

Marr Area Committee – Statement of Outstanding Business (30 August 2022)

	Date and Item No.	Subject Matter	Action Agreed	Update	Responsible Officer	Date Completed
1.	6 November 2018 (Item 6)	Disabled Persons' Parking Spaces	Relocation of the parking space outside the Post Office on Banchory High Street be considered in the next review.	Aim to report to Marr Area Committee in September 2022.	Derek Murray, Roads Manager	
2.	17 August 2021 (Item 5)	A93 Station Road, Banchory – Request for Removal of Parking Bays and Installation of Prohibition of Waiting Restrictions	To instruct officers to re-engage with stakeholders and bring back proposals to a future meeting, taking into account Members' comments.	Aim to report to Marr Area Committee in November 2022.	Derek Murray, Roads Manager	
3.	21 June 2022 (Item 4)	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service – Marr Area Committee Performance Report for 1 January – 31 March 2022	(1) With regards to stations which were under establishment, to query whether this was of particular concern and whether there were any recruitment measures that	Response from Station Manager: (1) The Stations across Marr are in quite a healthy position at the moment with Alford and Aboyne at full establishment, Balmoral 2 below but with one recruit going through the system, Braemar at 3 below but running only 2 below during the day and Ballater 3 below establishment. My biggest concern is the establishment in Huntly which is currently 6 below establishment and Strathdon which is currently 4 below establishment but with one recruit waiting to go on an initial course. We	Colin Westwood, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.	June 22

			Members could support.	are constantly trying to recruit people into the fire service and any support that the local elected members could give would be most welcome. This could simply be promoting the retained service to the communities they serve when they are interacting with the local community and local businesses.		
			(2) To query command structure changes in relation to Huntly and how this would impact future Committee reporting.	(2) I no longer manage the station in Huntly and my colleague Station commander Kevin Coutts now manages the station. Having said that I am still responsible for reporting to the Marr Area Committee and this will include all the statistics for the Huntly area so as far as reporting to the Committee is concerned nothing will change.		
4.	21 June 2022 (Item 5)	Marr Area Plan 2021-23 Progress on Projects/Actions (October 2021 – March 2022)	3.072 Invercauld Bridge - project to be chased up to ensure it progressed.	Roads and Infrastructure are pushing Scottish and Southern who are responsible for making the electrical connection.	Donald MacPherson, Structures Manager	
			2.02 Void turnaround times – further information on examples in Ward 15	Clarity is requested from the Committee on what kind of examples are sought to assist in a response being provided.	Dave Thomson, Housing Manager	
			2.16 Digital suitcases project – to query whether the project was being reviewed in light of changes to covid restrictions	The Library Service signed up to a national Memories Scotland Digital Suitcases project in 2020 which would enable some of our staff to be trained in using digital memory resources. Initially we had a volunteer adding local images to the website, however this was all put on hold due to Covid.	Chris Murphy, Service Manager	August 22

			<p>and whether there was also in-person work on reduction of isolation.</p>	<p>In June this year we lost the staff member who was the lead for this project, but two other colleagues have since completed the training. We have allocated events and local studies resources to this initiative, a first for Aberdeenshire in order to set up new Memory Scotland Groups and roll out the training to more staff. Marr and Formartine areas will be the first to receive this new approach, whereby both digital and physical suitcases will be used by the groups.</p>		
			<p>2.014 Affordable housing units in Aboyne – further information on allocation policy</p>	<p>As yet, there are no firm dates for delivery and this is just an estimation. It is understood the developer is still in discussions with an RSL to take these forward. If these units for social rent are delivered by an RSL, Aberdeenshire Council usually have a nominations agreement for 80% nominations rights to the first tranche of new builds, thereafter then every second vacancy. These will be done in accordance with Aberdeenshire Council’s allocations policy and further assessed by the RSL. We do find typically that those on the waiting list who have selected say Aboyne as an area of choice usually have some connection there – work, family or live(d) there. No-one would be nominated/allocated who had not picked Aboyne as an area of choice.</p> <p>The units for Low Cost Shared Equity are prioritised by local connection for first time buyers or those with a change in their circumstances. This is explained further on the Council website here: Low Cost Shared Equity - how it works - Aberdeenshire Council</p>	<p>Moira Simpson, Affordable Housing Development Officer</p>	<p>August 22</p>

			5.05 Climate Ready Strathdon – request copy of final report.	Report posted on Councillor Ward Pages on 23 June 22.	Claudia Cowie, Team Leader (Sustainability & Climate Change)	June 22
			1.10 Care needs in Ballater – request further background information on the project.	Service response awaited.	Dawn Tuckwood, Marr Public Health Coordinator, AHSCP.	
5.	21 June 2022 (Item 7)	Education and Children's Services Year-End Performance Monitoring Report – Oct. 2021 to March 2022 (Council Priorities: Area Plan 2021-2023)	Requested further data on: (1) Early years and childcare staff retention.	<p>The Marr area is one of our most stable with staffing overall, there does not tend to be a high turnover of staff once recruited. Normal reasons for movement/change of staff such as maternity leave, change of service need and promotion tend to have the greatest impact.</p> <p>We have recently had difficulty finding a suitable EYSP to work in Torphins but we are looking at solutions for that. Previously we have struggled at times to fill posts in remote areas such as Braemar and Ballater and also Banchory. At the moment this is not a problem.</p> <p>Securing short term relief cover has sometimes been difficult but that may be partly down to the impact of Covid. Going forward we hope it will be a more positive picture with relief staff as the relief list is increasing with recent and current recruitment drives.</p>	Laurence Findlay, Director of Education and Children's Services	August 22
			(2) A comparison of foundation apprenticeship	As requested, figures for the 2020-21 FA Cohort (the most recent complete data) as follows:		

			dropout rates between schools and college.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Overall Attainment/Achievement Figures</th> <th>Aberdeenshire</th> <th>NESCOL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>% achieving full FA attainment</td> <td>76%</td> <td>42%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% drop out rate</td> <td>12%</td> <td>28%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>More background on all of this can be found in Item 3.20 of our DYW/FA Update report presented to ECS Committee on 17th March 2022.</p>	Overall Attainment/Achievement Figures	Aberdeenshire	NESCOL	% achieving full FA attainment	76%	42%	% drop out rate	12%	28%		
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6.	21 June 2022 (Item 8)	Environment and Infrastructure Services Performance Update October – End of March 2022 (Aberdeenshire Performs)	(1) Informal briefing with Digital Engagement Team.	Informal session scheduled for 6 September 2022.	Jack Rigby, Digital Stakeholder Lead Officer										
			(2) Any evidence to support increased recycling bin capacity leading to increased recycling rates.	(2) In relation to recycling rates increasing, the increase in recycling bin capacity cannot be considered just on its own but alongside the Waste Strategy objectives and aims of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging householders to treat materials as a resource – through promotion of waste prevention and efficient use of resources. Maximising the quality and value of recyclates collected – through using effective communication and engagement, and the team 	Alan Wood, Director of Environment and Infrastructure Services	August 22									

				<p>of Community Waste Officers alongside additional staffing during the roll-out of the service change, to ensure households understand what materials can be reused and recycled, and through introduction of operational changes that maximise the value of recyclables by separating paper and card from the other recyclables collected at kerbside.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maximising recycling through non-recyclable waste capacity – through reducing the weekly non-recyclable waste capacity collected from households at the kerbside, which has been shown through research to be one of the most effective methods to encourage households to use the recycling services available to them. The service change will effectively reduce capacity for residual waste from 120L weekly (currently 240L bin collected fortnightly) to 80L per week (current 240L collected 3 weekly). <p>Evidence to support this change includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composition analysis of Aberdeenshire residual waste bins in 2016/17 found that over 50% of what goes in to a typical residual waste bin could be recycled either at the kerbside or at a Household Recycling Centre/Recycling Point, with all of that resources currently being sent to landfill. The analysis found that despite having a weekly collection of food waste, the residual waste bin still contained over 20% of food waste, with half of this still in packaging. Paper and cardboard also accounted for over 10% of the residual waste bin. Overall 34% of the waste found in the residual waste bins was		
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				<p>deemed to be able to be recycled at the kerbside using the existing services provided. We have within the last month carried out further waste analysis of the residual waste bins and are awaiting an updated report but initial indications are still showing a very high percentage of recyclable material within the residual waste bin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) have carried out research and analysis of recycling performance and waste arisings, the outcome of which found that one of the factors influential in affecting kerbside dry recycling performance was the kerbside collection system characteristics. Those areas with less containment volumes for residual waste and greater capacity provided to householders for presenting their dry recycling at the kerbside achieved higher recycling yields at the kerbside. The report can be found at https://wrap.org.uk/resources/report/factors-influencing-recycling-performance• Benchmarking with other Scottish local authorities have shown that by reducing residual waste capacity has increased recycling therefore the need for additional recycling capacity. Some examples are: East Ayrshire moved to a weekly residual waste capacity of 80L and reduced their kerbside residual waste by 3.76% and increased their dry kerbside recycling tonnage by 6.5%; Falkirk moved to a weekly residual waste capacity of 80L and reduced their kerbside residual waste by 12% and increased their dry kerbside recyclables by		
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			(3) Data on number of compost centres and seasonal garden waste collection points in Aberdeenshire	<p>3%, glass by 17% and food waste by 77%. Perth & Kinross reduced to 70L weekly residual capacity and reduced their kerbside residual waste by 28% and increased their dry kerbside recycling by 4% and their food waste by 50%. West Lothian reduced to 70L weekly residual capacity and reduced their kerbside residual waste by 20% and increased their dry kerbside recycling by 9% and food waste by 28.5%.</p> <p>(3) There are 15 Household Recycling Centres that accept garden waste all year round and a further 12 seasonal garden waste collection points that are available on Saturdays from the first Saturday of April to the last Saturday of October. In Marr, the Household Recycling Centres are located in Alford, Banchory, Huntly with seasonal garden waste collection points located in Aboyne and Ballater.</p>		
7.	21 June 2022 (Item 10)	Petition – Speed Limit Reduction Covering the Entrance/Exit to Inchmarlo Retirement Estate	To instruct a report from the Head of Roads and Infrastructure on the subject matter of the petition.	Aim to report to Marr Area Committee in January 2023.	Derek Murray, Roads Manager	