

## Levenmouth Area Committee

Blended Meeting - Committee Room 2, 5th Floor, Fife House,  
North Street, Glenrothes



Wednesday, 2 April, 2025 - 9.30 a.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(s) in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.
3. **MINUTE** - Minute of meeting of Levenmouth Area Committee of 12 February 2025 4- 7
4. **CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS - BUCKHAVEN AND METHIL – 20MPH SPEED LIMITS** – Report by the Head of Roads & Transportation Services 8 - 13
5. **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE LOCALITY PLANNING – LEVENMOUTH** – Report by the Head of Integrated Community Care Services, Fife Health and Social Care Partnership 14 - 22
6. **MENTAL HEALTH RESPONSE CAR** – Report by the Head of Integrated Community Care Services, Fife Health and Social Care Partnership 23 - 48
7. **LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE AND ANTI-POVERTY WORK OVERVIEW** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhood Service 49 -84
8. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – AREA BUDGET REQUEST- ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR APPROACH** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service 85 - 88
9. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – TEMPLE CAR PARK CHANGING PLACES TOILET (CPT) PROVISION** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service 89 - 96
10. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – GREIG PARK PLANNING AND DESIGN FUNDING** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service 97 - 100
11. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – GOBLIN CAR PROJECT- STEM ACTIVITIES** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service 101 - 104

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| 12. | <b>PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS</b> – Report by the Head of Property Services   | 105 - 107 |
| 13. | <b>LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME</b> –<br>Report by the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services | 108 116   |

**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  
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26 March, 2025

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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 - LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING**

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

**12 February 2025**

**9.30 am – 10.35 am**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Eugene Clarke (Depute Convener), Tom Adams, David Alexander, Ken Caldwell, Colin Davidson, David Graham, John O'Brien and Alistair Suttie.

**ATTENDING:** Vicki Storrar, Lead Consultant - Roads Lighting and Asset Management, Roads and Lighting Asset Management; Steve Sellars, Lead Consultant, Road Safety and Travel Planning; Phil Clarke, Lead Consultant, Levenmouth Reconnect Programme; David Paterson, Community Manager (Levenmouth), Communities and Neighbourhoods; and Kerry Elliott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Aidan Duncan, Outdoor Education Manager, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust and Anne Marie Smith, Senior Health Promotion Officer, NHS Fife.

**188. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**189. MINUTE**

The committee considered the minute of the Levenmouth Area Committee of 27 November 2024.

**Decision**

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

**190. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2025 - 2026**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services outlining the projects proposed for inclusion in the 2025-2026 Area Roads Programme for the Levenmouth area.

**Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) approved the report and appendices 1-3;
- (2) delegated authority to the Head of Roads and Transportation Services to manage the lists of Category 1 and 2 projects in line with the available resources/funding as the programme develops, in consultation with the Area Convener and Depute Convener; and
- (3) noted appendices 4 and 5.



**191. LEVENMOUTH RECONNECTED PROGRAMME LARGE GRANT AWARDS**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services asking members to consider the Leven River Park Programme project recommended for funding from the fourth round of the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Large Grant Fund.

**Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) approved a grant award of £850,000 from the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Large Grant fund to Green Action Trust for the Leven River Park Programme project;
- (2) agreed that a standing item be added to the forward work programme to consider progress on all projects awarded through the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Grant Fund; and
- (3) agreed that future reports would include an evaluation section outlining objectives achieved.

**192. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – GREEN HEALTH PARTNERSHIP**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Services seeking agreement for a contribution of £70,000 from the Community Recovery Fund (CRF), to part fund the Green Health Partnership approach which sits within the Leven River Parks Programme.

**Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) agreed to a contribution of £70,000 from the Community Recovery Fund as match funding to cover the costs relevant to the employment of a Green Health Partnership Coordinator;
- (2) noted that funding would not be released until after April 2025 to align with the release of funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF), allocated to the wider River Parks Programme; and
- (3) agreed that an update report from Green Health Partnership would be brought to the Levenmouth Area Committee on 25 June 2025.

**193. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – VARIATION TO SPEND**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Services seeking agreement for a transfer of an underspend of £4,904 from the Leven skatepark project to an alternative project in ward 21;

namely the renewal of some of the play equipment at the adjacent beach play area.

**Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) agreed to transfer the underspend of £4,904 from the Levenmouth skatepark project to another project within ward 21;
- (2) noted that the preferred recipient project would be the adjacent beach play area; and
- (3) noted that additional funding would still require to be identified to take the beach play area project forward.

**194. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – CASH FIRST LEVENMOUTH**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Services seeking agreement for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) Anti Poverty fund of £25,000 to promote a two-phase Cash First initiative in Levenmouth.

**Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) agreed the funding request of £25,000 from the LCPB Anti Poverty fund for the Cash First project; and
- (2) noted that the pilot would be used to inform future poverty intervention approaches in Levenmouth.

**195. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS**

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

**Decision**

The committee noted the contents of the report.

**196. LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services, relating to the future work programme of the Levenmouth Area Committee.

**Decision**

The committee: -

- (1) noted the content of the Levenmouth Area Committee forward workplan;
- (2) agreed as detailed in Para. 191 (2) above, that a standing item on the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme (LRP) Grant Funding be added to the forward work programme for the Levenmouth Area Committee;
- (3) agreed that members would advise the Convener, Depute Convener, Lead Officer and Committee Officer of any other items to be included on the workplan, within the remit of the committee.

2 April 2025  
Agenda Item No. 4

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## Consideration of Objections - Buckhaven and Methil – 20mph speed limits

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

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

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to allow the Levenmouth Area Committee to consider objections to the proposal to introduce new 20mph limits in Methil and Buckhaven.

### Recommendation(s)

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It is recommended, in the interests of road safety, that Committee agrees: -

- 1) to set aside the outstanding objections to the introduction of 20mph limits in Methil and Buckhaven as detailed on drawing No. TRO24/01; and
- 2) approves the introduction of a 20mph speed limit on a reduced length of roads, as discussed within the report and as detailed on drawing No. TRO25/03.

### Resource Implications

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The cost to formally promote this Traffic Regulation Order and deliver the associated traffic management works will be approximately £30,000 which covers Roads & Transportation Services' and Legal Services' staff costs, advertising, and delivery of the new infrastructure. This will be met by Transport Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Government.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no known legal or risk implications.

### Impact Assessment

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

### Consultation

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The local Ward Councillors, Community Council and Police Scotland were advised.

Formal consultation required by the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 for the road hump process was carried out through the posting of legal notices in a local newspaper and on the affected length of roads. In addition, details of the proposed scheme were made available on [www.fife.gov.uk](http://www.fife.gov.uk).

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 (minute ref. 2024 L.A.C. 49 para. 123 refers) the Levenmouth Area Committee approved the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce 20mph speed limits as detailed in drawing no. TRO24/01.
- 1.2 The statutory consultation notice was posted on site, on Fife Council's website and in the local newspaper on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2024, with a closing date for objections of 11<sup>th</sup> September.
- 1.3 During the statutory notice period, 34 objections were received, hence the need for further consideration by Committee.
- 1.4 The full text of the objections can be found in the background papers to this report.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 The main grounds for objection presented in the 34 objections, together with Roads & Transportation Services' response are:

- *The proposal will increase travel times and cause delays to deliveries and HGVs, which will have detrimental economic effects. Delays will also lead to the removal of bus services,*

**Service response** – The impact on travel times is expected to be negligible and outweighed by the increase in road safety.

- *The proposal will increase pollution by causing the burning of more fuel.*

**Service response** – There is no evidence that this is an effect of a 20mph scheme. A 20mph limit should improve noise levels and pollution because vehicles are driven at a constant low speed rather than accelerating and decelerating.

- *The proposal will be detrimental to road safety through reckless driver behaviour caused by the frustration of driving at 20mph.*

**Service response** – These are subjective views that are not supported by evidence.

- *The proposal is undemocratic given that a poll by the Buckhaven and Denbeath Community Council returned a 93% opposition.*

**Service response** – Only formal objections received through the prescribed channels during the statutory objection period can be considered.

- *Money spent on this proposal would be better spent on repairing the roads, signs and pedestrian crossings.*

**Service response** – These are separate issues which would not be impacted by the proposed speed limit change going ahead or not, as these come from different budgets.

- *Enforcement of the current 30mph would be more effective. The proposed 20mph is unlikely to be policed. Compliance will be low as drivers are less likely to comply with limits they don't consider appropriate.*

**Service response** – These are separate issues that would not be impacted by the proposed speed limit change going ahead or not as enforcement of speed limits is a Police matter.

- *20mph limits are not safer.*

**Service response** – The risk of a pedestrian being fatally injured when hit by a vehicle at 30 mph is 5.5% while at 20 mph the risk reduces to less than 1%. Reducing the risk, the severity and the perception of injury also has benefits in terms of creating a more walking and cycling friendly environment. This is a proactive approach and not in reaction to existing accident statistics.

- *The proposal has been trialled and failed in Wales.*

**Service response** – Fife Council is governed by the Scottish Government and this proposal is based on the Scottish Government's 'Scotland's National Strategy for 20 mph Speed Limits' to introduce 20mph limits on Scottish urban roads.

- *The roads proposed for the new 20mph were built to have a 30mph limit.*

**Service response** – Although these are local distributor roads, they would still benefit from the introduction of a lower and safer speed limit for all residents and pedestrians.

- *The proposal is not justified by road accident statistics.*

**Service response** – 20mph limits are being provided to improve road safety and create a more pedestrian and cycle friendly environment that reduces the risk of accidents and their severity. Please refer to the Service's response on 20mph safety above.

- 2.2 A number of objections received expressed agreement with 20mph limits around schools, nurseries or hospitals, which already have part-time 20mph limits. They indicated that they do not support more extensive use of 20mph limits.
- 2.3 In view of the number and details of the objections, an alternative scheme is being proposed. This scheme reduces the streets to be lowered to 20mph to those that most strictly align with the spirit of the Scottish Government's "National Strategy for 20mph." The extent of the alternative scheme is shown in drawing no. TRO25/03.
- 2.4 With this reduced proposal being less restrictive than originally published, there is no requirement to republish the proposal for public consultation as the objections received already are being considered in this report.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 In the interests of road safety, it is recommended that the objections should be set aside and a TRO is confirmed to introduce the alternative reduced 20mph scheme as detailed in drawing No. TRO25/03.

## List of Appendices

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1. Drawing No. TRO24/01 – Original scheme
2. Drawing No. TRO25/03 – Reduced scheme

## Background Papers

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1. Objection correspondence (redacted)

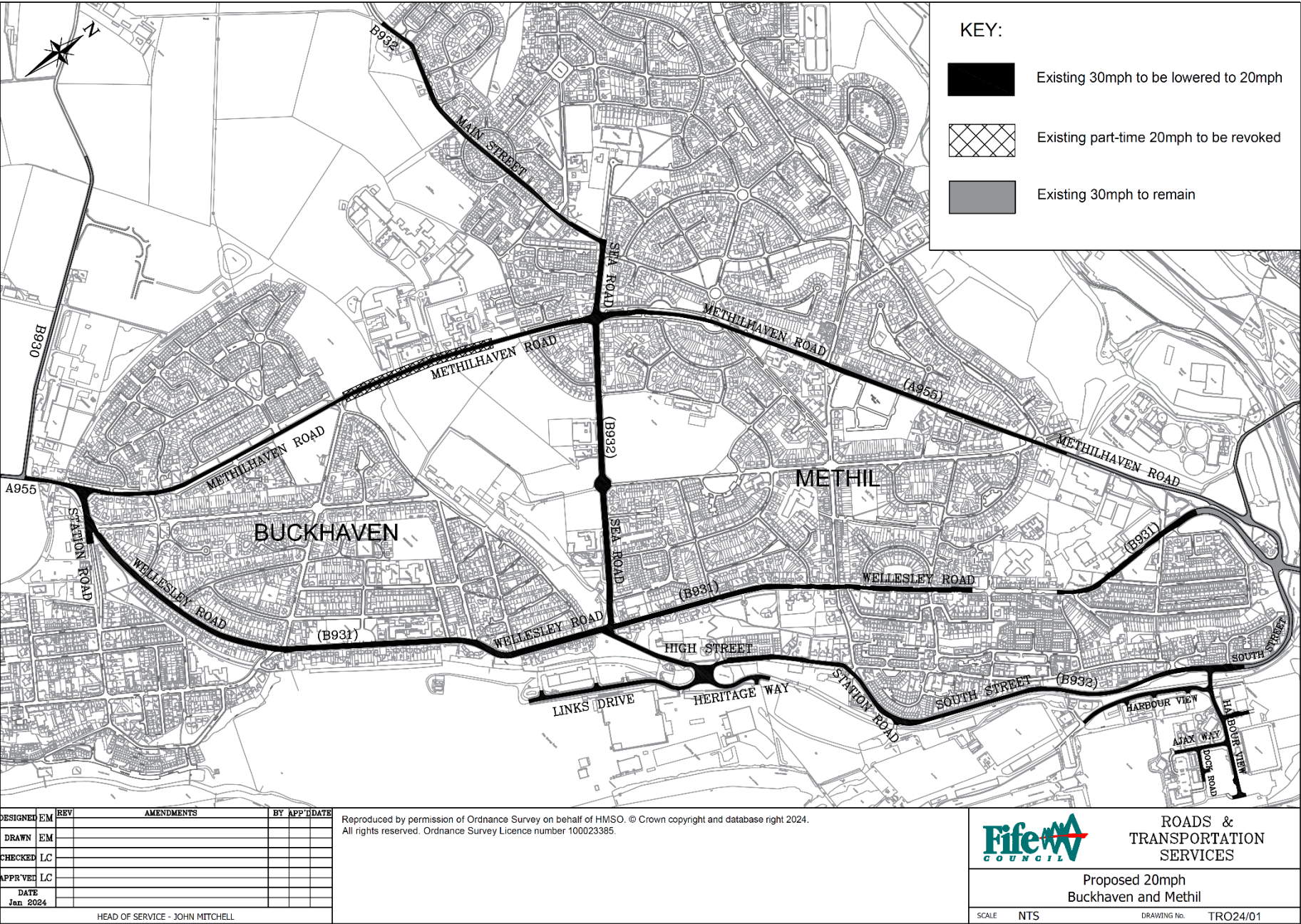
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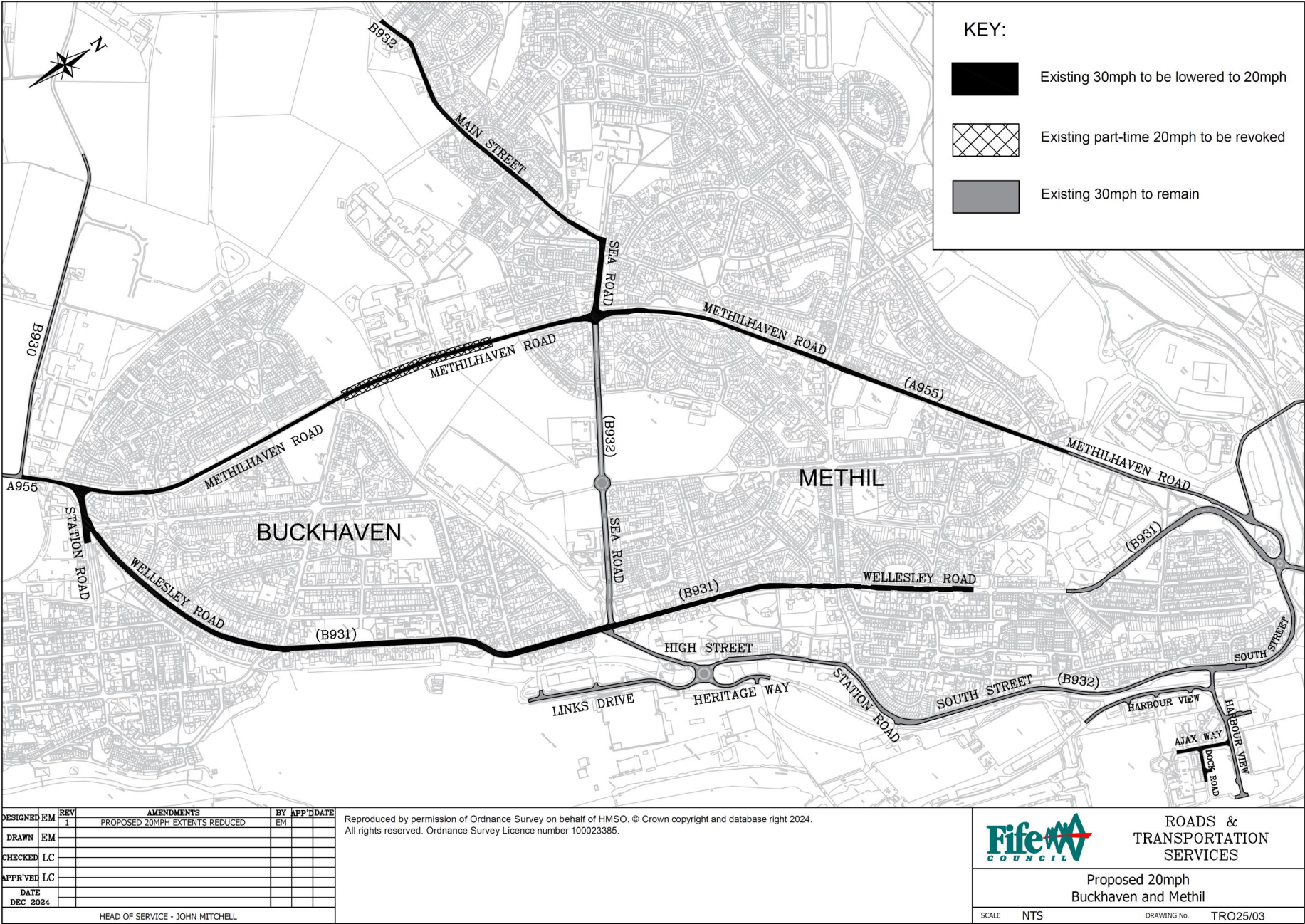


Appendix 1 – Original scheme





Appendix 2 - Reduced scheme



2 April 2025

Agenda Item No.5

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## Health and Social Care Locality Planning – Levenmouth

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**Report by:** Christopher Conroy, Head of Integrated Community Care Services.

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**Wards Affected:** Ward Nos. 21 and 22

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this annual report is to provide the Area Committee with a comprehensive overview of the Health and Social Care Partnership (H and SCP) Locality Planning Outcomes for Levenmouth in 2024.

### Recommendation

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Members are requested to note that: -

- 1) the Health and Social Care Partnership (H&SCP) will be submitting an annual report; and
- 2) the annual report that will provide evidence on the key outcomes and achievements attained by the locality planning group in 2024; and collaborative efforts and any joint initiatives undertaken with the Levenmouth Community Planning/People & Place Group.

### Resource Implications

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There are no specific Resource Implications

### Legal and Risk Implications

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There are no legal or risk implications associated with this report. Each working group focused on the Key Priorities within the Levenmouth Locality Delivery Plan 2024 maintains a risk register, which is regularly reviewed by the respective working groups.

### Impact Assessment

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An equality (EqIA) Impact Assessment is not required as this is a report outlining the performance of Locality Planning in 2024.

### Consultation

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Throughout the year, quarterly H and SCP Locality Meetings have been facilitated. In November 2023, a wider stakeholder event was held to inform priorities for 2024–2026. Additionally, a Fife-wide locality event took place on November 5, 2024. This event aimed to highlight the work undertaken by locality planning groups and to enhance stakeholders' understanding of the role of these groups. The event was a resounding

success, with over 115 delegates in attendance. The positive feedback received through a survey and emails confirmed that stakeholders gained a deeper understanding of locality planning and collectively agreed that the event was highly valuable and worthwhile.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The locality priorities and Action Plan will deliver on the range of local and national outcomes set out in legislation, policy, and strategies. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the Act) puts in place the legislative framework to integrate health and social care services in Scotland. Section 29(3) (9a) of the Act requires integration authorities to work within localities and in Fife we have established seven locality groups which are aligned to the Fife Council Local Area Committees.
- 1.1.2 Integration is about ensuring those who access health and social care services get the right care and support whatever their needs, at the right time and in the right place with a locality focus on community based preventive care. This report highlights areas of work to improve the support for people living in Fife, within Levenmouth Locality.
- 1.1.3 Localities seek to deliver positive health and wellbeing outcomes for the people of Fife. The overarching goals of localities are to:
  - promote healthy lifestyle choices and self-management of long-term conditions.
  - support people to live healthy well independent lives while living in their own home for as long as possible.
  - reducing the number of avoidable emergency admissions to hospital and minimise the time people are delayed in hospital.
  - efficiently and effectively manage resources available to deliver Best Value.
  - support staff to continuously improve information and support and care that they deliver.
  - support unpaid carers, to reduce the impact of their caring role on their own health and wellbeing.
- 1.1.4 The Levenmouth Locality Delivery Plan is aligned with the HSCP Strategic Plan 2023-2026, Plan4Fife, and the NHS Fife Population Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 1.1.5 The Levenmouth Locality Delivery Plan has identified specific outcomes to ensure meaningful improvements are demonstrated and delivered in a timely manner. Improvements will be measured through a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. Key approaches include:
  1. **Regular Reviews:** The working groups will regularly review progress against the delivery plan. This includes assessing the effectiveness of implemented strategies and making necessary adjustments.
  2. **Stakeholder Feedback:** Input from stakeholders, including community members and partners, will be gathered to gauge the impact of the initiatives. This feedback will help identify areas of success and those needing improvement.
  3. **Risk Registers:** Each working group will maintain a risk register, which will be regularly reviewed to manage potential risks and ensure that any issues are promptly addressed.
  4. **Annual Reports:** The Health and Social Care Partnership (H and SCP) will provide annual reports to the Area Committee and Integration Joint Board, detailing updates on locality delivery plans and highlighting collaborative efforts with community planning partners.



5. **Benchmarking:** Comparing performance with other localities or against established standards to identify best practices and areas for improvement.

## 2.0 Current Position

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2.1 In 2024, Locality Planning has seen significant improvement, with the success largely driven by a collaborative approach. This has empowered locality groups to play a pivotal role in making integration successful across Fife. By leveraging insights, experience, and resources, the partnership has improved local networks, developed robust and productive professional relationships, and enhanced outcomes.

### 2.2 Priority 1 Mental Health – “Public Health Policing Approach”

#### 2.2.1 Background

In the Levenmouth Locality Group, supporting positive mental wellbeing was identified as a key priority. During the June 2022 meeting, Police Scotland raised concerns about the increasing number of mental health-related (non-criminal) calls they were receiving. In response, a working group called the Public Health Policing Approach was formed, with representation from Fife Council, NHS Fife (Accident and Emergency), Community Mental Health, Scottish Ambulance Service, the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, and the Scottish Association of Mental Health. Based on the gathered information, the working group agreed that an important next step would be to pilot an innovative approach to responding to individuals who contact emergency services with a mental health need. This would involve developing a triage response unit staffed by the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) and adult mental health services. However, the test of change was delayed due to staffing challenges within the mental health service.

#### 2.2.2 Key Objectives We Aimed to Achieve:

- Enhance the experience for individuals who contact emergency services with a mental health need through timely access to specialist mental health care and assessment in the community.
- Understand the impact, realised and potential, of the mental health triage car on Police Scotland, SAS and health and social care services.
- Avoid unnecessary conveyance to AandE where appropriate and identify potential benefits.
- Identify the limitations, of a mental health triage car service to inform future recommendations.

#### 2.2.3 Achievements to Date:

- The Levenmouth Area Committee funded the Mental Health response car (MHRC) test of change, which started on June 7, 2024.
- The car attended 181 calls between June 7, 2024, and January 5, 2025.
- Of the 181 calls, 127 were related to mental health, while the remainder were in response to immediate life-threatening events.
- 84% of the mental health calls did not require conveyance to the acute hospital (VHK).
- Police Scotland reports that historically, the majority of mental health-related calls they responded to would result in the individual being conveyed to Victoria Hospital (VHK) for further assessment and care. However, the introduction of the Mental Health (MH) Response Car has significantly reduced this number. By

providing a more specialised and immediate response, the MHRC allows for more targeted interventions in the community.

- The majority of calls to the Mental Health Response Car (MHRC) were from the Scottish Ambulance Service, followed by Police Scotland.
- Although it is challenging to fully quantify the officer hours saved, we estimate that, on average, 4 hours per officer per call were saved. This equates to 400 hours of Police Officer time returned, allowing them to be back in their communities. This is in addition to the time saved for the Scottish Ambulance Service, Emergency Department, and other services.
- The car service was extended to the Kirkcaldy locality in September 2024.

#### 2.2.4 Next Steps for 2025:

- There is a proposal to extend the Mental Health Response Car (MHRC) service to Cowdenbeath locality.
- Moving the base of the MHRC from Levenmouth to Kirkcaldy Ambulance Depot.
- The Urgent Care and Assessment Team (UCAT) admin staff will contact people who have engaged with the service to complete a feedback questionnaire.
- A report will be presented to the Levenmouth Area Committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April to request funding till the end of June 2025.
- Arrange one-to-one feedback meetings with staff at the end of the test of change.

### 2.3 Priority 2 – Home First

#### 2.3.1 Background:

The Levenmouth Locality Core Group reviewed data from Public Health Scotland regarding emergency hospital admissions and AandE attendances, which highlighted that Levenmouth had the highest rates in Fife per 100,000 people. As a result, a working group was established to conduct further analysis. It was agreed to implement a test of change focusing on a multi-agency approach. The purpose of the Home First Test of Change is to test a multi-agency approach to collaborative working by creating opportunities for our workforce to innovate and work holistically. This group decided to test a weekly Primary Care Verification Group to review individuals who have been admitted to the hospital two or more times and/or have attended AandE three or more times in the previous 12 weeks. The test of change took place from November 2023 to September 2024.

#### 2.3.2 Key Objectives We Aimed to Achieve:

- To reduce the number of preventable emergency hospital admissions and frequent AandE visits.
- To identify the reasons why people frequently attend AandE.
- To test integrated working, aiming to achieve a fuller understanding and knowledge of other services across the HSCP, NHS, and Fife Council.

#### 2.3.3 Achievements to Date:

- Integrated working, with a comprehensive understanding and knowledge of other services across the HSCP, NHS, and Fife Council.
- Partnership working and establishing new referral pathways.
- Providing holistic support to individuals with high emergency admissions and/or frequent AandE attendances.

- Contacting individuals who frequently attend AandE and are not known to any service, offering additional support in a timely manner.
- The Verification Group is cross-referencing AandE attenders who have been involved with the MH Response Car in the Levenmouth area.
- Reductions in AandE attendances for individuals who have been offered additional support.
- Case studies demonstrating the work done by the group.
- A full evaluation report was completed and presented to the Health and Social Care Senior Leadership Team, who endorsed the recommendation for the Primary Care weekly verification to become business as usual.

#### 2.3.4 Next Steps for 2025:

- Continue the Verification Group in Levenmouth and explore the involvement of additional services and administrative support before implementing the model across all localities.
- Review the membership list and invite any missing key partners.
- Determine the required administrative support needed to sustain this model.
- Submit a Caldicott request to authorise the future Verification Group to directly contact parents of both emergency admissions and AandE attenders, whether they are known or unknown to the service.
- Exclude discussions on patients with "non-preventable" admissions, such as those referred by GPs, patients with various health conditions, or those advised to attend AandE by 111.
- Members of the Verification Group agreed to contact patients who frequently attend AandE or have multiple emergency admissions.
- When contacting all "non-preventable" admissions and AandE attenders, the Verification Group member will offer direct referral to The Well.
- Assess the current provision of respiratory care in general practice for people living with COPD and strengthen existing referral pathways between general practice and Community Respiratory Teams to facilitate opportunities for case management discussions and professional education.
- Establish a point of contact for each GP practice to support the Verification Group.
- Form a Short Life Working Group (SLWG) to review the cohort of regular patients who have been offered support but either don't accept it or miss appointments, aiming to offer more personalized and meaningful support to reduce their AandE attendances.
- As the group transitions into regular operations, members should proactively identify complex cases within their service and present them to the Primary Care Verification Group to provide holistic support and prevent hospital admissions and/or AandE attendances.
- Collaborate with the immunisation service to launch a targeted promotional campaign in 2025 in the Levenmouth area, aiming to reduce preventable hospital admissions due to Influenza and Pneumonia.

## 2.4 Priority 3 Unpaid carers – Community

### 2.4.1 Background:

A new fund, the Community Chest Fund (CCF), has been established by the Fife Health and Social Care Partnership to support unpaid carers in the region. There are over 47,000 unpaid carers in Fife, individuals who provide care for friends or family members affected by illness, disability, mental health conditions, or addiction.

#### 2.4.2 Key Objectives We Aimed to Achieve:

The aim of this priority is to create greater opportunities for unpaid carers to enhance their knowledge and understanding of preventative care and to empower them to make positive choices that promote their own health and wellbeing. By providing access to valuable resources and information, this initiative seeks to equip unpaid carers with the tools and support they need to prioritize their own health while continuing to care for others.

#### 2.4.3 Achievements to Date:

During the 2023/24 funding rounds, a total of 9 projects was successfully awarded grants, with a combined funding total of £75,262. These projects are focused on delivering meaningful impact for unpaid carers across Fife, ensuring that they have the necessary support and resources.

#### 2.4.4 Next Steps for 2025:

The Locality Development Officer is actively working with the funded groups to help them monitor and evaluate their projects. This ongoing support ensures that the initiatives are meeting their goals and making a positive difference in the lives of unpaid carers.

#### 2.4.5 For further information about the Levenmouth groups that have been awarded funding, click on the links below.

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/1eA9UfTIUiBVnm9z?ref=Link>  
<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/38c2FxHkWsFmCyak?ref=Link>

### 2.5. **Priority 4 - Delayed Hospital Discharge – Raising awareness of the “Power of Attorney”**

#### 2.5.1 Background:

Public Health Scotland data highlighted that the number of individuals delayed in hospital due to awaiting guardianship is notably higher in Levenmouth than in the rest of Fife. When patients in hospital are deemed to lack mental capacity and do not have a power of attorney in place, an application for guardianship must be made to the courts. This legal process, however, can take anywhere from 3 to 12 months to complete. During this period, the individual cannot be moved from the hospital, leading to unnecessary delays in their care and discharge. These extended delays not only affect the well-being of the individuals involved but also place additional strain on hospital resources. The locality development officer joined the Adults with Incapacity workstream, and as a result, the locality group decided to launch a targeted campaign to raise awareness about the importance of Power of Attorney

#### 2.5.2 Key Objective We Aimed to Achieve:

Raise awareness about the critical importance of Power of Attorney within the Levenmouth Locality. This initiative seeks to inform and educate the local community about the essential role Power of Attorney.

#### 2.5.3 Achievements to Date:

- **Comprehensive Training for Frontline Staff:** Through the WRAP group, a training programme focused on Power of Attorney (POA) and Adults with Incapacity was delivered to frontline staff. This training, designed to empower staff with the knowledge to assist the community, was attended by a diverse group, including HSCP Community Led Support staff, FC Welfare Support staff, and representatives
- **Educational Video Development:** We are in the process of creating a video that highlights the practical, everyday importance of Power of Attorney. This video will

- focus on how POA enables individuals to complete essential tasks, such as accessing banking services or supporting a loved one with medical appointments.
- **Collaboration with Local Solicitors:** To ensure that the local legal community is informed about the campaign, we are collaborating with solicitors in the Levenmouth locality. By engaging local law firms, we aim to ensure they are equipped to direct clients to the appropriate resources related to Power of Attorney.

#### 2.5.4 Next Steps for 2025:

- **Promotional Campaign:** The group has developed an array of promotional materials, including posters and social media posts, which will be launched in March. These materials will be distributed across key community touchpoints, such as GP practices, pharmacies, community centres, libraries, and leisure centres, ensuring the message reaches a broad audience and fosters greater awareness within the community.
- **Community Engagement** through Drop-In Sessions: As part of our community outreach efforts, we are hosting public drop-in sessions on the 19th of March and 16th of April. These sessions will be supported by Circles Network and the Fife Law Centre, providing an opportunity for local residents to receive expert advice and information on Power of Attorney and related topics. These sessions will foster greater community engagement and provide a space for residents to have their questions addressed directly.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 Locality Planning has been instrumental in fostering strong and positive relationships between HSCP, Fife Council, NHS Fife, and the third and independent sectors. This report presents evidence of the ongoing work within Fife's locality planning groups, showcasing the significant positive impact achieved through multi-agency collaboration. The concept of collaborative advantage plays a pivotal role in locality planning, raising awareness about the importance and value of joint efforts. While collaboration can sometimes present challenges—particularly when it involves broader strategic goals rather than specific projects—the members of the locality planning groups recognise that their primary responsibility is to ensure that services work in unison to enhance health and wellbeing outcomes for the residents of Fife. Levenmouth Locality/Community Planning stands out as an exemplary model of how services can effectively collaborate, demonstrating the power of cohesive teamwork in achieving better outcomes.

## List of Appendices

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Glossary

### Background Papers

None

### Report Contact

Jacquie Stringer

Service Manager (Locality/Community Led Support)

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## Glossary – Area Committee Report

Term	Definition
A and E	Accident and Emergency unit at Victoria Hospital. Kirkcaldy
Adult with incapacity	An "adult with incapacity" refers to an individual who, due to a mental disorder, physical illness, or disability, is unable to make or communicate responsible decisions about their personal welfare, property, or financial affairs This term is often used in legal and healthcare contexts to describe adults who need assistance or a guardian to manage their affairs.
Caldicott	The NHS Caldicott agreement, often referred to as the Caldicott Principles, is designed to ensure that people's personal information is kept confidential and used appropriately within health and social care organizations. The 7 principles guide how confidential information should be handled, shared, and protected to maintain patient trust and privacy.
CCF	Community Chest Fund Funding available for communities in Fife, which is for the benefit of unpaid carers
CLSS	Community Led Support Services – The Well, Link Life Fife and Macmillan Improving the Cancer Journey
FC	Fife Council Local authority for Fife
Home First	The Home First Strategy is being developed in Fife with the aim of transforming the discharge process.
HSCP	Health and Social Care Partnership. Health Board and Local Authorities have been set up to provide services that support people to live safely at home, with a good quality of life.
Link Worker	Link workers connect people to community-based support, including activities and services that meet practical, social, and emotional needs that affect their health and wellbeing.
NHS	National Health Service Publicly funded healthcare service
Power of Attorney	A Power of Attorney (POA) is a legal document that grants one person, known as the agent or attorney-in-fact, the authority to act on behalf of another person, called the principal. This authority can cover various

	matters, including financial, legal, and medical decisions
SLT	Senior Leadership Team
SLWG	Short Life Working Group
The Well	The Well part of CLSS - Fife Wide service supporting anyone aged 16 and over with information and general advice to help them to stay well and independent within their community (Drop-in sites throughout Fife and online)
ToC	Test of change
Unpaid Carer	A carer is anyone who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support.
Wider stakeholder event	Locality Planning Team holds the annual stakeholder events in each locality, which brings together key stakeholders for the locality to review relevant data, emergent trends, and local challenges.
WRAP Group	The WRAP group in Fife Council stands for <b>Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty</b> . This group brings together local community planning partners to tackle poverty issues within the area. The WRAP group collaborates with various organizations, both statutory and third sector, to provide a coordinated response to the high levels of poverty and its impacts on families

2 April 2025

Agenda Item No.6

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## Mental Health Response Car (MHRC)

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**Report by:** Chris Conroy, Head of Integrated Community Care Services

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**Wards Affected:** Wards 21 and 22

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to secure funding to extend the deployment of the Mental Health Response Car (MHRC) as a test of change, up to the end of June 2025. The total cost for the extension to June 2025 will be £91,857 and will be drawn from the Community Recovery Fund (CRF). The report will also give an overview on activity relevant to the period from 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### Recommendation(s)

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Members are requested to: -

- 1) Agree funding of £91,857 from CRF, to extend the deployment of the MHRC till end of June 2025; and
- 2) note that feedback will continue to be gathered from staff and people who engage with the MHRC, along with impact data from NHS Fife Accident & Emergency Department, Mental Health Services, Scottish Ambulance Service, and Police Scotland to fully evaluate this pilot approach.

### Resource Implications

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Scottish Ambulance Service response vehicle.

### Legal and Risk Implications

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There are no legal implications associated with this report. The working group maintain a risk register, which is regularly reviewed.

### Impact Assessment

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An impact assessment has been completed and is available at:

EqlA Ref No.	2024.005
Date checked and initials	25/04/2024 CH/AS

### Consultation

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An official MH Response Car Launch with media presence and HSCP Senior Leadership Team members, Councillors and key partners was conducted on 19<sup>th</sup> August at the Levenmouth Ambulance Station.

Members will be aware of an update by email from the Community Manager on 20/1/2025, where councillors were asked if they were comfortable with a delay in the production of this report which was originally to be tabled at the 12th February 2025 area committee. This highlighted that it was preferable to continue the pilot approach despite the lack of formal approval for the extension funding, which this report is seeking today. Members who responded to that communication indicated they were comfortable with that proposal.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The locality core groups were remobilised in May 2022. To ensure the effectiveness of localities, they must operate with the active involvement and leadership of the Health and Social Care (H and SC) senior leadership team, H and SC professionals, Police Scotland, the housing sector, third and independent sector representatives, and community planning partners. In the Levenmouth Locality Group, Supporting Positive Mental Wellbeing was identified as a key priority. During the Levenmouth Locality Group meeting in June 2022, Police Scotland raised concerns about the increasing number of mental health-related (non-criminal) calls they were receiving. In response, a working group was formed, called the Public Health Policing Approach, with representation from Fife Council, NHS Fife (A and E), Community Mental Health, Scottish Ambulance Service, the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, and the Scottish Association of Mental Health.
- 1.2 The impact of the pandemic on mental health in Levenmouth has been significant, with the volume of concern-related calls continuing to rise, becoming a substantial part of day-to-day police work. Historically, while the Police have been primarily associated with crime, it is believed that only 1 in 5 calls to Police Scotland are crime related. Over 80% of calls involve mental health issues, addiction, self-harm, or suicide attempts, which in turn puts pressure on both primary and secondary care services in Fife
- 1.3 The working group recognised the need to explore Public Health approaches that could alleviate the strain on both health professionals and police officers, with a focus to provide “The Right Care at the Right Time to the Right People”.
- 1.4 Based on the gathered information, the working group agreed that an important next step would be to pilot an innovative approach to responding to individuals who contact emergency services with a mental health need. This would involve developing a triage response unit staffed by the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) and adult mental health services. In May 2023, the Levenmouth Area Committee approved a request for funding to support this initiative. However, due to staffing challenges within the mental health service, the test of change was delayed until June 2024.
- 1.5 The call demand into the MHRC from Police Scotland was not as initially anticipated when discussions began in 2022. However, this may be due to the additional resources and training now available to Police Scotland, such as the NHS 24 Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub and referrals through the Distress Brief Intervention programme. In response, a decision was made, in collaboration with both the Levenmouth Area Convenor and the Kirkcaldy Area Convenor, to extend the service’s reach to Kirkcaldy, beginning in mid-September.

## 2.0 Current Position

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2.1 **Operating Model** - Utilising working examples taken from similar pilot projects by NHS and SAS in Inverness / Glasgow and Dundee the model identified will be a hybrid of parts of these projects so that it can be tailored to meet the identified needs from data collected via NHS Fife Mental Health / NHS Fife A and E and Police Scotland around capacity, time of demand, and output from demand.

### 2.1.1 Staffing

- Paramedic MHRC supplied by Scottish Ambulance Service: requires to be a fully equipped ambulance vehicle to provide clinical equipment / access to SAS IT 'Stack' system.
- 1 Band 6 MH Nurse skilled in Mental Health assessment
- Working hours – Friday / Saturday / Sunday 2000 – 0600hrs

### 2.1.2 Process

- Calls will come through the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) IT 'Stack' the team within the car will monitor and triage / respond as identified from information held within 'stack'
- Police Scotland have a direct number to contact the MHRC
- Urgent Care Service Fife (UCSF) have access to the MHRC
- A weekly check-in meeting takes place with HSCP, SAS and Police Scotland to review weekend activity/data to inform any learning/changes for the following weekend.

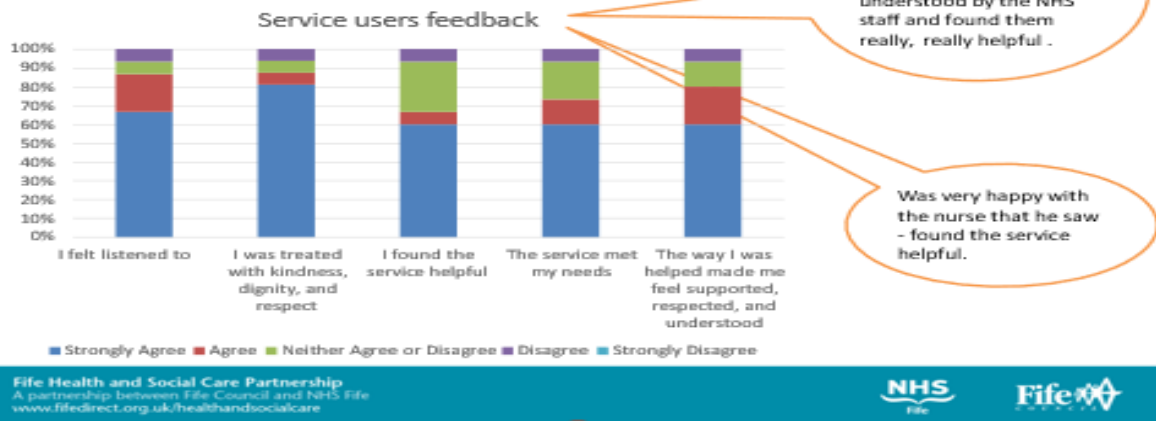
2.2 **Impact:** High Level data from period 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024 to 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (appendix 1)

- Total calls received between June and Jan – 181, average of 7 calls per weekend. However, this has increased to 12-15 calls per weekend in January and February.
- Of the 181 calls, 127 were in relation to Mental Health
- 52 Levenmouth, 35 Kirkcaldy and 40 out of area
- 84.3% of the Mental Health calls were not conveyed to the acute hospital (VHK)
- 58% of people were already known to Mental Health Service
- The majority of mental health calls are face to face
- 48% of calls were from SAS, 30% Police Scotland, 18% not recorded and 4% from Urgent Care Service

2.2.1 **Service User feedback** - The Urgent Care and Assessment admin team contacted individuals who engaged with the Mental Health Response Car between 7th June and 18th August and received 15 responses. An overview of the responses is provided below:

## TOC 11-week overview

7th June 24 to 18th August



### 2.2.2 Feedback from Police Scotland

From a Policing perspective, it was clear almost immediately that this concept works. Having the triage vehicle attend, mitigate the risk, and manage the physical concerns alongside any mental health distress - gives our organisation the confidence to make appropriate decisions and return officers to our core role, rather than spending significant time in hospital environments with people in need of support. Although difficult to fully appreciate the officer hours saved, given the unknown time that would have been spent accessing services if the vehicle was not operational – we have been able to identify that on average **4 hours per officer per call** are saved. This equates to **400 hours** of Police Officer time returned - allowing them to be back in their communities. This is on top of the time saved to Scottish Ambulance Service, Emergency Department and others. Having discussed with officers and supervisors involved on the frontline, it has been received positively from the outset. There is no doubt a culture shift was required internally and remains a key priority to ensure that officers are aware of the operational times and fully understand and realise the benefits in using the resource to its full potential

Our longer-term plans to maximise vehicle demand by expanding elsewhere in Fife or by utilising available data platforms to identify better times to deploy – will mean that this service can no doubt provide an enhanced level of service to Police and partners but more importantly to the people needing support in our communities. (Inspector Spencer, Levenmouth).

Police Officers have been contacted at Levenmouth and Kirkcaldy and provided feedback as below:

*"When the car is available it is fantastic and really speeds up the process...."*

*"Particularly useful when intervening with regular callers... the triage car is able to attend... the staff take responsibility and respond promptly....and we get no further calls from the person..."*

*"...a great resource and reduces the time officers spend at mental health calls...."*

*"Content in the knowledge that the needs of the public are being met in the most appropriate and caring manner...."*

*".... we would like to see this all the time...."*

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 The Mental Health Response Car (MHRC) test of change has undeniably demonstrated a significant positive impact on both Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service, contributing to valuable savings in resource time for both services. Despite occasional challenges with staffing, the MHRC has remained operational for at least 80% of the time since June, highlighting its effectiveness and reliability.
- 3.2 To accurately assess the intervention's impact, 12 months of data is essential. This will allow for a comprehensive evaluation of its effectiveness and long-term outcomes. We will continue gathering feedback from staff and people who engage with the MHRC, along with impact data from NHS Fife Accident & Emergency Department, Mental Health Services, Scottish Ambulance Service, and Police Scotland. This evidence will support sustainability discussions with key partners, including Health and Social Care, Fife Council, Police Scotland, SAS, and NHS Fife Acute Division.

### List of Appendices

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1. Statistics 7 June 2024 to 5 January 2025.
2. Equality Impact Assessment

### Background Papers

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

Levenmouth Area Committee – [31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 Agenda item 4](#)

Report Contact

Author Name Jacquie Stringer

Author's Job Title Service Manager (Locality Planning/Community Led Support)

Workplace

Email: [Jacquie.Stringer-fc@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Jacquie.Stringer-fc@fife.gov.uk)



## Appendix 1

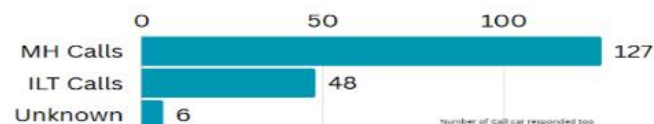
Below provides an overview of the high-level data collected from 7<sup>th</sup> June 24 to 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 25:

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



### Total Calls between 7<sup>th</sup> June and 5<sup>th</sup> Jan - 181

From a possible 93 shifts the car was available 81 shifts – 87%



**Fife Health and Social Care Partnership**  
A partnership between Fife Council and NHS Fife  
[www.fifedirect.org.uk/healthandsocialcare](http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/healthandsocialcare)



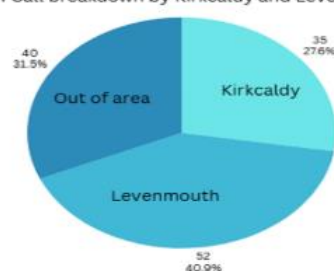
- An average of 7 calls a weekend

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

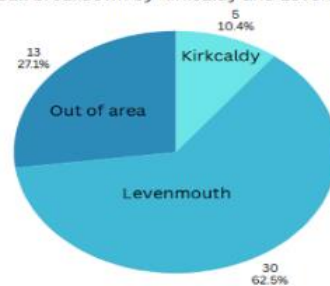


### Call Breakdown - Kirkcaldy & Levenmouth

MH Call breakdown by Kirkcaldy and Levenmouth



ILT Call breakdown by Kirkcaldy and Levenmouth



**Fife Health and Social Care Partnership**  
A partnership between Fife Council and NHS Fife  
[www.fifedirect.org.uk/healthandsocialcare](http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/healthandsocialcare)



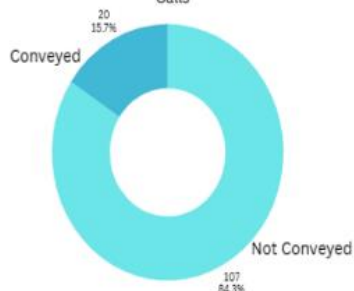
- Of the 181 calls, 127 were in relation to Mental Health
- An average of 7 calls a weekend, however this has increased to 12-15 a weekend in January and February



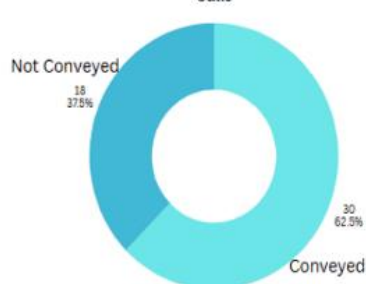


## Number of People Conveyed to the VHK

Number of people conveyed to the VHK from MH Calls



Number of people conveyed to the VHK from ILT Calls

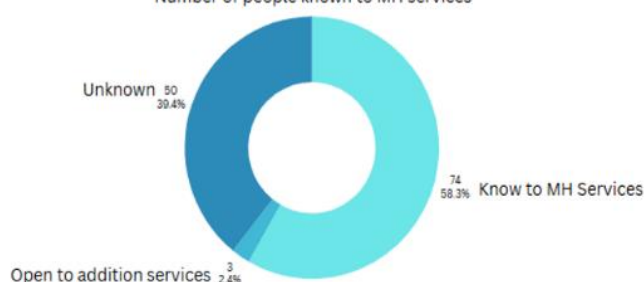


- 84.3% of the Mental Health calls were not conveyed to VHK



## Number of people known to Mental Health services

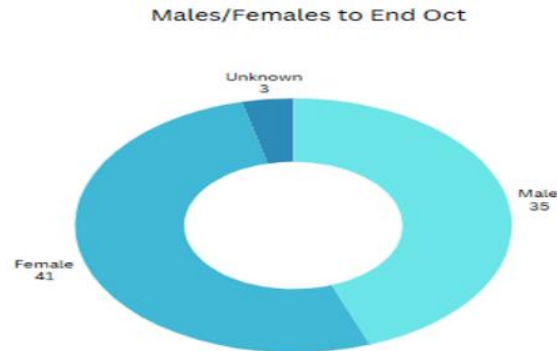
Number of people known to MH services



- 58% of people were already known to Mental Health Service



## Calls by Gender

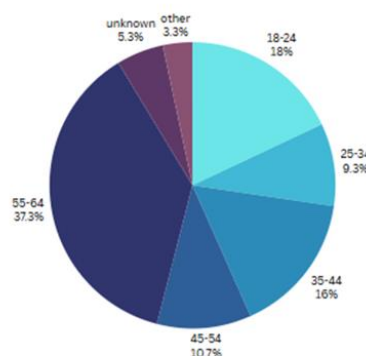


- Gender was recorded between June and Oct – staff have been asked to add to spreadsheet, previously the Change & Improvement Manager checked MORSE (no longer in post)



## Age range for Mental Health Calls

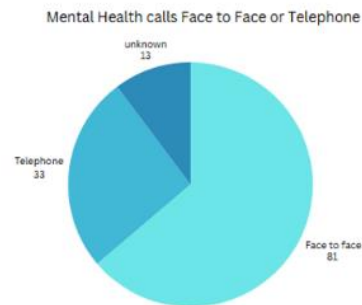
Age range of Mental Health calls percentage to end Oct



- The car is most frequently used by individuals aged 18 to 45 years



## Face to face of Telephone call



- Majority of MH calls are face to face



## Average time spent on calls

Average time spent on MH call



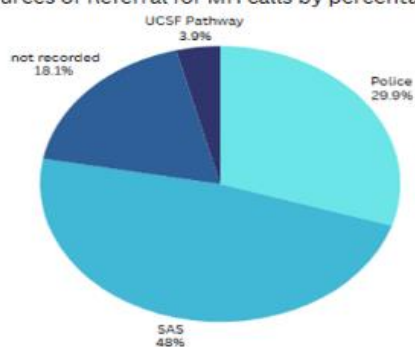
Average time spent on ILT call





## Sources of Referral

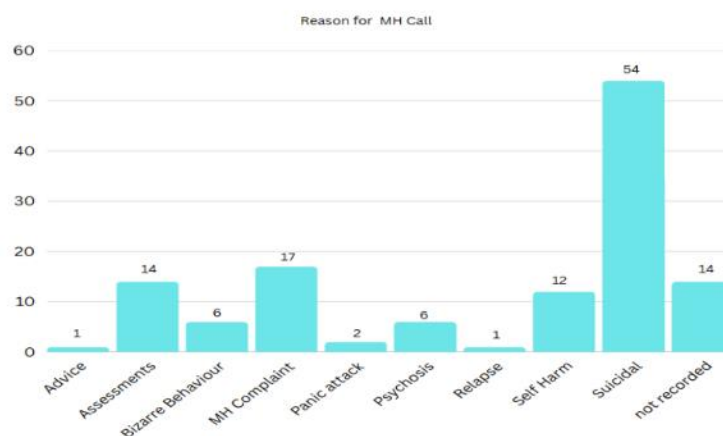
Sources of Referral for MH calls by percentage



- Approximately 49% of calls were from SAS, 30% from Police Scotland, 18% not recorded and £5 UCSF



## Reason for call



## Equality Impact Assessment including Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA)

### Part 1: Background and Information

<b>Title of proposal</b>	Mental Health Response Car Test of Change
<b>Brief description of proposal (including intended outcomes &amp; purpose)</b>	<p>The locality priorities and action plan will deliver on the range of local and national outcomes set in legislation, policy, and strategies. The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014 (the Act) puts in place the legislative framework to integrate health and social care services in Scotland. Section 29(3)9a) of the Act requires integration authorities to work within localities and in Fife we have established seven locality groups which are aligned to the Fife Council local area committees.</p> <p>Police Scotland raised a concern at the Levenmouth Locality Group meeting in June 2022 regarding the number of mental health (i.e. non-criminal) calls received. Subsequently a Working Group was created "Public Health Policing Approach" with representation from Fife Council, NHS Fife Accident &amp; Emergency (A&amp;E), Community Mental Health, Scottish Ambulance Service, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and the Scottish Association of Mental Health. As a result, Levenmouth Locality Group identified 'Supporting Positive Mental Wellbeing' as one of the key priorities.</p> <p>Several tasks were undertaken including data collection from NHS Fife and Police Scotland and further presentation from Scottish Ambulance Service (Dundee) to scope activity in other areas.</p> <p>The Working Group agreed that based on the information collated, an important step forward would be to test an innovate approach to responding to individuals who contact emergency services with a mental health need to develop a response unit staffed by the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) and Adult Mental Health Service.</p> <p>The aims of the Test of Change (TOC) are to:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Enhance the experience for individuals who contact services with a mental health need through timely access to specialist mental health care and assessment in the community.</li> <li>➤ Understand the impact, realised and potential, of the mental health Response car on Police Scotland, SAS and health and social care services.</li> <li>➤ Avoid unnecessary conveyance to A&amp;E where appropriate and identify potential benefits.</li> <li>➤ Identify the limitations, of a mental health Response car service to inform future recommendations.</li> </ul>
<b>Lead Directorate / Service / Partnership</b>	Fife Health and Social Care Partnership – Locality Planning
<b>EqlA Lead Person</b>	Jacquie Stringer Service Manager – Locality Planning & Community Led Support
<b>EqlA Contributors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Levenmouth Locality Planning Core Groups</li> <li>• Senior Leadership Team</li> </ul>
<b>Date of EqlA</b>	March 24

### How does the proposal meet one or more of the general duties under the Equality Act 2010?

Please refer to the HSCP Equality Impact Assessment Guidance.

Consider proportionality and relevance (*See Page 10 of Guidance*).

<b>General duties</b>	<b>Please Explain</b>
Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation	<p>HSCP Locality Planning Core Groups comply with equality laws: Equality Act (2010).</p> <p>We follow the Health and Social Care Partnership/Fife Council/NHS policies in place to ensure any project/Test of Change we deliver as part of Locality Planning is free from bullying, harassment or discrimination.</p>

	<p>The Mental Health Response Car will be available to everyone, when appropriate, based on assessed needs. Individuals will speak to a trained mental health professional in a secure private location, such as their home. If the space is public, staff will ensure privacy through securing the perimeter of the car/ambulance or with the support of the local police.</p>
Advancing equality of opportunity	<p>The TOC aligns with the vision and the priorities of the Partnership's Strategic Plan 2023 to 2026, and advances equality of opportunity by supporting the Partnership's new equality outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved collection and use of equality data, including protected characteristics, to support service planning and delivery, and promote mainstreaming of equality rights.</li> <li>• Individuals with lived experience of inequality and exclusion will have more opportunities to get involved and share their views, concerns, and suggestions for improvement across the Partnership.</li> <li>• Increased collaboration with communities and partners that have experience and expertise working with groups that have a protected characteristic, leading to improved health outcomes for individuals, their families and carers.</li> <li>• Greater diversity and an inclusive workforce culture, with employees from all backgrounds and cultures reporting that they feel increasingly valued.</li> <li>• Improved understanding and better relations between individuals and groups who share a protected characteristic, and those who do not.</li> <li>• Enhance the experience for individuals who contact services with a mental health need through timely access to specialist mental health care and assessment in the community.</li> </ul> <p>By testing the Mental Health Response Car, the aim is to enhance the experience for individuals who contact services with a mental health need through timely access to</p>

	specialist mental health care and assessment in the community – “the right care, at the right time”
Fostering good relations	<p>This test of change has been developed by the Levenmouth Locality Core group, which is a multi-agency group including relevant colleagues from the independent and third sectors.</p> <p>The service will promote good relationship between the mental health services and the community to offer them the support people need within a community setting.</p>

If the decision is of a strategic nature, how does the proposal address socio-economic disadvantage or inequalities of outcome?

<b>Fairer Scotland duty</b>	<b>Please Explain</b>
Socio-economic disadvantage	N/A
Inequalities of outcome	The Mental Health Response Car will provide support for adults who are experiencing a mental health crisis. This project supports the HSCP Strategic Plan and its priority - ‘A Fife where we will promote dignity, equality, and independence’.

Having considered the general duties above, if there is likely to be no impact on any of the equality groups, parts 2 and 3 of the impact assessment may not need to be completed. Please provide an explanation (based on evidence) if this is the case.

***An Equality Impact Assessment is required***

## **Part 2: Evidence and Impact Assessment**

**Explain what the positive and / or negative impact of the strategy is on any of the protected characteristics. If there is no impact, please explain why.**



<b>Protected characteristic</b>	<b>Positive impact</b> (May benefit an equality group.)	<b>Negative impact</b> (Could disadvantage an equality group.)	<b>Mitigations</b> (Steps we will take to reduce the risk of disadvantage by an equality group.)	<b>No Impact</b>
Age (including older people aged 65+)	<p>Ensuring that individuals, especially older adults can access the Mental Health Response Car, when appropriate within a community setting. This will have a positive impact on any transport or mobility challenges they may experience.</p> <p>Older adults may also feel more comfortable talking to someone in their own home, they may be less overwhelmed than they might be in a clinical setting. There is also scope for carers to be there as well - which is not always possible in a clinical setting.</p>	Some older people may have concerns in regard to external agencies accessing their home address.	Where the person has capacity, and there is no immediate risk of harm, the paramedics and other staff involved will ensure that the individual provides agreement for people to enter their home.	
Disability (Mental, Physical, Sensory, and Carers of Disabled	Ensuring that disabled people can access the Mental Health Response	Some people may have concerns in regard to external agencies	Where the person has capacity, and there is no immediate risk of harm,	

<b>Protected characteristic</b>	<b>Positive impact</b> (May benefit an equality group.)	<b>Negative impact</b> (Could disadvantage an equality group.)	<b>Mitigations</b> (Steps we will take to reduce the risk of disadvantage by an equality group.)	<b>No Impact</b>
People)	<p>Car, when appropriate within a community setting. This will have a positive impact on any transport or mobility challenges they may experience.</p> <p>The Mental Health Response will be able to provide a more person-centred approach in relation to a mental health crisis due to being staffed by a trained mental health professional.</p>	<p>accessing their home address.</p> <p>Staff may have to provide accessible leaflets/cards for service at a later point, if not available within the vehicle.</p>	<p>the paramedics and other staff involved will ensure that the individual provides agreement for people to enter their home.</p>	
Gender Reassignment	<p>Ensuring that people who identify as transgender can access the Mental Health Response Car, when appropriate within a community setting. This will have a positive impact on them if they</p>	<p>Resistance in engagement with the service due to not being identified as their chosen gender.</p>	<p>Ensuring that staff are aware of people with gender reassignments and ways they can work with them to address any challenges they may experience due to previous names and</p>	

<b>Protected characteristic</b>	<b>Positive impact</b> (May benefit an equality group.)	<b>Negative impact</b> (Could disadvantage an equality group.)	<b>Mitigations</b> (Steps we will take to reduce the risk of disadvantage by an equality group.)	<b>No Impact</b>
	are experiencing difficulties accessing mainstream services due to their gender reassignment. any transport or mobility challenges they may experience.		system identifications.	
Marital Status (Marriage and Civil Partnerships)	N/A	N/A	N/A	The individual's marital status will have no impact on their opportunity to receive support via the TOC.
Pregnancy and Maternity	Ensuring that individuals can access the Mental Health Response Car, when appropriate within a community setting.	Failure to consider and mitigate barriers faced by women who are pregnant could lead to poorer health and social care outcomes for those who are pregnant and breastfeeding.  Potential barriers include:	Ensuring that the staff are aware of the appropriate mental health support services in place to support in pregnancy and early motherhood.	

<b>Protected characteristic</b>	<b>Positive impact</b> (May benefit an equality group.)	<b>Negative impact</b> (Could disadvantage an equality group.)	<b>Mitigations</b> (Steps we will take to reduce the risk of disadvantage by an equality group.)	<b>No Impact</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unable to arrange/attend an appointment for mental health support due to childcare issues.</li> </ul>		
Race (All Racial Groups including Gypsy/Travellers)	Ensuring that individuals of all races can access the Mental Health Response Car, when appropriate within a community setting, avoiding the challenges they may experience while engaging with mainstream services.	There is a potential negative impact for someone whose first language is not English.	Understanding of the challenges related to this protected group and offering flexible support and understanding from the service, such as offering an interpretation service if English isn't a first language.	
Religion, Belief, and Non-Belief	N/A	Some religions/beliefs might not be willing to accept medical intervention and might not want to engage with the service.	Understanding of the challenges related to this protected group and offering flexible support and understanding from the service, such as offering non-medical support, e.g Community Led Support	

<b>Protected characteristic</b>	<b>Positive impact</b> (May benefit an equality group.)	<b>Negative impact</b> (Could disadvantage an equality group.)	<b>Mitigations</b> (Steps we will take to reduce the risk of disadvantage by an equality group.)	<b>No Impact</b>
Sex (Women and Men)	Ensuring that individuals can access the Mental Health Response Car, when appropriate within a community setting.	Both sexes might find it challenging to engage with the service if they are experiencing domestic abuse and the abuser is present.	Understanding of domestic abuse and recognising the signs and being able to ask the right questions in order to assess the situation and offer the appropriate support.	
Sexual Orientation (Heterosexual, Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual)	Ensuring that individuals can access the Mental Health Response Car, when appropriate (i.e. at point of need) within a community setting.	N/A	N/A	

**Please also consider the impact of the policy/strategy/process change in relation to:**

	<b>Positive impact</b>	<b>Negative impact</b>	<b>Mitigations</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
Armed Forces Community	<p>Ensuring that individuals can access the Mental Health Response Car, when appropriate to support within their community.</p> <p>Some individuals in the Armed Forces Community find it difficult to ask for help/support because all of their training encourages independence and self-reliance. The Mental Health Response Car will help address this because it is available at point of need, when people are more likely to accept help, and it is community based, so people do not need to travel to clinical appointments etc.</p>	<p>Individuals currently serving in the armed forces, veterans, and their family members, may find it difficult to engage and ask for help because all of their training encourages independence and self-reliance.</p>	<p>Understanding of the challenges related to this protected group and offering support and working in partnership with Veterans First Point and other specialist support services.</p> <p>The staff can support to address veterans who struggle to engage with services or ask for help, because it will be available at point of need/crisis.</p>	
Carers	<p>Ensuring carers have a service who can support them at home without</p>	<p>Carers may struggle engaging with the service due to their caring responsibilities and may</p>	<p>Understanding of the challenges related to this</p>	

	the need to attend OOH appointment or A&E, which may help them if they have other caring responsibilities.	require additional support.	protected group and offering flexible support and understanding from the service.	
Looked After Children and Care Leavers	Ensuring that individuals can access the Mental Health Response Car, when appropriate (at point of need) within a community setting.	N/A	N/A	
Privacy (including information security, data protection, and human rights)	Fife Health and Social Care Partnership and its partners have robust procedures in place to ensure compliance with legislative requirements including data protection and privacy rights.	Some people may have difficulties engaging with the service, as they may feel uncomfortable with an ambulance vehicle in front of their property.	Data Protection Impact Assessments will be completed when appropriate in alignment with the service development.	
Economy	The Partnership's Medium Term Financial Strategy includes appropriate mitigations for potential economic impacts.	No perceived impact	N/A	

- Please record the evidence used to support the impact assessment. This could include officer knowledge and experience, research, customer surveys, service user engagement.
- Any evidence gaps can also be highlighted below.



<b>Evidence used</b>	<b>Source of evidence</b>
Health and Social Care Partnership's Strategic Plan 2023 to 2026	Strategic priorities and delivery plan.
Localities Guidance	Locality Planning principle and ethos
Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021-2024	Legislative requirements and delivery plan
Getting to Know: Levenmouth Health & Social Care Locality Planning	Strategic priorities and delivery plan.
Carers Strategy 2023 – 2026	Strategic priorities and delivery plan.
Home First Strategy 2023 to 2026	Strategic priorities and delivery plan.
Primary Care Strategy 2023 to 2026	Strategic priorities and delivery plan.
<b>Evidence gaps</b>	<b>Planned action to address evidence gaps</b>

If this proposal will impact on children/young people's rights either directly or indirectly, please complete Part 3. If this proposal will have no impact on children/young people's rights please provide an explanation below and continue to Part 5.

*A Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) is not required as the service is adults only (18+).*

*We don't anticipate any impacts for children however, normal Child Protection measures would be followed for any incidents where there is concern for children.*

### Part 3 – Children’s Rights & Wellbeing Impact Assessment

Which UNCRC Articles are relevant to the policy/procedure/strategy/practice (Please check Guidance for information)	
What impact will the policy/procedure/strategy/practice have on children’s rights?	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral
Will there be different impacts on different groups of children and young people?	
What options have you considered to modify the policy/procedure/strategy/practice or mitigate any negative impact?	
How will the policy/procedure/strategy/practice contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people?	
How will the policy/procedure/strategy/practice promote the Rights of the Child?	
Have you engaged with children & young people in the development of this policy/procedure/strategy/practice?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Please complete Part 4
	<input type="checkbox"/> No – please explain why

- Please record the evidence used to support the children’s rights and wellbeing impact assessment. This could include demographic information, academic research, service monitoring/inspection reports, user surveys etc. Look at what existing evidence tells you about children and young people’s views and experiences. Identify any gaps in the evidence base and advise how you will address these.

Evidence used	Source of evidence
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<b>Evidence gaps</b>	<b>Planned action to address evidence gaps</b>

#### Part 4 – Children’s Rights & Wellbeing – Engagement and Participation of Children and Young People

Engagement and participation with children and young people should incorporate the 7 golden rules of participation. Please tell us how you made sure these were followed during participation and engagement

1.	Understand my rights	How did you ensure that the child/children or young people had an understanding about their rights?
2.	A chance to be involved	Did children and young people understand the project, and what is being asked of them How did you ensure that all communication was accessible? How did you meet the needs of all children and young people taking part?
3.	Remember it s my choice	How did you make sure you gave children and young people choices?

4.	Value Me	How did you make sure that children and young people know their views have been taken seriously and have made an impact?
5.	Support Me	How did you identify and overcome any barriers to participation?
6.	Work Together	How well did working together achieve aims of participation?
7.	Keep in Touch	What have you planned to ensure that children & young people are informed of the outcome/decision?
What impact has the engagement/participation made?		

### Part 5: Recommendations and Sign Off

(Recommendations should be based on evidence available at the time and aim to mitigate negative impacts or enhance positive impacts on any or all of the protected characteristics).

Recommendation	Lead Person	Timescale
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1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

By signing off the EqIA including CRWIA, you are agreeing that the EqIA including CRWIA represents a thorough and proportionate analysis of the policy based on evidence listed above and there is no indication of unlawful practice, and the recommendations are proportionate.

Date completed:	Date sent to Compliance Team: 25/04/2024 <a href="mailto:FOI.IJB@fife.gov.uk">FOI.IJB@fife.gov.uk</a>
Senior Officer Name: Jacquie Stringer	Designation: Service Manager Localities and Community Led Support

**FOR COMPLIANCE TEAM ONLY**

EqIA Ref No.	2024.005
Date checked and initials	25/04/2024 CH/AS

2 April 2025

Agenda Item No. 7

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## Levenmouth Local Community Plan Update and Anti-Poverty Work Overview

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

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**Wards Affected:** Ward Nos.21 & 22

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to give members an update on the activity related to the noted priorities agreed of the Area Committee contained in the 2023 -2026 Levenmouth Local Community Plan, at the Levenmouth Area Committee, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 (para.68 refers).

### Recommendation(s)

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The committee is asked to: -

- 1) note the current update on activity aligned to the priorities that form the basis of the Levenmouth Local Community Plan 2023-26; and
- 2) advise of any other key issues they would wish to see reflected in the local community plan.

### Resource Implications

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There are no specific resource implications highlighted within this report, however any activity generated through the progression of the improvement actions will potentially require an allocation of funding from either the local community planning budget, other council budgets allocated to the local area during the period of the plan or external funding. Many of the improvement actions in the short term will be funded through the Community Recovery Fund up to the point that funding is ended in March 2026.

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

### Consultation

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The local community plan was based on the strategic assessment process, consultations with local communities and community groups, local elected members, local partner

agencies and organisations. The priorities were also drawn from local action plans for communities across the area supported through the work of Coalfields Regeneration Trust.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 Local Community Plans have been a feature of local community development work in the 7 areas of Fife for several years.
- 1.2 The plans enable the allocation of resources to achieve outcomes which are regarded as core to improving Levenmouth for local people. This could cover community safety, green space improvements, training skills and employability right through to climate change concerns and the need to provide local support for the impacts of poverty, poor mental health and the need to mitigate the harms to families which occur through the misuse of drugs and alcohol.
- 1.3 An early incarnation of the local community plan in 2012 highlighted the need to support a coordinated campaign locally to bring back the Levenmouth rail link, this allowed specific resource to be released to back the Levenmouth Reconnected campaign in its activities, right the way through to the positive decision on the rail link renewal in 2019.
- 1.4 Many of the key priorities in this current report, directly derive from the seismic shift for the Levenmouth area brought about by the investment in this key piece of infrastructure. This underlines the importance of us continuing to build on this momentum to ensure we derive a range of positive outcomes for Levenmouth.
- 1.5 This report builds on the priorities agreed by elected members in mid 2023 and highlights a range of activities and outcomes which have been put in place by the broad delivery partnership which operates in Levenmouth, to progress the aspirations of our local communities.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 As a reminder to members the key priorities agreed in 2023 are noted in 2.2 below with some small variations added to reflect changes in emphasis over the last year and a half.
- 2.2 **Opportunities for All**
  - Improved Health Outcomes - with a particular focus on mental health, support issues around drug misuse and drug related deaths, and activity to reduce numbers of emergency hospital admissions.
  - Take action to improve rates of participation in physical activity in Levenmouth, including the promotion of active travel options.
  - Targeted Anti-Poverty Interventions - Increasing local support options for mitigating the impact of the cost-of-living crisis based on a default Cash First framework.
  - Improved Literacy and Numeracy outcomes for all ages.

### **Thriving Places**

- Improvements to transport connectivity - continue to build on the opportunities offered by the rail link to improve local connectivity in Levenmouth
- Improvements to digital connectivity.
- Targeted Action on ASB - continued focus on ASB including misuse of motorcycles, fire raising and illegal dumping.



- Town Centre Public Realm Improvements- continue improvements in Leven town centre and assess the support required for improvements in the smaller neighbourhood centres, this will include maintenance and better interpretation of the areas built heritage.
- Green Space and Play Space Improvements - continue to improve play facilities and our green space assets.
- Support the work to develop a stronger cultural offer in Levenmouth.

### **Inclusive Growth and Jobs**

- Put in place local opportunities for skills development and training tailored to the needs of local businesses and aspirations of local people, and the maintenance of key assets.
- Support and promote entrepreneurial behaviour in Levenmouth.
- Support the development of a strong tourism offer for Levenmouth, that increases visitor numbers and local spend.

### **Community Led Services**

- Develop and support community leadership in all forms as part of a wider community wealth building approach.
- Promote and support Community Asset Transfer where it is appropriate and beneficial to the local community and promotes service delivery.
- Promote and support community growing and food insecurity initiatives.
- Promote and support community energy approaches and support climate adaptation initiatives that enhance the sustainability of all types of community led activity.

- 2.3 As noted in the resource implications section of this report much of this activity will be supported through the Community Recovery Fund framework which has been the subject of significant debate with members over the last few months. During those discussions and in subsequent reports the activities agreed have been aligned to the statement of local priorities being reaffirmed in the report today.

## **3.0 Conclusions**

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- 3.1 The priorities as noted in 2.2 above cover a range of issues that have been identified as important to local people elected members and workers in a range of discussions and consultations.
- 3.2 It is important to note that these are not fixed and the need for adaptation and updating over the life of the local community plan will be fully accommodated in discussion with local people and elected members.

### **List of Appendices**

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- Improvement Actions and Current Activity/Outcomes

## **Background Papers**

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

- Levenmouth Area Committee – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 – agenda item 10
- Levenmouth Area – Strategic Assessment 2024

Report Contact

Dave Paterson

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Buckhaven Burgh Chambers

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Levenmouth Local Community Plan		
Area Priority.	Strategic Assessment Overview	Improvement focus
<b>Improved Health Outcomes. (Opportunities for All)</b>	<p>Issues around the importance of accessing health care is a key issue for local people in Levenmouth, this view came strongly through the Peoples Panel survey 35 in 2022.</p> <p>The local planning approach will focus on these access concerns as well as activity around key areas relating to health outcomes specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drug and Alcohol issues – recent data has shown that Levenmouth had 378 drug related hospital admissions per 100,000 standardised population – the Scottish rate for admissions was 181.</li> <li>• Mental Health – pre pandemic figures showed that 25% of the</li> </ul>	<p>Support current ADP approach around the availability of Naloxone.</p> <p>Continue to develop an approach to support families impacted by drug deaths.</p> <p>Support the development of a crisis support service in Levenmouth for those impacted by mental health through the work of the current Health and Social Care/Police initiative.</p> <p>Promote and support the development of The Well approach in Levenmouth.</p> <p>Continue to develop the local Café Inc and Warm Spaces approach.</p> <p>Ensure provision of food and welfare support and quick and simple access to advice for people who need it.</p> <p>Promote sustainable food choices, including healthy food, value for money, reduced food waste, and grow your own.</p> <p><b>Updated Strategic Assessment overview 2025</b></p> <p>Nearly one in four people in Fife (23.4%) reported having a long-term illness/condition, higher than the Scottish average of 21.4% and has increased in Fife from 20.3% in 2011. Mental health is the second most reported health condition. This has increased threefold at Fife level to 11.9% in 2022, from 4.1% in 2011. This is driven by a large increase amongst younger people and is in line with the picture for Scotland as a whole.</p> <p>Levenmouth Area has higher proportions of people with a long-term illness or disease, a mental health condition, and a physical disability compared with Fife, with Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages ward having the highest levels in the Area.</p>

	<p>Levenmouth population were prescribed medication for anxiety, depression, or psychosis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lifestyle concerns and poor diet- Levenmouth residents have higher rates of physical long-term conditions (LTC) than the rest of Fife - including arthritis, asthma, coronary heart disease, cancer &amp; diabetes – there is a correlation with poor lifestyle concerns impacted by poverty.</li> </ul>	
		<p><b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024-2025 Update</b></p> <p><b>Mental Health Triage Car Approach</b> – This innovative approach has hit a few bumps in the road since its launch in early 2024, with staffing of the car being the main concern given the stretched resources within the ambulance service and NHS, the most current figures for the service are shown below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The car has responded to 70 calls</li> <li>• 48 (68%) Mental Health calls</li> <li>• 22 calls Immediate Life Threatening (ILT) calls</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 individuals have engaged with the MH car more than once</li> <li>• 9 individuals have been conveyed to hospital (19%)</li> <li>• 19 calls were out of the Levenmouth Locality</li> <li>• 5 of the calls have been dealt with via telephone</li> </ul> <p>While we would have expected higher demand for the service, early results are showing that the provision is managing to prevent over 80% of calls which would have ended up in the ED. We have agreed to limited use of the car for urgent calls from the Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath areas to ensure the car is being used to its maximum capacity, and that we can garner as much data as possible on the pilot to fully understand the impact of its introduction, and the improved outcomes for those helped by this additional resource.</p> <p><b>Naloxone-</b> Overdose awareness and naloxone training continue to be rolled out across the local area with open training taking place last year with 45 members of the Welfare Reform Anti-Poverty Group in attendance. As well as this, the Mental Health Nursing Team at Scoonie Medical Practice have all received training as well as eight pharmacies in the Levenmouth area. Public 'pop ups' have been in place which aim to distribute naloxone to members of the local community and reduce stigma. Including assertive outreach at Swan and Memorial Court in Methil, these initiatives have proven to be popular with over 20 naloxone kits distributed to those at risk.</p> <p>Further overdose awareness and naloxone training took place on the 12th of February 2025 at the Fife Innovation Centre and is open to everyone.</p> <p><b>One Stop Shop KY8-</b> The KY8 club remains popular in the Levenmouth area with around 26 people on average attending the club each week. In 2024, the club had 1,309 members attend with 14 of those people receiving a prescription for treatment on the day. In addition to this, the ADAPT team have recently started a women's group as part of the KY8 club. The area has supported the development of a women only group as the need for this targeted approach became more obvious given the growing need for significant support for vulnerable women who have been facing violence and intimidation issues.</p>
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		<p>We have also worked to provide consistent welfare support within KY8 sessions, this is delivered between CLD staff and Furniture Plus, offering participants support on site as well as follow up work in the community. This support seeks to address welfare needs for people attending with the aim of supporting improved wellbeing and positive connections.</p> <p><b>Licensing</b> - Levenmouth has the 3rd highest rate of all premises (that sell alcohol) and the highest rates of off-sales. Neighbourhoods in the most deprived areas have almost 3x number of off sales compared to least deprived areas. Due to this work is still ongoing with the Licensing Forum and Board to highlight the link between health harms and licensed premises in areas with higher numbers of off sales.</p> <p><b>Alcohol Brief Interventions</b> – These continue to be rolled out within primary and secondary care, as well as third sector settings within the Levenmouth area. There is scope to roll these out wider than these settings, and work is underway to identify where this resource would be best used.</p> <p><b>Drug Related Deaths</b> – This issue has been a major concern for the area for several years, while the numbers of deaths have fallen since the peak of 2022, and it is notable that Cowdenbeath has overtaken Levenmouth as having the highest rate of drug related deaths with Kirkcaldy sitting on the same figure as Levenmouth (source: Fife ADP drug related death analysis), the problem continues to be one that requires further focused work.</p> <p><b>Kingdom Off Road Back on Track</b> - The focus being to make off-road motorcycling more accessible to people who have suffered an injury, have ill health, or a disability. Where there are barriers that make it more challenging for people to ride or repair motorcycles, or even to compete in off-road motorcycle events, we want to help individuals break – down these barriers. Starting February 2025.</p> <p><b>Restoration Fife</b> – Restoration Fife is a social activities community organisation for people in recovery from substance use. They aim to reduce social isolation for people within that community, give them an opportunity to connect with their peers and assist them in developing and maintaining their recovery. Previously carrying out work with clients in a cafe environment –</p>
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		Restoration Fife are currently in the process of adapting the offer locally to fit local demand. In the interim they are continuing to provide outreach assistance.
<b>Low levels of activity and participation in sport (Opportunities for All)</b>	Areas in Levenmouth have lower than average levels of participation in activity and sport which has an impact of the LTC issues noted above.	<p>Continue to support the Community Connector activity in Methil and Methilhill in conjunction with sportscotland and Active Schools.</p> <p>Improved access to play space and facilities through capital investment in our green spaces.</p> <p>Where possible remove financial barriers to local people accessing sport and leisure activities.</p>
		<p><b>Current activity and Outcomes – 2024-2025 Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 new 10-week block programmes running within Levenmouth Academy as a partnership with Active Schools, Social Work and Fiona Livingstone Fitness working with disengaged young people with challenging behaviour patterns.</li> <li>• Participation groups - Working with different support services to provide closed experiences of existing local provisions to ease the groups into full participation. Currently working with the Levenmouth Foodbank, the ESOL team and two different groups through the Job Centre.</li> <li>• Couch to 5k Club starting imminently - Open to the public but promoted through the GPs, community centres and Health Promotion and primarily targeting older adults.</li> <li>• The Methil and Methilhill focus on improving activity have continued through the work of the Community Connector.</li> </ul>
<b>Targeted Anti-Poverty Interventions (Opportunities for All)</b>	Levenmouth has the smallest population of the 7 areas of Fife, with 37,722 people living in 19,672 households, a higher proportion of which are older people (22.6%). The area has a lower level of owner-	<p>Through the work of the Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty Group and People Group continue to develop initiatives that have mitigating effect on the impact of the cost-of-living crisis. Current activity includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Plus Partnership with Fife Furniture Plus</li> <li>• The Levenmouth Independence Initiative with Castle Furniture</li> <li>• Fuel Poverty Focus Levenmouth with Greener Kirkcaldy</li> <li>• The Levenmouth Resilience Fund</li> </ul>



	<p>occupied (54.2%) and a higher rate of social rented housing (31.3%). It has the highest proportion of deprived data zones, and the highest levels of income (19.5%) and employment deprivation (15.9%) of all areas. The area has the lowest employment rate (59.9%), and the highest claimant rate (6.9%). It also has the lowest levels of 16–19-year-olds participating in education, employment, or training (85.8%) with only 65.5% continuing in education.</p>	<p>We will continue to put in place high quality advice and support in partnership with CARF (Citizens Advice and Rights Fife). Through our job club approach ensure clients are supported back into the jobs market. Support will continue to be given to ensure skills training opportunities are available in Levenmouth through Public/Private and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector providers. Support and promote income maximisation approaches locally to ensure local people are aware of all potential benefits they may qualify for. Build resilience amongst local people by providing financial literacy learning opportunities. Promote data led interventions using the Low Income Family Tracker tool. We will use a 'cash first' framework in building our local response to poverty issues.</p> <p><b>Updated Strategic Assessment Overview 2025</b> There are many reasons why a household may find itself in poverty such as unemployment, low paid jobs, inadequate benefits as well as rising living costs. Fife continues to track just above Scotland for child poverty (a proxy for household poverty). 23.6% of children in Fife are now living in relative poverty (in households with income less than 60% UK median income) compared to 21.3% for Scotland. Levenmouth, Kirkcaldy, Cowdenbeath and Glenrothes Areas all have higher child poverty rates than Fife as a whole. This is broadly consistent with income and employment deprivation (SIMD 2020).</p> <p><b>Fuel Poverty</b> Fuel poverty relates to households that must spend a higher proportion of their household income to keep their house warm at a reasonable temperature. It is affected by three factors: 1) household income, 2) an increase in household fuel costs, 3) a household's energy use. The Research and Insight Team have developed a Fife Fuel Poverty Composite Index (CI) to answer the question: 'Where are neighbourhoods in Fife with increased risk of experiencing fuel poverty?', This provides a more accurate measure of fuel poverty risk to enable services to target fuel poverty need more effectively. Areas of highest fuel poverty risk on the overall index include: Buckhaven Central, Methil Trees East, Kennoway South East, Denbeath South, Methilhill Toll Bar, Kennoway North West, Methil Trees West, Methil Methilhill, Kennoway East, Buckhaven Birds.</p>
		<b>Current Activity and Outcomes –2024- 2025 Update</b>

		<p><b>Plus, Partnership</b> - To date, the project has received a total of 165 referrals in just under 1 year. Any out of Levenmouth referrals are signposted and given a supportive handover to a suitable service provision for their area of Fife. As mentioned, there has been a notable increase in word-of-mouth referrals as awareness of the project continues to increase. Of these 165 referrals, 106 have been active cases with another 4 participants being re-referred for additional support. In total over £86,000 of defined benefits have been accrued by clients accessing this service, this includes benefit enhancement, debt write off, Big Wee House provision, help with Gym costs, and access to SIM cards.</p> <p><b>Levenmouth Independence Initiative</b> - Levenmouth Independence Initiative is a partnership between Castle Furniture and Levenmouth Community Learning and Development Team which has been operational using our current approach since July 2023. With support from Levenmouth Anti-Poverty Funding, we provide an access point where the community - both local staff and residents - can request the items they require to manage their households successfully.</p> <p>This includes re-use white goods and furniture items, and where necessary we can purchase new or unique items – such as bunk beds which sleep 3 children. A local project team has been developed to work together to respond to households in need by offering appropriate additional support such as benefit checks and referrals to specialist services to address more fundamental barriers to resilience.</p> <p>In the first year of delivery (July 2023-July 2024) the team have been able to aid 117 households with access to support and provided a total of 339 household items at a cost of £25, 501.72. This includes help being given directly to 59 single people and 58 families with children (the families have had 82 adults in the house and 100 children in total)</p> <p>Members will recall they received a full update on the LII approach at Area Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024, and a further, more detailed reports will be included within the anti-poverty update reports that come to the committee on a regular basis.</p>
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		<p><b>Greener Kirkcaldy Fuel Poverty Approach</b> – Greener Kirkcaldy’s “Enhanced fuel poverty approach” project is supported by the anti-poverty budget for Levenmouth. This funding supports delivering an enhanced handy service, including installing energy-efficient measures recommended by energy advisors, such as thermal curtains, LED bulbs, radiator panels, and simple draught proofing like door brushes and letterbox covers, on a means-tested basis. The approach also provides microwaves, heaters, and over-blankets to those requiring additional assistance, and install carpets making this a whole-house approach. Early discussion with elected members in 2017 confirmed the desire to cover all tenures in the Levenmouth approach which was unique at the time in terms of Fife provision. The addition of a carpeting service has been key to helping <i>17 local people set up new homes or sustain long term tenancies where people do not meet criteria for support. This type of work provides</i> additional insulation, that can be key to sustaining that tenancy. This approach is supported by Buckhaven Carpet Warehouse to ensure expenditure stays local.</p> <p>Between the end of April and December 2024 32 participants have collectively received £32,474 in financial gains, averaging £1,015 per home. These gains will continue to increase throughout the project as more debt is cleared, and additional measures are installed through the ‘handy’ service. A full report on the work of this initiative will come as part of the anti-poverty update reports that will regularly come to committee.</p> <p><b>Cash First Approach</b> – The basic elements of a cash first approach can be summarised as follows “Ready access to emergency income when someone has no money for food. To prevent future hardship this should be delivered alongside welfare rights and income maximisation welfare advice and support”</p> <p>Members will recall that they supported the recommendations of a two-phase Cash First approach for Levenmouth in a report to the Committee in February 2025, the main aims of the early adopter approach for this area are as follows:</p> <p>The first phase will focus on supporting 10 households who will be facing the 5-week minimum wait for Universal Credit either as part of a new claim or managed migration. Households in this cohort will receive the equivalent of 5 weeks of Universal Credit entitlement via payments made by Kingdom Community Bank.</p>
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		<p>We have already been able to commission an evidence review which was carried out by Iconic Consulting to ensure the initial approach we intend to take is appropriate and has relevance for people in the Levenmouth community</p> <p>This approach has been informed by local people accessing the foodbank who identified this element of Universal Credit as a key weakness in UC and one which can be difficult to recover from causing ongoing adverse circumstances. We believe in working alongside local household in this circumstance we can reduce a reliance on having to accept 'Advance Payments' which are then repayable from UC, therefore reducing debt and a potential need for crisis interventions. Thus, enabling local people to be supported to work towards goals including learning, employment and empowerment.</p> <p>For the second cohort of households, we are developing a learning cycle where cash first is one of a suite of interventions available as part of community-based welfare support approach.</p> <p>We would be looking to understand where welfare workers would choose to utilise this approach with households who are referred to them individually as opposed to a thematic group.</p> <p>This pilot allows the area to test the cash first approach in a 'real life' context and develop a greater understanding of how the approach could be applied when it is embedded in longer term community welfare support intervention options.</p> <p><b>Continuation of Welfare Support Post Criminal Justice Social Work</b> A partnership team consisting of JSW and Community Development have worked collaboratively to ensure effective project management and delivery. As this is a unique project for Fife Council, the partnership created a new role profile for the post and JSW service which defined our case management approach. This was used to successfully recruit the welfare worker who started on the project in February 2024.</p> <p>Successful participant outcomes for this project are improved housing situations, improved financial situations, positive engagement with community-based supports and progression along</p>
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		<p>the employability pathway. Members received a full overview of the project at the November 2024 Levenmouth Area Committee meeting, and further progress updates will come to the committee in April 2025 as part of the anti-poverty work report.</p> <p><b>WRAP Plan</b> – The Welfare Reform and Anti-poverty action plan will be the overarching document that guides the anti-poverty work in the area. This plan has now been finalised and will come on stream from April 2025. This has been signed off by the representative WRAP group membership which has 96 individuals representing dozens of organisations across the area. The plan will be fully shared with elected members soon.</p> <p><b>Cafe Inc</b></p> <p>Members will be aware of the significant efforts by local colleagues with assistance from colleagues within the Catering team to provide food assistance when young people are on school holidays. We have focused mainly on the provision of packed lunches which seems to work well for participants, although we have provided hot meal options periodically. Current venues for this provision are as follows East Wemyss PS (or Senior Citizens Hall as an option), Buckhaven PS, MCCI - Methilhill Project, Centre Leven, Methil Centre and Sandybrae. These sites offer a good geographic spread across the area at accessible points for local communities.</p> <p><b>Warm Spaces and Open access community cafes</b></p> <p>Members will be aware that we have reduced our numbers of outlets in terms of warm space provision, considering the reduced funding for this type of initiative. However, we are still confident that the range of outlets that we continue to support still offers significant value to all our settlements, with 23 venues offering support generally between October and the end of March. We have venues in community centres, but most of the provision is carried out by local groups and organisations from local venues that people are comfortable to visit. This includes bowling clubs, Churches, community shed's and the Levenmouth Foodbank. We have encouraged all these local services to move away from just food provision to encouraging</p>
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		<p>socialisation and activities, which has proved a popular selling point for those who attend. An evaluation will be carried out with providers between April-May 2025 and will be shared locally.</p> <p><b>Public Diners</b></p> <p>What are public diners? Public diners are state supported, affordable restaurants serving good meals to the public. They operated under the banner of British and Civic Restaurants in the 1940s-60s. There were more than 8 in Fife alone, including one in Methil.</p> <p><a href="#">Nourish</a> Scotland has been working with people for the past 3 years to co-design the public diner concept (the report on public diners is available in this <a href="#">link</a>). In 2025 they will be taking the new public diners' exhibition to different galleries, libraries, halls across Scotland and host a series of suppers alongside it. There will be a supper in Methil at the Community Centre, which will do a deep dive into the local history and potential future of public diners in the area. This piece of work will kick off on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and will be well advertised.</p> <p>We will wait to see if this concept is one that we would want to run with in the area for the longer term, it is clear that for this concept to gain traction it would need significant investment in infrastructure across Scotland , however we are happy to trial the concept locally to see how it lands with local people , and contribute to the feedback that is important in shaping future policy.</p> <p><b>St Agatha's Church – Direct support for clients in need.</b></p> <p>St Agatha's have been able to provide support to people in crisis by providing vouchers to access food and essential supplies, 91 instances of support with strong links between the church and our local foodbank and the St Vincent De Paul volunteers as well as newly established referral routes into welfare support and signposting to community cafes and warm welcomes</p>
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		<p><b>Helping the Helpers – Vicarious Trauma Training</b> – this is a training approach that has been offered in Levenmouth as a support to the frontline staff working in the area. It has been highlighted that colleagues have experienced significant stress issues, and that this has been most noticeable over the period of the pandemic but has continued through to the present . Looking after our people resource is key to continuing to provide a high-quality service to those in need.</p> <p>Over a two-day session in February 2025 79 attendees from 27 services and organisations attended.</p> <p>The training has been universally well received. Some teams have requested the details to explore running this for their local and wider staff teams, others have requested further shared opportunities for staff members and managers to engage in the training again.</p> <p>The three-year WRAP plan includes training opportunities for members and wider community groups, so this may be explored in the future.</p> <p><b>Advice Partnership Approach with CARF</b> - A brand new weekly drop-in advice session will be held every Tuesday afternoon at The Centre Leven between 12-2pm, this complements our existing partnership provision held on a Monday 2-4pm at Buckhaven Community Centre Fife Council Welfare Support Workers and Citizens Advice and Rights Fife Money Advice Team have teamed up to launch the new advice service in Levenmouth started on Tuesday 4th February 2025, offering invaluable help and guidance to members of the community on a wide range of financial issues.</p> <p>Advisers will provide advice on all available options for dealing with a client's financial difficulties. The service can provide immediate help with any urgent issues and will assist with a further appointment as required.</p> <p>Initial work is ongoing with Community Trade Hub (CTH) on promoting women only skills courses to support a return to the workforce or a change of career to better paid work.</p>
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<p><b>Improved Literacy and Numeracy Outcomes for all ages and ensuring a range of learning and skills improvement opportunities are available locally. (Opportunities for All)</b></p>	<p>It is recognised that there is evidence of a poverty related attainment gap in Fife. Given that success in literacy and numeracy contributes to the successful development of skills for life, learning and work, it is essential we focus on mechanisms that assist local people to develop these key skills as and when a need is identified.</p> <p>While it is clear much of the focus will continue to be on improving school age attainment – the local plan will also support activity around post school learning opportunities.</p>	<p>Our adult learning and family learning planning group will establish and support learning and pathways for parents and children to engage in opportunities and activities which foster confidence, sustained learning, and challenge.</p> <p>We will put in place initiatives that help to improve basic skills, digital skills, and personal development for those who would benefit most.</p> <p>We will promote the Multiply learning opportunities provided by UKSPF (UK Shared Prosperity Fund) funding to ensure a numeracy pathway for local people.</p> <p>There will be a focus on enhancing employability outcomes for those learners who require that support.</p> <p><b>Updated information on attainment</b></p> <p>Child poverty continues to be a challenge and is clearly linked to lower achievement of development milestones, lower school attendance, poorer attainment and poor health and wellbeing outcomes. The attainment gap is still apparent at all levels of qualification - and it widens with increasing SCQF difficulty. Attainment levels are significantly impacted by school attendance which has been declining since 2014/15. The number of Fife pupils that require additional support in schools has increased significantly with the rate in secondary schools approaching 50%.</p>
		<b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024-2025 Update</b>

		<p>ABE provides free, learner-centred classes in various venues, morning, afternoon and evening, for adults; 16+ to develop literacy, numeracy and ICT skills. Learners can work towards an SQA qualification at levels 3 and 4. 99 learners were supported in 2024-2025.</p> <p>ABE classes are advertised to parents and carers in local primary schools, but more needs done to reach those who would benefit from this opportunity. Groups can also work towards an SQA qualification in employability.</p> <p>Current groups; Mainstream ABE – Kennoway, Methil Community Centre, Levenmouth Community Use, Fife College Levenmouth. Partnership – Easy P, Clear Volunteers, Home Start Young Mums, Gingerbread and CLD, Parkhill Primary.</p> <p>ESOL provides free daytime and evening English classes for students whose first language is not English, but who are living in Levenmouth, with a focus on speaking, listening, reading and writing. Classes are held in various venues. There are opportunities to work towards SQA ESOL qualifications. 104 learners supported 2024-2025.</p> <p>ESOL classes are advertised locally but more needs to be done to reach those who would benefit from this learning opportunity.</p> <p>Current groups; Literacy lessons – Methil Community Centre, Mixed ESOL Group – Methil Community Centre, The Centre Leven, Life in the UK – The Centre Leven. Partnership - Gingerbread and CLD. A Well-being Group using Fife Health and Social Care's Well-being Toolkit and an Employability Course with learners all gaining SQA Level 3/4 in Employability have run within the last year.</p> <p><b>Digital Skills Courses</b></p> <p>Jan 2025 - 18/03/2025</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of 1-2-1 sessions delivered: 64</li> <li>• Unique Individuals: 24</li> <li>• Number of sessions: 36 (14 drop-ins, 6 individual tuition meetings and 13 classes)</li> </ul> <p>The offering includes basic digital skills courses (10 weeks), and individual tuition for those receiving devices from the Connecting Levenmouth project and digital drop-ins.</p> <p><b>Goblin Car Initiative</b></p> <p>The STEM youth work team have been engaging with the local primary schools to offer a variety of STEM learning opportunities for Young People (YP) aged 8-11. We have used the Goblin Kit Cars (Greenpower) as a foundation to introduce and expand YP's knowledge and understanding of all four STEM subjects. We have provided a safe, nurturing, and welcoming space for young people to explore and to have new experiences. Through informal youth work approaches and STEM activities, we have supported YP to enhance their core and personal skills whilst targeting the academic knowledge and understanding of STEM. We have also enhanced the learning by taking the YP on a trip to local STEM environments including workshop, museums and racetracks. This project has been delivered each term since April 2024 and has successfully been able to engage with 120+ YP across three different Levenmouth schools (Aberhill, Methilhill &amp; Kennoway).</p> <p>This has giving YP the opportunity to participate in groups and socialise with their peers. We have given them life skills in the use of hand tools, machinery and workshop safety - which also indirectly introduces them lightly to legislation in the Health and Safety at Work Act for example. When preparing for the race days the teams get to learn about fitness, dietary and sport sciences behind participating in motorsports. Feedback from families and school have indicated that we have seen significant change in some YP in terms of their attendance, attainment and behaviours within school, at home and in the community. Importantly, the feedback from the YP has been positive particularly regarding the learning as it is seen as fun, practical activities that have allowed us to engage with some of the hardest to reach YP in the area.</p>
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		<p>The pupils who attended reported enhanced collaboration and problem-solving skills in addition to technical engineering skills. Practitioners reported the programme was effective in terms of engaging pupils and in skills development.</p> <p><b>Cook and Share</b>  Cook &amp; Share is running well at both Buckhaven Community Centre and the Sailors Rest in Methil. This initiative is supporting local people to access services in their own area and helps them become less reliant on crisis support. Through being a member at the Cook and Share projects people can make a choice in what is on offer by paying their £2 per week as a member. This encourages members to gain confidence and resilience in food insecurity and to better manage situations around food and fuel poverty. These projects further support volunteering opportunities in the local community, and we now have 8 volunteers who regularly get involved in cooking meals from scratch and sharing them at Cook &amp; Share projects. We also have another two members going through the volunteer process now.</p> <p>Through supporting local people as volunteers, we equip them with the correct skills, and all have completed their food hygiene training qualification, which is a highly transferrable skill and qualification they can use otherwise. One of our outcomes was to cook a Christmas meal for our members. This was a great success at Christmas 2024 where the volunteers cooked for over 40 members a three-course meal. This further supported our members through food insecurity and social isolation concerns as a large majority would not be having a Christmas meal with anyone at this time of year.</p> <p>Outcomes that we have achieved through running cook and share projects are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less reliance on crisis supports and evidence of resilience</li> <li>• More confident in cooking from scratch and wider food skills</li> <li>• Regular attendance at projects</li> <li>• Provide a Christmas meal for members cooked by volunteers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Easy P</b></p>
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		<p>EASYP is a Fife-Wide partnership comprising Fife Council's Supported Employment and Communities &amp; Neighbourhoods Services. EASYP partners participate in Fife-Wide People and Place Leadership Teams in each of the 7 localities alongside potential referral agents including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children &amp; Families, Care Experienced Young People's Teams</li> <li>• Criminal Justice</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Health partners (Health Improvement Service, CAMHS)</li> <li>• DWP, SDS, Fife College and the Third Sector, e.g., CARF, FVA, Clued up and Link Living.</li> <li>• Other employability providers who may engage with our target group but unable to meet their needs.</li> </ul> <p>Employability Access Support for Young People (EASYP) partners provide a strengths-based employability pathway for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people (16-under 19 years of age)-supported by C&amp;N and SES</li> <li>• Young people (19-under 25 years of age)- disability specific specialist provision from SES to support young people experiencing disabilities or health conditions that meets the definition of disability as applied under the Equality Act 2010.</li> </ul> <p>And who meet one or more of the following definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transitioning or disengaged from Education and have no positive destination identified.</li> <li>• Transitioning from Education, have a positive destination identified and experience multiple disadvantages, disabilities, mental health issues or health conditions that might impact on entry to and sustainment of the positive destination.</li> <li>• Experience multiple disadvantages, disabilities, mental health issues or health conditions who face challenges participating in mainstream employability programmes or open labour market opportunities.</li> </ul> <p>Young people can be transitioned across the EASYP partnership depending on their aspirations and needs at any stage of their employability journey.</p>
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		<p>Keyworker 121 support is provided by all partners and across all stages of the EASYP pathway. This pathway embeds holistic assessment and action planning that identifies individual circumstances, strengths, internal and external barriers, training/skills needs and work aspirations to inform a tailored multi-option offer such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal/motivational development</li> <li>• Employability/digital skills training</li> <li>• Community learning programmes</li> <li>• Access to sectoral academies and accredited training</li> <li>• Support to secure and sustain paid work through our employer network.</li> <li>• Use of employer recruitment incentives that allows us to create tailored open labour market opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Clued Up Transition Work</b></p> <p>Discussions are currently ongoing with colleagues in Education about enhancing transition work for P7 pupils. There has been an increase in difficult transitions over the period of the pandemic and beyond. Clued Up are leading on the work and have secured a degree of funding from CORRA. Joint funding is required for this initiative hence the discussions with schools in terms of a PEF contribution.</p> <p>There is particular concern about young people who are also dealing with the impacts of drug misuse within the family unit, The main aims will be to prevent risk taking behaviours, poor attendance at secondary school and provide whole family support where required.</p> <p>The key activities within the approach will be:</p> <p>One to one support - provided for young people using a key worker model that is consistent and sustainable, and relationship based. The young people and the worker will co-produce their action plan based on identifying their goals and meeting their need using an outcome framework and quality improvement methodology. Psychological interventions used will include, motivational interviewing, formulation, as well as decider skills. Clued Up will support young</p>
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		<p>people to make sure their voices are heard and can attend and participate in meetings about them such as school meetings, well-being meetings etc young people will be helped to engage in other activities in their community or to access other services that may be required.</p> <p>2. Enhanced transitions programmes – Clued Up will provide young people with a programme which will prepare young people for their transition to high school, this will be done based on individual needs and group programmes during term time to prepare them for the transition. This will be delivered closely with Levenmouth Academy staff, so the needs of the young people are understood, and things are put in place at High school to meet these needs.</p> <p>3. School holiday group work programmes including residentials – These will provide the young people with opportunities they would not normally have access to and allow them to focus on personal growth, confidence and resilience.</p> <p>4. Whole family support – Clued Up will work alongside the family to overcome family issues, integrate them into adult substance use provision and support the family to build relationship with the school so they can support their young person with any issues that arise within Education. This will be done alongside the Making it work for family's partnership.</p> <p>5. Integration into universal provision in the community (outreach work) – We will support young people to build a network within their own community including peer support, so they are integrated and supported within their own community. We will do this by providing outreach street work to engage with the young people who are hanging about the streets.</p> <p><b>River Leven – Training Opportunities</b></p> <p>Members are aware of the approach w have taken in the area since 2016 to support training opportunities in terms of Green Skills in the Levenmouth area. This developed initially as the Silverburn Squad and has grown into an approach which we will use to maintain the green space in and around the River Leven as part of the River Park Routes and off-road active travel connectivity work. Funding over the next 4 years has been secured from the lottery, and there is currently a procurement process ibn place to secure a contractor through a competitive</p>
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		<p>approach. Over the period of the lottery funding, we expect to see up to 96 individuals trained in green skills, receiving a range of qualifications, and moving on to positive future destinations.</p>
<p><b>Improvements to Transport Connectivity (Thriving Places)</b></p>	<p>Levenmouth has for some time been viewed as on the periphery of Fife in terms of its transport links. The area has the lowest level of car ownership in Fife, and as a result local people rely heavily on public transport to get about. We need to continue to build on the opportunities being provided by the Levenmouth Rail Link investment to ensure we are better connected.</p>	<p>Continue to support the development of the on road and off-road active travel routes that link the new station developments in Levenmouth.</p> <p>Continue to support the development of the off-road river park routes to ensure better connected communities within Levenmouth.</p> <p>Promote the concept of the 20-minute neighbourhood approach with the aim of providing access to most daily needs within a 20-minute walk.</p> <p>Continue work on the mobility hub concept in Leven Town Centre.</p> <p>Work with other transport providers to ensure the benefits for onward travel provided by the main line link into Leven are fully realised.</p> <p><b>Updated Strategic Assessment Overview 2025</b></p> <p>Infrastructure issues that need addressed in lifetime of FifePlan Planned growth and an aging population will put increased pressure on healthcare facilities and NHS Fife has identified the need for additional future Primary Care capacity. Overall provision and quality of greenspace is below average with some higher quality greenspaces in Lundin Links and Lower Largo. Access is restricted in many larger areas. Most of the area is well served by bus services but it is still one of the most deprived areas in Fife in terms of connectivity to strategic employment destinations. Public transport access for employment, health and retail are poor compared with Glenrothes and Kirkcaldy. The new rail line will improve access to employment out with the area and provide an opportunity to support the growth of the area as a visitor destination.</p>
		<p><b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024 - 2025 Update</b></p> <p>Work on the path connectivity approach is continuing with the focus this year being on Phases 1, 2a &amp; 2b (RP2.5) of the off-road active travel network through the River Park to support the wider River Leven Regeneration Programme. There have been significant discussions between our Estate Services and the owners of land over which the paths will be built to secure leasing arrangements which will have a 50-year duration.</p> <p>Members will be aware that there is likely to be a delay in on road active travel infrastructure, based on the decision taken at the Cabinet Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025. The detailed decision taken was as follows:</p>



		<p>(Cabinet Committee was asked to)</p> <p>'Approve that further delivery of On-Road Active Travel Network, as approved by Cabinet Committee on 8 February 2024 (2024.CC 114 para.208 refers), be deferred until the full construction costs for the Mountfleurie Bridge and River Park Routes are assured'</p> <p>While this is disappointing it is a recognition of the significant investments being made in the area, and the need to maintain control on expenditure at a time when inflationary issues are still having a negative impact on large scale capital projects.</p> <p>The potential for further connectivity along the length of Leven Promenade is still under discussion, progress on this will be dependent on the availability of funding from the LRP to allow the progression of aspects of the AMEY led design proposals which were derived from the public consultation which were held in late 2023.</p> <p>Design work is currently underway to fully join the path network along the A915 at the entrance to Cameron Bridge along to the roundabout on the Standing Stane and B932. This adds another accessible link to the new station.</p>
<b>Improve Digital Use Locally (Thriving Places)</b>	<p>Levenmouth people have comparatively poorer access to good quality digital connection, usually due to cost barriers.</p> <p>Recent consultation with local businesses also points to missed opportunities in terms of exploiting a digital interface to increase business turnover.</p>	<p>We will continue the programme of Wi-Fi installation in all publicly accessible buildings including all halls and centres.</p> <p>We will continue where funding allows to install or improve WiFi in all our halls to improve their amenity. We have seen successful installations at the likes of Balmaise which has made the building more usable by visitors. We expect to see this type of investment paying dividends in terms of increased bookings.</p> <p>We will continue to support the need for a digital strategy for Levenmouth in conjunction with the Levenmouth Tourism Association and other interested parties which can benefit all businesses within the town. This is a piece of work which will need to be developed in the coming year and has sat as a priority since the publication of the Tourism Audit. Discussions on the approach will require specific expert input. Initial thoughts around a Cupar Now approach have led officers to think that we avoid any approach that requires a high level of hardware installation.</p> <p>In the interim all other online assets will be utilised including the LTAs excellent Welcome to Levenmouth page and the Our Levenmouth page,</p>
		<p><b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024- 2025 Update</b></p> <p>All the main halls in the area have now benefitted from Wi-Fi installation with the Savoy and Balmaise being completed most recently. We are proposing to implement a Wi-Fi roll out across the 5 voluntary management committee halls and the East Wemyss Senior Citizens Hall and Kennoway Community Centre (Shed) in 2025/26, a costing exercise will be completed once the</p>

		<p>COMIS replacement software becomes available in February 2025. The addition of Wi-Fi increases the amenity of the facility and is likely to increase bookings. Connectivity would also make the facility better suited to training events and Councillor surgeries.</p> <p><b>Tourism Digital Presence</b> - Levenmouth Tourism Association continues to maintain an excellent presence online through its <a href="#">web page</a> which captures the places to go and things to do in the Levenmouth area.</p>
<b>Targeted Action on Anti-Social Behaviour (Thriving Places)</b>	<p>One of the key issues noted in the recent Strategic Assessment review was a general concern about feeling safe in Levenmouth – the issues for local people have remained the same throughout the 2016, 2018 and 2022 iterations of the Strategic Assessment process. This is despite the figures relating to ASB (Anti-Social Behaviour) involving illegal motorcycle use reducing significantly over the same period. Other key issues highlighted are around youth disorder notably in town centres, fire setting and illegal dumping</p>	<p>Continue to support the work of Improving Levenmouth Together (ILT) as the primary local forum for developing a strategy and tasking approach to issues of ASB.</p> <p>Assist the Police in developing their proposals which support the core aims of the local Police plan around tackling ASB and other priorities identified.</p> <p>Support Safer Communities sponsored initiatives to tackle key priorities around illegal dumping. Use CLD (Community Learning &amp; Development) youth work resource to support ILT initiatives. Ensure significant input from the Police and Safer Communities on the ongoing design and development of the off-road river park routes.</p>
		<p><b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024-2025 Update</b></p> <p>The most recent figures from Police colleagues showing the impact of Improving Levenmouth Together approaches around ASB are shown below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35 vehicles seized - this includes Motorbikes, Cars, and Quads.</li> <li>• 189 people charged in connection with Anti-social behaviour and Road Traffic offences.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Search warrants executed.</li> <li>• Quantity of high value vehicles recovered (£600k).</li> <li>• 13 people arrested on apprehension warrants.</li> <li>• There has been a 90% year-on-year reduction in motorbike related calls between 2019 and 2023</li> </ul> <p><b>Defensive Measures – Kennoway</b> – The Area Committee agreed to funding defensive measures at Cotlands Park to close access points for quad bikes and motorcycles around the perimeter of the park. While it is accepted that it is impossible to fully seal the park, early indications appear to show that the numbers of incidents reported to the Police have reduced since the installation</p> <p><b>Continuation Funding for Kingdom off Road</b> – The Levenmouth Area Committee agreed to support the Through the Gears initiative with £13,715 of funding from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB).</p> <p>The project, which is provided by Kingdom off Road Motorcycle Club (KORMC) and Fife Council Community Learning and Development colleagues, aims to make off road motorcycling more accessible to young people in a safe and friendly environment, whilst at the same time reducing illegal and anti-social motorcycling within local communities.</p> <p>Young people referred into the scheme all have poor to no attendance and engagement in school, struggle with low confidence and self-esteem, and have social and/or peer issues in school and/or in the community.</p>
<b>Town Centre Public Realm Improvements (Thriving Places)</b>	The issues with town centres have been obvious for several years and were clearly highlighted in the Town Centre Action Plan published in 2013 and recently reviewed in 2022. The review found that the framework proposed for town	<p>We will continue the development and implementation of public realm improvements in Leven town centre as the key retail town centre in Levenmouth.</p> <p>We will work with colleagues in Property Services to develop improvement and upgrade approaches in our secondary centres around Levenmouth.</p> <p>We will seek through our Place Group, an agreement to develop a bespoke maintenance regime for our key retail spaces.</p> <p><b>Updated Strategic Assessment Overview 2025</b></p>

	<p>centres in 2013 were broadly still relevant – accordingly we will continue through our Place Group to follow some of the key recommendations from that report.</p> <p>We will also promote the Town Centre First Principle which asks that government, local authorities, the wider public sector, businesses, and communities put the health of town centres at the heart of decision making. It seeks to deliver the best local outcomes, align policies, and target available resources to prioritise town centre sites, encouraging vibrancy, equality, and diversity.</p>	<p>How the economy is performing and how resilient it is to the future The area has the highest levels of deprivation in Fife. Most people living in the area also work in the area. There is some travel to Glenrothes and Kirkcaldy with fewer travelling to Cupar, Dunfermline, Rosyth or beyond. The Energy Park is one of Scotland’s leading centres for energy, low carbon and renewables with world-class facilities and potential for expansion. Leven town centre performed relatively better than Glenrothes and Kirkcaldy. There are an additional six Local Shopping Centres serving the area where occupancy rates are good.</p>
		<p><b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024 -2025 Update</b></p> <p>The upgrade to furniture, bins and cycle racks on the High Street has been completed recently. This has resulted in a decluttering of the space and added a level of continuity to the design of the space. All costs for this work were derived from the Place Based Investment fund. The Place-Based Investment Programme (PBIP) is being used to link and align place-based funding initiatives. The aim of the PBIP is to ensure that all place-based investments are shaped by the needs and aspirations of local communities and accelerate our ambitions for place, 20-minute neighbourhoods, town centre action, community led regeneration and community wealth building. Further maintenance work is to be instructed in the new financial year which will include the painting of railings, and the existing black fingers posts in the High Street and around 149 metres</p>

		<p>of railings at the Promenade Car park along with associated repairs that run alongside the newly installed active travel route.</p> <p><b>Kennoway Bishops Court</b> – Progress on this work has been slow, and this is partly due to the inflationary costs of materials for the proposal, which has seen the estimates for this work almost double. While prices are still high, we are at last seeing some stability in the market which allows us to approach the work with a degree of confidence. Work will start imminently on the infill of the underground toilets at Bishops Court for which central funding has been found, initially it was thought this would need to be found from local budgets. As members are aware the proposed work will include the removal of all the current brick walls and planters on the shopping level to be replaced by new railings, as well as the construction of a fully compliant ramp to assist clients who have difficulty using the stairs to access the shops.</p>
<b>Green Space and Play Space Improvements (Thriving Places)</b>	<p>Levenmouth was traditionally seen as the area where care and maintenance of its green spaces was of a lower standard than that experienced in other parts of Fife. Over the last 10 years local members have consistently supported local resource being targeted at improving both our park and play space provision as part of an ongoing strategy. Based on the Place Standard prior to 2022 results over the previous 8 years showed satisfaction on the standard of natural space and play space had consistently improved, but there is still work to do, given results in the most recent strategic</p>	<p>We will continue to work through our play area improvement strategy in line with the recommendations of the Fife Council Play Space Strategy 2020-2030.</p> <p>We will continue to support the development of Silverburn Park as a key strategic project in Levenmouth.</p> <p>We will build on the success of the recent pump track development in Kennoway and seek to work with communities to develop further key play and recreation infrastructure.</p>

	assessment document based on 2023 data, showed a decrease in satisfaction.	
		<p>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024-2025 Update</p> <p><b>Leven Skatepark</b> – Work on the skatepark is currently underway and should be complete by February 2025. The work was budgeted at 320K, and we are confident that will be sufficient to cover the final costs. This significant project was steered in terms of design by local user input, which has been invaluable in the effort to produce an asset that reflects the aspiration of the community in which it sits. This new sport/play asset follows the success of the Pump track at Kennoway, which was opened in mid 2022.</p> <p><b>Play Areas</b> – members will be aware that we have recently completed full renewal work at Glenlyon Road Leven, Greig Park Windygates, Lilac bank and Herd Park Methilhill as part of our ongoing programme to improve play opportunities in Levenmouth. It was good to see that Levenmouth came out well in the 2023 play sufficiency audit, which can be accessed <a href="#">here</a>. In the next two years the priority sites will be Daisy Park and Christie Park. These will benefit from the government funding allocation for play space improvements and additional funding from local budgets.</p> <p>Smaller scale interventions are planned at Viewforth play area and at the Promenade in where single items require replacement to ensure full play options are available.</p> <p>As members are aware we have been carrying out a rationalisation programme alongside our renewal approach, accordingly we will look to carry out the installation of Daisy Park ahead of any consultation on the removal of the Ashgrove and Simon Crescent play areas. Additionally, we will target Keilburn, and South Grove which would benefit fully from funding from the 25/26 government funding allocation.</p> <p>We will also prioritise Kingsdale Gardens play area; we would have further discussions with members in March 2025 to assess what local Levenmouth funding can be brought forward to support these projects once we have a clear idea on allocation. We are also in the process of starting a consultation on an upgrade of play space in Coaltown of Wemyss.</p> <p><b>Changing Facilities for Sport and Recreation</b></p> <p>There is a current focus on improving infrastructure attached to green play spaces – the current focus is on Herd Park, renewal of existing changing rooms. King George V Leven – supporting the transition of lease between two clubs and based on the current condition review of the property</p>

		<p>moving towards a long-term solution for these units through extensive refurbishment or renewal. Greig Park Windygates – general tidy up and improvement of changing facilities at the Greig Institute to assist in the demand for changing space partly caused by the fire at Eastvale FC facilities.</p> <p>Members will also be aware of the initiative being led by Fifers for the Community to take a forward a project to install a 4G pitch with associated car parking at the land around the Greig Institute in Leven. A coalition of local teams supported by representation from the SFA are currently shaping the approach, with a public consultation event being arranged for the end of January 2025.</p> <p><b>Chemiss Road</b> - As part of an approach to bring a large area of green space back into public use, officers are progressing negotiations on the purchase and lease of land at Chemiss Road Methilhill. Members were advised that we have concluded discussions on one parcel of land and an offer to purchase at an agreed price is currently on the table. Three other parcels of land that make up the entirety of the area in question are being negotiated as a long-term lease. The need to take on this land is driven by an undermining situation which occurred in 2006 and required the area to be fenced off for public safety reasons. With help from the governments Vacant and Derelict Land fund, the Council will commission grouting work to rectify the problem and bring the area back into use. We will be progressing a lease on the land to a local organisation, MCCI – who are also currently in negotiation to take on the lease of the nearby Methilhill Senior Citizens Centre.</p>
<b>Promote Opportunities for Entrepreneurial Behaviour (Inclusive Growth and Jobs)</b>	<p>It is hoped that we will see businesses choosing to locate in Levenmouth as part of the regeneration of the area supported by the rail link development. We need to understand though that this is more likely to be small scale business growth.</p> <p>As at March 2022, there were an estimated 360,910 private sector businesses operating in Scotland. Most of these businesses (98.3%) were</p>	<p>Through a collaborative approach seek to work with owners of property within town centres and other parts of the locality to assess if it can be developed as incubation space for new businesses.</p> <p>Promote the need for further development of light industrial units to meet current and potential future demand for space in Levenmouth.</p> <p>Work with colleagues in Economic Development and other agencies to develop and hold workshops supporting those who are considering starting their own business.</p> <p>New Light Industrial Units at Percival Road - With some support funding from the Levenmouth Reconnected programme, this excellent installation of light industrial units has proved popular with most units already leased. Members will be aware of recent briefings which have highlighted that additional investment at the site will take place soon. A Planning Permission application in respect of further site servicing works will if approved see extensions to existing access roads along with utilities and associated landscaping. A plan detailing the road extensions and the revised plot layouts that will be created has previously been sent to elected</p>

	<p>small (0 to 49 employees). A further 3,835 businesses (1.1%) were medium-sized (50 to 249 employees), and 2,340 businesses (0.6%) were large (250 or more employees). Given those stark figures we need to understand what is required for to assist sole trader and small businesses to thrive locally.</p>	<p>members for information. Whilst it is anticipated that works will commence on the first phase next year following the grant of Planning Permissions the full project is expected to be carried out over several phases to meet market demand. This project is being delivered by Fife Council and forms part of the Fife Industrial Innovation Investment Programme within the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal.</p>
		<b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024- 2025 Update</b>
<b>Support the Development of a Strong Tourism Offer (Inclusive Growth and Jobs)</b>	<p>As noted, the Levenmouth Rail link provides the area with the best opportunity in decades to promote itself as a tourist destination. We see the development of tourism in the area as one of the key elements to increase the provision of local job opportunities. Pre pandemic figures showed that tourism was worth over £500 million to the Fife economy and supported 12000 jobs.</p>	<p>Align support to the Levenmouth Tourism Action Plan derived from the 2022 Tourism Audit in Levenmouth.</p> <p>Support the work of the Tourism Project Manager. Members will be aware that the tenure of the Tourism Project Manager has now ended. This resource brought some good impetus to the work on tourism in the area and we are indebted to the efforts of Matt Pointon in this respect. The allocation of this direct resource to an LTA was unique in Fife and while it is unfortunate that we cannot continue this approach, it has provided a solid foundation to future work.</p>
		<p>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024-2025 Update</p> <p>Progress has been made on several key priorities identified in the 2022 Tourism Audit for the area many of which were incorporated into the Tourism Action Plan, used as the primary workplan for the <a href="#">Levenmouth Tourism Association</a>.</p>



		<p>The strength of ambition in the area was clearly seen in the combined response to actively promote the introduction of the new rail link, with LTA members playing key roles in advertising the link at Waverley Station in the run up to the opening date in June 2024</p> <p>Considering the ending of the contract of the Tourism Project Manager in December 2024 the local LTA will take a more hands-on role in terms of project development and management, and support will continue to be provided though the FC Tourism Partnership team and local Communities colleagues. Where required expert support will be drawn in on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p><b>Wemyss Caves –SWACS</b></p> <p>Site Warden and Protection The appointment of Stuart Cook as site warden has continued to be a great success. A paid warden on site has proved invaluable in discouraging poor behaviour and addressing any issues with the site early on. The protective grilles have continued to prove secure and robust. We continue to review our opening strategy to ensure a balance between security, safety and public access. New signage has been installed at the caves advising visitors to get in touch to arrange access and attention is also drawn to this on our website. More storms this year continued to pose a threat to the site. We cleared much of the debris along the section of path outside Doo Cave to ensure safe passage for visitors. Our usual annual Monitoring Day recorded those areas where there may be concern.</p> <p>Skeletons This time last year, we were reporting on the discovery of human remains on the coast edge between Castle Green and Jonathan's Cave. A complete crouched burial and another skull were discovered after the severe storms at the end of 2023. This generated great media interest including coverage on Radio Scotland, Current Archaeology, The Courier and The Herald. We are still awaiting the results of the dating but crouched burial is extremely unusual in the early medieval period so there is a chance it could be from much earlier Terras Hall Although most of the building work at the Terras Hall was completed in time for opening, a combination of factors meant the work on the entrance porch and ramp remained unfinished. New builders are being appointed, and this work will be completed for opening in April 2025. The new museum flooring and toilet area were highly successful, and a reorganised display space means a much smoother and less cluttered visitor experience.</p> <p><b>Fife Heritage Railway</b></p> <p>The accommodation units at Kirkland Yard, purchased in 2024, that had been used as a base for all contractors working on the Levenmouth Rail Link, are currently subject to a planning application 24/03314/FULL which aims to establish a change of use to a cafe, retail area, training space, museum and offices. The site will become a base for Community Trade Hub training and storage and works welfare area for Fife Coast and Countryside Trust. Alongside this the Fife Heritage</p>
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		<p>Railway team and partners will develop the use of the wider facility for community use, tourism, and a stopping off point for users of the various connective paths in the River Leven area.</p> <p><b>Temple Changing Places Project</b></p> <p>Up to £200,000 of funding is currently being sought through the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund to install a changing places toilet facility at the Temple car park in Lower Largo. This investment will support the expansion of the accommodation provision at Homelands Trust which offers high quality facilities for travellers with additional needs. The new CPT will also have an accessible toilet facility to augment the current provision. The unit will also be used for the storage and hiring of beach wheelchairs to allow full access down to the beach.</p>
<b>Promote Asset Transfer (Community Led Services)</b>	<p>The Council has a significant Estate much of which is well utilised in terms of providing local services or good quality space for community-based events etc. However, it needs to be recognised that some of our assets could work better for local communities if directly managed and run by those communities. We have already seen this success in the takeover of former library facilities, sports assets, and former community halls.</p>	<p>Where it is appropriate encourage communities to consider asset transfer as a way of moving forward a local aspiration or need.</p> <p>Ensure community groups access the correct support through organisations such as Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS) to ensure any approach is viable and not a potential liability.</p> <p>Ensure the condition of the current estate is maintained and improved where possible to support the process of lease or transfer by community-based groups.</p>
		<p><b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024-2025 Update</b></p> <p>The Levenmouth area has successfully worked with groups to promote the use of a lease to allow the development of local building assets to best suit the needs of the communities in which they sit.</p> <p>Work to let parts of Balmaise Centre has seen an exponential rise in footfall at that venue which now houses a gym alongside a base for a local charity as well as preserving lettable community space.</p>

		We are now working with groups to look at the long-term management arrangements for Coaltown of Wemyss Hall, Methilhill Senior Citizens Hall, East Wemyss Senior Citizens Hall, and Methil Heritage Centre.
<b>Support for Community Growing Initiatives and Climate Adaptation Approaches. (Community Led Services/Opportunities for All)</b>	<p>We see the promotion of community growing initiatives and an expansion of the allotment estate covering several local priorities.</p> <p>We envisage that increased food production locally can play a key role in supplying fresh fruit and vegetables into the supply chain for local pantries, community fridges, and the local foodbank. This approach helps with the longer-term sustainability of our food insecurity approach in Levenmouth.</p> <p>The initiative also supports key elements in terms of improved health outcomes as shown clearly by the Community shed initiatives in the area which both have a focus on horticulture.</p>	<p>Encourage the growth of community growing initiatives in alignment with community partners.</p> <p>Encourage the growth of the allotment provision in Levenmouth in alignment with the Allotments Officer.</p> <p>Assess the current Vacant and Derelict Land sites in the area to ascertain suitability for growing space or allotment development.</p> <p>Support and Promote Climate Adaptation approaches that fall within the <a href="#">Just Transition</a> strategic framework.</p> <p>Improving the resilience of community facilities to ensure they stay sustainable and can support the promotion of asset transfer or transfer by lease to a community run model.</p>
		<p><b>Current Activity and Outcomes – 2024-2025 Update</b></p> <p>Local communities were invited by Fife Council to have their say on the pressing issue of climate change and its impact on the Fife coastline as part of a Scottish Government case studies project to inform coastal management. Three public workshops were held in Fife to bring together community members, climate experts and other interested parties to look closely at the current</p>

		<p>and predicted future impacts of climate change on coastal communities, and what we can all do to address the challenges faced both now and over the coming years.</p> <p>The sessions included findings from Fife Council's Coastal Change Adaptation Project, which is building up a picture of coastal erosion along sections of the Fife coast and will inform plans for how to best manage climate change moving forward.</p> <p>Members of the public took the opportunity to air their views on the challenges and possibilities being created by our changing coastline and speak to others in their area about the issue in more detail. Attendees also had the chance to participate in family-friendly creative activities at the workshops through a partnership with Art Moves Fife, and explore the coastline gallery, which highlights the current situation and levels of community resilience.</p> <p><b>Toboggan Road Proposed Allotment Development</b>  This area has been identified as a potential site for a growing space since the removal of play equipment which was carried out due to the improvement of the play space at the nearby Taylor Park, two sites will be developed should the local consultation on the proposal be positive. It is expected that this approach will also benefit the work of the nearby Community Shed at New Bayview, Some clearing tree work is currently underway to facilitate better conditions for the site as well as remove a number of trees identified as unsafe due to their poor health coupled with the impacts of the strong winds in January 2025.</p> <p><b>Climate Adaptation Funding</b> – Funding has been sought and secured for work at Balmaise Centre and Kennoway Bowling Club, along with CLEARs workshop on Sandwell Street. We are also in discussion with CLEAR on a sustainable approach to powering the needs of their growing spaces,</p>

2 April 2025

Agenda Item No. 8

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## Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Area Budget Request- Anti Social Behaviour Approach

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Report by: Inspector Matt Spencer – Police Scotland

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Wards Affected: 21,22

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### Purpose

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This report is to secure follow-on funding for the financial year 2025/26 for continuing resourcing of the Anti social behaviour approach in Levenmouth. Doing so allows for the prioritisation of varying and targeted work throughout the entire year whilst still maintaining necessary anti – social behaviour patrols at key times. The total funding request is for £50,573.25 and will be drawn from Local Community Planning (LCP) Budgets.

### Recommendation(s)

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Members are asked to: -

- 1) reconfirm support for the approach previously agreed by the area committee on 24 January 2024 (para. 112 refers);
- 2) agree the highlighted funding request. The total cost is £50,573.25. This amount will be drawn from LCPB. This figure is the annual projected cost of a Police Constable salary for 12 months. This figure may be subject to change in April of each year in subsequent requests;
- 3) note that it is the intention of officers to bring a further report in the early part of 2026 to extend funding of this post up until March 2027; and
- 4) note Police Scotland will match this allocation of Area Committee funding, with a further Police constable resource to create a team of two, dedicated to countering anti-social behaviour and other priorities in Levenmouth.

### Resource Implications

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The request will reduce the LCPB for the area by £50,573,25.

## Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no legal or risk implications for Fife Council inherent in this report. All work will be coordinated by a steering group of partners and will comply with all necessary regulations.

All work will be risk assessed within standard operating frameworks.

## Impact Assessment

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

## Consultation

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The matter of Local Area Committee funding has long been the subject of significant discussion, both at Police Engagement meetings, Community Councils, Councillor Surgeries, and has also attracted press coverage in the recent past. The matter has been highlighted as a concern within local community planning engagement sessions for over a decade, and has been tackled using local financial resources, usually through educational, diversion and engineering solutions. This approach to ASB has been recognised throughout Police Scotland.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 There is a requirement for all requests over £5000 from the local community planning budget to be considered and agreed by the Area Committee.
- 1.2 For over a decade the issue of anti-social behaviour, most notably focussed on the illegal use of motorcycles and quad bikes has been considered a priority concern, both amongst elected members and local communities.
- 1.3 While there have been significant improvements in terms of the perception of crime within the Levenmouth community, there are still measurable concerns in relation to anti-social behaviour. To overcome this Police Scotland have successfully undertaken this initiative for the past 6 years between 2019 and 2024 inclusive.
- 1.4 Members are consistently updated on progress at the Improving Levenmouth Together group and at Ward meetings. Should this funding be approved, members will continue to be fully sighted on the approach.
- 1.5 The headline performance of the partnership approach in 2024/25, led by Police Scotland are shown below.
  - 14 vehicles seized - this includes Motorbikes, Cars and Quads.
  - 116 people charged in connection with Anti-social behaviour and Road Traffic offences.
  - 12 people arrested on apprehension warrants.
  - 8 people under 16 identified and charged for disorder in Leven Town Centre which had gathered media attention.

- Use of drone unit resulted in the seizure of an illegal Quad.
  - There has been a reduction of 31 calls in comparison to last year, which equates to a 93% reduction in motorbike related calls in total since the implementation of Improving Levenmouth Together in 2019.
  - Prior to Improving Levenmouth Together, the total number of ASB related calls were significantly higher, with 2777 in 2017 and 2923 in 2018. This has reduced by 41%, with number of calls now this year being 1728.
- 1.6 Feedback by local groups, members of the community and elected members has indicated that local people recognise the drop in nuisance behaviour in their area, which through time continues to improve and build on the perception of Levenmouth being a safe place to live and work.

## 2.0 Project Detail

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- 2.1 It is proposed this local co-ordinated approach to community and ASB issues in Levenmouth, will follow a similar format as previous years with additional areas of business as identified through discussion with local partners and community feedback.
- 2.2 The local partnership arrangements will continue to be led by Police Scotland, assisted by SFRS, Safer Communities, Community Education Workers, Housing, and a range of other third sector agencies.
- 2.3 This approach has been effective in that it has allowed a specific focus on a key issue of concern for Levenmouth residents, and the additional resource is aimed at breaking the cyclic nature of these incidents, whilst also understanding the necessity for ongoing enforcement action where it is appropriate.
- 2.4 Aligned to the local policing priorities and the Levenmouth Local Community Plan, Thriving Places focus in respect to ASB, the key strategic aims for the project will remain the same and are shown below for reference –
- Tackle anti-social behaviour in relation, public space concerns, including alcohol misuse, motor/quad bike offences and deliberate fire setting
  - Tackle crimes of violence
  - Improve our existing partnership approach
  - Increase public confidence
  - Ensure a more effective education, prevention and diversion programme is embedded by all partners.
  - Improved engagement with the community, reducing the impact of crime and fear of crime.
- 2.5 A dedicated police resource has shown itself to be a significant contributory factor towards getting traction on several community concerns. Accordingly, this report is seeking to secure the financial support from the LCP budgets, to again assist in this approach.

- 2.6 In support of the plan, it is proposed for the period between April 2025-April 2026 and April 2026-April 2027 inclusive, one officer will be dedicated solely to all aspects in support of collaborative, prevention, intervention and enforcement activities with fund matching from Police Scotland.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 This approach aligns with a specific statement in the Levenmouth local community planning approach under the Thriving Communities headline and is a key priority within the local Policing Plan.

### List of Appendices

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None

### Background Papers

Levenmouth Area Committee- 24 January 2024 Agenda item 7 - [Levenmouth Area Committee Public Agenda Pack 24 January 2024](#)

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2 April 2025  
Agenda Item No. 9

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## Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Temple Car Park Changing Places Toilet (CPT) Provision

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

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**Wards Affected:** Ward 21

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Community Recovery Fund (CRF) of £30,000 as match funding for the Changing Places Toilet (CPT) project at Temple Car Park, Lower Largo.

### Recommendation(s)

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The Committee is asked to: -

- 1) agree a contribution of £30,000 towards the cost of installing a CPT unit at the Temple Car Park Lower Largo; and
- 2) note this funding will be drawn from the Community Recovery Fund.

### Resource Implications

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Approval of this funding will reduce the CRF budget by £30,000. The total cost of the project is estimated at £255,263.37. The balance of funding is subject to an application of £200,000 from the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund, the residual of £25,263.37 will be met from central funds.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no legal implications inherent in this report. Any work supported by this funding will be procured through the standard processes, with the successful contractor responsible for all on site risks.

### Impact Assessment

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An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices. The proposal will however improve facilities for visitors requiring additional assistance when visiting Levenmouth.

## **Consultation**

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Members are aware of this project as it has been the subject of discussion at CRF workshop sessions. Members are also represented on the working group for the project which has met regularly at Homelands over the last two years. The project has been discussed with and is supported by Largo and Area Community Council

## **1.0 Background**

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- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from this Area Committee for a contribution from the CRF, specifically in this case for work to be carried out in ward 21.
- 1.3 The CRF funding being requested is a match for external funding which is currently under consideration by the panel overseeing the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund, the total being requested from that fund is £200,000.

## **2.0 Issues and Options**

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- 2.1 This proposal has the objective to install a Changing Places Toilet (CPT) at the Temple Car Park in Lower Largo.
- 2.2 The proposal aims to support a vulnerable group who require additional facilities to allow themselves their families and carers to enjoy leisure time whilst on holiday or on a day trip to the area.
- 2.3 Lower Largo is one of the most picturesque villages in the Levenmouth area and during the summer, is a go to location for high numbers of local people and visitors. The car park offers easy access onto the beach at Lower Largo, something that will be further assisted by the proposed introduction of a loan scheme for beach wheelchairs which will also be available from the new CPT facility.
- 2.4 The CPT installation will significantly enhance the inclusive tourism offer in Lower Largo.
- 2.5 The proposal links in with key aspects of the Mid Fife Economic Action Plan which states in its key objectives, that improving the quality of the tourism infrastructure in Fife is essential. A statement on the need to improve the mid Fife approach to stimulating new business and improving infrastructure and opportunities for training and volunteering, sits within the wider Fife Economic Strategy document which highlights that the growth of the hospitality and tourism sector in Fife as an important element in its headline priority for the need to 'invest in premises and infrastructure.'
- 2.6 The Fife Tourism Strategy directly supports the priorities within the Fife Economic Strategy with one of its main aims being to ensure 'that the Fife tourism industry is inclusive and accessible'. The proposal fits well with the current iteration of the

Levenmouth Local Community Plan as well as the Levenmouth Tourism action plan derived from the Levenmouth Tourism Audit and Action Plan completed in 2022.

- 2.7 In terms of the Place Principle (PP) approach, this project aligns perfectly in that it 'provides communities and partners with a way to exercise local or regional accountability over decisions taken about the way resources, services and assets are directed and delivered.' This project is supported by the Largo and Area Community Council and the Levenmouth Tourism Association, and Largo Communities Together.
- 2.8 The economic and social value to the Levenmouth community is in the direct support this investment would provide in improving local infrastructure that supports tourism opportunities for disabled visitors.
- 2.9 The Purple Pound refers to the spending power of disabled people. It is estimated that 1 in 5 potential tourists have some form of disability, and that every month UK wide businesses are missing out on additional spend that could have come from disabled customers. Visit Scotland's website notes that the "purple pound" – contributes approximately £1.69 billion to Scotland's tourism economy.
- 2.10 Alongside a recent Fife Council investment in a large inclusive play area, the CPT will support a coordinated approach of making the Largo Area an accessible place both for day visitors, and longer-term holidaymakers. The agreed benefits of accessible and inclusive tourism are that disabled, and senior travellers spend significantly more when they go on holiday than other market groups.
- 2.11 Standard accessible toilets meet the needs of some disabled people – but not all. Over 250,000 people in the UK need personal assistance to use the toilet or change continence pads, including people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, spinal injuries and people living with stroke.
- 2.12 Changing Places toilets offer a solution. They are larger facilities that have the right equipment, including a changing bench and a hoist, designed to support disabled people who need assistance.
- 2.13 The only other provision of a CPT locally is at Levenmouth Swimming Pool and Sports Centre (4 miles away). This additional provision at a key site on the coastline will further enhance the visitor infrastructure in the area, which will be required as we see larger numbers of people coming into the area now that the Levenmouth Rail link is in operation.
- 2.14 The CPT unit will also accommodate an accessible toilet space, therefore further increasing the amenity for a range of visitors, the design will also include a useful storage area.
- 2.15 As noted the reasoning behind choosing this site for a specialist installation of this kind is that it supports the significant investment at the nearby Homelands Trust, an independent Fife based charity working to improve the quality of life of individuals affected by disability, people with life limiting conditions and their carers, through the provision of holiday accommodation.
- 2.16 Alongside this private investment Fife Council have installed a large inclusive play area close to the Homelands site. These combined assets will help to promote the area as a place where accessible tourism is championed and barriers to participation are reduced.

- 2.17 The addition of high-quality infrastructure like the CPT will help to maintain the positive momentum, in terms of increased economic activity, that the rail link brings.
- 2.18 At present the standard toilet facilities at this site are managed by FC Janitorial Services – opening times are dependent on the season and can vary due to the demands on a smaller resource of staff being available to open and close facilities along the coastline, accordingly, closing times can be as early as 3pm.
- 2.19 Given the beach can be used well beyond this time on very warm days this does not provide an optimal level of service to visitors. Discussions have therefore been undertaken, which have provisionally agreed a transfer of responsibility for the day-to-day management of the beach toilet facilities to Fife Coast and Countryside Trust.
- 2.20 Under this new approach opening times will be extended, at present we are expecting this to allow for opening times from 9am with closing times nearer to 6pm – this will increase the amenity in terms of the current provision and the additional CPT provision once it is in place.
- 2.21 It is envisaged the Trust will maintain the facilities and they are also looking at a scheme where users are asked to pay a small contribution to the ongoing upkeep of the facility. Otherwise, the facility will be free to use, however if patrons are happy to contribute, all collected funds will be used to support the maintenance regime to ensure sustainable long-term utilisation of the asset.

## 3.0 Conclusion

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- 3.1 This project will make an impact in terms of providing additional support to a range of visitors to the area.
- 3.2 This project meets the underpinning aims of the current approved Levenmouth Local Community Plan, notably around the theme of Thriving Places and Opportunities for All.

## List of Appendices

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- Community Recovery Fund - proforma

## Background Papers

None

## Report Contact

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Buckhaven Burgh Chambers

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	<b>Community Recovery Fund Project Proposal</b>	Document ref
		CRF01

<b>Proposal Title:</b>	CPT Lower Largo			
<b>Brief Summary of Proposal:</b>	<b>To install a Changing Places Toilet (CPT) at the Temple Car Park in Lower Largo. The proposal aims to support a vulnerable group who require additional facilities to allow themselves their families and carers to enjoy leisure time whilst on holiday or on a day trip to the area.</b>			
<b>Select relevant Area or Fife wide:</b>	Cowdenbeath		Levenmouth	x
	Dunfermline		North East Fife	
	Glenrothes		South and West Fife	
	Kirkcaldy		Fife wide	
<b>If Fife wide, will the proposal deliver across all 7 areas?</b>	N/A			
<b>Project Lead</b>	David Paterson			
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Communities and Neighbourhoods			
<b>Date</b>	18/02/25			

### **Community Recovery Fund - Background**

At its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022, 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<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 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 7 Area Committees with the remaining £1m to be used to support initiatives spanning several areas or of Fife wide significance.

### **Approach**

- Area Committees will decide allocations from the fund
- Communities should help identify priorities and projects
- The fund can be used flexibly across financial years 22/23, 23/24 and 25/26
- Projects and spend should support wider community recovery as well as shorter term challenges e.g., cost of living
- Minimise any recurring revenue spend but promote innovation and pilot schemes which may influence future delivery

### **Specific Criteria**

- 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

### **DETAILS OF PROPOSAL**

1.	What will the proposal deliver and what are the timescales for delivery?
<p><b>To install a Changing Places Toilet (CPT) at the Temple Car Park in Lower Largo. Lower Largo is one of the most picturesque villages in the Levenmouth area and during the summer, is a go to location for high numbers of local people and visitors. The CPT installation will significantly enhance the inclusive tourism offer in Lower Largo.</b></p> <p><b>We are currently working on the following timetable for delivery:</b></p> <p>Design Stage 01.10.2024 Fife Council Property Services</p> <p>Legal/Property</p> <p>Tender Preparation 28.10.2024 Fife Council Property Services</p> <p>Tender Period 01.04.2025 Costing complete, Building Services awaiting instruction to proceed/contract award.</p> <p>Pre-Construction Preliminaries 01.06.2025 30.06.2025 Fife Council – Property/Building Services</p> <p>Construction Period 01.07.2025 31.12.2025 Fife Council Building Services</p> <p>Construction Retention Period 01.01.2026 31.12.2026</p>	
2.	Please detail which priorities this proposal meets.
a)	Recovery and <a href="#">Renewal Plan 4 Fife Update</a> priorities met.
<p>Opportunities for All Thriving Places Community Wealth Building Leading Economic Recovery</p>	
b)	Local Community Plan priorities met.
<p>Opportunities for All Thriving Places</p>	
3.	What consultation has taken place regarding the proposal? (e.g., with communities, Elected Members, other Services, partner organisations, at People and Place Leadership Groups)
<p>This proposal has been discussed with elected members, the Levenmouth Place Group, Largo and Area Community Council, Largo Communities Together, FC Janitorial Services, Fife Coast and countryside Trust, Planning Services, Property Services.</p>	
4.	List the desired outcomes and benefits, and what measures of success will be used.

Outcome	Benefit	Measurement
Good quality local infrastructure	Enhanced service provision	Visitor Comments
Specific support for Disabled Visitors	Enhanced reputation as an area catering for all needs	Higher visitor numbers – recognition as a place where the purple pound is spent

## COSTS

5.	Provide a breakdown of the proposal's costs.
Cost Description	£
QS Costs	£29,366.59
Prelims	£4,999.87
Construction	£210,139.92
Contingency	£10,756.99
Total:	£255,263.37
6.	How much funding are you requesting from the Community Recovery Fund?
	£30,000
7.	Where Community Recovery Fund monies are requested to fund a portion of the total proposal cost, list below all other sources of funding and indicate whether this funding is confirmed or pending.
	Communities and Neighbourhood's – £25,263.37 – secured Levenmouth CRF - £30,000 – this application Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund - £200,000 – Decision Pending

## RISKS

8.	What are the risks associated with this proposal?			
Risk Description		Probability Score (1-5)	Impact Score (1-5)	Overall Score (Probability x Impact)
Material cost price rise		3	3	9
Local objections		2	3	6
Poor Contractor Performance		2	4	8
9.	For each risk, please detail the mitigation measures in place.			
Risk		Mitigation Measures		
Material cost price rise		We have agreed a cost with sufficient level of contingency to cover any inflationary issues		

Local Objections	Full planning permission has been applied for and is now granted, this project has the support of key groups within the local community.
Poor Contractor Performance	This work will be overseen by our own Building Services, and this will provide a robust overview in terms of ongoing performance.

## PROPOSAL SIGN OFF

10.	Can you confirm the proposal does not have any of the following:		
Recurring costs		There will be ongoing maintenance costs, these will be largely subsumed within the costs already expended on maintaining the existing facility at this site. Discussions have been ongoing with FCCT who are expected to take on this site who will align costs for maintenance within the agreed transfer of budget allocated to the asset. A proposal is also in place to encourage donations for usage which will help to offset revenue, while this will not be compulsory, models used in different areas have achieved reasonable levels of income, notably during the peak holiday period.	
Unintended consequences		None identified	
Duplication with existing projects / initiatives		No duplication	
11.	Approval		
Approved By		Role	Date
Dave Paterson		Community Manager	18/02/25
		Accountant	Shared on 19/3/25
		Area Committee	Expected 2/04/25
		Cabinet Committee (if Fife wide)	N/A



2 April 2025  
Agenda Item No. 10

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## Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Greig Park Planning and Design Funding

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

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**Wards Affected:** Ward 21

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Fund (LCPB) of £20,000, to allow the progression of the Greig Park, Windygates 3G pitch project to full design and planning stage.

### Recommendation(s)

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The committee is asked to: -

- 1) consider the proposal for funding the project approach as noted in the report; and
- 2) agree the funding request of £20,000 which will be drawn from Ward 21 LCPB.

### Resource Implications

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Approval of this funding will reduce the LCPB Ward 21 budget funding by £20,000. Members should note that discussions are currently underway with the Scottish Football Association and the three clubs who are partners within this proposal to ascertain if there is scope for a contribution towards the design, any funds received through this negotiation will be used to offset costs to the LCPB, these funds will then be reused in other initiatives in the Levenmouth area.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no legal implications inherent in this report. Any work supported by this activity will be fully risk assessed and comply with the relevant legislation in place at the time.

### Impact Assessment

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An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been carried out as this approach does not represent a change to policy.

However, there will require to be Planning consent if this project is to progress as there will be a potential impact on the residents who live near this proposal. This will cover issues such as noise nuisance, light pollution, and the effect of higher levels of traffic movements in this area.

## Consultation

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This proposal was formally considered at a public meeting in Windygates on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025, this event was attended by around 70 people from the local area. Members have also been offered briefings on the matter.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The project purpose is to build an artificial grass pitch with floodlights at Greig Park in Windygates, alongside associated car parking and the formation of an access road to the site.
- 1.2 The project was initiated by football teams in Kennoway and Windygates who identified a lack of training and playing facilities for children and adults. The intention is to create a community led group that will operate and manage the facility when it is built.
- 1.3 The operating group will ensure that the facility is available to a wide range of local people as part of the wider objective to get more people active, and to start seeing an improvement in the current datasets relating to health & wellbeing issues in Levenmouth. Additional facilities are required in an area that is currently under resourced. The new pitch will be close to Cameron Bridge and the new train station and is situated in an area that offers further opportunities for development.
- 1.4 The facility operators will offer employment and volunteering opportunities to local people, to support the sporting activities. The intention is that this work will be financed via facility income.
- 1.5 The community led group will work with the Greig Institute management committee and the wider community to ensure that the new facilities cater for a wide range of activities. The group have already received support in principle from Diageo, Cameron Bridge who are keen to support the project and offer a long-term commitment to provide land to build the new pitch.
- 1.6 Greig Park Rangers, Eastvale and Kennoway Star Hearts football teams have agreed to create a new community group that will deliver the project. These teams have a combined total regular attendance of over 200 players.
- 1.7 The SFA has indicated that the project would be viewed positively and that up 50% of the total project costs could be provided from them. The group have also sought advice from Fife Voluntary Action on the most appropriate status for the new community led group that will manage the new pitch.
- 1.8 Additional large-scale funding will also have to be found for the balance of costs for this approach. The total cost of the project is estimated to be around £1million.

- 1.9 The report in front of members today is only to secure the next stage of the project which is around the submission of a full planning application and a framework for the contract administration being put in place. This report is seeking to align funding from the 2025/26 LCPB ward 21 budgets.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 The project requires to formalise its approach now, and this will require range of activities to be undertaken to ensure that Planning permission is secured, and the tendering exercise is completed.
- 2.2 To achieve these initial steps FFTC as lead on the project are looking to secure specialist sports pitch design and planning advice through a consultancy commission.
- 2.3 Although the costs for a pitch covering can be easily estimated it is important for the accuracy of any estimate that a full understanding of the ground elements and any community impact issues are assessed. The prevailing site conditions are unique to that space and no two projects are likely to be the same.
- 2.4 To achieve this the types of checks that may need to be undertaken will include:
- Topographical surveys
  - Ecological surveys
  - Utility surveys – to determine if design proposals need to be adapted due to the presence of utility infrastructure within the site
  - Full ground surveys to establish ground condition and potential contamination issues
  - Flood risk assessments
  - Noise Impact assessments
  - Lighting Impact assessments
- 2.5 The consultant would then support the submission of the planning application and the building warrant. It is initially thought that this proposal will constitute a local development, at present the timescales from submission to decision is still likely to be several months.
- 2.6 A Building warrant is required for any built elements of the project such as spectator stands, fencing and lighting masts associated to the works. Structural Calculations and a Structural Engineering Registration (S.E.R.) Certificate will need to be provided by a structural engineer. This will need to be factored in as another cost element for this stage of the project.
- 2.7 The tender documents will include an Invitation to Tender Document, Contract Preliminaries, Pre-Construction Information (CDM), Bill of Quantities, Tender Drawings and Tender Specification. The consultant will produce a tender report following receipt of tenders advising the club of best value and recommended appointment. The balance of price versus quality will be agreed by the client group and the consultant, this may also be guided by advice from the main funding bodies for the capital work.

- 2.8 From initial discussions with consultancy firms it is assumed that the total cost of this preparatory work will be in the region of £20,000, hence the request today.

## 3.0 Conclusion

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- 3.1 This project meets the objectives of the Levenmouth Local Area Plan under the theme of Opportunities for All with the more targeted outcomes being: Improved Health Outcomes and Developing community Leadership (Community Led Services).

### List of Appendices

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None

### Background Papers

None

### Report Contact

David Paterson

Community Manager Levenmouth

Buckhaven Burgh Chambers

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2 April 2025  
Agenda Item No. 11

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## Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Goblin Car Project- STEM Activities

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

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**Wards Affected:** Ward 21 & 22

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for funding of £6000 in the 2025/26 financial year with an understanding that funding of a similar level will be requested in 26/27 and 27/28 if alternative funding is not found. This funding would be drawn from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) Anti-Poverty.

### Recommendation(s)

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The Committee is asked to: -

- 1) agree a contribution of £6000 to the Goblin Car Project for the financial year 2025/26; and
- 2) note that subsequent requests will be made in the 26/27 and 27/28, on production of a satisfactory evaluation of the project and in the absence of alternative funding being available.

### Resource Implications

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The proposal in front of members today will reduce the LCPB anti-poverty budget for Levenmouth by £6000 in the 25/26 financial year, with similar levels of funding being provisionally earmarked in the finance schedules for the 26/27 and 27/28 financial years, however it is on the understanding that alternative funding sources will continue to be explored..

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no inherent risks in this report.

## Impact Assessment

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

## Consultation

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This project has been developed through discussion and agreement with staff at three primary schools in the Levenmouth cluster.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The IET Formula Goblin is an electric kit car and is designed to give young people the opportunity to build and run their own car.
- 1.2 A typical build takes 15 hours, and the Goblin can be dismantled and rebuilt each year with a new team of children.
- 1.3 The Goblin Kit Car is designed for 9- to 11-year-old children and is ideal for schools and community groups. The kit comes with easy-to-follow instructions, and the build requires only simple hand tools.
- 1.4 CLD & Schools can run the project as part of the design and technology or science curriculum. The main skills and roles developed by the initiative are shown below, and the broad range allows the YP to find jobs within the project that they can make their own whilst supporting the broader work of the team. Key tasks include:
  - Unpacking kit and familiarisation with the contents/Planning and logistics
  - Training in safe use of tools
  - Constructing the core chassis
  - Adding electrics and checking alignment
  - Design, manufacture and fit of exterior bodywork
  - Scrutineering.
- 1.5 Levenmouth CLD have been engaging with the local primary schools to offer a variety of STEM learning opportunities for Young People (YP). We have used the Goblin Cars (Greenpower) as a foundation to introduce and expand YP's knowledge and understanding of STEM subjects.
- 1.6 The project provides a safe, nurturing, and welcoming space for young people to explore and to have new experiences.
- 1.7 The linking of STEM activities and youth work has supported YP to enhance their core and personal skills whilst targeting the academic knowledge and understanding of STEM. Feedback from families and school have indicated that there has been significant change in some YP in terms of their attendance, attainment and behaviours within school, at home and in the community.
- 1.8 This project has been delivered each term since April 2024 and has successfully been able to engage with 120+ YP across three Levenmouth schools (Aberhill, Methilhill &

Kennoway). We have recently branched out to Kennoway and will look to consider other areas in Levenmouth where appropriate.

- 1.9 While we cannot claim to have clear evidence in relation to the influence of this intervention on potential career choices, as this is generally aimed at primary school pupils , we do have dialogue in the initial stage about STEM careers and negative stereotypes.
- 1.10 Each term we have 1 or 2 YP from each group who return after completing the programme to take part in the Young Stem Leadership Programme (YSLP). This allows young people to gain an accreditation in STEM which has multiple layers and levels of awards.
- 1.11 Methil has become a recognised delivery centre for this programme. We currently have 3 YP on this from the primary schools and 1 from Levenmouth Academy. The later levels of this programme look at career choices and opportunities with the last stage being an apprenticeship in STEM.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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- 2.1 This application seeks to support the STEM programme in the Levenmouth area and fund 16 courses each year for the next 3 years (48 in total) to coincide with the duration of the Levenmouth CLD Plan 2024 – 2027.
- 2.2 This will support up to 480 young people directly over the 3 years.
- 2.3 A significant part of the funding will go towards investing into new kit to be able to expand this initiative out to other parts of Levenmouth . The funding would be spent on new tools, fasteners, fixings, electronics and maintaining PPE. A breakdown of these costs in more detail is shown below.

### **Item or Activity Cost (£)- Goblin Car**

- Fixings, Fasteners and Electronics £200 per annum
- Tools £500 per annum
- Spare Parts £1500 per annum
- PPE (Helmets, gloves, overalls) £500 per annum
- Experiment equipment £800 per annum
- Misc £500 per annum
- Certificated Awards (x160YP) £1000 per annum
- Educational Trips £1000 per annum

### **Total £6000 per annum**

- 2.4 Funding would also be utilised to enhance the project parts supply to ensure that the cars are always in good, safe working condition.

- 2.5 The support will also assist the project to invest in accredited certifications such as Dynamic Youth Awards and Young STEM Leadership Programme, which are key achievements for the young people involved.

## 3.0 Conclusion

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3.1 This project aligns strongly with:

- Opportunities for all - Work with employers, schools, colleges and universities to maximise opportunities for school leavers & Improve access to learning, work and voluntary opportunities.
- Thriving Places - Invest in sport, leisure, culture and learning activities, and integrate community services and provision
- Inclusive Growth and Jobs - Promote investment in areas such as the Green Economy, tourism and in STEM related businesses and skills.

### List of Appendices

None

### Background Papers

None

### Report Contact

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2 April 2025

Agenda Item No. 12

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## Property Transactions

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Report by: Alan Paul, Head of Property Services

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Wards Affected: 21 and 22

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### Purpose

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

### Recommendation(s)

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

### Resource Implications

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

### Legal and Risk Implications

---

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

### Impact Assessment

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

### Consultation

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

## 1.0 Background

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

## 2.0 Transactions

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### 2.1 Disposals

**2.1.1 54 sqm of additional ground at 16 Groban, Leven**

Date of Sale: 30 September 2024  
Price: £5,000

### 2.2 Acquisitions

**2.2.1 79 Centenary Court, Leven**

Date of Acquisition: 29 November 2024  
Price: £92,000

**2.2.2 23 Balmaise, Leven**

Date of Acquisition: 22 November 2024  
Price: £120,000

### 2.3 Leases by the Council – New Leases

**2.3.1 Unit 12 Burnmill Industrial Estate, Leven**

Term: 5 years from 28 February 2025  
Rent: £5,950 per annum  
Tenant: Lynn and James Cruickshank t/a Cruickshank Glazing

**2.3.2 Unit 1, Levenmouth Business Park, Percival Road, Buckhaven**

Term: 3 years from 27 January 2025  
Rent: £8,850 per annum  
Tenant: Hoverdale UK Ltd

**2.3.3 Unit 2, Levenmouth Business Park, Percival Road, Buckhaven**

Term: 3 years from 18 November 2024  
Rent: £8,850 per annum  
Tenant: Medpoint Collections Ltd

**2.3.4 Unit 3, Levenmouth Business Park, Percival Road, Buckhaven**

Term: 3 years from 22 August 2024  
Rent: £9,825 per annum  
Tenant: Chris Kilpatrick t/a Precision Detail

**2.3.5 Unit 4, Levenmouth Business Park, Percival Road, Buckhaven**

Term: 3 years from 19 August 2024  
Rent: £6,975 per annum  
Tenant: Webster Designs Fife Ltd

**2.3.6 Unit 5, Levenmouth Business Park, Percival Road, Buckhaven**

Term: 3 years from 19 August 2024  
Rent: £6,075 per annum  
Tenant: Emilia Twardowska

#### **2.3.7 Unit 7, Levenmouth Business Park, Percival Road, Buckhaven**

Term: 3 years from 4 February 2025  
Rent: £6,975 per annum  
Tenant: Glassfibre Production Ltd

#### **2.3.8 Units 12 and 14, Fife Renewable Innovation Centre, Ajax Way, Methil**

Term: 5 years from 1 December 2024  
Rent: Years 1 and 2 £17,935 per annum rising to £21,000 per annum thereafter  
Tenant: Gibson Training and Care Ltd

## **3.0 Conclusions**

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

### **List of Appendices**

1. N/A

### **Report Contact**

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Author’s Job Title	Service Manager
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2 April 2025

Agenda Item No. 13

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## Levenmouth Area Committee Forward Work Programme

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

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**Wards Affected:** 21 and 22

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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

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Committee Services Manager  
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<b>Levenmouth Area Committee of 25 June 2025</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
2023/24 Local Area Economic Profiles	Economy, Planning and Employability	Alison Laughlin	Annual report. Scheduled on forward workplan for 11/2/26 and 13/1/27 meetings.
Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – On Fife Update Report Methil Heritage Centre	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	added 12.03.25
Public Health Report - Annual Progress Update	Education	Pamela Colburn	Annual Report. Last presented 20/3/24. Next Scheduled 1.4.26. (Request from Service to move from April 25 to June 25)
Educational Outcomes 23/24	Education	Jackie Funnell	Annual Report. Last reported August 2024.
Community Recovery Fund (CRF) Project Proposals - Update and Current Spend Profile	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Next Scheduled 24.06.26.
Grounds Maintenance Service Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Service Annual Review	Environment & Building Operations (AT&E)	Scott Clelland, Alexander Anderson-Es	Annual Report. Last reported May 2024. Next Scheduled 24.06.26.
LRP Grant Funding	Roads & Transportation	Phil Clarke	8.1.25 - added to workplan at request of service.
River Leven Programme Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Standing Item
LCPB Anti poverty - Funding request , Support worker - Homestart Letham Glen Hub	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Levenmouth Independence Initiative - Castle Furniture - Anti Poverty Fund	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	added 19.03.25

Levenmouth Area Committee of 20 August 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Update on Fife Heritage Rail Conservation Building (Large Grant Funding)	Roads & Transportation	Phil Clarke	1 year Update report requested at 21.08.24 meeting.
Levenmouth Area Community Learning and Development Action Plan - Annual Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Robert Graham	
Area Roads Programme 2024/25 Outturn Report	Roads & Transportation	Vicki Storrar	26/11/24 item added to workplan for annual reporting.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 1 October 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Safer Communities Team Update	Housing Services		Annual Report. Last reported May 2024. Next Scheduled 7.10.26. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.
Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Local Plan Annual Performance Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service		Annual Report. Last reported May 2024. Next Scheduled 7.10.26. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 1 October 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities within Levenmouth	Police Scotland		Annual Report. Last reported May 2024. Next Scheduled 7.10.26. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.
Area Housing Plan 2025-26	Housing Services	Peter Nicol	Annual Report. Last reported 27.11.24. Next scheduled 7.10.26.
Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Festive Lights	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual report. Last reported 27.11.24. Next Scheduled 7.10.26
Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Corra Support - Anti Poverty Funding	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Following 27/11/24 meeting further report to be scheduled in October 2025.
Education - Pupilwise and Parentwise Surveys	Education	Jackie Funnell	Annual report - last reported 2/10/24. Next due 7/10/26.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 3 December 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Complaints Annual Update Report		David Thomson-CRM, Diarmuid Cotter	Report last presented 27.11.24. Next scheduled 7.10.26.
Local Capital Budget - Annual Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	last reported Nov 24
Common Good and Settlement Trust Funds Annual Report 2024/2025	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual Report. Last reported to 27.11.24 committee. Next scheduled 25.11.26



Levenmouth Area Committee of 3 December 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Justice Social Work (JSW) Welfare Support Worker	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service		Initial report presented to committee on 27/11/24. Follow up report scheduled for 3/12/25.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 11 February 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Levenmouth Community Plan Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last presented 12.02.25. Next Scheduled 13.01.27.
Local Economic Profiles - Annual Report	Economy, Planning and Employability	Alison Laughlin	Annual Report. Last scheduled 12/2/25 meeting. Next scheduled 13/1/27.
Area Roads Programme 2026 - 2027	Roads & Transportation	Vicki Storrar	26/11/24 item added for annual reporting to the 11/2/26 meeting.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 1 April 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Health and Social Care Locality - Annual Update	Health and Social Care	Jacquie Stringer-fc	Annual Report. Last presented 2.4.25.
Public Health - Annual Progress Report	Education	Pamela Colburn	Annual Report. Last presented 2.4.25.
Levenmouth Anti Poverty Work Annual Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last Presented 1.4.25.
Educational Outcomes 24/25	Education	Shelagh McLean	Last reported April 2025.
Anti Social Behaviour Approach Levenmouth - Police Resource	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last reported 2.4.25. 2027 Date to be finalised.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 24 June 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Grounds Maintenance Service Domestic Waste and Street Cleaving Annual Review	Environment & Building Operations (AT&E)	Scott Clelland, Alexander Anderson-Es	Annual Report. Last presented 25/6/25.
Educational Outcomes 24/25	Education	Shelagh McLean	Annual Report. Last presented 25.6.25.
Community Recovery Fund (CRF) Project Proposals - Update and Current Spend Profile	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last presented 25.6.25.
Levenmouth Area Community Learning and Development Action Plan - Annual Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Robert Graham	Last reported June 2025.
River Leven Programme Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	

Levenmouth Area Committee of 19 August 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Area Roads Programme - Outturn Report	Roads & Transportation	Vicki Storrar	26/11/24 added to forward workplan for annual reporting.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 7 October 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Safer Communities Team - Annual Update	Housing Services	Liz Watson-SC	Annual report. Last presented 1.10.25. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 7 October 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Local Plan Annual Performance Update	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service		Annual report. Last presented 1.10.25. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.
Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities within Levenmouth	Police Scotland		Annual report. Last presented 1.10.25. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.
Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Festive Lights	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service		Annual Report. Last presented 1.10.25.
Area Housing Plan	Housing Services	Peter Nicol	Annual Report. Last presented 1.10.25
Education - Pupilwise and Parentwise Surveys	Education	Shelagh McLean	Annual Report - last reported October 2025.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 25 November 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Complaints Annual Update Report	Customer Services Improvement Service	David Thomson-CRM	Annual report. Last presented 3.12.25
Common Good and Settlement Trust Funds Annual Report	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual Report. Last presented 3.12.25.
Local Capital Budget Annual Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Last reported Dec 2025.

<b>Levenmouth Area Committee of 13 January 2027</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last presented 11.2.26.
Local Economic Profiles - Annual Report	Economy, Planning and Employability	Alison Laughlin	Annual Report. Last presented 11.2.26.

<b>Unallocated</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Eagle Road MUGA - Resurfacing Proposal Funding Request	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Property Transactions	Property Services	Michael Ogorman	To be added to agenda when required.