
To: JOHNSTONE & VILLAGES LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

On: 21 MAY 2015

Report by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Heading: RENFREWSHIRE STREET STUFF

1. Summary

1. Street Stuff has been operating across Renfrewshire for 6 years and over that time has contributed to delivering 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 a 38% increase in participation levels over the past 2 years. Over 25,000 participants took part during 2014/15.
 - 1.2 The success of the programme is based on its ability to respond quickly to hot spot areas as they are identified through collaborative working between Renfrewshire Community Safety Wardens and Police Scotland. Being evidence led, and by responding early, the service is able to divert young people effectively from anti social activities.
 - 1.3 This report confirms the continuation of the core Street Stuff programme through the 2015/16 financial year and highlights some of the additional projects that are being linked with the core programme to further improve its reach and effectiveness.
 - 1.4 As in previous years there is an opportunity for Local Area Committees to consider funding additional activities within their LAC area that would allow additional sessions to be programmed within communities that are not identified at a Renfrewshire level as hotspot areas, but that the local communities feel would benefit from this type of programme. Given the scale of the core programme, it is suggested that a contribution of £5,000 per LAC area should be considered, which would contribute to the costs of delivery of up to 2 activity sessions per week within the LAC area through the peak summer/autumn months as well as attendance at local gala days and fetes.
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2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that that the Local Area Committee commits 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 Street Stuff provides a range of activities primarily in the evenings and at weekends youth areas across Renfrewshire. Effective targeting and identification of the areas served is carried out by the Community Resources Partnership Analyst using information and police data that highlights the days, times and locations of youth disorder and anti social behavior.
- 3.2 This evidence based approach has proven particularly successful in reducing youth disorder and anti social behavior with a reduction of 75% in the number of incidents recorded across Renfrewshire since the service began. The popularity of the programme is also clear with 3,593 participants taking part within the Johnstone & Villages area during 2014/15 alone, an increase of 13% since last year.
- 3.3 The ongoing development of the Street Stuff programme has included the development of volunteering and employment opportunities. The “Street Stuff Works” employability programme has been developed in partnership with Engage Renfrewshire and the Invest in Renfrewshire programme. This year around 10-15 young people will participate in a six-week traineeship with at least 5 moving on to a six-month traineeship, gaining work experience through the delivery of activities and working with key Community Safety Partners. Participants will also have the opportunity to secure sessional work on the programme over the summer months.
- 3.5 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 the Street Stuff programme is currently supporting 18 young volunteers as they work towards their Saltire Awards.
- 3.5 As part of its budget setting process this year the Council has agreed to continue to fund the core Street Stuff programme for a further year with an increase in the mainstream funding allocation allowing for all key hotspot activities to be continued for a further year. As before the programme will be managed on an evidence based approach ensuring that resources and activities are targeted at those communities that need them most.

- 3.6 The popularity of the programme is clear however, and in previous years LAC areas have been keen to ensure that a wider range of communities and young people benefit from the activities offered and have funded additional sessions specifically to address hotspot areas within their own communities. Given the increased level of mainstream funding that is now available within the programme, the Local Area Committee may choose to reduce the level of funding from the level previously recommended (£20,000 in 2014/15). An allocation of £5,000 during 2015/16 would however enable the programme to provide up to 2 sessions per week within the LAC area as well as secure attendance at relevant local gala days and fetes.
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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 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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Author
e-mail:

Oliver Reid, Interim Head of Public Protection, Tel: 618 7352
oliver.reid@[renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:oliver.reid@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk)