

Levenmouth Area Committee

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



Wednesday, 21 August, 2024 - 9.30 a.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(s) in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.
3. **MINUTE** - Minute of the meeting of the Levenmouth Area Committee of 15 May 2024. 4 - 8
4. **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT** - Report by Station Commander for the Levenmouth Area 9 - 33
5. **OPERATIONAL AND COMMUNITY BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN LEVENMOUTH** - Report by Chief Inspector, Local Area Commander (Levenmouth), Police Scotland 34 - 52
6. **SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM UPDATE REPORT** - Report by the Head of Housing Services 53 - 80
7. **REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES – 2022/23** – Report by the Head of Education & Childrens Services (Early Years and Directorate Support) 81 - 103
8. **AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2023/24 – FINAL REPORT** – Report by the Head of Roads & Transportation Services 104 - 110
9. **SWAN AND MEMORIAL COURTS, METHIL - HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS** – Report by the Head Of Housing Services 111 - 115
10. **LEVENMOUTH RECONNECTED LARGE GRANT AWARDS'** – Report by the Head of Roads & Transportation Services 116 - 124
11. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL PLAN – PLUS PARTNERSHIP YEAR 2** – Report by the Head of Communities and Corporate Development 125 - 135
12. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH PLAN – VIEWFORTH PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENT – ONE OFF RENEWAL OF PLAY EQUIPMENT**– Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods. 136 - 141
13. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH PLAN – INCREASING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH TRAINING – GROUNDS FOR GROWTH** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods. 142 - 145

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| 14. | SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL PLAN – METHILHILL COMMUNITY CHILDREN’S INITIATIVE (MCCI) OUTDOOR ADVENTURERS PROPOSAL – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods. | 146 - 149 |
| 15. | SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – COALTOWN OF WEMYSS BOWLING CLUB –INSULATION AND ROOF WORK – COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND REQUEST – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods | 150 - 157 |
| 16. | PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS – Head of Property Services | 158 - 159 |
| 17. | LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – Report by the Executive Director, Finance & Corporate Services | 160 - 164 |

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
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Fife, KY7 5LT

14 August, 2024

If telephoning, please ask for:
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www.fife.gov.uk/committees

BLENDED 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 - LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

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

15 May, 2024

9.40 am – 11.45 am

PRESENT: Councillors Colin Davidson (Convener), Tom Adams, David Alexander, Ken Caldwell, Eugene Clarke, David Graham, John O'Brien and Alistair Suttie.

ATTENDING: Alexander Anderson, Service Manager Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing, Colin Davidson, Team Manager, Grounds Maintenance, Environment and Building Services; Barry Clark, Community Education Worker (Levenmouth), David Paterson, Community Manager (Levenmouth), Robert Graham, Area Community Development Team Manager (Levenmouth), Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Phil Clarke, Lead Consultant, Levenmouth Reconnect Programme, Roads and Transportation Services; Craig Smith, Communications Advisor, Communities and Engagement Service; Kerry Elliott and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officers, Legal and Democratic Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: David Paton, Kingdom Offroad Motorcycle Club and Bruce McCall, Greener Kirkcaldy

136. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Decision

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

137. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the special Levenmouth Area Committee of 23 April 2024.

Decision

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

138. THROUGH THE GEARS - UPDATE ON PROJECT & VIDEO PRESENTATION

The committee considered a presentation by Kingdom Offroad Motorcycle Club which included feedback from young people participating in the "Through the Gears" project.

Decision

The committee: -

- (1) welcomed and noted the "Through the Gears" presentation provided by the Kingdom Offroad Motorcycle Club; and

2024 LAC 55

- (2) noted the content of the verbal update provided in terms of the "Through the Gears" project.

139. **DOMESTIC WASTE, STREET CLEANSING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICE - ANNUAL REVIEW 2023-24**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Environment and Building Services informing members on the performance of the Grounds Maintenance and Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Services in 2023-2024.

Decision

The committee noted: -

- (1) the improvement in grounds maintenance, domestic waste collection and street cleansing services in 2023; and
- (2) the plans to deliver local priorities and help communities shape their environment.

140. **ON FIFE LEVENMOUTH ACTIVITY UPDATE**

The Convener advised members that the "On Fife Levenmouth Activity Update" report had been withdrawn and an updated report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Levenmouth Area Committee.

141. **LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN TO MARCH 2024**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service updating members on the outcome of the Levenmouth Area Community Learning and Development Action Plan 2021-2024.

Decision

The committee noted: -

- (1) local area progress in delivering effective community learning and development outcomes for the Levenmouth community;
- (2) the active integration of a wide range of welfare support embedded within the actions undertaken; and
- (3) the requirement to publish a Fife Community Learning and Development Plan for the next 3 years covering 2024 -2027 by September 2024.

142. **LEVENMOUTH RECONNECTED PROGRAMME - PURCHASE OF ACCOMMODATION UNITS KIRKLAND YARD LEVEN**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services seeking agreement to approve an accelerated grant award contribution of £30 000 from the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme towards the total purchase cost of £89,500 for the new Network Rail accommodation units at Kirkland Yard, Leven.

Decision

The committee agreed an accelerated grant approval of £30 000 from the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme towards the purchase of the Network Rail accommodation units at Kirkland Yard, Leven.

143. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH PLAN – NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUNDING (NLHF) MATCH FUNDING – GREEN SKILLS

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement for a contribution of £30,000 per year from the Local Community Planning Budget (Anti Poverty) budget to match fund and support a 4 year programme of training and skills development which would commence in April 2025. The proposal would directly support the River Level maintenance requirements and would be part funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Decision

The committee: -

- (1) agreed in principle to allocate funding in the financial years 2025/26, 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29 as match funding for a National Lottery Heritage Funding contribution through the River Leven Programme;
- (2) noted that the total contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget - anti-poverty budget would be £30,000 per year, and would draw down £90,000 per year from the National Lottery Heritage Funding;
- (3) noted that the funding would secure a full-time supervisor's position for the duration of the National Lottery Heritage Funding supported period; and
- (4) noted that the balance of funding would be used to cover transportation and equipment costs, trainee subsistence, PPE, qualification costs, as well as end to end dedicated employability support, including in work support as required.

144. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FUNDING - ANTI-POVERTY

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service requesting agreement to secure £23,000 from the Local Community Planning (Anti-Poverty) budget to fund holiday activity for both Community Learning and Development and Community Trade Hub Provision in the Levenmouth area.

Decision

The committee agreed a total allocation of £23,000, (£10,000 to the Community Trade Hub and £13,000 to Community Learning and Development), from the anti-poverty budget to cover the 2024 holiday provision.

The committee agreed: -

2024 LAC 57

- (1) to fund a total of £23,000 from the anti-poverty budget to cover the projected cost of holiday provision for 2024;
- (2) to allocate £10,000 towards the provision at the Community Trade Hub; and
- (3) to allocate £13,000 to Community Learning and Development.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 am and reconvened at 11.05 am

145. COZY KINGDOM - LEVENMOUTH FUEL POVERTY APPROACH 2024/25 PROVISION

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement for a total contribution of £30,000 from the Local Community Planning Budget (Anti Poverty) towards the cost of providing enhanced assistance to tackle fuel poverty concerns in Levenmouth under the Cosy Kingdom framework.

Decision

The committee agreed to a contribution of £30,000 from the Local Community Planning Budget (Anti-Poverty) to cover the costs relevant to the package of work outlined in the report to tackle concerns relevant to fuel poverty under the Cosy Kingdom framework.

146. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL PLAN - CONFIRMATION OF COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND (CRF) FUNDING COMBINED REPORT

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement to allocate funding from the Community Recovery Fund (CRF) for the Levenmouth Area toward various projects.

Decision

The committee agreed to approve the following amounts from the Community Recovery Fund totaling £223,830.77: -

- (1) £150,000 towards the costs of renewal of the Leven Promenade skatepark;
- (2) £8663.98 towards the costs of the Homelands Trust Happy Hut project;
- (3) £43,492.79 retrospectively agreed towards the costs of resurfacing the Promenade car park; and
- (4) £22,000 towards a set aside fund to support climate adaptation projects.

147. LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services, relating to the future work programme of the Levenmouth Area Committee.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the content of the Levenmouth Area Committee forward work programme; and
- (2) agreed that members would advise the Convener, Depute Convener, Lead Officer and Committee Officer of any other items to be included on the workplan, within the remit of the committee.

On behalf of the Levenmouth Area Committee the Convener acknowledged paid thanks to Michelle Hyslop, for her support during her time as the Committee Officer for the Levenmouth Area Committee.

21 August 2024

Agenda Item No. 4

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Local Plan Annual Performance Report

Report by: John Taylor, Station Commander for the Levenmouth Area.

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

This report provides the Committee with incident information for the period 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024. The Incident information enables the Committee to have an overview of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Levenmouth Committee Area - against its key performance indicators (KPIs)

Recommendation(s)

The committee is asked to consider the progress across a range of KPI's within this report, and comment as appropriate.

Resource Implications

Not applicable

Legal & Risk Implications

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides the statutory basis for fire reform, including the responsibility to:

- Put in place statutory planning and reporting requirements including providing facilities for consultation.
- Make new arrangements for strengthening local engagement and partnership working, including a new statutory role in the LSO and development of local fire and rescue plans linked to community planning, along with clear powers for local authorities in relation to the provision of fire and rescue services in their area.

Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment checklist is not required as this report does not have any immediate implications for service delivery and policy.

Consultation

This document is circulated amongst SFRS Clackmannanshire Fife Stirling LSO Commanders and appropriate partners to enable areas of high incidence to be scrutinised for reduction strategies.



ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

April 2023 – March 2024

Covering the activities and performance in support of the Levenmouth Local Area Fire Plan.

ABOUT THE STATISTICS IN THIS REPORT

The activity totals and other statistics quoted in this report are provisional in nature and subject to change because of ongoing quality assurance and review.



**SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland

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TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
Definitions	4
Introduction	6
Quarterly Performance Summary	7
Quarterly Performance Highlights	8
Domestic Fire Safety	9
Accidental Dwelling Fires	9
Accidental Dwelling Fires Fatal Casualties	10
Accidental Dwelling Fires Non- Fatal Casualties	11
Deliberate Fire Setting	13
Deliberate Primary Fires	13
Deliberate Secondary Fires	14
Built Environment	16
Non- Domestic Building Fires	16
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	18
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	18
Transport and Environment	20
Water Related Special Service Incidents	20
Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents	21
Fatal RTC Casualties	22
Non- Fatal RTC Casualties	23
Conclusions	25
Background Papers	25

DEFINITIONS

Accidental Dwelling Fire

Building occupied by households, excluding hotels, hostels, and residential institutions. In 2000, the definition of a dwelling was widened to include any non-permanent structure used solely as a dwelling, such as caravans, houseboats etc. Caravans, boats etc. not used as a permanent dwelling are shown according to the type of property. Accidental includes fires where the cause was not known or unspecified.

Fire Fatality

A person whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred weeks or months later.

Fire Casualty

Non-fatal casualties consist of persons requiring medical treatment including first aid given at the scene of the fire, but not those sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor for a check-up or observation (whether or not, they actually do). People sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor as a precaution, having no obvious injury are recorded as precautionary 'check-ups'.

Deliberate Fire

Includes fires where deliberate ignition is merely suspected and recorded by the FRS as "doubtful".

Non-Domestic Fires

These are fires identified as deliberate other building fires or accidental other building fires.

False Alarms

Where the FRS attends a location believing there to be a fire incident, but on arrival discovers that no such incident exists, or existed.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS)

Where the FRS attends a non-domestic location believing there to be a fire incident, but on arrival discovers that no such incident exists, or existed.

Primary Fires:

- Buildings (including mobile homes) fit for occupation (i.e. not wholly derelict) and those under construction.
- Caravans, trailers etc.
- Vehicles and other methods of transport (not derelict unless associated with business e.g. scrap metal).
- Outdoor storage (including materials for recycling), plant and machinery.
- Agricultural and forestry premises and property.
- Other outdoor structures including post-boxes, tunnels, bridges, etc.

Secondary Fires

- Single derelict buildings.
- Grassland etc., including heath, hedges, railway embankments and single trees.
- Intentional straw or stubble burning.
- Outdoor structures, including lampposts, traffic signs and other road furniture, private outdoor furniture, playground furniture, scaffolding, signs and hoarding etc.
- Refuse and refuse containers.
- Derelict vehicles (a vehicle without a registered keeper).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This annual performance report for the period April 1st, 2023, to March 31st, 2024, inclusive provides comparative data across the previous 3 years for the same period. The KPI's detailed below support the delivery of the Levenmouth Area Fire plan in support of the SFRS Fife Local Fire and Rescue Plan priorities and are shown in bold text.

- **Domestic Fire Safety**

Continuously monitor the number of accidental dwelling fires

Continuously monitor the severity and cause of accidental dwelling fires

Continuously monitor the number and severity of fire related injuries

- **Deliberate Fire Setting**

Monitor the number, type, and cause of deliberate fire setting incidents in Fife.

- **Built Environment**

Monitor the number and severity of fire related incidents in our relevant premises.

- **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals**

Monitor and challenge each Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) incident across Fife.

- **Transport and Environment**













Monitor the amount of water related incidents.

Monitor the frequency of attendances at Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs), as well as the number and severity of injuries. These will be monitored alongside Police Scotland RTC incidence information.

2. PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

2.1 The table below provides a summary of annual activity 2023-2024 and a comparison of the previous year's activity.

It aims to provide, at a glance, our direction of travel based on the previous year's figures.

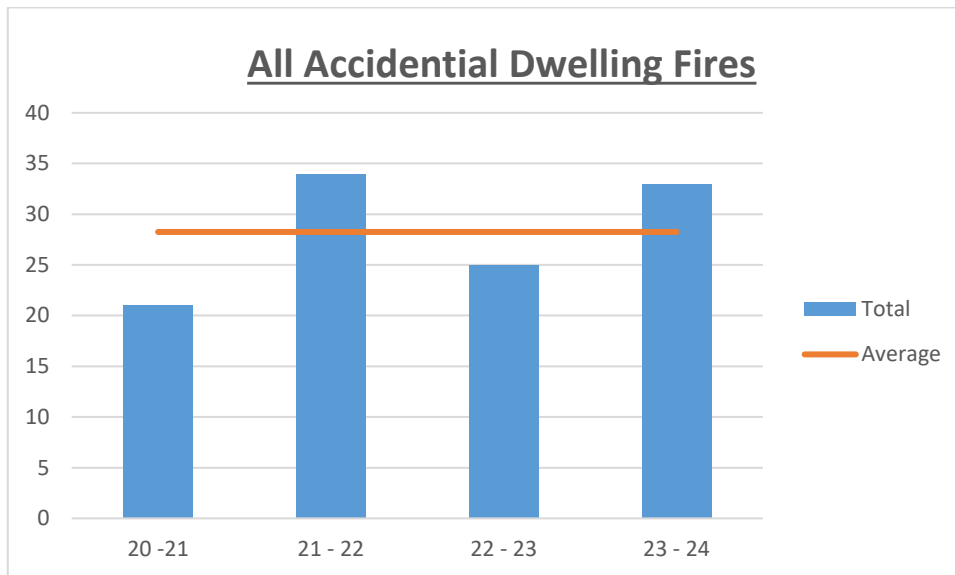
<p>Accidental Dwelling Fires</p>  <p>2023/24 = 33 2022/23 = 25</p>	<p>ADF Fatal Casualties</p>  <p>2023/24 = 0 2022/23 = 1</p>	<p>ADF Non-Fatal Casualties</p>  <p>2023/24 = 8 2022/23 = 0</p>
<p>Deliberate Primary Fires</p>  <p>2023/24 = 26 2022/23 = 26</p>	<p>Deliberate Secondary Fires</p>  <p>2023/24 = 173 2022/23 = 232</p>	<p>Non-domestic Building Fires</p>  <p>2023/24 = 18 2022/23 = 17</p>
<p>Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</p>  <p>2023/24 = 0 2022/23 = 0</p>	<p>Non-Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</p>  <p>2023/24 = 0 2022/23 = 0</p>	<p>Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</p>  <p>2023/24 = 85 2022/23 = 128</p>
<p>Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents</p>  <p>2023/24 = 14 2022/23 = 9</p>	<p>Fatal RTC Casualties</p>  <p>2023/24 = 0 2022/23 = 0</p>	<p>Non-Fatal RTC Casualties</p>  <p>2023/24 = 6 2022/23 = 2</p>

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Of the indicators, the following performance should be noted for the period April 1st, 2023, to March 31st, 2024, inclusive comparing data across the previous 3 years for the same period:

- **Accidental Dwelling Fires** - There were 33 during this reporting period which is an increase of 8 compared to last year's figures and above the 4-year average.
- **Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatal Casualty** - There were no fire fatalities during this reporting period.
- **Accidental Dwelling Fires Non-Fatal Casualties** - There were 8 casualties during this reporting period which is an increase of 8 compared to last year's figures.
 - **Deliberate Primary Fires** - There were 26 during this reporting period. This is the same as last year's figures and above the 4-year average.
 - **Deliberate Secondary Fires** – There were 173 during this reporting period. This is a decrease of 59 compared to last year's figures and below the 4-year average.
 - **Non-Domestic Building Fires** - There were 18 during this reporting period. This is an increase of 1 compared to last year's figures and above the 4-year average.
 - **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) caused by automatic fire alarms (AFAs) in non-domestic buildings** - There were 85 during this reporting period. This is a decrease of 43 compared to last year's figures and below the 4-year average.
 - **Road Traffic Collisions** There were 14 during this reporting period. This is an increase of 5 compared to last year's figures and above the 4-year average.
 - **Fatal RTC Casualties** – There were no fatalities during this reporting period. This is the same amount as last year's figures.
 - **Non-Fatal RTC Casualties** - There were 6 during this reporting period. This is an increase of 4 compared to last year's figures and above the 4-year average.

3. Domestic Fire Safety



Graph 1 Accidental Dwelling Fires – April 2020 – March 2024

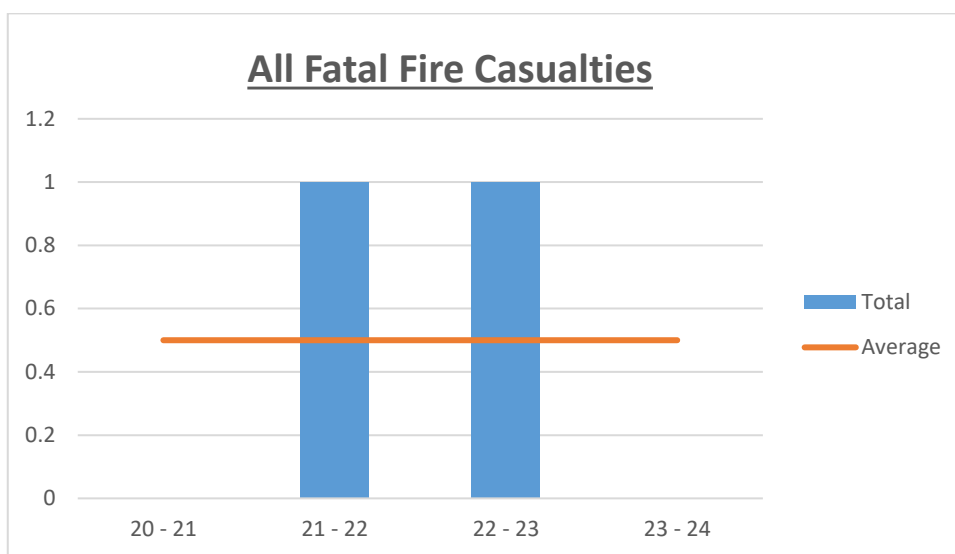
Ward	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	15	24	9	21
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	6	10	16	12
Total	21	34	25	33

Table 1 Accidental Dwelling Fires April 2020 – March 2024

- 3.1 Accidental Dwelling Fires have increased compared to the previous year figures.
- 3.2 We have seen an increase in Accidental Dwelling Fires this reporting period up by 8 to 33, which is above the 4-year average.
- 3.3 20 of these recorded fires for this reporting period started within the kitchen area by cooking. 14 of these incidents were restricted to the item first ignited and 15 had either no or limited damage. 3 of these incidents were limited to the initial room of the fire’s origin.
- 3.4 In 22 out of these 33 addresses, a detection system was fitted and that on 14 occasions they operated and raised the alarm (on three occasions insufficient products of combustion were present to activate the alarm and the fire was discovered and alarm raised by a person.)

- 3.5 24 of these incidents were resolved either without Scottish Fire and Rescue Service intervention, or by very limited action on arrival. 6 incidents required the use of a hose reel jet, and 2 incidents required the use of a Carbon Dioxide extinguisher.
- 3.6 The information above describes a trend of reduction in severity. This can be attributed to the high number of detection systems being tested and where necessary fitted by SFRS and partners, which give an early warning of fire.
- 3.7 The absence of smoke detection equipment at 11 of incidents, evidences the need for SFRS and partners to continue the free HFSV and smoke alarm campaign across Levenmouth with communities and partners to ensure all dwellings are covered appropriately.

3.8 Fire Fatalities – Accidental Dwelling Fires



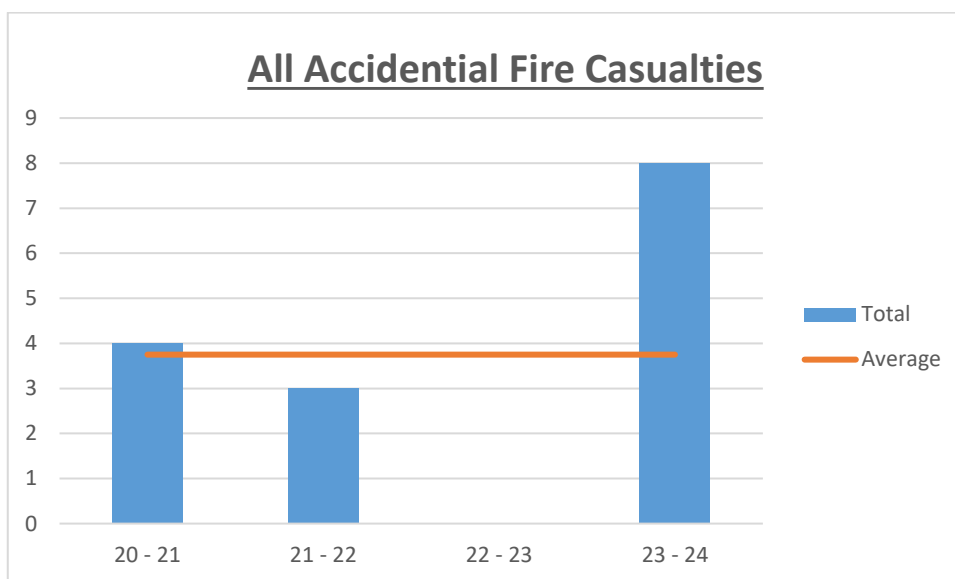
Graph 2 Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatal Casualties – April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	0	1	1	0
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1	1	0

Table 2 Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatal Casualties April 2020 – March 2024

- 3.9 No fatalities occurred within a property in the Levenmouth Area for the reporting period of 2023 - 2024.

3.10 Fire Casualties – Accidental Dwelling Fires (not including precautionary checks)



Graph 3 Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	3	3	0	6
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	1	0	0	2
Total	4	3	0	8

Table 3 Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties April 2020 – March 2024

- 3.11 Fire casualties within dwellings have increased by 8 this recording period compared to last year's figures.
- 3.12 5 fire casualties were transported to hospital with suspected slight injuries. The other 3 fire casualties received first aid at the scene but did not require to attend hospital.

3.13 Domestic Fire Reduction Strategy

Home Safety Visits (HFSVs) play a vital part in our strategy to reduce the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires. Station personnel recorded 301 completed visits in the reporting period across the Levenmouth area. These visits are used to deliver vital fire safety messages and install detection systems, as well as trip, slip and falls messages and safety equipment for our elderly and very young population.

This year's figure is lower than last year's 327 due to various factors. Main one being the continued low rate of partnership referrals which account for a large proportion of those deemed to be at the highest risk of fire. Our Community Safety Engagement teams continue to work with our local partners to reinvigorate that referral pathway, both at local and strategic level.

SFRS continue to adapt our HFSV approach. The focus continues to be those most at risk and those visit requests from partners and individuals which record the occupier at a high risk of fire but continue visits to all households within the Levenmouth area regardless of assessed risk. This approach ensures that all residents within the Levenmouth area have access to the advice and services that SFRS can provide while still allowing our teams to focus on those visits to high-risk individuals within their home environment and work with them and partners to reduce the risk posed.

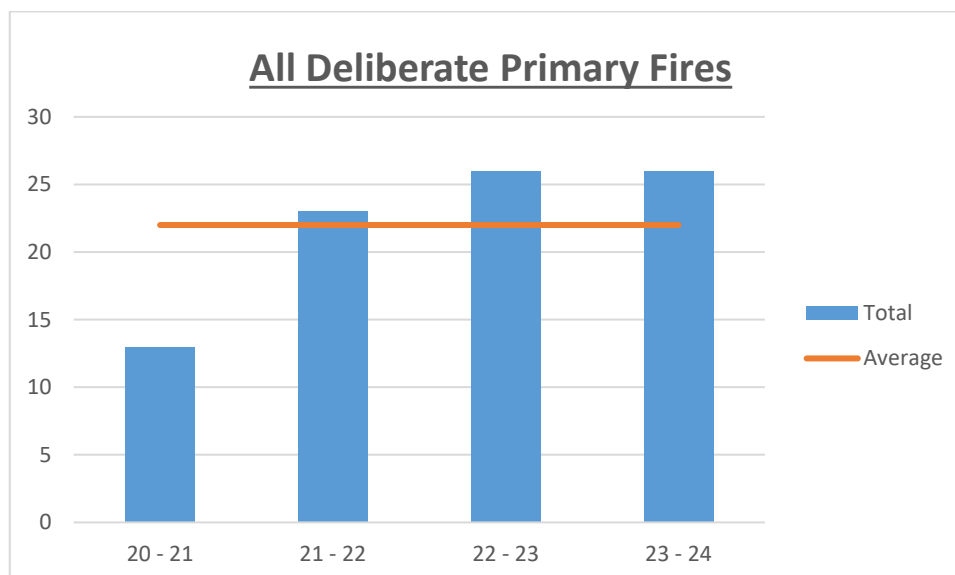
SFRS also places increased emphasis on interaction with households as a result of Post Domestic Incident Responses, where crews attending incidents located at domestic properties will engage with neighbouring residents in the close-down phase of those incidents.

SFRS conduct Home Visits

- Householder request.
- Post Incident Response visits carried out after any incident at a house.
- No detection fitted within a house.
- Threat of Fire on the property.
- Partner Referrals.

4. Deliberate Fire Setting

4.1 Deliberate Primary Fires

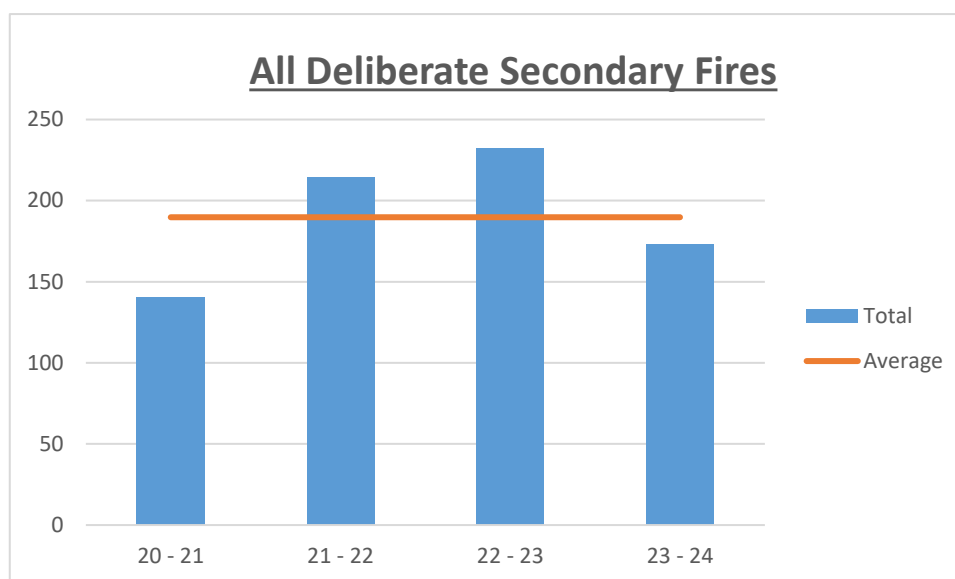


Graph 4 Deliberate Primary Fires April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	9	15	15	11
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	4	8	11	15
Total	13	23	26	26

Table 4 Deliberate Primary Fires April 2020 – March 2024

4.2 Deliberate Secondary Fires



Graph 5 Deliberate Secondary Fires April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	89	134	145	95
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	51	80	87	78
Total	140	214	232	173

Table 5 Deliberate Secondary Fires April 2020 – March 2024

4.3 Deliberate fires can be broken down into two categories, primary and secondary. Primary fires generally involve property and include buildings, sheds, caravans, motor vehicles and plant and machinery. Secondary fires are often minor and include the burning of rubbish, grass and derelict vehicles.

4.4 The graphs and tables above show that Primary fires have remained at 26 this reporting year which is above the 4-year average of just over 22 for comparison purposes.

Secondary Deliberate fires have decreased by 59 to 173 which is below the 4-year average of just under 190.

4.5 Deliberate Fire Reduction Strategy

We continue to target education and prevention activities in high activity areas to deliver education regarding the dangers and consequences of deliberate fire setting.

We are working closely with our Police and Local Authority partners to ensure that those responsible are identified and dealt with robustly. We liaise with premises occupiers both domestic and retail to give advice on refuse storage and security, which can be a target of deliberate fire setters.

Comprehensive Deliberate Fire Reduction Plans have been implemented in Levenmouth and continue to be developed and reviewed with partner agencies to address and reduce operational demand and anti-social behaviour to build on the significant reductions experienced. Deliberate Fires are discussed and reviewed when required with partner agencies to address and reduce operational demand and anti-social behaviour.

We have continually dedicated significant resources and time to achieve the above actions whilst being supported by our local planning partners across Fife Council and Police Scotland, both on an ad-hoc basis and through the Improving Levenmouth Together group.

We continue engagement in local primary and secondary schools, driving home key messages relating to Anti-Social Behaviour-related fire-setting and crews are attending local youth groups to reach out to those that might be missed in the school setting.

Fire Skills groups continue to take place, where targeted young people are given the chance to engage and learn new skills with our Community Safety Engagement team and local partners.



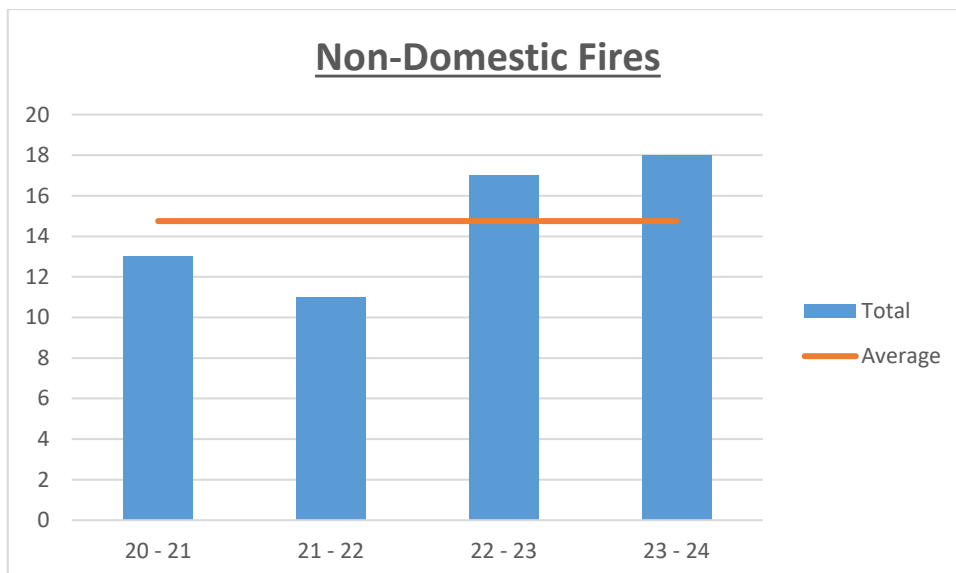
The Methil Youth Volunteer Scheme continues to provide an opportunity for young people in the Levenmouth Academy catchment area.

The group is very much part of the SFRS family, with them learning invaluable skills, making a real difference in the local area, and acting as ambassadors within local projects including the Youth Task Force, enabling those with the greatest stake to have a forum to make their voices heard and help improve the neighbourhoods they live in.

The group continue to fundraise, and this year decided to use the money raised to provide a new Public Access Defibrillator, which now sits outside the Premier One Stop Shop on Wellesley Road.

5. Built Environment

5.1 Built Environment – Non- Domestic Fires



Graph 6 Built Environment Non-Domestic Fires April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	6	7	5	8
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	7	4	12	10
Total	13	11	17	18

Table 6 Built Environment Non - Domestic Fires April 2020 – March 2024

- 5.2 The table above shows that Non-Domestic Fires have shown an increase of 1 over this recording period, 10 of which were deliberate and 6 were accidental.

Property Types (Fires)	Non-Domestic
Non-Residential, Private Garden Shed	2
Public Utilities, Other	2
Non-Residential, Other buildings / use not known	2
Non-Residential, Private garage	2
Education, Secondary school	1
Industrial Processing, Distillery plant (including alcohol)	1
Food and Drink, Takeaway, Fast Food	1
Non-Residential, Vehicle Repair	1
Food and Drink, Pub / Wine bar / Bar	1
Food and Drink, Other Restaurant / Café – (licensed)	1
Non-Residential, Public toilets	1
Entertainment and culture, Club / Night club	1
Religious, Church / Chapel	1
Non-Residential, Other private non-residential building	1

- 5.3 There were no casualties or fatalities resulting from incidents within Built Environment Non- Domestic Fires during this recording period.

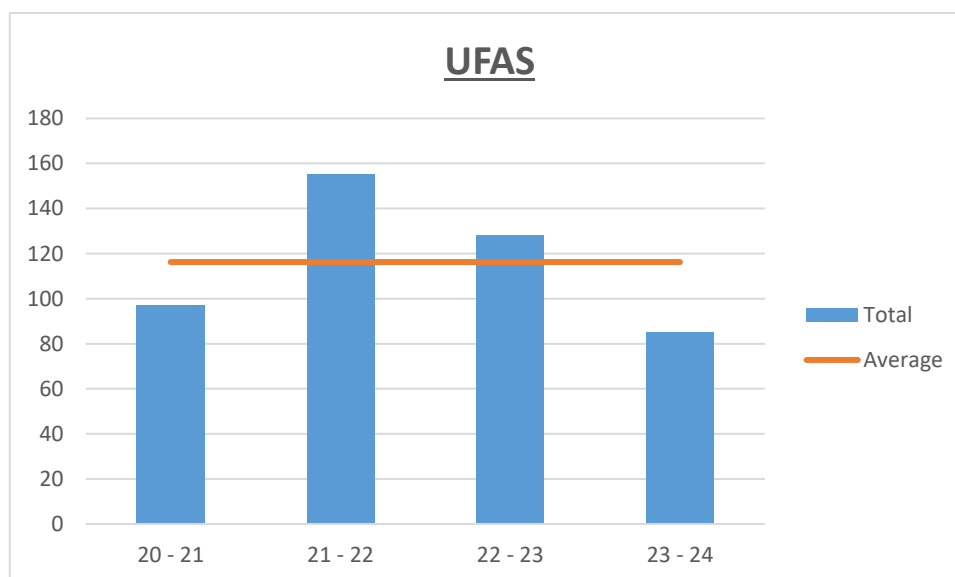
5.4 Built Environment Fire Reduction Strategy

We continue to deliver a programme of fire safety audits in relevant premises - as detailed within section 78 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 - identified as high risk on an ongoing basis. We also complete thematic audit programmes where patterns emerge of incidents in a risk group.

As well as the audit programmes described above, we also deliver ‘post fire audits’ which take place as soon as possible after a fire has occurred in premises. The purpose of these audits is to deliver further fire safety advice to the premises occupier, and to identify any issues which could be used to inform other similar premises types in order to prevent further incidents of a similar nature.

6. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

6.1 An Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) can be defined as ‘any alarm activation which is not the result of a fire or a test’. UFAS incidents have fluctuated over the four-year period. The table and graph below detail the incident numbers over four years.



Graph 7 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	31	46	55	40
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	66	109	73	45
Total	97	155	128	85

Table 7 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals April 2020 – March 2024

6.2 This period has seen a decrease of 43 calls from the previous recording year. Various reasons for UFAS include improper procedures being applied during the testing of Fire Detection Systems, and an increase in Fire Detection Systems being fitted within school premises and NHS buildings along with problematic systems within known premises. There are 56 property types recorded, however I have put the top 20 property types encountered for this reporting period and our focus for further reductions in 2024 /25.

Property Types	UFAS
Residential Home, Nursing/Care	20
Hospitals and medical care, Hospital	14
Other Residential, Sheltered Housing - not self-contained	12
Residential Home, Retirement/Elderly	5
Education, Infant/primary school	4
Industrial Processing, Distillery plant (including alcohol)	4
Education, Secondary school	3
Other Residential, Hotel/motel	3
Industrial Manufacturing, Engineering	2
Religious, Church / Chapel	2
Retail, Single Shop	2
Industrial Manufacturing, Food and drink processing	2
Other Residential, Hostel (e.g. for homeless people)	2
Sports Venues, Sports Hall	1
Other Residential, Other Residential Home	1
Entertainment and culture, Library	1
Hospitals and medical care, Other (including surgery)	1
Transport buildings, Bus / coach station / garage	1
Public Admin, security and safety, Police Station	1
Industrial Manufacturing, Assembly	1

6.3 Reduction in Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Strategy

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) Reduction Strategies continue to be managed and monitored by a 'UFAS Champion' who contacts premises occupiers after each UFAS incident, to discuss the activation, as well as strategies to reduce or eliminate. The UFAS Champion will continue to engage robustly with duty holders and occupiers to drive this type of incident down.

From 1 July 2023, SFRS stopped attending automatic fire alarm (AFA) call outs to commercial business and workplace premises, such as factories, offices, shops, and leisure facilities unless a fire has been confirmed.

Our control room operators have been asking anyone who reports a fire alarm to check whether there is an actual fire or signs of fire, before sending the nearest resource. This does not apply to sleeping premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hotels, or domestic dwellings. This change follows the SFRS public consultation in 2021.

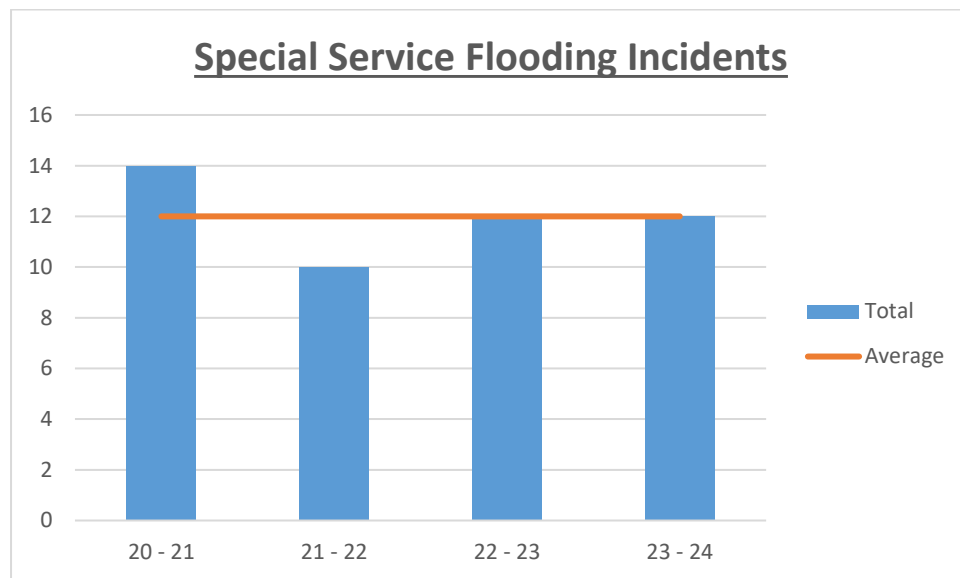
This change has greatly reduced unnecessary call outs which has freed up capacity to increase our operational availability, undertake more community safety prevention work and to upskill our staff. It has also reduced the road risk associated with blue-light journeys.

7. Transport and Environment

7.1 These will be monitored alongside Police Scotland RTC Incidents information.

7.2 Water Related Incidents

Water related incidents have increased by 2 during this recording period to 12. 10 involved SFRS making the incident safe, 1 involved SFRS giving advice only and 1 involved no SFRS action.



Graph 8 Special Service, Water Related Incidents April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	9	6	8	10
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	5	4	4	2
Total	14	10	12	12

Table 8 Special Service, Water Related Incidents April 2020 – March 2024

7.3 Road Traffic Collisions

As SFRS generally only attend RTC's of a serious nature, where persons are trapped, the figures below do not capture every RTC which occurs within Fife.

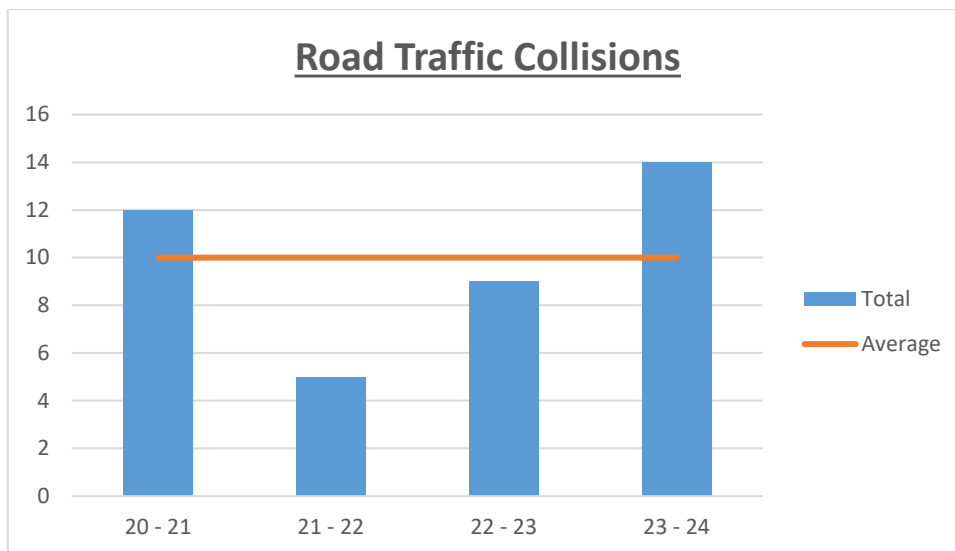


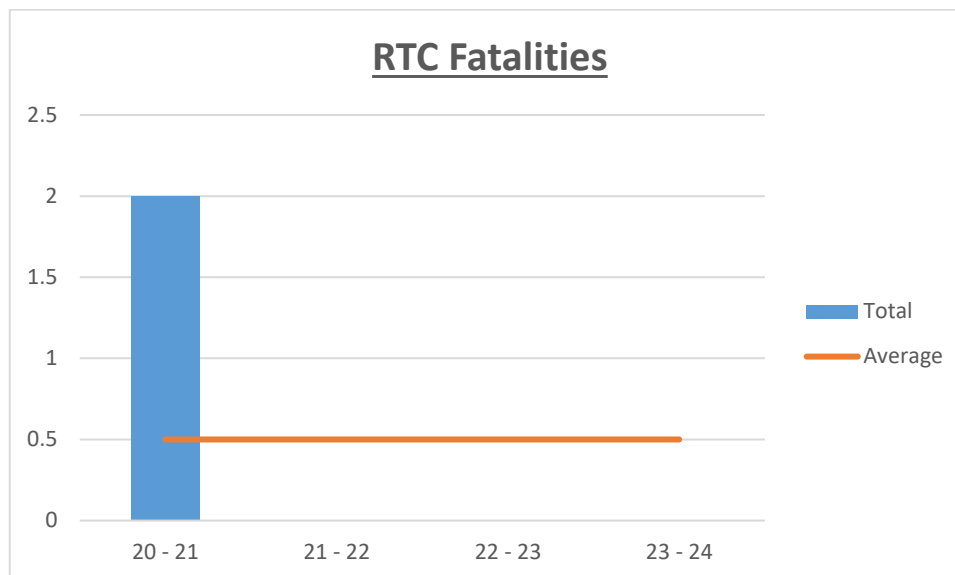
Table 9 Road Traffic Collisions April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	8	3	6	9
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	4	2	3	5
Total	12	5	9	14

Table 9 Road Traffic Collisions April 2020 – March 2024

7.4 SFRS have responded to 14 RTCs during this reporting period. This is an increase of 4 compared to last year's figures. Scrutiny of these RTCs locations has shown A915 Standing Stane Road continues to be a hotspot area, with 5 incidents recorded on this road.

7.5 RTC Fatal Casualties



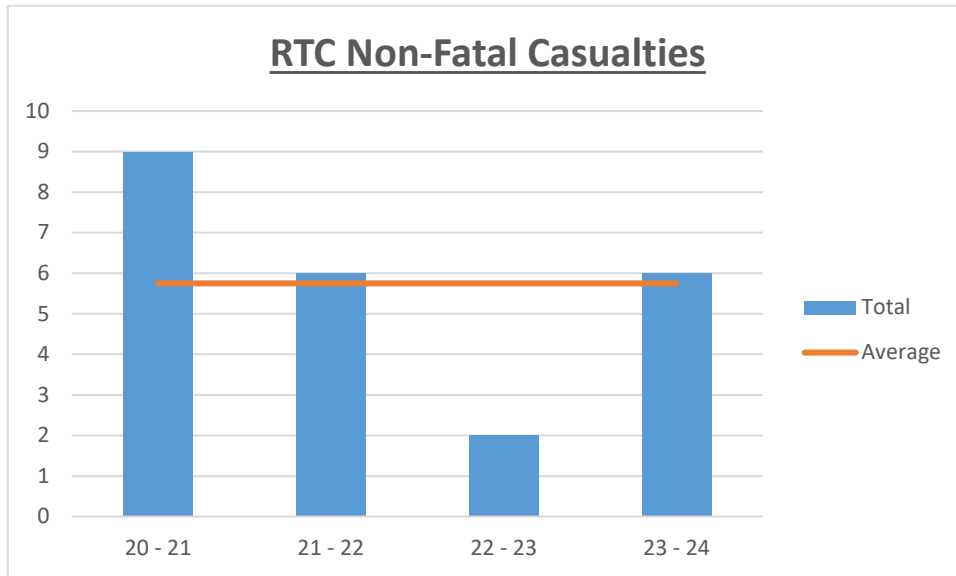
Graph 10 Road Traffic Collision Fatal Casualties April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	0	0	0	0
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	2	0	0	0
Total	2	0	0	0

Table 10 Road Traffic Collision Fatal April 2020 – March 2024

7.6 RTC Fatalities – There have been no RTC fatalities during this recording period. This is the same as the previous year.

7.7 RTC Casualties



Graph 11 Road Traffic Collision Casualties April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20 - 21	21 - 22	22 - 23	23 - 24
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages	6	5	1	5
Leven, Kennoway & Largo	3	1	1	1
Total	9	6	2	6

Table 11 Road Traffic Collision Casualties April 2020 – March 2024

7.8 RTC Casualties

There has been an increase of 4 casualties compared to last year's figure of 2 during this recording period.

7.9 RTC Injury Extent

The table below shows that 1 casualty was deemed to have suffered a serious injury. 5 casualties appeared to sustain slight injuries.

- 13 RTC incidents which involved cars.
- No RTC incidents involved multiple vehicles.

- 4 drivers were involved and 2 passengers.
- 2 required to be released from vehicles by SFRS.

RTC Extent of Harm	
Injury - Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious	1 – 1 more than last year
Injury - Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight	5 – 3 more than last year
Injury – Precautionary check recommended	0 - Same as last year

7.10 Transport and Environment Related Incident Reduction Strategy

SFRS contribute as part of the Road Casualty Reduction Group (RCRG), which is a part of the current Fife Community Safety Strategy.

SFRS are key partners in delivering the Biker Down, Safe Drive Stay Alive and Drive Wise Road Safety initiatives.

8. Conclusions

There has been a decrease in 3 of our KPIs, accidental dwelling fire fatalities, deliberate secondary fires and UFAS. 3 KPIs have stayed static at zero.

There has been a rise in 5 of our KPIs recording figures. Increases in accidental dwelling fires, accidental dwelling fire casualties, non-domestic building fires, RTC incidents and RTC casualties.

All reductions are because of SFRS and partners continued efforts to improve the safety of all who live work and visit Fife. We will continue to focus on these areas to continue these welcoming trends. We will concentrate our focus on the areas of emerging increase identified in this annual report and strive to seek reductions and improve local outcomes.

SFRS will continue to manage and improve demand reduction strategies linking in with key partner agencies to ensure a thriving and sustainable country for generations to come to create a safer place to live, work and visit.

Background Papers

SFRS Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Fife Local Authority Area. Link - <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/east/east-local-plans.aspx>

Report Contact

Niall Miller

Station Commander

Levenmouth Service Delivery Commander

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

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21 August 2024

Agenda Item No. 5



Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities within Levenmouth

Report by: Chief Inspector Chris Dow, Local Area Commander Levenmouth

Wards Affected: Ward 21 – Leven, Kennoway and Largo and Ward 22 – Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages.

Purpose

This report provides Elected Members with information on matters impacting on or involving Police Scotland, which have relevance to community safety in the Levenmouth Policing Area.

Recommendation

Members of the Committee are asked to endorse action taken to date and support Police Scotland moving forward in addressing priorities.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no identified legal or risk implications.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

Consultation is an ongoing process with Elected Members, local communities through Community meetings and partner agencies through established meeting processes.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update of the performance with regards to the priorities in Levenmouth, campaigns and other initiatives, from **1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024**. All police activity highlighted in this report was undertaken in line with local and national objectives and in support of other organisational priorities within the Levenmouth policing area. This report can be read further in conjunction with the Local Authority Scrutiny Board report, which includes data from across Fife, on its expected release in June 2024. Any data that is provided is from locally sourced information and has not been ratified by Police Scotland analysts.

2.0 Levenmouth Local Area Policing Plan - Updates

- 2.1 Levenmouth Local Police Plan 2020-2023 demonstrates the commitment of local policing to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the people and communities of Fife. The Plan ([Police Plan](#) link) identifies Divisional priorities as;
- Acquisitive Crime – Operation Principle
 - Antisocial Behaviour – Operation Prevail
 - Violent Crime – Operation Path
 - Substance Misuse – Operation Prospect
 - Road Safety – Operation Paramount
- 2.2 The Levenmouth priorities have continued, as a result of ongoing and established engagement, to focus on the above 5 areas.
- 2.3 The Levenmouth Area Plan ensures that whilst we take cognisance of the divisional priorities highlighted in the Fife Division Local Policing Plan 2023 - 2026 we address, by implementing a bespoke approach, the specific needs and concerns of local communities in Levenmouth and don't focus on a standardised approach – which could be to the detriment of the area.
- 2.4 In addition, Policing in 2023 – 2024 in Levenmouth has recently been fortunate to be shortlisted by the Scottish Police Authority, who were completing a 9-month survey and review of the impact that areas of deprivation have on public confidence in Policing. At the outset, the project looked at the community engagement model that is in place and liaised with the local community through survey and open days to identify any areas of improvement. In the following 6-month Period, supplementary community engagement took place in Levenmouth, with a clear objective of ensuring this only complimented the enhanced engagement model already established in Levenmouth. At the completion of the project, the SPA concluded that the existing engagement infrastructure and partnership in place was exceptional however assisted with recommendations to build on the success moving forward. Levenmouth was chosen by the SPA as a field visit site for senior West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner representatives, who came to Scotland for an information sharing workshop. Positive feedback was received at the work Levenmouth do and a number of the ILT models taken back to England to incorporate into their own engagements plans.

Improving Levenmouth Together - Antisocial Behaviour

- 2.5 Following the successes of the Improving Levenmouth Together multi-agency programme in over the last 5 years, the project commenced on 1st April 2023. The emphasis remained on illegal off-road use of motor/quad bikes, on-road offending, anti-social behaviour in public places and the setting of small (secondary) fires. After a change of focus in 2022-2023 to on-road offending, the data highlighted a notable rise in off-road offending – and led to a renewed targeting throughout the period with positive results.
- 2.6 The funded officers remained dedicated to anti-social behaviour and despite the continued operational challenges, have continued to produce outstanding results.
- 2.7 As with the previous years since its inception, the Improving Levenmouth Together programme led to a reduction in the number of youths congregating and drinking alcohol in public places, repeated thefts of commercial and domestic bins, which were subsequently set on fire, and acts of criminal damage and threats towards those wishing to protect their property.
- 2.8 Whilst there remains a reduction in the number of calls to Police Scotland, relating to the illegal use of motor/quad bikes, alcohol consumption in public places and the setting of small (secondary) fires, the focus remains on continuing to reduce the number of calls through a three-pronged approach of enforcement, prevention, and diversion activities.
- 2.9 Police Scotland are working with partners to introduce meaningful diversion opportunities, with a multi-agency approach to developing safe places for our young people to use, both indoors and outdoors, with the “right time – right place” environments and resources to thrive.



- 2.10 Improving Levenmouth Together comprises of a collaboration with a number of partners, including;
- Police Scotland
 - Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 - Fife Council Local Area Elected Members

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- Fife Council Safer Communities Team
- Fife Council Housing
- Fife Council Traffic Management
- Fife Council - Parks, Streets and Open Places.
- Fife Council – CLD
- Fifers for the Community
- Local Housing Associations
- Community Education
- Education – Levenmouth Academy
- Community Trade Hub
- Kingdom Off Road Motorcycle Club
- Clued Up
- Barnardos
- Game On Scotland / Active Fife
- DAPL
- BRAG Enterprise (Benarty Regeneration Action Group)

2.11 From the start of April 2023, following ongoing generous funding support from the Local Area Committee, Police had a dedicated team in place, carrying out high visibility and plain clothed deployments across all communities in both Wards 21 and 22. Police Scotland matched this investment, with an officer made available to have two constables dedicated to ASB in Levenmouth between April and October 2023 inclusive.

Performance / Outcomes

2.12 Raw data below provides an overview of current calls to the Police by comparison to the same periods in 2018 through to 2023 inclusive. Despite a slight rise in 2022 / 2023, after 3 years of decrease, there has been a reduction of 81 calls in comparison to last year. This equates to a 90% reduction in motorbike related calls in total, since the implementation of Improving Levenmouth Together. A significant decrease in anti-social use of motorbikes and quads.

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Motor / Quad Bike Calls (Police figures)

2018 / 2019	891
2019 / 2020	354
2020 / 2021	217
2021 / 2022	85
2022 / 2023	175
2023 / 2024	94

- By maintaining the attention on ASB in 2023/24 we were able to reduce the number of calls back to nearer the numbers of 2021/2022 and will remain committed to achieving these levels moving forwards through 2024. The slight rise in 2022 / 2023 highlights the public’s confidence to continue to report these incidents despite the huge reduction since the inception. It also highlights the requirement to continue to focus on the ASB issue and partnership approach in order to build on the success already achieved.



Fire Calls (Police figures)

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTAL
2018/19	22	14	22	33	20	16	28	20	30	15	20	16	256
2019/20	33	12	13	12	19	15	11	9	11	14	10	16	175
2020/21	16	12	7	11	6	5	9	11	12	5	5	15	114
2021/22	28	9	11	21	2	14	5	11	10	9	13	31	164
2022/23	23	30	23	24	25	18	8	6	5	13	33	20	228
2023/24	27	14	25	11	7	11	12	6	6	8	2	8	137

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- Deliberate fires have been high on the radar in 2023 with prevention through education being key to reducing the number of fires. During the report period there has been a reduction of 40% on last year. These figures represent a 53% reduction on the pre-ILT numbers. There were however another 2 high profile incidents in Methil and Levenmouth Academy which highlight the requirement to remain focussed on education, prevention, intervention and diversion activities to counter this crime type. Both of these Fires involved young people who were charged.
- The introduction of partnership working with Safer Communities, Fife Council, The Fire Service and Police has ensured a more robust reporting of derelict buildings in Levenmouth that could be vulnerable to wilful fire-raising to ensure they are suitably secured. In addition, an education package was designed and implemented by Safer Communities with our support at Levenmouth Academy to educate the young people in the area around the dangers and consequences relating to deliberate fire setting.

2.13 Over the course of the 2023/24 Improving Levenmouth Together programme, attributed directly to the funded post, the following enforcement results were achieved;

- **35** vehicles seized - this includes Motorbikes, Cars and Quads.
- **189** people charged in connection with Anti-social behaviour and Road Traffic offences.
- **2** Search warrants executed. Quantity of high value vehicles were recovered (over £600k).
- **13** people arrested on apprehension warrants.



2.14 Improving Levenmouth Together continues to establish itself as a sustainable partnership through 2023-2024 with partners continuing to engage and commit to the

aims and objectives. This programme will continue to evolve, with the funded officer, now being full-time (12 months of the year) and allowing a single-point-of-contact for the community. The selected officer will be supported by motivated colleagues as and when required and will have more of a focus on prevention and intervention rather than the sole punitive approach of previous years. They will prioritise historic ASB work, during key times, but will be able to dedicate time to co-ordinate Policing engagement activities over the next 3 years – subject to annual review. There will also be added strands of tackling drug and alcohol misuse and helping to improve the mental health provision in Levenmouth. The partnership will support communities and fulfil the overarching aim to support the wellbeing of the people in Levenmouth. The project has been acclaimed nationally, with various Police Forces across the United Kingdom looking to implement a similar project tailored to their area.

Serious, Violent Crime and Dishonesties – Area Overview

- 2.15 Serious and violent crime remains a priority for Police Scotland. In Levenmouth, there is a commitment to robustly respond to any reports of this nature and bring offenders to justice. The detection rate remains consistently high for these types of crimes which is a clear result of Local Policing and Crime Management working closely together to ensure enquiries are progressed and the best possible service provided to members of the local community.

Despite a well-publicised tightening resource picture within the public sector. Policing in Levenmouth has maintained a violent crime detection rate over 10% above the national average, which is an incredible result. Crimes of dishonesty have increased in some cases by over 60%, no doubt to some degree due to the cost-of-living crisis during the reporting period, however Levenmouth has still managed to draw an increase in overall detection rates, for acquisitive crime, over the 2022-2023 period. This is credit to the joined-up partnership that Levenmouth local policing has both internally between departments and externally between partners and the communities we serve.

In addition to the above, Levenmouth and North East Fife area experienced a rise in high value vehicle crime during the reporting period – which is reflected nationally. Vehicle criminality is an evolving focus for Police Scotland with organised criminals having access to software where they can clone the keys for high value vehicles by connecting to the keys using a laptop and stealing the signal of the keys, to allow access to and ability to start the vehicle. They are then able to drive off without the physical key. In addition, there has been an increase in the number of housebreakings where the keys to high value vehicles are obtained and thereafter the vehicle is stolen.

Partnership work with various departments within Police Scotland, including the Proactive Team, CID and local policing are being utilised to tackle this evolving trend, which is not exclusive to Fife however there has already been various offenders from Levenmouth arrested and charged in connection with these offences. Part of this is educating the public by highlighting proactive steps they can take to reduce the chances of offending, ie keeping keys within protective pouches (faraday bags) and taking care to safeguard vehicles with enhanced security.

Following extensive investigation, 5 nominals from Levenmouth were arrested and have subsequently been given significant prison sentences for their involvement in the thefts. In addition, over £600,000 of stolen vehicles were recovered by our Improving Levenmouth Together team.

Road Safety and Road Crime – Area Overview

- 2.16 We are working closely with P Division Road Policing to deliver on the prevention and enforcement strategy to aid road safety.

We fully support local and national initiatives to reduce road crime and road casualties. Education remains at the heart of our prevention strategy, and we support this with positive engagement with groups from nursery age upwards.

Our road safety initiative ‘Bannerman’ has started to be delivered to all local primary schools to promote safe travel and parking around our schools. This is a project involves the pupils designing banners for their schools promoting driving safely and parking responsibly to empower parents and guardians to listen to the advice. This has been delivered by Area Ward Officers. Additionally, there have been safety inputs within classrooms and working with the children outside to demonstrate our speed camera equipment. Further collaborative work continues in respect to the Safer Routes to / from schools and the encouragement to develop the role of Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO’s).

We review information and intelligence on a daily basis and ensure targeted speed site deployments, supplemented where necessary by the use of Pop up Bob and Pop up Bairs. In addition we receive support for our colleagues in Road Policing, and the Safety Camera Partnership. Significant success in the latter stages of the reporting period were achieved with dedicated operational action plans implemented in Levenmouth allowing a Road Policing officer to team up with a Local Policing officer and spend time targeting identified local nominals and vehicles. This will be continued into the 2024-2025 period.

Information and intelligence is received from a variety of sources in respect to individual’s intent on using our roads to support the commission of crime or in circumstances where their use of vehicles infringes upon road traffic legislation. Such information and/or intelligence is assessed and action taken where it is deemed proportionate, legal and necessary.

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Misuse of Drugs / Alcohol Abuse – Area Overview

2.17 Tackling the misuse of alcohol and drugs remains a priority in Levenmouth. Our prevention strategy remains focussed on working with our partners and signposting individuals to supporting services.

Our targeted enforcement activities in respect to the misuse of drugs continue, with successful outcomes reported via media channels. We continue to work towards supporting those suffering addiction and a focus on diverting drug users to support partners. Given the link of drugs supply to other types of criminality such as violent crime, the reporting period has been key in targeting these offenders. There has been over 35% increase in warrant execution and subsequent drugs supply reporting to the Procurator Fiscal. This forms the highest risk area and designed to work hand-in-hand with the support for third sector partner focus on lower level addiction.



We also continue to target alcohol related criminality (e.g. consume alcohol in public) however we have seen a decrease in charges from 34 people charged in 2022 to 17 in 2023.

Enforcement activity is supported by the invaluable information we receive from our partners and members of our communities. This allows us to continue to detect, disrupt and deter such activities. Engaging with the communities we serve to promote understanding of Police processes is a clear priority. By clearly communicating the legal necessity to properly obtain search warrants and how this is

achieved allows further buy-in and support from those Police rely on to provide intelligence.

Through engagement with DAPL and Clued Up, there is a desire from Police Scotland to look at prevention of young people and adults engaging in drug and alcohol abuse. Enhanced partnership working and signposting to support agencies, will provide those affected by drug and alcohol abuse, with a wraparound service.

- 2.18 There is no current performance data, which can be broken down to area. The **LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY BOARD – Fife**, which provides Fife wide data is expected to be available later in the year.

3.0 Ward 21 – Leven, Kennoway and Largo and Ward 22 Methil, Buckhaven, Wemyss.

With the implementation of Improving Levenmouth Together, there is a more collaborative approach to both wards combined. The following is a summary of crime trends and our actions to tackle the issues.

3.1 Ward Crime Update

The following outlines an update on crime during the review period, excluding sexual and domestic crimes.

3.2 Anti-Social Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour remains a priority for Police Scotland, P Division (Fife) and Levenmouth. Our focus is on prevention and enforcement when criminality is reported.

Through the focus of the Improving Levenmouth Together enforcement and prevention teams, there has been notable success in dealing with offenders and putting measures in place (e.g. bail / undertaking conditions) to prevent these persons from committing further criminality.

The focus remains on preventing antisocial behaviour, motorbikes and wilful fire-raising through the Improving Levenmouth Together programme and partnership working with the Community Trade Hub, Fife Council, Education, Active Fife and Kingdom Off-Road Motorbike group.

3.3 Assault and Violent Crime

Assault and violent crime by its very nature can be difficult to proactively target, particularly in residential properties, however by maximising the opportunity to be in the right place at the right time through high visibility patrols and intelligence led

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Policing we can minimise the impact. In public spaces we have now implemented rapid deployment cameras which has proven effective in the prevention as well as the detection of crime. By deploying CCTV in key strategic areas, the ability to quickly and robustly investigate and detect crime is enhanced. Our focus remains to improve on the perception of crime and make those in our communities not only feel confident to report criminality but feel safer in their local areas in the first instance.

Through regular high visibility patrols, weekend Improving Levenmouth Together deployments and joint working with Safer Communities, we continue to develop our preventative strategy towards prevention of assault and violent crime.

3.4 Road Safety and Road Crime

Road safety and road crime remain a priority Levenmouth.

As a local area, we have executed local road policing action plans and regularly conduct joint operations with our road policing colleagues. The long-term focus is to deploy dedicated officers to prevent and enforce road policing.

There has been a focus on Education, with PC Cartwright delivering Safe Drive Stay Alive presentations to senior pupils at Levenmouth Academy, who are at an age where they will be learning to drive. This is a hard-hitting presentation to raise awareness around a variety of dangers associated with driving and the consequences of poor decision making whilst driving.



3.5 Misuse of Drugs and Alcohol Abuse

We are continuing to work closely with our partners to tackle misuse of drugs and alcohol abuse in the area.

Through our Improving Levenmouth Together programme, we intend on working closely with Health, Education and third sector support agencies, to promote health and wellbeing for young people in the area and tackle those turning to drug and alcohol abuse.

Through enforcement, we are providing our communities with reassurance that drug dealing will not be tolerated. The pro-active nature of our teams at Levenmouth has led to a number of positive results and persons reported to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). This process involves gathering information from the community and partnership working in order to collate an intelligence profile. This evidence is thereafter submitted to the sheriff in order for a decision to be made on the proportionality of a search warrant for addresses/nominals suspected of being involved in the supply of illegal drugs.

Through engagement with DAPL and Clued Up, there is an appetite from Police Scotland to look at prevention of young people and adults engaging in drug and alcohol abuse. Enhanced partnership working and signposting to support agencies, will provide those affected by drug and alcohol abuse, with a wraparound service.

5.0 Working in Partnership – Updates

5.1 Internal and external partnership work continues with focus to support local policing plans and the priorities as detailed in the Plan For Fife, 2017-2027, under the themes of ‘Thriving Places’ and ‘Community Led Services’.

5.2 Improving Levenmouth Together

Improving Levenmouth Together is the initiative to counter anti-social behaviour in partnership with several stakeholders and has evolved into a brand for policing in Levenmouth that is built on collaborative working, which is now being utilised as the concept for the initiatives and projects we are looking to progress. It has also gained recognition throughout the United Kingdom as a blueprint towards collaborative working to tackle various issues in our community.

Improving Levenmouth Together provides a recognisable name for the initiatives and is indicative of the aim. We have developed a number of initiatives over the last year to complement our preventative strategy.

- **Education Engagement Officers**

A second Education Engagement Officer was funded at Levenmouth Academy to increase the engagement with our young people at High School. This has increased our visibility and capability within the school. The focus of this was to support the ongoing work by PC Cartwright but primarily to expand the reach of Levenmouth Academy into the community. PC Rafferty’s role also involves working with the primary school children and ensure their transition to the next stage of their learning is as effective as possible. There is no doubt that this work has had a knock on positive impact to ASB and offending in the community as well as providing additional support to both Education, Local Policing and more importantly the communities of Levenmouth.

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Our Community ward officers work with the Primary Schools in their ward areas to deliver specific inputs in line with the needs of each School. This includes diversity awareness, road safety and responsible behaviour in the community. This engagement is crucial in breaking down the barriers between Police and our young people to build effective relationships.

- **Levenmouth Friday Night Events**

Friday night football continued during this reporting period. This was arranged through Coalfields Regeneration Trust; branded Game on Scotland. SFA coaches through Active Fife are running the activity with Police Officers offering support during each session.

Partner agencies will engage in these activities to interact with young people and provide a wraparound service in terms of the local support services available.

- **Levenmouth Mental Health Initiative**

A mental health initiative was agreed between Fife Health and Social Care Partnership, SAMH, Scottish Ambulance Service, Leven Baptist Church and Police Scotland in 2022. The introduction of an additional provision in Levenmouth has helped complement the existing services and provisions. Sam's Café in Leven, offers provision in the form of drop in and peer support services.

It was felt that further provision was required given the demand in Levenmouth and need to provide the Right Care at the Right Time in the Right Place. Following the creation of a Working Group in 2023 and after data gathering exercises in other area – a further Mental Health Provision in the form of a Mental Health Triage Vehicle has been agreed, to attend and treat people in mental health crisis. This will be facilitated by NHS and Ambulance personnel and will cover Levenmouth as a 6-month pilot from April 2024 – financially supported by the Local Area Committee.

- **Distress Brief Intervention (DBI)**

On 11th December 2023 the Distress Brief Intervention (DBI) programme commenced within NHS Fife. Initially having been trialled in a number of NHS Board areas across Scotland, over the past few years - the Scottish Government has now asked for all Health Boards to implement it. The DBI programme was set up to improve the response to people presenting to frontline services, in distress. Across Scotland it has now provided a key support to over 50,000 people needing help. The service is for aged 16 and over and it offers a fast, compassionate service with comprehensive and intensive counselling offered over 14 days to provide strategies to manage distress and hopefully avoid escalation. To minimise the impact of the roll-out and monitor capacity, it was decided that pilot areas would be implemented, with acute services (A and E) and the Levenmouth area (Police and SAS) being chosen. When fully operational, partner agencies, including Police, SAS, Social Work, GPs etc. become level 1 providers, who after training, are able to refer those in need into the level 2 providers. NHS Fife have contracted Scottish Action for

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Mental Health (SAMH) as the Third Sector level 2 counselling provider. From October 2023 frontline officers in Levenmouth began attending training sessions, which were provided by PC's Lori Chappell and Gill Meldrum, successfully covering all 5 response teams, CIU and Community to allow them to become level 1 providers of this service. This allowed them to make swift referrals to trained Third Sector staff from SAMH—who contact the person within 24- hours of referral and provide community based problem-solving support, wellness, distress management planning, supported connections and signposting. The programme has been well received locally as part of the wider Mental Health public health Policing plans and numerous referrals have already been made by frontline officers. The pilot in Levenmouth has proven what a success this can be across the Division to help reduce repeat calls to Police and help divert demand away from the frontline. The incredible collaboration between our Health and Social care, Emergency Services and third sector colleagues will no doubt enable more persons locally, and across Scotland, to receive the Mental Health support they require – when they need it.

- **Community Trade Hub**

Our collaborative working with the Community Trade Hub has seen us support the Guided Start programme and the Youth Task Force initiative. Both are innovative approaches in engaging young people in learning environments. The concept is to deliver educational environments to deliver training in a variety of trades, catering, hospitality, and horticulture. The projects will engage over 100 young people and provide them with the skills and qualifications to reach a positive destination. This engagement helped to significantly reduce anti-social behaviour during the school holidays as well as in term time. Our Education Engagement Officers assist in delivering the camps during the school holidays.

- **Police Scotland Youth Volunteers - Youth Task Force**

The Levenmouth Youth Task Force concept was established following the successes of the school holiday camps run by the Community Trade Hub. The engagement with young people during these placements has been excellent and a concept which covered all year-round engagement was explored to implement a project in 2023. The Youth Task Force involves a selection of young people who currently attend PSYV, Fire Youth Volunteers, Community Trade Hub and 3rd sector agencies. By bringing a small number from each of these organisations, a core number of young people will be empowered to create a group who will design and manage projects within their community. This will increase engagement with our young people and promote pride in their communities with projects and ideas that matter to the young people. The YTF will be supported by various partners including the Police, Fire Service, CTH, Barnardos and Clued Up.

PSYV Levenmouth continues to be a fantastic initiative, which is co-ordinated by a number of adult volunteers. These volunteers dedicate their time, effort and commitment to meeting the aims and objectives of PSYV, whilst providing youths from diverse backgrounds with an opportunity to develop themselves in a safe and thriving environment. The group continue to operate from Levenmouth Academy every Monday evening with 20 Youth Volunteers and 12 Adult Volunteers within the group.

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The group have been running for nearly six years and have achieved the PSYV Silver Award, which is an absolutely fantastic achievement and testament to the hard work and dedication of the volunteers and the young people. One of the local events completed by the PSYV this year was a breakfast with Santa. A free breakfast, open to all, with particular tailoring towards vulnerable families at a time where finances are already stretched.

- **CCTV Cameras**

After funding was sought from LAC for the purchase and installation of new CCTV units for Levenmouth, the reporting period has seen 6 solar CCTV units installed in hot spot areas across Levenmouth to assist in the prevention and detection of anti-social behaviour as well as crimes of violence and dishonesty. There are 3 cameras installed in each of the wards so there is shared equity over our 2 areas. The quality of the footage is excellent, particularly during the hours of darkness and have proved instrumental in the detection of several serious crimes.

- **Levenmouth Retail Crime Initiative**

This initiative was launched in 2018 with all retail and commercial premises visited by local officers. Store architectural surveys and staff training on retail crime prevention and offender de-escalation were carried out.

A Retail Watch contact list was also created with contact made via email and telephone. This communication tool allows the local police to contact everyone in the town centre area with up-to-date advice and warnings in respect of crime trends, crime prevention techniques and offers of support regarding personal safety and crime prevention. This is a two-way communication tool which will allow premise owners and staff to contact the police with questions and concerns. The scheme was supported with high visibility corporate signage and window stickers.

- **Elderly and Vulnerable group engagement**

Between October 2022 and March 2023, PC Rafferty was deployed as an Engagement Officer to work with the vulnerable and elderly generation in our community. The role was funded by the LAC and involved visiting the warm spaces in Levenmouth, providing safety advice and reassurance to those in attendance. We have continued with engagement events to ensure we are accessible as well as delivering crime prevention advice. The positive results gained led to the expansion of the ASB role to full-time to include the ability to carry out this work moving forward 2024-2027.

The Forget Me Not day was just one example of our engagement events, where 90 people from the Levenmouth area were in attendance. A meal was prepared and served by our PSYV group and those in attendance had direct access to various partner agencies who all offered their expertise in a variety of topics.



- **Forecourt watch**

Forecourt Watch is a crime reduction partnership initiative designed to meet the requirements of both police and fuel retailers within Levenmouth. It ensures that police, oil companies and fuel retailer's work together to meet agreed crime reduction objectives while reducing demands on police resources. It targets multiple offenders and introduces tested procedures to minimise retailer losses. In areas where Forecourt Watch schemes operate, research shows that associated crime can be reduced by more than 50%.

6.0 Public Engagement – Updates

6.1 Public engagement remains key to providing reassurance and confidence in the local police.

6.2 Below is a summary of our engagement over the reporting period;

- Primary School / Nursery Engagement
- Levenmouth Academy – Continued Engagement / Safety Inputs
- Fife College, Levenmouth Campus - Continued Engagement / Safety Inputs
- PSYV Deployments – Fundraising for foodbanks
- Local Events
- Elected Members Engagement
- Community Council Meetings
- Ward Meetings
- Levenmouth Forecourt Watch
- Pop Up Surgeries
- Sheltered Housing Engagement (Drop Ins)
- Crime Prevention Surveys – Business / Residential
- After Dark Campaign – Winter Home Security
- Rural Watch
- Social Media Engagement (Twitter - 13,300 Followers).

6.3 Below is a summary of our additional planned engagement;

- Monthly Engagement – Community Council Chairpersons
- PSYV Deployments – Foot Patrols
- Supervisors walking the beat.
- Educational engagement with Primary and Secondary schools.

- Improving Levenmouth Together Initiatives
- Retail Crime Initiative
- Pub Watch Initiative

7.0 Licensed premises

- 7.1 Licensed premises are subject to Red, Amber and Green (RAG) grading system, which highlights specific premises that, for a variety of reasons, have come to the notice of the police. The definition of the three RAG categories is as outlined below:
1. **Red** - Problematic Premises (highest grading)
 2. **Amber** - Premises subject to formal intervention (subject to some form of monitoring & intervention where appropriate), and
 3. **Green** - Monitored Premises – (all reported incidents)
- 7.2 There are no licensed premises within Levenmouth requiring intervention at this time.
- 7.3 All incidents and crimes occurring within or linked to licensed premises are the subject of a licensed premises report. This allows us to continually monitor the management of premises and assess whether enhanced measures are required. Regular contact with our colleagues in Licensing allows for any issues to be highlighted at an early stage, action taken and resolved before its allowed to escalate.
- 7.4 Our in-depth liaison with partners and robust management of licenced premises and positive engagement with our licensees though “Pub Watch” and similar allows a clear message to be sent to those intent on disorder that Police action will be robust and her directed patrols, which involves high visibility patrols, visits and checks of our licenced premises.
- 7.5 Our work to engage with a “Pub Watch” scheme has proven successful where licensed premises and our partner agencies focus on preventing criminality and explore further positive engagement with our communities. Integrating into this has allowed for the relevant partnership working and information sharing when appropriate. The positive relationship gained during the COVID pandemic remains our focus maximising ongoing engagement for the future.

8.0 On the Horizon – Significant matters ahead

- 8.1 Our priorities require clear focus and the deployment of resources to address community concerns. This requires considerable investment across all sectors as we

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look to implement, short, medium and long term strategies to provide reassurance and maintain public confidence in service provision. Locally we continue to expand the ILT initiative and joint approach to the Mental Health provision in the Levenmouth area, ensuring that the Ambulance Mental Health Car is implemented smoothly.

- 8.2 Seasonal trends are acknowledged and we are prepared for what we would expect to see over the winter months, with particular focus upon -
- Acquisitive Crime
 - Antisocial Behaviour
 - Violent Crime
 - Substance Misuse
 - Road Safety

As the effects of the ongoing financial crisis develop, there is likely to be an associated rise in crimes of dishonesty and the clear correlation between that and those struggling to make ends meet. With this will be the requirement for Officers in contact with vulnerable members of our society to be able to signpost accordingly.

- 8.3 We continue to seek new and innovative ways to improve upon our prevention, intervention and enforcement activities, through shared learning of best practice and the support from our well-established partnerships. As the new Levenmouth Rail project gathers pace, liaison with partners will increase accordingly, ensuring that local Policing provides support at all stages. Diversifying our approach with the purchase of electric cycles supported by the LAC, was a small option for improving our intervention capacity and access to the more rural areas of the ward areas such as the proposed rail network particularly during construction.
- 8.4 We also continue to seek further networking opportunities with a focus on keeping those who live, work and visit our area safe and prioritising diversion schemes to deal with offending at the core and include a prevention strategy.
- 8.5 We have seen the opening of the Improving Levenmouth Together hub at the Greig Institute building in the heart of Leven this year. The change of premises allowed enhanced engagement and further develop the partnership-working environment that currently exists with Fifer's for the Community and Safer communities. A new premises near to the new Rail Link is in the pipeline for 2024 which will allow the partnership working to evolve further.
- 8.6 What is absolutely crucial at a time of positive investment in the Levenmouth area is early and ongoing Police engagement with partners responsible for the development of the River Leven and new railway link. With this comes a widespread implementation of active travel routes and public spaces, however ever mindful of the potential for ASB, crime and the fear of crime, Police and other agencies such as Safer Communities, will work together directly to ratify plans in the development stage to ensure that all steps are taken from the outset to minimise disruption to the communities of Levenmouth. Part of the local management strategy will be to monitor the impact of the new infrastructure and implement change of focus as required – feeding back to the Local Area Committee as required.

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8.7 The Community Policing Team is as follows;

Chief Inspector Chris Dow	-	Local Area Commander
Inspector Matt Spencer	-	Community Inspector
Sergeant Craig Fyall	-	Community Sergeant
Constable Gordon Latto	-	Ward 21 Community Constable
Constable Liam Tarvit	-	Ward 21 Community Constable
Constable Gill Meldrum	-	Ward 22 Community Constable
Constable Neil Murray	-	Ward 22 Community Constable
Constable Richard Cartwright	-	Education Liaison / PSYV Levenmouth
Constable Colin Rafferty	-	Education Liaison / Youth Task Force
Constable Bradley Latto	-	ILT Engagement Officer

Members are invited to note and comment on the content of this report as per the recommendations made at the front of the report.

Report Contact

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Levenmouth Area Commander
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21 August 2024

Agenda Item No.6

Safer Communities Team Update Report

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

Wards Affected: Wards 21 and 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide elected members with an update on the operational activity of the Safer Communities Team within the Levenmouth committee area during the 12 month period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

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 this report presents an update on the activity of the Safer Communities Team. No policy or funding changes are being proposed that are likely to have an impact on equality groups.

Consultation

Consultation has taken place with community safety partner agencies.

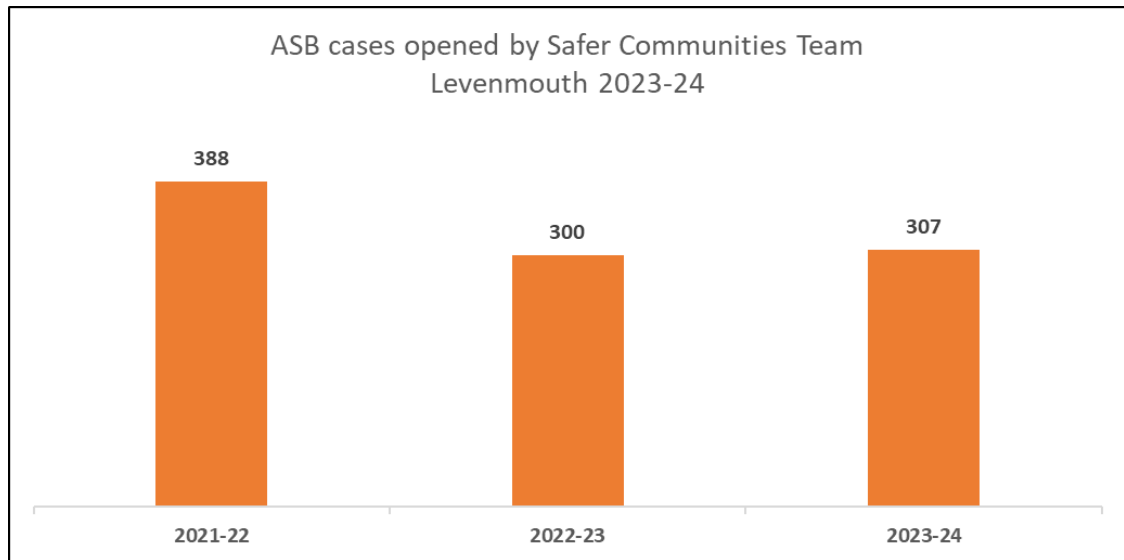
1.0 Background

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update elected members on the activity of the Safer Communities Team (SCT) within this committee area during the financial year 2023-24.
- 1.2. This report sits alongside individual updates from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). It should be noted that the three core agencies (Police Scotland, SFRS and Fife Council's SCT) may comment on work carried out *in partnership* with each other and other agencies but cannot comment specifically on work carried out independently by other services.
- 1.3. Some information may be included on Fife-wide activity to raise awareness of the range of activities which may be of interest to members and their constituents.
- 1.4. Each activity is categorised as either People or Place focussed.

2.0 People Focussed Activity

- 2.1. Our Fife Cares service received 70 referrals in relation to **home safety advice**, a decrease on the number received in the previous year (85 referrals).
- 2.2. All clients were contacted and 69 opted to receive a home visit.
- 2.3. Work has been ongoing by officers to promote the service and to raise awareness of the benefits it can deliver to vulnerable households.
- 2.4. The majority of home safety referrals (68) related to requests for tailored home safety advice specifically for families with children under five years of age, with the remainder for home safety advice for vulnerable adults.
- 2.5. Health Visitors were the main source of home safety referrals for child safety (36), whilst the remainder come from a variety of other sources such as Homestart, Housing Officers and other NHS Services.
- 2.6. Home safety referrals in relation to vulnerable adults were received from Police Scotland.
- 2.7. The Fife Cares service also provides **home security advice** under the Safe, Secure and Supported at Home initiative. Referrals in this area decreased slightly during 2023-24 (65) compared to the previous year (78).
- 2.8. Safe Secure and Supported at Home referrals were mainly received from Police Scotland (36), but also from other sources such as Fife Women's Aid, Victim Support, Social Work and Housing Services.
- 2.9. **Fife Community Safety Support Service (FCSSS)** is funded by the Safer Communities Team to provide support and/or mediation to those experiencing, or involved in, antisocial behaviour in a private space setting. The service received 44 referrals, an increase of 11 on the previous year.
- 2.10. Of the referrals received by FCSSS, 30 involved some form of mediation between the parties involved, although all were provided emotional and/or practical support. Appendix 1 provides examples of feedback received by FCSSS plus some additional information on the service.
- 2.11. The Safer Communities Team is Fife Council's single point of contact for all cases of **private space antisocial behaviour (ASB)**.
- 2.12. The team opened 307 ASB cases in this area during 2023-24, a slight increase on the previous year (300). The following graph shows the number of private

space ASB cases opened by the Team in this committee area over the past three years:



2.13 Of the 307 cases opened in 2023-24, 272 were resolved before 31st March 2024, with (247) 91% of these being resolved within locally agreed timescales. Please see table 1 below for timescales involved and appendix 2 for the Scottish Housing Regulator’s definition of resolved cases.

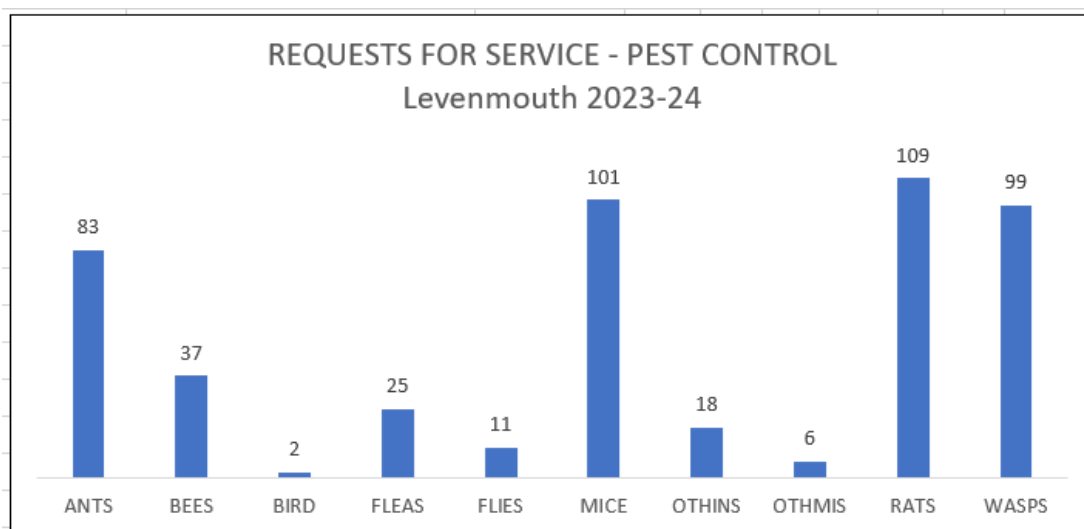
Table1: Locally Agreed Timescales for Antisocial Behaviour Cases

Category	Target timescale: Initial contact - complainer	Target timescale: Resolution
Extreme	1 working day	12 months
Serious	3 working days	6 months
General	5 working days	2 months

2.14 Of the 272 cases opened and subsequently closed during 2023-24, 151 were closed following appropriate advice being provided; 60 warnings were issued; 49 cases were investigated, relevant action taken and then subsequently referred to another service (such as FCSSS) for further suitable action; 19 cases were referred to another service; and 12 cases were closed following either the complainer or the perpetrator moving.

2.15 Our **Pest Control** officers responded to 491 requests for service in this area, compared to 381 in the previous year.

2.16 The top three pests reported in this area were in relation to rats (109), followed by mice (101) and wasps (99). The full number and type of pests dealt with are depicted in the following chart:



- 2.17 A slight increase in the number of **stray dogs** received by the Safer Communities Dog Wardens was noted on the previous year (26 compared with 22 in 2022-23). All 26 dogs were microchipped, but only 13 reflected the correct details of their owner. 19 dogs were subsequently claimed/returned to their owner and the remaining seven dogs were passed to an animal charity for assessment prior to being rehomed. Officers continue to raise awareness of the importance of microchipping and the legislation in force.
- 2.18 Safer Communities Project Officers have continued their **Dog Watch** initiative, a project aimed at commercial dog walkers across Fife, which began in 2019 albeit with a break during the pandemic. This project aims to encourage commercial dog walkers who use Fife's parks and greenspaces to sign up to a voluntary scheme and register their details with the Council. By complying with the criteria within the scheme, commercial dog walkers can:
- reduce their impact on local parks and other users
 - set a good example to other dog walkers
 - deliver a safe and quality service for their customers.
- 2.19 The wider public benefit of Dog Watch is in knowing that those dog walkers who have signed up to the scheme have been individually inspected and are demonstrating a willingness to respond to guidelines. In 2023-24, a total of 17 dog walkers have joined the scheme, one of whom is from this area.
- 2.20 During 2022-23, in response to an increased number of reports of dog attacks on sheep, a partnership response was co-ordinated by SCT to engage with members of the public and to provide awareness of the importance of keeping dogs on the lead and under control, particularly during lambing season. Due to the level of interest and positive feedback, SCT co-ordinated further events during 2023-24 at which a wide variety of partners were involved including Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, Forestry Commission, National Sheep Association, SSPCA (Scottish Society Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), PARC (Partnership against Rural Crime), Police Scotland. The events were organised to raise awareness at a crucial time in the lambing season with the aim of helping to prevent further attacks on livestock and wildlife across Fife.
- 2.21 The Fife Community Safety Partnership has recently reinvigorated the Road Casualty Reduction Group, in which officers from Safer Communities Team are involved. Our Project Officers provided a number of **Road Safety** initiatives which covered the whole life spectrum from birth onwards (see appendix 3 for road safety activities focussed on each life stage).

- 2.22 Whilst many campaigns and events were delivered to a Fife-wide audience and held in more central venues, the following were delivered specifically in this area:
- Junior Road Safety Officers (2 schools – 12 pupils)
 - Safe Drive Stay Alive (1 school – 230 pupils).
- 2.23 Appendix 4 provides additional information about the range of road safety initiatives involving the Safer Communities Team in 2023-24.
- 2.24 Officers from the Safer Communities Team support the Fife Water Safety Group, which is a working group set up under the Fife Community Safety Partnership's Reducing Harm priority). During 2022-23, our officers attended the Train the Trainer for **Waterside Responders Course**, and they are working with RNLI to set up a course in 2023-24 for local businesses. The aim is to have local responders on hand in areas where water safety issues may occur.
- 2.25 Our officers also identified the gap for an emergency first aid and water safety course for **Wild and Open Water Swimmers**. SCT officers will work with RNLI to create a suitable course to offer to these groups during 2023-24.
- 2.26 Our **Youth Justice Officers** received 40 referrals about young people in this area from the Youth Offender Management Group (YOMG) during 2023-24, which is a slight increase on the previous year (35 referrals). In addition to this, they also support individual young people on a one-to-one basis, who have referred to them via Levenmouth Academy, tailoring the approach required depending on the needs of the young person.
- 2.27 During 2023-24, the YJOs have also been involved in the following partnership events in this area:

In partnership with Clued-Up and Levenmouth Academy, the YJOs facilitated a 'healthy body healthy mind group'. This group focused on young people that aren't engaging in mainstream education for a 12-week program to work on physical health and exploring mental health as well as healthy eating.

The YJO's worked with Clued-Up to deliver a transition group input for Levenmouth Academy cluster primaries. This group focused on young people 'at risk' of offending behaviour and involved safety planning within the community, how to keep safe as well as visits to Kirkcaldy Fire Station and Methil Police Station to meet with the people that help keep the community safe.

In March, the YJOs delivered a Fireskills course within the Levenmouth area. This course is aimed at young people that have encountered the youth justice system or are on the periphery of offending behaviour. The purpose is to enhance core skills, such as citizenship, awareness of health and safety, confidence and communication, problem solving, self-discipline, team working and an understanding of the role the Fire Service and other agencies play in the community. The young people spent a week working with the Fire Service, YJOs, Police and other partners. At the end of the week, they deliver an outstanding presentation to family, friends and the partners showcasing the skills learned.

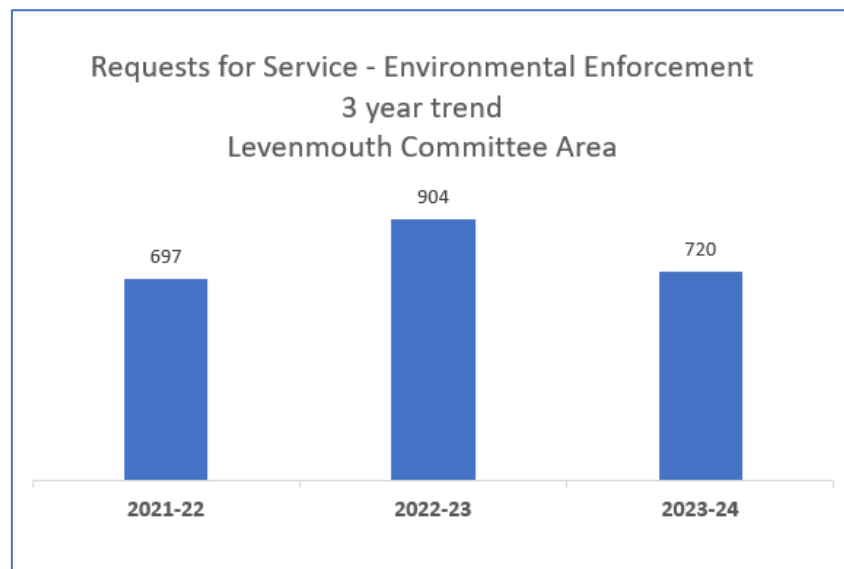
The YJOs deliver the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) to Levenmouth Academy focusing on senior pupils. This is a peer education program that provides young people with the language and framework to challenge the attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms that underpin gender-based violence, bullying and other forms of abuse, while building resilience and promoting positive mental health. In addition to the inputs, the YJO's have become trained

trainers for the MVP training and have also delivered capacity building sessions for active schools staff.

2.28 Appendix 5 provides more information about our youth justice activities during 2023-24.

3.0 Place Focussed Activity

3.1 In terms of **environmental enforcement** issues, 720 requests for service were received for this area during 2023-24, compared to 904 in 2022-23 and 697 in 2021-22. The following graph shows comparative figures for the past three years:



3.2 Appendix 6 provides data showing the number of reports per type of Environmental Enforcement over the past three years.

3.3 Our Safer Communities Officers (SCOs) carried out 2684 patrols in this area over the reporting period, a similar amount to the previous year (2793 patrols). The patrols have covered a variety of community issues, including public space antisocial behaviour, dog fouling, youth issues, fire raising, noise, vandalism, motorbike vehicle misuse, littering, illegal dumping, derelict building monitoring and partnership working. Support referrals, intelligence and requests came from a number of sources including, but not limited to, public reporting, police, fire and housing colleagues, elected members, social work, education and various partnership meetings.

3.4 The Safer Communities Team link in with other partners on a monthly basis at our private and public space hub meetings. The public space meeting has representatives including Police, Fire, Clued-Up, Includem, Community Learning and Development and Education. At this meeting all partners share intelligence and discuss any issues that may be arising and arrange a joint plan of action if necessary. This meeting and any outcomes then feed into the Improving Levenmouth Together meeting held monthly. The private space meeting involves Housing, Police and Safer Communities and we discuss all private space ASB issues to ensure an effective partnership approach.

3.5 Joint patrols with partners are conducted regularly to assist in any ongoing issues in this area. Safer Communities Officers work very closely and

proactively with Police colleagues and share intelligence information and where necessary, arrange joint working to tackle and combat the issues presented in the Levenmouth area. Alongside this, we also work and link in with other colleagues and partners such as Fire, Clued-Up, and Community Learning Development.

- 3.6 Safer Communities Officers have attended many events over the last year including Tenants and Residents meetings, Community Councils, galas and community events. Officers also actively support the work of the Community Trade Hub and work alongside them to provide equipment and support for community litter picks.
- 3.7 In March, Safer Communities Officers were asked to mentor a group of pupils from Levenmouth Academy working to achieve their Duke of Edinburgh award. We provided the equipment and appropriate PPE for the pupils to carry out litter picks within the local area and also acted as their mentors, supporting them to help clean up parts of Levenmouth.
- 3.8 Officers have also linked in with local primary schools to educate the children on dog fouling and littering. An input on dog fouling and littering was delivered to Methilhill Primary School and a poster competition was carried out in Buckhaven Primary School. The winning posters were then made into signs and proudly displayed in the local area, helping to educate members of the public about dog fouling. Officers will be looking to link in with more schools in the coming year.

4.0 Campaigns and Events

- 4.1. Team members are normally involved in a variety of **events** throughout each year. Due to its success during the pandemic and in subsequent years, we continued to utilise our **social media** platforms to convey the community safety message to the residents of Fife. We provided information, advice, and assistance on a number of different campaigns. We attracted over 10,780 followers on Facebook during 2023-24 and, overall, we reached an audience of over 1,112,209 people across Fife. See appendix 7 for further information.
- 4.2. In order to keep up to date with forthcoming events and activities co-ordinated by the Safer Communities Team or shared by the Team on behalf of partner agencies, members are invited to 'like' our Facebook page **Safer Communities Fife** or follow us on Twitter **@safeinfife**.

5.0 Conclusions

- 5.1 This report provides members with information on the wide range of safer communities' activity being undertaken in this committee area, in line with local priorities and emerging issues, and in partnership with other community safety organisations.

List of Appendices

- Appendix 1 - FCSSS – further information on Fifewide services (2023-24)
- Appendix 2 - Scottish Housing Regulator Guidance – ASB (issued March 2023)
- Appendix 3 - Road Safety timeline
- Appendix 4 - Road Safety initiatives
- Appendix 5 - Youth Justice activity

Appendix 6 - Environmental Enforcement – three-year trend data by type
Appendix 7 - Safer Communities Team Facebook page information
Appendix 8 – Safer Communities Officer

Report Contact

Sara Gray

Safer Communities Lead Officer

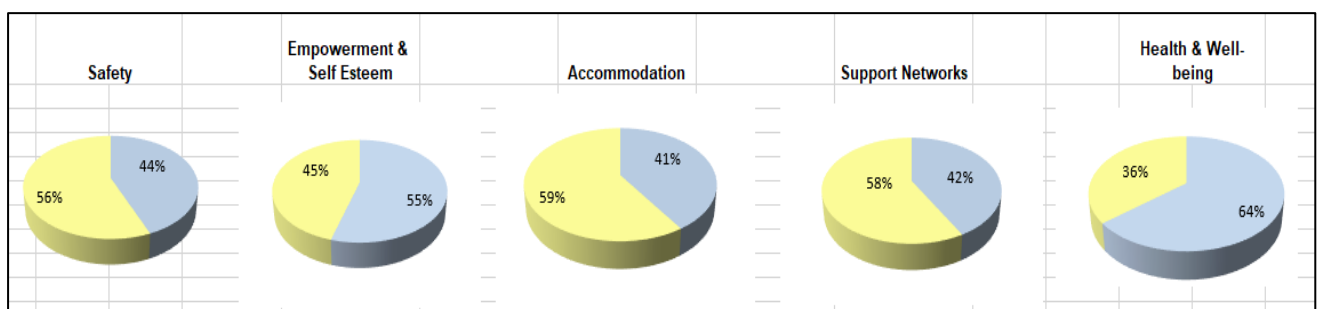
Bankhead, Glenrothes

Telephone: 01592 583642

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FCSSS - Further information on Fifewide services (2023-24)

- The majority of referrals were responded to within 2 working days (99%).
- The majority of referrals were received from the Safer Communities Team (75%).
- Complaints about noise were most common (43%), followed by issues to do with clashes of lifestyle (16%).
- A total of 499 households were involved with FCSSS during 2023-24.
- Outcomes in relation to support cases are measured using the Empowerment Star assessment tool, where clients feedback on how their involvement with FCSSS has affected five different areas of their lives. The following diagram shows that improvements were made in all areas, but specifically Empowerment and Self Esteem and also Health and Wellbeing:



Examples of customer feedback:

Do you think there have been positive changes to your life since taking part in the Service?

- *"It's been amazing, 100% positive changes"*.
- *"You've been a great help and please don't under estimate the support and comfort I felt from the telephone calls I received on a regular basis. The advise and guidance was very much appreciated and it was good even just having someone to talk too"*
- *"I have been able to cope with ongoing issues and feel like I know what I need to do to change my life for the better. I just need energy to do it now"*.

What did FCSSS do well?

- *"Made me feel comfortable, didn't feel discriminated against, helped me immensely kept me calm, I felt believed. Kept to your word. Also kept in touch on a regular basis which felt immensely needed during emotional trauma that I went through. Also exceptionally helpful. Without the help, I don't think I would have got where I am. I don't think I would have made it."*
- *"I felt respected and Mary called when she said she would and kept appointments unlike other organisations"*.

- *"Listened to my neighbour and personal issues and helped me to put things into perspective".*
- *"I was well supported through a difficult time with my neighbour and having health issues at the time and the regular contact with Sean was a great comfort knowing someone was helping".*
- *During the process a local councillor took an interest and was happy with Sean's support to Party A, who stated to the councillor she was appreciative for the help. Party A informed Sean that she has now had support/visits from the council with the rubbish issue.*
- *Feedback from Referrer - "Tam, this is fantastic work, what a great suggestion (come and meet the dog). Thank you for the update and the continued support of which you provide, it is very beneficial to us and to the Service Users".*

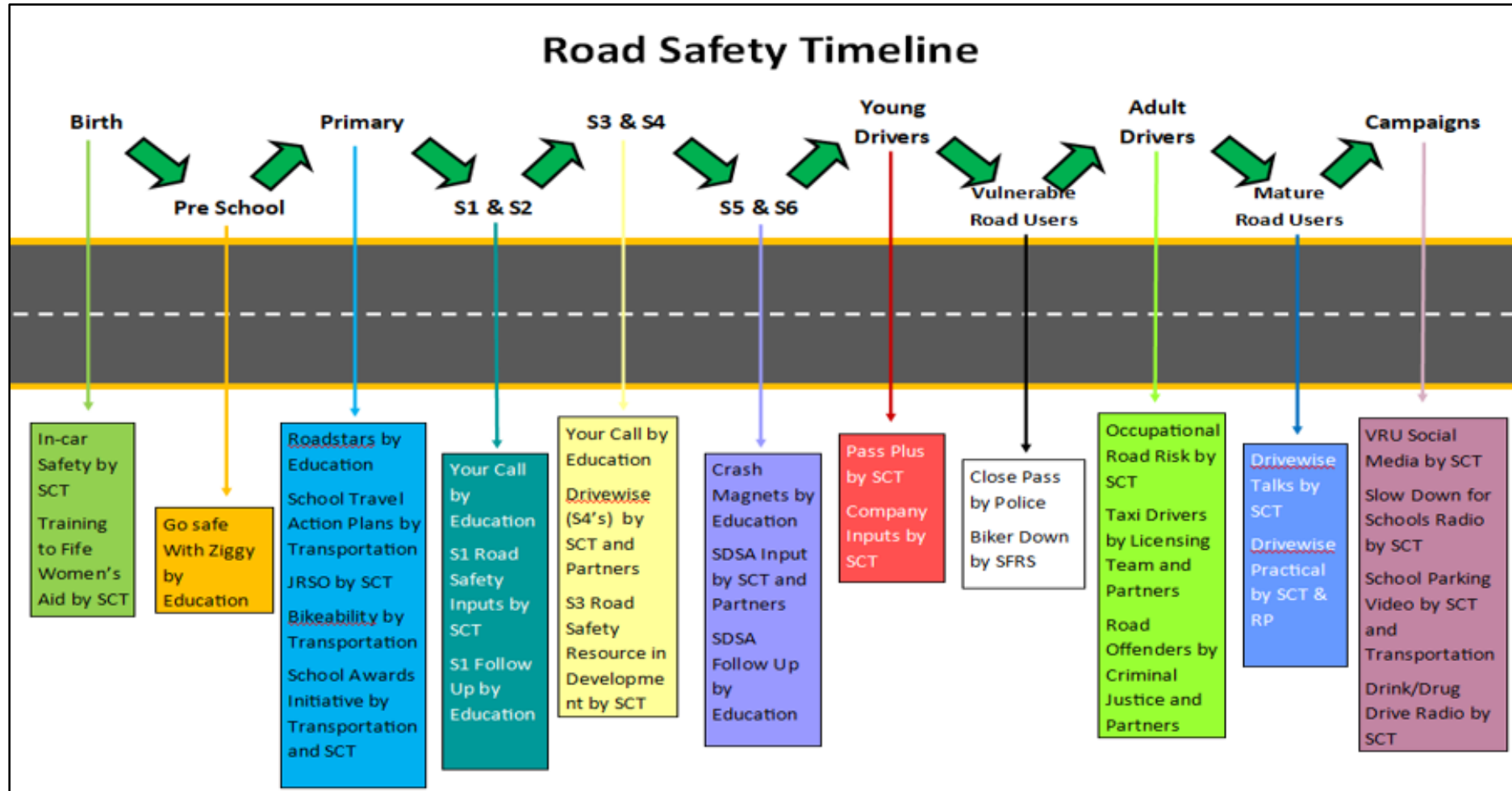
What could FCSSS do better?

- *"Nothing"*
- *No further comments re this question received.*

Scottish Housing Regulator Guidance for Landlords (March 2023)

Antisocial Behaviour

<p>Indicator</p> <p>15</p> <p>(Updated)</p>	<p><i>Percentage of anti-social behaviour cases reported in the last year which were resolved.</i></p> <p>(i) Number of cases of anti-social behaviour reported in the last year.</p> <p>Of those at (i):</p> <p>(ii) Number of cases resolved in the last year.</p>
<p>Definition</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where the landlord has taken appropriate measures, as set out in its ASB policies and procedures, to address the cause of the anti-social behaviour complaint and has advised the complainant of the outcome; or • where the landlord does not have the authority or powers to resolve, and it has provided a full explanation of the landlord's position to the complainant. <p>A Case</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A case is opened when a tenant or service user reports an incident of ASB to their landlord. • A case can be made up of a single report/complaint of ASB; or • Multiple reports/complaints about the same party, made whilst a case is still ongoing. Such further reports/complaints would not be counted as a further new case. • Once a case is resolved and a further report/complaint of ASB is received, this should be treated as a new case.



Road Safety Initiatives

In Car Safety

Clinics – We continue to hold child car seat clinics during the warmer months and during 2023-24 we tried some different venues. Some have worked and some were not so successful.



Pull Overs – With Road Police we held a pull over clinic at Kirkcaldy Prom. These are always very successful and busy with 28 cars being stopped and checked. More have been planned for 2024/25.

Individual Checks – These are carried out on an ad hoc basis for individuals who contact us.

Partnerships – This year we have worked more with SFRS service, who have also had full training, to deliver clinics. In 2024/25 we will be holding clinics at each of the main Fire Stations. We will continue to work with Road Police on the pull over clinics.



Training – Staff in SCT have attended a nationally funded 2 day course to ensure that they are up to date with training. We have also been able to share our knowledge with Fife Women's Aid to help them with feeling confident with carrying children in their vehicles.

Primary

JRSO Initiative – Our team continue to support the Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) initiative across all Fife Schools. During this financial year we have visited 28 primary schools to help establish JRSO's within their schools. The area breakdown for these schools is as follows (other schools are continuing to run the programme but have not needed our assistance to set up this year).

JRSO Conference – In May Safer Communities teamed up with Transportations Active Travel Team to run a JRSO conference. We invited all schools who had both JRSO's and and Active Travel Plan along to Rothes Halls for a fun but educational event all based around road safety and active travel. The day proved a great success with 100 pupils attending.



Individual School Inputs – Our team is unable to deliver individual inputs to all schools but we will react if there is a specific issue at a school. In this instance Falkland Primary had a road traffic incident involving a pupil and along with Police Scotland we attended to deliver assembly inputs to P1-P3 and P4-P7

Secondary

S1 Talks – Our project officers have continued to carry out S1 talks within the Kirkcaldy area, as we cannot provide this input to all schools we looked to where our resources are needed most and this area has the highest number of statistical evidence for need for inputs. In 23/24 we carried out 10 class talks to 225 S1 Pupils at Kirkcaldy HS. The school guidance staff are also left an additional resource that we encourage they use as a follow up session to generate more discussion.

S3 Project with Kirkcaldy HS – We were approached by the Guidance team in Kirkcaldy HS to help them create a suitable road safety resource that will engage their S3 pupils. We worked with them on this and they are currently trialling it with their pupils.

Fife Pupil Support – SCT were invited back in to Fife Pupil Support Service to deliver a road safety input based around passenger behaviour to this challenging group of pupils. Discussion is also in place to deliver an input to their younger S1/S2 pupils

Safe Drive Stay Alive

Inputs and follow Up Resource – We have now fully moved the SDSA programme away from Rothes Halls and are taking the input directly to each school. This is still a partnership project but is led and co-ordinated by Safer Communities. All 18 high schools were offered the SDSA input and again this year we also delivered to St Leonard's Private School in St Andrews. A total of 2480 pupils received the input.

We have also produced a follow up resource for the guidance staff to use within following PSE classes. This enables the teachers to gain discussion with the pupils.

College

Princes Trust – Fife College in Dunfermline are now requesting us in to deliver a road safety input to their Prince's Trust Course. During this financial year we have delivered 3 inputs to 3 separate groups covering 33 students. Dunfermline have also recommended us to the Glenrothes campus who run a similar course.

New Drivers

Pass Plus - We continue to support and fund new drivers to gain additional driving knowledge and experience. This financial year we have held 5 online courses with a total of 16 new drivers attending. This project continues to have support from a Fife Road Policing officer. Numbers are not high in this project as funding is limited.

Road Traffic Offenders

Course – This 5 week course is run by Criminal Justice but we are invited to present an input during week 1 and then present SDSA in week 5. This financial year two courses have taken place with 26 participants from across Fife.

New Project – Criminal Justice contacted us about developing a new resource for Fife residents who they need to work with but are not in the system long enough to attend one of the above courses. We developed an input that their staff could deliver on a 1:1 basis and delivered this training to 12 Criminal Justice staff.

Driving For Work

Taxi Drivers - The Taxi Driver course had not run since early 2020 due to covid but started up again in April 2023. The course is organised by Fife Council Licensing Team, and we are an invited speaker. Safer Communities presents a generic road safety input and so far in this financial year we have attended 21 courses and delivered to 872 taxi drivers. The numbers for this are high due to the course not being run for a couple of years and then once started they ran weekly. They are now up to date and being run once a month as previously done.

Kingdom Housing – SCT were invited in by Kingdom Housing to deliver a road safety occupational road risk input to their new Grounds Maintenance staff. These are inputs that are carried out every so often when they have an influx of new staff.

DM Crombie Event – We hosted a stall/workstation at this event to chat to staff about all issues regarding road safety.

Fife NHS – We were recommended by Road Safety Scotland to the Fife Health and Social Care Partnership. We are currently in talks about a project for staff who need to drive for work. We hope to have something in place during 2024-25.

Older Drivers

Talks – We currently offer talks to older groups about how to stay driving safely for longer. This financial year we have given 5 talks to around 141 individuals from across Fife.

Practical Days – In 2022 we introduced the new Drivewise 65+ days. This is a practical session for older drivers who attend a venue and go on a drive observed by a Road Policing officer. They are then given hints and tips to help keep them safe and driving for longer. We held three events during the 2023-24 financial year, with 28 individuals from across Fife attending. The following links provide an explanation of the events:

Drivewise 65+ Events in Kirkcaldy - https://youtu.be/_ygiz_n8q0Q

Drivewise 65+ Event in Cupar - <https://youtu.be/Njp80vPMfyA>

Older Driver Events – In partnership with Road Police and SFRS we attended at three venues across Fife to speak to Older Drivers about driving safer for longer and to carry out quick eye sight checks. Across the three events we spoke to around 140 people. More events are being planned for later this year.



Events

Family Fun Day @ Lochore Meadows – In partnership with Transportations Bikeability Officer, we held a family fun day event at Lochore Meadows in July. Along with partners from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service we put on a number of fun events including various bikes to trial and orienteering. Despite the weather we had a good turn out from local people.



Radio Campaigns

We formed a partnership with Fife Ford in Dec 2022 and as part of this they are funding our radio campaigns for Slow Down for Schools, Winter Driving and some other subjects outside of road safety.

Slow Down for Schools – We produced this radio campaign to encourage drivers to think about their speed when they are driving near to schools when the pupils are starting and finishing. The messages were recorded by safer Communities staff and Police Scotland and the campaign ran when the schools started back in August.

Slow Down for Schools Video - <https://youtu.be/0XULfslmkxs>

Drunk and Drug Driving – This radio campaign was aired during the summer months and to coincide with the national police drink/drug driving campaign. Again, messages were written and recorded by Safer Communities staff and road policing officers. A video was also created to promote these messages.

Drink/Drug Driving Video - <https://youtu.be/Wm539rRIKg4>

Winter Driving - This radio campaign was produced and run in December to coincide with the national police Scotland winter driving campaign. Again, messages were written and recorded by Safer Communities staff and road policing officers. A video was also created to promote these messages.

Winter Driving Video - <https://youtu.be/ulPoGDTT1mQ>

Youth Justice activities

This year we've been involved in supporting/delivering/facilitating the following:

- Developed a **bullying input** with Police which has been delivered at Kirkcaldy HS x2, Viewforth and Wade.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour inputs** at Balwearie HS, Wade, Inverkeithing HS, Queen Anne HS, Pebbles Academy, Lumphinnans PS, Pitreavie PS, St Leonards PS, Easy P at the Maxwell Centre,
- **High School transition** event for Inverkeithing Primary School as well Levenmouth Academy cluster groupwork with Clued-Up.
- **Diversifire** at Kirkcaldy and Methil.
- **Punch Beyond** diversion at Lochgelly High School.
- Leading with the **F24** program at Auchmuty High – resulted in two groups now and Glenrothes HS as well as a Goblin kit car at Warout PS.
- Leading a **Park Gowf** diversion in Kirkcaldy in partnership with Fife Golf Trust and Dunnikeir Golf Club.
- Supporting Clued-Up's '**Healthy Body Healthy Mind**' group.
- Supporting Barnardo's and Clued Up with **summer groupwork** sessions.
- Involved in response to **youth ASB** in Cupar, Dunfermline, Rosyth, Inverkeithing and Glenrothes (supporting Clued-Up, Cupar Youth Café and CLD partners).
- Co facilitating **Ask/Tell Suicide Prevention** training with Fife Health and Social Care Partnership and **Under Pressure Training** with VAWP.
- Become trained trainers for the **Mentors in Violence Prevention** training, supported sessions at Levenmouth Academy, Glenwood HS, Kirkcaldy High as well as facilitated capacity building sessions for staff.

We have also supported identified young people individually and in groups at the following schools:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| • Inverkeithing HS | • Glenrothes HS |
| • Woodmill HS | • Levenmouth Academy |
| • St Columba's | • Bell Baxter |
| • Auchmuty HS, | • Beath HS |
| • Madras College | • Queen Anne HS |
| • Lochgelly HS | • Kirkcaldy HS. |
| • Glenwood HS | |

YJOs are part of the following initiatives:

- Fife Suicide Prevention Network
- Violence Against Woman Partnership,
- Secondary Support Multiagency/SLG,
- YAP Group.

YJOs on the Spot

Questions asked and answered:

Why did you get involved in an event/project?

We attend regular meetings such as YOMG, youth work meetings, strategy groups, MVP strategy group amongst others, as a result of attending these meetings it identifies opportunities to offer support.

Who asked for your help?

Partners such as Education, Police Scotland and SFRS. Other third sector partners we have approached directly, for support with their expertise, such as BRAG with their F24 experience or Barnardo's to support summer programs with inputs.

What partnership working took place?

In partnership with the Young Auchmuty Project (YAP) and the School Nursing Service we worked on a 'Bloomin Marvellous' project with Warout PS and Police, where the young people helped out with creating an enjoyable 'wellbeing' space for Police in Glenrothes. Each week, Sgt McCabe also arranged for the young people to learn about the Police dogs, and meeting officers as well as the vehicles used in incidents. The project culminated in the young people inviting family members to the Police HQ for a presentation and celebration in the gardens.

What was the outcome?

It's difficult to measure an outcome for preventative work however, we aim to provide an opportunity for young people to be educated and supported in a way that allows them to gain insight and understanding about the impact of anti-social behaviour in their local community, as well as knowledge about supportive agencies.

The following photos are from some of the various projects mentioned above:

“Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds” – with Clued-Up in the Levenmouth area



“Session with Graeme Donaldson Katie Maxwell on the youth justice system followed by an Unreal bootcamp today with Bcpfit Scotland hardest I’ve seen you all work!!! Don’t think il manage the stairs tomorrow Only 3 weeks left!!!” (Clued-Up, 2024)

'Bloomin Marvellous' project at Police HQ in Glenrothes:



Fireskills 2023-24 – At Methil Fire Station

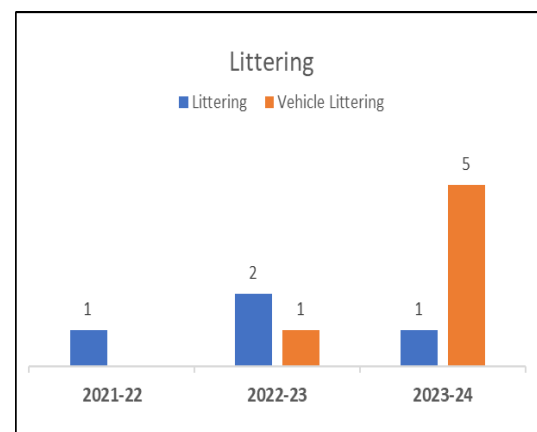
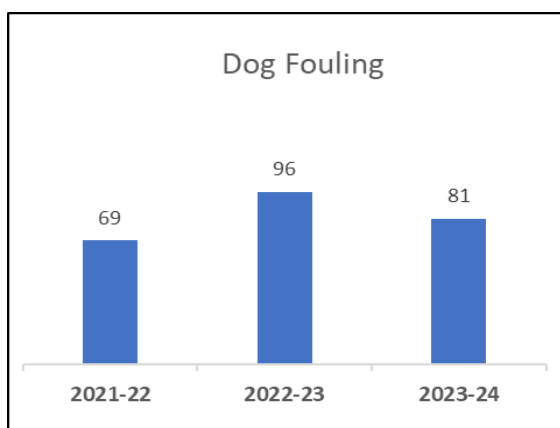
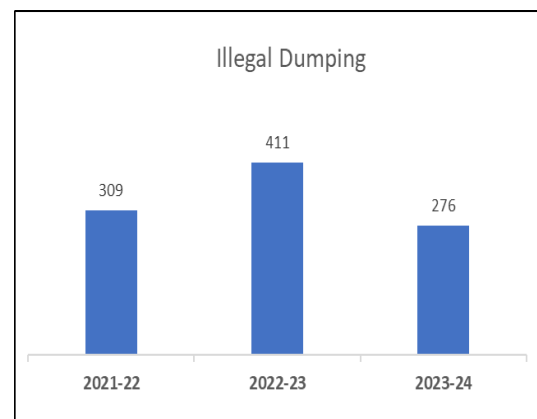
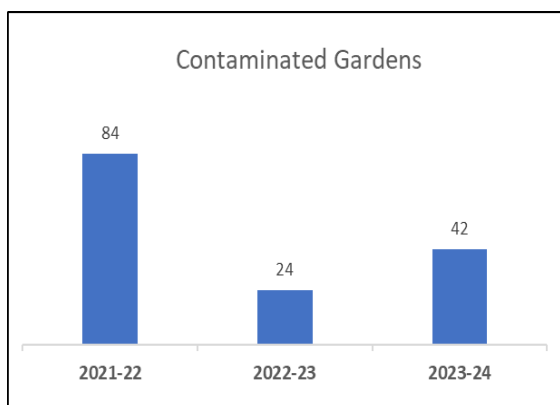
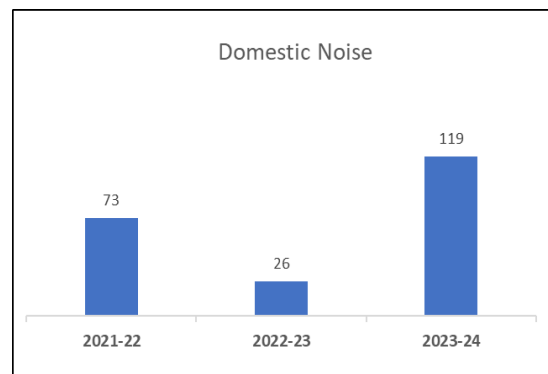
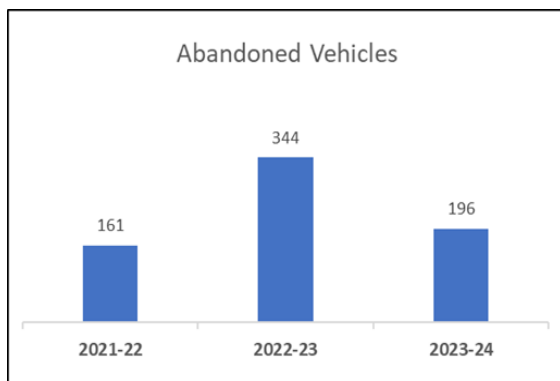


F24 at Auchmuty High School



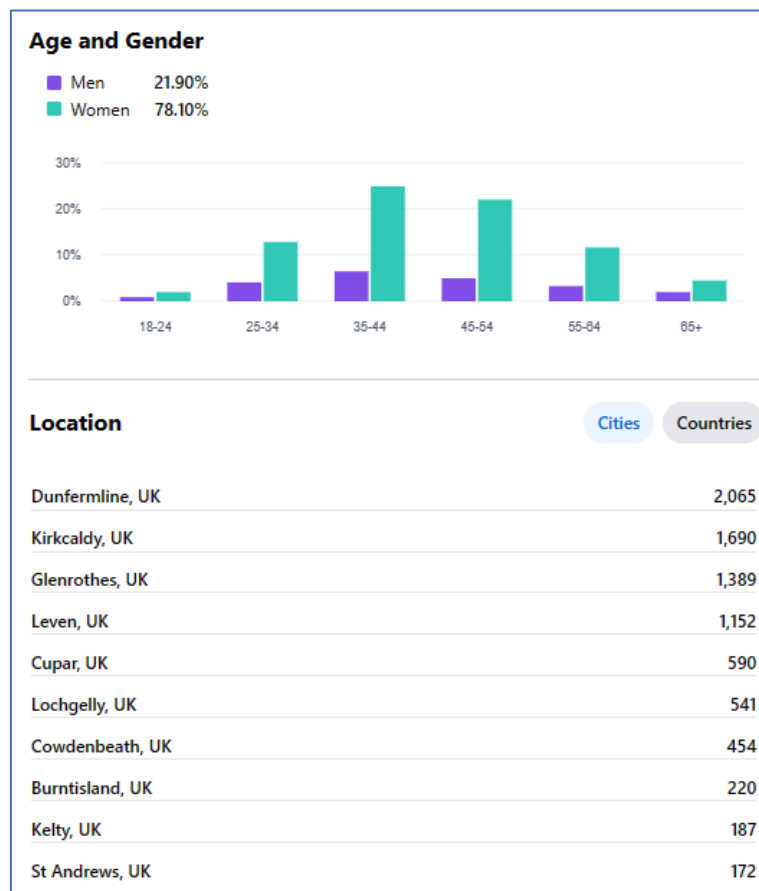
**Environmental Enforcement Reports received by Safer Communities Team
by Type and Year**

(Levenmouth Committee Area 2021-24)



Safer Communities on Facebook

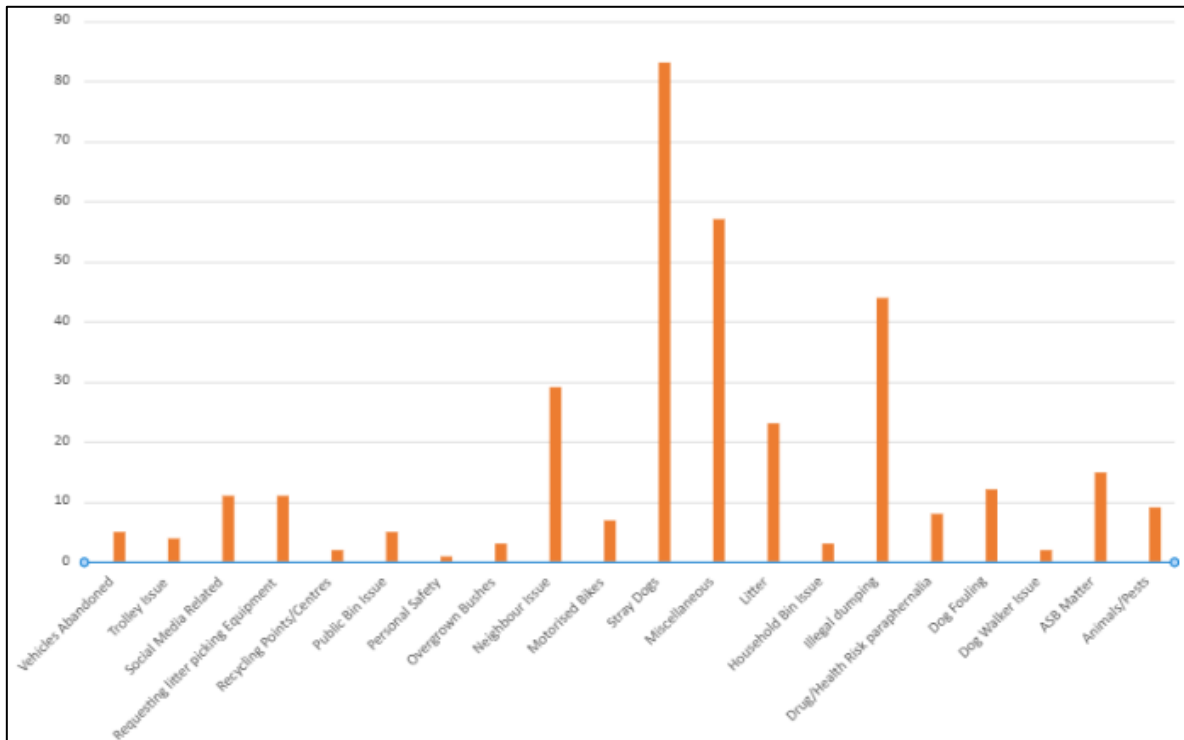
- We currently have 10,780 Facebook followers.
- During 2023-2024, our Facebook audience was comprised mainly of women aged between 35-54 with 78% Female and 22% male.
- The top 5 towns our followers reside in are Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, Glenrothes, Leven and Cupar. Although we also have followers in the US, Canada, Australia, Cyprus, and Ireland, amongst others:



- Our highest reaching post for the year was in January 2024, where a post reached over 200,000 people with regards to road safety and clearing snow from your windscreen. 400 people reacted to the post, with 82 shares and 117 comments.
- Our second highest reaching post, also in January 24, reached over 45,000 in connection to a good deed that one of Officers carried out clearing a road of debris.
- Our posts for the year have reached over 1,112,209 people, over 4,000 shares, 8,000 reactions (likes, loves) and 2,000 comments.
- We have received 341 messages (as of 14th March 2024) from the community seeking advice, help or information.

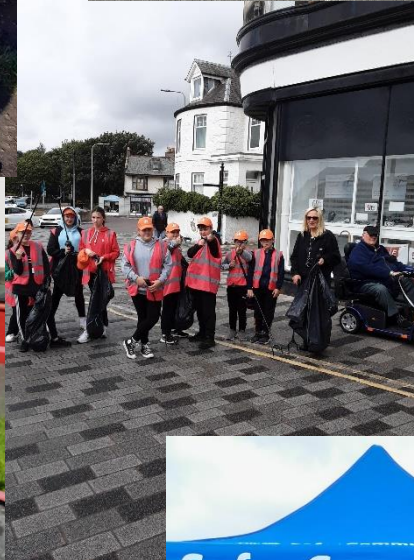
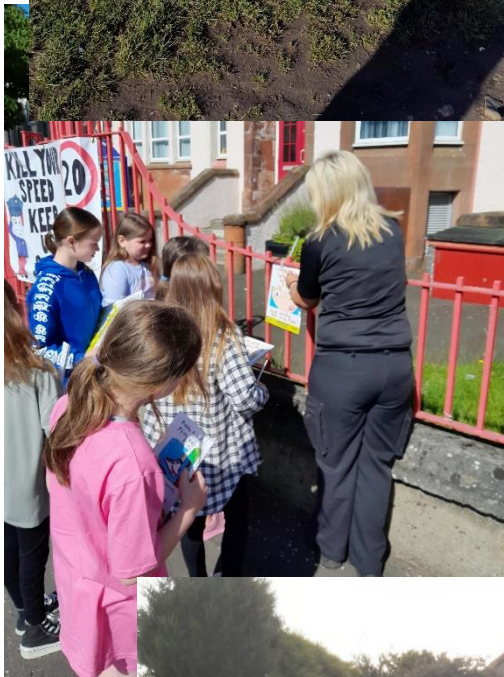
- Of the 341 messages, 30 lines were raised, and 154 resulted in us seeking help from a colleague or another service. The rest were provided with advice or information.

The following graph shows the number of messages we received by topic:

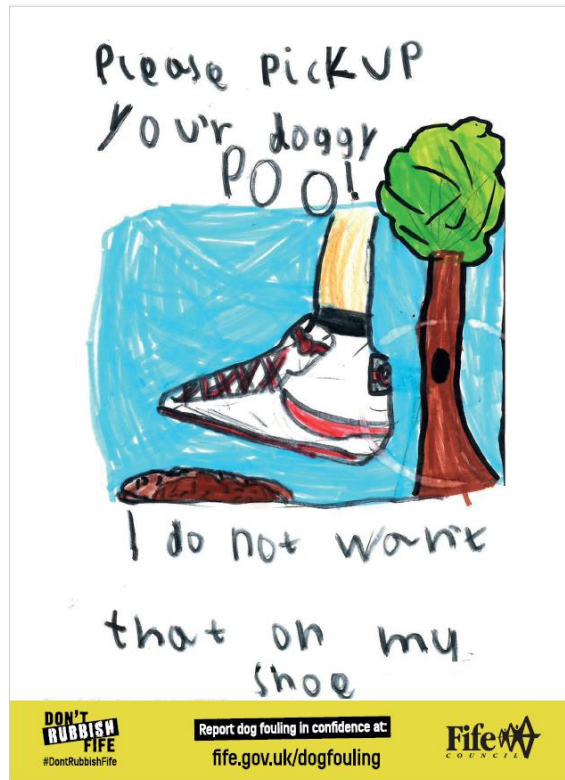
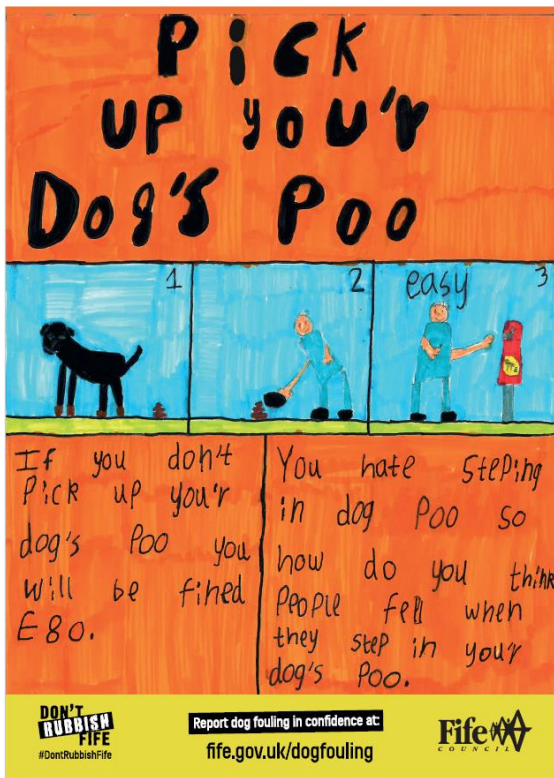


Safer Communities in the Levenmouth Area

Images include participants from Duke of Edinburgh Awards, joint working with Clued-Up, joint working with Levenmouth Police, at Silverburn, at the Leven Centre, pupils from Buckhaven Primary School and the Levenmouth Task Force.



A selection of posters from the Buckhaven Primary School dog fouling competition.



21 August 2024

Agenda Item No.7

Report on Educational Outcomes – 2022/23

Report by: Shelagh McLean, Head of Education

Wards Affected: 21, 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Levenmouth Area Committee with details of the attainment outcomes achieved by pupils within the area's school during the school year 2022/23. This report also provides an overview of the range of strategies being developed to support our key priority to raise attainment.

Recommendation(s)

The committee is asked to consider and comment on:

- 1) the overall progress in raising levels of attainment in 2022/23; and
- 2) the strategies being implemented to raise attainment.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications arising from this report. However, there has been significant additional investment agreed, for Levenmouth Academy, for a period of 12 months, to increase the Senior Leadership Team, to provide full time Guidance roles and to increase the overall support team, including support for those with additional needs.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. However, there is the need to continue to raise the awareness of school leaders, local authority officers and elected members to maximise the potential of data, new systems and approaches to inform future actions to support school improvement.

Impact Assessment

An EqIA has not been completed and is not necessary as no change or revision to existing policy is proposed.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Our ambition is to improve attainment and to provide an appropriate curriculum for all learners. This report specifically relates to the attainment of pupils in the senior phase of their learning, i.e. stages S4-S6. In addition, it reports on how they have performed in securing a positive destination.

- 1.2 The senior phase of the curriculum also provides us with the opportunity to:
- improve employability skills
 - increase levels of sustained positive destinations
 - contribute to a prosperous Fife economy and improve life chances for all
- 1.3 School improvement in Scotland is focused on the use of the senior phase benchmarking tool, generally known as Insight. This improvement tool has two key release dates and provides a rounded view of attainment across a range of outcomes. An initial release in September provides information on all qualifications sat by young people within the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework for the previous session. This local benchmarking data provides details on the performance of year groups S4, S5 and S6. The national benchmarking data is updated in February with details of the destinations of all young people who left school in the previous session. The February data allows analysis of how young people have performed by the time they leave school.
- 1.4 In terms of analysis of attainment and achievement performance, the Education Service now publishes two statistical reports to schools. The first of these, the School Attainment Report, is provided to schools in early October, after the formal September Insight release, and discussion centres on the school's local benchmark data which shows how well each stage cohort S4 to S6 has performed across the range and level of qualifications. Discussions at individual school meetings feed into school planning and target setting.
- 1.5 At the end of March, a second report, the School Outcome Report, goes to schools and focuses on the national benchmarks which show how well the school's leavers have performed. The discussions with schools at this point focus on areas such as literacy and numeracy to see how well-equipped leavers are to go onto sustained and positive destinations, as well as considering overall levels of attainment and the types of destinations young people are achieving.
- 1.6 This report considers the data for 2022/23, as it stands in March 2024. This includes data from both the September and February Insight updates for the school year 2022/23.
- 1.7 As per national guidance, we take an 'outcomes'-based approach to attainment with the focus on all our young people at the point of exit rather than individual 'year on year' attainment.
- 1.8 The increased emphasis on 'outcomes' means a clear focus on the 'destination,' 'employability' and range of appropriate qualifications achieved by the time our young people leave school rather than the overall attainment of any year group.
- 1.9 This report also presents information regarding attainment at key stages in learning (the end of stages S4 and S5). These provide an indication of how well learning is progressing.
- 1.10 We continue to improve our data sharing with schools through the Power BI platform.

2.0 Our Vision

- 2.1 Our shared vision across Fife is to improve the opportunities for all learners by improving attainment.

2.2 This vision aligns us with the recently published reviews It's Our Future - [future-report-independent-review-qualifications-assessment.pdf \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/future-report-independent-review-qualifications-assessment/pdf/pages/default.aspx) and [Fit for the Future: developing a post-school learning system to fuel economic transformation: Skills Delivery Landscape Review – Final Report \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/fit-for-the-future-developing-a-post-school-learning-system-to-fuel-economic-transformation/skills-delivery-landscape-review-final-report/pages/default.aspx) and is being realised through jointly delivering on the following:

- a greater depth in work towards understanding and interrogating data, at all levels
- ensuring sharing of practice at Headteacher events and across local authorities, including visits to other schools outwith Fife
- the review of subject choices and offers at school level
- development of curricular pathways that are progressive
- more collaborative approaches across our secondary schools and the college to provide a relevant, coherent and appropriate curriculum for all learners, informed by local context and Labour Market information
- allowing all young people across Fife access to more curricular options and opportunities, including wider achievement and access to, all levels of apprenticeships based on a policy of equity and equality
- collaborative working with subject specialists to ensure greater understanding of subject areas and other options within subjects.

2.3 As a result of the above, the Directorate Improvement Plan 2023-26 has a focus on improving the following outcomes:

- **Attendance** - improving attendance is a key factor in raising attainment. Lower levels of attendance are a significant barrier to learning for many disadvantaged groups of pupils (e.g. those living in poverty, those with particular support needs – like young carers). Improving attendance will be a key factor in closing the attainment gap.
- **Attainment** - with a particular focus on literacy and numeracy. Literacy and numeracy are educational outcomes for which performance was relatively strong in the period leading up to the Covid pandemic. Many elements of Fife's approach (e.g. our use of the Model for Improvement, Workshop for Literacy, Conceptual Understanding of Numeracy) continue to be held in high regard nationally. Re-establishing these approaches and ensuring that they are used rigorously across Fife's school system will be a key element in supporting further improvement in literacy and numeracy. This will be a key enabler for further improving wider attainment.
- **Positive Destinations** - by ensuring that the curriculum design of schools supports the needs and aspirations of all learners and by identifying and supporting appropriate pathways into post school opportunities.

3.0 The context of the local area

3.1 The School covered by this local area report is that in the Levenmouth area: Levenmouth Academy.

3.2 School context is known to have a significant influence on educational outcomes. Two factors have a particular influence on outcomes at a cohort level:

- Socio-economic factors, including household poverty (measured by registration rates for free school meals) and area deprivation (most commonly measured by SIMD, the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation).

- The Additional Support Needs (ASN) of pupils, including: learning, physical and communication support needs (these can usually be addressed through support for learning within the classroom), and family, emotional and mental health needs (these are related to socio-economic factors in many cases, and often require a partnership approach to support).

3.3 Appendices 1A and 1B provide an overview of key data relating to these factors. As may be noted, the school in the Levenmouth area:

- Has a significantly higher level of Free School Meal Registration than the Fife average and Scotland.
- Has a relatively high number of pupils living in areas of disadvantage, particularly in SIMD deciles 1 and 2.
- Has a significantly higher level of learners with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties and interrupted learning, as well as higher numbers of young carers and looked after children than Fife as a whole.

4.0 Attainment

Attainment in literacy by the end of stage S4

- 4.1 Literacy is a key skill for employability and a foundational skill for wider learning and attainment. Improving the development of literacy throughout the 3-18 curriculum is a key priority to help improve overall attainment and to close the attainment gap. Appendix 1C provides an overview of attainment in literacy by the end of stage S4 for Fife and the local area.
- 4.2 Levels of attainment for literacy at SCQF level 4 have seen a general improvement across Fife in recent years, with some evidence of a closing of the attainment gap.
- 4.3 Overall attainment at SCQF level 4 in the Levenmouth area shows an improving trend. Literacy attainment for learners in SIMD Quintile 1 has seen improvement over the last three years, with a closing of the attainment gap.
- 4.4 Generally, levels of attainment for literacy at SCQF level 5 have shown an improvement across Fife over the last three years. Outcomes for pupils living in SIMD Quintile 1 have also seen an improvement, with a closing of the attainment gap.
- 4.5 Attainment at SCQF level 5 in the Levenmouth area continues to closely match the level of attainment seen across Fife both overall and for learners in SIMD Quintile 5. There is a significant improvement trend for learners in SIMD Quintile 1, with outcomes in the Levenmouth area continuing to be better than those seen across Fife as a whole.
- 4.6 When interpreting trends in the attainment gap, it should be noted that outcomes for learners in Quintile 1 in the Levenmouth area relate to a relatively high group of learners.

Attainment in numeracy by the end of stage S4

- 4.7 Numeracy is a key skill for employability and a foundational skill for wider learning and attainment. Improving the development of numeracy throughout the 3-18 curriculum is a key priority to help improve overall attainment and to close the attainment gap. Appendix 1D provides an overview of attainment in numeracy by the end of stage S4 for Fife and the local area.

- 4.8 Levels of attainment for numeracy at SCQF level 4 have been broadly constant across Fife in recent years, in each SIMD quintile, with outcomes in 2022/23 similar to those seen in 2019/20.
- 4.9 Overall attainment at SCQF level 4 in numeracy for the Levenmouth area is higher than outcomes across Fife for SIMD Quintile 5 learners. Generally, outcomes have been lower for learners in SIMD Quintile 1 and overall.
- 4.10 Generally, levels of attainment for numeracy at SCQF level 5 across Fife have seen a gradual improvement in the past two years.
- 4.11 Overall attainment at SCQF level 5 in numeracy for the Levenmouth area is generally lower than the outcomes across Fife. Outcomes for learners in SIMD Quintile 5 and in SIMD Quintile 1 are somewhat lower.
- 4.12 When interpreting trends in the attainment gap, it should be noted that outcomes for learners in Quintile 1 in the Levenmouth area relate to a relatively high group of learners.

Wider attainment by the end of stage S4 and stage S5

- 4.13 Wider attainment by the end of stage S4 provides a foundation for leaving school, or for further study and achievement in stages S5 and S6.
- 4.14 Appendix 1E provides an overview of attainment at SCQF level 4 by the end of stage S4. For both Fife and the area, improvement has been seen in 2022/23 for those achieving 3+ to 5+ awards at SCQF level 4. Outcomes seen in the Levenmouth area at SCQF level 4 have generally been below those seen across Fife and in 2022/23 were lower than for similar areas in Scotland.
- 4.15 Appendix 1F provides an overview of attainment at SCQF level 5 by the end of stage S4. Outcomes for Fife have seen a general improvement over the past five years. Improvements have been seen since 2018/19 for those achieving 1+ to 5+ awards at SCQF level 5 across Fife. In the local area, outcomes have been higher since 2019/20 for those achieving 1+ to 5+ awards at SCQF level 5, with a significant improving trend. Outcomes seen in the Levenmouth area at SCQF level 5 have generally been below those seen across Fife and below those seen for similar areas in Scotland.
- 4.16 Appendix 1G provides an overview of attainment at SCQF level 6 by the end of stage S5. Outcomes for Fife have seen a general improvement over the past five years, for those achieving 1+ to 5+ awards at SCQF level 6. Significant improvements have also been seen since 2018/19 in the Levenmouth area at SCQF level 6 for those achieving 1+ to 6+ awards. Outcomes seen in the Levenmouth area at SCQF level 6 have generally been below those seen across Fife and for similar areas in Scotland, however for 2022/23 were similar to Fife and were higher than similar areas in Scotland.

Overall attainment of school leavers

- 4.17 Overall attainment of school leavers can be measured by two different scales of tariff points:
- Total tariff points reflect the total achievement across the course of the senior phase. They reflect: the number of awards achieved across all subjects, the grades achieved in each award, and the SCQF level of the awards in question.

- Complementary tariff points are a more focussed measure of the key qualifications achieved by each school leaver. They are based on the tariff points of the qualifications most likely to influence their post school life chances.

4.18 Appendix 1H provides an overview of the complementary tariff awards for Fife and the local area. Appendix 1I provides an overview of the total tariff awards for Fife and the local area. In each case, tariff points are shown for three groups of pupils:

- The bottom 20% - those pupils whose outcomes are furthest from attainment
- The top 20% - those pupils with the greatest overall attainment outcomes
- The middle 60% - the remaining pupils, representing the majority of the cohort

4.19 It should be noted that these groupings are relative to the school's own roll, rather than any wider population of school leavers. Hence, the social context of pupils in each grouping will vary with local area.

4.20 As measured by both tariff scales, the attainment of Levenmouth area school leavers is generally lower than the Fife average for each of the three tariff groups (bottom 20%, middle 60%, and top 20%).

4.21 The difference in outcomes between the Levenmouth area and Fife may reflect:

- A lower staying on rate to stage S6 (see the data in Appendix 1J);
- The relatively large proportion of learners living in SIMD deciles 1-2 and relatively small proportion of learners living in SIMD decile 6-10 (see Appendix 1B).

5.0 Destinations of School Leavers

5.1 Skills Development Scotland (SDS) tracks the post school destinations of pupils who leave school each year. In conjunction with the Scottish Government, they publish data on the initial destinations of school leavers, as well as information relating to the sustained destinations of school leavers, six months later. Fife has been below the national average for school leavers although, for the most recent leaver data, the gap has closed to 0.6%.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Fife	92.7%	92.5%	94.4%	91.9%	93.9%	94.9%	95.3%
Scotland	93.7%	94.4%	95.1%	93.4%	95.5%	95.7%	95.9%
LA Position	25/32	29/32	23/32	27/32	29/32	21/32	21/32

5.2 Appendix 1J provides an overview of the initial positive destinations of school leavers for Fife and the local area. This includes destinations by stage of leaving, as well as destinations of key groups of pupils (looked after school leavers, those living in SIMD Quintile 1, those with Additional Support Needs).

5.3 The level of positive destinations in the Levenmouth area has reduced from 2021/22, to similar to the 2020/21 level, and is below the improving trend seen across Fife.

5.4 The initial post school destinations of school leavers who were looked after, who lived in SIMD Quintile 1 or have Additional Support Needs are below the Fife average.

5.5 Appendix 1K shows destinations of school leavers, by category of destination.

- 5.6 The range of positive destinations which school leavers in the Levenmouth area entered in 2022/23 demonstrates the main destinations are continuing education (with 57.2% entering either higher or further education), and employment (with 23.7% entering employment directly from school). In the Levenmouth area, a greater proportion of school leavers entered both further education and training than the national average.

6.0 Action Planned to Further Raise Attainment

What will bring about further improvement and more consistency across all schools?

- 6.1 Effective self-evaluation is at the heart of continuous improvement and 'How good is our school? 4 (HGIOS4) provides a basis for schools to reflect and undertake self-evaluation. The framework underpinning self-evaluation in HGIOS4 supports the Directorate and school leaders to work together and challenge teachers to:
- Ensure educational outcomes for all learners are improving
 - Address the impact of inequity on well-being, learning and achievement
 - Consistently deliver high quality learning experiences
 - Embed progression in schools for learning, life and work from 3-18
- 6.2 We have reflected on the way we engage with schools and agreed to increase our level of scrutiny through a focus on attainment in October. These Secondary Headteacher meetings focus on specific areas of attainment, to build capacity for improvement via sharing of good practice from within and outwith the local authority.
- To continue to provide all secondary schools with an opportunity to engage in collective scrutiny with Education Managers and Heads of Service
 - Support schools to improve attainment continuously over time and/or maintain consistently ambitious standards of attainment for all learners through Insight training
 - Support schools in closing the attainment gap in our joint work with Education Scotland Attainment Adviser.
- 6.3 In schools, this is undertaken through a rigorous process of review of attainment in SQA exams involving curriculum leaders and class teachers. Each school's attainment report and action plan are discussed with Heads of Service and Education Managers and these form the basis for the School Improvement Plan. Evaluation of progress with the plan is carried out in April time.
- 6.4 Headteachers are available to attend area committee workshops to share information with elected members in their wards.
- 6.5 Schools are also expected to take part in Learning Partnerships. These involve working with, and learning from, other schools to inform school improvement.
- 6.6 A round of scrutiny will take place from April, following the publication of the updated Insight outcomes as noted in this report.

A strengthened performance framework supporting improvement

- 6.7 The Directorate has undertaken a review of support arrangements for performance management and its use of data to support improvement. Work is being undertaken through collaborative working with school leaders, via engagement with key groups of primary headteachers, and a new Collaborative Network with a focus on performance and improvement in the secondary sector. Key elements in this approach are:

- A new modelling approach, to help better assess the potential impact of multiple barriers to learning for individual learners. This is enabling better targeting of support for learners, through a “Risk Prediction Tool,” which is being piloted with secondary schools.
- A revised approach to benchmarking performance. The data underpinning the “Risk Prediction Tool” is being used to refresh the Directorate’s approach to setting stretch targets, ensuring that the Directorate and schools have improvement goals that are ambitious but achievable. Pilot stretch targets based on this new approach are being used by schools this year.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 The evidence in Appendix 1, summarised in sections 3-5, shows that:

- Pupils in the Levenmouth area are more likely to live in household poverty or areas of deprivation than pupils in the rest of Fife.
- Attainment outcomes are generally lower than for other parts of Fife, as would be expected given the social context of the area. However, outcomes have shown a tendency to be below those for comparable areas in Scotland (including for the virtual comparator).
- Outcomes at SCQF level 5 by the end of stage S4 and SCQF level 6 by the end of stage S5 have improved significantly in the Levenmouth area.
- Wider attainment at SCQF level 5 (by the end of stage S4) are below the outcomes achieved in Fife and in similar areas of Scotland, however outcomes for SCQF level 6 (by the end of stage S5) are above those in similar areas of Scotland and in 2022/23 more closely matched the Fife average.
- Positive destinations are similar to the 2020/21 level and the level remains below the improving trend across Fife.
- When interpreting trends in the attainment gap, it should be noted that outcomes for learners in Quintile 1 in the Levenmouth area relate to a relatively high group of learners.

List of Appendices

1. Area Level School Attainment Report
 - A. School Context Information
 - B. SIMD Profile of the Area Pupils
 - C. Attainment of Literacy by the End of Stage S4
 - D. Attainment of Numeracy by the End of Stage S4
 - E. Attainment at SCQF Level 4 by the End of Stage S4
 - F. Attainment at SCQF Level 5 by the End of Stage S4
 - G. Attainment at SCQF Level 6 by the End of Stage S5
 - H. Overall Attainment of School Leavers (Complementary Tariff)
 - I. Overall Attainment of School Leavers (Total Tariff)
 - J. Staying On Rates and Overall Positive Destination Rates
 - K. Initial Leaver Destinations by Category
2. Glossary of Education Terms
3. The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

Background Papers

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

- **Education and Children's Services Directorate Improvement Plan 2023-26** (available at: [Education & Children's Services Directorate Improvement Plan 2023-26 \(fife.gov.uk\)](https://www.fife.gov.uk/education-and-childrens-services-directorate-improvement-plan-2023-26))
- Know Fife briefing: **SIMD 2020 Focus on Levenmouth** (see: [SIMD-2020v2-Focus-on-Levenmouth.pdf \(fife.scot\)](https://www.fife.scot.nhs.uk/SIMD-2020v2-Focus-on-Levenmouth.pdf))
- [future-report-independent-review-qualifications-assessment.pdf \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/future-report-independent-review-qualifications-assessment/pdf/migrated-content)
- [Fit for the Future: developing a post-school learning system to fuel economic transformation: Skills Delivery Landscape Review – Final Report \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/fit-for-the-future-developing-a-post-school-learning-system-to-fuel-economic-transformation-skills-delivery-landscape-review-final-report/pdf/migrated-content)

Sources of evidence

The information provided in this report is based on analysis of data from several sources, including Scottish Government Statistics and the Insight benchmarking tool February 2023 update.

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Appendix 1A – School Context Information

Secondary Schools Context

Levenmouth

The table below is taken from the September Pupil Census return and shows any additional support needs recorded for all pupils. Pupil can have more than one need. Highlighted figures indicate a significantly higher need rate for the Area compared to all of Fife.

School Roll - From September Census

School Name	Year 2023/24		
	Female	Male	Total
Levenmouth Academy	827	928	1755
Total	827	928	1755

The table below displays the proportion of pupils on the school roll who are registered for free school meals (FMR). Data is taken from the annual Healthy Living Survey and the annual pupil census.

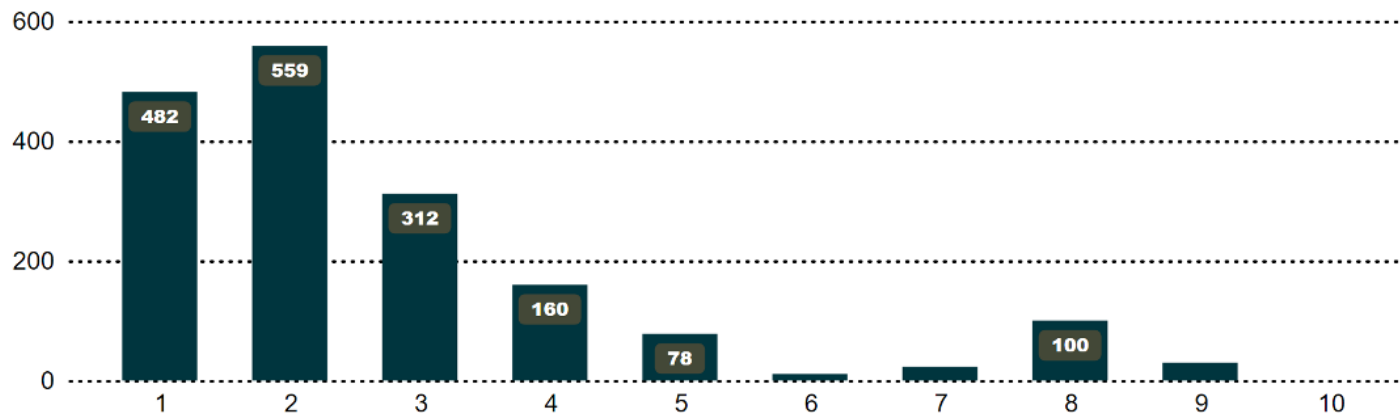
% of Pupils with FMR

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Area	29.9%	34.0%	35.0%
Fife	17.9%	19.3%	19.3%
National	19.1%	19.3%	19.7%

Support Need	Year NeedType	2023/24		
		Area	Fife	
Any	Students with at least one need	62.5%	47.5%	
Communication	Autistic Spectrum disorder	5.2%	4.8%	
	Communication Support Needs	0.4%	0.4%	
	Language or Speech Disorder	2.4%	2.1%	
	Hearing Impairment	1.4%	0.8%	
	Visual Impairment	1.0%	0.8%	
	Deafblind	0.0%	0.0%	
	English as an Additional Language	2.1%	5.3%	
	Family/Emotional/Mental Health	Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulty	15.5%	11.3%
		Mental Health Problem	3.1%	3.7%
		Young Carer	3.8%	1.7%
Bereavement		1.0%	1.2%	
Substance Misuse		0.2%	0.2%	
Family Issues		3.0%	2.9%	
Learning	Looked After	2.6%	1.8%	
	Risk of Exclusion	0.4%	0.6%	
	Dyslexia	9.2%	11.2%	
	Learning Disability	2.3%	1.6%	
	Other Specific Learning Difficulty (eg numeric)	3.9%	4.0%	
Other	Other Moderate Learning Difficulty	3.0%	3.3%	
	Interrupted Learning	36.1%	11.1%	
	More Able Pupil	0.2%	0.3%	
Physical	Other	5.2%	2.1%	
	Physical or Motor Impairment	1.8%	2.1%	

Appendix 1B – SIMD Profile of the Area Pupils (pupils in stages S1-S6)

Number of Pupils per SIMD Decile



Percentage of Pupils per SIMD Decile compared to Fife

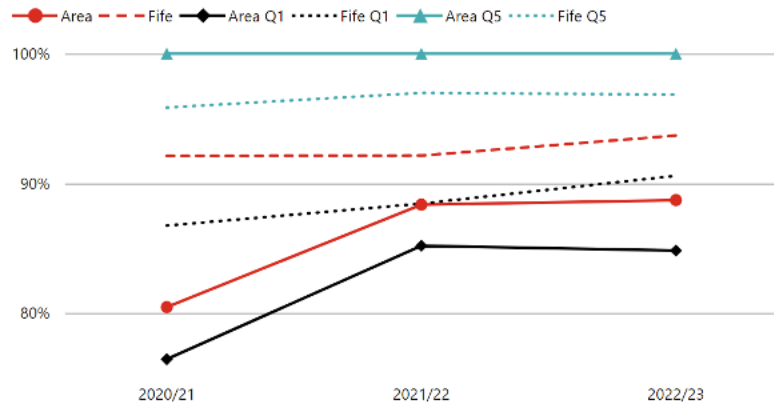
Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
2023/24											
Roll	482	559	312	160	78	11	23	100	30	0	1755
% of Roll	27.5%	31.9%	17.8%	9.1%	4.4%	0.6%	1.3%	5.7%	1.7%	0.0%	100.0%
% of Fife	8.5%	13.1%	10.5%	9.9%	11.6%	7.0%	7.9%	10.9%	10.0%	10.6%	100.0%

SQA Attainment - Literacy & Numeracy by Stage

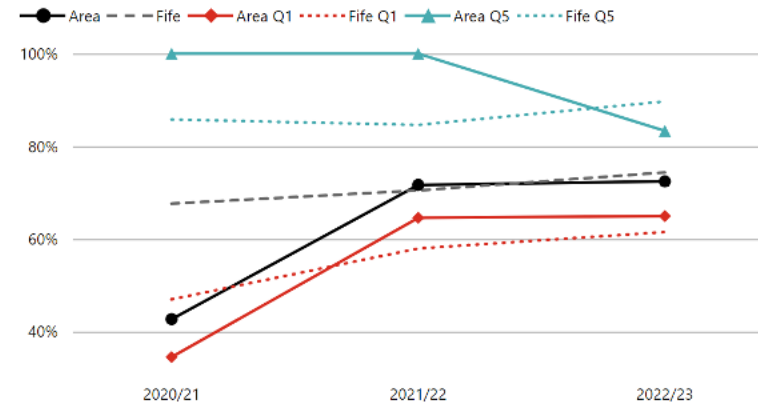
Levenmouth

Stage:
 Subject Choice:

% of Pupils with Level 4+



% of Pupils with Level 5+



Measure Year Quintile	Literacy Level 4+					
	2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife
1	76.4%	86.7%	85.2%	88.4%	84.8%	90.6%
2	88.1%	91.9%	91.3%	89.7%	95.8%	91.1%
3	75.0%	92.5%	94.1%	91.1%	92.3%	94.8%
4	84.6%	94.5%	92.6%	95.2%	94.7%	95.8%
5	100.0%	95.8%	100.0%	97.0%	100.0%	96.8%

Measure Year Quintile	Literacy Level 5+					
	2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife
1	34.5%	47.0%	64.6%	57.9%	64.9%	61.5%
2	44.0%	60.6%	77.2%	62.5%	84.7%	69.1%
3	70.0%	71.4%	82.4%	72.8%	92.3%	72.9%
4	65.4%	77.4%	85.2%	77.2%	84.2%	80.9%
5	100.0%	85.8%	100.0%	84.6%	83.3%	89.7%

Appendix 1D – Attainment of Numeracy by the End of Stage S4

SQA Attainment - Literacy & Numeracy by Stage

Levenmouth
▼

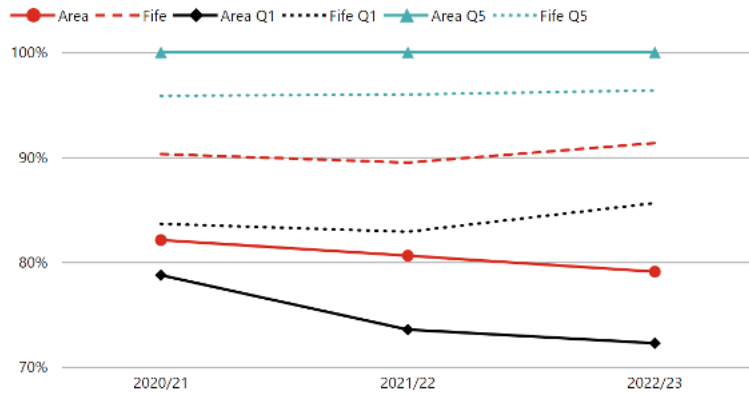
Stage

S4
▼

Subject Choice

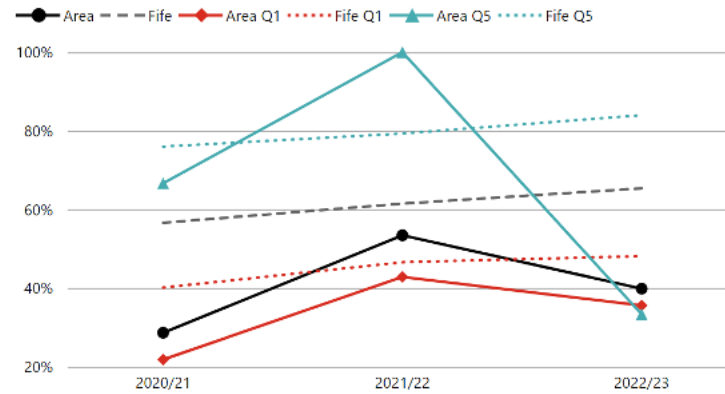
Numeracy
▼

% of Pupils with Level 4+



Measure Year Quintile	Numeracy Level 4+					
	2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife
1	78.7%	83.6%	73.5%	82.9%	72.3%	85.6%
2	86.9%	88.7%	89.1%	86.5%	90.3%	89.7%
3	80.0%	90.6%	88.2%	89.8%	84.6%	92.8%
4	88.5%	93.9%	88.9%	93.5%	94.7%	93.3%
5	100.0%	95.8%	100.0%	96.0%	100.0%	96.4%

% of Pupils with Level 5+



Measure Year Quintile	Numeracy Level 5+					
	2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife
1	21.8%	40.1%	42.9%	46.6%	35.6%	48.1%
2	31.0%	47.5%	63.0%	50.1%	51.4%	58.4%
3	55.0%	57.6%	70.6%	64.2%	23.1%	66.4%
4	42.3%	65.6%	66.7%	70.6%	52.6%	73.2%
5	66.7%	76.0%	100.0%	79.3%	33.3%	84.0%

Appendix 1E – Attainment at SCQF Level 4 by the End of Stage S4

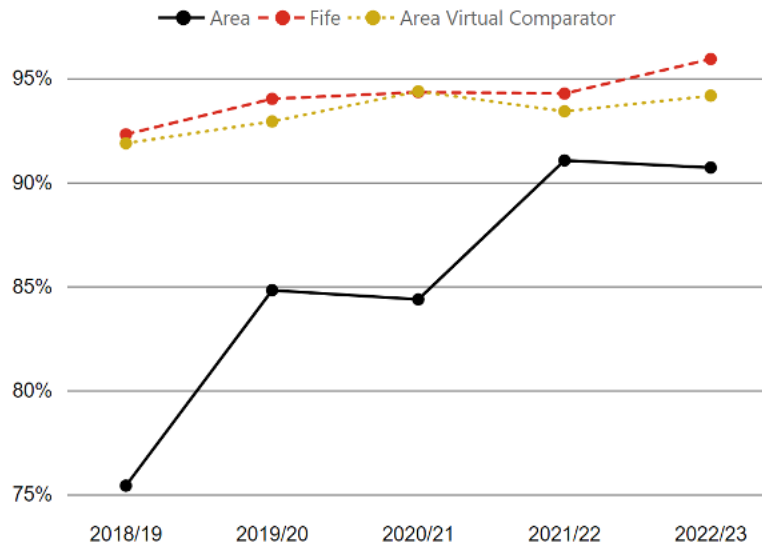
Breadth and Depth of Attainment

Levenmouth

Stage and Level

S4 Level 4

Five year trend for 1 or more passes at National 4 for the school in S4 as a percentage of the S4 cohort.



Stage and Level	S4 Level 4									
	2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
Awards	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife
1 or more	75.4%	92.3%	84.8%	94.0%	84.4%	94.3%	91.0%	94.3%	90.7%	95.9%
2 or more	69.8%	89.4%	76.9%	90.5%	80.8%	91.7%	85.7%	91.3%	83.4%	92.7%
3 or more	66.2%	86.3%	70.8%	87.5%	73.0%	88.7%	79.4%	88.4%	79.7%	89.5%
4 or more	59.7%	81.7%	64.7%	84.3%	69.4%	85.5%	72.8%	84.6%	77.7%	86.4%
5 or more	49.2%	74.1%	55.0%	79.9%	64.8%	81.2%	66.3%	79.4%	73.4%	82.2%

Appendix 1F – Attainment at SCQF Level 5 by the End of Stage S4

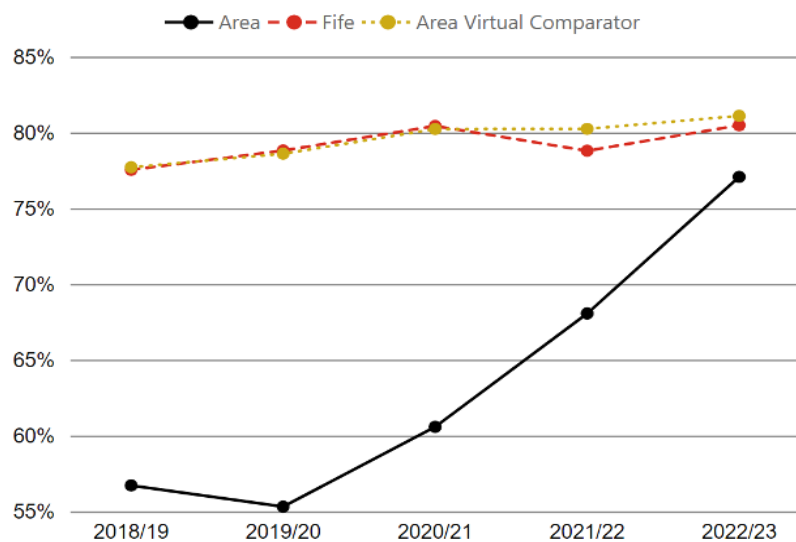
Breadth and Depth of Attainment

Levenmouth

Stage and Level

S4 Level 5

Five year trend for 1 or more passes at National 5 for the school in S4 as a percentage of the S4 cohort.



Stage and Level	S4 Level 5									
	2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
Awards	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife
1 or more	56.7%	77.5%	55.3%	78.8%	60.6%	80.4%	68.1%	78.8%	77.1%	80.5%
2 or more	44.6%	68.5%	46.2%	70.4%	49.2%	71.3%	54.0%	68.8%	64.1%	71.1%
3 or more	35.1%	60.8%	35.6%	63.1%	43.6%	63.9%	43.6%	60.3%	54.2%	63.6%
4 or more	24.6%	52.7%	29.8%	56.3%	39.1%	56.6%	35.5%	52.6%	42.9%	56.0%
5 or more	19.0%	43.9%	23.7%	48.8%	31.3%	48.4%	26.9%	45.6%	33.2%	48.5%

Appendix 1G – Attainment at SCQF Level 6 by the End of Stage S5

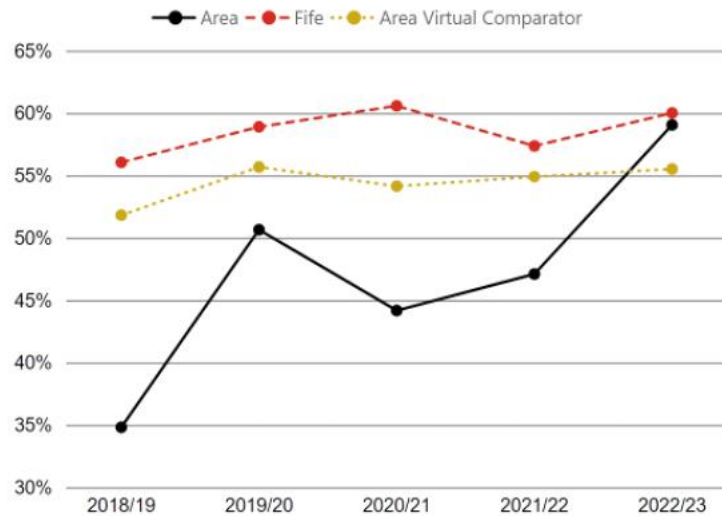
Breadth and Depth of Attainment

Levenmouth

Stage and Level

S5 Level 6

Five year trend for 1 or more passes at National 6 for the school in S5 as a percentage of the S4 cohort.



Stage and Level	S5 Level 6									
	2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
Awards	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife
1 or more	34.8%	56.1%	50.6%	58.9%	44.2%	60.6%	47.1%	57.4%	59.1%	60.0%
2 or more	22.2%	44.3%	33.1%	48.7%	32.2%	50.8%	30.3%	46.3%	43.3%	47.4%
3 or more	14.1%	35.7%	22.4%	40.3%	21.5%	41.9%	21.6%	37.4%	27.9%	38.6%
4 or more	9.3%	27.1%	16.6%	30.2%	12.0%	31.8%	14.2%	28.2%	16.9%	30.8%
5 or more	4.4%	17.0%	9.7%	19.6%	4.6%	19.7%	5.5%	17.7%	11.3%	20.5%
6 or more	1.5%	0.9%	6.5%	2.7%	0.3%	2.5%	0.3%	4.0%	5.9%	5.4%

Appendix 1H – Overall Attainment of School Leavers (Complementary Tariff)

Levenmouth

Average Tariff Points for Leavers, Split into Top 20%, Middle 60% and Bottom 20% of pupils by Tariff

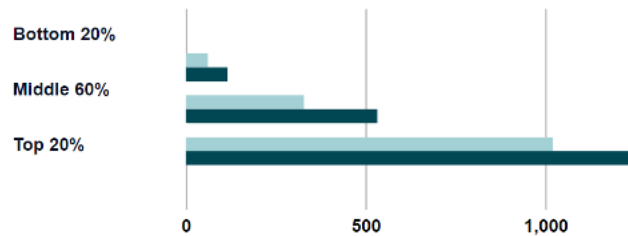
- Total Tariff
- Complementary Tariff

Average Tariff for Leavers	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Complementary Tariff			
Bottom 20%	43	86	62
Middle 60%	349	386	329
Top 20%	1,063	1,030	1,021

Average Tariff for Area Leavers by SIMD Quintile	Quintile		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Complementary Tariff	1	Bottom 20%	26	76	52
		Middle 60%	272	357	255
		Top 20%	886	1,017	893
	5	Bottom 20%	76	175	134
		Middle 60%	428	741	259
		Top 20%	718	1,055	711

Middle 60%

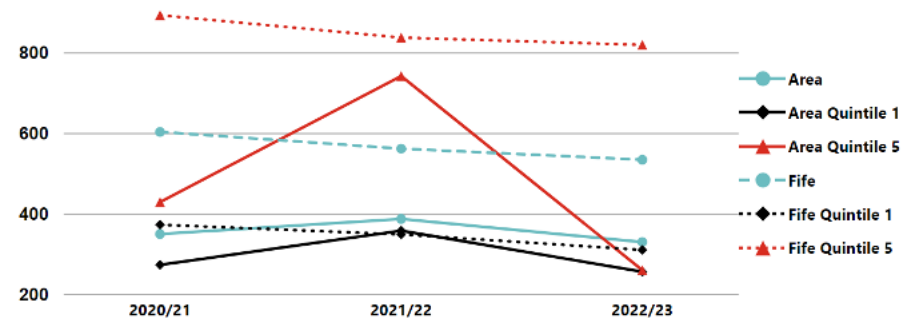
Academic Year 2022/23



Area

Fife

Average Leavers Tariff Points



Appendix 11 – Overall Attainment of School Leavers (Total Tariff)

Average Tariff Points for Leavers, Split into Top 20%, Middle 60% and Bottom 20% of pupils by Tariff

Levenmouth

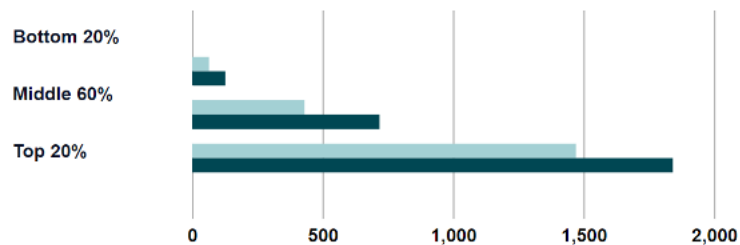
- Total Tariff
- Complementary Tariff

Average Tariff for Leavers	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Total Tariff			
Bottom 20%	43	88	66
Middle 60%	441	494	432
Top 20%	1,453	1,430	1,471

Average Tariff for Area Leavers by SIMD Quintile	Quintile		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Total Tariff	1	Bottom 20%	26	79	54
		Middle 60%	339	454	328
		Top 20%	1,170	1,397	1,244
	5	Bottom 20%	76	208	154
		Middle 60%	461	1,013	348
		Top 20%	947	1,790	1,003

Middle 60%

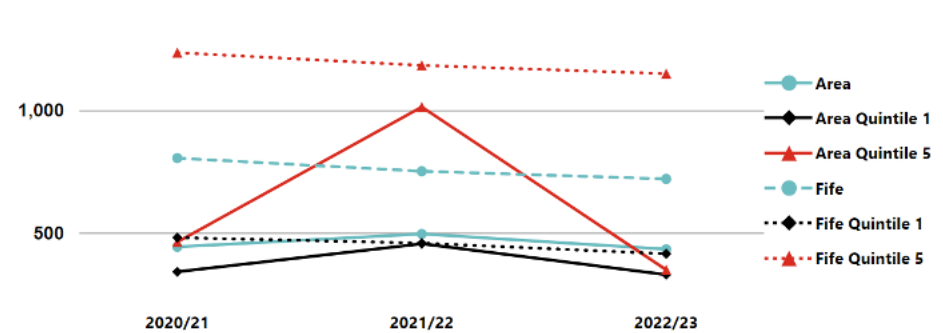
Academic Year 2022/23



Area

Fife

Average Leavers Tariff Points



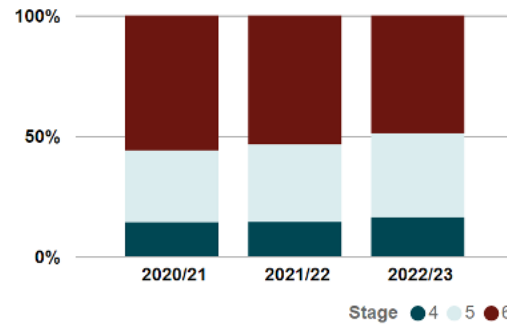
Appendix 1J – Staying on Rates and Overall Positive Destination Rates

Levenmouth

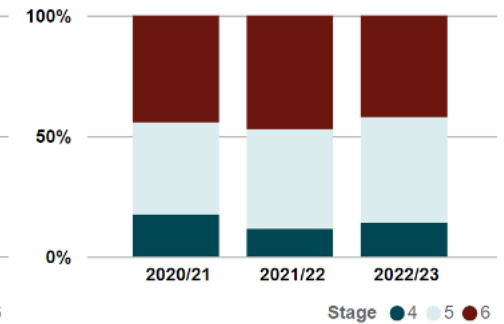
Initial Positive Destination Rates

Pupil Stage	S4		S5		S6		All Leavers	
	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife	Area	Fife
▲ Year								
2020/21	92.2%	90.2%	88.3%	90.5%	93.8%	96.6%	91.4%	93.9%
2021/22	89.5%	91.0%	94.1%	93.8%	94.8%	96.5%	93.9%	94.8%
2022/23	89.7%	93.2%	91.0%	92.8%	91.5%	97.7%	91.0%	95.3%

Fife Leavers by Stage



Area Leavers by Stage



S5 staying on rates represent the proportion of the prior year's S4 roll who were on the S5 roll in September.
 S6 staying on rates represent the proportion of the prior year's S5 roll who were on the S6 roll in September.

Staying on Rates

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Area S5	81%	84%	85%
Fife S5	84%	84%	81%
Area S6	53%	58%	46%
Fife S6	67%	69%	60%

Looked After

Most Deprived Quintile

Additional Support Needs

All Leavers

▲ Year	Area LAC	Fife LAC	Area SIMD Q1	Fife SIMD Q1	Area ASN	Fife ASN	Area All	Fife All
2020/21	77.8%	85.3%	89.6%	90.7%	85.8%	91.0%	91.4%	93.9%
2021/22	88.9%	86.2%	94.4%	93.4%	93.5%	92.7%	93.9%	94.8%
2022/23	81.8%	85.6%	87.9%	92.1%	85.1%	93.6%	91.0%	95.3%

Appendix 1K – Initial Leaver Destinations by Category

Initial Leaver Destinations

Levenmouth

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
No. of Leavers	291	327	278

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	3,751	4,088	3,920

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	50,719	55,211	54,719

Levenmouth				Fife				National %			
Year	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Year	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Year	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Destination	Area	Area	Area	Destination	Fife	Fife	Fife	Destination	National	National	National
Positive	91.4%	93.9%	91.0%	Positive	93.9%	94.8%	95.3%	Positive	95.5%	95.6%	95.9%
Higher Education	19.9%	25.7%	18.7%	Higher Education	39.4%	35.8%	35.5%	Higher Education	45.1%	41.3%	40.3%
Further Education	38.1%	40.4%	38.5%	Further Education	29.9%	31.9%	32.8%	Further Education	23.3%	25.5%	26.6%
Training	6.9%	4.3%	9.7%	Training	4.1%	3.0%	4.0%	Training	3.7%	2.9%	3.4%
Employment	26.5%	22.3%	23.7%	Employment	19.9%	23.4%	21.9%	Employment	22.6%	25.1%	24.3%
Personal Skills Development		1.2%		Personal Skills Development	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	Personal Skills Development	0.5%	0.4%	0.8%
Voluntary			0.4%	Voluntary	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%	Voluntary	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%
Not Positive	8.6%	6.1%	9.0%	Not Positive	6.1%	5.2%	4.7%	Not Positive	4.5%	4.4%	4.1%
Unemployed Seeking	6.5%	1.2%	5.0%	Unemployed Seeking	3.4%	2.3%	2.6%	Unemployed Seeking	2.5%	2.3%	2.2%
Unemployed Not Seeking	1.0%	3.7%	3.6%	Unemployed Not Seeking	2.2%	2.3%	1.9%	Unemployed Not Seeking	1.7%	1.5%	1.6%
Unknown	1.0%	1.2%	0.4%	Unknown	0.6%	0.6%	0.2%	Unknown	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Appendix 2 – Glossary of Education Terms

This appendix defines some of the key terms referred to in the paper.

Insight is a benchmarking tool designed to help bring about improvements for learners in the senior phase (S4 to S6). The system is updated twice annually, around September for attainment results, and February for school leavers' data. It is particularly valuable to inform improvement planning and provides schools with a range of information to help support school improvement.

Insight uses **Tariff Points** to measure the overall attainment of school leavers. The overall attainment of each school leaver is assigned a number of tariff points that depends on: the number of awards achieved, the SCQF level of each award achieved, the grade of each award (if graded), and the number of credit points assigned to the award (which reflects the number of hours typically needed to complete that particular award). Two summary measures are reported at school level:

- **Total tariff points** – which provide a measure of the total attainment achieved by school leavers during the senior phase.
- **Complementary tariff points** – which reflect the key qualification set achieved each school leaver – the core set of qualifications most likely to influence their post school opportunities and life chances.

The **virtual comparator** is a sample-based benchmark that reflects pupils with similar characteristics to those of a given school. This allows for the influence of a range of factors on school attainment, including: social context (SIMD), levels of recorded additional support needs (ASN), and stage of leaving.

SCQF levels indicate the general level of difficulty of an award, enabling broad comparisons to be made between the skills and learning required to achieve a range of different qualifications.

SCQF levels are a key element of the **Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)**, which is the national qualifications framework for Scotland (see: <https://scqf.org.uk/about-the-framework/>).

Appendix 3 – The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

SIMD (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation). SIMD is the Scottish Government's standard approach to measuring relative levels of deprivation across Scotland. It provides information about a range of resources and opportunities available to families living in a local community. These relate to income, employment, education, health, access to services, crime and housing.

The current version of SIMD has been in use since an update in 2020. Further information can be found at: <https://www.gov.scot/collections/scottish-index-of-multiple-deprivation-2020/>

Within education, there are two common classifications used to measure the social context of school pupils; these are SIMD Quintiles and SIMD Deciles. Both reflect the overall level of multiple deprivation recorded by SIMD for the area where pupils on the school roll live.

SIMD Quintiles. Each local area in Scotland is classified as being within one of five families, called SIMD quintiles.

- SIMD Quintile 1 (often abbreviated to **SIMD Q1**) refers to the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland, as measured by SIMD.
- SIMD Quintile 5 (often abbreviated to **SIMD Q5**) refers to the 20% least deprived areas, as measured by SIMD.

SIMD Deciles. Each local area in Scotland is classified as being within one of ten families, called SIMD deciles.

- SIMD Decile 1 refers to the 10% most deprived areas in Scotland, as measured by SIMD.
- SIMD Decile 10 refers to the 10% least deprived areas, as measured by SIMD.

SIMD Deciles 1 and 2 combined make up **SIMD Quintile 1**.

For the purposes of SIMD, Scotland is divided into 6,976 local areas, named datazones. These are designed to group together households with a similar social context. The table below shows the 26 local areas within Levenmouth that lie within SIMD Quintile 1.

S01009622	Name	Total population	Working age population	SIMD20 Rank	Fife Rank	SIMD Quintile	SIMD Decile
S01009622	Buckhaven South	646	423	7	1	1	1
S01009636	Aberhill	863	564	107	4	1	1
S01009633	Methil Savoy	737	434	148	5	1	1
S01009632	Methil Memorial Park	530	314	171	6	1	1
S01009631	Lower Methil	624	414	211	8	1	1
S01009640	Scoonie South	584	368	305	11	1	1
S01009656	Kennoway East	730	394	314	12	1	1
S01009626	Methil Trees East	569	325	328	13	1	1
S01009638	Methil Kirkland	1049	601	332	14	1	1
S01009647	Leven North	601	344	359	15	1	1
S01009542	East Wemyss McDuff	707	474	463	21	1	1
S01009641	Leven South West	756	437	726	42	1	2
S01009659	Kennoway Central	497	292	732	43	1	2
S01009621	Buckhaven Central	754	461	761	46	1	2
S01009634	Methil Sea Road	517	263	822	51	1	2
S01009625	Methil Methilmill	845	540	858	56	1	2
S01009630	Methilhill North	704	459	882	61	1	2
S01009658	Kennoway North West	768	476	946	65	1	2
S01009629	Methilhill South West	1031	674	1011	72	1	2
S01009624	Buckhaven Birds	846	506	1036	76	1	2
S01009628	Methilhill Toll Bar	517	221	1066	79	1	2
S01009619	Denbeath South	554	326	1146	82	1	2
S01009620	Buckhaven North	790	462	1274	89	1	2
S01009618	Denbeath North	664	435	1299	90	1	2
S01009635	Methil New Bayview	803	497	1330	94	1	2
S01009637	Methil Old Bayview	756	465	1342	95	1	2

Further information regarding the SIMD profile of the Levenmouth area can be found in the Know Fife briefing: **SIMD 2020 Focus on Levenmouth** (see: [SIMD-2020v2-Focus-on-Levenmouth.pdf \(fife.scot\)](#)).

21 August 2024
Agenda Item No. 8

Area Roads Programme 2023/24 – Final Report

Report by: John Mitchell, Head of Roads & Transportation Services

Wards Affected: 21 & 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise the committee on the delivery of the 2023-24 Area Roads Programme (ARP).

Recommendation(s)

The committee is asked to note the contents of the report and appendices.

Resource Implications

The 2023-24 ARP was funded from capital and revenue and some ring-fenced budgets. Programmes of work were adjusted, if required, to ensure expenditure remained within the Service budget.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no known legal or risk implications arising from the report.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

Members were consulted on the list of projects forming the 2023-24 ARP.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Committee agreed the list of projects forming the 2023-24 ARP on 8th February 2023 (2023 LAC 13, Para 32 refers).

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 Attached are Appendices 1-5 which detail the final position on the progress of individual projects in the programme.
- 2.2 To improve information on how the programme is progressing throughout the year, an on-line system is in place and continues to be developed.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The attached appendices show the Levenmouth Area Programme for 2023-24. The type of works, work location and expenditure are provided for each project. Any underspend or overspend is carried through to the following years allocation for the committee area.

