

## Glenrothes Area Committee

Committee Room 2 (FHM05.002), 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes



Wednesday, 31 January 2024 - 2.00 p.m.

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### 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. **MINUTE** – Minute of Meeting of Glenrothes Area Committee of 22 November 2023. 3 – 7
4. **ONFIFE UPDATE** – Report by the Director of Creative Development. 8 – 14
5. **SUPPORTING THE PLAN 4 GLENROTHES AREA: COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service. 15 – 18
6. **COMMON GOOD AND SETTLEMENT TRUST FUNDS ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023** – Joint Report by the Head of Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service and the Head of Finance. 19 – 32
7. **LOCAL AREA ECONOMIC PROFILES (DECEMBER 2023)** – Report by the Head of Business & Employability. 33 – 68
8. **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT - SELLING LOCK UPS WITHIN MIXED TENURE BLOCKS** – Report by the Head of Housing Services. 69 – 76
9. **AREA HOUSING PLAN UPDATE - GLENROTHES** – Report by the Head of Housing Services. 77 – 90
10. **GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME** 91 – 94

**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

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24 January 2024

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### **BLENDED MEETING NOTICE**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING**

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

**22 November 2023**

**2.00 pm – 4.15 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Craig Walker (Convener), John Beare, Altany Craik, Peter Gulline, Lynn Mowatt, Derek Noble, Ross Vettrano, Daniel Wilson and Jan Wincott.

**ATTENDING:** Norman Laird, Community Manager (Glenrothes), Sarah Johnston, Access Officer, Countryside Development; Chris Mieзитis, Area Community Development Team Manager (Glenrothes) and Coryn Barclay, Research Manager, Communities & Neighbourhoods Service; Phil Clarke, Lead Consultant, Levenmouth Reconnect Programme, Roads & Transportation Services; John Mills, Head of Housing Services, Robert McGregor, Business Change Manager, Laura Russell, Lead Officer, Area Housing Management and Dawn Jamieson, Safer Communities Team Manager, Housing Services; Nigel Kerr, Head of Protective Services; John Rodigan, Head of Environment & Building Services; Alan Paul, Head of Property Services, Liz Murphy, Bereavement Services Manager, Property Services; Mary McLean, Legal Services Manager and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Martin McKinlay, Senior Sponsor, Scotland’s Railway and Owen Campbell, Network Rail Communications Manager (for para. 80).

**79. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No 22.

**80. DISCUSSION RELATING TO THE CLOSURE OF THE THREE CROSSINGS (RIGHTS OF WAY) AT WAUKMILL, DOUBLEDYKES AND DURIEVALE**

The committee welcomed an opportunity for an open and frank discussion with representatives of Network Rail relating to the closure of three crossings (rights of way) - in particular, the crossing at Doubledykes – relating to the need for continued dialogue and engagement with project sponsors and consultation with the local community toward a solution for Doubledykes crossing.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) thanked Mr McKinlay and Mr Campbell for their contribution to the discussion; and

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- (2) agreed to invite a representative from Transport Scotland to their next meeting on 31 January 2024 to discuss potential options for a crossing at Doubledykes that met the aspirations of the local community.

*The committee adjourned at 2.40 pm and reconvened at 2.45 pm.*

### 81. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the Glenrothes Area Committee of 4 October 2023.

#### **Decision**

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

### 82. SUPPORTING THE PLAN 4 GLENROTHES AREA: COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement for the allocation of funding for various projects from the Community Recovery Fund (CRF) for the Glenrothes Area.

#### **Decision**

The committee agreed to approve the following allocations from the Community Recovery Fund totaling £151,824:

- (1) St Andrews Environmental Network: £42,346;
- (2) Bike Works Fife: £60,000;
- (3) Balbirnie's Future Foundation SCIO: £20,778; and
- (4) Homestart Glenrothes: Steps to Resilience: £28,700.

### 83. SUPPORTING THE GLENROTHES LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – CLD SUMMER PROGRAMME IMPACT REPORT

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service outlining the impact and outcomes from the Community Learning and Development (CLD) led Summer Programme which received £26,420 of funding from the committee in May this year - to support CLD led activity for children, young people and families during the summer break.

#### **Decision**

The committee noted:-

- (1) that the £26,420 allocated from the Local Community Planning Budget to support this CLD led activity was spent as agreed; and
- (2) that impact and outcomes achieved through programme delivery aligned with Glenrothes Area Community Plan priorities.

**84. DELIVERY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL VANDALISM STRATEGY IN THE GLENROTHES AREA**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Protective Services providing an update on the delivery of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy in the Glenrothes Area, including environmental offending, during the period 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2023.

**Decision**

The committee noted activity to date aimed at significantly reducing environmental vandalism in the Glenrothes area and Fife-wide.

**85. ENVIRONMENTAL VANDALISM STRATEGY REMOVAL ELEMENT**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Environment and Building Services providing an update on the actions and performance of the Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service in the delivery of the operational aims and objectives of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy in the Glenrothes area.

**Decision**

The committee acknowledged the efforts which continued to be made by the Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service to deliver the operational aims and objectives of the Environmental Vandalism Strategy in the Glenrothes area.

*Councillor Mowatt left the meeting during consideration of the following item.*

**86. GLENWOOD HOUSING REGENERATION PROJECT**

The committee considered a joint report by the Head of Housing Services and the Community Manager (Glenrothes). Following a Charrette (2016-17) covering Glenwood Neighbourhood Centre, it had been agreed that a preferred option was to redevelop the housing flats in the Centre as part of the overall redevelopment.

Following the completion of the council's Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process with the flat owners and shopkeepers in 2022-23, the site had been transferred to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for housing redevelopment.

The report provided an update on progress with the Housing Project partnership between the council and Kingdom Housing Association seeking approval to formerly consult with the community on the housing and community hub proposals outlined in the report.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) approved the commencement of a formal consultation period with community groups on the housing and community hub proposals outlined in Sections 2 and 3 of the report;
- (2) agreed that, following the consultation period, a report was brought back to this committee for discussion on the consultation feedback;

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- (3) noted that the final housing project would be brought forward for the approval of the Cabinet Committee in February or March 2024 as part of the council's Phase 4 Affordable Housing Programme; and
- (4) noted that a presentation of proposals from the Design Team would follow committee business.

### 87. **BEREAVEMENT SERVICES CEMETERY STRATEGY**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Property Services outlining Fife Council's legal responsibility to provide and regulate cemeteries and make appropriate provision for the care and disposal of the dead. The importance of cemeteries was acknowledged in the current Programme for Administration which noted the importance of making "sure our cemeteries are safe, well looked after and provide fitting places for remembrance and contemplation."

The report also informed on the outcome of the consultation which took place and the strategy to be implemented moving forward. Following presentation at all Area Committees where further comment would be taken on board and the final strategy presented to Cabinet Committee for approval.

#### **Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the key points from the consultation exercise;
- (2) agreed to support the actions moving forward in the Cemetery Strategy 2023 – 2028 detailed in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (3) as an additional recommendation, agreed to request that, as part of the development of the Local Plan (LDP2), an assessment be undertaken in relation to the provision of, or protecting land for, the future provision of a cemetery in Glenrothes.

*Councillor Craik left the meeting following consideration of the above item and Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of the following item.*

### 88. **PROVIDING FUEL POVERTY SUPPORT FOR THE GLENROTHES AREA**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Housing Services setting out the context for Fuel Poverty in Fife and for the Glenrothes Area, providing information about the measures that had been put in place to support those struggling with home energy costs during 2022/23 and support arrangements for 2023/24. Tackling fuel poverty was a key aspect of Glenrothes anti-poverty action directed through the Local Community Plan.

#### **Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the evolved corporate, whole Fife, support available to Glenrothes tenants and residents who were struggling with home energy costs and the support arrangements in place specific to the Glenrothes area provided by

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St Andrews Environmental Network as part of the Cosy Kingdom partnership; and

- (2) considered any additional and complementary response needs for the Glenrothes area communities, with recently awarded added funding for the St Andrews Environmental Network in mind.

### 89. GLENROTHES AREA COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

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

#### **Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the draft workplan; and
- (2) agreed that committee members would advise the Convener, Depute Convener, Lead Officer and Committee Officer of any other items to include on the workplan, within the remit of the committee.

### CONVENER'S VALEDICTORY COMMENT

Councillor Walker, Convener, on behalf of the Glenrothes Area Committee, congratulated Chief Inspector Kirk Donnelly on his recent promotion and thanked him for his contribution to the committee to date.

31 January 2024

Agenda Item No. 4

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## OnFife Update

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**Report by:** Michelle Sweeney, Director of Creative Development

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**Wards Affected:** Ward Nos 13, 14 & 15

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### **Purpose**

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

### **Recommendation(s)**

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It is recommended that the committee 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 Glenrothes, expand the return on investment of the public pound and contribute to the Community Wellbeing agenda.

### **Resource Implications**

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There are no specific resource implications.

### **Legal & Risk Implications**

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There are no legal and risk implications.

### **Impact Assessment**

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

### **Consultation**

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Not applicable.

## **1.0 Background**

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- 1.1 An annual performance report is presented to Fife Council for Scrutiny retrospectively at the end of the year. Keen to better engage with Glenrothes Area Committee we presented an update report in May 2023 outlining what had been achieved in the previous 6 months as well as outlining what was coming up in the following 6 months.



The purpose of these reports is to raise the profile of the services and activities that we offer and to help identify areas where we can better offer support to area priorities. Going forward we would like to offer a 6 monthly Councillor's Briefing update on OnFife's performance in the Glenrothes Area.

For background information please see Appendix 1.

## **2.0 Achievement & Performance**

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- 2.1 Our services are designed to support all in 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 of Thriving Places, Community-led Services, Inclusive Growth and Jobs and Opportunities for All. Updates will differ depending on activities over the six month period and may not report against all priorities.

### **Thriving Places**

- 2.2 Despite the continuing post Covid challenging conditions, we have been successful in delivering exhibitions, dementia-friendly projects, school holiday provision and our theatre programme.

### **Roths Halls Theatre**

- 2.3 The Roths Halls is a multi-purpose building which is central to cultural provision in the Glenrothes area. It includes the main auditorium (616 seats), Studio (up to 180 seats), Library, various meeting spaces (from 6 to 100), FotoSpace (photo gallery space), FifeSpace (exhibition space) and café/bar.
- 2.4 The building brings in daily visitors to the café, local classes and meetings, the library and of course the exhibition spaces.
- 2.5 Our professional theatre programme brings in a variety of genres that looks to appeal to a wide range of audiences. Over the past six months we have welcomed **22 professional shows to the stage**. For music lovers we had sold out shows featuring Showaddywaddy and tributes from The Mersey Beatles, Fleetwood Mac and Johnny Lee Memphis. We hosted a wonderful production of Swan Lake and brought drama from Isosceles Theatre around the story of Titanic, which linked in successfully with the Glenrothes and Area Heritage Centre Titanic display. We had younger audience members raising the roof with excitement at our sold-out Dinosaur Adventure Show and were singing along at the also sold-out Singing Kettle offer from Artie and a Christmas adventure with The MacDougalls. Over the period we **exceeded our sales target by 18%, selling 9,661 tickets** and bringing in over **£206,000** of sales income.
- 2.6 Community continues to be at the heart of all we do and our support for local theatre and dance companies coming to the big stage has included shows from **Cheryl Crawford Dance** and **NRJ Dance**, which are always a popular hit for families. We also hosted **GAMA's** production of *The Wedding Singer*, which showed that local talent is alive and thriving.
- 2.7 Looking ahead, there will be laughs galore from Gary Meikle, Jim Davidson, Dee Maxwell and a performance of *Dirty Dusting*. We have a challenge match between two snooker giants, Hendry & Higgins and tributes to some of the greatest bands and musicians including George Michael, The Eagles, ACDC and Frankie Valli.
- 2.8 Our **Community Gallery** at Roths Halls continues to showcase thought-provoking work, often with local connections. Shows held in the last six months included:

- The **Explore Fife** exhibition by self-taught, Markinch-based artist Julie Campbell in the FifeSpace gallery. Her exhibition showcased a broad range of work, from landscapes and wildlife studies to comic books.
- FotoSpace hosted Tony Perkins' photography exhibition, **Extra Ordinary**. Tony is a photographer raised and based in Fife and *Extra Ordinary* documents otherwise overlooked scenes from day-to-day wanderings.
- Ian Ferguson and Tom Smith are currently in FifeSpace gallery until February 2024 with their exhibition, **Mighty Me!** This sees poetry and art come together to produce a witty and thought-provoking romp through a selection of "weel kent" universally loved Scots words and phrases. Enduring as ever, these old favourites have brought a smile to the face of the gallery visitors.

2.9 OnFife and Fife Museums Forum (FMF) held a joint Get Together Day in November, which proved so popular that tickets sold out. Over 90 people from community heritage groups and museums from across Fife met in Rothes Halls to share ideas and information. Our Local Studies Officer invited the heritage groups present to set up a new Local History Forum and so far, 28 organisations have signed up to a new Fife Local History Forum Facebook page. The event was sponsored by Museums Galleries Scotland and Welcome to Fife.

### Local libraries

2.10 Across our libraries, in Rothes Halls, Leslie and Cadham, we offer safe, warm spaces in which to access books and computers along with a range of activities from reading groups to Bookbug sessions.

2.11 Rothes Halls Library continues to be a popular space used by young and old to borrow books, a quiet space to read, access the computers (with staff always on hand to help with any IT questions), join Reading Groups, enjoy a story, or just chill. School visits continue to be popular as class visits continue from local primary schools such as Ribleton, Pitteuchar East and Star, and nursery visits from ladybug and South Parks. Glenwood High School Support Unit also pop along regularly to use the space. The library visits are popular as it allows the pupils to get out of school and into the community, borrow books and also often enjoy a story whilst they are in. Meanwhile, both Leslie Library and Cadham Library continue to be safe and warm spaces for visitors, offering a great selection of books to choose from as well as PC access, Bookbug sessions for young children, crafts and reading groups.

### Collections Centre, Bankhead

2.12 Between July to December 2023 we had 17 tours of the Collections Centre involving 138 people. Five pupils from Hyndhead School came to see how we look after museum objects and archive documents as part of an Explore the World at Work initiative. Other tours included groups from Cupar, Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, Newburgh and National Museums Scotland. New bookable monthly tours were introduced in October and have been fully booked.

### Opportunities for All

2.13 Our services continue to provide opportunities for Fifers of all ages from reading groups and performances to social get-togethers and crafts. Across our three local libraries there have been **28 Bookbug sessions with 290 adults and 302 children** enjoying stories and songs together and encouraging a love of reading. Bookbug at Rothes Halls also saw us partner with Zodiac Dance School to deliver *We're Going On A Bear Hunt* with 15 children and 15 adults joining in the fun. For adults, both Cadham and Rothes Halls Libraries run their own monthly reading groups with 17 regular attendees.

- 2.14 **Dinosaurs** proved popular back in August and to tie in with a sold-out show in the theatre, the Young People's team delivered four family events which attracted **260 children and 233 adults** to learn more about dinosaurs and get up close and personal with a baby T-Rex.
- 2.15 Lego also continues to prove a popular activity and our **Kid's Den Lego Club** sessions continue to be fully booked with Cadham having to extend their classes by three weeks to facilitate demand. **112 children and 74 adults** took part in challenges over nine weeks.
- 2.16 **Book Week Scotland** in November offered an opportunity to engage youngsters in both online and in person events from across Fife with well-known authors. Alan Windram visited Cadham library with his book *One Button Benny and the Dinosaur Dilemma* and had the 17 children and 11 adults fully engaged with his storytelling.
- 2.17 The promotion of **Every Child A Library Member (ECALM)** is very much on the radar with visits to schools and nurseries underway, promoting the scheme and supporting the distribution of packs. The ECALM focus is 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.

### **Community Led Services**

- 2.18 Our work in providing services led by the needs of our communities included tackling social isolation and community engagement.
- 2.19 The Glenrothes Adult Learning Provision and Programming Development Group hosted an **Adult Learners Day** in October at Rothes Halls. As a member of the group, OnFife Libraries had a market stall showcasing the learning opportunities we have to offer, from Bookbugs to Bankhead Collection Centre tours.
- 2.20 The Rothes Halls continues to be a welcoming space during the day for groups of like-minded people to meet up for a chat, do crafts or play a game. We have a regular chess club who meet on a weekly basis and a newly started craft club.

### **3.0 Future Challenges and Plans**

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- 3.1 As with most cultural organisations, OnFife is experiencing a range of post pandemic financial pressures, alongside managing the increasing costs of delivering services with the decreasing amounts of public funding available. Whilst we continue to generate additional income where possible through Theatre Programming and the ancillary services of the Trading subsidiary, this is more challenging than the pre-pandemic period given rising costs and changing customer behaviour and will not bridge any financial gap given the majority of services are free of charge at the point of delivery. Fife Council has been very supportive during Covid and beyond in providing a letter of comfort which ensures going concern status for the organisation, allowing the Board to operate with a deficit budget, and to work with Fife Council to work towards financial sustainability.
- 3.2 In the meantime, we continue to work with Fife Council to address the challenges public sector delivery is facing in delivering services which genuinely meet the needs of communities.
- 3.3 Our venues, particularly the provision of services that are relevant to our communities, and which are reflective of their voices, has never been greater and we are committed to continuing this approach to service provision - '*nothing about us without us*' as informed by our three pilot Community Engagement areas of Lochgelly, Kirkcaldy and Levenmouth. Staff are undergoing Of/By/ForAll Community Engagement training and it is

planned to extend this approach to wider community engagement across Fife following evaluation of the pilots.

- 3.4 By 2024-25, we hope to be able to focus on increasing the group size of customers attending our theatres, while planning for a loyalty/membership scheme designed to grow and maintain customers. We endeavour to work with the best in the entertainment industry to programme an offer that is both appealing and relevant to the people of Glenrothes, bringing a range of entertainment which appeals to all. We will also continue to strengthen our relationships with local amateur societies who bring depth to the programme and showcase local talent. We remain committed to exploring ways which widen accessibility for performances, including captioned films and British Sign Language interpretation of some shows. Likewise, we continue to develop partnerships with companies producing new work by offering space and piloting shows that allow us to offer work that, whilst not financially viable, benefits niche audiences such as early years theatre provision.
- 3.5 Our work with data collection analysis continues with our Library and Theatre goers, allowing us to better know our users and refine our service offer. In the coming year we will deliver a campaign designed to repackage our library offer, enticing non-users to engage with the wide range of services available.
- 3.6 Further funding has been secured from Fife Council to allow us to continue Warm Spaces in Leslie Library. Looking ahead, we are planning a raft of other activities including events to mark International Women's Day, World Book Day, Easter, Ways to Wellbeing and of course the continued promotion of a love of reading amongst all ages.
- 3.7 The pandemic has had a monumental impact on people's mental wellbeing. 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, OnFife will, in the coming months, develop and deliver its new approach to wellbeing while working closely with Fife's local area teams, NHS Fife and Fife Health & Social Care.
- 3.8 Finally, ever mindful of the diminishing public purse, OnFife is exploring its commercial scope within its Theatre Programme, Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE) sector offer and via the development of a new approach to sponsorship which will see it diversify its income stream by making the most of its assets.

## **4.0 Conclusions**

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- 4.1 This report sets out an overview of the OnFife services and activities in the Glenrothes Area and those who have benefited. 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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## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 Fife Cultural Trust (the Company), established by Fife Council on 1 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 As such we aim to assist in the provision of cultural facilities and activities with the object of improving the quality of life in our communities via the provision of accessible and affordable opportunities for all.

## **2.0 Our Service Offer**

- 2.1 Our Creative Services consist of the following four highly collaborative teams:

### **Cultural Heritage & Wellbeing**

- 2.2 Managing service delivery of our Museums, Galleries, Archives, Local Studies and Adult Libraries, this service also leads on the co-ordination of our Wellbeing approach across the organisation as well as delivering a range of public-facing events and activities, inclusive of a dynamic exhibition programme which is aimed at building audiences and driving footfall to our venues.

### **Community Events & Programming**

- 2.3 A key driver of revenue, our Theatre Programme provides a high-quality, engaging, creative, and commercially sound range of performances and shows, both professional and amateur. The team also leads on the co-ordination of our Young People, Learning and Families services offer inclusive of our Children's Library service.

### **Creative Development**

- 2.4 The creative engine at the core of our service offer, driving creativity and collaboration within our own services, supporting Fife's creative industries and developing services that are of, by and for our communities. This team is responsible for the co-ordination of

digital approaches to creative engagement, developing sponsorship, sourcing external funding, leading on volunteering and co-ordinating Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity across the organisation.

## **Customer Engagement**

- 2.5 Putting the customer at the heart of our mission, planning, activity, delivery and communications ensures we produce relevant and impactful cultural experiences for Fife's communities and achieve our commercial ambitions. The team's current focus on ensuring we are much more data-led is designed to deliver a better understanding of our customers' behaviours and needs, building lasting relationships, customer loyalty and repeat visits.
- 2.6 Between them, these teams 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 across schools, children and families, events and project management, volunteer co-ordination, cultural heritage & tourism, and knowledge and understanding of the Creative Industries. Additionally, we are well versed in brand development and awareness and the importance of PR, personality and tone of voice in the development of stories which are accessible to communities.
- 2.7 Within the Glenrothes area we run the following venues:
- Leslie Library
  - Rothes Halls Library
  - Cadham Library
  - Rothes Halls (inclusive of theatre/performance spaces and exhibition spaces)
  - Collection Centre, Bankhead

31 January 2024  
Agenda Item No. 5

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## Supporting the Plan 4 Glenrothes Area: Community Recovery Fund

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

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**Wards Affected:** 13,14,15

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### Purpose

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To provide members with the necessary information to allocate funding for various projects from the Community Recovery Fund (CRF) for the Glenrothes Area.

### Recommendation(s)

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The Committee is asked to approve the following amounts from the Community Recovery Fund totalling £299,030.16

1. High Schools Participatory Budgeting: £130,000
2. Capacity Building Worker: Community Leadership: £114,000
3. Collydean – One Stop Community Hub: £36,971.36
4. Milton of Balgonie Village Hall: £18,058.80

### Resource Implications

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

This would leave a balance of £519,778.84 unallocated in the Community Recovery budget.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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

### Impact Assessment

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

There has been extensive consultation in the production of the Plan4Glenrothes Area.

Throughout 2022, a series of officer meetings reviewed the existing plan and established key priorities for Members consideration.

Monthly People and Place Leadership Group meetings were facilitated throughout the year up until November 2022 to support the review of the Plan for Glenrothes.

Elected Members attended a workshop in August 2022 focusing on one of the key priorities, 'Tackling Poverty in Glenrothes', that included briefings from key partners involved in the management and delivery of services aimed at tackling poverty related issues, such as welfare support and food and fuel crisis intervention.

A further Members workshop was facilitated in November on this theme, with the specific aim of discussing and seeking comment on potential projects that could be funded through the Community Recovery Fund.

Consultation with community groups and individuals throughout 2022 helped shape and gather support for the four key themes identified within the Plan.

Throughout 2023 consultation with partners across all sectors on the alignment with CRF and Plan4Glenrothes priorities continued, facilitated by the People and Place Leadership group and the Glenrothes Against Poverty multi agency action group.

Elected members have taken part in 5 workshops to discuss CRF priorities. The proposals presented in this report were discussed at the most recent member's workshop.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 On 25 August 2022, the Cabinet Committee agreed to allocate £10 million of revenue balances as a Community Recovery Fund. Further to this, the subsequent Cabinet Committee meeting on 22 September approved the 'Help with Cost of Living: Extending Community Support' report which set out a general approach and criteria for the Fund, including the allocation of £9m across the seven Area Committees. Glenrothes Area has received an allocation of £1.303m as part of this allocation.
- 1.2 The specific criterion for the fund is as follows.
  - Projects should link to Local Community Plan priorities.
  - Projects should take account of Plan for Fife recovery priorities (Community Wealth Building, Tackling Poverty, Economic Recovery, Climate)
  - Projects should provide assessment of benefit to ensure no unintended consequences.
- 1.3 The Community Recovery Fund is available over a two-year period.



## 2.0 Project Summary Information

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### 2.1 High Schools Participatory Budgeting:

Using a Participatory Budgeting approach, an allocation of £130,000 will allow the three High Schools in Glenrothes to engage meaningfully with all pupils of High School age in the Glenrothes Area in dialogue, discussion and deliberation leading to a direct influence on how public monies are allocated, allowing young people the opportunity to influence how and what this money is spent on in their local community. Local Officers from Communities and Neighbourhoods Service – CLD & Research- will work alongside School Management to develop a robust design and facilitation model for this process. The initial process design framework is being supported by the Democratic Society.

### 2.2 Capacity Building Worker- Community Leadership:

‘Develop and Support Community Leadership’ is one of the four themes of the Glenrothes Area Community Plan. The Plan makes a commitment to build community capacity and leadership across the Area to improve how local people and communities influence and lead on local community development and participative activity, and on the Local Authorities decision making processes.

2.2.1 This includes, but is not limited to: increasing involvement, leadership and participation across all demographics in local activity, opportunities and democratic processes; to support the development of more representative, skilled and confident community leadership and governance.

2.2.2 A Community Education Worker with a Community Capacity Building remit will be employed to work with the current CLD team and Community Planning Partners for two years at a cost of £114,000 to support communities, community groups and organisations in the Glenrothes area. This worker will identify key priorities, in dialogue with Community Planning Partners, and will report progress at each of the Area Ward meetings.

### 2.3 Collydean – One Stop Community Hub:

Collydean Community Centre will provide several services that address local community needs including Improving individual and family confidence and self-esteem; work with young people; Food & Fuel resilience; reducing social isolation; Family Learning and Activities.

2.3.1 The following posts will be employed to deliver these services for one year:

Food Resilience Worker, 16 Hours per week £10,799.36

Family Support Worker, 25 hours per week £19,942

Youth Worker, 6 hours per week £6230

Total cost: **£36,971.36**

2.3.2 Collydean Community Centre Board of Trustees participated in a ‘3rd Centre Health Check’ with Fife Voluntary Action and employed an external consultant to examine the organisation’s governance and planning structure. The Board of Trustees and the Centre Manager have agreed that acceptance of these funds is conditional on the Board agreeing with the recommendations set out by both the Health Check and Consultant, and agreeing to specify key actions that address each recommendation.

2.3.3 Funding for a further second year will be dependent on the successful evaluation of this first year’s funding. The local Communities and Neighbourhoods Service will facilitate this evaluation process.

- 2.4 **Milton of Balgonie Village Hall** committee require £18,058.80 to repair the Hall car park area. Milton of Balgonie currently has no shop, pub or other active community space. Milton of Balgonie Village Hall is the only space where indoor community activities currently take place. These include Parent & Toddler groups; Pensioners Group; Indoor Bowling and Bingo; Dog Training; Dance Class; Drumming Group; Weekly Counselling Service Community Library; several Community Ceilidhs and Events.
- 2.4.1 The car park is in a dilapidated state, with most Hall users parking on nearby streets. Many group participants have mobility challenges, and the state of the off-street parking facilities is of a particular challenge to people who rely on mobility aids or wheelchairs. The creation of safe off-street parking will benefit those who use the Villages only community space and reduce congestion that currently occurs on the residential streets and main street surrounding the Hall.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 These proposals meet the broad criteria for the Community Recovery Fund. They also contribute to the 'Plan 4 Fife 2021-2024' and 'Glenrothes Area Local Community Plan' themes "Tackling Poverty", "Develop and Support Community Leadership" and "Supporting Positive Wellbeing".
- 3.2 The establishment of these projects will assist in developing a response to the cost-of-living crisis and post Covid recovery for individuals, families and communities across the Glenrothes Area. Learning gained from these projects will be used to influence and direct future service delivery across the area.
- 3.3 Approved proposal project leads will be required to submit robust evaluation on impact and outcomes within a timescale and framework agreed between Council Officers and Area Committee Members.
- 3.4 Approving these proposals will leave an allocation of £533,778.84 in the Community Recovery Fund to support other projects.

## List of Appendices

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1. Plan4Glenrothes Area

### Background Papers

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

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- 'Help with Cost of Living : Extending Community Support'. Fife Council Cabinet Committee, 22nd September, 2022.
- [Plan4Fife Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017 – 2027](#)
- [Recovery and Renewal Plan4Fife 2021 – 2024 Update](#)
- [Plan for Glenrothes Area 2019 - 2022](#)
- [Glenrothes Area Local Strategic Assessment 2022](#)

### Report Contact:

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31 January 2024

Agenda Item No. 6

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## Common Good and Settlement Trust Funds Annual Report 2022-2023

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

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**Wards Affected:** All

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to advise members of the current status of the Common Good and Settlement Trust funds in the area and relevant fund activities over the financial year 2022-2023.

### Recommendations

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Members are asked to:

- (1) note the information contained in the relevant appendices for the various Common Good funds and Trust Funds; and
- (2) continue to support the disbursement of Trusts funds to suitable projects which also include the amalgamation of individual trusts and where appropriate the dissolution of individual trusts including transferring the funds to suitable 3<sup>rd</sup> party organisation who are providing similar support to local priorities.

### Resource Implications

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None.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no known legal or risk implications.

### Impact Assessment

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An EqlA has not been completed and is not necessary as the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

### Consultation

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None.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 Annual reporting is one of a suite of measures designed to ensure that Fife's Common Good and Trust funds are managed and reported in a way that reflects best value for the organisation.
- 1.2 Settlement Trusts comprise several individual trusts and bequests specific to a defined geography which were brought together in 2014 following consultation with Community Councils and the charities regulator OSCR and/or Lord Advocate. A list of Settlement Trust and a statement of fund balances is contained in Appendix 9.
- 1.3 Non-Settlement Trusts cover more than one geography or were designated for a specific purpose. A list of Non-Settlement Trusts and a statement of fund balances is contained in Appendix 9.

## 2.0 Common Good and Trust Fund - Key Elements

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### Revenue Account

#### Income

- 2.1 The cash income received during the financial year is mainly from rents, interest on investments and external interest. Income from net gain on revaluation is a result of the revaluation of the fund's investments at the year end.

#### Expenditure

- 2.2 In line with the Council's policy, the first call on the Common Good Fund and Trusts funds is maintenance of heritable property. Disbursements / donations and other expenses are also funded from the Funds.
- 2.3 The amount spent on property costs and disbursements / donations are detailed within appendix 5.
- 2.4 The net effect of the income and expenditure on a Common Good and Trust account results in a surplus or deficit for the particular year. This amount is then transferred to balances.

### Projects Supported in 2022/23

#### Common Good

- 2.5 Common Good funds dispersed funding for projects totalling £5,000, detailed in appendix 5.

#### Settlement Trusts

- 2.6 Settlement Trusts across Glenrothes, dispersed no funding in 2022/23.

#### Non-Settlement Trusts

- 2.7 Non-Settlement Trusts across Glenrothes, dispersed no funding in 2022/23.

## 3.0 Balance Sheet

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### Property Assets

#### Heritable Property

- 3.1 Heritable Property comprises land and buildings held on Common Good and Trust accounts. In the main, this is municipal buildings and recreational land of various kinds.

- 3.2 The attached accounts reflect the assets held on the Common Good Balance sheet and the Trust Funds as at 31st March 2023. A complete list of all Common Good assets relative to this Area is also attached at Appendix 7.

### **Other Assets and Liabilities**

- 3.3 In addition to heritable property, each Common Good and Trust Fund also has investments. These investments are made using the Council's standard investment strategy to maximise income to the fund.
- 3.4 The cash & cash equivalents comprise of monies held in the Council's bank account which receive internal interest from Fife Council.
- 3.5 Other Assets and Liabilities in the Financial statements include debtors and creditors at 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- 3.6 The revenue account and balance sheet form the financial accounts for the Common Good Fund and Trusts, and this is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

## **4.0 Moveable Property**

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- 4.1 Moveable property held as part of the Common Good and Trusts comprises everything that is not land or buildings, e.g., Council Chains of Office, furniture, ceremonial robes and so on. The Local Services Network and Museums and Libraries can provide a list of this moveable property if required.

## **5.0 Conclusions**

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- 5.1 This report and its Appendices are intended to give members greater information on the relevant Common Good and Charitable Trusts Funds.

### **List of Appendices**

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1. Combined Financial Statement
2. Income Statement
3. Rental Income breakdown
4. Expenditure Statement
5. Grants/Donations breakdown
6. Balance Sheet
7. Property Asset breakdown
8. Outstanding Grants/Donation
9. Charitable and Non-Charitable Trusts financial Statement
10. Statement of uses for Settlement Trusts

### **Background Papers**

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

- Fife Council Annual Accounts 2022/2023

### **Report Contacts**

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**Closure of Accounts 2022-23**  
**Common Good - Combined Financial Statement Glenrothes Area**

**Appendix 1**

<b>2021/22</b>	<b>Revenue Account</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
£		£
	<u>Income</u>	
(4,579)	Income from Rents	(1,307)
(58,340)	Income from Sale of Heritable Property	(60,000)
(199)	Interest from Cash Balances	(4,032)
(14,766)	Interest from Investments	(17,238)
0	Other Income	(14)
<u>(77,884)</u>		<u>(82,591)</u>
	<u>Expenditure</u>	
0	Property Costs	0
0	Donations	5,000
0	Other Expenditure	1,636
<u>0</u>		<u>6,636</u>
(313)	(Increase) / Decrease in value of Investments	30,854
<u><b>(78,196)</b></u>	<b>(Increase) / Decrease in Revenue Reserve</b>	<u><b>(45,101)</b></u>

<b>31st March</b>	<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>31st March</b>
<b>2022</b>		<b>2023</b>
£		£
	<u>Property Assets</u>	
70,003	Heritable Property	10,003
2,370,727	Property Leased to Fife Council	2,509,635
0	Capital Grant Unapplied	0
<u>2,440,730</u>		<u>2,519,638</u>
	<u>Other Assets and Liabilities</u>	
362,733	Investments	331,879
163,596	Cash & Cash Equivalents	238,874
3,259	Debtors	3,936
0	Creditors	0
<u>529,588</u>		<u>574,689</u>
<u><b>2,970,318</b></u>	<b>Net assets</b>	<u><b>3,094,327</b></u>
	<u>Financed by:</u>	
(2,440,730)	Capital Reserves	(2,519,638)
(529,588)	Revenue Reserve (incl Investments)	(574,689)
<u><b>(2,970,318)</b></u>	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<u><b>(3,094,327)</b></u>

Detailed Breakdown - Common Good Funds Income

<b>Income</b>					
	Interest on Cash Balances	Investment Interest	Other Income	Rents	Total Income
	£	£	£	£	£
Leslie	(3,243)	(9,735)	(60,014)	(1,307)	(74,300)
Markinch	(788)	(7,503)	0	0	(8,291)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(4,032)</b>	<b>(17,238)</b>	<b>(60,014)</b>	<b>(1,307)</b>	<b>(82,591)</b>

Detailed Breakdown - Common Good Funds Rental Income

<b>Rental Income</b>	
	£
<b>Leslie</b>	
10.23 Acres, Town Lands	450
Lease of land at Croftoutertly	300
0.792 Ha Land at Common (AV7292)	170
Land for Sewer Barony	3
Leslie Golf Club	234
Wayleave Barony	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,307</b>
<b>Total Glenrothes Area Common Good Rental Income</b>	<b>1,307</b>



Detailed Breakdown - Common Good Funds Expenditure

<b>Expenditure</b>				
	Grants	Property	Other Expenditure	Total Expenditure
	£	£	£	£
Leslie	0	0	1,636	1,636
Markinch	5,000	0	0	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,636</b>	<b>6,636</b>

Closure of Accounts 2022-23  
Detailed Breakdown - Common Good Funds Donations

Appendix 5

Donations	
	£
<b>Markinch</b>	
Markinch Ibrox Memorial Fencing	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>Total Glenrothes Area Common Good Donations</b>	<b>5,000</b>

Detailed Breakdown - Common Good Funds Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet							
	Heritable Property	Property Leased to Fife Council	Investments	Cash & Cash Equivalents	Debtors	Creditors	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Leslie	10,003	863,179	187,431	203,996	2,223	0	1,266,832
Markinch	0.00	1,646,456	144,448	34,878	1,713	0	1,827,495
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,003</b>	<b>2,509,635</b>	<b>331,879</b>	<b>238,874</b>	<b>3,936</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,094,327</b>

Closure of Accounts 2022-23  
Detailed Breakdown - Common Good Funds Property Assets

Appendix 7

**Leslie Assets**

Description	Value	Status
	£	
Quarry Park & Common, Back Braes, Leslie	677,118	Leased to FC
Meadows Park (West Common), Mansfield, Leslie	1	Leased to FC
Greenside Car Park, Leslie	186,060	Leased to FC
<b>Total Leased to Fife Council</b>	<b>863,179</b>	
Agricultural Land, Back Braes, Leslie	10,000	Heritable Property
Leslie Common (East), The Common, Leslie	1	Heritable Property
Goat Field, Front Row Croftouterly, Leslie	1	Heritable Property
The Goats (footpaths), The Common, Back Braes, Leslie	1	Heritable Property
Leslie Golf Club Car Park, Backbraes, Leslie	-	Heritable Property
Amenity Land, Mansfield, Front Row Croftouterly, Leslie	-	Heritable Property
<b>Total Heritable Property</b>	<b>10,003</b>	
Greenside Garage Site, Greenside, Leslie		Other
The Green, Greenside, Leslie		Other
Monks Walk Recreation Ground, Monks Walk, Leslie		Other

**Markinch Assets**

Description	Value	Status
	£	
Markinch Town Hall, Betson Street, Markinch	1,140,440	Leased to FC
John Dixon Park, Main Street, Markinch	311,176	Leased to FC
Betson Street Car Park, Markinch	194,839	Leased to FC
The Hill, Stobcross Road, Markinch	1	Leased to FC
<b>Total Leased to Fife Council</b>	<b>1,646,456</b>	
Markinch War Memorial		Other
Traffic Island		Other
Shrub Bed		Other

<b>Total Leased to Fife Council</b>	<b>2,509,635</b>
<b>Total Heritable Property</b>	<b>10,003</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,519,638</b>

Detailed Breakdown - Common Good Funds Outstanding Grants/Donations

Outstanding Grants/Donation from previous financial years

	£
<b>Leslie</b>	
Replacing Leslie Playpark	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>Total Glenrothes Area Common Good Outstanding Grants/Donations</b>	<b>5,000</b>

Settlement Trusts	Charity Reference	Grants	Total Expenditure	Interest on Revenue Balances	Investment Interest	Total Income	(Surplus)/ Deficit for Year	Investments	Cash & Cash Equivalents	Debtors	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
A75000-DUNFERMLINE	SC042161	0	0	(1,126)	(1,885)	(3,011)	(3,011)	36,291	52,271	430	88,992
A75001-BALLINGRY	SC042905	0	0	(135)	(270)	(406)	(406)	5,205	6,305	62	11,572
A75002-LOCHGELLY	SC042904	0	0	(275)	(421)	(696)	(696)	8,105	12,748	96	20,949
A75004-LESLIE	SC042170	0	0	(14)	(91)	(104)	(104)	1,745	666	21	2,432
A75005-AUCHTERTOOL	SC042387	980	980	(21)	(46)	(67)	913	886	20	11	916
A75006-BURNTISLAND	SC042382	0	0	(431)	(250)	(681)	(681)	4,811	19,766	57	24,635
A75007-KINGHORN	SC042385	0	0	(366)	(664)	(1,030)	(1,030)	12,788	16,686	152	29,625
A75008-KIRKCALDY	SC042383	6,409	6,409	(2,090)	(5,286)	(7,377)	(968)	101,778	104,728	1,207	207,713
A75009-BUCKHAVEN AND METHIL	SC042211	0	0	(253)	(27)	(279)	(279)	513	533	6	1,053
A75010-KENNOWAY	SC042208	0	0	(15)	(27)	(42)	(42)	514	769	6	1,290
A75011-LEVEN	SC042207	0	0	(118)	(241)	(359)	(359)	4,630	6,053	55	10,738
A75012-ANSTRUTHER & CELLARDYKE	SC042156	6,600	6,600	(1,325)	(6,185)	(7,510)	(910)	119,071	65,682	1,412	186,165
A75013-AUCHTERMUCHTY	SC042152	275	275	(295)	(321)	(616)	(341)	6,179	7,147	73	13,400
A75014-COLLESSIE	SC042172	0	0	(32)	(57)	(89)	(89)	1,094	1,498	13	2,605
A75015-CRAIL	SC042150	2,000	2,000	(1,190)	(2,546)	(3,736)	(1,736)	49,019	54,372	581	103,972
A75016-CUPAR	SC042151	1,500	1,500	(618)	(1,920)	(2,538)	(1,038)	36,960	28,052	438	65,450
A75017-ELIE	SC042154	0	0	(206)	(384)	(590)	(590)	7,401	9,569	88	17,058
A75018-FALKLAND	SC042149	0	0	(37)	(85)	(122)	(122)	1,635	1,724	19	3,379
A75019-FREUCHIE AND AREA	SC042148	0	0	(98)	(132)	(230)	(230)	2,537	4,532	30	7,099
A75020-KILCONQUHAR	SC042145	0	0	(74)	(164)	(239)	(239)	3,163	3,472	38	6,673
A75021-KINGSKETTLE	SC042144	0	0	(27)	(52)	(79)	(79)	1,004	1,274	12	2,289
A75022-LADYBANK	SC042143	0	0	(99)	(230)	(329)	(329)	4,425	4,647	52	9,125
A75023-NEWBURGH	SC042155	1,622	1,622	(649)	(2,719)	(3,368)	(1,746)	52,343	30,108	621	83,072
A75024-PITTENWEEM	SC042174	250	250	(268)	(466)	(734)	(484)	8,973	12,413	106	21,492
A75025-ST ANDREWS	SC042157	2,065	2,065	(682)	(5,110)	(5,792)	(3,727)	98,383	32,646	1,167	132,196
A75026-ST MONANS	SC042153	1,310	1,310	(537)	(1,495)	(2,032)	(722)	28,790	24,129	341	53,260
A75027-TAYPORT	SC042173	0	0	(176)	(233)	(408)	(408)	4,484	8,117	53	12,655
A75029-CULROSS	SC042749	0	0	(22)	(173)	(195)	(195)	3,324	1,097	39	4,461
A75030-KINCARDINE	SC042751	0	0	(350)	(754)	(1,105)	(1,105)	14,523	16,350	172	31,045
A75031-LIMEKILNS	SC042750	200	200	(13)	(201)	(214)	(14)	3,866	695	46	4,606

Non-Settlement Trusts	Charity Reference	Grants	Total Expenditure	Interest on Revenue Balances	Investment Interest	Total Income	(Surplus)/ Deficit for Year	Investments	Cash & Cash Equivalents	Debtors	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
A75055-A. A. WILKIE TRUST - CHILDREN	SC019334	0	0	(1)	(3)	(4)	(4)	52	69	1	122
A75057-FL. LAWSONS EXECUTRY	SC019335	0	0	(12)	(19)	(31)	(31)	362	543	4	909
A75060-RAEMORE MORT. K/L	SC019339	0	0	(33)	(75)	(108)	(108)	1,435	1,560	17	3,012
A75063-ADAM SMITH/GOW/BEVERIDGE BEQUEST	SC019331	0	0	(129)	(229)	(358)	(358)	4,414	6,003	52	10,469
A75079-B.F. NISBET'S TRUST & GARDEN	SC019402	0	0	(95)	(145)	(240)	(240)	2,796	4,405	33	7,235
A75080-BELL FUND/GOOD TEMPLARS FUND	SC019435	7,150	7,150	(2,920)	(7,819)	(10,738)	(3,588)	150,533	131,026	1,785	283,345
A75090-FRANCES LAWSON'S BEQUEST	SC019392	0	0	(18)	(23)	(42)	(42)	448	843	5	1,296
A75098-MACINTOSH BEQUEST	SC019399	0	0	(10)	(24)	(34)	(34)	459	469	5	934
A75100-OGILVY DALGLEISH MORTIFICATION	SC019396	0	0	(23)	(55)	(79)	(79)	1,062	1,094	13	2,168
A75108-THOMAS IRELAND'S TRUST	SC019447	0	0	(41)	(106)	(148)	(148)	2,050	1,939	24	4,013
A75109-THOMAS S. GREIG'S BEQUEST	SC019417	0	0	(222)	(677)	(899)	(899)	13,039	10,464	155	23,658
A75110-THOMSON BEQUEST AND LAING LIBRARY	SC019420	0	0	(12)	(1,150)	(1,161)	(1,161)	22,131	1,151	262	23,544
A75112-WAUGH & WHARRIE BEQUEST	SC018777	0	0	(23)	(76)	(99)	(99)	1,464	1,067	17	2,549
A75051-MRS ANDERSON'S BEQUEST	-	0	0	(6)	0	(6)	(6)	0	252	0	252
A75052-BENARTY PRIMARY SCHOOL	-	2,395	2,395	(269)	(4,364)	(4,633)	(2,238)	84,026	12,508	996	97,530
A75053-BOWHILL CEMETERY GDF	-	0	0	(104)	(170)	(274)	(274)	3,273	4,807	39	8,119
A75054-OSWALD FAMILY TRUST	-	0	0	(0)	0	(0)	(0)	0	3	0	3
A75056-A. A. WILKIE TRUST - CLOCK	-	0	0	(2)	(3)	(4)	(4)	55	72	1	127
A75058-LESLIE CEMETERY GDF	-	0	0	(61)	(100)	(160)	(160)	1,917	2,812	23	4,752
A75059-MARKINCH CEMETERY	-	0	0	(136)	(224)	(361)	(361)	4,320	6,330	51	10,701
A75061-SIEVEWRIGHT LESLIE GDF	-	0	0	(2)	(3)	(5)	(5)	64	95	1	160
A75062-ABBOTSHALL CHURCH YARD BEQ	-	0	0	(3)	(4)	(7)	(7)	80	119	1	200
A75064-DOBBIE BEQUEST	-	0	0	(0)	(0)	(1)	(1)	9	12	0	21
A75065-DYSART CEMETERY	-	0	0	(79)	(136)	(215)	(215)	2,610	3,685	31	6,326
A75066-KINGHORN BURIAL GDF	-	0	0	(62)	(107)	(169)	(169)	2,051	2,899	24	4,974
A75067-ORRELLS LEGACY	-	0	0	(5)	(9)	(14)	(14)	169	230	2	401
A75068-SILVER BAND	-	0	0	(29)	(47)	(77)	(77)	912	1,369	11	2,292
A75069-SPENCE MEMORIAL	-	0	0	(37)	(62)	(99)	(99)	1,195	1,728	14	2,938
A75070-WAR MEMORIAL	-	0	0	3	(1)	2	2	23	(127)	0	(103)
A75071-EAST WEMYSS CEM. GDF	-	0	0	(277)	(457)	(733)	(733)	8,793	12,843	104	21,740
A75072-LETHAM GLEN FUND	-	0	0	(84)	(142)	(226)	(226)	2,737	3,884	32	6,654
A75073-METHILHILL CEMETERY	-	0	0	(125)	(205)	(329)	(329)	3,943	5,780	47	9,769
A75074-MRS BALFOUR LEGACY	-	0	0	(5)	(8)	(13)	(13)	150	226	2	378
A75075-SCOONIE CEMETERY	-	0	0	(127)	(210)	(337)	(337)	4,038	5,911	48	9,997
A75076-SCOONIE CEMETERY FLOWERS	-	0	0	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)	25	38	0	63
A75077-WEST WEMYSS CEMETERY	-	0	0	(5)	(8)	(12)	(12)	149	212	2	362
A75078-WEST WEMYSS CEMETERY FLOWERS	-	0	0	(2)	(3)	(5)	(5)	60	86	1	147
A75084-CRAIL PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUST	-	0	0	(454)	0	(454)	(454)	0	20,695	0	20,695
A75085-CRAIL WAR MEMORIAL	-	0	0	(66)	(164)	(230)	(230)	3,164	3,076	38	6,278
A75087-DUFFUS PARK DISABLED GARDEN APPEAL	-	0	0	363	(2,800)	(2,437)	(2,437)	53,914	(15,054)	639	39,499
A75088-FLISK PARISH TRUST	-	0	0	(7)	(10)	(17)	(17)	200	330	2	532
A75094-GRAVES DRESSINGS	-	0	0	579	(14,000)	(13,421)	(13,421)	282,593	(19,321)	2,214	265,486
A75096-J. FERGUSON'S TRUST	-	5,375	5,375	(1,278)	(7,961)	(9,239)	(3,864)	153,278	59,948	1,818	215,043
A75097-LEUCHARS PARISH TRUST	-	317	317	(93)	(364)	(456)	(139)	7,000	4,272	83	11,355
A75107-TAYPORT WAR MEMORIAL	-	18,517	18,517	(610)	(6,321)	(6,931)	11,586	121,706	22,558	1,443	145,708
A75111-TORRYBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY	-	0	0	(2)	(2)	(4)	(4)	39	81	0	120
A75113-FORM. FCC - OTH. BGS. GDF	-	0	0	(182)	(301)	(483)	(483)	5,804	8,438	69	14,311
A75114-OTHER BURIAL GROUNDS	-	0	0	(2)	(3)	(4)	(4)	53	78	1	131

**Settlement Trusts  
Charitable Purposes**

These are the charitable purposes recognised in section 7(2) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

- a) The prevention or relief of poverty.
- b) The advancement of education.
- c) The advancement of religion.
- d) The advancement of health.
- e) The saving of lives.
- f) The advancement of citizenship or community development (including rural or urban regeneration).
- g) The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture, or science.
- h) The advancement of public participation in sport.
- i) The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended.
- j) The advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation.
- k) The promotion of religious or racial harmony.
- l) The promotion of equality and diversity.
- m) The advancement of environmental protection or improvement.
- n) The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.
- o) The advancement of animal welfare.
- p) Any other purpose that may reasonably be regarded as analogous to any of the preceding purposes.



31 January 2024

Agenda Item No. 7

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## Local Area Economic Profiles (January 2024)

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Report by: Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability

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Wards Affected: Ward Nos. 13, 14 and 15

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### Purpose

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

### Recommendation(s)

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It is recommended that Members:

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

### Resource Implications

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There are no resource implications associated with this report.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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

### Impact Assessment

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

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

### Consultation

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

## 1.0 Background

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

## 2.0 Wider Economic Perspective

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- 2.1 The UK economy has experienced a succession of significant shocks in recent years, firstly from the COVID-19 pandemic and EU exit, and more recently from the onset of the war in Ukraine, conflict in the Middle East, and high rates of inflation.
- 2.2 Although the sharp rise in inflation experienced in 2022 eased over 2023 and inflation is now on a downward trend, it remains considerably higher than in recent years and businesses and households are continuing to adjust to a permanent upward shift in prices alongside the rapid shift to higher interest rates. In addition, the latest economic forecasts indicate that the ongoing reduction in inflation will be gradual, and that inflation will remain above the 2% target until the second half of 2025<sup>1</sup>.
- 2.3 Economic growth in both the UK and Scotland has remained subdued and broadly flat since the start of 2022 and growth forecasts remain subdued for 2024, with an expectation that weak global growth, ongoing cost pressures and uncertainty will continue to dampen both consumer spending and business investment.
- 2.4 The labour market however remained resilient during 2023, with low unemployment, a drop in economic inactivity, and a fall in the number of vacancies indicating an easing of the recruitment difficulties companies experienced in 2022. Underlying tightness does remain in the labour market: data from the Business Insights and Conditions Survey indicate that in October 2023, 35.1% of surveyed businesses in Scotland reported difficulties in

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<sup>1</sup> Scottish Economic Insights: November 2023, Scottish Government

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

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

## 3.0 Local, Regional & National Developments

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

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

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

- 3.2 Fife's Economic Strategy also commits to taking a Community Wealth Building approach to maximise the local impacts of investment in projects and programmes and to making sure that its interventions support the council's commitment to tackling climate change.
- 3.3 In January 2023, the UK and Scottish Governments announced the designation of the Firth of Forth as one of two Scottish Green Freeports. The successful bid encompasses three key ports on the Forth (Grangemouth, Leith and Rosyth); industrial facilities and logistics centres along the north and south shores of the Firth of Forth; and Edinburgh Airport. Led by Forth Ports, the bid consortium includes: Babcock International, Edinburgh Airport, Falkirk Council, Fife Council, INEOS, Scarborough Muir Group, and City of Edinburgh Council. The Forth Green Freeport's Outline Business Case was submitted to the Scottish and UK Governments on 24 November 2023. It is expected that the Forth Green Freeport designation will not only bring investment and jobs to the proposed sites at Rosyth and Burntisland, but will also benefit the wider area. A continued commitment to the economic priorities and principles set out in the Mid Fife Economic Action Plan published in 2021 should ensure that the secondary benefits of the Green Freeport are maximised across the Mid-Fife area.
- 3.4 Work is also ongoing in relation to regional economic partnership arrangements. A review of the Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy is currently underway and the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan for 2023/24 published in March 2023 sets out four key programmes to deliver the region's ambitions: Green Regeneration; Infrastructure for Recovery and Prosperity; Visitor Economy and Culture; and a Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) Economy.

- 3.5 The ten-year £50 million Fife Industrial Innovation Investment Programme (Fi3P) funded by the Edinburgh & South-East Scotland City Region Deal and delivered by Fife Council is delivering new industrial, office and business space and serviced employment sites within existing business clusters in Mid and South Fife adjacent to growth corridors (M90 and A92). The Programme has supported the construction of 7 new business units at Queensway Industrial Estate, 5 of which are let; Tranche 2 of the Programme will see the refurbishment of existing, and construction of additional new, units on Flemington Road in 2022-2025; a further project in Glenrothes is proposed in Tranche 3 for development in 2024/25.
- 3.6 The River Leven Regeneration Programme (Riverside Park Glenrothes and Leven Connectivity Projects) was awarded £19.4m from the UK Government Levelling Up Fund for Phase 1 of the regeneration of Riverside Park in Glenrothes (£4.98m) and Phase 1 of improvements to connectivity in Levenmouth (14.43m). Design work is underway with construction expected to start in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2023/24 and to complete a year later. The regeneration of Riverside Park is part of the Masterplan for the regeneration of Glenrothes town centre and is also a Local Community Planning priority.

## 4.0 **Headline Issues & Opportunities: Glenrothes Area\***

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- 4.1 The average employment rate in the Glenrothes committee area in 2022/23 was 63.3%. This was the lowest rate in Fife, and lower than the area's pre-pandemic employment rate (73.7%). The committee area was also the only part of Fife where the male employment rate (59.2%) was lower than the female rate (68.4%).
- 4.2 The estimated economic inactivity rate in the Glenrothes area increased from 22.2% in 2019 to 32.5% in 2022/23, the highest rate across Fife's seven committee areas and significantly above the figures for Fife (21%) and Scotland (22.6%) as a whole.
- 4.3 However, the proportion of the working-age population claiming out-of-work benefits in the Glenrothes area (3.3%) is similar to the overall Fife rate (3.4%) and below the area's pre-pandemic claimant rate (3.6%) in March 2019. In 2023, the 16-24 year old age group had the highest rate of people claiming out-of-work benefits in the area (4.8%).
- 4.4 The percentage of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment in the Mid Fife & Glenrothes Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area has steadily increased over the past five years, from 88.6% in 2018 to 92.4% in 2023.
- 4.5 The Glenrothes UK Parliamentary Constituency Area has the lowest average resident earnings in Fife (£610.00 per week) and the second lowest workplace earnings (£597.10 per week), below the average earnings for Fife as a whole (£670.40 resident earnings and £622.80 workplace earnings). This is potentially a reflection of the fact that key employment sectors within the area (see paragraph 4.8, below) include lower-paid jobs and have seen less improvement in wages than other sectors in recent years.
- 4.6 In the 3-year period between March 2020 and March 2023, the number of registered businesses in the Mid Fife & Glenrothes Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Area fell by 60 enterprises (-3.7%). In Fife overall, the number of enterprises fell by -9.3% over the same period. The Parliamentary Constituency Area's business density – there are 274 registered businesses per 10,000 resident adults - is lower than the overall Fife and

Scottish densities (289 and 375 respectively). To reach the Scottish business density, the Area would need 577 or 37% more businesses.

- 4.7 The estimated number of jobs in the Glenrothes committee area fell by 12.0% from 25,000 to 22,000 in the 3-year period between September 2019 and September 2022.
- 4.8 The Glenrothes area accounts for 45% of Fife's employment in the Public Administration & Defence Activities sector (4,500 jobs) and 31% of Fife's manufacturing jobs (4,000 jobs). Other key sectors include Health & Social Work (3,000 jobs), Wholesale & Retail (3,000 jobs) Education (1,500 jobs) and Accommodation & Food Services (1,250 jobs).
- 4.9 In 2022/23 there were 327 participants from the Glenrothes Area on employability programmes commissioned by Opportunities Fife. Currently Fife Council's employability services are working with 88 people in the Glenrothes area.
- 4.10 21.9% of Fife's vacant and derelict land (156.2 ha) is located in the Glenrothes area.
- 4.11 The proportion of retail and service units in Glenrothes town centre that were vacant increased from 17.9% in 2019 to 20.9% in 2023.
- 4.12 The number of people visiting Kirkcaldy & Mid-Fife during 2022 increased by 46.6% compared with the previous year, with visitor numbers returning to 93.2% of the 2019 pre-pandemic levels.

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

## List of Appendices

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1. Fife Local Area Economic Profiles 2022-2023 (January 2024)

## Background Papers

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

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

## Author / Contact:

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

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

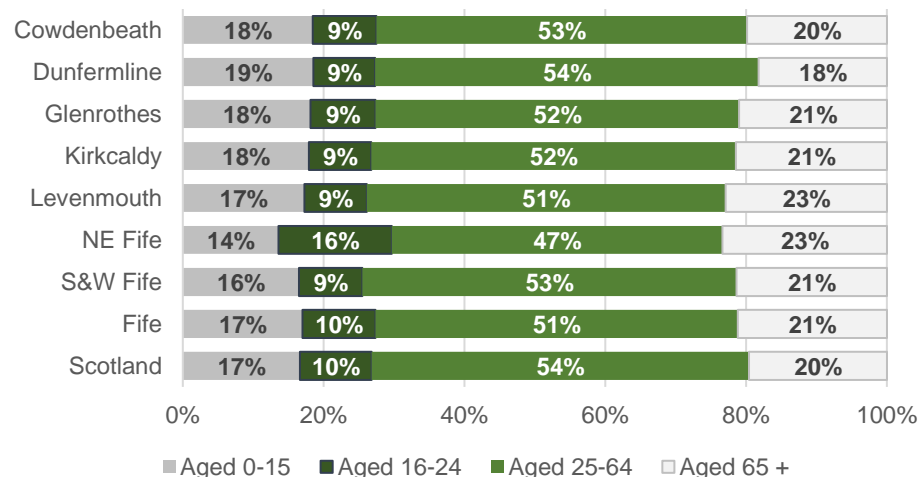
## Fife’s Labour Market

### Population

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

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

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



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

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

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

# Employment

Figure 3: Employment Rates, 2022/23

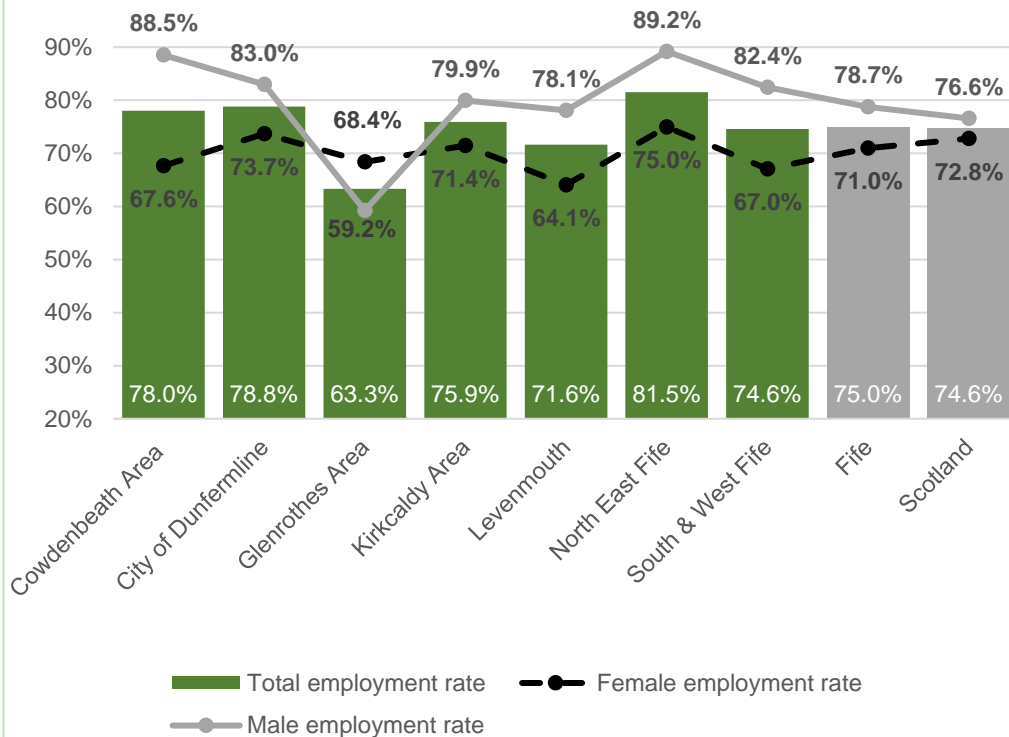
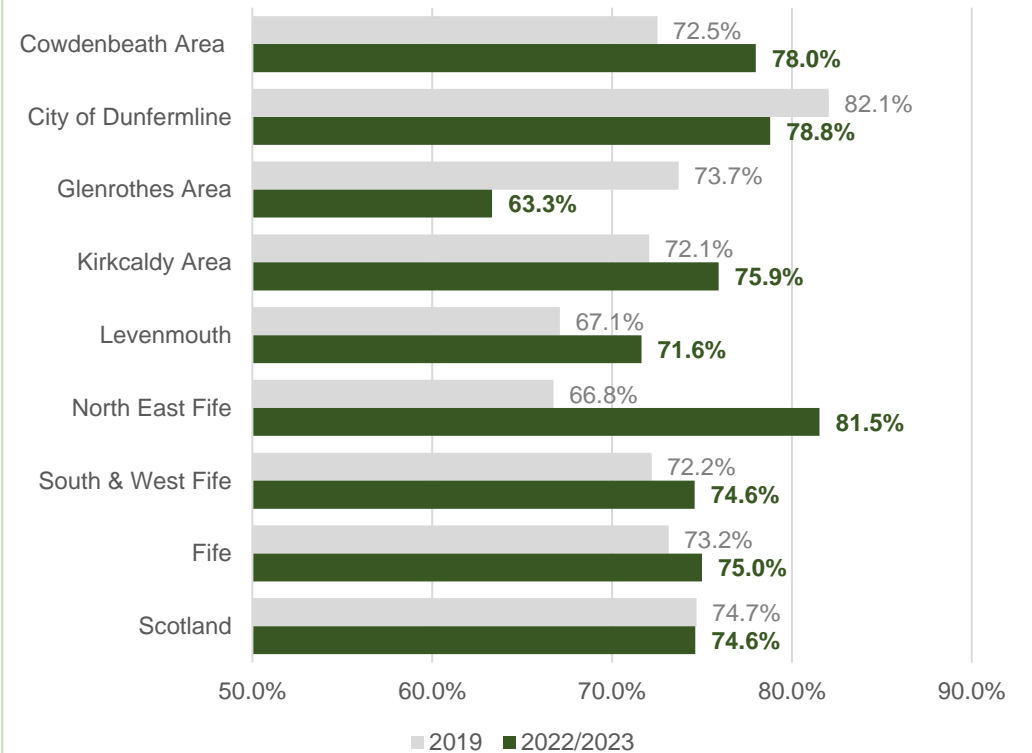


Figure 4: Employment Rate Change 2019-2022/23



## Latest Employment Rates\*:

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

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

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

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

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

### Employment Rate Change:

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

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

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

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

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

## Unemployment

**Figure 5: Unemployment in Fife, Scotland and Great Britain**

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

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

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

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

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

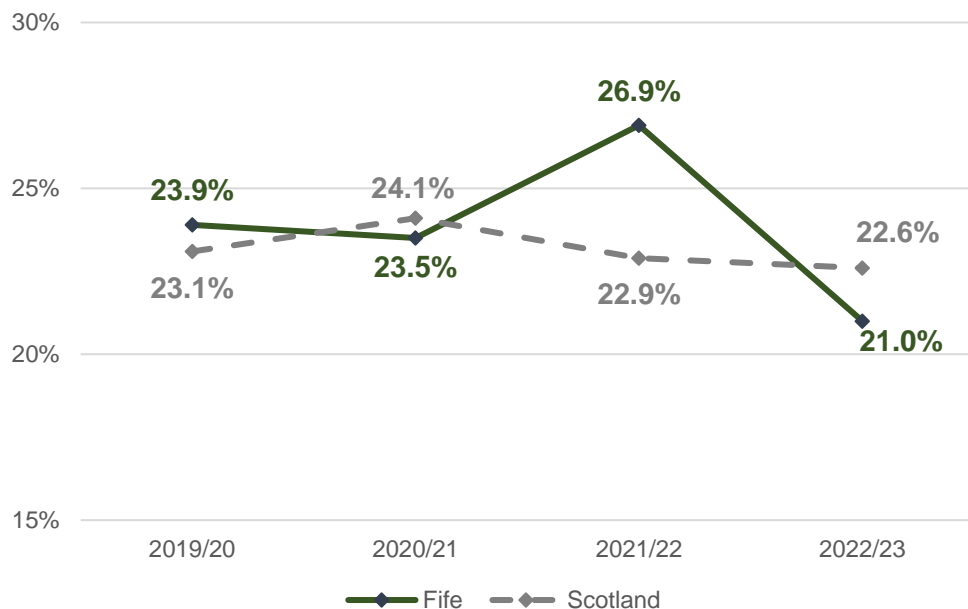
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, model-based estimates of unemployment, 12 months to June 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

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

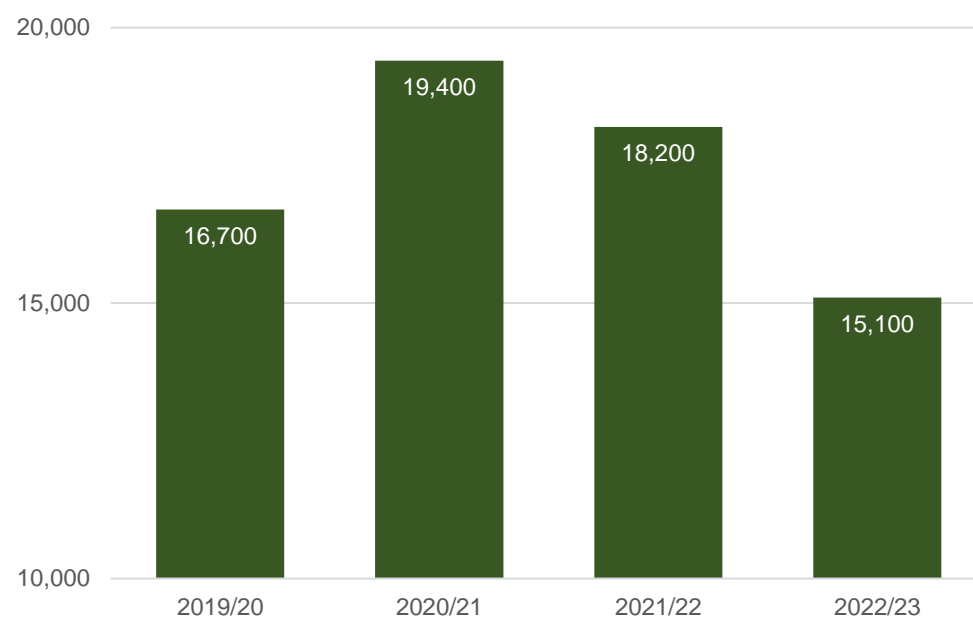


## Economic Inactivity

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



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



### Economic Inactivity in Fife:

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

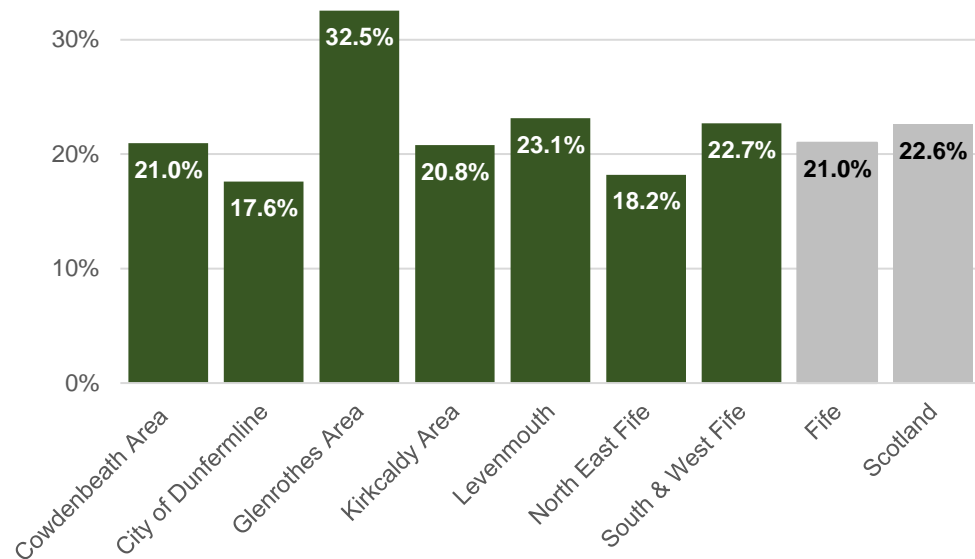
Fife's inactivity rate was lower than the Scottish rate (22.6%) for the same period, and also lower than the record high rate recorded in Fife the year before (26.9%), the highest rate recorded in the times-series of this data (which goes back to 1999). It was also lower than prior to the Covid-19 pandemic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

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

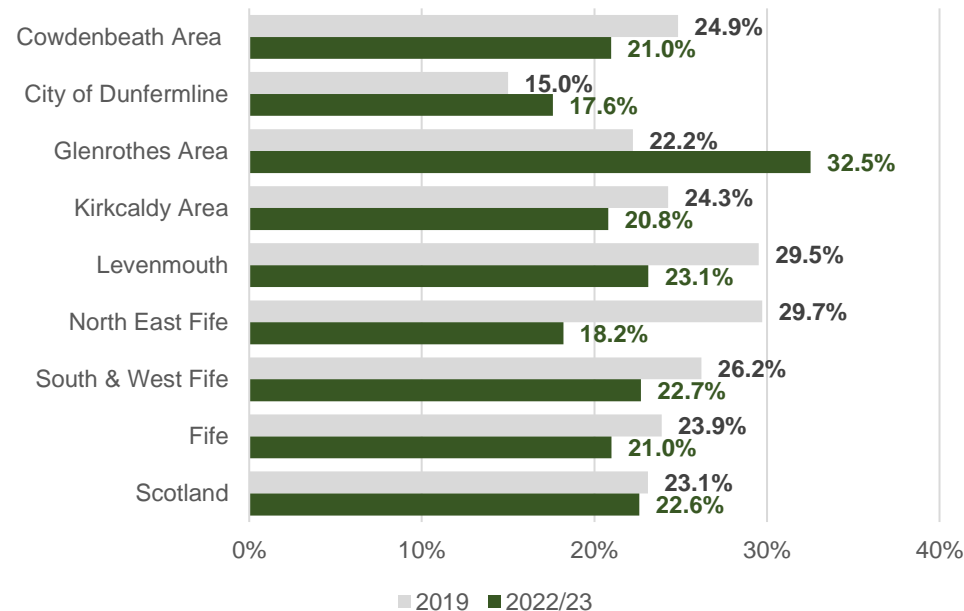
Source: ONS Annual Populations Survey, July – June 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23.

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

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



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



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

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

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

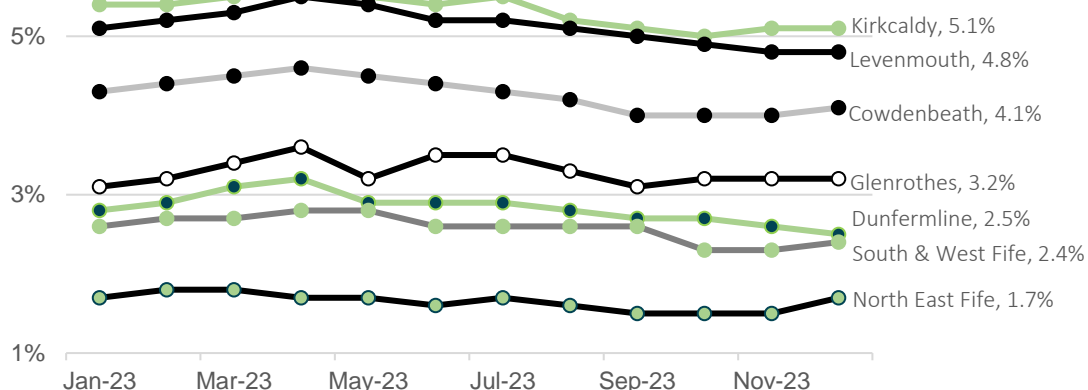
Due to small sample sizes at committee area levels, all these figures should be viewed with caution.

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

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

## People Claiming Out-of-work Benefits

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



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

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

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

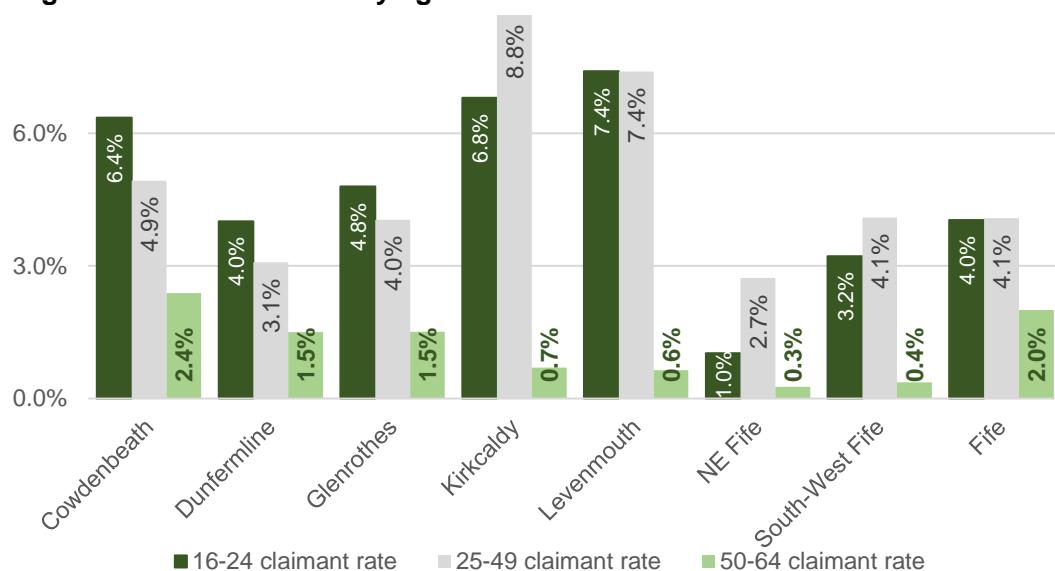
In all parts of Fife, apart from in North East Fife, the average number of claimants and claimant rates for 2023 (Jan to Dec) were lower than in 2019 (Figure 11); in Scotland the number of claimants rose.

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

**Figure 11: Claimant count and rate change 2019 to 2023**

Committee Area	2019 Average		2023 Average		Difference	
	Claimant Rate	Claimant Count	Claimant Rate	Claimant Count	Claimant Rate	Claimant Count
Cowdenbeath	5.1%	1,328	4.3%	1,108	-0.9%	-220
Dunfermline	3.3%	1,213	2.8%	1,045	-0.5%	-168
Glenrothes	3.6%	1,108	3.3%	1,002	-0.3%	-107
Kirkcaldy	5.5%	2,002	5.3%	1,949	-0.1%	-53
Levenmouth	6.4%	1,450	5.1%	1,159	-1.3%	-292
North East Fife	1.7%	762	1.7%	761	0.0%	-1
South & West Fife	2.7%	836	2.6%	801	-0.1%	-35
<b>All Fife</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>8,753</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>7,878</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>-876</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>108,093</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>109,523</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>+1,431</b>

**Figure 12: Claimant rates by age – 2023**



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

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

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

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

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

## Qualifications of Working Age Population

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

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

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

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

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey, Jan-Dec 2022

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

## School Leaver Destinations and Attainment

**Figure 14: School Leaver Destinations and Attainment 2021/22**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

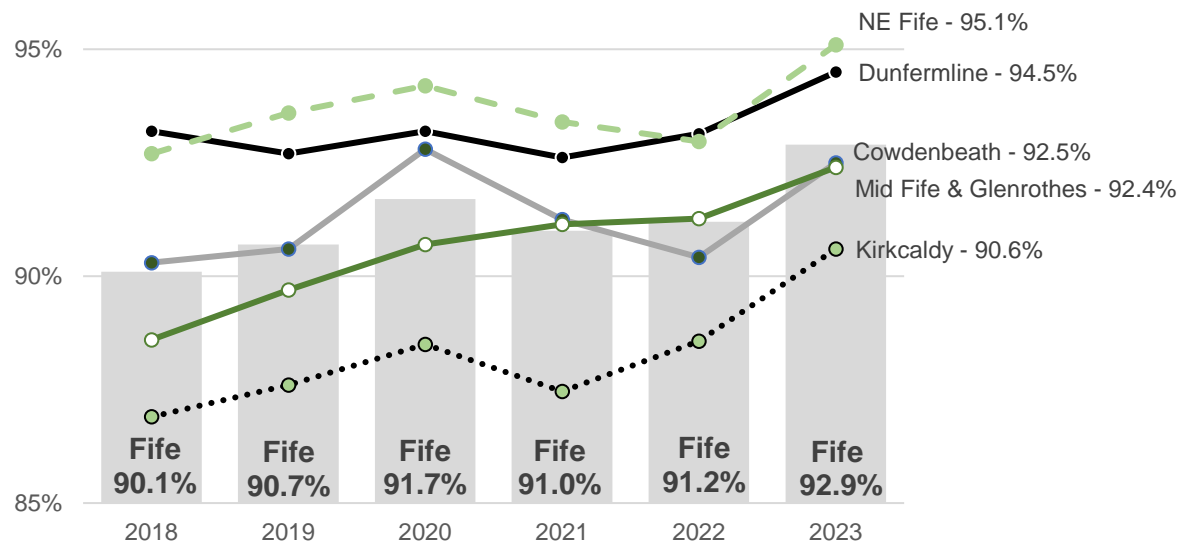
Note: \* A young person is deemed to be in a positive destination when they are actively engaged with an organisation for the purpose of learning, training or work (work includes volunteering).

## Annual Participation Measure for 16-19 Year Olds

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

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

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



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

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

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

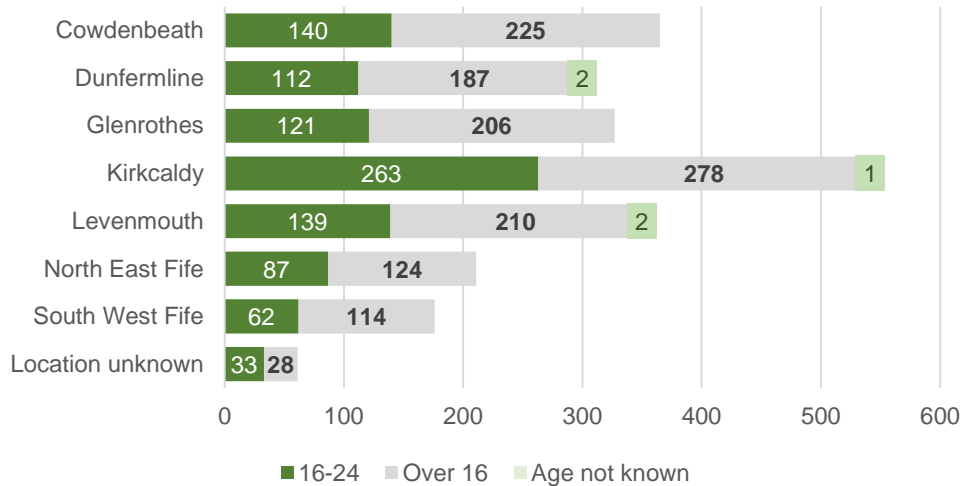
All parts of Fife saw participation increase between 2022 and 2023. The participation rates in the Cowdenbeath, Mid-Fife & Glenrothes and Kirkcaldy Scottish Parliamentary Constituency Areas are below the rate for Fife as a whole (Figure 16).

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

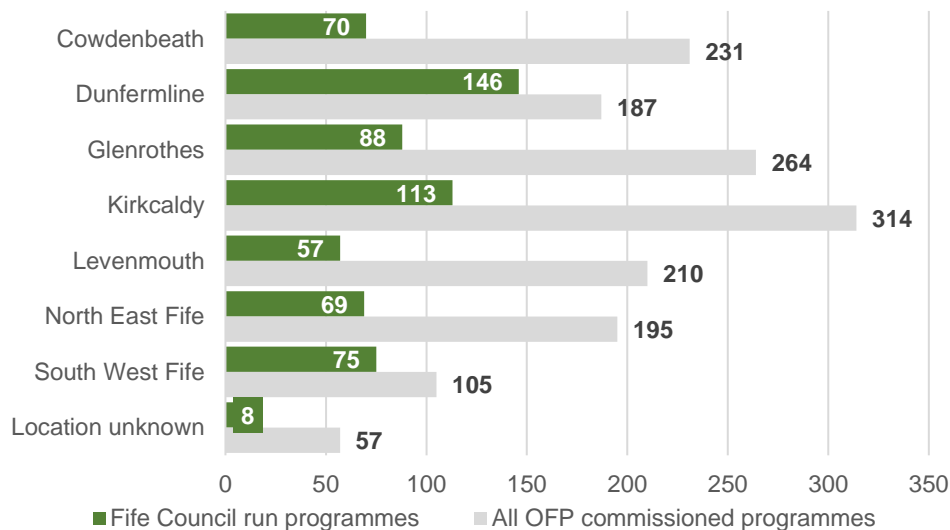
Note: \*Data for the Annual Participation Measure goes back to 2016.

## Employability Support

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



**Figure 18: Participants\* on employability programmes 2023/24**



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

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

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

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

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

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

Source: Fife Council

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

## **Employability Support Activities:**

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

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

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

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

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



## Fife Council's Culture of Enterprise Programme

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

	Cowdenbeath Area	Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife
Number of different CoE activities in which schools participated	7	9	8	7	5	5	6	<b>19</b>
Instances of pupil engagement with CoE activities 2022/23*	2,825	15,211	4,058	7,950	6,078	6,375	11,885	<b>54,399</b>
<i>Instances of pupil engagement with CoE activities 2021/22*</i>	11,293	30,680	13,679	6,835	12,452	8,990	28,123	<b>112,052</b>

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

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

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

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

Source: Fife Council – Economic Development.

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

## Earnings

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

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

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

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

Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings.

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

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



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

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

## Fife's Business Base & Key Sectors

### Number and Size of Businesses

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

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

#### Change in Number of Businesses 2020-2023:

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

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

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

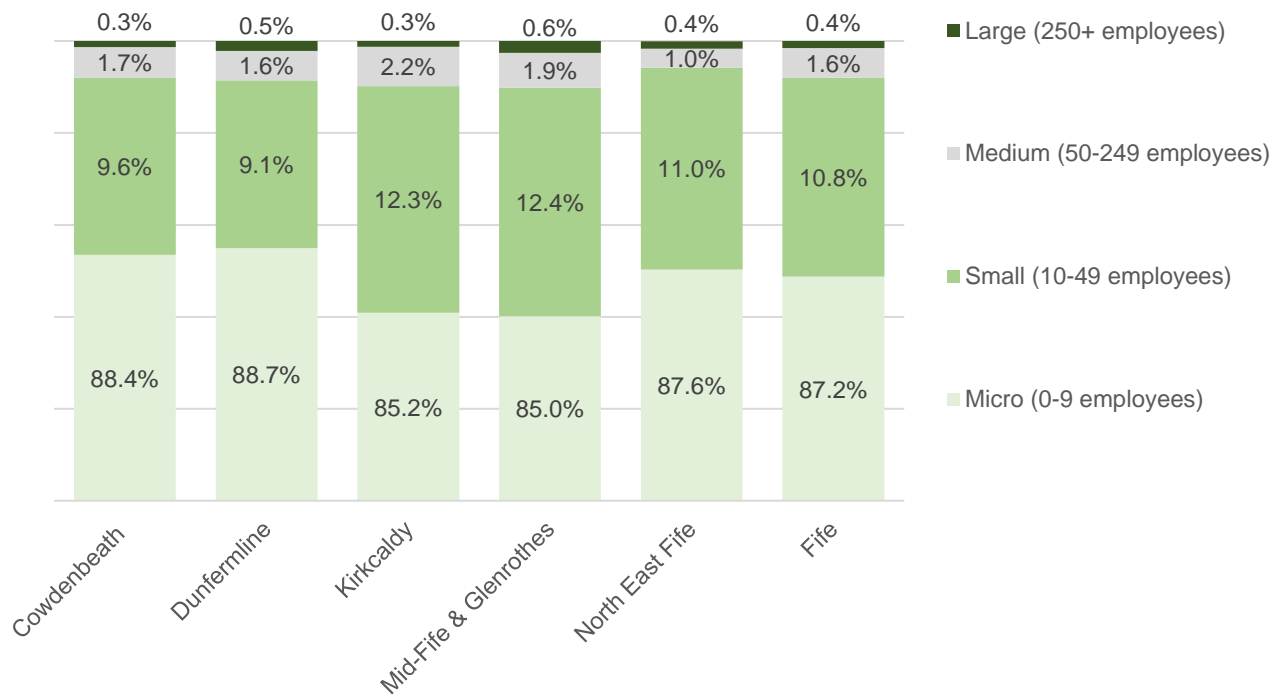
Source: ONS UK Business Counts, 2023.

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

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

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

**Figure 24: Proportion of businesses by size - 2023**



**Businesses by Size:**

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

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

Source: UK Business Counts, 2023.

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

## Business Densities

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

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

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

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

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

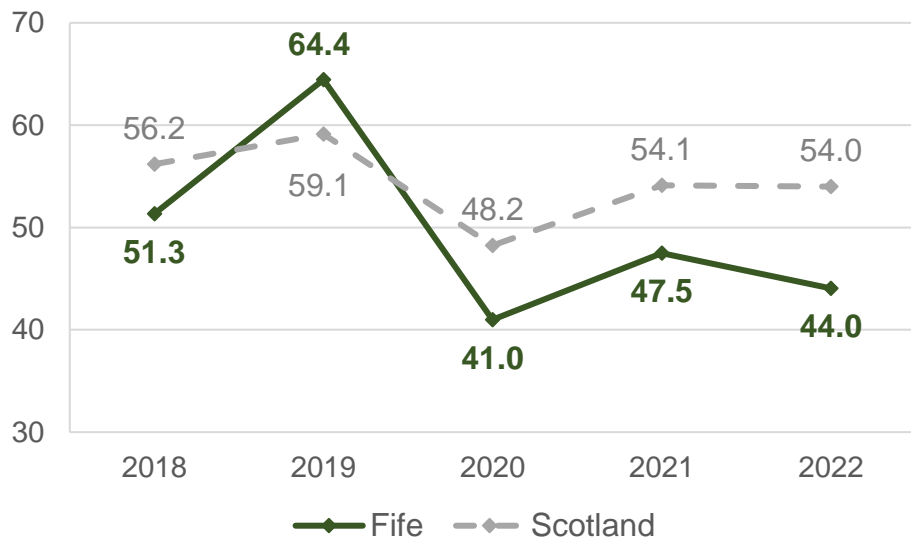
Note: These figures do not include unregistered enterprises (sole traders and partnerships who are not VAT and/or PAYE registered).

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

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

## Business Births

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



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

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

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

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

Source: ONS Business Demography, UK (2022).

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

## Business Survival Rates

**Figure 27: Survival of New Start Businesses 2022**

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

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

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

Source: ONS Business Demography, UK (2022).

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

## Distribution of Employment

**Figure 28: Number of Jobs in Fife 2019-2022**

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

### Change in Number of Jobs:

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

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

### Employment by Sector:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Figure 29: Employment by Sector, Fife 2022**

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

Source: ONS Business Register & Employment Survey 2022.

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



## Support Given to Businesses in Fife

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

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

Source: Fife Council Economic Development.

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

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

	Cowdenbeath Area	Dunfermline	Glenrothes Area	Kirkcaldy Area	Levenmouth	North East Fife	South & West Fife	Fife
No. of businesses receiving Expert Help	13	22	25	22	4	38	11	<b>135</b>
No. of businesses accessing business growth services	99	160	212	215	82	328	152	<b>1,248</b>
No. of Business Gateway-supported start-ups	51	70	59	116	47	85	68	<b>503*</b>
No. of jobs created from BGF start-up support	119	83	77	147	57	117	95	<b>702**</b>
Turnover generated	£2,591,500	£2,187,500	£1,830,500	£3,331,500	£1,320,000	£3,135,500	£2,631,000	<b>£17,147,500**</b>

Source: Business Gateway Fife.

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

## Support to Businesses:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Remediation of Vacant & Derelict Land

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

Area Committee	Proportion of Fife's total Vacant & Derelict Land	Total Amount of Vacant & Derelict Land (ha)	Change in amount of Vacant & Derelict Land 2022-23 (ha)
Cowdenbeath	4.0%	28.5	+2.1
Dunfermline	1.3%	9.2	-2.2
Glenrothes	21.9%	156.2	-0.4
Kirkcaldy	5.8%	41.2	-0.9
Levenmouth	10.2%	73.1	+5.6
North East Fife	8.3%	59.5	-1.0
South and West Fife	48.5%	345.7	-9.0
Total Fife	100.0%	713.3	-3.9

Source: Fife Council Vacant & Derelict Land Audit 2023

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

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

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

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

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

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

Area Committee	Project
Cowdenbeath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground stabilisation in support of Industrial estate regeneration at The Avenue, Lochgelly to support and unlock Fife i3 investment*.</li> <li>• Demolitions, ground remediation and stabilisation in advance of proposed mixed-use affordable housing and commercial developments in town centre sites in Cowdenbeath and Lochgelly (in partnership with Kingdom Housing and Ore Valley Housing Associations) to support and unlock Fife i3 investment*.</li> </ul>
Glenrothes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial estate regeneration at Queensway Industrial Estate, Glenrothes with Phase 1 now complete and all new units let. Further VDLF investment now in place to support a further phase of works at units on Flemington Road which will be complemented by Fife i3 investment*.</li> </ul>
Kirkcaldy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed acquisition and remediation of a former Waste Transfer Site in Kirkcaldy.</li> <li>• Works on entry to the Ravenscraig Walled Garden area to support the future re-use of listed buildings and complement other investment in the adjacent site which is now leased to Rural Skills Scotland.</li> </ul>
Levenmouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the former Flax Mill at Silverburn Country Park, Levenmouth, wind and watertight in advance of redevelopment works.</li> <li>• Site remediation and preparation works for the oil and gas decommissioning facility at Energy Park Fife now being operated by Cesscon Decom Ltd.</li> <li>• Industrial estate regeneration at Levenmouth Business Park Muiredge and Mountfleurie.</li> <li>• Ground investigations and remediation projects in support of the SEPA-led 'Leven Programme' one of which won a national (UK-wide) Brownfield Award for Best Preparatory Work in October 2022.</li> <li>• The proposed acquisition and stabilisation of ground at Chemiss Road /School Road in Methilhill in support of community-led nature-based learning provision for local young people.</li> </ul>
North East Fife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground remediation/preparation works to the east of the Eden Campus in Guardbridge for the installation of a solar photovoltaic array which was officially opened in May 2022.</li> <li>• Demolitions, ground investigations and preparation in advance of a mixed-use affordable housing and commercial development at the Bonnygate/Inner Court in Cupar in partnership with Kingdom Housing Association.</li> <li>• Ground de-contamination and preparation work at the site of the former Abertay Steelworks in Tayport. Ownership of the site was taken over by the local Community Trust and now hosts a new-build Community Hub, called the Larick Centre.</li> </ul>
South and West Fife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial estate regeneration at Hillend in Dalgety Bay to support Fife i3 investment*.</li> <li>• Proposed acquisition and ground remediation/preparation of a site in Rosyth in support of a partnership project involving the Polish Consulate in Edinburgh, Babcock International and others to commemorate the loss of a Polish Navy submarine, ORP Orzel, which was lost on patrol while operating out of Rosyth in World War II.</li> </ul>

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

Area Committee	Project
All Fife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for the implementation of the Climate Fife Plan and its associated Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SECAP) including part-funding an ongoing Community Renewables Feasibility Study led by the Fife Community Climate Action Network focussed on a range of vacant and derelict sites which could host solar photovoltaic arrays on sites across Fife. Funding is also supporting feasibility work, in collaboration with the Coal Authority and British Geological Survey, to assess potential locations for use of mine water geothermal heat schemes in Fife.</li> </ul>

Source: Fife Council

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

## Strategic Investment

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

Area Committee	Tranche 1 Sites	Status at November 2023	Tranche 2 (2022-25) Sites	Expected Completion
Cowdenbeath	The Avenue, Lochgelly (site servicing)	Conditional Legal Agreement in place for disposal.	New Business Accommodation, Town Centre, Cowdenbeath	2026/27
Dunfermline	Fife Interchange North, Dunfermline (site servicing)	Conditional Legal Agreement in place for disposal.	Fife Interchange North, Dunfermline (new units) - construction ongoing	2025/26
Glenrothes	Queensway Industrial Estate, Glenrothes (new units)	Completed: 5 out of 7 new business units let.	Refurbished/New Units, Flemington Road, Queensway Industrial Estate	2024/25
Kirkcaldy	Dunnikier Business Park, Kirkcaldy (new units)	Completed: All new business units fully let.	John Smith Business Park (new units)	2026/27
Levenmouth	Levenmouth Business Park (Phase 1) (new units)	Due for completion 31/12/23.	Levenmouth Business Park (Phase 2) (new units)	2024/25

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

Area Committee	Tranche 1 Sites	Status at November 2023	Tranche 2 (2022-25) Sites	Expected Completion
South & West Fife	Hillend and Donibristle Industrial Estates, Dalgety Bay	Completed: All new business units fully let.	Hillend and Donibristle Industrial Estates: Conditional Legal Agreement in place for disposal at Ridgeway	2024/25

**Strategic Investment:**

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

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

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

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

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

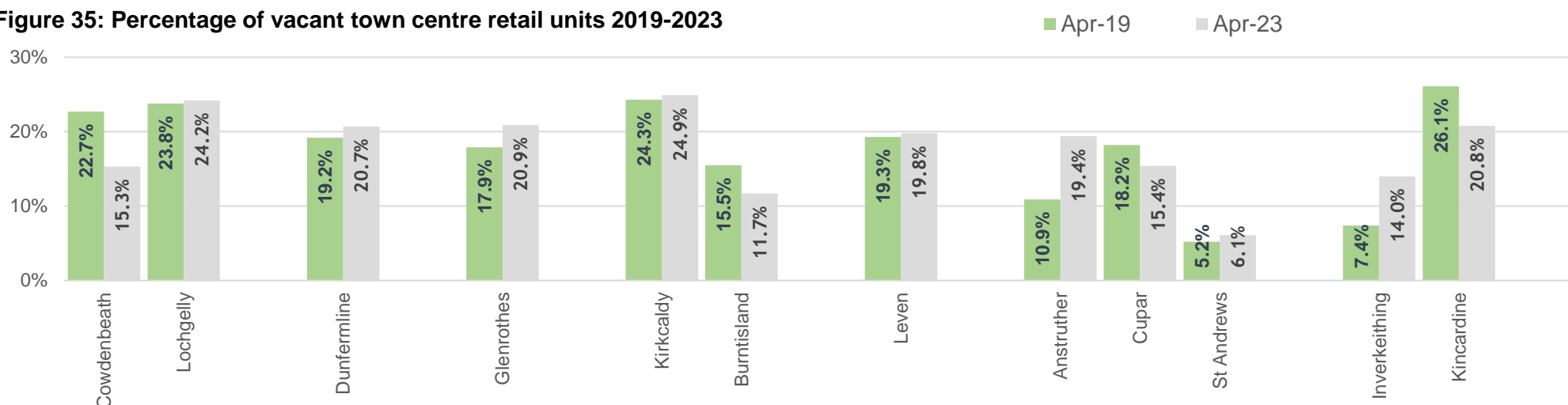
Fife Council, the Fife Partnership and the UK Government have agreed **Fife’s UK Shared Prosperity Investment Plan** for the grant allocation of £13.4m to be invested by March 2025. There are 4 investment priorities: Communities & Place, Supporting Local Businesses, People & Skills and Multiply. Delivery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

### **Strategic Investment (continued):**

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

## Town Centres

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



**Figure 36: Town Centre Vacancy rates April 2023**

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

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

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

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

Source: Experian GOAD Data (Fife Council).



