



Greenfield, Alloa, Scotland, FK10 2AD (Tel.01259-450000)

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY 4th JUNE 2009

Meeting start time: 9.30 am

9.15 am: Presentation: APSE Apprentice of the Year Awards (Commended)

Venue: Council Chamber, Greenfield, Alloa, FK10 2AD

For further information contact Chief Executive's Service, Clackmannanshire Council, Greenfield, Alloa, FK10 2AD

Phone: 01259 452106 Fax: 01259 452230 E-mail: chiefexecutiveservice@clacks.gov.uk

Website: www.clacksweb.org.uk

Date	Time
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Clackmannanshire Council

There are 32 Unitary Councils in Scotland. Clackmannanshire Council is the smallest mainland Council. Eighteen Councillors are elected to represent the views of the residents and businesses in Clackmannanshire. The Council has approved Standing Orders that detail the way the Council operates. Decisions are approved at the 6 weekly meetings of the full Council and at Committee Meetings.

The Council is responsible for approving a staffing structure for the proper discharge of its functions, approving new policies or changes in policy, community planning and corporate governance including standards of conduct. Co-option of religious representatives in respect of Education policy decisions is also a Council responsibility.

The Council has further responsibility for the approval of budgets for capital and revenue expenditure, it also has power to make, alter or cancel any scheme made under statute and to make, alter or cancel any orders, rules, regulations or bye-laws and to make compulsory purchase orders. The Council also determines the level of Council Tax and approves recommendations relating to strategic economic development.

Members of the public are welcome to attend Council and Committee meetings to see how decisions are made.

Details of all Council and Committee dates and Agenda items are published on Clacksweb - www.clacksweb.org

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27 May 2009

A MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL will be held within the Council Chamber, Greenfield, Alloa, on THURSDAY 4th JUNE 2009 at 9.30 am.

PETER J BROADFOOT
Head of Administration and Legal Services

B U S I N E S S

9.15 am: Presentation

APSE Apprentice of the Year Awards (Commended) - Kristopher Fraser,
Apprentice Plumber, Clackmannanshire Council

	Page No
1. Apologies	- -
2. Declarations of Interest	- -
Members should declare any financial or non-financial interests they have in any item on this agenda, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest in accordance with the Councillors' Code of Conduct. A Declaration of Interest form should be completed and passed to the Committee Officer.	
3. Confirm Minute of Meeting held on Thursday 23rd April 2009 (Copy herewith)	01

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S SERVICE

4. Scrutiny Committee Annual Plan, Code of Practice and Terms of Reference - report by the Convener of the Scrutiny Committee (Copy herewith)	09
5. Membership of East of Scotland European Consortium - report by the Head of Strategic Policy (Copy herewith)	23

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

6. Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2009/10 and PWLB Rescheduling undertake April 2009 - report by the Head of Finance (Copy herewith)	27
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DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

7.	Disposal of the Former Zones Leisure Centre - report by the Head of Property Services (Copy herewith)	41
8.	Power Failures to Alloa Town Centre, December 2008 - report by the Director of Development and Environmental Services (Copy herewith)	45
9.	Clackmannanshire Council Core Paths Plan - report by the Director of Development and Environmental Services (Copy herewith)	51
10.	Implementing the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 - report by the Head of Development Services and the Head of Administration and Legal Services (Copy herewith)	57

SERVICES TO PEOPLE

11.	HRA Capital Programme: Running Order - report by the Head of Housing (Copy herewith)	67
12.	Corporate Parenting Strategy - report by the Head of Social Services (Copy herewith)	91
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14.	Amendment to the Scheme of Schools' Provision: Proposal to change the zoned are boundary between Abercromby and St Serf's Primary Schools - report by the Head of Education and Community Services (Copy herewith)	137
15.	Closure of Clackmannan Nursery School and establishment of a nursery class of Clackmannan Primary School - report by the Head of Education and Community Services (Copy herewith)	143

EXEMPT INFORMATION

It is considered that the undernoted report be treated as exempt from the Council's general policy of disclosure of all papers by virtue of Schedule 7A, Part 1, Paragraph 11 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. It is anticipated, (although this is not certain) that the Council will resolve to exclude the press and public during consideration of this item.

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16. Single Status - report by the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development (Copy herewith)	147

Clackmannanshire Council – Councillors and Wards

Councillors

Wards

Councillor	Eddie Carrick	1	Clackmannanshire West	LAB
Councillor	George Matchett	1	Clackmannanshire West	LAB
Councillor	Tina Murphy	1	Clackmannanshire West	SNP
Councillor	Janis Paterson	1	Clackmannanshire West	SNP
Councillor	Donald Balsillie	2	Clackmannanshire North	SNP
Councillor	John S Biggam	2	Clackmannanshire North	SLD
Councillor	Walter McAdam	2	Clackmannanshire North	SNP
Councillor	Robert McGill	2	Clackmannanshire North	LAB
Councillor	Sam Ovens	3	Clackmannanshire Central	LAB
Provost	Derek Stewart	3	Clackmannanshire Central	LAB
Councillor	Gary Womersley	3	Clackmannanshire Central	SNP
Councillor	Janet Cadenhead	4	Clackmannanshire South	LAB
Councillor	Kenneth Earle	4	Clackmannanshire South	LAB
Councillor	Mark English	4	Clackmannanshire South	SNP
Councillor	Craig Holden	4	Clackmannanshire South	IND
Councillor	Alastair Campbell	5	Clackmannanshire East	CON
Councillor	Irene Hamilton	5	Clackmannanshire East	SNP
Councillor	Harry McLaren	5	Clackmannanshire East	LAB

Religious Representatives

Rev Mairi Lovett

Church of Scotland

Father Michael Milton

Roman Catholic Church

**MINUTE OF MEETING of the
CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held
within the Council Chamber, Greenfield,
Alloa, on THURSDAY 23rd APRIL 2009.**

PRESENT

**Provost Derek Stewart (Chair)
Councillor Donald Balsillie
Councillor John Biggam
Councillor Janet Cadenhead
Councillor Alastair Campbell
Councillor Eddie Carrick
Councillor Kenneth Earle
Councillor Mark English
Councillor Irene Hamilton
Councillor Craig Holden
Councillor George Matchett
Councillor Walter McAdam, MBE
Councillor Bobby McGill
Councillor Harry McLaren
Councillor Tina Murphy
Councillor Reverend Sam Ovens
Councillor Janis Paterson
Councillor Gary Womersley**

IN ATTENDANCE

**Angela Leitch, Chief Executive
Grahame Blair, Director of Services to
People
Peter Broadfoot, Head of Administration
and Legal Services (Clerk to the Council)
Garry Dallas, Director of Development and
Environmental Services
Barry Dickson, Head of Business
Improvement and Technology Services
John Gillespie, Head of Housing
Jim Goodall, Head of Education
Jeni Graham, Director of Corporate
Development Services
Muir Wilson, Head of Finance**

CC.01/237 APOLOGIES

None

CC.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

The Council heard from the Head of Administration and Legal Services at this point in the proceedings. The Head of Administration and Legal Services apologised to Council and advised that a report on Contract Standing Orders (agenda item 10) had been omitted from the agenda in error. The Head of Administration and Legal Services clarified that the item had been issued with more than the statutory period of notice required for papers for the Council meeting. It is considered vital that the Council should have in place new Contract Standing Orders that are fit for purpose, up to date and meet all the legalities that the Council is required to follow. The current Contract Standing Orders do not, in some respects, meet those requirements and for this reason it is important that the Council has new Contract Standing Orders in place as a matter of urgency.

Councillor Balsillie moved to defer consideration of Contract Standing Orders until the next Council meeting (4th June 2009) as members of the opposition group had not accessed a copy of the report on Contract Standing Orders until Monday (20th April) of the week of the Council meeting.

On a division, the Council agreed by 9 votes to 8 to consider the report on Contract Standing Orders. Councillor McAdam was not present at this point in the proceedings to take part in the vote.

In terms of Standing Order 10.1, the Provost indicated that the report on Contract Standing Orders would be taken as agenda item 6(b) for the reasons outlined by the Head of Administration and Legal Services.

CC.03 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

(a) Minute of Special Meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2009

There was submitted a minute of the Special Meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2009, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

The minute of the Special Meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2009 was agreed as a correct record and signed by the Provost.

(b) Minute of Meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2009

There was submitted a minute of the meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2009, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

The minute of the meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2009 was agreed as a correct record and signed by the Provost.

- Councillor McAdam joined the meeting during debate on the following item (10.00 am).

CC.04 STREET TRADING POLICY

There was submitted a report by Peter Broadfoot, Head of Administration and Legal Services, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

An amended copy of the report had been circulated previously to each Member. The amended version provided a correction to a typographical error in paragraph 3.3 of the original report to indicate that the policy be changed so that it restricts street trading within 500 metres of the schools from 12.00 pm to 2.00 pm every weekday and not 8.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Scale maps showing the buffer areas around the new secondary schools were made available to the meeting.

The Council heard four representations from street traders.

Councillor Carrick moved the recommendation set out in the report. Seconded by Councillor Earle.

Amendment

Paragraph 3.3: to add after the word trading - "with under sixteen year olds".

Moved by Councillor Balsillie. Seconded by Councillor Womersley.

The amendment was defeated by 10 votes to 5 with 3 abstentions.

The motion was carried by 16 votes to 2.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to impose the following condition on the grant or renewal of any street trader licence where the area of trade includes one of the new secondary schools in Clackmannanshire, namely:

"The licence holder is prohibited from trading within 500 metres of any secondary school between the hours of 12.00 pm and 2.00 pm, Monday to Friday. This restriction does not apply when the schools are not in session. The Council will advise licence holders, in advance, of days when the schools will not be in session."

The Council also agreed that, given concerns raised by street traders on industrial sites, the Head of Administration and Legal Services would consider any application where there are exceptional circumstances.

Action: Angela Leitch, Chief Executive

CC.05 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE VACANCY

There was submitted a report by Peter Broadfoot, Head of Administration and Legal Services, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

Councillor Cadenhead moved the recommendation set out in the report that Council nominates an elected member to be a member of the Scrutiny Committee. Seconded by Councillor McLaren.

As no nomination was made to appoint a member to fill the vacancy on the Scrutiny Committee, the Provost moved that the matter be remitted to the Chief Executive to consider a way forward.

On a division, the motion was defeated by 9 votes to 8 with one abstention.

CC.06 SCOTLAND EXCEL

There was submitted a report by Derek Barr, Procurement Manager, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

Councillor McGill moved the recommendation set out in the report that Clackmannanshire Council does not join Scotland Excel in 2009/10 on the basis that there is still no financial benefit in doing so, as the cost of joining significantly exceeds the potential savings. Seconded by councillor Earle.

On a division, the Council agreed by 15 votes with 3 abstentions to support the motion.

Accordingly, the Council agreed not to joint Scotland Excel in 2009/10 on the basis that there is still no financial benefit in doing so, as the cost of joining significantly exceeds the potential savings.

Action: Jeni Graham, Director of Corporate Development Services

CC.07 CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS

In terms of Standing Order 10.1, the Provost indicated that the report on Contract Standing Orders would be taken at this point in the proceedings for the reasons outlined by the Head of Administration and Legal Services at the start of the meeting.

There was submitted a report by Derek Barr, Procurement Manager, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member. The report had been omitted in error from the Council agenda dated 15th April 2009 and had been issued to members on 16th April 2009.

Councillor McGill moved that Council approves Contract Standing Orders 2009-2010 and agrees to their adoption with immediate effect. Seconded by Councillor McLaren.

Amendment

That Council defers the item to the next meeting of the Council to provide a detailed breakdown of the changes from the original Contract Standing Orders.

Moved by Councillor Holden. Seconded by Councillor Balsillie.

The amendment was defeated by 11 votes to 3 with 4 abstentions.

The motion was carried by 13 votes to 1 with 4 abstentions.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to approve Contract Standing Orders 2009-2010 and agreed to their adoption with immediate effect.

Action: Jeni Graham, Director of Corporate Development Services

CC.08 B9140 REALIGNMENT OF BENDS (COLLYLANDS TO GLENOCHIL WEST)

There was submitted a report by Mac West, Roads and Transportation Manager, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

The Council agreed to adjourn at this point in the proceedings (11.20 am) to consider the implications of the paper. When the meeting resumed (11.30 am), all 18 members were present.

The Chief Executive then clarified for Council that the former Chief Executive, in full knowledge of the existing Contract Standing Orders and Financial Regulations of the Council, had taken a decision that as the earthworks were so far advanced, there was no option but to continue to complete the work with the minimum of delay as to do otherwise would have run a risk of the remaining ground becoming water logged and unsuitable resulting in even greater cost and that the necessary funding should be found from elsewhere in the Capital Programme. The former Chief Executive subsequently discussed his decision with the Head of Finance and the Head of Legal Services. Both agreed with the decision of the previous Chief Executive and fully supported him in that decision and, on that basis, this report comes forward to advise Council of the variation to the B9140 Realignment of Bends Project.

Councillor Carrick moved the recommendation set out in the report to note the variation to the project for the reasons set out in the report. Seconded by Councillor McLaren.

Amendment

That Council refers the contract to the Council's external auditors to report on whether appropriate cost controls and contract procedures were followed and provide an audit action plan for the service and Council on what future cost controls and procedures should be in place to reduce the risk of contract variations in the future.

Moved by Councillor Balsillie. Seconded by Councillor Womersley.

The amendment was defeated by 10 votes to 7 with one abstention.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Accordingly, the Council agreed to note the variation to the B9140 Realignment of Bends project for the reasons set out in the report.

Action: Garry Dallas, Director of Development and Environmental Services

- Councillor Paterson withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings.

**CC.09 CLOSURE OF CLACKMANNAN NURSERY SCHOOL AND
ESTABLISHMENT OF A NURSERY CLASS AT
CLACKMANNAN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

There was submitted a report by Jim Goodall, Head of Education, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

Moved by Councillor Matchett. Seconded by Councillor McLaren.

The Council agreed to support the report subject to the undernoted amendment moved by Councillor Holden.

To delete paragraph 2.1 of the report and to replace it with the following:

It is recommended that Council approves the initiation of a statutory process to close Clackmannan Nursery School, subject to the completion of the statutory consultation process and to re-establish the service as a nursery class of Clackmannan Primary School.

A further report to be brought to Council on 4th June 2009 following the completion and evaluation of the consultation process.

The report as amended was agreed without division.

Action: Grahame Blair, Director of Services to People

- Councillor Matchett withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings.

CC.10 PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING GRANTS - INTERIM POLICY

There was submitted a report by Kenny Hutton, Housing Strategy Manager, a copy of which had been circulated previously to each Member.

Councillor Reverend Ovens moved that the recommendations set out in the report. Seconded by Councillor McLaren.

The Council agreed unanimously to:

- endorse the principles set out in the Interim Strategic Policy Statement for use in 2009/10
- note changes implemented to payments for private sector adaptations.
- direct the Head of Housing to deliver a Section 72 Statement of Assistance in full by January 2010.

The council also agreed that officers would submit an interim paper to Council on the consultation process.

Action: Grahame Blair, Director of Services to People

Report to: Clackmannanshire Council

Date: 4th June 2009

**Subject: Scrutiny Committee Annual Plan, Code of Practice and
Terms of Reference**

Report by: Convener of the Scrutiny Committee

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is 1) to request Council approval of the Annual Scrutiny Plan agreed by the Scrutiny Committee and attached as Appendix 1; 2) to request Council approval of the Scrutiny Committee Code of Practice, attached as Appendix 2; and 3) to request Council approval of the Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix 3.
- 1.2. The Scheme of Delegation requires Council to approve an Annual Scrutiny Plan, agreed by the Scrutiny Committee, that includes details of the 'performance management framework' and requirements for reports on services.
- 1.3. It was felt it would be appropriate for Council at the same time to approve the Scrutiny Committee working arrangements, in accordance with best practice.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. The Council is recommended:
 - 2.1.1. to approve the Annual Scrutiny Plan;
 - 2.1.2. to approve the Scrutiny Committee Code of Practice;
 - 2.1.3. to approve the Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference; and
 - 2.1.4. to authorise the Scrutiny Committee Portfolio Holder to agree and amend the timing of certain reports in the Annual Scrutiny Plan as the Committee deems appropriate.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The remit of the Scrutiny Committee is set out in the Scheme of Delegation dated 26 May 2008 as follows:

Evaluating the Council's effectiveness in achieving its corporate priorities through monitoring reports. To highlight instances where targets have not

been met and note changes in resources or responsibilities and to make recommendations to Council as the Committee considers appropriate.

Reviewing performance reports, including reports on Council services, how Council manages its resources (including monitoring of budgets), how it deals with complaints and to make appropriate recommendations to Council.

Considering audit reports, and other reports from outside agencies, on Council services, and making appropriate recommendations or comments to the Council.

Monitoring follow-up work to make sure necessary improvements are made.

Highlighting good performance and exceptional achievement.

Agreeing an annual Scrutiny Plan (approved by Council) that includes details of the 'performance management framework' and requirements for reports on services.

- 3.2. In compiling the Plan the Scrutiny Committee have considered the Internal and External Audit Plans which are risk based and met with Internal and External Audit.
- 3.3. The Scrutiny Plan outlines the timetable for the presentation of reports within the overall performance management framework and reports on services. This covers Scrutiny Committee meetings over the next 12 months. Also included is clarification of the planning and performance reporting and monitoring process together with responsibilities (current framework included as Appendix 4).
- 3.4. In addition, the Committee has agreed the following service reviews to be undertaken during the year, the exact timing of which have yet to be agreed:
 - 3.4.1. The Community Planning framework - to review outcome of the planned review of the Clacks Alliance governance framework. Such review to include methods to improve communications and information provision about community planning in Clackmannanshire for the public, partner agencies and other stakeholders and the mechanisms within each of the statutory agencies to enhance accountability in relation to community planning activity;
 - 3.4.2. Educational attainment - research best practice in terms of improving levels of attainment and achievement in secondary schools and recommend way forward, with particular reference to;
 - transition from primary to secondary
 - outcomes for S1 and S2
 - disadvantaged children
 - attainment and achievement
 - 3.4.3. Adaptations - research options for developers to better provide disabled access outlining pros and cons and, experience from the Council's own approach to disability design and grants for disabled adaptations is examined as part of this exercise; and

- 3.4.4. Performance Improvement proposals for each of the following areas identified from recent SPI performance reporting: Corporate Management; Culture and Community Services; Housing; Waste Management and Roads and Lighting.
- 3.5. The Committee itself have also drafted Working arrangements for the Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.6. These working arrangements include a Code of Practice and Terms of Reference.
- 3.7. Future Annual Scrutiny Plans will consider the Accounts Commission's approach to the second phase of Best Value audits ('BV2') and utilise data from the Public Service Improvement Framework programme, linked to the Council's risk register. At present services are expected to undertake a PSIF assessment once every three years, however, given the benefits already apparent, officers are considering how the programme could be accelerated.
- 3.8. The Scrutiny Committee will seek to identify best practice from other Councils in carrying out its role.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. None.

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. At this stage it is not anticipated that there are any direct financial implications arising from this report that are not contained within the overall existing Council budget. If this changes during the year a further report will come back to Council for approval if required.

5.3. Staffing

- 5.4. Officers will be required to support the Scrutiny Committee. Most of the work on the Annual Scrutiny Plan is already in officer workplans, however, the three additional service/performance reviews proposed will require additional support from officers. The amount of this support has not yet been quantified.

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Our communities are safer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Vulnerable people and families are supported | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Substance misuse and its effects are reduced | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The environment is protected and enhanced for all | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

Improved quality of public services.

8.0 Equalities Impact

- 8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☒ No ☐

9.0 Legality

- 9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

1. Annual Scrutiny Plan
2. Scrutiny Committee Code of Practice
3. Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference
4. Planning and Performance Reporting and Monitoring Process

11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No ☐

1. Sustainability Checklist
2. Scheme of Delegation

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Donald Balsillie	Scrutiny Committee Convener	452015

Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Councillor Donald Balsillie	Convener of the Scrutiny Committee	D Balsillie (signed)

Appendix 1 – Scrutiny Committee Annual Plan

Date	Reports
15 January 2009	Budget Monitoring Reports: General Fund Revenue General Services Capital Housing Revenue & Capital CSBP Clackmannanshire Investments Ltd/CSBP Clackmannanshire Developments Ltd Education and Community Services Standards and Quality Report External Audit Report Scrutiny Committee Timetable
26 February 2009	Third Quarter Balanced Scorecard SPI Report - Comparison with Other Councils Internal Audit Update Report Equal Opportunities Best Value Progress Report
9 April 2009	Budget Monitoring Reports: General Fund Revenue General Services Capital Housing Revenue & Capital The Housing Inspection Improvement Plan Update Best Value Progress Report : BVR Progress & PSIF Annual Report Annual Audit Plan 2008/2009 Internal Audit Strategy 2009-12 and Annual Plan 2009-10 Scrutiny Committee Timetable
21 May 2009	Quality Report - Adult Day Service End of Year Balanced Scorecard Joint Trading Standards Service Performance Annual Report Scrutiny Committee Annual Audit Plan, Code of Practice and Terms of Reference
25 June 2009	SWIA Action Plan Progress Quality Report - Older People Risk Management : End of Year Risk Management Progress Report Best Value Progress Report : Performance Management & Improvement Performance Improvement proposals - Corporate Management Clarification of the Performance Reporting and Monitoring Process together with Responsibilities Corporate Plan 2008-2011 : End of Year Progress Report Internal Audit Update Report to 31 March 2009
10 September 2009	Following the Public Pound HMIE Action Plan Progress First Quarter Balanced Scorecard SPIs 2008/09 - Clackmannanshire Council Performance Internal Audit Update Report to 30 June 2009 Performance Improvement proposals - Culture and Community Services Single Outcome Agreement 2008/09 : End of Year Progress Report
22 October 2009	Budget Monitoring Reports: General Fund Revenue General Services Capital Housing Revenue & Capital Education and Community Services Standards and Quality Report The Housing Inspection Improvement Plan Update Performance Improvement proposals - Housing

Date	Reports
3 December 2009	SWIA Action Plan Progress Second Quarter Balanced Scorecard Risk Management Progress Report Internal Audit Update Report to 30 September 2009 Performance Improvement proposals - Waste Management
14 January 2010	Budget Monitoring Reports: General Fund Revenue General Services Capital Housing Revenue & Capital Corporate Parenting Progress Performance Improvement proposals - Roads and Lighting
25 February 2010	Third Quarter Balanced Scorecard SPI 2008/09 - Comparison With Other Councils Best Value Progress Report : Sustainable Development Best Value Progress Report : Equal Opportunities Internal Audit Update Report to 31 December 2009 Annual Audit Plan 2010/2011
8 April 2010	Budget Monitoring Reports: General Fund Revenue General Services Capital Housing Revenue & Capital Best Value Progress Report : BVR Progress & PSIF Annual Report Best Value Progress Report : Customer Satisfaction & Responsiveness
20 May 2010	End of Year Balanced Scorecard Corporate Plan 2008-2011 : End of Year Progress Report Internal Audit Update Report to 31 March 2010 Annual Audit Report 2009/10
24 June 2010	Risk Management : End of Year Risk Management Progress Report Best Value Progress Report : Performance Management & Improvement

Food Standards Agency Inspection Report - timing to be advised by Garry Dallas.

In addition the Committee has agreed the following service reviews to be undertaken during the year, the exact timing of which have yet to be agreed:

- The Community Planning Framework
- Educational attainment
- Adaptations - process and funding thereof.

Appendix 2 – Scrutiny Committee

Code of Practice

- The Ethos of Scrutiny,
- Ways of Working in Scrutiny,
- Scrutiny Working With Others,
- Scrutiny Output.

The Ethos of Scrutiny

Clackmannanshire Council's Scrutiny Committee in discharging its functions will endeavour to :

- Promote, champion and widely communicate the purpose, values and work of Scrutiny, both individually and collectively,
- Examine policy implementation, processes and performance,
- Promote effective delivery of services by examination and development of best practice,
- Take both a broad view and, when necessary, undertake detailed examination of specific issues,
- Generate ideas and solutions to problems,
- Strive to improve communications between the Council and the public,
- Be proactive in identifying and focusing on issues of most concern to the public and relevant to the aims and objectives of the Council.

Ways of Working in Scrutiny

The Scrutiny Committee operates on delegated powers from full Council. It does not make decisions in its own right. Its findings and conclusions are referred back to Council for decision making.

Scrutiny members will, both individually and collectively, be committed to working in a way that is :

- Transparent,
- Positive,
- Flexible and innovative,
- Impartial,
- Critical but constructive,
- Non-adversarial,
- Cross-party,
- As far as possible be free from Party politics.

Scrutiny Working with Others

The Scrutiny Committee will :

- Encourage others to participate in the work of Scrutiny,
- Make it clear what is required of anyone assisting Scrutiny,
- Ensure that confidentiality is maintained where this is needed,
- Treat everyone with respect against a background of mutual trust,
- Demonstrate impartiality and integrity.

Scrutiny Output

Recommendations made by Scrutiny and any Scrutiny Task Group will aim:

- To be constructive,
- To provide practicable solutions to problems,
- To improve the way the Council works,
- To be clear and based on sound evidence,
- To provide Best Value.

The ultimate aim is for a better Clackmannanshire.

Appendix 3 – Scrutiny Committee

Terms of Reference

Meeting Arrangements

Meetings will be held in public for the most part, unless private business covered by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 is being considered. Meetings will only take place provided that there is sufficient relevant business.

Main Role

The emphasis of the work of Scrutiny will be that it should be proactive and positive rather than adversarial and negative. The main role of Scrutiny, will be to :

- monitor the performance of services against agreed standards, targets and budgets,
- in accordance with following the public pound, to monitor the performance of arms-length and external organisations that receive funds from the Council to provide important services to the public, or to provide social benefits,
- promote internal control by the systematic appraisal of the authority's risk management processes,
- initiate or undertake reviews as approved by Council.

Monitoring Performance

Scrutiny will receive periodic reports which review the position against the standards and targets set out in documents such as :

- the Corporate Plan, and
- the Annual Budget.

Scrutiny will receive the following reports and also accompanying analyses :

- draft Annual Public Performance Reports prior to their publication,
- External Audit reports and action plans resulting from such,
- Internal Audit update reports and action plans resulting from such,
- balanced scorecards,
- performance indicators submitted annually to Audit Scotland,
- summary reports of all Comments and Complaints, and
- internal audit results of investigations.

Scrutiny will also:

- consider and monitor the operational and strategic internal audit plans,
- review internal audit performance,

- monitor and review actions taken on internal and external audit recommendations,
- monitor progress on service inspection action plans.

Review

Scrutiny's remit to carry out service or policy reviews will require it to prepare and implement programmes for its own work. Proposed work programmes will be submitted from Scrutiny to the Council for approval. In preparing recommendations for work programmes, Scrutiny will be able to receive suggestions or proposals from the following sources :

- items or issues identified by Scrutiny itself;
- items referred to Scrutiny by the Administration and/or Opposition;
- items referred by the Council directly to Scrutiny; and
- items referred to Scrutiny from wider stakeholders – potentially including partner agencies etc.

A scoring system will be used to assess proposals for service and policy reviews.

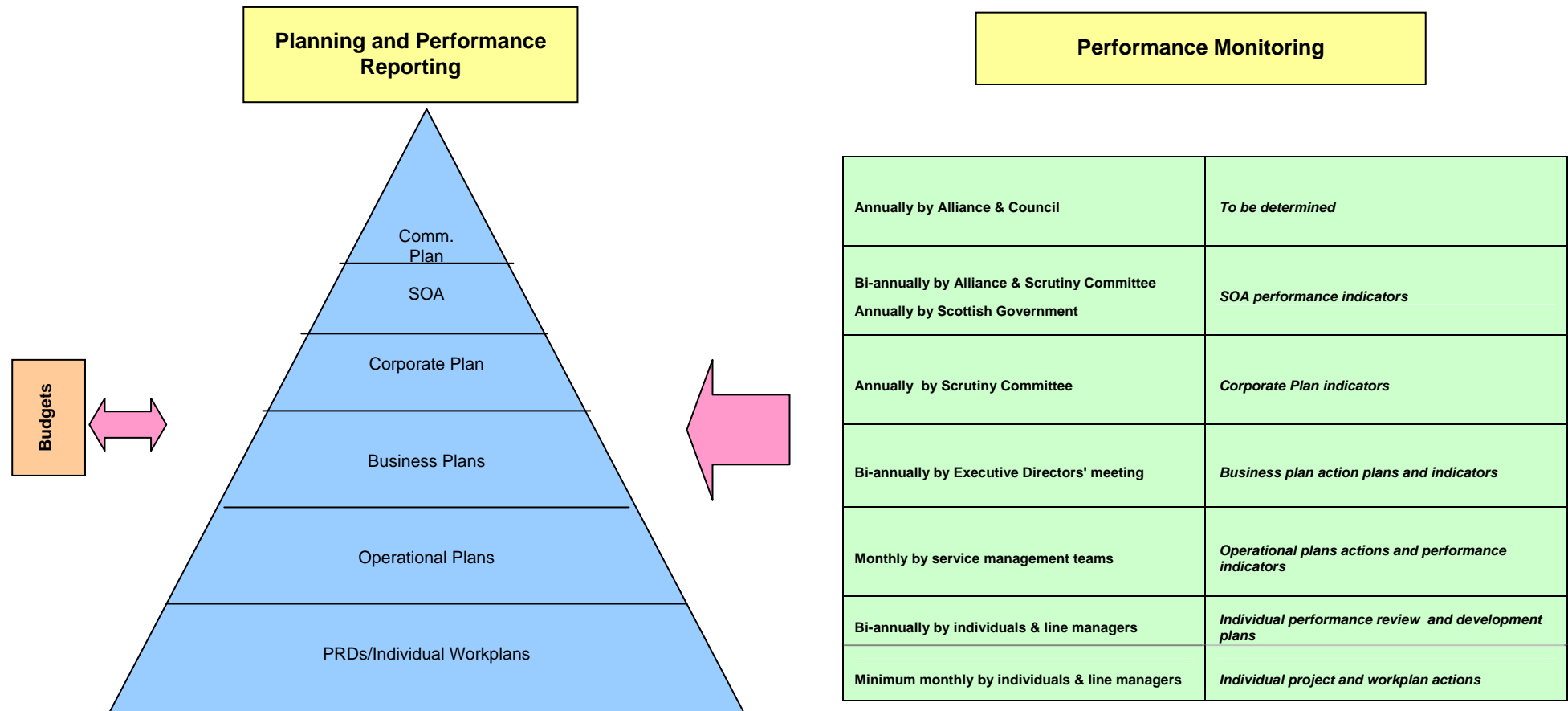
Reports on reviews will be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee who can refer to full Council.

Task Groups (short life consultative groups)

Scrutiny may, at its discretion, set up short-term task groups for review work. These task groups will permit the involvement of members of Scrutiny, together where appropriate with other front-line Councillors, officers, community stakeholders, other agencies, businesses and expert witnesses. Portfolio Holders will not be permitted to be involved in Scrutiny Task Groups.

The task groups will not be decision-making bodies or formal committees as laid down in statute but will make recommendations to Scrutiny. The Council agrees that such meetings would be held in private, unless the task group decides otherwise and the notes of the meeting will not be made available to the public.

Appendix 4 – Planning and Performance Reporting and Monitoring Process



Report to Council

Date: 4 June 2009

Subject: Membership of East of Scotland European Consortium

Report by: Head of Strategic Policy

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. This report updates the Council on the East of Scotland European Consortium (ESEC) and asks Council to consider its continued membership of the organisation in light of significant changes in the context in which local authorities operate in relation to regional economic development and European funding.
- 1.2 ESEC was established in 1991 by four regional councils and in 1996 eleven successor councils, including Clackmannanshire, continued the consortium arrangement.
- 1.3 ESEC's aims are to:
- a) influence, where directly relevant, the development of emerging European policy and legislation as it affects Eastern Scotland;
 - b) maximise European Union financial assistance;
 - c) foster co-operation between local authorities in Eastern Scotland and provide a framework for the promotion of appropriate geographic and sectoral groupings;
 - d) develop links with similar regional groupings within Scotland, the United Kingdom and other European member states and develop Eastern Scotland corporate representation on appropriate bodies.
- 1.4 Membership fees are £7,500 per annum for each council and the fees fund a secretariat which employs a full-time policy officer and policy assistant. The secretariat is hosted by the authority which chairs ESEC, currently Aberdeen City, which provides support in kind.
- 1.5 Clackmannanshire hosted ESEC between 2003-2008 when Councillor Carrick was the chair of the consortium. Councillor Carrick is currently the Council's representative on ESEC, having been nominated in May 2007 to that role by the Council.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

- a) gives notice to ESEC of its intention to withdraw membership;
- b) ceases membership of ESEC in 12 months time

3.0 Considerations

3.1. Since the establishment of ESEC, the context in which local authorities operate in relation to regional economic development and European funding has changed significantly. Some of these changes include:

- the establishment of the Scottish Parliament and Scottish Government
- the establishment in Scotland of a system of unitary local authorities
- the expansion of Europe and associated changes to its funding regimes
- the renewed focus on city regions
- changes in the enterprise network
- renewed focus within CoSLA on regional economic development.

3.2 These changes have impacted on the respective roles ESEC and its constituent members play and it is no longer felt that membership of ESEC delivers value for money to the Council.

3.3 Edinburgh City Council has withdrawn from ESEC and another authority has intimated its intention to withdraw at the end of this financial year. A year's notice is required to be given by authorities which wish to withdraw from ESEC.

4.0 Sustainability Implications - NA

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. *Financial Details*

The Council pays £7500 membership fees to ESEC and has budgeted for this in 09-10. Any potential savings from a review of membership would accrue in 2010-11.

5.2. *Staffing*

There would be no impact on the Council's establishment as a result of any Council decision on this matter. ESEC staff are employees of the host Council.

6.0 Exempt Reports

6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) Our Priorities 2008 - 2011 (Please tick ☒)

- The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses ☐
- Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive ☐
- People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment ☐
- Our communities are safer ☐
- Vulnerable people and families are supported ☐
- Substance misuse and its effects are reduced ☐
- Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing ☐
- The environment is protected and enhanced for all ☐
- The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence ☒

(2) Council Policies (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☐ No ☒

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

10.1 NONE

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ <http://www.esec.org.uk>

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Elaine McPherson	Head of Strategic Policy	452013

Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Angela Leitch	Chief Executive	A Leitch (signed)

Report to Council

Date: 4th June 2009

**Subject: Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2009/10 and
Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) Rescheduling
undertaken April 2009**

Report by: Head of Finance

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present the Treasury Strategy Statement to Council for approval and to notify the Council of a PWLB rescheduling exercise that took place in April 2009.
- 1.2. Treasury Management is a specialist area within the Finance Service, and for this reason the Service makes use of consultants (Sector Treasury Services Ltd.) to provide advice on a range of strategic and financing issues.
- 1.3. The Service is governed by a Code of Practice on Treasury Management, produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). Members of CIPFA and other public practitioners are expected to follow this code.
- 1.4. The Code aims to provide guidance on best practice in the area of treasury management. A key element of the code is the requirement to publish an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement, detailing the expected activities of the treasury function in this financial year.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Council approve the attached Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2009/10.
- 2.2. It is recommended that the Council note the PWLB rescheduling exercise that took place in April 2009.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The format and structure of the Statement is as required by the Treasury Policy Statement as approved by Council on 19th February 2003.

- 3.2. This report seeks to update Council on the current treasury position and to outline the treasury strategy against the background of the current economic trends and forecasts from a number of institutions.
- 3.3. The key strategy is to minimise risk rather than maximise return.
- 3.4. The Council's current treasury portfolio comprises some £119.4m in long term funding, as shown in section 3. Section 4 shows the borrowing requirement based on Capital Plans that the Council has approved up to 2011/12.
- 3.5. The interest rate forecast in Section 6 of the Appendix indicates that any additional borrowing the Council undertakes this year is likely to be for a shorter term than recently experienced. This is because interest rates for loans of up to 10 years are significantly cheaper than longer term rates, and these shorter term loans will also allow the Council to achieve a better spread in its debt maturity profile.
- 3.6. Section 7 of the Appendix explains that given the current level of interest rates payable on short term debt, there can be an advantage to switching from long term to short term loans. With this in mind, this section goes on to give details of a rescheduling exercise that was undertaken at the beginning of this financial year. Loans of £22.5m were converted to a shorter period, as well as a reduced average interest rate. This rescheduling will save the Council £400k in interest payments this year. This will impact on the budget figure for 2010/11 and make a positive contribution towards the Council's financial pressures.
- 3.7. Section 8 covers the Investment Strategy of the Council. The priorities for investment are security of capital sums coupled with availability of funds when then they are needed. Most of the Council's current investments are with our own bank - the Bank of Scotland.
- 3.8. A full report on the Treasury Management activity for 2008-2009 will be presented to the Council after the summer recess when the figures have been subject to the audit process.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. None

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. A saving of £400k due to a reduction in interest payable on the loans rescheduled will benefit the Council in the current year.

Yes ☒

5.3. Staffing

- 5.4. There are no staffing implications.

6.0 Exempt Reports

6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	<input type="checkbox"/>
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☒ No ☐

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

1. **Treasury Management Strategy Statement**

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No ☐

Treasury Policy Statement referred to in Para 3.1

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Bill McLean	Payments Manager	2069

Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Muir S Wilson	Head of Finance	M Wilson (signed)
Jeni Graham	Director of Corporate Development	J Graham (signed)

Appendix 1

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT

1 Introduction

The Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 and supporting regulations require the Council to “have regard to” the Prudential Code and therefore to set Prudential Indicators for the next three years to ensure that the Council’s capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable. The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services also requires the Council to set out its treasury management strategy for borrowing and investment.

The suggested strategy for 2009/10 in respect of the following aspects of the treasury management function is based upon the Payments Manager's views on interest rates, supplemented with leading market forecasts provided by the Council’s treasury advisor. The strategy covers:

- treasury limits in force which will limit the treasury risk and activities of the Council;
- the current treasury position;
- the borrowing requirement;
- prospects for interest rates;
- the borrowing strategy;
- debt rescheduling;
- the investment strategy.

It is a statutory requirement under Section 93 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for the Council to produce a balanced budget. In particular, a Local Authority must calculate its budget requirement for each financial year to include the revenue costs that flow from capital financing decisions. This, therefore, means that increases in capital expenditure must be limited to a level whereby increases in charges to revenue from: -

- increases in interest charges caused by increased borrowing to finance additional capital expenditure, and
- any increases in running costs from new capital projects

are limited to a level which is affordable within the projected income of the Council for the foreseeable future.

2 Treasury Limits for 2009/10 to 2011/12

It is a statutory duty under Part 7 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, and supporting regulations, for the Council to determine and keep under review how much it can afford to allocate to capital expenditure. The amount so determined is termed the “Affordable Capital Expenditure Limit”. In Scotland the estimate of capital expenditure for 2009/10 represents the legislative limit specified in Section 35(1) of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

The Council must have regard to the Prudential Code when setting the Affordable Capital Expenditure Limit, which essentially requires it to ensure that total capital investment remains

within sustainable limits and, in particular, that the impact upon its future council tax and council rent levels is “acceptable”.

Whilst termed an “Affordable Capital Expenditure Limit”, the capital plans to be considered for inclusion incorporate financing by both external borrowing and other forms of liability, such as credit arrangements. The Affordable Capital Expenditure Limit is to be set, on a rolling basis, for the forthcoming financial year and the two successive financial years.

3 Current Portfolio Position

The Council’s treasury portfolio position at 31/3/2009 comprised:

		Principal		Average Rate
Fixed Rate Funding	PWLB	£95.704m		
	EIB	£ 0.222m		
	Market	<u>£23.500m</u>	£119.426	5.05%
Variable Rate Funding	PWLB	£ 0.000m		
	EIB	£ 0.000m		
	Market	<u>£ 0.000m</u>	£ 0.000m	0.00%
Other Long-term Liabilities		<u>£ 0.000m</u>	<u>£ 0.000m</u>	
Total Debt			£119.426m	5.05%
Total Investments			£ 17.968m	5.44%

4 Borrowing Requirement

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
New Borrowing	£ 8.327	£12.040	£11.245	£ 7.393	£ 4.100
Alternative Finance Arrangements					
Replacement Borrowing					
Total	£ 8.327	£12.040	£11.245	£ 7.393	£ 4.100

5 Prospects for Interest Rates

The Council has appointed Sector Treasury Services as treasury adviser to the Council and part of their service is to assist the Council to formulate a view on interest rates. Appendix A draws together a number of current City forecasts for short term (Bank Rate) and longer fixed interest rates. The following table gives the Sector central view as at 5th May 2009: -

	Q1 2009	Q2 2009	Q3 2009	Q4 2009	Q1 2010	Q2 2010	Q3 2010	Q4 2010	Q1 2011	Q2 2011	Q3 2011	Q4 2011	Q1 2012
Bank Rate	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	1.00%	1.50%	2.00%	2.50%	3.25%	3.75%	4.00%
5yr PWLB Rate	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.75%	3.00%	3.50%	3.65%	3.95%	4.20%	4.45%	4.60%
10yr PWLB Rate	3.30%	3.30%	3.20%	3.20%	3.40%	3.55%	3.70%	4.05%	4.30%	4.55%	4.80%	4.85%	4.90%
25yr PWLB Rate	4.15%	4.15%	4.15%	4.15%	4.30%	4.40%	4.50%	4.60%	4.70%	4.85%	4.95%	5.05%	5.10%
50yr PWLB Rate	4.30%	4.30%	4.30%	4.30%	4.40%	4.50%	4.55%	4.65%	4.75%	4.85%	4.95%	5.05%	5.15%

There is a downside risk to these forecasts if the recession proves to be deeper and more prolonged than currently expected.

Economic Background

Introduction

- The sub prime crisis of early 2008 was overtaken by the banking crisis of autumn 2008. The world banking system came near to collapse and Governments around the world were forced to inject capital in order to rescue their major banks. Banks were now anxious to preserve capital so cut back on lending which led to economic forecasts being sharply reduced. This, in turn led to sharp falls in oil and other commodity prices with the result that inflation, which in the UK had been running at over 5% became yesterday's story and recession fears drove interest rate sentiment and policy. A co-ordinated global interest rate cut of 0.5% took place on 8th October 2008. Forecasts in the UK were for sharp cuts in interest rates as recession hove into view and this was subsequently brought into place over the following months.

International

- Early in 2008 the US economy was being badly affected by the housing market slump. Interest rates were at 2% and inflation was being dragged higher by the increase in commodity prices. The ECB (European Central Bank) was very concerned about rising inflation and less concerned about the state of the economy.
- The second quarter of 2008/09 was torn between inflation worries on one hand, with oil prices heading towards \$150 per barrel, and the deteriorating economic outlook on the other.
- In the second and third quarters of the year the financial crisis erupted and escalated as the world became aware of the extent of the sub-prime fiasco and the impact it was having on institutions that had invested in these issues.
- In September Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac (the mortgage banks) and AIG, the insurance giant, had to be bailed out by the Fed (US Federal Government).
- Then in mid September, Lehman Bros., the investment bank, was allowed to fail. This triggered a domino effect with other banks and financial institutions having to be rescued or supported by governments around the world.

- After the collapse into receivership of the Icelandic banks in early October, other countries then started to feel the strain and a number had to approach the IMF (International Monetary Fund) for support.
- Eventually even the Asian ‘Tiger’ economies were affected, including India and China, and it became clear that the crisis had become a global one and no country was insulated from it.
- The financial crisis had therefore precipitated an economic crisis and there was a co-ordinated global interest rate cut with the Fed, ECB (European Central Bank) and MPC (Monetary Policy Committee) all cutting rates by 0.50% on 8th October. The Fed subsequently cut rates again by another 0.50% to 1% on 29th October and again on 16 December to a band of 0.0% to 0.25% in an attempt to stave off the oncoming recession. Inflation was yesterday’s problem.
- On 4th November the USA elected Barack Obama as President with little immediate financial impact.
- The ECB reduced rates again in November by 50bp and by its biggest ever cut of 75bp in December to reach 2.5%, January by another 50bp and another 50bp in March and 25bp in April to bring the rate down to 1.25%.
- As the pace of world recession quickened, so the price of oil plunged to around \$40 per barrel by the end of 2008 and fears changed from being focused on inflation to the potential dangers of deflation.
- On 11th February 2009 Congress passed a \$789bn support package for the US economy and banking system. Financial markets were disappointed by the lack of detail as to how this programme was going to work.

U K

- GDP (Gross Domestic Product): growth was already slowing in 2008 from 2007 before the full impact of the credit crunch was felt. Earlier in 2008 GDP was 2.3% whereas in quarter 3 it fell by 0.3% and then fell by 1.5% in quarter 4 to give a y/y figure of -1.8%. GDP forecasts for 2009 are now in the -2.5% to -3.5% area.
- Wage inflation remained relatively subdued as the Government kept a firm lid on public sector pay. Private sector wage growth was kept in check by the slowing economy.
- Growth slowed across the economy and the increase in unemployment accelerated towards the end of the year and broke through the 2 million barrier in January 2009. Unemployment is expected to continue to increase towards 3million in 2009.
- Bank lending came to a virtual standstill in the autumn as the credit crunch tightened its grip and various banks internationally had to be rescued, or supported, by their governments.
- The Government and Bank of England supplied massive amounts of liquidity to the banking market in an attempt to reignite longer interbank lending.
- The Government announced in October a £500bn package of measures to support the banking system and the economy. This included £37bn to recapitalise some of the major clearing banks and a requirement for the others to strengthen their capital ratios by their own capital raising efforts. The aim of this was to try to ensure that these banks would be seen to have sufficient reserves to last through the coming recession with its inevitable increase in bad loans etc. However, a second bank support package proved necessary in January 2009.
- The housing market also came to a virtual standstill as lenders demanded larger deposits and higher fees. House sales and prices both dropped sharply.
- Government finances deteriorated as income from taxation dropped as the economy slowed and the cost of the bailout of the banks was added to the deficit.

- UK equity prices declined sharply in the 3rd and 4th quarters as the impending recession was priced into the markets. Prices hit five year lows and volatility was extremely high.
- The story of 2008 has been the credit crunch, the banking crisis and the change in economic outlook from slow growth to outright recession. After the initial concerns about the impact of the credit crunch in the earlier part of 2008 it appeared as though the storm had been weathered. The MPC had been very concerned about CPI (Consumer Price Index) inflation, which had been rising sharply on the back of higher commodity and food prices. Bank Rate reached a peak of 5.75% in July 2007 after which cuts of 0.25% occurred in December 2007 and February and April 2008 before the major cuts in the autumn. The economic data had been indicating a slowing economy for some while but it was not sufficiently weak to force the MPC into another cut. It was the strength of the banking crisis, pre-empted by the collapse of Lehmans in New York that eventually drove the MPC to cut interest rates by 50bp on October 8th in concert with the Federal Reserve, the ECB and other central banks. It was then appreciated that the economic downturn would be much more severe than previously thought and interest rates were subsequently slashed by 1.50% in November, 1.00% in December, and 0.50% in January, February and March 2009 to reach 0.5%.
- The LIBOR (London Inter Bank Offer Rate - the rate at which banks will lend to one another) spread over Bank Rate has also been a feature, and a concern, of 2008/09. Because of the credit fears and the reluctance of lenders to place cash for long periods 3 month LIBOR has been substantially higher than Bank Rate. This has meant that the MPC's power over monetary policy has been eroded by the widening of this spread between LIBOR and Bank Rate and it has therefore had a limited ability to bring relief to hard pressed borrowers through lower interest rates. However, the power of the Government over the semi nationalised clearing banks had considerable impact in enforcing pro rata reductions to the 1.50% Bank Rate cut in November on some borrowing rates.
- The Government has abandoned its 'golden rule'. The pre Budget Report on 14 November revealed the Government's plans for a huge increase in Government borrowing over coming years as a result of falling tax revenues and also due to tax cuts and increases in Government expenditure in the short term designed to help stimulate economic growth to counter the recession.
- UK bank shares nose dived in mid January 2009 stoked by particular concerns around RBS incurring the largest deficit in UK corporate history of £28bn as it wrote off huge sums for over paying for the purchase of the Dutch bank AMRO at the height of the market. This was the catalyst for the Government stepping in with a second bank support package including a £250bn insurance scheme for toxic assets on bank balance sheets to put a floor on the amounts banks could lose on them. Various other measures were also announced.
- The Bank of England's Inflation Report of 11 February 2009 confirmed fears that the recession is going to be deeper and longer than previously thought. CPI Inflation was forecast to dip to 0.5% in two years time; this aroused fears that CPI could get into negative territory i.e. deflation, if economic conditions worsened more than currently expected. The Governor of the Bank of England emphasised that further Bank Rate cuts would not be sufficient to counter this recession and that Quantitative Easing would be required i.e. the use of unconventional methods to increase liquidity in the economy to promote the expansion of credit and so economic growth. The Bank of England therefore proposes to start purchases of corporate bonds and gilts.
- There are concerns as to how and how quickly the above two programmes by the Bank and the Government will be translated from being just concepts into actual action. There is also concern that any action may err on the side of caution and so prove to be insufficient to stem the tide of recession as quickly as might otherwise be possible. There are similar concerns for the parallel programmes in the US.

- In the Governments budget of 14th April it stated that the Treasury intends to £74bn of gilts in periods up to seven years, £70bn of gilts falling due between seven and fifteen years and £27bn of gilts maturing in periods of more than fifteen years. The problem here is that this comes less than one month after the DMO (Debt Management Office) failed to attract enough buyers for 40 year gilts.

6 Borrowing Strategy

Interest Rate Forecast

The Sector forecasts are based around an expectation that there will normally be variations of +/- 0.25% during each quarter around these average forecasts in normal economic and political circumstances. However, greater variations can occur if there should be any unexpected shocks to financial or political systems. These forecasts are for the PWLB new borrowing rate:

- The 50 year PWLB rate is expected to remain around current levels of around 4.30 for the remainder of 2009 then to steadily increase in 2010 to 4.65% and to 5.15% at the end of the forecast period.
- The 25 year PWLB rate is expected to remain around 4.15% in 2009 before rising steadily to around 4.6% in 2010 and then to eventually reach 5.10 at the end of the forecast period.
- The 10 year PWLB rate is expected to drop to 3.20% in quarter 3 2009 but to start rising again from quarter 1 2010 to eventually reach 4.05% by the year end then increase to 4.90% at the end of the forecast period.
- The 5 year PWLB rate is expected to remain around 2.50% until quarter 1 2010. The rate then starts rising in quarter 2 2010 to around 3.50% at the end of the year and to 4.60% at the end of the forecast period.

This forecast indicates, therefore, that there is a range of options available for borrowing strategy for 2009/10. Variable rate borrowing is expected to be cheaper than long term fixed rate borrowing and will therefore be more attractive throughout the financial year. Under 10 year PWLB rates are expected to be substantially lower than longer term PWLB rates so this will open up a range of choices for new borrowing for authorities that want to spread their debt maturities away from a concentration in long dated debt. Rates are expected to be slightly lower at the middle to end of the year than earlier on so it may be advantageous to borrow later in the year.

For authorities wishing to minimise their debt interest costs, the main strategy is therefore as follows:

- For authorities wanting to focus on the very cheapest PWLB borrowing, the under 10 year rates will provide significantly cheaper rates than longer term borrowing. Under 5 year rates are also expected to be significantly lower than 5-10 year rates.
- For authorities wanting to lock into historically low long term rates, there is expected to be little difference between 25 year and 50 year rates. However, despite the minimally more expensive new borrowing rates expected in the 25 – 30 year period later in the year, these could be seen as being much more attractive than 50 year borrowing as the spread between the PWLB new borrowing and early repayment rates is considerably less. This then maximises the potential for debt rescheduling at a later time by minimising the spread between these two rates.

- This strategy would also mean that after some years of focusing on borrowing at or near the 50 year period, local authorities would be able to undertake borrowing in a markedly different period and so achieve a better spread in their debt maturity profile.
- When long term PWLB rates fall back to the central forecast rate of about 3.95%, borrowing should be made at any time in the financial year. A suitable trigger point for considering new fixed rate long term borrowing, therefore, would be 3.95%. The central forecast rate will be reviewed in the light of movements in the slope of the yield curve, spreads between PWLB new borrowing and early payment rates, and any further changes that the PWLB may introduce to their lending policy and operations.
- Consideration will also be given to borrowing fixed rate market loans at 0.25 – 0.50% below the PWLB target rate if they become available again.

External v. internal borrowing

- The next financial year is expected to be a time of historically abnormally low Bank Rate. This opens up an opportunity for authorities to fundamentally review their strategy of undertaking external borrowing.
- For those authorities with investments in excess of their borrowing requirement over the next year and access to the cash from maturing investments within the financial year, then consideration also needs to be given to the potential merits of internal borrowing.
- As long term borrowing rates are expected to be higher than rates on the loss of investment income and look likely to be so for the next couple of years or so, authorities may prefer to avoid all new external borrowing in the next financial year in order to maximise savings in the short term.
- The running down of investments also has benefits of reducing exposure to interest rate and credit risk.

Against this background caution will be adopted with the 2009/10 treasury operations. The Head of Finance will monitor the interest rate market and adopt a pragmatic approach to changing circumstances.

Sensitivity of the forecast - In normal times the main sensitivities of the forecast are likely to be the two scenarios below. The Council officers, in conjunction with the treasury advisers, will continually monitor both the prevailing interest rates and the market forecasts, adopting the following responses to a change of sentiment:

- if it were felt that there was a significant risk of a sharp rise in long and short term rates, perhaps arising from a greater than expected increase in world economic activity, or further increases in inflation, then the portfolio position will be re-appraised with the likely action that fixed rate funding will be drawn whilst interest rates were still relatively cheap.
- if it were felt that there was a significant risk of a sharp fall in long and short term rates, due to e.g. growth rates weakening, then long term borrowings will be postponed, and potential rescheduling from fixed rate funding into short term funding will be considered.

However, after the freezing of some local authority investments by Icelandic banks now in receivership, many local authorities are currently concerned about the safety of investments and the ability of authorities to rely on credit ratings as a basis for ensuring that investments can be undertaken safely, especially for longer periods of time. The approach of this authority is therefore to use current investments, where possible, to fund new projects. It will also consider repaying some of the current debt although this may not be possible with payments to be made to our PPP partners mid year.

7 Debt Rescheduling

The introduction of different PWLB rates on 1 November 2007 for new borrowing as opposed to early repayment of debt, and the setting of a spread between the two rates (of about 0.40 – 0.50% for the longest period loans narrowing down to 0.25 – 0.30% for the shortest loans), has meant that PWLB to PWLB debt restructuring is now much less attractive than before that date. However, significant interest savings will still be achievable through using LOBO (Lenders Option Borrowers Option) loans and other market loans.

Due to short term borrowing rates being expected to be considerably cheaper than longer term rates, there are likely to be significant opportunities to generate savings by switching from long term debt to short term debt. However, these savings will need to be considered in the light of their short term nature and the likely cost of refinancing those short term loans, once they mature, compared to the current rates of longer term debt in the existing debt portfolio. Any such rescheduling and repayment of debt is likely to cause a rebalancing of an authority's debt maturities towards a flattening of the maturity profile as in recent years there has been a skew towards longer dated PWLB.

Consideration will also be given to the potential for making savings by running down investment balances by repaying debt prematurely as short term rates on investments are likely to be lower than rates paid on currently held debt. However, this will need careful consideration in the light of premiums that may be incurred by such a course of action and other financial considerations.

As average PWLB rates in some maturity periods are expected to be minimally higher earlier on in the financial year than later on, there should therefore be greater potential for making marginally higher interest rate savings on debt by doing debt restructuring earlier on in the year. Any positions taken via rescheduling will be in accordance with the strategy position outlined in paragraph 6 above.

The reasons for any rescheduling to take place will include:

- the generation of cash savings and / or discounted cash flow savings;
- help fulfill the strategy outlined in paragraph 6 above; and
- enhance the balance of the portfolio (amend the maturity profile and/or the balance of volatility).

All rescheduling will be reported to the Council at the meeting following its action.

On this point, a rescheduling exercise took place in April where we converted £22.5m of longer term loans into shorter term loans. The average interest rate on the repaid loans was 4.227% over an average period of 44.04 years.

As PWLB are non-profit making the interest due on the remaining time of the loans is payable but against this they redeem them at a given rate. The difference between the interest due and the redemption amount results in either a premium payable by or a discount due to the Council. In this instance the net result was a discount due to the Council of £8,400.64. This amount will be credited to the Loans Fund for the 2009/10 financial year.

In order to finance the gap between the repayment and the new borrowing, temporary loans of £22.5m were negotiated at an interest rate of between 0.40 and 0.55%.

On 17th April we borrowed £22.5m from PWLB immediately prior to an increase in short term PWLB interest rates. The average rate of the loans is 2.616% over an average period of 5.42 years.

The interest saving to the Council from this rescheduling exercise totals £2,062,360 over the seven year term that the replacement loans have been taken out for.

8 Annual Investments Strategy

8.1 Investment Policy

The Council will have regard to CIPFA's Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes ("the CIPFA TM Code"). The Council's investment priorities are: -

- (a) the security of capital and
- (b) the liquidity of its investments.

The Council will also aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity.

The borrowing of monies purely to invest or on-lend and make a return is unlawful and this Council will not engage in such activity.

The Council uses Fitch ratings to derive its counterparty criteria. Where a counterparty does not have a Fitch rating, the equivalent Moody's (or other rating agency if applicable) rating will be used. All credit ratings will be monitored as and when the Council is alerted to changes in Fitch ratings through its use of the Sector creditworthiness service.

- If a downgrade results in the counterparty/investment scheme no longer meeting the Council's minimum criteria, its further use as a new investment will be withdrawn immediately.
- If a body is placed on negative rating watch (i.e. there is a reasonable probability of a rating change and the likelihood of that change being negative) and it is currently near the floor of the of the minimum acceptable rating for placing investments with that body, then no further investments will be made with that body.

8.2 Investment Strategy

Interest Rate Outlook

Bank Rate started on a downward trend with a 0.5% cut to 5.50% in December 2007 and further cuts of 0.25% in February and April 2008 then 0.50% in October, 1.50% in November, 1.00% in December and 0.50% in January, February and March 2009 to a rate of 0.50% at the year end and it is expected to stabilise at this rate until starting to rise again from quarter 3 2010.

It is intended therefore, to avoid locking into longer term investments whilst the rates are down at such low levels.

At the end of the financial year a report on the investment activity will go to Council as part of the Annual Treasury Report.

Report to Council

Date: 4th June 2009

Subject: Disposal of the Former Zones Leisure Centre

Report by: Head of Property Services

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the current position regarding the disposal of the former Zones Centre, and to recommend that the property be re-advertised for sale on the open market.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. The Council is asked to agree that the property be advertised for sale on the open market, with a report detailing offers received being submitted for the consideration of a subsequent Council meeting.
- 2.2. The Council is not bound to accept the highest or any offer and will wish to consider in terms of its powers of well-being how any offer promotes improvement of the economic, social and environmental well-being of Clackmannanshire.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The property was previously marketed on the basis of lease or sale. It is now recommended that the property be advertised for sale on the open market.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. The disposal of the building would facilitate new investment in the property and should improve the building efficiency and energy consumption.

5.0 Resource Implications

- 5.1. The Council is not bound to accept the highest or any offer and will wish to consider in terms of its powers of well-being how any offer promotes improvement of the economic, social and environmental well-being of Clackmannanshire. Any sale of the building will result in a capital receipt to the Council.

6.0 Exempt Reports

Is this report exempt?

Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) Our Priorities 2008 - 2011 (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	<input type="checkbox"/>
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input type="checkbox"/>

(2) Council Policies

The area has a positive image and attracts people and business

By bringing the site back into use it will create employment and may attract people from out with the Council area.

Our communities are safer

Development of the site may reduce loitering and littering.

The environment is protected and enhanced for all

Development of the site will create a more attractive environment and will enhance the local amenity.

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☐ No ☒

Policy Title:	n/a
Service:	Development and Environment
Team:	Property Services

<i>This policy/function will have no impact on people from any of the equality groups and an EQIA is not required</i>	
Name:	Tom Smillie
Position:	Surveyor
Title:	Surveyor
AUTHORISATION	
Name:	Gordon Stewart
Position:	Head of Service
Title:	Head of Property

9.0 Legality

- 9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)
 Yes ☐ (please list the documents below) No ☒

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Tom Smillie	Surveyor	01259 452550

Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Gordon Stewart	Head of Property Services	G Stewart (signed)
Garry Dallas	Director of Development & Environmental Services	G Dallas (signed)

Report to Council 4th June

Date: 9th May 2009

Subject: Power Failures to Alloa Town Centre, December 2008

Report by: Director of Development & Environmental Services

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1. During December 2008 Alloa Centre experienced a sequence of power failures. The frequency and length of the failures over a six day period led to significant loss of trade and inconvenience for the Town Centre Traders.
- 1.2. At it's meeting on the 12/3/2009 the Council approved a motion submitted by Cllr. Donald Balsillie which moved , among other things, that the Director of Development & Environmental Services meet with the Zone Leader Central of Scottish Power Networks to seek:
 - a) an assurance that such occurrences are unlikely to occur again in Alloa Town Centre.
 - b) that the Town Centre has a reliable supply of electricity in future, particularly during the busy festive period.
- 1.3. It was also agreed that the Chief Executive write a letter, signed by all Elected Members, to request Scottish Power Networks that they reconsider their goodwill customer service payment of £100 per business with a view to significantly enhancing this payment.
- 1.4. Following the issue of a letter by the Chief Executive, receipt of a reply from Energy Networks and two meetings which I have had with the Zone Leader from Scottish Power Networks, I can now update Council on how the matter has progressed.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. Council is asked to note the content of this report.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1 Assurances that such occurrences are unlikely to occur again.
 - 3.1.1 Electrical supply interruptions have been experienced in the Town Centre quite regularly over the past few years but this level of interruption was unprecedented.

3.1.2 Energy Networks are the company accountable for management and supply of electricity in the Town Centre. Energy Networks is a subsidiary of The Scottish Power Group of Companies.

3.1.3 The original fault started in a single low voltage cable but, due to heavy loads experienced at that time of year, it resulted in a further five identifiable cable faults. These resultant cable faults are, according to Energy Network, predominantly a result of other utilities causing damage to cables during other previous underground activities. These faults only become obvious when the damaged cables were placed under high loads.

3.1.4 Energy Networks are able to demonstrate that the level of interruption to supply in Alloa is not unique and historically it has a similar recorded level of power failures and supply interruptions as for other similar areas in Scotland.

3.2 Reliable Source of Electricity in the Future

3.2.1 Energy Networks have confirmed in their letter of response to the Chief Executive (Appendix 1) that *"they have committed significant capital investment, in excess of £100,000 for the works carried out during the fault situation and subsequent reinforcement work which has recently been completed in April 2009."*

3.2.2 They also advise that *"despite the investment that has been made, we cannot guarantee that Alloa, as with all customers, will be free from supply interruptions in the future, as on a large integrated power network, there are occasions when this is not possible, for example weather related issues or third party damage to our cables."*

3.3 Goodwill and Customer Service Payouts

3.3.1 The Scottish Power Group of Companies is a regulated industry by the UK Government and as such, has regulations and service standards that it must contractually adhere to when responding to occurrences such as the series of power failures in December 2008. The regulations state that companies who receive this level of power supply interruption are entitled, under the Guaranteed Standard 2 & 2a, to a payment of £50. In addition, in this instance, an additional Customer Service payment of £100 was paid to each customer as a recognition of the repeated level of disruption. Energy Networks have in accordance with the regulations for their industry met and exceeded their requirements in terms of payments in this instance. Energy Networks have replied (Appendix 1) *"Whilst they are very sympathetic to the problems experienced by the local businesses, particularly in these difficult times..... the compensation paid will remain in line with the Guaranteed Standards laid down and agreed by the Regulator."*

3.3.2 However, in recognition of the level of disruption, Energy Networks have agreed to work with the Town Centre BID Board and Clackmannanshire Council to contribute towards a lighting project that fits in with current plans for development and regeneration of the Town Centre. Discussions are on-going and will require confirmation at a later date with all parties.

4.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

4.0 Equalities Impact

4.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☒ No ☐

5.0 Legality

5.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

6.0 Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 - Letter from Energy Network to Chief Executive dated 14th May 2009.

7.0 Background Papers

7.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No

Letter from the Chief Executive to Mr Alan Bryce, Director, Energy Networks, Scottish Power.
Note: Signed by all the Councillors : 30/3/2009

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Garry Dallas	Director of Development & Environmental Services	452531

Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Garry Dallas	Director of Development & Environmental Services	G Dallas (signed)

Chief Executive's Services
Clackmannanshire Council
Greenfield House
Alloa
FK10 2AD

14 May 2009

Dawn Birrell

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your letter of 30 March 2009 regarding the disruption to Alloa Town Centre as a result of the supply interruptions in December 2008.

Firstly please accept my sincere apologies for the inconvenience and disruption the faults, prior to Christmas 2008, caused your local community.

As you are aware Alloa High Street area suffered four faults prior to Christmas 2008. When I was briefed on this situation I asked for a full study of our network in this area to be undertaken and, as a result of this, SP Energy Networks have committed significant capital investment, in excess of £100,000 for the works carried out during the fault situation and the reinforcement work, which is currently being undertaken to improve the network in Alloa Town Centre.

My Zone Leader, Craig Arthur, and Customer Liaison Officer, Johan Snedden, have met with council officials on site to explain the faults and the reinforcement work undertaken by Energy Networks. They have also been in contact with the local MP and MSP and the Business Improvement District Group. My Staff also visited customers in Alloa during the fault period.

Craig Arthur met with your Director of Development & Environmental Services. During this visit Craig advised that during our study we identified a number of our cables were damaged and unreported to Energy Networks. There had been a large number of excavations in relation to other utilities and ground works in Alloa and agreement was reached to look to better communications to ensure all contractors are compliant with legislation when carrying out excavations.

Despite the investment that has been made, unfortunately I cannot guarantee that Alloa, as with all our customers, will be free from supply interruptions in the future, as on a large integrated power network, there are occasions when this is not possible, for example weather related issues or third party damage to our cables.

Over the coming weeks and months, my Zone and Customer Contacts staff will be working to re-build the confidence of our customers, in Alloa town centre, in our continuing commitment to maintain a reliable supply of electricity, and in all aspects of our service to our customers.

With regard to the compensation made by Scottish Power, I would advise that Energy Networks is a Regulated business and Ofgem, the Industry Regulator, sets the Electricity Standards of Performance. If we fail to meet these Standards, then as the distribution network operator, we compensate customers affected.

Our Guaranteed Standard 2 states if you lose your electricity supply because of a fault or damage to our network, we will try to put your supply back on as soon as possible. However, if we fail to do this within 18 hours of knowing of the fault, you can claim £50 if you are a domestic customer and £100 if you are a business customer and our Guaranteed Standard 2a states that compensation of £50 is due in instances where supply is interrupted for 3 hours or more on 4 or more occasions in one financial year. In this case we failed to meet both standards and compensation was paid to customers affected at the appropriate level. An additional customer service payment of £100 was made to each business customer and £50 to each domestic customer. Whilst I am very sympathetic to the problems experienced by the local businesses, particularly in these difficult times, I have to advise that the compensation paid will remain in line with the Guaranteed Standards laid down and agreed by the Regulator.

However, as a gesture of goodwill I would be prepared to consider Energy Networks involvement with a community project that would benefit Alloa, and in particular one managed via the Business Improvement District Group. Craig Arthur has informed me there may be some artwork displays that require a new electricity supply. He is currently liaising with Brian Blackburn in this regard and will keep me informed.

Once again, I apologise for the disruption caused to the Alloa community as a result of this unfortunately period of events.

Yours sincerely

Report to Council

Date: 4th June 2009

Subject: Clackmannanshire Council Core Paths Plan

Report by: Director of Development & Environmental Services

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Council on the outcome of the 12 week formal consultation on the Final Draft Core Paths Plan and to seek approval for the finalised Core Paths Plan (the Plan) to be formally adopted.
- 1.2. Copies of the finalised Plan have been made available to members in Group Rooms together with a map showing paths subject to objection/amendment.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. The Council is recommended to approve the adoption of the finalised Core Paths Plan.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The Act gives a general right of access to most land and inland water in Scotland using non-motorised means. Section 17 of the Act places a statutory duty on local authorities to produce a Core Paths Plan which "is sufficient to provide reasonable public access" throughout the area.
- 3.2. A Final Draft Plan was produced following good practice guidance and following 2 informal consultations (1 in 2006 and the other in 2007).
- 3.3. The Final Draft Plan and its associated Strategic Environmental Assessment Report were presented to Council on 5th June 2008 and it was agreed that they be progressed towards adoption by being subjected to a formal consultation.
- 3.4. The formal consultation was in keeping with Section 18 of the Act which requires local authorities to publicise their Plan and any maps, and to make them available for public inspection for at least 12 weeks. They must also consult the Local Access Forum for their area, persons representative of those living, working or carrying out recreational activities on the land proposed to be affected by the Plan, Scottish Natural Heritage and any other persons it deems appropriate.

- 3.5. The formal consultation was for a 12 week period and took place between 21st July 2008 and 13th October 2008. Notice of the consultations was posted on the Council Noticeboard and a copy of the Final Draft Plan (including maps and comments/objection forms) and its Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report, were made available for viewing at the Council's Kilncraigs office, at 3 drop-in sessions (organised in Alloa, Alva and Dollar) and on the Council website. The Final Draft Plan could also be viewed at all public libraries.
- 3.6. The formal consultation on the Final Draft Plan attracted 6 formal objections, all of which have now been resolved.
- 3.7. The formal objections for path 50 at Alva, path 119 at Gartmorn Dam, and paths 139 and 143 at Dollar were accepted - this was in keeping with advice received from the Clackmannanshire Access Forum and the views of the local Community Council/Group and land manager(s). The Plan has been amended accordingly with paths 50 and 139 being removed, path 119 rerouted and path 143 extended.
- 3.8. The remaining objections were for the inclusion of additional paths, path 138 at Dollar and the former railway line at Menstrie, both of which were subsequently withdrawn.
- 3.9. A number of other minor amendments have been made to the Final Draft Plan, all relating to paths which meet with core paths of neighbouring authorities. These changes were also made in keeping with the advice received from the Clackmannanshire Access Forum and the views of the local Community Council/Group and land manager. These affected path 32 at Menstrie, path 62 at Tillicoultry, paths 163 and 165 at Muckhart, and path 176 at Dollar - all of which were extended, with the exception of path 32 which was shortened. Path 165 was also subject to minor amendment to more accurately represent the route of the path.
- 3.10. The finalised Plan, which takes account of the above formal objections and amendments, proposes 210 km/131 miles of core paths and a core path on water at Gartmorn Dam.
- 3.11. The Scottish Government and the public have an expectation that the Plan will be implemented after it has been adopted and guidance states that the Core Paths should be usable within 24 months. There is, however, no legal duty on the Council to implement the Plan, once adopted.
- 3.12. Assuming core paths reach a minimum standard of being suitable for walkers, then the paths in the Plan will, as reported to Council on 5th June 2008, require 276 signs and 36 gates, and miscellaneous works at an estimated cost of £94,000. It is expected that these works will be implemented within 2 years of adoption. The Council has already allocated £38,000 to its 2009-2010 Capital Programme for core paths, which means a further £56,000 is needed. It is proposed that this is secured from funding sources such as community funds for the Burnfoot Hill Wind Farm and the Landscape Partnership funds.

- 3.13. The Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report consultation attracted comments of an advisory nature from Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and Historic Scotland.
- 3.14. Under Section 20 of the Act, local authorities have a duty to review the Plan for their area, either when they consider appropriate or by virtue of a Ministerial direction. It is intended that the first review will be in 2014.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. The Strategic Environmental Assessment undertaken on the Final Draft Plan, as per the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, assessed the effects that the Final Draft Plan could have on the environment. Its Environmental Report concluded that the Final Draft Plan has both positive and neutral impacts, and does not predict any significant cumulative environmental impacts.
- 4.2. The Plan has the potential to make a positive contribution towards active travel by highlighting paths which people can use to walk or cycle to their destination, instead of driving or taking public transport. It is also likely to benefit Clackmannanshire's ecological footprint by helping to reduce material consumption and reduce pollution.
- 4.3. The Plan identifies paths which can be used for recreational purposes and deliver benefits to health. It also has the potential to help address health inequalities.

5.0 Resource Implications

- 5.1. Once adopted, Section 18 of the Act requires the local authority to publicly notify its adoption, compile a list of core paths, make the Plan available for public inspection and sale, and send a copy to Scottish Ministers.
- 5.2. The Council has already allocated £38,000 to its 2009-2010 Capital Programme for core paths. The remaining £56,000 that is needed to make the core paths reach a minimum standard of being suitable for walkers will be secured from funding sources such as community funds for the Burnfoot Hill Wind Farm and the Landscape Partnership funds.

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

- (1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	✓
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	✓
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	✓
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	✓
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	✓

(2) Council Policies (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

- 8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☐ No ✓

9.0 Legality

- 9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ✓

10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

None

11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ✓ (please list the documents below) No ☐

1. Clackmannanshire Council Core Paths Plan.

2. Map of Clackmannanshire's Core Paths.

3. Map showing the locations of paths which received formal objections and those amended so that they meet with core paths of neighbouring authorities.

4. Report to Council of 5th June 2008 on The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003
Clackmannanshire Council Core Paths Plan prepared by Martin Dean, Access and
Countryside Projects Officer.

5. Clackmannanshire Council Final Draft Core Paths Plan.

**6. Clackmannanshire Council Core Paths Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment
Environmental Report.**

7. Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

8. Best value and sustainability checklist.

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Martin Dean	Access and Countryside Projects Officer	2409

Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Garry Dallas	Director of Development & Environmental Services	Garry Dallas (signed)

Report to Council

Date: 4th June 2009

Subject: Implementing the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006

**Report by: Head of Development Services and
Head of Administration and Legal Services**

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update the Council on the implementation of the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006. It also sets out actions that must be taken by the Council to ensure that it is in a position to deal with planning applications and appeals once the main provisions of the Act come into force on 3 August 2009. The main things that the Council must do are to nominate a person to determine delegated applications, approve a Scheme of Delegation of categories of application and set up a Local Review Body (LRB) to deal with appeals in respect of decisions taken under delegated powers.
- 1.2. The recommendations in this report are based on officers understanding of the primary and secondary legislation and advice issued by Ministers in the form of Draft Circulars. This report will be updated by supplementary written or verbal reports when the finalised Circulars are issued.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:-

- (i) nominate the Director of Development and Environmental Services to be the appointed person to determine applications for planning permission and other applications as defined in Section 43A of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;
- (ii) approve the amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation attached as Appendix 1 to this report, to take effect from 3 August 2009;
- (iii) agree the categories of application that would be subject to pre-determination hearings as set out in Paragraph 3.16 of this report;
- (iv) agree to the creation of a Local Review Body comprising 8 elected members, noting that only three members at a time will be required to attend any meeting of the Local Review Body, and that the Chair of the

Local Review Body be the current Convener of the Planning Committee;

- (v) note the requirement for training for elected members as set out in paragraph 3.17 of this report not only for members of the Local Review Body but also for all elected members;
- (vi) agree in principle the changes to the Council's Standing Orders set out in paragraph 3.15 of this report, noting that final approval to the changes will be sought at the next meeting of the Council.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. As Members will know from articles in the press, from recent training sessions and from items on Clacksweb and in the D & E Bulletin, the modernisation of the planning system in Scotland is gathering pace.
- 3.2. The Scottish Government's overarching purpose is to increase sustainable economic growth whilst safeguarding the environment and ensuring a better quality of life for communities. The Scottish Government sees a reformed and better functioning planning system as essential to achieving this.
- 3.3. "Delivering Planning Reform (DPR)" is a statement of shared objectives and joint actions published in October 2008 and involved all major stakeholders in the delivery of a modernised planning system. The purpose of the joint statement was to drive cultural change and improvement in the whole system.
- 3.4. A modernised planning system is one where:-
 - * developers engage with communities earlier in their planning process;
 - * communities engage with the planning process earlier and constructively;
 - * agencies see their role as facilitating growth through engagement in the planning process;
 - * central government withdraws from local issues and focuses on matters of genuine national interest;
 - * local government puts land use planning at the heart of its thinking in terms of delivery of its strategic objectives with regard to infrastructure provision and service delivery as expressed in the Single Outcome Agreement.
- 3.5. Following the October 2008 Planning Summit and the publication of DPR, much has been achieved. All of the Government agencies (SEPA, SNH, Transport Scotland, Historic Scotland and Scottish Water) have published their Improvement Plans and contributed to a Statement on Joint Agency Working. The E-Planning Project, which allows for the submission of applications and appeals on-line, and much more, was launched on 29th April. The Scottish Government is rationalising Scottish Planning Policy from some seventeen separate documents down to two. One of these,

covering aspirations and core principles, was published in October 2008 and the other is currently the subject of consultation.

- 3.6 The other important dimension to planning modernisation is the roll out of the detailed provisions of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 which amends the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (the 1997 Act).

- 3.7 Members were advised of the main changes in planning legislation at the training session on 16th April. From 3rd August 2009 all planning applications must be dealt with in accordance with the new legislation. Officers are making good progress in setting up procedures for dealing with applications from this date. This report seeks decisions on key aspects of the implementation which require Council authorisation.

3.8 Appointed Person

The first decision relates to the identification of an officer of the Council who will be the person appointed under Section 43A of the 1997 Act to make decisions on applications. Under the Council's current Scheme of Delegation approved on 26th May 2008 it is the Director of Development and Environmental Services who has delegated authority to make decisions on planning applications and take enforcement action as necessary. It seems logical therefore to identify this Director as the appointed person for the purposes of the 1997 Act. It had been assumed that, as is currently the case, the general authority granted to Directors to further delegate decision-making in order to efficiently manage the function and delivery of the Service, would pertain. However, recent discussions with Scottish Government officials, referring to their own legal advice, indicate that the appointed person, and only the appointed person, may determine planning applications on the Planning Authority's behalf. This advice appears to be based on a strict, and very literal, interpretation of the primary legislation and does not appear to take into account the obvious impracticality of such an arrangement. Nor does it appear to take into account the general powers of delegation available to Councils under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (the 1973 Act). It is expected that the finalised Circulars will clarify this issue. Meanwhile, the recommendation is that the Director of Development and Environmental Services should be identified as the appointed person.

3.9 Scheme of Delegation

The second decision relates to the approval of a Scheme of Delegation which identifies the types of application to be delegated to the appointed person and the circumstances under which such delegated authority should be exercised.

- 3.10 One of the key objectives of the legislative requirements in relation to delegation is to ensure that decision making on planning applications is undertaken at the most appropriate level in the authority, having regard to the strategic significance of the proposal. Members should set the strategic policy framework in the Development Plan and thereafter leave the majority of decisions on applications in accordance with the policy framework to officers. Other than in specific circumstances as defined in the legislation, Councils should have sufficient confidence in their professional officers to implement policies through the development management process.

3.11 One of the other key objectives of creating a requirement to delegate as much as possible is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application consideration process. The positive effect of extensive delegation in this regard has been demonstrated since the adoption of such a scheme here in Clackmannanshire over the past two years. High performance levels were generally maintained even during periods of significantly increased workload.

3.12 Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning (Scheme of Delegation and Local Review Procedure)(Scotland) Regulations 2008 (the SD and LRP Regs) define the types of application which, by virtue of Section 43A of the 1997 Act, the Planning Authority cannot, under these provisions, delegate to the appointed person. These are:-

- * Applications made by the Planning Authority;
- * Applications by a Member of the Planning Authority; and
- * Applications relating to land in the ownership of the Planning Authority or to land in which the Planning Authority have a financial interest.

3.13 Having regard to these limitations and those referred to in Paragraph 3.16, the above objectives, and the desire to give effect to the principles of a modernised planning system, it is proposed that the Council's Scheme of Delegation should be amended as set out in Appendix 1. This would supersede all previous arrangements governing the delegation of decisions on planning and other applications. The proposed Scheme of Delegation is a hybrid as it is based on both the 1973 Act and 1997 Act powers and incorporates the limitations identified in the latter. The 1997 Act elements of the Scheme must be submitted to Ministers for approval by 30th June. Once approved by Ministers, the Scheme will be applied to all applications received after the 3rd August. The Scheme will be on the internet and must be reviewed every 5 years.

If Ministers suggest changes then this will be reported to the next Council meeting at which the Council will, in any event have to formally approve the changes to the Council's Standing Orders set out in Paragraph 3.15 of this report.

3.14 Local Review Body (LRB)

Section 43A of the 1997 Act makes provision for the review by the planning authority of delegated decisions made by officers in relation to applications for "local development" as defined in the Town & Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments)(Scotland) Regulations 2008 (the HoD Regs). The opportunity for an applicant aggrieved by an officer decision to have it reviewed relates to refusal of permission, conditions on approvals and non-determination with the statutory timescale.

The local review provisions relate only to officer decisions on local development applications and the LRB's decision is final, subject to any Judicial Review proceedings. Local development applications are all applications other than those which are "major" or "national" as defined in the HoD Regs.

Decisions on all other types of development application whether by officers or by the Council, can be appealed to Ministers.

- 3.15 The SD & LRP Regs set out the procedures that must be followed in the review process and specifies that a minimum of three elected members should sit on the LRB. Full training will be provided to Members appointed to the LRB. The LRB has a significant role in defining for itself how it intends to deal with cases up for review therefore rather than consider the details at this stage it is considered appropriate to allow the LRB, when appointed, to consider these issues.

It is proposed that the LRB should comprise eight elected members but that, when meeting to consider any review, only three elected members would be required to attend. This "pool" arrangement would mean that not all elected members would have to attend all review meetings and would give flexibility in dealing with potential conflicts of interest or matters arising in particular wards.

After 3 August, and assuming the attached Scheme of Delegation is approved, the number of applications having to be dealt with by the Planning Committee will reduce and eventually cease. It is suggested that, this being the case, and given the expertise built up by the Committee, that the eight members of the Planning Committee be nominated as the members of the LRB, with the Convener of the Planning Committee being nominated as Chair of the LRB.

In order to create the LRB, the Council's Standing Orders require to be amended. It is proposed that Standing Order 46.1 be amended by adding, at the end, "Local Review Body" and that Standing Order 46.2 be amended by adding, at the end "Local Review Body - Members 8 - Quorum - 3".

3.16 Pre-Determination Hearings

S. 38A of the 1997 Act amends the 1973 Act stating that the determination of certain classes of planning application may only be by the full Council. Such applications must also be subject to pre-determination hearings. The types of application relate to "national development" and "development that is significantly contrary to the development plan". It is proposed that the other categories of development not delegated to officers should also be subject to pre-determination hearings. Officers are working on the detailed procedures to be followed and guidance will be made available to Members as part of the training arrangements.

3.17 Training

As recommended in the Circulars, and all other advice and guidance from the Scottish Government, and as referred to in Paragraphs 3.15 and 3.16 of this report Members will require to engage in training in planning and procedural matters relating to the administration of the process.

Three training sessions on planning have already taken place over the past two years and a further session, is scheduled for 16th June, 2009. This is aimed at all Members given the fact that decisions on planning applications not delegated to officers will be made by all Members sitting on full Council.

In addition, all Members appointed to serve on the Local Review Body will be required to engage in training to ensure that they can discharge their duties appropriately. Officers are in the process of organising this and it is hoped that this training will be scheduled over the next two months.

3.18 Conclusions

This report sets out proposals to enable the Council to decide on those matters that require its decision in terms of implementing the provisions of the new planning legislation. These decisions will alter the planning application decision-making process radically but will be entirely in line with, not only the letter, but also the spirit of the legislation.

Officers will update Members if significant changes are necessary as a result of the impending publication of finalised Circulars.

4.0 **Sustainability Implications**

4.1. None

5.0 **Resource Implications**

5.1. *Financial Details*

5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate.

Yes ☒

5.3. *Staffing: None*

6.0 **Exempt Reports**

6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 **Declarations**

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses ☒

Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive ☐

People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment ☐

Our communities are safer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(2) Council Policies (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☐ No ☒

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

Appendix 1 - Amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No ☐

1. The Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006

2. The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

3. The Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

4. The Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments)(Scotland) Regulations 2008 and Draft Circular

5. The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)(Scotland) Regulations 2008 and Draft Circular

6. The Town and Country Planning (Scheme of Delegation and Local Review Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 and Draft Circular

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Angela Leitch	Chief Executive	A Leitch (signed)

APPENDIX 1

Amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation

1. Add new Paragraph "3.28 Decisions on planning applications which the Planning Authority is required to make in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended".
2. At the start of Paragraph 6.1, add "subject to Paragraphs 3.28 and 18.2".
3. After Paragraph 8 add a new Paragraph 8A, to read "Local Review Body - Considering and determining applications for review of decisions made by officers under delegated powers in respect of planning applications for local development, in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended".
4. In Paragraph 18.2, add after the words "enforcing planning laws", the words "subject to the following:-

As the appointed person for the purposes of Section 43A(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 2007 as amended, the Director is authorised to make decisions on all applications made under the planning and related Acts other than where:-

- (i) The application relates to a "national development" as defined by Section 3A of the Act;
- (ii) The application relates to a "major development" as defined in the Schedule to the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Development)(Scotland) Regulations 2008 which is significantly contrary to the development plan;
- (iii) The application is by the Council or involves development of land in which the Council has a financial, land ownership or other interest;
- (iv) The application is by a member of the Council.

Report to Council

Date: 04 June 2009

Subject: HRA Capital Programme: Running Order

Report by: Head of Housing, Property & Benefit Advice

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. This paper provides details of the Housing Services Capital Investment Programme running order.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 To Note the contents of the report.
- 2.2 To Note the Capital Programme Planning and Appraisal Processes.
- 2.3 To Note the 3 year programme street by street running order.

3.0 Considerations

3.1 Background

- 3.1.1 At the Special Council meeting on the 10th of March 2009 the Council agreed the proposed Housing Capital Programme funding requirement for 2009/10.
- 3.1.2 Officers were asked to provide more detailed information for Council in June.

3.2 Housing Capital Programme Planning

- 3.2.1 The 2009/10 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme based on the stock retention option approved by the Council set out in the Scottish Housing Quality Standard Delivery Plan, and projected in the 30 year Business Plan.
- 3.2.2 The Housing Service capital funding strategy relies on capital receipts from Right to Buy sales with the balance met from Current Revenue (CFCR) and borrowing.
- 3.2.3 As well as achieving compliance with the SHQS, the Capital Programme also addresses tenant identified investment priorities in the form of the Local Clackmannanshire Standard and other strategic housing issues including

improvement of the local environment, area regeneration, inclusion and accessibility.

3.3 *Capital Appraisal*

3.3.1 The Housing Service has in place a Housing Investment and Planning Team (HIPT) whose purpose is to provide a programme management function for the Housing Capital Programme. These functions include clear processes around programme management, project appraisal and programme assembly.

3.3.2 All proposed capital projects are appraised by the HIPT and recommended in terms of:

- Strategic Fit;
- Financial Implications (Full life cycle costs)
- Deliverability and Procurement;

3.3.3 The appraisals are a challenging process for the HIPT and concentrate on issues such as risks to the authority, revenue implications, deliverable benefits and measured outcomes to the community.

3.4 *Capital Programme Budgets 2009/10 to 2011/12*

3.4.1 The 2009/10 HRA Capital Programme was agreed by Council on 10 March 2009, and it was noted that more detail was required on budget leads noted in table 1.

Table 1.0

Element	Budget			
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Total
Primary Building Elements	205,000	150,000	150,000	505,000
Secondary Building Elements	447,000	550,000	350,000	1,347,000
Energy Efficiency	641,000	900,000	900,000	2,441,000
Modern Facilities	4,407,000	2,518,600	3,290,850	10,216,450
Health Safe & Secure	556,500	596,000	574,000	1,726,000
Non-SHQS Elements	758,000	722,400	672,150	2,132,550
Total	7,014,500	5,437,000	5,937,000	18,388,500

3.5 *Capital Projects 2009/10 to 2011/12*

3.5.1 Primary Building Elements:

3.5.2 Structural Works: Schemes have been developed to tackle structural problems to both traditional and non-traditional properties throughout the county. This heading also covers minor structural and asbestos removal

works which will be carried out to a number of properties in order for the Council to meet the Scottish Housing Quality Standard target.

3.5.3 Secondary Building Elements:

3.5.4 Roofs/Rainwater/External Walls: The re-roofing and re-rendering programmes have been identified through the Preventative Maintenance and local area priorities on the basis of urgent need of replacement. Over the next three years 96 roof involving 173 properties will be re-roofed. Further details on the addresses involved in these contracts are provided in Appendix 1.

3.5.5 In terms longer term maintenance of the stock and given that the majority of roofs and wall-coverings have already been tackled, it is considered that a more systematic approach is adopted from 2012/13 onwards. A planned maintenance regime will be introduced based on chronology and life cycle involving the replacement of the oldest roofing and rendering elements.

3.5.6 Energy Efficiency

Central Heating Replacement Programme: Various types of heating appliances throughout the county are now reaching the end of their useful life. The proposed replacement schemes will ensure the Council meets the Scottish Housing Quality Standard target, by ensuring that older installations in the county are upgraded. Over the next 3 years 496 systems will be replaced with a modern full efficient heating systems. Further details on the addresses involved in these contracts are provided in Appendix 1.

3.5.7 Modern Facilities & Services

Kitchens: The formal kitchen replacement programme was established in 2003 and over the last 6 years 4,253 kitchens have brought up to Local Clackmannanshire Standard, and by the end of the 2009/10 programme the Council will have delivered two of the Tenant identified investment priorities. In 2009/10 377 kitchens will be replaced and a Kitchen Term Contract will be established to carry out installations for properties where the current or former tenant refused a new kitchen. Further details on the addresses involved in these contracts are provided in Appendix 1.

Bathrooms: The formal Bathroom replacement programme was commenced in December 2007 and over the last 2 years 776 bathrooms have brought up to Local Clackmannanshire Standard. Over the next three years 1,637 Bathrooms will be brought up to the Local Clackmannanshire Standard. Further details on the addresses involved in these contracts are provided in Appendix 1.

3.5.5 Health Safe and Secure

Safe Electrical Systems: The proposed rewiring schemes will ensure the Council meets the Scottish Housing Quality Standard target, by ensuring that older installations in the county are upgraded, and with the remainder being

programmed into the Periodic Electrical testing programme. Over the next 3 financial years we intend to Re-wire 501 properties and carry out 1,215 periodic tests. Where possible these works will be combined with other contracts to minimise disruption and maximise value for money. Further details on the addresses involved in these contracts are provided in Appendix 1.

Common Area Improvements: is allocated to Secure Door Entry Systems, Digital Switchover, environmental works to communal areas, foot paths, fencing, and drying greens, etc in various areas as identified Further details on the Door Entry/Close Upgrade contracts are provided in Appendix 1 to this report.

3.5.6 Non SHQS Elements

This budget heading deals with various elements such as Disabled adaptations, Conversions and Upgrading, Area Improvements, Demolitions, and Feasibility works. Work is predominantly carried out on a request basis, with some forward planning in Conversions and Upgrading, and Area improvements. The main expenditure under this budget heading is disabled adaptations which will account for a third of the anticipated expenditure. Disabled adaptations are a standard Capital Programme item to improve health safety and welfare of the councils tenants with disabilities in their home. Clackmannanshire Council Housing Service employs a Specialist Occupational Therapist to advise staff and assist disabled tenants. Provisions have also been made under the Conversions and Upgrading budget heading to undertake large extensions to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. The sustainability implications of this report are comprehensively positive in terms of community participation the local economy, energy efficiency, the environment, asset management and human resources.

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. *Financial Details*

- 5.1.1 As set out in report

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to life cycle costs where appropriate.

Yes ☒

5.3 *Staffing*

- 5.3.1 The programme will be managed by existing staff within the Housing Investment & Planning Team.

6.0 Exempt Reports Only - Reasons for Exemption

6.1 Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

Housing Stock Retention Policy 2006

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☐ No ☒

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Housing Capital Programme Running Order

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No ☐

Special Council Budget Housing Revenue Budget 2009/10 Capital Programme 2009/10
Housing Stock Conditions Survey 2005
Scottish Housing Quality Standard Delivery Plan
Housing Service Business Plan

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Grahame Blair	Director Services to People	Grahame Blair (signed)



Housing Capital Programme



'Investing In Your Home'



Contents

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Introduction

This booklet provides information about the Council's Capital Improvement Programme. The Capital Programme deals with improvements, replacements and major repair works carried out on Clackmannanshire Council's housing stock.

Over the last three years Clackmannanshire Council has invested over £24 million, these works have been managed by the Housing Investment & Planning Team. The Housing Investment and Planning Team's overall objective is to maintain Clackmannanshire Council Housing Stock to a high standard through maintenance and improvement programmes.



In 2004 the Scottish Government announced that all Social Landlords would have to meet a new national standard for housing - The Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS). The SHQS is made up of five key categories:

- Tolerable Standard - A very basic standard meaning that the property must be fit for habitation. Having basic toilet & bathing facilities as well as being wind and water tight.
- Free From Serious Disrepair - Includes elements such as external walls, roofs, windows and doors.
- Energy Efficient - This category aims to ensure that all properties are well insulated and have adequate heating.
- Modern Facilities & Services - This covers the upgrading of Kitchen & Bathrooms.
- Health, Safe & Secure - This category includes secure common access, smoke detectors present in all homes etc.

Clackmannanshire Council have a commitment to exceeding Scottish Housing Quality Standard by introducing the Local Clackmannanshire Standard which provides a higher specification for kitchens, bathrooms and doors.

This booklet details the roles and responsibilities of those involved with the programmes, how properties are selected for programmes and the standards Clackmannanshire Council expects for its tenants. The Capital Programme mainly deals with major improvement works which will make a big difference to peoples' homes or the local area.

How are properties Selected for the Programme ?

All proposed Capital Projects are appraised by the Housing Investment & Planning Team and recommended in terms of the strategic fit with council priorities, financial implications, deliverability and procurement.

The properties are categorised and selected according to four main factors:

- Property Age
- Known Problems
- Property Condition
- Regulatory Timescales (e.g. Period Electrical Inspection should be carried out every 10 years)

A Stock Condition Survey is carried out every 5 years which collects detailed information on the condition of Council Housing. This together with the Preventative Maintenance Inspections will help identify the major programmes and to the target resources at the properties most in need of work.



A number of other factors also impact upon when a property is considered for up grades such as the age of a current installation, any regulatory requirements and location.

The appraisals are a challenging process for the Housing Investment & Planning Team and have to consider issues such as risk to the authority, revenue implications, deliverables benefits and measured outcomes to the community.

It is important to note that the Capital Programme is a moving picture that continually changes, and is dependent on funding, tenant co-operation and arising priorities.

What kind of works are carried out?

Kitchens

The kitchen replacement programmes is the renewal of the kitchen in it's entirety. Each property is individually surveyed with tenants given a choice of units, worktops, tiles, flooring, tiles and decoration. 2009/10 will see the end of the planned kitchen programmes, all remaining kitchens will be installed as part of a Kitchen term which will be completed by 2012.



Bathrooms

The work consists of a new white bathroom with an over bath shower and shower curtain.

Central Heating

The central heating programme is a full system replacement aimed at replacing old and inefficient systems. This may mean installing an alternative type of heating or replacing the existing system with one which is more reliable and efficient.

Electrical Testing

This programme will entail a full periodic inspection, testing all installations, circuits and ancillaries to ensure that they meet current IEE Wiring Regulations.

Rewiring

The rewiring programme is a complete renewal of the wiring in the property and can entail new fuse boards and hardwired smoke alarms.

Smoke Detectors

This programme installs hard wired smoke detectors in all properties.

Secure Door Entry

These programmes are dependent on the block involved but can consist of a full new electronic entry system & reinforced doors where appropriate.

Roofs

The roofing programmes are a full renewal of the roofing material of a property (slate/tile/felt).



External Walls

External Wall renewal contracts are the rerendering of a property, depending on the property a thermal render may be used.

Running Order

The streets listed below may only refer to one or more properties included within a contract. These streets are an indication of where a project will be, the Capital Programme is a moving picture and the programme continually changes.

Circles with more than one colour indicate programmes which take place over more that one year.

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Project Type	Structural Works	Roofing	External Walls	Central Heating	Kitchen	Bathroom	Electrical Testing	Electrical Rewiring	Smoke Detectors	Conversions	Door Entry Systems	EWPR
Alloa																
Anne Street																
Achray Court																
Anne Street																
Argyll Place																
Argyll Street																
Arns Grove																
Arran Court																
Arrol Crescent																
Ashley Terrace																
Broad Street																
Brown Avenue																
Burgh Mews																
Caledonian Road																
Charles Street																
Churchill Street																
Claremont																
Duncanson Avenue																
Earn Court																
Eden Road																
Engelen Drive																
Fairyburn Road																
Forbes Street																
Forebraes																
Gaberston Avenue																
Garvalley Crescent																

2009/10 ●**2010/11** ●**2011/12** ●**Project Type**

Structural Works

Roofing

External Walls

Central Heating

Kitchen

Bathroom

Electrical Testing

Electrical Rewiring

Smoke Detectors

Conversions

Door Entry Systems

EWPR

Alloa (continued)

Gean Road

Gordon Drive

Greenfield Street

Harris Court

Hawkhill Road

Henderson Avenue

Hervey Street

High Street

Hill Place

Hill Street

Hillside Terrace

Hillview Terrace

Hillcrest Drive

Hilton Road

Hutton Park

Inglewood Road

Katrine Court

Kirkgate

Lambert Terrace

Lewis Court

Lomond Street

Lornshill Crescent

Ludgate

Maree Court

McKinlay Crescent

Menteith Court

Mitchell Crescent

Moir Street

Mull Court

North Street

2009/10 ●

2010/11 ●

2011/12 ●

	Project Type	Structural Works	Roofing	External Walls	Central Heating	Kitchen	Bathroom	Electrical Testing	Electrical Rewiring	Smoke Detectors	Conversions	Door Entry Systems	EWPR	
Alloa (continued)														
Ochil Street							●							
Orkney Court									●					
Ormiston Drive									●					
Pine Grove								●				●		
Rose Street				●				●						
Scott Crescent									●					
Shetland Court								●						
Shaftesbury Street		●					●							
Smithfield Loan									●					
Springfield Road							●							
Stanton Avenue							●							
Sunnyside Court						●	●							
Sunnyside Road						●	●							
Tay Court											●			
Thistle Street							●							
Thorne Road								●						
Tower Street		●					●							
Tullibody Road		●					●							
Turret Court							●							
Wallace Street										●				
Windsor Gardens									●					
Whins Road			●				●	●				●		
Woodside Road					●									
Alva														
Craighorn Road												●		
The Glebe													●	
The Nebit												●		
Cambus														
South Street									●				●	

2009/10 ●

2010/11 ●

2011/12 ●

	Project Type	Structural Works	Roofing	External Walls	Central Heating	Kitchen	Bathroom	Electrical Testing	Electrical Rewiring	Smoke Detectors	Conversions	Door Entry Systems	EWPR
Clackmannan													
Alloa Road					●			●					
Backwood Court			●	●				●					
Bruce Street				●				●					
Burnside Crescent							●						
Chapelhill								●					
Craigrie Terrace									●				
Dundas Crescent								●					
Erskine Place								●					
Garden Place							●	●					
High Street								●					
Izatt Terrace									●				
Main Street							●	●			●		
Mary Place									●				
Mayfield Crescent								●					
North Street								●					
North Vennel							●						
Penny School Place				●									
Port Street				●				●					
South Pilmuir Road								●	●				
Tower Place									●				
Woodside Terrace								●					
Zetland Street								●					
Coalsnaughton													
Blackfaulds Street								●	●				
Castle Street								●					
Glenhead Avenue								●	●				
Hawthorn Avenue								●					
Muircot Place								●					
Ramsay Street								●					

2009/10 ●

2010/11 ●

2011/12 ●

	Project Type	Structural Works	Roofing	External Walls	Central Heating	Kitchen	Bathroom	Electrical Testing	Electrical Rewiring	Smoke Detectors	Conversions	Door Entry Systems	EWPR	
Coalsnaughton (cont)														
Simpson Drive								●						
Thomson Place								●						
Wardlaw Street									●					
Devonside														
Bain Street							●	●						
Hillside							●							
Ochilview							●						●	
The Craigs							●							
Dollar														
Argyll Street							●	●						
Bridge Street							●							
Brewlands Court							●	●						
Campbell Street							●							
Curlers Court							●	●						
Dewar Street				●			●							
Drum Road				●			●							
Gibbson Close							●							
Graham Place							●	●						
High Street							●							
Kirkstyle							●						●	
Manor House Road							●						●	
Malcolm Court							●							
McNabb Street							●						●	
Moss Court							●	●						
Murray Place				●			●	●						
Sorley's Brae							●						●	
Station Road			●				●							
Thornbank Road							●						●	
Walton Crescent							●	●						
West Burnside							●	●					●	

2009/10 ●

2010/11 ●

2011/12 ●

	Project Type	Structural Works	Roofing	External Walls	Central Heating	Kitchen	Bathroom	Electrical Testing	Electrical Rewiring	Smoke Detectors	Conversions	Door Entry Systems	EWPR	
Fishcross														
Alloa Road							●	●						
Burnee							●	●						
Craigleith							●	●					●	
Lawswell							●	●						
Pitfairn Road							●	●						
Ochilvale Terrace							●	●						
Forestmill														
Parklands Place							●							
Kennet														
Kennet Village							●							
Menstrie														
Abercrombie Place													●	
Longrow													●	
Muckhart														
Greenloan							●							
Golf View							●							
Sauchie														
Abbeycraig Road							●							
Beechwood								●						
Birchwood							●	●						
Branshill Park				●			●					●		
Branshill Road							●							
Burnbrae							●							
Craigview								●				●		
Diverswell							●		●					
Deer Park							●	●						
Fairfield Road							●							
Holton Cottages				●			●							
Holton Crescent							●							
Gartmorn Road								●						

2009/10 ●

2010/11 ●

2011/12 ●

	Project Type	Structural Works	Roofing	External Walls	Central Heating	Kitchen	Bathroom	Electrical Testing	Electrical Rewiring	Smoke Detectors	Conversions	Door Entry Systems	EWPR	
Sauchie (continued)														
Keilarsbrae							●	●						
Lochbrae			●	●			●	●						
Main Street								●						
Marchside Court							●							
Mar Place							●							
Meadow Green							●							
Mount William							●	●						
Parkhead Court							●							
Pompee Road							●							
Posthill							●							
Rosebank							●							
Roundlewood							●					●		
Schaw Court													●	
Schawpark Avenue								●						
Ten Acres							●	●						
Tower View							●	●						
Woodlands							●	●						
Woodlea Park							●		●					
Tillicoultry														
Ann Street						●	●						●	
Braehead						●								
Cairnton Place			●	●		●								
Chapelle Crescent						●	●							
Church Grove								●						
Colliers Court						●	●							
Cunninghar Drive							●	●						
Dorothy Terrace						●	●							
Eastertoun							●							
Elmwood Avenue							●	●						
Fir Park							●	●						

2009/10 ●**2010/11** ●**2011/12** ●

	Project Type	Structural Works	Roofing	External Walls	Central Heating	Kitchen	Bathroom	Electrical Testing	Electrical Rewiring	Smoke Detectors	Conversions	Door Entry Systems	EWPR	
Tillicoultry (cont)														
Frederick Street						●								
Hareburn Road						●	●							
High Street									●					
Hill Street							●	●						
Hillview Terrace			●			●	●							
Jamieson Gardens							●	●						
Johnston Crescent						●	●							
Kirkhill Terrace							●	●						
Lower Mill Street						●	●							
Mayfield Avenue								●						
North Hill Street						●	●							
Nova Scotia Place						●								
Ochil Street						●	●							
Ochilview Road							●							
Park Street						●	●							
Primrose Place						●						●		
Provost Jones Court							●							
Ramsay Terrace			●			●	●							
Roundelwood			●						●					
Sandyknowe							●	●						
Scotland Place						●								
Shillinghill						●	●							
Stalker Avenue						●	●							
Stirling Street							●							
St. Serf's Road							●		●					
Stoneyacre						●	●							
Upper Mill Street								●				●		
Walker Terrace						●	●							
Westbourne Avenue							●							

2009/10 ●

2010/11 ●

2011/12 ●

	Project Type	Structural Works	Roofing	External Walls	Central Heating	Kitchen	Bathroom	Electrical Testing	Electrical Rewiring	Smoke Detectors	Conversions	Door Entry Systems	EWPR	
Tullibody														
Abercrombie Place							●							
Alloa Road									●					
Barnhill Drive							●							
Baingle Brae							●							
Baingle Crescent							●							
Banchory Place							●							
Braehead Avenue							●							
Carseview								●						
Cleuch Avenue							●							
Cochrie Place							●							
Delph Road							●	●						
Dovecot Place							●	●						
Dovecot Road							●						●	
Main Street							●	●				●		
Manor Crescent							●							
Menstrie Road							●	●						
Newmills								●				●		
Newbiggin Crescent							●		●					
Ochil Place							●							
Ochil Street							●	●						
Park Terrace							●	●						
St. Serf's Place							●	●						
St. Serf's Road							●						●	
Stirling Road							●		●					
The Orchard			●					●				●		
Tron Court							●	●						

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I Tento leták obsahuje informácie o údržbových a zlepšovacích prácach na Vašom dome. Ak potrebujete, aby boli tieto informácie preložené, zavolajte prosím na telefónne číslo 01259 450 000 a požiadajte o úradníka zodpovedného za investičné programy (Investment Programmes Officer), ktorý zariadi preklad. Prípadne prineste tento leták na recepciu Mestského úradu na Lime Tree House a požiadajte o vybavenie prekladu.

يحتوي ورقة الاعلان هذه على معلومات تخص عمل التحسينات في بيوتك. اذا كنت بحاجة الى هذه المعلومات مترجمة الى لغة اخرى، نرجوا منك الاتصال على الرقم 01259450000 واطلب التكلم الى موظف برامج الاستثمار، والذي يقوم بالترجمات اللازمة. او يمكنك جلب هذه الورقة الى مكتب البلدية في لايم تري هاوس واسأل موظفة لاستعلامات.

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ਇਸ ਲੀਫਲੈੱਟ ਵਿਚ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਘਰ ਦੀ ਇੰਪਰੂਵਮੈਂਟ (ਸੁਧਾਰ) ਵਾਲੇ ਕੰਮ ਬਾਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਿਤੀ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ। ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਾ ਤਰਜੁਮਾ ਕਰਵਾਉਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 01259 450 000 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਇਨਵੈਸਟਮੈਂਟ ਪ੍ਰੋਗਰਾਮਜ਼ ਅਫਸਰ ਨਾਲ ਗੱਲ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਕਹੋ, ਉਹ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਤਰਜੁਮੇ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਕਰੇਗਾ। ਜਾਂ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਲੀਫਲੈੱਟ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਆਫਿਸਿਜ਼ ਵਿਚ ਲਾਈਮ ਟਰੀ ਹਾਊਸ ਵਿਚ ਲੈ ਜਾਓ ਅਤੇ ਰੀਸੈਪਸ਼ਨ 'ਤੇ ਇਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਪੁੱਛੋ।

اس لفلٹ میں آپ کے گھر کی بہتر بنانے والے کام کے بارے میں معلومات موجود ہیں۔ اگر آپ ان معلومات کو ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں تو براہ کرم 01259 450 000 پر فون کریں اور ان معلومات پر اگر آپ کو ترجمہ سے بات کرنے کی درخواست کریں تو آپ کے لئے اسٹافٹن کا بندوبست کرے گا۔ یا اگر آپ اس لفلٹ کو کونسل کے دفتر میں لائے تو اس پر فون کر سکتے ہیں اور اسٹافٹن پر بھیجیں۔
یا اس کے ساتھ ساتھ اسٹافٹن کے پاس بھیجیں۔



Contact Us

If you have any questions in relation to the Capital Works Programmes please contact us via the details below:

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www.clacksweb.org.uk

Report to: Council

Date: 4th June 2009

Subject: Corporate Parenting Strategy

Report by: Head of Social Services

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The Council meeting of 6th November 2008 discussed a report on Corporate Parenting in Clackmannanshire. It agreed with recommendations to establish a Corporate Parent Group to scrutinise all aspects of the life of Looked after Children in Clackmannanshire. It gave this group the responsibility of producing a Corporate Parenting Strategy document that would identify the key areas of improvement for this Local Authority in terms of the outcomes of Looked After Young People and their life chances and experiences.
- 1.2. Furthermore the Council agreed that regular reports on the success of the Local Authority with respect to the strategic improvement targets should be tabled thereafter.
- 1.3. The Corporate Parent Group under the chairpersonship of Councillor Sam Ovens has produced the attached strategic document for the consideration of the Council

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. The Corporate Parent Group recommend that the attached Corporate Parent Strategy document and its explicit strategic priorities and targets be agreed by Council and that progress reports be brought back to Council on an annual basis.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The *"Looked After Children and Young People: We Can and Must Do Better"* report sets out 19 specific and targeted actions designed to deliver under 5 key themes identified in the report: working together; being effective life-long learners; developing into successful and responsible adults; being emotionally, mentally and physically healthy; and, feeling safe and nurtured in a home setting.

3.2 The report highlights and addresses 8 notable messages:

- the importance of the corporate parent role
- the need to raise awareness of the educational needs of looked after children and young people and improve training for all foster carers, residential workers, lead professionals, support workers and associated professionals
- the need for clarity regarding the role and responsibilities of the designated person within schools and residential establishments
- the importance of providing flexible and appropriate support before, during, and post transition
- the importance of physical, mental and emotional health and well-being in facilitating positive educational outcomes
- the need for good quality accommodation, which supports the education, training or employment of looked after children and young people
- the importance of clear advice and a range of emotional, practical and financial support for looked after young people as they make the transition to adult hood/independent living; and,
- the vital importance of stability and continuity within education and care settings

3.3 The above document and the September 2008 document "*These Are Our Bairns*"; a guide for community planning partnerships on being a good corporate parent, make recommendations for councils, teachers, social workers and health workers, including:

- reminding councils of their role and responsibility as corporate parents
- improving training for teachers and other professionals to ensure that they have the skills to deal with these pupils
- providing key workers with guidance on their role and supporting individual young people
- ensuring that councils continue to provide young people with support beyond their 18th birthday, including financial support for those going on to further and higher education

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. The successful implementation of the Corporate Parent Strategy will make a valuable contribution to the sustainability of the communities of Clackmannanshire as young people are our most valuable resource for the future.
- 4.2. Providing better outcomes for the Looked After population will allow them the potential to contribute more to the material, ecological and moral fabric of our communities through offering a real stake in the future development of their communities.

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. There are no financial requirements in relation to the implementation of the Corporate Parenting Strategy. It requires all local authority services and key partners to work collaboratively and to prioritise the needs of the Looked After population to improve their outcomes in the areas of their lives where improvement is most needed.

Yes ☐

- 5.3. There are no additional staffing requirements.

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No **X**

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

- (1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	X
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	X
Our communities are safer	X
Vulnerable people and families are supported	X
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	X
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	X
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input type="checkbox"/>

- (2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

- 8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☒ No ☐

9.0 Legality

- 9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒ X

10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 Appendix 1 is the Corporate Parenting Strategy.

11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ X (please list the documents below) No ☐

Scotland's Looked After Children and Young People: We Can and Must Do Better".(2007)

"These Are Our Bairns": a guide for community planning partnerships on being a good corporate parent. (2008)

Author(s)

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Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
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CORPORATE PARENTING STRATEGY For CLACKMANNANSHIRE

In Partnership With



2009 - 2012

" Caring Parents Delivering Improved Outcomes For Young People"

DRAFT

Executive Summary

This Corporate Parenting Strategy provides the framework for elected members, officers and partners in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities, as corporate parents of Looked After children and young people in Clackmannanshire.

Vision

"We are committed to ensuring every child and young person in our care has the opportunity to achieve the outcomes we would want for our own children."

What is a Corporate Parent?

Corporate parenting means the formal and local partnerships needed between all local authority departments and services, and associated agencies, who are responsible for working together to meet the needs of Looked After children and young people, and care leavers. Being a good corporate parent means:

- accepting responsibility for all children in the Council's care;
- keeping meeting the needs of looked after children and young people as a high priority;
- seeking the same outcomes, any good parent would want for their own child.

Priorities:

- Establish a commitment to corporate parenting across all relevant services.
- Development of assessment and planning systems as part of implementation of "Getting It Right for Every Child".
- Ensure that the views of children and families are better taken account of.
- A reduction in the number of children placed in accommodation out-with the authority.
- A commitment to providing full time educational provision for all looked after children.
- Greater and improved housing support for care leavers, including dedicated provision.
- Enhanced support into employment and training.
- A dedicated health screening and health planning process.

Aims:

- To respect and nurture each individual looked after young person and care leaver. To be ambitious for them by encouraging and supporting their personal development, to ensure that they maximise their potential.
- To ensure that the health needs of looked after young people are properly provided for in a way that promotes better health and well being.
- To protect looked after young people from abuse and social exclusion.
- To ensure that the needs of looked after young people are identified and addressed

Caring Parents Delivering Improved Outcomes

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Caring Parents Delivering Improved Outcomes

1. Introduction

1.1 This strategy sets out the Corporate Parent responsibility for Clackmannanshire Council and its partners, with specific regard to our Looked After children and young people.

"We are committed to ensuring every child and young person in our care has the opportunity to achieve the outcomes we would want for our own children."

This commitment includes the provision of support that addresses disadvantage and enables children and young people to reach their full potential. Delivering on the Corporate Parent responsibility of the whole council and its partners will ensure improved outcomes for looked after children and young people. This strategy is linked to the Clackmannanshire Integrated Children's Services Plan¹ already in place, which aims to deliver a coherent approach to meeting the needs of children and young people.

1.2 Background

1.2.1 Who are our looked after children and young people?

The term *Looked After* includes children Looked After at home, subject to a supervision order from a Children's Hearing, but living at home with their birth parent(s) or with other family members, as well as children Looked After away from home who live with foster or kinship carers, in residential care homes, residential schools or secure units.

1.2.2 Why do children become Looked After?

There are many reasons why children become Looked After. Some have experienced neglect; some have experienced mental, physical or emotional abuse; some parents are unable to look after their children because of their own substance misuse or poor parenting skills; some young people need a bit of time away from their birth family or community while a package of support is put in place to try to rebuild family relationships or their ability to function; some have complex disabilities and need to be placed in specialist residential schools; some have become involved in the youth justice system.

Looked After children and young people are not a homogenous group with the same backgrounds or needs. They are individual children and young people with their own personalities, needs and experiences. The only thing they have in common is that life has not been easy for them, and for most some aspect of their life circumstances has led to a children's hearing or a court deciding that some form of compulsory intervention is required. A small number become Looked After away from home through a voluntary agreement between their parent(s) and the local authority.

Once a local authority has taken the profound and difficult decision to remove a child, short or long term, from his or her family, it is the duty of the whole local authority to safeguard and promote his or her welfare.

¹ <http://clacksweb/children/childrensservicesplanning/>

1.2.3 What happens when a child or young person stops being Looked After?

Some children or young people will stop being Looked After to return successfully to their families, and some will be Looked After at various times throughout their childhood as their families struggle to cope in particular situations. If a young person is still Looked After at school leaving age, the council will put in place throughcare and aftercare services to support them into independent living. This transition to independence will be at a younger age than most young people leave the family home, and they will need significant support to help them to find somewhere suitable to live, take up further or higher education, training or work, and even to cope with the every day aspects of living independently.

Councils have a duty² to provide advice and support to their young people up to age 19, and a power to do so up to age 21. They are encouraged to make sure that young people stay Looked After for as long as possible, preferably until they reach 18 if that is in the best interests of the young person. They should make sure that when young people do leave care they are equipped with the necessary life skills, and receive adequate financial and other support at what is a difficult time for all young people.

1.2.4 What is a Corporate Parent?

Corporate Parenting means the formal and local partnerships needed between all local authority departments and services, and associated agencies, who are responsible for working together to meet the needs of Looked After children and young people, and care leavers.³

The Corporate Parent means the whole Council, including elected members and all local authority staff. The responsibility of the Corporate Parent towards a child, or young person, in their care may (depending on how long they have been looked after) continue up to the age of 21 years and, in some cases, beyond this age if the young person is engaged in a continuing course of higher education. It is important to remember that responsibility continues beyond the time when a young person ceases to be looked after.

The extent of the involvement of all professionals, or elected members, will vary according to the needs and circumstances of each child or young person.

The concept of the Corporate Parent was evolved through the publication of national legislation, policy and position statements. These are: *The Children (Scotland) Act 1995*, *Getting It Right for Every Child (2005)*, and *Extraordinary Lives (2006)*⁴. The policy documents *Looked After Children and Young People: We Can And Must Do Better (2007)*⁵ and *These Are Our Bairns: A Guide for Community Planning Partnerships on Being a Good Corporate Parent (2008)*⁶ set out the expectation that every Local Authority will develop a corporate approach to the care, welfare, and protection of children and young people who are Looked After and accommodated.

² Sections 29 and 30 of the Children Scotland Act 1995 set out councils' responsibilities to care leavers

³ Looked After Children and Young People: We Can and Must Do Better, Scottish Executive, 2007

⁴ <http://www.swia.gov.uk/swia/files/Looked%20After%20Children%20-%20Extraordinary%20Lives.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/162790/0044282.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/236882/0064989.pdf>

The Scottish Government's vision for children is, that by working together, we will enable and empower children and young people in:

- becoming effective life long learners;
- developing into successful and responsible adults;
- being emotionally, mentally and physically healthy; and,
- feeling safe and nurtured in a home setting.

When a child or young person is taken into local authority care, the council is making a commitment that they will do better with the council as a Corporate Parent than with his or her birth parent(s).

Source: These Are Our Bairns

1.2.5 What do Looked After children expect from their Corporate Parents?

A report⁷ that explores what helped people who have been Looked After, become and feel successful, identified the following common themes:

- having more people that genuinely care about Looked After children
- the need to increase stability and consistency
- more encouragement, support and greater participation by young people
- the need for social workers to spend time with young people & act in their interests
- the need for social workers and others to take decisive action where children's needs are not being met
- increased support for Looked After children in education
- good support for young people leaving care and becoming independent
- more positive attitudes towards Looked After children and young people

1.2.6 Why do we need a Corporate Parenting Strategy?

The needs and outcomes of Looked After children and young people are such that a combined approach is necessary in order to succeed in our Corporate Parent role. A specific strategy is required in order to explain the need and importance of the role, raise awareness and improve skills of relevant professionals, offer clarity on responsibilities, and ensure flexible and appropriate support when it is needed. Support will take many forms including accommodation, finance, as well as advice and actions to ensure emotional and physical well-being.

Children and young people who are looked after should have the same opportunities as all other children.

Responsible parents hold together many strands in their children's lives – they care about their safety, their health, their education, their friendships and their futures. They have continuous knowledge of their child's development and what their particular talents, achievements and problems are. They listen to and talk to their children, so that they are aware of their needs and concerns.

⁷ SWIA Celebrating success: what helps looked after children succeed Jun 2006

<http://www.swia.gov.uk/swia/files/Celebrating%20success%20-%20what%20helps%20looked%20after%20children%20succeed.pdf>

2. Key Principles

Successful Corporate Parenting depends upon having clear strategic leadership with elected members and senior officers to the Council having a key role to play in ensuring that the outcomes and life chances of Looked After children and young people are maximised.

2.1 Being a good Corporate Parent means:

- Accepting responsibility for all children in the Council's care;
- Keep meeting the needs of Looked After children and young people as a high priority;
- Seeking the same outcomes, any good parent would want for their own child.

There are four national expectations of local authorities and their partners in fulfilling their corporate parenting role, these are as follows.

That the local authority will:

- Have an overarching plan for the Looked After children and young people, covering all of the services and support they can expect to receive;
- Ensure that the views of children in council care are taken account of;
- Provide training and support, for those who have to act as the collective Corporate Parent;
- Identify and share best practice in Corporate Parenting throughout the council area.

2.2 Aims:

- To respect and nurture each individual Looked After young person and care leaver. To be ambitious for them by encouraging and supporting their personal development, to ensure that they maximise their potential.
- To ensure that the health needs of Looked After young people are properly provided for in a way that promotes better health and well being.
- To protect Looked After young people from abuse and social exclusion.
- To ensure that the needs of Looked After young people are identified and addressed.

2.2.1 We will do this by:

- Working together to improve the outcomes and maximising opportunities for Looked After young people and care leavers.
- Establishing the role of the Corporate Parent and ensuring that all staff and elected members are working in the best interests of Looked After young people and care leavers.
- Encouraging young people to express their views, ensure that they are listened to and included in key decisions about them.
- Ensure that times of transition in a young person's life are planned and supported.
- Ensure that the care and welfare of young people are appropriate, stable and of good quality.
- Sharing information that is relevant to ensure a consistent service across agencies.

3. Clackmannanshire Council the Corporate Parent

Expectation 1 - A Planned Approach.

Our Corporate Parenting Strategy has been developed to set out a clear commitment to our Looked After children and young people. The strategy will be further developed through consultation and involvement with children, young people and their families, fellow professionals and services, and our Children's Services partners.

The aim of the strategy is to improve the outcomes for Looked After children and young people in Clackmannanshire through an authority wide commitment to Corporate Parenting. It keeps Looked After children and young people as a high priority within the corporate agenda, ensuring that momentum is not lost in our efforts to achieve positive outcomes and improved life chances for those in our care. One of the outcomes of the corporate strategy will be clear lines of accountability and governance. This will ensure that we deliver a high quality and competent service to children, young people, and their families.

The final element of the strategy will be a framework for action, which will set out our action plans to progress the strategy including developing effective ways to engage with all of the services who contribute to the care and welfare of Looked After children and young people.

Outcome - focused action plans will be developed to deliver key priorities within the framework for action.

Expectation 2 - The views of looked after children and young people.

In Clackmannanshire, Corporate Parenting responsibilities will be overseen by the Corporate Parenting Working Group for Looked After children and young people. The group will meet with Looked After children and young people at least twice a year via the "Meet the Bosses" framework to gain their views. The group will provide opportunities for elected members to have direct contact on a regular basis with Looked After children and young people and in particular those accommodated by the local authority.

Expectation 3 - Training and Support.

Training and support will be provided to those who have strategic responsibility as Corporate Parents. We will also provide training and support for those who act as a Champion for Looked After and accommodated children.

Expectation 4 - A Planned Approach.

There are already a number of good examples of Corporate Parenting activities in Clackmannanshire. By building on this already established good practice the Clackmannanshire Corporate Parenting Strategy will ensure that a more consistent and effective approach to Corporate Parenting is delivered across the council area.

4. Outcomes For Looked After Children

4.1 All of the national research that has been undertaken into outcomes for Looked After children identifies that they have poorer social, educational and health outcomes than their peers.

It is a major national priority to redress this situation, and when the Scottish Government published a key document on improving outcomes for looked after children, "We Can and Must do Better". This was seen as an opportunity to use this document as an impetus to re-channel efforts and target improvements.

It is recognised that the experiences that children have during their early years are of crucial importance in a child's future physical, emotional, creative and intellectual development.

4.1.1 In summary, the national research confirms that:

Although diverse, young people leaving care tend to come from poorer socio-economic backgrounds; to have had previous poor life experiences and disrupted childhoods; to have experienced trauma and abuse during childhood; and, as a result, to have often experienced a number of care settings.⁸

4.1.2 Many Looked After children experience:

- Instability (e.g. frequent changes of care placement or school);
- Too much time out of school;
- Lack of additional support if they fall behind;
- Carers who are not expected or able to provide sufficient support for learning and development;
- The need for extra help with emotional, mental or physical health issues.

4.1.3 Accordingly, Looked After children have:

- School exclusion rates which are ten times higher than their peers;
- Attainment levels of between one half to one third of the general population – and particularly poorer performance amongst the group who are looked after at home;
- Less regular dental and physical health checks.

4.1.4 Looked after children of the age of criminal responsibility are three times more likely to be cautioned or convicted of an offence than others.

4.1.5 Around a third of looked after children will end up not in education, employment or training between the ages of 16 and 19. Only 6% will go to university compared to around a third nationally.

4.1.6 Young women leaving care are three times more likely to become pregnant.

4.1.7 Looked after children who live with kinship carers (members of their extended family) or move to permanent settings with adoptive parents tend to have better outcomes.

⁸ Review of Research on Vulnerable Young People and Their Transitions to Independent Living sep 2007
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/08/23161736/1>

5. The Clackmannanshire Context

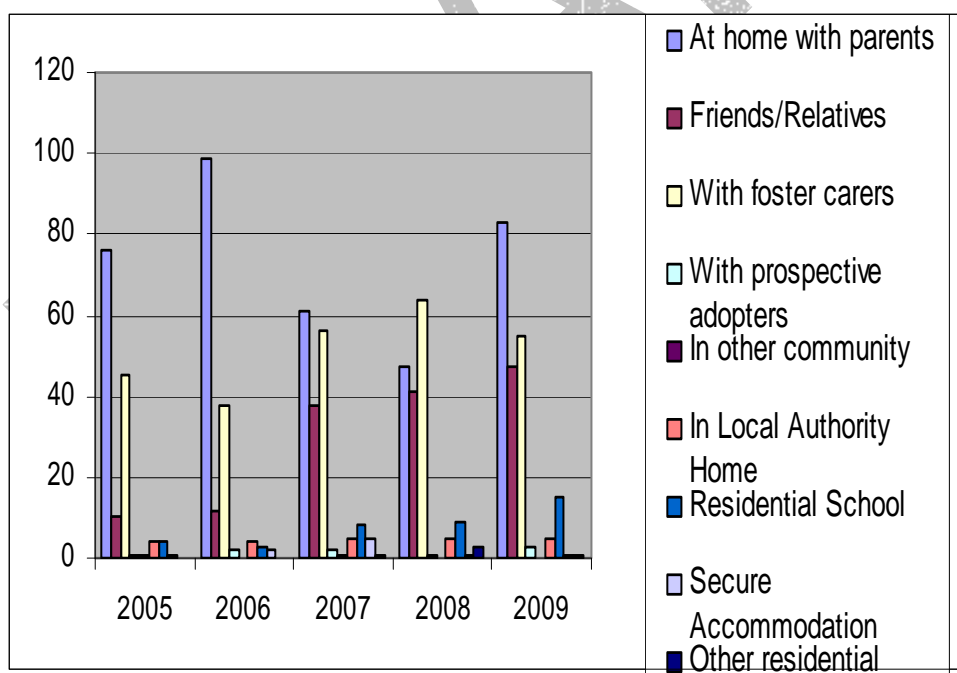
5.1 There are currently 209 Looked After children in Clackmannanshire. This number has increased by 16% since April 2008.

As at 31 st March	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of children looked after by Clackmannanshire Council	160	182	171	209

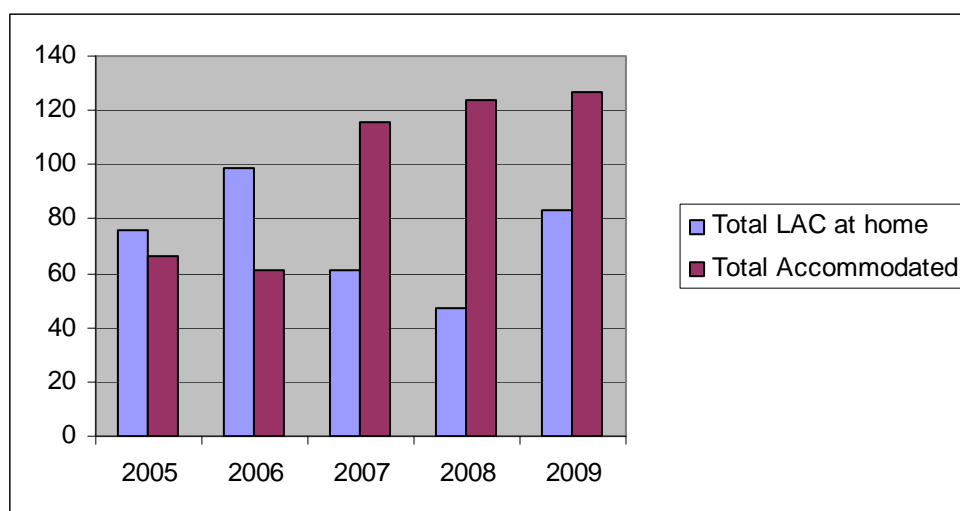
Source: Scottish Government CLAS statistics

The increase in the number of young people in care seems to have been accommodated within the kinship (friends/family) and foster care sectors. This has had financial implications for the authority who have struggled to meet this demand locally, resulting in more expensive services being purchased out-with Clackmannanshire.

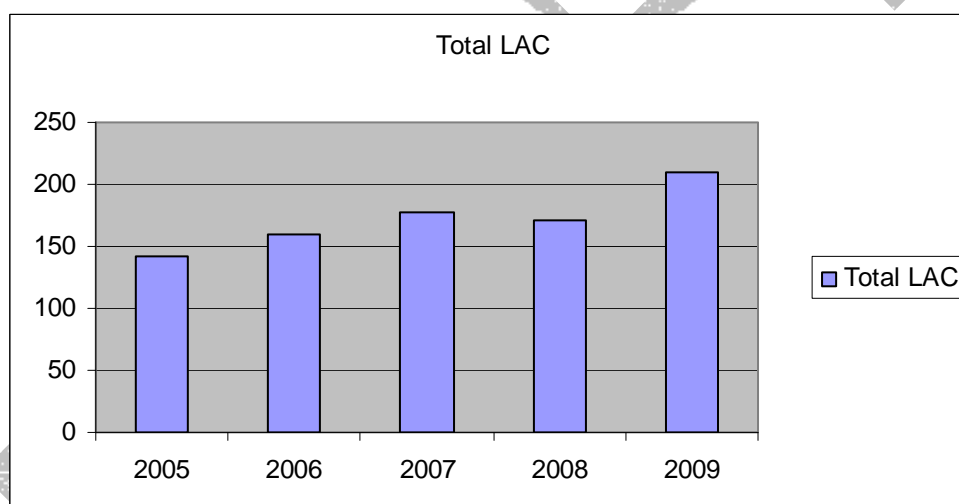
5.2 As at 31st March 2009 there were 83 children on supervision at home, and 127 are Looked After away from home in the following settings. The following graph also highlights changes over the last 4 years to these statistics:



5.3 It has been our firm intention to increase the number of children at home, rather than away from home.



5.4 In comparison with other local authorities, Clackmannan has a high number of children in kinship care placements, the basis of such placements is currently being reviewed.



5.5 Like many local authorities we have a small, but significant number of young people placed out-with the local authority in residential and residential school placements. This group of young people have significant behavioural problems and 2 are currently in secure accommodation.⁹

⁹ Residential Care Placements (6), Residential School (9), Secure Care (2).

5.6 Educational outcomes for Clackmannanshire looked after children are:

The Standards and Quality Report for 2007/2008 summarises the work which was undertaken by Education and Community Services. It states that 17 Looked After children were taught in Clackmannanshire's schools, a further 8 (S4 pupils) were Looked After outwith the authority, 3 of them within secure accommodation. 13 (76.5%) of the 17 pupils taught in Clackmannanshire's schools attained awards in both English and Mathematics at SCQF Level 3 or better; the average Tariff Score, or Unified Points Score (UPS) of these 17 pupils was 88 (with a range from 16 to 181); for young people looked after at home the average was 67.9 and for those looked after away from home it was 106.8.¹⁰

Despite the fact that Clackmannanshire's looked after children attain relatively well, they remain inherently vulnerable and the need to work with them and their families in identifying and addressing their needs remains a priority for the Council. The evidence from various studies is that looked after children and young people face significant cultural and institutional barriers which impede their success in education. Encouragement to achieve in a broader sense is more important than a narrow focus on educational attainment, however, there is research evidence showing that looked after children and young people with higher attainment have generally better life outcomes.¹¹

The annual national survey, called the *Children Looked After Survey*, collects information about looked after children and how well looked after children who stopped being in care in any year did in school. The survey collects information about how many of these children attained at least one SCQF Award at Level 3 or better and the how many of them attained SCQF Awards in both English and Mathematics at Level 3 or better.

In Clackmannanshire in 2006/2007 12 young people stopped being looked after; half of these young people attained at least one award at SCQF Level 3 or better and 5 of them attained awards in both English and Mathematics. In 2008, 6 out of 9 looked after and accommodated young people who left care attained at least one award and 5 obtained an award in both English and Mathematics. These figures compare well with national averages and with the attainments of looked after young people in Clackmannanshire's comparator education authorities.

¹⁰ Standards and Quality Report - Education and Community Services 2007/2008 <http://clacksweb/document/meeting/196/289/2791.pdf>
The average tariff score obtained by Looked After children (LAC) is the same as the average tariff score of their peers (at the end of S4: +/- 8 points). The average attainment of LAC is the same as the average of their peers in each of reading, writing and mathematics at the end of each of P3, P4, P6 and P7. In secondary schools 2007/2008; 10% (7% in 2006/2007) of pupils excluded were looked after. The average rate of attainment and exclusion is the same as the average for their peers at all stages up to the end of S4. The % of LAC finding/being found a positive post-school (post 16) destination is the same for their peers.

¹¹ Improving the Education of Looked After Children: A Guide for Local Authorities and Service Providers
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/265301/0079476.pdf>

Many looked after children remain at risk of not finding their way into further education, employment or training when they leave school; they are young people who will often need *More Choices and More Chances*.

Young people entitled to aftercare, percentage in touch with social services and percentage in employment, education or training, by local authority, 2007-08				
Local authority area	Young people entitled to aftercare services	Per cent still in touch with social services	In employment, education or training	
			As percentage of those with known economic activity	As percentage of all entitled to aftercare services
Clackmannanshire	8	50	25	13
Scotland	3,765	72	42	30

5.7 Through Care and After Care services for young people in Clackmannanshire are currently being reviewed. Of particular significance is our obligation to provide pathway plans for all supported care leavers. This is an area where we have made an improvement.

5.8 We require to develop a more integrated support pathways plan for care leavers with dedicated support from the housing service, including developing housing support options that keep young people away from general homelessness provision.

5.9 Advocacy & Children's Rights¹². Clackmannanshire has employed a Children's Rights Officer since 1997.

We all need rights - they help ensure we survive, develop and receive protection and that we have the opportunity to be involved and included on matters that affect us.

Initially the service was for children and young people who were in care (now called Looked After and accommodated), but this was developed in 2002 into an independent service for all children and young people in Clackmannanshire. A partnership agreement with the voluntary organisation "Who Cares? (Scotland)", ensured that dedicated support continued to be available for children who are or have been Looked After and accommodated.

¹² <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/Childrens-Rights#a1>

6. Corporate Parent Strategy

Like most extended families, the corporate family consists of many parts – local authorities as a whole; health services, both universal and specialist; independent sector providers; the police and all those parts of the system which support service delivery agencies. Bringing up a child successfully depends very much on all family members playing their parts. It may be at a particular point in a child's life, or it may be constant, but together all of those parts are a powerful force for good.

Source: These Are Our Bairns

6.1 The Integrated Children's Services Plan for children is managed by an inter-agency strategy group, chaired by the Director of Peoples Services. The plan will seek to:

- Establish and maintain an integrated information system between agencies.
- Improve educational outcomes through improved individual planning, and services to address drift, ensuring full time provision.
- Improve health outcomes, ensuring effective assessments and identifying opportunities to develop the role and engagement of primary care services.
- Focus on care planning and interventions to: reduce the length of time that children are looked after and the number of placement moves.
- Reduce the length of time children and young people are awaiting permanent and adoptive placements.
- Achieve quality in foster and residential care, and continue to modernise the foster care service.
- Implement national standards for services provided to children on supervision.
- Ensure improved access to Kinship Care for extended families.
- Reduce the number in out of authority placements.
- Develop further means whereby looked after children can influence strategic and individual service planning.
- Improve services to Children's Hearings.

6.2 It is proposed that the Corporate Parent Strategy should incorporate the following immediate priorities:

- The inclusion of a commitment to Corporate Parenting, as set out in this report.
- The significant change in assessment and planning systems as part of implementation of "Getting It Right for Every Child", and we need to ensure that the views of children and families are better taken account of in the new processes.
- A major focus on reducing the number of children placed outwith the authority, and a projected budget pressure of around £0.6 million.
- A commitment to providing full time educational provision for all Looked After children.
- Greater and improved housing support for care leavers, including dedicated provision.
- Enhanced support into employment and training, including opportunities within the Council.
- A dedicated health screening & planning process for all Looked After young people.

6.3 The success measures for looked after children services will include:

- Improve the educational attainment of Looked After children.
- Fewer moves between placements.
- Reduce the length of time that children are Looked After.
- Reduce the proportion of the children who are Looked After away from home.
- Reduce the number of children placed outwith the authority.
- More Looked After children moving into supported housing arrangements.
- More Looked After children leaving school for further education/training or employment.

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7. The Corporate Parent Role

7.1 The Scottish Government expects local authorities to undertake a Corporate Parent role for Looked After children.

Like any good parent, we want our children to enjoy school and do well there; we want them to be healthy and happy, secure and confident. We want them to go on to college or university, to find good jobs, to have loving relationships and happy lives. In addition, we want them to be included and effective members of our communities, indeed in the fullness of time to be good parents themselves.

Source: These Are Our Bairns

7.2 The Council has already agreed that a champion will take a particular interest in issues relating to Looked After children.

7.3 As a Corporate Parent, all councillors have a right and duty to question the authority as to whether children and young people are safe, well looked after and supported. This level of scrutiny might include:

- How are children supported in school?
- What support is there when they leave care?
- Are outcomes improving?
- Is the Council doing enough to equip and support staff and foster carers who have responsibility for the direct day to day care of these children?
- Has the Council a role as employer in supporting Looked After children into employment?

The message is to behave corporately, but think like a parent.

Source: These Are Our Bairns

7.4 In addition, as part of discharging its responsibilities the Government has committed to:

- Identifying measures to improve the effectiveness of their corporate parent role.
- The appointment of a Senior Civil Servant to work closely with Chief Executives and Senior Officials within each local authority.
- Ensuring that progress on improving the educational outcomes of Looked After children and young people is one of the key components of the outcome agreements for children's services.
- Improving training for parents, foster carers, residential workers, teachers, social workers, health workers and appointed lead professionals.
- Continuing to work in partnership with local authorities to deliver a more robust and comprehensive data collection and reporting framework in relation to the educational outcomes of Scotland's Looked After children and young people.
- Clarifying the duty on local authorities to ensure that they provide safe, secure and appropriate accommodation to Looked After young people until at least 18. The accommodation must appropriately support their longer-term outcomes in terms of

- education, employment and training.
- Clarify the duty on local authorities to provide appropriate support to their care leavers up to the age of 21.
- Including services for Looked After children in all inspection regimes.

7.5 What does Corporate Parenting mean for services?

Housing:

Anti-Social Behaviour

Addressing anti-social behaviour is a sensitive issue for councils, particularly housing services. Children can be disadvantaged by the anti-social behaviour of their families, and indeed some children become Looked After as a result of anti-social behaviour, or behave anti-socially whilst Looked After. It is important that staff within the authority involved in addressing anti-social behaviour understand their special responsibilities as Corporate Parents to Looked After children and young people, for example when considering pursuing an anti-social behaviour order.

It is also important to remember that there is a small but significant number of Looked After children and young people and care leavers who present a risk of serious harm to themselves or others. Their care is particularly challenging to manage and can present significant issues for the Corporate Parent, for example when identifying suitable accommodation. Particularly in these circumstances, multi-agency risk assessment and management is essential.

Homelessness

The transition into independent living is a key milestone and a life-changing event for any young person. For young people leaving care, it is probably the most significant transition, and securing accommodation that meets their needs will impact significantly on how successful it is. Looked After young people experience stigma throughout their lives and one way to reduce such stigmatisation is to ensure that relevant partners effectively plan a young person's transition from care to avoid unnecessary homelessness.

Moving into independence is about more than simply finding a roof. Corporate parents will want to satisfy themselves that young people leaving care have the necessary life skills and confidence to cope with independent living and the supports they need to sustain the move must be in place. Some young people will need more support than others and a range of services may need to be available. A permanent, single person's tenancy may not be the best option for a young care leaver. Care leavers are particularly vulnerable to homelessness and prevention of homelessness amongst care leavers should be recognised in local strategies and plans.

Homeless young people warrant specific attention as a key group among the general homeless population because of their highly vulnerable position due to their age.¹³ Young people may not have the experience to recognise and articulate their needs. Unlike most young people however, they may have few or no responsible adults to advocate on their behalf. Young homeless people may also distrust statutory and regulatory services.

¹³ <http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/?entryid5=38765&char=H>

Being a looked after young person or care leavers is a key risk factors for homelessness, along with other factors such as; family breakdown, enforced or voluntary exclusion from the family home, insecure housing, drug and alcohol dependency, or criminal activity.

Nationally, 30% of young single homeless people have been looked after and 20 per cent of care leavers experience some form of homelessness within two years of ceasing to be looked after. Approximately 40% of care leavers had experienced homelessness within six months of leaving care.

Source: Tracking homelessness: a feasibility study. Scottish Exec research publication 2003

The impact of homelessness on young people's health and life chances is considerable. There is a compelling body of evidence showing that homeless young people are particularly vulnerable to:

- poor mental health
- poor physical health
- risk taking behaviour (such as self neglect, self-harming, suicide, sexual risk behaviour, substance use and criminal activity)
- being a victim of crime
- exclusion from education, employment and social support.

In addition, links between mental health problems and substance use is particularly high among homeless young people. Many young people with insecure accommodation also become dependent on others - often people with similarly fragile accommodation.

Key Outcome

Staff working in housing services understand their additional responsibilities to looked after young people and care leavers. Put in place effective joint working arrangements with clear procedures and effective resolution mechanisms. Make sure that support for independent living includes an awareness amongst young people of their responsibilities to the community within which they live, and the potential consequences of their actions. This will be demonstrated when looked after young people or care leavers find somewhere suitable to live and manage to sustain it.

Activities

What we do out-with education or work makes us into confident individuals and effective contributors to our communities and can help us to learn throughout our lives. Access to play, sport and other leisure activity can be difficult for Looked After children and young people and care leavers for a variety of reasons such as practicalities like transport and cost of clothes or equipment, and less tangible issues like lack of confidence, low self-esteem, feeling excluded, not having experience of participation in earlier life, fear of the unknown.

As corporate parents, councils are privileged to have leisure facilities and cultural facilities at their disposal. What parent would not encourage their own children to use their swimming pools, tennis courts or theatres? Engagement in sport, the arts and other similar activities can provide a foundation for lifelong learning, build friendships, promote active citizenship, promote physical, mental and emotional well-being. Participation in the arts and cultural boosts confidence, fulfilment and contributes to young people leading happier lives.

It is an important function of the corporate family, then, to encourage Looked After children and young people and care leavers to take up hobbies and interests and to make sure that culture and leisure services are accessible to them, including those children with disabilities.

Key Outcome

This will be demonstrated when

- looked after young people and care leavers are integrated into their community, when they participate in the local youth activities and when they feel achieve the same or similar goals and achievements as other children and young people.
- looked after young people and care leavers fulfil their potential, no longer feel stigmatised and excluded from services and communities.

Learning & Employment

Good corporate parents know exactly which children and young people are looked after. Schools, in particular, need to be aware that they have particular responsibilities to all looked after children and young people, including those looked after at home. An explanation of the legal distinction between being looked after at home and away from home (sometimes referred to as being accommodated) is provided in A Brief Summary of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995: Looked After Children (Scottish Government, 2008b) which can be downloaded from the Looked After Children website.¹⁴

Compared with other young people, those leaving care are more likely to: have poor educational outcomes and access to further and higher education; experience low paid employment or unemployment; have problems with health, particularly mental health, conduct disorders and misuse of alcohol and drugs; have difficulties with relationships with family and friends; be young parents; and feel affected by stigma and prejudice. A Ministerial report on improving educational outcomes for looked after children and young people – *Looked After Children and Young People – We can and must do better* – also recognised the important part which health and well-being play in enabling such young people to fulfil their academic potential.

“We know that looked after children can overcome early experience of trauma and adversity. Our participants demonstrate that children’s histories do not have to predict their future, and that journeys through childhood to adulthood can be changed. We are learning that being looked after should be a time at which there is real opportunity for change.” Source - Celebrating success: what helps looked after children succeed

Designated managers in schools and residential establishments have a crucial role in helping to provide a stable environment as the basis for achievement. Advice for designated managers about the responsibilities of their role is outlined in *Core Tasks for Designated Managers in Educational and Residential Establishments*.¹⁵

¹⁴ Improving the Education of Looked After Children: A Guide for Local Authorities and Service Providers
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/265301/0079476.pdf>

¹⁵ Scottish Government (2008c). *Core tasks for designated managers in educational and residential establishments*. Edinburgh: The Scottish Government. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/09/09143710/0>

Schools can only put in place support systems if they know which pupils are looked after. There should be very clear arrangements within a local authority for informing schools when a pupil becomes looked after, or when a looked after child or young person joins the school. Similarly there should be arrangements for informing schools about changes in legal status, care placement, or discharge from care. Schools will normally receive information from the Children's Panel Reporter. (For more information about the children's hearing system, refer to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration website.) Schools also need to have access to good advice from, for example, a social worker, educational psychologist and looked after children's nurse, so they can provide the most appropriate support.

Looked after children and young people can improve in both school attendance and attainment in a relatively short period of time when provided with additional support and engaged in flexible and individually tailored activities.

Source: Improving the Education of Looked After Children: A Guide for Local Authorities and Service Providers

Key Outcome

Schools are inclusive, aspirational for all children and young people including those who are looked after, and have in place strategies to ensure that looked after young people are not disproportionately represented in poor attendance, exclusions, bullying and underachievement. This will be demonstrated when looked after young people or care leavers attend school regularly, pass exams, find and sustain jobs or a place at college or university on leaving school, find somewhere suitable to live and manage to sustain it.

Care leavers are amongst the group of young people most likely to be, or become unemployed or at risk of missing out, along with: carers; young offenders; young parents; low attainers; persistent truants; young people with physical/mental disabilities; and young people misusing drugs or alcohol. The proportion of 15-19 year olds who are not in employment education or training in Scotland is high on an international comparison. The economic and social cost extends well beyond a young person's nineteenth birthday. Research indicates that young people who are not in employment education or training for a prolonged period are most likely to encounter persistent problems of worklessness and social exclusion in later life.

Skills Development Scotland Careers Services aim to become involved in the Pathway planning process for looked after young people, where appropriate, to progress and sustain them into positive opportunities. Accordingly, these young people will receive appropriate 16+ Learning Choices.

Social Services

From the child's perspective, there is evidence¹⁶ that exposure to high levels of parental stress, neglect and abuse can have a severe effect on brain development. There are clear gaps between the development of children whose parents face such stresses and those being brought up in less stressful households. These gaps continue through life. At age 3, children at higher risk of poor outcomes can be identified on the basis of their chaotic home circumstances, their emotional behaviour, their negativity and poor development.

¹⁶ Early Years Framework Dec 2008 <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/01/13095148/6>

These children face many risks and improving early years support is key to improving child protection.

By the time such children reach adulthood, these children are more likely to have poor health outcomes, be unemployed, have criminal convictions, have substance misuse problems and have experienced teenage pregnancy.

Improving the early years experiences of these children is therefore a central element for regenerating communities, reducing crime, tackling substance misuse and improving employability. It will also help us to break the repeating cycle of poor outcomes often associated with teenage pregnancy.

All looked after children and young people have individual care plans, which are monitored through the Looked After Children review system. Evidence shows¹⁷ that children looked after by local authorities have significantly poorer physical, mental and emotional health than their peers, and a much lower uptake of health services. Local authorities must ensure care leavers' health needs are assessed, and any actions taken as part of their plan for independent living.

Key Outcome

This will be demonstrated when

- families have been supported to enable them to look after their own children, where appropriate, and are able to enhance their parenting role.
- When young people access the local services when they need them, and their experience is of the highest quality.
- When staff in different organisations know who to talk to, feel comfortable working together and sharing information and are jointly accountable for their work.
- Joint inspections demonstrate excellent collaborative integrated working.

Police Services

Research into outcomes tells us that young people who are looked after are more likely to be involved in offending or anti-social behaviour. For a small minority, this may be why they have become looked after. Young people's life circumstances are likely to be significant contributors to the reasons for their offending behaviour and it is therefore important that police officers are aware of those circumstances when considering how to address the behaviour, especially when a young person has been detained within a police station.

The police are also likely to be involved in prevention and diversionary activity in local communities where they will have an opportunity to promote the inclusion of looked after young people, to build positive relationships and to provide good role models. Within the wider corporate family, the police will build on the work which has already been achieved to promote a more holistic approach to dealing with children and young people.

¹⁷ SWIA The health of looked after and accommodated children and young people in Scotland Jun 2006

<http://www.swia.gov.uk/swia/files/Health%20of%20Looked%20After%20and%20Accommodated%20Children%20in%20Scotland.pdf>

Health Services

Children looked after by local authorities have significantly poorer physical, mental and emotional health and a much lower uptake of health services - they are less likely to engage with universal health services such as GPs, dentists and opticians. Flexible and targeted advice and assistance is essential to meet their needs. Looked after children continue to need care well into young adulthood.

Addressing the needs of Looked After children and young people, and care leavers, depends on effective assessment and planning. Better Health, Better Care (Scottish Government, 2007) ¹⁸ includes a commitment to addressing the health needs of Looked After children and young people

Looked After children and young people and care leavers are more likely to need specialist health services than their peers, whether Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, help with addictions or sexual health advice. For example, The Action Framework for Children and Young People (Scottish Executive, 2007) ¹⁹ indicates that 40% of children in care will have mental or emotional health problems. This is considerably higher than their peers who are not Looked After.

It is estimated that approximately 67% of young care leavers are smokers, 79% of young offenders smoke, and 94% of homeless young adults smoke aged 16-24. ²⁰

Teenage Pregnancy - Teenagers who become parents are known to experience more educational, health, social and economic difficulties than young people who are not parents. Consequently, their children may be exposed to greater social deprivation and disadvantage. These outcomes have been demonstrated to be more adverse still in the case of looked-after children who become parents. This is because this group is more likely than others to be unemployed, have more mental health problems, be expected to be independent and have little support. ²¹

Looked-after young people are at greater risk of teenage pregnancy and are 2.5 times more likely to become pregnant than other teenagers.

Research ²² has demonstrated that looked-after children are more likely to become sexually active earlier than other groups of children. A quarter of young women leaving care are either pregnant or already mothers, and almost half of female care-leavers become mothers between the ages of 18 and 24. Pregnant looked-after children are less likely than other groups to choose abortions or adoption because of personal experiences.

There is evidence from young mothers who had been in care of a feeling of maturity and status thus contributing to achieving an adult identity. The gains for some included a

¹⁸ www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/206458/0054871.pdf

¹⁹ www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/165782/0045104.pdf

²⁰ NHS publication Dec 2008 Young Adult Smokers in Scotland

http://www.scotpho.org.uk/home/Publications/scotphoreports/pub_youngsmokers.asp

²¹ Smoking, drinking, drug use, mental health and sexual behaviour in young people in East London. Publication by the Teenage Pregnancy Unit. <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/RW42c.pdf> http://www.southampton-partnership.com/meetings_events/reports/2005.09.27/TP_&Alcohol.pdf

²² <http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2008/01/23/107036/teenage-pregnancies-among-children-in-care-research.html>

renewal of family links and improved relationships with their mothers and their partner's families. Reasons for early parenthood are less researched. In *Moving On*²³, just over half of the parents said that their pregnancies were unplanned and nearly two-thirds of these were 17 years or younger. Disruption through movement in care, problems with truancy and the absence of a consistent carer capable of inspiring trust may mean they miss out on advice.

Reducing teenage pregnancy rates and supporting teenage parents is not always linked into the wider agendas of social inclusion and regeneration - but it should be. Teenage pregnancy is now a mainstreaming issue which has to be integrated into many different areas of work, including targeted youth support, integrated youth services, children and young people's health services, child poverty, raising educational attainment and reducing those who are not in education or training. Joined up working has been shown to be critical in achieving a reduction in rates.

Source: Teenage Pregnancy Independent Advisory Group Annual Report 07/08



²³ Helping care leavers, problems & strategic responses
www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/idcplg?IdcService=GET_FILE&dID=20849&Rendition=Web-

Appendices

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Appendix 1 - Framework For Action

National Outcome: Our Children Have The Best Start In Life And Are Ready To Succeed, We Have Improved The Life Chances For Children, Young People And Families At Risk.					
Community Planning Aim: Vulnerable People & Families Are Supported, Our Communities Are More Cohesive & Inclusive.					
Priority: The inclusion of a commitment to Corporate Parenting.					
	Lead	Partners	Outcome	Target	Timescale
1	Clackmannanshire Council	Health, Police, Voluntary Sector, Housing, Education.	1.1 The needs of Looked After young people and care leavers are recognised in strategic plans, strategies, and the Single Outcome Agreement.	Establish the role of the Corporate Parent and ensure that all staff and elected members are working in the best interests of Looked After young people and care leavers.	March 2009
				Appoint a Children's Champion	Nov 2008
			1.2 The needs and aspirations of Looked After young people and care leavers are voiced and supported at a strategic level. There is a recognition and pride of young people's achievements and they are defended against criticism.	Establish a Corporate Parenting working group for Looked After children.	January 2009
			1.3 Clear lines of accountability and governance in respect of Looked After young people and care leavers.	Evaluation of the action plan will be reported annually to Scrutiny Committee	March 2010
			1.4 Wherever a young person lives they feel they belong, are secure and can grow in confidence as their developing needs continue to be met.	All children are reviewed within appropriate timescales with young people encouraged to participate as fully as possible in their reviews.	Ongoing
Priority: The significant change in assessment and planning systems as part of the implementation of "Getting It Right For Every Child", and we need to ensure that the views of children and families are better taken account of in the new processes.					
	Lead	Partners	Outcome	Target	Timescale
2	Clackmannanshire Council	Health, Police, Voluntary Sector, Housing, Education, Community Learning & Development.	2.1 Partners work together to improve the outcomes and maximising opportunities for looked after young people and care leavers.	HMIE/Care Commission. SWIA report that the care and welfare of young people are appropriate, stable and of good quality.	October 2010
			2.2 Barriers are removed that prevent Looked After young people and care leavers achieving desired outcomes.	Ongoing consultation to identify barriers and gaps in services.	Ongoing
			2.3 Looked after young people and care leavers are able to access local services when they need them, and their experience is of the highest quality.	Increase the involvement of young people from vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in the full range of sporting and other activities available to young people as a whole. ²⁴	2010
			2.4 Ensure that the care and welfare of young people are appropriate, stable and of good quality.	Commitment to the establishment from existing resources of a dedicated Throughcare Aftercare Social Worker.	October 2009
			2.5 Looked After young people and care leavers are able to access local services when they need them, and their experience is of the highest quality.		
			2.6 Sharing information that is relevant to ensure a consistent service across agencies.	Establish protocols between all parties to ensure Looked After children and care leavers are visible and provided support at the appropriate time, particularly at points of transition e.g. leaving school/care, moving from primary to secondary etc.	October 2010
			2.7 There is knowledge about care leavers and there is support available to them that meets their needs.		

²⁴ Improving the Education of Looked After Children: A Guide for Local Authorities and Service Providers <http://clacksweb/document/meeting/196/289/2791.pdf>

Priority: The significant change in assessment and planning systems as part of the implementation of "Getting It Right For Every Child", and we need to ensure that the views of children and families are better taken account of in the new processes.					
	Lead	Partners	Outcome	Target	Timescale
2	Clackmannanshire Council	Health, Police, Voluntary Sector, Housing,	2.8 Encourage young people to express their views, ensure that they are listened to and included in key decisions about them.	75% of all children over the age of 8 should be encouraged to complete a 'Having Your Say' form for Childcare reviews that expresses the young persons feeling and views about their support from the local authority and partners.	March 2010
			2.9 The views of Looked After young people and care leavers are heard and listened to, and when decisions are made their views are taken into account.	Request CFIS to be updated to incorporate a field that pursues this issue to enable recording and monitoring.	August 2009
Priority: A major focus on reducing the number of children placed out-with the authority					
	Lead	Partners	Outcome	Target	Timescale
3	Clackmannanshire Council		3.1 Ensure that times of transition in a young persons life are planned and supported.	100% of children who leave care and are eligible for aftercare support will have a pathway plan.	October 2009
			3.2 Fewer moves between placements	Children have a maximum of 2 moves within a year of becoming accommodated.	Ongoing
			3.3 Reduce the number of children placed out-with the authority.	5% Reduction in foster placements out with Clackmannanshire	March 2010
Priority A commitment to providing full time educational provision for all Looked After children					
	Lead	Partners	Outcome	Target	Timescale
4	Clackmannanshire Council	Health, Police, Voluntary Sector, Housing, Child Care, Adult Care.	4.1 Improvement in the educational attainment of Looked After children	Continue to take action to improve young people's attainments. Including monitoring and tracking of attendance, behaviour and progress being made by all pupils. Paying particular attention to boys and young people who are vulnerable and at risk of failure so that appropriate interventions can be planned and implemented to reduce such risk.	2010
				schools have in place strategies to ensure that Looked After young people are not disproportionately represented in poor attendance, exclusions, bullying and underachievement.	2010
			4.2 Looked After young people or care leavers attend school regularly, pass exams, find and sustain jobs or places at college or university on leaving school.	Continue to work to reduce the numbers of young people between the ages of 16 and 19 and school leavers who are not in education, employment or training. . ²⁵	2010
			4.3 Schools know who their Looked After young people are and work closely with carers (including foster, kinship and residential) and/or birth family to meet the young persons needs.	Continue to operate to the guidance in the Core Tasks for Designated Managers document published in 2008. (New responsibilities launched at seminar in Clacks in Feb 09).	Ongoing

²⁵ Improving the Education of Looked After Children: A Guide for Local Authorities and Service Providers <http://clacksweb/document/meeting/196/289/2791.pdf>

Priority Greater and improved housing support for care leavers, including dedicated provision.					
	Lead	Partners	Outcome	Target	Timescale
5	Clackmannanshire Council	Health, Police, Voluntary Sector, Housing, Child Care, Elected Members.	5.1 Ensure that times of transition in a young persons life are planned and supported	Explore closer working arrangements between Housing and Child Care and implement recommendations.	November 2009
				Review Action For children Path management arrangements to ensure child care representation.	August 2009.
			5.2 More Looked After children moving into supported housing arrangements	Dedicated accommodation for two care leavers being provided from September 2009	September 2009
			5.3 The provision of a greater range and more appropriate accommodation for Care Leavers.	Review and report on projected accommodation needs of care leavers.	November 2009
				Set up specialist accommodation project to meet identified needs.	2011
			5.4 There is a variety of options available to young people moving from care into independent living with appropriate levels of support.	Child care needs will be incorporated into local Housing strategy.	July 2010.
			5.5 Changes to the Allocations and Homelessness Policy to reflect the needs and priority status of Care Leavers throughout their life.	Homeless policy amended and awaiting ratification by Council. Allocations policy review to begin in Nov 2009.	April 2010.
			5.6 Young people leaving care are able to access suitable accommodation without recourse to homelessness services.	Put in place agreed effective joint working arrangements with clear procedures and effective resolution mechanisms.	November 2009.
			5.7 Staff working in housing services understand their additional responsibilities to looked after young people and care leavers.	Frontline staff already undergone training organised by child care on child protection. To be rolled out to all staff.	December 2009

Priority Enhanced support into employment and training, including opportunities within the Council					
	Lead	Partners	Outcome	Target	Timescale
6	Clackmannanshire Council	Clacks Works, Social Services, Careers Scotland, Voluntary Sector	6.1 More looked after children leaving school for further education/training or employment	Ensure that Looked After young people and care leavers are recognised as a priority within employment programmes and initiatives such as Clacks Works.	Ongoing.
			6.2 All care leavers pathway plans will be sent to Careers Scotland who will offer a dedicated employability service to all young people leaving care.	Care leaver careers destinations will be reported annually and appropriate year on year targets set.	March 2009
Priority A dedicated health screening and planning process for all Looked After young people.					
	Lead	Partners	Outcome	Target	Timescale
7	Health	Child Care	7.1 Work with placing authority to make sure that arrangements are made for Looked After young people and care leavers to be provided with health care services, including medical and dental care treatment.	All Looked After and accommodated young people will have their health needs identified and an individual health plan agreed including registration with General Practitioner. This will be undertaken by the Well Chosen service within Health.	Ongoing
			7.2 Physical, mental and emotional well-being of Looked After young people and care leavers are addressed at the earliest opportunity.	Engage with all young people as they move out of the Looked After system and into independence to make sure they are engaged with the specialist Through care health services to meet their changing needs.	July 2009
			7.3 The Health service is accessible and inclusive, and this is reflected in inspection reports and feedback from other professionals as well as service users.	Looked after young people will be asked to comment on their health plan and support at all Looked After children reviews.	Ongoing.

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Web sites

- General Teaching Council for Scotland (see Publications, Guidance for Teachers, Looked After Children): <http://www.gtcs.org.uk/>
- Looked after Children: <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/lookedafterchildren>
- Scottish Children's Reporter Administration: <http://www.scra.gov.uk>



Clackmannanshire
Child Protection
Committee



Integrated
Children's
Services Plan

Caring parents delivering improved outcomes for young people.

DRAFT

Report to Council

Date: 4 June 2009

Subject: Amendment to the Scheme of Schools' Provision: Proposal to change the zoned area boundary between Deerpark and Sunnyside Primary Schools

Report by: Head of Education & Community Services

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. This report proposes that a statutory public consultation exercise be held to consider the proposal to make changes to the zoned (catchment) area boundary between Deerpark and Sunnyside Primary Schools

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that Council approve a statutory consultation exercise on the proposal to amend the zoned (catchment) area boundary between Deerpark and Sunnyside Primary Schools.
- 2.2. The public consultation period will run for 28 days from Monday 8th June to Sunday 5th July 2009.
- 2.3. A further report on the outcome of the consultation will come to Council in August 2009 and will make a final recommendation for amendment to the zoned area boundary.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The Council's Scheme of School Provision, first approved on 30 April 1997, defines the zoned (catchment) areas for all mainstream, denominational and non-denominational primary schools in the Council area.
- 3.2. The centre line of Hilton Road, Alloa is currently the catchment area boundary between Deerpark and Sunnyside Primary Schools. This means that the catchment area primary school for children who live on the East side of Hilton Road is Deerpark PS; for those who live on the West side, the catchment area primary school is Sunnyside PS. Consequently, Lornhill Academy is the secondary school for children who live on the East side of Hilton Road and Alloa Academy serves children who live on the West.

- 3.3. Now that the new B909 link road running South East from the Whins roundabout is in place, it is proposed to move the catchment area boundary between the two schools to this location. This will result in Sunnyside PS and Alloa Academy becoming the catchment area schools for all children resident in Hilton Road.
- 3.4. Currently there are no pupils resident on the East side of Hilton Road who attend Deerpark PS or Lornhill Academy. This means that no pupils will be affected by the proposed boundary change.
- 3.5. Two maps are attached for information. One shows the existing boundary between Deerpark and Sunnyside Primary Schools and the other shows the proposed boundary.
- 3.6. Roll projections indicate that Sunnyside PS and Alloa Academy can accommodate the anticipated number of extra pupils as a result of this proposal.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. None

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes ☐

5.3. Staffing

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

- (1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Our communities are safer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Vulnerable people and families are supported | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Substance misuse and its effects are reduced | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(2) Council Policies (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☒ No ☐

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Map showing existing boundaries

10.2 Map showing proposed boundaries

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

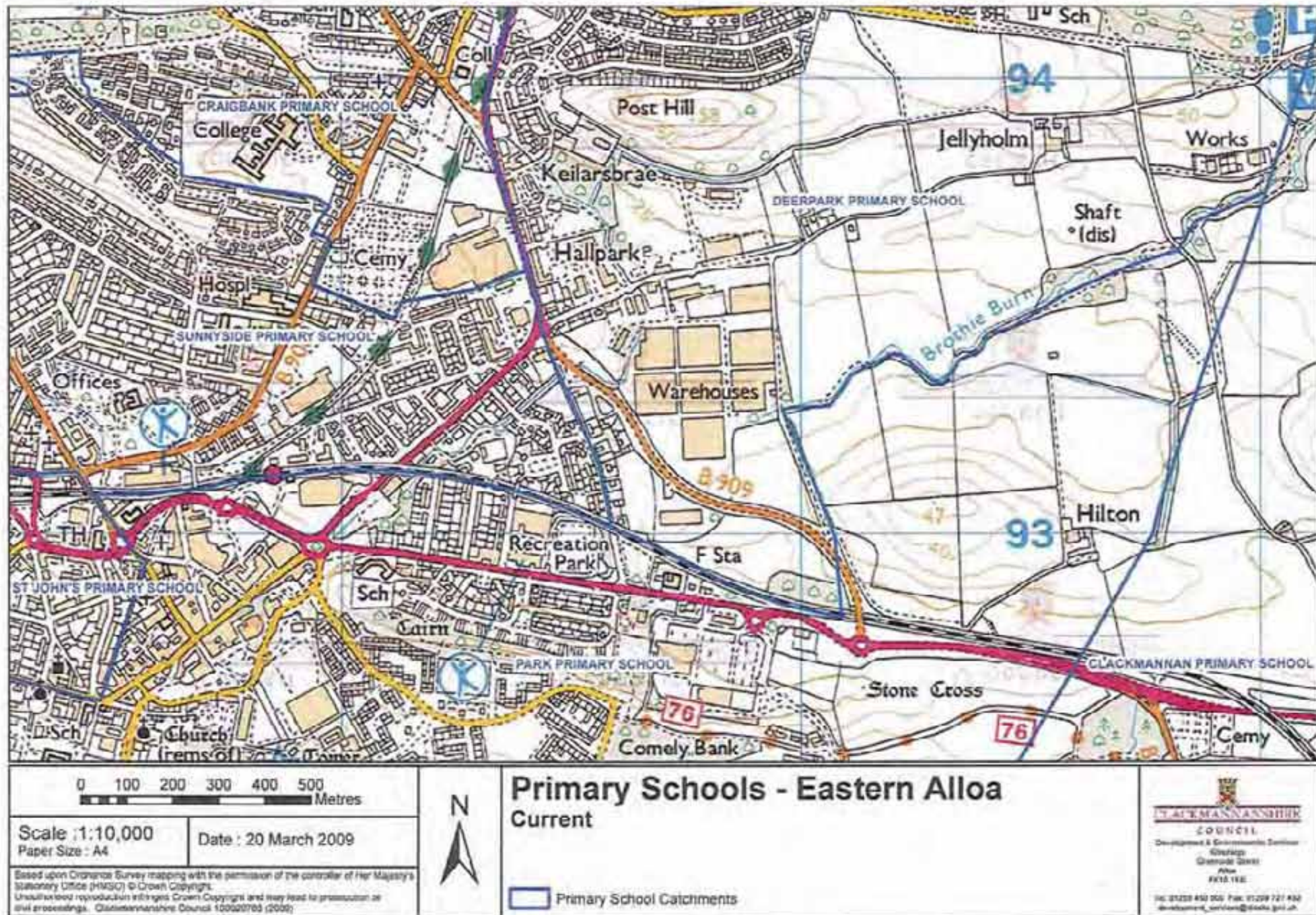
Yes ☐ (please list the documents below) No ☒

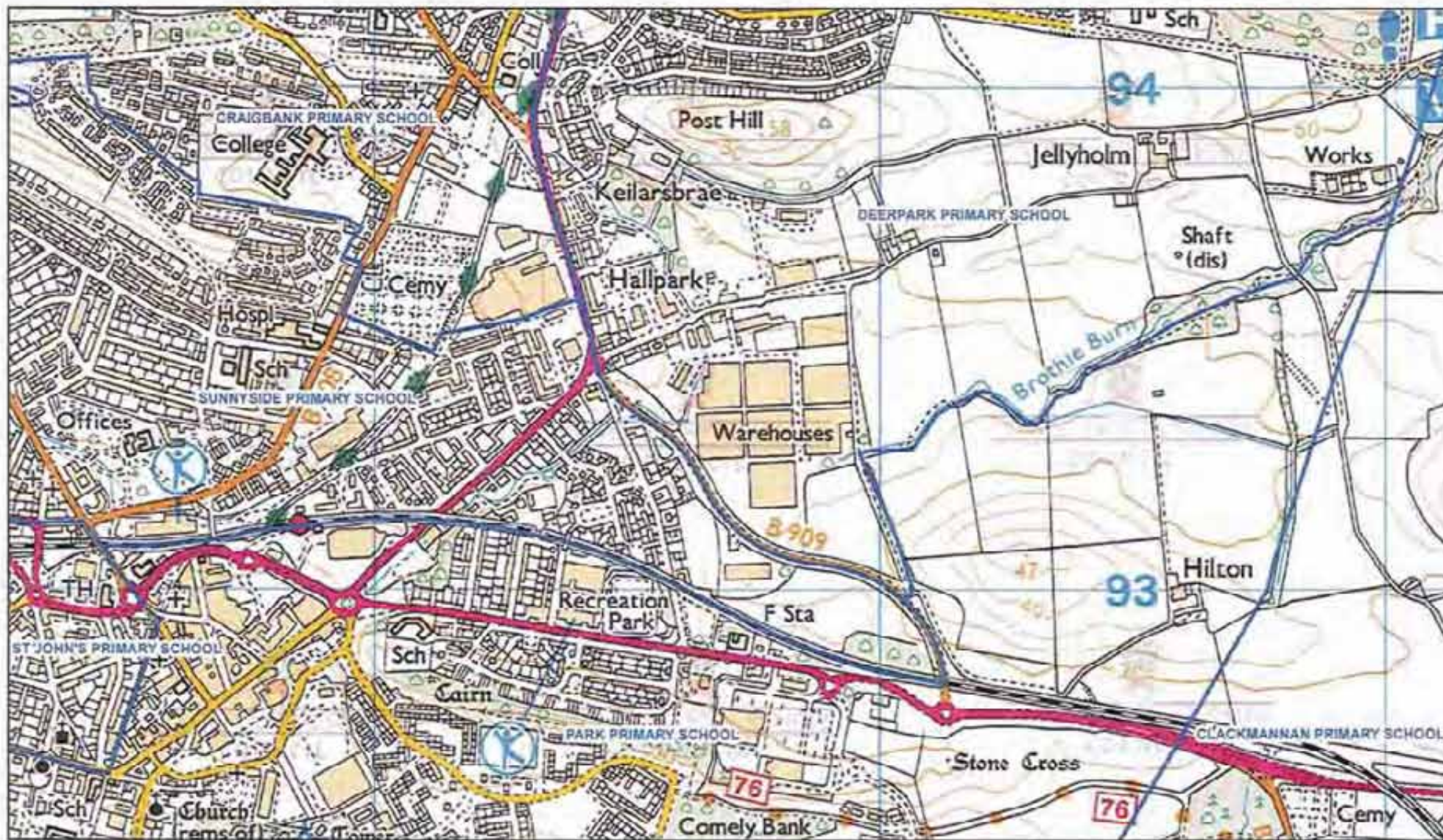
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Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
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Grahame Blair	Director of Services to People	G Blair (signed)





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Scale :1:10,000
Paper Size : A4

Date : 20 March 2009



Primary Schools - Eastern Alloa Revisions

Primary School Catchments

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Report to Council

Date: 4 June 2009

Subject: Amendment to the Scheme of Schools' Provision: Proposal to change the zoned area boundary between Abercromby and St Serf's Primary Schools

Report by: Head of Education & Community Services

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. This report proposes that a statutory public consultation exercise be held to consider the proposal to make changes to the zoned (catchment) area boundary between Abercromby and St Serf's Primary Schools.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that Council approve a statutory consultation exercise on the proposal to amend the zoned (catchment) area boundary between Abercromby and St Serf's Primary Schools.
- 2.2. The public consultation period will run for 28 days from Monday 8th June to Sunday 5th July 2009.
- 2.3. A further report on the outcome of the consultation will come to Council in August 2009 and will make a final recommendation for amendment to the zoned area boundary.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The Council's Scheme of School Provision, first approved on 30 April 1997, defines the zoned (catchment) areas for all mainstream, denominational and non-denominational primary schools in the Council area.
- 3.2. The centre line of Stirling Road, Tullibody is currently the catchment area boundary between Abercromby and St Serf's Primary Schools. The boundary follows the line of Stirling Road to the old junction with the A907. Since the construction of two new roundabouts linking Stirling Road, the A907 and the B9140, the boundary line runs through the new Carronvale housing development on the Western edge of Tullibody referred to as site H35 in the Clackmannanshire Development Plan.

- 3.3. The current catchment area boundary means that St Serf's PS would be the catchment area school for the majority of children resident in the new development. For those living on the South-Western edge, Abercromby PS would be the catchment area school.
- 3.4. It is proposed to move the catchment area boundary between the two schools to follow the line of Stirling Road to the new roundabout. This will result in St Serf's PS becoming the catchment area school for all children resident in the new housing development.
- 3.5. Houses are not ready for occupation at the time of this report, which means no pupils will be affected by the proposed boundary change.
- 3.6. Two maps are attached for information. One shows the existing boundary between Abercromby and St Serf's Primary Schools and the other shows the proposed boundary.
- 3.7. Roll projections indicate that St Serf's PS can accommodate the anticipated number of extra pupils as a result of this proposal. Since both Abercromby PS and St Serf's PS are associated primary schools of Lornhill Academy, the proposed change has no impact on it.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. None

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes ☐

5.3. Staffing

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

- (1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses ☐
 Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive ☐
 People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment ☐

Our communities are safer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(2) Council Policies (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☒ No ☐

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Map showing existing boundaries

10.2 Map showing proposed boundaries

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

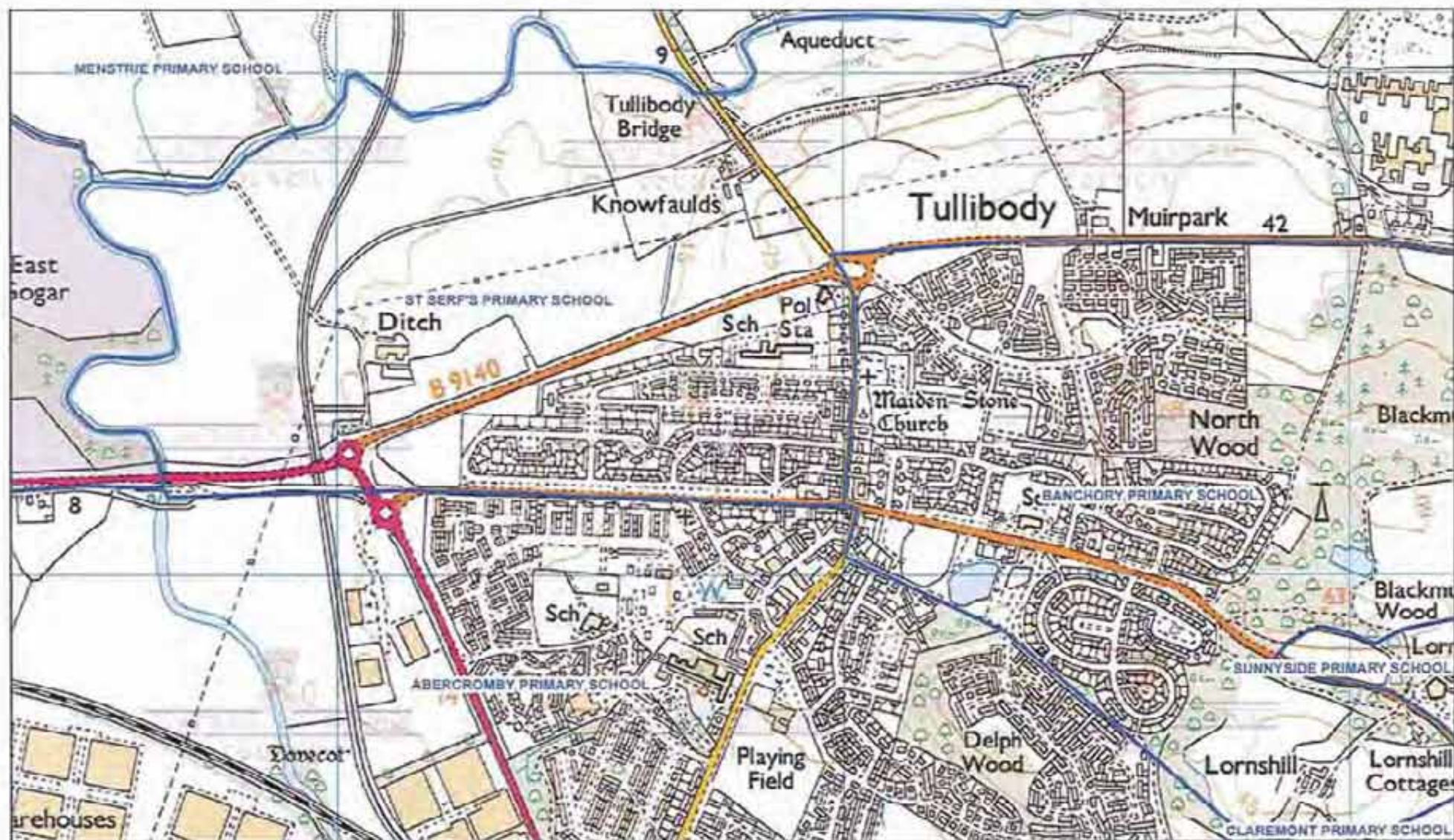
Yes ☐ (please list the documents below) No ☒

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Jim Goodall	Head of Education & Community Services	J Goodall (signed)
Grahame Blair	Director of Services to People	G Blair (signed)



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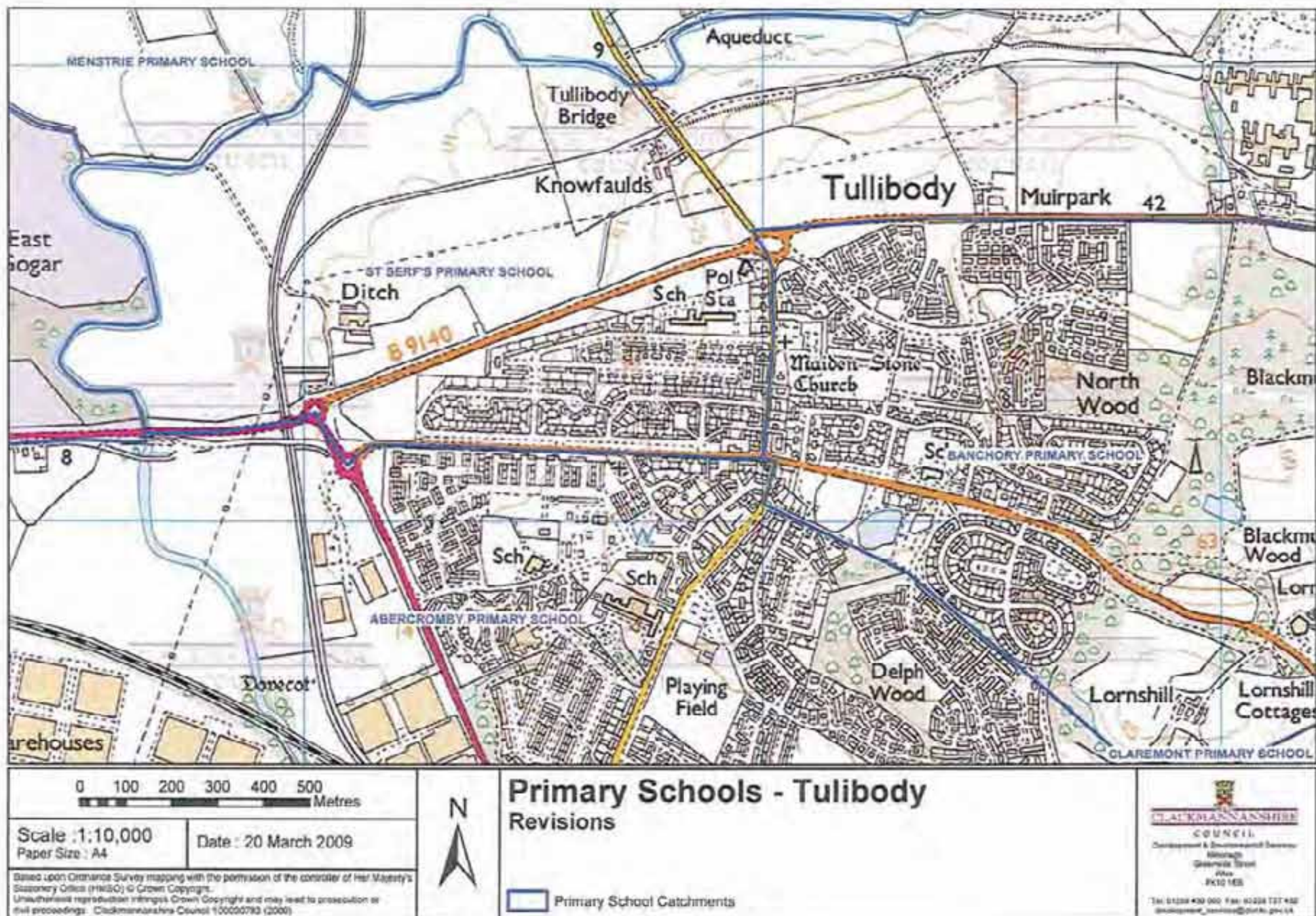


Primary Schools - Tullibody Current

 Primary School Catchments


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Report to Council

Date: 4th June 2009

**Subject: Closure of Clackmannan Nursery School and establishment
of a nursery class of Clackmannan Primary School**

Report by: Head of Education and Community Services

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to seek approval for a proposal by Education and Community Services to close Clackmannan Nursery School and to re-establish the service in the same location, with the same staff and under the management arrangements which have applied for the last eighteen months, as the nursery class of Clackmannan Primary School.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that Council approve the proposal by Education and Community Services to close Clackmannan Nursery School and to re-establish the service in the same location, with the same staff and under the management arrangements which have applied for the last eighteen months, as the nursery class of Clackmannan Primary School.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. Clackmannan Nursery School currently provides education services to children aged 3-5 years old, mainly resident in the catchment area of Clackmannan Primary School. The nursery school is located in the same building as the primary school. The nursery and primary schools are separated by a door.
- 3.2. Since the retiral of its Headteacher in October 2007, the nursery school has operated as a de facto nursery class of Clackmannan PS and been managed by the Headteacher of the primary school, supported by an increase in the allocation of Early Years Workers. This arrangement has worked well. There has been no reduction in the quality of service delivery. It is proposed that this arrangement should now be confirmed. This requires the formal closure of Clackmannan Nursery School.
- 3.3. The closure of any school requires that a formal, consultation process be carried out. A consultation meeting was held on Tuesday 12th May, 2009;

letters advertising the meeting and setting out the proposal that the nursery school should be merged with the primary school were sent out to all parents and staff. Some parents and staff attended the meeting; the proposal was well-received. There have been no representations from staff or their representatives in respect of the proposal. No representations have been made by email or letters. The proposal can be seen as being supported by stakeholders affected by it.

- 3.4. The services available to parents and pupils will suffer no detriment as a result of the proposed closure and revised management arrangements, as these will continue to be delivered as the nursery class of Clackmannan Primary School. The nursery class will be in the same location as it has currently and will have the same staff as work currently with pupils.
- 3.5. The management arrangements which operate currently will continue to support improved transition arrangements for pupils moving from nursery to primary education. As indicated previously to Council, the movement to a single management arrangement is wholly consistent with the principles of the Early Years Framework, published recently by the Scottish Government and CoSLA; this change in arrangements would be consistent also with the Council's Single Outcome Agreement and its Corporate Priorities
- 3.6. The changes in management arrangements are expected to be broadly cost neutral overall at worst: there may be a small net savings in any future, financial year. It is proposed that any such savings should be retained for use within the Education and Community Services budget.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes ☒

5.3. Staffing

There no staffing implications in relation to the arrangements which exist currently for the management of nursery provision in Clackmannan Primary School. The merger of the nursery school and the primary school, if approved, will allow the abandonment of the post of Headteacher, Clackmannan Nursery School.

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) Our Priorities 2008 - 2011 (Please tick ☒)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Our communities are safer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Vulnerable people and families are supported | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Substance misuse and its effects are reduced | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| The environment is protected and enhanced for all | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

(2) Council Policies (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☒ No ☐

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

None.

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☐ (please list the documents below) No ☒

Author(s)

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Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Jim Goodall	Head of Education & Community Services	J Goodall (signed)
Grahame Blair	Director of Services to People	G Blair (signed)