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**To:** Leadership Board

**On:** 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016

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**Report by:** Chief Executive

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**Heading:** Tackling Poverty Programme – Project update on Making Futures

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**1. Summary**

1.1 The report includes an overview of the Making Futures project within the Tackling Poverty Programme, which is run by Renfrewshire Leisure.

1.2 The report is accompanied by a brief presentation that allows the opportunity to hear from the project lead, and watch video from the project's 'Summer Studio'

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**2. Recommendations**

2.1 Members are asked to note the report and the accompanying presentation.

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**3. Background**

3.1 The Tackling Poverty Action Plan approved by Council in June 2015 allocated funding for an arts and cultural project called Making Futures, which is run by Renfrewshire Leisure.

**4. Arts and Cultural Project**

4.1 The central aim of the project is to use creative cultural participation, along with innovative Literacies and ICT projects to support children and families through life transitions.

- 4.2 The project has three strands: Junior Makers (for young people up to the age of 8), Makerversity (for young people ages 15-25) and Make.Do! (which offers a range of 'try out' activities open to all.
- 4.3 The project launched in late 2015 with the 'Junior Makers' strand of the work, which included:
- **Creative Cafe** - These are an informal, drop in creative session, especially created for parents and carers with their babies or toddlers. Creative Cafe is a safe space for the babies or toddlers to play and access cultural activity. Each week there is a singer or musician playing child friendly music, or baby friendly art materials to engage with - all centred round themes of health and wellbeing.
  - **Bedtime Reading** - School based sessions for primary 1's and their parents or guardians, involving storytelling, yoga and calming creative play. Bedtime reading sessions promote family interaction, literacy development and broader health and wellbeing outcomes. Sessions utilise music, simple rhymes, songs and games and storytelling to foster a healthy attitude to reading. These sessions have been delivered in a number of learning communities as part of wider reading programmes supported by the Skoobmobile.
  - **Loan to Learn** - Family learning programme designed to pilot the benefit of iPads in support of family learning in the home. This project is intended to help bridge the attainment gap between those from low income backgrounds, and those from higher income ones.
  - **Coding Clubs** - A series of after school coding clubs delivered through Renfrewshire Leisure's Skoobmobile. Coding clubs give young people the chance to explore the basic building blocks of programming and digital design. The clubs have also made creative use of popular programmes such as Minecraft.
- 4.4 The project also features a senior strand, Makerversity, aimed at young people aged 15 – 25. Projects delivered within this strand include:
- **Club Animate Plus-** for young people aged 15 years and over; an introductory level, drop in animation class that is designed to introduce participants to the basic principles of filmmaking and for them to produce short animation DVDs.
  - **Wee Red Dot** - Renfrewshire's Youth Voice Film and Media Programme based at the Paisley Art. Organised by young people for young people, there is a mix of regular screening, local films, materclass presentations and special guest speakers, all of which support emerging talent.

- **Class Dismissed** – A graphic novel project aimed at 15 – 17 year olds. Working with established artists and writers to storyboard and produce a finished publication, due for release in October 2016.
- **Renfrew on Film** – Archive film project for young people focused on positive place-making and intergenerational dialogue.

4.5

The final strand of the project, Make.Do. offers people the chance to try out new Making activities in an informal format. Opportunities delivered in this format include

- **Crafternoon Tea** – A series of tea party craft and making sessions delivered at Paisley Museum.
- **Craft Collectives** – A series of craft events at schools and community venues across Renfrewshire.
- **10 Pieces** – A cross curricular project featuring dance, music and drama delivered in 8 schools across Renfrewshire.

4.6

In June 2016, all three strands of the project were brought together in a dedicated Maker Space at Paisley Museum; The Summer Studio. Featuring a range of free artist led activities, including film-making, ipad workshops, photography, portraiture and craft activities, this space provide a range of activities for families during the holiday period.

The Summer Studio which ran from June until September attracted a total number of 1,765 participants. Of this, 707 attended facilitated sessions, with a further 1,058 attending the drop-in activities.

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## Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - There are no financial implications for this report. The Tackling Poverty Action Plan is funded by the £6 million allocation by the Council in June 2015.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – There are no HR/OD implications for this report. There are a number of recruitment exercises within the programme, however this report does not propose any decision or changes to work that is currently underway.
3. **Community Planning** – The Tackling Poverty Action Plan is owned by the Community Planning Partnership, As such, progress updates are delivered to the CPP Board six-monthly.

4. **Legal** - None
  5. **Property/Assets** - None
  6. **Information Technology** - None
  7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Tackling Poverty Action Plan is key to social justice and wider equality and human rights considerations. This report does not propose any changes to provision or service that would require specific consideration of equality and human rights issues.
  8. **Health & Safety** – None
  9. **Procurement** – The Tackling Poverty Action Plan has a number of procurement exercises within the programme, however, this paper does not recommend any changes or raise any concerns relating to procurement elements of the plan.
  10. **Risk** – The impact of not addressing poverty and inequality in Renfrewshire is flagged as a key risk to the organisation within the Corporate Risk Register. There are no major risks to the delivery of this programme that require the Leadership Board’s consideration at this time.
  11. **Privacy Impact** - None
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