

South and West Fife Area Committee

Civic Centre, Inverkeithing / Blended Meeting

Wednesday, 21 June 2023 - 9.30am



AGENDA

Page Nos.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – In terms of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct, members of the Committee are asked to declare any interest in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.
3. **MINUTES**
 - (a) Minute of meeting of the South and West Fife Area Committee of 26 April 2023. 4 – 8
 - (b) Minute of meeting of the West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee of 7 February 2023. 9 - 10
4. **SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM UPDATE REPORT** – Report by the Head of Housing Services. 11 – 31
5. **OPERATIONAL BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA** – Report by Chief Inspector Kathryn Fairfield, Police Scotland. 32 – 39
6. **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022/23** – Report by Station Commander Craig Robertson, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. 40 – 54
7. **ONFIFE UPDATE** – Report by the Director of Creative Development, Fife Cultural Trust. 55 - 61
8. **COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP UPDATE** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service. 62 – 73
9. **PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS** – Report by the Head of Property Services. 74 - 75
10. **SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24** – Report by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Services). 76 - 82
11. **NOTICE OF MOTION – PARKING ATTENDANTS**

In terms of Standing Order No. 8.1(1), the following Notice of Motion has been submitted:-

"Committee/

"Committee

- notes
 - the considerable disruption and inconvenience that arises locally from traffic levels at locations which are particularly popular in good weather
 - the annoyance caused to residents by continuing examples of antisocial parking
 - the difficulty under present arrangements of deploying Parking Attendants to diverse locations at short notice
- considers that decentralising elements of that deployment to Area level has the potential to address these issues
- asks for report laying out the pros and cons of various degrees of decentralisation to help determine what (if any) comments and recommendations South and West Fife Area Committee might wish to submit to full Council".

Proposed by Councillor Dave Dempsey
Seconded by Councillor Sarah Neal

12. NOTICE OF MOTION – ROAD CONDITIONS – OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

In terms of Standing Order No. 8.1(1), the following Notice of Motion has been submitted:-

"Committee is concerned about the reputational damage to Fife Council when an outside organisation digs up a newly resurfaced piece of road and recommends that the Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee investigates this further".

Proposed by Councillor Dave Dempsey
Seconded by Councillor Conner Young

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

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

14 June 2023

If telephoning, please ask for:

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

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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.

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THE FIFE COUNCIL - SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE – INVERKEITHING – BLENDED MEETING

Meeting Room 6, Civic Centre, Inverkeithing

26th April, 2023

9.30 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.

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

ATTENDING: Audrey Valente, Chief Finance Officer and Jacquie Stringer, Locality Planning Co-ordinator, Health and Social Care; Lesley Craig, Lead Consultant, Roads and Transportation Service; Sarah Else, Education Manager and Lisa Allan, Depute Headteacher, Inverkeithing High School, Education and Children's Services; Alastair Mutch, Community Manager (South and West Fife) and Stephen Adamson, Project Manager, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service; and Michelle McDermott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services, Finance and Corporate Services.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Mark Toner, Radioactive Substances Science Manager, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Mr. Stephen Ritchie, Project Manager, Ministry of Defence (DIO) for para. 62 only.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Andrew Verrecchia.

60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

61. MINUTE

The Committee considered the minute of the South and West Fife Area Committee of 1st March, 2023.

Arising from the minute:-

- in relation to paragraph 49 – Area Roads Programme 2023-24 – an update was requested in relation to the possible widening of the pavement at Church Street, Inverkeithing; and
- in relation to paragraph 58 – South and West Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme 2023 – an update was requested in relation to (i) when a report would be submitted to Committee on Maintenance of Private Land by Private Landowners and (ii) when a date would be scheduled for a workshop on flooding issues in the South and West Fife area.

Decision

The Committee otherwise approved the minute.

62./

62. RADIATION MONITORING AT DALGETY BAY

Mr. Mark Toner, SEPA provided an update on the position at Dalgety Bay advising that SEPA were awaiting completion of the remedial works by Summer, 2023 and were liaising with MoD contractors to ensure that the works were completed in an orderly manner. It was noted that SEPA would oversee the removal of fencing by the MoD contractor following a site close down and that, upon completion of remedial works, the entire site would be subject to a full radiation walkover survey to ensure that no waste material from the beach operations had migrated beyond the controlled areas. Mr. Toner advised that due to the nature of the site remediation changing the beach profile, SEPA did not consider it relevant for fencing to be re-erected on site following completion of the works. However, during the period of settlement and beach monitoring by the MoD contractors, SEPA considered that signage would still be required to provide advice to beach users. It was noted that after remedial works had been completed, MoD contractors would be responsible for beach monitoring to demonstrate the effectiveness of the remediation works for a period of two years. SEPA would review the monitoring signs on a regular basis and, after that point, SEPA would then take over monitoring to a reduced frequency to ensure that the remedial actions continued to provide the required level of protection to the public. It was noted that drone surveys would continue to monitor sediment movement across the bay. Mr. Toner advised that SEPA proposed to hold a community engagement event later in the year to provide an overview of the site history and future work to be undertaken.

Mr. Stephen Ritchie, Ministry of Defence advised that the MoD continued to support SEPA with corrective action at Dalgety Bay reporting that works had commenced at the beginning of April. It was noted that prior to any works taking place, the areas that had been left completed and partially exposed over the winter period had been scanned and one or two contaminant particles had been found on the surface of the areas that had been completed which suggested that the work that had been carried out was reasonably positive and indicated that no further contaminants were being washed up. It was noted that works had commenced on site and pre-cast concrete units were being put in place and monitored by SEPA. Mr. Ritchie advised that he was confident that works should be completed by late summer.

Decision

The Committee thanked Mr. Mark Toner and Mr. Stephen Ritchie for their detailed updates.

63. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE LOCALITY PLANNING - SOUTH WEST FIFE

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Finance Officer (Senior Leadership Team Lead for South West Fife H&SC Locality Planning Group) providing members with an overview of the Health and Social Care (H&SC) Locality Planning for South West Fife.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) that the Health and Social Care Partnership would provide six monthly reports to Committee with updates on locality planning and joint areas of interest between H&SCP and community planning partners and that the report would provide more detailed analysis in relation to the South and West Fife figures;
- (2) that the H&SC Locality Action Plan be shared with members as soon as it was available; and
- (3) to invite a representative from NHS Fife to a future meeting to provide an update on the GP position within the South and West Fife area and to provide an overview of the work they undertook.

64. A907 CARNOCK - PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing proposals to introduce a 20mph speed limit on the A907 Main Street, Carnock.

Decision

The Committee, in the interests of road safety:-

- (1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce a 20mph speed limit as detailed in Drawing No. TRO/23/23 with all ancillary procedures; and
- (2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

65. OBJECTION TO RAISED TABLE - A921 MAIN STREET, ABERDOUR

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services seeking agreement to overrule the objection to the proposed raised table on A921 Main Street, Aberdour.

Decision

The Committee agreed, in the interests of road safety, to overrule the objection allowing the developer to proceed with the construction of the traffic calming measure as shown in Drawing No. TR022_08/2

66. REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES 2021/22

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) providing members with details of the attainment outcomes achieved by pupils within the area's schools during the school year 2021/22.

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the overall progress in raising levels of attainment in 2021/22;
- (2) noted the strategies being implemented to raise attainment; and
- (3) agreed that a workshop be organised with the Headteacher of Inverkeithing High School and Committee members to analyse the attainment figures within the secondary school in more detail.

67. SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING BUDGET REQUEST - WAGGON ROAD, INVERKEITHING - FENCING

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget for repairs to fencing and installation of gates to improve access for maintenance at Waggon Road and Keithing Burn embankment, Inverkeithing.

Decision

The Committee agreed to allocate £11,559 from the Local Community Planning Budget 2023/24 towards the project.

68. FORWARD WEST FIFE - PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING 2022-23

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service updating members on the outcomes of the recent participatory budgeting exercise which was led by the Forward West Fife Steering Group to distribute Scottish Power and South and West Fife Local Community Planning budget funding with support from Fife Council officers and Ward 1 elected members.

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the efforts of the Forward West Fife (FWF) Steering Group and Fife Council officers to successfully deliver a large scale participatory budgeting (PB) exercise; and
- (2) continued to support the work of the funded projects, recognising the differences they would bring to communities.

69. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

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

Decision/

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report; and
- (2) endorsed the continued expansion of the Buy Back Scheme within the Council.

70. SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2023

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

Decision

The Committee:-

- (1) reviewed and noted the South and West Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme 2023/24;
- (2) agreed that an update be sought from Environment and Building Services on when a report would be submitted to Committee on the Maintenance of Private Land by Private Landowners;
- (3) agreed that an update be sought on when the workshop in relation to Flooding Issues in the South and West Fife Area would take place; and
- (4) agreed to extend an invitation to Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, Sports and Leisure Trust and other relevant Trusts requesting that they provide the Committee with an overview of the work they undertake.

71. NOTICE OF MOTION - BUS MOBILITY HUB: A985 COWDENBEATH TO KINCARDINE

In terms of Standing Order No. 8.1(1), the following Notice of Motion was submitted:-

Councillor Conner Young, seconded by Councillor Graeme Downie, moved the following:-

"Request that (1) the Committee endorse the work undertaken by officers to include a bus mobility hub on the Cowdenbeath to Kincardine bus corridor on the A985 next to High Valleyfield in the Council's submission to Transport Scotland for further funding from the Scottish Government's, Bus Partnership Fund, to allow an outline business case to be prepared and (2) that it be remitted to officers to provide an update to ward members once the outcome of the submission is known".

Decision

The motion was unanimously agreed.

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THE FIFE COUNCIL - WEST FIFE AREA COMMON GOOD SUB-COMMITTEE – REMOTE MEETING

7th February, 2023

4.30 p.m. – 4.45 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Auxi Barrera, Aude Boubaker-Calder, Patrick Browne, Sarah Neal, Gordon Pryde and Conner Young.

ATTENDING: Andrew Gallacher, Community Manager, Communities and Neighbourhoods Services; Eleanor Hodgson, Accountant, Finance and Corporate Services; and Emma Whyte, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order 7.1.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE

There was submitted a list of members of the West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee.

Decision

The Sub-Committee noted the membership as detailed on the agenda.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CONVENER

Councillor Aude Boubaker-Calder, seconded by Councillor Conner Young, proposed that Councillor Gordon Pryde be appointed as Convener of the West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee.

Decision

There being no other nominations, Councillor Gordon Pryde was duly appointed Convener of the West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee.

Thereafter, Councillor Pryde took the Chair.

4. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTE CONVENER

Councillor Patrick Browne, seconded by Councillor Conner Young, proposed that Councillor Aude Boubaker-Calder be appointed Depute Convener of the West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee.

Decision

There being no other nominations, Councillor Aude Boubaker-Calder was duly appointed Depute Convener of the West Fife Area Common Good Sub-Committee.

5./

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5. COMMON GOOD FUNDS UPDATE REPORT 2022/2023

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services which advised members of the current status of the Common Good Funds in the area to assist with the decision-making process for new applications.

Decision

The Sub-Committee noted the report.

6. WEST FIFE AREA COMMON GOOD FUND - APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE - DUNFERMLINE SKATE PARK PROJECT

The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking approval for an award from the West Fife Common Good Sub-Committee to assist with the costs of delivering the Dunfermline Skatepark Project.

Decision

The Sub-Committee agreed to allocate £20,000 from the Common Good Fund towards the project.

21st June, 2023.

Agenda Item No. 4

Safer Communities Team Update Report

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

Wards Affected: South and West Fife area (Wards 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20)

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 South and West Fife committee area during the twelve 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.

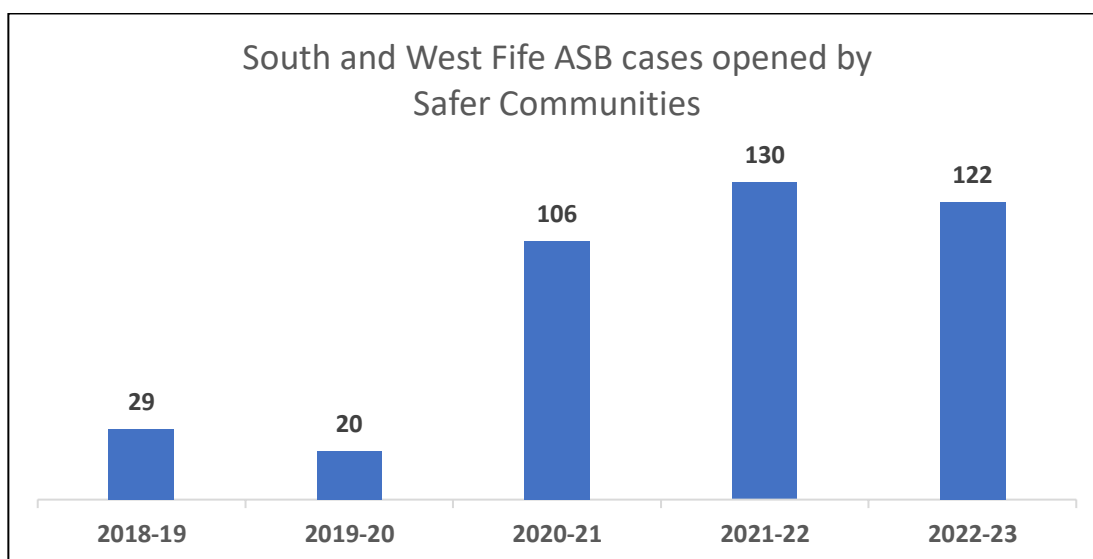
1.0 Background

- 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 47 referrals in relation to **home safety advice** during 2022-23, a decrease on the number received in the previous year (64 referrals). All clients were contacted and offered either a visit or a telephone contact.
- 2.2 The majority of home safety referrals (98%) 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 tenth 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 (45 and 55 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.

- 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 30 referrals (a decrease of seven on the previous year).
- 2.10 Of the referrals received by FCSSS, four resulted in the provision of emotional or practical support whilst the remaining 26 involved some form of mediation between the parties involved.
- 2.11 Appendix 2 provides examples of feedback received by FCSS 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:

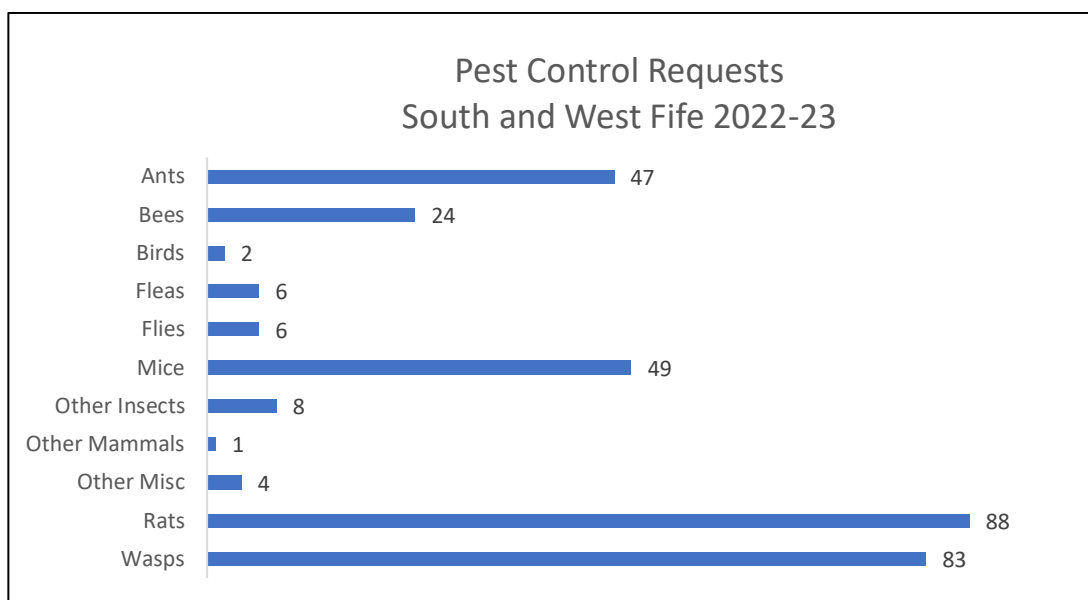


- 2.13 Of the ASB cases closed in 2022-23, 97% were resolved within locally agreed timescales. Please see Table 1 below for timescales involved and Appendix 3 for the Scottish Housing Regulator’s definition of resolved cases.

Table 1: Locally Agreed Timescales for Antisocial Behaviour Cases

Category	Target Timescale for Initial Contact with Complainer	Target Timescale for 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 318 requests for service during 2022-23, a decrease compared to 344 in the previous year. The number and type of pests dealt with are depicted in following chart:

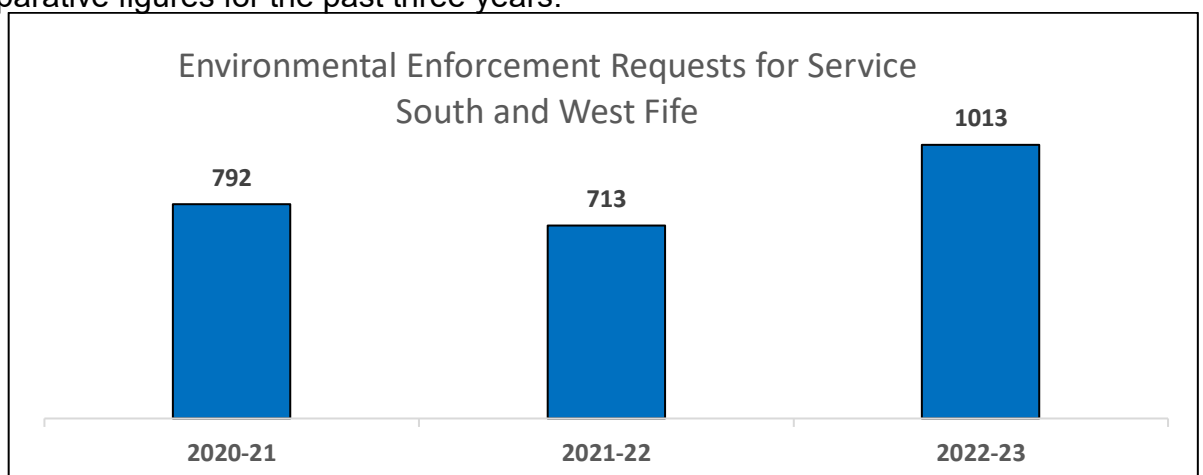


- 2.15 Six **stray dogs** reports were received by the Safer Communities Dog Wardens, a decrease from the previous year (nine). Five of the dogs were microchipped but none reflected the correct details of their owners. Four dogs, however, were subsequently claimed/returned to their owner and the remaining two 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, one of whom is from the South and West Fife 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 within the current financial year, we felt it important to share this information now rather than wait to report it next year. The Blairadam Forest event included more partners to support 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), 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 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. The following events were delivered in the South and West Fife area:
- In Car Safety event
 - Junior Road Safety Officer Initiative (4 schools – 21 pupils)
 - Safe Drive Stray Alive (1 school – 143 pupils)
- 2.21 Appendix 4 shows the road safety activities focussed around each life stage, while Appendix 5 provides additional information about some of the initiatives involved.
- 2.22 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.
- 2.23 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.
- 2.24 Our **Youth Justice Officers** received 15 referrals about young people in the South and West Fife area from the Youth Offender Management Group (YOMG) during 2022-23, a slight increase on the previous year (11). This is due to the increased capacity of Safer Communities Team Youth Justice Officers following successful recruitment during 2022-23.
- 2.25 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.
- 2.26 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, 1013 requests for service were received for the South and West Fife area during 2022-23. The following chart shows the comparative figures for the past three years:



- 3.2 Appendix 7 provides data showing the number of reports per type of Environmental Enforcement over the past three years.
- 3.3 The Safer Communities Team operate a Patrol Matrix that directs our Safer Communities Officers (SCO's) to those areas that are affected by issues such as; Dog Fouling, Littering, Illegal Dumping, Concern for Public Safety (e.g. Inverkeithing Quarry) and Local Anti-social Behaviour Hotspots. The Patrol Matrix is reviewed on a monthly basis after our Area Hub Meeting with partners e.g. Police, SFRS, Housing Services etc. Our Safer Communities Officers carried out over 1100 **patrols** over the reporting period.

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

Report contact:

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Halbeath Depot
Crossgates Road
Dunfermline
KY11 7EG

Email: michael.collins@fife.gov.uk

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.

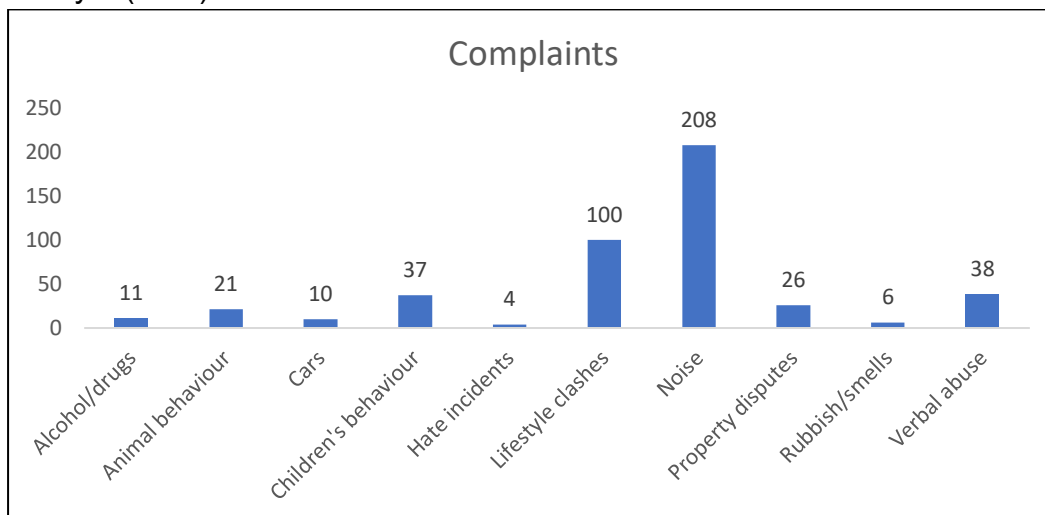
- It is essential to attend important forums such as CPG to listen to and communicate with partners even when, on face of it, the subject does not seem connected. An example of this was Health and Safety in Waste Mgt. – Lithium-Ion battery risks – home fire risks

Good News in Summary:

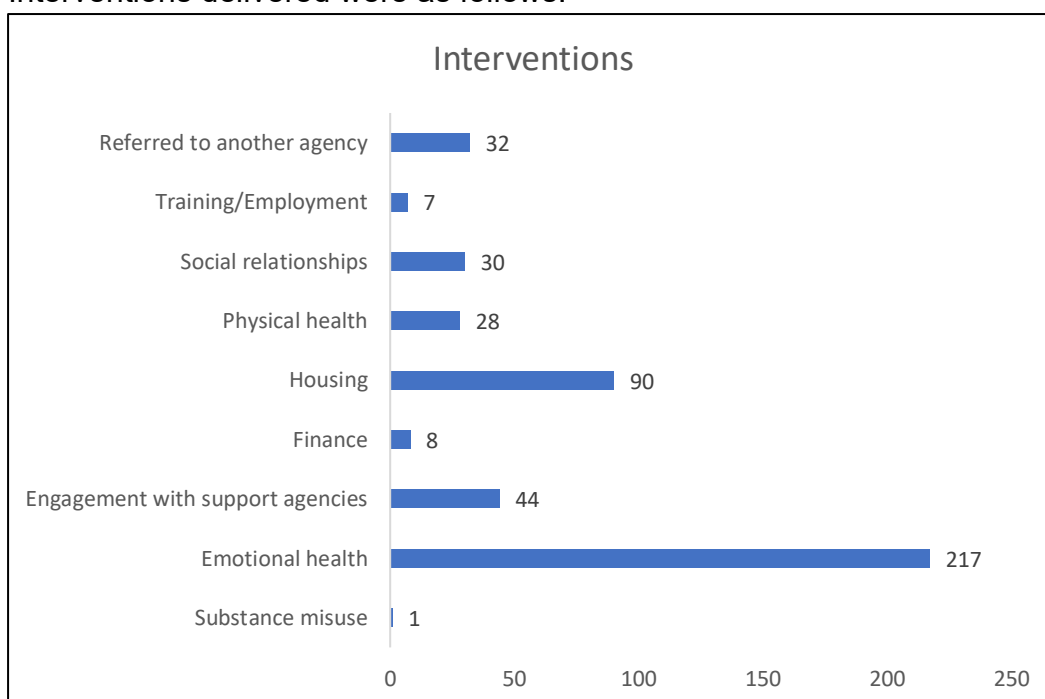
- We continue to work together to prevent unintentional harm
- Our service has evolved using partners and forums like CPG
- We will continue to evaluate our service and to adapt it according to the needs of our clients, whilst taking cognisance of other pressures and influences.

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

	Safety	Empowerment & Self Esteem	Accomodation	Support Networks	Health & Well-being
Improved	34%	63%	35%	37%	63%
Not Required/No Change	66%	37%	65%	63%	37%

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

Indicator 15 – Percentage of anti-social behaviour cases reported in the last year which were resolved.

(1) Number of cases of anti-social behaviour reported in the last year.

Of those at (1):

(2) Number of cases resolved in the last year.

Resolved

- 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.

A Case

- 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 Timeline

Birth – In-Car Safety by SCT. Training to Fife Women’s Aid by SCT

Pre-School – Go Safe with Ziggy by Education.

Primary School – Roadstars by Education. School Travel Action Plans by Transportation. JRSO by SCT. Bikeability by Transportation. School Awards Initiative by Transportation and SCT.

S1 & S2 – Your Call by Education. S1 Road Safety Inputs by SCT. S1 Follow Up by Education.

S3 & S4 – Your Call by Education. Drivewise (S4’s) by SCT and Partners. S3 Road Safety Resource in Development by SCT.

S5 & S6 – Crash Magnets by Education. SDSA Input by SCT and Partners. SDSA Follow Up by Education.

Young Drivers – Pass Plus by SCT. Company Inputs by SCT.

Vulnerable Road Users – Close Pass by Police. Biker Down by SFRS.

Adult Drivers – Occupational Road Risk by SCT. Taxi Drivers by Licensing Team and Partners. Road Offenders by Criminal Justice and Partners.

Mature Road Users – Drivewise Talks by SCT. Drivewise Practical by SCT and Road Policing.

Campaigns – VRU Social Media by SCT. Slow Down for Schools Radio by SCT. School Parking Video by SCT and Transportation. Drink/Drug Drive Radio by SCT.

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 irresponsible 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 workstation 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 SCOs.



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.

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, Rimpleton 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?

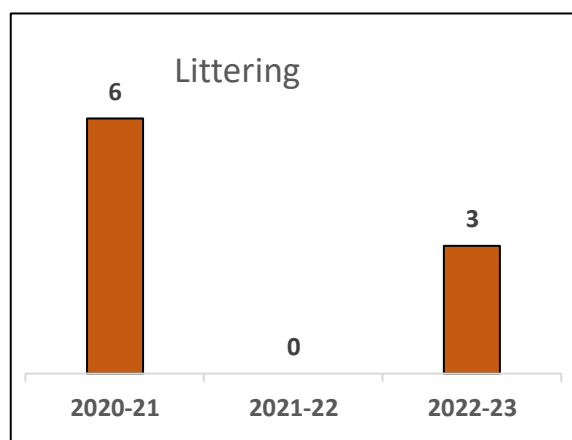
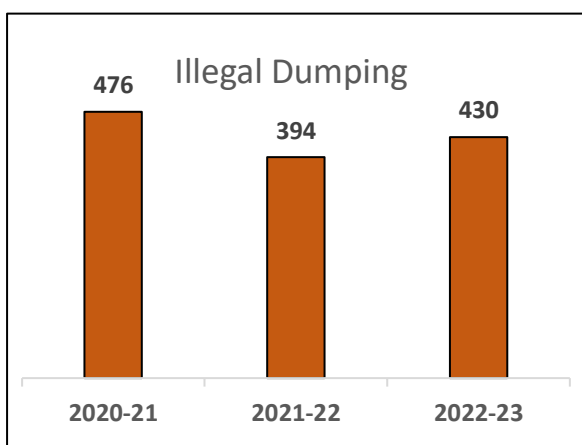
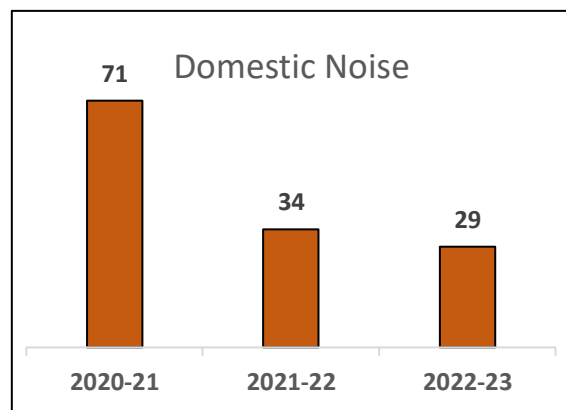
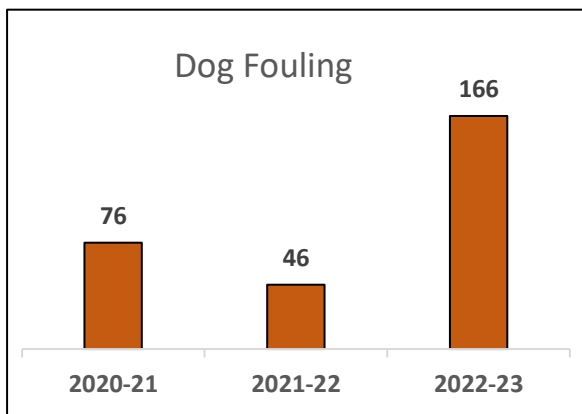
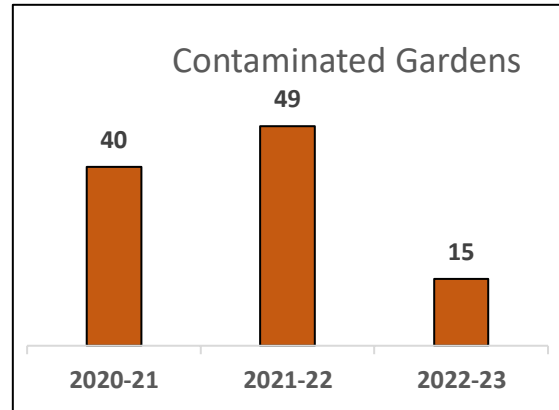
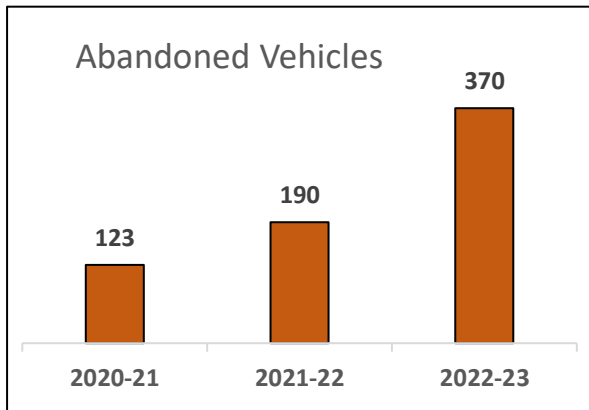
Each partner plays to their strengths and knowledge base, e.g. – at Diversifire, SFRS lead the 'drill yard' element and YJO's are responsible for identifying and supporting the young people to complete the course successfully. Police Scotland lead an Anti-Social Behaviour input as well as provide an 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.

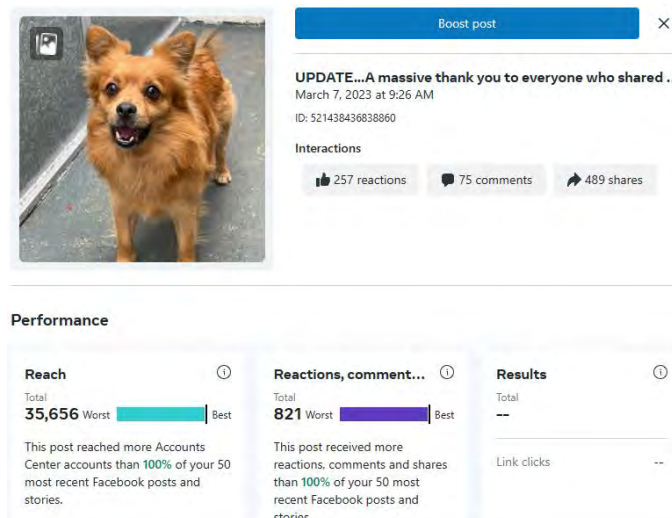
Environmental Enforcement Reports received by Safer Communities Team by Type and Year

(South and West Fife 2020-2023)



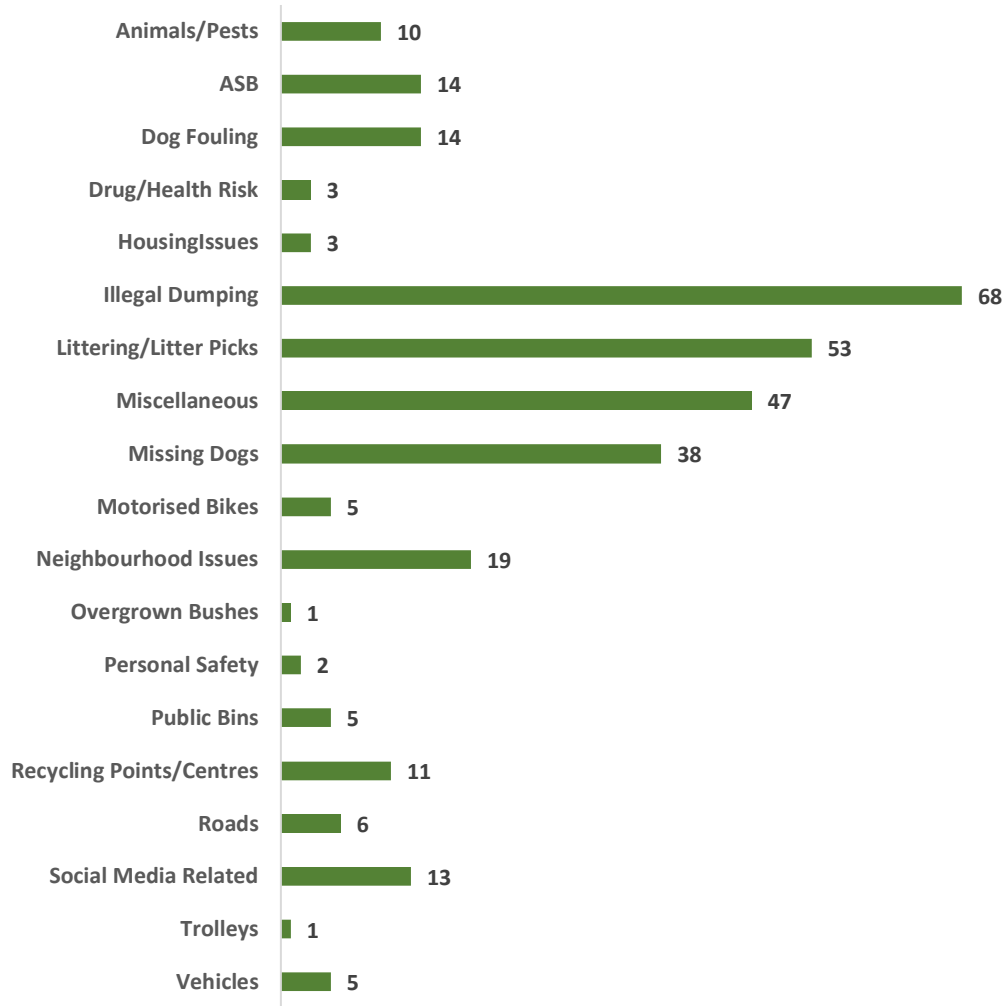
Safer Communities on Facebook

- 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.



- 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



21 June 2023

Agenda Item No. 5

Operational Briefing on Policing Activities within South and West Fife

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

Wards Affected: 1 (West Fife Villages), 5 (Rosyth) and 6 (Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay)

Purpose

This report updates elected members on Policing activity in the above areas.

Recommendation(s)

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

Resource Implications

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

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or current risk implications.

Impact Assessment

No impact assessment has been undertaken specifically for this report – This report is for information only.

Consultation

No consultation has taken place regarding this report. Members will appreciate that 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.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update on the activities of Police Scotland staff within the South West Fife area during the period 1 April 2022 – 31 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.
- 2.2 This report gives an overview of the police activity for the period being reported on.

3.0 Police Community Activity April 2022 to March 2023

- 3.1 The South and West Fife area continues to be served by a Local Area Commander, Community Inspector, Community Sergeant and six Community Ward Officers. The Community Officers are supported by response officers based at Dalgety Bay Police Station. During the reporting period, the area has seen the addition of a dedicated Community Investigation Unit comprising a Sergeant and six Constables, although based out of Cowdebeath station, the unit serves both Cowdenbeath and South and West Fife. The remit of this unit focuses on more protracted enquiries as well as acting on intelligence received in respect of Drug Misuse. PC Sam Montgomery has also taken up a new post of Care Home Support role. This role focuses on liaison with residential care establishments in the South and West Fife area.

There have been various changes in personnel serving the area, detailed below.

- 3.2 Chief Inspector Kathryn Fairfield took over the role of Local Area Commander for West Fife in February 2023.
- 3.3 Inspector Cheryl Young commenced in the role of Community Inspector in May 2023.
- 3.4 Sergeant Barry Stewart takes up post of Community Sergeant at the end of May 2023, replacing Sergeant Katie Blackwell.
- 3.5 The Community Constables for Ward 1 (West Fife Villages) are PCs Martin Cooper and Leroy Wishart who are both new in post since the last report.
- 3.6 The Community Constables continuing in their role for Ward 5 (Rosyth) are PCs Louis McGuire and James Bell.
- 3.7 The Community Constables for Ward 6 (Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay) are PCs Simon Large and Anna Lang (on secondment).
- 3.8 PCs Bell, Large and McGuire have been successful in Acting Sergeant duties and are regularly utilised to cover the position of the Duty Sergeant.
- 3.9 As detailed in the previous year's report, Covid restrictions continued to dictate that community engagement was carried out virtually, however, with the easing of restrictions through the reporting period, there has been a gradual and welcome return of in person attendance. The necessity to move engagement online has been advantageous in that it increases flexibility and efficiency, however, we now utilise a blended approach.

- 3.10 Ward officers have continued to attend their respective Community Council meetings when operational commitments and shift patterns allow. On instances where this is not possible, a report will be sent to a representative of the Committee in advance of the meeting. This allows the officers to engage with members of the communities they serve, where local issues affecting those who live and work in the area can be identified and addressed.
- 3.11 The priorities and objectives for Fife Division remain the same as the previous reporting year, Community Officers play an integral part in the prevention and detection element of achieving these objectives
- Operation Paramount - Road Safety
 - Operation Path – Violence
 - Operation Prevail – Anti-social Behaviour
 - Operation Principle – Acquisitive Crime
 - Operation Prospect – Substance Misuse
- 3.12 Community officers, along with the addition of the Community Investigation Unit, continue to tackle Drug Misuse and distribution by collating intelligence and obtaining and executing drug search warrants. Through this activity, controlled substances have been recovered, distribution networks disrupted and persons responsible reported.
- 3.13 Community officers are also utilised to support the prioritisation of the investigation into domestic offences and the reporting of offenders. The protection of vulnerable victims is also prioritised by working with partners to ensure all protective measures and support is provided.
- 3.14 The demand on police to respond to and support our partners in the NHS in relation to vulnerable persons in crisis has seen a significant increase in this reporting period, this has had a notable impact on police resources.
- 3.15 Community Officers continue to work closely with our partners in education to provide support and educational inputs within schools as required and in response to any emerging trends or issues affecting our young people.
- 3.16 Events which occurred throughout the reporting period resulted in exceptional and unusual demand on police resources, resulting in abstractions. Fife Division hosted the 150th Open in St. Andrews for which officers across Fife were required to support. The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth also necessitated a national policing response, Fife Division Officers were deployed in a variety of roles both in Scotland and London.

4.0 Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder (Operation Prevail and Operation Path)

- 4.1 Operation Path relates to the Divisional Priority to tackle Violent Crime. Operational Response Officers support departments including Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Public Protection Unit (PPU), Domestic Abuse Unit (DAU) as well as national departments focusing on Serious and Organised crime to ensure these crimes are prioritised for investigation and detection. All incidents of violence are assessed by management regarding risk and threat to ensure the best possible protection is provided to vulnerable victims and perpetrators are reported.

- 4.2 During the reporting period, there has been a small number of offences relating to serious or grave violence. These offences have been investigated utilising specialist CID and forensic resources. Local officers have assisted these investigations by protecting the integrity of the scene, carrying out door to door enquiries and high visibility patrols to provide public reassurance. Social Media messaging has ensured local communities are updated with the progress of these enquiries, including perpetrators apprehended.
- 4.3 Operation Prevail is Fife Division's initiative which aims to tackle all forms of anti-social behaviour. Analytical tools collating call reporting data and geographical locations are utilised in order to identify hotspots of anti-social behaviour. This is assessed along with crime recording trends which afford our officers the opportunity to react timeously to emerging issues, ensuring early intervention. Through engagement with local counsellors, residents and community councils, we ensure that areas of local concern are highlighted and being addressed. Community Officers use a variety of measures to tackle these issues including educational talks within schools, partnership working to encourage diversion and joint patrols with partners in effected areas to reduce anti-social behaviour
- 4.4 During the reporting period, an issue surrounding the bus route in Blairhall was identified. Through public consultation and analysis it was identified that a bus route in Blairhall was potentially going to cease to operate due to the anti-social behaviour of youths and vehicles being subject to vandalism as they passed through the village. Local officers commenced an action plan involving educational talks in affiliated high schools. Joint patrols were carried out with Community Safety Officers and partner agencies such as Clued Up and Includem to engage with the youths, educate and offer diversion activities. Investigations were carried out to identify persistent offenders and ensure they were reported through the Youth Offender Management Group process. Restorative Justice tactics were utilised to ensure offenders understood the consequences of their actions and the wider public impact. This action plan resulted in a reduction of anti-social behaviour and prevented the reduction of public transport services.
- 4.5 Additional areas of focus within the area include primary school buildings within Rosyth and a disused paper mill in Inverkeithing where officers continue to prioritise these areas for high visibility patrols.
- 4.6 The sub-group set up to tackle anti-social behaviour by PS Blackwell and Mandy McEwan continues to meet with the membership increasing since the group's formation. The group currently has seventeen attendees, including representatives from Housing, NHS, Social Work, Communities and Neighbourhoods, Active Schools and third sector organisations. The objectives of the group are to utilise the skill set of each partner agency and work together to provide education and diversion activities aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour. The sub-group have researched and sought out additional organisations and individuals to present to the group on their respective projects and how this may be utilised in the local area, these include Kingdom Off Road and The Sanctuary Garden. A focus group has been set up by Community, Learning and Development to assist in identifying any land that could be used by Kingdom Off Road to set up a similar facility as to what is available in Cardenden in order to address the issues of anti-social activity arising from the use of off road bikes in public places.

- 4.7 Continued liaison with British Transport Police (BTP) throughout the reporting period has ensured a good working relationship is maintained. BTP continue to deliver presentations to schools and individuals where required on the dangers of the rail network and the implications of anti-social behaviour. PS Blackwell has built up relationships with the Vulnerability Unit of BTP who have been an invaluable asset when dealing with missing young people and people engaged in anti-social behaviour on the train network. This engagement and partnership working will continue with PS Stewart.
- 4.8 The use of social media and in particular Twitter continues to be a valuable tool in deterring antisocial behaviour. It allows officers to deliver key messaging on a platform relevant to the intended recipients.
- 4.9 Community Officers continue to work closely with schools and nurseries in the local area. Ward Officers are regularly contacted by Inverkeithing High School and have provided support in relation to dealing with pupils involved fire-raising and misusing substances. A pilot presentation has been compiled and delivered by Police and NHS Nurses to primary seven pupils at Inverkeithing Primary School. This input provided an expectation and understanding of issues possibly faced by young people transitioning from primary school to secondary schools. It covered topics such as body image and the law in relation to vapes. The presentation was well received and supported by Education and is being assessed for wider distribution in the education setting.
- 4.10 During the reporting period, officers have continued to support young persons accommodated within residential settings in the area. PC Sam Montgomery maintains regular contact with all establishments including attending Risk Management Meetings and Strategy Meetings. Ward Officers continue to explore diversion and opportunities for inclusion in the local area. Officers have been an integral part of securing a place on a course within Kingdom Off Road for a young person accommodated from England. As a result of the young person's engagement in the course, there was an improvement in attendance in education and a positive focus for them. By working closely with colleagues from Community, Learning and Development, Officers are also able to signpost young people and Social Work to clubs and activities within the area.

5.0 Road Safety and Road Crime (Operation Paramount)

- 5.1 Road safety and casualty reduction continues to be a priority across Fife Division - work in this area is addressed through Operation Paramount. Fife's Road Policing continue to embark on various campaigns which aim to improve road safety, vehicle health and both educate and deter drivers from driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances. Community and Response officers have assisted Road Policing colleagues with Summer Drink Drive, Get Ready for Winter, Brake Road Safety Week and Festive Drink Drive campaigns.
- 5.2 Community Officers have continued to work closely with education to address issues in relation to inconsiderate and dangerous parking around schools in order to maximise the safety of pupils. Pop Up Police Officers continue to be deployed by local Officers along with handheld speed detection deployments in and around schools in the area. During the reporting period, Community Officers have facilitated a number of Community Councils to purchase their own Pop Up Police Officers. These have been produced within the Scottish Police College affording efficiency savings. There have been logistical issues which are being resolved, however, the opportunity has received a great response from the community councils.

- 5.3 Work has been ongoing in order to recruit suitable volunteers in order to mobilise Community Speedwatch initiative across the wards. These volunteers will be subject to vetting prior to training and deployment. This initiative allows members of the community to become involved in actively contributing to local issues.
- 5.4 We continue to proactively target those who are committing offences on the road network within the South and West Fife area. We conduct frequent patrols with a vehicle based at Dalgety Bay which is equipped with Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), enabling us to disrupt Travelling Criminals and detect traffic offences.
- 5.5 Social media and, in particular, Twitter continues to be a valuable tool in promoting road safety and for public reassurance on the work which is ongoing to improve Road Safety and tackle Road Crime. Speeding deployments are regularly posted along with detections of Road Traffic Offences. There is also emphasis on general road safety advice, vehicle maintenance and driver habits.

6.0 Drug and Alcohol Misuse (Operation Prospect)

- 6.1 Operation Prospect is the Fife Divisional initiative which tackles the issue of the distribution and misuse of controlled substances. A dedicated intelligence unit is responsible for the assessment and dissemination of intelligence, which local officers continually endeavour to collate from both members of the public and partners. Intelligence received is assessed for credibility and the possibility of developing the intelligence to maximise information. Throughout the reporting period, this work is continually ongoing and actioned as appropriate.
- 6.2 A dedicated Sergeant has now been added to the staffing profile covering Cowdenbeath and South and West Fife who has responsibility for assessing intelligence received for suitability to progress to the execution of a drugs search warrant. Numerous drug search warrants have been executed across the area resulting in the seizure of controlled substances and reporting of offenders.
- 6.3 Local officers have also assisted colleagues in national units in the execution of drugs warrants where intelligence may suggest the perpetrators are active in a wider network.
- 6.4 All incidents which occur within licensed premises are reviewed by the Divisional Licensing unit. This allows early identification of licensed premises which are not adhering to license conditions in order to work with licensees to ensure improvement. Officers have continued to carry out proactive inspections at both off and on licensed premises to ensure compliance. As was the case last year, no premises within the area required escalation under the Police Scotland red/amber/green (RAG) system of monitoring.
- 6.5 It is recognised that alcohol misuse is strongly linked to youth disorder and anti-social behaviour. Police visits to off-license premises forms an important part of pro-actively preventing youths from obtaining alcohol, these visits have been carried out in a targeted manner based on intelligence.
- 6.6 During the reporting period, a national campaign 'It Will Cost You' has been launched and supported by local officers. The purpose of the campaign is to prevent proxy sales to under-age persons. Literature has been distributed to licensed premises across the area which aims to raise awareness of the consequences of purchasing alcohol for under 18s to both the buyer and the dangers to young persons.

7.0 Moving Forward

- 7.1 With the changes of personnel within the management team in the area, we will endeavour to ensure that the strong working relationships with partners and communities are both maintained and developed. We will continue listening to and working with communities to establish the early identification of local issues and ensure they are addressed.
- 7.2 South and West Fife officers have long been involved with partners in the delivery of the open water safety message. This involves school visits and impressing on young people the importance of being safe around, and the dangers associated with open water. Discussions and planning is underway with partners regarding the anticipated anti-social behaviour at Prestonfield Quarry, Inverkeithing. In previous years during the summer months there have been large gatherings in this area and tragic fatalities. The barrier installed by Fife Countryside and Coastal Trust remains in existence to prevent unauthorised vehicular access to the area. Joint patrols with Police, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Safer Communities and Fife Countryside and Coastal Trust are in the process of being arranged with the first one scheduled on 30 May 2023. The Community Sergeant will continue to sit on the Fife Water Safety Meeting attended by a number of partners including RNLI, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Water Safety Officers to formulate a multi-agency response to tackling this anticipated issue in the coming summer months.
- 7.3 The multi-agency anti-social behaviour group through its focus on a collaborative approach to tackling anti-social behaviour with education and diversion have organised a community barbecue, this has been arranged for 9 June 2023 at Park Road Primary School. The event will be facilitated by Clued Up and Safer Communities and will also be attended by Police and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. It is hoped the event will engage a number of young people who are known to frequent the area and engage in anti-social behaviour. There will be safety discussions around the use of disposable barbecues and diversion activities provided. These activities will relate to drugs/alcohol and mental health as well as afford the opportunity to build relationships and break down barriers with the community.
- 7.4 Officers will maintain contact with the local Community Councils with the intention of attending in person where operational commitments allow. All Community Councils will continue to be provided with a police report prior to the date of the meeting where officers cannot attend. Community Councils will continue to be encouraged to feed back any issues or concerns raised by local residents in order that they can be addressed.
- 7.5 The use of social media is recognised as an essential tool in communicating key messaging relating to crime prevention and public reassurance. We will seek to expand the current use of this platform by ensuring training and access to newly appointed members of the community team.
- 7.6 Local officers will continue to work with partners to assist in the development of a local site to be utilised by Kingdom off Road. Providing a dedicated safe site for off road bikes has been a successful tool in other areas across the division in tackling offences associated with the use of off road bikes.

- 7.7 Work is ongoing with our colleagues in Cowdenbeath and Education to explore the possibility of creating a Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV) unit. The purpose of the PSYV is to break down barriers with young people and promote positive role models. The work carried out by the PSYV project aims to educate and promote understanding of policing amongst the volunteers, encourage good citizenship, give young people a platform to voice their concerns and an opportunity to be involved in volunteering for local initiatives. This scheme has been operational in the Dunfermline area for some time and has seen encouraging and positive results. The current consultation with education will look to expand this to work with pupils from Inverkeithing, Beath and Lochgelly High Schools.

8.0 Conclusions

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

Report Contact

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Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - South and West Fife Area Annual Performance Report

Report by: Craig Robertson – Station Commander – Dunfermline Community Fire Station –
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Wards Affected: All South West Fife Area Wards

Purpose

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

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to consider and comment on the progress across a range of KPIs within this report.

Resource Implications

None.

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 has not been completed and is not necessary for the following reasons:

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

Consultation

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



SOUTH AND WEST FIFE AREA COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT

April 2022 – March 2023

*Covering the activities and performance in
support of the Fife Area Plan 2017*



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

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**

1.0 Background

1.1 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 this and other SFRS reports reported to the Committee

2.0 Performance

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2.1 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).

3.0 INTRODUCTION

3.1 This 2022/23 performance report for the period April 1st, 2022 to March 31st, 2023 inclusive provides comparative data across the previous 5 years for the same period. The KPI's detailed below are drawn from the SFRS Fife Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2017 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 the City of Dunfermline 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 the City of Dunfermline 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

4.0 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

4.1 The table below provides **summary highlights** 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>2021/22: 16 2022/23: 23</p>	<p>ADF Fatal Casualties</p>  <p>2021/22: 0 2022/23: 0</p>	<p>ADF Non-Fatal Casualties</p>  <p>2021/22: 7 2022/23: 8</p>
<p>Deliberate Primary Fires</p>  <p>2021/22: 17 2022/23: 22</p>	<p>Deliberate Secondary Fires</p>  <p>2021/22: 55 2022/23: 72</p>	<p>Non-domestic Building Fires</p>  <p>2021/22: 12 2022/23: 124</p>
<p>Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</p>  <p>2021/22: 134 2022/23: 150</p>	<p>Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents</p>  <p>2021/22: 19 2022/23: 23</p>	<p>Fatal RTC Casualties</p>  <p>2021/22: 0 2022/23: 0</p>
<p>Non-Fatal RTC Casualties</p>  <p>2021/21: 12 2022/23: 12</p>		

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Of the indicators, the following performance should be noted for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 inclusive, comparing data across the previous year.

- The number of **Accidental Dwelling Fires** has seen a 30% increase from the previous year.
- There were no **Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatalities** during this period. The number of **Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties** was 8, an increase of 1.
- The number of **Deliberate Primary Fires** during this period was 22, an increase of 5 from the preceding year.
- The number of **Deliberate Secondary Fires** during this period was 72. This is an increase from the 55 incidents last year.
- The number of **Non-Domestic Building Fires** recorded was 24, increase of 12 from the previous year. Most were caused by heat source and combustibles, coming together within educational establishments.
- The number of **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) caused by automatic fire alarms (AFAs) in non-domestic buildings** during this period was 150. This is an 8% increase from the previous year. New SFRS UFAS policy start date 1st July 2023 ref: section 8.
- The number of **Road Traffic Collisions** during 2022/23 was 23. This is an increase of 4 on the previous reporting year 2021/22.
- The number of **Fatal RTC Casualties** during this period was 0. This is static from the previous year. The number of **Non-Fatal RTC Casualties** was 12. This is static from the previous year.

5.0 Domestic Fire Safety

- 5.1 Accidental Dwelling Fires have increased by seven incidents across the South West Fife area when compared to the previous year's figures.
- 5.2 This reporting period has seen a 30% increase in Accidental Dwelling Fires from the previous year.
- 5.3 Most of Accidental Dwelling Fires were between the hours of 4pm and 8pm, mostly having started in the kitchen, and due to distraction.
- 5.4 60% of addresses had a detection system and 43% of those operated and raised the alarm, 17.5% operated but did not raise the alarm, and 17.5% did not operate (possibly due to amount of smoke within compartment/floor of origin).
- 5.5 17% of the incidents were resolved without firefighting intervention, or by removal from heat source/fuel supply. 21% required firefighting operations.
- 5.6 It should be noted that almost 40% of accidental dwelling fires did not have any detection, although this trend is moving continually downward. The SFRS Continue to work with community partners with well-established HFSV referral pathways.
- 5.7 Fire Fatalities – Accidental Dwelling Fires
There have been no fire fatalities in this reporting period.
- 5.8 Fire Casualties – Accidental Dwelling Fires
- 5.9 There has been an increase of one during this reporting period.
- 5.10 ADF Casualty figures include precautionary checks. 100% of injuries were a precautionary check by the Ambulance Service.
- 5.11 A large proportion of incidents have been accidental, started in kitchen and main cause has been cooking left unattended and textiles catching fire, causing fire spread.

5.12 Domestic Fire Reduction Strategy

Home Safety Visits play a vital part in our strategy to reduce the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires. SFRS personnel completed **274** visits for the 3 SWF ward areas in the reporting period. These visits are used to deliver vital fire safety messages and install detection systems, as well as trip, slip and falls messages and safety equipment for our elderly and very young population.

Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay – 85

Rosyth – 93

West Fife Villages - 96

The “Make The Call” campaign asked neighbours and relatives to refer people who were:

- over 50 years old
- smoke
- live alone or
- have mobility issues
- or use medical oxygen

6. Deliberate Fire Setting

6.1 Deliberate Primary Fires

Deliberate Primary Fires have seen an increase of 5 in this reporting period.

6.2 Deliberate Secondary Fires

Deliberate Secondary fire have seen an increase of one in this reporting period.

6.3 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.

6.4 Deliberate Fire Reduction Strategy

Our normal youth engagement strategy is still ongoing, working with numerous partner agencies, SFRS Community Action Team.

School visits have resumed for engagement with all age groups. Concentrating on secondary fire and bonfire initiatives.

We do, however, work with our Police and Local Authority partners to identify deliberate fire setting incidents early, to ensure that solutions are implemented to prevent further incidents.

We liaise with premises occupiers, particularly in town centres to give advice on refuse storage and security, which can be a cause of deliberate fires.

Deliberate Fire Reduction Plans have been implemented in the SWF area with partner agencies to address and reduce operational demand.

7. Built Environment

7.1 Built Environment – Non- Domestic Fires

Have seen an increase of 12 in this reporting period.

7.2 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, we 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.

In relation to the garden sheds, these are not covered by the above legislation, but householder advice is given as part of the Post Domestic Incident Response program.

8.0 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

8.1 An Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) can be defined as 'any alarm activation which is not the result of a fire or a test'. UFAS incidents have fluctuated in the SWF Area over the four-year period.

8.2 This period has seen 11% increase from the previous reporting period.

Most of all UFAS were due to system faults, maintenance/testing issues and careless activation. Within Health and Social Care or Education establishments. The increase from the previous reporting period may be largely attributable to the return to public spaces following lockdown restrictions.

8.3 Reduction in Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Strategy

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. This strategy, along with several others, had seen the numbers of UFAS continue to decrease. The UFAS Champion will continue to engage with Fife Council Education and the NHS to address the proportion of UFAS incidents. These building types are, however, statistically more susceptible to false alarms due to their size and consequent detection device numbers.

The strategies implemented in the SWF Area and across Fife, have been recognised within SFRS as best practise, and are now in the process of being implemented across SFRS, see below.

Our response to fire alarms in commercial business and workplace premises is changing.

Every year we attend around 28,000 automatic fire alarm (AFA) call outs to commercial business and workplace premises each year.

AFA systems provide an early warning of fire and are one of the most effective ways to keep businesses, staff and customers safe in the event of a fire.

Most signals from these systems however are not actual fires - they are false alarms often caused by cooking fumes, dust or a lack of maintenance. These unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS) mean our fire crews are called out unnecessarily.

From 1 July 2023, we will stop attending AFA call outs to commercial business and workplace premises, such as factories, offices, shops and leisure facilities unless a fire has been confirmed.

Operations Control colleagues will now be asking anyone who reports a fire alarm to check whether there is an actual fire or signs of fire, before sending the nearest response.

This change does not apply to sleeping premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hotels or domestic dwellings.

It is estimated that this change will greatly reduce unnecessary call outs which will free up capacity to increase our operational availability, undertake more community safety prevention work and to upskill our staff.

9.0 Transport and Environment

9.1 These will be monitored alongside Police Scotland RTC incidence information

9.2 Water Related Incidents

Water related incidents caused by environmental factors are thankfully rare, but in December 2022 we had 14, (compared to 6 for the previous year) flooding incidents, due to heavy rain.

9.3 Road Traffic Collisions

As SFRS generally only attend RTCs of a serious nature, where persons are trapped, the figures below do not capture every RTC which occurs within the SWF Area.

9.4 RTCs have stayed the same as last year. For the last 2 years, all recorded RTC involving SFRS have been within West Fife Villages ward.

9.5 RTC Fatal Casualties

9.6 There were no RTC fatalities to report this reporting period. The SFRS continues to engage with partners to offer support and advice on road safety.

9.7 RTC Casualties

The reporting period has seen a decrease by 1 from 7 to 6 casualties, when compared to the previous year.

9.8 Transport and Environment Related Incident Reduction Strategy

SFRS Stirling-Clackmannanshire-Fife LSO area, along with our partners, would normally continue to deliver valuable educational projects including 'Safe Drive Stay Alive', 'Drive Wise', 'Child Car Seat Safety Checks', 'Cut It Out', 'Biker Down' and the 'Fife Water Safety Initiative'. These were postponed due to the pandemic, but are now being reinvigorated in all areas.

9.9 Fife Water Safety Group – Partnership Approach to Water Safety Update.

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

The group will work to:

- Share and pool resources, best practise and expertise.
- Ensure consistency (not uniformity) in delivering water safety in Fife and
- Ensure a collaborative multi agency working ethos is embedded in Water Safety work across Fife.

10.0 Conclusions

- 10.1 In this reporting period, there have been, fortunately, no fatal casualties in relation to domestic dwelling fire, and none in relation to Road Traffic Collisions. Non-fatal casualties have risen by one.
- 10.2 Unfortunately, all other fire statistics (key performance indicators), have risen. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals have increased since the last annual performance report, but I project a massive fall in numbers for the next reporting year. This will be due to the SFRS UFAS policy being implemented 1st July 2023 (as fore mentioned).
- 10.3 Continuous work is still required to tackle all type of fires, and to plan and prepare for future weather/environmental events, as seen in December 2022.
- 10.4 The number of Home Safety Visits facilitated and community safety events held during the reporting period has significantly increased since the lockdown restrictions, although SFRS had sought to target very high-risk groups for Home Fire Safety Visits, and multi-agency liaison and referrals had continued, where appropriate.
- 10.5 SFRS continue to support our multi-agency partners, in SWF ward areas.
- 10.6 The SFRS will continue to manage demand reduction strategies, linking in with key partner agencies to create a safer place to live, work and visit.

Background Papers

SFRS Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Fife Local Authority Area 2017. Link - <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/east/east-local-plans.aspx>

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21st June, 2023.

Agenda Item No. 7

OnFife Update

Report by: Michelle Sweeney, Director of Creative Development

Wards Affected: 1,5 and 6

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the South and West Fife Area Committee on OnFife's service offer in the area, reviewing activity in the past six months and outlining plans in the coming year.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Wards review the information and explore how OnFife can better engage with and support the ongoing work within the area, ensuring a joined-up approach to service delivery which will enhance the offer to communities in South and West Fife, expand the return on investment of the public pound and contribute to the Community Wellbeing agenda.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or risk implications.

Impact Assessment

An equality (EqIA) Impact Assessment is not required as this is an update report on the performance of OnFife.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Fife Cultural Trust (the Company), established by Fife Council on 1st October, 2012, delivers Libraries, Arts, Museums, Galleries, Archives, Theatres and Creative Development Services on behalf of Fife Council with a view to enriching lives in Fife and ensuring the long-term sustainability of these services.
- 1.2 A company limited by guarantee, Fife Cultural Trust's principal activity is the provision of cultural services for Fife. It is responsible for community development in the creative and cultural fields and for operating and delivering the following facilities and services:-
- Libraries; inclusive of mobile libraries and a home delivery service
 - Maintenance and development of library services within Fife Council's four integrated customer service facilities
 - Museums, galleries, archives and local studies, heritage sites, and a mobile museum
 - Stewardship and care for the objects and archives in Fife Council's collections
 - Theatres and community venues
 - A Creative Development team to drive innovation, cultural collaboration, volunteering, sponsorship and funding
 - Marketing & Customer Engagement to best profile and promote these services while driving sales and analysing customer data
- 1.3 Our aim is to assist in the provision of cultural facilities and activities with the object of improving quality of life via the provision of accessible and affordable opportunities for all members of the public in Fife, allowing them to participate in cultural activities and access the cultural facilities.

Emerging from the Pandemic

- 1.4 Throughout the pandemic, we consistently adapted and developed new ways of working to continue supporting communities and engaging with audiences. With the support of Fife Council and a number of other funding awards, we weathered the worst of the covid storm but, as with the cultural sector as a whole, we face continued challenges arising from the impact of the pandemic, such as changes in customer habits, the impact of Brexit on the supply chain for major capital investment projects such as the Adam Smith Theatre refurbishment, the war in Ukraine and the associated energy and cost of living crisis.
- 1.5 In terms of customer engagement, our primary focus is retaining existing customers and increasing their frequency of attendance at cultural activities and events. In 2022, we developed a two-year Recovery and Renewal Strategy to give us a clear focus on recovering from the pandemic and rebuilding to thrive in the longer-term. The overriding purpose of this strategy is **Bringing People Back** and working to create **long-term sustainability**.

Our Service Offer

- 1.6 Our Creative Services consist of the following four highly collaborative teams who come with a combined skillset that is of direct benefit to organisations working within communities inclusive of creative approaches to community engagement and wellbeing, creative facilitation, funding, creative approaches to dementia support, informal approaches to literacy work, events and project management and volunteer

co-ordination. Additionally, we are well versed in brand development and awareness and the importance of public relations (PR), personality and tone of voice in the development of stories which are accessible to communities and which are core to great PR and communications.

