



West Lothian
Council

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

DRAFT SUBMISSION TO THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO DELIVERY OF REGENERATION IN SCOTLAND.

REPORT BY HEAD OF AREA SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report updates Council Executive on the continuing inquiry into Public Sector Reform undertaken by the Scottish Parliament Local Government and Regeneration Committee and the proposed council submission.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council Executive approves the submission of this proposed response to the request from the Scottish Parliament's Local Government and Regeneration Committee.

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	Outcome No 1 We make West Lothian an attractive place for doing business in Scotland. Outcome No 2 - We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people

Outcome No 6 - We live longer, healthier lives

Outcome No.7 - We have tackled the significant inequalities in West Lothian society

Outcome No 11 - We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their actions and how they affect others.

VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)

None.

VII Consideration at PDSP

The Partnership and Resources Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel considered this report on 1st March 2013 and recommended it to Council Executive for approval.

VIII Other consultations

Responses and evidence has been collated from submissions from a range of council services.

D1. TERMS OF REPORT

The Scottish Government's regeneration strategy *Achieving a Sustainable Future* was published on 12 December 2011. The Local Government and Regeneration Committee, following its consideration of regeneration aspects of the Scottish Government Draft Budget 2013-14, has agreed to build on that scrutiny and undertake a detailed inquiry into the area of regeneration policy,

The remit of the inquiry is to identify and examine best practice and limitations in relation to the delivery of regeneration in Scotland. The Committee launched a call for written evidence on 14 January 2013.

The call for evidence identified ten themes of interest, and these were summarised into ten questions under three headings:

- Strategy and Policy Issues
- Partnership Working
- Practical Issues

The ten questions and proposed responses are in attached to this report as Appendix 1.

D2. THE PROPOSED RESPONSE

The attached proposed response to the Local Government and Regeneration Committee has been prepared following discussion and input from different service areas.

The main points underpinning this response are:

- The three strands of regeneration ie physical, social and economic, should be delivered as an integrated package.

- Regeneration projects should be planned holistically across their total duration and beyond, with a specific emphasis on involving local communities as early as possible and supporting them for as long as required.
- The funding landscape is complex and particularly difficult for smaller voluntary and community organisations to understand, and consideration should be given as to how this could be simplified.
- There is a need for both capital and revenue funding, and there is often a link between these. There should be sufficient funding to support full management and maintenance costs in the period after completion to allow the regeneration to take root.
- Partnership working is essential for successful generation before, during and after the formal regeneration project life.
- A key outcome is to ensure that the local community has sufficient capacity and resilience to influence and benefit from the regeneration.
- Outcomes should focus on the impact on the local community and the improvement made in their lives, rather than quantitative measures such as the number of units built.

The deadline for submission is 15 March 2013.

E. CONCLUSION

The attached proposed response to the Local Government and Regeneration Committee provides comment from West Lothian Council on best practice and limitations in relation to the delivery of regeneration in Scotland. The response is brief, as requested by the Committee, but makes a number of key points as indicated above

Council Executive is asked to approve the submission of this response.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

The Scottish Government's regeneration strategy *Achieving a Sustainable Future* published on 12 December 2011.

Appendices/Attachments: Appendix 1: West Lothian Council evidence to Local Government and Regeneration Committee Inquiry on Delivery of Regeneration in Scotland

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