

To: Villages Local Partnership

On: 20 June 2024

Report by:

Chief Executive, Renfrewshire Council

TITLE:

Villages Local Partnership Feedback Report

1. Summary

- 1.1 Villages provides funding to community groups to undertake projects. In 2023/24, the Local Partnership awarded £50,113 of funding to 21 organisations.
- 1.2 Community groups and organisations funded by the Local Partnerships are asked to provide feedback on their projects as part of their grant agreement. This report provides information on the feedback received from organisations funded by the Villages Local Partnership in 2023/24.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the feedback report be noted.

Feedback On Villages Local Partnership Awards 2023/24

Community groups awarded funding from Villages Local Partnership in 2023/24 were asked to provide feedback regarding the progress of their project and benefit to the local community.

FR1046 – Lochwinnoch Choral Society

Section 2: About the activity you delivered.

2.1 What activities did you provide as part of the Local Partnerships?	
Local Partnerships funding supported the development of the Junior Choir of Lochwinnoch Choral Society (LCS). Locally-based singing coach Outi Karhu led weekly sessions at Lochwinnoch Primary School supported by school staff. 25-30 children from a range of ages and social backgrounds not only joined the group but also maintained their participation throughout the year. The Junior Choir, accompanied by professional musicians, performed at LCS Christmas and Spring concerts. The children also joined the seniors and other members of the village community at the Christmas Lights switch-on celebrations. As part of wider community engagement the children also performed for the local Dementia Friendly Group.	
2.2 What do you think worked well about your activities?	
Previously the LCS Junior Choir rehearsed in the evening prior to the senior choir and participation was variable. Membership had declined and Covid accelerated this process. Focussing singing development on the local school and led by a specialist coach with experience of teaching young people has resulted in a reinvigorated junior choir with the confidence to perform in front of a range of audiences across the local community. Parents, teachers and the children themselves say that the choir has improved not only musical knowledge but also wider self-confidence.	
2.3 Is there anything that you would change?	
Vocal workshops for adults had been planned but have not taken place because of funding limitations. The whole of the LP grant plus the LCS contribution was spent on development of the junior choir to ensure this was done properly. It would possibly have been better to have applied for separate grants for the Junior Choir and adult singing development. However, this would have required a greater total expenditure and this would have been difficult for both RC and LCS given the economic climate.	
2.4 Do you think that the Local Partnership activities you delivered had any of the following benefits for people attending? (Tick all that apply)	
Tackling isolation & loneliness	+
Health & wellbeing	+

Environment & parks	
Roads & transport	
Moving around & connectivity	
Community & road safety	
Community facilities & public assets	
Community identity & civic pride	+
Young people and/or intergenerational work	+
Renfrew town centre & play facilities	

Section 3 - Impact

3.1 How many people benefitted from/accessed your project ?

The Junior Choir has a membership of 25 with a waiting list of other children wishing to join.

3.2 What impact has the Local Partnership programme had on members of your community?

(Please describe the impact your project had on its participants)

The most immediate impact has been on the large group of young people who have developed musical skills and learned how to work together to prepare for performing their songs. This has also been beneficial in developing the self confidence of the children. The choir has performed in public concerts accompanied by professional musicians, exposing the children, their families and wider community members to the experience of live music in Lochwinnoch. In addition, the children sang to a community dementia group, giving great pleasure to the listeners and broadening the experience of the young people.

3.3 How can you evidence the impact of your project?

(Please tell us what evidence you can provide that demonstrates the impact of your project, i.e., pictures, feedback, comments, and any other evidence you have collected through the delivery of the project. You can send this evidence electronically (by email) to communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk stating your groups name and 'Evidence' in the subject heading).

Comments from parents, teachers and the LCS Musical Director are attached separately along with material about the Anniversary Concert where the children performed.

3.4 How has the grant been spent?

(Please provide a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant)

- (a) Item or Activity – list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.
- (b) Actual total cost of the item/activity for the project – the amount spent on your activity.
- (c) Amount of Local Partnership grant spent on items/activities – how much was paid from your local Partnership award.

(If the Local Partnership grant funded your entire project costs, then the figures in B + C will be the same. The figure you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from the estimates in your application form)

Item or Activity (A)	Total Cost (B)	LP Spend (C)
£ Junior Choir development	£2405	£1980

3.5 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Local Partnerships programme?

The programme has made it possible to provide a valuable community activity which would not otherwise have happened. There is otherwise no regular musical training at primary school level. In addition to the obvious music related benefits the activity supported by the programme is of great value in the wider development of quite young children.

FR1048 – Lochwinnoch Arts Festival

Section 2: About the activity you delivered.

2.1 What activities did you provide as part of the Local Partnerships?

We have delivered over 15 different events and performances over the year. These events were a mixture of visual art, music, poetry, literature, film, crafts, and local history.

2.2 What do you think worked well about your activities?

We were able to deliver a range of high-quality events and artistic experiences over the year. Due to the support of the Local Partnership, we can deliver these events at an affordable price and a number of events are free to our Lochwinnoch community and the wider Renfrewshire area. In addition, we aim to showcase our abundant local artistic talent at our events. Furthermore, we support the local restaurants and pubs by providing free music over the period.

2.3 Is there anything that you would change?

We plan to have more participatory workshops in our future events. Otherwise, we are satisfied that we deliver a wide range of quality artistic experiences and events.

2.4 Do you think that the Local Partnership activities you delivered had any of the following benefits for people attending? (Tick all that apply)

Tackling isolation & loneliness	√
Health & wellbeing	√
Environment & parks	
Roads & transport	
Moving around & connectivity	
Community & road safety	
Community facilities & public assets	√
Community identity & civic pride	√
Young people and/or intergenerational work	
Renfrew town centre & play facilities	

Section 3 – Impact**3.1 How many people benefitted from/accessed your project?**

(If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)

Over the year at our 15 events, we were able to record footfall of 1800.

3.2 What impact has the Local Partnership programme had on members of your community?

(Please describe the impact your project had on its participants)

We are able to deliver a wide and diverse range of artistic experiences to our rural community facilities without the need to travel to larger towns or cities, this reducing our carbon footprint. This is especially significant to those who do not have a car and due to poor local public transport could not access events with the village. We believe that the festival continues to maintain and enhance the identity and unique character of Lochwinnoch. In addition, the festival helps to support and integrate many of the local groups. Furthermore, we support local businesses and shops by hosting events throughout the year.

3.3 How can you evidence the impact of your project?

(Please tell us what evidence you can provide that demonstrates the impact of your project, i.e., pictures, feedback, comments, and any other evidence you have collected through the delivery of the project. You can send this evidence electronically (by email)

to communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk stating your groups name and 'Evidence' in the subject heading).

We have the footfall figures which reached 1800 attendees. We also have numerous comments and feedback on our Facebook page.

We have sent material electronically of quotes and images.

3.4 How has the grant been spent?

(Please provide a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant)

- (a) Item or Activity – list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.
- (b) Actual total cost of the item/activity for the project – the amount spent on your activity.
- (c) Amount of Local Partnership grant spent on items/activities – how much was paid from your local Partnership award.

(If the Local Partnership grant funded your entire project costs, then the figures in B + C will be the same. The figure you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from the estimates in your application form)

Item or Activity (A)	Total Cost (B)	LP Spend (C)
£1622 (venue hire)	£1622	£1500
£3500 (support for artist fees)	£3500	£2000
£1800 (media publicity)	£1800	£1500
£300 (Materials)	£300	£200

3.5 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Local Partnerships programme?

The forms are relatively straightforward to fill in. I found the support staff at Renfrewshire Council really great at helping us fill in the appropriate material.

FR1051 - The Renfrewshire Toy Bank

Section 2: About the activity you delivered.

2.1 What activities did you provide as part of the Local Partnerships?

We delivered a successful Christmas 2023 campaign supporting 3,035 local children with gift packages and distributed £10,420 worth of gift cards to teenagers: 521 gift cards in total.

This Easter we distributed 4,705 eggs to local schools, nurseries, community groups as well as charities that tackle food insecurity.

In 2023 we distributed Halloween costumes too. This provided great feedback as more and more schools are having Halloween discos again or dressing up for the day. We know this helped more children to feel included, helping to reduce financial strain for many.

Birthday gifts constantly go out with some organisations having “birthday boxes” that we top up when needed.

2.2 What do you think worked well about your activities?

Partnership working is key for the toy bank. This ensures the referral process is transparent, fair and secure. Working together to build connections not only helps us, it allows us to network and know where to signpost community members for other support that we cannot offer.

Having support from libraries, organisations and businesses is a vital part of how we operate, and we cannot thank them enough for making donating as easy as possible for the public.

The toy bank simply could not run without our incredible volunteers. The local people that help us go above and beyond.

2.3 Is there anything that you would change?

This year we need to focus on recruiting more volunteers. We will remain volunteer led and do not plan on having staff. We want to ensure our core costs are kept to a minimum, putting everything we can back out to support local families.

2.4 Do you think that the Local Partnership activities you delivered had any of the following benefits for people attending? (Tick all that apply)

Tackling isolation & loneliness	x
Health & wellbeing	x
Environment & parks	
Roads & transport	
Moving around & connectivity	
Community & road safety	
Community facilities & public assets	x
Community identity & civic pride	x
Young people and/or intergenerational work	x
Renfrew town centre & play facilities	

Section 3 – Impact

3.1 How many people benefitted from/accessed your project?

(If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)

Halloween 1,230

Christmas gift packages 3,035

Christmas teen gift cards 521

Easter Eggs 4,075

Birthdays 1,450

Total number of referrals – 10,311

We work across all of Renfrewshire, to highlight this, below are some figures from our Christmas 2023 campaign. Although these numbers are correct, in reality they are much higher. Organisations such as EBI unites, Pals Of The Privies, The STAR Project, Who Cares? Scotland, The Carers Centre, and many more cover Renfrewshire wide and benefit more than one local partnership area.

71 organisations referred to us – multiple social work departments, local charities, NHS divisions such as health visitors and doctor practices, schools, nurseries and many more.

Renfrew schools and social work - over 400 children.

Johnstone and Linwood social work and schools - over 500 children.

Erskine, Bishopston and Inchinnan health visitors, charities schools -over 300 children

Paisley NWC, East and Glennifer schools and social work been combined due to a high crossover in post codes from social workers from the north and south team – over 1000 children.

The Villages – over 300 children.

3.2 What impact has the Local Partnership programme had on members of your community?

(Please describe the impact your project had on its participants)

The cost-of-living crisis has affected so many and most local charities have reported seeing a change in people accessing their services. The toy bank is no different and we have received feedback from referring partners about the financial strain, embarrassment, and stigma the toy bank helps to relieve. The toy bank is open to all, and we hope our referral system is as simple and fair as possible to continue to support our local community.

It has allowed parents and carers the knowledge that their child is receiving high quality safe toys the same as their peers. Sparking joy for our young people while helping them to learn and develop through play.

As well as distributing toys we also provide clothing items such as pyjamas and blankets, something that is being asked for more and more.

3.3 How can you evidence the impact of your project?

(Please tell us what evidence you can provide that demonstrates the impact of your project, i.e., pictures, feedback, comments, and any other evidence you have collected through the delivery of the project. You can send this evidence electronically (by email) to communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk stating your groups name and 'Evidence' in the subject heading).

We have a host of photos and posts shared by referring organisations on our facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/renfrewshirechristmastoybank/?locale=en_GB

Below are some links to press we have done too.

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/in-your-area/renfrewshire/renfrewshire-toy-bank-issues-urgent-31452777>

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/in-your-area/renfrewshire/christmas-toy-collection-launched-popular-31611802>

3.4 How has the grant been spent?

(Please provide a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant)

- (a) Item or Activity – list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.
- (b) Actual total cost of the item/activity for the project – the amount spent on your activity.
- (c) Amount of Local Partnership grant spent on items/activities – how much was paid from your local Partnership award.

(If the Local Partnership grant funded your entire project costs, then the figures in B + C will be the same. The figure you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from the estimates in your application form)

Item or Activity (A)	Total Cost (B)	LP Spend (C)
Storage	£5,300	£2,308
Gift Cards	£10,420	£1,608
Toys	£9,000	£1,289
Halloween costumes	£4,000	£1,024
Easter Eggs	£3,500	£2,250

3.5 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Local Partnerships programme?

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who sit on local partnership boards for allowing us to access these funds. They are vital to not only us but the families and children that we support.

FR1054 - Calder Drama Club

Section 2: About the activity you delivered.

2.1 What activities did you provide as part of the Local Partnerships?	
Drama Production, providing entertainment to local community	
2.2 What do you think worked well about your activities?	
Christmas theme play enjoyed by audience	
2.3 Is there anything that you would change?	
No	
2.4 Do you think that the Local Partnership activities you delivered had any of the following benefits for people attending? (Tick all that apply)	
Tackling isolation & loneliness	yes
Health & wellbeing	Yes
Environment & parks	
Roads & transport	
Moving around & connectivity	
Community & road safety	
Community facilities & public assets	Yes
Community identity & civic pride	
Young people and/or intergenerational work	Yes
Renfrew town centre & play facilities	

Section 3 - Impact

3.1 How many people benefitted from/accessed your project? (If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)
130 audience numbers and cast members

3.2 What impact has the Local Partnership programme had on members of your community?

(Please describe the impact your project had on its participants)

Enjoyed by audience on 2 nights

3.3 How can you evidence the impact of your project?

(Please tell us what evidence you can provide that demonstrates the impact of your project, i.e., pictures, feedback, comments, and any other evidence you have collected through the delivery of the project. You can send this evidence electronically (by email) to communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk stating your groups name and 'Evidence' in the subject heading).

Programme of event

3.4 How has the grant been spent?

(Please provide a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant)

- (a) Item or Activity – list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.
- (b) Actual total cost of the item/activity for the project – the amount spent on your activity.
- (c) Amount of Local Partnership grant spent on items/activities – how much was paid from your local Partnership award.

(If the Local Partnership grant funded your entire project costs, then the figures in B + C will be the same. The figure you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from the estimates in your application form)

Item or Activity (A)	Total Cost (B)	LP Spend (C)
Hall Costs	£871	£700

3.5 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Local Partnerships programme?

No

FR1055 - Renfrewshire Walking Network

Evidence of 2023/24 activities provided.

FR1058 - 1st Bridge of Weir Scout Group

Section 2: About the activity you delivered.

2.1 What activities did you provide as part of the Local Partnerships?

We have installed a fully equipped kitchen to allow all our young people who access Scouting to have the chance to learn to cook nutritious meals and come together to socialise with family and the local community, the kitchen also benefits the other community organisations that use our hall too.

2.2 What do you think worked well about your activities?

We have achieved what we set out to do and completed the kitchen build.

2.3 Is there anything that you would change?

No

2.4 Do you think that the Local Partnership activities you delivered had any of the following benefits for people attending? (Tick all that apply)

Tackling isolation & loneliness	√
Health & wellbeing	√
Environment & parks	
Roads & transport	
Moving around & connectivity	
Community & road safety	
Community facilities & public assets	√
Community identity & civic pride	√
Young people and/or intergenerational work	√
Renfrew town centre & play facilities	

Section 3 - Impact

**3.1 How many people benefitted from/accessed your project?
(If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many your reached in each Local Partnership area)**

All 120 young people who attend the group are benefiting from the project, but this number will continue to grow with each year that passes. We know have a superb facility which will benefit the community for years to come.

3.2 What impact has the Local Partnership programme had on members of your community?

(Please describe the impact your project had on its participants)

Our young people have been part of the full project and have watched it grow. They are now planning and budgeting meals, shopping for ingredients, preparing and cooking meals, presenting dishes creatively and then being able to enjoy the social aspect of sitting down to a freshly cooked meal with friends, family and the wider community. This over time will help reduce social isolation within the wider community as well.

3.3 How can you evidence the impact of your project?

(Please tell us what evidence you can provide that demonstrates the impact of your project, i.e., pictures, feedback, comments, and any other evidence you have collected through the delivery of the project. You can send this evidence electronically (by email) to communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk stating your groups name and 'Evidence' in the subject heading).

I have emailed evidence

3.4 How has the grant been spent?

(Please provide a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant)

Item or Activity – list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.
 Actual total cost of the item/activity for the project – the amount spent on your activity.
 Amount of Local Partnership grant spent on items/activities – how much was paid from your local Partnership award.

(If the Local Partnership grant funded your entire project costs, then the figures in B + C will be the same. The figure you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from the estimates in your application form)

Item or Activity (A)	Total Cost (B)	LP Spend (C)
dishwasher	£1710.00	£1000.00
plumbing & electrical	£2000.00	£1000.00
wall and ceiling prep	£1060.00	£600.00
fixing and adhesive	£41.00	£10
wall linings	£1732.00	£1290
floor works	£1334	£500
fridge and freezer	£1100	£300
Cabinets	£908.00	£300

3.5 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Local Partnerships programme?

If we had not received the funding from the Local Partnerships programme this project would not have been possible. We thank everyone for their support in helping us build a stronger community and inspire our young people.

FR1064 - Fèis Phàislig

Section 2: About the activity you delivered.

2.1 What activities did you provide as part of the Local Partnerships?

Fèis Phàislig provided an ambitious and comprehensive range of activities aimed at promoting cultural engagement and celebrating Gaelic heritage. These activities included:

1. Hosting inclusive cultural events in various community venues across each Local Partnership area, offering opportunities for young people of all backgrounds and abilities to engage with traditional music and Gaelic culture.
2. Supporting activities before, during, and after the Royal National Mòd in Paisley, which facilitated broader community involvement and celebration of traditional music and Gaelic culture.
3. Going beyond its original proposals, Fèis Phàislig delivered performances from both professional musicians and those learning with the organisation across all local partnership areas, providing enriching experiences for audiences and participants alike.
4. Encouraging communities to embrace local heritage and Gaelic culture through free events and programming, ensuring accessibility and widespread engagement with Fèis Phàislig's work across Renfrewshire.

Overall, the activities provided by Fèis Phàislig as part of the Local Partnerships in Renfrewshire were designed to be inclusive, engaging, and impactful, fostering a deeper connection to Gaelic culture and heritage throughout the area.

2.2 What do you think worked well about your activities?

Our activities proved to be highly successful across all local partnership group areas. Firstly, they allowed us to extend our reach to communities that may not have previously engaged with the Fèis, thus promoting greater inclusivity and cultural participation throughout Renfrewshire. The funding we received enabled us to expand beyond our usual focus on young people, leading to heart-warming performances in care homes that became a standout feature of our programming. These performances not only brought joy to residents but also showcased the immense talent of our young musicians to a broader audience, fostering a sense of connection and appreciation across generations.

Additionally, our workshops provided invaluable opportunities for young people to discover Gaelic and traditional music for the very first time, sparking interest and enthusiasm among participants. Our collaboration with local venues and organisations allowed us to establish and strengthen community ties, creating a supportive network for future cultural endeavours.

As a result, our activities not only brought people together but also contributed to the improved mental health and wellbeing of participants, underscoring the transformative power of cultural engagement within our communities.

2.3 Is there anything that you would change?

We have been pleased with the outcomes of the project and believe we delivered on the proposed activities well. However, if given the opportunity, we would aspire to secure ongoing funding through a larger funding body. Such support would enable us to expand our reach and impact, particularly in areas such as care homes and community groups. Our aim would be to transition from 'one-off' visits to establishing sustained, year-round activity in these areas, thereby deepening our engagement and enriching the lives of even more individuals within our community.

2.4 Do you think that the Local Partnership activities you delivered had any of the following benefits for people attending? (Tick all that apply)

Tackling isolation & loneliness	✓
Health & wellbeing	✓
Environment & parks	
Roads & transport	
Moving around & connectivity	
Community & road safety	
Community facilities & public assets	
Community identity & civic pride	✓
Young people and/or intergenerational work	✓
Renfrew town centre & play facilities	✓

Section 3 – Impact

3.1 How many people benefitted from/accessed your project?

(If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)

Renfrew: 175
 Erskine, Inchinnan, Bishopton and Langbank: 180
 The Villages: 145
 Johnstone and Linwood: 290
 Paisley North, West and Central: 290
 Paisley East: 135
 Gleniffer: 340

3.2 What impact has the Local Partnership programme had on members of your community?

(Please describe the impact your project had on its participants)

The impact of our Local Partnership activity on members of our community has been multifaceted and profound. Through initiatives such as the Ceilidh Trail and Advanced Band, we have witnessed a transformation in how people of all ages engage with Gaelic language and culture. By welcoming participants with varying levels of Gaelic, including fluent speakers, learners, and those new to the language, we have cultivated an environment where Gaelic is not just a subject to be learned but a vibrant aspect of community engagement. This inclusive approach empowers all participants to embrace Gaelic as their own, fostering a sense of ownership and connection.

Our projects serve as vital outlets for physical and mental well-being, particularly crucial in the aftermath of lockdown restrictions. Through artistic expression and collaboration, young people find solace, joy, and camaraderie, building friendships and a sense of belonging within our community. This focus on holistic development has always been central to our mission.

Collaborations with professional tutors and musicians provide unique opportunities for our participants to deepen their engagement with Gaelic culture. Performances at local events and community gatherings not only showcase their talents but also serve as platforms for cultural celebration, fostering a sense of pride and connection among learners of all ages. By extending these opportunities to families and friends, we foster a supportive community where Gaelic language and tradition thrive.

In summary, the impact of our Local Partnership activity extends far beyond mere participation numbers. It lies in the cultivation of a vibrant, inclusive community where Gaelic language and culture are not just preserved but celebrated, embraced, and woven into the fabric of everyday life.

3.3 How can you evidence the impact of your project?

(Please tell us what evidence you can provide that demonstrates the impact of your project, i.e., pictures, feedback, comments, and any other evidence you have collected through the delivery of the project. You can send this evidence electronically (by email) to communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk stating your groups name and 'Evidence' in the subject heading).

A selection of photos from across our local partnership funded activity can be found [here](#).

Here are a selection of quotes from participants and audience members across the projects.

Residents at Care Homes:

"It was lovely, it really was! The young ones came in with their instruments, and suddenly, the whole place was alive with music. It brought back memories and made us feel young again, even if just for a little while."

"Those young musicians were incredible, playing their hearts out for us. It was a real treat, something I won't forget anytime soon."

Care Home Activities Coordinator:

"Hosting the performance from the Advanced Band was such a joy for our residents. Seeing their faces light up as they tapped their feet and hummed along was fantastic. It brought a sense of energy and excitement to our home that we haven't felt in a long time."

Musicians from Ceilidh Trail Tour:

"Touring with the Ceilidh Trail was amazing and we got to play in lots of different places. The best part was seeing the smiles on people's faces as they danced and clapped along. It was a real honor to share our music with people across."

"Being part of the Ceilidh Trail Tour was a really great experience. We met so many people along the way and got to share our music with lots of different audiences. It's amazing how music can bring people together, no matter where you go."

Participants at Fèis Week Event:

"In just four days, I went from knowing nothing to being able to perform on a stage. I also learned lots of Gaelic words I didn't know before. It was so much fun and I can't wait to come back next year."

"It was amazing! I was a bit nervous before I went but everybody was so nice and the tutors were very very friendly. My favourite part was the song and getting to sing with everybody in Gaelic."

Headteacher at Additional Needs School:

"Seán's sessions have been absolutely brilliant! His patience, enthusiasm, and ability to make the music accessible to everyone are remarkable. The joy and confidence I've seen in our pupils during these sessions are a testament to his teaching skills. We're incredibly grateful for the positive impact he's had on our school community."

3.4 How has the grant been spent?

(Please provide a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant)

- (d) Item or Activity – list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.
- (e) Actual total cost of the item/activity for the project – the amount spent on your activity.
- (f) Amount of Local Partnership grant spent on items/activities – how much was paid from your local Partnership award.

(If the Local Partnership grant funded your entire project costs, then the figures in B + C will be the same. The figure you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from the estimates in your application form)

Item or Activity (A)	Total Cost (B)	LP Spend (C)
Fèis Week	£32,123	£670
Ceilidh Trail	£15,360	£8004
Advanced Band	£3371	£7158
Weekly Lessons	£28,690	£1670
ASN Project	£2436	£2437
Additional Activity	£4470	£4470

3.5 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Local Partnerships programme?

The support from the Local Partnerships has been instrumental in driving the success and impact of our organisation across all areas of Renfrewshire. The grant provided invaluable support, enabling us to expand our reach and deliver meaningful cultural experiences to communities throughout the region. Without this vital funding, our ability to engage with diverse audiences, foster community connections, and celebrate Gaelic culture would have been severely limited. Thanks to the support of the Local Partnerships programme, we have been able to make a lasting and positive difference in the lives of young people and residents across Renfrewshire, enriching our communities and strengthening the fabric of our cultural heritage.

FR1076 - The Kilbarchan Singers

Section 2: About the activity you delivered.

2.1 What activities did you provide as part of the Local Partnerships?

We provided a Christmas concert in December 2023 and our Summer concert is being performed on Monday 13th May. In addition, we held a Coffee Morning in March. As our season does not finish until end May, we are planning to provide a charity concert in the home of one of the charities with which we have extended invitations in the past.

2.2 What do you think worked well about your activities?

We had a difficult time between October and December 2023. Our Musical Director was offered a high-profile job in Sheffield and therefore had to leave within the space of 3 weeks. He did, however, arrange for a former music scholar (one who had previously been supported by a grant which we had received from Renfrewshire Council) to work with us, taking on the role of Conductor, for our Christmas concert. Although this was a challenge both for him and for the choir members, the concert was a huge success. We then had to advertise for a permanent replacement Musical Director and had 8 applicants, including from the stand in Conductor. After interviewing a number of them the decision was to employ the music scholar who had helped us through the Christmas concert and he is now our permanent Musical Director. This has proved that the experience he gained singing with the choir in previous years has helped him gain both confidence and experience, enough to take on this responsible position. The two current music scholars are proving to be a great asset to the choir and it is clear that they, too, are gaining in experience and confidence.

2.3 Is there anything that you would change?

Unfortunately, none of the charities that we contacted were able to attend our Christmas concert, for a variety of reasons, but the main one being that the concert was on a Saturday evening and they could not provide the staff to accompany their clients. This is something we will need to consider for the future. However, we have already had a commitment from Erskine Care Home who are bringing a number of their residents to our concert scheduled for Monday 13th May. We have also issued an invitation to Lancefield Care Home, Johnstone, to bring some of their residents to this concert. They have indicated, however, that they are unable to attend due to lack of staff and also because many of their residents are in bed early in the evening. We are very keen to be continuing to offer other charities the opportunity to hear the choir, and we are now considering that perhaps we should be going to visit them, rather than have them come to the concerts. This is something that would have a cost implication to us. A tentative arrangements has been agreed with Lancefield Care Home that we will undertake to do this early in the summer months.

2.4 Do you think that the Local Partnership activities you delivered had any of the following benefits for people attending? (Tick all that apply)

Tackling isolation & loneliness	√
Health & wellbeing	√
Environment & parks	
Roads & transport	
Moving around & connectivity	
Community & road safety	
Community facilities & public assets	

Community identity & civic pride	√
Young people and/or intergenerational work	√
Renfrew town centre & play facilities	

Section 3 – Impact

3.1 How many people benefitted from/accessed your project?

(If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many your reached in each Local Partnership area)

There are 23 choir members and associates who benefit fully from the project. Our Christmas concert was very well attended and we anticipate our Summer concert to be the same. Although we cannot say exactly the numbers (given that the Summer concert has still to take place) we anticipate around 220 audience members would also benefit. Our Christmas concert also includes an invitation to the Kilbarchan Junior Choir members to sing. This allows children from the age of 6 to sing to a different audience, other than just their family members, and enables them to witness adults enjoying their singing and helps them understand that this can be a life-long hobby and skill. Of the 23 choir members, 7 live alone. Being a member of the choir and attending regular rehearsals means that they are not isolated and are part of a group that they can also socialize with as well as sing with.

3.2 What impact has the Local Partnership programme had on members of your community?

(Please describe the impact your project had on its participants)

Because the choir members come from around the Villages and also the Paisley area, we interact with community members from all over Renfrewshire and also further afield. As well as attending our concerts these people also come along to our Coffee Morning in March which, as well as being a fundraising exercise, is an opportunity for the communities to mix with each other. Many old friendships have been renewed at these events when people have met unexpectedly.

3.3 How can you evidence the impact of your project?

(Please tell us what evidence you can provide that demonstrates the impact of your project, i.e., pictures, feedback, comments, and any other evidence you have collected through the delivery of the project. You can send this evidence electronically (by email) to communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk stating your groups name and 'Evidence' in the subject heading).

Unfortunately, the majority of our “evidence” is anecdotal. We have received many complimentary comments both about the level of singing the choir delivers and also about the choice of music.

