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## Moray Council

Wednesday, 16 June 2021

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a Meeting of the **Moray Council** is to be held at various locations via video-conference, on **Wednesday, 16 June 2021** at **11:00**.

### **BUSINESS**

**1 Sederunt**

**2 Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests \***

**3 Resolution**

Consider, and if so decide, adopt the following resolution:  
"That under Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting for Item 7 of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the relevant Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act."

**4 Armed Services Covenant**

**5 - 12**

Report by Chief Executive

**5 UK Community Renewal Fund**

**13 - 20**

Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance)

**6 Summer Activities Funding (Targeted Provision)**

**21 - 30**

Report by Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development)

## **7 Voluntary Early Retirement Application - Lands, Parks and Countryside Service**

- Information relating to staffing matters;

**Moray Council Committee meetings are currently being held virtually due to Covid-19. If you wish to watch the webcast of the meeting please go to:**  
**[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_43661.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_43661.html)**  
**to watch the meeting live.**

\* **Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests** - The Chair of the meeting shall seek declarations from any individual or political group at the beginning of a meeting whether any prior decision has been reached on how the individual or members of the group will vote on any item(s) of business on the Agenda, and if so on which item(s). A prior decision shall be one that the individual or the group deems to be mandatory on the individual or the group members such that the individual or the group members will be subject to sanctions should they not vote in accordance with the prior decision. Any such prior decisions will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.

\*\* **Written Questions** - Any Member can put one written question about any relevant and competent business within the specified remits not already on the agenda, to the Chair provided it is received by the Proper Officer or Committee Services by 12 noon two working days prior to the day of the meeting. A copy of any written answer provided by the Chair will be tabled at the start of the relevant section of the meeting. The Member who has put the question may, after the answer has been given, ask one supplementary question directly related to the subject matter, but no discussion will be allowed.

No supplementary question can be put or answered more than 10 minutes after the Council has started on the relevant item of business, except with the consent of the Chair. If a Member does not have the opportunity to put a supplementary question because no time remains, then he or she can submit it in writing to the Proper Officer who will arrange for a written answer to be provided within 7 working days.

\*\*\* **Question Time** - At each ordinary meeting of the Committee ten minutes will be allowed for Members questions when any Member of the Committee can put a question to the Chair on any business within the remit of that Section of the Committee. The Member who has put the question may, after the answer has been given, ask one supplementary question directly related to the subject matter, but no discussion will be allowed.

No supplementary question can be put or answered more than ten minutes after the Committee has started on the relevant item of business, except with the consent of the Chair. If a Member does not have the opportunity to put a supplementary question because no time remains, then he/she can submit it in writing to the proper officer who will arrange for a written answer to be provided within seven working days.

# THE MORAY COUNCIL

## Moray Council

### SEDERUNT

Councillor Shona Morrison (Chair)  
Councillor Graham Leadbitter (Depute Chair)

Councillor George Alexander (Member)  
Councillor James Allan (Member)  
Councillor David Bremner (Member)  
Councillor Frank Brown (Member)  
Councillor Theresa Coull (Member)  
Councillor John Cowe (Member)  
Councillor Gordon Cowie (Member)  
Councillor Paula Coy (Member)  
Councillor Lorna Creswell (Member)  
Councillor John Divers (Member)  
Councillor Tim Eagle (Member)  
Councillor Ryan Edwards (Member)  
Councillor Claire Feaver (Member)  
Councillor Donald Gatt (Member)  
Councillor Marc Macrae (Member)  
Councillor Aaron McLean (Member)  
Councillor Maria McLean (Member)  
Councillor Ray McLean (Member)  
Councillor Louise Nicol (Member)  
Councillor Laura Powell (Member)  
Councillor Derek Ross (Member)  
Councillor Amy Taylor (Member)  
Councillor Sonya Warren (Member)  
Councillor Walter Wilson (Member)

|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Clerk Name:      | Moirra Patrick                  |
| Clerk Telephone: |                                 |
| Clerk Email:     | committee.services@moray.gov.uk |



**REPORT TO: SPECIAL MEETING OF MORAY COUNCIL ON 16 JUNE 2021**

**SUBJECT: ARMED SERVICES COVENANT**

**BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

## **1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 The Council is asked to approve the Armed Forces Covenant and retain the Council's silver accreditation.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Council in terms of the Section II (20) of the Council's Scheme of Administration in relation to a new policy matter which does not fall within the terms of reference of any Committee.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

### **2.1 The Council is invited to:-**

- (i) **Consider the content of the Armed Forces Covenant; and**
- (ii) **To approve the Covenant for signature by the Council.**

## **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 There has been in existence since 2012, a Covenant relative to the armed forces community in Moray. The Covenant outlines the aspiration to ensure that serving personnel, veterans and their families are not disadvantaged in any way in accessing council or other public services. The UK Government are proposing to use the [Armed Forces Bill](#) to incorporate the Armed Forces Covenant into law – although details remain limited on what this will actually look like.
- 3.2 As it was styled as an Armed Forces Community Covenant, it was signed off by the Community Planning Partnership.
- 3.3 The Covenant is now styled as an Armed Forces Covenant to be entered into by individual local authorities. During the course of the administrative process required to retain the council's silver accreditation, it came to light that the Armed Forces Covenant required to be updated to reflect the change in emphasis since the original document was signed in 2012 and following a

refresh in 2016. The revised Armed Forces Covenant is set out in the **Appendix**.

- 3.4 A significant proportion of the Moray population are eligible in terms of the Covenant (17%) and the recent announcement of the Ministry of Defence's continued development of RAF Lossiemouth is further evidence of the need to sign this document to reinforce Moray's commitment to the armed forces personnel, veterans and their families in the area.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**

The Armed Forces Covenant will meet the following National Outcome "We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilience and safe".

**(b) Policy and Legal**

With regard to policy see (d) below. There are no direct legal implications although Members may be aware there are proposals to legislate for public services to have due regard to the needs of the military community in terms of how public services are planned and delivered. Any legislative impact will depend on the scale and scope of the duty of due regard. Currently reservists are referenced in the special leave policy, there are numerous military veterans and spouses employed by the council and officers have been involved in specific events e.g. speed networking and engagement with Reservists through the work of the Society of Personnel and Development Scotland (SPDS).

**(c) Financial implications**

The financial implications for partners will depend on their input into any local projects which are developed. As stated at (b) above, the Council already supports reservists, and employs veterans and spouses. The implications of a strengthened commitment enshrined in law would need to be considered more fully when the detail of that commitment is clearer. However, initial thoughts would be that such a commitment would sit alongside the equalities commitments already in place as well as workforce planning considerations of particular skills and experience required within services.

Moray Council and Highland Council previously received project funding from the Armed Forces Covenant Trust Fund. A renewed bid has been submitted to build on the previous project to develop and deliver bespoke information about the Armed Forces Covenant to Community Planning Partnerships and further relevant organisations. All materials will be tailored to be easily delivered both virtually and face to face and as downloads from various websites.

**(d) Risk Implications**

The signing of the Armed Forces Covenant is an open demonstration of our support to the military community. Without the Covenant in place our commitment to the military presence in our area may be questioned. In

addition without a Covenant, funding from national Government aimed at supporting the integration into the community cannot be accessed.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

The staff implications for partners will depend on their input into any local projects which are developed.

**(f) Property**

None.

**(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

The Covenant recognises the whole community connected to the military both now and in the past. It also recognises the wider community's involvement. Local projects may support people with protected characteristics.

**(h) Consultations**

The report has been prepared in consultation with CMT and SMT.

**5. CONCLUSION**

**5.1 The Council is asked to authorise the Chief Executive to sign the revised Armed Forces Covenant on behalf of the Council.**

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Author of Report:  | Roddy Burns          |
| Background Papers: |                      |
| Ref:               | SPMAN-1108985784-630 |





## MORAY COUNCIL

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**We, the undersigned, commit to honour the Armed Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. We recognise the value Serving Personnel, both Regular and Reservists, Veterans and military families contribute to our business and our country.**

Signed on behalf of:

**Moray Council**

Signed:

Name: Roderick D Burns

Position: Chief Executive

Date: XX



# The Armed Forces Covenant

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom  
Her Majesty's Government

– and –

All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of the Crown

And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty. Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

This obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.

## Section 1: Principles of The Armed Forces Covenant

- 1.1 We **Moray Council** will endeavour in our business dealings to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, which are:
- *no member of the Armed Forces Community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen*
  - *in some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.*

## Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment

- 2.1 We recognise the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business and to our country. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:
- **Promoting the Armed Forces:** promoting the fact that we are an Armed Forces-friendly organisation, to our staff, customers, suppliers, contractors and wider public.
  - **Veterans:** supporting the employment of veterans, recognising military skills and qualifications in our recruitment and selection process; working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP) to support the employment of Service leavers;
  - **Service Spouses & Partners:** supporting the employment of Service spouses and partners; partnering with the [Forces Families Jobs Forum](#); and providing flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment.
  - **Reserves:** supporting our employees who are members of the Reserve Forces; granting additional paid/unpaid leave for annual Reserve Forces training; supporting any mobilisations and deployment; actively encouraging members of staff to become Reservists;
  - **Cadet Organisations:** supporting our employees who are volunteer leaders in military cadet organisations, granting additional leave to attend annual training camps and courses; actively encouraging members of staff to become volunteer leaders in cadet organisations; supporting local military cadet units; recognising the benefits of employing cadets/ex-cadets within the workforce.
  - **National Events:** supporting Armed Forces Day, Reserves Day, the Poppy Appeal Day and Remembrance activities.
- 2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and/or on our website.






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**REPORT TO: SPECIAL MEETING OF MORAY COUNCIL ON 16 JUNE 2021**

**SUBJECT: UK COMMUNITY RENEWAL FUND**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND FINANCE)**

## **1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform Council of the UK Government Community Renewal Fund (UKCRF) and to seek approval for submitting proposals.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Council in terms of Section III A (2) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to long-term financial plans.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

### **2.1 It is recommended that Council:-**

- (i) **note the criteria and timescales for delivery of projects under UK Government Community Renewal Fund;**
- (ii) **consider the recommendations by the assessment panels; and**
- (iii) **approve the submission of the proposals to the UK Government**

## **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The UK Government recently launched this fund with the aim of supporting people and communities most in need across the UK to pilot programmes and new approaches, in preparation for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund in 2022. An initial report to Group Leaders was considered in April 2021.
- 3.2 Moray is not one of the chosen priority areas in the UK, nevertheless Moray Council has been designated as a lead authority by the UK Government. As a lead authority, Moray Council is responsible for:
  - issuing an invitation for proposals
  - receiving bids
  - selecting the bids that will be sent to UK Government for consideration
  - paying grants to successful projects and managing their performance

- 3.3 On 5 May 2021 invitations for bids were published on the Council website alongside all details of this fund. Proposals were invited which build on local insight and knowledge, align with long-term strategic plans for local growth, support innovation and new ideas under any of the four national investment priorities:
- Skills: including work-based training, retraining and digital skills/inclusion
  - Local business: including supporting entrepreneurs, innovation and decarbonisation
  - Communities and place: including feasibility studies for net zero projects, opportunities for culture-led regeneration, green spaces and rural connectivity.
  - Supporting people into employment: including addressing barriers to employment, raising aspirations, and basic skills.
- 3.4 This is a revenue funding programme and projects must be delivered and financially completed by 31 March 2022. Projects should ideally have a minimum planned expenditure of £200,000 where possible to maximise any impact.
- 3.5 The value of the bids identified by the Council must come to a minimum of £500,000 and no more than £3m. Projects are required to align with long-term strategic plans for local growth, target people most in need and support community renewal.
- 3.6 The closing deadline for proposals was 21 May 2021 and 8 bids were received with grant requests of over £2.3 million. For the assessment of the proposals, 3 panels of relevant partners and council staff were set up under Business, Community & Places and Employment & Skills (See **Appendix 2**). As several proposals applied under multiple priorities they were considered by the various panels.
- 3.7 The panel's recommendations are for 2 proposals to be submitted to the UK Government for consideration, as they most strongly meet the UK Community Renewal Fund criteria and local priorities. Details are featured in **Appendix 1 and Appendix 2**.
- 3.8 The deadline for submitting the bid to the UK Government is 18 June 2021. The UK Government will assess all bids submitted by lead authorities against the criteria set out in the UK Community Renewal Fund Prospectus. The UK Government will announce the outcome of the assessment process from late July 2021 onwards. If successful, Moray Council will enter into a funding agreement with successful bidders.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**

Economic development is a key priority in the corporate plan and an Economic Recovery Plan was agreed by the Council in October 2020 recognising that as a result of the pandemic the need for economic investment has grown considerably. The UK Community Renewal Fund provides an opportunity to support innovation and new ideas, investing in pilots that draw on local insights and which will help places to prepare for the introduction of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund in 2022. All bidders had to demonstrate how their proposal will support the implementation of the Local Outcomes Improvement Plans, Economic Strategy and Climate Change Strategy.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

Any funding agreements with successful bidders will be undertaken in consultation with Legal.

**(c) Financial implications**

The Glenlivet Rural Regeneration Programme total project cost is £179,790 with a grant request from the UKCRF of £154,790 and £25,000 match funding (£10,000 in kind & £15,000 Dorenell Community Benefit Fund tbc)

The Just, Green, Thriving and Resilient Moray proposal total cost is £463,000 with a grant request from the UKCRF of £423,000 and match funding from HIE of £40,000.

The total projects grant requests from the UKCRF is £577,790. If the proposals are successful, Moray Council can claim 2% of the total grants as management and administration fee, which equates to £11,556 bringing the total ask from the UK Government to £589,346.

**(d) Risk Implications**

There is a risk that the proposals are unsuccessful. However if successful each proposal has a risk management plan in place with mid-point review and monitoring of projects by Council scheduled for November / December 2021.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

The work around the UK Community Renewal Fund has been assigned to the Economic Growth & Regeneration section. The services are currently under significant workload pressures associated with business support, COVID 19 grants, TCCF and Economic Recovery Plan. The UK Government management and administration fee could contribute to costs for further staff resources.

**(f) Property**

There are no property implications.

**(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

The fund will bring economic investment into Moray's areas of which some are characterised by low wages, low rates of full-time employment, wealth deprivation and child poverty. During the implementation, Moray Council will work closely with the successful bidders in carrying out an equality impact assessment to ensure that the projects will contribute to a fairer Moray.

**(h) Consultations**

Consultation has taken place with the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), the Head of Economic Growth and Development, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Estates Manager, the Equal Opportunities Officer, the Chief Financial Officer and the Democratic Services Manager have been consulted and comments received have been incorporated into the report.

**5. CONCLUSION**

**5.1 The UK Community Renewal Fund aim is to support people and communities most in need across the UK through piloting programmes and new approaches, in preparation for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund in 2022.**

**5.2 Whilst Moray is not one of the designated priority areas for this fund, nevertheless it has been encouraging to have received 8 proposals. Following the assessment process by the 3 panels, it is recommended to submit 2 projects to the UK Government for consideration, as they most strongly meet the UK Community Renewal Fund criteria and local priorities.**

**5.3 If successful, the completed works will provide a strong foundation for future investments in Moray.**

Author of Report: Reni Milburn, Economic Growth & Regeneration Manager

Background Papers: Documents on file in Economic Growth & Regeneration section.

Ref: SPMAN-813460984-112  
SPMAN-813460984-113  
SPMAN-813460984-114

Table 1 – Total bids received

| No of bids received in total | Value of bids received in total (£) | Bid information by investment priority (lead priority where project delivers across priorities) |           |                |            |                     |           |                       |           |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|----------------|------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
|                              |                                     | Skills  |           | Business       |            | Community and Place |           | Supporting Employment |           |
|                              |                                     | No of projects  | Value (£) | No of projects | Value (£)  | No of projects      | Value (£) | No of projects        | Value (£) |
| 8                            | £2,333,436                          | 2   | £226,471  | 2              | £1,229,175 | 4                   | £877,790  | 0                     |           |

Table 2 – Bids to be submitted by Council for UKG consideration

| Proposal Name                             | Short description (50 words)   | Investment Priority (Skills, Business, Community, Employment) | Delivers in more than one place? If so, specify places. | £ requested* | Start Date | End Date   |
|---|--|---|---|--------------|------------|------------|
| Glenlivet Rural Regeneration Programme    | <b>Climate change</b> - feasibility study of a car club & ebike loan scheme. Energy efficiency training & advice<br><b>Improving the Speyside Way</b> – feasibility study to assess the options<br><b>Digital adoption</b> - digital skills sessions<br><b>Youth engagement and opportunity</b> - young people to identify programme of after school activities to inform future provision | Community   | No  | £154,790     | 01.07.2021 | 31.03.2022 |
| Just, Green, Thriving and Resilient Moray | <b>Stimulating climate action</b> ; Moray Social Enterprise Network<br>Environmental Forum advisory group;<br><b>Assessing Community renewable</b>   | Community   | No  | £423,000     | 09/08/2021 | 31/03/2022 |

