

To: Renfrew & Gallowhill Local Area Committee

On: 8 November 2016

Report by: Director of Finance & Resources

Heading: Grant Award Feedback

1. Summary

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide some detail on a number of projects that were funded by the Renfrew & Gallowhill LAC in 2015/16.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The LAC is requested to note the report.

3. Background

3.1 The Renfrew & Gallowhill LAC committed a total of £145,663 in expenditure on projects and activities within Renfrewshire during 2015/16. This report provides an overview of feedback submitted by a number of the successful grant applicants.

3.2 Cairn Heights

3.2.1 Cairn Heights was awarded £2,000 to deliver various projects. As a result of the funding a dance project was launched with Gallowhill Primary School allowing interaction between the different generations involved. The group is working towards a showcase event. The garden project was slow in starting due to inclement weather but is now well underway.

3.2.2 The group estimates that 90 people have benefitted from the grant with wider benefits being that the health and welfare of the tenants will improve; the area will be visually enhanced; and the tenants will have the opportunity to learn about conservation.

3.3 Forever Young

3.3.1 Forever Young was awarded a grant of £6,484 to provide a community choir project for older people. The singing projects increased tenants' confidence to go out more and it allowed them to form new friendships thereby reducing isolation and improving mental health. The group has advised that more tenants are now participating in the singing workshops and suggest that evidence shows that singing can reduce physical conditions such as high blood pressure and stress.

3.3.2 As a result of the singing workshops Forever Young was able to put on a show called 'My life in Music' which was showcased at the Soopir Day (Strengthening Opportunities for Older People in Renfrewshire). A second show was held at Castlehead High School and this allowed S5 and S6 pupils to join in. These were free events and reached over 500 people in Renfrewshire.

3.4 Renfrew Care Home Activities Group

3.4.1 The Activities Group was awarded £10,000 to create a community activity garden and provide activity equipment. The grant provided for the purchase of monoblocking; fencing; xmas lights; external power supply; water features; activity equipment; and pots, planters and plants. The project has provided an inclusive sanctuary which enhances the health and wellbeing of residents and has created an area the residents, their families and local organisations to enjoy.

3.5 Renfrew Health & Leisure Group

3.5.1 Following the award of £200 to this group the members were offered the opportunity of a festive lunch at a local hotel, an event that they might not otherwise have had access to, either as a result of mobility issues, financial constraints or lack of opportunity for this type of social contact.

3.5.2 The group aims to increase membership and reach more people with disabilities in Renfrewshire. The group plans further social activities as well as quarterly massage/reflexology sessions.

3.6 Renfrew Over 50s Swimming Club

3.6.1 The Swimming Club was awarded £1,250 to help celebrate the group's 25th anniversary. Over 80 members of the club were able to attend a social function which promoted the club's sense of belonging and the promotion of good health.

3.7 Phoenix Flyers Dog Agility Club

3.7.1 A LAC grant allowed this group to purchase various pieces of dog agility training equipment which have been utilised at various community events in Renfrewshire. With National Certificates in Dog Training, the instructors not only mentor dog owners in agility training but also obedience, animal welfare and etiquette.

3.8 Arthritis Care in Scotland Paisley Branch

3.8.1 The LAC's contribution towards this multi area application helped enable the branch to provide transport for people to attend meetings who otherwise would have been unable to. It also enabled the branch to keep operating and provide a service to people with arthritis in Renfrewshire.

3.9 Cornerstone Drop In

3.9.1 The LAC contribution to the award allowed the drop in project to operate with the required insurance in place.

3.10 Fitting-In

3.10.1 This group works with young people who reside in areas of high deprivation, providing opportunities to take part in various sports and using this as a medium to transmit discipline, respect, teamwork, learning and health benefits. This has since revolved into working with young people and adults who are some of the most vulnerable, multi deprived individuals in Renfrewshire. In addition to the sports sessions the group deliver workshops on team building, drug and alcohol awareness, nutrition/hygiene and first aid. They also work on an intergenerational basis in relation to young people and their kinship carers. The young people involved in the project work towards certification awards that will progress a way into further education.

3.10.2 As a result of the most recent project session, the young people involved have said that they will continue to pursue outdoor activities and some have already joined a youth group at the Bield Centre. Parents have also stated that it was much cheaper than they thought to provide healthy snacks than pay for fast food, making a huge difference to their budget and health.

