

**MONITORING OF SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND 2018/19**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide monitoring information on the grants distributed through the Supporting Communities Fund 2018/19.
- 1.2 16 constituted, not-for-profit community organisations were awarded funding for community projects. Organisations were required to spend their funding within the 2018/19 financial year and to submit an end of project monitoring report.
- 1.3 The Supporting Communities Fund provided up to 100% of eligible project costs, with organisations able to apply for up to £2,500.
- 1.4 Funding was distributed using a Participatory Budgeting model where, for the first time, the residents of Oban, Lorn and the Isles had opportunity to participate in deciding which projects would be funded through voting on a dedicated website.
- 1.5 Members are asked to consider the contents of the report showing a summary of the information supplied by organisations in their end of project monitoring reports.
- 1.6 Members are asked to note the return of £2,170 and consider whether these should be carried forward to be included in funds available for dispersal in 2020/21.

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**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report highlights the positive outcomes for the communities in Oban, Lorn & the Isles through the allocation of the Council's Supporting Communities Fund in 2018/19.
- 2.2 A total of £28,893 was awarded to 16 organisations in 2018/19. Organisations had up to two months from the end of the project to complete and return an End of Project Monitoring Report.
- 2.3 A total of £2,170 is due to be returned. The amount can be made available for allocation in the financial year 2020/21.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Oban, Lorn & the Isles Area Committee:

- 3.1 Note the positive contribution of the grants to community projects, detailed in paragraph 4.1 and the attached table.
- 3.2 Agree that the unspent funds of £2,170 in paragraph 4.4 of the report be carried forward to be included in funds available for dispersal in 2020/21.
- 3.3 Agree the carry forward of £650 of the fund allocated to Oban Community Sensory Garden as detailed in paragraph 4.5.

**4.0 DETAIL**

- 4.1 The grants distributed to community organisations supported a total of 5,250 people to participate in a variety of themed projects including; outdoor activities, sports, music and mental health. Highlights include:

- Start-up grant for a Lego Club in Oban which has attracted a wide range of ages from pre-5s to senior citizens.
- Strength and conditioning classes for older people in Dalmally.
- A range of youth projects including marine environment education sessions for children on Mull.

4.2 The attached table summarises information received from individual projects.

4.3 15 grant recipients submitted an End of Project Monitoring report. Further to this, Appin Community Development Trust were granted an extension from the 2017/18 funding period and their End of Project Monitoring Report is included in the table below.

4.4 We anticipate the return of unspent funds of £2,170 from Ardchattan Community Council. This can be made available for distributed in the 2020/21 round of grant funding.

4.5 Oban Community Sensory Garden have requested to carry forward their award of £650 towards the costs of an Art tutor for adults with learning disabilities. Due to illness they were unable to complete the project within the timeframe and request that the Area Committee grant an extension to carry forward the remaining funds to enable the completion of the project over the winter period in 2019.

The group have confirmed that:

- The grant will be spent on the purpose outlined in the original application.
- Funding will be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
							M	F	Age
1.	Appin Community Development Trust	Community Transport Co-ordinator – to liaise and plan the transport schedule	£5,600	£5,309	£2,550	The community transport scheme is of great benefit to the frail elderly and disabled members of our community who it is designed to serve. The scheme also helps its members overcome social isolation and loneliness by providing transport to local social events.	3	19	65+: (22)
2.	Ardchattan Community Council	10 Year Plan for Benderloch, Bonawe, Barcaldine, North Connel	£3,170.00		£2,170.00	Project did not go forward – funds of £2,170.00 returned.	No information to be provided as project did not go forward.		
3.	Argyll Riding for the Disabled Driving Group	Argyll RDA Carriage Driving Group - Driving for Success	£2,052.00	£2,569.00	£2,052.00	The project provided 2 regular sessions for the whole of the carriage driving season. It also offered an extra session on a Thursday morning for residents of a residential care home. These residents are mainly elderly and were able to relate back to their youth when they had either worked with or owned horses.	9	32	10-16: (6) 17-24: (2) 25-64: (13) 65+: (20)
4.	Bookends	Bookends Book Festival Pop-ups - Bridging the Gap	£495.00	£495.00	£495.00	All 9 planned pop-ups were delivered and had greater attendance numbers than anticipated, bringing all ages together once a month to share books, stories and time together. The project met its aim of helping to mitigate rural social isolation especially for those living alone, the elderly and those living in more remote areas.	312	446	0-4: (40) 5-9: (240) 10-16: (101) 17-24: (35) 25-64: (228) 65+: (114)

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
							M	F	Age
5.	Crossroads North Argyll	Crossroads North Argyll Reminiscence Project	£3,280.00	£2,888.34	£2,480.00	Carers/cared-for were picked up from their homes and driven to where they were meeting that day. We visited a different place each week, including places of interest e.g. Oban War and Peace Museum, the Slate Islands Museum on the Isle of Seil, Cruachan Power Station and coffee shops. This provided the opportunity for people to reminisce about the past and share their memories.	2	6	65+: (8)
6.	Fèis Latharna	Fèis Bheag	£2,350.00	£2,350	£713.00	The project allowed the inclusion of younger participants in the annual festival of traditional music and Gaelic arts tuition held in Oban. We are the only formal provider of affordable Gaelic arts and traditional music tuition in the area and by increasing our capacity and our age range, we have increased the amount of participants benefiting from the programme of events.	Not given		5-9: (25)
7.	Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival	Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival	£31,184.00	£32,292.39	£2,000.00	Three day music and dance festival held. Match funding secured to employ a marketing officer. Numbers participating increased and an additional one day dance competition added for March 2019 to try and accommodate Highland Dancing competition numbers.	200	800	0-4: (130) 5-9: (350) 10-16: (275) 17-24: (200) 25-64: (45)
8.	Lorn and Oban Healthy Options Ltd	Dalmally: developing healthy communities	£3,117.58	£3,117.58	£2,225.00	Main activities undertaken were delivery of weekly Strength and Balance exercise classes in Dalmally. In response to client interest, Self-Management classes were delivered.	2	23	25-64: (2) 65+: (23)

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
							M	F	Age
						A client also took up opportunity for 1:1 support, working with Level 4 exercise professionals.			
9.	North Argyll Eventide Home Association Ltd	Music and Movement at North Argyll House	£4,200.00	£2,262	£2,100.00	The aim of the project--to deliver Music and Movement sessions--was delivered. Sessions were led by the fitness instructor and involved chair based exercise and musical sing-along. Residents were supported to attend the activity by staff who provided observational feedback on the impact for residents.	1	18	65+: (19)
10.	Oban Communities Trust - The Rockfield Cente	Master Builders: Creative Construction and Lego Club	£2,500.00	£3,620.48	£2,500.00	Running every second Saturday from 10am – 12pm, the Lego Club provided a large group of children and their grown-ups with Lego related activities to challenge them and also promote peers and families spending time together working on a joint purpose i.e. the Lego builds. The club highlighted feedback from male adults that they, in particular, feel really comfortable bringing their children along.	640	520	0-4: (300) 5-9: (510) 10-16: (30) 25-64: (300) 65+: (20)
11.	Oban Community Sensory Garden	Oban Community Sensory Garden Art Project	£900.00	£250.00	£900.00	<i>Interim EPMR received:</i> Requiring rollover of funds: The art sessions really engaged the participants and the meetings produced lots of good ideas which we now need to take forward. Doing something practical and creative has been a positive way to encourage involvement in the garden.	This information has not been provided due to the request of an extension.		

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
							M	F	Age
12.	Oban Mòd Academy	Oban Mòd Academy	£16,425.00	£9,730.00	£2,000.00	As a result of tutors working with St. Columba's Primary, Rockfield mainstream and Gaelic Medium, Oban High School and Dunbeg Primary School, we have had an excellent presentation at the Oban provincial and the National Mod at Dunoon.	10	70	5-9: (40) 10-16: (40)
13.	Oban Youth Café	Oban Youth Café Monday Club	£6,181.90	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	We have provided a weekly afterschool club for young people with additional support needs in partnership with youth services and social work, and a weekly session during school time. The after school group currently has 4 members with a variety of support needs and 12 attended the school day sessions. During the Easter Holidays we took a few of the group rock climbing which they really enjoyed and it pushed them out of their comfort zones, and further activities are planned for the Summer.			10-16: (12) 17-24: (3)
14.	Rockfield Primary School PTA	Kilts and Tartan Ties for Rockfield Primary School Choir	£957.50	£960.92	£858.00	The successful purchase of the kilts and ties for the choir allows the choir to be smartly dressed for all future performances in the community, and competitively in, for example, the local and national Mod. The children were consulted in deciding what the choir uniform should be.	10	25	5-9: (20) 10-16: (15)

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
							M	F	Age
15.	Sound Waves SCIO (Mull Music Makers)	Mull Music Makers	£55,585.00	£48,329	£2,500.00	We successfully delivered a programme of year-round monthly music workshops between February 2018 and February 2019 (52 separate sessions in total) increasing access to music for children across the Island. 45 children in total participated in the 2-day, monthly workshops and regularly attended throughout the year. We continued to run a weekly after-school fiddle club in the north of the island for the second full year running.	10	35	5-9: (35) 10-16: (10)
16.	Tiree Music Festival	Tiree Music Festival: The Elements Programme	£10,000.00	£10,025	£2,500.00	The Elements Fringe Events were a huge success and general addition to Tiree Music Festival 2018. The idea behind the project was to explore four of Tiree's natural elements, which we are surrounded by constantly. We decided to go with, Wind, Water, Sun and Sand and created a programme of events and workshops for children and adults that explored these elements. Activities such as the Sea Tours, Water sports and Sand Art gave people the opportunity to see more of the island.	Not given		0-4: (200) 5-9: (200) 10-16: (400) 17-24: (500) 25-64: (500) 65+: (200)

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
							M	F	Age
17.	Tobermory Harbour Association	Making waves in marine science at Mull Aquarium	£3,595.00	£1,919.62	£1,800.00	We completed 12 educational sessions focusing on different aspects of the marine environment. Different styles of learning were utilised with sessions focusing on hands-on activities and outdoor learning. Through these activities, children were brought together from several rural communities on Mull enabling them to interact with children they wouldn't normally meet.	4	13	5-9: (2) 10-16: (15)

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The project monitoring form has a section asking for comments on the grant process. Not all applicants have completed this section but of those received the comments have largely been very positive. The majority note that the process is simple, straightforward, clear and concise. One development suggestion, was for the community development team to maintain supportive contact to ensure requirements of grant conditions are focused on. This will be considered for future. Thanks are noted for the support received from staff and elected members.

5.2 The Participatory Budgeting method of allocating the grants was evaluated independently. It was concluded that costs to resource this are disproportionate to the fund being allocated, and so not a viable option to continue at the present time.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy: None

6.2 Financial: The report sets out the expenditure from the Oban, Lorn & the Isles area 2018/19 budget for the allocation of Supporting Communities Fund.

6.3 Legal: None

6.4 HR: None

6.5 Fairer Scotland Duty / Equalities: Compliant with policy

6.6 Risk: None

6.7 Customer Service: None

**Chief Executive: Cleland Sneddon**  
**Policy Lead: Cllr Robin Currie**  
**Community Planning Manager: Rona Gold**  
8<sup>th</sup> July 2019

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