

Update for Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee

Participatory Budgeting – Update for Area Committee			
Service Area	Estate Improvement Budget/HIP Environmental Programme	Lead Officer	Tracey O'Donnell Claire Frew
Stage 1: Pre-Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are we asking the public for their view on (what service is it / description etc)? • How much funding are we asking about? • Who are we asking, • How are we doing this? • When are we doing this? • When will we report back? 			
Estate Improvement Budget <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 limited in 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.</p> <p>To date, four projects are being undertaken within the Cambuslang and Rutherglen area in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving open spaces and drying areas in the Overton area • Improving bin provision in Hillhead Avenue, Rutherglen • Supporting the clean-up of the local area in Burnhill • Improving safety of a public footpath in Bankhead <p>Housing Revenue Account budget for 2023/24 - Housing Investment Programme Engagement with tenants on the overall Housing Revenue Account budget for the 2023/24 period, and the proposed level and focus of the Housing Investment Programme, took place as part of the annual Resource budgetary consultation process. The Environmental aspect of the Housing Investment Programme (the 'Environmental Programme') is a significant budget area that covers a wide range of projects that seek to improve the quality and energy efficiency of the council's domestic housing stock.</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>To date, three participatory budgeting projects are being delivered within the Cambuslang and Rutherglen area at Kirkriggs, Kirkconnel and Dunure Court Sheltered Housing sites in Rutherglen as part of a programme of environmental improvements. Residents provided feedback on ramp walking rails which have been incorporated into the final plans.</p>			

Stage 2: Post Consultation

- The outcome of the PB activity
- What happens next?
- Further reporting requirements (eg required Committee approval)

Estate Improvement Budget

A total of £9398.81 from the Estate Improvement Budget was spent in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen division during 2023/2024 on a range of tenant priorities.

- Following complaints from local tenants and residents in Overton, improvements were made to open spaces and drying areas by removing overgrown foliage and plants.
- In response to issues raised at a local walkabout with tenants and other stakeholders, improvements were made to bin areas at Hillhead Avenue by removing existing blue and black wheelie bins from individual households and replacing with a communal bin area with 3 x 1100 litre bins.
- From discussions with the Burnhill Action Group, 2 skips were provided to aid the clean-up of the local area to remove rubbish and items that have been dumped in the area.
- Following feedback from residents in Bankhead, a bollard was installed to improve safety and prevent cars driving onto a public footpath.

Kirkriggs, Kirkconnel, and Dunure Sheltered Housing Sites, Rutherglen

A total of 45 tenants took part in the exercise to inform the final proposals to renovate and redesign back and front communal areas and improve pathways, drying greens, fencing, and raised beds for plants. This included a series of residents' meetings and individual discussions. The total costs for the projects were £195,672.52.

Officers from Housing and Technical Resources will continue to take forward opportunities within Cambuslang and Rutherglen to ensure tenants and other customers can determine the outcome of budgets within the Environmental Programme and Estate Improvement Budget, with further updates provided to Committee.