

Cabinet Committee

Council Chamber, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes /
Blended Meeting



Thursday, 2 April 2026 - 10.00 am

AGENDA

Page Nos.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
 2. **CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP TO THE FIFE SPORTS AND LEISURE TRUST**
- To note that Councillor Zoe Hisbent has replaced Councillor Stefan Hoggan on the Fife Sports and Leisure Trust.
 3. **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.
 4. **MINUTE** – Minute of meeting of the Cabinet Committee of 5 March 2026. 3 - 10
 5. **ANNUAL UPLIFT IN PAYMENTS TO THIRD PARTY PROVIDERS AND SOCIAL CARE CHARGES FOR 2026-27** – Report by the Director of Health and Social Care. 11 - 17
 6. **REVIEW OF PAYMENT TO FOSTER CARERS AND SUPPORTED LODGINGS CARERS** – Report by the Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice Services. 18 - 24
 7. **HARMONISATION OF STAIR CLEANING CHARGE (LEVENMOUTH AREA)** – Report by the Head of Housing Services. 25 - 30
 8. **FIFE DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME 16** – Report by the Head of Planning Services. 31 - 57
 9. **OPPORTUNITIES FIFE PARTNERSHIP EMPLOYABILITY PATHWAY PROVISION 2026/27** – Report by the Executive Director (Place). 58 - 72
 10. **CABINET COMMITTEE - OUTSTANDING REMITS FROM COMMITTEES** 73 - 75
- The Committee is asked to resolve, under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.
11. **DISPOSAL BY SALE - 7-11 STRATHORE ROAD, THORNTON** – Joint report by the Head of Property Services and the Head of Education. 76 - 79

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

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Finance and Corporate Services
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26 March 2026

If telephoning, please ask for:

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BLENDED MEETING NOTICE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE FIFE COUNCIL - CABINET COMMITTEE - BLENDED MEETING

Council Chamber, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes

5 March 2026

10.00 am - 12.55 pm

PRESENT: Councillors David Ross (Convener), Tom Adams (substituting for Councillor Mary Lockhart), David Alexander, Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw (substituting for Councillor Brian Goodall), David Barratt, John Beare, Patrick Browne (substituting for Councillor Judy Hamilton), James Calder, Rod Cavanagh, Altany Craik, Linda Erskine, Derek Glen, Peter Gulline, Cara Hilton, Gary Holt, Kathleen Leslie, Rosemary Liewald, Carol Lindsay, Donald Lothian (substituting for Councillor Allan Knox), Sarah Bruce Neal, Jonny Tepp (substituting for Councillor Fiona Corps) and Jan Wincott.

ATTENDING: Ken Gourlay, Chief Executive; Eileen Rowand, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Service), Elaine Muir, Head of Finance, Lindsay Thomson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services and Jacqui Cameron, Service Manager, Human Resources, Finance and Corporate Services Directorate; Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service, Laura Lowrie, Service Manager, Children and Families Service and John Mills, Head of Housing Services, Communities Directorate; Kevin Treadwell, Service Manager, Planning Service, Place Directorate.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Fiona Corps, Brian Goodall, Judy Hamilton, Allan Knox and Mary Lockhart.

479. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Linda Erskine and David Ross made transparency statements at para. 489 - Wellbeing and Safeguarding - Brodies Report –as they had been interviewed by Brodies LLP and were also mentioned in the report. However, having applied the objective test, they remained and participated in the meeting.

Councillor Sarah Bruce Neal joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

480. MINUTES

- (i) Minute of the Cabinet Committee of 5 February 2026.

Decision

The committee approved the minute.

- (ii) Minute of Appeals Sub-Committee of 19 February 2026.

Decision

The minute was noted.

481. REVENUE MONITORING 2025-26

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) providing a strategic overview of Fife Council's finances and reporting on the current forecast position for financial year 2025-26.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted that the forecast financial position for the council had improved over the year and this allowed further scope for one-off investment for 2026/27;
- (2) noted that detailed monitoring reports would be submitted to the relevant Scrutiny Committees;
- (3) requested that Scrutiny Committees ensured appropriate level of support and challenge in relation to financial reports; and
- (4) approved an additional commitment against balances of up to £1.500m to underwrite transition funding for the new Local Growth Fund.

482. CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN - PROJECTED OUTTURN 2025-26

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) providing a strategic financial overview of the Capital Investment Plan and advising on the projected outturn for the 2025-26 financial year.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the projected outturn position and that the level of financial risk continued to be heightened due to the impact of inflation and supply chain challenges;
- (2) instructed Services to plan projects within the approved resource within the Capital Investment Plan;
- (3) noted that more detailed capital outturn reports for 2025-26 would be submitted to relevant Scrutiny Committees of the council;
- (4) noted that budget variances would be managed by the appropriate Directorate in conjunction with the Investment Strategy Group; and
- (5) noted the updated prudential indicators provided.

483. SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service presenting details of grants, for approval, to voluntary organisations for the period 2026-2029 for the Directorates of Communities, Education and Place.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) approved recurring grant funding to voluntary organisations for the period 2026-2029 from core council budgets as detailed in Appendices 1, 2, 3 and 7;
- (2) approved recurring grants to voluntary organisations from other external funding detailed in Appendices 4, 5 and 6;
- (3) noted that a 3.5% uplift for voluntary sector organisations had been included in the council's revenue budget and included in eligible awards;
- (4) noted that Fife Council's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework would continue to be followed for the duration of these awards;
- (5) agreed that a report would be submitted to Cabinet Committee within six months' time providing further clarification and timescales in relation to the areas detailed in Appendix 8; and
- (6) agreed that the Elected Member Working Group would be comprised of one member from each of the political groups appointed on the Cabinet Committee.

484. REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP WORKING

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking approval to work with Cities' Deals to develop regional partnership propositions in response to the Scottish Government's intention to introduce enabling legislation for formal Regional Partnerships.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) supported participation in developing the regional economic partnership's propositions with both Tay Cities and Edinburgh and Southeast Scotland Cities' Regions, ensuring Fife's unique needs and priorities shaped the regional models;
- (2) agreed that any future Regional Partnerships recognised Fife Council's local sovereignty, provided fair representation and decision-making influence; and
- (3) agreed to engagement with communities, businesses and community planning partners in Fife to align local ambitions with developing Regional Partnerships.

485. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER APPLICATION BY DYSART COLLIERY SILVER BAND

The committee considered a joint report by the Head of Property Services and the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking approval for a Community Asset Transfer request received from Dysart Colliery Silver Band under Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to purchase Glebe Park.

Decision

The committee endorsed Kirkcaldy Area Committee's decision at its meeting on 17 February 2026 to approve the Community Asset Transfer application by Dysart Colliery Silver Band and approved the application at less than market value at the nominal price of £1 and all otherwise on terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Head of Property Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

486. PRIDE IN PLACE

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service providing an update on the announcement from the UK Government regarding the allocation of Pride in Place Programme (PIPP) funding to Methil and Buckhaven and the West Fife Villages. The paper sought approval for the appointment of Neighbour Board Chairs and the formation of Neighbourhood Boards in each area overseeing and directing investment from the £20 million PIPP Fund for each area, ensuring effective and transparent delivery of projects.

Motion

Councillor David Ross, seconded by Councillor Linda Erskine, moved the recommendations as detailed in the report.

Amendment

Councillor David Barratt, seconded by Councillor John Beare, moved that the appointment of two elected members from the relevant wards to the Neighbourhood Boards be approved at the appropriate Area Committee.

Roll Call Vote

For the Motion - 13 votes

Councillors Tom Adams, Patrick Browne, James Calder, Altany Craik, Linda Erskine, Peter Gulline, Cara Hilton, Gary Holt, Kathleen Leslie, Donald Lothian, David Ross, Jonny Tepp and Jan Wincott.

For the Amendment - 9 votes

Councillors David Alexander, David Barratt, Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw, John Beare, Sarah Bruce Neal, Rod Cavanagh, Derek Glen, Rosemary Liewald and Carol Lindsay.

Having received a majority of votes, the motion was accordingly carried.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the allocation from the UK Government's Pride in Place Programme of £20 million for Methil and Buckhaven and £20 million for the West Fife Villages over ten years;

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- (2) delegated to the Chief Executive to make such necessary arrangements, via engagement with the Council Leader, the relevant Area Chair and the relevant local MP, to secure the appointment of independent Chairs for the Neighbourhood Boards for Methil and Buckhaven and for the West Fife Villages;
- (3) delegated to the Chief Executive to make such necessary arrangements, via engagement with the Council Leader, the relevant Area Chair, the relevant local MP and the relevant independent Chair, for the recruitment of membership for the two Neighbourhood Boards including two elected members from the relevant wards for each Board;
- (4) noted that the council would support the Neighbourhood Boards to prepare Pride in Place Plans for submission to the UK Government by 30 November 2026; and
- (5) noted that the council would provide support to the Neighbourhood Boards and that the council was designated as the Accountable Body for the administration of the Pride in Place Programme funds.

487. **PLANNING OBLIGATIONS FRAMEWORK UPDATE**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Planning Services providing a summary update to the Planning Obligations Framework following a review of the document in light of appeal decisions, adoption of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and the recently published Planning Circular 4/2025. The report summarised key changes from the 2017 Planning Obligations Framework, highlighted associated risks, particularly around ensuring developer contributions met the full cost of required mitigation, and set out implications for future investment planning.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) noted the updated position on the Planning Obligations Framework (2026) relative to the 2017 baseline;
- (2) noted the risks identified in relation to securing full and timely cost recovery for required mitigation;
- (3) noted the implications arising from Planning Circular 4/2025, including changes to the role of Local Development Plans and Delivery Programmes in establishing infrastructure requirements and contribution methodologies; and
- (4) supported ongoing cross service work to monitor cost pressures, development phasing and cumulative impacts to minimise financial exposure for the council.

The meeting adjourned at 11.30 am and reconvened at 11.45 am.

488. PROPOSED WORLD CUP BANK HOLIDAY - 15 JUNE 2026

The committee considered a report by the Head of Human Resources providing a summary of the issues relating to the proposed additional bank holiday on Monday, 15 June 2026 and presenting options for consideration.

Motion

Councillor Altany Craik, seconded by Councillor Tom Adams, moved the recommendations as detailed in the report.

Amendment

Councillor John Beare, seconded by Councillor David Alexander, moved that Option 2 be agreed to grant an additional day of annual leave (to be taken on 15 June 2026 where possible).

Roll Call Vote

For the Motion - 12 votes

Councillors Tom Adams, Patrick Browne, James Calder, Altany Craik, Linda Erskine, Peter Gulline, Cara Hilton, Gary Holt, Donald Lothian, David Ross, Jonny Tepp and Jan Wincott.

For the Amendment - 9 votes

Councillors David Alexander, David Barratt, Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw, John Beare, Sarah Bruce Neal, Rod Cavanagh, Derek Glen, Rosemary Liewald and Carol Lindsay.

Abstention - 1 vote

Councillor Kathleen Leslie

Having received a majority of votes, the motion was accordingly carried.

Decision

The committee agreed to Option 3 detailed in the report to not grant an additional bank holiday on Monday, 15 June 2026 due to the current budgetary position for the council and the general public mood around council employees benefitting while many other employees would not.

489. WELLBEING AND SAFEGUARDING - BRODIES REPORT

The committee considered a report by the Chief Executive presenting Brodies LLP Independent Report which was commissioned by the Cabinet Committee in December 2025.

Motion

Councillor Altany Craik, seconded by Councillor Jan Wincott, moved the recommendations as detailed in the report.

Amendment

Councillor John Beare, seconded by Councillor Carol Lindsay, moved as follows:-

“Replace recommendation (2) with:

“Refer the report to the Standards, Audit and Risk Committee and the Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee, as each are charged with Standards (Member and Officer Protocols in relation to the Standards, Audit and Risk Committee) and HR responsibilities (in relation to the Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee) for a considered view, before the formal response noted in (3) below returns to Cabinet”.

Roll Call Vote

For the Motion - 13 votes

Councillors Tom Adams, Patrick Browne, James Calder, Altany Craik, Linda Erskine, Peter Gulline, Cara Hilton, Gary Holt, Kathleen Leslie, Donald Lothian, David Ross, Jonny Tepp and Jan Wincott.

For the Amendment - 9 votes

Councillors David Alexander, David Barratt, Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw, John Beare, Sarah Bruce Neal, Rod Cavanagh, Derek Glen, Rosemary Liewald and Carol Lindsay.

Having received a majority of votes, the motion was accordingly carried.

Decision

The committee:-

- (1) considered and noted the content and recommendations detailed in the report;
- (2) noted that, in particular, the report concluded that:-
 - (a) the issue raised regarding former Councillor David Graham in 2017 was "handled proportionately and resolved appropriately through informal steps";
 - (b) that the council had "strong foundations and a positive culture" with regard to responding to concerns that were raised; and
 - (c) "policies were generally consistent with good practice"; and
- (3) asked officers to prepare a formal response to the recommendations set out in the Brodies Report, to be considered at a future meeting of the Cabinet Committee.

490. CABINET COMMITTEE - OUTSTANDING REMITS FROM COMMITTEES

The committee noted the list of outstanding remits from committees.

The committee resolved, under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, to exclude the public and press from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

**491. AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME - BORELAND ROAD, DYSART
(PRIVATE REPORT)**

The committee considered a joint report by the Head of Housing Services and the Head of Property Services seeking authority to conclude legally binding agreements for the delivery of 56 new build social rent homes at the site known as Boreland Road, Dysart as part of the implementation of the Phase IV Affordable Housing Programme.

Decision

The committee authorised the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to enter into contract for the development of 56 new build social rent homes at the site at Boreland Road, Dysart.

VALEDICTORY COMMENT

The Convener, on behalf of the committee, expressed appreciation to Eileen Rowand, Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services) for her long service with the Council and offered the committee's best wishes for her upcoming retirement.

Annual Uplift in Payments to Third Party Providers and Social Care Charges for 2026-27

Report by: Lynne Garvey, Director of Health and Social Care

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with information on the proposed uplift in payments to third party providers and charges of Social Care Services for financial year 2026-27.

Recommendations

It is recommended that members:-

Note – the charges set at a national level as follows:

- a) note the proposed increase in the Free Personal and Nursing Care Allowance at para. 2.1;
- b) note the proposed increase in hourly rates paid at para. 2.3 for service users in receipt of a direct payments, or for shared lives carers, to comply with the increase in living wage rate for 2026-27.

Approve – the charges set at Local Authority level as follows

- c) approve the increase in rent charges for service users residing within staffed group homes or core and cluster services; and
- d) approve the revised charges for Social Care Services for 2026-27 (Appendix 1).

Resource Implications

National Level

The hourly rate for Direct Payments used to employ a personal assistant in line with the Scottish Living Wage will increase from £12.60 to £13.45 from 1 April 2026.

The hourly rate for Shared Lives Carers will increase in line with Scottish Living Wage, increasing from £12.60 to £13.45 from 1 April 2026.

Increasing the rates paid to meet the living wage requirement have been provided for in the 2026-27 revenue budget and will be covered with the service budget allocations within the Health & Social Care Partnership.

Local Level

The additional income from the proposed 2026-27 increase in charging will be circa. £0.800m.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no risks noted.

Impact Assessment

There is no requirement for an impact assessment in respect of this report as no change or revision to existing policies and practices is proposed.

Consultation

There is no requirement for consultation in respect of this report.

1.0 Background

- 1.1. The Health and Social Care Partnership provide and purchase a range of social care services from local, national, private and voluntary sector care providers to meet assessed need of service users in Fife Council.
- 1.2. The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with information on the proposed payments to these providers for 2026-27 and approve the charges that will be applied for social care services.
- 1.3. Whilst charges are made for direct services such as meals on wheels, community alarm and respite care, these are a contribution towards the cost of the service. It should be noted that Fife Council's current policy position is that for non-personal care services which are provided by the Partnership, such as housing support, service users in receipt of these services are not charged.
- 1.4. With reference to the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Prescribed Local Authority Functions, etc) (Scotland) Regulation 2014, Regulation 3 makes amendment to remove certain enactments from the schedule of the Act. The effect of these amendments is that the functions conferred by enactments removed from the schedule, which relates to the setting of charges for social care services, will not be able to be delegated by a local authority as part of the joint working arrangements prepared under the Act.

2.0 Issues and Options

2.1 Free Personal and Nursing Care Allowance

- 2.1.1 Personal Care or Personal and Nursing Care is free for people entering care. Service users who are not eligible for full funding because of the level of capital held are entitled to receive a weekly Personal Care or Personal and Nursing Care allowance.
- 2.1.2 The Scottish Government has agreed with local authorities that the weekly allowance made by local authorities towards the Personal and Nursing Care of people in Residential or Nursing Care Homes will increase in 2026-27 (Table 1):

Table 1	Personal & Nursing Care	Personal Care	Nursing Care
2026-27 *	£377.40	£260.30	£117.10
2025-26	£369.15	£254.60	£114.55

* subject to Parliamentary approval

2.2 Fife Council Residential Care Home Fee

- 2.2.1 As required by legislation, the standard weekly charge for Fife Council Residential Care homes for older people requires to be set to recover the full cost to the Council.
- 2.2.2 For 2026-27, the weekly charge will be £1,367 per week, an increase of 5%, £65 per week over the 2025-26 rate. The standard charge, net of Free Personal Care, will be £1106.70 per week (£1,367.00 minus £260.30 per week).

2.3 Other Third Party Payments

- 2.3.1 In recognition that Direct Payments made to service users to purchase their own care are largely used to employ personal assistants, to increase the hourly rate paid to personal carers in line with the rise in the Scottish Living Wage.
- 2.3.2 The hourly rate for Direct Payments used to employ a personal assistant in line with the Scottish Living Wage will rise from £12.60 to £13.45 from 1 April 2026.
- 2.3.3 Shared Lives Carers provides family-based care in the homes of carers across Fife to adults, offering short and longer term delivered in the local community by the local community.
- 2.3.4 In recognition of the Shared Lives Carers support to service users, the hourly rate paid to the carers should be in line with the Scottish Living Wage. The hourly rate for Shared Lives Carers will increase in line with Scottish Living Wage, increasing from £12.60 to £13.45 from 1 April 2026.

2.4 Group Homes and Core and Clusters

- 2.4.1 Service users residing and receiving care and support in the community within a group home or core and cluster service are required to pay rental charge for their tenancy.
- 2.4.2 Rental charges are calculated on an annual basis. In April 2023, rental charges were aligned and the same rental charge applied to all service users regardless of the care provider who provides the care and support, whether services being provided by the Partnership's Adults Resources Service, or from an Independent Sector Commissioned care provider.
- 2.4.3 Table 2 below notes the current rental charge and the proposed rental charge for 2026-27. The uplift of 5.5% to the rental charge mirrors the increase applied by Fife Council's Housing Service for rental charges for tenants.
- 2.4.4 For most service users, weekly rental charges are met through their Housing Benefit entitlement or Universal Credit housing element. While rental charges will increase, there is no financial impact for the majority of service users as these costs continue to be covered through their Housing Benefit or Universal Credit housing element.
- 2.4.5 A small number of individuals (less than five) are required to pay the full weekly rental charge themselves as their capital and assets exceed the threshold for benefit eligibility. For those who are not currently entitled to the applicable benefits, once their capital and assets fall to a level that meets the upper threshold for eligibility, the Partnership will ensure they receive appropriate support to apply for their correct benefit entitlement, including Housing Benefit or the housing costs element of Universal Credit. Any future changes in entitlement for Housing Benefit entitlement or Universal Credit housing element will be monitored by the HSCP and any implications will be fully considered.

Table 2	Rental Charge 2025-26	Rental Charge 2026-27
Adult Resources Group Home	£1,026.88	£1,083.36
Adult Resource Core & Cluster	£588.79	£621.17
Independent Sector Group Home	£1,026.88	£1,083.36
Independent Sector Core & Cluster	£588.79	£621.17

- 2.4.6 The Service Charge for service users residing with an Adult Resources Group Home or Core & Cluster will increase by 5%. The weekly service charge will increase from £27.78 per week to £29.17 per week from 6 April 2026.
- 2.4.7 The Service Charge was previously calculated based on Department for Work & Pensions rates and has not increased for the last four (4) years resulting in a short fall in contributions for service users towards the running costs associated with their service.
- 2.4.8 The current Service Charge is made up of DWP allowance for utilities which include heating, lighting and cooking only. The Partnership subsidise other costs for the provision of other services. These costs include telephones, water charges, grounds maintenance and waste management charges.
- 2.4.9 It is the Partnership's plan during 2026-27 to review and undertake a scoping exercise regarding the other costs that are attributed to operating and running these care services that should be paid, or could be contributed to, by service users. This work will also include consultation and consideration of the impact on service users within Adult Services Resources.

2.5 Charges for Social Care Services

- 2.5.1 Meals on Wheels, and Community Alarm services are self-referral services and are not subject to a social work/care assessment. Due to the increasing costs, the criteria and self-referral process will be reviewed during 2026-27. Any proposed changes following the review will be for new service users only and no one who currently has a Meals on Wheel service and/or a Community Alarm will have their service removed.

Meals on Wheels

- 2.5.2 Meals on Wheels is delivered on a self-referral basis to anyone who requests the service. Currently, courses are charged on an individual basis to the customer with the Partnership subsidising the service. The most popular choice is for a two-course meal.
- 2.5.3 The proposal is to increase the flat-rate charge from £5.50 to £5.80 for a two-course meal. The proposed uplift is in line with agreed Fife Council uplift rate of 5%.
- 2.5.4 Some people opt for a three-course meal. We propose to increase the flat rate charge for three course meal delivery from £6.95 to £7.30. A very small number of service users order soup only and propose the cost increasing from £1.44 to £1.50 per delivery for soup only.
- 2.5.5 The Meals on Wheels service also provide an Afternoon Tea. The service delivers the afternoon tea when delivering the service user's main meal option and is left for the service user to have later that day. The current charge for an Afternoon Tea is currently £2.89 and it is proposed to apply a 5% increase to this charge, making the cost for this service £3.00.

- 2.5.6 The income from the increase in weekly charge, based on the current level of services, would be c£57,680 per annum. The Health & Social Care Partnership have been notified of a 3.7% price increase which equates to an additional £34,000 in costs from Apetito our current food supplier for this Service, which is inline with the 2025-26 increase.
- 2.5.7 It should be noted that the charges applied for the various meal options are subsidised by the Health and Social Care Partnership as the current charges being applied do not cover the full cost of providing and delivering this service. The annual subsidy for the service by the Partnership is in the region of c£465,000, or 27%, of the cost.

Community Alarms

- 2.5.8 A Community Alarm is delivered on a self-referral basis to anyone who requests it and there is no assessment of need for this service. The current charge for 2025-26 in Fife is £3.24 per week.
- 2.5.9 It is proposed for 2026-27 that an increase of £0.16 per week will be applied for a Community Alarm, increasing the weekly charge from £3.24 to £3.40 per week. The increase would be a 5% uplift to the rate from 2025.26. The annual charge for a community alarm in 2026-27 will be £176.80 per annum.
- 2.5.10 The income from the increase in weekly charge, based on the current level of services, would be c£65,500 per annum
- 2.5.11 It should be noted that the charge for a community alarm is subsidised by the Health and Social Care Partnership as the current charge being applied does not cover the full cost of providing and delivering this service. The annual subsidy for the service by the Partnership is in the region of £546,365, or 38%, of the cost.
- 2.5.12 The Community Alarms team has had to increase by four staff and the Mobile Emergency Care Response team (MECS) by twelve to cope with the increased demand. The MECS Team responded to 3553 calls in the period 1 January 2025 to 20 March 2025 compared to 4575 calls in the same period in 2026. Excluding Sheltered Housing, the number of Community Alarms in the Community increased from 7481 in 2024-25 to 7766 in 2025-26.
- 2.5.13 The cost of a community alarm would need to be £5.47 per week (annual charge of £284.44 per year) to cover the subsidy. Fife Council currently charge per household, there are approx. 500 households where people have more than one community alarm which would equate to approx. £0.090m additional income.

Contribution for Respite & Short Breaks

- 2.6.1 Respite and Short Break Care is a vital service to support both the cared for person and, in many cases, unpaid carers. The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 places a series of duties on the local authorities which include offering and providing an Adult Carers Support Plan (ACSP), to provide information and advice to carers that allows them to be aware of support available and to waive charges where the service provided is to support the carer. In addition, the Care Reform (Scotland) Bill, passed by the Scottish Parliament on 10 June 2025 and became an Act on 22 July 2025, this strengthens support for unpaid carers by establishing a legal right to breaks from caring.
- 2.6.2 This criteria is applicable to the majority a number of people in receipt of respite and short break services. However, for some people, the above criteria are not met and therefore a charge for respite and short break services should be applied.

- 2.6.3 Where a charge should be applied in relation to respite and short break care, the HSCP will ensure that the relevant charge is applied and that service users and/or their representatives are aware of the charging criteria and rates.
- 2.6.4 Rates charged for respite and short break care are calculated using the applicable age-related Department for Work & Pensions rates less Personal Expenditure Allowance.
- 2.6.5 The revised rates for 2026-27 are shown on Appendix 1 and will be applicable from 6 April 2026.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The increased rates in paras. 2.1 and 2.3 in relation to the fees and payments for Third Parties have been provided for in the 2026-27 revenue budget.
- 3.2 Committee is asked to approve the increases in relation to rent charges for service users residing within staffed group homes or core and cluster services; and for Social Care Services per Appendix 1.
- 3.3 Committee is asked to note the planned scoping work and the review of the self-referral process criteria. Further updates and reports will be presented back to this Committee during 2026-27
- 3.4 A list of the updated charges to service users for Social Care Services is included at Appendix 1 of this report.

List of Appendices

1. Charges for 2026-27

Background Papers

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

- Community Care (Personal Care and Nursing Care) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2002

Report Contact:

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Fife Health & Social Care Partnership
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<mailto:joanna.tait@fife.gov.uk>

Social Work Service - Charges for Services 2026-27

	Charge Rate	Price Increase	Percentage Increase	2025-26	2026-27	Effective from
Local Authority Residential Care Home	Weekly	£62	4.7%	£1,302.00	£1,367.00	1 April 2026
Service Charge – Accommodation Services	Weekly	£1.39	5.0%	£27.78	£29.17	6 April 2026
Meals on Wheels for 1 course only (soup)	Per Meal	£0.06	5.0%	£1.44	£1.50	1 April 2026
Meals on Wheels for 2 courses	Per Meal	£0.30	5.0%	£5.50	£5.80	1 April 2026
Meals on Wheels for 3 courses	Per Meal	£0.35	5.0%	£6.95	£7.30	1 April 2026
Meals on Wheels Afternoon Tea	Per Meal	£0.11	5.0%	£2.89	£3.00	1 April 2026
Community Alarms	Weekly	£0.16	5.0%	£3.24	£3.40	1 April 2026
Respite Care Adults aged 18 to 24 years (note 1)	Weekly	£2.65	3.2%	£80.20	£82.85	6 April 2026
Respite Care Adults aged 25 to 64 years (note 1)	Weekly	£2.95	2.9%	£99.80	£102.75	6 April 2026
Respite Care Older People (65+) (note 1)	Weekly	£6.40	4.4%	£140.35	£146.75	6 April 2026

Notes:

1) Respite Care charges are based on benefit rates set by the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) applicable from 6 April 2026.

2 April 2026.
Agenda Item No. 6

Review of Payments to Foster Carers and Supported Lodgings Carers

Report by: James Ross, Head of Service, Children, Families and Justice

Wards Affected: All Wards

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with information on the proposed uplift in payments to foster carers and supported lodgings carers.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the committee approve:

- (1) the application of an uplift of 3.5% in the fees paid to foster carers and supported lodging carers;
- (2) a change to the fee level structure for foster carers;
- (3) a change in payments made to supported lodgings carers; and
- (4) the introduction of a referral fee to foster carers and supported lodgings carers who “refer a friend” who goes on to be formally approved at Panel.

Resource Implications

The budgets for foster carer fees include an inflationary increase of 3.5 % which is sufficient to fund the increase proposed in this report.

The proposed changes to the Level 2 portfolio structure, along with change in payments to supported lodgings carers and introduction of a referral fee reflects the service commitment to the recruitment and retention of foster carers and supported lodgings carers at a time where locally and nationally there continues to be a shortage in the number of people applying to and continuing to foster.

The change in fee structure within foster care does have a financial implication, however, this can be met within the existing budget available.

Legal and Risk Implications

None

Impact Assessment

Fife’s Non-Kin Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy is a three year plan for Fife based on local and national data, research and guidance and operates within a legislative framework. The proposed changes to payments are part of the Strategy plan to focus on ensuring that Fife can continue to recruit and retain foster carers and supported lodgings carers so that there is a foster carer or supported lodgings carer in Fife for every Fife child and young person who needs one. We know that family-based

care is the best possible alternative for the majority of children and young people who cannot remain within their birth families. We want to recruit and retain local carers who will play a pivotal role in ensuring Fife's children grow up and experience a happy, healthy and successful future. These changes will also ensure that carers are financially reimbursed in line with inflation and recognise the valuable contribution they make to looking after and caring for Fife's most vulnerable children and young people who are unable to remain living within their own families.

Consultation

The proposed changes to Level 2 portfolio structure have been developed in participation with foster carers and the fostering team.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Children and Families Service recruit and support foster carers who care for looked after children who are unable to live safely with their parents or other family members. This can be for a variety of reasons from parental illness to abuse and neglect.
- 1.2 Foster care provides children a secure, safe and stable environment where they can grow in confidence. It is different from adoption in that the child's family maintain parental rights and responsibilities. Carers provide different types of fostering from providing a home on an emergency basis, for an interim period of several weeks or months or on a longer term or permanent basis. Many children and young people will return to their families but others may need help for longer either through permanent fostering or adoption. Foster carers can continue to care for young people up to the age of 21 years via continuing care which allows young people the opportunity to "stay put".
- 1.3 Foster care provides children, who will be experiencing loss and may have been exposed to harm or have a range of complex care and support needs, a secure, safe and stable home. Efforts are made to ensure children have the opportunity in foster care to live with their sisters and brothers wherever possible.
- 1.4 The Social Work Service also recruit and support supported lodgings carers who offer an alternative option to young people who have been looked after and who are leaving care or facing homelessness but who want to develop some level of independence, to receive nurturing support within an adult placement with a focus on increasing independent living and a supported step to living on their own.
- 1.5 The number of children in care within Fife is decreasing yet the demand for foster care placements remains high. There is a notable shortage of carers for older children, brothers and sisters, children with disabilities and short break carers. To address this, Fife is prioritising family-based care to provide stable environments and reduce reliance on residential care. The service needs a dedicated focus on continued recruitment and retention of carers for children with a wide range of needs. To ensure unwavering focus on recruitment and carer retention, the Fostering Team and newly formed Permanence Resource Team have developed a three-year **Non-Kin Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy 2025-2028** supported by annual timetabling of recruitment activity.
- 1.6 We know we must proactively recruit carers to provide stable, loving homes for children in need. Recruiting carers in Fife will reduce the need for high cost out of Fife placements, meet legal requirements and ensure we are able to provide local, high-quality care for children and young people who need to be cared for out with their family.

- 1.7 Foster carers receive a fee (payment to foster carer) and age-related maintenance payment (payment per child) for this service. The Scottish Government introduced the Scottish Recommended Allowance (SRA) in October 2023 for all foster carers in Scotland. This was implemented in Fife in November 2023.
- 1.8 Supported lodgings carers receive a fee for their service as the young person living with them will receive a weekly allowance as a care leaver up to the age of 18 and thereafter will be able to apply for Universal Credit or may be working and earning their own money.
- 1.9 As the rate for maintenance payments in foster care is now set nationally, this report considers only the inflationary uplift for fees along with changes to the Level 2 portfolio, a change in the payments made to supported lodgings carers and consideration of a referral fee to encourage recruitment of both foster carers and supported lodgings carers.

2.0 Inflationary increase: Foster Carers / Supported Lodgings

- 2.1 The payments made to foster carers are separated into two components: a **fee** that is paid to carers; and a **maintenance allowance** which is paid per child. The maintenance allowance is set by the Scottish Government and any inflationary changes will be set at a national level:

Age Related Maintenance	0 - 4 yrs	£171.17
Age Related Maintenance	5 - 10 yrs	£199.14
Age Related Maintenance	11 - 15 yrs	£199.14
Age Related Maintenance	16 - 18 yrs	£272.97

- 2.2 The fees payment made to foster carers are normally reviewed at this point in the financial year; following approval of the revenue budget and recommendations brought forward. Increases to fees are normally similar to the level of pay award agreed for council staff, with an inflation provision applied to the relevant budgets. The increases to payments proposed within this report can be accommodated within the budget available. The proposed increase is 3.5 %.

Fee		2025/26	2026/27
FC Fee L1		£287.94	£298.02
FC Fee L2		£431.91	£447.03
FC Fee L3		£631.62	£653.73
Supported Lodgings		£287.94	£298.02

3.0 Review of the Fee Level structure – Foster Care

- 3.1 There are currently three levels of fees paid to foster carers which is based on an assessment of their skills and experience which is approval annually by the Agency Decision Maker. Currently, Level 2 and Level 3 carers are expected to complete and produce a portfolio on an annual basis to evidence their skills and abilities in the fostering role.

3.2 Fife Council pay the following **fee** per week:

Fee Level 1 carer	£287.94
Fee Level 2 carer	£431.91
Fee Level 3 carer	£631.62

Below indicates the current number of foster carers across each level:

Level 1	45
Level 2	86
Level 3	2

- 3.3 As a Family Based Care Service, we are committed to listening and learning from the voice of our carers. We are committed to shaping and enhancing our service offering based on carer feedback to ensure we continue to offer the highest quality care to our most vulnerable children and young people.
- 3.4 Foster carers have asked for a review of the current level system in place within Fife. We have heard the current fee level system has impacted on carer morale and, in turn, has impacted carer recruitment and retention and working relationships between carers and the Service. This feedback aligns with that of foster carers nationally in relation to the financial remuneration available to foster carers.
- 3.5 Following an internal review of the level scheme, it is recommended that the scheme change. It is recommended that all new carers be paid at Level 1 for the first 12 months – “newly approved year”. Following this, they will automatically progress to Level 2 payments. There will be no further Level 3 payments agreed.
- 3.6 This new structure will be clear and transparent. There will be a definitive progression pathway which will form a key part of our recruitment and retention strategy for 2025-2028. This streamlined progression will make Fife a more attractive and competitive recruiter.
- 3.7 The “newly approved” year will be a focus within the **Non-Kin Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy**. There will be an enhanced package of support offered enabling carers to confidently move to Level 2 payments as part of their progression. The fostering service will be measured on the quality of support they offer to carers during this initial 12-month period.
- 3.8 Importantly, foster carers in Fife will feel their voice has been heard and will feel valued by the local authority. They will feel less pressure to provide a written portfolio each year. Instead, they will be able to spend this time continuing to provide quality care for Fife’s children and young people.

4.0 Review of Additional Payments made to Foster Carers

- 4.1 In Fife, foster carers receive 7 weeks’ additional maintenance payments per year which are paid at the relevant age-related maintenance rate. These payments are made at the school holidays, birthdays and Christmas to provide additional funding which should be spent on the child. These additional payments are in April (1 week), Summer (2 weeks), October (1 week), child’s birthday (1 week) and at Christmas (2 weeks).
- 4.2 Benchmarking across ten local authorities has indicated that they all provide the same additional payments as Fife. Given local authorities have adopted the SRA, additional payments to carers will continue to be at the same rates across Scotland.

- 4.3 Foster carers are not entitled to receive child benefit for any child in their care.
- 4.4 As part of our **Non-kin Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy 2025-2028**, it is recommended that we introduce a referral fee of £1000 to a foster carer or supported lodgings carer who goes on to refer a friend to become a carer. This would only be paid once “the friend” had been assessed and approved at Panel. In 2025, nine new carers were approved to foster or become supported lodgings carers, none of whom had been referred through a current carer. Whilst this would not be a significant outlay for the service, the referral fee would recognise those carers who are active in supporting the service in our recruitment of carers.

5.0 Review of Payments made to Supported Lodgings Carers

- 5.1 Supported lodgings carers are currently paid a weekly fee of £278.16 per young person with some of our supported lodgings carers offering two placements. Currently, if a supported lodgings carer does not have a young person living with them, they are not paid even when they are available.
- 5.2 We currently have 48 supported lodgings carers with 18 carers able to offer a home to two young people at any one time.
- 5.3 Supported lodgings carers provide a vital service to our young care leavers who are not yet ready to live independently, with many of the young people having previously lived in foster or residential care.
- 5.4 We are committed to shaping and enhancing our service to our young people and have consulted with our supported lodgings carers around the fee system and barriers to recruitment and retention of our supported lodgings carers. We therefore recommend that, in addition to the inflationary increase requested, that we also change the payment structure and supported lodgings carers be paid for up to six weeks, if available, following a young person moving on from their care until a new young person is matched with them. This will bring supported lodgings carers into line with our foster carers and lead to increased morale and feeling valued by the service and will make becoming a supported lodgings carer more attractive as part of our **Non-Kin Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy 2025-28**.

6.0 Cost Implications

- 6.1 The recommendation that an inflationary increase of 3.5% to fees would be in line with the inflation provision in the budget for 2026/2027. To evaluate cost implications, it has been assumed that all foster carers will now be paid at Level 2. This will overestimate cost required as there will always be some foster carers who will be in their “newly approved” year and receiving a Level 1 payment.

Costings for the current fee scheme

	Number of Carers	Current Annual Cost £m
Level 1	45	£0.793
Level 2	86	£2.273
Level 3	2	£0.077
Total	133	£3.143

Costings for the new proposed Fee Scheme:

Level	Number of carers	New annual payment £m
Level 2	131	£3.463
Level 3	2	£0.077

(Figures accurate as of December 2025).

7.0 Rationale for change

- 7.1 The **Non-Kin Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy 2025/28** is a three-year plan for Fife based on local and national data, research and guidance. Our local data aligns with national data which highlights finances as one of the barriers to the recruitment and retention of foster carers.
- 7.2 As part of our 2025/28 strategy, there will be promotion of a clear financial package offered to foster carers who often give up other employment to foster and be available full time for a child or young person. Having a transparent progression pathway in relation to the fees paid will make it more attractive to foster for Fife and will recognise the commitment, quality and complexity of care to retain our current and future foster carers.
- 7.3 As part of the 2025/28 strategy, the “newly approved year” will highlight the enhanced training and support offer for new carers and will be used to promote the benefits of fostering for Fife.
- 7.4 The changes to the fee payment structure for supported lodgings carers will bring them into line with Level 1 foster carers and will support our 2025/28 strategy, leading to increased numbers of applications to become supported lodgings carers and increased retention of and feeling valued by our current supported lodgings carers.

8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1 In order to support foster/ supported lodgings carers, it is recommended that in recognition of rising household costs, the fee payments made to foster carers and supported lodgings carers are increased by 3.5 % for 2026-2027. No change is recommended to the maintenance payments as these are now set nationally as part of the Scottish Recommended Allowance (SRA).
- 8.2 Changes to the Level system within Foster Care would make it a streamlined, transparent progression pathway. This will make it more attractive to foster for Fife and have a positive impact on both recruitment and retention, leading to foster carers feeling listened to and valued. Increased recruitment of Fife foster carers will continue to lower our dependence on the use of costly external fostering provisions.
- 8.3 Changes to the payments to supported lodgings carers will bring them into line with our foster carers and recognises the valuable resource they provide to our young people who are leaving care and facing potential homelessness.
- 8.4 Recruitment and retention of our non-kin carers is a priority for the service and, whilst we strive to provide improved training and support, it is vital that we also ensure that our carers are financially rewarded and recognised as they provide high quality care in Fife for Fife’s children and young people.

- 8.5 We can only achieve and deliver on our ambitions by working together as colleagues and communities to ensure Fife's children and young people are afforded Fife carers who are understanding and reflective of them and their community. Our ambition is for all "our" children and young people to live within a family arrangement who need one, and their needs to be met by carers who are supported to provide the best possible care.

Report Contact

James Ross

Head of Service, Children and Families and Justice Social Work Service &
Chief Social Work Officer

Email: james.ross-fc-d1@fife.gov.uk

2 April 2026
Agenda Item No. 7

Harmonisation of Stair Cleaning Charge (Levenmouth Area)

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing

Wards Affected: Levenmouth (Wards 21 & 22)

Purpose

To seek approval to harmonise the service charge for tenants in Levenmouth who benefit from the council's stair cleaning service.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the committee:-

- (1) note the findings from the recent consultation exercise undertaken with the 192 affected tenants in the Levenmouth Area; and
- (2) agree to the standardised charge of £7.02 per fortnight being applied to these tenants to meet the full cost of the council providing this service.

Resource Implications

The resource implications of this recommendation are relatively negligible in the context of the Housing Revenue Account budget.

Legal & Risk Implications

In accordance with the conditions of Fife Council Tenancy Agreement, we are obliged to give tenants 28 days written notice of any change in service charges.

If the change does not proceed there will be a financial risk of £0.035m that will be managed within the overall resources available to the HRA.

Impact Assessment

An EqIA summary form has been completed –the summary form is attached in Appendix 1.

Consultation

The results of this consultation exercise are contained within the report.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Fife Council decided to apply a standardised stair cleaning charge as part of the HRA budget setting for 2026/27. This was to address inconsistencies in charging practices for this service across Fife. A review found that tenants in some areas, including Levenmouth, were not being charged for stair cleaning while others who received the same level of service were paying varying rates. A key driver to address this historical inequity was for all tenants who received this service to be treated the same. The application of the revised charging procedure for stair cleaning therefore needs to be applied to all Fife tenants who benefit from stair cleaning.
- 1.2 The Revised Estate Management Approach introduced initiatives to improve housing estates, with a particular focus on the condition of communal areas such as stairwells and closes in flatted dwellings. Under the council tenancy agreement, tenants are responsible for keeping these areas clean and tidy. Where the council provides stair cleaning services, costs should be recovered from tenants in line with the Housing Services Charging Policy to ensure fairness.
- 1.3 A consultative report was considered by the five relevant Area Committees where the council cleans stairwells and other communal areas on behalf of tenants and this proposed applying a consistent charging procedure for the service. This report also proposed undertaking a survey of tenants who would be affected by the implementation of new or revised charges for stair cleaning in their blocks so their views could inform any future decision making. Surveys were carried out last year in four of the Committee Areas and this involved contacting 2,087 tenants to seek their views on what they considered to be a reasonable charge for stair cleaning and the quality of service that was currently being provided. Unfortunately, the 192 tenants who receive the stair cleaning service in the Levenmouth Area were omitted from this initial exercise.
- 1.4 Fife Council's Tenancy Agreement states we should consult with tenants about any proposed increase in rent or service charge and consider their views before a decision is made. We are entitled to change the amount charged and are required to give four weeks' notice in writing before the start of the rent period when this will be applied.

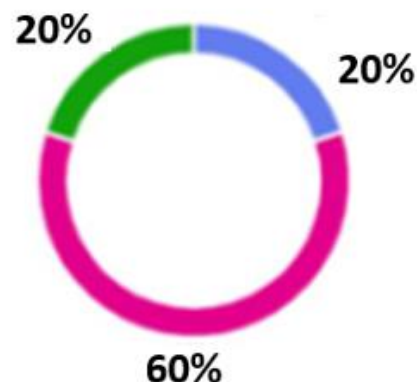
2.0 Update

- 2.1 A survey form (Appendix 2) was recently issued to all Levenmouth tenants who currently receive a stairwell cleaning service. The purpose was to seek their views on what would be a reasonable charge and the quality of the service that is being provided. Unfortunately, the response rate to this consultation exercise was low with only five tenants completing the survey. The initial pie chart below shows that 80% of responders were either very or satisfied with the stair cleaning service. Only 20% were very dissatisfied with the current level of service. The second pie chart below shows responders' views on the standardised stair cleaning charge of £7.02 per fortnight. The results were inconclusive with 40% of responders stating the charge was reasonable, 40% thought the charge was too high and 20% were not sure.

2.2 Survey results

2. How satisfied are you with the current cleaning service? (0 point)

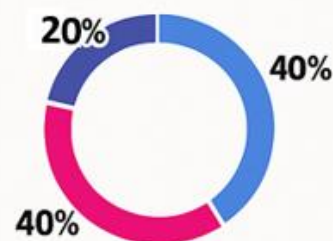
● Very satisfied	1
● Satisfied	3
● Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	0
● Dissatisfied	0
● Very dissatisfied	1



¶

3. The Council proposes a standard stair cleaning charge of around £7.02 per fortnight. Do you think this is:

● Reasonable	2
● Too high	2
● Too low	0
● Not sure	1



3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 This consultation exercise has provided us with feedback from tenants in Levenmouth on both the affordability of charges and levels of satisfaction with the stairwell cleaning service. Most tenants recognise the importance of maintaining communal areas and any concerns raised about cleaning standards will be addressed through the revised Service Level Agreement with Facilities Service. It is important there is a consistent approach, and the standardised charge is applied to all tenants who benefit from the council's stair cleaning service. It is proposed that a follow-up letter is issued to the Levenmouth tenants to share the consultation results and inform them of the decision taken.

List of Appendices

1. EQIA Summary
2. Tenant Survey Form

Report Contact

Joan Lamie
Service Manager, Housing Estates and Safer Communities
Email: joan.lamie@fife.gov.uk

Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report

(to be attached as an Appendix to the committee report)

Which Committee report does this IA relate to (specify meeting date)?

Cabinet Committee on the 2nd of April 2026.

What are the main impacts on equality?

No impact as the cost of the stair cleaning service will now apply consistently to Council tenants Fife who receive this service.

What are the main recommendations to enhance or mitigate the impacts identified?

Whilst tenants within the protected characteristics living in Fife Council housing will be affected by the proposal, there will be no difference in the treatment of tenants who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

If there are no equality impacts on any of the protected characteristics, please explain.

No recommendations other than to monitor any potential impacts through future review.

Further information is available from: Name / position / contact details:

Joan Lamie, Service Manager Housing Estates and Safer Communities

Joan.Lamie@fife.gov.uk

Tenant Consultation Survey: Stair Cleaning Charges

Fife Council is reviewing how stair cleaning services are delivered and charged across our housing estates. We want to ensure the service is fair, consistent, and meets tenants' needs. Your feedback will help shape how these changes are implemented.

Section 1: About You

1. What is your address?

Section 2: Current Experience

2. How satisfied are you with the current cleaning service?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neutral
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

Section 3: Proposed Changes

3. The Council proposes a standard stair cleaning charge of £7.02 per fortnight. Do you think this is:

- Reasonable
- Too high
- Too low
- Not sure

Section 4: Support and Communication

4. If you receive Universal Credit, do you know how to claim this charge as part of your housing costs?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

5. What support would help you manage this change? (Tick all that apply)

- Help with updating my Universal Credit claim
- Clear information about the service and charges
- No support needed
- Other: _____

Section 5: Final Comments

6. Do you have any other comments or suggestions about stair cleaning services or the proposed changes?

Please return to Housing Estates Management Team, 3rd floor (Main), Fife House, North St, Glenrothes, KY7 5LT

Fife Development Plan Scheme 16

Report by: Pam Ewen, Head of Planning Services

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

To seek approval of the Fife Development Plan Scheme, sixteenth edition, for publication.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the committee:

- (1) approves, for adoption, the 2026 Fife Development Plan Scheme (sixteenth edition) for publication, deposit and copying to Scottish Ministers (Appendix 1);
- (2) delegates non-substantive edits to the Head of Planning Services; and
- (3) agrees the arrangements described in paragraph 3.1 to hold Member briefings in late 2026.

Resource Implications

None. Preparation of the Development Plan Scheme is part of Planning Services' work programme and is prepared within existing resources.

Legal & Risk Implications

The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 requires the council, when preparing the Development Plan Scheme, to seek the views of the public on what the content of the Participation Statement should be and have regard to any views expressed.

Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices. An environmental assessment is not applicable for this report because it does not directly impact the environment. An assessment using the Fife Environmental Assessment Tool (FEAT) is not required as it is not a recommended change to policy.

Consultation

The Head of Legal Services and Head of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report. There are no outstanding issues.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 All planning authorities in Scotland are to produce a Development Plan Scheme at least annually or when directed by Scottish Ministers. Development Plan Schemes:
- a) explain what the Development Plan is and its component parts including the Local Development Plan;
 - b) set out the timetable for preparing the next plan; and
 - c) explain how the public at large can get involved in preparing the Local Development Plan.

The most recent Fife Development Plan Scheme (DPS15) was published in 2025. Changes from the timescales given in DPS15 requires an earlier than usual revision. The draft Development Plan Scheme for 2026 (DPS16) is presented in Appendix 1.

- 1.2 The Fife Development Plan is now comprised of the [Fourth National Planning Framework \(NPF4\)](#) and the adopted [Local Development Plan \(FIFEplan\)](#) together with supplementary guidance issued in connection with FIFEplan.
- 1.3 Legislation requires that, as soon as is reasonably practicable after a Development Plan Scheme has been adopted, the council is to send two copies of it to the Scottish Ministers, publish it (including by electronic means) and place a copy of it in each library in Fife.

2.0 Discussion

- 2.1 Development Plan Schemes must include a Participation Statement which should say how and with whom consultation on the plan will take place. It should also say how the council will involve the public and stakeholders in the preparation of the Plan. The Statement will be used when the Local Development Plan is submitted to Scottish Ministers for examination to show how the council has conformed with the Participation Statement's proposed means of engagement.
- 2.2 The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 requires the council, when preparing the Development Plan Scheme, to seek the views of the public on what the content of the Participation Statement should be and have regard to any views expressed. The 2022 edition of the Development Plan Scheme invited the public at large to express their views on the content of the Participation Statement. This invitation remains open in the 2026 edition and feedback will inform the public engagement stage.
- 2.3 The Participation Statement in this Development Plan Scheme reflects the preferences and most efficient way to keep Fife's citizens and other stakeholders informed about plan progress and how to engage. It recognises that some stages of plan preparation are better managed by in-person events, such as seeking views on the Proposed Plan. The proposed methods of engagement are based on experience and consistent with the guidance on effective community engagement in local development planning published by the Scottish Government in December 2024.
- 2.4 LDP2 will be known as *Fife's Place Plan* to reflect its role as a corporate document acting as the spatial expression of the *Plan4Fife* Local Outcome Improvement Plan. The Local Development Plan Regulations state the Development Plan Scheme is to indicate the anticipated timetable for constitution of the new LDP and must specify when the council expects to:

- a) publish its evidence report and its proposed local development plan;
- b) submit its proposed local development plan to the Scottish Ministers; and
- c) adopt the proposed local development plan.

The regulations and guidance specify the date convention to be used follows fiscal year quarters: 1Q = April-June; 2Q = July-September; 3Q = October-December; 4Q = January-March.

- 2.5 The anticipated milestone dates for the Fife's Place Plan (LDP2) between now and adoption are given below. Changes from the timescales given in Development Plan Scheme 15 result from a review of the Fife's Place Plan project plan. The Scottish Government's Planning & Environmental Appeals Division's (DPEA) latest assessment of the Evidence Report (September 2025) identified gaps in evidence relating to infrastructure capacity and condition. These issues have since been addressed; however, resubmission – originally planned for November 2025 – was deferred to February 2026 pending updated education roll projections and consequential edits. This created a three-month delay in the Gate Check process, with the assessment now expected to conclude no earlier than April 2026.
- 2.6 This delay directly affects the programme for preparing the Proposed Plan, which must reflect an approved Evidence Report. Although technical work and site assessments have continued, progress is constrained while the Evidence Report remains at the Gate Check stage. As a result, the timetable published in Development Plan Scheme 15 is no longer achievable.
- 2.7 A range of project plan scenarios have been evaluated, considering member engagement needs and alignment with other council programme cycles and partner organisations. Meanwhile, preparatory work for LDP2 continues. A series of Area Committee briefings have taken place from January to March 2026 involving key Services and community planning partners.
- 2.8 The revised timeline proposes presenting the Proposed Plan and Proposed Delivery Programme to Cabinet Committee on 3 December 2026 and to full Council on 10 December 2026 rather than May and June 2026, respectively. Opportunities to shorten the subsequent examination period are limited, being dependent on the volume of representations. However, efficiencies may be achieved using AI enabled tools to support summarisation of consultation responses, subject to ongoing assessment by BTS and data protection colleagues.
- 2.9 Further work will be carried out to review the Local Development Plan stages to reduce timescales, where possible, noting the Scottish Parliament and council elections are scheduled in the period when the Proposed Plan will be prepared, consulted on with consequential analysis of representations and preparation of examination material. Some cautious assumptions are made regarding the length of the plan examination which should be shorter given the role of the Gate Check in establishing the evidence base on which the plan will be prepared. With the revised timetable, plan adoption is projected within 2028.

Table 1 – Fife’s Place Plan (LDP2) stage timetable

Stage	Expected date DPS15 (2025)	Expected date DPS16 (2026)	Change from DPS15 (2025)
Evidence Report submission to Gate Check	1Q 2024/25 (April 2024) (submission)	1Q 2024/25 (April 2024) (submission)	No change
	1Q 2025/26 (June 2025) (1 st resubmission)	1Q 2025/26 (June 2025) (1 st resubmission)	No change
	3Q 2025/26 (November 2025) (2 nd resubmission)	4Q 2025/26 (February 2026) (2 nd resubmission)	+3 months
Gate Check close	4Q 2025/26 (January 2026)	1Q 2026/27 (April 2026)	+3 months
Proposed LDP2 and consultation	2Q 2026/27 (July 2026)	4Q 2026/27 (January 2027)	+6 months
Submit Proposed Plan to Scottish Ministers	1Q 2027/28 (May 2027)	3Q 2027/28 (November 2027)	+6 months
Examination Report published by DPEA	4Q 2027/28 (March 2028)	2Q 2028/29 (August 2028)	+5 months
Adoption	1Q 2028/29 (May 2028)	3Q 2028/29 (November 2028)	+6 months

3.0 Conclusions and next steps

- 3.1 The timescales programmed for the main stages to prepare *Fife’s Place Plan* contained in the Development Plan Scheme do not contain all the details such as the council’s own committee governance stages. A series of Area Committee LDP workshops have just concluded. Member engagement will continue as the plan is prepared. The new plan content will be presented to members in late 2026 before being presented to Cabinet Committee in December 2026.
- 3.2 In conclusion, this edition of the Development Plan Scheme discharges the council’s legislative requirement to publish its Development Plan Scheme at least annually. It includes:
- a) information on the changes to development planning coming from the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019;
 - b) an up-to-date timescale for the key stages in preparing the Fife’s Place Plan;
 - c) updates on planning guidance, development frameworks and development briefs; and
 - d) contact information for the public to communicate with Planning Services.
- 3.3 Future editions of the Development Plan Scheme will be reported to this Committee.

List of Appendices

1. Fife Development Plan Scheme 2026 (sixteenth edition)

Background Papers

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

- [Planning \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#)
- [The Town and Country Planning \(Development Planning\) \(Scotland\) regulations 2023](#)
- [Local Development Planning Guidance 2023](#)

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Telephone: 03451 55 55 55 Ext. 471781
Email: craig.walker@fife.gov.uk

Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report

(to be attached as an Appendix to the committee report)

Which Committee report does this IA relate to (specify meeting date)?

Fife Development Plan Scheme 16 – Cabinet Committee 2 April 2026.

What are the main impacts on equality?

None

What are the main recommendations to enhance or mitigate the impacts identified?

N/A

If there are no equality impacts on any of the protected characteristics, please explain.

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

Further information is available from:

Craig Walker; Lead Officer (Policy & Place)
craig.walker@fife.gov.uk

Fife Development Plan Scheme 2026

Sixteenth Edition

Planning Services





Dunfermline - © Ian McCracken



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About the Development Plan Scheme

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019), and the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023, require planning authorities to prepare a Development Plan Scheme each year.

This is the sixteenth edition of the Fife Development Plan Scheme which:

- Provides information about Fife's Development Plan and its preparation timetable;
- Summarises updated information on planning guidance, development frameworks and development briefs; and
- Let stakeholders know when and how they can get involved in the plan preparation.



Development Planning

The planning system in Scotland is led by development plans which form the basis for making planning decisions.

The Fife Development Plan is now comprised of the [Fourth National Planning Framework \(NPF4\) \(opens in a new window\)](#) and the adopted [Local Development Plan \(FIFEplan\) \(opens in a new window\)](#) together with supplementary guidance issued in connection with FIFEplan.

Following NPF4's adoption by the Scottish Government, the former **SESplan** and **TAYplan Strategic Development Plans** no longer have effect and are not part of the Development Plan. NPF3 and Scottish Planning policy have also been superseded.

The Act introduced provisions for **regional spatial strategies**. These are not part of the development plan but are to be taken into account in preparing local development plans. The Act does not prescribe the geographical areas to be covered by regional spatial strategies, nor at this stage the procedures for their preparation.

An interim regional spatial strategy has been produced for South East Scotland. It includes all of Fife. There is currently no agreed timescale for a formal version and the relevant part of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 is not in force at the time of writing.

[Local Place Plans](#) have also been introduced by the Act. These do not form part of the Local Development Plan but have an important role in preparing it. More information on local place plans is given later in this scheme.

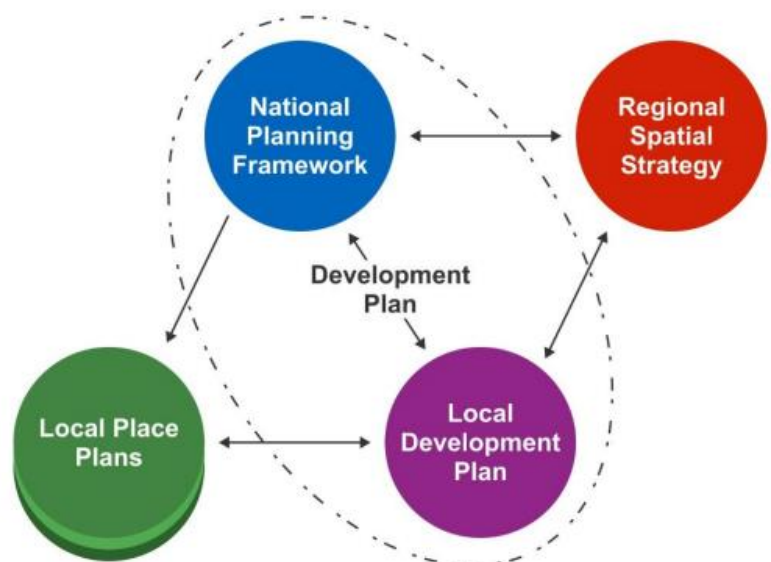


Figure 1 – The statutory development plan and related plans



Fife's Local Development Plan

Adopted FIFEplan (Fife's Local Development Plan)

The current Local Development Plan, FIFEplan was adopted on 21 September 2017. As it was adopted more than five years ago, it needs to be updated.

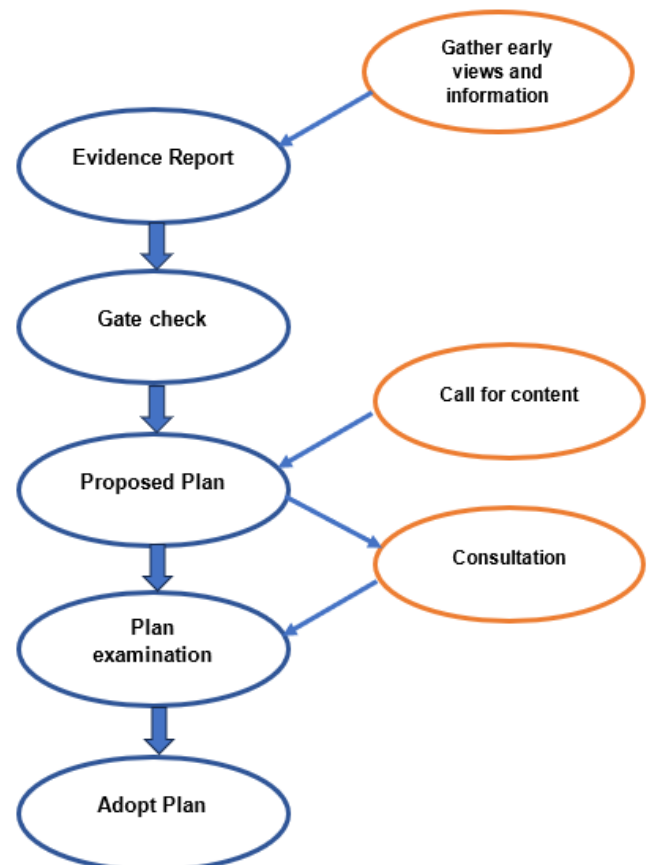
Fife's Place Plan (LDP2)

Under the new Planning Act Local Development Plans (LDPs) are to be reviewed every ten years, rather than five years as previously. The process for the preparation of LDPs has changed. There is no Main Issues Report stage; instead, the first main stage is the preparation of an Evidence Report. The Evidence Report sets out the Council's views on the matters listed which the Local Development Plan will address. It is the basis for an independent assessment of whether the Council has sufficient information to prepare the Plan. That assessment will be by a person appointed by Scottish Ministers during a 'Gate Check' at the start of the plan preparation process.

Every planning authority in Scotland should have a new style LDP in place within around five years of the Regulations coming into force – that is, by May 2028. LDP2 will be called Fife's Place Plan to reflect its role as a corporate document acting as the spatial expression of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan - *Plan4Fife*. It is programmed to be adopted by the Council in 2028. The milestone steps for Fife's Place Plan between now and adoption are outlined on this page and the timetable is set out later in this Development Plan Scheme.

Plan themes and changes

Fife's Place Plan will be quite different from FIFEplan in 2017. It will contain fewer policies because NPF4 provides most policies for development management. Climate change and the nature crisis will be core themes. The plan will be more place-focussed by setting out development requirements and objectives for local areas. As far as possible, development briefs and guidance will be included in the Plan. It will also be prepared alongside the Council's updated Plan4Fife, which will set the corporate policy direction for Fife's Place Plan to follow as a spatial land use plan.



Fife's Place Plan (LDP2) Timetable

The timetable for the plan preparation shows the expected dates for each plan stage. The date convention used is in accordance with local development planning regulations and guidance: 1Q = April-June; 2Q = July-September; 3Q October-December; 4Q = January-March.

Table 1 - LDP2 Key stage dates

Stage	Expected date	Change from DPS15 (2025)
Evidence Report submission to Gate Check	1Q 2024/25 (April 2024)	No change
Evidence Report re-submission to gate check	1 st – 1Q 2025/26 (June 2025) 2 nd – 4Q 2025/26 (February 2026)	No change + 3 months
Gate Check Close	1Q 2026/2027 (April 2026)	+ 3 months
Proposed LDP2 and consultation	4Q 2026/27 (January 2027)	+ 6 months
Submit Proposed Plan to Scottish Ministers	3Q 2027/28 (November 2027)	+ 6 months
Examination Report published by DPEA	2Q 2028/29 (August 2028)	+ 5 months
Adoption	3Q 2028/29 (November 2028)	+ 6 months

Timescales have shifted following a review of the Fife's Place Plan project plan. The DPEA's September 2025 assessment of the Evidence Report highlighted gaps in infrastructure capacity and condition data. Although these have been addressed, resubmission - originally due in November 2025 - was postponed to February 2026 to incorporate updated education roll projections. This has delayed the Gate Check by three months, with completion now expected no earlier than April 2026. In assessing the implications for the work programme post Gate Check, a range of scenarios were evaluated, considering Member engagement needs and alignment with other Council programme cycles and partner organisations.

The democratic process for preparing the LDP is set out in the Council's committee powers: Fife's seven Area Committees have a role in considering the potential impact of strategic policy proposals and making recommendations to the relevant committees. Cabinet Committee has a remit to recommend the Local Development Plan Evidence Report, the Local Development Plan, and the Local Development Plan Delivery Programme for final approval by the full Fife Council.



Participation Statement

The Participation Statement is a summary of when and how the Council proposes to engage the public on the production, adoption, and implementation of the Development Plan. This will include future changes to NPF4 although the consultation on that part of the Development Plan will be led and run by the Scottish Government. The Participation Statement also considers who is to be included, how the Council will consult, and the steps to involve the public in the process.

When you can influence Fife's Place Plan (LDP2)

There are three stages where the public can influence the shape of the next plan: early engagement (Evidence Report); the call for content (the beginning of Proposed Plan stage); and following publication of the Proposed Plan.

Table 2 – Fife Local Development Plan engagement activity is listed on the next pages

Plan stage	Engagement	How	When
Early canvassing of views - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Younger persons (age 16-25) engagement – June 2022 • 20 Minute Neighbourhood Case Study survey – September 2022 • Have Your Say on the Future of Fife's places survey engagement outcomes (Fife-wide) – October 2022 • PAS Engaging with gypsies, travellers, and travelling show people – Fife-wide – February 	<i>Involve</i> <i>Consult</i> <i>Collaborate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online and in-person • Web based surveys and commissioned engagement • In person at Sinclairtown, Freuchie, Tayport, Donibristle, North Queensferry, Kingsbarns, Canongate, Lumphinnans, and Torryburn primary schools (Living Well Locally and Play Sufficiency Assessment) • In Woodmill and Bell Baxter High Schools (Play Sufficiency Assessment) 	June 2022 – August 2023



Plan stage	Engagement	How	When
2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses and Organisations Survey • Disabled Persons & Place survey engagement outcomes (Fife-wide) – April 2023 • Play Sufficiency Assessment (Fife-wide) – May 2023 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community sessions in Cupar, Lochore, and Buckhaven (Play Sufficiency Assessment) 	
Inviting community bodies to prepare local place plans	<i>Involve</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite to all community councils and registered community bodies • Social media • Dedicated local place plans website (opens in a new window) created • Webinar workshop • Capacity support provided online and in person by Planning Aid Scotland 	May 2022 – end June 2024



Plan stage	Engagement	How	When
Participation Statement	<i>Inform Involve Consult</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation in Development Plan Scheme 12 (2022) to comment on how the Council should consult and engage. • Social media • E-newsletter 	December 2022 – November 2023
Gate check <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Scottish Government's Planning & Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) conducts the gate check. This is to provide an independent assessment of whether the Council has sufficient information to prepare an LDP 	<i>Inform</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Online forums • E-newsletter 	April 2024 – April 2026 (subject to DPEA work programme)
Plan preparation - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for content – what the Plan should say for communities and Fife-wide to address the issues identified in the Evidence Report 	<i>Inform Involve</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Online forums • E-newsletter • Report back in a 'you said, we did' format. 	Nov 2024 – Feb 2025 January 2027
Proposed LDP (draft plan) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan approved by Fife Council and published for public consultation – a minimum of 12 weeks 	<i>Consult</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Notification for neighbouring land (conterminous with or within 20 metres of the boundary of a specific site) • In person drop-in events • E-newsletter 	January – March 2027



Plan stage	Engagement	How	When
Modifying the plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess representations to the Proposed LDP Negotiate changes where agreement can be reached with objectors (and other affected parties) to make modifications to the Proposed LDP 	<i>Inform</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Online forums E-newsletter 	April – October 2027
Submit Plan to Scottish Ministers for examination	There is no consultation on this stage. The examination is led and managed by the Scottish Government, but the LDP website will be updated with the latest news		November 2027
LDP progress	<i>Inform Involve Consult</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LDP webpage E-newsletters Media articles and news 	Throughout the plan preparation period since May 2022.
National Planning Framework	<i>Inform</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LDP webpage E-newsletters 	When changes are made to NPF4

A summary of all engagement will be published in an engagement calendar as the Plan progresses.

Comments on this version of the Participation Statement are invited through the contact address in the HAVE YOUR SAY box on the last page.



Table 3 – Fife Local Development Plan assessments

Plan stage	Strategic Environmental Assessment	Habitats Regulations Assessment	Flood Risk Assessment	Development Plan Transport Assessment	Public Sector Equality Duty Assessment	Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment
Evidence Report	✓ Note 1		✓		✓	✓
Plan preparation including site assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Proposed Plan (draft plan)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Adopted Plan	✓				✓	✓

Note:

1. The Evidence Report is not subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report, but it scopes the SEA and will be accompanied with a scoping report.



Delivery Programme

The Delivery Programme accompanies FIFEplan by identifying what is required to implement FIFEplan and deliver its proposals, the expected timescales and who is responsible. The Delivery Programme shows the linkages between development and the provision of related infrastructure and helps to coordinate activity in identifying priorities and funding. Delivery Programmes must be approved by the full Council and updated at least every two years following the Plan's adoption.

The [FIFEplan Delivery Programme 2024](#) is a step change to a more comprehensive and informative Delivery Programme to be used for Local Development Plans. Future iterations of the Delivery Programme will look to include information regarding estimated high level costs to the Council as a result of development and other relevant financial implications.



Community Planning

Community Planning is how public bodies work together and with the community in each council area to make life better for people. Fife's Local Outcome Improvement Plan - [Plan 4 Fife: 2017-2027](#) was published in April 2018 as Fife's new Community Plan. An update to this was published in August 2021 [Recovery and Renewal: Plan4Fife 2021-2024 Update](#).

Work on revising the Plan 4 Fife will be co-ordinated with the LDP preparation.

Local Community Plans for each of Fife's seven local committee areas are in place, and these are in the process of being updated. Neighbourhood Plans have also been developed for selected areas. All these above plans will help to identify priorities as we review the Local Development Plan.



Local Place Plans

The 2019 Planning Act introduced provisions to enable community bodies to prepare [Local Place Plans](#). These will not form part of the development plan but will help to inform it.

An invitation to communities to prepare Local Place Plans was issued in May 2022, through:

- Letters to community councils
- Our Planning e-newsletter
- Fife Voluntary Action e-newsletter
- News and social media releases

Local Place Plans have been introduced to encourage communities to be active participants in planning for their futures. Examples of the issues that they might address include:

- Proposals for new homes (including affordable), local employment, tourism or community facilities
- Sites which help support new renewable energy projects, or climate change adaptation measures, such as flood mitigation
- Improvements to town and neighbourhood centres
- Improvements to open space, play facilities and active travel
- Conservation of the natural and built environment
- Land for community food growing

These are plans for local communities that have a focus on development, land use and 'place-making' (an all-inclusive approach to the design, development, regeneration and management of the built environment).

Our [register of Local Place Plans](#) shows where community groups across Fife.



Supplementary Guidance

The main purpose of supplementary guidance is to help applicants understand what planning authorities expect in relation to planning applications.

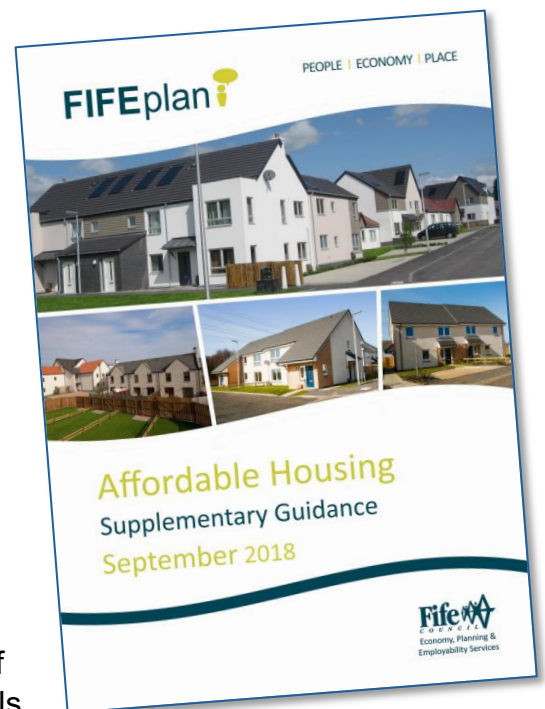
Supplementary guidance prepared in connection with a Local Development Plan, subject to meeting consultation requirements, forms part of the Development Plan and is referred to in this document as statutory supplementary guidance. Supplementary guidance prepared for the former Strategic Development Plans no longer have effect and have been withdrawn.

A range of statutory Supplementary Guidance has been produced since the adoption of the Local Development Plan:

- Making Fife's Places Supplementary Guidance
- Affordable Housing Supplementary Guidance
- Minerals Supplementary Guidance
- Low Carbon Supplementary Guidance

The Council will also continue to use existing non-statutory guidance listed in this Development Plan Scheme and will prepare other guidance on a range of planning matters as required. A full list of current and proposed Fife Council planning guidance is included in Table 4.

Non-statutory guidance - Policy for Development and Noise was produced in 2021. This guidance aims to ensure that new development does not lead to detrimental impacts on existing businesses and future investment, or to impacts on the health and wellbeing of new or existing residents exposed to unacceptable levels of noise.



The future of Supplementary Guidance

Statutory provisions for Supplementary Guidance have been removed under the 2019 Planning Act. Local Councils will still be able to produce supplementary guidance on specific planning issues, but this will no longer have 'development plan' status.



Table 4 – Supplementary Guidance, Development Frameworks and Development Briefs (position at March 2026)

Topic	Status	Timescales
Statutory Supplementary Guidance		
Affordable Housing	Adopted Supplementary Guidance	Adopted Autumn 2018
Making Fife's Places	Adopted Supplementary Guidance	Adopted Autumn 2018
Minerals	Adopted Supplementary Guidance	Adopted Autumn 2018
Low Carbon Fife	Adopted Supplementary Guidance	Adopted January 2019



Topic	Status	Timescales
Non-Statutory Guidance		
Planning Obligations Framework Guidance	Updated version of this guidance approved in March 2026	Complete
Houses in Multiple Occupation in Central St Andrews Conservation Area	Approved Supplementary Planning Guidance June 2011.	To be reviewed as part of the Fife's Place Plan (LDP2)
Lochgelly Supplementary Planning & Transportation Guidance	Approved Supplementary Planning Guidance September 2011	Complete
St Andrews Design Guidelines	Approved Supplementary Planning Guidance August 2007	Complete
Inverkeithing Design Guide	Approved Supplementary Planning Guidance October 2024	Complete



Topic	Status	Timescales
Development Frameworks & Briefs		
East Sands Urban Design Framework	Approved September 2010	Complete
Levenmouth Strategic Land Allocation Strategic Framework	Approved October 2012	Complete
St Leonards Fields and Memorial Hospital	Approved November 2011	Complete
Development brief for Bonnygate, Cupar gap site	Approved November 2012	Complete
Gap site at 269-293 High Street, Cowdenbeath	Approved March 2011	Complete
Millgate Development Brief, Cupar	Approved November 2008	Complete
Crail North Development Framework	The community led charrette report 'Deciding Crail's Future' and Crail's Local Place Plan will inform the Council's framework for this site.	Timescales to be confirmed – to follow assessment of 'Local Place Plan' by local community.
Rosyth Waterfront Development Framework	Approved December 2017	Complete
ATS depot, Cupar	Updated Brief Approved March 2019	Complete
Madras College (Kilrymont) – Design & Development Framework	Framework approved January 2020	Complete



Topic	Status	Timescales
Town Centre Frameworks		
Kirkcaldy Town Centre Design & Development Framework	Approved October 2015	Complete
Kirkcaldy Charrette Area - Green Infrastructure Masterplan	Produced April 2018	Complete
Kirkcaldy Town Centre Car Parks Design & Development Brief	Produced February 2023	Complete
Glenrothes Town Centre Design & Development Framework	Produced September 2016	Complete
Glenrothes Town Centre Masterplan	Approved March 2021	Complete
Cowdenbeath Town Centre Design & Development Framework	Approved July 2015	Complete
Leven Town Centre - Urban Design Study	Produced August 2012	Complete
Dunfermline City Centre Design & Development Framework	Approved March 2025	Complete



KEEP IN TOUCH

You can keep in touch with the Policy & Place team preparing the Fife's Place Plan (LDP2) using the options shown.

@FifePlanning

Follow us on X for updates from Fife Council's Planning Services.

Fife Planning E-newsletter

Sign up to regular email updates on the progress of Fife's Development Plan and news from the Planning Service:
<http://eepurl.com/wnVzr>

Visit the FIFEplan Local Development Plan webpage to read news on the Local Development Plan, access mapping, and register for the Planning Update (e-newsletter)

www.fife.gov.uk/LDP

If you prefer to write to us, you can do so by addressing your mail to:

**Policy & Place Team,
 Planning Services,
 Fife House,
 Glenrothes,
 Fife KY7 5LT**

We also welcome your views on the Participation Statement which sets out how we will engage with you and keep you informed.

HAVE YOUR SAY

E-mail your suggestions on this Development Plan Scheme to:
fife.devplan@fife.gov.uk



Fife Development Plan Scheme 2026
Sixteenth Edition



Opportunities Fife Partnership Employability Pathway Provision 2026-27

Report by: Carol Connolly, Executive Director (Place)

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

This report seeks approval for the Opportunities Fife Partnership (OFP) funding allocations for the Employability Pathway 2026/27.

Recommendations

Members are asked to approve the recommended Opportunities Fife funding allocations for Employability delivery 2026/27 as set out in Section 2 of this paper.

Resource Implications

Opportunities Fife Partnership Employability Pathway delivery for 2026/27 is based on the following indicative allocations of £5,857,000, which represent a reduced funding envelope following the repurposing of UK Shared Prosperity Funding by UK Government. £2,342,800 (40% of the total allocation) is allocated to Fife Council Employability Service delivered provision. This allocated funding will form the core element of employability pathway and provide baseline capacity and continuity of delivery across Fife. The remaining resources will be used to commission a reduced level of third sector and specialist provision.

In addition, the council has a commitment against balances of £0.953m for Employability costs associated with transition from UK Shared Prosperity Fund to Local Growth Fund in the short term. Until there is clarification of the new arrangements regarding a potential transitional year for the Local Growth Fund, the council has a commitment against balances of £1.5m which will provide an underwriting of the continuing costs related with a transition year. Of this, £0.953m is related to Employability. A further paper on UKSPF and Local Growth Fund will be brought to Cabinet Committee in May 2026.

The human resources required to deliver the Employability Pathway activities are allocated from council services, from partners and subcontractors, from existing resources where possible. Due to the funding constraints, it will not be possible to continue all existing services or maintain the scale of provision previously delivered across Fife. Where funding for a current provider will cease, the OFP is putting in place a supported transition to alternative services so that all current service users maintain access to appropriate support.

Legal & Risk Implications

The Commissioning process replicates the approach approved in 2021. The terms and conditions of funding for No One Left Behind were agreed in 2020-21 with Legal Services and Finance. The rationale and approach for 2026-29 OFP Commissioning was approved by Cabinet Committee on 9 October 2025.

Commissioned provision will be subject to the council's monitoring and performance management arrangements, with delivery reviewed on a regular basis to ensure compliance with agreed terms and conditions.

The principal risks associated with the proposed approach relate to the reduced funding available for employability services and the resulting impact on service continuity, workforce capacity and provider sustainability. These risks are being managed through a commissioning approach that prioritises stability of the employability pathway for service users and clear oversight of delivery; however, reduced funding will have an impact on provision, including a reduction in third sector provision.

Impact Assessment

The Opportunities Fife Partnership's Employability Pathway delivery model has been developed using a Human Rights Based approach to ensure that delivery is inclusive of all groups with protected characteristics and those at greater disadvantage in the labour market.

The commissioning framework was developed in line with the Scottish Approach to Service Design and in line with Scottish Government strategy on Halving the Disability Employment Gap, Reducing the Gender Pay gap, Reducing the Race Pay Gap and Tackling Child Poverty.

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. Fife Partnership's and Fife Council's commitment to working towards Inclusive Growth and Jobs and Thriving Places align with this Duty.

The grants provided by Fife Council, as detailed in this report, provide specific support to reduce inequalities and support inclusive growth in Fife.

A summary Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed (Appendix 1).

Consultation

The Head of Finance and Head of Legal and Democratic Services have been consulted in the development of this report.

Area Managers and Tackling Poverty Project Managers have been consulted on local area priorities which informed the commissioning approach.

A lived experience panel have been consulted on the bids submitted as per the commissioning framework.

The Opportunities Fife Partnership, as the local employability partnership and oversight body has been consulted on the proposed employability delivery approach for the 2026-29 period and has agreed the funding recommendations for 2026-27 activity at its Executive meeting on 27 January 2026.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Opportunities Fife Partnership's approved 2026-29 commissioning approach strengthens place-based delivery, ensures alignment with national priorities and maintains continuity of essential pathway services. To support this, 40% of the employability budget is ringfenced for council-delivered provision, recognising its critical infrastructure role and ability to flex around local need. This ringfenced allocation and the overall commissioning framework, were formally approved by the Cabinet Committee in October 2025.
- 1.2 The Scottish Government allocation for 2026/27 is based on the [no one left behind employability strategic plan 2024-27](#) jointly developed with COSLA.
- 1.3 Local Government and Scottish Government have a mutual commitment to the delivery of employability support through No One Left Behind (NOLB), as outlined by the Partnership Working Agreement on Employability agreed in December 2018.
- 1.4 The contribution of employability services, delivered locally through the place-based approach of NOLB, to national economic development is a shared priority for Local and Scottish Government. This priority is outlined in the *National Strategy for Economic Transformation* (Project 15: Eradicate Structural Barriers to Participating in the Labour Market).
- 1.5 Previous employability commissioning cycles were delivered within a funding environment that combined No One Left Behind (NOLB), UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and core OFP resources. This enabled a broad employability pathway, delivered through a mix of council-led and third sector provision, with activity operating across all areas of Fife and supporting a wide range of cohorts.
- 1.6 From April 2026, the employability funding landscape will change significantly. The repurposing of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, associated capital/revenue splits and reduced overall resources mean that the scale, structure and coverage of the existing employability pathway cannot be sustained. Employability delivery in 2026/27 therefore represents a fundamental reset, focused on maintaining a core, stable pathway within the available funding (Appendix 5). Whilst the Local Growth Fund will contain some revenue funding, this will be routed through the Regional Partnerships.
- 1.7 All existing employability provision is currently scheduled to conclude by the end of the 2025/26 financial year in line with previous commissioning. New commissioning arrangements are required to ensure continuity of employability support from April 2026 onwards.
- 1.8 The council has a commitment against balances of £0.953m for costs associated with transition from UK Shared Prosperity Fund to Local Growth Fund in the short term until there is clarity surrounding the continuation of grant funding for these services (Appendix 6). The split of Local Growth Funds for Edinburgh and Southeast Scotland Regional allocations have now provisionally been agreed but we are awaiting information on the agreed split of Fife's allocation from the Tay Cities Region.
- 1.9 The Scottish Government's allocation by component in 2026/27 is detailed in Table 1 below with the indicative allocations for 2025/26 shown for comparison.

Table 1: Fife's UKSPF/NOLB Allocations 2025-27

	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	Difference in Allocation £m
Total No-one Left Behind	£5.893	£5.857	-£0.036
Total UK Shared Prosperity Fund	£1.275	0	-£1.275
Total Available for Commissioning	£7.168	£5.857	-£1.311

1.10 The Opportunities Fife Partnership's Delivery and Oversight Group, its Executive Group and the OFP Board considered the strategic policy drivers that would inform the direction of the Employability Pathway for 2026-29. Consideration was given to:

- The ambitions within the updated Plan 4 Fife 2021-24
- Best Start, Bright Futures 2022 - 26
- The updated Fife Economic Strategy 2023-30
- Refreshed Opportunities Fife Partnership Strategy 2024-30
- The No One Left Behind Employability Strategic Plan 2024-27
- Reduced funding available for Employability services.

1.11 The approach prioritised:

- stability of the employability pathway, ensuring all stages are supported (Appendix 3)
- continuity of access to core employability support
- targeted use of specialist provision where it adds the greatest value
- Local Area Need (Appendix 4)

1.12 Commissioning decisions have been informed by performance data, labour market intelligence, pathway analysis and learning from previous delivery cycles.

2.0 Commissioned Third Sector and Specialist Provision

2.1 60% of the NOLB funding available for Employability commissioning for 2026/27 (£3,514,200 of the £5,857,000) will be used to commission a third sector and specialist provision at a reduced level in comparison to 2025/26 delivery, due to the reduction in overall funding.

Commissioned provision will focus on:

- priority cohorts facing multiple or complex barriers to employment
- areas where specialist or community-based delivery is essential
- activity that cannot be delivered effectively through core council provision alone

2.2 Due to the reduced funding available, it will not be possible to continue all existing third sector provision, however, the proposed allocations focus on provision which can have the greatest impact across Fife in alignment with need.

2.3 Commissioned provision for 2026-29 will be more tightly defined, with fewer projects and a stronger focus on pathway contribution rather than standalone delivery.

- 2.4 Fife Council has a commitment against balances of £0.953m in 2026/27 for Employability costs associated with transition from UK Shared Prosperity Fund to Local Growth Fund. We will continue to work closely with those affected by the end of UKSPF and will update them once Local Growth Fund allocations are confirmed to ensure there is clear information on allocations.
- 2.5 With the addition of this commitment, the total funding allocated to third sector provision for Employability Delivery in 2026/27 is £4,443,681 (65% of available NOLB and UKSPF transition funding).

3.0 Fife Council Employability Pathway

- 3.1 For the 2026-29 period, Fife Council Employability Service provision will form a core element of the employability pathway.

This core provision will:

- i. deliver focused employability support across key stages of the pathway, working in close partnership with third sector providers
 - ii. provide a consistent route into employability services
 - iii. support referral management, progression, and coordination across provision
- 3.2 40% of the total No-One Left Behind employability funding available for 2026/27 (£2,342,800 of the £5,857,000 available) will be allocated to council-led provision to ensure continuity of provision, supporting the wider Employability Pathway and partnership approach (Appendix 2).

Fife Council Employability Service will deliver -

- **Employability Access Support for Young People (EASYP)** - Targeted person centred key work support, including early engagement, for young people aged 16-25
- **Positive Pathways** - for people age 25+ who are experiencing disabilities, health conditions or mental health issues and finding it difficult to progress on their employability journey
- **Sector Based Skills Academies (SSAP)** – A responsive approach, providing practical training and development opportunities aligned with client, industry and employer led need
- **Fife Job Contract/Life Chances (FJC)** – Co-ordination of progressive recruitment approaches and employer engagement, including paid placement co-ordination, accessible for all commissioned providers
- **Turnaround** – A programme delivered in partnership with HMP Perth, Perth Council and Fife Employment Access Trust (FEAT) to support prison leavers returning to Fife. (This programme is funded through OFP Core funding)

4.0 Funding Overview of Employability Commissioning

- 4.1 The proposed employability pathway for 2026/27 has been developed within an indicative annual budget of approximately £5.857m.
- 4.2 This represents a significant reduction compared to the funding available for the 2022-25 pathway, which included UK Shared Prosperity Fund support.

- 4.3 The reduced budget limits the scale of provision that can be delivered and significantly reduces flexibility within the system.
- 4.4 Proposed allocation (Appendix 2) balances:
- council-led core provision that underpins the pathway structure
 - targeted third sector and specialist provision
 - limited infrastructure and coordination support
- 4.5 There is limited capacity within the available funding to absorb further reductions or delays in funding confirmation.

5.0 Delivery and Oversight Arrangements

- 5.1 The Opportunities Fife Partnership will continue to provide strategic oversight of employability delivery for the 2026-29 period.
- 5.2 Council-led and commissioned provision will be monitored through existing governance, performance and reporting arrangements, with oversight focused on:
- pathway performance and flow
 - service continuity
 - delivery against priority cohorts
 - financial and contractual compliance
- 5.3 The revised delivery model reflects the need to maintain control and coordination within a more constrained system.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 The proposed funding allocations for 2026/27 reflect a changed funding environment. The loss of UK Shared Prosperity Fund support means that the scale and breadth of the previous employability pathway cannot be sustained.
- 6.2 The proposed funding allocations prioritise stability, continuity, local area need and governance, acknowledging the impact reduced funding will have on delivery whilst maintaining a functioning employability system within the available resources.

List of Appendices

1. EQIA Summary Report
2. Opportunities Fife Commissioning 2026/27
3. OFP Commissioned activity per Employability Pathway Stage
4. OFP Commissioned activity by locality
5. 2025-27 Employability Funding Comparator
6. UKSPF Transition Funding

Background Papers

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

- Opportunities Fife Partnership Commissioning Approach Opportunities Fife Partnership Employability Pathway Provision 2026-29, Page 18
- Opportunities Fife Partnership Executive meeting minutes
- Opportunities Fife Partnership Strategy 2024-2030
- No One Left Behind Strategic Plan
- Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan
- Scottish Budget 2026-27

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Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report

Which Committee report does this IA relate to (specify meeting date)?

Opportunities Fife Partnership Employability Pathway Provision 2026/27
Cabinet Committee, scheduled for 5th March 2026

What are the main impacts on equality?

The provision commissioned on Fife's Employability Pathway (which includes No One Left Behind funded provision for young people, adults and Tackling Poverty provision for families) actively promotes equality of opportunity for all regardless of their protected characteristic and circumstances in relation to accessing employment, training and education and reducing poverty/in-work poverty.

This will be monitored and actively promoted with providers during the timescale of the NOLB and TP funding streams. There is provision that will actively target young people aged 16 to 24 years of age who have been 'care experienced', which will increase individual progression opportunities and employability prospects.

There is also specific provision for adults (25 years and over) which will provide a positive impact due to the opportunities to access lifelong learning, accreditation, qualifications, new work experiences and access to healthy, sustainable, fair employment.

In relation to a strategic decision, how will inequalities of outcome caused by economic disadvantage be reduced?

The Opportunities Fife Partnership Strategy outlines two key priorities as:
Tackling Poverty & Inequality and Inclusive Jobs & Growth

To reduce the inequality of outcomes caused by economic disadvantage delivery partners focus on key locations in Fife, to engage clients who have the greatest need. Delivery Partners are committed to working with employers to understand the specific industry needs in each local area and providing training and support to meet these needs. There is also a focus to keep working with employers to help them to promote career progressions and understand how they can evolve their working and recruitment practices to ensure they are providing healthy, flexible and accessible employment opportunities.

Delivery partners, especially those working with longer term, inactive clients or those with health and disability issues continue to work with employers to address discrimination and promote sustainable, fair work and wellbeing in the workplace.

What are the main recommendations to enhance or mitigate the impacts identified?

The main recommendations to enhance or mitigate the impacts identified is to constantly monitor the equalities data collected with the participants. With regular monitoring and analysis through the OFP's Delivery and Oversight Group we can recognise any gaps in provision that may be evident, or any specific key target group that are not being supported accordingly. This will allow us to re-focus delivery partners to address any identified concerns.

If there are no equality impacts on any of the protected characteristics, please explain.

N/A

Further information is available from: Name / position / contact details:

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Opportunities Fife Partnership Commissioning 2026/27

	NOLB Core	PESF	Specialist ES	Total
	£2,585,000	£2,984,000	£288,000	£5,857,000
Fife Council Provision				
EASYP	£720,000			£720,000
FJC	£614,000	£210,800		£824,800
Positive Pathway		£166,000	£144,000	£310,000
Turnaround				
SSAP	£195,000	£195,000		£390,000
Families Provision				
Fife Gingerbread		£1,129,870		£1,129,870
Triage		£215,506		£215,506
Adults Provision				
Fife ETC	£340,000	£340,000		£680,000
Kingdom Works	£260,000	£260,000		£520,000
Young People Provision				
Brighter Futures	£456,000	£114,000		£570,000
Specialist Provision				
FEAT		£56,000	£144,000	£200,000
Third Sector Work placement				
OFP		£277,200		£277,200
Total Allocated	£2,585,000	£2,964,376	£288,000	£5,837,376
Remaining	£0	£19,624	£0	£19,624

OFP Commissioned activity per Employability Pathway Stage

Provision Type	Stage 1 Awareness Raising Activity	Stage 2 Early Engagement	Stage 3 Ongoing Support	Stage 4 Constructive Engagement	Stage 5 In-Work Support
Adult	BRAG - Fife ETC				
	Kingdom Works				
Families	Fife Gingerbread - PEF				
	Triage - Connected Parents				
Fife Council - Core	EASYP				
					FJC
	Positive Pathways				
	Turn Around				
				SSAP	
Specialist	FEAT - Fife IPS				
Young People	BRAG - Bright Futures				

Commissioned Activity by Locality

Provision Type	Glenrothes	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South West Fife	Dunfermline	Kirkcaldy	Cowdenbeath
Adult	BRAG - Fife ETC						
	Kingdom Works						
Families	Fife Gingerbread - PEF		Fife Gingerbread - PEF				
	Triage - Connected Parents		Triage - Connected Parents				
Fife Council - Core							
	EASYP						
	FJC						
	Positive Pathways						
	Turn Around						
SSAP							
Specialist	FEAT - Fife IPS						
Young People	BRAG - Bright Futures						

Commissioned Activity 2025/26 vs 2026/27

	Opportunities Fife Partnership 2025/26						Opportunities Fife Partnership 2026/27						Variance	
	UKSPF	NOLB Core	PESF	Specialist ES	Core Budget	Total	UKSP F	NOLB Core	PESF	Specialist ES	Core Budget	Total	Total	%
	£1,274,650	£2,568,838	£3,037,338	£287,209	£600,000	£7,768,035	£0	£2,585,000	£2,984,000	£288,000	£600,000	£6,457,000	-£1,311,035	-17%
Fife Council Provision														
EASYP	£90,027	£627,897				£717,924		£720,000				£720,000	£2,076	0.00%
FJC	£121,882	£278,974	£600,000		£150,000	£1,150,856		£614,000	£210,800		£98,000	£922,800	£-228,056	-20%
Positive Pathway			£60,163	£250,000		£310,163			£166,000	£144,000		£310,000	£-163	0
Turnaround					£300,000	£300,000					£300,000	£300,000	£0	0
SSAP			£50,000			£50,000		£195,000	£195,000			£390,000	£340,000	680%
Brag - Fife ETC	£225,000	£285,000	£200,000			£710,000		£340,000	£340,000			£680,000	£-30,000	4%
Fife Council Education - 16+	£95,000					£95,000						£0	£-95,000	-100%
Brag - Brighter Futures		£659,529				£659,529		£456,000	£114,000			£570,000	£-89,529	-14%
Venture Trust - Inspiring Futures		£140,618				£140,618						£0	£-140,618	-100%
Fife Gingerbread			£832,000			£832,000			£1,129,870			£1,129,870	£297,870	36%
Brag - Square Start			£487,500			£487,500						£0	£-487,500	-100%
SAMH - Specialist IPS for Addictions		£61,791		£37,209		£99,000						£0	£-99,000	-100%
FEAT - IPS	£141,734					£141,734			£56,000	£144,000		£200,000	£58,266	41%
FVA - Volunteering Into Work		£80,080				£80,080						£0	£-80,080	-100%
Kingdom Works	£430,761		£143,467			£574,228		£260,000	£260,000			£520,000	£-54,228	-9%
Rural Skills Scotland	£129,764		£43,254			£173,018						£0	£-173,018	-100%
Fife International Forum		£212,024	£312,024			£524,048						£0	£-524,048	-100%

Opportunities Fife Partnership 2025/26						
Triage - Connected Parents						£148,547
Link Living - Step On						£202,407
Third Sector Paid Work Placement						£160,000
FVA Infrastructure						£31,000
Fife centre for Equalities						£30,000
OFP Core Support Costs						£150,000
Total Allocated						£7,767,652
Remaining						

Opportunities Fife Partnership 2026/27						Variance		
			£215,506			£215,506	£66,959	45%
						£0	£-202,407	-100%
			£277,200			£277,200	£117,200	73%
						£0	£-31,000	-100%
						£0	£-30,000	-100%
					£202,000	£202,000	£52,000	35%
£0	£2,585,000	£2,964,376	£288,000	£600,000	£6,437,376	-	£1,330,276	-17%
	£0	£19,624	£0	£0	£19,624			

UKSPF Transition Funding

Project	2026-27 Transitional Funding Required
Fife Council Education - 16+	£23,519
Venture Trust - Inspiring Futures	£90,000
SAMH - Specialist IPS for Addictions	£99,000
FVA - Volunteering Into Work	£80,000
Rural Skills Scotland	£150,000
Fife International Forum	£420,481
Link Living - Step On	£90,000
	£953,000

Cabinet Committee

Outstanding Remits from Committees

Title	Service(s)	Comments
30th April, 2026		
Affordable Housing Programme 2026-29 / Affordable Housing Phase 4	Housing	As agreed at 06.03.25 meeting - para 343 of 2025.CC.181 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 6th March 2025 - Noted next steps and further reporting as detailed in section 3 of the report. UPDATE: Deferred from October 2025 to coincide with the SHIP report being submitted in January. Work currently underway to look at alternative delivery and financing models for AH.
Homelessness Prevention	Housing	As agreed at 06.03.25 meeting - para 343 of 2025.CC.181 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 6th March 2025 - Noted next steps and further reporting as detailed in section 3 of the report. Deferred from May meeting as awaiting conclusion of evaluation in June. Update (November 2025) - Deferred to consider whether this could be integrated with a wider prevention report. Update (March 2026) - There has been a significant change in the funding and financial framework supporting homelessness priorities for 2026/27 and further time is needed to confirm approval with Finance.
28th May, 2026		
Mothballing of Kirkton of Largo PS	Education Service	As agreed at Cabinet meeting on 08.01.26 - para. 454 of 26.CC.234 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 8th January 2026 - Consultation Report to be brought forward.
Pedestrian and Cyclist Access to Household Waste Recycling Centres	Environment and Building Services	As agreed at 11.01.24 meeting - para. 199 of 2024.CC.110 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 11th January 2024 - Update February 2026 - Moved to May 2026 to provide the new Head of Service an opportunity to review proposals.
Senior Officer Exit Packages Revised Policy Update	Chief Executive's Service / Human Resources	As agreed at 09.10.25 meeting - para. 431 of 2025.CC.222 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 9th October 2025 - Update December 2025: Revised LoOP to be considered at March Council meeting and then policy to be revised and brought back to Cabinet in April.

Title	Service(s)	Comments
25th June, 2026		
Future of Leisure (Review of Subsidised Lease Policy and Community Assets and Services: Prices and Concessions)	Communities and Neighbourhoods	As agreed at 08.01.26 meeting - para. 459 of 26.CC.237 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 8th January 2026
Fife Transient Visitor Levy Scheme	Business and Employability	As agreed at 03.04.25 meeting - para. 362 of 2025.CC.192 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 3rd April, 2025 - Draft Levy Scheme to be developed and brought back to Cabinet Committee for approval prior to statutory consultation.
13th August, 2026		
Antisocial Behaviour Policy	Housing Service	As agreed at 08.01.26 meeting - para. 469 of 26.CC.241 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 8th January 2026 - Existing policy to be reviewed and reported back to Cabinet by Autumn 2026.
10th September, 2026		
Support for Voluntary Organisations	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	As agreed at 05.03.26 Cabinet meeting - para. 483 of 26.CC.246 refers - - Report to be brought back within six months providing further clarification and timescales in relation to the areas detailed in Appendix 8 of the report.

Unallocated		
Social Housing Net Zero Standard (SHNZS) - Scottish Government Consultation Response	Housing Services	As agreed at 07.03.24 Cabinet meeting - para. 223 of 2024.CC.122 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 7th March 2024 - A further report be brought back to Cabinet later in 2024. UPDATE: December 2024 - Deferred from January 2025 meeting as Scottish Government announcement on SHNZS is still awaited. An Elected Members' Briefing to be issued meantime.
Policy on Community Benefits for Net Zero	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	As agreed at FC meeting 18.09.25 – para. 204 of 2025.FC.332 refers - Fife Council Minute - 18th September 2025
Allocations Policy Recommendations	Housing Service	As agreed at Cabinet meeting on 04.12.25 - para. 442 of 2025.CC.227 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 4th December 2025
Fife Bus Network Review	Roads and Transportation Service	As agreed at Cabinet meeting on 04.12.25 - para. 446 of 2025.CC.229 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 4th December 2025

Title	Service(s)	Comments
Unallocated		
Short Term Let Control Areas	Planning Services	As agreed at Cabinet meeting on 08.01.26 - para. 464 of 26.CC.239 refers - Cabinet Committee Minute - 8th January 2026 - Report to be brought back outlining a strategy on how a STLCA for the East Neuk and St. Andrews wards could be achieved.
Wellbeing and Safeguarding - Brodies Report	Legal and Democratic Services	As agreed at Cabinet meeting on 05.03.26 - para. 489 of 26.CC.250 refers - Officers to prepare a formal response to Brodies' recommendations to be considered at a future meeting of the Cabinet Committee.