

To: Renfrew & Gallowhill Local Area Committee

On: 21 November 2017

Report by: Director of Finance & Resources

Heading: Grant Award Feedback

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

2. Recommendations

2.1 The LAC is requested to note the report.

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 Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association

3.2.1 £1,700 was awarded to the Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association in August 2016 to erect goalposts and enhance the green space in the Braille Drive area in Renfrew.

3.2.2 The Housing Association has intimated that the aim of the project was to support local residents to tackle anti-social behaviour in their local community as it was creating tensions between neighbours as well as causing community safety concerns. The goalposts have been installed and the Housing Association has reported that this has had a positive impact already, providing a place for local

children to play together and reducing the anti-social behaviour that had been prevalent.

3.2.3 The feedback report from the Housing Association advises that the erection of the goalposts has given the children the opportunity to interact socially without concern of impacting on neighbours. Local services will be engaged to see if bespoke activities can be provided in the new play area. The shrub and tree planting was carried out to dissuade children and young people from playing in an area that was attracting the most anti-social behaviour and the report suggests that this element of the project has been successful.

3.3 Arkleston & Newmains Over 60s Club

3.3.1 The Club was awarded £495 towards the cost of its annual hall rental. This allowed the Club to focus on other fundraising to facilitate activities such as a dinner for members and a Christmas social event.

3.4 Dates-n-Mates Renfrewshire

3.4.1 The applicant, C-change Scotland, has submitted an extensive feedback report relative to the award made by Renfrewshire LACs, including £2,000 awarded by this LAC.

3.6.2 Dates-n-mates Renfrewshire developed a pilot outreach model to identify adults with learning disabilities in specific areas of Renfrewshire and provide opportunities to connect and make friends and form meaningful relationships. Through outreach work the group advise that they are creating awareness of dates-n-mates and engaging those most isolated, supporting them towards membership helping to reduce social isolation, build confidence and self-esteem, and improve the person's ability to be active citizens and improve their overall health and well-being.

3.6.4 Dates-n-mates advise that they have built positive relationships with a wide range of services and organisations including health and housing providers together with other statutory and non-statutory services and projects. In particular, 19 local pharmacies and two GP Practices are actively supporting the outreach work as well as two local housing associations, advocacy services, the Carers Centre and West College Scotland.

3.6.5 In terms of project impact, Dates-n-mates has intimated that it sent out 55 evaluation forms to its members, 12 to attendees of its large events, 20 to family members and 24 to other stakeholders. The group also held a focus group consisting of eight members, two adult with learning disabilities that attended the large events, one parent and one support worker. From the evaluation all parents/carers agreed that members had met new people; furthermore all agreed that the project had increased members' confidence while 66% agreed Dates-n-mates had increased members' independence. All members agreed since joining Dates-n-mates they had met new people while 68% agreed they had met new friends.

3.6.6 Dates-n-Mates has also created volunteering opportunities for its members through its 'Champions Scheme' with five active volunteers supporting the project through different initiatives.

3.5 Rainbow Turtle

3.5.1 This LAC awarded a grant of £1,900 towards an overall multi-LAC award of £5,200. This helped to fund the cost of an Education Officer.

3.5.2 Rainbow Turtle has advised that the Education Officer has been in great demand for school visits and talks, particularly around Fairtrade Fortnight, when many of the requests had to be accommodated outwith the designated fortnight. The applicant has intimated that an audience of over 3,000 pupils was reached.

3.6.3 The Education Officer has helped to organise two major events in Renfrewshire including a visit of the children of cocoa farmers from a co-operative in Ghana and a large schools conference. Rainbow Turtle has reported that engagement with secondary schools has increased and has improved the potential to investigate issues relating to global citizenship and sustainability.

3.6 Shopmobility

3.6.1 This LAC awarded a grant of £494 towards an overall multi-LAC award of £2,226 which helped to fund the group's insurance costs and gala day expenses.

3.6.2 Shopmobility has advised that the insurance will allow them to continue to provide the hire of equipment to members. This makes a difference to the daily lives of people by assisting with mobility and promoting independence and social inclusion. The group has intimated that its attendance at gala days publicises its services to members of the public.

3.7 Wynd Centre – Adult and Youth Support and Counselling Services

3.7.1 The Wynd Centre submitted two similar LAC applications to the May 2016 cycle of meetings: one relating to adult counselling services and one relating to youth counselling services. This LAC awarded £1,000 to each application.

3.7.2 The awards helped contribute towards the cost of maintaining the Wynd Centre, its staffing and its counselling service. The Centre has estimated that approximately 7,500 people have benefitted from the grant, through the use of the coffee shop as a point of contact and through the use of the counselling service.

3.8 Paisley Cat Rescue

3.8.1 This LAC contributed £90 towards a total multi area award of £180. The award helped to feed and care for existing groups of feral cats; to care for abandoned cats; and to spay and neuter male & female cats.

3.9 Loud n Proud – I Was There

3.9.1 The LAC contributed £2,200 towards an overall award of £7,000 for the production by Loud n Proud of the story of the Glasgow Apollo 'I Was There'.

3.9.2 The performances were held over three nights at the SECC, involved a cast of 45 musicians, 39 dancers and 22 actors and attracted an audience of 1,200. The group has also advised that the skills developed by young people in the lead up to the show included music performance, live PA, lighting, video, set building, stage

management, dance, drama and front of house management. The average age of the participants was 16.

3.10 Future Feedback

3.10.1 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.
Greener	- 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.

List of Background Papers

None

Author: Dave Low,
Senior Committee Services Officer (LACs)
0141 618 7105
david.low@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk