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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Education &amp; Communities Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>1 November 2022</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director Education, Communities &amp; Organisational Development</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>EDUCOM/56/22/TM</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Tony McEwan Head of Culture, Communities &amp; Educational Resources</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712828</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Communities Update Report – Overview of National and Local Initiatives</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting

1.2 This report provides the Committee with an update on matters relating to the Communities part of the Education and Communities Committee:

1.3 Updates are provides on:

- Culture Collective;
- Historic Links to Slavery Update;
- Lend and Mend Hubs;
- Community Safety;
- The summer programmes of Active Schools, Youth Services, Family Learning and Affordable Childcare;
- Inverclyde Leisure Annual report 2021/22;
- Update on Free Swimming for Under 16s;
- Governance of external organisations; and
- “Warm Hand of Friendship” update

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- notes the updates contained in this report; and
- agrees that proposals for Free Swimming for Under 16s from 2023 be considered as part of the Council’s budget process

**Ruth Binks**  
**Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development**

### 3.0 Updates

#### 3.1 Culture Collective

In March 2020, Creative Scotland commenced a pilot programme to establish a network of creative practitioners, organisations, and communities, working together to create a positive difference locally and nationally in response to Covid-19. A consortium of Inverclyde partners including Inverclyde Council, Beacon Arts Centre, RIG Arts, CVS Inverclyde and Kayos Theatre Group successfully bid to be one of the 26 projects across Scotland who shared £6m in funding. Inverclyde's project received £275,000 for 18 months' of arts activity across the area (March 2021 – September 2022). An additional £198,000 of funding was confirmed in March 2022 to extend the Inverclyde programme until September 2023.

Activities carried out in this reporting period include:

- Artist in Residence Elina Bry is working with Your Voice Recovery as part of the Creative Practice in Health and Social Care strand. The residency was centred around the connection between recovery; the natural environment; walking practices; and art;
- Artist in Residence Amy Bruning is working with Barnardo's Inverclyde to explore the connection between participatory art, animation and trauma informed environments; Amy has been working collaboratively with the youth steering group at Barnardo's to consider the design and curation of spaces within their building in Terrace Road, Greenock; and
- Artist in Residence Sian Yeshe is working with Inverclyde Faith in Throughcare (IFiT) using video and film as a way to capture the experiences of the individuals within the criminal justice system who are re-entering their communities within Inverclyde.

#### 3.2 Historic Links to Slavery

At its meeting of 25 January 2022, the Education and Communities Committee approved the final report and recommendations of Inverclyde's Historic Links to Slavery Working Group, which includes further work to take place around learning and interpretation of local links to slavery, and to celebrate Black history and culture. The working group has now become an Advisory Group and it is overseeing 5 work streams covering all of the recommendations in the report. A brief not on progress is provided below:

Work stream	Progress
Gourock Coat of Arms	See separate paper to Education and Communities Committee 1 Nov 22.
Heritage Trail & Abolitionist Plaque	Group agreed to adopt a QR Code approach, channelled via Discover Inverclyde, and linked with other initiatives, so that people understand the role of slavery. The aim is to ensure that all local towns and village have a point of interest on the trail and that travel between points is sustainable and accessible.
Further Research	Group to look at sourcing costs for commissioning research. The main interpretation around James Watt will be in the Watt Library around the Watt Monument. Potential content for online resources - results of the audit and public consultation for context. As a starting point take a single example from several of the audit headings and produce simple content based on that.

	Looking at different ways of using Council website e.g. mini sites.
Black History Month	Inverclyde celebrated Black History Month (October) 2022 with a joint programme from Inverclyde Council and the Beacon Arts Centre celebrating Black history and culture.
Inclusive Curriculum	3 secondary practitioners have registered for professional learning opportunity with Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde. This will take place in September 2023. 5 secondary practitioners have been identified and will be released from class to produce a learning resource for S2 pupils in September 2023. The Inverclyde audit and related materials (compiled as a Wakelet) have been shared with teachers via this platform. All establishments have been offered the opportunity to request participation in the National Building Racial Literacy (BRL) Programme. 1 teacher and 1 Educational Psychologist has completed this training so far with a minimum of 4 on track to complete over session 22-23. An Inclusive Curriculum Conference has been organised and will run in September 2023 to support leaders with approaches to anti-racist education in our establishments.

### 3.3 Lend and Mend Hub

Inverclyde Libraries was involved in a bid by the Scottish Library and Information Council to the John Lewis Partnership Circular Futures Fund for a grant to create Lend & Mend Hubs across Scotland. As a result of Inverclyde libraries' involvement in the overall bid, the service has been awarded one of the hubs which will be set up in South West Library at Barr's Cottage.

The idea behind Lend and Mend Hubs are spaces within libraries where people can make, mend and create using a number of machines including 3D printers, sewing machines, vinyl cutters, large format printers and soldering irons. As well as providing equipment, the libraries support people through workshops to use equipment. They also lend tools such as drills and sanders to allow people to borrow items which they may not need regularly.

Work to create the Lend and Mend Hub at South West Library will begin in November 2022.

### 3.4 Update on Community Safety

#### 16 days of Activism – Violence Against Women (VAW)

The '16 Days' campaign in 2022 runs from 25 November (International Day against VAW) until 10 December (International Human Rights Day). Campaign information will be displayed on Inverclyde Council's ICON system, in public buildings and on social media during the '16 Days.' Information has been developed nationally by the Improvement Service and VAW National Network and will be promoted across Scotland to ensure consistency of messages across all council areas. Light up' campaigns aims to place a spotlight on the issue of VAWG and encourage people to get involved using awareness raising. Across Scotland public buildings will be lit up orange, the colour of the global 16 Days of Activism, to launch the campaign and shine a light on the often hidden issue. It is anticipated that Inverclyde will participate in 'light up' this year. Last year the slogan was #WhatWillYouDo? and this year to acknowledge how much work has taken place to embed Equally Safe in Scotland and the actions identified in previous campaigns, the slogan will be #WhatNext? This gives the opportunity to consider what should inform the next

phase of Equally Safe, and how we can align VAWG in Scotland within other key policy developments. Police Scotland will also be running their own campaign during the 16 days which will complement these campaigns across Scotland. In line with Further information on violence against women can be found at: [www.inverclyde.gov.uk/violenceagainstwomen](http://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/violenceagainstwomen)

### Control the Bleed Kits

Inverclyde Council is the first council in Scotland to embark on a project with a national charity, The Daniel Baird Foundation, whose aim is to raise awareness of the importance of having publicly accessible bleed control packs available as those vital few minutes before emergency services arrive can be critical to saving a life. Kits will be carried by the Council's community wardens and enforcement wardens service but will also be available for emergency services to access if required while they are also out on duty. They contain essential medical supplies designed to reduce blood loss and can save lives in the vital minutes before medical attention arrives. The Daniel Baird Foundation has also donated an emergency bleed control wall mounted cabinet to Inverclyde. Community safety partners have been engaged on a suitable central public location for the cabinet within the authority area. The project has been endorsed by local emergency service partners and promoted through the media by the corporate communications team.

### Road Safety

Parking buddies have been delivered to each of Inverclyde's 20 primary schools as part of a joint initiative between the council and local police to improve road safety around our local schools. The eye-catching characters appeared for the start of the new term to encourage people to 'think before you park' in and around the area's primaries. They can also act as a physical barrier to prevent inconsiderate parking in prohibited places such as bus stops and outside main entrances.

## 3.5 Family Learning Summer Programme

Adult Learning and Literacies ran summer hub programmes at St John's Primary School and Branchton Community Centre for New Scots and Primary Attainment families, two days a week from 10am to 2.30 pm.

67 adults and children participated in a range of fun family learning programmes which supported the development of literacies, language and health and wellbeing.

The summer programme encouraged participants to learn and develop both together and independently, with both staff-led and guided activities to do after the hub sessions. Lunch and snacks were provided.

There was a 100% attendance, including 5 dads, and parents reported back that the summer programme was a significant support to them.

## 3.6 Active Schools / Sports Development Summer Programme

The Active Schools team delivered 11 camps (49 sessions) over the course of the holidays covering a range of activities. Camps offered included netball, sports leadership and multi-sport and targeted provision for those with a disability and/or ASN, care experienced young people and those transitioning from primary to secondary education. Over the course of summer there were 691 attendances at the camps.

In addition to our own camps the ASSD team also supported partners to offer activities to local children and young people. We facilitated football at a large event organised by Proud2Care, I Promise and HSCP engaging approximately 60 young people.

Through our established partnership with Greenock Morton Community Trust Active Schools supported the planning and organising of football camps for 6 full weeks of provision including additional sessions for girls. 428 attendances were recorded. Hockey camps were also offered with 34 attendances.

The team also worked collaboratively with the CLD Youth Work Team to offer multi-activity sessions at Port Glasgow iYouth zones and Notre Dame high School, offering 10 sessions and engaging with 69 young people. In addition young people were offered 7 outdoor activity sessions at Castle Semple and 2 sessions at Snow Factor in Braehead, where a total of 91 young people participated.

### 3.7 Youth Services Team Summer Programme

The CLD Youth Team was able to offer a wide range of activities to young people across Inverclyde during the summer holiday period in addition to its collaborative work with Active Schools. The team accessed external funding from Cashback for Communities as well as Scottish Government to offer free learning and development opportunities to young people aged mainly 11-15.

A number of trips and visits were organised over summer with young people having the opportunity to participate in inflatables at Greenock Sports Centre; the climbing wall at Ravenscraig; pool and snooker at Bullseye; trampolining at Airthril as well as enjoying a day out at the Heads of Ayr farm park. In total 163 young people took part in these free activities and were also provided with lunch. The team continued to offer opportunities from our community based youth spaces at Port Glasgow and Greenock iYouth zones which engaged 73 young people who were able to access a range of opportunities and activities in the spaces, including arts and crafts, gaming and cooking.

Our youth work staff engaged with young people out in the community. In addition to our standard sessions the team offered summer 'pop ups' at Lady Octavia, Battery Park and PGIYZ where different sports, beach games and a BBQ was offered. In total 78 young people took part in these sessions.

Our Clyde Pride group held its annual Pride Picnic in Battery Park which attracted 25 young people who were able to look at some of the work the group while participating in activities.

Our largest event of the summer was the Big Summer Event at the 3g pitch in Battery Park which attracted 200 young people who were able to take part in bubble football, climbing wall, arts and crafts as well as enjoying a DJ and food and snacks. This event was supported by Active Schools, Action for Children and the Community Wardens.

### 3.8 Affordable Childcare Summer Programme

Inverclyde Council received £131,000 from Scottish Government in May 2022 to deliver a programme of Affordable Childcare over summer 2022. The 2022 Summer Holiday Programme provided more than 9000 out of school child car places from priority families over a four week period; 6,476 free mainstream playscheme places were accessed by children across 6 localities through the Inverclyde Leisure Playschemes, 1,753 children accessed the new extended playscheme in three localities with the greatest inequalities. Wellington Children's Centre provided 13 additional places for children who might not cope with playschemes and Play4All increased capacity to provide 66 places for young people with more complex additional support needs.

This service will be part of a Scottish Government Early Adopter for the remainder of 2022/23 to help design Affordable Children Care services across Scotland. The service will receive a grant for this from the Scottish Government to pilot a programme.

### 3.9 Annual Report Inverclyde Leisure 2021/22

The Annual Report forms part of the overall performance management overview of IL's activities and ensures that the continued financial support of Inverclyde Leisure contributes to measurable improvements in the provision of high-class facilities and improved participation in sports and leisure activities. A copy of the annual report is available here using this link <https://www.inverclydeleisure.com/media/1543/100279-annual-report-2021-22-final-web.pdf>

### 3.10 Free Swimming for Under 16s

At the September 2022 meeting of the Education and Communities Committee it was agreed that officers bring back a report on the projected overspend in relation to the above policy. The service has been able to contain the projected overspend for 2022/23.

The Education and Communities Committee is recommended to agree that proposals for the policy from 2023 onwards be considered as part of the Council's budget process from 2023/25.

### 3.11 Governance of External Organisations

All organisations have signed 2022/23 service level agreements with the Council. Officers continue to monitor the ongoing governance and evaluation

- Branchton Community Centre;
- Kilmacolm New Community Centre;
- Craighend Resource Centre;
- Gibshill Community Centre;
- Inverkip Hub; and
- Youth Connections.

No risks have been identified as part of the ongoing governance.

Officers attend the Board meeting or the Resources and Finance sub-group for the Beacon Arts Centre. Grant funding made available during COVID has helped the financial position of the Beacon and it has done well in attracting grants for projects, either in its own right or in partnership across the area. As the Beacon resumes the work of an Arts Centre, the board are being proactive in expanding the reach of programming to the wider community and pursuing external funding.

### 3.12 Warm Spaces update

A report was taken to the Policy and Resources Committee asking for £100,000 to be allocated to a small grants fund for communities to bid into to extend a warm hand of friendship. The scheme was launched during Challenge Poverty Week at the beginning of October. A small grant will be made available to voluntary sectors who wish to offer warm spaces through additional activities during this winter and this will be administered by CVS Inverclyde.

The intention is to also create a directory of all the places available to Inverclyde residents across the public, health and voluntary sectors so that anyone who is cold knows where they can go to get warm, stay warm and enjoy a little company and some hot refreshments. Inverclyde Life will also identify activities that are already in place through their directory and can be identified as either warm spaces or warm activities. This makes it easy for members of communities to search through the wide range of activities already taking place.

In addition, library services will increase their offer of activities in order to facilitate and promote libraries as warm spaces during the winter months.

## 4.0 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk		X	
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		X	
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X	
Environmental & Sustainability		X	
Data Protection		X	

## 4.2 Finance

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					

## 4.3 Legal/Risk

None.

## 4.4 Human Resources

None.

## 4.5 Strategic

None.

## 5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 N/A.

## 6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 N/A.