

Community Benefit Calculation for SPARK 2025

In line with West Lothian Council's community benefit leases, the organisation has carried out a community benefit calculation, with a view to the relevant assets being owned at less than the stated market value of £120,000.

The calculation in this case covers a total value of £540,740 (five hundred and forty thousand, seven hundred and forty pounds). This is achieved by assigning a financial value to the outcomes derived by stakeholders through activities that form part of the organisational operational plans. In each instance a proxy value has been assigned to each outcome to enable the overall community benefit calculation to take place over the space of a year. These social values aim to capture the value that stakeholders experience through changes in their lives.

Proxy values used are taken by SPARK from the HACT Value Calculator (UK Social Value Bank) which is an open source database of values, outcomes and stakeholders, which are independently validated, offering consistency and transparency in measuring social and environmental values. The rationale and basis for each outcome area, as illustrated in the attached spreadsheets, has been given below.

Outline of proposed project

SPARK will take on a full maintenance and repairing lease for the building based in Craigshill in Livingston. SPARK will continue to deliver a variety of services aimed at enhancing the well-being of Craigshill residents, including:

- **Community Support:** Providing assistance to individuals facing social isolation, helping them build connections within the community.
- **Health and Well-being Initiatives:** Organising activities and programs that promote physical and mental health.
- **Educational Programs:** Offering learning opportunities to enhance skills and knowledge among residents.
- **Recreational Activities:** Facilitating events and gatherings that encourage community engagement and social interaction.

Through these efforts, SPARK aims to continue to foster a supportive and connected community in Craigshill, addressing issues such as social isolation and promoting overall well-being.

Alignment to West Lothian Council Priority 3 – Investing in Skills and Jobs

Through the delivery of the proposed activity, it is forecast that the project will deliver the following community related outcomes:

- Hours committed to volunteering to support the delivery of the programmes run by SPARK. The organisation currently has 46 regular volunteers attending weekly over a consecutive period in excess of two months.
- Improvement in the confidence in young people through their involvement on placements working with the staff at SPARK. The organisation has had 8 young people on placements over the last 12-month period and this level of activity is expected to continue over the coming year.

The UK Social Value Bank identifies the follow annual values against the proposed outcomes of:

- £3,249 for each individual who volunteers on a regular basis at least once a month for two months or more.
- £9,283 for each young person who has a significant increase in the confidence that can be measured and evidenced through the monitoring of relevant survey questions.

Alignment to West Lothian Council Priority 4 – Helping to Create Strong and Sustainable Communities

Through the delivery of the proposed project it is forecast that the project will deliver the following community related outcomes.

- 20 active members regularly participating in the weekly seated exercise sessions, which involves participation in exercise that raises your heart rate and results in breaking into a sweat at least once a week for at least two months
- 66 active members taking part in the Singing for Health sessions, which involves participation in exercise that does not noticeably change your breathing or make you sweat at least once a week for at least two months

The UK Social Value Bank identifies the follow annual values against the proposed outcomes of:

- £4,179 for person who participates in exercise that raises your heart rate and results in breaking into a sweat at least once a week for a period of at least two months.
- £3,537 for each person who participates in exercise that does not noticeably change your breathing or make you sweat at least once a week for at least two months