

Participatory Budgeting – Update for Area Committee			
Service Area	Estate Improvement Budget/HIP Environmental Programme	Lead Officer	Claire Frew
<b>Stage 1: Pre-Consultation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are we asking the public for their view on (what service is it / description etc)?</li> <li>How much funding are we asking about?</li> <li>Who are we asking</li> <li>How are we doing this?</li> <li>When are we doing this?</li> <li>When will we report back?</li> </ul>			
<b>Estate Improvement Budget</b> <p>The Estate Improvement Budget totals £40,000 and is split across the 4 housing divisions of South Lanarkshire. Each Local Housing Management Team can direct the funding towards projects or improvements highlighted as a priority by customers of Housing and Property Services. Although not a significant value, the budget is ideally suited for conversion to a participatory budgeting approach as often it funds a number of smaller projects that have been highlighted as a priority by customers. Examples of recent exercises include customer engagement on options for the type and design of new fencing and lighting. To date, 5 projects have been undertaken within the East Kilbride area in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>improving bin areas in Quebec Drive and Bell Green West</li> <li>installing benches in communal gardens at multi-storey blocks</li> <li>improving the drying area at Kinross Park</li> <li>replacing the communal path and stairs at Brisbane Terrace</li> </ul> <p><b>Strathcona House and Bosfield Place Sheltered Housing Complexes</b>  Engagement with tenants on the overall Housing Revenue Account budget for the 2022/2023 period and the proposed level and focus of the Housing Investment Programme within this, took place as part of the annual resource budgetary consultation process.</p> <p>Examples of projects within this budget area can include replacement doors and windows within properties or redevelopment of communal areas in multi-storey buildings or sheltered housing facilities. Not all projects included within this budget area are suitable for inclusion of a participatory budgeting approach, however, for those that are, officers will ensure the required element of choice and voting opportunities are offered to customers and appropriately recorded.</p> <p>During 2022/2023, 2 participatory budgeting projects have been undertaken within the East Kilbride area from within this budget. As part of an internal upgrade programme, residents at the Strathcona House and Bosfield Place Sheltered Housing Complexes were offered the opportunity to determine a range of finishes such as flooring, tiles and wall coverings with an initial meeting held to explain the process. Officers prepared 'mood boards' with the relevant styles on them and completed door visits or sent letters to all households within the complex asking them to select their preferred option.</p>			
<b>Stage 2: Post Consultation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The outcome of the PB activity</li> <li>What happens next?</li> <li>Further reporting requirements (eg, required Committee approval)</li> </ul>			
<b>Estate Improvement Budget</b> <p>A total of £11,373 from the Estate Improvement Budget was spent in the East Kilbride division during 2022/2023 on a range of tenant priorities.</p>			

- Following feedback from tenants that bins were rolling down the hill into neighbouring streets and damaging cars, wooden palisade fencing was installed around the drying and bin areas at Quebec Drive
- Following a participatory budgeting exercise, improvements were made to communal gardens at Dunlop Tower, Lister Tower and Fraser Rover Tower by installing benches
- In response to a series of complaints from tenants, the old bin store at Bell Green West was removed
- The communal path and stairs at Brisbane Terrace were replaced
- The grass at the Kinross Park drying area was excavated to be replaced with chips/slabs

### **Strathcona House and Bosfield Place Sheltered Housing Complexes**

A total of 67 households at Strathcona House and Bosfield Place took part in the exercise on the internal upgrades, with 65% of people voters selecting the preferred option. The total costs for the projects were £421,646.

Officers from Housing and Technical Resources will continue to take forward opportunities within the East Kilbride area to ensure tenants and other customers have the opportunity to determine the outcome of budgets within the Environmental Programme and Community Safety Partnership Commissioning Budget, with further updates provided to Committee at a later date.