

Due to Scottish Government guidance relating to Covid-19, this meeting will be held remotely.

Wednesday, 24th March, 2021 - 9.30 a.m.

AGENDA

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1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – In terms of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct, members of the Committee are asked to declare any interest in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage
3. **MINUTE** – Minute of Levenmouth Area Committee of 27th January, 2021. 3 – 4
4. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH PLAN – LEVEN HIGH STREET BUILDING FIT OUT – FUNDING REQUEST** – Report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods 5 – 9
5. **LEVENMOUTH ECONOMIC PROFILE (FEBRUARY 2021)** – Report by the Head of Business and Employability 10 – 28
6. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH PLAN – PUMP TRACK KENNOWAY – FUNDING REQUEST** – Report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods 29 – 54
7. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – FUEL POVERTY APPROACH** – Report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods 55 – 65
8. **PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS – A916 & U029 BONNYBANK** – Report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment 66 – 69
9. **PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND DISABLED BAYS– METHILHAVEN ROAD (SERVICE ROAD) AND LABURNUM ROAD, METHIL** – Report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment 70 – 73
10. **AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2021-22** – Report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment 74 – 81
11. **GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGY** – Report by the Service Manager 82 – 92
12. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH PLAN – SILVERBURN PARK FLAX MILL AND WIDER PARK REGENERATION- UPDATE.** – Report by the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods 93 – 147
13. **PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS** – Report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment 148 – 149
14. **LEVENMOUTH AREA FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** 150 – 151

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

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17th March, 2021

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THE FIFE COUNCIL - LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

27th January, 2021

9.30 a.m. – 10.35 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Ken Caldwell (Convener), David Alexander, John O'Brien, Colin Davidson, David Graham, Graham Ritchie, Ryan Smart and Alistair Suttie.

ATTENDING: Steven Sellars, Lead Consultant, Road Safety and Travel Planning, Assets Transportation and Environment, Roads and Transportation Services; David Paterson, Community Manager (Levenmouth), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Paul Gillespie, Community Inspector, Police Scotland and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

230. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 7.1.

231. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Levenmouth Area Committee of 2nd December, 2021.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

232. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – AREA BUDGET REQUEST- ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR APPROACH

The Committee considered a report by the Community Inspector, Police Scotland seeking to secure funding for the 2021/2022 financial year to support the increased Police resource in the Levenmouth area for a period of 7 months to focus on specific anti-social behaviour issues.

Decision

The Committee:

1. confirmed support for the coordinated approach previously taken by partners which was highlighted in the report to the Area Committee on 5th February, 2020;
2. agreed to a contribution of £24,515.17 (2020 figure) to be used towards the continued Police resource that is key in spearheading the partnership approach as a priority issue;

3./

2021 LAC 102

3. agreed to set aside a further £3,000 for ancillary work associated with the innovative approach, which was likely to be used for target hardening or other engineering solutions as well as supporting interventions by partner agencies; and
4. noted the further draw down resources available from Police Scotland for the ancillary initiatives.

233. A915 STANDING STANE ROAD – ROAD SAFETY

The Committee considered a joint report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment and the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking approval from the Committee to contribute £20,000 from the local area budget towards the cost of further enhancements to current and proposed safety initiatives for the A915 Standing Stane Road.

Decision

The Committee:

1. noted the current proposal for investment in additional engineering using new technology aimed at further reducing road crashes and casualties on the A915 Standing Stane road;
2. noted previous investments taken forward towards the road safety on the A915 Standing Stane road;
3. agreed to a contribution of £20,000 from the Local Area Budget towards the overall cost of enabling the proposal to be taken forward; and
4. noted the current position on enforcement activity by Police Scotland and acknowledged that average speed cameras are not an option that can be taken forward at this time. Regular Police patrols and deployment of a mobile safety camera van would be continued on a regular basis to influence driver behavior.

234. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment advising members of action taken using the list of officer powers in relation to property transactions.

Decision

The Committee noted the content of the report.

235. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Decision

The Committee noted the forward work programme.

24th March 2021

Agenda Item No. 04

Supporting the Levenmouth Plan – Leven High Street Building Fit Out – Funding Request

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) of £20,000 as match funding for the fit-out costs of a former retail unit within Leven Town Centre.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to agree a contribution of £20,000 towards the total cost of this project.

Resource Implications

Approval of this funding will reduce the Local Community Planning Budget for ward 21 by £20,000. In terms of ongoing revenue costs, it is worth highlighting within this section of the report, that there will be no revenue consequences for the Council based the management arrangements for the facility, agreed with our 3rd sector partner BRAG/Levenmouth Together.

Legal & Risk Implications

Given the nature of the proposal officers have examined the potential risks around the use of subsidy in this form potentially infringing the new iteration of State Aid rules. Given the recent departure of the UK from Europe, it is notable that this project was assessed under the rules derived from the World Trade Organisation, rather than the European Union. The opinion of officers is that this approach is fully compliant and is appropriate to achieve a public policy approach, in this case the stated intention by this authority to support town centre regeneration.

A draft note from Fife Council solicitors outlining the approach taken in assessing the risk around State Aid, is available as a background document, if members would wish to see this, it will be forwarded at your request.

There will always be a risk element in relation to projects of this nature. The current proposal will see BRAG take full possession of the high street property using a grant to purchase direct. The Council will though hold a standard security over the property, and in the event of any issue causing BRAG to withdraw from the project, the property would revert back to the ownership of the Council. If that situation occurred there would be revenue consequences for the Council, unless mitigations were found.

Policy & Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

This approach has been supported by concerns raised over the years by elected members and local people about the problematic state of High Streets, and their weakening ability to act as economic drivers for their respective areas.

These concerns were contained in the recent Mid Fife Economic and its Focus on Place which noted

‘Alongside jobs and culture, there is a need for infrastructure investment. This includes continuing work to repurpose Town Centres, recognising that the changing retail market is having profound effects on Town Centres which requires this activity to be replaced with greater social uses, social connectivity and a focus on user experience, including the evening economy’.

The business planning approach by our partners in BRAG clearly supports this aspiration in terms of overcoming the issue of market failure, where large scale retail floorspace is no longer required by retailers due to online opportunities.

Members will be aware from background reading that trying to improve footfall in the area, notably, although not exclusively in the evening period is one of the key objectives within this proposal.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from this Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget, specifically for that held by ward 21.
- 1.3 The funding being asked for today will be a local contribution to a large-scale project which is primarily funded through the Scottish Government Town Centre Fund. (SGTCF)
- 1.4 The SGTCF contribution towards the project will purchase the property, which is a large former retail unit in Leven town centre. The price agreed for the purchase is £210,000, which is directly in line with the valuation carried out by the District Valuer.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The former retail unit has been vacant for a number of years. It has significant floorspace which consists of a double fronted retail space at the street level and a basement area which is of similar size. The basement provides an access point to the rear where deliveries can be made.
- 2.2 The unit benefits from a lift which ensures both sections of the property are fully accessible. Although in operational order this lift will require to be updated to ensure it meets current safety standards.
- 2.3 In general terms the required work to bring the building back into full use can be categorised as follows:

Mechanical Services

Improved ventilation system, fire damper upgrades, replacement of cold-water storage tanks, upgrading to pipe insulation, full legionella assessment, lift work to compliance levels

Electrical Services

General Electrical upgrades as defined by the Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) Replacement of all emergency lighting units to compliance levels, Renewal of fire alarm system.

Other

Compartmentalisation of floorspace into rooms and spaces that align with the business plan proposals, installation of kitchen, installation of sanitary ware, renewal of all floor coverings, full decoration.

- 2.4 Councillors have already had the opportunity to read the business plan proposal supplied by BRAG/Levenmouth Together which is listed as a background document, and it is recommended that Councillors reread that document in conjunction with this report. This report was forwarded to elected members again on Wednesday 10th March 2021.
- 2.5 **Funding** – Overall funding for the project is set at a ceiling of £520,000. This can be broken down into the component parts of the purchase of the building at £210,000, with fit out costs set at £310,000.
- 2.6 To meet this overall cost the SGTCF will cover £350,000, made up of the £210,000 purchase cost for the property, with the residual of £140,000 applied to the fit-out requirements., EPES capital underspends on other projects out with Levenmouth will contribute a further £50,000.
- 2.7 In discussion with the Programme Manager for the Levenmouth Blueprint, it has been agreed that application will be made to the fund for £50,000, and the contribution from the Area Committee if agreed will add £20,000. Work will continue to find funding sources to bridge the gap which at this point sits at £50,000. Discussions on this point are ongoing, and the Community Manager may be in a position to give a verbal update on this shortfall at the meeting on the 24th March.
- 2.8 Our partners in BRAG/Levenmouth Together have been proactive in looking at other funding solutions , and currently have an application into the [Adapt and Thrive](#) budget stream which aims to support 3rd sector organisations to flex their operating models to

be more resilient in the post COVID recovery period. It should be noted that this funding will specifically be applied to a range of other approaches taken by BRAG, rather than specifically for the fit-out project, albeit it will support the sustainability of the finished facility.

3.0 The Project

- 3.1 Once complete the proposals for this building will offer a range of activities and community space. From perusal of the business plan members will be aware of proposals such as an escape room, and indoor golf. The unit though also provides opportunities for useable meeting space, touchdown facilities and flexible community use space. The size of the building lends itself to a range of options to support the central ambition of creatively using unused retail space, which at this point is in low demand, which in turn will stimulate other activity within the town centre.
- 3.2 There are options to look at subletting arrangements to ensure a flow of funds that can be reinvested into the provision of local services from the site. This arrangement could be with a single long-term rental – or a range of periodic hires.
- 3.3 Discussions have already taken place with both the River Leven and Rail Link project teams, and agreement has been reached that a section of the shop front will be used as a touchdown space for colleagues involved in these projects. The space will also be utilised as a consultation point and information unit to highlight the progress of the projects. The footfall in the area will make it an ideal central point for ensuring any activities relating to a range of projects including, H100, decommissioning work, Silverburn redevelopment, or ongoing high street regeneration, all of which will be guaranteed to get good coverage and visibility from this location.
- 3.4 The unit, once complete, will be providing both paid employment and volunteering opportunities, and members will find the potential numbers involved in servicing the facility in the appendices attached to the Levenmouth Together business plan noted as a background document to this report.
- 3.5 Other 3rd sector organisations will also be encouraged to see the unit as a resource for their own activities, through the hire of high quality and flexible use space, in a central location with good accessibility from all parts of the area.

4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 This project will make an impact on several priorities for the area, around the improvement to the town centre, increased training and employment opportunities, support for tourism, and providing the infrastructure for community led service delivery.

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:

- Levenmouth Together Business Plan Document (forwarded to Councillors by e-mail on 10th March 2021)
- Draft Note on Subsidy Regime relevant to State Aid. 11th February 2021. Anderson Strathearn.

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24th March 2021

Agenda Item No. 05

Levenmouth Economic Profile (February 2021)

Report by: Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability

Wards Affected: Wards 21 and 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide members with an annual overview of the local economic profile for the Levenmouth Committee Area using the latest available published data. The attached briefing note (Appendix 1) will be accompanied by a presentation to committee by officers from Business & Employability.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Members:

1. Note the issues raised from an analysis of the latest available data;
2. Note the support given to businesses during 2019/20; and,
3. Recognise the ongoing economic impact and uncertainty resulting from the global Covid-19 pandemic.

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 the attached briefing note 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 have been consulted in the preparation of this overview report and presentation.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The attached briefing note provides an overview of the economic profile of the Levenmouth area, and business support activity carried out in 2019/20. Key aspects of the analysis will be further highlighted in an accompanying presentation to Area Committee.
- 1.2 The profile is based upon a range of economic data published on a regular and systematic basis by reliable sources that include the Scottish Government and Office of National Statistics (ONS).
- 1.3 The lag in the availability of economic data means that the latest figures present a largely pre-Covid picture of the local economy, although some recently developed experimental data provides an insight into the likely initial economic impact of the pandemic.
- 1.4 The area profiles and Fife-wide economic analysis inform a range of strategic planning activities including the Strategic Assessment and Local Outcome Improvement Plan (Plan4Fife); local community planning; and the Fife Economy Strategy. The data also provide members with context and background on policy development and impact.
- 1.5 Alongside the economic data analysis, the briefing note also provides a summarised narrative of key economic developments within the local committee area and Fife as a whole.

2.0 Headline Opportunities & Challenges

- 2.1 The economic profile highlights the following **opportunities** for Levenmouth:
 - Reinstatement of the Levenmouth Rail Link will deliver significant opportunities for local people, unlocking access to education and employment opportunities as well as attracting new business and investment.
 - Governance groups are now operational to direct, approve and monitor spending of the £10 million Scottish Government/Fife Council Levenmouth Reconnected (Blueprint) fund.
 - Leven town centre has, and will continue to, benefit from programmes of public realm improvements.
 - With support from Fife Council and Scottish Enterprise, CessCon Decom has developed one of the UK's most advanced onshore oil and gas decommissioning facilities at Energy Park Fife in Methil and won its first contract – Scotland's largest decommissioning contract to date - which will create up to 50 jobs.
 - SGN has received approval and £18 million from Ofgem to build its H100 Fife hydrogen demonstration project in Levenmouth, the world's first zero carbon hydrogen-to-home network.
 - The Leven Programme, a SEPA-led multi partner initiative, continues to progress and in June 2020, the programme was announced as the first living case study in Volans' 'Green Swan Observatory' initiative, propelling the project to the global 'one to watch' list for innovative approaches.
 - BiFab's steel fabrication yards at Methil and Arnish on the isle of Lewis have been bought from administrators by London-based InfraStrata. The company owns the Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast and the two Scottish sites will operate under the Harland and Wolff brand name.

- The area has an increasing range of active leisure and visitor facilities including the developments at Silverburn Park, the newly opened Dumbarnie Links golf course and Fife Pilgrims Way walking route and the Leven Programme's plans to create an award-winning network of paths and cycleways.
- The two sectors employing the largest numbers of people in the area – Human Health & Social Work and Manufacturing - are among those least affected by current Covid-19 restrictions, and where most businesses are still trading.

2.2 The economic profile also highlights the following **challenges** for Levenmouth:

- Vacancy rates in Leven have increased and the percentage of vacant units in the town centre is above the Fife average.
- The employment rate in Levenmouth is considerably lower than both the Scottish and Fife rates and is the lowest rate of all Fife's committee areas. Male employment in the area is 11.9 percentage points below the Scottish male employment rate (59.4% compared with 71.3%).
- For some time the area has had the highest claimant rate of Fife's seven local committee areas; the Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages ward has the highest claimant rate of Fife's wards.
- Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020, Levenmouth's claimant rate has increased from 6.2% to around 9% as the number of people claiming out-of-work benefits in the area rose from 1,400 to around 2,000.
- The proportion of Levenmouth's working age population with no qualifications is significantly higher than both the Scottish and Fife averages, and is the highest of all Fife's committee areas.
- The area also has a much smaller proportion of 16-64-year-olds who are qualified to NVQ4 or higher than in Fife and Scotland as a whole. The rate is the second lowest of the Fife area committees.
- Tourism supports 5% of jobs in the Kirkcaldy and Mid-Fife area (which includes Levenmouth), compared to 10% of jobs in Fife as a whole. Tourism and Hospitality have, however, been the sectors worst hit by the economic impact of Covid-19 to date.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The 2020 global Covid-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented economic impact, the full scale of which has still to fully emerge. Government support has so far helped to mitigate the immediate impact on businesses, but the concern is that unemployment may increase significantly once the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough scheme), Self-Employment Income Support Scheme and various business support schemes come to an end.
- 3.2 The economic impact of Covid-19 and businesses' recovery has been uneven. Demand for Fintech services has increased as online retail has thrived. Manufacturing has demonstrated a high degree of resilience and adaptability during the crisis. Construction has bounced back quickly, bolstered by accelerated investment in infrastructure; although material costs have increased. The high proportions of employment within the public sector and health & social care sector in Fife have protected many residents in the region, many of whom are working from home.

Further high-profile withdrawals within the high street retail sector (particularly fashion retail) are having a significant impact on town and city centres, although the crisis has prompted a welcome rejuvenation in local town centre trading. The biggest impact, however, has undoubtedly been felt by the tourism and hospitality sectors. Ongoing trading, travel and social distancing restrictions have undermined any recovery experienced in the summer, with over 60% of employees in the sectors currently on furlough and at risk of unemployment.

- 3.3 Concerns regarding inequalities have also been exacerbated as a result of the pandemic. Research suggests people from Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds have been more susceptible to coronavirus. Some of those in lower paid occupations, and already suffering in-work poverty, have been at greatest risk of redundancy and unemployment. The crisis is also clearly seen to be impacting most significantly on those areas and localities that were already struggling before the pandemic.
- 3.4 Work on the Council's Reform & Recovery Programme has engaged members on the development of short-term actions to support and sustain local economic recovery and options for the reform of council services going forward, drawing upon lessons learned in our response to the crisis. The cross-cutting workstreams reported progress to Policy & Co-ordination Committee on 4 March 2021. These reports include recommendations in relation to the Leading Economic Recovery workstream and Community Wealth Building workstream. Following-on from these reports, work will be undertaken to refresh the Plan4Fife and review governance and delivery arrangements from strategic partnership level through to new place leadership forums to ensure effective delivery.

List of Appendices

Appendix One: Levenmouth Economic Profile (February 2021)

Background Papers

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

- Plan for Fife 2017-2027
- Fife's Economic Strategy 2017-2027

Report Contact

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Levenmouth

February 2021

Population

Mid-year Population Estimate, 2018



The population of Levenmouth is estimated at **37,439**. This compares with a population of 37,662 as at the 2011 Census.

	Levenmouth	Fife
% aged 0-15 (Children)	17%	17%
% aged 16-64 (Working age)	61%	63%
% aged 65+ (Pensionable age)	22%	20%

Source: 2018 mid-year estimates from the National Records of Scotland

Note: These figures are estimates based on the 2011 Census. The next Scottish Census is due to take place in 2022.

Town Centres



Vacancy Rate, June 2020

	Leven	Fife
% of Vacant Floor Space	19.8%	21.0%
% of Vacant Units	20.1%	19.4%

Source: Experian GOAD Data (Fife Council) - latest available data is for June 2020.

Geography: Leven Town Centre.

Commentary:

Town Centre Vacancy Rates:

- The vacancy rates in Leven town centre increased only slightly between April 2019 and June 2020 (from 19.3% to 20.1% by retail unit and from 18.7% to 19.8% by floorspace). The latest figures will not have captured the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on businesses in the town centre however.
- Over the longer term, between April 2016 and June 2020, Leven's town centre vacancy rate by retail unit increased by nearly 5 percentage points (from 15.2% to 20.1%).
- In the same period, the percentage of vacant floor space increased by 5.6 percentage points (from 14.2% to 19.8%). The percentage of vacant floor space in Leven is below the average for Fife (21.0%), although the percentage of vacant units is above the Fife average (19.4%).

Town Centre Activity:

- In 2020, 24 grants of £100 each were awarded to town centre businesses in Levenmouth towards the cost of implementing public health and safety measures as businesses reopened after the first lockdown. The **Small Business Covid Safety Grant Scheme** funded by the Scottish Government/Scotland's Towns Partnership Towns and BIDs Resilience and Recovery Fund was administered by Business Gateway Fife.

continued/

- The following schemes are being funded by the Scottish Government Town Centre Capital Fund and Fife Council:
 - Fife Council and BRAG Enterprises are in negotiations to purchase and renovate the former **WH Smith** building on Leven High Street. This project will bring a large redundant retail unit back into productive use as a community facility.
 - A tender is about to be placed for public realm improvements to the **east end of Leven High Street**. The work, to be carried out as part of Phase 2 of Leven Town Centre Regeneration, will use the same materials as Phase 1's improvements to the Shorehead and around the bus station.
 - Town centre businesses in Leven can claim for support from Fife's **Town Centre Building Improvement Grant Fund**. This fund provides grants of £6,000 to £10,000 for shop front improvements, interior refits and upper storey residential conversions across 8 towns in Fife.
- Levenmouth Together's **Artisan Market** returned to Leven town centre in November and December 2020.
- Koffee House** opened on Leven High Street in September 2020. Since opening the business has continued to grow and the company has started a coffee delivery service.
- Carlton Bakeries**, which had a store on Leven's High Street, permanently closed in April 2020 with the loss of 60 jobs.
- The Edinburgh Woollen Mill, owners of fashion chain **Peacocks**, which has a store in Leven, fell into administration in November 2020, but continues to trade.

Employment

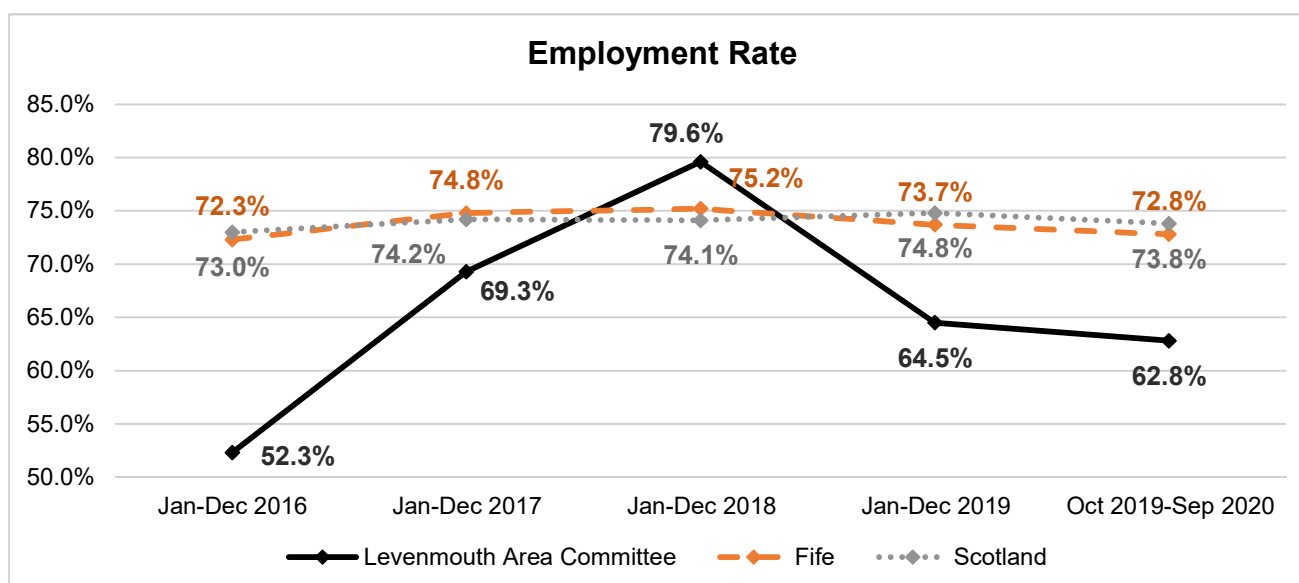


Employment rate, 12-months to Sep 2020

	Levenmouth	Fife	Scotland
Employment rate	62.8%	72.8%	73.8%
Employment rate – Male	59.4%	74.8%	76.4%
Employment rate – Female	66.6%	70.9%	71.3%

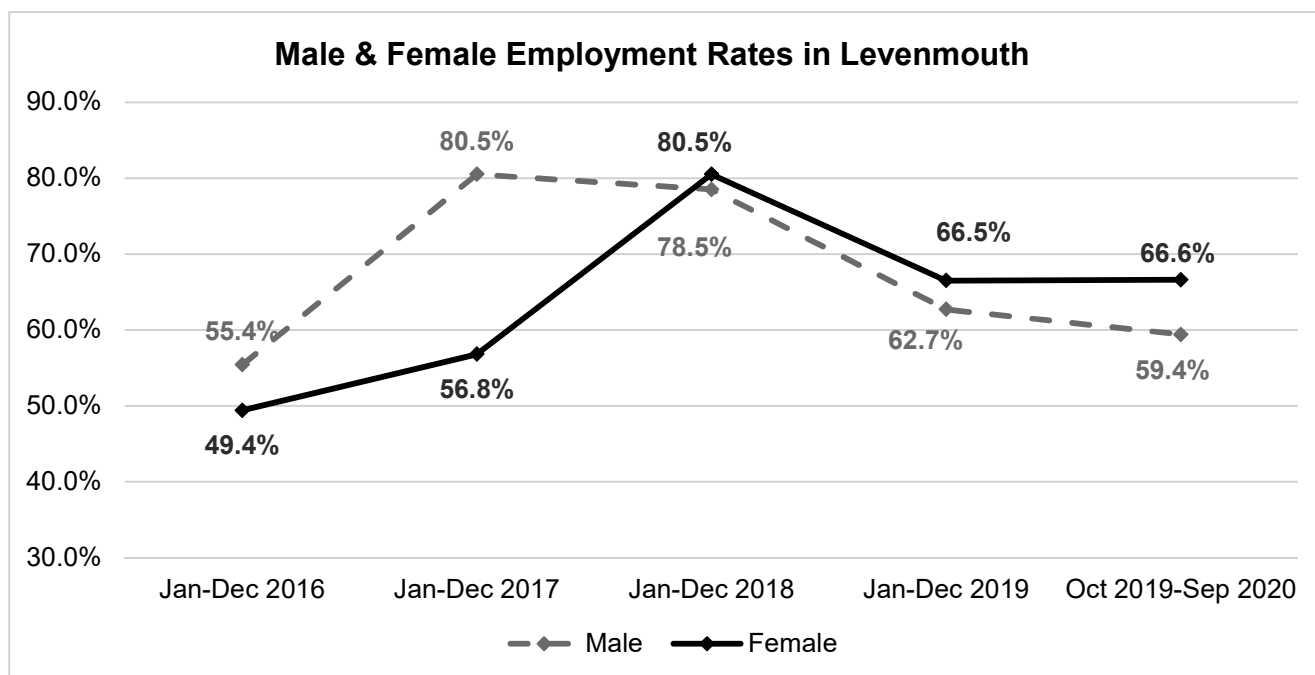
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee

Commentary:

Employment rate:

- In the 12 months to September 2020, Levenmouth's employment rate was lower than the Fife and Scottish averages. It was also the lowest employment rate of all the committee areas in Fife.
- Since 2018, the male employment rate has been lower than the female rate, and the gap widened in the 12 months to September 2020.
- The area's male employment rate is now the lowest employment rate of all the committee areas in Fife.
- Levenmouth's employment rate is much more volatile than the Scottish and Fife rates. This could be due to sample size issues and/or the area's labour market being less resilient to economic changes.
- NB The latest figures are for the 12 months to Sep 2020 so only include 7 months of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Employment by occupation, 12-months to Sep 2020

	Levenmouth	Fife	Scotland
High skilled	19.9%	30.4%	31.9%
Technician	32.2%	26.6%	24.2%
Low skilled	47.9%	42.7%	43.7%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee

Note: The estimate for Levenmouth should be viewed with caution due to small sample sizes.

Commentary:

Employment by Occupation:

- Levenmouth has a much lower proportion of people employed in high skilled jobs than Fife and Scotland as a whole, and the lowest proportion of all of Fife's committee areas.
- The area has the highest proportion of technical employment of Fife's committee areas. These are jobs which include skilled trades and tech occupations and are likely to be related to technical jobs in businesses based at Energy Park Fife.
- Almost half of Levenmouth's workforce is employed in low skilled jobs. These include occupations in the caring professions, and process, plant and machine operatives.
- For a more detailed breakdown of the area's employment by industry sector, see the 'Business Base & Key Sectors' section below.

Unemployment and Economic Inactivity**Unemployment, 12-months to Sep 2020**

	Levenmouth	Fife	Scotland
Unemployment rate	N/A	4.5%	3.5%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Note: A reliable unemployment rate for Levenmouth is not available due to small sample sizes.

Economic Inactivity, 12-months to Sep 2020

	Levenmouth	Fife	Scotland
% of 16-64-year-olds who are economically inactivate	33.4%	23.0%	23.5%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee

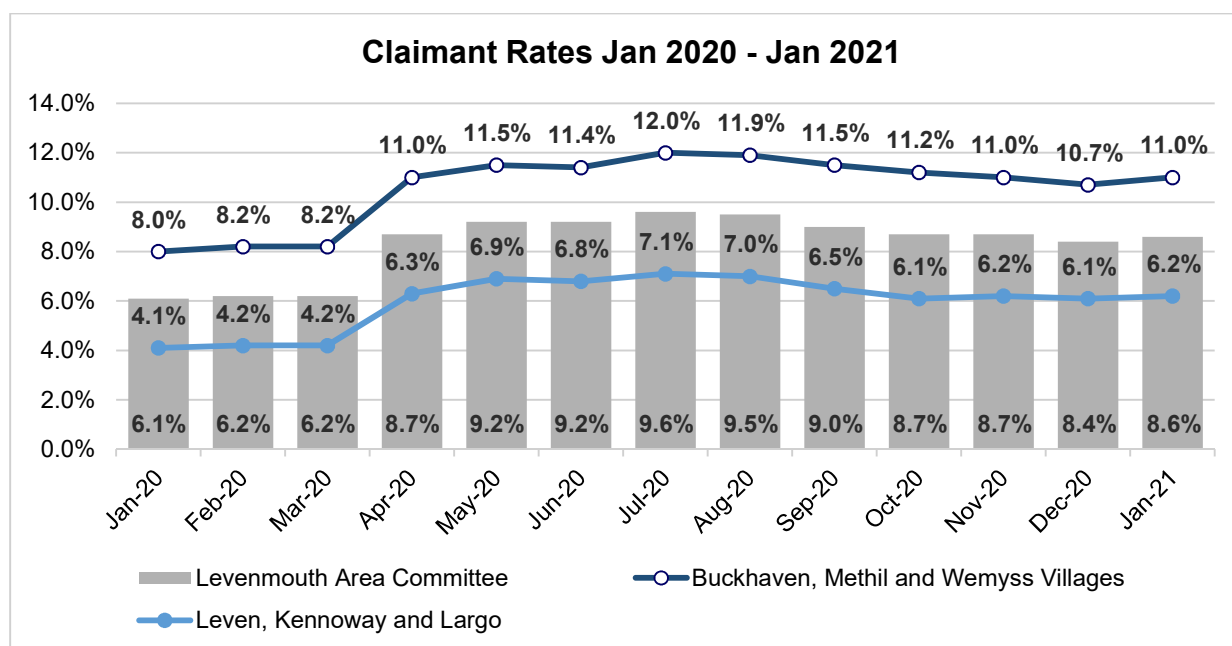
Claimant Rate, December 2020

Area	Claimant Rate
Levenmouth Area Committee	8.6%
Ward 21 Leven, Kennoway and Largo	6.2%
Ward 22: Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	11.0%
Fife	6.1%
Scotland	5.9%

Source: ONS Claimant Count

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee and wards

Note: provisional data correct as of 23 February 2021



Source: ONS Claimant Count

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee and wards

Commentary:**Economic Inactivity:**

- The proportion of people who are economically inactive (those who are neither in employment nor unemployed) in Levenmouth is 10 percentage points higher than the Fife and Scottish averages and the highest proportion of Fife's committee areas.
- Between 2018 and 2020, the economic inactivity rate in Levenmouth increased by 13 percentage points while Fife's increased by only 1.2 percentage points.
- NB These figures are for the 12 months to September 2020 and so only include seven months of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Claimant Count:

- The claimant rate is the number of Jobseeker's Allowance claimants and people who are required to search for work on Universal Credit as a percentage of the working age population in the area.
- Levenmouth has the highest claimant rate out of Fife's area committees and this has been the case for some time. Whilst Leven, Kennoway and Largo's claimant rate is similar to the Fife average, Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages has the highest claimant rate of Fife's wards.
- Following the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, all parts of Scotland and Fife saw major increases in the number of people claiming out-of-work benefits. The claimant rate for Levenmouth rose from 6.2% in March 2020 to 9.6% in July 2020. However, before Covid-19 the rate was fairly steady and had only increased by 0.1 percentage points between Oct 2019 and Mar 2020.
- Men aged 25-49 saw both the highest number of new claimants and the highest proportionate increase in claimants in the area between March 2020 and January 2021.
- In January 2021, the male claimant rate in Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages was 15.2%, over twice as high as the female rate (7.1%).



