

The Active Armadale Plan



Updated January 2019

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"Be transparent. Let's build a community that allows hard questions and honest conversations so we can stir up transformation in one another."

— Germany Kent

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

— Mother Teresa

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

- Margaret J. Wheatley



INTRODUCTION

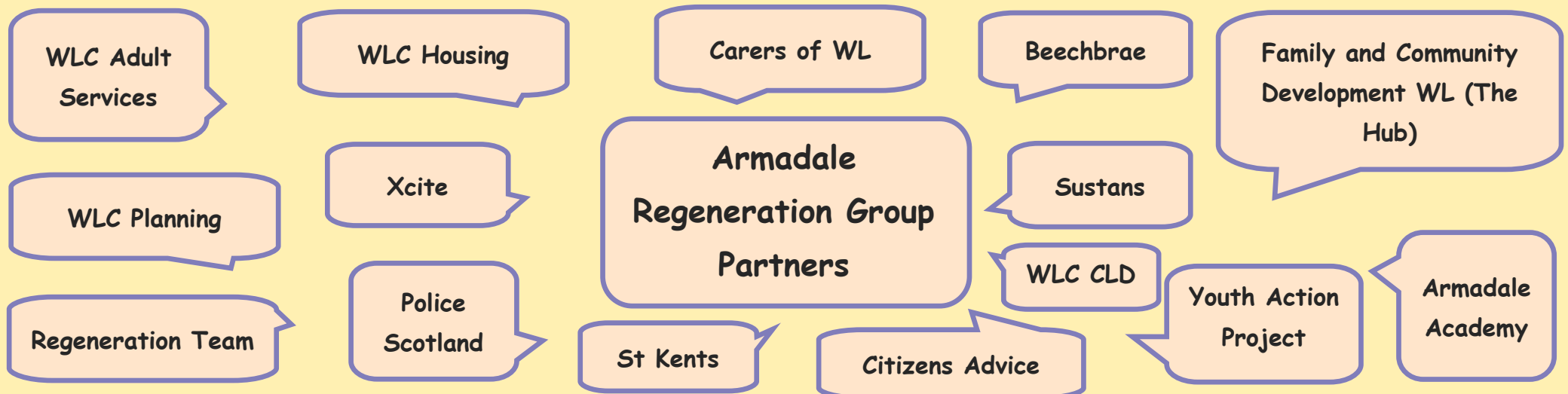
Why Regeneration Plans?

The Community Empowerment Act 2015 states that all Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland must develop plans for those communities which experience the poorest outcomes. These plans must identify local priorities and detail actions to be taken to reduce inequalities. In West Lothian thirteen 'regeneration areas' have been identified, of which Armadale is one. All of the identified regeneration areas have data zones within the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

This plan has been created by the Armadale Regeneration Steering Group. The group was brought together with the specific purpose of creating this long term plan for the village and it is made up of people from local community groups, council services and other agencies who work or live in Armadale. The diagram on the right details all the partners who are involved.

The plan has been created by using information from a number of sources. Firstly, community views have been gathered through a process of local engagement and consultation. The engagement data has then been collated and considered alongside statistical information from sources such as the Census, Scotpho and SIMD, and the local knowledge of the partners on the steering group.

This is a living document covering the next ten years and will evolve and develop with the community. The plan will describe how we are going to work better locally and in partnership. It will summarise the consultation taken place so far and set out a number of actions to be taken to create positive change in the community. In addition, this plan will link to other areas of work which we know affect or will have an impact on Armadale. Examples of this include the Anti-Poverty Strategy for West Lothian, the West Calder Learning Community Plan and the West Health Locality Plan.



HISTORY OF THE AREA

Armadale has an interesting and long history, most recently as a mining and brick manufacturing village but centuries ago the Armadale area was best known for its wild boar hunting. This attracted royals staying at Linlithgow Palace and it is believed that from this hunting tradition the village got its original name, “Barbauchlaw”, which was later changed to Armadale.

During this time, Ogilface Castle was located where Woodend Farm now stands to the north west of the town. It is now demolished but some up-standing remains of walls and stonework debris, forming a rectilinear structure, typical for a Scottish medieval tower house. It is unknown when and why the building fell into disrepair, but the site remains as vital part of the history of Armadale.

A change of name

The village of Barbauchlaw was little more than a rural farm community with a small population for several hundred years. A new turnpike road between Edinburgh and Glasgow was built in 1786 and soon after that the place name “Armadale” appeared on early maps of West Lothian. The first reference was in the same year when the estate, comprising the lands of Barbauchlaw, was sold to Sir William Honeyman in 1790.

Upon his elevation to the bench in 1797, he took the title of Lord Armadale from his mother's estate in Sutherland and this name was then applied to the township. The new location at a main highway junction between the two main cities in Scotland brought additional traffic to the area but the population was still relatively low until the mid-1850s.

A host of underground resources

However, standing amid extensive fields of coal and ironstone, limestone, and brick-clay, Armadale suddenly grew to a town size approximately in 1851. As with many other towns in West Lothian, deposits found in the area fuelled Armadale’s expansion with several pits being sunk in the area during the mid to late 19th century.

A coal company was formed in 1819 and began to work the area known as Woodend Pit. This resulted as an expansion of the area and railway lines were constructed transporting goods and an influx of workers all requiring housing and amenities such as shops, churches and village halls.

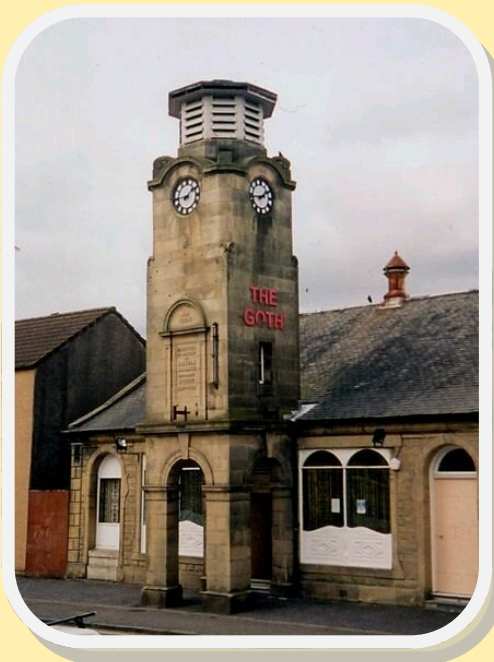


HISTORY OF THE AREA

Notable buildings

Armadale's townscape has several surviving buildings which contribute to Armadale's history. The original Armadale Primary and Nursery school dates from 1878, but was extended around 1906 to provide more accommodation for its pupils. It remains as a landmark for the town set on an elevated site above Armadale's West Main Street.

"The Goth" also in West Main Street is one of the few remaining Gothenburgh style drinking establishments still run by a committee, with profits distributed to worthy causes. This building was taken over by the Armadale Public House Society in 1901 and in its early days the Armadale Goth supported many notable causes; including funding the uniform and wages of a district nurse. In 1920 The Goth contributed to both the to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and the Ambulance Association, with an ambulance and garage in 1921.



One of the most notable structures in Armadale is the Ker Memorial that stands at The Cross. The monument is to honour Elizabeth Kerr a local midwife who died 100 years ago this year (2019) saving a child's life.

The toddler was 2 year old Mary Easton who lived on North Street, Mrs Kerr saw Mary standing the middle of the road with a car approaching, Mrs Kerr acted by rushing into the road and pushing the toddler away. Mrs Kerr took the full force from the vehicle which caused significant injuries resulting in her death. Mary was also struck by the vehicle but due to the selfless quick action of Mrs Kerr, Mary survived.

To honour this bravery, the close knit mining community collected money and paid for the erection of the memorial in the late 1920's .

The memorial describes the accident and includes the quotation "***Unbound Courage and Compassion Joined***" .

The memorial was lovingly restored in 2011 by West Lothian Council, and remains a focal feature in the town today.



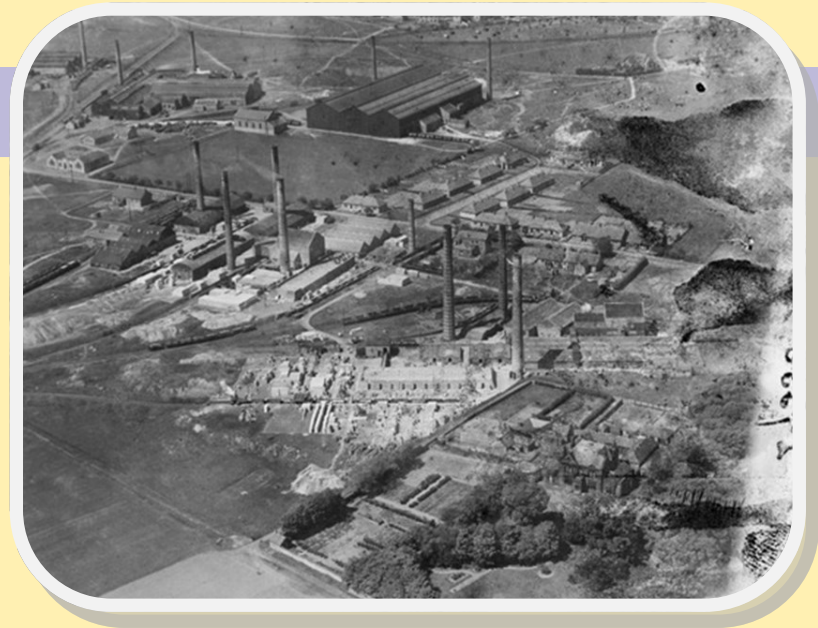
Kerr Memorial

HISTORY OF THE AREA

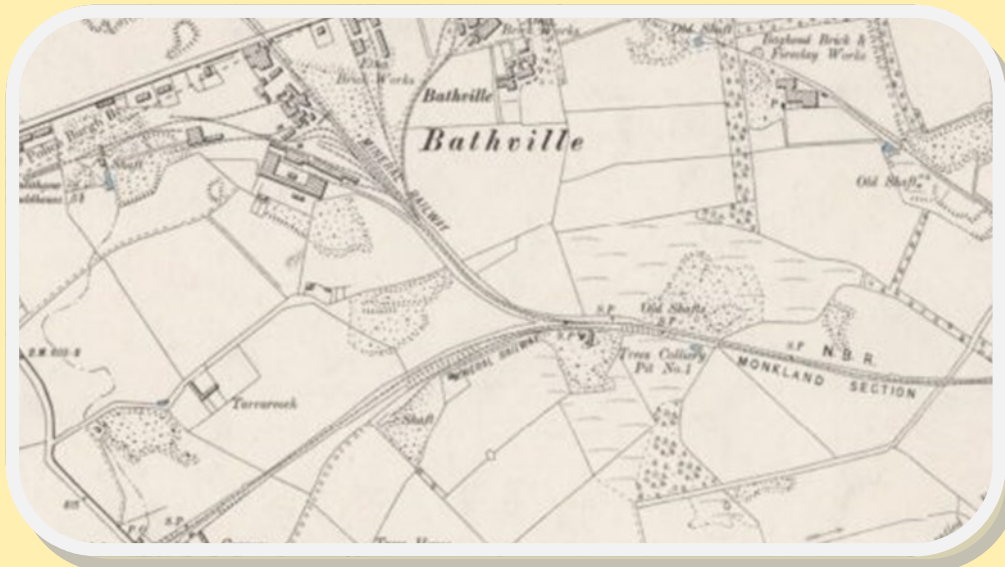
The Brick Years

As with most mineral dependent communities, as the deposits were exhausted and the pits closed during late 19th and early 20th century, many people moved away. However, enough local industry remained for the town to survive and Armadale became known for its brick manufacturing on the south east side of the town at Bathville. This site was first purchased for this use in 1859 and by the early 1900s several brickworks were sighted here.

By the 1950s, Armadale enjoyed a more diverse industrial structure than many of its neighbouring towns. However, the last brickworks within the area closed in 2011.



Aerial view of the Lower Bathville area in 1950's



Lower Bathville, Armadale in 1947.

United Fireclay Products Limited comprised of the Etna and Atlas Firebrick Works, The Bathville Pipe Works, the UNICOL Tile Works were all operational at Armadale.

Lower demand for refractories led to the Etna Works being converted to making building bricks under the ETNA brand and the closure of the Atlas Steel Works in 1973.

HISTORY OF THE AREA—Community Amenities

As far as can be determined the first school in Armadale was provided in 1819. This was the outcome of a decision taken by the townspeople of Armadale that their children should be taught the 'Three Rs'. The school was built following publicly raised funding and the first Head Master was Mr William Cameron.



Plans were approved in 1877 for the North School, built on Bullion Brae, now Academy Street. This school was the first of several that now make up the present Armadale Primary School. This 'first' Armadale Academy was officially opened on Friday 29th March 1968 by Miss Margaret Herbison MP and accommodated 700 pupils. By the early 21st Century it was decided the school wasn't fit for purpose and West Lothian County Council planned and built the new Academy through the PPP process in. It was officially opened in September 2009 by Fiona Hyslop MSP.



Mayfield Community House was opened to give the community a facility they could access in their own area. They provided activities for families with children under 5yrs, kids clubs for primary age and youth groups for secondary school age. The Dale Food Group started in the community house selling fruit and vegetables to the

local community. They were then involved in starting the Armadale Community Garden, which has grown and is still active today.

The community house became too small for the service and the Dale Hub was established. It is situated in the community garden and the two services have combined to enhance the service they provide to the community.



HISTORY OF THE AREA— Armadale Children’s Gala Day

The first Armadale Children’s Gala Day was held on Saturday 9 June 1900 to mark the recent capture of Pretoria during the Boer War. The parade which was headed by the Armadale Brass and Armadale Diamond Jubilee Bands went along East and West Main Streets making its way through the town onto the Volunteer Field where refreshments were provided. In 1902 the Children’s Gala Day was switched to new James Wood Public Park that was donated by James Wood, the Coalmaster of Bathville. In 1911 a pageant featuring a queen was introduced with this becoming a regular feature from 1925.

