
Report To:	Inverclyde Community Health & Care Partnership Sub-Committee	Date:	12 January 2012
Report By:	Corporate Director Inverclyde Community Health & Care Partnership	Report No:	CHCP/13/2012
Contact Officer:	Head of Children's Services & Criminal Justice	Contact No:	01475 715379
Subject:	Cashback To Communities Fund		

1.0 PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To advise Committee of an Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work Services bid to the Cashback to Communities Scheme of the Justice Division at the Scottish Government.

2.0 SUMMARY:

- 2.1 The Cashback to Communities Fund was established to reallocate money recovered from criminals under the Proceeds of Crime Act. Generally the fund allocates monies to youth groups, sports and cultural groups to encourage participation in local activities.
- 2.2 In Spring this year the Scottish Government announced that it was making £4 million available from the Cashback to Communities Fund to Community Justice Authorities (CJAs) across Scotland. The purpose of the funding is to finance projects aimed at improving local sports facilities using offenders on Community Payback Orders with an unpaid work element to carry out the necessary work.
- 2.3 North Strathclyde CJA's portion of this funding is £500,000, which is divided between two separate funding streams, project initiation funding of £125,000 and payback sports facilities funding of £375,000. The six constituent Local Authorities of NSCJA were invited to make equal bids against the total allocated funding.
- 2.4 Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work Services in partnership with the Greenock and District Scout Council submitted a bid, targeting both funding streams, aimed at carrying out extensive work at Everton Scout Camp, Inverkip. Although the facility is primarily used for scouting purposes it is also available to other youth organisations and local schools.
- 2.3 The bid, which is in excess of £80,000, has been successful and work at the camp will commence early Spring 2012.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION :

- 3.1 To note the above workstream and seek the support of committee during the project implementation.

4.0 BACKGROUND:

- 4.1 Everton Scout Camp, at a height of 400 feet, is located approximately 1¼ miles south east of the village of Inverkip and covers roughly five acres of ground. It was established in 1923 and through its programme of outdoor activities and training has played a major role in the development, character building and self discipline of generations of young people.
- 4.3 The national Scout Census of 2009 has identified Greenock and District as number one for growth in Scotland and number two across the UK. Greenock and District has had a 24% rise in membership over the past year, which equates to 255 new members. Over the past 2 years, Greenock and District has risen in membership by 55%. This year total female membership locally stands at 315. This means that girls now account for 26% of all youth members of the Scout Movement in the District. Female leadership is also booming, with women now making up around 64% of all adult volunteers in the District.
- 4.3 Over the past few years, Greenock and District have been striving to carry out many improvements at Everton. The aim is to maximise the number of young people who can enjoy sports and outdoor activities in a safe environment including those with disabilities. The proposed improvements, which will be funded by the bid, will therefore provide a significant investment in youth facilities in the Inverclyde area.
- 4.4 Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work service users will be supported to carry out the following unpaid work:-
- Improve the surface of the multipurpose sports area (approx 1500sq meters) by improving drainage and the condition of the turf.
 - Replace the site boundary fence.
 - Improve the condition of the camp toilet and wash facilities.
 - Improve the special needs access by laying a paved pathway and improving wheelchair access.
 - Improve the general site drainage by creating a system of drainage ditches.

Given the range of improvements that have been identified for the camp, these have been divided into discrete projects to enable them to be sequenced effectively and efficiently.

- 4.5 Each of the proposed projects will offer service users a wide range of opportunities to learn and develop new skills. In addition the projects will require the deployment of new machinery and tools and also bring service users into contact with other qualified tradesmen such as plumbers and electricians, which will open up further possibilities for learning. Being able to provide such a variety of experiences to Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work service users has we believe the potential to not only enhance their employability, but may also act as a catalyst to help identify a future career path.
- 4.6 In addition, Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work Services believes that the Everton Scout Camp projects fully harness the re-integrative and rehabilitative potential of unpaid work through offering service users the chance to participate in qualitatively improving the experience of all those who will attend the camp in the future. Improving the scouting experience at Everton will also bring positive benefits to the local community. Thus service users will have a sense that their hard work is valued, which could be an important catalyst to redefine their relationship with the community.
- 4.6 Moreover many service users are parents themselves their contact with Greenock and District scouts, through taking part in the upgrading of the camp facilities, may encourage them to involve their own children in the scouting movement.

5.0 PROPOSALS:

- 5.1 The Scottish Government has awarded Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work Services a grant in excess of £80,000, to take forward the proposed improvements at Everton.
- 5.2 Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work Services is currently in dialogue with Greenock and District Scout Council as to the sequencing of the proposed projects. It is anticipated that work will commence in early Spring 2012, although this will very much be weather dependent.

- 5.3 Separate Cost Centres have been created by the Council's Finance Services for the purchase of the required tools and equipment related to the projects and to satisfy the reporting requirements of the Scottish Government.
- 5.4 Identified unpaid work supervisors within Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work Services are being put forward for training to support both the safe use of the new equipment required to take forward the projects and the management of the site in line with the Council's Health and Safety requirements.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 Legal:

6.2 Finance:

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
02425	Cashback Sport Facilities Fund	2011/12	£60K	N/A	This money can be carried forward into 2012/13.
02426	Project Initiation Fund	2011/12	£20/26K	N/A	This money has to be spent in 2011/12. Exact amount of grant still to be confirmed.

6.3 Human Resources :

6.4 Equalities: The Scout movement has embodied issues of diversity and equality within the general framework of the organisation. More specifically, the proposed upgrades to the camp includes direct work to facilitate access for young people with special needs.

7.0 CONSULTATION:

7.1 There has been extensive consultation to date and this is continuing.