regeneration and improvement within the Bathgate area.

**F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES**

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

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**Craig McCorriston**  
**Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration**

**8 March 2021**



# **BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE - WORKPLAN – MARCH 2021**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	Police Scotland Report	Quarterly update	Sgt Keith Jack	March 2021
2	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Report	Quarterly update	Stuart McNiven	March 2021
3	Housing Ward Report	Quarterly update	Kate Ward	March 2021
4	NETs Land and Countryside Services Report	Quarterly update	Tony Fleming	March 2021
5	Community Regeneration Report	Quarterly update	Nairn Pearson	March 2021
6	Planning - Local Development Plan Annual Review 2020 - Bathgate Ward	Annual update	Margaret Stone	March 2021
7	Bathgate Workplan	Update on forward reports	Nairn Pearson	March 2021
1	Police Scotland Report	Quarterly update	Sgt Keith Jack	June 2021
2	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Report	Quarterly update	Stuart McNiven	June 2021
3	Housing Ward Report	Quarterly update	Kate Ward	June 2021
4	NETs Land and Countryside Services Report	Quarterly update	Tony Fleming	June 2021
5	Community Regeneration Report	Quarterly update	Nairn Pearson	June 2021
6	Town Centre Fund 19-20 and 20-21 Updates	Update on progress of Town Centre projects funded	Nairn Pearson	June 2021
7	Headteacher School Presentation	Annual presentation	Andrew Sharkey/Grant Abbot	June 2021
8	Bathgate Workplan	Update on forward reports	Nairn Pearson	June 2021



DATA LABEL: Public

## BATHGATE LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

### TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2021-2022

Reports to committee officer by 12 noon	Agenda Issue	Meeting Date	Room
Tuesday 17 August 2021	Wednesday 18 August 2021	<b>Monday 23 August 2021</b>	TBC
Tuesday 16 November 2021	Wednesday 17 November 2021	<b>Monday 22 November 2021</b>	TBC
Tuesday 1 March 2022	Wednesday 2 March 2022	<b>Monday 7 March 2022</b>	TBC
Tuesday 7 June 2022	Wednesday 8 June 2022	<b>Monday 13 June 2022</b>	TBC

All meetings will be held at 10.00am and as a virtual meeting unless otherwise advised – Venue to be advised in due course