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**To:** Renfrew & Gallowhill Local Area Committee

**On:** 22 August 2017

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**Report by:** Director of Finance & Resources

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**Heading:** Grant Award Feedback

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## **1. Summary**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide some detail on a number of projects that were funded by the Renfrew & Gallowhill LAC in 2016/17.

1.2 Providing feedback to LACs increases accountability and helps LACs identify clear community outcomes from grants awarded to community groups.

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## **2. Recommendations**

2.1 The LAC is requested to note the report.

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## **3. Background**

3.1 This report provides an overview of feedback submitted by a number of the successful grant applicants who were funded by the Renfrew & Gallowhill LAC in 2016/17.

### **3.2 Street Stuff**

3.2.1 During 2016/17 each of the five LACs awarded £5,000 to the Street Stuff project to assist in the provision of an enhanced and non-core service provision. This funding would contribute to the costs of delivery of up to two 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. The costs are predominantly associated with staff (coaches) and lets as the core Street Stuff budget pays for the day-to-day running including the Dance Coordinator who is involved in some of these sessions.

3.2.2 The 2016/17 annual report which set out the progress made by the Street Stuff project on a Renfrewshire-wide basis was submitted to the last meeting of this LAC held in May 2017. In terms of the £5,000 award made by this LAC towards the non-core service provision, this helped to fund 96 activity sessions with 1,504 attendances throughout the LAC area as well as at community events such as Renfrew and Knockhill Park gala days and the Renfrew festive light switch-on events. The cost of providing these activities was £10,296.

### **3.3 Forever Young**

3.2.1 Forever Young was awarded a grant of £5,700 which was utilised on a number of activities: Choir (£2,832.96); Knit and Natter (£194.73); transport (£672.31); and Active Aging (£2,000).

3.2.2 Providing exercise in the housing complexes assisted tenants to increase their mobility, generally feel more positive, increase their confidence to go out more, make new friends and reduce isolation. The singing workshops proved to be popular with tenants. Forever Young put on a show at Soopir Day (Strengthening Opportunities for Older People in Renfrewshire) and the group sings at the Forget Me Not Cafe at the North Church on a monthly basis.

### **3.3 Renfrew Senior Citizen Social Centre**

3.3.1 The Centre was awarded £2,200 towards running costs and other activities. The funding will help the 50 members meet three times a week, to socialise, listen to music and dance in the company of friends. This helps improve the senior citizens' physical and mental health.

### **3.4 St Catherine's PTA Fundraising Committee**

3.4.1 The Fundraising Committee was awarded £8,080 towards the cost of installing a bike shelter at the school and other associated works. The project has resulted in a greater number children cycling to and from school, an increased number of children gaining 'bikability' awards and a reduced number of bikes being stolen during school hours.

3.4.2 In terms of wider community benefits, there has been a reduction in vehicular traffic around the school at peak times, an increase in children's health and well-being and local environmental improvements.

### **3.5 Renfrew Football Club**

3.5.1 The club was awarded £7,000 towards pitch costs which allowed the coaches to prepare for each session and to provide longer training sessions. This benefitted approximately 240 young people in terms of their fitness and adapting to routine.

3.5.2 The club's ability to provide enhanced coaching has helped grow its reputation within the community.

### **3.6 Renfrew Community Council – Air Ambulance Monument Rededication Event**

3.6.1 Renfrew's historical link to the Scottish Air Ambulance Service (SAAS) was strengthened with the restoration of the monument in the town which is situated at the corner of Sandy Road and Newmains Road. Former Provost Hall unveiled the renovated memorial at a special service attended by around 150 people who had connections to the SAAS, including nurses, patients and even one person who was born on board a flight. The LAC awarded £600 to fund the rededication event and also supported the Council's project to restore the monument itself.

3.6.2 The project restored an important artefact from Renfrew's history, and formed part of an enhancement programme developed and supported by the LAC including the Argyll Stones, The Ferry Green Engine and the relocation of the Renfrew Tapestry. These monuments are now more visible and can be accessed by the local community and beyond.

### **3.7 Renfrew Community Council – Website Launch and Marketing Materials**

3.7.1 The Community Council was awarded £545 for this project which helped to provide the people involved with valuable experience in small project management; researching and sourcing goods at best possible prices; strengthening organisational skills; developing small budgeting skills; and to establish a website – [www.renfrewcommunitycouncil.org](http://www.renfrewcommunitycouncil.org)

3.7.3 The project has promoted the town and facilities locally, throughout Renfrewshire and beyond and it is hoped that this will encourage visitors and boost the economy. The new website has proved to be a success with a number of people visiting the Community Council's Renfrew Gala Day stall to view and interact with the new website. The website has a global reach with feedback being received from among other places Australia and Germany.

### **3.8 Renfrew Accordion and Fiddle Club**

3.8.1 An award of £560 towards running costs helped the club to promote mainly Scottish music amongst its 70 members and charge a reasonable admission to events.

### **3.9 P.A.G.G.S.**

3.9.1 This LAC awarded £2,453 from the Youth Challenge Fund towards the cost of an international Scout and Guide camp at Sutton. PAGGS is an international twin town cooperation involving Guides, Scouts and Boys and Girls Brigade from the following towns - P - Paisley; A - Apeldoorn (The Netherlands); G - Gagny (France); G - Gladsaxe (Denmark); S - Sutton (England); Minden (Germany); Wilmersdorf (Germany); and Pardubice (Czech Republic).

3.9.2 All those involved in the international camp learned to develop communication skills and work together as a team which, in turn, helped to build confidence and self-reliance. The young people brought back with them an enthusiasm for outdoor activities as well as an increased understanding of responsibility and respect for others. A total of 86 young people benefitted from the grant.

### **3.10 Cornerstone Drop-in Centre**

3.10.1 The £375 contribution towards running costs helped this group assist people using the centre, many of whom experience chaotic lifestyles. The hoped-for outcome for service users was a lifestyle change and a better contribution to their community.

### **3.11 Phoenix Flyers Dog Agility Club**

3.11.1 The LAC grant allowed this group to purchase a large storage container and various pieces of lightweight dog agility training equipment which have been utilised at various community events in Renfrewshire. With National Certificates in Dog Training, the instructors not only mentor dog owners in agility training but also obedience, animal welfare and etiquette. In terms of a wider community benefit, the club has been able to arrange an increased number of beginner classes which will improve owner responsibility for their dogs.

### **3.12 Renfrewshire Sports Network**

3.12.1 The LAC awarded £2,400 towards the multi-area application which helped fund the Funding Athletes Supporting Talent (FAST) Card Scheme, benefitting a number of elite athletes in Renfrewshire from athletics, hockey, basketball, badminton, cricket, squash, cycling, football, golf, karate, gymnastics, judo, swimming, rowing and windsurfing.

### **3.13 Fitting-in – Renfrewshire Troopers**

3.13.1 The LAC made a contribution of £1,156 towards this multi-area application which saw children and their carers undertake healthy eating and mindfulness courses and participate in trips to Hampden and Heads of Ayr. In addition, the wider benefit of the project enabled kinship carers to participate more fully within their communities. The group has been asked to take part in developing a piece of art : 'Recovery in Renfrewshire'.

### **3.14 St James' Friendly Hour**

3.14.1 The group utilised their £400 grant from this LAC to hire a minibus to collect less fit and disabled members from their homes and take them to the weekly meetings. The members all have differing degrees of health issues and in many cases this is the only contact they will have with other people in the community.

### **3.15 St James' Orchestra**

3.15.1 The orchestra used its multi-area grant to help meet the cost of accommodation for rehearsals and for full concerts throughout Renfrewshire.

### **3.16 Renfrewshire Youth Voice – Positive About Youth Awards**

3.16.1 The Positive About Youth awards were organised and hosted by members of Renfrewshire Youth Voice who are all aged between 12 and 25. This was a major event for young people in Renfrewshire as 21 individuals or groups were publically recognised for their work in the community. Awards were given for 11 different categories ranging from Young Carer of the Year to Volunteer of the Year with one

group winning the overall Positive About Youth Award for their dedication to youth voice activities.

3.16.2 The community in Renfrewshire was given the opportunity to celebrate these achievements. Elected members from the Council and national parliaments attended on the night along with 200 guests.

### **3.17 Kelburne Hockey Club**

3.17.1 The £3,000 total multi-area grant allowed Kelburne Hockey Club to host the European Championship Hockey Tournament. Competing teams were accommodated in the Glynhill Hotel and brought business to the town.

### **3.18 Rays of Hope**

3.18.1 Awarded £1,960 by this LAC, Rays of Hope brought together like-minded people who have or are going through the same cancer journey. Members have been able to share experiences, confide in one another and build friendships, confidence and self-esteem. The 18 members come together to exercise, socialise and help lead healthier less isolated lives. Rays of Hope networks with similar organisations such as McMillan and Accord Hospice and operates on a year-round basis.

### **3.19 Future Feedback**

3.19.1 All grant recipients are instructed to submit award feedback once their awards have been spent and further reports on the outcome of projects will be submitted to future meetings of this LAC.

## **Implications of this report**

### **1. Financial Implications**

Grant awards were contained within 2016/17 LAC budget allocations.

### **2. HR and Organisational Development Implications**

None.

### **3. Community Plan/Council Plan Implications**

Children and Young People	- The provision of grants to local groups supports individuals and groups to develop skills to improve personal achievements.
Community Care, Health and Well-being	- The provision of grants to local groups and individuals to support social, cultural and recreational activities contributes to improved health and well-being.
Empowering our Communities	- The provision of grants to local groups and individuals contributes to the development of local communities.

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- The provision of grants to local groups and individuals support social, cultural and recreational activities contributes to local sustainability.

**4. Legal Implications**

Compliance with the Council's Condition of Grants

**5. Property/Assets Implications**

None.

**6. Information Technology Implications**

None.

**7. Equality and Human Rights Implications**

- (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 because all grant applicants must submit valid constitutions containing equality statements. 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 and Safety Implications**

None.

**9. Procurement Implications**

None.

**10. Risk Implications**

None.

**11. Privacy Impact**

None.

**12. CoSLA Policy Position**

None.

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**List of Background Papers**

None

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