

To: The Renfrew and Gallowhill Local Area Committee

On: 22nd August 2017

Report by: Louisa Mahon, Head of Marketing

Heading: Application to Renfrew Common Good Fund Renfrew Christmas light switch on

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Christmas Lights Switch on in Renfrew is an enjoyable valued annual event to encourage community spirit and a wider participation of residents and children within the community. This is seen in turn to have a positive effect on the local economy allowing local retailers to maximise their trade on the day.
- 1.2 Funding of £10,000 is requested from the Renfrew and Gallowhill Local Area Committee to supplement existing budget and enhance this event by providing free activities which include a reindeer hire, fireworks and children's activities to the Renfrew Christmas Lights Switch on.
- 1.3 It is anticipated that with use of the grant money the event will attract a greater number of spectators. An expanded event would attract wider and positive PR for Renfrew Town.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Renfrew and Gallowhill Local Area Committee approves the request from the Head of Marketing to enhance the Visitor and Local business community's experience at this event.

3. Background

- 3.1 Renfrew Christmas Lights switch on is being held on Saturday 25th November 2017. The event, as with previous years, will be held primarily indoors with free activities for families to enjoy culminating in a fireworks finale as the lights are switched on. The grant which was awarded in 2016 allowed the event to be expanded to include an outdoor element. The outdoor attractions featured a reindeer enclosure and live music stage for the latter part of the event within a prominent area in the town centre. The grant is requested to allow the expansion of the outdoor elements of the event to continue and grow.
- 3.2 The Christmas lights switch on event is accessible to all, indoor activities are free and all rooms accessible to those with mobility issues. The outdoor firework viewing area will have an area set aside for wheelchair users.
- 3.3 It has been identified that a funding investment of £10,000 would allow the Council to invest
- a. £1500 in Street Entertainment
 - b. £2000 in equipment (Staging & PA System)
 - c. £5000 in fireworks.
 - d. £1500 in hire of Reindeer and associated articles to support this

Implications of the Report

- 1. **Financial** – £10,000 grant funding from the Local Area Committee
 - 2. **HR & Organisational Development** – N/A
 - 3. **Community Planning** – N/A
 - 4. **Legal** – N/A
 - 5. **Property/Assets** – N/A
 - 6. **Information Technology** – N/A.
 - 7. **Equality & Human Rights** – N/A
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- (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. 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 & Safety – N/A**
- 9. **Procurement – N/A**
- 10. **Risk - N/A**
- 11. **Privacy Impact - N/A**
- 12. **COSLA Policy Position –N/A**

List of Background Papers

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