2.0 Achievement and Performance

- 2.1 Our services are designed to support Fife's communities and, as such, sit and report within the wider strategic framework of The Plan for Fife, supporting it and reporting on performance against its key priority areas.
- 2.2 Delivering within the fabric of Fife's seven areas, we are well networked with Community Managers and wider service provision and are actively working to ensure increased collaboration of service delivery to achieve a greater return on investment of the public pound.
- 2.3 Within the South and West Fife area, we have six libraries including Rosyth, Oakley, Valleyfield, Kincardine, Dalgety Bay and Aberdour. We also support the Fife Council library at Inverkeithing. These spaces offer safe, warm places in which to access books and computers along with a range of activities from Get it Loud in Libraries to reading groups and the ever popular Bookbugs. Although we have no theatre or exhibition space in the area, it is, nevertheless, well served by both Dunfermline Carnegie Library & Galleries (DCLG) and Carnegie Hall.

Thriving Places

- 2.4 Despite continuing challenging conditions as we emerged from the pandemic, our teams achieved tremendous results during 2022/23, contributing to the quality of life of those living, working and visiting Fife through imaginative creative support, events and online digital activities. Successes included exhibitions, dementia-friendly projects, the welcome return of panto and summer holiday provision.
- 2.5 Open throughout the week, our libraries offer popular spaces which are used by young and old to borrow books, listen to a gig, join a reading group or just have a quiet space to read the newspapers and access the computers. Many local schools visit regularly inclusive of visits from Aberdour, Dalgety Bay, Tulliallan and Inzievar Primary Schools and Camdean Nursery and Holiday Club. Rosyth Library is part of Fife Council's **Warm Spaces** initiative and is a safe haven for local children who know the staff well. It offers a range of activities inclusive of book bugs and hosts regular activities for children and families during school holidays. During December 2022, it had a temporary transformation as it changed from library to music venue for a visit from **Get It Loud In Libraries** where up and coming singers Rianne Downey and Tik Tok star, Nati Dredd, took to the stage in front of an audience of over 110 people of all ages, inclusive of one four-year-old at her first gig! A great toe-tapping Sunday afternoon was had by everyone.
- 2.6 In terms of exhibitions, the area is served by Dunfermline Carnegie Library & Galleries with the much loved and well attended **Art-tastic** exhibition being our major family-friendly exhibition in the last year. It aimed to encourage visitors, particularly children, to interact with the paintings and dream up written work of their own. Visitors were able to test for themselves the old adage that a picture paints a thousand words as they were urged to create stories and verses inspired by some 20 works of art on display in the exhibition. The emphasis was on works that encouraged people unfamiliar with art to see it in a fresh and more accessible light. The exhibition was enhanced by the addition of a fantastic interactive film and puppet-making feature created by Clydebuilt Puppet Theatre and curators wrote their own stories to accompany each of the paintings on

show as a jumping off point for museum visitors. More recently, **Our Plastic Ocean**, on display from March till June 2023, offered captivating images focused on the growing environmental crisis, in an exhibition by award-winning photographer and acclaimed artist Mandy Barker. It highlighted the global threat posed by marine plastic pollution and showcased powerful images of debris collected by the photographer from shorelines across the world.

- 2.7 Our Community Gallery at DCLG enables us to support and respond to local artists and groups wishing to showcase their work. This space, just off the main library, was the original Carnegie Library entrance and provides an intimate self-contained space for flexible displays. The programme over the last year included **Consciously Rising**, an exhibition of new works created collaboratively and individually by a group of women who began meeting online during lockdown in 2021 and **Bho Bheul an Eòin** (From The Bird's Mouth) watercolours by wildlife artist Derek Robertson which was part of a wider initiative to deepen understanding of Scotland's changing environment and widen appreciation of the Gaelic language.
- 2.8 Performance wise, South and West Fife are catered for via Carnegie Halls professional theatre programme which offers a variety of genres that appeal to different audiences. From October through to March we had 12 professional shows programmed, including music from The Mersey Beatles and the RSNO, comedy from Jim Smith and drama from Dyad Theatre with a production of 'Female Gothic', with several shows sold out. Our Christmas programme offered 'The Night Before Christmas' which enchanted our younger audiences with a tale of a mouse in search of some Christmas cheer, as well as favourites, The MacDougall's, who returned with the Magic Castle which had audiences singing and dancing in the aisles to some Christmas favourites. This year will see a selection of family favourite Christmas films as well as a family production – yet to be announced.
- 2.9 Community is at the heart of all we do and we continue to support our local theatre companies, such as Rosyth Amateur Dramatic Society, to bring their productions to the big stage. The theatre remains home to dance shows, fundraising evenings and smaller community shows. Our studio space is also popular for rehearsals and smaller shows from the likes of The Kingdom Singers, Dance Academy and The Strathspey & Reel Society.
- 2.10 Looking ahead, we continue to work with the best in the entertainment industry to programme an offer that is both appealing and relevant to our communities. We continue to develop partnerships with companies producing new work by offering space and piloting shows that allow us to offer a programme of work that, whilst not financially viable, benefit niche audiences such as early years theatre provision. Additionally, we continue to strengthen our relationships with our local amateur societies, who bring depth to our programme and showcase local talent.

Opportunities for All

- 2.11 Our services that help provide opportunities for all Fifiers include highly successful book events for schools, support for people living with dementia and their carers, information for people with cancer and promoting Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity and a new musical instrument library.

- 2.12 Our Young People's Team delivers a programme of events throughout the year to mark the seasons and special occasions. As part of many activities involving primary schools in virtual author events as part of **World Book Day**, 24 of Fife's libraries, including Rosyth, Dalgety Bay, Inverkeithing and Kincardine Libraries, received a selection of World Book Day list books to give out for free and all libraries had World Book Day-themed activity sheets on display. The very funny author Justin Davies also visited Oakley and Inzievar Primary Schools to talk to almost 200 children about his new book, 'Haarville'.
- 2.13 The team was also in action celebrating **Book Week Scotland** in libraries, schools and online. The headline act was award-winning author Ross MacKenzie who joined in a virtual event with almost 2,000 children and their teachers from across Fife, including Inverkeithing and Torryburn/Culross Primary Schools. All OnFife libraries received a Book Week Scotland and Activity pack to display in branches as well as a virtual Storytime for each day of Book Week Scotland using QR codes linking to virtual story sessions on Librayay.
- 2.14 After a six-year absence, **Every Child A Library Member (ECALM)** was relaunched in November 2022. This time round ECALM is focusing on increasing early years library memberships with the aim of making every 0–5 year old a member. We are working with various partners to promote ECALM across our libraries.
- 2.15 Last year's **Summer Reading Challenge** returned with Gadgeteers and involved youngsters borrowing and reading 6 library books over the summer holidays. More than 2000 children registered, an increase of 50% on the previous year, and a total of 652 completed the Challenge, an increase of 39% on 2021. This summer it returns with children being encouraged to read 6 books across the holidays with some small incentives to help them on their way. There will be activities on throughout the summer on the theme 'Ready, Steady, Read' and all children who complete the challenge receive a medal.
- 2.16 Pupils from St John's and Kings Road Primary Schools also took part in the pilot **Get It Loud In Libraries Academy** for Primary 7 pupils, working with a member of the Get it Loud team over the weekend, researching art organisations, creating their own songs as well as working at the gig itself. The students' work earned them an Arts Award that evidenced their participation and passion for music, arts and culture.
- 2.17 Our National Lottery Heritage Fund partnership project, **Dunfermline Wellbeing Through Heritage**, will include delivery in our West Fife libraries Oakley, Valleyfield, Kincardine as well as Dunfermline (DCLG and Duloch) and is aimed at supporting those with low wellbeing, those experiencing mental health issues and people living with dementia.

Community Led Services

- 2.18 Our work in providing services led by the needs of our communities included tackling social isolation, extending help to refugees, community engagement, supporting Fifers through the cost-of-living crisis, collecting memories of the pandemic for an archive project and making connections with people living with dementia.
- 2.19 During the year, we refreshed our Library Strategy to ensure alignment with our Recovery & Renewal Strategy. Although its vision remains **Libraries are Good for Life**, it now has a new mission statement: *A blether, a book, a billion possibilities. Our libraries are free, warm welcoming places for all.* As such, our libraries were well positioned to join Fife Council's approach, connecting organisations helping Fifers struggling with cost-of-living increases by offering a warm welcome to warm spaces. £34,000 was secured

from Fife Council to support this work in 9 of our libraries across Fife, inclusive of Rosyth Library, allowing them to be recognised as designated **Warm Spaces** over the winter months, providing space to work, study and play. By March 2023 we had a total of **16 official Warm Library Spaces**, including Kincardine, offering free hot drinks and a range of self-led activities such as board games, jigsaws and colouring for adults and children to encourage visits.

Inclusive Growth & Jobs

- 2.20 As an organisation, we look to both support the growth and career development of our own people and provide services that will help with job opportunities and contribute to **Fife's creative economy**.
- 2.21 Mindful of the ongoing financial challenges, funding secured from Creative Scotland's Recovery Fund for Cultural Organisations is allowing us to explore ways of diversifying income. As such, we commissioned an external sponsorship agency to audit our assets and help create a framework for attracting sponsorship for our events and activities. In time, we will be looking for opportunities to engage with sponsors to support events and performances as well as smaller events within our library spaces.
- 2.22 A new Macmillan Project Officer and Project Co-ordinator were also appointed within Cultural Heritage & Wellbeing to focus on implementing Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Centres within selected OnFife Libraries, inclusive of Duloch, in line with the aims of OnFife Libraries and Macmillan Cancer Support.

3.0 Future Challenges & Plans

- 3.1 The year ahead continues to be extremely challenging for the cultural sector as a whole, with no end in sight for the ongoing war in Ukraine, the related fuel and cost of living crisis and the additional impact of Brexit in the UK. Local authority budgets have been challenging and the sector has waved goodbye to many longstanding cultural venues, while several library closures have been announced across Scotland. These are trends that are likely to continue and we are working hard to sustain our services, ensuring alignment with the Plan for Fife and driving a shared approach to joined-up cultural service delivery across Fife's public sector.
- 3.2 The pandemic has had a monumental impact on the mental wellbeing of the population and, given the correlation between culture and its positive impact on wellbeing, and in line with Fife Council's commitment to improving mental health and wellbeing across Fife, we will develop and deliver our new approach for wellbeing. This is designed to work closely with Fife's local area teams, NHS Fife and Fife Health & Social Care. As budgets for 2024/25 are clarified, we will undertake a wider review of Service provision, utilising a raft of data inclusive of feedback, footfall, intelligence from our new Library Management System, PatronBase, which is the ticketing software platform we use to manage and run events and our Relevance Work in communities.
- 3.3 Ever mindful of the diminishing public purse, we are developing a new approach to sponsorship which will see us diversify our income stream by making the most of our assets.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 This report sets out an overview of the OnFife services and activities in 2022/23 in the South and West Fife Area and those who have benefitted. OnFife will continue to provide inclusive and welcoming cultural services, activities and events that excite, inspire and improve the lives of those who participate and Fife's communities more generally. We want to ensure that what we deliver is relevant and to do this we are looking to better engage and support the ongoing work within the area.

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Community Learning and Development Partnership Update

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

Wards Affected: Ward 1,5 and 6

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update members activities of the Community Development Partnership provision provided to young people, children and families from April 2022 – March 2023.

Recommendation

The Committee are asked to note the position and pass comment on activities that were delivered throughout the year.

Resource Implications

Local area funds are available for Community Learning and Development work. Service budgets are available, however, these are supplemented by other funding routes including Local community Planning budget and Anti-Poverty Budgets

Legal & Risk Implications

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

Impact Assessment

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

Consultation

Local partnerships groups are consulted on a regular basis and programmes are planned and co-ordinated with learners, young people and families. Programmes are evaluated using the How Good is Our Community Learning and Development Inspection Framework.

1.0 Youth Work

- 1.1 Junior Youth Clubs for P4&5 young people continued to run in High Valleyfield, Blairhall, Oakley, Kincardine, Camdean and North Queensferry. These clubs all run once a week during term time and numbers continue to increase across the areas. Junior youth clubs are popular across the areas and staff plan termly with young people to provide opportunities suited to them.
- 1.2 These groups largely take part in sporting and arts and crafts activities and have been enjoying taking part in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) as well as having cooking activities. High Valleyfield Juniors took part in a project in partnership with Lamentally Sound CIC who encourage people of all ages to get involved with music to benefit their mental health. Young people in the club all made their own musical instruments out of recycled 'junk' and a name was picked out the hat to win an electric guitar. Appendix 1 shows the winning participant.
- 1.3 Intermediate Youth Clubs for P6&7 Young People continue to run in High Valleyfield, Oakley, Blairhall, Cairneyhill and Camdean. These clubs also run once a week during term time and enjoy similar activities to the juniors.
- 1.4 In Camdean, we were finding that many young people were going to the Chinese before, during or after the club. However, not all young people had money to be able to do this. The youth work staff used this scenario to encourage cooking challenges within the youth club that were healthier and allowed all young people to take part. Young people made their own 'fakeaways' including things like homemade chips and curry sauce. They no longer bring Chinese food into the club and instead enjoy cooking and/or eating whatever is on offer.
- 1.5 Senior Youth Clubs for S1+ Young People continue to run weekly in High Valleyfield, Kincardine, Camdean and North Queensferry. The focus for these groups tends to be slightly different and although they too enjoy sports and baking, etc., they also regularly take part in issue-based sessions around topics like vaping, bullying and mental well-being, etc.
- 1.6 In North Queensferry, the Seniors have been working on creating a chill out room. They currently have access to the large hall which is great for sports. Young people have plotted out what they'd like the room to look like and any equipment they may need. They have been looking for donations of couches and TVs and planning fundraising evenings.
- 1.7 National Youth Work Week is celebrated during the first week of November every year. In this week we celebrate and promote the impact youth work has on young people's lives. Each year the Youth Work Team promote the work happening in South and West Fife and to celebrate young people's achievements and involvement in their communities. This year we chose to celebrate by inviting young people, their families, MSYPs, elected members and council officers to our Youth Hub in Camdean where we displayed the work of various groups. Young people were there to answer questions, enjoyed good conversations and sharing their learning experiences with all who attended.

- 1.8 Four young people from High Valleyfield have been taking part in this piece of Fife wide research which aims to identify what the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic had on young people. The intention is to use this learning to shape and develop youth work services to best support young people moving forward. These young people took part in teambuilding activities with their peers across Fife, training on research projects and ethics of research. They then used this knowledge to interview young people in their area. The interview answers were then coded and analysed. The report is currently being written and recommendations made.
- 1.9 A range of partners have identified that there was an increased use of offroad motorcycles across the area. The group membership consists of Fife Council Community Development, Police Scotland, Safer Communities, Incudem, BRAG, Scottish Fire Service and Community Use Schools. Many young people were involved in anti-social behaviour by driving these bikes in public places. It was decided to use a partnership approach to see if there was any interest amongst young people in the area to look into the feasibility of an Off-Road Motocross track within South and West Fife.
- 1.10 An initial meeting of young people interested in taking this forward was held on 10 November 2022. The young people will form a steering group who will lead the project and progress funding applications. The group attended the track at Cardenden to scope out what was there, what the strengths and weaknesses of the track were and engaged in a lesson delivered by local instructors. The group will now be focusing on location to find a suitable place for a track in South and West Fife.
- 1.11 The EASYP/Noone Left Behind Employability programme for 16-18yrs is a Scottish Government funded programme which is delivered in Camdean Youth Centre, Rosyth with young people feeding in from all surrounding high schools. This programme is offered to young people who have no positive destination identified upon school leaving age. This is a partnership with Fife Education, Supported Employment Services and Skills Development Scotland.
- 1.12 There were twenty-one young people on the programme over the period April 22 – March 23.
- Four moved on to college in September 2022
 - Three moved to Next Steps
 - Five have achieved Bronze Youth Achievement Awards
 - The rest working towards this goal.
- 1.13 The young people have taken part in personal development sessions which look at mental health and wellbeing, personal fitness and independent living skills, financial understanding and Adult Basic Education (ABE) sessions such as Communications, Numeracy and ICT. This year has seen a mental health support worker input on a 1-2-1 basis with participants and this has had a significant impact for them. Young people's mental health has been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 1.14 Next Steps - Next Steps is an Employability programme for young people 18-24yrs that also is based in Camdean Youth Centre in partnership with Fife College.
- 1.15 There were seventeen participants over the period April 22 –March 23. The programme is co-designed with participants to ensure that the programme meets the needs and interests of the young people attending. This programme offers SCQF qualifications.

- 1.16 There is a community project element to this programme which helps involve participants in the life of the wider community and there is an opportunity to undertake work placements. Over this period, we the programme supported young people highlighted below.
- Five into paid work
 - One to Open University
 - Two to work experience
 - Four achieve Youth Achievement Award
 - Five achieved numeracy level 5
 - Two complete an Introduction to Tourism
 - Two achieve Level 5 ICT
- 1.17 Digi Crew is a youth work programme what offers young people the opportunity to engage in digital activities. The original Digi Crew have all moved on to college and work. Youth Workers have spent this year recruiting new members. A series of roadshows were undertaken in various settings to promote the digital youth work session and invite young people along.
- 1.18 The session now has a core youth group of young people who are currently training in use of equipment and storyboarding and will soon be involved in some exciting projects. This is an interest led project.
- 1.19 Community Development staff support Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs) to attend the Scottish Youth Parliament. Fife currently has eight members on the Scottish Youth Parliament, with three covering our constituency areas. Officer support include assisting with sittings, voting processes and engagement in the democratic processes that follow election. In July they attended their first sitting in Cumbernauld, where they played an active part in discussions. In October they attended the sitting in Edinburgh, which was moved from the Parliament to Dynamic Earth, due to The Queen's death.
- 1.20 The three MSYPs who cover our constituents are very active in the parliamentary sub committees and linking this back to constituents. One has also been active in supporting and taking part in the Fife wide research project on the Impact of COVID on young people in Fife. He has interviewed young people as part of this process.
- 1.21 Appendix 1 highlights a snapshot of pictures from the various youth work activities mentioned in the report.

2.0 Community Based Adult and Family Learning

- 2.1 South and West Fife Adult Learning Planning & Delivery Group (ALP&DG) is the strategic group for all Community Based Adult Learning opportunities across South and West Fife. The Group is a multi-agency collaboration and includes Community Development staff, Fife College, various Fife Council Services, Workers Education Association, Fife Voluntary Action, Gingerbread, along with a variety of voluntary organisations, ensuring we can offer a varied and at times, bespoke learning journeys for Adult Learners.

- 2.2 The ALP&DG recently reviewed and updated its Local Action Plan with focus to recruit new learners. The ALP&DG discussions identified some gaps in the Community Based Adult Learning (CBAL) delivery and included this in the revised Local Action Plan. This included utilising partner agencies facilitated to deliver new Community Based Adult Learning opportunities.
- 2.3 As a result of the updated action plan, North Queensferry Community Complex delivered a REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene course where sixteen learners achieved a nationally recognised Food Hygiene Certification. This is looked on very favourably by employers in the Food and Retail Industry. The Community Complex venue was also used to run Defibrillator Awareness Session, giving local people more confidence in their use.
- 2.4 CBAL opportunities are also on offer at the two Learning Centres within South and West Fife. These being High Valleyfield and Parkgate Community Centres. Nationally recognised accredited courses are on offer and these are delivered in partnership with Fife College.
- 2.5 Over the last year, twenty-six learners have moved into employment, fifteen into volunteering opportunities and thirty-two learners registered with Fife College Campus at Halbeath for further learning opportunities.
- 2.6 There is a variety of CBAL Opportunities for people across South and West Fife that includes:
- First Aid (Emergency at Work, Paediatric)
 - REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene
 - Fife College, Step-In, Next Steps, Springboard and various Employability courses
 - 6 Pillars of Self-esteem and 7 Habits of Highly Effective People (various confidence building courses)
 - Sewing Groups, Make Do and Mend, Furniture Upcycling, Cooking Courses, Digital Skills, ABE and English Speaker of Other Languages (ESOL) Support courses.
 - Supported Employment Service for people with long term illness, Mental Health issues and Disability.
 - Family Learning, School Holiday Family Learning Provision
 - Outdoor Learning and Residential Family Learning
 - Seven families across South and West Fife took part in this, the programme took place at the Outdoor Education Centre at Loganlea near Kingussie. This entailed four nights away, using the 7 Habits of Effective Communication, mixed with some Outdoor Learning Activities that included Biking, Archery, Gorge Walking in River Feshie and a ten miles circular walk to and from a mountain bothy.
 - The feedback from all participants was so positive that the team have already planned and secured funding for another Residential in late July/August.
- 2.7 7 Habits/Pulse at HMP Glenochil (April 2022- April 2023). The Pulse courses were developed by CLD staff with prisoners on completion of the successful 7 Habits programme and was delivered in both HMP Glenochil and HMP Perth.

- 2.8 Community Development staff worked in partnership with Fife College within the Learning Centre in the prison. Pulse developed from an evaluation of the 7 Habits course, which flagged up that the name was off-putting and some of the American language inappropriate, so a new Pulse course was developed in partnership with the prisoners.
- 2.9 Both courses were offered to Fife prisoners who would be returning to either Glenrothes, Levenmouth or South and West Fife. Staff also ran Adult Learning programmes for ex-offenders in the community. There was also Digital Skills, Cooking for Adults and Make Do and Mend.
- 2.10 PULSE meets fortnightly for two hours to promote positive mental health and assist with the rehabilitation of offenders by convening and facilitating dialogue in prison. PULSE also aims to support participants on their journey (Embark) back into the community or further learning opportunities within the prison.
- 2.11 CLD staff will continue to work with participants once liberated and support their employability skills including CV sessions, supporting them to attend local job clubs and digital skills courses.
- 2.12 Many prisoners feel alienated and excluded. We deliver our sessions in a relaxed environment where they have experience of integration with staff which can result in a greater sense of belonging to the wider community and a feeling of appreciation, having value and self-awareness.
- 2.13 Prisoners' confidence grows as they find ways to express themselves more effectively. Vocabularies, which typically diminish significantly, especially during a long stay in prison, are rebuilt and the confidence to use them increases,
- 2.14 The aim is less violent interactions. Participants learn, sometimes for the first time, to listen and speak in a group and to develop ways to engage with others that are respectful and worthwhile.
- 2.15 These developmental gains give prisoners tools to survive outside so that they can take better advantage of opportunities for resettlement on release. They can also feel more motivated to take up training and education.
- 2.16 Feedback was positive from those who took part:
- *“It takes me out of prison for a few hours, talking to people who care and like to help others.”*
 - *“What this means to me is to be in a relaxed chilled environment and learn new things, I maybe didn’t know about myself.”*
 - *“What stands out for me is the way we are treated within the class, and everyone listens as a group.”*
- 2.17 A weekly programme of outdoor play for pre-school children took place in Blairhall, every Tuesday morning. Smartplay led the programme with support from Community Development officers. Smartplay is a national organisation supporting play services and play providers in Scotland. Twelve families took part in the sessions with various outdoor activities including bulb planting, dinosaur digs, games, bubble making, soft play, Baby Tent, waterplay and culminating in a Christmas Party. We are hoping to work with the parents to get this up and running again in the summer.

- 2.18 Twelve Women from across South and West Fife met weekly in Inverkeithing to explore well-being through involvement in the arts. Using applied storytelling/theatre techniques, writing, film and photography, the women were able to reflect on their lives and their communities.
- 2.19 Emerging themes included mental well-being, disability, isolation, togetherness and the women's ideas for solutions to these issues. This culminated in a short film and a re-showing of the Women in the Wild – Documentary Film and an exhibition of their poetry and photographs at Rosyth Parish Church in June.
- 2.20 Around thirty people came and heard, first-hand, from women who often felt ignored but who used the arts to be seen and heard. Women who were brave enough to talk openly about their struggles, speak up for themselves and others.
- 2.21 Ten women were supported to become involved in Making Rights Real, an organisation which supports community rights champions in their local communities. This led to them also being involved in the 7 Project.
- 2.22 The 7 Project ran between June and December 2022. This project is a human rights documentary that tells the stories of seven women who bravely fought for the well-being of women, families and children around the globe. The play previously performed in America, Ireland and at the United Nations, was performed for the first time in Scotland in December 2022, by a company of female activists (several of them from South and West Fife) at the Scottish Parliament, in front of Ministers and MSPs. This was co-ordinated by Making Rights Real and supported by Community Development officers.
- 2.23 Our local women came together fortnightly in Inverkeithing to hear and share the incredible stories of seven inspirational women from seven different nations. During rehearsals, the women were given space to talk about local issues and become human rights champions in their own communities. They then came together with women from across Scotland and took part in the performance at the Scottish Parliament in December.
- 2.24 Appendix 1 highlights a snapshot of pictures from the various CBAL activities.

3.0 Welfare Support

- 3.1 During the period covered in the report, Welfare Support Workers (WSW) provided twenty-five members of the public suffering from financial hardship by providing benefit advice and, in some cases, assisting them to apply for grants such as the Scottish Welfare Fund and the Food Crisis Fund.
- 3.2 WSW also provide top up gas and electric supplies for people in fuel crises and looking towards next winter, this is expected to become a major part of their work. The method used to facilitate this is to meet the person needing the top up at the place where they normally make a top up, usually a local shop. Then enter the shop with the person, ask them to handover their fob to the shopkeeper and then the member of staff will ask the shopkeeper to add credit to the account and pay for this using the FC purchase card.
- 3.3 On a few occasions when WSW have done this, they have found it embarrassing for the client and for themselves and on one occasion the client burst into tears and said she felt so worthless and embarrassed by the situation.

- 3.4 WSW have also supplied supermarket vouchers for Tesco or Co-op and these are to the value of £25. They are normally issued along with a food bank voucher and this allows the person/family to purchase fresh milk, meat and fruit and veg. While the need and benefit of providing vouchers and doing top ups is understood, staff have always found this to be undignified and humiliating for the person on the receiving end, as well as themselves.
- 3.5 This has resulted in the introduction of a new more dignified method. When someone is in need, WSW can issue them with a short life credit card, valid for one year, to which we will add a set level of funds. The recipient can then pay for goods just like anyone else. WSW advise the recipient to hold on to the card as we will be able to add more funds to it in the future if needed.
- 3.6 One of the benefits of this is that the person is not restricted to the Co-op and Tesco, they will be able use other supermarkets such as Aldi and Lidl. This, in turn, gives them access to cheaper food stuffs.
- 3.7 All our job clubs (Oakley, High Valleyfield, Rosyth, Inverkeithing and Kincardine) are now back in operation to pre pandemic levels. Numbers of users are increasing with the biggest increase being in the over fifty age group. The one exception is Kincardine, where the number of people attending is low mainly due to this being a new venue and we are working with the community centre to publicise the service more.
- 3.8 WSW have supported twenty-seven individuals/families in our area who have no Internet enabled device and, in some cases, no actual Internet connection, by providing them with a free Chromebook and a free MiFi device. For those with the MiFi device, the period of use has been extended to 2025.