List of Appendices

1. Carriageway Schemes
2. Footway Schemes
3. Road Safety & Traffic Management Schemes
4. Lighting Schemes
5. Structures Schemes

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Levenmouth Area Committee
Area Roads Programme 2023-24
Carriageway Schemes Outturn

Ward	Town	Street	Location/Description	Estimate	Outturn Cost	Progress at 31st March 2024	Comments
21	Leven	Linnwood Drive	Holly Road to R/bout at Tassie Court	£153,754	£148,071	Complete	
21	Leven	C1 Kennoway Road	Leven gateway to start of anti-skid section & approx. 50m wes	£104,600	£103,068	Complete	
21	Rural	A915	Lower Largo 40s to Upper Largo 30s	£20,000	£20,111	Complete	Completed 2022/23, late payment of invoice
21	Leven	Old Mill Court	A915 Windygates Road to Shotburn Crescent	£21,965	£5,912	Postponed	Delayed due to contractor availability – programmed for Aug 2024
21	Rural	U074 by Drumeldrie	A917 to A917 via Newburn House	£70,785	£0	Complete	Extensively patched to remove defects, funded from Revenue
21	Rural	U084	B927 to C59 (Cupar Road)	£147,963	£142,717	Complete	
22	East Wemyss	McDuff Street	Alexander Street to Main Avenue	£66,000	£68,956	Complete	
21	Kennoway	A916 Sandy Brae	Old Station Road to New Road	£110,804	£112,133	Complete	
TOTAL				£695,871	£600,968		

**Levenmouth Area Committee
Area Roads Programme 2023-24
Footway Schemes Outturn**

Ward	Town	Street	Location/Description	Estimate	Outturn Cost	Progress at 31st March 2024	Comments
21	Leven	Beech Park Phase 2	West side from Sillerhole Road to outside no. 33	£54,791	£71,996	Complete	
22	East Wemyss	Approach Terr/Michael Pl		£61,500	£7,850	Complete	Thin surfacing only
22	Methil	Sycamore Avenue		£67,500	£71,840	Complete	
21	Leven	Anderson Street	Outside No 1 and Nos 10-34	£15,707	£0	Postponed	Deferred due to contractor availability
21	Kennoway	Castle Terrace Ph 2	o/s no 91 to o/s no 151	£76,580	£75,107	Complete	
21	Leven	Hawthorn Street Ph 2	Full length. South side.	£39,989	£0	Postponed	Deferred due to contractor availability
TOTAL				£316,067	£226,793		

Levenmouth Area Committee
Area Roads Programme 2023-24
Road Safety & Traffic Management Schemes
Outturn

Ward	Town	Street	Location/Description	Original Estimate	Outturn Cost	Progress at 31st March 2024	Comments
21	Kennoway	Springbank Road	Speed Reduction Measures	£10,000	£5,618	Complete	Funded from Revenue
21	Bonnybank	Cupar Road, A916	Speed Reduction Measures	£15,000	£12,613	Complete	Funded from Revenue
22	Buckhaven	Sandwell Street	Speed Reduction Measures	£10,000	£0	Postponed	Delayed due to utility works
22	Methil	Kirkland Gardens	Remove raised R/A	£34,000	£0	Postponed	Delayed due to Contractor availability.
22	Buckhaven	Methilhaven Road	At Muiredge GP Surgery - Puffin	£40,000	£0	Postponed	To be delivered as part of Levenmouth Connectivity project
21	Kennoway	A916 Sandybrae	Speed Reduction Measures	£15,000	£3,974	Partially complete	Lining complete, awaiting installation of VAS 'Your Speed' Sign – Funded from Revenue
			TOTAL	£124,000	£22,205		

**Levenmouth Area Committee
Area Roads Programme 2023-24
Lighting Schemes Outturn**

Ward	Town	Street	Estimate	Outturn	Progress at 31st March 2024	Comments
21	Windygates	Kennoway Road	£130,000	£152,648	Complete	
21	Kennoway	Swards Pl, Springbank Road & Viewforth Pl, Sandy Brae, New Road	£132,000	£144,244	Complete	
22	Methil	Keir Hardie St / Turner Cres / Barrie St / Sea Road Cul-de-sac / Sea Road R'bout, Methil Brae	£111,600	£132,940	Complete	
TOTAL			£373,600	£429,832		

**Levenmouth Area Committee
Area Roads Programme 2023-24
Structures Schemes Outturn**

Ward	Town	Street	Location/Description	Estimate	Outturn	Progress at 31st March 2024	Comments
21	Leven	A955 from Methilhaven Road, Methil to Riverside Road, Leven	Leven Railway Bridge	£10,060,000	£6,171,618	On Site	
21	Lower Largo	Harbour Wynd	North of Harbour Bridge	£100,000	£24,707	Postponed	Site investigation, consultant fees only – Capital bid to be submitted as revised estimate is circa £570k.
TOTAL				£10,160,000	£6,196,325		

21 August 2024
Agenda Item No. 9

Swan and Memorial Courts, Methil - Housing Improvements

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

Wards Affected: Ward 22

Purpose

The report outlines progress with the Programme of Works for the recladding of Swan & Memorial Courts, Methil as agreed at the Cabinet Committee in October 2023. The report recommends that the Area Committee notes the progress and considers the implications for the council tenants and agrees mitigating actions to support tenants in the multi-storey blocks.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- (1) note the proposed Programme of Works for the improvements to the flats;
- (2) consider the impact of the works on council tenants; and
- (3) agree the proposed mitigations to minimise this impact.

Resource Implications

To fully implement the proposed improvements at Swan & Memorial Courts, the current estimated costs of the project is £7m spread over two financial years. The existing HRA Capital Budget 2022-25 has the capacity to absorb these costs.

Additional revenue costs arising from the project such as consultation and housing management costs will be met from the existing HRA budget.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are legal implications for the council if failures in health and safety requirements are identified and no action or ineffective action is taken. The refreshed Fire Risk Assessment for Swan and Memorial Courts has been completed in June 2024 alongside the Quarterly Fire Inspection by the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS). Specific risk mitigation measures are proposed as part of the Programme of Works outlined in Section 2.1 of this report.

Additional concierge/caretaking staff have been recruited to reassure tenants and improve building security. This additional cost has been absorbed by the HRA budget 2024/25.

Impact Assessment

An EqlA has not been completed as there is no change to council policy because of this report.

An Environmental Assessment has been carried out using the Fife Environmental Assessment Tool (FEAT). A range of beneficial and mixed impacts were identified. There is a potential short-term impact due to construction process and activities. Long term benefits resulting from the provision of high quality, energy efficient affordable homes result in lower carbon emissions and increased health & wellbeing of tenants.

The programme of works makes a positive contribution to the Council's refreshed Climate Plan and the Local Housing Strategy by improving the energy efficiency to the EESSH2/Net Zero standard and reducing fuel poverty within the blocks.

Consultation

The Housing Service has consulted with council tenants in Swan and Memorial Courts, the Levenmouth Area Convener and Ward 22 Members. Consultation with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, the Scottish Housing Regulator and the Scottish Government is ongoing.

1.0 Background

1.1 In October 2023, the Cabinet Committee agreed to:

- note the main findings of the review of fire safety at Swan and Memorial Courts, Methil.
- endorse the proposed programme of works and proposed improvement works at Swan and Memorial Courts, Methil as outlined in Section 4.1 of this report.
- agree that the HRA Capital Budget will meet the costs of the project in 2023/24 and 2024/25; and
- agree that progress reports will be made to the Levenmouth Area Committee on a regular basis.

1.2 This report to the Area Committee represents the first of a series of proposed update reports for Members' consideration and to take on board any comments or issues from the Members' perspective. The report follows on from the Elected Members Briefing that was circulated by the Head of Housing Services in late March 2024.

1.3 The Area Committee should note that the Head of Property Services reported to the People and Community Committee in June 2024 on a "lessons learned" exercise from the original procurement and installation of the existing cladding at Swan & Memorial Courts in 2011/2012.

2.0 Scope of the Works Programme

2.1 Section 4.1 of the Cabinet report outlined the proposed programme of improvements to Swan & Memorial Courts involves:

- Completion of internal fire stopping works to the communal and tenanted areas in both buildings.

- Strip-down of the existing External Wall Insulation (EWI) and replacement with a suitable mineral wool based EWI tile.
- Replacement of older kitchens and bathrooms with the installation of appropriate fire stopping in each flat.
- An upgrade of the existing heating to an improved, energy efficient, cost-effective electric heating system

2.2 The Council's Tower Block Review Group (TBRG) has met on a regular basis since last September to guide and take forward the development of the programme of works for all the proposed improvements to the flats. The TBRG is multi-service in nature, led by the Head of Housing with support from Building Services, Property Services, Corporate Health & Safety and Protective Services.

2.3 Consultation with council tenants has occurred mainly through:

- Tenants Newsletters.
- Drop-in sessions arranged in the Tenants' Lounges
- Individual discussions with Tenants.
- Tenant visits to the 2 show flats (one in Swan Court and one in Memorial Court) to discuss component replacement.

2.4 To date, there has been a low level of tenant concern and there is a willingness to engage with Housing and Concierge Staff. The Concierge staff has been a source of positive assurance for tenants that the works will be happening, and they will be provided with as much information as possible at each stage of the Programme. Housing staff have been on site since September 2023 gathering information from tenants and answering any concerns that they have.

2.5 There has been feedback from some tenants that they do not wish to have a new kitchen, bathroom or central heating. In the case of all components that are less than 10 years old, Housing Services are content that this should be an option left open to tenants and not mandatory. Should tenants want these options, the work will be done as part of the Programme, with work being undertaken to run concurrently with the external EWI works.

3.0 Timescales for the Programme to be Implemented.

3.1 The TBRG has guided the preparation of the Programme of Works and the timeline to be followed. The latest updates are:

- **Fire Evacuation System** - Caledonia Fire are now appointed to carry out the works. Pre-start meeting held with them and they are currently agreeing the firestopping material for any openings with Arup. Works to start shortly. The Fire Evacuation Control Panels are on a long lead time (16 weeks) so the system won't be operational until the panels are fitted.

- **EWI Works** - Tenders received and client accepted. Works commenced on 5th August 2024. A pre-start meeting has been held. The external fire safety consultants along with Property Services have signed off on the proposed EWI system.
- **Internal Firestopping Works** - Firestopping surveys have been completed and specification reports received at beginning of July 2024. The works required are now out to Tender. It is anticipated that works will commence in September 2024.
- **Components upgrade to the Flats**-Surveys of existing kitchens and bathrooms are underway. Those identified for replacement are being programmed in, as per above.

4.0 Mitigation for Tenants during the Works

- 4.1 The TBRG recognise that there will be a significant level of disruption for tenants during the programme of works on site. As with any housing improvement programme, tenants will inevitably face some disruption over a limited period. In this case, the contractors on site will be working for a period of 18 months to 2 years causing more disturbance than a normal improvement project.
- 4.2 To ensure that the Council can seek to mitigate the disturbance for tenants, we are proposing the following measures for members' consideration.
- Two daytime decants have been set up which will be available to book for any resident who would prefer to remove themselves from their property during the day whilst work is ongoing. It is expected tenants will return to their own tenancy early evening.
 - There may be the possibility of setting up 2 night-time decants for any tenants who work a nightshift, possibly away from the flats to avoid noise disruption, but in the local community.
 - Additional drop-in sessions in the Tenants' lounges have been arranged to coincide with the start of the programme in August 2024.
 - A package of disturbance allowances will be paid to each tenant to compensate them for the disruption. A total sum of £1,500 per property will be paid in three instalments. An initial payment of £500 to be made in September 2024, in recognition of the commencement of significant site activity. A second in March 2025, and the final instalment on completion of the works in June 2026. The total allowance payable across the two blocks is circa. £250,000. Current council policy requires that payment whilst being made will be subject to deductions of any debt to Housing Services i.e. rent arrears/ recharges
 - Tenants will also have access to fuel poverty payments. These will be applicable only during the period of the external cladding removal.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 The Council has begun the programme of works approved by Cabinet Committee in October 2023 to strip down the existing cladding at Swan & Memorial Courts and reclad as agreed with a mineral wool based External Wall Insulation tile system. Other works are progressing and when completed, the flats will be uprated in terms of their energy efficiency and level of comfort and enhanced safety for our tenants.

Report Contacts

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21 August 2024

Agenda Item No. 10

Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Large Grant Awards

Report by: John Mitchell, Head of Roads and Transportation Services

Wards Affected: Ward 21 – Leven, Kennoway and Largo, Ward 22 – Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to allow Committee to consider projects recommended for funding from the fourth round of the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Large Grant Fund.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Committee approves funding for the following projects as detailed Appendix 1, from the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Large Grant fund:

- 1) Levenmouth Discovery Landmarks - £58,365
- 2) Leven Skatepark - £252,000
- 3) Fife Heritage Rail Conservation Building - £360,000

Resource Implications

The total grant funding remaining in the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme as of 1st August 2024 is £4,654,628. The total grant request for the above named projects is £670,365. Should they be approved for a grant award, the remaining budget in the grant programme will be £3,984,263.

Legal & Risk Implications

Legal Services has reviewed and agreed the Grant terms and conditions.

Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment and a Fife Environmental Assessment Tool (FEAT) assessment have not been completed because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies or practices. Individual projects will carry out their own Impact Assessments.

Consultation

Fife Council Financial Services, Legal Services and the Communications and Customer Insights team have been consulted in preparing this report.

Consultation has been undertaken with the Levenmouth Reconnected Working Group and Oversight Group in the assessment of individual projects.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The process to approve grant awards from the £10m Levenmouth Reconnected Programme (LRP) fund was approved by the Policy & Coordination Committee on 13 May 2021 (2021 PC78 para. 296 refers). The committee agreed that Large Grant applications, seeking over £5,000 (up to a maximum of £5m), would be assessed by the Levenmouth Reconnected Working Group panel with a recommendation made to the Levenmouth Reconnected Oversight Group for approval. The final decision on grant awards is then made by the Levenmouth Area Committee.
- 1.2 In round four of the Large Grant funding programme, applications were received from twenty projects. These were assessed by the LRP Working Group panel who scored them on the criteria set out in the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme funding strategy and guidance. The Panel recommended that the above named projects should receive a grant award
- 1.3 Thereafter, the Levenmouth Reconnected Oversight Group approved a funding award to these projects.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The LRP Oversight Group has recommended that the following projects receive LRP grant funding:
 - Levenmouth Discovery Landmarks - £58,365
 - Leven Skate Park - £252,000
 - Fife Heritage Rail Conservation Building - £360,000
- 2.2 Appendix 1 summarises these projects.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 Applications to the fourth round of the Levenmouth Reconnected Large Grant Programme have been scrutinised and assessed in accordance with the approved Programme Governance and it is recommended that three above named projects are recommended for approval for a Large Grant award.

List of Appendices

1. Large Grant Project Summary

Background Papers

None

Report Contact

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Levenmouth Discovery Landmarks

Project Summary	Total cost	LRP grant
<p>Installation of a series of interpretation boards, signs, and displays around Levenmouth to both inform and entertain visitors to the area. New signs will link in with the current signage strategy being implemented by Fife Council.</p> <p>The signs would act as landmarks around the area and have a unique and interesting design, with artistic inspiration and carefully selected materials. Acting as addition to the upcoming Discovery Trails, the boards will include information about the nature, heritage, society, and feature maintained digital interaction.</p> <p>An example of community wealth building, the signs will be designed, built, installed, and maintained by local training and education centre The Community Trade Hub, a local social enterprise who have a proven record of helping people into employment. The project will be managed and owned by the Levenmouth Tourism Association in partnership with local stakeholders and community groups. A consultancy firm is also being brought in to maximise opportunities and to ensure uniformity with other projects in the area such as the active travel and River Park projects.</p>	£77,820	£58,365

Key Risks:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match funding as yet unsecured • Planning Permission (approaches already made) • Community buy in / acceptance – communication/consultation strategy planned • Rising costs / full funding not received – value engineer project
Timescale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic project plan provided stating 1 year from grant award to completion. • Programmed for completion September 2025
Opportunities for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community led project via Levenmouth Local Tourism Association • Use of existing Social Enterprise (Community Trade Hub) for sign manufacture and installation • Sign content will be developed by collaborating with local history groups, CC's and other local groups
Inclusive Jobs and Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key project for the Community Trade Hub to deliver as part of their wider aims of developing young persons skills • Will be a tourist attraction drawing visitors to Levenmouth. Part of discovery trails project which will utilise Active Travel routes around Levenmouth and between stations
Community Led Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project led by LLTA which is community based and led, use of local skills and groups for project development.
Thriving Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites are key nodes around Levenmouth currently under-utilised. Signs will be high quality, well maintained and will

Appendix 1

	significantly enhance local area. Project covers parts of Levenmouth not currently getting LRP grant support.
Maximises social and economic benefits of rail line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be part of tourist offering for Levenmouth, with access by rail promoted as part of overall project promotion. Sites will lend themselves to people traveling between stations. • Community led project will ensure it meets local people's aspirations to see improvements in their area as part of the new rail line.
Other Project Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project led by local groups and businesses, using local resources to deliver • Interpretation landmarks and trails ideally suited to rail users and active travel • Will create public art with a strong local theme and relevance

Assessment Panel Summary

- Good local based project delivering on a number of themes.
- Part of overall tourism draw which is a key priority for the area and one that the LRP should support.
- Improving and re-activating a number of key spaces around Levenmouth and will compliment Active Travel Network.
- Relatively small scale project worthy of support
- Designs provided conceptual only as design is part of project. Designs should be approved by LRP manager to ensure high quality
- Don't see planning as too high a risk but may impact timescales.

Grant Offer

Full grant offer conditioned on gaining match funding and requiring input from LRP Manager during design process.

Appendix 1

Leven Skatepark

Project Summary	Total cost	LRP grant
Installation of a new state of the art skatepark on the site of the original park, including provision of streetlighting. Promotion and management of new skate park, encouraging use by local people and visitors and promoting events at park	£335,000	£252,000

Key Risks:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Permission • Construction costs rising (costs for infrastructure provided by suppliers)
Timescale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic project plan provided stating 1 year from grant award to completion. • Programmed for completion September 2025
Opportunities for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility will be open 24/7 and free to use. • Already popular so enhanced and improved facility will be more accessible, suit a wider range of users, including users with mobility issues, and will appeal to users from outwith Levenmouth • Improves physical and mental health
Inclusive Jobs and Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Local people for some maintenance work including Community Trade Hub • Will be a popular visitor facility attracting people to Leven so potential to benefit local cafes and shops
Community Led Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community led project via 'Leven Skate Board' with input from current users shaping design and layout
Thriving Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skate park is a key feature of the Promenade. Current park is out of date, in poor condition and doesn't meet current standards. New park will improve area, reduce anti-social behaviour, being lit, improve accessibility to park.
Maximises social and economic benefits of rail line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be a key facility for local users and visitors with good access from Leven Station. Will be part of Fife Coast 'skatepark network' with users already using train services to access facilities. • Community led project will ensure it meets local people's aspirations to see improvements in their area as part of the new rail line. • Will promote social inclusion for young people and enable interaction between local and visiting users.
Other Project Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong local support for project • Enhances promenade area • Good attraction for Leven.

Assessment Panel Summary

Appendix 1

- Good local based project delivering on a number of themes.
- Fife Council will lead on project delivery and will maintain asset in perpetuity
- Benefits local users and will be a visitor attraction.
- High level of community support and benefit
- Key part of Promenade and will compliment aspirations for overall prom improvements.
- Planning should not be too high a risk as it's a replacement for an existing facility.

Grant Offer

Full grant offer

Fife Heritage Rail Conservation Building

Project Summary	Total cost	LRP grant
Installation of a new steel framed and clad building on Heritage Rail site for public display and access to trains, train restoration and storage. Key facility identified in Business Plan for site enhancing visitor facilities, quality of destination and experience.	£480,000	£360,000

Key Risks:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Permission • Construction issues – ground conditions, presence of contaminated land, presence of utilities – site within current compound therefore no know issues with this. • Construction costs rising
Timescale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project plan provided which is optimistic, stating 7 months from grant award to completion. However timeframe of LRP provides a large degree of flexibility for this.
Opportunities for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility currently open to paying public Tuesday, Friday and Saturday plus last Sunday of the month for train runs. Business plan looking to extend opening hours. • Good track record of running volunteer groups restoring trains New facility will increase appeal of volunteering Business plan states a commitment to increase volunteer days, increase work with local community groups. • Already a popular destination however accessibility requires improvement and general quality of facility also could be much improved. Conservation building key part of this being fully accessible and a high quality environment for visitors. • Part of overall aspiration of group to improve the visitor experience, linked to the new office facility that will be developed from other funding sources.
Inclusive Jobs and Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group looking to link with local businesses to develop skills programme with volunteers. Links already established with several local businesses. • Key offering in Levenmouth in terms of tackling skills gaps, developing young people, providing opportunities for all ages and abilities for leisure and social interaction
Community Led Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established local attraction with good links to local groups and organisations • Great opportunities for local volunteering for all ages and abilities. • Skills development ranges from mechanical engineering, train operation and visitor management
Thriving Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key tourism offering • Potential for site to host other heritage based venues and attractions
Maximises social and economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be a key facility for local users and visitors with good access from Leven Station. • Will promote social inclusion across all ages and abilities

Appendix 1

benefits of rail line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of overall volunteer offering across Levenmouth
Other Project Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is part of overall development plan for the Heritage Railway, including the use of the new former site offices, bringing other LRP partners into the area, increasing activity in this area and linking in with active travel network • Enables a popular local attraction to develop into a high quality destination

Assessment Panel Summary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established facility with a strong track record of delivery. • Great desire to see it improved as a visitor destination and become a high quality offering, which this project goes a long way to achieve. • Will draw in visitors as well as local people. • Partly a destination for paying customers but also provides opportunities for volunteers of all ages and abilities. • Part of tourist 'jigsaw' for Levenmouth • Project looks highly deliverable within the LRP Programme timescales • Planning should not be too high a risk given location. 	
Grant Offer	
Full grant offer	

21 August 2024

Agenda Item No. 11

Supporting the Levenmouth Local Plan – Plus Partnership Year 2

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

Wards Affected: 21 & 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to secure agreement to provide continuation funding for the Plus Partnership approach in conjunction with our partners Fife Furniture Plus. The level of funding requested to achieve this is £39,647.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to:

- 1) agree the funding request of £39,647 to allow the Plus Partnership approach to continue into year two;
- 2) note that the funding profile will be split over two financial years; and
- 3) note the attached status report for the Plus Partnership approach showing the financial gain accrued for clients by the project, in the period up to the 9th of August 2024.

Resource Implications

If agreement is secured on the noted project this will reduce the available budget for anti-poverty work in Levenmouth by £39,647. This request is made up of employee costs of £35,625 which includes national insurance and pension contributions as well as an incremental upgrade from year 1, £1500 travel and subsistence, and a hosting/management fee of £2522.

Any funding required for development activity over and above these stated costs will be applied for through the normal LCPB (Local Community Planning Budget) and anti-poverty funding approach, and any request exceeding £5000 will come back to this committee for consideration.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal and specific risk implications raised by this report at this stage. All matters relating to employment of staff will be covered by our partner agency Fife Furniture Plus who carry out the day-to-day management of the role and control of the finances put in place to support that work.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

This project has the support of both the Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty (WRAP) group for Levenmouth as well as the People Group.

Members will recall the discussion at the 5th of April 2023 committee where support for the proposed approach in year 1 was unanimous. Although initially allocated to the Community Recovery Fund, it was ultimately supported through the Levenmouth anti-poverty fund.

The proposal supports the cash first approach in Levenmouth which members have been consulted on and have agreed as a preferred way forward in dealing with poverty issues, to assist the move away from crisis interventions into more long-term solutions for clients.

The employment of an additional support worker, exclusively for the Levenmouth area has improved the flexibility of response to referred cases, case studies have been noted in the attached update report to show the positive impacts for the clients involved.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB and CRF requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Anti-Poverty fund for the area, the total required is as noted in the resource paragraph above £39,647.
- 1.3 This project ties in with several of the key aims in the current iteration of the Levenmouth local plan most notably the need for increasing locally available support for mitigating the cost-of-living crisis and closing the equality gap for people in the Levenmouth area.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 Members will recall that this project was originated through partnership work with Fife Furniture Plus and the Communities and Neighbourhood staff team in Levenmouth.
- 2.2 The core aim of the project is to increase access and support to individuals and families in the Levenmouth area to household assistance.
- 2.3 This work included the employment of a welfare support worker embedded with Fife Furniture Plus.
- 2.4 Alongside this direct support to individuals the approach supported the distribution of Big Hoose items locally, alongside the key elements of provision already available through our partner Fife Furniture Plus. This includes a range of items of furniture but could extend to white goods, as well as a proposal that was being developed to include carpeting.

- 2.5 The key component to this work though is the direct intervention and support provided by the worker who can help address fundamental issues which create barriers for them in moving away from dealing with crisis issues which prevents them establishing a more resilient approach.
- 2.6 The worker will focus on ensuring direct referral to a range of partner agencies who can best support the needs of the referred individuals and families. This may involve work with health agencies for both physical and mental concerns, family learning and employability support, as well as assisting with income maximisation through a benefit review.
- 2.7 The most recent update report has been appended to this cover report to give further detail on the approach, and the initial positive impacts the interventions have had.
- 2.8 Based on the current financial benefits accrued so far and continuing into year 2 of the project, compared to the funding ask in this report, we would effectively see £2.24 in terms of return to the client for every £1.00. of investment by the Area Committee.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The proposal contained in this report aligns well with the stated priorities for the Levenmouth area local community plan as agreed by members in May 2023.
- 3.2 As noted this is particularly relevant to the Opportunities for all theme which looks at poverty mitigation through a cash first approach that moves the client beyond an ongoing crisis intervention scenario.

List of Appendices

- Plus Partnership Report up to 9th of August 2024

Background Papers

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

- [Levenmouth Area Committee- 5th April 2023 Agenda Item 11 pages 165-199](#)

Report Contact

David Paterson
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Furniture Plus Plus Partnership

28th August 2023 to 9th August
2024



Plus Partnership Initiative

in partnership with



Project background

The Plus Partnership brings together Furniture Plus and Fife Council's Communities and Neighbourhoods Team with the hope of increasing access and support to local individuals and families in the Levenmouth area in relation to household assistance.

What we're doing

Furniture Plus have developed The Plus Partnership project which has included the addition of a Support Worker to their team with the focus of providing ongoing holistic case management/community-based welfare support to people in Levenmouth who are identified as being in material deprivation. Through using this approach, we believe we can work with community members to seek to address more fundamental issues and barriers which leave people in a position where goods, food and practical items are required to manage day to day living.

How we're doing it

Welfare support is offered to individuals and families to build resilience and reduce reliance on crisis interventions. Support will be offered in a variety of forms including, but not limited to, 121s, groupwork, drop-in and outreach. Support will involve income maximisation, barrier removal and will aim to bring about positive change and encourage households to reach their potential through direct support and joint work with local specialist agencies where appropriate.

Outcomes we are aiming to achieve

- Increased resilience in those engaging with support and a decrease in the number of local people accessing crisis interventions.
- Evidence financial gains associated with the project and demonstrate a monetary value.

- Capture participation and engagement with the project and monitor activities, outcomes and progression achieved by participants.
- Organisations delivering work around the theme of household assistance will report an increase in partnership working, be able to share the benefits of this, and be co-designing community access and sustainable future delivery.

Project Development

Initial focus was centered on developing project policies and increasing project awareness throughout the Levenmouth area. The project is being developed on an ongoing basis by a small team of staff from Furniture Plus and Communities and Neighbourhoods. This encouraged a collaborative approach to project development and enabled efficient progress.

The support worker consistently attending local professional meetings including the Levenmouth Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty (WRAP) group has proved useful in building relationships and promoting the project. The WRAP group are provided with regular updates which has led to a steady flow of referrals from attendees and their colleagues. As part of a recent review of WRAP activity, The Plus Partnership was highlighted as a strength in the area in relation to supporting local people and having effective professional relationships.

The support worker operates as part of Levenmouth's extended Welfare Support Team, which includes welfare support workers from Community Learning and Development and Justice Social Work working together to best meet local needs. As a result of the Fife Advice Framework being established, we were able to open direct referral routes to CARF's Community Based Welfare Advisors. This positive step results in participants being given in-depth and responsive support for issues which require CARF's specialist knowledge as well as CARF providing guidance to the support worker which allows increased project knowledge of various areas of welfare.

There has been a consistent number of professionals making contact with the Partnership to seek help/advice on what is available to their own clients in the Levenmouth area. This demonstrates trust by other members of the local community regarding the support worker's knowledge and ability. Furthermore, there is a consistent stream of self-referrals made via word of mouth showing that participants feel the service is valuable and can be a positive line of engagement for their peers.

The project team also work on developing Levenmouth's Big Wee Hooses project, this allows a collaborative approach which best utilises skills and experience. The support worker's role in developing the Big Wee Hooses partnership has also become more prominent since the project's establishment, with an increased involvement of assisting with the uptake of new providers, influencing referral route development and working with The Big Hoose staff and processes.

To date, the project has received a total of 165 referrals in just under 1 year. Some of these referrals were inappropriate for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to, the participant living out with the Levenmouth area. Inappropriate referrals are signposted and given a supportive handover to a suitable service provision for their area of Fife. As mentioned, there has been a notable increase in

word of mouth referrals as awareness of the project continues to increase. Of these 165 referrals, 106 have been active cases with another 4 participants being re-referred for additional support.

Activity	Activity Instances
Assisted to Apply for Benefits	20
Assisted to Resolve Benefit Issues	9
Assisted to Sustain Tenancy	5
Benefit Check	29
Budgeting Exercise	21
CARF Referral	6
Community Care Grant Application	4
Cosy Kingdom Referral	22
Crisis Grant Referral	1
Employability Support	5
Foodbank Referral	6
Furniture Plus Goodwill Referral	71
Levenmouth Independence Initiative Referral	10
Practical Support	80
Referral to Big Wee Hooses	20
Referral to Other Organisation	14
Referral to Welfare Support Assistant	3
Referred for Free Gym Pass	4
Grand Summary:	330

People referred to the Plus Partnership have a range of needs from simply looking for one item of furniture sourced, to those requiring a multi-faceted support approach. In order to meet the needs of all participants, it has been essential to work in partnership with several agencies to best meet the needs of the person seeking support.

Financial Gains

Since the inception of the Plus Partnership, we have so far been able to evidence **£86932.27** of financial gains/savings for our clients. This has been achieved by working in close partnership with the many available service provisions and schemes available within the Levenmouth area including, but again not limited to, Furniture Plus's Goodwill scheme and the Connecting Levenmouth project.

Total gains/savings in to date:

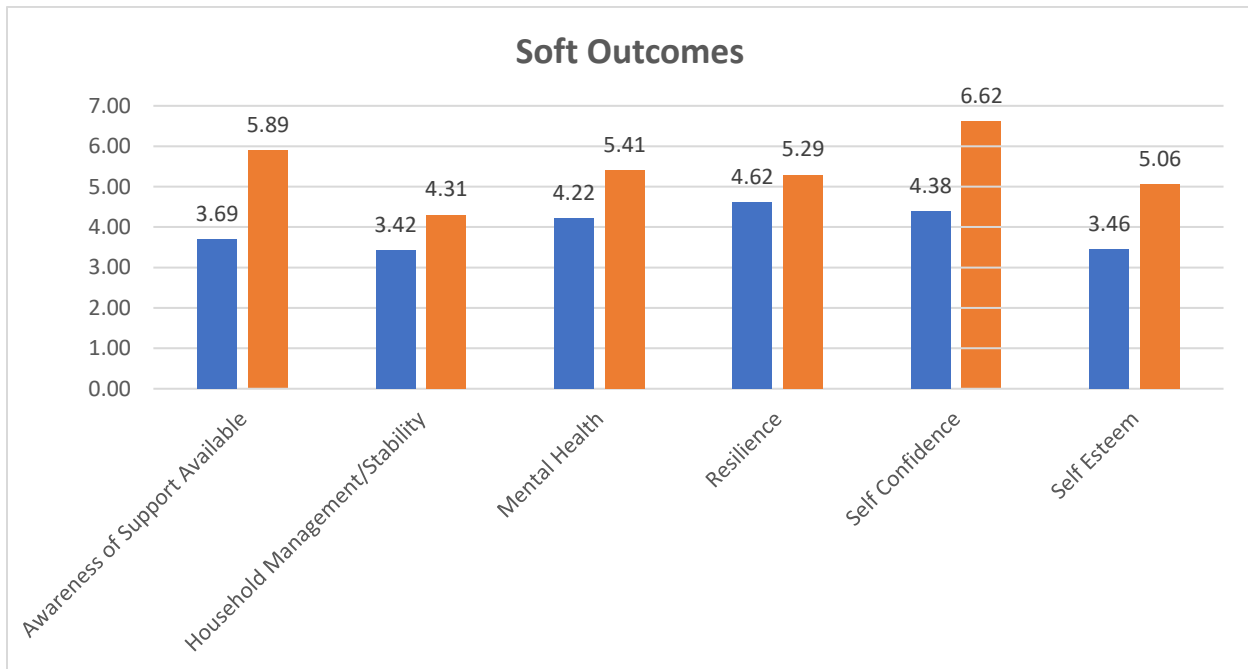
Gain Type	Total Sum (£)
Benefit Enhanced	38788.88
Big Wee Hooses Provision	6018.00
Bus Pass	2969.70
Crisis Grant	150.00
Debt Written Off	1860.00
Digital Device	860.00
Energy Top Up	232.00
F+ Say Yes Fund	1437.45
Food Voucher Issued	400.00
Foodbank	180.00
Goodwill Referral	24579.74
Gym Pass	1417.50
Household Essentials	81.00
I.D.	15.00
LII Referral	2223.00
MyFy/WiFi	160.00
SIM Card	5560.00
Grand Summary:	86932.27



**Awaiting payment details of participant claiming benefits whilst on statutory sick pay. Unable to contact to date.*

Soft Outcomes

As well as the above hard outcomes and financial outcomes, the partnership is also capturing soft outcomes such as awareness of services and a participant's mental health at point of initial engagement and case closure.



As can be seen, overall improvements were recorded in the various soft outcomes in particular participant's awareness of services available and self confidence. It is felt that by increasing a participant's knowledge of supports available and how to access them, this will in turn lead to an increase in resilient households and a more resilient community. It is worth noting that whilst most participants (though not all) recorded improved scores, some remained the same due to loss of contact or lack of engagement and therefore being unable to attain their final score.

Areas for Development

The Plus Partnership approach is a new way of working for Furniture Plus, who while they have a long history of providing free and low cost furniture to our communities, the last year has been a learning curve for the staff involved and the organisation as a whole.

In the next year areas to focus on will be:

Regular internal support and supervision

At present staff support sessions are undertaken by a member of the CLD team, however it is recognised a positive step in project management would be for a senior member of Furniture Plus team to undertake this. This will allow additional development for the organisation and boost key staff members understanding of support and welfare work.

Building reputation of the project

There is going to be a focus in year two on raising awareness of the project with specific teams who are unaware of the range of support provided by The Plus Partnership. Over the last year it has been important to support local staff's understanding of the approach including at times challenging perceptions of Furniture Plus only providing household items as opposed to us now supporting households more holistically to address barriers to resilience.

Continuous Professional Development

Plus Partnership staff members plan to undertake appropriate training to increase knowledge and skills in delivering the approach. This will include refresher training as well as skills acquisition with the aim of increasing understanding of the range of issues the project supports communities with and deepening understanding of effective project management.

Collaborative Working

As part of developing the approach we have been able to share progress to date with Levenmouth WRAP and beyond as a way to influence effective practice. This includes being included in the development of the Tackling Poverty and Preventing Crisis board's current work on developing 'Household Goods Support' we see this as a positive step in encouraging collaborative practice for the benefit of local people.

Project Future

This project was initially funded for a two year period through funding available locally in Levenmouth. We intend to continue discussions as a partnership to enable effective planning and development of the project's future.

Case Study 1

Jackson initially approached the Plus Partnership support worker early on in the project's establishment in the Levenmouth area. Initially Jackson was keen to be supported to source items of furniture he could not afford due to be solely reliant on benefits. When this had been done, Jackson reduced his engagement with the project and only sought further support when meeting the support worker on further outreach. Through a series of 121s, it became apparent that Jackson would appreciate further support to address his mental health, which could be extremely poor at times. Over time, Jackson started to engage with several local community provisions which he feels is beneficial to his mental health and reduces his feelings of isolation. Jackson's benefits were revised and after attending a health assessment with the Plus Partnership support worker he was placed in the LCWRA group and received additional monies through this.

Case Study 2

Sheila visits the Furniture Plus store for small items of furniture having fled domestic violence and securing her own tenancy but having no furniture whatsoever, or the means to purchase the required items. A staff member notices Sheila appears distressed and signposts her to the Plus Partnership's support worker. Sheila is then afforded all items required to start a home for free via Furniture Plus's Goodwill scheme. Despite working full time, Sheila is in material deprivation due to debts accrued by her partner and requiring her to meet repayment plans to address this. Sheila is signed up to the Big Wee Hooses project to allow her access to free personal hygiene products and household cleaning items. A benefit check identifies Sheila may be eligible for Adult Disability Payment and she is supported to successfully apply for this. Whilst this process takes place, Sheila has an unexpected bill and is unable to afford fuel for her car to travel to work, putting her employment in jeopardy. The Plus Partnership provides Sheila with cash to pay for fuel and food to see her through until her next pay date. Currently, Sheila is now able to manage a successful household independently and no longer requires any external support.

Participant Feedback

"Honestly thank you so much. We're now planning on getting passports and booking a holiday. We've never been abroad in our lives."

"I think this was the first time in months I cried with relief instead of stress."

"I'd went from suicidal quite literally to relaxed and safe, I have no words yet again for how good this felt."

“I had no means to get to work and on my final warning for absence the threat of losing my job was very real. [The Plus Partnership Support Worker] managed to access cash to allow me to fuel my car and get to work. I was suicidal I was at my wits end and could not cope I just wanted to go to sleep and never wake up as I saw no answer until [The Plus Partnership Support Worker] yet again helped me. I am happy to say that now I appear to be on an even footing.”

“I can’t thank you enough. You’re always there when I need help.”

21 August 2024
Agenda Item No. 12

Supporting the Levenmouth Plan – Viewforth Play Area - One Off Renewal of Play Equipment.

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) for ward 22 for a total of £22,000.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to:

- 1) agree a total contribution of £22,000 to allow the commissioning of work to install one major piece of play equipment at this key play area in Buckhaven; and
- 2) note the additional funding to be drawn from identified underspends.

Resource Implications

Approval of this funding will reduce the LCPB ward 22 element by £22,000. The overall cost of the work is estimated at £42,000, to support this, funding has been drawn from underspends on other play area projects, notably at Oakvale Road, which was completed recently.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report. Risk management issues will be addressed in terms of the working arrangements at the point of installation by the successful contractor, who will have been selected through a formal tendering process.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

Members are aware of the programme of work that has been carried out in the area as part of the improvement to play areas, Much of this work is tied into tranches of Scottish Government funding and based on that we have a programme in place for the next two years. Viewforth had not been one of the identified areas for work within the short to medium term, however a recent survey of the main piece of play equipment at the site required it to be removed for safety reasons.

Members discussed this issue at the ward 22 meeting on 24/4/24 and agreed that a one-off intervention at this site was critical given that Buckhaven is an area of particular focus. Accordingly, members instructed the Community Manager to seek a funding package to take this proposal forward. In discussion with the Parks Development Officer, funding has been found from underspends at other projects, which will be used alongside the sum requested today from the ward 22 budget.

The Buckhaven and Denbeath Community Council have also been contacted in relation to this proposal and have expressed their support for a solution to be found to replace the removed unit.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from this Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget (ward 22) to allow work to be commissioned at the Viewforth play area in Buckhaven.
- 1.3 Members expressed their concerns about this area being left without a key piece of equipment at what is a well-used play space.
- 1.4 An image of the site as it currently sits is shown in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1 – A view of the current condition of the Viewforth Play Area

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 As noted members for ward 22, agreed at their April 2024 ward meeting, to move forward with a proposal that falls out with the current programme of planned works for play areas in Levenmouth. By using ward 22 specific budget and slippage primarily from a job at Oakvale Road, officers have managed to bring this proposal forward without any impact on the imminent planned work at Herd Park, Glenlyon Road, Lilac Bank and Greig Park, which are all in the process of being commissioned or due to go on site soon.
- 2.2 Pictorial representations of the new piece of equipment proposed for this site can be found as attachments to this report, members should note that the overall cost also includes the removal of the current surfacing as shown in Figure 1, the installation of safety surfacing as well as the installation of the new play equipment.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 This one-off project aligns well with the formal programme of play area improvements which remains a key priority locally for members and as we know from feedback, the communities of Levenmouth.

- 3.2 In addition this project meets the underpinning aims of the approved current Levenmouth Plan, notably around Opportunities for All and Thriving Places, in ensuring excellent quality play space across the whole of Levenmouth, and promoting activity as a key part of a healthy lifestyle.

List of Appendices

- Drawing 1
- Drawing 2

Report Contact

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21 August 2024
Agenda Item No. 13

Supporting the Levenmouth Plan – Increasing Employment Opportunities through Training – Grounds for Growth

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21,22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) Anti-Poverty budget of £10,000 as a contribution to the overall cost of the Grounds for Growth initiative in Levenmouth.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to agree a total contribution of £10,000 towards the overall cost of providing the Grounds for Growth initiative in the Levenmouth area.

Resource Implications

Approval of this funding will reduce the LCPB (Anti-Poverty) element by £10,000.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report. Risk management issues will be addressed in terms of the working arrangements for all participants within the Grounds for Growth approach. Any perceived risk will be mitigated by the application of high-quality training, ongoing supervision, and the issuing of approved PPE relevant to the jobs being undertaken.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

Members have stated that one of their main concerns in relation to local planning objectives is the need to ensure that opportunities are made available to local people to enhance their skills to provide the best opportunity to be ready for work. The type and range of skills imparted are important to assist local people to be aspirational in terms of what type of job they would like to do.

The offer from the Grounds for Growth approach ties in with the feedback coming from local employers and candidates looking for training opportunities.

This approach also ties in with our River Leven training offer, by potentially offering successful candidates a route to more in depth training and a paid placement.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from this Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget Anti-Poverty budget for a £10,000 contribution.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The Levenmouth Plan notes that economic development and increasing local employment is a priority for the area and notes that it is essential to make sure that all the current opportunities are taken advantage of in a co-ordinated way.
- 2.2 Levenmouth has several challenges in terms of its ability to be robust during times of economic fragility. The area still has comparatively low levels of educational achievement, although recent reports from the high school head teachers have shown an increase in achievement as well as positive destination data. Skills within the working population which can help people adapt to meet the demands of the labour market are also perceived to require specific support work locally.
- 2.3 The Grounds for Growth approach has been running in the area for the last year, and assists in achieving some of the core aims of the Levenmouth local community plan, namely;
 - Providing a range of training programmes for local people
 - Carrying out work that benefits green assets in Levenmouth
 - Arranging work placements
 - Supporting candidates to progress into work or further training

- 2.4 The project is primarily supported by the Shared Prosperity Fund until 31st March 2025. It looks to take 4 cohorts of 6 participants who are currently unemployed through an initial 5-week voluntary programme, where participants stay on their benefits and take part in a series of certified training courses.
- 2.5 These courses include Health and Safety, Manual Handling, First Aid and an NPTC Certificate in Brush Cutters and Strimmer's. These are qualifications that are key to accessing work opportunities in the sector.
- 2.6 This provision gives participants an opportunity to try working outdoors, which for many will be the first time they have experienced this. On completion of the 5-week voluntary programme, participants will be guaranteed an interview to move on to a 13-week waged programme.
- 2.7 On average four from six of the cohorts will be motivated to move onto the waged programme, experience has shown that there will always be a fall off from some of the participants who want to look at alternative work opportunities. The Grounds for Growth wider team are also set up to work with these clients to look at other development opportunities more tailored to the aspirations of the individual client and refer on accordingly.
- 2.8 All clients will have a foundation of support as part of the approach in terms of CV production and experience of mock interviews to ensure they are better equipped for the jobs market. Building confidence in the individual is a foundational element to the training process and is an aspect that is consistently reinforced throughout the period of training.
- 2.9 Those taking part in the 13-week waged programme will continue to consolidate the skills they have built during the initial 5-weeks and build new ones. After a short period of working alongside our instructor/supervisors, participants will then move onto a placement where they will be working in live situations under the supervision of the placement provider.
- 2.10 We have already seen a flow through of trainees into seasonal working opportunities with the Fife Council Grounds Maintenance team in Levenmouth, which underlines the strong potential route for all participants to come through the River Leven training experience into Grounds for Growth and out into employment within a short period of time, and with transferrable skills and qualifications.
- 2.11 In the current financial year 12 people have taken part in the Grounds for Growth programme at Silverburn with 7 moving on to a job as a direct result of their participation. For those who haven't moved into employment immediately, the project continues to offer employability support.
- 2.12 There has also been further developments in the provision due to demands from referring agencies, this has brought about the delivery of some shorter weeklong programmes as an introduction to working in the sector and these have been extremely popular. Over a period of 3 weeks, 17 people have taken part in these weeklong programmes.

- 2.13 In terms of benefits being accrued through work on local green assets, the Grounds for Growth team have carried out extensive work within Silverburn Park which has assisted in increasing the biodiversity within the park, notably within the walled garden area, as well as helping in the removal of trees after the storm events in late 2023. Discussions are also ongoing as to what assistance the team can give in assisting the work at Letham Glen as part of the build-up to the centenary celebrations.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 As noted this is a small contribution to the overall cost of the Grounds for Growth programme currently funded by the UKSPF. Local contributions are a requirement to help lever in this funding to the area, at present this project work has only been offered in the Levenmouth and Cowdenbeath areas.
- 3.2 The programme dovetails well with other training provision in the area and has a specific focus on older returners to the workforce and those looking for a change of career.

List of Appendices

None

Background Papers

Levenmouth Area Committee Report – [May 2023 Pages 115-125](#)

Report Contact

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21 August 2024
Agenda Item No.14

Supporting the Levenmouth Local Plan – Methilhill Community Children’s Initiative (MCCI) Outdoor Adventurers Proposal

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21 and 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution of £15, 985 from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) Anti-Poverty budget for the Outdoor Adventurers project proposal by Methilhill Community Children’s Initiative (MCCI).

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to:

- 1) agree a contribution of £15, 985 from the LCPB (Local Community Planning Budget) Anti-Poverty budget; and
- 2) note the match funding element to be provided by Scottish Governments Investing in Communities fund.

Resource Implications

The proposal in front of members today will reduce the total available budget in the LCPB Anti-Poverty budget 2024/25 by £15,985, this will leave an unallocated balance of £91, 928.22.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report. Any risk issues pertaining to the delivery of service supported by this funding will be controlled and mitigated by MCCI. Members will also note that there is a stated ambition to move this provision into the oversight of the Care Inspectorate which may require a certain level of governance adaptation to ensure compliance.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

This proposal has been discussed with officers and MCCI and has been overviewed by the WRAP (Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty) group.

Members have raised concerns around the lack of after school care and the provision of food assistance at the end of the school day which was discussed in some depth at the 20th March 2024 Levenmouth Area Committee on the back of the Public Health – Young People and Health and Wellbeing.

This proposal is one approach to these concerns, however further work is ongoing to look at appropriate delivery of assistance at key points throughout the rest of the Levenmouth area. This will be a focus of discussions at the joint WRAP and People Group on 29th August 2024.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from the Area Committee before amounts of over £5000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for funding from the LCPB Anti- Poverty for £15,985 for the Outdoor Adventurers project proposal submitted by MCCI.
- 1.3 This funding is to help with the provision of the Outdoor Adventurers project which will be described in further detail below.
- 1.4 MCCI is a registered charity operating from Methilhill Community Learning Garden located at 130 Sea Road, Methilhill. Originally formed by a group of parents in 2012 who took action to establish a Youth Club for the Methilhill community, MCCI built on the success of this to secure a land lease and expand the offering. Over 12 years later, the offering now includes a 6-day a week programme of provision for children of all ages providing opportunities to socialise and learn in an outdoor environment.
- 1.5 The Methilhill Community Learning Garden is also home to a Community Café operating on a Monday and Friday, a small donation ‘bank’ (offering food, toiletries, and nappies to those in need), as well as other ad hoc community events held throughout the year.

- 1.6 Members will be aware of other projects currently being worked on with MCCI in particular the joint effort to take on the adjacent undermined land at Chemiss Road, and taking on, through lease arrangements with the authority, of the recently vacated Methilhill Senior Citizens Hall, which has been a key asset in the area for many years.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The Outdoor Adventurers proposal is focused on after school care specifically for primary school age children.
- 2.2 The offer runs from Monday to Thursday during term time. While many attendees are from the nearby Methilhill Primary School, transport is made available on a voluntary basis by parents to support the attendance of pupils from other schools in the area.
- 2.3 Each afternoon play opportunities are provided in the MCCI garden that are aimed at expanding the opportunity for socialisation through play and exploration which can be carried out within a safe space. Food provision is also part of the service offer to children.
- 2.4 Outdoor Adventurers as a concept began in 2021 on a smaller scale. Since the end of the restrictions required under the pandemic, this demand has increased significantly. It is anticipated that in August 2024 10 further children will be applying for a place for after school care.
- 2.5 At present there are 33 families with one or more children attending at least two sessions a week. In many cases this provision helps facilitate employment or study arrangements for parents as care is provided up to 5.45pm each day.
- 2.6 Given the anticipated increase in demand for places coming in the next month or so, it is proposed that the capacity for the provision will be raised from 24 to 32 children per session.
- 2.7 The funding being asked for today will directly support the increase in capacity noted above and bring in a further member of staff to ensure compliance with ratios required for the care of young children. It should also be noted that the funding will also allow daily fees for the provision to be capped at a more affordable rate for parents. When required MCCI have used to discretion to offer a free space to assist parents in balancing their outgoings.
- 2.8 As part of the longer-term sustainability of this service, MCCI are exploring the process for registering the service with the Care Inspectorate which will allow parents to apply for support with childcare fees. Direct support is being given by colleagues from Fife Council on this approach. MCCI have experience of the process as their nursery provision is already registered, putting the after-school provision on the same footing should therefore be an achievable ambition.
- 2.9 Other funding streams have been applied for and this includes the Scottish Government - Investing in Communities fund which is expected to provide £7000 towards the total project cost. Accordingly, funding would only be released from the

LCPB once this funding had been formally confirmed. The balance of funds towards the project will be met from participant fees.

- 2.10 The overall cost of the project proposal will be £31,943 and all work supported by this funding would be undertaken within financial year 24/25 given the proposed start date of August 2024.
- 2.11 The most significant item within this funding package will be for staff costs and oncosts which have been estimated at £22,080, this will cover the new post required to allow the project to increase the availability of places. Other costs built into the proposal include the provision of food, enhanced play resources and utility costs associated with the expansion of service provision.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 The application fits well with the agreed priorities contained within the Levenmouth Local Plan, specifically around the Opportunities for All and Thriving Places theme.

List of Appendices

None

Background Papers

[Levenmouth Local Plan 2023 Pages 115-125](#)

[Levenmouth Area Committee 20th March 2024 – Pages 32-39](#)

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21 August 2024

Agenda Item No. 15

Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Coaltown of Wemyss Bowling Club – Insulation and Roof Work – Community Recovery Fund Request

Report by: Paul Vaughan Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: 22

Purpose

This report is to secure funding to support additional insulation work and reroofing at the Coaltown of Wemyss Bowling Club. The total request is £8,500 and this would be drawn from the Community Recovery Fund (CRF).

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to agree funding of £8,500 from the Community Recovery Fund to cover the proposed roofing and insulation work at Coaltown of Wemyss Bowling Club.

Resource Implications

Agreement to this request will reduce the budget availability in the CRF local community planning budget by £8,500

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no specific legal or risk implications for Fife Council inherent in this report. Any work undertaken that is supported by this funding will be carried out in line with required working practices and safety regulations. These will be overseen by the successful contractor who will work on the instruction of the client, in this case the Coaltown of Wemyss Bowling Club Management Committee.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

Members have always been committed to the maintenance of important community assets and most recently took a decision at the May 2024 Levenmouth Area Committee to support local facilities who have been successful in securing Climate Adaptation funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). While this proposal has not secured UKSPF funding the club have pulled together their own financial contribution to the work.

The Community Manager met with the committee earlier in 2024 to discuss a range of work at the building which is aimed at improving energy efficiency as well as ensuring full access for disabled visitors and bowlers.

The club have already invested heavily in their asset including the replacement of windows and upgrades to the heating system.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 There is a requirement for all requests over £5000 from the local community planning budget to be considered and agreed by the Area Committee.
- 1.2 This request seeks to secure agreement to funding up to £8500 which would then be used alongside a similar contribution from the club to carry out extensive roofing and insulation work. The estimated total cost of the work is in the region of £16000.
- 1.3 As noted the club have already carried out a range of largely self-funded interventions to improve the quality and sustainability of their building asset.
- 1.4 It should be noted that the club is owned by Wemyss Estate and is overseen by their representatives Savills. The building and green have been leased for many decades and there is no likelihood of any change of use for this facility in the foreseeable future.
- 1.5 The club is a vibrant part of the community and membership is open to all, the club has a growing junior membership also through its interaction with the local school. The club hosts a range of events over and above its main sports provision, including family fun days, old folks treats, Christmas parties, as well as being the centre for warm spaces provision in the village. Our partner housing provider Kingdom Housing also use the venue for all its tenant participation engagement work.

2.0 Project Detail

- 2.1 Initial estimates have been sourced for the proposed work and these details are noted below.

- 2.2 The work will require removal of two courses of tiles to allow full access to the flat roof area that requires the work. The rest of the pitched roof space has already had a degree of insulation added, however further work to boost the effectiveness of this may be undertaken at a later stage. Once fully stripped a layer of grade A underlay will be torched on to allow the fitting of Coolag insulation board. A mineral capping sheet will then be torched on over the insulation and new flashings will be applied to the whole area, along with welted drips. The roof tiles would then be replaced.
- 2.3 This work would then be covered by a warranty which we expect to be no less than 10 years in duration to give surety to the club and to the Council as a part funder.
- 2.4 As noted we see this as part of the ongoing investment in infrastructure and facilities that the area has pursued for several years with significant success. We have worked with several bowling clubs which are often at the heart of their communities to improve access arrangements and facilitate usage by disabled bowlers, notably by supporting the installation of fully accessible toilets and access ramps both into the buildings and down onto the green itself.
- 2.5 We see this accessibility work as important and will continue to promote the potential for this across the area, however at this time, sustainability, and a move to a reduction in carbon emissions is an overriding priority for many of our key community facilities.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 This approach aligns with a range of priorities within Levenmouth local plan, but specifically within the themes of Opportunities for All, and Thriving Places.

List of Appendices

- CRF – Pro Forma

Background Papers

- [Levenmouth Area Committee 15th May 2024 Agenda Item 12 Pages 112-137](#)

Report Contact

Contact Name: David Paterson

Contact Job Title: Community Manager

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Email [-david.paterson@fife.gov.uk](mailto:david.paterson@fife.gov.uk)

Proposal Title:	Coaltown of Wemyss BC Roofing and Insulation Costs			
Brief Summary of Proposal:	To ensure this key community building remains watertight, with the additional benefit of insulation being added to a large section of flat roof, therefore improving the heat retention of this facility.			
Select relevant Area or Fife wide:	Cowdenbeath		Levenmouth	X
	Dunfermline		North East Fife	
	Glenrothes		South and West Fife	
	Kirkcaldy		Fife wide	
If Fife wide, will the proposal deliver across all 7 areas?	N/A			
Project Lead	Dave Paterson			
Lead Organisation	Fife Council			
Date	21.8.24			

Community Recovery Fund - Background

At its meeting on 25th August 2022, 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 2022 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 7 Area Committees with the remaining £1m to be used to support initiatives spanning several areas or of Fife wide significance.

Approach

- Area Committees will decide allocations from the fund
- Communities should help identify priorities and projects
- The fund can be used flexibly across financial years 22/23 and 23/24
- Projects and spend should support wider community recovery as well as shorter term challenges e.g., cost of living
- Minimise any recurring revenue spend but promote innovation and pilot schemes which may influence future delivery

Specific Criteria

- 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

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Applicant organisations will be asked to provide 6-monthly progress reports at 6 months, 12 months, and 18 months. Where applicable, a final report will be required upon completion.
- We expect organisations to source best value and provide verification of the budget spend.

DETAILS OF PROPOSAL

1.	<p>What benefits will the proposal deliver and what are the timescales for delivery? Please also include in this section the consideration given to any unintended consequences associated with the proposal, during implementation or upon completion.</p>
<p>The detail of this proposal is noted in the accompanying report but is essentially aimed at improving both the watertightness of this key community building, notably at the large area of flat roof which covers the large part of the social space within the building, as well as increase the level of insulation at this section.</p> <p>The rest of the building has a pitched roof construction which has been insulated within the cavity area, the flat roof area provides more of a problem, and in this case the solution preferred is to introduce an insulation board which is then capped off. Other solutions such as introducing a pitch to the flat roof would be significantly more expensive and would require planning overview.</p> <p>This solution can be achieved quickly, and if permission is given today, we would expect the work to be carried out before the year end.</p>	
2.	<p>Please detail which priorities this proposal meets.</p>
a)	<p>Recovery and Renewal Plan 4 Fife Update priorities met.</p>
<p>Thriving Communities – new infrastructure, additional tourism offers in Levenmouth to tie in with the rail opening, potential for additional economic activity in the area. Excellent quality community infrastructure where events can be facilitated. Opportunities for All. - Better quality outdoor play space, free access to all, promotion of sports and leisure opportunities.</p>	
b)	<p>Local Community Plan priorities met.</p>
<p>This meets several LCP (Local Community Plan) priorities notably</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved Health Outcomes 	

- Increasing participation levels in sport and activity
- Green space and Play Space Improvements
- Supporting the development of a strong tourism offer
- Improving local facilities

3. What consultation has taken place regarding the proposal? (e.g., with communities, Elected Members, other Services, partner organisations, at People and Place Leadership Groups)

Members of ward 22 are aware of the proposals to improve this asset, as this has been discussed at Community Council meetings on a regular basis.

4. List the desired outcomes and benefits, and what measures of success will be used.

Outcome	Benefit	Measurement
Full design and feasibility	Known costs and a design in place that meets the requirements of the committee	Estimates secured and VFM agreed
Funding Agreed	Clarity on the ability to move forward with this proposal	Agreement secured; contractor engaged
Contract start	Relationship with contractor established	Work starting
Contract end	New asset in place	Improvement in perception of heat retention and utility bills lowered

COSTS

5.	Provide a breakdown of the proposal's costs.	
Cost Description	£	
Remove tiles and existing flat roof covering to facilitate access	£16,000	
Install base cover	£	
Install insulation boards	£	
Install capping cover	£	
Renew flashings and welted drips	£	
Replace tiling	£	
Total:		£16,000
6.	How much funding are you requesting from the Community Recovery Fund?	
£8,500		

7.	Where Community Recovery Fund monies are requested to fund a portion of the total proposal cost, list below all other sources of funding and indicate whether this funding is confirmed or pending.
Coaltown of Wemyss BC Management held reserves – Confirmed	

RISKS

8.	What are the risks associated with this proposal?			
	Risk Description	Probability Score (1-5)	Impact Score (1-5)	Overall Score (Probability x Impact)
	Funding for construction process not agreed	2	5	10
	Delay in. Progress due to workload of chosen contractor	3	3	9
	Weather delays	2	4	8
9.	For each risk, please detail the mitigation measures in place.			
	Risk	Mitigation Measures		
	Funding	Alternative funding would require to be found.		
	Delay/Including Weather	The client in this case C0WBC would work with the contractor in terms of workload delay to attempt to prioritise their project, there is no specific mitigation available in terms of weather event delay		

PROPOSAL SIGN OFF

10.	Can you confirm the proposal does not have any of the following:	
	Recurring costs	No recurring costs for this aspect. The asset will continue to be maintained by the management committee as per the requirements of their lease.
	Unintended consequences	None
	Duplication with existing projects / initiatives	No Duplication



Community Recovery Fund Project Proposal

Document ref

CRF01

11.	Approval		
Approved By	Role	Date	
	Community Manager	21.8.24	
	Accountant		
	Area Committee	21.8.24	
	Cabinet Committee (if Fife wide)	N/A	

21 August 2024

Agenda Item No. 16

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Report by: Alan Paul, Head of Property Services

Wards Affected: 21

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of action taken using the List of Officer Powers in relation to property transactions.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications arising from these transactions, as any expenditure is contained within the appropriate Service budget.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or risk implications arising from these transactions.

Impact Assessment

An EqIA is not required and is not necessary for the following reasons: the items in this report do not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

All consultations have been carried out in relation to this report.

1.0 Background

- 1.1** In dealing with the day to day business of the Council there are a number of matters relating to the purchase, disposal and leasing of property and of property rights. This report advises of those transactions dealt with under powers delegated to officials.

2.0 Transactions

2.1 Acquisitions

2.1.1 5 Old Mill Court, Leven

Date of Acquisition: 17 June 2024

Price: £68,000

2.2 Leases by the Council – New Leases

2.2.1 Unit 4 Sandybrae Industrial Estate, Old Station Road, Kennoway

Term: 5 years

Rent: £2,750 per annum

Tenant: Robert Gardiner

2.2.2 Unit 3 Sandybrae Industrial Estate, Kennoway

Term: 5 years

Rent: £2,750 per annum

Tenant: Lesley Gardiner

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1** These transactions are reported back in accordance with the List of Officers Powers.

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:

N/A

Report Contact

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Author’s Job Title Service Manager
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21 August 2024

Agenda Item No. 17

Levenmouth Area Committee Forward Work Programme

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

Wards Affected: 21 and 22

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

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Committee Services Manager
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Levenmouth Area Committee of 2 October 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	
Levenmouth Independence Initiative Anti Poverty Work - Year 2 Funding	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Area Housing Plan Update 2024	Housing Services	Peter Nicol	
Housing Area Lettings Plan	Housing Services	Peter Nicol	
Progress Update Report – Justice Social Work (JSW) Welfare Support Worker	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Eagle Road MUGA - Resurfacing Proposal Funding Request	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Green Health Partnership - Ratification of Funding (65K)	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
FEAT Trading CIC - demolition of doocot at Silverburn Park and installation of outdoor furniture	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
River Leven Programme Briefing Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Letham Glen Centenary Work - Funding Request	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Tourism Partnership Worker Resource - Continuation Funding	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Pupilwise/Parentwise Surveys	Education	Shelagh McLean	
Corra Continuation Funding Report 2024/25	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	

Levenmouth Area Committee of 27 November 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Common Good and Settlement Trust Fund Annual Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Eleanor Hodgson, David Paterson	
Complaints Annual Update	Communities	David Thomson-CRM, Diarmuid Cotter	
Local Capital Budget - Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	

Levenmouth Area Committee of 12 February 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Local Economic Profiles - Annual Report		Peter Corbett	

Levenmouth Area Committee of 2 April 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Pupil Equity Fund	Education	Zoe Thomson	
School Attainment and Achievement Report	Education	Shelagh McLean	
Health and Social Care Locality Annual Update Report	Health and Social Care	Jacquie Stringer-fc	
Public Health Report - Annual Progress Update	Education	Pamela Colburn	

Levenmouth Area Committee of 25 June 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Safer Communities Team Update	Housing Services		
Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Local Plan Annual Performance Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service		

Levenmouth Area Committee of 25 June 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities within Levenmouth	Police Scotland		
Grounds Maintenance Service Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service Annual Review	Environment & Building Operations (AT&E)	Scott Clelland, Alexander Anderson-Es	
Local Capital Budget - 6 Month Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Additional funding for the Levenmouth Comms Advisor post			
Sport Scotland Targeted Approach- Levenmouth- Anti Poverty Funding to Remove Barriers to Individual Access	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Community Renewal Project Proposals - Update and Current Spend Profile	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Common Goods Fund (Standing Item)	Communities	David Paterson	
Complaints Update Report		David Thomson-CRM, Diarmuid Cotter	
Area Housing Plan	Housing Services	Peter Nicol	
Local Capital Budget - Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
On Fife Levenmouth Activity Update		Christine McLean	