

**To: GREENER RENFREWSHIRE THEMATIC BOARD**

**On: 21 APRIL 2017**

**Report by:**

Oliver Reid, Lead Officer,  
Head of Public Protection, Renfrewshire Council  
**STALLED SPACES SCOTLAND**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the Stalled Spaces Scotland: Renfrewshire programme. In Phase 1 of the programme a budget of £20,000 was allocated to the programme, this comprised of £10,000 from Architecture and Design Scotland, match funded by Renfrewshire Council. Across Renfrewshire, nine projects were funded covering: growing and planting; live music; art and filming.
- 1.2 In August 2016 Architecture and Design Scotland provided a further allocation of £9,060 for a Phase 2 programme. No match funding was required and three project were allocated funded to develop further projects.
- 1.3 Architecture and Design Scotland are seeking to hold a learning event in May, 2017 and are looking to hold the event in Paisley. The event will explore learning experiences from the Stalled Spaces programme across Scotland.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board:
  - a) note the update position of Phase 1 & 2 of Renfrewshire's Stalled Spaces Programme;
  - b) note Architecture and Design Scotland's proposal to hold a Scottish Stalled Spaces learning event in Paisley and the ongoing discussions with Engage Renfrewshire on proposed arrangements.

**3. Background**



- 3.1 In Phase 1 of the programme, Community groups were invited to apply for grants of between £250 - £5,000. The purpose of the programme was to bring derelict or vacant land back to temporary use within the Renfrewshire area as part of the wider Stalled Spaces Scotland programme. 75% of projects funded had to be town centre based and applications were approved by the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board, having been initially assessed for essential criteria by the Greener Communities sub-group.
- 3.2 The application form, guidance notes and scoring matrix were made available on the Renfrewshire 2023 website ([www.renfrewshire2023.com](http://www.renfrewshire2023.com)). A scoring matrix was used by the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board to assess each application.
- 3.3 A total of nine projects were funded through the Stalled Spaces programme covering a wide range of communities, community groups and different age groups. Details of the projects are shown in the table below:

Reaching Older Adults in Renfrewshire	Development of disused site next to ROAR's premises
Paisley West & Central Community Council	Improve and clear two derelict sites in the West End of Paisley
Loud n Proud	Series of music events on unused ground near Sma' Shot Cottages in Paisley
Environmental Training Team	Revamp Alexander Wilson Park and install benches etc at site at St James' Street Paisley
I Am Me	Film making at derelict Coats site in Johnstone
Renfrew Development Trust	Artwork created on disused toilet block in Renfrew
Kilbarchan Community Council	Creation of a community garden at the old petrol station, Cartside Terrace, Kilbarchan
Erskine Music and Media	Pop up arena to host music events in the Erskine area
Star Project	Art work at the old St Mirren site in Paisley

- 3.4 Post-project Evaluation forms are now being completed for each of the nine Phase 1 projects. This will feed into Architecture and Design Scotland's final programme reporting.
- 3.5 Architecture and Design Scotland are also planning to carry out an external evaluation review of the programme. It is likely that the evaluation process will involve interviews with some of the Local Authority officers and partners who were involved in delivering the programme.



#### **4. Stalled Spaces Phase 2**

- 4.1 In August 2016, Architecture and Design Scotland advised that additional funding for the Stalled Spaces Scotland programme had been released with around £10,000 available for projects in Renfrewshire. Architecture and Design Scotland requested that details of applications for this additional funding be submitted to them by early October.
- 4.2 Information on this additional funding was shared with community groups across Renfrewshire and notes of interest were received from a number of organisations.
- 4.3 Three applications were ultimately submitted to Architecture and Design Scotland for approval. They were:

Applicant	Project	Funding Requested
Kilbarchan Community Council	2nd phase of the community garden at the disused petrol station	£2,900
Paisley West & Central Community Council/West End Growing Grounds Association	2 <sup>nd</sup> phase of the Brown Street/Sutherland Street and Underwood Land projects	£1,160
Paisley West & Central Community Council/West End Growing Grounds Association	Creation of community garden at Carbrook Street, Paisley	£5,000

- 4.4 Funding has now been distributed to the three applicant organisations. Work is scheduled to complete within 3 months. Post-project Evaluation forms will be required to be completed for the three projects and will feed into the final Architecture and Design Scotland programme reporting.

#### **5. Stalled Spaces Planning and Learning Event**

- 5.1 Architecture and Design Scotland have indicated that they will be holding a planning and learning event for Stalled Spaces in May this year. As a result of the very successful Renfrewshire Stalled Spaces programme they have proposed that the event takes place in Paisley.
- 5.2 This event will bring together a range of people from the Scottish Government, Local Authorities and community organisations to explore learning from the



Stalled Spaces Scotland programme. It will also focus on ways in which this might impact on future activity.

- 5.3 Renfrewshire Council and Engage Renfrewshire are currently in discussion with Architecture and Design Scotland on the possibility of holding the event in Paisley. Architecture and Design Scotland has indicated a desire to make connections with Paisley's 2021 City of Culture bid as part of the learning event.

**Author:** Colin Grainger, Service Planning and Policy Development Manager,  
Community Resources, Renfrewshire Council. Tel: 0141 618 7199  
**E-mail:** [colin.grainger@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:colin.grainger@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk)