
To: Johnstone & the Villages Local Area Committee

On: 24 August 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 Johnstone & the Villages 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.

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 Johnstone & the Villages 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 June 2017. In terms of the £5,000 award made by this LAC towards the non-core service provision, this helped to fund 73 activity sessions attended by 699 people throughout the LAC area as well as at community events such as Johnstone and Lochwinnoch gala days and the Johnstone and Elderslie festive light switch-on events. The cost of providing these activities was £6,519.

3.3 Lochwinnoch Arts Festival

3.3.1 The LAC has supported the Festival on a number of occasions and awarded £4,300 in 2016/17, which covered costs associated with sound equipment, hall hire, web upkeep and tickets and printing. Approximately 3,650 people attended or took part in various art activities throughout the festival (compared to a total population of Lochwinnoch of 3,000). The increase in visitor numbers for local businesses and shops helped boost the local economy.

3.4 Lochwinnoch Country Dance Club

3.4.1 The club was awarded a grant of £450 to help pay for a tutor. The mostly elderly members enjoy the physical exercise as well as the mental agility required.

3.5 Calder Drama Club

3.5.1 The grant of £700 allows the club to continue to hold two plays each year in the McKillop Hall. It helps the club to keep the ticket prices low and brings theatre to a rural community.

3.6 1st Elderslie Brownies

3.6.1 A grant of £2,000 helped the Brownies celebrate the unit's 21st birthday with a trip to London. 25 Brownies aged between 7-10 participated in the trip and for some of them this was their first trip away from home. In London the girls were split into small groups, each with their own leader, to encourage teamwork, co-operation and the development of listening skills.

3.7 1st/3rd Johnstone Scout Group

3.7.1 A total of £10,000 was awarded by the LAC to cover three separate grant applications from different sections of this group. The three main elements were a trip to Wiston Lodge; a trip to Lochgoilhead; and improvements at the scout hall. The trips enabled the young people to engage in outdoor activities, gain skills and experience in land and water based activities and they were awarded badges to reward their achievements.

3.7.2 The refurbishment of the toilet block area enabled disabled access to toilet facilities.

3.8 Johnstone Business Consortium

3.8.1 The Consortium was awarded £3,800 towards the cost of the Christmas market and associated activities. The grant achieved the creation of a Christmas market in Johnstone for the first time. Local groups of people were involved,

including Johnstone High School, Johnstone Brass Band and local dance groups and singers. Up to 2,000 people visited the town centre.

3.9 Kilbarchan Agricultural Society

3.9.1 The LAC awarded £1,850 towards the cost of upgrading the light horse show jumping equipment including up-to-date approved safety equipment stand clips, developed for a quick release of the poles on the horse jump should the horse not clear the jump.

3.9.2 The Kilbarchan Agricultural Society have agreed that the upgraded equipment may be used by the Houston Agricultural Society for their show day, therefore benefitting the only two remaining agricultural society events in Renfrewshire, both of which have been held for well over 100 years.

3.10 Elderslie Wallace Bowling Club

3.10.1 The club were awarded £1,000 towards the cost of upgrading the women's toilets and constructing a new disabled toilet for members and visitors. The refurbishment/upgrading works have increased accessibility for members and their guests and also for those community groups and individuals that have hired the club for a function.

3.11 Johnstone Band

3.11.1 The £2,000 grant award enabled 25 Renfrewshire school brass instrument pupils to enjoy a music making opportunity over two weekends. This included music tuition from Johnstone Band and an internationally- renowned brass band conductor and arranger and an opportunity to help create and perform a new music commission.

3.11.2 The grant allowed the workshops and closing concert to be offered free of charge and using Johnstone Town Hall allowed the closing concert to be fully accessible.

3.12 Cornerstone Drop-in Centre

3.12.1 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.

3.13 Fitting-in – Renfrewshire Troopers

3.13.1 The LAC made a contribution of £500 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 Renfrewshire Youth Voice – Positive About Youth Awards

3.14.1 Awarded £820 by this LAC, 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.

3.14.2 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.

3.15 Rays of Hope

3.15.1 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 to help them 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.

3.16 Future Feedback

3.15.1 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

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