
Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	9 March 2021
Report By:	Ruth Binks, Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/14/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	01475 712828
Subject:	Education and Communities Committee: expedited business, relevant updates and operational log for the Communities part of the Committee		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider expedited business, relevant updates and the operational log for the Communities part of the Education and Communities Committee.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 This is the first update report provided to the Education and Communities Committee for services which fall under the remit of the Communities part of the committee.

2.2 This report considers the following expedited business and relevant updates:

- Regeneration Capital Grant Funding;
- Successful funding bids for culture recovery planning;
- CLD annual report;
- GTVO and U19s Sports Grants;
- Subsidised Swimming for Under 16s;
- Inverclyde Leisure 3 year plan; and
- The operational log for the communities part of the committee.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- notes the contents of this report;
- grants delegated authority to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisation Development after consultation with the Head of Legal & Property Services and Chief Financial Officer to accept the Regeneration Capital Grants Fund (RCGF) on behalf of Inverclyde Council;
- approves the annual report on CLD service;
- approves one grant of £10,000 in respect of Fort Matilda Tennis Club through GTVO;
- approves the proposals for Under 16 swimming as outlined in paragraph 4.5; and
- approves the Inverclyde Leisure strategic plan.

4.0 UPDATES

4.1 Regeneration Capital Grant Fund

The Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF), delivered in partnership with COSLA and local government, supports locally developed place-based regeneration projects that involve local communities, helping to support and create jobs and build sustainable communities. Applications to the fund are made on an annual basis and, where justified, can potentially cover more than one financial year.

Inverclyde submitted 3 applications to stage 2: The Inverclyde Shed | Meet, Make + Share, Parklea Garden Hub, Greenock Town Centre and King George VI Building.

In January 2021 confirmation was received from the Scottish Government RCGF that two projects were successful: King George VI Community Hub at 9-11 King Street, Port Glasgow; and The Inverclyde Shed. Awards were £1.1m and £504,804 respectively.

It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- grants delegated authority to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisation Development after consultation with the Head of Legal & Property Services and Chief Financial Officer to accept the Regeneration Capital Grants Fund (RCGF) on behalf of Inverclyde Council.

4.2 Successful funding bids for culture recovery planning

In February 2020, Creative Scotland announced the recipients of 'Culture Collective' programme funding, including £275,000 for a local consortium led by Inverclyde Council and in partnership with the Beacon Arts Centre, RIG Arts, CVS Inverclyde and Inverclyde Youth Theatre (Kayos). Officers from all 5 organisations worked together to design a series of projects which, over the course of the next 18 months, will be used across Inverclyde to allow freelance creative practitioners and organisations to develop their programmes and pilot new local partnership and community projects and new collaborative ways of working. The project will investigate key themes specific to Inverclyde: health and social care (focus on adult mental health); young people; regeneration of communities; outdoor work; and engaging with areas that have low arts engagement and barriers to access.

The project will create one post – Arts Co-ordinator – which will be hosted by CVS Inverclyde. The Libraries, Educational Development and Arts Manager will manage and monitor the overall project, the budget and associated procurement. There was no match fund expected by Creative Scotland as part of the bidding process. All project activity will be risk assessed, accounting for Covid-19 restrictions. The health and safety of all staff, volunteers, partners, participants and contractors will be paramount at all times.

In addition the Beacon Arts Centre's application to the Weston Culture Fund was successful and it has been awarded £170,000 to support community engagement and artistic plans over the next 12 months.

4.3 Community Learning and Development Annual Report

The annual report of the CLD service provides information on activities, developments and achievements over the last year to August 2020, in relation to the following areas:

- Adult learning;
- Adult literacies;
- Family learning and work with parents;
- English for speakers of other languages (ESOL);
- Youth work including school-based/community-based programmes and youth participation; and
- Community engagement.

The annual report also gives the service an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the achievements of the service while informing elected members, stakeholders and participants on the impact of CLD's work. Although Covid-19 had a detrimental impact on the service's ability to deliver on its improvement actions last year, CLD made a significant contribution to the Council's humanitarian response to the pandemic. Staff supported the delivery and provision of meals to hubs, meals to children and families who were shielding or isolating; the provision of resource packs, learning sessions and ICT to adults and pupils at home and the delivery of childcare hubs over the summer holidays for key workers. In addition, the service ensured transport was provided to and from hubs for our most vulnerable children. The annual report provides further information on the extent of the support which was provided and indeed continues through this year. A copy of the report is attached as an appendix and can also be found through the following link:

[Link to CLD Annual Report 2019-20](#)

4.4 Grants to voluntary organisations and Under 19s sports grants

A second round of grants applications took place in January 2021. In line with current policy for 2020/2021 the Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources, in consultation with the Convener of the Grants Sub-Committee, approved £56,017 worth of GTVO and £4,648 Under 19s sports grants.

