



Council Offices, Almada Street  
Hamilton, ML3 0AA

Friday, 23 April 2021

Dear Councillor

## **Community and Enterprise Resources Committee**

The Members listed below are requested to attend a meeting of the above Committee to be held as follows:-

**Date:** Tuesday, 04 May 2021  
**Time:** 14:00  
**Venue:** By Microsoft Teams,

The business to be considered at the meeting is listed overleaf.

Yours sincerely

**Cleland Sneddon**  
**Chief Executive**

### **Members**

John Anderson (Chair), Isobel Dorman (Depute Chair), John Ross (ex officio), John Bradley, Maureen Chalmers, Gerry Convery, Margaret Cooper, Peter Craig, Joe Fagan, Graeme Horne, Martin Grant Hose, Ann Le Blond, Hugh Macdonald, Monique McAdams, Ian McAllan, Catherine McClymont, Kenny McCreary, Mark McGeever, Davie McLachlan, Lynne Nailon, Richard Nelson, Graham Scott, Collette Stevenson, Margaret B Walker, David Watson, Josh Wilson

### **Substitutes**

Alex Allison, Robert Brown, Stephanie Callaghan, Andy Carmichael, Poppy Corbett, Margaret Cowie, Maureen Devlin, Mary Donnelly, Allan Falconer, George Greenshields, Ian Harrow, Eric Holford, Mark Horsham, Jim McGuigan, Jim Wardhaugh

## BUSINESS

### 1 Declaration of Interests

- 2 **Minutes of Previous Meeting** 5 - 12  
Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee held on 16 February 2021 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached)

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#### Monitoring Item(s)

- 3 **Community and Enterprise Resources - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/2021** 13 - 22  
Joint report dated 30 March 2021 by the Executive Directors (Finance and Corporate Resources) and (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)
- 4 **Community and Enterprise Resources - Capital Budget Monitoring 2020/2021** 23 - 26  
Joint report dated 14 April 2021 by the Executive Directors (Finance and Corporate Resources) and (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)
- 5 **Community and Enterprise Resources - Workforce Monitoring - January and February 2021** 27 - 34  
Joint report dated 15 March 2021 by the Executive Directors (Finance and Corporate Resources) and (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)

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#### Item(s) for Decision

- 6 **Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan** 35 - 80  
Report dated 9 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)
- 7 **Community Benefit Funds - Renewable Energy Fund - Grant Applications** 81 - 84  
Report dated 9 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)
- 8 **Community Benefit Funds – Annual Report** 85 - 112  
Report dated 13 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)

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#### Item(s) for Noting

- 9 **Town Centre Funding and Project - Update** 113 - 126  
Report dated 7 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)
- 10 **Lanarkshire Economic Forum - Update** 127 - 136  
Report dated 9 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)
- 11 **Introduction of New Charge - Export Health Certificate Supporting Attestation** 137 - 140  
Report dated 9 April 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). (Copy attached)

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## **Urgent Business**

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### **12 Urgent Business**

Any other items of business which the Chair decides are urgent.

***For further information, please contact:-***

Clerk Name: Elizabeth-Anne McGonigle

Clerk Telephone: 01698 454521

Clerk Email: [elizabeth-anne.mcgonigle@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth-anne.mcgonigle@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)



# COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 16 February 2021

## Chair:

Councillor John Anderson

## Councillors Present:

Councillor John Bradley, Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Gerry Convery, Councillor Margaret Cooper, Councillor Peter Craig, Councillor Isobel Dorman (Depute), Councillor Joe Fagan, Councillor Allan Falconer (*substitute for Councillor Margaret B Walker*), Councillor Graeme Horne, Councillor Martin Grant Hose, Councillor Ann Le Blond, Councillor Hugh Macdonald, Councillor Monique McAdams, Councillor Ian McAllan, Councillor Catherine McClymont, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Mark McGeever, Councillor Davie McLachlan, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor Graham Scott, Councillor Collette Stevenson, Councillor David Watson, Councillor Josh Wilson

## Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor John Ross (*ex officio*), Councillor Margaret B Walker

## Attending:

### Community and Enterprise Resources

M McGlynn, Executive Director; S Clelland, Head of Fleet and Environmental Services; P Elliott, Head of Planning and Economic Development; G Mackay, Head of Roads and Transportation Services; A McKinnon, Head of Facilities, Waste and Ground Services

### Finance and Corporate Resources

M M Cairns, Legal Services Manager; N Docherty, Administration Assistant; L Harvey, Finance Manager; P MacRae, Administration Adviser; E Maxwell, Human Resources Business Partner; E-A McGonigle, Administration Officer; L O'Hagan, Finance Manager (Strategy); S Terry, Web Journalist

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## 1 Declaration of Interests

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<b>Councillor(s)</b>	<b>Item(s)</b>	<b>Nature of Interest(s)</b>
Dorman	Community Benefit Funds – Renewable Energy Fund Grant Applications	Member of Friends of Stonehouse Park
McClymont	A Vision for Lanark	Member of Lanark Community Development Trust

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## 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

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The minutes of the meeting of the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee held on 24 November 2020 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

Councillor Fagan referred to:-

- ♦ item 13 of the minutes and advised that he had asked Audit Scotland for comments and would share any information received
- ♦ the items relating to town centres and requested an update on progress in relation to the town centre bids and initiatives considered at the meeting

The Executive Director undertook to provide an update on town centre bids and initiatives to the next meeting of the Committee.

**The Committee decided:** that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

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### **3 Community and Enterprise Resources - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/2021**

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A joint report dated 22 January 2021 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure at 1 January 2021 against budgeted expenditure for 2020/2021 for Community and Enterprise Resources and providing a forecast for the year to 31 March 2021.

Following the probable outturn exercise, there was a reported overspend for the Resource of £8.722 million before transfers to reserves and £9.169 million after transfers to reserves of £0.447 million. This included the forecast cost of £9.199 million in respect of COVID-19.

At 1 January 2021, the position was an overspend of £5.875 million before transfers to reserves and £6.227 million after transfer to reserves. Details were also provided on proposed budget virements in respect of Community and Enterprise Resources to realign budgets.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the forecast to 31 March 2021 of an overspend of £8.722 million before transfers to reserves, as detailed in Appendix A to the report, and an overspend of £9.169 million after transfers to reserves be noted;
- (2) that an overspend of £5.875 million as at 1 January 2021, as detailed in Appendix A of the report, and of £6.227 million, after transfers to reserves, be noted; and
- (3) that the proposed budget virements, as detailed in appendices B to G of the report, be approved.

*[Reference: Minutes of 24 November 2020 (Paragraph 3)]*

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### **4 Community and Enterprise Resources - Capital Budget Monitoring 2020/2021**

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A joint report dated 20 January 2021 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted advising of progress on the Community and Enterprise Resources' capital programme 2020/2021 and summarising the expenditure position at 1 January 2021.

The revised capital programme for 2020/2021, as agreed at the 16 December 2020 Executive Committee, amounted to £37.622 million and, at 1 January 2021, expenditure was £17.349 million. The projected outturn for the current financial year was £35.200 million. This represented an underspend of £2.400 million and reflected anticipated timing of spend on a number of projects. In addition, £0.300 million related to savings achieved on works completed within the Roads Investment Programme this financial year which would be carried forward into 2021/2022 to allow additional works to be carried out.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the Community and Enterprise Resources' capital budget programme of £37.622 million, and expenditure to date of £17.349 million, be noted;
- (2) that the projected outturn of £35.200 million be noted; and

- (3) that it be noted that the saving of £0.300 million on the Roads Investment Programme would be carried forward and used to undertake additional projects in 2021/2022.

*[Reference: Minutes of 24 November 2020 (Paragraph 4) and Minutes of the Executive Committee of 10 February 2021 (Paragraph 4)]*

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## **5 Community and Enterprise Resources - Workforce Monitoring – October to December 2020**

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A joint report dated 12 January 2021 by the Executive Directors (Community and Enterprise Resources) and (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on the following employee information for Community and Enterprise Resources for the period October to December 2020:-

- ♦ attendance statistics
- ♦ occupational health statistics
- ♦ accident/incident statistics
- ♦ disciplinary hearings, grievances and Dignity at Work cases
- ♦ analysis of leavers and exit interviews
- ♦ staffing watch as at 14 September 2020

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 24 November 2020 (Paragraph 5)]*

*Councillor Stevenson joined the meeting during consideration of this item of business*

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## **6 Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Trial**

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A report dated 21 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on:-

- ♦ the progress of the PACE Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Trial project involving Transport Scotland, Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN), North Lanarkshire Council and South Lanarkshire Council
- ♦ the preparation of legal agreements and necessary lease and licensing arrangements in relation to the project
- ♦ the cost pressures relating to energy and usage and the investigation of future tariffs for the use of public EV charging points

The Climate Change Bill and the Scottish Government's 2019 declaration of a climate emergency highlighted the need for a national transport plan. In order to meet the Scottish Government's ambition to phase out new petrol and diesel cars by 2030, the transition to electric powered vehicles was a key delivery component.

South Lanarkshire Council, together with North Lanarkshire Council, had been selected by Transport Scotland and SPEN to trial a new and innovative approach to the provision of clean energy for transport. The joint project was now known as Project PACE.

Working in partnership with the Scottish Government, Transport Scotland, SPEN and North Lanarkshire Council, proposals had been developed and were being implemented to provide an enhanced network of EV public charging infrastructure across Lanarkshire. It was estimated that approximately £2.5 million would be invested in South Lanarkshire, with a similar amount being invested in North Lanarkshire.

Work was scheduled to commence in late March 2020 and be completed by the end of 2020, but this was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The revised programme for South Lanarkshire would see all sites completed by spring 2021.

Progress had been made in relation to the preparation of legal agreements and the necessary lease and licence arrangements for access to and for the use of Council assets and land. The overall Collaboration Agreement, including template leases and licences, was signed in August 2020. Work continued for individual site leases and licences for 20 sites were completed in January 2021.

The project presented multiple benefits to the Council in relation to carbon reduction, tackling barriers to financial inclusion and connectivity within communities, and provided opportunities to build on the work already delivered in relation to the growing EV public charging infrastructure network. The completion of the PACE project would see the EV charging infrastructure network in South Lanarkshire increase by 145%. Additionally, a further 18 dual chargers at 7 locations would be installed as part of another EV funding stream provided by Transport Scotland.

Details of the selected charging hub locations, the overall status of the works and the anticipated programme were provided in Appendix 1 to the report.

It had been intended that SPEN would be responsible for the charge points/hubs from implementation to the end of the trial, expected to be around 31 December 2021, however, the EU Clean Energy Package came into effect on 1 January 2021 and had been transferred into UK Law. This prevented SPEN, as licensee, from owning, developing, managing, or operating an EV recharging point. As a result, it was proposed to transfer ownership of the hubs to the Council sooner than set out in the original Collaboration Agreement on a site-by-site basis. The requirement of a Memorandum of Understanding with Transport Scotland and each Council would need to be confirmed.

There were increased pressures associated with the ongoing electricity costs which would fall to the Council in the short term. Costs for 2020/2021 were expected to be in the region of £0.045 million, although demand would be impacted upon due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Those additional costs would be managed as a short-term funding pressure pending the development of options for cost recovery.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the content of the report and progress on the project be noted;
- (2) that the Executive Director of Community and Enterprise Resources, in consultation with the Head of Administration and Legal Services, be authorised to commence the process of:-
  - ◆ transferring novating the maintenance contract
  - ◆ revising the Collaboration Agreement to allow ownership of the assets to be transferred to South Lanarkshire Council
  - ◆ entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Transport Scotland, if necessary
- (3) that the increased cost pressures relating to energy and the intention to explore the use of tariffs to potentially recover those costs be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 4 February 2020 (Paragraph 8)]*



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## 7 Renewable Energy Fund (REF) – Micro Grant Funds

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A report dated 25 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the delivery of the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) micro grant funds.

At its meeting on 30 October 2018, the Committee approved a number of changes to the REF. One of the changes was the introduction of micro grant funds to Community Councils or other suitable local community organisations on a trial basis for 2 years. Community Councils, or organisations within an eligible 10km area of a contributing windfarm, could apply to REF for a maximum of £5,000 on an annual basis and each organisation would promote, administer and award micro grants of up to £500 within that Community Council area.

The micro grant fund was launched in February 2019 and all 34 Community Councils were invited to attend briefing sessions and apply to administer micro grant funds. Details were provided in Appendix 1 to the report on the 31 successful applications in 2019/2020 and the 21 successful applications to date in 2020/2021. The decrease in the number of organisations running the micro grants and the value awarded in 2020/2021 was attributed to:-

- ◆ difficulties in Community Councils meeting to make award decisions
- ◆ the reduced activity of local sports groups and social clubs due to COVID-19

Following the initial 2-year trial, and after consultation in November 2020 with Community Councils and organisations which delivered the micro grants, it was proposed that:-

- ◆ micro grants continue and become an annual fund within the REF thereby removing the need to seek Committee approval on an annual basis, although officers would review operations and impact on an ongoing basis
- ◆ there would be no change to the scale, or criteria of the micro grant fund

**The Committee decided:** that, following the initial 2-year trial, the REF micro grants be approved on an ongoing annual award programme within the REF, subject to review by officers.

*[Reference: Minutes of 30 October 2018 (Paragraph 6)]*

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## 8 Community Benefit Funds – Renewable Energy Fund Grant Applications

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A report dated 25 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on 3 applications to the various Community Benefit Funds. The Community Benefit Funds had been established to provide funding to suitable projects providing community benefit in eligible areas.

It was proposed that, subject to the applicants providing written confirmation that all other additional funding for the projects had been secured, a grant be awarded of up to a maximum of:-

- ◆ £89,820.00 towards eligible costs associated with the management and maintenance of the network of routes throughout the Whitelee windfarm area to East Renfrewshire Council from the Whitelee windfarm Renewable Energy Fund
- ◆ £41,469.78 towards eligible costs associated with enhancement of the visitor experience and development of infrastructure to The Little Sparta Trust from the Muirhall windfarm Renewable Energy Fund
- ◆ £107,896.80 towards eligible costs associated with the construction and development of a community hub as a community asset to Friends of Stonehouse Park from Auchrobert windfarms Renewable Energy Fund

Officers responded to a member's question on the report.

**The Committee decided:**

that, subject to the applicants providing written confirmation that all other additional funding for the projects had been secured, a grant be awarded of up to a maximum of:-

- ◆ £89,820.00 towards eligible costs associated with the management and maintenance of the network of routes throughout the Whitelee windfarm area to East Renfrewshire Council from the Whitelee windfarm Renewable Energy Fund
- ◆ £41,469.78 towards eligible costs associated with enhancement of the visitor experience and development of infrastructure to The Little Sparta Trust from the Muirhall windfarm Renewable Energy Fund
- ◆ £107,896.80 towards eligible costs associated with the construction and development of a community hub as a community asset to Friends of Stonehouse Park from Auchrobert windfarms Renewable Energy Fund

*[Reference: Minutes of 15 September 2020 (Paragraph 11)]*

*Councillor Dorman, having declared an interest in the above item, withdrew from the meeting during its consideration*

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## **9 Strathaven Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) – Grant Application**

A report dated 25 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on 2 applications to the Strathaven Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS).

It was proposed that, subject to the applicants providing written confirmation that all other additional funding for the projects had been secured, the following grants be awarded:-

- ◆ up to £58,558.19 towards eligible costs associated with the external fabric improvements, including shop front, rendering and roofing works, at 1 Green Street, Strathaven to Mr Brendon Smith (trading as The Weavers Bar)
- ◆ up to £34,920.55 towards eligible costs associated with the external fabric improvements, including shop front, rendering and roofing works, at 29/31 Common Green, Strathaven to Mr Douglas P Bryden

Officers responded to a member's question on the report.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that £58,558.19 towards eligible costs associated with the external fabric improvements, including shop front, rendering and roofing works, at 1 Green Street, Strathaven be awarded to Mr Brendon Smith (trading as The Weavers Bar);
- (2) that £34,920.55 towards eligible costs associated with the external fabric improvements, including shop front, rendering and roofing works, at 29/31 Common Green, Strathaven be awarded to Mr Douglas P Bryden;

- (3) that the above grants be subject to match funding being secured and receipt of written confirmation of this by the Council; and
- (4) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources), in consultation with the Head of Administration and Legal Services, be authorised to complete such agreements and supporting documentation as required to administer the grants.

*[Reference: Minutes of 24 November 2020 (Paragraph 11)]*

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## **10 A Vision for Lanark**

A report dated 26 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on:-

- ♦ an update on the activities of the Lanark Vision Group
- ♦ a proposal for an officer to attend and represent the Council at the Lanark Vision Partnership Board, and to sign the associated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Lanark Community Development Trust (LCDT), acting on behalf of a partnership consisting of the Trust, Discover Lanark, New Lanark Trust and Scottish Wildlife Trust (Falls of Clyde), had commissioned a Vision for Lanark 2020 to 2030 as a regeneration strategy for the Lanark, New Lanark and Falls of Clyde area. The strategy was designed to build on the establishment of Discover Lanark by LCDT to provide a basis for longer term development of the town.

Details were given on the 2 key themes and 4 initiatives contained in the strategy document, A Vision for Lanark 2020 to 2030. A 2 stage programme of public consultation had been completed in October 2020 which would inform the development of a Delivery Plan.

The Lanark Vision Partnership Steering Committee acknowledged that the Council was actively engaged in several initiatives which the consultation and report had identified. Consequently, the Council had been approached to become a formal partner in the Vision Group through attendance at the Lanark Vision Partnership Board. It was proposed that a senior officer be nominated to represent the Council in that capacity. Partners would sign up to a MOU setting out the scope of the Group and terms of engagement and this was detailed at Appendix 1 to the report.

### **The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the progress made by the Lanark Vision Group in preparing the Vision for Lanark 2020 to 2030 be noted;
- (2) that an officer attend the Lanark Vision Partnership Board to represent the Council; and
- (3) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Administration and Legal Services, to agree to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on such terms as to enable the work of the Lanark Vision Group while reflecting the objectives and best interests of the Council.

*Councillor McClymont, having declared an interest in the above item, withdrew from the meeting during its consideration*

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## **11 Community and Enterprise Resource Plan 2020/2021 - Quarter 2 Progress Report**

A joint report dated 22 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) was submitted on the Community and Enterprise Resource Plan 2020/2021.

Details were provided on progress made at the end of Quarter 2, covering the period 1 April to 30 September 2020, in implementing the actions and measures identified in the Resource Plan. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council had suspended or reduced a number of services that could not be continued due to Government advice. The Council had also redirected resources in order to deliver vital new services and support for individuals, communities and businesses. Consequently, performance had been impacted in some areas.

Measures in the quarterly progress report which were not red, amber or green could be assigned a status of 'report later' or 'contextual'. For the Quarter 4 2019/2020 results, 26 measures were identified in those categories and 24 of those were Local Government Benchmarking Framework indicators, for which the 2019/2020 results would not be published until February 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic adversely affected progress on some measures and the updated status and explanatory narrative was provided at Appendix 3 to the report.

**The Committee decided:**

- (1) that the Community and Enterprise Resource Plan Quarter 2 Progress Report 2020/2021, attached as Appendix 2 to the report, be noted;
- (2) that the key achievements made by the Resource to date be noted; and
- (3) that the additional scrutiny of reporting the updated status of those measures identified as 'report later' at Quarter 4 2019/2020, as detailed at Appendix 3 to the report, be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 12 November 2019 (Paragraph 6) and minutes of 15 September 2020 (Paragraph 8) ]*

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## **12 Urgent Business**

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There were no items of urgent business.

# Report

3

Report to: **Community and Enterprise Resources Committee**  
 Date of Meeting: **4 May 2021**  
 Report by: **Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**  
**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

Subject: **Community and Enterprise Resources - Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/2021**

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ provide information on the actual expenditure measured against the revenue budget for the period 1 April 2020 to 26 February 2021 for Community and Enterprise Resources
- ♦ provide a forecast for the year to 31 March 2021

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the forecast to 31 March 2021 of an overspend of £8.169m after approved transfers to reserves as detailed in Appendix A of the report, be noted;
- (2) that an overspend of £7.066m as at 26 February 2021 after approved transfers to reserves, as detailed in Appendix A of the report, be noted; and
- (3) that the proposed budget virements as detailed in appendices B to G are approved.

## 3. Background

3.1. This is the fourth revenue budget monitoring report presented to the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee for the financial year 2020/2021.

3.2. The Resource has completed its formal probable outturn exercise for the year identifying expected spend to the 31 March 2021. Details are outlined in section 5 below.

3.3. The report details the financial position for Community and Enterprise Resources in appendix A and the individual services' reports in appendices B to G, including variance explanation. This year the position includes the impact of COVID-19.

## 4. Employee Implications

4.1. None

## 5. Financial Implications

5.1. **Probable Outturn:** Following the council's probable outturn exercise, the Resource is reporting an overspend of £8.169m after approved transfers to reserves of £0.447m. This includes projected costs of COVID-19 of £8.199m. The Resource position is

detailed in Appendix A and the transfers to reserves by service area are noted in appendices B to F.

- 5.2 The forecast cost of COVID-19 is £8.199m. This is the net effect of expenditure of £4.701m, as outlined in Appendix G, relating to increased staff costs in support of the COVID-19 response; additional costs from increased domestic waste tonnages, fly tipping costs, traffic management and security at civic amenity sites; additional fleet costs and the costs of additional PPE and enhanced cleaning regimes. Included within the Resource position is the approved contribution to South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC) of £1.269m as previously reported.

In addition the Resource is projecting a significant impact as a result of loss of income due to the pandemic of £4.811m including parking charges, Planning Building Standards applications, Care of Gardens and school meals, as well as savings not achieved of £0.100m and an underspend in budget of £1.413m in the main due to expenditure not incurred in relation to food cost for school meals.

- 5.3 The core budget of the Resource has a minor underspend due to underspends in employees costs across all services offset by an overspend in Fleet due to the timing of efficiencies and the cost of waste contracts.
- 5.4 **Position as 26 February 2021:** The Resource position as at 26 February 2021 is an overspend of £7.066m after approved transfers to reserves. Appendix A outlines this position. Detailed variance explanations by service area are included in appendices B to F.
- 5.5 Virements are proposed to realign budgets across budget categories and with other Resources. These movements are detailed in the appendices B to F of this report.

## **6. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 6.1 There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

## **7. Other Implications**

- 7.1 The main risk associated with the Council's Revenue Budget is that there is an overspend. The risk has been assessed as low given the detailed budget management applied across the Resources. The risk is managed through four weekly Budget Monitoring Meetings at which any variance is analysed. In addition, the probable outturn exercise ensures early warning for corrective action to be taken where appropriate.

## **8 Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 8.1 This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2 There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

**Paul Manning**  
**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

**Michael McGlynn**  
**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

30 March 2021

**Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Accountable, Effective, Efficient and Transparent

**Previous References**

- ◆ None

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ Financial ledger and budget monitoring results to 26 February 2021.

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Louise Harvey, Finance Manager

Ext: 2658 (Tel: 01698 452658)

E-mail: [louise.harvey@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:louise.harvey@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

## SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

Community and Enterprise Resources: Period 12 Ended 26 February 2021 (No. 12)

## Community and Enterprise Resources Summary

	Annual Budget	Forecast for Year BEFORE Transfers	Annual Forecast Variance BEFORE Transfers	Annual Forecast Variance AFTER Transfers	Budget Proportion 26/02/21	Actual BEFORE Transfers 26/02/21	Variance 26/02/21		% Variance 26/02/21	Note
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000			
<b><u>Budget Category</u></b>										
Employee Costs	83,901	82,796	1,105	1,105	74,349	73,287	1,062	under	1.4%	
Property Costs	4,126	4,607	(481)	(481)	3,593	3,998	(405)	over	(11.3%)	
Supplies & Services	15,021	13,410	1,611	1,611	12,819	11,305	1,514	under	11.8%	
Transport & Plant	21,886	20,257	1,629	1,584	19,923	18,600	1,323	under	6.6%	
Administration Costs	911	940	(29)	(54)	772	796	(24)	over	(3.1%)	
Payments to Other Bodies	34,679	34,424	255	115	27,478	27,176	302	under	1.1%	
Payments to Contractors	41,143	44,329	(3,186)	(3,353)	37,028	40,109	(3,081)	over	(8.3%)	
Transfer Payments	595	595	0	0	595	597	(2)	over	(0.3%)	
Financing Charges	184	176	8	8	174	176	(2)	over	(1.1%)	
<b>Total Controllable Exp.</b>	202,446	201,534	912	535	176,731	176,044	687	under	0.4%	
<b>Total Controllable Inc.</b>	(92,808)	(84,174)	(8,634)	(8,704)	(63,747)	(56,409)	(7,338)	under recovered	(11.5%)	
<b>Net Controllable Exp.</b>	109,638	117,360	(7,722)	(8,169)	112,984	119,635	(6,651)	over	(5.9%)	
<b>Transfer to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	-	-	(447)	-	-	415	(415)	over		
<b>Position After Transfers to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	109,638	118,347	(8,169)	(8,169)	112,984	120,050	(7,066)	over	(6.3%)	

**Variance Explanations**

Detailed in Appendix B to G.

**Budget Virements**

Budget virements are shown in Appendices B to G.

**Approved Transfers to Reserves**

Detailed in Appendix B to G



## SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

Community and Enterprise Resources: Period 12 Ended 26 February 2021 (No. 12)

## Facilities, Streets and Waste (including Support)

Budget Category	Annual Budget £000	Forecast for Year BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance AFTER Transfers £000	Budget Proportion 26/02/21 £000	Actual BEFORE Transfers 26/02/21 £000	Variance 26/02/21 £000		% Variance 26/02/21	Note
Employee Costs	54,407	53,871	536	536	48,098	47,796	602	under	1.3%	1
Property Costs	2,363	2,307	56	56	2,058	1,976	82	under	4.0%	2
Supplies & Services	6,532	5,781	751	751	5,485	4,364	1,121	under	20.4%	3
Transport & Plant	7,847	7,509	338	338	7,258	7,037	221	under	3.0%	4,a
Administration Costs	302	293	9	9	234	213	21	under	9.0%	
Payments to Other Bodies	51	43	8	8	47	44	3	under	6.4%	
Payments to Contractors	14,730	14,860	(130)	(297)	13,114	13,242	(128)	over	(1.0%)	5
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	77	63	14	14	72	60	12	under	16.7%	
<b>Total Controllable Exp.</b>	<b>86,309</b>	<b>84,727</b>	<b>1,582</b>	<b>1,415</b>	<b>76,366</b>	<b>74,432</b>	<b>1,934</b>	<b>under</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	
<b>Total Controllable Inc.</b>	<b>(19,116)</b>	<b>(17,369)</b>	<b>(1,747)</b>	<b>(1,817)</b>	<b>(17,900)</b>	<b>(15,876)</b>	<b>(2,024)</b>	<b>under recovered</b>	<b>(11.3%)</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Net Controllable Exp.</b>	<b>67,193</b>	<b>67,358</b>	<b>(165)</b>	<b>(402)</b>	<b>58,466</b>	<b>58,556</b>	<b>(90)</b>	<b>Over</b>	<b>(0.2%)</b>	
<b>Transfer to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(237)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>(219)</b>	<b>over</b>		
<b>Position After Transfers to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	<b>67,193</b>	<b>67,358</b>	<b>(402)</b>	<b>(402)</b>	<b>58,466</b>	<b>58,775</b>	<b>(309)</b>	<b>over</b>	<b>(0.5%)</b>	

Variance Explanations

1. The variance is mainly due to vacant posts within Facilities which are being actively recruited, partially offset by overtime costs.
2. The variance is due to an under spend in rent as a result of vacating premises, partially offset by higher utility charges and an over spend in rates associated with a former civic amenity site, Muttonhole Road.
3. The under spend is mainly due to food purchases within the Catering service due to school closures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is offset by a loss of school meals income during school closures. This is partially offset by greater material costs within Grounds for additional service requests and a greater spend on domestic waste bins which are partly offset by an over recovery of income.
4. The underspend relates to Streets, where leasing costs are less than budget due to the timing of replacing vehicles, fuel and vehicle maintenance costs. There is an over spend within Waste on hired vehicles.
5. The over spend is due to the cost of the fibre contract being higher than budget within Waste and the cost of chemical toilets for allotment sites.
6. The under recovery of income relates to Grounds, Waste and Facilities for services covering the care of gardens, bulky uplifts, school meals and coffee shops as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Budget Virements

- a. Realignment of the Fleet Vehicle Saving 20/21. Net effect (£0.005m): Transport and Plant (£0.005m).

Approved Transfers to Reserves (£0.237m):

- i. Parent Pay development (£0.070m)
- ii. Crematorium Sinking fund (£0.025m)
- iii. Electric Sweeper - Payback (£0.065m)
- iv. Restoration works – Alexander Park, Stonehouse (£0.077m)

## SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

Community and Enterprise Resources: Period 12 Ended 26 February 2021 (No. 12)

## Fleet and Environmental (Inc Projects)

Budget Category	Annual Budget £000	Forecast for Year BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance AFTER Transfers £000	Budget Proportion 26/02/21 £000	Actual BEFORE Transfers 26/02/21 £000	Variance 26/02/21 £000		% Variance 26/02/21	Note
Employee Costs	8,976	8,498	478	478	7,928	7,527	401	under	5.1%	1
Property Costs	191	243	(52)	(52)	187	206	(19)	over	(10.2%)	
Supplies & Services	335	312	23	23	273	264	9	under	3.3%	
Transport & Plant	9,709	8,308	1,401	1,356	9,070	7,801	1,269	under	14.0%	2,a,b
Administration Costs	92	95	(3)	(3)	61	63	(2)	over	(3.3%)	
Payments to Other Bodies	192	147	45	45	159	114	45	under	28.3%	3
Payments to Contractors	1,140	1,188	(48)	(48)	929	973	(44)	over	(4.7%)	4
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	24	22	2	2	24	20	4	under	16.7%	
<b>Total Controllable Exp.</b>	20,659	18,813	1,846	1,801	18,631	16,968	1,663	under	8.9%	
<b>Total Controllable Inc.</b>	(19,587)	(17,020)	(2,567)	(2,567)	(17,903)	(15,559)	(2,344)	under recovered	(13.1%)	5b
<b>Net Controllable Exp.</b>	1,072	1,793	(721)	(766)	728	1,409	(681)	over	(93.5%)	
<b>Transfer to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	-	-	(45)	-	-	42	(42)	over		
<b>Position After Transfers to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	1,072	1,793	(766)	(766)	728	1,451	(723)	over	(99.3%)	

Variance Explanations

1. The variance is mainly due to vacancies within the services that are actively being recruited.
2. The variance relates mainly to an underspend in fuel and casual hire which are offset by an under recovery in income, partially offset by greater than budgeted expenditure within the workshop and the timing of efficiencies.
3. The under spend is due to lower than anticipated payments for scientific services.
4. The over spend is due to the cost of clinical waste, which is demand led, and is offset by an over recovery of income.
5. The under recovery is mainly due to less income from fuel, casual hire and taxi inspections due to the COVID19 pandemic, partially offset by an over recovery for clinical waste.

Budget Virements

- a. Realignment of the Fleet Vehicle Saving 20/21. Net effect £0.020m: Transport and Plant £0.020m.
- b. Establish budget within Fleet services in respect of a government grant for Electrical Vehicles. Net effect £0.000m: Transport and Plant £0.404m, Income (£0.404m).

Approved Transfers to Reserves (£0.045m):

- b. Fleet Sinking fund (£0.045m)

## SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

Community and Enterprise Resources: Period 12 Ended 26 February 2021 (No. 12)

## Leisure and Culture

Budget Category	Annual Budget £000	Forecast for Year BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance AFTER Transfers £000	Budget Proportion 26/02/21 £000	Actual BEFORE Transfers 26/02/21 £000	Variance 26/02/21 £000		% Variance 26/02/21	Note
Employee Costs	4	5	(1)	(1)	3	3	0	-	0.0%	
Property Costs	207	192	15	15	192	178	14	under	7.3%	1
Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
Transport & Plant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
Administration Costs	8	8	0	0	8	8	0	-	0.0%	
Payments to Other Bodies	80	60	20	20	48	28	20	under	41.7%	2
Payments to Contractors	19,239	19,239	0	0	18,988	18,988	0	-	0.0%	
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
<b>Total Controllable Exp.</b>	19,538	19,504	34	34	19,239	19,205	34	under	0.2%	
<b>Total Controllable Inc.</b>	0	(1)	1	1	0	(1)	1	over recovered	n/a	
<b>Net Controllable Exp.</b>	19,538	19,503	35	35	19,239	19,204	35	under	0.2%	
<b>Transfer to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
<b>Position After Transfers to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	19,538	10,503	35	35	19,239	19,204	35	under	0.2%	

Variance Explanations

1. The variance relates to reduced service charges for East Kilbride ice rink.
2. The variance relates to the cancellation of the Fireworks events as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic

Budget Virements

No budget virements

## SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

Community and Enterprise Resources: Period 12 Ended 26 February 2021 (No. 12)

## Planning and Economic Development

Budget Category	Annual Budget £000	Forecast for Year BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance AFTER Transfers £000	Budget Proportion 26/02/21 £000	Actual BEFORE Transfers 26/02/21 £000	Variance 26/02/21 £000		% Variance 26/02/21	Note
Employee Costs	4,870	4,766	104	104	4,291	4,199	92	under	2.1%	1
Property Costs	607	650	(43)	(43)	445	464	(19)	over	(4.3%)	2
Supplies & Services	101	97	4	4	89	84	5	under	5.6%	
Transport & Plant	33	37	(4)	(4)	28	26	2	under	7.1%	
Administration Costs	104	82	22	(3)	93	73	20	under	21.5%	
Payments to Other Bodies	28,314	28,162	152	12	21,635	21,422	213	under	1.0%	3,a
Payments to Contractors	949	951	(2)	(2)	889	893	(4)	over	(0.4%)	
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	34	34	0	0	34	35	(1)	over	(2.9%)	
<b>Total Controllable Exp.</b>	35,012	34,779	233	68	27,504	27,196	308	under	1.1%	
<b>Total Controllable Inc.</b>	(32,892)	(32,178)	(714)	(714)	(9,269)	(8,978)	(291)	under recovered	(3.1%)	4,a
<b>Net Controllable Exp.</b>	2,120	2,601	(481)	(646)	18,235	18,218	17	under	0.1%	
<b>Transfer to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	-	-	(165)	-	-	154	(154)	-		
<b>Position After Transfers to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	2,120	2,601	(646)	(646)	18,235	18,372	(137)	over	(0.8%)	

Variance Explanations

1. This variance is mainly due to flexible retirement arrangements within the service.
2. The over spend relates to additional rates costs for Economic Development rental properties as a result of vacant units.
3. The under spend is due to the cancellation of Christmas events as a result of COVID-19 and reduced spend on core business support grants due to COVID-19.
4. The under recovery relates to reduced income from planning and building standards applications as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Budget Virements

- a. Establish budget in respect of COVID 19 additional Strategic Framework Business Fund and Discretionary Funds. Net effect £0.000m: Payment to Other Bodies £20.705m, Income (£20.705m).

Approved Transfers to Reserves (£0.165m):

- v. Local Plan (£0.025m)
- vi. Business Support Grants (£0.140m)

## SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

Community and Enterprise Resources: Period 12 Ended 26 February 2021 (No. 12)

## Roads Total (Inc Roads Constructing Services)

Budget Category	Annual Budget £000	Forecast for Year BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance AFTER Transfers £000	Budget Proportion 26/02/21 £000	Actual BEFORE Transfers 26/02/21 £000	Variance 26/02/21 £000		% Variance 26/02/21	Note
Employee Costs	15,644	15,025	619	619	14,029	13,579	450	under	3.2%	1
Property Costs	758	820	(62)	(62)	711	739	(28)	over	(3.9%)	2
Supplies & Services	8,053	6,829	1,224	1,224	6,972	6,261	711	under	10.2%	3
Transport & Plant	4,297	3,931	366	366	3,567	3,304	263	under	7.4%	4,a
Administration Costs	405	411	(6)	(6)	376	390	(14)	over	(3.7%)	
Payments to Other Bodies	6,042	6,012	30	30	5,589	5,568	21	under	0.4%	
Payments to Contractors	5,085	5,330	(245)	(245)	3,108	3,286	(178)	over	(5.7%)	5
Transfer Payments	595	595	0	0	595	597	(2)	over	(0.3%)	
Financing Charges	49	57	(8)	(8)	44	57	(13)	over	(29.5%)	
<b>Total Controllable Exp.</b>	<b>40,928</b>	<b>39,010</b>	<b>1,918</b>	<b>1,918</b>	<b>34,991</b>	<b>33,781</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>under</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	
<b>Total Controllable Inc.</b>	<b>(21,213)</b>	<b>(17,606)</b>	<b>(3,607)</b>	<b>(3,607)</b>	<b>(18,675)</b>	<b>(15,995)</b>	<b>(2,680)</b>	<b>under recovered</b>	<b>(14.4%)</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Net Controllable Exp.</b>	<b>19,715</b>	<b>21,404</b>	<b>(1,689)</b>	<b>(1,689)</b>	<b>16,316</b>	<b>17,786</b>	<b>(1,470)</b>	<b>over</b>	<b>(9.0%)</b>	
<b>Transfer to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>			
<b>Position After Transfers to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	<b>19,715</b>	<b>21,404</b>	<b>(1,689)</b>	<b>(1,689)</b>	<b>16,316</b>	<b>17,786</b>	<b>(1,470)</b>	<b>over</b>	<b>(9.0%)</b>	

Variance Explanations

1. The variance relates to vacant posts within the service which are actively being filled and reduced overtime costs through the initial lockdown period.
2. The over spend mainly relates to water utility charges and electricity costs for electrical vehicle charging points.
3. The under spend is due to reduced material costs as a result of reduced road maintenance works carried out during the pandemic, partially offset by an over spend on street lighting electrical power.
4. The variance is mainly due to the level of hired vehicles and fuel usage being less during the lockdown.
5. The over spend is due to a greater requirement for sub-contractors to support Roads programmes partially offset by less project spend within the Flooding section.
6. The under recovery is due to reduced works being carried out within the Construction Unit during lockdown and reduced fee income for parking.

Budget Virements

- a. Realignment of the Fleet Vehicle Saving 20/21. Net effect (£0.002m): Transport and Plant (£0.002m).

## SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

Community and Enterprise Resources: Period 12 Ended 26 February 2021 (No. 12)

## COVID-19

Budget Category	Annual Budget £000	Forecast for Year BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance BEFORE Transfers £000	Annual Forecast Variance AFTER Transfers £000	Budget Proportion 26/02/21 £000	Actual BEFORE Transfers 26/02/21 £000	Variance 26/02/21 £000		% Variance 26/02/21	Note
Employee Costs	0	631	(631)	(631)	0	483	(483)	over	n/a	1
Property Costs	0	395	(395)	(395)	0	435	(436)	over	n/a	2
Supplies & Services	0	391	(391)	(391)	0	332	(332)	over	n/a	3
Transport & Plant	0	472	(472)	(472)	0	432	(432)	over	n/a	4
Administration Costs	0	51	(51)	(51)	0	49	(49)	over	n/a	5
Payments to Other Bodies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
Payments to Contractors	0	2,761	(2,761)	(2,761)	0	2,727	(2,727)	over	n/a	6
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
Financing Charges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
<b>Total Controllable Exp.</b>	0	4,701	(4,701)	(4,701)	0	4,462	(4,462)	over	n/a	
<b>Total Controllable Inc.</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	n/a	
<b>Net Controllable Exp.</b>	0	4,701	(4,701)	(4,701)	0	4,462	(4,462)	over	n/a	
<b>Transfer to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
<b>Position After Transfers to Reserves (as at 26/02/21)</b>	0	4,701	(4,701)	(4,701)	0	4,462	(4,462)	over	n/a	

Variance Explanations

1. The variance is directly related to employee costs associated with the Resources' response to the pandemic.
2. The variance relates to additional cleaning costs and materials as a result of enhanced cleaning regimes.
3. The variance relates to additional costs for equipment, PPE and health and hygiene.
4. The variance relates to the purchase of equipment, fuel and vehicles costs directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. The variance relates to Health and Safety signage and posters costs.
6. The variance includes a payment made to South Lanarkshire Leisure to reflect loss of income and additional costs in relation to domestic waste tonnage, fly tipping costs and traffic management at civic amenity sites as a result of the pandemic.

# Report

4

Report to: **Community and Enterprise Resources Committee**  
 Date of Meeting: **4 May 2021**  
 Report by: **Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**  
**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

Subject: **Community and Enterprise Resources – Capital Budget Monitoring 2020/2021**

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ provide information on the progress of the capital programme for Community and Enterprise Resources for the period 1 April 2020 to 26 February 2021.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the Community and Enterprise Resources' capital programme of £37.622 million, and expenditure to date of £22.143 million, be noted; and
- (2) that the projected outturn of £32.827 million, be noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. This is the fourth capital monitoring report presented to the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee for the financial year 2020/2021. A final report will be presented following the end of the financial year.

3.2. As noted in the last report to this Committee (16 February 2021), the budget for Community and Enterprise Resources for financial year 2020/2021, including carry forward, was £37.622 million. There have been no other changes to this budget allocation since that meeting.

3.3. The report details the financial position for Community and Enterprise Resources in Appendix A.

## 4. Employee Implications

4.1. There are no employee implications as a result of this report.

## 5. Financial Implications

5.1. As detailed in Section 3.2, the total revised capital programme for Community and Enterprise Resources for 2020/2021 is £37.622 million. Spend to 26 February 2021 amounts to £22.143 million.

### 5.2. 2020/2021 Outturn

As at period 12, the predicted spend position for this financial year, advised by Community and Enterprise Resources, was anticipated to be an outturn of £32.827 million. This would be an underspend of £4.795 million. As reported to this

Committee previously this mainly reflects the anticipated timing of spend on a number of projects, resulting in budget required in 2021/2022 rather than 2020/2021.

- 5.3. The progression of a number of projects has been impacted by the ongoing lockdowns due to COVID-19. This includes Town Centre Regeneration Fund Programme, Roads Investment Programme (£0.3 million of which is a saving), Hamilton HUB – New Cross Shopping Centre, a number of Sustrans funded projects, Abington Campus for Enterprise, Cycling, Walking and Safer Routes, City Deal – Glengowan Primary School Extension and Calderside Academy, Extension of Cemeteries, the external works at Springhall Community Centre and Memorial Headstone Remedial Works. Any underspend on these projects, along with the funding, will carry forward into next financial year.
- 5.4. These underspends have been partially offset by additional spend predicted this financial year on Greenhills Road and Cambuslang Station Park and Ride. Again, this is a timing issue only, with funding for the overall spend on these projects, including Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) grant for Cambuslang Park and Ride, already identified.
- 5.5. The year-end position is currently being finalised and this will be reported to the Executive Committee on the 23 June 2021. The ongoing implications of COVID-19 continue to impact on the level of capital spend achieved this financial year. The final position will be reported to the next Community and Enterprise Resources Committee on 29 June 2021.

## **6. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 6.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

## **7. Other Implications**

- 7.1. The main risk associated with the Council's Capital Programme is that there is an overspend. The risk has been assessed as low given the detailed project management plans prepared and monitored for each project. The risk of overspend is managed through four weekly Investment Management Meetings.

## **8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2. There was also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

**Paul Manning**

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

14 April 2021

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Accountable, Effective, Efficient and Transparent



**Previous References**

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resource Committee, 16 February 2021
- ◆ Executive Committee, 28 April 2021

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ Financial ledger to 26 February 2021

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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**South Lanarkshire Council**  
**Capital Expenditure 2020-2021**  
**Community and Enterprise Resources**  
**For Period 1 April 2020 – 26 February 2021**

<b><u>Community and Enterprise Resources</u></b>	<b>Base Budget £000</b>	<b>Budget Adjustments £000</b>	<b>Slippage £000</b>	<b>Total Budget £000</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure £000</b>
Fleet and Environmental	36	90	0	126	39
Facilities, Waste and Grounds	1,603	495	(266)	1,832	376
Planning and Economic Development	4,943	1,902	0	6,845	1,615
Roads	28,819	0	0	28,819	20,113
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,401</b>	<b>2,487</b>	<b>(266)</b>	<b>37,622</b>	<b>22,143</b>

# Report

5

Report to:	<b>Community and Enterprise Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>4 May 2021</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Community and Enterprise Resources – Workforce Monitoring – January and February 2021</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ provide employment information for January and February 2021 relating to Community and Enterprise Resources

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

(1) that the following employment information for January and February 2021 relating to Community and Enterprise Resources be noted:-

- ◆ attendance statistics
- ◆ occupational health
- ◆ accident/incident statistics
- ◆ discipline, grievance and Dignity at Work cases
- ◆ analysis of leavers and exit interviews
- ◆ staffing watch as at 12 December 2020

## 3. Background

3.1. As part of the Council's performance management arrangements, regular workforce monitoring reports are submitted to Committee. This report for Community and Enterprise Resources provides information on the position for January and February 2021.

## 4. Monitoring Statistics

### 4.1. Attendance Statistics (Appendix 1)

Information on absence statistics is analysed for the month of February 2021 for Community and Enterprise Resources.

The Resource absence figure for February 2021 was 5.9%, this figure has increased by 0.3% when compared to the previous month and is 1.1% higher than the Council-wide figure. Compared to February 2020, the Resource absence figure has decreased by 0.7%.

Based on the absence figures at February 2021 and annual trends, the projected annual average absence for the Resource for 2020/2021 is 5.2%, compared to a Council-wide average figure of 4.3%.

For the financial year 2020/2021, the projected average days lost per employee equates to 12.5 days, compared with the overall figure for the Council of 9.6 days per employee.

Managers follow the procedures outlined in the Maximising Attendance Policy to support employees to remain at work, or to return to work after a sickness absence. There are comprehensive employee supports in place and additionally, Personnel Services work in close partnership with line managers and Resource Management Teams on a case management basis to ensure that appropriate actions are taken.

The attendance information contained in this report includes absences as a result of COVID-19, and employees are being supported through this difficult time to maintain attendance levels where they can. At the time of this report, the Council overall absence level was 5.6% with 1.3% of this relating to COVID-19 for sickness and special leave.

**4.2. Occupational Health (Appendix 2)**

In terms of referrals to occupational health, which include medical examinations and physiotherapy, overall, 181 referrals were made this period. This represents a decrease of 101 when compared with the same period last year.

**4.3. Accident/Incident Statistics**

There were 63 accidents/incidents recorded within the Resource this period. Due to a technical issue this figure includes 20 accidents/incidents from December 2020 which were not included in the previous workforce monitoring figures. There were 43 accidents/incidents in the current reporting period which is an increase of 13 when compared to the same period last year.

**4.4. Discipline, Grievance and Dignity at Work (Appendix 2)**

During the period, 6 disciplinary hearings were held within the Resource, a decrease of 3 when compared to last year. No appeals were heard by the Appeals Panel. One grievance hearing was raised within the Resource, this figure has increased by 1 when compared to the same period last year. No Dignity at Work complaints were raised within the Resource, this figure remains unchanged when compared to the same period last year.

**4.5. Analysis of Leavers (Appendix 2)**

There were a total of 13 leavers in the Resource this period eligible for an exit interview. This figure has decreased by 6 when compared with the same period last year. Four exit interviews were conducted.

**4.6. When processing an employee termination, managers were asked to identify whether they intended to replace the employee who had left the Council. If they indicated that they did not intend to replace the employee, they were asked to select from the following options:-**

- ◆ plan to hold for savings
- ◆ fill on a fixed term basis pending savings
- ◆ transfer budget to another post
- ◆ end of fixed term post

**4.7. Appendix 2a provides a breakdown of vacant posts and whether these are being replaced or held for savings. In the period January to February 2021, 47 (22.63**

FTE) employees in total left employment, managers indicated that all posts were being replaced.

**5. Staffing Watch**

- 5.1. There has been an increase of 20 in the number of employees in post from 14 September 2020 to 12 December 2020.

**6. Employee Implications**

- 6.1. There are no implications for employees arising from the information presented in this report.

**7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. All financial implications are accommodated within existing budgets.

**8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 8.1. There are no Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications in terms of the information contained within this report.

**9. Other Implications**

- 9.1. There are no implications for sustainability or risk in terms of the information contained within this report.

**10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 10.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 10.2. There was no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

**Paul Manning**

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

15 March 2021

**Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable
- ◆ Ambitious, self aware and improving
- ◆ Excellent employer
- ◆ Focused on people and their needs
- ◆ Working with and respecting others

**Previous References**

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources – 16 February 2021

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ Monitoring information provided by Finance and Corporate Resources

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Laurane Rhind, Personnel Services Manager

Ext: 4721 (Tel: 01698 454721)

E-mail: [aurane.rhind@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:aurane.rhind@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

**ABSENCE TRENDS - 2018/2019, 2019/2020 & 2020/2021**  
**Community and Enterprise Resources**

APT&C				Manual Workers				Resource Total				Council Wide				
	2018 / 2019	2019 / 2020	2020 / 2021		2018 / 2019	2019 / 2020	2020 / 2021		2018 / 2019	2019 / 2020	2020 / 2021		2018 / 2019	2019 / 2020	2020 / 2021	
April	3.2	4.0	3.1	April	5.4	4.4	5.3	April	5.0	4.3	5.0	April	4.1	4.0	4.4	
May	2.8	3.6	2.4	May	6.0	5.1	4.3	May	5.5	4.9	4.0	May	4.2	4.4	3.1	
June	3.8	3.9	1.6	June	5.8	5.5	4.0	June	5.5	5.3	3.6	June	4.3	4.4	2.7	
July	4.3	3.9	1.8	July	4.5	4.3	3.6	July	4.4	4.3	3.4	July	3.4	3.4	2.3	
August	4.8	4.0	1.7	August	5.3	5.1	4.9	August	5.2	4.9	4.4	August	3.6	3.7	3.1	
September	6.0	2.9	1.6	September	6.2	5.9	5.8	September	6.2	5.4	5.1	September	4.4	4.5	4.2	
October	3.8	3.4	3.1	October	5.8	5.9	6.3	October	5.5	5.5	5.8	October	4.4	4.6	4.8	
November	4.8	4.8	3.6	November	6.2	6.6	7.1	November	6.0	6.4	6.6	November	5.1	5.5	5.8	
December	4.1	5.4	3.1	December	6.0	7.0	6.4	December	5.7	6.8	5.9	December	4.8	5.7	5.6	
January	3.4	4.1	3.4	January	6.1	6.6	6.0	January	5.6	6.2	5.6	January	4.9	5.3	4.8	
February	4.1	3.8	2.8	February	6.3	7.1	6.5	February	5.9	6.6	5.9	February	5.2	5.6	4.8	
March	4.8	4.5		March	5.6	7.1		March	5.5	6.7		March	4.9	6.2		
Annual Average	4.2	4.0	2.7	Annual Average	5.8	5.9	5.6	Annual Average	5.5	5.6	5.2	Annual Average	4.4	4.8	4.3	
Average Apr-Feb	4.1	4.0	2.6	Average Apr-Feb	5.8	5.8	5.5	Average Apr-Feb	5.5	5.5	5.0	Average Apr-Feb	4.4	4.6	4.1	
No of Employees at 28 February 2021			559	No of Employees at 28 February 2021			2844	No of Employees at 28 February 2021			3403	No of Employees at 28 February 2021			15839	

For the financial year 2020/21, the projected average days lost per employee equates to 12.5 days.

## COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE RESOURCES

	Jan-Feb 2020	Jan-Feb 2021
<b>MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS</b>		
Number of Employees Attending	78	63
<b>EMPLOYEE COUNSELLING SERVICE</b>		
Total Number of Referrals	14	1
<b>PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE</b>		
Total Number of Referrals	113	53
<b>REFERRALS TO EMPLOYEE SUPPORT OFFICER</b>		
	73	62
<b>REFERRALS TO COGNITIVE BEHAVIOUR THERAPY</b>		
	4	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>181</b>

CAUSE OF ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS	Jan-Feb 2020	Jan-Feb 2021
Over 7 day absences	8	15
Over 3 day absences**	1	2
Minor	17	39
Near Miss	2	4
Violent Incident: Physical****	1	3
Violent Incident: Verbal*****	1	0
<b>Total Accidents/Incidents</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>63</b>

\*A Specified Injury is any fracture (other than to the fingers, thumbs or toes), amputation, loss of sight, serious burns, crushing injury, scalping, loss of consciousness caused by asphyxiation/ head injury, a chemical or hot metal burn to the eye or penetrating injury as defined by the HSE.

\*\*Over 3 day / over 7day absence is an injury sustained outwith specified injury category that results in a period of absence of absence as defined by the HSE.

\*\*\*Near Miss - Any unexpected, unplanned occurrence (except Dangerous Occurrences) that does not lead to injury of persons, damage to property, plant or equipment but may have done so in different circumstance.

\*\*\*\*Physical violent incidents are included in the "Specified" figures, where applicable, to provide the "Total Specified" figures.

\*\*\*\*Physical violent incidents and \*\*\*\*\* Verbal Violent Incidents are included in the "Over 3-day or Over 7-day" figures, where applicable, to provide the "Total Over 3-day or Over 7-day" figures.

\*\*\*\*Physical Violent Incidents and \*\*\*\*\* Verbal Violent Incidents are included in the "Minor" figures, where applicable, to provide the "Total Minor" figures.

RECORD OF DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS	Jan-Feb 2020	Jan-Feb 2021
Total Number of Hearings	9	6

## Time Taken to Convene Hearing Jan - Feb 2021

0-3 Weeks  
5

4-6 Weeks  
0

Over 6 Weeks  
1

RECORD OF GRIEVANCE HEARINGS	Jan-Feb 2020	Jan-Feb 2021
Number of Grievances	0	1
Still in Progress	0	1

ANALYSIS OF REASONS FOR LEAVING	Jan-Feb 2020	Jan-Feb 2021
Career Advancement	1	0
Poor Relationship with Manager/Colleagues	0	1
Other	1	3
<b>Number of Exit Interviews conducted</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>Total Number of Leavers Eligible for Exit Interview</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>
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<b>Percentage of interviews conducted</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>31%</b>
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	Jan - Feb 2021		Reconciliation figure		Cumulative total	
			Apr - Dec 2020			
	FTE*	H/C**	FTE	H/C	FTE	H/C
Terminations/Leavers	22.63	47	222.03	330	244.66	377
Being replaced	22.63	47	161.38	268	184.01	315
Filled on fixed term basis	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
Plan to transfer this budget to another post	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
End of fixed term contract	0.00	0	60.65	62	60.65	62
Held pending service Review	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
Plan to remove for savings	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0

\* Full time equivalent

\*\* Head count/number of employees

**JOINT STAFFING WATCH RETURN  
COMMUNITY AND ENTERPRISE RESOURCES**

**1. As at 12 December 2020**

Total Number of Employees									
MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL					
F/T	P/T	F/T	P/T						
1280	228	190	1460	3158					
*Full - Time Equivalent No of Employees									
Salary Bands									
Director	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Fixed SCP	Teacher	TOTAL
1.00	1498.73	417.50	230.20	46.05	16.00	4.00	5.00	0.00	2218.48

**1. As at 14 September 2020**

Total Number of Employees									
MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL					
F/T	P/T	F/T	P/T						
1344	218	188	1388	3138					
*Full - Time Equivalent No of Employees									
Salary Bands									
Director	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Fixed SCP	Teacher	TOTAL
1.00	1542.75	408.68	231.67	47.05	16.00	4.00	5.00	0.00	2256.15

# Report

6

Report to: **Community and Enterprise Resources Committee**  
 Date of Meeting: **4 May 2021**  
 Report by: **Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

Subject: **Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan**

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ update the Committee of the outcomes of the Larkhall Town Centre Consultation and request approval of the Town Centre Strategy

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the outcome of the consultation process be noted;
- (2) that the amendments to the Larkhall Town Centre Strategy, as detailed in section 5 of the report, and the Strategy be approved; and
- (3) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) be authorised to proceed with implementation of the finalised Strategy in partnership with Larkhall Community Council and key stakeholders identified.

## 3. Background

3.1. In line with town centres across the country, Larkhall Town Centre has been affected by changes in economic conditions, demographics and the progressive rise of the internet. In response to these national changes the Scottish Government commissioned the National Review of Town Centres in 2013 which set out key recommendations for re-energising Scotland's town centres. The actions and recommendations from this review fell into 6 key themes namely:

- ◆ Town Centre Living
- ◆ Vibrant Local Economies
- ◆ Enterprising Communities
- ◆ Accessible Public Services
- ◆ Digital Towns
- ◆ Pro-active Planning

3.2. At the centre of these recommendations is the "Town Centre First" policy combined with the 20minute neighbourhood model, a concept in which people can meet all their daily needs within a 20-minute walk from their home, incorporating solutions to a range of issues such as the climate emergency, health inequality, and helping arrest the decline of local town centres. These policies recognise that the health of Scotland's town centres must be put at the heart of the decision-making process. Due to the current COVID-19 crisis this has become even more important as a support to help revitalise town centres.

- 3.3. Members may recall the report presented to the Committee on 6 March 2018 seeking approval to progress the Hamilton Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan and 4 June 2019 for the Cambuslang Strategy noted that officers would progress further audits, strategies and action plans for Blantyre and Larkhall. The Audits have all been completed in consultation with Scotland's Towns Partnership and this has assisted in informing the Strategies and Action Plans along with a specifically designed online community engagement and consultation process now completed for Larkhall and ongoing for Blantyre. The Hamilton Strategy and Action plan was approved by Committee on 30 October 2018 and the Cambuslang Strategy was approved 12 November 2019. It is anticipated that the Blantyre Plan will be reported to Committee later this year.
- 3.4. At the Community and Enterprise Resource Committee on the 24 November 2020, it was agreed that the draft Strategy for Larkhall would be subject to a consultation process over an 8-week period including feedback from partners and stakeholders and a public consultation. Due to COVID-19 support requirements, the planned commencement was delayed and started early February 2021. Planning discussions were held with relevant groups both internally and externally, the format discussed, and examples tested. This resulted in an online virtual consultation web based public consultation from 19 to 31 March 2021. The consultation was 'live' for completion online during this time period. The consultation was advertised widely through the Council's channels, third sector organisations and through community and business email links in order to attract a wide cross section of the public to complete the questionnaire. The consultation generated 109 submissions and comments from 625 visits when it closed on 31 March 2021. The schedule in the 24 November 2020 Committee report was adhered to with a final meeting with stakeholders to discuss the responses on the 8 April 2021 and the resulting completed strategy for approval is attached.
- 3.5. This report seeks approval for the Larkhall Strategy and Action Plan (Appendix 1) which Planning and Economic Development Services have prepared, in consultation with Larkhall Community Council, local business and third sector organisations, setting out a range of initiatives in order to meet the challenges facing the town centre. The action plan considers potential activity shaped at revitalising the town centre in six distinct areas of concern as per the priorities discussed during the business and third sector consultation namely:
- ◆ Business support
  - ◆ Parking review
  - ◆ Streetscape review
  - ◆ Town centre maintenance, signage review
  - ◆ An organised voice
  - ◆ Safe events (where and when possible)

#### **4. Consultation Feedback**

- 4.1. The consultation attracted 109 responses when closed on 31 March 2021. A summary of the consultation results is attached in background papers (Appendix 2). General points of interest are:-
- ◆ the town centre is well supported with a high number of local users walking to use the town centre
  - ◆ there is a wish to have a pedestrian town square for public use and events
  - ◆ there is a perception of a need for a reduction in crime / greater safety
  - ◆ greening of the high street and redesign the streetscape was a high priority

- ◆ redesign street parking to provide short term pick up, collection and loading space
- ◆ there is a perception of a lack of activities in the town centre for younger people
- ◆ there is a wish to have a series of community town centre programme of events

4.2. The community considered the greatest challenges to the town centre prospering are as follows:-

- ◆ disabled access
- ◆ lack of business support and representation
- ◆ digital access in town centre
- ◆ the perceived customer profile
- ◆ vehicle accessibility

4.3. Specific highlights from the responses are as follows:-

- ◆ 92% of responders use the town centre at least once per week
- ◆ 71% of the responders are between 25 and 54
- ◆ 53% feel that it would be a good to create a pedestrian town centre area for events
- ◆ 44% Would like to see a reduction in crime and greater safety
- ◆ 48% Walk to the town centre to use it
- ◆ 39% would like to see greening of the high street
- ◆ 33% feel short term drop off and pick-up parking in the town centre is a challenge
- ◆ 32% feel that the streetscape/public realm is poor

Full breakdown of responses are included in the summary attached in Appendix 2.

4.4. The consultation response indicates that Larkhall has some of the characteristics of a 20-minute neighbourhood:-

- ◆ a diverse retail offer and variety business meets communities' requirements
- ◆ high number of people walking to the town centre.
- ◆ proximity of the shops and services to housing adjacent to the town centre.

The agreed actions will seek to support this wider national strategy and concept of a 20-minute neighbourhood. In this regard, it is worth noting that the business occupancy level in Larkhall has remained at over 90% for the town centre prior to and during the pandemic. It is considered that this reflects well on the mutually supportive actions by both the local community who use the town and the quality of the solid base of businesses to allow the town centre to support its community.

## **5. Strategy Amendments**

5.1. Following the completion of the consultation, officers met with Larkhall Community Council and Larkhall Growers on the 8 April 2021, remotely through Teams to consider the consultation feedback. In this regard it was noted that the outcomes from the consultation broadly supported the priorities and actions set out in the Strategy. The following alteration has been made:-

- ◆ a technical change to the map on page 3 removing the doctor's surgery. It has relocated to a new site close to the leisure centre, out-with the local plan town centre area

## **6. Next Steps and Timescales**

- 6.1. On agreement of the finalised Strategy, projects will be developed and/or completed within the timescales contained in the Action Plan (Appendix 1). During the consultation process undertaken with the Larkhall Community Council it was agreed to work with key members of Larkhall Community Council and Larkhall Growers. It is proposed to continue to use this established relationship to work alongside officers to deliver the action plan. Membership of the support group will be kept under review to ensure all sectors of the community are appropriately represented.

## **7. Employee Implications**

- 7.1. The implementation of the Action Plan will be taken forward by officers within Planning and Economic Development Services. The Strategy is a holistic range of measures aimed at revitalising a variety of aspects within the town centre. With this in mind, the success of the strategy is dependent on partnership working with SLC, the private sector, the community and the third sector.

## **8. Financial Implications**

- 8.1. Implementation of the Action Plan will focus on the coordination of activity and events that will be funded through existing resources. There are aspects of the Action Plan however which do not have funding in place both within the Council and across partners. The Strategy provides a basis to support funding bids which support change and development in the town centre. Much of the success of the Action Plan will be dependent on the support and ownership of the private sector, the community and third sector.

- 8.2. In parallel to the work on the Strategy and Action Plan, the Larkhall Growers were successful in securing funding £69,972 through the Council's Town Centre Capital Fund:-

- ◆ to provide install planters and banners along the main street to make it more inviting
- ◆ the installation of a digital information board on King Street outdoor space to inform residents of town centre events
- ◆ a Feasibility Study to look at using King Street as such a community space. This could be used for markets, entertainment
- ◆ contribute to the replacement of the old heating system in the Lighthouse to allow the community hub to be used for 12 months a year

This award will allow these support works to be completed and are consistent with the strategy.

## **9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 9.1. The projects and initiatives identified in this report will be delivered using a range of sustainable techniques and models, having regard to best practice and current industry guidance. It is also noted that many of the projects will result in the redevelopment of vacant buildings and land.

## **10. Other Implications**

- 10.1. There is a risk that if the Council does not maintain its support for town centre regeneration activities the physical environment will deteriorate, businesses will find trading conditions become harder with the potential closure of some businesses and subsequent job losses.

10.2. Failure to maintain this kind of activity will result in a failure to meet a range of Council objectives and policies including those detailed below and the Council's reputation and credibility may also suffer.

## **11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

11.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no Impact Assessment is required.

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

9 April 2021

### **Links to Council Objective/Values**

- ◆ Improve the quality of the physical environment.
- ◆ Support the local economy by promoting the right conditions for growth, improving skills and employability.
- ◆ Partnership working, community leadership and engagement.

### **Previous References**

- ◆ Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan Committee Report (November 2020)

### **List of background papers –**

- ◆ Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan (Appendix 1 attached)
- ◆ Larkhall Town Centre Consultation – Abbreviated results (Appendix 2 attached)

### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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E-mail: [mel.millar@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:mel.millar@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)





# Larkhall

A vibrant community focussed town centre

A strategy for Larkhall town centre

# Contents

Page 1-2	Introduction and objective
Page 3	Action plan proposal map
Page 4	1. A vision for Larkhall
Page 5	2. Background context
Page 6	3. Aims and objectives
Page 7-8	4. Consultation with stakeholders
Page 9-10	5. Opportunities and challenges
Page 11-12	6. Addressing the challenges
Page 13-14	7. Delivering the strategy
Page 15-17	8. Town Centre Action Plan
Page 18	9. Monitoring and reporting

A vibrant community focussed town centre

# Introduction and objective

This strategy seeks to develop and coordinate actions aimed at supporting the evolution of Larkhall Town Centre, to maintain its vitality and links with the community. South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) working with Larkhall Community Council and other town centre partners seek to support change that brings additional vibrancy and vitality within the town centre and support safety, sustainability and employment in the future.

This is a five year strategy from 2020 supporting actions to assist in the evolution of Larkhall Town Centre to respond to current and future issues and support changes that bring added vibrancy and vitality, supporting its sustainability, and safeguarding and creating new jobs.

The fundamental nature and use of town centres across the UK is in a transitional stage. Factors such as the economic downturn, internet shopping, the growth of edge of, and out of town shopping malls, changes in retailer's business models and consumer expectations have resulted in a decline in town centre footfall. This has resulted in varying levels of impact but overall increased vacancy rates and a slowdown in development. The sudden shock of the COVID 19 pandemic has rapidly increased the need for this evolution.

If town centres are to survive and thrive in the current environment they need to adapt.

Town centres are a key part of successful places and now have an increasingly important role in communities to lead in building a safer stronger, more sustainable community. As mentioned and alongside other towns across the UK, Larkhall has been challenged by changing patterns of use and shopper behaviour. The current COVID 19 pandemic will potentially create a new 'normal' that will fundamentally change the way we use our town centres.

In order to maintain their vitality, town centres must react to social and economic changes and consider their offer, purpose and value to communities. These local





communities have a desire to see their town centre thrive, however the traditional function of the centre must change to remain relevant, to meet the expectations of contemporary communities. This strategy seeks to support and coordinate actions aimed at revitalising the town centre.

Local communities remain supportive of their town centres. However, the way in which they use their town centres is very different to that of a generation ago. It is now still broadly accepted that the traditional function of retail in a town centre is important, but town centres need to change and evolve to meet the needs and expectations of modern communities. There is therefore a collective need to establish a new role and function for our town centres to ensure that they can continue to thrive, and remain relevant in the years ahead.

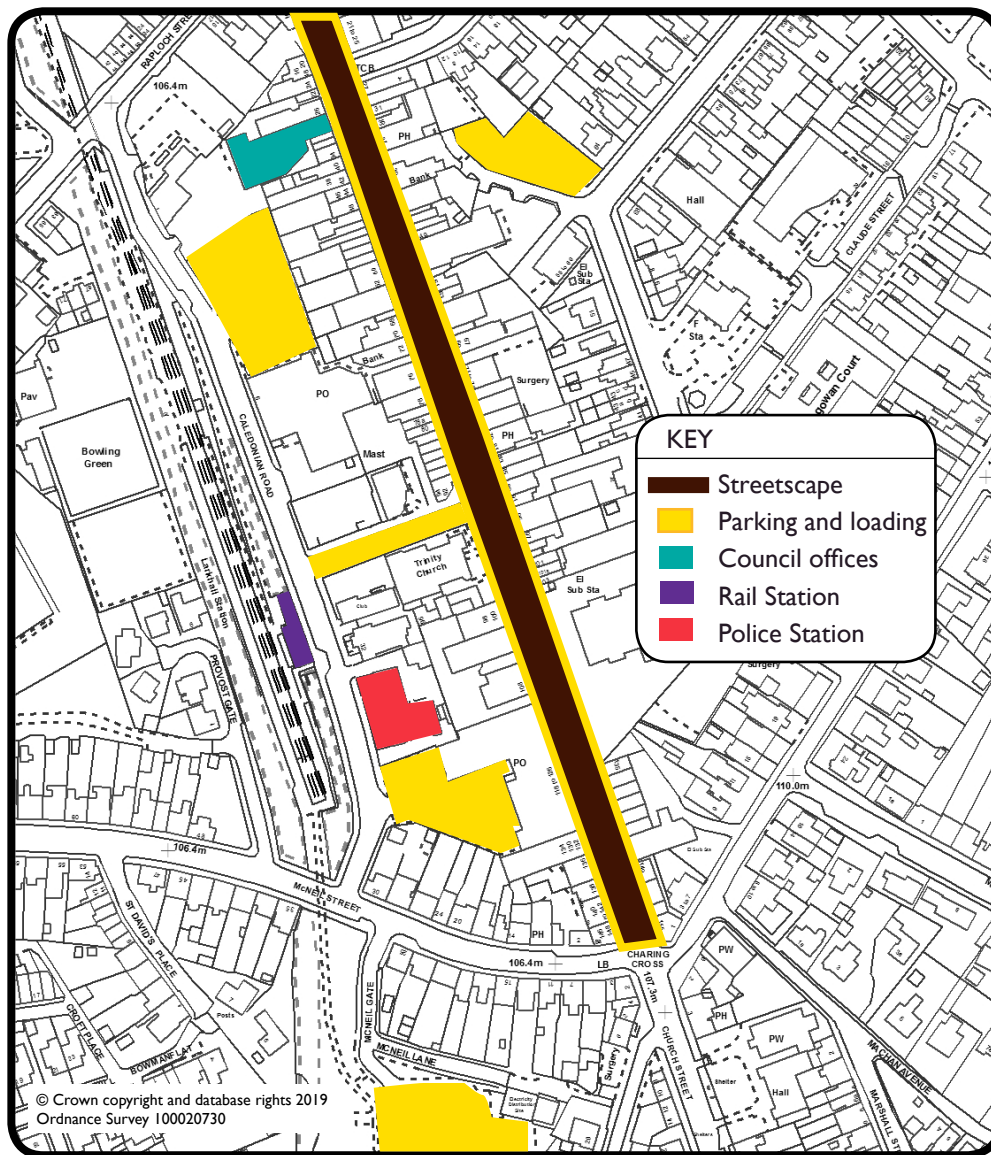
South Lanarkshire Council, with support of our Larkhall town centre partners including local councillors, local business, Larkhall Community Council and Larkhall Community Growers, aim to help the town centre continue to develop and evolve to meet the needs of the modern consumer thereby safeguarding its future. The council

cannot do this in isolation. The private sector has an important role to play and the public need to participate in the discussion to ensure it meets their expectations and subsequently, spend time and use the town centre if it is to be a success.

This plan therefore sets out the vision, strategy, aims and objectives for the town centre, supported through a range of initiatives which the council and partners wish to pursue to support this outcome. At the same time the private sector will require to play their part in providing a shopping and retail offer that will attract the local community to the town centre. The plan also considers the national and local policy context for the safe improvement of our town centres. It then goes on to present a town centre action plan which captures the priorities for Larkhall and illustrates where resources and activities should be focused.



# Larkhall Town Centre



# 1. A vision for Larkhall



The vision for Larkhall is of a vibrant, commercially successful, appealing local town centre celebrating its distinctiveness and diversity, supporting local needs for goods and services, whilst at the same time building a stronger, safer more community focussed centre that is attractive, appealing, animated by people and activity with a strong independent retail offer.

Larkhall has the opportunity to build on current initiatives and trends. These are associated with widening the appeal of place and the importance of connections to modern living.

A sense of place is the collection of qualities and characteristics that define a location. Larkhall is a town with a scale, facilities, connections, and local amenities that are considered to be increasingly in demand.

Larkhall needs to ensure it can promote these advantages and present itself as a great place to live, shop, work and enjoy.

This vision for the town centre therefore seeks to make much more of its:

- Role as a local hub within Lanarkshire and wider, focussed on providing a safe and welcoming experience for its residents and visitors
- Good transport/access links with wider South Lanarkshire and beyond
- Good mix of retailing, retail leisure, across both national multiple stores and independent retailers, all supporting local need
- Town centre attractive to business as reflected in its high occupancy rates
- Level of enterprise and creative capacity across businesses, retailers, students and stakeholders
- Established community spirit and strong local commitment

Capturing investment, building confidence in the business community, engaging local residents, and strengthening enterprise activity can all be better supported through collective action with the council, Larkhall Future, businesses and local community interests all committed to facilitating the delivery of the strategy through further engagement.

## 2. Background context

This section of the strategy reflects the detail and impact of the national review of town centres, commissioned by Scottish Government, which sets out the key recommendations for re-engineering Scotland's town centres. The report, prepared by an external advisory group chaired by the renowned architect Malcolm Fraser, includes a number of actions and recommendations to help breathe new life into town centres. These actions and recommendations fall into six key themes, each representing a complimentary area of activity. It is accompanied by some reflection on the impact by current COVID 19 issues on town centres nationally.

Town Centre Action Plan (TCAP) themes:

- Town centre living (TCL)
- Vibrant local economies (VLE)
- Enterprising communities (EC)
- Accessible public services (APS)
- Digital towns (DT)
- Pro-active planning (PP)

Information from the Scottish Government 'Town Centre Action Plan' support this document by providing a strategic context and overview of national support for the process. It highlights the national initiatives that support our town centres.

At the centre of these recommendations is the 'Town Centre First' policy which recognises that the health of Scotland's town centres must be put at the heart of the decision making process. With this in mind, the strategy and action plan

will focus on a range of short, medium and long term actions that will make the town centre more attractive to a local customer base by encouraging private sector involvement, enhancements to the physical environment and softer regeneration initiatives such as marketing an event.

The detailed analysis of Larkhall is based around the data collated to compile Scottish Governments Town Centre Toolkit online resource to compile a 'Your Town Audit' (YTA) from a range of sources including official government statistics (Census, SIMD, BRES, etc.), the USP data and bespoke data collected during an audit of Larkhall Town Centre. To support this activity, the Scottish Government have completed a wide range of work identifying good and best practice to support the quality of local and regional centres.

Key initiatives include:

Business Improvement Districts, the Scottish Governments Town Centre Action Plan and Toolkit, a policy framework based on Designing Places, Designing Streets and Town Centre Audits.

Scotland's Towns Partnership, who completed the Your Town Audit (YTA), also provide a useful resource at sharing best practice.

This current COVID 19 pandemic is currently casting a long shadow over town centre and as such all community focussed activity. This new strategy takes cognisance of this potential new environment and will look to additional ideas and strategies to encourage the development of our town centre in a way that most supports the needs of its community.

The impact of COVID 19 is still not known at this time and as such the strategy needs to encourage and support the development of new actions and flexible plans to respond the coming challenges. However, within each challenge there is also an opportunity, examples of these include, more people home working means less commuters leaving the town, less public mobility and public transport use means a greater dependence on local markets. The key is how the town centre responds to this.

This strategy will encourage safe working practices and new working methods to assist the town centre and support employment during this period and beyond. COVID will impact on the town centre but the evolution of the town centre to fit the changing needs of the town is a wider requirement than just the response to COVID and needs to be developed as such.



# 3. Aims and objectives

To build on Larkhall's success as a local hub, using its current transport links, shopping and service assets, and community commitment, to continue to evolve, developing support for a safe, internet linked town centre supporting residents, leisure activity, a café culture and a day and evening economy that enhances the current existing retail offer to provide a range of offers, events and local services for local communities.



This strategy seeks to set out a range of outcomes for Larkhall Town Centre and a vision for the future. It also identifies where resources and activities should be focused to deliver these desired outcomes. There is no one solution or intervention which will address all of the issues facing the town centre. The issues and solutions are wide ranging, interrelated and complex. The approaches and actions adopted will need to be given time and progressed as a coordinated suite of measures in order to deliver the most effective impact. Regeneration requires long term sustained activity and initiatives and these actions need to be delivered flexibly. To this end annual review periods will be built in to assess the progress.

South Lanarkshire Council, together with partners and stakeholders, believe that the strategy and related actions should be framed through the following objectives. These six Larkhall objectives reflect national, regional and local policy and the commitment of the council and town centre partners to supporting inclusive growth through the Local Outcome Improvement Plan as follows:

**Objective one:** To support safe sustainable town centre growth, mixed-use development and investment opportunities through planning and economic development initiatives in line with the 'Town Centre First' policy initiative.

**Objective two:** To ensure that town centre accessibility and movement supports all modes of transport and meets the needs of users through measures to ensure convenient and safe access by foot, cycle, car and public transport.

**Objective three:** To ensure that the town centre has a welcoming, safe and attractive physical environment that supports the needs of both business and town centre users and provides a focus for community life and events.

**Objective four:** To improve the commercial viability of the town centre by supporting enterprise through business advice, training, events, marketing, finance and other support measures for existing and potential new businesses.

**Objective five:** To exploit the opportunities of digitalisation for business growth and usage of the town centre.

**Objective six:** To create the conditions for social regeneration and improve the health and wellbeing of the community, creating a town centre that is welcoming to all and safe with a strong sense of community.



# 4. Consultation with stakeholders

Town centres are a key element of the economic, social and environmental fabric of Scotland's towns; often at the core of community and economic life, offering spaces in which to live, meet and interact, do business, and access facilities and services. We must take collective responsibility to help town centres thrive sustainably, reinvent their function, and meet the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors for the 21st century.

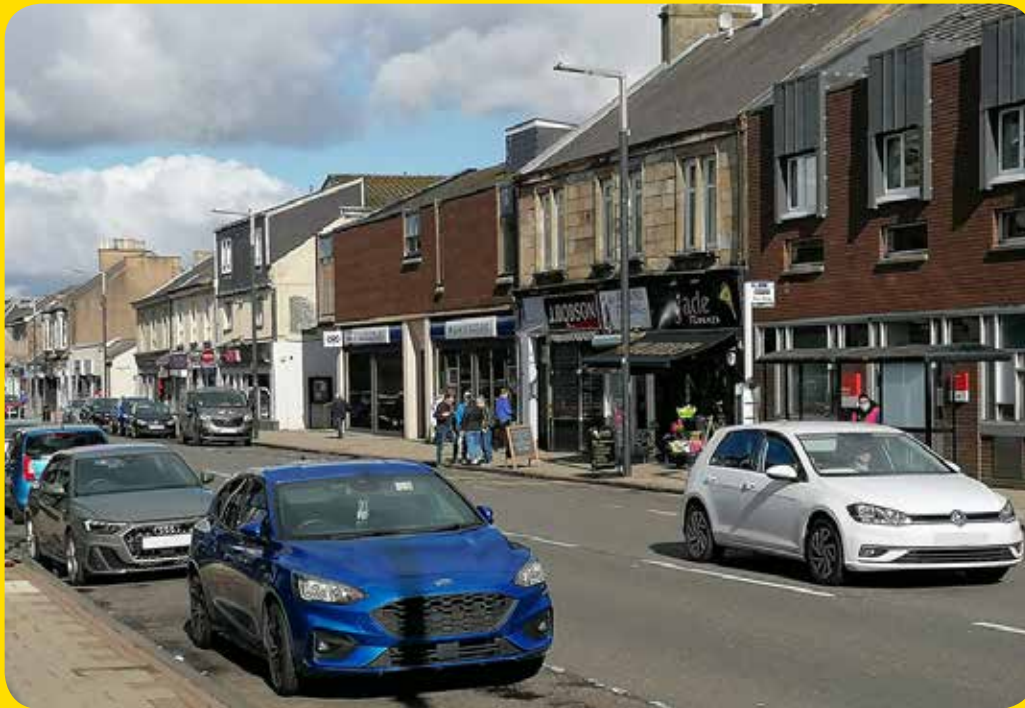
(Town Centres First Principle, Scottish Government and COSLA, 2014)

Importantly, there are other partners and stakeholders whose commitment is required to work towards a common goal of improving the physical, economic and social conditions of the town. These include:

- MP and MSPs (constituency and list)
- Locally elected members
- Scottish Government
- Scotland's Towns Partnership
- South Lanarkshire's Community Planning Partnership
- Business owners/managers
- Property owners
- Larkhall Community Council
- Community groups (e.g. Larkhall Growers, Machan Trust, LDVG, churches, residents' associations, sports clubs and other groups)
- Police Scotland (local community policing team)
- Local social media groups and networks

Successful delivery of the strategy will require commitment from all stakeholders.





## Community Consultation

The community consultation exercise attracted in excess of 1,800 comments with the main themes of the comments (not already noted above) alongside feedback gathered at the presentation, are as follows:

Within the question **“How would you rate the overall quality of the town centre facilities in Larkhall?”** the under 35s response rated the quality of the town centre significantly higher than the over 35 age group. Overall the average was 4% felt it was excellent, 58% felt it was good, 34% poor and 5% very poor.

In the question **“What would make**

**Larkhall an even better place to live?”** 23% mentioned town centre improvements would make Larkhall an even better place to live. 23% specifically mentioned improvements to the town centre and its shops. This included a wider range of services including cafes and clothing, and a longer opening time for restaurant type services. Some regeneration works to improve the feeling and a reduction in business rates.

In response to **“What is the one most important issue you would like to see addresses in Larkhall?”** 12% saw the town centre and retail provision. 3% highlighted the need for streetscape improvements. In the question **“What are your**

**hopes for Larkhall and the people who live here over the next 5 years”** the town centre was not seen as a major issue when compared to the economy and employment opportunities however the link between a healthy town centre and employment cannot be ignored.

## Business Consultation

The Larkhall Community Council Business Survey 2019 was targeted at town centre organisations and provided detailed feedback on their views. There were 97 surveys issued and 64 respondents. The key issues raised were as follows;

65% of businesses in the town centre have been operating there for more than 10 years. 10% between 6-10 years and 25% between 1-5 years.

46% of respondents believed that the Union Street and adjoining and shopping street have declined over the past 3 years. 34% felt it had remained the same and 20% felt it had improved.

The main reasons for improvement were given as fewer empty properties, better shop frontages and better shops.

The question **“What general improvements could help make Larkhall more appealing for both shoppers and business.”** 66% felt planters/hanging baskets to improve attractiveness, 61% feel initiatives from

SLC to improve shop frontages, 54% would like more litter bins, and 54% would like to see street/market fairs.

In response to the question **“What factors that may have impacted your current business trading performance.”** the main response was insufficient, unsuitable areas for local parking 69%, business competition 37%, untidy shopping area 27% and high rents 24%. Also commented was the growth of out of and edge of town supermarkets, littering and similar shops.

In considering both consultations there are consistent themes running through them that should have consideration in this strategy these are as follows;

Improvements to the makeup of the town centre to make it more attractive to visit. Including traffic management, improved visuals, Wi-Fi and events.

Encourage a wider range of shops and businesses to locate here, to increase the appeal of the town centre.

A cohesive structure of support through events and increased business involvement to encourage local businesses growth.

These have been broken down in more detail in the following section looking at the potential issues and opportunities.

# 5. Opportunities and challenges

Based on the information from the various sources, including the Town centre and wider community consultations Your Town audit, local and national records. The specific opportunities and challenges are as follows.

## Opportunities

### Physical/Environmental

- Good access to local services
- Good road and rail links to Glasgow
- Local greenspace (parks, River Avon, Chatelherault)
- Close proximity to M74
- Good public transport links

### Social/cultural

- Distinctive local urban/industrial heritage
- Strong community involvement
- Civic pride
- Some established events
- More working from home

## Challenges

### Physical/Environmental

- Streetscape in varying conditions
- Some street furniture objects non-uniform
- Town centre and local parking used by commuters
- Parking times on main, and adjacent streets
- No loading bay areas for deliveries
- Some vacant units and some outdated shopfront
- Busy road junctions on the Main Street
- A safe environment
- COVID 19 issues

### Social/cultural

- Reducing house availability in town centre
- Deprivation levels higher than Scottish average in areas of the wider town
- No coordination of marketing or year-round event program
- Ensuring that the town centre is accessible to all, especially the elderly
- Lack of a focused program of social and leisure events
- COVID 19 issues

## Opportunities

### Economic/Commercial

- Town centre sites are in demand as vacancy rate is 6% against a Scottish average of 9.6%
- Strengthening the evening economy
- Technological advances in digital communications
- High proportion of independent traders - opportunity for distinctive offerings
- Easy access to some of the public and private services
- Well established town centre
- Local banking provision

### Policy

- Commitment of relevant partners
- SLC Business Support team
- SLC Community Planning Partnership
- Business Gateway Lanarkshire
- Opportunity to coordinate town centre activity through the strategy
- Identification of available funding e.g. Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, Sustrans, new Town Centre Fund, participatory budgeting of 1% of SLC expenditure
- Support for digital strategy

## Challenges

### Economic/Commercial

- Daytime economy and its interaction with the evening economy
- Reducing footfall due to large superstore, out with the Main Street (but within walking distance)
- Lack of investment by some retailers
- Competition from new edge-of-town supermarket with ample parking
- Lack of mix of use
- Online competition
- Traditional shopping hours (limited Sunday opening/no late night shopping/ 5-8pm gap in town centre activity)
- Attracting a more diverse range of offers to support both day and evening economies
- COVID 19 issues

### Policy

- Limited or no local authority and central government funding available
- Ensuring that all public and private investment in Larkhall directly benefits the town and its community.
- No town-centre Wi-Fi

The above assessment indicates that the challenges for Larkhall are broad and varied, however there are a number of areas of opportunity which can be exploited to the benefit of the town centre.



# 6. Addressing the challenges

The challenges for Larkhall are broad and varied however there are a number of issues and areas of opportunity which are commonly raised as being the key areas that the town needs to address. These are illustrated in terms of issues impacting on town centre performance with highlighted areas that will need to be addressed, being specific challenges in Larkhall.

Based on the findings of the Community and Business consultation information and extracting from this potential opportunities and challenges requires a focus on a number of key areas to include:

- Ensuring the town centre has an organised voice to represent them in future, able to put forward their case for change in a cohesive and structured way
- Strengthening the appeal and the experience of the centre and making it a more physically appealing place to visit and mix leisure/ retail experiences in a safe, friendly environment
- Reviewing traffic management including parking and loading arrangements that could address any perceived barriers to accessing and using the centre
- A targeted program of events, marketing and softer regeneration initiatives. Focussed on supporting the current businesses and helping support community spirit. The events will however depend on the COVID 19 pandemic subsiding to allow public gatherings
- Developing business and providing space for business to develop and flourish, providing potential future growth
- Widening the appeal of the town centre to a more varied group via enhanced signage and improved digital connectivity

**Key opportunity areas to assist in this include:**

## **Organised Voice**

SLC, LCC and partners will jointly co-operate wherever possible to help deliver a series of initiatives set out in this plan that aim to make Larkhall a thriving, vibrant and attractive town centre. We will seek to deliver projects which are additional and complementary to those provided by South Lanarkshire Council, they do not replace or substitute services.

## **Strengthening the appeal and the experience of the centre**

With the continued growth of online shopping, the mobility of customers and the move towards 'click and collect' retailer's requirements have changed. This reduces the potential occupiers at the same time as existing leases are coming to an end and business closures and relocations are taking effect. Independent retailing and retail models suitable to local centres and with strong customer loyalty continue to thrive.

Key to this is in the short term ensuring the safety of users through clear and concise signage and footfall management. However, the opportunity is to recognise the wider long-term change in certain aspects of retail and focus on new ways of customer service. These new activities including click and collect and delivery,

mixed with an increase in leisure and culture, services including town centre living with a boost to residential development and housing within the centre. An example of this is the redevelopment of the former Union Street School into residential units.



## Reviewing traffic management

Accessibility and good connectivity across the centre is important. Accessibility, including support for travel choice involves all modes (walking/cycling/public transport/cars) and needs to be easy, direct, safe and legible.

Larkhall is a well-connected hub with excellent access to Glasgow and the metropolitan area. The proximity of the park and ride and rail station to the town centre has benefits for the businesses. Although there is no bus station the focus of all bus travel is along the main street with numerous stopping points and this works well.

Parking is another area that is important to accessibility. There is a perception that parking is difficult in the town centre for drop off and collect. There is a feeling of insecurity with cars speed that reduces safety for cycling as an option for active travel. Also car park accessibility and legibility and their remoteness from the town centre. There may be opportunity to address some of these issues including options to improve active travel and making it more convenient for customers through use of technology/mobile phone applications and signage to encourage

additional visits. This has to be looked at in the wider context than just a COVID 19 response and more as the long term strategic requirement to support the town centre.

## Developing business

South Lanarkshire Council has a business support team in place which can support businesses wishing to move into the town centre, find property, access grants and funding, develop business cases and support enterprise activity. The Council also support Business Gateway Lanarkshire who work with individuals and businesses across Lanarkshire to support them to establish and grow your business.

## A targeted program of events, marketing and softer regeneration initiatives

Larkhall town centre should continue to identify ways to diversify the range of activity and uses within the centre and support stronger town centre activity and footfall. Planning policy can support these goals and, with this in mind, consideration needs to be given to what the definition of the town centre is (extent and town centre boundary and town centre uses) and how policy can support

investment and facilitate building re-use and building conversion.

## Digitally connected

Larkhall town centre could also embrace the digital age and offer free Wi-Fi throughout the town centre. This could be complimented by a range of digital marketing communications provided by LCC through a range of social media platforms. There are many opportunities to continue to use digital media to promote the town

centre such as personal virtual shopping and local delivery networks for multiple users.



# 7. Delivering the strategy

Coordinated and sustained activity is key to supporting Larkhall Town Centre. The delivery of the range of projects and initiatives will require agreement across the range of public, community and private partners and stakeholders but also a coordinated approach to delivery. This needs to reflect the resources available across the partners, the alignment and deliverability of the various proposals and timescales. It is therefore proposed that the strategy provides a basis to consult with a range of partners and the local community.

## **The consultation will have four main elements:**

- Partner and Community Council engagement - sharing the plan with partners for initial feedback on the content
- Stakeholder's engagement to be facilitated by SLC and partners
- Public engagement organized through a consultation event to allow the community to consider the proposals and feedback
- Project delivery

Through all involved parties there will be a monitoring and evaluating process to check that the projects are delivering as needed with changes as require to keep the strategy on track.

The four elements will run concurrently and be supported by feedback from local stakeholders

and learn from wider national/international initiatives best practice.

It is anticipated the initial process will take around 12-16 weeks, following which Economic Development Services will collate and review the feedback, take the additional information, prepare a finalized plan and establish an implementation strategy.

