

Kirkcaldy Area Committee (Blended Meeting)

Small Committee Room, 1st Floor, Town House, Kirkcaldy

Tuesday, 27 February 2024 - 2.00 p.m.



AGENDA

Page Nos.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In terms of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct Members of the Committee are asked to declare any interest(s) in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.
3. **MINUTE OF MEETING OF KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE OF 19 DECEMBER 2023.** 4 - 7
4. **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE LOCALITY PLANNING - KIRKCALDY –** 8 - 19
Report by the Director of Nursing, Health and Social Care Partnership
5. **AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2024-25 –** Report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services 20 - 28
6. **SUPPORTING THE PLAN 4 KIRKCALDY AREA: UPDATE ON PREVIOUS ALLOCATIONS AND NEW APPLICATIONS –** Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods 29 - 36
7. **PLAY SPACES CATEGORISATION - KIRKCALDY AREA –** Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods 37 - 43
8. **LOCAL AREA ECONOMIC PROFILES ANNUAL REPORT –** Report by the Head of Business and Employability 44 - 80
9. **KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME –** Report by the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services 81 - 86

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

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

Fife House
North Street
Glenrothes
Fife, KY7 5LT

20 February, 2024

If telephoning, please ask for:

Lesley Robb, Lead Officer - Committee Services, Fife House 06 (Main Building)
Telephone: 03451 555555, ext. 441094; email: Lesley.Robb@fife.gov.uk

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

BLENDED MEETING NOTICE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE FIFE COUNCIL - KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

Small Committee Room, 1st Floor, Town House, Kirkcaldy

19 December 2023

2.00 pm – 4.45 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Ian Cameron (Convener), Blair Allan, Lesley Backhouse, Alistair Cameron, Rod Cavanagh, Judy Hamilton, James Leslie, Kathleen Leslie, Julie MacDougall, Nicola Patrick and David Ross.

ATTENDING: Julie Dickson, Community Manager, Andy MacLellan, Community Projects Team Manager, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant, Keith Johnston, Technician Engineer, Roads and Transportation Services; Alan Paul, Head of Property Services, Liz Murphy, Bereavement Service Manager, Property Services; Elaine Campbell, Housing Team Manager, Housing Services; Alexander Anderson, Service Manager - Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing, Scott Clelland, Service Manager - Grounds Maintenance Service, Richard Brown, Team Manager - Kirkcaldy Parks, Environment and Building Services; Laura Robertson, Finance Operations Manager, Eleanor Hodgson, Accountant and Lesley Robb, Lead Officer - Committee Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Alistair Cameron and Rod Cavanagh both declared an interest in Para. 79 - Area Capital Budget Transfer Request - Kirkcaldy Community Football Partnership 3G Synthetic Pitch, Den Road - as both were trustees of Kirkcaldy Community Football Partnership.

76. MINUTE.

The committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 31 October 2023.

Decision

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

77. PROPOSED SPEED LIMITS - KINGDOM PARK, KIRKCALDY

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services outlining a proposal to introduce speed limits within the Kingdom Park development site and to reduce the speed limits on A921 Rosslyn Street and A915 Randolph Road.

Decision

The committee:-

2023 KAC 32

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce speed limits within Kingdom Park Development and speed limit changes on the A915 Randolph Road, as detailed in drawing no. TRO23_47 (Appendix 1) of the report;
- (2) agreed that officers would submit a further report at a later date regarding the proposed speed limit changes to the A921 Rosslyn Street once a potential date for construction of the proposed Mitchelston roundabout was known; and
- (3) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Orders for Kingdom Park Development and A915 Randolph Road within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

78. PROPOSED PARKING PROHIBITION - B928 WINDMILL ROAD AND VIEWFORTH HIGH SCHOOL, KIRKCALDY

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services outlining a proposal to introduce a “No Waiting at Any Time” parking prohibition on B928 Windmill Road at Viewforth High School, Kirkcaldy.

Decision

The committee:

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a parking prohibition as detailed in drawing no. TRO23_52 (Appendix 1) of the report; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

Councillors A. Cameron and Cavanagh, left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item, having earlier declared an interest.

79. AREA CAPITAL BUDGET TRANSFER REQUEST - KIRKCALDY COMMUNITY FOOTBALL PARTNERSHIP 3G SYNTHETIC PITCH, DEN ROAD.

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service requesting an Area Capital Budget transfer of £159,000 from the Area Capital Improving Health Through Leisure & Sport fund to be reallocated to Kirkcaldy Community Football Partnership towards the construction of a new 3G synthetic pitch and all associated works.

Decision

The committee agreed to an Area Budget Transfer of £159,000 from the Area Capital Improving Health Through Leisure & Sport fund to Kirkcaldy Community Football Partnership towards the construction of a new 3G synthetic pitch and all associated works, with funding only to be released to Kirkcaldy Community Football Partnership once all agreed funding from other sources had been secured.

Councillors A. Cameron and Cavanagh, rejoined the meeting following consideration of the above item.

80. BEREAVEMENT SERVICES CEMETERY STRATEGY

The committee considered a report by the Head of Property Services advising of the outcome of the consultation on the future provision of cemeteries in Fife and requested support for implementation of the strategy moving forward.

Decision

The committee: -

- (1) noted the key points from the consultation exercise; and
- (2) supported the actions moving forward in the Cemetery Strategy 2023 – 2028, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

81. AREA HOUSING PLAN 2023-26 UPDATE

The committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services updating members on progress in delivering performance information for 2023 in relation to the Kirkcaldy Housing Services Plan 2023/26, approved at Kirkcaldy Area Committee on 29 August 2023.

Decision

The committee noted:

- (1) the performance reports available for 2023; and
- (2) that a revised Area Housing Plan would be presented to Committee from April 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 3.40 pm and re-convened at 3.50 pm.

82. DOMESTIC WASTE, STREET CLEANSING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICE - ANNUAL REVIEW 2022-23

The committee considered a report by the Head of Environment and Building Services informing the committee of the performance of the Grounds Maintenance and Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Services in 2022-23.

Decision

The committee:-

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

83. COMMON GOOD AND SETTLEMENT TRUST ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

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

Decision

The committee:

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

84. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

The committee considered a report by the Head of Property Services advising of action taken using the List of Officer Powers, in relation to property transactions.

Decision

The committee noted the contents of the report.

85. KIRKCALDY AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

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

Decision

The committee reviewed and noted the Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme 2023/24.

27 February 2024

Agenda Item No. 04

Health & Social Care Locality Planning – Kirkcaldy

Report by: Lynn Barker, Director of Nursing, HSCP

(Senior Leadership Team Lead for Kirkcaldy H&SCP Locality Planning Group)

Wards Affected: Wards 9,10,11 &12

Purpose

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

Recommendation

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

Resource Implications

There are no specific Resource Implications

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or risk implications arising from this report. All working groups for the Key Priorities within the Kirkcaldy Locality Action Plan 2023 have a risk register, if appropriate regularly reviewed by the working groups

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

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

1.0 Background

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

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 Following the stakeholder event in 2022, the Kirkcaldy Locality Group agreed to focus on the priorities below to take forward in 2023:
- Supporting Unpaid Carers
 - Community Led Support

- Supporting People Affected by Drug / Alcohol Harm and Death

2.2 Supporting Unpaid Carers

- 2.2.1 A new fund was set up by Fife Health and Social Care Partnership for the benefit of unpaid carers. The Community Chest Fund (CCF) for Fife Carers was launched June 2023 with each of Fife's seven locality areas allocated £50,000. In Fife there are estimated over 47,000 unpaid carers who look after friends or family affected by illness, disability, mental health or addiction. The Community Chest Fund will fund projects set up by local groups or charities to create supportive places for these unpaid carers, develop their sense of belonging and improve their wellbeing. The funding is available to any community group or charity based in Fife, who can apply for £1,000 up to £10,000 per project, for up to two years.
- 2.2.2 The aim of this priority is to provide an increased opportunity for unpaid carers to improve their knowledge and understanding of preventative care and positive choices for their own health & wellbeing. The first round of the Community Chest fund closed on the 31st July 2023.
- 2.2.3 Three applications were received for Kirkcaldy, all three were successfully funded, namely:
- Balwearie High School to fund a mindfulness garden space for the current 21 young carers and future young carers attending Balwearie HS, providing a safe space for them to have quiet time out, relax, study on their own or meet as a small group where they will be surrounded by sensory planting and a water feature allowing them to take ownership to learn new skills, growing their own food and maintaining a garden area as well as having a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing.
 - Kinghorn Community Centre to fund unpaid carers free use of the hall, a breakfast club with other carers and evening cuppa and scone in their Community Living Room allowing them to socialise and create support with other carers unwinding from their busy days. The project included regular coffee mornings and space to meet with free yoga / Pilates classes. The aim of the programme was to reduce social isolation of unpaid carers and provide a space and opportunity to link with other carers providing support.
 - The Men's Group facilitated by Fife Carers to fund social activities allowing the men a break from their caring role, some of the men care for partners with enduring and complex physiological and neurological conditions. These activities included instructed sessions with 2 activities at Cluny Activities and a Christmas get together lunch. The impact of which the men have already reported back enabling time for themselves to relieve stress, improve their morale and self-esteem and confidence, allowing them to recharge their batteries to enable them to continue in their caring role whilst looking after their own wellbeing. They have seen these activities as interesting and have had fun together as well as developing new friendships. It has also sparked ideas for next year and a programme of activities, funding included care cover to ensure all the men were able to attend.
- 2.2.4 A further four applications were received that were Fife wide projects, all benefiting Kirkcaldy.

2.2.5 The second-round funding closed on the 15th January 2024 and this priority will continue in 2024. For further details please click the Community Chest Fund SWAY link.
<https://sway.office.com/38c2FxHkWsFmCyak?ref=Link>.

2.3 **Community Led Support – The Lifecurve Tool Test of Change**

2.3.1 The ageing population of Kirkcaldy was identified as a priority for this Locality. A short life working group (SLWG) was established with the Aim to raise awareness of ageing well, increasing opportunities for people to improve their knowledge and understanding of health and lifestyle choices leading to more positive outcomes. The Outcome was an increased awareness and understanding of the Life Curve tool and individual wellbeing and outcomes optimised through building enabling relationships with people and focussing on supported self-management.

2.3.2 The Life Curve is based on the concept of functional decline (CFD) and it was developed by Professor Peter Gore and his Ageing and Health faculty at Newcastle University, which hosts the National Innovation Centre for ageing. With additional research carried out by ADL Smartcare (Professor Gore's company). Their studies have shown that people lose the ability to independently carry out activities of daily living (ADL's) in a particular order. By using these 15 markers a person can position themselves on the LifeCurve, which will show how they are ageing.

2.3.3 Once we know where a person is on their ageing journey, we can then map them to activities, services and products (such as exercise or assistive equipment), which will help them maintain, or even recover ability to carry out these activities thus maximising their independence for much longer.

Fife Health & Social Care partnership also has a self-assessment platform, provided by the same people that are behind the LifeCurve (ADL Smartcare). We have badged it as, **Smart Life In Fife**

There is robust data that evidences that people at the top of the curve (that can't manage to cut their toe nails) cost the NHS many thousands of pounds less than the people at the bottom of the curve and so there is much to be gained, both financially and resource wise from maintaining or improving people's functional ability to self-manage ADLs for as long as possible. This helps us to identify where we need to target resources and where resources can be saved through rehab, as well as earlier intervention and prevention.

2.3.4 The SLWG led by Neil Carnegie, Community Occupational Therapy Lead and supported by the LDO and Health Promotion worked collaboratively with a multidisciplinary team including.

- Community Occupational Therapy (HSCP)
- HSCP Localities
- Fife Voluntary Action (FVA)
- Health Promotion
- Podiatry (NHS)
- Community Housing (FC)
- Active Fife (FC)
- Fife Sports & Leisure Trust
- Abbotsford Care
- MSK (Musculoskeletal) NHS

- Nursing NHS
- Physiotherapy & Occupational Therapy NHS

The SLWG is linked into the NHS Frailty Managed Clinical Network Steering Group and Prevention & Early Intervention Strategy Team.

2.3.5 The Health Promotion Officer has worked with ADL Smartcare to produce an interactive postcard of the Lifecurve tool (**see Appendix 1**) that's easy to keep safe and the patient/client can plot their own progress on the card – there is also QR and links for information, but they have the Lifecurve in front of them to chart progress if no access to digital. The interactive postcard will be used to support the three Test of Change (ToC) agreed by the SLWG within Kirkcaldy Locality, namely Community Occupational Therapy, Community Housing and FVA Footcare Service. The ToCs will run for 1 year and will continue Phase 2 of the Kirkcaldy Locality Action Plan for 2024. All of these services are in touch with patients / clients who are on the Lifecurve and would benefit immensely from maintaining their position or opportunity to improve it. All teams have had training and access to the ADL Dashboard Staff Access, which will allow data collection and provide analysis and evaluation of the success of the patient / clients progress using this tool. Community Housing have already commenced the test of change in September 2023, working with 5 clients within a sheltered housing complex, regularly plotting their progress / maintenance whilst they attend weekly exercise classes together and utilise the SmartlifeinFife exercises, FSLT are working with the Housing team to progress these classes. FVA Footcare commenced 29th January 2024 and have committed ½ day per week for 2024 to add 5 clients weekly, updating positions on the Lifecurve Tool at 6 weekly appointments. Community OT are scheduled to commence February 2024.

2.3.6 The SLWG will continue to meet every 6 weeks in 2024 to collect data and progress update of the ToCs to the Kirkcaldy Locality Planning Core Group. This priority will remain on the Kirkcaldy Locality Action Plan for Phase 2 in 2024.

2.4 Community Led Support – The Well & Secondary Care Test of Change

2.4.1 The aim of this priority was to work collaboratively with Secondary Care (VHK) Waiting Well programme to identify opportunities for community led support with the outcome to have a referral pathway to wrap around holistic person-centred support to improve outcomes for acute patients on the waiting lists using community led support.

2.4.2 A short life working group (SLWG) was established with HSCP Localities including The Well Project Coordinator and Secondary Care (VHK) colleagues.

2.4.3 In May 2023 the SLWG identified and agreed to commence a Test of Change within the newly built National Treatment Centre (NTC) for Orthopaedics located on the Victoria Hospital Site. The Well was situated in the NTC on a Friday morning from May 23. The Well is also on location at the VHK (Costa) twice weekly, Wednesday's and Friday's.

2.4.4 The SLWG established a referral pathway with the consultants / nursing teams in Orthopaedics (and all Acute staff) to enable a more holistic person-centred support to acute patients who were currently awaiting surgery or about to go onto a waiting list for orthopaedic surgery.

2.4.5 The SLWG meet regularly to update on progress and an SBAR has been taken to the Integrated Planned Care Programme Board. This ToC aligns to the Scottish Government National Waiting Well Programme.

2.4.5 The ToC is scheduled to complete in March 2024. A full evaluation analysis and report will be presented to the Kirkcaldy Locality Core Group on completion.

2.5 Supporting People Affected by Drug / Alcohol Harm and Death

2.5.1 The objective of this key priority, highlighted from data presented by HSCP ADP in March 2023 to Kirkcaldy Locality Planning Group, was to develop targeted support to communities and people at risk of harmful substance use.

2.5.2 A multi-agency working group, led by Dr Glyn McCrickard, GP Cluster Lead for Kirkcaldy and including:

- Fife Alcohol and Drug Partnership, HSCP
- Fife Alcohol Support Service (FASS)
- Scottish Families
- Community Planning
- Social Work
- Addictions Services, NHS
- Clinical Psychologist Lead for NHS Fife Adult
- Mental Health Psychology (Kirkcaldy and Levenmouth)
- Police Scotland
- Public Health, NHS Fife
- FASSACTION & Lived Experience
- Pharmacy

was established to deliver a One Stop Shop (or alternative) in the Kirkcaldy area for people affected by alcohol and drug use using principles of co-production with the community and people with lived and living experience and their families.

2.5.3 The SLWG took learning from the established KY8 Club in Levenmouth and developed the KY2 Club for Kirkcaldy.

2.5.4 The KY2 Club was opened timeously on Wednesday's at Templehall Community Centre on 16th August 2023. Appendix 2 illustrates the poster for KY2 Club showing some of the supporting services available.

2.5.5 The SLWG will continue to evaluate and monitor progress to ensure the KY2 Club is in the right place and reaching the right people to provide the right support.

2.5.6 The KY2 Club has successfully welcomed and supported 15 – 20 people on a regular weekly basis providing a safe, non-judgemental space where they receive a hot toastie and warm drink and can engage with services when they are ready to do so.

2.5.7 The KY2 Club will remain on Phase 2 of Kirkcaldy Locality Action Plan 24 to ensure ongoing reporting, learning and evaluation.

2.6 Kirkcaldy Locality Wider Stakeholder Event - November 2023

2.6.1 This year's Locality Wider stakeholder events took a different approach to the previous year. Lightning talks were presented on current areas of work and locality groups shared what was happening in other areas. The slide below represents the wide range of

partners who attended the Kirkcaldy Locality Wider Stakeholder Event on Thursday 16th November 2023 at the Fife Voluntary Action, Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy.

What service are you representing today?

44 responses



At the event, attendees were asked to discuss and analyse case studies to identify potential themes for 2024.

The feedback from the Kirkcaldy event was then collated and analysed by the Locality Development Officer. The findings will be presented at the locality planning meeting in March 2024.

The proposed themes identified for discussion are:

- Accessing Services
- Communication
- Training/Upskilling Staff
- Early Intervention

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The Kirkcaldy Locality Action Plan for 2023 illustrates the successful outcomes achieved as detailed in section 2. The 2024 Delivery Plan will incorporate Phase 2 of actions carried over from 2023, and the new identified priorities for 2024.
- 3.2 The Locality Delivery Plan 2024 for the Kirkcaldy Locality will be reviewed/agreed by the Locality Core Group members at the meeting on 21st March 2024.
- 3.3 The Kirkcaldy Locality Planning Group has gone from strength to strength in 2023, critical to the success has been the collaborative/systems working together approach. Going

forward in 2024 the group members will continue to play a powerful role by applying the insights, experience, and resources to enable local networks, develop robust, productive professional relationships, and improve outcomes for people living in the locality.

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 Lifecurve Interactive Postcard

Appendix 2 KY2 Club Poster

Report Contact

Jacque Stringer

Service Manager (Locality/Community Led Support)

Email: Jacquie.Stringer-fc@fife.gov.uk

Appendix 1 Lifecurve Interactive Postcard (Front Page)



Much as we'd love to, none of us can turn back time. What we can do is reduce the ways in which getting older limits our lives.

Fife Health
& Social Care
Partnership
Supporting the people of Fife together



Use the [Smart Life in Fife](#) website to see how you can take control of how you age:

- ▶ Take the **LifeCurve Quiz** to see how you are ageing, and then retake it later to see your improvements.
- ▶ Find help for your everyday needs using a **Self-Assessment**.

Enjoy a fitter and fuller later life, staying in control in ways that suit you.

The advice on our website is provided by experts on how to age well. Others have followed their advice and it has helped them to enjoy a fitter and fuller life.

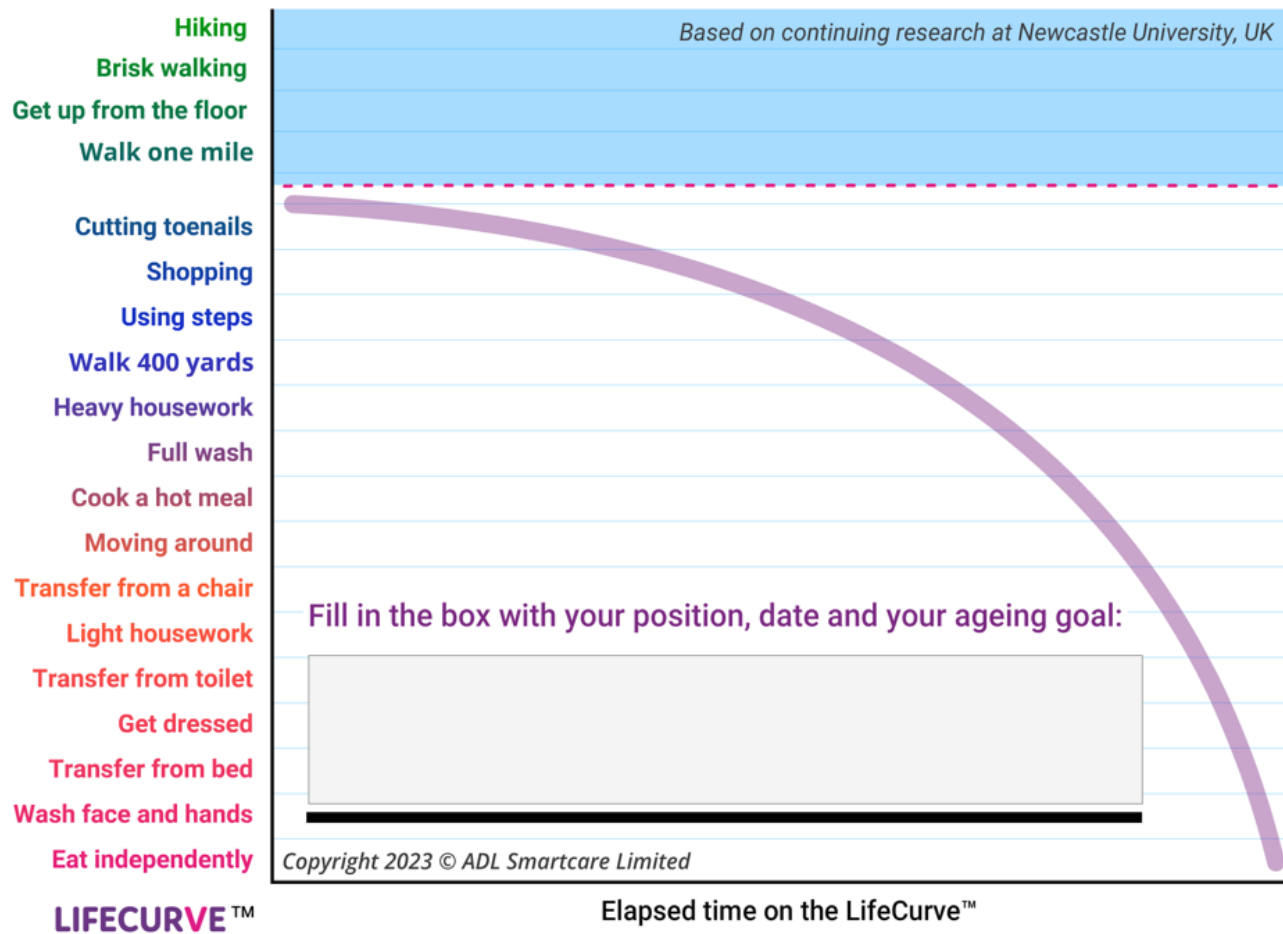
www.SmartLifeInFife.org

For more info contact HSCPLocalityplanning@fife.gov.uk



Scan QR Code
for website

Where are you on the LifeCurve?



Please note: The line plotted onto the LifeCurve is for illustrative purposes only. Everyone's journey is different.



KY2 CLUB



- Tea, Toastie and Informal Chat
- Addiction Services
- Mental Health
- Harm Reduction
- Physical Wellbeing

- BBV Testing
- Naloxone Training

Every Wednesday 1 - 3pm
Templehall Community
Centre Kirkcaldy

www.fassaction.org.uk
01592 321321

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)?

Kirkcaldy Area Committee

What are the main impacts on equality?

The report outlines work that aims to address health and wellbeing outcomes.

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

Section 2

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

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

Jacquie Stringer

Service Manager (Locality/Community Led Support)

Jacquie.Stringer-fc@fife.gov.uk

27 February 2024
Agenda Item No. 05

Area Roads Programme 2024-25

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

Wards Affected: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Purpose

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

Recommendation(s)

Committee is asked to:

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

Resource Implications

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

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

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

1.0 Background

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

- 1.5 The current capital plan indicates that the carriageway budget of £9.73m in 2024/25 will reduce to £5.02m in 2025/26 and then averages out at £6.1m annually thereafter. The footway budget in 2024/25 is £1.68M reducing to £1.4m in 2025/26 and then averages at £1.72m thereafter.

For the Kirkcaldy area, the budgets for 2024-25 are as shown below: -

Devolved Budget	2024/25 Allocation
Carriageways	£1.151m
Footways	£281k
Road Safety & Traffic Management	£156k

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

2.0 Issues and Options

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

3.0 Conclusions

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

List of Appendices

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

Report Contacts

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

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

**Kirkcaldy Area Committee
Carriageway Scheme List for 2024-25**

APPENDIX 1

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

2024-25 Budget Share	£1,151,432
-----------------------------	-------------------

Ward	Ward Name	Town	Street	Location	Estimate	Cumulative Total	Cat
11	Kirkcaldy Central	Kirkcaldy	A910 Nicol Street	Esplanade to Veterinary Surgery (defer 2025/26 due network availability)	£190,318		cf
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	A921 The Path/ Nether Street	High Street to Ravenscraig R/A	£342,384	£ 342,384	1
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	A921 Rosslyn Street	Viewforth Street to North of Oswald Road	£390,965	£ 733,349	1
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	A915 Randolph Road	Gallatown R/A to Boreland R/A	£375,216	£ 1,108,565	1
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	C96 Hayfield Road	C96 Hayfield Road Junction at the bottom of Whytemans Brae	£114,638	£ 1,223,203	1
11	Kirkcaldy Central	Kirkcaldy	A921 Esplanade	Heggies Wynd to Nicol Street (northbound)	£527,562	£ 1,750,765	2
9	Burntisland, Kinghorn & Kirkcaldy West	Burntisland	A921 Aberdour Road	Kirkton Road to East Toll R/A	£171,956	£ 1,922,721	2
10	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Chapel Level Phase 2	Junction at Fair Isle Road / Robert Adam Drive and W/B to Broom Road R/A (W/B only)	£287,389	£ 2,210,110	2
9	Burntisland, Kinghorn & Kirkcaldy West	Kirkcaldy	B9157 Inveriel Road	Peebles Street to west of Layby	£228,531	£ 2,438,641	2
11	Kirkcaldy Central	Kirkcaldy	Valley Gardens	Valley View to Hendry Road	£206,898	£ 2,645,539	2

**Kirkcaldy Area Committee
Footway Scheme List for 2024-25**

APPENDIX 2

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

2024-25 Budget Share	£281,265
-----------------------------	-----------------

Ward	Ward Name	Town	Street	Location	Scheme Type	Estimate	Cumulative Total	Cat
10	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Greenloanings	Birnam Road, Dallas Drive to Blairmore Road south side. Birnam Road, Findhorn Place to shops north side. Blairmore Road, Birnam Road to ped. xing o/s school	Footway	£ 43,975	£ 43,975	cf
10	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Dunearn Drive	Community Centre to Templehall Café (both sides)	Footway	£ 123,142	£ 167,117	1
10	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Barry Road	In front of primary school	Footway	£ 40,802	£ 207,919	1
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	Beatty Crescent	Macindoe Crescent to Overton Road (note: feasibility study required in advance - trees)	Footway	£ 90,818	£ 298,737	1
9	Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy	Kinghorn	Various Locations	Kilcruik Rd, Fpath from Castle Wynd to Barclay Rd/Bruce Terrace/ Burntisland Rd (east & west sides)	Footway	£ 113,695	£ 412,432	2
11	Kirkcaldy Central	Kirkcaldy	Nicol Street	High Street to entrance to D&G garage	Footway	£ 32,905	£ 445,337	2
11	Kirkcaldy Central	Kirkcaldy	Nicol Street/ Links Street	School Wynd to Esplanade	Footway	£ 41,460	£ 486,797	2
12	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Greenloanings	South of 65 to east of 143 via south of 150 plus north of 39 to north of 59	Footway	£ 12,164	£ 498,961	2
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	Nairn Street/Victoria Road Ph2	East of Provost Kay Park to Mitchell Place	Footway	£ 69,101	£ 568,062	2
12	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Maree PI Torridon PI & Rannoch Road	Footpaths in front of residential properties	Footway	£ 60,545	£ 628,607	2

Kirkcaldy Area Committee
Proposed Road Safety & Traffic Management Scheme List for 2024/25

APPENDIX 3

CF	Carried forward from 2023/24
CAT 1	Proposed for approval by Committee for delivery in 2024/25

2024-25 Budget Share	£136,850
2023/24 Carry Forward	20,000
Available 2024/25 Budget	156,850

Ward	Ward Name	Town	Street	Location	Scheme Type	Estimate	Cumulative total	Category
9	Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy	Burntisland	A921 Aberdour Road	near car showroom & roundabout	Buildouts	£20,000	£20,000	CF
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	Boreland Road		Traffic Calming review	£30,000	£50,000	1
10	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Blairmore Road		Traffic Calming	£20,000	£70,000	1
10	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Broom Gardens	near junction with Broom Road	Footway links & improved pedestrian crossing facility	£10,000	£80,000	1
11	Kirkcaldy Central	Kirkcaldy	Pratt Street	opposite Stark's Park, southwards towards Mill Street	Feasibility study - footway widening	£1,000	£81,000	1
9	Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy	Kirkcaldy	Balwearie Road	west end	Traffic Calming	£20,000	£101,000	1
9	Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy	Kirkcaldy	A921 Kirkcaldy Road	near Croft an Righ	Traffic Calming	£30,000	£131,000	1
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	B925 Victoria Road	between Dunnikier Road and Nairn Street	Traffic Calming	£10,000	£141,000	1
11	Kirkcaldy Central	Kirkcaldy	Pratt Street	opposite Stark's Park, southwards towards Mill Street	Footway widening (if feasibility study is successful)	£15,000	£156,000	2
10 & 11	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Kilmun Road		Traffic Calming	£10,000		2
9	Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy	Burntisland	A921 Kirkcaldy Road	around the cemetery	Traffic Calming	£25,000		2

**Kirkcaldy Committee Area
Lighting Scheme List 2024-25**

APPENDIX 4

CAT1	For delivery in 2024-25
-------------	--------------------------------

Ward No.	Ward Name	Town	Street	Location	Scheme Type	Estimate	Cumulative total	Category
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	Overton Mains Phase 3		Lighting	£ 87,000	£ 87,000	1
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	Millie Street/Junction Road		Lighting	£ 29,400	£ 116,400	1
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	Transportation Car Parks	St Clair Street/Junction Road	Lighting	£ 32,400	£ 148,800	1
9	Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy	Kinghorn	Long Craigs Terrace		Lighting	£ 42,000	£ 190,800	1
10	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Dunnikier Estate	Braehead Road	Lighting	£ 21,000	£ 211,800	1
11	Kirkcaldy Central	Kirkcaldy	William St, Methven Road, James Grove		Lighting	£ 87,000	£ 298,800	1
12	Kirkcaldy East	Kirkcaldy	Smeaton Area	Hayfield Rd, Holly Pl, Veronica Cres, Sycamore Ave, Oaktree Sq & Oaktree Court	Lighting	£ 123,000	£ 421,800	1
10	Kirkcaldy North	Kirkcaldy	Gosford Road, Hopetoun Place, Mellerstain Road		Lighting	£ 75,000		2

Kirkcaldy Area Committee
Proposed Bridges & Structures Scheme List for 2024/25

APPENDIX 5

CAT 1	For delivery in 2024-25
--------------	--------------------------------

Ward	Ward Name	Town	Street	Location	Scheme Type	Estimate	Cumulative total	Category
9	Burrtisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	Dunearn Nr Burrtisland	K14 (U036)	Between A909 and Dunearn House	Retaining Wall Reconstruction	£ 100,000	£ 100,000	1

27 February 2024
Agenda Item No. 06

Supporting the Plan 4 Kirkcaldy Area: Update on Previous Allocations and New Applications

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

Wards Affected: 9,10,11 &12

Purpose

To provide members with an update on projects allocated funding in February 2023 from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) underspend and the Community Recovery Fund (CRF). The committee are also asked to consider 3 additional new applications from the CRF.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to give feedback on the updates in the report and approve the following amount from the Community Renewal Funding:

1. £80,000 to pilot a Handyperson Service across the Kirkcaldy Area;
2. £45,000 for a Communications and Marketing Officer for the Kirkcaldy Area; and
3. Up to £25,000 for Signage and Interpretation Boards for Burntisland Links

Resource Implications

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

As the Pathways to prospects initiative is no longer progressing the allocation of £50,000 will be returned to the balance available. This will leave a balance of £117,661 unallocated of the Reform and Recovery budget to be allocated at the next Area Committee.

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

The People and Place Leadership group have influenced and shaped the priorities in the Plan 4 Kirkcaldy Area. Elected Members were consulted on the original allocations and the new proposals will be discussed at a member's workshop before the committee meeting.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 On 25th August 2022, the Cabinet Committee agreed to allocate £10 million of revenue balances as a Community Recovery Fund. Further to this, the subsequent Cabinet Committee meeting on 22nd September approved the 'Help with Cost of Living: Extending Community Support' report which set out a general approach and criteria for the Fund, including the allocation of £9m across the seven Area Committees. Kirkcaldy Area received an allocation of £1.36m as part of this allocation.
- 1.2 The specific criteria for the fund was as follows;
- Projects should link to Local Community Plan priorities.
 - Projects should take account of Plan for Fife recovery priorities (Community Wealth Building, Tackling Poverty, Economic Recovery, Climate).
 - Projects should provide assessment of benefit to ensure no unintended consequences.

2.0 Project Summary and Update

- 2.1 Every One Every Day Kirkcaldy Area (EOEDKA) is a long term, evidence based 'participation infrastructure' that aims to promote economic recovery and support Community Wealth Building. Building on the success of the Everyone Every Day approach in Barking and Dagenham, the Corra Foundation in partnership with Fife Council have completed an extensive scoping and research phase, testing out the feasibility of this model for the Kirkcaldy Area with local people and a vast range of potential stakeholders.

The commitment of £240,000 (20%) towards the 'Every One Every Day' project in the Kirkcaldy Area, as the 'first brick' of investment for the project has been key in supporting the development of the full funding collaboration. Corra anticipate that this bold, early decision will leverage a further £1.15m into the Kirkcaldy area during the initial three-years of delivery and attract significant further investment in future years of the Every One Every Day initiative.

Work has been completed on job descriptions, recruitment timelines, initial training courses for staff and consideration of sites for the project. Relationship building with organisations on the ground in the Kirkcaldy area is on-going. This ensures any new activity fits in with the local landscape, supporting and adding value to what's already happening.

Additionally, Corra have produced a film to showcase the potential of the Kirkcaldy area as an initial site for the work. This film will also act as an introduction to the work for new funders, philanthropic and private sector organisations who may wish to contribute to the project both in the initial three-year delivery phase and into the future. Regular meetings continue to take place with Fife Council colleagues to ensure a shared awareness of

local relationships, developments, priorities, and the status of co-funding conversations. They are currently organising a visit to Kirkcaldy to explore the investment potential late March/April. This will help to give them firsthand experience of the town, how Every One Every Day responds and adds value to the local community context, and to help secure the remaining investment needed.

- 2.2 Rural Skills Scotland (RSS) are a not-for-profit sharing learning provider directly delivering Apprenticeships and SVQ's across Scotland with projects from Inverness to Dumfries and across the central belt. This project will be led by Rural Skills Scotland, in partnership with Fife Council. This investment will see the re-use of a long-derelict Council Parks Service Nursery in Kirkcaldy as an employment and training hub for green jobs, primarily in the land-based sector. RSS, in September 2022, secured a 20-year lease on the site from Fife Council. The RSS national Apprenticeship programme will be based there, as will it's contracting business and employability programme.

RSS and Fife Council were successful in attracting an additional £491,582 from the Scottish Government's Vacant and Derelict Land Innovation Programme. Significant work to clear and prepare the sight has taken place. The RSS team are currently waiting on planning permission before some of the major work starts.

- 2.3 Safe Families exists to create relationship and connection, working on the principle that 'everyone deserves to belong'. By linking children, young people and families with local volunteers, Safe Families offers support, hope and belonging to people who would otherwise be facing life alone. This allocation would support work with 30-35 families a year.

Staff are in place and the process of recruiting and training the volunteers is well underway. NHS Fife are in the process of refining their processes in relation to information governance so they can then get a steady flow of referrals.

- 2.4 Cosy Kingdom has provided a lifeline for many people during and post pandemic. Offering area-based funding will allow a more targeted approach to vulnerable groups who often don't meet thresholds or criteria or are less likely to come forward for support and assistance. For example, those in the private rented sector or people in households who are in fuel poverty but have working age adults employed. This allocation will be further developed through engagement with the Housing Fuel Poverty Team and the Tackling Poverty and Preventing Crisis Board on promoting this change through Fife.

This payment has not yet been released, as there are a number of allocations from throughout Fife so it will form part of the Fife wide SLA with a specific reference to the Kirkcaldy allocation and specific outcomes.

- 2.5 A Place Officer post was established with a specific focus on Tourism and Town Centres to provide a much-needed opportunity to package up some of the stories to tell of people and place that the Kirkcaldy Area has to offer. The Kirkcaldy Area is steeped in heritage and history but it is not easy to find for visitors to the towns and villages, often leading to people visiting other neighbouring towns and cities. This allocation has created a post and a staff member has been appointed who will research and package up these stories and bring the existing attractions and trails together as well as a digital tool or platform for visitors to easily access information on attractions, history and events.

Andrew Walker started with the team in mid-October. He has been researching and building up a network of people and prospective projects, whilst exploring further funding opportunities. He has scoped out a calendar of significant dates and anniversaries for the next few years which will lead to a number of events and celebrations. He is currently overseeing the completion of Volunteers Green which it is anticipated will be complete by the end of March. Andrew has been liaising with the Urban Design Team to start a refresh of the Design and Development Framework. In partnership with the

Tourism Team, we have been exploring the development of a Place App or platform to support the story of Place and Tourism.

- 2.6 Adam Smith Tercentenary. A range of partners including Fife Council, Fife College, Kirkcaldy Civic Society, Linton Lane Centre, Fife Cultural Trust, academics, and celebrities worked alongside Adam Smith Global Foundation to deliver a yearlong programme of activities to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the birth of Adam Smith, attracting people locally, nationally and internationally to celebrate the legacy of Smith.

The Tercentenary Celebrations started in St Bryce Kirk, in January 2023 with a free Adam Smith Annual Lecture from Sir Michael Marmot. Sir Michael was the author of *The Heath Gap - The challenge of an unequal world* and had also just been awarded the Companion of Honour for his work on health inequalities. In May 23 St Bryce Kirk was the setting for another free event with one of Americas leading economists, former US Treasury Secretary Larry Summers. The event was in conversation with Ed Balls, writer, broadcaster and economist and Stephanie Flanders, senior Executive Editor for Economics at Bloomberg and Head of Bloomberg Economics. Both events were exceptionally popular and saw a packed audience in the Kirk.

The week of the actual Tercentenary was kicked off with Kirkcaldy turning back the clock to 1723 with a special re-enactment of the baptism of its most famous son, Adam Smith, and a horse-drawn procession through the town featuring the leading lights of the day. It took place in the Old Kirk, exactly 300 years to the day, and in the very place, where the renowned economist and philosopher was actually baptised. The next day Adam Smith Global Foundation hosted a Garden Party celebrating the contribution of local charities and volunteers in the Garden that Smith played in as a boy. The celebrations continued with Alexander McCall Smith in Conversation, one of the world's most prolific and best-loved authors. For many years he was a professor of Medical Law and worked in universities in the UK and abroad before turning his hand to writing fiction. He has written and contributed to more than 100 books.

An exceptionally successful academic symposium was held in the Old Kirk in the Tercentenary week. Led by Professor Roger Mullen, the 2-day programme saw world renowned professors presenting and discussing Education, Philosophy, Economics and Culture. Culture was not something most people immediately associated with Smith but organisers wanted to introduce something not widely looked at and that was his cultural significance and influence. The session featured Professor Michael Brown from the University of Aberdeen along with renowned Scottish broadcaster Billy Kay, as well as soprano Elizabeth Thomson and pianist Mark Rogers.

An enormous tent in the Town Square was the setting for a range of activities to engage a wider audience and introduce them to Smith. The events in the tent were kicked off with an event bringing local community organisations and schools together to showcase the amazing volunteering and support organisations across the Kirkcaldy Area as well as a showcase of the Smith Schools Challenge with local Primary Schools. The celebrations in the Tent continued with 4 free back-to-back birthday parties, a free Family Silent Disco, and finally a Family Ceilidh with people bringing donations for Kirkcaldy Foodbank.

That weekend Kirkcaldy Galleries hosted a series of events including a range of Tall Tales drop in activities for all ages, an immersive experience bringing David Goucher's children's book *Spy Quest* to life and *The Brothers McLeod*, creators of the hilarious *Knight Sir Louis* series of books. School children joined them to celebrate *Knight Sir Louis* with an interactive event packed with drawing, comics, reading aloud in silly voices, and lots and lots of laughs.

After being closed for a major refurbishment the doors of the Adam Smith Theatre opened for the Tercentenary. The Tercentenary Lecture was delivered by Robert

Peston, English journalist, presenter, and author. The lecture was wide ranging and included topics such as the rise of AI, the importance of education reform and the cost of living crisis.

Fife College was the venue for the annual Adam Smith Food Festival. The popular Food and Drink Fair showcased the best of Fife food, bringing together producers and food lovers under one roof at the College's Kirkcaldy Campus. The free festival featured cooking demonstrations by Gary Maclean, MasterChef: The Professionals winner in 2016, and some of the College's very own current and former Culinary Arts students.

The Adam Smith Theatre was the host for stars from BBCs Two Doors Down, Elaine C Smith and Arabella Weir. Smith plays neighbour Christine in the hit BBC sitcom - a role which earned her a Scottish BAFTA for 'best actress' in 2018. She is also one of Scotland's best-known actors who has worked extensively in television and in theatre as well as writing two books about her life. Weir rose to fame via the iconic Fast Show on BBC - her character's catchphrase 'does my bum look big in this?' was also the title of her internationally bestselling novel.

The tercentenary week ended with a great day of live music hosted at the Kings Live Lounge. The line up included the Coaltown Daisies along with John Anaya, Sandy Power, The Long Road and a packed audience enjoyed Lights Out By Nine to close the weeklong celebration.

From family ceilidhs and school engagement to academic symposiums there was something for everyone showcasing venues across the Town. The intention of the allocation was always to leave a legacy, the first of which was to kick start work in the garden that Smith grew up in and played in as a boy. Partnership work between the Global Foundation, Fife Councils Community Payback team and Growing Kirkcaldy volunteers enables the garden area cut back to be able to host some of the celebrations. Making the garden accessible from the visitors centre is well underway which will allow greater access. A further legacy of the celebrations culminated in the launch of Adam Smith: The Kirkcaldy Papers on the 30 November. The book is a collection of essays from 15 speakers who took part in a major symposium at The Old Kirk as part of the week-long events. Copies have been made available to schools, colleges and universities as well as libraries and local organisations.

- 2.7 It was widely acknowledged that additional resource was required to support families and individuals through the cost-of-living crisis and through a period of recovery. This work includes providing information, advice, signposting to food, fuel and financial assistance as well as the ongoing development of, and enhanced wrap around support within the community assistance hubs and warm spaces.

This allocation allowed 2 additional staff to join the existing, stretched Welfare Support Team in the area providing support to individuals in accessing benefits advice, on-line job-search, learning and employability resources.

This has made a huge difference in the local area as well as relieving the pressure on the original team. Job clubs and local hubs that reach those most in need of support have been re-established and feedback has been very positive. Some team realignment has taken place, and the welfare team are now reporting to the Area Poverty Project Manager – Leah Levein. There has been a significant increase in the job clubs available for people to attend as well as additional one to one appointments for more complex situations.

In October 2023 a Pilot partnership initiative was launched – 'The Winter Boost'. The Welfare Support Team (WST) and Putting People First Team (PPF) programmed staff to be available at every foodbank distribution point for a period of two weeks. Foodbank clients and staff reported this was a highly successful approach as people accessing the foodbank were supported by experienced staff who checked their entitlement to means

based benefits often resulting in maximising their income. People also received advice and support for a range of issues including, debt management, accessing hardship grants, Welfare Fund Crisis grants and Community Care Crisis grants. WST and PPF staff were also able to apply their knowledge and experience of the Kirkcaldy Area's community networks of support signposting people to partners such as housing services, community job clubs and CARF's Money and Debt Advice service.

An Easter boost initiative is now planned and to sustain a longer-term approach, the Welfare Support team are also now able to offer outreach at local help hub settings, Nourish, Philp Hall, Cornerstone Café Burntisland and Gallatown Hub. Additionally, the team have increased capacity to deliver support to clients at the KY2 club, the Well and at Foodbank distribution points on a regular basis.

- 2.8 Participatory Budgeting activity was not new for the Kirkcaldy area pre pandemic. The Kirkcaldy Area strategic assessment highlighted that there is a need to better connect with people to have more of a sense of influence and control. Building on this previous experience, an allocation of £300,000 would allow partners to develop a robust framework to distribute this money including opportunities to engage local communities across the Kirkcaldy Area in dialogue, discussion and deliberation leading to a direct influence on the spend.

The planning to deliver Participatory Budgeting across the Kirkcaldy area is shaping up. Team members are benefitting along with colleagues in Glenrothes from support from DEMOTEC a European Consultancy specialising in initiatives which engage citizens in decision-making. A citizen led steering group will be formed over the coming weeks to ensure that the design and delivery of the programme is shaped and influenced using a bottom-up approach. Priorities will reflect those of the Local Community Plan.

- 2.9 Pathway to prospects was intended to be an opportunity to provide clear a pathway into job opportunities with Fife Council, or our partners after a yearlong traineeship which will include a range of person-centred front-line services.

It has been decided not to progress with this initiative. There have been a significant number of staffing changes in the area team with a number of people acting up on a temporary basis so there is a concern about the continuity of support for these potential postholders. This means there is an additional £50,000 available in the CRF budget.

- 2.10 Being able to contribute towards a Fundraiser to support Kirkcaldy Foodbank would strengthen the capacity of the Foodbank to be more sustainable and financially independent. It would also give an opportunity build the skills of the volunteers involved in the governance and operations of the Foodbank.

After a period of recruitment, in partnership with Linton Lane Centre the foodbank now have the support of a part time fundraiser up to 10 hours a week, early indications are that this is proving successful.

3.0 New Proposals

- 3.1 Request for £80,000 towards a Test of Change for a new Handy Person Service.

As part of the Housing Plus Programme, market testing was undertaken to explore demand for a handy person service in Fife. An online survey was the chosen methodology for respondents to share their views anonymously. The survey link was shared with staff, partner organisations, and service users via email, word of mouth, and social media and everyone was encouraged to participate and share. The survey ran for six weeks with 232 responses. A variety of age groups, from different tenure types, responded to the survey from age 16 – 85+. This displays the necessity for an inclusive service for all age demographics and all tenure types.

Findings identified a clear need and want for a handy person service with the majority of people responding stating they would use this service. Different services, residents and tenants have also promoted the need for this type of trusted, reliable, accessible, and affordable service.

This Handy Person Service will be delivered by The Community Trade Hub, who have years of experience with key objectives and goals linking with education, training and youth development. They are a not-for-profit organisation with links to several areas in Fife.

This test of change will provide an opportunity for school pupils, leavers and volunteers, in the Kirkcaldy area, to work with the Community Trade Hub delivering the Handy Person Service. This will include training in practical trade skills, customer care skills, real life working experience, and the development of a personal development plan/portfolio for each individual.

The Community Trade Hub work directly with High Schools in the Kirkcaldy Area, supporting pupils by providing practical training opportunities and access to SQA qualifications. They are an SQA accredited centre and will work with individuals to obtain four key qualifications: Practical Abilities, Self-Awareness, Self in the Community, and Self in Work.

- 3.2 A resource gap has been identified to be able to make the most of our Council and other partners investment across the Kirkcaldy Area. To fulfil this ambition, based on the success of a similar approach in Levenmouth a request for £45,000 for a Communications and Marketing Officer for 2 years (18 hours per week) is proposed.

A Communications and Marketing Officer post dedicated to the Kirkcaldy Area would allow us to generate a greater level of content and story across social media and various other places and spaces on a more regular basis. The post would be hosted in the Communications Team and work would be directed locally via the Community Manager. The postholder would work closely with a range of council and third sector partners through the People and Place Leadership Partnership. As well as generate content the postholder will work with the People and Place Partnership team to build opportunities to develop participation and engagement with local groups and the wider community.

- 3.3 Local people including the Burntisland Community Council have identified that there is a significant lack of signage in and around the Burntisland Links area. In addition to signage, they have identified the need for Interpretation Boards to tell the story of place for local people and visitors to the area. As the content has not yet been developed specific costings are not currently available, the figure is based on work currently being carried out in another area of Fife. The recommendation is for an allocation of up to £25,000 towards Signage and Interpretation Boards to meet this need.

- 3.4 These 3 new proposals meet the broad criteria for the Community Recovery Funding. They also contribute to the 'Plan 4 Fife 2021-2024' and 'Kirkcaldy Area Local Community Plan' themes.

- 3.5 Approving these proposals will leave an allocation of £117,661 in the Community Recovery Fund to support other projects which will be brought to the next Area Committee.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 Work is progressing on the allocations. A further report will be brought to committee in approx. 6 months as well as some more detailed work at a members workshop.
- 4.2 These 3 new proposals meet the broad criteria for the Community Recovery funding. They also contribute to the 'Plan 4 Fife 2021-2024' and 'Kirkcaldy Area Local Community Plan' themes.
- 4.3 Approving these proposals will leave an allocation of £117,661 in the Community Recovery Fund to support other projects.

Background Papers

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

- 'Help with Cost of Living : Extending Community Support'. Fife Council Cabinet Committee, 22nd September, 2022.
- Supporting the Plan 4 Kirkcaldy Area: Area LCPB Underspend and Community Recovery Fund, 7 September 2023

Report Contact:

Julie Dickson
Community Manager, Kirkcaldy Area
Workplace; Town House, 2 Wemyssfield, Kirkcaldy
Email: Julie.Dickson@fife.gov.uk

27 February 2024

Agenda Item No.07

Play Spaces Categorisation – Kirkcaldy Area

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

Wards Affected: 9, 10, 11, 12

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Play Spaces Categorisation for the Kirkcaldy Area to create better quality and more inclusive play spaces.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to;

- 1) approve the play spaces categorisation for the Kirkcaldy Area; and
- 2) note an implementation plan is being developed.

Resource Implications

The play spaces categorisation standardises the provision of play spaces which improves the play value and inclusivity.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are several risks if the Council does not have a categorisation of play spaces. These include:

- The absence of a clear basis on which to prioritise capital investment for the refurbishment of play parks.
- Inconsistent approach across Fife, meaning that some neighbourhoods will have limited access to good quality play parks.
- Less opportunity for securing external funding.
- Challenges around timelines for delivery of projects

Impact Assessment

An EQIA is not required as this was carried out for the Fife Play Spaces Strategy. A Fife Environmental Impact Assessment was carried out and can viewed on request.

A widely advertised [public consultation](#) was held between September and December 2019. It consisted of an evening meeting at Templehall Community Centre and an online survey.

Area members checked the proposed categorisation at several meetings. Community councils were notified of the categorisation. Grounds Maintenance Service staff were involved in the process.

1.0 Background

1.1 Community and Housing Services sub-committee approved the [Play Spaces Strategy](#) in [August 2021](#). The recommendation was for engagement at local level to implement the strategy to ensure that areas most in need are identified as a priority.

1.2 Play Spaces Strategy

Aim of the play spaces strategy:

- Provide play parks with good play value for children of different ages and needs
- Ensure the public parks and greenspaces continue to provide varied opportunities for outdoor play.
- Ensure the financial sustainability of play park provision in Fife.

1.3 Categorisation

Categorisation is one of the main purposes of the strategy. Sites with play equipment have been added over the years to greenspaces, with no standard approach. Many sites have less than three pieces of equipment and can't really be called play parks. Many cater for pre-school children, with no equipment for primary school children or less able-bodied children. The categorisation has three types of play parks (destination, town, local) and one natural play space.

1.4 Existing situation

Within the Kirkcaldy Area, there are 53 Fife Council maintained sites with play equipment. This varies from sites such as Dick Crescent (Burntisland), with swings to the Beveridge Park Play Park, which has a wide range of equipment catering for a range of ages.

Much of the play equipment will be at the end of its safe use in the next ten years so there is a need to plan for replacement and refurbishment of sites to secure funds.

In the area there are non-FC sites, which are maintained by private housing factors, that have not been categorised. They have been scored as part of the Play Sufficiency Assessment which is a requirement of the Local Development Plan.

1.4 Natural Play Spaces

Natural Play Spaces are sites with no manufactured play equipment instead they have natural play features such as logging, wooden stepping stones, mounds,

wildflowers, wooden sculptures. Sites that are changed to a natural play space will be within a 5-minute walking distance of a local play park.

2.0 Play Space Categorisation

2.1 Categorisation

Each site has been categorised as per the play space strategy. Information on the condition of sites has been included.

Site name	Settlement	Ward	Categorisation	Strategy action	Information
Red Mud Pond	Burntisland	9	local play park	maintain	
Seamill Pond	Burntisland	9	natural play space	natural play space	Equipment to be assessed as to whether it can be moved to Collinswell Drive play park.
Piper Crescent	Burntisland	9	local play park	improve	
Colinswell Road	Burntisland	9	local play park	improve	
Dick Crescent	Burntisland	9	natural play space	natural play space	
Toll Park	Burntisland	9	local play park	maintain	
West Links	Burntisland	9	local play park	maintain	
East Links	Burntisland	9	destination play park	improve	Some money has been secured but further money is needed to refurbish the play park.
Duncanson Drive	Burntisland	9	natural play space	natural play space	
Ross Place	Kinghorn	9	local play park	improve	
Abden Farm	Kinghorn	9	natural play space	natural play space	
Kinghorn Promenade	Kinghorn	9	natural play space	natural play space	

Manse Road	Kinghorn	9	natural play space	natural play space	
Nethergate	Kinghorn	9	local play park	Maintain	
Orchard Road	Kinghorn	9	local play park	improve	Some funding is in place, but more money is needed to refurbish the play park.
Auchtertool	Auchtertool	9	local play park	maintain	
Seafield Gate	Kirkcaldy	9	local play park	Improve	
Invertiel	Kirkcaldy	9	local play park	maintain	
Scott Street	Kirkcaldy Linktown	9	local play park	maintain	
Beveridge Park	Kirkcaldy	9	destination play park	improve	
Dunrobin Road	Kirkcaldy	9	natural play space	natural play space	
Allardice Crescent	Kirkcaldy	9	local play park	improve	
Skibo Place	Kirkcaldy	9	natural play space	natural play space	
Dunbar Place	Kirkcaldy	9	local play park	improve	
Birnam Road	Kirkcaldy Templehall	10	local play park	maintain	
Dallas Drive	Kirkcaldy Templehall	10	local play park	maintain	
Glen Bruar	Kirkcaldy Chapel	10	local play park	improve	
Heron Place	Kirkcaldy	10	local play park	Improve	
Inchgarvie	Kirkcaldy Templehall	10	local play park	new	Planning permission will be needed.
Jean Armour Gardens	Kirkcaldy Templehall	10	natural play space	natural play space	
Newliston	Kirkcaldy	10	local play park	improve	
Ostlers Way	Kirkcaldy	10	local play park	maintain	

Newtonmore Drive	Kirkcaldy	10	local play park	new	Land ownership and planning permission needed.
Redcraigs	Kirkcaldy	10	local play park	maintain	
Stocks Street	Kirkcaldy	10	natural play space	natural play space	
Gourlay Street	Kirkcaldy	11	local play park	improve	Some funding is in place, but more money is needed to refurbish the play park.
Hillcrest Avenue	Kirkcaldy	11	local play park	improve	
Longbraes Gardens	Kirkcaldy	11	local play park	improve	
Valley Gardens	Kirkcaldy Templehall	11	local play park	maintain	
Loom Road north	Kirkcaldy	11	local play park	improve	
Wilson Avenue	Kirkcaldy	11	local play park	improve	
Oaktree Square	Kirkcaldy Smeaton	12	local play park	maintain	
Dunnikier Park	Kirkcaldy	12	town play park	improve	Most of the funding has been secured.
Glebe Park	Kirkcaldy	12	local play park	improve	
Cook Street	Kirkcaldy Dysart	12	local play park	improve	
Dovecot Park	Kirkcaldy Dysart	12	natural play space	natural play space	
Quality Street Play Park	Kirkcaldy Dysart	12	local play park	maintain	
Townhead Park	Kirkcaldy Dysart	12	local play park	improve	Some funding is in place, but more money is needed to refurbish the play park.
Ravenscraig Park	Kirkcaldy Dysart	12	destination play park	maintain	The play park has been recently refurbished
Boreland Park	Kirkcaldy Dysart	12	local play park	maintain	

Gallatown Gate	Kirkcaldy	12	local play park	maintain	
Gallatown Park	Kirkcaldy	12	local play park	improve	
Tower Terrace	Kirkcaldy Gallatown	12	local play park	maintain	
Overton Mains	Kirkcaldy Sinclairtown	12	local play park	maintain	
Shetland Place	Kirkcaldy Sinclairtown	12	local play park	maintain	

2.2 Implementation

Implementation is a long-term process due to the range and volume of sites and the costs involved to deliver this. An implementation plan is being developed. Many sites will need refurbishment as equipment reaches end of life in the next ten years.

3.0 Conclusions

3.1 Implementation of the play space categorisation will lead to better quality play spaces, that are more inclusive for children of all ages and abilities. It aids investment in refurbishment of play parks.

List of Appendices

None.

Background Papers

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

- [Play Spaces Strategy](#)
- [Fife Council play parks](#)

Report Contact

Kevin O’Kane,
Greenspace Partnership Officer, Communities & Neighbourhoods.
Email - kevin.okane@fife.gov.uk

27 February 2024

Agenda Item No. 08

Fife Local Area Economic Profiles 2022-23

Report by: Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability

Wards Affected: Ward Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12

Purpose

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

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Members:

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

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications associated with this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

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

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

Consultation

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

1.0 Background

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

2.0 Wider Economic Perspective

- 2.1 The UK economy has experienced a succession of significant shocks in recent years, firstly from the COVID-19 pandemic and EU exit, and more recently from the onset of war in Ukraine, conflict in the Middle East and high rates of inflation.
- 2.2 Although the sharp rise in inflation experienced in 2022 eased over 2023 and inflation is now on a downward trend, it remains considerably higher than in recent years and businesses and households are continuing to adjust to a permanent upward shift in prices alongside the rapid shift to higher interest rates. In addition, the latest economic forecasts indicate that the ongoing reduction in inflation will be gradual, and that inflation will remain above the 2% target until the second half of 2025¹.
- 2.3 Economic growth in both the UK and Scotland has remained subdued and broadly flat since the start of 2022 and growth forecasts remain subdued for 2024, with an expectation that weak global growth, ongoing cost pressures and uncertainty will continue to dampen both consumer spending and business investment.
- 2.4 The labour market however remained resilient during 2023, with low unemployment, a drop in economic inactivity, and a fall in the number of vacancies indicating an easing of the recruitment difficulties companies experienced in 2022. Underlying tightness does remain in the labour market: data from the Business Insights and Conditions Survey indicate that in October 2023, 35.1% of surveyed businesses in Scotland reported difficulties in

¹ Scottish Economic Insights: November 2023, Scottish Government

recruiting employees and 25.4% experienced worker shortages. Worker shortages were most common in the construction and the accommodation and food sectors (38.7% and 37.9% respectively).

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

3.0 Local, Regional & National Developments

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

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

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

- 3.2 Fife's Economic Strategy also commits to taking a Community Wealth Building approach to maximise the local impacts of investment in projects and programmes and to making sure that its interventions support the council's commitment to tackling climate change.
- 3.3 In January 2023, the UK and Scottish Governments announced the designation of the Firth of Forth as one of two Scottish Green Freeports. The successful bid encompasses three key ports on the Forth (Grangemouth, Leith and Rosyth); industrial facilities and logistics centres along the north and south shores of the Firth of Forth; and Edinburgh Airport. Led by Forth Ports, the bid consortium includes: Babcock International, Edinburgh Airport, Falkirk Council, Fife Council, INEOS, Scarborough Muir Group, and City of Edinburgh Council. It is expected that the Forth Green Freeport designation will not only bring investment and jobs to the proposed sites at Rosyth and Burntisland but will also bring economic benefits to other parts of Fife.
- 3.4 Work is also ongoing in relation to regional economic partnership arrangements. The Edinburgh and South East Scotland Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan for 2023/24, which was published in March 2023, sets out four key programmes to deliver the region's ambitions: Green Regeneration; Infrastructure for Recovery and Prosperity; Visitor Economy and Culture; and a Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) Economy.

- 3.5 The ten-year £50 million Fife Industrial Innovation Investment Programme (Fi3P) funded by the Edinburgh & South-East Scotland City Region Deal and delivered by Fife Council is delivering new industrial, office and business space and serviced employment sites within existing business clusters in Mid and South Fife adjacent to growth corridors on the M90 and A92. The programme has supported the construction of new business units at Dunnikier Business Park, which are all now let. During Tranche 2 of the programme, new units will be constructed at John Smith Business Park, Kirkcaldy.

4.0 **Headline Issues & Opportunities: Kirkcaldy Area***

- 4.1 The average employment rate in the Kirkcaldy committee area in 2022/23 was 75.9%. This was similar to the Fife rate (75.0%), and higher than the area's pre-pandemic employment rate (72.1%). The area's male employment rate (79.9%) was higher than the female employment rate (71.4%).
- 4.2 Economic inactivity in the Kirkcaldy Area fell from 24.3% of the working age population in 2019 to 20.8% in 2022/23, the third lowest rate of inactivity across Fife's seven committee areas.
- 4.3 In 2023, the proportion of the working-age population claiming out-of-work benefits (claimant rate) in the Kirkcaldy Area (5.3%) was considerably higher than the Fife rate (3.4%), and the highest rate of all of Fife's committee areas. The claimant rate of the area's 25-49 age group was considerably higher than the other age groups in the area and is the highest rate of all age groups in all other parts of Fife.
- 4.4 The Kirkcaldy Central Ward has the highest claimant rate in Fife (7.5%) and the Kirkcaldy East Ward has the 3rd highest (6.7%) after Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages.
- 4.5 The percentage of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment in the Kirkcaldy Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area (90.6%) is the lowest in Fife. Although the rate dipped in 2021, between 2018 and 2023 it increased from 86.9% to 90.6%.
- 4.6 Both average resident earnings (£679.70 per week) and average workplace earnings (£642.20 per week) are higher than average wages for Fife as a whole (£670.40 and £622.80 respectively). In April 2023, an estimated 15.2% of employee jobs in the Kirkcaldy & Cowdenbeath PCA were paid less than the real living wage. This is less than in April 2019 when an estimated 18.6% of employees in the area were paid less than the real living wage, but a higher proportion of jobs than in both Fife (11.7%) and Scotland (10.1%) as a whole.
- 4.7 In the 3-year period between March 2020 and March 2023, the number of registered businesses in the Kirkcaldy Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area fell by 275 enterprises (-14.4%). In Fife overall, the number of enterprises fell by -9.3% over the same period. The Parliamentary Constituency Area's business density – there are 253 registered businesses per 10,000 resident adults - is lower than the Scottish business density (375 businesses per 10,000 resident adults). To reach the Scottish business density, the Area would need 791 or 49% more businesses.
- 4.8 The estimated number of jobs in the Kirkcaldy committee area increased by +13.6% from 22,000 to 25,000 in the 3-year period between September 2019 and September 2022.

- 4.9 The Kirkcaldy Area accounts for 35% of Fife's employment in Human Health and Social Work Activities (7,000 jobs), 22.5% of jobs in Public Administration (2,250 jobs) and 21.4% of Fife's employment in Wholesale and Retail Trade (4,500 jobs).
- 4.10 In 2022/23 there were 542 participants from the Kirkcaldy Area on employability programmes commissioned by Opportunities Fife. Currently Fife Council's employability services are working with 113 people in the committee area. The area saw the 3rd highest instances of pupil engagement with Culture of Enterprise activities organised by the council (7,950 instances of engagement compared with 6,835 the year before).
- 4.11 The Kirkcaldy Area had the largest number of business start-ups supported by Business Gateway Fife (116) in 2022/23. This support helped create 147 jobs and over £3m turnover.
- 4.12 Whilst Burntisland town centre has one of the lowest rates of unoccupied retail and service units in Fife (11.7%), Kirkcaldy has the highest (24.9%). Whilst Burntisland's vacancy rate fell between 2019 and 2023, Kirkcaldy saw its town centre vacancy rate increase.
- 4.13 Town centre businesses in the Kirkcaldy Area received the highest number and amount of grants from the Town Centre Building Improvement Grant Scheme 9 grants were awarded to the value of £77,473. Funding from the Scottish Government's Place-Based Investment Programme also supported phase 2 of the refurbishment of 9 Esplanade by the Kings Theatre Trust which was completed in autumn 2023.
- 4.14 The former Postings Shopping Centre between Hunter Street and Hill Street in Kirkcaldy has now been completely demolished and the site levelled ahead of a proposed town centre housing development by the current owner of up to 300 apartments.
- 4.15 The former Kitty's nightclub on the corner of Hunter Street and Wemyssfield in Kirkcaldy has also been demolished and the site levelled after the vacant building was destroyed by fire and deemed dangerously unstable in September 2023.
- 4.16 Work is nearing completion on the redevelopment of the former Co-op gap site in the Merchants Quarter of Kirkcaldy High Street. The new development comprises 39 new flats and ground level commercial premises, one of which will be occupied by Fife Federation of Tenants & Residents Association (FFOTRA), with the remaining two units serving as Independent Living Advice Hubs providing multi-agency support services.
- 4.17 The second phase of Kirkcaldy's Waterfront Improvements was completed in autumn 2023. A business case for the demolition of Kirkcaldy's multi-storey car park is being produced; although funding for the site's demolition and restoration has still to be secured.
- 4.18 The Adam Smith Theatre officially reopened in September 2023 following a £7.8m refurbishment. Facilities include a new creative hub and design suite, revitalised café, function suites and meeting room spaces, and refurbished auditorium.
- 4.19 The number of people visiting Kirkcaldy and Mid Fife during 2022 increased by 46.6% compared with the previous year, with visitor numbers returning to 93.2% of the 2019 pre-pandemic level. A specific promotional campaign for Kirkcaldy was delivered to coincide with the Adam Smith tercentenary celebrations.

[* Note: Figures are given for the Kirkcaldy Committee Area unless otherwise stated. Where data are not available at this level, figures are given for the Kirkcaldy & Cowdenbeath UK Parliamentary Constituency Area (UKPCA) or Kirkcaldy Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area (SPCA). Tourism data are given for Kirkcaldy & Mid-Fife which constitutes the area covered by the Levenmouth and Heartlands of Fife Local Tourist Associations.]

List of Appendices

1. Fife Local Area Economic Profiles 2022-2023

Background Papers

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

Author / Contact:

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

Fife Local Economic Profiles 2022-2023

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

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

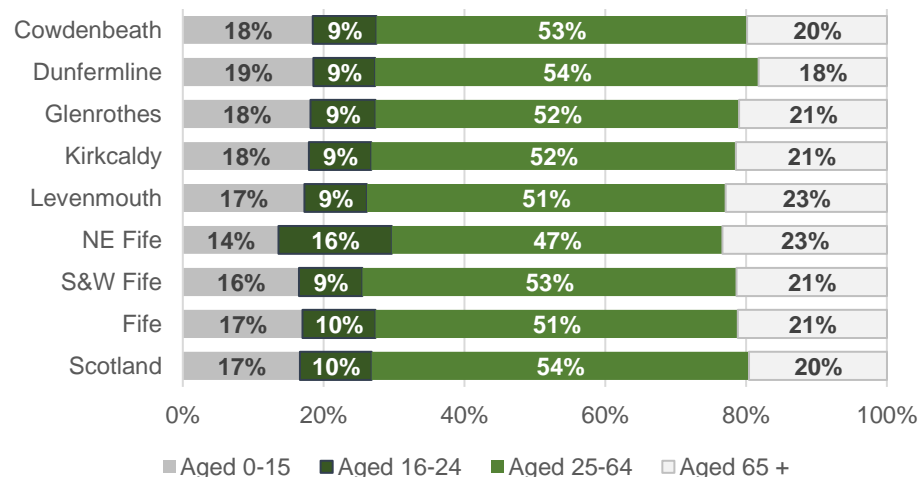
Fife’s Labour Market

Population

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

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

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



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

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

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

Employment

Figure 3: Employment Rates, 2022/23

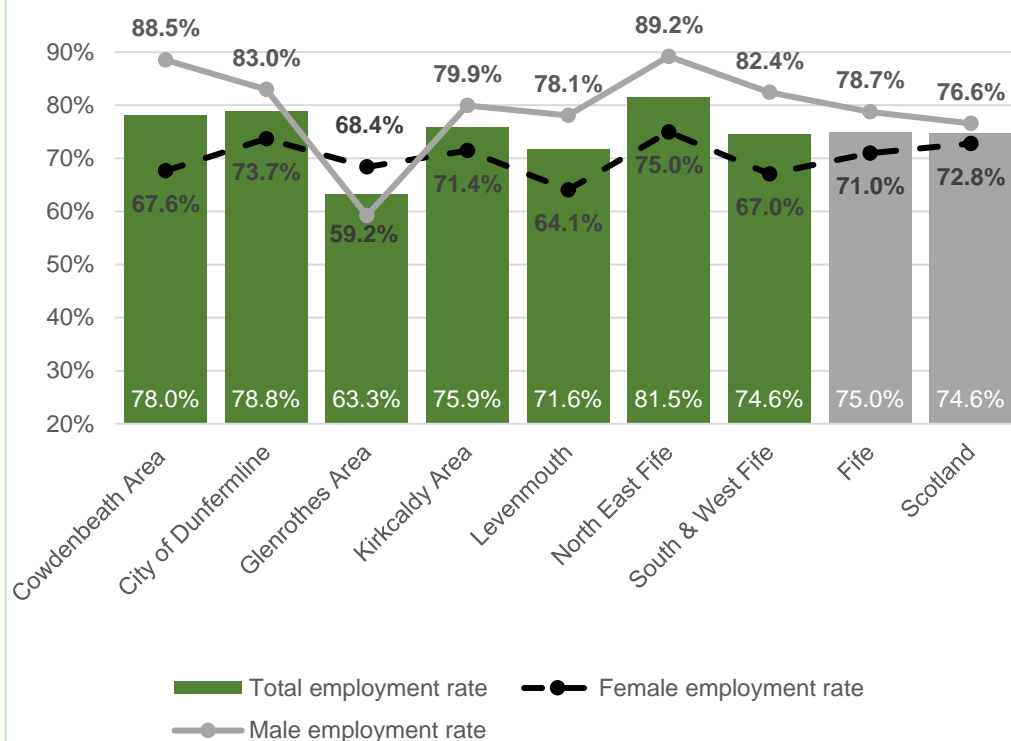
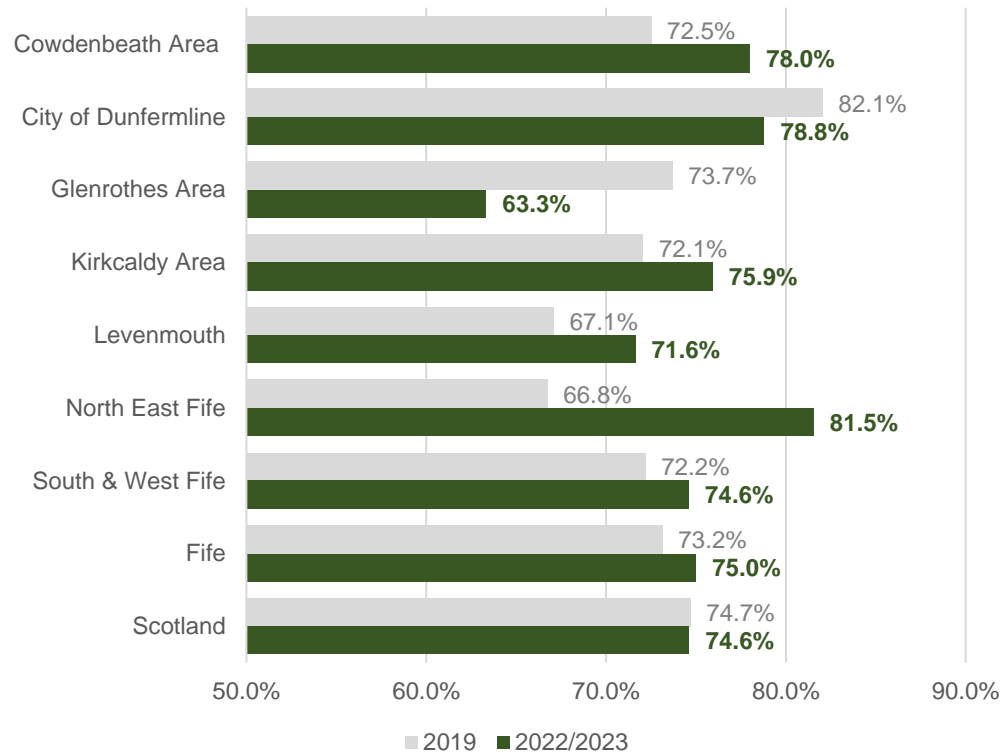


Figure 4: Employment Rate Change 2019-2022/23



Latest Employment Rates*:

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

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

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

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

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

Employment Rate Change:

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

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

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

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

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

Unemployment

Figure 5: Unemployment in Fife, Scotland and Great Britain

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

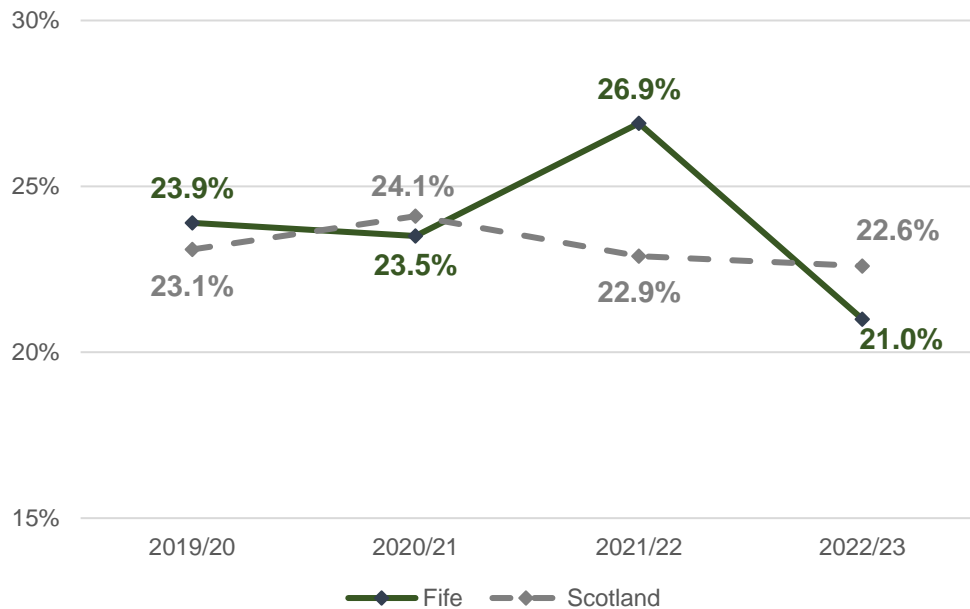
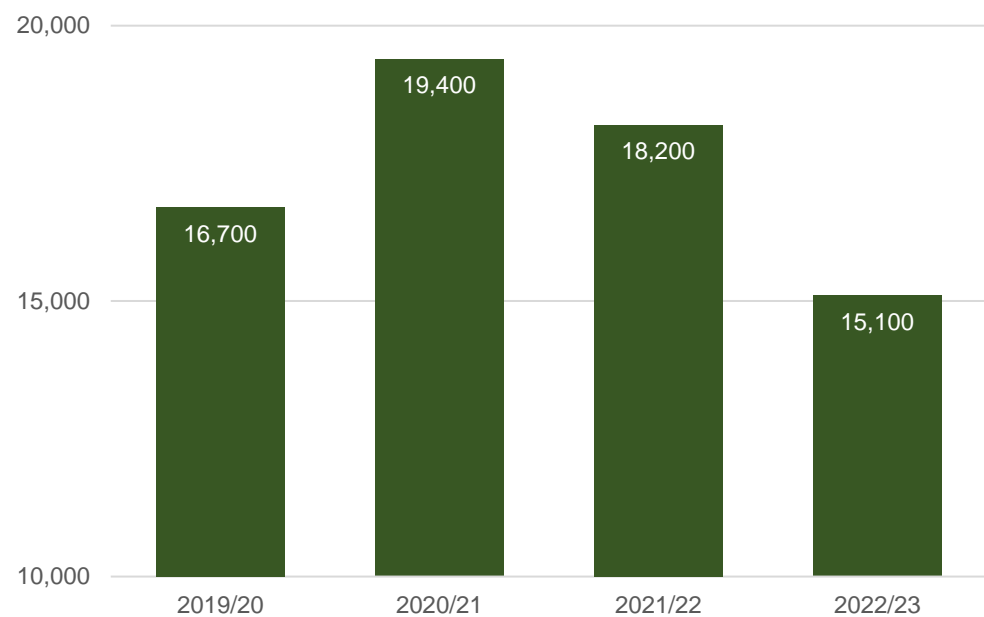


Figure 7: Number of people in Fife economically inactive due to long-term ill-health



Economic Inactivity in Fife:

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

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

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

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

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

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

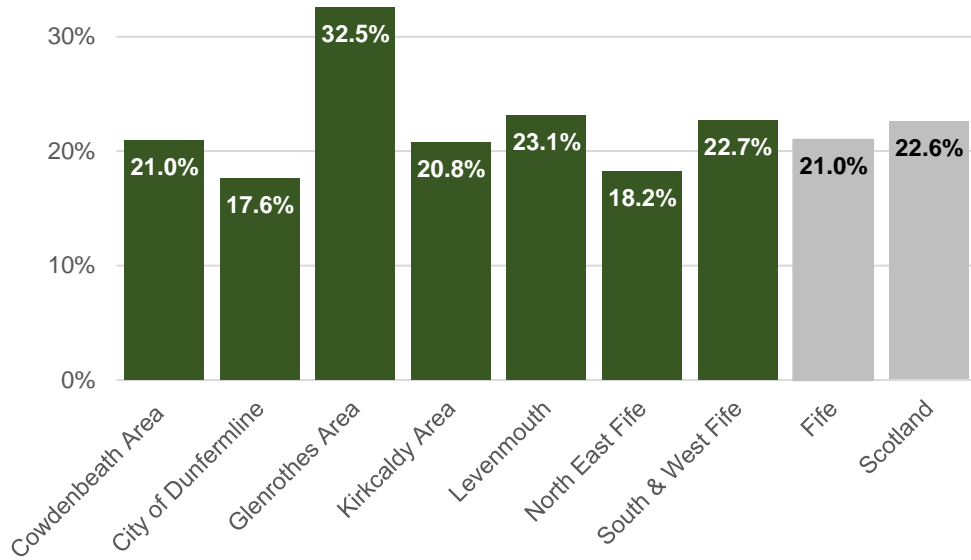
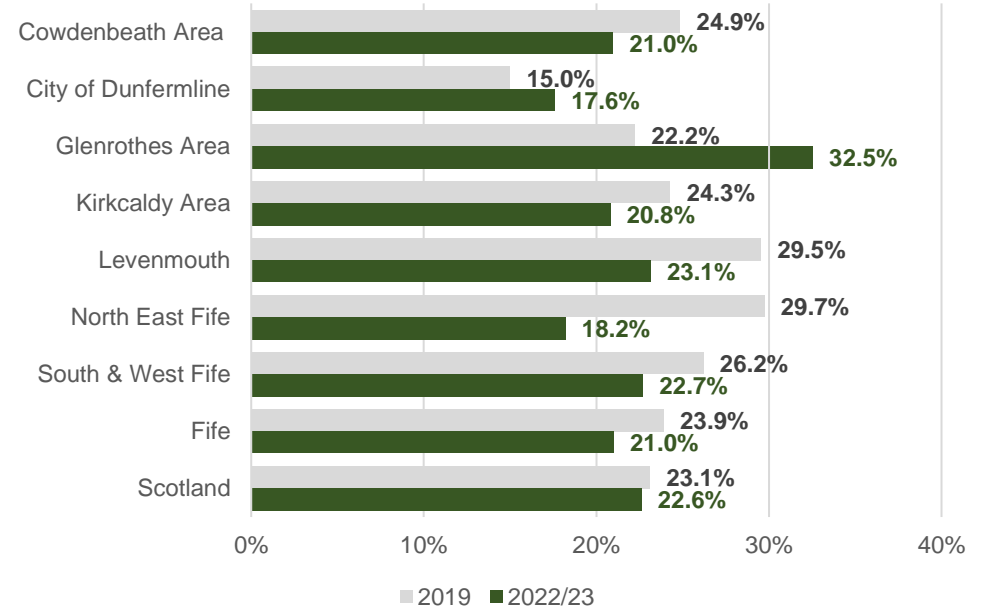


Figure 9: Change in economic activity rates 2019 - 2022/23



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

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

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

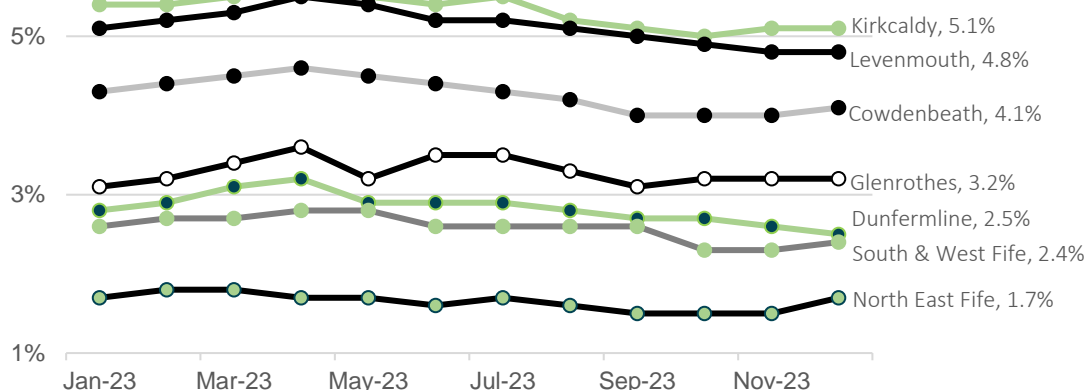
Due to small sample sizes at committee area levels, all these figures should be viewed with caution.

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

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

People Claiming Out-of-work Benefits

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



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

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

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

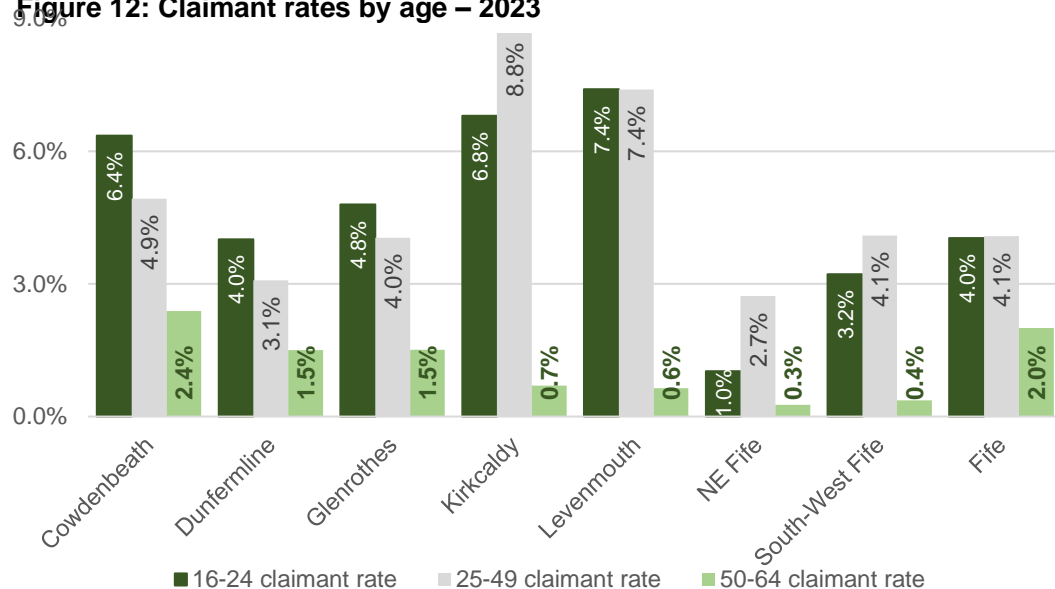
In all parts of Fife, apart from in North East Fife, the average number of claimants and claimant rates for 2023 (Jan to Dec) were lower than in 2019 (Figure 11); in Scotland the number of claimants rose.

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

Figure 11: Claimant count and rate change 2019 to 2023

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

Figure 12: Claimant rates by age – 2023



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

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

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

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

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

Qualifications of Working Age Population

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

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

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

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

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, Jan-Dec 2022

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

Figure 14: School Leaver Destinations and Attainment 2021/22

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

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

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

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

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

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

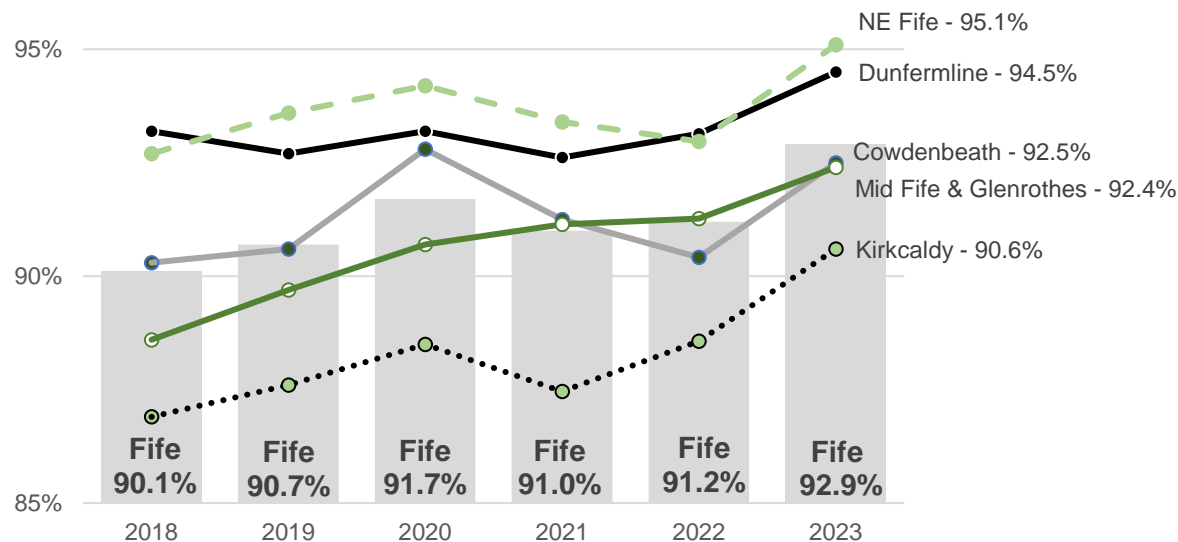
Source: Scottish Government, Summary Statistics for Attainment and Initial Leaver Destinations and Summary Statistics for Follow-up Leaver Destinations, No 5: 2023 Editions.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Employability Support

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

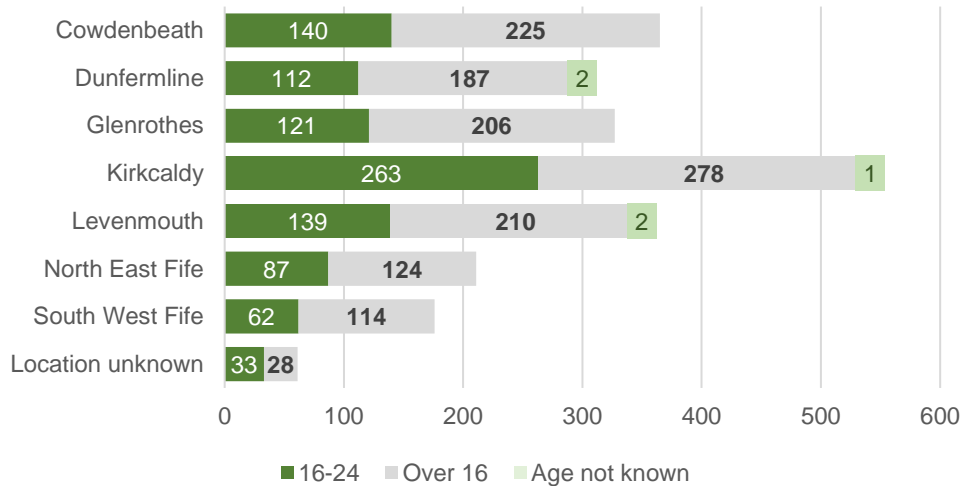
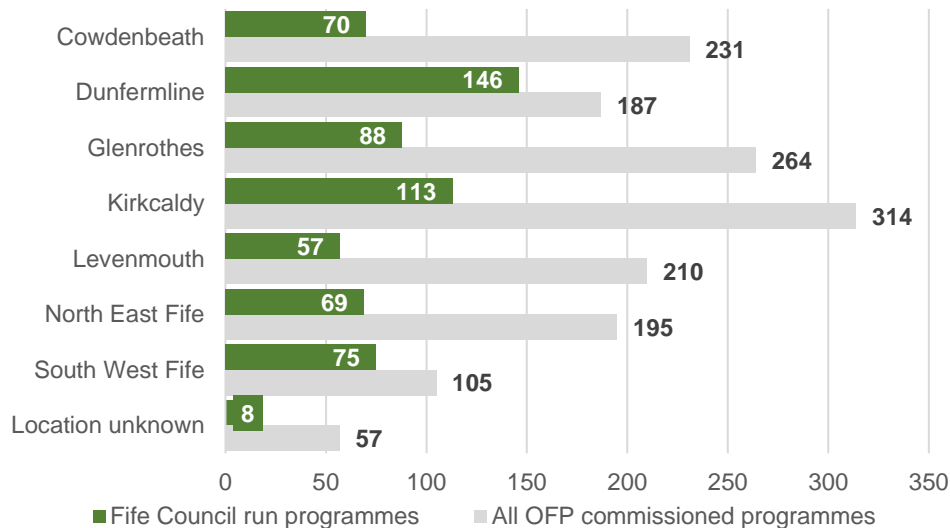


Figure 18: Participants* on employability programmes 2023/24



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

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

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

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

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

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

Source: Fife Council

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

Employability Support Activities:

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

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

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

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

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

Fife Council's Culture of Enterprise Programme

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

Number of different CoE activities in which schools participated	7	9	8	7	5	5	6	
Instances of pupil engagement with CoE activities 2022/23*	2,825	15,211	4,058	7,950	6,078	6,375	11,885	
<i>Instances of pupil engagement with CoE activities 2021/22*</i>	<i>11,293</i>	<i>30,680</i>	<i>13,679</i>	<i>6,835</i>	<i>12,452</i>	<i>8,990</i>	<i>28,123</i>	

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

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

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

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

Source: Fife Council – Economic Development.

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

Earnings

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

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

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

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

Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings.

