
Report To:	Policy & Resources Committee	Date:	13 August 2024
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	PR/27/24/RB
Contact Officer:	Ruth Binks	Contact No:	
Subject:	Allocation of funding for events and projects to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Port Glasgow becoming a burgh		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of this paper is to seek authority to allocate £40,000 from the Common Good fund to create a number of events to mark the 250th anniversary of Port Glasgow. The Port Glasgow (Improvement) Act 1775 was passed on 22 May 1775, establishing Port Glasgow as a burgh, or town. In 2025 it is the 250th anniversary of this event.

1.3 The corporate communications team will work in partnership with the community to help co-ordinate events already planned and to develop ideas for specific projects. The newly appointed Connecting Inverclyde Heritage Co-ordinator will play a key role in helping to shape the programme. The Council already provide financial support of £13,300 for the annual Comet Festival and the requested funding is in addition to this sum.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Policy and Resources Committee is asked to:

- Approve the use of £40,000 from the Common Good fund to develop a number of events to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Port Glasgow becoming a burgh.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

3.1 In the late sixteenth century, the authorities in Glasgow purchased land by the village of Newark to establish a port for the city. In 1710 the principal custom-house on the River Clyde was constituted at the Port of Glasgow. The settlement around the port grew quickly and soon absorbed the fishing village of Newark.

Newark was a burgh of barony belonging to Hamilton of Wishaw, while Port Glasgow remained under the municipal authority of the City of Glasgow. Recognising the complexities of this arrangement, an act of parliament was passed in 1775 establishing Port Glasgow as a burgh in its own right. The Port Glasgow (Improvement) Act 1775 defined the burgh's municipal responsibilities and its authority to raise duty. The Act was passed on 22 May 1775.

3.2 2025 marks the 250th anniversary of Port Glasgow becoming a burgh and this event should be marked by the Council, local Members have requested consideration of financial support to mark this significant milestone. The Port Glasgow Regeneration Forum is keen to promote and support this occasion.

4.0 PROPOSALS

4.1 2025 marks the 250th Anniversary of Port Glasgow becoming a burgh and there is the opportunity for the council to mark this milestone.

4.2 The proposal in this paper is for the council to allocate £40,000 from the Common Good fund to help to organise events or projects over 2025 linked to the celebration of the 250th anniversary of Port Glasgow.

4.3 The corporate communications team will work in partnership to help co-ordinate events already planned and to develop ideas for specific projects. The newly appointed Connecting Inverclyde Heritage Co-ordinator will play a key role in helping to shape the programme. The Council already provide £13,300 financial support to the annual Comet Festival held in Port Glasgow.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

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

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

5.2 Finance

The approved policy is that the Common Good Fund balance should not fall below £100,000. As at 31 March 2024 the balance was £158,000 and therefore the balance will remain above £100,000 if the £40,000 allocation is approved.

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
Common Good	Events	2024/25	£40,000		Funded from Fund Balance

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

5.3 **Legal/Risk**

N/A.

5.4 **Human Resources**

This project will require support from the corporate communications and culture teams in the council.

5.5 **Strategic**

This links with the Inverclyde Partnership Plan.

5.6 **Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People**

(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.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

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.

(c) 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.

5.7 Environmental/Sustainability

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.

5.8 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 This proposal will be progressed in partnership with the community.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 N/A.