34 applications for grants were made, requesting a total of £199,725.10. This included applications deferred from Round 1. 27 grants were approved totalling £56,017.16 and one grant of £10,000 is submitted to this Education and Communities Committee for approval.

In respect of Under 19s Sports Grants for 2020/2021, a total of £48,124.28 was available. 4 applications for grants were made, requesting a total of £8,348.24. In full consultation with the Chair of the Grants Sub-Committee, 4 grants were approved, totalling £4,648.24.

It is recommended that one organisation, Fort Matilda Tennis Club, receives a grant of £10,000 and in line with current standing orders, the Education and Communities Committee is asked to approve the award of this grant. The grant will be used to complete replacement works on courts at the club. A similar award was made to Ardgowan Tennis Club in the first round of GTVO.

4.5 Subsidised Swimming for Under 16s

At the meeting on Tuesday 19 January the Education and Communities Committee considered options for providing subsidised swimming for under 16s following a decision of the Council in December 2020 to agree as part of the budget process a saving of £100,000 from the £180,000 budget. The committee asked that consideration be continued to the March Committee for a further detailed report providing further details and financial implications relative to (1) the possible provision of the extra £27,000 being allocated from the Under 19s Sports Subsidy rather than the GTVO (2). The proposal comprised the following:

- (a) that Inverclyde Leisure be paid for each swim rather than a set annual sum;
- (b) that under 11s swim be continued on the same basis;
- (c) that children 11 to under 16 be able to access free swimming with the presentation of a Young Scot Card to enable customer information to be gathered;
- (d) that the remaining budget be allocated from COVID funding for the period 2021/22; and
- (e) that a report be brought back to a future Committee providing information on customers using swims who were entitled to free school meals.

Officers have worked with Inverclyde Leisure to consider the practical implications of proposals and propose the following:

- That the Committee asks the Council as part of the 2021/23 Budget consideration to defer the saving until March 2022;
- That during the year 2021/22 Inverclyde Leisure be paid for each swim rather than a set

annual sum;

- That in order to access a subsidised swim young people under 16 register free of charge for an Under 16 residents' swim card. This card will be provided by Inverclyde Leisure and will ask for proof of address and an agreement that data can be shared with the Council. This method is thought to be the most pragmatic approach. The Young Scot Card would be too costly to link with the IL database already in place and the Council and IL would not be able to monitor data of usage. The Under 16 residents' swim card would entitle users to a free swim during the year April 2021 to end of March 2022; and
- That a report is submitted to a future committee to consider how the allocated £80,000 per annum to subsidise swimming is implemented.

4.6 The Board of Inverclyde Leisure approved its strategic plan at its meeting on 30 November 2020. The link to this strategy can be accessed:

<https://www.inverclydeleisure.com/media/1373/il-strategic-plan-20-23.pdf> and has been subject to a members briefing.

4.7 The operational log for this report is attached as Appendix 1.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance

There are no financial implications connected to this report.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

5.2 Legal

There are no known Legal implications contained within this report.

5.3 Human Resources

There are no known Human Resources implications contained within this report and no posts will be created as a result of the project.

5.4 Equalities

Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

YES

X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required
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(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

5.5 Repopulation

N/A.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 None.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

71 None.

Education and Communities Committee

Operational Decision Log – Culture, Communities & Educational Resources

From: 5 February 2021

To: 11 February 2021

Week 5

**Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development
RB/KB**

Education, Communities & Organisational Development – OPERATIONAL LOG 2021

	Service Issue	Action taken	Reported to CMT	Supporting Report Yes – N/A	Implemented	Officer
	<u>CULTURE, COMMUNITIES AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES</u>					
5.	Apply for Connecting Scotland: address digital poverty gap in partnership during ongoing pandemic by supplying laptops, Ipad's and MiFi devices to families, care leavers and vulnerable adults.	If bid is successful all devices will be supplied by Connecting Scotland in partnership with the Council and the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations and will be distributed and coordinated by Community Learning and Development Serviced: all costs to be contained within grant.	9.2.21	Yes	9.2.21	Service Manager, CLD, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport