

To: Leadership Board

On: 18 September 2019

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Culture, Heritage and Events Fund

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Leadership Board for the award of grants selected from the eleventh round of Culture, Heritage and Events Fund applications.
- 1.2 The Culture, Heritage and Events Fund is administered by Renfrewshire Leisure on behalf of Renfrewshire Council. The Fund was established to develop cultural and heritage activity as part of Paisley's UK City of Culture bid and continues to support the development and delivery of cultural and heritage projects and events across Renfrewshire.
- 1.3 The current funding round was publicised via creative and cultural networks, and social media channels. The deadline for submissions was 24 July 2019.
- 1.4 A total of 24 applications were received (compared to the previous round of 13 applications) of which 7 are recommended for the full grant amount requested and 7 are recommended for a partial grant in this round with a total recommendation of £94,732.
- 1.5 Funding was originally intended for applications for activity leading to 2021, however, due to consistent high demand for funds in rounds 1 to 11 the allocated funds have now been fully invested.
- 1.6 An evaluation of the success and impact of the programme to date is currently being conducted, including a members' briefing and feedback session. A report on the evaluation will be brought to the December meeting of board for consideration of the benefits of potential future funding rounds subject to available resources.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the board:

- i. notes the level of interest generated in this eleventh round of the Culture, Heritage and Events Fund;
- ii. approves the recommended grant awards, as detailed in Section 4 of this report to the total value of £94,732;
- iii. notes the committed funds to date of £1,140,000 being the full investment of the Fund by the Council; and
- iv. notes that a report on the evaluation of the CHEF fund will be provided to the December meeting of the Board.

3. Background

3.1 The Economy and Jobs Board of 18 November 2015 approved the establishment of a Culture, Heritage and Events Fund. The fund was launched on 8 February 2016 and applications were encouraged from individuals, organisations and networks that would help to develop capacity to support the ambitions of Paisley's UK City of Culture 2021 bid.

- The initial resources of £500,000 were doubled in February 2017 to provide £1m to support relevant activities in support of the bid.
- The fund stood at £360,000 at the end of 2017, therefore a further £140,000 was added in March 2018 to top the fund back up to £500,000 to support relevant legacy activities up to year 2021.
- This brings the total resources allocated to the CHEF over the bid and legacy period to £1.14m.

3.2. Potential applicants receive guidance on the aims, objectives and outcomes required to be successful for grant funding. Furthermore, an assessment framework was set out to allow assessment of applications received.

3.3 Following the seventh round, responsibility for managing the application and assessment process was transferred to Renfrewshire Leisure's Cultural Services, with financial administration continuing to be carried out by Renfrewshire Council.

3.4 Refreshed guidance for applicants has been provided for round 10 applications onwards, with clearer information on the assessment process and a new checklist to help applicants avoid submitting incomplete applications. Clearer guidelines for assessors have also been introduced. As well as the fund criteria at 4.2, proposals are also reviewed for effective management and financial viability.

3.5 The key objectives of the fund are to:

- increase the number of people taking part in creative activity in Renfrewshire;
- increase opportunities for young people to develop their creative ambition;
- stimulate the local economy;
- realise the potential contribution creativity can make to education, social inclusion and quality of life;
- strengthen and broaden the network of people developing exciting cultural and creative projects and events in Renfrewshire;
- increase the number of people visiting Renfrewshire; and
- raise the profile of Renfrewshire throughout the UK.

Three grant application rounds were held in 2016, a further two in 2017, 4 rounds held in 2018 and 2 held in 2019 and have demonstrated that the fund continues to support activity across Renfrewshire. The total amount of funds committed to projects to date is £1,140,000 inclusive of the current round:

CHEF 2016-21			
Round	No. of projects	Awarded	Balance
Round 1 – March 2016	17	£105,776	£1,034,224
Round 2 – Aug 2016 ¹	18	£125,306	£908,918
Round 3 – Dec 2016	17	£152,679	£756,239
Round 4 – May 2017	13	£78,180	£678,059
Round 5 – Sep 2017	15	£171,199	£506,860
Round 6 – Feb 2018	8	£81,906	£424,954
Round 7 – May 2018	12	£100,240	£324,714
Round 8 – Oct 2018	7	£70,658	£254,056
Round 9 – Dec 2018	9	£109,223	£144,833
Round 10 – Mar 2019	5	£50,101	£94,732
Total to date	121	£1,045,268	£94,732
*Round 11 – Sep 2019	14	£94,732	£0
Cumulative total	135	£1,140,000	£0

**Recommended for the current round*

¹ A review of CHEF papers has uncovered a typographical error in the previous reporting of the Round 2 amount awarded. A previous paper erroneously stated this figure was £125,906. The correct figure is £125,306. The table above has been amended accordingly.

4. Eleventh round applications

4.1 Twenty-four applications were received by the deadline of 24 July 2019

- The total value of requested grants to the eleventh round was £197,694
- A panel met on 12 August 2019 to review the assessment of the applications
- Seven grant applications are fully recommended for approval in the eleventh round
- Seven grant applications are recommended for partial approval in the eleventh round
- Ten applications are not recommended as insufficient information was included with the application, the application was incomplete or the application did not fit with the criteria for the fund.
- Of the 24 applications received, 19 proposed activity in Paisley, 2 Renfrewshire wide, 1 in Linwood, 1 in Lochwinnoch and 1 in Paisley & Johnstone

4.2 Funding decisions are based on the criteria set out in the report approved by the Economy and Jobs Policy Board on 18 November 2015:

- best strategic fit with the fund objectives, themes and criteria
- value for money and leverage of additional funding and/or resources
- event viability, quality of programme, management, marketing and promotion
- public benefit/audience
- legacy opportunities

4.3 Subject to board approval, officers will correspond with all applicants to provide feedback.

5. Spend to Date

5.1 The Board are asked to note the overwhelming interest in the Culture, Heritage and Event Fund since it was initiated.

- The combined number of applicants over the eleven funding rounds has been 359 – from communities, businesses and cultural organisations in Renfrewshire and across Scotland.
- This amounts to a total funding request so far of £3,973,967 of which 135 projects have been supported, amounting to £1,140,000 approved by Renfrewshire Council.
- Over the course of the Culture, Heritage and Events Fund rounds 1-11, 38% of applications have been supported (including those recommended for support in round 11), with 29% of the total funding requested being committed.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The grant awards outlined in the report will be funded from existing resources earmarked for the Culture, Heritage & Events Fund over the period to 2021. The applications are subject to the Council's new grant conditions which were revised and implemented April 2016.
2. **HR & Organisational Development - None**
3. **Community Planning –**

Community Care, Health & Wellbeing - The Culture, Heritage and Events projects will have a positive effect on wellbeing.

Jobs and the Economy – The bid legacy programme aims to deliver positive economic impacts.
4. **Legal – None**
5. **Property/Assets – None**
6. **Information Technology - None**
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - 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 the projects and criteria have been developed to provide opportunities across equality groups.
8. **Health & Safety** – none
9. **Procurement** – none
10. **Risk** – none
11. **Privacy Impact** – none
12. **CoSLA Policy Position** – n/a
13. **Climate Risk** – n/a

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PROJECTS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL – ROUND 11

