ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM **23 AUGUST 2018**

COUNCIL FUNDING SUPPORT TO FÈISEAN NAN GÀIDHEAL 2018/19

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow members to consider the proposal to provide funding support for Fèisean nan Gàidheal's work in Argyll and Bute in 2018/19.

1.2 Fèisean nan Gàidheal are a third sector organisation who support the development of traditional music, Gaelic singing and Gaelic drama. Among other activities, they support Fèisean in Coll, Oban, Mull, Tiree, Islay and Jura, Appin, Lochgoilhead and Tarbert, the Argyll Cèilidh Trail, Argyll Drama Festival and the Blas Festival.

1.3 Argyll and Bute Council has provided funding to Fèisean nan Gàidheal for a number of years. A three year Service Level Agreement was put in place in 2012/13 and since 2015/16 the funding agreement has been on a year to year basis. This report formalises notification of the funding to members.

1.4 The proposed funding of £20,000 for 2018/19 sits within the Community Planning and Community Development Team budget (£15,500) and Education's Gaelic specific budget (£4,500).

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Fèisean nan Gàidheal are a third sector organisation who support the development of traditional music, Gaelic singing and Gaelic drama. Among other activities, they support Fèisean in Coll, Oban, Mull, Tiree, Islay, Jura, Appin, Lochgoilhead and Tarbert. They also support the Argyll Cèilidh Trail, Argyll Drama Festival and the Blas Festival.

2.2 Argyll and Bute Council has provided funding to Fèisean nan Gàidheal for a number of years. A three year Service Level Agreement was put in place in 2012/13 and since 2015/16 the funding agreement has been on a year to year basis.

2.3 This report proposes funding arrangements for a one year Service Level Agreement in 2018/19.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members agree a Service Level Agreement of £20,000 in 2018/19 to fund the work of Fèisean nan Gàidheal as detailed in 4.1.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 Proposed funding for 2018 - 2019 is detailed below:

Financial Year	Community Development	Education	Total
2018/19	£15,500	£4,500	£20,000

This will contribute to the work of Fèisean nan Gàidheal in Argyll and Bute, supporting the Grant scheme for Fèisean, community activity in relation to traditional music and language, and contributing to Gaelic Development Officer work. Such work includes:

- Supporting fèisean to look at additional funding.
- Tutor/organiser training programme
- Helping at fèisean events
- Publicity for fèisean - posters etc bi-lingual
- Lending of musical instruments and movement of these
- Organising central insurance
- Support for Argyll Cèilidh Trail (including training)
- Argyll Drama Fèis and Schools Drama Visits

4.2 The value from this Service Level Agreement is the additional funding and activities provided through Fèisean nan Gàidheal which in 2017/18 amounted to approximately £140,000. Fèisean nan Gàidheal quote for every £1 they received in funding from the council, they spent £7 delivering services in the area. The cultural and educational outcomes for young people from Argyll & Bute are wide and varied.

4.3 Transparency and accountability on funding spend is provided to the Council through quarterly reports and minutes of formal meetings. Annual reports are published here: http://www.feisean.org/en/annual-reports/

4.4 Fèisean nan Gàidheal have secured 3-year funding agreements with Creative Scotland and also with Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

4.5 Previous funding from the Council is detailed below:

Financial Year	Community Development	Education	Arts & Culture	Total
2012/13	£15,500 a year through the 3rd sector grants	£4,500 a year through the Gaelic specific grant		£20,000 a year under a three year funding agreement
2013/14				
2014/15				
2015/16	£15,500	£4,500 through the Gaelic specific grant	£12,000 – support for Blas Festival	£32,000

2016/17	£15,500	£4,500 through the Gaelic specific grant	£12,000 – support for Blas Festival	£32,000
2017/18	£15,500	£4,500 through the Gaelic specific grant	£12,000 – support for Blas Festival	£32,000

4.4 The Blas Festival is a ticketed programme of events and previous funding support was given on the premise that this would be short term.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 Funding provided to Fèisean nan Gàidheal provides economic, cultural and educational benefits to Argyll and Bute. The proposed Service Level Agreement for 2018/19 of £20,000 would support their work this financial year.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy: The activities undertaken by Fèisean nan Gàidheal supports implementation of Argyll and Bute Council's Gaelic Language Plan

6.2 Financial: Community Development and Education have budget in place in 2018/19 to support this proposal.

6.3 Legal: None at this time

6.4 HR: None at this time

6.5 Equalities: The project is consistent with the Equal Opportunities policy of Argyll and Bute Council

6.6 Risk: None at this time

6.7 Customer Service: None at this time

Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive
Policy Lead Cllr Robin Currie
15 August 2018

For further information contact:

Rona Gold
Community Planning Manager
Community Planning and Community Development
Chief Executive's Unit
01436 658 862
rona.gold@argyll-bute.gov.uk

APPENDICES

None