
current position with the facilities at Gibshill, Greenock and Inverkip, as detailed in section 4.1 of the report; and

(2) that the Committee agree, in principle, the additional capital and revenue funding requirements for the new community facilities and remit these to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration as part of the 2013/16 budget setting process, specifically:

(a) £400,000 capital funding for the development of a new community facility and MUGA at Woodhall, Port Glasgow;

(b) £350,000 capital funding, in addition to the existing provision of £700,000, for the development of a new community facility at Broomhill, Greenock, the overall sum to include the cost of demolishing the Mearns Centre and compensating the Capital Fund for the loss of the capital receipt for the site; and

(c) £75,000 revenue funding to support the operational costs of the facilities at Woodhall, Port Glasgow, Gibshill, Greenock, Broomhill, Greenock and Inverkip.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Committee is asked to note the remits from the Environment & Regeneration Committee and the Education & Communities Committee and remit consideration of these items as part of the overall 2013/16 Budget decisions to the Full Council on 14 February 2013.

Rona McGhee
Legal & Democratic Services

Report To:	Environment & Regeneration Committee	Date:	17th January 2013
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration and Resources	Report No:	R269/13/AF/SL
Contact Officer:	Aubrey Fawcett	Contact No:	01475 712401
Subject:	Community Facilities Grant		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Committee on progress of the administration and disbursement of the Community Facilities Fund of £1,200,000 – incorporating the additional planned expenditure for phase 2 awards.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Regeneration Committee on 28th October 2010, approved procedures for allocation of the Community Facilities Grant and the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Environment subsequently implemented phase 1 of the programme in accordance with the proposed uses and criteria.
- 2.2 The total committed at phase 1 was £973,000 with a balance of £227,000 remaining to be approved and disbursed in phase 2. An invitation to apply was issued in September 2012 and by the closing date of 30th November, a total of 16 bids had been received with a combined value of £481,000.
- 2.3 Accordingly, bids were assessed within the criteria of the Community Facilities Grant and recommended awards are as outlined in appendix 1. It should be noted from the ranked list that there are sufficient funds to provide support up to and including the Wellington Pre-5 Nursery. If approved, the funding required is a total of £196,741. leaving a budget surplus of £30,259.
- 2.4 However, the assessors have also approved additional projects, subject to additional funding being available. As outlined, the additional approved projects would require additional funding of up to £52,491.
- 2.5 The final three projects on the list are deemed out of scope for the Community Facilities Grant and therefore are not recommended for funding. However, it should be noted that steps have been taken to advise the applicants of alternative mechanisms for funding.
- 2.6 Staff have completed an exercise to obtain feedback from round 1 applicants, who have expressed satisfaction with the process of awards. It is also very clear from the feedback that the Community Facilities Grant has made a significant difference, with a range of projects being completed that otherwise would never have been undertaken.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to approve the phase 2 awards outlined in appendix 1, with a total spend of £196,741.

- 3.2 The Committee is asked to consider the further approvals requiring an investment of £52,491 and agree that any further funding required be remitted to Policy & Resources Committee for consideration.

Aubrey Fawcett
Corporate Director
Environment, Regeneration & resources

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Community Facilities Fund was established at full Council on 18th February 2010 to support the development of community facilities across Inverclyde. The fund was approved for the following purposes:-

- community facilities
- play and recreational facilities
- community allotments
- improving access to information or community facilities
- other facilities which contribute to the well being of the local community.

4.2 Inverclyde Council established the following criteria and weightings for assessment:-

Criteria	Weighting
Business Plan/Finance	70%
Evidence of need and community benefit	10%
Sustainability	10%
Accessibility and equality	10%

4.3 Phase 1 of the award process commenced and a total of 14 completed bids were received by the closing date of Friday 29th April 2011. Following Committee endorsement, 10 applications were approved at a total cost of £172,842. In total, eight of those projects have now completed with only residual activity to be undertaken on the remaining two projects.

4.4 Additional spend was allocated and agreed as follows:-

- Kilmacolm New Community Centre £150,000.
- Wellington Community Facility £200,000.
- Inverkip Community Facility £350,000.
- Gibshill Community Facility £100,000.