4.0 Café Inc

- 4.1 **Café Inc @ Oakley** – The pantry and café volunteers have offered Café Inc meals over the Summer and October holiday periods. They provided a hot and cold option and had an average of 100 meals being distributed each week.
- 4.2 **Café Inc Easter 2023** - Over the easter period, Café Inc was offered in the same venues as last summer and October holidays. A mixture if school and community venues were on offer. The community food providers were, That Place in the Bay (Dalgety Bay), Rosyth Eats (Rosyth), Valleyfield Community Club (High Valleyfield) and Kincardine Community Centre (Kincardine). All took part and, once again, it was a huge success with the community engaging in a very dignified approach to Café Inc delivery.
- 4.3 Over the course of the two weeks, the community food providers served 1513 meals. That place in the bay 878 (open for ten days of the easter break), Valleyfield club 400 (open ten days of the easter break), Kincardine 105 (open four days of the easter break), Rosyth eats 130 (open two days of the easter break)
- 4.4 The delivery model was very successful, and comments included:
 - *The Activities are vital in the delivery of Café Inc, lets the kids eats then play pals whilst parents enjoyed a cuppa and a chat”*

- *“I just wanted to send a little message to thank you for today’s easter event. Me and my little boy had such a day, at a time where everyone is struggling, and most businesses are ramping up prices for the easter holidays. I am sure I am not the only parent that has been stressed about giving them lots of easter fun on the budget we have available. What you do in nothing short of amazing, and today’s event was such great easter fun for the community. My Three-year-old said to me on the way home it had been a “Beautiful Day” thank you so much xxx”*

5.0 Community Capacity Building

- 5.1 North Queensferry Local Action Plan was developed after a request through the South and West Fife Council Area Committee to explore utilising the positive potential of Tourism Opportunities in North Queensferry and to explore a more cohesive approach to Service Delivery and enhancing community life in North Queensferry.
- 5.2 The NQLAP was recommended for implementation at the March 2022 meeting and was noted for its open and transparent approach in the Community Consultation process.
- 5.3 Over the last year, the NQLAP Community Forum has been established and met on eleven occasions. The actions are fed into the People and Place Leadership groups as well as wider partner agencies and several voluntary and community organisations to begin addressing the Outcomes in the NQLAP.
- 5.4 The feeling of having a live Local Action Plan over three years with an Annual Audit of where the Plan Outcomes are, has proved very positive. Each Annual Audit Proforma goes in as an Appendix to the Local Action Plan and will be communicated across all the Community Groups and Households in North Queensferry. This will be achieved through Ferry News Newsletter, North Queensferry Primary School Parents Alert Network and various social media and websites of each community groups.
- 5.5 The Tower Community Pantry in Oakley continues to run on a Wednesday afternoon from twelve noon. The pantry is run by local volunteers, all registered with Fife Council. They collect surplus foods from Baynes the bakers, get a weekly delivery from Fareshare and a local fruit and veg company and have a collection point at the co-op.
- 5.6 They also regularly receive donations from members of the community and other local shops. They have been successful in securing £1000 from the ASDA Foundation and £4000 from the Community Food Provider Small Grants Scheme. These monies help them to top up supplies when things run low, or when the Fareshare delivery hasn’t been great.
- 5.7 They continue to ask for a minimum donation of £3. This £3 covers the cost of the fresh fruit and vegetables the following week. They continue to distribute between 40-50 bags per week.
- 5.8 The community café in Oakley runs on a Wednesday morning between 9am-12noon for sit in and take away breakfasts. The café is also run by volunteers, supported by CEW. They offer reasonably priced filled rolls, toasties and full breakfasts with tea and coffee. It continues to serve around twenty meals per week and any profit made goes back into the project.
- 5.9 Blairhall Community Action Plan (2018-2022) is now out of date and due for review. Initial meetings and discussions have taken place with community activists and local partners to take this forward. A meeting of all the stakeholders in the area is due to take place later this month.

- 5.10 A Let's Talk, gathering was held recently in Blairhall to discuss the future of Community Centre management committees across the villages. Community Development staff had a turnout of around twenty people which is a good starting point and will develop a programme of training for volunteers to support management committees across the area. Further meetings will take place in the villages and the volunteers will have the opportunity to come together again for further training.
- 5.11 Castle Community Café continues to run in the centre every Thursday but the numbers have dropped by half and we are down to two volunteers. Community Development staff are currently working with the management committee to support this provision and recruit new volunteers.
- 5.12 Blairhall Community Council continued to run the FareShare Pantry/Fruit and veg stall, which was set up by volunteers during the pandemic. It ran every Thursday in Blairhall; locals were able to come and buy fresh fruit and vegetables, fresh meat, dairy and tinned products at a low cost.
- 5.13 At its height, the project supported around thirty families but this tailed off to a handful of people in recent months and became no longer viable, demand for the service tailed off and the group were no longer able to sustain the finance required. Left over produce was given to Oakley Pantry and any Blairhall families in need can access low-cost groceries there.
- 5.14 Appendix 1 highlights a snapshot of pictures from the various activities.

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 The Community Learning and Development partnership continues to seek to mobilise resources across the South and West Fife Area ensuring that everyone is pulling together to offer inclusive, transparent and person-centred programme of learning and engagement opportunities.
- 6.2 Local area multi-agency working groups will continue to drive forward the CLD partnership plan aims and outcomes. These groups will provide evaluations and report on progress regularly throughout the year. Scrutiny of the work lies with the People and Place Leadership groups, and they will continue to monitor and evaluate the work carried out. Regular facilitated self-evaluations will also take place using the How Good is out Community Learning and Development (HMIe) Inspection Framework.
- 6.3 The CLD team will continue to lead this agenda from the front engaging in dialogue with local communities, partners, and members.
- 6.4 After a challenging year, post pandemic the CLD partnership have continued to support and develop learning opportunities to enhance community recovery by offering a varied and diverse programme of support. The partnership will continue to engage with residents to ensure programmes are person centred and tailored to individual community need.

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Photographs of learning experiences

Report contact:

Mandy MacEwan,
Area Community Development Team Manager
Communities and Neighbourhoods
Email: mandy.macewan@fife.gov.uk



Women's Well-being group, Women in the Wild



7 Project participants



Outdoor Play at Blairhall Community Centre



Blairhall Pantry / Fruit and Veg



Next Step summer trip



Next Step tyre painting



EASYP Wall painting



EASYP Job fair



Digi Crew

21 June 2023

Agenda Item No. 9

Property Transactions

Report by: Alan Paul, Head of Property Services

Wards Affected: 1, 5 and 6

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 17 Oaklea, Saline

Date of Acquisition: 27 March 2023
Price: £151,000
Seller: Ada Maria Saunders

2.5 Leases by the Council – New Leases

2.5.1 Ice Cream, Beach Souvenirs, Bouncy Castle and Parking Management Concession, Silver Sands, Aberdour

Term: 5 years from 1 April 2023
Rent: £12,600 per annum
Tenant: Mrs Beryl Gamble and Mr Cole Gamble

3.0 Conclusions

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

Report Contact

Michael I McArdle
Lead Professional
Property Services – Estates
Bankhead Central
Bankhead Park
Glenrothes, KY7 6GH
Telephone: 03451 555555 Ext No 440268
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21 June 2023
Agenda Item No. 10

South and West Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme

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

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

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

Recommendation(s)

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

Resource Implications

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

2.0 Conclusions

- 2.1 The current work programme is included as Appendix 1 and should be reviewed by the Committee to help inform scrutiny activity.

List of Appendices

1. South and West Fife Area Committee Forward Work Programme

Report Contact

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

South and West Fife Area Committee

6th September, 2023			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Area Housing Update	Housing Service	Claire MacKinlay	Six monthly update – last update 1st March, 2023
Complaints Update	Customer Services Improvement	David Thomson	Annual report – last update 28th September, 2022
Area Roads Programme 2022-23 – Final Report	Roads and Transportation	Neil Watson	Annual report – last update 28th September, 2022
Welfare Reform/Anti Poverty Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Stephen Adamson	
Common Good Fund Update	Finance	Eleanor Hodgson	If required

1st November, 2023			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Radiation Monitoring at Dalgety Bay	SEPA / MoD	Paul Dale/Nina Patton / Stephen Ritchie	Six monthly update – last update 26th April, 2023
Annual Report on Outcomes of Care Inspectorate Inspection and Grading Process	Health and Social Care	Alan Adamson / Fiona McKay	Annual report – last update 23rd November, 2022
Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Planning – South West Fife	Health and Social Care	Audrey Valente / Jacquie Stringer	Six monthly update – last update 26th April, 2023
Common Good and Settlement Trust Funds Annual Report 2022-2023	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	
Summer Provision Activities	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Mandy MacEwan	Annual report – last update 23rd November, 2022

South and West Fife Area Committee

1st November, 2023			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Local Community Planning Update / South and West Fife Community Learning Development Partnership Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Alastair Mutch / Mandy McEwan	Six monthly update
Common Good Fund Update	Finance	Eleanor Hodgson	If required

13th December, 2023			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Common Good Fund Update	Finance	Eleanor Hodgson	If required

14th February, 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Local Area Economic Profile	Business and Employability	Peter Corbett	Annual update – last update 1st March, 2023
Grounds Maintenance Service / Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service Annual Review	Environment and Building Services	John Rodigan / Scott Clelland	Annual report – last update 1st March, 2023
Criminal Justice Social Work Service – Community Payback Unpaid Work Scheme	Children and Families	Joan Gallo	Annual report – last update 1st March, 2023
Area Housing Update	Housing Service	Claire MacKinlay	Six monthly update – last update 6th September, 2023
Area Capital Update Report 2023/24	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual report – last update 1st March, 2023

South and West Fife Area Committee

14th February, 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Common Good Fund Update	Finance	Eleanor Hodgson	If required

17th April, 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
School Attainment and Achievement Report	Education and Children’s Services	Sarah Else	Annual report – last update 26th April, 2023
Local Community Planning Update / South and West Fife Community Learning Development Partnership Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Alastair Mutch / Mandy McEwan	Annual report
Common Good Fund Update	Finance	Eleanor Hodgson	If required

12th June, 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Radiation Monitoring at Dalgety Bay	SEPA / MoD	Paul Dale/Nina Patton / Stephen Ritchie	Six monthly update – last update 1st November, 2023
Safer Communities Team Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Michael Collins	Annual report – last update 21st June, 2023
Operational Briefing on Policing Activities within South and West Fife Area	Police Scotland	Chief Inspector Kathryn Fairfield	Annual report – last update 21st June, 2023
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Annual Performance Report 2022/23	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	Station Commander Craig Robertson	Annual report – last update 21st June, 2023

South and West Fife Area Committee

12th June, 2024			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Planning – South West Fife	Health and Social Care	Audrey Valente / Jacquie Stringer	Six monthly update – last update 1st November, 2023
Common Good Fund Update	Finance	Eleanor Hodgson	If required

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
WORKSHOP – Community Recovery Fund	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Alastair Mutch	Workshop arranged for 14th June, 2023
Maintenance of Private Land by Private Landowners	Assets, Transportation and Environment	John Rodigan	
Trusts - Overview			Invitation to be issued to relevant Trusts, i.e. FCCT, Sports & Leisure Trust requesting they provide an overview of work they undertake (as agreed at 26th April 2023 meeting)
Housing Service – Allocations Process Update	Housing Services	TBC	To be invited to a meeting of the Committee to provide an update on the allocations process undertaken in relation to new builds as agreed at 1st March, 2023 meeting
Water Environment Fund (WEF) Project Update	SEPA	TBC	As agreed at 23rd November, 2022 Committee (para. 30 of 2022.SWFAC.16 refers)
Trauma Informed Practice		TBC	Report request from Councillor Neale at 10th August, 2022 Committee
Bike Park Strategy	Communities and Neighbourhoods	Kevin O’Kane	Report request from Councillor Goodall at 10th August, 2022 Committee
Additional Nursery Hours Update	Education and Children’s Services	Shelagh McLean	As agreed at 4th March, 2020 meeting
Report of the Pupilwise and Parentwise Surveys	Education and Children’s Services	Deborah Davidson	Annual report

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
<i>Children's Services Report</i>	<i>Education and Children's Services</i>	<i>Deborah Davidson</i>	
<i>Early Learning and Childcare</i>	<i>Education and Children's Services</i>	<i>Jacqueline Price</i>	<i>Last update 2nd October, 2019.</i>
<i>WORKSHOP - Flooding Issues in South and West Fife Area</i>	<i>Roads and Transportation</i>	<i>Rick Haynes</i>	<i>Workshop to be arranged late August / early September</i>
<i>WORKSHOP – Educational Outcomes</i>	<i>Education and Children's Services</i>	<i>Shelagh McLean</i>	<i>Date to be confirmed</i>
<i>WORKSHOP – Pupil Equity Fund (PEF)</i>	<i>Education and Children's Services</i>	<i>Zoe Thomson</i>	<i>Date to be confirmed</i>