

Livingston South Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre Howden South Road LIVINGSTON EH54 6FF

27 August 2021

A meeting of the Livingston South Local Area Committee of West Lothian Council will be held within the Virtual Meeting Room on Thursday 2 September 2021 at 9:30am.

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

Public Session

- 1. Apologies for Absence
- 2. Declarations of Interest Members should declare any financial and nonfinancial 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 Minutes of Meeting of Livingston South Local Area Committee held on Thursday 13 May 2021 (herewith)
- 5. Police Ward Report Report by Police Scotland (herewith)
- 6. Fire Service Report Report by Fire and Rescue Service (herewith)
- 7. Housing, Customer and Building Services Report by Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services (herewith)

- 8. Service Update NETs, Land & Countryside Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith)
- 9. General Services Capital Programme Update Report by Head of Finance and Property Services (herewith)
- 10. Parking Concerns in Toronto Avenue in Howden, Livingston Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith)
- 11. Report on Progress of Local Regeneration Planning Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
- 12. Town Centre Fund Update 2019/20 & 20/21 Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration (herewith)
- 13. Workplan (herewith)

NOTE For further information please contact Anastasia Dragona on tel. no. 01506 281601 or email anastasia.dragona@westlothian.gov.uk



CODE OF CONDUCT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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

NAME	MEETING	DATE

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

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

Other key terminology appears on the reverse.

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

SUMMARY OF KEY TERMINOLOGY FROM REVISED CODE

The objective test

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

The General Exclusions

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

Particular Dispensations

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

The Specific Exclusions

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

Categories of "other persons" for financial and non-financial interests of other people

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

March 2019

95

<u>Present</u> – Councillors Lawrence Fitzpatrick (Chair), Peter Heggie, Maria MacAulay and Moira Shemilt

In Attendance

Jim Cameron, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council Lesley Keirnan, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council Davidson McQuarrie, Murieston Community Council Representative Sergeant Iain Wells, Police Scotland Robert Meechan, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Dave Cullen, Nets, Land and Countryside Services, West Lothian Council Phyllis McFadyen, Area Housing Manager, West Lothian Council Ross MacDonald, Construction Services, West Lothian Council Paul Kettrick, Property Services, West Lothian Council

1. <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>

<u>Agenda Item 11 (Community Regeneration Update)</u> – Councillor Maria MacAulay declared an interest in that prior to becoming an elected member she had been involved with both the Ladywell Regeneration Group and the Dedridge Regeneration Group but would participate in item of business.</u>

2. <u>DEPUTATION REQUEST FROM MANDY GUTHRIE AND DAVID</u> <u>MCALINDEN CONCERNING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN HOWDEN</u>

Having previously agreed the committee heard from Mrs Mandy Guthrie express her concerns on behalf of the residents for the anti-social behaviour that was taking place in the area. Committee noted that whilst Mr David McAlinden had requested to speak he had been unable to attend the meeting.

Mrs Guthrie explained that young people were gathering in large groups particularly at weekends and were partaking in anti-social behaviour which was having a detrimental impact on residents being able to enjoy Howden Park. This anti-social behaviour included inflicting damage to people's garden, verbally abusing those trying to use the area for their own recreational purposes, the drinking of alcohol and blocking the entrance to the park with cars. There had also been an upturn in littering and evidence of drug taking. The situation had been ongoing for a number of months and had been on the increase due to the pandemic.

Mrs Guthrie advised that a multi-agency meeting had recently taken place which had explored a number of options such as making better use of social media to encourage parents to know where their children were of an evening and reminding retailers not to sell alcohol to those under the legal age limit. Long term solutions were also explored and included repositioning the existing benches further down into the park and away from residents homes; installing lights in the park and car park, increase the number of bins; increase the waste bin collections; and remove excess foliage growth from around the bottom of the trees to improve sight lines.

In attendance at the meeting was Sergeant Iain Wells, Police Scotland and a representative of the council's Nets, Land and Countryside Services, David Cullen. Both responded to the various points raised by Mrs Guthrie.

Decision

To agree that the Lead Officer, Jim Cameron, set up a short-life working group involving residents, representatives relevant council services, and Police Scotland colleagues to better understand the issues and possible solutions.

3. <u>MINUTE</u>

The committee approved the minute of its meeting held on 11 February 2021.

4. <u>POLICE REPORT, WARD 4</u>

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Scotland providing members with an update on performance, issues and activity across the ward for the period up to 28 March 2021.

In terms of the update Sergeant Wells also explained how Police Scotland were working closely with colleagues from NHS Lothian in terms of those with mental health issues that came to the attention of the Police. He also provided an overview of the work of Operation Shoestack which a joint initiative with the council's DASAT (Domestic and Sexual Assault Team).

In relation to the crime data contained in the report committee asked if it would be possible for the data pertaining to sexual crimes and sexual assault to be separated by gender. Sergeant Wells undertook to see if this would be possible.

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

Decision

- 1. To note the content of the report and the update from Sergeant Wells; and
- 2. To ask if the data pertaining to sexual crime and sexual assault could be disaggregated by gender and if so for this to be circulated to all four ward members.

5. <u>FIRE REPORT Q4 2020/21</u>

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated)

by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for the period up to 31 March 2021.

In relation to the appendices attached to the report committee noted that the graph relating to RTC Casualties and Fatalities referred to Linlithgow when it should have referred to Livingston South. Committee were assured the data was relevant to the Livingston South ward.

It was recommended that committee note and provides comment on the report and its appendices.

Decision

To note the content of the report and appendices.

6. <u>SERVICE UPDATE - NETS, LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE</u>

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising of the activity of the Nets, Land and Countryside Service teams for the period 1 January to 31 March 2021.

It was recommended that the committee :-

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

Decision

- 1. To note the content of the report; and
- 2. To record a note of thanks to the volunteer litter pickers were who helping out across the whole of West Lothian.

7. HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES

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

The committee was asked to note the Housing, Customer and Building activity as detailed in the report for quarter 4, 1 January to 31 March 2021.

Decision

To note the content of the report

8. THE LANTHORN CENTRE, LIVINGSTON - PROGRESS UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services providing an update on progress following the temporary closure of the Lanthorn Centre on 2 April 2021.

It was recommended that the committee :-

- 1. Note that a report detailing a proposing programme of remedial works would be presented to Council Executive prior to the summer recess; and
- 2. Notes the progress made relocating services delivered from the Lanthorn Centre.

Decision

To note the content of the report

9. REPORT ON PROGRESS OF LOCAL REGENERATION PLANNING

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration which provided an update in respect of locality planning in the ward.

It was recommended that committee note :-

- 1. The draft findings report of the Ladywell Covid-19 Community Survey;
- 2. The progress of the two local regeneration plans;
- 3. The progress and development of actions emerging from the plans; and
- 4. The updated position in relation to the Town Centre Fund projects for 2019/20 and 2020/21

Decision

- 1. To note the content of the report; and
- 2. To record a note of thanks to the Community Regeneration Officer, Lesley Keirnan for progressing the town centre fund projects, noting that a detailed update on the subject matter would be brought back to the next committee meeting.

10. <u>WORKPLAN</u>

A workplan had been circulated for the information of committee.

Decision

To note the content of the workplan

11. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2021/22

The committee considered a timetable of proposed meetings (copies of which had been circulated) for the period 2021/22.

The committee was asked to approve the timetable of meetings for 2021/22.

Decision

The approve the timetable of meetings for 2021/22



POILEAS ALBA



West Lothian Area Command

Lothian and Scottish Borders



Ward 4 - Livingston South Multi Member Ward Report Quarter 1 – 2021/2022

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 4th July 2021.

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

We live our lives free from crime,

we take pride in a strong, fair and

disorder and danger;

inclusive society

None.

None.

- II Policy and Legal (including Strategic None. Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)
- III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to None. Officers
- IVImpact on performance and performancePerformance relative to the same period in 2020; set out in the report.
- V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement
- VI Resources (Financial, Staffing and Property) None.
- VII Consideration at PDSP
- VIII Other consultations

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 1 2021/2022. 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
- Improving Road Safety
- Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

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

Livingston South Community Engagement Priorities

- Reducing antisocial behaviour
- Making our roads safer
- Tackling substance misuse

Livingston South and Craigshill Community Officers

PC Ewan Hannay

PC Gillian Minshull

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. By the end of Q1, there had been a decrease in domestic incidents reported to the police compared to Q1 in 20/21 and of those reported incidents there has been an increase in recorded domestic crimes. Many of these are historical incidents which have been identified by detectives engaging with victims, identifying previous partners and follow up enquiries to identify previously unreported crimes.

During Q1, Medics Against Violence, in partnership with Police provided three online ASC (Ask Support Care) online training sessions to major employers within West Lothian in conjunction with DAPDG. Further "train the trainer" sessions are planned which will see over 100 members of the public with raised awareness of ASC.

As has been described in previous papers, our officers have had cause to deal with an increasing number of people who have been experiencing mental health crisis. With thanks to our partners in NHS Lothian, since 2020 we agreed protocols allowing operational officers to access the Acute Care and Support Team (ACAST) in West Lothian, a Mental Health Community Triage System. The ACAST system frees up capacity at A&E/Out of Hours,

whilst ensuring that those people who met the criteria, receive the most appropriate support at source. During Q1, ACAST was utilised 52 times by officers.

Under Public Protection Unit (PPU) leadership we have established an implementation group to deliver the Herbert Protocol to Care homes, NHS and 3rd sector. During Q1, this protocol was successfully implemented on Monday 31st May to coincide with Dementia week.

Local officers continue to engage with vulnerable looked after young people within Care Establishments in an effort influence positive change and outcomes for them.

Reducing Violence and Anti-Social behaviour

Recent patterns relating to Anti-Social Behaviour continue. The "traditional" key crimes within ASB – Vandalism and Fireraising - continue to fall, following the 5 year long downward trend. At the conclusion of Q1, the figure for overall ASB incidents decreased significantly compared to Q1 2020/21.

Neighbour disputes and Covid related complaints are included in the ASB figures with persons working from home, low tolerance levels and reports of possible breaches to the regulations. West Lothian officers continue to engage with the public and utilise the 4 E's – Engage, Explain, Encourage and Enforce with an overall good compliance level.

With the relaxing of Covid regulations, the police are again focusing on the night time economy, working with the licensed trade to minimise the impact of any ASB or violence in local communities.

During Q1, School Campus Officers delivered inputs to S1 and S2 pupils regarding both substance misuse and ASB, emphasising the link between the two and the long term effects on individuals, their families and the wider communities.

Howden Park EVA – following the initial reduction in incidents of ASB in the area there has been an increase in calls. Local officers have again engaged with residents and established that the positioning of the park benches are causing an issue. This has been fed back to the Community Safety Partnership who are linking in with WLC Parks with a view to re-positioning the benches. WLYAP and police are continuing to provide the area attention.

Concerns were raised about ASB in the Asda / Livingston Town Centre area. This was discussed at the Community Safety Partnership and agreed strategy to deal with the issue. Police continue to provide additional patrols, identified intervention opportunities and linked in with WLYAP who provided streetwork support. This has resulted in significant reduction in ASB in the area.

There are still ongoing complaints regarding the illegal use of off-road bikes across the West Lothian area. The police have provided additional patrols in affected areas, utilised social media to highlight the problem and request information from local communities as to who is involved.

Following a series of wilful fireraisings in the Dedridge area, CID officers have charged a male with this crime series.

• Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Dealing with Acquisitive Crime to protect communities remains a priority with the number of reported crimes of dishonesty decreasing on the previous year. This includes a significant decrease in overall vehicle crime which can be attributed to investigations by local and national officers with multiple persons being charged.

The Covid lockdown has led to more people being at home and apparently spending time online. This is aligned to a rise in crimes of Fraud with the vast majority of these incidents related to online or telephone crimes. Victims are of all ages and we continue to use social media and other methods to support preventions messages and national campaigns.

During Q1, our Prevention and Intervention Officer conducted 5 Crime Prevention Surveys to victims of crime.

Community officers have recently re-established connections with The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. This allows trained officers to send communication in relation to crime prevention and/or local issues to members of the public who have signed up for the service. To date, West Lothian has nearly 1400 members signed up to this service. Work is ongoing to recruit more partner agencies to be involved as administrators. http://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/

• Improving Road Safety

Road safety is a priority for the police and local authority. Officers in West Lothian work in partnership with the council to address road safety issues and educate the public to prevent incidents from occurring.

During Q1, Roads Policing officers continued with Local and National Campaigns including The Vulnerable Road Users Campaign, Seatbelt Campaigns as well as National Days of Speeding. This resulted in 645 persons being reported in relation to offences including dangerous driving, disqualified driving, no insurance etc.

Between April and June 2021, officers undertook multiple proactive speed checks across West Lothian, resulting in 88 offences being detected. There were also 123 warnings provided in relation to driver behaviour.

As the main arterial routes return to pre-Covid volumes, Road Policing Officers will continue to prioritise sites which represent the greatest risk and in the interests of casualty reduction.

As schools returned to a more "normal" way of learning, our Prevention and Intervention officer supplied several West Lothian Schools information to promote the local authority led PARK SMART scheme with the aim of encouraging parents and care-givers to make sure they park sensibly and increase the safety of everyone in the area.

In Q1, Roads Policing and Community Officers continued with several Operation Kazoo events to address the anti-social use of vehicles in the Livingston Town Centre area. This resulted in the positive engagement with the drivers and also several persons being reported for speeding and other driving offences. There has been a reduction in complaints from residents, improved road safety and further days of action are planned.

• Tackling Serious and Organised Crime

West Lothian officers continue to disrupt organised crime group by targeting drugs supply offences, gathering intelligence and generate enforcement activity.

During Q1, 39 Misuse of Drugs Warrants were obtained for execution with 35 Supply, Production and Cultivation offences libelled. This included the police receiving intelligence in relation to a sophisticated Cannabis Cultivation within West Lothian with an approximate value in excess of £86,000. After a full investigation, two persons have been reported to COPFS for related offences.

We continue to developed drugs intelligence from the local community. Drugs enforcement requires information from sources to build a picture and fill in the pieces of the jigsaw and the use of community intelligence in this cannot be underestimated.

Reporting Per	iod April 2	021 – June	2021
Livingston South		Reco	rded
Crime Type	YTD	LYTD	% Diff
Robbery	1	1	-
Serious Assault	9	3	+200.0%
Sexual Crimes	21	25	-16.0%
Housebreaking dwelling	-	3	-100.0%
Housebreaking non-dwelling (sheds/garages)	1	-	-
Housebreaking Other Premises	6	1	+500.0%
Theft of motor vehicle	2	5	-60.0%
Theft from motor vehicle (OLP)	3	5	-40.0%
Vandalism	70	55	+27.2%
Total drugs supply	5	3	+66.6%
Possession of Drugs	28	38	-26.3%
Common Assault	93	65	+43.0%
Common Assault - emergency worker	42	20	+110.0%
Total Crimes and Other Offences	726	585	+24.1%

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



LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

LIVINGSTON SOUTH MULTI-MEMBER WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT

REPORT BY SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Livingston South Local Area Committee on the activity within Livingston South Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 30th June 2021.

B. RECOMMENDATION

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

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	 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.
111	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) Livingston South Multi-member Ward Quarterly Report

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

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.



West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Quarter 1 2021

Livingston South

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.

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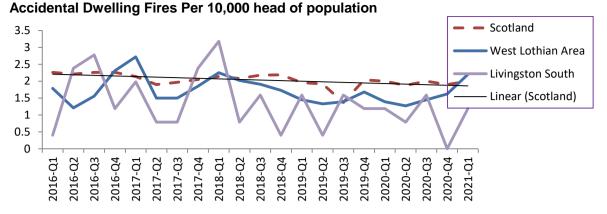
Introduction

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.

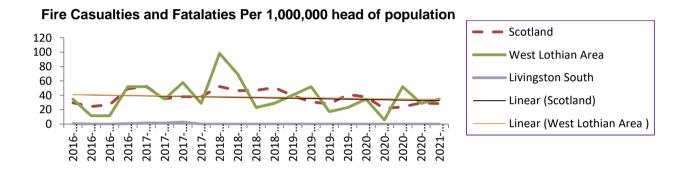
In addition to historical ward based activity, this performance report provides information on the historic activity in the West Lothian Council area and Scotland. To allow benchmarking to be undertaken, the units of measurement in the performance graphs in the report are based on incidents/events per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

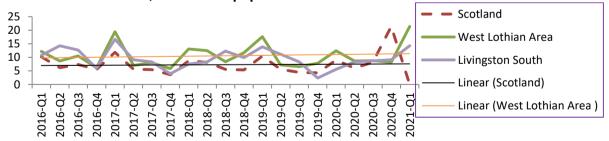


During the 2021-22 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 3 accidental dwelling fires in comparision to 3 during 2020-21 year to date reporting period.

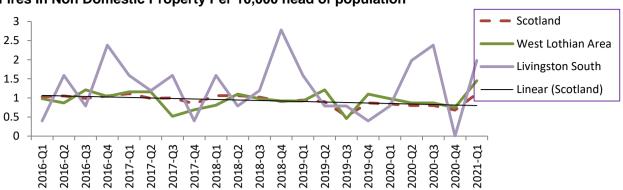


During the 2021-22 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 2 Casualties and 0 Fatalities due to fire in comparision to 1 Casualty and 0 Fatalities during 2020-21 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population

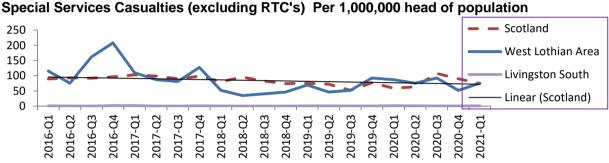


SFRS have dealt with 36 Deliberate fire incidents during 2021-22 year to date reporting period in comparison to 14 during 2020-21 year to date reporting period.



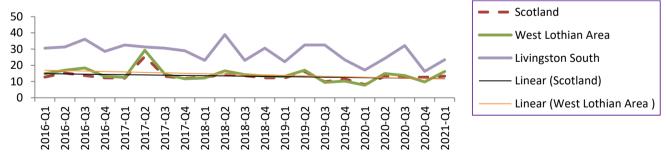
Fires In Non Domestic Property Per 10.000 head of population

SFRS have dealt with 5 non domestic fire incidents during 2021-22 year to date reporting period in comparison to 2 during 2020-21 year to date reporting period.



SFRS have dealt with 2 casualties from Special Services during 2021-22 year to date reporting period in comparison to 3 during 2020-21 year to date reporting period.

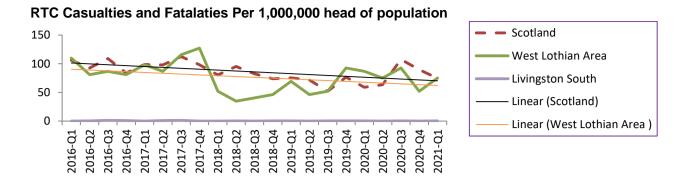
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population



SFRS have dealt with 59 UFAS incidents during 2021-22 year to date reporting period in comparison to 44 during 2020-21 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).



During the 2021-22 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 1 Casualty and 0 Fatalities from RTC's in comparision to 1 Casualty and 0 Fatalities during 2020-21 year to date reporting period.

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



LIVINGSTON SOUTH 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 Livingston South Ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period Quarter 1 - 1st April 2021 to 30th June 2021.

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	Housing (Scotland) Act 2001
	Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	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 Livingston South Ward.

Property Void & Let Performance: Mainstream Tenancies

Void Period	April 21	%	May 21	%	June 21	%	WL Target %
0.0	0	00/	0	00/	0	000/	FF0 /
0-2 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	3	60%	55%
2-4 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30%
4+ weeks	4	100%	2	100%	2	40%	15%
Total Lets	4	100%	2	100%	5	100%	100%

Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	April 21	%	May 21	%	June 21	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	55%
2-4 weeks	1	50%	0	0%	1	100%	30%
4+ weeks	1	50%	0	0%	0	0%	15%
Total Lets	2	100%	0	100%	1	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 and time taken ensuring that vulnerable persons are supported through the viewing and sign up process. 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 was 11 Mainstream Lets and 3 Temporary Tenancy Lets during the Quarter

D2. Arrears Performance – Financial Summary.

For the Livingston South ward the collection rate for the YTD in Q1 remains excellent at 98.3%. Livingston South has collected £1,587,372 vs a charge of £1,615,261.

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 Livingston South ward had 26 Universal Credit (UC) households. Since then the number of UC households has increased by 865.4%.

The number of tenancies in arrears in this ward has increased by 22 since last year. Small debt cases (£300 or less), account for 57.4% of households.

There are 87 serious arrears cases (+£1000 in arrears). These cases are 15.4% of all households in arrears in this area, containing 63.6% of the debt.

The arrears position for Livingston South Q1 is £324,467. This is a decrease of -£28,273 on last year's position. The West Lothian overall position is currently £3,488,182.

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

Medium (£300-£1000)

Small (£0-300)

£0

£20.000

£40,000

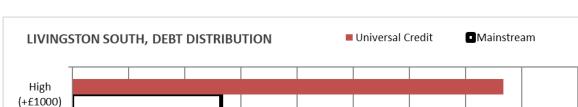
£60,000

• Making best use of resources by considering communicating more with customers through SMS, email and telephone.

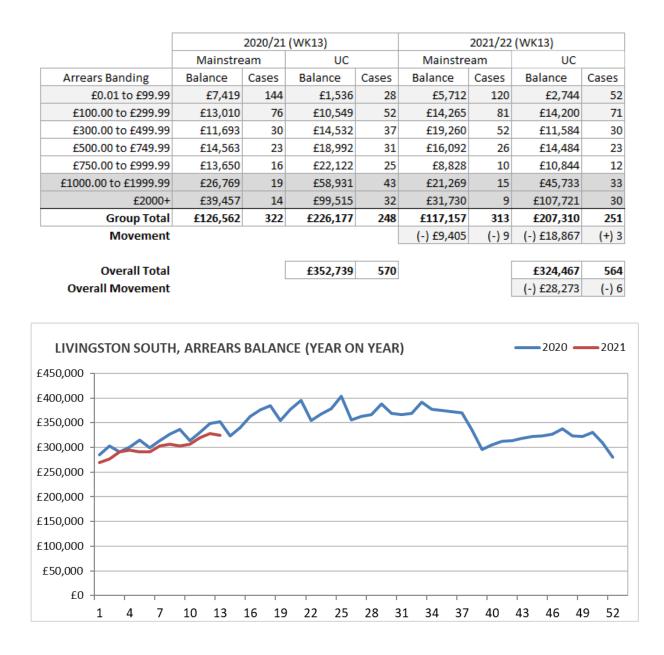
• Benchmarking with other local authorities to ensure we identify and consider implementing any best practice.

• 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.

£80,000 £100,000 £120,000 £140,000 £160,000 £180,000



• Promote Alternative payment methods, particularly the Tenant's Self-Service Portal



D3. Livingston Team Activity.

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

The focus on rent arrears activity has continued to be a weekly priority task for the team and will continue to work with all our tenants in offering the support, advice and assistance. Such assistance includes referrals for money and debt advice, benefit health checks, completion of income and expenditure to help set up a sustainable payment plan and where appropriate, assist with applications for Discretionary Housing Payments. Officers have also been doing targetted work to encourage tenants to update their universal credit journals as many have not updated their housing costs in April following the rent increase meaning they are losing out on money they are entitled to.

During Quarter 1 whilst we have continued in the main with home working for staff, we have required to mobilise more officers in order we could progress requests for mutual exchanges and other essential housing management tasks which has required a presence within the office/community, whilst adhering to health and safety measures. This has been a challenging time for the service and

we have worked with our Health & Safety advise and Trade Unions to ensure we have safe operating systems, risk assessments and personal protection equipment so that we are safe guarding our staff whilst undertaking key essential tasks at this time

D.4 New Build

WLC completions 134

RSL completions 59

WLC New Build Activity	Site	No of units Site Start Hous Hand Over		No. of Houses Handed Over	Site Completion
WLC	Eagle Brae	29	Apr-21	0	May-22
WLC	Wellhead	42	Aug-21	0	Jan -23
RSL New Build Activity	Site	No of Units	Site Start	No of Units Handed Over	Site Completion
West Lothian Housing Partnership	Almondvale	146	Mar-19	0	Dec-21
Places for People	Quentin Court	18	Dec-18	18	June-21

D5. Tenant Participation Update Q 1 April – June 2021

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.

Key Activity

• Performance and Financial Scrutiny,

Panel members opportunity to question information on spend, budgets, performance targets and results over this period.

• Capital & Repairs Working Group (CAR's)

Discuss major improvement works, update on the various projects being carried out and share benchmark information. Updated on the developments of Community Choices and the progress with the Street Environmental Improvement Projects as well as the Capital Programme work being carried out to date. The Repairs Manager gave members a presentation on the importance of Gas and Heating Servicing which the group really appreciated and felt it gave them confidence in the way the service was carried out for the benefit of tenants' safety.

• Tenant Participation Development Working Group (TPDWG)

The group have been reviewing the current TP Strategy with an emphasise on digital engagement and inclusion. Members were introduced to the new CX Team who explained their role in improving service delivery for the customer and how they will enhance the work of TP by engaging with customers and encouraging them to share their views on the services they have received. They will also promote traditional tenant participation, with the aim of encouraging more active participation.

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 June 2021 with the Summer edition of Tenants News and other leaflets and surveys including the online portal survey and the Assisted Decoration Scheme Leaflet.

• Tenant Led Inspection Sign Off - Dampness and Condensation

In June, our tenant inspectors met with Building Services to review the inspection they carried out on Dampness and Condensation; the report highlighted 14 recommendations that required to be actioned. The Repairs Manager had also taken the inspectors report further and added to the recommendations with two additional actions to enhance and further improve the service by recovering initial financial outlay on materials and ensuring performance is monitored regularly and effectively. Tenant inspectors were delighted with the outcome of this inspection into Dampness and Condensation and expressed their gratitude to the service for their commitment in taking all recommendations onboard. They felt this showed how valuable Tenant Led Inspections are to HCBS.

• TP Facebook Group

The TP team continue to see a steady 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 consultation matters and queries from tenants.

• New Build Planning & Progress Meeting

Housing, Strategy and Development continue to meet on a regular basis with the members of the Tenants Panel to provide an update on the progress and planning of current and future new build sites, the acquisition of houses and update on ongoing development of stock. The Panel members meet six monthly for updates on all these projects.

• Learning & Development Sessions for customers

Tenants and service users continue to meet online to hear about various topics in our Learning and development sessions. These sessions give an insight into the process and development and allow members a strong foundation to carry out scrutiny work going forward. In the past few months senior managers and staff have given presentations on topics such as

- Tendering and Procurement process for New Build
- Illegal Money Lending
- The Local Housing Strategy and Housing Asset Management Plan
- Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan and

• Universal Credit and Arrears.

D6. Safer Neighbourhood Team Update

Ward 4 – Livingston South - SNT Ward Information

The Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) officers continue to work across the nine multi member ward areas as an integral part of the Community Safety Unit. The working remit of the team is to engage with customers and work with partner services and agencies to reduce noise and antisocial behaviour (ASB) within our communities.

During the Covid restrictions, officers have been working a blended model carrying out some home working as well as office and community-based work for enquiries and to engage with customers. From home, officers have been providing a telephone service to 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 continue with our partnership working.

Partnership working involves the local housing team, council officers with the SNT and officers from Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service all working together to tackle antisocial behaviour. When necessary, the partners will liaise with colleagues from the voluntary organisations including West Lothian Youth Action Project, Mental Health advisory workers and private landlords in order to reduce antisocial behaviour and support members of our community who have been affected.

Livingston South Data

Table 1: The following tables set out details of the number of new cases opened each month, overall number of active cases; number of cases resolved. Not all incidents become a case and officers will open a case where further investigations are necessary

Cases and Incidents	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Incidents Reported to SNT	17	19	46									
Number of new cases	0	2	8									
Number of Active Cases	3	5	17									
Number of resolved cases	0	2	0									

Table 2: The following table provides an overview of the types of incidents that are being reported to the SNT.

Incident Types	Apr	Мау	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
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ASB Part 2 Complaint	10	8	22					
ASB Part 5 Noise Complaint	2	5	20					
Dog Barking	0	0	0					
ENV Health Complaint	0	0	0					
Non ASB Noise Complaint	3	1	0					
SST Section 3 Tenancy Management	0	1	2					
Youth Disorder	2	4	2					
Unauthorised Encampment	0	0	0					
Grand Total	17	19	46					

Table 3: The following table provides numbers of ASBO that are current in ward and compared to all of West Lothian.

ASBO	Q1					
Number of ASBO's current	0					
All of West Lothian	12					

Table 4: The following table provides number of all active cases and total number of incidents for West Lothian

West Lothian	Apr	Mav	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	0ct	Nov	Dec	Ian	Feb	Mar
	Арі	Muy	Jun	Jui	Aug	Sep	011	NOV	Dec	jun	reb	mui
Total Number of Active Cases	73	72	121									
Total Number of Incidents	484	402	456									

E. CONCLUSION

To note the contents of the report.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments:

None

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Date: 2nd September 2021

Livingston South Local Area Committee 2 September 2021 Item 7

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



LIVINGSTON SOUTH 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 April 2021 – 30 June 2021.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Area Committee is asked to:

- 1. Note the work carried out by 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	Relates to items 9 - We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger & 12 – We value and enjoy our built environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	In line with available revenue and capital budgets
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None
VIII	Other consultations	None

D1 Terms of Report

The report covers the activity for the period 1 April 2021 – 30 June 2021.

D2 Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

The service has successfully completed seven grass cutting cycles of the open spaces and eight grass cutting cycles of the sports pitches.

The first cycle of weed spraying for shrub beds, grass edges, hard standing area has been completed and staff are currently working their way through the roadside kerbs.

Grounds Maintenance Enquiries

In total 90 grounds maintenance related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period in 2021.

	2021	2020
Adopt Open Spaces in Priv.Est	1	0
Ball Game Enquiries	3	1
Bench or Seat Enquiries	0	1
Burns or Watercourses	1	1
Complaint Grounds Maintenance	0	2
Drainage Flooding Grass Areas	2	0
Emergency Tree Out of Hours	0	1
Enforcement Officer Enquiries	3	0
Fencing Enquiries	3	1
Flower Bed or Bulb Displays	1	0
GalaDay Public Event Enquiries	1	0
Grass Area Damaged	1	0
Grass Cutting Enquiries	10	18
Grass Cutting Missed Not Cut	2	0
Grass Highway Verges	3	0
Ground Ownership Enquiries	5	1
Grounds Planning Applications	1	0
Grounds Property Vandalised	2	1
Hedge Cutting Enquiries	9	0
Manholecover Damaged In Grass	1	0
Public Park Enquiries	6	1
School Grounds Enquiries	0	1
Shrub Bed Enquiries	4	1
Shrub Beds Overhanging Path	16	9
Shrub Beds Not Maintained	10	0
Weeds General Enquiries	5	1
Weeds on Paths or Roads	0	1
Total	90	41

D3 Garden Maintenance Routine Works

Garden Maintenance is on target with six cuts being completed.

Garden Maintenance Enquiries

There were 29 garden maintenance related enquiry received and dealt with within this reporting period in 2021.

	2021	2020
Complaint Garden Maintenance	2	0
Garden Maintenance Change Of Address	0	1
Garden Maintenance General Enquiries	10	6
Garden Maintenance Grass Not Cut	15	0
Garden Maintenance Hedge Cutting	1	0
Garden Maintenance Standard of Cut	1	0
Total	29	7

Cleaner Communities Routine Works

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.

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.

D4 Cleaner Communities Enquiries

In total 349 cleaner communities related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period.

	2021	2020
Complaint Street Cleansing	7	1
Dead Animals	9	6
Dog Bin New Request for Bin	2	0
Dog Bin Overflowing	12	6
Dog Fouled Grass/Open Space	5	2
Dog Fouling on Paths/Roads	14	23
Fly Posting	2	2
Fly Tipping Dumping	153	114
Glass on Paths or Open Spaces	8	0
Graffiti Non-Offensive	1	0
Graffiti Racist or Offensive	3	3
Litter Bin Burnt Damaged	1	0
Litter Bin New Request for Bin	3	0
Litter Bin Overflowing	15	4
Litter General Enquiries	15	5
Litter Grass Open Space	0	1
Litter Paths Roads Verges	41	20

Needles Syringes Abandoned	0	1
Needles Syringes Abandoned	0	I
Street Sweeping Enquiries	15	4
Trolleys Abandoned/Dumped	19	3
Trolleys Dumped in Livingston	8	2
Vehicle Abandoned	16	11
Total	349	208

Fly Tipping Enquiries (January to December)

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	429	408	329	322	276

Environmental Community Action

Officers continue to deal with enquiries relating to fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles and general enquiries. There have been 153 enquiries in relation to fly tipping for the period compared to 114 for the same period in 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 an increase in the amount of equipment supplied to facilitate litter picking volunteers, which has increased in line with activity.

There were four Fixed Penalty Notices issued in Livingston South for Fly tipping and one for littering for the period of 1 April 2021 - 30 June 2021. In comparison to the similar period in 2020, two Fixed Penalty Notices were issued for fly tipping and none for either dog fouling or littering.

Costs for fly tipping for the period 1 April 2021 – 30 June 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 75% of their time. For 2020 the estimate was 80% of their time.

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

1 April 2021 – 30 June 2021	82.1tonnes
Cost of disposal including costs for NETs team/vehicles	£54,101.44
Contractor removal of fly tipping	£0.00
Removal of asbestos	£0.00
TOTAL	£54,101.44

Fly tipping costs:

The number of fly tipping enquiries received between 1 April 2021 - 30 June 2021 for the Ward was 153 out of 784 enquiries for the whole of West Lothian equating to 19.5% of fly tipping enquiries relating to Ward 4.

Percentage wise this would equate to an approximate cost for the Ward of £10,558.10 for disposal of fly tipping between 1 April 2021 and 30 June 2021 including cost for Staff/vehicles. (This does not include the removal of asbestos by the Councils asbestos team).

1 April 2020 – 30 June 2020	83.19 tonnes
Cost of disposal including estimated costs for NETs	£54,819.71
team/vehicles	
Contractor removal of fly tipping	£0.00
Removal of asbestos	£0.00
TOTAL	£54,819.71

Costs for fly tipping for the period 1 April 2020 – 30 June 2020

The number of fly tipping enquiries received between 1 April 2020 - 30 June 2020 for the Ward was 114 out of 685 enquiries for the whole of West Lothian equating to 16.64% of fly tipping enquiries relating to Ward 4.

Percentage wise this would equate to an approximate cost for the ward of £9,123.30 for disposal of fly tipping between 1 April 2020 and 30 June 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 4.

D5 Parks and Woodland

Parks and Woodland Enquiries

In total 66 Parks and Woodland related enquiries were received during this reporting period.

	2021	2020
Tree Advice or Consultations	3	1
Tree Affecting Public Utility	1	0
Tree Blocking Light	1	3
Tree Branches Overhanging	22	12
Tree Broken/Damaged or Dead	1	0
Tree Dangerous or Unsafe	2	3
Tree Enquiries General	31	26
Tree Felling Work Unauthorised	0	1
Tree Leaves Causing Problems	1	0
Tree Roots Causing Problems	4	0
Tree Woodland Enquiries	0	1
Total	66	47

	2021	2020
Access Rights Way Core Paths	4	2
Complaint Country Parks/ Trees	2	1
Country Park Forestry or Woods	0	1
Ranger Service General Enquiry	2	0
Total	8	4

Ranger Service Update

No. Rights Of Way / Core Path / Patrols carried out (hours)	4.5
No. Access Enquiries	3

The Ranger Service were successful in the application to NatureScot's "Better Places Green Recovery Fund". They have awarded us a grant to employ two assistant rangers and two assistant operatives. These four seasonal staff will be employed from the first week of July until October, and will help with the increased visitor numbers expected over the next few months at the Country Parks and other hotspots around the county.

We made a subsequent application to NatureScot's "Better Places Green Recovery Fund" for infrastructure / facility upgrades to help accommodate the rise in visitor numbers we are currently experiencing at the Country Parks, but have not yet heard the outcome.

Applications have also been submitted and we are waiting to hear if successful in receiving NatureScot Improving Public Access funding for Calderwood SSSI and Witchcraig Woods to upgrade and improve a number of routes within these sites.

We have commented on a number of planning applications and submitted comments on the access/biodiversity implications of proposed developments. Several joint site visits were made with Planning Services.

As we emerge from the grip of Covid 19 we continue to receive and process applications for events (mostly orienteering) across our sites such as Polkemmet, Beecraigs and Dechmont Law. We have also received a small handful of enquiries from schools regarding outdoor education provision. Given current restrictions and the increased workload in terms of access and visitor management, we are not expecting to be able to offer this service this side of the summer break. This will be reassessed before the autumn term.

The Ranger Service met with Corporate Services to investigate whether there is a more user-friendly way of hosting information on WLC website for all the Parks & Woodlands sites, so that visitors can easily find a greenspace near them for recreation etc. This was originally conceived of at the height of Covid as a way of spreading visitor numbers around the district to help reduce pressures on the Country Parks.

Rangers attended an online mediation training course organised by Scottish Outdoor Access Network (SOAN) and hosted by Scottish Mediation to help them mediate and manage conflicts arising from access issues.

The Country Parks have been very busy with car parks filling up by mid-morning on the nicer weekends. Rangers had to log a call to Police Scotland with regards to irresponsible parking at Balvormie (Beecraigs) The Ranger Service put out two 'Responsible Access' posts on the Council Facebook page in advance of the good weather weekends, and both were well received, with a massive online reach of around 60,000 users per post.

Access

Confirm enquiry received concerning the path that connects Williamston Bridge with Oakbank Park Place, saying it is rough with loose stones that are a trip hazard. Rangers inspected and assessed the path.While it is certainly not a smooth surface any more due to surface water erosion, it is in a much better state than most other paths we look after. We will therefore prioritise resources accordingly on the paths in worse/more dangerous condition.

We received a Confirm enquiry about the poor state of paths along the Linhouse Loop, but were able to reassure the customer that this has already been allocated funding for a comprehensive upgrade in 2021.

Further investigation ongoing regarding blocking of access on Murieston Trail/ 'Bridleway'.

D6 Open Space and Cemeteries

Bellsquarry Park - Votes were taken via Community Choices and a priority list was drawn up for park improvements. Plans have been circulated to everyone on the mailing list and the contract has been sent out for tender on Quick Quote together with the four other park projects. The tender will be awarded at the end of August.

Howden Park - wildflower meadows were created in the south of the park as part of the West Lothian B-Lines project with Buglife, as a new permanent feature. They produced an abundant display this year and will evolve each year. An interpretation board will be placed in the park to encourage interest and raise awareness about meadows and pollinators.

Howden Park - Due to large gatherings and antisocial behaviour around the picnic benches and Howden House, the benches will be moved over to the hospital side of the park.

Livingston North Blue-Green Network (LNBGN) - £100,000 of Climate Change funding has been allocated over the next two years to the LNBGN. The council is working in partnership with Green Action Trust to carry out some of the improvements outlined in the LNBGN Masterplan, to improve active travel routes. This will include vegetation management along paths in Howden Park, Almondvale Park and the south bank of the River Almond, with some path re-surfaacing. The masterplan can be viewed on the web page: https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/34129/Livingston-North-Blue-Green-Network

The Open Space Officer continues to support community growing projects in Murieston and Ladywell.

Open Space Enquiries

There were nine Open Space enquiries for this reporting period in 2021.

	2021	2020
Childrens Play Enquiries	7	4
Complaint Childrens Play Areas	1	0
Safety Issues in Play Areas	1	0
Total	9	4

Cemeteries Routine Works

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

Cemeteries Enquiries

There were 92 Cemeteries enquiries for this reporting period in 2021.

	2021	2020
Bench Donations	3	0
Cemeteries General Enquiries	11	4
Complaint Cemeteries and Burials	1	0
Lair Enquiries	10	2
Memorial/ Headstone Works	27	10
New Interment Booking	24	15
Purchase of Interment Lair	16	7
Total	92	38

E. CONCLUSION

Officers continue to deal with enquiries relating to fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles and general enquiries.

The Open Space Officer continues to support community growing projects in Murieston and Ladywell.

F BACKGROUND REFERENCE

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

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Jim Jack Head of Operational Services 02 September 2021



LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

REPORT BY HEAD OF FINANCE AND PROPERTY SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Livingston South Local Area Committee (LAC) with an update on general services capital investment in the ward during 2020/21 and planned investment for the seven year period 2021/22 to 2027/28.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the LAC notes:

- 1. The progress made in delivering the approved general services capital programme within the Livingston South ward in 2020/21;
- 2. The approved capital projects planned for the ward in 2021/22 to 2027/28;
- 3. That detailed allocations of block budgets for the period 2023/24 to 2027/28 to specific programmes attributable to specific wards will not be undertaken until 2022;
- Progress in delivery of the 2021/22 programme will be reported to Council Executive following detailed budget monitoring exercises during the course of the year;
- 5. An updated capital investment programme will be presented to Council for approval in February 2022.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on customers' needs, being honest, open and accountable, making the best use of our resources and working in partnership.
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk	The council's General Services Capital programme is managed within the stringent requirements set out in the updated Prudential Code.
Assessment)	The integrated approach to asset management and capital planning complies with the provisions of the Prudential Code and with Best Value requirements in the 2003 Local Government (Scotland) Act.	
111	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.

IVImpact on performance
and performance
IndicatorsEffective capital implementation and asset
management is vital to supporting corporate and
service performance.

ν **Relevance to Single** Effective prioritisation of capital resources will be **Outcome Agreement** essential to achieve key outcomes over the coming seven years. VI **Resources - (Financial,** General services capital investment in the Staffing and Property) Livingston South ward during 2020/21 was Approved investment for £1.637 million. 2021/22 to 2027/28 is £14.346 million. VII Consideration at PDSP The process for the development of the asset management strategy and capital investment programme was considered by Partnership and Resources PDSP on 5 February 2021. Asset Lead Officers provide annual asset performance reports to relevant Policy Development and Scrutiny Panels (PDSPs). **VIII** Other consultations Asset Lead Officers and Capital Project Managers.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

West Lothian Council agreed a ten year asset management and capital investment plan for 2020/21 to 2027/28 on 13 February 2018. As part of the ten year capital plan, it was agreed that officers would report annually to local area committees on the progress on capital investment in their ward.

Following approval of the original ten year plan in 2018, the plan was updated on 19 February 2019. An updated plan, incorporating the final outturn position from 2020/21, was considered and approved by Council Executive on 22 June 2021. The future planned investment from 2021/22 to 2027/28 included in this report is based on the updated programme agreed in June 2021.

D.2 Capital Investment in Livingston South Ward in 2020/21

The overall general services capital investment expenditure for 2020/21 was £56.182 million compared to the approved budget of £51.409 million representing a net accelerated spend of £4.773 million in the programme. As spend was 109.3% of budget, this demonstrates continued progress in delivering the council's capital investment plans.

For 2020/21 identifiable investment in the Livingston South ward was £1.637 million against a budget of £2.127 million. Full details of all budgets and expenditure for the ward are provided in Appendix 1, however the total investment by asset category is as follows:

Asset	Budget £'000	Final Outturn £'000	Variance £'000
Property	1,544	1,276	(268)
Roads and Related Assets	481	284	(197)
Open Space	118	77	(41)
Total	2,143	1,637	(506)

Table 1: Investment in Livingston South Ward in 2020/21 by Asset Category

In summary the key elements of the investment in the ward during 2020/21 were:

Property Assets

The total expenditure for the Livingston South ward was £1.276 million under the Property category during 2020/21.

Work on the new Cedarbank Primary development commenced and this continues to make good progress despite the challenges of the pandemic. The new school located next to James Young High School will be complete by April 2022. Elsewhere in the learning estate, planned improvements for mechanical and electrical installations at Inveralmond and Ladywell nursery took place, together with Howden St Andrews, and Harrysmuir. Minor suitability works were completed at Williamston primary school.

Roads and Related Assets

The total expenditure for the Livingston South ward was £284,000 under the Roads and Related Assets category during 2020/21.

Expenditure largely related to the replacement of street lighting in Talisman Rise through to Templar rise in Dedridge. In addition the footbridge was replaced at Murieston Ford as well as $\pounds 65,000$ of town centre improvement schemes were implemented which were identified after consultation with the community.

Open Space Assets

£77,000 was spent under Open Space Assets within the Livingston South ward during 2020/21.

This can largely by accredited to repairs and improvements at Ladywell and Howden Park. Additionally, the play equiptment was removed and replaced at Heatherbank Play Area as well upgrades completed on the synthetic pitches at St Margarets Academy and the James Young High School.

D.3 Agreed Capital Investment in Livingston South Ward 2021/22 to 2027/28

The updated capital investment programme 2021/22 to 2027/28 approved on 22 June 2021 included identifiable investment of £14.346 million in Livingston South over the seven year period. Full details of the planned investment in the ward are provided in Appendix 2 for information. The main areas of investment in the ward include:

Property Assets

There is £12.062 million identified in the capital budget between 2021/22 and 2027/28 under the Property Asset category for schemes within the Livingston South ward.

For 2021/22 onwards, the largest project within the ward continues to be the new Cedarbank ASN School which is due for completion by April 2022. The extension to Howden St Andrews will also be undertaken during 2021/21 to provide additional early learning and childcare capacity. With regards to learning estate planned improvements, substantial investment of approximately £2.2 have been identifed up to 2023/24 with electrical upgrades at Ladywell nursery and Williamston Primary. School toilet improvements are programmed for Inveralmond High School, St Margaret's Academy, St Ninian's Primary School and Williamston Primary School A window replacement programme will also be undertaken at Dedridge Primary School

and St Ninian's Primary School. Over £450,000 will be invested in roofs and ceilings at Howden St Andrews, Toronto Dedridge, and St Ninian's Primary Schools. Roof works at Inveralmond High School will also be undertaken on a phased basis from 2021/22 to 2023/24 and are estimated to cost £425,000. On Community property assets, the largest investment are the works to replace the roof at the Lanthorn Community Centre as a consequence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) being present. The replacement roof is expected to cost approximately £3.15 million and are programmed for completion by Spring 2023 with the centre fully operational shortly after.

Roads and Related Assets

There is £1.829 million identified in the capital budget between 2021/22 and 2027/28 under Roads Related Assets for schemes within the Livingston South ward.

£439,000 in total will be invested in roads and footway capital maintenance schemes. This includes surfacing works at Thymebank in Ladywell and a footpath between Peel Park and Eagle Brae due for completion this financial year. In future years, a street lighting replacement programme to the value of £1.056 million is in place for Dedridge North Road, Staunton Rise, East Bankton Place, Palmer Rise and Brucefield Industrial Estate. There will also be a replacement of the parapet and edge beam at Howden House Underpass as well as waterproofing and anti-skid surfacing on the New Howden Footbridge. Projects to the value of £44,000, identified by the community under the Town Centre Fund, are being implemented throughout Livingston South ward this financial year.

Open Space Assets

There is £1.829 million identified in the capital budget between 2021/22 and 2027/28 under Open Space Assets for schemes within the Livingston South ward which will include the following works:

Bellsquarry Park - Votes were taken via Community Choices and a priority list was drawn up for park improvements. Plans have been circulated to everyone on the mailing list and the contract has been sent out for tender on Quick Quote together with four other park projects. The tender will be awarded at the end of August.

Howden Park - wildflower meadows were created in the south of the park as part of the West Lothian B-Lines project with Buglife, as a new permanent feature. They produced an abundant display this year and will evolve each year. An interpretation board will be placed in the park to encourage interest and raise awareness about meadows and pollinators.

Howden Park - Benches will be moved over to the hospital side of the park.

In addition to the named investment identified above and in Appendix 2, there are a number of council corporate and block budgets which will result in spend in the ward however this investment cannot be separately identified. Also, currently block budgets for property, roads and open space, which are predominately planned improvements and maintenance works, have only been allocated to specific projects up to 2022/23. The block budgets for 2023/24 to 2027/28 will be allocated to specific projects, which can be attributed to wards, in advance of the next five years. This means that apart from large projects, most capital investment will be allocated to specific wards for 2023/24 to 2027/28.

D.4 Future Updates on the Approved Capital Investment Programme

In line with the established reporting arrangements for capital budget monitoring, reports on progress of the 2021/22 approved programme will continue to be presented to Council Executive following detailed monitoring at months four, six and nine. Any material changes to the delivery of projects will be highlighted in these reports.

Although the council has an approved capital investment programme to 2027/28, the annual refresh and update of the approved programme will be presented to Council for consideration in early 2022. This is in line with the council's agreed financial planning principles that revenue, capital and treasury plans should continue to be considered and agreed at the same Council meeting.

E. CONCLUSION

This report fulfils the requirement to report to LACs on the progress of capital investment in their ward in the preceding year and to highlight planned capital investment over the period 2021/22 to 2027/28. Monitoring reports on the delivery of the overall general services capital investment programme during 2021/22 will continue to be presented to Council Executive. In addition, an updated capital investment programme will be presented to West Lothian Council for consideration in February 2022, in line with existing budgeting arrangements.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Asset Management Strategy and General Services Capital Investment Programme 2021/22 to 2027/28 – Report by Head of Finance and Property Services to West Lothian Council on 5 February 2021

General Services Capital Investment Strategy 2021/22 to 2027/28 – Update – Report by Head of Finance and Property Services to Council Executive on 22 June 2021

Appendices/Attachments:

Appendix 1 – 2020/21 General Services Capital Investment in Livingston South Ward Appendix 2 – Approved Capital Investment in Livingston South Ward 2021/22 to 2027/28

Contact Person: Kirsty West, Accountant Email: Kirsty.West2@westlothian.gov.uk

Donald Forrest Head of Finance and Property Services 2 September 2021

Project	2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Outturn £'000	Variance
PROPERTY ASSETS			
PROPERTY ASSETS			
Nursery Schools Planned Improvements			
Inveralmond Early Years Centre - rewire	20	31	11
Ladywell Nursery Elect Upgrade	20	9	(11)
Nursery Schools Planned Improvements - Total	40	40	Ó
Primary Schools Planned Improvements			
Dedridge PS, Livingston - chimney removal	24	29	5
Howden St Andrew's PS, Livingston - lift upgrades	30	30	
Harrysmuir PS, Livingston - heating upgrade	10	7	(3)
Meldrum PS, Livingston - ventilation upgrade	19	0	
Williamston PS, Livingston - suitability works and electrical upgrade	75	8	(67)
Primary Schools - Total	158	74	(84)
Secondary Schools Planned Improvements			
St Margaret's Academy, Livingston - pool seals	18	24	6
Secondary Schools Planned Improvements - Total	18	24	6
School General and Estate Wide Planned Improvements			
Kitchen Upgrades - Inveralmond Community High School, Livingston	5	0	()
Peel Ps - Gym Hall Flooring &	0	3	3
School Toilet Improvements - St Ninian's PS, Livingston	5	2	(3)
School Toilet improvements - Williamston PS, Livingston	7	78	71
Window Replacement - Bankton PS, Livingston	5	2	(3)
Window Replacement - St Ninians Ps	0	1	1
School General and Estate Wide Planned Improvements - Total	22	86	64
Care Homes Planned Improvements			
Limecroft Care Home, Livingston - internal minor works	10	19	g
Care Homes Planned Improvements - Total	10	19	9
Community Centre & Halls Planned Improvements			
Lanthorn Community Ctr (Pi)	0	1	1
Community Centre & Halls Planned Improvements - Total	0	1	

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Project	2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Outturn £'000	Variance
Onerstienel Offices Blanned Improvements			
Operational Offices Planned Improvements		4	(20)
Civic Centre - planned improvements	21	1	(20)
Civic Centre Courthouse - roof works	95	83	(12)
Kirkton Service Centre - lifecycle planned improvements	10	0	(10)
Operational Offices Planned Improvements - Total	126	84	(42)
Schools General Projects			
ASN Strategy - New Cedarbank School	1,000	912	(88)
ELC Howden St Andrews PS Extension	150	16	(134)
Schools General Projects - Total	1,150	928	(222)
Miscellaneous Projects			
Almond Valley Heritage Trust	20	20	C
Miscellaneous Projects - Total	20	20	0
TOTAL PROPERTY ASSETS	1,544	1,276	(268)
ROADS AND RELATED ASSETS			
C Class Roads - Backlog and Lifecycle Investment			
C2 Deans Road (between Deans Roundabout & Barracks Roundabout)	0	1	1
C Class Roads - Backlog and Lifecycle Investment - Total	0	1	1
Adopted Roads and Footways			
Harrysmuir North/South/Terrace	8	1	(7)
Path to South of Harrysmuir PS	30	2	(28)
Elmwood Park to Netherwood Park	10	1	(20)
Crofthead Centre, Livingston - repairs to paths & steps	20	3	(17)
Adopted Roads and Footways - Total	48	4	(44)
Adopted and Non Adopted Bridges - Backlog ad Lifecycle Investment			
Croftfoot Farm Railway Bridge	0	1	
Murieston Ford Footbridge	39	35	(4
Howden House Underpass Parapet			1(
	0		
Adopted and Non Adopted Bridges - Backlog ad Lifecycle Investment Total	39	46	

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Project	2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Outturn £'000	
Deed Linksten			
Road Lighting	200	4.00	(101)
Talisman Rise/Templar Rise, Dedridge, Livingston	289	168	(121)
Road Lighting - Total	289	168	(121)
Town Centres and Villages			
Town Centre Fund - Bellsquarry/Adambrae	8	0	(8)
Town Centre Fund - Ladywell	10	3	(7)
Town Centre Fund - Dedridge	14	14	0
Town Centre Fund - Howden	16	0	(16)
Town Centre Fund - Livingston Village/Kirkton (Ward 4)	3	2	(1)
Town Centre Fund - Murieston/Bankton	4	2	(2)
Town Centre Funding 2 - Bellsquarry/Adambrae	5	4	(1)
Town Centre Funding 2 - Dedridge	15	16	1
Town Centre Funding 2 - Howden	8	1	(7)
Town Centre Funding 2 - Ladywell	11	11	Ó
Town Centre Funding 2 - MURIESTON/BANKTON	12	12	0
Town Centres and Villages - Total	105	65	(40)
TOTAL ROADS AND RELATED ASSETS	481	284	(197)

Project	2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Outturn £'000	2020/21 Variance £'000
OPEN SPACE ASSETS			
Open Space and Sports Facility Planned Improvements			
Howden Park (North), Livingston	25	19	(6)
Ladywell Park, Livingston	40	28	(12)
Livingston Blue/Green Network	4	0	(4)
Stonebank Ladywell	5	0	(5)
Open Space and Sports Facility Planned Improvements - Total	74	47	(27)
Open Space and Sports Facility Projects			
Forestbank, Livingston - ball court	16	13	(3)
Open Space and Sports Facility Projects Total	16	13	(3)
Children's Play Areas			
Heatherbank Play Area, Livingston	12	14	2
Children's Play Areas - Total	12	14	2
Synthetic Turf Pitches			
St Margaret's Academy	20	6	(14)
James Young High School	16	3	(13)
Synthetic Turf Pitches - Total	36	9	(27)
TOTAL OPEN SPACE ASSETS	102	77	(38)
TOTAL - LIVINGSTON SOUTH	2,127	1,637	(503)

DATA LABEL: I	PUBLIC
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2021/22 TO 2027/28 GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME - LIVINGSTON SOUTH

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	Budget 2021/22 £'000	Budget 2022/23 £'000	Budget 2023/24 £'000	Budget 2024/25 £'000	Budget 2025/26 £'000	Budget 2026/27 £'000	Budget 2027/28 £'000	Total Budget £'000
PROPERTY ASSETS								
Nursery Schools Planned Improvements								
Ladywell Nursery - electrical upgrade	25	25	0	0	0	0	0	50
Nursery Schools Planned Improvements - Total	25	25	0	0	0	0	0	50
Primary Schools Planned Improvements								
Harrysmuir PS, Livingston - heating upgrade	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
Williamston PS, Livingston - electrical upgrade	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	80
Primary Schools Planned Improvements - Total	80	0	100	0	0	0	0	180
School General Planned Improvements								
Kitchen Upgrades - Inveralmond Community High School, Livingston	20	100	0	0	0	0	0	120
School Toilet Improvements - Inveralmond High School, Livingston	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	45
School Toilet Improvements - St Margaret's Academy, Livingston	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	20
School Toilet Improvements - St Ninian's PS, Livingston	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	150
School Toilet improvements - Williamston PS, Livingston	0	100	50	0	0	0	0	150
 Window Replacement - Dedridge PS, Livingston 	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	100
Window Replacement - St Ninian's PS, Livingston	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	100
School General Planned Improvements - Total	20	615	50	0	0	0	0	685
School Estate Wide Planned Improvements								
Ceiling Replacement - Howden St Andrew's PS, Livingston	0	114	0	0	0	0	0	114
Ceiling Replacement - Toronto PS, Livingston	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
Roof Replacement & Repair - Dedridge PS, Livingston	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	150
Roof Replacement & Repair - Inveralmond High School, Livingston	125	200	100	0	0	0	0	425
Roof Replacement & Repair - St Ninian's PS, Livingston	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	350
Roof Replacement & Repair - Toronto PS, Livingston	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	200
School Estate Wide Planned Improvements - Total	495	464	300	0	0	0	0	1,259

2021/22 TO 2027/28 GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME - LIVINGSTON SOUTH

Livingston South Local Area Committee 2 September 2021 Appendix 2

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	Budget 2021/22 £'000	Budget 2022/23 £'000	Budget 2023/24 £'000	Budget 2024/25 £'000	Budget 2025/26 £'000	Budget 2026/27 £'000	Budget 2027/28 £'000	Total Budget £'000
Partnership Centres Planned Improvements								
Civic Centre - planned improvements	20	50	0	0	0	0	0	70
Kirkton Service Centre - lifecycle planned improvements	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	15
Lanthorn Community Centre - SIPOREX roof	300	2,850	0	0	0	0	0	3,150
Partnership Centres Planned Improvements - Total	320	2,915	0	0	0	0	0	3,235
Social Policy Planned Improvements								
Limecroft Care Home, Livingston - internal minor works	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Social Policy Planned Improvements - Total	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
General Statutory Compliance & Miscellaneous Planned Improvements								
Almond Valley Heritage Trust	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	140
General Statutory Compliance & Miscellaneous Planned Improvements - Total	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	140
Schools General Projects								
Additional Support Needs Strategy - New Cedarbank School, Livingston	4,088	1,951	0	0	0	0	0	6,039
Early Learning Centre - Howden St Andrews PS, Livingston - extension	509	0	0	0	0	0	0	509
Early Learning Centre - Howden St Andrews PS, Livingston - production kitchen upgrade	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	95
Schools General Projects - Total	4,692	1,951	0	0	0	0	0	6,643
TOTAL PROPERTY ASSETS	5,662	5,990	470	20	20	20	20	12,202
ROADS AND RELATED ASSETS								
A Class Roads - Backlog and Lifecycle Investment								
A706 - Whitdale Roundabout	0	85	0	0	0	0	0	85
A Class Roads - Backlog and Lifecycle Investment - Total	0	85	0	0	0	0	0	85
U Class Roads - Backlog and Lifecycle Investment								
Huron Avenue, Livingston	0	0	0	117	0	0	0	117
Ladywell East Road, Livingston	0	0	0	90	0	0	0	90
Ladywell West Road, Livingston	0	0	0	59	0	0	0	59
Thymebank, Ladywell	78	0	0	0	0	0	0	78
U Class Roads - Backlog and Lifecycle Investment - Total	78	0	0	266	0	0	0	344
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2021/22 TO 2027/28 GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME - LIVINGSTON SOUTH

Appendix 2 Livingston South Local Area Committee 2 September 2021 Item 9

	Budget 2021/22 £'000	Budget 2022/23 £'000	Budget 2023/24 £'000	Budget 2024/25 £'000	Budget 2025/26 £'000	Budget 2026/27 £'000	Budget 2027/28 £'000	Total Budget £'000
Non Adopted Roads and Footways								
Crofthead Centre, Livingston - repairs to paths & steps	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Non Adopted Roads and Footways - Total	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Adopted Footways - Backlog and Lifecycle Investment								
Footpath Alderstone Path Rear	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	70
Adopted Footways - Backlog and Lifecycle Investment - Total	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	70

2021/22 TO 2027/28 GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME - LIVINGSTON SOUTH

Livingston South Local Area Committee 2 September 2021 Appendix 2

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	Budget 2021/22 £'000	Budget 2022/23 £'000	Budget 2023/24 £'000	Budget 2024/25 £'000	Budget 2025/26 £'000	Budget 2026/27 £'000	Budget 2027/28 £'000	Total Budget £'000
Road Lighting								
Talisman & Templar Rise, Dedridge, Livingston	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Brucefield Industrial Estate, Brucefield, Livingston	0	0	480	0	0	0	0	480
Dedridge North Road, Dedridge, Livingston	100		0	0	0	0	0	100
East Bankton Place, Bankton, Livingston	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	100
Palmer Rise, Dedridge, Livingston	0	175	0	0	0	0	0	175
Staunton Rise, Dedridge, Livingston	190	0	0	0	0	0	0	190
Road Lighting - Total	301	275	480	0	0	0	0	1,056
Bridges								
Howden House Underpass - parapets	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	150
New Howden Footbridge	0	55	0	0	0	0	0	55
Bridges - Total	0	205	0	0	0	0	0	205
Town Centres and Villages								
හි Town Centre Funding - Bellsquarry/Adambrae	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Town Centre Funding - Howden	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Town Centre Funding - Ladywell	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Town Centre Funding - Livingston Village/Kirkton (ward 4)	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Town Centre Funding - Murieston/Bankton	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Town Centre Funding 2 - Bellsquarry/Adambrae	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Town Centres and Villages - Total	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
TOTAL ROADS AND RELATED ASSETS	518	565	480	266	0	0	0	1,829
OPEN SPACE ASSETS								
Open Space and Sports Facility Projects								
Clement Rise, Livingston - Ball Court	â	50	0	0	0	0	0	50
Linhouse Path	0 85	50 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0	
	<u> </u>	50	<u> </u>			0	<u> </u>	<u>85</u> 135
Open Space and Sports Facility Projects - Total	85	50	0	0	0	0	<u> </u>	135
Open Space and Sports Facility Planned Improvements	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
Bellsquarry Park, Livingston	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	30

2021/22 TO 2027/28 GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME - LIVINGSTON SOUTH

Livingston South Local Area Committee 2 September 2021 Item 9

Budget Budget Budget Budget Budget Budget Budget Total 2021/22 2022/23 2023/24 2024/25 2025/26 2026/27 2027/28 Budget £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 Ladywell Park, Livingston Quarry Park, Livingston **Open Space and Sports Facility Planned Improvements - Total Children's Play Areas** Falconer Rise Play Park, Livingston Granby Avenue Play Area, Howden Larchbank Play Area, Ladywell **Children's Play Areas - Total**

2021/22 TO 2027/28 GENERAL SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME - LIVINGSTON SOUTH

Appendix 2 Livingston South Local Area Committee 2 September 2021 Item

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	Budget 2021/22 £'000	Budget 2022/23 £'000	Budget 2023/24 £'000	Budget 2024/25 £'000	Budget 2025/26 £'000	Budget 2026/27 £'000	Budget 2027/28 £'000	Total Budget £'000
Synthetic Turf Pitches								
James Young High School	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
St Margaret's Academy	146	0	0	0	0	0	0	146
Synthetic Turf Pitches - Total	159	0	0	0	0	0	0	159
TOTAL OPEN SPACE ASSETS	190	75	0	0	0	0	50	315
TOTAL - LIVINGSTON SOUTH	6,370	6,630	950	286	20	20	70	14,346



LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PARKING CONCERNS IN TORONTO AVENUE IN HOWDEN, LIVINGSTON

REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Area Committee with information in relation to concerns that have been raised regarding reports of inconsiderate parking in Toronto Avenue in Howden.

B. RECOMMENDATION

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

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; making best use of our resources.
п	Policy and Logal (including	Not applicable

- II Policy and Legal (including Not applicable Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)
- III Implications for Scheme of Not applicable Delegations to Officers
- IV Impact on performance and Not applicable performance Indicators
- V Relevance to Single Not applicable Outcome Agreement
- VI Resources (Financial, Not applicable Staffing and Property)
- VII Consideration at PDSP None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 A site inspection took place on the 24 August 2021 in the Toronto Avenue area of Howden to assess the inconsiderate parking problems that have been raised.

Toronto Avenue runs approximately north to south and is 450m long with the first 210m on a gradient before turning sharply through 90 degrees onto a level section 240m long. It is part access road with no frontage or footway and part residential with a section of frontage, parking areas and footpaths, the reported parking issues are on the section with no frontage. The road serves as an access to Howden Park Centre and gives access to the rear of Toronto Primary School, as well as residential properties on its level section at the top of the hill.

Parking was witnessed within 10 metres of the junctions with Vancouver Avenue and Quebec Avenue. Parked vehicles were also present on the inside of the tight bend at the top of the slope. Although not witnessed during site visit, it was advised that parking has been witnessed around the full radii of both junctions. These areas with parking concerns are shown in Appendix 1.

Visibility for vehicles entering and exiting these junction points or those negotiating the bend was greatly reduced due to the parking at the junction corners. Frequent hesitation between drivers of vehicles on Toronto Avenue or turning from junctions was witnessed, acts which themselves are not great problems as this reduces vehicle speed. However, there were some injudicious turning or 'give and take' manoeuvres witnessed due to poor visibility and lack of space to pull in. This happened quite frequently during the site visit between vehicles on Toronto Avenue, many of which were travelling to or from Howden Park Centre at the time of the visit. We have been advised that the inconsiderate parking contributes to conflicts with vehicle movements most frequently during school run time (8:30 to 9:00am).

There have been no reported injury accidents on the section. However, officers consider the lack of visibility when negotiating bends or junctions to be a safety problem due to the volume of non-residential traffic accessing the Howden Park Centre and Toronto Primary School. If vehicles were parked in accordance with the Highway Code, the problems that were witnessed on site would be greatly mitigated. This can of course be enforced by Police Scotland however, there is little on site to deter users from parking inconsiderately when no Police are present. The selected use of restrictions on the radii of junctions and at the tight bend would improve safety through better visibility and providing more space to allow vehicles to safely turn or pass.

E. CONCLUSION

Officers will discuss the issues raised in this report and will carry out a further site meeting with Police Scotland to determine if any waiting restrictions would be justified and enforced in this area. Any proposals that may arise from this meeting will be reported back to the Livingston South LAC in due course.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Appendices/Attachments:

Appendix 1 – Plan showing the areas of parking concern

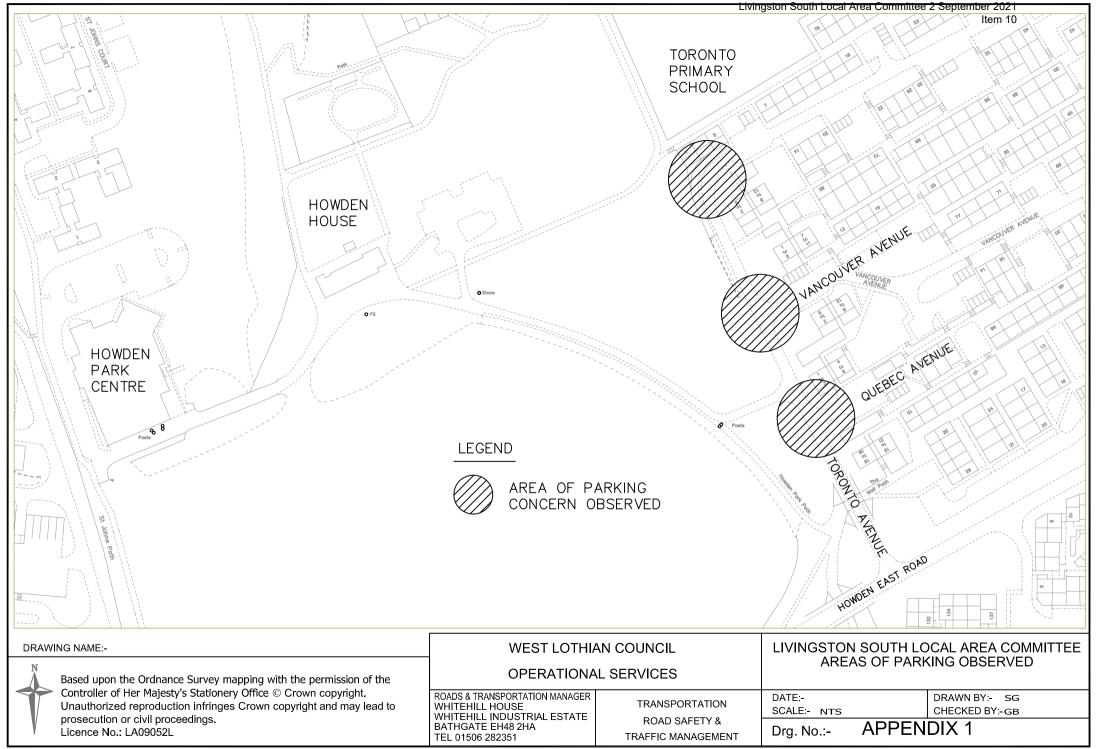
Contact Person: Gordon Brown, Roads Network Manager, Operational Services.

Email: Gordon.Brown@westlothian.gov.uk

2

Jim Jack, Head of Operational Services

Date: 2 September 2021





LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT ON PROGRESS OF LOCAL REGENERATION PLANNING

REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Local Area Committee on locality planning within the ward.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee notes:

- 1. The progress of the two local regeneration plans
- 2. The progress and development of actions.
- 3. The wider ward activity that supports the local plans

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs. Being honest, open and accountable. Providing equality of opportunities. Making best use of our resources. Working in partnership.
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Community regeneration reinforces the council's commitment to community planning at a local level.

- III Implications for Scheme of None. Delegations to Officers
- IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators
- V Relevance to Single -Outcome Agreement

Performance indicators relating to the activity within the plans are captured within the set of Regeneration key performance indicators.

- 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.

- VIResources (Financial,
Staffing and Property)Activities will be funded from existing budgets or
external sources.VIIConsideration at PDSPAnnual updates on regeneration plans will be
 - Annual updates on regeneration plans will be presented to the Community Planning Partnership board.
- VIII Other consultations None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1 Background

The report updates the committee on the work of the Community Planning and Regeneration Team and its partners to support communities in Livingston South with a particular focus on Dedridge and Ladywell, 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. The first version of the plan was presented to members in November 2018 following extensive community consultation and development and development by the Dedridge and Ladywell Regeneration Groups.

The plans are developed and updated by community representatives and services on the Dedridge and Ladywell Regeneration Groups.

D2 Progress of the plan

The local plans for Ladywell and Dedridge are now live working documents.

The priorities in the plans reflect the data collected from the community engagement consultation, statistical data from Scotpho and SIMD and mapping services and organisations. The community's priorities link into the overarching priorities but have been kept separate to enable community to find updates on actions raised by then.

Further work is looking to link the local overarching priorities in both plans to key strategic plans, in particular the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, as required.

As this plan is a 'live' document, priorities will be reviewed as social, economic and policy factors change and, for example, future engagement exercises identify new concerns or opportunities. Sub-groups have been created which is involving a range of services and residents in developing activity.

COVID-19 had affected and is reshaping the plans as organisations and services priorities changed to adapt to the current pandemic.

D2.1 Dedridge

The Dedridge Regeneration Group meet monthly virtually. Membership and actions are increasing weekly between the main zoom meetings, the social media page and the community led active private messenger page where members assign tasks

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and organise. This quarter:

- The regeneration group have had two speakers at the regeneration meetings to talk about their services and organisations:
 - 0 Power up Project - Family Fund is the UK's largest charity providing grants for families raising disabled or seriously ill children and young people. Last year, they provided 92,585 grants or services worth over £32 million to families across the UK. Their purpose is to improve the lives of low-income families raising disabled or seriously ill children and young people. Their mission is to provide items and services to low-income families in the UK raising disabled or seriously ill children, that they could not otherwise afford or access, and that help improve their quality of life, realise their rights, and remove some of the barriers they face. They provide grants for a wide range of items, such as washing machines, sensory toys, family breaks, bedding, tablets, furniture, outdoor play equipment, clothing and computers. It can be a struggle financially, emotionally and physically for families raising a disabled or seriously ill child, and these grants help break down many of the barrier's families face, improving their quality of life and easing the additional daily pressures.
 - Access2Employment The employment advisor gave the regeneration group an overview of their service and how it has adapted through COVID-19, what the service offers and different ways to refer in and/or participate in their programmes of activity. There was a Q&A session which enabled members to gain further insights. The generation group continue to promote the weekly job bulletin through the networks and on social media.
- The promotional branding poster competition and governance structure has been temporary put on hold through members volunteering capacity;
- Almond Housing and Community Regeneration were successful with two Connecting Scotland funding awards to enable those that are unable to undertake daily business within the digital world through affordability issues through not have a suitable device or reliable internet the opportunity to acquire a digital device, MIFI or both. The award offers households an up to date device and where required 24 months MIFI. To date the local SCVO trained digital champions have distributed 20 devices and or MIFI to families/disabled and or people over 60yrs;
- The Dedridge litter pickers through discussion are now able to keep their equipment. They are now on the council official list as volunteers. This means they are supported through the cleaner communities' team and comply with WLC health & safety and risk assessment polices and guidance on litter picking. 11 group litter picks undertaken and the rest individual litter picks -total: 332 Hrs volunteering, 205 volunteers litter picking and 313 Bags of rubbish gathered (not including larger items of trollies, furniture, bikes, traffic cones etc). Bankton Primary School posters are used to promote the community litter picking events on social media. All litter picks are also promoted on the wider West Lothian Litterpicking social media pages where they work collaboratively and build community capacity locally and West Lothian wide;

- Livingston Round Table have been invited to the next Regeneration meeting to give an overview of their organisation and explore options for improving the Wave Pond area; and
- Residents have undergone a walk about to update the bins audit

D2.2 Update from services and organisations

D2.3 Lanthorn Community Food Project

The Lanthorn Food Project is now open at Crofthead Farm CEC until they move back to the Lanthorn. Opening hours are Monday 10.30am to 12.30pm, Tuesday 5pm -7pm and Wednesday 10.30am to 12.30pm. The recommended donation is £3 per parcel. They also provide hygiene and cleaning items as well as supplying free pet food and sanitary items whilst they have stock. Transport support has been offered those less able to attend the Community Food project.

D2.4 Dedridge Good Neighbourhood Network

The Dedridge Good Neighbourhood Network have secured operating space at Crofthead Farm Community Education building whilst the roof repairs are ongoing at the Lanthorn. The DGNN are now meeting clients within the community for a coffee and a chat. They are aiming for their groups to restart in September

D2.5 West Lothian Bike Lending Library

Through the Town Centre Fund the project has purchased and now installed containers within the industrial site next to Crofthead Farm. In June the organisation hosted a successful themed open day on 'adaptive cycling'

D3 Ladywell

The Ladywell Regeneration Group have been meeting monthly virtually. This quarter they have been working on the following;

- supporting individual and community Litterpicking with Ladywell Neighbourhood Network organising community litter picks. This quarter 69 local residents have participated in 12 community litter picks collecting 126 full bags of rubbish along with an assortment of fly tipping that has been reported into the cleaner community's team resulting in 1,518 hours litterpicking volunteering;
- The regeneration group have expressed concerns on flytipping especially for those least able through 'affordability' to utilise the bulky uplift service or through lack of transport or living in a flat is unable to dispose of their bulky waste;
- One resident who has a focus on the environment and climate change attended the EDSA Conference Planet, People, Places: Scotland's Climate Opportunity. The conference explored the ambitions and implications of the net zero transition – globally, for Scotland and for Scotland's economic development community. COP26 will put Scotland and Glasgow on a global stage in November and the session helped set that global policy and business perspective, and position this in the context of how COP26 could help accelerate ambitions and action;
- The Town Centre funded Ladywell community garden has now had its gate installed. Further drainage costings have been undertaken. The Community Council have been in touch with Community payback team for clearing the land and initial set up. The regeneration officer had an initial meeting with HYPE with the aim to explore the possibility of this being able to support the

development of the landscaping and initial building of the garden. HYPE work with Oatridge College, West Lothian College and TCV Green Gym. They are now in touch with the community council and Forestbank management committee to move forward when appropriate;

- From the Almond Housing and Regeneration Connecting Scotland application, the local digital champions have supported 22 (families, disabled and/or 60+) with devices and/or 24 months MIFI;
- Almond Housing have supported Reusing IT with a successful funding award 'let's get digital' to upgrade 150 devices for those that have old or unused devices and cannot afford to upgrade and for those that were not eligible under the Connecting Scotland's applications;
- Posters have been designed to support REUsing IT with upgrading their device's and being promoted for those that are unable to afford a new or upgrade their device's. Ladywell Neighbourhood Network are coordinating the project within the Ladywell area. Further posters have been designed for drop off points for unwanted laptops and tablets to be recycled; and
- Access2empoyment gave the regeneration group an overview of their services and how it has adapted through COVID-19, what the service offers and different ways to refer in and/or participate in their programmes of activity. There was a Q&A session which enabled members to gain further insights. The generation group continue to promote the weekly job bulletin through the networks and on social media. The A2E team are in discussions to undertake a leaflet drop within the area.

D3.1 Updates from services and organisations

D3.2 Ladywell Community Fridge

Figures for Ladywell community fridge period April – June include 373 households (1,029 individuals) supported with food, pet food, toiletries and meals. All users are signposting to appropriate services where required particularly the Anti-Poverty Service. Figures has a slight slump at the start of the summer holidays – anecdotal volunteers think this may have been due to individuals returning to work after furlough but during the school holiday period the service has been busier. The volunteers are grateful for the ongoing support of the foodbank, Asda, Tesco and More than Fitness Gym. Volunteers feel that they have build up a good relationship with individuals that use the service and it has a really nice atmosphere for those using the services. With restrictions lifting the service is now able to allow people into the building and enabling them to choose the food produce they require which is much better.

D3.3 Ladywell Neighbourhood Network

Ladywell Neighbourhood Network have continued with their bi weekly meal deliveries in the local area. On line exercise and activity group are still on going until they can enter the community house safely. Thrice weekly in person groups (knitting, book club and activity club) has re commenced. Coordinating and supporting Weekly maintenance community litter picks. Community street planting undertaken supported by Morrison with plant donations, coordinating and supporting the digital champions with support in connectivity to members of the community in receipt of devices or MIFI, and with the new 'lets get digital' set up, promotion, coordination and support. Being a drop point for crisp packet recycling for homeless blankets, continued social media profile with local news, weekly quizzes, job bulletins and foodie Fridays.

D4 Ward Activity

D4.1 Business Support

The Business Gateway team is part of the Economic Development & Regeneration service. Business Gateway provides confidential and impartial support to residents looking to start-up in business, local firms, new and existing 3rd sector organisations and our major employers. All engagement with Business Gateway is client-led. Support is provided to individual clients and business owners/decision makers. Business Gateway also work closely with the West Lothian Social Enterprise Network to ensure network members receive the business support they need.

The team's key outcomes include helping residents to start their own business, enabling local firms to grow in a sustainable and inclusive manner and providing a single point of contact for our strategic employers.

At the onset of the pandemic, the Business Gateway team moved seamlessly to remote working. Clients were supported via video calls, web-based platforms, emails and telephone. The team responded to client needs by providing extra support in the evenings and weekends. Economic challenge has always been considered as a driver of new start businesses. In the year to March 2021, more than 260 new businesses started trading with help from Council's Business Gateway advisers. The vision and commitment of local people to start their own business, especially in such challenging circumstances, is remarkable. The advisers delivered the range of start-up services to clients remotely. In terms of productivity, over 260 starts were achieved from only 352 initial meetings. This shows a determination to progress on the part of the customers; and it shows enhanced customer focus on the part of the advisers. These new start firms have created over 315 new jobs. The main business sectors are personal, professional and local services. 20% of all early stage firms go on to take premises, employ staff and grow the scale of the business. New starts are worth over £9.55 million to the local economy every year.

The Business Gateway team also includes advisers who deal with existing, growing and relocating firms to West Lothian. The advisers have dealt with 1,300 firms to March 2021. In previous years, that figure would have been closer to 450 firms. Our priority sectors include Life Sciences, Manufacturing, Engineering, Construction and enabling technologies. Of the 1,300 businesses who engaged with us, almost 900 were understandably focused solely on Covid issues.

It is testament to their resilience and entrepreneurialism that 425 firms were also exploring issues around premises, new markets, working capital, Research & Development, export regulation, digital marketing and carbon reduction projects. Council's Business Gateway advisers support firms who have combined annual sales in excess of £1.41 Billion per annum. And while these firms employ over 8,300 staff, it is only 11% of total jobs in West Lothian. However, these firms account for more than 30% of the annual gross value add (GVA) of the West Lothian economy.

Over January/February 2021, the Scottish Government awarded West Lothian Council £3.51 million to support businesses through a Discretionary Fund. We deployed the funds in a targeted and proportionate manner. There was a smaller award of £5,000 to the 515 businesses who had not received any other COVID-19 response funds. This cohort is characterised by sole traders and/or firms without premises. In addition, there was a higher one-off award of £15,000 - £30,000 to 54 larger firms. This cohort is characterised as firms who have suffered lost

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sales/cashflow/profits but who may not have been required to close or restrict their operations. They will help drive economic recovery in West Lothian. They represent some of our best sectors including aerospace, engineering, renewables, food & drink, technology, manufacturing, construction and software development. This cohort of firms prioritised for the higher level of grant has combined sales of £253 million per annum. They employ over 2,200 staff, the majority of who are local residents. These firms are committing to recovery based on a number of indicators including reskilling/upskilling, improved productivity, environmental sustainability, low carbon and social inclusion.

D4.2 Employability Support

Access2employment provides employability support to residents throughout West Lothian. Support is provided to residents who are unemployed and who are in employment but are in uncertain employment or are struggling financially to make ends meet. Support is provided via 1 to 1's with individual clients and through the delivery of a range of courses including one day specific courses to 6-week personal development and employability courses, Women n2 Work and Men n2 Work. Advisers will work with clients until they have met their individual goals to secure sustainable employment including better paid employment and education opportunities.

In 2020/ 21 the service moved supported remotely during the pandemic with 1 to 1 support and courses being delivered remotely via video calls, web-based platforms, emails and the telephone. The service was expanded to provide support in the evenings and weekends to meet the needs of clients whose life circumstances had changed as a result of the pandemic. The service developed a weekly bulletin that contain information on the latest local vacancies for West Lothian Job seekers. This is sent weekly to job seekers and services supporting clients. The service also introduced a service offer to support parents who are currently unemployed or in work but in insecure employment or financially struggling.

Despite the pandemic and the impact this has had on West Lothian residents the engagement by clients has been high. The service delivered the following during 2020/21:

- 814 new clients registered with the service
- 1645 existing clients received support during the year
- 264 clients were supported into a positive destination including finding work or starting further or higher education
- 41 short employment skills workshops, which focused on topics such as CV building, interview skills and applying for vacancies, were delivered with 161 participants attending
- 7 well-being workshops were delivered which focused on health and wellbeing with 45 participants attending
- Women n2 Work delivered 5 six-week courses and Men n2 Work delivered 1 six-week course, in total 31 clients attended
- A weekly vacancy bulletin was created which is sent to 850 clients directly and 155 individuals within community groups, council services and schools each week
- The service introduction a project to support parents both who are unemployed and underemployed
- The service introduced additional support for young people through the introduction of Kick Start and the Young Person's Guarantee

In Livingston South Ward 121 new residents registered with the service, with 40 being supported into employment, education or training.

