

Glenrothes Area Committee

Committee Room 2, 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street,
Glenrothes



Wednesday, 22 November 2023 - 2.00 p.m.

AGENDA

Page Nos.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – In terms of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct, members of the Committee are asked to declare any interest in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.
3. **DISCUSSION RELATING TO THE CLOSURE OF THE THREE CROSSINGS (RIGHTS OF WAY) AT WAUKMILL, DOUBLEDYKES AND DURIEVALE.**
4. **MINUTE** – Minute of Meeting of Glenrothes Area Committee of 4 October 2023. 3 – 5
5. **SUPPORTING THE PLAN 4 GLENROTHES AREA: COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND** – Report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods Service. 6 – 17
6. **SUPPORTING THE GLENROTHES LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – CLD SUMMER PROGRAMME IMPACT REPORT** – Report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods Service. 18 – 42
7. **DELIVERY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL VANDALISM STRATEGY IN THE GLENROTHES AREA** – Report by the Head of Protective Services. 43 – 52
8. **ENVIRONMENTAL VANDALISM STRATEGY REMOVAL ELEMENT** – Report by the Head of Environment & Building Services. 53 – 56
9. **GLENWOOD HOUSING REGENERATION PROJECT** – Report by the Head of Housing Services. 57 – 61
10. **CEMETERY STRATEGY REPORT** – Report by the Head of Property Services. 62 – 79
11. **PROVIDING FUEL POVERTY SUPPORT FOR THE GLENROTHES AREA** – Report by the Head of Housing Services. 80 – 85
12. **GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME** – Report by the Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services. 86 – 90

Members are reminded that should they have queries on the detail of a report they should, where possible, contact the report authors in advance of the meeting to seek clarification.

Lindsay Thomson
Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Finance and Corporate Services

Fife House
North Street
Glenrothes
Fife, KY7 5LT

15 November 2023

If telephoning, please ask for:
Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Fife House 06 (Main Building)
Telephone: 03451 555555, ext. 442334; email: Diane.Barnet@fife.gov.uk

Agendas and papers for all Committee meetings can be accessed on
www.fife.gov.uk/committees

BLENDING MEETING NOTICE

This is a formal meeting of the Committee and the required standards of behaviour and discussion are the same as in a face to face meeting. Unless otherwise agreed, Standing Orders will apply to the proceedings and the terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct will apply in the normal way

For those members who have joined the meeting remotely, if they need to leave the meeting for any reason, they should use the Meeting Chat to advise of this. If a member loses their connection during the meeting, they should make every effort to rejoin the meeting but, if this is not possible, the Committee Officer will note their absence for the remainder of the meeting. If a member must leave the meeting due to a declaration of interest, they should remain out of the meeting until invited back in by the Committee Officer.

If a member wishes to ask a question, speak on any item or move a motion or amendment, they should indicate this by raising their hand at the appropriate time and will then be invited to speak. Those joining remotely should use the "Raise hand" function in Teams.

All decisions taken during this meeting, will be done so by means of a Roll Call vote.

Where items are for noting or where there has been no dissent or contrary view expressed during any debate, either verbally or by the member indicating they wish to speak, the Convener will assume the matter has been agreed.

There will be a short break in proceedings after approximately 90 minutes.

Members joining remotely are reminded to have cameras switched on during meetings and mute microphones when not speaking. During any breaks or adjournments please switch cameras off.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

Committee Room 2, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes

4 October 2023

2.00 pm – 2.40 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Craig Walker (Convener), John Beare, Altany Craik, Julie Ford, Peter Gulline, Lynn Mowatt, Derek Noble, Ross Vettraino and Daniel Wilson.

ATTENDING: David Thomson, Customer Experience Lead Officer, Information Management & Requests; Norman Laird, Community Manager (Glenrothes), Chris Mieзитis, Area Community Development Team Manager, Community Development Team (Glenrothes), Fraser Nicol, Area Officer, Glenrothes; and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Jan Wincott.

Prior to the start of business, the convener, on behalf of the committee, extended condolences to Norman Laird, Community Manager (Glenrothes) who was not in attendance due to a family bereavement.

73. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 22.

74. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the Glenrothes Area Committee of 30 August 2023.

Arising from the minute, with reference to Paragraph 72 – ‘Urgent Motion/Notice to Rescind’, relating to the closure of the three crossings at Waukmill, Doubledykes and Durievale – the committee:-

- (1) noted that Network Rail had met with Fife Council’s Administration on 3 October 2023;
- (2) that the convener would invite Network Rail to attend the next meeting of this committee on 22 November 2023;
- (3) noted that the convener had written to the relevant Minister for Transport and for Network Rail and would share any response with members when received; and
- (4) agreed to receive updates from the Spokesperson for Finance, Economy and Strategic Planning - Councillor Altany Craik – on any further progress with Network Rail as information became available.

Decision

The committee otherwise agreed to approve the minute.

75. COMPLAINTS UPDATE

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Communities providing an overview of complaints received relating to the Glenrothes area for the year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Decision

The committee considered the report on complaints received noting the complaints responded to in target timescales and the proportionality of Service complaints.

76. SUPPORTING THE GLENROTHES LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – AREA BUDGET REQUEST – THRIVING PLACES (PEDESTRIAN PATHWAY TO CASKIEBERRAN PRIMARY SCHOOL)

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhood Services seeking approval of £19,200 funding from the Ward 13 area budget toward the cost of replacing the current main pedestrian pathway to Caskieberran Primary School, and to resolve existing drainage issues within the vicinity of the pathway.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the Caskieberran Footway Plan, attached as Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) approved the funding request to allow the construction of a new pathway and accompanying drainage works that would resolve the issues of current path integrity and drainage, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report, from Ward 13 budgets as follows:
 - 2022-23 budget underspend: £12,595
 - 2023-24 budget allocation: £6,605; and
- (3) agreed that the Convener and Depute Convener would progress previous work relating to Fife Council assets, focusing on assets in the Glenrothes committee area, to clarify accountability and responsibility for those assets – and to report back to this committee if necessary.

77. GLENROTHES AREA AMENDED LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN 'PLAN4GLENROTHES' REVIEW

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the progress of the work of Community Planning Partners in progressing actions relating to current challenges and improvement focus outlined in the revised Glenrothes Community Plan attached as Appendix 1 of the report – previously approved by this committee at its meeting on 22 March 2023.

Decision

The committee noted the effort and approach taken to develop and manage a planning structure that would ensure Service commitment to the delivery of the Plan 4 Glenrothes.

78. GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services relating to the workplan for future meetings of the committee.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the draft workplan;
- (2) agreed that committee members would advise the Convener, Depute Convener, Lead Officer and Committee Officer of any other items to include on the workplan, within the remit of the committee; and
- (3) agreed that the Convener and Depute Convener would follow up with the relevant officer the unallocated items - with a view to ascertaining when their report would be forthcoming or whether an elected member briefing would be a more appropriate mechanism for updating the committee.

22 November 2023.
Agenda Item No. 5

Supporting the Plan 4 Glenrothes Area: Community Recovery Fund

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service

Wards Affected: 13,14,15

Purpose

To provide members with the necessary information to allocate funding for various projects from the Community Recovery Fund (CRF) for the Glenrothes Area.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to approve the following amounts from the Community Recovery Fund totalling £123,124:

1. St Andrews Environmental Network: £42,346
2. Bike Works Fife: £60,000
3. Balbirnie's Future Foundation SCIO: £20,778

Resource Implications

There are sufficient funds available in the Community Recovery Fund to support the submitted proposals.

This would leave a balance of **£856,786** unallocated of the Community Recovery budget.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or risk implications based on this report.

Impact Assessment

An EqIA is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

There has been extensive consultation in the production of the Plan4Glenrothes Area.

Throughout 2022, a series of officer meetings reviewed the existing plan and established key priorities for Members consideration.

Monthly People and Place Leadership Group meetings were facilitated throughout the year up until November 2022 to support the review of the Plan for Glenrothes.

Elected Members attended a workshop in August 2022 focusing on one of the key priorities, 'Tackling Poverty in Glenrothes', that included briefings from key partners involved in the management and delivery of services aimed at tackling poverty related issues, such as welfare support and food and fuel crisis intervention.

A further Members workshop was facilitated in November on this theme, with the specific aim of discussing and seeking comment on potential projects that could be funded through the Community Recovery Fund.

Consultation with community groups and individuals throughout 2022 helped shape and gather support for the four key themes identified within the Plan.

Throughout 2023 consultation with partners across all sectors on the alignment with CRF and Plan4Glenrothes priorities has continued, facilitated by the People and Place Leadership group and the Glenrothes Against Poverty multi agency action group.

Elected members have taken part in four workshops to discuss CRF priorities, and the proposals presented in this report.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 On 25th August 2022, the Cabinet Committee agreed to allocate £10 million of revenue balances as a Community Recovery Fund. Further to this, the subsequent Cabinet Committee meeting on 22nd September approved the 'Help with Cost of Living: Extending Community Support' report which set out a general approach and criteria for the Fund, including the allocation of £9m across the seven Area Committees. Glenrothes Area has received an allocation of £1.303m as part of this allocation.
- 1.2 The specific criterion for the fund is as follows.
 - Projects should link to Local Community Plan priorities.
 - Projects should take account of Plan for Fife recovery priorities (Community Wealth Building, Tackling Poverty, Economic Recovery, Climate)
 - Projects should provide assessment of benefit to ensure no unintended consequences.
- 1.3 The Community Recovery Fund is available over a two-year period.

2.0 Project Summary Information

- 2.1 St Andrews Environmental Network – This will be used to fund a two-year post for an energy advisor in the Glenrothes area. The advisor will provide additional support to residents in the local area who are struggling with high fuel costs or have homes' with poor energy efficiency which leads to Fuel Poverty. The Energy advisor will support people with impartial, in-depth energy advice to reduce energy usage, as well as make referrals for income maximisation.
- 2.2 Bike Works Fife – The funding will aid in the running of a reuse and recycle bike scheme. Bike Works have agreement to access refuse yards across the Fife area to refurbish the bikes sent to landfill and rehome these to people in the Glenrothes area as a "pay what you can afford" buying model. This ensures that everyone in the Glenrothes area has the

opportunity to have access to a bike, which in turn promotes a more active, healthier and more environmentally friendly community.

- 2.3 Balbirnie's Future Foundation SCIO – The funding will be used to make improvements to the green spaces in Balbirnie & surrounding parks across the area. This will include maintaining & sustaining the heritage of the park; encouraging participation and responsible citizenship whilst also tackling climate emergency issues.

This will be done in collaboration with Fife Council's Grounds Maintenance service who will be involved and communicated with for any agreements on the project progress and updates. Fife Coast & Countryside Trust (FCCT) will work in partnership with the project to ensure the advancement of environmental protection in the area.

3.0 Grant Evaluation

- 3.1 All grant recipients will be expected to complete a robust project evaluation that outlines impact and that clearly outlines project spend.
- 3.2 A universal evaluation process will be used for all projects, with bespoke additions for individual projects at members' discretion.
- 3.3 Individual project report evaluations will be shared at Area Committee meetings within a timescale agreed by Members.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 These proposals meet the broad criteria for the Community Recovery Fund. They also contribute to the 'Plan 4 Fife 2021-2024' and 'Glenrothes Area Local Community Plan' themes "Tackling Poverty" and "Supporting Positive Wellbeing".
- 4.2 The establishment of these projects will assist in developing a response to the cost-of-living crisis and post Covid recovery for individuals, families, and communities across the Glenrothes Area. Learning gained from these projects will be used to influence and direct future service delivery across the area.
- 4.3 Approved proposal project leads will be required to submit robust evaluation on impact and outcomes within a timescale and framework agreed between Council Officers and Area Committee Members.
- 4.4 Approving these proposals will leave an allocation of £856,786 in the Community Recovery Fund to support other projects.
- 4.5 A transparent, agreed and robust evaluation process will demonstrate impact and ensure project delivery is held accountable to initial project proposals.

List of Appendices

1. Plan4Glenrothes Area

Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973: -

- ‘Help with Cost of Living : Extending Community Support’. Fife Council Cabinet Committee, 22nd September, 2022.
- [Plan4Fife Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017 – 2027](#)
- [Recovery and Renewal Plan4Fife 2021 – 2024 Update](#)
- [Plan for Glenrothes Area 2019 - 2022](#)
- [Glenrothes Area Local Strategic Assessment 2022](#)

Report Contact:

Chris Miezitis
Community Development Team Manager, Glenrothes Area
5th Floor West, Fife House
Email: chris.miezitis@fife.gov.uk

Rowan Young
Local Development Officer (Anti-Poverty), Glenrothes Area
5th Floor West, Fife House
Email: rowan.young@fife.gov.uk

Plan for Glenrothes Area 2023-26

Area Priority	Current Challenge	Improvement Focus
<p>1. Tackling Poverty</p>	<p>Following the COVID Pandemic there has been an increase in demand for crisis support with basics such as food and fuel.</p> <p>While there are a range of services in place to support individuals and families, there is a recognition that, alongside ongoing crisis support, more needs to be done to enhance and improve service approaches to opportunities out of poverty through fair work, training and learning opportunities.</p> <p>Further work is required to understand the barriers individuals are facing and opportunities that may be available to them. Cost of living is an ongoing and increasing concern for local people and there is uncertainty as to what the full impact of this will be in the medium to longer term.</p> <p>There are employment opportunities in a few sectors, along with potential skills gaps. Glenrothes Area was the pilot area for the Living Wage Town and several local employers received accreditation.</p>	<p>Glenrothes Area Services commit to work together to improve the promotion of existing services, ensuring community involvement in identifying improvements through effective community engagement.</p> <p>Through People and Place, Area Services commit to joining up access and service support to families and households so that people get the right support they need more quickly.</p> <p>We will work with individuals, families and neighbourhoods to increase awareness of training, volunteering and employment opportunities available across the Glenrothes area.</p> <p>We commit to identifying sector specific employment gaps and to create training, placement and improve recruitment processes to support people into good work with real living wage employers.</p> <p>The 'Making Glenrothes a Living Wage Town' initiative is encouraging local employers to pay employees the Living Wage. We will work with employers in the Area so that more commit to paying the Living Wage.</p> <p>Work with young people in schools to look at future employment opportunities</p>

		<p>We will provide leadership and support to bring communities and neighbourhoods together with services voluntary groups and business to provide common purpose and new solutions.</p> <p>We will build the capacity of our community food network and welfare support services, ensuring the provision of food and welfare support has quick and simple access for people who need it.</p> <p>We will promote sustainable food choices, including healthy food, value for money, reduced food waste, and grow your own.</p> <p>We will ensure access to energy advice and support is quick and simple for those that need it.</p>
<p>2. Develop and Support Community Leadership</p>	<p>Across the Glenrothes Area, local people feel less connected to their neighbourhood than they did in 2016. While many people would be willing to work together with others on something to improve their neighbourhood, there continues to be a perception that other people in the area are less likely to pull together to improve their neighbourhood.</p> <p>As with all areas of Fife, most local people in Glenrothes Area would like more involvement in decisions that the Council makes that affect their local area.</p>	<p>Over the next 3 years Glenrothes Area CLD Team and Partners will focus on building community capacity and supporting community leadership. This will seek to improve upon and respond to feedback on community perceptions of how council and partnership services meet the needs of people who use them.</p> <p>Actions and targets within the Plan will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -An increase in community organisations taking a lead in local projects and promote volunteering opportunities. -An increase in the percentage of people in the Glenrothes area volunteering in their local area from 47% - 50% by 2026.

	<p>Only 7.6% of people in Glenrothes Area feel that they can influence decisions that affect their local area, compared to 13.7% in Fife.</p> <p>Of those surveyed, 47% report that they provide unpaid (voluntary) help to a group or organisation. This compares with 46% of Fife as a whole.</p> <p>The most common areas in which unpaid (voluntary) help is given to groups and organisations are hobbies/ recreation / arts / social clubs, local community / neighbourhood organisations, and environmental protection.</p> <p>Within Glenrothes Area, more than half of local people believe that the Council provides high quality services, and under half believe that it is addressing the key issues affecting the quality of life in their local neighbourhood.</p> <p>Glenrothes Area has the lowest levels of all Areas believing that the council designs its services around the needs of people who use them. Many people believe that the council is not good at letting people know about the kinds of services it provides or addressing the key issues affecting the quality of life in local neighbourhoods.</p>	<p>-A commitment to strategically support improved collaborative, cross service working and information sharing. This will involve, for example, facilitating quarterly community planning partner networking events to allow all staff and volunteers working in the Glenrothes Area to come together and share information/ideas and opportunities for joint working.</p> <p>-Sharing progress systematically and regularly on the Plan for Glenrothes Area publicly.</p> <p>-Agree a common approach for community engagement using the National Standards of Community Engagement and train representatives from across the partnership to ensure a co-ordinated approach.</p> <p>- Increase the percentage of people in the Glenrothes Area who feel they can influence decisions that affect their local area from 7.6% to at least 13.7% (Fife average) by 2026.</p> <p>We commit to building community growth and involvement by encouraging and increasing involvement, leadership and participation across all demographics including young people through youth Democracy & Participation in Schools and Community settings; adults and older people; communities of interest; protected characteristics; asylum seekers and refugees.</p>
--	--	---

		<p>The Plan will support actions and initiatives that commit to enabling existing community groups to support growth and develop more representative memberships. Examples of such actions will include Building Capacity through training; projects supported by the outcomes of the Community Empowerment Bill; Improving Grant Funding Skills; Community Engagement Training.</p> <p>The Community Planning Partnership commits to demonstrating clear links and joint planning between services to secure improved community engagement. For example, we will evidence clear alignment between School Improvement Plans and Community Planning actions.</p>
<p>3. Supporting Positive Mental Wellbeing</p>	<p>Fife's Recovery & Renewal Plan 2021-24 has set out to address issues of mental health & wellbeing, and associated problems, including drug and alcohol abuse.</p> <p>Glenrothes Area Health & Social Care Plan outlines that for the year 2018/19, there was a 2.3% increase in the use of prescribed medication for anxiety, depression or psychosis in Glenrothes Locality.</p> <p>The Glenrothes Health & Social Care Locality Plan has outlined a series of initiatives aimed at</p>	<p>We commit to developing, supporting and highlighting work that takes an earlier intervention and preventative approach, creating a more sustainable, longer-term and strength-based model of supporting positive mental wellbeing in the area. This work will compliment and support the ongoing work contained within the Area Locality Plan.</p> <p>Initiatives will include, for example, improving community and service awareness and access to the wellbeing benefits of physical activity through the Active Fife programme, improved access to public and outdoor spaces and the work supported by the Anti-Poverty theme in the Plan.</p>

	<p>addressing the mental health needs of those living in the area.</p> <p>There is an opportunity to align Locality Planning initiatives with Community Planning work, so that a community focused, collaborative and holistic approach to improving access to clinical and social interventions that support poor mental health and improve mental wellbeing</p> <p>Post Covid, services across Glenrothes Area, including schools, family services, housing and welfare support services, are consistently reporting an increase in mental health related issues affecting people who access these services. Partners, such as teaching staff, describe supporting parents on an individual basis, an approach that is neither desirable nor sustainable.</p> <p>Young people are reporting an increase in mental health issues, and an increased sense of isolation since the pandemic.</p> <p>Poor mental health is often a consequence and a cause of social isolation and loneliness, and stigma surrounding the issue is still a major barrier to many individuals seeking support or asking for help.</p> <p>For those who do seek help, CAHMS</p>	<p>We commit to improving awareness and the use of On Your Doorstep by raising the profile of ongoing opportunities and activities and by supporting activity that addresses gaps in local provision.</p> <p>The Plan will support initiatives that contribute to improved Mental Health awareness and anti-stigma work.</p> <p>Work supported by the Plan will also involve peer and community led support groups.</p> <p>Community Planning Partners commit to align with and support the H&SC Plan's aims by outlining measures and initiatives that support positive mental wellbeing by building the capacity of our services and community groups to address these issues in more proactive ways.</p>
--	--	---

	and other support services for mental health are oversubscribed, with long waiting lists and poor availability.	
	Short term funding for local initiatives is cited as a barrier to sustainable and secure community-based support.	
4. Town Centre, Village & Neighbourhood Redevelopment	<p>To improve the Town Centre offer, one of the key challenges for the Glenrothes Area is the Kingdom Centre. There have been several attempts over many years to work with the owners to improve the offer.</p> <p>The location of the centre and lack of access in the evening creates a barrier both in terms of development, and in terms of connectivity and access. Recent developments in and around the centre are starting to see small improvements to the area and the Town Centre Master Plan 2020 – 2030 sets out a longer-term plan.</p> <p>Post Covid reduction in footfall, including lack of employees using the centre due to working from home, have also added to changes in use.</p> <p>Some new developments have been initiated across the central area. The wider Glenrothes Area and surrounding Villages will continue to be an area of focus for the duration of the next plan.</p>	<p>Over the next 3 years the focus for Town Centre Development will be to continue to look at investment opportunities for the Town and better connectivity.</p> <p>A further feasibility study is planned for the Albany Gate area of the Town Centre that will explore opportunities for private sector partnership arrangements.</p> <p>Community Planning Partners commit to ensuring work is connected to other areas in the plan including: the development of Riverside Park; neighbourhood development work in surrounding areas, including a new plan for Auchmuty; and connectivity to outdoors spaces.</p> <p>Partners commit to strengthening and supporting already active community groups such as Friends of Riverside Park and increasing community engagement through the continued development of the Neighbourhood Development Plans, which will be crucial to the success of this work and driven through the Leadership Theme of the Plan.</p> <p>Commissioned work supporting this theme will demonstrate key areas of focus, including connectivity and getting around; health and wellbeing; culture; access to leisure; the night-time economy; and housing.</p> <p>For example, there will be a review of existing path networks to improve connectivity and to encourage active travel options between Leslie, Markinch and the Town Centre. This will build on 20-minute neighbourhoods and living well locally.</p>

<p>A small number of neighbourhoods have benefitted from the development of Neighbourhood Plans. These Plans require cross sector support so that actions can be effectively delivered, and more needs to be done so that more neighbourhoods across the Area benefit from this very local approach to identifying need, building on community strengths, and implementing actions that support positive local development.</p> <p>Riverside Park is in many ways a unique asset to a locality of this size. The Park stretches from Markinch in the East, through the centre of Glenrothes all the way to Leslie. The Park provides different opportunities for Glenrothes Area: access to green spaces and outdoor activity; proximity of Riverside Park to the Town Centre acting as a central hub for the whole town and surrounding areas; community involvement, including schools and older demographics, in the development and engagement of activity in the park. Riverside Park will therefore be specified as an area of focus in the Plan.</p> <p>Balbirnie Park is a significant and valued green space for local communities and visitors to Fife. The park infrastructure has deteriorated over several years and now requires</p>	<p>There will be a commitment to increased development of estate action plans and neighbourhood plans, and to encourage the production of community led or local place plans for priority areas.</p> <p>While it is acknowledged that some of this work is both strategic and long term there is a need to continue to look at opportunities to draw people into the Town Centre as this work is both scoped out and developed.</p> <p>Area Services commit to supporting this theme by identifying practice and approaches that mean our frontline services, both public and private, will work more closely together in neighbourhood areas.</p>
--	--

<p>a significant investment to improve access and safety for park users. A planned partnership programme of park improvements, led by colleagues in Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, will be an area of focus in the Plan.</p>	
---	--

22 November 2023

Agenda Item No. 6

Supporting the Glenrothes Local Community Plan – CLD Summer Programme Impact Report

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Wards 13, 14 and 15

Purpose

This report outlines the impact and outcomes from the Community, Learning and Development (CLD) led Summer Programme which received £26,420 of funding from the Area Committee in May this year to support CLD led activity for children, young people, and families during the summer break.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note that the £26,420 allocated from the Local Community Planning Budget to support this CLD led activity was spent as agreed
- (2) Note that impact and outcomes achieved through programme delivery align with Glenrothes Area Community Plan priorities

Resource Implications

There are no budget implications associated with this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or risk implications arising from this report. All work will be coordinated by a steering group of partners and will comply with all necessary regulations.

Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

Consultation took place with young people that currently attend existing Youth Work programmes.

Partners met to plan an Area wide approach and agreed to signpost into and support this CLD programme.

Each of the funded projects within the proposal collated session and programme evaluations in consultation with participants.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Youth Work Provision provided by the Communities and Neighbourhoods Service is funded on a term time basis covering 40 weeks per year. Historically additional funding from the Local Community Planning Budget has supported school holiday activity.
- 1.2 The Glenrothes Area CLD Team designed a programme of activity that considered staff capacity, requests from young people, children and families and partner provision.
- 1.3 A similar CLD programme facilitated last summer demonstrated positive impact on outcomes for young people, children and families who participated in the programme.

2.0 Project Delivery

- 2.1 During the six weeks of the schools' summer holidays a range of CLD programmes took place as outlined at Area Committee in May '23 (Appendix 1). These initiatives were led by CLD staff and supported by a range of partners and volunteers.
- 2.2 **'Summer in the Park'** was a weekly family event, held at Riverside Park, each Wednesday throughout the summer holiday. One session was held indoors at Glenwood High School Community Use facility due to poor weather conditions. A range of activities were provided from various partners (Appendix 2), providing opportunities for families to benefit from a range of outcomes including: learning new skills; making new friends; social interaction; improving confidence; improving knowledge around wildlife and nature; respite from challenging home circumstances. Over the six sessions a total of **530 adults, 209 young people** and **409 children** participated in activities provided. The overwhelmingly positive experience and feedback from families has been summarised and captured in Appendix 3.
- 2.2 The **SHAPE** (Summer Holiday Activity Programme Experience) was a CLD led scheme, providing activity for 4 days during each of the six summer weeks. Each Wednesday SHAPE participants were accompanied by CLD staff to take part in Summer in the Park. Children and young people aged 5 to 12 years old were identified and referred into the programme by colleagues in Social Work, Schools and Residential Accommodation. A wide variety of experiences were provided, including a mixture of fun and learning group activity, both indoors and outdoors, benefitting **189 children** and supported by **8 Young Volunteers**. Parents, carers, children and young people overwhelmingly evaluated the programme as a positive experience (Appendix 4)
- 2.3 **Youth Diversion** delivered a range of diversionary, creative, and fun activity for young people at the Exit Centre for four weeks, and the Lomond Centre for six weeks, every Friday evening. A total of **189 young people**, aged from 12-17, benefitted from Youth Work led programmes that encouraged improved socialisation, confidence and learning together.
- 2.4 **Active Youth** provided, in partnership with Glenrothes Strollers, a range of physical activities, indoors and outdoors, at the Exit and Lomond Centres each Wednesday evening. Over four weeks of the summer **85 Young People** participated at the Exit Centre, while **133 Young People** engaged over six weeks at the Lomond Centre.
- 2.5 **Youth Inclusion** – this weekly meet up engaged **18 young LGBTQI people** at the Lomond Centre, providing a chance for this group to socialise and participate in constructive activity in a safe and supportive environment.

- 2.6 **Biking & Outdoor Activities** – weekly daytime and evening outdoor activities, three times per week for each of the summer’s six weeks, supported **53 young people** referred by our three High Schools having been identified as vulnerable through their increased likelihood to participate in risk taking behaviour. Most of these young people engage with CLD services out with the summer holiday period as part of CLD’s schools programme helping to provide continual constructive engagement and relationships with Youth Work staff between school terms.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The summer holiday period can be a challenging time for many children, young people, and families in the Glenrothes Area. This funding ensured that the Glenrothes Area CLD Team could lead on and deliver a series of constructive activities that delivered on outcomes including experiential learning, fun activities, outdoor and indoor physical and adventure activity, family engagement and youth diversion, increased socialisation, healthy eating and nutrition.
- 3.2 Food was provided at every activity, in partnership with Café Inc provision, which helped ensure that at least 598 children and 695 young people directly benefitted from healthy and nutritious meals during this prolonged school break.
- 3.3 Partnership planning and delivering this programme with Active Schools, Home Start, Glenrothes Family Work Team, and local community centre and hub provision, was crucial in ensuring a comprehensive, varied and balanced summer provision that all children, young people and families across the Area could access.
- 3.4 Funding from Glenrothes Area Committee and Café Inc ensured that cost was not the barrier it may otherwise have been to the **598 children, 695 young people** and **530 parents and carers** who were able to take part in learning, fun, healthy and social activities provided by the CLD Summer Plan.

List of Appendices

1. Summer CLD Activity Plan and Costings
2. Summer in the Park Activity Timetable
3. Summer in the Park Impact Infographic
4. SHAPE Impact and Evaluation Summary

Report Contact

Chris Mieзитis
Community Development Team manager
Auchmuty Learning Centre

Telephone: 03451 55 55 55, Ext no.

Email: chris.mieзитis@fife.gov.uk

Summer 2023 CLD Provision

Service/Team	Proposal	Food Provided/Linked to Café Inc. Y/N	Priority family group/s targeted	Additional Funding Required
Glenrothes CLD Alison O'Brien	Summer in the Park – free family events every week throughout the summer holidays offering different opportunities and activities for families in the Glenrothes and surrounding areas 1-4pm each Wednesday (weather permitting)	Yes - 300 packed Lunches each Wednesday for 6 weeks Packed lunches to be delivered at 1.30pm	Target and encourage low-income families to participate in Summer in the Park	Staffing £2059.45 Materials £400 Hospitality £202.81 Entertainment £1837.74 Total Cost £4500
Glenrothes CLD Shirley Crawley	SHAPE – 5 days a week x 6 weeks (excluding public holidays) Summer Holiday Activity Programme targeted at vulnerable children/young people in the Glenrothes area identified by schools, social work, colleagues and community groups 10am-2pm. Includes staff hours for creative media element to whole CLD summer programme, drone footage, photos, training young people.	Yes - 70 Packed Lunches each day for 6 weeks delivered to Lomond Centre	Children identified as vulnerable and from low-income families.	£9250 staffing
Glenrothes CLD Shirley Crawley	Youth Diversion – Exit (4 weeks) and Lomond Centre Youth (6 Weeks) Hubs Friday evenings	No	Young people from disadvantaged and low-income families	£ 2500 Staffing
Glenrothes CLD Shirley Crawley	Indoor/Outdoor Activities - Exit (4 weeks) and Lomond Centre (6 weeks) Wednesday evenings linking in with Glenrothes Strollers activities	No	Young people from disadvantaged and low-income families	£ 1600 Staffing
Glenrothes CLD Shirley Crawley	Equalities Group (6 Weeks) – Lomond Centre	No	LGBTQI young people	£ 270 Staffing £100 Resources

Glenrothes CLD David Hewitt	Biking & Outdoor Activities - targeting young people identified by Education and Partner agencies as vulnerable at risk through holidays (Day & Evening sessions 10am – 3pm & 6pm – 9.30pm)	No	Young people from disadvantaged and low-income families	£3,000 staffing and £5,200 transport and Activities
Total				£26,420 required

Summer in the Park 2023

Every Wednesday 12-3pm Riverside Park, Glenrothes

KY7 5QB

Date	Activity	Organisations	Equipment
5th July	Arts and Crafts Family Biking/Bikeability Family Sports /football 1pm archery Petting Zoo Community Information/ Gingerbread /Social Security Scotland Toddlers Corner/Book Bug/Playtime Circus Skills Café / Café Inc Lunches Face painting Army Activity Silent Disco Community Police 1pm-3pm Drone Café Inc Lunches Registration	Homestart Bikeability Active Schools Eden Garden Gingerbread Ladybird/Carlton Nursery Drocket Dragon CLD Sqigglyfaces Leuchars CLD Police Scotland CLD CLD CLD	2 large 2 small Gazeboes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts and Crafts • Petting Zoo • 2 x Community Info • Silent Disco Power Access
12th July	Arts and Crafts Family Biking/Bikeability Family Sports Toddlers Corner/Playtime/Book Bug Circus Skills Llamas Café / Café Inc Lunches Community information /Food	Homestart Bikeability Active Schools Ladybird/Carleton Nursery Drocket Dragon Claireville CLD Gingerbread	Gazeboes 2 large 1 small Power access

Date	Activity	Organisations	Equipment
	Karaoke –Tent Tobacco Prevention Community Police 1pm-3pm Drone Registration	S9Fifty NHS Police Scotland CLD CLD	
19th July	Arts and Crafts/ Ukrainian Headdress Family Biking/Bikeability Family Sports Community Information/Play base Circus Skills Cosy Kingdom Café / Café Inc Lunches Credit Union Wellbeing in fife Tobacco Prevention Silent Disco Community Police 1pm-3pm Registration	ESOL Bikeability Active Schools Gingerbread Drocket Dragon Cosy Kingdom CLD Kingdom Barnardos NHS CLD Police Scotland CLD	2 large 2 small Gazeboes
26th July	Arts and Crafts Family Biking Family Sports Circus Skills Café / Café Inc Lunches Dino Community info – ians special Wellbeing in fife Tobacco Prevention Community Police 1pm-3pm Registration	Homestart Bikeability Active Schools Drocket Dragon CLD Dino Team Barnardos NHS Police Scotland CLD	Gazeboes 2 large 2 small
2nd August	Arts and Crafts Family Biking/Bikeability Family Sports	CLD Bikeability Active Schools	Gazeboes 2 large 2 small

Date	Activity	Organisations	Equipment
	Community Information/Playbase/ Credit Union Circus Skills Café / Café Inc Lunches FORP Kingdom Tobacco Prevention Community Police 1pm-3pm Café Inc Lunches Registration	Gingerbread Droket Dragon CLD FORP Credit Union Police Scotland CLD CLD	
9th August	Arts and Crafts Family Biking/Bikeability Family Sports Community Information/food Circus Skills Facepainting Cosy Kingdom Bouncy Castles Café / Café Inc Lunches Family Disco Credit Union Tobacco Prevention Army Assault course Community Police 1pm-3pm Drone Café Inc Lunches Registration	CLD Bikeability Active Schools Gingerbread Droket Dragon Sqiggly faces Cosy Kingdom Bouncy Castle Man CLD S9Fifty Kingdom NHS MOD Police Scotland CLD CLD CLD	

SUMMER IN THE PARK

2023

Summer In The Park are weekly family events, which took place at the pavilion in Riverside Park, every Wednesday through out the summer holidays. Each week there were core activities; with sports, arts and crafts, community information, biking, circus skills and a different one off activities and opportunities every week. We also provided Café Inc lunches to families who required support during the holiday period.

