



Livingston South Local Area Committee

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

26 January 2023

A hybrid meeting of the **Livingston South Local Area Committee** of West Lothian Council will be held within the **Council Chambers, West Lothian Civic Centre, Livingston** on **Thursday 2 February 2023** at **9:30am**.

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

Public Session

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest - Members must declare any interests they have in the items of business for consideration at the meeting, identifying the relevant agenda items and the nature of their interests.
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 10 November 2022 (herewith)
5. Harrysmuir Primary School Presentation (herewith)
6. Police Ward Report - Report by Police Scotland (herewith)
7. Fire Service Update - Report by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (herewith)
8. Housing, Customer and Building Services - Report by Head of Housing,

Customer and Building Services (herewith)

9. Service Update - NETs, Land and Countryside - Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith)
10. Spaces for People Consultation - Report by Head of Operational Services (herewith)
11. Report on Progress of Local Regeneration Planning - Report by Depute Chief Executive (Education, Planning and Economic Development) (herewith)
12. Place Based Investment Programme 2022/23 Town Centre Capital Fund - Report by Depute Chief Executive, Education, Planning and Economic Development (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 (2021)

This form is a reminder and an aid. It is not a substitute for understanding the Code of Conduct and guidance.

Interests must be declared at the meeting, in public.

Look at every item of business and consider if there is a connection.

If you see a connection, decide if it amounts to an interest by applying the objective test.

The objective test is whether or not a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard your connection to a particular matter as being so significant that it would be considered as being likely to influence your discussion or decision-making.

If the connection does not amount to an interest then you have nothing to declare and no reason to withdraw.

If the connection amounts to an interest, declare it as soon as possible and leave the meeting when the agenda item comes up.

When you declare an interest, identify the agenda item and give enough information so that the public understands what it is and why you are declaring it.

Even if the connection does not amount to an interest you can make a statement about it for the purposes of transparency.

More detailed information is on the next page.

Look at each item on the agenda, consider if there is a “connection”, take advice if necessary from appropriate officers in plenty of time. A connection is any link between the item of business and:-

- you
- a person you are associated with (e.g., employer, business partner, domestic partner, family member)
- a body or organisation you are associated with (e.g., outside body, community group, charity)

Anything in your Register of Interests is a connection unless one of the following exceptions applies.

A connection does not exist where:-

- you are a council tax payer, a rate payer, or a council house tenant, including at budget-setting meetings
- services delivered to the public are being considered, including at budget-setting meetings
- councillors’ remuneration, expenses, support services or pensions are being considered
- you are on an outside body through a council appointment or nomination unless it is for regulatory business or you have a personal conflict due to your connections, actions or legal obligations
- you hold a view in advance on a policy issue, have discussed that view, have expressed that view in public, or have asked for support for it

If you see a connection then you have to decide if it is an “interest” by applying the objective test. The objective test is whether or not a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard your connection to a particular matter as being so significant that it would be considered as being likely to influence your discussion or decision-making.

If the connection amounts to an interest then:-

- declare the interest in enough detail that members of the public will understand what it is
- leave the meeting room (physical or online) when that item is being considered
- do not contact colleagues participating in the item of business

Even if decide your connection is not an interest you can voluntarily make a statement about it for the record and for the purposes of transparency.

The relevant documents are:-

- [Councillors’ Code of Conduct, part 5](#)
- [Standards Commission Guidance, paragraphs 129-166](#)
- [Advice note for councillors on how to declare interests](#)

If you require assistance, contact:-

- James Millar, Interim Monitoring Officer and Governance Manager, 01506 281613, james.millar@westlothian.gov.uk
- Carol Johnston, Chief Solicitor and Depute Monitoring Officer, 01506 281626, carol.johnston@westlothian.gov.uk
- Committee Services Team, 01506 281604, 01506 281621
committee.services@westlothian.gov.uk

January 2022

MINUTE of MEETING of the LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 10 NOVEMBER 2022.

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

Apologies – Councillor Maria MacAulay and Community Council Representative Diane Loughlin (Livingston Village)

In Attendance

Greg Welsh, Lead Officer, West Lothian Council
Lesley Keirnan, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council
Isla Wright, Head Teacher, St Margaret's Academy
Sergeant Lee Brodie, Police Scotland
Paul Harvey, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Sandy Ross, Area Housing Manager, West Lothian Council
David Lees, Operational Services, West Lothian Council
Christopher Nelson, Accountant, West Lothian Council
Mike Duncan, Dedridge Community Council Representative

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 5 - St Margaret's Academy - Attainment and Achievements

Councillor Moira McKee Shemilt stated a connection in that she had two grandchildren at St Margaret's Academy.

2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

In terms of Standing Orders 7 and 11 the Chair ruled that information received from Public Transport was considered urgent and would be dealt with at this stage.

The Chair advised that the Traffic Commissioner had granted McGill's Eastern Scottish short notice changes to take effect from Monday 21 November 2022. This was in response to network adjustments, made by Lothian Country, resulting in both time and route alterations to a number of McGill's services including in the Dedridge West area. Public Transport Services would be asked to provide members of the committee with details of the timetable and route maps.

3. MINUTES

The committee confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on Thursday 1 September 2022 as a correct record. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

4. ST MARGARET'S ACADEMY - ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The committee were provided with a presentation (copies of which had been circulated) by Isla Wright, Head Teacher at St Margaret's Academy, the content of which included information on; attainment, achievements and school improvement planning.

The presentation commenced with the Head Teacher expanding on the attainment results detailed within the presentation. The committee were advised that the outcomes were considered a success, given that they were the first results post pandemic, and were testament to the commitment of staff and pupils which had enabled every young person to achieve their full potential.

Moving on to the achievements in 2021/22, members were informed that the pilot School for Construction qualification had proved really successful, leading to a pathway into the construction sector and making young people more marketable for local careers. Highlighting the Languages for Life and Work Polish language opportunity, it was advised that the school was the first in West Lothian to introduce the qualification. Including this as part of the curriculum enabled the additional skill of the wide Polish community to be celebrated and resulted in the school becoming more accessible for the young people and their families.

Mrs Wright continued and presented the school improvement planning for 2022/23, explaining that the whole school approach now was to learn the lessons of the pandemic and align them with the more traditional school picture.

The presentation concluded with members advised that the school prioritised excellence in attainment, high expectations and the equity and dignity of every young person. Committee were then given the opportunity to ask questions and provide comment.

Decision

To note the contents of the presentation.

5. POLICE WARD REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Scotland providing an update on performance, activities and issues across the ward for the period up to 1 October 2022.

Clarification was sought with regards to domestic abuse crimes figures and whether they related to reporting of historic cases which had been a contributing factor in the past. Police Scotland advised they worked closely with DASAT and other organisations with high confidence in reporting in West Lothian. A breakdown of the figures would be obtained and circulated to committee members.

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

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report; and
2. To request that members of the committee were provided with further information on domestic abuse figures in order to provide clarity on the numbers discussed and identify if the figures were due to reporting of historic cases.

6. FIRE SERVICE UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service updating on the activity within the ward for the period up to 30 September 2022.

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

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

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 within the Livingston South Ward.

It was queried whether information was available on the site at Wellhead and the Registered Social Landlord (RSL) new build activity by Places for People. The officer, having lost connection to the meeting, would be asked to circulate the requested information to members separately.

It was recommended that the committee note Housing, Customer and Building Service activity as detailed in the ward report for the period Quarter 2 - 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report; and
2. To ask that members were provided with an update on the RSL new build activity by Places for People at the Wellhead site.

8. SERVICE UPDATE - NETS, LAND AND COUNTRYSIDE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services advising of the recent activity of the

NETs, Land and Countryside Services teams for the period 1 July 2022 – 30 September 2022.

Officers were asked if there had been a rise in the number of abandoned shopping trolleys and how such instances were addressed. In response, the committee were informed that local stores were approached to discuss any cases and the numbers reported would be obtained with members updated accordingly.

It was recommended that the committee:

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

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report; and
2. To request that further information relating to the number of abandoned shopping trolleys within the ward was circulated to members.

9. LIVINGSTON SKATE PARK

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services providing an update on Livingston Skate Park.

Whilst noting that the initial request was for restoration and conservation, it was queried whether obtaining historic status could lead to returning the skate park to a world class facility and assist with the resulting costs. Committee were informed that the appropriate officer would be contacted with regards to this possibility and an update would be forwarded to members.

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

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report; and
2. To ask that members were advised whether achieving historic status could enable the skate park to be brought back to a world class facility and assist with associated costs.

10. ANTI-POVERTY SERVICES UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services informing of the work undertaken by the Anti-Poverty Service from April 2021 to March 2022.

It was recommended that the committee note:

1. the Anti-Poverty Service provision in the ward; and
2. the impact provision was having in terms of supporting the outcomes of the Community and the Planning Partnership's Anti-Poverty Strategy 2018-23.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

11. PENSIONERS GROUPS CHRISTMAS FUND ALLOCATIONS 2022-2023

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Planning and Economic Development) informing of the final allocations that were made from the Pensioners' Groups Christmas Fund 2022-23 to groups in the Livingston South Ward, Livingston-wide groups and West Lothian-wide groups. The committee were asked to note that applicants were offered, as they were in 2020 and 2021, an additional option of a pre-prepared chilled Christmas meal as an alternative to a direct grant award.

It was recommended that the committee note:

1. four groups in Livingston South ward had been supported through the Pensioner's Christmas Fund 2022-23; and
2. the continued inclusion of a pre-prepared meal option.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

12. REPORT ON PROGRESS OF LOCAL REGENERATION PLANNING

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Planning and Economic Development) informing on locality planning within the ward.

It was recommended that the committee note the:

1. progress of the two local plans; and
2. progress and development of actions.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

13. WORKPLAN

A workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the workplan.



Harrysmuir Learning Community Environmental Projects

1. John Muir Award - Danny & Caitlan
2. Hedgehog Friendly Campus - Rachel & Harris
3. Ladywell Week of Action - Harris & Caitlan
4. Junior Road Safety Officers - Ava & Ayanna
5. Ladywell Community Garden - Mrs Carder

1. John Muir Award

‘The John Muir Award encourages people of all backgrounds to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places. The Award encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment through a structured yet adaptable scheme, in a spirit of fun, adventure and exploration.’

We had four challenges - to...

**1. Discover a
wild place**

**3. Conserve
take
Responsibility**

**2. Explore its
wildness**

**4. Share our
experiences**



Litter Picking



West Lothian children map dog fouling sites around their school

Pupils in a Livingston Primary followed up a litter pick with a poster and map campaign to encourage owners to clean-up after walking pets

NEWS By [Stuart Sommerville](#) Local Democracy Reporter

14:57, 18 FEB 2022 | **UPDATED** 08:51, 21 FEB 2022

Bookmark 



Comments



Ladywell Harrysmuir Primary School



'Dog poo' Audit

As part of pupils John Muir Award and supporting our local 'community led' plan to make Ladywell a better place to live, work, learn and play, Harrysmuir Pupils undertook a dog poo audit on 25th May 2022

The map opposite shows where the dog poo 'hot spots' are

Come on Ladywell

Bag it and bin it!



Results

Ladywell Harrysmuir Primary School



'Dog poo' Audit

As part of pupils John Muir Award and supporting our local 'community led' plan to make Ladywell a better place to live, work, learn and play, Harrysmuir Pupils undertook a dog poo audit on 25th May 2022

The table opposite is the pupils findings

Come on Ladywell

Bag it and bin it!

Street Name	Number of dog poos found
School path	4
Bowling club (opposite tennis courts)	8
Loan Path (opposite woodlands)	7
Ryebank	19
Rushbank	10
Harrysmuir Path	14
Peel Path	4
Mossbank	2
Loan Path	17
Bowling club path	7
School	1



Signs designed by P7s and placed at Woodland





The John Muir Trust

acknowledges

Harrysmuir Primary School

as a

PROVIDER

of the

JOHN MUIR AWARD

David Gibson
Chair, John Muir Trust

2022-2023



When we contemplate the whole
one great dewdrop, striped an
with islands and continents
through space with all the other
singing and shining together as
whole Universe appears as an
storm of beauty. This grand
eternal. It is always sunrise son
The dew is never all dried at
shower is forever falling; Vapour
rising. Eternal sunrise, Eternal
Eternal dawn and gloaming, on
continents and islands, each in it
the round Earth rolls, John Muir



Elaine Carder @MrsCarder_hps · Jun 24, 2022

...

A proud moment @HarrysmuirPS as I presented two groups of P6 pupils with their John Muir Award certificates at assembly. The groups have been carrying out activities locally throughout the year and have been wonderful ambassadors for our school 🌞 #JohnMuirAward @KSBSScotland



2. Hedgehog Friendly Campus

We participated in a UK-wide Hedgehog-Friendly campaign to become a Hedgehog Friendly School. The campaign is designed to change behaviour, raise awareness about the plight of hedgehogs and make our school and local area more hedgehog-friendly.

Hedgehog Champions



Hedgehog Activities



Carried out competitions



Set up a mammal tunnel

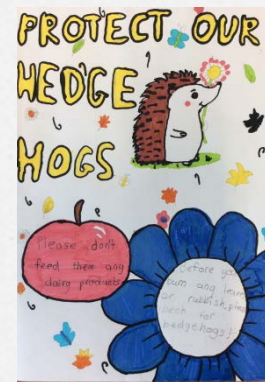


Hazards survey



Planted hedging

Created a hedgehog highway



Shared facts



Shared information

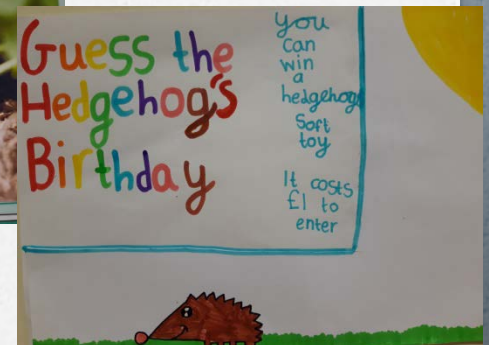


Elaine Carder @MrsCarder_hps · Mar 29

Another two hedgehog enthusiasts helped me put our new hedgehog house in the school garden. The house was one of the items obtained through the Morrisons' let's grow vouchers. Thank you to everyone who helped collect them 🐾 @HarrysmuirPS @HogFriendly @hedgehogsociety



Fundraised



Achieved the Gold Award



Elaine Carder @MrsCarder_hps · Mar 1

...

Today @HarrysmuirPS our Hedgehog Champions, Eco Reps and Earth Agents celebrated achieving the Hedgehog Accreditation Gold Award. We've had great fun and learned a lot. We would encourage other Primary schools to take part @HogFriendly @hedgehogsociety #HedgehogFriendlySchool 🌞🐾



3. Ladywell Week of Action

Ladywell



This poster is designed by Lily Bell P7b - the winning entry of the Harrysmuir Primary School Poster Competition to support the Ladywell Week of Action

Join us!



Week of Action

24th to 30th October 2022

Ladywell schools, nurseries, residents, Ladywell & Eliburn Litter Pickers, West Lothian Litter Pickers, Woodland Trust, Community Council and Ladywell Neighbour Network are all taking part in a week of litter picking activity to help make Ladywell a clean, welcoming and beautiful place to walk, run, cycle and play in

Tuesday 25th October 10am

Saturday 29th October 10am

meeting at Gowanbank

Join us throughout this week either individually or at a community litter pick and help make a difference!

For more information - Check us out on <https://fb.me/e/32vxOJTtG>

Information Shared



Display at Parents Evening

Information on Twitter

Elaine Carder @MrsCarder_hps · Oct 23

Ladywell Week of Action starts tomorrow! P5 -P7 Pupils @HarrismuirPS will be taking part in a day of action. As a Hedgehog Friendly School we will be linking the community litter picks to the Big Hog Friendly Litter Pick Challenge. @KSBSScotland @HogFriendly @hedgehogsociety



Community Litter Pick

Class	Time	Place
P7A/P7B	9.30 – 10.30pm	Ladywell Woodland
P6A + Nursery	11.00 – 11.30pm (please take early break)	Area around Nursery
P5A/P5B	1.15 -2.00pm	School Grounds, Field and adjacent woodland
P6B + Nursery	2.15 – 2.45	Woodland next to tennis court

Harrysmuir Primary School Litter Pick	No of Pickers	No of Bags
P7s	67	16
P6s + Nursery	80	16
P5s	63	14
Other adults Community	10 (Scottish Woodland Trust/ McDonalds/ West Lothian litter pickers)	26
Total	220	72



The Big Hog Litter Pick Challenge

**THE WINNERS OF THE BIG HOG FRIENDLY
LITTER PICK CHALLENGE ARE...**

WINNER	WINNER	WINNER
		
Harrysmuir Primary School 72 bags collected 220 volunteers	Ayrshire College 43 bags collected 24 volunteers	Greenwich University 139 bags collected 8 volunteers

Congratulations on winning our 2022 litter pick campaign!
You have won a hedgehog house and a bag of food generously donated by the
British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

 **British Hedgehog
Preservation Society**

@hogfriendly

 **STUDENTS
ORGANISING FOR
SUSTAINABILITY
UNITED KINGDOM**

4. Junior Road Safety Officers

JRSOs help raise road safety awareness and promote road safety issues to everyone in the school and the wider community.

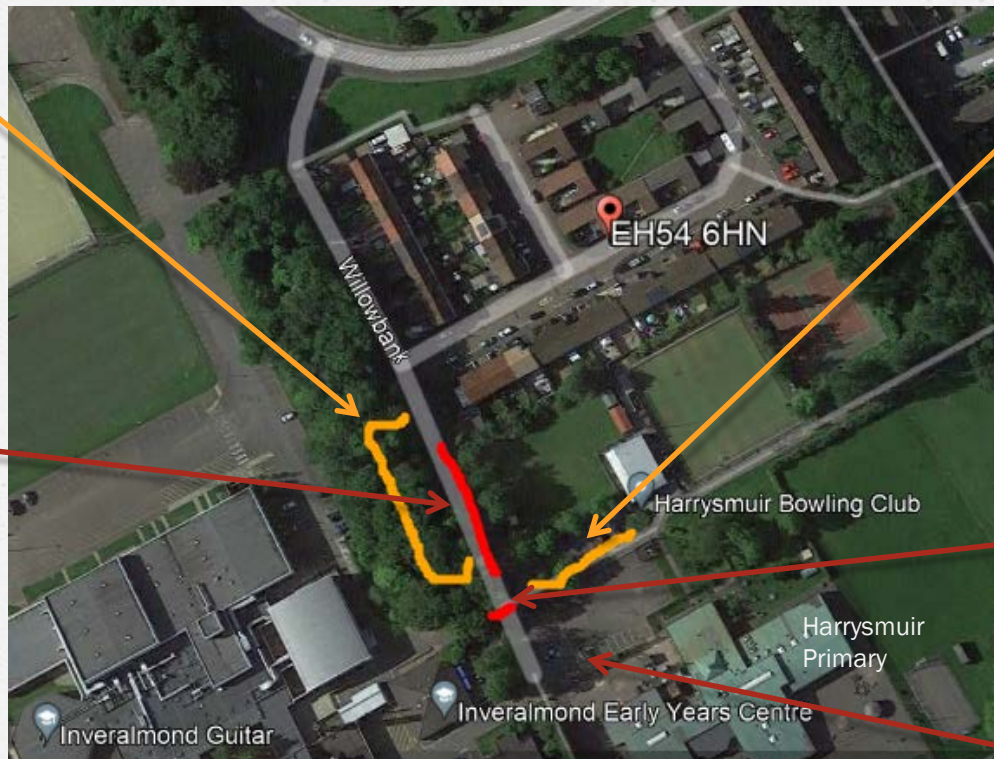


Ladywell Park Smart

Parking Layby

Car Park

On road
parking



Pedestrian
Crossing
Point

Turning Point

What we did

Ladywell – Park Smart

Inveralmond Learning Community

Turning Circle – Vehicle Survey

Day/Date / Time	No of cars parked Tally	No of cars dropped off	Nursery/Primary/Both
Total			

Survey 1 9am

Survey 2 3pm



What we found

Survey 1 – 9.00am

Average – 1 parked car on turning point

Average – 4 parked cars on road opposite layby

Mix of Nursery and Primary

Survey 2 – 3.00pm

Average – 6 parked cars on turning point

Average – 9 parked cars on road opposite layby

Mostly Primary

Issues Identified

1. Cars parking on turning point
2. Cars parking on the road opposite layby
3. Pedestrians can't see cars coming
4. Cars can't see pedestrians crossing
5. Bins can't be collected due to cars parked in front of gates
6. Children cutting through the school car park.

Next steps

1. Put up banners to remind about no parking.
2. Write to Parents/Carers of Primary and Nurseries about parking issues
3. Present assembly to school about safe ways to cross the road.
4. Raise issues of lack of parking and safer crossing for pedestrians with WLC

5. Ladywell Community Garden







Thank You for Listening



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**

Keeping people safe

POILEAS ALBA

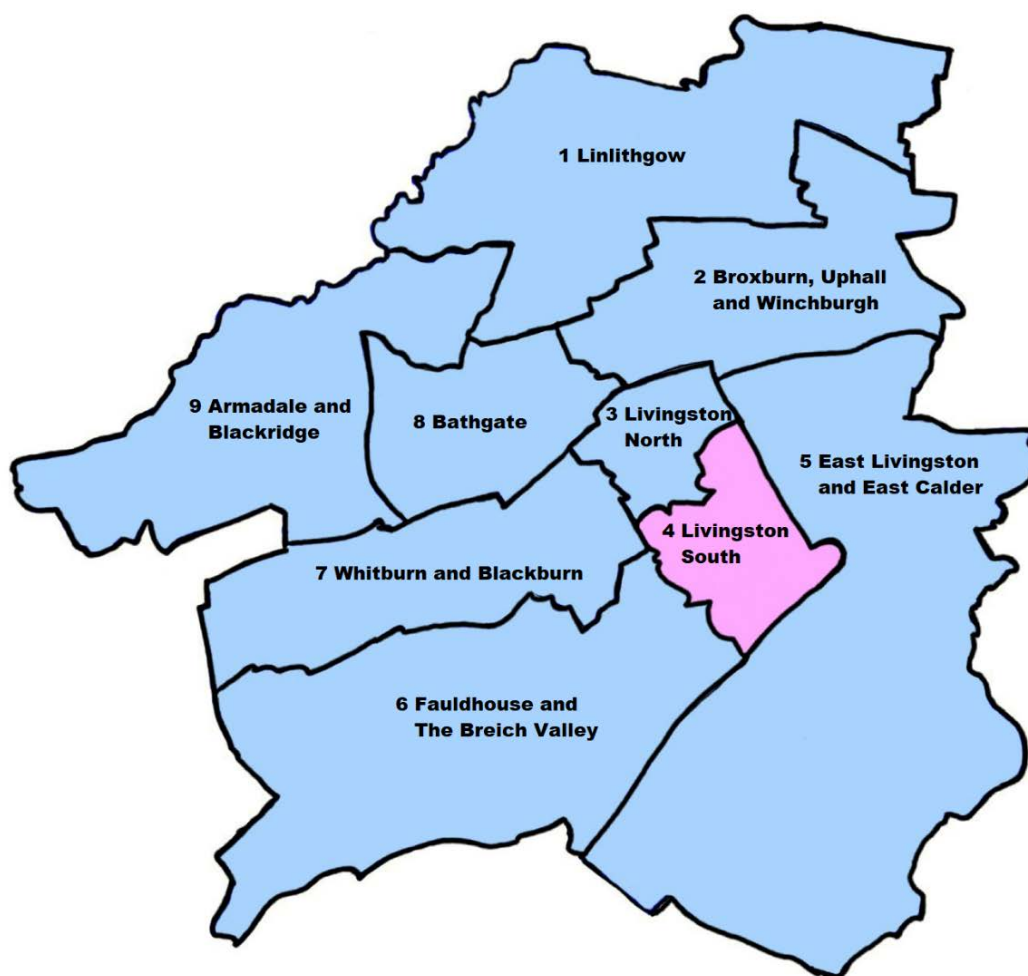
OFFICIAL

Item 6



West Lothian Area Command

Lothian and Scottish Borders



Ward 4 - Livingston South Multi Member Ward Report

Quarter 3 – 2022/2023

OFFICIAL

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Area Committee with an update on performance, activities and issues across the Ward for the period up to 31st December 2022.

B. RECOMMENDATION

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

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; making best use of our resources; and working in partnership
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	None.
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Performance relative to the same period in 2021; set out in the report.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger; we take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive society
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

Introduction:

This document is intended to provide a summary of the performance of West Lothian Area Command for the reporting period of Quarter 3 2022/2023. 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 Hayley Cunningham

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.

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.

During Q3, West Lothian PSYV volunteered at a number of events throughout the county, including Linlithgow Torchlight procession, Stoneyburn Santa parade, Remembrance Sunday Events as well as helping staff at the Scottish Owl Centre with some painting work! As a result the group amassed a combined 288 volunteering hours during the quarter as well as the groups youth volunteers attending weekly Friday sessions.

Recruitment for the group also took place during Q3, with 9 new youth volunteers joining the group during Q3. The group also welcomed a new adult volunteer to the group during Q3.

- **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.

The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland (DSDAS) has two main approaches. The "Right to Ask" is open to anyone who has concerns about a new partner's abusive past or has concerns about another person's new partner. The "Power to Tell" is when we receive information or

intelligence about the safety of a person who may be at risk, this information is thereafter disclosed to the person concerned, so they are able to make informed decisions about their personal safety. During Q3, there was **48** applications in the last Quarter (**169** YTD), this is a **64%** increase on the same period last year and highlights the ongoing commitment to keeping people safe.

The ACAST mental health triage system is still widely utilised by officers when appropriate. By the end of Q3, this service was utilised 60 times providing support and advice to individuals suffering from a mental health crisis.

We again promoted the Banking protocol this quarter – a highly effective tool in the fight against fraudsters who target the most vulnerable in our communities through impersonation, courier and romance fraud. Through vigilance and in-house training, bank staff are in the ideal position to identify customers at risk and contact police with concerns. This is crucial in assisting vulnerable persons but also prevents stolen monies funding other illegal activities including drug dealing, human trafficking and terrorism.

During Q3 there has been 7 reported banking protocol related crimes, where vulnerable person/s have been targeted and circumstances have been reported to the Police. The majority of these are still under investigation.

In Q3, West Lothian PSYV volunteers were provided IAMME Peer Education training in respect of disability Hate Crime. IAMME are the charity who also provide the keep safe initiative, which is in place within West Lothian. The training provided the volunteers with a clear understanding of what disability hate crime is, albeit the principles learned are transferable to other social groups.

During October as part of Hate Crime Awareness Week and Black History Month, Police Scotland focused on the importance of reporting all incidents of physical and verbal abuse including all forms of hate, racism, homophobia, sexism and misogyny, and discrimination of any kind is utterly deplorable and unacceptable. It has no place in society.

Local community officers in Livingston South have been involved in inputs at local nurseries, Schools and Community Centres within the ward. This has included supporting cost-of living crisis events and groups within the ward. All of which has been aimed at helping to keep the most vulnerable safe.

- **Reducing Violence and Anti-Social behaviour**

We continue to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour in its various forms with our partners.

During Q3, we promoted “That Guy Campaign” during the annual 16 days of action in relation to violence against woman and girls. We promoted this by working with local partners, utilising Social Media, with featured videos. We worked with both Armadale and Bathgate Junior football teams to promote this initiative during matches in December.

During this campaign, Police Scotland, along with partner agencies, participated in a parade from Howden Park Centre to West Lothian Civic Centre. This was followed by a rally to mark the start of campaign in an effort to raise awareness. Throughout the 16 days, we carried out joint engagement events along with West Lothian DASAT and West Lothian Woman’s Aid. Bystander, Consent and Sextortion inputs were delivered by Officers to 200 students at both West Lothian and Oatridge Colleges, demonstrating a substantial amount of the work was carried out within the Livingston South Ward.

Guy Fawkes events took place during Q3. A number of preventative activities took place in the run up to the 5th of November including numerous intervention inputs to primary, secondary and college students within West Lothian, some of which were conducted jointly with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. The promotion of both Crimestoppers and Fearless campaigns were shared via Facebook, Twitter and the Neighbourhood Alert system as well as posters and letters being distributed to schools and other public buildings.

Following on from this, at the beginning of November, local community officers conducted Hi-Viz patrols in hotspot areas and joint patrols were also conducted along with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Any bonfires constructed outwith safety parameters were dismantled before the night commenced, thus resulting in less incidents as the evening progressed. There were two incidents of note during the course of the evening in Blackburn and Bathgate respectively, which resulted in one male being traced and charged with a firework related offence.

In a continuation from Q2, a further day of action was carried out along with Lothian County Buses during Q3. Known as 'Gateway Checks' officers used the bus network from outlying towns and villages that were destined for our larger town centres such as Livingston and Bathgate where regular complaints of youth ASB are being reported. Officers positively interacted with young people whilst using the bus network.

Community Officers have been patrolling areas receiving reports of anti-social behaviour. In particular the local community Sgt has met with a local elected official and a representative of the community council for Ladywell to discuss issues with local ASB and a multi-agency approach to tackle local issues has been adopted as a result and officers are participating heavily in the area.

- **Reducing Acquisitive Crime**

Dealing with Acquisitive Crime to protect people by reducing the impacts of theft on individuals and communities remains a priority.

During Q3 the Police Business Resilience team at the Scottish Business Resilience Centre in Linlithgow, have been involved with a large number of businesses attended and discussions about keeping their businesses safe and providing community hubs where messages can be shared, particularly with the elderly and vulnerable customers. Discussion about scammers and door to door criminals were highlighted. Additional to this, Police officers provided foot patrols and face to face positive engagement with the businesses in the community.

During the quarter, we have experienced a number of Theft Housebreakings focused on targeting unoccupied houses to steal jewellery and cars as well as businesses for their takings. During one theft housing breaking, a travelling recidivist offender known to travel the length of the country was apprehended whilst committing this crime and reported to COPFS.

Further incidents where domestic dwellings were targeted for their high value vehicles resulted in and extensive investigation where a number of these vehicles were recovered by officers a short time after the theft. A positive line of enquiry is ongoing to identify the SOCG involved. One of the accused was identified and arrested as being involved with other similar thefts in various other areas within Edinburgh and the Lothians. During another incident a further male was arrested for two domestic HB's and six businesses HB's.

Also a locus within West Lothian was identified and the recovery of a large quantity of high valued power tools, Jet Ski and associated trailer, along with 5 quad bikes having been successful secured and named suspects identified.

As a result Community Officers undertook community surgeries in Broxburn, Livingston and Bathgate, providing the community with advice on how to protect their property.

During October, our Preventions and Interventions Officer along with partner agencies, attended the 'Safe at Sky Roadshow', an initiative run by Sky to afford their staff the opportunity to receive personal safety advice along with crime prevention. Advice on securing property along with vehicle crime was provided to staff at both Livingston campus's over two days.

Within December, Police in conjunction with trading standards and Scottish Fire and Rescue attended at Dobbie's, Livingston, where crime prevention and fire safety advice, including door step crime, was provided to visitors.

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland alert scheme continues to be utilised encouraging those living in our communities to report any suspicious activity witnessed in their area. As always, all suspicious

activity can be reported via 101, the 'contact us' form on the Police Scotland internet page or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Officers have been patrolling regularly in the designer outlet, shopping centre and McDonalds with the community Sgt and ward officers having met with a mixture of community and security staff to discuss issues faced and provide advice. Premises and staff have already reported an improvement in the issues they have been facing.

- **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.

Sadly Q3 we saw one fatality in West Lothian. Extensive enquiries are also still ongoing into previous fatalities from 2021/22 which is unfortunately reducing abilities to engage with the usual speeding initiatives.

We will continue to support the Roads Policing campaign calendar during 2022/23. During Q3, we supported the Tyre safety week, Fatal 4 National Speed Operation, Get Ready for winter, Operation Drive Insured, Brake Road Safety Week and Festive Drink/Drive Campaign.

During Q3, a day of action was carried out in relation off road bikes in various locations in West Lothian. Although no offences were detected on the day, a significant officer presence resulted in disruption to those intent on using off road vehicles in a dangerous manner.

Furthermore, regular complaints of off road vehicles within public parks causing damage, resulted in local community officers along with West Lothian PSYV conducting letter drops within the respective neighbourhoods in order to raise awareness as well as encouraging local communities to report those responsible.

- **Tackling Serious and Organised Crime**

Drugs supply has a close link to Organised Crime Groups (OCG), and is a blight on any community. We focus to those who bring harm to our communities, and particularly those who are involved in drugs supply, cultivation/production and the sale and distribution in particular, but not exclusively, of Class A drugs.

Towards the end of November, intelligence was received from a member of the public in relation to a possible large scale cultivation at an industrial unit within Livingston. Extensive enquiries were undertaken by Proactive CID resulting in a warrant being issued to be executed at the address. Within the unit a large scale cannabis cultivation was detected with an approximate street value of £1.4 million. There is a positive line of enquiry and further investigation is being conducted to trace the suspects responsible.

Whilst on high visibility mobile patrol, officers observed suspicious activity in relation to a vehicle and its occupants. Further investigation resulted in the seizure of approximately £40,000 in cash from the vehicle, both occupants reported for MDA offences.

During a welfare check on an elderly female officers received intelligence that a male within the property was in possession of various offensive weapons. On attendance it was established that the male was involved in a drug making set up within the address. A subsequent investigation resulted in a 27 year old local male being reported to COPFS for MDA. Further investigation is ongoing in relation to the offensive weapons.

During Q3 West Lothian Pro-Active Crime Team in respect to the Blackburn Initiative connected to drug supply within the Blackburn area have carried out a number of hits and they have seized 11 weapons, total value of drugs recovered £52,600 and total value of cash recovered £28,927.89.

West Lothian Pro-active Crime Team continue to develop and carry out enforcement on members of organised crime groups based in West Lothian (Operation Wingman) that are involved in the supply of controlled drugs. By the end of Q3, Op Wingman removed over £889,669.00 worth of drugs from West Lothian streets, along with nearly £136,195.00 in cash along with numerous items linked to proceeds of crime.

During Q3, the Police Scotland Counter Terrorism Liaison officer engaged with West Lothian Trading Standards requesting assistance with “Call Blockers” for the elderly residents in Linlithgow care home who have been victim of phone scam/frauds. This collaboration is currently ongoing with a view to potentially expanding the roll out of these call blockers.

In October, Police Scotland re-launched ‘Fearless’ in West Lothian with an event held at West Lothian College where a large number of partner agencies were in attendance. Fearless is part of the independent charity Crimestoppers and is a site, where young people can visit and can access non-judgemental information and advice about crime and criminality. The site also offers young people a safe place to give information about crime 100% anonymously. In the coming months, Police Scotland will be promoting various ‘Fearless’ campaigns through various means, as well as encouraging young people to report information using the Fearless website.

Please note: Police Scotland have recently migrated to a new data source as its single source of truth for our reporting requirements. During the transition it was identified that significant improvements could be made to the completeness and accuracy of our geo-spatial data. Over the last eight to nine months we have been developing, deploying and quality assuring a number of processes that would improve these data. We are now in the final stages of the transition process and working on the outputs required at MMW and datazone levels. We hope to launch revised products in the next couple of months. Subsequently, MMW figures will be unavailable until validity checks have been completed.

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 the Livingston North Multi-Member Ward for the period up to 31st December 2022.

B. RECOMMENDATION

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being honest, open and accountable • Focusing on our customers' needs • Making best use of our resources • Working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Quarterly reports on the Multi-member Ward Operational Plans are being produced to ensure delivery of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan, which is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	WL CPP SOA Performance indicators.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	SOA1304_13 Number of deliberate fires per 100,000 population SOA1304_14 Number of accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 population.
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	The council contributes to directly and in partnership to the delivery of the Ward Plan
VII Consideration at PDSP	None
VIII Consultations	West Lothian Citizen's Panel Survey, July 2014.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

Quarterly reports on the Multi-Member Ward Operational Plans have been produced by SFRS to ensure delivery of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2021, 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 key priorities within the Livingston South 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 Non-Fire Emergencies. (excluding RTCs)
- 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 2021, 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.

Jim Robertson
Station Commander, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
January 2023
 Appendix 1 Livingston South Multi-Member Ward Report



West Lothian Council Area

Ward Performance Report

Quarter 3 2022/23

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.

Introduction

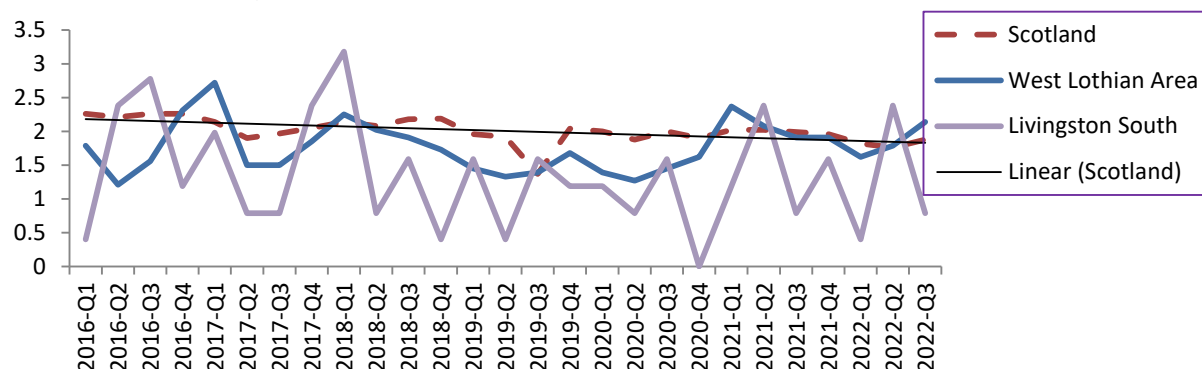
Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Ward Performance Report. This performance report is designed to provide citizens, stakeholders and partners with information relating to ward based activity undertaken by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

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

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

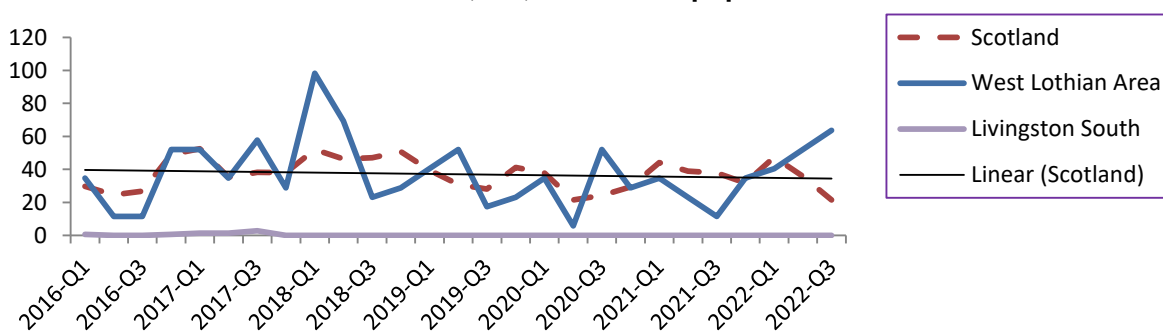
However, regardless of statistical anomalies, emerging patterns and trends in fire related incidents and events can assist the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Community Planning Partners plan and implement preventative intervention initiatives to target reducing fire related incidents and events.

Accidental Dwelling Fires Per 10,000 head of population



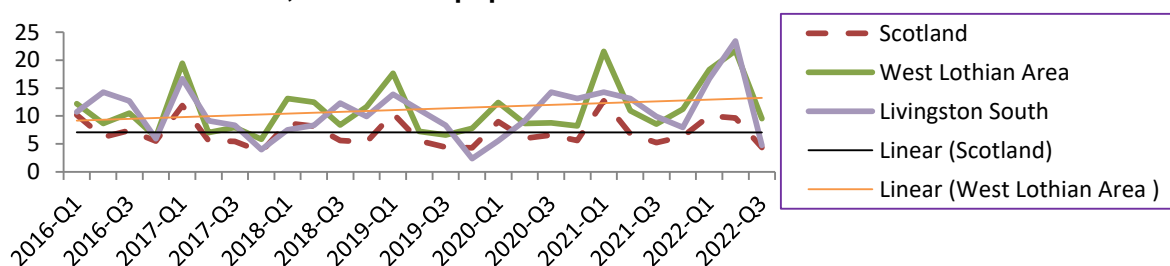
During the 2022-23 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 2 accidental dwelling fires in comparison to 2 during 2021-22 year to date reporting period.

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



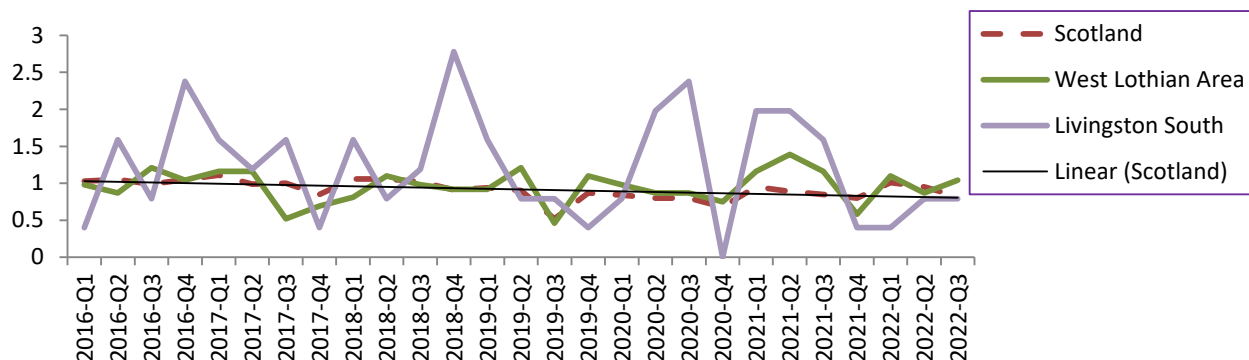
During the 2022-23 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 0 Casualties and Fatalities due to fire in comparison to 0 Casualties and Fatalities during 2021-22 year to date reporting period.

Deliberate Fires Per 10,000 head of population



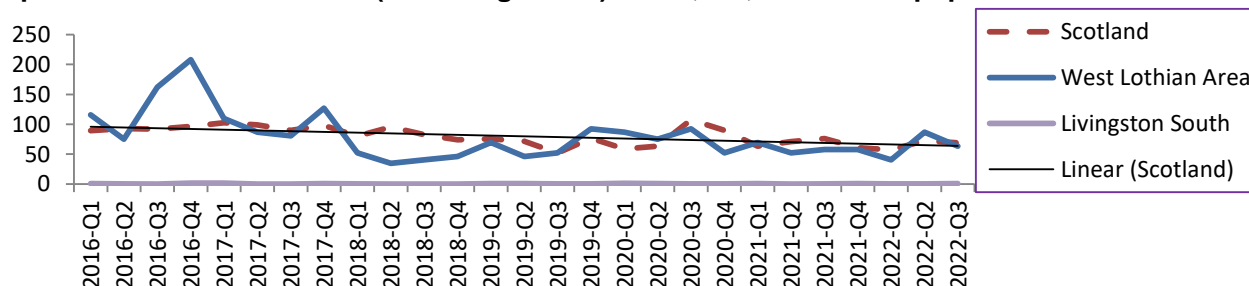
SFRS have dealt with 12 Deliberate fire incidents during 2022-23 year to date reporting period in comparison to 25 during 2021-22 year to date reporting period.

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



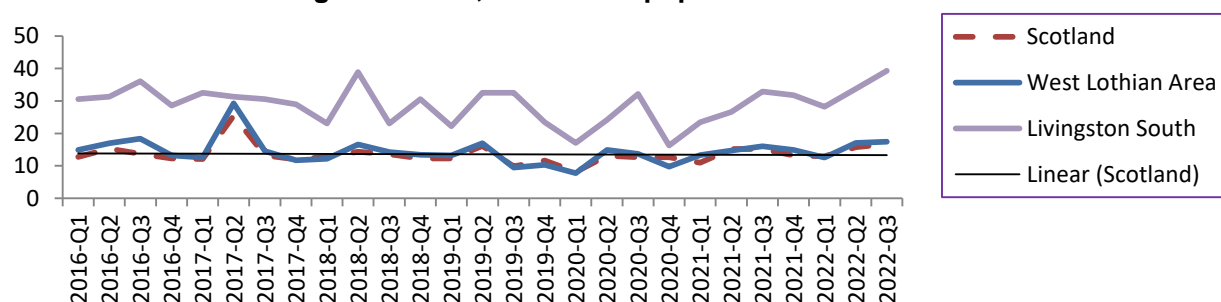
SFRS have dealt with 2 non domestic fire incidents during 2022-23 year to date reporting period in comparison to 4 during 2021-22 year to date reporting period.

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



SFRS have dealt with 2 casualties from Special Services during 2022-23 year to date reporting period in comparison to 1 during 2020-21 year to date reporting period.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Per 10,000 head of population

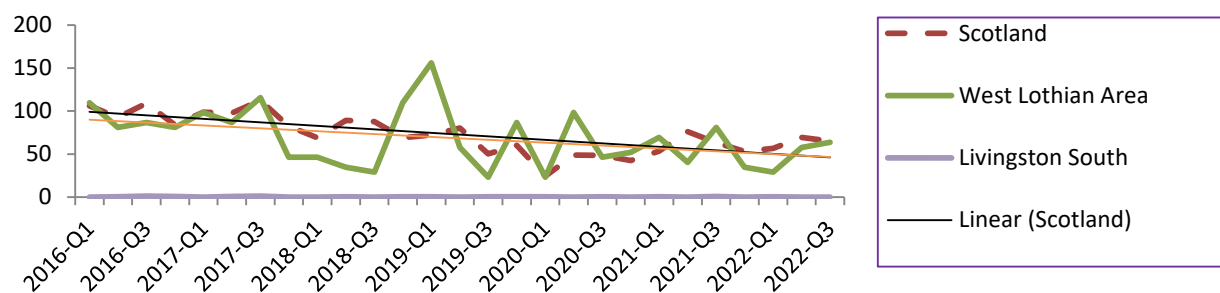


SFRS have dealt with 99 UFAS incidents during 2022-23 year to date reporting period in comparison to 83 during 2021-22 year to date reporting period.

Additional Comments

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

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



During the 2022-23 year to date reporting period SFRS have dealt with 0 Casualties and Fatalities from RTC's in comparison to 2 Casualties and Fatalities during 2021-22 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 3 - 1st October 2022 to 31st December 2022.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs. Being honest, open and accountable. Providing equality of opportunities. Making best use of our resources. Working in partnership.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 Housing (Scotland) Act 2010
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	There is no impact
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	There are positive impact on the following SOA indicators: SOA4 – we live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities SOA8 – we make the most effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None

VII Consideration at PDSP Yes

VIII Other consultations N/A

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D1. Housing Performance Information

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Area Committee with an overview of the activities of Housing, Customer and Building Services, specific to the Livingston South Ward.

Property Void & Let Performance: Mainstream Tenancies

Void Period	Oct 22	%	Nov 22	%	Dec 22	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	1	25%	1	50%	0	0%	55%
2-4 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	30%
4+ weeks	3	75%	1	50%	2	100%	15%
Total Lets	4	100%	2	100%	2	100%	100%

Property Void & Let Performance: Temporary Tenancies

Void Period	Oct 22	%	Nov 22	%	Dec 22	%	WL Target %
0-2 weeks	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	55%
2-4 weeks	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	30%
4+ weeks	0	0%	1	100%	1	100%	15%
Total Lets	1	100%	1	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 8 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 Q3 remains excellent at 98.3%. Livingston South has collected £4,751,887 vs a charge of £4,835,163.

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 249 Universal Credit (UC) households in arrears. Since then the number of UC households in arrears has increased by 15.3%.

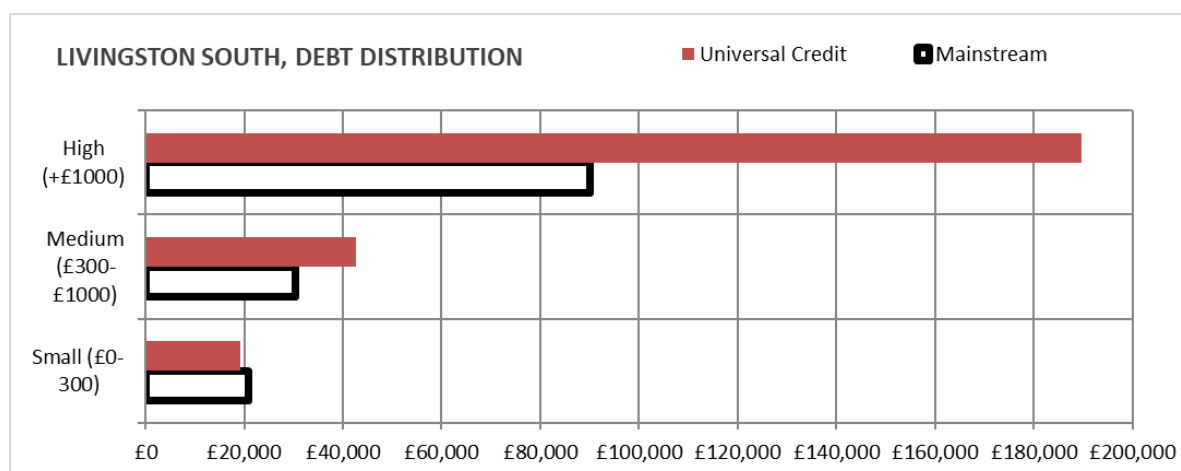
The number of tenancies in arrears in this ward has increased by 78 since last year. Small debt cases (£300 or less), account for 57.9% of households.

There are 114 serious arrears cases (+£1000 in arrears). These cases are 19.4% of all households in arrears in this area, containing 71.2% of the debt.

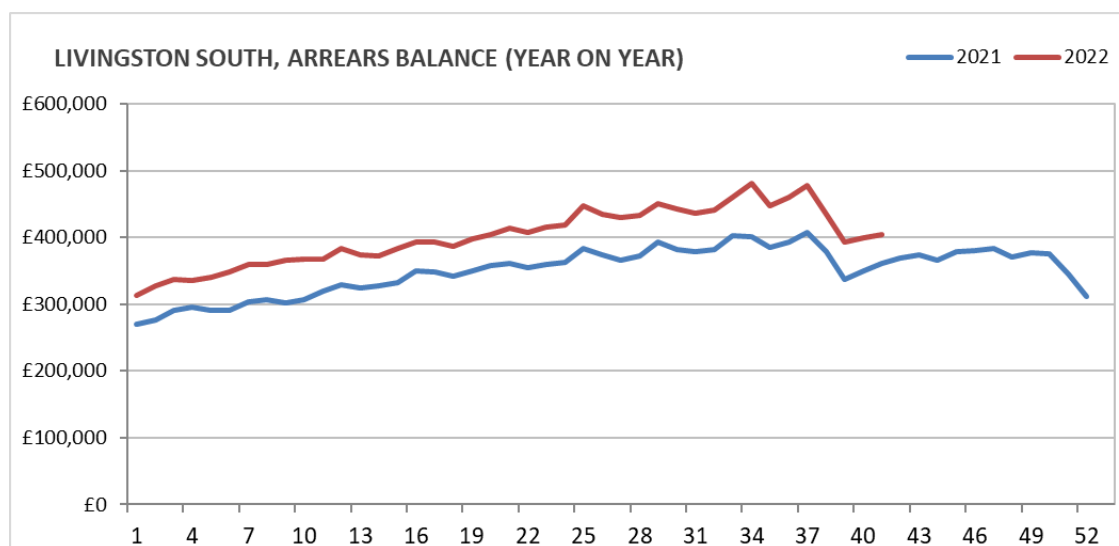
The arrears position for Livingston South Q3 is £392,613. This is an increase of £54,890 on last year's position. The West Lothian overall position is currently £4,305,323.

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

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



Arrears Banding	2021/22 (WK39)				2022/23 (WK39)			
	Mainstream		UC		Mainstream		UC	
	Balance	Cases	Balance	Cases	Balance	Cases	Balance	Cases
£0.01 to £99.99	£5,097	100	£2,068	39	£6,350	119	£3,292	53
£100.00 to £299.99	£12,672	68	£12,589	69	£14,445	84	£15,844	85
£300.00 to £499.99	£11,358	28	£15,204	37	£10,924	29	£14,223	35
£500.00 to £749.99	£17,491	28	£12,077	20	£10,441	17	£17,857	30
£750.00 to £999.99	£11,563	13	£12,317	14	£9,033	11	£10,469	12
£1000.00 to £1999.99	£17,924	13	£54,215	40	£42,904	29	£45,971	34
£2000+	£40,753	12	£112,395	30	£47,219	13	£143,643	38
Group Total	£116,858	262	£220,865	249	£141,315	302	£251,298	287
Movement					(+) £24,457	(+) 40	(+) £30,433	(+) 38
Overall Total			£337,723	511			£392,613	589
Overall Movement							(+) £54,890	(+) 78



D3. Livingston Team Activity.

Officers in the Housing team have embraced the council's flexible / hybrid working arrangements since April 2022, working from home, office and out in our communities. The focus on rent arrears activity continues to be a weekly priority task for the team and officers continue to work with all our tenants in offering 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.

During quarter 3, officers have continued to work closely with colleagues in Building Services, engaging with tenants to ensure that health and safety work has been completed and all necessary compliance work is undertaken in tenancies to ensure that these meet legislative requirements. As a result we have identified a number of tenants requiring support.

Officers have been working to support a number of tenants in the area alongside colleagues from other service areas and agencies, dealing with a range of tenancy management issues and providing assistance and support to help tenants sustain their tenancies. This can range from being involved in complex care management cases alongside colleagues in social policy to being involved in assisting to resolve neighbour disputes with Police Scotland and Safer Neighbourhood Team colleagues.

D.4 New Build

WLC completions 55

RSL Completions 89

WLC New Build Activity	Site	No of units	Site Start	No. of Houses Handed Over	Site Completion
WLC	Eagle Brae	29	Apr-21	29	Dec-22
WLC	Wellhead	42	Aug-21	26	June-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	61	Mar-23
Places for People	Wellhead	28	Nov-21	0	Mar-23
Places for People	Hunter Road	28	Mar-22	28	Oct -22
Places for People	Gregory Road	53	May-22	0	Apr-24
ARK Housing Association	Crusader Rise	20	Oct-22	0	Oct-23

D5. Tenant Participation Update

To coincide with our new Tenant and Customer Partnership Strategy, we have reduced the number of tenant meetings from 72 a year to 38. This ensures that the information brought to the meetings is of value to both customers and officers.

We are still taking a hybrid approach to our TP meetings, with the majority of meetings being digital.

Tenant Participation Development Working Group: tenant panel members and TP officers meet monthly. This quarter, we focused on the new expenses process and funding for new tenant groups.

Editorial panel: We completed our review of the tenant's handbook and Landlord Report. We created another successful edition of the Winter tenant's news.

Social Media: We currently have 343 members on our TP Facebook page. We are seeing a steady increase of tenants joining the page after we developed a letter with our tenant's panel chair to welcome new members. This letter is sent to tenants who states they are interested in joining TP through their new tenant survey.

Tenants Panel: This quarter, our tenant members met with senior management and were provided with an update for each service area.

TP Strategy: This quarter has seen the launch of our new 5-year Tenant and Customer Participation strategy and action plan. This sets out our goals for TP over the next years and makes sure we have something to keep us on track to meeting our objectives.

D6. Safer Neighbourhood Team Update

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, as part of their working remit to reduce noise and antisocial behaviour (ASB). Partnership working involves the local housing team, council officer within 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 voluntary organisations including West Lothian Youth Action Project, mental health advisory workers and private landlords in order to reduce antisocial behaviour.

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

Livingston South Ward Data – Information on Data not yet available and can be circulated when received.

E. CONCLUSION

To note the contents of the report.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments:

None

Contact Person: sandy.ross@westlothian.gov.uk Tele: 01506 283973

Julie Whitelaw, Interim Head of Housing Customer and Building Services

Date: 2nd February 2023



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 October 2022 – 31 December 2022.

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 October 2022 – 31 December 2022.

D2 Grounds Maintenance Routine Works

Grass cutting of open spaces was completed in Mid-October. All grass areas that required a one-off cut has been completed.

The weed spraying programme also finished in October.

Our winter works programme of open space hedge cutting and shrub bed maintenance started in early November and will carry on until early April.

Grounds Maintenance and Cleansing Services will provide a number of staff to cover the Winter Maintenance gritting programme.

Enquiries are being dealt with on a daily basis.

Grounds Maintenance Enquiries

In total 49 grounds maintenance related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period.

	2022	2021
Ball Game Enquiries	1	0
Bonfire Enquiries	0	2
Complaint Grounds Maintenance	1	2
Drainage Flooding Grass Areas	1	2
Enforcement Officer Enquiries	3	2
Fencing Enquiries	1	2
Grass Area Damaged	3	0
Grass Cutting Enquiries	7	5
Grass Highway Verges	5	1
Grass Left On Paths or Roads	2	0
Ground Ownership Enquiries	4	3
Grounds Property Vandalised	1	1
Hedge Cutting Enquiries	4	6
Neighbourhood Env. Teams	1	0
Shrub Bed Enquiries	4	0
Shrub Beds Overhanging Path	10	21
Shrub Beds Not Maintained	1	2
Shrub/ Vegetation Sight Lines	0	1
Total	49	50

D3 Garden Maintenance Routine Works

The Garden Maintenance Scheme grass cutting was completed along with the Garden Maintenance hedge cutting by the end of October.

Garden Maintenance Enquiries

There were eight maintenance related enquiry received and dealt with within this reporting period.

	2022	2021
Garden Maintenance General Enquiries	3	2
Garden Maintenance Grass Not Cut	1	1
Garden Maintenance Hedge Cutting	1	0
Garden Maintenance Standard of Cut	3	1
Total	8	4

Cleaner Communities Routine Works

Staff continue to carry out routine works of emptying street litter/ dog waste bins, litter picking and sweeping of footpaths and road channels while dealing with enquiries as they arise.

Officers continue to work with volunteer's litter picking within the Ward and have assisted with arranging the uplift of bags and debris that they have collected.

The NETs team continue to deal with fly tipping enquiries and removing fly tipping from Council ground.

Street Cleansing staff resources at this time of year are directed towards leaf clearance throughout West Lothian. Leaves are lifted from footpaths and roadways using mechanical sweepers and target known areas of concern and react to enquiries that come in from the public within available resources.

Over the coming winter period, when required, Street Cleansing staff will assist Roads with winter maintenance. During these periods the Street Cleansing Service will be reduced.

D4 Cleaner Communities Enquiries

In total 240 cleaner communities related enquiries were received and dealt with during this reporting period.

	2022	2021
Complaint Street Cleansing	1	0
Dead Animals	11	7
Dog Bin New Request for Bin	0	2
Dog Bin Overflowing	2	7
Dog Fouled Grass Open Space	1	1
Dog Fouling on Paths/Roads	14	6
Dog No Fouling Sign Request	1	0
Fly Posting	3	0
Fly Tipping Dumping	115	71
Glass on Paths or Open Spaces	1	3
Graffiti Non Offensive	1	0
Graffiti Racist or Offensive	4	2
Litter Bin Burnt Damaged	0	1
Litter Bin New Request for Bin	1	2
Litter Bin Overflowing	2	2
Litter General Enquiries	4	9
Litter Grass Open Space	2	0

Litter Paths Roads Verges	24	17
Street Sweeping Enquiries	14	15
Trolleys Abandoned/Dumped	25	20
Trolleys Dumped in Livingston	1	2
Vehicle Abandoned	13	10
Total	240	177

Fly Tipping Enquiries (Full Year)

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Illegal Fly Tipping/Dumping	381	474	429	408	329

Environmental Community Action

Officers continue to deal with enquiries relating to fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles and general enquiries. There have been 115 enquiries in relation to fly tipping for the period compared to 71 for the same period in 2021.

In dealing with abandoned vehicles, Officers have gained compliance from vehicle owners with said vehicles getting removed from public highways or getting taxed in most cases. Where appropriate, requests have been sent to WLC contractors for removal. However, there are instances where vehicle owners are not compliant and result to moving their vehicles between streets. When presented with this, officers have resulted to contacting the DVLA and VOSA for support.

Officers have also had to educate members of the public that their vehicles with a SORN marker needs to be off public roads and kept in a private drive or inside a garage. This is a scenario that has occurred quite frequently of late.

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 was None (0) Fixed Penalty Notice issued in Livingston South for Fly Tipping, None (0) for littering or dog fouling for the period of 1 October 2022 – 31 December 2022. In comparison to the similar period in 2021 there was no (0) Fixed Penalty Notices issued for fly tipping and None (0) for dog fouling and None (0) for littering.

Officers removed fly posting from street lighting, railings, bus shelters on Almondvale Boulevard, Alderstone Road and Livingston Village.

Costs for fly tipping for the period 1 October 2022 – 31 December 2022

Wards	Number of Fly Tipping Enquiries	% of enquiries relating to Ward	Total Tonnage all wards	Cost of disposal including costs for NETs team/vehicles	Contractor removal of Fly Tipping	Removal of Asbestos
1	13	2.87	71.44	£1,350.99		
2	53	11.70	71.44	£5,507.88		
3	49	10.82	71.44	£5,092.19		
4	115	25.39	71.44	£11,951.07		
5	90	19.87	71.44	£9,353.01		
6	24	5.30	71.44	£2,494.14		

7	37	8.17	71.44	£3,845.13		
8	51	11.26	71.44	£5,300.04		
9	21	4.64	71.44	£2,182.37		
TOTAL	453			£47,076.82		

Costs for fly tipping for the period 1 October 2021 – 31 December 2021

Wards	Number of Fly Tipping Enquiries	% of enquiries relating to Ward	Total Tonnage all wards	Cost of disposal including costs for NETs team/vehicles	Contractor removal of Fly Tipping	Removal of Asbestos
1	15	3.13	63.64	£1,313.26		
2	65	13.57	63.64	£5,690.80		
3	77	16.08	63.64	£6,741.41		
4	71	14.82	63.64	£6,216.11		
5	126	26.30	63.64	£11,031.41		
6	37	7.72	63.64	£3,239.38		
7	36	7.52	63.64	£3,151.83		
8	34	7.10	63.64	£2,296.73		
9	18	3.76	63.64	£1,575.92		
TOTAL	479			£41,256.85		

D5 Parks and Woodland

Parks and Woodland Enquiries

In total 47 Parks and Woodland related enquiries were received during this reporting period.

	2022	2021
Tree Advice or Consultations	2	2
Tree Blocking Light	2	0
Tree Branches Overhanging	6	19
Tree Broken/Damaged or Dead	2	3
Tree Dangerous or Unsafe	4	3
Tree Enquiries General	21	15
Tree Leaves Causing Problems	9	5
Tree Roots Causing Problems	0	1
Tree Woodland Enquiries	1	0
Total	47	48

	2022	2021
Access Rights Way Core Paths	0	1
Complaint Country Parks/ Trees	0	1
Country Park General Enquiries	0	1
Ranger Almondell & Calderwood	1	0
Total	1	3

Ranger Service Update

No. Rights Of Way / Core Path / Patrols carried out (hours)	3
No. Access Enquiries	1

The Assistant Ranger contracts, funded by NatureScot, ended on 31 October. The Ranger Service thank them for their work in raising the awareness of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and helping to deliver the 2022 activities programme. A breakdown of their achievements from July - October across West Lothian is shown below.

Total Patrols – 660km
 Total events – 45
 Total schools visited – 39
 Total school lessons – 79
 Total members of public engaged with – 4000+

They visited 18 schools in October, one of which was Harrysmuir Primary School, where they delivered a classroom mapping activity on the Scottish Outdoor Access Code (SOAC) and took the class on a guided 'Access' walk to play Access Bingo and discuss countryside access.

The Assistant Rangers also attended several of the Livingston Producers Market events at Livingston Cricket Club, with their pop-up stall and Scottish Outdoor Access Code related information, advice, and activities.

The Ranger Service are due to meet with the Murieston Environment Group (MEG) in January 2023 to discuss maintenance and conservation tasks that can be carried out by the group along parts of the Murieston Trail. The Rangers will provide guidance on tasks and look to facilitate a larger volunteer session there in 2023.

The monthly Volunteer Ranger Service (VRS) sessions are still held twice a month, but stopped in November for the winter. They will resume in February or March 2023, once the Ranger team have met in January 2023 to discuss volunteering opportunities and groups.

The Ranger Service continue to assist different organisations wishing to run events across West Lothian and within the Country Parks and other greenspaces, including running clubs and orienteering groups.

Access

The Rangers continue to review all West Lothian Planning Applications for access implications, and submit comments to Planning Services.

Following training, the Access Ranger will soon take on the responsibility of submitting planning comments, and assist in investigating access issues. The Access Ranger is in the process of starting up the Access Forum again, and will be updating existing members on the progress so far in January 2023.

The Ranger Service have investigated one new access issue within this time, regarding the removal of a bridge at Linn Jaw. As with the last enquiry for this area, the Ranger Service will investigate the issue, but there are no immediate plans to replace the bridge.

Any access enquiries should continue to be reported through the 'Report it > Core Paths & Rights of Way' section on the Council's website.

Ecology and Biodiversity

Ecology and Biodiversity Officers participated in further co-design workshops on “Nature Networks” and “30x30” lead by NatureScot. Nature networks and 30 x 30 are two key mechanisms being put forward to meet Scottish Biodiversity Strategy. These workshops were to steer and inform how Scotland should be taking forward protection of important habitats and species and how to best secure positive effects for biodiversity in line with the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy (draft published in December 2022 with further consultation expected Spring 2023). It’s hoped this will be used in connection with our forthcoming LBAP (Local Biodiversity Action Plan).

Planning – Officers continue to serve in an advisory role for planning applications, to ensure that legislation for the protection of wildlife, and policies and processes to safeguard the environment are followed. This ranges from written responses, to meetings with Planning Officers and developers to discuss particular concerns (for example with regard to protected species). This type of proactive working with developers and the Planning team should encourage better results for local environments and wildlife in future applications. For the reporting period, Ecology and Biodiversity team received 264 planning applications for Ecological comments of which 20 were specific to Livingston South.

WLC Climate Emergency Fund Projects

- Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) – the consultants are finishing off the habitat mapping, condition assessments and natural capital assessment. And Ecology and Biodiversity Officers have begun contacting other potential stakeholders in West Lothian.
- Howden Park tree planting – another 1800 trees are being planted to replace the ones that didn’t survive the hot, dry weather last year. Tree guards and stakes are being removed from the low survival areas, and will be re-used in the new planting areas. However, the areas with low survival rates will still be left to regenerate naturally.
- Tree-Time West Lothian was successfully launched with a large golden weeping willow planted in the grounds of Almondvale Park near West Lothian Council Civic Centre, Livingston on the 30th November. Tree Time is an initiative to help increase tree planting in West Lothian by offering a way of commemorating a loved one’s life, marking a child’s birth, celebrating a special anniversary or just to show how much a person cares about trees and/or West Lothian as a place. A number of larger tree tags explaining the scheme and advertising the importance of trees to climate change and biodiversity have been placed throughout West Lothian and postcards have been left in strategic locations too. The scheme will be reviewed in a year’s time but will function relatively independently through our partner Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust with input where required from West Lothian Council staff.

D6 Open Space and Cemeteries

Open Space Enquiries

There were one Open Space enquiries for this reporting period.

	2022	2021
Complaint Childrens Play Areas	0	1
Childrens Play Enquiries	1	0
New Play Area Problems	0	1
Total	1	2

A new kick rail was installed along the north-eastern edge of the pond by The Lanthorn Centre following the removal of established vegetation during the previous removal of a wooden walkway.

The ramp, viewing platform and steps overlooking The Wave Pond, east of The Centre, were removed following deterioration and vandalism. There are no plans to replace these structures.

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 68 Cemeteries enquiries for this reporting period.

	2022	2021
Bench Donations	1	0
Cemeteries General Enquiries	10	5
Complaint Cemeteries & Burials	2	0
Lair Enquiries	6	7
Lair Sunken or Uneven	0	1
Memorial/ Headstone Works	20	27
New Interment Booking	19	29
Purchase of Interment Lair	10	18
Total	68	87

E. CONCLUSION

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

The Open Space Capital Programme is progressing as scheduled.

F BACKGROUND REFERENCE

None

Appendices/Attachments: None

Contact Persons: David Lees, Whitehill Service Centre, Bathgate 01506 284612
david.lees@westlothian.gov.uk

Jim Jack
Head of Operational Services
02 February 2023

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

SPACES FOR PEOPLE CONSULTATION

REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to consult with the Local Area Committee (LAC) in accordance with the amendment approved by Council on 22 November 2022. The approved amendment provides an opportunity for the committee to provide feedback on whether the council's remaining temporary Spaces for People measures should be permanently retained or removed.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the LAC

1. Notes the contents of this report and provides any appropriate feedback on the remaining temporary Spaces for People measures contained within this report; and
2. Notes that Officers will report back to a future meeting of the Environment and Sustainability PDSP with any feedback received.

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)	None.
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	None.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None.

VII Consideration at PDSP None.

VIII Other consultations None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

On the 22 November 2022 the Council considered a report in relation to the consultation carried out with statutory and public consultees on the remaining Spaces for People (SfP) measures that were introduced during the Covid19 pandemic. The report provided information gathered on the remaining SfP measures to allow Council to decide on whether the SfP measures should be retained or removed.

The Council debated a motion and an amendment on the Spaces for People programme, both are set out in Appendix 1. Council approved the terms of the amendment but with the requirement for a future report to be taken to the Environment and Sustainability PDSP with any feedback received from Local Area Committees. A link to the report referred to in the amendment (22 November 2022) is provided in section F of this report.

D.2 Spaces for People – Previous consultations

In the background references of this report, there are two previous reports presented to Council which detail the work carried out for the SfP programme. These reports detail the consultation work that has also been carried out, however the following information summarises the temporary SfP measures which remain at the present time and should be removed or retained.

D.2.1 Spaces for People – Parking suspensions

Parking suspensions were installed through the SfP programme to provide more space on the footway for all footway users. The two footway parking suspensions on the East Loanings, High Street, Linlithgow (numbers 33 to 41 and 43 to 57) had a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) in place through the pandemic to prevent footway parking which has since expired on the 26 April 2022.

At the West Loanings in Linlithgow, temporary rubber kerbing and reflective bollards were installed to reduce the generous car parking bays to provide more space for footway users at the rear of the parking bays, no TTRO was required.

The east loaning parking in Linlithgow is the only measure that requires statutory consultation due to the existing pre-Covid permanent Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) that is in place to permit parking on the footway.

Should the decision be taken to remove the original East Loaning parking in Linlithgow officers would revoke the existing permanent TRO and then remove the signs and road markings that are currently in place.

The West Loaning parking at 183-245 High Street, Linlithgow should return to the pre-Covid conditions as there is adequate space to permit parking and the movement of pedestrians. There was no change to the existing TRO through the SfP programme, temporary bollards and kerbs were installed to formalise the existing parking arrangements.

D.2.2 Spaces for People – Footway build outs and advisory cycle lanes

The SfP footway build-outs were installed to provide more space for people to pass each other on narrow footways and pinch points. These footway widenings were installed at High Street in Linlithgow, Main Street in East Calder, Main Street in Mid Calder, Main Street West Calder, and Station Road in Kirknewton. These are constructed with temporary surfacing, temporary kerbing and removable reflective bollards.

The cycle lanes were installed in May 2021 in Linlithgow (B9080 Edinburgh Road and A706 St Ninians Road), Broxburn (A899 East Main Street) and Blackridge (A89 through the town). This SfP package of work involved road markings to denote advisory cycle lanes and temporary bollards in areas where suitable to segregate cyclists and motorised vehicles. The temporary bollards were removed from the Blackridge scheme shortly after installation.

The frontagers' directly affected by the footway build-outs and the advisory cycle lanes installed as part of the SfP programme were consulted, however this was a public consultation and not a statutory consultation.

From the footway widening build-out frontage consultation, the locations at East Calder and Kirknewton were more positive in terms of retention of the measures. Opinion on all other footway build-outs at Linlithgow, West Calder and Mid Calder were that they be removed.

Should it be considered that the footway build-outs are retained then funding would be required to be made available to design and construct these measures permanently which would include concrete kerbing, new drainage systems and formal footway surfacing to the appropriate standards.

From the advisory cycle lane frontage consultation, the opinion was that they should all be removed from the responses received. It should be noted however that the removal of the advisory cycle lane measures would be against national strategies and guidance on promoting active travel.

It should be noted that all the cycle lane measures that were installed as part of the SfP measures are advisory, vehicles can park on them and as a result, cyclists will cycle around parked vehicles.

The B9080 Edinburgh Road in Linlithgow advisory cycle lane was installed to assist cyclists cycling uphill out of Linlithgow on the carriageway that was narrowed by existing on-street parking. This parking was relocated to the opposite side of the carriageway allowing additional space for eastbound vehicles to pass slow moving uphill cyclists. This was deemed by officers as an appropriate alteration to existing conditions. Should this be retained then the appropriate traffic regulation orders would have to be promoted.

On the A706 St Ninians Road, the advisory cycle lane outside residential properties on the west side with on-street parking could be removed, however the east side could remain due to lower numbers of on-street parking. Similarly, this scheme could remain in its entirety and consideration could be given to removing the temporary bollards and kerbs but keeping the advisory road markings in position.

The A89 East Main Street in Broxburn advisory cycle lane measures involved an extension of the existing cycle lane features. Consideration could be given to removing the temporary bollards and kerbs but keeping the advisory road markings in position.

Finally, the A89 through Blackridge consists of advisory road markings only which not only promotes active travel through the town but visually assists in slowing vehicle speeds, particularly when entering in the wide carriageway section from Armadale.

Drawings of the remaining SfP measures highlighted above are shown in Appendix 2.

E. CONCLUSION

The information contained within this report will allow the Local Area Committee to consider whether the remaining temporary SfP measures should be retained or removed. Feedback provided by the committee will assist officers in preparing a future report deciding which measures should be retained and which measures should be removed.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Spaces for People – Feedback on engagement with communities and stakeholders report to Council on the 15 March 2022:

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewDoc.asp?c=e%97%9Di%93rz%8C>

Spaces for People – Consultation feedback report to Council on the 22 November 2022:

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewDoc.asp?c=e%97%9Di%97i%7D%8B>

Appendices : 2

Appendix 1 – Motion and Amendment from Council meeting on 22 November 2022

Appendix 2 – Drawings showing the remaining temporary Spaces for People measures

Contact Person: Gordon Brown, Roads and Transportation Manager

email: gordon.brown@westlothian.gov.uk

Jim Jack
Head of Operational Services
2 February 2023

APPENDIX 1 – MOTION AND AMENDMENT FROM COUNCIL MEETING 22 NOVEMBER 2022

MOTION

WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL LABOUR GROUP

Notice of Motion from Councillor Tom Conn
for the Council meeting on 22nd November 2022

Item 14 – Spaces for People Consultation Feedback

Council notes the recommendations set out in the officer's report.

Council also notes that the Scottish Government's Active Travel (AT) budget has been growing year on year since its inception, doubling to £80m pa in 2018/19 and currently £150m pa in 2022/23. The Bute House Agreement committed to increase the AT budget to at least £320m pa, or 10% of the total transport budget by 2024/25.

With this background and recognising that as a Council we need to improve the environment which increases walking, wheeling and cycling activities within our built environment. Indeed, Transport Scotland defines and sets out its commitment to active travel as *“a vision of enabling walking, wheeling and cycling to be the most popular mode of travel, everyday journeys. We want to make Scotland's towns and cities friendlier, safer, and more accessible for people of all ages and abilities.”*

In further consideration of how improvements can be taken forward Council agrees that;

in Linlithgow the east Loaning parking existing permanent TRO should be revoked to remove the permitted footway parking to improve pedestrian movement on this footway for both residents and visitors, (cost estimate £6000); make permanent the B9080 temporary cycleway to make this stretch of road safer for both cyclists and drivers; remove the cycle lane on the west side of St. Ninian's Road (cost estimate £7,500) but retain the cycle lane on the east side and remove the existing temporary measure and review the design and drainage of the extended footway in the High Street with a view to making it permanent to improve pedestrian movement for both residents and visitors

In Station Road, Kirknewton that the footway “build outs” are made permanent (cost estimate £25,000).

In Main Street, East Calder that the footway “build outs” are made permanent (cost estimate £15,000).

All of the above to be developed as projects within the Active Travel programme as funding becomes available through Transport Scotland.

All other temporary footway build outs are removed.

The advisory cycle lanes in Blackridge and Broxburn are retained, however any temporary kerbing and bollards are removed.



Councillor Tom Conn

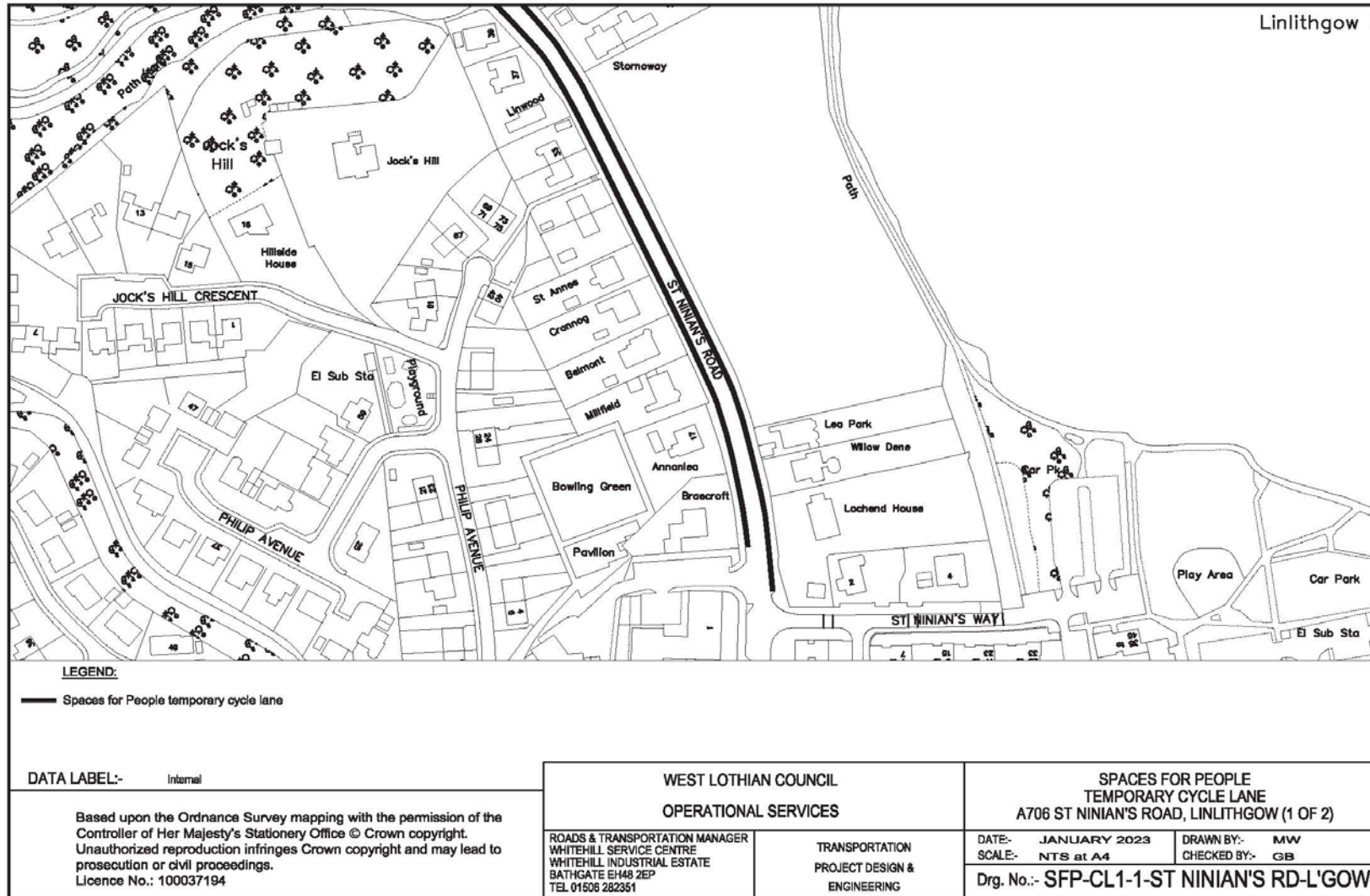
AMENDMENT

"Whilst we agree with some of the measures indicated, we further agree it should be presented to a relevant PDSP for proper discussion and proper scrutiny. This council agrees that in consulting with the people of West Lothian with regard to the S4P programme we have not gone far enough, as evidenced by the poor returns shown in Appendix 1. We therefore move that this report is not agreed today but goes back to all of the LACS, to all community councils in West Lothian, and to all elected members, with a view to a further report being brought back to the next Environment PDSP that is scheduled."

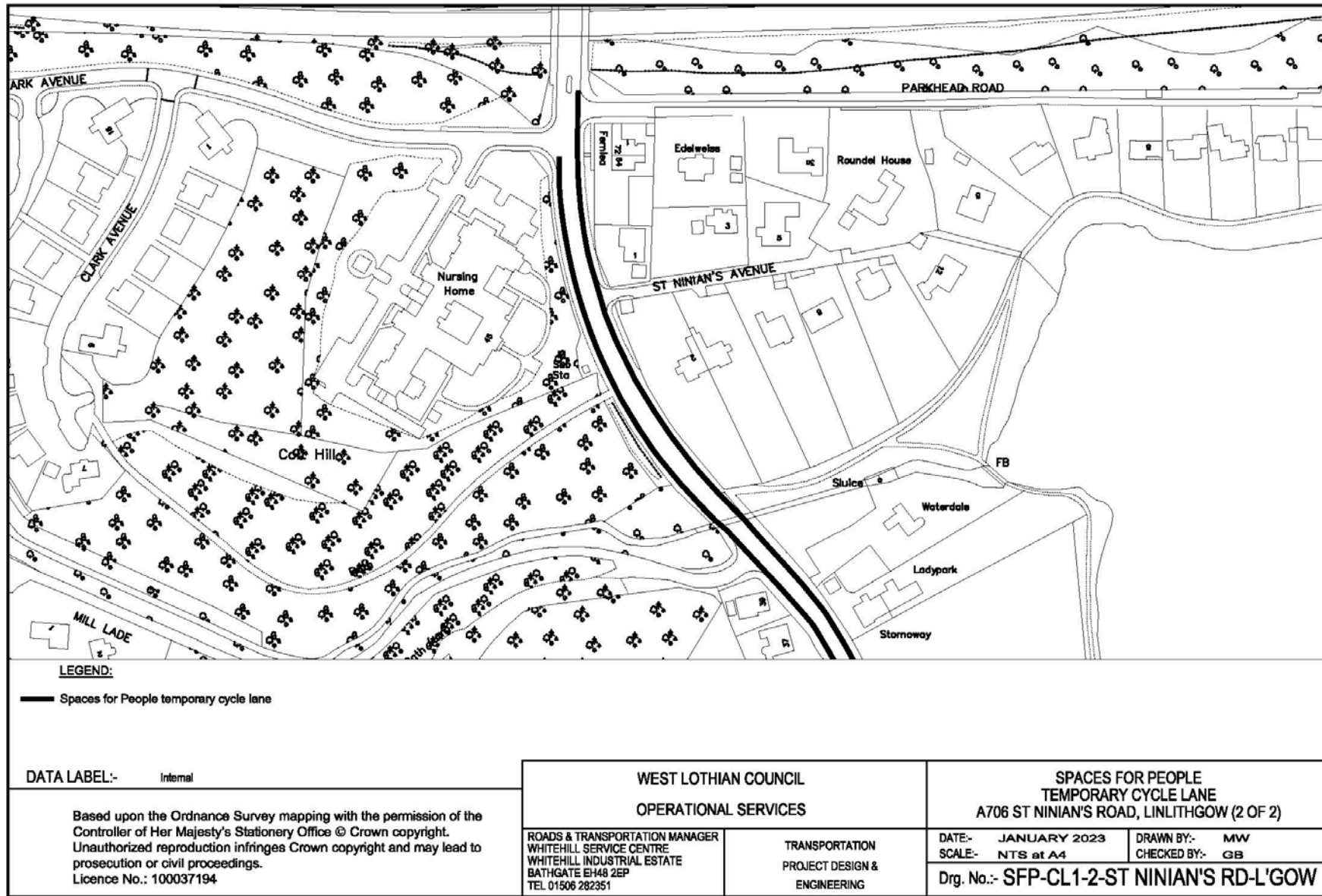
Councillor Janet Campbell

APPENDIX 2 – DRAWINGS SHOWING THE REMAINING TEMPORARY SPACES FOR PEOPLE MEASURES

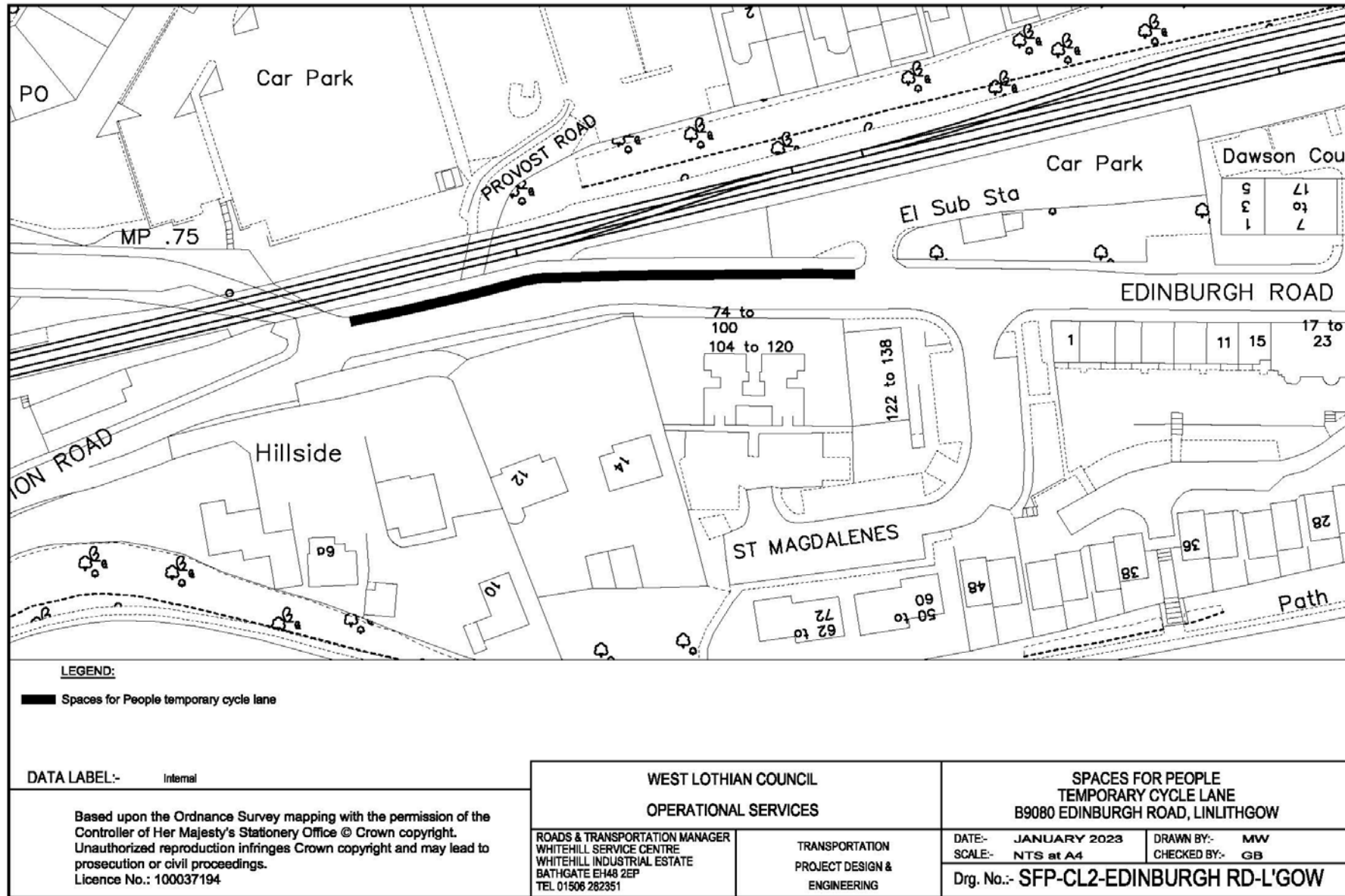
SFP-CL1-1-ST NINIAN'S RD-L'GOW



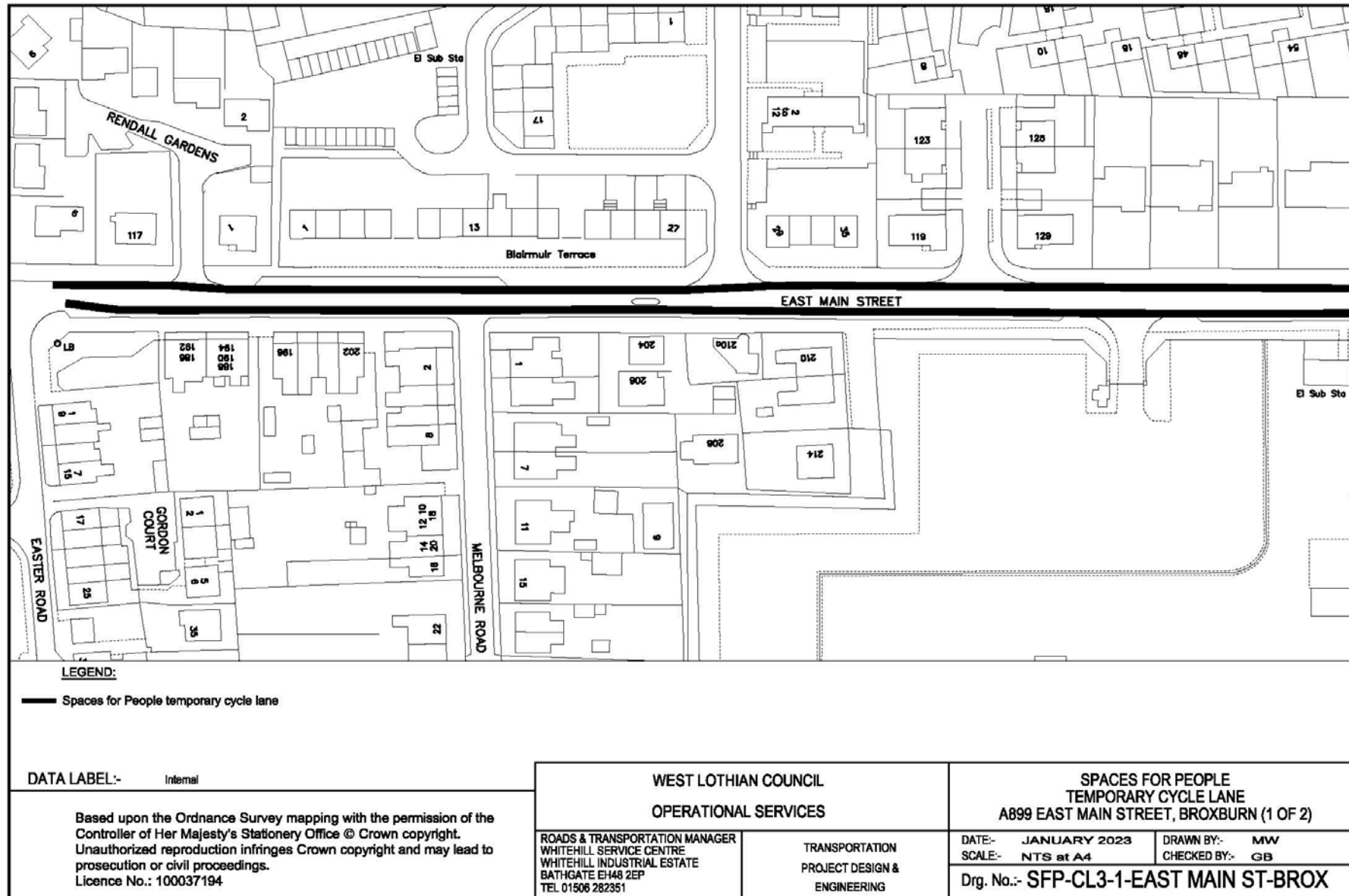
SFP-CL1-2-ST NINIAN'S RD- RD-L'GOW



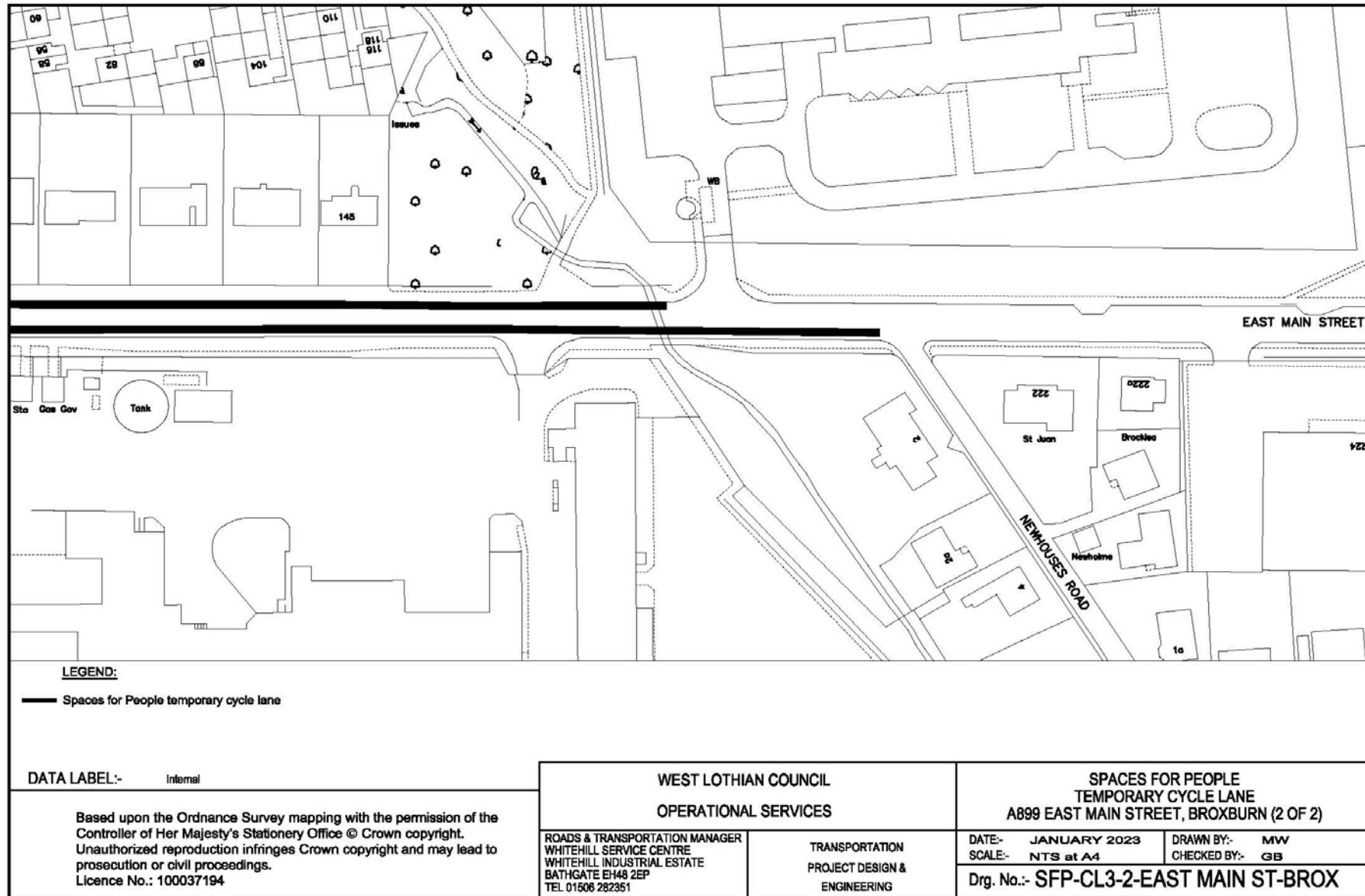
SFP-CL2-EDINBURGH RD-L'GOW



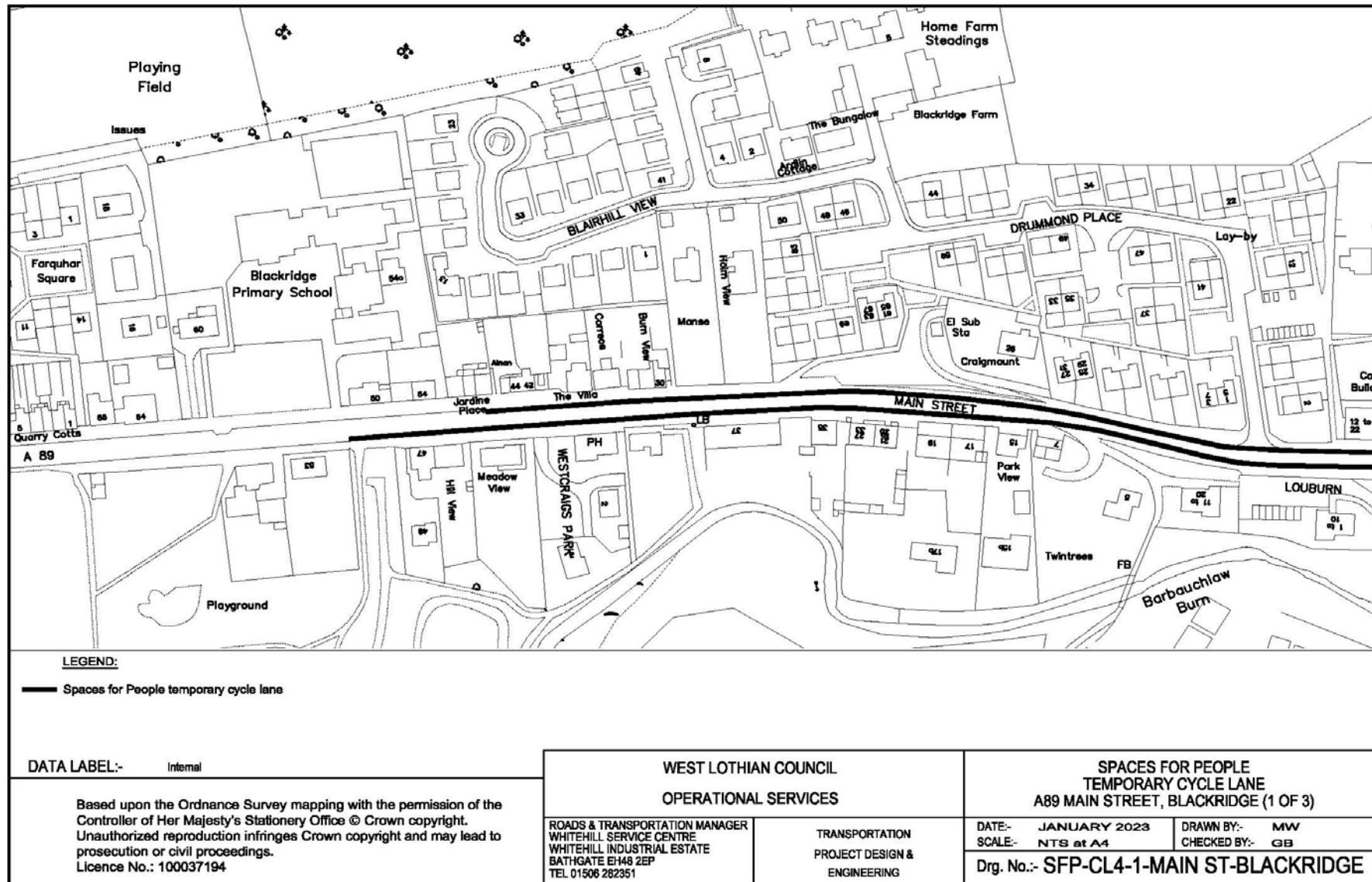
SFP-CL3-1-EAST MAIN ST-BROX



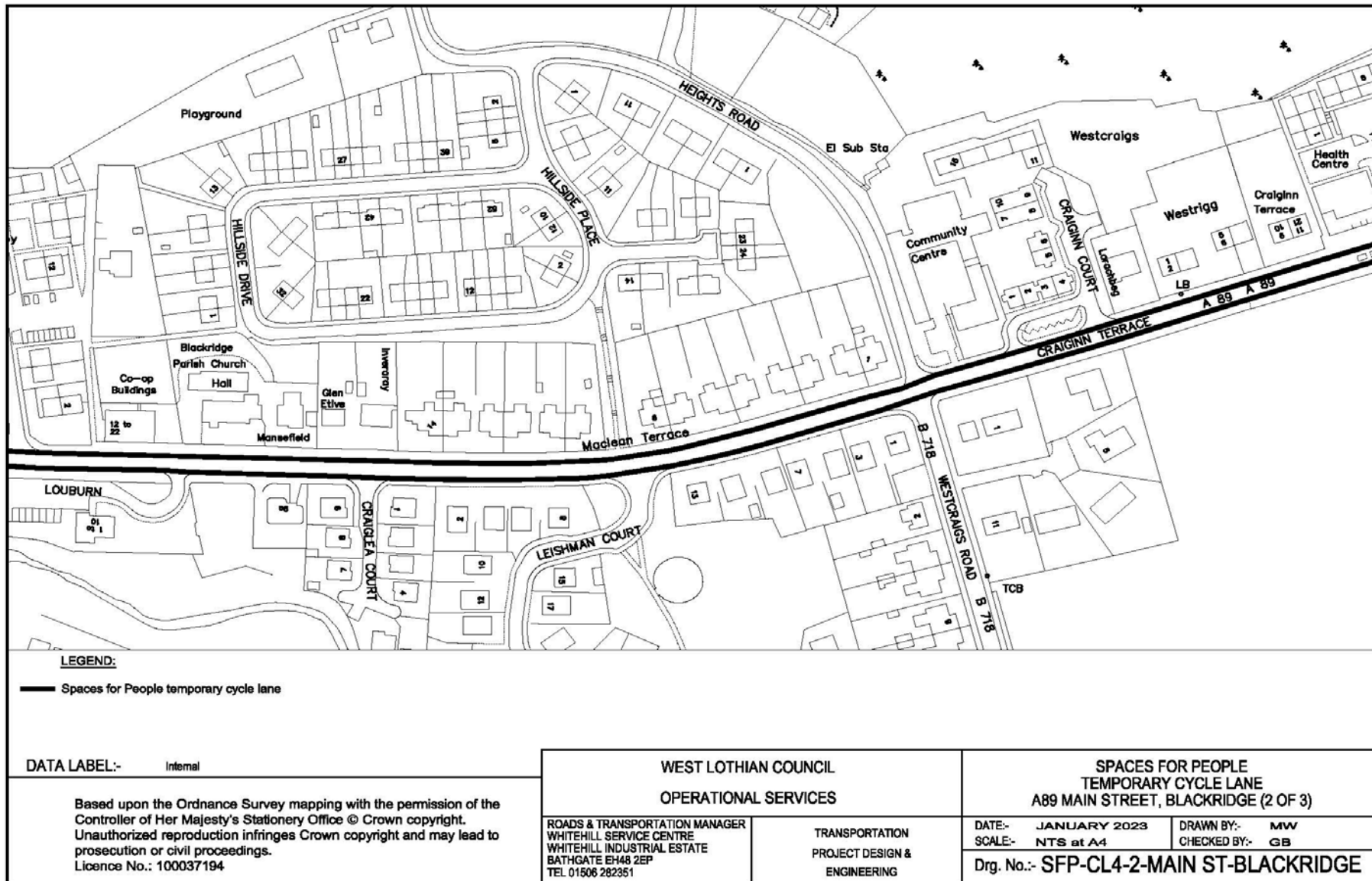
SFP-CL3-2-EAST MAIN ST- BROX



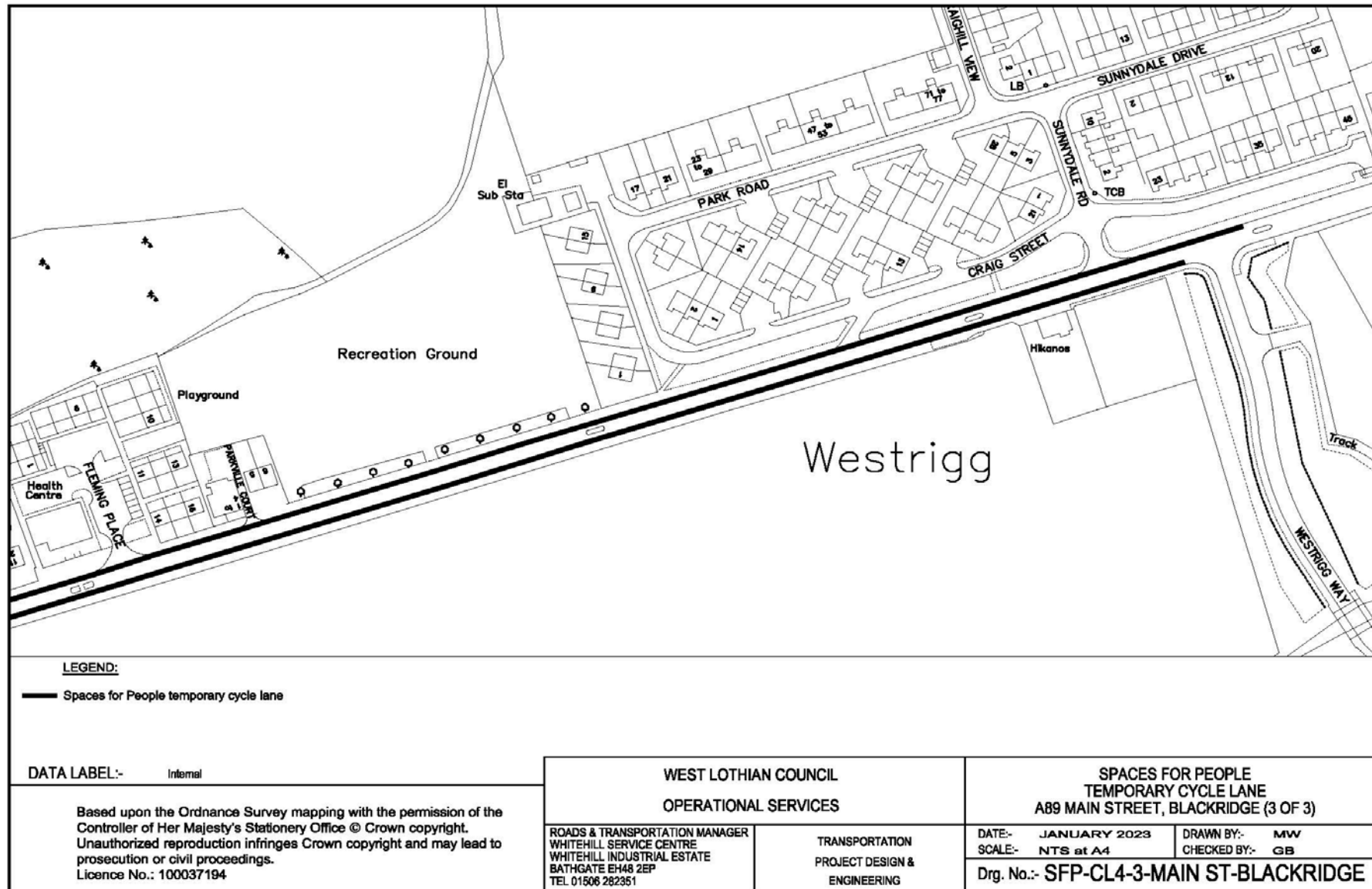
SFP-CL4-1-MAIN ST-
BLACKRIDGE



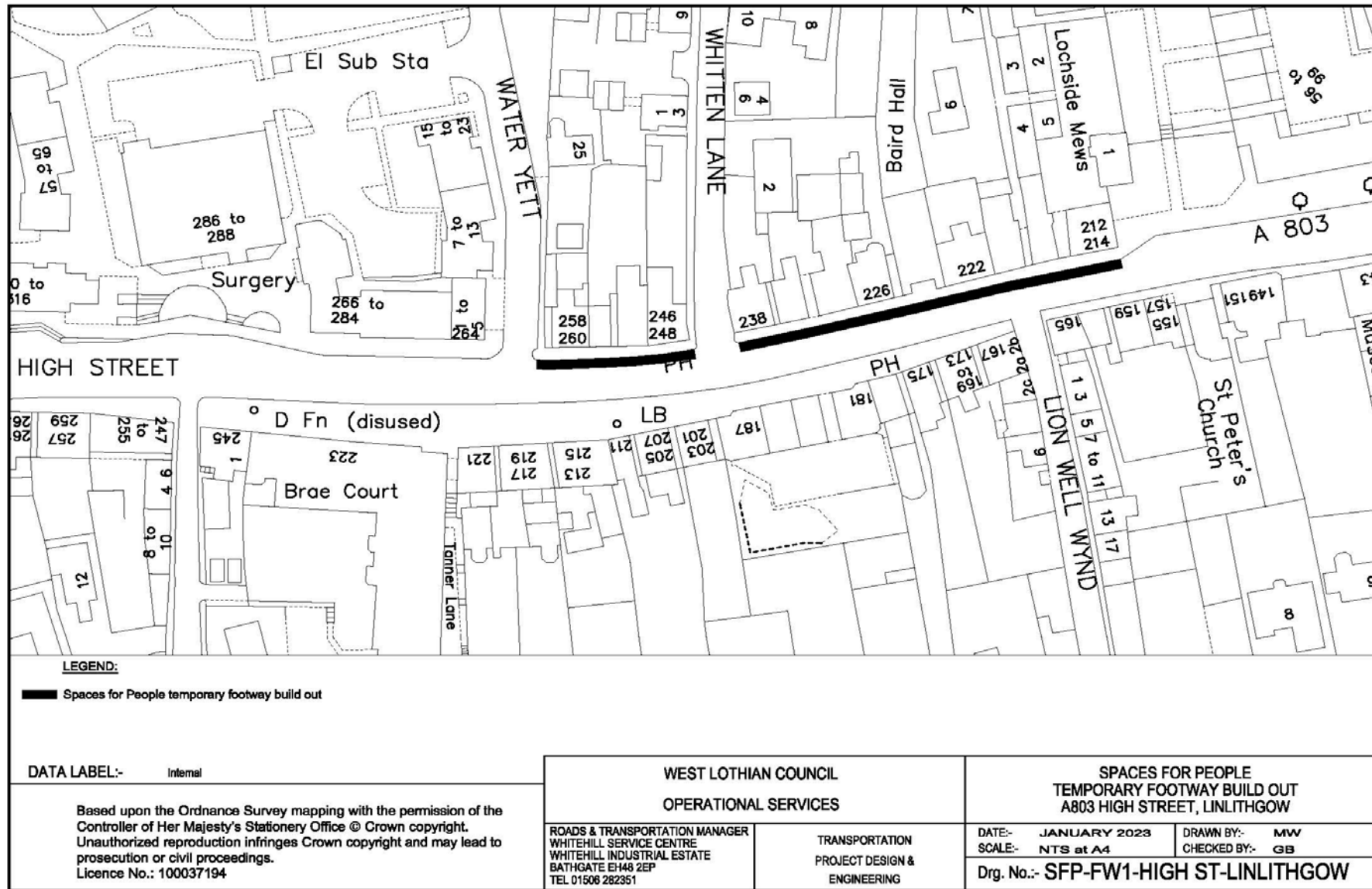
SFP-CL4-2-MAIN ST-
BLACKRIDGE



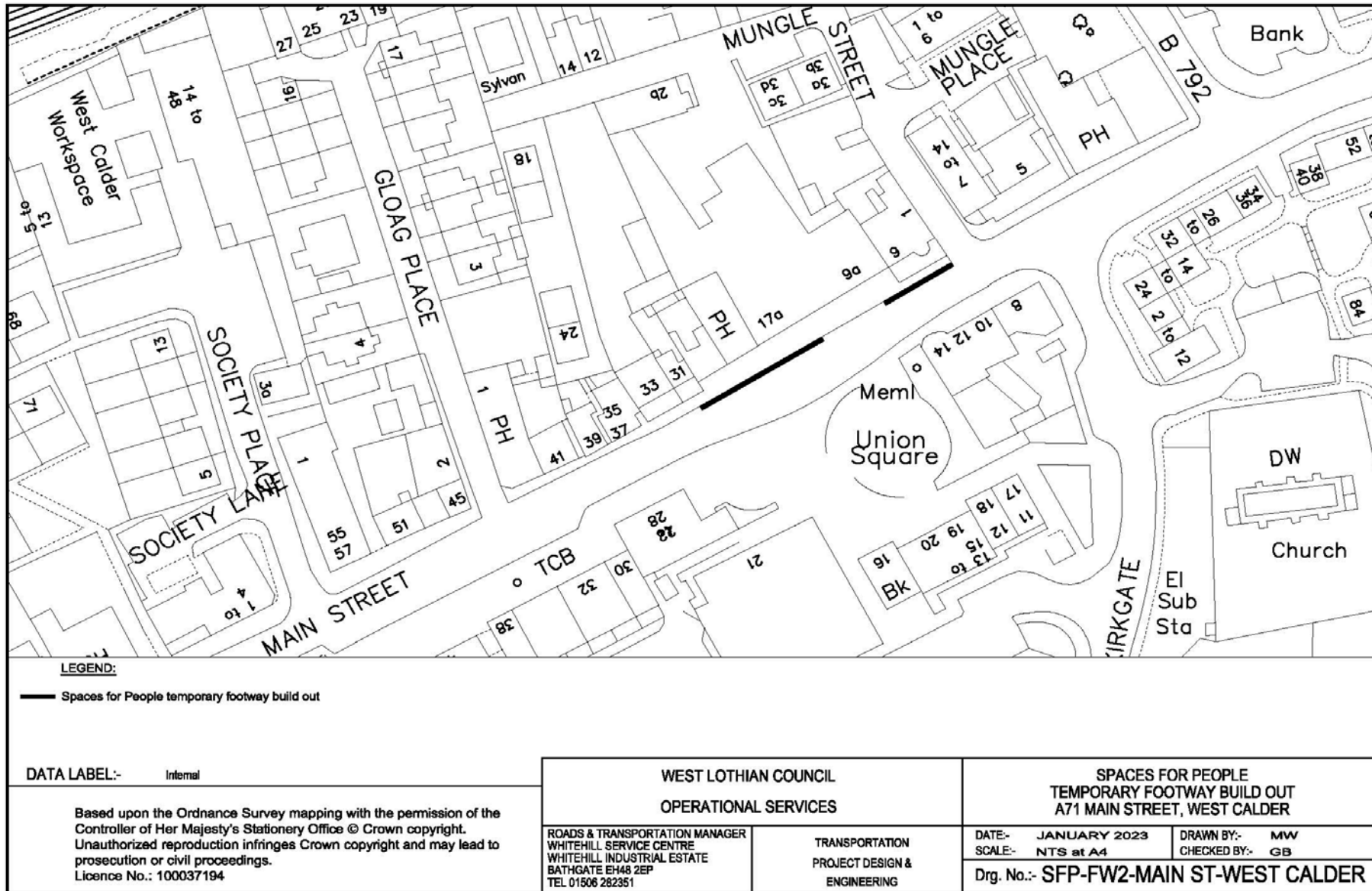
SFP-CL4-3-MAIN ST-
BLACKRIDGE



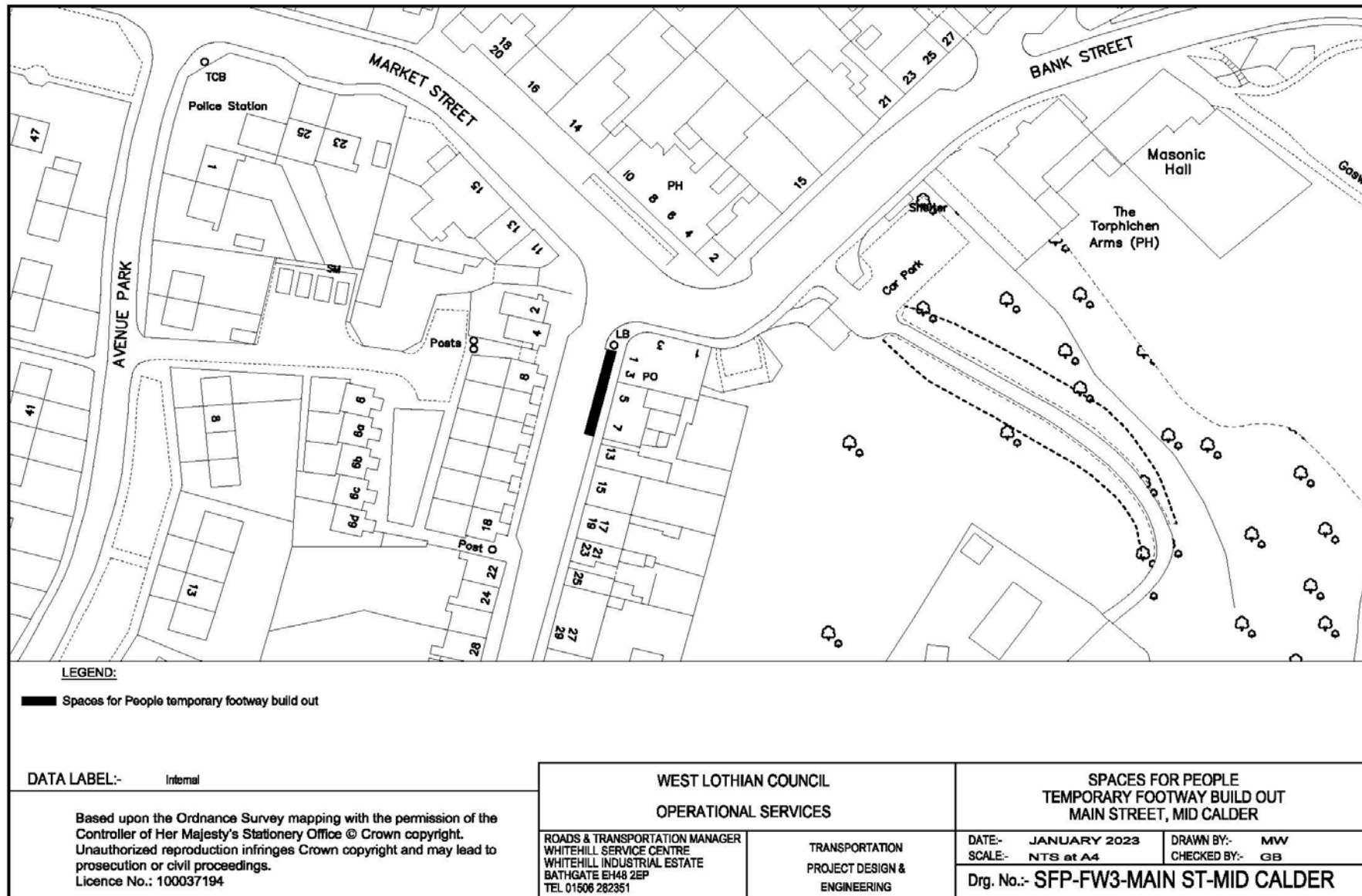
SFP-FW1-HIGH ST-
LINLITHGOW



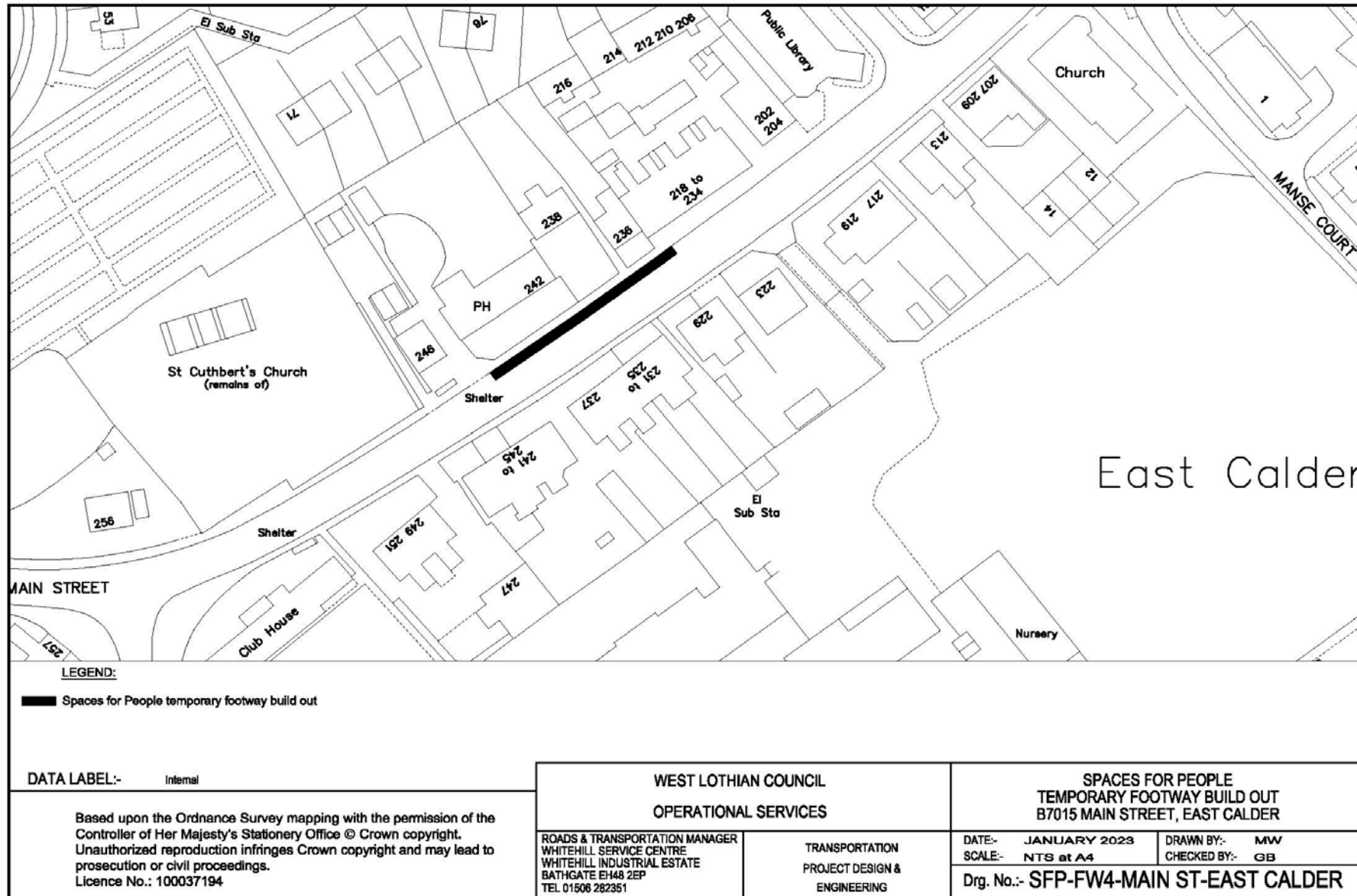
SFP-FW2-MAIN ST- WEST CALDER



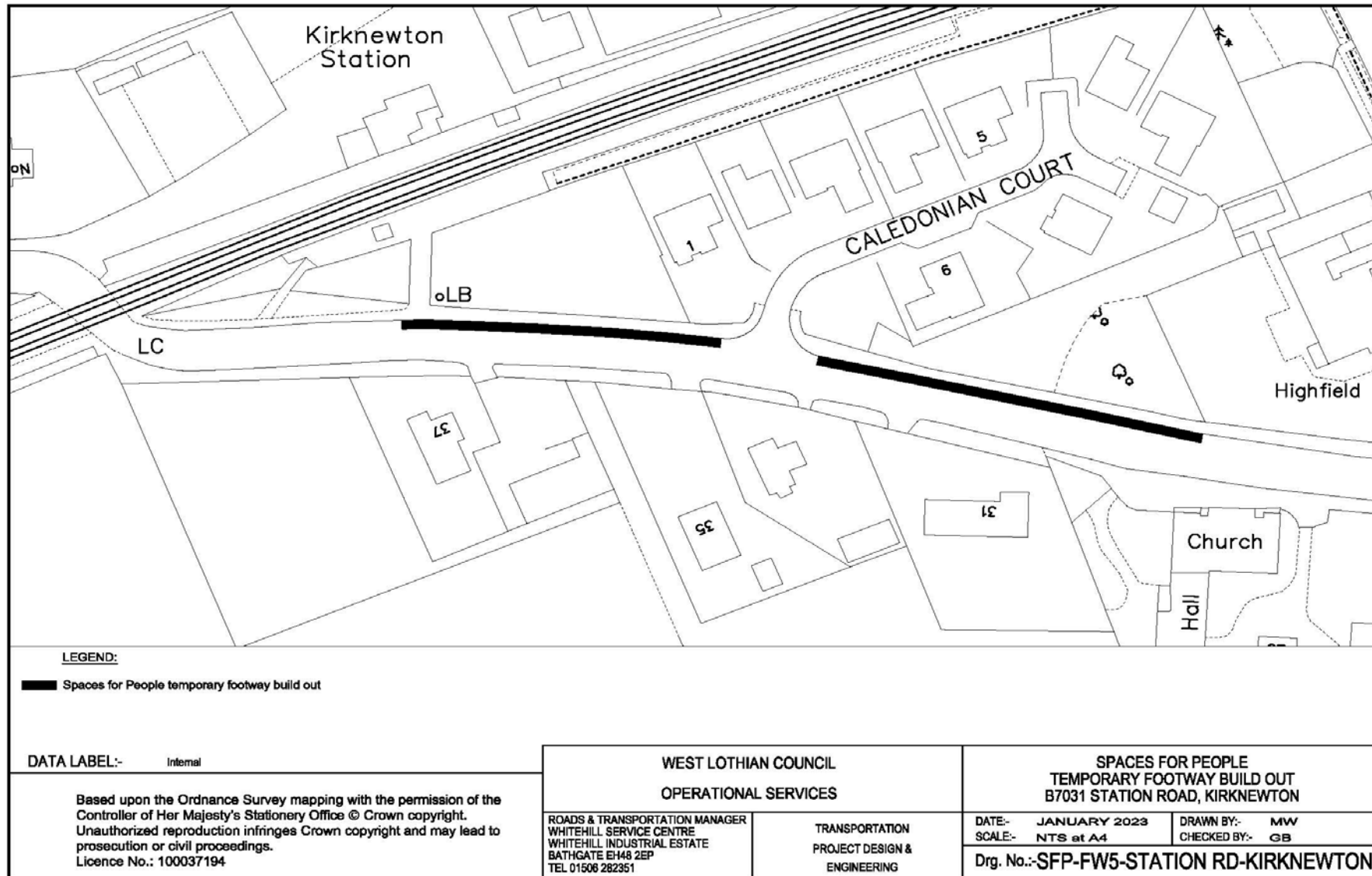
SFP-FW3-MAIN ST-MID CALDER



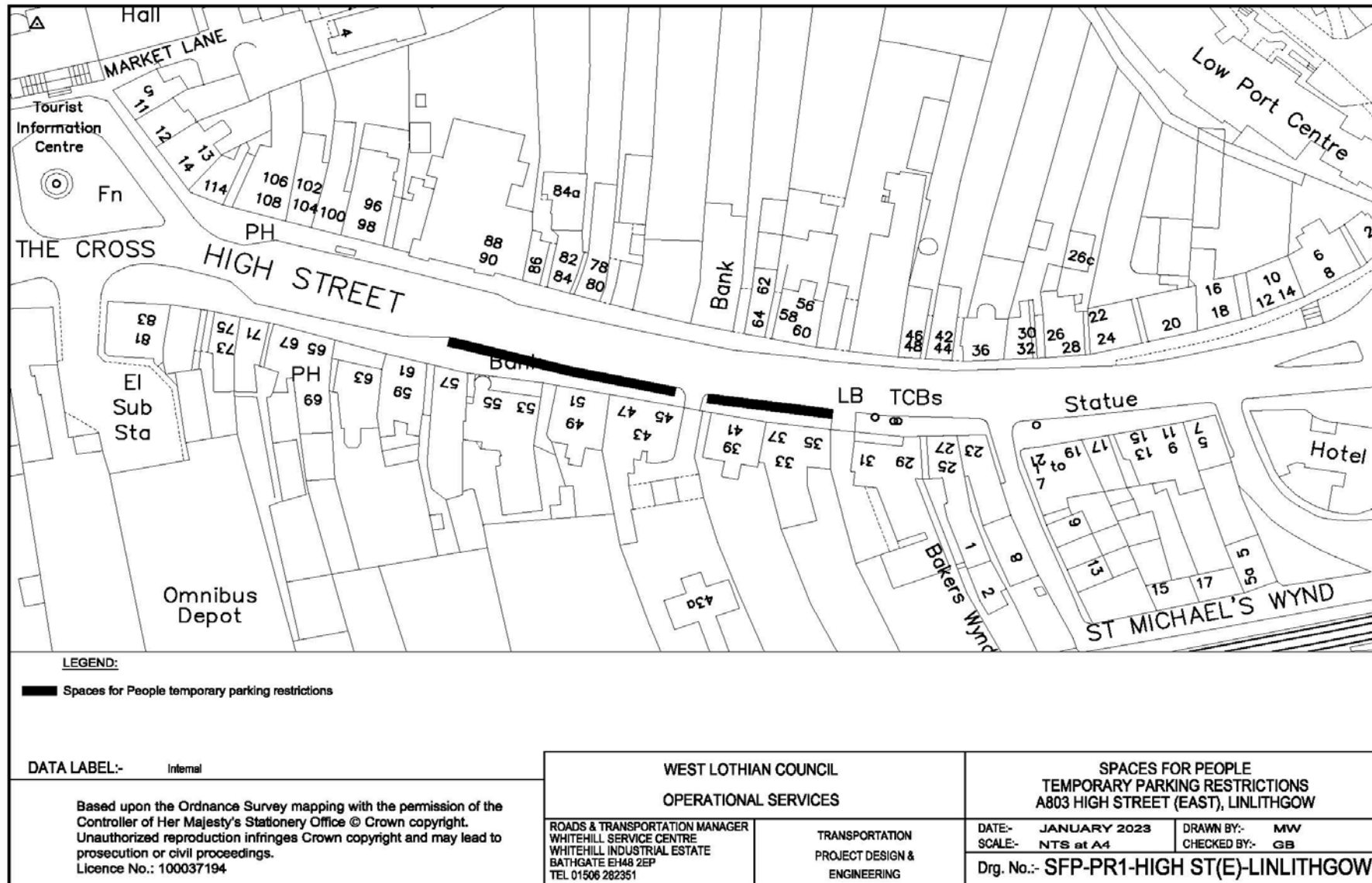
SFP-FW4-MAIN ST-EAST CALDER



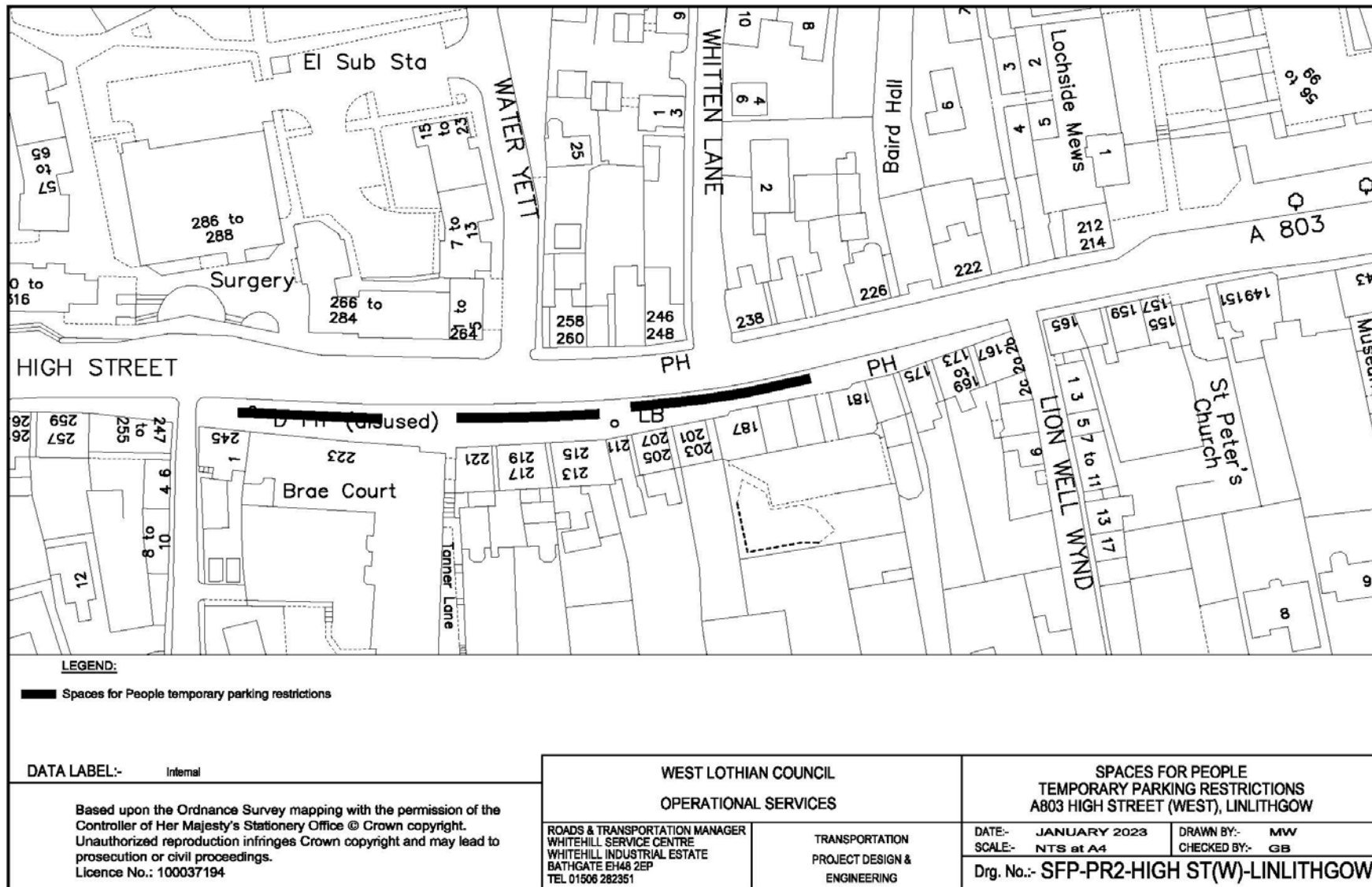
SFP-FW5-STATION RD-
KIRKNEWTON



SFP-PR1-HIGH ST(E)-
LINLITHGOW



SFP-PR2-HIGH ST(W)-LINLITHGOW



DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT ON PROGRESS OF LOCAL REGENERATION PLANNING

REPORT BY DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE, EDUCATION, 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 plans
2. The progress and development of actions.

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 Delegations to Officers	None.
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Performance indicators relating to the activity within the plans are captured within the set of Regeneration key performance indicators.
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are better educated and have access to increased and better-quality learning and employment opportunities. - We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities. - We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities. - We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the

built and natural environment.

VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Activities will be funded from existing budgets or external sources.
VII Consideration at PDSP	Annual updates on local 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 Wealth Building 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 the number of data zones within the 20% 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 ongoing development by the Dedridge and Ladywell steering groups.

The plans are updated by community representatives and services on a regular basis.

D2 Update on progress

D2.1 Dedridge

D2.2 Crofthead Community Education Centre

- **Defibrillator** - new Defibrillator was supplied and installed on the external wall of the Mill Room in December. This is available 24 hours a day and is now connected to the national defbfinder.uk network. The national network gives up to date information on defibrillator locations across the UK. The network is supported by British Heart Foundation, St Johns Ambulance, Association of Ambulance Chief Executives and Resuscitation Council UK.
- **Hot water bottle covers** - The Management Committee along with the regeneration group encouraged local organisations like the local Neighbour Networks and the women's Guild to knit or sew hot water bottle covers as part of a project delivered to the Food Network and Dedridge Neighbour Network to deliver with Christmas hampers. In total 75 knitted/sewn hot water bottle covers were distributed along with hot water bottles within Christmas hampers.
- **Christmas lights** - a tree lighting ceremony was held in December. St Ninians school choir sang during the event to over 100 local attendees.
- **Pensioners hampers** - Discussion within the regeneration meeting recognised a gap for support for those socially isolated or elderly on their own at Christmas. Crofthead Management Committee along with Dedridge Neighbourhood Network, through generous donations from community and James Young High School, were able to deliver 50 hampers to those locally isolated and on their own this Christmas period.
- **Golden Tickets** - Within the last quarter the committee provided 60 meals

for individuals through the Golden Ticket scheme. The Golden Ticket scheme is an initiative by the committee to support those struggling with food insecurity.

- **Warm Hub** - The warm hub initiative opened in October 2022 within Crofthead Community Centre. Since then there has been over 30 individuals attending on the Thursday afternoon. Free refreshments are available along with a range of activities including: jigsaws, TV, books, cards and dominos which has proven to be very popular.

D2.3 Poverty

As a result of the Anti-poverty Service presentation, and input at the regeneration meeting, the main focus of activity within the Dedridge regeneration group has been about supporting the community through the winter period with the cost of living crisis and cost involved for households with Christmas festivities,

This anti-poverty session generated further community action of the Ultimate Winter Ready event, the warm hub, golden ticket expanded, foodbank and advice shop presence.

D2.4 The Ultimate Winter Ready Event

The Dedridge regeneration group organised an Ultimate Winter Ready Event offering a one stop shop for support with the cost of living and also around being environmentally friendly. See attached report Appendix 1

D2.5 Foodbank

The West Lothian Foodbank recruited and trained enough volunteers for the service locally, which has been operational since the 30th November. Due to promotion through the community social media pages, community have been keen to donate foodstuffs and Crofthead is now also a collection point for foodbank donations.

D2.6 Dedridge Litterpicking update

Dedridge Community Litter picking stats from October to December

- 73 people have been involved this quarter
- Collecting a total of 152 bags of rubbish
- Other items collected are wooden pallets, bikes, scooters, electric fire for example,

D2.7 Crofthead Community Garden

- The raised bed components have now arrived at the West Lothian Food Networks yard. A date is being agreed with the landscapers to undertake the work, and order the compost to suit those dates. Collectively, the aim is to have the raised beds completed by the end of February.
- The volunteers and the Dedridge Community litter pickers have helped clear the areas ready for the installation of the beds
- The bees arrived in early October. The main gardening volunteer has undertaken a bee keeping certificated course and is mentored by the Polkemmet Beekeeping society. The bees appear to adapting well to their new environment and has created a lot of interest locally.
- The timber of for the chicken shed has been donated and delivered to the Inclusion Team who are in the process of building the shed which is hoped to be in situ early spring.

D2.8 Building Community Capacity

The Dedridge Regeneration Group has started exploring interest in the idea of developing small planted flowered areas underneath the street signs at the entrance to the Rises. The idea is that these resident planting groups will link with the Crofthead Community Garden and be an arm into the community and vice versa.

The aim of this is too:

- Build community capacity;
- Support those feeling Social isolated;
- Encourage friendships;
- Enhance Dedridge neighbourhood environment;
- Increase opportunities for volunteering;
- Support positive health and well-being; and
- Increase pride and ownership of the community.

D2.9

Unit 101

The lease agreement for Unit 101, The Centre Livingston was signed in December 2022. Mitie is leading this community benefits project, managing sub-contractors and the fit out. It is anticipated that CLD Youth Services and partners will be in a position to deliver activities and programmes from the unit early summer 2023.

D3 Ladywell

D3.1 Poverty

Kings Church and Forestbank Management Committee have partnered up and are offering a warm space and meals on a Friday night to those households struggling financially.

D3.2 Ladywell Community Fridge

Ladywell Community Fridge has seen a dramatic rise in numbers attending their service. This and the lack of tinned foodstuffs being donated through the local supermarkets has resulted in the Church purchasing tinned foodstuffs to make up the bags for households using the service. A social media promotion is being organised for donations of tinned foods.

D3.3 The Ultimate Winter Ready Event

The regeneration group organised an Ultimate Winter Ready Event offering a one stop shop for support with the cost of living and also around being environmentally friendly.

D3.4 Ladywell Week of Action

As a result of the Ladywell week of action, the regeneration group have decided to undertake 2 annual 'week of actions' in the spring and autumn. Dates are to be confirmed at the first regeneration meeting this year.

D3.5 Walking and nature programme

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) development worker, located in the Ladywell Neighbourhood Network, has set up a programme for walks and nature information sessions up till Easter and Ladywell Neighbourhood Network (LNN) will be posting

Dedridge Ultimate Winter Ready Event

DRAFT Report November 2022



Background

The Dedridge Regeneration group meet monthly within a blended approach either on TEAMS or physically within Crofthead Farm on the 3rd Tuesday for 10 months of the year. Within this space residents, active community members, local organisation's and services have the opportunity to hear about different services and the supports they have on offer and affect change for the better through activity. August's meeting undertook a 'preparing for winter' participatory exercise where group members discussed the current issues facing households and the impact the new price increases of energy, food prices, inflation rate and fuel would have on households within the coming winter months.

The findings from this exercise resulted in the group wanting to take some action to help mitigate the effects on the local community and concern that although there is lots of information available it is hard to find, or you feel overwhelmed, or most of it is not available for the digital excluded.

The group also decided that they would like to hear from the Council's Antipoverty Service to get a better understanding of the issues they are responding to, what they offer as a service and what they project will happen through the coming months as a result of the cost of living crisis. The following September meeting was organised and the Anti-poverty manager gave an overview and a Q&A session with an open discussion following on between all members.

The conclusion of this was that they would like to offer a one-off event where households could get helpful tips and support to maximise their current resources and funds available to them. They suggested over a weekend where those that were working or worked unsociable hours might have the opportunity to attend.

The group also highlighted that the issues would not only affect those currently facing financial, housing and food insecurity but also those that are not yet aware of the impact this may have on the households that are currently just outside the 'crisis' income bracket or don't recognise themselves as such.

Recognising that some households might feel stigmatised or not acknowledge that this event could offer support for the coming months, the group took a more in-depth look at what they could offer and found that all supports on offer offered a sensible and comprehensive approach to not only maximising what money is available but also supporting environmental issues around energy, household waste and thinking local.

The group also discussed the traction or engagement of recent local community events being low and how to promote and attract households that were or could be affected by the cost of living crisis.

This was the first large event that the activists within Dedridge came together, played to their strengths and worked as a team. From the Dedridge litter pickers who turned up after their pick to support and promote to the community council, activists on the Dedridge reg group, Ukrainian support group and Crofthead management committee. Where volunteer had to leave due to other commitments or unable to attend through ill health other volunteers came forward and covered areas.

Planning & Coordination

The group made some key decisions early on. They would:

- utilise the local community Social media page for promotion and to gain traction

- offer a monetary 1st prize draw and prizes
- offer free hot refreshments including soup and rolls
- target with invites to the bottom 20% households within the SIMD 2020 data zones in the community
- contact the schools and ask them to support and be involved
- Request for funding from various services and local organisation's sources to support the event
- They would contact key organisation's and services that would support with the themes of:
 - Food insecurity
 - Energy advice & Support
 - Keeping your house warm and safe
 - Local activities to help stay warm, active for health & well being
 - Reusing/swapping clothes
 - Upcycling or repairing clean textiles or clothing
 - Supporting households to keep their Pets
 - Local shopping – supporting local businesses
 - Digital support, hardware and WIFI issues
 - Financial support and advice

Funding

A variety of funding was sourced from various organisations and local services

- Residents purchased some prizes for the day
- Dedridge Community Council and Crofthead Management Committee both gave £50 toward a £100 first prize for the lucky winner of the prize draw
- Community Regeneration provided funds for the printing of Invitations and posters
- WL Council Adult Learning Supplied funding to provide refreshments on the day
- WL Food Network provided funding towards the one pot cooking demonstrations and give away packs and recipe cards

Services and organisations involved in the days event

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Crofthead Management Committee | • West Calder Dogs Trust |
| • Dedridge Good Neighbour Network | • West Lothian School Bank |
| • Dedridge Community Council | • WL Bike Lending Library |
| • Dedridge Regeneration group | • Reusing IT |
| • Community Regeneration | • West Lothian Food Network |
| • Library Services | • Crofthead Ukrainian support group |
| • WL Advice Shop | • Home Energy Scotland |
| • WL Adult learning Service | • Lanthorn Community Food project |
| • Local Craft Business | |

Community involved on the lead up and on the days event

Through the months of late October/ early November community members undertook the following tasks;

- With Com Reg officer divided up the Mail delivery all the 'Rises' within the data zones delivering just under 1000 leaflets through household letter boxes.
- Learned how to promote and gain traction within social media through creating an event and admin inviting all the 4K members of the private community group
- Through asking schools to actively promote within the school community.
- Community members actively engaging with local business for support and gifts around the themes above.
- We had a quick pre-event meeting in place of our usual regeneration meeting in November to finalise the event, go through the risk assessment, discuss any potential issues, pinch points, cleansing issues, first aid and household
- Posters delivered to shop in Douglas Rise and Dedridge PS for promoting event, DPS and Bankton PS had some invite to distribute
- Lanthorn Community food shop had invitations to distribute to customers
- DGNN gave out invitations to their users



On the day of the event community members:

- manned the Registrations stall, ensuring attendees had their information on their prize draw entry and counting attendees
- took live video to promote the event with stall holders and posting on social media
- the refreshments area and stall,
- supported WL School Bank and Ukrainian support group stalls with the 'need a jacket, take a jacket' 'winter coat rails, toiletries, nappies and children's clothing and shoes.
- Checked passageways, the main hall and toilet area as per the risk assessment and reported any issues as they arose
- One of the community members compared for the day, undertaking the housekeeping and promoting the themes within the event.
- Community drew the draw at the end of the event and organised the prizes, then later posted on social media

The Event - Themes

The event was broken into key themes with the aim to stimulate thinking and discussion.

Energy Hub

This was supported by the West Lothian Advice shop and they were on hand to give advice and support on anything related to energy. Home energy Scotland also supplied leaflets on their service and supports on the day

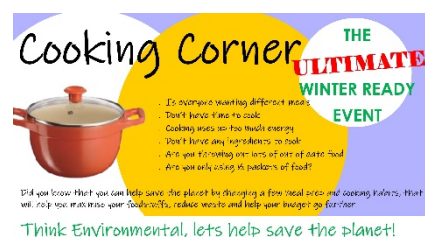


Financial Hub

This was supported by our West Lothian Advice shop and gave advice on how to maximise the household funds and advise on benefits or supports that household might be able to apply for and are entitled to

Cooking Corner

This was to be supported by the West Lothian Food Network, but unfortunately were not able to attend on the day. There was a lot of interest from those attending for support on one pot cooking. The Lanthorn Community food project had left leaflets and information on the Lanthorn Community Food project, community shop and their recipes of the week which gives clear instructions on how to plan and prepare a meal per week



Housing

This was supported by West Lothian Housing service and was there to give advice and support with matters relating to housing whether it be housing improvements, rent issues and or how to help insulate the house through the winter months and prevent damp, mould and mildew, burst pipes, draughts and boiler issues



Warm Hub

This area was supported by housing, advice shop, community, libraries and Dedridge Good Neighbour Network and gave ideas on how to utilise all the resources in the home and within the community to stay warm this winter



Digital Corner

This was to be supported by Reusing IT and WL Adult Learning service offering advice and support with: Laptops and WIFI connectivity and skills and knowledge to use devices safely, confidently and competently

Health & wellbeing

This corner was supported by Dedridge Good Neighbour Network, WL Libraries and Community regeneration and gave advice and support on looking after your health and wellbeing through getting involved in groups, activities and/or volunteering and provided boards on what activities are available at Crofthead CEC





Pets Corner

Although Dogs Trust were unable to attend on the day, they prepared display boards with support and information on how to support and ways to keep your dogs within the home environment whilst funds are tight. They also provided contact information

Think Local

This stall was manned by a community member and gave ideas on how to make cheap Christmas crafts and to think about supporting local businesses.



Reuse, repair, remake, preloved clothes

This area was supported by West Lothian School Bank, Ukrainian support group, and local volunteers. Within this space there was 'need a coat, take a coat', how to upcycle old jumpers into cat or dog beds and how to make simple draught excluders from old towels. The hot water bottle cover challenge that Crofthead management Committee are promoting. Making covers from old pieces of textiles and knitted or crocheted with scrap yarn

Grab yourself a bike

This was to be supported by the West Lothian Bike Library who had a range of pre loved children's bikes for attendees to take away and adult pre-loved bikes at low cost. This was also an opportunity for attendees to find out more about what the bike lending library offers.



Attendees

80 individuals attended the event. The feedback from community was that they found out about the event through a mixture of invites through the post, traction on social media and through regeneration emails.

Of the 80 attendees 40% came from within the 20% poorest outcomes as of the SIMD data zones within Dedridge. Other key attendees came through services and organisations. Other attendees came from East Calder, Adamrae, Bankton, Murieston and Ladywell

Traction on social media

We have captured the Traction on social media to support the Dedridge regeneration groups learning. This included:

- 13th November Event created on FB with minimum traction added 16th Nov admins and moderators who invited members. Final traction includes; 14 saying they went 9 maybes and 1.3k invited
- 14th November, com reg digital hub, traction 6 likes

- 14th November, com reg energy hub, traction 7 likes
- 15th November, com reg cooking corner, traction 5 likes
- 15th November, community, watch out for posts, traction - 5 likes
- 16th November, community reminder, traction – 5 likes
- 16th November, reuse, repair, Com reg – traction 9 likes/loves,
- 16th November, health & wellbeing, Com reg – traction 4 likes/loves
- 16th November, pets' corner, Com reg – traction 4 likes/loves, 2 comments
- 17th November, financial hub, com reg – traction 8 likes/loves, 1 comment
- 17th November Housing, com reg – traction 4 likes/loves
- 17th November warm hub, com reg – traction 4 likes/loves
- 18th Nov – think local, com reg – traction 13 likes/loves, 2 comments
- 7th Nov – community save the date post – traction 8 likes/loves, 1 comment
- 18th Nov – community post of prizes – traction 17 likes/loves, 10 comments
- 18th Nov, soup Com Reg – traction 19 likes/loves, 5 comments
- 18th Nov set up and ready Com Reg – traction 18 likes/loves 3 comments
- Need a coat take a coat- traction 29 likes/loves, 11 comments, 2nd post 40 likes/loves, 4 comments
- WL school bank post on morning before event = traction 11, 3 comments
- Com Reg opening times – traction 19 likes/loves, 2 comments
- Community video of stall holders - traction 9 likes
- Community posting on the day – traction 56 likes/loves, 8 comments
- Community posting of winners of prize draw – traction 45likes/loves, 7 comments

Feedback on the day

At the end of the event, stall holders and volunteers were asked to give some feedback of their thoughts on the day and what could have been better. Some of the feedback follows:

- *'Well organised & very informative day. lots of enquiries regarding housing options and follow ups. Going forward would benefit from more Housing options'* WL Area Housing Manager
- *'Good event, well organised and facilitated. Lots of stalls, spoke to various members of the public regarding energy and benefits. Enjoyed the event'* WL Advice shop
- *'Really enjoyed today. Met lots of interesting people. Soup was a real winner. I think it would have been better held during spring or summer. Tables were easy to access and browse'* WL Adult Learning
- *'Event was really good. Several very relevant organisations were present. Staff and volunteers were very approachable. Good model for similar events.'*
- *'John says it was just GREAT!'*
- *'Fantastic team work from community activists, organisations and services. All worked well to make the event a success. All worked to each other strengths'* community Regeneration
- *'The people I spoke too were interested and mentioned that the event was informative and a good idea. Some asking for more larger posters for advertising.'* WL Libraries CIS
- *'Today's event was a good success for the DGNN, leaflets taken, a few referrals, and a good chance to discuss what the organisation does'* Dedridge Good Neighbour Network
- *'A chance to get our name out to people that don't know us. Made connections with other charities we can help. Connected people who can help others. For our new volunteers an opportunity to get a bit more confidence chatting to people'* Reusing IT



- 'A really well facilitated event with some diverse organisations. Wish we had more customers, but if we help one person that is great, soup was lovely' WL Advice Shop
- 'Advertising?' *'banners outside the event, more Advertising around, St Ninians end of Dedridge'*
- *People put off free clothing, if they knew people, Swap? Maybe didn't have items to swap. Timings on a Saturday – football, swim lessons, dancing etc*
- *'Environmental aspects may have put people off rather than mask the cost of living aspect'*
- *Opportunity to shop Vs second hand (rather than charity)*
- *Difficult to convey the purpose of the day'*

Further outcomes to date

- A new member has joined the Dedridge Good Neighbour Network
- Organisation supporting another organisation to significantly reduce their IT financial out goings and support to maximise their IT systems
- MIFI provided to resident without Wi-Fi within their household
- 3 rails of winter coats and jackets were distributed to attendees on the day
- Finding out about the New Dogs Trust 'cost of living' campaign to support pets stay within households that are struggling financially
- The local social media page highlights and promotes Dedridge small businesses on a Thursday
- 8 attendees want to be kept up to date and informed on further Dedridge Regeneration Activity
- The Dedridge activists volunteering to each ones their strengths – Fantastic community capacity building event.
- 5 hot water knitting patterns were taken away by attendees
- 8 pre-loved adult bikes sold at low cost, and 10 kids bikes distributed free of charge.
- Resident now in receipt of a pre-loved laptop and signed up for Adult learning IT tae and tablet course

Learning

- Start earlier on social media and create an event and invite everyone within the group then release slow promotional posts
- 10am might be too early to start the event for our audience
- Social media is best undertaken by community members and gains more traction
- Better advertising, Banners outside the event to show where it is and posters on where to go throughout Dedridge
- Get schools and housing officers more involved through email, group texting with the invite

Conclusion

To be completed after January reg meeting

30th November 2022

Lesley Keirnan

Community Regeneration Officer

regularly on Facebook to attract more people to these sessions.

D3.6 Ladywell Neighbourhood Network (LNN)

- **Monday Meetup** – The Monday meet up has outgrown the Ladywell house premises and is now located within Forestbank Community Centre. This is a Busy group with regular members who enjoy social interaction, discussion and activities LNN host each week. To date everyone is enjoying the extra space.
- **Helping Hands Group** - LNN recently received a massive donation of wool, and are able to fulfil all requests for the foreseeable future.
- **Walks** - As part of the TVC and LNN partnership programme, through Lottery funding, The 'fit to live' programme sees a weekly walk as part of the fit 2 live group. Many have already expressed that they feel better to walk in groups rather than on their own.
- **Board Buddies – Triomino's Troopers** – There are now two men's groups running weekly with up to 8 regular members.
- **Communication -Social Media** - LNN have been working to increase their social media presence with regular updates that affect the Ladywell and surrounding area. This includes weekly information on A2E Vacancy bulletins, local events and activities like Foodie Friday, Sunday Boredom Breaker Quiz. Between LNN, Ladywell and Eliburn Community and Ladywell and Eliburn Litterpicking groups these activities reach over 3000 members.
- **Events** – A Christmas party, which also included Harrysmuir primary school choir, was held with children and adults all enjoying themselves and was well attended.
- **Pantomime** - Ladywell Community Council donated 16 tickets for the pantomime in Glasgow.

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=P62AFQZL0GZ32UZ3>

Appendices: the Dedridge Ultimate Winter Ready Event report

Contact Persons:

Lesley Keirnan, Community Regeneration Officer, 01506 281087
lesley.keirnan@westlothian.gov.uk

Douglas Grierson, Regeneration Team Leader,
 email douglas.grierson@westlothian.gov.uk

Elaine Cook

**Deputy Chief Executive, Education, Planning, Economic Development and
Regeneration**
2nd February 2023

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2022/23 TOWN CENTRE CAPITAL FUND

REPORT BY DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE, EDUCATION, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the committee on the Place Based Investment Fund Town Centre Fund projects and to agree the allocation returned of allocation of £6,451.68 as set out in this report.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Local Area Committee:

1. Note the return of £6,451.68 for reallocation from DED22-03 (£6,000) and LAD22-01 (£451.68)
2. Agrees that funding is reallocated to projects DED22-01 (£3,451.86) and in principle to BEL22-01 (£3,000) as set out in the report; and that any underspend from BEL22-01 is redistributed to DED22-01.
3. notes that some of the funding costs remain as estimates and delegates the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to finalise award amounts within the overall value of the funding available within the ward;
4. notes that as projects are implemented the detail and associated costs may change and so delegates responsibility to Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to agree such changes and to re-allocate any money that becomes available as a result to other projects in the ward, both so long as projects remain within the aims, purposes and overall intent of the original applications and approvals; and
5. notes the terms and conditions associated to the awarding of grants as set out in the report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership.
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Place Based Investment is a Scottish Government Initiative. This report does not raise any specific SEA, Equality, Health or Risk Assessments requirements. However, projects supported through the fund may require assessments.

III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	The report details a one-off specific delegation to the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Investment in place-based projects has potential to increase positive outcomes across a range of indicators.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Relevant to all outcomes.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	The Scottish Government awarded £1.132M for 2022-23
VII	Consideration at PDSP	Updates will be made to and the nine Local Area Committees on a regular basis.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

On the 8 February 2022, Council Executive approved recommendations in a report by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration setting out the proposed allocation of the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Capital Grant (PBIP) for 2022/23. Funding for West Lothian Council in 2022/23 at that time was expected to be £1,000,000.

The Council Executive agreed the funding would be allocated on the basis of two equal funding streams:

1. Town Centre Capital Fund (£500,000); and
2. Community Wealth Building (£500,000).

Since the original report the grant awarded to West Lothian Council has been confirmed as been confirmed as £1,132,000.

The Council Executive at its meeting on 21 June 2022 agreed that the additional £132,000 would be split between the two streams of funding, with an additional £66,000 being made available for the Town Centre Funding stream, the other half going to the Community Wealth Building stream.

D.2 Livingston South Ward Applications – update on progress and spend

The tables below provide an update on progress and spend of the projects.

Dedridge

Code	Application Name	Total amount awarded	Update
DED22-01	Dedridge Underpass Project - <i>CLD Youth Services</i>	£7,727	Expected to be delivered in the timescale
DED22-02	Community Litter Picking Equipment - <i>West Lothian Litter Pickers</i>	£561.64	Expected to be delivered in the timescale
DED22-03	Ivanhoe hand rail - <i>Roads & Transportation, WLC</i>	£6,000	Project completed from other funding. £6,000 returned to be reallocated
	Totals	£14,288.64	

Murieston/ Bankton

Code	Application Name	Total Amount awarded	Update
MUR22-01	Community Garden Phase 2 (Sensory Garden & Storage Facilities) - <i>Murieston Community Council</i>	£11,155.13	Expected to be delivered in the timescale
	Totals	£11,155.13	

Ladywell

Code	Application Name/ Applicant	Total Amount awarded	Update
LAD22-01	Soundproofing of main hall - <i>Forestbank Community Centre Management Committee</i>	£8,313.88	Completed with £451.68 returned to be reallocated
LAD22-02	Community Litter Picking Equipment - <i>West Lothian Litter Pickers</i>	£2,230.50	Expected to be delivered in the timescale
	Totals	£10,544.38	

Howden

Code	Application Name/ Applicant	Total Amount awarded	Update
HOW22-01	Community Digital Learning Hub - <i>Howden Community Council</i>	£7322.72	Completed

	Totals	£7322.72	
--	---------------	-----------------	--

Bellsquarry/ Adambrae

Code	Application Name/ Applicant	Total Amount awarded	Update
BEL22-01	Additional Street Lighting for Adambrae - <i>Bellsquarry and Adambrae Community Council</i>	£4,837.73	Lighting have indicated that the project is likely to be over budget and additional monies may be required to allow the project to be delivered. Officers are looking at putting this work out to tender along with a similar project in Livingston North.
	Totals	£4,837.73	

Livingston Village / Kirkton

Code	Application Name/ Applicant	Total Amount awarded	Update
LIV22-01S	1. Historic/conservation Village Information 2. Park enhancement and litter reduction - <i>Livingston Village Community Council</i>	£2,172.64	Expected to be delivered in the timescale
	Totals	£2,172.64	

From the tables above there is an underspend of £6,451.68 than can now be reallocated to projects:

Dedridge	£6,000
Ladywell	£451.68

In Dedridge West Lothian Council's CLD Youth Services have indicated that they require an additional £3,451.86 allocation to deliver DED22-01. It is recommended that this amount is awarded to the project.

This leaves £3,000 to reallocate (£451.68 to Ladywell and £2548.32 to Dedridge) unspent within the ward allocation.

Given the anticipated gap in funding identified for BEL22-01 Additional Street Lighting for Adambrae it is suggested that committee agree to allocate the balance to that in

principle pending final costings being confirmed. This would mean that the funding originally ringfenced for Ladywell and Dedridge would be utilised in Bellsquarry.

D.4 Delivery of projects

Following this committee's decision on the funding requests all applicants will be notified of the outcome. Many of the projects will be delivered by the council on behalf of the community group. However, in some instances the grant funding will be paid direct to the community group. In the latter case, the community group will hold full responsibility for delivery of the project. Where projects are to receive funding they will be required to agree to conditions of grant which will detail when the conditions which have to be met before the funding will be released.

As projects are implemented the detail and associated costs may change it is delegated to the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to agree such changes and to re-allocate any money that becomes available as a result to other projects in the ward, both so long as projects remain within the aims, purposes and overall intent of the original applications and approvals.

As all projects have to be contractually committed by 31 March 2023, and have project completed by 30 September 2023, officers will liaise with successful applicants to ensure projects are on track to meet these deadlines. At this stage the applicant will be asked whether they still intend to progress the work and confirm that any necessary contracts can be committed by 31 March 2023. If it is not confirmed that it can be achieved, or where officers have reservations, and the issue is not resolvable by the proposed delegations set out in the recommendations, the matter will be reported to Council Executive for a decision on the funding. Where possible, that report will also detail a reserve list of applications which could be implemented to utilise the available funding, although at that time opportunities to do so will likely be very limited because of time constraints.

E. CONCLUSION

This report provides the committee with an update on the projects progress and spend and to note the underspend and shortfall on projects highlighted within the report and agree the recommendations set out above from the Town Centre Capital Funding element of the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Capital Grant awarded to West Lothian for 22/23. The detail of this is set out in D.2. The funding provided local organisations with the opportunity to enhance their local community working in partnership with the Council and key stakeholders.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Council Executive, 8 February 2022

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=51113>

Council Executive, 21 June 2022

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewDoc.asp?c=e%97%9Di%95j%7C%8F>

Appendices/Attachments:

None

Contact Person:

Lesley Keirnan, Community Regeneration Officer

lesley.keirnan@westlothian.gov.uk

Clare Stewart, Manager, Community Wealth Building Team

clare.stewart@westlothian.gov.uk

Elaine Cook

Deputy Chief Executive, Education, Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration

2nd February 2023

**LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – MAY 2023
WORKPLAN 2023-24**

	Issue	Purpose	Lead Officer	Date
	Housing report	Quarterly update on housing issues	Sandy Ross	All Meetings
	Police report	Quarterly update on police activity	Lee Brodie	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	Jim Robertson	All Meetings
	Community Regeneration	Update on Regeneration Plans	Lesley Keirnan	All Meetings
	Place based Town Centre Fund	Update on Fund	Lesley Keirnan	TBC
	Inveralmond Community High School	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school and cluster primaries.	Suzie Young	September 2023
	James Young High School	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school and cluster primaries.	Tricia Gallagher	December 2023
	Ecology and Biodiversity Team	Update on the work of the team	Eirwen Hopwood	December 2023
	St Margaret's Academy	To provide an annual report on activity and attainment at the school and cluster primaries	Isla Wright	TBC
	Planning report	Yearly Update on future planning intentions in the ward	Planning	TBC
	Pensioners Christmas Fund	Annual Pensioners Christmas Fund	Lesley Keirnan	December 2023
	Anti-poverty services	Annual update report	Nahid Hanif	December 2023