3.11 Food Train

3.11.1 This LAC contributed £2,000 towards a total LAC award of £9,000 towards the cost of purchasing a new delivery van. The purchase of the van has allowed the organisation to expand its food shopping and delivery to more older people in Renfrewshire. Providing a shopping delivery service to older people who may be unable to do their own shopping helps keep these individuals more independent and able to remain in their own homes for longer. The service also provides quality volunteering opportunities for over 40 Renfrewshire residents.

3.12 Rainbow Turtle

Rainbow Turtle was awarded £1,480 by this LAC in 2015/16 to extend its outreach activities. A comprehensive feedback on this project is attached as an appendix to this report.

3.13 Future Feedback

3.13.1 All grant recipients are instructed to submit award feedback once their awards have been spent and further reports on the outcome of projects will be submitted to future meetings of this LAC.

Implications of this report

1. Financial Implications

None.

2. HR and Organisational Development Implications

None.

3. Community Plan/Council Plan Implications

Children and Young People

- The provision of grants to local groups supports individuals and groups to develop skills to improve personal achievements.

Community Care, Health and Well-being

- The provision of grants to local groups and individuals to support social, cultural and recreational activities contributes to improved health and well-being.

Empowering our Communities

- The provision of grants to local groups and individuals contributes to the development of local communities.

Greener

- The provision of grants to local groups and individuals support social, cultural and recreational activities contributes to local sustainability.

4. Legal Implications

Compliance with the Council's Condition of Grants

5. Property/Assets Implications

None.

6. Information Technology Implications

None.

7. Equality and Human Rights Implications

- (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because all grant applicants must submit valid constitutions containing equality statements. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.

8. Health and Safety Implications

None.

9. Procurement Implications

None.

10. Risk Implications

None.

11. Privacy Impact

None.

List of Background Papers

None

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Rainbow Turtle's Education Work

August 2015 – February 2016



This document gives a brief overview of the work Rainbow Turtle's charity has been involved in since August 2015, when funding enabled the Education Officer's role to increase from 2 to 3 days per week.

Schools

We have been able to greatly improve and develop the work we do with schools and have increased our contact three-fold for the same period during the previous year. This has included organising events and inviting speakers from local businesses as well as farmers and producers from abroad. One example is our 'Ghana to Greenock' events with Carishea. We've had many more requests to visit schools and have broadened our work to include more Secondary Schools than the previous year.

Wider Community

We have made a concerted effort to engage with more organisations from the wider community. This can be best seen perhaps in the programme of events we have established called 'Common Threads'. We have invited various local organisations and groups to join us in looking at the connections between Paisley's past and the fast-fashion industry. This includes the likes of Renfrewshire Leisure, WCS and Create Paisley. We've had discussions too with those involved with Heritage and the Paisley Bid. They have expressed interest in this programme's potential to become an annual event celebrating the city's past, present and future whilst drawing the connections between us as Global Citizens and how this awareness can help improve the lives of workers and producers around the world.

New Avenues

Aware that it's important we engage with technology and new forms of communication, we have developed 'The Rainbow Turtle Fair Trade Podcast'. This is an audio production that has allowed us to get even greater value from the various events we attend and the networks we are connected with. Most importantly it has enabled us to fulfill our remit even more so. It has proved to be an excellent tool for educating and raising awareness of Fair Trade through engagement with not only the local community but further afield.

We are currently developing 'Rainbow Turtle Broadcasting' which incorporates this audio as well as film, which we are working on with the help of local volunteers. These new forms of communicating with people have helped to raise our profile and improve the relevance of the work we do. It has brought in new audiences and has helped invigorate our message.

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The Future

As we have this year, we hope to again build on all we've done and to continue to make ourselves and our work even more relevant and engaging. We aim to further cement the relationships we've developed locally, nationally and globally, particularly by harnessing the opportunities offered by new forms and means of communication. All of this will allow us to educate an even greater number of people about the benefits of Fair Trade and how important it is in a changing world, to be aware of the connections we have to producers throughout the globe.

Collaborations

We have worked with many organisations since August 2015. The extra funding has enabled us to create meaningful working relationships with them, initiating most of the discussions and events ourselves. This has not only raised our own profile but more importantly, that of Fair Trade within Renfrewshire and the adjacent areas.

