
Report To:	Regeneration Committee	Date:	29th October 2009
Report By:	Corporate Director - Regeneration & Resources	Report	RC/09/10/10/SJ/WW/
Contact Officer:	Head of Economic & Social Regeneration	Contact No:	01475 715555
Subject:	Funders Fayre		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To advise members of the outcomes of the Funders Fayre held in September.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Funders Fayre is part of a pro-active approach to increasing the amount of external funding attracted to Inverclyde, being taken forward by the Council's Community Work Team and CVS Inverclyde, on behalf of the Alliance External Funding Hub.
- 2.2 The event was held on 3rd September in Greenock Town Hall and was attended by a broad range of national funding organisations, over 100 participants, representing over 40 local voluntary groups.
- 2.3 Very positive evaluation of the event was received from participants and funders.
- 2.4 Members will be aware from National Press that the Lloyds TSB Foundation will not be accepting any new applications for funding for grants to voluntary sector organisations and that they will be making final payments to organisations in December of this year to previously successful organisations.

Officers are reviewing the impact of this decision on Inverclyde and will report back to Committee if necessary.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Committee notes the progress being made to encourage take up of external funding sources.
- 3.2 That Committee remits the Corporate Director – Regeneration and Resources to provide a report to Committee in 2010 on the number of successful applications to the funders participating in the event.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Inverclyde organisations have a higher dependence on public sector funding of any Local Authority area in Scotland (OSCR report 2008) and, therefore, this and other initiatives should offset the pressures that are placed on Council funding.
- 4.2 External funding awareness initiatives, such as the Funders Fayre, provide a crucial link between national funding organisations and local groups and aims to increase the number of successful applications from Inverclyde groups.
- 4.3 A wide range of national funding bodies, including the Big Lottery, Children in Need, Voluntary Action Fund, Lloyd's TSB, Scottish Government, Comic Relief, Scottish Community Foundation, Heritage Lottery Fund and Sport Inverclyde provided information, advice and guidance to over 100 participants, representing over 40 local voluntary organisations
- 4.4 Feedback was given by the Funders highlighting that the event was well organised, useful and helpful in targeting funding towards Inverclyde. All participants felt that the event was informative and helpful in developing their knowledge and capacity to complete grant application forms.
- 4.5 Previous external funding initiatives have resulted in increased funding coming into Inverclyde. For example, funding from Children in Need fund increased from £3,500 in 2006/07 to £63,000 in 2008/09.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance:

Financial Implications – One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Financial Implications – Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

5.2 Human Resources and Legal Services: None

5.3 Equalities: None

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 All partners within Inverclyde Alliance External Funding Hub supported this and previous initiatives.
- 6.2 Members of Scottish Funders Forum were consulted and involved in developing this initiative to target funding towards Inverclyde
- 6.3 All community and voluntary organisations, previously involved in funding initiatives, were consulted.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None