

THIRD SECTOR GRANTS 2015/16 – Helensburgh Highland Games

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 A grant of £4,000 was awarded to Helensburgh Highland Games committee in April 2015. The grant recipient cancelled their event at late notice due to inclement weather.

1.2 At a special Area Committee meeting on 8 September 2015 and subsequently at a Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 29 October 2015 agreement was made that due to the particular circumstances any unspent funds could be retained by the grant recipient, rather than the council, providing there was assurance of the same event taking place in 2016.

1.3 To determine unspent funds the grant recipient has completed an End of Project Monitoring Report (EPMR) for consideration by Area Committee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Area Committee note the information provided by the Highland Games Committee within the End of Project Monitoring Report that the total spend was £10,228.44.

2.2 The Area Committee agrees that:

- There is no underspend from the £4,000 allocated to the Highland Games Committee;
- There are no unspent funds for the Highland Games Committee to carry forward from this year; and
- The Highland Games Committee is eligible to apply for the maximum funding available through the Third Sector Grants in 2016.

3.0 DETAIL

3.1 A grant of £4,000 was awarded by the Area Committee to Helensburgh Highland Games committee in April 2015. The event was cancelled at late notice due to inclement weather.

- 3.2 For reasons pertinent to the auditing and administration of the Third Sector Grants, the current TSG contract states that 'The Grantee shall ensure all funds are spent in the current financial period and unspent funds returned....'
- 3.3 Advice from the Council's Governance and Law service indicated that the Area Committee would have the discretion to agree a variation to the contract, subject to the normal grant conditions. This meant that if the Area Committee was minded to allow the Helensburgh Highland Games to retain the funding from this year's grants, 2015/16, for the following year 2016/17, this would need the approval of the Policy and Resources Committee.
- 3.4 A report was taken to the Policy and Resources Committee on 29 October 2015. The minute states that Policy and Resources Committee agreed the following:
1. Without prejudice recognise the exceptional weather circumstances that resulted in the cancellation of the entire Helensburgh Highland Games and partial abandonment of the Rosneath Highland Games and agrees:-
 - a) that grant recipients provide evidence to the council of the costs incurred due to losses, to enable the amount of "unspent grant" to be determined in each case;
 - b) a variation to the contract with both community organisations to allow them to carry forward these 'unspent grant' funds to 2016/17;
 - c) the organisation provide an assurance that the event is planned to take place in 2016/17. In the event that the organisation cannot provide an assurance, that 'unspent grant' is refunded.
- 3.5 Information submitted by the Helensburgh Highland Games Committee in the End of Project Monitoring Report (see appendix 1), states that the total expenses relating to this year's cancelled highland games are £10,228.44
- 3.6 The TSG recipient has also provided a written statement confirming plans to organise the Games in 2016.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The processes followed by the Community Development officers has been in accordance with the conditions contained in the current contract with TSG recipients. There are no identified unspent funds to be carried forward. Helensburgh Highland

Games Committee is eligible to apply for the maximum grant available through the Third Sector Grants fund in 2016.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Policy:

The existing TSG contract will be reviewed and amended to reflect the decisions made at the Area Committee and Policy and Resources Committee.

5.2 Financial: No unspent funds have been identified.

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: None

5.7 Customer Service: None

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