

East Renfrewshire Council Budget 2021-22



Our spending plans and ambitious capital projects

Council Leader, Councillor Tony Buchanan



Continuing to deliver despite Covid challenges

- Last month I announced there would be no rise in Council Tax during 2021/22
- Our charges in every Council Tax band remain below the Scottish average
- Our Budget shortfall for the Council can now be confirmed at £3.5m
- There will still be painful savings but we have done all we can to protect frontline services
- We are continuing to deliver ambitious capital projects despite the challenges of Covid

Early Years and Vulnerable Young People Busby Nursery Class



Early Years and Vulnerable Young People Eaglesham Nursery Class



Early Years and Vulnerable Young People Glenwood Family Centre



Education during Covid and future plans

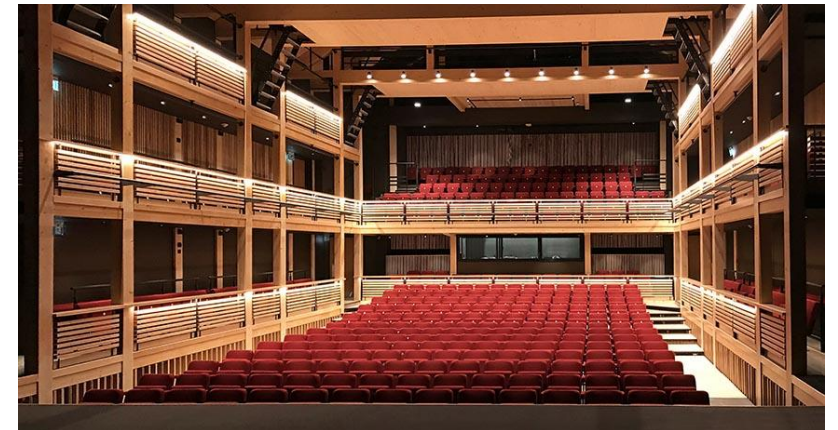
- Pupils, staff and parents had to adapt to home learning
- Hundred of devices distributed to ensure equity of learning and 95% engagement by pupils
- Despite Covid, our £40m plans to create new schools and leisure facilities in Neilston remain on track
- Work starts this year on project which will transform the heart of Neilston
- Also £2.2m to further extend Crookfur Primary and £1.7m for a new pitch and athletics track at Mearns Castle High School

Eastwood Park leisure centre

- Three new pools and space for other sports
- High-quality attraction will draw visitors from across Scotland
- Will also include a new theatre, library and gym
- Design team working closely with local groups and young people
- Public consultation planned for late May



New leisure centre includes a 50m swimming pool



Design team looking at new theatres across the UK

Environment and Economy

New homes and help for business

- 310 new council houses in the next four years
- First tenants due to move into homes in Maidenhill this week
- Shop Local campaign highlighted a range of local traders
- £13.5m of Covid grants delivered to local businesses
- New Work EastRen website



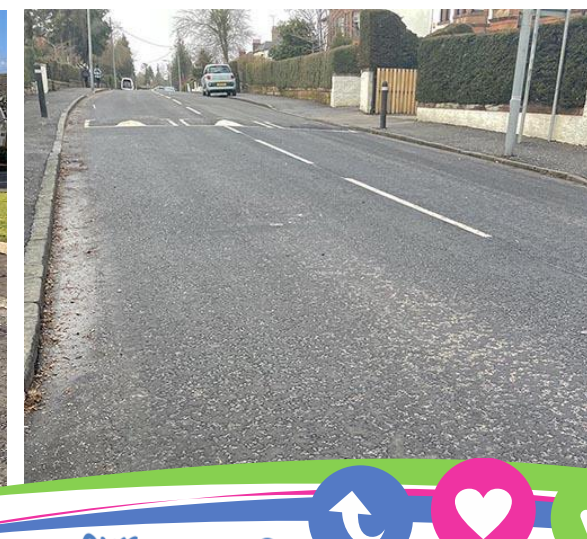
New council houses in Maidenhill, Newton Mearns



Shop Local campaign promoted firms

Environment and Economy

Some of the 35 road resurfacing projects completed last year



our values



Ambition



Kindness



Trust

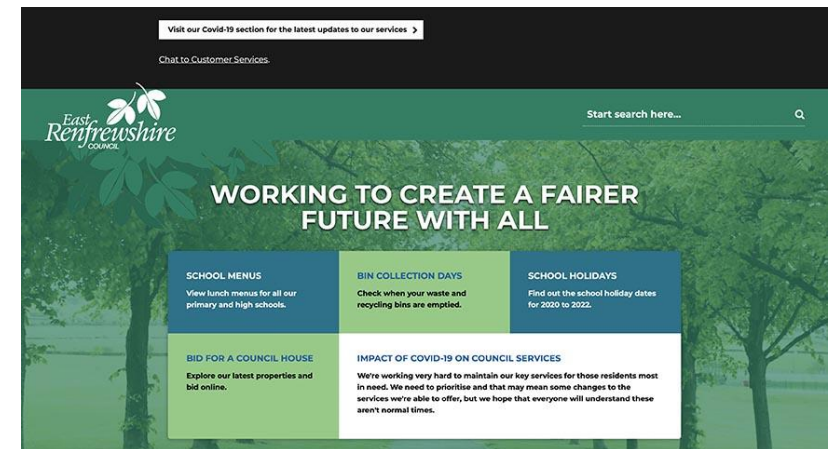
Safe, Supported Communities

Covid aid and digital progress

- Food parcels, support and advice for those hit by economic impact of pandemic
- Work with partners to direct offers of help from 1000-plus local volunteers
- ICT support to allow most of our staff to work from home
- New website offers more ways for residents to access council services digitally



Humanitarian hub distributed food parcels



New Council website improves digital services

Older People and People with Long-Term Conditions

Supporting the vulnerable

- £1.1m spent on upgrading our telecare systems so people can remain in their own homes for longer
- HSCP staff have been on the frontline dealing with the tragic impact of coronavirus



Telecare system has been upgraded



Homecare staff were on the Covid frontline



The importance of our staff

- Thanks to all our staff for playing a key role in the emergency response to Covid whilst still continuing to deliver our normal services
- Our staff remain our single biggest asset
- Living Wage deal will see many of our lower-paid employees receive significant pay rises
- Among those who will benefit will be care workers, cleaners and catering staff
- Commitment to no compulsory redundancies is maintained



Conclusion

- The challenges of Covid have seen East Renfrewshire Council help more people than it has ever done
- Important work to support residents and business will continue as we emerge from lockdown
- Work on ambitious capital projects will continue
- These will bring long-term benefits to our communities and help improve the lives of everyone in East Renfrewshire



Recommendation

- I now ask that the Council approves the detailed revenue estimates for 2021/22 and the associated utilisation of £3.465m of reserves