



**BATHGATE & BOGHALL  
LOCALITY PLAN  
2023-2026**

# **BATHGATE & BOGHALL LOCALITY PLAN**

**2023-2026**

## **⋮ Contents**

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Bathgate &amp; Boghall - Local Context</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Locality Planning Achievements to date</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Planning Structures and Partners</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Physical Assets</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Key Community Organisations</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Developing the Action Plan</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Local engagement and localised data - Tools and approaches used</b>	
<b>Identified Priorities</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Bathgate &amp; Boghall – Action Plan</b>	<b>11</b>

# Introduction

**The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, requires Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to develop locality plans for specific areas experiencing poorer outcomes.**

In West Lothian, these areas have Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) is delivered meaningfully at a local level and that local issues identified by communities can influence CPP activity.

The Community Wealth Building Team manages the development and delivery of locality plans – creating a link between the LOIP, other key strategic partnership plans and structures, and the communities in West Lothian's most deprived areas.

This locality plan is one of six across West Lothian that aims to put the identified communities at the centre of its approach to tackling inequalities.

Priorities identified through engagement at a local level will be fed up to Community Planning partners and other key services. Services will also work with local communities to address issues identified through evidence and data.

The plan will provide a platform at a local level to deliver the key strategic themes of Community Wealth Building, as well as implementing the main mechanisms of the Community Empowerment Act such as community participation, participatory budgeting and community asset transfer.



# ⋮ Bathgate & Boghall

## LOCAL CONTEXT

**Bathgate has a population of 23,600 (source National Records) It is one of the five traditional towns in West Lothian situated in West Lothian on the M8 motorway.**

Bathgate and the surrounding areas show signs of habitation since around 3500BC, with the ancient Neolithic burial site at Cairnpapple Hill situated 2 miles north of the town. Bathgate has a range of local shops from chains to independent and bespoke

retailers, cafes, restaurants and pubs. The town also retains 'hub' services such as the post office, banking facilities and a number of key public services. Boghall is located to the East of Bathgate and comprises a number of amenities including Boghall Drop-In, Parish Church, Pharmacy, Post Office and an NHS health and Wellbeing centre. Kirkton Park nestles at the bottom of Boghall next to Bathgate Academy. There are also two primary schools within Boghall which are St. Columbas and Boghall Primary.

## Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) and other key data

Bathgate and Boghall have been identified as areas requiring locality plans due to both areas containing data zones, or neighbourhoods, ranked in the bottom 20% in the SIMD.

The SIMD ranks data zones based on scores across the following seven domains:

- Income
- Employment

- Health
- Education/Skills
- Housing
- Geographic Access
- Crime

All elements are made up of a range of factors. For example, health is made up of alcohol, drugs, mortality, depression, low birth weight and emergency hospital admissions.



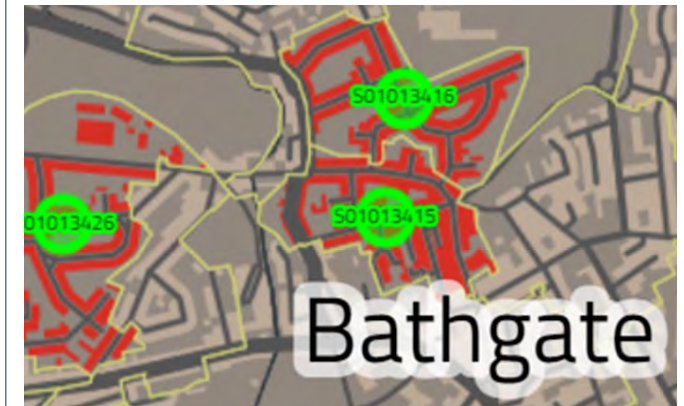
The social determinants of health in the diagram above have a greater influence on our physical and mental health than health care systems, these need to be included when looking at reducing inequalities in our most deprived areas.

Source: Dahlgren and Whitehead (1991)

## 4 Bathgate & Boghall - Locality Plan

## Scottish Index of Multi Derivation (SIMD)

West Lothian has 35 data zones in the bottom 20% of the SIMD, as shown here.



West Lothian has 35 data zones in the bottom two deciles of the SIMD, as shown here. Three are in Bathgate and one is in Boghall as shown in these maps. Breaking down the SIMD data further:

**Bathgate** - One data zone is in the bottom 10% overall in Scotland.



# ⋮ Bathgate & Boghall

## LOCAL CONTEXT

### School Leavers Destinations 2022/23

(Note that the numbers are small in some areas which may not necessarily imply ongoing trends)

	West Lothian	Bathgate	Boghall
Employed	22%	21%	29%
Further Education	35%	36%	42%
Higher Education	25%	26%	19%
Training	5%	2%	-
Unemployed Not Seeking	4%	7%	5%
Unemployed Seeking	6%	7%	5%
Other	2%	1%	-
Negative Destination	10%	14%	10%

Source Scottish Government Statistics

### Claimant Count - Feb 24

Bathgate East	4.5%
Bathgate West	2.0%
Boghall	4.9%
West Lothian	2.7%

Source: Scottish Government Statistics

### Children Accessing non-Universal Free School Meals

Bathgate East	14.7%
Boghall	25.0%
West Lothian	16.8%

### Alcohol-related Hospital admissions

The average rate of Alcohol-related Hospital admissions for West Lothian is 495 per 100,000. Bathgate has the two highest intermediate zones in West Lothian for Alcohol-related Hospital Admissions:

- Bathgate and Boghall: 1106 per 100,000
- Bathgate East: 1056 per 100,000

Source: Public Health Scotland

### Children in Low Income Families 21/22

The average number of children in low income families in West Lothian is 19.9%. Within Bathgate and Boghall 17 data zones out of 29 are above the West Lothian average of 1 in 5 children living in low income families. The following two data zones are double the West Lothian average:

- Bathgate East (S01013415) 50.5%
- Bathgate and Boghall (S0103407) 46.5%

Source: Scottish Government

### Life Expectancy

Areas of Bathgate and Boghall have much lower life expectancies than the rest of West Lothian. The table below shows how much lower life expectancies are in these areas compared to the highest areas in West Lothian:

	F	M
Bathgate East	9.69 years	10.48 years
Bathgate and Boghall	6.04 years	7.55 years
Bathgate West	3.96 years	6.42 years

Source: National Records Scotland

### Foodbank vouchers

10,962 foodbank vouchers were distributed in West Lothian's wards in the financial year 2022/23. Of these, 15% (1,637) were distributed in Bathgate and Boghall.

About 6% of the West Lothian population - were beneficiaries of the foodbank vouchers. In comparison, 9.4% of the child population and 6.3% of the adult population of Bathgate and Boghall received help in the form of a food voucher.

Source: West Lothian Foodbank

# Localities Planning Achievements to date

This new locality plan follows on from previous plans across the ward that has been in place since in 2018. Well established local groups made up of key community organisations and partners, have helped to develop local structures and deliver the actions within these plans. Some achievements from the previous plan are shown below. Several of these areas of work will carry forward into the new action plan for 2023 - 2026.

## Town Centre Regeneration Funding

£ 263,922.20 bid for and utilised locally on community projects.

This is separate to West Lothian Council's Town Centre Improvement fund specifically for the town centre capital programme - £125,000 from 2018/19

## Partnerships

Creation of a range of structures has enabled successful partnership working within Bathgate and Boghall. These relationships work towards addressing the issues/priorities in the communities.

## Key Community Organisation Supported by West Lothian Council's Voluntary Organisations budget and modernisation funding

Boghall Drop-In, supported annually since 2016/17 through this funding to a value of £376,778 to support delivery of services and growth within the local community.

## Listed Building

Boghall Parish Church was listed as category C in May 2022

## Bathgate Community Development Trust

was established in 2021 to enable sustainable development in the Bathgate area.

Bathgate Community Development Trust undertake a mixture of economic, environmental and social initiatives including looking at allotment projects and establishment of Friends of Meadowpark Group

## Boghall Drop in Centre

The Boghall Drop in Centre is a key community organisation that works with the local community to make a difference to the lives of those within Boghall and beyond. Boghall Drop-In offers a number of different opportunities and services including a Community Larder, youth clubs, intergenerational activity and Summer activities for both young people and their families. The programme they offer is based on community need and work with a variety of partner agencies to address these needs.

## Capacity Building

The Community Wealth Building team have worked closely within Boghall to establish and develop a key working group comprising of local organisations and key services to support the development of local projects and funding applications. This has involved liaising with a range of services to deliver projects throughout the process.

An inaugural VIVA Boghall Event was delivered in Summer 2023. The event had partners delivering entertainment and learning sessions including live music, craft stalls and fun games at Boghall Parish Church, Drop-In centre and both schools.

# 🔗 Planning Structures and Partners

In Boghall, there is an established locality planning group that involve local community organisations and community planning partners. This local group:

- share information on service provision/ activities within the locality to help enhance current, and plan future, provision;
- help identify wider community needs from a services perspective;
- are a conduit for wider community engagement;
- help develop collaborative working at local level; and
- where a local community led plan is established, work collaboratively to embed activity that aligns with community needs.

The group will continue to evolve as required going forward.

In Bathgate there are key community groups including Bathgate Community Development Trust, Bathgate Community Council, Jim Walker Partnership Centre Management Committee and Bathgate Together. These groups and their support will be key to the formation of a structure to support locality planning in Bathgate.

# 🔗 Physical Assets

There are key physical assets within each area. These include:

St Columbas Primary

Xcite Bathgate

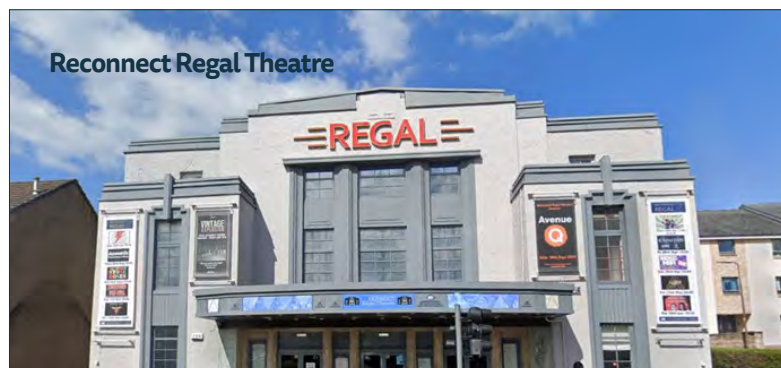
Bathgate Academy

Boghall Drop-In

Boghall Primary

Boghall Parish Church

Open play areas and parks



# ⋮ Key Community Organisations/Groups

There are also key community organisations that are important to these communities. They provide a range of services and a voice for these communities and offer help to community planning partners looking to engage or deliver in these areas:

Bathgate Community Council	Bathgate Together	Boghall Drop-In	Boghall Primary School Parents Association	Bathgate Community Development Trust
Boghall Parish Church	Artlink	Jim Walker Partnership Centre Management Committee		

The following services and organisations also have an important role to play in the locality planning process in Bathgate and Boghall:

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	WLC Housing	WLC NETs, Land and Countryside	Community Learning and Development Youth Services	Local Churches
NHS	Community Wealth Building Team	WLC Adult Learning	Advice Shop	Active Schools
Local Schools and nurseries	Youth Action Project	Police Scotland	Carers of West Lothian	Customer and Community Facilities
Access2employment	West Lothian Leisure	Citizens Advice Bureau	Community Learning and Development Adult Services	



## Developing the Action Plan

In developing the actions within the plan, consideration has been given to data gathered from a range of sources.

This includes:

- the findings from recent community engagement carried out by the Community Wealth Building team and partner organisations;
- statistical information relevant to the local areas;
- mapping of key services and organisations that deliver activity in the areas; and
- linking to priorities within the LOIP and other key strategic documents and plan.

This is a live document which seeks to build on the actions from the previous plan, continuing to develop the provision, capacity and sustainability of partners in these communities, and taking an asset-based approach wherever possible.

The plan will help to empower communities and support organisations to bring external funding into the area.

## Local engagement and localised data - Tools and approaches used

Various community engagement methods and tools have been utilised in both towns to help determine the community's priorities. Additional engagement carried out by partners was also used to provide a clear picture of what matters to those who live, work and visit both Bathgate and Boghall. Examples of approaches used include:

Online community surveys capturing a range of demographics which make up the community

Place Standards utilising the National Standards for Community Engagement

1:1 Interview's Face-to-face Engagement

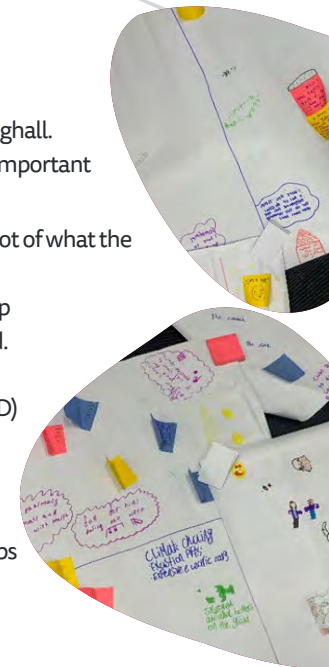
Workshops with local groups, services and schools  
Community Events

## School engagement

Specific engagement within local primary schools was carried out in Boghall. This sought the views from younger community members and was an important element in helping to determine the priorities for both areas.

When all the engagement materials were collated it provided a snap shot of what the community felt were their priorities and would like to see addressed. In order to understand the level of need and to provide evidence to back up the need, further research utilising key statistical data was incorporated. The data sources analysed came from the Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPho) and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) along with local partner intelligence.

All findings were presented to Boghall partnership group that has been set up in the area to work on the actions within the plan. This group is made up of a range of services, organisations, third sector working groups and local community members who influence and support the work being delivered within the area.



# 📍 Identified Priorities

Following intensive engagement, analysis of local data relevant to West Lothian and Scotland and feedback from services, the following key priorities have been identified as the focus in Bathgate and Boghall. (Further community priorities, not aligned to data and service priorities will be addressed through local plans and joint working locally).

## Poverty, Employability and Skills

- Addressing the impacts of the cost of living through specific local projects
- Addressing economic inactivity, unemployment, underemployment and skills needs
- Addressing child poverty locally

## Health and Wellbeing

- Tackling social exclusion and reducing isolation
- Reducing health inequalities focussing on the social determinants of health
- Working to improve mental health within the community
- Addressing substance misuse locally

## Environment

- Addressing Antisocial Behaviour issue that arise
- Exploring green transport and community transport options
- Exploring opportunities to improve the visual environment and derelict sites
- Parking Issues

## Community Development

- Building community capacity
- Improve communication channels between services and the community around key priorities
- Increase partnership working between all services and the community

To date the engagement and focus of the plan has primarily been within Boghall. This was as a result of the long-standing deprivation within the community.

Following statistical profiling three datazones have been identified within the bottom 20% in Bathgate East and West.

During the first year of the plan a period of further targeted engagement within the three datazones will be undertaken.

The engagement will focus on understanding the key issues and priorities for further development within these areas. As a result, the priorities above may change.

# ⋮ Bathgate/Boghall Locality Plan – Action Plan

LOIP Pillar and Strategic Partner actions to be address at community level through Local Plans

Change/ Outcome/ Objective	Action	Lead Agency (bold) Other partners	Where does action area come from	Links
Increase the capability of local communities and services to support health and wellbeing through a preventative approach to population-level mental wellbeing	<p>Develop and raise awareness of a specific '6 ways to Wellbeing' model through mapping and increase understanding in the area and with partners.</p> <p>Map community assets/resources/ support for mental wellbeing and identify gaps and responses.</p> <p>Deliver training to the community and practitioners on Mental Health First Aid.</p>	<p>NHS Lothian</p> <p>Community Wealth Building</p> <p>West Lothian Council</p> <p>Local Third Sector</p> <p>Key Community Groups</p>	LOIP Pillar Working Group	LOIP Pillar – Improving Health & Wellbeing
Develop local awareness around the impact of substance use and health	Develop a preventative approach to alcohol within the relevant communities	<p><b>NHS Lothian</b></p> <p>West Lothian Council (WLC)</p> <p>West Lothian Drug Alcohol Service (WLDAS)</p> <p>West Lothian Youth Action Project (WLYAP)</p> <p>Police Scotland</p> <p>Key Community Groups</p>	<p>LOIP Pillar Working Group</p> <p>Alcohol and Drug partnership</p> <p>Prevention and Early intervention group</p>	LOIP Pillar – Improving Health & Wellbeing

# ∴ Bathgate/Boghall Locality Plan – Action Plan

Change/ Outcome/ Objective	Action	Lead Agency (bold) Other partners	Where does action area come from	Links
<p>Community resilience around climate change is increased in Boghall / Bathgate</p>	<p>Educate communities on the effects of climate change on biodiversity and increase related volunteering and community resilience.</p> <p>Raise awareness of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. positive action around reducing emissions and circular economy; and</li> <li>2. actions that contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation that can be taken in the relevant areas.</li> </ol> <p>Collaborate to develop briefings for key community organisations on climate issues, develop resources communities can access and create increased volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>Support local organisations, groups and residents to identify what can be done locally and deliver projects linked.</p> <p>Carry out local engagement utilising resources designed around climate action.</p> <p>Raise awareness, reduce stigma and promote the use of reusable period products.</p>	<p>Community Councils</p> <p>Voluntary Sector Gateway West Lothian (VSGWL)</p> <p>Nature Scotland</p> <p>West Lothian College</p> <p>Skills Development Scotland</p> <p>Job Centre Plus</p> <p>Local Schools</p> <p><b>Community Wealth Building Team (Regeneration)</b></p> <p>West Lothian Climate Action Network (WLCAN)</p>	<p>LOIP Pillar Working Group</p>	<p>LOIP Pillar: Creating Net Zero Carbon Communities</p>

# ∴ Bathgate/Boghall Locality Plan – Action Plan

Change/ Outcome/ Objective	Action	Lead Agency (bold) Other partners	Where does action area come from	Links
Delivery of employability interventions in Boghall aimed at providing access to opportunities	Target support and interventions to those who are unemployed or underemployed. Integration of employability support into partner activity.	<b>Economic Development (WLC)</b> <b>Education Services (WLC)</b> <b>West Lothian College</b> <b>Skills Development Scotland</b> <b>Department of Work and Pensions</b>	LOIP Pillar Working Group	LOIP Pillar: Creating Skills and Jobs
Tackling the determinants of poverty.	Integrate anti-poverty work in the area, support communities to engage with available services and provide support to deliver the Anti-Poverty Action Plan	<b>Tackling Poverty Taskforce</b> Third Sector Community Wealth Building Team (Regeneration) Communities	Tackling Poverty Strategy Local community engagement	Tackling Poverty Strategy
Increased community response and support for homelessness	Reduce the stigma of homelessness by raising community awareness through local engagement sessions  Develop local Third Sector role to support tenancy sustainment and integration in communities.  Identify and involve wider partners with front line staff who engage with the public to share the housing options message.	<b>Housing, Customer &amp; Building Services</b>  Community Regeneration Health and Social Care Partnership  Local Third Sector organisations	LOIP Pillar Working Group	LOIP Pillar Working Group

# ⋮ Bathgate/Boghall Locality Plan – Action Plan

Change/ Outcome/ Objective	Action	Lead Agency (bold) Other partners	Where does action area come from	Links
<p>Increased decision making and engagement for key projects within the community</p> <p>Build community capacity to support the community to have a voice in decision making</p>	<p>Explore community choices for locally identified projects encouraging decision making at a local level using best practice and embedding CLD practices as part of that process.</p> <p>Work with local groups and schools to ensure they are involved in any decision making at a local level for example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Derelict sites</li> <li>2. Participatory budgeting</li> </ol>	<p><b>Community Wealth Building Team</b></p> <p>West Lothian Council Property Services</p> <p>West Lothian Council Planning Services</p>	<p>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015</p>	<p>Community resilience and empowerment</p>

# ⋮ Bathgate/Boghall Locality Plan – Action Plan

## Boghall specific actions

Change/ Outcome/ Objective	Action	Lead Agency (bold) Other partners	Where does action area come from	Links
Improved access to key services that support people's well-being and employability	Continuation of key community services including Drop In and Community Larder	<b>Community Wealth Building</b> Boghall Drop-In Boghall Parish Church	Community Need	LOIP Pillar – Improving Health & Wellbeing LOIP Pillar – Creating Skills and Jobs
	Identification of services required locally, aligned to community needs and ensuring local provision where available	<b>Community Wealth Building</b>	Community Wealth Building	
Additional opportunities for learning and training are available for local residents	Explore the viability of further provision and suitable spaces to deliver education and skills training within the ward	Boghall Drop-In Boghall Parish Church <b>Adult Learning</b> <b>Access2employment</b>	Community engagement Partner engagement	LOIP – Creating Skills and Jobs
Delivery of employability interventions in Bathgate (Boghall) aimed at providing access to opportunities	Target support and interventions to those who are unemployed or underemployed.	<b>Employability &amp; Economic Development Service</b> <b>Access2employment</b> Adult learning Boghall Drop-In	Community Engagement	WL Tackling Poverty Strategy 2023-2028 LOIP: Creating skills and jobs

# 🌱 Bathgate/Boghall Locality Plan – Action Plan

Change/ Outcome/ Objective	Action	Lead Agency (bold) Other partners	Where does action area come from	Links
Boghall is more resilient to the impacts of climate change	Development and integration of climate actions and interventions throughout community and local service delivery.	<b>Community Wealth Building</b> Local structures Climate Change lead – West Lothian Council West Lothian Climate Action Network	Local Engagement	LOIP Pillar: Creating Net Zero Carbon Communities
Explore options for improved transportation links within the area including community transport and cycling/walking routes	Explore potential options to improve transport links from Boghall to existing transport network.	<b>Community Wealth Building</b> Boghall Drop-In	Community Need Local Engagement	LOIP Pillar – Improving Health & Wellbeing LOIP Pillar: Creating Net Zero Carbon Communities
Community growing projects across Boghall are supported	Develop activity and volunteering within the community growing projects and the links to the wider community  Explore potential to develop allotments within Boghall	Community Wealth Building Artlink Schools Bathgate Community Development Trust <b>Bathgate Allotment Group</b> WLCAN	Community Need Local Engagement	LOIP Pillar – Health & Wellbeing
Lower cost provision of food is available	Continued development of provision of food within Boghall	<b>Boghall Drop-In</b> <b>Community Wealth Building</b>	Community engagement Statistics	WL Anti-Poverty Strategy LOIP Pillar – Creating Net-Zero Carbon Communities



# ⋮ Bathgate/Boghall Locality Plan – Action Plan

Change/ Outcome/ Objective	Action	Lead Agency (bold) Other partners	Where does action area come from	Links
<p>Boghall community have the confidence, knowledge and skills to influence decisions and there is evidence of this leading to positive change</p> <p>Community capacity is sufficient to enable the community's voice to be heard and local projects which respond to community need to be delivered</p>	<p>Increase participation in local democracy from the local community</p> <p>increase confidence and skills among local people</p> <p>more people volunteering in their communities</p> <p>increase satisfaction with quality of life in the neighbourhood</p> <p>Support existing community groups to sustain membership, remain active, and participate in locality planning.</p>	<p><b>Community Wealth Building</b></p> <p>Thirds Sector Organisations</p> <p>Customer and Community services</p> <p>Adult Learning</p> <p>Access2employment</p> <p>Carers of West Lothian</p>	<p>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015</p>	<p>WL Community Learning and Development Partnership Plan</p> <p>National Standards for Community Engagement</p> <p>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015</p>
<p>Address issues of anti-social behaviour and improved reporting methods</p>	<p>Explore delivery of diversionary activities and raising awareness campaigns on how to tackle/report anti-social behaviour</p>	<p><b>Community Wealth Building</b></p> <p>Boghall Drop-In</p>	<p>Anti-social behaviour Statistics</p> <p>Community Engagement</p>	<p>Community Safety Board</p>
<p>Improve the built-up environment and cleanliness of the community</p>	<p>Explore options for tackling litter and dog fouling issues</p>	<p><b>Community Wealth Building</b></p> <p>Key partners including Housing</p> <p>West Lothian Litter Pickers</p>	<p>Partners</p> <p>Community Engagement</p>	<p>LOIP Pillar – Health &amp; Wellbeing</p>
<p>Increase awareness of what is going on within the community</p>	<p>Explore What is on Boghall information leaflet</p> <p>Improve awareness of services and opportunities</p>	<p>Community Wealth Building</p> <p>Key community partners including Bohall Drop-In, Schools, Boghall Church and Artlink</p>	<p>Community Engagement</p>	<p>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015</p>

# 📍 Bathgate/Boghall Locality Plan – Action Plan

Bathgate (Bottom 20% datazones in East and West of town) specific actions.

Change/ Outcome/ Objective	Action	Lead Agency (bold) Other partners	Where does action area come from	Links
Greater understanding of the issues affecting residents within the bottom 10% and 20% datazones in Bathgate	Engagement with the community and key partners operating in area Explore further statistical data available on the datazones Explore further service specific data/trends to identify issues	<b>Community Wealth Building</b> Housing Services Bathgate Together Schools National Health Service Police Scotland Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Advice Shop	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Data	Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Develop specific actions based on findings of issues affecting residents within the bottom 10% and 20% datazones in Bathgate	Develop actions following community engagement and interaction with key agencies. Identify community groups best places to support activity	<b>Community Wealth Building</b>	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Data	Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Improve the built-up environment and cleanliness of the community	Explore options for tackling litter and dog fouling issues	<b>Community Wealth Building</b> Key partners including Housing West Lothian Litter Pickers	Partners Community Engagement Local Place Plan Initial Survey – Bathgate Community Council	LOIP Pillar – Health & Wellbeing

# **BATHGATE/BOGHALL** **LOCALITY PLAN**

**2023-2026**

