

To: Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine Local Area Committee

On: 14 March 2018

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 Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine LAC in 2016/17.

1.2 Providing regular feedback to LACs increases accountability and helps LACs identify clear community outcomes from grants awarded to community groups. It is also a condition of grant that groups account for their income and expenditure and set out the community benefits and other outcomes of their LAC grant awards.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The LAC is requested to note the report.

3. Background

3.1 A list of the groups that were awarded funding in 2016/17 together is appended to this report. The list highlights the status of each group relative to the provision of feedback to this LAC.

3.2 This report provides an overview of feedback submitted by a number of the successful grant applicants who were funded by the Houston, Crosslee, Linwood, Riverside & Erskine LAC in 2016/17.

3.3 Braehead Junior Ice Hockey Club

3.3.1 This LAC awarded £200 to Braehead Junior Ice Hockey Club, primarily for the cost of ice hire. Up to 75 young people benefitted from the club's ability to keep costs as low as possible to participants while promoting physical activity, discipline and training.

3.4 Houston Community Council

3.4.1 The Community Council was awarded two grants in 2016/17. The first of these was for £6,000 towards the cost of the purchase of plants, flowers and planters. The Community Council worked in partnership with the Bee Happy Houston voluntary group to deliver the project.

3.4.2 The second award to Houston Community Council amounted to £5,000 for the purchase and installation of Christmas lights and a small firework display to accompany the lights switch-on. The Community Council estimates that over 1,000 people attended the switch-on ceremony.

3.5 Lamont Farm

3.5.1 A regular recipient of LAC funding, Lamont Farm was awarded £1,000 by this LAC at its May 2016 meeting. The farm requires funding to help meet the cost of animal feed, bedding, hay and straw, farrier services, dentistry and insurance.

3.5.2 The Farm advises that over 1,000 people visit each year and that as many as 35 children volunteer at weekends. Lamont Farm also accepts work experience placements from local schools, colleges and universities.

3.6 Greensyde Carers – Gardening Project

3.6.1 The LAC awarded £100 towards the cost of floor beanbags, plants and shrubs and pots and decorative stones at the Milldale Centre. The project completed a rough hard landscaped area to allow all clients at Milldale to get out into the fresh air for relaxation. The garden also encourages people to tend the garden and encourage a sensory interaction with their surroundings. The group estimates that as many as 200 people benefitted from the project.

3.7 Houston Playpark Improvement Group

3.7.1 The Group was awarded £8,000 by this LAC in May 2016 towards the ongoing playpark improvement works. The development has been designed to be inclusive to people of all abilities, including a couple of sensory pieces and a basket style swing which can be used by all. The group anticipates that the final phase of the work will commence in March 2018.

3.8 Paisley Pirates

3.8.1 The entirety of the LAC's award of £500 was utilised by the Paisley Pirates to cover ice hire costs.

3.8.2 During the 2016/17 season the Pirates, a team consisting of and run by local volunteers, won the Scottish National League and were runners up in both the play-offs and the Scottish Cup. As a result of their success, Paisley was ranked 41 as one of the top ice hockey towns in Europe. The team estimates that 77 people have directly benefitted from the grant as well as several hundred spectators.

3.9 Renfrewshire Bowling Association Under 25s

3.9.1 The LAC grant of £150 helped to meet the cost of transport for 52 young people from all over Renfrewshire who represented the Renfrewshire Bowling Association at matches all over the country. The Under 25s team play in the Scottish Inter-County League & cups and include two under 25 internationalists and two under 17 internationalists.

3.10 The Breastfeeding Network

3.10.1 This LAC awarded £750 towards the cost of the ongoing Breast Buddies project aimed at promoting breastfeeding in Renfrewshire.

3.10.2 The group has advised that they have continued to provide breastfeeding support to families in Renfrewshire at their three weekly drop-in support groups at Ferguslie, Johnstone and Linwood. The group has also attended local community events including Lilies Day, Sma Shot Day and Barshaw Gala Day which has enabled them to engage with the local community, talking to parents and their wider families, normalising breastfeeding and providing evidence based information to local health professionals and new parents.

3.10.3 The group has continued to support their existing volunteers by providing ongoing learning, and two volunteers have now commenced nurse training. The group estimates that 82 local families directly benefitted from attendance at group sessions and 65 families attended the Teddy Bears' Picnic and Linwood's Birthday party events arranged by the Breastfeeding Network.

3.11 Dates-n-Mates Renfrewshire

3.11.1 The applicant, C-change Scotland, has submitted an extensive feedback report relative to the award made by Renfrewshire LACs, including £1,000 awarded by this LAC.

3.11.2 Dates-n-mates Renfrewshire developed a pilot outreach model to identify adults with learning disabilities in specific areas of Renfrewshire and provide opportunities to connect and make friends and form meaningful relationships. Through outreach work the group advise that they are creating awareness of dates-n-mates and engaging those most isolated, supporting them towards membership helping to reduce social isolation, build confidence and self-esteem, and improve the person's ability to be active citizens and improve their overall health and well-being.

3.11.3 Dates-n-mates advise that they have built positive relationships with a wide range of services and organisations including health and housing providers together with other statutory and non-statutory services and projects. In particular, 19 local pharmacies and two GP Practices are actively supporting the outreach work as well as two local housing associations, advocacy services, the Carers Centre and West College Scotland.

3.11.4 In terms of project impact, Dates-n-mates has intimated that it sent out 55 evaluation forms to its members, 12 to attendees of its large events, 20 to family members and 24 to other stakeholders. The group also held a focus group consisting of eight members, two adult with learning disabilities that attended the large events, one parent and one support worker. From the evaluation all parents/carers agreed that members had met new people; furthermore all agreed that the project had increased members' confidence while 66% agreed dates-n-mates had increased members' independence. All members agreed since joining dates-n-mates they had met new people while 68% agreed they had met new friends.

3.11.5 Dates-n-Mates has also created volunteering opportunities for its members through its 'Champions Scheme' with five active volunteers supporting the project through different initiatives.

3.12 Active Communities – Parkour Club

3.12.1 The Lac awarded £2,000 towards the cost of this Active Communities Project. The group advises that the club has been at maximum capacity of 30 young people all year and has a waiting list for those wishing to join. Development pathways have also been provided for the young people through training, additional courses and volunteering and employment opportunities.

3.13 Erskine Music and Media Studio

3.13.1 The LAC awarded £1,000 towards the cost of delivering six training workshops presented by an industry professional photographer and film maker over a six week period. The workshops were attended by 15 members and volunteers. The grant also helped with the purchase with various pieces of filming and lighting equipment.

3.14 Houston United FC

3.14.1 The club was awarded £10,000 towards the cost of developing changing facilities at Ardgyffe Park, Houston. The club advises that the project was delayed as a result of leasing and insurance issues but these matters have now been resolved and it is hoped that the development to proceed in the near future.

3.15 RAMH – No Substitute for Life

3.15.1 The LAC awarded £400 towards the cost of this multi area application. The funding helped to meet the cost of a memorial football tournament for local people, especially young men, who were most at risk of suicide. The event acted as a platform for local and national organisations who were trying to tackle the stigmas and taboos that prevented people, and particularly young men, from talking about mental health and suicide.

3.15.2 The main outcomes of the event were that it was led by the local community, ensuring local ownership and developing the resources of the community; that suicide prevention messages were clear throughout the event in order to reduce the stigma associated with the subject; and direct access to information about suicide prevention.

3.16 Renfrewshire Access Panel

3.16.1 This LAC awarded £1,226.20 to help meet the running costs for the offices of Renfrewshire Access Panel and help to enable the group to continue assisting Renfrewshire Council on various projects such as Living Streets; Joint Employability Project; and Changing Places Toilets.

3.16.2 The Panel has advised that throughout 2016/17 it continued its work to advance access provision and maintenance to buildings, environments and access to approaches for disabled people; to advance knowledge and perception with the aid of training and development; to advance knowledge and understanding of hate crime within Renfrewshire and assist with reporting to the appropriate authority; to advance the scope and procedures of the Panel by networking and building alliances; to provide advice on financial hardship and sickness for people with physical, mental and sensory impairments; and to develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Renfrewshire, in such a way they are better able to identify, and help meet their needs and enable them to participate more fully in society.

3.17 The Boys' Brigade – Paisley & District Battalion

3.17.1 The Battalion received a total award of £300 towards the costs of refurbishing the headquarters building. The building now has a DDA compliant toilet facility and the upgraded kitchen allows the Brigade to provide catering for training courses being hosted at the headquarters. The upgraded heating system makes the building more suitable for daily working, meetings and training courses.

3.18 Phoenix Flyers Dog Agility Club

3.18.1 The LAC grant of £1,000 allowed this group to purchase a large storage container and various pieces of lightweight 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. In terms of a wider community benefit, the club has been able to arrange an increased number of beginner classes which will improve owner responsibility for their dogs.

3.19 Fitting-in – Renfrewshire Troopers

3.19.1 The LAC made a contribution of £1,156 towards this multi-area application which saw children and their carers undertake healthy eating and mindfulness courses and participate in trips to Hampden and Heads of Ayr. In addition, the wider benefit of the project was for kinship carers who were able to participate more fully within their communities. The group has been asked to take part in developing a piece of art : 'Recovery in Renfrewshire'.

3.20 St James' Orchestra

3.20.1 The orchestra used its multi-area grant to help meet the cost of accommodation for rehearsals and for full concerts throughout Renfrewshire.

3.21 Inchinnan Community Nursery

3.21.1 The nursery was awarded £550 to allow for the installation of a CCTV system to help protect the property. The system allows the nursery premises to be monitored outwith working hours and for visitors to be identified during working hours.

