

Update for Hamilton Area Committee

Participatory Budgeting – Update for Area Committee			
Service Area	Estate Improvement Budget/HIP Environmental Programme	Lead Officer	Deirdre Duncan 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. Although limited in value, the budget is ideally suited for conversion to a participatory budgeting approach as it often 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, 5 projects are being undertaken within the Hamilton area in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • painting parking bays at John Ewing Gardens, Larkhall • installing security lighting at Moray Place, Blantyre • delivering environmental upgrades at Camelon Crescent, Blantyre • re-planting existing planters at Kelvin Gardens, Hamilton • expanding boundary fencing at Allanton Gardens, Ferniegair <p>Housing Revenue Account budget for the 2023/2204 - Housing Investment Programme</p> <p>Engagement with tenants on the overall Housing Revenue Account budget for the 2023/2024 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 (HIP) (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, 3 participatory budgeting projects have commenced in the Hamilton division:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing additional parking at Rorison Place, Ashgill • installing perimeter fencing and upgrading CCTV at the Shawlands Crescent Gypsy/Traveller site • delivering internal upgrades at the Lorne Street sheltered housing site in Hamilton 			

Stage 2: Post Consultation

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

Estate Improvement Budget

A total of **£9,262** from the Estate Improvement Budget was spent in the Hamilton division during 2023/2024 on a range of tenant priorities.

- In response to requests from tenants experiencing problems with parking at John Ewing Gardens in Larkhall, lines were painted in parking bays to clearly mark individual parking spaces.
- Following discussions with tenants in Moray Place in Blantyre about safety issues in the area, new sensor lighting was installed.
- In response to feedback from tenants raised during estate inspections in Kelvin Gardens in Hamilton, the existing planters will be de-weeded and re-planted.
- Following discussions with tenants and a local estate walkabout, environmental upgrades will be undertaken in Camelon Crescent in Blantyre to improve a walkway, lay new grass and plant appropriate trees.
- After concerns were raised by affected tenants in Allanton Gardens in Ferniegair, the existing boundary fencing is being expanded to respond to local anti-social behaviour issues.

Housing Revenue Account budget for the 2023/2024 - Housing Investment Programme

Rorison Place, Ashgill

In response to consultation with local tenants experiencing issues with parking, it was agreed to create additional parking in the current grassed area. Total costs of the project were **£41,000**.

Shawlands Crescent Gypsy/Traveller site

Following consultation with residents of 18 pitches through site meetings and individual discussions, it was agreed to upgrade CCTV on the site and install new perimeter fencing to secure the site, as well as undertaking landscaping at the site entrance. The total costs of the projects were **£76,330**.

Lorne Street Sheltered Housing site

During July 2023 full proposals for an internal refurbishment, including two options for colour schemes and furnishings, were presented at a residents meeting. Proposals were then presented to all tenants who couldn't attend the meeting and the options were put on display for everyone to consider. Following a vote with 19 tenants participating, option 1 was taken forward and work began in January 2024. The total costs of the internal refurbishment were **£158,376.08**.

Officers from Housing and Technical Resources will continue to take forward opportunities within Hamilton 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.