

Cowdenbeath Area Committee

Committee Room 2, 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street,
Glenrothes, KY7 5LT / Blended Meeting.



Wednesday, 14th June, 2023 - 2.00 p.m.

AGENDA

	<u>Page Nos.</u>
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - In terms of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct Members of the Committee are asked to declare any interest(s) in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.	
3. MINUTE – Minute of the Cowdenbeath Area Committee meeting of 29th March, 2023.	5 – 10
4. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN COWDENBEATH – Report by Chief Inspector Kathryn Fairfield, Local Area Commander, West Fife, Police Scotland.	11 – 21
5. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - COWDENBEATH AREA ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT – Report by Jenny Murray, Station Commander, Lochgelly Community Fire Station, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.	22 – 47
6. SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM UPDATE REPORT – Report by the Head of Housing Services.	48 – 69
7. PROPOSED DOUBLE YELLOW LINES – BALLILNGRY ROAD AND HILL ROAD, BALLINGRY – Report by Head of Roads and Transportation Services.	70 – 72
8. OBJECTION TO PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTION - GRAINGER STREET / HALL STREET, LOCHGELLY – Report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services.	73 – 76
9. PROPOSED RAISED PARALLEL CROSSING – LEUCHATSBEATH DRIVE, COWDENBEATH – Report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services.	77 – 79
10. AREA HOUSING PLAN 2023-26 – Report by the Head of Housing Services.	80 – 90
11. COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT HOLIDAY PROGRAMME UPDATE - SUMMER, AUTUMN 2022 AND EASTER 2023. PLUS FUNDING REQUEST FOR SUMMER, OCTOBER 2023 PROGRAMME – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods.	91 – 95
12. COWDENBEATH COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND AND IMMEDIATE RESPONSE SUPPORT TOP UP REQUEST – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods.	96 – 106

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| 13. | COWDENBEATH AREA UPDATE AND PROGRESS REPORT – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods. | 107 – 116 |
| 14. | COWDENBEATH AREA LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING, ANTI-POVERTY, WARD AND COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND BUDGET UPDATE – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods. | 117 – 127 |
| 15. | PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS – Report by the Head of Property Services. | 128 – 129 |
| 16. | COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME | 130 – 133 |

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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7 June, 2023

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BLENDED MEETING NOTICE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE FIFE COUNCIL - COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

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

29th March, 2023

2.00 p.m. – 4.10 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Alex Campbell (Convener), Alistair Bain, Linda Erskine, Rosemary Liewald, Mary Lockhart, Lea Mclelland and Bailey-Lee Robb.

ATTENDING: Anne-Marie Vance, Community Manager (Cowdenbeath Area); Scott Blyth, Project Manager; Gary Daniell, Area Community Development Team Manager; Peter Duncan, Allotments Officer; Community Development Team (Cowdenbeath), Communities and Neighbourhoods; Tariq Ditta, Head of Facilities Management Services, Facilities Management; Shirley McKie, Service Manager - Hospitality; Brandon Verhaege, Hospitality Co-ordinator; Linda Hume, Hospitality Team Manager - Catering and Cleaning Services; Roy Lawrence, Principal Lead for Organisational Development and Culture, Health and Social Care; Jacquie Stringer, Locality Planning Co-ordinator, Health and Social Care Localities; Keith Johnston, Technician Engineer, Traffic Management South and Wendy MacGregor, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

44. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the meeting of the Cowdenbeath Area Committee of 1st February, 2023.

Decision

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

45. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE LOCALITY - COWDENBEATH

The Committee considered a report by the Principal Lead for Organisational Development (SLT Lead for Cowdenbeath Health and Social Care Locality Planning Group) providing an overview of Health and Social Care (H&SC) Locality Planning for Cowdenbeath. The aim of localities was for relevant service providers across different sectors, at all levels to come together with people and communities who used services to improve health and wellbeing outcomes.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed to consider an annual report by the Health and Social Care Partnership;
- (2) agreed that six-monthly workshops be organised to provide the Committee with updates on locality planning and joint areas of interest between Health and Social Care Partnership and Community Planning Partners; and
- (3) noted that Working Groups were to be established in relation to the four thematic Priorities detailed in Section 2.2 of the report, to develop and deliver support in the Cowdenbeath area, involving key stakeholders.

46. SCHOOL MEALS PROVIDED AT LOCHGELLY AND BEATH HIGH SCHOOLS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Service, Facilities Management providing a final update report on the quality and price of school meals provided at Lochgelly and Beath High Schools, including an update on progress since May 2020 and the responses to the views of young people.

Motion

Councillor Bailey-Lee Robb, seconded by Councillor Mary Lockhart, moved to amend the report's recommendation as follows:-

“Area Committee notes the report on the progress made since 2019. Committee agrees that the voices of young people, and their engagement, is vitally important in all matters concerning them, in line with the UNCRC Article 12.

Committee therefore requests that this engagement should continue between young people, Education and Children's Services, and Facilities Management, to ensure service delivery is supported by those it is there to deliver to.

Committee is concerned to note that 60.2% of young people report that they are left feeling hungry after eating the lunch on offer, and therefore, requests officers urgently explore increasing portion sizes and additional measures that can be quickly put in place to alleviate these concerns, whilst ensuring the principle of a healthy balanced diet remains at the centre.

Committee further requests officers from Education and Children Services and Facilities Management to keep members regularly informed of the developments in these two schools going forward and requests a progress report to be presented at the 28 February 2024 meeting to allow for further scrutiny.”

Amendment

Councillor Linda Erskine, moved as an amendment to include an additional recommendation to Councillor Robb's Motion, as follows:-

“Education/

2023 CAC 28

“Education are integral to this and sit with a substantial Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) their input could be to utilise part of the PEF to augment the support for the delivery for the Facilities Management Team.”

Decision

The proposer and seconder of the Motion agreed to conjoin the motion and amendment and thereafter, the motion was unanimously agreed.

47. PROPOSED DOUBLE YELLOW LINES - GRAINGER STREET / HALL STREET, LOCHGELLY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation on proposals to introduce “No Waiting At Any Time” restrictions in Grainger Street and Hall Street, Lochgelly.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of traffic flow and road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the restrictions detailed in drawing no. TRO23_02 (Appendix 1) with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

48. PROPOSED 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS - VARIOUS STREETS, CARDENDEN

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation proposing to introduce a 20mph speed limit on various residential roads constructed, or soon to be constructed, within housing developments in Cardenden.

Decision

The Committee in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a 20 mph speed limit as detailed in drawing nos. TRO23_12/1 (Appendix 1) and TRO23_12/2 (Appendix 2); and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

49. COMMUNITY FOOD GROWING UPDATE

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods providing detailed information relating to Allotments and Community Growing Projects in the Cowdenbeath area.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report;
- (2) acknowledged the information for each community detailed on the community plans; and
- (3) agreed to fund, from the Cowdenbeath Anti-Poverty budget 2023-24, the sum of £60,000 to ensure the development of community food growing initiatives across the Cowdenbeath Area, in line with its Reform Schemes on Tackling Poverty and Crisis Prevention.

50. APPLICATION TO COWDENBEATH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING BUDGET - EASTER CLD ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods seeking approval of £25,000 funding from the Community Planning budget for the Cowdenbeath Community Learning and Development team toward Community Learning and Development activity programmes during the 2023 Easter school break.

Decision

The Committee approved an award of £25,000 from the community planning budget in support of CLD activity as detailed.

51. SUPPORTING THE PLAN 4 COWDENBEATH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN 2023-2026 THROUGH THE COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND (CRF) PROPOSALS

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods informing of the current proposals relating to the Community Recovery Fund (CRF) allocated to the Cowdenbeath area, seeking Committee's approval to develop and take forward these project proposals.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) approved the list of projects detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, delegating to officers to develop and deliver the projects, providing regular progress reports at Ward meetings; and
- (2) approved the allocation of future local budgets (2023/24 and 2024/25) to support the recruitment of an additional 1FTE Community Education Worker for a period of 2 years, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the report.

52./

52. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

The Committee considered a report by the Senior Manager - Property Services advising of action taken using the List of Officer Powers in relation to property transactions.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

53. COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Services detailing the workplan for future meetings of the Committee.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the Cowdenbeath Area Forward Work Programme;
- (2) requested that the reports on Youth Provision, Anti-Social Behaviour and Lochgelly Town Hall, listed under 'unallocated', be allocated to a specific future date;
- (3) agreed to receive a copy of a recent briefing note which included a condition report relating to the Lochgelly Town Hall, until such time as an update report was available;
- (4) requested a report on Rockgelly, for its consideration by September, 2023 providing an update on progress detailing any issues the project had experienced, total funding to date, proposed date of opening and total funding required to complete the project;
- (5) agreed that a member workshop be arranged prior to the summer months relating to Anti-Social Behaviour in the Cowdenbeath Area, involving Police Scotland and Safer Communities, to consider any plans to tackle anti-social behaviour; and
- (6) acknowledged that a Fife-wide consultation on the condition of graveyards and cemeteries was ongoing – the findings of which would be reported to the Cabinet Committee – following which it might be of benefit to consider an area specific report at a future meeting.

54. NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Rosemary Liewald, seconded by Councillor Linda Erskine, moved to amend the report recommendation at Agenda Item No 8 – Community Food Growing project - as follows:-

“Given/

2023 CAC 31

“Given the support for the development of a further report to the 29th March 2023 Committee, with a view to establishing and supporting potential Community Growing Projects, in conjunction with Forestry and Land Scotland, Fife Council and other Third Sector Funding bodies, across the Cowdenbeath Area, I would ask that the Committee now agrees to add an additional recommendation number 3 to Item No. 8 on the Agenda, report on Community Food Growing Update, as follows:-

3. The Cowdenbeath Area Committee resolves to fund, from the Cowdenbeath Anti-Poverty budget 2023-24, the sum of £60,000 to ensure the development of community food growing initiatives across the Cowdenbeath Area, in line with its Reform Schemes on Tackling Poverty and Crisis Prevention.

This work will build on lessons learned during the initial response and community support to the Covid-19 crisis and set out how those lessons can be built into the Plan for Fife strategy for the next three years.

Community Growing Schemes are one such scheme which will encourage community growing groups throughout Cowdenbeath and Fife to develop projects and to provide support for existing and new growing projects.

The overall benefits of such projects are well sighted, detailed and evidenced one such example being the Edible Estates projects.”

Decision

The Motion was unanimously agreed, see also para.49 above -Community Food Growing Update.

14th June 2023

Agenda Item No. 4

Supporting the Local Community Plan – Operational Briefing on Policing Activities within Cowdenbeath.

Report by: Chief Inspector Kathryn Fairfield – Local Area Commander, West Fife

Wards Covered: Ward 7 (Cowdenbeath, Hill of Beath, Kelty, Crossgates and Lumphinnans) and Ward 8 (Lochgelly, Gardenden, Benarty and Cluny)

Purpose:

This report updates Elected Members on Policing activity in the above Ward areas.

Recommendation(s):

Members are asked to consider the contents of the report and the policing activity undertaken to date and support Police Scotland moving forward in addressing priorities.

Resource Implications:

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

Legal & Risk Implications:

There are no legal or current risk implications.

Impact Assessment:

An EqIA has not been completed and is not necessary as this report highlights work already undertaken and does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation:

No consultation has taken place regarding this report. Members will appreciate the key to success in work of this nature is partnership – not only between the services and agencies involved but also with elected members and local communities, which was ongoing throughout the reporting period.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update on the activities of Police Scotland staff within the Cowdenbeath area during the period 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 This report would normally include police data and accompanying analysis however the statistical information required for this was not available prior to compilation of this report. A supplementary report containing this will be submitted to the committee for review when available.

This report gives an overview of the police activity for the period being reported on.

3.0 Community Officer Activity 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023

- 3.1 Throughout the reporting period the area has been served by a Local Area Commander, Community Inspector, Community Sergeant and six Community Constables supported by response colleagues based at Cowdenbeath Police Station. Additionally, Cowdenbeath Office now has a dedicated Community Investigation Unit which serves both the Cowdenbeath and South West Fife areas and supports our local priorities. The unit consists of one Sergeant and six Constables.
- 3.2 Chief Inspector Kathryn Fairfield commenced her role of Local Area Commander in February 2023, as did Inspector Hazel Crielly to Community Inspector, Cowdenbeath.
- 3.3 Sergeant John Nicol continues in post as Community Sergeant, with some change to the Community Team Constables as officers moved on to new opportunities.
- 3.4 Benarty / Kelty – PCs Barry Smith and Nina Foster. PC Smith has returned to Community Policing and PC Foster has transferred from Kirkcaldy to Cowdenbeath.
- 3.5 Cowdenbeath / Crossgates – PCs Louise Sneddon and Adrian Harmes continue in their roles.
- 3.6 Lochgelly / Cardenden – PCs Davide Scola and Peter Barker continue in their roles.
- 3.7 PC Scott Kirk has moved from the Kelty Ward Community Officer role and taken up post as School Engagement Officer, Lochgelly High School.

- 3.8 Similar to as reported in the 2021/22 report, COVID restrictions necessitated that much of the Community engagement was done online and in a virtual setting. Since the restrictions have eased there has been a much needed return to more in person engagement. This is complimented by an ongoing virtual element which has, and continues to enable attendance at meetings, increasing flexibility for participants, reducing time and associated costs.
- 3.9 Community Officers in all wards have continued to maintain links with partners and communities to ensure the issues that matter the most to local communities are being identified and addressed. Community Officers are also involved in proactive planned operations, such as executing drug search warrants and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) work.
- 3.10 Following the recent additions to the Community Team, several officers were provided with specialist training and are now able to complete handheld speed detection duties and pedal cycle patrols.
- 3.11 As per last year Community Officers continue to play an essential role in the work being undertaken locally and the priorities and objectives remain the same as those set out across Fife Division:
- **Operation Path - Violent Crime**
 - **Operation Prevail - Antisocial Behaviour**
 - **Operation Prospect - Substance Misuse**
 - **Operation Principle - Acquisitive Crime**
 - **Operation Paramount - Road Safety**
- 3.12 Domestic incidents continue to be a priority for Police Scotland and form a major part of day to day business. Officers are routinely tasked to ensure that domestic incidents are robustly investigated and we continue to work closely with our partners to support victims.
- 3.13 A significant demand on policing can be linked to mental health and vulnerability and this is an area that has grown consistently over recent years. Regular engagement is ongoing with partners to reduce the risk to vulnerable people. We have been working with NHS and Scottish Ambulance Service to deal with this demand which has increased the use of police resource, in particular as an alternative first response and where waiting times for medical assessment has seen significant rise.
- 3.14 As community events resumed our officers were deployed at a number of local events, parades and galas, and provided an excellent opportunity for positive engagement across all sections of the community.
- 3.15 Following feedback at Community Council meetings over concerns raised about reduced opportunities for the public to have contact with their local ward officers, we trialled a 'Cuppa with a Copper' initiative. This provided an opportunity for members of the local community to be able to discuss concerns, gain safety advice or any other matter. This was trialled in both Wards 7 and 8, however was not well attended. We recognised that

attendance may have been impacted by COVID restrictions which had only just begun to ease and will seek opportunities for a refreshed trial.

3.16 This review period has seen an exceptional demand on policing, with The 150th Open and the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, both resulting in a significant amount of abstractions with local officers being deployed to carry out a variety of roles, including several officers from Cowdenbeath being deployed to London.

3.17 As per 2.1 we have been unable to include statistical data.

4.0 School Engagement

4.1 From the start of the 22/23 school year PC Scott Kirk took over from PC Barry Smith as the School Engagement Officer based within Lochgelly High School.

4.2 The key objectives of the role is to work collaboratively with educational staff and other partners to provide support for pupils, parents and carers, and to promote positive behaviour and community learning within the school and local communities.

4.3 PC Kirk works alongside Guidance and the Senior Management Team to identify early and effective interventions for pupils in addition to delivering classroom based inputs. The role has been firmly embedded within the school community.

4.4 PC Kirk was able to deal with the majority of incidents primarily utilising a restorative justice approach, which has helped reduce the demand on local Response officers. It has also enabled the behaviours to be addressed in the appropriate educational setting, supported by partners. Class inputs relating to ASB, knife crime and on-line safety were key features throughout the period

4.5 PC Kirk received additional training to enable him to deliver initiatives such as 'Pitching In' and 'Punch Beyond'. These were scheduled for late 2022/early 2023 however due to other school demands the opportunity to deliver them has not been possible and it is anticipated this will now take place over the coming reporting period.

4.6 Engagement at Beath High continues with both ward officers regularly linking in with staff.

4.7 As per the previous year the Community Ward officers in conjunction with the School Engagement Officer delivered a series of educational inputs during the reporting period on the following topics:

- **Stop Hate - Hate Crime Awareness Inputs**
- **One Punch**
- **Drug and Alcohol Awareness Inputs**
- **Child Exploitation and Internet Safety**

- **Mentors and Violence Prevention (MVP)**
- **Anti-social Behaviour Inputs**

- 4.8 Violence in schools was highlighted nationally as a concern and in response our officers have delivered two key inputs to both Beath and Lochgelly High Schools. The 'One Punch' programme which highlights the consequences of violence in a community setting and 'The Bystander' which teaches coping mechanisms and encourages children to take positive action in potential violent or bullying incidents. This is simplified to the 5 Ds – direct action, delegate, distract, document and delay. The inputs were well received and promoted active discussion amongst the pupils.
- 4.9 All feeder schools for Beath High School received a Mentor and Violence Prevention presentation. This was delivered to pupils prior to transitioning from primary to secondary school and highlights the issues around gender based violence.
- 4.10 Throughout the year all of the local ward officers have carried out a number of visits to primary and nursery schools and provided valuable inputs such as "Stranger Danger" and 'Brake'. Regular engagement is invaluable and promotes positive engagement at an early age.

5.0 Violence, Disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour

- 5.1 **Operation Path** is the divisional initiative aimed at tackling all forms of violence. Violent crime and violent offenders are managed robustly with local investigative work being supported by divisional departments such as CID, Public Protection Unit, and Community Investigation Unit (CIU) and nationally by the Licensing Violence Reduction Unit. Weekly management meetings are held where local repeat offenders, emerging trends and hotspot areas are analysed to develop early intervention tactics to minimise repeat offending.
- 5.2 Addressing violent crime has been a priority over the reporting period and continues to be so. Officers will continue to detect, deter and disrupt offenders through proactive policing.
- 5.3 During the review period there have been several serious violent incidents, all of which were robustly investigated and resulted in several key offenders being remanded in custody preventing further harm. Key messaging was released via our media channels to reassure the local communities who may have been effected.
- 5.4 **Alcohol Awareness Campaign**-During December 2022, the Community Team secured funding from Fife Council, Ore Valley, Kingdom Housing and Cowdenbeath Community Council and led an alcohol-awareness campaign of which the primary focus was the prevention of violence against women. The campaign sought to raise awareness over the festive period of the dangers of drink spiking.

The funding enabled the purchase of several hundred alcohol awareness kits. Each kit contained anti-spiking strips, anti-spiking bottle caps and glass protectors, a personal attack alarm and a card defender.

The kits were primarily handed out by police officers carrying out night time patrols and was supported by local street pastors.

Officers carried out visits to licenced premises, linking in with licence holders to assist in promoting the campaign. Kits were provided to licensed premises which were made available to their patrons.

The campaign was promoted using Police Scotland social media platforms which contributed to the high take up levels. The campaign attracted significant public interest and received highly positive feedback with members of the public reporting that they felt better informed and protected.

- 5.5 **Operation Prevail** is the divisional initiative to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB). ASB has been and continues to be, an area of concern locally. We draw on local and national reporting and work to continually review our policing response, seeking new and effective ways to tackle this. We work together with partners, discussing and identifying solutions to work effectively together to reduce ASB. We will continue to robustly deal with individuals who engage in such conduct and work closely with partner agencies in youth justice to ensure that the impact on victims and our communities is recognised.
- 5.6 Feedback from some local Community Council Meetings told us that some ASB was not being reported at the time of occurrence due to call waiting times. We worked with the community to encourage reporting and shared information about alternative routes available to make reports to the police. Local elected members assisted with this and continue to support reporting.
- 5.7 ASB hot spots changed over the period with reported issues around the public park in Lochgelly reducing and areas around High Street, Cowdenbeath and Glencraig becoming a new focus. Both areas have seen a significant rise in ASB and as a result the majority of our dedicated patrols have been focused in and around these areas. Other work includes engagement with schools and positive reinforcement messages via social media.
- 5.8 In conjunction with Fife Council Safer Communities Team, we have and will continue to patrol areas identified as local hot spots. Tackling ASB requires a multi-agency approach and we understand the importance of working closely with partners in both developing diversionary opportunities and carrying out targeted and meaningful patrols.
- 5.9 **Coo Trail Initiative**
Woodend Community Woodland, Cowdenbeath, was an area subject to ASB where the opportunity for redevelopment of the woodland trail involving those associated with these behaviours was identified. PC Sneddon from our Community Team created the Coo Tail initiative and worked closely with Beath High School and Woodend Community Woodland group. The initiative was supported with funding from local partners.

The redeveloped trail consisted of a number of directional signs leading to a cleared area in which large wooden cows were installed. The cows were designed and made at the Beath High School with all the feeder schools being invited to decorate a cow. Several cows were interactive, encouraging young children and families to visit.

Local youths known to frequent the area were identified and participated in the initiative generating a sense of ownership, responsibility and pride in their local area.

In June 2022, the trail was launched with members of the local community, local elected members and pupils from all the participating schools coming together to celebrate the achievement. This area is used and enjoyed by the community including local nurseries who visit as part of their outdoor learning schedules.

- 5.10 Over the review period the identified ASB behaviour of stealing and in some instances setting fire to wheelie bins continued. The danger, environmental damage and costs involved with this behaviour is being tackled through a partnership approach. We continue to work with Safer Communities and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in relation to the response to incidents and identifying prevention methods.
- 5.11 Complaints in relation to off-road motor bikes being used in an anti-social manner in the Kelty and Cardenden area featured during the reporting period. Patrols have been carried out in relation to these in a bid to deter and detect offences.

The development of motorised E-bikes bikes, has presented an additional challenge as they are relatively silent and most commonly black in colour with no distinguishing marks, placing pedestrians and riders at unnecessary risk. This type of ASB is traditionally challenging to detect. We worked with the local community and were able to identify those thought to be responsible for the ASB and proactively engaged with them highlighting the dangers and offences associated.

- 5.12 Regular checks of licensed premises have been carried out throughout the reporting period to ensure they were complying with the conditions of their license.

6.0 Road Safety and Road Crime

- 6.1 Road safety and casualty reduction is an issue that is regularly raised during engagement with local residents and community groups and we remain focused on keeping our roads safe. **Operation Paramount** is the divisional initiative targeting this issue.
- 6.2 Community Officers regularly promote road safety in and around local schools and have recently resumed 'Park Safe' checks. We also provide support to primary schools which run the 'Junior Road Safety Officer' programme.

6.3 'Bikeability' is an educational programme targeting vulnerable road users and we support our colleagues in Education in delivering this.

6.4 Speeding is another area of concern for local communities with complaints over the review period in respect of B981, Hill of Beath, Foulford Road and Bridge Street in Cowdenbeath, Jamphlars Road in Cardenden Cardenden, Lochgelly Road in Lumphinnans and the Mossgreen area of Crossgates.

On a regular basis, local officers carried out speeding deployments in hotspot areas identified following analysis of collision data or feedback from the public. We keep the public informed of the deployments via police social media.

6.5 'Pop up signs, which take the form of a cut out image of a police officer holding a speed gun, are also utilised throughout the Cowdenbeath area to deter and reduce speeding motorists.

6.6 A number of Cowdenbeath officers were given additional training over the review period and we are now in a position to launch Community Safety Speed Watch, which affords members of the community to take part in deterring motorist exceeding speed limits.

6.7 Safety Camera Partnership deploy mobile camera vans across the West Fife area.

6.8 Over the last year the Community Team have supported Road Policing Officers with a number of national campaigns:

- Summer Drink Drive Campaign
- Get Ready for Winter
- Brake Road Safety Week
- Festive Drink Drive Campaign

7.0 Drug and Alcohol Misuse

7.1 **Operation Prospect** is a divisional initiative aimed at tackling drug misuse. We receive and welcome a great deal of intelligence regarding drug misuse and dealing activity which assists in our ability to disrupt illegal activity. There is an appointed police local lead who collates and assesses the information.

7.2 Cowdenbeath officers have executed a number of successful drug search warrants with a significant quantity of cash (over £18,000) and controlled drugs being seized (street value of over £57,000). Several persons were reported to the Procurator Fiscal for offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

In addition, as part of a national operation there was a further seizure of controlled drugs to the value of £300,000 seized in Lochgelly which was linked to supply across Scotland.

We continue to engage with members of our communities to gain intelligence which supports and informs our enforcement activity and enables us to deploy proactive deterrent methods.

- 7.3 During the reporting period we continued to carry out regular inspections of licensed premises selling alcohol, as it is recognised there is a link between alcohol consumption and the commission of crime. In addition to this, Community Officers have regularly visited off-sales premises locally and have educated License Holders in good practices for running their business to try and prevent them from breaching their license.
- 7.4 Every inspection is recorded and the Divisional Licensing Unit has oversight. They identify any emerging issues so they can be addressed at an early stage.
- 7.5 The 'IT WILL COST YOU' national campaign was launched during the review period. The campaign aims to tackle underage drinking focusing on proxy-sales. Our officers supported the campaign by engaging with members of our communities and handed out leaflets at key licenced premises to raise awareness of the damaging effects and criminal nature of buying alcohol for under 18s.

8.0 Acquisitive Crime

- 8.1 Acquisitive crime including theft by housebreaking, shoplifting, fraud and thefts of, and from motor vehicles falls under Operation Principle.
- 8.2 Online fraud continues to feature heavily in this area and can take the form of bogus callers, emails and other messages designed to cause the victim to transfer sums of money or provide banking details. Fraudulent sales or adverts have also featured.
- 8.3 Working with partners such as Trading Standards Scotland and Action Fraud, officers have continued to highlight these scams utilising both Social Media and traditional media platforms. Raising awareness and signposting members of the public to information is key to the prevention of this type of crime. We work with partners to ensure those victims that are vulnerable are provided with the relevant safeguarding measures.
- 8.4 Shoplifting has also continued to feature locally, particularly in Lochgelly, with alcohol being the most stolen commodity. Work together with local Area/Store Manager's to assist with crime prevention and a local process has been adopted to ensure crimes are reported timeously, particularly those committed by known individuals. We target repeat offenders and request bail conditions to prevent offenders from entering specific shops or locations.
- 8.5 Operation Rural Watch involves two local Special Constables who visit farms throughout Fife providing support, reassurance and security advice to outlying communities. The objective is to reduce crime and the fear of crime by providing the right information to the right people at the right time.

- 8.6 There have been a number of high value car thefts both across the local area and nationally and this is often has links to organised crime. We work with both local and national departments to combat this, sharing safeguarding advice, highlighting particular vulnerabilities such as the cloning of keyless technology.

9.0 Moving Forward

- 9.1 Moving forward we will seek to build on existing strong relationships with our partners and continue to engage, listen and respond to the concerns of the public and local communities.
- 9.2 Social Media platforms, such as Facebook and Twitter, continue to be a valuable mechanism for engaging with the public and sharing information. We recognise the importance of keeping the public updated and will seek to utilise Twitter to promote local initiatives and will highlight local policing activity.
- 9.3 Cowdenbeath Community Officers, along with other partners continue to develop local youth engagement projects to enhance engagement with young people within the community to break down barriers, whilst acting as both a diversionary and educational platform.
- 9.4 Community Safety Speed Watch will be rolled out across the area and volunteers will soon be sought for training and deployment.
- 9.5 Our cycle trained officers will be assisting Road Policing in carrying out Operation Close Pass deployments. 'Close Pass' is cycling safety initiative to highlight to drivers the safe distance between motor vehicles and cycles when travelling together on roads.
- 9.6 We are in the process of forming a multi-agency Anti-Social Behaviour Group with our colleagues from Fife Council and other partner agencies to ensure a collaborative approach to tackling anti-social behaviour is maintained. It is anticipated that this will enable resources to be maximised and enhance information sharing opportunities.
- 9.7 We have started the engagement process with Education and national departments to explore creating a Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV) unit for the local area. It would include pupils from Inverkeithing, Beath and Lochgelly High Schools.

Dunfermline area have run a PSYV programme run for a number of years now and it has proven very successful.

The overall purpose of the PSYV is to deepen police engagement with young people, break down barriers with traditionally difficult to engage communities and promote positive role models. The PSYV's main aim

- Promote a practical understanding of policing amongst our young volunteers;
- Encourage the spirit of adventure and good citizenship;
- Support local policing priorities through volunteering in local events and initiatives to raise awareness;
- Give young people a chance to be heard.

9.8 I am confident that, with the continued support of residents and partners, we will continue to provide a high quality of service to the residents of Wards 7 and 8 and support local communities to move forward.

10.0 Conclusions

10.1 Members are invited to endorse action taken to date and support Police Scotland moving forward in addressing priorities.

Report Contact

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P Division
Police Scotland
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14th June 2023

Agenda Item No. 5

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Cowdenbeath Area Annual Performance Report

Report by: Jenny Murray – Station Commander – Lochgelly Community Fire Station - Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Wards Affected: Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty Wards

Purpose

This report provides the Committee with incident information for the period 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023. The incident information enables the Committee to scrutinise the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Stirling-Clacks-Fife – Cowdenbeath Area - against its key performance indicators (KPIs)

Recommendation(s)

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

Resource Implications

Not applicable

Legal & Risk Implications

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides the statutory basis for fire reform, including the responsibility to:

- Put in place statutory planning and reporting requirements including providing facilities for consultation;
- Make new arrangements for strengthening local engagement and partnership working, including a new statutory role in the LSO and development of local fire and rescue plans linked to community planning, along with clear powers for local authorities in relation to the provision of fire and rescue services in their area.

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

This document is circulated amongst SFRS Stirling-Clacks-Fife LSO managers to enable areas of high incidence to be scrutinised for reduction strategies.



COWDENBEATH AREA COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT

April 2022 – March 2023

*Covering the activities and performance in support of
the Fife Local Fire & Rescue Plan 2021*



**SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**
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for a safer Scotland**

ABOUT THE STATISTICS IN THIS REPORT

The activity totals and other statistics quoted in this report are provisional in nature and subject to change because of ongoing quality assurance and review.

Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be differences in the period totals quoted in our reports after original publication which result from revisions or additions to the data on our systems.

From 2015-16 onwards responsibility for the publication of end-year statistical data transferred from the Scottish Government to the SFRS. This change of responsibility does not change the status of the figures quoted in reports submitted to the Committee.

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
Definitions	5-6
Introduction	7
Performance Highlights	8
Performance Summary	9
Domestic Fire Safety	10
Accidental Dwelling Fires	10
Accidental Dwelling Fires Fatal Casualties	11
Accidental Dwelling Fires Non- Fatal Casualties	12
Domestic Fire Reduction Strategy	13
Deliberate Fire Setting	14
Deliberate Primary Fires	14
Deliberate Secondary Fires	15
Deliberate Fire Reduction Strategy	16
Built Environment	17
Non- Domestic Building Fires	17
Built Environment Fire Reduction Strategy	18
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	19
Reduction in Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Strategy	20
Transport and Environment	21
Water Related Incidents	21
Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents	22
Fatal RTC Casualties	23
Non- Fatal RTC Casualties	24
Transport and Environment Related Incident Reduction Strategy	25
Conclusions	25
Background Papers	26

DEFINITIONS

Accidental Dwelling Fire

Building occupied by households, excluding hotels, hostels and residential institutions. In 2000, the definition of a dwelling was widened to include any non-permanent structure used solely as a dwelling, such as caravans, houseboats etc. Caravans, boats etc. not used as a permanent dwelling are shown according to the type of property. Accidental includes fires where the cause was not known or unspecified.

Fire Fatality

A person whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred weeks or months later.

Fire Casualty

Non-fatal casualties consist of persons requiring medical treatment including first aid given at the scene of the fire, but not those sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor for a check-up or observation (whether or not they actually do). People sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor as a precaution, having no obvious injury are recorded as precautionary 'check-ups'.

Deliberate Fire

Includes fires where deliberate ignition is merely suspected, and recorded by the FRS as "doubtful".

Non-Domestic Fires

These are fires identified as deliberate other building fires or accidental other building fires.

False Alarms

Where the FRS attends a location believing there to be a fire incident, but on arrival discovers that no such incident exists, or existed.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal

Where the FRS attends a non-domestic location believing there to be a fire incident, but on arrival discovers that no such incident exists, or existed.

Primary Fires:

- Buildings (including mobile homes) fit for occupation (i.e. not wholly derelict) and those under construction.
- Caravans, trailers etc.
- Vehicles and other methods of transport (not derelict unless associated with business e.g. scrap metal).
- Outdoor storage (including materials for recycling), plant and machinery.
- Agricultural and forestry premises and property.
- Other outdoor structures including post-boxes, tunnels, bridges, etc.

Secondary Fires

- Single derelict buildings.
- Grassland etc., including heath, hedges, railway embankments and single trees.
- Intentional straw or stubble burning.
- Outdoor structures, including: lamp-posts, traffic signs and other road furniture, private outdoor furniture, playground furniture, scaffolding, signs and hoarding etc.
- Refuse and refuse containers.
- Derelict vehicles (a vehicle without a registered keeper).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This 2022/2023 performance report for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 inclusive provides comparative data across the previous 3 years for the same period. The KPI's detailed below are drawn from the SFRS Fife Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2021 priorities and are shown in bold text;

- **Domestic Fire Safety**

Continuously monitor the number of accidental dwelling fires

Continuously monitor the severity and cause of accidental dwelling fires

Continuously monitor the number and severity of fire related injuries

- **Deliberate Fire Setting**

Monitor the number, type and cause of deliberate fire setting incidents in Cowdenbeath Area

- **Built Environment**

Monitor the number and severity of fire related incidents in our relevant premises

- **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals**

Monitor and challenge each Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) incident across Cowdenbeath Area

- **Transport and Environment**













Monitor the amount of water related incidents

Monitor the frequency of attendances at Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs), as well as the number and severity of injuries. These will be monitored alongside Police Scotland RTC incidence information

2. PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

2.1 The table below provides a summary of annual activity 2022-2023 compared to annual activity 2021-2022.

It aims to provide – at a glance – our direction of travel during the current reporting period.

<p>Accident Dwelling Fires</p>  <p>2022/23: 19 2021/22: 23</p>	<p>ADF Fatal Casualties</p>  <p>2022/23: 0 2021/22: 0</p>	<p>ADF Non-Fatal Casualties</p>  <p>2022/23: 2 2021/22: 1</p>
<p>Deliberate Primary Fires</p>  <p>2022/23: 26 2021/22: 32</p>	<p>Deliberate Secondary Fires</p>  <p>2022/23: 183 2021/22: 232</p>	<p>Non-domestic Building Fires</p>  <p>2022/23: 12 2021/22: 11</p>
<p>Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</p>  <p>2022/23: 0 2021/22: 0</p>	<p>Non-Fatal Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires</p>  <p>2022/23: 0 2021/22: 0</p>	<p>Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</p>  <p>2022/23: 162 2021/22: 170</p>
<p>Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents</p>  <p>2022/23: 18 2021/22: 26</p>	<p>Fatal RTC Casualties</p>  <p>2022/23: 0 2021/22: 0</p>	<p>Non-Fatal RTC Casualties</p>  <p>2022/23: 6 2021/22: 18</p>

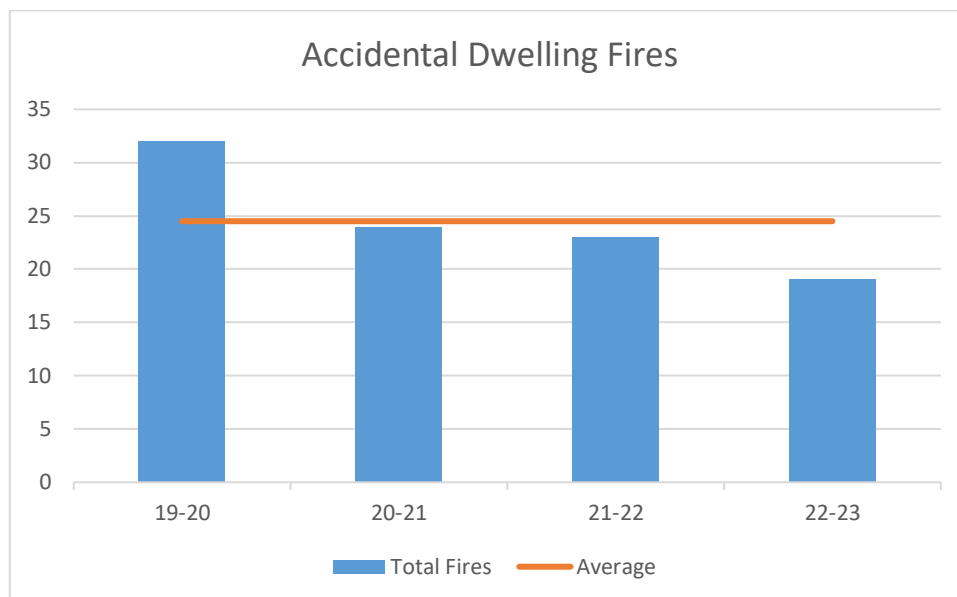
PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Of the indicators, the following performance should be noted for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 inclusive, comparing data across the previous 3 years for the same period;

- The number of **Accidental Dwelling Fires** has seen a 20% reduction on the previous four-year average.
- There were no **Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatal Casualties** during this period. The number of **Accidental Dwelling Fires Non-Fatal Casualties** was two. This figure sits at the four-year average.
- The number of **Deliberate Primary Fires** during this period was 26. This is a reduction of 19% on the previous year's figures and a 7% decrease on the four-year average.
- The number of **Deliberate Secondary Fires** during this period was recorded at 183. Although marginally above the four-year average, the 2022-2023 figures show a decrease of 21% on the previous reporting year.
- The number of **Non-Domestic Building Fires** recorded was twelve. This is marginally above the four-year average of ten recorded fires.
- The number of **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) caused by automatic fire alarms (AFAs) in non-domestic buildings** during this period was 162. Although a decrease of 5% on the previous reporting year, this is a 10% increase compared to the four-year average. This increasing trend has been replicated across the Fife area as a whole.
- **Flooding** and water related incidents have seen a reduction in frequency by 7% on the previous four-year average.
- The number of **Road Traffic Collisions** during 2022-23 was eighteen. This is a 14% decrease on the four years average.
- There were no **Fatal RTC Casualties** during this period. The number of **Non-Fatal RTC Casualties** was six. This is a 67% decrease when compared to the four-year average.

3. Domestic Fire Safety

3.1 Accidental Dwelling Fires have decreased across the Cowdenbeath area in 2022-23 when compared to the previous year’s figure.



Graph 1 Accidental Dwelling Fires –2018-2022

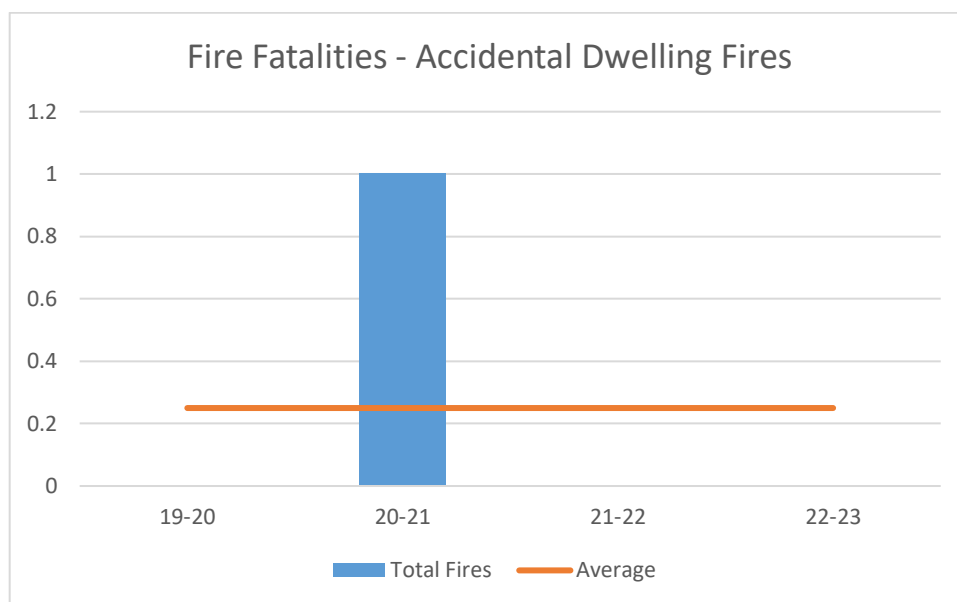
Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	13	12	10	6
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	19	12	13	13
Total	32	24	23	19

Table 1 Accidental Dwelling Fires by Cowdenbeath Ward Area April – March 2019- 2023

- 3.2 This reporting period shows a continued downward trend with a 17% reduction in Accidental Dwelling Fires from the previous year and a 20% decrease from the four-year average.
- 3.3 Over the 2022-23 period, 58% of Accidental Dwelling Fires were caused by cooking within the kitchen and 37% caused by either item’s left too close to a heat source or the negligent use of equipment. A point to highlight is that the severity of the incidents has been low with 63% of incidents restricted to either no fire damage or limited to item first ignited and 68% of the incidents were resolved without Scottish Fire and Rescue Service intervention, or by removal or disconnection of power supply.

- 3.4 It is pleasing to note that 94% of those addresses had a detection system and of that, 80% of those operated and raised the alarm (on several occasions insufficient products of combustion to activate the alarm, fire discovered by person).
- 3.5 It should also be highlighted, however, that 6% of accidental fires locations did not have any detection. The SFRS will continue to work with community partners to ensure well-established referral pathways.
- 3.6 The information above describes an ongoing trend of reducing fire severity. This can be attributed to the high number of detection systems being fitted by SFRS and partners, and installation of hardwired and interlinked systems by builders and landlords which give an early warning of fire.

3.7 Fire Fatalities – Accidental Dwelling Fires

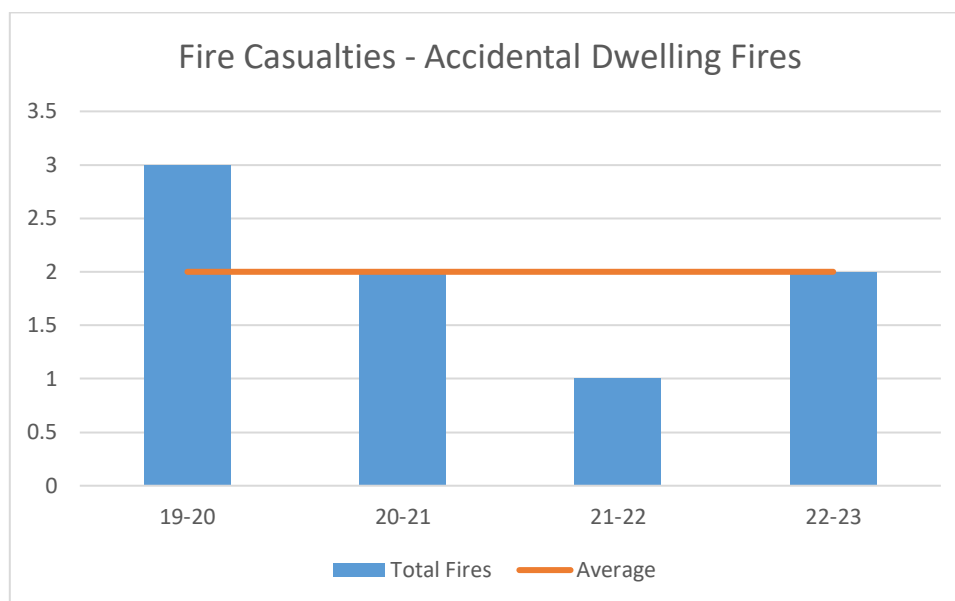


Graph 2 Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatal Casualties April - March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	0	0	0	0
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	0	1	0	0
Total	0	1	0	0

Table 2 Accidental Dwelling Fires Fatal Casualties Cowdenbeath Ward Areas April – March 2019-2023

3.8 Fire Casualties – Accidental Dwelling Fires



Graph 3 Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties April – March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	0	1	1	1
Lochgelly, Gardenden & Benarty	3	1	0	1
Total	3	2	1	2

Table 3 Accidental Dwelling Fires Casualties Cowdenbeath Ward Areas April – March 2019-2023

3.9 No fire fatalities have been recorded during this reporting period.

3.10 There were two reported fire casualties during the 2022-2023 reporting period. This figure is equal to the four-year average.

3.11 There were no serious injuries from Accidental Dwelling Fires and the two casualties recorded received a precautionary check without the need to go to hospital.

3.12 Domestic Fire Reduction Strategy

Home Safety Visits continue to play a vital part in our strategy to reduce the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires. These visits are used to deliver vital fire safety messages and install detection systems, as well as slip, trip and falls messages and safety equipment for our vulnerable, elderly and very young population. SFRS personnel completed **345** visits in the

local area for the reporting period, this figure is slightly lower than the number delivered in the 2021-2022 reporting period.

The law on fire alarms has changed which means all Scottish homes will need to have interlinked alarms. The reduced figures can be attributed to the change in SFRS criteria for fitting alarms in accordance Scottish Government guidance and the recent purchasing issues due to a national shortage of component parts of the alarms.

Rates of referrals from partner agencies have also dropped significantly, largely due to the fall-out from Covid. To address this key risk area, SFRS Community Action Teams have developed a training package to promote awareness of referral pathways with partners as well as fire risk recognition.

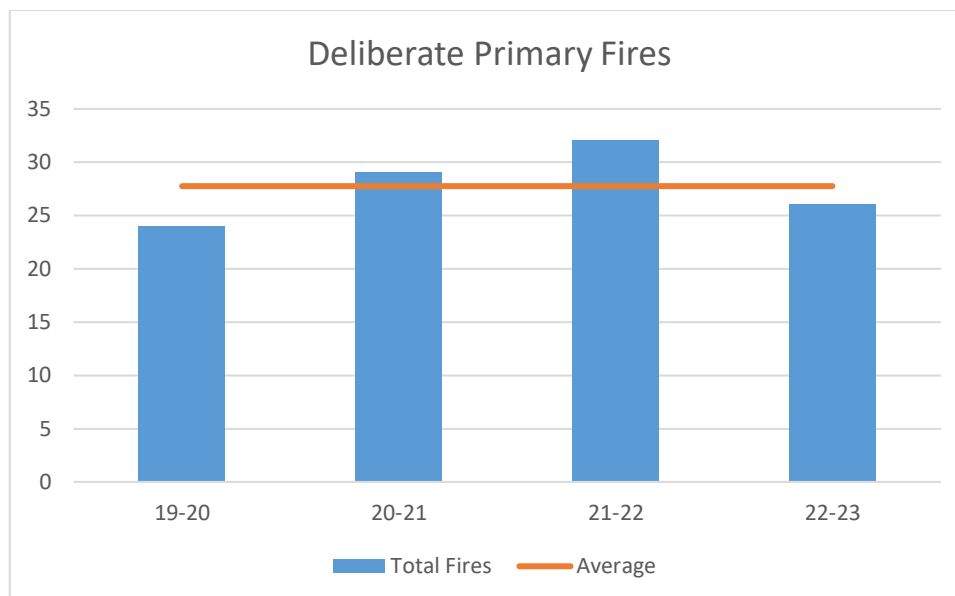
SFRS continues to deliver TV and radio Home Fire Safety messages including the 'Make the Call' campaign

This asks neighbours and relatives to refer people who were:

- Over 50 years old
- Smoke
- Live alone or
- Have mobility issues
- Or have medical oxygen

4. Deliberate Fire Setting

4.1 Deliberate Primary Fires

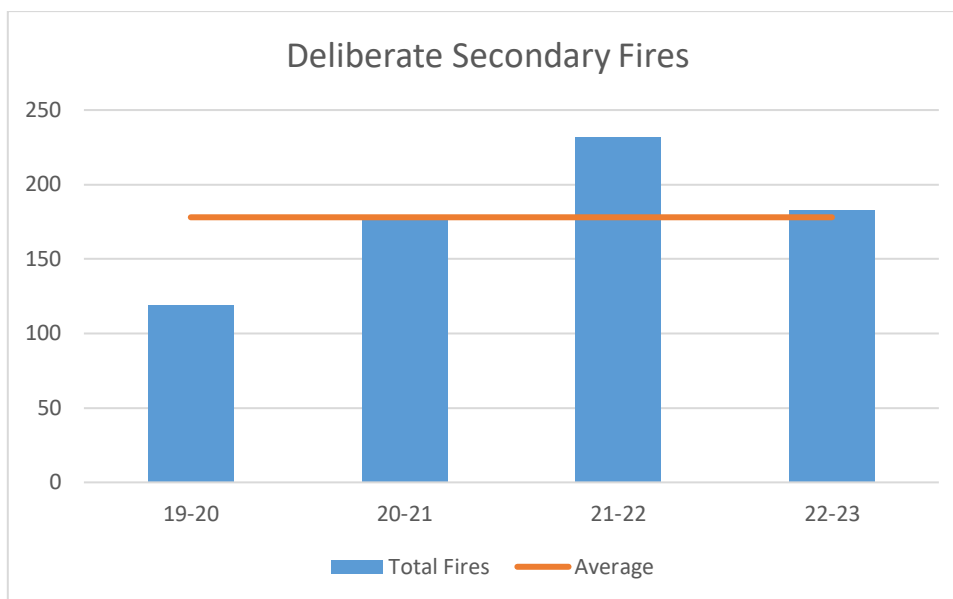


Graph 4 Deliberate Primary Fires– April – March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	5	7	10	9
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	19	12	22	17
Total	24	29	32	26

Table 4 Deliberate Primary Fires Cowdenbeath Ward Areas April – March 2019-2023

4.2 Deliberate Secondary Fires



Graph 5 Deliberate Secondary Fires– April – March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	47	36	59	60
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	72	142	173	123
Total	119	178	232	183

Table 5 Deliberate Secondary Fires Cowdenbeath Ward Areas April – March 2019-2023

- 4.3 Deliberate fires can be broken down into two categories, primary and secondary. Primary fires generally involve property and include buildings, caravans, motor vehicles and plant and machinery. Secondary fires are often minor and include the burning of rubbish, grass and derelict properties.
- 4.4 The data above show that Deliberate Secondary Fires have seen a 21% reduction of over this reporting period but figures remain marginally above the four-year average. Of the 183 Secondary Fires, 30% involved wheelie bins and other small refuse containers and 66% involved grassland, woodland or baled crops. Deliberate Secondary fires unfortunately continues to be an increasing issue affecting the whole of the Fife area and wider afield.

4.5 Deliberate Fire Reduction Strategy

School visits take place prior to the Easter and October school holidays as these are reportedly the peak periods for deliberate fire activity.

Following the Covid-19 restrictions, our youth engagement strategy has been reinvigorated with the majority of primary and secondary schools within the area receiving a face-to face visit.

Throughout the year, SFRS personnel deliver seasonal Thematic Action Plans (TAPs) to targeted areas and groups. We will continue to engage with community centres, community groups and schools in high activity areas to deliver talks regarding the dangers and consequences of deliberate fire setting.

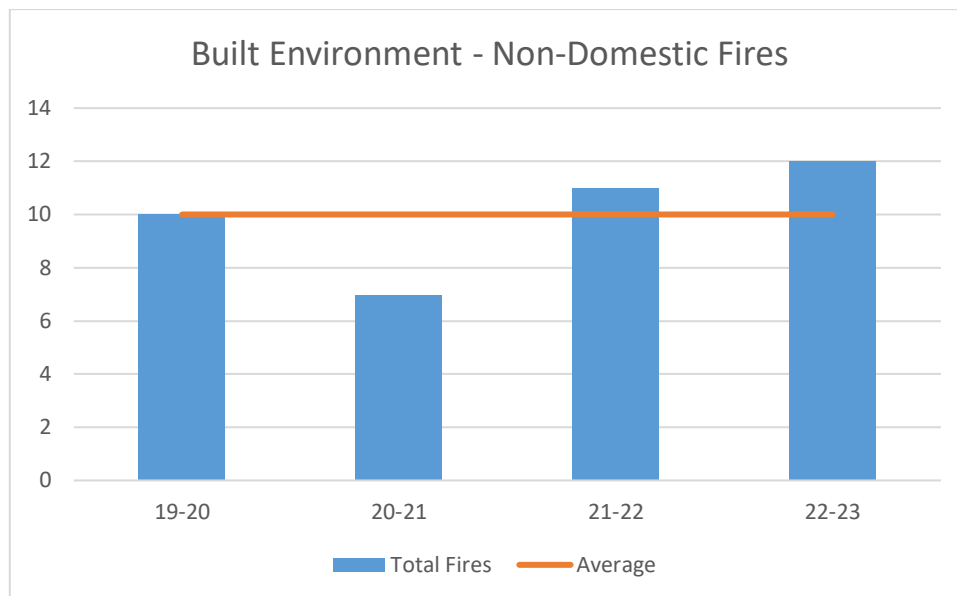
We continue to work with Police Scotland and our Local Authority partners to reduce harm by identifying deliberate fire setting incidents early and ensuring the appropriate intervention.

In the Cowdenbeath area, Deliberate Fire Reduction Plans have been implemented to address fire-setting and reduce operational demand. Local partners and the SFRS have agreed a strategy to target the key hot spots around Lochgelly Public Park, Lochore Meadows Country Park, Glenraig and the Leuchatsbeath areas of Cowdenbeath. These plans look to reduce the Fire Related Anti-Social Behaviour and limit the disruption felt by the local communities in these areas.

We continue to liaise with premises occupiers to give advice on refuse storage and security, as these can be a cause of deliberate fires.

5. Built Environment

5.1 Built Environment – Non- Domestic Fires



Graph 6 Built Environment Non - Domestic Fires– April – March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	7	3	5	7
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	3	4	6	5
Total	10	7	11	12

Table 6 Built Environment Non - Domestic Fires Cowdenbeath Ward Areas April – March 2019-2023

5.2 In the Built Environment, 50% of all non-domestic fires were classified as being accidental, with 36% of fires attributed to faulty equipment or fuel supply.

5.3 There have been no casualties resulting from incidents within Built Environment Non-Domestic Fires for the 2022-23 reporting period.

5.4 Built Environment Fire Reduction Strategy

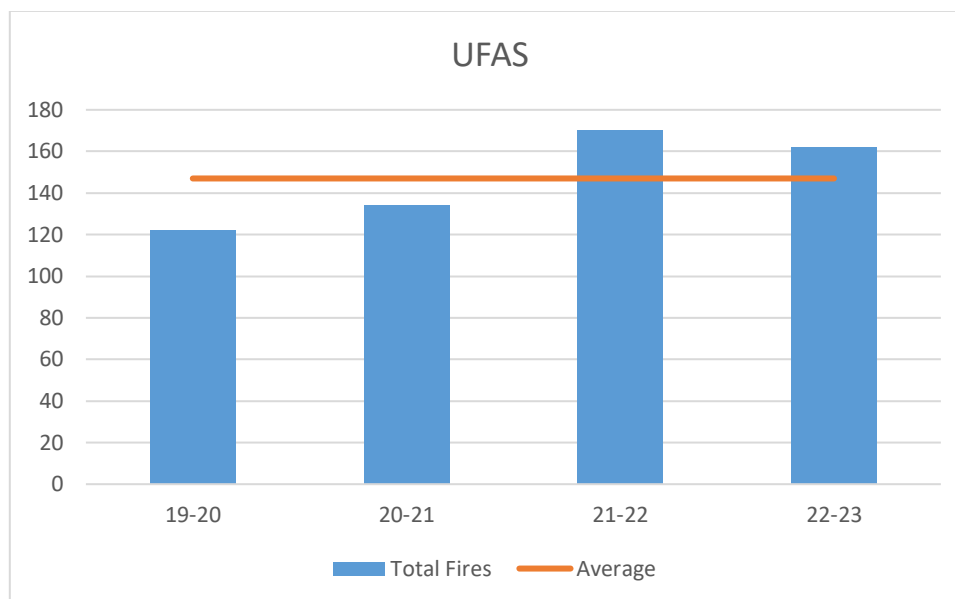
We continue to deliver a programme of fire safety audits in relevant premises - as detailed within section 78 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 - identified as high risk on an ongoing basis. We also complete thematic audit programmes where patterns emerge of incidents in a particular risk group.

As well as the audit programmes described above, SFRS staff also deliver 'post fire audits' which take place as soon as possible after a fire has occurred in premises. The purpose of these audits is to deliver further fire safety advice to the premises occupier, and to identify any issues which could be used to inform other similar premises types to prevent further incidents of a similar nature.

Some of the premises involved e.g domestic garages and sheds, are not covered by the above legislation but householder advice is given as part of the Post Domestic Incident Response programme.

6. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

6.1 An Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) can be defined as ‘any alarm activation which is not the result of a fire or a test’. The table and graph below details the incident numbers over four years.



Graph 7 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals – April – March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	65	75	108	85
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	57	59	62	77
Total	122	134	170	162

Table 7 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Cowdenbeath Ward Areas April - March 2019-2023

6.2 This period has seen a 5% decrease in attendance to UFAS incidents from the previous 2022-2022 reporting period. The data shows however that the 2022-23 figures remain 10% above the previous four-year average.

6.3 Of all Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS), 52% were due to system faults, maintenance/testing issues and careless activation. In the Cowdenbeath Ward Area, 70% of UFAS incidents were attributed to either Education (38%) or Care providers (21%).

6.4 Reduction in Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Strategy

UFAS incidents create a significant number of unnecessary blue light journeys, placing our firefighters and communities at risk, and tying up resources that may be needed at a real emergency elsewhere.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) Reduction Strategies continue to be managed and monitored by a 'UFAS Champion' who contacts premises occupiers after each UFAS incident to discuss the activation, as well as strategies to reduce or eliminate.

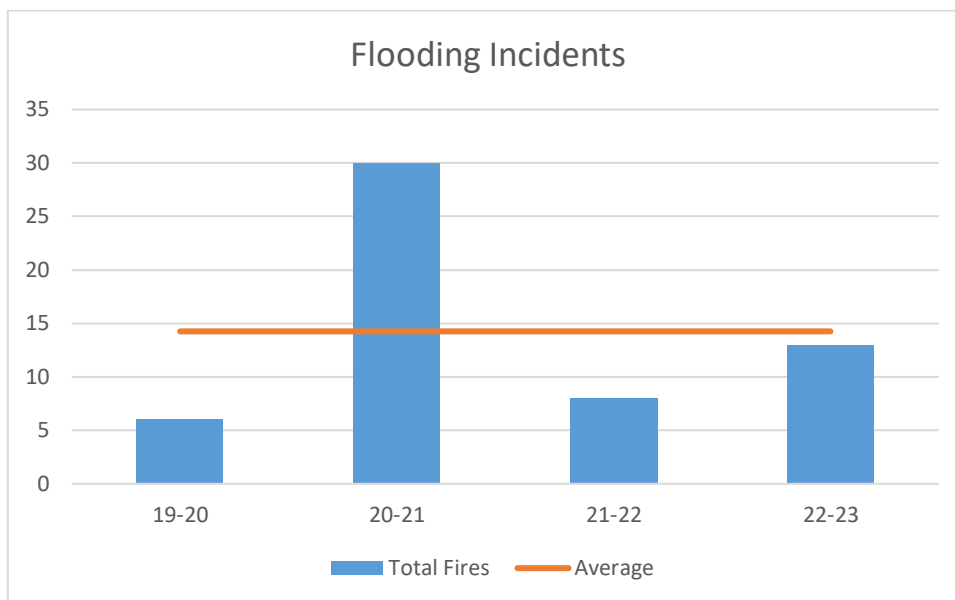
The UFAS Champion will continue to engage robustly with Fife Council Education, NHS Fife and other key stakeholders to provide support and drive new initiatives to reduce the number of UFAS. These building types are, however, statistically more susceptible to false alarms due to their size and consequent detection device numbers.

From July 2023, to reduce the impact of UFAS, we will be introducing a new approach to UFAS entitled "Time for Change". This will ensure our weight and speed of response to UFAS incidents is based on risk.

7. Transport and Environment

7.1 These will be monitored alongside Police Scotland RTC incident information

7.2 Water Related Incidents



Graph 8 Flooding Incidents – April – March 2019-2023

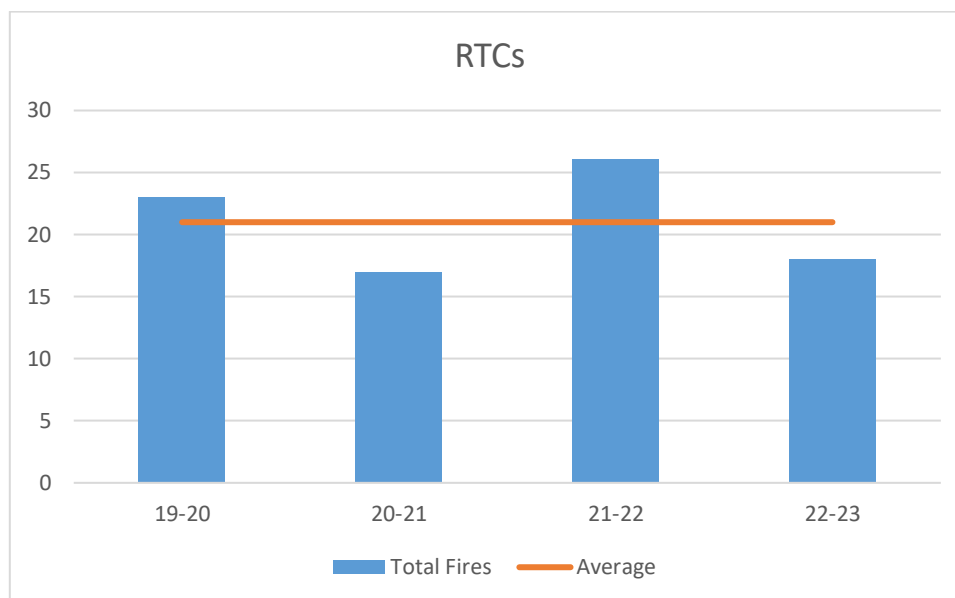
Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	21-23
Cowdenbeath	0	14	5	8
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	6	16	3	5
Total	6	30	8	13

Table 8 Flooding Incidents Cowdenbeath Ward Areas April - March 2019-2023

7.3 Water related incidents increased on the previous reporting year but still remain below the previous four-year average. All reported incidents related to flooding within domestic dwellings, with 85% of incidents involving making the scene safe and 15% of incidents requiring advice only.

7.4 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)

As SFRS generally only attend RTC's of a serious nature, where persons are trapped, the figures below do not capture every RTC that occurs within the Cowdenbeath Area.



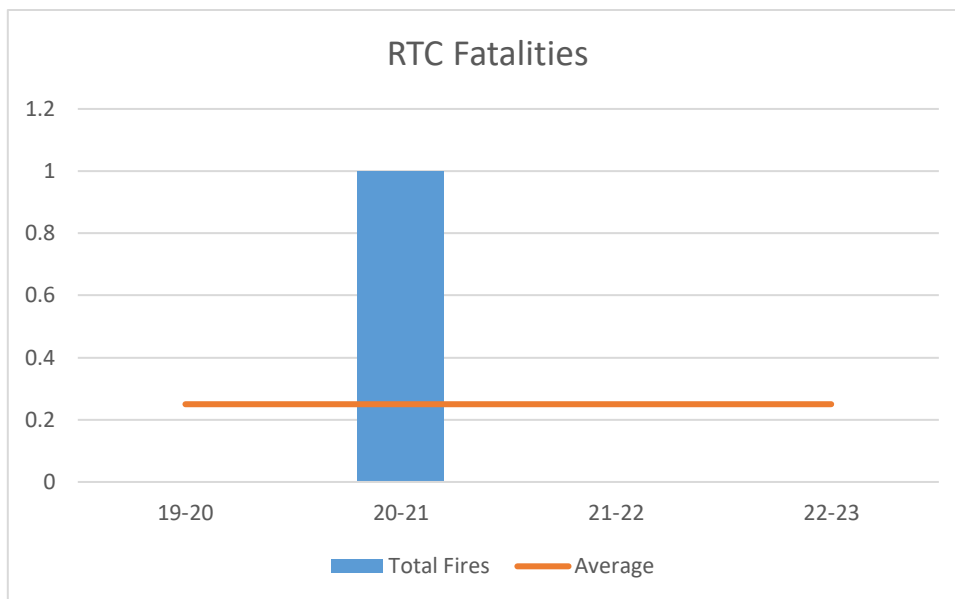
Graph 9 Road Traffic Collisions – April – March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	12	7	11	11
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	11	10	15	7
Total	23	17	26	18

Table 9 Road Traffic Collisions Cowdenbeath Ward Areas April - March 2019-2023

7.5 Road Traffic Collision incidents have seen a decrease of 21% on the previous reporting year and a 14% reduction on the four-year average.

7.6 RTC Fatal Casualties



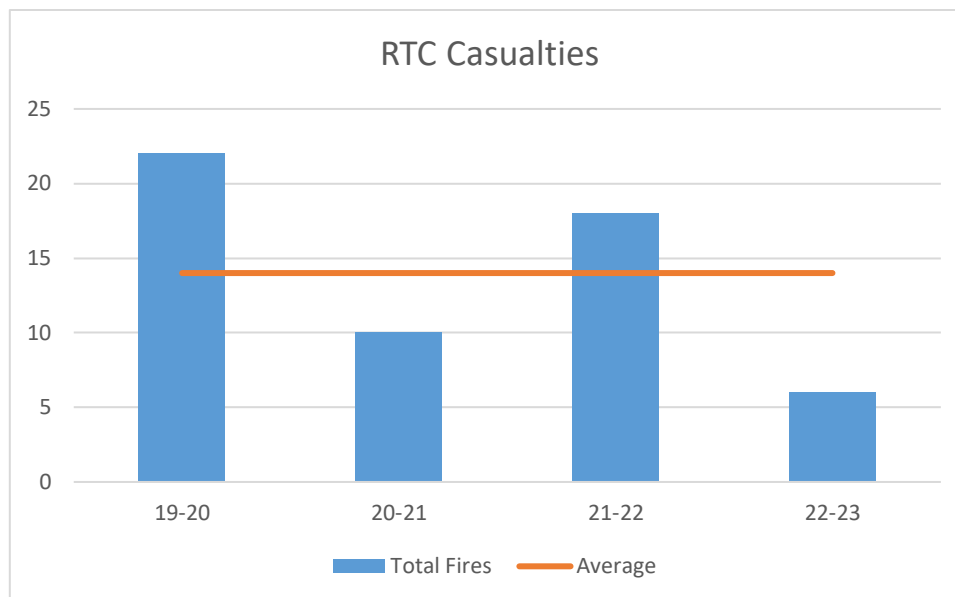
Graph 10 Road Traffic Collision Fatal Casualties – April – March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	0	1	0	0
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1	0	0

**Table 10 Road Traffic Collision Fatal Casualties Cowdenbeath Ward Areas
April - March 2019 - 2023**

7.7 There were no RTC fatalities in the Cowdenbeath Area roads in this reporting period. The SFRS continues to engage with partners to offer support and advice on road safety.

7.8 RTC Casualties



Graph 10 Road Traffic Collision Casualties – April – March 2019-2023

Cowdenbeath Area Wards	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Cowdenbeath	10	3	6	5
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	12	7	12	1
Total	22	10	18	6

Table 10 Road Traffic Collision Casualties by Committee Area – Cowdenbeath Ward Areas- April - March 2019-2023

7.9 RTC Casualties

This reporting period has seen a marked decrease in RTC casualties (66%) on the previous reporting year. This also equates to a reduction of 66% when compared to the four-year average. One of these casualties had serious injuries and five had slight injuries at the time of transfer to the care of the Scottish Ambulance Service. Of the six RTC incidents involving casualties, SFRS performed rescue techniques to extricate two people from their vehicles.

7.10 Transport and Environment Related Incident Reduction Strategy

SFRS Stirling-Clackmannanshire-Fife LSO area contribute towards the Road Casualty Reduction Group (RCRG), which is a part of the current Fife Community Safety Strategy. Along with our partners, SFRS also deliver valuable educational projects including 'Safe Drive Stay Alive', 'Drive Wise 65+', 'Child Car Seat Safety Checks' and 'Biker Down'.

7.11 Fife Water Safety Group – Partnership Approach to Water Safety (PAWS) Strategy.

This multi-agency group comprises of key local water safety partners and provides a consistent approach in delivering water safety across Fife.

The group will work to

- Share and pool resources, best practice and expertise
- Identify potential 'hotspots' and assess risk
- Ensure consistency in delivering water safety messages in Fife
- Ensure a collaborative multi agency working ethos is embedded in Water Safety work across Fife

8. Conclusions

The 2022-2023 annual performance report evidences positive prevention and early intervention activities undertaken to improve key performance indicators

As part of our focus to ensure year on year reductions we will look to review this data alongside the 2023-24 figures next year to determine any re-emerging trends or patterns in behaviours and activity.

It is pleasing to report that many of our Key Performance Indicators have seen a reduction in activity. Accidental Dwelling Fires, Deliberate Primary and Secondary Fires and RTCs have fallen in comparison to the previous year. There have been, thankfully, no fatal fire casualties or RTC fatalities.

The one area in which we have unfortunately continued to see a high number of incidents is that of Deliberate Secondary Fires. This is an area that the SFRS, alongside our local partners, will be striving to drive down over the coming twelve-month period.

The number of Home Fire Safety Visits facilitated and Community Safety events held during the reporting period has now returned to pre-pandemic levels. The targeting of resources to deliver Home Safety Visits to higher risk dwellings continues to have a positive outcome, with data showing a reduction in severity where fire incidents have occurred.

The SFRS will continue to adapt and manage demand reduction strategies, linking in with key partner agencies, where appropriate, to create a safer place to live, work and visit.

Background Papers

SFRS Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Fife Local Authority Area 2021. Link - <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/east/east-local-plans.aspx>

Report Contact

Jenny Murray

Station Commander

Lochgelly Community Fire Station

Service Delivery – Stirling - Clacks - Fife LSO Area

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

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14 June 2023

Agenda Item No. 6

Safer Communities Team Update Report

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

Wards Affected: Cowdenbeath area (Wards 7 and 8)

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide elected members with an update on the operational activity of the Safer Communities Team within the Cowdenbeath committee area during the 12 month period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to note and comment on the activity to date.

Resource Implications

None.

Legal & Risk Implications

None.

Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is not required as this report presents an update on the activity of the Safer Communities Team. No policy or funding changes are being proposed that are likely to have an impact on equality groups.

Consultation

Consultation has taken place with community safety partner agencies.

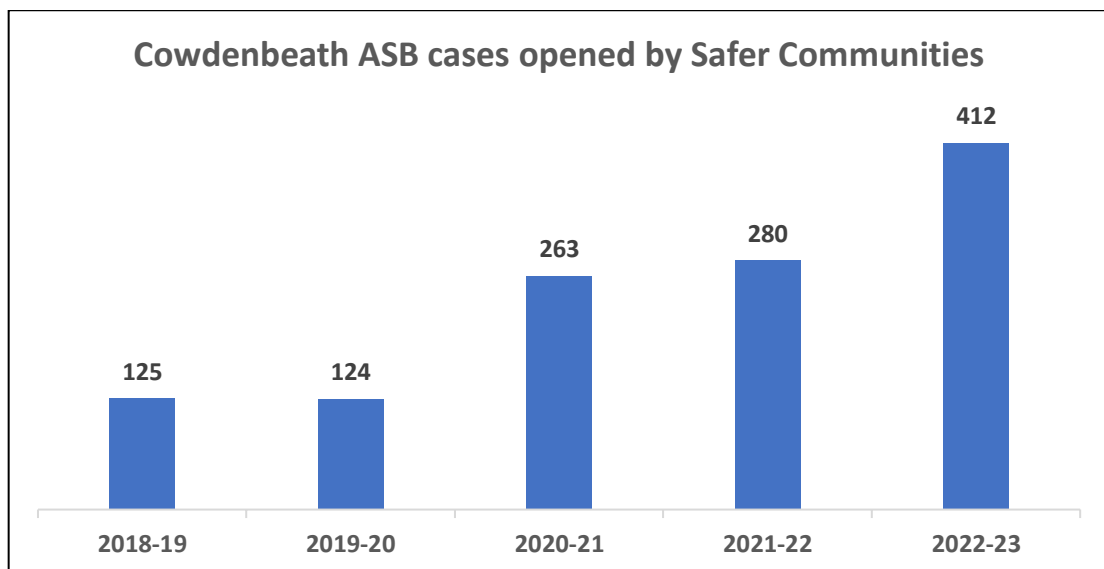
1.0 Background

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update elected members on the activity of the Safer Communities Team (SCT) within this committee area during the financial year 2022-23.
- 1.2. This report sits alongside individual updates from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). It should be noted that the three core agencies (Police Scotland, SFRS and Fife Council's SCT) may comment on work carried out *in partnership* with each other and other agencies but cannot comment specifically on work carried out independently by other services.
- 1.3. Some information may be included on Fife-wide activity to raise awareness of the range of activities which may be of interest to members and their constituents.
- 1.4. Each activity is categorised as either People or Place focussed.

2.0 People Focussed Activity

- 2.1. Our Fife Cares service received 93 referrals in relation to **home safety advice** during 2022-23, a decrease on the number received in the previous year (128 referrals). All clients were contacted and offered either a visit or a telephone contact.
- 2.2. The majority of home safety referrals (97%) related to requests for tailored home safety advice specifically for families with children under five years of age.
- 2.3. In the last financial year, the majority of home safety referrals for child safety were received from Health Visitors (60%), whilst the remainder come from a variety of other sources such as Community and Family Nurses, Social Work, Housing Officers, and family support services such as Fife Gingerbread and Homestart.
- 2.4. Over the same period, referrals for home safety in relation to vulnerable adults were predominantly received from Social Work Services and Housing Services (53%), but also come from Community Nurses, Fife LGBT, Frontline Fife, Housing Associations and Safer Communities Officers.
- 2.5. During 2022-23, officers from the Safer Communities Team attended quarterly meetings of the Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness Cross Party Working Group chaired by Claire Adamson MSP and held at the Scottish Parliament. At the March 2023 meeting, as part of the 10th anniversary celebrations of the group, officers were invited to present a "good news" input on the Fife Cares service. This included information on how the service keeps abreast of changes, emerging trends and risks, and how it evolves in response. This input was extremely well received and led to further discussion between those in attendance. Appendix 1 contains details of the input delivered.
- 2.6. Referrals to the Fife Cares service regarding **home security advice**, under the Safe, Secure and Supported at Home initiative, decreased during 2022-23 compared to the previous year (82 and 115 respectively).

- 2.7. Safe Secure and Supported at Home referrals are mainly received from Police Scotland (54%), but also from other sources such as Fife Women’s Aid, Housing Officers, Health Visitors and Social Work.
- 2.8. During 2022-23, Fife Cares staff were asked to provide 24 separate inputs to groups or community events across Fife, and at one national event, on the subject of Home Safety and Security. Two of these events took place in the Cowdenbeath committee area.
- 2.9. **Fife Community Safety Support Service (FCSSS)** is funded by the Safer Communities Team to provide support and/or mediation to those experiencing, or involved in, antisocial behaviour in a private space setting. The service received 64 referrals, an increase on the previous year (42).
- 2.10. Of the referrals received by FCSSS, 22 resulted in the provision of emotional or practical support whilst the remaining 42 involved some form of mediation between the parties involved.
- 2.11. Appendix 2 provides examples of feedback received by FCSSS plus some additional information on the service.
- 2.12. As of 17th January 2022, the Safer Communities Team became the single point of contact for all cases of private space **antisocial behaviour (ASB)**. This, coupled with the increase of private space ASB during the pandemic, has led to a significant increase in cases dealt with by the team, as demonstrated by the following graph:

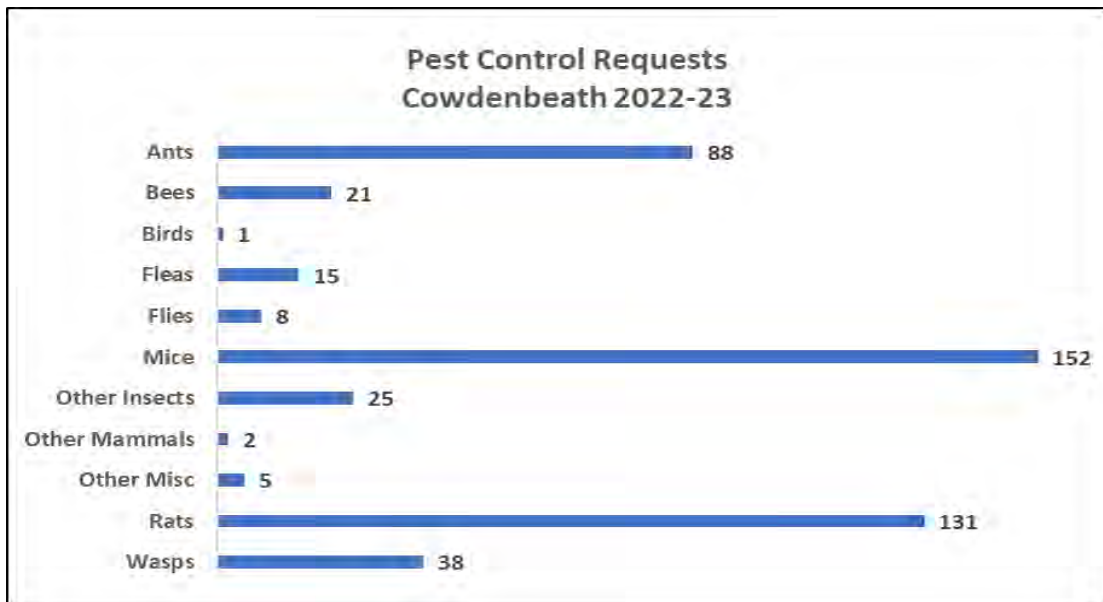


- 2.13. Of the cases within the Cowdenbeath committee area which were closed in 2022-23, 96% were resolved within locally agreed timescales Please see table 1 below for timescales involved and appendix 3 for the Scottish Housing Regulator’s definition of resolved cases.

Table1: Locally Agreed Timescales for Antisocial Behaviour Cases

Category	Target timescale: Initial contact - complainer	Target timescale: Resolution
Extreme	1 working day	12 months
Serious	3 working days	6 months
General	5 working days	2 months

2.14. Our **Pest Control** officers responded to 486 requests for service during 2022-23, compared to 478 in the previous year. The number and type of pests dealt with are depicted in following chart:



2.15. Twenty four **stray dogs** reports were received by the Safer Communities Dog Wardens, an increase on the previous year (nine). Eighteen of the dogs were microchipped, but only seven reflected the correct details of their owners. Seventeen dogs were subsequently claimed/returned to their owner and the remaining seven were passed to an animal charity for assessment prior to being rehomed. Officers continue to raise awareness of the importance of microchipping and the legislation in force.

2.16. In 2022-23, Safer Communities Project Officers resumed their **Dog Watch** initiative, a project aimed at commercial dog walkers across Fife, which began in 2019 but had to take a break during the pandemic. This project aims to encourage commercial dog walkers who use Fife's parks and greenspaces to sign up to a voluntary scheme and register their details with the Council. By complying with the criteria within the scheme, commercial dog walkers can:

- reduce their impact on local parks and other users
- set a good example to other dog walkers
- deliver a safe and quality service for their customers

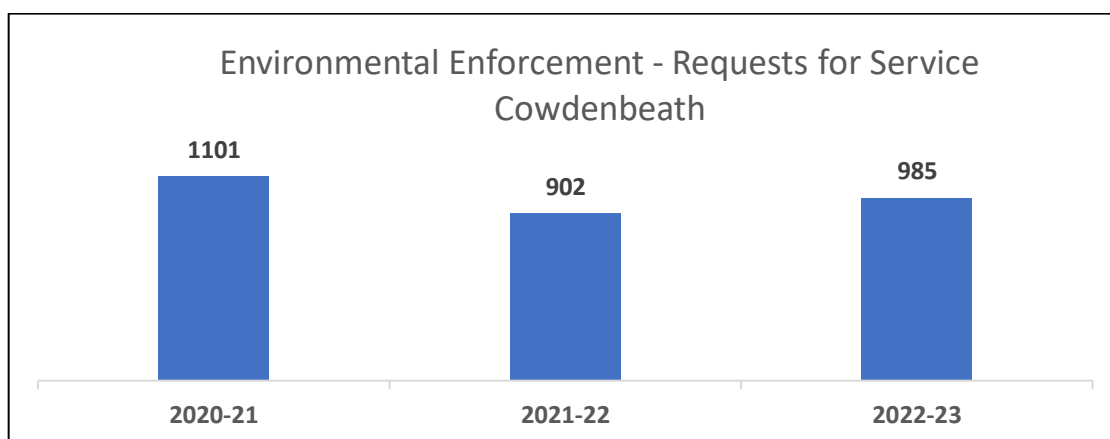
- 2.17. The wider public benefit from Dog Watch by knowing that those dog walkers who have signed up to the scheme have been individually inspected - including their vehicles - to ensure they are safe for transporting dogs. In 2022-23, a total of 17 dog walkers have joined, two of whom are from the Cowdenbeath area.
- 2.18. Reports of attacks by dogs during lambing season are unfortunately becoming more common. In partnership with Police Scotland, Safer Communities Team set up a pilot event at Falkland Estate on Friday 10th March to engage with members of the public and to provide awareness of the importance of keeping their dogs on the lead and under control, particularly during lambing season. This event also provided us with the opportunity to speak to the public about dog fouling and other wildlife issues.
- 2.19. Due to the success of this event and further reports about attacks, we hosted a similar event in Blairadam Forest on 12th April 2023. Whilst this event occurs outwith the reporting year, we felt it important to share this information now. The Blairadam Forest event was supported by more partners on the day, including Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, Forestry Commission, National Sheep Association, SSPCA (Scottish Society Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), PARC (Partnership against Rural Crime) and Police Scotland. The event received national attention and was covered by STV, raising awareness at a crucial time in the lambing season and hopefully preventing further attacks across the country, not only in Fife. The plan is to make these annual events which we will host at various locations around Fife.
- 2.20. The Fife Community Safety Partnership has recently reinvigorated the Road Casualty Reduction Group, in which officers from Safer Communities Team are involved. Our Project Officers provided a number of **Road Safety** initiatives which covered the whole life spectrum from birth onwards (see appendix 4 for road safety activities focussed on each life stage).
- 2.21. Whilst some events were delivered to a Fife-wide audience, the following were delivered specifically within the Cowdenbeath committee area:
- Don't Park It Here campaign
 - Junior Road Safety Officers Initiative (7 schools – 51 children)
 - Safe Drive Stay Alive (2 schools – 115 pupils)
- 2.22. Appendix 5 provides additional information about the range of initiatives involved.
- 2.23. Project Officers from the Safer Communities Team support the Fife Water Safety Group, which is a working group set up under the Fife Community Safety Partnership's Reducing Harm priority). During 2022-23, our officers attended the Train the Trainer for **Waterside Responders Course**, and they are working with RNLI to set up a course in 2023-24 for local businesses. The aim is to have local responders on hand in areas where water safety issues may occur.
- 2.24. Our project officers also identified the gap for an emergency first aid and water safety course for **Wild and Open Water Swimmers**. SCT officers will work with RNLI to create a suitable course to offer to these groups during 2023-24.
- 2.25. Our **Youth Justice Officers** received 29 referrals about young people in the Cowdenbeath area from the Youth Offender Management Group (YOMG)

during 2022-23, an increase on the previous year (12). This is due to the increased capacity of Safer Communities Youth Justice Officers, following successful recruitment during 2022-23.

- 2.26. In previous years, we have been able to provide statistical evidence that our work with young people creates positive outcomes. Unfortunately, the information we use to demonstrate the success of our activity is held by Police Scotland and is currently unavailable due to a change of systems. We hope to be able to access this valuable information at a later date. In the meantime, our Youth Justice Officers are working on methods of obtaining feedback from young people and the different people involved in their lives to provide a qualitative evaluation of the work they carry out.
- 2.27. Appendix 6 provides more information about our youth justice activities during 2022-23.

3.0 Place Focussed Activity

- 3.1 In terms of **environmental enforcement** issues, 985 requests for service were received for the Cowdenbeath area during 2022-23. The following graph shows comparative figures for the past 3 years:



- 3.2 Appendix 7 provides data showing the number of reports per type in terms of Environmental Enforcement over the past three years.
- 3.3 Our Safer Communities Officers (SCOs) carried out 3239 **patrols** in this area over the reporting period compared with 3890 patrols in the previous year.
- 3.4 A large number of these patrols were carried out in relation to youth disorder in the area, Lochgelly Public Park, Lochore Meadows and Glenraig are all areas of concern, SCO's work in partnership with Police to attend and provide a visible reassuring presence for members of the public. SCO's engage with the young people in the areas, monitoring for any anti-social behaviour/vandalism/fire setting/consumption of alcohol and intervene where necessary.
- 3.5 W/C 15th February SCO's carried out a week of action regards dog fouling around Lochgelly Park, Officers carried out dawn and dusk twilight patrols morning and late afternoon, engaging with the many dog walkers providing them with information why the SCO's were there and the penalties for failure to pick up after their dogs.

- 3.6 SCO's were involved with assisting the staff and residents of Cedar House with the clearing of weeds and the planting of flowers in tubs and borders.
- SCO's also carried out a litter pick with Teachers and pupils of P4 from Cowdenbeath Primary.
- Officers also supply equipment such as litter picks, black bags, gloves and arrange uplift of waste for many individuals and groups in the area who conduct their own litter picks.

4.0 Campaigns and events

- 4.1. Team members are normally involved in a variety of **events** throughout each year. Due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic during 2022-23 we continued to utilise our **social media** platforms to convey the community safety message to the residents of Fife. We provided information, advice, and assistance on a number of different campaigns. We attracted over 8,500 followers on Facebook during 2022-23 and, overall, we reached an audience of over 685,000 people across Fife. See appendix 8 for further information.
- 4.2. In order to keep up to date with forthcoming events and activities co-ordinated by the Safer Communities Team or shared by the Team on behalf of partner agencies, members are invited to 'like' our Facebook page **Safer Communities Fife** or follow us on Twitter **@safeinfife**.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1. This report provides members with information on the wide range of safer communities' activity being undertaken in this committee area, in line with local priorities and emerging issues, and in partnership with other community safety organisations.

List of Appendices:

- Appendix 1 - Fife Cares input to Cross Party Working Group
- Appendix 2 - FCSSS – further information on Fifewide services (2022-23)
- Appendix 3 - Scottish Housing Regulator Guidance – ASB (March 2023)
- Appendix 4 - Road Safety timeline
- Appendix 5 - Road Safety initiatives
- Appendix 6 - Youth Justice activity
- Appendix 7 - Environmental Enforcement – three year trend data by type
- Appendix 8 - Safer Communities Team Facebook page information

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Fife Cares Input to Cross Party Working Group March 2023

Good news story of the Fife Cares Service where we provide free child safety visits and free home safety visits for vulnerable adults.

- This service is of the utmost importance to the people who are receive it and are working in it
- It is vital to maintain the service to help reduce unintentional harm and make a difference to those we can reach
- We continue to face huge challenges of reducing budgets and the increasing costs of everything, from staff costs to fuel and equipment
- We are continually examining our methods of working and the menu of equipment we provide as well as advice we give
 - We must examine our equipment against costs to see if there is an alternative way to deliver the safety involved
 - An example of this is to deliver safety gates along with appropriate advice instead of fitting stair gates
 - We are providing more advice both verbal and written in form of booklets and have produced our own library of booklets with advice, as well as utilising resources from other partners
 - We are also involved in making our delivery more efficient and effective such as delivering advice through discussion with groups such as nursery mums and elderly forums etc.
- In our partnership with RoSPA we look at what they are doing and have done and learn from their experience and knowledge. We also share what we are doing with them.
- Through partnership working we take on board issues raised here at CPG such as the danger of button batteries, and work with partners such as CAPT to promote safer use of such batteries
- We promote these messages through events and social media as well as at each visit we carry out. Now we are finding that more parents of young children at visits are aware of these dangers. We do however continue to spread the messages.
- Evaluation of what we are doing is essential to our continued improvement–

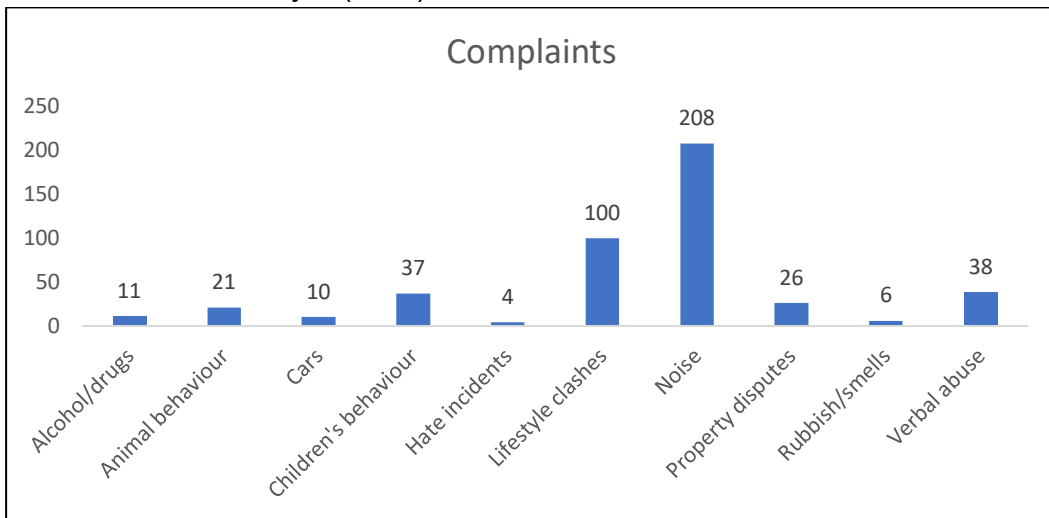
- We use mobile working and utilise computer tablets to record our visits and now have evaluation questions on our work tablets for each visit
- We have just completed a pilot with a Child Nursery Focus Group examining what we do regarding child safety visits to find out what the parents think and what matters to them
- We listen to clients at our visits and collate information about what they need and what is important to them – recently we have had several issues raised around child car seats and we are also trained by RoSPA to check these and to provide appropriate advice.
- It is essential to attend important forums such as CPG to listen to and communicate with partners even when, on face of it, the subject does not seem connected. An example of this was Health and Safety in Waste Mgt. – Lithium-Ion battery risks – home fire risks

Good News in Summary:

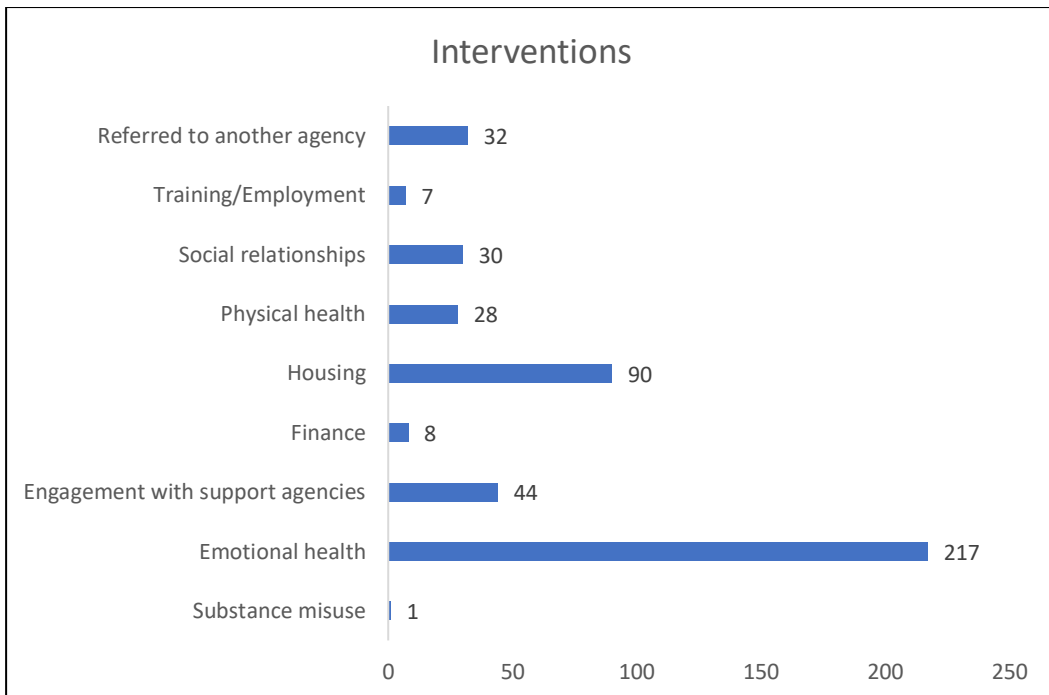
- We continue to work together to prevent unintentional harm
- Our service has evolved using partners and forums like CPG
- We will continue to evaluate our service and to adapt it according to the needs of our clients, whilst taking cognisance of other pressures and influences.

FCSSS - Further information of Fifewide services (2022-23)

- All referrals were responded to within 2 working days
- The majority of referrals were received from the Safer Communities Team (79%)
- Complaints about noise were most common (45%), followed by issues to do with clashes of lifestyle (22%)

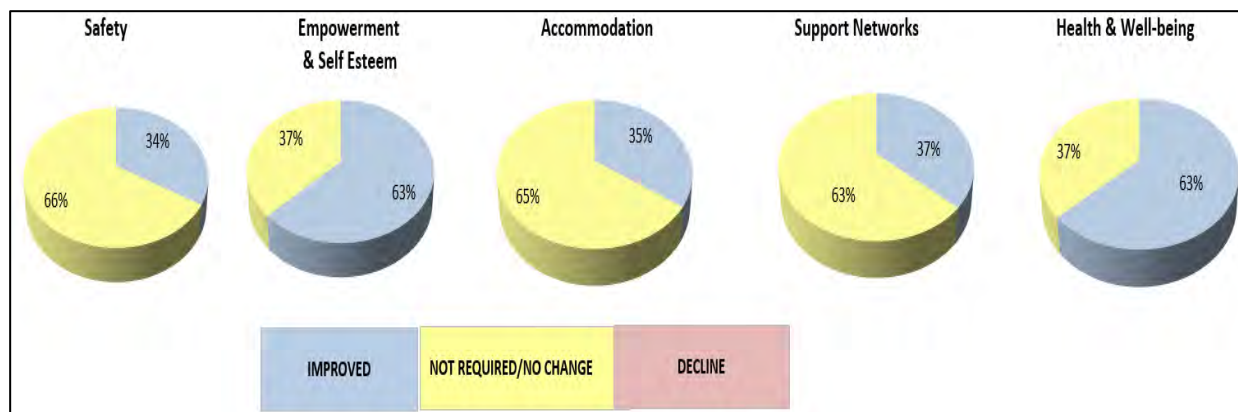


- A total of 544 households were involved with FCSSS during 2022-23
- Interventions delivered were as follows:



- Outcomes in relation to support cases are measured using the Empowerment Star assessment tool, where clients feedback on how their involvement with FCSSS has affected five different areas of their lives. The following diagram

shows that improvements were made in all areas, but specifically Empowerment and Self Esteem and Health and Wellbeing:



Examples of customer feedback:

Do you think there have been positive changes to your life since taking part in the Service?

"Having someone to talk to other than my family has really helped, I am continuing to feel more confident and positive now and using breathing techniques suggested to me"

"Having someone to talk to about my fears and anxiety have helped, I have found strength to contact the police when needed, I have been referred to the wardens and feel safer"

What did FCSSS do well?

"Helped put me in the right direction"

"Provided a safe space to talk"

"Referred me onto the wardens and liaised with Fife Council"

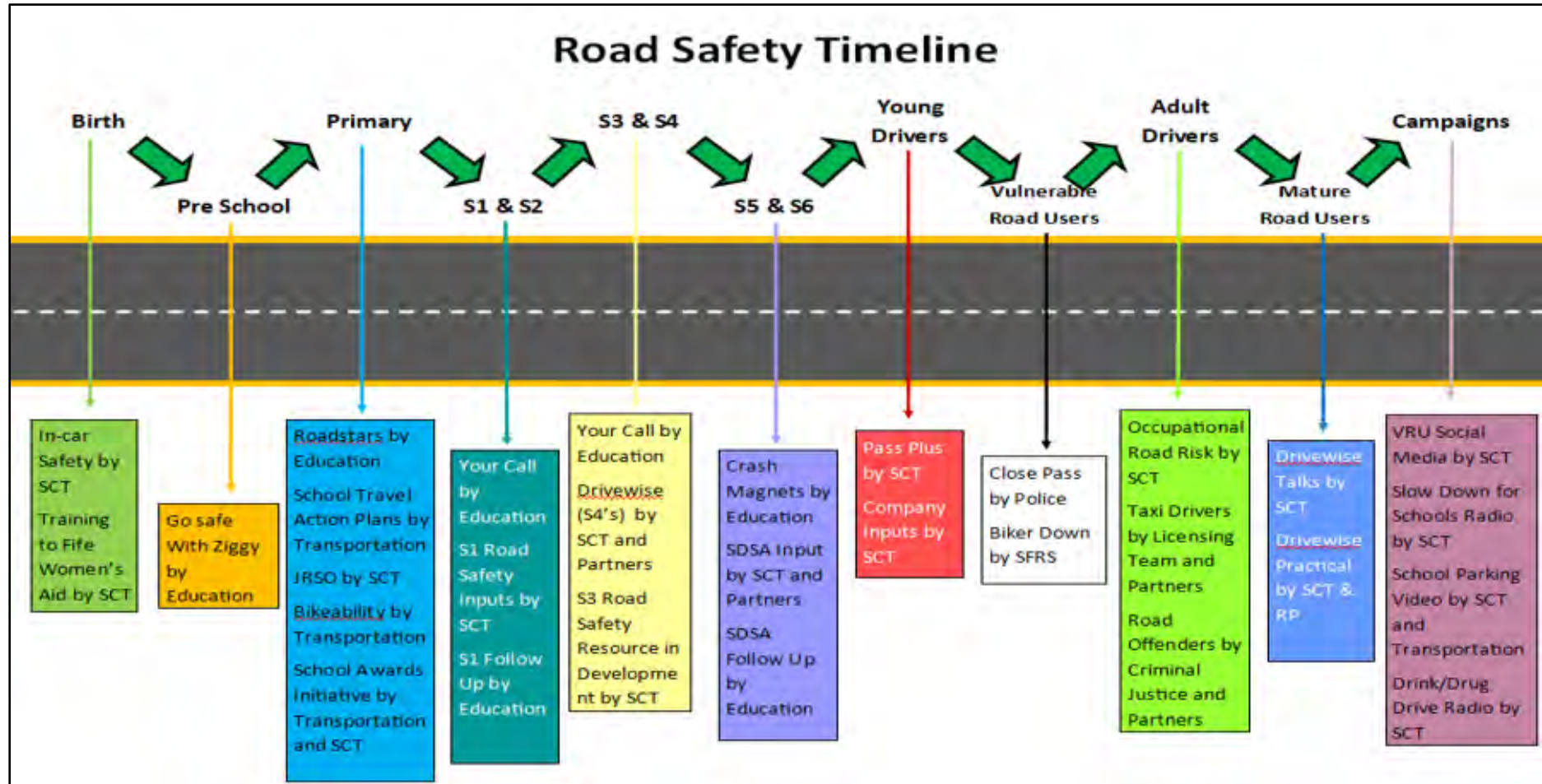
What could FCSSS do better?

(No comments made).

Scottish Housing Regulator Guidance for Landlords (March 2023)

Antisocial Behaviour

<p>Indicator</p> <p>15</p> <p>(Updated)</p>	<p><i>Percentage of anti-social behaviour cases reported in the last year which were resolved.</i></p> <p>(i) Number of cases of anti-social behaviour reported in the last year. Of those at (i):</p> <p>(ii) Number of cases resolved in the last year.</p>
<p>Definition</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where the landlord has taken appropriate measures, as set out in its ASB policies and procedures, to address the cause of the anti-social behaviour complaint and has advised the complainant of the outcome; or • where the landlord does not have the authority or powers to resolve and it has provided a full explanation of the landlord's position to the complainant. <p>A Case</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A case is opened when a tenant or service user reports an incident of ASB to their landlord. • A case can be made up of a single report/complaint of ASB; or • Multiple reports/complaints about the same party, made whilst a case is still ongoing. Such further reports/complaints would not be counted as a further new case. • Once a case is resolved and a further report/complaint of ASB is received, this should be treated as a new case.



Road Safety Initiatives

In Car Safety

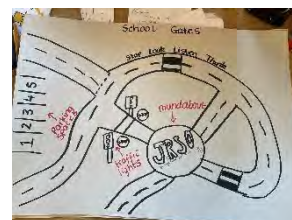


Clinics and Individual checks – SCT staff continue to carry out child car seat clinics, especially to coincide with National Child Safety week. In 22/23 we hosted three clinics, one in Dalgety Bay (SWF), one in Leuchars (NEF) and one in conjunction with Police Scotland at Leven Prom.

Fife Women’s Aid Training – Our staff are also in the process of carrying out training to Fife Women’s Aid to assist them with the knowledge of how to fit their car seats safely when transporting children for their work.

Primary

Roadstars Competition – To promote the new national Roadstars road safety resource SCT partnered with Transportation services to launch a Fife-wide Primary School competition. To encourage entries we pulled together our own version of what we were asking schools to do with a number of partnering agencies and the Provost ([Roadstars Song Partnership Version 2](#)) A number of schools from across Fife entered and the eventual winner was Carleton Primary ([Carleton Roadstars - YouTube](#)), who were awarded £500 to place towards road safety resources at their school. They have chosen to use these funds to place markings in their playground to carry out Bikeability training (photo to show their design). The current Transport Minister awarded the school with their prize on 20th February.



Don’t Park Here Campaign – Just before the end of the 2021/22 school year, we again partnered with Transportation to run a new initiative called Don’t Park Here. The aim being to produce short videos to discourage adults from parking irresponsibly around the gates of schools and especially on yellow zig zags. We worked with three schools in Cowdenbeath, Dunfermline and Leven to produce these videos that schools could use on their social media in the new academic year.

JRSO Initiative – Our team continue to support the Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) initiative across all Fife Schools. During this financial year we have visited 37 primary schools to help establish JRSO’s within their schools. The area breakdown for these schools is as follows (other schools are continuing to run the programme but have not needed our assistance to set up this year).

Leuchars Event – SCT were invited to Leuchars Army Base to attend a primary school event. Over 400 P6/7 pupils from schools across Fife attended an engagement day organised by Leuchars. We hosted a couple of workstations at the event, one was focussed on road safety using our reaction timers and snakes and ladders game, the other station was based around responsible recycling and was run by two SCO’s.



Individual Inputs – In November we were invited in to Hill of Beath Primary to talk to all of their pupils about road safety during two assemblies. This is a service we offer if there has been an issue at the school around road safety. As this was a cycling issue we partnered up with the Bikeability Co-ordinator from Transportation.



Secondary

S1 Talks – Our project officers have continued to carry out S1 talks within the Kirkcaldy area, as we cannot provide this input to all schools we looked to where our resources are needed most and this area has the highest number of statistical evidence for need for inputs. In 22/23 we carried out 25 class talks to 625 S1 Pupils at Balwearie HS (10 classes / 261 pupils), Kirkcaldy HS (9 classes / 220 pupils) and St Andrews HS (6 classes / 144 pupils).

St Andrews HS - In December 2022 a S2 pupil was unfortunately involved in a road traffic collision on coming out of school. The school then invited us in to deliver a short input at year group assemblies to S1-S4 (647 Pupils) and then we also talked to individual S1 (6 classes / 144 pupils) and S2 classes (6 classes / 145 pupils).

S3 Project with Kirkcaldy HS – We were approached by the Guidance team in Kirkcaldy HS to help them create a suitable road safety resource that will engage their S3 pupils. We are working with them on this and hope to have something in place for the new academic year.

SDSA

Inputs and follow Up Resource – We have now fully moved the SDSA programme away from Rothes Halls and are taking the input directly to each school. This is still a partnership project but is led and co-ordinated by Safer Communities. All 18 high schools received the SDSA input and this year we also were able to deliver to St Leonard's Private School in St Andrews. A total of 2480 pupils received the input. The breakdown of the numbers are as follows:

We have also produced a follow up resource for the guidance staff to use within PSE classes. This enable the teachers to gain discussion with the pupils.

SDSA Future – This year we have also filmed other partners so that we can keep the film up to date with the most relevant content. We are also in discussions with

Education to pursue the option of SDSA being a set part of the curriculum rather than an opt in programme.

Pass Plus

We continue to support and fund new drivers to gain additional driving knowledge and experience. This financial year we have held 4 online courses with a total of 12 new drivers attending. This project continues to have support from a Fife Road Policing officer. Numbers are not high in this project as funding is limited.

Road Traffic Offenders

Course – This 5 week course is run by Criminal Justice but we are invited to present an input during week 1 and then present SDSA in week 5. This financial year only one course has taken place with 12 participants from across Fife. The next course is planned for May 2023.

New Project – Criminal Justice have contacted us about developing a new resource for Fife residents who they need to work with but are not in the system long enough to attend one of the above courses. We have had an initial meeting with them to discuss this and hope to create something for later this year.

Taxi Drivers

The Taxi Driver course has not run since early 2020 due to covid. Licencing have recently brought together all the partners to discuss setting up the courses again and they are due to start in April 2023. Safer Communities presents a generic road safety input at each of these dates.

Older Drivers

Talks – We currently offer talks to Older groups about how to stay driving safely for longer. This financial year we have given 5 talks.

Practical Days – Last year we introduced the new Drivewise 65+ days. This is a practical session for older drivers who attend a venue and go on a drive observed by a Road Policing officer. They are then given hints and tips to help keep them safe and driving for longer. We held two events during the last financial year.

Group Talk



Drivewise 65+ Event



Radio Campaigns

Slow Down for Schools – We produced this radio campaign to encourage drivers to think about their speed when they are driving near to schools when the pupils are starting and finishing. The messages were recorded by safer Communities staff and Police Scotland. The plan is to have two campaigns running during the year, one at the start of the academic year in Aug/Sept and one when the pupils go back after Christmas. Due to funding we did not hold this campaign in Aug 2022 but created a partnership with Ford in Dec 2022 and they supported our Jan 2023 campaign.

Partnership with Ford

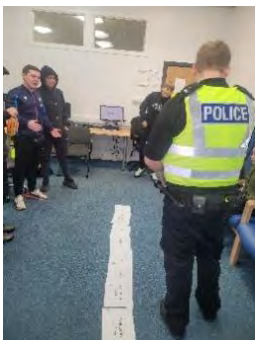
We formed a partnership with Fife Ford in Dec 2022 and as part of this they are funding our radio campaigns for Slow Down for Schools and we also hope to hold future radio campaigns on other subjects in 2023.

Youth Justice activities

Our officers co-ordinate or take part in activities and provided advice, guidance and information to young people, their parents/guardians and also professionals from other agencies, all of which is designed to support young people and to prevent them becoming involved in problematic behaviour, lifestyles or situations.

Listed below are some of the activities our Youth Justice Officers (YJO) were involved in during 2022-23:

- No Knives Better Lives inputs at Viewforth High School, Inverkeithing High School and Wade Academy.



- Anti Social Behaviour inputs at Auchtermuchty PS, St Johns PS, Kings Road PS, Methilhill PS, Rimbleton PSS, St Columbas HS, Warout PS.
- Diversifire at Dunfermline, Lochgelly and Methil.
- F24 program at Auchmuty High.
- Leading a Park Golf diversion in Kirkcaldy in partnership with Fife Golf Trust and Dunnikeir Golf Club.

- Part of a partnership response to youth ASB in Cupar, Dunfermline and Glenrothes (supporting Clued Up and Cupar Youth Café).
- Supporting the Creative Change Collective Tic Tok program over 12 weeks delivered in Kirkcaldy.



- We have also supported young people both individually and in groups at Inverkeithing HS, Woodmill HS, St Columbas, Auchmuty HS, Madras College, Lochgelly HS.
- Co facilitating Ask/Tell Suicide Prevention training with Fife Health and Social Care Partnership.

- YJOs are part of the following initiative/projects:
 - Fife Suicide Prevention Network (co-ordinated by Fife Social Care Partnership)
 - Brighter Futures Health Hub
 - YAP Group.

We asked our Youth Justice Officers to answer the following questions about work they took part in during 2022-23:

Why did you get involved in specific projects?

We attend regular meetings such as YOMG, youth work meetings, strategy groups, MVP strategy group amongst others, as a result of attending these meetings it identifies opportunities to offer support.

Who, or which agencies, asked for your help and who have you helped?

Partners such as Education, Police Scotland and SFRS mainly. Other third sector partners we have approached directly - this is for support with their expertise, such as BRAG with their F24 experience or Clued Up to support programs with their inputs.

What partnership working took place?

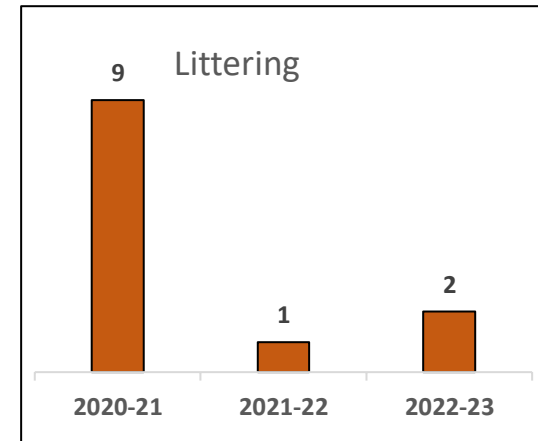
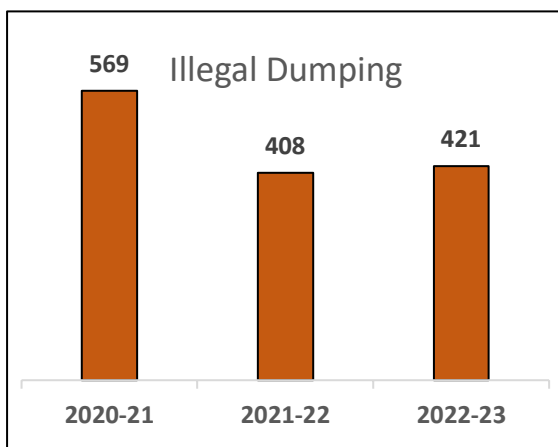
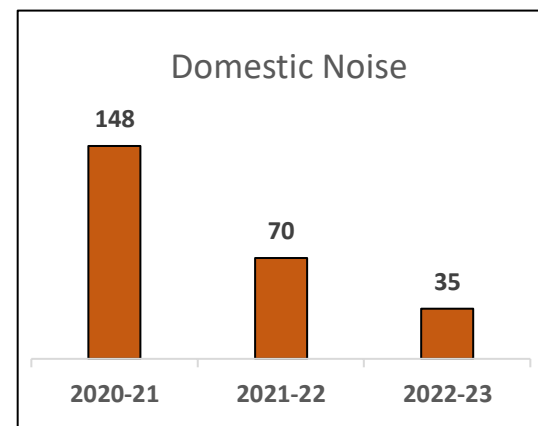
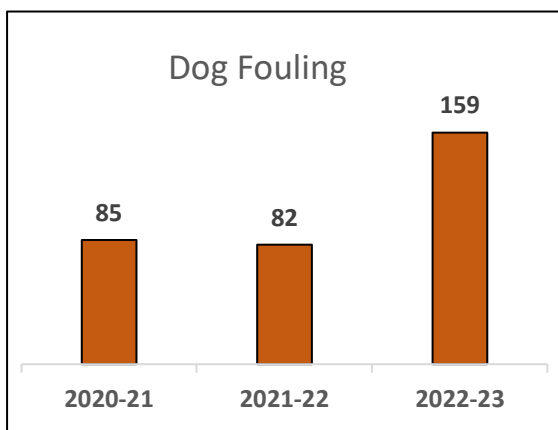
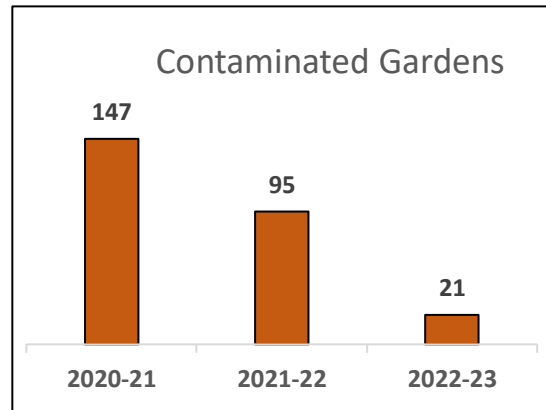
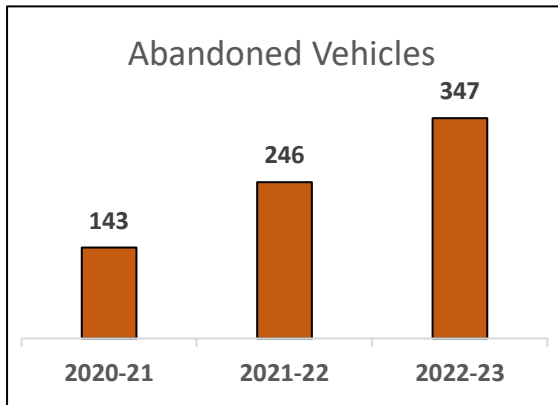
Each partner plays to their strengths and knowledge base, e.g. – at Diversifire, SFRS lead the 'drill yard' element and YJO's are responsible for identifying and supporting the young people to complete the course successfully. Police Scotland lead an Anti-Social Behaviour input as well as provide an officer for the week to show the human side of Policing. Clued Up deliver a harm reduction input surrounding alcohol and substance use.

What was the outcome of your involvement with young people?

It's really difficult to measure an outcome for preventative work. However, the aim is that we provide an opportunity for young people to be educated and supported in a way that allows them to gain insight and understanding about the impact of their behaviour in their local community, as well as knowledge about supportive agencies.

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

(Cowdenbeath 2020-2023)



Safer Communities on Facebook

- During 2022-23, the Safer Communities Team social media platforms:
 - attracted a total of 8,533 **followers**
 - received 1,229 **new page likes**
 - attracted an **audience** comprised mainly of women aged between 35-44 (77.6% women and 22.4% men)
 - **reached** a total of 685,709 people.
- The **top five towns** our followers reside in are
 - Dunfermline (19.9%),
 - Kirkcaldy (15.8%),
 - Glenrothes (13.4%),
 - Leven (9.5%)
 - Cupar (5.9%)
- Our **highest reaching, highest reactions** and most shared post was in relation to a lost dog, which received a reach of 35.7k reach, 257 reactions, 75 comments and 489 shares.

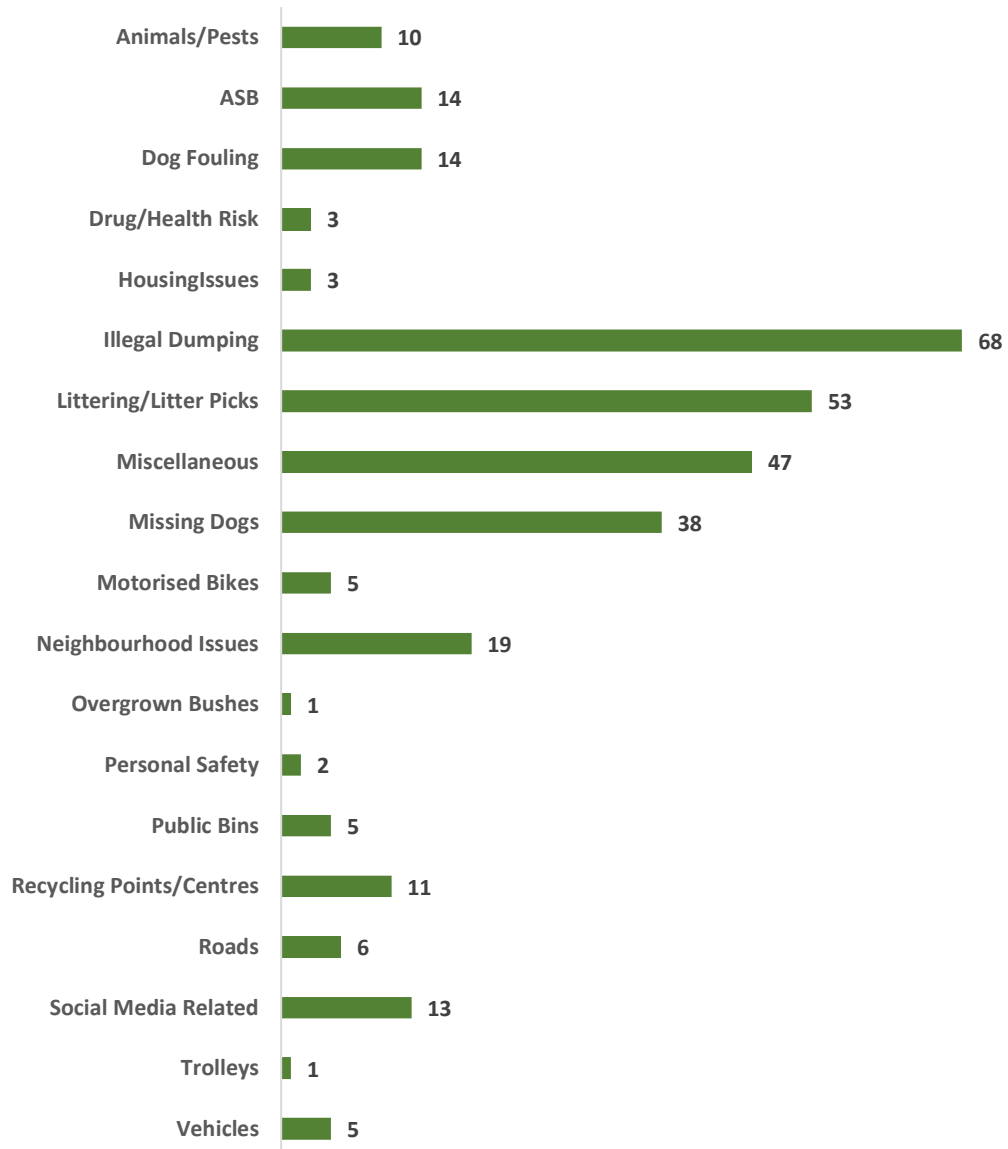
The screenshot shows a Facebook post featuring a photo of a small, fluffy brown dog. The post text reads: "UPDATE...A massive thank you to everyone who shared ..." dated March 7, 2023 at 9:26 AM. Below the text, it shows interaction counts: 257 reactions, 75 comments, and 489 shares. A "Boost post" button is visible at the top right of the post area.

Below the post, a "Performance" section provides analytics:

Reach	Reactions, comment...	Results
Total: 35,656	Total: 821	Total: --
Worst Best	Worst Best	Link clicks: --
This post reached more Accounts Center accounts than 100% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.	This post received more reactions, comments and shares than 100% of your 50 most recent Facebook posts and stories.	

- Posts about lost and stray dogs are always very popular and are our top 5 **highest hitting** posts.
- Our **most commented** on post was in connection to the new lids on milk bottles, with 219 reactions and 86 comments. It had a reach of 17,324.
- 318 messages were sent to us via our **Social Media Messenger** account. The following diagram shows the number of messages received by this method and the subject they related to. The majority of messages received were about illegal dumping (68 messages). The miscellaneous category accounted for a variety of subjects, including unsafe walls, speeding, cuckooing, and fireworks.

Social Media Messages Received



14th June 2023

Agenda Item No. 7

Proposed Double Yellow Lines – Ballingry Road and Hill Road, Ballingry

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

Wards Affected: Ward 8 – Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to allow the Cowdenbeath Area Committee to consider proposals to introduce “No Waiting At Any Time” restrictions in Ballingry Road and Hill Road, Ballingry.

Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) agrees to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the restrictions detailed in drawing no. TRO23_18 (Appendix 1) 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 £2300, 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, Benarty Community Council, Parking Management team, and Police Scotland have been advised.

Formal consultation required by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the TRO process will be carried out through the posting of legal notices in a local newspaper

and on the affected length of roads. In addition, details of the proposed TRO will be made available on Fife Council's website.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Lochgelly South Primary School is temporarily closing after the 2022/23 school year with pupils decanted to St. Kenneth's RC Primary School, Ballingry.
- 1.2 School buses will use a route where buses will exit Ballingry Road at its junction with Hill Road and collect / drop off children at the existing bus stand lay-by outside St Bernard's Church adjacent to St Kenneth's RC Primary School.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The School Transport Team have reviewed the intended school bus route and conducted test runs using buses and have identified the Ballingry Road / Hill Road junction as a location where parked vehicles will obstruct the school bus.
- 2.2 Drivers should be aware that the Highway Code states that they should not park opposite or within 10m of a junction. To reinforce this message, it is proposed to introduce a "No Waiting At Any Time" parking restriction at the Ballingry Road / Hill Road junction as shown in drawing no. TRO23_18 (Appendix 1) to keep this junction free of parked vehicles to allow the school buses to complete their route.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 It is considered, in the interests of traffic flow and road safety, that these traffic restrictions be promoted.

List of Appendices

1. Drawing no. TRO23_18

Background Papers

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

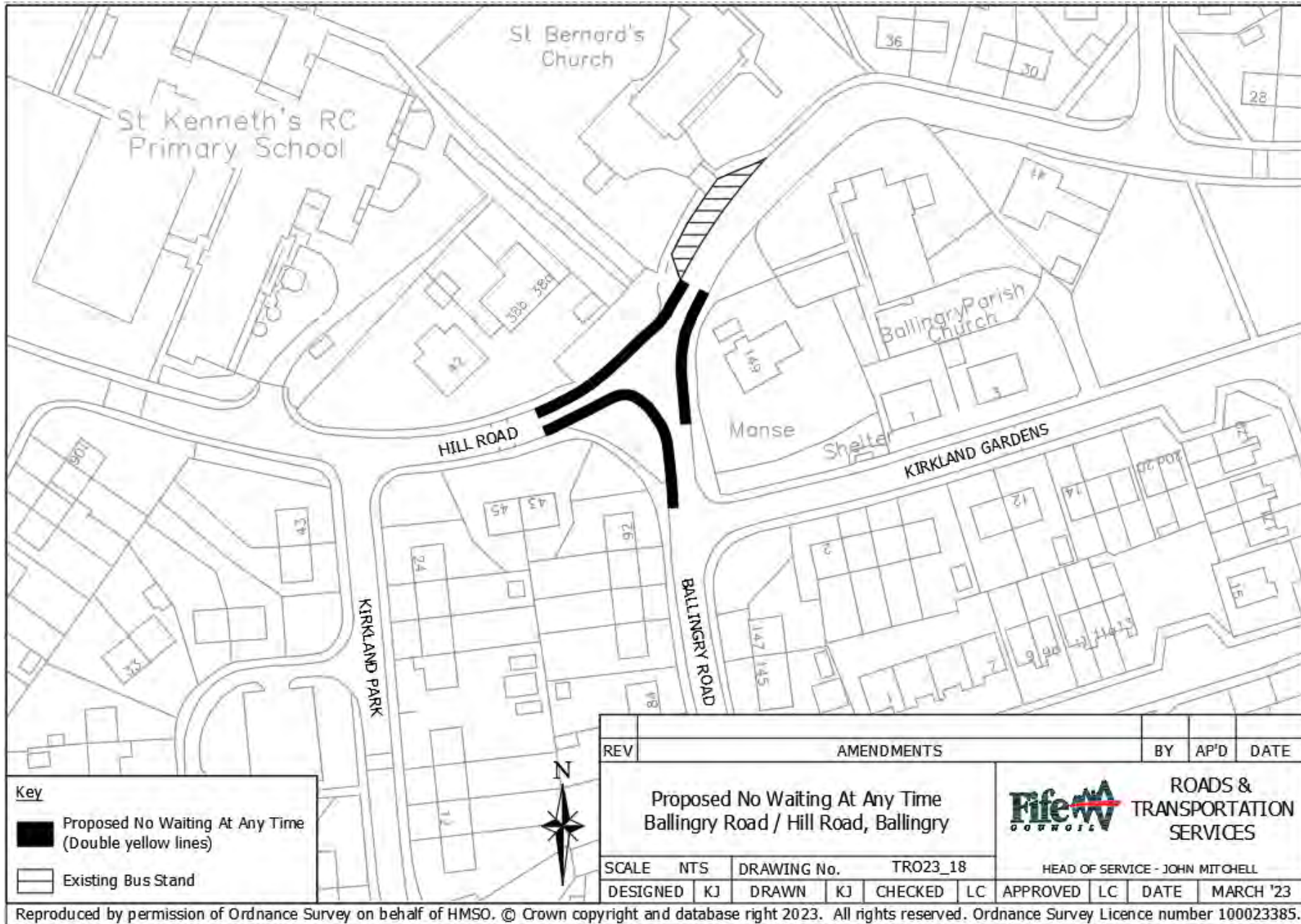
None



Report Contacts

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Appendix 1 – Drawing no. TRO23_18



Key	
	Proposed No Waiting At Any Time (Double yellow lines)
	Existing Bus Stand

REV	AMENDMENTS	BY	AP'D	DATE
	Proposed No Waiting At Any Time Ballyngry Road / Hill Road, Ballyngry			
SCALE	NTS	DRAWING No.		TRO23_18
DESIGNED	KJ	DRAWN	KJ	CHECKED LC
APPROVED LC		DATE		MARCH '23

Fife ROADS & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
COUNCIL

HEAD OF SERVICE - JOHN MITCHELL

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14 June 2023

Agenda Item No. 8

Objection to Proposed Parking Restriction – Grainger Street / Hall Street, Lochgelly

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

Wards Affected: Ward 8 – Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to allow the Cowdenbeath Area Committee to consider an objection to a proposal to introduce “No Waiting At Any Time” restrictions in Grainger Street and Hall Street, Lochgelly.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Committee agrees to set aside the objection to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) introducing the “No Waiting At Any Time” restrictions in Grainger Street & Hall Street, Lochgelly as shown in drawing no. TRO23_02 (Appendix 1), to allow the Order to be made and the restrictions put in place.

Resource Implications

The cost to formally promote this TRO and deliver the associated traffic management works will be approximately £2300, 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, Lochgelly Community Council, Parking Management team, and Police Scotland have been advised.

Formal consultation required by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for the TRO process was 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 were available on Fife Council’s website.

During the formal consultation period 1 objection was received.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Lochgelly South Primary School is temporarily closing after the 2022/23 school year with pupils decanted to St. Kenneth's RC Primary School, Ballingry.
- 1.2 School buses will use a route collecting children on Melville Street travelling along Minto Street, Russell Street, Melville Street, Hall Street, and Grainger Street. A drawing showing this route is available as a background paper.
- 1.3 The School Transport Team have reviewed the intended school bus route and conducted test runs using buses and have identified the Grainger Street / Hall Street junction as a location where parked vehicles will obstruct the school bus.
- 1.4 On 29th March 2023, Committee agreed to the promotion of a TRO to implement a "No Waiting At Any Time" parking restriction on Grainger Street and Hall Street, Lochgelly [Minute 2023.CAC.26. Item 47 refers].

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 During the statutory consultation period, 1 objection was received to the proposal. Having received a response from the Service, the objector wished to maintain their objection. The main elements of the objection and Service response to these are outlined below with full redacted correspondence available as a background paper.
- 2.2 **Objection:** "The proposed restriction Monday – Sunday is unreasonable for residents parking at their own homes." The objector feels the restriction should be temporary and only apply between the hours operating and on Mondays to Fridays only and removed on school holiday periods.

Service response: This modest proposal will help keep the junction free of parked vehicles to allow the school buses to complete the route. The proposed restrictions have been kept to a minimal length to maximise parking availability while keeping the junction clear. The restrictions are proposed for areas of the road where the Highway Code strongly recommends people do not park. The surrounding area has sufficient on-street parking availability to cope with slight displacement of parking.

If this proposed parking restriction only applied Monday – Friday, or was introduced temporarily and then removed, it may give the indication that it is acceptable to park on a junction outwith the restricted times. That is a message we would not want to give, even unintentionally. In essence the proposed restrictions strengthen the guidance provided in the Highway Code discouraging parking on a junction.

- 2.3 **Objection:** "I would like this proposal then for nearly every street in Lochgelly as parking is done at main junctions which are used considerably more than these junctions and in all the 40 years in Lochgelly have never experienced a problem with the area at Grainger Street/Hall Street, even previously, with a small shop on the corner at the same junction."

Service response: The Highway Code recommends drivers do not park on or within a junction. Fife Council has introduced parking restrictions at other junctions in Lochgelly where a clear traffic flow or road safety need was identified. The Grainger Street / Hall Street junction has been identified as a location where traffic flow of the school buses would be impeded by parked vehicles.

It would be financially impracticable to introduce and maintain double yellow lines on every junction, where drivers should know not to park.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 It is considered, in the interests of traffic flow and road safety, that the objection should be set aside allowing the parking restrictions to proceed.

List of Appendices

1. Drawing no. TRO23_02

Background Papers

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

- Drawing no. TRO23_02/BUS Proposed School Bus Route
- Full Correspondence (Redacted) with Objector

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Keith Johnston

Technician Engineer, Traffic Management

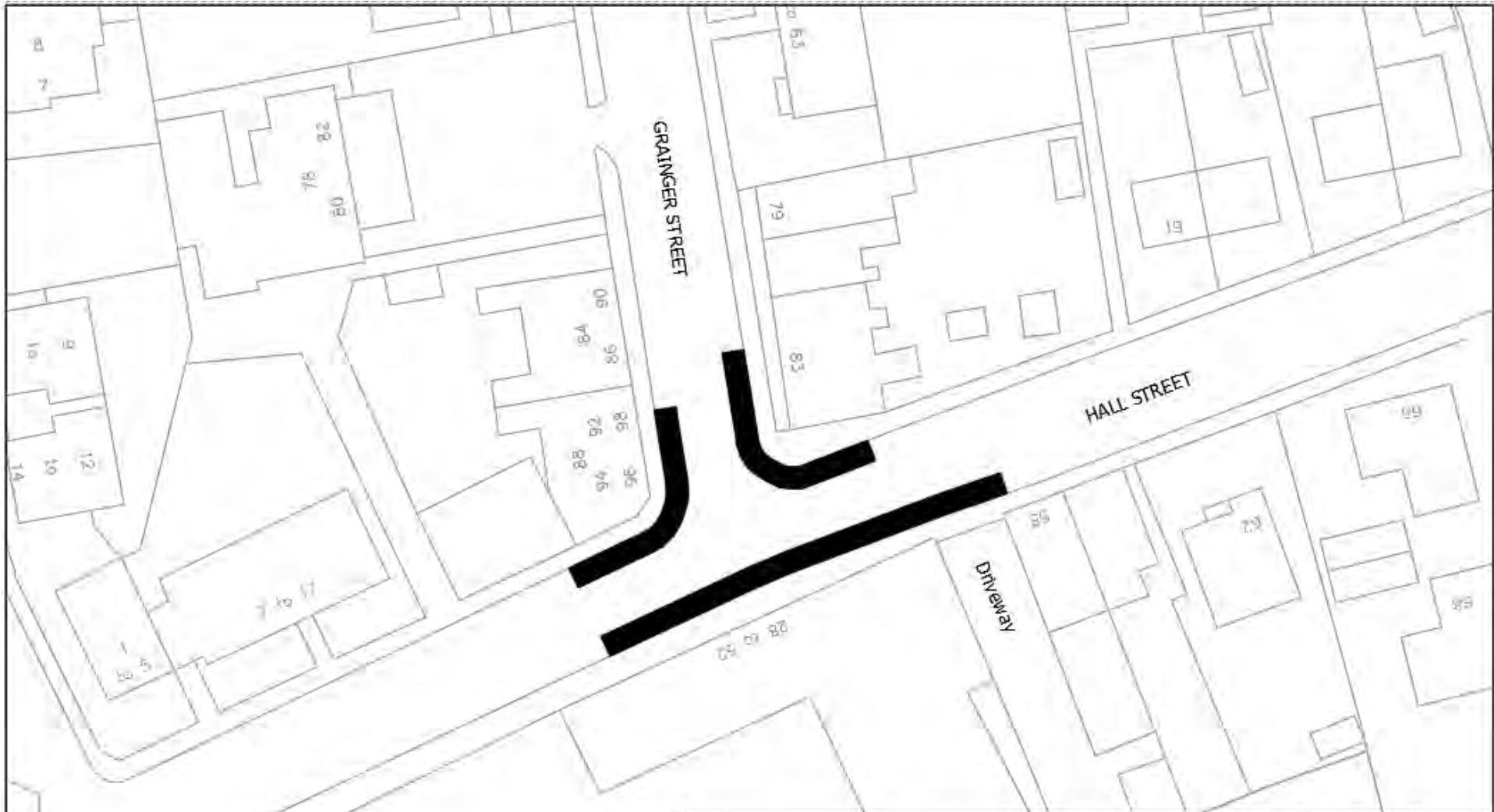
Roads & Transportation Services


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Telephone: 03451 55 55 55 + VOIP Number 442935

Email: keith.johnston@fife.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Drawing no. TRO23_02



Key	
	Proposed No Waiting At Any Time

REV	AMENDMENTS				BY	AP'D	DATE
	Proposed Parking Restriction Grainger Street / Hall Street, Lochgelly				 ROADS & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES		
SCALE	NTS	DRAWING No.	TRO23_02		HEAD OF SERVICE - JOHN MITCHELL		
DESIGNED	KJ	DRAWN	KJ	CHECKED	LC	APPROVED	LC
						DATE	JANUARY '23

14 June 2023

Agenda Item No. 9

Proposed Raised Parallel Crossing – Leuchatsbeath Drive, Cowdenbeath

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

Wards Affected: Ward No. 7 - Cowdenbeath

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to allow the Area Committee to consider a proposal for the introduction of a raised parallel crossing (raised table) on Leuchatsbeath Drive, Cowdenbeath.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended, in the interest of road safety, that Committee:

- (1) agrees to the promotion of a Road Hump Order (RHO) and pedestrian crossing notice to introduce a raised parallel crossing as detailed in drawing no. TRO23_22 (Appendix 1), with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorises officers to construct the raised parallel crossing within a reasonable period unless there are objections.

Resource Implications

The cost to formally promote this Road Hump Order will be approximately £2000 which covers Roads & Transportation Services' and Legal Services' staff costs and advertising. This will be met from approved Service budgets. The cost to deliver the new infrastructure is being met through Transport Scotland's active travel funding 'Cycling Walking Safer Routes'.

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 has been completed. No negative impacts have been identified.

Consultation

The local Ward Councillors, Cowdenbeath Community Council and Police Scotland have been advised.

One Ward Councillor has expressed their support for the proposal.

Formal consultation required by the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 for the Road Hump Order 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 for the proposed Order will be made available on www.fife.gov.uk.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 An active travel route in the Cowdenbeath area is being developed linking Cowdenbeath and Kelty. Development of the active travel route will improve connectivity for leisure, commuting or commercial journeys, such as shopping trips.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 Connecting to the existing active travel route at the Junction Bar roundabout / Cowdenbeath Public Park, a 3m wide segregated shared pedestrian cycle path is to be constructed on the west side of A909 Perth Road up to a point northwest of Gray Park, where it will cross over to the east side and continue to the West Car Park for Lochore Meadows Country Park at Kelty.
- 2.2 This new route will cross Leuchatsbeath Drive just west of its junction with Perth Road, where it is proposed to construct a raised parallel pedestrian / cycle zebra crossing.
- 2.3 A parallel crossing operates the same as a standard zebra crossing where vehicles must give way to any pedestrian or cyclist on the crossing, and pedestrians and cyclists establish precedence on the crossing in the same way as a zebra. It consists of black and white stripes for pedestrians, as at a zebra crossing, with a parallel route for cyclists indicated by appropriate road markings.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 It is considered, in the interests of traffic management and road safety, that this Road Hump Order be promoted.

List of Appendices

1. Drawing no. TRO23_22 Leuchatsbeath Drive raised parallel crossing, Cowdenbeath

Background Papers

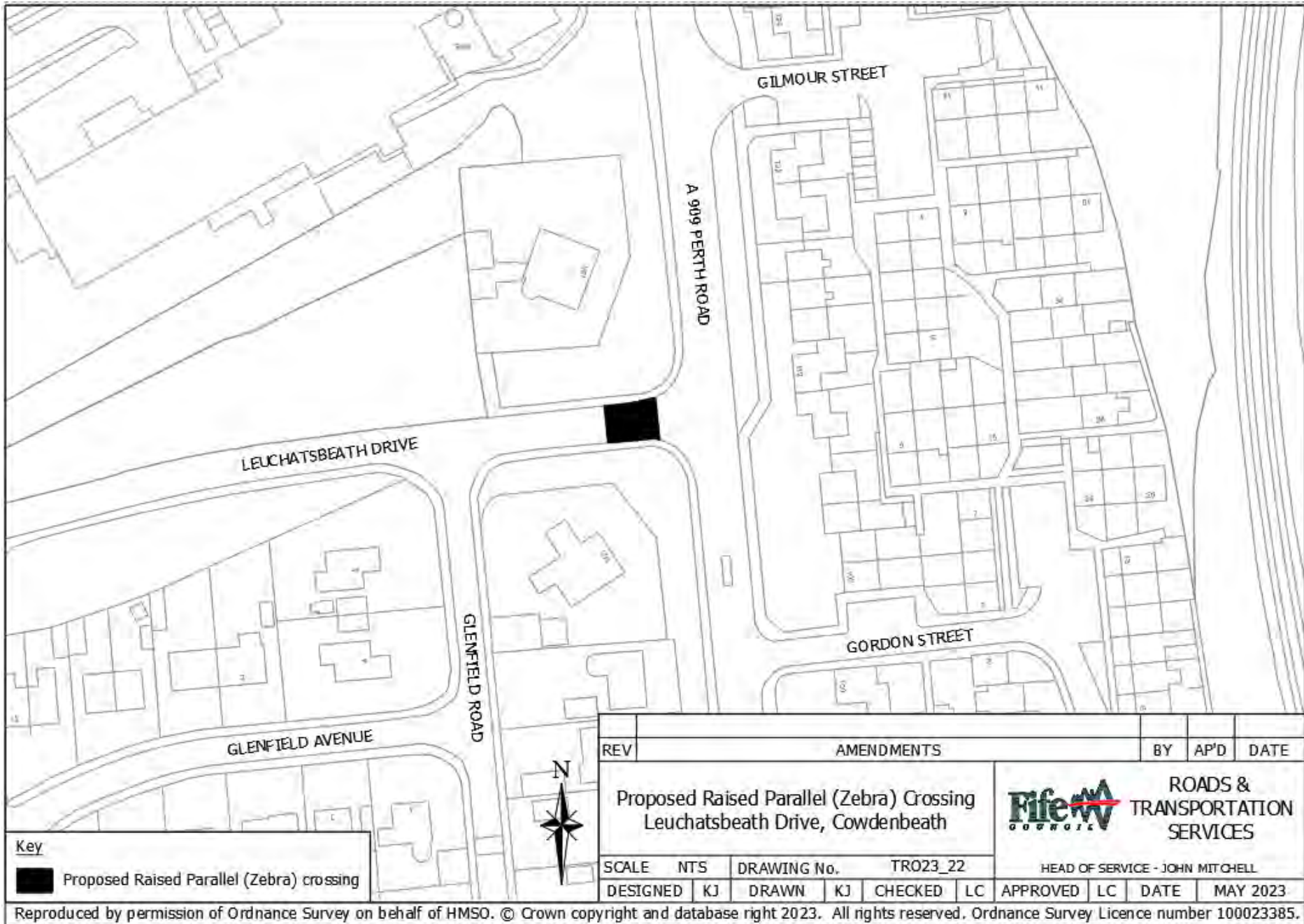
None

Report Contacts


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Appendix 1 – Drawing No. TRO23_22 Leuchatsbeath Drive raised parallel crossing, Cowdenbeath



Key

	Proposed Raised Parallel (Zebra) crossing
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REV	AMENDMENTS				BY	AP'D	DATE
	Proposed Raised Parallel (Zebra) Crossing Leuchatsbeath Drive, Cowdenbeath						
SCALE	NTS	DRAWING No.	TRO23_22		HEAD OF SERVICE - JOHN MITCHELL		
DESIGNED	KJ	DRAWN	KJ	CHECKED	LC	APPROVED	LC
						DATE	MAY 2023



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14 June 2023
Agenda Item No. 10

Area Housing Plan 2023-26

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

Wards Affected: Ward 7: Cowdenbeath and Ward 8: Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty

Purpose

The report seeks area committee approval for a revised area housing plan which sets out area performance, service delivery and highlights key housing issues following consultation with key stakeholders.

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider and approve the Cowdenbeath Area Housing Plan for 2023 – 2026.

Resource Implications

Work is taking place within agreed HRA local and capital budgets.

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

An online consultation form was developed and shared with key stakeholders from 28/03/2022 to 30/06/22.

Identified key stakeholders

- 4 x Tenants & Resident Groups
- Fife Federation of Tenants & Residents Associations
- Elected Members
- Community Councils
- People & Place Leadership Group
- Tenant Participation Team social media to target local tenants & residents
- Safer Communities social media to target local tenants & residents
- Our Cowdenbeath Fife social media to target local tenants & residents

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Council has a vision to create a fairer Fife where all residents live good lives, make informed choices and have a sense of control so that they can reach their full potential and where all children are safe, happy and healthy. At the heart of the Plan for Fife is the aim to reduce inequalities and to promote fairness in everything that we do. It is recognised that having a fairer Fife will benefit everyone. Housing Services, as the largest landlord in Fife, can improve the lives and opportunities of its tenants through effective neighbourhood management and community led improvement initiatives.
- 1.2 The Area Housing Plan shows how we work with partners and local communities to improve housing services in the area. Tenant and residents have told us their concerns and issues where they live and together we have identified what we can do to address these issues. We have looked at how well we are doing managing our homes to prioritise which services we need to improve.
- 1.3 The plan links into different policies and strategies across Fife including; Plan 4 Fife, Local Housing Strategy, Plan 4 Cowdenbeath, Local Community Plan, Area Lettings Plan and Pathway to Improvement.

2.0 Development of the Area Housing Plan

- 2.1 The previous Area Housing Plan covered the period 2017-2019. Since then, we have lived with the restrictions of the coronavirus pandemic which included our inability to have meaningful consultation to inform our Area Housing Plan and the production of a new Plan would have been difficult during this time of uncertainty.
- 2.2 In order to consult with our communities for this new Plan, we developed an online consultation form to gather the views of key stakeholders. We asked people what the three main housing issues are in their opinion and for any ideas that would help in addressing these issues. Despite being widely publicised, we received 118 responses.
- 2.3 Tenant participation is a key part of our housing strategy. Being part of organised groups gives our tenants and residents a greater voice when talking about local issues. We are getting back into our local communities to better understanding, however, we have been unable to achieve this and we have used the feedback we have received from the online consultation.
- 2.4 We also consulted separately with elected members and used ongoing communications with Community Councils to gain an understanding of what was important to the people they represent in the communities. The Local Issues Action Plan (Appendix 1 of the Area Housing Plan) has been developed as a result of this consultation and feedback. Updates on the Local Issues Action Plan will be given at quarterly Ward meetings and annually at Cowdenbeath Area Committee ensuring Housing Services are held accountable for the local issues identified.
- 2.5 The Area Housing Plan highlights performance and states tenants in Cowdenbeath Area are 81.2% satisfied with the overall service provided. 80.2% of tenants are satisfied with the management of their neighbourhoods. Through actions in our Local Issues Action Plan, we aim to increase these satisfaction rates.
- 2.6 Over recent years, in Cowdenbeath, the Council has delivered Affordable Housing in Kelty and Cardenden. We have linked in our Strategic Housing Investment Plan to give readers the opportunity to explore potential new build sites across Fife.

- 2.7 We have highlighted the role of our investment programme and our intention to continue to invest in our homes. Investments include; kitchens, central heating, bathrooms, roofs, rewiring, smoke detectors, secure door entry systems, structural works, electrical testing and external walls.

3.0 Local Issues Action Plan

- 3.1 The consultation highlighted the need for more affordable housing in Cowdenbeath Area and we will provide an update to the Area Committee on planned new build projects for Cowdenbeath, the number of properties purchased through our Property Acquisitions Policy and the number of properties released through our Best Use of Stock process.
- 3.2 The consultation highlighted the need for additional parking as a key housing issue. We will demolish underoccupied lock ups and replace with marked parking bays and we will install driveways in tenants' gardens where there is a need and an ability to do so.
- 3.3 Condition of estates was identified as an important housing issue. We have committed to a number of projects throughout the area which will see improvements to the communal areas of some of our flatted properties. We have also committed to carrying out more estate walkabouts so that we can work together with the tenants and residents to identify further issues that they feel are important to address.
- 3.4 The Action Plan also identifies community safety issues on housing land that we are looking to address, working with the Community Councils and the Area Committee will be kept updated with the progress of these.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 Through the Area Housing Plan, we have identified local issues and have set out an action plan to highlight / address these. This is intended to encourage member scrutiny of our work to address those concerns and demonstrate improved outcomes.

List of Appendices

1. Cowdenbeath Area Housing Plan 2022-26

Report Contact

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Area Housing Plan - Cowdenbeath 2023-26



Welcome to the Cowdenbeath Area Housing Plan.

We have produced a Housing Neighbourhood Plan with our customers for each of the 7 Areas in Fife, and this is yours, covering;

- Cowdenbeath
- Crossgates, Kelty, Lochore, Crosshill & Hill of Beath
- Lochgelly, Cardenden & Ballingry

The Cowdenbeath area is covered by Electoral Wards 7 & 8.

Our aim is to provide everyone with access to good quality, affordable decent housing that meets their need and aspirations.

The purpose of the Area Housing Plan is to show how we work with partners and local communities to improve housing services in the Area.

You told us about your concerns and issues where you live, and together we have identified what needs done.

We looked at how well we are doing managing your homes to prioritise which services we need to improve.

We work closely with tenants, residents and elected members. We included your ideas in our finished plan where we could. The Area Housing Plan was approved by Cowdenbeath Area Committee on 14th June 2023.

The diagram below shows links between this aim and the strategies, policies and plans supporting it.

The plan contributes to the [Plan4Fife](#), which is a 10-year plan, putting fairness at the heart of everything we do, bringing services and communities together in new ways.

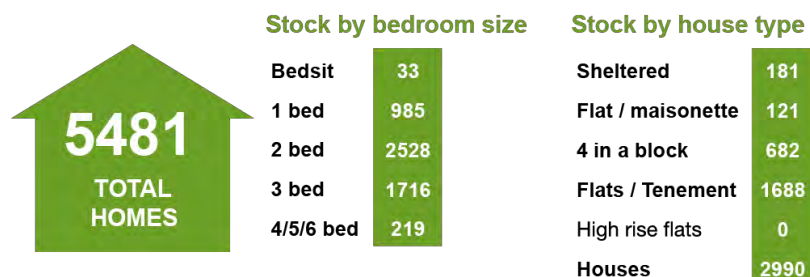
We also have a [Cowdenbeath Local Community plan](#), which outlines areas of focus.

Tenants and residents are interested in how we allocate our homes. We are in the process of developing Local Lettings Plan, which will provide more allocation information at a local level. Commitment has been made to have the revised Local Lettings Plan taken to Area Committee on 6th September 2023.



Housing in the Cowdenbeath Area

Stock April 21



The above information is provided for Fife Council Stock only. You can use our new [property map](#) to see the areas where the Fife Housing Register partners have properties.

This map will let you know the number of properties that we have in each area so that you can make an informed decision about your preferred areas of choice when you submit your Fife Housing Register application.

Allocations 2020/21

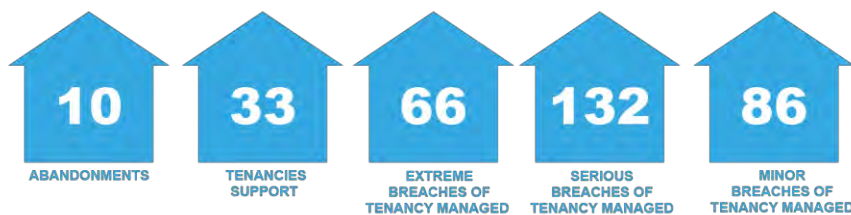


Letting Plan

Our annual Letting Plan sets out the profile of properties we expect to become available over the following year and how we intend to distribute those properties between different groups of applicants. These include:

- Homeless
- Transfer
- Waiting

Managed Tenancies



Anti-Social Behaviour

Our Anti-Social Behaviour policy sets out our approach for managing anti-social behaviour in Fife. We aim to provide a firm and fair approach to tenants (including their family members and visitors) who do not comply fully with the terms of their tenancy agreement, so that all residents can enjoy their homes free from antisocial behaviour.

New Builds

Over recent years, in Cowdenbeath, the Council has delivered affordable homes in Lochgelly, Cowdenbeath and Lumphinnans.

Our Affordable Housing Programme is one of the largest in Scotland. We currently have 2,700 new build homes throughout Fife. Our target was to build at least 3,500 more by 2024 thereafter to be determined.

We provide access to much needed new homes for our tenants and housing applicants. Together, we are delivering modern, fit-for-purpose, energy-efficient homes. New-build council homes benefit current tenants and generations to come.

You can find out more about what is planned in Cowdenbeath Area by viewing our [Strategic Housing Investment Plan projects](#).

Investing in your home

Over the next 3 years we will continue to improve our existing homes to meet the expectations of our tenants. These include:

- Kitchens
- Central Heating
- Bathrooms
- Roofs

- Rewiring
- Smoke detectors
- Secure door entry
- Structural works
- Electrical Testing
- External Walls

Rate your estates: What we found

We compared our housing in the Cowdenbeath Area with the rest of Fife, and with other landlords in Scotland. This showed what our neighbourhood priorities should be.

Most of our homes are two/three bedroomed houses, which is what people like. We also have some less popular sizes and types. We have a low demand for 3-bedroom flats particularly in Kelty, Benarty & Lochgelly. However we have a low stock of 5/6 bedroomed houses for large families

Housing stock turn over, has slowed with a reduction of council owned properties turning over in the last year. Most of the area is in relatively high demand, making access to affordable housing more difficult for those in housing need. We have difficulty allocating properties in very specific areas where there is low demand.

Housing Options Officers work hard to meet a range of housing needs providing a balance of allocations to existing tenants, those who are homeless and applicants on the waiting list.

Our tenants need more assistance with support in sustaining their tenancies with money advice and fuel poverty advice. Rent arrears are still an area of concern. The cost-of-living crisis and economic uncertainty which is making it difficult for some households to pay basic bills or access benefits.

There is a Fife wide commitment to achieve the highest possible standard of housing through programmes to replace kitchens, bathrooms, windows, doors etc.

Rate your estates: What you told us

We have carried out estate walkabouts, spoken with local Councillors and tenant groups where this has been possible, listened to customer comments and complaints and by investing in our patch-based officers we are talking to customers more directly about estate issues and matters which directly affect our customers. We have incorporated specific issues brought to our attention into an Action Plan.

Corporate Complaints received in the Cowdenbeath Area during 2020/21



Housing Complaints are handled in accordance with [Fife Councils Complaints procedure](#) and should in the first instance, be investigated locally.

Complaints are a valuable source of information about our services, which can help to identify recurring or underlying problems.

We use complaints to make improvements to the way we deliver services, this can be through training and development or changes to policy and procedures.

The top 5 reasons for all complaints in the Cowdenbeath Area (with numbers of complaints) were recorded as follows;

Top 5 reasons for all Complaints 2020-21

Complaint Reasons

Dissatisfaction with policy / current delivery arrangements eg timescales, priorities, criteria

12

Delays in Start / Completion

7

Dispute with Neighbours

6

Poor communications including lack of notice, consultation & engagement

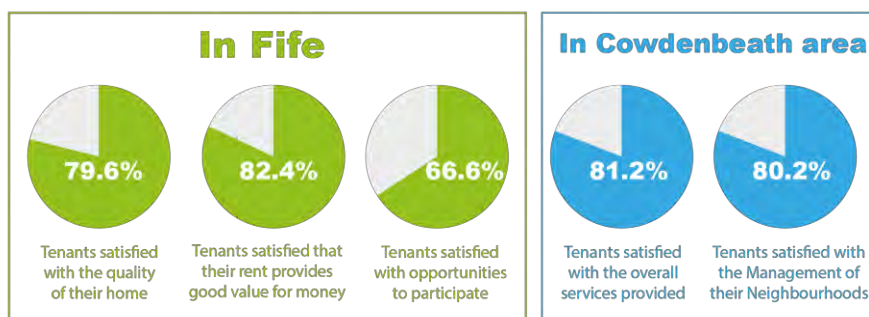
6

Dissatisfaction with policy / current arrangements including allocations criteria

4

Customer satisfaction

As well as consulting locally and addressing complaints, we carry out customer satisfaction surveys as part of our [annual performance reporting](#) and you have told us;



Tenant Participation

Our tenants should be involved in the housing services they receive. We ask you to share your views and take part in decision making. We want to work alongside you to provide for the community.

Getting involved gives you a greater voice. Our [tenant participation and customer engagement handbook](#) tells you more.

Our quarterly magazine, [Down Your Street](#), is also a good way to keep up to date with what we are doing and how you can get involved.

For more information on how to get involved, have a look through our [Tenant Participation](#) page on our website.

We currently have 4 active TRAs in the Cowdenbeath Area, these are:

- **Cardenden**
- **Ore Valley, Cardenden**
- **Cedar House, Lumphinnans**
- **Sunnyside Court, Cowdenbeath**

FIFE FEDERATION OF TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (FFOTRA)

9a Hunter Street, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1ED.

01592 641968

enquiries@ffotra.co.uk

Local Issues Action Plan

Issues	Where ?	Proposed Action	Timescale/ Updates
Lack of Affordable Housing	All Cowdenbeath Areas	Liaise with Affordable Housing Team to build larger family homes	97 Affordable homes completed by Winter 2024
		Best Use of Stock through tenant incentive scheme	Target of 6 per financial year.
	Ballingry	Completion and identification of regeneration sites	1 identified demolition site ongoing. completion Target Spring 2024
Improving Estates	All Cowdenbeath Areas	Consider requests for replacement fencing based on guidance and available funding streams	Target of 2 per financial year
		Identify Estates Action Areas – inclusive Estates walk-about	Annual Review
		Liaise with waste management and Grounds Maintenance to reduce litter and debris in open spaces	
Lack Of Parking	All Cowdenbeath Areas	Demolition and upgrade programme of Lock-up sites	
		Small parking projects to be identified (Maximum of 2 per financial year)	Target of 2 per financial year.
Anti-Social Behaviour	All Cowdenbeath Areas	Continue close partnership working to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour	
		Increase the number of Housing First Tenancies in the Cowdenbeath Area	Target of 10 per year
		Through Anti-Social Behaviour policy, take robust action against perpetrators of antisocial behaviour	
Repairs and Maintenance	All Cowdenbeath Areas	Increased visual inspections to identify properties for external	

Measuring Success

The [Cowdenbeath Area Committee](#) will monitor how well we are doing against the local commitments outlined in this leaflet. Our plans will be reviewed and refreshed every three years to make sure they continue to reflect local priorities.

Your Area Housing Team

Supporting the plan and delivering services to tenants is your local Housing Team, led by Housing Manager Amanda Cathrew and Lead Officers Janet Scade, Leanne Dunn and Lewis Henderson.

We have 9 Housing Options Officers who manage the empty houses and allocate to new tenants. They provide advice and guidance for anyone faced with homelessness as well as provide housing options advice. They have a wide range of knowledge about [housing options](#) and can meet with tenants and applicants to explain these.

In the last few years, we have recruited additional Housing Management Officers and now deploy **23** in total who are the main point of contact for tenants, and their job is to link you in to all the [services you need](#) whether repairs, money advice, coping with heating bills, problem neighbours, contacting local job clubs. The list is as long as you need!

In Cowdenbeath we also have Very Sheltered Housing Officers, Retirement Housing Officers and Revenues Officers we can call on to provide extra help. During 2019-20 we created specialist posts to assist tenants who have issues with Universal Credit.

Come and speak to us at the following offices

[Benarty Customer Service Centre](#)

[Cowdenbeath Customer Service Centre](#)

[Cardenden Customer Service Centre](#)

[Lochgelly Customer Service Centre](#)

[Kelty Customer Service Point](#)

Useful contacts

Online:

<https://www.fife.gov.uk/>

By phone:

Faults and repairs (housing, roads, streetlights) - **03451 550011**

Environment (bins, bulky uplifts, pests) - **03451 550022**

Housing information and advice - **03451 550033**

Council tax and housing benefit - **03451 551155**

Passes and concessions (myfife cards, blue badges) - **03451 550066**

Social Work enquiries - **03451 551503**

Out of hours - **03451 550099** For social work, housing and flooding emergencies - after 5pm week days, 24hrs weekends and public holidays.

Calling 03 numbers costs the same as calling landlines starting with 01. 03 numbers are included in pre-paid phone packages and monthly call allowances. Customers should check tariffs with their phone providers.

14th June 2023

Agenda Item No. 11

Community Learning and Development Holiday Programme update - Summer, Autumn 2022, & Easter 2023. Plus, funding request for Summer, October 2023 programme.

Report by Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward Nos 7 & 8

Purpose

To provide a summary of the CLD programme of activities in Summer & October 2022 and Easter 2023 in the Cowdenbeath area.

To provide information on Summer & October 2023 plans and request financial support for these to take place.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to

- (1) consider and comment on the Summer, October and Easter update.
- (2) agree to an allocation of £75,000 toward supporting the CLD Summer & October activity provision.

Resource Implications

There is sufficient funding available in the Local Community Planning Budget and ward budget allocated funds should this contribution be agreed.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or risk implications.

Impact Assessment

An EqlA has not been completed as there are no proposed changes or revisions to existing policies.

Consultation

Consultation was carried out with young people and families via youth work projects, family fun days and community activity.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Cowdenbeath Area Committee approve budgets for the provision of CLD activity programmes during the summer, October and Easter school holidays each year.
- 1.2 This funding is provided to create innovative and engaging programmes for young people and families engaged in our programmes and activities and encourage wider engagement with the community.
- 1.3 The Community Development Team was depleted in staff last summer and October and the programme was not as full as had been intended.
- 1.4 Community education workers will attend area committee to assist in bringing the holiday programme to life and share feedback from participants with the members.

2.0 Summer 2022

- 2.1 Junior and senior programmes ran successfully in Bowhill, Kelty and Lochgelly last summer. Due to vacancies, a reduced offering was provided in Cowdenbeath and Benarty.
- 2.2 Junior playschemes were offered in 3 localities. The activities offered to the children attending these ranged from baking and crafts to sports and trip out. 1792 attendances were recorded for the playschemes.
- 2.3 Senior clubs, activities and trips were also offered which included our successful Friday Night at the Meadies, which makes the best of our natural resources, youth clubs continuing to operate throughout the summer evenings and trips across Fife and beyond. 713 attendances are recorded for young people in the senior age category.

3.0 October 2022

- 3.1 Family engagement sessions were tried out for the first time in the areas, these were offered as fun days in Ballingry, Cardenden, Cowdenbeath, Kelty & Lochgelly, resulting in 965 people attending. Staff use the feedback from the days to plan both youth club and adult learning programmes for the winter months.
- 3.2 Despite Senior & Junior clubs continuing to operate in a reduced capacity while recruitment was ongoing, 709 attendances were recorded for the two-week period.

4.0 Easter 2023

- 4.1 A full staff team ensured a wider capacity and offering in the Easter holidays.

- 4.2 Family Fun days ran once again with 1051 community members attending 5 sessions, an average of 200 people each day.
- 4.3 Junior playschemes and clubs, and senior trips were also running with a collective 1600+ attendances over the two-week holiday period.

5.0 Summer 2023

- 5.1 With a team of 7 community education workers, a full complement of staff, it is anticipated that this year's summer programme will not only engage more children, young people and families than last year, it will allow the team to engage more fully with the local communities that make up the Cowdenbeath area and listen to their needs.
- 5.2 A partnership approach around detached youth work 'Pitch Up' sessions is a new addition to the summer offering. It is hoped that this regular engagement with the young people will be instrumental in reducing the instances of anti-social behaviour currently being reported by our police colleagues.
- 5.3 A full programme of activities has been prepared by the team and will run in each of the 5 main localities (Ballingry, Cardenden, Cowdenbeath, Kelty & Lochgelly). Please note the timetables included as appendix 1.
- 5.4 Costings for the summer programme, including Junior Playschemes, continuation for the youth clubs throughout the 6 weeks, Family Fun Days, Friday night youth diversionary activity at the Meadies and a number of trips is anticipated to be in the region of £60,000
- 5.5 In line with the £15,000 allocation generously given for easter programme, a match amount is requested for holiday programmes in October 2023

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 There are over 2505 recorded attendances for CLD led programmes in Summer 2022, this is a reduction compared to 2021s figure of 3307, however this is attributed to vacancies meaning the same level of activity could not be offered.
- 6.2 Family Fun Engagement days introduced in October 2022 have been highly successful and will continue to be used to obtain a wider reach of local people, 2015 people participated in these in October and Easter.
- 6.3 A total of 6829 attendances were recorded for summer, October and easter activity. based on last year's funding.
- 6.4 With a full staffing compliment, each community will be well served regarding holiday provision for children, young people and families.

List of Appendices

1. Programme of activities

Background papers

No background papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973

Report Contact:

Anne-Marie Vance
Community Manager

Anne-Marie.Vance@fife.gov.uk

07515189495

Appendix 1

Community Learning and Development – Cowdenbeath area Summer Programme

Across the Cowdenbeath area (wards 7&8) the team will offer

- 5 family fun and engagement sessions
- Senior & Junior youth clubs will continue to run over the summer months
- A weekly family programme linked to achieving a John Muir award
- Senior youth club trips in each of the 5 localities
- Friday night at the meedies
- Junior Playschemes
- Residential to Lagganlia
- Music workshops
- Games sessions linked with food.
- Junior club trips
- Weekly swimming and inflatable sessions at Lochgelly HS
- Sessions in partnership with active schools
- Weekly Pitch Up Detached activities
- Youth forum activities
- Outdoor education
- Weekly health & wellbeing project
- Easy P summer activities
- Theatre workshops
- Big brother style residential
- Pilot an intermediate club
- Family sessions – walks, yoga, crafts
- Total adventure programme
- Dance workshops
- 20 trips organised for the senior age group

14 June 2023

Agenda Item No. 12

Cowdenbeath Community Resilience Fund and Immediate Response Support Top Up Request

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

Wards Affected: Wards 7 and 8

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update members on progress of the Community Resilience Fund and Immediate Response Fund and to seek approval to extend funding for these projects. It also provides an update on the DigiCom project operating within the Cowdenbeath Area.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that members of the Committee:

- 1) Note the work done to date on the Community Resilience Fund and Immediate Response Fund.
- 2) Increase the Community Resilience Fund budget from £5,000 to £17,500 from the anti-poverty budget.
- 3) Increase the Immediate Response Fund budget from £5,000 to £8,000 from the anti-poverty budget.
- 4) Note the work undertaken as part of the DigiCom Project.

Resource Implications

There is sufficient budget available in the Area Anti-Poverty budget to fund the projects identified within this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no Legal & Risk Implications

Impact Assessment

An EqlA has not been completed and is not necessary as this report does not propose a new or revised policy or practice.

Consultation

No consultation has taken place as this is a continuance and expansion of work undertaken in previous years.

1.0 Background

Cowdenbeath Resilience Fund

- 1.1 In March 2020 a partnership project was started between Castle Enterprise Scotland Ltd (Castle Furniture) and Fife Council's Cowdenbeath Communities Team, funded by the Cowdenbeath Area Anti-Poverty budget, in response to requests for emergency support for essential household items (e.g. cookers, fridge freezers, washing machines).

Originally a maximum limit of £200 per referral was set in place unless there were extenuating circumstances. However due to the cost-of-living crisis, this limit was increased in 2023 to £300 per referral due to the rising cost of goods.

- 1.2 To date Castle Furniture has received £42,999 to service 205 referrals (311 items) submitted by Cowdenbeath Welfare Officers and partnership agencies. White goods remain the highest request, followed by beds and bedding. There have been two emergency referrals that were agreed in September 2020 during the Pandemic for the Rosyth and Oakley area which were due to extenuating circumstances (see appendix 1).
- 1.3 As demand continues for the Community Resilience Fund, officers allocated £5,000 from the anti-poverty budget to allow the work to continue at the start of this financial year.

Immediate Response Fund

- 1.4 Funded via the Cowdenbeath Antipoverty Budget, the Immediate Response Fund was set up to enable Welfare Support staff to provide emergency support to people in the community experiencing crisis. Welfare staff signpost and support people in accessing a range of support measures, including access to the Scottish Welfare Fund, Hardship Fund, Cosy Kingdom support, Big Hoose referrals amongst others. However, there are occasions where an immediate response is required, particularly where there is going to be a delay accessing other support services due to waiting times or where customers seek support on a Friday afternoon which may miss cut-off times for other service referrals.
- 1.5 The immediate response fund allows Welfare staff to provide immediate financial support to mitigate crisis and provide some financial relief until other services can provide alternative support. Typically, this is in the form of fuel top-ups which allow people to continue to have electricity and heating for a short period while they await alternative financial support or income. However, there can occasionally be small items purchased, such as a microwave, to maintain access to hot food in the event of an appliance breakdown at a time of financial hardship. Additional information is provided in appendix 2.
- 1.6 The immediate response fund is not provided in isolation. Welfare staff engage with applicants to provide wider support around benefit maximisation and signposting to other support services to mitigate the likelihood of future crisis.
- 1.7 As demand continues for the Immediate Response Fund, officers allocated £5,000 from the anti-poverty budget to allow the work to continue at the start of this financial year.

DigiCom Project

- 1.8 DigiCom (Digital Community) is the branding being applied to a number of local initiatives which aim to support digital inclusion within the community. Predating the Scottish Government's "Connecting Scotland" initiative, which targeted digital support provision, DigiCom Home Devices was established 2nd quarter of 2020 as a response to the Covid pandemic, providing digital devices to people in the community who didn't have access to the internet at home and, at the time, weren't able to access public internet services.
- 1.9 DigiCom has continued post-pandemic as there were clear benefits to supporting digital inclusion. However, it has developed a suite of free support as follows:
- **Home devices** – providing digital devices to people in poverty which support job searches, benefit applications and education.
 - **Community devices** – providing additional digital devices at supported sessions across both youth groups and adult learning groups.
 - **Mobile SIMs** - In partnership with the Good Things Foundation, more than 200 National Databank SIM cards have been distributed throughout the Cowdenbeath Area by welfare staff. Each SIM card provides 6 months of mobile services which support free access to calls and the internet. Since March 2022, this partnership has delivered £18,000-£24,000 worth of airtime to the Cowdenbeath Area community, at no cost to Fife Council. The provision is expected to continue into 2024 and beyond.

2.0 Current Position

Cowdenbeath Resilience Fund

- 2.1 For many people in poverty, buying white goods and furniture can be a significant challenge. With the Cost-of-Living crisis, more people are struggling to buy essentials for their home. The demand from those who have not traditionally accessed our service has increased (e.g. working families on low income). The partnership with Castle Furniture provides a much-needed comfort, support and convenience to people experiencing hardship, and can give people a sense of ownership, pride, and stability.
- 2.2 A total budget of £17,5000 is requested in 2023/24 and in future years, to ensure this invaluable service can continue to support individuals and families within the Cowdenbeath Area.

Immediate Response Fund

- 2.3 There was a significant Council investment into crisis support over the 2022/23 winter period, which is unlikely to be available over the winter period in 2023/24. This has the potential to place increased pressure on the Immediate Response Fund, should access to alternative immediate crisis relief be reduced.
- 2.4 To avoid the risk of the £5,000 fund being exhausted during the winter, a top-up of £3,000 is being requested for 2023/24 which will bring the total available budget for this project to £8,000. This will provide funding resilience over the winter and towards the end of the financial year.

DigiCom Project

- 2.5 Access to the internet and a phone have become an essential part of our lives. The ability to phone for support, make appointments, update benefit journals or look for work online is often a necessity for those living on benefits. Unfortunately, there are a number of people who cannot afford a device and airtime plan. This can result in a significant challenge, leading to reduced access to services and potentially benefit sanctions if a claimant isn't able to fulfil their commitments with the job centre.
- 2.6 We are initiating a smartphone trial, where Welfare staff will reach out to people, they have a working relationship with, who are most in need, and offer a free smartphone and airtime plan for 12 months. Participants will provide feedback on the benefits of the smartphone, allowing us to monitor the efficacy of the service.

3.0 Recommendations

It is recommended that Committee:

- 1) Note the work done to date on the Community Resilience Fund and Immediate Response Fund.
- 2) Increase the Community Resilience Fund budget from £5,000 to £17,500 from the anti-poverty budget.
- 3) Increase the Immediate Response Fund budget from £5,000 to £8,000 from the anti-poverty budget.
- 4) Note the work undertaken as part of the DigiCom Project.

List of Appendices

1. Cowdenbeath Resilience Fund Report Update
2. Immediate Response Fund Update

Background Papers

None

Report Contact

Author Name: Patricia Galfskiy
Author's Job Title: Policy Officer
Workplace: Brunton House, Cowdenbeath
Telephone: 08451 55 55 55 Ext 450567
Email – patricia.galfskiy@fife.gov.uk

Appendix 1- Cowdenbeath Resilience Fund Report March 2020 to March 2023

Introduction

The Cowdenbeath Area Emergency Referral Fund was introduced in March 2020 to help those living in poverty in the Cowdenbeath Area due to the Covid-19 crisis. A partnership with Castle Furniture was created to enable a supply of white goods and household appliances to be sourced and delivered to households.

Referral Process

Castle Furniture created a Cowdenbeath Referral Form which can be found on the Castle Furniture (Glenrothes) website under the downloads section:

<https://www.castlefurniture.org/downloads>

Officers and supporting agencies can complete the online form on behalf of the client. It should be noted that for recording purposes and accountability before a referral is submitted this should be sent to the Policy Officer/Local Community Planning Support Officer in the first instance to ensure the necessary contact information is logged for future report requirements.

There is a maximum limit of £200 (which has now been increased to £300) unless there are extenuating circumstances, to be discussed further before submitting a referral.

Once the referral is received, Castle Furniture will check to ensure that they have the requested items in stock. They will then call the client to enquire whether there are any other items required before processing. If there are any other items required by the client not on the referral form and if they are in stock Castle Furniture will take a decision whether they can supply that item free of charge or contact the Officer to discuss further. They usually try to process the referral and deliver within 48hrs.

Funding

Castle Furniture has received £42,999 funding since March 2020, which has been funded from the Anti-Poverty Fund. The breakdown is as follows:

Year	Referrals
2020/21	£18,000
2021/22	£9,999
2022/23	£10,000
2023/24	£5,000

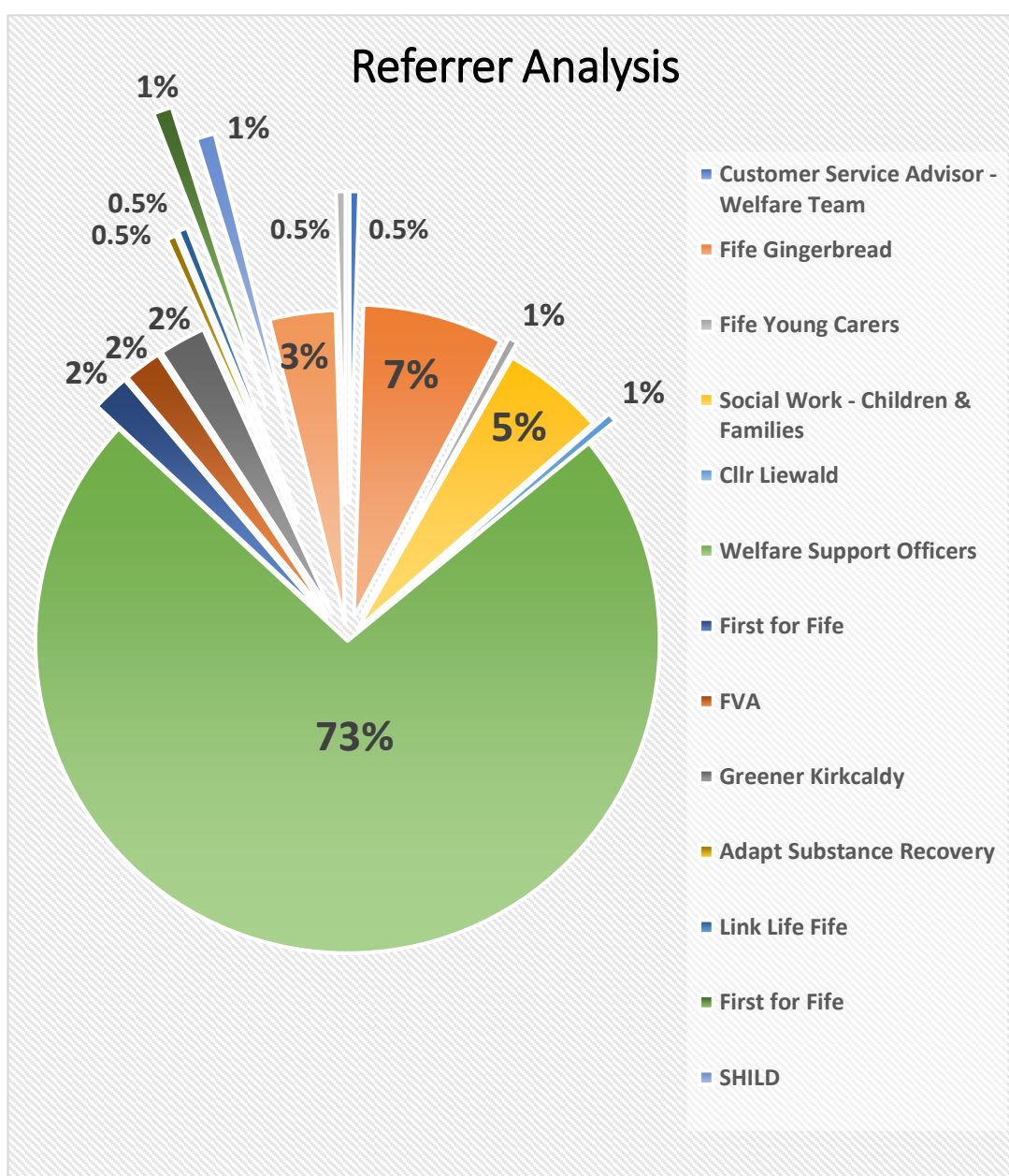
Referrer Analysis

To date there has been 205 referrals made to the fund from a number of colleagues, partners and 3rd party organisations.

The breakdown per year is as follows:

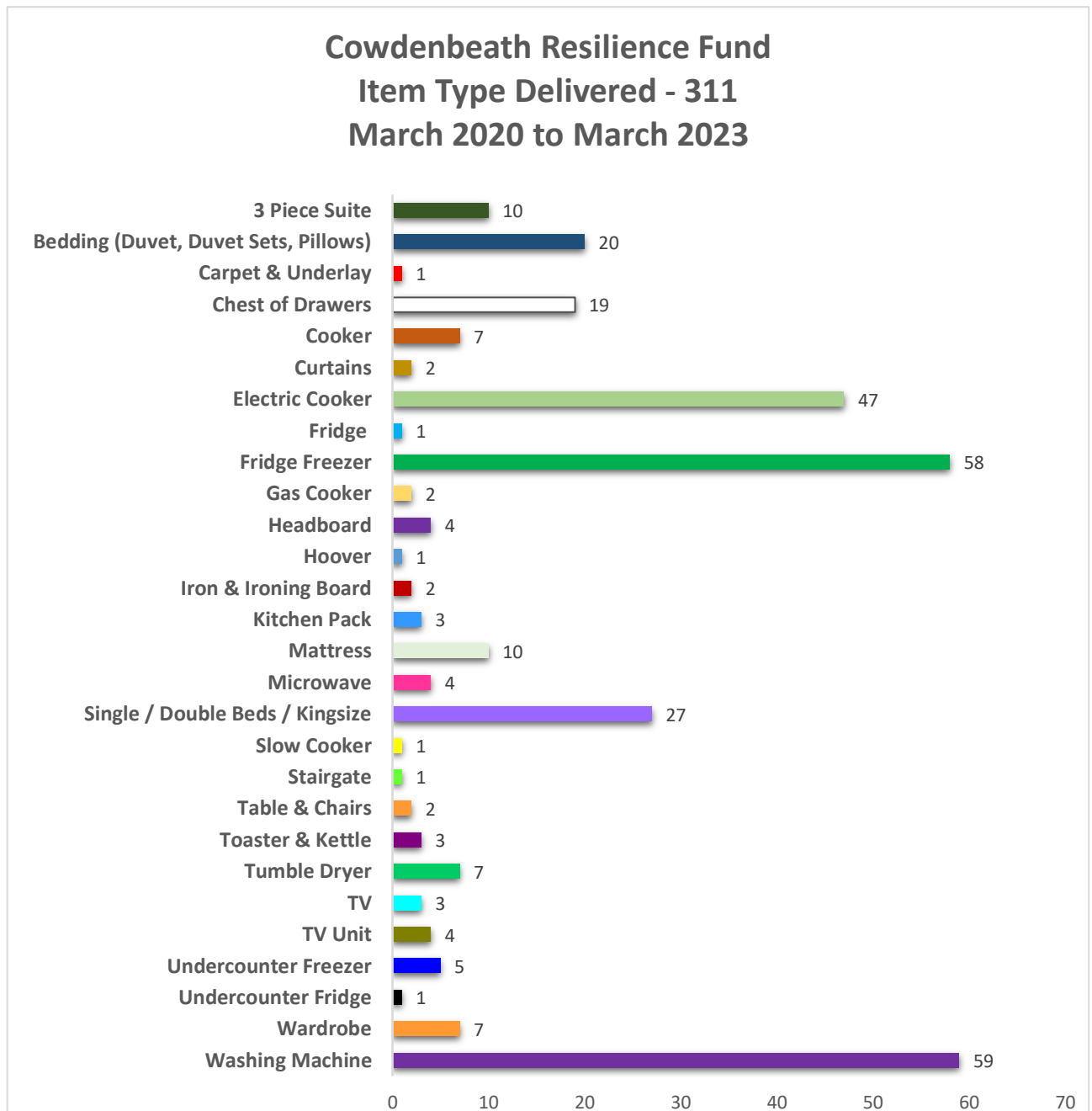
Year	Referrals
2020	64
2201	63
2022	64
2023	14 (as at 15/03/23)

The percentage breakdown of referrals to the fund are:

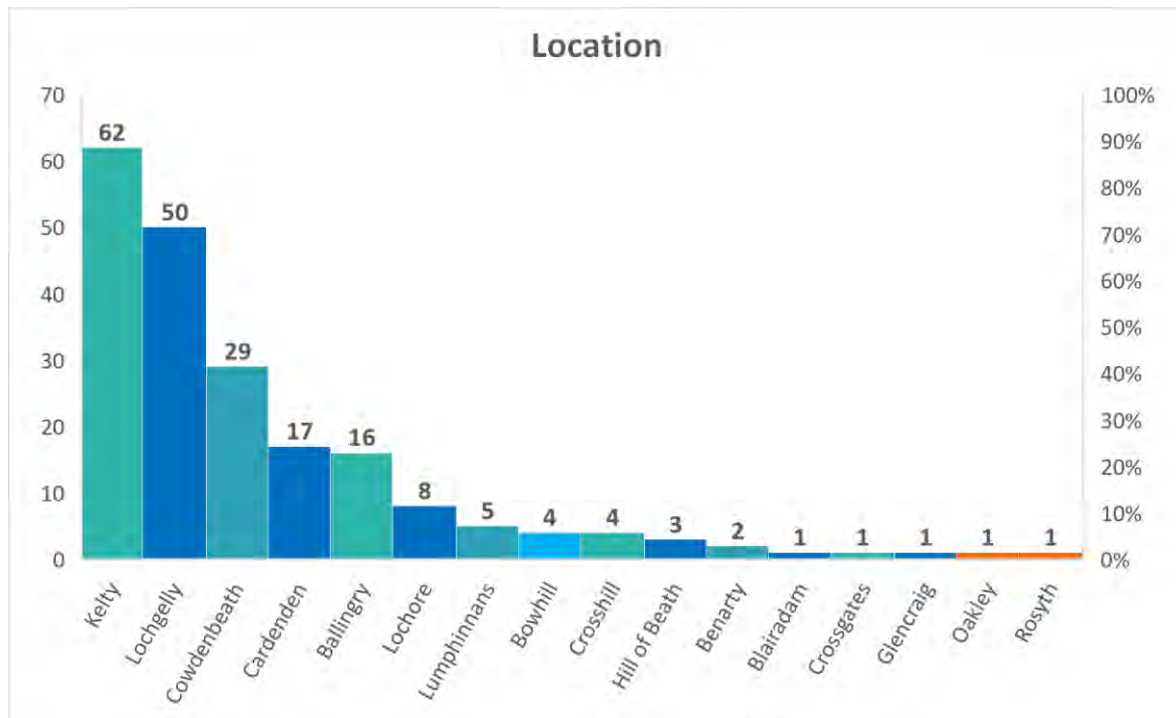


Item Analysis

Castle Furniture have delivered 311 items since March 2020. The breakdown of items are as follows:



Average Invoice Amount



The average Invoice amount against this fund at time of writing (15 March) was £181.22. There were 205 Invoices raised.

Location Analysis

Note

The referral for Rosyth was actioned in September 2020 and at that time there was no referral process for that area. An emergency referral came in from SHIELD Fife to assist with a chest of drawers and mattress for an individual in Rosyth. As the Area Team were in the process of investigating the request the delivery was actioned. The partnership was still in its infancy and the boundaries for the 'Cowdenbeath Area' were still being familiarised.

The referral for Oakley was agreed by the Community Manager and was due to extreme mitigating circumstances. A Welfare Support Officer was contacted by SWF area as the client is disabled and has been living on Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) for a few years. The client had extreme difficulty in making ends meet as his JSA did not receive an uplift payment during the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis only further eroded any opportunity to try and save money to buy the much-needed white goods. The client had been without a fridge freezer and a washing machine for over five months, with his own appliances beyond repair. Due to the extreme mitigating circumstances the Community Manager agreed to support this request to ensure the individual could wash his clothes and enable him to keep food fresh longer and to buy perishable food in bulk and store safely in the freezer.

A Selection of the Reasons Provided for Funding

M is a single man who suffers from mental health issues, epilepsy and PTSD. He lived with his partner, who cared for him, who recently passed away. M has not been in receipt of any benefits, they lived of his elder partners pension. The house is not of a suitable standard and he has no working appliances. I have been supporting M to open a bank account and claim his benefits, at present he has no income and is unable to cook any food

E has been in and out of work due to temporary contracts and is now on UC, he has been struggling financially and I have been supporting him to get on top of his finances. He has called to say his cooker has blown up and is not repairable. Due to his current situation he is unable to afford a new appliance. He has exhausted his Welfare Fund Applications.

Not eligible for a SWF Community Care Grant as she does not meet any of the criteria to apply for this support. K has multiple disabilities; her partner is her Carer. No available funds or ability to borrow or pay up a replacement cooker. Current cooker is beyond economical repair. Have been eating Microwave meals for weeks and need to be able to cook meals from scratch,

C does not meet criteria for a SWF Community Care Grant. C had an old second-hand washing machine, C has had for 6+ years, broken beyond economical repair. Conor relies on UC benefits; he is physically disabled and has been relying on friends to wash his clothes, but this has now stopped. No credit or ability to but a machine on HP due to benefit status and no money to afford any form of payment scheme due to cost of living and benefit

Average Prices of Items

White Goods	March 2020	January 2022	Difference
	£	£	£
Electric Cooker	120 - 150	200 - 450	80 - 300
Fridge Freezer	115	100 – 459	15 - 344
Washing Machine	100 - 120	110 - 376	10 – 256
Top Table Fridge		50- 126	
Under Counter Fridge	150	80 – 211	61
Under Counter Freezer	170	102	
Other Household Items	March 2020	January 2022	Difference
	£	£	£
Headboard	10		
Hoover	20		
Mattress – Double	70	120 - 162	50 - 112
Microwave	10 - 20	13 – 80	3 - 60
3 Piece Suite	110	60 – 220	110

Delivery Charge £15 - £30 distance based

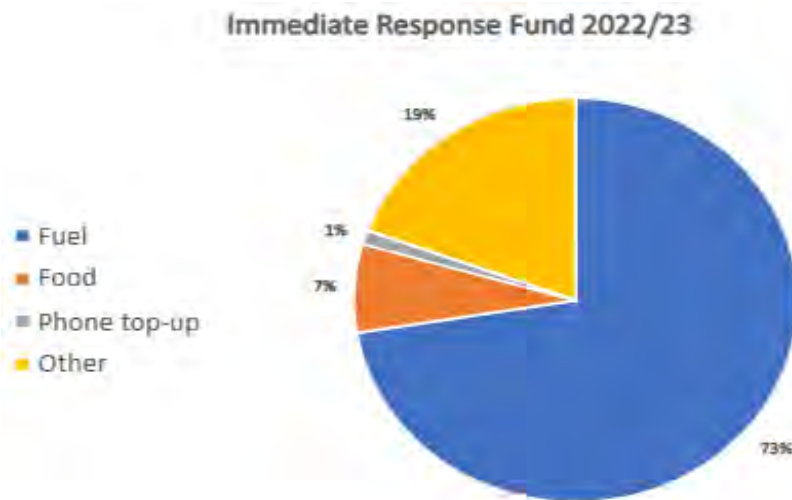
Washing machine installation charge £15

Cooker installation which must be by a qualified electrician £36

Disposal of white goods £30

Appendix 2 - Cowdenbeath Immediate Response Fund (IRF)

The total spend on IRF in 2022/23 was £4,397 (budget £5,000). Please see breakdown below.



Case studies

XXX is a single man who recently claimed UC - he is sorting his finances and paying off debts from a previous claim. XXX advised he had no gas or electric and doesn't get paid until Friday. A referral to Cosy Kingdom made, however there is a waiting list, which will result in XXX having no energy in the coming days. £20 emergency top up provided on both meters from IRF.

XXX is a regular at the Job Club. His 16 year old daughter unexpectedly returned to his care. XXX already has his 3 other children to care for, with no disposable income. XXX desperately needs essential items for his daughter. Items applied for from the Big Hoose, however they had no duvets or covers. Crisis grant applied for, however they could take 4/5 days to decide. IRF used to purchase some essentials for daughter.

Single parent, 2 daughters 16/17. No funds until next UC payment next Friday. Home owner. Contacted Cosy Kingdom for additional support, but will take a few weeks. Provided £30 emergency energy top-up provided from IRF and referred to SWF Crisis Grant should he require a further top-up. Provided with bus voucher for interview on Friday and to collect Foodbank parcel. Now accessing Lo'gelly Lunches for food support.

XXX is an elderly lady who uses Max's Meals food pantry. She has been unwell recently and has had to have her heating on more than usual, leaving her struggling financially. Referral to Cosy Kingdom, but it will take a few days for support and she only has £2 on her meter. £20 gas top up provided to bridge the gap.

Single parent, 3 children at home, partner recently died. School contacted Welfare Officer for support. Already had top ups from Housing. Cosy will assist but not for at least 2 days. Benefits due in 2 weeks and in debt due to funeral payments. £20 top-up provided on both gas and electric from IRF until Cosy Kingdom can offer support.

XXX has been living a chaotic lifestyle, is in homeless accommodation and is not currently in receipt of any benefits. He's attempting to engage with mental health and addiction support services, but has no means to contact these services. To set up his benefits, he needs access to the internet and a phone number. He has no belongings, spare clothes, etc. And is embarrassed by his appearance. To support him, a basic mobile phone was purchased (using a free SIM from DigiCom) and basic clothing purchased using the IRF. Referrals have been made to support services and support has been provided to complete benefit applications. Welfare staff working with Homeless Officer to address outstanding issues and establish longer term support.

14 June, 2023

Agenda Item No. 13

Cowdenbeath Area Update and Progress Report

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

Wards Affected: Wards 7 and 8

Purpose

To provide an update and budget progress report on projects approved at the Cowdenbeath Area Committee in December 2022.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that members of the Committee:

1. Note the progress made during the last 6-month period around the projects approved at the December 2022 Area Committee.
2. Approve broadening of the showbox project criteria as follows:
 - Shoebox project: broadening the criteria of the shoebox project to allow CLD officer and partner organisations to identify families who could benefit from the offer.

Resource Implications

There are no additional resource implications arising from this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no Legal & Risk Implications

Impact Assessment

An EqIA has not been completed as there are no proposed changes or revisions to existing policies.

Consultation

The paper is to update the members on project progress and therefore no consultation was undertaken. Conversations have been had with project partners as projects have developed to ensure success and to adapt if necessary to ensure projects meet the needs and wishes of elected members. Elected members have been kept up to date via Ward meetings.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In December 2022 the Cowdenbeath Area Committee approved funds for project that allocated the remainder of the 2022/2023 LCP, Ward and Anti-Poverty budgets.

See table below.

Project	Budget
Ward Contingency Fund	£30,000
Cowdenbeath Shoe Box	£105,900
Deliverit/The Big Hoose	£20,000
Warm Spaces/Winter Provision	£20,000
Café Inc Expansion	£55,000
Community Food Projects	£80,000
Cosy Kingdom Area Resource	£65,000
CLD Activity Programme	£25,000
Breakfast Club/After School Expanded Provision	£60,000
Participatory Budgeting	£48,000
Pending Allocations £10,000	£10,000
Carry Forward to 2023/2024	£1
Total	£518,901

- 1.2 In December 2022 a motion relating to the projects presented at committee was passed to “requested that the Community Manager and relevant officers provide regular updates to members both between and at Area Committee meetings to allow for on-going scrutiny of project spend”. [download-document-sharepoint \(fife.gov.uk\)](#).

2.0 Project progress and options

Please see below details of project progress and spend against each project:

- 2.1 **Ward Contingency Fund (£30,000):** the allocation of £15,000 per ward provides a resource for members to agree at ward level for projects or applications for funding. To date the following projects have been approved. Unallocated resources will be carried forward into the 2023/2024 financial year.

Ward 7 Applications

Project	Spend	Budget Remaining
DigiCom: Welfare Phones	£ 239.96	£ 14,760.04
Fife Brass Band Festival	£ 875.00	£ 13,885.04
Kelty Primary school visit to Newtongrange Mining	£ 700.00	£ 13,185.04
Celebrating the King's Coronation Kelty Community Council	£ 500.00	£ 12,685.04
Celebrating the King's Coronation Lumphinnans Community Council	£ 250.00	£ 12,435.04
Cowdenbeath Operation Care Pack Pilot Project	£ 3,550.00	£ 8,885.04
Total	£ 6,114.96	£ 8,885.04

Please note

- DigiCom: Welfare Phones project, £599.50 was approved. To date there has been spend of £239.96. The full amount of funding will be required. Restrictions on the number of phones which can be purchased at the one time has delayed all the funding being utilised. Additional phones will be purchased in due course leaving available funds of **£8525.50**.

Ward 8 Applications

Project	Spend	Budget Remaining
DigiCom: Welfare Phones	£ 239.96	£ 14,760.04
Fife Brass Band Festival	£ 875.00	£ 13,885.04
St Serf's Baby & Toddler Group	£ 1,500.00	£ 12,385.04
Benarty Parent Council Enhance Outdoor Learning &	£ 2,500.00	£ 9,885.04
Celebrating the King's Coronation Auchterderran	£ 400.00	£ 9,485.04
Lochgelly West PS P7 Residential to Ardroy - Support	£ 300.00	£ 9,185.04
Celebrating the King's Coronation Benarty Centre	£ 0.00	£ 9,185.04
Fairy Wood Easter Egg Hunt	£ 1,000.00	£ 8,185.04
Cowdenbeath Community Theatre - Support distribution of free tickets in the Cowdenbeath Area	£ 2,000.00	£ 6,185.04
Total	£ 8,814.96	£ 6,185.04

Please note:

- DigiCom: Welfare Phones project, £599.50 was approved. There has been spend of £239.96 on phones leaving £359.54 to be spent. As above, the full amount of funding will be required. Restrictions on the number of phones which can be purchased at the one time has delayed all the funding being utilised. Additional phones will be purchased in due course.
- Celebrating Kings Coronation Benarty Centre, £250 was approved but no spend through the ledger as yet.
- Once both these costs go through the ledger it will leave a remaining funds of **£5575.50**.

2.2 **Shoe Box** (£105,900): Members requested that a project be set up to provide footwear for children as this was identified as an issue by school staff. A pilot project was developed which was a success and as a result the project was expanded, and further funds approved in December 2022. To date of the **£105,900** approved for the Cowdenbeath Shoebox project, a total of **£44,600** has been applied for. A total of **£28,600** has been paid direct to schools, which provides **715** pairs of shoes (average of £40 per pair) for children and young people across the Cowdenbeath area.

The following schools have applied and have been successful for funding.

Nurseries

Clentry Nursery	Sunflower Nursery	Dunmore Nursery	St Kenneths Nursery
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Primary Schools

Cowdenbeath PS	Foulford PS	Hill of Beath PS	Lumphinnans PS
Benarty PS	Dendend PS	Lochgelly South PS	Lochgelly West PS
St Patricks RCPS	St Kenneths RC PS		

High schools

Lochgelly HS	Beath HS	St Columba's HS (Application Pending)
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Members were sent a briefing with a project update in May 2023 requesting approval to contact all primary schools within the area advising of the availability of the fund for those young people most in need taking the next step in their education journey ensuring young people transitioning would start high school with appropriate footwear.

The service is now seeking approval to broaden the criteria of the project by allowing community education workers to make requests to access this funding. This will be on behalf of families and children known to the staff through existing provision and who come to their attention over the summer activities.

Funds not allocated in 2022/2023 - £89,900 will be carried forward to the 2023/2024 financial year to allow the project to continue.

- 2.3 **DeliverIt** (£20,000): development of a pilot project to work in conjunction with The Big Hoose to facilitate delivery of donated essential household goods via a coordinated volunteer model.

The project requires recruitment and other staff resource to manage volunteers and build capacity for ongoing work. Project will commence once Community Education resources are recruited.

- 2.4 **Warm Spaces** (£20,000): provision of resources to groups and services (including FC facilities) was approved to provide warm space provision across the area and to supplement winter warmer packs.

Funding was available to support both Council and community group warm spaces over winter 2022/23. There was little spend on the funding, with the central warm spaces grants covering most of the demand. The table below shows the spend on the budget to date.

Project	Spend	Budget Remaining
Resources, drinks and snacks for Council venues	£ 1,139.53	£ 18,860.47
Express Group Social Activities	£ 3,000.00	£ 15,860.47
Lochgelly Job Clubs supplies	£ 242.71	£ 15,617.76
Social Spaces – Lumphinnans Bowling Club	£ 2,000.00	£ 13,617.76
Total	£ 6,382.24	£ 13,617.76

Community warm spaces were most successful where they were linked to social activities, helping bring members of the community together to share food, games, etc.

Following the winter period, community warm space providers were approached to see whether they could offer community social events over 2023/24. Only one group have taken up this offer, with £2,000 of funding provided to deliver a monthly, free, activity in Lumphinnans Bowling Club.

Officers will set up a workshop with members about how we best utilise the remaining funds going forward.

- 2.5 **Café Inc Expansion** (£55,000): Funds were approved to expand the venues and supplement the food offer in the Cowdenbeath area. The Easter Café Inc was successful with the funds supporting the cost of food for an additional venue to operate - Lumphinnans Bowling Club. It also complimented the offer in the area by providing addition food items such as Jelly pots, yogurts, peperomia, fredos, custard pots to all venues in the area. Unspent funds will be carried forward to support the Summer Café Inc.

Project	Spend	Budget Remaining
Christmas 2022 Additional Provision Items Hill of Beath & Crossgates	£3627.82	£51,372.18
Lo’Gelly Lunches - Supply of new Hot Bain Marie Hot Cupboard.	£1,790.00	£49,582.18
Easter 2023 Additional Provision Items for all sites in the Cowdenbeath Area	£14,911.00	£34,671.18
Lumphinnans Bowling Club	£589.15	£34,082.03
Total	£19,127.97	£34,082.03

2.6 **Community Food Projects** (£80,000): provision of funding was allocated to existing and new community food projects across the area. These projects provide essential support to families and individuals during the cost-of-living crisis. Funds have been allocated as follows:

Project	Spend	Budget remaining
Additional Hours payment to support food provision	£ 911.00	£ 79,089.00
Lo'gelly Lunches - Xmas Provision	£ 3,303.90	£ 75,785.10
Co-Op Food Vouchers for 19 Pupils St Columba's HS	£ 950.00	£ 74,835.10
Cardenden Community Fridge	£ 10,000.00	£ 64,835.10
Oor Wee Café	£ 10,000.00	£ 54,835.10
Maxs Meals / Lite Bites	£ 10,000.00	£ 44,835.10
ActiveEAT, Bowhill	£ 1,740.00	£ 43,095.10
Boots are Made for Walking (Cardenden)	£ 450.00	£ 42,645.10
Primrose Trust Foodbank	£ 3,500.00	£ 39,145.10
Lo'Gelly Lunches	£ 15,000.00	£ 24,145.10
Benarty Food Angels	£ 6,000.00	£ 18,145.10
The Clearing	£ 3,000.00	£ 15,145.10
CLD Youth Club Food Provision	£ 10,000.00	£ 15,145.10
Cardenden CF/Oor Wee Café/Maxs Meals/Lo'Gelly Lunches	£ 5,000.00	£ 145.10
Total	£ 79,854.90	£ 145.10

Please note:

- £10,000 committed for CLD Youth Club Food Provision. No spend to date.
- A further £5000 has been committed for Cardenden Community Fridge, Oor Wee Café, Maxs Meals/Bite Lites and Lo'Gelly Lunches each receiving £1250. Payments will be made once LCP Application forms have been received.
- The remaining budget available will therefore be £145.10.

2.7 **Cosy Kingdom Area Resource** (£65,000): provision of a dedicated Energy Advice Officer to provide specific support within existing provision and venues was approved. After discussion and negotiations with Cosy Kingdom members felt that the proposal was not what they were hoping for. A revised proposal was explored however this fell short of members wishes and as a result the project has been paused. A workshop will be set up with members to discuss the best way forward to either discuss further with Cosy Kingdom or reallocate funds back into the budget.

2.8 **CLD Activity Programme (£25,000):** funding to support the development of activity to engage young people, adult learners and families between December 2022 and April 2023. The funding provided resources for expanded youth work activity, staffing costs and activity requested by all age groups. To date the following projects have been approved for delivery.

