

To: AREA COMMITTEES		Subject: LOCAL AREA PLANNING
From: CHIEF EXECUTIVE		
Date: 22 May 2002	Ref: 012/01/SCR Local Area Plan	

1. Purpose of Report / Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to propose the development of Local Area Plans for each of the Council's Area Committee areas through which approaches to participation in local area planning can be piloted.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Local Government Act (Scotland) 2002 which will be enacted this year establishes, amongst other things, a statutory duty for local authorities and other key public bodies to actively engage with communities in promoting and planning for the wellbeing of their areas. Statutory guidelines are to be published shortly which will set out these requirements. Some time ago, the North Lanarkshire Partnership agreed that participation by local people in community planning would be most productive at local level and that this would be best achieved through the existing structures. It is acknowledged however that inconsistent operational boundaries often cause difficulties for the partner agencies.
- 2.2 The North Lanarkshire Partnership has produced a framework through which the wellbeing of the area can be monitored over time. This incorporates a comprehensive suite of indicators covering a variety of issues facing North Lanarkshire from economic performance to civic participation. The Council has led the production of Area Profiles for each of the Area Committee areas which reflect this framework where data is available and useful at smaller geographical levels.
- 2.3 An information based approach to identifying the issues and challenges in each area has been devised and is currently being piloted. These contain a range of statistical information covering the following themes:
- Population and households
 - Employment and unemployment
 - Benefits receipt
 - Learning
 - Housing
 - Land use
 - Health
 - Community safety
 - Local perceptions from the Residents Survey
- 2.4 Such local planning can influence policy by forming an input into the annual budgetary review and service planning process of the Council and the Community Planning partners.

3. Proposals for Local Area Planning

- 3.1 It is proposed to develop effective Local Area Planning on a staged basis. The key elements of the information based approach are to first identify issues emerging from the statistical profiles for the area (attached as Appendix 1), relate these in the first instance to Council service provision information already available, and then use this information as a tool to stimulate contributions to discussion on these issues at a local level.
- 3.2 An end product will be the development of key tasks and actions which will seek to tackle the issues and challenges identified. A potential structure for such a plan is shown at Appendix 2.
- 3.3 To help achieve this, the Chief Executives Office will support the local officer corporate teams in piloting community participation approaches as part of the project. A key element will also be consideration of appropriate mechanisms for NLP agencies to contribute to the process at a local level.
- 3.4 It is envisaged that differing approaches to participation, such as 'Open Space' events, will be implemented as a way of ultimately improving engagement by local people. It is proposed to pilot this in the first instance in the Bellshill & District Area and possibly one other area where profiling is furthest advanced prior to rolling out to other areas. Initial drafts of local Area Plans could be prepared for the next cycle of Committee meetings in September, and thereafter feed into the service planning process.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Committee;
- (i) agree to the development of Local Area Plan for each of the Area Committee areas;
 - (ii) note the completion of the initial Area Profiles
 - (iii) support the piloting of community participation on a staged basis; and
 - (iv) otherwise note the content of the report.

A Wintfield

Chief Executive
May 22, 2002

North Lanarkshire Council – Area Profiles

Airdrie Area

Summary Profile
for
Airdrie Area

January 2002

North Lanarkshire Council – Area Profiles

Airdrie Area

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Introduction

These Profiles have been compiled to inform residents, service users, decision makers and policy analysts of some the key data and information that describes and illustrates the social, economic and environmental condition of each of the Council's six Area Committee Areas.

A separate Profile has been compiled for each Area and, as it is intended that each Profile addresses the needs of that particular Area, the 6 Profiles will contain slightly different information.

There are two main aims behind the production of these profiles. The first is to provide interested parties with up-to-date, unbiased, consistent information on their Area in order to inform discussion and decision making in relation to the current needs of the Area. The second is to facilitate the process of identifying the key issues and challenges facing residents and service users in each Area.

Because the Profiles are aimed at a range of different users, they have been produced in two forms: the full **Statistical Profile** and a brief **Summary Profile**. The full Statistical Profile contains more detail including tables of figures, maps and graphs. Each topic in this version starts with a one page summary sheet – and the Summary Profile is simply a collection of these summary sheets collated together for easy reference.