|  |   |  |  |          |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|----------|--|--|
|  | <p>potential in two representative off gas grid communities</p> <p><b>Map renewable energy potential; Management of climate change studies;</b> Decarbonising jobs and training gaps; Offshore carbon sequestration study; Transport initiative; Onshore carbon sequestration and increasing biodiversity study; Training local champions innovative online;</p> <p><b>Mapping &amp; Developing Community Assets</b> through 10 feasibility studies, <b>4 decarbonisation feasibility plans,</b> 2 innovation plans with 3 new businesses (social enterprises) created or supported</p> |  |  |          |  |  |
| TOTAL (up to a maximum of £3m per place) |   |  |  | £577,790 |  |  |

| REFERENCE NUMBER | Applicant Name       | Ogranisation                                | Project Name  | Priority Skills | Priority Local Business | Priority Communities & Place | Priority Employment | Comment /action | Assessed              | Score / outcome  | Grant request | Match Funding  | Recommended  | Rejected - Comments  | e-mail notification sent |
|------------------|----------------------|---|---|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--|---------------|--|--|--|--------------------------|
| MCR001           | Alan Whiteside       | Stonnivation                                | SEE Impact  | ✓               | ✓                       | ✓                            |                     |                 | C&PI, B, E & S Panels | Reject - did not pass gateway criteria                   | £200,000      | £0   |  | The proposed activities duplicates the strategic aims, operating plans & activities of many public sector bodies in Moray such as Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Moray Council - Business Gateway, Skills Development Scotland and Moray College UHI. Community benefit not clearly articulated with funding request largely for Stonnivation salaries. Difficult to fully understand the project from the information presented.   | ✓                        |
| MCR002           | Oliver Giles         | Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust   | Glenlivet Rural Regeneration Programme  |                 |                         | ✓                            |                     |                 | C& PI panel           | Recommended Scores for stratgic fit 22 & for delivery 23 | £154,790      | £10,000 in kind £15,000 tbc                                    | The proposal fits all the criteria's and the organisation has an excellent track record of delivering projects of this scale |  | ✓                        |
| MCR003           | Rhona Patterson      | Keith & Strathisla Regeneration Partnership | Keith Caravan Park Feasibility Study & Business Case  |                 |                         | ✓                            |                     |                 | C& PI panel           | Reject - did not pass gateway criteria                   | £20,000       | £0   |  | The proposal is well below the invited minimum planned expenditure. The UK Community Ownership Fund potentially could be a more suitable funding source. Also may be able to seek support from TSI Moray for the feasibility study.  | ✓                        |
| MCR004           | Iain Findlay         | Green Grow Club CIC                         | Green Grow Club - Sustainability & NetZero Community Learning Hub<br><br>Item 5             | ✓               | ✓                       | ✓                            | ✓                   |                 | C&PI, B, E & S Panels | Reject - did not pass gateway criteria                   | £256,500      | £17,500 HIE<br>£46,000 in kind Aurora Sustainability Group Ltd |  | The project duplicates other national provision and potentially displaces the work carried out by Zero Waste Scotland in the area of circular economy, which is of increasing strategic importance to the public sector. There is no identified need for these activities or outputs nationally at the present time. The application states that activities will be delivered over 12 different local authority areas, with 40% of the activity being in Moray, but it is not reflected in the financial details or audience targeted. Investment in skills & supporting people into employability is implied & lacking justification. Costs all appear to be for existing staff. Confirmed match funding source is incorrect. Vague and confusing evaluation process. | ✓                        |
| MCR005           | Fabio Villani        | tsiMORAY                                    | Just, Green, Thriving and Resilient Moray   |                 |                         | ✓                            |                     |                 | C& PI panel           | Recommended Scores for strategic fit 23 & delivery 22    | £423,000      | £40,000 HIE  | The proposal fits all the criteria's and the organisation has an excellent track record of delivering projects of this scale |  | ✓                        |
| MCR006           | Andy Meynell         | Dufftown and District Community Association | Tininver Park   |                 |                         | ✓                            |                     |                 | C& PI panel           | Reject - did not pass gateway criteria                   | £280,000      | £0   |  | Capital project with the exception of £30K for Development Officer. Good project plan but wrong fund. May be able to seek support from TSI Moray around their path development feasibility study.  | ✓                        |
| MCR007           | Rev Andrew Kimmitt   | Aberlour Parish Church                      | Aberlour Glebe: Community Growth initial phase and Greenspace development feasibility study | ✓               |                         |                              | ✓                   |                 | S & E panel           | Reject - did not pass gateway criteria                   | £26,471       | £0   |  | The proposal is well below the invited minimum planned expenditure. However the project is well thought through and documented with strategic links to local priorities. There may be future funding opportunities & / or potential support from partner organisations, which can be explored by contacting Moraypathways@moray.gov.uk   | ✓                        |
| MCR008           | Mhairi-ann Gallicker | Truerlein Limited                           | Dufftown - A New Dawn   | ✓               | ✓                       | ✓                            | ✓                   |                 | C&PI, B Panels        | Reject - did not pass gateway criteria                   | £972,675      | £4,180,000 Angel & Development Capital                         |  | Overall the proposed activities are unlikely to be permissible within subsidy rules or under State Aid, due to using public funds to invest in businesses, which are then gifted to owner operators at a 49% equity stake. Little evidence of community support, alignment to local plans and organisations track record of ability to deliver. Conflicting information with inconsistencies in budget & outcome figures. Jobs outcomes seem to be unrealistically high within a short delivery timescale.   | ✓                        |

**Panel Members:** **Business** - HIE, Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, staff from Council Business Gateway; **Employability & Skills** - Department for Work & Pensions, Skills Development Scotland, Moray College/UHI, staff from Council Education & Business Gateway; **Community & Places** - HIE, staff from Council CSU, Strategic Planning &

Development & Business Gateway. All panels supported by Economic Growth & Regeneration section






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**REPORT TO: SPECIAL MEETING OF MORAY COUNCIL ON 16 JUNE 2021**

**SUBJECT: SUMMER ACTIVITIES FUNDING (TARGETED PROVISION)**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT)**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 The report updates the Council on plans for the Summer of Activities for Children and Young People (Targeted Provision).
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Council in terms of Section III (D) (1) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to all the functions of the Council as Education Authority.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Council approves the targeted programme of activities and support that will be provided for children and young people in Moray during the summer school holiday period.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Scottish Government has allocated £15 million to local authorities for the targeted provision of holiday activities, working alongside local partners. The allocation for Moray is £256,000. The funding letter was received on 30 April.
- 3.2 The priority across this investment is to improve the wellbeing of children and young people, providing opportunities for them to socialise and reconnect with peers during the summer through the delivery of a range of activities, with food and family support integrated where needed within local communities.
- 3.3 It is recognised that many local authorities and other local partners deliver holiday programmes currently. The aim of this additional investment is to enhance and expand any such existing work, building on and learning from existing good practice, while providing scope to innovate locally in response to what children and young people tell us would help.

- 3.4 This provision is aimed at children and young people most likely to be experiencing continued disadvantage and who will therefore have been particularly adversely affected by the pandemic. Several groups of children and young people have particular wellbeing needs; which require targeted support. These include:
- Children from low income households
  - Children from those priority family groups identified in the Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan: larger families; families with a disabled child or adult; young mothers; families with children under one; and minority ethnic families
  - Children from families who have been shielding during the pandemic and whose ability to engage in activities and socialise will have been very limited
  - Children with a disability or additional support need
  - Care experienced children and young people
  - Young carers
  - Children in need of protection
  - Children supported by a child's plan
  - Children who have undergone significant transitions during lockdown or will experience them this year, including starting in ELC, starting primary school, moving to secondary school and leaving school.
- 3.5 Local authorities and local partners have the flexibility to use the funding to meet local needs. Provision should not be restricted to the delivery of activity programmes, and should include more personalised support such as the provision of passes to local attractions or leisure services, or direct funding for family days out. Travel costs, particularly for those on low incomes and in rural areas, can also be covered as a key measure to remove barriers to participation.
- 3.6 The expectation from the Scottish Government is that existing and local partnerships should play a key role in the coordination and reach of provision; in particular the Children's Services Partnerships should take the leading role in planning to ensure a joined up approach to development and delivery. The GIRFEC Leadership Group (our Moray Children's Services Partnership Strategic Leadership Group) delegated responsibility for developing the programme to the Wellbeing Partnership Group and the group met on 19 May to agree our approach.