Families valued the opportunity to come together locally, being outdoors, kids being active, meeting friends, making new ones, all without monetary pressures.

This summer programme is funded by the Glenrothes Local Community Planning Budget. This funding allowed for the events to be free, providing and promoting accessibility for local families.



All the events were absolutely incredible very inclusive to everyone children & adults getting involved. Staff super friendly and welcoming good variety of activities!!



So many families coming together it was brilliant to see. Proper community spirit is fantastic.



The variety of experiences from the animals, water play, music crafts, assault course bouncy castle and football.



Summer in the Park 2024

If you would like to become involved: either volunteering, donating or know of activities or information that would benefit families in Glenrothes then please get in touch.

alison.obrien@fife.gov.uk



A BIG Thank You To All Our Partners and Volunteers Who Make This Glenrothes Annual Free Family Events Possible!!

Some Family Feedback ...



What could make it better ...

Some play activities which revolve around play using items most houses have such as cardboard boxes, building blocks etc

more for ages 12 and up. and maybe other times in October holidays / Christmas

Shelter for rain?

more communication as to where it during wet weather

More things like police cars, fire engines etc

kids love the football and younger ones like it all
Lots of stalls and activities for bairns

The fun and the fact that it was free and available to everyone.

I liked the variety of activities on each week, meeting friends and letting the kids run free in a safe environment. Also being able to take my dog, it was a family day out.

What families liked about the events...

Always lots to do and changes each week

Freedom for the kids to experience lots of different things

Variety off activities and information from local groups

Time spent with gran kids Gives families something to do

the feeling of community choice of activities, family friendly Very safe for kids to wander and adults can get a cuppa Well organised, fun, interactive

Keep doing what you're doing. Great to see families enjoying their selves.

"What would you say to funders"

Thank you so so much for all your hard work. Putting on such fun, educational and engaging events for free is so appreciated!

It is an absolute gift to have this every year for free. Myself and my daughter look forward

Thank you all to much for everything you do it's amazing for the children.

Thank you for all the time and effort put in. Every staff/volunteer we spoke to was really kind and helpful

Thank you very much for putting such a safe and fun event each week. Alison is particular was very attentive and made sure the event was run well. See you next year .

Thank you, the local families definitely need free activities to make it inclusive for all and the town park is a fantastic space for it.



The Weather

We had a couple of weeks where the weather was lovely. This gives the events such a different feel

However there was also a couple of weeks where the weather wasn't so good! One of these weeks we held the event at Glenwood High School and Community Use

We would like to thanks the school for having us at such short notice and the

What do parents gain from attending Summer In The Park ...

Engaging with the kids activities is good for relationships, it's fun for adults too, and took a bit of stress out of the expense of the summer holidays.

Being able to enjoy doing things on a budget with all children That these things to do if the communities get together

Entertains the children for a day plus feeds them lunch. Gives lots of ideas for home learning/ fun Allows parents to socialise

Meeting new people Having a safe and organised environment for my children to play

Seeing child happy and participating and wanting to come back again the following week

Meeting others - getting out in the fresh air. Learning new things. Quality time with their children

being out socialising, all volunteers are amazing Ideas for low cost activities at home Doing things with there kids for free play with children - positive relationship building, money saving

free activities as things are so tight at the moment so nice to have so much fun without worrying about money getting out the house with other families

Enjoyment of watching their children have a fun experience without having to worry about the cost. The free packed lunch would help a lot of people in Glenrothes let their children have a good lunch during the holidays as they miss out on free school meals.



The kids learned new skills taking part in activities that they haven't experienced before and also that they don't need money to have a lot of fun.

To be more confident Planting & plants first time singing in public

Socially with other kids

communication, playing, new friends, sharing

My children have loved the different experiences, especially the petting zoo.

What children have learned / gained

Crafts, circus tricks loads of educational information was gained.

To make friends Stilts, spinning plates Confidence

Lots about animals, the outdoors, and new activities that they still enjoy with the things they were able to bring home.

Yes to cope with overwhelming situation

Shape Summer 2023

Parents- Carers Feedback

Mum +2 children:

Shape has been an amazing service in the girl's holiday routine over the years. It's hard as a Parent to keep the kids entertained the entire holidays, Shape just takes that pressure off for Parents. The girls have loved it over the years, coming home with arts and crafts projects and stories of the fun they have had that day. I look forward to using this service again in the future for my younger boys. Thank you.

Gran + 2 children:

Both boys thoroughly enjoyed Shape. Meeting new people, various activities and getting physical exercise. Our kids love the outdoors, disco and big hall, not so keen on crafts lol. They also love disco and outdoor fun. The Club has really been good for them and hoping to attend in October.

Mum + 2 children:

Both of my children attended Shape on and off throughout the holidays and loved it. It helped massively with work. My son has Autism, so I was worried about him going, but the Staff made both of us feel comfortable about him going and he loved it. It's great to keep them active and social throughout the holidays and I hope this Club becomes available again.

Mum + 1 child:

I am so grateful that Lomond Centre has a Summer Club, I am a single Parent and I must go to work. I trust in the Staff of the Summer Club and my son can stay safe and spend time in activities. It is also a great service the lunch offered in the Club.

Dad + 2 children:

Always a good thing to get the kids out and enjoying themselves, unfortunately the weather hasn't been great but still enjoyed getting out the house.

Dad +1 child:

Thank you for having my daughter at holiday Club over the summer holidays She has had lots of fun and loved meeting new people and making new friends. We would be delighted to hear about any future holiday Clubs. Thank you.

Grandad + 1 child

Our Grandson has greatly enjoyed his time at Shape this summer. He has made lots of new friends and has enjoyed all the activities. We are happy that he has been looked after so well and wish to thank all the Staff.

Mum + 1 child:

Excellent day care, daughter had a great time every day. Excellent Staff and very welcome. Will use again if on in the future.

Parent + 1 child

The Shape Club is a brilliant place for the kids. They love it and Staff couldn't be any more supportive towards kids.

Mum + 3 children

My children attended Shape holiday camp at Lomond Centre. They all enjoyed coming and were upset if didn't attend. They have managed to keep in touch with friends from their school and have made a new friends whist at LOMOND. All Staff are brilliant, amazing people. My heart goes out to all. I would recommend anyone to go and attend kid wise. You all do an amazing Job.

Dad + 2 children

I'm writing to thank the team from Shape for running the Summer Club at Lomond Centre in Glenrothes. My kids benefited from the interaction with other children and usually came home tired (and much more agreeable) at the end of each session. My wife and I are both full times employed. So, this has helped us to get to work and elevated our concerns for risk to losing income. Thank you and all the best.

Dad + 2 Children

Our kids enjoyed the summer camp. Looking forward for next camp. Could be great if you can involve activity project-oriented sessions. Thanks.

Parents + 1 child

Thank you very much for taking care of our son during the summer holidays. He enjoyed coming to the Club which gave me peace of mind knowing that he is active, interacting with other children and having a great time while being looked after and well cared for by the shape team instead of sitting in front of TV or playing with his tablet at his grandparents' house while we are at work.

All these facilities and activities provided were great especially considering they were free of charge which was very much appreciation to all Shape Staff for the hard work and dedication for providing a safe place for all the children to have a great time during the summer holiday. He looks forward to coming back to Shape next holiday and we really hope it will be available again.

Parent + 1 child

My daughter enjoyed the classes very much. The most disco, in future she would like to come back here.

Parent + 2 children

The Lomond Centre Kids Club has been an invaluable resource during the school holidays. My kids have enjoyed every session, asking kids club instead of going to other activities. The young volunteers here had a great experience too, developing strong leadership skills by working with the children.

Mum + 2 children

Boys look forward to going to Lomond Centre every day, they like to see friends also boys enjoy Astro Turf. My benefits are huge I have break from the boys which help my mental health. Thank you very much for your help.

Mum + 1 child

I feel that the holiday club is a very good club, it lets kids meet up with school friends during the holidays in a safe environment. It is good for us working families. I think my child has grown confidence and friendships at the club and wish for it to continue.

Parent + 2 children

Just a few words to say that my 2 grandsons have totally enjoyed attending Shape over the past few weeks. Both have said they love the outdoors or the fun at the disco, loved meeting new friends and have felt safe at the club. Thank you, staff and helpers, for taking some pressure off parents and carers giving the kids days of fun and exercise,

Mum + 1 child

Really enjoyed attending Shape Holiday Club at Lomond Centre in Glenrothes for 2023 Summer Holidays. She benefited from having new friends, playing and gaining confidence in social interactions. Thus, also benefited in hrt family and allowed her Parents to have a little break. She also enjoyed free daily lunch. Hopefully this camp with run again on Autum break 2023. Thank you.

Parent + 1 child

I feel that the holiday Club is a very good club, it lets kids meet up with school friends during the holidays in a safe environment. It is good for us working families. I think my child has grown confidence and friendships at the Club and wish for it to continue.

Parent + 1 child

My daughter enjoyed the classes very much. The most disco. In the future she would like to come back.

Parent + 2 children

The Lomond Centre Kids Club has been an invaluable resource during the school holidays. My kids have enjoyed every session, asking to attend kids club instead of going to other activities. The Young Volunteers have had a great experience too, developing strong leadership skills by working with the children.

Mum + 2 children

Boys look forward to going Lomond Centre every day, they like to see friends also boys enjoy Astro turf. My benefits are huge I have a break from the boys which helps my Mental Health. Thank you very much for your help from me and boys.

Parent + 3 children

The Shape Club is a brilliant place for the kids. They love it and Staff couldn't be anymore supporting towards the kids.

Mum + 1 child

Excellent day camp, daughter had a great time every day. Brilliant Staff and very welcome. I will use again in the future.

Dad + 3 children

My children attended Shape Holiday Camp at Lomond Centre. They all enjoyed coming and were upset if didn't attend. They have managed to keep in touch with friends from their school and have made a new friend whilst at Lomond. All Staff are brilliant, amazing people. My heart goes out to all. I would recommend anyone to go and attend Kid wise. You all do an amazing job. Well done.

Dad + 2 children.

Both kids enjoyed the Summer Camp. Looking forward for next camp. Could be great if you can involve some activity/ project orientated sessions.

Grand Parent + 2 children

Just a few words to say that my 2 grandsons have totally enjoyed attending Shape over the past few weeks. Both have said they love the outdoors at the fun at the disco, loved meeting new friends and have felt safe at the Club. Thank you, staff and helpers, for taking some pressure of parents and carers and giving the kids days of fun and exercise.

Mum + 3 children.

Hi, our three kids have had a great time. It also keeps them busy through the holidays as finances are tight and it not easy, and with the provided lunches that also to try and keep in budget. Where I work from home it also allows me to be on conference calls etc. It also helps as we get a little one on one time with the youngest as his development is a bit slower, so gives us a chance to work on that. With him. Thank you for your help and support its highly appreciated.

Grand Parent x 1 child.

Our Grandson has greatly enjoyed his time at Shape this summer. He has made lots of new friends and has enjoyed all the activities. We are happy that he has been looked after so well and wish to thank all the staff.

Dad + 1 child.

Having club for children helps during holidays for children to grow in themselves, meeting new friends and try new things. Keeping them active and enjoying life instead of sitting in front of a computer screen or TV. Helps to interact and learning. I believe club is a definite for children and lets them enjoy life too.

Dad + 1 child.

He has thoroughly enjoyed coming along to shape though and would return again, if it was running through the holidays again.

Mum + 1 child.

Shape has been brilliant for myself and my daughter. It has helped with childcare and allowed my daughter to see her friends during the holidays which y not otherwise have been possible or as regular due to work commitments. Shape has been positive for my daughter socially, educationally and physically with various activities.

Parent + 2 children.

Both of my children attended Shape on and off though the holidays and loved it. It helped massively with work. My son has autism, so I was worried about him going but the staff made both of us feel comfortable about him going and he loved it. It is great to keep them active and social throughout the holidays, and I hope this club becomes available again,

Shape Summer 2023

Shape Children and Young people Feedback

- 1. What did you think of the Shape Programme (Activities)?**
- 2. Was there anything you didn't like and why?**
- 3. How would you rate the Shape Programme 1 being low 5 being high?**
- 4. How did you get on with Staff and Volunteers?**
- 5. Would you come back?**
- 6. Impact Statement.**

Girl aged 6.

1. I found the arts and crafts fun and enjoyed playing tig outside.
2. Not really but I didn't like being in the sports hall because it was too noisy.
3. 3/5
4. Good, they helped me and were fun.
5. Yes
6. I like that the Shape programme let me do different activities.

Girl aged 8.

1. I found the programme good and enjoyed being able to do different activities.
2. I didn't like being in the gym hall because we played basketball and I don't like basketball.
3. 5/5
4. Good, I liked the music the volunteers played in the disco room.
5. Yes, I come every year.
6. I loved the Shape programme, especially the disco room, it was super fun.

Boy aged 9.

1. I liked being here because I get sports and I liked the Art room, it was fun.
2. I liked everything.
3. 5/5
4. I found everyone helpful and fun.
5. Yes.
6. My favourite thing about Shape Programme was playing with the toys and it let me meet new people and play with my best friend, Murray.

Girl aged 8.

1. I found the activities good. I liked the disco and going outside and playing.
2. I didn't like the gym hall because it was very noisy.
3. 4/5
4. I liked the volunteers and found them nice.
5. Yes.
6. My favourite thing about the Shape Programme was having fun at the disco. I really enjoyed the music and dancing with my friends.

Girl aged 6.

1. The Shape Programme was really fun, equally doing the arts and crafts.
2. Sometimes I didn't like the lunches because I didn't like the cakes.
3. 5/5
4. I got on good with everyone and I liked Leah playing with me.
5. Yes
6. The Shape Programme let me make new friends and I enjoyed all the activities.

Girl aged 9.

1. I loved it, my favourite thing about the programme was everything.
2. Nope.
3. 5/5.
4. I got on good with everyone and they were all really nice.
5. Yes, I come here every Summer and Easter.
6. I loved the Shape Programme because it let me draw, which was really fun, and I loved the arts and crafts.

Boy aged 9.

1. I found the Programme really fun. I liked playing the games here.
2. I didn't like the dodgeball because I would get hit with the ball.
3. 5/5.
4. I really liked everyone.
5. Yes.
6. I liked the Shape Programme as I made lots of new friends and enjoyed the activities.

Girl aged 11.

1. Good.
2. No.
3. 10
4. Thumbs up.
5. Yeah
6. I helped with the dining room, I had to focus, I enjoyed it. It's been really calming for me.

Girl aged 10.

1. There ok.
2. I didn't not like anything.
3. 4
4. Good.
5. Yes.
6. I really enjoyed the Astro and the disco, they were good fun, they made me happy. My favourite is the disco especially when I get to pick the music. I like to help out with the peers giving out fruit at lunchtime.

Girl aged 5.

1. I enjoyed the arts and crafts.
2. I didn't like football.
3. 5.
4. Good.
5. Yes.
6. Cause its super fun and I love it. Enjoy my arts and crafts and today I learned how to make a kite and I made friends with Mallory and Laci. I also like my lunchtime as I have the egg sandwiches.

Girl aged 6.

1. I like them.
2. I didn't like the Astro as I got hit by the football.
3. 5
4. I like the Volunteers and Staff
5. Yes.
6. I love the disco and hot dogs. We have a disco after lunch sometimes and they are good fun. I like to dance and have fun with my friends. All my friends come here too.

Girl aged 11.

1. It's a place to hang out in the summer.
2. Nothing.
3. 3
4. Great
5. Yes.
6. It's a good place to make friends and meet my friends. I wouldn't have anything to do in the holidays. All my friends come, and I enjoy it all at Shape.

Girl aged 11.

1. They're ok.
2. Not keen on sports.
3. 3.5

4. Pretty good.
5. Yes.
6. Good place to get things to do in the holiday. I come with my brother, and we enjoy ourselves. We would be bored at home with nothing to do all day.

Boy aged 7.

1. They're ok but my favourite is dodgeball.
2. I don't like staying at the Lomond Centre all day.
3. 3
4. Good
5. Yes
6. I like it here a little, but my favourite time is in the gym hall. I like coming with my sister. I don't think I would like to come on my own. We have good fun together. We love to mix colours to make new ones.

Girl aged 9.