4.5 Inverclyde Council agreed to proceed to phase 2, with the balance of £227,000 remaining to be approved and disbursed in phase 2.

4.6 By the closing date of 30th November 2012, a total of 16 bids had been received with a combined value of £481,000. This exceeded the available budget and consequently even if all applications received were both eligible and strong bids, there would have been insufficient funding to support 100% of the activity.

4.7 Assessment of the applications was completed by staff at Inverclyde Council within the agreed assessment criteria and scored accordingly. It should be noted that in general the quality of bids submitted was of a high standard, with local organisations putting considerable effort into preparing their applications.

4.8 Funding will be limited to a maximum of 75% of total costs and applicants will be required to demonstrate the availability of match funding.

4.9 All successful applicants will be required to comply with procedures for the monitoring of finance and performance including the submission of regular reports at a timescale to be agreed dependent on the nature of the project.

4.9.1 All payments will be made in arrears on evidence of expenditure that is incurred and defrayed.

4.9.2 All monitoring of finance and performance will be completed by the existing team based

within the Economic Development Programme Management Support Unit (PMSU).

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 **Legal:** These have been considered as part of the application process and award of grants.
- 5.2 **Human Resources:** These have been considered as part of the application process.
- 5.3 **Equality and Diversity :** These have been considered as part of the application process.
- 5.4 **Finance:**
One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
Earmarked Reserves	Community Facilities Fund	2012/13 Onwards	£196,741		Additional budget request for £52,491.

Annual Recurring Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a					

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Consultation will be undertaken as part of the application process.

7.0 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The proposed awards in phase 2, will mean that the Community Facilities funding has now been fully committed. When all activity has been completed, Inverclyde Council will have spent £1,200,000 on a range of community activity across Inverclyde. Beneficiaries have included a range of organisations in the community and voluntary sector delivering benefits to the community and local residents.

Contact	Organisation	Request	Award	Description	Score	Recommendation
Stephen Mcloone	Glenpark Harriers Athletic Club	10,156	10,156	External repairs at clubhouse	86	Approve at full cost
Katrina Vine	Quarriers Village	£41,000	£41,000	Refurbishment at the community centre in Quarriers Village - lift and disabled toilets	82	Approve at full cost
Robert Pinkerton	Ardgowan Club	£2,300	£2,300	Environmental improvements including waste removal	73	Approve at full cost
Martin Jess	East End Utd. Boys Club	£37,500	£37,500	Develop dedicated changing rooms for club participants	71	Approve at full cost
Colin McDougall	The Greenock Cricket & Hockey Club	£14,315	£14,315	Floodlights and synthetic pitch provision	70	Approve at full cost
Val Knight-Rowley	Inverkip Primary Parents Association	£6,548	£6,548	School canopy to allow outside activity in inclement weather	68	Approve at full cost
Craig Bradley	Greenock and District Sea Cadets	£3,125	£3,125	Ramped access at harbourside for improved access	67	Approve at full cost
Vicki McCarthy	REACH for Autism	£46,000	£37,950	Premises refurbishment for new service for children with autism	64	Approve, deleted revenue costs, revised value £37,950
Alison Duncan	Wellington Allotment Gardens	£9,000	£9,000	Repairs to external wall at the allotments	63	Approve at full cost

Paul Bristow	Inverclyde Community Development Trust	£30,000	£30,000	Refurbishment at the Dutch Gable House		
					62	Approve at full cost
Elizabeth Jack	Wellington Pre-5 Nursery	£10,119	£4,847	Outside play area for nursery children		
					62	Approve at materials costs only - £4,847 support from employability programme.
		£210,063	£196,741	There are sufficient funds in the available budget to fund all of the above and remaining funds of £30,259.		
Sharon Gemmel	Parklea Branching Out	£50,000	£37,500	Additional refurbishment of greenhouses	59	additional funding, note reduction in award for further greenhouse improvements
David Shaw	West Coast Cinemas	£25,000	£25,000	Upgrade to local cinema including digital capacity	58	Approved subject to additional funding being available
Chris Jewell	Discover Inverclyde – Films and Images	£29,250	£20,250	Projection of heritage films and images at town centre locations	56	Approved at revised amount subject to additional funding being available
		£104,250	£82,750	The 3 projects above have been assessed as eligible, if additional funding can be made available, requires £52,491		
Chris Jewell	Discover Inverclyde	£11,350	£11,350	Municipal Building façade enhancement programme		Out of scope, however, refer to the Common Good Fund.
William Hammil	2nd Port Glasgow Boys Club	£6,314	£6,314	Purchase of percussion instruments for band		Out of scope, however, the activity is good and recommend to Grants to Voluntary Organisations.
Lynne Quinn	Gourock Community Trust	£150,000	£150,000	Amphitheatre roof		Out of scope, however, refer to CVS for funding advice.
	Total received bids	£481,000				
Available budget	227,000					
Total Recommended	196,741					
Subject to additional funds	82,750					
Funding gap	52,491					

Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date: 22 January 2013
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development / Chief Financial Officer	Report No: EDUCOM/19/13/EM
Contact Officer:	Eddie Montgomery	Contact No: 01475 712472
Subject:	SEMP – Re view of Funding Model and Possible Opportunities - Update	

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Committee in respect of the response from the Scottish Government to the request for increased grant funding regarding accelerating capital investment to support economic recovery, and the implications for the possible School Estate Management Plan (SEMP) opportunities outlined in the October 2012 report to Committee.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 A report on possible opportunities within the SEMP arising from the October 2012 review of the School Estate Funding Model, was submitted to the October 2012 Committee. The report outlined the following:

- £2.6 million reduction in net costs due to the estimated SFT Grant in relation to St Patricks Primary.
- £1 million reduction in the contingency set aside for the Shared Campus.
- £450,000 reduction in projected loans charges following the high levels of borrowing at low interest rates which had been undertaken in the previous 12 months.

The report also noted that a letter had been received by the Council on the 20th September 2012 from the First Minister and David O'Neill (Cosla President) regarding accelerating capital investment to support economic recovery. Within that letter there was an indication that the Scottish Government would be amenable to supporting proposals advanced by Local Authorities to advance capital spend. The report also noted that Inverclyde Council had, proportionally, not fared well from the £1.2 billion Schools for the Future Programme largely due to the fact that it was in the middle of implementing a fully funded high quality School Estate Asset Plan.

The report put forward the following proposals for consideration conditional on the Scottish Government, via the Scottish Futures Trust, providing increased funding to the Council:

- acceleration of St John's Primary School Refurbishment utilising Highlanders Academy as decant accommodation (including £200K upgrading to allow use as decant facility) with an approximate timeline of summer 2014 for commencement of works. St John's Primary School is the only school of those remaining requiring significant investment that has a suitability rating of C (Poor) and the only school, of those remaining, requiring significant investment that is able to be accommodated within the former Highlanders Academy building as all other remaining schools require a larger decant facility.
- acceleration of Kilmacolm Primary School Refurbishment with approximate timeline of summer 2015 for commencement of works on the basis that it does not require decant accommodation and is in a poorer condition than the only other non-decant refurbishment at Gourrock Primary.
- acceleration of other Primary School refurbishments at St Mary's PS and St Ninian's PS as a result of more efficient use of the former Sacred Heart PS decant facility.

It was also noted that acceleration/advancement of the primary school refurbishment programme would have the following benefits:

- potential to save the Council money in the year on year inflationary increase in building costs.
- would allow more time to manage the reduction in the number of Property Services employees due to the projected severe down turn in fee income in the next 2 years or so.

On the basis of the above and in support of the proposals, the Committee agreed that the Council Leader should write to the Government seeking increased grant towards the proposals with the Committee to receive an update in respect of the Government's response.

The letter received from John Swinney (Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth) in response to the Council Leader is attached as Appendix 1. Although the letter is generally supportive of the Council's proposals it does not indicate that there will be any possibility of increased grant funding.

- 2.2 As the Scottish Government has not indicated that there will be specific additional grant funding for the acceleration programme and given the considerable financial pressures on the Council, it is proposed that any acceleration of the primary schools programme is considered in the context of the overall budget process.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the response from the Scottish Government.
- 3.2 That the Committee agree that the Council considers any acceleration of the primary schools programme in the context of the overall budget process.

Alan Puckrin
Chief Financial Officer

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director of Education,
Communities & Organisational
Development

Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth
John Swinney MSP

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Councillor Stephen McCabe
Leader
Inverclyde Council
Municipal Buildings
Greenock
PA151LX

16 January 2013

Dear Councillor McCabe

Thank you for your letters of 19 October and 6 November in response to the letter sent by the First Minister and the COSLA President on 20 September regarding capital investment.

The Scottish Government welcomes the priority that you are giving to maximising capital investment to improve service delivery and support economic recovery.

I wrote to the Chancellor ahead of the Autumn Statement on 5 December calling on the UK Government to provide an immediate targeted boost to capital investment to protect the recovery in the short term and provide the infrastructure necessary to facilitate long term economic growth. I emphasised that Scottish councils would benefit from additional capital investment to act as a stimulus for regeneration and economic recovery.

I therefore welcomed that in the recent Autumn Statement announcement the Chancellor finally heeded Scotland's calls to boost capital spending, and that we have now been allocated additional capital funding over the next two years, although this is being funded partly by baseline reductions in our resource budget and we are still facing significant real-terms cuts to our capital budget. I was delighted to announce on 19 December that Local Government will receive over £46 million of this funding to support capital projects, on the condition that local authorities spend this additional funding on projects that are ready to be delivered and are not already funded in their capital programmes for 2012-13 or 2013-14.

Thank you for sending specific schools investment proposals.

I am pleased that you welcome the Scottish Government's contribution towards the new Craigmarloch ASN School and the refurbishment of St Patrick's Primary School and, for my part, I look forward to seeing these two important school projects progress. I note that you have two primary school projects which could be accelerated should funding become available; this is very helpful to know.

I also note your point about the relative share of support your council has received from the Schools for the Future Programme. While the Programme is aimed at improving the worst

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condition schools in Scotland, we took a decision at the outset to try to distribute resources across all parts of Scotland - a pure, bottom up type approach would have resulted in a small number of local authorities receiving all of the available resources, which was deemed unacceptable. Of course, this distributive approach has inevitably led to apparent inequities and significant differentials in levels of support. But this reflects relative need and is allowing us to support the replacement or refurbishment of 67 schools across all of Scotland, which is 12 more than the 55 schools envisaged when the Programme was launched in 2009. Had we simply allocated the available resources among each of the local authorities on a pro-rata basis, the impact of the investment across the whole of Scotland would have been much less.

In relation to the Riverside Inverclyde Urban Regeneration Company (URC), I note your comments in relation to funding for the URC. We have shown our continuing commitment by providing funding of £27.1m since 2006/07 with a further commitment of £1.5m for 2013/14. Negotiations are currently ongoing in relation to funding for core costs and we anticipate that the URC will also be able to apply to the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund which should be available from 2014/15 – currently the subject of discussions with COSLA.

The URCs were always aware that Scottish Government funding was intended as 'pump priming' with the intention that the URCs would become self sufficient by seeking other funding sources. Riverside Inverclyde has been resourceful in this area. To aid with this process, the URC asked the Scottish Government that they be allowed to accelerate their current programme. This request was recently agreed by Scottish Government after discussions with Inverclyde Council and Scottish Enterprise. Riverside Inverclyde will now accelerate their current programme by £2.4m.

I understand that Riverside Inverclyde and Inverclyde Council met on 21 November 2012 to discuss possible projects for additional funding which can be included in future 'shovel ready' calls. I would be interested to hear the outcome of that discussion in due course.

In relation to Housing, Local Authorities have been issued with three-year Resource Planning Assumptions and have submitted details of the developments they would like to see taken forward in Strategic Local Programmes. Inverclyde Council has identified a proposed development by River Clyde Homes and officials from the Council and Scottish Government Housing Supply Division are currently discussing how this can be progressed.

I trust this response has been helpful, and I look forward to continuing to work with you to take forward our shared priority of capital investment to support economic recovery.

JOHN SWINNEY