Weekly Earnings

Median Weekly Earnings, 2020

	Glenrothes Parliamentary Constituency	North East Fife Parliamentary Constituency	Fife	Scotland
Resident Earnings	£523.00	£575.00	£579.20	£595.00
Workplace Earnings	£557.30	£443.20	£559.00	£592.70

Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings

Geography: Levenmouth is split by two Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies: Glenrothes and North East Fife. The Glenrothes Constituency includes Buckhaven, Kennoway and Methil and parts of Leven. The North East Fife Constituency captures parts of Leven and Lundin Links.

Variable: Median weekly earnings - gross

Commentary:

- Resident earnings reflect those who live in the area, but do not necessarily work in the area, and workplace earnings reflect those who work in the area, but do not necessarily live in the area.
- In the Glenrothes Parliamentary Constituency (PC), workplace earnings are higher than resident earnings suggesting those occupying higher-paid local jobs reside outwith the constituency and that local residents have lower-paid jobs. Workplace earnings are similar to those for Fife as a whole, but significantly below the Scotland average. Resident earnings are significantly below the averages for both Fife and Scotland.
- In the North East Fife PC resident earnings are much higher than workplace earnings, reflecting the desirability of the area as a place to live and the fact that a high proportion of local jobs are in lower paid sectors such as retail, agriculture, hospitality and accommodation.

Qualifications & Skills



Qualifications, 2019

	Levenmouth	Fife	Scotland
% 16-64-year-olds: No Qualifications	13.6%	7.3%	9.8%
% 16-64-year-olds: NVQ4 or above	32.6%	43.3%	45.3%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee

Qualifications by Age, 2016-2019

Fife	2016	2017	2018	2019
% with NVQ4+ - aged 16-24	21.4%	38.2%	22.3%	25.0%
% with NVQ4+ - aged 25-49	51.5%	54.4%	51.6%	50.6%
% with NVQ4+ - aged 50-64	43.7%	35.4%	44.7%	42.6%
% with no qualifications (NVQ) - aged 16-24	9.9%	5.0%	8.8%	6.8%
% with no qualifications (NVQ) - aged 25-49	4.8%	5.4%	5.9%	5.6%
% with no qualifications (NVQ) - aged 50-64	13.7%	11.2%	11.1%	9.7%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Note: Reliable data for Levenmouth is not available due to small sample sizes.

School Leaver Attainment & Destinations and Annual Participation Measure

School Leaver Attainment & Initial Destinations 2019-2020	Fife	Scotland
% of school leavers achieving a positive destination	91.9%	91.9%
% of school leavers achieving 1+ SCQF Level 5 or better	79.6%	85.7%
% of school leavers achieving 1+ SCQF Level 6 or better	56.5%	63.9%

Annual Participation Measure 2020	Fife	Scotland
% of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment	91.7%	92.1%

Sources: Scottish Government, Summary Statistics for Attainment and Initial Leaver Destinations 2019/20; Skills Development Scotland, Annual Participation Measure 2020

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

Annual Participation Measure by Age, 2016-2020

Percentage of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment								
Year	Fife				Scotland			
	16-year olds	17-year olds	18-year olds	19-year olds	16-year olds	17-year olds	18-year olds	19-year olds
2020	98.60%	94.50%	89.60%	84.10%	99.00%	95.00%	90.40%	84.10%
2019	99.10%	93.60%	88.20%	82.20%	99.00%	94.80%	89.10%	83.90%
2018	98.70%	93.50%	86.80%	82.30%	98.90%	94.60%	89.90%	84.50%
2017	98.90%	91.70%	86.80%	78.30%	98.80%	90.40%	88.90%	83.40%
2016	98.60%	93.50%	84.80%	77.00%	98.70%	93.90%	88.00%	81.70%

Source: Skills Development Scotland

Participation in the Culture of Enterprise (CoE) Programme, 2019/20

	Levenmouth	Fife
Number of school engagements	14	205
Number of business engagements with schools	1	178
Number of pupils participating in CoE activities	350	10,887

Source: Fife Council – Economic Development

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee

Participation in STEM Subjects in Fife, 2019

	SCQF Level 5	SCQF Level 6
Total Entries in STEM subjects	7,070	3,140
% STEM entries compared to all subject level entries	36.46%	29.77%
Average Grade A-C pass rate STEM subjects	80.55%	81.43%
Average Grade A-C pass rate all subjects	84.98%	86.67%

Source: Fife Council Education and Child Services

Definition: Scottish Government, STEM Education and Training Strategy for Scotland

Commentary:

Qualifications:

- The proportion of Levenmouth's working age population with no qualifications is significantly higher than both the Scottish and Fife proportions, and the highest of all Fife's committee areas.
- The area also has a much smaller proportion of 16-64-year-olds who are qualified to NVQ4 or higher than in Fife and Scotland as a whole. The rate is the second lowest of the Fife area committees after Cowdenbeath.
- In Fife as a whole, qualifications by age-group have remained relatively similar over the past four years, with the exception of the 50-64 age group which has seen the proportion of people with no qualifications consistently fall. This is likely to reflect a transition away from a generation of people at the very top end of the age range without qualifications - in which case we would expect that trend to continue in future years towards the level of 5-6% currently seen in the 25-49yrs age range.

Positive Destinations

- 91.9% of Fife's 2019/20 school leavers achieved a positive initial destination. This was lower than in 2018/19 (94.4%) and the lowest rate since 2012/13. Whilst the rate also fell in Scotland as a whole, the fall was not as great, meaning that the gap between the Fife and Scottish rates has widened. The choices and opportunities available to pupils leaving school last year have undoubtedly been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The percentage of Fife's school leavers achieving one or more pass at SCQF Level 6 (Higher) or better remained the same as in 2018/19, whilst the percentage achieving one or more pass at SCQF Level 5 (National 5) fell slightly (from 81.5% to 79.6%). Both rates in Scotland increased over the same period so that the gap between Fife and Scotland's attainment levels have widened. Care must be taken in comparing these results, however, as the grades for qualifications in 2019/20 were based on teacher estimates following the cancellation of SCQF exams as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The same arrangement for teacher assessment of grades is also in place for 2020/21.

Participation of 16-19-year-olds in education, training or employment:

- Fife has seen the proportion of 16-19-year-olds participating in education, training or employment increase steadily from 88.3% in 2016 to 91.7% in 2020, though the rate is still below the Scottish average (92.1%). The largest increases have been seen in the 18- and 19-year age groups.

Recent Developments:

- In 2020, Diageo in Fife engaged with the Developing the Young Workforce Scotland Skills Academy Programme, bringing a team of volunteers from the business to work with young people, reviewing their CVs and taking part in mock interviews to help improve their skills. The company has a long history of involvement with Levenmouth Academy through business insights programmes and also participates in the national Career Ready initiative.

Business Base & Key Sectors



Financial support to businesses in Fife, 2019/20

	Levenmouth	Fife	% of Fife total
Number of businesses supported	4	105	7.6%
Value of financial support	£13,721.38	£212,144.52	8.0%
Jobs created as a result of financial support to businesses	1	58.5	3.4%

Source: Fife Council – Economic Development

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee

Number of start-ups supported by Business Gateway Fife, 2019/20

	Levenmouth	Fife	% of Fife total
No. of businesses receiving Expert Help	5	96	5.2%
No. of businesses accessing growth services	4	86	4.7%
No. of Business Gateway start-ups	44	615	7.2%
No. of jobs created from Business Gateway	74	812.5	9.1%
Turnover generated	£1,452,000	£18,350,981	7.9%

Source: Business Gateway Fife

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee

UK Business Counts, 2020

	Glenrothes Parliamentary Constituency	North East Fife Parliamentary Constituency	Fife	Scotland
Number of enterprises	1,750	2,695	9,900	177,695

Source: ONS UK Business Counts

Geography: Levenmouth is covered by two Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies: Glenrothes and North East Fife. The Glenrothes PC includes Buckhaven, Kennoway and Methil and parts of Leven. The North East Fife PC captures parts of Leven and Lundin Links.

Business Counts by Employment size, 2020

Business Size by employment	No. Businesses in Glenrothes PC	% Businesses in Glenrothes PC	No. Businesses in NE Fife PC	% Businesses in NE Fife PC
Micro (0-9 employees)	1,510	86.3%	2,375	88.1%
Small (10-49 employees)	190	10.9%	280	10.4%
Medium (50-249 employees)	40	2.3%	35	1.3%
Large (250+ employees)	10	0.6%	10	0.4%

Source: UK Business Counts Note: these figures only include VAT and/or PAYE registered enterprises. They do not include unregistered enterprises (sole traders and partnerships) who are not VAT and/or PAYE registered

Geography: Levenmouth is covered by two Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies: Glenrothes and North East Fife. The Glenrothes PC includes Buckhaven, Kennoway and Methil and parts of Leven. The North East Fife PC captures parts of Leven and Lundin Links.

Business Survival Rates

Survival Rates of Businesses Born in 2016			
	% surviving 1 year (to 2017)	% surviving 2 years (to 2018)	% surviving 3 years (to 2019)
Fife	93.6%	75.5%	59.2%
Scotland	91.7%	72.6%	56.5%

Source: ONS Business Demography, UK (2019)

Note: These statistics are not available below Local Authority level and do not represent Business Gateway Fife's performance in relation to the aftercare service it provides to businesses.

Commentary:

Business Support:

- Around 6.5% of the financial support given by Fife Council (£13,721.38) was spent in Levenmouth.
- 9.1% of the jobs supported by assistance from Business Gateway Fife were in the Levenmouth area.

Business Base:

- Unfortunately, there are no data on the number and characteristics of businesses in Levenmouth, as this information is not available below parliamentary constituency areas.
- The breakdown of businesses by size in both the Glenrothes and NE Fife Parliamentary Constituencies is similar to the Fife and Scottish breakdowns, though Glenrothes PC has a smaller proportion of micro and larger proportion of medium-sized firms.
- Fife's business survival rates are above the Scottish average.
- Major businesses located in the Levenmouth area include Diageo, James Donaldson Timber Ltd and Donaldson Timber Engineering Ltd, Pfaudler Ltd, Silberline, BiFab, CessCon Decom, Sainsbury's and B&Q.
- **Energy Park Fife** is a world-leading engineering and research zone servicing the energy and renewables sector. Located at Methil, the site encompasses a 55-hectare engineering site, Methil Docks, Methil Docks Business Park and the Low Carbon Investment Park. A joint venture between Scottish Enterprise and Fife Council, the site is ideally suited for a range of marine energy activities, in particular: manufacturing, fabrication and engineering, research & development and operations & maintenance.
- **Fife Energy Park** is also home to the **Hydrogen Office** and the **ORE Catapult Wind Turbine research facility** - the world's most advanced, open access, offshore wind turbine.
- In 2020, site remediation and preparation works for the **new decommissioning facility** at the energy park was awarded £645,000 in the fourth round of the Scottish Government's Decommissioning Challenge Fund, along with match funding from the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund.

Employment by Sector, 2019

Sector	Levenmouth	Fife	% of Fife total
A : Agriculture, forestry & fishing*	1,000	4,500	22.2%
B : Mining and quarrying	0	250	0.0%
C : Manufacturing	1,500	14,000	10.7%
D : Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply	0	350	0.0%
E : Water supply; sewerage, waste mgmt & remediation	25	1,000	2.5%
F : Construction	400	7,000	5.7%
G : Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair of motor vehicles	1,250	20,000	6.3%
H : Transportation & Storage	800	6,000	13.3%
I : Accommodation & Food Service activities	500	10,000	5.0%
J : Information & Communication	45	4,000	1.1%
K : Financial & Insurance activities	50	3,000	1.7%
L : Real estate activities	45	1,250	3.6%
M : Professional, scientific & technical activities	400	7,000	5.7%
N : Administrative & support service activities	400	7,000	5.7%
O : Public Admin, Defence; Social Security	175	12,000	1.5%
P : Education	800	13,000	6.2%
Q : Human health & social work activities	1,750	19,000	9.2%
R : Arts, entertainment & recreation	225	4,000	5.6%
S : Other service activities	200	3,500	5.7%

Source: ONS Business Register & Employment Survey

Geography: Levenmouth Area Committee

* Excludes farm agriculture.

Commentary:

Sector Employment:

- The three sectors in Levenmouth employing the largest numbers of people are Human health & social work activities, Manufacturing and Wholesale & retail trade.
- A higher proportion of the area's jobs are in the manufacturing sector (15%) compared with Fife as a whole (10%).
- Almost a quarter (22.2%) of Fife's jobs in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing are located in the Levenmouth area.

Recent Business Activity (as highlighted in media reports):

- In June 2020, Network Rail confirmed that work to reinstate the **Levenmouth Rail Link** was still on schedule to open in 2023 despite lockdown restrictions, with construction expected to begin late 2021 and virtual consultations taking place to keep the public informed of progress.
- **Network Rail** held virtual community engagement events on four proposed locations for the new Leven train station in December 2020. People were also invited to have their say and view the details of the project on a new Levenmouth project site – [ScotlandsRailway.com/projects](https://scotlandsrailway.com/projects). It is likely that an announcement will be made in the coming weeks about the location of both the Leven and Cameronbridge stations.
- The new **Levenmouth Reconnected Task Group** met for the first-time in August 2020. This group, alongside the Oversight Group, Working Group and Area Committee, will play a key role in how the £10 million funding allocated to the Levenmouth blueprint is spent across the area.

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- London-based firm InfraStrata has bought **BiFab's** steel fabrication yards at Methil and Arnish on Lewis. InfraStrata already owns the Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast and the two Scottish sites will operate under the Harland and Wolff brand name as part of the £850,000 deal. Twenty-nine of BiFab's employees are transferring to the new company, though they are currently furloughed. BiFab went into administration in December 2020.
- **CessCon Decom Ltd** has developed one of the UK's most advanced onshore oil and gas decommissioning facilities at Energy Park Fife with support from Fife Council and Scottish Enterprise. The Energy Park Fife Decommissioning Facility can accommodate multiple substantial projects at the same time. In December 2020, CessCon Decom was awarded its first contract for the onshore decommissioning, dismantlement and recycling of Spirit Energy's Morecambe Bay DP3 and DP4 facilities in the East Irish Sea by Allseas. The contract, Scotland's largest decommissioning contract to date, will involve processing over 23,000 tonnes of material and will create up to 50 jobs.
- Energy regulator Ofgem has awarded up to £18 million to gas network company SGN to build its **H100 Fife hydrogen demonstration project**, the world's first zero carbon hydrogen-to-homes network. SGN has submitted plans to Fife Council for its 100 per cent green domestic hydrogen heating grid in Levenmouth, where up to 300 homes will be connected to the new network.
- Profits at Leven-based global drinks company, **Diageo**, fell by 47.1% in August 2020, primarily due to the closure of pubs and restaurants during lockdown. Operating profits fell to £2.1 billion as sales fell nearly 9% to £11.8bn for the year.
- **Falco Drone Technologies** will commence trials of a prototype of its new drone in 2021, which is set to play a vital role in floating offshore wind inspection and maintenance. In summer 2021, launch and recovery trials will begin at ORE Catapult's Levenmouth Demonstration Turbine off the Fife coast.
- In December 2020, **BRAG Enterprises** completed its purchase of Thomson House in Methil. The building, now known as the Levenmouth Community Enterprise Centre, provides affordable office space to fledgling businesses in the area.
- BRAG Enterprise's **Levenmouth Together** will be launching its new Levenmouth Community Lottery in 2021 with all surplus proceeds going back into the Levenmouth community. Levenmouth Together, funded by Fife Council's Economic Development Fund and Town Centre Regeneration Fund, was launched in April 2019 to develop a community-led approach to economic development in the area.
- **The Leven Programme**, the SEPA-led multi-partner regeneration initiative, continues to progress and in June 2020 the programme was announced as the first living case study in Volans' "Green Swan Observatory" initiative, propelling the project to the global "one to watch" list for innovative approaches. Volans has so far given Green Swan Awards to the "Earth Day" initiative and the multi-award-winning Eden Project in Cornwall.
- From late 2019 to May 2020, **The Connectivity Project** (part of the Leven Programme) asked local community-based organisations and individuals about what stops them from enjoying the River Leven in order to understand how best to get more people to walk, cycle or wheel to, from and along the River Leven. The Connectivity Project aims to create an award-winning network of paths and cycle ways along the 5km stretch of the river between Levenmouth and Cameron Bridge, along with a network of 20km of paths through and between Buckhaven, Methil, Methilhill, Leven and Windygates.
- **Stephens Bakery** was given planning permission for a drive-through bakery at Turpie Road in Leven that will create 20 jobs. The firm opened its first drive-through bakery in Rumblingwell, Dunfermline and also has shops in Kirkcaldy and Crossford.

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- Construction of the **Kirkland Care Village** in Methil started in October 2020. The first of its kind, the care village will see a nursery, care home and residential housing offered on one location, the site of the former Kirkland High School.
- **Diageo** and **Boogie Bounce Buckhaven** both received 2020 Fife Business Awards.

Covid-19 Updates:

- **Diageo** manufactured 55,000 bottles of hand sanitiser at its Leven bottling plant during the first lockdown. The 500ml bottles were distributed for free to care workers and those helping the vulnerable.
- **BRAG Enterprises** adapted the way it delivered its services during the first lockdown to ensure they continued in some form. The **Levenmouth Together** group joined forces with the People's Pantry and helped get essentials supplies to families, thanks to donations from Lidl, Stuart's the Bakers, Aldi, Fife Creamery and Fair Share. Food parcels were also taken to members of the community who were self-isolating.

Tourism



Tourism Indicators, 2019

	Kirkcaldy and Mid Fife	Fife
Total trips (day trips and overnight stays)	2,272,000	9,164,222
Visitor spend	£107,451,000	£477,564,000
Tourism value (direct, indirect & induced impact)	£151,008,000	£651,467,000
Total tourism-related employment	3,062	13,310
Percentage of all employment	5%	10%

Source: Economic Impact of Tourism 2019 Results (Destination Research)

Commentary:

Tourism Indicators:

- Between 2018 and 2019, the value of tourism in the Kirkcaldy & Mid Fife area (which includes Levenmouth) increased by 9.9% from £137 million to over £151 million. Visitor spend also increased by 9.9%, whilst the number of visitor trips increased by only 4.8%, so that the spend per trip increased from £45.10 to £47.30.

Fife Tourism Success:

- The **Levenmouth Local Tourist Association** has developed a new brand which will tie in with the Welcome to Fife consumer branding and will be used on forthcoming literature.
- The new 104 km/64-mile **Fife Pilgrims Way** long-distance walking route from North Queensferry and Culross to St Andrews which opened in July 2019 passes through the area and features Balcurvie and Kennoway as destinations. The footpath's 5-year restoration received £399,000 funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund Scotland in addition to contributions from other partners and seeks to emulate the popularity of the Fife Coastal Path and add to the active leisure offering in central Fife.

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- **Silverburn Park** opened its new camping and glamping park in September 2020 featuring three glamping pods and spaces for twelve tent pitches and four campervans.
- Fife Employment Access Trust (FEAT) has launched a fundraising campaign to convert the derelict **Silverburn Flax Mill** into a visitor centre and community hub. Plans have been drawn up to create four arts and crafts studios, meeting rooms and event space, offices for FEAT staff and partners, interpretation displays, and a backpackers' hostel with 27 beds, as well as fully accessible public toilets with Changing Places facilities. It is hoped to raise around £8 million to complete the work. Work to make the Flax Mill building wind and watertight, thanks to a £145k grant from the Scottish Government's Vacant and Derelict Land Fund, were completed in early 2021.
- The award-winning **Homelands Trust** luxury accessible self-catering holiday accommodation attracts guests from all over the UK and beyond and enjoys very high occupancy rates.
- Scotland's newest links golf course, **Dumbarnie Links**, opened in May 2020 and has already attracted global media interest. Fife Council worked with the developer to train local people for the jobs which will be created at the attraction.
- **Leven Links and Lundin Links Golf Courses** welcomed golf influencers and global visitors in 2019.
- The new '**Fife 191**' driving trail which will be launched in Spring 2021 includes stops and Leven and Lower Largo. The trail's online interactive map and 360-degree aerial photos will enable people to travel virtually around Fife before their visit. The trail's website will also include useful information and tips for visitors including the location of toilets, car parks and charging points. The new trail will benefit from VisitScotland's promotion of tourist routes during 2021.

Tourism activity during Covid-19:

- Tourism businesses were signposted to sources of guidance and financial support.
- A 'Love Fife Again' video and two slideshow videos for each Local Tourist Association were commissioned and promoted.
- Fife Council is helping to support the delivery of the Festival of Golf, which will take place from April to October 2021 (Covid-19 restrictions permitting).
- Social media messaging was carried out during each lockdown assisted with the 'Love Fife Later' video campaign and followed up by a 'Love Fife Again' campaign.
- A Fife COVID-19 Tourism & Events Strategy Action Plan was agreed by the Fife Tourism Partnership Executive Board and Local Tourist Association Chairs in January 2021.

Estimated Impact of Covid-19 on Levenmouth's Business Base

Sector	Levenmouth	Scotland	
	Estimated Employment (Levenmouth Area Committee) ¹	Estimated share of businesses that are currently trading ²	Estimated share of workforce on furlough leave ³
Health & social work activities	1,750	94.0%	5.7%
Manufacturing	1,500	97.7%	6.5%
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	1,250	87.3%	22.0%
Transportation and storage	800	94.0%	10.0%
Accommodation & food services	500	35.7%	72.8%
Administrative & support services	400	93.4%	13.8%
Construction	400	95.8%	11.2%
Professional, scientific & technical activities	400	99.4%	8.8%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	225	50.8%	66.4%
Information & communication	45	99.1%	10.9%
All Sectors	10,000	81.7%	21.3%

Sources:

1. Business Register and Employment Survey 2019, ONS
2. Business Impact of Coronavirus (Covid-19) Survey (BICS) Weighted Scotland Estimates (Scottish Government [Wave 23: estimated share of businesses that are currently trading 8 - 21 Feb 2021])
3. Business Impact of Coronavirus (Covid-19) Survey (BICS) Weighted Scotland Estimates (Scottish Government) [Wave 23: share of workforce on furlough leave 25 Jan – 21 Feb 2021]

Note: This table only includes the sectors included in the BICS survey

Commentary:

- The Accommodation & Food Services and the Arts, Entertainment and Recreation sectors had the lowest proportion of businesses trading and the highest proportion of their workforce furloughed in Scotland in February 2021.
- The sectors employing the largest number of people in Levenmouth are those where almost all businesses are currently trading with the exception of Wholesale and retail trade.

Profile produced by Fife Council Economy, Tourism & Town Centres Team

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February 2021

24th March 2021

Agenda Item No. 06

Supporting the Levenmouth Plan – Pump track Kennoway – Funding Request

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21,22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) OF £30,000 as match funding for the installation of a Pump Track facility at the Sandybrae Centre Kennoway. Also, to request that £10,000 of funding is set aside from the local capital budget to cover the cost of a separate electrical installation to the site.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to agree a total contribution of £40,000 towards the total cost of this project, and note;

- The balance of funding currently being sourced from other funders
- The progress of the detailed design consultation process currently underway.
- Note that £30,000 of the total request will be from the local community planning budget for Ward 21
- Note that £10,000 of the total request will be from the area capital budget, and specifically for the installation of a separate electrical connection carried out by Scottish Power

Resource Implications

Approval of this funding will reduce the LCPB or Area Capital Budget by £30,000 and the Area Capital budget by £10,000. As part of the discussions around the longer-term maintenance of this site, it is proposed that a sinking fund will be established, which will be administered by a local management group to cover periodic repairs as well as grass maintenance as required on areas that fall out with any brief agreed with Grounds Maintenance.

This request is a follow on from a previous report in December 2020, where members agreed a contribution of £10,000 to allow the detailed design process to go ahead to

cover fee costs etc, we are currently in that phase and are working towards a position where we would want to agree a contract to start the build process in late summer 2021, if all the required funding and necessary permissions are in place.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report. Risk management issues will be addressed should the project progress to construction by the successful contractor. The contract will be overseen by colleagues in Property Services to ensure that all compliance requirements are adhered to.

Policy & Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

Elected members are aware of this project, and discussions have also taken place with Kennoway Community Council. The project is also supported by the Sandybrae Community Centre Management Committee.

A significant consultation has also been carried out with young people in and around Kennoway. This has shown considerable support for this proposal. Specific consultation was carried out with Kennoway Primary School in May 2019. Other consultations with young people have also been carried out, notably at Levenmouth Academy.

Priorities within the Kennoway Community Action Plan which was a consultative document supported by the Coalfields Regeneration Trust highlighted the need for improvements in play spaces locally for young people, increased activity in and around the Sandybrae Centre which local people want to be more of a community hub, increased numbers of events held locally, and specifically the creation of a space where young people can become more confident about riding a bike.

The Cycling Development Officer for Fife is also aware of this proposal.

Current consultative approaches include online meetings with local groups and influencers as well as a digital consultation available [here](#), which is supported by documentation from the successful tender by Velosolutions. This has had a good response from individuals likely to be end users of the facility.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.

- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from this Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget and the area capital budget, and would come from the 2021/22 financial year allocation.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The Levenmouth Plan notes that work to improve greenspace and facilities for leisure and fitness are key to improving wellbeing. The area has invested significant sums into improvements for play areas to ensure they are stimulating and challenging places for children, ranging from toddlers to teenagers, to play and learn social skills.
- 2.2 As part of the River Leven Connectivity project we are currently working with communities on a behaviour change approach, which has sought to find out why local people are not choosing active travel options. One of the key issues raised in the focus around the River Leven area is the lack of good infrastructure that encourages the use of bikes etc, as an alternative to other forms of transport.
- 2.3 The area wants to build on that aspiration for high quality networks and infrastructure by looking to provide places to learn the skills needed to be confident and safe whilst cycling, for people who live within Levenmouth as well as visitors.
- 2.4 As a support to this ambition a significant funding stream has been made available by central government through the [Cycling Facilities Fund](#) which is based on the following objectives:

Development Projects should inspire the nation to cycle:

- By providing accessible, inclusive and inspiring facilities that enable and encourage people to engage with cycling in all its forms, regardless of their background, gender, age, ethnicity or ability.
 - By helping to grow and develop club and community cycling.
 - By providing multi-discipline hub facilities with safe coaching and skills development areas that support the growth and development of cycling clubs and hubs.
 - By growing and developing local and regional event opportunities. By providing new or upgrading existing facilities to enable local and regional festivals, competition and events.
- 2.5 The Kennoway pump track proposal fits well with the key objectives and priorities noted above, and the proposal does not overlap any other provision in the area. Its alignment to the core aims of the current local community plan are also clear.
- 2.6 The track proposed in this project will be of competition standard, and while it will cater for local groups and promote the improvement of cycling skills in Levenmouth, it will

also prove to be an asset which will provide a facility for national competitions and increased visitor numbers into Levenmouth.

- 2.7 The cycling development officer has advised that the facility will be used for Active Fife led coaching sessions which would normally have up to 20 participants per session. The site would become an asset for youth groups and clubs in Fife with a specific interest in cycling.
- 2.8 As part of the benefits that can be accrued from the raised interest in cycling , the area will look to encourage ongoing skills development for those who are motivated to teach others, the types of qualifications that could be pursued with support from the project can be found [here](#). This type of capacity building amongst local communities is a significant additional benefit from this type of investment.

3.0 The Project

- 3.1 Elected members will be aware of the area chosen for this project, which is the greenspace surrounding the Sandybrae Centre in Kennoway.
- 3.2 The site is currently home to a BMX track built in the 1980's which has essentially come to the end of its life. Visits to the site by representatives of companies who build pump tracks, confirm that this site provides an excellent foundation for the overlay of a new facility.
- 3.3 We are therefore proposing to use the footprint of the current BMX track and fit onto it a new purpose-built pump track to a high specification. The track will be open for public use at all times, however we do envisage a strong club use element.
- 3.4 There will be local management of the site, which at the current time will sit with a sub group of the Sandybrae Centre management committee, but is likely to evolve into a larger group of facility users and other interested individuals. A strong group is important to ensure the facility is marketed and developed in line with its significant potential. We also see the group taking a central role in the maintenance of the site to ensure its always ready for use, accordingly the instigation of a sinking fund to allow the commissioning of work as required is also seen as a key element to ensure sustainability.
- 3.5 General maintenance of the wider green space site will continue to be picked up under existing contract arrangements with Grounds Maintenance.
- 3.6 Attached as Appendix 1 is the consultation document produced by Velosolutions which supports the detailed design stage of the project, this document will give members good visualisations of the proposed track and how it will sit in the environment at Sandybrae. The next section of this report will highlight the overall cost of the project and the current fundraising approaches being taken to meet those costs.

Cost Breakdown for the Pump track Project

Provision of the Pumptrack and floodlighting infrastructure as per agreed design	£150,000.00
Add Provisional Sums:	
Miscellaneous survey	£450.00
Drainage: Scottish Water: Building Warrant Requirements	£10,000.00
Signage	£1,000.00
Scottish Power installation of electrical connection	£10,000.00
Contingency (5% of contract sum)	£7,500.00
TOTAL	£178,950.00

- 3.7 Local funding approaches are still continuing and if we are successful in our other funding bids, we will cover the required sum to allow us to proceed with the build in 2021.
- 3.8 It should be noted however that there is a separate element to this work which is the installation of an electrical power supply by Scottish Power for the floodlighting, estimates for this are in the region of 10K – at this stage we intend to cover that cost from the allocated local capital funding which we understand will be available in financial year 2021/22.
- 3.9 Professional fees and ancillary design work costs for this project have been covered already in a separate allocation to this project agreed by this committee in December 2020.
- 3.10 Funding is currently being sourced from a range of providers, those applications which are either underway or secured are noted below:
- Levenmouth Reconnected /Blueprint Fund – £50,000 (Application Pending)
 - Fife Environment Trust – £10,000 (Application Pending)
 - Levenmouth Community Safety Partnership – £1500 (Secured)
 - Crowdfunding – £2500 (Secured)

- Sportscotland – £75,000 (Application Pending)
- Local Community Planning Ward 21 Budget- £30,000 (Agreement Pending)
- Area Capital Budget Levenmouth - £10,000 (Agreement Pending)
- Total Funding Pending/Secured- **£179,000**

3.11 The search for other funds will continue in the interim to ensure we secure the targeted amount to allow us to start the building phase of the project. There has been a slight delay in the sign off of the application process for funding from the Levenmouth Reconnected/Blueprint fund, but we would hope to be in a position to submit that for consideration, as soon as the applications are available.

4.0 Conclusion

4.1 This project will make an impact on several priorities for the area, around the promotion of active travel, health and wellbeing and climate change. As noted previously it aligns with a range of priorities contained in a number of key local planning documents.

List of Appendices

- Velosolutions – Kennoway Pumptrack Project Document

Background Papers

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

- [Kennoway Community Action Plan 2018-23](#)

Report Contact

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Sandy Brae Community Centre Pump Track Kennoway, Fife

Design Consultation
February 2021

Introduction

Thank you for participating in this online design consultation for a new pump track at Sandy Brae Community Centre, Kennoway.

The following document will outline the brief and scope of the track and some initial concept plans for the facility. With input from the local community through this consultation we will develop the designs with a hope to build later this year.





Who are we?



We are Velosolutions, global pump track design and construction specialists. We have built over 250 tracks worldwide in over 20 countries including Switzerland, South Africa, Chile, India, New Zealand and the UK.

You can find more details of our work on velosolutions.com and the locations of all of our tracks on pumptrack.com



Project Overview

- This vision for the project is to turn the existing BMX track, situated at the Sandy Brae Community Centre, Kennoway into a cutting edge asphalt surfaced pump track
- Velosolutions have been appointed to design and build the new pump track facility
- Funding for the facility is currently being raised
- This consultation will help us develop the design to ensure the facility meets the needs of the community
- The final designs will then be submitted for planning permission
- Once funding and planning permission have been secured construction can start!
- We are aiming to have track built by Autumn 2021



Project Overview

The track is to be located on the site of the existing BMX track adjacent to the Sandy Brae Community Centre



What is a pump track?

A pump track area is designed for all things on wheels. From BMX and mountain bikes to skateboards, scooters and roller skates.

Riders generate speed by 'pumping' (pushing down) on the back side of the rollers.

They typically cater for a wide range of abilities. As a beginner you can simply roll through the undulations, but as your skills improve and speed increases you can build up to are more challenges, such as jumps and transfer lines.



Project Brief

The following design brief has been provided to us by Fife Council for Kennoway Pump Track

- A single loop pump track with interconnecting features
 - Safe and Challenging
 - Allows for progression of skill
 - Suitable for competition use
- Asphalt surfaced to provide a fast rolling, maintenance free and all weather facility
- Minimum length of 150m
- Minimum track width of 2m
- Minimum of 3 start/finish points
- Provision for spectators and social space
- Grass turfing around the perimeter of the track on both sides
- Drainage system to keep the track surface free of water
- Floodlit



Project Brief

Design to allow for
progression and **inclusivity**

*Suitable for beginner pump track
riders through to experts for all
wheeled sports*



Design Concept

Design Highlights

- 240m length
- 2 large elevated rest areas
- 2 small elevated rest areas
- Connected design with variable height features
- Rotational symmetry layout



Design Concept

Design Highlights

- 240m length
- 2 large elevated rest areas
- 2 small elevated rest areas
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Design Concept

Design Highlights

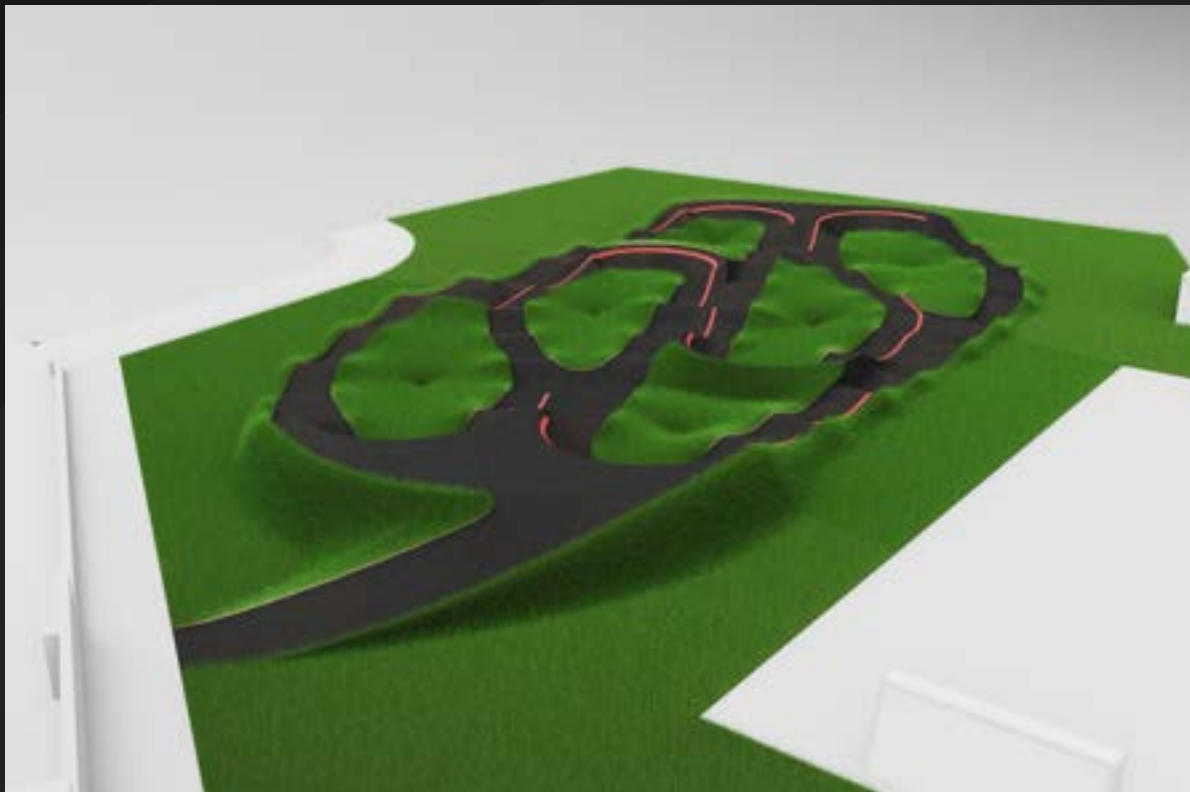
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Design Concept

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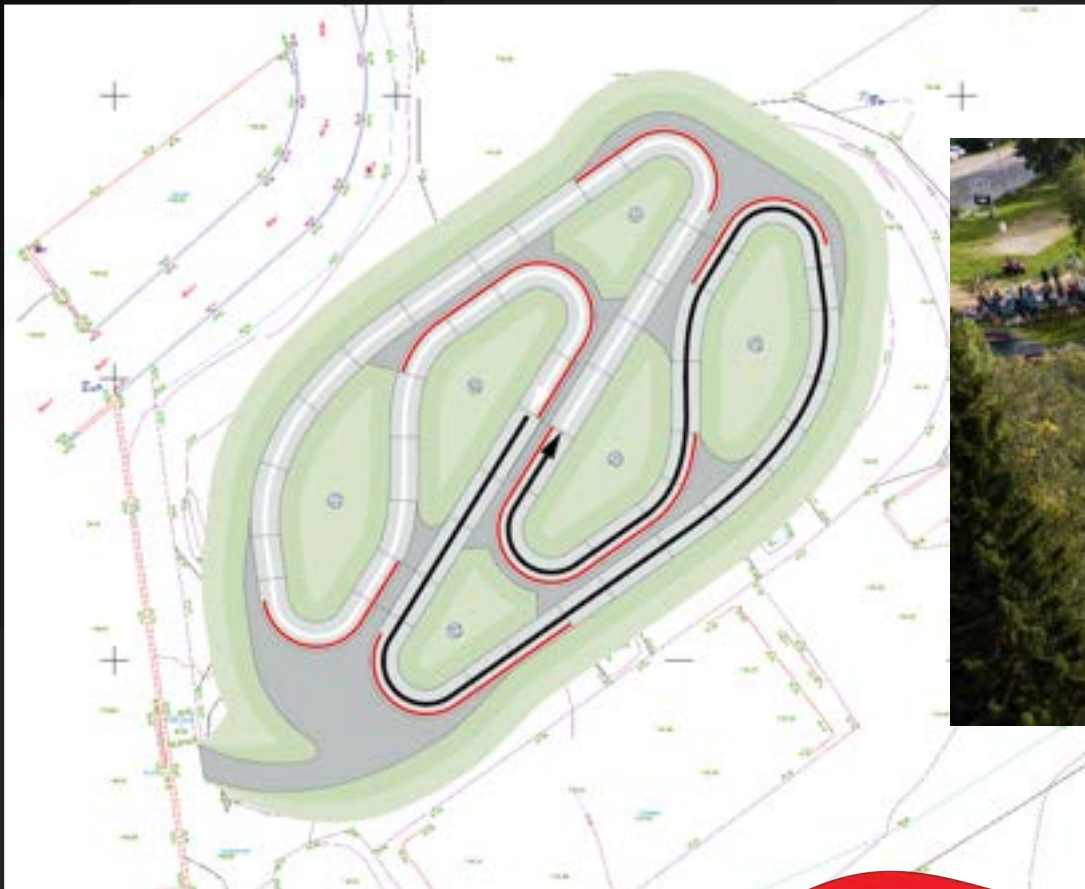




Design Concept

Rotational Symmetry Layout

- *Allows for head-to-head racing*
- *Exclusive Velosolutions Design*
- *Meets criteria for UCI Pump Track World Championship events*

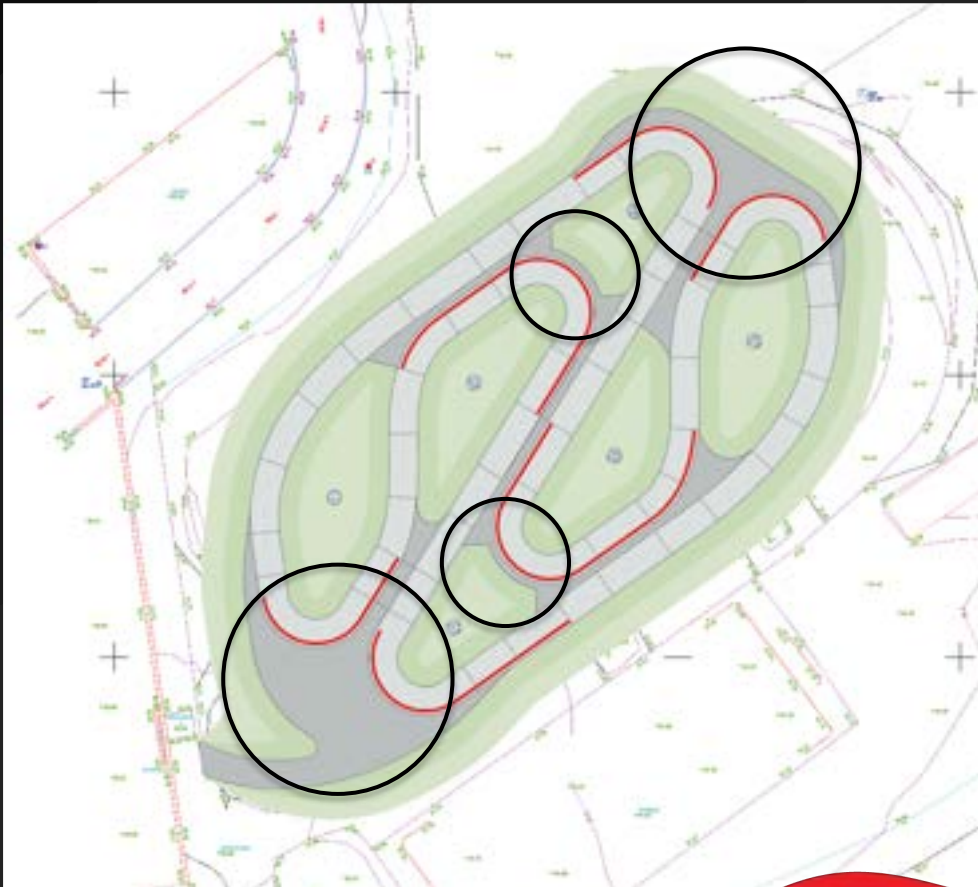


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Design Concept

Rest Areas

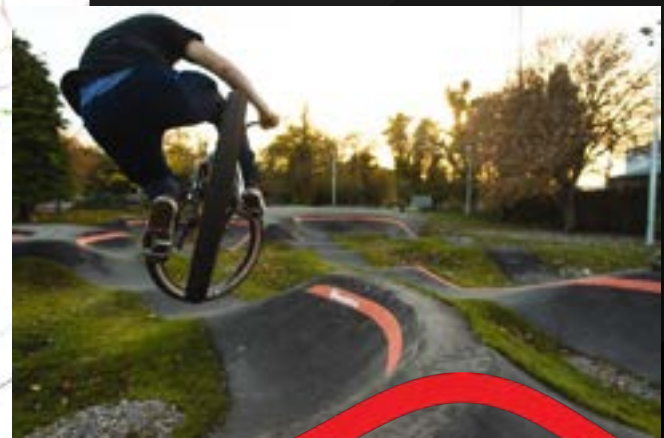
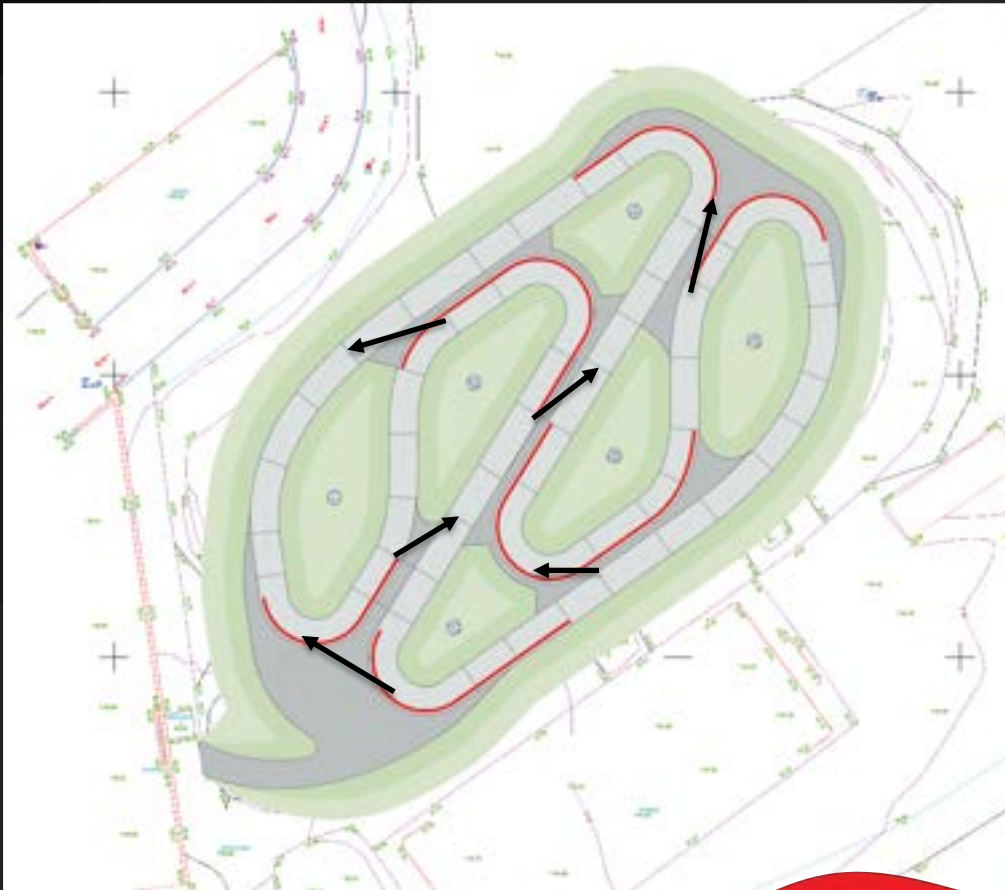
- *Elevated above the track level to provide users and spectators good views across the track.*
- *Allows riders to ride the track in parts and to 'session' sections*



Design Concept

Transfer Lines

- *The interconnected design allows for transfer line options*
- *Some are shown below, but many more can be found with creativity and practice*



Design Concept

Corners

- The design includes a variety of curved sections and progressively shaped berms allowing both beginners and experts to maintain and generate speed.



Design Concept

Rolling Features

- The design includes a variety of rolling features, designed with progression in mind. Rollers, doubles, step ups, step downs, triples and quads are all included.



Design Concept

Rolling Features

- The design includes a variety of rolling features, designed with progression in mind. Rollers, doubles, step ups, step downs, triples and quads are all included.





Design Concept

Floodlights

- The track will be floodlit with an LED lighting system to allow for night use



Feedback



We would welcome your feedback on the design outlined in this presentation to help us develop the final design for us to build in Autumn 2021.

We would be happy to hear your thoughts on what you like and why. Please complete the online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W5PPVTR> by Wednesday 3rd March 2021.

You can show your support and contribute to the project fund through the Crowdfunder page <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/kennoway-pump-track>



24th March 2021

Agenda Item No. 07

Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Fuel Poverty Approach

Report by: Paul Vaughan – Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21, 22

Purpose

This report is to update members on the work of Greener Kirkcaldy/ Cosy Kingdom in delivering focussed fuel poverty advice and support in the Levenmouth area, and to seek funding agreement to extend this service in the 2021/22 financial year.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the latest performance figures relating to the fuel poverty work for the current financial year. (Q3 Update Report appended)
- Agree the new target areas for this piece of work.
- Agree to fund this new approach by releasing £25,000 from the locally controlled Anti – Poverty budget.

Resource Implications

The total cost of this approach will be £25000 committed from the Anti-Poverty budget for the area.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or risk implications for Fife Council inherent in this report.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

The work of Greener Kirkcaldy/Cosy Kingdom in the Levenmouth area over the last three years has earned particular plaudits from local colleagues involved in anti-poverty work from a number of Services. Elected members have commented on the detailed reporting element that highlights progress on a quarterly basis. This work is also supported at the local WRAP group meetings.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Members will be aware that the area has supported fuel poverty work in Levenmouth over a number of years, the relationship with Greener Kirkcaldy has become more formally established using the Cosy Kingdom approach of home energy advice, and home visits.
- 1.2 The original concept was based on a focus on private rented properties in the Buckhaven South area, where we had a particular issue relating to affordability for tenants notably in the winter period, who were faced with the option of heating or eating. Over the last few years, we have moved the focus of the work to different geographies around Levenmouth, while still retaining the flexibility to cover other settlements if demand required it.
- 1.3 We sought to introduce practical help to local people, through the provision of advice on best value tariffs for heating, and assistance to switch providers. Alongside this our Energy Advisor colleagues in Cosy Kingdom helped with advocacy to assist in the mitigation of debt issues relating to utilities cost, to the extent of helping write off long term debt for a number of overburdened households.
- 1.4 Coupled with this practical advice and advocacy support, the package of assistance offered stretched to a handy service where a range of practical interventions helped local people to heat, light and insulate their homes in a way that would positively impact the longer-term viability of their tenancy, through reduced fuel costs and better enjoyment of their current accommodation.
- 1.5 The availability of this advice and practical support was also extended in the first year to cover mainly elderly homeowners, who were experiencing difficulties in relation to their utility costs, notably in large family homes that they now occupied on their own or with their spouse.
- 1.6 Work on the project last year specifically looked at Kennoway and Leven as its main focus, and members have been kept updated on the progress of this work through the quarterly reports. These reports were very well received by Councillors and laid out in clear detail the benefits being accrued by local residents.
- 1.7 As members will be aware the normal ways of working were badly disrupted through the pandemic, and home visits which were the staple of the Energy Advisor approach, had to be significantly curtailed. There was a falloff in terms of access to the handy service also, which was unfortunate but unavoidable.
- 1.8 Despite this we did however benefit from our close relationship with Greener Kirkcaldy/Cosy Kingdom, in that they helped us to administer top ups and give telephone advice to a significant number of local people throughout the height of the pandemic.

2.0 Project Detail

- 2.1 The 2021/22 approach will build on the success of the Levenmouth Enhanced Energy advice project; by delivering home and telephone energy advice, plus an enhanced Handy service to all tenure types across the Levenmouth area.

- 2.2 In this project, our partners in Greener Kirkcaldy /Cosy Kingdom will focus particularly on the Methil and Methilhill areas, whilst ensuring we remain engaged with previous participants in the Levenmouth area.
- 2.3 The previous project approach has shown benefits for many participants, but especially those who were hard to reach.
- 2.4 The approach will be advertised widely, and will include leaflet dropping and door knocking (when restrictions relax) to raise awareness of the project, which will lead to face-to-face discussions with participants who would not normally engage with local services. In the interim there will be engagement approaches with participants online through energy clinics using Zoom, whilst the current Covid restrictions are in place.
- 2.5 There will be close work with local partners such as the Peoples Pantry and Clued Up to engage participants who are currently identified as being in crisis.
- 2.6 A team of Energy Advisors, who are all qualified in City & Guilds Energy Awareness, will deliver the energy advice home visits. They will make an initial assessment, asking a series of questions about the home and the household's needs, concerns and motivations, then gave advice, which includes:
- Options for physical improvements to the home: insulation, draught-proofing, new heating systems or controls and home renewable technologies
 - Assisting with accessing statutory schemes such as the Warmer Homes Scotland Scheme
 - Referrals to the Greener Kirkcaldy 'handy' service for simple energy-efficiency measures
 - Helping to improve the understanding of energy bills, meters and tariffs, heating and hot water systems and heating controls
 - Encouraging the best use of heating, lighting and appliances
 - Giving simple, low-cost tips to save energy
 - Sign posting to Citrus Energy for impartial switching advice
 - Giving advice on fuel debt and entitlements such as the Warm Homes Discount
 - Sign posting to Citizen's Advice & Rights Fife for checks to maximise household income
 - Energy monitor loans to help households understand their electricity usage
- 2.7 We also expect local people to benefit extensively from the Handy service as conditions in certain tenures often leaves households with poorly insulated homes, inefficient heating systems, and draughty windows and doors.
- 2.8. Accordingly, the offer will specifically include::
- Thermal Curtains ·
 - Energy saving light bulbs
 - Radiator insulation panels ·
 - Draft excluders ·
 - Energy-efficient room heaters
 - Microwave ovens
 - Fuel top ups
- 2.9 The highly practical approach taken by Greener Kirkcaldy/Cosy Kingdom in offering this service locally, will lead to a range of clear benefits.

- 2.10 Stabilising costs for heating and lighting is particularly important to older residents, many of whom are on a single pension income, and are often faced with the dilemma of funding adequate heating of their home against other essential expenditure.
- 2.11 For younger tenants this proactive assistance can make the difference between maintaining a property lease successfully, or failing due to debt pressures, that then force the individual into more unstable accommodation arrangements.
- 2.12 For ease of reference a copy of the previously distributed Q3 outcomes report for the project has been attached, the Q4 updates which will tell the full year story of progress made, will be forwarded to elected members, as soon as it is compiled. This document highlights some very good case studies which underline the value of this bespoke service.
- 2.13 The cost breakdown for this work is shown below and is based on an agreed target of household interventions

Item or Activity Cost(£)

- Working with each household to come up with an 'energy action plan', which includes a mix of changing habits and identifying energy efficiency improvements for the property £200 x 80 households **£16,000**
- Creating posters, leaflets and leaflet drop to target the hard-to-reach participants. **£1,000**
- Handy services – Installing simple energy efficient measures e.g., Thermal curtains, LED bulbs and radiator £200 x 40 households **£8,000**
- Additional benefits will include making referrals to government, energy company or social landlord schemes for energy-efficiency measures such as insulation or a new heating system. Offering benefit and tax credit checks to maximise income. Making referrals to other support services as needed, e.g., food banks. Acting as an advocate for clients if they need support to deal with energy suppliers or landlords. Promoting voluntary work within the energy advice field to facilitate employment opportunities - All this will be offered as part of the total cost.

Total £25,000

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 This approach aligns with a specific statement in our local community planning approach which seeks to find practical and long-term solutions when dealing with issues that negatively impact on the resilience of families especially around the impacts of fuel poverty.

List of Appendices

- Q3 2020 Update Report

Background Papers

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

- None

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Levenmouth Community Planning Group

Energy advice for Hard to Reach Households in Leven and Kennoway



Greener Kirkcaldy

Project update

October to December 2020

Introduction

Greener Kirkcaldy's "Energy Advice for Hard to Reach Households in Leven and Kennoway" project is funded through Fife Council's Local Community planning group in Levenmouth. The funding is helping deliver free and impartial energy advice work to people who are particularly hard to reach or vulnerable and may not have otherwise engaged with the Cosy Kingdom service.

The project builds upon our 2019-20 work in Leven and Kennoway, which was aimed at owner-occupiers and private lets in specific streets identified as having participants that may be struggling to heat their homes adequately. Some participants lived in older properties, which can be difficult to heat.

We have adapted our support this year in line with Covid-19 restrictions. Our advisors are currently offering support through telephone advice sessions and identifying participants on prepaid meters, who are struggling to top up their meters due to a change in their financial circumstances, or unable to heat their homes to a reasonable standard, for further support. Our 'handy' service is unable to install energy efficient measures in participant homes, but we are supplying microwaves, heaters and curtains to those in need who are able to install them on their own.

Through our partnership with Citizens Advice & Rights Fife, we are also referring participants to a dedicated advisor to maximise incomes and conduct benefit checks, as well as for budgeting advice and debt clearance over the telephone.

Marketing

Between October and December, we have continued our targeted marketing approach to ensure we are reaching people who most need our help and support.

Social Media

We have been very active on social media, ensuring we have an online presence in place of people being able to visit us in person. We continue to post regularly in various Covid-19 social media support groups and local neighbourhood groups to reach people needing our support. We also post daily on our Facebook and Twitter pages offering tips, links to support and advice. In December, this included a '12 days of Christmas' tips campaign.



12 days of Christmas tips social media campaign, December 2020

We now have 829 Facebook likes, 364 Twitter followers and 105 Instagram followers. Our Facebook page is a key method of contact for us and, between October and December, we received 51 direct messages from people looking for energy advice.

Website and Blogs

Our website continues to be a valuable marketing and communications tool. Between October and December, 6,963 people visited our website and we received 124 energy advice requests directly from our website contact form. Our energy advisors also continue to write tips and advice blogs on our website:

<https://www.cosykingdom.org.uk/challenge-poverty-week-2020/>

<https://www.cosykingdom.org.uk/stewarts-story/>

<https://www.cosykingdom.org.uk/fuel-poverty-awareness-day-2020/>

<https://www.cosykingdom.org.uk/christmas-opening-times-and-where-to-go-for-support/>

Videos

We have also been producing regular videos with tips and advice from our energy advisors for our new YouTube channel. We share these videos on our social media and as blogs on our website too. This gives people an opportunity to 'meet' our energy advisors, as well as picking up tips and advice on a range of topics. Topics are based on the questions we get asked most and the support most regularly needed by our participants. We end each video with a call to action, encouraging people to contact us for further support.

We have produced 17 videos for our YouTube channel so far, these can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUGnBqHgKBHyxKYu2LfNdRA>. Our videos received 831 views on YouTube and 495 views on Facebook between October and December.

In November, we produced a video with our partners at Fife Council, NHS Fife, Home Energy Scotland and Citizens Advice & Rights for Fuel Poverty Awareness Day: <https://fb.watch/2Q4-tJuyXD/>

Posters and Flyers

We continue to give our Cosy Kingdom flyers to groups and organisations to pass on to their participants. Greener Kirkcaldy's Community Food Team have also been giving out Cosy Kingdom flyers with their takeaway community meals and to members of their community pantry.

In November, we carried out targeted leaflet drops in some of our least represented areas. This was successful and we received a number of calls from participants in these areas on the back of it. We are planning more targeted leaflet drops in specific areas over the coming months.

Talks, workshops and direct marketing

We contacted all of our local councillors and MPs asking them to share with their constituents. We have also been continuing to pro-actively contact local groups, support services and organisations in Fife asking them to share our support with their participants and refer people in need on to us.

As part of this, our energy advisors have been contacting partners, groups and organisations to offer online or outdoor talks and presentations to raise awareness amongst staff and volunteers, as well as virtual drop-in sessions for participants. We have also been advertising this on our website and social media.

In November, we delivered online presentations to Private Rented Sector and Improving Cancer Journey staff teams, training 23 staff.

Project targets and results

To date, the Greener Kirkcaldy energy advice team have completed 105 telephone energy advice sessions and provided energy efficient measures ('handy' service) to 13 homes to increase participants' energy efficiency, help them feel cosier within their home, and help them save money.

Project Objective	Target	Completed
Number of telephone advice calls delivering energy advice	80	105
Number of households receiving 'handy' service, including fuel top ups	40	13

Financial Gains

During the project, we collate information about our participants' financial gains from the energy advisors. We get these financial gains from measures installed through the 'handy' service, money saved through debt clearance, fuel top ups, credit added to participants' meters and money received through the Warm Homes Discount. We also give out energy saving devices, including halogen heaters, microwave ovens and TV Powerdowns.

To date 77 participants have received a total of £23,599 in financial gains, averaging £306 per home. These gains will increase through the life of the project as more debt is cleared and more 'handy' service measures are installed.

Gain Type	Total Financial Gain to Date
LED light bulbs	£600
Boilers and radiators	£9,000
Charity fund application	£450
Curtains	£1,050
Fuel top ups	£1,581
Fuel debt removed	£220
Halogen heater	£80
Mobile phone	£100
Foodbank voucher	£1,350
Radiator panels	£15
Microwave	£40
Switching advice	£1,888
Warm Homes Discount	£7,980
Total Amount saved	£24,354

Next Steps

Our next steps will include:

- Continuing to carry out targeted leaflet drops in local areas to advise of our services
- Advising local groups, food supports and Job Clubs of our continuing services
- Ongoing support for the Peoples Pantry in Leven

Case Studies

Case Study 5

Situation

Mr L lives alone in a ground floor flat in a 4-in-a-block in Levenmouth. He was referred to us by the 'Helping Hands' service, created in response to Covid-19, who had been helping him with food parcels. He has a health condition that means he has been self-isolating for around 3 months and he has addiction issues, which means he has been unable to keep on top of his utility bills etc. His washing machine also broke down in April and he has had no way of washing clothes since then.

Support

We called Mr L to discuss his situation. We had previously visited him and knew some of his circumstances, which meant he engaged straight away explaining his problems. As he hadn't used

his gas in around 6/7 weeks, he had some standing charges built up on the meter. We carried out a conference call with Mr L and his supplier and they wiped the charges, leaving him with no debt and £10 emergency credit.

Mr L had managed to keep on top of his electric, so we helped him apply for the Warm Homes Discount (WHD), which would give him £140 credit by March 2021. We also provided some energy saving advice and supplied him with a halogen heater as a cheaper form of heating. This will save money on gas costs moving into the colder months.

Our 'handy' service also provided Mr L with thermal curtains and LED bulbs to make his home warmer and save on fuel costs. We applied to Castle Furniture who were able to provide him with a washing machine to allow him to start washing clothes again.

Outcome

Mr L was over the moon he could start topping up his gas again without worrying about repaying the debt, and that he could now heat his home. He was very grateful for the washing machine. As he was living in a flat with no heating and no way of washing his clothes on top of Covid-19 restrictions, he had been feeling as if he was on his own.

The curtains, LEDs and halogen heater we provided have helped Mr L reduce his fuel costs and feel much warmer at home. He has had a letter saying he will get WHD by March 2021, which has made him feel much better about his spend over the winter months.

Mr L has taken on board the advice we gave around reducing energy usage and, although he still feels like he can't afford to live on what he is given through benefits, he feels better equipped to deal with any issues moving forward.

Overall, Mr L was very happy with the assistance we offered. He said, *"I don't think I would have made it through that period the way I was going"* and *"without your help I can't see how I'd have gotten out of the rut I was in"*.

Case Study 6

Situation

Miss G moved into a 2-bedroom, privately rented flat in Leven in June 2020. She lives with her partner and her two young children, aged six and two. Miss G and her partner have a joint Universal Credit (UC) claim as their only source of income, and struggled with the expense of moving home. They have found it hard to find support whilst under Covid-19 restrictions. Miss G called one of our energy advisors, who she knows from meeting at the local food bank community café, to explain her situation and to find out if we could offer any support.

Support

We phoned Miss G and found that they have managed to get some furniture and white goods from family and friends, but were using an expensive to run, counter top electric oven for cooking. This has led to high electric costs. Although they have managed to get single beds for the kids, Miss G and her partner have been sleeping on an old mattress on the floor and they have no cupboards or drawers to store clothes. We made a referral to Castle Furniture (CF) for an electric cooker, double

bed, mattress, wardrobe and chest of drawers. We also made a referral to the local food bank to get a food parcel delivered to the family.

We also had a discussion with Miss G around ways of reducing energy usage and gave advice on retaining heat in property. We provided Miss G with a fuel voucher worth £30 as she was almost out of emergency credit to keep them going until the next UC payment. We also provided a second fuel voucher one month later as they were still struggling with fuel costs whilst awaiting the white goods from CF. We referred Miss G to our 'handy' service for thermal curtains and LED bulbs to further reduce fuel costs and help with heat retention in the main family room.

Outcome

The white goods and furniture supplied by CF and 'handy' service measures we provided have helped the family settle into the property and it now feels more like 'home'. The food parcel from the food bank and the fuel vouchers meant that they did not have to go without food or fuel during the first few weeks living in the property.

Overall, the family feel much happier in their new home due to the support we provided and had a smoother start to life in the new property. Miss G and family were very grateful for the support, and Miss G said, *"I don't know what we would have done without your help."*

24th March 20020

Agenda Item No. 8

Proposed Waiting Restrictions – A916 & U029 Bonnybank

Report by: Ken Gourlay, Head of Assets, Transportation & Environment

Wards Affected: Ward 21 – Leven, Kennoway and Largo

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to allow the Levenmouth Area Committee to consider proposals to introduce “No Waiting at Any Time” restrictions on the A916 and U029, Bonnybank.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended, in the interests of accessibility and road safety, that Committee:

1. agrees to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the restrictions detailed in drawing no. TRO/21/01 with all ancillary procedures; and
2. authorises officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there are objections.

Resource Implications

The cost to formally promote this TRO and deliver the associated traffic management works will be approximately £2,500, which covers Roads & Transportation Services' and Legal Services' staff costs, advertising and delivery of the new infrastructure. This will be met from approved Service budgets.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no known legal or risk implications.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

The local Ward Councillors, Parking Management team and Police Scotland have been advised.

Formal consultation required by the Roads Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the TRO process will be carried out through the posting of legal notices in a local newspaper and on the affected length of roads. In addition, details of the proposed TRO will be made available on Fife Direct.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The junction between the A916 and U029 has a long history of inappropriate parking, in great part by customers of the Bonnybank Inn.
- 1.2 The Inn has a car park at the back of the premises, but some customers prefer to park on the road, on many occasions at the junction, thereby obscuring visibility and creating a road safety hazard.
- 1.3 This situation was raised with the owners of the Inn, who did their best to sign their car park and direct customers to it. Police also cooperated in the task.
- 1.4 Despite all party's efforts, the inappropriate parking has continued.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 Once established that soft measures have not been able to prevent inappropriate parking at the junction, it is considered that parking restrictions need to be introduced.
- 2.1 It is proposed that a "No Waiting at Any Time" restriction is promoted as shown on drawing number TRO/21/01.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 In the interests of road safety, it is recommended to introduce waiting restrictions on the A916 and U029 as detailed on drawing number TRO/21/01.

List of Appendices

1. Drawing No. TRO/21/01

Background Papers

1. None

Report Contact

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24th March 2021

Agenda Item No. 9

Proposed Waiting Restrictions and Disabled Bays– Methilhaven Road (Service Road) and Laburnum Road, Methil

Report by: Ken Gourlay, Head of Assets, Transportation & Environment

Wards Affected: Ward 22 – Methil, Buckhaven and the Wemyss Villages

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to allow the Levenmouth Area Committee to consider proposals to:

1. Introduce new “No Waiting at Any Time” restrictions on Methilhaven Road (Service Road) and Laburnum Road; and
2. introduce two disabled bays on Methilhaven Road (Service Road).

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended, in the interests of accessibility and road safety, that Committee:

1. agrees to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the restrictions detailed in drawing no. TRO/21/04 with all ancillary procedures; and
2. authorises officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there are objections.

Resource Implications

The cost to formally promote this TRO and deliver the associated traffic management works will be approximately £2,500, which covers Roads & Transportation Services’ and Legal Services’ staff costs, advertising and delivery of the new infrastructure. This will be met from approved Service budgets.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no known legal or risk implications.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

The local Ward Councillors, Parking Management team and Police Scotland have been advised.

Formal consultation required by the Roads Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the TRO process will be carried out through the posting of legal notices in a local newspaper and on the affected length of roads. In addition, details of the proposed TRO will be made available on Fife Direct.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Methilhaven Road (Service Road) gives access to a busy local shopping area. It is a cul-de-sac with shops on the north side and a parking layby on the south side.
- 1.2 Due to the nature of the shops (a corner shop, post office and takeaways), many trips to these shops are quick in-and-out visits which leads some customers to park precariously, often at the junction with Laburnum Road. This kind of parking momentarily blocks access and/or visibility at the entrance to the service road, which creates a road safety hazard.
- 1.3 Regarding disabled access, there are currently no disabled bays to serve this shopping area.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 There are currently double yellow lines on Methilhaven Road (Service Road) and Laburnum Road but they do not stretch far enough so as to deal with the inappropriate parking described above. It is proposed to extend these to cover the whole frontage of the Co-Op shop and also to introduce new restrictions on the opposite side. These restrictions are intended to keep the junction with Laburnum Road clear of vehicles thereby improving access and visibility.
- 2.2 It is also proposed to introduce two disabled bays at two different locations to facilitate access to the shops for disabled people.
- 2.3 These proposed waiting restrictions and disabled bays are detailed on drawing number TRO/21/04.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 In the interests of road safety and accessibility, it is recommended that the waiting restrictions on Methilhaven Road (Service Road) and Laburnum Road, and the disabled bays on Methilhaven Road (Service Road) are promoted as shown on drawing number TRO/21/04.

List of Appendices

1. Drawing No. TRO/21/04

Background Papers

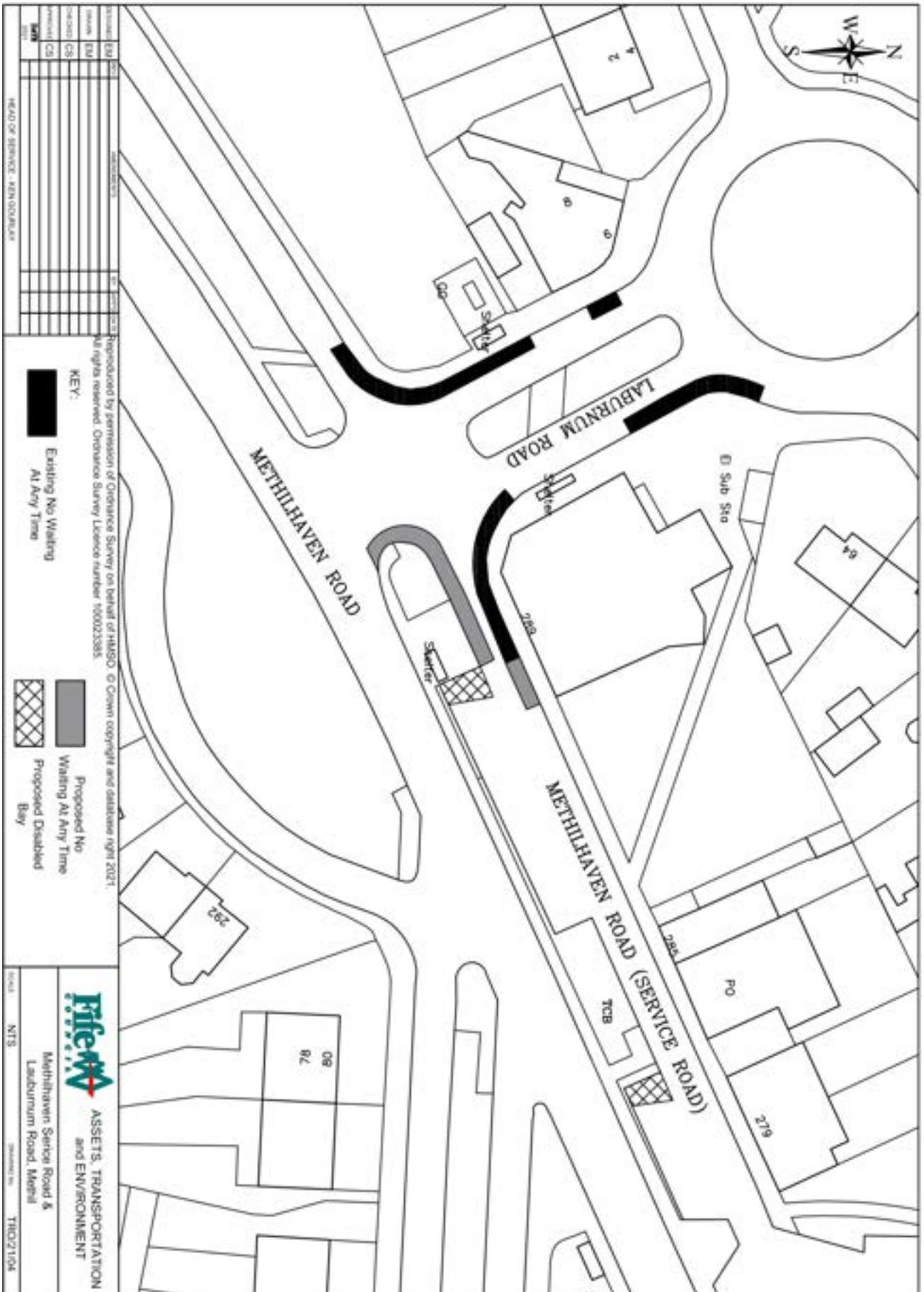
1. None

Report Contact

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Appendix 1



24th March 2021

Agenda Item No 10

Area Roads Programme 2021-22

Report by: Ken Gourlay, Head of Assets, Transport & Environment

Wards Affected: 21 & 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to identify the projects which are proposed for approval for the Area Roads Programme in the Levenmouth committee area for delivery in the 2021-22 financial year.

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;
3. Note Appendices 4 and 5.

Resource Implications

The Area Roads Programme is funded from capital and revenue 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 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 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.
- 1.3 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, combined with any available Cycling, Walking & Safer Streets grant funding aligned to safer streets, 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.
- 1.4 The current capital plan indicates that the carriageway and footway capital budget of £7.3m in 2020-21 will reduce to £6.5m in 2021-22 and will further reduce to £6m annually thereafter.

For the Levenmouth Committee area, the budgets for 2021-22 are as shown below:

Devolved Budget	2021-22 Allocation
Carriageways	£534k
Footways	£134k
Road Safety & Traffic Management	£78k

- 1.5 The level of capital resource allocated for carriageways and footways is concerning for future road condition. However, the Council regularly reviews the capital plan, and should this lead to additional investment for 2021-22, the allocations to Area Committees would be increased allowing some schemes from the Category 2 list to be promoted.

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 To improve access to how the carriageways and footways programme is progressing throughout the year, an on-line system will be made available once programmes are approved.
- 2.3 Appendices 4 and 5 provide information on street lighting column replacement and structures maintenance 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 Levenmouth Area Roads Programme for 2021-22. 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. Structures

Report Contact

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Levenmouth Area Committee
Carriageway List for 2021-22

CAT1	To be approved by Committee for delivery in 2021-22
CAT2	To be approved by committee as 'reserve' schemes which can promote to CAT1 if an approved CAT1 scheme cannot be delivered.

Available Carriageways Budget **£ 534,000**

Ward Name	Town	Road Class	Street	Location/Description	Scheme Type	Estimated Cost	Running Total	Proposed Category	Comments
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	Rural Road	B	B930 Percival Road Ph 1	A915 to development site	Carriageway	£ 100,440	£ 100,440	Cat 1	
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Rural Road	A	A915	Lower Largo 40s to Upper Largo 30s	Carriageway	£ 137,340	£ 237,780	Cat 1	150th Open Golf Championship 2022 route. Deferred from 2020-21 to allow both phases of A915 Leven Road, Lundin Links to be completed in 2020-21. Bus route. Undertake works in April/May to avoid summer tourist season. Avoid Dunhill Golf in October. Restricted working 0930-1530.
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	Methilhill	B	B932 Main Street	A915 to Sea Road	Carriageway	£ 224,460	£ 462,240	Cat 1	Possible conflict with SGN Hydrogen scheme. Discussion with Roads Network Management Team is required.
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Lower Largo	U	Drummochy Road		Carriageway	£ 69,741	£ 531,981	Cat 1	
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	Rural Road	B	B930 Percival Road Ph 2	Development site to A955	Carriageway	£ 104,160	£ 636,141	Cat 2	
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	C	C1 Kennoway Road	Leven gateway to start of anti-skid section & approx. 50m west	Carriageway	£ 168,300	£ 804,441	Cat 2	
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	U	Linnwood Drive	Full length	Carriageway	£ 147,000	£ 951,441	Cat 2	

Levenmouth Area Committee
Footway List for 2021-22

CAT1	To be approved by Committee for delivery in 2021-22
CAT2	To be approved by committee as 'reserve' schemes which can be promoted to CAT1 if an approved CAT1 scheme cannot be delivered.

Available Footways Budget £ 134,000

Ward Name	Town	Street	Location/Description	Scheme Type	Estimated Cost	Running Total	Proposed Category	Comments
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	Beech Park Phase 1 of 3	East side from Sillerhole Road to o/s 33	Footway	£ 44,105	£ 44,105	Cat 1	
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Kennoway	Castle Terrace	Cul-de-sac serving 47-89.	Footway	£ 46,862	£ 90,967	Cat 1	
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Lundin Links	Emsdorf Street	South side	Footway	£ 45,534	£ 136,501	Cat 1	2019-20 Cat. 2 scheme. Parking issues, may require road closure. Discussion required with Roads Network Management Team.
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	Hawthorn Street Phase 1 of 2	Full length. South side	Footway	£ 41,706	£ 178,207	Cat 2	Deferred from 2020-21 due to COVID 19.
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Windygates	Station Road	The Cross to turning head	Footway	£ 30,829	£ 209,035	Cat 2	
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	Forth Street	Viewforth to no entry	Combined Footway & Lighting	£ 17,161	£ 226,196	Cat 2	Combined footway & lighting scheme. Excludes lighting costs.
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	Anderson Street	o/s no. 1 & o/s no's 10-34	Footway	£ 7,681	£ 233,877	Cat 2	Combined footway & lighting scheme. Excludes lighting costs.

**Levenmouth Area Committee
Road Safety & Traffic Management List for 2021-22**

CAT1	To be approved by Committee for delivery in 2021-22
CAT2	To be approved by committee as 'reserve' schemes which can be promoted to CAT1 if an approved CAT1 scheme cannot be delivered.

Available Traffic Management Budget **£ 78,000**

Ward Name	Town	Street	Location/Description	Estimated Cost	Running Total	Proposed Category	Comments
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	Methil	Methil Brae	High Street to Den Walk- Traffic Calming Measures	£ 18,000	£ 18,000	Cat 1	Deferred scheme from 2020/2021
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	Methil	Laburnum Road	Additional Traffic Calming Measures	£ 18,000	£ 36,000	Cat 1	Deferred scheme from 2020/2021
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Lindin Links	A915 Leven Road	Reduced speed limits.	£ 30,000	£ 66,000	Cat 1	New scheme.
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	A915 Largo Road	Speed reduction measures adjacent to the Golf Course	£ 12,000	£ 78,000	Cat 1	New scheme.
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	East Wemyss	A955 Main Road	Puffin crossing near Michael Place	£ 40,000	£ 118,000	Cat 2	Cat 2 in 2020/2021
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	Aitken Street	Puffin crossing near Retail Park	£ 40,000	£ 158,000	Cat 2	Cat 2 in 2020/2021
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Upper Largo	A915 St Andrews Road	Puffin Crossing South of Athernie Place	£ 40,000	£ 198,000	Cat 2	Cat 2 in 2020/2021
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Lundin Links	A915 Largo Road	Traffic Management at the Keil Burn Dip (Possibly traffic signal "shuttle" system)	£ 80,000	£ 278,000	Cat 2	Trial to be carried out in Summer 2021 with temporary traffic lights (proposed 2020 trial postponed due to Covid restrictions).
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	A915 Largo Road	Toucan Crossing at Blacketyside Farm	£ 40,000	£ 318,000	Cat 2	For information only - pedestrian crossing being funded from separate budget.

**Levenmouth Area Committee
Lighting Scheme List for 2021-22**

Ward Name	Town	Street	Location/Description	Scheme Type	Estimated Cost	Running Total	Proposed Category	Comments
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	Forth Street / Viewforth		Combined Footway and Lighting	£ 17,500	£ 17,500	Cat 2	Combined footway and lighting scheme. Excludes footway costs.
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Kennoway	Castle Terrace Ph 2		Lighting	£ 52,500	£ 70,000	Cat 1	

**Levenmouth Area Committee
Structures List for 2021-22**

Ward Name	Town	Street	Scheme Type	Comments
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Leven	Railway/Bawbee	Bridge deck replacement.	Design in 2020-21. Construction Works Summer 2021.
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	Lower Largo	Harbour Wynd	C9-10W Retaining Wall	Partial wall rebuild & parapet raising. Wall currently under monitoring to confirm if apparent movement is historic or progressive.

24th March 2021

Agenda Item No. 11

Grassland Management Strategy

Report by: Scott Clelland, Service Manager, Grounds Maintenance Service

Wards Affected: Wards 21 and 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform the Levenmouth Area Committee of proposed changes to the management of grassland in the area and the outcome of the community consultation and engagement exercise.

Recommendation(s)

Following analysis of the results of a public consultation and engagement exercise on proposed changes to the management of grassland in the Area, the following recommendations are being made:

- (1) Ward 21 Leven, Kennoway and Largo - Alternative grassland proposals are accepted.
- (2) Ward 22 Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages - Alternative grassland proposals are accepted.

Resource Implications

There are no additional resource implications arising from this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no new legal & risk implications arising from 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

To ensure a fair, consistent and inclusive approach to the consultation and engagement exercise despite current restrictions, the consultation was carried out ensuring seven National Standards of Community were met (Inclusion, Support, Planning, Working Together, Methods, Communication and Impacts).

A community consultation and engagement exercise was undertaken from 16th November 2020 to 31st December 2020. The results of which are included in this report.

In light of the current social distancing measures in place to protect people against Covid-19 and control the spread of the virus, face-to-face consultation methods were not possible. To overcome these challenges, the Grounds Maintenance Service utilised a range of communication tools to ensure that the consultation was available to the broadest range of interested groups, including;

- Digital – Online Form and Questionnaire
- Digital – Digital conversation Tools inc. Consul
- Email - Direct Communication with Community Councils and Peoples panels
- Digital - On-line meetings
- Local Media – Information circulated to Radio and Newspaper outlets
- Non-Digital -Telephone – Dedicated Helpline set up
- Non-Digital -Traditional paper copies available on request
- Promotional signage - Signage positioned within all sites
- Direct Feedback from Elected Members, individuals and groups

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Since March 2020 the Grounds Maintenance Service have been greatly impacted by the 'lock down' restrictions and resource pressures have forced a rethink on our approach to grass cutting. These circumstances have meant that decisions were made without public consultation, however the feedback shows an encouraging level of environmental awareness. The Service wish to build on this enforced short-term plan with a longer-term grassland management strategy led by the community.

2.0 Issues and Options

2.1 Climate Change Agenda

The Fife climate emergency declaration in Fife on 26th September 2019 has focused the attention of Grounds Maintenance Service to design service provision that will help support Fife Council to meet the net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. A new grassland management approach will contribute to the Fife Environmental Partnership strategy outcomes below;

Reducing Carbon Emission;

- *More efficient use of resources (energy, waste and water)*

- *Encourage more sustainable transport including reducing the need to travel*
- *Ecosystems are used sustainably and strengthened*

Adapting to Climate Change

- *Places are adapting to cope with Climate change including land use*
- *People are adapting to cope with Climate Change*

The Grounds Maintenance Service have a significant opportunity within their activities to reduce carbon emissions. Through reducing our areas of intensive grass cutting programme the service can influence;

- Achieving our Climate Fife targets,
- Connecting people and communities with nature, improving our health and wellbeing,
- Opportunities for outdoor activities such as walking, viewing wildlife and mental wellbeing,
- Increase of biodiversity in our landscapes
- Increase opportunities for communities to be actively involved in adapting their local environments
- A 10% reduction of mechanical grass cutting – Reducing CO₂ levels (approximately 21,000kg of CO₂ annually across Fife).

Ward 21 Total Grass cut (m ²)	Proposed % of total grass to be managed differently – Ward 21	Total amount of hours grass cutting time reduced
1,015,717.93	29,974.46 M2 (2.95%)	32 Hrs
Ward 22 Total Grass cut (m ²)	Proposed % of Total Grass to be managed differently -Ward 22	Total amount of hours grass cutting time reduced
714,134.59	125,009.19 M2 (17.50%)	133 Hrs

2.2 **Grassland Management Strategy**

There is increasing evidence and desire from our communities to manage our green assets differently. There is a growing understanding and recognition that open space in its natural state can support a variety of ecosystems and biodiversity. Managing grassland differently in this way reduces fuel use and air pollution and releases much needed resources for deployment on other priority grounds maintenance activities. The wellbeing value to local communities cannot be understated either. Studies in recent years have evidenced the mental health benefits for communities with access to natural green space environments.

The grassland management strategy will place significant emphasis on providing opportunity for local communities to engage and lead on how they wish their local greenspaces to be managed. The strategy will develop and flex as Services continue a dialogue with local communities and area leadership teams ensuring the Community led and Place leadership agenda is supported.

2.3 Alternative Grassland Management Approach

We know the UK has lost 97% of its flower-rich grassland over the past 70 years. This has resulted in a drastic decline of around two thirds of pollinating insects. Fife is the most heavily cultivated region in Scotland so we can make a difference and give our wildlife more of a chance by changing the way we manage our urban green spaces. These proposals are an opportunity to counter-act these declines.

The purpose of this sustainable grassland management approach is to develop the management our green assets and provide outcomes that meet Fife Council's Climate Change obligations. The Grounds maintenance Service have developed a management model for those areas of managed grasslands.

There are no identified financial savings to this change to the Grounds Maintenance operating model. We envisage the programme will be a cost neutral activity due to the change in operational activity to manage grasslands. Any potential reduction in man hours on cutting grass will be targeted to other priority grounds maintenance work. Further analysis will be undertaken once we capture all associated costs including the costs of new machinery to achieve the maintenance regime below;

Management of proposed sites	
Grass cutting	Frequency
'Cut and collect' will be the preferred option - this will reduce the fertility and growth of rank grasses. This will allow wildflowers to compete with grass, therefore allowing more wildflowers to flourish creating a botanically diverse meadow. Over time less cutting will be required which will look more attractive and provide good habitat for pollinators.	1 cut and lift per growing season.
Grass path network	
A network of access points and pathways will be cut through proposed areas. Consultation on location and width of path network required.	14 cuts per growing season.
Invasive weed Species	
All recognised invasive weed species will be treated as per Service control procedures.	As identified.
Litter and fly-tipping	
Litter and fly-tipping will be removed as per current procedures and resource availability.	As Identified.
Grass clippings	
Re-use of grass clippings will be the preferred option where possible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative fuel resource • Baled and removed. Could be used as hay • Compost -leave on site • Compost – alternative use (Growing Spaces) 	Once Annually.
Awareness of best practice	
Increase awareness for on-site/ground staff regularly and when new staff employed - to ensure that the management of land for biodiversity understood, promoted and carried out.	Awareness Programme developed.

Public awareness	
<p>Promote Fife Council’s activities related to biodiversity. Raise awareness of the wider importance of biodiversity and Climate Change in schools, community councils, businesses and other stakeholders in our communities.</p> <p>Provide a sign posting service to the work with our partner organisations e.g. Buglife, Learning through Landscapes, Butterfly Conservation, Friends of the Earth, Hedge Link, etc.</p>	Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

2.4 Local Decision Making

The success of a grassland management strategy is dependent on communities deciding how they want to repurpose the land that the Grounds Maintenance Service attend in their areas. Front-line managers working collaboratively with Community Managers have shared the importance of environmental change with local stakeholders. A number of local communities and elected members have already indicated a desire to lead on alternative grassland management approaches in their local areas. This Community led approach will require a structure of support through Area Leadership teams and supporting agencies that can provide resources and expertise in the management of our green assets.

Grounds Maintenance Officers will work in partnership with Community Managers to facilitate groups who wish to develop or extend these proposals. Land management expertise will be available through our Climate Change Team and a range of partners who have a responsibility to support and deliver the priorities as defined by local communities.

As an example, Fife Council in partnership with, St Andrews University, Fife College, Fife Communities Climate action Network and Greener Kirkcaldy are leading the implementation of a Community tree planting strategy. This Project aims to support Fife Communities to plant more woodland by helping them identify suitable land and make decisions that will address their requirements for woods that mitigate climate change, support biodiversity, enhance the environment, support local economy and help adapt to our future climate.

Plans showing proposals in all wards have been presented as a baseline to develop opportunities. All plans are subject to amendment as community priorities change and this process will also be governed at an Area Committee level.

2.5 Public Consultation & Engagement

The consultation exercise ran for a period of 7 weeks from 16th November 2020 to 31st December 2020, and was publicised through elected members, community councils, social media, along with posters being displayed at sites which were affected by the proposals. Although an electronic response was encouraged through access to an on-line form, an option was also given for people to request a paper pack which contained the same information as what was available on-line, along with copies of the relevant maps, a paper form for completion and a return envelope.

The social media campaign was promoted on Facebook and Twitter. The following table is the cumulative total of the impact of Facebook posts on the Fife Council Facebook page from 16 November to 28 December 2020.

Reach	Engagement	Likes	Comments	Shares	Video views
128,256	8,744	204	127	183	15,835

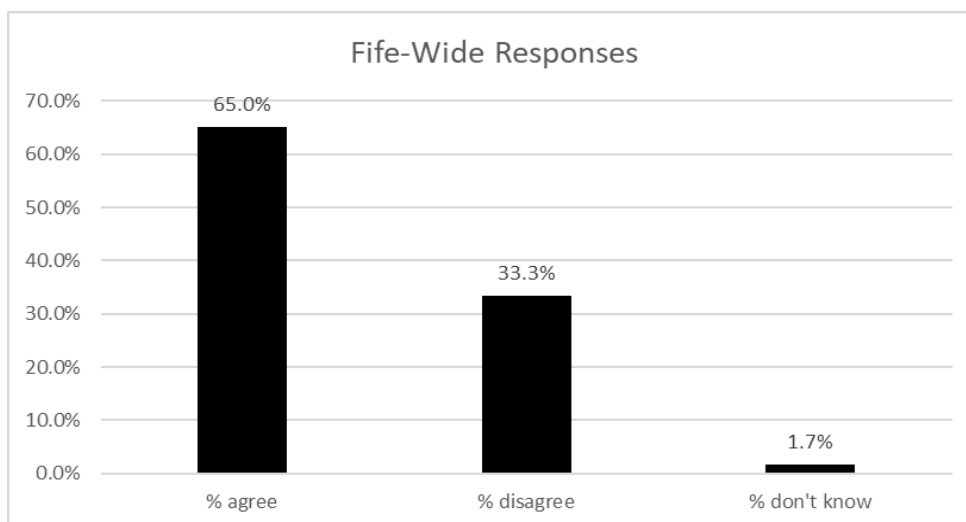
The reach is the number of individuals who saw the posts. The engagement records the total number of people who interacted with the posts such as likes, comments, shares, checking the location or tagging another person in a post.

A video animation was created to explain the new grasslands management strategy and its benefits. The number of views indicates it was successful in engaging people with the consultation process.

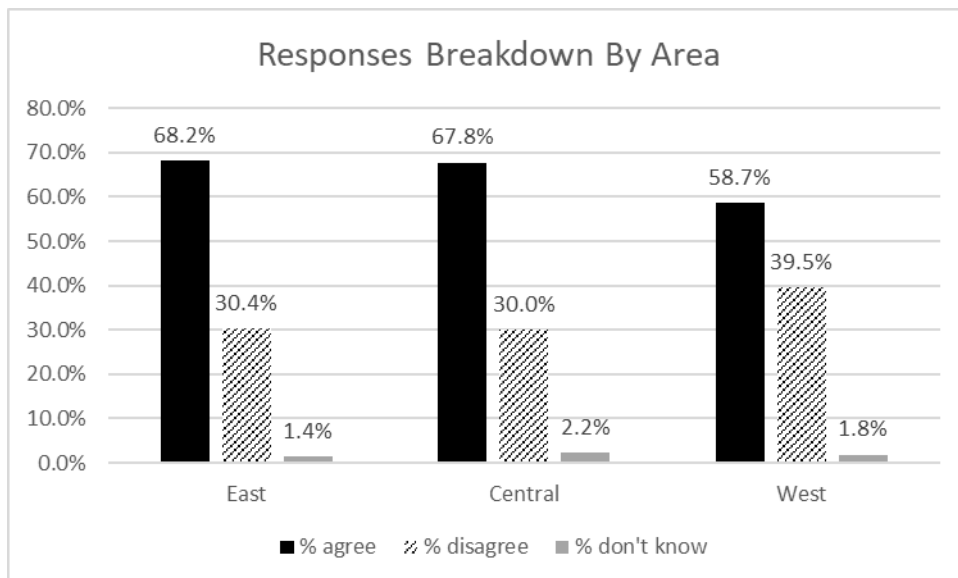
Respondents were also able to take part in an open discussion on grasslands management through the Let's Talk about Fife online participation platform, Consul. A total of 51 additional comments were received in this way.

2.6 Fife-wide Consultation Responses

A total of 1480 responses to the consultation were received from all areas of Fife. Respondents were questioned on whether they agreed or disagreed with this proposed new method of managing some of the grassland areas in Fife. The Fife-wide results showed an overall positive response, with 65% of respondents agreeing to the proposal. The results are shown in the following graph:



The responses have been further broken down by area (East, Central and West Fife) and the results are shown in the following graph:



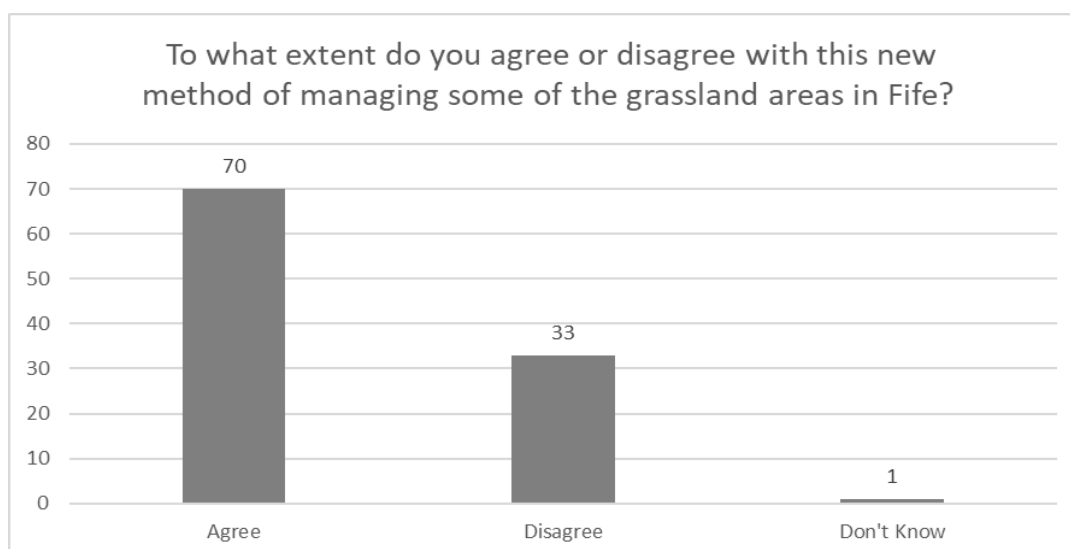
A full Ward breakdown showing the percentages of respondents who agreed/ disagreed with this new method of managing the grassland in Fife can be found in **Appendix 1**.

Participants of the consultation exercise were asked whether they were responding as an individual, elected member or on behalf of a local, community or voluntary group or organisation. The number of responses for each category is shown in the following table:

Fife-Wide Responder Type	
Individual	1403
Fife Councillor, MSP, MP, MEP	6
Local, community or voluntary group	71

2.7 Levenmouth Committee Area Responses

A total of 104 responses were received from the Levenmouth Area. The results are shown in the following graph:



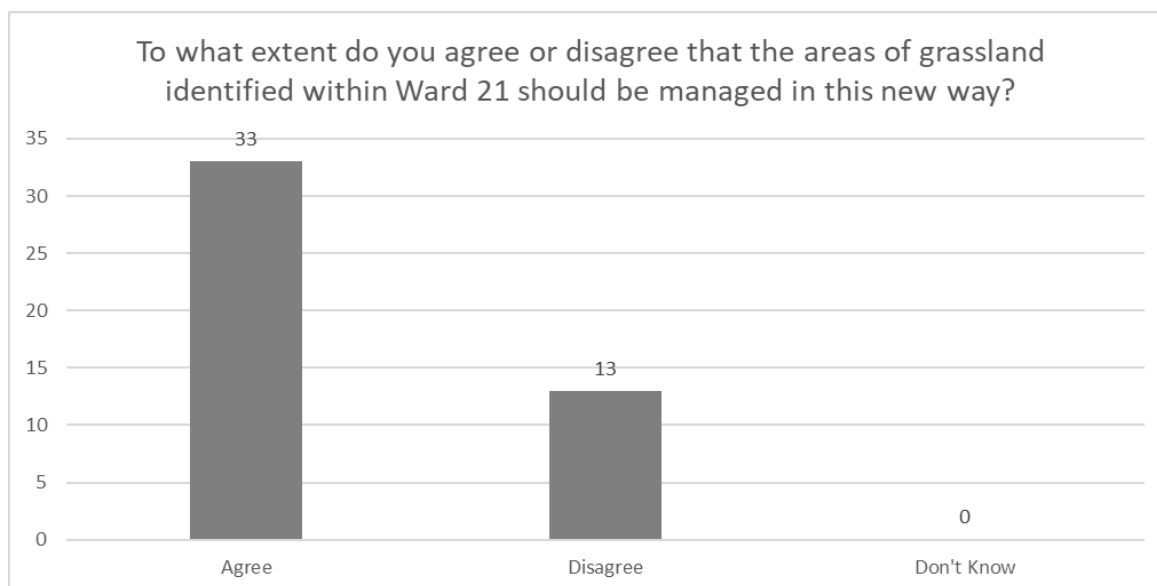
The detail of each individual response can be found via the following link:
<https://online.fifedirect.org.uk/news/index.cfm?fuseaction=committee.event&evntid=8458D51F-155D-13EF-92AA3A79AA099B9B>

Maps of proposed sites are available at www.fife.gov.uk/grasslands. Participants of the public consultation were provided with the option of submitting a digital or non-digital response. Participants of the public consultation were provided with the option of submitting a digital or non-digital response. All responses from the Levenmouth Committee Area were received digitally via an e-form. The response methods are shown in the following table:

Levenmouth Committee Area Response Methods	
Paper packs issued	3
Paper responses received	0
Electronic responses received	104

2.8 Ward 21 - Leven, Kennoway and Largo Responses

A total of 46 responses were received from Ward 21. Participants were questioned on whether they agreed or disagreed that the areas of grassland identified within their own ward should be managed in this new way. The results are shown in the following graph:

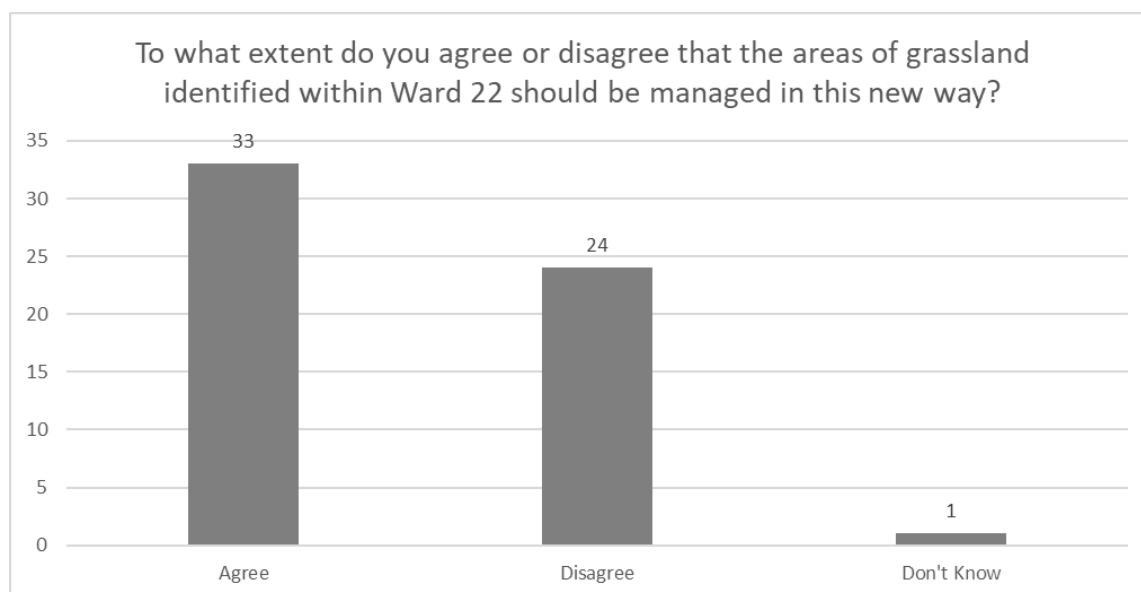


The type of responder was also captured during the consultation exercise. The results of which are shown in the following table:

Ward 21 - Responder Type	
Individual	46
Fife Councillor, MSP, MP, MEP	0
Local, community or voluntary group	0

2.9 Ward 22 - Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages Responses

A total of 58 responses were received from Ward 22. The results to this question are shown in the following graph.



The type of responder was also captured during the consultation exercise. The results of which are shown in the following table:

Ward 22 - Responder Type	
Individual	54
Fife Councillor, MSP, MP, MEP	2
Local, community or voluntary group	2

Local, Community and Voluntary Groups which took part in the consultation were:

Local Community & Voluntary Group	Response (Positive/Negative to proposal)
CLEAR Buckhaven & Methil	1 Response - Positive
Save Wemyss Ancient Caves Society (SWACS)	1 Response - Positive

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 104 responses were received relating to the Levenmouth committee area. Across the area 67.3% of individuals replied positively to the new grassland management strategy and 31.7% responded negatively to the proposal. Once broken down to Ward areas the evidence suggests that there is an appetite to develop a new grassland management regime in both Wards 21 and 22.

List of Appendices

1. Ward breakdown of respondents who agreed/disagreed with the new method of managing the grassland in Fife.

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Ward breakdown of respondents who agreed/disagreed with the new method of managing the grassland in Fife:

	% agree	% disagree	% don't know
Ward 1. West Fife and Coastal Villages	47.6%	51.9%	0.5%
Ward 2. Dunfermline North	85.2%	14.8%	0.0%
Ward 3. Dunfermline Central	58.3%	36.1%	5.6%
Ward 4. Dunfermline South	75.4%	24.6%	0.0%
Ward 5. Rosyth	60.0%	24.0%	16.0%
Ward 6. Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	97.0%	3.0%	0.0%
Ward 7. Cowdenbeath	73.1%	26.9%	0.0%
Ward 8. Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	31.5%	65.8%	2.7%
Ward 9. Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	89.2%	8.1%	2.7%
Ward 10. Kirkcaldy North	60.0%	37.5%	2.5%
Ward 11. Kirkcaldy Central	59.5%	37.8%	2.7%
Ward 12. Kirkcaldy East	87.5%	12.5%	0.0%
Ward 13. Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	51.5%	48.5%	0.0%
Ward 14. Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	69.8%	30.2%	0.0%
Ward 15. Glenrothes Central and Thornton	61.1%	30.6%	8.3%
Ward 16. Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	78.6%	20.0%	1.4%
Ward 17. Tay Bridgehead	53.6%	45.8%	0.6%
Ward 18. St Andrews	88.9%	11.1%	0.0%
Ward 19. East Neuk and Landward	59.3%	37.0%	3.7%
Ward 20. Cupar	80.7%	18.6%	0.7%
Ward 21. Leven, Kennoway and Largo	73.9%	26.1%	0.0%
Ward 22. Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	62.1%	36.2%	1.7%
Fife Total	65.0%	33.3%	1.7%

24th March 2021

Agenda Item No. 12

Supporting the Levenmouth Plan – Silverburn Park Flax Mill and Wider Park Regeneration- Update.

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Area Committee with an update on the progress of the regeneration work at Silverburn Park, Leven, led by Fife Employment Access Trust. (FEAT)

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to:

- Note the content of this cover report
- Note the content of Appendix 1 which details the potential economic impact of the project as it moves through to completion and full operation.
- Ask questions of clarification from the FEAT representatives present at the committee today, who will give a verbal update on the progress of the project.

Resource Implications

There are no specific resource implications inherent in this report, however members will be aware that this is a project which has been supported through local community planning budget support over a number of years, and that this commitment has extended to a capital allocation within the Communities capital plan, consideration of which took place at Fife Council on 11th March 2021.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report. It is however notable that significant work has just been completed on the Flax Mill building which has ensured that the building is now wind and watertight. This extensive work will ensure that the

building does not deteriorate any further, and that it gets the opportunity to dry out naturally prior to the extensive regeneration work beginning. This work has also played a significant part in mitigating the risks for Fife Council in relation to the integrity of the structure, which if left unchecked would have required even more extensive interventions in future years.

Policy & Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

From the beginning, this project has been based on extensive consultation, and it is the undertaking of the partners involved that this will continue up to the conclusion of the project.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Members are already well informed on the background and history of Silverburn Park. The park was gifted to the Levenmouth area in 1973 by the Russell family.
- 1.2 The park operated as a popular local leisure space throughout the 1980's and the early part of the 90's, housing attractions such as a craft centre and small animal farm. A number of issues including legislative changes meant that many of the attractions were withdrawn from the park, meaning by the turn of the century the buildings on site were only utilised as a depot for the ground's maintenance service.
- 1.3 The Council had sought to look at a number of alternative uses for the buildings within the park which included Silverburn House and the historic Flax Mill building. The potential for a commercial enterprise such as a hotel business developing the buildings was mooted, but after a number of marketing attempts it was clear this was not a route that was likely to produce a positive outcome.
- 1.4 Any proposal for the park had to work within the limitations of an agreement to preserve the space as a place of quiet reflection, and that access to the park for the residents of Levenmouth would never be compromised. Accordingly, no significant additional building development would have been allowed on the site, and this was not an attractive proposition for any investor. The park is subject to overview by the National Trust, who remain a key consultee on any proposed activity or changes within Silverburn.
- 1.5 It was therefore agreed that a process was put in place to engage with community groups and charities, to ascertain if there was a more sympathetic way of moving Silverburn Park forward, in a manner that complied with the agreed restrictions, but ensured its longer-term sustainability.
- 1.6 As part of an open tender competition process FEAT came through with a business proposal which best met the aspirations of the Council for the future of the Park, this

business proposal was ratified by the Levenmouth Area Committee in [May 2014](#) and the report today will bring members up to date with progress.

- 1.7 In 2019 FEAT became fully responsible for the ongoing care and maintenance of the park by signing a formal lease. This transfer has seen significant positive developments around the park itself, including the removal of invasive species, improvements to paths, improvements to spaces within the walled garden including new planting and furniture installations Most notably though has been the recent development of the camp site, and the opening of the very successful window café.
- 1.8 The growth in volunteer activity on the site has also been significant, with current work focusing on cleaning out the retting pond, which will become a key feature within the park once complete.
- 1.9 Over the period of lockdown Silverburn Park has seen a massive increase in footfall, as local people explored opportunities for physical activity close to home, to remain within the prevailing COVID restrictions. This level of interest needs to be captured and perpetuated by ensuring the park remains a destination of choice for local residents and future visitors to the area. The attached appendix to this report, noted in the recommendations section above, gives strong evidence of how doing that successfully will pay significant dividends not only for Silverburn but the local economy of Levenmouth as well.



Fig1 Signing of the Silverburn lease transfer to FEAT 2019



Fig2 3D indicative image of part of the Flax Mill after completion.

- 1.10 As noted in the legal and risk implications section of this report there has been extensive work carried out to stabilise the condition of the Flax Mill building, to ensure its integrity prior to the major improvement work taking place. This intervention was enabled through significant help from our colleagues in EPES who assisted in the application to the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund (VDLF). In total £145,000 was secured from that source.
- 1.11 This allowed work to be commissioned which included clearing guttering and downpipes, stabilising brickwork, renewing security panels at window and door apertures, installing support scaffolding, installing temporary roof coverings, and removing significant amounts of debris, much of that through the work of specialist contractors, given the conditions they encountered were potentially injurious to health.

2.0 The Flax Mill Project

- 2.1 The primary aim of the current project at Silverburn is well known and covers the full development of the B Listed Flax Mill building into a multi-use building that will become a key tourism asset for the area.
- 2.2 Alongside this there will be ongoing development of the greenspace asset to support the overall business plan approach. Appendix 1 of this report gives members a thorough indication of the potential opportunities brought about by this investment that can support economic activity within Levenmouth, while ensuring a key leisure asset is maintained and improved.
- 2.3 Representatives of FEAT are at the meeting today and will give a verbal update of progress and provide an opportunity for members to seek clarification on any points of interest.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 This project will make an impact on several priorities for the area, around the promotion of active travel, health and wellbeing, tackling climate change, and the promotion and support of the tourism economy in Levenmouth. The potential for jobs and training will be key, supported by the opportunities for volunteering and the building of capacity in local people.
- 3.2 This approach is a significant project for the area and sits comfortably alongside the Rail Link and River Leven Programme as part of a joint statement of ambition for Levenmouth, as we pull away from the worst impacts of the pandemic.

List of Appendices

- The Impact of The Silverburn Park & Flax Mill Complex- A Socio -Economic Report – March 2021

Background Papers

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

Minute of the meeting of Levenmouth Area Committee 24th May 2014 - [Link](#)

Report Contact

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THE IMPACT OF THE SILVERBURN PARK & FLAX MILL COMPLEX

A socio-economic assessment

Viewforth Consulting Ltd

www.viewforthconsulting.co.uk

In association with

4-Consulting Ltd

www.4-consulting.com/

March 2021



Viewforth Consulting Ltd



The economic and social impact of the Silverburn Flax Mill Project

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Executive Summary

This report presents an analysis of the projected economic and social impact of the Silverburn Park Flaxmill regeneration project, in Levenmouth, Fife. It has been undertaken by Viewforth Consulting Ltd, in association with 4-Consulting Ltd, who are experts in economic and social impact analysis.¹ It was prepared in order to identify and highlight the positive benefits that are likely to arise from the regeneration of the Flaxmill and Park complex, not only accruing to the immediate Levenmouth community surrounding Silverburn Park but also further afield in other parts of Fife, Scotland and indeed the UK.

The analysis was undertaken during winter 2020/2021 and draws on a range of information sources, including the detailed operational business plan for the completed Flax Mill Complex as well as the detailed design and reconstruction costs of the rebuild phase. Furthermore, it draws on available extant data for the previous and current park usage as well as information gathered from current and potential stakeholders and users. It applies economic and social impact analysis, drawing on recognised applied economic methodologies and social value generation approaches consistent with the UK Treasury Green Book approach to assessment of social value and wellbeing.

There are 2 key elements in the analysis:

- a) Economic modelling of the projected expenditure impact of the FlaxMill Complex during
 - a. The 2 year reconstruction phase
 - b. The fully operational phase of the Flaxmill

Using a rigorously specified economic model, results were obtained and presented in terms of employment, output and GVA generated across Fife, Scotland and the rest of the UK; additionally it was possible to analyse employment and household income generated in the Levenmouth area itself.

- b) A case study example of the broader economic and social value generated by community usage of Silverburn between October 2019 – October 2020, taking in some of the strictest lockdown phases of the pandemic. This case study analysis draws on the data already available about extensive local usage of the Park.

Summary economic impact results

When fully operational, the Silverburn Flax Mill complex is projected to generate annually:

- 26 jobs and £637m of household employment income in Levenmouth
- A further 11 Jobs in the rest of Fife, with an additional 2 in other parts of Scotland and 4 in other parts of the UK
- It will generate £2.5m of output in Fife and £1.26m of Fife GVA, with a further £0.58m of output and £0.29m GVA generated elsewhere in Scotland and rest of UK.

¹ The team including Emeritus Professor Iain McNicoll and Ursula Kelly of Viewforth Consulting and Richard Marsh from 4-Consulting

Silverburn Flaxmill Fully Operational Phase (Fifth Year of operation, current business plan projections)

	Direct Silverburn	Rest of Levenmouth	All Levenmouth	Rest of Fife	All Fife	Rest of Scotland	All Scotland	Rest of UK	All UK
Jobs	22	4	26	11	37	2	39	4	43
Employment Income £000	442.70	193.8	636.5	283	919.5	62.8	982.3	96.5	1078.8
Output £m	1.05	*	*	1.42	2.47	0.20	2.66	0.39	3.05
GVA £m	0.57	*	*	0.69	1.26	0.09	1.35	0.20	1.55

Source: Viewforth Consulting Analysis

* Output and GVA impact were modelled at Fife, Scotland and UK Levels only

Reconstruction Phase impact (Total Impact over 2 Years)

The two year reconstruction phase will generate economic impacts across the period of reconstruction.

- 21 FTE (or person years of employment) in Levenmouth, with 66 in other parts of Fife
- A further 15 FTE in the rest of Scotland and 16 FTE in the rest of the UK
- £782k of household employment income in Levenmouth with a further £2.5m in the rest of Fife
- £9.3m of output in Fife , making up £4.7m of Fife GVA
- A further £2.9m of output and £1.5m of GVA in the rest of Scotland and rest of UK

Silverburn Flaxmill Reconstruction Phase , current capital investment plan projections)

Over two year reconstruction period	Levenmouth	Rest of Fife	All Fife	Rest of Scotland	All Scotland	Rest of UK	All UK
FTE	21	66	86	15	101	16	117
Employment Income £000	782	2509	3291	559	3850	593	4443
Output £m	*	*	9.3	1.5	10.8	1.4	12.2
GVA £m	*	*	4.7	0.7	5.5	0.7	6.2

Source: Viewforth Consulting Analysis

* Output and GVA impact were modelled at Fife, Scotland and UK Levels only

Broader Economic and social value of Silverburn Park usage

Detailed analysis of Park user data (obtained through People Counters) revealed :

- Between Mid October 2019 and Mid October 2020, there were a total of 151844 visits made to Silverburn on foot and 47,722 by car.
- A large proportion of visits were made by local, Levenmouth, residents;
- This gave an estimated total of 77,835 visitor leisure hours spent in the Park.
- The shadow priced economic value of leisure time spent in the park amounted to £1.06m.

- When adjusted by social weights to take account of estimated usage by residents from more deprived areas this gave an overall social value (socially modified economic value) of Park usage in one year equivalent to £1.15m .

Overall Conclusions

The in-depth economic impact assessment of the tangible financial and employment impacts of the project, both in reconstruction phase and fully operational phase, show that the project will generate employment and household income for the local community. It will also contribute to regional output, GVA and national GDP.

Analysis of Park visitor data during a single year Mid October 2019 – mid October 2020 showed extensive usage of the Park by local residents , with particularly high usage during pandemic lockdown restrictions. Park usage by local residents had a social value equivalent to £1.15m.

The analysis of Park usage was undertaken as an example of the broader economic and social value being generated by Park activities above and beyond the tangible benefits arising from the Park's operational and capital expenditures. Additional analysis of the full range of Flaxmill Complex activities when fully operational is likely to deliver further evidence of social value and the value of the Park to the local community.

Introduction

This report presents an analysis of the projected economic and social impact of the Silverburn Park Flaxmill regeneration project, in Levenmouth, Fife. It has been undertaken by Viewforth Consulting Ltd, in association with 4-Consulting Ltd, who are experts in economic and social impact analysis.² It was prepared in order to identify and highlight the positive benefits that are likely to arise from the regeneration of the Flaxmill and Park complex, not only accruing to the immediate Levenmouth community surrounding Silverburn Park but also further afield in other parts of Fife, Scotland and indeed the UK.

The analysis was undertaken during winter 2020/2021 and draws on a range of information sources, including the detailed operational business plan for the completed Flax Mill Complex as well as the detailed design and reconstruction costs of the rebuild phase. Furthermore, it draws on available extant data for the previous and current park usage as well as information gathered from current and potential stakeholders and users. It applies economic and social impact analysis, drawing on recognised applied economic methodologies and social value generation approaches consistent with the UK Treasury Green Book approach to assessment of social value and wellbeing.

This analysis follows on from, and is associated with, the development of a comprehensive evaluation framework that has been devised for tracking the progress of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex towards its overall objectives and provides examples of how the data collected can be used towards assessment of the project's overall impact and progress in achieving its intended goals.

The Levenmouth Area

Levenmouth stretches along the South East Fife Coast in Scotland and comprises the towns of Leven, Buckhaven and Methil as well as a number of smaller villages. Formerly rich in industry (its industrial heritage includes weaving, coal mining and industrial docks), it has suffered since the 1960s from the decline of heavy industries. It had also formerly been a traditional seaside holiday destination for visitors from the Scottish cities, but that role also declined with the growth of international holiday travel. Levenmouth is now among the poorest areas of Fife, with limited employment opportunities and low income levels. With an overall population of around 37,000 people it has the worst levels of deprivation in Fife and some of the worst in Scotland.

According to the Scottish Government's official Index of multiple deprivation, Levenmouth has the highest indicators of income deprivation in Fife (18.9% of the resident population are classed as income deprived compared to the Fife average of 11.9%) and the highest levels of employment deprivation (15.4% of the working age population are classed as employment deprived compared to the Fife average of 9.4%). The overall indicator of deprivation³ shows the situation of Levenmouth as

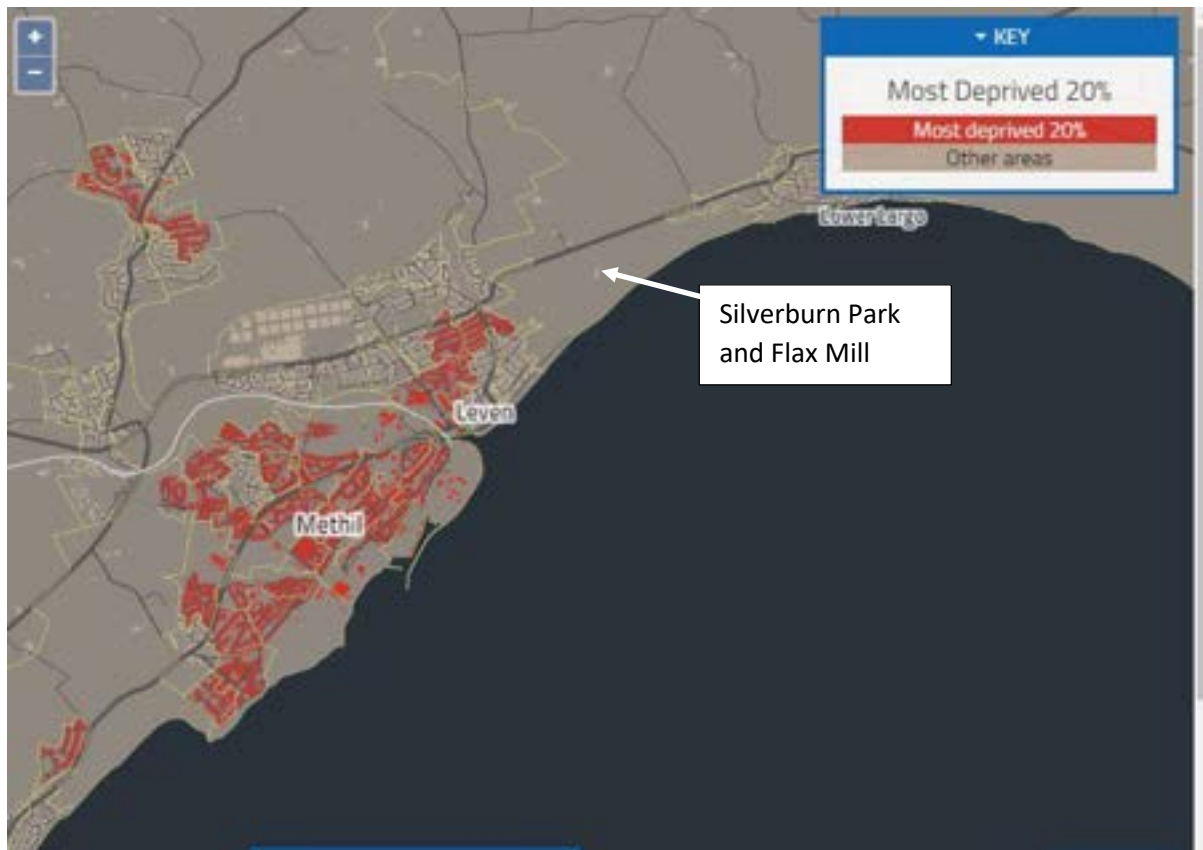
² The team including Emeritus Professor Iain McNicoll and Ursula Kelly of Viewforth Consulting and Richard Marsh from 4-Consulting

³ This is a composite of 6 indicators on income, employment, health, housing, access (travel infrastructure). The only indicator on which Levenmouth is relatively well positioned is on housing (only 3 areas regarded as having overcrowded housing.)

having declined further between 2016 and 2020, with the number of areas⁴ classed as among the 20% most deprived in Scotland increasing from 23 to 26 (out of 51 total.)

In other words, over half of Levenmouth’s population are classed as among the 20% most deprived in all of Scotland. Of those a significant proportion are an even more precarious position. 20 areas (39% of the population) are in the bottom 15%, 11 areas (22%) are in the bottom 10% and 9 areas (18% of the Levenmouth population) are classed as among the 5% most deprived areas in all of Scotland.

Silverburn Park and Flax Mill in Levenmouth



Source: Scottish Government SIMD 2020 Mapping Tool

However the Levenmouth area remains one of considerable potential, rich in natural assets, industrial heritage – including intangible heritage - and recreational opportunities – parks and woodland areas such as Letham Glen and Silverburn, 4 high quality golf courses⁵, long sandy beach and Promenade with the River Leven flowing into the sea near the end of Leven High Street. It is a key staging post along the Fife Coastal Path,⁶ which attracts around 500,000 walkers every year. Having suffered from poor infrastructure and neglect over many years there are now concerted efforts to plan for its regeneration; there have been public realm improvements, the re-opening of

⁴ Know Fife: Focus on Levenmouth <https://know.fife.scot/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2020/01/SIMD-2020v2-Focus-on-Levenmouth.pdf> and the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020 . Areas are defined as “Datazones” with around 700 residents in each datazone.

⁵ Leven Links, Lundin Links, Sconie Golf Course and Lundin Ladies.

⁶ <https://easyways.com/walking-holidays/fife-coastal-path/>

the Leven rail link is on the cards,⁷ along with a positive active Levenmouth Area Community Plan,⁸ agreed priorities on Health and Social Care improvements⁹ and an extensive Levenmouth “connectivity project” for paths and networks to link the area together again for active travel, environmental river improvements and bringing derelict land back into productive use.¹⁰ The population is expected to grow in the next five years, even with the economic challenges the area faces.¹¹

A key goal of the Leven Sustainable Growth strategy is to maximise the benefits of the natural and environmental assets of Levenmouth so that:

“By 2030, the Leven catchment area will be a living, breathing example of inclusive growth, achieving environmental excellence while maximising social and environmental opportunities.”¹²

This is the context for the redevelopment and regeneration of the Silverburn Flax Mill – the project is coming together at a time when it has the potential to be a key part of the regeneration of the entire Levenmouth area, and to contribute to the economic resilience, environmental sustainability, social, cultural and health wellbeing of the entire community.

Background to Silverburn

The Silverburn Flax Mill is a B-Listed 19th Century industrial building, of both historical and architectural interest. It is currently derelict and sits at the heart of Silverburn Park, a 27 acre public park with woodland, paddocks and gardens. The Park and Buildings were gifted to the town of Leven in the 1970s by Russel Family, with the intention that the Park :

“ should remain forever as a quiet area used for the benefit of the public in general and the people of Leven in particular for nature trails, quiet parkland and organised camping. “

The Park and buildings were managed by the local Council for many years, and at the height of the Park’s popularity attracted an estimated 25,000 visitors per year. However, it fell into decline and represented an extensive maintenance burden that the Council could no longer support. In 2013 the Council agreed to pass the management of the Park under lease to Fife Employment Access Trust (FEAT), a local charity that supports clients with mental health issues, providing training and support to help them return to work. FEAT created the FEAT Trading Community Interest Company to assume the management and regeneration of the park.

Core to the park regeneration plans is the renovation of the historic Flax Mill Building to create a heritage visitor centre and community hub for the park and for the wider district, incorporating a visitor centre showcasing the history of the Mill and the Park, a café, meeting and exhibition space as well as a hostel providing visitor accommodation. The latter is intended to cater for tourists and walkers traversing the Fife Coastal Path – which passes very close by to the Mill.

⁷ <https://scotlandsrailway.com/projects/levenmouth-reconnected-raillink>

⁸ https://publications.fifedirect.org.uk/c64_0403-PlanforLevenmouth2019-2022.pdf

⁹ <https://www.fifehealthandsocialcare.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2018/12/Levenmouth-Agreed-Priorities-Plan-Updated-071218.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://consultation.sepa.org.uk/the-leven/connectivity-project-survey/>

¹¹ Levenmouth Area Local Strategic Assessment 2018 <https://know.fife.scot/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2018/12/LSA-2018-Levenmouth-FINAL.pdf>

¹² The Sustainable Growth Agreement: The Leven Programme and Scottish Environment Protection Agency [https://publications.fifedirect.org.uk/c64_LACof2December2020\(VIRTUAL\)-PublicAgendaPack\(1\).pdf](https://publications.fifedirect.org.uk/c64_LACof2December2020(VIRTUAL)-PublicAgendaPack(1).pdf)

The project for renovation of the Flax Mill has received development phase support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF), the Architectural Heritage Fund and the William Grant Foundation as well as from Fife Council who continue to work closely in partnership with FEAT to support the regeneration of the Park.

Capturing Economic, social and cultural impact

The overall aim in regenerating the Silverburn Flax Mill and Park complex is to generate broader benefits for the community. The complex will be non-profit-making with surpluses reinvested in development of the complex, new projects and opportunities furthering the goals of the FEAT charity. The benefits to the wider community are economic, social and cultural, with different aspects of the complex and its activities contributing to these benefits and the resilience of the local community. The project will also generate benefits, financial and non-financial, beyond the local community.

Definitions and range of impact

When considering a development of the nature of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex, there are a number of elements involved in its achievement of socio-economic impact.

1. Generating Economic activity – jobs, output and GVA

In financial terms, the money spent in the process of the repair and reconstruction of the Flaxmill will itself generate economic impact, measurable in terms of output, jobs created and contribution to regional GVA. This is the immediate short term impact achieved during the rebuild and construction phase.

Once the complex is fully operational, (including the proposed hostel, café, campsite and workshops) - the entire complex will make an annual contribution to the local economy. This will provide employment directly as well as indirectly through the impact of its own expenditure, that of its staff and through the expenditure of visitors from outside the immediate area. This is again measured through output generated, jobs created and contribution to regional and national GVA.

Both these projected phases of impact (**Phase 1: Reconstruction and rebuild phase** and **Phase 2: Operational Phase**) have been modelled using a rigorously specified economic model, adapted to the specific Silverburn location and circumstances. The methodology is described in more detail in Appendix One. The results are presented in Part One.

2. Generating wider social, economic and cultural benefit

Part One focusses on the measurable economic impact of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex, analysing the impact likely to be generated during the reconstruction phase and that generated when the Flax Mill is fully operational. In itself, the economic impact demonstrates a notable contribution to the local area, most explicitly in boosting the local economy. It also forms a corner stone of the evidence base on the broader economic, social and cultural benefits likely to be generated by the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex when it is completed and operational.

The economic stimulus provided by the Flax Mill Complex will, in addition to specifically economic benefits, also lead to improvements in local health, well being etc. There is a substantial research

literature on the positive link between work, health and well-being;¹³ the work of the FEAT charity in itself, which aims to support people back into employment is an acknowledgement of the importance of work to people's material and mental wellbeing.

In Part Two of this report we explore the wide range of different elements of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex that can contribute towards enhancing the wellbeing of the local community – considering the social, cultural (including appreciation of heritage) and environmental dimensions to the Silverburn Flax Mill complex and its significance to the local area. These are the “non-market” benefits of the Flax Mill Complex development and use that will not necessarily be captured in the financial flows of Part One . They can nonetheless generate economic and social benefit and the generation of such benefits are part and parcel of the essential purpose and aims of the Flax Mill Complex regeneration.

There are a number of recognised, and evolving, approaches to capture the value of heritage, the natural environment and arts, social and cultural events. This value may not be fully captured in straightforward financial flows.

The HM Treasury Green Book and accompanying manuals provides extensive guidance on approaches to non-market valuation (and a number of other resources are available eg from the *WhatWorks* Centre for Wellbeing ¹⁴has some translation of Green Book principles into practice.). The UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) recently launched a “ Cultural and Heritage Capital Programme”¹⁵ which aims to develop a formal approach for the valuation of cultural and heritage assets. They have produced a Rapid Evidence Assessment (REA) on extant culture and heritage valuation studies highlighting different methods currently in use.¹⁶ The purpose is precisely to ensure that the very real social and cultural value of cultural and heritage assets (an historic house, a museum, a Flax Mill) can be acknowledged even where they may lack “currency” in commercial or strictly financial terms. ¹⁷

In considering the evidence for the Silverburn Park's generation of social and cultural benefits, both that already being generated and its future potential generation, we will draw on some of the resources above to apply shadow-pricing techniques to examples of the current and planned activities of the Flax Mill complex.

Part One: Analysing the impact of the economic activity generated

In order to analyse the impact of the economic activity generated through the Silverburn Flax Mill regeneration, we constructed a Silverburn-specific economic impact model. This was based on our in-house extended Type II input-output modelling system of the UK, with in-built extensions (using

¹³ See, for example the extensive literature review: *Is work good for your health and wellbeing* (Waddell, G and Burton K (TSO, 2006)

¹⁴ <https://whatworkswellbeing.org/>

¹⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/valuing-culture-and-heritage-capital-a-framework-towards-decision-making/valuing-culture-and-heritage-capital-a-framework-towards-informing-decision-making>

¹⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rapid-evidence-assessment-culture-and-heritage-valuation-studies> The REA also includes an initial set of “ plug-in prices” derived from assimilating and standardising results from a range of different studies. It must be noted however that the current initial focus is on valuation of capital assets rather than on activities and services.

¹⁷ It seems that a longer term goal may be to establish sets of “ Culture and Heritage “ Satellite accounts , similar to Environmental satellite accounts and Tourism satellite accounts. The latter sit alongside UK national accounts. It can be noted that Viewforth staff constructed the first Tourism AND Environmental Satellite accounts for Scotland.

location quotients) for Scotland and Fife. This system enabled the analysis of the impact of projected Silverburn expenditure on the UK and the share of that impact accruing to Scotland and to Fife, with results in terms of impact on output, GVA and jobs.

In order to disaggregate and trace the impact across Fife, and in the Levenmouth area immediately surrounding Silverburn, we constructed an additional extension to the system using gravity-modelling. Gravity-modelling uses a combination of mass and distance variables to model the likely flow of impact from its initial starting point across a given area. In this case the Silverburn Gravity model analysed flow of employment impact in across all of the Council Wards in Fife. Within the model Levenmouth is defined as comprising the two Council Wards of Leven, Kennoway and Largo together with Buckhaven, Methil and Weymss Villages. Further details of modelling methodology is included in Appendix One.

An important advantage of the modelling methodology adopted is that it enables a range of additional indicators and features of impact to be examined. The core model comprises 124 industrial sectors and, where relevant, it enables impact on particular industrial sectors to be explored in more detail. Of particular policy importance at the local level is the capacity for the modelling approach to examine the impact on employment income – how much of the income from the jobs generated by a development will actually accrue to, or stay in the immediate locality.

Phase 1: Reconstruction and rebuild phase

The current estimated cost for the reconstruction, repair and rebuild phase of the Flax Mill regeneration and move it to a completed state ready for full operations amounts to £6.2 million spent over a two year period. This planned expenditure will in itself – irrespective of any perceived value arising from its heritage-focussed purpose – generate economic activity in the local area.¹⁸ This is a capital expenditure mainly focussed on expenditure flowing through the construction and related industries.

The impact of the expenditure on the economy was modelled using the purpose designed Silverburn impact model and the results are shown below.

Employment Impact

FTE or 'Person Years of Employment'

The reconstruction phase of the Flax Mill project is projected to generate over 116 'Person Years of Employment' (PYE) jobs in the UK over the two year building work period, with 86 PYE in Fife. Around 21 of the PYE generated will benefit people living in the immediate local area of Levenmouth.¹⁹ In other words, in **each year** of the two years construction phase around 58 full Time equivalent jobs (FTE) will be generated, with 74% of these in Fife (18 % in Levenmouth.)

¹⁸ The initial steps of planning for construction and rebuild, supported in part through initial funding from the National Heritage Lottery Fund, Fife Council, Fife Historic Buildings Trust and the William Grant Foundation, among others, will have *already* generated some economic activity in the local area and in Scotland. The present Phase 1 economic impact analysis does not include that expenditure but is focused solely on the future formal phase of rebuild and reconstruction.

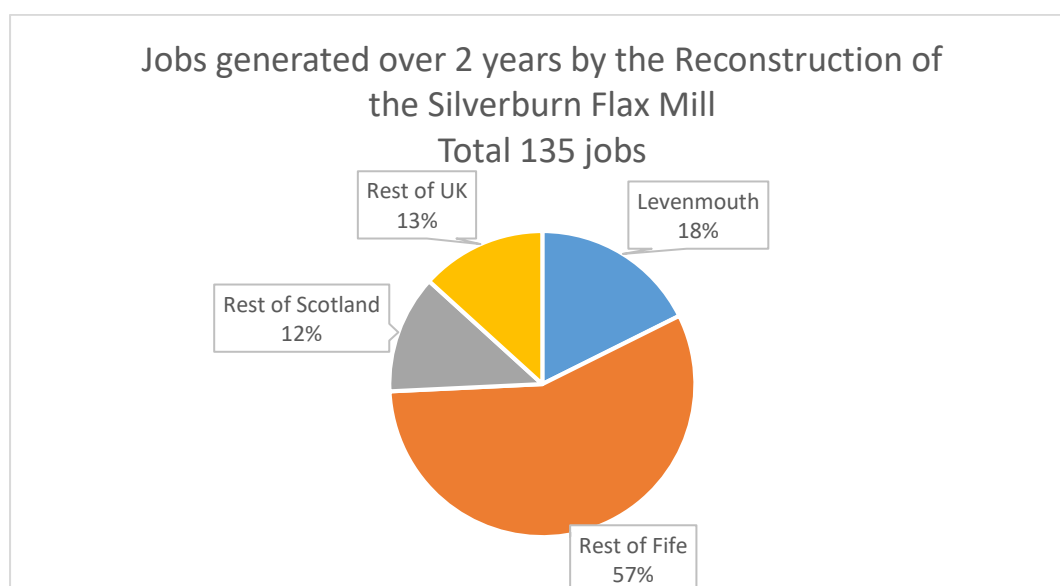
¹⁹ Defined as the two Council Ward areas of Leven, Kennoway and Largo and Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages

Headcount jobs

FTE measures are often used in modelling as a consistent measure of labour demand (expressed as either jobs per annum or PYE). However in thinking how this impacts on people’s lives it can be more intuitive to think in terms of ‘headcount jobs’ which give a better idea of how many people are likely to be affected.

When translated into ‘headcount ‘ jobs,²⁰ this equates to 24 jobs in Levenmouth over 2 years (with a further 76 in the rest of Fife and 35 further afield.) This can be thought of in terms of 12 Levenmouth residents in work for 2 years or 24 Levenmouth residents each in work for one year (or indeed 48 Levenmouth residents, each in work for 6 months.) The results are presented in Figure 1 and Table 1.

Figure 1: Jobs generated in the reconstruction phase of the Silverburn Flax Mill



Source: Viewforth modelled analysis

Table 1: Jobs generated in the reconstruction phase of the Silverburn Flax Mill

Area of impact	Number of jobs generated over the two year construction period ²¹
Levenmouth	24
<i>Rest of Fife</i>	76
All of Fife	100
<i>Rest of Scotland</i>	17
All Scotland	117
<i>Rest of UK</i>	18

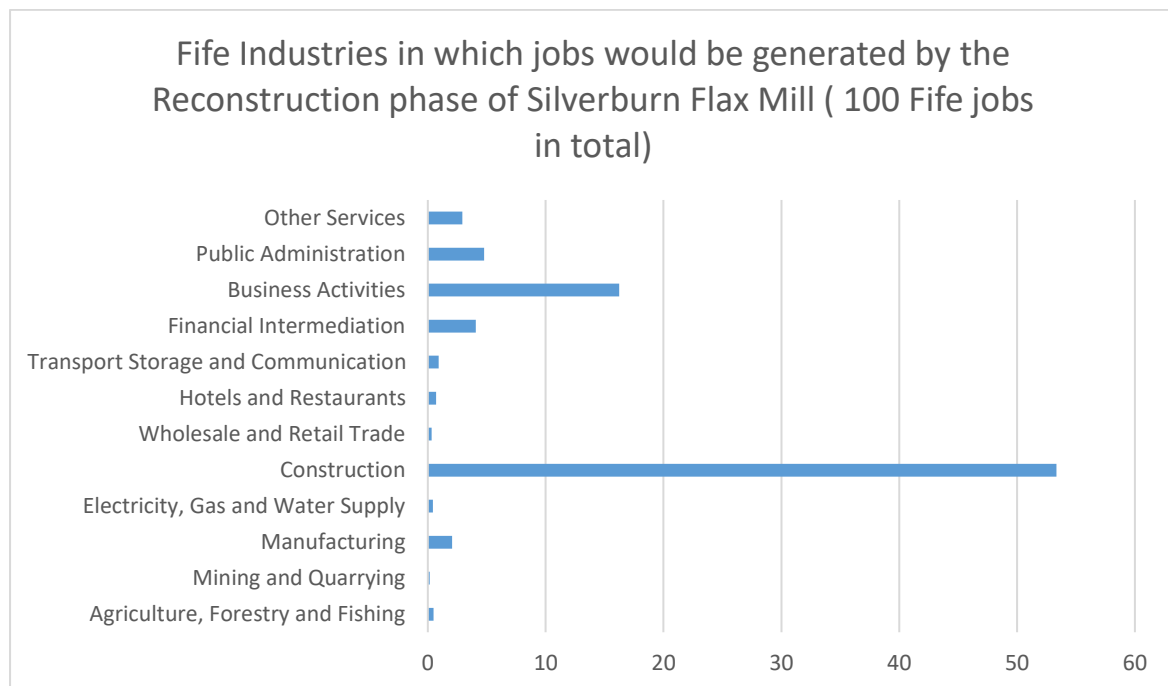
²⁰ Translation into headcount ‘jobs’ used the overall prevailing pattern of fulltime to part-time work in Dfie, Scotland and rest of UK (from the ONS Annual Population Survey and the Business Register and Employment Surveys.)

²¹ Headcount basis. As explained in Footnote 3, modelling of employment was undertaken in full-time-equivalents (FTE) and then translated into actual headcount jobs using the prevailing pattern of full time and part-time employment in Fife, the rest of Scotland and rest of UK.

All UK**135***Source: Viewforth modelled analysis*

Industries in which Fife jobs would be generated

The modelling process also enables a regional overview of the industries within which the jobs would be generated. This is shown in Figure 2. This particular capital investment is focussed on the physical rebuild and reconstruction of the Silverburn Flax Mill. It is not surprising therefore to see that the majority of jobs generated would be in the Construction industry itself. However it is worth noting that jobs are also generated in other sectors, including , for example, business activities , manufacturing and hospitality (hotels and restaurants.) This reflects the way the money spent on the Silverburn reconstruction would flow through the economy.

Figure 2: Fife Industries in which jobs would be generated*Source: Viewforth modelled analysis*

Impact on employment is the most clearly observable result of the capital investment in the Flax Mill regeneration. However the modelled analysis also gives results in terms of impact on regional and national output and on the contribution to regional GVA and national GDP.

Impact on Output and GVA

Table 2: Impact of the reconstruction phase on regional and national output and GVA.

	Impact on Fife £m	Impact on Rest of Scotland £m	All Scotland £m	Impact on Rest of UK £m	All UK £m
Output	9.3	1.5	10.8	1.4	12.2
GVA	4.7	0.7	5.5	0.7	6.2

Source: Viewforth modelled analysis

To put these results into context, overall Fife GVA in 2019 was estimated at around £8 billion and total Scotland GVA in 2018 came to £161 billion.²² While the Silverburn Park complex remains relatively small scale in overall national terms, from the perspective of a deprived area it can be of significant importance both in terms of actual employment generated and in its broader economic and social value to the area.

Employment income generated in Levenmouth and in Fife

Given the local importance of the development, as well as modelling the distribution of employment generated across Fife, we were able to examine the employment income arising from the jobs generated. Our analysis showed that in Fife overall, the reconstruction phase of the Silverburn Park Flax Mill would deliver £3.29m in employment income²³ into Fife homes over the two year period, with £783k of that going to Levenmouth residents. This shows positive benefits to the local area and local residents just through the short-term reconstruction phase. This is of particular importance to an area that is “income and employment-deprived”. This point will be explored further when considering the wider social impact of the development on Levenmouth .

Phase 2: Impact of the Operational phase of Silverburn Flax Mill

Once the short-term reconstruction phase is complete, the longer term impact of Silverburn begins. The project team have prepared a detailed and extended 5 year business plan, showing how the Flax Mill will build its operations over the five year period from launch to fully operational status. This includes the visitor centre and café, space for meeting hire, craft workshops for local artists, overnight accommodation for coastal path walkers, and the campsite with glamping-Style Eco-pods, Tent and touring Campervan pitches. It also builds in ongoing community, cultural , music and wellbeing events.²⁴

The following analysis was based on the detailed activity, income and expenditure projections for the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex once it is in full operation (Year Five of the Business Plan Projections.) It should be noted here that the projections on which the analysis is based include the entire complex, the Flax Mill and the Silverburn Park in which the Flax Mill is located. The successful regeneration of the Flax Mill is inextricably bound to the maintenance and supporting development of the immediate parkland in which it sits, and indeed its historical and heritage importance is linked to its history within the park. The Campsite operations and the planned community events are part and parcel of the entire complex. Therefore the future expenditure projections include, for example, elements of park maintenance and garden expenditure and not simply the Flax Mill building alone.

Projected Operational Income

When fully operational (year 5 of the business plan), it is projected that the Silverburn Flaxmill Complex will have an annual turnover in the region of £ 1 million. A significant proportion of the anticipated income for the Mill complex is associated with that generated through visitors, in particular overnight visitors. This includes from campsite and hostel accommodation as well as catering income and shop sales. (The income from Campsite and hostel bednights alone makes up 22% of projected income, with an estimated 10,253 visitor bednights projected in Year 5.)²⁵ Only a

²² ONS 2019

²³ The employment income figure reflects total salary costs, including employer’s costs.

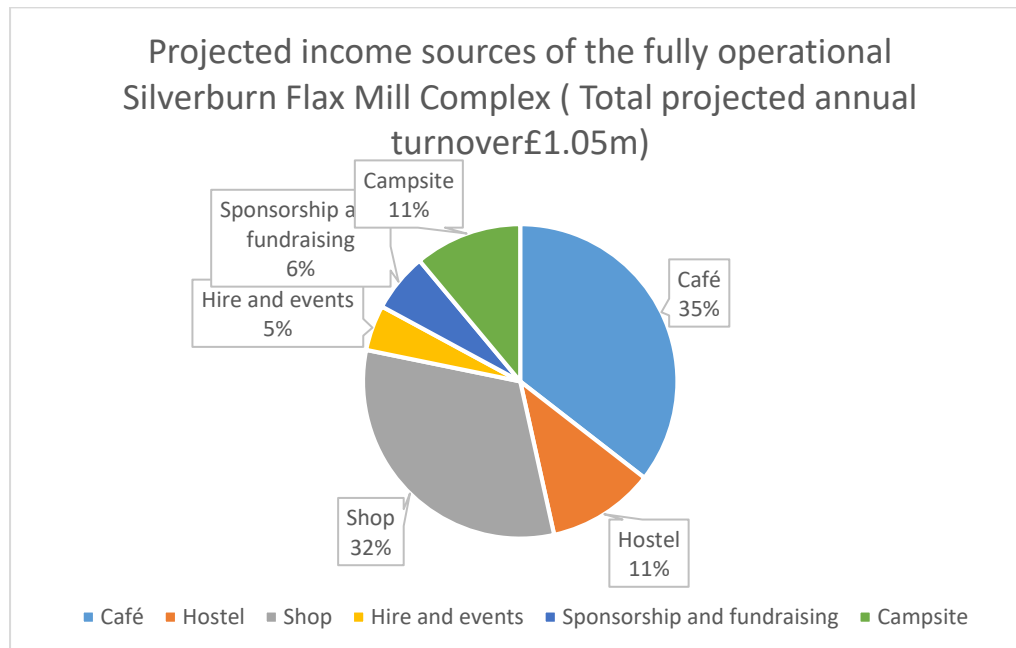
²⁴ It does not include income or expenditure explicitly associated with the Community Allotments within the grounds, which have continued to be administered by Fife Council.

²⁵ Bednight numbers are taken from the 5 year projections within the business plan. The projected bednight growth to Year 5 is fairly conservative, with figures in line with the Fife or Scotland ‘average’ for similar types of accommodation.(Data from Visit Scotland *Key Facts on Tourism in Scotland 2019*) The limited ‘revealed

relatively small proportion of the Complex income (6%) is projected as through sponsorship or fundraising, in line with the aim of the project to be sustainable and largely self-sufficient on a year to year basis.

The anticipated balance of income sources is shown in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3: Projected Income Sources of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex



Source : Silverburn Flax Mill and Park Financial Projections December 2020

As a non-profitmaking enterprise, most of the income will be respent within the same year, with expenditure in Year 5 anticipated to be in the region of £918k.

The Operational Plan for Year 5 included a detailed breakdown of expected expenditure. This pattern of expenditure was analysed and translated into industry categories and required modelling format. The impact of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex as a fully operational economic entity was then modelled and results in terms of jobs, output and GVA will be presented subsequently.

Visitor Expenditure

As noted, most of the Silverburn Flax Mill projected income is related to visitor spend, both local visitors and those from outside the immediate area. To the extent that visitors spend money onsite, in the Café, in the Shop or for hiring facilities, all of this spend will be captured within the analysis of the impact of the Mill Complex. However it is also reasonable to assume that by attracting non-local visitors to stay in the area (evidenced through the booking of overnight accommodation) the

preference' evidence available so far from the actual bookings for the campsite accommodation that is already in operation shows occupancy rates currently in excess of the average. (Campsite report December 2020.) In relation to the planned hostel accommodation, it is also worth pointing out that there is little other independent hostel accommodation available in Fife; this, together with the proximity to the costal path and Leven being a typical 'end point' at the second stage of the path going north for 5 day walkers (Burntisland to Leven), may also encourage relatively high future occupancy rates.

Silverburn Flax Mill will attract additional money to the area with visitors incurring at least some off-site expenditure (food, recreation, consumables.) This additional off-site expenditure is an injection into the local economy that can be attributed to Silverburn, since it would be the Silverburn Flax Mill complex that had 'captured' these visitors. *Local* visitor offsite expenditure is likely to have occurred within Levenmouth anyway, irrespective of Silverburn, so this is disregarded.

Estimates were made of additional visitor off-site expenditure based under the projected number of occupied bednights in Year 5 (10,253 over the course of a year, split across hostel , glamping and Touring Pitch users.) It was assumed that all overnight visitors come from outside the immediate Levenmouth area. It can be noted that the estimated bednight numbers are reasonably conservative and are either in line with, or lower than, the observed occupancy average for the relevant types of accommodation elsewhere in Scotland (or in Fife, where figures are available.)²⁶ It was assumed that overnight visitors were non-local and the type of visitor followed the same trend as that of overnight stay tourists in Scotland more generally (c. 80% Domestic UK and 20% international)²⁷

In due course it could be possible to conduct a specific Silverburn Visitor Expenditure Survey²⁸ ; for the present analysis estimates were based on the general Tourism Visitor expenditure trends in Scotland in 2019. A downward adjustment to the daily rates was made to take account of visitor *on-site* expenditure that is already included in the analysis of the Silverburn Complex.²⁹

Anyone using the Flax Mill complex is de facto a visitor, whether they are local people or whether they have been attracted from further afield. For the purposes of the present analysis it is assumed that all day visitors are local, with only the overnight visitors classed as coming from outside Levenmouth. Therefore the only local spend which is included in the analysis is anything that local people may purchase while on site (having lunch in the café, for example, or purchasing gifts and crafts), which is included in the Flax Mill revenue stream and its associated expenditure impact.³⁰ This is a conservative assumption, which disregards any local offsite spend by anyone not actually staying overnight. In reality the Flax Mill complex is likely to attract a number of day visitors from outside the immediate Levenmouth area.

When the facility is fully operational it will be possible to gather fuller information on the split between local and non local visitors, as well as developing a more comprehensive picture of visitor expenditure patterns (on and off-site.) The park is free to access and many local people currently use the park for outdoor leisure and recreation, dog-walking and so forth and may continue to visit in the future without incurring any expenditure. There are plans to install visitor counters at the

²⁶ Scottish Accommodation Survey 2019 (*Visit Scotland*)

²⁷ Key Facts on Tourism in Scotland 2019 *INSIGHT Department, Visit Scotland*

²⁸ Indeed, this could form an interesting and useful work-based project for future FEAT clients or local students.

²⁹ The Scotland survey (Key facts on Tourism in Scotland 2019 *Visit Scotland*) gave per diem rates for overnight stay visitors as £69 for domestic visitors and £93 for overseas visitors. For the adjustment, only spend on the survey categories of *Eating and Drinking Out, Entertainment, Other Shopping* and 'Other' were counted as being 'off-site.' This led to overall visitor per diem offsite expenditure estimated at £27 per head..

³⁰ It can also be noted that in the Levenmouth area, presumably due to the neglect that the area has suffered over the years, there are few alternative " visitor attractions" of the kind planned for Silverburn. Local on-site spend is highly unlikely therefore to be displaced money that would be spent elsewhere locally. Indeed, the Silverburn complex is likely to be encouraging *retention* of spend in Levenmouth that would otherwise go further afield.

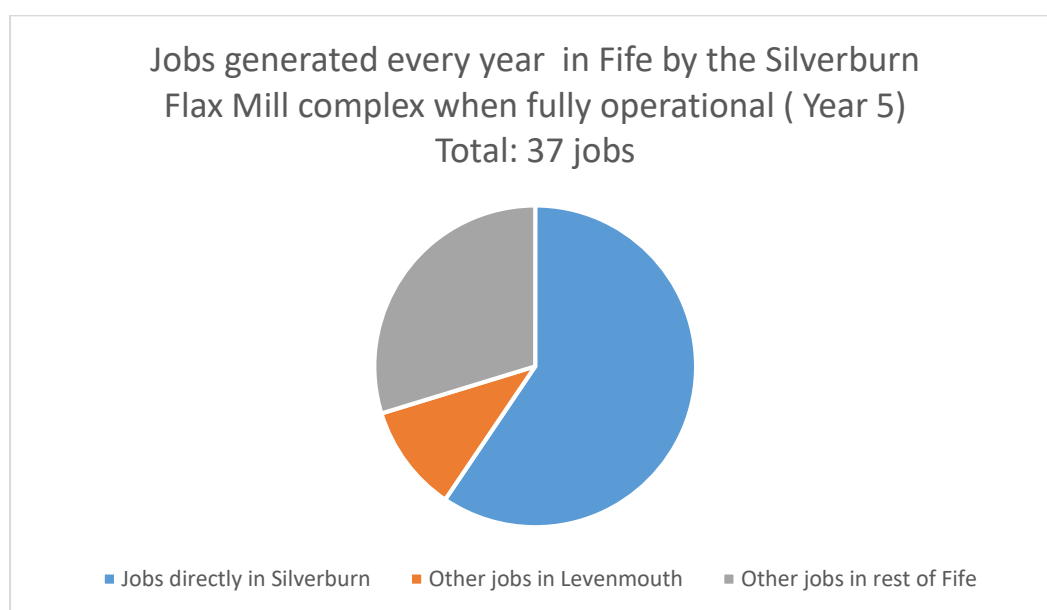
entrance to the Mill to assess, in due course, the proportion of Park users that ‘convert’ to Mill facility users.

Offsite Visitor Expenditure was modelled separately from Flax Mill expenditure, using a consumer expenditure oriented pattern, and the results were combined with those for the analysis of the Flax Mill Complex itself.³¹ The results are presented below, with a summary table included for ease of reference in Appendix Three.

Employment Impact

Under the current business plan, once the Flax Mill is fully operational (Year 5) there is planned employment for 22 people each year directly in the Mill and Park complex. A further 21 jobs would be generated in the UK outside the Flax Mill complex, 4 in Levenmouth, 11 in other parts of Fife and 6 in other parts of Scotland and the rest of the UK.³²

Figure 4: Jobs generated every year in Fife by the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex



Source: Viewforth modelled analysis

Table 3: Total employment impact results (Headcount jobs)

Jobs at Silverburn Flax Mill Complex	22
Other Jobs in the rest of Levenmouth	4
Other Jobs in the rest of Fife	11
ALL FIFE	37

³¹ The conservative estimates of offsite visitor expenditure impact means that the offsite visitor expenditure impact is currently projected as relatively modest (a total of £274.8k) – involving the generation of around 4 extra jobs overall. Hence the results are combined in this analysis for pragmatic reasons. The suite of Silverburn multipliers in Appendix Two however treat the Mill Complex impact and the visitor expenditure separately so updates on the Mill impact and visitor impact should be undertaken separately before combining results again if required.

³² The FTE equivalents are: 15.4 direct employment, 3 FTE in other Levenmouth businesses, 9.5 FTE in the rest of Fife with 5.4 FTE in other parts of Scotland and rest of UK (33.3 Total FTE)

Other Jobs in rest of Scotland	2
ALL Scotland	39
Other Jobs in rest of UK	4
ALL UK	43

Source: Viewforth modelled analysis

Output and GVA Impacts

The modelled results for impact on regional and national output and GVA are shown in Table 4. The 'Direct Impact' on Fife is the projected output and GVA of the Silverburn complex itself. The secondary impact on Fife, the rest of Scotland and the rest of the UK is the total arising through indirect and induced effects of the expenditure of Silverburn, its staff and the additional off-site expenditure of visitors.

Table 4: Impact on Regional and National Output and GVA (impact of all activities- Mill Complex and non-local Visitor spend)

	Direct Impact on Fife £m	Secondary Impact on Fife £m	All Fife £m	Impact on Rest of Scotland £m	All Scotland £m	Impact on Rest of UK £m	All UK £m
Output	1.1	1.4	2.5	0.2	2.7	0.4	3.1
GVA	0.6	0.7	1.3	0.1	1.4	0.2	1.6

Source: Viewforth modelled analysis

Employment Income generated in Levenmouth and Fife

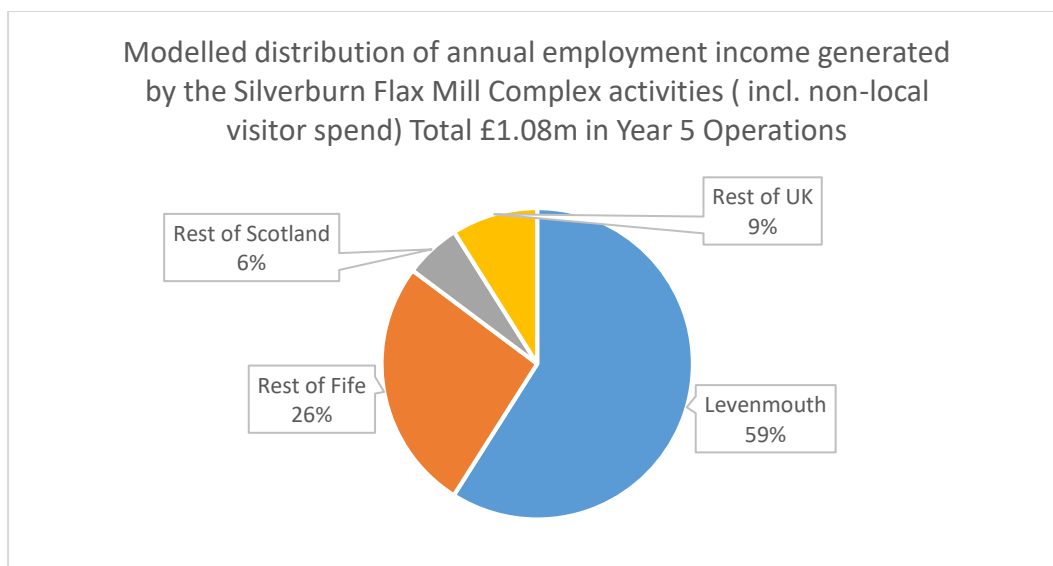
Among the most locally relevant results derived from the economic impact analysis of the projected operations of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex are the benefits delivered to Levenmouth residents in terms of employment income generated locally.