1. I enjoy them, they have been fun.
2. Don't really think of anything I didn't like.
3. 5
4. They are really nice and kind to me.
5. Yes.
6. It was fun and I enjoyed all the activities. I am always active, and Shape keeps me busy till I go home tired sometimes.

Girl aged 9.

1. I particularly enjoy the art.
2. I don't like football.
3. 5.
4. Good.
5. Yes.
6. I would come back as all my friends are here and its great fun. We really like the arts and crafts as they are beautiful pictures and we made cards at Christmas and Easter for our families.

Girl aged 8.

1. Yes, I think they are alright.
2. I don't really like going outside.
3. 4
4. Pretty Good.
5. Yes.
6. I have a friend here. Mallory is my best friend, we love to do things together, we invent things from our imagination.

Girl aged 7.

1. Its very good.
2. Nothing.
3. 5.
4. Mostly good.

5. Yes.
6. I like playing outside. I really don't like to be kept inside unless it is raining, I love playing in the Astro and playing dodgeball.

Boy aged 5.

1. I like them now but I don't like them.
2. I didn't like arts and crafts.
3. 7.
4. Good.
5. Yes.
6. I love going outside and taking part in the sports. Sports are my hobby. I like the Arts and do pictures for my mum. The helpers help me to make nice colours.

Girl aged 8.

1. I enjoy the activities.
2. I like everything that is here.
3. 5
4. Good.
5. Yes.
6. Because it's my favourite thing to do, I enjoy the disco, arts and crafts and the Astro and the food is good.

Boy aged 10.

1. It's really fun.
2. Nothing.
3. 5.
4. Very good.
5. Yes.
6. My friends that I really like to play with I enjoy football and dodgeball too.

Girl aged 13.

1. Have fun.
2. No
3. 5.
4. Good.
5. Yes.
6. I get to see my little cousin more. I am enjoying Volunteering here.

Boy aged 12.

1. I like football because it was fun. I got to play with friends.
2. There was not anything that I did not like.
3. I would rate Shape a 5 especially because my friends are here.
4. I got on really well with the Staff and Volunteers, they were helpful.
5. I like that you can always make new friends and there's always something to do.
6. I would come back to shape.

Boy aged 6.

1. I like going to the Astro.
2. No.
3. They are kind.
4. 10.
5. Yeah.
6. No.

Girl aged 6.

1. I like meeting all my new friends, and it's a nice place.
2. No.
3. They are all very nice.
4. 5 Stars.
5. Yes.
6. This place is amazing.

Girl aged 9.

1. I liked going outside to the Astro. I liked doing the crafts.
2. I don't like when people were swearing at me.
3. They are good and nice.
4. 5.
5. Yes.
6. No.

Girl aged 11.

1. I like the Sports hall.
2. No.
3. They're good.
4. 3.
5. Maybe.
6. No.

Boy aged 8.

I liked the football pitch. I liked playing with my brother on it. I liked everything; nothing is bad. I would rate Shape a 5, its really good. I like the Volunteers there really good, especially CJ, he helps me play. I would come back again.

Boy aged 8.

I like the disco because I like the music as it is so good. I like the roast chicken crisps the most, there good. I would rate Shape a 5 because its fun. I like the Volunteers, they let me listen to music. I would come back and would want it back on again.

Girl aged 7.

I like playing on the Astro. I liked getting passed to as it helps me practise my tricks. I would rate Shape a 4 sometimes a 5. There isn't anything bad. I got on well with the helpers there nice to me. I would come back to Shape.

Boy Aged 8.

I like to play with my friends in the Astro or gym hall. I don't like when I hear kids swearing but the Volunteers are always nice and deal with it. I would rate Shape a 4. I got on well with helpers.

Boy aged 8.

I like doing arts and crafts and playing football. There isn't anything I don't like, its all really fun. I would rate Shape a 3 because sometimes I don't like the games, I got on well with Staff, they always tired to make it fun. I would come back its really good

Boy aged 9.

I like the Astro as I get to play football with my friends. There nothing I don't like its all ok. I would rte Shape a 5 especially when I get to play with friends. I got on well with the volunteers, they are really fun and always let me play. I would come back to Shape, it's really fun.

Boy aged 5.

I like going outside because my brother is there and plays with me in the sun. I miss my mum sometimes but when I start playing its ok. I would rate Shape a 5, its good. I got on well with staff, they are all fun. I would come back here.

Boy aged 7.

I like doing dancing in the disco and playing football and cutting out in the art room. There is nothing that I don't like, I always look forward to coming here. I would rate Shape a 5, I got on well with all the helpers and there all really kind. I would come back with my brother and sister.

Girl aged 5.

I like the football. I like playing different games with my friends especially Robert as he is nice to me. There isn't anything really bad. I would rate Shape a 5 especially with its sunny. I got on well with the Staff and Volunteers, there really funny. I would come back again.

Girl aged 9.

I like drawing, I like it because I'm good at colouring. There isn't anything I don't like, its all okay. I would rate Shape a 4 its good to come to with friends. I think the Staff and Helpers are really good. I would come back if it was on again. It is really fun, and I like telling my Mum about it.

Girl aged 6.

I like when we get to do the discos and get to dance to my favourite songs. There isn't anything that I don't really like. I would rate Shape a 3. I get on well with the helpers and there good at helping. I like playing on the Astro with y friends, I get to run around with them. I would come back again.

Girl aged 7.

I like playing with my friends specially on the Astro, there isn't anything that I don't like. I would rate Shape a 3. I think there was really good helpers. I would come back to see my friends again.

Boy aged 10.

I like the outside area because I like playing football and I like playing ball in the gym because its fair. I didn't really like the disco because I recommend a song, it wouldn't get played. I rate Shape a 4 because its not my favourite Club but it's still one of the best. Yeh, I got on well with the Staff and Volunteers, they were helpful, and I liked seeing Bailey again. I liked the football a lot and would tell people about a lot. I would 100% come back to Shape.

Boy aged 8.

I like it all, like the disco and Astro as well as the gym hall. My favourite is disco and Astro. I don't really like waiting around as People get. Signed in at eh start but I also get to have a good chat with friends. I would rate Shape a 4 because I didn't really know anyone but now, I have a lot of new friends. I got on with the helpers well and felt like they were good at dealing with stuff. I love playing football with my new friends. I would definitely come back to Shape again.

Boy aged 11.

I liked playing dodgeball and football because I am good at it and its something that I enjoy. There was nothing I didn't like about the programme. I would rate Shape a 5 because its fun and good. I got on with the Staff and Volunteers well, they were nice and approachable. I would tell people the disco and music is really good. I would come back to Shape again.

Boy aged 11.

I liked the disco as I got to dance to music, but I also liked playing football on the Astro. Sometimes I thought the football teams were unfair. I would rate Shape a 5 as I get to play with friends and meet new people. I get on really well with the volunteers. I feel like they were always trying to make it perfect. I think the Volunteers are really nice and there are lots of activities as well as a good selection for lunch. I would 100% definitely come back to Shape.

Boy aged 7.

I liked the gym hall as I got to play dodgeball which is really fun. There wasn't anything that I didn't like it was all enjoyable. I would rate Shape a 5 as it's really fun. I got on well with the Staff and Volunteers and they were good at helping out. That is fun and really likeable especially when I'm playing with friends and brother. I would come back to Shape.

Boy aged 8.

I like playing football on the Astro because I like football especially when I'm playing with friends that's fun. There wasn't anything that I didn't like, I always got something to do. I rate Shape a 4 as I like that they have Cheese sandwiches and sometimes cookies. I got on with the Staff and Volunteers they were helpful. I enjoyed the Astro Turf that was my favourite thing about Shape. I would come back to Shape because I love Shape.

Girl aged 5.

I like the disco; I really like the music and the dancing. There wasn't really anything that I didn't like about Shape. I rate Shape a 5 as it was really good. I get on with the Staff and Volunteers, they were good. I like Shape as there is loads to do include the disco and Astro. I would come back to Shape because everyone is nice.

Boy aged 6.

1. I liked being here because I enjoyed daily sports.
2. I didn't like the arts and crafts because I didn't find it fun.
3. 5/5.
4. I found the workers helpful and got on well with them.
5. Yes.
6. I liked the Shape Programme because it was fun to do the sports, which is my favourite thing to do.

Shape Summer 2023

Shape Youth Helpers Feedback

1. What did you think of the Shape Programme (Activities)?
2. Was there anything you didn't like and why?
3. How would you rate the Shape Programme 1 being low 5 being high?
4. How did you get on with Staff and Volunteers?
5. Would you come back?
6. Impact Statement.

Girl aged 16.

1. It lets the kids to do something during the holidays.
2. Football because the kids constantly ask to play and some kids wood to play something else.
3. 8/10.
4. I get on well with the other Staff and Volunteers,
5. Yes.
6. Its fun to come here and its learning environment for everyone.

Girl aged 17.

1. It gives kids something to do and enjoy throughout the holidays. It helps build relationships with the kids.
2. Football as kids and Volunteers/ Staff get hurt and it doesn't end well as they play to ruff with little ones.
3. 6/10.
4. I get on with some volunteering and Staff, but I don't get on well with all of them.
5. Maybe.
6. Its fun and builds up my confidence downside. It can stress me out highly that I can't calm down at times.

Girl aged 16.

I enjoyed volunteering/ helping out at Shape as I feel it is a very beneficial programme and I also feel there is a brilliant range of activities for the children such as Astro and gym hall where I got to show them new sports and play different games with them that they recommended as well as the craft room where I got to help the kids with their colouring , cutting, sticking and making masks which all the kids enjoyed because it helps build their skills. There was nothing that I didn't enjoy at Shape, it was all enjoyable and well planned. I would rate Shape a 5 because everything gets dealt with and organised to such a high standard and there is never anything that the Club doesn't organise to make it enjoyable. I get on really with all Staff, I think that the Staff are great towards the Volunteers and don't treat it differently from anyone else. I also get on amazingly with all my volunteer peers, they are all great talented people that are amazing at helping out especially with the children. I think it is great that Shape offer and provide lunches for the children and the snacks they give are all suitable for everyone, so that no one is hungry. And they are great in providing gluten free options as well so that everyone is included. I would definitely volunteer at Shape again as it is an amazing experience.

Girl aged 13.

1. I like playing chaos tig and inside doing colouring. I didn't like the football.
2. I didn't like the football because it is played everyday and is boring. Also you can get hit with the ball.

3. 4
4. I think I got on well with Staff and Volunteers, they are helpful.
5. Yes.
6. It is fun and kids like coming here, it is a nice environment.

Boy aged 15.

1. *Good because I like playing football outside an I like colouring in the craft room.*
2. *I didn't like the dodgeball or the disco because it was too loud.*
3. *10.*
4. *Good, I get along with them a lot.*
5. *Yes, to help out.*
6. *I like it because I like helping out and I can make new friends.*

Boy16.

1. I got to have lots of fun playing with the kids.
2. All of it was good.
3. Perfect.
4. 5.
5. Yeah.
6. I got to have lots of fun with the kids and show them how to play games and made sure no one got hurt.

Boy aged 15.

I liked helping the kids with Arts and Crafts in the craft room. I like this as I enjoy colouring in. There wasn't anything I didn't like it was all quite fun. I would rate Shape a 5. I got on well with Staff and Volunteers, they were quite helpful. I love Shape it is great for helping me reach my Volunteering goals. I would definitely come back to Shape.

22 November 2023

Agenda Item No. 7

Delivery of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy in the Glenrothes Area

Report by: Nigel Kerr, Head of Protective Services

Wards Affected: Glenrothes area (Wards 13, 14 and 15)

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the delivery of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy in the Glenrothes Area.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to note and comment on the activity to date.

Resource Implications

None.

Legal & Risk Implications

None.

Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is not required as no policy or funding changes are being proposed that are likely to have an impact on equality groups.

Consultation

None.

1.0 Background

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the implementation of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy including environmental offending within the Glenrothes committee area during the period 1st April 2019 to 30th September 2023.
- 1.2. In February 2022 members of the Environment & Protective Services Sub-Committee approved the [Environmental Vandalism Strategy 2022-2024](#). The vision of the Strategy is to significantly reduce environmental vandalism in Fife.
- 1.3. In June 2023 the Scottish Government published their National Litter and Flytipping [Strategy](#) which was developed in conjunction by the Scottish Government, Zero Waste Scotland, Keep Scotland Beautiful and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency following engagement with other key partners and stakeholders. The Strategy aims to drive litter and flytipping prevention through changes in behaviour, the delivery of services and enforcement.

The 6-year Strategy sets important and ambitious objectives and includes actions which will be delivered in the first year including:

- A national community-focused litter education programme
- A national online litter hub
- Action to identify, target and stop flytippers.
- Support for private landowners to deter and deal with flytipping affecting their land.
- Fixed penalty notices for flytipping to be more than doubled to £500.
- Improvements to data collection, management, and analysis, including a litter and flytipping Data Strategy
- New legislative powers to:
 - tackle littering from vehicles.
 - seize vehicles involved in flytipping offences.
 - issue fixed penalty notices for breaches to householder duty of care obligations in relation to household waste

2.0 Environmental Vandalism Strategy 2022-2024

- 2.1. The aims and objectives encompass both actions at a strategic level and use of data and intelligence to ensure a more targeted approach can be taken to tackle environmental vandalism.
- 2.2. The environmental vandalism strategy will be delivered by all services working in partnership and will be fully committed to both the Place Leadership group and local areas walkabouts.
- 2.3. In relation to enforcement several actions have been taken to develop the most effective strategy for policing environmental vandalism. Meetings have taken place with Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, and training has been provided to enforcement officers on legislation, evidence gathering and report writing/submission. Within the council a specialist working group has

been established with Legal Services; a review has been undertaken to identify all possible legislative powers and training is to be provided to ensure officers understand what the best enforcement options are in the circumstances being investigated.

- 2.4. This workstream has enabled use of new regulatory approaches to deal with specific issues. A good example of this is the recent use of powers under section 95 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 to deal with bulky items in common areas and to maintain the open space and any boundary walls or fences so as to prevent danger or nuisance to the public. Subsequently in April 2022, Safer Communities Officers served Notice on the owners of private flats in a street in Glenrothes which resulted in a vast amount of illegally dumped waste being removed.

3.0 Resources and Enforcement

- 3.1. With the implementation of Fife’s Environmental Vandalism Strategy 2022-2024 the Council aims to tackle these issues through both prevention and enforcement. Whilst it is recognised that robust enforcement will act as a deterrent, it is clear that more integrated partnership working and enabling positive behavioural change within Fife will be essential to preventing environmental vandalism in the longer term.
- 3.2. There are currently 5 Safer Communities Officers deployed in the Glenrothes area who are authorised to take enforcement action for environmental offending. However, due to the hours of operation and the other tasks associated with their role, most of this work is carried out on a full-time basis by two members of staff.
- 3.3. The table below outlines the number of cases dealt with by the Safer Communities Team in the Glenrothes area during the financial years 2019-2023:

Glenrothes	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Apr-Sept 23
Abandoned Vehicles	268	166	252	427	147
Contaminated Gardens	120	147	102	41	21
Dog Fouling	151	101	76	202	37
Illegal Dumping	524	612	669	588	184
Littering	16	15	6	19	15
Total requests for service	1079	1041	1105	1277	404

- 3.4. In addition, during the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023, Safer Communities Officers carried out 356 patrols which were highlighted as areas of concern specifically in relation to dog fouling, littering and flytipping. It was evident that on 57 of these visits that waste had been illegally dumped, however there was only evidence found on 4 occasions which allowed Officers to carry out further investigation and fixed penalty notices were issued as a result.
- 3.5. Collydean, Heatherywood and the industrial estates in Glenrothes have been highlighted by Street Cleansing colleagues as some of the worst affected areas for flytipping and as such Safer Communities Officers continue to monitor and patrol these areas. However, due to the nature of the materials that have been illegally dumped there has been no evidence captured which has allowed Officers to take enforcement action in these locations.
- 3.6. Street Cleansing colleagues have also highlighted dog fouling as an issue in particular hotspots including Boblingen Way, Leslie High Street, Newcastle, Tanshall and Pitcoudie and therefore Safer Communities Officers have carried out targeted patrols and have erected 'No Dog Fouling' signage to raise awareness of the problem.
- 3.7. Safer Communities Officers issued 13 Fixed Penalty Notices in the Glenrothes area during the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023, 6 of which were for flytipping offences, 3 for dog fouling and 4 for littering, an increase of 5 on the previous year 2021/2022. Of the 13 Fixed Penalty Notices issued in 2022/23 6 were paid in full, 3 have a payment plan and none were reported to the Procurator Fiscal. One of the 4 that were unpaid was issued to a gentleman with dementia although this wasn't apparent Officers at the time and therefore it was decided to withdraw it. Reminder letters for non-payment were sent to the other 3 but payments were not forthcoming. There are ongoing discussions with the Procurator Fiscal to ensure that processes and procedures are reviewed and updated to maximise the potential for positive outcomes when cases are submitted.
- 3.8. During the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023, Safer Communities Officers received 427 requests for service in relation to abandoned vehicles. However, after investigation it was found that only 6 of these were abandoned and were subsequently removed for destruction.
- 3.9. Safer Communities Officers investigated 41 complaints regarding waste being stored in gardens during the period 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023, after discussing concerns and sending letters to the occupiers, most of the waste was removed. On one occasion there was a requirement to serve an Abatement Notice under Section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, however the owner complied with the terms of the Notice and subsequently removed the waste.
- 3.10 The Safer Communities Team can now use smart camera Re-deployable CCTV (RCCTV) solutions to assist in the prevention as well as the detection and prosecution of environmental crime or antisocial behaviour such as fly-

tipping. The 7 cameras were purchased as part of the partnership approach to tackling Environmental Vandalism and support the key objectives of the partnership strategy.

The cameras can be deployed to identified and suitable hot spot locations Fife wide and are an additional tool alongside existing practices and preventative measures in the fight against Environmental Vandalism. Locations identified as problematic, can be surveyed for suitability and although the ability to deploy cameras may exist, existing measures should also be tried before installation or deployment is deemed necessary to minimise the impact on the privacy of members of the public.

The cameras can help support prevention of behaviour by being placed overtly in known problem hotspot locations as well as capture evidence of those committing such offences.

The key objectives for deploying the system are:

- to provide a safer environment for residents and the general public
- for the prevention and detection of crime
- for the detection or prosecution of offenders
- to lessen the economic costs associated with environmental crime in relation to Fife Council properties and public space.
- for the detection and prevention of anti-social behaviour in relation to environmental crime
- to monitor the integrity of Council premises and assets
- to assist Fife Council in its regulatory and enforcement functions

Where evidence is captured, Officers can take relevant action against those carrying out offences by issuing fixed penalty notices, sending a further deterrent message to those perpetrating such behaviour. There has been a delay in utilising these cameras, however, all data protection, IT and training issues have now been resolved and they will now be installed in hot spot locations for flytipping.

In addition to this Safer Communities resource, in partnership with Police Scotland, the ability to use and share resources has been agreed through a memorandum of understanding which further increases the ability to support problematic locations and known antisocial behaviour and environmental vandalism hotspots.

Whilst one of the re-deployable CCTV cameras which were funded by Ward 15 is located within the vicinity of the recycling point at Warout Road and can capture footage of vehicles accessing the site, it does not capture evidence of people illegally dumping waste and therefore it is proposed that during the week commencing 30th October 2023 that the Safer Communities Team will have an additional two cameras installed at this location to provide further coverage.

Barnton Place recycling point has been suggested as another area where the use of the cameras in the future may be beneficial.

3.11 Environmental Health is responsible for Waste Duty of Care in Fife. Following approval of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy, Fife Resource Solutions agreed to fund an additional 0.5 FTE Enforcement Officer within Environmental Health. This was match funded from existing establishment and this post was advertised and filled in December 2022. This brings the total number of Enforcement Officers dealing with Waste Duty of Care to 3 FTEs.

The waste duty of care service requests covered a range of concerns including business litter, waste storage/presentation, commercial waste advice, illegal dumping, rodent infestations, suspected commercial use of household waste recycling centres/ recycling points and duty of care referrals. The latter refers a business's duties under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and other associated legislation. Referrals can be received from various sources such as members of the public, other services, and organisations.

3.12 The below table provides details on the number of service requests received and dealt with for the Glenrothes area relating to waste duty of care between 2019 and 2023.

Year	Service Requests
2019/20	19
2020/21	23
2021/22	33
2022/23	89
April to Sept 2023	24

3.13 From the 24 service requests this year:

- 5 were requests for advice and were answered by email.
- 19 were complaints.

3.14 The complaints included businesses using household recycling points and street bins to dispose of waste, litter originating from businesses, poor presentation of waste such as overflowing bins, pest sightings and complaints of waste oil being poured into drains. Visits were made to investigate all these complaints. 8 follow up visits were required, and 3 warning letters were issued. Of the 3 warning letters issued, 1 business now has a waste contract in place and further investigations are ongoing in respect to the other 2 businesses.

- 3.15 The team has not received any complaints regarding the Recycling Point at Warout Road, but it has been checked and no commercial waste found. Local stores near Warout Road have also been checked and are fully compliant with the waste regs.
- 3.16 The Waste Duty of Care team were also involved in the Auchmuty Estate Action Plan project which aimed to improve the local environments of Auchmuty and parts of Woodside in Glenrothes. The project also involved Housing, Safer Communities, Parks, Street Cleansing, elected council members, and representatives from community groups in the area. The Waste Duty of Care team's work was focused on an area behind shops on Woodside Way which had a significant litter problem. The team visited each shop to establish whether they had appropriate waste management contracts in place and if they were recycling.
- 3.17 Out of the 10 commercial premises; 4 were vacant, 3 had waste contracts and the remaining 3 did not have waste contracts and were either taking waste home to dispose of or taking it to the nearby Recycling Point. They were provided with information and guidance on their duty of care responsibilities. One business had recently opened and is due to be revisited soon to ensure that a waste contract has been taken up. One may have closed down as there has been no response from letters and it has been closed at every revisit and the other has been reluctant to enter into a waste contract as they produce minimal waste and had been taking rubbish home with them. A warning letter has been issued and the premises is due to be revisited soon.
- 3.18 The litter at the rear of the shops was found to be domestic and has been cleared by the street cleansing team. As shown in before & after pictures below.





- 3.19 A new enforcement protocol was agreed with Cireco in April 2022 to ensure the robust investigation of any allegations of commercial waste operators using the council's recycling centres throughout Fife. There have been 45 referrals from Cireco (1 received from Glenrothes Recycling Centre) over this period. 26 bans have been issued and 19 have been allowed to use the recycling centres following investigation. The 26 businesses have not challenged the ban and will be followed up by the Waste Duty of Care Team in the next few months to identify where they are now disposing of their waste.

4.0 Campaigns and Service Actions

- 4.1 In February 2022, the overarching "Don't Rubbish Fife" campaign was launched with key messages specific to reducing environmental offending. Throughout 2022 and 2023 these included raising awareness around illegal dumping, abandoned vehicles, and littering and involved advertising on Council vehicles, radio interviews and promotion on Fife Council social media platforms. Videos and other creative campaign materials have recently been released to help tackle the issues of littering, roadside littering, and dog fouling. A few examples with links are provided below:



[Dogfouling Fife](#)

As part of Fife Council's #DontRubbishFife campaign, we asked the people of Fife what they think about dog fouling.

www.youtube.com

Video link: [Dogfouling Fife - YouTube](#)



[Mother Earth on flytipping](#)

Our recycling centres are open as usual up to Christmas. And our recycling points are being emptied on a more regular basis. But if the bins are overflowi...

www.youtube.com

Video - road littering prevention: <https://fb.watch/iQg2iLUu3Y/>

- 4.2 In October 2022, a roadside litter campaign was run in the Glenrothes area. The Council's Verge Cleaning Teams worked on the verges and the central reservation of the B921 from Bankhead to Kinglassie and involved lane closures, with street cleansing teams manually litter picking and mechanically sweeping the road channels. The Safer Communities Team supported this initiative by engaging with local businesses, members of the public and by displaying signs, posters and stickers in car parks and laybys. It should be noted that the proposed changes to legislation in relation to littering from vehicles will considerably simplify enforcement as Fixed Penalty Notices will be able to be served on the Registered Keeper of the vehicle. Currently FPNs must be served on the person dropping the litter which is difficult to prove in relation to a moving vehicle.
- 4.3 In February 2023, Safer Communities Officers carried out Operation Twilight, committing to early morning and late evening dog fouling patrols in the Newcastle, Tanshall and Pitcoudie areas of Glenrothes. Whilst there were no fixed penalties issued during this period, the officers engaged with many members of the public raising awareness of the issue of dog fouling which is often more problematic during the winter months.

- 4.4 Throughout 2023/24, the Safer Communities Team along with the other Partners involved in implementing the Environmental Vandalism Strategy will continue to deliver preventative campaigns. There will be a focus on litter and dog fouling targeting both primary and secondary schools similar to that which was delivered at Leslie Primary School in April 2023. Safer Communities Officers delivered presentations to the children and colleagues from Street Cleansing spray painted dog fouling in the area and left it in situ to raise awareness of the issue.
- 4.5 Preventative campaign messages have been used to target ‘white van man’ including those advertising on social media as they are often renowned for collecting household waste at discounted prices and illegally dumping it. In order to take a more robust approach intelligence will be gathered throughout 2023 including statistics on the impact of the free bulky uplift service and a meeting will be arranged with SEPA and the Police to discuss data sharing protocols.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 The implementation of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy in the Glenrothes area has raised the profile of environmental offending.
- 5.2 The implementation of new procedures and use of existing and new legislation will provide a more robust approach to enforcement and act as a deterrent to those who commit environmental vandalism.

Report contact:

Nigel Kerr
Head of Protective Services
Fife House
North Street
Glenrothes
KY7 5LY

Email: nigel.kerr@fife.gov.uk

22 November 2023
Agenda Item No. 8

Environmental Vandalism Strategy

Removal Element

Report by: John Rodigan, Head of Environment and Building Services

Purpose

To update committee on the actions and performance of the Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service in the delivery of the operational aims and objectives of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy in the Glenrothes area.

Recommendation

To recognise the efforts being made by the Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service to deliver the operational aims and objectives of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy in the Glenrothes area.

Resource Implications

No resource implications.

Legal and Risk Implications

The Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 89 states that duty bodies must ensure that their relevant land, in so far as is practicable, must be kept clear of litter and refuse.

Consultation

The Housing Service and Protective Services.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Environmental vandalism mainly embraces, illegal dumping, littering, dog fouling, flyposting and graffiti. Fife Council is taking a zero-tolerance approach to these forms of environmental abuse and central to the strategy is the:
1. swift removal of offending materials
 2. implementation of effective policing methods
 3. prosecution of vandals
 4. smart deployment of staff resources
 5. developing more informative data gathering
 6. working with and informing the community of what it can do to assist the Council.

- 1.2 The Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service are responsible for the swift removal of offending materials, through the smart deployment of staff resources and support of volunteers from local communities.
- 1.3 The recording of operational activities supporting the removal element of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy started in April 2023.

2.0 Removal of Offending Materials

Illegal Dumping

- 2.1 Illegally dumped waste in the Glenrothes area is removed by the fly tipping, verge cleaning and street cleansing teams, depending on proximity and the type of material to be uplifted.
- 2.2 The teams react quickly to reports and collect the discarded waste at the time of attending. Only hazardous waste or materials that provide strong evidence of ownership are left for investigation by the Safer Communities Team.
- 2.3 243 fly tips have been collected between April and September 2023. Although collection data was not recorded in previous years, reports from the public to the Safer Communities Team are nearly 20% down for the same period last year. This reduction is likely to be a direct consequence of the introduction of the free-of-charge bulky uplift service and suggests that some of the material now being uplifted would previously have been illegally dumped.
- 2.4 Collydean, Heatherywood and the industrial estates in Glenrothes are the worst affected areas and various clean-up operations have been necessary throughout the year. These sites have been reported to the Safer Communities Team for policing.

Littering

- 2.5 Discarded materials such as sweet wrappers, drinks containers, cigarette ends, fast food packaging, till receipts and small bags remain the most significant risk to the natural environment. Collecting litter of this nature is the core activity of street cleansing teams.
- 2.6 Despite nearly 700 bins in the Glenrothes area, littering is still an issue in many parts of the town, with the bus station and walkways to High Schools most affected. Approaches to High Schools, have been made by the Service and Community Police Team but the response has been poor. Hi-Viz vests, black bags and litter pickers have been provided for pupil use, but to date these materials have not been used.
- 2.7 15 street cleansing operatives collect the litter from the 890 streets of Wards 13,14 and 15. Maintaining a consistent quality standard across the Glenrothes area with this limited number of staff is difficult and comes at the expense of other routine activities such as weed removal.
- 2.8 The Glenrothes area is well served by volunteer litter pickers and their work and support is greatly appreciated and makes a material difference to the local environment. The Service works with the volunteers, coordinating operations where possible, supplying materials and disposing of the collected rubbish.

Dog Fouling

- 2.9 Dog fouling is a particularly unpleasant form of environmental vandalism and is an issue in most urban areas of Fife. In the Glenrothes area there is a general spread of irresponsible behaviour, with Boblingen Way, Leslie High Street, Newcastle, Tanshall and Pitcoudie areas being particular hotspots. Dog faeces on pavements and grass panels is lifted by street cleaners when seen or reported.
- 2.10 A pilot project in Leslie earlier in the year, saw dog fouling spray-painted and left to raise awareness of the issue. Unfortunately, data collected over 4 weeks showed that there was no impact, with the number of instances being maintained or even increased week on

week. This has not been the case in other areas of the UK where reductions in dog fouling have resulted from spray painting initiatives.

- 2.11 New dual purpose ‘litter and dog waste’ bins have been installed in a number of areas and existing bins have been labelled to inform dog owners that their waste can be disposed with normal litter.

Flyposting

- 2.12 Flyposting is the display of advertising material on buildings and street furniture without the consent of the owner. The adverts are usually for local events and are attached to lampposts, fencing, and street furniture or pasted on to buildings. The Glenrothes area does experience persistent flyposting and street cleaners scrape off the materials wherever they find them. New solvent products are being researched and trialled to enable easier and more effective removal and cleaning.

Graffiti

- 2.13 When graffiti is wilfully applied to deface public property it is considered vandalism. Reports of malicious incidents are passed to the Facilities Management Service who have a specialist team attend to remove it. Pedestrian underpasses are the most affected areas in Glenrothes.

Verge Cleaning

- 2.14 The dedicated verge cleaning team of two staff attend to the main roads of the Glenrothes area as part of their central Fife remit. Since April they have cleaned the verges of the following roads:

Roads	Frequency	Last Clean
B921 Bankhead and Kinglassie and all slip roads.	12 weeks	July
B969 Southfield Roundabout to Balfarg Junction.	12 weeks	Sept
A92 Redhouse Roundabout to New Inn Roundabout	12 weeks	Sept
Cluny Road, Kinglassie Junction to Kirkcaldy West	24 weeks	July
Strathore Road	24 weeks	July
B9130 Bankhead to Redhouse Roundabout	2 weeks	Oct
Markinch / Milton of Balgonie / Coaltown of Balgonie loop	24 weeks	Oct
Viewfield Industrial Estate	4 weeks	Sept
Southfield Industrial Estate	24 weeks	Sept

3.0 Whitespace Digital System

- 3.1 Whitespace Environmental Services is a comprehensive job management system designed to meet the needs of public service organisations. The system was installed in April 2023 to help the street cleansing team to streamline processes and improve the management of street assets.
- 3.2 The software maps local area data and through real-time communication and cleansing frequency information can efficiently schedule daily street cleansing activities.
- 3.3 The system provides the service with new reporting capabilities and actionable insights. Teams can update their workloads through mobile devices, report environmental vandalism events and record their daily activities and time allocations.

- 3.4 Information gathered over time will be analysed to show what the staff resource requirement needs to be to maintain the Glenrothes area to a consistently good standard and manage environmental vandalism interventions. This data will support future funding bids for additional permanent and seasonal staff.

4.0 Resources

4.1 Glenrothes Area asset and staff statistics.

	Streets	Miles	Bins	Staff
Ward 13	250	64	203	4
Ward 14	379	62	244	5
Ward 15	261	53	239	6
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	890	179	686	15

- 4.2 On average each street cleaner is responsible for 12miles of streets and 46 bins.
- 4.3 Street cleansing frequency schedules are based on what can be achieved with current staffing levels, rather than demand requirements.
- 4.4 Street cleansing teams have their core work schedules disrupted on a daily basis by attending to environmental vandalism events.
- 4.5 Over time, Whitespace will gather information that can be analysed to show what the staffing numbers need to be to deliver street cleansing programmes and environmental vandalism duties to all areas of Glenrothes.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 Materials arising from environmental vandalism activities are being swiftly removed by street cleansing teams and the Glenrothes area environment is benefitting from the 'lift on sight' approach and the introduction of the free-of-charge bulky uplift service.
- 5.2 The collection of litter remains a priority for street cleansing teams because of the daily challenge and visible blight it presents. However, resource limitations mean that other core duties such as weeding are being compromised across the Glenrothes area. Over time Whitespace reports will accurately identify the resource gap and inform future funding decisions.
- 5.3 The information gathered by Whitespace will also show environmental vandalism trends and evidence the impacts of the environmental vandalism strategy going forward.

Report Contact

John Rodigan
 Head of Environment and Building Services
 Bankhead Central, Glenrothes
 Tel: 03451 55 55 55 Ext No 473223
 Email: john.rodigan@fife.gov.uk

22nd November 2023

Agenda Item No. 9

Glenwood Housing Regeneration Project

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services
Norman Laird, Community Manager (Glenrothes)

Wards Affected: 13: Glenrothes West and Kinglassie

Purpose

Following a Charrette (2016-17) covering Glenwood Neighbourhood Centre, it was agreed that a preferred option was to redevelop the housing flats in the Centre as part of the overall redevelopment.

Following the completion of the Council's Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process with the flat owners and shopkeepers in 2022-23, the site has been transferred to the HRA for housing redevelopment. This report seeks to provide an update on progress with the Housing Project partnership between the Council and Kingdom Housing Association and seeks approval to formerly consult the community on the housing and community hub proposals outlined in this report.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- a) Approve the commencement of a formal consultation period with community groups on the housing and community hub proposals outlined in Sections 2 and 3 of this report.
- b) Agree that following the consultation period, a report is brought back to this committee for discussion on the consultation feedback.
- c) Note that the final housing project will be brought forward for approval to the Cabinet Committee in February or March 2024 as part of the Council's Phase 4 Affordable Housing Programme.
- d) Note that a presentation of proposals from the Design Team will be made to this Committee following the Committee business.

Resource Implications

At this stage of the project development, all design team and consultation costs are being managed within the existing HRA budget for 2023/24. The full costs of the redevelopment of the Glenwood Centre will be reported to Cabinet in February 2024.

Legal & Risk Implications

At this stage of the project development, there are no significant legal or other risk that have been identified as significant.

Impact Assessment

An EqlA Checklist is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices. A Fife Environmental Assessment will be completed as part of the Cabinet report next year.

Consultation

This work is the result of extensive member and public consultation through the Glenwood Charrette. The redevelopment of this site was widely supported. Further consultation with identified community groups and wider stakeholders in the Glenwood/Macedonia Areas of Glenrothes is now proposed.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In 2017, the Council supported a Charrette initiative in the Glenrothes West communities of Macedonia, Tanshall and Caskieberran. The main Charrette events were held over four separate sessions and several themes emerged. One of these themes was around access to affordable housing and property maintenance in the area. It was reported back that most residents who attended felt that the flats and directly adjoining retail units in the Glenwood Centre were untidy, neglected, and should be restored or replaced.
- 1.2 Following the successful completion of the CPO process by the Council, the Housing Services/Kingdom Housing Senior Officers Steering Group and Design Team was stood up in April/May 2023 to start discussing housing options for the redevelopment of the Glenwood Centre site. This partnership approach is consistent with the Affordable Housing Policy to develop Town Centre housing sites across Fife. Kingdom Housing Association has engaged the services of Sinclair Watt Architects to bring forward Housing and Community Hub designs for the site to aid the consultation process.
- 1.3 This report seeks Committee approval for the Council and Kingdom Housing Association to undertake a community consultation with local tenants, residents and community groups in this area to inform the design options for more detailed design ahead of a potential planning application in Spring 2024.

2.0 Housing & Community Hub Options

2.1 Housing Options

The Officers Steering Group and Design Team are working with the Council's Planning Service and specifically the Urban Designer to bring forward housing proposals which will meet the needs of the constrained Glenwood site and the planning requirements for the area.

- 2.2 Due to the small size of the site, the economic viability of the housing development is critical to the types of properties that can be developed. For example, developing the site for houses and bungalows such as on the former Tanshall Primary School site would not be economically viable due to the limited number of properties that could be built. For this reason, the partners are looking to develop the site as a flatted development of 2 and 3-storey flats, approximately 46 properties.
- 2.3 To recognise the partnership approach and funding arrangements between the Council and Kingdom Housing Association, it is proposed that a 50/50 split in land apportionment and share of costs is agreed subject to heads of agreement being formerly agreed between the partners. This would result in 2 social landlords building and managing social and mid-market homes on site. This is consistent with agreed council policy for the Affordable Housing Programme Phase 4 (2024-29)
- 2.4 The partners are actively considering the potential to occupy the flats with a mature client group of 55+ years of age. This is in direct contrast to the previous occupancy of the now demolished flats by younger single people. The proposed client group would open the potential to develop council sheltered housing and other facilities on part of the site.
- 2.5 **Community Hub**
The Charrette and the Council have confirmed that a Community Hub should be provided as part of the overall site development. It is envisaged that a small Hub of approximately 500 square metres would be provided as part of the housing build. The Council's General Fund and Housing Revenue Capital Accounts would contribute to the Hub build but would be owned on the HRA as landlord. The Council would in effect fund the delivery of the Hub shell.
- 2.6 It is proposed that the Hub would be tenanted by a voluntary sector partner who would have overall day-to-day operational responsibility to manage the facility. The following Hub facilities are proposed:
- Entrance area of reception, office space and information display area.
 - Community Café and Community Kitchen.
 - Community Garden.
 - Flexible meeting spaces of larger and smaller areas.
 - A mix of disabled and gendered toilets.
- 2.7 The Council is not in a financial position to fit out the Hub and it is anticipated that a range of alternative funding sources will be identified/negotiated with other partners, including the potential tenant for the Hub.
- 2.8 There is an in-principle offer from the Fife Health & Social Care Partnership to provide the Community kitchen and this will be further discussed in the short term with the Senior Leadership Team.
- 2.9 To provide Members with the opportunity to view the housing and community hub proposals, the Design Team will present to Committee immediately following the business of the Committee. The visual impact of the proposals is important and will form the basis of the community consultation to follow.

3.0 Community Consultation

- 3.1 Community & Neighbourhood Services have identified a range of local community groups that will be the focus of the community consultation during late November 2023 - January 2024.
- 3.2 The consultation will ask two basic questions:
 1. The proposed Housing and Community Hub Design appearance.
 2. Community Hub provision: i.e., what should be provided within and around the Hub, including: what Services; Community Space - training/meeting rooms(s); café, laundry facilities, creche facilities; community garden.
- 3.3 The Council and Kingdom HA will be targeting as many people who live and work within the area as possible, focussing on residents: including families, single parents, over 55's, children & young people; local business providers and public & 3rd Sector service providers: including health & social care, schools, social work, housing, welfare support.
- 3.4 The following is the outline consultation plan:
 1. Following Area Committee on 22nd November, the Council will open the online consultation which will remain open until end December.
 2. The online consultation will be promoted online through social media networks and consultation leaflets with QR code links distributed to residents, shops, schools and other public places in the area.
 3. The Council and Kingdom HA will be hosting an information and consultation session at Southwood Primary School at the end of the school day in early December and a further session at St.Ninian's Church either on a Saturday or evening with the date/time tbc for both.
 4. There will be an info and consultation stall at Southwood Primary school Christmas fayre.
 5. Two or three pop up information & consultation sessions planned for Glenwood shops in late November/early December.
 6. The Council and Kingdom HA will collate consultation feedback in January and carry out any further consultation as deemed necessary.

4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 The housing-led regeneration of the former Glenwood Centre site will bring new housing, social and economic opportunities for the area. It is important that we firmly link the design and outline plan for Glenwood back to the "Golden Glenrothes" Charrette completed in 2017. The local community were intrinsically involved in informing the Charrette outcomes and going forward, the community needs to be involved in shaping the design for the overall redevelopment.

List of Appendices

1. N/A

Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:

- 1. Golden Glenrothes-West Charrette
<https://www.pas.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Golden-Glenrothes-West-Charretteplus-Report-FINAL-web.pdf>

Report Contact

John Mills, Head of Housing Services
Email – john.mills@fife.gov.uk

22nd November, 2023

Agenda Item No.

Bereavement Services Cemetery Strategy

Report by: Alan Paul, Head of Property Services

Wards Affected: Wards 13, 14 & 15.

Purpose

Fife Council has a legal responsibility to provide and regulate cemeteries and make appropriate provision for the care and disposal of the dead. The importance of cemeteries is acknowledged in the current Programme for Administration which notes the importance of making “sure our cemeteries are safe, well looked after and provide fitting places for remembrance and contemplation.”

This report informs members of the outcome of the consultation which took place and strategy to be implemented moving forward. Following presentation at all Area Committees where further comment will be taken on board, the final strategy will be presented to Cabinet Committee for approval.

Recommendation(s)

Glenrothes Area Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note the key points from the consultation exercise.
- (2) Support the actions moving forward in the Cemetery Strategy 2023 – 2028 (Appendix 1).

Resource Implications

Capital funding for cemetery development has been made available over the 10-year period from 2023/24. Additionally, funding has been set aside to continue to address the failing infrastructure in many of the older burial grounds in the Council’s care.

Moving forward a sustainable funding policy is required to cover the increased revenue cost from additional sites while continuing to enhance and maintain the assets and resources already under Council management.

Legal & Risk Implications

Failure to address the reducing capacity available will result in no new burial provision. There is a legal requirement for the Council to provide burial.

Impact Assessment

An EqIA will be carried out as part of the development of any future cemetery.

Consultation

An online consultation took place over January / February 2023 where local community groups, members of the wider public and elected members were invited to respond to the various points put forward.

The consultation received 3,147 views which converted to 228 responses (25% of the deep reads).

Almost 90% responded as individuals, showing a keen interest from residents of Fife to be involved in the consultation.

Greatest interest came from the Northeast Fife area with 30% of respondents representing this area, closely followed by Dunfermline with 20%.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Bereavement Services has identified which cemeteries are nearing capacity using statistical information. We need to ensure that our cemetery provision continues to evolve and meet the changing social and demographic needs of Fife.
- 1.2 There are currently 10 cemeteries identified as immediate priority where capacity available is less than 10 years. A further 7 cemeteries have less than 20 years capacity available. These include a range of town and more rural cemeteries of varying sizes.
- 1.3 There is growing interest in relation to 'green' burial which was reinforced by feedback received through the consultation. 'Green' burial is where the interment of the deceased is marked with a tree and/or wildflower planting as opposed to a traditional headstone. In time the site may become a woodland or meadow, enhancing local ecology.
- 1.4 The consultation provided background information and asked participants to comment on 5 options:
 - Do nothing.
 - Reimagine current provision.
 - Extend current provision.
 - One site replaces several closed sites.
 - One site for whole of Fife.
- 1.5 Additionally, participants were asked to give consideration on what a sustainable funding model might look like.
- 1.6 Feedback focused strongly on options 3 and 4, with other suggestions for inclusion in provision being put forward such as more options for dispersal or burial of cremated remains in designated areas not necessarily within a cemetery environment. It was also clear that decision making around provision should be on an area-by-area basis.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The key points that emerged from the consultation are:
 - Discontinue the presale of lairs to preserve capacity.
 - Reclaim lairs that have been sold over 50 years ago and never used for interment, providing no successors are available to claim Right of Burial.

- Strong interest in the development of provision of ‘Green’ burial.
- Improve the provision of dedicated areas for either burial or dispersal of cremated remains within new cemetery developments. There was also interest raised in areas for dispersal of ashes being provided within communities but out with existing or new cemeteries. Commemorative options where no burial has taken place was also raised as a consideration.
- Encourage and support development of community or ‘friend’ group involvement.
- Enhance biodiversity.

- 2.2 Investment is available to allow discussion on the priority areas needing addressed. Through consultation and required investigation, options exist to develop new sites where suitable ground can be identified or in some instances to add capacity within existing boundaries. Additionally, sustainable funding requires to be developed to continue ongoing maintenance of grounds and infrastructure.
- 2.3 The Council will also continue to support the work of others that complements council provision.
- 2.4 Further collaboration is planned to improve and enhance community involvement and develop better interpretation and connections of the history attached to many of Fife’s burial grounds.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 How these key points will be achieved are detailed in the action plan within the Cemetery Strategy 2023-28. This includes further implementation of good management of lairs such as ceasing presales and reclaiming of lairs sold and not used, and Area by area consultation with communities and elected members to address capacity issues in their areas.
- 3.2 Bereavement Services will continue to strive to improve the efficiency of how it carries out its working practices while aiming to achieve environmental standard ISO 14001 through reducing carbon emissions, increasing biodiversity and development of green projects.

List of Appendices

1. Cemetery Strategy 2023 – 2028
2. Consultation Summary

Report Contact
 Liz Murphy
 Bereavement Services Manager
 Kirkcaldy Crematorium
 Telephone: 03451 55 55 55 + VOIP Number 476681
 Email: Liz.Murphy@fife.gov.uk



Cemeteries Strategy



2023 - 2028

Cemeteries Strategy 2023-28

Foreword

I am pleased to introduce Fife Council's cemetery strategy for the period 2023 to 2028. This sets out the principles that will help us make decisions as we continue to invest and reshape our cemetery estate to meet the needs of the people of Fife.

We recognise the importance of our cemeteries to our communities. They provide spaces that support contemplation, remembrance, reflection and mourning in a peaceful and tranquil setting. They are deeply rooted in the local community, linking past and present and providing a tangible sense of **place**.

In recognising these needs, the fundamental principles of our strategy are to improve the **fitness for purpose of our cemeteries** (by addressing suitability, capacity and condition), **improve effectiveness of our activities** (achieving better outcomes); and **improving leverage** through contributing to place, local wellbeing and broader change agendas, to include our contribution towards meeting our Net Zero obligations. Our strategy supports and aligns with the Recovery and Renewal Plan4Fife: all with the aim of ensuring our ***cemeteries are safe, well looked after and provide fitting places for remembrance and contemplation in the years to come.***

Alan Paul
Head of Property Services

Introduction

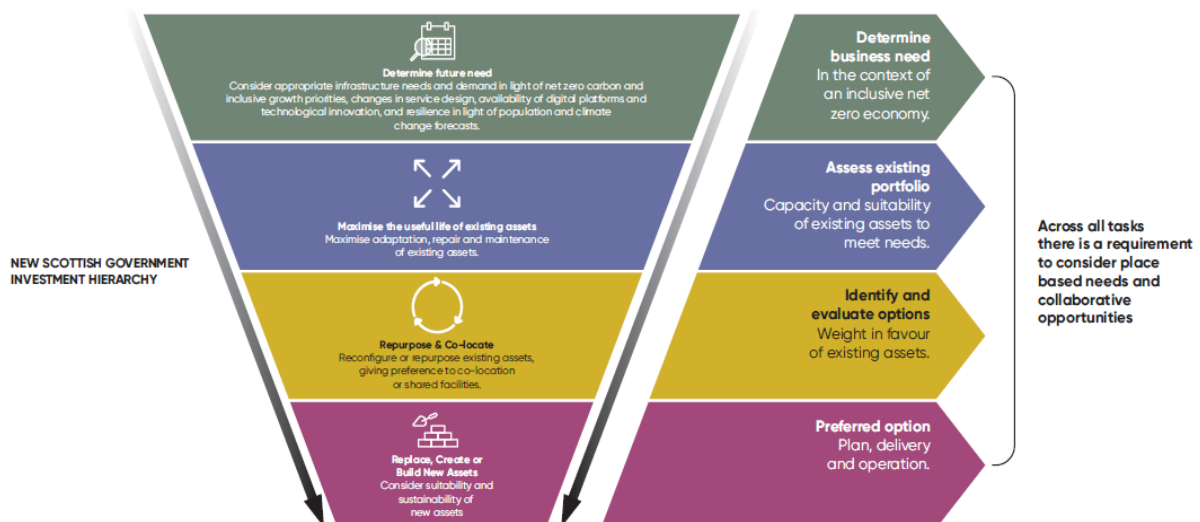
It is important that our cemeteries are safe, well looked after and provide fitting places for remembrance and contemplation in the years to come. The purpose of this strategy is to ensure that remains the case and that we maintain the strong bonds between our communities and their local cemeteries, whilst also making future provision as sustainable as possible. We also need to ensure that our cemetery provision continues to evolve to meet the changing social and demographic needs and expectations of Fife and Fifiers, whilst also contributing to the achievement of broader change agendas, such as the drive to meet our Net Zero obligations. It is also important to recognise that cemeteries contribute to our sense of place, as they connect us to our past and the history of our communities, and have the potential to improve local wellbeing, for example by improving biodiversity.

Our approach

Our strategy includes guiding principles to act as a framework for decision-making which mirrors the four stages of the Scottish Government guidance:

- Determining future need,
- Assessing scope of existing assets to meet the need,
- Evaluating options and
- Delivery of the preferred option.

The hierarchy is illustrated below.



Our strategic approach to investing in our cemeteries builds on our extensive experience. We have invested in improving the condition and suitability of our cemeteries and will continue to do so. However, we still have a large and aging cemetery estate and in some locations we either have limited future capacity or indeed no capacity for new burials. Approximately half of our 115 cemeteries no longer take interments but still require to be maintained.

Whilst the demand for cremation has and continues to increase (and now accounts for around 70% of deaths in Fife), the demand for lairs in our cemeteries has remained broadly constant over recent years and we now need to replenish cemetery capacity in Fife to ensure we can meet future demand, whilst also making our current and any future provision as sustainable as possible.

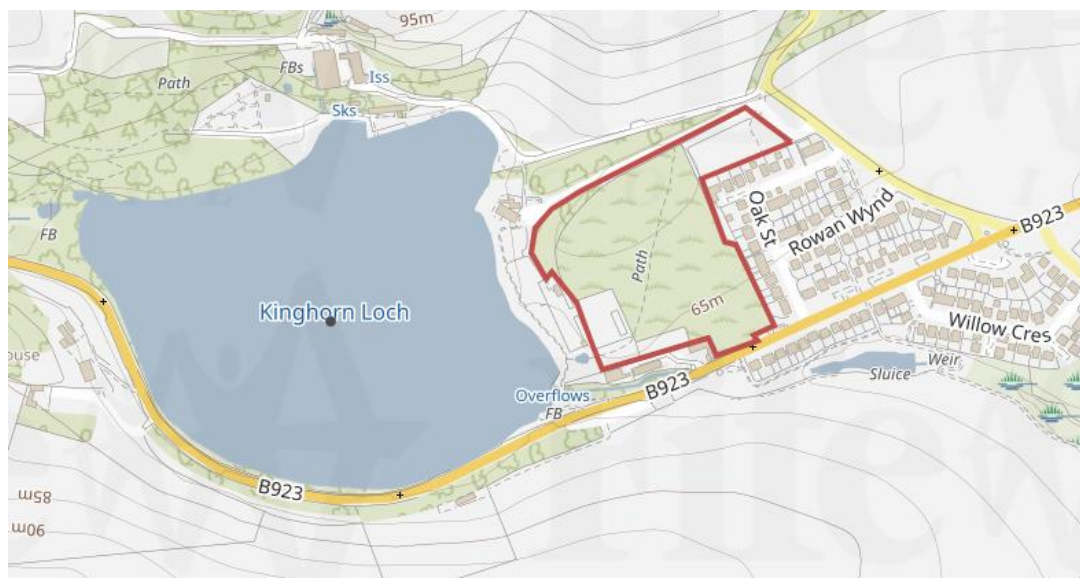
The fundamental principles of our strategy are to improve the **fitness for purpose of our cemeteries** (by addressing suitability, capacity and condition), **improve effectiveness of our activities** (achieving better outcomes); and **improving leverage** through contributing to local wellbeing and broader change agendas.

We will do that through:

- **Improving Stewardship of our Cemeteries**
- **Alignment with the Plan for Fife** to ensure we make best use of resources to meet the needs of our customers and local communities and to link with work being led by local partners.

CASE STUDY

In 2015, the Kinghorn Community Land Association (KCLA) were successful in purchasing 3.5 hectares of land adjacent to Kinghorn Loch with a vision to develop an eco-cemetery, green corridor and growing space. The long-term operation of the eco cemetery is seen as providing a place of rest for people of Kinghorn and beyond who embrace the idea of natural burial and the contribution to biodiversity.



The KCLA propose to operate the eco cemetery with support from Fife Council for record keeping and operational gravedigging assistance. A close working relationship with The Ecology Centre has also been established.

The proposed plan will include areas for green burial, a celebration platform for services and reflection, a traditional long barrow style columbarium for the storage

of cremated remains, network of grass paths through the site linking areas of the site and beyond.



Proposed Site Plan

Current Situation

Fife has 115 burial grounds and a plan showing their location is to be found at [Fife Cemeteries Locations](#)

Condition

We have a duty of care to ensure that our cemeteries are safe for our community and for our workforce. To ensure this, we have a cyclical programme of safety inspections. We have also instigated a rolling programme of headstone inspections for which we have dedicated teams. In recent years we have invested approx £3m in repairing cemetery walls and other cemetery infrastructure which has included reconstructing walls such as Abbotshall Kirk, Kirkcaldy.



Cemetery Capacity

There are 61 sites within Fife that are 'active', meaning there are still regular burials. Of these 61, only 51 have lairs available to purchase and 10 have no additional capacity. 'Exclusive Rights for Burial' for lairs (burial plots) are purchased for a specified term. When all Rights of Burial have been purchased in a cemetery, there is no additional capacity left. Burials may continue for many years after that, where a lair is reopened to allow other family members to be buried in the same plot.

Within the next 20 years, 16 cemeteries are nearing capacity, 11 cemeteries have less than 10 years, 7 cemeteries have less than 5 years. Seven cemeteries are nearing capacity within next 30 years and 28 cemeteries have more than 40 years capacity. Most of these serve smaller communities.

These projections relate to individual cemeteries, meaning that as a cemetery reaches capacity, the demand for lairs in nearby cemeteries is likely to increase. As a consequence, the number of lairs available in these cemeteries will reduce.

Inactive Cemeteries

An additional 54 cemeteries are maintained only. These cemeteries are historical or full, and no longer used for burials. These burial grounds are still maintained to the same standard as active cemeteries. Currently, funding for the maintenance of these cemeteries comes from burial fees. However, maintenance costs have risen over recent years and will continue to rise in line with inflation and as additional cemeteries are added to the inactive list.

CASE STUDY

At Kirkton Cemetery, Burntisland we worked with a range of local partners to restore the ruins of this scheduled monument and surrounding churchyard to prevent further deterioration of the monument and to develop and encourage further the use of the site in local heritage trails and for educational use. This is supported with interpretation and informational boards on site along with leaflets and booklets for distribution within local outlets and online.



Before



After

A similar community heritage project is being established for Dunfermline Abbey grounds to focus on community engagement and involvement to enhance interpretation and management of the Abbey grounds.

Consultation

In response to the various challenges around cemetery capacity, place, social and demographic changes, resources, Net Zero obligations and above all, the need to ensure cemetery provision meets the needs of Fife; an online consultation exercise was carried out in early 2023. With an initial focus on community groups, the consultation was widened to the public to allow individuals to respond.

The key points that emerged from the consultation are:

- Discontinue the presale of lairs in cemeteries to preserve capacity,
- Reclaim lairs that have been sold but never used for interment where there are no successors available to claim right of burial,
- The inclusion of dedicated areas for cremated remains within any new cemetery design,
- Research the possibility of the development of ash scattering areas throughout Fife, outwith existing or new cemeteries,
- A strong interest in the development of the provision for green burials,
- To encourage and support development of community or 'friend' group involvement,
- The need to increase awareness of direct cremation provision,
- Decision making to be based on the needs of specific areas, and not across Fife as a whole,
- Enhance biodiversity,
- Consider options for commemoration where burial is not involved.

Where are we going?

Our vision is that:

Our cemeteries are safe, well looked after and provide fitting places for remembrance and contemplation in the years to come.

We will deliver this through:

1. Ensuring our cemetery estate is in good condition, fit for purpose and is sustainable.
2. Investing in additional cemetery capacity to meet future needs and support the work of others that complements council provision – for example the green burial provision that is being developed by KCLA at Kinghorn.
3. Collaborating with partners and local communities to leverage the wider benefits of our cemeteries – to enhance place and improve local wellbeing, to support biodiversity and to improve our understanding and connection to Fife's rich history.
4. Investing in our skilled and dedicated workforce to ensure we make the best of our available resources.

What we will deliver

Key activities are given in the action plan below.

Ref	Description	Action	Timescale	Resources
CP1	Ease pressures on immediate priority cemeteries (less than 10 years capacity)	Cease presale of lairs where no interment is to be scheduled	Immediate	Bereavement Services staff
CP2	Ease pressures on medium term priority cemeteries	Plan for continued provision by identifying new sites or alternative provision	Ongoing work to identify suitable sites	Bereavement Services staff
CP3	Ease pressures on immediate and medium-term priority cemeteries	Reclaim previously sold unused lairs where no successors	Ongoing	Bereavement and Legal Services staff
CP4	Capacity Consultations	Consult local members and communities where capacity is limited	2023 to 2024	Bereavement Services staff
CP5	Improve/enhance existing cemetery provision	What is action	2033	Capital funding allocated
CP6	New Cemetery Provision	Develop new cemeteries at	Develop business case including brief and client requirements, design, development and procurement strategy, options for location. 2023-2027	Capital funding allocated. Bereavement Services Staff, Property Services, Specialist Consultants, Contractors
CP7	Improve effectiveness	Assess maintenance regime and improve working practices	Ongoing	Bereavement Services staff
CP8	Reduce carbon emissions and enhance biodiversity	Develop green burial projects, including specific options. Implementation of ISO 14001:2015	Work toward attainment of ISO 14001:2015 in 2024 and ongoing environmental improvement thereafter.	Bereavement Services staff, Climate Change & Zero Waste Team

CP9	Cremated Remains Remembrance Areas	Research development of ash scattering areas throughout Fife	Ongoing – introduce areas as suitable locations found	Bereavement Services staff
CP10	Community Group Involvement	Foster community and 'friend' group involvement	Ongoing	Bereavement Services staff

Future Provision of Cemeteries in Fife Consultation February 2023

Summary

The consultation received 3,147 views, (1,419 glanced, 829 quick reads, 899 deep reads). This converted to 228 responses (25% of the deep reads)

Almost 90% responded as individuals, showing a keen interest from residents of Fife to be involved in the consultation.

Greatest interest came from the Northeast Fife area with 30% of respondents representing this area, closely followed by Dunfermline with 20%.

What decisions need to be made?

92% stated that do nothing was not an option that Fife should consider.

Can we reimagine provision?

51% agreed with stopping the pre-sale of lairs across all Fife cemeteries to safeguard lair capacity for the future, 35% did not agree and 14% didn't know.

71% agree that the exclusive right of burial for unused lairs should be retrieved/renewed on expiry of the lease, (36% Yes for all cemeteries, 35% yes where financially viable), 27% did not agree.

88% agree that there should be more options for dispersal or burial of cremated remains (68% thought that there should be more designated areas and options around Fife where cremated remains can be dispersed, 39.9% would like to see more casket lair options for burial of cremated remains, and 38.6% would like to see more above ground storage options). 12% thought that there are enough options.

70% did not agree the reuse of lairs should be considered.

Some other options put forward were: green cemeteries returning to public use areas; land is left/reclaimed from developers for possible future use; different sized lairs for burial and cremation; after a period of years remains would be moved to a communal burial plot; offer an incentive to buy back lairs; make it easier for people to donate their bodies to medical research and training; increase awareness of direct cremations; education/awareness of options; set aside funding for its own department and to support and encourage Community Groups to participate in meeting the long term needs of the communities

Decision Making

With 79.8% decision making needs to be made area by area, (17.1% thought one site replaces many could work and 3.1% thought one site for the whole Fife area could work).

Sustainable

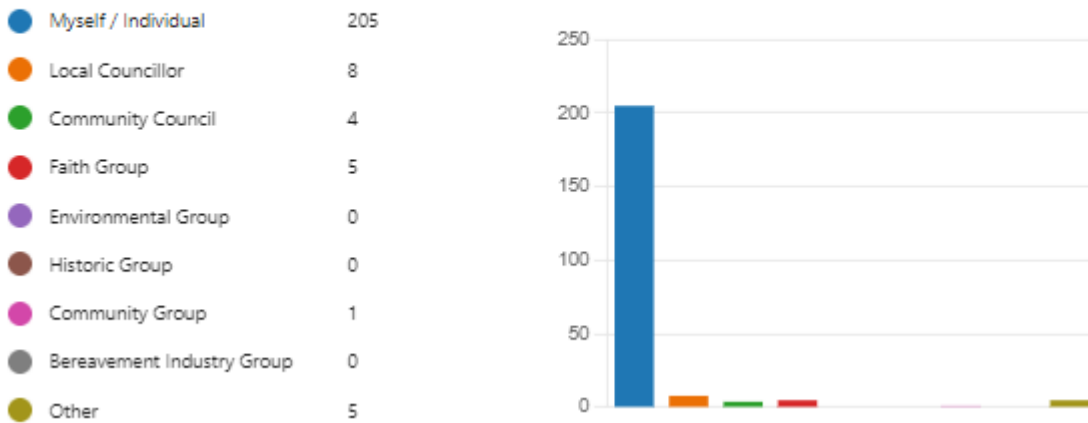
61.8% Welcome network of local constituted community groups to work support the conservation of historic sites.

60.5% Where possible encourage wildflower growth in retired cemeteries and churchyards. More environmentally friendly and less operation costs

Some other options put forward were: communal marker stone; families to maintain lairs; put prices up - a scarce resource has to cost more; shorter term right of burial options, un-constituted groups working with Community Associations; charge extra for anyone who is not a Fife resident; using full lairs for ashes is not making best use of the resources; cemeteries that are inactive can have their maintenance reduced by extending their grass cutting intervals by a few weeks that leaves extra availability for active cemeteries to have their grass maintained more regularly; increase the price for the pre-sale substantially

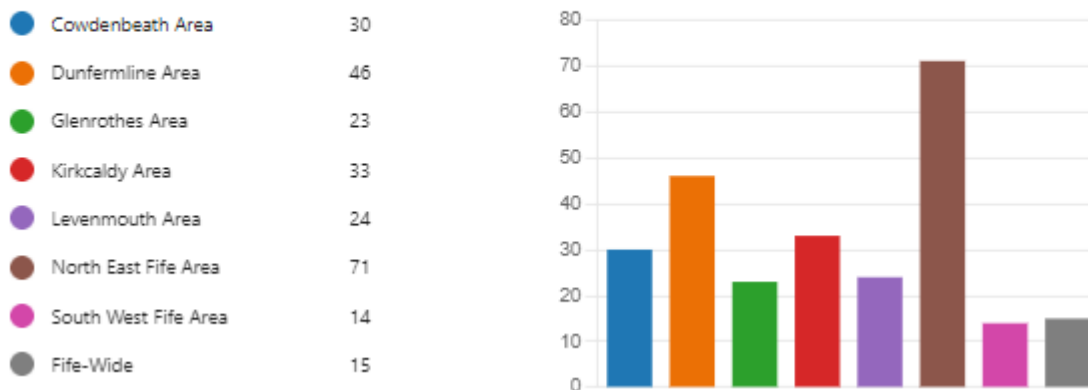
Consultation Results

What group are you representing?



89.9% Individuals. Other = 2 individual, 1 Family and 2 Funeral Director

What area(s) of Fife do you or your group/organisation represent?



Greatest interest in the survey related to North East Fife, followed by, Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, Cowdenbeath, Levenmouth, Glenrothes, South West Fife

Do Nothing

- If we do nothing, year on year there would be less choice of where to be buried, until there are no lairs left. At that point burial would no longer be a choice.

Is do nothing an option that Fife should consider?

● No	210
● Yes	18



92% No, 8% Yes

Why do you think we should do nothing?

There was a mixed response to this question, from those who believe burial is a thing of the past to those concerned about the proposal of reuse of graves therefore continued burial provision was important to them. For clarification however, at this stage, Fife Council is only proposing to claim back lairs sold over 50 years and would only claim these back where no lair holders/successors established their wish to retain their entitlement.

I agree with stopping the pre-sale of lairs across all Fife cemeteries to safeguard lair capacity for the future

● Yes	116
● No	80
● Don't know	32



51% Yes, 35% No, 14% Don't Know

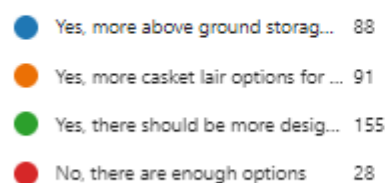
I agree that the exclusive right of burial for all unused lairs should be retrieved/renewed on expiry of the lease

● Yes, for all cemeteries	82
● Yes, where financially viable (onl...	85
● No	61



36% Yes for all cemeteries, 35% yes where financially viable, 27% No

I agree that there should be more options for dispersal or burial of cremated remains



More than one option could be selected.

38.6% Yes, more above ground storage options, such as Columbaria

39.9% Yes, more casket lair options for burial of cremated remains

68% Yes, there should be more designated areas and options around Fife where cremated remains can be dispersed

12% No, there are enough options

Should it become lawful in Scotland, I agree reuse of lairs should be considered



30% Yes, 70% No

Do you have any other ideas for reimagining current provision?

This question generated the most feedback. There was strong support for green or eco burial and for ensuring that sufficient provision is available for the interment or scattering of cremated remains. Additionally, suggestions for general areas within communities, not within a cemetery, for the scattering of ashes or remembrance purposes was put forward. A preference for existing cemeteries to be extended was suggested however this is only possible where suitable ground is available adjacent to an existing site.

How do you think decisions should be made?



- 79.8% Area by area - extend or replace sites most at risk
- 17.1% One site replaces many - better economy of scale and wider service to communities
- 3.1 % One site for the whole Fife Area

Which options would you consider helpful to support a future sustainable funding and operational model



More than one option could be selected.

61.8% Welcome network of local constituted community groups to work support the conservation of historic sites

60.5% Where possible encourage wildflower growth in retired cemeteries and churchyards. More environmentally friendly and less operation costs

Other

Working more with local communities and heritage groups was welcomed. Suggestions also included using community payback. Properly managed wildflower meadows that remain under Council maintenance was welcomed.

Do you have any further feedback, ideas or concerns you would like to share with us?

Many comments stress the importance of burial being available and where possible that it should be in local communities. The standard of maintenance was also raised as important to respondents.

22 November 2023

Agenda Item No. 11

Providing Fuel Poverty Support for the Glenrothes Area

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing

Wards Affected: All Glenrothes Wards

Purpose

This report sets out the context for Fuel Poverty in Fife and for the Glenrothes Area, provides information about the measures that have been put in place to support those struggling with home energy costs during 2022/23 and support arrangements for 2023/24. Tackling fuel poverty is a key aspect of Glenrothes anti-poverty action directed through the Local Community Plan.

Recommendation(s)

The Area Committee is invited to -

- (1) Note the evolved corporate, whole Fife, support available to Glenrothes tenants and residents who are struggling with home energy costs, and the support arrangements in place specific to the Glenrothes Area provided by St Andrews Environmental Network as part of the Cosy Kingdom partnership.
- (2) Consider any additional and complementary response needs for the Glenrothes Area communities, with recently awarded added funding for the St Andrews Environmental Network in mind.

Resource Implications

None.

Legal & Risk Implications

The prospects of rising fuel poverty in the short term are real and response priorities will require to be continuously reviewed with challenges and opportunities in mind.

Impact Assessment

The general duties section of the impact assessment and the summary form have been completed – the summary form is attached to the report (appendix 4).

Consultation

To inform this report, Fife Council Housing Service managers have been consulted, as have managers and those leading on Cosy Kingdom partnership planning and delivery, including the St Andrews Environment Network.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Tackling poverty is at the heart of the Glenrothes Local Community Plan, and combating the very real challenges that low-income households face in managing home energy costs is an increasingly key element of that. 2022/23 saw an unprecedented number of households in fuel poverty and struggling to pay their home energy costs, particularly through the cold winter months.
- 1.2 This report is a follow up to a report considered by the Committee in March 2023, and to a fuel poverty workshop event held with Glenrothes councillors on 1 November 2023. The March report highlighted –
- The serious impact of home energy cost escalation on Fife tenants and residents, many of whom were in fuel poverty even before price hikes that were seen across the country.
 - Fife Council’s support response, particular the support given to our tenants through emergency prepayment meter ‘top-ups’, help with energy bills and referrals to specialist support services.
 - Support provided by the Cosy Kingdom partnership, specifically by the St Andrews Environmental Network in the Glenrothes Area.
 - Detailed data on support provided for the Glenrothes Area, including case studies, for 2022/23 was included.
 - Early evaluation of that support which spotlighted the overwhelming impact it had on officer time and how the focus of efforts on tackling crisis eroded focus and capacity for early intervention and prevention work and other core business).

The workshop held on 1 November 2023 provided an informal space for members to ask questions, raise issues and to discuss fuel poverty as a problem that requires a partnership response. Officers are grateful to have had that opportunity and thank elected members for their time.

- 1.3 The challenges of fuel poverty and higher home energy costs are at least as significant for our households this year and especially as we move into those colder winter months. Those challenges are most significant for those on prepayment meters, certainly the majority of our council tenants, as they cannot spread payments as those who are invoiced or pay by direct debit can. Although the wider cost of living challenges have eased, prices for all goods and service (including housing rents and mortgages) have continued their upward trend and this will have continued to impact on household budget capacity.
- 1.4 This report focuses positively on the steps that have been taken to help vulnerable tenants and residents with home energy cost challenges through the Council led Winter Support Programme. In doing so, it explicitly recognises the Cosy Kingdom partnership, and for the Glenrothes area, the St Andrews Environmental Network, as critical support partners. The overall strategic support package has been developed in collaboration with Cosy Kingdom.

Holistic Fife wide response for Winter 2023/24

- 1.5 The planned response to support tenants and residents includes –
- The establishment of a Community Support Team, adjacent to the Scottish Welfare Fund team, to manage home energy crisis support payments to tenants and residents, to provide first level energy advice and make referrals to other sources of financial support and wider specialist support services and agencies (including Cosy Kingdom). The approach is detailed below, paragraphs 1.7 – 1.10.

- Cosy Kingdom to revert to its core function of energy advice providers, whilst sustaining its Handy Service (providing and installing energy saving measures), and rapidly scaling up the capacity of other Services and agencies to deliver first level energy advice, as a crisis prevention measure, to their vulnerable clients and customers.
- Support for 'Welcoming Places' across Fife that will provide warmth, activities and food and hot drinks for those struggling to stay warm in their houses (and to address isolation and loneliness).
- Additional funding to the Scottish Welfare Fund to enable the provision and installation of better-quality carpets through Community Care Grants to those in need of fuel saving floor coverings.
- Additional financial support for Fife Council tenants who have damp and mould in their houses where their fuel poverty is assessed as a causal factor. The additional root causes of that damp and mould will, of course, also be addressed.
- Meter 'top-ups' for all those booking-in to their Fife Council temporary accommodation. Those residents are most likely to have seen a delay or churn in receiving welfare benefit entitlements, and having been previously homeless are likely to be a cohort most challenged by the costs of home energy.
- Additional support for those who use non-mains gas on Fife Council Gypsy Traveller sites.

1.6 Through a Fuel Poverty, Needs and Demand Assessment, Fife Council's Research Team undertook detailed research on the nature, scope and scale of fuel poverty in Fife at that has informed the above response. Its work is presently being packaged to enable practitioners to more readily use it to improve their targeting and the kind of support they are offering. The Housing Service have complemented this work by initiating a longitudinal study of housing tenants to get detailed insight into the challenges they are experiencing and the support they are receiving, and the impacts of both. Additionally, those funded to offer support as per the bullets above have been asked to monitor information on those supported on a consistent basis to enable us to improve that understanding of need.

Crisis Support 2023/24

- 1.7 Fife Council has partnered with the UK national Fuel Bank Foundation (additionally supported by the Scottish Government) to provide fuel vouchers (£49 over the winter months) to those in crisis. For Fuel Bank eligibility, crisis is defined as where there is no or negligible credit on prepayment meters, and there is no available income or impending income. The partnership agreement with the Fuel Bank Foundation does not allow promotion to the public of the Fuel Bank voucher scheme but we are working with Council Services and key partners to make them aware of the provision, and there is clear signposting on the Council's Cost of Living website for fuel emergency support. Elected members will also receive briefings.
- 1.8 A central 'Community Support Team', running in parallel to the Scottish Welfare Fund team, has been established to manage the scheme and facilitate awards. The team have been trained by Cosy Kingdom to give initial energy advice and are also able to make referrals for other support – financial or otherwise. That would include referrals to Cosy Kingdom, St Andrews Environmental Network for the Glenrothes Area, for deeper energy advice and the other support they provide. The team will give us the capability to improve joined-up data and evidence collection, and its activity will be monitored and reviewed regularly to give us a clearer understanding of need and the characteristics of those in need. Repeat referrals are 'red flagged' and the Community Support Team will engage with those households to better understand any underlying causal issues that are resulting in ongoing crisis support need.

- 1.9 Fife Council Services are able to refer vulnerable clients and customers to the crisis support. Where officers have viewed meters and spoken to those clients and customers about available income, no supporting evidence is needed. Where that has not been done the crisis support applicant needs to supply evidence, that includes person / home verification evidence. Other agencies can sign post their vulnerable clients and customers for support. More generally the support can be accessed via the Customer Help Line, and information on support available is part of the Council's Cost of Living help pages.
- 1.10 Importantly, and as indicated above, Fife Council's partnership agreement with the Fuel Bank **does not permit promotion of the scheme**. The onus therefore rests with Services identifying those in need rather than advertising that support. Care needs to be taken to adhere to those conditions in order for us to be able to sustain the approach.

Cosy Kingdom Glenrothes specific support 2023/24

- 1.11 As part of the Cosy Kingdom partnership, the St Andrews Environment will continue to provide support for Glenrothes residents to focus on –
- Tailored energy advice for your home
 - Advice on energy-saving measures, renewables & heating systems
 - Support with energy debt
 - Helping understand bills.
 - Engage with energy suppliers on clients' behalf.
 - Grants and funding advice
 - Free thermal imaging
 - Home Handy Service - providing free energy-saving measures.
- 1.12 It delivers and supplements its support via -
- A dedicated outreach Energy Advisor attending events, pop-up sessions and workshops throughout NE Fife and Glenrothes.
 - Energy Advisors providing support at community events.
 - Working closely with NHS Fife, hosting pop-up sessions at vaccination centres - September-December
 - The Eco Hub serves to provide drop-in advice sessions 5-days a week.
- 1.13 The demand for support has continued through the spring, summer, and autumn months the substantial need for support lying ahead through winter. From April to October 2023 this is the summary support picture –
- 201 different households supported in Glenrothes, through 288 interventions.
 - 93 Handy Service installations have been completed.
 - There is currently a 2.5 week wait for an energy advice appointment.
 - The estimated financial gain for Glenrothes households is £104,055.

Glenrothes Area Housing Team

- 1.14 Although the 2022/23 Housing led support measures were eased back for the warmer months of 2023 and ahead of the establishment of the corporate response for the Winter period, the Glenrothes Area Housing Team continued to engage with local tenants and to date (April to October 2023) have provided support through 48 prepayment meter tops, spending £2,200 on gas meters and £2,714 on electric meters. They have additionally made referrals to Cosy Kingdom for deeper support.

2.0 Issues and Options

2023/24 Context

- 2.1 It is expected that the cost of home energy will remain high for the remainder of 2023/24, and that significant challenges for low-income households and vulnerable customers in fuel poverty will persist.
- 2.2 The UK Government has signalled an intention to target their financial support more sharply to those on lowest income and in receipt of welfare benefits and older people. It has discontinued the support-for-all that was available last year. Prepayment energy charges were brought in line with customers who pay by direct debit from 1 July 2023, savings households with prepayment meters an average of £45 per annum.
- 2.3 It is important to note that although UK Government support will be more targeted on lowest income recipients, they will still face the biggest affordability challenges given they need to spend most income on home energy, food and other essentials and do not have the same buffers or choices that others may have.

Improving Targeting of Fuel Poverty Support

- 2.4 As cited above, Fife Council's Research Team have undertaken a comprehensive Fuel Poverty, Needs and Demand Assessment, to learn from winter 22/23 and inform the approach to winter 23/24. The research considers the scale and nature of fuel poverty, who it impacts most. A follow-on piece of research will be the development of a Composite Fuel Poverty Index, as part of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy. This will help to identify fuel poverty risk – based on income, energy costs, and energy use in the home - and use this to target need for support at neighbourhood level. This will inform the need for local action on fuel poverty and where additional resources may be required to complement the wider response.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 There was significant and important effort to support those struggling with their fuel poverty through 2022/23 both in the Glenrothes Area and more generally across the whole of Fife. That was a partnership effort that recognises how different agencies can provide complementary support. The approach taken last year has evolved for 2023/24 as set out in this report.

List of Appendices

1. Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report

Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:-

None

Robert McGregor
Business Change Manager
Fife Council Housing Service
robert.mcgregor@fife.gov.uk
1 November 2023.

Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report

<p>Which Committee report does this IA relate to (specify meeting date)?</p> <p>Providing Fuel Poverty Support for the Glenrothes Area</p>
<p>What are the main impacts on equality?</p> <p>Fife's fuel poverty approach is targeted at supporting those on low incomes and with least financial resilience, and all those who are otherwise vulnerable to fuel poverty and extreme fuel poverty. That would include disabled households and those affected by limiting health conditions, older people, family groups most susceptible to poverty (large families, young mothers, lone parents etc), and those who have presented as homeless and living in Fife Council temporary accommodation. The Strategy will have no detrimental impact on any equality group.</p>
<p>What are the main recommendations to enhance or mitigate the impacts identified?</p> <p>The approach seeks to ensure that those most vulnerable to fuel poverty live in warm, well insulated and energy efficient houses, that their home energy provider and payment arrangements are appropriate and that as required they are financially supported to ensure that they can afford to meet the costs of their home energy needs. Through the approach, the Council recognises that many of those who most urgently need support are in the private rented sector or own their homes, and resources have been made available to support them too.</p>
<p>If there are no equality impacts on any of the protected characteristics, please explain.</p> <p>It is likely that all equalities groups will be beneficiaries of the approach set out to addressing fuel poverty.</p>
<p>Further information is available from: Mhairi Mullen, Service Manager, Fife Housing Service. Mhairi.mullen@fife.gov.uk.</p>

22 November 2023

Agenda Item No. 12

Glenrothes Area Committee Workplan

Report by: Eileen Rowand, Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services

Wards Affected: 13, 14, 15

Purpose

This report supports the Committee's consideration of the workplan for future meetings of the Committee.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Committee review the workplan and that members come forward with suggestions for specific areas they would like to see covered in any of the reports.

Resource Implications

Committee should consider the resource implication for Council staff of any request for future reports.

Legal & Risk Implications

Committee should consider seeking inclusion of future items on the workplan by prioritising those which have the biggest impact and those which seek to deal with the highest level of risk.

Impact Assessment

None required for this paper.

Consultation

The purpose of the paper is to support the Committee's discussion and therefore no consultation is necessary.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Each Area Committee operates a workplan which contains items which fall under three broad headings: items for decision, supporting the Local Community Plan and Scrutiny/Monitoring. These items will often lead to reactive rather than proactive scrutiny. Discussion on the workplan agenda item will afford members the opportunity to shape, as a committee, the agenda with future items of business it wishes to review in more detail.

2.0 Conclusions

- 2.1 The current workplan is included as Appendix one and should be reviewed by the committee to help inform scrutiny activity.

List of Appendices

1. Workplan

Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:-

None

Report Contact

Helena Couperwhite
Committee Services Manager
Telephone: 03451 555555 Ext. No. 441096
Email- helena.couperwhite@fife.gov.uk

Glenrothes Area Committee 31 January 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
OnFife Update	Fife Cultural Trust	Karen M Taylor, Michelle Sweeney	6-monthly update. Previously considered 24.05.23, Min Para Ref 52. (3) of 2023.GAC.23 refers.
Thriving Places - Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Chris Miezitis	Update report in 9 months following funding approved at meeting on 24.05.23, Min Ref Para 57 (3) of 2023.GAC.25 refers.
Area Housing Plan Update - Glenrothes	Housing Services	Charlotte Stitchell	Previously considered 01.12.21.
Common Good Funds - Annual Report	Communities, Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual report asap after each financial year end.
Selling of Lock Ups - Glenrothes	Housing Services	Donna Christie, Joan Lamie	To include information on all lockup and garage sites across Glenrothes.
Glenrothes Area Committee Work Programme			

Glenrothes Area Committee 27 March 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Health & Social Care Locality Planning – Glenrothes	Health and Social Care	Jacque Stringer, Roy Lawrence	6-monthly update report. Previously presented 22.03.23 - Para 46 (1) and (2) of 2023.GAC.20 refers.
Glenrothes Area Committee Work Programme			

Glenrothes Area Committee 22 May 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Operational Briefing on Policing Activities within Glenrothes Area - 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024	Police Scotland	Community Inspector Kirk Donnelly.	Annual report. Previously considered 24.05.23, Min Para Ref 53 of 2023.GAC.23 refers.
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Local Plan Annual Performance Report - 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service	Station Commander, Shaun McGowan	Annual report, previously considered 23.05.23, min ref para 54 of 2023.GAC.23 refers.
Glenrothes Area Committee Work Programme			

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Antisocial Behaviour Update	Housing Services	Dawn Jamieson, Brian Westwater	Update as requested at GAC meeting on 22.03.23 - Para. Ref. 41. (1) of 2023.GAC.17 refers.
Antisocial Behaviour/Youth Diversion	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Norman Laird	To include a potential framework for engaging HS pupils - requested at meeting on 22.03.23 - Para 48. (5) of 2023.GAC.20 refers.
Pupil Equity Fund	Education and Children's Services	Angela Logue, Zoe Thomson	
Town Centre Masterplan - Glenrothes	Business and Employability	Andrew Walker, Ronnie Hair	Previously considered 24.03.21. Next update to include the Kingdom shopping centre and Rothesay House.
Riverside Park Improvement Plan 2020 - 2030: Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Kevin O'Kane, Andrew Walker	Previously considered 04.03.20.
Area Capital Update Report	Finance and Corporate Services, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Eleanor Hodgson, Norman Laird	Previously considered 04.12.19.

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Report of the Pupilwise & Parentwise Surveys	Education and Children's Services	Deborah Davidson	3-yearly surveys. Previously considered 31.10.18. 2020/21 - due to COVID-19.
30 mph Speed Limit on B9130 Markinch - Objections NOT set aside	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service, Assets, Transportation and Environment	Norman Laird, Steven Sellars	Objections to TRO not set aside at GAC on 01.12.21 - Para 245 refers. Committee agreed to consider a future report on alternatives following a charrette, eg, consulting with the community.
Levelling Up Bid - Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Norman Laird	
Local Community Planning Budget/Devolved Budget/ Anti-poverty Funding/ Capital Fund	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Norman Laird	
On-Street Car Parking	Assets, Transportation and Environment	Lesley Craig	
Maintenance of Community Assets in the Glenrothes Area	Assets, Transportation and Environment	Alan Paul	GAC 07.09.22, Para 10 (2) refers.
Community Recovery Fund Outcome Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Norman Laird	CRF outcome report - date TBC