

## South and West Fife Area Committee

Please note this meeting will be held remotely



Wednesday, 14 February, 2024 - 9.30 am

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### 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 the South and West Fife Area Committee of 13 December 2023. 3 - 6
4. **DIVERSION OF A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY - CARRICK GROVE, DALGETY BAY** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service. 7 - 29
5. **C53 TOWNHILL TO BOWERSHALL - PROPOSED 40MPH SPEED LIMIT** – Report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services. 30 - 32
6. **AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2024-25** – Report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services. 33 - 40
7. **DOMESTIC WASTE, STREET CLEANSING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICE - ANNUAL REVIEW 2023-24** – Report by the Head of Environment and Building Services. 41 - 44
8. **FIFE LOCAL AREA ECONOMIC PROFILES 2022-2023** – Report by the Head of Business and Employability Services. 45 - 80
9. **HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE LOCALITY PLANNING - SOUTH AND WEST FIFE** – Report by the Chief Finance Officer, Health and Social Care. 81 - 85
10. **SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2024-2025** – Report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services). 86 - 93
11. **NOTICE OF MOTION** - In terms of Standing Order No. 10, the following Notice of Motion has been submitted:-

"Committee asks for a verbal update at its next meeting to explore resource implications to alleviate the traffic problems around Donibristle Primary School, including but not restricted to the banning of traffic from the straight section of Morlich Road leading up to the school at times when pupils are out and about except for a limited number of permit holders".

Proposed by Councillor Dave Dempsey  
Seconded by Councillor Sarah Neal

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

Lindsay Thomson  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services  
Finance and Corporate Services  
Fife House  
North Street  
Glenrothes  
Fife, KY7 5LT

7 February 2024

If telephoning, please ask for:

Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes  
Telephone: 03451 555555, ext. 442238; email: Michelle.McDermott@fife.gov.uk

Agendas and papers for all Committee meetings can be accessed on [www.fife.gov.uk/committees](http://www.fife.gov.uk/committees)

## **REMOTE 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.

If a member requires 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 using the "Raise hand" function in Teams at the appropriate time and will then be invited to speak.

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 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 - SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE**

**Civic Centre, Inverkeithing**

**13 December, 2023**

**9.30 am - 11.30 am**

**PRESENT:** Councillors David Barratt (Convener), Patrick Browne, Dave Dempsey, Graeme Downie, Brian Goodall, Andy Jackson, Sarah Neal, Sam Steele, Andrew Verrecchia and Conner Young.

**ATTENDING:** Susan Keenlyside, Service Manager, Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant and Andy Paterson, Lead Consultant, Roads and Transportation Services; Alastair Mutch, Community Manager (South and West Fife) and Stephen Adamson, Project Manager, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Laura Robertson, Finance Operations Manager, Eleanor Hodgson, Accountant and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Scott Urquhart, Head of Operations, Fife Sports and Leisure Trust (for para. 108 only).

Prior to the start of business, the Convener intimated the intention to vary the sequence of items from that on the agenda.

**106. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**107. MINUTE**

The committee considered the minute of the meeting of the South and West Fife Area Committee of 1 November 2023.

**Decision**

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

**108. PROPOSED SEASONAL URBAN CLEARWAY - SANDHAVEN, CULROSS**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing proposals to introduce a seasonal urban clearway on Sandhaven, Culross.

**Decision**

The committee, in the interests of road safety and traffic management:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a seasonal urban clearway as detailed in Drawing No. TRO/23/57 with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

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### 109. A907 CARNOCK ROAD, GOWKHALL - PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing proposals to introduce a 30mph speed limit on the A907 Carnock Road, Gowkhal.

#### Decision

The committee, in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a 30mph speed limit as detailed in Drawing No. TRO/23/56 with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

### 110. FIFE SPORTS AND LEISURE TRUST - OVERVIEW

The committee considered a report by the Chief Executive Officer, Fife Sports and Leisure Trust updating members on the Leisure Trust's performance and progress.

#### Decision

The committee noted the terms of the report and thanked Mr. Urquhart for his detailed update.

### 111. DECENTRALISATION OF PARKING ENFORCEMENT IN SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services updating members on considerations of decentralised parking enforcement as raised by the motion at South and West Fife Area Committee on 21 June 2023.

#### Decision

The committee noted that there were key legislative, operational, budget and asset risk issues surrounding decentralisation.

### 112. COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND - SOUTH AND WEST FIFE

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking final approval to allocate Community Recovery funding to various projects as discussed at Ward 1, 5 and 6 meetings.

#### Decision

The committee approved the following amounts from the Community Recovery Fund totalling £852,633:-

- Cairneyhill Parish Church - Cairneyhill Community Cafe - £100,000
- Cairneyhill in Bloom - £4,634
- Culross Stables Community Hub - Community Hub Bakery - £35,726
- Grow West Fife - Feeding West Fife - £61,480



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- Cairneyhill Scout Group - Driving Forward - £60,000
- West Fife Woodlands - Excavator, Barrows and Flails - £18,650
- Simply Local Kincardine - Community Garden Expansion - £9,530
- Torryburn and Newmills Community Council - Play Improvements - £11,714
- EATS Rosyth - EATS Educates: Growing, Eating Fruit and Veg - £100,000
- Communities and Neighbourhoods - Camdean Youth Facility - £26,000
- Rosyth Men's Shed - Men's Shed Building - £40,029
- Dalgety Bay and Hillend Community Council - Wayfinding Signage - £20,000
- Dalgety Community Trust - Free Access Pump Track - £50,000
- The Old Town House SCIO - The Town House The Future - £27,000
- Housing Service - Brock Street Off Street Parking - £27,315
- North Queensferry Community Complex - Complex Improvements - £40,000
- 68th Fife Scouts Inverkeithing - Zero Carbon Footprint for Inv. BP - £19,101
- Hillend Community Hub - Community Park Projects - £9,900
- Fife Sports and Leisure Trust - Community Wellbeing Project - £91,554
- Kingdom Off-Road Motorcycle Club - On the Right Track - £100,000

### 113. **SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING BUDGET REQUESTS: BRING THE BROOD FAMILY LEARNING; VALLEYFIELD RECOVERY - OUTDOOR GYM AND WEST FIFE WOODLANDS - RAINBOW PATH**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement for a contribution from the Local Community Planning budget for the following projects:-

- Bring the Brood Family Learning
- Valleyfield Recovery Outdoor Gym
- West Fife Woodlands Rainbow Path

#### **Decision**

The committee agreed to an allocation of £30,179 from the Local Community Planning budget 2023/24 as follows:-

- Bring the Brood Family Learning - £10,179
- Valleyfield Recovery - Outdoor Gym - £10,000
- West Fife Woodlands - Rainbow Path - £10,000

### 114. **COMMON GOOD AND SETTLEMENT TRUST FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023**

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) updating members on the current status of the Common Good and Settlement Trust funds in the area and relevant fund activities over the financial year 2022-2023.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the information contained within the Appendices for the various Common Good Funds and Trust Funds; and
- (2) agreed to continue to support the disbursement of Trust Funds to suitable projects which also included the amalgamation of individual trusts and, where appropriate, the dissolution of individual trusts including transferring the funds to suitable third party organisations who were providing similar support to local priorities.

**115. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2024**

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) supporting the committee's consideration of the Forward Work Programme for future meetings of the committee.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) reviewed and noted the South and West Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme 2024; and
- (2) agreed that a progress report be requested for early next year with regard to the new Inverkeithing High School.

14 February 2024  
Agenda Item No. 4

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## **Diversion of a Public Right of Way - Carrick Grove, Dalgety Bay**

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

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**Wards Affected:** 6

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### **Purpose**

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The purpose of this report is to request approval for a diversion of public right of way at Donibristle Farm Cottage, Carrick Grove, Dalgety Bay.

### **Recommendation(s)**

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It is recommended that members approve the proposed diversion of the right of way using section 208 Town and Countryside Planning (Scotland) Act 1997; delegating its confirmation to officers if no objections are received, and otherwise submission to the Scottish Government for confirmation.

### **Resource Implications**

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There are no resource implications as the applicant for the diversion will bear any costs.

### **Legal & Risk Implications**

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The diversion of the path must be advertised and the public given the opportunity to object. There are no other legal obligations.

### **Impact Assessment**

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EqIA submitted and diversion has no negative impact.

### **Consultation**

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In line with guidance approved by Fife Council in November 2012, the following people or organisations have been consulted:

Any effective residents - No comments received  
Fife Access Forum - Fife Access Forum support the diversion  
Nature Scot - No comments received  
Community Council - No comments received  
Scotways (Scottish rights of way society) - No comments received  
Fife Walking Club - No comments received  
Rambler's Association - No comments received  
British Horse Society - No comments received

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The route meets the criteria of being a public right of way and is well used. The route cuts through the applicant's property at Donibristle Farm Cottage with the garden being either side of the route. The applicant was granted planning permission (23/01840) in November 2023 to build an accommodation pod in the garden, erecting a new fence and realignment of a footpath. A design and access statement is attached (Appendix 2).
- 1.2 The path is in poor condition and the applicant has agreed to improve the surface of the new path and will only close the old path once the new path has been opened.
- 1.3 Concerns were raised by FC Transportation Service about the height of some of the proposed fencing which would have restricted sight lines on the path. The applicant has since agreed to lower the height of the fence which has resulted in transportation removing their objection comment.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 Fife Council must consider whether the alternative route for the public right of way are reasonable and expedient in terms of improving the local path network and enable the development as outlined in the planning application to go ahead.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 The public right of way will continue to link the same two public places and is only 59 metres longer. The surface will be of the same quality and the path will be legally protected, the diversion will enable the development to proceed as outlined in the planning application.
- 3.2 The Access Team recommend that the diversion of the public right of way should be approved.

### List of Appendices

1. Location map and diversion details.
2. Design and Access statement.

### Report Contact

Sarah Johnston

Access Officer

Email - sarah.johnston@fife.gov.uk





# DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT

TO SUPPORT A RESIDENTIAL GLAMPING POD AT  
DONBRISTLE FARM COTTAGE  
REGENTS WAY  
DALGETY BAY  
KY11 8UY

[www.glampitect.co.uk](http://www.glampitect.co.uk)  
[contact@glampitect.co.uk](mailto:contact@glampitect.co.uk)  
0131 202 9002

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Proposed is the change of use of land, installation of a residential glamping pod for use by an elderly family member and associated works. Also intended is the redirection of a public footpath to allow direct connection between the proposed residential glamping pod and existing family dwelling.

The proposed unit will be connected to the existing public drainage network. All proposed hard landscaping will be permeable to allow water to drain freely without the need for a dedicated surface water drainage system.

The proposed residential glamping unit is temporary in nature and defined as a 'caravan' under the Caravan Act. It will be constructed off-site by manufacturer Pod Factory and delivered in two parts, ready to connect to services.

The plot for the glamping pod is within the Applicant's Garden, situated in the coastal town of Dalgety Bay, Fife. The objective of this proposal is to provide a comfortable and convenient living space for an elderly family member in close proximity to their family.



In designing the proposed glamping site, the Fife Local Development Plan (2017) was referenced, and the following policies were considered. It is believed that the proposal is compliant with each of the following policies:

### **Fife Local Development Plan (FIFEplan 2017)**

- **Policy 1:** Development Principles

The proposed development is located within the defined settlement boundaries of Dalgety Bay. Currently, the land use for the site is classed as 'Local Shopping Centre'. However, the proposed dwelling for an elderly family member to be closer to their support network complies with Policy 2: Homes, as outlined below.

A considered design and the temporary nature of the proposed residential glamping pod ensures the proposal will not impact any criteria outlined in Part B and C of this policy.

- **Policy 2:** Homes

As the development of 1no. residential glamping pod is specifically proposed to provide a purpose built, suitable small-scale residence for an elderly family member to be closer to their family, we suggest that this application be considered as a residential care home, for an elderly member of the community to be closer to their support network while retaining independence and high quality of life.

The proposed site also has good access to community facilities, emergency services and public transport, will provide a good residential environment and be of a scale and character appropriate to the surrounding area. There are no land uses in the surrounding area that would adversely impact the amenity of the proposed development.

- **Policy 3:** Infrastructure and Services.

This proposal is well serviced by public transport with bus stops located within only a few minutes' walk from the proposed site at the nearby shopping centre and on Moray Way, servicing routes between Dunfermline and Leven. Likewise, Dalgety Bay train station is located within 15 minutes' walk of the site.

Foul drainage will connect to the existing public network which currently services the Applicant's dwelling. See drawing 'Drainage Plan' for more information. Waste and Recycling storage will be incorporated into that of the existing dwelling. This proposal will not result in any loss of valuable infrastructure.

- **Policy 10:** Amenity

This small-scale development for a single residential glamping pod will not have a significant detrimental impact on the amenity of existing land uses. Although the current land use designated for the proposed site is 'Shopping Centre', the plot is within the private curtilage of the Applicant's dwelling. It is therefore suggested that a residential land use is more appropriate for this reason and due to surrounding residential land use.

This development will not affect air quality or produce any other significant pollution such as noise, light or odour, due to being a small-scale, single-story pod to provide a home for a single elderly person. Similarly, the small scale of the development means that privacy and visual impact to the surrounding area should not be a concern, as views will not be hindered and no overlooking into neighbouring properties will occur.

- **Policy 11: Low Carbon**

The proposed residential glamping pod is designed to be energy efficient with well-insulated floors and wall/roof coverings and the use of sustainable materials with a low life cycle environmental impact. LED light fittings will be installed as standard throughout. Water-saving sanitary fittings and appliances within the pod will deliver water efficiency to the site. The minimal surface water run-off from the pod roof will discharge into a pebble border around the dwelling.

Appropriate implementation of measures will minimise environmental impacts arising from any site works; the site will be constructed with efficient construction methods as stated in Stage 3 above thus reducing any waste and earthworks will result in no removals from the site required.

An efficient operational waste management and recycling strategy will be carried out by the resident of the new dwelling as required by Fife Council. Food waste, refuse and recycling storage will be transported to the public roadside as required on collection days.

Sustainable transport has been considered with bus stops located within only a few minutes' walk from the proposed site at the nearby shopping centre and on Moray Way, servicing routes between Dunfermline and Leven. Likewise, Dalgety Bay train station is located within 15 minutes' walk of the site. Convenient public transport connections to the site will ensure that reliance on cars is not a concern.

- **Policy 12: Flooding and the Water Environment**

It has been identified from SEPA Flood maps that the site lies in a very low-risk zone with regards to river and sea flooding. There is a small area of Medium Risk surface water flooding adjacent to the existing access to the proposed site but due to its very limited nature it is anticipated that a flood risk assessment is not required.

The proposed new footpath to the pod and redirection of public footpath will be constructed from permeable materials to allow water to drain freely without the need for a dedicated surface water drainage system. Likewise, a pebble border around the pod will be provided for run-off.

- **Policy 14 - Built and Historic Environment**

The proposed residential glamping pod and site plan is considered to meet each of the six qualities outlined in this policy due to its distinctive character and considered design, respectful of the surrounding area.

The Applicant's own dwelling, to the southeast of the proposed pod, is a listed building. The proposed development will not adversely impact the special architectural or historic interest of the building due to the temporary nature of the proposed new dwelling and use of ground screws to ensure minimal impact to the ground.

The pod's distinctive design and character is proposed to contrast with this heritage asset, in order to emphasise its historic character and celebrate the asset by contrasting with, rather than mimicking the architecture of the existing dwelling.

### 3.1 Location

The proposed site for the residential glamping pod within the Applicant's private garden in Dalgety Bay, approx. 5 miles southeast of Dunfermline in Fife.

The site will be easily accessible via the M90. Bus stops are located within only a few minutes' walk from the proposed site at the nearby shopping centre and on Moray Way, servicing routes between Dunfermline and Leven.

Likewise, Dalgety Bay train station is located within 15 minutes' walk of the site. Convenient public transport connections to the site will ensure that reliance on cars is not a concern.

The proposed dwelling will use existing access to the Applicant's house, off Regent's Way. It is felt that the additional traffic generated by the new dwelling will have a negligible impact to the public road.



*Aerial view of proposed site location.*



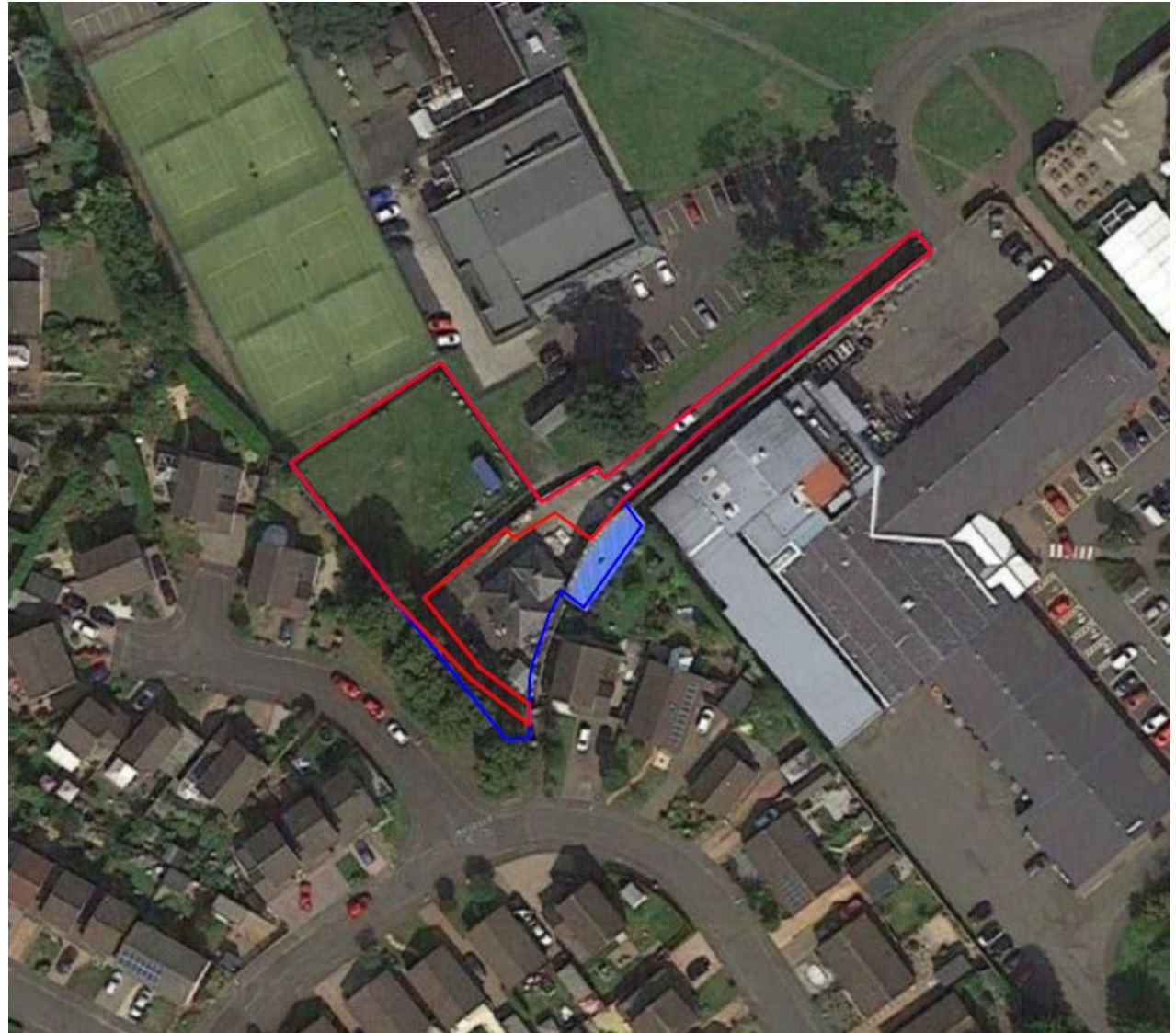
### 3.2 Proposed Site Information

The plot for the proposed site will occupy approx. 1,335 m<sup>2</sup> of the Applicant's land, with the majority of the site to remain as green space. The residential glamping pod will be located in 'the paddock', an area of private garden to the northwest of the Applicant's home.

The paddock is relatively flat, with no notable features, but it should be noted that it is nearby a heritage asset (the Applicant's own dwelling). In addition, a public footpath (land under ownership of the Applicant) runs between the existing dwelling and the paddock. This application proposes to divert the public footpath around the perimeter of the paddock to allow for direct connection between the new pod and existing dwelling.

Existing site boundaries are composed of mixed fencing, with some trees along the southwestern boundary between proposed site and existing dwellings. This existing vegetation provides natural screening from neighbouring properties to west of site while it is currently quite open in all other directions. The nearest neighbouring dwelling is approx. 14m west of the proposed pod location. Public tennis courts lie to the north of the site, a local bar / restaurant to the northeast and shopping centre to the east.

It is expected that the proposed residential pod will not impact any neighbouring properties due to its low height and use of natural materials to minimise visual impact.



*Aerial view of proposed site.*



3.3 Site Photos



View 1. Looking NW on public footpath with Applicant's garden fence on right.



View 2. Looking NW on public footpath towards proposed new route through paddock.



View 3. Facing NE on public footpath between paddock and Applicant's garden fence.



View 4. Looking SE down public footpath to be improved, Applicant's garden fence on left.



View 5. Facing SE in paddock at proposed new route of public footpath.



View 6. Facing east along site boundary with tennis courts on left. New footpath to be on right hand side of fence (to be removed).



View 7. Facing west towards tennis courts and proposed pod location in paddock on left hand side of photo.



