
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	25 January 2022
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/03/22/AW
Contact Officer:	Alana Ward, Service Manager	Contact No:	01475 712330
Subject:	Proposal to Establish an Inverclyde Schools' Pipe Band		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Education and Communities Committee of a generous offer of funding support from Scottish Schools' Pipes and Drums Trust (SSPDT) to assist Inverclyde Council to establish an Inverclyde schools' pipe band, and to seek authority to establish same.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The SSPDT has approached Inverclyde Council with a proposal to fully fund the establishment of an Inverclyde schools' pipe band. Under the proposals, Inverclyde's Instrumental Music Service (IMS) would establish a training/development pipe band which would play at and support Council events and teach young people to a level where they could then consider joining a local competitive band.
- 2.2 The offer is for a total of £75,000 which would be transferred to the Council in 3 tranches of £25,000 across financial years 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25.
- 2.3 Although SSPDT are unable to fully confirm at this stage continued commitment beyond the initial 3 year period of funding, there is a likelihood that support may be able to continue and indeed some funded local authorities in Scotland are in their 6th year of funding support.
- 2.4 Officers have delegated authority to establish a schools' band and under normal circumstances would not seek Committee approval for this. However, as time-limited external funding is being used, Members should be aware of the possibility that this funding may cease at some point in the future after the initial 3 year period. Officers will establish an exit strategy to minimise the impact on young people should this be the case.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the establishment of an Inverclyde schools' pipe band.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Inverclyde Council's Instrumental Music Service (IMS) currently employs a Piping Instructor (0.6 FTE) who currently teaches c. 50 pupils piping. There is currently no drumming provision and there is also no schools' pipe band in Inverclyde.
- 4.2 The Scottish Schools Pipes and Drums Trust (SSPDT) has approached Inverclyde Council with a proposal to fully fund the establishment of an Inverclyde schools' pipe band. Under the proposals, Inverclyde's IMS would establish a training/development pipe band which would play at and support Council events and teach young people to a level where they could then consider joining a local competitive band such as Lower Clyde Pipes and Drums. The service could increase piping provision to teach a further 15-20 pupils and could introduce drumming to around 20 pupils for the first time.
- 4.3 The offer is subject to approval by SSPDT's Board on sight of Inverclyde Council's final implementation plan.
- 4.4 The offer is for a total of £75,000 which would be transferred to the Council in 3 tranches of £25,000 across financial years 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25. The funding would pay for:

Summary of Costs

Year 1

Increase current provision	£10,000
Introduce additional provision (pipes)	£7,500
Rehearsal/practice sessions	£1,200
Practice equipment	£1,500
Band instruments	£4,800
TOTAL	£25,000

Year 2

Increase current provision	£10,200
Introduce additional provision (pipes)	£8,300
Rehearsal/practice sessions	£1,200
Practice equipment	£800
Band instruments	£4,500
TOTAL	£25,000

Year 3

Increase current provision	£10,400
Introduce additional provision (pipes)	£8,700
Rehearsal/practice sessions	£1,200
Practice equipment	£200
Band instruments/additional teaching hours	£4,500
TOTAL	£25,000

- 4.5 The funding would ensure that Inverclyde Council have a development band consisting of 20-25 players with a further 50-65 students being taught at any one time to performing level standard between piping and drumming. Including the 0.6 FTE resource already available as part of the IMS revenue budget, there is potential to see 70-90 young people learning pipes and drums each week in Inverclyde schools.
- 4.6 Although SSPDT are unable to fully confirm at this stage continued commitment beyond the initial 3 year period of funding, there is a likelihood that support may be able to continue and indeed some funded local authorities in Scotland are in their 6th year of funding support.
- 4.7 Officers have delegated authority to establish a schools' band and under normal circumstances would not seek Committee approval for this. However, as time-limited external funding is being used, Members should be aware of the possibility that this funding may

cease at some point in the future after the initial 3 year period. Officers will establish an exit strategy to minimise the impact on young people should this be the case.

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that Inverclyde Council accepts SSPDT's generous offer of funding support to establish an Inverclyde schools' pipe band.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

The support package is fully funded by SSPDT and there is no match funding element from the Council other than the 0.6 FTE Piping instructor already employed as part of the IMS revenue budget.

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					

6.2 Legal

There are no known legal implications contained within the report.

6.3 Human Resources

The funding available would be used in part to pay for new temporary and sessional posts. The service would recruit and employ these additional staff in line with Council HR and recruitment procedures.

6.4 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

- (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

6.5 Repopulation

Culture, arts and heritage are useful ways in which to raise the profile of Inverclyde, and make it an attractive place to live, work and visit.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 None.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.