

---

**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**

**HELENSBURGH & LOMOND AREA  
COMMITTEE**

**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**19th September 2019**

---

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

---

**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 in 2018/19.
- 1.2 In Helensburgh and Lomond 16 constituted, not-for-profit community organisations were awarded funding for projects to be undertaken in 2018/19. Organisations are required to spend their grant award within the financial year and to submit End of Project Monitoring Reports.
- 1.3 In 2018/19 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 Helensburgh & Lomond 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 monies and agree these be carried forward to be included in funds available for dispersal in 2020/21.

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

---

**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report highlights the positive outcomes for communities in Helensburgh and Lomond through the allocation of the Council's Supporting Communities Fund in 2018/19.
- 2.2 A Participatory Budgeting model was used for the Supporting Communities Fund where, for the first time, the residents of Helensburgh & Lomond had the opportunity to participate in deciding which projects be funded through voting on a dedicated website.
- 2.3 A total of £28,072 was awarded to 16 organisations in 2018/19. Organisations had up to two months from the end of their project, and before end June 2019, to complete and return project monitoring reports.
- 2.4 A total of £1,178 is due to be returned. This amount can be made available for allocation in the financial year 2020/21.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Helensburgh & Lomond 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 £1,178 be carried forward and added to the £22,500 available for dispersal in 2020/21, making a total of £23,678 available for dispersal within the Helensburgh and Lomond area.

**4.0 DETAIL**

- 4.1 The grants distributed to community organisations enabled 1,274 people in the community to participate in a variety of projects with focuses including; mental and physical health, outdoor activities, combating loneliness and intergenerational participation. Highlights include:
- A public exhibition featuring local primary school artwork, focusing on the work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh.
  - Regular attendance at the Foodbank by professionals to deliver advice and guidance to clients enabling them to develop personal action plans.
  - An increase in the number of children being engaged in community group activities.
- 4.2 The attached table summarises information received from individual projects.
- 4.3 15 community organisations submitted an end of project monitoring report.
- 4.4 There is a return of unspent funds totalling £1,178. This can be distributed in the 2020/21 round of grant funding. The return is from Helensburgh Community Council who were unable to spend their funds within 2018/19.

No	Organisation	Project Funded	Total Projected Cost	Award	Actual Cost	Comments	Beneficiaries		
							M	F	Age
1	Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust - Cobbler Climbers	Equipment for a new climbing club for young people in the Arrochar area.	£2,490.70	£2,000	£2,000	The grant has allowed the group to access the safety equipment needed to form the climbing club for young people. Support and guidance from Climb Scotland has been received.	10	10	5-9: 5 10-16: 15
2	Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust - Generation Communities	To support the general running and activities of an intergenerational group in the Arrochar area.	£1,703	£1,703	£1,706	The project aims of reducing loneliness, encouraging community spirit and healthy lifestyles have been met. The evaluation has shown that both the seniors and children have benefitted from the project, they have gained in confidence and enjoyed sharing and learning from each other.	12	17	5-9: 6 10-16: 6 25-64: 5 65+: 12
3	Colgrain Primary School Parent Teacher Council – Community Garden	Tools, plants and storage to allow the school to open up the garden area for use by the wider community.	£707.13	£600	£601.38	The plants, seeds and fruit trees were planted in spring 2019. Although most of the benefits will not be visible until 2019-20, pupils, teachers and parents have already noted the positive impact the garden has made.	21	27	5-9: 15 10-16: 4 17-24: 1 25-64: 27 65+: 1
4	Cove and Kilcreggan Lunch Club	Funds towards the general running of the lunch club, including	£2,829.30	£1,150	£3,557.34	The aims of the project were met through the delivery of regular lunch club sessions and outings. This included a Christmas party and Christmas shopping trip.	2	18	65+: 20

No	Organisation	Project Funded	Total Projected	Award	Actual Cost	Comments	Beneficiaries		
		transportation for members, a Christmas party and summer outing.							
5	Cove and Kilcreggan Youth Café	Contribution towards the cost of employing a trained youth worker for the Cove and Kilcreggan Youth Café.	£10,152	£2,500	£8,004	The funding allowed the Youth Café to offer additional sessions to engage with children in Primaries 5, 6 and 7.	30	30	10-16: 60
6	ENABLE Scotland (Leading The Way) – Jean's Bothy	To fund courses for the volunteers and staff members at Jean's Bothy Mental Health Hub to run the members' café and support therapeutic activities.	£2,209.52	£2,210	£2,143.72	Creative writing sessions were delivered with an external facilitator and now run under the supervision of Enable staff. The group was unable to offer Tai-Chi due to a lack of local instructors. After agreement from the Community Development Officer, the funding was used to provide extra wood carving sessions.	21	15	17-24: 2 25-64: 33 65+: 1

No	Organisation	Project Funded	Total Projected	Award	Actual Cost	Comments	Beneficiaries		
7	Gareloch Riding for the Disabled Association	For the upkeep of two horses for use by some of the smaller children who have physical and/or learning difficulties.	£6,277	£2,092	£6,634	The aims of the project were met and exceeded with increased opportunities provided for the younger children with disabilities to develop their confidence and gain new skills.	no break down		0-4: 3 5-9: 18 10-16: 10 17-24:9 25-64: 11
8	Geilston Hall Management Committee – Argyll's Charles Rennie Mackintosh Trail	To support children in Cardross to research and display the work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh in the Geilston Hall.	£750	£750	£758.16	The exhibition was opened to the public in June 2018, which featured work from Cardross Primary P6 pupils. The work is still on display in Geilston Hall. The development of the associated trail has been on hold due to the works at Hill House.	100	100	5-9: 120
9	Helensburgh and Lomond Autism – Cooking Classes	To provide cooking and independent living skill workshops for children and young people affected with Autism Spectrum Disorder.	£1,794	£1,794	£1,938	The group was able to provide cooking lessons for 20 children. The classes enabled the children to improve their health and wellbeing and develop important life skills. Parents and carers reported an increased interest from the children in trying new foods and helping to prepare meals at home.	16	4	5-9: 8 10-16: 12
10	Helensburgh	To source and	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	Advisors from Addaction, Alienergy,	67	44	17-24:

No	Organisation	Project Funded	Total Projected	Award	Actual Cost	Comments	Beneficiaries		
	and Lomond Foodbank	deliver advice and guidance to clients in poverty, to enable them to maximise their income and develop a personal action plan out of poverty.				Carr-Gomm, Citizens Advice and Plot to Plot have been available at Foodbank sessions allowing instant on-site access to experts. Volunteers report feeling more able to engage with clients on these topics.			35 25-64: 70 65+: 6
11	Helensburgh Community Council - Vision for a town embarking upon change	To create a Community Action Plan for a comprehensive vision for how the community wants to develop and improve the town.	£2,500	£1,178		This project did not go ahead in the required timescale and all funds have been returned. (£1,178)  The Community Council continue to develop the Vision for Helensburgh project.			
12	Kirkmichael Community Development Group – Meet and Eat Club	Running costs of the lunch club, including transport for members, outings and a Christmas party.	£2,500	£2,500	£4,272.16	The project has sought to counteract loneliness for seniors in Kirkmichael through regular lunch club sessions and outings. This has included a Christmas party and theatre trip.	6	14	65+: 20
13	Loch Long Jetty Association-	To obtain a marine licence in	£2,225	£2,025	£2,761.92	The marine licence was obtained in September 2018 and allowed the	No Break-	No Break-	

No	Organisation	Project Funded	Total Projected	Award	Actual Cost	Comments	Beneficiaries		
	Access to a unique Marine Environment, Loch Long, Arrochar	order to support a pontoon and visitor moorings.				group to progress with the next stage of the larger scale project.	down		down
14	Rhu and Shandon Community Centre – Family Activities for 2018	To run family events and activities at the Community Centre, including a Treasure hunt, Autumn Adventure and Burns Supper.	£570	£570	£583.69	Three events were successfully delivered, a treasure hunt, an autumn story telling event and a Burns tartan disco. The events were well attended and helped to involve families who hadn't used the centre previously. Party bookings have increased following the events.	90	14 8	0-4: 30 5-9: 88 10-16: 15 17-24: 10 25-64: 70 65+: 25
15	Rosneath Peninsula Highland Gathering	Contribution towards running the annual Rosneath Peninsula Highland Gathering.	£14,419.27	£2,500	£12,906.66	The event was attended by 600 people and included solo piping, highland dancing, field and track competitions as well as cycling and running events.	400	20 0	0-4: 60 5-9: 80 10-16: 100 17-24: 200 25-64: 250 65+: 300
16	Route 81 Youth Project – Friday Night	The provision of free Friday night diversionary	£11,670.22	£2,500	£10,166.98	39 drop-in sessions have taken place with up to 69 young people attending per session. The activities	75	67	10-16: 117 17-24: 24

No	Organisation	Project Funded	Total Projected	Award	Actual Cost	Comments	Beneficiaries		
		activities for 11-18 year olds.				undertaken have included educational hotspots, quiz nights, challenge evenings, creative art sessions, karaoke and disco parties.			25-64: 1

## **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. Thanks are noted for the support received from staff and elected members.
- 5.2 The Participatory Budgeting method of allocating the Supporting Communities Fund was evaluated independently. Whilst the evaluation showed significant support and input from communities, the report concluded that the cost to deliver the Supporting Communities Fund using this approach was disproportionate to the amount of funding available. Council agreed at its meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018 that this was not a viable method of distribution at the present time.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Policy: None
- 6.2 Financial: The report sets out the expenditure from the Helensburgh & Lomond Area 2018/19 budget for the allocation of the 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**  
9th September 2019

**For further information contact:** Kirsty Moyes on 01436 657635 /  
kirsty.moyes@argyll-bute.gov.uk