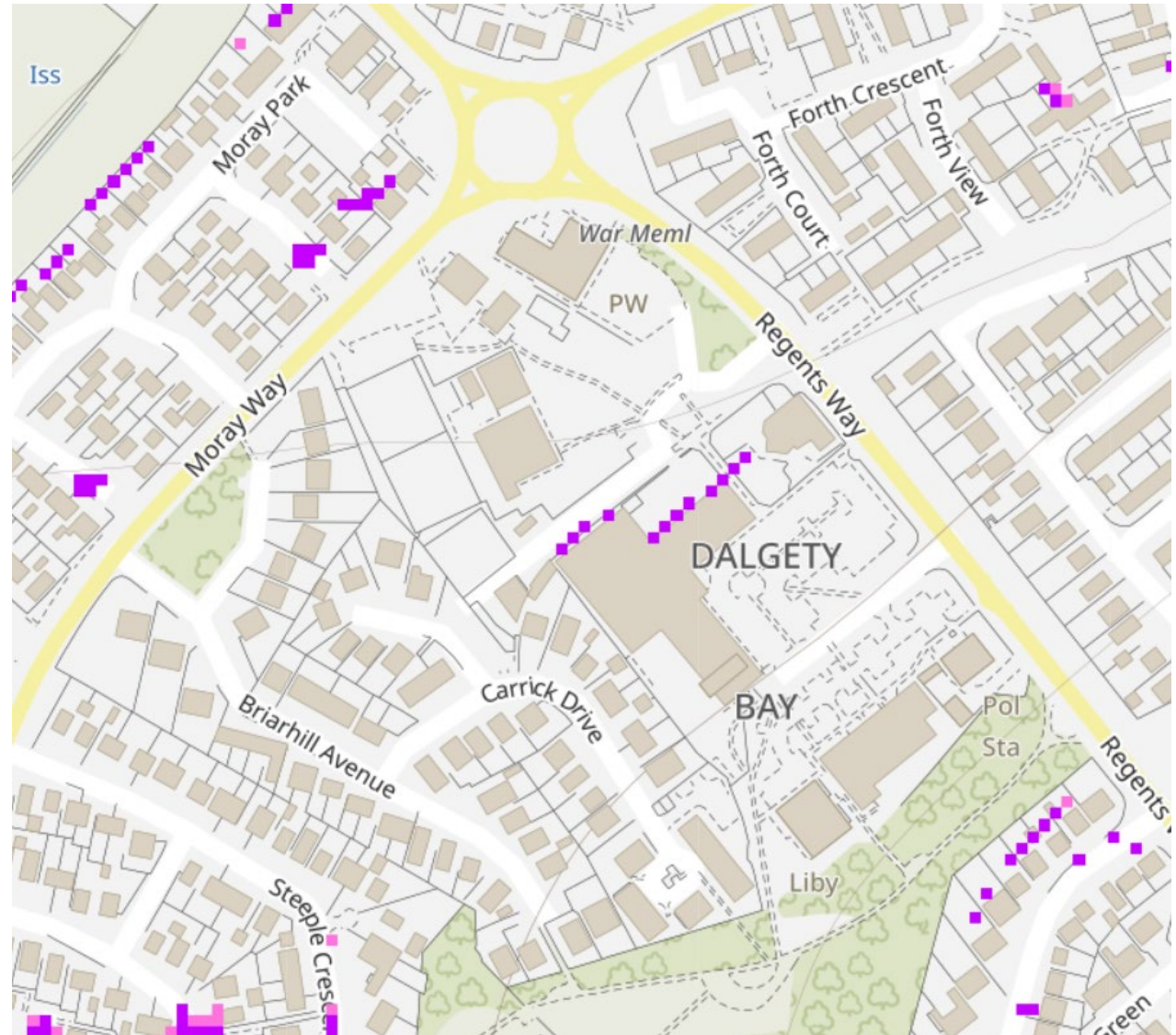
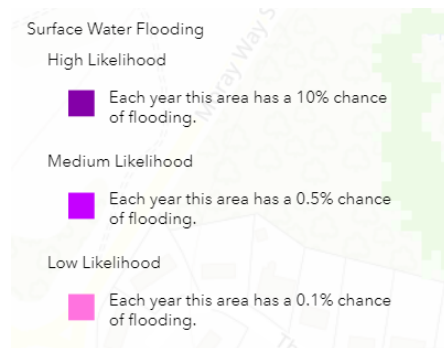
View 8. Facing south from northern most point of site. Public footpath will follow dark brown fence along paddock boundary.



### 3.4 Flood Risk

It has been identified from SEPA Flood maps that the site lies in a very low-risk zone with regards to river and sea flooding. There is a small area of Medium Risk surface water flooding adjacent to the existing access to the proposed site but due to its very limited nature it is anticipated that a flood risk assessment is not required.

The proposed new footpath to the pod and redirection of public footpath will be constructed from permeable materials to allow water to drain freely without the need for a dedicated surface water drainage system. Likewise, a pebble border around the pod will be provided for run-off.







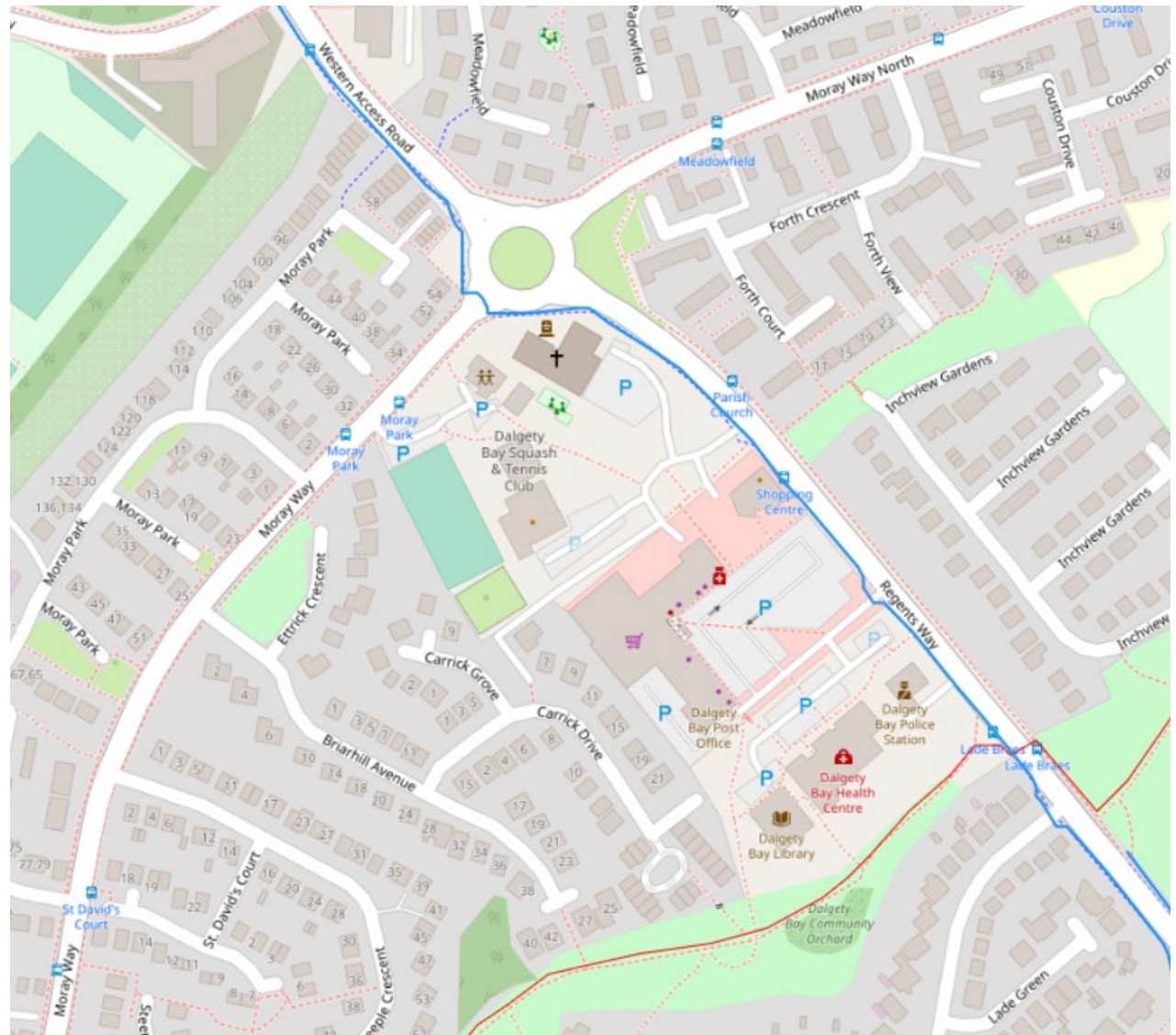
Map of Surface Water Flood Risk. Source: gov.uk

### 3.5 Public Rights of Way

No Public Rights of Way (PROW) appear to run through or adjacent to the proposed site.

It should be noted that although it is proposed to redirect the public footpath that currently runs between the Applicant's dwelling and the paddock, it is not a recognised public right of way footpath.

Layers	
	Footpath, Bridleway, Byway <span style="color: red;">■</span> <span style="color: magenta;">■</span> <span style="color: blue;">■</span> <span style="color: green;">■</span>
	National Trails / Coastal Path <span style="color: cyan;">■</span>
	Right to Roam <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
	Cycle Network <span style="color: blue;">■</span> <span style="color: blue;">■</span>



Map of Public rights of way. Source: footpathmap.co.uk

### 3.6 Justification for Proposed Use

The purpose of this proposal is to create a suitable living arrangement for an elderly family member that promotes their well-being and facilitates stronger family connections. By living in proximity to their loved ones, elderly family members experience increased social interactions, support, and care, which have proven to have positive effects on physical and mental health for the elderly. The installation of a glamping pod offers a unique and comfortable housing solution that fulfils these objectives while respecting the privacy and independence of the elderly family member.

Additionally, by relocating the existing public footpath as part of the planning proposal, safety will be enhanced for residents of the existing dwelling and proposed glamping pod. The current public footpath may pose potential safety concerns while by relocating the footpath, we can ensure the safety of both pedestrians and residents. Similarly, the existing public footpath is currently in a state of disrepair while the Applicant will ensure that the new footpath is well maintained.



# 4.0 Design



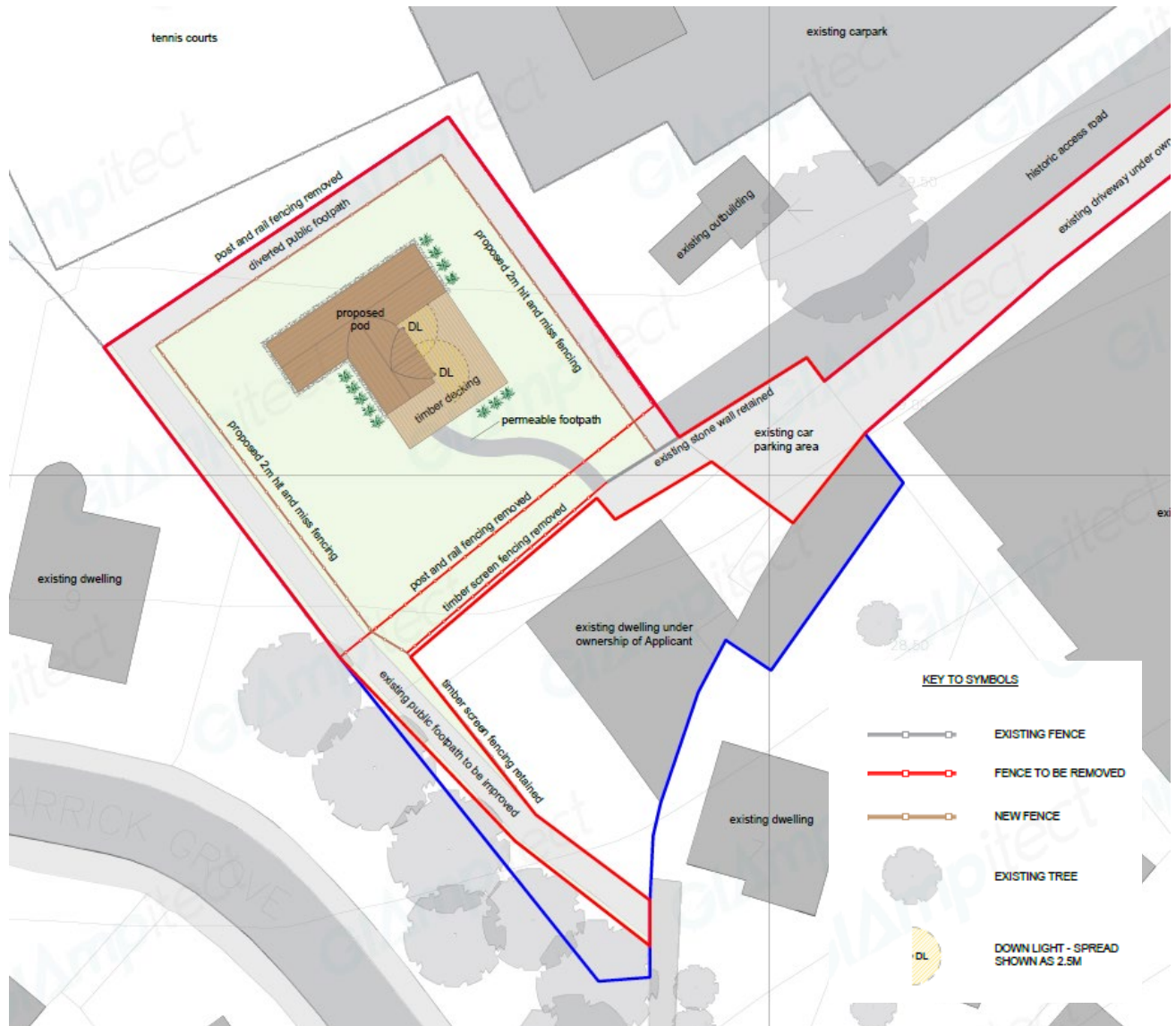


### 4.1 Proposed Layout

As previously discussed, the proposed residential glamping pod will utilise the existing access to the Applicant’s dwelling. From the existing parking / turning area. The pod will be reached via foot along a new permeable footpath to an area of timber decking next to the pod entrance.

LED down-lighting will be provided around the pod entrance for safety when walking at night. The chosen lighting is proposed to minimise effects on local wildlife, to not to cause disruption to neighbours and is suitable for use in dark sky areas.

The existing public footpath will be diverted around the perimeter of the paddock with a new 2m hit and miss fence proposed for visual screening and security.



Proposed Layout Plan.

## 4.2 Landscaping

The proposed site is relatively flat but some minor levelling may be required to create suitable footings for the pod and decking (small footings or ground screws). Where needed, a minor cut-and-fill exercise will be carried out so there will be no need for the removal of any earth from the site.

Any broken ground will be re-instated (turfed where required). Suitable shrubbery will be planted around the pod to demarcate the unit and provide additional screening.

Additional planting of shrubbery and wildflowers around the pod will enhance biodiversity and benefit pollinating insects, birds, and small mammals as well as provide visual screening.



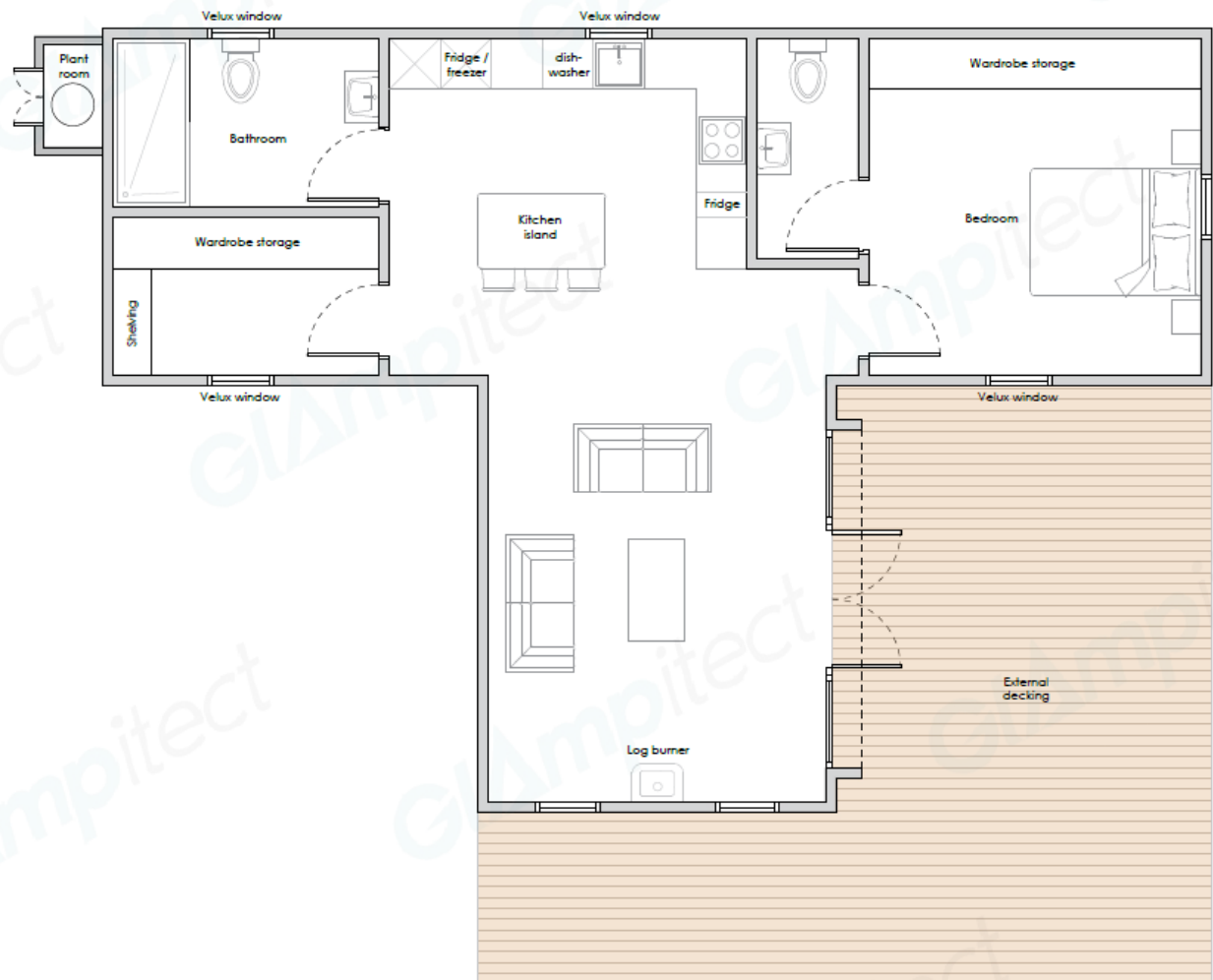
*Artist Impression looking northwest towards proposed glamping pod from Applicant's existing dwelling.*

### 4.3 Proposed Pod

1no. unit is to be installed, to be constructed off site and delivered in two parts by manufacturer Pod Factory.

The proposed residential glamping pod is considered to be a temporary structure and has been designed to meet the specifications to be defined as caravans under the Caravan Act. It is a single-story unit (approx. 3m tall) so no restriction of neighbouring views will occur.

Since the unit will be clad in natural materials, it is intended to blend into the surrounding landscape and will naturally weather over time. See 'Pod Plan and Elevations' for further drawings.





4.4 Use

Land Usage Item	Area Used	% Of Site
Greater Ownership Boundary	1,890 m <sup>2</sup>	100 %
Site Area (Red Line Boundary)	1,335 m <sup>2</sup>	70 %
Green Space – After Site Build	396.7 m <sup>2</sup>	30 %
Glamping pod (1no. unit)	75.6 m <sup>2</sup>	5.5 %
Decking Area	39.2 m <sup>2</sup>	3 %
Public and Private Footpaths	242 m <sup>2</sup>	18 %
Roads, Parking & Turning area	380.5 m <sup>2</sup>	28.5 %



Artist Impression looking north towards proposed glamping pod.

## 4.5 Installation

### *Stage 1 – Access*

The minimal increase in traffic associated with the new glamping pod and 1no. vehicle will be of a negligible impact to the surrounding area. The existing access is of suitable condition and width to provide easy and safe vehicle access for installation of pod, services and then become the main means of access for the pod.

### *Stage 2 – Groundwork*

Some minor groundwork may be required to level the ground for the footings of the pod and decking. Due to the relatively flat topography of the site, no retaining walls or structures will be required.

The new residential glamping pod will connect to the public foul drainage network which currently services the Applicant's existing dwelling. See drawing 'Proposed Drainage Plan' for further information.

Service ducting will be laid for power, water and telecoms as required. Pipework will be run for water and cables for electricity and telecoms will be pulled. All services and groundwork will be conducted by local contractors.

### *Stage 3 – Unit Install*

One residential glamping pod is to be installed, to be constructed off-site and delivered in two parts by the manufacturer Pod Factory. By choosing to build a glamping pod of a temporary nature, the site can more easily be deconstructed and returned to its current nature in the future if desired, with disruption to the landscape limited as much as possible.

Any new native trees, hedgerow and shrubbery planted will match that of the local area as closely as possible.

### *Stage 4 – Roads, Parking & Cleanup*

No more plant/transport access is required other than to build up new private and public footpaths. These will be constructed with permeable materials to prevent the use of concrete/tarmac and the need for a dedicated run-off water management system.

Finally, a total clear-out of the site will be carried out to ensure no leftover waste from the build stage is left. All cleaning waste will be recycled where possible and safely disposed of otherwise.

The proposed residential glamping pod is designed to be energy efficient with well-insulated floors and wall/roof coverings and the use of sustainable materials with a low life cycle environmental impact. LED light fittings will be installed as standard throughout. Water-saving sanitary fittings and appliances within the pod will deliver water efficiency to the site. The minimal surface water run-off from the pod roof will discharge into a pebble border around the dwelling.

Appropriate implementation of measures will minimise environmental impacts arising from any site works; the site will be constructed with efficient construction methods as stated in Stage 3 above thus reducing any waste and earthworks will result in no removals from the site required.

An efficient operational waste management and recycling strategy will be carried out by the resident of the new dwelling as required by Fife Council. Food waste, refuse and recycling storage will be transported to the public roadside as required on collection days.



## 6.0 Summary





The proposed new residential glamping pod at Donbristle Farm Cottage offers numerous advantages, including proximity to family, independence, and comfort while aligning with planning policies, regulations and local objectives.

Simultaneously, the relocation of the public footpath will enhance safety, accessibility, and aesthetics for both residents and pedestrians. We are confident that this proposal will greatly improve the quality of life for an elderly family member while ensuring the proper management of public spaces.

The construction of a glamping pod of a temporary nature in this location can be achieved in less time and with less intrusive construction methods and less environmental impact, than traditional permanent builds require which is clearly favourable in terms of ecology and visual impact.

Based on the points discussed throughout this document, it is reasonable to suggest that the proposed residential glamping pod is warranted in this location, to cater for the proposed use, without sacrificing the surrounding area's beauty, ecology or heritage assets.

14 February 2024  
Agenda Item No. 5

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## C53 Townhill to Bowershall – Proposed 40mph Speed Limit

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

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**Wards Affected:** Ward 1 – West Fife & Coastal Villages

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to allow the South and West Fife Area Committee to consider a proposal to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the C53 Townhill to Bowershall.

### Recommendation(s)

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It is recommended, in the interests of road safety, that committee:

- (1) agrees to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a 40mph speed limit as detailed in drawing TRO/23/62 with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorises officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there are objections.

### Resource Implications

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The cost to formally promote this TRO and deliver the associated traffic management works will be approximately £6,000 which covers Roads & Transportation Services' and Legal Services' staff costs and advertising and delivery of the new infrastructure. This will be met from approved Service budgets.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no known legal or risk implications.

### Impact Assessment

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The general duties section of the impact assessment and the summary form has been completed. No negative impacts have been identified.

### Consultation

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The local Ward councillors and Police Scotland have been advised.

Formal consultation required by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the TRO process will be carried out through the posting of legal notices in a local newspaper and on the affected length of roads. In addition, details of the proposed TRO will be made available at [www.fife.gov.uk](http://www.fife.gov.uk).

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 A motion was first tabled on 25 August 2021 at the South and West Fife Area Committee with regard to the current national speed limit (60mph) from the C53 junction with the B915 (at Balmule Fisheries), down through Bowershall and then southward, towards Townhill, as far as the ward boundary. This was in response to concerns expressed by the Bowershall community and the Townhill Community Council and acknowledging their request for a reduction to 40 mph in the interests of road safety. A report was to follow.
- 1.2 On 1 December 2021, the response to the motion did not propose a reduction in speed limit (para. 311 of 2021.SWFAC.232 refers). An amendment was submitted to the recommendation being “That the South and West Fife Area Committee requests that Fife Council now takes action to reduce the speed limit to 40mph on the C53, from the t-junction just to the north of the Bowershall settlement, southwards to meet the 30mph speed limit at Townhill”.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 We are looking for agreement from both South and West Fife Area Committee and City of Dunfermline Area Committee to proceed to statutory consultation on the proposed 40 mph speed limit as shown in Appendix 1.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 It is considered, in the interests of road safety, that this Traffic Regulation Order be promoted.

### List of Appendices

1. Plan TRO/23/62 – Proposed Speed Limit C53 Bowershill to Townhill.

### Report Contact

Lesley Craig  
Lead Consultant, Traffic Management  
Roads and Transportation Services  
Bankhead Central  
03451 55 55 55 Ext No 480082  
Email: [lesley.craig@fife.gov.uk](mailto:lesley.craig@fife.gov.uk)

Sara Wilson  
Service Manager, Roads Network Management  
Roads & Transportation Services  
Bankhead Central, Glenrothes  
Telephone: 03451 55 55 55 + VOIP Number 453348  
Email: [Sara.Wilson@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Sara.Wilson@fife.gov.uk)



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 Scale: 1:4,493

C53 Townhill to Bowershall - Proposed Speed Limits  
 TRO23\_62

Prepared By: Clow-95  
 Service: Roads & Transportation Services  
 Printing Date: 16 January 2024

**Fife**  
 COUNCIL  
 Roads & Transportation Services  
 Head of Service, John Mitchell

## Area Roads Programme 2024-25

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

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**Wards Affected:** 1,5 & 6

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to identify the projects which are proposed for inclusion in the 2024-25 Area Roads Programme for the South and West Fife area.

### Recommendations

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Committee is asked to:

- (1) approve the report and appendices 1-3;
- (2) delegate authority to the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment to manage the lists of Category 1 and 2 projects in line with the available resources/funding as the programme develops, in consultation with the Area Convener and Depute Convener; and
- (3) note Appendices 4 and 5.

### Resource Implications

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The Area Roads Programme is funded from Capital and some ring-fenced budgets. Programmes of work will be adjusted, if required, to ensure that expenditure remains within the Service budget.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no known legal implications. There is a risk that if capital budgets require to be reduced, we will be unable to deliver all the Area Roads Programme priorities.

### Impact Assessment

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

### Consultation

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Committee has been consulted through meetings with members in the development of the lists of projects.

# 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The operation, management and maintenance of a safe and efficient transportation network has a major impact on the Fife economy and the quality of life of residents. Delivering transportation projects at local level underpins the priorities of the Fife Council Plan. Roads and Transportation Services has a key supporting role in relation to promoting a sustainable society, improving quality of life in local communities and growing a vibrant economy. Roads and Transportation Services also provides support to activities which are part of reforming Fife's public services.
- 1.2 It is important to distinguish between reactive and planned maintenance works on carriageways and footways. Reactive maintenance has its own budget and refers to the need to repair defects considered to be potentially dangerous or to constitute a considerable inconvenience to road users. These tend to be individual potholes. Planned works are those which can be addressed over a longer period and range from limited areas of patching to full width re-surfacing over longer lengths of road. The Area Roads Programme (ARP) covers full-width re-surfacing and has its own capital budget which is devolved to area committees.
- 1.3 The programme has been developed through the assessment and prioritisation of schemes identified by the processes below which follow the guidance identified in Table 5 of the Scheme of Decentralisation and Area Budgets approved by the Executive Committee on 17 November 2015:-
- Feedback from meetings with elected members
  - Scheduled inspections, technical surveys, assessments and interrogation of maintenance management systems
  - Local Area Transport Plans
  - Suggestions received from elected members, Community Councils and the public
- 1.4 At its meeting on 1 February 2018, the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning and Transportation Committee approved a methodology for allocating devolved budgets (2018.ETSP&T.13 para 24 refers). The methodology can be summarised as follows: -
- The Area Committees determine local priorities for carriageway projects based on an Area Committee budget allocation commensurate with the Road Condition Index, as reported annually to the Economy, Tourism, Strategic Planning and Transportation Committee
  - Local priorities for footway projects are decided based on an Area Committee budget allocation commensurate with the proportion of urban mileage
  - The remaining Road Safety and Traffic Management budget is allocated to local priorities based on an Area Committee budget commensurate with population numbers
  - The foregoing is managed and reported via the relevant Area Roads Programme.
- 1.5 The current Capital Plan indicates that the carriageway capital budget of £9.73m in 2024/25 will reduce to £5.02m in 2025/26 and then averages out at £6.1m annually thereafter. The footway budget in 2024/25 is £1.68M reducing to £1.4m in 2025/26 and then averages at £1.72m thereafter.

For the South West Fife area, the budgets for 2024-25 are as shown below: -

<b>Devolved Budget</b>	<b>2024/25 Allocation</b>
Carriageways	£1.357M
Footways	£227k
Road Safety & Traffic Management	£154k



- 1.6 The level of capital resource allocated for carriageways and footways is concerning for future road condition. However, the Council reviews the Capital Plan every two years so there may be opportunities to consider additional investment going forward.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 Appendices 1-3 provide a detailed list of the proposed Area Roads Programme projects for budgets devolved to area committee. Category 1 schemes are committed to the programme dependent on available funding. Category 2 schemes will be promoted into the programme should any of the Category 1 schemes need to be deferred or additional funding becomes available.
- 2.2 An on-line system is in place to show how the carriageways and footways programme is progressing throughout the year. Link to webpage [Area Roads Programme](#).
- 2.3 Appendices 4 and 5 provide information on the proposed Street Lighting works and large scale patching/thin surfacing sites. These budgets are not devolved to area committees, but the works locations are provided for information.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 The attached Appendices contain the proposed 2024/25 Area Roads Programme for the South and West Fife area. The type of works, work location and provisional estimates are provided for each project.

### List of Appendices

1. Carriageway Schemes
2. Footway Schemes
3. Traffic Management & Road Safety
4. Street Lighting
5. Revenue Carriageway Planned Patching & Thin Surfacing

### Report Contacts

Vicki Connor  
Lead Consultant, Roads & Lighting Asset Management  
Bankhead Central, Glenrothes  
E-mail – [vicki.connor-fc@fife.gov.uk](mailto:vicki.connor-fc@fife.gov.uk)

Alistair Donald  
Service Manager (Roads Design & Build)  
Bankhead Central, Glenrothes  
E-mail – [Alistair.donald@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Alistair.donald@fife.gov.uk)

**South & West Fife Area Committee  
Carriageway Scheme List for 2024-25**

**APPENDIX 1**

<b>CAT1</b>	<b>Proposed for approval by Committee for delivery in 2024/25</b>
<b>CAT 2</b>	<b>Proposed for approval by Committee as 'reserve' schemes which may be promoted to Cat1 if funding becomes available</b>
<b>2024-25 Budget Share</b>	
<b>£1,356,896</b>	

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Ward Name</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Cumulative Total</b>	<b>Cat</b>
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Saline	C51 West of A823	A823 to U006	£ 97,238	£ 97,238	cf
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Rural Road	A907 Ph1	Bogside Gateway to West of Gallows Loan	£500,737	£ 597,975	1
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Rural Road	A907 Ph2	Rintoul Place, Blairhall to Porerfield, Comrie	£430,528	£ 1,028,503	1
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Kincardine	Walker Street	A876 to south of car park entrance	£ 51,358	£ 1,079,861	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Rural Road	C67 Masterton Road	B981 North Road Westwards for 420 metres or thereby	£132,674	£ 1,212,535	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Lethamhill Roundabout	Roundabout and approaches	£ 80,710	£ 1,293,245	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	St Davids Roundabout	Roundabout and approaches	£ 57,599	£ 1,350,844	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	B981 Hope Street	Ferryhills Road to Garage	£ 87,634	£ 1,438,478	2
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	C89 Moray Way	Link Road to Lumsdaine Drive	£201,153	£ 1,639,631	2
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Saline	B913	West of Saline	£252,904	£ 1,892,535	2
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Saline	Loch Road	Full Length of adoption from North Road	£ 48,431	£ 1,940,966	2
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Rural Road	A909	B9157 to Stenhouse Reservoir	£449,379	£ 2,390,345	2
5	Rosyth	Rosyth	C99 Brankholm Brae	Full Length	£136,487	£ 2,526,832	2
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Rural Road	U010	U011 to West end of Recycling Centre	£204,910	£ 2,731,742	2
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Dunfermline Wynd	Castlandhill Road to Hill Street	£ 82,030	£ 2,813,772	2
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Kincardine	Chapel Street/High Street	from A876 through bus route to High Street	£ 82,768	£ 2,896,540	2
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Harbour Drive	St Davids Roundabout to Lethamhill Roundabout	£ 41,270	£ 2,937,810	2



**South & West Fife Area Committee  
Footway Scheme List for 2024-25**

**APPENDIX 2**

<b>CAT1</b>	<b>Proposed for approval by Committee for delivery in 2024/25</b>
<b>CAT 2</b>	<b>Proposed for approval by Committee as 'reserve' schemes which may be promoted to Cat1 if funding becomes available</b>

<b>2024-25 Budget Share</b>	<b>£227,115</b>
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<b>Ward</b>	<b>Ward Name</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Scheme Type</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Cumulative Total</b>	<b>Cat</b>
5	Rosyth	Rosyth	Hilton Road	Hilton Wynd to footpath at west of P.O.	Footway/ Drainage	£ 59,170	£ 59,170	cf
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Railway Station Access	Footpath East side Off Boreland Road	Footway	£ 22,569	£ 81,739	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Lade Braes Phase 2 of 3	Lade Green to termination at cul de sac at house 46 (south side)	Combined Footway & Lighting	£ 10,000	£ 91,739	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Lade Braes Phase 3 of 3	Carnraig Place to termination at cul de sac at house 46 (north side)	Combined Footway & Lighting	£ 5,000	£ 96,739	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Hillfield Crescent Ph1	Full length (east side)	Footway	£ 59,979	£156,718	1
5	Rosyth	Rosyth	Primrose Avenue Ph2	Booth Avenue to Anderson Lane and Property 107 to 110 ( North side )	Footway	£ 29,748	£186,466	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Spencerfield Road	Lock-Up area to No 97 (West side only)	Footway	£ 24,745	£211,211	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Preston Crescent	Full Length	Footway	£122,459	£333,670	2
1	West Fife & Coastal Villages	Comrie	Steel Grove	Full Length Cul de sac	Footway	£ 12,875	£346,545	2
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Hillfield Crescent Ph2	Full length (west side)	Footway	£ 63,507	£410,052	2
1	West Fife & Coastal Villages	Culross	Sandhaven	Low Causeway to Balgownie West (feasibility study in 2023/24 - likely to require funding from alternative sources )	Footway	£113,560	£523,612	2
5	Rosyth	Rosyth	Primrose Avenue Ph3	South Side Sub Station to Property No 56	Footway	£ 18,107	£541,719	2

**South West Fife Area Committee**  
**Proposed Road Safety & Traffic Management Scheme List for 2024/25**

**APPENDIX 3**

CF	Carried forward from 2023/24
CAT1	Proposed for approval by Committee for delivery in 2024/25
CAT 2	Proposed for approval by Committee as 'reserve' schemes which may be promoted to Cat1 if funding becomes available

<b>2024-25 Budget Share</b>	<b>£113,900</b>
<b>2023/24 Carry Forward</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>Available 2024/25 Budget</b>	<b>153,900</b>

Ward	Ward Name	Town	Street	Location	Scheme Type	Estimate	Cumulative total	Category
6	Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Church Street		Bus Boarder	£ 10,000	£ 10,000	CF
1	West Fife & Coastal Villages	Rural	A907	Gowkhall to Lundin Road	Fooway Upgrade	£ 30,000	£ 40,000	CF
6	Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Moray Way	Near The Inches	Puffin Crossing	£ 50,000	£ 90,000	1
6	Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Moray Way	Off Roundabout at Parish Church near Community Centre	Toucan Crossing and cycleway extension	£ 60,000	£ 150,000	1
6	Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Chapel Place	Bannerman Avenue to mini roundabout at Heriot Street	Feasibility Study/outline design - footway widening	£ 1,000	£ 151,000	1
6	Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay	North Queensferry	B981 Hope View	Under railway bridge	Feasibility Study/outline design - crossing facility	£ 1,000	£ 152,000	1
6	Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Western Access Road	Northwest arm of Moray Way roundabout	Widen splitter island	£ 15,000		2

**South & West Fife Committee Area  
Lighting Scheme List 2024-25**

**APPENDIX 4**

<b>CF</b>	<b>Carried forward from 2023/24</b>
<b>CAT1</b>	<b>For delivery in 2024-25</b>

Ward No.	Ward Name	Town	Street	Location	Scheme Type	Estimate	Cumulative total	Category
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Culross	Low Causeway & West Car Park		Lighting	£ 82,000	£ 82,000	CF
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Markfield Road / Cullaloe Court / Pentland Court / Path 163/839		Lighting	£ 48,000	£ 130,000	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Gardens, Inchmickery Ave, Inchmickery Road, Path 165/840		Lighting	£ 72,000	£ 202,000	1
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Kincardine	Phase 5	continuation of phase 4	Lighting	£ 123,000	£ 325,000	1
5	Rosyth	Rosyth	Walter Hay Court		Lighting	£ 120,000	£ 445,000	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Lade Braes Ph2	west side from Carsraig Place south plus east side to Lade Green	Combined Footway & Lighting	£ 24,000	£ 469,000	1
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	Lade Braes Ph3	east side south to & inc Lade Green	Combined Footway & Lighting	£ 18,000	£ 487,000	1
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Aberdour	Park Lane		Lighting	£ 15,000	£ 502,000	1
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Limekilns	Conservation areas	Main Street cols 1-4, Academy Sq col 1, The Old Orchard 1-4, Church Lane 4&5	Lighting	£ 42,000		2

**South & West Fife Area Committee  
Carriageway Thin Surfacing/Patching Scheme List for 2024-25**

**APPENDIX 5**

<b>Funded from Revenue Maintenance Budget</b>
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<b>Ward</b>	<b>Ward Name</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Indicative Treatment</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay	St Bridgets Brae	Full Length	Thin Surfacing with pre-patching	£ 10,380
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Oakley	Sligo Street	Full Length of Cul de Sac from Sir George Bruce Road	Thin Surfacing with pre-patching	£ 40,269
5	Rosyth	Rosyth	Sherbrooke Road/Linton Lane	Full Length including laybys (Include Patching at Linton Place )	Thin Surfacing with Pre-patching	£ 74,580
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Kincardine	Woodlea	Full Length	Thin Surfacing with Pre-patching	£ 40,726
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	Rural Road	C19 Oakley Road	from the Saline end	Patching & Surface Dressing	£356,227
1	West Fife and Coastal Villages	High Valleyfield	Dunimarle Street; Burns Street; Chapel Street; Forth Crescent; Abbey Street; Preston Street	Full Length Main Streets excluding cul de sacs	Thin Surfacing with Pre-patching	£164,950
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Inverkeithing	Whinnyhill Crescent / Manse Road	Full length	Thin Surfacing with Pre-patching	£ 37,240
6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	Aberdour	Hawkcraig Rod	Full Length	Patching	£ 49,170

14 February 2024  
Agenda Item No. 7

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## **Domestic Waste, Street Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance Service - Annual Review 2023-24**

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

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Wards Affected: 1,5, and 6

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### **Purpose**

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The purpose of this report is to inform committee of the performance of the Grounds Maintenance and Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Services in 2023-24

### **Recommendation(s)**

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It is recommended that committee notes:

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

### **Resource Implications**

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There are no additional resource implications arising from this report.

### **Legal & Risk Implications**

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The Environmental Protection Act 1990 imposes a duty on Fife Council to keep public roads and relevant land clear of litter and refuse so far as is practicable.

There are no new legal and risk implications arising from this report.

### **Impact Assessment**

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

### **Consultation**

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No consultations are required in connection with this report.

## 1.0 Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Performance

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### Domestic Waste

- 1.1 Consistent levels of service provision remained a challenge for domestic waste collection in 2023-24. Despite coming out of Covid, staff absence remained high, and a shortage of qualified HGV drivers caused disruption to the service in some areas.
- 1.2 Supply chain issues that previously affected sourcing specialist spare parts have eased allowing vehicle repair times to improve.
- 1.3 The procurement and deployment of new vehicles as part of the fleet replacement programme will hopefully continue to improve serviceability and reliability of the fleet.
- 1.4 The new free bulky uplift service has been in place since April 2023. There has been a fourfold increase in demand since this service was introduced.

### Street Cleansing

- 1.5 The street cleansing division are slowly recovering the legacy backlog of weeds on streets. Teams are reacting to Ward priorities and although resource limitations prevent the delivery of a consistent standard across all areas, there is evidence of improvement in many localities.
- 1.6 Street Cleansing working with Business Technology solutions have introduced a new digital asset management system. This will enable accurate data recording and more efficient work scheduling along with performance management.
- 1.7 The Environmental Training Academy continues to train young people for jobs in street cleansing and this is now an important recruitment avenue for the Service and is resulting in permanent jobs for the long term unemployed.
- 1.8 The dedicated verge cleaning teams created in 2021 are making a material difference to the environment. Their work is highly visible, and feedback has been very positive. Roadside verges and reservations that have never been cleaned, are now on routine schedules, and will be regularly attended.
- 1.9 Likewise the teams dedicated to the removal of fly tipping have been making a strong impact, ensuring that reported rubbish is lifted at the very earliest to avoid blighting the environment.
- 1.10 Additional resources continue to be deployed to tourist hotspots to mitigate visitor impacts over the summer months and this includes weekend working as required.

## 2.0 Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing - Future Developments

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- 2.1 The single shift managing change project is ongoing for Domestic Waste and a complete route redesign is underway, as is the procurement exercise for 13 new refuse collection vehicles. The new working pattern is programmed to start in October 2024.
- 2.2 The creation of dedicated teams working in partnership with the Housing Service to address priority areas in Council housing estates, has been a success. This model will be extended in 2023/24.

- 2.3 Street cleansing specifications and schedules will be shared and discussed with Area Committees as part of the Council's decentralisation agenda. Area Committee's will be able to influence works in their communities, recognising the impacts and opportunity cost of resource deployment choices.

### **3.0 Grounds Maintenance Performance**

---

- 3.1 The core Service Level Agreement specification is being met in most areas, although the challenge of inclement weather over the late summer months disrupted the grass cutting and weed management operations. Limitations in the supply chain for machinery spare parts has at times restricted the deployment of specialist machinery and limited performance.
- 3.2 Local teams continue to provide positive support to Elected Members through reactive and ad-hoc work requests enabling delivery of local priorities.
- 3.3 Building on the success of the Housing Estate Improvement work in 22-23, the Grounds Maintenance Service in partnership with the Housing Service will resource a dedicated team delivering a programme of environmental improvement works on Housing owned land.
- 3.4 The employment and retention of seasonal staff remains a challenge during the peak period of Grounds Maintenance activities. The Service continues to work with partner agencies such as Rural Skills Scotland and Fife Council's Employability Team to provide work placement opportunities for short term and longer term unemployed.
- 3.5 There is an aspiration to minimise the use of herbicides as part of any integrated weed management approach. The reduction in herbicide application and improved growing conditions for weeds will remain a perennial management challenge. The Service continues to monitor the development of new alternatives to replace the more traditional control measures employed. Dialogue with communities will assist in delivering local plans that consider an appropriate range of weed management criteria and a level of vegetation acceptable within a geographical space.

### **4.0 Grounds Maintenance - Future Developments**

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- 4.1 A Managing Change proposal offering a 9-day working fortnight alongside a re-alignment of working hours is currently under consultation with staff. If agreed, this will create a more efficient operating model and support a better work-life balance for those staff affected.
- 4.2 The Service is committed to the implementation of a formal process of recording grounds maintenance activity standards in partnership with the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE). The Land Audit Management System (LAMS) will assist in monitoring and benchmarking service performance both at a local level and across external organisations.
- 4.3 A review of the Services' back-office management systems concludes that the current approach is fragmented and does not facilitate the Services move to a digital platform. Investment in a single host system will provide efficiencies through the digital scheduling of work activity and data capture.
- 4.4 A decision to bring forward £350,000 Capital investment in the GMS fleet of grass cutting equipment shall provide greater business continuity and increased performance outputs.

- 4.5 Grounds maintenance specifications and schedules will be shared and discussed with Area Committees as part of the Council's decentralisation agenda. Area Committee's will be able to influence works in their communities, recognising the impacts and opportunity cost of resource deployment choices.
- 4.6 A new 'place making' approach to the management of greenspace is being developed. The Council recognises that officers responsible for greenspace design decisions across the Council should be working much more closely with the Grounds Maintenance Service and a new operating model is being explored.

## 5.0 Conclusions

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- 5.1 Service operating models continue to evolve in both Grounds Maintenance and Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing functions. The aim is to ensure the most effective use of resources to maintain consistent levels of service and address area priorities on a ward-by-ward basis.
- 5.2. Future developments such as digital system implementations and organisational redesign are all part of the modernisation process. Smarter, more joined up and efficient ways of working, with the latest technological support will give these services the best chance of improving local environments with limited resource envelopes.

### Report Authors and Contacts:

Sandy Anderson,  
Service Manager – Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service  
03451 55 55 55 Ext No. 473424  
[Alexander.anderson-es@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Alexander.anderson-es@fife.gov.uk)

Scott Clelland,  
Service Manager – Grounds Maintenance Service  
03451 55 55 55 Ext No. 490075  
[Scott.clelland@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Scott.clelland@fife.gov.uk)



14 February 2024  
Agenda Item No. 8

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## **Fife Local Area Economic Profiles 2022-2023**

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Report by: Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability Services

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Wards Affected: Ward Nos. 1,5 and 6

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### **Purpose**

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The purpose of this report is to provide members with an annual overview of the performance of the local economy and labour market in South and West Fife. The information presented is intended to provide background and context to council activity within the area and to help inform area committee discussion and decision-making.

### **Recommendation(s)**

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It is recommended that members:-

1. consider and comment on the issues raised from the analysis of the latest available data; and
2. recognise the ongoing economic challenges.

### **Resource Implications**

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There are no resource implications associated with this report.

### **Legal & Risk Implications**

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There are no specific legal and risk implications associated with this report.

### **Impact Assessment**

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An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been completed and is not necessary as it does not represent a change to policy.

The Fairer Scotland Duty, which came into force on 1 April 2018, requires the council to consider how it can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage when making strategic decisions. The information presented in this report and accompanying presentation provide members with context on inequalities within their committee area and Fife as a whole.

### **Consultation**

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Key officers from within Business and Employability, Legal and Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this overview report.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 Appendix 1 provides updated local economic profiles for each of the council's seven committee areas using the latest available data as of January 2024.
- 1.2 The profiles are based on analyses of a range of labour market and economic data published by external sources that include the Scottish Government and Office of National Statistics (ONS).
- 1.3 The lag in the availability of much data means that the figures provide an opportunity to assess only the initial impact of the cost-of-living and cost-of-doing business crises. In addition, response rates to the ONS Labour Force Survey – the main source of data about employment, unemployment and inactivity – have been falling since the pandemic, making some data at both the Fife and committee area geographies unreliable or unavailable. As in previous years, comparisons are made with pre-pandemic figures to show how Fife's economy is recovering, adjusting and adapting to the persistently challenging conditions.
- 1.4 These profiles and other Fife-wide economic analyses are used to inform a range of strategic planning activities. They informed the development of the new Fife Economic Strategy 2023-30 and similar data will be used to monitor progress in delivering the strategy. The data also informs systematic review of the Plan for Fife.
- 1.5 The information within the profiles is intended to provide members with context and background on policy development and impact at a local and strategic level.

## 2.0 Wider Economic Perspective

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- 2.1 The UK economy has experienced a succession of significant shocks in recent years, firstly from the COVID-19 pandemic and EU exit and, more recently, from the onset of the war in Ukraine, conflict in the Middle East and high rates of inflation.
- 2.2 Although the sharp rise in inflation experienced in 2022 eased over 2023 and inflation is now on a downward trend, it remains considerably higher than in recent years and businesses and households are continuing to adjust to a permanent upward shift in prices alongside the rapid shift to higher interest rates. In addition, the latest economic forecasts indicate that the ongoing reduction in inflation will be gradual and that inflation will remain above the 2% target until the second half of 2025<sup>1</sup>.
- 2.3 Economic growth in both the UK and Scotland has remained subdued and broadly flat since the start of 2022 and growth forecasts remain subdued for 2024, with an expectation that weak global growth, ongoing cost pressures and uncertainty will continue to dampen both consumer spending and business investment.
- 2.4 The labour market however remained resilient during 2023, with low unemployment, a drop in economic inactivity and a fall in the number of vacancies indicating an easing of the recruitment difficulties companies experienced in 2022. Underlying tightness does remain in the labour market: data from the Business Insights and Conditions Survey indicate that in October 2023, 35.1% of surveyed businesses in Scotland reported difficulties in recruiting employees and 25.4% experienced worker shortages. Worker shortages were most common in the construction and the accommodation and food sectors (38.7% and 37.9% respectively).

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<sup>1</sup> Scottish Economic Insights: November 2023, Scottish Government

- 2.5 In most parts of Fife, employment rates in 2022/23 were above the pre-pandemic 2019 levels. Fife's latest unemployment rate is at a record low (3.4%) and although higher than the Scottish rate (3.2%), the gap is narrower than before the pandemic. Economic inactivity rates have also fallen to 21% after reaching a record high of 26.9% in 2022. Around 32% of those economically inactive in Fife (15,100 people) cited long-term ill-health as the reason for their inactivity.

### **3.0 Local, Regional and National Developments**

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- 3.1 The new Fife Economic Strategy 2023-30, which sets out the Fife Partnership's approach to growing a stronger, greener and fairer economy, was approved by Cabinet Committee on 1 June 2023 and endorsed by the Fife Partnership Board on 17 August 2023. The Strategy identifies three priorities where the council's and its partners' economic development and employability activities will be focused over the next seven years:

- Supporting businesses
- Investing in premises and infrastructure
- Delivering skills, training and fair employment.

A fourth priority – Working in Collaboration and Partnership - details how the Strategy will be delivered.

- 3.2 Fife's Economic Strategy also commits to taking a Community Wealth Building approach to maximise the local impacts of investment in projects and programmes and to making sure that its interventions support the council's commitment to tackling climate change.
- 3.3 In January 2023, the UK and Scottish Governments announced the designation of the Firth of Forth as one of two Scottish Green Freeports. The successful bid encompasses three key ports on the Forth (Grangemouth, Leith and Rosyth); industrial facilities and logistics centres along the north and south shores of the Firth of Forth; and Edinburgh Airport. Led by Forth Ports, the bid consortium includes: Babcock International, Edinburgh Airport, Falkirk Council, Fife Council, INEOS, Scarborough Muir Group and City of Edinburgh Council. It is expected that the Forth Green Freeport designation will not only bring investment and jobs to the proposed sites at Rosyth and Burntisland, but will also bring economic benefits to other parts of Fife.
- 3.4 Work is also ongoing in relation to regional economic partnership arrangements. The Edinburgh and South East Scotland Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan for 2023/24, which was published in March 2023, sets out four key programmes to deliver the region's ambitions: Green Regeneration; Infrastructure for Recovery and Prosperity; Visitor Economy and Culture; and a Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) Economy.
- 3.5 The ten-year £50 million Fife Industrial Innovation Investment Programme (Fi3P) funded by the Edinburgh & South-East Scotland City Region Deal and delivered by Fife Council is delivering new industrial, office and business space and serviced employment sites within existing business clusters in Mid and South Fife adjacent to growth corridors on the M90 and A92. The programme has supported site servicing at Fife Interchange North next to Amazon's Fulfilment Centre and is currently funding the construction of ten new businesses on the site which are expected to be completed by summer 2024.

## 4.0 **Headline Issues and Opportunities: South and West Fife\***

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- 4.1 The average employment rate in the South and West Fife committee area in 2022/23 was 74.6%. This was similar to the Fife rate (75.0%) and higher than the area's pre-pandemic employment rate (72.2%). The area's male employment rate (82.4%) was considerably higher than the female employment rate (67.0%).
- 4.2 Although the economic inactivity rate in South and West Fife fell from 26.2% in 2019 to 22.7% in 2022/23, it was the third highest rate of inactivity across Fife's seven committee areas and was higher than latest (2022/23) rate for Fife (21.0%).
- 4.3 The proportion of the working-age population claiming out-of-work benefits in South and West Fife in 2023 (2.6%) was lower than the overall Fife rate (3.4%) and just below the area's pre-pandemic claimant rate in March 2019 (2.7%).
- 4.4 The percentage of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment in the Dunfermline Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area (94.5%) is the second highest in Fife. Although the rate fell in 2019 and 2021, between 2018 and 2023 it increased from to 93.2% to 94.5%
- 4.5 The Dunfermline and West Fife UK Parliamentary Constituency Area has the highest average resident earnings in Fife (£709.10 per week) and highest workplace earnings (£662.20 per week). It is the only part of Fife where average resident earnings are higher than Scottish average earnings (£702.40).
- 4.6 In the three year period between March 2020 and March 2023, the number of registered businesses in the Dunfermline Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area fell by 155 enterprises (-7.7%). In Fife overall, the number of enterprises fell by -9.3% over the same period. The Parliamentary Constituency Area's business density – there are 288 registered businesses per 10,000 resident adults - is lower than the Scottish business density (375 businesses per 10,000 resident adults). To reach the Scottish business density, the Area would need 563 or 30% more businesses.
- 4.7 The estimated number of jobs in the South and West Fife committee area fell by 5.9% from 17,000 to 16,000 in the three year period between September 2019 and September 2022.
- 4.8 South and West Fife accounts for 19.2% of Fife's employment in Manufacturing (2,500 jobs) and 21.4% of jobs in Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities (1,500 jobs).
- 4.9 In 2022/23, there were 176 participants from South and West Fife on employability programmes commissioned by Opportunities Fife. Currently Fife Council's employability services are working with 75 people in the committee area. In 2021/22 and 2022/23, the area had the second highest instances of pupil engagement with the council's Culture of Enterprise activities after Dunfermline.
- 4.10 Nearly half (48.5%) of Fife's vacant and derelict land is located in South and West Fife. Eight sites, each covering more than 20 hectares of vacant and derelict land, are located in the area. Funding from the Scottish Government's Vacant and Derelict Land Fund has supported industrial land regeneration at Hillend Industrial Estate in Dalgety Bay to complement investment from the City Region Deal Fi3P Programme. It is proposed to use the fund to support the acquisition and ground remediation/preparation of a site in Rosyth in support of a partnership project involving the Polish Consulate in Edinburgh, Babcock International and others to commemorate the loss of a Polish Navy submarine, ORP Orzel, which was lost on patrol while operating out of Rosyth in World War II.

- 4.11 Whilst Inverkeithing has one of the lowest town centre vacancy rates in Fife, the percentage of vacant retail and service units increased from 7.4% in 2019 to 14.0% in 2023. Kincardine town centre has the highest proportion of unoccupied floor-space (41.2%) of Fife's town centres.
- 4.12 The refurbishment of Inverkeithing Town House reached its practical completion in December 2023.
- 4.13 The Arrol Gibb Innovation Campus (AGIC) opened at Babcock International, Rosyth in April 2022. The campus, a collaboration between Babcock International, the University of Edinburgh, the University of Strathclyde, Fife College, Fife Council, Scottish Enterprise and Skills Development Scotland, offers small to medium-sized enterprises in the marine, nuclear and energy-transition sectors access to the latest industrial techniques and technology, industrial and office space, innovation advice and skills development. FastBlade, the first facility to open on the campus, is the world's first rapid testing facility for tidal turbine blades.
- 4.14 The Forth Green Freeport's Outline Business Case was submitted to the Scottish and UK Governments on 24 November 2023. The plans for the Green Freeport include the development of an internationally renowned port, shipbuilding, manufacturing and logistics cluster at Rosyth.
- 4.15 The number of people visiting the Dunfermline Area during 2022 increased by 50.9% compared with the previous year, with visitor numbers returning to 97.7% of the 2019 pre-pandemic level. Following a strategic tourism evaluation, a multi-partner five year tourism action plan has been developed for the city.
- 4.16 The Forth Bridges Area Tourism Group, chaired by the City of Edinburgh Council in 2023/24, has continued to host the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy Manager. Since the launch of the Forth Bridges Trail in November 2022, the Forth Bridges Tourism Group partners agreed further development of the Trail and a second phase of tourism signage will be delivered in Spring 2024, part-funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The Forth Bridges website and social media channels continue to promote activities and businesses in the area, with reach totalling just under 5 million in 2023 across the three main social media channels.

[\***Note:** Figures are given for the South & West Fife Committee Area unless otherwise stated. Where data are not available at this level, figures are given for the Dunfermline and West Fife UK Parliamentary Constituency Area (UKPCA) or Dunfermline Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area (SPCA). Tourism data are given for the Dunfermline Area which constitutes the area covered by the Dunfermline and West Fife Local Tourist Association.]

## List of Appendices

1. Fife Local Area Economic Profiles 2022-2023

### Background Papers

- [Fife's Economic Strategy 2023-30](#)
- [Scottish Economic Insights: November 2023](#), Office of the Chief Economic Adviser, Scottish Government
- [Business Insights and Conditions Survey weighted Scotland estimates: data to wave 95](#)
- Edinburgh and South East Scotland [Regional Prosperity Framework 2021-2041](#) and [Delivery Plan & Prospectus 2023/24](#)

### Author / Contact:

Peter Corbett, Lead Officer (Economy)  
 Fife Council Business & Employability Service  
 Fife House, North Street Glenrothes KY7 5LT  
 Email: Peter.Corbett@fife.gov.uk



# Fife Local Economic Profiles 2022-2023

This profile provides an overview of the characteristics and performance of Fife’s labour market and business base. It also provides a summary of the business support activity carried out by Fife Council in 2022/23. The profiles are based on a range of publicly available socio-economic data. Whilst many of the data have a time lag, the figures presented are the most up-to-date available at the time of writing (January 2024).

Unless otherwise stated, the data are broken down to the areas covered by each of Fife Council’s seven [Local Area Committees](#).

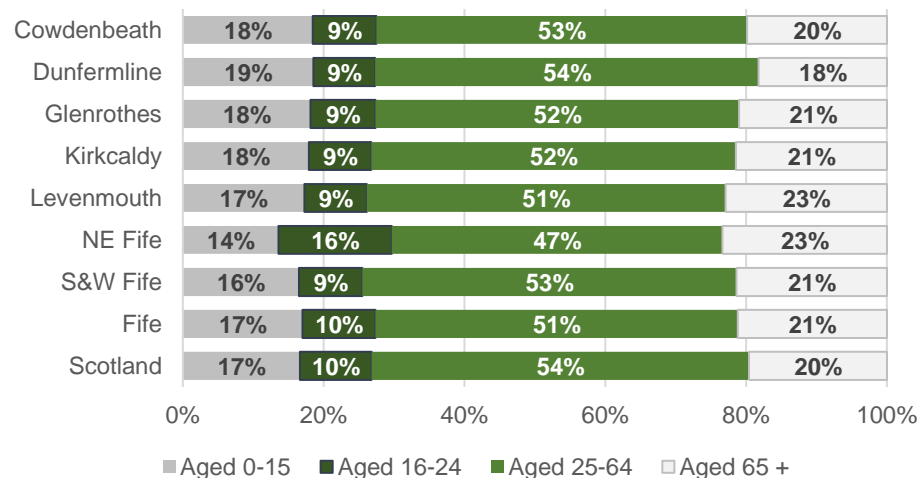
## Fife’s Labour Market

### Population

**Figure 1: Mid-2021 Population Estimates - Fife & Local Area Committee Geographies**

Cowdenbeath Area	City of Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife
41,768	60,597	49,805	60,462	37,902	74,690	49,506	<b>374,730</b>

**Figure 2: Population Structure - Local Committee Areas, Fife, Scotland Mid-2021**



Around 374,730 people live in Fife, 6.8% of Scotland’s population (Figure 1). Looking at the population structure of Fife and its committee areas (Figure 2):

- Fife has a smaller proportion of its population of working age (aged 16-64 years) than Scotland as a whole – 61.8% of its population are of working age compared with 64% of Scotland’s population.
- Levenmouth has the smallest proportion of people of working age (60%).
- North East Fife and Levenmouth have the highest proportions of people aged over 65 (23%) whilst Dunfermline has the lowest (18%).
- North East Fife has the largest proportions of people who are of working age (63%) and the lowest proportion of children (14%).
- North East Fife also has the largest proportion of people aged 16-24 years (16%) and the lowest proportion aged 25-64 years (47%).

Source: Mid-2021 Electoral Ward Population Estimates, National Records of Scotland. Note: Mid-Year Population Estimates for 2022 are due for release in early 2024.

# Employment

Figure 3: Employment Rates, 2022/23

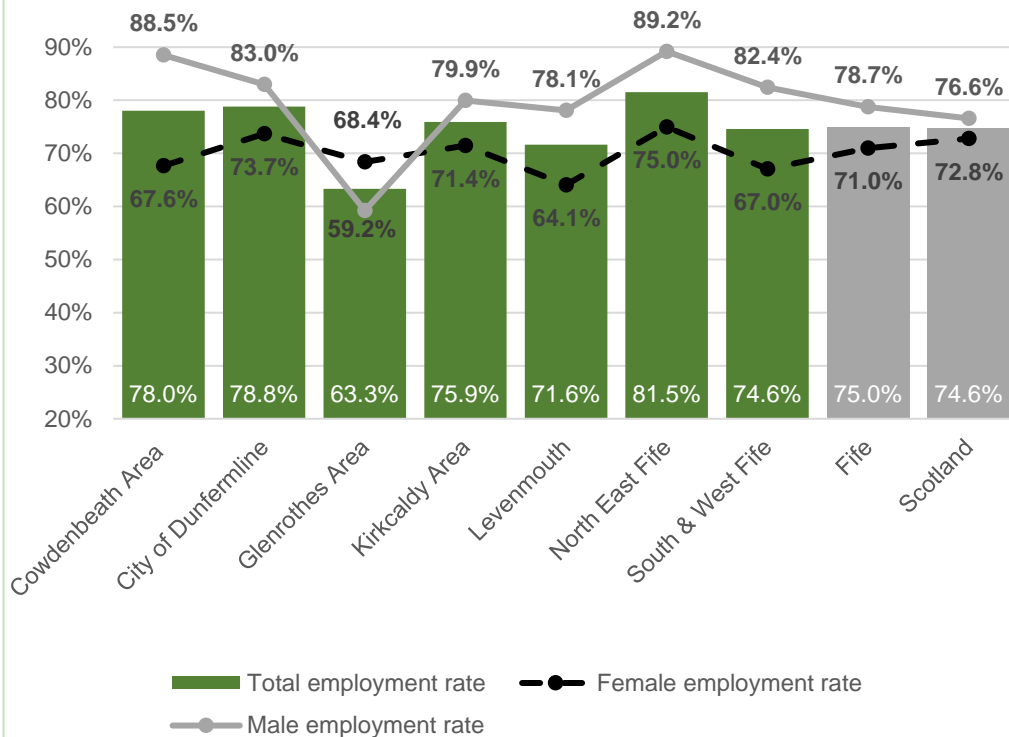
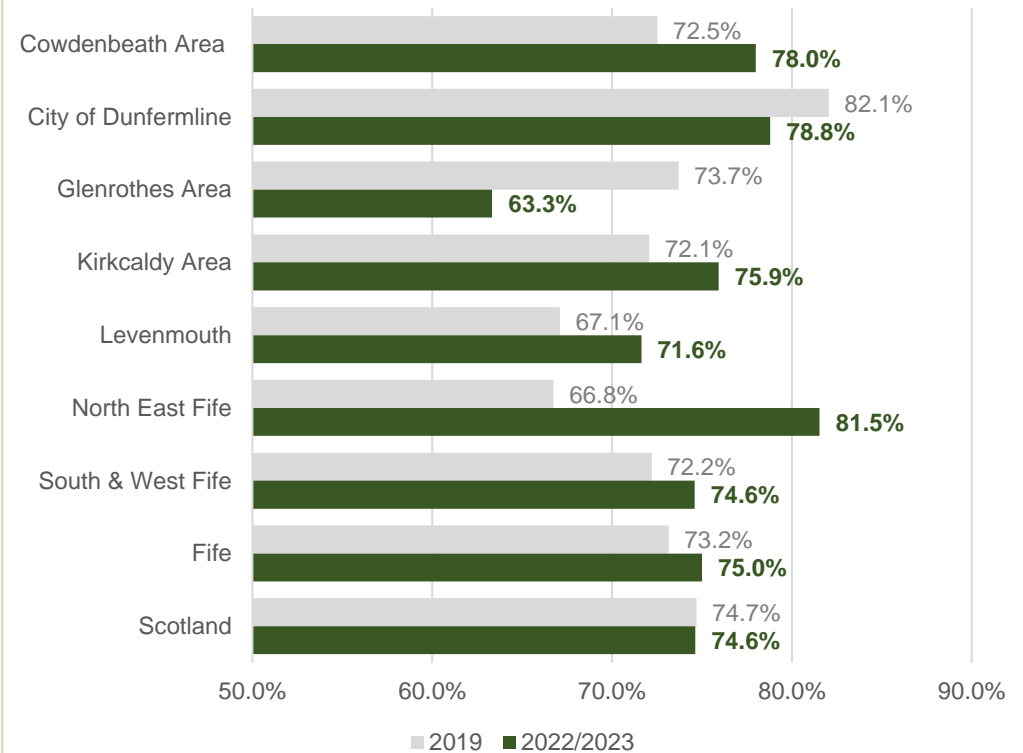


Figure 4: Employment Rate Change 2019-2022/23



## Latest Employment Rates\*:

North East Fife’s employment rate (81.5%) in 2022/23 was the highest in Fife (Figure 3).

The employment rates in the Glenrothes Area and Levenmouth were considerably lower than the Fife and Scottish rates.

The Glenrothes Area’s employment rate was the lowest of all the committee areas in Fife (63.3%). This was also the only part of Fife where the female employment rate was higher than the male employment rate (Figure 3).

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, 2019 and 2022/23 Average Rates.

Note: \*employment rate = the percentage of the working age populations (aged 16-64) who are in employment. As these employment estimates are obtained from a national survey, they are based on a sample rather than the entire population which means they are subject to uncertainty. In addition, rates for committee areas should be viewed with caution due to small sample sizes at this geographic level. Because of this, averages of the rates for 2019 and 2022/23 are given.

### Employment Rate Change:

In most parts of Fife, employment rates in 2022/23 were above the pre-pandemic 2019 levels (Figure 4).

Dunfermline and the Glenrothes Area were the only areas where average employment rates in 2022/23 were lower than in 2019.

North East Fife and the Cowdenbeath Areas saw the greatest increases in employment rates.

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, 2019 and 2022/23 Average Rates.

Note: As these employment estimates are obtained from a national survey, they are based on a sample rather than the entire population which means they are subject to uncertainty. In addition, rates for committee areas should be viewed with caution due to small sample sizes at this geographic level. Because of this, averages of the rates for 2019 and 2022/23 are given.

## Unemployment

**Figure 5: Unemployment in Fife, Scotland and Great Britain**

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
<b>Fife (number of people)</b>	7,100	8,700	6,600	6,100
<b>Fife (%)</b>	4.1%	5.1%	3.9%	3.4%
<b>Scotland (%)</b>	3.4%	4.7%	3.4%	3.2%
<b>Great Britain (%)</b>	3.9%	5.0%	3.8%	3.8%

The latest unemployment figures for Fife are for the 12 months to June 2023.

Between 2019/20 and 2020/21 Fife's unemployment rate increased from 4.1% to 5.1% as an estimated additional 1,600 people became unemployed during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Fife's unemployment rate fell in the following two years and the latest rate is at a record low (3.4%) with an estimated 1,000 fewer people unemployed than prior to the pandemic in 2019/20.

Although Fife's latest unemployment rate is higher than the Scottish rate (3.2%), the gap is narrower than before the pandemic.

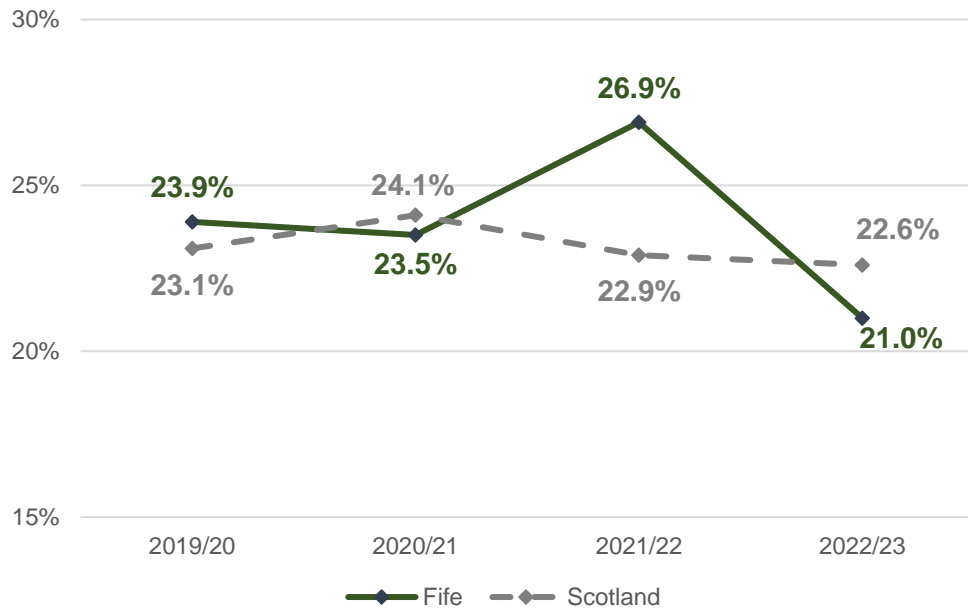
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, model-based estimates of unemployment, 12 months to June 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Note: Numbers and percentages are for those aged 16 and over who are without a job but who are looking for and available to start work. The unemployment rate is the proportion of the economically active population who are unemployed. Unemployment figures are not shown below the Fife level as sample sizes are too small for reliable estimates.

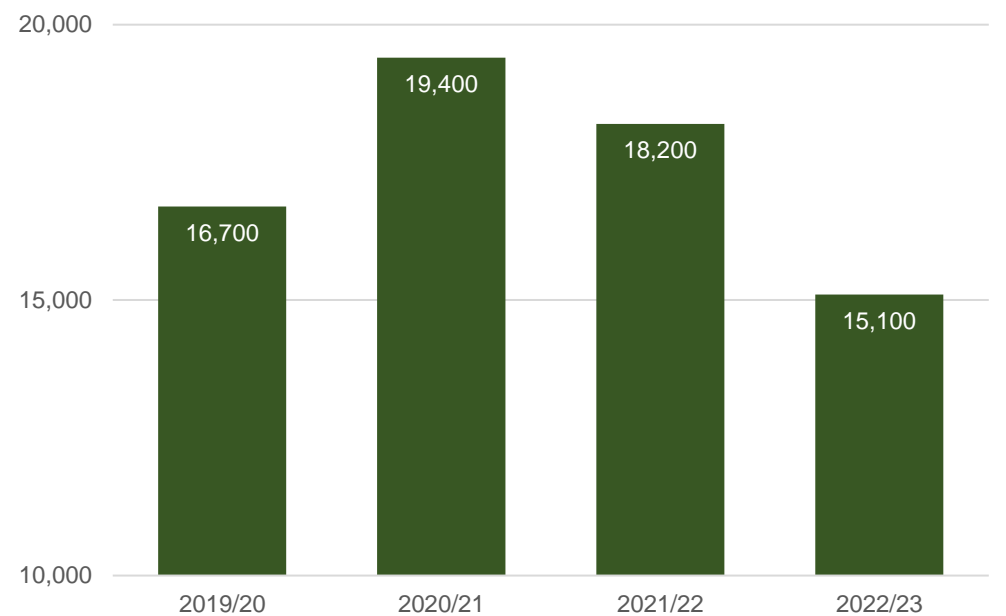


## Economic Inactivity

**Figure 6: Percentage of the working-age population who are economically inactive - Fife & Scotland**



**Figure 7: Number of people in Fife economically inactive due to long-term ill-health**



### Economic Inactivity in Fife:

A fifth (21.0%) of Fife's working aged population (people aged 16-64) was economically inactive in the 12 months to June 2023 - that is they were neither in employment nor actively seeking a job. This represents an estimated 47,000 people.

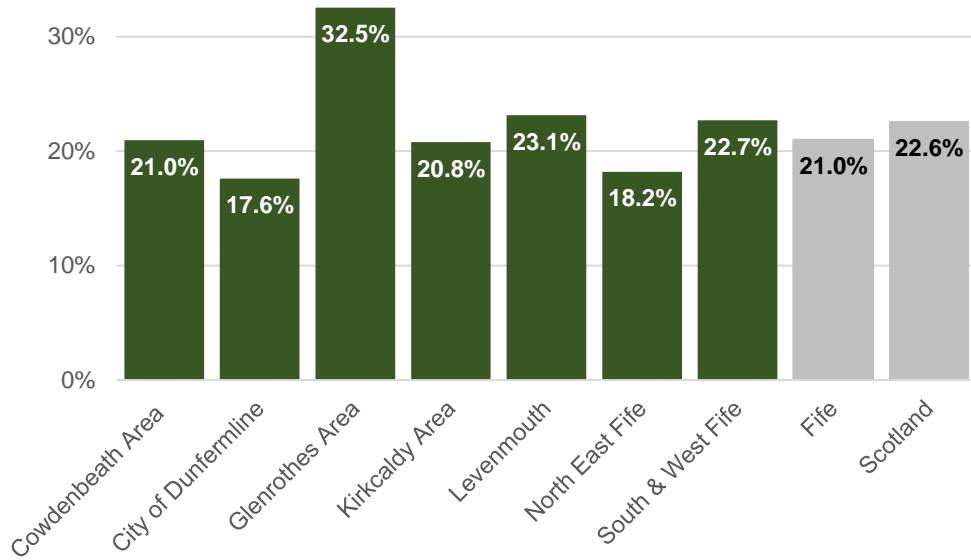
Fife's inactivity rate was lower than the Scottish rate (22.6%) for the same period, and also lower than the record high rate recorded in Fife the year before (26.9%), the highest rate recorded in the times-series of this data (which goes back to 1999). It was also lower than prior to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2019/20 (23.9%) (Figure 6).

Long term ill-health is the reason 32% of those who are economically inactive in Fife (an estimated 15,100 people) gave for not being in employment or seeking a job. Other reasons included being a student (24.7%), looking after the family/home (19.8%) and being retired (10.8%).

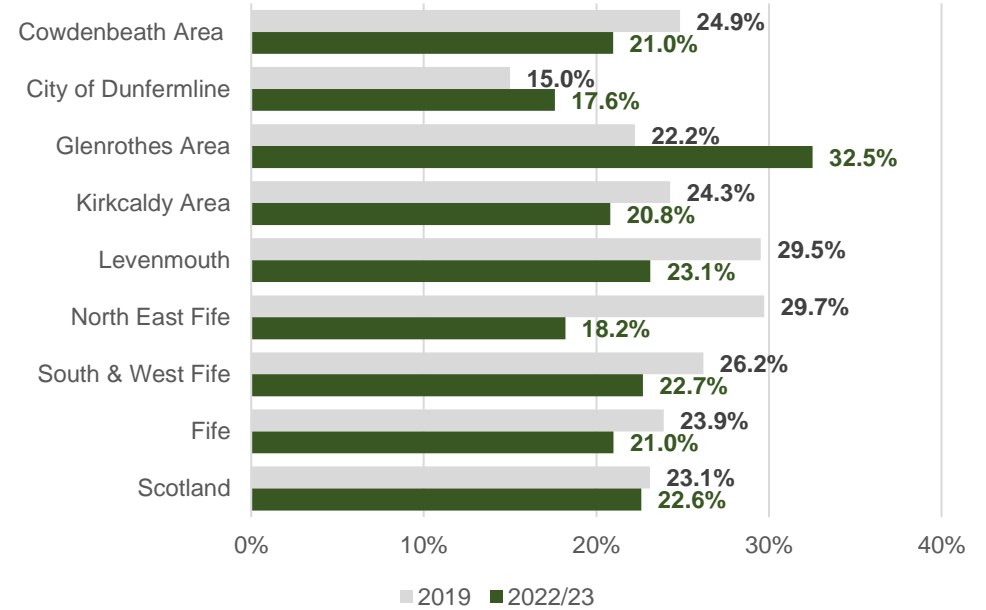
Source: ONS Annual Populations Survey, July – June 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23.

Note: Those who are economically inactive are people aged 16 and over without a job who have not sought work in the last four weeks and/or who are not available to start work in the next two weeks, ie they are neither employed nor unemployed.

**Figure 8: Proportion of the working age population who were economically inactive (economic inactivity rate) 2022/23**



**Figure 9: Change in economic activity rates 2019 - 2022/23**



Between 2019 and 2022/23, the Glenrothes Area and Dunfermline saw increases in the proportion of their populations who were economically inactive. In all other parts of Fife inactivity rates fell (Figure 9).

Dunfermline, the Kirkcaldy Area and North East Fife are the only areas whose latest economic inactivity rate is lower than both the Fife and Scottish rates (Figure 8). Dunfermline has the lowest rate of inactivity in Fife.

The Glenrothes Area has the highest economic inactivity rate (32.5%) followed by Levenmouth and South & West Fife.

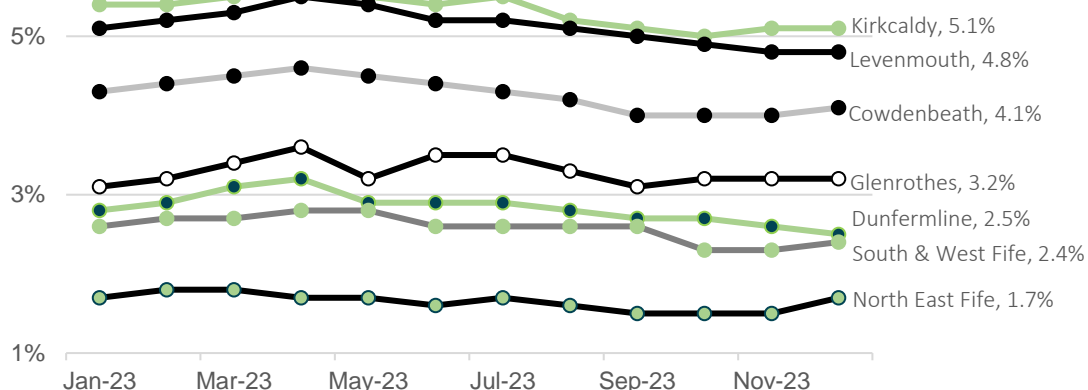
Due to small sample sizes at committee area levels, all these figures should be viewed with caution.

Source: ONS Annual Populations Survey, Jan-Dec 2019 and 2022/23

Note: Those who are economically inactive are people aged 16 and over without a job who have not sought work in the last four weeks and/or who are not available to start work in the next two weeks, ie they are neither employed nor unemployed. Economic inactivity rates for committee areas should be viewed with caution due to small sample sizes at this geographic level. Because of this, for the committee areas, averages of the rates for 2019 and 2022/23 are given; the rates for Fife and Scotland are for the 12 months to June 2023.

## People Claiming Out-of-work Benefits

**Figure 10: Claimant rates – Fife Area Committees, Jan- Dec 2023**



North East Fife has the lowest rate of people claiming out-of-work benefits of all the area committees (Figure 10).

The Kirkcaldy Area and Levenmouth have the highest claimant rates and numbers; this has been the case for some time.

All claimant rates in Fife increased significantly in 2020 following the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and remained considerably higher than pre-pandemic levels until they started to fall in April 2021. Over the past 12 months, rates have remained fairly stable, increasing a little in mid-2023 before falling again.

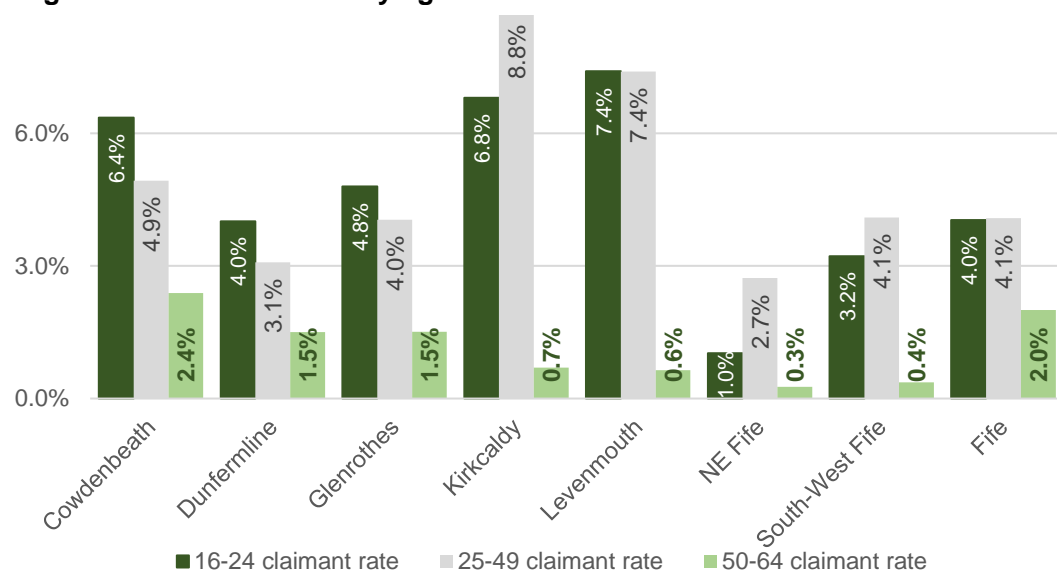
In all parts of Fife, apart from in North East Fife, the average number of claimants and claimant rates for 2023 (Jan to Dec) were lower than in 2019 (Figure 11); in Scotland the number of claimants rose.

Source: ONS Claimant Count, Jan-Dec 2023. Note: The claimant rate is the percentage of working age (16-64yrs) residents claiming out-of-work benefits.

**Figure 11: Claimant count and rate change 2019 to 2023**

Committee Area	2019 Average		2023 Average		Difference	
	Claimant Rate	Claimant Count	Claimant Rate	Claimant Count	Claimant Rate	Claimant Count
Cowdenbeath	5.1%	1,328	4.3%	1,108	-0.9%	-220
Dunfermline	3.3%	1,213	2.8%	1,045	-0.5%	-168
Glenrothes	3.6%	1,108	3.3%	1,002	-0.3%	-107
Kirkcaldy	5.5%	2,002	5.3%	1,949	-0.1%	-53
Levenmouth	6.4%	1,450	5.1%	1,159	-1.3%	-292
North East Fife	1.7%	762	1.7%	761	0.0%	-1
South & West Fife	2.7%	836	2.6%	801	-0.1%	-35
<b>All Fife</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>8,753</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>7,878</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>-876</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>108,093</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>109,523</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>+1,431</b>

**Figure 12: Claimant rates by age – 2023**



In Dunfermline and the Cowdenbeath and Glenrothes Areas, 16-24 year olds have the highest rate of people claiming out-of-work benefits of the three main age groups.

North East Fife has the lowest claimant rates for all age groups and has particularly low rates in its 16-24 and 50-64 age groups.

The Cowdenbeath Area has the highest claimant rate for people aged over 50.

In the Kirkcaldy Area, the 25-49 age group's claimant rate is considerably higher than the other age groups in the area and is the highest rate of all age groups in Fife.

Source: ONS Claimant Count, Jan-Dec 2023 average rates

## Qualifications of Working Age Population

Figure 13: Qualifications - Fife & Scotland 2022	Fife	Scotland
% of working age population with RQF 4+ (HNC, Advanced Higher)	54.0%	54.2%
% of working age population with no formal qualifications (RQF)	7.7%	8.0%

Just over half of Fife's working age population has a qualification equal to or higher than an HNC or Advanced Higher.

Fife has a smaller proportion of its working age population with no formal qualifications (7.7%) than Scotland as a whole (8.0%).

The ONS has changed the way it collects qualifications data, so comparisons cannot be made with previous years. Reliable figures are also not available for separate age groups or below the Fife geographic area due to small sample sizes.

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, Jan-Dec 2022

Note: Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) level 4 = SCQF Level 6 (HNC, Advanced Higher or equivalent). No qualifications = no formal qualifications held.

## School Leaver Destinations and Attainment

**Figure 14: School Leaver Destinations and Attainment 2021/22**

	Fife	Scotland
Percentage of school leavers achieving a positive <b>initial</b> destination*	94.8%	95.7%
Percentage of school leavers achieving a positive <b>follow-up</b> destination*	92.1%	93.5%
Percentage of school leavers achieving 1+ SCQF Level 5 or better	81.4%	86.4%
Percentage of school leavers achieving 1+ SCQF Level 6 (Higher) or better	54.6%	61.3%

94.8% of Fife's 2021/22 school leavers achieved a positive initial destination\*.

This was higher than the year before, when 93.9% of leavers achieved a positive initial destination, slightly higher than prior to the pandemic when 94.4% of 2018/19 school leavers gained a positive initial destination and the highest proportion in the time-series of this dataset (which goes back to 2009/10)

The proportion of leavers in a positive destination in April 2023, 9 months after the end of the school year increased to 92.1% and was also the highest proportion in the time-series of this dataset.

The gaps between the Fife and Scottish initial and follow-up rates both narrowed after widening in the previous two years.

The percentages of 2021/22 school leavers achieving at least one Higher was lower than the previous year and Fife's attainment figures remain lower than those for Scotland as a whole.

Source: Scottish Government, Summary Statistics for Attainment and Initial Leaver Destinations and Summary Statistics for Follow-up Leaver Destinations, No 5: 2023 Editions.

Note: \* A young person is deemed to be in a positive destination when they are actively engaged with an organisation for the purpose of learning, training or work (work includes volunteering).

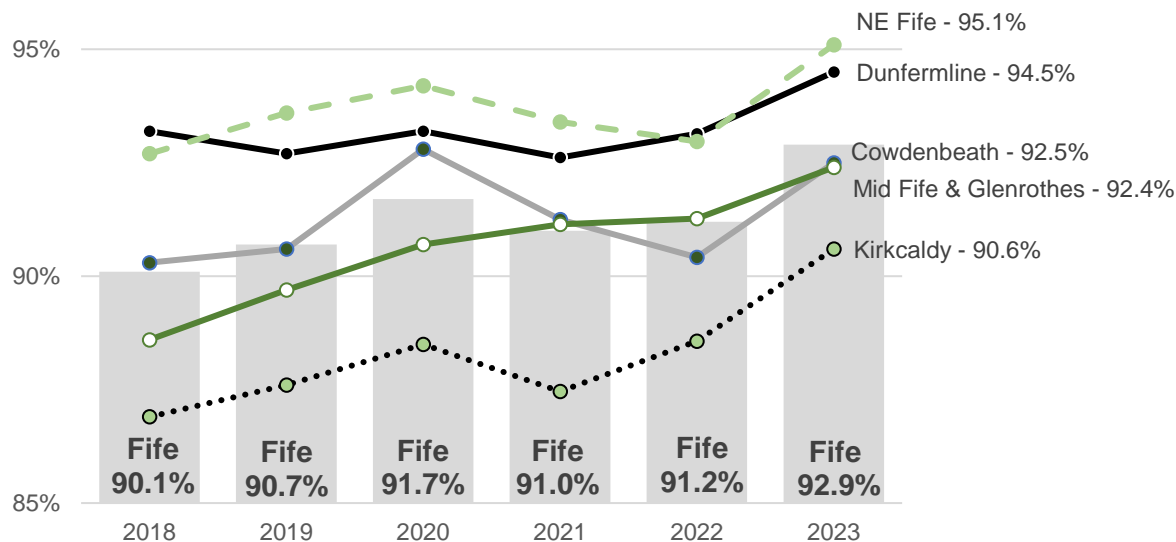


## Annual Participation Measure for 16-19 Year Olds

Figure 15: Percentage of 16–19 year olds participating in education, training or employment 2018-2023 - Fife and Scotland

Year	Fife					Scotland				
	16-19 year olds	16-year olds	17-year olds	18-year olds	19-year olds	16-19 year olds	16-year olds	17-year olds	18-year olds	19-year olds
2018	90.1%	98.7%	93.5%	86.8%	82.3%	91.8%	98.9%	94.6%	89.9%	84.5%
2019	90.7%	99.1%	93.6%	88.2%	82.2%	91.6%	99.0%	94.8%	89.1%	83.9%
2020	91.7%	98.6%	94.5%	89.6%	84.1%	92.1%	99.0%	95.0%	90.4%	84.1%
2021	91.0%	99.0%	92.6%	87.1%	85.0%	92.2%	99.1%	94.3%	89.4%	85.4%
2022	91.2%	99.0%	94.4%	88.7%	82.1%	92.4%	99.3%	95.7%	89.8%	84.2%
2023	92.9%	99.1%	95.3%	89.6%	87.2%	94.3%	99.2%	96.1%	92.6%	88.9%

Figure 16: Percentage of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment 2018-2023 by Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Areas (SPCAs)



In 2023, Fife saw the proportion of its 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment increase to 92.9%, the highest level recorded\*. (Figure 15).

Fife's largest increase in participation between 2018 and 2023 was in the 19-year-old age group (Figure 15).

Fife's participation rates are lower than the Scottish rates. In 2023, the gap narrowed for 16, 17 and 19 year-olds, but widened for 18-year olds.

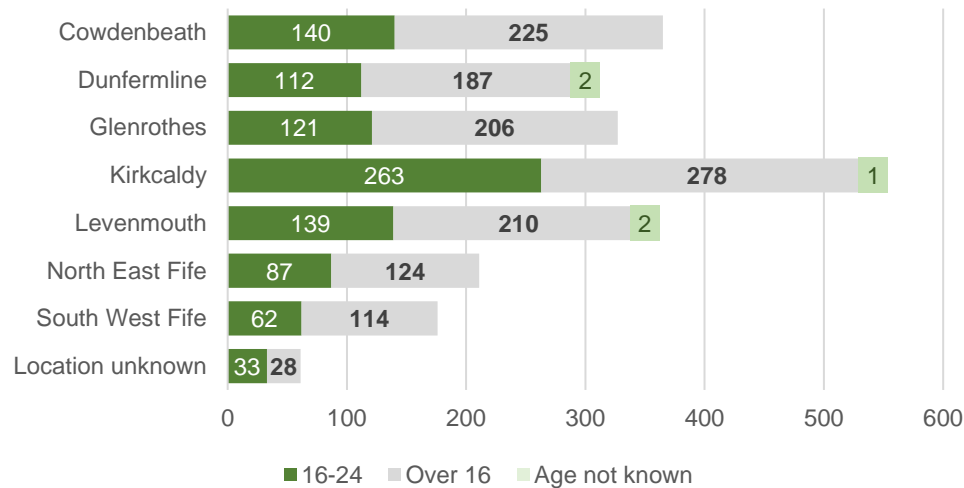
All parts of Fife saw participation increase between 2022 and 2023. The participation rates in the Cowdenbeath, Mid-Fife & Glenrothes and Kirkcaldy Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Areas are below the rate for Fife as a whole (Figure 16).

Source: Skills Development Scotland, Annual Participation Measure of 16–19-year-olds in Scotland, 2023.

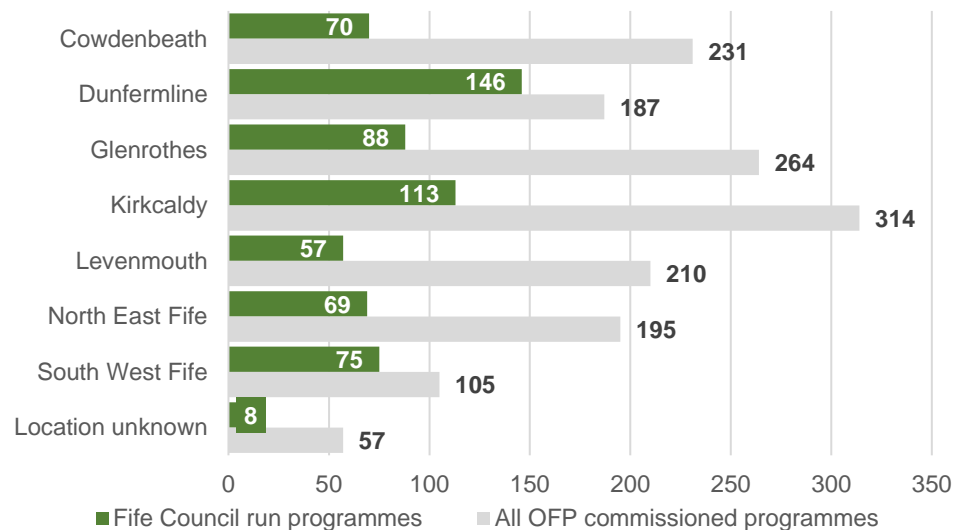
Note: \*Data for the Annual Participation Measure goes back to 2016.

## Employability Support

**Figure 17: Participants\* on programmes commissioned by the Opportunities Fife Partnership by age 2022/23**



**Figure 18: Participants\* on employability programmes 2023/24**



In 2022/23, there were **2,334 participants\*** (1,429 people) on **employability programmes commissioned by the Opportunities Fife Partnership** (Figure 17). This was fewer than in the previous year as 2022/23 was a transition year, with EU-funded projects winding down and new projects starting to get off the ground.

**60% of people went on to employment in 2022/23**, a much higher proportion than in previous years.

The largest number of participants were resident in the Kirkcaldy Area (542) followed by the Cowdenbeath Area (365), Levenmouth (351) and Glenrothes Area (327).

41% of participants were aged between 16-24 years. The areas with the highest proportion of participants aged 16-24 years were the Kirkcaldy Area (48.5%), North East Fife (41.2%), Levenmouth (39.6%) and the Cowdenbeath Area (38.4%).

By the end of Q2 2023/24, there were **1,563 participants\*** on projects **commissioned by the Opportunities Fife Partnership** (Figure 18).

**626 of participants were on programmes run by the council's Employability Services** (Figure 18). Dunfermline had the largest number of participants on council-run programmes (146) followed by the Kirkcaldy Area (113).

Source: Fife Council

Note: \* the number of participants on employability programmes is higher than the total number of unique participants due to individuals participating in more than one programme.

## **Employability Support Activities:**

**UK Shared Prosperity Funding** helped extend the No One Left Behind delivery priorities in 2022/23 based on need and the performance of existing providers. The commissioning approach for 2023 -2025 has been agreed by the Opportunities Fife Partnership and Fife Council.

The 21st **Fife Business Diversity Awards** took place in December 2023 recognising and celebrating the achievements of individuals, employers and employability providers in ensuring that people from all backgrounds are able to fulfil their work ambitions.

The total number of **Modern Apprenticeship** (MA) starts in Fife fell very slightly (by 6 people or -0.5%) after significantly increasing the year before. 72.9% of Fife's MAs completed their training in 2022/23, a higher rate than in 2021/22 (72%). There were 371 MA starts in Q1 of 2023/24. This is 38% (+103) higher than the same point last year (268).

The Employability Team supported **103 Modern Apprenticeships** across various Services within Fife Council and **146 Foundation Apprenticeships** (FAs) in the Education & Children's Services and Health & Social Care Directorates. Positive feedback was received from participants and school staff on the new one-year FA delivery model introduced in 2022/23 and this model is being continued in 2023/24.

Funding from Fife Council's allocation from the Scottish Government's Local Authority COVID Economic Recovery (LACER) fund was used to help establish **Midfield Skills and Development Centre** in Kirkcaldy as a training hub for Mid-Fife, with work ongoing to replicate this model in the West of Fife.

## Fife Council's Culture of Enterprise Programme

**Figure 19: Participation in Fife Council's Culture of Enterprise (CoE) Programme, 2022/23**

	Cowdenbeath Area	Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife
Number of different CoE activities in which schools participated	7	9	8	7	5	5	6	<b>19</b>
Instances of pupil engagement with CoE activities 2022/23*	2,825	15,211	4,058	7,950	6,078	6,375	11,885	<b>54,399</b>
<i>Instances of pupil engagement with CoE activities 2021/22*</i>	11,293	30,680	13,679	6,835	12,452	8,990	28,123	<b>112,052</b>

As in 2021/22, Dunfermline had more instances of pupil engagement with the council's Culture of Enterprise (CoE) activities than any other committee area followed by South & West Fife.

In 2022/23 there was a significant fall in pupil registrations for virtual CoE programmes due to decreased teacher capacity. The number of instances of pupil engagement was however still higher than in 2020/21 (22,148).

The CoE initiative delivered a **Food, Drink, Hospitality and Tourism Takeover Event** in January 2023 in partnership with Fife College, Developing the Young Workforce Fife, the Royal Highland Education Trust, Springboard, Food from Fife and local businesses. The event, attended by one hundred S2 pupils, was designed to encourage more young people to consider a career within the tourism and hospitality sectors.

There were 92 downloads of the CoE '**Race to Zero**' game (entrepreneurial and net zero skills video game); ten pupils from Bell Baxter High School completed a **heat pump construction project** which included a site visit to the University of St Andrews Guardbridge facility; and eight Fife schools won awards at the **Social Enterprise Academy Schools Awards**.

Source: Fife Council – Economic Development.

Note: \* Instances of pupil engagement = the number of pupils participating multiplied by the number of weeks they were involved in the programme (discounting school holidays).



## Earnings

Resident earnings represent the average earnings of people who live in the area, but do not necessarily work in the area. Workplace earnings are the average earnings of those who work in the area, but do not necessarily live there.

The Dunfermline & West Fife parliamentary constituency has both the highest resident and highest workplace earnings. This is the only part of Fife where average resident earnings are higher than Scottish average earnings (Figure 20).

The Glenrothes constituency has the lowest average resident earnings in Fife, and North East Fife the lowest average workplace earnings. North East Fife's workplace earnings are £96.80 lower than its resident earnings.

The proportion of employee jobs with hourly pay below the real living wage fell between 2021 and 2023 to its lowest level – 11.7% – although this rate is still higher than the Scottish rate (10.1%) (Figure 21).

Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings.

Notes: Estimates below the Fife level should be viewed with caution due to small sample sizes. As the data is based on PAYE it does not include the self-employed. Median weekly earnings = the median gross weekly pay for full-time workers. The estimates in Figure 21 for Fife's Parliamentary Constituency Areas are considered to be 'acceptable' rather than precise; those shown as N/A are considered unreliable for practical purposes.

**Figure 20: Median Weekly Earnings, April 2023: UK Parliamentary Constituency Areas, Fife & Scotland**



**Figure 21: Percentage of employee jobs with hourly pay below Living Wage Foundation Rates**

Area/Parliamentary Constituency	Apr-19	Apr-20	Apr-21	Apr-22	Apr-23
Dunfermline & West Fife	21.6%	12.1%	19.9%	N/A	N/A
Glenrothes	15.9%	14.2%	15.2%	13.4%	N/A
Kirkcaldy & Cowdenbeath	18.6%	14.5%	13.2%	N/A	15.2%
North East Fife	20.1%	21.4%	18.9%	N/A	17.3%
Fife	18.9%	14.9%	16.8%	12.5%	11.7%
Scotland	16.8%	15.1%	14.5%	9.4%	10.1%

## Fife's Business Base & Key Sectors

### Number and Size of Businesses

**Figure 22: Number of Enterprises 2023: Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Areas (SPCAs), Fife & Scotland**

	Cowdenbeath SPCA	Dunfermline SPCA	Kirkcaldy SPCA	Mid Fife & Glenrothes SPCA	North East Fife SPCA	Fife	Scotland
Number of Enterprises March 2023	1,505	1,865	1,630	1,570	2,415	8,980	171,350
Percentage of Fife Total	16.8%	20.8%	18.2%	17.5%	26.9%	-	-
Change 2020-2023	-425	-155	-275	-60	+5	-920	-6,345
Percentage Change 2020-2023	-22.0%	-7.7%	-14.4%	-3.7%	+0.2%	-9.3%	-3.6%

#### Change in Number of Businesses 2020-2023:

Between March 2020 and March 2023, the number of enterprises in Fife fell by 920 businesses or -9.3%. This followed a period of sustained growth between 2015 and 2020. The number of businesses fell in all parts of Fife between 2020 and 2021; between 2021 and 2022, Mid Fife & Glenrothes and NE Fife both saw business numbers increase while the other SPCAs saw numbers continue to fall; between 2022 and 2023, the North East Fife SPCA was the only part of Fife to see numbers increase.

Cowdenbeath SPCA saw the largest fall between 2020 and 2023 (425 businesses or -22.0%); North East Fife saw business numbers increase overall (5 more businesses or +0.2%).

The highest decrease in numbers (-945 businesses) was within the micro (0-9 employees) size band. Mid Fife & Glenrothes and North East Fife both saw a fall in the number of medium-sized businesses (Figure 23 below).

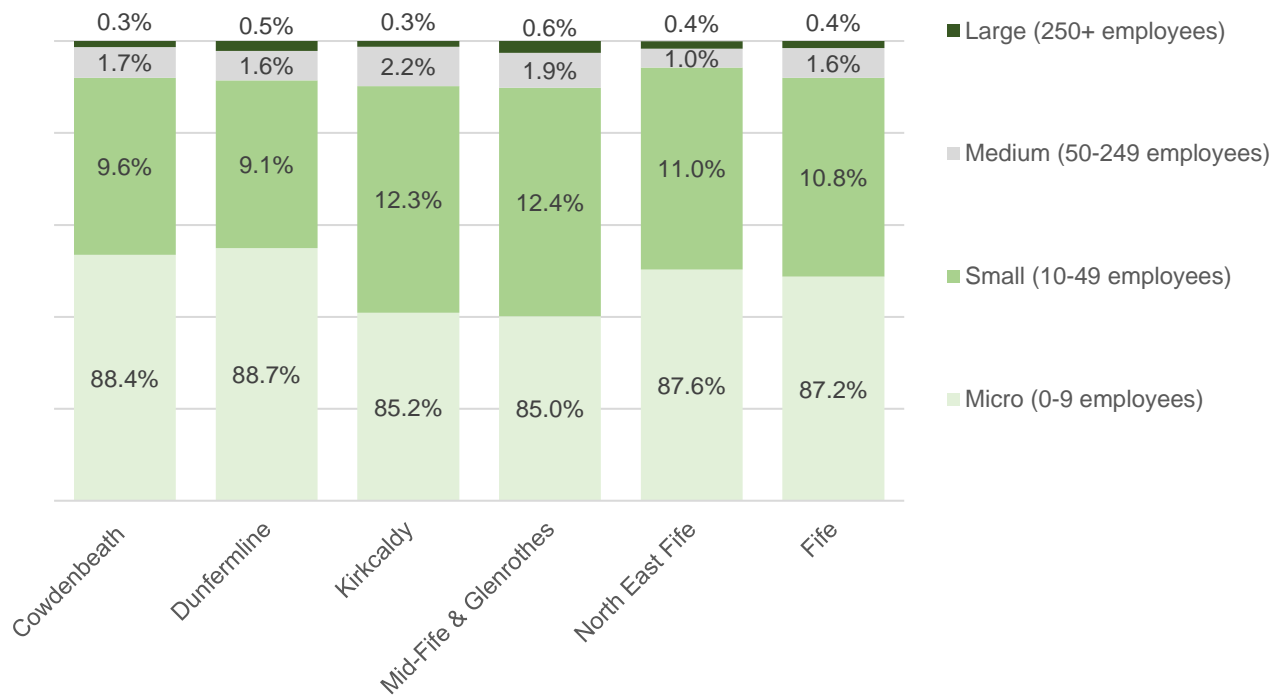
Source: ONS UK Business Counts, 2023.

Note: The number of enterprises registered for VAT and/or PAYE that were live on 10 March 2023. Does not therefore include unregistered enterprises (sole traders and partnerships) who are not VAT and/or PAYE registered. As all numbers are rounded to the nearest zero or 5, all zeros are not necessarily true zeros, numbers below 10 should be viewed with caution and the Fife totals may not equal the sum of the five Fife SPCA figures.

**Figure 23: Change in the number of enterprises by Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area (SPCA) and Size 2020-2023**

	Cowdenbeath SPCA		Dunfermline SPCA		Kirkcaldy SPCA		Mid Fife & Glenrothes SPCA		North East Fife SPCA		Fife	
	2023	Change 2020-23	2023	Change 2020-23	2023	Change 2020-23	2023	Change 2020-23	2023	Change 2020-23	2023	Change 2020-23
Micro (0 to 9 employees)	1,330	-430	1,655	-170	1,385	-275	1,335	-65	2,115	0	7,825	-945
Small (10 to 49 employees)	145	+5	170	+10	200	-10	195	+10	265	+15	970	+20
Medium (50 to 249 employees)	25	0	30	0	35	+5	30	-5	25	-5	145	-5
Large (250+ employees)	5	0	10	+5	5	0	10	0	10	0	35	0

**Figure 24: Proportion of businesses by size - 2023**



**Businesses by Size:**

Kirkcaldy and the Mid-Fife and Glenrothes Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Areas have the highest proportions of small, medium, and large businesses (Figure 24).

Dunfermline SPCA has the highest proportion of micro businesses (88.7%) followed by Cowdenbeath (88.4%) and North East Fife (87.6%).

Source: UK Business Counts, 2023.

Note: The number of VAT and/or PAYE registered enterprises that were live on 10 March 2023. Does not therefore include unregistered enterprises (sole traders and partnerships) who are not VAT and/or PAYE registered. As all numbers are rounded to the nearest zero or 5, all zeros are not necessarily true zeros, numbers below 10 should be viewed with caution and the Fife totals may not equal the sum of the five Fife SPCA figures.

## Business Densities

In 2023, Fife had a business stock rate, or business density, of 289 registered businesses per 10,000 resident adults (aged 16+) compared with 375 businesses per 10,000 adults in Scotland as a whole (Figure 25)

The North East Fife Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area (SPCA) is the only part of Fife with an overall business density above the Fife rate. It has a much higher density of micro and small businesses than the rest of Fife.

The Dunfermline SPCA has the second highest density of micro businesses and Mid-Fife and Glenrothes has the second highest density of small businesses in Fife.

Cowdenbeath and Kirkcaldy SPCAs have the lowest business densities in Fife. Both areas would need a 50% increase in the number of registered businesses (746 and 791 additional businesses respectively) to reach the Scottish business density. The Cowdenbeath SPCA has the lowest rate of micro and small businesses in Fife

Source: ONS Business Counts 2023 and National Records for Scotland Mid-2021 Population Estimates.

Note: These figures do not include unregistered enterprises (sole traders and partnerships who are not VAT and/or PAYE registered).

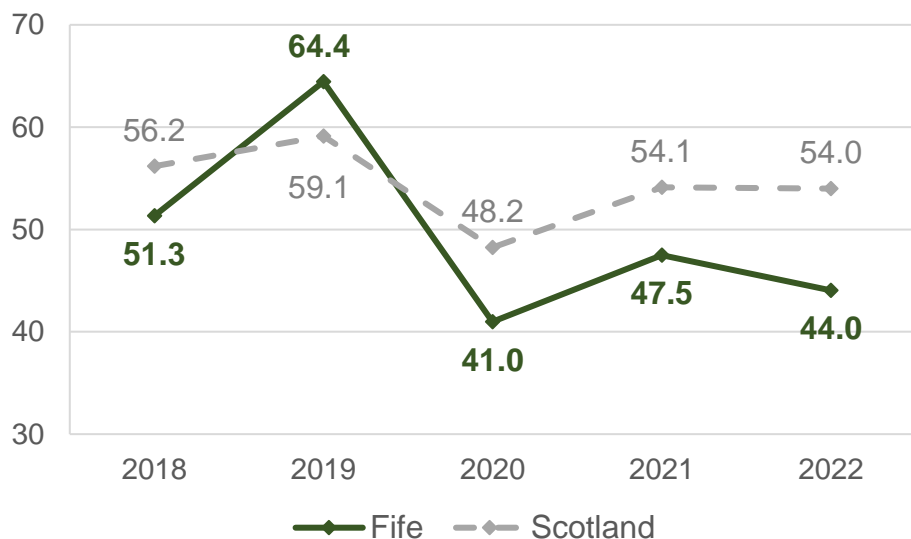
**Figure 25: Number of registered businesses per 10,000 resident adults by enterprise size**

Area	Micro (0-9 employees)	Small (10-49 employees)	Medium (50-249 employees)	Large (150+ employees)	All sizes
Cowdenbeath SPCA	222	24	4	1	<b>251</b>
Dunfermline SPCA	256	26	5	2	<b>288</b>
Kirkcaldy SPCA	215	31	5	1	<b>253</b>
Mid-Fife & Glenrothes SPCA	233	34	5	2	<b>274</b>
NE Fife SPCA	328	41	4	2	<b>374</b>
Fife	252	31	5	1	<b>289</b>
Scotland	328	40	6	2	<b>375</b>



## Business Births

**Figure 26: Business start-ups per 10,000 working age adults (16-64 years) 2018-2022**



In 2022, both the number of new business start-ups and the business start-up rate in Fife fell after increasing the previous year.

A total of 1,020 new businesses started up in 2022, 80 or 7.3% less than in 2021.

In Scotland as a whole, the number of business births fell by only 0.2%.

The gap between Fife's start-up rate and that for Scotland as a whole increased in 2022 after narrowing the previous year (Figure 26).

Source: ONS Business Demography, UK (2022).

Note: These figures do not include unregistered enterprises (sole traders and partnerships who are not VAT and/or PAYE registered). They should be viewed with caution as they include registered holding companies and duplicate bank accounts.

## Business Survival Rates

**Figure 27: Survival of New Start Businesses 2022**

	Percentage of businesses surviving 1 year (born 2021)	Percentage of businesses surviving 2 years (born 2020)	Percentage of businesses surviving 3 years (born 2019)
Fife	92.7%	71.6%	44.8%
Scotland	93.8%	74.2%	57.4%

For each of the first three years after starting up, Fife's business survival rates were below the Scottish rates.

In 2022, the 3-year survival rate of businesses in Fife (44.8%) was lower than in 2021 (55.5%) and 2020 (58.7%). Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, Fife's 3-year business survival rates were higher than the national rates.

Source: ONS Business Demography, UK (2022).

Note: These figures do not include unregistered enterprises (sole traders and partnerships who are not VAT and/or PAYE registered).

## Distribution of Employment

**Figure 28: Number of Jobs in Fife 2019-2022**

	Cowdenbeath Area	City of Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife*
September 2019	8,000	29,000	25,000	22,000	10,000	23,000	17,000	<b>138,000</b>
September 2020	8,000	27,000	25,000	23,000	9,000	22,000	16,000	<b>133,000</b>
September 2021	9,000	31,000	24,000	24,000	10,000	24,000	16,000	<b>143,000</b>
September 2022	9,000	31,000	22,000	25,000	10,000	24,000	16,000	<b>140,000</b>
% change 2019-2022	+12.5%	+6.9%	-12.0%	+13.6%	0.0%	+4.3%	-5.9%	<b>+1.4%</b>

### Change in Number of Jobs:

The number of jobs in Fife fell in 2022, although employment in Fife in September 2022 was still higher than before the pandemic in 2019.

Between 2021 and 2022, the Kirkcaldy Area was the only part of Fife to see an increase in job numbers and the Glenrothes Area was the only part where employment fell. The Kirkcaldy Area saw the largest proportionate increase in employment between 2019 and 2022 followed by the Cowdenbeath Area; over the same period, the Glenrothes Area and South and West Fife both saw job numbers fall. (Figure 28).

### Employment by Sector:

North East Fife has the largest share of Fife's jobs in Education, Accommodation & Food Services and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (37.5%, 36.4% and 37.5% of Fife's jobs in these sectors respectively) (Figure 29 below).

45% of all employment in Public Administration & Defence Activities in Fife is located in the Glenrothes Area along with 31% of Fife's Manufacturing jobs.

56% of Fife's jobs in Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing\* are located in Levenmouth.

75% of all employment in Financial & Insurance activities in Fife is located in Dunfermline, along with 62.5% of Fife's jobs in the Information & Communication sector.

Over a third (35%) of people in Fife working in the Human Health & Social Work Activities sector are employed in the Kirkcaldy Area.

Source: ONS Business Register & Employment Survey 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Note: \* The Fife totals include farm agriculture while the committee area figures exclude farm agriculture. Employment estimates include employees plus the number of working owners who receive a share of the profits but are not paid via PAYE. They do not however include those who are self-employed operating below the VAT threshold with no employees. The level of rounding applied varies by estimate, so zeros may not be true zeros and the data may not add up to the totals shown.

**Figure 29: Employment by Sector, Fife 2022**

Sector	Cowdenbeath Area	Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife
A : Agriculture, forestry and fishing*	15	10	50	35	400	125	75	<b>710</b>
B : Mining and quarrying	0	0	10	20	0	75	30	<b>125</b>
C : Manufacturing	1,000	1,500	4,000	1,250	1,750	1,250	2,500	<b>13,000</b>
D : Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning	20	0	200	0	10	50	150	<b>400</b>
E : Water supply; sewerage, waste mgmt	50	75	150	75	40	50	175	<b>600</b>
F : Construction	1,000	1,250	900	1,750	450	1,250	1,000	<b>8,000</b>
G : Wholesale and retail trade; vehicle repair	1,500	4,000	3,000	4,500	1,000	4,000	2,500	<b>21,000</b>
H : Transportation and storage	600	3,500	500	300	800	400	800	<b>7,000</b>
I : Accommodation and food service activities	400	2,000	1,250	1,500	700	4,000	900	<b>11,000</b>
J : Information and communication	50	2,500	125	400	20	200	700	<b>4,000</b>
K : Financial and insurance activities	15	2,250	150	225	40	100	250	<b>3,000</b>
L : Real estate activities	100	250	350	150	50	350	75	<b>1,250</b>
M : Professional, scientific and technical acts	225	2,000	600	1,000	400	1,000	1,500	<b>6,000</b>
N : Administrative and support service acts	400	1,750	800	1,500	350	1,000	1,000	<b>7,000</b>
O : Public admin, defence, social security	600	1,500	4,500	2,250	175	450	1,000	<b>10,000</b>
P : Education	1,250	2,500	1,500	2,000	900	5,000	1,000	<b>14,000</b>
Q : Human health and social work activities	1,250	4,500	3,000	7,000	1,750	2,250	900	<b>20,000</b>
R : Arts, entertainment and recreation	300	700	350	600	305	1,500	350	<b>4,000</b>
S : Other service activities	250	800	800	500	150	900	300	<b>3,500</b>
<b>Total Employment*</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>31,000</b>	<b>22,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>136,000</b>

Source: ONS Business Register & Employment Survey 2022.

Note: \* excludes farm agriculture. Employment estimates include employees plus the number of working owners who receive a share of the profits but are not paid via PAYE. They do not however include those who are self-employed operating below the VAT threshold with no employees. The level of rounding applied varies by estimate, so zeros may not be true zeros and the data may not add up to the totals shown.

## Support Given to Businesses in Fife

**Figure 30: Financial Support Given to Businesses in Fife 2022/23**

	Cowdenbeath Area	Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife
No. of businesses supported	9	11	14	20	9	18	7	<b>88</b>
Value of financial support	£14,430	£27,473	£24,730	£44,855	£24,600	£59,972	£16,704	<b>£212,764</b>
Jobs created as a result of financial support	20	6	32	29	22	16.5	7	<b>132.5</b>

Source: Fife Council Economic Development.

Note: includes support given to businesses by the Fife Investment Fund and Young Persons' Start-Up Grant (Fife Council funded) and the SME Competitiveness Fund (European Regional Development Fund funded)

**Figure 31: Number of Business Start-Ups supported by Business Gateway Fife (BGF) 2022/23**

	Cowdenbeath Area	Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife
No. of businesses receiving Expert Help	13	22	25	22	4	38	11	<b>135</b>
No. of businesses accessing business growth services	99	160	212	215	82	328	152	<b>1,248</b>
No. of Business Gateway-supported start-ups	51	70	59	116	47	85	68	<b>503*</b>
No. of jobs created from BGF start-up support	119	83	77	147	57	117	95	<b>702**</b>
Turnover generated	£2,591,500	£2,187,500	£1,830,500	£3,331,500	£1,320,000	£3,135,500	£2,631,000	<b>£17,147,500**</b>

Source: Business Gateway Fife.

Note: \* total includes 139 businesses with an invalid or non-Fife postcode; \*\* 7 start-up clients provided a postcode outwith Fife. This can happen when the client lives outwith Fife but intends to start a business in Fife. These 7 starts were projected to create 7 jobs and generate £120,000 in turnover. These figures are included in the Fife totals.

## Support to Businesses:

During 2022-23 Business Gateway Fife and Fife Council Economic Development provided advice, signposting and support to **over 500 start-up businesses** in Fife, the third highest number across all Scottish local authority areas. This support is estimated to have helped create 702 jobs and a projected turnover of £17.1m. Year to date figures indicate that Business Gateway Fife is on track to support 600 start-up businesses in 2023/24. Over 2,900 new and existing businesses in Fife received advisory support from Business Gateway Fife.

The Economic Development Team delivered a **Net Zero Transition Fund** using £1.23m from the Scottish Government's Local Authority COVID Economic Recovery (LACER) fund to provide non-repayable grants of up to £3,000 to 413 Fife SMEs to introduce measures to improve their energy efficiency.

Support for businesses to achieve their Net Zero ambitions in 2023/24 is being provided through a **SME Development Grants Scheme** funded by the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The SME Development Grant also provides support for workforce upskilling, attending trade shows, R&D/innovation and agriculture business diversification. To date 111 applications worth £256k have been approved.

During 2022/23, the **Trade Development Programme** supported 33 businesses to attend and exhibit at 11 trade shows and 45 businesses were supported at 5 International Trade Pathway Webinars. The events were part of a programme of workshops and training designed to support Fife businesses to access new markets being delivered by Fife Council in partnership with Business Gateway Fife, Fife Chamber of Commerce and Scottish Development International.

In 2022/23, the **Supplier Development Programme** helped 281 Fife businesses improve their tendering skills. 1,023 Fife companies are now registered with the programme (16 more than the previous year) which offers expert training, support and information to help businesses win public sector contracts.

In April, 39 Fife businesses attended a Meet-the-Contractor event to learn about supply chain opportunities arising from the **Halbeath Learning Campus and Westfield Energy Plant** and 126 businesses attended a **Meet-the-Buyer event in November**.

Over 30 events took place during the 13<sup>th</sup> **Fife Business Week** in November 2022 attracting 700 registrations from businesses.

2022/23 was the final year of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funded **Business Competitiveness Programme** which between April 2016 and March 2023 brought in £1.5m of funding used to support Fife's businesses.

Delivery of business support services funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) started in 2022/23 with the launch of a **Fit for Defence training and upskilling programme**. 14 businesses attended the programme's initial information session and launch workshop. The aim of the programme, which is being delivered in 2023/24, is to improve opportunities for Fife businesses wishing to work in the defence sector or to increase the market share of companies already working within the sector.

In addition to the SME Development Grants mentioned above, UKSPF funding has to date delivered consultancy support worth £58k to 35 businesses under **Business Gateway Fife's Specialist Business Advice programme** and 69 **start-up grants** worth £33k. This activity will increase in 2023/24 as UKSPF fully replaces EU funding.

Fife's **Food and Drink Strategy - Food4Fife 2023-30 - and Action Plan**, which aims to promote, educate and encourage the production of quality food and drink produce from Fife, were finalised.



## Remediation of Vacant & Derelict Land

**Figure 32: Extent of Vacant & Derelict Land in Fife 2023**

Area Committee	Proportion of Fife's total Vacant & Derelict Land	Total Amount of Vacant & Derelict Land (ha)	Change in amount of Vacant & Derelict Land 2022-23 (ha)
Cowdenbeath	4.0%	28.5	+2.1
Dunfermline	1.3%	9.2	-2.2
Glenrothes	21.9%	156.2	-0.4
Kirkcaldy	5.8%	41.2	-0.9
Levenmouth	10.2%	73.1	+5.6
North East Fife	8.3%	59.5	-1.0
South and West Fife	48.5%	345.7	-9.0
<b>Total Fife</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>713.3</b>	<b>-3.9</b>

Source: Fife Council Vacant & Derelict Land Audit 2023

In 2023, there were 203 vacant & derelict land sites across Fife amounting to 713 hectares (Figure 32). Since 2022, 13 sites representing 15.6 hectares of land have been brought back into use (although this decrease in hectareage is also due to revised measurements of site boundaries).

Derelict land has a broader impact than vacant land both in terms of total area (604.6 ha) and in the number of individual sites (154).

South & West Fife contains the largest proportion of vacant & derelict land (49% of Fife's total) and the Dunfermline Area the lowest (1.3%); eight sites each covering more than 20 hectares are located in South & West Fife.

Since 2015/16, Fife Council has been one of five local authorities to receive funding from the Scottish Government's Vacant & Derelict Land Fund; in 2022/23, Fife was awarded £1.451 million from the fund.

Figure 33 below details a selection of current, proposed and completed projects supported by the Vacant & Derelict Land Fund.

**Figure 33: Projects in Fife supported by the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund (VDLF)**

Area Committee	Project
Cowdenbeath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground stabilisation in support of Industrial estate regeneration at The Avenue, Lochgelly to support and unlock Fife i3 investment*.</li> <li>• Demolitions, ground remediation and stabilisation in advance of proposed mixed-use affordable housing and commercial developments in town centre sites in Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly (in partnership with Kingdom Housing and Ore Valley Housing Associations) to support and unlock Fife i3 investment*.</li> </ul>
Glenrothes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial estate regeneration at Queensway Industrial Estate, Glenrothes with Phase 1 now complete and all new units let. Further VDLF investment now in place to support a further phase of works at units on Flemington Road which will be complemented by Fife i3 investment*.</li> </ul>
Kirkcaldy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed acquisition and remediation of a former Waste Transfer Site in Kirkcaldy.</li> <li>• Works on entry to the Ravenscraig Walled Garden area to support the future re-use of listed buildings and complement other investment in the adjacent site which is now leased to Rural Skills Scotland.</li> </ul>
Levenmouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the former Flax Mill at Silverburn Country Park, Levenmouth, wind and watertight in advance of redevelopment works.</li> <li>• Site remediation and preparation works for the oil and gas decommissioning facility at Energy Park Fife now being operated by Cesscon Decom Ltd.</li> <li>• Industrial estate regeneration at Levenmouth Business Park Muiredge and Mountfleurie.</li> <li>• Ground investigations and remediation projects in support of the SEPA-led 'Leven Programme' one of which won a national (UK-wide) Brownfield Award for Best Preparatory Work in October 2022.</li> <li>• The proposed acquisition and stabilisation of ground at Chemiss Road /School Road in Methilhill in support of community-led nature-based learning provision for local young people.</li> </ul>
North East Fife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground remediation/preparation works to the east of the Eden Campus in Guardbridge for the installation of a solar photovoltaic array which was officially opened in May 2022.</li> <li>• Demolitions, ground investigations and preparation in advance of a mixed-use affordable housing and commercial development at the Bonnygate/Inner Court in Cupar in partnership with Kingdom Housing Association.</li> <li>• Ground de-contamination and preparation work at the site of the former Abertay Steelworks in Tayport. Ownership of the site was taken over by the local Community Trust and now hosts a new-build Community Hub, called the Larick Centre.</li> </ul>
South and West Fife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial estate regeneration at Hillend in Dalgety Bay to support Fife i3 investment*.</li> <li>• Proposed acquisition and ground remediation/preparation of a site in Rosyth in support of a partnership project involving the Polish Consulate in Edinburgh, Babcock International and others to commemorate the loss of a Polish Navy submarine, ORP Orzel, which was lost on patrol while operating out of Rosyth in World War II.</li> </ul>

**Figure 33: Projects in Fife supported by the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund (VDLF) (continued)**

Area Committee	Project
All Fife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for the implementation of the Climate Fife Plan and its associated Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SECAP) including part-funding an ongoing Community Renewables Feasibility Study led by the Fife Community Climate Action Network focussed on a range of vacant and derelict sites which could host solar photovoltaic arrays on sites across Fife. Funding is also supporting feasibility work, in collaboration with the Coal Authority and British Geological Survey, to assess potential locations for use of mine water geothermal heat schemes in Fife.</li> </ul>

Source: Fife Council

Note: \* Investment from the Fife Industrial Innovation Investment (i3) Programme funded by the Edinburgh & South-East Scotland City Region Deal – see Figure 34 and the section below.

## Strategic Investment

**Figure 34: Edinburgh & South East Scotland City Region Deal Fife Industrial Innovation Investment (i3) Programme Investment Status**

Area Committee	Tranche 1 Sites	Status at November 2023	Tranche 2 (2022-25) Sites	Expected Completion
Cowdenbeath	The Avenue, Lochgelly (site servicing)	Conditional Legal Agreement in place for disposal.	New Business Accommodation, Town Centre, Cowdenbeath	2026/27
Dunfermline	Fife Interchange North, Dunfermline (site servicing)	Conditional Legal Agreement in place for disposal.	Fife Interchange North, Dunfermline (new units) - construction ongoing	2025/26
Glenrothes	Queensway Industrial Estate, Glenrothes (new units)	Completed: 5 out of 7 new business units let.	Refurbished/New Units, Flemington Road, Queensway Industrial Estate	2024/25
Kirkcaldy	Dunnikier Business Park, Kirkcaldy (new units)	Completed: All new business units fully let.	John Smith Business Park (new units)	2026/27
Levenmouth	Levenmouth Business Park (Phase 1) (new units)	Due for completion 31/12/23.	Levenmouth Business Park (Phase 2) (new units)	2024/25

**Figure 34: Fife Industrial Innovation Investment (i3) Programme Investment Status (continued)**

Area Committee	Tranche 1 Sites	Status at November 2023	Tranche 2 (2022-25) Sites	Expected Completion
South & West Fife	Hillend and Donibristle Industrial Estates, Dalgety Bay	Completed: All new business units fully let.	Hillend and Donibristle Industrial Estates: Conditional Legal Agreement in place for disposal at Ridgeway	2024/25

### Strategic Investment:

The **Fife Industrial Innovation Investment Programme (Fi3P)** is a £50 million ten-year programme delivered by Fife Council with grant funding from the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal. The programme is delivering new industrial, office and business space and serviced employment sites within existing business clusters in Mid and South Fife adjacent to growth corridors (M90 and A92) (Figure 34). The Fi3P started in April 2019; Tranche 1 (Years 1-3) was completed in March 2022. Tranche 2 is underway and will complete in March 2025. There is a third tranche of activity for this investment programme from 2025-2029; these projects are not included as they are subject to approval of the Full Business Case in 2024/25.

The **University of St Andrews' Eden Campus** in Guardbridge has completed the current phase of investment being funded as part of the **Tay Cities Region Deal**. Design work for an Enterprise Hub at the Campus is underway; this is scheduled for completion in 2025/26.

In January 2023, the UK and Scottish Governments announced that the **Firth of Forth would host one of Scotland's first Green Freeports**. The successful bid by a public-private consortium led by the Forth Ports Group and including Fife, Falkirk and Edinburgh City Councils includes the creation of an internationally-renowned port and shipbuilding, manufacturing and logistics cluster at Rosyth.

The **Arrol Gibb Innovation Campus** was officially launched in April 2022. A collaboration between Babcock International, the Universities of Edinburgh and Strathclyde, Fife College, Fife Council, Scottish Enterprise and Skills Development Scotland, the Campus at Babcock International's Rosyth facility will see the development of leading expertise in five core capabilities on one site. The first facility to open for business in the Campus was the new £4.6m Fastblade testing facility for tidal turbine blades developed by Babcock International and the University of Edinburgh as part of the Edinburgh and SE Scotland City Region Deal which was officially opened in May 2022.

The **Levenmouth Reconnected Programme** has approved £2.3m of funding for the following projects in the area: Levenmouth Business Park (£714k), Silverburn Park Flax Mill (£500k), the Community Trade Hub's Positive Futures Project (£200k), Kennoway Pump Track (£44k), the CLEAR Buckhaven and Methil's Green Network Enhancement Initiative (£180k) and Mountfleurie Business Park Site Servicing (£683k). This investment supports £10.3 million match-funding and the Mountfleurie Business Park is expected to lever £4-£5 million private sector investment.

Fife Council, the Fife Partnership and the UK Government have agreed **Fife's UK Shared Prosperity Investment Plan** for the grant allocation of £13.4m to be invested by March 2025. There are 4 investment priorities: Communities & Place, Supporting Local Businesses, People & Skills and Multiply. Delivery started in Quarter 4 2022/23. The priority is to sustain activities previously funded through EU funding that deliver the 2017-27 Plan For Fife's ambitions.

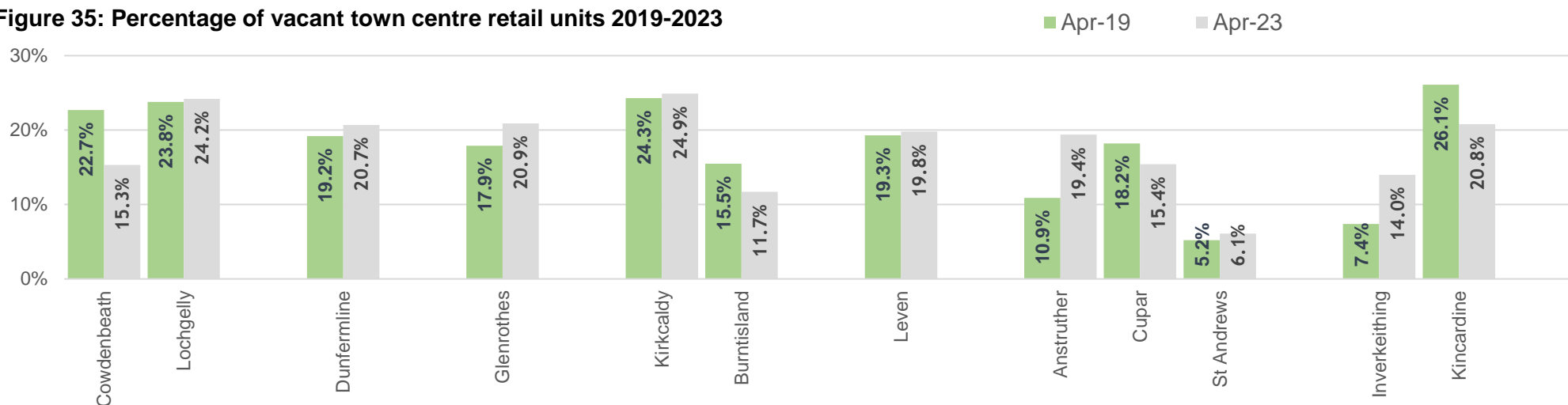
### **Strategic Investment (continued):**

The **River Leven Regeneration Programme** (Riverside Park, Glenrothes and Leven Connectivity Projects) was awarded £19.4m of Levelling Up grant for the regeneration of Riverside Park in Glenrothes (£4.98m) and Phase 1 of improvements to Connectivity in Levenmouth (River Park Routes and On road active travel network) (£14.43m). Design work is underway with construction expected to start in Quarter 4 2023/4 and complete by Quarter 4 2024/5.



## Town Centres

**Figure 35: Percentage of vacant town centre retail units 2019-2023**



**Figure 36: Town Centre Vacancy rates April 2023**

Area Committee	Town Centre	% of Vacant Units	% of Vacant Floor Space
Cowdenbeath Area	Cowdenbeath	15.3%	12.4%
	Lochgelly	24.2%	23.1%
Dunfermline Area	Dunfermline	20.7%	29.2%
Glenrothes Area	Glenrothes	20.9%	24.3%
Kirkcaldy Area	Kirkcaldy	24.9%	28.5%
	Burntisland	11.7%	12.0%
Levenmouth	Leven	19.8%	21.0%
North East Fife	Anstruther	19.4%	26.8%
	Cupar	15.4%	18.1%
	St Andrews	6.1%	4.6%
South & West Fife Area	Inverkeithing	14.0%	13.8%
	Kincardine	20.8%	41.2%

St Andrews, Burntisland, Cowdenbeath and Inverkeithing have the lowest vacancy rates of Fife's main town centres (Figure 36).

The highest vacancy rates are found in Kirkcaldy, Dunfermline and Kincardine.

Whilst most town centres saw the proportion of vacant retail units rise between 2019 and 2023 (Figure 35), Cowdenbeath, Burntisland, Cupar and Kincardine all saw vacancy rates fall.

Source: Experian GOAD Data (Fife Council).

**Figure 37: Grants awarded to businesses through the Town Centre Building Improvement Grant Scheme 2022/23**

	Cowdenbeath Area	Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife
Number of grants awarded	2	5	2	9	4	4	3	29
Value of grants awarded	£17,744	£45,027	£16,824	£77,473	£36,285	£32,792	£26,030	£252,175
Total value of grant funding claimed (as of 30 Sept 2023)	£0	£14,012	£12,279	£40,582	£22,709	£32,792	£10,000	£132,373

Source: Fife Council Business & Employability Service.

### Town Centre Activity:

- Fife’s £2.75m allocation for 2022/23 from the Scottish Government’s **Place-Based Investment Programme** supported the following projects:
  - phase 1 works to make St Margaret’s House in Dunfermline wind and watertight (also supported by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund)
  - a Leven place-making project between the new railway station and existing bus station
  - phase 2 of the refurbishment of 9 Esplanade in Kirkcaldy by the Kings Theatre Trust (completed autumn 2023)
  - a multigenerational community training facility being developed at Rosyth by the Pars Foundation on behalf of Dunfermline Athletic Football Club
  - upgrading 9 business units at Lochgelly Business Park
  - 29 small businesses in town and local centres across Fife were awarded a grant to make upgrades to their property through the Building Improvement Grant scheme (which was also supported by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund) (Figure 37).
- 53 small businesses received grants of up to £5,000 from the **Town Centre Digital Improvements and Energy Efficiency Scheme 2022-23**. Funded by the Scottish Government’s LACER Fund, the scheme also funded energy efficiency audits for 46 properties.
- **Dunfermline** was awarded city status in May 2022 and the new Maygate Exchange in the city was opened in October 2022 with all five office units let.
- The refurbishment of Inverkeithing Town House, part of the **Inverkeithing** built heritage programme, reached practical completion in December 2023.
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic Environment Scotland approved funding for the one-year Development Phase of the **Buckhaven** Area Heritage Regeneration Scheme, due to complete in October 2024.Scotl
- Phase 2 of **Kirkcaldy’s** Waterfront Improvements was completed in autumn 2023. A business case for the demolition of Kirkcaldy’s multi-storey car parks is being produced; funding for the site’s demolition and restoration has still to be secured.
- A package of support measures was provided to businesses in **Leven** High Street following several building fires and temporary disruptions to business caused by roadworks related to the H100 and the Levenmouth Rail Link Projects.
- The **Scotland Loves Local Gift Card** is being rebranded to **Fife Loves Local** with a focus on Levenmouth and Dunfermline.

