

MONITORING OF SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND 2019/20

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide monitoring information on the funds distributed through the council's Supporting Communities Fund 2019/20.
- 1.2 24 constituted, not-for-profit community organisations were awarded funding for community projects at the Area Committee meeting on 10 April 2019. Organisations were required to spend their funding within the 2019/20 financial year and to submit an end of project monitoring report.
- 1.3 The council's Supporting Communities Fund provides up to 100% of eligible project costs, with organisations able to apply for up to £2,500.
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 Members are asked to note the return of £3,234 and consider whether these should be carried forward to be included in funds available for dispersal in 2021/22.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**OBAN, LORN & THE ISLES AREA
COMMITTEE**

**COMMUNITY PLANNING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

9th December 2020

MONITORING OF SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND 2019/20

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 2019/20.
- 2.2 A total of £25,250 was awarded to 24 organisations in 2019/20. Organisations had up to two months from the end of their project to complete and return an End of Project Monitoring Report.
- 2.3 Two organisations did not draw down their funding award, and two projects have not been able to go ahead and returned their funding.
- 2.4 A total of £3,234 is due to be returned. The amount can be made available for allocation in the financial year 2021/22.

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 £3,234 in paragraph 4.4 of the report be carried forward to be included in funds available for dispersal in 2021/22.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The funds distributed to community organisations supported a total of 2,780 people to participate in a variety of themed projects including;

outdoor activities, history, nature, music and mental health. Highlights include:

- Bookends regular pop ups brought together families of all ages. There was an extension to their 0-8yrs reading area, an event for older people run in conjunction with Luminare and an increase in teenagers taking part due to author visits taking place in Oban High School
- Oban Gaelic Choir attended the Estonian Song and Dance Festival. It helped contribute to their focus for the National Mod in Glasgow where they achieved first place in the Lovat & Tullibardine Shield Competition, and will result in a return visit to Oban from the Hoperni Choir.
- 92 sessions were delivered by Martyn's Monday Club, through Hope Kitchen, to provide a space for people in the Oban area who have experienced suicidal thoughts or who have been affected by another person taking their own life.

4.2 The attached table summarises information received from individual projects.

4.3 19 of the 24 projects awarded funding, submitted an End of Project Monitoring report. Further to this, Oban Community Sensory Garden were granted an extension from the 2018/19 funding period however we have been unable to date, to obtain an End of Project Monitoring from them.

4.4 Awards given to four groups have not been able to be utilised.

- Footprint Alba did not draw down the £1,500 awarded to them. The project did not go ahead due to resourcing issues.
- Sound Waves SCIO declined the funding award of £242 due to it being less than the project required.
- Glencruitten Cathedral of trees returned funding of £1,250 as the project was unable to get underway.
- Grab Trust were unable to secure full funding for their project and will be returning their award of £242.

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Council's Supporting Communities Fund Award	Comments	Total Number of Beneficiaries in reported categories		
							M	F	Age
1.	ACT – Argyll & the Isles Coast & Countryside Trust	Moving On sessions to maintain continuity of activities for participants of 'Branching Out' aimed at those affected by mental health	£2912.53	£1,590.83	£1,250	3 sessions were offered instead of the 5 planned to run due to the reduced funding award, 1 session at Glencruitten walled garden and 2 sessions at Dunollie Castle were run to ensure all previous participants were engaged with. The sessions were well received. The sessions took place out of doors and the trained staff facilitated the activities such as green wood working, spoon carving, weaving, gardening and tidying and participants cooked and shared a communal meal each day.	7	3	25-64: 10
2.	Air Ghleus	Tutoring in Gaelic song, language & culture	£2,500	£242	£242	4 school in Mull were visited on a regular basis. Children attended several local Mods and the National Mods in Glasgow. The project reached out to schools and individuals who otherwise would have no music or gaelic input in their lives.	40	110	0-4: 20 5-9: 100 10-16: 30
3.	Argyll Riding for the Disabled Driving Group	Running Costs and Livery for two ponies	£6,150	£4,841	£1,650	Two sessions ran each week and some trial drive sessions, including clients from a local elderly residential home. Three client drivers competed at the Hopetoun Horse trials and all did exceedingly well,	8	20	10-16: 3 17-24: 4 25-64: 10 65+: 11
4.	Bookends	Bookends Book Festival Pop-up reading and	£555	£586	£400	Regular pop-ups were held bringing young families, school aged children and adults of every age together in a safe and friendly	668	1000	0-4: 217 5-9: 680

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Council's Supporting Communities Fund Award	Comments	Total Number of Beneficiaries in reported categories		
							M	F	Age
		activity sessions and hall hire				space. This year saw more teenagers than before as the effects of bringing authors into Oban High School begins to take effect. Several young mums, dads and grandparent carers who had not attended before became regular visitors as the word gets out that bookends is for all ages. We revamped our children's area, bringing more books for 0 – 8 years and extending the seating area and we had the added event of a "souffle" a slower, gentler day designed for older people which we held in conjunction with Luminare Scotland.			10-16: 154 17-24: 39 25-64: 229 65+: 349
5.	Coisir Ghàidhlig an Obain (Oban Gaelic Choir)	Attendance at the Estonian Song and Dance Celebration	£13,698.09	£13,698.09	£242	The visit had a positive impact on the choir. It will lead to a visit from the Hopneri Choir, who are based in Tallin, who plan to come to Oban in 2021. The visit also had a great team building impact on choir members as a whole and contributed to their focus and further development prior to the National Mod in Glasgow in October 2019, where they achieved first place in the Lovat & Tullibardine Shield competition.	7	18	25-64: 19 65+: 6
6.	Comunn Gaidhealach an Obain (Oban Mod Academy)	Tutors and resources to support children to prepare for local and national MODs	£9,184.50	£9,804.05	£1,000	Although Mod Academy's aim is for all children to take part at Oban Provincial Mod and the Royal National Mod, many of the parents have entered and taken their children to Provincial Mods in Lochaber, Barra and Ardnamurchan. We also attended Tobermory	20	80	5-9: 40 10-16: 60

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Council's Supporting Communities Fund Award	Comments	Total Number of Beneficiaries in reported categories		
							M	F	Age
						Mod. At Lochaber Mod one of the non gaelic speaking children was spoken to in gaelic by the gaelic adjudicator who couldn't believe having adjudicated his competition that he was not a native speaker. We and the children are now hoping to expand and teach/learn duets and choral singing.			
7.	Comunn Gaidhealach Mhuile (Mull Junior MOD Club)	Uniforms: matching polo shirts, kilts and fleeces	£1,020	£878	£500	A number of kilts, with spares were purchased to allow for new members and existing members to swap sizes. A few polo shirts were also bought without a revised logo.	4	18	5-9: 8 10-16: 14
8.	Co-Roinn Ghàidhlig Mhuile agus Idhe (Mull & Iona Gaelic Partnership)	Tutors and venues for Gaelic classes	£2,751	£2,594.35	£500	Gaelic classes were well attended, they were held in Tobermory and the Ross of Mull. Gaelic drama workshops gave both Gaelic learners and fluent speakers in the community the chance to use Gaelic in a fun and enjoyable context. A workshop was held in Tobermory High School, giving pupils the confidence to get involved in the school's Gaelic play for Mull's Drama Festival (which was postponed due to Coronavirus)	56	67	0-4: 8 5-9: 31 10: 16 54 25-64: 21 65+: 9
9.	Craignure Recreational Activity Facility Team (CRAFT)	Land lease & installation of playpark equipment	£72,603.60	£36,464	£2,500	Installation of Two swing sets, climbing frame, playboat and an agility trail has taken place, the costs of installation and delivery have utilized the grant funding received. A second installation of further pieces of equipment is to take place.	Not Given		Not Given

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Council's Supporting Communities Fund Award	Comments	Total Number of Beneficiaries in reported categories		
							M	F	Age
10.	Crossroads North Argyll	Respite for Carers: Trips and Carers mileage	£3,440	£4,132.97	£750	Carers/cared for were picked up from their homes and a different place was visited each week, enabling them to get out and socialize with others and gain support from others in the same situation.	1	6	65+: 7
11.	Footprint Alba	Installation of local beach boards reminding the public about marine litter	£2,498.33		£1,500	The group were unable to meet the conditions required to carry out the project due to resourcing issues. (£1,500 not issued)			
12.	Friends of Kilbride	An interpretative board on the history of Kilbride	£1,996	£1731.20	£1,231	The information board has enhanced the whole visitor experience. It has been well received by visitors, it gives information, not only about the churchyard but also the surrounding area and local historical sites. A copy of the board encapsulated in plastic and mounted on a lighter board has been made to take to events and speaking engagements where an interest in Historic Kilbride is expressed.	Not Given		Not Given
13.	Glencruitten Cathedral of Trees	Woodland activities for vulnerable groups: provision of food and mental health nurse	£,26,478		£1,250	Project did not take place and the funds were returned: £1,250			

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Council's Supporting Communities Fund Award	Comments	Total Number of Beneficiaries in reported categories		
							M	F	Age
14.	GRAB Trust	Diverts furniture, electricals and household goods from landfill: supports homeless people entering new tenancies	£4,302		£242	The project has been delayed as the full funds required have not yet been secured. The full award of £242 will be returned.			
15.	Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust	Curriculum-linked workshops for 150 pupils on the Isles of Mull and Iona	£2,500	£2,711	£242	Workshops were delivered at all eight primary schools on Mull and Iona. The workshop included stories, photos, maps and data from research, sharing the secret lives of whales and putting Scotland's seas into context. Support was also provided to 19 S3 Tobermory High School pupils to achieve their John Muir Discovery Award. Two volunteers under 26 years old supported the delivery of the project.	Not Given		5-9: 170 10-16: 52 17-24: 1 25:64 1
16.	Hope Kitchen	Running Costs of Martyn's Monday Club & a new Women's Club for vulnerable and marginalised people	£2,300	£2,300	£2,300	The aim was to provide a space for people in the Oban area who have experienced suicidal thoughts or who have been affected by another person taking their own life. The 2 groups met every week not stopping over Christmas and due to the Covid-19 restrictions they stopped meeting face to face on 23 rd March 2020 92 sessions were delivered and Hope Kitchen partnered with Martyn's Monday Club to	52	48	17-24: 14 25-64: 76 65+: 10

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Council's Supporting Communities Fund Award	Comments	Total Number of Beneficiaries in reported categories		
							M	F	Age
						deliver these sessions. On average 20 people attended the men's group on a weekly basis and 19 attended the women's group. The group have now moved into their own premises.			
17.	Mull Museum	Archaeology for Mull Museum: 2 week programme of archaeological works at the burial ground site known as Lephin Chapel or Port Bhraonian, on the Isle of Mull	£10,975	£11,217.40	£1,000	34 volunteers took part, with varying degrees of archaeological experience. An open day and evening talk were well attended by community and visitors. 6 schools visited with a total of 86 pupils, the pupils had a 15 minute slot to dig which they found exciting. Further encouragement to volunteer from the 17-24 age range will be encouraged. Analysis of the finds are still awaited due to delays because of Covid-19	11	23	17-24: 3 25-64: 19 65+: 12 plus 86 children aged between 5 and 13 and 12 teachers.
18.	Oban Communities Trust – The Rockfield Centre	Workshops: Make-it-for-Christmas Project	£3,366	£250	£242	A Create Christmas event was held at the Rockfield Centre with help from three volunteers. 70 family groups attended and all children went home with the gift they had made.	No breakdown given		
19.	Oban Winter Festival	Entertainers & workshop costs	£27,350	£32,751	£2,500	Over 100 events took place over 10 days, with 26,936 people attending. Overall footfall of 26935 included many out of town visitors many of whom are now coming to Oban specifically for the Oban Winter Festival. Tour operators have added the festival dates to	No breakdown given		

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Council's Supporting Communities Fund Award	Comments	Total Number of Beneficiaries in reported categories		
							M	F	Age
						their tours and local hotels have special offers helping increase spend in the town. Local charities raised £37,900 over the period of the festival.			
20.	Oban Youth Café	Overnight trip for vulnerable youngsters: accommodation, food & youth workers	£1,908	£750	£750	Project was adapted due to Covid-19 to contribute to overall costs of activities run in-house, rather than an overnight trip.	Not provided		
21.	Project Trust	Global Citizenship Festival	£5,328.80	£2041.52	£1,976	Children from 17 primary schools across Argyll & Bute received three 45 minute workshops delivered by Global Citizenship Ambassadors, all of who had firsthand experience of volunteering for 12 months in a different country working with young people. In the workshops the Ambassadors covered topics such as rights and responsibilities, daily routines of children around the world, preconception and realities of developing countries, and global citizenship values. Due to the high number of staff in attendance we also offered global citizenship teacher training for all staff in attendance covering Oxfam's Framework for Global Citizenship, Unicef's Rights Respecting Schools Award and how global citizenship fits into the Curriculum for Excellence.	51	63	5-9: 30 10-16: 56 17-24: 5 25-64: 23

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Council's Supporting Communities Fund Award	Comments	Total Number of Beneficiaries in reported categories		
							M	F	Age
22.	Roses Charitable Trust	Outdoor Activities: instructors & overheads	£4,440	£2,960	£2,500	Outdoor activity sessions working in partnership with the Oban Hostel, the Youth café and Oban High school were carried out. Two of the planned sessions were postponed due to Covid-19. Young people aged 11-13 from the hostel were taken coasteering/sea swimming. Young people identified via Oban Youth Café went rock climbing and hill walking	14	11	10-16: 25
23.	Seil Island Community Hall Charity	Seil and Easdale Music Scheme (SEMS) Running Costs	£5,290 (overall project costs)	£357 (part of the project the award contributed to)	£241	The low level of grant offer caused a re-prioritization of the project plan, the main casualty being to delay work on development of the organisations formal existence as a SCIO. However the objectives of the scheme remain intact and the group have a list of positive actions to take forward to develop the project.	65	65	5-9: 5 10-16: 15 17-24: 20 25-64: 50 65+: 40
24.	Sound Waves (SCIO)	Tutor fees/ accommodation and marketing of monthly music workshops	£54,698		£242	The grant was not taken up.			
	Oban Sensory Garden	Towards the costs of an Art tutor for adults with learning disabilities.			£650	This was granted an extension from 2018/19, the committee has since changed and we have been unable to contact the group to request an End of Project Monitoring report is returned.			

Key

■	Report in and award fully spent
■	Report pending or Report in and money to be returned
■	Report outstanding or Award has not been spent at all

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. It was also noted that the initial application process was quite involved for the size of the grant.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy: None
- 6.2 Financial: The report sets out the expenditure from the Oban, Lorn & the Isles area 2019/20 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: Pippa Milne
Policy Lead: Cllr Rory Colville
Community Planning Manager: Rona Gold
02 November 2020

For further information contact: Laura Macdonald on 01631 567944 / laura.macdonald@argyll-bute.gov.uk