
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	24 January 2023
Report By:	Ruth Binks, Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report	EDUCOM/27/23/TMcE
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	01475 712828
Subject:	Communities Update Report – Update on Local and National Initiatives		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 This report provides an update on matters relevant to the Communities part of the Education and Communities Committee. It also requests the Committee to consider a request in respect of funding for Inverclyde Leisure.
- 1.3 Updates are provided on:
- Culture Collective;
 - Outstanding remit in relation to electronic donations to the Watt Institution;
 - Donation to the Watt Institution;
 - Library Services Awards;
 - Active Schools Report;
 - Clyde Conversations;
 - Community Learning and Development 3 year Strategic Plan;
 - Early Adopter Authority Free Childcare; and
 - Request from Inverclyde Leisure Board regarding payment of the National Living Wage.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:
- notes the updates contained in this report; and
 - agrees to remit to the Policy and Resources Committee, a recommendation to make an additional payment to Inverclyde Leisure to implement the National Living Wage from January 2023.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

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:

- Community practice residency in Greenock South West – Producer Ben Vardi is working with a community group to create a podcast;
- *Galoshans* festival art residencies – Jane McNally explored how light, moving images and sculpture can work together in the context of public events and #theafrowegian (aka Jidefor Muotune) presented an adaptation of a Greenock version of the *Galoshans* Play, projected on to the walls of the Beacon Arts Centre. All the characters were adapted to feature black, brown or mixed race people, living working or with strong links to Inverclyde; and
- Birds of Paradise Theatre Company offered disability equality training to Inverclyde's cultural sector, providing information and guidance on ensuring venues, user experience, participatory activity, recruitment processes, communications and marketing are accessible to people with disabilities.

3.2 Outstanding remit in relation to electronic donations to the Watt Institution

The facility to pay for items from the museum shop by card machine was established at the Watt Institution in September 2022. Since then, officers have been examining options to facilitate donations by card machine to increase income. There are two ways to do this; via the current card payment system or by purchasing a specific electronic donation system.

The option to use the current card payment system has already been set up and implemented at no additional cost. Signage above the donations box invites visitors to donate via card if they wish. This process was implemented on 8 November 2022 and between then and the time of writing, there have been no donations, electronic or otherwise. The other option, to purchase a specific electronic donation system, would cost around £300 per year to rent the equipment, and any system chosen would need to be fully compatible with payment systems already used by the Council, which may involve IT consultancy costs. Given that it is not yet clear how much income the Watt Institution could expect to make in donations going forwards, the service will continue with the existing system for now and revisit the rental payment points in the future if the level of donations received warrants further investigation.

3.3 Donation to the Watt Institution by Dr Daniel Temianka

A major donation to the Watt Institution of \$10,000 (£8,591) was made by Dr Daniel Temianka, and his wife Dr Zeinab Dabbah, of California, USA. Dr Temianka is the son of renowned virtuoso violinist, conductor, author and music educator Henri Temianka, who was born in Greenock in 1906, and generously donated a sculptural bust of his father, created by acclaimed sculptor Miriam Baker, to the Watt Institution in 2016. Dr Temianka was delighted to hear of the plans to create a Creativity Space within the Watt Institution and wished to contribute to the

overall funding package. Dr Temianka's generous donation will be used to support the ongoing development of the Creativity Space and run activities and events, including free to attend creative workshops, which would not have otherwise been possible.

3.4 Libraries Service Awards

SLIC Awards

Inverclyde Libraries won the Project of the Year Award at the 2022 Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) Awards for the Climate Beacons project. The project focused on sustainability and aimed to stimulate long-term public engagement in the lead up to and following COP26. It was described as 'inspirational' by the judges in the way in which it grew the sense of community. It linked the local to the global through author events, involving members of the community, including those in the prison population who are not often included in climate conversations, and contributed to the circular economy through lend and mend hubs. The judging panel felt the project was a 'powerful and cohesive project that acts as a model for others.'

SLIF Award

A partnership project between Port Glasgow Community Campus Library, Inverclyde Academy School Library, Attainment Challenge library services and several Inverclyde early years establishments has successfully bid for £4,000 from the School Library Improvement Fund to "Read Around the World". Through participation in a reading buddy programme in partnership with local nurseries and New Scot families, the project aims to increase reading for pleasure and attainment in reluctant readers whilst promoting diversity, racial equality, and integration.

3.5 Active Schools Success

Active Schools aims to provide increased high-quality opportunities for young people to take part in sport and physical activity before school, during lunchtime and after school, and to develop effective pathways between schools and sports clubs in the local community.

Inverclyde Council works in partnership with **sportscotland**, the national agency for sport, to invest and support our local Active Schools network. Inverclyde is part of a national programme with engagement from all 32 local authorities.

Each local authority Active Schools team completes an online monitoring system managed by **sportscotland**. This system is completed for each school in the authority every term. **sportscotland** has advised that the Active Schools Team in Inverclyde engaged 48% of school pupils in extra-curricular activities during the 2021/22 academic year, which is the highest participation rate across all 32 local authorities.

3.6 Clyde Conversations

Community Learning and Development (Youth Work Services) supported young people to plan and deliver two events as part of Clyde Conversations 5 on 22 and 23 February 2022 with a total of 125 pupils taking part.

The report, which was agreed by the Inverclyde Alliance Board on 5 December 2022 provides information about feedback sessions held following the Clyde Conversations events, including details of what young people consider to be the top priorities moving forward. The service has now begun to address the issues highlighted to young people which will be reported back to them ahead of any future Clyde Conversation events.

The report can be accessed at:

<https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-planning-partnership/inverclyde-alliance-board-papers/inverclyde-alliance-board-papers-2022/inverclyde-alliance-board-meeting-5-december-2022>

3.7 Community Learning and Development 3 Year Plan

The Community Learning and Development (CLD) 3 Year Plan 2021-24 Annual Report and a revised action plan report was approved by the Inverclyde Alliance on 5 December 2022. The revised actions now reflect the current landscape and will best enable the CLD Partnership to achieve the priorities within the plan.

The main changes that have been made to the actions under each priority include further development of on-line learning platform; reviewing how the CLD Partnership delivers digital services; and increasing participation in employment, learning and training by those who are digitally excluded. There is also now more of a focus on how the partnership can alleviate poverty in our communities and develop the CLD workforce. The report can be accessed using the following link: <https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-planning-partnership/inverclyde-alliance-board-papers/inverclyde-alliance-board-papers-2022/inverclyde-alliance-board-meeting-5-december-2022>

3.8 'Early Adopter' Affordable Childcare

Inverclyde Council has been awarded short-term funding by the Scottish Government to design 'community level systems' of school age childcare to meet the identified needs of children and families in the area (aligning with other supports and interventions where this can maximise benefits).

This funding will provide out-of-school childcare provision for to up to 30 children from the Port Glasgow school cluster area who are from families living on a low income and are one of the six priority groups outlined in the Child Poverty Act. This provision which will last until 31 March 2023 will allow the Council to assess and co-design the types of provision required by parents. Food will be provided along with subsidised transport to children who will be travelling further than one mile to the childcare hub at Newark Primary School.

It is anticipated that learning from this and the other three local authorities who have been allocated this funding will inform the Scottish Government's plan's for out-of-school care provision in the future.

3.9 Payment of the National Living Wage for Inverclyde Leisure Employees

At a meeting of its Board on 28 November 2022, the Inverclyde Leisure Board expressed its concern that it would not be able to pay its employees the National Living Wage from January 2023, instead of the planned date of April 2023. Recognising its own financial position the Board requested that the IL Chief Executive submits a formal request to the Corporate Director of Education, Communities and Organisational Development for additional one-off funding of £77k which would allow IL to pay its lowest paid employees the National Living Wage from 1 January 2023. It is therefore recommended that the Education and Communities Committee agrees to remit this request to the Policy and Resources Committee to consider as part of the Council's ongoing support to Inverclyde Leisure.

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			77k		To be requested from P&R for National Living Wage Payment for IL employees.

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

5.4 Human Resources

None

5.5 Strategic

None

5.6 Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty

None

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.
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, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.

(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 – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

5.7 Children and Young People

Has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children's rights.

5.8 Environmental/Sustainability

Summarise any environmental / climate change impacts which relate to this report.

N/A

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
x	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

5.9 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 – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 None

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None