

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
REPORT

To: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT AREA COMMITTEE	Subject: ESTATE BASED INITIATIVE PROPOSALS 05/06
From: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING & PROPERTY SERVICES	
Date: 24 May, 2005	Ref: TMcK/AC

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline to the Committee the Estate Based Initiative Projects, which have been identified by the local Area Housing Offices.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Projects identified under Estate Based Initiative should represent locally determined priorities, which could benefit the local environment by:

- improving security
- improving the appearance of close entrances, back court areas etc
- minimising future management and maintenance problems
- improving the quality of life for local residents

- 2.2 The Bellshill and District Area Committee approved the proposal of environmental improvements at Sheltered Housing Complexes during 2004/05, and the following landscape projects were completed.

- Moray Quadrant, Bellshill
- Unitas Court, Bellshill
- West End Drive, Bellshill

3. PROPOSALS FOR ESTATE BASED INITIATIVE PROJECTS 05/06

- 3.1 For 2005/06 the budgets allocated for the Estate Based Initiative projects for the Housing Offices servicing the Bellshill and District Area Committee are as follows:

Area Office **Budget Provision**

- **Bellshill** **£17,224**
- **Viewpark** **£6,839**
- **Motherwell** **£9,100**

3.1 The budget provision for Bellshill and Viewpark for 2004/05 did not meet the total expenditure required to complete landscaping works at all sheltered complexes, and it is proposed that during 2005/06, this initiative be completed. This work benefits the residents by creating where possible, a patio type area to provide an external meeting place for the residents. The projects also include improvement to fencing, footpaths, lighting and landscaping works.

3.2 Further works are proposed at the following complexes, which will enhance the improvements made during 2004/05.

- Kew Gardens, Tannochside
- Woodland Grove, Viewpark

Due to problems with ground conditions and access the area office was unable to commence works at the following 2 complexes, and it is proposed that these projects be completed during 2005/06

- Central Park, New Stevenston
- Clay Road, Bellshill

3.3 It is proposed that the balance from these projects be used to create external bin storage areas at a selection of closes throughout the area. This proposal follows ongoing and continual problems emanating from specific closes where residents and visitors are abusing the use of the bin storage areas, in many cases creating a fire hazard.

Options for external bin storage areas are being considered and consultation with residents will take place prior to any works progressing.

3.4 A total of £9,100 from the Motherwell Area Office Estate Based Initiative Budget has been identified for a project in Newarthill, which comes within the boundary of the Bellshill and District Area Committee.

The proposal is to remove part of a large grassed area to allow car-parking facilities for the residents of 72-94 Glenburn Avenue, Newarthill. This area is severely congested due to the width of the roadway and residents require to park on the grass verge. This is causing the grass to become worn and is also unsightly.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Committee is requested to approve the Estate Based Initiative Projects.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom McKenzie', written in a cursive style.

Thomas McKenzie
Director of Housing and Property Services