



To: Leadership Board

On: December 6, 2023

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: Future Paisley Cultural Funding Awards 2023/24

1. Summary

This report provides members with confirmation of the award of Round 13 of the Culture, Heritage, and Events Fund (CHEF) and Round 4 of the Cultural Organisational Development Fund (CODF), approved by the Cultural Recovery and Renewal Fund Panel on November 16. As per agreed delegation, the Head of Marketing and Communications will manage administering the funds.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leadership Board notes the Award of CHEF Round 13 and CODF Round 4 to applicants successful in their funding bids following assessment and recommendations to the Cultural Renewal and Recovery Fund Panel Review Panel. Leadership Board also notes this marks the final rounds of cultural funding as part of the Future Paisley Programme.

3. Background

3.1 Cultural funding programmes are part of a wider programme of targeted interventions designed to maximise the impact of Future Paisley investment. Renfrewshire Council's Culture, Heritage, and Events Fund (CHEF) was established to develop cultural and heritage activity as part of Paisley's UK City of Culture bid and continues to support the development and delivery of cultural and heritage projects and events across

Renfrewshire. Renfrewshire Council's Cultural Organisations Development Fund is reserved for established or developing organisations based in Renfrewshire that have a cultural and creative purpose.

- 3.2 As part of the 2023/24 council budget, Renfrewshire Council agreed £200,000 for Round 13 of CHEF, funded through Future Paisley cultural reserves. In addition, £200,000 was identified through the Future Paisley Programme to fund a fourth round of CODF. Grants will fund activity to be delivered within the 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years. In addition, funding for CHEF Round 13 was enhanced slightly with further £1,100.30 of fall-ins returned to Future Paisley from underspends from previously awarded cultural grants.
- 3.3 The 2023/24 funding rounds were launched in June and open for applications through summer, with potential applicants offered pre-application advice and support. Applications for both funds closed in September and subject to a rigorous assessment process, followed by recommendations made to the Cultural Renewal and Recovery Fund Panel Review Panel - two elected members Cllr Lisa-Marie Hughes and Cllr Alison Ann-Dowling and Future Paisley Partner Dr Alan McNiven, Chief Executive of Engage Renfrewshire, on November 16.

4. Cultural Funding Awards

4.1 CODF recommendations and award

- 4.10 CODF Round 4 was for applications from single organisations and was publicised widely via creative, cultural and community networks and social media channels. As in previous rounds, demand was high compared funds available. 15 applications were received with a total value of £265,333.73.
- 4.11 Prospective applicants were advised to submit an Expression of Interest and attend an advice surgery with OneRen in July or August, prior to applying. Advice surgeries aimed to support organisations, so they were able to submit realistic and well-developed applications that will support their strategic development. Applicants were advised of the following:
- Applications that included pathways for young people to develop their skills and careers in the creative industries would be particularly welcomed.
 - A minimum of 10% of total project budget should be found by the applicant from other funding sources, either in cash or in kind.
 - Funding would be available for the development of existing posts within the organisation, as well as new posts - if the applicant was able to demonstrate funding would support activity beyond business as usual and would create new capacity within the organisation.
 - Applicants currently in receipt of a Future Paisley cultural grant from a previous funding round, would not be eligible to make an application for a new grant award if they had not yet met the conditions of the existing grant within the agreed timeframe.

- The maximum award would be £20,000, for projects to be delivered between December 1st 2023 and March 31st 2025.

4.12 Officers assessed and scored applications against three criteria (and made recommendations to the Panel on that basis):

1. The proposed activity's fit with the purpose and objectives of the Fund
2. Effective management and governance
3. Financial viability

No of applications received	15
Total value of applications received	£265,333.73
No of applications recommended for full award	4
No of applications recommended for partial award	2
No of applications recommended for refusal	9
No of ineligible applications	0
Total value of applications recommended for award	£94,359.42

4.13 The list of confirmed CODF awards can be found at **Appendix 1**.

4.2 CHEF recommendations and award

4.20 CHEF Round 13 was publicised widely via creative, cultural and community networks and social media channels and as anticipated, demand was extremely high, compared to funds available. 41 applications were received with a total value of £491,471.26 and one application was subsequently withdrawn as the applicant had secured funding from other sources for their project. This resulted in 40 applications with a total funding request of £481,471.26.

4.21 OneRen ran a series of information sessions about the Fund for prospective applicants during July and August 2023, with one-to-one pre-application support for applicants representing Black and Minority Ethnic Communities. All applicants were able to apply for a maximum award of £20,000, for projects to be delivered between December 1st 2023 - March 31st 2025.

4.22 As part of our commitment to increasing the cultural diversity of activity supported by CHEF, £30,000 of the Fund in Round 13 was ringfenced for applications from individuals, groups and organisations representing Black and Minority Ethnic Communities. Applicants eligible for ringfenced funds were identified through the application and assessment process, with one applicant eligible and their application supported with a grant of £16,604.80. The remaining £13,395.20 was returned to the general pot. The Review Panel agreed officers will collectively look at cultural diversity as an area of shared strategic development. This will be taken forward by Engage Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire Council.

4.23 Officers from One Ren and Renfrewshire Council, and three external assessors, assessed and scored applications against three criteria and made recommendations to the Panel on that basis, however, more applicants fulfilled the criteria for award, that funds available:

1. The proposed activity's fit with the purpose and objectives of the Fund
2. Effective management
3. Financial viability.

4.24 Following CODF award recommendations being reviewed by the Panel, a **balance of £105,640.58** in the Cultural Organisations Development Fund was confirmed. Given the number of strong applications to CHEF Round 13 which met the Fund criteria but exceeded the value of the Fund, officers presented a further recommendation to the Panel to support those applications through the remaining balance of CODF Round 4. This was agreed. The list of confirmed CHEF awards can be found at **Appendix 2**.

No of applications received	41
Total value of applications received	£491,471.26
No of applications withdrawn	1
No of applications recommended for full award	18
No of applications recommended for partial award	4
No of applications recommended for refusal	18
No of ineligible applications	0
Total value of applications recommended for award	£264,700.30.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – none
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none
3. **Community/Council Planning** – Council Plan PLACE (Demonstrating that Renfrewshire is a great place to live, work and visit) - delivering Future Paisley, our far-reaching cultural regeneration programme, harnessing the power of the arts, heritage and culture for social and economic change.
4. **Legal** – none
5. **Property/Assets** – none
6. **Information Technology** – none

7. **Equality & Human Rights** - 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
 8. **Health & Safety** – none
 9. **Procurement** – none
 10. **Risk** – none
 11. **Privacy Impact** – none
 12. **Cosla Policy Position** –not applicable
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APPENDIX 1 – CODF AWARD OUTCOME

Applicant	Project Title	Location	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Brick Lane Music Academy CIC Ltd	Employment of a Music Producer	Paisley	£19,500.00	£19,202.00
CREATE Paisley	CREATE Paisley - Organisational Sustainability and Development Project	Paisley, working Renfrewshire wide	£20,000.00	£0.00
Creative Renfrewshire	Capacity building - growth of paid workforce	Renfrewshire wide	£16,878.42	£16,878.42
Loud n Proud	Studio Supervisor	Paisley	£20,000.00	£0.00
Outspoken Arts Scotland Ld	The Art Department expansion	Paisley	£20,000.00	£0.00
PACE Theatre Company	New Pathways - PACE Organisational Development 2024	Paisley	£20,000.00	£0.00
Paisley Opera	Organisational capacity building	Paisley	£19,976.00	£17,979.00
Refractive Scotland CIC	Refractive Increasing Network Reach	Paisley	£20,000.00	£20,000.00
RIG Arts	Seedhill Arts Co-ordinator and Assistant (Evolve Seedhill)	Seedhill, Paisley / Inverclyde	£18,448.80	£0.00
right2dance	right2dance	Paisley	£19,665.00	£0.00
ReMode Renfrewshire CIC	ReMode Enterprise Development	Paisley	£12,755.51	£0.00
Sculpture House Collective	Sculpture House Pilot Year Evaluation Report and Business Plan	Ferguslie Park, Paisley	£9,500.00	£9,500.00
Soundplay Projects	Soundplay Projects Operations Manager	The organisation is registered with OSCR in Paisley but based in a studio in Uddingston, South Lanarkshire	£20,000.00	£0.00
The STAR Project	Expand and Develop	North Paisley	£10,800.00	£10,800.00
StudioFV	In House Strategic Development for Expansive Community Learning	Paisley	£17,810.00	£0.00
TOTAL			£265,333.73	£94,359.42

APPENDIX 2 – CHEF ROUND 13

CONFIRMED CHEF AWARDS

Applicant	Project Title	Location	Key Development Areas	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Andrew Moir	Paisley International Tango Festival 2024	Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£7,881.00	£7,881.00
Diane Thornton	Gaggle	Riverbrae School, Linwood	Opportunities for young people; Protected characteristics	£9,875.00	£9,875.00
Erskine Arts	Erskine Arts Live	Erskine and surrounding area	Opportunities for young people	£9,500.00	£9,500.00
Historical Adventures Ltd	BSL Storytelling	Renfrewshire - locations to be confirmed	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£19,986.50	£19,986.50
Johnstone Band	Brass Festival 2024	Johnstone, Linwood and Renfrewshire-wide	Opportunities for young people	£9,575.00	£9,575.00
Kairos Women+	Skills Café	Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£9,941.00	£9,941.00

Live Music Now Scotland	Music to Lift More Spirits	Paisley (North Paisley, Foxbar, Raiston), Johnstone, Houston and Renfrew	Opportunities for young people; Protected characteristics	£9,940.00	£9,940.00
Lochwinnoch Primary School Parent Council	Lochwinnoch Primary Community School Play	Lochwinnoch	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£12,995.00	£12,995.00
Outspoken Arts Scotland Limited	The Teardrop Explodes - A Massive Paisley Pattern Project	Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£18,825.00	£18,825.00
Pace Youth Theatre	The Anything Place	Paisley	Opportunities for young people	£20,000	£20,000
Paisley Opera	Orpheus In The Underworld	Renfrewshire (specific location tbc)	Opportunities for young people	£20,000.00	£20,000.00
Peter Gilchrist	Scottish Food History Symposium	Paisley	Cultural diversity and bringing communities together	£8,061	£8,061
Project Ability	Renfrewshire's Dyers	Renfrewshire-wide	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£9,970.80	£8,892.00
Refractive Scotland	Smiley Revealed	Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£12,000.00	£10,000.00

Richard Muirhead	Paisley Takeover 2024 (Year 6)	Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£7,465.00	£7,465.00
RIG Arts	Seedhill Kids Workshop	Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£17,241.00	£12,000.00
Sound Play Projects	Soundplay Sensory Sessions	Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Protected characteristics	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
School of African Cultures	Afro-Ttire Paisley	Paisley	Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£19,750.00	£16,604.80
Sculpture House Collective	Sculpture in Schools	Ferguslie, Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together	£16,856.00	£16,856.00
Tawyna Selene Renelle	Creative Writing & Skills Programme	Paisley	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together; Protected characteristics	£10,275.00	£10,275.00
The Soundsystem Project	The Soundsystem Project - Paisley	Johnstone, Linwood and Renfrewshire-wide	Opportunities for young people; Cultural diversity and bringing communities together	£9,650.00	£9,650.00
Waterbaby SCIO	Milldale Dance and Circus Skills	Ferguslie, Paisley	Protected characteristics	£5,685.00	£5,685.00

UNSUCCESSFUL CHEF APPLICANTS

Applicant	Project Title	Location	Amount Requested
Braw Talent	Home	Areas to be confirmed in Renfrewshire, such as Ferguslie Park, Johnstone, Paisley Southeast or North.	£9,800.00
Community Circus Paisley	A New Home	Ferguslie Park, Paisley	£20,000.00
Create Paisley	Mystery Role Playing Event	Renfrewshire-wide	£9,650.00
Creative Renfrewshire	Gathering Voice	Renfrewshire-wide	£18,732.00
David Gillanders	The Makers	Renfrewshire - locations to be determined	£8,400.00
Denise Macdonald	Creating Connection Part II	Renfrewshire – specific locations not stated	£6,500.00
Evelyn Laurie	Robert Tannahill's Big Birthday Bash	Paisley	£3,600.00
Indie	Intermedia Workshop Programme	Paisley and Johnstone	£20,000.00
Kickin On	Unit 23 workshops and Doon' the village festival	Linwood	£9,490.00
Lochwinnoch Community Development Trust	Heritage Horizons: Exploring the Past, Painting the Future	Lochwinnoch	£7,585.00
Loud n Proud	Sma Shot Movie Editing	Paisley	£9,500.00
Paisley Philharmonic Choir	Music Support Grant	Paisley	£2,000.00
Paisley Sinfonia	Paisley Sinfonia	Paisley and Johnstone	£2,000.00
Restoration and Creation	Workshops for Various Groups	Paisley	£20,000.00
right2dance	Creative Connections	Paisley	£12,100.00
Robert Myles	Knight Club	Renfrew	£20,000.00
Shaper Caper	Small Town Boys	Paisley East	£20,000.00
Stravaig Theatre	Abstract & Reverie	Renfrewshire-wide	£6,641.96