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

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



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

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

Fife's Business Base & Key Sectors

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

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

Change in Number of Businesses 2020-2023:

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

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

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

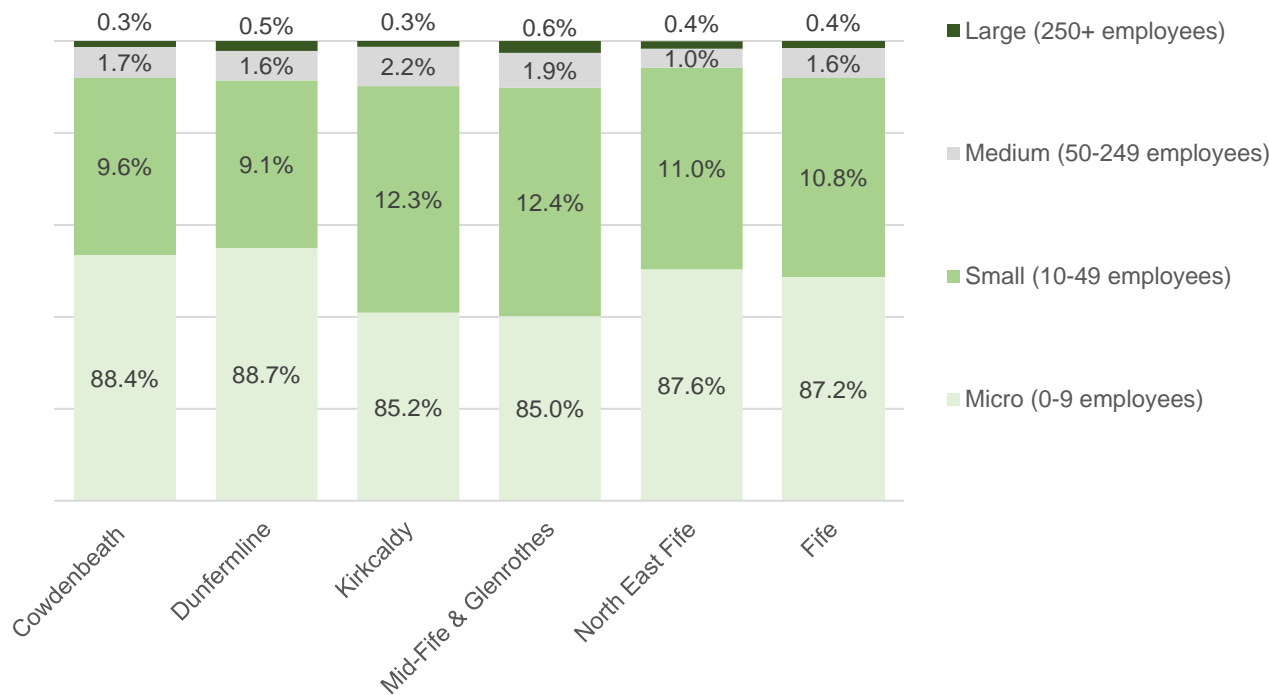
Source: ONS UK Business Counts, 2023.

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

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

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

Figure 24: Proportion of businesses by size - 2023



Businesses by Size:

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

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

Source: UK Business Counts, 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

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

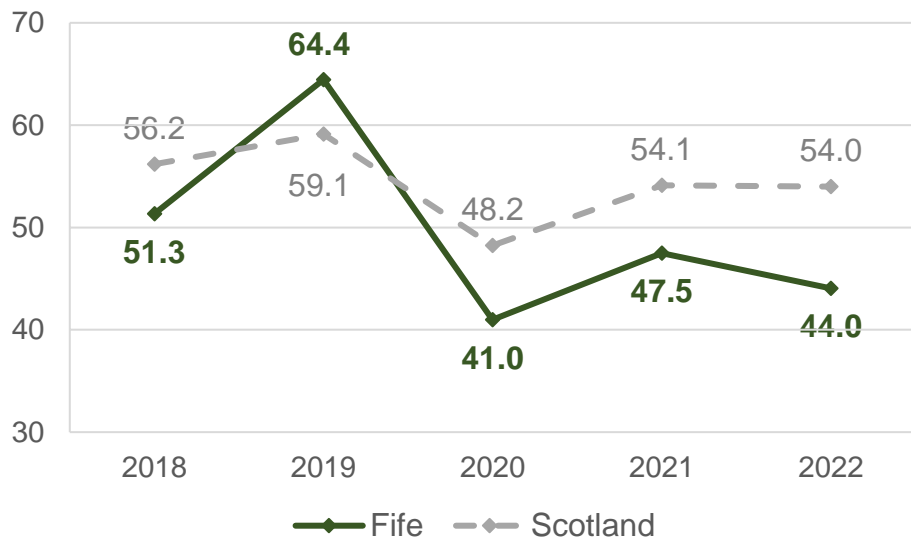
Note: These figures do not include unregistered enterprises (sole traders and partnerships who are not VAT and/or PAYE registered).

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

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

Business Births

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



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

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

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

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

Source: ONS Business Demography, UK (2022).

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

Business Survival Rates

Figure 27: Survival of New Start Businesses 2022

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

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

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

Source: ONS Business Demography, UK (2022).

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

Figure 28: Number of Jobs in Fife 2019-2022

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

Change in Number of Jobs:

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

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

Employment by Sector:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Figure 29: Employment by Sector, Fife 2022

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

Source: ONS Business Register & Employment Survey 2022.

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

Support Given to Businesses in Fife

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

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

Source: Fife Council Economic Development.

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

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

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

Source: Business Gateway Fife.

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

Support to Businesses:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Remediation of Vacant & Derelict Land

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

Cowdenbeath	4.0%	28.5	
Dunfermline	1.3%	9.2	
Glenrothes	21.9%	156.2	
Kirkcaldy	5.8%	41.2	
Levenmouth	10.2%	73.1	
North East Fife	8.3%	59.5	
South and West Fife	48.5%	345.7	
Total Fife	100.0%	713.3	

Source: Fife Council Vacant & Derelict Land Audit 2023

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cowdenbeath	
Glenrothes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial estate regeneration at Queensway Industrial Estate, Glenrothes with Phase 1 now complete and all new units let. Further
Kirkcaldy	
Levenmouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site remediation and preparation works for the oil and gas decommissioning facility at Energy Park Fife now being operated by
North East Fife	
South and West Fife	

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

All Fife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for the implementation of the Climate Fife Plan and its associated Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SECAP) including part-range of vacant and derelict sites which could host solar photovoltaic arrays on sites across Fife. Funding is also supporting feasibility work, in collaboration with the Coal Authority and British Geological Survey, to assess potential locations for use of mine

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

Strategic Investment

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

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

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

South & West Fife	Hillend and Donibristle Industrial Estates, Dalgety Bay	Completed: All new business units fully let.	Hillend and Donibristle Industrial Estates: Conditional Legal Agreement in place for disposal at Ridgeway	2024/25
-------------------	---	--	---	---------

Strategic Investment:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Strategic Investment (continued):

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

Town Centres

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

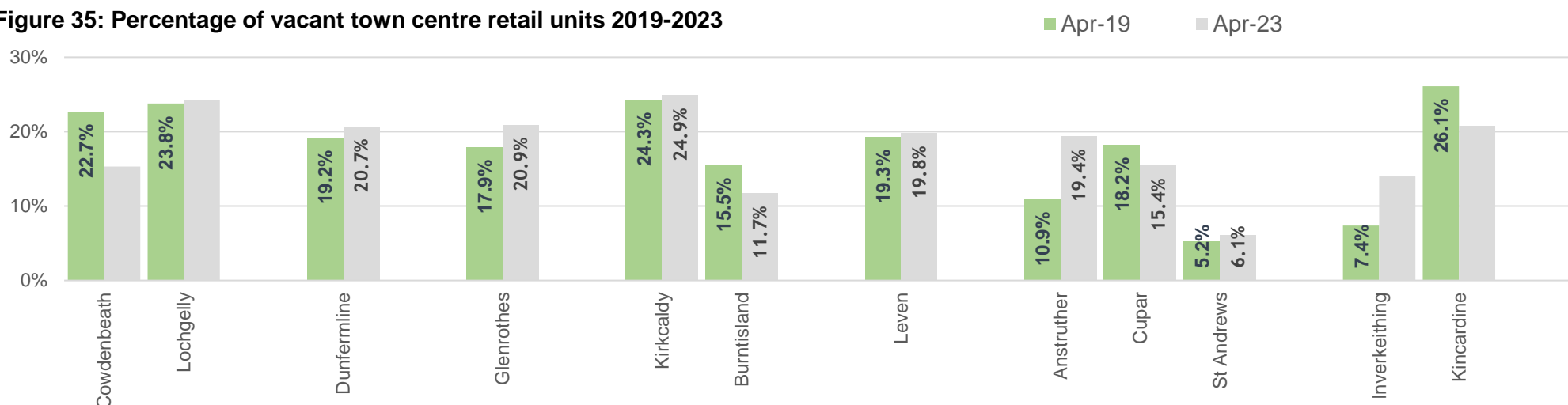


Figure 36: Town Centre Vacancy rates April 2023

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

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

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

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

Source: Experian GOAD Data (Fife Council).

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

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

Source: Fife Council Business & Employability Service.

Town Centre Activity:

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

Tourism

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

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

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

Notes:

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

** Indexed to 2022

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

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

Volume and Value of Tourism (Figure 38 above):

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

Fife Tourism Activity:

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

Profile prepared by:	Economy, Tourism & Town Centres Team	Fife Council Business & Employability Service
Contacts:	Peter Corbett, Lead Officer (Economy) Email: Peter.Corbett@fife.gov.uk	Alison Laughlin, Economy Advisor Email: Alison.Laughlin@fife.gov.uk

Fife Council believes that the information contained within this publication was accurate as at 19 January 2024. The Council is acting as a distributor (not publisher) of content supplied by third parties and does not guarantee the reliability of the data and is not liable for any party's reliance on the information contained.

27 February 2024

Agenda Item No. 09

Kirkcaldy Area Committee Workplan

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

Wards Affected: 9, 10, 11 and 12

Purpose

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

Recommendation(s)

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

Resource Implications

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

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

None required for this paper.

Consultation

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

1.0 Background

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

2.0 Conclusions

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

List of Appendices

1. Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme

Background Papers

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

None

Report Contact

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

Kirkcaldy Area Committee
27 February 2024
Agenda Item. 09

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 30 April 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Parking Charges in Kirkcaldy	Roads & Transportation	Andy Paterson-ts	Report requested at the meeting 24.8.21 as part of submitted motion. As per Convener report to be submitted to Area Committee after other car parking reports have been considered i.e. ISG report and report re demolition of multi storey car parks.
Putting People First: Kirkcaldy Test of Change	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Julie Dickson, Aileen Morris	Agreed at KAC meeting 20.9.22 that follow up report was required. Subject to be discussed at Members workshop on 26.2.24 and report will be presented to committee is still required after workshop.
Kirkcaldy Area Local Community Plan - Plan 4 Kirkcaldy Area 2023-2026 Progress Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Julie Dickson	Annual progress reports to be submitted. Last report 7.2.23.
Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme	Finance and Corporate Services	Lesley Robb	

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 25 June 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Common Good and Settlement Trust 2023-24 Annual Report	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual progress report to be presented post April 24.
Safer Communities Team Annual Update Report	Housing Services	Dawn Jamieson, Suzanne Scobie	Annual update report due to be presented June 24.
Operational Briefing on Policing Activities Within Kirkcaldy Area	Police Scotland		Annual report last presented June 2023. Contact: Inspector Nicola Black.

Kirkcaldy Area Committee
27 February 2024
Agenda Item. 09

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 25 June 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Kirkcaldy Area Annual Performance Report	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service		Annual report last presented June 2023. Contact: Station Commander Michael Henderson.
Educational Outcomes Annual Report	Education and Children's Services	Shelagh McLean, Jackie Funnell	Annual report last presented June 2023.
Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme	Finance and Corporate Services	Lesley Robb	
Area Housing Plan 2023-2026 - 6 monthly update reports	Housing Services	Elaine Campbell	6 monthly update report due. Last report presented December 2023.

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 27 August 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme	Legal & Democratic Services	Lesley Robb	

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 22 October 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Complaints Annual Update	Customer Services Improvement Service	David Thomson-CRM	Annual report last presented 31.10.23.
Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme	Legal & Democratic Services	Lesley Robb	

Kirkcaldy Area Committee
27 February 2024
Agenda Item. 09

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 17 December 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Domestic Waste, Street Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance Service Annual Review	Environment & Building Operations (AT&E)	Alexander Anderson-Es, Scott Clelland	Annual report last presented 19.12.23.
Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme	Legal & Democratic Services	Lesley Robb	

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 25 February 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Area Roads Programme 2025-26	Roads & Transportation	Vicki Connor-fc, Lesley Craig, Alistair Donald	Annual report last presented February 2024.
Local Area Economic Profiles Annual Report	Business and Employability	Peter Corbett	Annual report last presented February 2024.
Health & Social Care Locality Planning - Kirkcaldy	Health and Social Care	Jacque Stringer-fc	Annual report last presented February 2025.
Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme	Legal & Democratic Services	Lesley Robb	

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 22 April 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme	Legal & Democratic Services	Lesley Robb	

Kirkcaldy Area Committee of 24 June 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Kirkcaldy Area Committee Forward Work Programme	Legal & Democratic Services	Lesley Robb	

Kirkcaldy Area Committee
27 February 2024
Agenda Item. 09

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Pupilwise, Parentwise and Staffwise Survey Report	Education and Children's Services	Deborah Davidson, Shelagh McLean, Jackie Funnell	Confirmed with Shelagh Maclean that next surveys will be carried out in 2024 with report to committee after that.
Member Update on Skills Development Scotland reporting of Positive Destinations	Business and Employability	Gordon Mole	Agreed report required at meeting of KAC 19.1.21.
Supporting the Local Community Plan - Kirkcaldy Area Local Budgets 2023/24	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Julie Dickson	Report last presented 7.2.23. (Update report only required if variation to any funding previously approved).
Area Roads Programme 2023-24 Final Report	Assets, Transportation and Environment	Neil Watson	Original report approved at KAC meeting 7.2.23. Progress report to be presented after April 2023, post summer recess.
Newtonmore Drive Play Park Development Report (Formerly Prestonfield Play Park at Capshard)	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Andy Maclellan	Progress report to be presented to committee (date TBC) as agreed at KAC 29.8.23.