

**To: JOHNSTONE & VILLAGES LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**On: 19 MAY 2016**

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**Report by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

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**Heading: STREET STUFF ANNUAL REPORT / FUNDING REQUEST**

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## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 Street Stuff has been delivering activities in Renfrewshire since 2009, during which they have contributed to a sustained reduction in reported youth disorder and anti-social behaviour. Across Renfrewshire there has been a 75% reduction in youth disorder and anti-social behaviour since the programme began and an 84% increase in participation levels over the past 2 years. Over 37,269 participants took part during 2015/16, an increase of approximately 12000 (almost 50%) from the previous year. The programme now offers a wide range of activities such as football, dance, computer games and clubbercise.
- 1.2 The success of the programme is its responsiveness. Being evidence led, and by responding early to information and data received through the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership daily tasking process, the service has built its reputation on being able to divert young people effectively from anti-social behaviour into more meaningful activities.
- 1.3 Over the past year the programme has also received funding from the Council to respond to issues identified by the Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Commission. This has supported the significant expansion of the programme to allow delivery of new activities and resources delivering increased flexibility in operation. This has shown significant increase in the numbers of sessions being held and the overall numbers of participants taking part. St Mirren Football Club has continued to support the delivery of the programme, including

at The Paisley 2021 Stadium with some of the events being held there. One such event was the festive programme generating record numbers of attendances from across Renfrewshire.

- 1.4 Over the last few years, Local Area Committees have been keen to consider funding additional activities within their LAC area which would allow additional sessions to be programmed within communities, that are not identified at a Renfrewshire level as areas that have a particular problem with either anti social behaviour or children living in poverty. The success of the programme means that local communities feel they would benefit from being able to access these services locally - particularly at local gala days and fetes. Given the scale of the core programme, it is asked that a contribution of £5,000 per LAC area should be considered. This being similar to previous years. This funding would contribute to the costs of delivery of up to 2 activity sessions per week within the LAC area, through the peak summer, autumn and spring months, as well as attendance at local gala days and fetes.
  - 1.5 Participants and trainees on the programme from each LAC area will attend the LAC meetings to be available to discuss the benefits they have gained personally from participation in the programme.
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## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Committee agrees funding of £5,000 to the Street Stuff Programme to contribute towards the costs of additional activity sessions within the LAC area as well as attendance at local gala days and fetes.
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## **3. Background and Further Information on the Programme**

- 3.1 The core Street Stuff programme provides a range of activities, primarily in the evenings and at weekends across Renfrewshire, targeted in communities that statistics show would benefit from diversionary activities being available. Effective targeting and identification of the locations for the core programme is provided by our Partnership Analyst using information available to the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership, including Police data that highlights the days and times of youth disorder and anti social behaviour.
- 3.2 The table below summarises the number of sessions delivered and the recorded attendance figures within each local area committee area during the 2015/16 financial year. The programme has grown significantly over the past

year as it has increased provision in response to issues identified by the Renfrewshire Poverty Commission. As part of this wider programme funding has been provided for additional afternoon sessions and camps with food provision that are being rolled out to locations that meet the specific funding criteria. This will continue during 2016/17 with a significant programme taking place during the Spring and Summer Holiday periods.

<b>Street Stuff Annual Stat - Summary</b>		
	<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Attendees</b>
Paisley North	475	8025
Johnstone & Villages	345	4373
Renfrew & Gallowhill	511	8786
HCRLE	375	5160
Paisley South	367	9003
Football Event		300
October Week		515
Festive Period		1107
<b>Total</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>37269</b>

- 3.3 Due to the recent evaluation carried out by the University of West of Scotland and the high volume of girls attending Street Stuff venues, dance classes have now been added as a key popular activity within the programme. Since starting in November 2014 with just one class in Glenburn, dance has been expanded to a number of areas in Renfrewshire including: Gallowhill, Shortroods, Johnstone and Renfrew. Participants have learned dance routines and have had the opportunity to display them at different events such as the Stronger Communities event in Glenburn, a Fairtrade Festival in Paisley Town Centre and the St Mirren v Queen of the South football match. Due to its popularity and the enhancement of fitness levels with the young people participating, dance classes are now delivered within school hours as part of physical education in a number of schools, as well as supporting school health events.
- 3.4 Last year, boys from Street Stuff went on a visit to London to view a similar project operating there - Football Beyond Borders. The boys participated in football matches in Croydon, Brixton and St Albans, winning the tournament outright. Not only were they involved in football - visiting iconic venues such as Wembley, this was also for some, their first experience away from Paisley, including taking part in educational sightseeing trips. It was a huge success and was repeated when Football Beyond Borders made a return visit to Scotland during the summer holidays. On this occasion Street Stuff were the hosts of a local football tournament as well as organising sightseeing trips to Loch

Lomond and outdoor adventure team building at Lapwing Lodge. The Boys from London stayed at the Lodge throughout their stay. Due to the success of these trips over the last 2 years we are now planning for another group to have the same beneficial experience.

- 3.5 The Street Stuff Annual Football Festival held in May 2015 at St Mirren 2021 Stadium hosted around 300 young people from across Renfrewshire and the West Region in a competitive tournament sponsored and delivered in partnership with SFAs Midnight League. The teams had the opportunity to play on the pitch in the stadium. Street Stuff girls and boys teams both performed on the night with 2 teams winning their age categories and an East Renfrewshire Team also sharing the prizes.
- 3.6 In June 2015, Street Stuff was awarded £250,000 Tackling Poverty funding to expand the delivery of activities after school, weekends and school holiday periods and to include the provision of a healthy meal.

The objectives of the additional funding are:

- Improved social inclusion and access to facilities to those children who otherwise would not be able to experience the services provided by the programme;
  - Provision of and education around healthy eating and healthy lifestyles; and,
  - To increase positive destinations for young people.
- 3.7 The expanded programme commenced during the October School Holidays in the Gallowhill and Glenburn areas with football and dance delivered each day with lunch provided. Similar programmes were delivered throughout the festive and Easter Spring Break periods with plans currently underway for the summer holidays.
- 3.8 An extended weekly after school programme commenced in November 2015 in Shortroods and Gallowhill Community Centres with Football, Dance and Box activities and the provision of a hot meal. Activities and other suitable locations in Linwood, Johnstone, Foxbar and Glenburn are now being considered.
- 3.9 An additional two youth buses have been introduced to support the expanded programme and increase flexibility in the areas that can be reached. A further two buses will be purchased during 2016/17. Buses are now being used to provide a more flexible and accessible alternative to the boxes that were previously located in some communities – allowing services to be more responsive to the needs of communities as they evolve throughout the year.

- 3.10 The ongoing development of the Street Stuff programme has provided volunteering and employment opportunities. During the past year a number of young people took part in an eight-week employability course with 8 progressing to traineeships, gaining work experience through the delivery of activities and working with key Community Safety Partners. Extensive training has been provided as part of their journey including: Fire safety; Manual handling; First Aid; Child Protection/Sexual exploitation; bus driver training and SFA Football Early touches. Through the training provided young people have obtained the opportunity to build up information which can be included in their Curriculum Vitae's (CVs) with a view to securing sessional work within the programme at the end of the training period. A key positive outcome for the programme is that more than 50% of staff delivering Street Stuff activities are former participants and volunteers. A number of staff have also progressed to positive destinations, some with Police Scotland and others taking up Teacher training.
- 3.11 Street Stuff has been popular this year for work experience placements with young people from local schools and colleges. Over the past year, Street Stuff has been working with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year West College Scotland dance students providing practical experience to support their studies. Three students are working as sessional staff within the programme with the Street Stuff Dance Instructor forming part of the performance panel for the College. In addition we are working with University of West of Scotland providing placements for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students within the Street Stuff programme.
- 3.12 Street Stuff participants also get involved in initiatives such as “kick and collect” and “Do Your Bit” where they take part in activities designed to improve their communities including litter picks; graffiti removal and educational awareness programmes. Each time they participate, they collect points towards rewards ranging from paintballing and go karting trips to tickets for St Mirren and Scotland football matches or Braehead Clan tickets that they would not otherwise be able to afford. Local businesses donate prizes in recognition of the contribution that young people are making, helping them to promote positive community participation and pride in local communities. Through activities of this nature Street Stuff are currently supporting 18 young volunteers as they work towards their Saltire Awards.
- 3.13 Street Stuff continued their support at the annual Safe Kids event delivered over 2 weeks in March at the St Mirren Paisley 2021 Stadium. Several workshops ranging from online safety to drugs and alcohol awareness formed part of the programme with Street Stuff staff assisting in the delivery of workshops as well as coordinating the transition of children moving between workshops. Almost 2000 P6 pupils from across Renfrewshire attended the

event and were given the opportunity to attend a St Mirren match with a parent free of charge. Around 800 people attended the match against Queen of the South in March. The programme also supported the Choices for Life event aimed at S2 pupils across Renfrewshire raising awareness of the dangers and impact of alcohol and drugs as part of the Building Safer Communities agenda.

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## **IMPLICATIONS OF THIS REPORT**

1. **Financial Implications:** Any financial commitment made by the LAC will be contained within the LAC's grant allocation 2015/16.
2. **HR & Organisational Development Implications** – None.
3. **Community Plan / Council Plan Implications**  
**Safer and Stronger** – Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership Services activities and outcomes contribute to making Renfrewshire a Safer and Stronger place to live. The project tackles youth disorder areas as highlighted throughout the Community Plan and the Single Outcome Agreement.
4. **Legal Implications** – None.
5. **Property implications** – None.
6. **Information Technology Implications** – None.
7. **Equal Opportunity Implications** – 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.
8. **Health & Safety Implications** – None.
9. **Procurement Implications** – None.
10. **Risk Implications** – None.
11. **Privacy Impact** – None.

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**List of Background Papers** – none

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