# Tourism

**Figure 38: Volume and Value of Tourism, Jan-Dec 2022**

STEAM* Indicators	St Andrews	Dunfermline Area	Kirkcaldy and Mid Fife	NE Fife (exc. St Andrews)	Fife
<b>Visitor numbers</b>	<b>700,560</b>	<b>797,010</b>	<b>685,260</b>	<b>522,890</b>	<b>2.71m</b>
% change in visitor numbers 2021-2022	+85.7%	+50.9%	+46.6%	+39.8%	<b>+54.9%</b>
% change in visitor numbers 2019-2022	+2.9%	-2.3%	-6.8%	-7.2%	<b>-3.2%</b>
<b>Economic impact (direct, indirect &amp; induced)</b>	<b>£146m</b>	<b>£110m</b>	<b>£96m</b>	<b>£98m</b>	<b>£450m</b>
% change in economic impact 2021-2022**	+72.3%	+51.4%	+33.9%	+39.1%	<b>+50.2%</b>
% change in economic impact 2019-2022**	+21.3%	+9.3%	-2.1%	+20.0%	<b>+12.3%</b>
<b>Number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs supported by tourist expenditure</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>5,541</b>
% change in number of FTE jobs 2021-2022	+38.0%	+34.5%	+24.9%	+15.7%	<b>+27.6%</b>
% change in number of FTE jobs 2019-2022	+5.7%	-2.5%	-7.1%	+7.5%	<b>+1.0%</b>

Source: Fife STEAM Reports for 2011-2022 - FINAL, Global Tourism Solutions (UK) Ltd.

Notes:

\*STEAM is a tourism economic modelling tool owned by Global Tourism Solutions (GTS) UK Ltd and is used by most Tourism Destination areas in the UK.

\*\* Indexed to 2022

The areas relate to Fife's Local Tourist Associations (LTAs) as follows: St Andrews=St Andrews LTA; NE Fife=Cupar & North Fife and East Neuk LTAs; Kirkcaldy & Mid Fife=Levenmouth and Heartlands of Fife LTAs; Dunfermline Area=Dunfermline & West Fife LTA.

Figures are not available at a lower level than these four areas.

### Volume and Value of Tourism (Figure 38 above):

- In 2022, Fife received **2.7 million visitors** – 97% of the number of visitors in 2019, the year before the pandemic and restrictions on travel.
- Between 2020 and 2022, the economic impact of tourism increased by **189% to £450 million**, a higher value than prior to the pandemic (£400.9m in 2019) (in 2022 prices).
- St Andrews saw the greatest rate of recovery in 2022, the year it hosted the 150<sup>th</sup> Open (see below).

### Fife Tourism Activity:

- The **Fife Tourism Strategy** was refreshed during 2022/23 and a new 2023-30 Fife Tourism Strategy was approved by Fife Council's Cabinet Committee in September 2023.
- **Welcome to Fife destination marketing campaigns** included social media partnerships with The Herald and The Scotsman, a series of films for Year of Stories and extensive social media campaigns delivered in partnership with VisitScotland. Its biggest ever marketing campaign was launched in October 2023; The Kingdom – Where it Begins included partnerships with Expedia, Tripadvisor, Coast and National Geographic Magazines and Scotrail as well as extensive social media and influencer activity.
- In 2023, Welcome to Fife had a strong focus on developing the **travel trade market**, giving training and support to businesses to help them develop their online bookable product offerings and extend their market reach.
- **WorldHost customer service training** was delivered to over 50 people working in Fife tourism businesses in 2022/23.
- In 2022, £41,570 was awarded to event organisers through the **Fife Strategic Events Fund** which supports events that attract at least 30% of their attendees from outwith Fife.
- Research commissioned to **identify growth opportunities for tourism in Fife** provided a series of recommendations for promoting and developing tourism in Fife.
- The **Fife 191 trail** was launched with active travel options.
- The **150th Open** in July 2022, which attracted a record 290,000 fans to St Andrews, brought in £106m and generated over £300m in economic benefit for Scotland – the greatest economic impact in the history of the Championship - according to an independent study commissioned by The R&A, VisitScotland and Fife Council. The study estimated that Fife received £61m of new money from the event.
- A tourism action plan was developed for **Levenmouth** linked to the opening of the new rail link in 2024 and a Tourism Project Co-ordinator (funded by Levenmouth Area Committee) was appointed.
- The **Forth Bridges Trail** was launched in November 2022.
- A promotional campaign for **Kirkcaldy** was delivered for the Adam Smith tercentenary celebrations.
- Following a strategic tourism evaluation of **Dunfermline**, a multi-partner 5-year tourism action plan was developed for Scotland's newest city.

<b>Profile prepared by:</b>	<b>Economy, Tourism &amp; Town Centres Team</b>	<b>Fife Council Business &amp; Employability Service</b>
<b>Contacts:</b>	Peter Corbett, Lead Officer (Economy) Email: <a href="mailto:Peter.Corbett@fife.gov.uk">Peter.Corbett@fife.gov.uk</a>	Alison Laughlin, Economy Advisor Email: <a href="mailto:Alison.Laughlin@fife.gov.uk">Alison.Laughlin@fife.gov.uk</a>

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14 February 2024  
Agenda Item No. 9

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## Health & Social Care Locality Planning – South and West Fife

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**Report by:** Audrey Valente, Chief Finance Officer (Senior Leadership Team Lead for South & West Fife H&SC Locality Planning Group)

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**Wards Affected:** Wards 1,5 & 6

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this progress report is to provide the Area Committee with an overview of the Health & Social Care Partnership (H&SCP) Locality Planning Outcomes for South and West Fife during 2023.

### Recommendation

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Members are asked to agree that the Health and Social Care Partnership will provide an Annual Report to the committee with updates on locality planning and joint areas of interest between H&SCP and community planning partners.

### Resource Implications

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There are no specific Resource Implications

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no legal or risk implications arising from this report.

### Impact Assessment

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An equality (EqIA) Impact Assessment is not required as this is a progress report on the performance of Locality Planning in 2023.

### Consultation

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Quarterly H&SCP Locality Meetings have been facilitated throughout 2023. The wider stakeholder event took place in November which informs priorities for 2024.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The locality priorities and action plan will deliver on the range of local and national outcomes set in legislation, policy and strategies. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the Act) puts in place the legislative framework to integrate health and social care services in Scotland. Section 29(3)9a) of the Act requires integration authorities to work within localities and, in Fife, we have established seven locality groups which are aligned to the Fife Council local area committees.
- 1.1.2 Integration is about ensuring those who access health and social care services get the right care and support, whatever their needs, at the right time and in the right place with a locality focus on community based preventive care. This report highlights areas of work to improve the support for people living in Fife.
- 1.1.3 Localities seek to deliver positive health and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Fife. The overarching goals of localities are to:
- promote healthy lifestyle choices and self-management of long-term conditions
  - support people to live healthy well independent lives while living in their own home for as long as possible
  - reducing the number of avoidable emergency admissions to hospital and minimise the time people are delayed in hospital
  - efficiently and effectively manage resources available to deliver Best Value
  - support staff to continuously improve information and support and care that they deliver
  - support unpaid carers to reduce the impact of their caring role on their own health and wellbeing.
- 1.1.4 The South & West Fife Wider Stakeholder Event held in November 2022 identified the key priorities for each locality for 2023. Key priorities were then developed into a Locality Action Plan.
- 1.1.5 The South & West Fife Locality Action Plan is aligned with the HSCP Strategic Plan 2023-2026, Plan4Fife and NHS Fife Population Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 1.1.6 The South & West Fife Locality Action Plan has identified outcomes, to ensure meaningful improvement is demonstrated and delivered timeously.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 Following the stakeholder event in 2022, the South & West Fife Locality Group agreed to focus on the priorities below to take forward in 2023:-
- Mental Health & Wellbeing
  - Supporting unpaid carers
  - Community Led Support

## **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

- 2.2 A Short life working group (SLWG) was established to support locality and community planning partners to format a community engagement consultation. It was identified that Blairhall Village would be the first area of focus. This consultation started in November 2023 and closed at the end of January 2024. The residents were asked what they would like to see in their community. The outcome of this consultation will be reported back to the locality and people leadership group once complete. The consultation is asking the community one question – “what would you like to see happen in Blairhall to improve the community you live in?” The Responses will inform next steps to improve the Blairhall community. Ways to improve Mental Health and Wellbeing areas of work will continue to be a priority for the locality planning group in 2024.

## **Supporting Unpaid Carers**

- 2.3 A new fund has been set up by Fife Health and Social Care Partnership for the benefit of unpaid carers. The Community Chest Fund (CCF) for Fife Carers was launched in June 2023 with each of Fife’s seven locality areas allocated £50,000. In Fife there are over 47,000 unpaid carers who look after friends or family affected by illness, disability, mental health or addiction. Community Chest Fund for Fife Carers will fund projects set up by local groups or charities to create supportive places for these unpaid carers, develop their sense of belonging and improve their wellbeing. The funding is available to any community group or charity based in Fife who can apply for £1,000 up to £10,000 per project, for up to two years.
- 2.4 The aim of this priority is for the increased opportunity for carers to improve their knowledge and understanding of preventative care and positive choices for their own health and wellbeing. The first round of the community chest closed on 31 July 2023. One application was received for South and West Fife which was successful. Four applications were received that were Fife wide that will benefit South and West Fife. The second-round funding closed on 15 January 2024 and this priority will continue in 2024. For further details please click the Community Chest SWAY link.  
<https://sway.office.com/38c2FxHkWsFmCyak?ref=Link>.

## **Community Led Support**

- 2.5 The Locality planning group identified an opportunity to work collaboratively with the Community Learning & Development (CLD) team. Subsequently, an application was submitted to the S&WF Welfare Reform/Anti-Poverty Group requesting funding for a Link Worker (The Well) to work in partnership with services supporting the S&WF community hubs. The application was successful and a dedicated South & West Fife Well Link Worker was appointed in mid-December 2023. The aim of this post is to increase the number of HSCP Wells/footfall by working in partnership with the CLD Team.
- 2.6 The Link Worker will support the already established one stop shop / Community assistance hubs available at the venues below:
- Inverkeithing Civic Centre
  - Parkgate (Rosyth)
  - High Valleyfield Centre
  - Oakley Centre
- 2.7 During 2023, The Well engaged with 1903 individuals and completed 496 follow up conversations. 8% (148) of engagement was from the South and West Fife locality. The funded link worker post will provide the opportunity to increase footfall and share learning between services. Below are the top three enquiries for The Well in SWF in 2023:

- **Community Support** – for example, supporting carers, bereavement support and help with finding a community group to support loneliness and isolation.
- **Mental Health** – for example, supporting and listening to clients, signposting them to the correct services for help and support.
- **Financial Support** - for example, workers supported people to complete a benefit check form ensuring they are receiving what they are entitled too.

2.8 The locality group agreed a key outcome for 2023 was to promote and increase referrals by 10% to Link Life Fife (LLF) a community led support service (non-clinical) provided by Fife Health and Social Care Partnership. This service is for anyone aged 18 and over in Fife who is reaching out to their GP or other health professional within Primary Care for support to manage stress, anxiety or feelings of being overwhelmed that are affecting their mental health or general wellbeing.

January to December 2023:

- **S&WF total referrals for 2023:** 111 (did not achieve the 10% increase, 116 referrals received in 2022)
- **Engagement rate:** of the 111 referrals 69% of people engaged with the service.
- **The top 3 concerns reported in S&WF are:** emotional health, social isolation and loneliness and trauma.
- **The main areas of community support that Link Workers have signposted/referred people to are:** Fife Access Therapies (Home - Access Therapies Fife NHS (scot.nhs.uk), social and community groups/activities, and 1:1 peer support.

2.9 Community Led Support will continue to be a priority for the locality planning group in 2024.

2.10 This year's Locality Wider stakeholder events took a different approach to the previous year. Lightning talks were presented on current areas of work and locality groups shared what was happening in other areas. The slide below represents the wide range of partners who attended the South & West Locality event at Inverkeithing Civic Centre on 13 November 2023.



- 2.11 At the event, attendees were asked to discuss and analyse case studies to identify potential themes for 2024.
- 2.12 The feedback from the South & West Fife event was then collated and analysed by the Locality Development Officer. The findings will be presented at the locality planning meeting in March 2024.
- 2.13 The proposed themes identified for discussion are:
- Accessing Services
  - Communication
  - Training/Upskilling Staff
  - Early Intervention

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 The South & West Fife Locality Action Plan for 2023 illustrates the successful outcomes achieved as detailed in section 2. The 2024 Delivery Plan will incorporate Phase 2 of actions carried over from 2023 and the new identified priorities from the November 2023 Stakeholder Event.
- 3.2 The Locality Delivery Plan 2024 for South & West Fife Locality will be reviewed/agreed by the Locality Core Group members at the meeting on 6 March 2024.
- 3.3 The South & West Fife Locality Planning Group has gone from strength to strength in 2023, critical to the success has been the collaborative/systems working together approach. Going forward in 2024, the group members will continue to play a powerful role by applying the insights, experience and resources to enable local networks, develop robust, productive professional relationships and improve outcomes for people living in the locality.

### Report Contact

Jacquie Stringer  
Service Manager (Locality/Community Led Support)  
Email: [Jacquie.Stringer-fc@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Jacquie.Stringer-fc@fife.gov.uk)



14 February 2024  
Agenda Item No. 10

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## South and West Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme

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**Report by:** Eileen Rowand, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services)

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**Wards Affected:** All

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### Purpose

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This report supports the committee's consideration of the work programme for future meetings of the committee.

### Recommendation(s)

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

### Resource Implications

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

### Legal & Risk Implications

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

### Impact Assessment

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None required for this paper.

### Consultation

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

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 Each Area Committee operates a work programme 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 Work Programme 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

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- 2.1 The current Work Programme is included as Appendix 1 and should be reviewed by the committee to help inform scrutiny activity.

### List of Appendices

1. South and West Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme

### Report Contact

Helena Couperwhite  
Committee Services Manager  
Telephone: 03451 55555 Ext. No. 441096  
Email - [helena.couperwhite@fife.gov.uk](mailto:helena.couperwhite@fife.gov.uk)

### South and West Fife Area Committee

<b>17th April, 2024</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
School Attainment and Achievement Report	Education and Children's Services	Sarah Else	<b>Annual report – last update 26th April, 2023</b>
South and West Fife New High School - Update	Education and Children's Services / Property Services	Shelagh McLean / Alan Paul	As agreed at 13th December, 2023 meeting - progress report to be submitted early 2024.
Criminal Justice Social Work Service – Community Payback Unpaid Work Scheme	Children and Families	Joan Gallo	<b>Annual report – last update 1st March, 2023</b>
Roads and Transportation - Patching Performance Update - South and West Fife Area	Roads and Transportation Service	Vicki Connor	
South and West Fife Area Local Community and CLD Plan	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Alastair Mutch / Stephen Adamson / Mandy MacEwan	<b>Annual report</b>
Area Capital Update Report 2023/24	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	<b>Annual report – last update 1st March, 2023</b>
Community Recovery Fund Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Alastair Mutch / Stephen Adamson	

<b>12th June, 2024</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Radiation Monitoring at Dalgety Bay	SEPA / MoD	Paul Dale/Nina Patton / Dick Harker	<b>Six monthly update – last update 1st November, 2023</b>
Safer Communities Team Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Michael Collins	<b>Annual report – last update 21st June, 2023</b>

**South and West Fife Area Committee**

<b>12th June, 2024</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Operational Briefing on Policing Activities within South and West Fife Area	Police Scotland	Chief Inspector / Kathryn Fairfield / Inspector Cheryl Young	<b>Annual report – last update 21st June, 2023</b>
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Annual Performance Report 2022/23	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	Station Commander Craig Robertson	<b>Annual report – last update 21st June, 2023</b>
Area Housing Update	Housing Service	Claire MacKinlay	<b>Six monthly update – last update 1st November, 2023</b>
OnFife Update Report	Fife Cultural Trust	Michelle Sweeney	<b>Six monthly update – last update 21st June 2023 (plus six monthly Members’ Briefing)</b>
Forward West Fife Evaluation	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Alastair Mutch / Stephen Adamson	

<b>4th September, 2024</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Planning – South West Fife	Health and Social Care	Audrey Valente / Jacque Stringer	<b>Six monthly update – last update 14th February, 2024</b>
Area Roads Programme 2023-24 – Final Report	Roads and Transportation	Paul Hocking	<b>Annual report – last update 6th September, 2023</b>
Complaints Update	Customer Services Improvement	David Thomson	<b>Annual report – last update 6th September, 2023</b>
Welfare Support and Anti-Poverty Annual Report 2023-24	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Stephen Adamson	<b>Annual report - last update 6th September, 2023</b>

South and West Fife Area Committee

30th October, 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Annual Report on Outcomes of Care Inspectorate Inspection and Grading Process	Health and Social Care	Alan Adamson / Fiona McKay	Annual report – last update 1st November, 2023
Summer Provision Activities	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Mandy MacEwan	Annual report – last update 1st November, 2023
South and West Fife Area Local Community Plan and CLD Plan	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Alastair Mutch / Stephen Adamson / Mandy MacEwan	Six monthly update

11th December, 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Radiation Monitoring at Dalgety Bay	SEPA / MoD	Paul Dale/Nina Patton / Dick Harker	Six monthly update – last update 12th June, 2024
Area Housing Update	Housing Service	Claire MacKinlay	Six monthly update – last update 12th June, 2024
Common Good and Settlement Trust Funds Annual Report 2023-2024	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual report - last update 13th December, 2023
<i>OnFife Update Report (Six monthly members' briefing)</i>	<i>Fife Cultural Trust</i>	<i>Michelle Sweeney</i>	<i>Annual update – last update 21st June 2023 (plus six monthly Members' Briefing)</i>

5th February, 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Local Area Economic Profile	Business and Employability	Peter Corbett	Annual report – last update 14th February, 2024



## South and West Fife Area Committee

<b>5th February, 2025</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Grounds Maintenance Service / Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service Annual Review	Environment and Building Services	John Rodigan / Scott Clelland	<b>Annual report – last update 14th February, 2024</b>
Criminal Justice Social Work Service – Community Payback Unpaid Work Scheme	Children and Families	Joan Gallo	<b>Annual report – last update 14th February, 2024</b>
Area Roads Programme 2025-26	Roads and Transportation Services	Vicki Connor	<b>Annual Report - last update 14th February, 2024</b>

<b>30th April, 2025</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
School Attainment and Achievement Report	Education and Children's Services	Sarah Else	<b>Annual report – last update 17th April, 2024</b>
Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Planning – South West Fife	Health and Social Care	Audrey Valente / Jacquie Stringer	<b>Six monthly update – last update 4th September, 2024</b>
Area Capital Update Report 2024/25	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	<b>Annual report – last update 17th April, 2024</b>
South and West Fife Area Local Community and CLD Plan	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Alastair Mutch / Stephen Adamson / Mandy MacEwan	<b>Annual report - last update 17th April, 2024</b>

<b>11th June, 2025</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Radiation Monitoring at Dalgety Bay	SEPA / MoD	Paul Dale/Nina Patton / Dick Harker	<b>Six monthly update – last update 11th December, 2024</b>

## South and West Fife Area Committee

11th June, 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Safer Communities Team Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Michael Collins	<b>Annual report – last update 12th June, 2024</b>
Operational Briefing on Policing Activities within South and West Fife Area	Police Scotland	Chief Inspector Kathryn Fairfield / Inspector Cheryl Young	<b>Annual report – last update 12th June, 2024</b>
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Annual Performance Report 2023/24	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	Station Commander Craig Robertson	<b>Annual report – last update 12th June, 2024</b>
OnFife Update Report	Fife Cultural Trust	Michelle Sweeney	<b>Annual update – last update 12th June, 2024 (plus six monthly Members' Briefing)</b>

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Housing Service – Allocations Process Update	Housing Services	TBC	To be invited to a meeting of the Committee to provide an update on the allocations process undertaken in relation to new builds as agreed at 1st March, 2023 meeting
Water Environment Fund (WEF) Project Update	SEPA	TBC	As agreed at 23rd November, 2022 Committee (para. 30 of 2022.SWFAC.16 refers)
Trauma Informed Practice		TBC	Report request from Councillor Neale at 10th August, 2022 Committee
Bike Park Strategy	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Kevin O'Kane	Report request from Councillor Goodall at 10th August, 2022 Committee
Additional Nursery Hours Update	Education and Children's Services	Shelagh McLean	As agreed at 4th March, 2020 meeting
Report of the Pupilwise and Parentwise Surveys	Education and Children's Services	Deborah Davidson	Annual report – Last update 14th August, 2019 (no survey in 2020). Survey to be undertaken end of 2021. Report to come back in 2022
Area Lettings Plan	Housing Service	Claire MacKinlay	

<b>Unallocated</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Community Recovery Fund Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Alastair Mutch	Six monthly update – <b>September 2024</b>
<i>Children’s Services Report</i>	<i>Education and Children’s Services</i>	<i>Deborah Davidson</i>	<i>Deborah will advise on new date for submission</i>
<i>Early Learning and Childcare</i>	<i>Education and Children’s Services</i>	<i>Jacqueline Price</i>	<i>Jacqueline will advise on new date for submission.</i>
<i>WORKSHOP – Educational Outcomes</i>	<i>Education and Children's Services</i>	<i>Shelagh McLean</i>	<i>Date to be confirmed</i>
<i>WORKSHOP – Pupil Equity Fund (PEF)</i>	<i>Education and Children's Services</i>	<i>Zoe Thomson</i>	<i>Date to be confirmed</i>