Application round	Applicant	Project	Requested	Award recommended	Reason	Geographic locus
CHEF 11	Glasgow Women's Library	Making Her Mark - celebrating women in Renfrewshire and beyond Work with local vulnerable women in partnership with RAMH and Kairos to improve their skills, confidence, local knowledge and connections to services and resources in Renfrewshire	£8,855	£8,855	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Renfrewshire wide
CHEF 11	Steven Anderson	Present Alignment / Dances for Multiple People Working with methods developed through research and practice at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland the project would provide a pilot series of participatory dance workshops for older people and their carers attending the Royal Alexandra Hospital.	£5,219	£5219	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Paisley
CHEF 11	Paisley Sinfonia	Paisley Sinfonia The purpose of the project is to study the practice of orchestral music, in order to foster public knowledge and appreciation of the same by means of public performance	£1500	£1500	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Paisley
CHEF 11	Lisa Kowalski	A song for Paisley to be showcased at New York Tartan Week 2020 To fund the writing, recording and promotion of a new song about Paisley and filming of a video featuring the town's good features and optimism about the future. Lisa has been invited to perform at the opening ceremony of New York Tartan Week 2020 and will perform the song there, as well as showcasing it locally.	£2600	£2600	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Paisley
CHEF 11	Paisley Opera	Paisley Opera The project will produce four performances of two short operas: the well-loved 'Cavalleria Rusticana' in a new Paisley translation specially commissioned for Paisley Opera and a companion piece of a newly-commissioned opera by highly-regarded young Scottish composer, Liam Paterson.	£18,800	£18,800	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Paisley
CHEF 11	Right2dance	Creative Connections The project will strengthen cultural activity and enrich the cultural experience of young people through a free dance initiative in Paisley.	£12,852	£12,852	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Paisley

Application round	Applicant	Project	Requested	Award recommended	Reason	Geographic locus
CHEF11	Soundsystems Project CIC	Soundsystems Renfrewshire To deliver a Soundsystems Project for young people aged 14-25 in Paisley or elsewhere in Renfrewshire. Soundsystems is a youth-led project where participants design and build their own 12-volt, bike-transported soundsystem.	£10,995	£10,995	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Linwood
CHEF11	Thomas Coats Memorial Choral Society	40th Anniversary Concert To assist with funding for venues in which to rehearse and perform a successful, high quality, public concert in Paisley to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of Thomas Coats Memorial Choral Society.	£2000	£1200 Funding is awarded for venue hire for rehearsals and concert performance only, with the recommendation that the applicant meets RC Schools Music Co-ordinator to discuss engagement with schools and young people	While the proposal for choral activity strongly meets the purpose of the fund, there were weaknesses in the proposed school workshops and engagement activity with young people	Paisley
CHEF11	Media Monty	The High Street: Paisley through the decades A series of 5 short episodes released online filmed at various locations throughout Paisley, with each episode set throughout a decade of Paisley	£9940	£8740 A partial award is recommended for all elements except audio capital equipment (a reduction of £1,200)	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund, capital costs not eligible	Paisley
CHEF11	Fèis Phàislig	Fèis Phàislig Weekly Lessons Fèis Phàislig delivers opportunities in traditional music and Gaelic for those aged 5-25. Weekly lessons take place on Saturday mornings at UWS in Paisley during term time and deliver tuition in accordion, fiddle and guitar to around 40 young people	£8434.10	£5935 A partial award is recommended to cover the cost of tutors' fees and subsidised places only, with venue hire to be funded through other sources.	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Paisley

Application round	Applicant	Project	Requested	Award recommended	Reason	Geographic locus
CHEF11	The Vegan Leather	The Vegan Leather – Album Campaign The purpose of the project is to build a strong campaign/tour to promote the album. The project will build our presence as a professional band, further our profile within Scotland/UK, and allow us to continue to support our local music scene in Paisley.	£8550	£5000 A partial award is recommended for: media cost, album PR, radio PR and digital marketing. Other aspects of the activity, including tour costs and merchandise printing, are to be funded from other sources.	Strongly meets the purpose of the fund	Paisley
CHEF11	UWS	Paisley School of Arts This proposal seeks to establish a Living Archive project, focused on raising awareness and inspiring local talent through the significant history of Paisley School of Arts, est.1838.	£9758	£7289 Funding is awarded for the project to be delivered as proposed, with a reduced award for staff costs for archival research and the University to fund any remaining staff costs through other funding sources.	Strongly meets purpose of the fund	Paisley
CHEF11	Pachedu	Pachedu Cultural Café (PACC) The main purpose of the project is to increase the number of people taking part in diverse cultural activities in Renfrewshire. The project also aims to enhance the network of people developing cultural and creative projects in Renfrewshire	£15664	£3000 The applicant proposed staging a large scale event plus 3 smaller cultural cafe events. There were concerns that the larger event presented a risk for the CHEF fund, but the smaller cultural cafes and associated cultural engagement are recommended for support.	Strongly fits the purpose of the fund	Paisley & Johnstone