Our detailed analysis showed that in Year 5 of Silverburn operations, around £637k of employment income would flow into Levenmouth homes, with a further £283k going to the rest of Fife.³³ As this relates to a single year of operations (Year 5) it is important to note that, unlike the reconstruction phase where the benefits are time limited to the two-year phase, this analysis relates to the annual impact of the Flax Mill. In other words, this is the scale of benefits generated *every year of operation*.

As with all economic impact flows, benefit is not restricted to the immediate local area but some will flow further afield. However the modelled analysis showed that by the far the majority of employment income benefit (59%) would be retained in Levenmouth. For an area which is among the most income deprived of all Scotland (18.9% of the Levenmouth population are income deprived compared to the 12.1% Scotland average) , this is a significant positive benefit from any perspective.

Figure 5: Distribution of annual employment income generated by the operations of Silverburn Flax Mill Complex

³³ £840K was due to the Flax Mill operations alone (£618K in Levenmouth, £222k in rest of Fife), with a further £80k due to off-site visitor spend (£19K in Levenmouth, 61K in rest of Fife). Figures include employers' costs.



Source: Viewforth modelled analysis

It is also worth highlighting that the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex will be relatively “efficient” in generating employment income - in other words, have a high “bang per investment buck” in local employment income benefit term. This is likely to be a significantly higher employment income effect than that generated by other local businesses. For example, a business in the industry producing “Alcoholic Beverages”³⁴ tends to generate employment income of c. £520K for every £1m of its overall spend³⁵. This can be compared to the analysed evidence here that Silverburn will tend to generate £1.05m of employment income for every £1m of its overall spend. This reflects the labour intensive nature of the Silverburn Complex itself as well as that of its overall spending pattern. (The Alcoholic Beverages Industry is more capital intensive.) The key point here is that when considering the development of the Silverburn Flax Mill in an area of high income and high employment deprivation, the nature of the Silverburn operations means that the benefit to local people is particularly high.

Silverburn Flax Mill-specific multipliers

Another feature of the detailed modelled analysis of the Silverburn Flax Mill complex presented here is that it is also possible to derive Silverburn Flax Mill-specific economic “multipliers” that can be used in future to update or adjust economic impact results in line with changes in its actual operational expenditures and as better information becomes available on numbers and types of visitor. This is because economic multipliers are *outcomes* of the modelling process used in this particular study.

As discussed in Appendix One(Methodology), few local impact studies would be sufficiently resourced to conduct in-depth economic modelling of the kind we have been able to undertake for Silverburn. This also means they are usually reliant on ‘borrowing’ or adapting pre-existing multipliers from other studies³⁶ to apply to their estimates of relevant project expenditure, further adjusted for their estimates of local leakage, displacement or deadweight factors. This is a fairly

³⁴ One of the few industries in Levenmouth of any scale

³⁵ Source: The Type II Employment income generation multiplier calculated in the UK Input Output model for the *Alcoholic Beverage* industry is 0.52 compared to that for Silverburn of 1.05.

³⁶ See, for example the Bridgford Hall Economic Impact Assessment report which suggests the use of UK-wide general Tourism multipliers borrowed from a 2013 Deloitte and Oxford Economics report.

broadbrush approach but which is often the only available possibility. However, an in-depth modelled analysis - of the type undertaken here for Silverburn - enables project-specific multipliers, which reflect the particular characteristics and spending patterns of the individual project being studied, to be derived for future use. A set of Silverburn-specific multipliers are included in Appendix Two.

Summary of the economic impact assessment of the Silverburn Flax Mill Development

These two analyses, of the reconstruction phase and of the operational phase of the Silverburn Park Flax Mill, were undertaken as part of a broader economic and social impact report supporting the Flax Mill Development planning. The present analyses are focussed on the economic impact of the Flax Mill in terms of the jobs and output generated and contribution of the development to regional and national GVA. Overall the analyses showed the reconstruction phase of the development will generate 135 jobs over the two year period of development, with 24 of those jobs likely to benefit Levenmouth residents and 76 benefitting residents in other parts of Fife. Once the Flax Mill Complex is fully operational, it will generate around 43 jobs every year - 22 directly, a further 4 in Levenmouth, 11 in other parts of Fife and 6 further afield.

In terms of employment income generated, the benefits to Levenmouth of the Silverburn operations are particularly high, with a relatively high efficiency in generating employment income overall and with the majority of employment income generated being retained in Levenmouth.

The analyses were specifically tailored to Silverburn Flax Mill, using sophisticated economic modelling and reflect the specific Silverburn projected expenditure profile. The scale of results is in keeping with the overall scale of the development itself; however it should be noted that from a social policy perspective the generation of additional employment and employment income in an area as deprived as Levenmouth³⁷ may be considered to have a higher social value than if it were generated within a relatively affluent area. Furthermore, the economic activity benefits of the Silverburn Flax Mill development need to be seen :

- within the wider context as a key element in the regeneration of Levenmouth and how it fits within the broader Levenmouth plan.
- alongside the broader economic and social value generated by the non-financial benefits (social, cultural, health and well-being benefits) to the community of the development.

These issues will be explored further in the next stage of this report, which highlights some of the broader economic and social value generation potential of the Silverburn Flax Mill .

³⁷ Levenmouth has the highest number of areas (26 Datazones) in Fife that fall within the 20% most deprived in Scotland. These include 9 areas that fall within the 5% most deprived in Scotland.

Part Two : Generating broader economic, social and cultural value

Heart, Mind and Soul: Silverburn A Sustainable Social, Cultural and Heritage Hub within a regenerated Levenmouth

The economic impact and contribution to Levenmouth of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex through its expenditure has been analysed in Part One of this report. As already noted, the financial impact has positive ramifications for the local area, generating a boost through the economic activity it will generate, its attraction of visitors to the area and the retention of spending of both local and non local visitors within the Levenmouth. The nature of the Silverburn Flax Mill complex, with a relatively labour intensive profile in its spending pattern, also means it generates and retains a high proportion of employment income within the local area.

However beyond the expenditure economic impact to the area in financial terms, the regeneration of the Silverburn Flax Mill and Park complex has the potential to make a significant broader social, economic and cultural impact. Indeed, the generation of broader value through its activities is the primary goal of the Silverburn regeneration programme. The Silverburn Flax Mill regeneration project has an overall vision (*Heart, Mind and Soul: Silverburn*)³⁸ as well as a set of interlinking goals related to heritage conservation, community economic and social well being aspects of the project.³⁹

This Part Two of the report highlights the non-monetary impact potential of the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex, highlighting some of the routes through which wider social and cultural benefits could be achieved and ways to measure the value generated. Using some of the data gathered by the project so far, it provides an illustrative example of the social value to the community of access to the Silverburn Park, particularly during the pandemic. It should be highlighted at this point that the approach to capturing broader economic and social value of the Flax Mill Complex activities by necessity involves a different methodological framework to the analysis of Part One.

The Silverburn Logic Model and Evaluation Framework

The key challenge in considering the broader economic and social impacts of the Silverburn Flax Mill development is that most, if not all, of the broader impacts tend to be quasi- intangible in nature (such as individual enjoyment of the sensory garden or a feeling of personal well being from regular visits to the park), many do not involve monetary transactions of any kind. It is therefore more difficult to track, trace or demonstrate value generated.

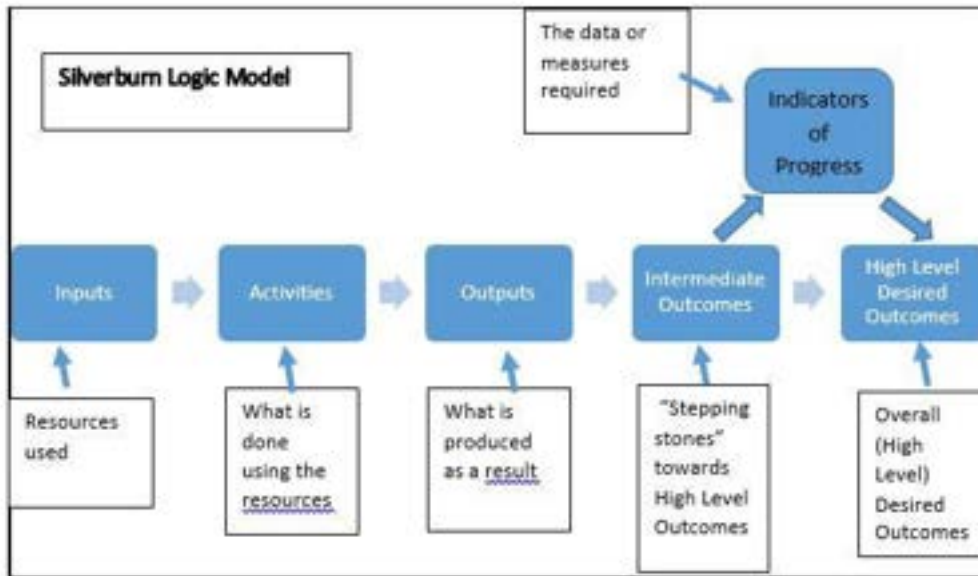
In order to go some way towards addressing this challenge, and to provide a robust basis for tracking the progress of the project towards its overall goals, a comprehensive evaluation framework was developed for the project. This included devising a Silverburn-specific “Logic Model” (sometimes known as a “Theory of Change” model) to map the different components of the project against their contribution to achievement of the project’s goals. The logic model lays out constituent components of the ‘Impact’ or ‘outcome-achieving’ journey, tracing through how the variety of planned activities for the development and operations of the Flax Mill will contribute towards the achievement of the final broader desired outcomes. The final desired outcomes are very high level so there needs to be

³⁹ ³⁹ A more detailed explanation of the “Vision” for Silverburn is included as Appendix Four, along with the full list of overarching project goals.

a clear ‘theory of change’ or ‘Impact pathway’ showing how the activities being undertaken can lead towards the final desired outcomes.

The outline of the Silverburn-specific logic model is presented below:

Figure 6: The Silverburn Logic Model



Source: Silverburn Evaluation Framework

The detailed logic model is included as Appendix Five. The logic model provided the framework for initial identification of the data and information that needs to be collected throughout the project’s development in order to assess progress towards its longer term goals.

In summary, it covers the data and indicators of progress against the main goals of the project – which are broadly grouped as follows:

- **Heritage – Physical**
This is focussed on the initial building repairs and renovation and the physical management of the surrounding park environment.
- **Heritage – Conceptual**
This largely concerns the historical interpretation and presentation elements of the Mill development.
- **Heritage – People**
This includes much of the activity programme elements, training and development opportunities and active management of the Silverburn environment.
- **Heritage – Communities**
This is related to the wider positioning of the Silverburn Flax Mill Development as an actual and potential generator of economic and social benefit in the wider community.

Indicators of the project’s progress will rely on a combination of quantitative and qualitative data and information as well as ‘milestone’ achievements. For example, the removal of the Flax Mill from the ‘Buildings at Risk’ register would be a milestone indicator on the conservation road. The

development of Woodland Management and Biodiversity Plans would be indicators of progress towards ensuring the Park environment surrounding the Flax Mill is being successfully managed. The establishment of an event series attracting key target audiences and the range of local schools involved with the park are other indicators of progress while qualitative information with visitor and user feedback is also highlighted. Core information on numbers and range of visitors was envisaged as feeding into a wide range of different indicators.

Analysing broader economic and social value – contingent valuation

Another important aspect of the development of the evaluation framework and the collection of data to populate the framework is that it lays the groundwork for potential analysis of at least some aspects of wider economic and social value generation, using a range of techniques drawn from welfare economics. This is particularly relevant for the many aspects and activities of the Silverburn Flax Mill complex that are free to access (e.g. visiting the park or mill) or involve a nominal (i.e not a full commercial rate) fee. The latter, for example , could apply to participation in some workshops, events or training sessions , or borrowing equipment for use in or around the complex such as bikes or beach wheelchairs. Where there are no (or only nominal) financial flows associated with an activity, it is still possible to estimate the economic value of the relevant activity by the application of “ shadow-prices” using a range of “ contingent valuation “ techniques.

“Contingent Valuation” includes methods such as “willingness to pay” (WTP), “ Revealed Preference” (RP) “ Hedonic Pricing” (HP) and so on. Without going into the full technical detail, essentially WTP is about asking people what they would be willing to pay for something if they had to pay for it, RP is about observing what people pay in other circumstances for other, similar, things. Hedonic Pricing is about estimating value indirectly e.g. through local property prices. (An often quoted example of the use of hedonic pricing is that the value of education provided by one school compared to another can be inferred through observing differences in the house prices in the school catchment areas.) There is an extensive body of research literature using such approaches to the economic value of environmental assets and services and these approaches are also increasingly being adapted for valuation of assets and services of cultural value.

An additional approach that is likely to be of interest and relevance to Silverburn in due course is the measurement of “ subjective wellbeing”. This is a relatively new but evolving methodology which imputes a monetary value to improvements in a person’s perception of their overall wellbeing by comparing how much additional income the person would need to generate the same level of wellbeing improvement. This is an approach that is best used not for “one off’ activities or events but for the tracking of the impact of a service or facility on people over time e.g. that of regular or frequent visitors to the Silverburn Flax Mill and Park.⁴⁰

Using social or distributional weights

Additionally, of potentially high relevance to Silverburn and any public or philanthropic funders of Silverburn, is the legitimate application of ‘social weights’ to the outcome economic valuation of

⁴⁰ The recent DCMS Rapid Evidence Assessment report on Culture and Heritage Valuation Studies explicitly highlights the most appropriate use of subjective well being evaluation being for longer term and frequent users of or visitors to a facility. It is NOT appropriate e.g. for participants in a one off event as the impact of a one off event is unlikely to have a measurable effect. This means that tracking a representative sample of regular Silverburn Park and Mill visitors users in the future may deliver the best insights into the effect of the Mill complex on people’s wellbeing.

various activities. The HM Treasury Greenbook ⁴¹ provides guidance on the application of 'distributional weights' which are typically used in assessing the impact of different policies or interventions on different social groups and to assist in decision making about resource allocation. For example, a particular facility, event or activity may be regarded as having a higher social value if it benefits more people from disadvantaged or low income backgrounds than it does those from more prosperous or advantaged backgrounds.

The Silverburn Project Team are already collecting key elements of the necessary data needed for the longer term evaluation of the impact of the project. To provide a practical illustration of how the data can be used in future to estimate the broader economic and social value of Silverburn activities we have taken and analysed some of the existing data on numbers of visitors to the Park since the People counters were installed at the park entrances in October 2019.

Case Study of social valuation - the value of Silverburn Park as a community resource during the pandemic

As part of the plan to enable longer term evaluation of the Silverburn Flax Mill complex, in October 2019 the project team installed " People Counters" at the entrances to the Park to be able to monitor Park usage and be able to track usage patterns over time. ⁴²Counters were positioned at the Main Gate and the Coastal Path from the beach as well as the Upper and Lower Paths leading down from Scoonie Golf Course. An additional counter at the Main Gate captured vehicles entering and exiting the park . (There is only one route in and out for vehicles.) Until the counters were installed there was no reliable information on how many people visit Silverburn. Historic documents about the Park had suggested that in the Park's "heyday" of the 1970s and 1980s, when there was an animal farm, petting zoo and other family friendly facilities, that over 25,000 visits were made annually. It was hoped that the installation of the new people counters would provide a baseline from which to begin tracking evaluating park and ultimately Flax Mill usage.

Very quickly it became clear that there were significantly larger numbers of visits being made to the park than had been previously thought. In the first ten weeks of operation (From 23 October 2019 to 31 December 2019) a total of 12,639 visitors and 5874 cars were tracked through the counters.⁴³ That made an average of 181 visits to the park on foot (or bike) every day and 84 cars per day. The number of visits increased in January and February 2020, with an average of 206 visits per day on foot and 83 cars per day. So by the end of the first 18 weeks of the counter installation the numbers of park visits had *already exceeded* the 25,000 visits/year that had been quoted as normal usage during the Park's successful and popular past. ⁴⁴

In March 2020, the implications of the Covid19 virus pandemic were becoming clear to governments across the world. In Scotland tight restrictions on people's activities and movements were introduced on 23rd March 2020. People were instructed not to travel outside their immediate neighbourhood, to work from home where possible and only go out for essential shopping . Individual outdoor exercise within 5 miles of home was however permitted. With various minor

⁴¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-green-book-appraisal-and-evaluation-in-central-government/the-green-book-2020#a3-distributional-appraisal>

⁴² In due course there are also plans to install People counters at the entrance to the Flax Mill to see how many Park visitors " convert" to Mill visitors.

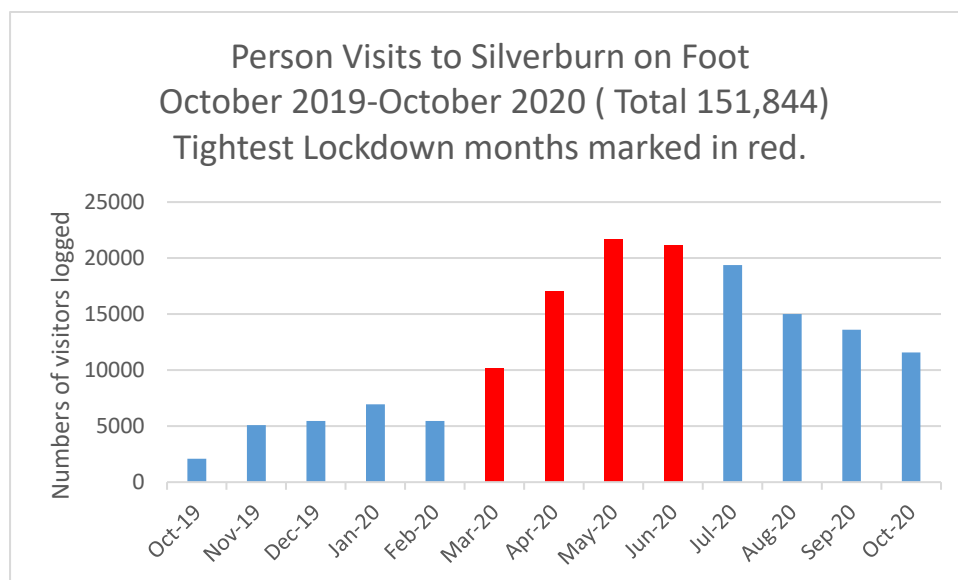
⁴³ The actual recorded counter numbers are double these figures, as the counters register everyone passing whether they are entering or exiting. Often walkers will enter the park through one entrance and exit through another. So it is assumed that every 2 registrations on the counters represent a single person visit. Total car numbers are also divided by 2 to take account of a single vehicle both entering and exiting.

⁴⁴ 25,041 on foot and over 10,800 cars.

amendments and iterations (such as subsequently being allowed to exercise outdoors with one other person, then with more than one person, etc.) these restrictions on movements were maintained for over 3 months to nearly the end of June 2020.

Silverburn Park was also affected by this situation, with staff working from home where possible, various services had to be withdrawn (such as the bike loans, since there too few staff to run the service and the cottage window café had to close.) However despite there being fewer services and amenities available, the numbers of people using the park rocketed to an average 813 person-visits per day on foot and 140 cars per day between mid March and Mid June. During that period of the strictest lockdown over 73,000 person-visits were made to Silverburn on foot or bicycle and more than 12,500 cars were logged. Clearly Silverburn Park was seen by local people (i.e everyone within a 5 mile radius of the Park, which includes all of Levenmouth) as a target destination for outdoor relaxation, stress relief and exercise during the lockdown. Contributory factors may have included more people working from home in the Levenmouth area and deciding to use the park for their daily exercise as well as the warmer spring weather encouraging people to get outdoors.

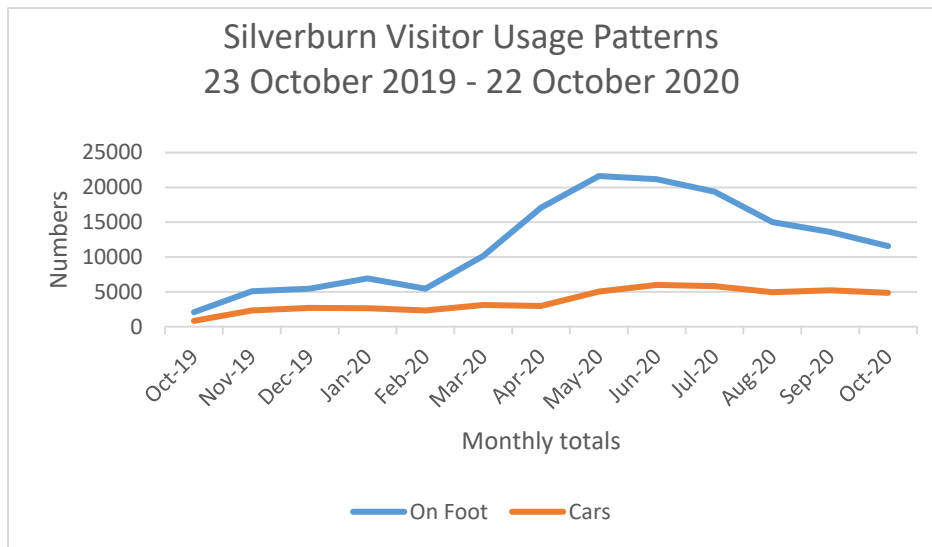
Figure 7: Silverburn Footfall during Lockdown 2020



Source: Silverburn Park People Counter Data

The numbers started to drop once the tightest lockdown restrictions began to ease (From 29th June non essential retail was allowed to reopen and by mid July shopping centres, pubs and restaurants were opened up again.) However numbers remained considerably higher than pre-lockdown with footfall in July, August and September averaging 515 per day and 172 cars per day. (The higher number of cars in these months may reflect slightly more people travelling from outside the immediate areas to Silverburn since travelling from further afield was permitted during that time.) A comparison of the Footfall and Vehicle traffic is shown in Figure 8.

Figure 8: Overall patterns of Silverburn Visit numbers

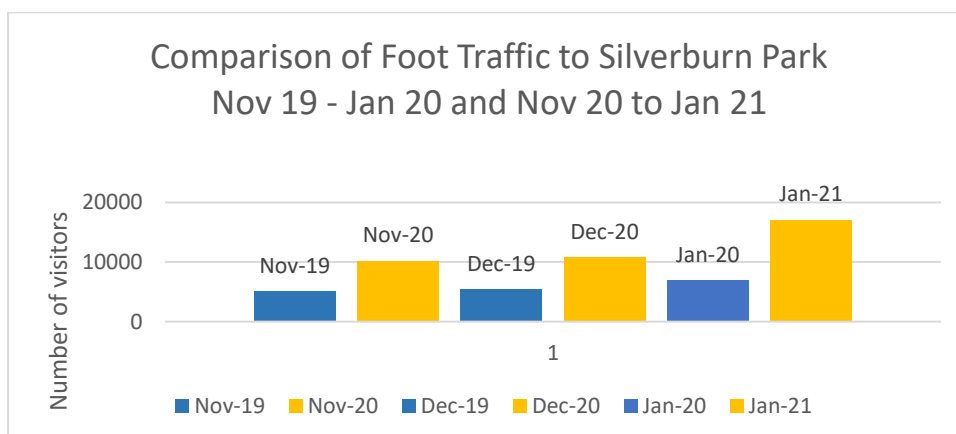


Source: Silverburn Park People Counter Data

The substantial increase in usage of Silverburn during the lockdown periods appears consistent with the overall patterns of people’s behaviour during that time. Google have released extensive sets of community mobility data⁴⁵ illustrating overall population movements during the pandemic. There was a notable increase in visits to parks and open public spaces across the UK throughout the lockdown periods. This is not surprising since other recreational outlets – including sports centres and golf courses, as well as shopping centres or other visitor attractions were closed and people were restricted to within 5 miles of their homes.

It is worth noting however that since the peak of lockdown Silverburn has not simply gone back to its previous position but visit frequency has held up well. We now have data from the Counters to compare the months November 2019 – January 2020 with the same period November 2020 – January 2021.

Figure 9: Comparison of Winter Footfall 2019 - 2021

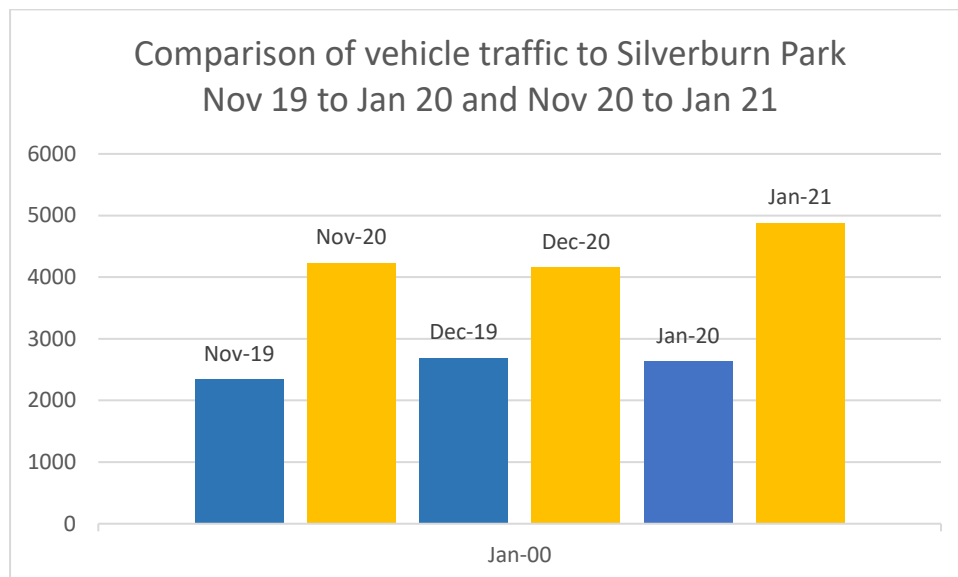


Source: Silverburn Park People Counter Data

⁴⁵ Google LLC "Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports". <https://www.google.com/covid19/mobility/>

The same pattern is repeated with vehicle numbers. Overall it seems that Silverburn continues to attract a high volume of visits, with numbers having grown significantly since the same time the previous year.

Figure 10: Comparison of winter vehicle visit numbers



The data provided by the people counters is giving a real insight into not only the volume of park usage but the pattern as well – for instance the highest numbers are logged at the coastal path gate, with around 50% of the total footfall being via the coastal gate. This suggests that the proximity of the park to the beach is an important feature – people coming in to the park from the beach and exiting through one of the other gates or vice versa. The sheer volume of Park usage that the data reveals is startling – the full year of data October 2019 to October 2020 totalled around 151,800 visits made on foot and over 47,700 cars, making around 200,000 visits over the course of the year. Given that the population of Levenmouth is only c. 37000 people, this suggests that a significant proportion of the population using the park are frequent repeat visitors. Over time – and when is possible to do so post-pandemic – it would be desirable to conduct a specific survey to capture more of the characteristics and motivations of the Park users. However in the interim we can still use the visitor data to make estimates of the economic and social value of park usage during the year October 2019 – October 2020.

Assessing the economic value to the community of park usage

We have seen that c. 200,000 visits on foot and by car were logged during the year to October 2020. Silverburn Park is free to access, there are no restrictions on access and no entrance fee. With no associated income or money flows arising, the economic value of park usage will not be captured by, nor reflected in, Silverburn Park accounts. However one way of imputing the economic value is through attributing value to the time people spend in the park. This is based on the idea that while people do not have to spend money to enter and enjoy the park, they consider the experience sufficiently valuable that they are prepared to spend *time* there. Therefore value can be imputed to each hour of leisure time spent.

Estimating total person-visit hours spent

To estimate person visit hours spent we adopted a conservative approach, drawing on the 'best impressions' of park staff. We assumed:

- 80% of visits to Silverburn last 20 minutes (approximately the time it takes to walk around and through the park)
- 20% of visits last 40 minutes
- 50% of cars logged have 2 occupants, 50% are single occupants
- There is an overall balance among logged visitors of 75% adults, 25% children
- 60% of the children are under 14 years old
- 40% are over 14 years old

We have 'equivalised' the time spent by children to that of adults using the weightings suggested in the HM Treasury Green Book and used by the Department of Work and Pensions for equivalisation of household income levels. That is to say we have deemed one hour of time of a child under 14 to be an equivalent economic value to 0.2 hours of an adult's time. One hour of time of a child over 14 has been deemed equivalent to 0.3 hours of an adult's time.

Based on overall logged numbers of 151,844 in Footfall and 47,722 cars over the year to October 2020, this resulted in a total 77,835 estimated hours of visitor time spent in Silverburn during that year. Our assumption on length of time spent in the park on each visit is conservative. In due course collecting data from park users on time spent in the park would refine this estimate.

The value of one hour of leisure time.

Using the value of time in economic valuations is common in transport appraisals (time spent or time saved by different modes of transport) and is known as the Travel Cost Method (TCM). A variant of this has also been applied in the Outdoor Recreation Value Tool (ORVAL)⁴⁶ to assess the value of visits to public green spaces in England (unfortunately an equivalent tool is not yet available for Scotland.) The recently published DCMS Culture and Heritage Capital Evidence Bank⁴⁷ has identified and reviewed a number of alternative 'values' that have been used in a range of studies of Museums, historical sites, gardens etc. with examples of per visit values ranging from £7.29 (a Museum) to £16.12 (historic battlefield), to £22.12 (Botanical gardens.) The Department for Transport has also published assessed values intended to be used in Transport Construction projects (The DfT Transport Appraisal Guidance 2020 value of one hour non-work time spent on travel is equivalent to £7.21.) For the purposes of the Silverburn example we have used a value of £13.60 for each hour of leisure time spent based on research by Verbooy et al (2018). *Time Is Money: Investigating the Value of Leisure Time and Unpaid Work.*⁴⁸

⁴⁶ <https://www.leep.exeter.ac.uk/orval/>

⁴⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rapid-evidence-assessment-culture-and-heritage-valuation-studies>

⁴⁸ Verbooy, Kaya & Hoefman, Renske & Exel, Job & Brouwer, Werner. (2018). Time Is Money: Investigating the Value of Leisure Time and Unpaid Work. *Value in Health*. 21. 10.1016/j.jval.2018.04.1828. Verbooy et al recommended a WTP figure of €16 per hour. We have converted this to GBP and updated in line with the CPI to arrive at a 2020 equivalent of £13.60.

Table 5: Summary table of shadow-priced value of Silverburn Park usage

	Total person-visit numbers	Estimated Hours spent	Value of one hour Leisure Time (£13.60) ⁴⁹	Shadow-Price (imputed) value of Silverburn park usage
On Foot	151844	49197	£13.60	£669086
In Cars *	71594	28637	£13.60	£389469
Totals	223438	77835	£13.60	£1058554

Assuming 50% of cars contain two occupants, the other 50% single occupancy.

Table 5 shows the outcome estimate of economic value to the community of park usage calculated in this way to be over £1 million.

Social Weighting to estimate additional social value.

We have previously highlighted that social (or ‘distributional’) weights can be legitimately used to reflect the additional social value arising from activities that benefit low income, disadvantaged or other groups to whom high social policy priority is given.

In the case of Silverburn, its core goals include a strong focus on supporting the immediate Levenmouth community, making the area “ a better place to live, work and visit”, to involve “ a wider range of people” , increase people’s wellbeing and make the community more resilient. We have seen in Part One of this analysis that the expenditure impact of the Flax Mill complex development will in large part come from attracting visitors to Silverburn from outside the immediate area; the broader social and economic value generated is generated through the engagement of the local community with Silverburn.

We do not currently have detailed information on the characteristics of all of the Silverburn users; however, the unique circumstances of 2020 with the impact of the pandemic means that it is entirely plausible that a significant proportion of the users throughout the year being analysed are in fact from the local Levenmouth area. This is because from Mid-March to at least the end of June there were strong prohibitions on anyone travelling further than 5 miles from their home for exercise or recreation (including dog walking.) All areas of Levenmouth are within 5 miles of Silverburn Park. From July onwards, although the strict 5 mile limit was eased there was still strong discouragement of travel, which will have heavily reduced the passing Coastal Path traffic. (It is probably fair to say that the people reaching Silverburn on foot will normally either be local or be Coastal Path walkers.)

Therefore the usage of Silverburn Park throughout 2020 may have had additional social value through its engagement with the local community above and beyond the economic value to the community of its usage. To show how this could be estimated we have used the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation to devise a set of social weights to apply to the economic valuation. This will give a *socially modified economic value* for park usage.

⁴⁹ Verbooy, Kaya & Hoefman, Renske & Exel, Job & Brouwer, Werner. (2018). Time Is Money: Investigating the Value of Leisure Time and Unpaid Work. Value in Health. 21. 10.1016/j.jval.2018.04.1828.

Table 6: Illustrative social weights

Data Zones in Levenmouth	Number of Data zones	Proportion of Levenmouth Population	Applied Social Weighting
Among 5% most deprived in Scotland	9	17.6	2
Among 10% most deprived in Scotland	2	3.9	1.6
Among 15% most deprived in Scotland	9	17.6	1.4
Among 20% most deprived in Scotland	6	11.8	1.2
Remaining Data zones	25	49	1
Total SIMD Data zones in Levenmouth	51		

Application of social weights

- We assumed that during the 3 month period of strictest lockdown (Mid March to Mid June), given the 5 miles from home restrictions on movement, ALL visits to Silverburn Park were from the immediate Levenmouth area.
- We assumed that during that period (Mid March to Mid June) visits to Silverburn from Levenmouth would reflect the general distribution of the population of Levenmouth across datazones.
- Positive Social Weights were only applied to hours spent during the Mid March to Mid June period. The remaining hours across the rest of the year were give a weighting of 1.

From Mid March to Mid June, total visitors (both on foot and by car) were logged as 73,224. Once adjusted for the estimated time spent and equalised for children/adult time, this equated to 23,725 hours of leisure time.

These hours were then weighted using the social weights in Table 6

Table 7: Outcome weighted hours

Equivalised Leisure Hours Mid March to Mid June	17.6	Weighting	Weighted Hours
23725	3.9	2	8373.5
23725	17.6	1.6	1488.6
23725	11.8	1.4	5861.5
23725	49	1.2	3349.4
23725	0.49	1	11629.9
Total			30702.9

The weighted hours were then incorporated into the overall social value assessment, as shown in Table 8.

Table 8 : Outcome estimated social value generated by one year park usage (October 2019 –October 2020)

	Total Person-Visit Numbers October 2019 – October 2020	Weighted person-visit hours (Mid March - Mid June)	Other person-visit Hours (All other months)	Total person- visit hours	Value of one hour Leisure Time (£13.60)	Total imputed social value (Total person- visit hours * value per hour)
On Foot	151844	22795	31583	54378	£13.60	£739,547
In Car	71594	7908	22527	30435	£13.60	£413,911
	223438	30703	54110	84813	£13.60	£1,153,458

This shows how the park usage throughout the year October 2019 to October 2020 had a social value to the Levenmouth community of £1.15million.

It is important to note that this does not mean actual cash, but the *social value* – in other words, what the park usage “was worth” to the community.

A similar approach could be adopted to other aspects of Silverburn activities, such as the numbers of volunteer hours spent. Silverburn has a growing cadre of volunteers, involved in many different aspects of the Park. There are 76 “ Friends of Silverburn” as well as people involved in the “Growing Project” – working in the cottage garden to provide “ Silverburn Produce” for the café. Despite the limitations of lockdown it can be noted that there were approximately 1228 hours of volunteer time spent devoted to Silverburn between July and November. In addition, all of the people serving on the board of the Silverburn Community Interest Company that manages Silverburn are volunteers. Over the course of a year the collective effort of the Board, including the chair , amounts to around 850 hours.

Other activities with outputs amenable to measurable social value include the programme of loan during lockdown of Silverburn bikes to local key workers as well as individual events such as the recent pilot community activity centred around the Flax Mill, the Lantern Project.

The latter project went ahead in January 2021, engaging over 350 participants as lantern makers and many more through the online launch - overcoming the challenges of an interactive participatory arts project being held during the very strict January 2021 phase of the pandemic lockdown.

Other points worth making in relation to reflections on value to the local community include the ongoing success in community fundraising for the project – it could be suggested that every £ donated by Levenmouth residents (where over half the population are in areas among the 20% most deprived in Scotland) carries more social significance than a £ donated to a project in a more affluent area.

Conclusions

Part one of this report has presented an in-depth economic impact assessment of the tangible financial and employment impacts likely to be generated for the local community by the Silverburn Flax Mill Complex during its reconstruction phase and when it is fully operational. It has shown that the project will generate employment, output and contribute to regional GVA while also retaining within Levenmouth a significant proportion of the income generated.

Part Two has highlighted the broader social and economic impact generation potential of the Silverburn Flax Mill complex, together with how the value generated can be captured using a range of techniques drawn from welfare economics and cost-benefit analysis. It has indicated that social a comprehensive evaluation framework is in place to generate the relevant data required for analysis. As an illustration of how value generated can be captured, Part Two includes a detailed case study example using real Silverburn visitor data to illustrate how some aspects of the value of Silverburn to the local community can be assessed. The real-life case study has shown that the value of park usage is worth more than £1.1 m in social value to the local community.

It has suggested additional areas of current activities that would be worth examining further including the impact of pilot community events such as The Lantern project and how the ongoing community fundraising is an indicator of deep community commitment to the project. It is beyond the current scope of this study to undertake further detailed analysis of all aspects of the development (and indeed, not all the relevant data for such an analysis is available in advance of the Mill Complex completion). However the Case study of the visit numbers to Silverburn since October 2019 has clearly highlighted the significant demand for Silverburn access and the *revealed preference* use of the Park by the local community.

Appendix One: Notes on Modelling Methodology (Part One)

The projected economic impact of Silverburn was analysed using an extended input-output modelling system, which combined a core UK input output model with the application of location quotients for regional impact and a Silverburn-specific gravity model. This is a sophisticated 'top-down' modelling approach which uses appropriate and internationally recognised methodology and official data sources, including the ONS-produced UK input output tables, and is tailored to the specific circumstances and geographical location of Silverburn.

Input-output modelling is an internationally recognised and well established approach in applied economic modelling (for the development of which the Nobel Prize was awarded to Wassily Leontieff.) Input Output analysis enables a complete picture of interactions between producers and suppliers across the economy, with national input output tables effectively being a set of 'economic accounts' for the entire country.

In order to analyse the Silverburn development we constructed an additional location quotient extension for Fife based on BRES (Business Register and Employment Survey) data. This enabled the analysis of the impact of projected Silverburn expenditure on the UK and the share of that impact accruing to Scotland and to Fife, with results in terms of impact on output, GVA and jobs.

We then were able to disaggregate and trace the impact across Fife and in the Levenmouth area immediately surrounding Silverburn through construction of an additional extension to the system using gravity-modelling (drawing on both Annual Population Survey and Census Data for Fife.) Gravity-modelling uses a combination of mass and distance variables to model the likely flow of impact from its initial starting point across a given area. In this case the Silverburn Gravity model analysed employment flow across all of the Council Wards in Fife. Within the model Levenmouth is defined as comprising the two Council Wards of Leven, Kennoway and Largo together with Buckhaven, Methil and Weymss Villages. The analysis at ward level focussed on employment. It used a resident-based measure as the mass variable – this more closely reflects where the people live who are doing the jobs generated. In terms of direct employment it assumes that the people employed directly by Silverburn will tend to live in Levenmouth.

It is more usual for a local impact project to be obliged to rely on a fairly broad brush approach to estimating impact (usually with some surveys or estimates of local expenditure combined with borrowed or 'assumed' multipliers) as it would be extremely resource intensive and prohibitively expensive to construct an input-output model for a local area for a single project.

However for the case of Silverburn, this degree of sophisticated modelling was possible due to the pre-existence of the Viewforth in-house extended Type II input-output modelling system of the UK, with an in-built location quotient extension for Scotland. The pre-existing core economic model, combined with the modelling expertise of the Viewforth Team, enabled a specific tailored analysis to be undertaken of the Silverburn Flax Mill development.

The team undertaking the present analysis of the Silverburn impact include an internationally recognised expert in input-out modelling, Emeritus Professor Iain McNicoll, and together the team (Professor McNicoll, Ursula Kelly and Richard Marsh) have nearly 100 years experience in applied economic impact analysis. Professor McNicoll drew up the mathematical specifications for the core input out-put system as well as developing the mathematical specification for the application of local gravity modelling. The core modelling system has been well tried and tested, having been originally constructed and applied for analysis of many universities, colleges and related non-profit making institutions throughout the UK. The mathematical specification of the core input output model can be found in Appendix B (p29ff) of the 2014 Universities UK report [The impact of Universities on the UK economy.](#)

The gravity modelling approach, pioneered for local impact distribution analysis by Viewforth Consulting, has also been used in a wide number of analyses in the UK and Ireland. In the UK these have included studies undertaken of the Universities of Manchester , Salford, East Anglia, Leeds, Brighton, Kent, Canterbury, Glasgow, Derby, London South Bank, St. Andrews, as well as for the entire Welsh Higher Education sector. In Ireland they have included the NI Further Education sector, impact of University College Dublin (with the final report being launched by the Irish Prime Minister) and the projected impact of the planned Technological University of Dublin (the economic analysis prepared by the team made a pivotal contribution to the successful case for establishment of a Technological University for Dublin.) The gravity modelling approach for local impact analysis was presented for discussion at the most recent (2019) International Input Output Association Conference (Kelly, Marsh & McNicoll [The Impact of Supranational Conferences on their host economies: the case of Glasgow, Scotland.](#)) and has sparked interest from the Scottish Government Input Output team of economic statisticians.

Appendix Two: Set of Silverburn-specific multipliers derived from the modelling process in Part One

1. Silverburn Flax Mill Operational Phase Multipliers

Employment (FTE)

Every £1m of Silverburn output (turnover) will generate 28.9 FTE:

Silverburn :14.7 FTE

Rest of Levenmouth: 2.4 FTE

Rest of Fife: 7.6

Rest of Scotland: 1.4

Rest of UK: 2.8

Employment (jobs) ⁵⁰

Every £1m of Silverburn output (turnover) will generate 38 jobs :

21 jobs in Silverburn

3 more jobs in Levenmouth

9 more jobs in the rest of Fife

2 more jobs in the rest of Scotland

3 more jobs in the rest of the UK

Output Direct and Secondary

All Fife: 2.12 (Every £1m of Silverburn Direct Output x 2.12)

All Scotland: 2.26 (Every £1m of Silverburn Direct Output x 2.26)

All UK: 2.58 (Every £1m of Silverburn Direct Output x 2.58)

GVA Direct and Secondary

All Fife: 1.99 (Every £1m of Silverburn Direct GVA x 1.99)

All Scotland: 2.12 (Every £1m of Silverburn Direct GVA x 2.12)

All UK: 2.42 (Every £1m of Silverburn Direct GVA x 2.42)

Total GVA (Direct and Secondary) per £1m of Silverburn Turnover

All Fife : 1.09

All Scotland: 1.16

All UK: 1.33

⁵⁰ FTE translated to jobs using the actual projected job numbers for Silverburn in Year five , and the general pattern of full time to part-time employment prevailing in Fife , Scotland and rest of UK

2. Visitor spend Multipliers

These relate solely to off-site expenditure. Any spend on-site will be included in the analysis of the Silverburn complex. Any updating or adjustment of the Silverburn Flax Mill impact results should analyse the Complex itself separately from that of any additional off site visitor spend. The results for each analysis can then be combined for overall impact.

For every £1K of relevant offsite visitor spend:

Employment (FTE)

Levenmouth: 0.0018

Rest of Fife: 0.0058

Rest of Scotland: 0.0013

Rest of UK: 0.0022

Employment (jobs)

Levenmouth: 0.002

Rest of Fife: 0.007

Rest of Scotland: 0.001

Rest of UK: 0.003

Output

All Fife: 0.92 (Every £1k of Visitor spend x 0.92)

All Scotland: 1.09 (Every £1k of Visitor spend x 1.09)

All UK: 1.31(Every £1k of visitor spend x 1.98)

GVA

All Fife: 0.42 (Every £1k of visitor spend x 0.42)

All Scotland: 0.50(Every £1k of visitor spend x 0.50)

All UK: 0.61(Every £1k of visitor spend x 61)

3. Reconstruction and Rebuild Phase Multipliers

These multipliers can be used to adjust impact results for changes in the projected or actual capital expenditure. This is for impact of total expenditure over the whole time period of the Capital works.

Employment (FTE)

Every £1m Capital Construction spend will generate 18.9 FTE

Levenmouth: 3.3FTE

Rest of Fife: 10.7 FTE

Rest of Scotland: 2.4 FTE

Rest of UK: 2.5 FTE

Employment (jobs)⁵¹

Every £1m Capital Construction spend will generate 22 jobs:

Levenmouth: 4 jobs

Rest of Fife: 12 jobs

Rest of Scotland: 3 jobs

Rest of UK: 3 jobs

Output

All Fife: 1.51 (Every £1m of Capital spend x 1.51)

All Scotland: 1.76 (Every £1m of Capital spend x 1.76)

All UK: 1.98(Every £1m of Capital spend x 1.98)

GVA

All Fife: 0.76 (Every £1m of Capital spend x 0.76)

All Scotland: 0.89 (Every £1m of Capital spend x 0.89)

All UK: 1.0(Every £1m of Capital spend x 1.0)

⁵¹ FTE translated to jobs in line with prevailing pattern of fulltime to part-time employment in Fife, Scotland and UK

Appendix Three: Summary Part One impact results for Operational Phase of Silverburn Flax Mill Complex.

Includes impact of off-site, non-local, visitor expenditure

	Direct Silverburn	Rest of Levenmouth	All Levenmouth	Rest of Fife	All Fife	Rest of Scotland	All Scotland	Rest of UK	All UK
Jobs	22	4	26	11	37	2	39	4	43
Employment Income £000	442.70	193.8	636.5	283	919.5	62.8	982.3	96.5	1078.8
Output £m	1.05	*	*	1.42	2.47	0.20	2.66	0.39	3.05
GVA £m	0.57	*	*	0.69	1.26	0.09	1.35	0.20	1.55

Source: Viewforth Consulting Analysis

* Output and GVA impact were modelled at Fife, Scotland and UK Levels only

Appendix Four: The Vision for Silverburn and the overarching desired outcomes

The programme 'vision' has been expressed as *Heart, Mind and Soul: Silverburn*. This is because it reflects three core aspects of the 'vision' for Silverburn development:

- Heart – the Silverburn Park has had a special place in the hearts of Levenmouth residents for many years, with many having visited the park as children when it had a number of recreational facilities including an animal farm. The programme aims to reinvigorate that attachment between residents and Silverburn as their place to visit, enjoy and love.
- Mind – referencing the importance of the outdoors and natural environment to people's mental health and wellbeing, as well as reflecting the main purpose of the FEAT charity that is managing the project, to help those with mental health issues back into work.
- Soul – highlighting the life being brought back to Silverburn after it having been neglected and overgrown for many years, as a place of contemplation and reflection, as " a quiet area used for the benefit of the public in general and the people of Leven in particular, for nature trails, quiet parkland and organised camping."⁵²

The overarching set of goals or " Desired Outcomes" for the Flax Mill regeneration project comprise:

Heritage – Physical

- Heritage will be in better condition

Heritage- Conceptual

- Heritage will be better explained and identified

Heritage- People

- People will have learnt about heritage leading to change in ideas and actions
- A wider range of people will be involved in heritage
- People will have greater wellbeing
- People will have developed skills

Heritage – Communities

- Local Economy will be boosted
- Local Area/ Community will be a better place to live, work and visit
- The Funded Organisation will be more resilient

⁵² From the wording of the Russell Bequest gifting the Park to the people of Leven.

Appendix Five: SILVERBURN FLAX MILL RENOVATION PROJECT - WORKING LOGIC MODEL

HERITAGE - PHYSICAL						
Timeline Phases of Relevance	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Intermediate Outcomes	Potential Indicators	Broader Outcomes
Development Phase Delivery Phase	Conservation Statement for Flax Mill Conservation Accredited Architectural input Construction & Building Contractors	Repair and renovation of Flax Mill in line with agreed conservation architectural plans Internal space reconfigured in line with agreed conservation architectural design and projected usage	Renovated building meeting conservation plan as well as modern safety and accessibility standards	Flax Mill ready for planned usage	Removal of Flax Mill from Buildings at Risk Register Obtaining all necessary Building Control etc regulations for opening and use	Heritage will be in better condition
Development Phase Delivery Phase Operational Phase	Conservation Management Plan for Park Silverburn Staff: Estate Project Leader & team Flax Mill Operations Manager	Development and improvements of park and grounds as indicated in the Business Plan and Conservation Management Plan and in line with development of Flax Mill	Quality, accessible and managed surroundings compatible for Renovated Flax Mill and its projected usage	Flax Mill accessible to public within appropriately managed park space Flax Mill becoming accessible community asset within appropriately managed park space	Woodland Management Plan in place Local Biodiversity Plan in Place Facilities Maintenance Plan in Place	

	Outside Contracted input as needed	Maintenance of Flax Mill	Properly maintained Flax Mill Building			
HERITAGE - CONCEPTUAL						
Timeline Phases of Relevance	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Intermediate Outcomes	Potential Indicators	Broader Outcomes
Development Phase Delivery Phase Operational Phase	Tendered and appointed interpretive design team	Analysis of Target Audiences Engagement with local people, project stakeholders, FEAT clients and volunteers to reveal, capture and share stories	A fully delivered interpretive plan with clear, appealing and insightful interpretation across all target audiences Story of Flax Mill conversion recorded, explained and shared through on site and website material	People have learned about the building and developed skills Local community more connected with local heritage Increased involvement and sense of pride in the project and building Greater numbers engaging with Silverburn heritage in person or online	Targeted participant feedback Targeted user / visitor survey Website data on interpretation material pages visited	Heritage will be better identified and explained

Timeline Phases of Relevance	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Intermediate Outcomes	Potential Indicators	Broader Outcomes
Development Phase Delivery Phase Operational Phase	Silverburn Staff: Community Engagement Officer Comms/ Events Officer Programme and activity development consultant expertise	Community Consultation on potential activities Development of programme of activities with heritage learning opportunities To include hard hat tours; craft events; talks and lectures; archival research opportunities Development of volunteering opportunities within Park and Mill	Full Activity Programme Delivered to diverse audiences and with diverse participants Volunteering Opportunities made available	Activity Programme attracting audience numbers and participation Increased visitor and local community participation in heritage focussed activities Volunteering around Silverburn and heritage activities	Visitor numbers and types Evidence of participation or follow up (Eg follow up school projects or activities, local organisation activities) Numbers and range of Volunteers Numbers and range of people engaged as 'Friends of Silverburn'	People will have learnt about heritage leading to change in ideas and actions
Timeline Phases of Relevance	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Intermediate Outcomes	Potential Indicators	Broader Outcomes
Development Phase	Silverburn Staff:	Active management and maintenance of	Appropriately managed and	Clearly Accessible Facilities and	Recognised Good Practice Indicators	

Delivery Phase Operational Phase	Estate Project Team	Silverburn as a community asset accessible to public	maintained Park Space with accessibility a key aspect of development	adaptations in Park and Flax Mill where possible	or recognition eg Accessibility Awards Including 'Changing Places' recognition. Beach wheelchair pool hire usage rate	A wider range of people will be involved in heritage
	Community Engagement Officer Comms/Events Officer Specialist event input as appropriate	Delivering programmes of heritage, outdoor, craft and well being activities to diverse audiences and participants; accessible activities to meet diverse needs	Full Activity Programme Delivered to diverse audiences and with diverse participants	Full Activity Programme Delivered to diverse audiences and with diverse participants Wide range of visitors to Park and Mill with diverse background and socioeconomic characteristics	Numbers and range of programme participants Numbers and range of visitors Increase in visitor time spent in the Mill and Park	
	Silverburn Strategic Management (CEO, General Manager)	Establishing agreements or collaborations with local organisations to use or support the Park and Mill	Range of agreements with diverse organisations	Increased usage of the Park and Mill or extended network or Park and Mill supporters	Numbers and types of agreements or collaborations Active Members of 'Friends of Silverburn'	
Timeline Phases of Relevance	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Intermediate Outcomes	Potential Indicators	Broader Outcomes
Development Phase	Silverburn Staff:	Delivering programmes of heritage, outdoor,	Full Activity Programme	Activity Programme attracting audience	Visitor and user Feedback,	

Delivery Phase Operational Phase	Community Engagement Officer	craft and well being activities.	Delivered to diverse audiences	numbers and participation	Usage of facilities e.g. bike hire	People will have greater well-being
	Events/ Comms Officer	Facilitating recreational use of the park through initiatives such as bike hire, creating orienteering routes etc	Establishment of recreational usage initiatives		Targeted survey/sampling using measurement of wellbeing techniques	
	Estate Project Leader					
Growing Project Leader						
Operations Manager	Management of Silverburn Flax Mill to generate economic benefit for locality and regenerate deprived area	Successful attraction of craft and business renters, attraction of visitors	Silverburn as local hub and positive focus for regeneration	Links to social and economic impact measures (see in connection with 'local economy will be boosted')		
Silverburn Strategic Management (CEO, General Manager)	Collaboration with local Health & Wellbeing organisations	Collaboration Agreements, formal and informal	Silverburn Park and Flax Mill becoming a recognised resource and option for supporting well being	Numbers of referrals Numbers of "referrals" or "social prescriptions"; Numbers of collaborative agreements		
Development Phase Delivery Phase	FEAT Staff input Silverburn Staff: Estate Project Leader	Training and Development opportunities provided to local people	Training and Development opportunities taken up and delivered	Silverburn Park and Flax Mill seen as active centre for relevant training, volunteering and work experience	Numbers of people involved Participant hours	People will have

Operational Phase	Growing Project Leader Operations Manager			Employability Pathway established Local skills base and employability of local people increased	Numbers of skill certificates awarded (formal or informal)	developed skills
	Heritage	Communities				
Timeline Phases of Relevance	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Intermediate Outcomes	Potential Indicators	Broader Outcomes
Development Phase Delivery Phase	Project design and management and construction	Construction and project activity in development and delivery phases	Project-related outputs (Building and Construction , design, interpretation, management plans)	Economic activity generated through project development expenditure	Modelled Investment Impact (Output, GVA, Jobs) generated across Fife, including Levenmouth area.	Local Economy will be boosted
Operational Phase	Silverburn Staff: Operations Manager Team Campsite Manager Team	Flax Mill Operational Business Activities: Craft workshops and business units (incl. Café) operating in Flax Mill Meeting rooms and exhibition spaces used for hire Hostel and Camping Site Hire	Craft and business products, sales and services delivered Meeting spaces hired/ exhibitions held Visitor bednights	Economic activity generated through Flax Mill Activities (Business unit, Café, Hostel income, Campsite income)	Impact (Output, GVA, Jobs) generated across Fife, including Levenmouth area To include impact of visitor expenditure Also to include projected added value through symbiotic relationship	

		Attracting visitors to area through activity programmes and acting as a heritage hub linking to other local attractions e.g. Coastal Path, golf clubs etc	Visitors attracted	Economic activity generated through local area spend by attracted visitors	development with other local organisations and attractions (in context of eg Levenmouth Pan, Mid Fife Economic Plan etc) Will also be linked to measures of social welfare gain and wellbeing.	
Timeline Phases of Relevance	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Intermediate Outcomes	Potential Indicators	Broader Outcomes
Development Phase		Developing programme of heritage, crafts and well being activities within the Flax Mill and Park	Programme of activities delivered	Increased community usage of Park and Mill	Numbers and range of local visitors	Local Area/ community will be a better place to live, work and visit
Delivery Phase				Raised awareness of local history and heritage	Survey evidence of increased awareness	
Operational Phase		Actively collaborating with other relevant local organisations and stakeholders to leverage value from Silverburn as Community Asset eg Fife Countryside Trust, Community Trust , Coastal Trust etc	Developed a range of local collaborations	Increased usage of Silverburn as a community asset within Levenmouth	Numbers of active collaborations	
Timeline Order						

		Actively collaborating with local employers to encourage use of Park and Mill as community asset for their staff	Range and depth of local collaborations	Increased use of Silverburn by local people in line with original Silverburn aims	Numbers of active collaborations Numbers of visitors/different types of usage	
	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Intermediate Outcomes	Possible Indicators	Broader Outcomes
Development Phase Delivery Phase	Fundraising consultant Communication Consultant	Awareness raising and potential donor cultivation for the charitable purposes of the Park and Mill Research and identification of appropriate pipeline of funding opportunities Design and Branding Of Project Developing Communications and Marketing Strategies	Contacts or potential donors made Pipeline of Funding sources identified and applications prepared Applications Made Agreed Design and Branding Communications and Marketing Strategies	Increased awareness of Flax Mill project and role of FEAT Applications ready for submission as Organisations open Funds raised from diverse sources	Applications made/relative complexity of application Amounts of Funds raised and diversity of sources Numbers of active Contacts Range/diversity/geo graphical reach of contacts (e.g. showing local/national/international reach	The Funded Organisation will be more resilient
Development Phase	Silverburn Staff:	Actively collaborating with local	Range of Local collaborations and initiatives	Wider local awareness of FEAT and broader	Numbers and range or collaborations; types of support	

Delivery Phase Operational Phase	Community Engagement Officer Marketing/ Comms/ Events Manager	organisations, schools and local employers		network of support for FEAT	Maintenance of active “ Friends pf Silverburn”	
Operational Phase	Silverburn Staff: Operations Manager Team Campsite Manager Team Finance Manager Marketing/ Comms/ Events Manager	Active business management of income generating activities et campsite, hostel , room hire and café Active seeking of income generating activities (collaborations, events etc)	Occupied and successfully income generating facilities Good Occupancy rates and facilities usage Income generating activities secured	Generation of operating surpluses Income generated from diverse activities	Operating surpluses generated; Income generated and diversity of sources	

24th March 2021

Agenda Item No. 13

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Report by: Ken Gourlay, Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment

Wards Affected: 21 and 22

Purpose

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

Recommendation(s)

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

Resource Implications

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

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

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

1.0 Background

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

2.0 Transactions

2.1 Acquisitions

2.1.1 179 Sea Road, Methil

Date of Acquisition: 5 February 2021
Price: £70,000
Seller: Alexander & Agnes Houston

2.1.2 8 Willow Bank, Methil

Date of Acquisition: 16 December 2020
Price: £85,000
Seller: Kyle E Meacher

2.1.3 25 Langside Drive, Kennoway

Date of Acquisition: 6 January 2021
Price: £84,000
Seller: Alan G Lowe & Natalie C Lowe

3.0 Conclusions

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

List of Appendices

1. N/A

Background Papers

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

N/A

Report Contact

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Levenmouth Area Committee of 19 May 2021			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
School Attainment and Achievement Report		Sarah Else	Annual Report 2021 –Annual workshop to be arranged
Arden House Capital Work		David Paterson	Moved to May 2021.
Kennoway Den - Environmental improvements and Training Opportunity -Funding Request		David Paterson	Added as per email D Paterson 21.01.21 Move to May 2021 as per D Paterson email 2.3.21

Levenmouth Area Committee of 23 June 2021			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Area Housing Plan Update 2021	Housing	Peter Nicol	Annual Housing Report - Peter Nicol Due June/August 2021
Safer Communities Team Update Report - including Fire and Rescue Service, and policing activities within Levenmouth	Safer Communities	Liz Watson	Annual Reports from Safer Communities Team, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and Police Scotland (joint report)
Local Community Planning Activity Update 2020/21 - Alignment to Reform and Recovery	Communities and Neighbourhoods	David Paterson	Added to WP as per D Paterson email 16.2.21

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Interreg Funding Request		Brian Odonnell-Crm,	Brian O'Donnell Postponed.
Fife Sports & Leisure Trust Update Report - Leven Pool	Fife Sports & Leisure Trust (FSLT)	Andy Maclellan	Moved from May 2020 committee cancelled Moved from Oct 2020 as closed due to covid-19 as per email Sept 2020.

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Health & Social Care Partnership Report - Local Priorities	Health and Social Care	John G Thomson, Tracey Harley	Tracey Harley - contact
Pupil Equity Funding Update	Education and Children's Services	Shelagh McLean	
Levenmouth Community Enterprise Centre Project Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Grove, David Paterson	Moved from Sept 19 meeting as per email D Paterson 12.8.19
Housing Services Lock Ups Review - 10 Year Plan	Housing Services	Greig Henderson, Peter Nicol	Community & Housing meeting 14.2.19. Discussed at LAC 4.9.19
Pupilwise / Parentwise Update Report	Education and Children's Services	Deborah Davidson	Report submitted every 3 years. Due October 2021.
Levenmouth WRAP Group Consortium BID - Pilot Project Review	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Robert Graham, Billy Bain	Review of pilot project as agreed at LAC 6.11.19.
Common Good Fund Annual Update 2020-2021		Eleanor Hodgson	Annual Report due end of 2021.
Area Capital Update 2021		Eleanor Hodgson	Annual Report due end of 2021.
Complaints Annual Update		David Thomson-CRM	Due around August/September 2021
Settlement Trust Annual Update		David Paterson	Annual Update Report due 2021.
Parks Street and Open Spaces Annual Update Review		John Rodigan	Annual Report Due 2021
Policing Update Anti Social Behaviour Initiative Levenmouth	Police Scotland	John Docherty	John Docherty - Annual Report due 2021.
Area Road Programme		Neil Watson	Annual Area Roads Programme