
To: LEADERSHIP BOARD

On: 8 JUNE 2016

**Report by: JOINT REPORT BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE & DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

**Heading: TACKLING POVERTY PROGRAMME – PROJECT UPDATE ON
STREET STUFF AND SPECIAL WARDENS INITIATIVE**

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report includes an overview of two projects within the Tackling Poverty Programme; the expansion of the Street Stuff programme and the Special Wardens initiative.
 - 1.2 The report is accompanied by a brief presentation that allows the opportunity to hear from the young people involved in both the Street Stuff and the Special Wardens projects, and the impact that the projects have had on their lives and their contribution to both projects.
-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the report and the accompanying presentation.
-

3. Background

- 3.1 The Tackling Poverty Action Plan approved by Council in June 2015 allocated funding to expand the provision of Street Stuff, and also to fund employability opportunities for the development of a Special Wardens initiative.

4. StreetStuff

- 4.1 Street Stuff is a community based youth engagement and diversionary programme for young people aged 8 and above. It provides activities including football, dance, clubbercise and computer games through the deployment of mobile resources including youth buses and mobile units and multi use games areas.
- 4.2 Since 2009 Street Stuff has been deployed to areas where low level offending and antisocial behaviour is taking place and has been successful in contributing to a 75% reduction in youth related antisocial behaviour. The programme has been recognised nationally and locally, including by the Joint Inspection of Children's Services and Customer Service Excellence inspectors Renfrewshire wide.
- 4.3 Since 2009 Street Stuff has:
- Improved social inclusion and provided access to services and facilities that young people might otherwise have missed out on;
 - Provided education around healthy eating and healthy lifestyles;
 - Encouraged involvement in community and neighbourhood litter picks, graffiti clean ups and environmental improvements with rewards through the Kick and Collect Scheme and Young Scot;
 - Broken down barriers between communities to create a Renfrewshire Community.
- 4.4 The Tackling Poverty Action Plan funding has enabled the expansion of the Street Stuff programme operating hours and the range of activities and services supported:
- The expanded programme works alongside the Active Schools programme to provide services from 3.30pm in key communities and at weekends (previously services operated from 6.30pm onwards);
 - Additional activities are provided, as well as a healthy meal and education around health, alcohol and drugs;
 - Transport is provided between communities and key venues and activities;

- 2 additional Street Stuff buses are already providing increased flexibility in programming and can be deployed in previously hard to reach communities;
 - A further 2 buses will support additional services and activities, including cultural activities as part of the City of Culture 2021 programme;
 - Specific Festive, Easter, October and summer holiday programmes work in communities, to provide activities and healthy meals to young people aged over 8. They are timetabled to compliment the Families First programmes which serve the up to 8 age group.
- 4.5 There were over 37,000 attendances at the Street Stuff programme in the year from April 2015 to March 2016. This is up almost 50% from the previous year. Over 6000 of these were at expanded programme sessions and holiday programmes where young people were able to enjoy a choice of hot meal or healthy snack.

5. Special Wardens Initiative

- 5.1 Twelve trainees completed an intensive eight week training programme delivered with the assistance of key partners including Police Scotland between December 2015 and February 2016. The training was designed to improve skills and prepare candidates for the Special Warden recruitment process. Trainees received assistance and development in competency based job applications, interview skills, personal development and confidence building as well as on the job skills in conflict resolution, interaction with the public, civil contingencies awareness and general first aid and health and safety training.
- 5.2 Invest in Renfrewshire identified the potential trainees and arranged the recruitment process, including holding an open event for potential candidates to learn more about the initiative.
- 7 young people gained 11 month placements as Special Wardens;
 - 4 Young people gained 11 month placements as Street Stuff Coaches;
 - 1 person has gone on to complete a college course in Police Studies as a route into a career in Police Scotland.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - There are no financial implications for this report. The Tackling Poverty Action Plan is funded by the £6 million allocation by the Council in June 2015.

2. **HR & Organisational Development** – There are no HR/OD implications for this report. There are a number of recruitment exercises within the programme, however this report does not propose any decision or changes to work that is currently underway.
3. **Community Planning** – The Tackling Poverty Action Plan is owned by the Community Planning Partnership, As such, progress updates are delivered to the CPP Board six-monthly.
4. **Legal** - None
5. **Property/Assets** - None
6. **Information Technology** - None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Tackling Poverty Action Plan is key to social justice and wider equality and human rights considerations. This report does not propose any changes to provision or service that would require specific consideration of equality and human rights issues.
8. **Health & Safety** – None
9. **Procurement** – The Tackling Poverty Action Plan has a number of procurement exercises within the programme, however, this paper does not recommend any changes or raise any concerns relating to procurement elements of the plan.
10. **Risk** – The impact of not addressing poverty and inequality in Renfrewshire is flagged as a key risk to the organisation within the Corporate Risk Register. There are no major risks to the delivery of this programme that require the Leadership Board's consideration at this time.
11. **Privacy Impact** - None

Author Annabelle Armstrong-Walter, Strategic Lead Officer (Tackling Poverty and Welfare Reform), 0141 618 5968
Oliver Reid, Head of Public Protection, 0141 618 7352