In advance of this consultation, the council has completed a Scotland's Town Partnership (STP) town centre audit for Larkhall which captures 250 key performance indicators across 7 themes. The full findings of the audit are benchmarked against comparator towns and can be found attached to the strategy document. This report, summarized within the format of the Town Toolkit – Active, Attractive and Accessible, along with the community

plan and business consultation will provide a strong baseline from which to benchmark the current performance of the town, measure the success of the plan going forward and give the ability to and knowledge to update/revisit when appropriate.

The strategy will be used to engage with key stakeholders and to support funding bids and submissions for specific projects. Funding may be available through a variety of sources including the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, Town Centre Community Funds and funds associated with any developer contributions, grants and public and private sector programmes.

Due to the current COVID 19 strategy the community engagement will be via a number of virtual setting and include social media and SLC/ third sector organisations web sites.

Feedback will be electronic. The contact details relative to this are at the end of the document.

Engagement and sharing the town centre vision, objectives and strategy is important to building a broad base of support for action. The virtual events, online consultations and social media discussions, taken together, will provide all parties with a clear understanding of the vision of the town over the next five years and allow all to work in a collective approach to delivery.

The draft Larkhall Town Centre Strategy and Action Plan was presented to the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee in autumn 2020. Following public consultation and subject to agreement of the finalised strategy, this will be promoted throughout Larkhall during 2021. The council will look to





establish the appropriate structure to continue with the delivery of projects and advance the preparatory work for the delivery of the Action Plan.

In summary the strategy is a holistic range of measures aimed at revitalising a variety of aspects within the town centre. With this in mind, the success of the strategy is dependent on the actions of the council in partnership with the private sector, the community and the third sector.

Within the consultation you have told us of your issues and concerns. The council cannot necessarily address

all of these but is working to find solutions to local priorities with a range of partners that will support a shared vision for Larkhall and build on recent successes and build a stronger town centre.

The town centre belongs to the whole community and its success is dependent upon local support from the public to the businesses, supported by the council, making it appealing and attractive to use to encourage safe local shopping and use of the cafes, bars, and restaurant and town centre facilities. Please support the council, Larkhall Community

Council and local businesses by continuing to:

- Help us deliver our strategy
- Engage on local issues
- Shop local
- Make use of the facilities and attractions of the town

Stakeholder support and the participation of local community groups and interests is both necessary and welcome.

The Strategy and Action Plan prioritises a number of projects and these projects will be progressed with immediate effect as they represent significant opportunities to support Larkhall Town Centre objectives. The priorities are:

- Business support
- Parking review
- Streetscape review
- Town centre maintenance signage review
- An organised voice
- Safe events (where and when possible)

The council will work closely with the Larkhall Community Council, alongside residents and community interests and embrace partners and interests out with the immediate town centre (South Lanarkshire

Leisure and Culture at Chatelherault and the sports centre) to ensure that the strategy takes an inclusive approach.

The establishment of a Larkhall Town Centre Business Group, reflecting all areas of business in the town centre will be progressed by officers and an update brought back to committee annually as part of the wider South Lanarkshire Town Centre report to bring forward proposals for a partnership and local engagement structure.



# 8. Town Centre Action Plan

The table below details the range of products and initiatives along with the potential timeframe for delivery, although this will be dependent on a number of factors such as the current COVID 19 crisis, availability of funding and market research. Physical projects are identified on the plan. It has been arranged to show the strategic link from the local initiatives and actions to the six SLC Town Centre Objectives (TCO) (see section 3) and the six National Town Centre Action Plan (TCAP) objectives (see section 2) i.e. Town Centre Living (TCL), Vibrant Local Economies (VLE), Enterprising Communities (EC) and Digital Towns (DT).

## Action Plan theme one: Physical Environment

Initiative	Project	Actions/progress - 2019	Lead partner	Town Centre Objective (TCO)	Town Centre Action Plan (TCAP)	Timescale
Streetscape	Review maintenance charter	Ensure public spaces are kept to an acceptable standard. SLC to cost replacements where needed and options identified.	SLC	3	VLE	24 months
	Review streetscape design	Look at the design of streetscape to ensure access for all including disabled is adequate and that COVID 19 specific distancing where needed is indicated.	SLC	3	VLE	12 months
		Review the design of streetscape to look at introducing a softer feel to the landscape.	SLC	3	VLE	36 months
	Greening	Through funding opportunities work with SLC to develop a greening plan for the town centre to soften the feel.	LCC/ SLC	3	VLE	24 months
	Street use management	Finalise strategy and implement stricter controls on the co-ordination of the use of space in line with the agreed strategy and requirements for COVID 19.	SLC	6	VLE	12 months
Town centre parking	Review the pilot traffic management project currently taking place in Hamilton Town Centre	The creation of additional short term parking and waiting only areas including collection and delivery points.	SLC	2	VLE	24 months
	In consultation with both users and business look at the potential to reconfigure the town centre parking to accommodate loading	To offset the current double parking for deliveries and to accommodate click and collect customer space.	SLC	2	VLE	12 months
	Town centre parking	Short term spaces for collection and delivery.	SLC	2	VLE	Ongoing

## Action Plan theme two: Accessibility and Transportation

Initiative	Project	Actions/progress - 2019	Lead partner	Town Centre Objective (TCO)	Town Centre Action Plan (TCAP)	Timescale
Events and marketing	Community focussed events	Support local community to establish an events programme once feasible.	LCC and also other groups eg. Gala Committee	4	VLE	24 months
	Full day and evening program	Develop both day and evening themes to ensure the benefits of the support are equally distributed between differing opening hours.	LCC and business partners	4	VLE	24 months
	Town centre marketing	The development of a marketing strategy for the town centre.	LCC and business partners	4	VLE	6 months
	Widening appeal	Consider initiatives to make the town centre attractive to young families, young people and sections of the community who do not use it. Introduce a safer town centre policy/charter re COVID 19.	LCC and SLC	4	VLE	12-18 months
	Community space review	Discuss the options of a community space either temporary or permanent in the town centre to allow small events to take place.	SLC / LCC	4	VLE	6-12 months
Business Support	Business micro hub	Evaluate potential locations for the development of a micro hub.	SLC	1	EC	12 months
		Work with funding team to devise a funding plan to support the potential development of the business micro hub.	LCC/SLC	1	EC	24-36 months
	Commercial strategy	The development of a commercial strategy for the town centre to support the diversification of the town centre.	LCC and business partners	1	EC	24-36 months
	Business Support	Signposting from a central source of supports available such as Business Gateway, SLC Business Team, grants and funding for business cases.	SLC	1	EC	12-18 months

## Action Plan theme three/four/five: Attractive Community and Business Environment

Initiative	Project	Actions/progress - 2019	Lead partner	Town Centre Objective (TCO)	Town Centre Action Plan (TCAP)	Timescale
Town centre voice	Creation and development of a town centre forum	Through the Community Council develop a forum for town centre organisations to have a voice.	LCC and business partners	I	VLE	12-36 months
	Providing an organised voice	Develop and organise a town centre business group, with representation from all types of business to support the ambitions of Larkhall Town Centre.	LCC and business partners	I	VLE	12-36 months
	Funding and support	The development of a funding package and options to support the town centre ambitions.	SLC and LCC	4	All	Ongoing
	Crime and antisocial behaviour	Regular meeting between community council and Police Scotland (local problem solving team) to identify any specific actions needed.	LCC/ Police Scotland	6	TLC	18 months
Accessibility and connectivity	Digital strategy	Look at feasibility of creating a town centre Wi-Fi zone providing a free town centre network.	SLC, LCC and business partners	5	DT	18 months
	Accessibility	Review access routes and signposting to support the use of the town centre.	SLC	6	VLE	12-24 months

# 9. Monitoring and reporting

The main indicators for monitoring the outputs of the Action Plan, recorded and reviewed annually are as follows:

Objective	Indicator	Source of information
Streetscape	Capital investment (public/private) in Larkhall town centre	SLC
	Planning decisions that benefit Larkhall town centre	SLC
	Funding applications submitted to improve the town centre	SLC and LCC
	Streetscape furniture upgraded/replaced	SLC and LCC
	Progress with improvement in appearance of shopfronts	LCC
	Engagement of business/residents in the Action Plan	LCC
Car parking	Progress with improving parking demand management	SLC
	Progress with implementation of signage review	SLC
	Progress with long-term planning for town centre design	SLC and LCC
Events	Progress with town centre marketing plan	SLC and LCC
	Progress with events strategy (e.g. events planned/held)	LCC
	Progress with residential unit construction	SLC
	Progress with developing a micro business hub	SLC and LCC
Business Support	Progress with developing commercial strategy	SLC and LCC
	Business support provided for existing and new businesses	SLC
Town centre voice	Progress with initiatives undertaken by Police Scotland	Police Scotland
	Engagement of businesses in business forum	LCC
Connectivity	Progress with developing Wi-Fi strategy and training	SLC



The key indicators for assessing the results of the Action Plan, over a five-year period are as follows:

Indicator	Data source	Baseline
Town centre profile - diversity/range of shops	Business survey	Larkhall Business Survey 2019
Business performance (change)	Business survey	Larkhall Business Survey 2019
Vacancy rate (trend relative to average)	SLC/SG data	Your Town Audit 2018
Employment in town centre	SLC/SG data	Your Town audit 2018
Community perceptions of town centre	Community survey	Larkhall Community Survey 2015
Residents living in town centre	SLC/SG data	Your Town Audit 2018



# Notes

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# Notes

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# Notes

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## A vibrant community focussed town centre



If you need this information in another language or format,  
please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1015

Email: [equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

[www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)



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# A Strategy for Larkhall Town Centre

Wednesday, April 07, 2021

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6

109

Total Responses

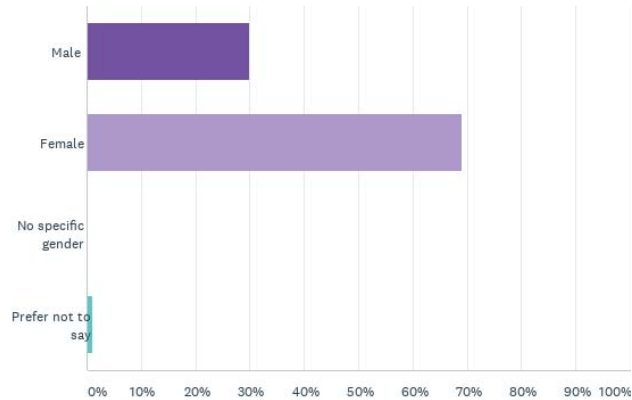
Date Created: Thursday, March 11, 2021

Complete Responses: 78

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## Q1: Are you:

Answered: 100 Skipped: 9



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## Q1: Are you:

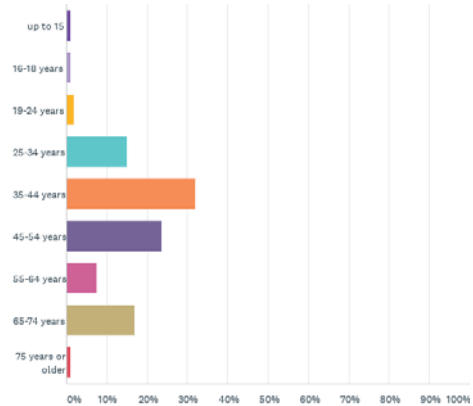
Answered: 100 Skipped: 9

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	30.00%	30
Female	69.00%	69
No specific gender	0.00%	0
Prefer not to say	1.00%	1
TOTAL		100

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Q2: What age group are you in?

Answered: 106 Skipped: 3



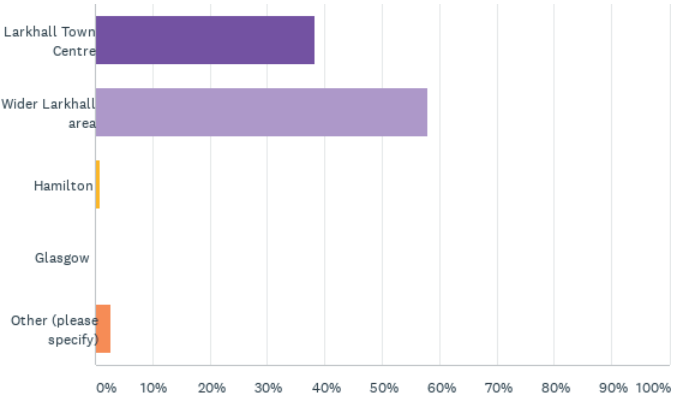
Q2: What age group are you in?

Answered: 106 Skipped: 3

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
up to 15	0.94%	1
16-18 years	0.94%	1
19-24 years	1.89%	2
25-34 years	15.09%	16
35-44 years	32.08%	34
45-54 years	23.58%	25
55-64 years	7.55%	8
65-74 years	16.98%	18
75 years or older	0.94%	1
TOTAL		106

Q3: In which area do you live?

Answered: 107 Skipped: 2



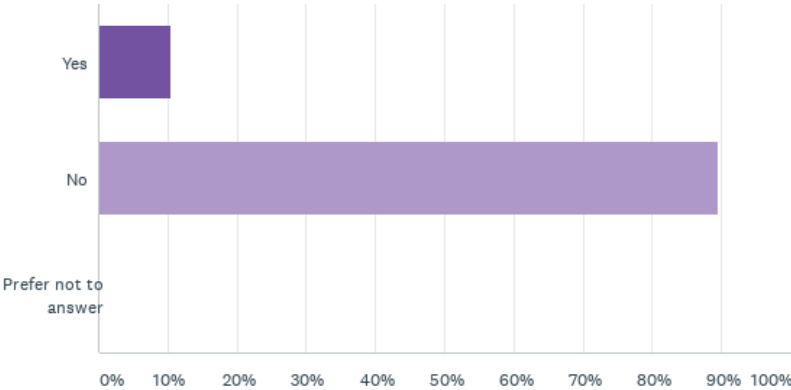
Q3: In which area do you live?

Answered: 107 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Larkhall Town Centre	38.32%	41
Wider Larkhall area	57.94%	62
Hamilton	0.93%	1
Glasgow	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	2.80%	3
TOTAL		107

Q4: Do you consider yourself to have a disability according to the terms given in the Equality Act 2010?

Answered: 106 Skipped: 3



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Q4: Do you consider yourself to have a disability according to the terms given in the Equality Act 2010?

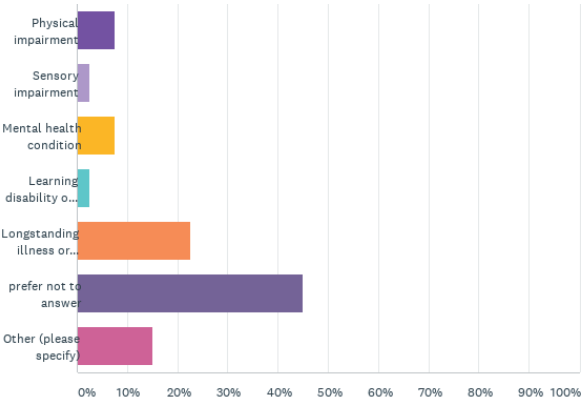
Answered: 106 Skipped: 3

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	10.38%	11
No	89.62%	95
Prefer not to answer	0.00%	0
TOTAL		106

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Q5: If yes, please indicate the type of impairment which applies to you? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 40 Skipped: 69



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Q5: If yes, please indicate the type of impairment which applies to you? (Select all that apply)

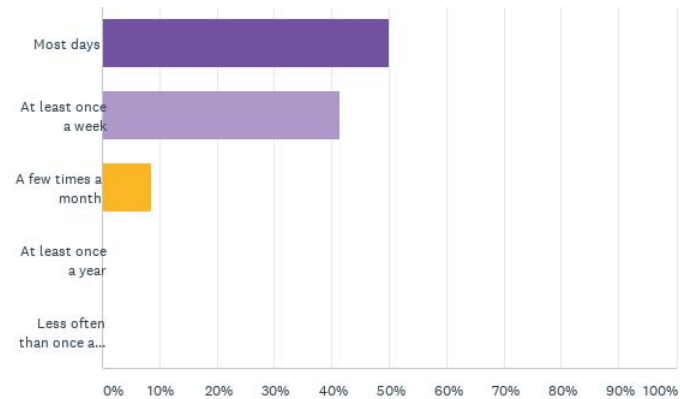
Answered: 40 Skipped: 69

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Physical impairment	7.50%	3
Sensory impairment	2.50%	1
Mental health condition	7.50%	3
Learning disability or cognitive impairment	2.50%	1
Longstanding illness or health condition	22.50%	9
prefer not to answer	45.00%	18
Other (please specify)	15.00%	6
Total Respondents: 40		

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Q6: How often do you visit Larkhall town centre?

Answered: 106 Skipped: 3



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q6: How often do you visit Larkhall town centre?

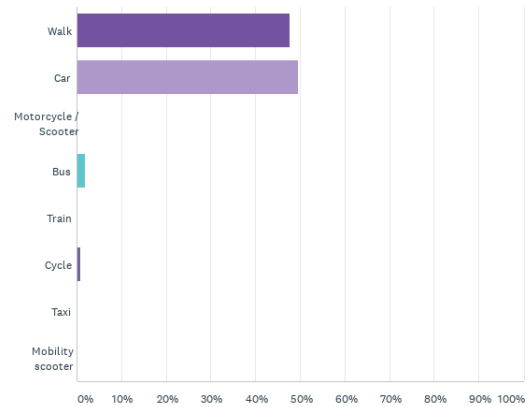
Answered: 106 Skipped: 3

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Most days	50.00%	53
At least once a week	41.51%	44
A few times a month	8.49%	9
At least once a year	0.00%	0
Less often than once a year	0.00%	0
TOTAL		106

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Q7: How do you normally access Larkhall Town Centre?

Answered: 107 Skipped: 2



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Q7: How do you normally access Larkhall Town Centre?

Answered: 107 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walk	47.66%	51
Car	49.53%	53
Motorcycle / Scooter	0.00%	0
Bus	1.87%	2
Train	0.00%	0
Cycle	0.93%	1
Taxi	0.00%	0
Mobility scooter	0.00%	0
TOTAL		107

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**Q8: A number of challenges have been identified for the Larkhall town centre area, to what extent do you agree or disagree with these challenges listed below?**

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



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**Q8: A number of challenges have been identified for the Larkhall town centre area, to what extent do you agree or disagree with these challenges listed below?**

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Streetscape design	19.23% 15	48.72% 38	21.79% 17	1.28% 1	8.97% 7	78	2.44
Edge of town supermarkets	17.13% 13	47.91% 38	27.63% 21	5.25% 4	2.63% 2	76	2.44
Competition from other towns	18.18% 14	44.18% 34	28.57% 22	2.60% 2	6.46% 5	77	2.73
Customer profile	9.23% 7	60.53% 46	10.53% 8	2.63% 2	17.11% 13	76	2.88
Vehicle parking	30.77% 24	38.46% 30	20.51% 16	7.69% 6	2.56% 2	78	2.44
Vehicle accessibility	19.48% 15	40.26% 31	25.97% 20	9.08% 7	5.19% 4	77	2.81
Business support	22.37% 17	40.79% 31	3.95% 3	2.62% 2	30.28% 23	76	3.14
Community events	31.58% 24	44.74% 34	14.47% 11	2.62% 2	6.58% 5	76	2.32
Business diversity	30.67% 23	53.33% 40	10.67% 8	2.67% 2	2.67% 2	75	2.09
Disabled accessibility	19.74% 15	30.26% 23	14.47% 11	2.62% 2	32.89% 25	76	3.49
Digital access	17.57% 13	47.36% 36	9.48% 7	2.70% 2	22.97% 17	74	3.01
Business and user representation	9.33% 7	52.00% 39	6.67% 5	1.33% 1	30.67% 23	75	3.31
Changing customer needs	18.67% 14	62.67% 47	6.67% 5	1.33% 1	10.67% 8	75	2.41
Economic conditions	29.00% 19	63.16% 48	1.32% 1	1.32% 1	9.23% 7	76	2.18
Building use (empty retail space)	40.76% 31	44.74% 34	2.63% 2	1.32% 1	10.55% 8	76	2.11

Powered by SurveyMonkey

**Q9: How would you rate the following in relation to Larkhall town centre?**

Answered: 79 Skipped: 30



Powered by SurveyMonkey

**Q9: How would you rate the following in relation to Larkhall town centre?**

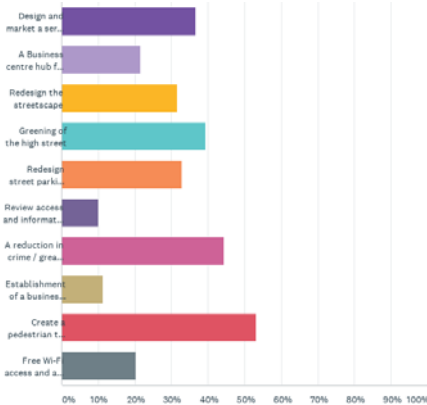
Answered: 79 Skipped: 30

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	POOR	VERY POOR	NO OPINION	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Car parking	7.59% 6	49.37% 39	30.38% 24	11.39% 9	1.27% 1	79	2.49
Litter	0.00% 0	12.66% 10	36.71% 29	46.84% 37	3.80% 3	79	3.42
Graffiti	0.00% 0	41.03% 32	39.74% 31	15.38% 12	3.85% 3	78	2.82
Street furniture	1.30% 1	33.77% 26	46.75% 36	15.58% 12	2.60% 2	77	2.84
Larkhall's image as a place to visit	2.53% 2	16.46% 13	48.10% 38	30.38% 24	2.53% 2	79	3.14
Range of offer in shops	6.33% 5	41.77% 33	40.51% 32	11.39% 9	0.00% 0	79	2.57
Drop-off and collection	5.13% 4	26.92% 21	35.90% 28	11.54% 9	20.51% 16	78	3.15
Streetscape/public realm	0.00% 0	21.79% 17	50.00% 39	16.67% 13	11.54% 9	78	3.18

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**Q10: Looking at the following projects in this section please select up to 3 projects that you feel we should give the highest priority to.**

Answered: 79 Skipped: 30



Powered by SurveyMonkey

**Q10: Looking at the following projects in this section please select up to 3 projects that you feel we should give the highest priority to.**

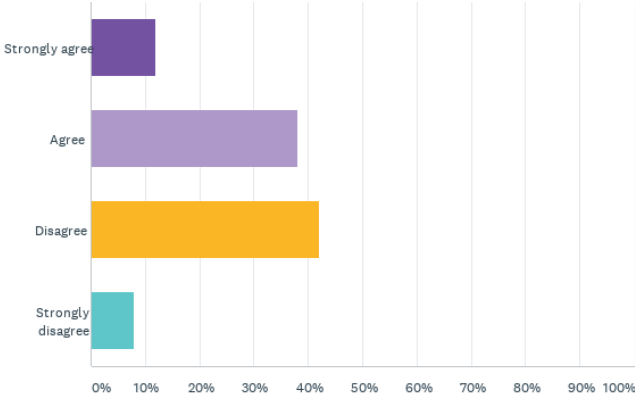
Answered: 79 Skipped: 30

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Design and market a series of community town centre programme of events	36.71%	29
A Business centre hub for micro businesses start up and job skills training	21.52%	17
Redesign the streetscape	31.65%	25
Greening of the high street	39.24%	31
Redesign street parking to provide short term pick up and collection, and loading space	32.91%	26
Review access and information signage	10.13%	8
A reduction in crime / greater safety	44.30%	35
Establishment of a business forum as a focal point for the town centre activity	11.39%	9
Create a pedestrian town square space for public use and events	53.16%	42
Free Wi-Fi access and a web presence for the town centre to advertise	20.25%	16
Total Respondents: 79		

Powered by SurveyMonkey

**Q11: To what extent do you agree to bring more residential property into Larkhall town centre?**

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33



Powered by SurveyMonkey

**Q11: To what extent do you agree to bring more residential property into Larkhall town centre?**

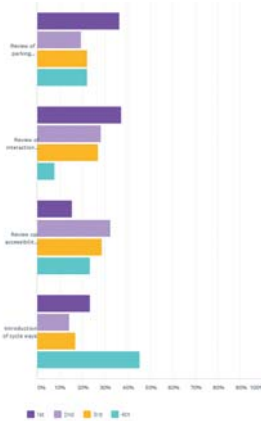
Answered: 76 Skipped: 33

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	11.84%	9
Agree	38.16%	29
Disagree	42.11%	32
Strongly disagree	7.89%	6
TOTAL		76

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q13: Please consider the projects in this section of the action plan and rank them in order of priority (1 being the highest priority and 4 being the lowest).

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q13: Please consider the projects in this section of the action plan and rank them in order of priority (1 being the highest priority and 4 being the lowest).

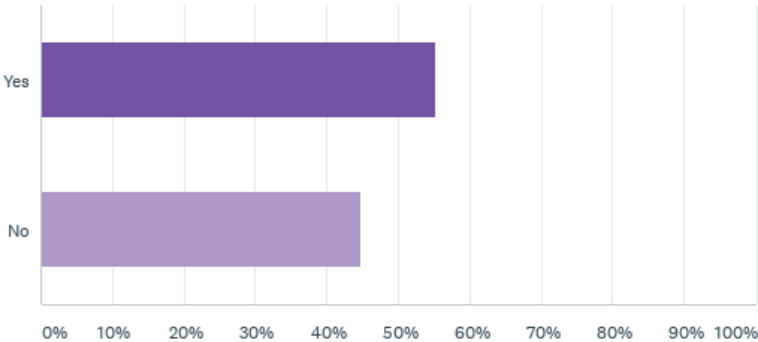
Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Review of parking arrangements	36.36% 28	19.48% 15	22.08% 17	22.08% 17	77	2.30
Review of interaction between wheeled and pedestrian traffic	37.18% 29	28.21% 22	26.92% 21	7.69% 6	78	2.05
Review car accessibility in town centre	15.58% 12	32.47% 25	28.57% 22	23.38% 18	77	2.60
Introduction of cycle ways	23.38% 18	14.29% 11	16.88% 13	45.45% 35	77	2.84

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q14: Do you use public transport in Larkhall?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q14: Do you use public transport in Larkhall?

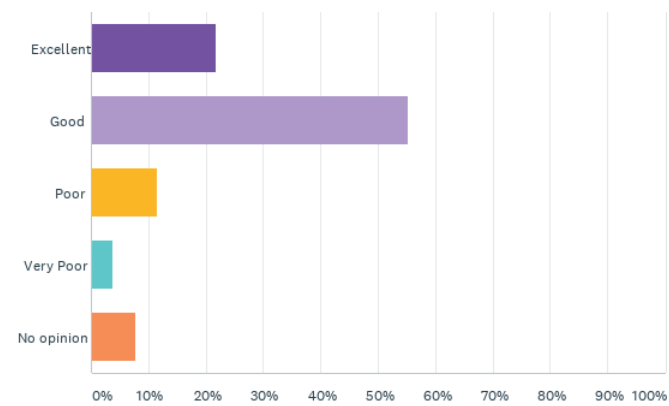
Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	55.13% 43
No	44.87% 35
TOTAL	78

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q15: How well do you feel Larkhall town centre is served by public transport?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q15: How well do you feel Larkhall town centre is served by public transport?

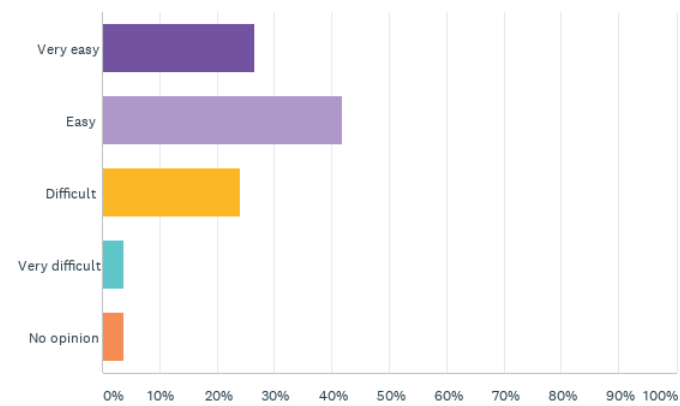
Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	21.79%	17
Good	55.13%	43
Poor	11.54%	9
Very Poor	3.85%	3
No opinion	7.69%	6
TOTAL		78

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q16: How easy is it to use Larkhall town centre by car?

Answered: 79 Skipped: 30



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q16: How easy is it to use Larkhall town centre by car?

Answered: 79 Skipped: 30

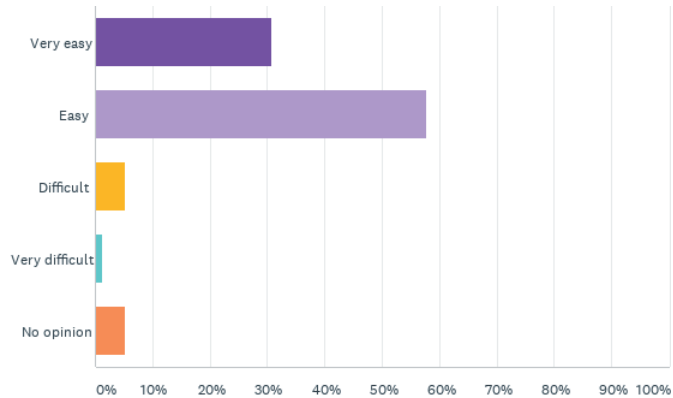
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very easy	26.58%	21
Easy	41.77%	33
Difficult	24.05%	19
Very difficult	3.80%	3
No opinion	3.80%	3
TOTAL		79

Powered by SurveyMonkey



Q17: How easy is it to travel to Larkhall town centre by car?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



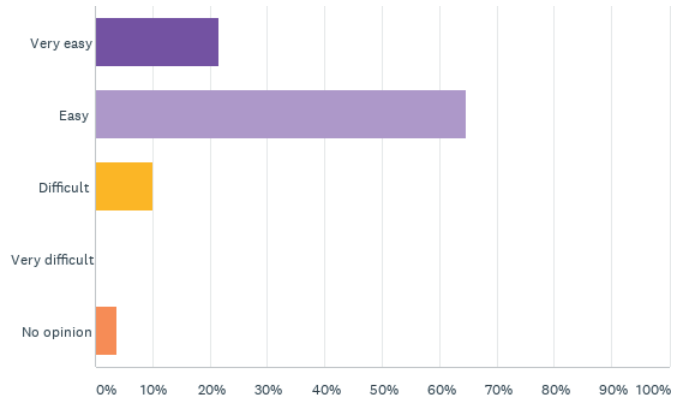
Q17: How easy is it to travel to Larkhall town centre by car?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very easy	30.77%	24
Easy	57.69%	45
Difficult	5.13%	4
Very difficult	1.28%	1
No opinion	5.13%	4
TOTAL		78

Q19: Thinking about all forms of wheeled travel and walking in the town centre, how easy is it to navigate through the centre to a destination of your choice?

Answered: 79 Skipped: 30



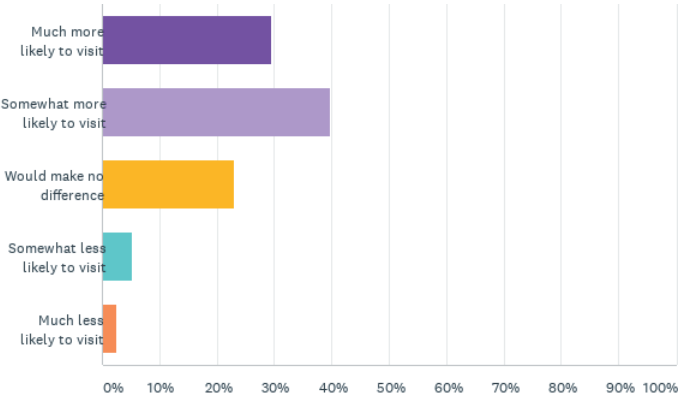
Q19: Thinking about all forms of wheeled travel and walking in the town centre, how easy is it to navigate through the centre to a destination of your choice?

Answered: 79 Skipped: 30

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very easy	21.52%	17
Easy	64.56%	51
Difficult	10.13%	8
Very difficult	0.00%	0
No opinion	3.80%	3
TOTAL		79

Q20: What impact do town centre events and promotions have on your decision to visit Larkhall town centre?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q20: What impact do town centre events and promotions have on your decision to visit Larkhall town centre?

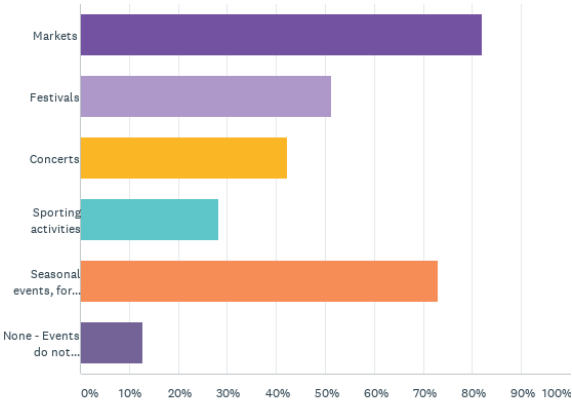
Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Much more likely to visit	29.49%	23
Somewhat more likely to visit	39.74%	31
Would make no difference	23.08%	18
Somewhat less likely to visit	5.13%	4
Much less likely to visit	2.56%	2
TOTAL		78

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q21: Which of these events, if any, would make you more likely to visit Larkhall town centre? (Please select all that apply)

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q21: Which of these events, if any, would make you more likely to visit Larkhall town centre? (Please select all that apply)

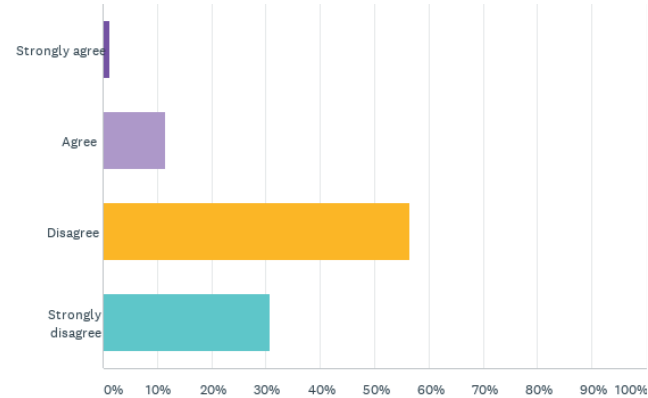
Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Markets	82.05%	64
Festivals	51.28%	40
Concerts	42.31%	33
Sporting activities	28.21%	22
Seasonal events, for example Christmas lights switch on, Easter parades	73.08%	57
None - Events do not influence my decision to visit the town centre	12.82%	10
Total Respondents: 78		

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q22: To what extent do you agree or disagree that Larkhall town centre has enough for young people to do?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q22: To what extent do you agree or disagree that Larkhall town centre has enough for young people to do?

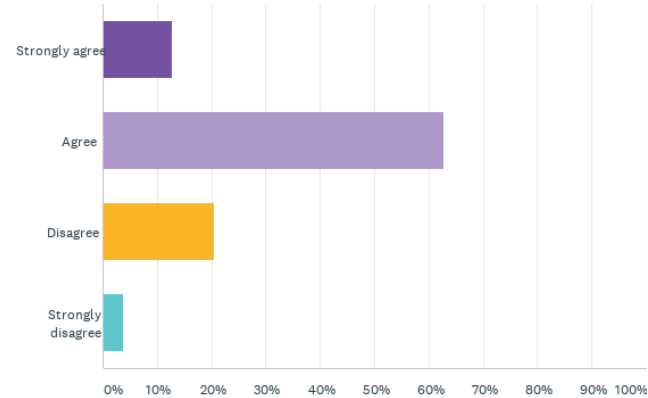
Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	1.28%	1
Agree	11.54%	9
Disagree	56.41%	44
Strongly disagree	30.77%	24
TOTAL		78

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q24: To what extent do you agree or disagree that Larkhall town centre is suitable for older people?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q24: To what extent do you agree or disagree that Larkhall town centre is suitable for older people?

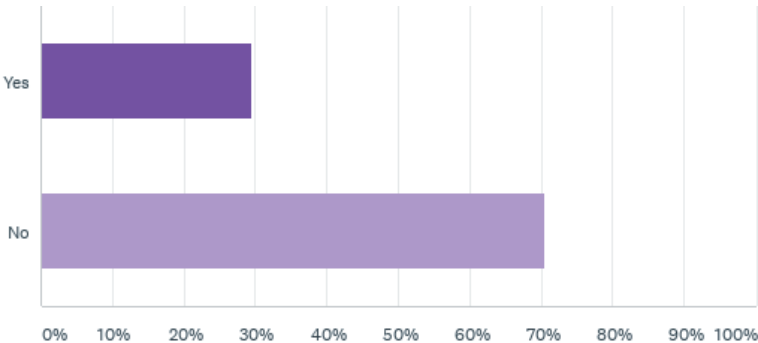
Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	12.82%	10
Agree	62.82%	49
Disagree	20.51%	16
Strongly disagree	3.85%	3
TOTAL		78

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q26: Are you aware of online activity regarding Larkhall town centre?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 31



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q26: Are you aware of online activity regarding Larkhall town centre?

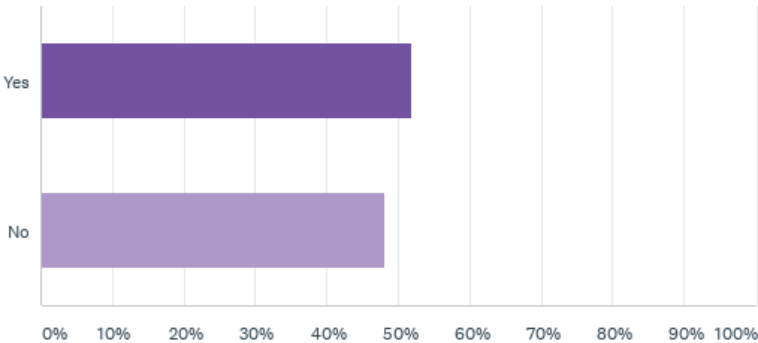
Answered: 78 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	29.49%	23
No	70.51%	55
TOTAL		78

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q27: Do you feel that free WiFi would make Larkhall town centre a more attractive place to visit?

Answered: 79 Skipped: 30



Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q27: Do you feel that free WiFi would make Larkhall town centre a more attractive place to visit?

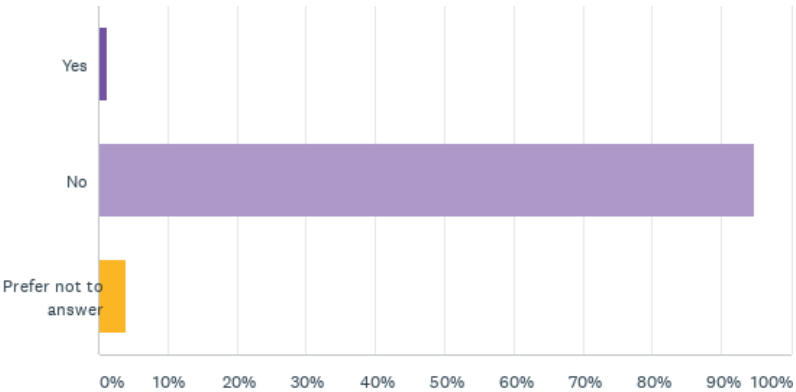
Answered: 79 Skipped: 30

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	51.90%	41
No	48.10%	38
TOTAL		79

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Q29: Have you ever identified as a transgender person or transperson? (For the purpose of this question 'transgender' is defined as an individual who lives, or wants to live full time in the gender opposite to that they were assigned at birth)

Answered: 77 Skipped: 32



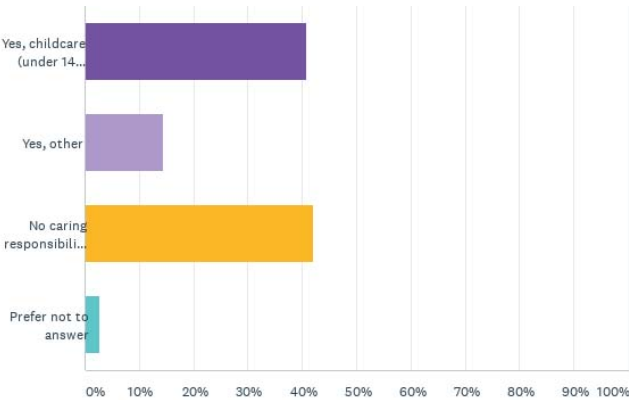
Q29: Have you ever identified as a transgender person or transperson? (For the purpose of this question 'transgender' is defined as an individual who lives, or wants to live full time in the gender opposite to that they were assigned at birth)

Answered: 77 Skipped: 32

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	1.30%	1
No	94.81%	73
Prefer not to answer	3.90%	3
TOTAL		77

Q30: Do you have caring responsibilities?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33



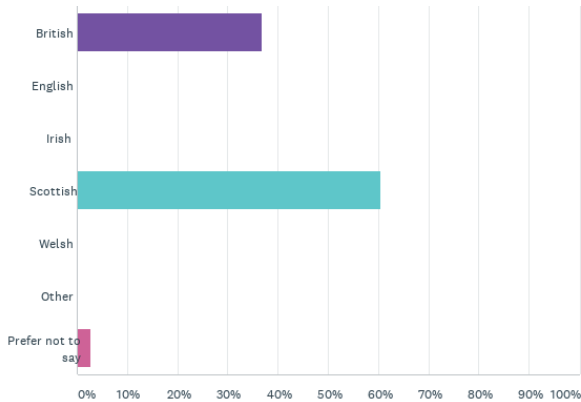
Q30: Do you have caring responsibilities?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, childcare (under 14 years)	40.79%	31
Yes, other	14.47%	11
No caring responsibilities	42.11%	32
Prefer not to answer	2.63%	2
TOTAL		76

Q31: What do you consider your National identity to be?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33



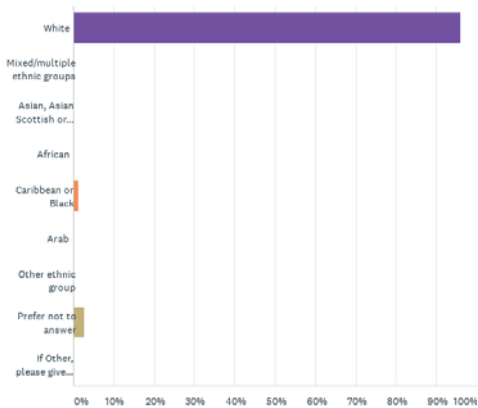
Q31: What do you consider your National identity to be?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
British	36.84%	28
English	0.00%	0
Irish	0.00%	0
Scottish	60.53%	46
Welsh	0.00%	0
Other	0.00%	0
Prefer not to say	2.63%	2
TOTAL		76

Q32: What is your ethnic background?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33



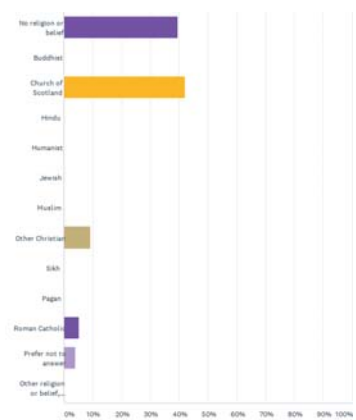
Q32: What is your ethnic background?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White	96.05%	73
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	0.00%	0
Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British	0.00%	0
African	0.00%	0
Caribbean or Black	1.32%	1
Arab	0.00%	0
Other ethnic group	0.00%	0
Prefer not to answer	2.63%	2
If Other, please give details	0.00%	0
TOTAL		76

Q33: What religion, religious denomination or body do you belong to?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33



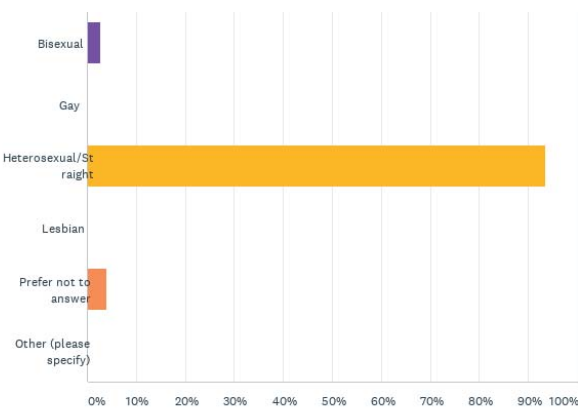
Q33: What religion, religious denomination or body do you belong to?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No religion or belief	39.47%	30
Buddhist	0.00%	0
Church of Scotland	42.11%	32
Hindu	0.00%	0
Humanist	0.00%	0
Jewish	0.00%	0
Muslim	0.00%	0
Other Christian	9.21%	7
Sikh	0.00%	0
Pagan	0.00%	0
Roman Catholic	5.26%	4
Prefer not to answer	3.95%	3
Other religion or belief, please specify	0.00%	0
TOTAL		76

Q34: Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33



Q34: Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 33

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bisexual	2.63%	2
Gay	0.00%	0
Heterosexual/Straight	93.42%	71
Lesbian	0.00%	0
Prefer not to answer	3.95%	3
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		76





# Report

7

Report to:	<b>Community and Enterprise Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>4 May 2021</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Community and Enterprise)</b>

Subject:	<b>Community Benefit Funds – Renewable Energy Fund Grant Applications</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ consider a grant application to the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) from Clydesdale Community Initiatives

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that a grant be awarded to Clydesdale Community Initiative of up to £85,000 from the Renewable Energy Fund to facilitate the Langloch Barn Extension.

## 3. Background

3.1. Since 2004, the Council has collected and administered Community Benefit funding through Planning and Economic Development Services. The service is responsible for securing the contributions from developers, advising potential applicants, assessing applications and monitoring projects to ensure that the community benefits associated with each project are delivered. Processes are continuously reviewed to ensure the best practices in grant provision and monitoring are undertaken to ensure the necessary support is delivered to eligible communities.

3.2. Grant awards above £20,000 require approval from Committee, awards below this level are approved by the Head of Planning and Economic Development Services under delegated authority. All grants awarded are reported annually to the Community and Enterprise Committee and this is subject to a separate report on the Committee agenda.

## 4. Grant recommendations

4.1. Application Number 548

Clydesdale Community Initiatives– project value £195,199.

Proposed Grant award £85,000 Intervention rate of 43.5%.

The proposed REF grant of £85,000 will be funded from Blacklaw windfarm which contributes into the REF.

4.2. By way of background, Clydesdale Community Initiatives (CCI) is an established Social Enterprise with its purpose being:-

- ♦ To support individuals and communities of Clydesdale and with deprived communities within the urban Lanarkshire area experiencing disadvantage this

includes isolation, health and learning inequalities. CCI delivers person centred, asset-based inclusion projects using a social enterprise model to deliver its mission of empowering individuals and communities to take control and responsibility for their health, wellbeing and aspirations.

- 4.3. The CCI has a membership of 85 regular volunteers and it has consulted widely in regard to the project to ascertain, co-ordinate and reflect the views of the community it represents.
- 4.4. The grant will allow CCI to extend their current tearoom and gift shop (Langloch Barn Extension) to allow them to offer training and employment opportunities to individuals with disabilities, long term illness and serious social disadvantages.
- 4.5. The project requires capital funding to build the extension. Once built income from the tearoom will ensure that the project will be self-sustaining, and it is anticipated that the extension will be a vibrant community asset available to individuals and groups from across Clydesdale and support rural tourism infrastructure.
- 4.6. The project has been established in response to community demand, it will provide employment, particularly to disadvantaged individuals, create a positive intergenerational interface, where older and younger people can work together as part of a team and will create a community owned and managed asset.
- 4.7. The application scored 31 and 33 out of 53 by the two appraisers during the assessment process which averages as 32 and which permits an intervention rate of up to 60% of eligible costs.
- 4.8. All Renewable Energy Fund awards are subject to suitable match funding being secured. The REF grant sought is 43.5% of the project value with the match funding as set out below.

<b>Funder</b>	<b>Stage</b>	<b>Value</b>
SSE Sustainable Development Fund	Confirmed	£80,000
The Edward Gostling Foundation	Confirmed	£10,000
Robertson Trust	To be confirmed	£10,000
Garfield Weston	To be confirmed	£10,000
SLC Renewable Energy Fund Grant (43.5%)		£85,199
Total project value		£195,199

- 4.9. The project is scheduled to commence in May 2021 and be complete by December 2021. Officers will work with the applicant to monitor progress and any impact on the timescales.

## **5. Employee Implications**

- 5.1. There are no employee implications arising from this report.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1. The award will come from Blacklaw windfarm which contributes to the Renewable Energy Fund to ensure sufficient reserves remain for future applications in 2021/2022. The funds have sufficient resources to meet the proposed grant award commitment detailed in this report.

## **7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 7.1. The project will help Clydesdale Community Initiatives longer term sustainability as a social enterprise which will continue to support local employability and training within

the rural area. The barn extension will increase space for the sale of local produce supporting rural economic sustainability and other SME and micro businesses.

## **8. Other Implications**

- 8.1. The risks associated with the project are focused on the potential for cost overruns, delays to the projects or match funding not being secured and the long term use of the asset. Work will continue with the applicant to help ensure match funding is secured and that projects are delivered broadly on time and within budget.

## **9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

9 April 2021

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Promote economic growth and tackling disadvantage.
- ◆ Making communities safer and stronger and sustainable
- ◆ Focused on people and their needs.
- ◆ Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities.

## **Previous References**

- ◆ Enterprise Resources Committee 8 August 2007
- ◆ Enterprise Resources Committee 23 November 2011

## **List of Background Papers**

- ◆ Completed REF Grant Application Form for application number 548
- ◆ Completed REF Appraisal Scoring Sheet for application number 548

## **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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# Report

8

Report to: **Community and Enterprise Resources Committee**  
 Date of Meeting: **4 May 2021**  
 Report by: **Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

Subject: **Community Benefit Funds – Annual Report**

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ provide an update on the Community Benefit Funds administered by Planning and Economic Development Services on behalf of the Council during 2020/2021
- ♦ provide an update on the progress of the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) Clyde COVID-19 support

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the Community Benefit Funds administered by the Council and the grants awarded under the Renewable Energy Fund, Clyde Wind Farm Fund and Quarry Funds in 2020/2021 be noted;
- (2) that the REF Clyde COVID-19 support provided be noted; and
- (3) that the publicity report for Community Benefit Funds grants 2020/2021 be approved.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. The Council has a well-established mechanism for the collection and distribution of community benefit related to wind farm developments. This was initially established following the approval of a report by the Executive Committee entitled Community Benefit (Establishment of a Renewable Energy Fund) on the 3 March 2004.
- 3.2. The Council administers the community benefit element of the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) for 41 wind farms within South Lanarkshire and the community benefit for Clyde Wind Farm Fund (CWFF) and 5 operational quarries. Operators of larger windfarm developments provide recurring annual fund contributions, formalised through legal agreements, whilst smaller developments such as single wind turbines sites, may consider providing a 'capitalised' one off community benefit payment. Community groups, social enterprises, trusts, public organisations and not for profit organisations within 10km of contributing wind farm provider are eligible to apply. Over the six-year period 2015/2016 to 2020/2021 the Council has made awards of £7.3m from the Community Benefit Funds to 552 projects.
- 3.3. The agreements around the provision of community benefit oblige the Council to administer these funds using the REF mechanism. This task is undertaken by Planning and Economic Development Services who are responsible for all aspects, from securing the contributions from the developers, advising potential applicants,

assessing applications and monitoring projects to ensure that the community benefits associated with each project are delivered. The Service continually seeks ways to maximise the community benefit for all eligible communities across South Lanarkshire.

- 3.4. Between the various funds Planning and Economic Development Services administered £3.25m of community benefit income in 2020/2021. With the exception of one-off capitalised payments, the funds receive income for the duration of each wind farm's operational life and, typically, recurring annual payments which rise in line with the Retail Price Index. The operation of the Council's Community Benefit Policy, with emphasis on the renewable energy sector has proven to be a success with communities accessing funding for a diverse range of locally based projects.
- 3.5. Alongside these established wind farm developments and their associated community benefit funds, there are a number of other potential wind farm developments throughout South Lanarkshire which are being considered in the statutory planning process. It is therefore possible that, subject to appropriate agreements being put in place, the level of community benefit funding available to communities will increase over the next 10 years. If promoted and managed well, this increase will have a major positive impact on the eligible communities.
- 3.6. Although Planning and Economic Development Services lead in the delivery of community benefit funds, there is a significant level of consultation and cooperation across a wide range of Council services. This ensures that applicants receive support and advice to ensure the projects being developed meet the needs and aspirations of the community; are of a high quality and are delivered efficiently and effectively.
- 3.7. It should be noted that there are also windfarm funds within South Lanarkshire which are administered out with the scope of the Council's Renewable Energy Fund. These include SSE Clyde extension, Auchrobert Community Benefit Fund, Ventient Galawhistle Community Benefit Fund, Ventient Glenkernie Community Benefit Fund and Kypemuir and Banks Kypemuir Community Benefit fund.

#### **4. REF Projects Approved During 2020/2021**

- 4.1. There are currently 41 windfarm developments contributing to the REF operating across South Lanarkshire at the following locations:- Andershaw, Auchrobert, Bank End Rig, Blacklaw, Blantyre Muir, Burnbrae, Calder Water, Climpy, Couplaw, Dungavel, Dykehead, Eastertown, Gallawhistle, Garelwood, Greenwall, Greenhall View, Haspielaw, High Blackwood Yard, High Dyke, JJ's Farm, Lampits, Letham, Millburn, Muirhall, Muirhall Extension, Middlemuir, Netherfauldhous, Nether Kypeside, North Brackenridge, Nutberry, Pates Hill, Rensch Farm, Tanhill, Upper Haywood, West Browncastle, Westtown, Whitehill, Whitelee, Woodlands, Yards Farm, Kypemuir.
- 4.2. During 2020/2021, contributions of £2,313,514 (including interest) were received from the operating companies, incorporating both annual payments and "one off" payments.
- 4.3. A diverse range of projects across South Lanarkshire have been supported. A complete list of projects supported in the last financial year is attached at Appendix 1. A total of 106 projects have been supported with total grants of £1,369,804 towards total project costs of £3,999,569 giving an average grant award of £12,922 towards an average project cost of £37,731 at a 34% intervention rate.

4.4. At the Executive Committee on 21 November 2018 a series of amendments to the REF were approved. One of these was the introduction of a micro grant fund in 2019/2020 of up to £5,000 per annum, available to Community Councils or equivalent community organisations to award small grants of up to £500 locally. This was established for an initial 2-year period and at the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee of 16 February 2021 it was agreed to continue the micro grants after 2020/2021. In 2020/2021, 25 Community Councils or similar organisations such as resident associations and community trusts were awarded micro grants totalling £103,315. Details of these grant awards are set out in Appendix 2.

4.5. Taking REF grants and the micro grants awards together (106+25) a total of 131 grants were awarded during 2020/2021 with a total value of £1,473,119 (£1,369,804+£103,315). This is an increase on the 84 grants and a total grant value of £791,592 reported in 2019/2020.

## **5. Clyde Wind Farm Fund (CWFF) Projects - 2020/2021**

5.1. During 2020/2021, the CWFF received total contributions of £938,023 from SSE.

5.2. The Fund supported 28 new projects with a combined grant award of £889,605. The overall value of these projects was £1,809,833 giving an average grant award of £31,771 towards an average project cost of £64,636 - a 49% intervention rate. A complete list of projects supported in the last year is attached at Appendix 3.

5.3. In 2017, a micro grant fund was introduced for 6 Community Councils within the area Biggar, Quothquan & Thankerton, Duneaton, Leadhills, Crawford & Elvanfoot and Symington. Community Councils could apply for a £5,000 grant per annum to award to small projects within their area at a maximum of £500.

5.4. During 2020/2021, 4 grants were made to Community Councils within the area totalling £18,230. Details are provided in Appendix 4.

5.5. Taking Clyde grants and the micro grants awards together (28+4) a total of 32 grants were awarded with a value of £907,835 (£889,605+£18,230). This is an increase on the 28 grants and a total grant value of £353,250 reported in 2019/2020.

## **6. REF COVID-19 Response Funding**

6.1. The Executive Committee at its meeting on 13 May 2020 homologated an amendment to the administration of the Community Benefit Funds: REF and CWFF to assist local communities' response and resilience to the COVID-19 crisis previously approved by the Chief Executive under delegated authority.

6.2. The amendments introduced two funding priorities:

### Priority 1: Immediate Support Fund

Between £500 to £5,000 available to groups, organisations including Community Councils to deliver immediate assistance and relief due to COVID-19.

### Priority 2: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector Resilience Fund

Between £500 to £10,000 available to constituted community groups, community-based sports and cultural clubs and charitable organisations to relieve pressure through the loss of income or ongoing costs arising from COVID-19

6.3. The fund identified an initial £600,000 to be capped for REF COVID-19 response from windfarm funds including £200,000 from the CWFF Development Fund as this fund can be allocated across South Lanarkshire. The Executive Committee meeting

of 24 June 2020 increased the available funding by £100,000 from each of the funds (£200,000 additional funds) to provide sufficient funding for the initial demand of enquiries. This provided £500,000 within REF and CWFF Community areas and £300,000 from the SSE Clyde Development Fund to cover communities not within the REF and CWFF windfarm areas.

- 6.4. The COVID-19 response funds opened on 24 April 2020. The Fund was publicised on the Council's website and social media and direct e-mails were sent to community organisations across South Lanarkshire.
- 6.5. The Fund has supported a total of 91 COVID-19 response projects with a combined grant award of £491,746. These grant awards are included and listed in the value at 4.3 and 5.2. and in appendices 1 and 3. In total £155,896 of CWFF Development Fund was awarded to 28 projects, £251,787 from REF to 47 projects and £84,063 from CWFF Community Fund to 15 projects.
- 6.6. The COVID-19 funding priorities remain open to process existing applications and new applications. This position will be reviewed as restrictions are eased going forward whilst recognising the legacy impact from the pandemic.

## **7. Annual Report Publicity**

- 7.1. With the purpose of raising the awareness of the Community Benefit Funds and their support of communities a publicity document for 2020/2021 has been prepared highlighting projects funded in the year or recently completed and is included as Appendix 5.
- 7.2. This annual report will be circulated and publicised digitally, and 200 copies will be made available for Councillors and groups. This annual report will be part of the increased publicity of the funds in future years.

## **8. Employee Implications**

- 8.1. The overall increase in applications through the new COVID-19 priorities and increased publicity is being managed within existing resources.

## **9. Financial Implications**

- 9.1. There are no financial implications to the Council. No funding offers are issued without income from the respective developments being in place.

## **10. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 10.1. Environmental sustainability is one of the appraisal considerations and applicants are encouraged to consider and include good environmental practices within projects. In the current year there are a number of projects which have helped deliver environmental improvements or energy efficiency for groups. These include:-

The Rural Development Trust	Sustainable Travel
Law Bowling Club	New efficient boiler
Climate Action Strathaven	Sustainable Travel
Strathaven Airfield	Solar Photo-Voltaic Panels with battery storage
Trinity Church Larkhall	Low Carbon Upgrades
High Blantyre Baptist Church	New efficient boiler
Raploch Bowling Club	New efficient boiler

## **11. Other Implications**

- 11.1. The risks falling on the Council in the administration of Community Benefits are reputational. Management of the funds are subject to the Council's normal financial



scrutiny and reporting arrangements. By not undertaking this work, the Council would not be acting consistently in support of its adopted policy and there would be a risk that funds would not be distributed timeously and equitably to eligible community organisations.

## **12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 12.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 12.2. All necessary and appropriate consultations are undertaken within the Council, with partner organisations and community groups.

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

13 April 2021

### **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Promote economic growth and tackling disadvantage.
- ◆ Making communities safer and stronger and sustainable
- ◆ Focused on people and their needs.
- ◆ Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities.
- ◆ Support our communities by tackling disadvantage and deprivation and supporting aspiration.
- ◆ Encourage participation in physical and cultural activities.

### **Previous References**

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 16 February 2021 - REF Micro Grants Fund
- ◆ Executive Committee, 24 June 2020 - Renewable Energy and Community Benefit COVID-19 update and extension
- ◆ Executive Committee, 13 May 2020 - Renewable Energy and Community Benefit COVID-19
- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 16 June 2020 – Community Benefits Funds Annual Report

### **List of Background Papers**

- ◆ List of all projects supported by the REF Community Benefit Funds
- ◆ List of all project supported by the Clyde Windfarm Community Fund
- ◆ REF Clyde COVID-19 Support Fund

### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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## Appendix 1 – REF Project spend 2020/2021

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Project Details	Project Cost	Grant Approved	Intervention Rate
The Rural Development Trust	Andershaw	Trust	Douglas Water	Sustainable Travel	58453	16200	27.71%
Douglas Water Golf Club	Andershaw	Sport	Rigside	Maintenance Equipment	19500	10000	51.28%
Roberton Social Group	Andershaw	Community	Roberton	Feasibility Study	1240	1240	100%
Stonehouse Men's Shed	Auchrobert	Community	Stonehouse	Refurbishment	10585	9585	90.55%
Friends of Stonehouse Park	Auchrobert	Community	Stonehouse	Bandstand Refurbishment	215793	107896	50%
Union 244 Club	Auchrobert	Community	Stonehouse	Refurbishment	20204	9954	49.27%
Strathaven and Glassford Community Council	Auchrobert	Community Council	Glassford	Covid Support	5000	5000	100%
Stonehouse Bowling Club	Auchrobert	Sport	Stonehouse	Covid Support	7114	7114	100%
Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Resilience Group	Auchrobert	Community	Kirkmuirhill	Covid Support	4961	4961	100%
Stonehouse Community Council	Auchrobert	Community Council	Stonehouse	Covid Support	4964	4964	100%
Hollandbush Golf club	Auchrobert	Sport	Lesmahagow	Covid Support	8949	8949	100%
Friends of Stonehouse Park	Auchrobert	Community	Stonehouse	Covid Support	1151	1151	100%
Strathaven Rugby Football Club	Bank End Rig	Sport	Strathaven	Covid Support	7100	7100	100%
Carlisle Primrose Orchestral Flutes	Blacklaw	Community	Carlisle	Covid Support	1816	1816	100%
4th Carlisle Boys' Brigade	Blacklaw	Community	Carlisle	Covid Support	1850	1850	100%
Shine Youth Music Theatre	Blacklaw	Charity	Carlisle	Covid Support	10000	10000	100%
Law Bowling Club	Blacklaw	Sport	Law	Heating System	6598	4598	69.69%
Greyfriars Parish Church	Blacklaw	Church	Lanark	Covid Support	45720	10000	21.87%
Forth & District Development Trust	Blacklaw	Trust	Forth	Covid Support	2550	2550	100%
Lanark Area Tenants and Residents Association (LanTRA)	Blacklaw	Sport	Lanark	Covid Support	1406	1406	100%
Law Bowling Club	Blacklaw	Sport	Law	Covid Support	8721	8721	100%
1st Law boys Brigade	Blacklaw	Community	Carlisle	Covid Support	4147	1497.2	36.10%
Carlisle Bowling Club	Blacklaw	Sport	Carlisle	Covid Support	9689	9689	100%
Lanark Rotary	Blacklaw	Community	Lanark	Lighting Project	15865	8865.56	55.88%
Willie Waddell Memorial Committee	Blacklaw	Community	Forth	Radar Survey	2586	2586	100%
Carnwath Community Council	Blacklaw/Muirhall Stallashaw/Muirhall	Community Council	Carnwath	Community Facility Development	687868	259868	37.78%
The Strathaven John Hastie Museum Trust	Calder Water	Trust	Strathaven	Feasibility Study	14907	7450	49.98%
Strathaven Golf Club	Calder Water	Sport	Strathaven	Covid Support	9859	9859	100%
Auldhouse Primary School Parent Council	Calder Water	Community	Auldhouse	Signage	2674	2174	81.30%
Sandford and Upper Avondale Community Council	Calder Water	Community Council	Sandford	Access improvement	19800	10000	50.51%

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Project Details	Project Cost	Grant Approved	Intervention Rate
Sandford Village Hall	Calder Water	Community	Sandford	Covid Support	2509	2509	100%
Climate Action Strathaven	Calder Water	Charity	Strathaven	Eco Travel eBikes	10074	9999	99.26%
Willie Waddell Memorial Committee	Climpy	Community	Forth	Memorial	45281	12000	26.50%
Castlehill Bowling Club	Climpy	Sport	Carluke	Covid Support	8715	8715.3	100%
Equitots Lanarkshire Community Interest Company	Climpy	Community	Carluke	Covid Support	1475	1475	100%
Strathaven and Glassford Community council	Dungavel	Community Council	Strathaven	Feasibility Study	4000	3750	93.75%
Outreach Community Church	Dungavel	Charity	Strathaven	Covid Support	5590	5590	100%
Blackwood Estate Community Association	Dungavel/Kypemuir	Community	Blackwood	Woodland Purchase	234400	117200	50%
Glespin Community Centre	Gallowhistle	Community	Glespin	Covid Support	2723	2723	100%
Douglas Heritage Museum Trust	Gallowhistle	Trust	Douglas	Covid Support	1215	1215	100%
Strathaven Airfield Ltd	Kypemuir	Community	Strathaven	Carbon Reduction	19811	9066	45.76%
Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Resilience Group	Kypemuir	Community	Kirkmuirhill	Covid Support	4535	4535	100%
Greyfriars Parish Church	Letham Farm	Church	Lanark	Covid Support	31109	5000	16.07%
Abington Community Development Group	Middlemuir	Community	Abington	Community Facility Development	1586687	149250	9.41%
Forth St Paul's Parish Church	Muirhall	Charity	Forth	Covid Support	2329	1829	78.54%
Carstairs Junction Welcome All Hub	Muirhall	Community	Lanark	Covid Support	5000	5000	100%
Forth Community Resource Centre Steering Group	Muirhall	Charity	Forth	Covid Support	4930	4930	100%
Libberton Primary Parent Council	Muirhall	Community	Libberton	Covid Support	2280	2280	100%
The Little Sparta Trust	Muirhall/Muirhall Stallashaw	Trust	Dunsyre	Refurbishment	83469	41469	49.68%
Paradventures	Netherfauldhouse	Charity	Lanark	Covid Support	6300	5000	79.37%
Coalburn Silver Band	Nutberry	Community	Coalburn	Covid Support	19304	4471.01	23.16%
Coalburn Miners Welfare Bowling Club	Nutberry	Sport	Coalburn	Covid Support	5526	5526	100%
Coalburn Miners Welfare Charitable Society	Nutberry	Charity	Coalburn	Covid Support	10000	10000	100%
Lesmahagow Juniors Football Club	Nutberry	Sport	Lesmahagow	Covid Support	5000	5000	100%
Lunar Gymnastics	Nutberry	Sport	Lesmahagow	Covid Support	9443	9443.82	100%
Uddingston and Bothwell Action Group	SSE Clyde Development	Community	Uddingston	Covid Support	41000	5000	12.20%
Cambuslang out of school care project	SSE Clyde Development	Community	Cambuslang	Covid Support	1701	1701	100%
Dalserf Bowling Club	SSE Clyde Development	Sport	Larkhall	Covid Support	8517	8517	100%
Supporting our Community	SSE Clyde Development	Community	Hamilton	Covid Support	5000	5000	100%
Samaritans of Lanarkshire	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Hamilton	Covid Support	8750	8750	100%
Blantyre Youth Development Team	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Blantyre	Covid Support	10315	4609	44.69%
Healthy Valleys	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Lanark	Covid Support	10537	10000	94.90%
Blantyre Soccer Academy	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Blantyre	Covid Support	3980	3980	100%

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Project Details	Project Cost	Grant Approved	Intervention Rate
Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Hamilton	Covid Support	4746	4746	100%
Whitlawburn Community Resource Centre	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Cambuslang	Covid Support	10280	4300	41.83%
Hope Amplified	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Cambuslang	Covid Support	5922	4770	80.55%
Healthy Valleys	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Lanark	Covid Support	5000	5000	100%
Particip8 Overton	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Rutherglen	Covid Support	2465	2465	100%
PAMIS (Promoting A More Inclusive Society)	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Hamilton	Covid Support	4114	4114	100%
REACH Lanarkshire Autism	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Cambuslang	Covid Support	5015	5015	100%
Halfway & District Bowling Club	SSE Clyde Development	Sport	Cambuslang	Covid Support	10000	10000	100%
The Miracle Foundation Scio	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Motherwell	Covid Support	4776	4776.23	100%
The Haven (Caring Counselling Communication Centre)	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Blantyre	Covid Support	12782	10000	78.24%
Skills Exchange SCIO	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	East Kilbride	Covid Support	5330	3330	62.48%
The Haven (Caring Counselling Communication Centre)	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Blantyre	Covid Support	3481	3481	100%
St Mary's For All SCIO	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Hamilton	Covid Support	7583	7583	100%
COVEY Befriending	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Hamilton	Covid Support	5000	5000	100%
Uddingston Cricket and Sports Club	SSE Clyde Development	Sport	Uddingston	Covid Support	6985	6985	100%
Mobilize Music Project	SSE Clyde Development	Community	East Kilbride	Covid Support	1475	1475	100%
East Kilbride Cricket Club	SSE Clyde Development	Sport	East Kilbride	Covid Support	5758	5000	86.84
Eddlewood Bowling Club	SSE Clyde Development	Sport	Hamilton	Covid Support	14991	10000	66.70%
Hamilton Citizens Advice	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Hamilton	Covid Support	20400	8418	41.26%
Richard Clewes	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Hamilton	Covid Support	1881	1881	100%
Charles Old Codgers Foundation	SSE Clyde Development	Charity	Biggar	Covid Support	27,779.29	10000	35.99%
East Kilbride Sports Club	West Brown Castle	Sport	East Kilbride	Access improvement	12090	7382	61.06
Trinity Church Larkhall	Westtown	Charity	Larkhall	Low Carbon Upgrades	7750	7750	100
St Athanasius Community Hall Management Committee	Whitehill	Community	Carluke	Covid Support	3770	3770	100%
Kilbryde Hospice	Whitelee	Trust	East Kilbride	Refurbishment	45447	19947	43.89%
East Renfrewshire Council (Whitelee Access Project)	Whitelee	Local Authority	Thornliebank	Access Project	249500	89820	36%
The Lanarkshire Family History Society	Whitelee	Community	East Kilbride	Book Publishing	1202	1202	100%
Low Waters Bowling Club	Whitelee	Sport	Hamilton	Portakabin	9000	9900	100%
High Blantyre Baptist Church	Whitelee	Church	High Blantyre	Heating System	6800	4800	70.59%
6th East Kilbride Scouts Group	Whitelee	Community	East Kilbride	Covid Support	5295	5000	94.42%
112th Lanarkshire Scout Group	Whitelee	Community	Hamilton	Covid Support	3000	3000	100%
Darcy's Equine Assisted Learning Centre CIC	Whitelee	Community	East Kilbride	Covid Support	8400	8400	100%
Share Alike	Whitelee	Community	East Kilbride	Covid Support	5000	5000	100%

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Project Details	Project Cost	Grant Approved	Intervention Rate
SAVI Kids	Whitelee	Charity	East Kilbride	Covid Support	5320	5000	93.98%
East Kilbride (and District) Gymnastics Club	Whitelee	Charity	East Kilbride	Covid Support	10000	10000	100%
Agape Wellbeing	Whitelee	Charity	East Kilbride	Covid Support	2117	1377	65.05%
Torrance House Golf Club	Whitelee	Sport	East Kilbride	Covid Support	10000	10000	100%
Older and Active in East Kilbride	Whitelee	Charity	East Kilbride	Covid Support	4454	4454	100%
East Kilbride Citizens Advice Bureau	Whitelee	Charity	East Kilbride	Covid Support	4797	4797	100%
Calderwood Baptist Church	Whitelee	Charity	East Kilbride	Covid Support	9120	9120	100%
Older and Active in East Kilbride	Whitelee	Charity	East Kilbride	Feasibility Study	6000	6000	100%
Raploch Bowling Club	Yards Farm	Sport	Larkhall	Heating System	7621	7621	100%
Trinity Church Larkhall	Yards Farm	Charity	Larkhall	Roof Refurbishment	4548	4548	100%

## Appendix 2 – REF Micro Grants 2020/2021

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Grant Approved
Blackwood, Kirkmuirhill & Boghead Community Council	Auchbobert	Community Council	Blackwood, Kirkmuirhill & Boghead	4650
Coalburn Community Council	Auchbobert	Community Council	Coalburn	3280
Douglas Community Council	Auchbobert	Community Council	Douglas	4617.5
Lesmahagow Community Council	Auchbobert	Community Council	Lesmahagow	5000
Sandford & Upper Avondale Community Council	Auchbobert	Community Council	Sandford & Upper Avondale	5000
Stonehouse Community Council	Auchbobert	Community Council	Stonehouse	5000
Strathaven & Glassford Community Council	Auchbobert	Community Council	Strathaven & Glassford	5000
Rigside & Douglas Water	Auchbobert	Residents Association	Rigside & Douglas Water	4330
Larkhall Community Council	Blacklaw	Community Council	Larkhall	5000
The Royal Burgh of Lanark Community Council	Blacklaw	Community Council	Lanark	4918.96
Forth Development Trust	Blacklaw	Trust	Forth	5000
Burnside Community Council	Blantyre Muir	Community Council	Burnside	3500
Halfway Community Council	Blantyre Muir	Community Council	Halfway	5000
Hillhouse Community Council	Blantyre Muir	Community Council	Hillhouse, Hamilton	3350
Tarbrax Community Council	Climpy	Community Council	Tarbrax	5000
Auldhouse & Chapelton Community Council	Dungavel	Community Council	Auldhouse & Chapelton	4400
Carluke Community Council	Greenwall	Community Council	Carluke	5000
Carstairs Community Council	Greenwall	Community Council	Carstairs	4000
Pettinain Community Council	Muirhall Stallashaw	Community Council	Pettinain	2000
St. Leonards Community Council	West Browncastle	Community Council	St. Leonards, East Kilbride	2364.5
Blantyre Community Council	Whitelee	Community Council	Blantyre	4485
Bothwell Community Council	Whitelee	Community Council	Bothwell	5000
Cambuslang Community Council	Whitelee	Community Council	Cambuslang	5000
East Mains Community Council	Whitelee	Community Council	East Mains, East Kilbride	1000
Jackton & Thortonhall Community Council	Whitelee	Community Council	Jackton & Thortonhall	1419

### Appendix 3 – Clyde Project Spend 2020/2021

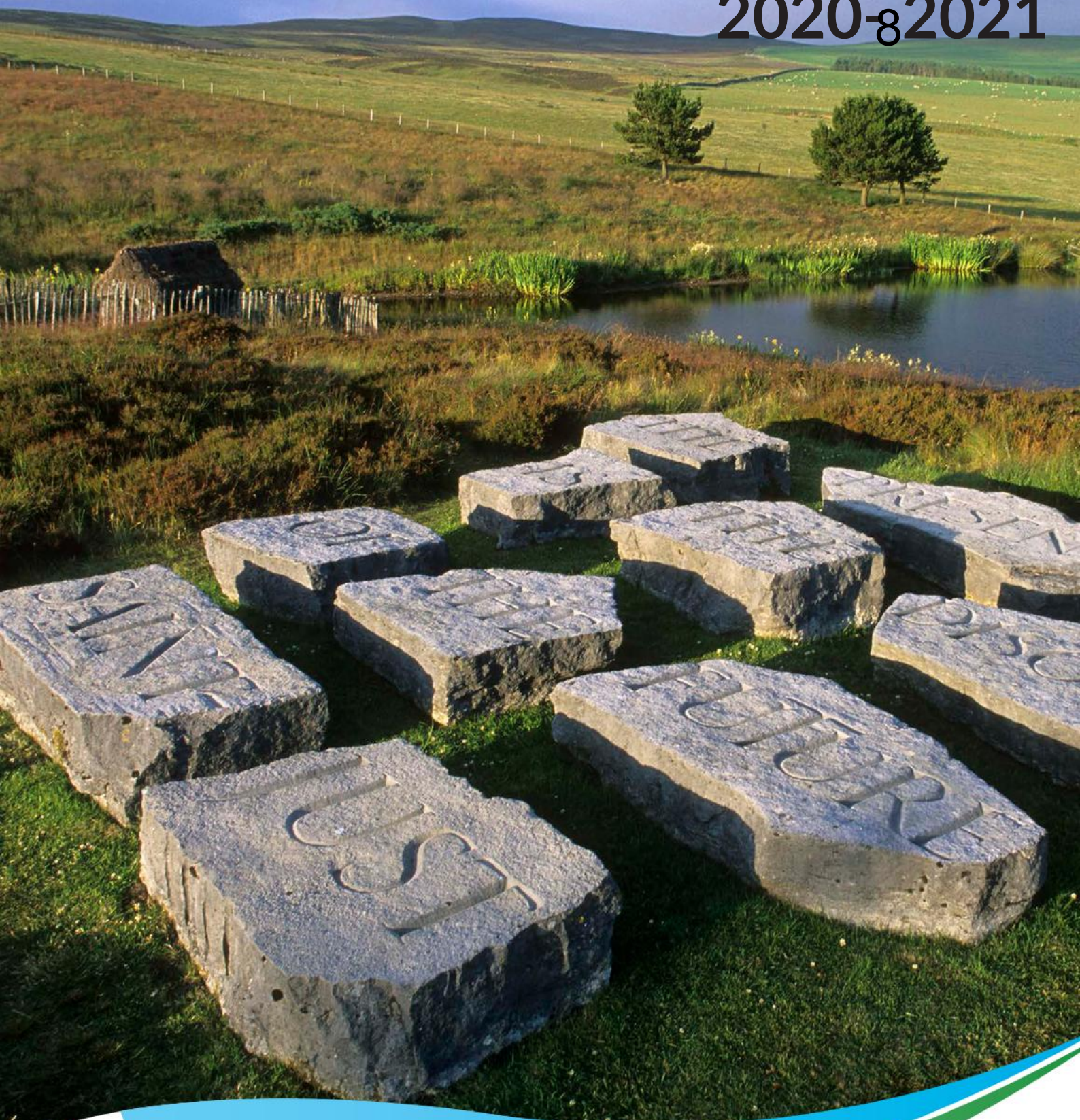
Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Project Details	Project Cost	Grant Approved	Intervention Rate
Abington Community Development Group	Clyde	Charity	Abington	Build and restoration	1586687	710584	44.78%
Biggar Farmers Club	Clyde	Charity	Biggar	Sheep pens	2839.2	2839.2	100%
Wiston Village Hall Association SCIO	Clyde	Charity	Wiston	Defibrillator	5884.28	5884.28	100%
Thankerton Bowling Club	Clyde	Community	Thankerton	Refurbishment	7228.27	7228.27	100%
Biggar and District Community Heritage	Clyde	Charity	Biggar	Pathways improvement	29581	10000	33.80%
The Biggar Institute	Clyde	Community	Biggar	Refurbishment	12528	10000	79.82%
Leadhills Family Action Group	Clyde	Community	Leadhills	Refurbishment	6383.16	6383.16	100%
Biggar Kirk - Gillespie Centre	Clyde	Charity	Biggar	Covid Support	10000	10000	100%
Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust	Clyde	Charity	Crawfordjohn	Covid Support	1500	1500	100%
Abington Bowling Club	Clyde	Community	Abington	Covid Support	780	780	100%
Leadhills and Wanlockhead Railway	Clyde	Charity	Leadhills	Covid Support	5990	5990	100%
Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association	Clyde	Charity	Crawfordjohn	Covid Support	8357	5000	59.83%
Leadhills Reading Society	Clyde	Charity	Leadhills	Covid Support	1605.85	1605.85	100%
Biggar Youth Project	Clyde	Charity	Biggar	Covid Support	1665	1665	100%
Biggar Rugby Football Club	Clyde	Charity	Biggar	Covid Support	10000	10000	100%
Biggar Little Festival	Clyde	Charity	Biggar	Covid Support	6980	6980	100%
Abington Primary School Parent Council	Clyde	Community	Abington	IT equipment	11086	11086	100%
Biggar United Football Club	Clyde	Community	Biggar	Improvements and equipment	11204.68	10000	89.24%
Duneaton Community Council	Clyde	Community	Abington	Covid Support	1000	1000	100%
Thankerton Bowling Club	Clyde	Community	Thankerton	Equipment	8250	7814.66	94.72%
Biggar Science Festival	Clyde	Community	Biggar	Covid Support	4860	4860	100%
Symington Football Club	Clyde	Community	Symington	Feasibility Study	9900	9900	100%
Wiston Lodge	Clyde	Charity	Wiston	Covid Support	9960.85	9960.85	100%
Wiston Village Hall Association SCIO	Clyde	Charity	Wiston	Covid Support	4721.42	4721.42	100%
Thankerton Bowling Club	Clyde	Community	Thankerton	Covid Support	15688	10000	63.74%
Leadhills Family Action Group	Clyde	community	Leadhills	Refurbishment community allotment	14502	10876.5	75%
MacDiarmid's Brownsbank	Clyde	Charity	Biggar	Feasibility Study	15396	7690	49.94%
Biggar Corn Exchange Ltd.	Clyde	Charity	Biggar	Covid Support	5256	5256	100%

## Appendix 4 – Clyde Micro Grants 2020/2021

Organisation Name	Windfarm	Type of Group	Project Location	Grant Approved
Duneaton	Clyde	Community Council	Duneaton	5000
Crawford & Elvanfoot	Clyde	Community Council	Crawford	3400
Biggar	Clyde	Community Council	Biggar	4830
Quothquan	Clyde	Community Council	Quothquan	5000



# Community Benefit Annual Report 2020-2021



South Lanarkshire  
Renewable Energy Fund

Managed by





# Contents

**Introduction**

**Achieved in 2020/2021**

**Key facts**

**Renewable Energy Fund (REF) projects**

**REF main fund**

**REV Covid-19 fund**

**REF previously funded and recently completed projects**

**Grant funds map**

**Micro grants**

**Clyde Wind Farm Fund (CWFF) projects**

**CWFF previously funded and recently completed projects**

**Connect2Renewables (C2R)**

**How to apply**

# Introduction



**Welcome to our 2020/2021 Community Benefit Funds Annual Report. I am delighted to outline the work these funds, administered by South Lanarkshire Council have provided to communities all across South Lanarkshire, over the last year.**

The Community Benefit Funds consist of the 'Renewable Energy Fund' and the 'Clyde Wind Farm Fund' and together they provide grant support to the communities closest to the windfarms, the funds cover all of our rural communities and many of our urban towns. During 2020 -21 the funds have made 163 grant awards and awarded a total of £2,380,954 in funding. These funds have supported a tremendous scale and range of projects across South Lanarkshire from Community Councils receiving £5,000 to deliver micro grant funding of £500 to local community groups, to the largest combined grant in 2020/2021 of £859,804 to Abington Campus for Enterprise, supported through the Renewable Energy Fund and the Clyde Wind Farm Fund. In a year which has been challenging for many in our communities due to the pandemic we have seen communities come together to help each other. The funds have been flexible with the launch of the innovative 'Covid-19 Support Fund' providing grants to help sustain community groups financially with ongoing revenue costs and also grants to help groups deliver activities to support their communities through the pandemic. The funds have helped improve facilities for communities, supported community ownership and supported local employment and training especially through the 'Connect2Renewables' programme. The Community Benefit Funds have been administered by South Lanarkshire Council for over 15 years awarding over 550 grants in the last six years alone and this report can only capture a small snap shot of this year's grant awards and projects recently completed.



**Councillor John Anderson  
Chair of Community and Enterprise Resources**

The South Lanarkshire Community Benefit Funds include the Clyde Wind Farm Fund (CWFF), the Renewable Energy Fund (REF), the Quarry Fund and supports the Connect2Renewables (C2R) employability and RISE employability programmes.

The funds have operated in South Lanarkshire for nearly twenty years and have provided millions of pounds of grants and helped communities bring in millions more of additional match funds to improve green spaces, buildings and facilities across the authority. This is the first annual report which showcases through pictures some of the amazing work undertaken by people and communities using these funds. There are 42 windfarm funds within South Lanarkshire under the administration of South Lanarkshire Council providing approximately £2m each year for communities and organisations based within 10km of the windfarm. The fund seeks to improve the lives of people and communities by supporting capital projects under four themes:

- Stronger communities
- Prosperous communities
- Healthy and active communities
- Sustainable environmental communities

This report is a small snap shot of the projects delivered recently by groups and organisations across South Lanarkshire using these grants. In the coming year the funds will support many more communities and projects and welcome applications that will make the area better for all who live here.

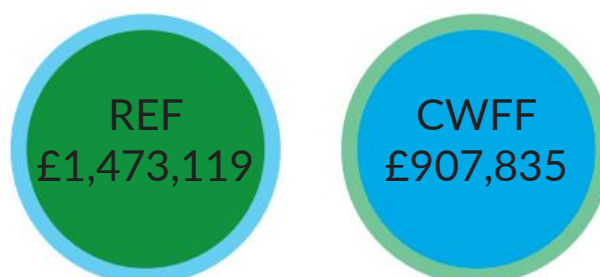
## Achieved in 2020/2021



**163 grants awarded**



**£2,380,454**



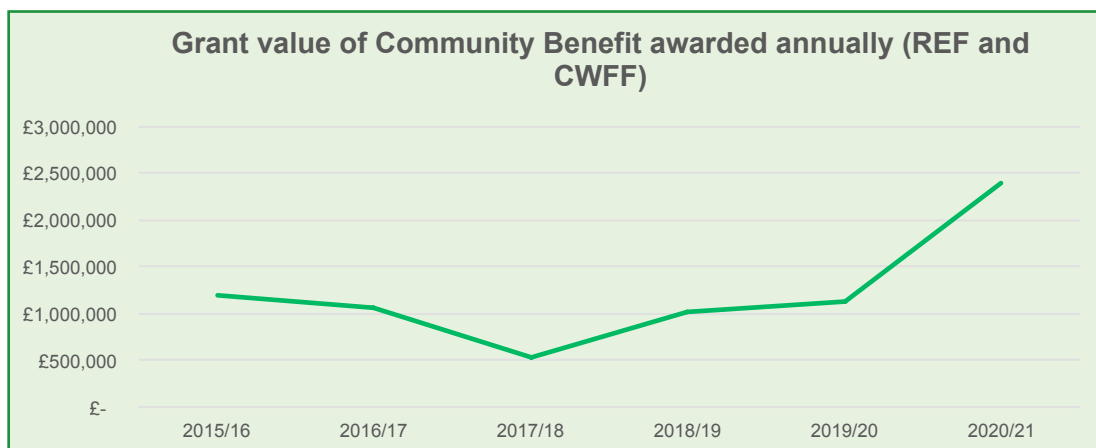
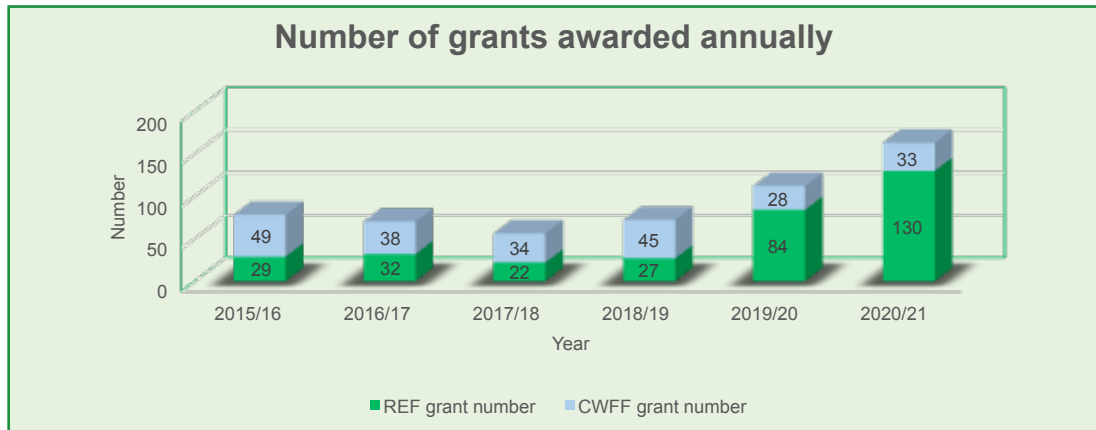
## Key facts



\* CAO - Community Asset Ownerships

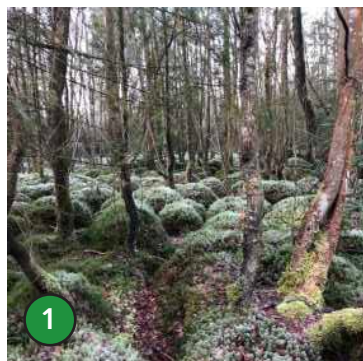
# Annual totals

The number and value of grants awarded have increased since 2017/2018 by over 200%.





# Renewable Energy Fund (REF)



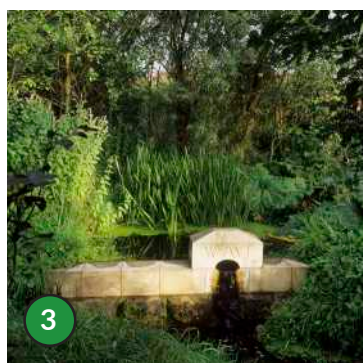
## 1 Blackwood Woodlands

Blackwood Estate Community Association have been awarded Renewable Energy Funding of £117,200 towards an overall project cost £234,400 for the purchase of a community woodland and renovation of the space. Victoria Connick, Treasurer, Blackwood Estate Community Association said: "In the past year, REF has provided essential financial support to our group, allowing us to finalise plans for the purchase of 65 acres of ancient woodland in Blackwood Estate, South Lanarkshire. REF funding enabled us to carry out a formal feasibility study and environmental surveys: these were critical to our success in achieving grant awards totalling £234,400 (allowing our project to progress towards completion in March 2021). The REF team have at all times been approachable, professional and supportive, we couldn't have got there without them." Funded from Dungavel and Kypemuir Wind Farm.



## 2 Carnwath Community Council

Carnwath Community Council have been awarded Renewable Energy Funding of £259,868 towards an overall project cost £687,868 to purchase two derelict sites and transform these into a community hub and garden. Carnwath Community Council's Angus Knox said: "This project is truly transformational for our community, we have had two derelict sites on the main entrance to Carnwath from Edinburgh for over 20 years, they are now going to be transformed because of the match funding we have received from REF, our Community is so excited that this is the beginning of Carnwath realising its full potential to prosper, create jobs and opportunities for everyone. This has been a partnership effort by the whole community coming together and working for the community benefit to Carnwath." Funded from Muirhall, Muirhall Stallanshaw and by Scottish Power Renewables Blacklaw.



## 3 The Little Sparta Trust

The Little Sparta Trust have been awarded £41,469 towards a total project cost of £83,469 this will develop the infrastructure and resources necessary to make Little Sparta a leading cultural heritage site in Scotland. Ian Hamilton Finlay is one of Scotland and the UK's most influential visual artists. Little Sparta, his master work, has been voted the most important contemporary artwork in Scotland in a poll of gallery owners and critics. And it is widely acknowledged as one of the most distinctive gardens in Europe. However, while Finlay's works are displayed in world famous institutions like the Tate and the Getty Foundation, Little Sparta remains relatively unknown to the wider public. This project will change that by introducing new audiences to Little Sparta. By 2025, the centenary of Ian Hamilton Finlay's birth, the Little Sparta trust is hoping to host up to 5,000 visitors. Funded from Muirhall and Muirhall Stallanshaw.



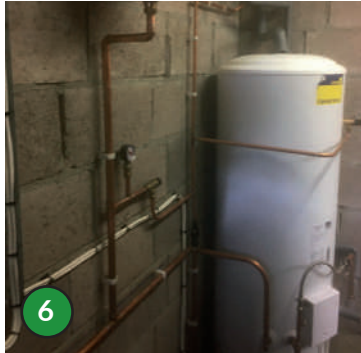
## 4 Kilbryde Hospice

Kilbryde Hospice were awarded £19,947 from the Renewable Energy Fund to provide outdoor shelter for visitors. Kilbryde Hospice CEO Gordon McHugh said: "The canopies, part funded through REF, have enabled Kilbryde Hospice to manage the Covid-19 guidance of restricted visiting by supporting families from our communities to visit their loved ones safely outside the patient's room. Several patients have already benefitted by sitting outside in the fresh air and enjoying the surroundings of the hospice. The canopies will see us through the term of the pandemic and be a legacy for the hospice and the communities we serve for many years to come." Funded from Scottish Power Renewables Whitelee Wind Farm.



### 5 Friends of Stonehouse Park

Friends of Stonehouse Park received a Renewable Energy Fund award of £1,151. Friends of Stonehouse Park Karen Kelly commented: "Friends of Stonehouse Park really appreciated the grant from the REF. We used some of the money to purchase bulbs, which were planted in the park in December 2020. We are looking forward to the snow disappearing to reveal a plethora of spring colour. It was great for the committee to be able to get together at a socially distance, to plant them and we hope it brings lots of joy to people walking through the park. Hopefully once Covid-19 has passed we will utilise the rest of the fund for our outdoor cinema." Funded from Auchrobert Wind Farm.



### 6 Law Bowling Club

Law Bowling Club were awarded £4,598 from the Renewable Energy Fund towards the installation cost of a new energy efficient heating system. Jim Leghorn from Law Bowling Club said: "I would like to pass on our thanks for the support REF gave us to help upgrade a very old system. It would have taken a few more years for us to raise the capital needed to complete these works." REF Covid-19 fund. Funded from Scottish Power Renewables Blacklaw Wind Farm.



© Fraser Duff of Alexander Fraser Photography

### 7 Clydesdale Housing Association Community Hub

REF provided £6,503 funding support to an overall project cost of £8,561 to the Clydesdale Housing Association Community Hub. CHA's Chief Executive, Joe Gorman said: "REF support for the CHA Community Hub IT equipment has been crucial to resourcing the facility the way we needed to. Funding this high quality kit supports digital inclusion in our community and the access to opportunities this brings. The REF team couldn't have been more helpful with the application and claims process – many thanks." Funded from Scottish Power Renewables Blacklaw Wind Farm.

## REF Covid-19 fund



### 8 Forth Community Resource Centre

Forth Community Resource Centre were awarded a Renewable Energy Fund grant of £4,930 to support digital inclusion throughout the Clydesdale area. Forth Community Resource Centre's Anne Caruthers said, "The REF grant allowed us to employ an IT/administration support assistant for six months to help in the delivery of our 'Connecting Clydesdale Project'. As part of the 'Connecting Scotland Programme' from the Scottish Government, we set-up and distributed iPads, chromebooks and mobile broadband to 54 vulnerable people in Clydesdale and delivered a bespoke IT training programme to a total of 69 people, building their confidence and skills with IT to access essential services and stay connected with family and friends during Covid-19." Funded from Muirhall Wind Farm.



### 9 East Kilbride Cricket Club

East Kilbride Cricket Club received a grant of £5,758 which will help the clubs future through Covid-19 restrictions. East Kilbride Cricket Club's Brian Kampman commented: "With support from REF, the nets at our club have had a complete make over in the spring of 2020, this will allow us to play cricket all winter and summer long. We also received a grant to cover the ongoing costs through the Covid-19 crisis which has helped to ensure we will continue and have one of the best facilities in the West of Scotland." Funded from Clyde Development Fund Wind Farm.

### 10 Coalburn Silver Band

Coalburn Silver Band were awarded £4,471 to help continue practice and online interaction. Coalburn Silver Band's Daniel Beadle said: "The funding received from the REF, has helped to ensure that the Coalburn Brass Band Family has been able to continue to operate during the pandemic. The Coalburn Bronze, Intermediate and Silver Bands and the Coalburn Percussion Academy have continued to meet on a weekly basis on Zoom with rehearsals led by our musical directors and tutors. The money from the REF allowed us to purchase new music as all income from engagements has stopped since it has not been possible for our ensembles to perform live." Funded from Falck Renewables Wind Nutberry Wind Farm.





### 11 Equitots Carluke

Equitots Carluke received £1,475 Renewable Energy Funds to support ongoing learning. Equitots Lee Valentine said: "The fund was an amazing support during the time we had to close and meant we could keep connected with young people in the community and continue an online learning journey around horses. It has allowed us to enhance our offerings to include online coaching and qualifications." Equitots also used the opportunity to push ahead with the publication of their own book to help support their work with children and young people. Funded from Climpy Wind Farm.



### 12 Eddlewood Bowling Club

Eddlewood Bowling Club Hamilton received a Renewable Energy Fund award of £10,000. Eddlewood Bowling Club treasurer Jim Conway said: "The grant we received has allowed a complete renovation of our lounge, this will indeed benefit the community who utilise the premises for varying activities, including kids dancing, pensioner's bingo, funerals, family functions etc. Without the grant we would have been unable to carry out the much needed renovation work for the benefit of the local community. The REF grant covering ongoing utilities helped ensure the future of our club, and allow us to welcome our community back, after Covid-19 restrictions are lifted." Funded from Clyde Development Fund Wind Farm.



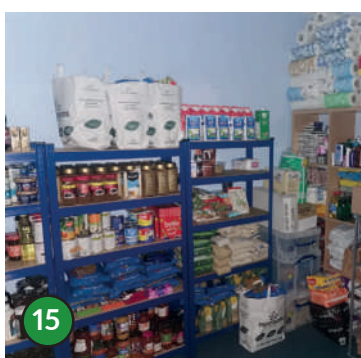
### 13 Cambuslang Particip8

Cambuslang Particip8 were awarded £2,465 to help support some of the most vulnerable through Covid-19 restrictions. Cambuslang Particip8's Lindsay Brogan commented: "The REF grant enabled us to set up our Community HUB to be used as a food bank depot and donation centre, for those in need during the first Covid-19 lockdown back at the beginning of 2020 when it started to affect people's lives in a devastating way. Being able to pay for the HUB daily running costs meant we were able to join forces with other local charities and, begin the battle against the effects of coronavirus to support those in need within our local community." Funded from Clyde Development Fund Wind Farm.



### 14 Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill resilience group

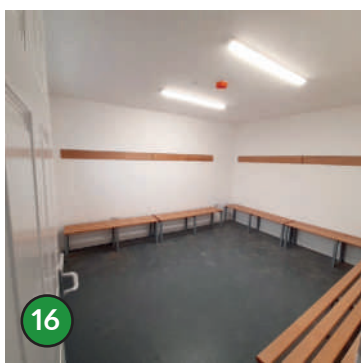
The Renewable Energy Fund provided £4,535 to Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Resilience Group for an environmental art project for local children. Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Resilience Group Chair Lesley Speedie said: "The project gave local children something to work on together even if they couldn't meet, we had some who were shielding and I know they really enjoyed being involved. The project has given our young people a sense of pride and community ownership, and overall, it has given them a positive and productive memory to look back on." Funded from Banks Renewables Kypemuir Wind Farm.



### 15 Carstairs Junction Welcome all Hub

Carstairs Junction Welcome all Hub received £5,000 to support the community through Covid-19 restrictions. Carstairs Junction Welcome all Hub's Dot Watson said: "Without the support from REF we would not have been able to provide the much needed support service for the communities we serve, especially during such unprecedented times. We have been able to buy not only healthy food options such as fruit and vegetables, but also equipment needed to give service users support in the areas of food poverty, health and well-being such as a laptop to provide support with Department of Work and Pensions access for those facing financial difficulties. With the demand on our service we have increased our volunteer number by six so that the much needed support can be sustained. The REF grant has allowed us to continue and support our most vulnerable in the community." Funded from Muirhall Wind Farm.





## REF previously funded and recently completed projects

### 16 Strathaven Dynamos

Strathaven Dynamos AFC received £39,902 Renewable Energy Fund grant towards a new build facility costing £109,901. Strathaven Dynamos Frank McGraw said: "The facility is primarily directed towards local school-aged children to create additional and high quality facilities for physical and social activities, primarily based upon football and rugby training. This in turn supports the sustainability of the two local clubs with over 550 playing members plus over 100 qualified volunteer adult coaches. The REF filled a large gap in our capital costs for the facility. There is no doubt that we had exhausted most routes to bridging a sizeable gap and REF grant combination was the difference in making it happen. The pride in having this facility is massive for the clubs, players, volunteers, local schools and the general community. In fact it creates a clean, safe, high quality changing facility for young people of all ages and levels." Funded from High Dyke, Dykehead, Tanhill, and Couplaw Wind Farms.

### 17 Lanark Tennis Club

REF provided £19,021 funding support to an overall project cost of £62,427 to Lanark Tennis Club. Lanark Tennis Club President Allyson Matthews said: "Lanark Tennis Club boasts an amazing new clubhouse and two completely new courts, both of which have had the financial support from REF. A raft of new activities under the 'Tennis For All' ethos were rolled out in a difficult 2020, and 2021 sees plans for hosting 'Disability Tennis Coaching', 'West of Scotland League Tennis' and 'Structured Coaching' at all levels, school holiday camps and the reintroduction of social tennis when restrictions lift. None of this would have been possible without valuable input, council and support through the application process from REF staff." Funded from Scottish Power Renewables Blacklaw Wind Farm.

### 18 Carstairs Community Council

Carstairs Community Council were awarded £35,023 grant towards an overall project cost of £86,520 to redevelop and enhance the existing play area in Carstairs Junction, the work created a community hub that will bring families together while strengthening the relationships within our community and breaking down isolation barriers that often feature heavily in rural life. A picnic area was also created to provide a much needed seating area for the elderly and families using the park. It will also encourage visitors to the village to stay longer and have somewhere to enjoy lunch outside where children can play safely. It will also provide the village with an area that outdoor events can take place, leading to a happier, more united, community. Funded from Muirhall Wind Farm.



# Renewable Energy Fund, Micro Grants and Clyde Wind Farm Fund projects



# Micro grants

Community Councils (CC) across South Lanarkshire have each been given £5000 annually from the South Lanarkshire Renewable Energy Fund to provide micro grants to support local communities. As well as these 21 Community Councils, a further six are also providing micro grants from the Clyde Wind Farm Fund. Community Councils can award grants of up to £500 to support local constituted and non-constituted groups and, where appropriate, individuals. Each Community Council can also add conditions and limit grants as they deem most appropriate for their communities. (listed below).



## 19 Cambuslang Community Council

Cambuslang CC gave funding support to Cambuslang Football Academy 2007s who will use the grant to take the boys on an organised trip to play other teams in a football tournament. Giving many boys the first experience of this type. Funded from Scottish Power Renewables Whitelee Wind Farm.

## 20 Tarbrax Community Council

Tarbrax CC awarded funding that supported the Halloween Competition, this was organised for the community by Tarbrax CC and WAT IF. Sandford and Upper Avondale Community Council Sandford and Upper Avondale CC awarded funding to support the local allotment group to help cover some of the cost to the polytunnel and part to 'Sandford in Bloom'. Funded from Climpby Wind Farm.



## 21 Sandford and Upper Avondale Community Council

Sandford and Upper Avondale CC awarded funding to support the local Allotment Group to help cover some of the cost to the polytunnel and part to 'Sandford in Bloom'. Funded from Dungavel Wind Farm.

## 22 Burnside Community Council

Burnside CC awarded funding to support the second Rutherglen Guides. As the Girl Guides have moved their resources to paper based books and activity cards (rather than online) it meant they were able to purchase a badge book for every girl and all the unit activity cards. Since the first lockdown, guide meetings have moved online. As all the girls now have their own badge book, this has meant they can participate more readily in the meetings and they can work on badges at their leisure - giving them some constructive activities to help keep them busy. Without the support of the Micro Grant it would have been much more difficult to keep online guiding going. Funded from Blantyre Muir Wind Farm.



## 23 Bothwell Community Council

Bothwell CC part funded the recently completed work on the corner of Fallside Road and Main Street. This has been enhanced with some new planting and objects of interest to compliment the fabulous work done in regenerating this piece of land. The new picnic area proved an excellent addition for both young and old in the heart of our village. Funded from Scottish Power Renewables Whitelee Wind Farm.

# Clyde Wind Farm Fund (CWFF)

“Over the last year the Clyde Wind Farm Fund has continued to support the communities in South Lanarkshire’s most rural area through grant awards, especially by providing additional Covid-19 funding to help sustain groups and organisations through financial difficulties caused by the pandemic.

As a panel we hope this leaves our rural groups in a strong sustainable position to come out of the restrictions. One of the interesting aspects of the current restrictions is that work on projects previously funded has continued and many people will not be aware that these projects are now complete or are nearing completion. Crawfordjohn Heritage Centre, Wiston Lodge outdoor classroom, Abington tennis court and Abington play park to name a few, which will benefit people and communities in our area from 2021. The award of £710,584 from Clyde Wind Farm Fund to the Abington Campus for Excellence also demonstrates how the fund can support rural services and sustainability and I look forward to seeing this open later in 2021. The fund will continue to support projects large and small across the rural towns and villages.”

Eric Carlyle, Chair of the Clyde Wind Farm Community Panel



## Clyde Wind Farm Fund

### Funds from Clyde Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd

24

#### Crawfordjohn Heritage Venue Museum

CWFF provided £83,476 funding alongside £25,655 from the REF, an overall project cost of £128,273 for the Crawfordjohn Heritage Venue Museum to improve the environmental conditions within the museum by installing humidity controlled conservation heating and ventilation along with the installation of photovoltaic solar panels and battery storage. This much-loved community-run facility celebrates local social history and heritage through its collection of artefacts from the Parish of Crawfordjohn. CWFF also provided £1,500 funding to help meet running costs during the COVID enforced closure which resulted in loss of income from summer visitors and the annual fundraiser.

25

#### Thankerton Bowling Club

CWFF provided £7,228 to Thankerton Bowling Club for refurbishment and modernisation works to improve access to clubhouse facilities for local people and groups. The Club has also benefited from a £7,814 CWFF award to purchase a bespoke lawn-mower to maintain a top quality green.

26

#### Leadhills Reading Society

CWFF provided £9,070 funding support to Leadhills Reading Society who undertook an ambitious marketing initiative to improve access to the geographically remote Leadhills Miners Library. Virtual visits are now offered to a global audience who can view a new promotional video together with a unique archive of digitized books. A celebration of a precious resource of international significance from the oldest subscription library in the British Isles. CWFF also provided £1,605 to help the library through the COVID crisis.

27

#### The Biggar Institute

CWFF provided £10,000 funding support to an overall project cost of £12,528 to The Biggar Institute. This community based hall is used by a wide range of community groups, some 150-200 people weekly. Their grant will enable improvements including roofing works and new windows that conserve heat and reduce carbon emissions.







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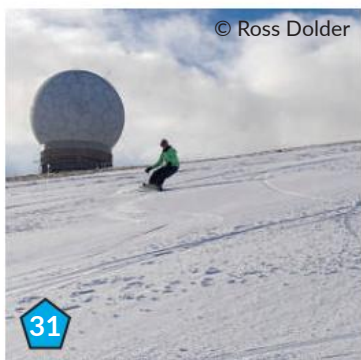
### 28 Leadhills Community Allotment

CWFF provided £10,876 funding support to an overall project cost of £14,502 to Leadhills Family Action Group. Leadhills Community Allotment will flourish thanks to funding provided for refurbishment and development works. The project focusses on improving health and wellbeing, enjoying the outdoors and sharing with the community. Funding will be used to improve access, build new raised beds to encourage participation from primary school children and the wider community.



### 29 Rural Capital Generation Fund

CWFF provided £710,000 funding to an overall project cost of £1.5m to Abington Community Development Group. The funding will be used to transform Abington Old School into Abington Campus Enterprise (ACE), bringing a new energy and vitality to Abington and the local area. This enterprising project is aimed at promoting economic activity and enhancing the quality of life for local people, creating vital new jobs to manage and develop the social enterprise and volunteering opportunities and programmes. Fast broadband connectivity, meeting rooms, office space, leisure and gym facility and green community space will be available to local businesses and communities. As a funding package with CWFF, the Renewable Energy Fund is providing funding support of £149,000 and the Rural Capital Generation Fund £726,000, totalling a major investment into the local area.



© Ross Dolder

### 30 Wiston Lodge

CWFF provided £147,278 funding to an overall project cost of £309,967 to Wiston Lodge. The outcome is a new modern outdoor education hub with bespoke design offering a seamless blend from indoor to outdoor learning activities. Specialist equipment, modern changing and showering facilities including features to meet additional support needs will enhance the interior. Heating is provided by the Victorian Main Lodge's biomass system which was also supported by CWFF. The stunning exterior is clad in timber that will age with its woodland surroundings.

### 31 Lowther Hills Ski Club

CWFF contributed £39,890 funding to an overall project cost of £90,000 to Lowther Hills Ski Club. The Club now has a much needed welcoming mountain lodge for visitors and locals to enjoy snow sports, mountain biking, hill-walking, roller skiing, paragliding, and events like Lowther Hills Snowball Cycling Sportive and the Scottish Schools Snowsports Association Alpine Series. This community-driven sustainable tourism initiative offers a Highland-like experience, on our doorstep!



## **Connect2Renewables employability initiative**

The Connect2Renewables employability initiative, delivered by South Lanarkshire Council and Banks Renewables, has enabled 19-year-old Coalburn teenager Isla Macdonald who 'lives and breathes' music to follow her dreams and study in Glasgow by part-funding her course fees and travel costs.

Paid for by a proportion of the community benefit funds from Middle Muir Windfarm, Crawfordjohn and Kype Muir Windfarm, Strathaven, the fund aims to help people living in 24 of the area's most rural communities, which fall within a 10km radius of either windfarm.

Isla, a former pupil of Lesmahagow High, is one of more than 300 local people already receiving help as she studies for an HND in Music Performance at the Academy of Music and Sound in Glasgow.

"Having access to the funding has allowed me to attend the college that is best suited for me. As someone who has learning difficulties, I find larger classes and locations difficult and my college is the perfect size to allow me to get all the help I need. The fund also helps me pay for the travel costs of travel from what is quite a remote area."

Councillor Gladys Miller, Chair of the council's Finance and Corporate Resources committee, said: "The initiative is delivered by the council and Banks Renewables as part of Banks' commitment to the South Lanarkshire economy and its communities, and operates alongside a variety of other local initiatives. The aim is to provide an 'open door' encouraging those people who need it most to get in touch and take advantage of what is a flexible and responsive programme."

Robin Winstanley, external affairs manager, Banks Group, said: "Stories like Isla's really make us proud to be part of this initiative and our collaboration with the council. It's so important to us that renewables projects deliver benefits with a meaning to communities, and this is a great example of it. We wish Isla the best in her career and look forward to more progress with this exciting partnership."

Full details of the scheme, eligibility criteria and advice on how to apply can be found on the council's website or you can email the team directly.

# How to apply to these funds

For details on the two funds please follow the links below:

[Renewable Energy Fund Grants](#)

[SSE Clyde Wind Farm Fund](#)

## Brief summary of the funds key points

### Who can apply?

Public organisations and agencies, partnerships, trusts and other none governmental organisations, constituted community groups and social enterprise or not for profit organisations. Applicants and projects must be within eligible windfarm areas primarily rural South Lanarkshire.

Your project must meet at least one of the following themes:

- Theme one: Stronger communities
- Theme two: Prosperous communities
- Theme three: Healthy and active communities
- Theme four: Sustainable environmental communities

The fund covers capital costs.

For grant requests under £10,000 the funds can fund 100% of the project.

If the grant request is over £10,000 you will require match funding which is dependent on the fund and project.

CWFF and REF are community benefit funds, projects require evidence of community support and the benefits the project will bring to communities near the windfarms.

If you have an eligible project please log an enquiry at: [Community Benefit Funds](#)

At the enquiry stage, briefly explain the nature of the project its need and how it will benefit the community and the community support you have for the project, the overall project cost and the funding your project will require to complete the overall project. Any questions at enquiry stage are carried through the online Grantvisor system.

Eligible enquiries will progress to the full application stage and guidance can be given in developing projects and costs.

For further information on Micro Grants please visit:

[Micro Grants](#)

For more funding information please go to South Lanarkshire External Funding please visit:

[External Funding](#)





# South Lanarkshire Renewable Energy Fund

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# Report

9

Report to: **Community and Enterprise Resources Committee**  
 Date of Meeting: **4 May 2021**  
 Report by: **Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

Subject: **Town Centre Funding and Project - Update**

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ update Committee on the progress of the projects funded from the Scottish Government's Town Centre Capital Grants Funds, the Council's Capital Programme and Regeneration Capital Grant Funds

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s): -

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. At the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee on the 16 February 2021 a request was made for a report to be brought to the Committee to provide an update on the various town centre funding streams and projects. In turn, this report has been prepared to provide that update.

3.2. The Council has been awarded funding from a number of sources since the beginning of 2019 for town centres. This has allowed a programme of investment to be put in place following consultation and including bidding exercises with local communities.

3.3. The principal funding sources and sums awarded is summarised as follows with the details of allocations set out in Appendix 1:-

- ◆ Scottish Government Phase 1 Funds: Allocation in March 2019 of **£2.506m** from the Scotland-wide £50m Town Centre Capital Grants Fund. The original timescales for committing and spending these funds were March 2020 and September 2020. However, an extension of time requiring the projects to be committed by March 2021 and spent by September 2021 was given in February 2020.
- ◆ Scottish Government Phase 2 Funds: On 18 September 2020, the Council was informed by Scottish Government that a Phase 2 allocation of £18M was being made available to local authorities to augment the Phase 1 funding from 2019. South Lanarkshire's share of this second phase is **£902,000**. The timeframe to spend this Phase 2 funding is coterminous with the timetable for Phase 1 – i.e. the money must be committed by March 2021 and spent by September 2021.
- ◆ Council Capital Programme: An allocation of **£500k** to enhance and extend the programme of town centre activity was confirmed in the Capital Programme

Report to the Executive Committee in March 2020. The capital programme funding has gone through a similar bidding process to that carried out for phases 1 and 2 of the Scottish Government Funding for its allocation. Funding of **£60k** was also allocated through the Capital Programme to allow the initial work to be carried out on the East Kilbride Civic Centre Project as noted below.

- 3.4. Each of these allocations have been subject to report and approval of the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, most recently on 24 November 2020.
- 3.5. Through the bidding process there have been awards allocated for 16 town centre projects across 13 of our town centres.
- 3.6. In support of the programme of projects funded, officers have sought additional funds to develop the projects further. This has been via the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) through which 2 projects have been developed, each of which are at different stages of RCGF funding:-
  - ◆ The Hamilton HUB in the Newcross Centre has secured funding of **£720k** which has been matched with £250k of phase 2 funding. This project is progressing through tendering of the works.
  - ◆ The Zone, East Kilbride was unsuccessful at the second and final stage of the application process. The application was for £790k with match funding of £175k from phase 1. This project will, therefore, not proceed as envisaged in the application. The work carried out to date sought to link this project to the Near to Home Working proposals, set out below, and that the match funding will be reallocated to support and enhance the Near to Home Working project.
- 3.7. Despite the unsuccessful bid for the Zone project, there are 2 other significant town centre projects which will have a material benefit to East Kilbride these are:-
  - ◆ East Kilbride Civic Centre - the funding of £60k from the capital programme has supported feasibility work regarding the potential to move out of the Civic Centre which is underutilised and no longer fit-for-purpose for modern service delivery, in turn, the site could be redeveloped. This approach was reported and approved at the Executive Committee on the 26 June 2019. Initial high level master planning work was presented and discussed at the East Kilbride Area Committee on 24 March 2021. Following detailed and constructive discussion with members, officers will investigate, and commission design work aimed at relocating remaining Council services into the East Kilbride shopping centre. An allocation of £201k has been set aside from Phase 1 to take this work to the next stage of project development.
  - ◆ Near to Home Working – Transport Scotland are supporting a pilot project to provide flexible business space for people who are working from home but would benefit from being able to access office space periodically. Transport Scotland have secured funding of £250k from their capital programme to allow the pilot to proceed in vacant space in the Olympia Mall of the Town Centre. Adding the match funding previously allocated against the Zone application would allow a larger and more commercially sustainable facility to be provided.
- 3.8. A further key benefit of the range of projects and initiatives being delivered is that many will support the Government and Council's ambitions around "20 Minute Neighbourhoods". It is also expected that a number of the projects will play a role in the emerging opportunities around Community Wealth Building- by repurposing Council assets to meet the needs of communities and support the local economy.

#### **4. Linked Activity in Town Centres**

- 4.1. Across the 10 towns defined in the South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (LDP) there is active and ongoing engagement with appropriate groups in the towns. These differ from town to town, and include Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), Development Trusts, Community Councils, and private property owners.
- 4.2. Town Centre strategies and Action Plans have been prepared and approved for Hamilton and Cambuslang with Larkhall and Blantyre in the latter stages of their preparation. The Larkhall strategy and action plan are the subject of a separate report on this agenda. Similar plans are being progressed by the communities in Lanark and Carluke.
- 4.3. These strategies and Action Plans are closely aligned with the Scottish Government approach to supporting town centres. The Government have recently published A New Future for Scotland's Town Centres following a review of the Fraser Review of Town Centres and resultant Action Plan in 2013. The document builds on the previous work and seeks to strengthen the position of Town Centres by reinforcing their position at the heart of our communities and by strengthening the status of town centres in the regulatory framework for statutory authorities. The document is positive about the way ahead while recognising the many challenges and brings forward a number of practical approaches to mitigating their impacts.
- 4.4. Officers across Planning and Economic Development Services are working closely to review the changing dynamics of town centres and consider how planning policy can support and enable development / re-provision of existing space within town centres. One of the key themes in regenerating town centres is increasing town centre living particularly in locations where commercial uses are no longer viable. A number of the capital projects have therefore sought to facilitate residential development and, along with a number of private / Housing Association proposals, have highlighted some of the particular challenges these opportunities present.

#### **5. Current position**

##### **5.1. COVID-19**

The full impact of COVID-19 on town centre businesses is unlikely to be fully understood either locally or nationally for some time. Businesses are surviving via the business support grant funding which has been made available, however it may be likely that a number may not be sustainable once this support ends. There are potential opportunities for town centres to realign their offer to the different and, in many cases, increased potential customer base. With so many people working from home there are customers who would not normally use their local centre who could be attracted to spend time and money as restrictions ease.

##### **5.2. Projects**

A summary of the projects and current position is set out in the table below. The financial allocation against each project is noted in the table at Appendix 1. The status of the projects has been categorised into BRAG: Blue -complete; Green - on track; Amber - issues to be resolved and Red – project not progressing.

## Project Summary and Update

Project Number	Name	Summary	Update	Project Value Grant / project value	Target grant spend / Project completion	BRAG
1	Royal Oak, Lanark	Social rented housing development on the site of a derelict hotel.	Development has all statutory consents in place and work began on site in April 2021.	£345k / c£4m	Q 2 2021 / Mid 2022	Green
2	Former Hamilton Advertiser Building, Hamilton	Social rented housing development on the site of a former print works	Demolition works are complete, and the main works are progressing.	£300k / £3.2m	Q1 2021 / Late 2021	Green
3	East Kilbride Shared Workspace	To create 10,000 sq. ft. of business start-up space on floor 7 of Plaza Tower.  Funds of £200k reallocated to the Civic Centre feasibility project	Private sector match funding could not be secured, project not proceeding	N/A	N/A	Red
4	Vogue Site, Hamilton	Social rented housing development on the site of a former Bingo hall  Progress has been slower than anticipated due to COVID-19 restrictions and changes in personnel however programme should still be achievable.	Planning application lodged March 2021. Site investigations and essential repairs carried out. Contracts in place to proceed. Council approval to dispose of site to RSL obtained March 2021	£440k / c£4.3m	Q3 2021 / Late 2022	Amber
5	Former Poundstretcher, Hamilton	Redevelop the Poundstretcher site as a mixed use residential/retail development.  Funds of £180k put back into the programme to support phase 1 delivery.	Property could not be secured - project not proceeding	N/ A	N/A	Red
6	Cambuslang Streetscape	Streetscape improvements including pavement resurfacing.	Tender return February 2021, with site start in April 2021	£820k	Phased Q1 2020 - Q3 2021	Green
7	South Lanarkshire Heritage App	Development of a South Lanarkshire wider town centre app.	First phase live for Bothwell, Stonehouse, Douglas, Strathaven Funding for other Communities secured	£150k / £240k	Phased Q2 2020 – Q4 2021	Green
8	Forth Café and Cinema	To create a cinema and kitchen café in town centre hall for community town centre events and increase town centre footfall.	Works complete and final payments being processed	£60k	Q1 2021	Blue

Project Number	Name	Summary	Update	Project Value Grant / project value	Target grant spend / Project completion	BRAG
9	Carnwath site assembly	Acquisition of a derelict site to facilitate a community project	Acquisition will be finalised on completion of remediation works by existing owner. Development subject to other funding which is now in place	£335k / £650k	Q2 2021 Q3 2022	Green
10	Hunters Close, Lanark	Removal of a derelict building and creation of town centre car parking / market space.	Demolition works complete with reinstatement works underway	£257k	Phased Q1 – Q3 2021	Green
11	Rankin Gait, Carluke	Regenerate the Rankin Gait Precinct creating the Rankin Gaitway Community Space.	Designs and statutory consultations being progressed.	£100k	Q1 2022	Green
12	Carnwath Community and Enterprise Hub)	Acquire retail premises and hold for the future benefit of the community.	Negotiations and legal work being finalised.	£25k	Q3 2021	Green
13	Forth Business and Outdoor Development	Creation of an outdoor space to expand the Rainforest Cafe at Forth St Paul's church and provide a safe space for various activities	Designs and statutory consultations being finalised.	£75k	Q3 2021	Green
14	Welcome to Larkhall	The project aims to improve the appearance of the main shopping street, making it more attractive to shoppers and visitors.	Designs and statutory consultations being progressed.	£100k	Q1 2022	Green
15	Rutherglen Town Centre Business Support	Creation of a business hub providing space for new starts and/or existing business. A design improvement to extend the frontage of the shopping centre to include all shops.	Works completed April 2021	£100k	Q1 2021	Blue
16	Development of the Thomson Suite in the Town Mill, Strathaven	Development of the Thomson Suite in the Town Mill, provision of a tourist information point in the town centre and further development of the Strathaven InsideOut app.	Designs and statutory consultations being progressed.	£100k	Q1 2022	Green
17	Newcross Centre Hub	Community/business/enterprise hub which will include office space, private and shared facilities for businesses, a community café, youth activities and business start-up space  Cost saving exercise required which has delayed programme	Design complete and works out to tender	£920k	Phased Q1 2021 – Q4 2021	Amber
18	EK Civic Masterplan	Feasibility work regarding the potential to move out of the Civic Centre which is	Negotiations proceeding with Town Centre	£201k / TBC	Q2 – Q3 2021	Amber

Project Number	Name	Summary	Update	Project Value Grant / project value	Target grant spend / Project completion	BRAG
		underutilised and no longer fit-for-purpose investigate, and commission design work aimed at relocating remaining Council services into the East Kilbride shopping mall.  The programme and spend is constrained by the funding timescales, SLC decision making and Orion Funders decision making.	Owners and design progressing			
19	Near to Home Working	Pilot project to provide flexible business space for people who are working from home	Designs and statutory consultations being progressed	£250 / £425k	Q1 – Q3 2021	Green
20	EK Zone	Community / business / enterprise business space alongside other public and voluntary sector partners  Town Centre funding of £175k to be redirected to support Near to Home	Funding application unsuccessful. Project on hold until alternative funding secured.	N/A	N/A	Red
<b>Totals</b>			Total Project value c£15.4m with Civic Centre investment to be confirmed but estimated at £5m - £7m			

5.3. Whilst undoubtedly positive news for South Lanarkshire's town centres, the Government have set a very tight and ambitious timetable for projects funded by them. This would be the case even if we were not faced with the additional challenges of delivery during a global pandemic. Some of the delays in the Phase 1 projects are related to the need to coordinate a range of partners and, although the partnership/collaboration approach has been positive in achieving shared outcomes, it has inevitably taken longer because of more than one organisation having to go through its decision-making processes.

## 6. Next Steps

6.1. The projects against which funding was awarded in earlier rounds are continuing in line with the BRAG position set out in the table in the Appendix 1. Officers in Economic Development Services are continuing to liaise and progress these projects. The Hamilton HUB project has secured external funding and preliminary works in terms of design are underway. It is anticipated this work will be completed in February / March 2021, which will then allow a tender to be issued. Discussions with the owners of East Kilbride Town Centre are progressing and it is intended to bring a report to Committee in autumn 2021 to provide an update on these discussions.

## 7 Employee Implications

7.1. There are no employee implications from this report with the project delivery and liaison being led by officers within the Economic Development Service.

## **8. Financial Implications**

- 8.1. The funds, where appropriate, have been brought into the Council's General Services Capital Programme and will be subject to the normal monitoring and financial processes.
- 8.2. To ensure transparency of payment, officers will monitor and manage the claim and payment process through the Grantvisor system.

## **9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 9.1. The projects and initiatives identified in this report will be delivered using a range of sustainable techniques and models, having regard to best practice and current construction industry guidance. It is also noted that many of the projects will result in the redevelopment of vacant buildings and land.

## **10. Other Implications**

- 10.1. Due to the diverse portfolio of projects, the timescales within which projects were developed and the capacity of groups involved, there is a risk that some projects may not proceed in the way envisaged and fail to meet the timescales required.
- 10.2. Ultimately, this could result in grant not being expended in the relevant time frame and opportunities to implement these specific projects will not be maximised. This may result in project funding being withdrawn. Best endeavours will continue to be made to deliver all remaining projects within the available timescale.

## **11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 11.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function, or strategy and therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 11.2. Consultations have been co-ordinated by Economic Development Services with a range of other Council Services which have an ongoing role in delivering services and initiatives in our Town Centres. This consultation and co-operation will continue throughout the duration of the initiatives.

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

7 April 2021

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Support the local economy by providing the right conditions for growth, improving skills and employability.
- ◆ Improve health and increase physical activity
- ◆ Partnership working, community leadership and engagement

## **Previous References**

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 4 June 2019 – Town Centre Capital Grant Fund
- ◆ East Kilbride Town Centre/ Civic Centre – Masterplan - Executive Committee on the 26 June 2019
- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 3 September 2019 – Town Centre Capital Grant Fund Update
- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 4 February 2020 – Town Centre Capital Grant Fund Update

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 25 March 2020 – Town Centre Capital Grant Fund Update
- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 15 September 2020, Town Centre Capital Grant Fund Update
- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 24 November 2020, Scottish Government Town Centre Funding – Phase 1 Update and Phase 2 Proposed Funding Allocation

#### **List of Background Papers**

- ◆ Scottish Government Review of Town Centres - A New Future for Scotland's Town Centres February 2021

#### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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## Appendix 1 – Financial allocation between projects

Project Number	Name	Phase 1 funding approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant proposed	Phase 2 funding Proposed	Capital Programme Proposed	RCGF Awarded	Transport Scotland	RCGF subject to approval	Proposed project total	BRAG
<b>Fund Total</b>		£2,506m			£902k	£500k	£720k	£250k	£790k		
1	Royal Oak, Lanark – Social rented housing development on the site of a derelict hotel	£225,000	£95,000		£25,000					£345,000	Green
2	Former Hamilton Advertiser Building, Hamilton - Social rented housing development on the site of a former print works	£300,000	-							£300,000	Green
3	East Kilbride Shared Workspace – Conversion of office space		£0							£0	Red

Project Number	Name	Phase 1 funding approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant proposed	Phase 2 funding Proposed	Capital Programme Proposed	RCGF Awarded	Transport Scotland	RCGF subject to approval	Proposed project total	BRAG
4	Vogue Site, Hamilton - Social rented housing development on the site of a former Bingo hall	£340,000	-		£100,000					£440,000	
5	Former Poundstretcher, Hamilton – redevelopment of retail unit		£0							£0	Red
6	Cambuslang Streetscape – up trade of streetscape in the main street	£620,000	-		£225,000					£845,000	Amber
7	South Lanarkshire Heritage App – development of a South Lanarkshire wider town centre app	£150,000	-		£50,000					£200,000	Green

Project Number	Name	Phase 1 funding approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant proposed	Phase 2 funding Proposed	Capital Programme Proposed	RCGF Awarded	Transport Scotland	RCGF subject to approval	Proposed project total	BRAG
8	Forth Café and Cinema – conversion of space in a church to provide a community cinema and associated facilities.	£55,000	£5,000							£60,000	Blue
9	Carnwath site assembly – acquisition of a derelict site to facilitate a community project	£260,000	£75,000							£335,000	Green
10	Hunters Close, Lanark – removal of a derelict building and creation of town centre car parking	£180,000	-		£77,000					£257,000	Green

Project Number	Name	Phase 1 funding approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant proposed	Phase 2 funding Proposed	Capital Programme Proposed	RCGF Awarded	Transport Scotland	RCGF subject to approval	Proposed project total	BRAG
	/ market space.										
11	Rankin Gait, Carluke					£100,000				£100,000	Green
12	Carnwath Community and Enterprise Hub)					£25,000				£25,000	
13	Forth Business and Outdoor Development					£75,000				£75,000	Green
14	Welcome to Larkhall					£100,000				£100,000	Green
15	Rutherglen Town Centre Business Support					£100,000				£100,000	Blue
16	Development of the Thomson Suite in the Town Mill					£100,000				£100,000	Green
	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>£2,305,000</b>			<b>£477,000</b>	<b>£500,000</b>				<b>£3,282,000</b>	
17	Newcross Centre Hub				£250,000		720,000			£970,000	Green

Project Number	Name	Phase 1 funding approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant approved	Phase 1 funding additional grant proposed	Phase 2 funding Proposed	Capital Programme Proposed	RCGF Awarded	Transport Scotland	RCGF subject to approval	Proposed project total	BRAG
18	EK Civic Masterplan			£201,000						£201,000	Green
19	Near To Home Working							£250,000		£250,000	Green
20	EK Zone				£175,000				£790,000	£965,000	Red
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>£2,506,000</b>			<b>£902,000</b>	<b>£500,000</b>	<b>£720,000</b>		<b>£790,000</b>	<b>£5,668,000</b>	



# Report

**10**

Report to: **Community and Enterprise Resources Committee**  
 Date of Meeting: **4 May 2021**  
 Report by: **Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

Subject: **Lanarkshire Economic Forum - Update**

## **1. Purpose of Report**

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ♦ provide Members with an update on the Lanarkshire Economic Forum

## **2. Recommendations**

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) that it be noted that further updates on the work of the Forum will be reported to the Community Planning Partnership Board and this Committee as appropriate.

## **3. Background**

3.1. On 8 July 2020, the Recovery Board agreed to the establishment of a Lanarkshire Economic Forum (LEF) to support economic recovery and ensure that action is undertaken in a strategic and coordinated manner.

3.2. While the Council will continue to work within the context of the wider Glasgow City Region, there was a strong basis to establish a Lanarkshire wide approach for the following reasons:

- ♦ Through the business gateway contract there are already close working relationships and consistency of business support by both North and South Lanarkshire Councils.
- ♦ Related to the above, a pan-Lanarkshire Local Employability Partnership had been established which provides a mechanism for officers to collaborate on developing and implementing employability programmes.
- ♦ New College Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire College are based in and have a focus on the Lanarkshire area.
- ♦ The Developing Young Workforce (DYW) initiative is undertaken at a Lanarkshire level, albeit it also includes East Dunbartonshire Council.
- ♦ In business sectoral terms there is a similarity between the two Council areas when compared to other authorities in the city region.

3.3. It was considered important that the forum included contributions and inputs from the private sector and, therefore, colleagues from Federation of Small Businesses, Business Gateway contractor (at that time Lanarkshire Enterprise Services Ltd and is now Elevator), and the Lanarkshire Chamber of Commerce and Trade were invited to join the partnership.

- 3.4. On 5 August 2020, the Scottish Government published its Economic Recovery Implementation Plan, as well as its response to the Enterprise & Skills Strategic Board's report, 'Addressing the Labour Market Emergency'. Taking the two documents together the Scottish Government views the coronavirus crisis as an opportunity to re-imagine Scotland and create a fairer, greener, more equal society and a wellbeing economy.
- 3.5. Much of what is contained in both documents is broadly consistent with existing national and local economic development strategies and will be a continued focus for the LEF. Priorities can be framed around three key themes:
- ◆ People: skills, learning and employability
  - ◆ Place: physical infrastructure and place
  - ◆ Business: business development and growth

#### **4. Governance**

- 4.1. The Lanarkshire Economic Forum held its initial meeting on 21 September 2020 to begin to define the scope and remit of the partnership. The full terms of reference were later agreed in November 2020 (attached as Appendix 1).
- 4.2. At a high level the purpose of the forum is centred around:
- ◆ planning and coordinating a Lanarkshire wide economic recovery activity based around People, Place and Business themes
  - ◆ developing recovery and review planning that maintains the flexibility to adapt to short, medium and long term horizon scanning
  - ◆ ensuring the active liaison, co-ordination, and cooperation between all partners
- 4.3. The LEF is chaired by Professor Milan Radosavljevic, Vice-Principal for Research, Innovation and Engagement at the University of the West of Scotland. In line with the terms of reference, Professor Radosavljevic will chair the forum for a period of two years. Secretariat support will, initially, be provided by South Lanarkshire Council.
- 4.4. The following members are represented on the forum at a senior management level, with each member having the authority to make decisions and commit resources or funding to agreed forum priorities:
- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council
  - ◆ North Lanarkshire Council
  - ◆ Scottish Enterprise
  - ◆ Skills Development Scotland
  - ◆ New College Lanarkshire
  - ◆ South Lanarkshire College
  - ◆ University of West of Scotland (UWS)
  - ◆ Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)
  - ◆ Third Sector
  - ◆ Lanarkshire Chamber of Commerce and Trade
  - ◆ Business Gateway Provider: Elevator
  - ◆ Business Sectors: VisitScotland
- 4.5. In addition to the above, NHS Lanarkshire requested to join the forum, and this was agreed to in February 2021 to ensure the appropriate links between economic development and public health. In addition, representatives from Voluntary Action



North Lanarkshire (VANL) and Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLAN) have been invited to the upcoming meeting in May 2021 to represent the third sector.

## 5. Activity Mapping and Economic Baseline

- 5.1. It was agreed at the initial meeting that a 'mapping exercise' be undertaken to provide an overview of the activities currently being delivered by the partner organisations, as well as those which are planned for the near future. The reason being it was important to recognise the current level of activity being provided to support economic recovery. In due course this would provide a basis to determine whether such support and activity is meeting the needs and demands of the economy.
- 5.2. The exercise was completed in January 2021 and provides a high level overview of the extent and nature of the main activities across the partner organisations. In total, 174 activities/projects/programmes were identified across the three themes: People (62), Place (40) and Business (72), as shown in the table below:

**Table 1. Count of Activities**

	People		Place		Business		
	Existing Activities	Future Activities	Existing Activities	Future Activities	Existing Activities	Future Activities	
<b>Partner</b>							
All	0	0	0	1	0	2	3
Federation of Small Businesses	1	1	1	0	1	1	5
Federation of Small Businesses/Lanarkshire Chamber of Commerce/ private sector	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Lanarkshire Enterprise Services Ltd	0	0	0	0	2	2	4
New College Lanarkshire	8	4	2	0	2	1	17
New College Lanarkshire / NLC (Education)	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
New College Lanarkshire / NLC / University of Strathclyde	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
NLC	7	1	8	1	12	6	35
NLC / Fusion Assets	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
NLC / New College Lanarkshire	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Scottish Enterprise	0	0	3	0	1	0	4
Skills Development Scotland	7	0	0	0	0	0	7
South Lanarkshire College	16	5	5	1	12	6	45
SLC	5	3	12	3	4	8	35
University of West of Scotland	2	1	1	1	2	1	8
VisitScotland	0	0	0	0	5	1	6
	47	15	32	8	43	29	174

- 5.3. The exercise highlighted a strong alignment between the activities captured, and the Scottish Government strategic objectives in the Programme for Government, the Scottish Government Economic Recovery Implementation Plan and Addressing the Labour Market Emergency. At this stage, the mapping exercise did not seek to analysis the impact of these activities, whether they remain appropriate for future needs, or if there are any gaps in the existing provision. A key objective for the LEF will be to determine whether these are the right activities to support local economic recovery.
- 5.4. The forum has also engaged the services of the Glasgow City Region Intelligence Hub to establish a socio-economic baseline for Lanarkshire, similar to that developed for the wider City Region but at a more localised level. Using a wide range of socioeconomic indicators including population demographics, gross domestic product (GDP), unemployment rates, claimant count, and skills/qualifications data, partners will be provided with an overview of how well the Lanarkshire economy is performing. This will enable a series of comparisons to be made with the wider Glasgow City Region as well as other similar localities elsewhere in the UK. It will highlight key strengths and weaknesses within the both the North and South

Lanarkshire economy, help to identify key challenges and future priorities, and importantly provide an evidence base to develop and introduce interventions to support the local economic recovery.

- 5.5. The initial draft baseline report is due to be presented to the LEF at its next meeting on 11 May 2021.

## 6. People, Place and Business Subgroups

- 6.1. The main forum meeting provides a mechanism for bringing the partners together at a strategic level. However, it was considered that the necessary detailed work, in reviewing existing interventions, their impact, and based on the economic baseline information referred to above, determining future interventions, would be more appropriately undertaken at sub-group level. On this basis the forum has agreed to the establishment of subgroups framed around the three thematic areas: People, Place and Business.
- 6.2. While the detailed terms of reference and membership of the groups has still to be finalised, the following proposals are currently being considered. In this respect two points are highlighted. First, the sub-groups will be chaired or co-chaired by partners to ensure that there is accountability and responsibility across all the partners to ensure that matters are progressed. Second, the People theme has been divided into employability and skills, recognising both the breadth of these topic areas and differing nature of the activities.

Subgroup	<b>People: Employability</b>
Focus:	Maximising outcomes for young people and unemployed / underemployed adults across Lanarkshire's communities

Subgroup	<b>People: Skills</b>
Focus:	Addressing current and future economic opportunities with specific emphasis on the up-skilling and re-skilling of the workforce and safeguarding apprenticeships

Subgroup	<b>Place</b>
Focus:	Economic infrastructure investment programmes, including measures to strengthen the delivery and maximise the impact of City Deal and capital projects, and supporting our town centres

Subgroup	<b>Business</b>
Focus:	New business starts, sustaining and growing existing businesses and a focus on supply chain management, building the capacity and capability of companies in local and export markets

- 6.3. The LEF will provide the overall strategic direction for the subgroups to ensure a coordinated approach in supporting the economic well-being of Lanarkshire, delivering sustainable and inclusive economic long-term growth for businesses and ultimately improved opportunity and quality of life for our residents.
- 6.4. It is hoped that through both the parent LEF forum, and the four focused subgroups, partners can work closely together to ensure that their activities, supports and interventions are complementary, and avoid any unnecessary duplication.

## **7. Summary**

- 7.1. Since the establishment of the forum in September 2020 members will, of course, be aware that much of our economy has effectively been closed during lockdown. In turn, Council officers have been delivering business support grants and this has taken priority over mainstream economic development tasks. At the same time our partners have had to make significant changes to their own operations and business during that time. As such, progress on the LEF and establishment of the sub-groups and bringing forward collaborative interventions to support economic recovery has understandably been impacted.
- 7.2. Notwithstanding the above, the structure and importantly the initial partnership development has been established through the initial meetings of the LEF. This now provides a sound basis to develop and implement interventions to support the recovery and growth of the Lanarkshire economy.
- 7.3. Given the partners involved in the LEF, which in effect replicates the Sustainable Economic Growth Board (SEGB), it is considered that the SEGB meetings can be 'put on hold' meantime. However, it is recognised that it is important to ensure the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board and members of this Committee are kept up to date. Therefore, it is proposed that regular updates will be presented to both the CPP Board and this Committee as appropriate.

## **8. Employee Implications**

- 8.1. There are no employee implications as a direct result of this report, however, representatives from Community and Enterprise Resources and Finance and Corporate Resources will represent the Council on the LEF and its various subgroups.

## **9 Financial Implications**

- 9.1. There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

## **10. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 10.1. There are no direct climate change or environmental implications as a result of this report, however, Green Recovery will be a key focus of the Lanarkshire Economic Forum in line with Scottish Government priorities and supporting our transition to a net-zero society.

## **11. Other Implications**

- 11.1. There are no significant risks associated with this report.

## **12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 12.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore, no impact assessment is required.

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

9 April 2021

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities**

- ◆ Improve the quality of life of everyone in South Lanarkshire.
- ◆ Promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth and tackle disadvantage.

### **Previous References**

- ♦ Economic Recovery: Lanarkshire Economic Forum and Review of Economic Development Services, Recovery Board, 8 July 2020
- ♦ Economic Recovery - Lanarkshire Economic Forum – Update, Recovery Board, 18 September 2020

### **List of Background Papers**

- ♦ Scottish Government Economic Recovery Implementation Plan and addressing Labour Market Emergency 20 August 2020
- ♦ Economic Development Service – Business Support Proposals - 20 August 2020

### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact: -

Gillian Simpson, Development Adviser

Ext: 01698-455717

E-mail: [gillian.simpson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:gillian.simpson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

## **Terms of Reference – Lanarkshire Economic Forum**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To share information and inform a coordinated Lanarkshire approach to support the economic well-being of Lanarkshire and deliver sustainable and inclusive economic long-term growth for businesses and improved opportunity and quality of life for its residents.
- 1.2 In doing so, being at the forefront of innovation and change with a prosperous and thriving economy, supporting the progress and success of businesses, encouraging new enterprises and ensuring a skilled workforce that will sustain high employment rates whilst ensuring that all sections of the community are able to benefit from economic opportunities.

### **2. Aims**

- 2.1 To influence and inform the setting of social and economic priorities and proposals for Lanarkshire and to support and add pace to the development and implementation of current Economic Strategies and Plans to create the right conditions for sustainable and inclusive economic long-term growth.
- 2.2 To identify and support the key economic development contributions to the delivery of the forum's priorities and targets and its associated plans.
- 2.3 To inform and develop effective engagement and actions with key stakeholders in pursuit of social and economic recovery and growth, including key agencies, public sector services, further and higher education institutions, business community and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector.
- 2.4 Represent Lanarkshire to gain support for its approaches to generate local economic growth.
- 2.5 To agree allocations of actions and commit lead members within the forum to accept responsibility and be accountability for oversight, delivery and reporting of key actions.
- 2.6 To monitor progress with actions and outcomes providing overall strategic leadership and direction.
- 2.7 To identify any gaps in provision at a local and regional level and to explore opportunities for collaboration where members of the forum can attract or deploy resources to deliver against agreed priorities and actions.

- 2.8 To drive innovation and transformational change in partnership practice for the benefit of Lanarkshire businesses, communities and residents.
- 2.9 To use our collective networks and relationships for the benefit of Lanarkshire and to leverage for greater outcomes.
- 2.10 To receive a range of developmental and performance monitoring reports for actions.

### **3. Membership of Forum and Status**

- 3.1 The following members will be represented on the forum at a senior management level, with each member having the authority to make decisions and commit resources or funding to agreed forum priorities: -

- South Lanarkshire Council
- North Lanarkshire Council
- Scottish Enterprise
- Skills Development Scotland
- New College Lanarkshire
- South Lanarkshire College
- University of West of Scotland (UWS)
- Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)
- Third Sector
- Lanarkshire Chamber of Commerce and Trade
- Business Gateway: Lanarkshire Enterprise Services Ltd (LESL)
- Business Sectors: VisitScotland

- 3.2 The forum will appoint a chair and vice chair.
- 3.3 The role of the Chair will be to ensure that the agenda business is properly dealt with and clear decisions are reached. There is a responsibility to ensure that the views and opinions of all participants at the meeting are allowed to be expressed and that they contribute to positive progression of members priorities. The chair will be rotated every two years or by agreement by forum members.
- 3.4 The forum has no independent legal status.
- 3.5 Forum members can recommend to invite further members to join the forum.

### **4. Management and operation**

#### Frequency of Meetings

- 4.1 The forum will meet a minimum of 4 times a year.
- 4.2 Members are required to attend at least two meetings per year. It is accepted that from time-to-time individual members may not be able to attend a meeting and in such a case alternative representation will be required.

- 4.3 Meetings will be structured around updates on the delivery of the agreed priorities and agendas will be formatted to structure discussion to agree and capture action points.
- 4.4 It is the intention that all items of business will be reached by consensus and as the forum is not a decision-making body there are no voting rights.

#### Secretariat

- 4.4 Secretariat support will, initially, be provided by South Lanarkshire Council, including the arrangement of meetings and the preparation of agendas, notes of meetings and reports. The meeting agendas will be circulated one week prior to meetings and notes of meetings circulated two weeks following meetings. Email is the preferred method of communication.

#### Confidentiality

- 4.5 To allow for full and open discussions members may be given access to information and documents that are not fully in the public domain and members should respect the confidentiality requirements of the forum or of individual members.
- 4.6 Any Freedom of Information requests received about the forum will be directed through the appropriate channels within South Lanarkshire Council, and, where appropriate within other members organisations, in order to meet the requirements of the Act.
- 4.7 Data about members of the Forum (email addresses and telephone numbers) will be held by South Lanarkshire Council in accordance with the Data Protection Act and only used for forum purposes and will not be passed to a third party and destroyed when the member leaves the forum or if the forum ceases to exist.

### **5. Performance monitoring and review**

- 5.1 The forum will prepare an annual progress report focusing on monitoring the delivery and impact of activities to achieve its purpose.

### **6. Exit Strategy**

- 6.1 The forum will remain in place as long as it is fulfilling its purpose and aims. The decision to close or re-form the forum will be taken by the members.





# Report

11

Report to: **Community and Enterprise Resources Committee**  
 Date of Meeting: **4 May 2021**  
 Report by: **Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

Subject: **Introduction of New Charge - Export Health Certificate Supporting Attestation**

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise the Committee of the introduction of a national charge for the issuing of food export health certificate's 'Supporting Attestations' from 1 January 2021

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the introduction of a new charge of £100 for the issuing of an Export Health Certificate Supporting Attestation be noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. On the 31 December 2020, the transition period for the UK leaving the EU ended and new rules for exporting came into effect. From 1 January 2021 the UK is considered by the EU as a 'Third Country' for purposes of trade and businesses exporting products of animal origin to the EU and Northern Ireland will require an Export Health Certificate (EHC). EHCs are evidence that a consignment meets EU import health requirements. Businesses will be unable to trade with the EU without them.

## 4. Export Health Certificates and Supporting Attestations

4.1. The EHC for products of animal origin for human consumption must be signed by an appropriately designated Certifying Officer (CO), which can be an Official Veterinarian (OV) or a Food Competent Certifying Officer (FCCO). Environmental Health Officers within South Lanarkshire Council are designated as FCCO's for fishery products, live bivalve molluscs such as oysters, mussels, clams and scallops, and certain composite products (foods containing a mixture of products of animal origin, e.g. - egg and products of plant origin, e.g. - wheat).

4.2. In order to reduce both the financial and administrative burden associated with the issuing of EHC's for every consignment of fishery products exported to the EU or Northern Ireland, logistic\commercial hubs were created to allow multiple batches of similar fishery products to be consolidated into a single consignment travelling under one EHC. One such logistics hub is in South Lanarkshire, DFDS, which is located at Larkhall.

4.3. DEFRA issued guidance to food business operators and Certifying Officers outlining the process by which fishery products can be certified at a logistics hub. Fundamental to this process is that goods arriving at logistics hubs must be accompanied by a

'supporting attestation' from the Local Authority who inspect these products at their place or origin. This supporting information is subsequently used by Certifying Officers at logistics hubs to facilitate certification of goods and the issuing of EHC's. The Attestation confirms that, from the documents provided with the application, the product has been produced\manufactured or otherwise processed or stored at a premise which is subject to official controls including inspections.

- 4.4. The frequency by which 'supporting attestations' require to be provided to exporting businesses utilising logistics hubs is determined using a risk-based approach aligned with the food hygiene scoring system outlined in Food Standards Scotland's 'Food Law Code of Practice'. The current maximum interval permitted between the issuing of 'supporting attestations' requires a new attestation to be issued every 6 months, with the maximum frequency being every 1 month. 'Supporting attestations' may only be issued following a random export related inspection of the exporting business.
- 4.5. South Lanarkshire Council currently has 2 fishery product premises who have requested 'supporting attestations' to allow them to utilise the services provided by both the logistics hub located at DFDS, Larkhall, and in addition at two other logistics hubs located in North Lanarkshire Council, Mesquen, Harthill and O'toole, Bellshill. These fishery premises are listed in appendix 1. For both food businesses 'supporting attestations' were issued with their period of validity being 6 months from the date of issue.

## **5. Introduction of a New Charge**

- 5.1. The existing charging regime for export health certificates will continue. South Lanarkshire Council currently charge £45.64 for export health certificates, which are required to allow food manufacturers to export their products globally to countries such as China, Dubai, UAE, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Trinidad, Saudi Arabia and the Philippines. 194 export health certificates were issued to local businesses during the 2020/2021 financial year.
- 5.2. The 3 logistics hubs located in North and South Lanarkshire are operated by Food Standards Scotland who has developed a charging model for the issuing of EHC's at these locations. This is a National model, included in which is a standard charge for the issuing of 'supporting attestations' by Local Authorities in Scotland. The standard charge for 'supporting attestations' was introduced from 1 January 2021 and is currently set at £100 per attestation issued and is subject to review. Food Standards Scotland have requested that Local Authorities invoice them quarterly to recover the cost of issuing 'supporting attestations'. This report is to make Members aware of this national charge being applied by South Lanarkshire Council.
- 5.3. Currently South Lanarkshire Council has only been asked to provide 'supporting attestations' for food businesses utilising the 3 logistics hubs located in Lanarkshire. Other UK wide schemes such as the 'Groupage Export Facilitation Scheme' (GEFS) are in existence and it remains a possibility that the Council may be asked to provide 'supporting attestations' in respect of such schemes. In addition, the Council may in future be asked to provide 'supporting attestations' for logistics hubs operating in other parts of the UK, or by OV's or other FCCO's providing EHC's for products of animal origin away from the place of origin. In such cases the Council would seek to apply the same national standard charge currently applied by Food Standards Scotland, thereby being consistent with the national charging model.

## **6. Employee Implications**

- 6.1. There are no employee implications.

## **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. Food Standards Scotland have introduced a national charge for food export 'supporting attestations' to reflect the costs associated with Local Authorities administering and issuing these attestations. This level of charging, currently set at £100, will be reviewed in line with Food Standards Scotland's national charging model.
- 7.2. Two food businesses have indicated they would require attestations to access the Lanarkshire export hubs. Based on current food safety risk ratings, and the fact that separate attestations are required for each logistics hub used, this would require 10 attestations per year, giving an estimated annual income of £1000.

## **8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

## **9. Other Implications**

- 9.1. There are no other issues arising from this report.

## **10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 10.1. There are no requirements to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.
- 10.2. There was no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained within this report.

### **Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values**

- ◆ Council Value: Focused on people and their needs.
- ◆ Council Value: Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Council Priority Objective: Promote economic growth and tackle disadvantage.
- ◆ Council Priority Objective: Make communities safer, stronger and sustainable.

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

9 April 2021

### **Previous References**

None

### **List of Background Papers**

None.

### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact: -

Karen Wardrope, Divisional Environmental Health Officer

Ext: 01698-454574

E-mail: karen.wardrope@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

## APPENDIX 1

<b>Fishery Products Exporters</b>	<b>Address</b>
Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd	Bothwell Park Industrial Estate Uddingston Lanarkshire G71 6LS
Braehead (SFO) Enterprises Ltd	Hornal Road Uddingston Bothwell Park Industrial Estate Glasgow G71 7EE