Application round	Applicant	Project	Requested	Award recommended	Reason	Geographic locus
CHEF11	DRIFT	Single releases The purpose of this project is to establish D R I F T as the go-to electro pop band in the local and Scottish music scene	£4100	£2747 A partial award is recommended to support the recording and production of 2 of the proposed 3 singles. The third single is to be funded by other sources, such as ticket sales, singles sales and merchandise sales. There is no expectation to deliver the workshops proposed in the application.	Strongly fits the purpose of the fund	Paisley

PROJECTS NOT RECOMMENDED – ROUND 11

Application round	Applicant	Project	Requested	Award recommended	Geographic locus
CHEF 11	Action for Culture and Ethics Ltd	Africa – Paisley To celebrate music, fashion, food and culture as part of Renfrewshire cultural heritage.	£9928	No award	Paisley
CHEF 11	Evangelical Believers Outreach Ministries International	Edo Arts and Culture in Scotland The purpose of the project is to showcase Edo arts and culture in Scotland with the hope of enlightening people about the historical relationship that has been in existence between Britain and Nigeria in general and the Edo people in particular.	£4970	No award	Renfrewshire wide
CHEF 11	Ferguslie Community Arts and Social History Group	Ferguslie Park Social History Reunion To continue collating photographic verbal and written material with reference to Ferguslie Parks Social History for the purposes of launching a public photographic exhibition and short film	£1700	No award	Paisley
CHEF 11	Impact Arts Ltd	My (Digital) Story The My (Digital) Story will provide opportunities and a platform for local older people to gain new skills, develop new social networks, work intergenerationally, create and share their stories, and showcase and contribute to the culture of Paisley.	£13744	No award	Paisley
CHEF 11	Jane Donaldson	The Queendom The Queendom is a sanctuary providing a safe space for our clients to transform their physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing to enable them to be better parents, friends, citizens and employees.	£10920	No award	Paisley
CHEF 11	Jenny's Well Press	Gie it Laldy! The purpose of 'Gie it Laldy!' is to develop and publish a third edition of our already-established literary journal, Laldy!. In addition, it will select two individual authors for writer development and publication and will promote and distribute the publications by hosting three literary events in Renfrewshire.	£15,827	No award	Paisley
CHEF 11	Lochwinnoch Arts Festival	Film made by local children of Lochwinnoch Arts Festival The main purpose of our project is to develop and nurture the identity and character of the Lochwinnoch and its close partner villages via arts and culture.	£2250	No award	Lochwinnoch
CHEF 11	Media Monty	Paisley VR Tour The purpose of this project is to provide Paisley with a cultural and technological edge regarding the town centre with a fully immersive and dynamic 360 virtual reality experience.	£6700	No award	Paisley

Application round	Applicant	Project	Requested	Award recommended	Geographic locus
CHEF 11	Richy Muirhead	SAMAs Paisley Takeover 2020 The project is the 2020 SAMAs Takeover festival which will include artists, workshops, seminars and live performances	£7975	No award	Paisley
CHEF 11	St Matthew's Church	St Matthew's InSPIRES To continue to increase cultural capacity, develop new and wider audiences and expand the use of St Matthew's as a multi-purpose venue.	£14340	No award	Paisley