3.4 How has the grant been spent?

(Please provide a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant)

- (a) Item or Activity – list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.
- (b) Actual total cost of the item/activity for the project – the amount spent on your activity.
- (c) Amount of Local Partnership grant spent on items/activities – how much was paid from your local Partnership award.

(If the Local Partnership grant funded your entire project costs, then the figures in B + C will be the same. The figure you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from the estimates in your application form)

Item or Activity (A)	Total Cost (B)	LP Spend (C)
Music Scholars – 1 tenor & 1 bass	£2680	£2680
Music Scholar accompanist	£250	£250
Purchase of new music	£272.93	£250
Concert tickets	£100	£100
Provision of charity concert	£835	£652.31
TOTAL	£4137.93	£3932.31

3.5 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Local Partnerships programme?

You will see that the total covered by the Local Partnership Grant is £3,932.31 which is greater than the grant of £3,452 which we received for the year 23/24. As indicated in last year's report, because charities had not attended both our concerts we had planned on taking a concert out to them using the surplus funding. As no objection to this was raised from yourselves, we had ringfenced this amount for this purpose. Due to the fact that we lost our Musical Director we were unable to do this during 2023. The surplus is therefore now being absorbed within this year's activities. We trust you are comfortable that the grant which you have provided is being used for the purposes of supporting other charities as was originally intended.

FR1155 – Renfrewshire Access Panel

Section 2: About the activity you delivered.

2.1 What activities did you provide as part of the Local Partnerships?

We have been providing services through Sensory by providing space 2 days a week for Renfrewshire residents in our offices. We have also been providing space to the DRC for the film group 1 day a week as well as 1 day a week for the Renfrewshire Head injuries service.

We have also been working with Glasgow Airport to ensure all Renfrewshire residents receive assistance while traveling through the airport. We have been assisting Renfrewshire Council on the placement of Dropped Kerbs throughout Renfrewshire and working with groups throughout the area on access.

2.2 What do you think worked well about your activities?

Providing access audits for Renfrew Football Club, highlighting the need for accessibility throughout Renfrewshire and meeting and working with groups throughout the area.

2.3 Is there anything that you would change?

Nothing

2.4 Do you think that the Local Partnership activities you delivered had any of the following benefits for people attending? (Tick all that apply)

Tackling isolation & loneliness	√
Health & wellbeing	√
Environment & parks	√
Roads & transport	√
Moving around & connectivity	√
Community & road safety	√
Community facilities & public assets	√
Community identity & civic pride	√
Young people and/or intergenerational work	√
Renfrew town centre & play facilities	√

Section 3 - Impact

3.1 How many people benefitted from/accessed your project?
 (If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)

All Renfrewshire Residents

3.2 What impact has the Local Partnership programme had on members of your community?

(Please describe the impact your project had on its participants)

It has had a positive impact on everyone as it has raised awareness of accessible needs throughout Renfrewshire.

3.3 How can you evidence the impact of your project?

(Please tell us what evidence you can provide that demonstrates the impact of your project, i.e., pictures, feedback, comments, and any other evidence you have collected through the delivery of the project. You can send this evidence electronically (by email) to communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk stating your groups name and 'Evidence' in the subject heading).

By the positive impact it has had on the people of Renfrewshire

3.4 How has the grant been spent?

(Please provide a breakdown of the items or activities funded by the grant)

- (a) Item or Activity – list all the individual items or activities that your grant was spent on.
- (b) Actual total cost of the item/activity for the project – the amount spent on your activity.
- (c) Amount of Local Partnership grant spent on items/activities – how much was paid from your local Partnership award.

(If the Local Partnership grant funded your entire project costs, then the figures in B + C will be the same. The figure you put in should be the actual amounts. These may be different from the estimates in your application form)

Item or Activity (A)	Total Cost (B)	LP Spend (C)
Office Rental	£4399.99	£4399.99
Phone Landline	£1745.04	£1745.04
Mobile Phone	£153.00	£153.00
Insurance	£945.69	£945.69
Accountancy Fees	£1000.00	£1000.00
Printing & Stationary	£3266.21	£3266.21
Office Peripherals	£1200.00	£1200.00
Volunteer Expenses	£1867.36	£1867.36

3.5 Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Local Partnerships programme?