

Projects and Renewables - Social Enterprise Team Annual Report 2014-15

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Social Enterprise Team (SET) is part of Economic Development and Strategic Transportation section within the Council and its remit is to 'harness the potential of the third sector and increase their capacity to deliver sustainable communities'.
- 1.2 In the past year the services provided by SET have assisted in accessing at least £373,200 for communities through Funding Alert alone, and in the previous year £901,800. In addition, direct project work, such as Hermitage Park, has brought funding into the area and will potentially bring in at least £3million in the next five years.
- 1.3 An annual report for 2014-15 has been produced to provide information on the work of SET, and this is attached to this report. This annual report demonstrates that SET is meeting its targets.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee note the content of this report.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report provides an overview of the achievements of the Social Enterprise Team (SET) over the period April 2014-March 2015.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee note the content of this report.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Social Enterprise Team is part of the Projects and Renewables Team in Economic Development and Strategic Transportation Service. The remit of the team is to 'harness the potential of the third sector and increase their capacity to deliver sustainable communities'. This fits with our outcome to 'create opportunities for our partners and communities to fully engage in the way our services are delivered' (CO8).
- 4.2 The work of the SET is focused on the following areas:
- 4.2.1 Improving the way the council does business with the third sector
 - 4.2.2 Developing new ways of delivering services in partnership with the third sector
 - 4.2.3 Assisting delivery of the Single Outcome Agreement and Economic Development Action Plans (Strategic and Local)
 - 4.2.4 Support areas for action as described in the Local Development Plan
- 4.3 The SET provides a range of services built on customer feedback. This includes the monthly Funding Alert; topic sheets with contacts and funders on a range of popular enquiries such as heritage, events and festivals; a searchable database of funders; support with the third sector asset transfer process and bespoke project support. Seventy-one percent of our customers reported that they used Funding Alert to identify funders and from those that provided a financial figure, this amounted to £373,200 in 2014-15 and £901,800 in 2013-14. Three hundred and forty-six funding searches were undertaken in 2014-15, and 157 enquiries were

supported. SET also developed the community support webpages <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/community-support> which gives third sector organisations direct access to a range of toolkits, information and contacts within the council.

4.4 Third Sector Asset Transfer - Community Empowerment Bill.

SET supports the customer facing element of the Third Sector Asset Transfer Process for which we have had 36 requests since the first request in October 2012. We are assisting with the council's internal working group on The Community Empowerment Bill Part 5 Asset Transfer Requests and, with our colleagues in other council departments, are considering what changes are required to our own processes and how these can be made to ensure we fully comply with the bill.

4.5 Over the past year SET has assisted in developing a range of projects in partnership with communities and agencies including;

- 4.4.1 Hermitage Park, Helensburgh – circa £3m heritage-led regeneration
- 4.4.2 Carradale Slipway – small boat access to the water for residents and visitors
- 4.4.3 Artmap Argyll – sustainable future for a collective of 59 artist-led businesses in mid-Argyll
- 4.4.4 Argyll Coastal Waters – creation of Argyll Sea Kayak Trail, paddle Argyll website <http://www.paddleargyll.org.uk/> and 12 apprenticeships.

4.6 Details of these projects, the wider impacts of SET and the key targets for 2015-16 are in the attached annual report, or can be accessed via the link below. This demonstrates how SET is meeting its objectives and targets.

http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/set_annual_report_2014-2015_1.pdf

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The Social Enterprise Team (SET) works with colleagues across the Council and a range of partners to deliver outcome CO8 'to create opportunities for our partners and communities to fully engage in the way our services are delivered'. The attached annual report for 2014-15 demonstrates how SET is meeting its objectives and targets together with the identification of our key targets for 2015-16.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	None from this report.
6.2	Financial	None from this report.
6.3	Legal	None from this report.
6.4	HR	None from this report.
6.5	Equalities	None from this report.

6.6 Risk None from this report.

6.7 Customer Services None from this report.

7. APPENDICES

7.1 Appendix One Social Enterprise Team Annual Report 2014-15.

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