

**THIRD SECTOR GRANTS 2015/16**

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**1.0 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report details recommendations for the award of Third Sector Grants (including Events and Festivals) to Third Sector organisations in Helensburgh and Lomond.
- 1.2 Applications are considered twice yearly in April and August. This is intended to avoid allocation of the full budget at one meeting and enable activities held later in the year to be funded.
- 1.3 The total Third Sector Grant budget made available by the Council for allocation in Helensburgh and Lomond for 2015/16 is £36,006, (including a carry forward of £1,006 from 2014/15). £26,323 has been awarded, leaving a remaining balance of £9,683 for allocation at this committee.
- 1.4 A grant of £4,000 was awarded to the Helensburgh Highland Games committee in the first round of funding. The Games were cancelled at late notice due to inclement weather and the Area Committee is asked to consider a recommendation regarding the return of this funding.
- 1.5 Up to £3,500 of grant funding in one financial year can be carried forward to the next financial year.
- 1.6 The Area Committee agreed to an upper limit of £4,000 to any one organisation in any one financial period, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- 1.7 Eight applications have been received, one of which is for an event.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The 8 organisations listed below are awarded funding from the Third Sector Grants budget.
- 2.2 That the Council requires Helensburgh Highland Games committee to return a percentage of the £4,000 grant that is in proportion to the loss the committee has incurred organising the 2015 Games. This would amount to £3,000 being returned to the Council to be reallocated in 2015-16 in a third round of Third Sector Grant funding.

### 3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 Organisations that have received funding for two years or more should not be awarded more than the amount they received in 2014/15 unless increased developmental aspects are detailed in the application.
- 3.2 Where possible, and if appropriate, new applicants and applicants who have not received funding TSG funding for two or more years, should receive all or most of the amount requested (up to 50% total project costs), unless a very large amount of funding is sought.
- 3.3 Grants will only be awarded pending receipt of the correct paperwork; an approved financial check; and an end of project monitoring report (if a grant was awarded in previous year).
- 3.4 The recommendations below are based on the £9,693 balance remaining from round 1.

Ref No	Organisation	Grant 2013/14	Grant 2014/15	Total Project Cost	Amount Requested	Recommendation
1	Arrochar and Tarbet Christmas Lights	New	New	£1,871	£935	£935
2	Arrochar and Tarbet Senior Citizens Welfare Committee	New	New	£1,080	£540	£540
3	Cove and Kilcreggan Youth Café	£1,040	£1,500	£3,472	£1,736	£750
4	Cove Burgh Hall	N/A	N/A	£4,971	£2,485	£2,485
5	Geilston Hall Management Committee	N/A	N/A	£3,090	£1,545	£1,545
6	Helensburgh and Lomond Autism/Aspergers Society	N/A	£1,500	£2,944.75	£1,444	£768
7	Helensburgh Oratorio Choir	N/A	N/A	£9,850	£4,000	£2,000
8	Helensburgh Savoy Musical Theatre Club	£1,125	£1,125	£12,500	£4,000	£660
		<b>Total Recommended</b>				<b>£9,683</b>
		<b>Balance</b>				<b>£0</b>

Ref No	Organisation	Rationale for grant allocation
3.1	Arrochar and Tarbet Christmas Lights	A contribution towards the purchase of lights, associated equipment and insurance to be used by the communities of Arrochar, Tarbet, Succoth and Ardlui for displays at various locations during the festive period and a range of social activities including concerts, weddings and other celebrations throughout the year. Local consultations revealed that these villages suffer a significant drop in tourism during the winter months and that the main streets need a boost to attract more

		visitors.
3.2	Arrochar and Tarbet Senior Citizens Welfare Committee	To help fund the cost of providing a Christmas lunch and transport for around 80 senior citizens in Arrochar, Tarbet Ardlui and Succoth. The committee actively fundraises each year but suffered a shortfall of £944 in 2015, which has impacted on the funds available.
3.3	Cove and Kilcreggan Youth Café	To help the Youth Café provide a series of supervised trips and activities for the children, including kayaking, watersports, football, cycling dancing and visits to The Hub at Centre 81 between 09/15-03/16.
3.4	Cove Burgh Hall	A contribution towards the purchase and installation of a public address (PA) system, 10 chairs for members of the community with mobility issues and a hearing loop.
3.5	Geilston Hall Management Committee	A contribution towards new curtains for the stage in fire retardant material and to support a local history project to raise awareness of the history of Cardross.
3.6	Helensburgh and Lomond Autism/Aspergers Society	A contribution towards the cost of providing a range of activities and information sessions for individuals with autism/aspergers and their families, including drama workshops, yoga classes, art classes and outdoor pursuits. The Society has grown to 96 members since launching in May 2014.
3.7	Helensburgh Oratorio Choir	A contribution to support the Choir in an ambitious undertaking to perform Bach's Matthew Passion on Palm Sunday on 20 March 2016 at Helensburgh Parish Church. The performance will require around 70 singers and an orchestra of 30 players, and the committee hopes to draw in an audience of 400
3.8	Helensburgh Savoy Musical Theatre Club	A contribution towards the production of the musical 'Sunshine on Leith' in the Victoria Halls in November 2015.

3.2 With regards to 1.4 in the 'summary' above and the grant awarded in April 2015 to the Helensburgh Highland Games committee, the grant contract signed by representatives from both the Highland Games committee and the Council includes a section on 'breach, termination and variation of contract' which states 'the Council shall have the right to demand immediate repayment by the organisation of the whole grant or any part thereof if there is a failure to, firstly, comply with the terms and conditions specified in the agreement and, also, in the event of any default on the part of the Grantee'.

3.3 Advice has been sought from the Council's Legal and Governance service on this issue and it was felt the matter should be referred back to the Area Committee for consideration.

3.3 The operating loss to the Highland Games Committee of organising and cancelling the 2015 Games is approximately £7,000 and the average cost of running the Games each year is approximately £30,000

3.4 The Games were insured under the Scottish Highland Games Association's Insurance to cover public liability. The committee had previously been advised that the insurance premium for cancellation due to poor weather would cost in the region of

£3,500 and a decision was taken by the committee not to purchase this insurance.

- 3.5 To help cover the costs incurred for the 2015 Games, the committee will use a contingency fund of £6,433 built up from HMRC Gift Aid returns. In addition, the committee was successful in attracting £6k in individual donations and £4k of corporate donations to support this year's Games. The committee is hopeful all of these funds can be carried forward to 2016 or used to help pay off debts from the 2015 event.
- 3.6 The Games committee's bank balance at the start of 2015 was £9,445. The balance after all expenses relating to the 2015 Games is expected to be in the region of £13k (excluding the Council grant).
- 3.7 The committee hopes to be able to deliver a Highland Games for Helensburgh in 2016 and beyond and will consider seeking funding/support to work with a business consultant to create a plan for the future sustainability of the Games and to help reduce dependency on grant funding. The Committee anticipates that fundraising for the 2016 Games will be substantially more challenging given the cancellation in 2015. The Committee is also concerned that it will have used all, or most, of its contingency funds in 2015.

#### **4.0 CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 All organisations have been contacted and grant applications assessed.
- 4.1 The recommendation regarding the Helensburgh Highland Games is fair and reasonable given the circumstances and the level of financial losses suffered by the committee as a result of the late cancellation of the event.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Policy: None
- 5.2 Financial: As per area budget allocation and recommendation regarding the Helensburgh Highland Games.
- 5.3 Legal: None
- 5.4 HR: None
- 5.5 Equalities Consistent with the Equal Opportunities policy of Argyll and Bute Council.
- 5.6 Risk: Monitoring of the process will minimise any risk to the Council
- 5.7 Customer Service: None

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