This photograph shows crowds lining the streets to watch a procession in 1913. Many buildings along the procession route would fly flags and bunting for the occasion. The procession included local school children, and consisted of miners’ horses and ponies and a series of decorated carts. (Scottish Life Archive).



A key feature of the gala day was the constructing of large decorative arches that span the road and pavements in front of the homes of the Queen and her Chief Lady. The arches were made by miners and later became a competition. This practice has now long gone but some say the competitiveness of decorating homes has taken its place with houses being decorated with various themes every year.



The Armadale Gala Day is a key event in the community calendar and is one of the biggest and well attended in West Lothian. The success of the annual event is due to the support from the Armadale

Children’s Gala Day committee, the involvement of local businesses and a strong community.



RECENT ACTIVITY IN THE AREA

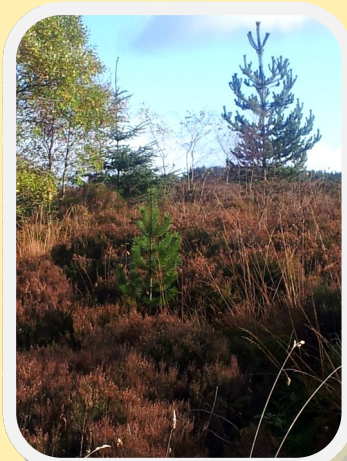
The Dale Hub

There is now a Cycle lending and maintenance project in the community garden and the Dale Pedlars have formed and do regular cycle rides. There is a Garden Tool lending scheme set up for locals who need a lawnmower, strimmer or hand tool to help them with the maintenance of their gardens.



Black Moss

The Black Moss is an asset to the community, there was a steering group formed to oversee the running of this nature reserve situated close to the town. West Lothian Council have a management plan for the Moss dating from 2015 to 2025 providing details of the importance of this natural asset and the way it needs to be looked after and protected. The link for the management plan is:



<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/9285/Black-Moss-Management-Plan-2015---2015/pdf/>

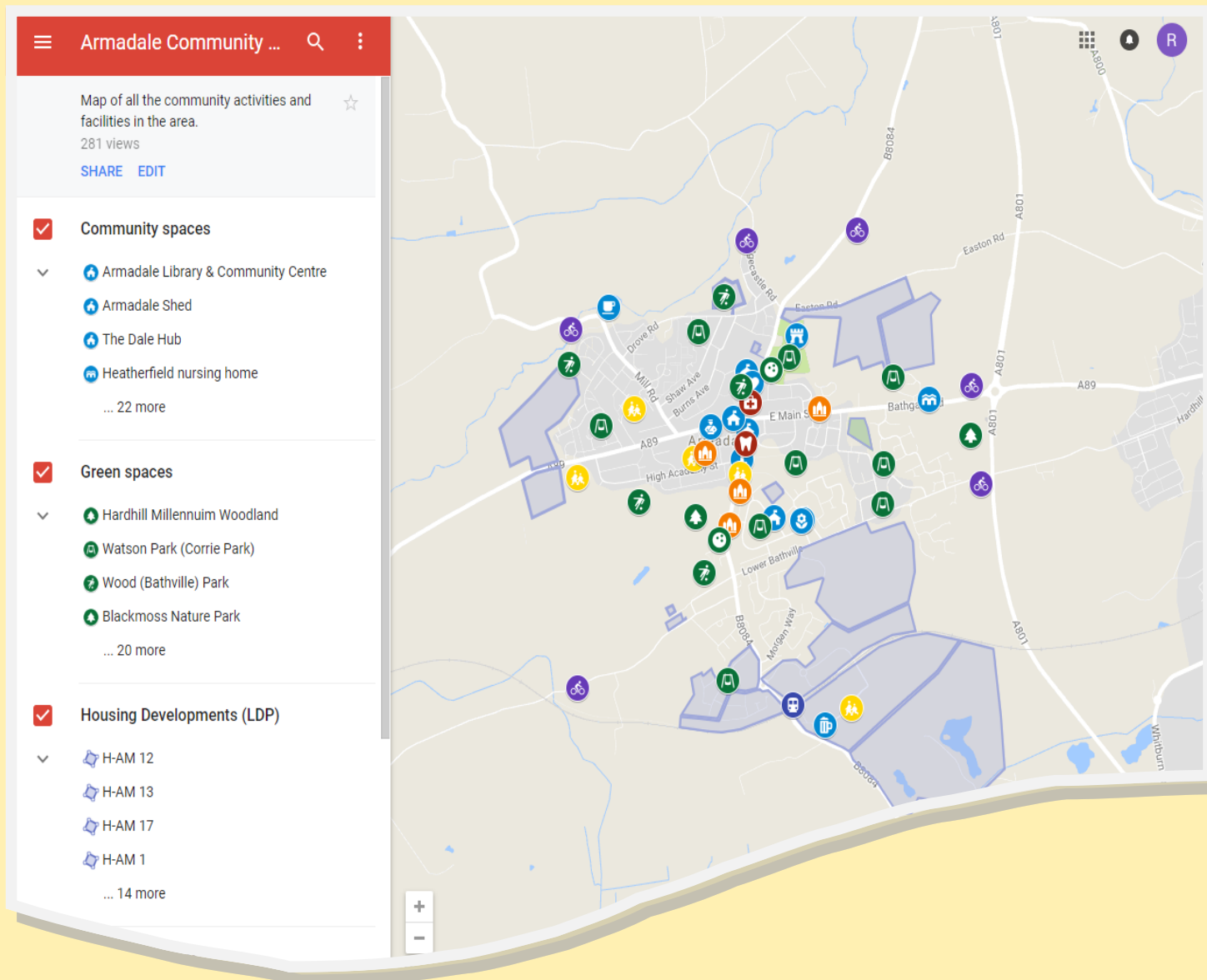
The Armadale Shed

The Armadale Shed is a community run and managed space in Armadale where people can go to socialise with others while enjoying various activities and workshops. The Armadale Shed offers a place for members to share tools, resources and materials while working on projects of their choosing at their own pace in a safe, friendly and inclusive environment. There is always a wide range of different activities on offer, from woodturning, woodworking and weaving to metalwork.

Asset Mapping

The process of mapping assets for Armadale began in 2014 using an asset based community development approach (ABCD). This process enabled organisations to identify where potential gaps in services and provision were within the town. Local workers and organisations took the lead in this work and collectively carried out engagement within the community. This information was collated and utilised to add strength to the continuation of community engagement carried out in 2017 and 2018. The use of this information gave a good baseline indicator to how opinions had changed in the 4 years. All the consultation results have been incorporated to determine themes and priorities that are important to the community of Armadale and are featured with the plan.

AREA PROFILE: interactive map



Community Map

This is Armadale interactive community map. It can be found on our here:

www.cragroup.co.uk/armadale

Click on the icons to find out what's happening there.

AREA PROFILE: what the statistics say

OUR COMMUNITY

12,100

Estimated population of Armadale¹



Life expectancy



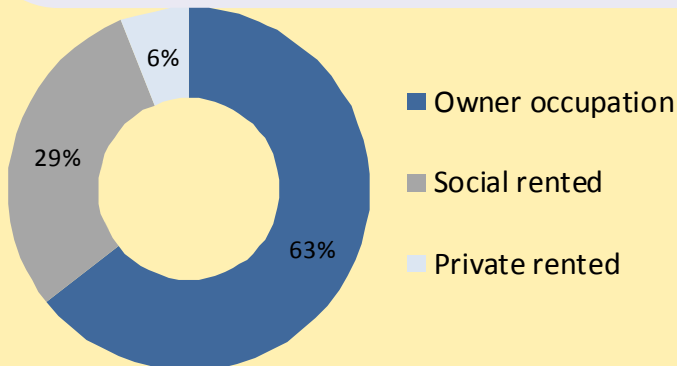
78yrs Armadale
77.9yrs West Lothian



80.8yrs Armadale
80.5yrs West Lothian³

Community assets and strengths

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Armadale Partnership Centre | Open space/ Blackmoss |
| The Armadale Shed | Martial Arts Organisations |
| Armadale Community Council | Uniformed Organisations |
| The Dale Hub, Community Garden and bike lending library. | Community Education Association |
| The Mayfield Community House | Xcite Armadale |
| | Gala day |



There are **5,160 dwellings** in Armadale.

OUR COMMUNITY CHALLENGES



10% of young people are not in education, employment or training compared to the West Lothian average of 7%³



18% of the population are on prescription drugs for depression. This is the same as the West Lothian average³



12% employment deprivation compared to West Lothian 10%³



71.8% of the population live within 500 metres of a derelict site compared to West Lothian 20.1²



3 out of the 17 Neighbourhoods in Armadale are within the 20% most deprived in Scotland³



19% is the percentage of children in poverty in Armadale and Blackridge compared to West Lothian 22%⁴

Data sources: ¹ Census Data 2011; ² Scotpho 2011; ³ SIMD 2016; ⁴ Campaign to End Child Poverty 2018

ENGAGEMENT: methods

H Diagrams

The H diagram is a simple tool which we have used to engage with those who live in the area. It consists of asking people, in person, what they **like** about their area, **don't like** and any **ideas** they have to make it better. These were conducted as a mini interview which helped us drill down to the details of the issue or idea. For example if someone said they liked the park we would ask them to explain what it is about the park that they like. On the back of the H diagram is demographic information questions this allowed us to make sure we got a good representation of the community.

Who have we spoken to?

- MCMC
- Skills Development Programme
- Kids Lunch Club
- The Shed
- Asda consultation
- Youth Action Project
- Friendship Group
- Parents evening
- Christmas Fair at Community Centre
- Armadale Academy
- Armadale PS—parents drop off and parents evening.
- Play for parents
- Online Survey
- Xcite

What do you like about living in the area?

Score on a scale of 1 to 10.

Could you please circle the number you think most reflects what you think about the area (1 for absolutely awful -10 for excellent)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Ideas to make it better

What don't you like?

Please complete the following section about yourself: your responses will be kept strictly confidential and are important to help us to analyse the questionnaire.

Please tick any of the boxes that apply to you

Destinations & employment	Community activity	Health	Transport	Housing
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Community centre	<input type="checkbox"/> Health centre	<input type="checkbox"/> Car	<input type="checkbox"/> Social housing
<input type="checkbox"/> Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Community centre	<input type="checkbox"/> Health centre	<input type="checkbox"/> Car	<input type="checkbox"/> Social housing
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Community centre	<input type="checkbox"/> Health centre	<input type="checkbox"/> Car	<input type="checkbox"/> Social housing

Your age group: 0-4yrs, 5-11yrs, 12-14yrs, 15-26yrs, 27-40yrs, 41-50yrs, 60-74yrs, 74yrs+

Gender: Male, Female, Other

To which of these groups do you consider that you belong? (Please tick one box)

Scottish/English, Polish/Eastern European, White other please state, Pakistani, Black Caribbean, Black (other)

Indian, Chinese, Mixed ethnic group, None of the above

Is English your main language? YES NO

Are you a parent of children that are under 26 years and that live with you? YES NO

Children's age range (could you put the number of kids you have for each in the boxes): 0-4yrs, 5-11yrs, 12-14yrs, 15-26yrs

Do you consider yourself or any of your dependants to have a disability? YES NO

Please Note: The equality information will be collected and used for statistical purposes to support the work of the Community Regeneration Action Group. This statistical information will also be available to the West Lothian Community Planning Partnership to help shape services at a strategic level for the West Lothian Communities. If you are happy for the equality information to be collected and used for the above purpose please sign and date the form.

Name: Address: Contact Number: Date: Signature:



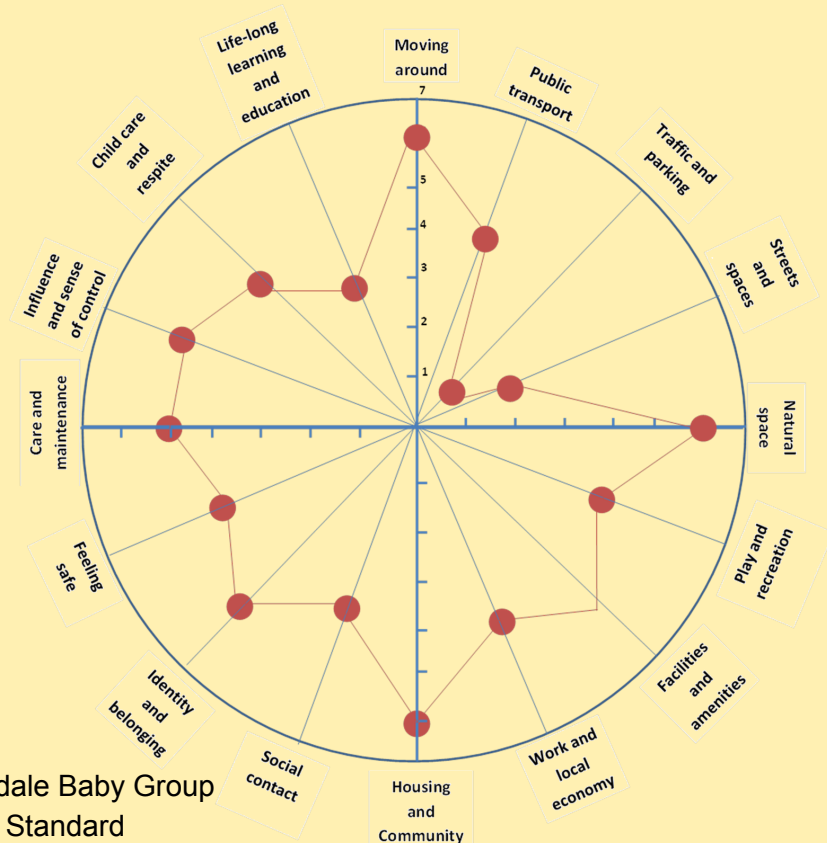
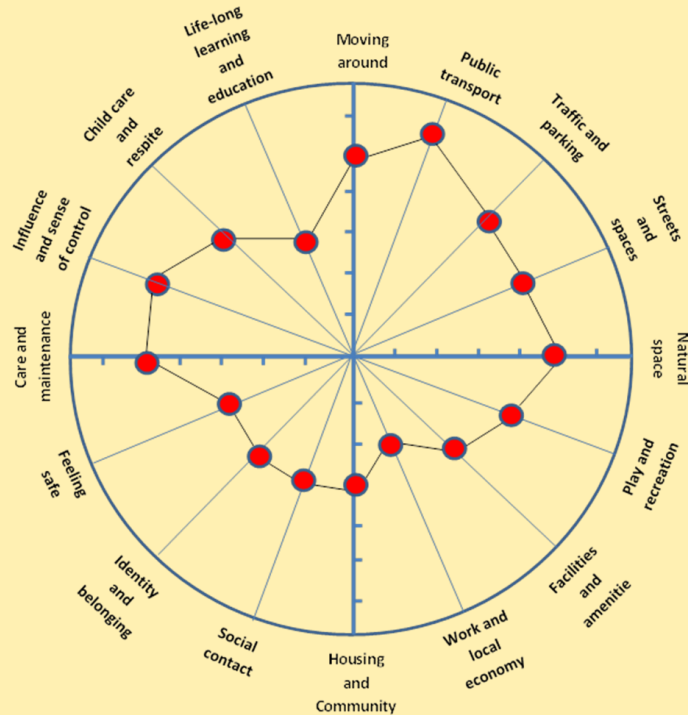
ENGAGEMENT: who took part

Place Standard

The Place Standard tool was designed by the Scottish Government, NHS Scotland and Architecture and Design Scotland. It provides a simple framework to structure conversations about place and community. It covers the physical and social environment. We have added two more themes which we felt were important: Lifelong learning and education; and Childcare and respite.

Who we've spoken to

- Girls Youth Group
- Baby Group
- Monday Mums HIIC
- Youth Group



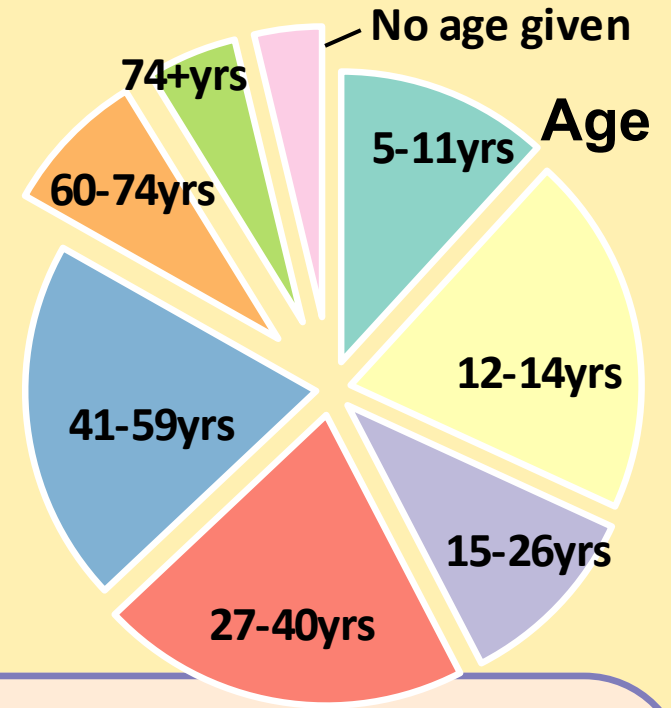
Armadale Baby Group Place Standard

ENGAGEMENT: demographic breakdown

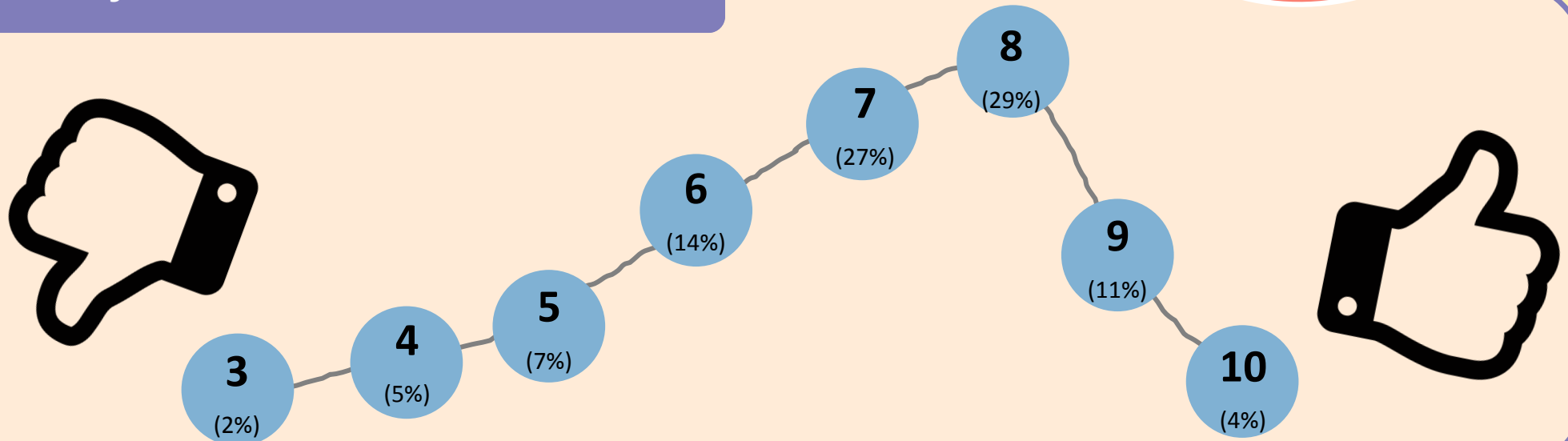
395 people completed the survey



14% of people who provided their postcode live in SIMD most deprived 20%



What you rated Armadale out of 10



ENGAGEMENT: findings

All the information from the H Diagrams and Place Standards were gathered together. The comments on the H Diagrams were split up under the place standard themes. When we asked people what they liked about Armadale this allowed us to identify what the communities assets were. By asking what they don't like and any ideas to make it better, this has helped identify priorities and areas for action.

What we like



Facilities and amenities 282 comments

Community centre– Asda– Swimming pool–shops– Dale Hub—Armadale Shed

Identity and Belonging 163 comments

Community spirit– From here- Friendly– Community

Play and recreation 155 comments

Parks– Gala day– Clubs and Groups

Learning and education 88 comments

Good schools

What we don't like



Facilities and amenities 169 comments

Traffic and parking 139 comments

Feeling safe 80 comments

Streets and spaces 78 comments

Our ideas



Facilities and amenities 163 comments

Play and recreation 130 comments

Traffic and parking 60 comments

Streets and spaces 40 comments

CREATING PRIORITIES

By incorporating the consultation findings, the information we have about Armadale from official statistics, and the local knowledge of the community members and partner agencies who sit on the Armadale steering group, we have determined five initial priorities that this community plan will focus on.

The main and overarching priority will be Poverty Health and Wellbeing. This priority came from the statistical data we have from sources such as SIMD and Scotpho and also the main factors that the physical and social environment in which we live and work influences on our health and wellbeing.

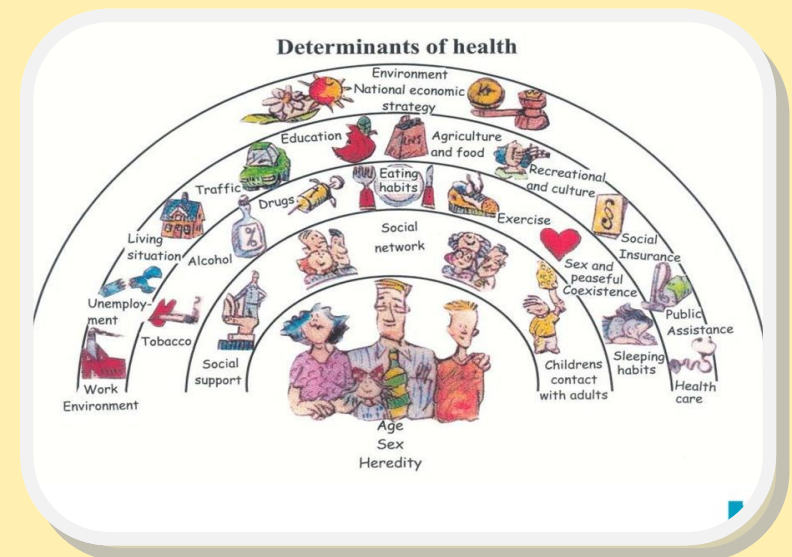
The community priorities identified by the community themselves include: Traffic and Parking; Derelict Sites. Streets and Space and perception of the area; Facilities: Shops and Health; Play, Leisure and Recreation. These fit directly into the overarching theme relating to the physical and social environment

Positive aspects of communities that can nurture health and wellbeing include

- feelings of safety
- access to job opportunities
- access to affordable goods and services
- having places to meet people and socialise
- social networks and relationships with neighbours
- sense of belonging to the community and having influence and control.

Negative aspects of communities can include

- loneliness
- feeling unsafe
- lack of street life and sociability
- lack of a sense of control or purpose sense of feeling disconnected from community life.



All the available information has been used to help develop actions that can be taken to address the issues that people have raised, or that we know are affecting the lives of people who live here.

ARMADALE'S OVERARCHING PRIORITY

Poverty, Health and Wellbeing



Actions



The overarching priority for Armadale's plan is Poverty, Health and Wellbeing. This was developed using the steering groups local knowledge and the statistics for the area. The statistics relating the percentage of children living in poverty, the percentage of young people not in education, employment or training, the percentage of employment deprivation, and the percentage of people on prescription drugs for depression are considerably higher in Armadale than the West Lothian average.

Due to these statistics being higher than the average, the steering group felt these areas needed to be included in the overarching theme.

The areas chosen to look at and to work towards reducing inequality are:

- Mental Health
- Children living in poverty
- Positive destinations for young people
- Employment and training



These are wider issues in the community, which will be addressed over a longer period of time and will link with the actions in the community themes identified through the consultation carried out.

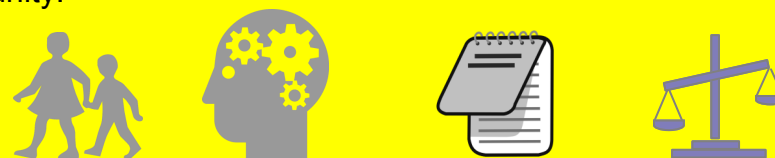
Additional comments from the community relating to issues with the GP practice are being included in this priority. Many people expressed concern about not being able to get an appointment, the length of time it takes to get an appointment and new community members not being able to register with their local GP practice.

ARMADALES PRIORITIES: Poverty Health and Wellbeing

Key Issues /needs identified: .

Statistics provide evidence relating to the percentage of children living in poverty, the percentage of the population being on prescription drugs for depression, anxiety and psychosis.

The need for better communication of issues between the GP practice and the community.



Current position:

19% of children living in poverty.

18% of the population on prescription drugs for depression, anxiety and psychosis.

12% of the community in employment deprivation.

10% of young people are not in education, employment or training.

The community feel that they are unable to get GP appointment and that the booking process is not adequate

Outcome:

Reduced number of children living in poverty.

Reduced number of people being prescribed drugs for depression, anxiety and psychosis.

Reduced number of people in employment deprivation.

An increase in number of young people in positive destinations

Better communication between the GP Practice and the community.

A reduction in barriers and an increase in positive perception relating to services from health partners.

How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan:

- We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.
- We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.
- We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities.

WLCPP Anti poverty strategy 2018-23 'Taking Action for Change'

- Targeting services to reduce inequalities
- Shifting resources upstream to deliver preventable measures
- Ensuring that we obtain the maximum impact for our expenditure

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Poverty Health and Wellbeing

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Poverty Health and Wellbeing		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Establish a working Health and Wellbeing Subgroup made up of partner organisations and members of the community	AAG	2018	Subgroup established with NHS chairing, reps from various organisations and community members involved.
Look at setting up a community fridge in Armadale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and secure funding • Identify location • Project management plan to be put in place for the running of the community fridge. • Secure regular food donations • Launch date/event 	AAG HandWB Sub-group The Dale Hub	2019—on going	Visit to Community Fridge in Craigshill organised. Funding for fridge confirmed. Location of fridge identified, will be in The Community Garden in the Hub. Contract with ASDA and Fareshare Go secured for donations of food.

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Poverty Health and Wellbeing

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Poverty Health and Wellbeing		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
<p>Look at setting up a social prescribing mechanism for GP and health professionals to sign post patients into.</p> <p>Attend the 1st Steps Meeting to discuss social prescribing.</p>	<p>AAG</p> <p>HandWB Sub-group</p> <p>GP Practice</p> <p>Health in Later Life Group (HILL)</p> <p>Health Inequalities and Health Improvement Alliance (HIHIA)</p>	2019—on going	Discussed at the meetings with a plan being put in place for the new Mental Health Worker for Armadale being asked to support and lead.
Defibrillator to be purchased and installed outside The Dale Hub	<p>The Dale Peddlers</p> <p>Regeneration Group</p>	2018-2019	A sponsored 26 mile cycle organised for 30 September 2018.

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Poverty Health and Wellbeing

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Poverty Health and Wellbeing			
WLCPP				
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update	
Young Peoples Mental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-agency meetings • Additional Training in Growing Confidence and SMFA for various organisations 	Health and Wellbeing Subgroup Armadale Academy AAG	2018—on going	Multi-agency action plan being developed.	
**Keep Safe, I am Me Initiative to establish in Armadale (Cross Ref—Facilities: Shops and Health) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local businesses contacted • Training delivered by Police Scotland to businesses signed up • Initiative promoted and rolled out in Armadale 	Health and Wellbeing Subgroup AAG Police Scotland Enable	2019	Delivery of project to be concentrated in key buildings including the Partnership Centre, The Dale Hub and Xcite.	
The Development of a Mental Health Hub in Armadale Link worker appointed for the Armadale area—updates to be provided by NHS.	NHS Lothian Health Promotion Health and Wellbeing Subgroup AAG	2019	The Hubs will be in Bathgate and Livingston with an identified Link Worker for Armadale.	

ARMADALE-COMMUNITY PRIORITY

Traffic, Parking and Public Transport Actions



This priority relates to the number of comments around traffic and parking which came through in the consultation.

Not enough parking was a key issue which came up along with the need for more parking. The group recognises that adding more parking might not be the solution to this. By exploring other options this aims to reduce the amount of other traffic. Ideas such as identifying what parking is available, promoting these and then promoting other forms of transport such as the bike lending library could be considered. Cars parked on the pavements was another issues which raised many safety and accessibility concerns, along with parking outside schools.

“there is not enough parking at schools”

“too many temporary traffic lights”

“Parking is a problem– there isn’t enough”

“People parking on paths which makes pushing a pram and wheelchair impossible!”

“There is not enough parking facilities on the Main Street”

“Parking is a major issues for access to the shops, GP surgery, and community centre, pool and primary schools”

“Add more parking areas”

“Improve parking facilities”

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Traffic, Parking and Public Transport

Key Issues /needs identified:

Through consultation it was highlighted that there is not enough parking. There are too many cars parked on the pavement, especially outside the doctors. Parking outside schools is an issue. No bus shelter at ASDA and at the train station for when waiting for the bus back into the town.



Current position:

The community feel there is not enough parking and unsafe parking.
Not adequate bus shelter provision.

Outcome:

Community are parking safely and number of cars on pavements is reduced.
Increase in bus shelters. Removing barriers to people using public transport, moving around the town with more ease.

How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan:

- We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.
- We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.
- We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities.

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Traffic, Parking and Public transport

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Traffic, Parking and Public Transport		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
<p>Survey to be carried out to assess where people are parking/parking spaces and issue spots.</p> <p>Parking areas to be included on the interactive map.</p>	<p>Planning Department WLC Regeneration Group</p>	2018	<p>Survey completed and maps produced showing where the parking areas are, how many spaces including disabled bays, and areas of issue (cars parking on pavements etc.)</p>
<p>Information events to be delivered within the community to update the community on developments and to keep community informed. Events to sign up members to priority 1 sub-group.</p>	Regeneration Group	2018/2019	<p>First event delivered on 21 July 1-3pm. Information boards used.</p> <p>2 events planned for September.</p>
<p>Information boards on parking to be developed to keep the community informed and to encourage community involvement in the sub-group.</p>	Regeneration Group	2018	<p>Boards and information developed and used at events and information sessions.</p>

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Traffic, Parking and Public Transport

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Traffic, Parking and Public Transport		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Reinstating of road marking	WLC Roads	2018-2019	
Look at potential living streets project—including walkabout with sub group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding to be identified Audit to be planned 	AAG	2019	Livingstreets contacted and support agreed for 2019
Look into enforcement campaigns working with organisations and businesses near hot spots areas	AAG Police Medical Practise Schools	2019	

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Traffic, Parking and Public Transport

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Traffic, Parking and Public Transport continued		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Look at potential of a street furniture project: To look at using planters and other street furniture to reduce pavement parking.	AAG	2018-2019	
Initiating Parksmart in all local schools Schools conducting a traffic survey outside of their schools to determine level of traffic. Identify schools without an active travel plan	Parksmart Schools/Education Police Scotland Sustrans—I Bike	On-going	
Promotion of active travel I Bike Project with Sustrans	Sustrans I Bike	On-going	Schools within the Armadale cluster have been engaged with the I Bike Project from Sustrans
Look into possibility of a walking bus	AAG Schools	On-going	

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Traffic, Parking and Public Transport

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Traffic, Parking and Public Transport Continued		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
<p>Set up walkabout with Town Centre Officer, Transport Officer and members of community to assess the location where shelters would be required.</p> <p>Apply for funding from the Town Centre Improvement Fund.</p> <p>New shelters to be installed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 in the car park of the train station • 1 on Southdale Way opposite ASDA 	<p>AAG</p> <p>Transport Officer PTU</p> <p>Town Centre Officer</p> <p>Local Area Committee</p>	<p>2018—2019</p>	<p>Site meeting took place with the locations for 2 additional bus shelters identified.</p> <p>Application made and submitted to the Local Area Committee for approval—£7000 approved in February 2018.</p>
<p>Transport officer to contact Scotrail, Network Rail and First Bus to advise of request, seek relevant support and to set up additional meeting with representatives.</p> <p>First Bus to be contacted to see if the current bus route can be re-directed to collect passengers from the train station car park (layby already in situ).</p>	<p>Transport Officer PTU</p> <p>First Bus</p> <p>Scotrail</p>	<p>2018-2019</p>	<p>Meeting took place and talks taking place on siting a new bus shelter in the car park of in the station. First Bus re routed bus service.</p>

ARMADALE'S COMMUNITY PRIORITY

**Derelict sites,
streets and spaces
and
economic growth**

This priority came through the key statistics for the area with 71.8% of the population living within 500 metre of a derelict site (compared to West Lothian 20.1%).



There were also many comments throughout the engagement mentioning the run down areas and abundance of derelict spaces. Many ideas were generated in the engagement for uses for these sites.

The majority of comments generated through the engagement in regards to facilities were around the lack of restaurants and places to eat, not enough shops.

“the main street looks awful– terrible shop fronts”

“Speed bumps– too high”

“Derelict sites left to become ruined always causing issues with fire etc”

“the towns patchwork of shop fronts and gaping unkempt land sites from demolished buildings brings the look of the town down”

“Regenerate derelict sites”

“Arnold Clark site– need to know what's happening looks a mess”

“lots of pot holes– some road surfaces in desperate need of repair as are some paths and access routes”

“not a lot of restaurants”

“there is not a lot of shops”

“need a shop where value is as important as quality”

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Derelict sites, streets and spaces and economic growth

Key Issues /needs identified:

Percentage of people living within 500 metres of a derelict site is above West Lothian's average.

The community raised issues on the appearance and economic vibrancy of the main street.

The community raised issues regarding the need for more shops in the main street.



Current position:

71.8% of the population live within 500 metres of a derelict site.

The community raised concerns regarding the amount of derelict sites in the town, impacting the area and making the Main street looking run down.

Outcome:

There is a reduction of derelict sites/ derelict sites becoming community friendly.

Community feel pride in their Main Street.

Vibrancy of the main street is increased.

How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan:

- We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.
- We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.
- We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities.

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Derelict sites, streets and spaces and economic growth

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Derelict sites, streets and spaces and the perception of the area.		
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Engagement with community over potential uses for sites - Event 21st July—to encourage membership for a steering group	AAG	2018/2019	Event delivered and interest gained from partners and the community.
Mapping all derelict sites within Armadale and identifying ownership of land. Seeing if any sites are already earmarked for development.	Planning	2018-19	Survey of sites carried out along with planned development. Update required from planning.
Setting up of sub group • Information event to be delivered in September	AAG	2018—ongoing	
Keeping community informed through the interactive map and information sessions of sites and any developments.	AAG	2018- on-going	Information events delivered with more planned before the year end.

