

Glenrothes Area Committee

Committee Room 2 (FHM05.002), 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes



Wednesday, 22 May 2024 - 2.00 p.m.

AGENDA

Page Nos.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – In terms of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct, members of the Committee are asked to declare any interest in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.
3. **MINUTE** – Minute of Meeting of Glenrothes Area Committee of 27 March 2024. 3 – 6
4. **SUPPORTING THE GLENROTHES LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – AREA BUDGET REQUEST – CLD SUMMER PROGRAMME** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service. 7 – 12
5. **SUPPORTING THE PLAN 4 GLENROTHES AREA: COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service. 13 – 22
6. **BALGEDDIE FIRS PLAY AREA – RE-ALLOCATION OF AREA CAPITAL FUNDING** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service. 23 – 24
7. **PLAY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION – GLENROTHES AREA** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service. 25 – 30
8. **GLENROTHES LINKED TOGETHER – ONGOING FUNDING REQUEST & OUTCOMES BRIEFING** – Report by the Chief Inspector, Central Local Area Commander. 31 – 34
9. **SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM UPDATE REPORT** – Report by the Head of Housing Services. 35 – 59
10. **OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN GLENROTHES AREA – 1 APRIL 2023 - 31 MARCH 2024** – Report by the Community Inspector, Glenrothes. 60 – 78
11. **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT- 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024** – Report by the Station Commander, Glenrothes, St Andrews and Tayport Fire Stations. 79 – 98
12. **PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS** – Report by the Head of Property Services. 99 – 100
13. **GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME** – Report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services. 101 – 106

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.

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Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Finance and Corporate Services

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15 May 2024

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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 - GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

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

27 March 2024

2.00 pm – 3.30 pm

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

ATTENDING: Fiona McKay, Head of Strategic Planning Performance & Commissioning and Jacquie Stringer, Service Manager (Locality/Community Led Support), Health & Social Care Partnership; Pamela Colburn, Quality Improvement Officer (Health & Wellbeing), Education Service; Andy Maclellan, Community Projects Team Manager, Louise Whyte, Capital Projects Manager, Chris Mieztis, Area Community Development Team Manager (Glenrothes) and Kevin O’Kane, Greenspace Partnership Officer, Communities & Neighbourhoods Service; Vicki Connor, Lead Consultant (Roads, Lighting and Asset Management) and Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant, Traffic Management, Roads & Transportation Services; and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Craig Walker.

99. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

100. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the Glenrothes Area Committee of 31 January 2024.

Decision

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

101. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE LOCALITY PLANNING - GLENROTHES

The committee considered a report by the Service Manager (Locality/Community Led Support), Health and Social Care Partnership (H&SCP) providing an overview of Locality Planning Outcomes for Glenrothes during 2023.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) agreed that the Health and Social Care Partnership would provide an annual report on locality planning and joint areas of interest between the Health and Social Care Partnership and community planning partners; and

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- (2) requested an elected member briefing on the 'Community of Kindness' project to fund a community kitchen and garden potentially located in the Macedonia area, including any implications for established and operational community kitchens and gardens in the locale.

102. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT AND YOUNG PEOPLE HEALTH AND WELLBEING SURVEY RESULTS

The committee considered a report by the Head of Education relating to the director of public health report 'Children and Young people in Fife - the Building Blocks for Health' and providing the results of the Fife Young People's Health and Wellbeing Survey, carried out in March 2023.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the survey results, as provided through the Fife Young People's Health and Wellbeing Survey;
- (2) agreed to endorse the next steps outlined in response to the survey results; and
- (3) delegated to officers to arrange an elected member workshop to take place after the summer recess, to consider the survey results and next steps in more detail.

103. BACK BURN RIVER PROJECT – AREA CAPITAL FUNDING REQUEST

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking an allocation of £100,000 from the Glenrothes Area Capital Budget as match funding to secure significant external funding from SEPA for continued investment in the Back Burn River Project.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) agreed to allocate £100,000 from the Area Capital Budget;
- (2) noted that SEPA had provisionally allocated £850,000 investment in the Back Burn River Project based on match funding being identified by Fife Council; and
- (3) noted that a bid would also be made to the 2024/2025 Nature Restoration Fund for the Back Burn River Project.

104. SUPPORTING THE PLAN 4 GLENROTHES AREA: COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND

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 Glenrothes Area toward various projects. The report also provided a summary of funds committed from the CRF to date and funding proposals under consideration.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) agreed to approve the following amounts from the CRF totalling £111,320:-
 - Adult Learning Programme Development - £15,000;
 - Cadham Neighbourhood Centre - £15,000;
 - Stenton Jubilee Community Centre - £38,643;
 - Victoria Hall, Coaltown of Balgonie - £8,000;
 - Warout Stadium - £8,500; and
 - Gilvenbank Lighting - £26,177; and
- (2) noted this would leave a balance of £422,459 available for allocation from the CRF budget.

105. PLAY SPACES CATEGORISATION - GLENROTHES AREA

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking approval of the Play Spaces Categorisation for the Glenrothes Area - to create better quality and more inclusive play spaces.

Decision

The committee: -

- (1) agreed to approve the play spaces categorisation for the Glenrothes area;
- (2) noted that an implementation plan was being developed; and
- (3) delegated to officers to submit a report for its future consideration, as soon as possible, outlining a proposed implementation plan spanning at least the next two years.

106. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2024-25

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services advising on the projects for inclusion in the 2024-2025 Area Roads Programme for the Glenrothes Area.

Decision

The committee : -

- (1) agreed to approve appendices 1-3 of the report (carriageway schemes; footway schemes; and traffic management and road safety, respectively);
- (2) agreed to delegate authority to the Head of Roads and Transportation Services to manage the list of Category 1 and 2 projects, in line with the available resources/funding as the programme developed, in consultation with the area Convener, Depute Convener and elected members;
- (3) noted Appendices 4 and 5 of the report (street lighting; and bridges and structures, respectively); and

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- (4) requested consideration of a speed survey relating to the carriageway scheme for Foxtton Drive (U040) - to determine whether mitigation measures were required to be reinstated.

107. GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

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

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the draft workplan for the Glenrothes Area Committee;
- (2) as referenced at paragraph 101 (1) – ‘Health and Social Care Locality Planning – Glenrothes’ – agreed to consider a further annual report in 2025;
- (3) as referenced at paragraph 105 (3) – ‘Play Spaces Categorisation - Glenrothes Area’ – agreed to consider a report relating to a two-year implementation plan; and
- (4) agreed that committee members would advise the Convener, Depute Convener, Lead Officer and Committee Officer of any other items within the remit of the committee, including items for scrutiny, to be added to the workplan.

22 May 2024

Agenda Item No. 4

Supporting the Glenrothes Local Community Plan – Area Budget Request – CLD Summer Programme

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Wards 13, 14 and 15

Purpose

This report details an application from the Glenrothes Area Community Learning & Development Team seeking £36188.84 of funding to support CLD led activity for children, young people, and families during the summer break.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Agree that £36188.84 is allocated from the Local Community Planning Budget to support this CLD led activity.
- (2) Note that this CLD led activity will form part of a wider summer partnership programme.

Resource Implications

The Glenrothes LCP has sufficient funding available from the 2024/25 budget allocation.

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

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

Partners have met to plan an Area wide approach and have agreed to signpost into and support this CLD programme (Appendix 1)

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Youth Work Provision provided by the Communities and Neighbourhoods Service is funded on a term time basis covering 40 weeks per year. Historically additional funding from the Local Community Planning Budget has supported school holiday activity.
- 1.2 The Glenrothes Area CLD Team have designed a programme of activity that considers staff capacity, requests from young people, and partner provision.
- 1.3 A similar CLD programme facilitated last summer demonstrated positive impact on outcomes for young people, children and families who participated in the programme.
- 1.4 Provision in 2023 was busier than 2022 with services more in demand year on year.

2.0 Project Proposal

- 2.1 Weekly free family events, '**Summer in the Park**', will be led by CLD alongside partners including Active Schools, Home Start, Glenrothes Family Support Service. A range of activities will be provided at Riverside Park that hope to engage up to 70 families per session.
- 2.2 The **SHAPE** (Summer Holiday Activity Programme Experience) for vulnerable children from Glenrothes - based in the Lomond Centre, 5 day a week provision - with teenage volunteers, local parents, and Auchmuty & Dovecot Tenants & Residents Association as partners - overseen by CLD staff, includes a wide range of activities and a lunch for children.
- 2.3 **Youth Diversion – Exit Community Centre** will provide a range of indoor and outdoor activities for young people every Wednesday and Friday for 5 weeks of the holiday period. Auchmuty & Dovecot Tenants & Residents Association will provide in kind use of their mini-bus.
- 2.4 **Youth Diversion – Lomond Centre** will provide a range of indoor and outdoor activities for young people every Wednesday and Friday for 5 weeks of the holiday period. Auchmuty & Dovecot Tenants & Residents Association will provide in kind use of their mini-bus.
- 2.5 **Drone Project** is a creative media project running throughout the summer holiday period. Children and young people will have the opportunity to use drones to create video footage and photos. Training will be provided on how to use the drones and the footage obtained will provide visible evidence of the impact of the summer projects.
- 2.6 **P7 Transitions** – Support for young people referred by cluster primary schools for Glenrothes HS catchment that have been identified as needing support with building relationships for going in to secondary school.
- 2.7 **Outdoor Youth Diversion** – This project targets young people identified by Education and Partner agencies as vulnerable and at risk through the school holidays. They will have the opportunity to be involved in various outdoor activities. These will run across various days and evenings.
- 2.8 **Information and Activity Stalls** – Multi-agency stalls in the Kingdom Centre, led by Welfare staff will provide interactive learning and support, alongside signposting to other agencies for support. Budget related activities for adults, along with activities for children

and young people. Information about the other summer provisions and financial support available for families.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The summer holiday period can be a challenging time for many children, young people, and families in the Glenrothes Area. This programme will allow the Glenrothes Area CLD Team to lead on a series of activities that will include experiential learning, fun activity, outdoor and indoor physical and adventure activity, family engagement and youth diversion.
- 3.2 Food provision at every activity, in partnership with Café Inc provision, will help ensure that fewer children and young people miss out on healthy and nutritious meals during this prolonged school break.
- 3.3 Planning and delivering this programme in partnership with Active Schools, Home Start, Glenrothes Family Work Team, local community centre and hub provision and other partner agencies will help ensure a comprehensive and balanced summer provision that all children, young people and families across the Area can access.

List of Appendices

1. Summer 2024 CLD Plan

Report Contact

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Summer 2024 CLD Provision

Service/Team	Proposal	Food Provided/Linked to Café Inc. Y/N	Priority family group/s targeted	Additional Funding Required
Glenrothes CLD	Summer in the Park – free family events every week throughout the summer holidays offering different opportunities and activities for families in the Glenrothes and surrounding areas 1-4pm each Wednesday (weather permitting)	Yes - 350 packed Lunches each Wednesday for 5 weeks Packed lunches to be delivered at 1.30pm Wednesday 10 th July – Wednesday 7 th August (inclusive)	Target and encourage low-income families to participate in Summer in the Park	Staffing £2,100.58 Materials £2,057.00 Hospitality £334.00 Entertainment £2,500 Welfare Stall at Park - £300 Total Cost £7291.58
Glenrothes CLD	SHAPE – 5 days a week x 7 weeks (excluding public holidays) Summer Holiday Activity Programme targeted at vulnerable children/young people in the Glenrothes area identified by schools, social work, colleagues and community groups 10am-2pm. Partner contribution from Auchmuty & Dovecot Tenants & Residents Association for use of mini-bus (in kind)	Yes - 70 Packed Lunches each day for 7 weeks delivered to Lomond Centre	Children identified as vulnerable and from low-income families referred through Social Work, Education, and local community connections.	£ 12672.10 Staffing
Glenrothes CLD	Youth Diversion – Exit Community Centre (twice weekly x 5 weeks) delivering indoor/outdoor activities on a Wednesday and Friday evening. Partner contribution from Auchmuty & Dovecot Tenants & Residents Association for use of mini-bus (in kind)	No – information about café inc venues and times will be provided	Young people from disadvantaged and low-income families	£ 2398.86 Staffing

Service/Team	Proposal	Food Provided/Linked to Café Inc. Y/N	Priority family group/s targeted	Additional Funding Required
Glenrothes CLD	Youth Diversion – Lomond Centre (twice weekly x 7 weeks) delivering indoor/outdoor activities on a Wednesday and Friday evening. Partner contribution from Auchmuty & Dovecot Tenants & Residents Association for use of mini-bus (in kind)	No – information about café inc venues and times will be provided	Young people from disadvantaged and low-income families	£ 2465.10 Staffing
Glenrothes CLD	Drone Project - staff hours for a creative media project to cover the whole CLD summer programme for children and young people which includes drone footage, photos, training young people and provide visible evidence of the impact of the CLD summer projects.	No – information about café inc venues and times will be provided	All children and young people participating in CLD summer programme with appropriate permissions for image and video recording and distribution	£ 1285.20 Staffing
Glenrothes CLD	P7 Transitions - Young People referred by primary schools for Glenrothes HS catchment that have been identified as needing support with building relationships for going in to secondary school.	Yes Funding for lunches provided for 12 young people x 5 weeks	Young people from disadvantaged and low-income families.	£1512 staffing £300 outdoor activities £300 minibus Total = £2112
Glenrothes CLD	Outdoor Youth Diversion – outdoor activities targeting young people identified by Education and Partner agencies as vulnerable at risk through holidays (Day & Evening sessions 10am – 4pm & 5.30pm – 9.30pm) This	Yes Funding for lunched provided for 12 young people x 2 days x 5 weeks	Young people referred to CLD provision from Education, Pupil Support Services.	£6264 staffing £900 outdoor activities £600 minibus Total = £7764
Glenrothes CLD	Stall Events at the Kingdom Centre – Multiagency but led by Welfare staff, interactive learning and support alongside sign posting and advice. Budget related activities for young people to participate in, while their parents are taking part in	No – information about café inc venues and times will be provided	Families and Adults.	£200 - resources and giveaway.

Service/Team	Proposal	Food Provided/Linked to Café Inc. Y/N	Priority family group/s targeted	Additional Funding Required
	<p>other activities. Information about financial support families may be entitled to.</p> <p>Thursday 4th July 10-2pm Tuesday 23rd July 10-2pm</p> <p>(Stall location in the centre to be confirmed end of June)</p>			
Total				£36188.84

22 May 2024.
Agenda Item No. 5

Supporting the Plan 4 Glenrothes Area: Community Recovery Fund

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

Wards Affected: 13,14,15

Purpose

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

To provide members with a summary of funds committed so far from the CRF, and funding proposals under consideration.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to approve the following amounts from the Community Recovery Fund totalling **£ 137,936**.

1. 252 Memorial Hall £11,500
2. Star Village Hall: Access £13,748
3. Police Scotland: £49,609
4. The Polar Academy £63,079

Resource Implications

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

This would leave a balance of **£266,523** unallocated of the Community Recovery budget.

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Elected members have taken part in 6 workshops to date to discuss CRF priorities. The proposals presented in this report were discussed at the most recent member's workshop.

Towards the end of 2023, a Glenrothes wide consultation took place seeking to highlight what works well, what is needed and what steps can be taken to improve the Community Based Adult Learning offer by Community Planning Partners across the area.

1.0 Background

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

2.0 Project Summary Information

2.1 252 Memorial Hall, £11,500

These funds will be used to replace the toilets, which are over 100 years old and in a very poor condition and provide curtains for the Hall windows.

The proposal will deliver a much-improved hall for the Markinch and surrounding area to access. With a large house building development close by, there will be an increased need for community spaces.

The hall already supports all the uniformed organisations in Markinch, groups promoting health and well-being and combating social isolation, which include tai chi, crafts, history and heritage, many birthday parties, and fund-raising events throughout the year.

The improvements will be carried out before the summer school holidays.

2.2 Star Village Hall, £13,748:

This will fund a new disabled access ramp and Hall entry and internal doors. Access to the ramp is currently challenging and the main entrance doors are damaged.

2.3 Police Scotland, £49,609:

In May 2023, the Area Committee approved the proposal for a dedicated and fully funded police officer, to tackle the issue of antisocial behaviour and violence at hot spot areas throughout the town centre. This ensured the officer was dedicated and free from routine police abstractions and commitments elsewhere in the area. The funding at that time was shared between the three Ward Budgets.

Police Scotland matched the funding by providing an additional officer, thus ensuring a dedicated pairing to tackle ongoing issues in a robust, resilient, and safe manner.

For the review period of 2022/23 (June-May), Police Scotland received 250 calls to the hotspot area of the Town Centre/Bus Station to deal with issues ranging from Anti-Social Behaviour, theft, violence, verbal abuse, and assisting members of the public. A large proportion of these calls involved young people. For the review period 2023 to date (June-April), and since the inception and delivery of Glenrothes Linked Together and the funded post, Police Scotland received 65 calls to this area, covering the same range of issues, a drop of 74%.

850 hours of high visibility foot patrols and young people engagement took place, with over 100 crimes/offences detected and reported accordingly. Police officers submitted over 100 vulnerability reports to appropriate authorities outlining issues with young people and putting forward for wider discussion with multi agency partners, in the interests of the child.

Fourteen young people reported missing were located within the hotspot areas due to the proactivity of the GLT patrol matrix.

The current funding period ends on 30 June 2024. This coincides with the end of school term, holiday periods, better weather, and lighter nights. There is some concern in the working group that at a critical period in the calendar this may result in a rise in demand in key hotspot areas without the dedicated resourcing.

This proposal seeks a further year of funding for a dedicated officer, which will be matched by the Divisional Commanders commitment. This will allow monitoring of ASB in key areas, build and strengthen relationships in the community with key partners, third sector support, and the schools as well as continuing the provision of educational support ensuring legacy is developed.

2.4 The Polar Academy, £63,079

30 young people and their families from Glenrothes High School will work for one year with the Polar Academy, at the end of which 20 young people will participate in an Arctic Expedition, and ten on a Scottish Highlands expedition. Over the year all 30 young people and a family member will take part in an intensive one year physical and mental training programme that will include ongoing pastoral care to the participants and their families, beginning with a whole weekend at Glenmore Lodge in Loch Lomond.

Participants will have the opportunity to take part in scientific Arctic experiments commissioned by Oxford, Cambridge, and St. Andrews Universities.

Young people will be identified and recruited with the support of the school and their parents/carers. Participants targeted will be amongst the most vulnerable young people from the school.

Participants commit to sharing their experience with 3000 other young people each after the expedition, using the Academy and Glenrothes High School networks across Primary Schools in Fife and Scotland.

The impact of this programme on participant families has been profound (Appendix 2, 3 & 4). Previous participants have presented the findings from their expeditions to academics at each of the three universities, with a large proportion of participants becoming peer volunteers and continuing engagement with the Academy for several years.

Lochgelly and Bellbaxter High Schools have previously participated in this programme, with one pupil receiving the Young Scot of the Year Award. (Appendix 3)

The funds requested will pay directly for five of the thirty participants, with the total cost of the project being £756,943.

2.5 Future Proposals

The remaining **£266,523** is now oversubscribed and officers will not be considering any additional funding proposals other than those already under review.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 These proposals meet the broad criteria for the Community Recovery Fund. They also contribute to the 'Plan 4 Fife 2021-2024' and 'Glenrothes Area Local Community Plan' themes "Tackling Poverty", "Develop and Support Community Leadership", "Supporting Positive Mental Wellbeing" and "Town Centre & Surrounding Villages".
- 3.2 The establishment of these projects will assist in developing a response to the cost-of-living crisis and post Covid recovery for individuals, families, and communities across the Glenrothes Area. Learning gained from these projects will be used to influence and direct future service delivery across the area.
- 3.3 Approved proposals of £10,000 and higher are subject to committing to a Service Level Agreement. Other approved proposals will commit to an evaluation process on impact and outcomes within a timescale and framework agreed between Council Officers and Area Committee Members.
- 3.4 Approving these proposals will leave an allocation of **£266,523** in the Community Recovery Fund to support other projects.

List of Appendices

1. Plan4Glenrothes Area
2. Polar Academy Impact Report
3. [Adventurer Molly Turnbull is crowned Young Scot 2023 by First Minister - Daily Record](#)
4. [The Polar Academy - YouTube](#)

Background Papers

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

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

Report Contact:

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Overview and Impact Report

2023



POWERED BY



The Polar Academy model is based on inspiration through exploration. For every invisible kid we work with and to whom we provide a fully funded programme, we ask each of them to speak to 3,000 people in their peer group and community. The model is simple – pass it on.



22/23 Programme Overview

Our 22/23 programme saw 29 invisible kids from Arbroath and Monifieth High Schools take part in a 12-month intense physical and mental health training programme, culminating for 19 of them, in an Arctic expedition in the extreme wilderness of East Greenland in March and April.

Each kid on the programme took part in selection at Glenmore Lodge with a family member or carer, weekly insanity training at their school between August and February, Cold Chamber training at Napier University, expedition and navigation training for a week in the Cairngorms in October and gruelling tyre hauling

weekends in St Andrew, the Trossachs and Strathyre. This training programme was supported throughout by ongoing pastoral care from The Polar Academy team for the kids and their families, in order to ensure these young people completed their programme as confident, strong, independent role models for the future.

To date we have worked with 180 kids directly, and over half a million people in their communities.

9 youth-led Greenland expeditions
2014 - 2023

500,000 members of the community reached
2014 - 2023

180 Graduates of The Polar Academy
OVER 9 YEARS

12 school and teacher participants to date

180 participating families to date

Graduate, peer, parent and teacher anecdotal feedback summary

The Polar Academy means young people have better physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing with stronger connections with the wider community and are positively empowered for the rest of their lives.

ANECDOTAL FEEDBACK TO DATE

- The kids are more engaged in class, have improved attendance and increased self-confidence.
- Regular demanding physical exercise starts at the selection weekend, leading to the kids feeling emotionally and physically well, positively empowered, and ready to lead the expedition in Greenland
- They are no longer shy and uncertain
- They are willing to try out new things and new pursuits
- They mature into thoughtful young adults able to design their own path in life, many going onto university
- They develop leadership qualities and life skills that support them in the workplace environment

“Before The Polar Academy, I hated school and saw it as a mere legal obligation, resulting in less than 80% attendance. I also struggled with physical fitness and obesity, crushing my confidence. However, since participating in The Polar Academy, my attendance has increased to almost 100%. Now, I’m pursuing an engineering degree at university, a goal once unimaginable. The program taught me that I can achieve anything. I’ve also developed a love for hiking, camping, and fitness, shedding 17kg through a healthier lifestyle and consistent gym visits”.

Blair MacDougall,
2022 Polar Academy Graduate



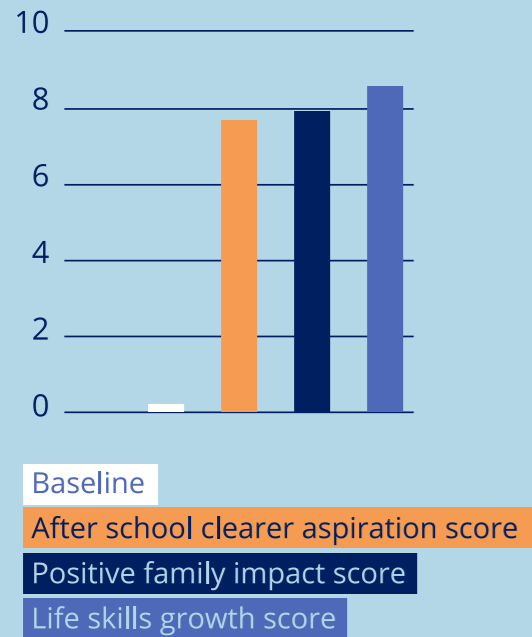
Programme evaluation and impact

In addition to anecdotal feedback from kids, parents and teachers, we now measure pre- and post-programme metrics around self-confidence, self-esteem, life skills acquired, family impact and optimism about the future, with the following metrics in place:

- 80% kids report an increase in life skills
- Confidence levels reported improve on average across the group by 2 points (out of 10)
- Self-esteem levels reported improve on average across the group by 2 points (out of 10)
- 60% kids report an improved family dynamic post programme
- 60% kids feel clearer about their post-school future

22/23 Programme metrics

22/23 Pre and Post programme agreement scores - 19 graduates:



22/23 Pre and Post programme personal sentiment scores - 19 graduates:



“Our daughter has benefited so much from this whole experience...She is definitely more comfortable in her own skin, more happy and relaxed. I realised how often we hear her laugh now. You have given her back her smile. Her confidence has grown, and she seems to be taking everything in her stride. No self-harming for a while. We, as a family, have absolutely loved being part of Polar Academy.”

– Parent 22/23 Programme

Our economic model

Our current economic model considers the positive impact of The Polar Academy programme on the future of kids’ lives and the further impact on the economy in terms of savings in social care, employment benefit and positive contribution to the economy through employment.

OUR RETURN ON donations IS 2.75

Economic benefit 22-23 Programme for one year after leaving school

	Weekly	Number of kids	Per annum
*Savings on social care per annum per child	£798	7.5	£311,220
**Savings on employment benefit per annum per child	£61	22.5	£71,429
**Positive contribution to economy through employment		22.5	£666,653
Total annual economic benefit			£1,049,301
Programme cost 22-23			£381,668
Return on donations			2.75

*Based on 25% children entering programme no longer requiring ongoing social care

**Based on 75% Polar Academy graduates moving into full time employment post school/ University

“I am so grateful to the Polar Academy for saving my life. I was in a bad place with my mental health when Polar Academy came into my school, and they SAW me at a time I couldn’t see myself. After completing Polar Academy, I truly now believe I can achieve whatever I want in life. I just have to take that first step. I have become more independent and my relationship with my parents has improved so much. Being in Polar Academy you grow together. It wasn’t just me in the team as my family were also involved the whole way through. Polar Academy is a journey, and even after graduation you are still part of the journey. It’s not a team it’s a family.”

– Graduate 22/23 Programme

“Our son’s participation with The Polar Academy has changed his and our family’s lives forever. It’s as if his eyes have been opened and he can now see that his life is precious and worth living. His confidence and self-belief have grown enormously, he is happy. He truly is a different boy. As a family we will always be grateful to The Polar Academy for giving us our boy back and sincerely hope that as many other children as possible can have this chance too.”

– Parent



Molly

“I look back and barely recognise the vulnerable, scared school pupil I used to be. The training made me physically and mentally stronger, the expedition taught me to never give up and always keep going, and the team that was formed throughout the journey showed me the importance of being there for other people. Through each challenge I had to face and overcome during my experience with The Polar Academy, I came out the other side believing in myself more and more. By believing in myself I was able to grow confidence and do things I never ever thought I’d do.

Without The Polar Academy I would still be the same petrified third year pupil too scared to stand out from the crowd”.

Looking ahead

None of the work we do could be achieved without the incredible support of our Patrons, Partners, Charitable Trusts and Volunteers and for this we thank you all from our hearts.

We have a new strategic plan for the next 5 years in place that will see us:





To find out more about The Polar Academy, please visit our website at www.thepolaracademy.org or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn.

To support our growing impact on invisible kids, please contact claire.kinloch@thepolaracademy.org

THE
POLAR
ACADEMY



RIDE OUT
INTIMIDATION™

A BRP PROGRAM

*The Polar Academy is a charity registered in
Scotland no. SC044605.*

22 May 2024

Agenda Item No.6

Balgeddie Firs Play Area – Re-allocation of Area Capital funding

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

Wards Affected: 14

Purpose

To seek agreement from the Area Committee to transfer Area Capital previously allocated to Balgeddie Firs play area and reallocate to Riverside Park Toddler play area (pond park).

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to agree the transfer of £50,000 allocated to Balgeddie Firs in 2019 and reallocate to Riverside Park Toddler play area to support the continued investment in Riverside Park.

Resource Implications

Following approval of the Glenrothes Play Space Strategy in March 2024, Balgeddie Firs play area has been identified for greenspace/natural play. There is currently £50,000 allocated to this project from Improving Health through Leisure and Sport.

As a result, there is capacity to reallocate this investment to the toddler play area in Riverside Park which will offer a complementary option to the destination play park, allowing a more peaceful, relaxed play environment.

Legal & Risk Implications

If the funding is not reallocated, it may be taken as a saving.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

Public consultation has concluded for both the Play Space Strategy and plans for Riverside Park within the Levelling Up project. It was clear from consultation that the toddler play area in Riverside Park is still extremely popular and well used.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Glenrothes Area Committee approved an allocation from Improving Health through Leisure and Sport on 24.04.2019. £50,000 was allocated to Balgeddie Firs Play Park for improvement. Due to circumstances out with everyone's control, i.e. Covid Lockdown, market volatility and resources, this project was not delivered. Since then, the Play Space Strategy was approved at committee in 2021, devolving decisions to local area for agreement. Glenrothes Play Space Strategy was approved at March 24 Area Committee and Balgeddie Firs was categorised for natural greenspace.

2.0 Current Position

- 2.1 Glenrothes secured funding from Scottish Government Levelling up fund in 2023. The Riverside Park Masterplan made provision for improving the destination play park offer. Public consultation demonstrated enormous support for such a facility, but equally noted the importance of retaining the quieter toddler play area located near the pond within Riverside Park.
- 2.2 Investing in the toddler park improves the play experience by offering a quieter, more relaxed natural environment for play when the destination play park may be slightly overwhelming for some children.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 Reallocating the funds from Balgeddie Firs to the toddler park will support further investment in Riverside Park, whilst retaining the funding within Ward 14.

List of Appendices

Background Papers

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

- GLENROTHES PLAY AREA PROGRAMME YEAR 2 – IMPROVING HEALTH THROUGH SPORTS & LEISURE - Glenrothes Area Committee 24.04.2019.
- Glenrothes Play Space Strategy – Glenrothes Area Committee 27.03.2024.

Report Contact
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22 May 2024

Agenda Item No.7

Play Strategy Implementation – Glenrothes Area

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

Wards Affected: 13,14,15

Purpose

To share proposed implementation programme for Glenrothes area and to ask committee members to approve the approach adopted and take cognisance of the issues noted.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to

- agree the suggested approach to delivery.
- delegate to officers to consult with ward members with a view to selecting one play park improvement project for 24/25 and to progress the natural/open spaces listed.
- agree the approach to allocating investment identified.

Resource Implications

Following approval of the Glenrothes Play Space Strategy in March 2024 there are 35 sites identified for improvement, 23 sites to be maintained and 22 sites for repurposing to green/natural open space for play where appropriate.

Variables that impact on the programme for delivery include, but are not limited to, contractor market availability, procurement method, external funding, time sensitive funding, resources, land ownership, site viability, ground conditions, availability of community group partnerships, and inclement weather impact.

Legal & Risk Implications

It may become apparent in some cases that Fife Council are not the landowner of all play sites and/or ground conditions may not allow construction under current regulations. This information may not be discovered until site investigations are complete which may affect deliverability of play if a solution cannot be found.

Depending on value of works may require planning permissions.

There is potentially insufficient Capital funding available to deliver the Fife Wide 10 year play park programme in full.

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

Consultation

Public consultation has concluded for the Play Space Strategy. Further consultation will be required with communities and local groups when concept designs are produced.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Play Space Strategy was approved at committee in 2021, devolving decisions to local area for agreement. Glenrothes Play Space Strategy was approved at March 24 Area Committee. Members requested that an implementation plan be brought forward to an early committee.

2.0 Proposed Implementation Plan

- 2.1 The following criteria will be applied to each site to assist project prioritisation:
 - Lifespan of equipment
 - Health & Safety of equipment
 - Availability of Community group for partnership working
- 2.2 The 2023 annual independent inspection will assist somewhat in identifying remaining lifespan of equipment, combined with frontline knowledge from the play inspectorate team in Grounds Maintenance Service (GMS) who report reactive Health & Safety issues. Applying these criteria and subsequent recommendation is denoted in the comments column in the tables below.
- 2.3 Support is required from Community Manager and Community Development team to identify potential community groups available to assist with external fundraising, consultation on concept designs and to ensure we provide play equipment appropriate for the local community.
- 2.4 With current resources and implications noted we expect circa 14 “Improvement sites” is achievable **per annum** across Fife. This approximates to 2-3 sites per committee area. It should be noted that pre-construction phase, which includes concept design and community consultation, can take around 6-12 months, therefore the projects noted in the proposed implementation plan will not likely be delivered until 2025.
- 2.5 Consideration will be given to each “natural/green open space” individually as each site is unique. We will work with members, area team and local communities to agree the future of each site. Depending on ground conditions, some sites will be naturally green, others will become open space with picnic tables/benches for all to use. Community Projects team, greenspace officers, Biodiversity Coordinator and GMS will be integrated into this partnership to ensure we provide the best possible space for our community. GMS colleagues will provide costs for repurposing each site.

- 2.6 Local Play Parks currently cost between £120,000 and £150,000 depending on the size of the site and the number of pieces of equipment. Glenrothes has 35 sites currently identified for improvement, therefore upwards of £4.000m investment is required to deliver the current programme over 10 years.
- 2.7 Ward 13 Implementation - Members are asked to select 1 site for improvement from the list below and agree the simultaneous repurposing of Cullen Drive and Ravenswood Drive.

NAME	ward	Current categorisation	Play strategy approved	Comments	Suggestion /Info
Abbotsford Drive	13	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Crinan Place	13	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Forres Drive	13	local play park	Improve		
Huntly Drive	13	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Ivanhoe Drive (South)	13	local play park	Improve		
Lyle Avenue	13	local play park	Improve		
Napier Road	13	local play park	Improve		
Sauchie Street (A) Lochty Park	13	local play park	Improve		
Sauchie Street (B)	13	local play park	Improve		
Scotstarvit Place	13	local play park	Improve		
Southwood Open Space	13	local play park	Improve		
Tanshall	13	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Wellbank Gardens	13	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Cullen Drive	13	Local play park	Natural/Open green space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Roundabout , toddler unit, springy
Ravenswood Drive	13	Local play park	Natural/Open green space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Multi unit, springy

- 2.8 Ward 14 Implementation - Members are asked to select 1 site for improvement from the list below and agree the simultaneous repurposing of Brae Court, Dyce Way, Elrick Park, Mamore Road, Murchison Path, Pennan Place, Willow Crescent, Uist Road as these sites have single pieces of equipment or require urgent attention.

NAME	ward	Current categorisation	Play strategy approved	Comments	Suggestion/Info
Back Braes/Quarry Park	14	town play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Cardean Way	14	local play park	Improve		
Colonsay Park	14	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Huntsman Road	14	local play park	Improve		
John Knox Gardens	14	local play park	Improve		
Juniper Hill	14	local play park	Improve		
Magnus Drive Community Park	14	town play park	Improve		
Markinch Hill	14	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Piper Drive	14	local play park	Improve		
Public Park, Star of Markinch	14	local play park	Improve		
Sandray Park	14	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Somerville Way	14	local play park	Improve		
Balgeddie Firs	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space		
Ballater Green	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space		
Bennachie Court	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space		
Brae Court	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	1x Spring, 1 See saw
Dyce Way	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	1x Springy
Ellon Park	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space		
Elrick Park	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	1x Springy
Mamore Road	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Wooden climbing units
Murchison Path	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	
Pennan Place (C)	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	1 Wooden unit/shelter
Riverside Park - Pond End	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space		
Strathdon Park	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space		
Town Park - Willow Crescent	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	3 items, low play value
Uist Road	14	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	2x springy

2.9 Ward 15 Implementation - Members are asked to select 1 site for improvement from the list below and agree the simultaneous repurposing of Bighty Park, Donald Crescent, Dunbeath Drive and Rowan Terrace as these sites have single pieces of equipment or require urgent attention.

NAME	ward	Current categorisation	Play strategy approved	Comments	Suggestion/Info
Altyre Avenue	15	local play park	Improve		
Breadalbane Crescent	15	local play park	Improve		
Buchanan Road	15	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Carlton Park	15	town play park	Improve		
Crathes Close	15	town play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Dovecot Park	15	local play park	Improve		
Inverary Avenue	15	local play park	Improve	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Full refurb
Laurel Gardens	15	local play park	Improve		
Riverside Park - town centre end	15	destination play park	Improve		
Wemyss Court	15	local play park	Improve		
Bighty Park	15	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	Low play value, swing frames, climbing net, stools
David Road	15	local play park	Natural/Green play space		
Donald Crescent	15	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	1x Slide, 2 x swings sets
Dunbeath Drive	15	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	1x multi, 1 springy
Rowan Terrace	15	local play park	Natural/Green play space	ref 2.2 GMS recommend action	1x swing set, 1 spinner bowl
Ruthven Green	15	local play park	Natural/Green play space		

3.0 Funding and Investment

3.1 The Scottish Government awarded Fife Council just over £4.000m in 2021, to be awarded in Tranches until 2025. Each committee area has £584,571 equal share and Glenrothes spend profile to date is illustrated in the table below.

	Scottish Govt Tranche 1	Scottish Govt Tranche 2	Scottish Govt Tranche 3	Scottish Govt Tranche 4	Scottish Govt Tranche 5	Total (7th of Fife allocation)
Allocated	16,000	30,000	80,000	195,000	263,571	584,571
West Park, Leslie	16,000					
West Park, Leslie		30,000				
Milton of Balgonie			60,000			

	Scottish Govt Tranche 1	Scottish Govt Tranche 2	Scottish Govt Tranche 3	Scottish Govt Tranche 4	Scottish Govt Tranche 5	Total (7th of Fife allocation)
Milton of Balgonie				16,324		
West Park, Leslie				28,289		
Gilvenbank Cableway				15,000		
Quarry Park Cableway				15,000		
Spend to date	16,000	30,000	60,000	74,613	0	180,613
Budget remaining	0	0	20,000	120,387	263,571	£403,958

3.2 Tranche 5 remains to be allocated purely on the basis of awaiting approval of the play space strategy. Therefore, Glenrothes area have £403,958 of Scottish Government funding available to allocate to projects.

3.3 There are options around the way we fund projects as follows:

- a. Fully fund using Scottish Government funding/FC Capital – allows for 3 projects to be progressed to design stage and potential to tender together. However, funds depleted quickly but within timeframe of Scottish Govt funding timelines up to 25-26.
- b. Part fund future projects to allow community fundraising efforts – slower delivery as projects tendered individually however, match funding extends the lifetime of Capital fund and the potential to deliver more projects than if we were to fully fund each.

4.0 Conclusions

4.1 This approach provides a structure to prioritisation of the delivery of improvement to play parks in the Glenrothes area.

4.2 The programme of repurposing play spaces to natural/green open space is based on the criteria set out in this report.

Background Papers

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

- Glenrothes Play Space Strategy – Glenrothes Area Committee 27.03.2024.
- Play spaces strategy - Housing & Communities Committee August 2021

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22 May 2024

Agenda Item No. 8

Glenrothes Linked Together – Ongoing Funding Request & Outcomes Briefing

Report by: Thomas Brown, Chief Inspector, Central Local Area Commander

Wards Affected: Wards 13, 14 and 15

Purpose

This report outlines a briefing on outcomes addressing anti-social and violent behaviour through the Community Recovery Funded additional Police resource and is seeking funding for the 2024/25 financial year to support ongoing and dedicated Police resource in the Glenrothes Area for a further year, following a rise in anti-social behaviour and violent crime. The funding amount requested is £49,609 (see notes)

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to

- (1) Note the outcomes and impact of the additional Police resource funded by Community Recovery Funding between June 2023 and April 2024.
- (2) Agree the funding request as highlighted in this report to continue the additional Police resource, which will be key to a successful ongoing partnership approach, to be dedicated to this priority issue.
- (2) Note Police Scotland will continue to match fund this spend to continue to support a team of two Police Officers dedicated to countering anti-social behaviour.

Resource Implications

The sum of £49,609 will come from an appropriate budget to be confirmed by the Committee. For the year 2023/24, this came from shared Ward funding budget.

The above sum includes a projected 3% pay award for Police Scotland in 2024/25.

Committee should note that if the funding is approved, the Divisional Commander has given approval for match funding, with an additional officer.

Legal & Risk Implications

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

All work will be risk assessed within standard operating frameworks.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

In March 2023 a dedicated meeting was convened at Police Headquarters in Glenrothes to discuss the issue of increasing anti-social behaviour and violent crime in Glenrothes and specifically Ward 15 incorporating the Town Centre and Bus Station.

Police, Elected Members, Education and Transportation were all involved during this consultation process to review the issues and propose solutions, including the consideration of dedicated and fully funded policing.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 As a result of the meeting convened in March 2023, it was agreed that a new steering/strategy partnership would be formed to oversee the work related to the mitigation of this issue. This partnership would be known as 'Glenrothes Linked Together'(GLT).
- 1.2 The two identified key aims of GLT were,
 - To improve and strengthen partnership approaches and,
 - To outline a coherent model that will combine Police involvement alongside early intervention through education and diversionary programmes.
- 1.3 To support the development of a more coherent and collaborative approach to working with young people in our community spaces, partners from various organisations have been meeting on a bi-monthly basis to:
 - Share up to date information and intelligence
 - Identify and agree on opportunities for street-based partnership projects
 - Build stronger relationships between organisations.

Partners supporting this initiative are Fife Council Youth Work; Clued Up; Safer Communities; Community Policing and Active Schools.

Further work to support early intervention and diversionary programmes is being supported by quarterly Area wide partnership meetings, where representatives from schools, police, third sector and local authority have participated in relevant thematic discussions, identifying actions to address pressing issues. Over the past year themes addressed have included: External Support to High Schools; Young People Affected by Poverty.

The development of improved collaborative practice that is action focused will be fundamental in sustaining a longer-term model of effective early intervention work with young people.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 In May 2023, the Area Committee approved the proposal for a dedicated and fully funded police officer, to tackle the issue of antisocial behaviour and violence at hot spot areas throughout the town centre. This ensured the officer was dedicated and free from routine police abstractions and commitments elsewhere in the area. The funding at that time was shared between the three Ward Budgets.
- 2.2 Following agreement, the Divisional Commander matched the funding by providing an additional officer to the GLT project, thus ensuring a dedicated pairing to tackle ongoing issues in a robust, resilient and safe manner.
- 2.3 For the review period of 2022/23 (June-May), Police Scotland received 250 calls to the hotspot area of the Town Centre/Bus Station to deal with issues ranging from ASB, theft, violence, verbal abuse, and assisting members of the public. A large proportion of these calls involved young people.
- 2.4 For the review period 2023 to date (June-April), and since the inception and delivery of GLT and the funded post, Police Scotland received 65 calls to this area, covering the same range of issues, a drop of 74%.
- 2.5 850 hours of high visibility foot patrols and young people engagement took place, with over 100 crimes/offences detected and reported accordingly. Police officers submitted over 100 vulnerability reports to appropriate authorities outlining issues with young people and putting forward for wider discussion with multi agency partners, in the interests of the child.
- 2.6 Fourteen young people reported missing were located within the hotspot areas due to the proactivity of the GLT patrol matrix.
- 2.7 The GLT officers extended their work portfolio to include visibility in schools, liaison with staff and building ongoing relationships with pupils, who make up a significant proportion of those involved in local unrest.
- 2.8 The current funding period ends on 30 June 2024. This coincides with the end of school term, holiday periods, better weather and lighter nights. There is some concern in the working group that at a critical period in the calendar this may result in a rise in demand in key hotspot areas without the dedicated resourcing.
- 2.9 The recommendation is that the Committee approve a further year of funding for a dedicated officer, which will be matched by the Divisional Commanders commitment. This will allow monitoring of ASB in key areas, build and strengthen relationships in the community with key partners, third sector support, and also the schools as well as continuing the provision of educational support ensuring legacy is developed.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 This approach aligns with the key Improvement Focus' within the Glenrothes Area Local Community Plan, with particular emphasis on the commitment to demonstrate clear links and joint planning between services. The approach is a key priority within the local Policing plan.

Background Papers

N/A

Report Contact

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22 May 2024

Agenda Item No. 9

Safer Communities Team Update Report

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

Wards Affected: Wards 13, 14 and 15

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 Glenrothes 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.

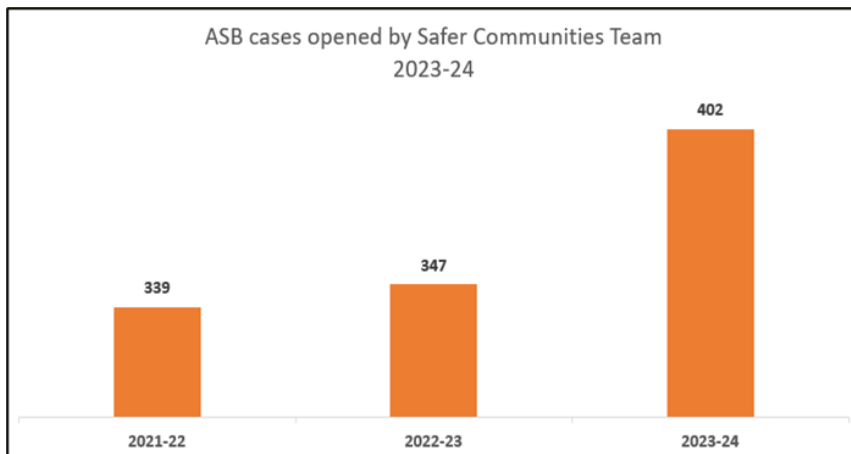
1.0 Background

- 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 58 referrals in relation to **home safety advice**, a significant decrease on the number received in the previous year (116 referrals).
- 2.2. All clients were contacted and 57 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. Ten separate events have taken place in the Glenrothes area during 2023-24, with over 245 people in attendance overall.
- 2.4. The majority of home safety referrals (56) 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 (44), whilst the remainder come from a variety of other sources such as Homestart, Housing Officers, Social Work and NHS
- 2.6. Home safety referrals in relation to vulnerable adults were received from Housing Services and Social Work.
- 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 (64) compared to the previous year (77).
- 2.8. Safe Secure and Supported at Home referrals were mainly received from Police Scotland (24), 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 36 referrals, a slight decrease on the previous year (38).

- 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 402 ASB cases in this area during 2023-24, an increase on the previous year (347). The following graph shows the number of private space ASB cases opened by the Team in this committee area over the past three years:



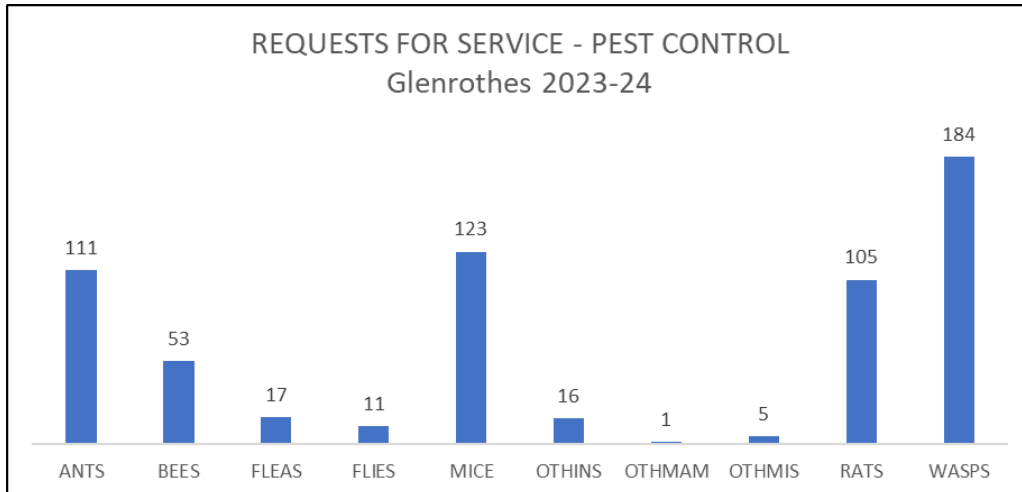
- 2.13 Of the 402 cases opened in 2023-24, 398 were subsequently resolved before 31st March 2024, with 392 (98%) of these being resolved within locally agreed timescales. Please see table 1 below for timescales involved and appendix 2 for the Scottish Housing Regulator’s definition of resolved cases.

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 398 cases opened and subsequently closed during 2023-24 in the Glenrothes area, 240 were closed following appropriate advice being provided; 78 warnings were issued; 63 cases were investigated, relevant action taken and then subsequently referred to another service (such as FCSSS) for further suitable action; 11 cases were closed following either the complainer or the perpetrator moving; three Interim ASBOs and two full ASBOs were secured and one person was evicted for antisocial behaviour.

- 2.15 Our **Pest Control** officers responded to 626 requests for service in this area, compared to 441 in the previous year.
- 2.16 The top three pests reported in this area were in relation to wasps (184), followed by mice (123) and ants (111). The full number and type of pests dealt with are depicted in the following graph:



- 2.17 Twelve reports about **stray dogs** were received by the Safer Communities Dog Wardens, a slight decrease from the previous year (18). All 12 dogs were microchipped, but only nine reflected the correct details of their owner. Eleven dogs were subsequently claimed/returned to their owner with the remaining dog being 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 but had to take 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 - including their vehicles - to ensure they are safe for transporting dogs and are demonstrating a willingness to respond to guidelines. In 2023-24, a total of 17 dog walkers have joined, four of whom are 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.

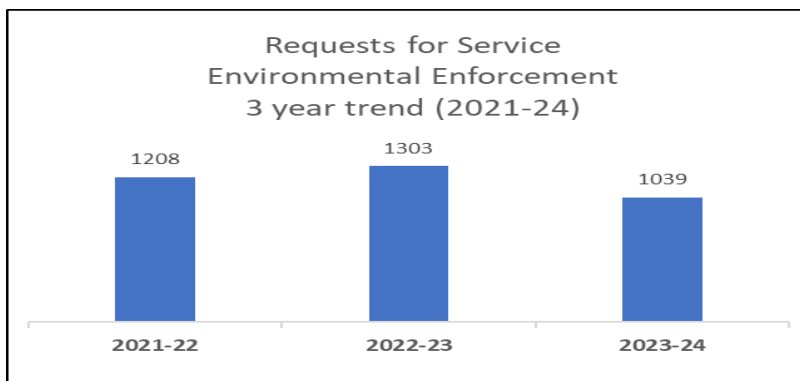
- 2.21 The Fife Community Safety Partnership has recently reinvigorated the Road Casualty Reduction Group, in which officers from Safer Communities Team are involved. Our Project Officers provided a number of **Road Safety** initiatives which covered the whole life spectrum from birth onwards (see appendix 3 for road safety activities focussed on each life stage).
- 2.22 Whilst some events were delivered to a Fife-wide audience, the following were delivered in this area:
- Junior Road Safety Officers (5 schools – 35 pupils)
 - Safe Drive Stay Alive (3 schools – 360 pupils)
 - Pass Plus (4 drivers)
 - Older Drivers talks (2 events – 55 drivers)
 - Older Drivers practical day (5 drivers).
- 2.23 Appendix 4 provides additional information about the range of road safety initiatives involving the Safer Communities Team in 2023-24.
- 2.24 Our **Youth Justice Officers** received 34 referrals about young people in this area from the Youth Offender Management Group (YOMG) during 2023-24, a decrease on the previous year (45 referrals).
- 2.25 During 2023-24, the YJOs have also been involved in the following partnership events within the Glenrothes area:
- In partnership with YAP (Youth Auchmuty Project), the School Nursing Service and Police Scotland, the YJOs worked on a 'Bloomin Marvelous' project with Warout Primary School. The young people helped with creating an enjoyable 'wellbeing space' for Officers working in the Headquarters. Each week Sgt McCabe arranged for the young people to learn about different aspects of Policing, such as meeting the Dogs and handlers, serving 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 garden party.
 - YJOs supported Glenwood High with delivering the MVP program to the senior pupils. Mentors in Violence Prevention is a peer mentoring programme that gives young people an opportunity to explore and challenge the attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms that underpin all forms of gender-based violence in our society.
 - Delivered the F24 program in Auchmuty High School. F24 provides an opportunity to show science, technology, engineering, and maths in a fun and engaging way, while also enhancing core skills such as citizenship, health and safety awareness, confidence and communication, problem solving, self-discipline and team working. This resulted in the team 'Misfit Motors' winning an award for the best portfolio and Auchmuty High School running the program with two cars.
 - Attending partners meetings as well as delivering group work and 1:1 sessions at Auchmuty High, Glenrothes High and Glenwood High.

- YJOs co-facilitated Ask/tell Suicide Prevention, MVP capacity building sessions and Under Pressure sessions to adults working with young people in the Glenrothes Area.
- Supported Clued Up and CLD with 'oot and about' detached youthwork to engage with young people and promote harm reduction and positive behaviour in the community.
- Supported Collydean Centre with community safety inputs.

2.26 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, 1039 requests for service were received for this area during 2023-24, compared to 1303 in 2022-23 and 1208 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 3245 patrols in this area over the reporting period, an increase on the previous year (2242 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, fly tipping, drugs misuse and partnership working. Support referrals, intelligence and requests have come from a number of sources including but not limited to public reporting, police colleagues, fire colleagues elected members, Housing, social work, education and partnership meetings. Although the patrols are mainly of a preventative nature, providing reassurance to members of the public, SCOs were required to take further action in 97 incidents which included issuing 5 flytipping, 4 littering, 1 dog fouling and 1 noise fixed penalty notices.

3.4 The Safer Communities Team link in with other partners on a monthly basis at our private and public space hub meeting. At this meeting all partners share intelligence and discuss any issues that may be arising and arrange a joint plan of action if necessary. 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 Reports of dog fouling have reduced this year compared to the same period last year. During the winter months Safer Communities Officers carried out Operation Twilight, dawn and dusk patrols in the early mornings and evenings in areas of concern. The purpose of these patrols was to engage with dog owners and highlight the issues of dog fouling whilst providing information on the penalties for people failing to clean up after their dogs.
- 3.6 In April 2023 Safer Communities Officers attended Leslie Primary School and gave a talk to the Eco group and later that month attended the school assembly where the Eco group launched their dog fouling campaign. Pupils organised a poster competition and the Safer Communities Team arranged to have these transformed into signage which was then proudly erected around the village helping to educate members of the public about dog fouling.
- 3.7 In August 2023, Safer Communities identified issues with the accumulation of bulky items being stored both inside and outside blocks at Abbotsford Court, Cullen Drive, Forres Court, Keith Court and Waverley Court, Glenrothes which presented a fire risk. Safer Communities Officers along with colleagues from Waste Operations and a local property agent carried out a visit to the areas and agreed for a bulky uplift amnesty to be arranged. Given the diverse range of nationalities living at these properties, Safer Communities Officers arranged for posters to be designed in 5 different languages, advising the residents of how to dispose of their waste correctly and providing information about how they could access the free bulky uplift service. The multi block cleanse was completed by the end of January 2024 and the local property agent arranged for all internal areas to be painted and the inside storage areas to be secured. Safer Communities Officers continue to monitor the blocks, engaging with residents and communicating with the agents.
- 3.8 Safer Communities Officers have been working closely with partners in Police Scotland to reduce the numbers of complaints in relation to antisocial behaviour within the Town centre area. Large numbers of young people were gathering, often consuming alcohol and as a result antisocial behaviour, vandalism and assaults occurred which meant that Glenrothes trended as one of the highest areas of antisocial behaviour in Fife due to the numbers of complaints. However, because of the targeted intervention and the introduction of two new dedicated Police Officers, youth disorder has reduced significantly. Officers continue to carry out coordinated patrols around the area to maintain a presence and to further promote and improve our working relationship with Police Scotland colleagues.
- 3.9 In May 2023 we received several complaints of residents along with their family and friends congregating outside the flats at Abbotsford Court who were drinking, playing loud music, burning fires and shouting causing a disturbance to other residents. As neighbours were unable to identify which property they occupied our Safer Communities Investigation Officer carried out a joint visit with an agent for the landlords. A letter was then sent to the occupiers of Abbotsford Court and the surrounding properties encouraging them to report any concerns. Safer Communities Officers continued to monitor the area and our Investigation Officer revisited along with colleagues

from Police Scotland and spoke to all residents reminding them to be mindful of their neighbours which resulted in the number of complaints substantially decreasing.

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.

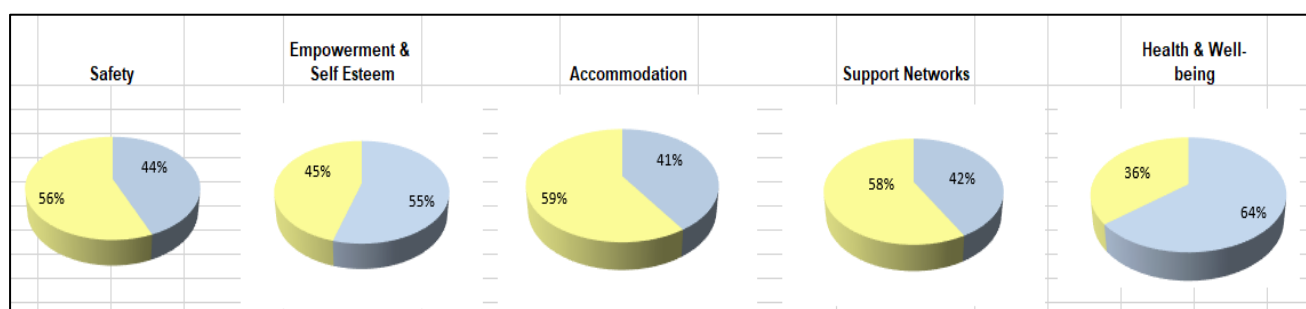
List of Appendices

- Appendix 1 - FCSSS – further information on Fife-wide 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

Report Contact
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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".*

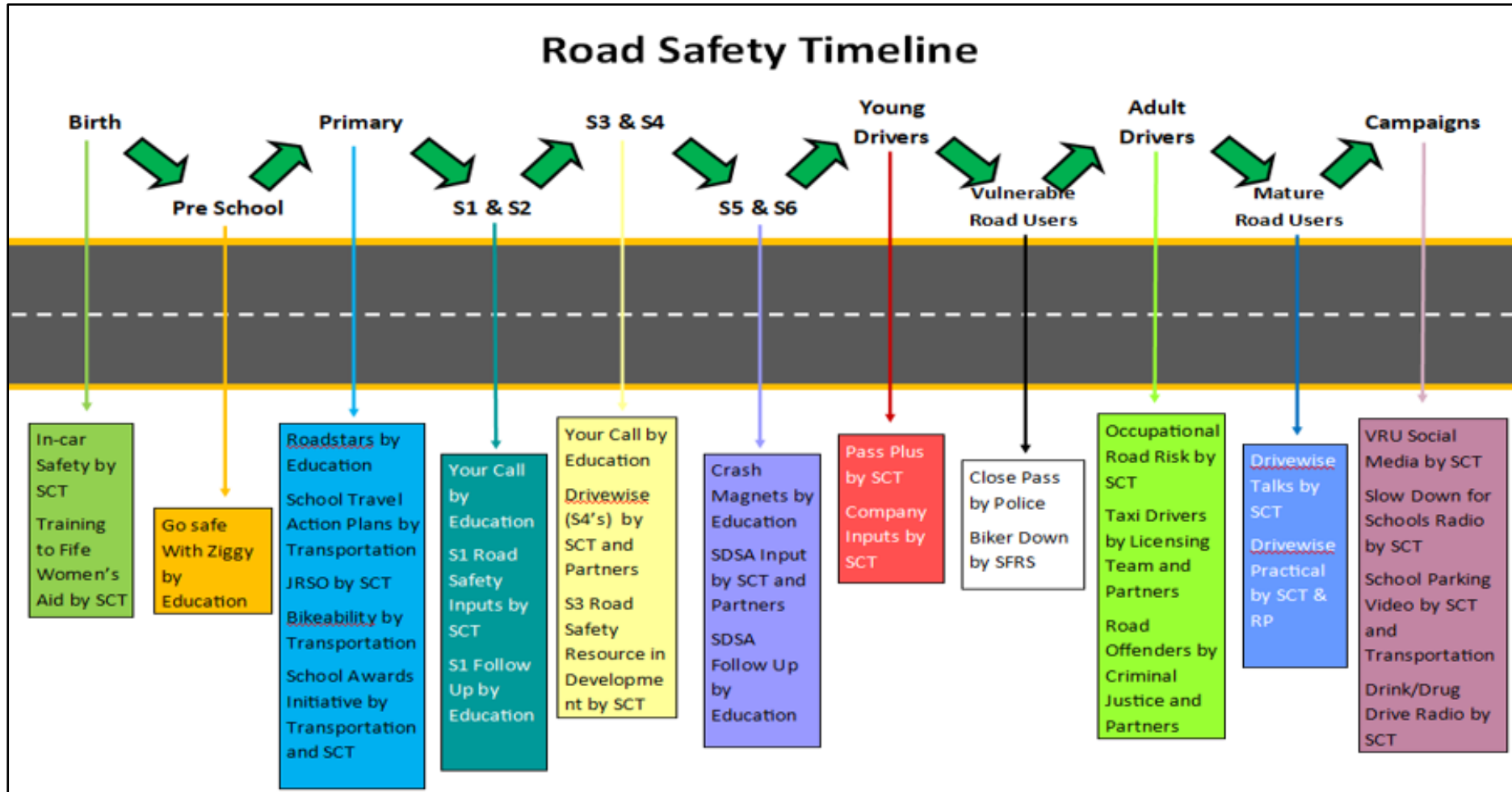
What could FCSSS do better?

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

Scottish Housing Regulator Guidance for Landlords (March 2023)

Antisocial Behaviour

<p>Indicator 15 (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. 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_n8gOQ

Drivewise 65+ Event in Cupar - <https://youtu.be/Njp8OvPMfyA>

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/uIPoGDTT1mQ>

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:

'Bloomin Marvellous' project at Police HQ in Glenrothes:



Fireskills 2023-24

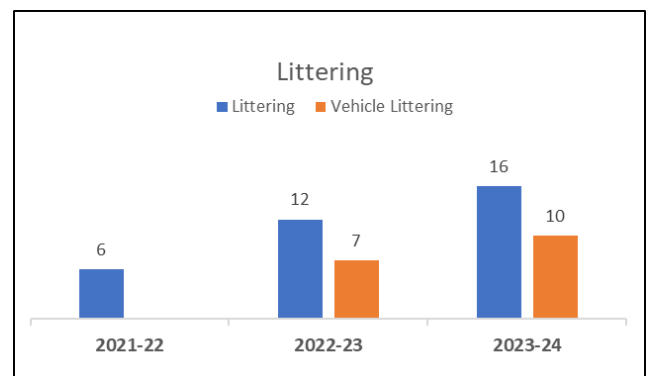
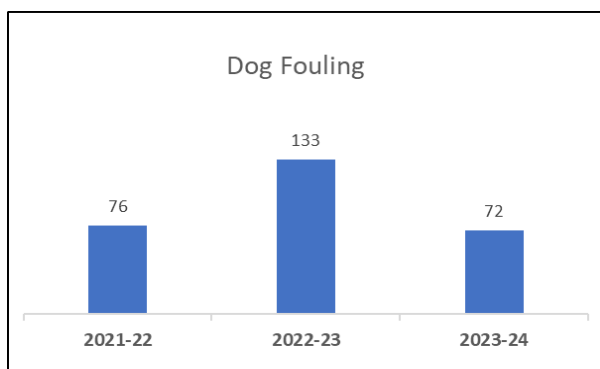
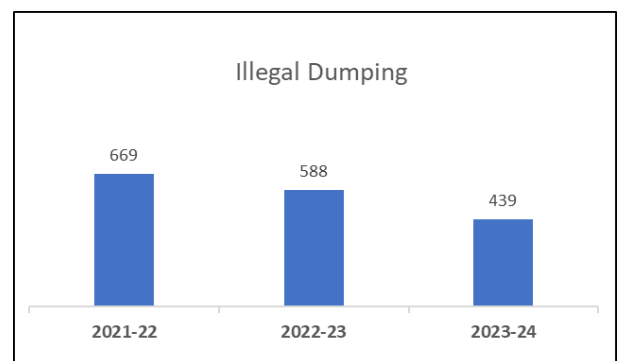
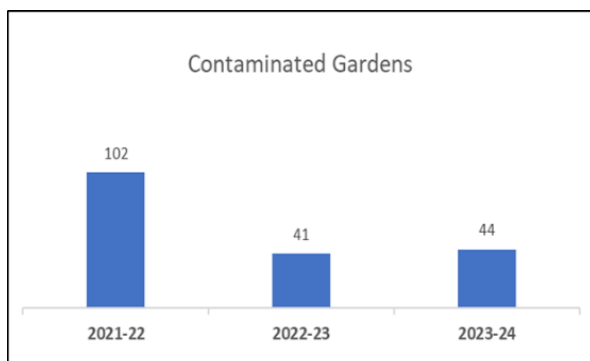
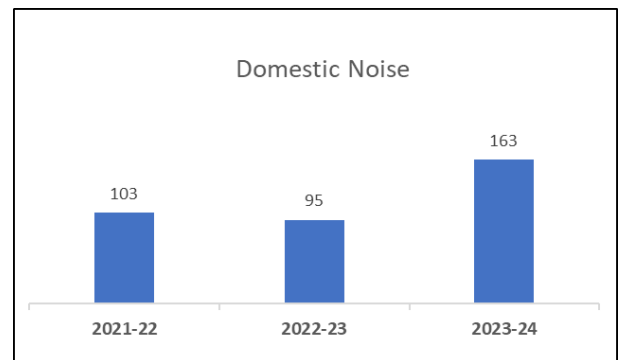
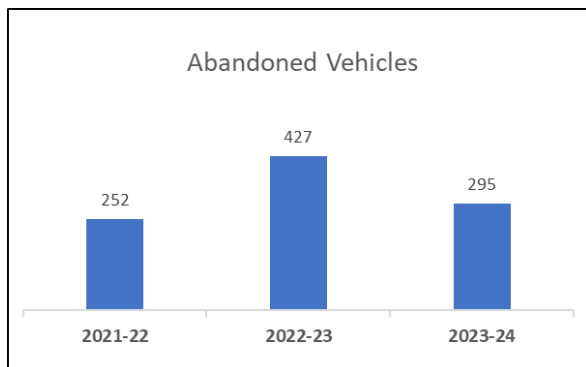


F24



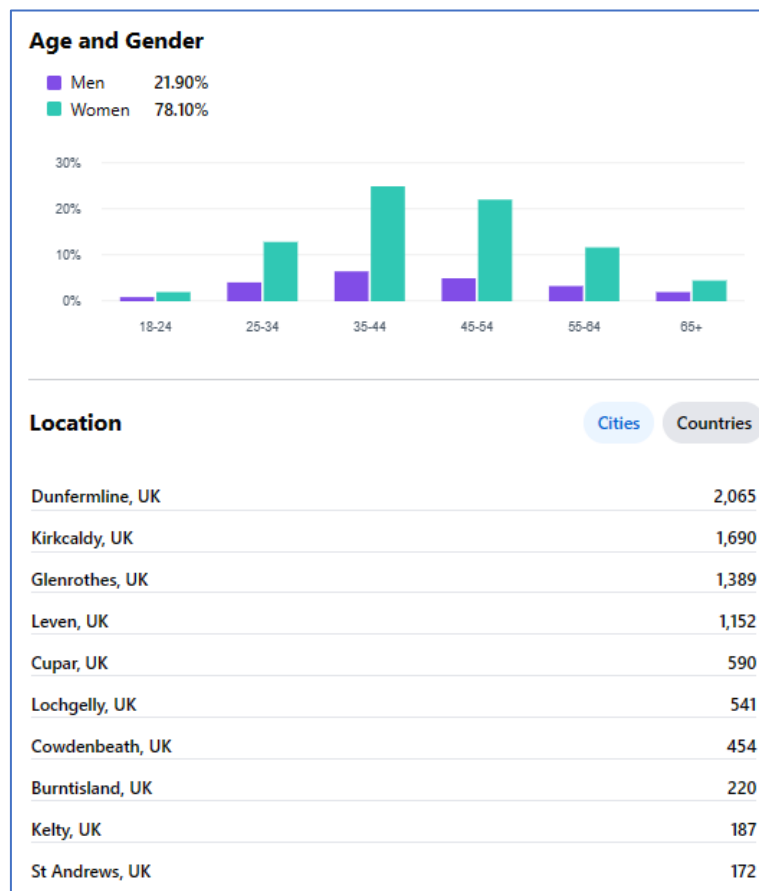
**Environmental Enforcement Reports received by Safer Communities Team
by Type and Year**

(Glenrothes Committee Area 2021-24)



Safer Communities on Facebook

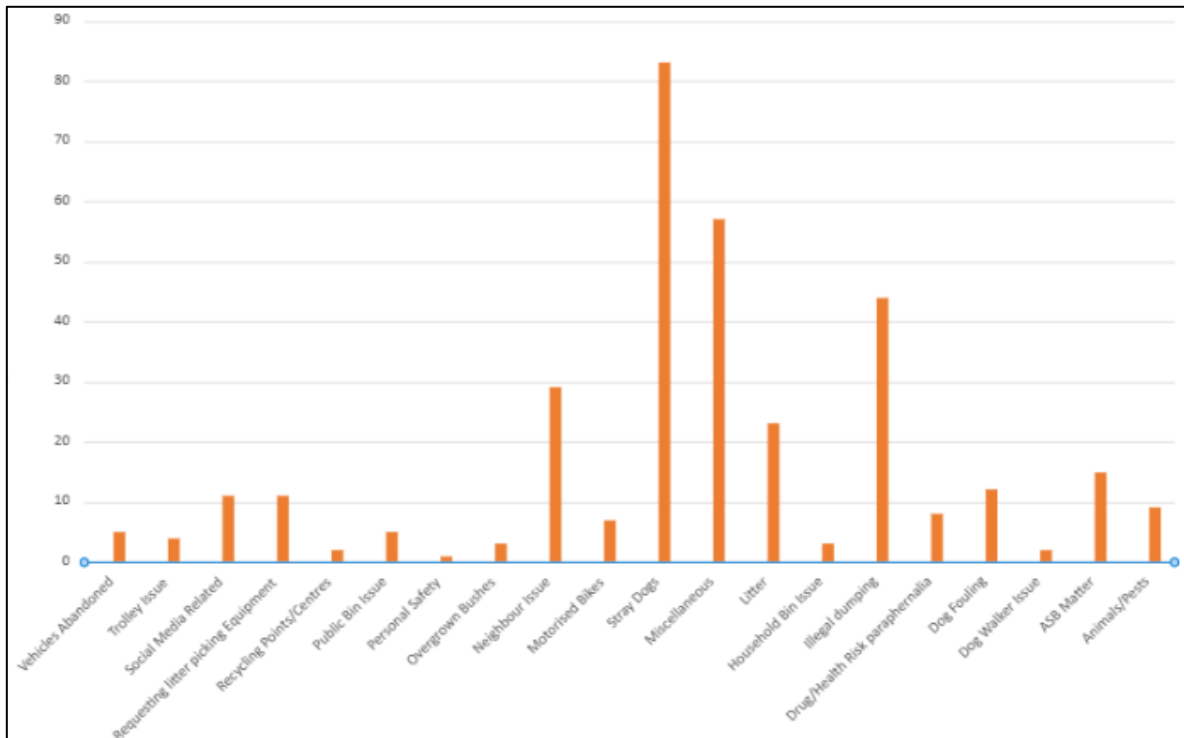
- We currently have 10,780 Facebook followers.
- During 2023-2024, our Facebook audience was comprised mainly of women aged between 35-54 with 78% Female and 22% male.
- The top 5 towns our followers reside in are Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, Glenrothes, Leven and Cupar. Although we also have followers in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



22 May 2024
Agenda Item No. 10

Operational Briefing on Policing Activities within Glenrothes Area – 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024

Report by: Inspector Murray Gibson, Community Inspector, Glenrothes

Wards Affected: 13,14 and 15

Purpose

This report is to provide elected members with information on matters impacting on or involving Police Scotland which have relevance to Community Safety in the Glenrothes policing area.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to consider and comment upon the updates provided.

Resource Implications

There are no additional resource implications arising from the activity outlined in this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no identified legal or current risk implications.

Impact Assessment

An EqlA has not been completed and is not necessary because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

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

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update on the performance with regards to the Area Plan priorities, campaigns and other initiatives undertaken by Glenrothes Ward Officers 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 Glenrothes policing area.

2.0 Police Scotland, Glenrothes Area Plan - Update

- 2.1 Our priorities for policing are the key areas we need to focus on to address the greatest threats and risk of harm to people and communities. We decide what these are for the year ahead using our strategic assessment and the knowledge and experience of leaders in the service. They are also informed by public opinion, including through our Engagement Hub.

Policing priorities for the period April 2023 – March 2026 are documented in the Fife Policing Plan

- Violent Crime
- Substance Misuse
- Protecting People at Risk of Harm
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Road Safety

More information on the Policing can be found at [Fife Policing Plan](#) .

- 2.2 Local community and partnership involvement in identifying priorities and scrutinising performance is integral to maintaining high levels of service delivery and their ongoing support in this regard is appreciated.

3.0 Ward 13 Glenrothes West and Kinglassie

- 3.1 **Anti-Social and Violent crime** - The Community officers worked in partnership with Housing, Safer Communities and Kingdom Housing to tackle the underlying cause of noise complaints and disorder issues in the community. These engagements led to the eviction of one Council tenant, an ASBO being issued for another, and bail conditions imposed on a further resident. As a result of this action demand on Police was reduced by up to fifteen calls a month allowing for the deploying of resources in other areas.

These examples demonstrate the use of differing approaches and solutions utilising all partner agencies. The sharing of information is essential to ensure that a full picture is established prior to any enforcement taking place.

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- 3.2 In January there was significant Community unrest in Kinglassie after persons gathered to stage a protest which had been organised via Social media.

Initial peaceful protest was facilitated by Police however it was noted that members of the group assembled had travelled a significant distance to attend. Local officers were able to identify some of the individuals as being affiliated with unrest at other similar events in the division. As a result of this further resources were deployed.

Tensions increased and damage was caused to the property with windows being smashed despite the presence of a young family within. All persons were safely evacuated by Police and assistance was sought from Social Work, Housing and Education for their ongoing management and welfare.

Two persons were reported to the Procurator Fiscal for summons and order was quickly restored. Police continue to provide support to victim's and will ensure that they are managed through any subsequent court proceedings.

Further work was carried out by Community Officers to provide reassurance to those in the village that had been affected by this incident, including a residential care home, and the local primary school.

- 3.3 The summer months brought a rise in youth disorder and alcohol consumption with Kinglassie being a particular hotspot for this.

Through engagement with the community "hot spots" where youths were gathering were identified which formed the basis of dedicated patrol plans. This allowed for a co-ordinated response from all Police units. Regular foot and cycle patrols were then carried out in these areas to deter young people from gathering.

Licensed premise's checks were also carried out in the area to ensure licensees were fully aware of their legal obligations and the consequence of underage or Proxy sales.

This was further supported with literature from the national "It'll Cost You" campaign (see section 4.1).

Informal education was deemed to be an appropriate measure and served to alleviate the problem without the need to criminalise young people at an important time in their lives.

Persistent offenders were identified and dealt with accordingly. Advice sessions were also conducted with the parents and carers to ensure that they fully understood the dangers of underage drinking and substance misuse.

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Due to the robust action taken there was a notable decrease in youth disorder type calls. Officers continue to engage with partner agencies such as Clued Up to ensure that suitable diversion is in place and supported locally.

- 3.4 **Road Safety** – Speed gun deployments have been carried out throughout the ward area due to reports received from local residents mainly centred around vehicles speeding in built up areas.

Co-ordinated stop points (involving multiple Police units in key areas) have been utilised resulting in several individuals being stopped and advised with regards to the manner of their driving. Disposals range from education, Fixed Penalty Notices or reports to the Procurator Fiscal.

Community Speedwatch is a programme where local volunteers are trained and supported by Police and thereafter can undertake their own deployments. Data on offending vehicles is provided to the local Community officers and warning notices are issued to the registered keepers of the vehicle involved.

Going forward it is hoped to replicate the success of the Community Speedwatch initiative in all areas which allows for closer working between Police and community representatives.

- 3.5 Through regular primary school visits, it was identified that vehicles were persistently parking on yellow zig-zag lines causing sight hazards for drivers and placing our young people in danger.

Community Officers attended schools to carry out 'Park Safe' deployments to encourage persons through education and advice to identify the hazards of careless parking and also to be able to identify what constituted a safer space.

Officers worked with the Head Teacher at St Pauls Primary School and developed a local initiative. Junior Road Safety Officers were identified and over a 2-month period they participated in a workshop working towards a 3-target objective.

1. Each child was tasked with attending all meetings held.
2. Creating an educational poster.
3. Demonstrating their ability to utilise Unipar (speed gun) in a live environment.

Upon completion each pupil received a 'Road Safety Partnership - Working with Police Scotland' certificate.



Community Officers pictured with St Pauls Junior Road Safety Officers

3.6 **Substance Misuse** – In May 2023 information was provided to Police Service of Scotland regarding the supply of Class A drugs from the Viewfield Industrial Estate area of Glenrothes. In order to progress this to a position where a warrant would be considered, extensive enquiry was carried out in the local area including engagement with local businesses and members of the community. On obtaining sufficient intelligence officers submitted the necessary application to the Procurator Fiscal Service for consideration of a drugs search warrant which was obtained on oath from a presiding Sheriff at Kirkcaldy.

Thereafter a multi agency/department operation was developed to ensure robust and effective execution took place. This involved community officers for the ward area working alongside our partners in Housing and Safer Communities as well as colleagues from the East Area Operational Support Unit, the Specialist Intelligence Unit and the East Area Drug Detection Dog.

As a result of this operation Class A drugs to the value of approx. £170,000 were seized and following extensive laboratory analysis two persons were arrested and subsequently reported to the PF for being concerned in the supply of class A drugs.

The final outcome of this is unknown as procedures remain underway with the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service.

3.7 In August 2023 after receiving intelligence regarding considerable drug misuse in the Tanshall area of Glenrothes, local community ward officers undertook additional patrols and community/partner engagement to develop and ensure there was sufficient information to allow for the application of a drugs Search Warrant from Kirkcaldy Sheriff Court. During patrols in the area a male was stopped in the street and searched under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 during which he was found to be in possession of a large quantity of diazepam tablets.

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Officers seized the tablets thus disrupting the onward distribution to other drug users.

The male was reported to the Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service and this remains ongoing.

This is a small number of examples of the good work carried out through Community Ward officers continual engagement with our local partners, members of the community and their colleagues.

Enquiries continue and reports are being progressed by the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service with regards to consideration for court hearings. Officers continue to act on any information received from the public in respect of drugs misuse dedicating a number of hours to ensure that the production and sale of controlled drugs continues to be actively disrupted and our communities are kept safe.

4.0 Ward 14 – Glenrothes North, Markinch and Star

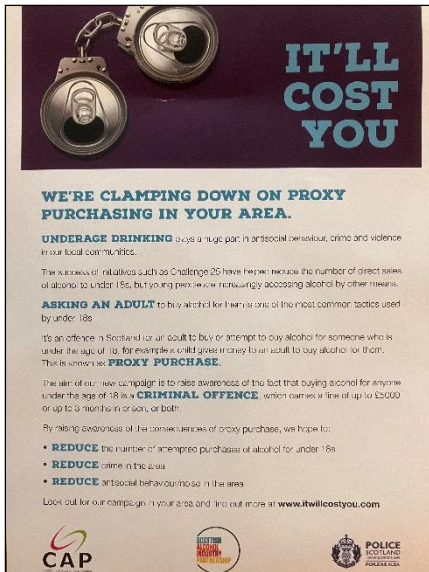
- 4.1 **Anti-Social and Violent crime** – Members of Balbirnie Golf Club, Markinch reported vandalism to the course and items of equipment, with evidence that youths were responsible. Reports were also received that youths were congregating nearby in Balbirnie Park and consuming alcohol.

Community officers, assisted by Glenrothes Linked Together officers carried out targeted patrols and visited local schools to advise the pupils on the dangers of substance misuse. Diversion via Safer Communities and Clued Up was also discussed and signposted.

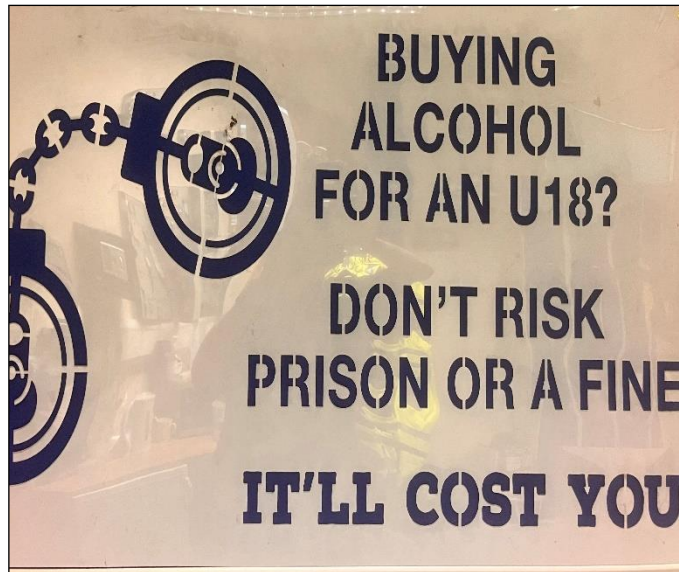
This built on the recent “It’ll Cost You” National campaign which focused on the implications of the purchasing of alcohol by or on behalf of young people. Licenced premises were also included and literature outlining the aims of the campaign were provided.

Local off-licences were visited and the recent criminal activity in their area was highlighted to staff. Shop workers were reminded of the need to ensure that sufficient checks were in place to counter the proxy sale of alcohol. Support was also offered to lone workers who were visited regularly and given advice and reassurance.

As part of this initiative a stencil bearing the “It Will Cost You” logo was utilised and the pavement area outside of the premises was spray painted with bio-degradable paint as a reminder and visual deterrent to all.



Information leaflet



Pavement graphic

- 4.2 During the summer months, Community Ward officers carried out joint patrols with Safer Communities and Fife Coast and Countryside Trust around the rural hills and reservoirs of North Glenrothes Ward in an effort to deter anti-social behaviour, dirty camping and poaching.

The area continues to experience reports of anti-social and illegal use of off-road bikes and quads. Over the year a number of bikes were seized and offenders appropriately dealt with.

All reports were gathered as intelligence, analysed to aid in targeting Police patrols in the right areas at the right time. Local officers continued to work in partnership with "Kingdom Off Road", diverting offenders to a legal and safer facility for their bike use.

This is a joint initiative between police and Safer Communities and has been funded by the area committee over the past twelve months. A number of local youths have been referred to the facility where they learn about the dangers of off road racing, safe riding and vehicle maintenance. It has been noted by staff at the facility that attendances at school have improved for those involved who are working towards a recognised qualification and possibly a future career within the sport.

The following link provides information on the initiative which was previously used successfully in the Levenmouth area. [KINGDOM OFF ROAD](#)

This story focuses on the achievements of an individual who had issues with drink and drugs but turned his life around and had significant success because of his involvement with the project. It is hoped that this success can be replicated in Glenrothes and there are very ambitious plans for an E-bike facility

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within the Kingdom Centre that will bring much needed youth diversion and be a unique attraction in the area.

- 4.3 **Road Safety-** In line with National Road Safety Week Community officers visited the ward Primary schools providing interactive talks on Road Safety and allowing the children to participate in a Police speed check.

Whilst in attendance at one of the talks, the officers observed a parent collecting their children in a vehicle without proper seat restraints. On stopping the vehicle it was ascertained that it was not insured and the driver did not have a valid driving licence. The vehicle was seized and the driver reported for the offences.

- 4.4 Community Ward officers have been in attendance at various Road Safety events, including a recent multi agency student drop-in clinic at Fife College. This was to promote the forthcoming Winter Road Safety Campaign which was fronted by “Special Constable” Anthony Green (aged 5) who provided a weekly update on Vehicle maintenance and winter checks delivered via the Police Scotland Glenrothes X (Twitter) account.



‘Special Constable’ Anthony Green

This was very well received by the public and it was noted that Anthony’s posts generated more interest reaching twice as many people and being shared far more than any other Police information message.

- 4.5 Throughout the year officers have responded to speeding concerns from ward resident’s by carrying out intelligence led speed checks. Areas included Balbirnie Road, Markinch, Pitcairn Avenue, Glenrothes and Main Street, Milton of Balgonie.

Pitcoudie Primary has recently been selected as one of the trial schools for the Fife Council School Exclusion Zones (SLZ) preventing unpermitted vehicles to drive on the restricted area outside of the school during drop off and pickup times. Officers have carried out a number of patrols at these times to ensure unpermitted drivers are adhering to the restrictions.

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The “Pop Up Bob” roadside police officer graphic continues to be deployed as a visible deterrent in the villages in addition to regular speed checks deployments. It is hoped that funding will be secured to produce more units to allow for them to be used throughout the ward area by the Community Speedwatch volunteers.

Work is currently ongoing and there is a commitment from Police to roll out further Community Speedwatch campaigns to allow members of the public to be fully involved in matters that affect them.



‘Pop Up Bob’ Speed Reduction tactic

- 4.6 **Substance Misuse** – In July 2023 information was provided to Police Scotland regarding the distribution of Class A drugs from an address in the Pitcoudie area. In order to develop this information officers undertook additional patrols during which intelligence led stop searches were carried out. As a result of proactive patrolling a vehicle was identified, stopped and searched under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

Following a search of the vehicle officers seized a quantity of drugs from the vehicle. This allowed an urgent application to be made to the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service for a Drugs search Warrant for an associated address. On being granted the necessary resources were identified for the successful execution of same. During this process further Class A drugs were seized.

Two persons were arrested and presented at court from custody on charges of being concerned in the supply of Class A controlled drugs with a value in excess of £500,000. To date this case is being assessed by the Procurator Fiscal service and as such no further details regarding the final disposal is available at this time.

- 4.7 In February 2024 Police Scotland received a request from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service who were in attendance at a reported house fire to a domestic dwelling in the Collydean area of Glenrothes due to discovery of a suspected drugs cultivation.

On Police attendance a joint investigation was carried out involving Police Scotland officers working alongside our colleagues within the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. A systematic search was carried out once the premises was deemed safe to do so. As a result it was evident that the dwelling had been utilised for the purposes of cultivating cannabis and a well-developed plantation was recovered from within along with a number of other suspected controlled substances.

All items were seized and enquiries carried out. The occupant was subsequently identified and arrested. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal outlining all offences. This matter is still progressing through the courts and as such a final disposal is not known at this time.

- 4.8 Local community ward officers have attended Collydean Community Centre's youth club and carried out an educational talk regarding drugs and their dangers to the youths. They continue to take robust action on any information provided to Police Scotland from our communities and partners to ensure we continue to disrupt the misuse of drugs in Glenrothes and deliver a safe environment for those residing and working there.

5.0 Ward 15 – Glenrothes Central and Thornton

- 5.1 **Anti-social and Violent Crime** – Throughout the first six months of 2023 officers responded to a disproportionately high call volume to the Kingdom Centre, primarily these calls were related to the Bus Station area. High visibility patrols were implemented with a remit to deal with all incidents of anti-social and violent conduct in a robust manner.

Discussions between Police Scotland, Elected Members, Safer Communities and Transport via the Glenrothes Linked Together platform were ongoing around this time and the decision was approved to have two officers dedicated to the Bus Station, one officer provided by Police Scotland and one funded by Fife Council. The introduction of these dedicated officers has seen a marked decrease in call volume and recorded crimes and anti-social behaviour. This is in stark contrast to other areas that are seeing an increase in anti-social behaviour.

Police worked closely with bus station supervisors and close relationships were established to ensure an even approach to the issue. All calls were retrospectively reviewed by management and repeat offenders, including juveniles, were subject to bail conditions to prevent any instance of repetition.

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Hi-visibility and plain clothed patrols will continue in the area to quell any anti-social behaviour and confiscate contraband including vapes and alcohol.

Continued youth engagement to educate and sign post persons to better available activities being run in the local area. Officers regularly attend local youth initiatives and provide support to staff whilst engaging with young people in a safe surrounding.

Ward 15 Officers have been liaising with local community centres (Lomond Centre and Exit Community Centre) regarding youth engagement and available services.

Funding was recently applied for and granted for the Lomond Centre in order to improve available facilities to make it a more desirable destination for local youths and divert them from anti-social and potentially damaging behaviour. The monies will be utilised to purchase additional or upgrade existing equipment.



Community Policing donation to the Lomond Centre

- 5.2 Glenrothes experienced a higher call volume regarding youths on off road vehicles. "The Bing" in Coaltown of Balgonie, is a popular destination for persons wishing to ride these vehicles and discussions are ongoing with the landowner as to how access to the area can be controlled in order to prevent this.

Currently the development of the railway line has meant that vehicle access is required at all times and therefore gates and barriers which have previously been in place have had to be removed while work is ongoing. Officers make continual efforts to identify those responsible and educate and advise persons of available regulated areas and schemes to safely use their off-road vehicles.

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Community officers have liaised with Roads Policing regarding available powers to trace perpetrators and seize offending vehicles. Efforts will continue during summer, in anticipation of any rise in the use of off road vehicles.

- 5.3 **Road Safety-** Officers continue to monitor and assess vehicle speeds in various areas throughout the ward. The handheld Speed Gun device (Unipar) has been utilised in several recognised hot spots across locality, including areas of concern which have been highlighted during engagement with members of the communities.

Officers have engaged with the Coaltown Community Council to set up a "Community Speed Watch" programme, facilitating the application process and training of the volunteers. Community officers will continue to provide support and guidance regarding the deployment of speed check sites and follow up and advise any offending vehicles.

Information has also been provided to the Pitteuchar, Stenton and Finglassie Community Council regarding setting up their own campaigns. Should public interest be strong enough then it is hoped that these groups can be set up quickly and funds for additional equipment can be secured. This is a work in progress but displays a strong commitment to Road Safety in our villages and towns.

- 5.4 Community officers have engaged with Fife Council Transport Department regarding a long term traffic calming solution within the Thornton area. Discussions are ongoing and in the meantime community officers continue Speed Gun (Unipar) deployments and high visibility patrols in the area to deter offending motorists.

Community officers have engaged with all local primary schools within the ward area and engaged with some of the Junior Road Safety groups which have been formed. Information sessions have provided advice in order to maximise the safety of our young people when travelling to and from school.

Community officers regularly liaise with the Fife Council Parking Supervisor regarding school site visits and officers and joint visits are arranged at drop off and pick up times to monitor and advise on parking and in some instances on the manner of driving in built up areas.

- 5.5 **Substance Misuse** - In September 2023, following the receipt of intelligence regarding the suspected supply of controlled drugs from a property within the Woodside area of Glenrothes, through proactive patrols and community/partnership engagement, officers applied for a Drugs Search warrant. On being successfully granted, officers along with their colleagues from East Area Operational Support Unit and the East Area Drugs Search Dog carried out the execution of same.

An estimated £60,000 worth of Class A drugs were recovered and the sole occupant was subsequently arrested for being concerned in the supply of

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controlled substances. This case has been reported to the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service for consideration and is ongoing at this time.

- 5.6 Community and Community Investigation and Prevention Unit (CIPU) officers continue to work together to gather and act upon intelligence regarding the sale of controlled substances within the ward area. Hi- visibility patrols and proactive stop and search procedures in identified areas where drug dealing takes place will continue to be utilised in order to deter the sale and use of controlled substances whilst delivering a safe environment for those residing, working and visiting the area.

Over the course of the year numerous intelligence reports were received and investigated by officers. This resulted in several misuse of drugs act warrant applications being submitted and executed within the area.

6.0 Acquisitive Crime

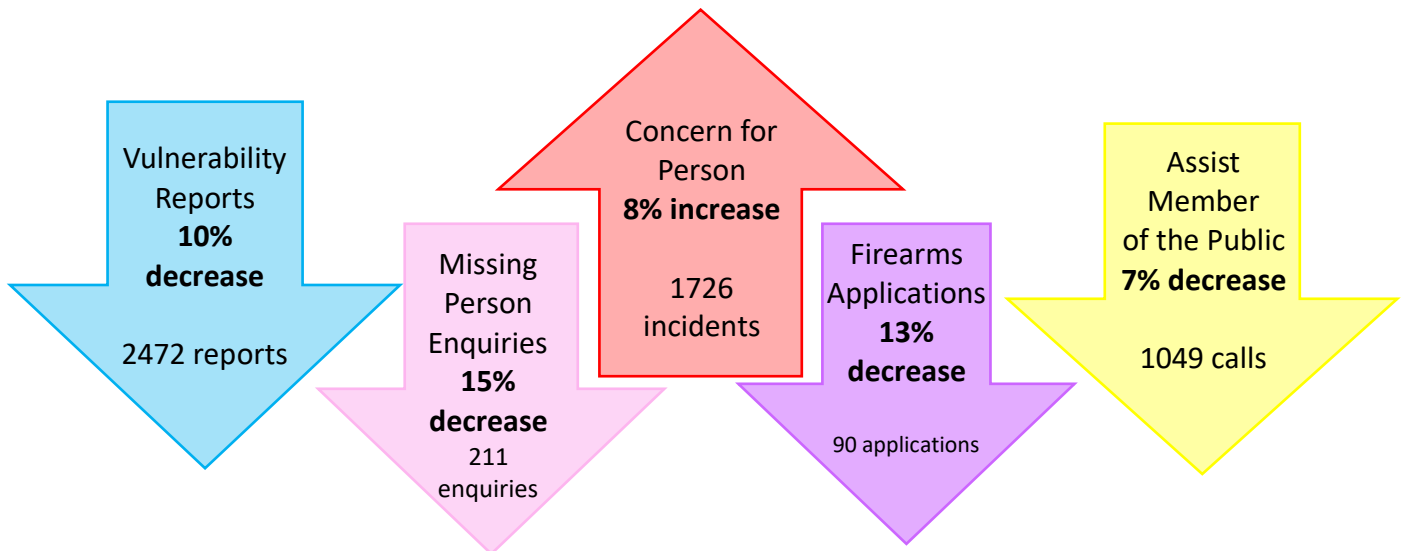
- 6.1 Glenrothes and the wider Fife area has seen a rise in acquisitive crime such as internet, banking and telephone fraud. Scammers target our most vulnerable including the elderly by identifying themselves as being part of reputable companies then subsequently asking for money to be transferred. Work is currently ongoing via our local community teams to hold engagement sessions at local supermarkets, Community Councils and Tenants Residents Associations to educate the community on how best to protect themselves from this type of crime.
- 6.2 Theft by shoplifting offences have trended similar to the levels of offending recorded in the last reporting year. Community Safety officers alongside local community teams continue to work closely with our retailers to improve shop safety and layout to prevent opportunist theft. A large proportion of these types of thefts are committed by individuals with substance misuse issues or recidivistic offenders.

Working alongside partners from Retailers Against Crime (RACs) an application has been developed that allows for direct reporting of offences online. Specifically designed to capture low level offending stream line the reporting process, it is hoped that this system will go live in 2024.

7.0 Protecting People from Risk of Harm

- 7.1 Dealing with the most vulnerable members of our society and protecting those at risk of harm remains the primary focus for modern day policing. The decision-making process which determines the type of policing response received revolves primarily around the assessment of Threat, Risk and Harm and Vulnerability.

As a result, policing focusses largely on responding to those most in need through their own vulnerability, or vulnerability through the position they have found themselves in. In this recording year, not only did your local policing deal with the priorities outlined in this document with significant success, they further responded to;



All of these enquiries (*note, data is for the period April 2023 – February 2024 inclusive*) require meaningful officer involvement, engagement and diversion from what could be traditionally reviewed as policing duties (namely dealing with reported crime). They require dynamic and critical thinking, exemplary people skills and much needed policing craft to bring to safe resolution, or the making of justifiable decisions.

The reader need acknowledge that traditional policing as it was known continues to trend in a different projection. This was highlighted in the recent HMICS 2021/22 Annual Report, where it was reported 73% of all calls to police resulted in no crimes being recorded. Policing in Glenrothes recognises and identifies with this trend, whilst still making significant inroads into other matters of concern within the community.

8.0 Threats to Public Safety

8.1 There are currently no outstanding investigations or enquiries taking place in the Glenrothes area that would be considered a threat to public safety.

9.0 Working in Partnership

9.1 **Antisocial Behaviour and Violent crime** In 2023, following a substantial increase in some crime groups in the town of Glenrothes, a meeting of key partners was convened. It was agreed that a new steering/strategy partnership would be formed to oversee the work related to the mitigation of this issue. This partnership would be known as 'Glenrothes Linked Together'(GLT).

9.2 The two identified key aims of GLT were,

- To improve and strengthen partnership approaches and,
- To outline a coherent model that will combine Police involvement alongside

early intervention through education and diversionary programmes.

9.3 To support the development of a more coherent and collaborative approach to working with young people in our community spaces, partners from various organisations have been meeting on a bi-monthly basis in order to:

- Share up to date information and intelligence
- Identify and agree on opportunities for street-based partnership projects
- Build stronger relationships between organisations.

Partners supporting this initiative are Fife Council Youth Work; Clued Up; Safer Communities; Community Policing and Active Schools.

Further work to support early intervention and diversionary programmes is being supported by quarterly Area wide partnership meetings, where representatives from schools, police, third sector and local authority have participated in relevant thematic discussions, identifying actions to address pressing issues. Over the past year themes addressed have included: External Support to High Schools; Young People Affected by Poverty.

The development of improved collaborative practice that is action focused will be fundamental in sustaining a longer-term model of effective early intervention work with young people.

9.4 Supporting the initiative was the successful application for funding for a fully dedicated policing resource. From July 2023, the officer was supported by a match-funded officer provided by local policing to engage, encourage, educate key groups in Ward 15 and deal with crimes and offences through enforcement. Both officers reported significant work undertaken including

- reduction in calls to the town centre/bus station by 74%
- 100 crimes/offences detected and reported
- 14 missing people traced safely
- a quantity of drugs seized sufficient for personal use
- alcohol seized from under aged children

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The GLT deployment also became involved in high visibility and engagement with pupils at all three high schools in a continuing effort to highlight responsibility when out in the town centre area and promote safe spaces.

During December 2023 GLT deployment organised and funded an afternoon of ten pin bowling for 10 young persons from each of the three Glenrothes High Schools

Members of staff were also involved and the young person's all enjoyed two games of bowling and a hot meal. GLT hope will look to repeat this with a new activity in the summer months.



High School Pupils outing to Tenpin Bowling

Work is currently underway to seek support for an extension to the GLT project beyond July 2024 into 2025.

- 9.5 Special recognition should be given to PC Ross Fisher, who after 6 years as the Schools Liaison Officer (SLO) for Glenrothes has elected to return to response policing based at Glenrothes. PC Fisher remains a well-known and highly respected officer in the three high schools and was admired for the interaction skills, engagement and leadership he has demonstrated amongst young people. Ross returns to beat policing but will continue to support education through support and guidance to the community teams to keep young people safe from harm.

The withdrawal of the SLO role, has enabled local policing to review the demand from schools, balanced with threat/risk/harm assessment and compliance with the Scottish Crime Recording Standards. As a result a new hybrid model will replace the single SLO for all three schools.

Each school will have direct access to two Community Officers in their ward area for dynamic support, guidance and educational inputs. This visible support will be reinforced by the Glenrothes Linked Together officers, plus a comprehensive communications plan to ensure our partners, pupils and the staff are supported in keeping with threat, risk, harm assessment model.

10.0 Licensed premises

10.1 Licensed premises are subject to a Red, Amber and Green (RAG) grading system, which highlights specific premises that have come to the notice of the police. The definition of the three RAG categories is as outlined below:

- **Red** - Problematic Premises (highest grading)
- **Amber** - Premises subject to formal intervention (subject to some form of monitoring & intervention where appropriate), and
- **Green** - Monitored Premises – (all reported incidents)

10.2 There are no licensed premises within Glenrothes requiring intervention at this time.

10.3 Local policing engaged with the Divisional Licensing Sergeant, Licensing Support Officers from Fife Council and saw an increase in recorded visits to public houses and off sales premises.

Some off sales premises provide significant challenges for theft by shoplifting, and engagement continues to understand what it is about those stores, which make theft (particularly alcohol) more appealing. Store management will require to provide increased safety measures for their staff and will in the next reporting year see those premises reported to the Licensing Board for a review of their conditions.

10.4 Several licensed premises engaged in this year's Best Bar None process. The scheme engages with and supports licensed premises to be safe employers and create safe spaces for the public and their staff to work, visit and enjoy. The Community Safety Officer is heavily involved in the support, training and visibility for these premises, who work towards recognition and annual awards. This year saw 4 GOLD Awards and a SILVER Award given to licensed premises in Glenrothes.

Balbirnie House Hotel (GOLD)

Foxton Bar & Grill (GOLD)

Balgeddie House Hotel (GOLD)

Golden Acorn (GOLD)

Brewers Fayre Bankhead Gate (SILVER)



Foxton Bar and Grill Award



Golden Acorn Award

Recognition and thanks should be given to all the licensees and their employees for the considerable hard work completed to accomplish their status, making Glenrothes a safer place to work, live and visit.

11.0. Policing in Central Fife

11.1 The policing structure in Glenrothes continues to place a strong focus on dedicated community policing and believes in a collective responsibility to ensure the area is a safe place to stay, work and visit.

Your Community Ward Officers for the forthcoming 2024/25 are;

- ❖ Ward 13 – Constable Mark Brown and Constable Chevonne Wilson
- ❖ Ward 14 – Constable David Dalgleish and Constable Jolene McComiskie
- ❖ Ward 15 – Constable Craig McGowan and Constable Bryan Campbell

Supporting the Ward officers are;

- ❖ Community Inspector Murray Gibson
- ❖ Community Sergeant David McCabe
- ❖ Constable Jordan Reynolds and Constable David Irvine (Glenrothes Linked Together)
- ❖ Constable Ashley McGregor, Community Safety Officer

Report Contact:

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Glenrothes

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22 May 2024

Agenda Item No. 11

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Local Plan Annual Performance Report

Report by: David Scott, Station Commander Glenrothes, St Andrews and Tayport Fire Stations.

Wards Affected: All Glenrothes wards

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) Glenrothes Committee Area - against its key performance indicators (KPIs).

Recommendation(s)

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

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 Fife LSO managers and appropriate partners to enable areas of high incidence to be scrutinised for reduction strategies.



Photo - Glenrothes Fire Station

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.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

1st April 2023– 31st March 2024

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



**SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**

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Definitions

Accidental Dwelling Fire

Buildings 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

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: lamp-posts, 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 Glenrothes 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 two years activity.

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

<p>Accident Dwelling Fires</p>   <p>2024 = 24 2023 = 24</p>	<p>ADF Fatal Casualties</p>   <p>2024 = 0 2023 = 0</p>	<p>ADF Non-Fatal Casualties</p>   <p>2024 = 2 2023 = 1</p>
<p>Deliberate Primary Fires</p>   <p>2024 = 35 2023 = 27</p>	<p>Deliberate Secondary Fires</p>   <p>2024 = 106 2023 = 118</p>	<p>Non-domestic Building Fires</p>   <p>2024 = 20 2023 = 15</p>
<p>Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</p>   <p>2024 = 0 2023 = 0</p>	<p>Non-Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</p>   <p>2024 = 2 2023 = 1</p>	<p>Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</p>   <p>2024 = 111 2023 = 209</p>
<p>Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents</p>   <p>2024 = 22 2023 = 17</p>	<p>Fatal RTC Casualties</p>   <p>2024 = 2 2023 = 1</p>	<p>Non-Fatal RTC Casualties</p>   <p>2024 = 10 2023 = 5</p>

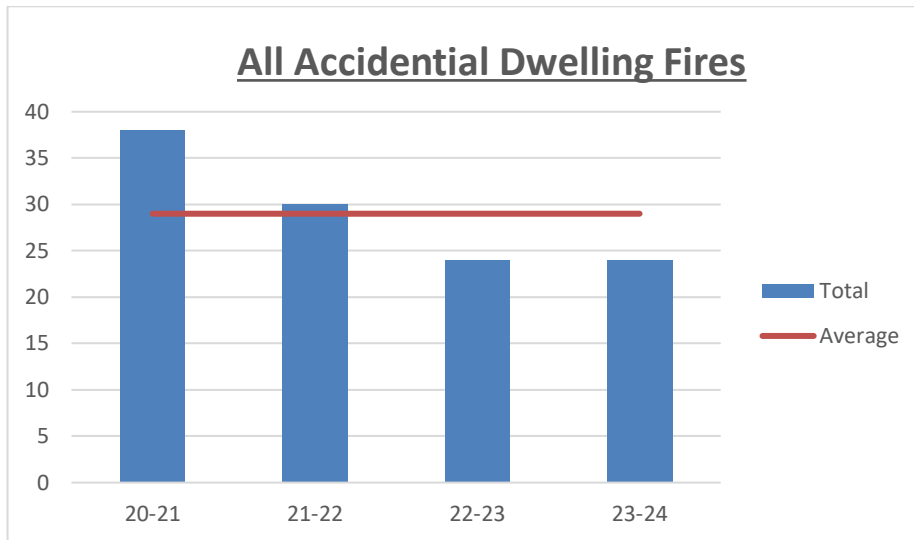
PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

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

- The number of Accidental Dwelling Fires- 24 This is the same total as last year and over a 4-year period is below the average figure for the period covered in the table.
- There were no Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatal Casualties during this period. The number of Accidental Dwelling Fires Non-Fatal Casualties was 2 which is an increase on the previous year but still below the four-year average figure.
- The number of Deliberate Primary Fires during this period was 35. An increase on the previous year's figures. It is now just above the average figure for previous years.
- The number of Deliberate Secondary Fires during this period was 106. This is a decrease from last year and it remains below the four-year average.
- The number of Non-Domestic Building Fires recorded was 20. This is an increase on the previous year and is above the four-year average.
- The number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) caused by automatic fire alarms (AFAs) in non-domestic buildings during this period was 111. This is a decrease of 53% and significantly below the four-year average.
- The number of Road Traffic Collisions for the reporting period was 22. This is an increase of 5 from last year's figure.
- RTC Fatalities 2. There have been two fatal casualties in this reporting year.
- The number of Non-Fatal RTC Casualties during this period was 10 which is a significant increase on the previous year and just above the four-year average.

3. Domestic Fire Safety

3.1 Accidental Dwelling Fires have reduced by six incidents when compared to the previous year figures.



Graph 1 Accidental Dwelling Fires April 2020 - March 2024

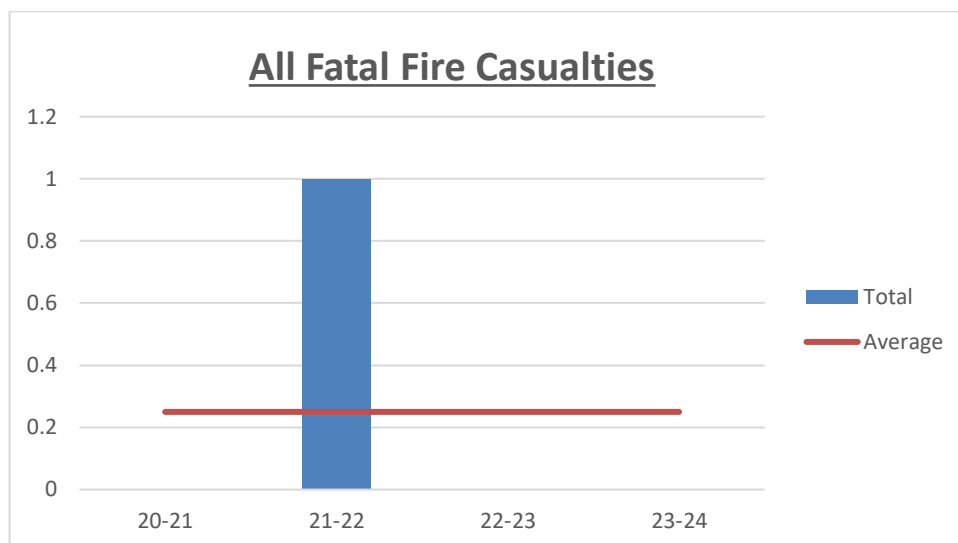
Ward	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	8	11	10	6
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	12	8	3	10
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	18	11	11	8
Total	38	30	24	24

Table 1 Accidental Dwelling Fires by Committee Area April 2020- March 2024

- 3.2 The number of Accidental Dwelling Fires- 24 is the same number as last year and is below the average figure for the period covered in the table.
- 3.3 15 of the recorded 24 Accidental Dwelling Fires for this reporting period were caused within the kitchen by cooking or items left unattended. With 15 out of 24 incidents being restricted to either little fire damage or limited to the item first ignited or room of origin.
- 3.4 It is pleasing to note that in 18 out of 24 of those addresses, detection systems were present, and that on most occasions they operated and raised the alarm. It is recorded that on 1 occasion, they did not operate.
- 3.5 16 of the incidents were resolved either without Scottish Fire and Rescue Service intervention, or by very limited action on arrival. 7 incidents required the use of a Hose Reel Jet as an extinguishing medium.
- 3.6 The information above describes a trend of reduction in severity and occurrence. 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. The Scottish

Government introduced the Tolerable Standard from February 2022, which outlines the requirement for interlinked smoke and heat detection within domestic properties.

3.7 Fire Fatalities – Accidental Dwelling Fires



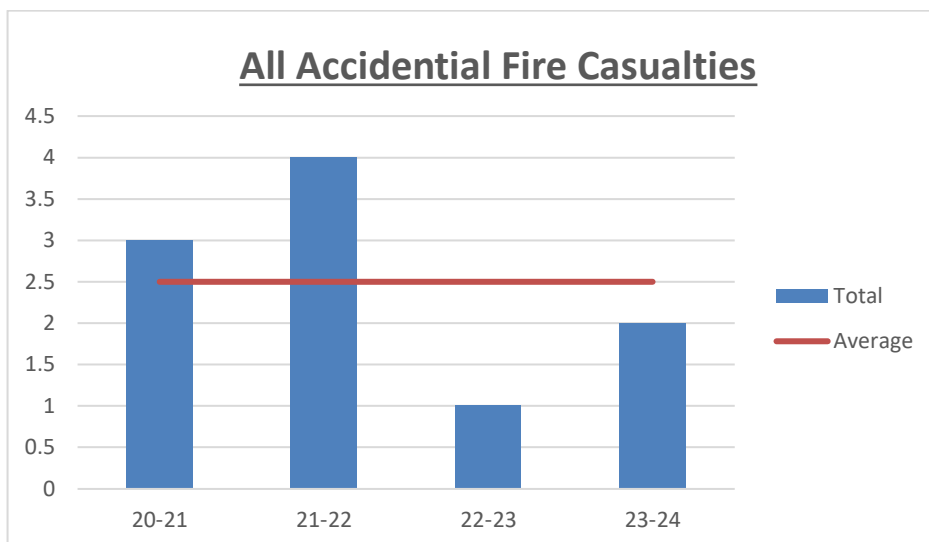
Graph 2 Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatal Casualties April 2020 – March 2024

Ward	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	0	0	0	0
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	0	1	0	0
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1	0	0

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

3.8 There were no **Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatal Casualties** during this period. This is the second year without a fire fatality following one fatal fire casualty in 21-22.

3.9 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
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	2	1	1	1
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	1	2	0	0
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	0	1	0	1
Total	3	4	1	2

Table 3 Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties April 2020- March 2024

3.10 The number of **Accidental Dwelling Fires Non-Fatal Casualties** was **2** which is in increase on the previous year but still below the average figure.

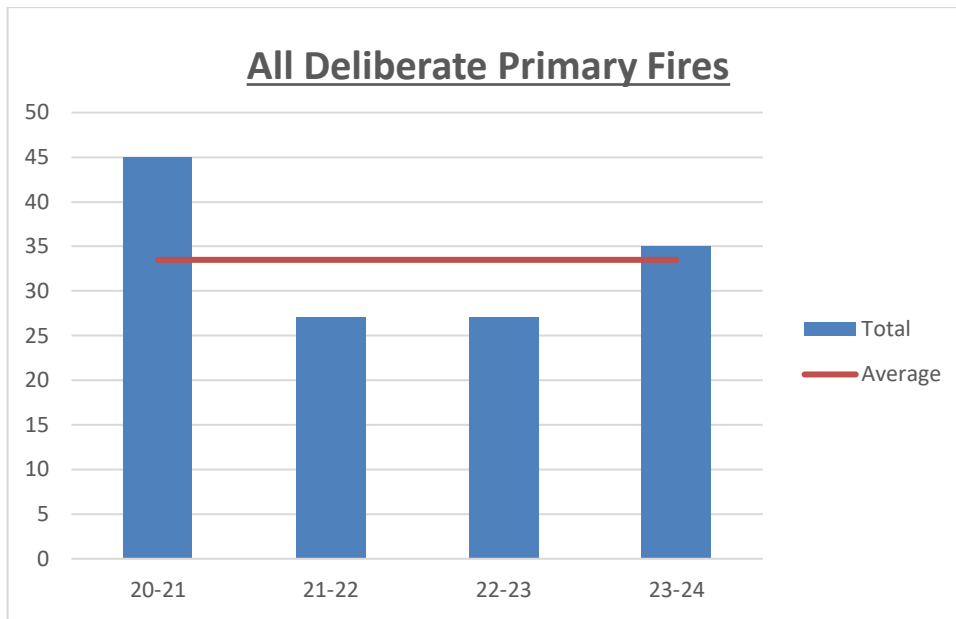
3.11 Both these casualties were given first aid at the scene and transferred to hospital for further checks.

3.12 Domestic Fire Reduction Strategy

Home Fire Safety Visits play a vital part in our strategy to reduce the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires. **Station personnel completed 401 visits** during the reporting period. These visits are used to deliver vital fire safety messages to reduce instances of fire, and where appropriate, install detection systems, as well as give slips, trips and falls messages to reduce unintentional harm and supply safety equipment for our elderly and very young population. In addition to this, following any incident a Post Domestic Incident Response is carried out offering a Home Fire Safety Visit and advice to neighbouring properties. **73 PDIR's** were carried out

4. Deliberate Fire Setting

4.1 Deliberate Primary Fires

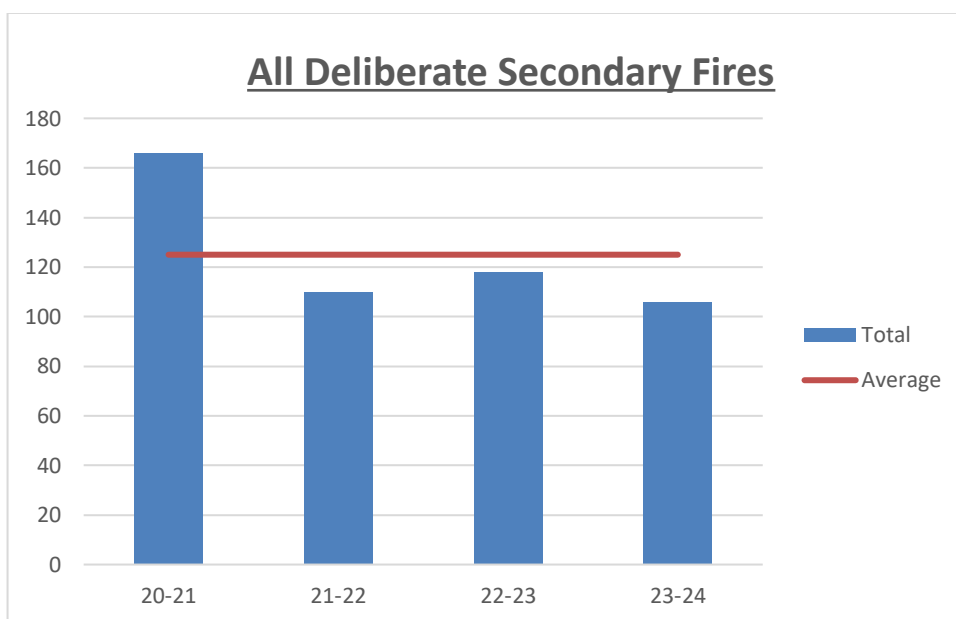


Graph 4 Deliberate Primary Fires April 2020- March 2024

Ward	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	15	8	12	15
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	21	9	8	15
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	9	10	7	10
Total	45	27	27	35

Table 4 Deliberate Primary 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
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	53	38	38	41
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	61	39	36	31
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	52	33	44	34
Total	166	110	118	106

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 Deliberate fires have increased to 35, an increase of 29% on year 22-23 and just above the four-year average. Secondary Deliberate fire incidents have decreased by 11%.

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 Glenrothes and continue to be developed and reviewed with partner agencies to address and reduce operational demand and anti-social behaviour.

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.



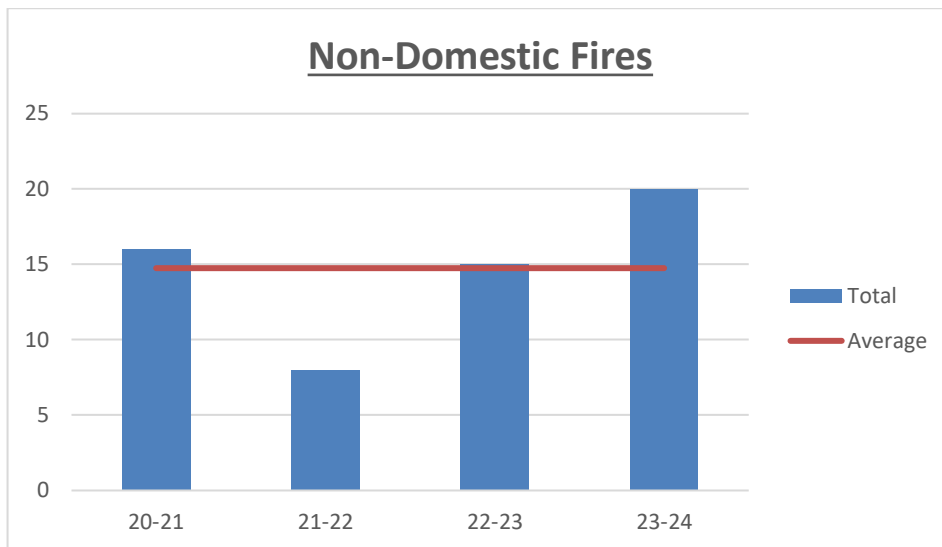
Photo 1 Fire skills group carrying out ladder drill



Photo 2 Fire skills group being taught CPR

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
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	7	4	8	10
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	2	2	1	3
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	7	2	6	7
Total	16	8	15	20

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

5.2 The number of **Non-Domestic Building Fires** recorded was **20**. This is an increase of 5 on the previous year. At 14 of these incidents damage was limited to the item first ignited with no damage to the building and at 6 of these no firefighting was carried out by SFRS

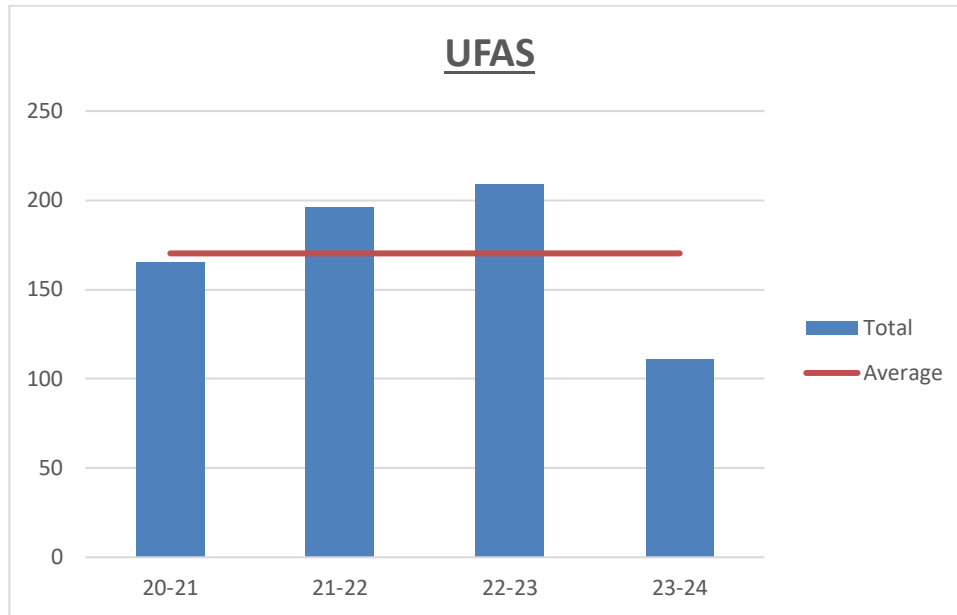
5.3 Built Environment Fire Reduction Strategy

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 premise's occupier, and to identify any issues which could be used to inform other similar premises types 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. UFAS incidents have fluctuated over the four-year period. The table and graph below details the incident numbers over four years.



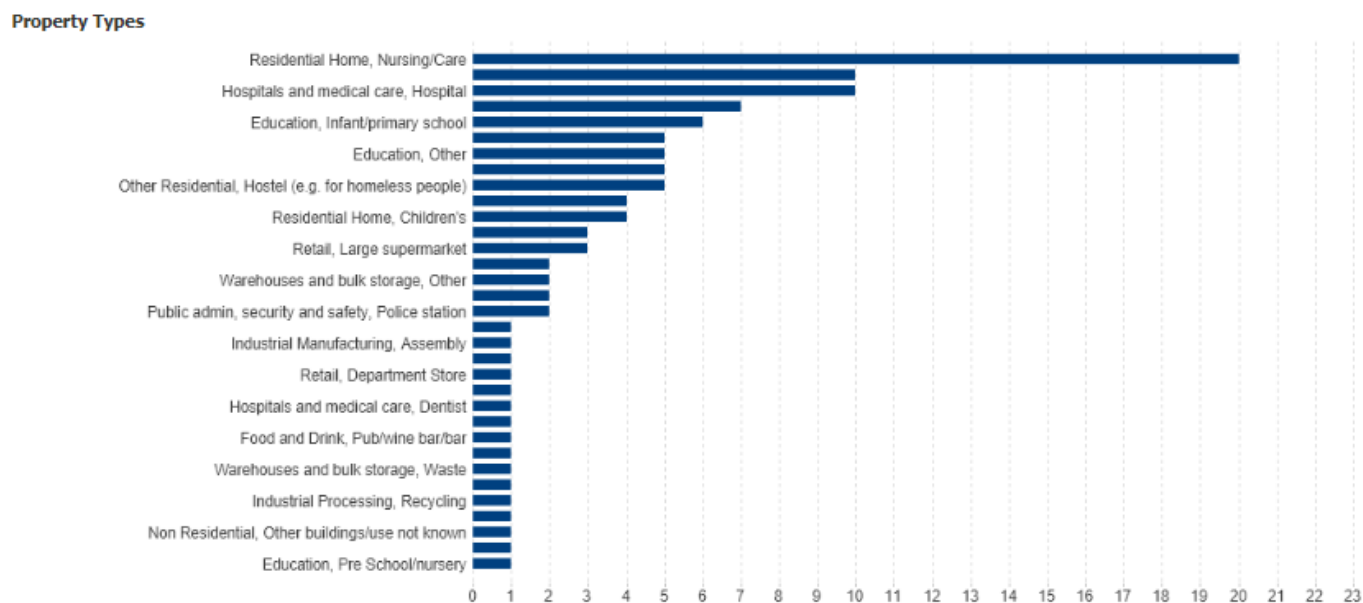
Graph 7 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals April 2020- March 2024

Ward	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	81	71	69	33
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	25	23	34	28
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	59	102	106	50
Total	165	196	209	111

Table 7 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals April 2020- March 2024

6.2 The number of **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) caused by automatic fire alarms (AFAs) in non-domestic buildings** during this period was **111**. This is a decrease of 46% and significantly below the four-year average. This is in line with the start of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Unwanted fire alarm signal policy that was implemented on the 1st of July 2023.

6.3 The following graph identifies the property types involved.



6.4 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.

This strategy, along with many others had seen the numbers of UFAS decrease significantly for the first time in a considerable period. The UFAS Champion will continue to engage robustly with duty holders.

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.

This has resulted in a cost saving to the SFRS of £143838* for Glenrothes Fire station and also a reduction 803KG** of CO2 emissions avoided due to reduced mobilisations to UFAS's.

*Associated cost of £1,970 for each UFAS event according to Department for Communities and Local Government

**Equivalent of 11KG of CO2 per appliance per journey according to SFRS Carbon Management Policy 2020-25

7. Transport and Environment

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

7.2 Water Related Incidents

Water related incidents caused by environmental factors are thankfully rare. Glenrothes Fire Station did attend 12 Flooding incidents over the reporting period, 8 of these were making property safe and no evacuations were carried out. Glenrothes is a Water Rescue Station and the watches at Glenrothes continually maintain their boat and water rescue skills.

7.3 Road Traffic Collisions

As SFRS generally only attend RTC's of a serious nature, where persons are trapped, the figures below only capture RTCs where SFRS attended.

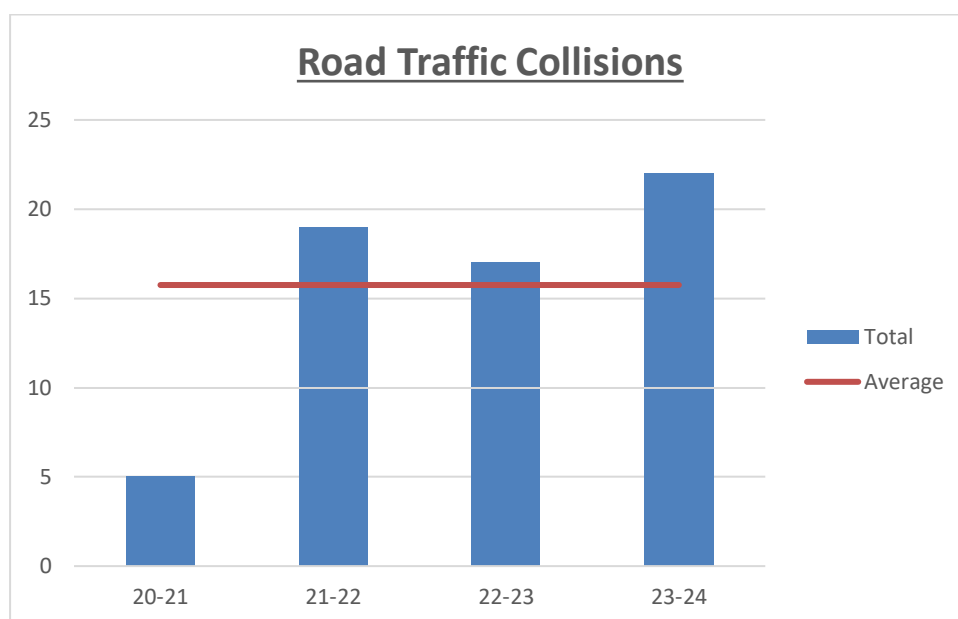


Table 8 Road Traffic Collisions April 2020- March 2024

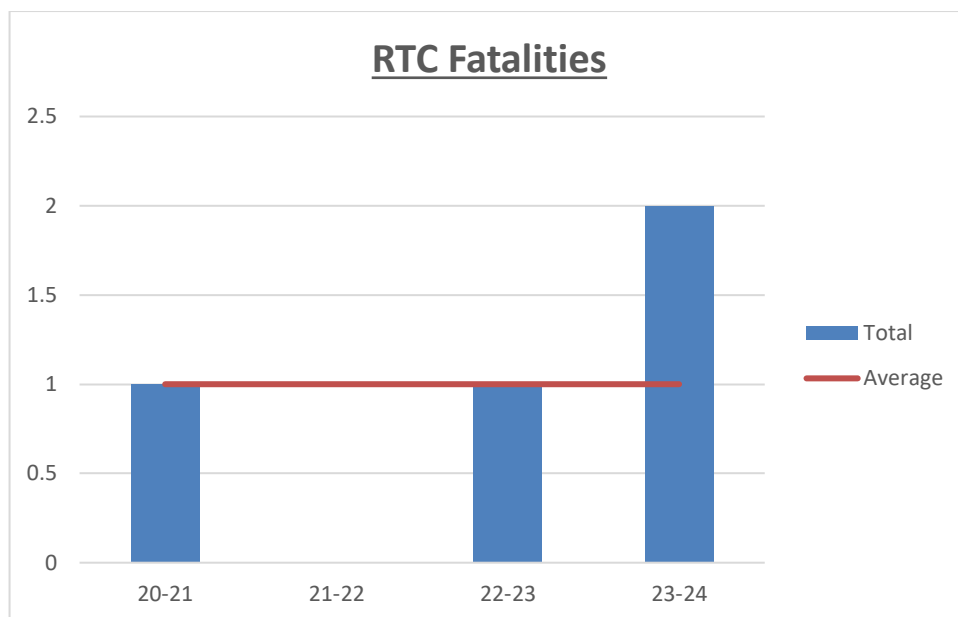
Ward	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	2	7	10	10
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	3	3	5	8
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	0	9	2	4
Total	5	19	17	22

Table 8 Road Traffic Collisions April 2020 - March 2024

7.4 The number of **Road Traffic Collisions** for the reporting period was **22**. This is an increase of 5 from last year's figure. The majority were low severity, with more than half of incidents only requiring us to assist making the vehicle or scene safe.

On five occasions we assisted to release casualties from vehicles. Where greater care is taken because more serious injuries are suspected. Scottish Ambulance Service provide clinical advice when in attendance and a tri-service approach is always adopted.

7.5 RTC Fatal Casualties



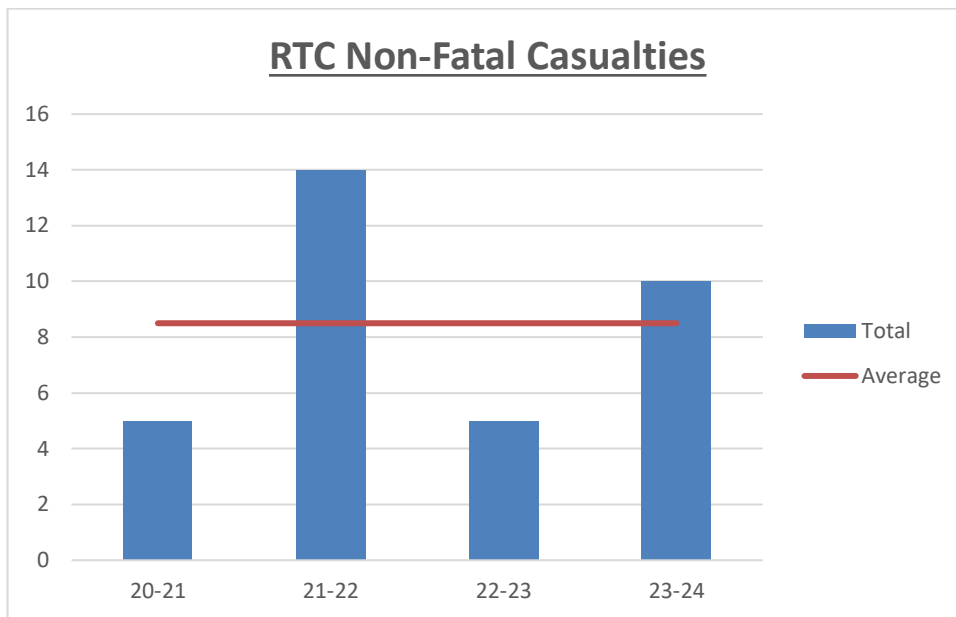
Graph 9 Road Traffic Collision Fatal Casualties April - March 2020-2024

Ward	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	1	0	1	1
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	0	0	0	1
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	1	2

Table 9 Road Traffic Collision Fatal April - March 2020-2024

7.6 RTC Fatalities. There were two RTC fatalities for this reporting period.

7.7 RTC casualties



Graph 10 Road Traffic Collision Casualties April 2020- March 2024

Ward	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	1	7	2	9
Glenrothes North, Leslie & Markinch	4	1	2	1
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	0	6	1	0
Total	5	14	5	10

Table 10 Road Traffic Collision Casualties April 2020- March 2024

7.8 RTC Casualties

This reporting period has shown an increase from 5 to 10 RTC casualties. 6 of these casualties were extricated by SFRS personnel.

7.9 Transport and Environment Related Incident Reduction Strategy

Fife LSO area, along with our partners, have continued to deliver valuable educational projects which included 'Safe Drive Stay Alive', 'Drive Wise', 'Child Car Seat Safety Checks', 'Cut It Out', 'Biker Down' and the 'Fife Water Safety Initiative'.

As well as the projects detailed above, SFRS contributed as part of the Road Casualty Reduction Group (RCRG), which is a part of the current Fife Community Safety Strategy.

8. Conclusions

- 8.1 This reporting period sees no increase on the previous year's figures for Accidental Dwelling Fires. There have been no fire fatalities. Fire Casualties have remained low with two years below the four-year average, and the severity of those casualties encountered continues to reduce.

The number of Deliberate Primary fires has increased on last year's figure but deliberate Secondary fires have decreased by 11%. Station personnel and our Community Action team continue targeting schools as part of our reduction strategy.

Non-Domestic fires have increased to 20 and are above the four year average this year. UFAS incidents have significantly decreased (46%) following the implementation of the SFRS UFAS Policy on 1st July 2023. As part of this policy we will continue to respond to life risks, however, will seek to reduce service demand by altering the way we respond to Automatic Fire Alarms.

RTC's have increased slightly and RTC fatalities have increased from 1 to 2. Any contributory factors identified through appropriate Police Scotland investigations will be considered for education and engagement activities with partners. The number of Home Fire Safety Visits and educational engagement sessions within schools and communities has returned to pre-pandemic levels. We continue to focus on the areas of emerging risk identified in this annual report and seek to reverse any upward trends.

- 8.2 We will continue to manage demand reduction strategies, linking in with key partner agencies, 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

David Scott
Station Commander
Glenrothes, St Andrews & Tayport
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Email – davidr.scott@firescotland.gov.uk

Date 22 May 2024

Agenda Item No. 12

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Report by: Allan Paul, Head of Property Services

Wards Affected: 13, 14 and 15

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 Leases by the Council – New Leases

2.1.1 Unit 14 Flemington Road, Phase 2 Queensway Industrial Estate, Glenrothes

Term: 5 years
Rent: £10,059 per annum
Tenant: McDonald Water Storage Ltd

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

Author Name Michael Ogorman
Author's Job Title Service Manager – Estates and Asset Management
Workplace Property Services – Estates
Bankhead Central
Bankhead Park
Glenrothes, KY7 6GH
Telephone 03451 555555 Ext No 440498
Email Michael.Ogorman@fife.gov.uk

22 May 2024

Agenda Item No. 13

Glenrothes Area Committee Work Programme

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

Wards Affected: 13, 14, 15

Purpose

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

Recommendation(s)

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

Resource Implications

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

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

None required for this paper.

Consultation

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

1.0 Background

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

2.0 Conclusions

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

List of Appendices

1. Workplan

Background Papers

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

None

Report Contact

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

Glenrothes Area Committee of 21 August 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
OnFife Six-Monthly Update	Fife Cultural Trust	Karen M Taylor	Previously considered 31.01.24. Minute Ref. Para. 92. of 2024.GAC.40 refers.
Area Housing Plan Update - Glenrothes	Housing Services	Charlotte Stitchell	Six-monthly update - previously considered 31.01.24 - Min Para Ref 97 (2) of 2024.GAC.42 refers.
Participatory Budgeting Glenrothes High Schools	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service, Education	Chris Mieztis	Requested at meeting on 22.03.23 - Para 48. (5) of 2023.GAC.20 refers. Deferred from 22.05.24 meeting.
Housing Revenue Account - Selling Lock Ups within mixed tenure blocks	Housing Services	Joan Lamie, Donna Christie	Previously considered 31.01.24 - deferred for member workshop. Minute Para Ref 96 (2) of 2024.GAC.42.
Glenrothes Area Committee Forward Work Plan			

Glenrothes Area Committee of 2 October 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Glenrothes Area Committee Forward Work Plan			

Glenrothes Area Committee of 27 November 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Glenrothes Area Committee Forward Work Plan			

Glenrothes Area Committee of 22 January 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Local Area Economic Profiles (December 2024)	Business and Employability	Peter Corbett	Previously considered 31.01.24. Minute Ref. Para. 95. of 2024.GAC.42.
Glenrothes Area Committee Forward Work Plan			

Glenrothes Area Committee of 2 April 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Glenrothes Area Committee Forward Work Plan			
Area Roads Programme 2025-26	Roads & Transportation	Vicki Connor-fc	Annual report last considered 27.3.24
Health and Social Care Locality Planning - Glenrothes	Health and Social Care	Fiona McKay, Jacquie Stringer-fc	Ref Para no. 101 (1) of 2024.GAC.45 (meeting of 27.03.24).

Glenrothes Area Committee of 11 June 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Glenrothes Area Committee Forward Work Plan			

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Pupil Equity Fund	Education	Angela Logue, Zoe Thomson	05.03.24 - advised to be included in the attainment reports – there will be an offer of a follow up workshop if required.

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Town Centre Masterplan - Glenrothes	Business and Employability	Ronnie Hair	Previously considered 24.03.21.
Riverside Park Improvement Plan 2020 - 2030: Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service, Business and Employability	Kevin O'Kane, Lisa Edwards-bs	Previously considered 04.03.20.
Area Capital Update Report	Finance and Corporate Services, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Eleanor Hodgson, Norman Laird	Previously considered 04.12.19.
Report of the Pupilwise & Parentwise Surveys	Education	Deborah Davidson	Usual 3-yearly surveys/reporting delayed due to pandemic - was due 2021. Previously considered 31.10.18.
30 mph Speed Limit on B9130 Markinch - Objections NOT set aside	Roads & Transportation	Steven Sellars	Objections to TRO not set aside at GAC on 01.12.21 - Para 245 refers.
Local Community Planning Budget/Devolved Budget/ Anti-poverty Funding/ Capital Fund	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Norman Laird	
On-Street Car Parking	Assets, Transportation and Environment, Roads & Transportation	Lesley Craig	
Maintenance of Community Assets in the Glenrothes Area	Assets, Transportation and Environment, Place	Alan Paul	GAC 7 September 2022 Para 10 (2) refers.
Community Recovery Fund Outcome Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Norman Laird	19.09.23 - outcome report requested.
Active travel plans/routes, Glenrothes Area		<i>Norman Laird to confirm/advise appropriate Service/ Officer.</i>	Min Ref Para 98 (5) of 2024.GAC.43 refers - meeting on 31.01.24.

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Maisonettes in Glenrothes - Long-term Plan for Demolition/Re-development		<i>Norman Laird to advise relevant officer.</i>	Relevant report author to be identified.