

Update-28/7/15

LEVENMOUTH AREA



LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN 2015/16

Introduction

The Levenmouth Local Community Plan sets out how public, private and voluntary organisations will work together with our communities to make Levenmouth a better, cleaner, safer, stronger, more vibrant place to live and visit. It identifies three key priorities that we will work towards over the next three years:

Area Investment & Regeneration



Health, Wellbeing & Environment



Access to Employment, Education & Training



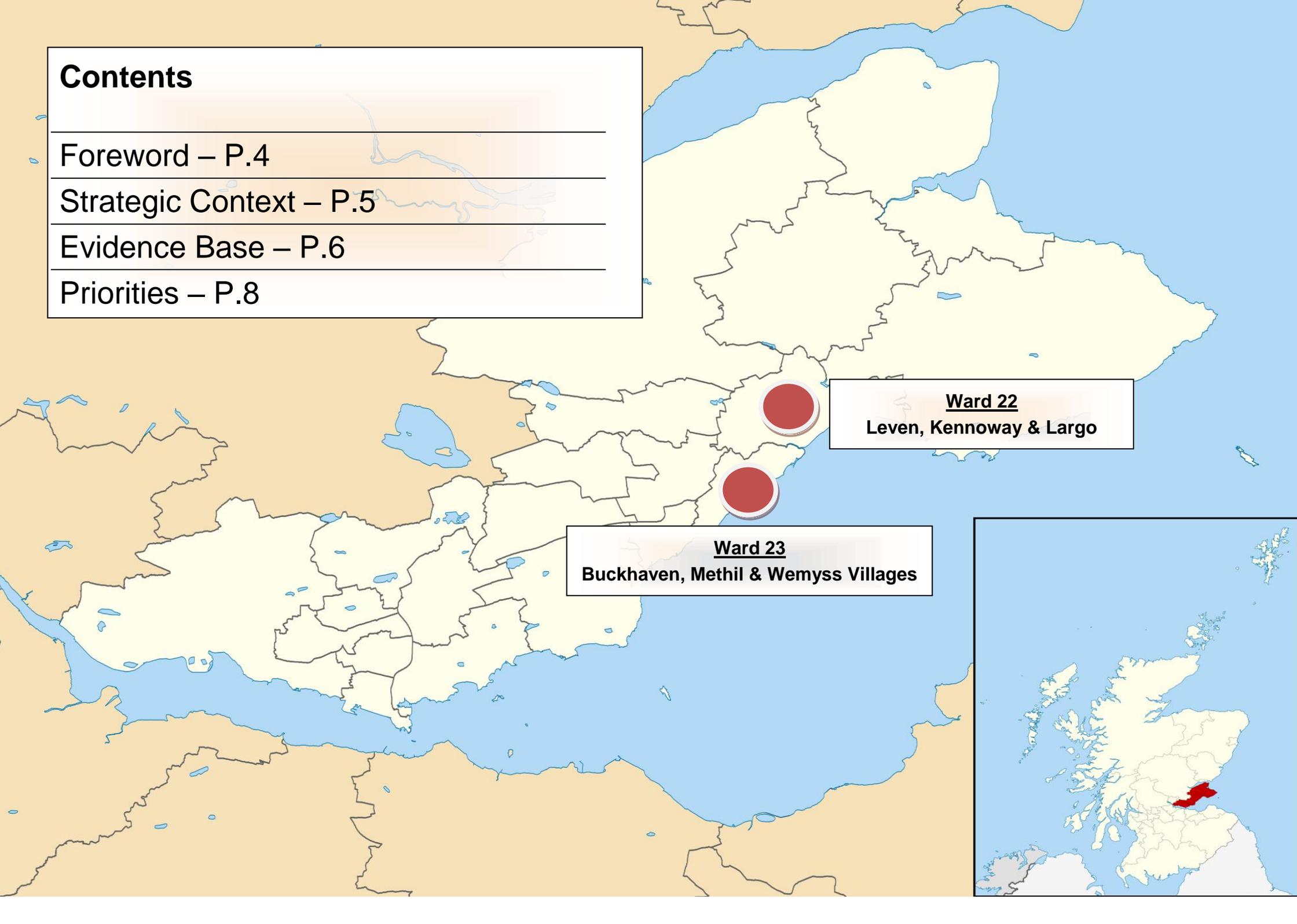
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Ward 22
Leven, Kennoway & Largo

Ward 23
Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages

Foreword



Cllr Tom Adams – Levenmouth Area
Committee Chair



The coming years will require partners to work together in ever more creative ways as financial pressures increase. By collaborating effectively through local community planning we can address the issues that are of greatest importance to local communities, helping to reduce inequalities while making Levenmouth a better place to live work and visit

This Local Community Plan focuses on three core priorities

Access to employment, education and training

Health, Wellbeing & Environment

Area Investment and Regeneration



These priorities chime with those identified in our last local planning document and show that we still require to focus on

these key themes to ensure our communities have the right environment to thrive.

Our role as a wider Area Committee will be to overview and guide the approaches taken to achieve positive outcomes across these themes. The proposals for action are contained in this document, and it is essential that we have the co-operation of Services and partner agencies to make them happen.

We are at a pivotal point for Levenmouth – the expansion of a number of large businesses, a new single school campus, a tangible push for the reconnection of Levenmouth by rail, and the active promotion of the development potential of the Strategic Land Allocation will all contribute to raising the profile of our area.



Strategic Context

The Fife Partnership is responsible for leading the community planning process in Fife. It is made up of elected representatives, board members and senior managers from across Fife's public and voluntary organisations - Fife Council, NHS Fife, Police Scotland, Fife Voluntary Action, Scottish Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland, SEStrans (South East Scotland Transport Partnership), Fife College and St Andrews University.

[Fife's Community Plan](#) is the over-arching strategic plan for Fife. It provides a framework and reference point for other strategies and plans we put in place. The current community plan identifies a number of challenges and opportunities that need to be addressed over the next ten years. **Reducing Inequalities** is one of three high level outcomes identified in the community plan, along with **increasing employment** and **tackling climate change**.

“Reducing inequalities to tackle multiple deprivation will require broad based action from economic development; health; education; housing; community safety; sport, leisure and culture and environmental improvement. It requires a long term commitment to break cycles of deprivation.”

Many communities in Fife and across Scotland have longstanding problems that reflect persistent inequalities in society. The Christie Commission endorsed a shift away from crisis intervention towards more preventative approaches. This

should improve outcomes for individuals and communities reduce inequalities and reduce problems in the future.

Prevention should be evidence based, building on proven approaches whilst also supporting innovation. It needs a planned approach, incorporating a robust assessment process that can demonstrate reduced or deferred demand on services - delivering both value for money and better outcomes.

However, it can also be opportunistic, with staff in a local area working together and sharing resources to support activity that reduces demand on services.

Prevention also involves shifting power from those who provide services to those who use services - promoting greater co-ownership of our actions and their impacts. When individual service users and communities are at the centre of service design, and when services draw on the assets that are already available - the strengths, knowledge and experiences of communities, families and individuals – then the opportunities to build effective prevention will be greatest.

Wherever possible, Fife will adopt an assets-based approach to improving local areas. We will encourage the use of local capacity, skills, connections and knowledge, whether these assets sit within organisations, associations or communities.



Community Plan Evidence Base

The [Fife Partnership Strategic Assessment 2014](#) is designed to provide the evidence base for identifying priorities for the Fife Community Planning Partnership – down to area level – for the next three years (2014-2017). These priorities will help to inform future work plans and area priorities, and will provide a solid foundation for any future refresh of the Fife Community Plan and associated documents, including the Single Outcome Agreement.

The defined aim of the Strategic Assessment is to identify, assess and assist in the prioritisation of issues across Fife and those facing the seven committee areas within Fife, providing a robust, wide-ranging evidence base that will allow local areas to make informed decisions in setting priorities that require medium to long-term action.

The strategic assessment will be reviewed on an annual basis and any changes will be reflected in future versions of the Local Community Plan.

For more information on the Strategic Assessment, a profile of the Levenmouth Area and achievements so far, go to:



[OurLevenmouth](#) - to go live in 2015

or phone 03451 555555 ext 493928

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Through consideration of the Levenmouth information that has emerged from the data collection process, the following issues have been identified as high level priorities for the Local Community Planning Partnership to consider within the context of the Local Community Plan.

Access to Employment, Education and Training

- The development of the new Levenmouth High School presents an opportunity to embed learning in the community by promoting apprenticeships and targeted career/educational progression
- Opportunity for increased engagement with local businesses regarding desired qualifications/workforce, to assist with the targeting of training opportunities
- Promote an aspirational culture among Levenmouth residents in regards to employment and training opportunities
- Need for training and access to IT resources continuing to be delivered as an integral part of the Levenmouth WRAP.
- Continued work to address suitability of Levenmouth transport Infrastructure and how that affects the ability of Levenmouth residents to access jobs or training.
- Continuation of efforts to address the poor literacy rate in the area, thereby opening up opportunities for Levenmouth residents.



Health, Wellbeing and Environment

- Targeted work with all age groups to address pregnancy and baby related health issues.
- Continued work to address the significant impact of deprivation on Health and Wellbeing.
- High rates of drug and alcohol use have an adverse effect on Levenmouth health rates and evidence a much wider community impact
- High proportion of young people in receipt of free school meals creates a health and service challenge during school holiday periods
- Impact of residence in deprived areas on residents' access to opportunity
- Continue to monitor the impact of fuel poverty in Levenmouth, and any particular areas/demographic groups that are unduly affected.

Area Investment and Regeneration

- Continue feasibility study around the reopening of the Levenmouth rail link, with potentially significant benefits for all Levenmouth residents
- Focus on town centre regeneration.
- Significance of community involvement in area regeneration/management (e.g. Silverburn) and potential benefits in managing resources

- Potential for increased tourism to bring significant benefits to the Levenmouth area, including investment, employment and a change in area perception.
- Clear value in placing community engagement at heart of area regeneration proposals, including tenants associations, town centre consultation and issue based consultation.
- Potential for redevelopment of derelict land and dilapidated properties.



HOW WILL WE ACHIEVE IT

ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING				
PROJECT	ACTIONS	RESOURCES	OUTCOMES	LEAD
Welfare Reform Hub	Establishment of Welfare Hub – Greig Institute Leven	£86,000 refurbishment costs – Welfare Reform growth fund. Potential for ongoing smaller scale investment for locally held anti-poverty funding.	Single Central resource created for advice, assistance and advocacy for Levenmouth residents. Reduced cost and overheads for 3 rd sector provision in the Levenmouth Area. High profile point of contact to promote volunteering opportunities, and increased participation in voluntary activities. Key building in Leven occupied and increased additional footfall into the town centre, and subsequent increase in economic activity.	CARF Gingerbread FVA
Targeted Literacy Programmes	Continued enhanced provision of : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy skills for work incl Digital • Literacy skills for families • Literacy skills for young people 	£24,000 per year ongoing over and above CLD mainstream provision.	Improved literacy rates across all age groups	CLD Education
New School Development	New School Campus Development with College facility. Work with college on tailored skills provision that matches the Levenmouth job market	£35 million	New single School Campus with College integrated.	Ronnie Ross/John McLaughlin/Lynn Porter

	requirements. Support to Development Group which has a strong parent membership		Ensuring the Development Group is satisfied that it has a direct feed in to the development of the new school offer.	Fife College EPES David McGrath
Enhanced work with young people in securing positive destinations	Specific work guided by the Youth Strategy Group to raise aspiration and achievement amongst young people who feel marginalised due to economic, educational or social impacts.	TBC	YSG Work plan	David McGrath/YSG/GIR
Job Clubs	Maintain resource for job clubs and strengthen network of workers to support the Employability pathway for local people.	55k Welfare Reform growth fund Smaller scale training and development funding from local funds as and when required	Maintain and promote 5 Job Club venues at East Wemyss, Buckhaven, Methil, Leven, Kennoway – followed by expansion into Key SIMD areas Methilhill and Aberhill	WSA - Elaine Rough/Kath Bernard
Town Centre Businesses Group	Build on current alliance with 18 town centre businesses to reform a fully representative group. Promotion of training opportunities for staff and business owners. Promotion of Be Your Own Boss Initiative to encourage new start ups	Up to 5k to cover training and event costs	Better skilled workforce – business owners using all available support to improve , diversify and build their businesses to provide secure employment opportunities	EPES Business Gateway Scottish Enterprise.

			Seminars developed for Levenmouth entrepreneurs	
Reduction in Town Centre Vacancy Rates	Although historically lower than other town centres there is a perception that Leven is at a tipping point in relation to levels of vacant properties which are clustered in one part of the High Street accordingly we will locally interpret and apply approaches contained within the National Review of Town Centres Report http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0042/00426972.pdf	Officer time	Town Centres First approach embedded in strategic thinking. Increased town centre economic activity Increased job opportunities for local people	EPES Dave Paterson
Silverburn Regeneration	Training and Employability Projects around Horticulture, Woodland management, catering and leisure. Contracted specialist Architectural Heritage company in place	External Funding Sources Lease of No.3 Silverburn Cottages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the process of physical improvement of the parkland will continue, creation of temporary catering facilities. the profile of Silverburn raised as a place for local people and tourists to visit. Programme of events agreed and in place Detailed planning process for Flax Mill regeneration in place Initial funding claims in place with Heritage Lottery Fund 	FEAT/Fife Council
Wemyss Caves Interpretation Centre	Development of Interpretation Centre to allow public access to all materials relevant to the Wemyss Caves.	External Funding Sources 5k LCPB for	Building purchased or built to house all of the material relevant to the study of the	Save the Wemyss Ancient Caves Society

	Detailed management plan for the caves procured.	management plan procurement	Wemyss Caves carvings Detailed Management Plan for the ongoing interpretation of the Wemyss Caves Secured and distributed to all stakeholders. Volunteering and potential employment opportunities created. SWACS development plan in place and reviewed on a yearly basis	SCAPE Fife Council Historic Scotland Scottish Government Chic Copeland
Making It Work	Development of the Making it Work programme to cover the Levenmouth area.	25k Area funds 31k externally sourced	Support and assistance provided to lone parents who are currently unemployed, improved employability prospects, training provision, and access to education and/or volunteering opportunities.	Gingerbread/ Making it Work – Claire Neill

HEALTH, WELLBEING & ENVIRONMENT				
PROJECT	ACTIONS	RESOURCES	OUTCOMES	LEAD
Play Park Rationalisation and Improvements	Rolling programme of Improvements to provide destination play areas and family space	60K match funded with PSOS Capital funds	High quality green space and destination play areas that are well used by the local community. The incorporation of Green Gym equipment for intergenerational use and to promote physical activity at zero cost to the user	John Haskell/ Iain Wilson
Health Projects	Review Current Health priorities – Potential focus on	TBC		DP in discussion with VB currently

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting Physical activity. Drug Awareness Alcohol Issues Smoking Cessation Healthy Eating Teenage Pregnancy 		<p>Investment in high quality play space and sports facilities – 3G investment and upgrades to existing sporting infrastructure.</p> <p>High quality advice provision as part of a wraparound advice and advocacy service.</p> <p>Reduction in alcohol related hospital admissions and alcohol related deaths</p> <p>Specific Work around smoking during pregnancy.</p> <p>Reduction in Teenage Pregnancy Rates</p>	Sports Hub/ PSOS
Child Poverty approach	Focussed steering group to form local strategy around child poverty issues	TBC	<p>Strategy in place- and work started to tackle key local indicators around child poverty derived from Scottish Government statistics and guided by the SG strategy and Fairer Fife Commission</p> <p>http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0044/00445863.pdf</p>	Dave Paterson
Job Clubs	Health Advice delivered directly from NHS representatives within the job club setting	NHS Initiative	Early intervention on health related issues both physical and mental that may manifest through periods of unemployment.	NHS WSA
Breakfast Club Provision	<p>Provision of Breakfast Club facilities at specific schools with high SME rates.</p> <p>Investigation into how this service should potentially be run via a parent volunteer approach.</p>	<p>Up to 20k (pending Committee approval)</p> <p>10k Anti-poverty fund (Education)</p> <p>Greggs – Private Sector funding</p>	Implementation of Breakfast Club Facility at Buckhaven Primary school as a pilot initiative-with a view to a full roll out.	Education
Summer School Meal Provision	Under Consideration	TBC	Guaranteed meal for young people through the summer break	Education
Community	Support to EPES	£1 Million +	'Off Grid' Energy Park	Barbara Whiting

Heating Proposal	approach	external funding	Fleet of Fuel cell vehicles with low carbon footprint for community/local authority service provision. Potential for Dwelling House provision to tackle Fuel poverty concerns in Methil and Buckhaven	Hydrogen Office Leven Valley Development Trust
Gateway and Town Centre Environmental Uplift	Rolling programme of Environmental Uplift work at key sites in Leven/Methil and Kennoway		Installation of renovated farm and mining equipment at key gateway sites.	
3G Pitch Provision	Finalised businesses plans for community provision to be considered June 2015 Kennoway Primary 3G Provision	350k Growth Fund Match funding with Sports Scotland or other Up to 40k Area Fund- currently being considered for Sports Scotland funding of a similar size	Single community based provision with no revenue costs to Council Replacement of sand carpet surface to full 3G	Local Community Sports Group Sports Hub CUS
Savoy Sports Provision	Installation of all-weather training space at Savoy to replace redundant and vandalised provision	80k 15k Area Funding 15k Pars and Open Spaces 50k Corporate funds – all secured	High quality external training space provided which is complimentary to the indoor provision at Savoy. Reduced grass pitch maintenance over the winter period. Provided an all-weather training space for a range of sports.	Iain Wilson
Foodbank Service Expansion	Support to Foodbank to expand service provision around employability and Health support	3k Hardware and infrastructure improvements	Multi-faceted support service in place for hard to reach clients in Levenmouth that seeks to support health and wellbeing. PC provision in place	Levenmouth Foodbank WSA
Police Local	Resource allocation to	Within Police	Reduction in Violent Crime figures year on year	Chief Inspector Annandale

Priorities	<p>the following priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violent Crime • Retail Crime • Illegal use of off road motorcycles 	Resource enhanced by 23k Community Safety allocation.	<p>Reduction in retail crime figures through work with retailers around 'target hardening' and other initiatives</p> <p>Reduction in complaints in regard to the anti-social use of off road motorcycles close to residential areas.</p>	
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AREA INVESTMENT AND REGENERATION				
PROJECT	ACTIONS	RESOURCES	OUTCOMES	LEAD
Leven Town Centre Regeneration	Shorehead Regeneration works	£1.3 million	Significant Public Realm uplift. Connections secured between retail park and town centre.	Dave Paterson
Smaller Scale Town Centre Initiatives	In-house designed approaches to improve town centre areas	Supported from Area funds in line with current approved Durie Street proposal Circa 30-40k per project.	Improved Public realm Higher footfall in town centre based on historic footfall counter measurements Commensurate investment in shop fronts and private space.	Dave Paterson Chris Wragg
Stalled Spaces Pilot	Promotion of two high profile sites for stalled space intervention	Up to 20k Including Scottish Govt. Stalled Space initiative funding	Improved use of 2 sites in key business areas. Improved business environment Complimentary private investment in the proximity of these interventions.	EPES Andrew Walker
Vacant and Derelict Land Interventions	Local discussions with land owners in regard to potential use of VDL sites	Officer time	Reduction of 10% in current VDL from circa 73 ha spread over 22 individual sites.	Chris Wragg
Leven Promenade Regeneration	Work up detailed proposals from WMUD	40k Design Fees	Full design proposal in place allowing direct approach to RCGF or other funding stream for	Dave Paterson/ Chris Wragg

	master planning document		work in 2016/2017	
Levenmouth Rail Link	Support to public Campaign, provision of advice and financial support around marketing and communications. Contracting Campaign organiser to co-ordinate approach	10k Secretariat and Marketing and Communications skills in house. 100k corporate funding for STAG report	High profile campaign supported by positive STAG report (May June 2015) Clear marketing and promotion plan in place High visibility in both local and national media	LMRC Dave Paterson Chris Wragg Claire Maxwell
Silverburn Regeneration	Ongoing support to secure Conservation Architects statement as the last requirement to access significant external funding	15k Area funds 7.5 k SEC funding 25k External Heritage funding £2.5 – 3 Million to be applied for via Heritage Lottery	Destination visitor attraction for short stay tourism advertised throughout Fife and wider central belt Destination point for Fife Coastal Path users Office centre for FCCT. Significant volunteering opportunities created Up to 3 new employment opportunities created.	Fife Employment Action Trust FHBT/ SBT
Affordable Housing Development	New Council led house building utilising private sector partnership.	TBC	Provision of 150 new homes for rent over 3 sites	Housing John McArthur
Improved Environment within Housing Estates	Specific focus on improvements in the Parkhill area of Leven as an adjunct to other regeneration projects	Agreed designs currently being sought through consultative process. HRA funding via Sustainable Places budget	Improvement to an area of housing close to the Leven town centre as part of a co-ordinated regeneration approach for the area.	Housing John McArthur