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Derelict sites, streets and spaces and economic growth

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Derelict sites, streets and spaces and the perception of the area.		
	TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT FUND		
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Youth Forum to carry out a visual audit of the shop fronts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information to be collated Working with local traders to inject life into run down shop fronts. Shop owners to be contacted with all information on the shop front improvement scheme 	Youth Forum CLC Potential traders group AAG	2019—onwards	Street audit carried out.
Supporting being the GOTH Committee with funding for new improved signage and heritage interpretation board	AAG Regeneration	2019	Meetings with the GOTH Committee attended. Project proposal and quotes provided. Included in the Community Regeneration report to go the March LAC.

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Derelict sites, streets and spaces and economic growth

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Derelict sites, streets and spaces and the perception of the area. Continued		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Look at potential of a new Traders Group.	Community Council AAG	2019	
Look into possibility of a seasonal market: ie; Christmas Farmers Market	AGG Potential Traders Group Community Council	2020– onwards	
Set up a sub group to address specific issues and work on projects around economic growth.	AAG Business Gateway Economic Development	2019	
Install path to the rear of Armadale Academy for use by the community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify young people to form working group Project funding to be identified 	Sustrans I Bike Paths 4 All/Path Skillz AAG	2021	Path Skillz project through Paths 4 All identified Due to no buy in, this is now not progressing.
Working on potential projects to reinstate derelict sites for community benefit and use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential Town Centre Improvement Project being looked Community Council (CC) to be involved 	AAG Sub-group Community Council	2018– on-going	Derelict site proposal drawn up for partnership project Attendance at the CC to work on a partnership project.

ARMADALE-COMMUNITY PRIORITY

Play, leisure and Recreation Actions



Many of the comments provided by the community related to activities within the area with a large response rate stating that there is not much to do. Through the mapping of activities and the development of an interactive map we are able to inform the community of what activities are happening in various venues in the area and keep the community informed. Identified gaps in provision will enable services to have a targeted approach to developing new services.

"not much to do"

"not enough things to do for young people like the youth space to keep them out of trouble"

"parks have more baby stuff than for big kids"

"very little parks to suit both my kids ages"

"more clubs on for young people"

"have more things for kids e.g softplay"

"keep youth space open"

"more activities for teenagers"

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Play, leisure and recreation

Key Issues /needs identified:

The community raised issues around the level of activity being low with comments of 'nothing to do' being a common response.

The community feel that some of the play parks and open space need to be better with more equipment and things to do for all ages and abilities.



Current position:

A number of the community feel there is not a lot of things for all ages to do.

There is a need for play parks and open space to be improved and used more.

Outcome:

The community have and are aware of all activities for all age groups. Improved open space and parks with an increase in usage

How this fits into the Local Outcome Improvement Plan:

- We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.
- We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.
- We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities.

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Play, leisure and recreation

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Play, leisure and recreation		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Set up a sub group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver information sessions 	AAG	2018	Information session delivered on 21 July with more dates identified.
Setting up of an interactive map showing all activities in the area. Installing 3 number of interactive screens in key community locations that the community can access. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for the purchase of the interactive screens to be applied for. Locations for the screen to be identified and permission granted. 	AAG Sub-group	2018—on going	The interactive map is designed with updates on activities in putted. Promotion of the map at information sessions.
Name for the Regeneration Plan and group to be suggested by local school children. Suggested names to be voted for by the established working group.	AAG Sub-group	2018	Name of Group now Active Armadale Group.
Identifying gaps in provision and working with key partners to address.	AAG Sub-group	2018—on going	
Identify funding to purchase Interactive Screens x 3 to be situated within key community buildings in the town. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete funding application Purchase screens Identify key buildings for the screens to be located 	AAG	2019	Potential buildings identified.

PRIORITIES and ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Play, leisure and recreation

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Play, leisure and recreation Continued		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
<p>Audit of all parks to be carried out with walkabouts to be organised.</p> <p>Open Space Officer to forward proposed work to the Regeneration Group.</p> <p>All details to be included on the interactive map.</p>	<p>AAG</p> <p>Subgroup</p>	2019	<p>Details of work forwarded and updated on the interactive map.</p>
<p>Wood Park upgrade with drainage and out door fitness equipment to be installed.</p> <p>Details to be included on the interactive map.</p>	WLC Nets	2018	<p>Drainage work began 30 August now complete.</p> <p>Fitness equipment to be installed by the end of October.</p> <p>Details included on the interactive map.</p>
<p>Environmental project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Moss to be used to promote positive use • Young People to be receive the JAZZ Award • Recycling of rubbish • Upgrade of signs improving access to the site from all entrances 	<p>Beechbrae</p> <p>CLD Youth</p> <p>The Dale Hub</p> <p>WLC Rangers</p> <p>WLC NETs</p>	<p>Autumn 2018</p> <p>Continuation due to success into 2019</p>	<p>Sessions delivered on Black Moss for 8 weeks with young people working towards their JAZZ Award.</p> <p>Due to the success of this it is envisaged to continue in 2019 with a new cohort.</p>

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS: Community Priority:

Play, leisure and recreation

Priority	Regeneration Plan Priority: Play, leisure and recreation Continued		
WLCPP			
Actions	Partners	Timescale	Update
Set up a mobile Cinema Session delivered in the community	AAG	2019—on going	Research taken place for equipment hire.

STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE

This plan will be updated as the communities priorities change over the next 10 years.

- The plan is fluid in that it will be developed on an on going basis. This is likely to mean that new action and themes will be added and some initial actions and themes drop off.
- Whilst engagement and consultation have helped to shape the initial actions and themes opportunities to consult and engage community members will be built in to help to keep the community up to date.
- The Plan itself will be updated each year to update the community and partner sand refresh the plan going forward.

Regeneration Officer

Name: Michelle Kirkbright

Address: West Lothian Council, West Lothian
Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston
EH54 6FF

Email: michelle.kirkbright@westlothian.gov.uk



West Lothian Council Regeneration website:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/communityregeneration>

West Lothian Council Armadale and Blackridge ward webpage:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/3851/Armadale-and-Blackridge-Ward>

FURTHER INFORMATION

Useful links and information relating to Armadale can be found below:

The Dale Hub website:

<https://www.fcdwl.org/our-projects/the-dale-hub/>



Armadale Community Council

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/communitycouncils>

Armadale Partnership Centre website:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/6383/Armadale-Community-Centre>

Armadale Medical Practice website:

<http://www.armadalegp.co.uk/index.pl>

Xcite website:

<https://www.westlothianleisure.com/venues/xcite-armadale/>

Armadale Community Football Club website:

<http://www.armadalecommunityfc.co.uk/index.html>

The Larder Café website:

<https://www.thelardercookschool.org.uk/larder-cafe-armadale>

Armadale Shed Facebook page:

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/ArmadaleShed.1/>

Armadale Gala Day Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Armadale-Gala-Day-123089191092748/>

'Your Community Armadale and Blackridge' Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/yourcommunityarmadaleblackridge/>