

Priority C: Older People

Reason for selection of this priority

Recognizing the relatively high older age profile of the Bathgate population and linking this to significant projected population increase has been the main driver for selected this grouping. The group has not identified a particular age band, but many of the supporting statistics relate to groupings of those who are of pensionable age.

Example issue identified	Action proposed
Support independent living where appropriate	Community engagement including linkages with hard to reach groups planned, this aligns to "Planning Well" model to identify key areas of concern for vulnerable older people in Bathgate. Work with partners including 50+ Network, Ageing Well and Bathgate Volunteer Centre.
Sheltered housing complexes and older people community resources	New housing with care campus proposed for centre Bathgate location that will facilitate the differing need transitions.
Dementia	Dementia care facility planned for Bathgate location.
Income/ pensions credit/ fuel poverty	Work with partners from Pension Service, Advice shop, Housing Services and Bathgate volunteer centre to maximise pensioners income and take up of available grants, such as home insulation etc.

Customers with special requirements

Information is available in Braille, tape, large print and community languages. Please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service on 0131 242 8181.

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SUMMARY LOCALITY PLAN

Bathgate Ward 2008 – 2011

1. Introduction

The West Lothian Community Planning Partnership has committed itself to developing and delivering Locality Plans in each of the nine multi-member wards. Locality Planning is about planning and developing services at a local level, allowing services to be targeted in the most appropriate way and providing a more complementary, co-ordinated approach to service delivery.

The West Lothian Community Planning Partnership (CPP) brings together statutory, voluntary and private sector organisations who work together to plan and deliver services that can't be delivered by any partner on their own. The CPP has agreed a Single Outcome Agreement (SOA), which is an improvement plan for West Lothian based on jointly agreed outcomes that set out targets against key priority areas.

The objectives of Locality Plans are to:

- Support delivery of Single Outcome Challenges at local level
- Engage with and involve communities in identifying and addressing local priorities
- Provide a Focus for Action on local priorities
- Encourage integrated service delivery by Council Services and Community Planning partners

This plan has a particular focus on areas of deprivation; targeting key issues in local areas to improve the quality of life and reduce inequalities.

2. Bathgate Ward

Bathgate has a growing population estimated at 16,500, an increase of around 7% since 2001. A strong community spirit exists in Bathgate evidenced in part by the popularity of flagship events such as the Newlands Procession, Highland Games and Bathgate Music festival, which was introduced to the events calendar in 2008.

Bathgate has an older age profile in comparison with other West Lothian communities, many living close to town centre in accommodation such as Jane Place, Rosemount Court etc.

The town is going through an exciting phase, with many success stories including:

- Enterprising Bathgate becomes the first Business Improvement District (BIDS) in Scotland.
- Construction underway on the reopening of the Airdrie – Bathgate rail link due to open in 2010.
- Planned streetscape improvements for town centre
- Construction underway of the new Bathgate swimming pool due for competition 2010.
- Lindsay House rebuild which will incorporate Library and Community Centre facilities.



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3. Information on Locality Planning Structure

Initially a steering group made up from community planning partners met in March 2008 to discuss the issues relevant to the Bathgate ward taking recognition of the community profile statistics and public consultations that were previously undertaken. Three themes were identified as requiring specific targeted work and groups were set up to progress these issues and to encourage integrated service delivery by our Community Planning partners, taking recognition of the Single Outcome Agreement challenges and outcomes targeted at the local Bathgate level. Closing the opportunity gap to disadvantaged pockets within our communities and raising the bar in community expectations are a key feature of this plan.

The three themes identified by the steering group were **Boghall, Bathgate Economic Regeneration and Older People.**

Once these priorities were identified as themes, working groups of the relevant services across the community planning partnership were established. These groups have identified the issues in relation to each theme and determined the activity to address these issues.

These local priorities both recognise opportunity and tackle disadvantage and will be validated through further community engagement work and discussions with relevant senior officers.

The full Locality Plan contains a Community Profile; section on Community Engagement; information on the Locality Planning Structure; detailed Action Plans; SOA challenges and outcomes; update on Life Stage Outcome Model pilots; and a Reporting / Review / Governance section. The main part is the Action Plan which details current activities and proposed activities that contribute to achievement of the outcomes.

4. Reporting / Review / Governance

This locality plan will be presented to community planning partners in the ward and the Bathgate Local Area Committee (LAC) for validation.

Quarterly reports on locality planning activity will be provided to the LAC to allow progress to be monitored. One of these reports will be an annual report highlighting performance relating to the indicators identified in the plan. Prior to annual presentation of the plan to committee, the locality plan will be reviewed by the Steering Group and or partnership groups, where activity can be reviewed and new activity created.

There are several priorities which feature strongly across a number of Locality Plans. For each of these an existing or new West Lothian wide group will monitor the totality of interventions, consider the progress and outcomes from each locality action plan and how this should influence provision across the CPP area. These groups will specifically include partners who may not be able to participate in each individual locality working group.

The Locality Plans will be reviewed in April 2009.

5. Priorities, Issues and Actions

A summary is given below of the priorities identified in this Locality Plan, and what activity has been developed in response to these.

Priority A: Boghall

Reason for selection of this priority: Boghall with a population of approximately 4300 represents around a 25% share of the overall Bathgate population. Issues specific to health, wealth and community safety were discussed and local intelligence and statistical data were sourced to inform priority.

	Example issues identified	Action proposed
Healthier	Access to health provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore options with partners for increased use of Boghall Health Clinic • Carry out a Boghall Community Questionnaire specific to access to health provision. • Develop an Early Years forum in Boghall • Explore extended community use of Bathgate Academy and Boghall primary indoor/ outdoor exercise facilities. • Youth Issues group, highlighted a lack of outdoor football provision. Construction of a multi use games area within grounds of Boghall primary for use by both school and community was completed October 2008.
Wealthier	Employment / Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Access2Employment surgery in Boghall providing assistance with finding employment. • Explore Boghall employment opportunities on local major build programmes. • Computer buddy/ training sessions held in Boghall Drop -In.
Safer	Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted work by Police, Safer Neighbourhood, housing teams to share intelligence on anti – social behaviour issues. • Increase evening and weekend opening hours of Boghall Drop – In.

Priority B: Bathgate Economic Regeneration

Reason for selection of this priority: Previous community engagement has demonstrated the significant importance that Bathgate residents place on their town centre. The group have recognised this key issue and incorporated it into a broader remit that includes topics, Bathgate as a Place to Live, A Place to do Business and as a Place to shop.

	Example issue identified	Action proposed
A Place to Live	Town Centre Crime/ Bathgate in Bloom/ Population growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners including Police and Safer Neighbourhood teams to reduce Town centre crime. • Support Bathgate in Bloom initiative with links to reduction in litter/ graffiti/ fly posting etc. • Support community integration of recent population growth areas such as Wester Inch Village. • Improvements to town centre streetscape.
A Place to do business	Business Start Up's/Training/ Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore employment-training opportunities linked to major building projects in Bathgate and surrounding areas • Targeting Bathgate to increase Business start up rates. • Monitor business satisfaction with local area.
A place to shop	Availability of retail units/ Town Centre attractiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine options to increase availability of retail premises within town centre. • Work with partners including Traders forum, Enterprising Bathgate and Bathgate Town Centre management group on projects to improve visual appearance of town centre and improve shopper experience. • Car parking scheme to free up more spaces in town centre for shoppers and disabled users.



Classical giant figures from Catalonia visit Bathgate



Boghall Fun Day 2008



New Boghall kick pitch, installed October 2008



Boghall Drop-In and Resource Centre