The full version also contains a comprehensive appendix of contact information for community and voluntary organisations (not included in the summary version.)

A key principle in the production of these Profiles has been the desire to make the information they contain brief yet clear and accessible to as wide an audience as possible. To achieve this, attempts have been made to use clear terminology and simplify the presentation of numerical information. However, the views of users on further improvements in this area would be welcome as would feedback on the content of the profiles. A list of contacts is included on the following page for this purpose.

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Contacts

These Profiles were compiled from information provided by research staff throughout the Council combined with data and information from corporate resources analysed centrally within the Chief Executive's Office. The Profiles were compiled, published and distributed by staff within the Council's Information and Research Unit whose contact details, along with those of the other research staff, within and outwith the Council, who contributed to the work, are listed below:-

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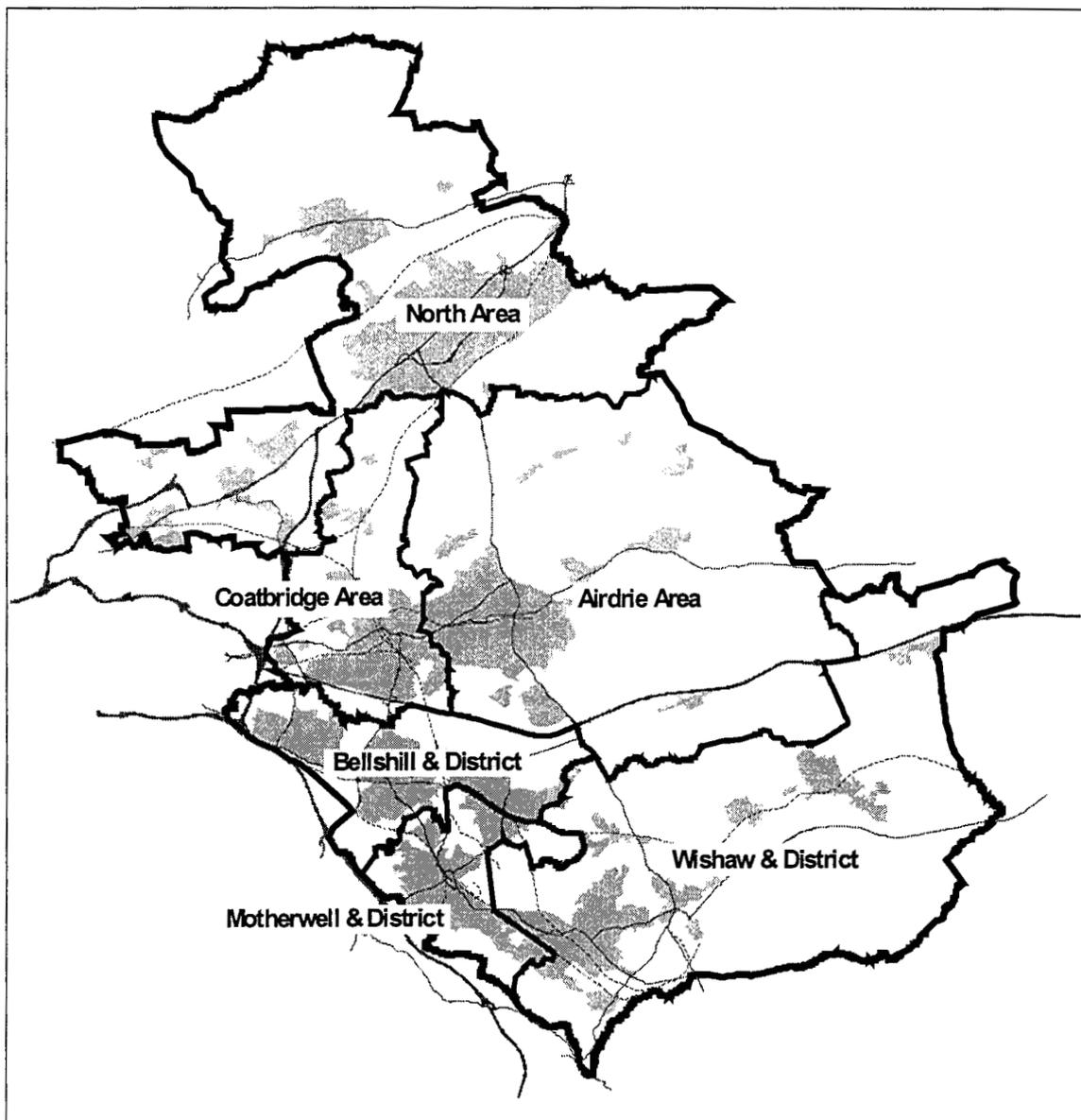
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Map of North Lanarkshire Showing Area Committee Boundaries