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

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

Source: Fife Council Business & Employability Service.

### Town Centre Activity:

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

# Tourism

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

STEAM* Indicators	St Andrews	Dunfermline Area	Kirkcaldy and Mid Fife	NE Fife (exc. St Andrews)	Fife
<b>Visitor numbers</b>	<b>700,560</b>	<b>797,010</b>	<b>685,260</b>	<b>522,890</b>	<b>2.71m</b>
% change in visitor numbers 2021-2022	+85.7%	+50.9%	+46.6%	+439.8%	<b>+54.9%</b>
% change in visitor numbers 2019-2022	+2.9%	-2.3%	-6.8%	-7.2%	<b>-3.2%</b>
<b>Economic impact (direct, indirect &amp; induced)</b>	<b>£146m</b>	<b>£110m</b>	<b>£96m</b>	<b>£98m</b>	<b>£450m</b>
% change in economic impact 2021-2022**	+72.3%	+51.4%	+33.9%	+39.1%	<b>+50.2%</b>
% change in economic impact 2019-2022**	+21.3%	+9.3%	-2.1%	+20.0%	<b>+12.3%</b>
<b>Number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs supported by tourist expenditure</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>5,541</b>
% change in number of FTE jobs 2021-2022	+38.0%	+34.5%	+24.9%	+15.7%	<b>+27.6%</b>
% change in number of FTE jobs 2019-2022	+5.7%	-2.5%	-7.1%	+7.5%	<b>+1.0%</b>

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

Notes:

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

\*\* Indexed to 2022

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

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

### Volume and Value of Tourism (Figure 38 above):

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

### Fife Tourism Activity:

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

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31 January 2024

Agenda Item No. 8

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## Housing Revenue Account - Selling Lock Ups within mixed tenure blocks

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**Report by:** John Mills, Head of Housing Services

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**Wards Affected:** Wards 13, 14 and 15

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### Purpose

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This report provides an overview of the proposal to sell lockups in the Glenrothes area where Fife Council is a minority owner within a block, or a sale would be straightforward and beneficial in removing all future maintenance obligations for the Housing Revenue Account and Council Tenants.

### Recommendation(s)

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Members are asked to:

- consider this report and
- agree to sell the lock ups detailed within Appendix 2

### Resource Implications

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48 of the proposed lock ups are tenanted, any sale would therefore reduce the rental income received unless the tenant chooses not to buy and rents elsewhere. However, for the 11 lockups which are void, the sales would reduce the void loss incurred.

Each sale will incur £250 property estates fees with an additional £100 outlay fees for searches, if required.

If Housing Services do not sell the lock ups and are unable to proceed with repairs, they risk further deterioration which may impact on Health and Safety, i.e., an asbestos roof collapse. There would then be immediate resource implications to address this.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There is a risk that if these lock ups are not sold that they will continue to deteriorate and pose a health and safety risk.

### Impact Assessment

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

## Consultation

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The Glenrothes Area Housing Team and Glenrothes Area Residents Association (GARF) were consulted.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 Glenrothes has 2398 lock-ups which is the highest concentration of lock-ups in Fife, of which most have an asbestos sheet roof. Many components such as roofs, gutters, downpipes and facia have reached or are nearing the end of their natural service life and require proper maintenance to continue the letting of the lock up.
- 1.2 However, Glenrothes is unique in that many lock-ups were sold into private ownership in the past creating mixed tenure blocks. These blocks have proven difficult to carry out repairs in due to requiring agreement from private owners. Lock-ups currently without repair issues may face the same challenges in future to maintain them when they reach the end of their service life.

## 2.0 Current Position

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### 2.1 **Breakdown of Lock-up availability within Glenrothes**

<b>Total no. of Lock ups</b>	<b>2398</b>
<b>Currently Let</b>	<b>1802</b>
<b>Total no. Of Voids available for let</b>	<b>226</b>
<b>Total no. of Voids (unavailable for let due to major repair issues)</b>	<b>370</b>

- 2.2 At October 2022, of the 2398 lockups 370 remain unavailable to rent with 226 available but empty due to low demand. 131 of the above voids are due to roof related conditions and cannot be repaired in isolation. This results in a barrier to carrying out necessary works.
- 2.3 A recent test consultation at Pitcoudie Avenue, and Rowallan Green, Glenrothes has shown that many owners are unable or unwilling to contribute towards the costs of repairs. Appendix 1 contains further information. This is a trend noted in other empty lockups that have remained so for some time. Though cost may be a barrier for some owners, the selling of lockups could help resolve some current HRA void rent losses.

## 3.0 Proposal

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- 3.1 To address some of the current and future void loss caused by repair issues in mixed tenure blocks, Housing Services propose the following:
  1. The selling of selected lockups in the Glenrothes area where Fife Council is a minority owner within a block or where a sale would prove straightforward and beneficial (e.g., 2 in a block lockups) to reduce current and potential future void rent loss.
  2. Lockups will only be sold when it results in a block becoming fully private to remove all current and future maintenance issues from the HRA.
  3. Current tenants will be approached to buy the lock-up. If multiple tenants are within the block, then agreement to sell must be reached with all of them to remove our ownership responsibilities.

4. Where a lockup is currently empty, private owners within the block will be approached for notes of interest. If no notes of interest are received, then surrounding properties will be approached for notes of interest. If no interest is generated the lock-up will be placed on the open market for sale.

3.2 Selling these lockups would remove some current and future maintenance issues. In addition, this could help generate extra revenue for Fife Council to be reinvested in other areas while also reducing void loss and future maintenance expenses. Many lockups also sit empty due to low demand making them a long-term void loss that may never be removed. Reducing the relatively large proportion of lockups within Glenrothes compared with the rest of Fife will also make maintenance of the remaining stock easier.

3.3 Private owners may also be able to obtain more economical costs and alternative maintenance solutions not available to Fife Council. The findings from these sales could also assist in the development of a clear policy position on the sale of lockups in all areas.

3.4 **Lockups (LUPs) where Fife Council is in minority ownership within the block**

<b>Total LUPs with no reported Issues</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Total LUPs with reported Issues</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Total Potential Sales</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Total Potential Revenue*</b>	<b>£278,800</b>

Average LUP Market Value	£5,000
Average LUP Value (with known issues)	£3,200
Total LUPS with current Tenants	48
Total LUPS that are Void	11

\* This figure is calculated as follows: 50 x £5000 + 9 x £3200

A list of lockups in which Fife Council is in minority ownership or where a sale could prove straightforward and beneficial (e.g., 2 in a block lockups) has been compiled. Although the potential revenue is shown, the actual is likely to be lower once the internal charges to dispose of these assets are factored in. We also propose to offer existing tenants a discount from the market value. This is based on all current sitting tenants agreeing to buy the lock-up which may not occur for many reasons such as price or preferring renting. Any sales that go ahead could however generate revenue to be reinvested in other areas and remove future maintenance obligations.

## 4.0 Case Studies

4.1 Two test cases of our proposed approach were recently completed, and further details are available in appendix one.

4.2 One has proceeded to sale and is awaiting conclusion. The other was too costly for the tenant at a price of £3200 inclusive of legal fees. Consideration is required on the minimum offer the Council would accept to conclude a sale. The proposal is to therefore suggest a framework for pricing (appendix 3).

4.3 Valuations and sale negotiations were undertaken by the Property Estates Team. Going forward a project team will be created with a representative from Housing Estates,

Property Estates and Legal Services will take on the estimated 59 potential lock up sales on a programmed basis.

## 5.0 Conclusions

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- 5.1 Glenrothes has the highest concentration of lockups in Fife with many components such as roofs, gutters, downpipes, and facia nearing the end of their natural service life. As such to continue letting these lock-ups proper maintenance will be needed. However, Glenrothes has many mixed tenure blocks where maintenance has and will continue to be challenging due to requiring owner approval.
- 5.2 To address some of the current and future void loss potential because of repair issues in mixed tenure blocks, it is proposed that Fife Council sell selected lockups within Glenrothes. These would be where Fife Council is a minority owner within a block or where a sale would prove straightforward and beneficial to reduce void loss, generate extra revenue from sales while reducing future maintenance expenses.
- 5.3 Additionally, Private owners may be able repair lockups more economically and find alternative maintenance solutions not available to Fife Council. However, where tenants remain, the sale risks not going ahead due to one or multiple tenants declining to buy. In these instances, an alternative lock-up to rent would be offered to the tenant to allow a sale to proceed.

**John Mills**  
**Head of Housing Services**

## List of Appendices

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1. LUP Decision Matrix Pitcoudie Avenue & photos
2. Table breakdown of sales within existing LUP stock
3. Pricing Framework

## Background Papers

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

Not Applicable

## Report Contact

Donna Christie (Lead Officer)  
[Donna.Christie@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Christie@fife.gov.uk)



## LUP Sale/Purchase Decision Matrix

The following questions will be asked for each individual site looked at to determine the best course of action.

### 18 Pitcoudie Avenue, Pitcoudie, Glenrothes

How many LUPs within the site do we own? **1 out of 4 (Block 18-21)**

Current condition? **Poor – Severe roof leak. Building Services advise roof cannot be repaired or replaced. The gutters of the block had also collapsed and would require replacement along with the facia. Roof would need to be replaced for entire block and other owners in block have declined all works.**

High demand area? **No- No one on waiting list for street.**

Occupancy rates? **0% - Current Tenant has vacated and it won't be possible to rent out.**

Suitable relocation for tenants? **No – No other LUPs available in area**

Owner(s) able or willing to contribute to roof replacement costs? **No**

Alternative use of the site identified? **No**

Owner(s) willing to sell? If not is an exchange agreeable? **No –We are in a minority and owners wish to keep LUPs.**

Does selling rid us of future maintenance responsibilities of the whole site? **Yes**

Are there any vehicular access rights? **-No**

Is there interest in purchasing from the in-situ tenant(s)? **- No**

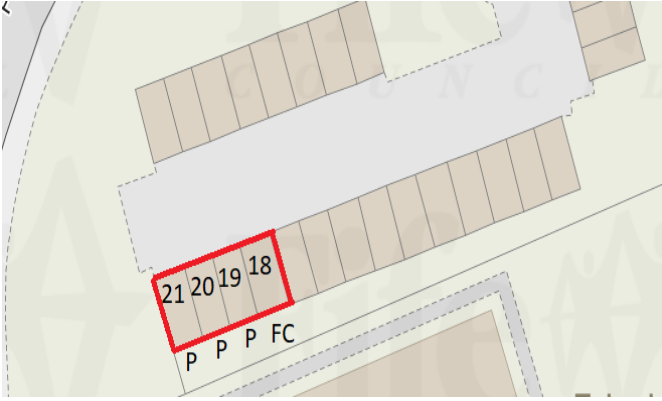
Does selling create a mixed tenure block? – **No- Selling would make block entirely private.**

Decision: **Propose to sell to other owners in block.**

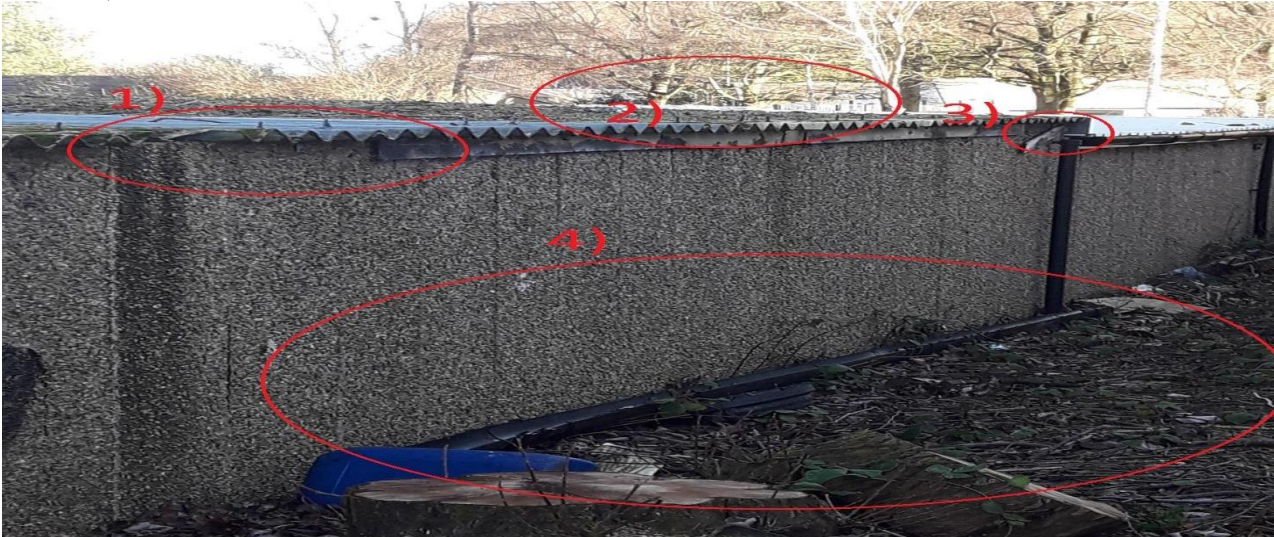
Valuation: **£3200**

Outcome: **One owner offered £2800 due to the condition of the lock-up versus the £3200 valuation that was accepted on 16/01/23. We are currently awaiting conclusion of the sale.**

## Reference Photos



P= Private, FC= Fife Council



1)Rear Facia Missing and roof damaged. 2) Severe roof leak 3) Facia pulling away and downpipe not connected to gutters. 4) Gutter for block has fallen off.

## Table breakdown of lockups in Glenrothes

Area	Let	Void (Available)	Void (Unavailable)	Total	Potential Sales
Glen North	142	12	9	163	17
Glen Central	433	47	123	603	15
Glen West	1098	164	221	1483	26
Glen East	27	1	2	30	1
Thornton	37	0	4	41	0
Leslie	36	2	11	49	0
Markinch	18	0	0	18	0
Star	4	0	0	4	0
Kinglassie	7	0	0	7	0

**Glenrothes Lock Up Sales Framework Example****Tenanted** (To be sold to current tenant)

Estimated Market Value: £5000      Tenant Discount: 50%

**Good Condition Offer price: £2500 -£2750** (inclusive of fees)**Repairs needed offer price: £1250-£1500** (inclusive of fees)**Void** (To be sold to other owners, residents or on the open market)

Estimated Market Value: £5000

**Good Condition Offer price: £3900-£4150** (inclusive of fees)**Repairs needed offer price: £2500-£2750** (inclusive of fees)

31 January 2023

Agenda Item No. 9

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## Glenrothes Area Housing Services Plan 2023-2026

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Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

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Wards Affected: 13,14,15

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### Purpose

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The report seeks area committee approval for a revised area housing plan which sets out area performance, service delivery and highlights key housing issues. This report provides an updated plan for the coming 3 years, setting out the activity we will report back to committee on over that period.

### Recommendation(s)

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Members are asked to agree the Glenrothes Area Housing Services Plan, and to seek updates every 6 months on progress with the plan and the outcomes.

### Resource Implications

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

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no legal / risk implications.

### Impact Assessment

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

### Consultation

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Local tenants have been involved in the development of the plan through local groups and events, as well as taking part in walkabouts with staff and members. We are also in the process of conducting a customer questionnaire to obtain feedback from tenants and elected members on issues to be included in our action plan.

## 1.0 Background

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

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 The positive work in the Glenrothes Area shows that work by our Area Team has led to:
  - Tenants seeing their Housing Management Officer out in the area
  - Improvements to areas such as Auchmuty through working with Factoring Team to make estate improvements and provided replacement fencing in Leslie
- 2.2 We can see, though, that we have work to do over the next three years to improve:
  - Unmaintained gardens and overgrown trees/woodland areas
  - The lack of parking facilities in residential areas
  - Increase number of affordable housing
  - Increase support to tenants during fuel poverty crisis
- 2.3 We have set out in the plan what we will do about local issues and have indicated timescales for completing the various activities. We have a devolved Local Housing Budget which can be used to carry out the activity. Where larger, capital works are needed, we can access funding from other Housing budgets.
- 2.4 In seeking to engage more local people in the plan we have provided a less formal approach, with little emphasis on performance indicators. Our focus is on whether the Plan is identifying and resolving local issues. However, the outcome of our work should be improved satisfaction and performance which will be reflected in annual customer survey report.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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

### List of Appendices

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1. Glenrothes Area Housing Services Plan

### Report Contact

Author Name	Charlotte Stitchell
Author's Job Title	Area Housing Manager
Workplace	Fife House West
Telephone	07525 392790
Email	charlotte.stitchell@fife.gov.uk

# Area Housing Plan- Glenrothes 2023-26



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*Welcome to the Glenrothes Area Housing Plan.*

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

Glenrothes and surrounding settlements, including Leslie, Kinglassie, Thornton, Markinch and Milton and Coaltown of Balgonie.

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

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

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

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

We work closely with tenants, residents, and elected members. We included your ideas in our finished plan where we could.

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

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

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

Tenants and residents are interested in how we allocate our homes. We are in the process of developing Local Lettings Plan, which will provide more allocation information at a local level.





## Housing in Glenrothes



# Stock April 23



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

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

## Allocations 2022/23



### Letting Plan

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

- Homeless
- Transfer
- Waiting

# Managed Tenancies



## Anti Social Behaviour

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

## New Builds

In Phase 3 programme the undernoted sites are expected completions.

24/25 - 17 Units On Site (Leven Mill)

25/26 - 42 Units On Site (Westwood)

26/27 - 58 Units (Viewfield)

The breakdown of property types is as follows:-

### 24/25 - 17 Units On Site (Leven Mill)

6 x 2 Bed

11x 3 Bed

### 25/26 - 42 Units On Site (Westwood)

4 x 2 Bed (Wheelchair Properties)

8 x 2 Bed (GF Amenity Cottage Flats)

8 x 2 Bed (FF General Needs Cottage Flats)

3 x 2 Bed (General Needs Houses)

7 x 3 Bed (General Needs House)

7 x 4 Bed (General Needs Houses)

5 x 5 Bed (Specific Needs Houses)

## 26/27 - 58 Units (Viewfield)

33 x 2 Bed

15 x 3 Bed

10 x 5 Bed

Inclusive of 8 Amenity and 4 Wheelchair

Phase 4 will be finalised in the upcoming months.

There are also a further 30 units in negotiation stage that could be delivered 25/26 and 26/27.

## Buybacks

Details of buy backs in Glenrothes area in 2022/23

Street	Town	Bedrooms	Property Type
Cameron Park	Thornton	3	House
Croft Crescent	Markinch	2	GF4
Croft Crescent	Markinch	2	UF4
Jenny Path	Glenrothes	3	House
Elgin Place	Glenrothes	1	Bung
Paterson Park	Leslie	3	UF4
Minto Crescent	Glenrothes	3	House
Stevenson Avenue	Glenrothes	3	House
Minto Crescent	Glenrothes	3	House
Forres Drive	Glenrothes	2	House
Buchanan Road	Glenrothes	4	House
Lomond View	Glenrothes	1	Bungalow
Ford Crescent	Thornton	2	GF4

Details of buy backs in Glenrothes area in 23/24 so far

Street	Town	Bedrooms	Property Type
Alexander Road	Glenrothes	3	House
Meldrum Court	Glenrothes	1	Bungalow

## Future Redevelopment planned in Glenrothes area

Following demolition of sites in Alexander Road and Glenwood, consultation will be held in connection with future developments planned for the areas.

## Investing in your home

Over the next 2 years we will continue to improve our existing homes to meet the expectations of our tenants. These include:

- Kitchens
- Central Heating
- Bathrooms Roofs
- Rewiring
- Smoke detectors
- Secure door entry
- Structural works
- Electrical Testing
- External Walls

## Rate your estates: What we found

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

Housing stock turn over, has slowed with a reduction of council owned properties turning over in the last year. Most of the area is in relatively high demand, making access to affordable housing more difficult for those in housing need. We have a high demand for 3/4/5 bedroom properties and limited turnover in these larger sized properties.

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

Our tenants need more assistance with support in sustaining their tenancies with money advice and fuel poverty advice. Financial support advice is provided to tenants at sign up interviews to ensure they do not fall into rent arrears, and this is followed up by Housing Management Officers when carrying out follow up interviews 4-6 weeks after tenant has moved in.

In 22/23, Glenrothes area collected 99.19% of rent due, the 2nd top area for rent collection with Glenrothes and South West Fife being the only areas to collect over 99% of rent due which is above the Fife average of 98.70%. In 23/24 Glenrothes area has collected 101.07% of rent due. In 22/23, Glenrothes area's gross rent arrears as a percentage of rent due was 6.00%, the 2nd lowest area behind North East Fife area, the Fife average being 8.06%.

In 22/23, Glenrothes area had 303 new tenancies commenced, of which 93.40% have sustained their tenancy for over 12 months and more. Glenrothes area are the top area in this performance report.

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

The Glenrothes Area Housing Team work hard to provide the best possible service to tenants and residents, and we welcome feedback on the service provided.

## Rate your estates: What you told us

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

### Corporate Complaints received in Glenrothes area during 2023



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

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

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

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

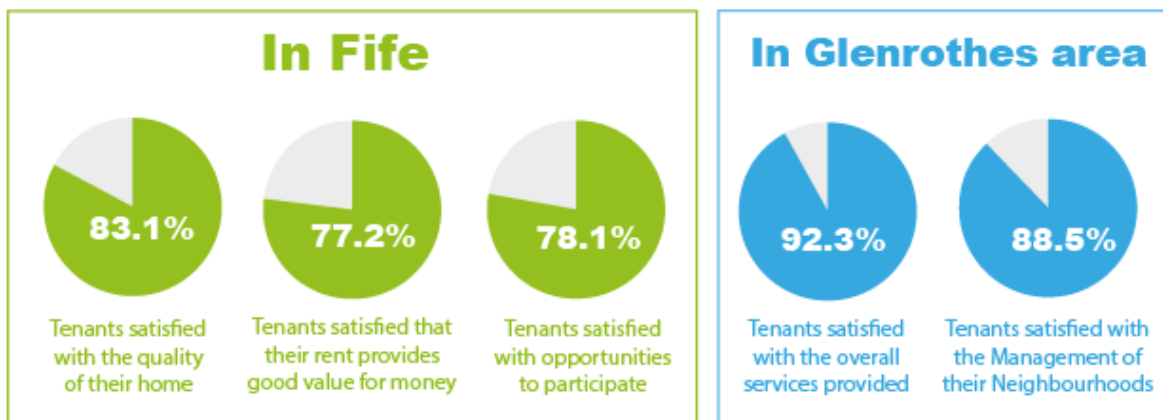
### Top 5 reasons for all Complaints during 2023

# Complaint Reasons



## Customer satisfaction

As well as consulting locally and addressing complaints, we carry out customer satisfaction surveys as part of our [annual performance reporting](#). In the 2023/24 survey, the results were as follows:-



We are also in the process of gathering feedback from tenants and elected members and their views will be incorporated into our action plan.

## Tenant Participation

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

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

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

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

**We currently have 2 active TRAs in Glenrothes, these are:**

- **Glenrothes Sheltered TRA (which includes 6 sheltered housing complexes)**
  - **Auchmuty & Dovecot TRA**
- 

Fife Federation of Tenants & Residents Association Ltd (FFOTRA)

9A Hunter Street Kirkcaldy KY1 1ED

01592 641968

Website [www.fifefederation.org.uk](http://www.fifefederation.org.uk)

E-mail [enquiries@ffotra.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ffotra.co.uk)

Facebook facebook.comffotra

Twitter ffotraltd

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Local Issues Action Plan



Issues	Where	Proposed Action	Timescale/Updates	How will we report updates
Lack of Affordable Housing	All areas	Work with Affordable Housing team to build larger sized properties and accessible bungalows	2023/2026	Ward Meetings and 6 monthly at Glenrothes Area Committee
		Support tenants who want to downsize through Tenants Incentive Scheme which will free up larger sized properties		
Anti Social Behaviour	All areas	Work closely with Safer Communities Team to resolve anti social behaviour	2023/2026	Ward Meetings and 6 monthly at Glenrothes Area Committee
Housing Repairs	All areas	Work with partners in Building Services to improve quality of repairs and communication with tenants	2023/2026	Ward Meetings and 6 monthly at Glenrothes Area Committee
Focus on Estate Improvements	All areas	Hold regular walkabouts in areas to identify improvements. Caretaker to feedback to staff any fly tipping issues. Draw up action plans and monitor progress.	2023/2026	Ward Meetings and 6 monthly at Glenrothes Area Committee
Greater level of tenants with mental health issues eg hoarding issues		Housing staff to increase recording of tenancy assistance cases and support provided to sustain tenancies. Work with partners in Social Work to improve communication	2023/2026	Ward Meetings and 6 monthly at Glenrothes Area Committee
Low level of tenant participation		Housing staff to work with Tenant Participation	2023/2026	Ward Meetings and 6 monthly at
		Officer to look at ways of increasing number of TRAs. Housing staff to continue to attend regular meetings of existing TRAs.		Glenrothes Area Committee

## Measuring Success

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

## Your Area Housing Team

Supporting the plan and delivering services to tenants is your local Housing Team, led by Housing Manager Charlotte Stitchell, supported by Lead Officers Emma Bower, Laura Russell and Tina Scott.

We have 12 Housing Options Officers (8.3 FTE), who manage our empty houses and allocate to transfer and new tenants, provide advice and guidance for anyone faced with homelessness as well as provide [housing options](#) advice. They have a wide range of knowledge about housing options and can meet with tenants and applicants to explain these.

In the last few years, we have recruited additional Housing Management Officers and now deploy 16 (14.57 FTE) in total across the area, who are the main point of contact for tenants, and their job is to link you in to all the [services you need](#) whether repairs, money advice, coping with heating bills, problem neighbours, contacting local job clubs. The list is as long as you need!

In Glenrothes we also have a Caretaker, Very Sheltered Housing Officers, Retirement Housing Officers, Revenues Officers, Universal Credit Officers, Safer Communities Officers and Housing Technical Officers we can call on to provide extra help.

Come and speak to us at: [Glenrothes Customer Service Centre](#)

## Useful contacts

### Online:

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

### By phone:

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

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

**Housing information and advice** - **03451 550033**

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

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

**Social Work enquiries** - **03451 551503**

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

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

31 January 2024

Agenda Item No. 10

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## Glenrothes Area Committee Workplan

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

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**Wards Affected:** 13, 14, 15

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### Purpose

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

### Recommendation(s)

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

### Resource Implications

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

### Legal & Risk Implications

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

### Impact Assessment

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None required for this paper.

### Consultation

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

## 1.0 Background

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

## 2.0 Conclusions

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

### List of Appendices

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1. Workplan

### Background Papers

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

None

### Report Contact

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

<b>Glenrothes Area Committee 27 March 2024</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Health & Social Care Locality Planning - Glenrothes	Health and Social Care	Jacquie Stringe, Roy Lawrence, Rona Laskowski	6-monthly update report. Previously presented 22.03.23 - Para 46 (1) and (2) of 2023.GAC.20 refers
Glenrothes Linked Together	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Chris Mieзитis, Inspector Murray Gibson	Update report following funding approved at meeting on 24.05.23, Min Ref Para 57 (3) of 2023.GAC.25 refers.
Funding Request - Destination Play Park (Riverside Park)	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Andy Maclellan	
Glenrothes Area Committee Work Programme			

<b>Glenrothes Area Committee 22 May 2024</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Participatory Budgeting Glenrothes High Schools	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service, Education and Children's Services	Chris Mieзитis	Requested at meeting on 22.03.23 - Para 48. (5) of 2023.GAC.20 refers.
Operational Briefing on Policing Activities within Glenrothes Area - 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024	Police Scotland	Community Inspector tbc	Annual report. Previously considered at meeting on 24.05.23, Min Para Ref 53 of 2023.GAC.23 refers.
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Local Plan Annual Performance Report - 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service	Station Commander Shaun McGowan	Annual report, previously considered at meeting on 23.05.23, min ref para 54 of 2023.GAC.23 refers.
Glenrothes Area Committee Work Programme			

<b>Unallocated</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Pupil Equity Fund	Education and Children's Services	Angela Logue, Zoe Thomson	
Town Centre Masterplan - Glenrothes	Business and Employability	Ronnie Hair	Previously considered 24.03.21.
Riverside Park Improvement Plan 2020 - 2030: Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service, Business and Employability	Kevin O'Kane, Lisa Edwards	Previously considered 04.03.20.
Area Capital Update Report	Finance and Corporate Services, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Eleanor Hodgson, Norman Laird	Previously considered 04.12.19.
Report of the Pupilwise & Parentwise Surveys	Education and Children's Services	Deborah Davidson	3-yearly surveys - due 2021. Previously considered 31.10.18.
30 mph Speed Limit on B9130 Markinch - Objections NOT set aside	Assets, Transportation and Environment	Steven Sellars	Objections to TRO not set aside at GAC on 01.12.21 - Para 245 refers.
Local Community Planning Budget/Devolved Budget/ Anti-poverty Funding/ Capital Fund	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Norman Laird	
On-Street Car Parking	Assets, Transportation and Environment	Lesley Craig	
Maintenance of Community Assets in the Glenrothes Area	Assets, Transportation and Environment	Alan Paul	GAC 7 September 2022 Para 10 (2) refers.
Antisocial Behaviour - update	Safer Communities	Dawn Jamieson	Future update reports and frequency to be considered - as intimated at the GAC meeting on 25.01.23.
Community Recovery Fund Outcome Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Norman Laird	19.09.23 (agenda planning meeting) - CRF outcome report requested - date tbc.