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The weeklyA2E vacancy bulletin is shared through social media, on websites, through the regeneration networks and mailing lists. All stakeholders are encouraged to share on their own group pages.

A community leaflet has been designed by the A2E team to highlight the work of the A2E team, how they are working, how to get in contact with them and the type of support they are offering. This leaflet has been shared through the Regeneration and other networks to promote the service, promote its new way of working and reach those that might not be aware of the service

D4.3 Howden site visit

An initial site visit was undertaken as a result of a deputation by residents at the last Livingston South Local area Committee as a result of antisocial behaviour in the Howden house/park area of the park. The Police had already drawn up an action plan from an EVA already undertaken. Three residents attended the site visit. At the site visit the EVA action plan was talked through with updates to actions discussed. Further to the EVA action plan - The residents explored the possibility of their public bins being relocated.

E. CONCLUSION

Ladywell and Dedridge local planning continues to develop with community members actively involved in the process. Partners are providing vital information and linking in with all work in the area. The plans are developing a very active community led approach, working to a co-productive and community capacity building approach to developing the plan.

A further update on progress will be presented to the next Local Area Committee.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Community Planning Partnership Board, November 2016 http://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewSelectedDocument.asp?c=P62AFQZL0GZ32 UZ3

Council Executive, June 2019 https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=42684

Appendices

None

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Craig McCorriston Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration 2nd September 2021



LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

TOWN CENTRE FUND UPDATE 2019/20 & 20/21

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 committee on 3 October 2019 for the 19/20 Fund and on 8th December 2020 for the 20/21 Fund

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the local area committee notes the updates for Town Centre Fund 2019/20 and 20/21 projects for this ward and those that have to complete, are working hard to finish projects within the given timescale.

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	Outcome 1 – We make West Lothian an attractive place to do business.
		Outcome 10 – We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the services we need.
		Outcome 12 – We value and enjoy our built environment and protect it and enhance it for

future generations.

 VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)
 A total of £1.826 million is available to the Town Centre Fund, for 19/20 and a further £658,000 is available for 20/21, across West Lothian
 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, as part of its budget, a new Town Centre Fund. The fund is a ring-fenced capital allocation of £50 million for 2019/20 the same has been agreed for 20/21. 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 £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 19/20 funding detailed 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 2019.

The Council Executive further agreed on 22 October 2020 that the 20/21 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

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 Livingston South Projects – Update on delivery of projects

At the Livingston South LAC held on 3 October 2019 the committee agreed to support 18 projects in the ward. These are listed in Appendix 1.

Due to the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in March of this year, work on the projects came to a halt resulting in the need for the timescales to be extended. This extension runs to March 2021 with projects needing to be contracted by then and completed by September 2021.

At the Livingston South LAC held on 8 December 2020 the committee agreed to support a further 9 projects in the ward. These are listed in Appendix 2.

Appendix 1 shows a table of the projects which were funded in 19/20. Appendix 1 and 2 detail the amount projects were funded and the status of the project outlining whether the project is completed, ongoing. In addition to this, updates have been provided for some of the ongoing projects:

LAD01 – Ladywell Community Garden

To date the following has been completed: Signed Maintenance agreement, plan in place, Soil Test carried out. Planning has been approved. New Gate and fencing complete. Drainage costs agreed. The group have contacted the community payback team and HYPE to clear ground and initial landscape, build. The group are working hard to complete the project within the given timescale.

LAD04- Ladywell Ring Road signage

This project is part delivered by Roads and part Community Council (CC). The WLC road signage element of the project is now complete. The Willowbank sign has been made and is waiting on an installation date from the contractors. WLC are working hard to complete this project within the given timescale.

HOW01- Howden staggered cycle gates

This project has the gates and planning in place. The contractor has further utility investigation prior to works commencing. WLC are working towards having this complete within the given timeframe.

MA002- Milestones project

The 4 interpretation boards have been finalised (after delay with contractor getting designs to the fabricator – 4 weeks to manufacture). Contractors are aware they need to complete the project by end of September due to the grant conditions and are due on site in mid-September. Klondyke Garden Centre have been back in touch and are keen to get the Kirkton milestone moved out of their car park to its original position at the junction of Hunter Road.

DED01- Crofthead Mill Room Upgrade

This project is being led by Crofthead Management Committee. Part delivered by WLC and Crofthead CECA. The WIFI is now installed, toilet completely refurbished with lowered ceiling fitted with led lights. Old water boiler removed and new energy efficient one installed below kitchen sink. Due to the Lanthorn food shop re locating to the Mill Room whilst roof refurbishment is ongoing in the Lanthorn, the committee are working round the food shop provision to complete the works as much as they can within the new given constraints. The regeneration officer is requesting information on work and spend to date.

DED02- Nigel Rise Footpath improvements

This project is led by Dedridge Community Council and contracted out. The works and snagging are all complete. The benches/perches have been relocated. Community Council are in the process of compiling the final report and paper work.

MUR01- signage at Livingston South Station and Centre

The Livingston cycling / walking signage between the 2 train stations has been appointed to a sign manufacturer. Revised edits to the initial design are out for final consultation along with proposed site locations. The contractor is working hard to complete the project within the given timescale.

MUR03-Community Garden

Planning permission in place. An order has been placed for the remainder of the

funds allocated towards purchasing sleepers for the raised beds. The gardening group are constituted into a non-incorporated group and are working through their governance documents and setting up a bank account. The group are organising a volunteering day to coincide with the delivery of the sleepers to make the raised beds. the group are working hard to complete the project within the given timescale.

Appendix 2 shows a table of the projects which were funded in 20-21, 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. The projects awarded to date have all received their award letters and conditions of funding. Some additional updates are as below:

DED20-01- WL Bike lending library

Planning was approved and the two containers are now in situ. A temporary agreed lease is in place. A community benefit statement has been drawn up and will be going to the next Council Executive for approval.

BEL20-03- Notice board and planters

Community Council has had planning approved for the notice board and the noticeboard has been purchased. Contractors are being identified to install the notice board. The group are working hard to complete the project within the given timescale.

E. CONCLUSION

The Town Centre Capital Fund offers significant additional capital funding to improve West Lothian's town centres. The projects in the Livingston South 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. The Regeneration Officer continues to support the ongoing projects to increase the projects chances of completion within the given SG timescale.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Council Executive, 11 June 2019

https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=42 684

Livingston South LAC, 3 October 2019

https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=43 768

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

https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=46 496

Livingston South LAC, 8 December 2020

https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=47 017

Scottish Government *Town Centre Action Plan:* https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0043/00437686.pdf

Appendices/Attachments:

Appendix 1 – Livingston South Ward Update 19-20 Appendix 2 – Livingston South Ward update 20-21 Contact Person: Alice Mitchell, Economic Development Manager Email: <u>alice.mitchell@westlothian.gov.uk</u> Tel no: 01506 283079

Craig McCorriston, Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration 2nd September 2021

Town Centre Fund 2019/20 – Livingston South Ward Update – Appendix 1

Application Code	Project Name	Applicant (Group/Service)	TCF Award (£)	Status
LAD01	Ladywell Community Garden	Ladywell Community Council	£20,629.00	On going
LAD02	WIFI in Forrestbank CEC	Forestbank Community Centre Management Committee	5600	Completed
LAD03	Forestbank Fun and Games	Forestbank CECA	£2,400.00	Completed
LAD04	Ladywell Ring Road Signage	Ladywell Community Council	2500	On going
Ladywell Tota	al		£31,129	
MUR01	Signage at Livingston South Station and The Centre	West Lothian Council	2000	On going
MUR02	Murieston Notice Board	Murieston Community Council	£3,375.00	Completed
MUR03	Murieston Community Garden	Murieston Community Council	£29,470.00	Ongoing
Murieston To	tal		£34,845	
HOW01	Staggered fencing	WIC/Almond housing - Howden	1200	Ongoing
MA001	Livingston Local Centres Refurbishment	WLC - Planning Services & Community Regeneration Team.	12000	Completed
MA002	Dedridge, Kirkton & Howden - Milestones restoration and interpretation project.	WLC - Planning Services	3500	ongoing
Howden Tota			£16,700	
DED01	Upgrade for Mill Room	Crofthead Farm Community Education Association	12578	Ongoing
DED02	Nigel Rise Footpath Improvements	Dedridge Community Council	£26,073.00	Ongoing

Overall wa	Overall ward total			
Livingston Village/Kirkton Total			£3,500	
	restoration and interpretation project.			
MA002	Dedridge, Kirkton & Howden - Milestones	WLC - Planning Services	3500	Ongoing
Bellsquarr	y/Adambrae Total		£13,596	
MA001	Livingston Local Centres Refurbishment	WLC - Planning Services & Community Regeneration Team.	7783	Completed
BEL03	The Larder catalyst Kitchen	The Larder	2,5000	Completed
BEL02	Sound System	Bellsquarry and Adambrae Community Council	800	Completed
BEL01	Village hall upgrade	Bellsquarry Village Hall committee	2513	Completed
Dedridge 1	Fotal		£41,651	
MA002	Howden - Milestones restoration and interpretation project.	WLC - Planning Services	3000	Ongoing
MA002	Dedridge, Kirkton &	WLC - Planning Services	3000	Ongoing

Centre Fund 2020/21 – Livingston South Ward Update – Appendix 2

Application Code	Project Name	Applicant (Group/Service)	TCF Award (£)	Status
LAD20-01	Ladywell Community Garden	Ladywell Community Council	£10,913	On going
Ladywell To	tal		£10,913	
MUR01	Signage at Livingston South Station and The Centre	West Lothian Council	£1,960.00	On going
MUR03	Community garden phase 1&2	Murieston Community Council	£11,545.00	Ongoing
Murieston To	otal		£13,505.00	
HOW20-01	Crocus labyrinth – Howden walled garden	WLC open space	£1,460.00	Completed
HOW20-02	Howden enhancement - continued from TC phase 1 upgrade site visit in 2019 Agreed funding to go towards the Milestones project	WLC - Planning Services & Community Regeneration Team.	£6,119.00	Decommissioned

Howden Total			£7,579.00	
DED20-01	Bike lending library storage	Crofthead Farm Community Education Association	15,342.13	On going
Dedridge To	tal		£15,342.13	
BEL20-01	Improvements to eight stone-built village planters and centre area of Bellsquarry village	Bellsquarry and Adambrae Community Council	£800	Completed
BEL20-02	Tress planted at Adambrae cemetery	Bellsquarry and Adambrae Community Council	£1,204	Completed
BEL2003	Provide seating, planters and notice board	Bellsquarry and Adambrae Community Council	2,737.87	Ongoing
Bellsquarry/	Bellsquarry/Adambrae Total			
Overall ward total			£52,081.00	



LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – November 2021 WORKPLAN 2021-22

Issue	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date
Housing report	Quarterly update on housing issues	Sandy Ross	All Meetings
Police report	Quarterly update on police activity	lain Wells	All Meetings
Operational Services report	To provide a quarterly update report on activity	David Lees	All Meetings
Fire and Rescue	To provide quarterly update report on activity	Stuart McNiven	All Meetings
Community Regeneration Report	Update on Regeneration Plans	Lesley Keirnan	All Meetings
 Pensioners Christmas Fund	Annual Pensioners Christmas fund	Lesley Keirnan	November 2021
 Anti-poverty services	Annual update report	Elaine Nisbet	November 2021
St Margaret's Academy	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school and cluster primaries	Siobhan McGarty	November 2021
James Young High School	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school and cluster primaries.	Tricia Gallagher	February 2022
Inveralmond Community High School	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school and cluster primaries.	Suzie Young	May 2022
Livingston South Blue Green Network	To provide update on project	Graeme Hedger	ТВС
Planning report	Yearly Update on future planning intentions in the ward	Chris Alcorn	ТВС