Based upon Ordnance Survey mapping. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. North Lanarkshire Council. OS Licence LA 09041L. 2002.

Note: A more detailed map of each Area Committee area is contained within the **POPULATION** topic of each Statistical Profile. *(Please note, however, that the detailed map is not included in the summary version.)*

North Lanarkshire Council – Area Profiles

Airdrie Area

Nº 1: POPULATION

Total Population, 1999

- The total population of Airdrie Area is just over 54,000
- The area has seen a drop of 300 since the 1991 census.

Population by age, 1999

- The Airdrie Area has a relatively young population, with only 13% of its population aged over 65 compared to 15% nationally.
- It has a relatively large working age population and a higher proportion of children than nationally.

Population Change

- During the 1990's Airdrie Area has seen a fall in the number of children.
- The biggest fall has been in those of primary school age.
- There has also been a fall in the younger working ages 18-29.
- Considerable increases have been seen in the older working age groups, 30-60/64.
- Those aged over 75, have increased in number by 15%, the comparative figures for North Lanarkshire and Scotland are 16% and 6% respectively.
- The bulge in the population created by the baby boom in the 1960s, will have ongoing implications as this age group grows older.
- Population projections for the former Monklands District suggest a continuing fall in the number of children, a slight fall in the working age population, and a continuing rise, albeit slowing down, in the number of older people.

Residences, 1999

- There are 21,600 residences in Airdrie Area.
- From 1991-1999 the number of residences increased by 1,500 (8%).
- More than a quarter of all residences are now persons living alone.
- Less than one third of residences contain children.
- Almost one third of residences contain people over pensionable age, with over 40% of these people living alone.
- The rise of pensioner households is expected to continue.

Main Settlements in Area

- Airdrie is the largest settlement in the area with a population of 36,500.
- The population of Airdrie has remained fairly stable since 1991.
- Chapelhall has seen the largest growth during the 1990s, with an increase of 12% in its population and 25% increase in residences.
- Longriggend has seen an increase of over one third in its population.

No 2: EMPLOYMENT

Employment

- The most up to date employment information at Area Committee level is for 1999.
- In 1999, Airdrie Area had over 17,000 employees.ⁱ
- 51% of the workers in Airdrie Area were male and 49% female.
- 73% were in full time jobs and 27% part time.
- Over half work either in Public Administration, Education and Health or Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants.
- 12% were in 'Other Services' (e.g. domestics, refuse disposal, sporting & leisure, libraries and the media). This is twice as high as for North Lanarkshire & Scotland.

Employers

- Over a quarter of all employees in Airdrie Area are employed by the 10 largest employers in the area.
- Monklands Hospital alone accounts for about 9% of the total employment.

Unemploymentⁱⁱ

- The unemployment rate for Airdrie Area as at July 2001 was 5.8%. For males it was 7.7% and for females 3.4%.
- The male, female and total unemployment rates in Airdrie Area are all slightly higher than the rates for North Lanarkshire and Scotland as a whole.

Unemployment Trends

- Unemployment is falling in all parts of Scotland and all parts of North Lanarkshire.
- Over the last year the number unemployed in Airdrie Area fell by almost 16%.
- The figure for North Lanarkshire is down by 7% and for Scotland as a whole, down 11%
- Thus, despite slightly higher than average rates of unemployment in Airdrie Area, unemployment has fallen by more than average over the last year.
- Since local government reorganisation and the inception of North Lanarkshire Council, in April 1996, unemployment has fallen by almost 43% in Airdrie Area. This compares to a 40% fall in North Lanarkshire and 46% fall throughout Scotland.

Age and Length of Time Unemployed

- 14% of all unemployed claimants in Airdrie Area have been unemployed for over a year, 5% for over 2 years and 0.4% for over 5 years. Airdrie Area has slightly less long term unemployment than throughout North Lanarkshire and Scotland.
- 31% of all unemployed claimants in Airdrie Area are aged under 25. This is greater than the Scottish figure, but slightly less than the North Lanarkshire figure.
- 425 claimants or just over 30% of all unemployed claimants in Airdrie Area qualified for the 'New Deal' programme. This was similar to the proportion throughout North Lanarkshire Council, but less than Scotland overall.

No 3: BENEFITS RECEIPT

Working Age Population Receiving Benefits

- Almost 9,700 adults in Airdrie Area are excluded from the labour market, either because they are unable to work or unable to find work;
- As a result, well over a quarter of adults of working age (29%) receive one of the main social security benefits (Income Support, Job Seekers' Allowance or Incapacity Benefit).
- This is a higher percentage than in North Lanarkshire as a whole (27%).

Child Poverty

- About 3 in every 10 children under the age of 16 live in households receiving Income Support or Job Seekers' Allowance;
- This is a slightly higher percentage than in North Lanarkshire as a whole (29% compared with 26% in North Lanarkshire);
- This means that 3,100 children are living on benefit in Airdrie Area.
- Almost 2,000 school pupils living in Airdrie receive free school meals, while 2,500 receive clothing and footwear grants.

Lone Parent Families

- Around 40% of lone parent households receive Family Credit and are therefore in low paid employment.

Pensioners on Low Incomes

- Around one in five retired people receive Income Support and are therefore amongst the very poorest pensioners. The figure in Airdrie is slightly higher than in North Lanarkshire as a whole (21% compared with 19%);
- Forty per cent of retired people receive Council Tax Benefit because their incomes are so low.

Disabled People

- Almost 3,600 people below retirement age (including children) receive disability benefits to assist them with everyday living.
- This is 8% of people in this age group, the same figure as North Lanarkshire as a whole.
- 1,500 pensioners, or one in every five, receive disability benefits (Attendance Allowance).
- The proportion of pensioners receiving disability benefits is 21% compared with 20% in North Lanarkshire as a whole.

Housing and Low Incomes

- 59% of council tenants (4,800 households) receive Housing Benefit to help with their housing costs;
- Just over 40% of all households in Airdrie (all tenures) receive Council Tax Benefit to help with their living expenses. This compares with 34% of households in North Lanarkshire as a whole.

North Lanarkshire Council – Area Profiles

Airdrie Area

No 4: LEARNING

Education Establishments

- There are 670 nursery places in Airdrie area, the majority provided by 16 local authority nurseries.
- 22 primary and 3 secondary schools serve the area.
- More than 8,000 pupils attend these schools.

Quality of Education - Residents' Views

- Airdrie residents consider the primary and secondary school education to be the second highest quality local authority service (Source: North Lanarkshire Residents' Survey 1999);
- 87% of residents think the education service is either 'good' or 'very good'.
- 76% of residents think primary and secondary education is 'very important'.

Attendance Levels

- Airdrie primary school pupils have consistently attended better than the NLC average and closer to the national average.
- In common with local and national patterns, Airdrie secondary pupils do not maintain their primary school record of attendance.

Attainment - Primary Schools

- In 1998 Airdrie was below the North Lanarkshire average in reading, writing and mathematics at Primary 2.
- Airdrie is now ahead of the North Lanarkshire average in writing and mathematics.

Attainment - Secondary Schools

- The percentage of fourth year pupils gaining 5 or more Credit passes has risen in Airdrie from 21% (1995 to 1997) to 24% (1997 to 1999). (These are 3 year rolling averages).
- Corresponding figures for North Lanarkshire are 22% to 26% and, for Scotland, 28% to 31%.

School Leaver Destinations

- The majority of school leavers in Airdrie (42%) entered further or higher education in 2000. While this is still below the average for North Lanarkshire and Scotland, the trend in recent years is for a growing proportion of young people to continue their education;
- A higher percentage of Airdrie school leavers enter employment (31%) than in North Lanarkshire (29%) or Scotland (26%).
- The proportion of Airdrie school leavers entering employment has over recent years remained several percentage points higher than the Scottish average.

Free School Meals and Clothing Grants

- The proportion of primary pupils claiming free school meals is the same as North Lanarkshire (27%) but higher than Scotland overall (22% of primary pupils).
- Uptake of clothing and footwear grants is 40%, the same as the North Lanarkshire average.
- One in four Airdrie secondary school pupils receive free school meals, a higher figure than in North Lanarkshire (22%) or Scotland (17%).
- 39% of Airdrie secondary school pupils receive clothing and footwear grants, higher than in North Lanarkshire (37%).

No 5: HOUSING

Current Provision

- The Airdrie area has around 22,444 houses across all tenures
- Owner Occupation is the prevalent tenure in Airdrie, mirroring the tenure split across North Lanarkshire.

Property Types & Dwelling sizes

- Airdrie and Villages makes up 17% of the total North Lanarkshire housing stock
- In 2001, an analysis of the stock showed that over $\frac{3}{4}$ of all social rented stock were 3 & 4apt size.
- Registered Social landlord stock in Airdrie accounts for 9% of the social rented sector.
- In comparison with the North Lanarkshire total there is a higher percentage of larger (4 & 5 apartment) family sized homes in the Airdrie and villages area.

North Lanarkshire Council – Area Profiles

Airdrie Area

No 6: LAND USE

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCS)

- There are a total of 102 SINCs in the Airdrie area.
- The Airdrie Area contains over one quarter (28%) of all Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation within North Lanarkshire Council area.
- These sites account for over 1,500 hectares of land in the area.
- Nine of these sites are around 15 hectares in size.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest(SSSI)

- There are a total of 4 SSSIs in the Airdrie Area, totalling 178 hectares of land.
- The Airdrie Area has 25% of all the SSSI contained in North Lanarkshire area.

Vacant and Derelict Land

- There is a total of 185 hectares of vacant and derelict land on 512 sites in the Airdrie area.
- These 512 sites account for 8% by area of all vacant and derelict land contained in the North Lanarkshire area.

Listed Buildings

- In the Airdrie Area there are a total of 49 listed buildings.
- These buildings make up around 27% of the total number of listed buildings in the council area.

Industrial Sites and Housing Sites

- There are 22 Industrial Sites in the Airdrie Area covering over 129 hectares.
- This represents 13% by area of all North Lanarkshire industrial land.
- The Airdrie Area has 111 housing sites covering over 248 hectares.
- This is 14% by area of all housing land in North Lanarkshire.

Conservation Areas

- There are 2 conservation areas within the Airdrie Area, these are located at Airdrie Town Centre and at Drumgelloch.

North Lanarkshire Council – Area Profiles

Airdrie Area

No 7 Health

A Long Life?

- The current life expectancy in NHS Lanarkshire is, in round figures, 75.
- In the Airdrie Area in 2000, around 275 people died before the age of 75.

Early Life

- The number of mothers smoking in pregnancy was 29%, and the number who are still breastfeeding at 6 weeks is 17%.

Health Related Behaviour

- 32% of adults smoke tobacco, the same proportion as in North Lanarkshire.
- 13% of adults drink more than the recommended safe weekly level. This is better than the proportion for North Lanarkshire as a whole (16%).
- Adults should take at least moderate exercise on at least five days per week. 34% of Airdrie adults manage this level, compared with 44% for North Lanarkshire as a whole.
- A combination of poor diet and low physical activity leads to weight gain. 32% of Airdrie adults are overweight and a further 16% obese – 48% in total, little different from the North Lanarkshire average of 51% (34%, 17% respectively).

Self Reported Health

- Self reported health is strongly related to age.

Diagnoses and Deaths

- There is no local data on *GP consultations*, but National figures applied to the Airdrie population suggests that there are around 192,000 GP consultations per year. The main diagnoses are: Respiratory disease and Musculoskeletal disease
- There are roughly equal numbers of consultations by those aged under 25, 25–44, 45–64 and 65+.
- Far fewer people are *admitted to hospital* as day-patients or in-patients. There were 16,400 admissions of Airdrie residents in 2000. The pattern of diagnoses is quite different from that seen by GPs, with the main ones being digestive system disorders, neoplasms and circulatory system disorders.
- 32% of hospital admissions in 2000 were aged 65+.
- There were 569 *deaths* of Airdrie residents in 2000. The main causes of death were circulatory system disorders and neoplasms.
- 74% of deaths were aged 65+, and only 33 (6%) under age 45.

Perceptions of Quality of Life

- The majority of people – 57% - are at least “satisfied” with their level of physical well being and slightly more are satisfied with their mental and emotional well-being - 61%. But around two-fifths are less than satisfied with their overall quality of life.

Technical Note: Most data in this profile is for the year 2000. This gives small numbers for some events and caution should be exercised in interpretation. Health related behaviour data is from the Lanarkshire Health Survey 2001. This survey, in common with most such surveys, under-represented those with poorer health related behaviour.

No 8: SAFETY

Crimes of Violence

- The overall average rate for the selected crimes of violence in the Airdrie Area is some 9% above the average for North Lanarkshire over the five year period.
- However, this is 4% lower than the Scottish rate and some 11% lower than the rate for the Strathclyde area for the same period.
- The difference is mainly limited to crimes involving Petty Assault, for example, the rate for the more serious crime of Robbery in the Airdrie Area averages less than 6 crimes per 10,000 population which is almost 40% below the equivalent Scottish rate of 9.6 and over 60% lower than the Strathclyde rate of 15.3.

Drugs Crime

- The average rate of 57 crimes per 10,000 population in Airdrie over the 5-year period mirrors the North Lanarkshire and Scottish average rate of 58 and is some 20% lower than the Strathclyde average of 72.
- The underlying trend in the Airdrie Area however has been falling since 98/99 in contrast to the other areas that have remained fairly static over the same period.

Vehicle Crime

- The rate of vehicle crime in the Airdrie Area reached a peak in 98/99 at 192 crimes per 10,000 population, which was slightly below the levels reached across North Lanarkshire and Strathclyde.
- Although the rate of vehicle crime in the Airdrie Area has fallen since 98/99, the rate of decline is slower than that experienced elsewhere.
- The 5-year average of 181 crimes per 10,000 population is some 2% above the North Lanarkshire average of 177 over the same period.

Housebreaking

- The average rate of 105 crimes of Housebreaking per 10,000 population in the Airdrie Area over the 5-year period is 6% higher than the North Lanarkshire average of 99.
- However, North Lanarkshire generally enjoys lower than average rates for this type of crime and the rate for the Airdrie Area is below that of Strathclyde and Scotland for the same period, and is following the same downward trend shown across all areas.

Vandalism

- The underlying trend for crimes of vandalism in the Airdrie Area has mirrored that seen in other areas and the 5-year average of 141 crimes per 10,000 population is slightly higher than the North Lanarkshire average of 139 over the same period.
- The rise in all the figures for 2000/01 reflects a change in the police reporting procedures for this type of crime.

No 9: LOCAL PERCEPTIONS

The following perceptions of local people in Airdrie Area are taken from the Council's Residents Survey carried out in 1999.

Awareness of Council Services

- Airdrie Area residents had above average awareness of which services are provided by the Council.
- However, only 25% of Airdrie Area residents were aware of the existence of the Area Committee – although this was the highest awareness level of any Area. (The figure for North Lanarkshire as a whole was 19%.)

Perceptions of Services

- Airdrie Area residents said:
 - maintenance of roads, footpaths and street lighting
 - refuse collection
 - street cleaning and litter control
 - council house repairs and improvements

were the most **important** Council services.

- Airdrie Area residents placed:
 - refuse collection
 - primary and secondary education
 - libraries
 - services for the under fives

at the top of the scale for **quality** of Council services.

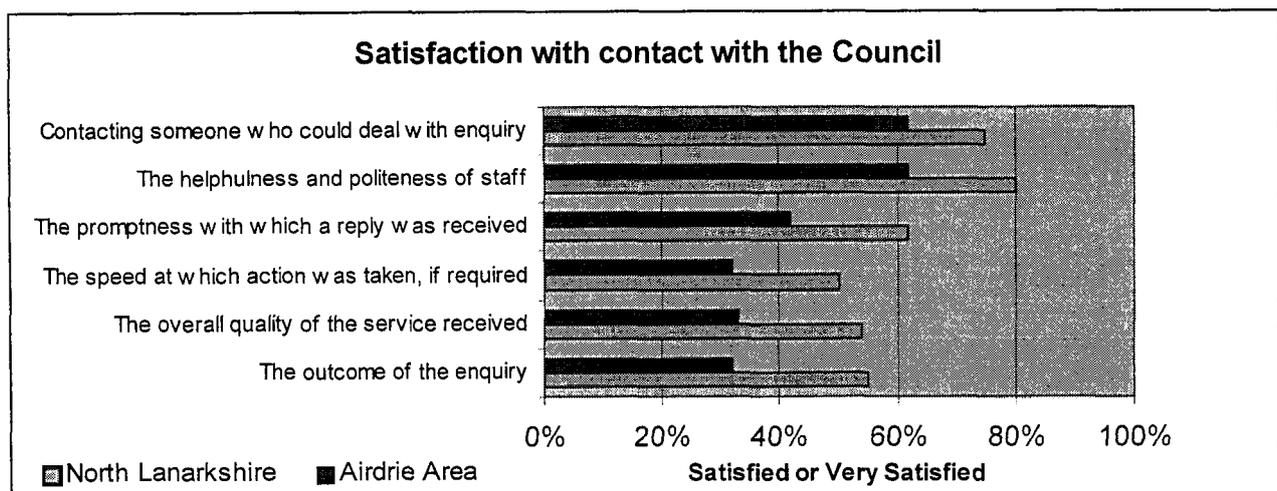
- Airdrie Area residents said:
 - support for the local economy
 - local planning and control of development
 - council house repairs and improvements
 - maintenance of roads, footpaths and street lighting

were lowest on the **quality** scale.

- Airdrie Area residents placed:
 - maintenance of roads, footpaths and street lighting
 - council house repairs and improvements
 - care services for people with disabilities
 - care services for older people

at the top of the list of **priorities for improvement**

Contact with the Council



Community Issues

Residents' views on how well a range of issues affecting local communities are being tackled, placed...
improving standards in education and training at the **top** of the list, and
bringing new life to town centres at the **bottom** of the list.

Draft Outline of a Local Area Plan

Cover Page

Foreword by Convener

Contents

1.0 Introduction

The context of public services, Council services and the various other plans in existence. Mechanism by which this plan feeds into the Council & Partner organisations planning processes.

An explanation of the need for local area plans and the background to area committees.

Include vision and values.

2.0 Area Profile

Explanation of use of the Area Profiles in the development of the plan including joint working at department and/or service level and how these processes will be developed in the future.

3.0 Issues and Challenges

The Area Profile data analysed by the corporate themes (below) and augmented by local information on service provision.

- The area and its population
- The local economy and employment
- Poverty and exclusion
- Education and learning
- Health, well being and care
- Housing and the environment
- Community safety

4.0 Partner Agency Involvement

Partnership activity relevant to the area.

5.0 Community Involvement

Appropriate methods and approaches to be piloted and developed

6.0 Targets and Monitoring

The recognition that any plan needs to be monitored against outcomes.

7.0 Priority Actions

Key partnership tasks relevant to the Area, grouped by Community/ Corporate Plan themes where appropriate.