Project	Budget Committed	Actual Spend as at 19.05.23
Social Meet Ups at Kelty Kings	£ 500.00	£ 27.43
Cowdenbeath Men's Woodwork	£ 509.92	£ 509.92
Kelty Parent & Toddlers Group	£ 488.00	£ 464.66
Time to Talk Day February 2023	£ 241.00	£ 222.72
Lochgelly Youth Resources	£ 1,702.00	£ 1,550.15
Food Hygiene Course Maxwell Centre	£ 666.00	£ 605.00
The Decider Parent Courses	£ 300.00	£ 000.00
Adult Learner Taster Sessions	£ 1,065.00	£ 876.17
International Women's Day	£ 650.00	£ 817.46
Positive Steps Lochgelly Centre	£ 105.00	£ 0.00
Benarty Youth Work Resources	£ 1,050.00	£ 133.33
Book Bug Sessions Cowdenbeath Area	£ 137.00	£ 0.00
Family Walks & Talks Sessions	£ 328.00	£ 0.00
Child Care Directions Course Maxwell	£ 1,420.00	£ 656.51
First Aid Training Kelty CC	£ 1,143.00	£ 0.00
Wood Turning @ Beath CUS	£ 900.00	£ 0.00
Adult Learning Memory Book Course	£ 3,490.00	£ 42.00
The Decider - Self Harm Awareness	£ 300.00	£ 0.00
Men's Shed Programme Benarty	£ 1,270.00	£ 0.00
Benarty Alternative Youth Work	£ 388.00	£ 0.00
Family Fun Nights Lochgelly	£ 1,072.00	£ 56.00
Mental Health Week 2023	£ 1,665.70	£ 77.00
Adult Learning Glass Work Lochgelly	£ 2,576.00	£ 0.00
Youth Diversity Activities Lochgelly	£ 1,560.00	£ 0.00
Unallocated Amount to date	£ 1,473.38	£ 0.00
Total	£ 23,526.62	£ 6,038.35

Although £6,038.25 of the CLD Activity Programme has gone through the ledger. £17,488.27 funding has been committed but still to be paid, leaving £1473.38 funding unallocated.

2.9 **Breakfast/After school club expanded provision (£60,000):** It was agreed at the budget workshop meeting on the 20th December 2022 to map out existing school support services for young people in the area to gain a greater understanding as to what was on offer in the Cowdenbeath Area and where there may be gaps or opportunities to explore further.

This exercise has now been completed, with a more detailed report to be presented at Ward meetings. However, in summary out of the 26 schools targeted which included the two charity run organisations, there was a 66% return rate (17 respondents) with 34% (9) providing no feedback. 16 had a breakfast offering, 7 free of charge, which in some cases

included childcare, with 6 After School Clubs operating in the area (two charity run). Out of the 17 respondents, 5 schools stated that they were not interested in providing or exploring setting up an After School Club, though they all had a Breakfast club in operation. To date four schools have come forward seeking support, St Columba's High School, Hill of Beath Primary School, Lochgelly South Primary School and Lochgelly High School, leaving a remaining budget of **£37,088**. There are also planned discussions with Beath High School to explore expanding their offering, the cost of which is still to be determined.

It should be noted that this has been a very worthwhile exercise in gaining a fuller understanding of what is on offer in the area, the results of which will be included in the Fife wide exercise undertaken by Education Services.

Project	Spend	Budget remaining
St Columba's HS Breakfast Club 3 Way Split with SWF & Dunfermline Areas	£ 1,666.00	£ 58,334.00
Hill of Beath PS Breakfast Club	£ 4,982.00	£ 53,352.00
Lochgelly PS School / Nursery Snack	£ 1,264.00	£ 52,088.00
Lochgelly HS Breakfast Club	£ 15,000.00	£ 37,088.00
Total	£ 22,912.00	£ 37,088.00

Pending Allocations (£10,000): allocation to cover an applications pending or received in the period between the writing of this report and the committee date. Any unallocated funding would be carried forward to 2023/24. There were no applications pending. The full amount will be carried over to 2023/24.

2.10 Participatory Budgeting (£48,000)

Monies allocated from the local budgets are being combined with a £48,000 funding allocation from the Community Recovery Fund, approved in March 2023, to deliver an extended budget for participatory budgeting within the community.

As part of the Community Recovery Funding, new Community Education Workers will be recruited to support engagement across the area which seeks to deliver community action plans and participatory budgeting work. Recruitment will start in the coming weeks and once officers are in place we will engage with communities to support them in identifying what their priorities are and what projects they would like to see delivered as part of the funding.

Community education workers will begin developing community profiles for the area. The intention is to hold engagement sessions with local people to ascertain needs and aspirations after the pandemic. This will run over a number of months and allow a both refocus of CLD priorities in line with community needs and will also form the basis of the community action plan development. This in turn will identify the key priorities for the participatory budgeting and voting will take place so the community can prioritise where the monies should be spent.

2.11 Across all projects, where there is underspend, funds will be carried forward to continue projects into 2023/2023 and where funds may need reallocated funding will be carried

forward to 2023/24 for consideration alongside LCP, Ward, Anti-Poverty and Community Recovery Fund budgets.

3.0 Current Financial spend against each project

3.1 As a result of the project progress the following funds remain under each project. As mentioned previously funds not spent to date will be carried forward into the 2023/2024.

Projects	Budget	Spend (As of June 2023)	Carried forward or reallocated
Ward Contingency Fund	£30,000.00	£15,070.08	£14,929.92
Cowdenbeath Shoe Box	£105,900.00	£28,600.00	£77,300.00
Deliverit/The Big Hoose	£20,000.00	£0.00	£20,000.00
Warm Spaces/Winter Provision	£20,000.00	£6,382.24	£13,617.76
Café Inc Expansion	£55,000.00	£19,127.97	£35,872.03
Community Food Projects	£80,000.00	£63,943.90	£16,056.10
Cosy Kingdom Area Resource	£65,000.00	£0.00	£65,000.00
CLD Activity Programme	£25,000.00	£ 6,038.35	£18,961.65
Breakfast Club/After School Expanded Provision	£60,000.00	£22,912.00	£37,088.00
Participatory Budgeting	£48,000.00	£0.00	£48,000.00
Pending Allocations	£10,000.00	£0.00	£10,000.00
Carry Forward to 2023/2024	£1.00	£0.00	£1.00
Total	£518,901.00	£162,074.54	£356,826.46

4.0 Conclusion and Next Steps

4.1 Since December 2022 officers have been working to progress projects approved at the December 2022 Area Committee. The committee are asked to note the progress made during the last 6-month period and approve changes to specific projects as requested within the report.

4.2 Committee is asked to approve the broadening of the showbox project criteria as follows:

- Shoebox project: broadening the criteria of the shoebox project to allow CLD officer and partner organisations to identify families who could benefit from the offer.

List of Appendices

No appendices.

Background papers

No background papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973

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14 June 2023

Agenda Item No. 14

Cowdenbeath Area Local Community Planning, Anti-Poverty, Ward & Community Recovery Fund Budget Update

Report by: Paul Vaughan

Wards Affected: Wards 7 and 8

Purpose

To provide an update on the Cowdenbeath Area Local Community Planning, Anti-poverty, Ward 7, Ward 8 2022/2023 budgets and Community Recovery budgets spend to date.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that members of the Committee note spend on the Cowdenbeath Area budgets 2022/2023 and spend to date on the Community Recovery budget.

Resource Implications

There are no additional resource implications arising from this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no Legal & Risk Implications.

Impact Assessment

An EqlA has not been completed and is not necessary as this report does not propose a new or revised policy or practice.

Consultation

The paper is to update members on the Cowdenbeath Area budgets and therefore no consultation was undertaken. These budgets are discussed with elected members via Ward meetings.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Cowdenbeath Area manage the local community planning, anti-poverty, ward 7 and ward 8 budgets. The budgets are allocated each year to support activities linked to the priorities in the Cowdenbeath Local community plan to encourage local partnership working. The budgets are designed to be flexible and respond to community needs and to support projects that support the community of Cowdenbeath.
- 1.2 At the March 2023 the community recovery funding for the area was approved and members were informed that they would be kept up to date on spend against the fund. Appendix 2 provides this update. As it is very early in project development there is minimum spend through the budget at this stage.

2.0 Budget update

- 2.1 The budgets outlined in the appendix list the current spend against budgets approved for 2022/2023. Any funds committed but not spent to date will be carried forward into the 2023/2024 financial year.

3.0 Conclusion and Next Steps

- 3.1 Members are requested to note the spend in 2022/2023 across all budgets shown in appendix 1 and appendix 2.
- 3.2 All underspend from 2022/2023 will be carried forward into 2023/24 to support both ongoing and projects.

List of Appendices

1. Budget Position for LCP, Anti-Poverty and Ward Budgets 2022-23.
2. Community Recovery budget position.

Background papers

No background papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973

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A41810 - COWDENBEATH LCP Ward 7	
Approved Budget	£84,320.00
Current Budget	£165,048.00
Carry Over 2021/22	£80,728.00
Actuals to date	£149,115.26
Outstanding Spend on Projects	£2,164.20
Remaining Budget	£13,768.54

Approved Project Ref.	Project Name	Lead Service/ Organisation	Delegated Powers/ Committee Approval Date	Area Budget Contribution & Proposed Project Contribution	Expenditure & Income Processed
	Rental/Feu Property Income			-£ 2,000.04	-£ 2,000.04
S30011	The Arts Backpack in Fife	Action for Children's Art	06.12.21	£ 5,000.00	£ 5,000.00
				£ 4,622.00	£ 4,622.00
S30012	Mental Health Support Group (Walks and Talks)	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	30.03.22	£ 712.00	£ 407.34
S30013	Step In Course Maxwell Centre	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD Fife College	20.06.22	£ 1,840.06	£ 1,840.06
S30014	Kelty Community Centre - Watercooler & Electrical Socket	Communities & Neighbourhoods CUS	02.02.22 21.03.22	£ 135.30	£ 135.30
S30015	Beath High School - Barrier at the Old Perth Road Car Park Entrance	Communities & Neighbourhoods CUS	07.09.22	£ 1,500.00	
S30016	Christmas Tree Temporary - Cowdenbeath (25ft) & Kelty (20ft)	Grounds Maintenance Services	20.10.22	£ 2,063.78	£ 2,063.78
S30017	CLD Programmes Easter/Summer/October 2022	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD		£ 18,500.00	£ 18,500.00

S30018	Cowdenbeath Community Council - Christmas Lights	Cowdenbeath Community Council	AC Sept 2020	£ 5,650.00	£ 5,650.00
S30019	Hill of Beath Christmas Tree - Installation of Lights	Roads & Transportation	02.11.22	£ 600.00	£ 600.00
S30020	Elf on the Shelf Course, Maxwell Centre	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	31.10.22	£ 295.90	£ 295.90
S30021	Oor Wee Café - Volunteer Recognition Event	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	04.11.22	£ 504.00	£ 504.00
S30022	Kelty Community Centre - Juniors Youth Club Pantomime	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	04.11.22	£ 721.18	£ 721.18
S30023	Homemade Xmas Gifts on a Budget, Maxwell Centre	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	11.11.22	£ 206.66	£ 206.66
S30024	Alcohol Awareness Campaign Anti-spiking / Underage Drinking	Police Scotland - Cowdenbeath Team	18.11.22	£ 250.00	£ 250.00
S30025	Cowdenbeath Community Theatre - Support distribution of free tickets in the Cowdenbeath Area	Cowdenbeath Community Theatre	12.11.22	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00
S30026	WI-FI Enhancement Cowdenbeath Town Centre	Fife Council Town Centre Mgt	18.04.22	£ 2,868.00	£ 2,868.00
S30027	OAP Christmas Lunch	Hill of Beath Ex Servicemen Club	24.11.22	£ 750.00	£ 750.00
S30028	Kelty Gala Group Christmas Party	Kelty Children's Gala	07.12.22	£ 1,186.00	£ 1,186.00
S30029	Transfer Funding to A41811			£ 97,400.12	£ 97,400.12
S30030	DigiCom: Welfare Phones	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	23.01.23	£ 599.50	£ 239.96
S30031	Fife Brass Band Festival	Fife Brass Band Festival	21.02.23	£ 875.00	£ 875.00
S30032	Kelty Primary school visit to Newtongrange Mining Museum.	Kelty Community Council Heritage Committee	13.03.23	£ 700.00	£ 700.00
S30033	Celebrating the King's Coronation	Kelty Community Council	13.03.23	£ 500.00	£ 500.00
S30034	Celebrating the King's Coronation	Lumphinnans Community Council	13.03.23	£ 250.00	£ 250.00
S30035	Cowdenbeath Operation Care Pack Pilot Project	Knights Templar Good Will Charity	21.03.23	£ 3,550.00	£ 3,550.00
TOTALS				£ 151,279.46	£ 149,115.26

A41809 - LOCHGELLY AND CARDENDEN Ward 8

Approved Budget	£66,408.00
Current Budget	£109,423.00
Carryover 2021/22	£43,015.00
Actuals to date	£102,698.49
Outstanding Spend on Projects	£609.54
Remaining Budget	£6,114.97

Approved Project Ref.	PROJECT NAME	Lead Service/ Organisation	Delegated Powers/ Committee Approval Date	Area Budget Contribution & Proposed Project Contribution	Expenditure & Income Processed
S30011	Lochgelly Cluster – Bikeability Project	Active Schools / Community Use	12.11.21	£ 1,800.00	£ 1,800.00
S30012	Lochgelly Gala August 2022	Lochgelly Galal Committee	25.03.22	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,500.00
S30013	Improvement to Moore Park Football Facility - Perimeter Fencing	Lochgelly United AFC	18.04.22	£ 3,000.00	£ 3,000.00
S30014	Friends of Lochgelly HS Pipe Band	Friends of Lochgelly HS Pipe Band	21.03.22	£ 4,030.00	£ 4,030.00
S30015	Lochgelly HS Parent Council Awards	Lochgelly HS Parent Council	23.05.22	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
S30016	Fife Cycle Park Jubilee Fun Day	Sports Development	30.05.22	£ 480.00	£ 480.00
S30017	Jubilee Street Party	Auchterderran & Kinglassie Guild Church	31.05.22	£ 500.00	£ 500.00
S30018	Cardenden Youth Forum - Visit to Auschwitz	Cardenden Youth Forum	20.06.22	£ 4,000.00	£ 4,000.00
S30019	Robert Smith Court - Solutions to Dangerous Wall	Roads & Transportation Services Communities & Neighbourhoods	19.07.22 (Site Mtg)	£ 3,090.53	£ 3,090.53
S30021	Flooding at Crosshill Park	Grounds Maintenance Services	06.10.21	£ 2,343.00	£ 2,343.00
S30022	Kids Come First - Support Costs for October & November	Kids Come First Communities & Neighbourhoods	13.10.22	£ 6,769.70	£ 6,769.70
S30023	CLD Programmes Easter/Summer/October 2022	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD		£ 18,500.00	£ 18,500.00

S30024	Christmas Trees Temporary - Cardenden (20ft), Lumphinnans (20ft) & Lochgelly (20ft)	Grounds Maintenance Services	20.10.22	£ 3,289.67	£ 3,289.67
S30025	Lumphinnans Community Council - Christmas Lights	Lumphinnans Community Council	AC Sept 2020	£ 1,850.00	£ 1,850.00
S30026	Lochgelly Band Hall Renovation	Lochgelly Band	26.10.22 AC	£ 15,000.00	£ 15,000.00
S30027	Benarty Christmas Tree - Installation of Lights & Temporary Christmas Tree	Roads & Transportation	02.11.22	£ 1,439.89	£ 1,439.89
S30028	28 th Cardenden Community and Bonfire Display 2022	Cardenden Bonfire Committee	26.10.22	£ 4,995.00	£ 4,995.00
S30029	Alcohol Awareness Campaign Anti-spiking / Underage Drinking	Police Scotland - Cowdenbeath Team	18.11.22	£ 250.00	£ 250.00
S30030	Cardenden Christmas Lights	Cardenden Community Development Forum	12.11.22	£ 2,400.00	£ 2,400.00
S30031	Homemade Christmas Course at Bowhill CC	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	20.11.22	£ 511.00	£ 511.00
S30032	Transfer Funding to A41811			£ 17,934.74	£ 17,934.74
S30033	DigiCom: Welfare Phones	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	23.01.23	£ 599.50	£ 239.96
S30034	Fife Brass Band Festival	Fife Brass Band Festival	21.02.23	£ 875.00	£ 875.00
S30035	St Serf's Baby & Toddler Group	St Serf's Parish Church	08.03.23	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,500.00
S30036	Enhance Outdoor Learning & Play	Benarty PS Parent Council	21.03.23	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00
S30037	Celebrating the King's Coronation	Auchterderran Kinglassie Parish Church	28.03.23	£ 400.00	£ 400.00
S30038	Lochgelly West PS P7 Residential to Ardroy - Support two families	Lochgelly West Primary School	23.03.23	£ 300.00	£ 300.00
S30039	Celebrating the King's Coronation - Benarty Centre	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	30.03.23	£ 250.00	£ -
S30040	Fairy Wood Easter Egg Hunt	Fairy Wood Group	30.03.23	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
S30041	Cowdenbeath Community Theatre - Support distribution of free tickets in the Cowdenbeath Area	Cowdenbeath Community Theatre	12.11.22	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00
TOTALS				£ 103,308.03	£ 102,698.49

A41811 - COWDENBEATH AREA LCP	
Approved Budget	£120,431.00
Current Budget	£265,492.86
Carryover 2021/22	£29,729.00
Transfer of funding from A41809 & A41810	£115,332.86
Actuals to date	£49,233.76
Outstanding Spend on Projects	£212,667.41
Remaining Budget	£3,591.69

Approved Project Ref.	Project Name	Lead Service/ Organisation	Delegated Powers/ Committee Approval Date	Area Budget Contribution & Proposed Project Contribution	Expenditure & Income Processed
S30011	Summer Bedding / Baskets, Cowdenbeath Area	Grounds Maintenance Services	15.02.22	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00
S30012	Cowdenbeath Town House Information Event 07.05.22 - HV Printing Cowdenbeath Town House Consultation - Scott Blyth - HV Printing	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	22.04.22 11.07.22	£ 16.00	£ 16.00
S30013	Crowdfunder Fife - Area Contribution	Fife Council, Community Investment Team	27.05.22	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
S30014	Kelty Floral Enhancement	Kelty Community Council	07.06.22	£ 500.00	£ 500.00
S30015	DRR Awards for Cowdenbeath Area	Revenues Business Rates	01.04.22	£ 5,106.87	£ 5,106.87
S30016	Picnic in the Park, Adult Basic Education	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	15.07.22	£ 375.00	£ 375.00
S30017	Cowdenbeath War Memorial - Inspection & Remedial Work Hill of Beath War Memorial Change of Name etc	Property Services, Building Inspector	08.11.21	£ 1,282.25	£ 1,282.25
S30018	Cowdenbeath Town House VOA Evaluation Report	Estates Management Team	24.01.22	£ 1,392.70	£ 1,392.70

S30019	Cedar House Garden Club - Floral Enhancement	Cedar House Garden Club	26.07.22	£ 250.00	£ 250.00
S30020	Laptop - Project Manager	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	15.11.22	£ 438.35	£ 438.35
S30021	Youth Engagement – LCP & LMCP	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	24.11.22	£ 1,290.00	£ 1,290.00
S30022	CLD Activity Programme	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 25,000.00	£ 6,038.35
S30023	Deliverit/The Big Hoose	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 20,000.00	£ -
S30024	Warm Spaces / Winter Provision	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 20,000.00	£ 6,382.24
S30025	Cosy Kingdom Area Resource	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 65,000.00	£ -
S30026	Breakfast Club/After School Expanded Provision	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 60,000.00	£ 22,912.00
S30027	Participatory Budgeting	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 48,000.00	£ -
S30028	Pending Applications	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 10,000.00	£ -
S30029	Lumphinnans Community Council Floral Grant	Lumphinnans Community Council	AC 07.12.22	£ 250.00	£ 250.00
TOTALS				£ 261,901.17	£ 49,233.76

A41785 - COWDENBEATH ANTI-POVERTY	
Approved Budget	£270,000.00
Current Budget	£436,337.00
Budget Transfers (Salary Costs Lines 21 & 22)	-£136,034.00
Carryover 2020/21	£166,337.00
Actuals to date	£295,726.23
Outstanding Spend on Projects	£135,635.10
Remaining Budget	£4,975.67

Approved Project Ref.	Project Name	Lead Service/ Organisation	Delegated Powers/ Committee Approval Date	Area Budget Contribution & Proposed Project Contribution	Expenditure & Income Processed
	Temporary Posts Welfare Support Assistant 1fte Community Education Worker 0.5 fte Catering Supervisor 1fte	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 16.06.21	£ 81,452.00	£ 81,452.00
	Temporary Posts - Youth Worker Positions - 18 hpw - 36 hpw - 24 hpw	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 16.06.21	£ 54,582.00	£ 54,582.00
				£ 59.32	£ 59.32
				£ 18.00	£ 18.00
AA1609	Laptop for CLD Worker	Communities & Neighbourhoods	19.01.22	£ 401.00	£ 401.00
S30011	Kids Come First Emergency Grant (To be paid to Benarty Management Committee) Kids Come First - Thomson Cooper Accountants Fee for preparation and independent examination of accounts 2019 & 2020	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	11.03.22	£ 6,312.11	£ 6,312.11
S30012	Kelty Parent & Toddlers Group	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	18.02.22	£ 500.00	£ 390.40
S30013	Oor Wee Cafe - Elementary Food Hygiene Delivery, Registration, Exam for Staff & Volunteers	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	GD 05.05.22	£ 440.00	£ 440.00
S30014	Welfare Reform Immediate Response Fund	Communities & Neighbourhoods,	AC 09.02.22	£ 5,000.00	£ 3,883.57
S30015	Lochgelly Town Hall - Additional General Waste Bin Uplift	Communities & Neighbourhoods	07.05.21	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,121.64
S30016	Van costs to support Food Deliveries, Collections and Food Projects in the Cowdenbeath Area	Communities & Neighbourhoods	AC 09.02.22	£ 8,000.00	£ 4,282.55
S30017	Welfare Support Travel Vouchers	Communities & Neighbourhoods	02.04.22	£ 750.00	£ 642.30

S30018	Cowdenbeath Resilience Fund	Castle Enterprise Scotland Ltd (Castle	AC 09.02.22	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00
S30019	Cold Weather Lunch Clubs (Targeting Families 0-2 years - 2 Clubs per week Tuesday &	Home-Start, Cowdenbeath Area	16.09.22	£ 4,580.00	£ 4,580.00
S30020	Cooking on a Budget, Kelty Community Centre	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	GD 05.05.22	£ 1,765.00	£ 1,587.57
S30021	Big Hoose Project - Delivery Charges for Cowdenbeath Area	Communities & Neighbourhoods	17.08.22	£ 500.00	£ -
S30022	Family Fun Days, Community Centres, Cowdenbeath area October 2022	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	19.08.22	£ 3,975.24	£ 3,975.24
S30023	Cost of Living - Support on Line (Credit Card Promotional Materials to support (Suicide Prevention Week Campaign) Help with the Cost of Living Leaflets (mail drop to Cowdenbeath Area)	Communities & Neighbourhoods	25.08.22 06.09.22	£ 2,188.44	£ 2,188.44
S30024	Max's Families	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD in partnership with Fife Gingerbread	Approved by GD early 2022 Reapproved 11.09.22	£ 3,206.73	£ 3,206.73
S30025	Benarty Participatory Research Project	Communities & Neighbourhoods in	AC Pre-Agenda 12.10.22	£ -	£ -
S30026	Crossgates Welfare Provision	Primrose Community Trust	29.09.22	£ 4,000.00	£ 4,000.00
S30027	Max's Meals Community Larder - Relocation of Fridge (accommodate Cowdenbeath after School Club)	Communities & Neighbourhoods CUS	13.10.22	£ 1,179.00	£ 879.00
S30028	Cowdenbeath Shoebox	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 105,900.00	£ 28,600.00
S30029	Warm Spaces/Winter Provision	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ -	£ -
S30030	Cafe Inc Expansion	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 55,000.00	£ 19,127.97
S30031	Community Food Projects	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	AC 07.12.22	£ 80,000.00	£ 63,943.90
S30032	Community Food Projects - Food Prep Equipment	Communities & Neighbourhoods CLD	13.03.23	£ 52.49	£ 52.49
TOTALS				£ 431,361.33	£ 295,726.23

0386 - COWDENBEATH Community Recovery Fund		
Approved Budget	£	1,297,000.00
Current Budget	£	1,297,000.00
Actuals to date	£	350,000.00
Outstanding Spend on Projects	£	945,000.00
Remaining Budget	£	2,000.00

Project Number	Project Title	Organisation	Approval Date	Project Contribution	Expenditure Processed
1	Support & Resource for Tackling Poverty - Additional WSAs Year 1 x 1. Year 2 x 2	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 102,000.00	
2	Support & Resource for Raising Aspirations- Additional CEWs x 2 Year 1 x 1. Year 2 x 2	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 185,000.00	
3	Outdoor Education Courses	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 20,000.00	
4	Youth Work Development	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 50,000.00	
5	Mental Health - Community Social Work	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 350,000.00	£ 350,000.00
6	Mental Health - High Schools Project	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 60,000.00	
7	Lochgelly Town Hall Improvements	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 10,000.00	
8	Lochgelly Town Hall Civic Space	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 10,000.00	
9	Lumphinnans Play Park	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 150,000.00	
10	Play Park Kiers Brae	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 40,000.00	
11	Participatory Budgeting	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 48,000.00	
12	Tree Growing Projects	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 10,000.00	
13	Community Orchard (Corrie Centre)	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 10,000.00	
14	Crossgates Primrose Trust	Crossgates Primrose Trust	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 200,000.00	
15	Car Park Hill of Beath	Fife Council	Area Committee 29.03.23	£ 50,000.00	
TOTALS				£ 1,295,000.00	£ 350,000.00

14 June 2023

Agenda Item No. 15

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Report by: Alan Paul, Head of Property Services

Wards Affected: 7 and 8

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 90 Main Street, Lumphinnans

Date of Acquisition: 3 March 2023

Price: £70,000

Seller: John Gardner and Isobel Mackie Gardner

3.0 Conclusions

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

List of Appendices

1. N/A

Background Papers

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

N/A

Report Contact

Author Name	Michael I McArdle
Author's Job Title	Lead Professional
Workplace	Property Services – Estates Bankhead Central Bankhead Park Glenrothes, KY7 6GH
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14 June, 2023

Agenda Item No. 16

Cowdenbeath Area Committee Workplan

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

Wards Affected: 7 and 8

Purpose

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

Recommendation(s)

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

Resource Implications

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

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

None required for this paper.

Consultation

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

1.0 Background

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

2.0 Conclusions

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

List of Appendices

1. Cowdenbeath Area Committee forward work plan.

Background Papers

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

None

Report Contact

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

Cowdenbeath Area Committee of 6 September 2023			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Common Good Funds	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	
Report on Education Outcomes - 2021/22	Education and Children's Services	Lesley Henderson-Edu	Report submitted to September meeting following workshop.
Pupil Equity Fund Report	Education and Children's Services	Zoe Thomson	Report submitted to September meeting following workshop.
Local Community Plan 2023 - 2026	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Anne-Marie Vance	
Common Good Funds	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Update report if available.

Cowdenbeath Area Committee of 17 April 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Health and Social Care Locality - Cowdenbeath	Health and Social Care	Jacquie Stringer-fc	Annual Report last at committee 29.03.23

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Staff Resources - Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Gary Daniell	Lead Officer to provide update (AV)
Children's Services in Fife	Education and Children's Services		
Local Community Planning Budget	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Ann-Marie Vance	
Pupilwise and Parentwise Annual Report	Education and Children's Services		
Area Capital Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Ann-Marie Vance	
Grounds Maintenance Service Annual Report- Previously Parks, Streets and Open Spaces	Environment & Building Operations (AT&E)	Scott Clelland	

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Youth Provision across Cowdenbeath Area to include Hill of Beath	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Ann-Marie Vance	agreed by Committee 31.08.22
Anti-social behaviour and safety/security in Cowdenbeath Area Public Parks	Assets, Transportation and Environment		agreed by Committee 31.08.22
Lochgelly Town Hall - Update on repairs and improvements	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Ann-Marie Vance	agreed by Committee 31.08.22
Common Good Funds	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual Report to be submitted after each financial year, review if progress report required at each meeting.
Mary Pit Head - Restoration Work	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Ann-Marie Vance	Report required following discussions with Herriot Watt University to determine extend of repairs on the condition of the structure of the Miners Winding Well and options for restoration.