3.22 Bridge of Weir Festival

3.22.1 The Festival was awarded £2,000 towards the cost of the 2016 event with the grant being utilised for the hire of a vehicle for use with the sleigh, toilet hire, security, staging and entertainments.

3.23 Linwood Community Development Trust

3.23.1 Linwood Community Development Trust (LCDT) was awarded grants for three projects in 2016/17: £7,000 for a LCDT youth project; £10,000 for 'Lightening the Load' community shop project; and £10,000 for the Sustainable Linwood project.

3.23.2 In relation to the youth project, the grant helped LCDT employ a schools and LCDT link worker to support and enable the involvement of young people in planning initiatives ; increase enterprise activities in local schools ; and deliver educational experiences for young people. LCDT has advised that 100 young people took part in consultations and had direct input to the development of the Mossedge Community Village Project.

3.23.3 The Lightening the Load project helped to establish two pop-up shops, bringing fresh produce to the local community at an affordable price. LCDT advised that the increased number of customers and the evidence of additional need for the service resulted in the Trust receiving £50,000 funding for an additional two workers for a three-year period.

3.23.4 LCDT has intimated that the Sustainable Linwood project helped promote awareness of the Linwood environment and specifically identify two areas suitable for a community transfer. LCDT also advised that an application for a woodland children's nursery secured an additional £220,000 of government funding.

3.24 Future Feedback

3.24.1 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

Grant awards were contained within 2016/17 LAC budget allocations.

2. HR and Organisational Development Implications

None.

3. Community Plan/Council Plan Implications

The wide range of projects awarded LAC funding reflect the diverse nature of the community in Renfrewshire and meets many of the key ambitions set out in the Community and Council Plans.

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.

12. CoSLA Policy Position

None.

List of Background Papers

None

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Appendix

Name of Group	Award from this LAC	Update status
GENERAL GRANT FUND		
BEI Day Centre and Lunch Club	£1,100	No feedback submitted
Bridge of Weir CC – heritage trail	£540	Reported to meeting held on 30 August 2017
Bridge of Weir CC – xmas lights switch-on	£4,000	Reported to meeting held on 30 August 2017
Bridge of Weir Elderly Forum	£500	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017
Bridge of Weir Festival	£2,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Bridge of Weir Senior Citizens Association	£1,500	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017
Brighter Bridge of Weir	£1,500	Reported to meeting held on 30 August 2017
Erskine CC - planters	£2,000	No feedback submitted
Erskine CC – xmas decorations	£4,000	No feedback submitted
Erskine Festival Committee	£3,000	No feedback submitted
Houston CC	£6,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Houston CC	£5,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Houston Playpark Improvement Group	£8,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Houston United Football Club	£2,075	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Inchinnan Community Nursery	£550	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Langbank CC	£500	No feedback submitted
Langbank Primary School Partnership	£5,000	No feedback submitted
Linwood Community Childcare	£2,340	No feedback submitted
Linwood CC	£5,000	No feedback submitted
Linwood Community Development Trust – environmental plan	£10,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Breastfeeding Network	£750	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018

C-change Scotland	£1,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Erskine Community Allotments	£3,000	Reported to meeting held on 30 August 2017
Greensyde Carers	£100	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Lamont Farm	£1,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Parkrun UK	£600	Reported to meeting held on 31 August 2016
Phoenix Flyers Dog Agility Training Club	£1,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Rainbow Turtle	£1,900	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017
RAMH – No Substitute for Life	£400	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Rays of Hope	£1,960	Reported to meeting held on 30 August 2017
Renfrewshire Access Panel	£1,226.20	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Renfrewshire Deaf Group	£600	Meeting to be arranged with group
Shopmobility	£494	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017
St James Orchestra	£200	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Wynd Centre (Adult)	£355	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017
YOUTH CHALLENGE FUND		
Active Communities – Parkour Club	£2,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Active Communities – Bike Busters	£2,000	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017
Bishopton Scout Group	£1,000	Grant returned – event broke even
Basketball Paisley	£876	No feedback submitted
Braehead Junior Ice Hockey Club	£200	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Erskine Music and Media Studio	£1,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Houston United Football Club	£7,925	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Johnstone Pipe Band	£2,000	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017
Linwood CDT – volunteer support and development	£10,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Linwood CDT – young persons project	£7,000	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Loud ‘n’Proud	£400	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017

Paisley Pirates	£500	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Renfrewshire Bowling Association Under 25s	£150	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Renfrewshire Youth Voice	£200	Reported to meeting held on 30 August 2017
Boys Brigade Paisley & District Battalion	£300	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018
Wynd Centre – Youth Counselling	£355	Reported to meeting held on 29 November 2017
Street Stuff	£5,000	Reported to meeting held on 30 August 2017
Feis Feislig	£500	Presentation to be made to the LAC
Fitting-in	£350	Reported to meeting held on 28 February 2018