
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND AREA
COMMITTEE**

**DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

21 MARCH 2019

FESTIVE LIGHTING UPDATE

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the delivery of festive lighting across Helensburgh and Lomond in 2018, as well as the community handover arrangements now that the Council is ceasing to provide this non-statutory service. The report also seeks agreement on the disbursement of the remaining festive funding which is delegated to the Area Committee
- 1.2 Overall the outlook is very positive, and it is expected that community arrangement in place, at least in principle, by the end of this financial year. Each situation is slightly different from the last in terms of the historic provision; as well as the mix of skills, funding and capacity available to communities, with the result that this is a complex piece of work.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- Note the contents of this report;
- Agree the funding split as per the scoring matrix at 4.2.3 and the table at 4.2.4

FESTIVE LIGHTING UPDATE

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report provides Members with an update on the delivery of festive lighting across Helensburgh and Lomond in 2018. The overall programme saw a mix of council-led and community-led festive lighting displays.
- 2.2 As per the Budget decision of February 2016, the Council is no longer in a financial position to deliver festive lighting. Community handovers are at various stages, with some complete and some still in progress.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- 3.1 Note the contents of this report;
- 3.2 Agree the funding split as per the scoring matrix at 4.2.3 and the table at 4.2.4

4.0 DETAIL**4.1 DELIVERY OF FESTIVE LIGHTING 2018**

4.1.1 Festive lighting in Helensburgh and Lomond was delivered as follows:

Town/village	Delivery mechanism		Comments
	Council	Community	
Helensburgh		Community delivery via the Helensburgh Festive Lighting Charitable Trust. The Trust benefit from a qualified electrical engineer,	The group benefited from a grant of £10,000 from ABC to deliver the event.

		with the result that they did not need an electrical contractor for assistance, rather, they used a local window cleaning company to provide additional labour	
Arrochar; Rosneath; Kilcreggan; Garelochhead; Rhu; Cardross	ABC delivery		No firm community arrangement was possible for 2018, however, officers are engaging with the community councils in these areas to explore a collective solution.

4.2 FINANCIAL POSITION

4.2.1 The estimated balance of the H&L festive fund is noted in the table below. The total costs are not fully reconciled in the ledger because timesheets require to be verified and final invoices are awaited from suppliers/sub-contractors. The exact balance will be available after the end of the financial year.

Area	2017/18 spend	2018/19 budget	2018/19 spend (or committed)	Balance
HL	21,939	29,963	10,000 in grants Repairs and labour TBC	c. 15,000

4.2.2 The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee, at its meeting of 7 March 2018, agreed a paper on festive lighting which included a suggested guide for area committees to use in order to establish their pro-rata allocation of the remaining funds.

4.2.3 The scoring matrix is based on the historic provision and is as follows:

Item	Score
Lamppost or building mounted feature	1
Providing and dressing a tree	2
Cross carriageway feature	3
Dressing an existing tree/lighting existing features	1

4.2.4 Using this scoring matrix against the historic specification in each area gives the

following results:

Town/village	Points	Estimated funding available
Helensburgh	121	11,122
Cardross	1	587
Rhu	2	676
Garelochhead	2	676
Kilcreggan	2	676
Rosneath	2	676
Arrochar	1	587
TOTAL	131	15,000

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The project to transition from Council-led to community-led festive lighting across Argyll and Bute is approaching a successful conclusion. Lighting events were delivered successfully in Helensburgh and Lomond in 2018 via a mix of Council and community groups.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy – none (ref Budget February 2016).

6.2 Financial – this paper contains a proposal for the disbursement of remaining funds

6.3 Legal – there is a template agreement for groups to sign up to which make the roles and responsibilities of both parties clear.

6.4 HR – none

6.5 Equalities – none

6.6 Risk – there is a risk that in future years community partners may approach the Council to fund their events due to a lack of independent revenue streams or external funding.

6.7 Customer Service – none

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, Pippa Milne
Policy Lead for Roads and Amenity Services, Cllr Roddy McCuish**

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For further information contact: Mark Calder, Project Manager, on 01546 604756