- 3.7 The development of the Moray programme was informed by the views of children, young people and families. The Locality Networks gathered views from across Moray and the feedback included the following key priorities:
- Locality based family provision, which all family members can engage in.
  - Funding provided directly to young people and families to enable them to do what they want to do.
  - Preference is for opportunities to meet face to face rather than online.
  - Specific opportunities for children with autism and ADHD, including respite for families.
  - Opportunities available away from the school campus.
  - Transport should be available for children and young people and families that need it.
- 3.8 The programme is attached as **Appendix 1** and includes Moray wide and local options. It builds on existing programmes delivered by commissioned services and expands the reach of activities that were already under development by our third sector partners. It also brings in new provision where there is a recognised need identified by our Children's Services partnership, and by children and their families, for example the provision of a summer play scheme for children and young people with Autism. Finally, it allows for the provision of some direct funding to our most vulnerable children, young people and families supported by Social Work.
- 3.9 This targeted investment complements wider investment in holiday support through free school meal replacement for those eligible for free school meals on the basis of low income (in Moray this is provided through direct payment to families). It also complements other summer activity programmes including:
- The Active Schools and Moray Leisure Centre summer programmes (funded directly by Moray Council).
  - The Reconnect Programme (partnership youth work offer funded through the Youth Work Education Recovery Fund).
  - Additional Active Schools and Sports Development sessions to be funded via Sportscotland (additional funding for Moray of £33,452 announced on 31 May 2021).
  - A national summer offer delivered by national partners (£5 million being invested directly in national partners to enhance opportunities for all children and young people to participate in activities and experiences this summer).
- 3.10 The targeted summer activities offer will be included in the wider Moray summer programme and communicated to children, young people and families through schools, partners and our normal communication channels. A national marketing strategy is also being developed and we will link into this once the guidance has been shared.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

##### **(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**

This report supports the LOIP outcomes:

Building a better future for children and young people in Moray

- A place where children and young people thrive;
- A place where they have a voice, have opportunities to learn and can get around;
- A place where they are able to reach their full potential.

And the Aims of the Corporate Plan to:

- Provide opportunities where young people can achieve the potential to be the best they can be.

##### **(b) Policy and Legal**

There are no policy or legal implications arising from this report.

##### **(c) Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The targeted summer provision is fully funded by the Scottish Government.

##### **(d) Risk Implications**

There are no specific risk implications arising from this report, however it should be noted that this targeted programme of support has been developed within a very short timescale and that different approaches may be taken to the development of provision during future holiday periods where there is a longer lead in time for development.

##### **(e) Staffing Implications**

There no staffing implications arising directly from this report.

##### **(f) Property**

There are no property implications arising from this report. The targeted provision will largely be delivered outside of council buildings, with the exception of the Grampian Autistic Society summer holiday scheme. The intention is to run the summer holiday scheme within one of our school enhanced provisions.

**(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

The activities and direct payments on offer through this targeted provision are designed to be accessible to target families. When developing the programme consideration has been given to how to meet wider needs, including through the integration of food, transport, family support and referral on to wider services where needed. Principles of dignity, and human rights will be promoted by all involved through the promotion of non-stigmatising provision of services and supports.

**(h) Consultations**

Wellbeing Partnership Group, the Head of Education (Chief Education Officer), Head of Financial Services, Senior Solicitor (Litigation and Social Care), Lissa Rowan (Committee Services Officer) and the Equal Opportunities Officer have been consulted and the comments received have been incorporated into the report.

**5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The targeted summer programme of activities and support has children's rights and wellbeing at its heart. It is shaped around what children, young people and their families have said they want and need to help them recover from the Covid-19 pandemic and re-engage in their local communities.**

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Background Papers:

Ref: SPMAN-1315769894-104  
SPMAN-1315769894-105



**Targeted Summer Provision**

| <b>Organisation Service</b> | <b>Activities on Offer</b>  | <b>Target Groups</b>   | <b>Localities</b>                                    | <b>Food Offer</b>                        | <b>Funding Provided</b> |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|--|-------------------------|
| Quarriers                   | Range of summer activities  | Young Carers aged 8-15 yrs   | Moray Wide   | Yes                                      | £4,500                  |
| Aberlour                    | Bespoke activities for groups of young people/ families:<br>Picnics/BBQ's, Ready Steady Cook Activities and a range of trips  | Young People and families accessing Aberlour Youth Point (approx. 75 families) | Moray Wide   | Yes                                      | £3,500                  |
| Children 1 <sup>st</sup>    | Activities for families; families with ASN children; Lhanbryde P6 Wellbeing Group; and Speyside High Boys Group   | Children and families accessing Children 1 <sup>st</sup> Services              | Moray Wide and Specific groups in Lhanbryde Speyside | Yes                                      | £2,200                  |
| Action for Children         | Food activity packs to supplement the creative activities/fun sessions they have already sourced funding for.   | Families in need   | Elgin  | Family meal recipe cards & food supplies | £500                    |
| Grampian Autistic Society   | Summer Play scheme for a max 12 children per day, available 7 days per week for 7 weeks.<br>Small group and 1:1 provided on an as needs basis (through referrals from MASH) | Children and young people aged 5-18 with Autism (and their families)           | Moray Wide   | Yes                                      | £74,676                 |
| No Worries in Moray         | Day trips and direct payments for families supported by Moray School Bank (approx. 100 families supported)  | Families experiencing financial hardship                                       | Moray Wide   | Yes                                      | £23,000                 |
| Women's Aid                 | Range of organised activities, fit life passes and bus passes to enable days out for 60 families  | Women and children who have experienced domestic abuse                         | Moray Wide   | Yes                                      | £10,140                 |
| Who Cares Scotland?         | Summer Picnic/Park Games<br>Wild Camp in Sept (under 16's)  | Care Experienced young people  | Moray Wide   | Yes                                      | £1,700                  |

## Appendix 1

|                               |  |  |                |               |         |
|-------------------------------|--|--|----------------|---------------|---------|
|                               |  |  |                |               |         |
| The Loft                      | Young person's teatime group - 2 x per wk over 7 wks<br><br>P7 transition group – 6 sessions   | Vulnerable young people and young people transitioning between P7 and S1 transitions                         | Keith          | Yes           | £3,210  |
| Lossie 2-3 Group              | 4wk summer holiday programme for 70 children. Includes breakfast, a hot cooked lunch and snacks for every child.   | Primary age children   | Lossiemouth    | Yes           | £15,000 |
| Kinloss Crafty Cool Kids Club | 2wk summer holiday programme<br>Funding will also for additional spaces for children from low-income families.   | Primary age children   | Forres/Kinloss | Yes           | £1,500  |
| Hein Mijzen, m-powerme        | Targeted 1:1 support for young people with complex needs already known to the service  | Children with complex additional support needs   | Moray Wide     | Yes           | £2,455  |
| Dance North                   | TRACES Dance and Art Programme   | Places targeted at those with additional support needs, Young Carers and those living in poverty             | Moray Wide     | No            | £2,000  |
| Social Work                   | Direct payments to families and organised activities, trips and fit life passes.   | 344 families currently open to SW (child protection/disability/looked after/care experienced /welfare needs) | Moray wide     | As applicable | £75,000 |
| Universal provision           | Funding to remove barriers to allow all children to access universal summer holiday opportunities (e.g. active schools, sports club offers etc.) and to increase capacity, where required. | All target groups outlined in the Scottish Government Funding Guidance                                       | Moray wide     | As applicable | £10,000 |
| Moray Council                 | Funding for partners providers to access Moray Council Mini Bus Permits/Test   | Partner providers throughout Moray delivering summer holiday provision                                       | Moray wide     | N/A           | £400    |

## Appendix 1

|                 |  |   |            |     |          |
|-----------------|--|---|------------|-----|----------|
| To be finalised | Funding for 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector to deliver holiday provision in Lhanbryde   | Target groups within Scottish Government Guidance                 | Lhanbryde  | Yes | £8000    |
| To be finalised | Funding for 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector to provide support to families with pre-school children who are struggling          | Families identified by Health Visitors                            | Forres     | Yes | £8000    |
| Moray Council   | Contingency to be used to meet emerging need over the summer holiday or address unexpected barriers or capacity issues | Needs identified through locality networks and existing providers | Moray wide | Yes | £10219   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    |  |   |            |     | £256 000 |

