



Fairer Aberdeen Fund

6 Month Progress Report (1st April – 30th Sept 2016)

In 2016-17 Aberdeen City Council allocated £1,625,000 to the Fairer Aberdeen Fund. The fund is managed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board on behalf of Community Planning Aberdeen, and members are from Aberdeen City Council, partner organisations and communities.

The main purpose for the fund is targeting disadvantaged communities and vulnerable groups and individuals. The Board has agreed outcomes, neighbourhoods and vulnerable groups as priorities for use of the Fund:

Priority Outcomes:

- Maximising income
- Getting people into work
- Improving mental health and well being
- Building stronger safer communities
- Increasing skills and creativity

Priority Neighbourhoods:

- Cummings Park
- Middlefield
- Northfield
- Seaton
- Tillydrone
- Torry
- Woodside

Priority Groups:

- People living in poverty
- Lone parents and families with children
- Unemployed people
- Children and young people
- People with health issues
- Older people
- Minority groups where an identified need can be evidenced

From 1st April to 30th September over £1,500,000 has been allocated to 45 initiatives, supporting projects in Regeneration Areas and work across the City with vulnerable groups and individuals. This report details how the fund has been allocated and the progress made from April to September 2016.

Maximising income

£436,464 was allocated to this theme, which aims to improve access to affordable financial services and products, deliver financial education initiatives, and provide coordinated advice and information services.

St Machar Credit Union and North East Scotland Credit Union Access Project promote access to saving schemes and affordable loans across all the priority areas.

Financial Capability at the Foodbank, Citizens Advice Bureau Money Advice Outreach Project, Care and Repair and Aberdeen Illness and Disability Advice offer advice and information. Cash in your Pocket acts as a central hub for its financial inclusion partners.

Food Poverty Action Aberdeen aims to generate as much produce as possible for the benefit of those in food poverty, and to provide access to financial, employability and educational support and information.

Over the 6 months 1,347 affordable loans, totalling £1,009,899, were provided by the credit unions. Money and income maximisation advice was provided for 1,036 people, resulting in client financial gain of £1,111,928, an average of £1,073 per person. CFINE distributed 193 tonnes of free food and provided 5,111 food parcels for 1,710 people.

As can be seen in the table below, most of the projects are on track to achieving their full year target for 2016-17.

Indicator	April-Sept 2015	Target 16-17 (full year)	April-Sept 2016
Number of Credit Union adult savers	4473	4750	4676
Number of Credit Union junior savers	1872	2500	2133
Number of affordable loans provided by Credit Unions	1087	3600	1347
Amount of affordable loans provided by Credit Unions	£885,978	£1,500,000	£1,009,899
Total savings deposited with Credit Unions	£1,518,035	£2,250,000	£2,343,148
Number of credit union collection points	14	10	14
Number of people receiving money advice	191	375	155
No. of people receiving income maximisation advice	1162	1905	1036
Number of households receiving maximising income/charitable funding advice from Care & Repair	144	330	168
Total client financial gain	£1,467,077	£1,878,280	£1,111,928
Number of referrals to Cash In Your Pocket database	1146	1500	752
Quantity of free produce distributed in tonnes	160	300	193
Number of 5kg food parcels distributed by CFINE foodbank	n/a	10,000	5,111
Number of CFINE food bank beneficiaries	n/a	4,000	1,710

Getting People into Work

£235,602 was allocated to ensuring that people had access to the support and skills they needed to return to work.

Pathways Employability service supports people into work, offering help with CVs, job searches and completing application forms. They run weekly drop in sessions in all the priority areas.

North East Sensory Services Employment Service supports people with sight and/or hearing impairments, as well as helping people retain employment.

Station House Media Unit delivers the SHMU Train Initiative, as well as early intervention work in schools. The Princes Trust Team Programme offers training and development programmes for young people.

Pathways also manage the Support Fund which helps to pay expenses that can be a barrier to returning to work.

Over the 6 months 173 people moved into work. Weekly employment support drop in sessions were run in 23 venues in priority neighbourhoods. 98 young people were involved in employability initiatives with 49 of them moving on to employment, education or training. Pathways are well on target to meet their full year target with 173 people into work in the 6 month period.

As can be seen in the table below, most of the projects are on track to achieving their full year target for 2016-17.

Indicator	April-Sept 2015	Target 16-17 (full year)	April-Sept 2016
Number of people into work	141	267	173
Number of people accessing the Support Fund	53	100	50
Access Centres in areas of high unemployment offering weekly Employment Support drop In sessions	14	14	23
Number of young people involved in MCMC activities	83	194	98
Number of young people moving on to employment, education or training	48	99	49
Number of people supported into work by Pathways	125	225	165
Number of people engaged and registered with NESS	39	45	46
Number of people supported into work by NESS	5	8	1
Number of people supported to retain work by NESS	21	15	24
Number of young people supported into work, education or training	48	99	49

Improving Health and Wellbeing

£334,746 was allocated to health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities.

Pathways to Wellbeing and Mental Health Aberdeen provide counselling services in all of the priority areas, these continue to be oversubscribed and have long waiting lists. There has been an increase in young people seeking youth counselling.

Seaton Support for Recovery offer support to people recovering from drug, alcohol and mental health issues.

Printfield Feel Good and Tillydrone Health and Wellbeing projects offer complementary health treatments and Healthy Roots continue to maintain Manor Park in Middlefield.

Homestart offers home visiting support to families in need, and Cyrenians Street Alternative volunteer workers fulfil a diverse range of roles to support and give advice to homeless people. The Community Food Development project continues to improve access to affordable and healthy food.

Befriend a Child provides one to one support and friendship to vulnerable youngsters who could particularly benefit from participating in various activities/interests not normally available to them.

Over the 6 months 315 people accessed mental health counselling provision. 88 of them were under 16 years old. 48 Community Food Outlets were operating, 27 of them in sheltered housing complexes. Home-Start supported 28 families in regeneration areas and 6 of these families no longer need social work support.

As can be seen in the table below, some of the figures achieved are up compared to the same time period in 2015, and all are on line to meet the full year target for 2016-17.

Indicator	April-Sept 2015	Target 16-17 (full year)	April-Sept 2016
Number of operational Community Food Outlets	79	80	48
Number of Community Food Outlets operating in Sheltered Housing	15	41	27
Amount of sales in Community Food Outlets	£44,050	£85,000	£55,000
Number of adult clients using mental health counselling provision	208	370	227
Number of clients under 16 using mental health counselling provision	118	150	88
Number of counselling sessions provided	2,378	2,650	2,490
Number of new and existing clients using the Seaton Recovery project and support on a regular basis	32	35	33
Number of people attending Cyrenian's Street Alternative sessions	20	20	20
Number of families supported by Home-Start	24	30	28
Number of families supported by Home-Start no longer needing Social Work support	2	5	6
Number of children and young people attending Befriend a Child youth clubs	20	48	16

Building Stronger, Safer Communities

£286,308 was allocated to supporting neighbourhood projects and services and contributing to community safety.

Community Flats in Cummings Park, Printfield, Seaton and Tillydrone offer a range of services and activities as well as providing venues for other organisations to work within local communities. They also provide first stop information and advice regarding changes to the benefit system and make referrals to appropriate agencies for local people requiring support.

Middlefield Youth Flat offers services for young people, and for younger children through its Under 11s work. Additional youth activities are provided by the Big Bang Drumming Group, ACT Attack and Fersands Youth Work Support.

Family support work and a Twos group are funded in Fersands Family Centre and Choices Relationship Revolution aims to raise awareness of gender based violence amongst young people.

Operation Begonia provides additional police patrols to engage with on street sex workers. With reduced numbers of calls to the police regarding on street prostitution and fewer women encountered, Operation Begonia also continue to target off street sex workers.

Community Integration Support Service provides intensive support, to prisoners, based on the individual's Community Reintegration Plan allowing them to partake in a variety of activities which include radio/film/music sessions.

Over the 6 months there were 560 hours of patrols engaging with on street sex workers, 1,435 people engaged in services and activities in community flats and there were 8,185 attendances to use facilities at community flats.

As can be seen in the table below, most of the projects are on track to achieving their full year target for 2016-17.

Indicator	April-Sept 2015	Target 16-17 (full year)	April-Sept 2016
Number of new women encountered through Operation Begonia	9	30	6
Number of hours of patrols engaging with on street sex workers	320	960	560
Numbers of call to the Police regarding 'on street' prostitution for Local Policing Areas of City Centre and Seaton	10	18	9
Number of offenders participating in community reintegration programme in prison	35	60	71
Number of people participating in activities and services provided by Community Projects and Flats	2401	1,016	1,435
Number of attendances at Community Flats to use facilities including phone, computers and information/enquiries	7380	12,485	8,185
Numbers of young people using the Middlefield Youth Flat	129	130	60
Number of children registered at Printfield After School Club	54	60	52

Increasing Skills and Creativity

Increasing Skills and Creativity

£160,082 was allocated to supporting learning and creative activities.

Station House Media Unit supports Community Media and Youth Media.

WEA Reach Out Skills Programme provides a wide range of learning activities with an emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy.

Silver City Surfers provides IT sessions for older people, WEA focuses on providing literacy support for non-traditional learners, and Literacies for Life, delivered by the Adult Learning Service, provides literacy opportunities.

St Machar Parent Support Project Positive Lifestyles supports parents, particularly with issues arising from welfare reforms.

Over the 6 months there were 286 people involved Adult Learning activities and 89 people registered as new learners with Silver City Surfers. 407 organisations worked in partnership with SHMU and 136 people were involved in producing community media, contributing 12,856 volunteer hours.

As can be seen in the table below, all of the projects are on track to achieving their full year target for 2016-17.

Indicator	April-Sept 2015	Target 16-17 (full year)	April-Sept 2016
Number of people participating in WEA Reach out Skills Programme	n/a	110	91
Number of people involved in producing Community Media at SHMU (radio shows + magazines)	125	130	136
Number of new learners registered with Silver City Surfers	203	157	89
Number of organisations working in partnership with SHMU	291	300	407
Number of people registered as new learners with Silver City Surfers	83	157	89
Number of young people participating in Youth Media (radio and TV)	61	50	66
Number of participants attending the Positive Lifestyles Programme	143	160	113
Number of volunteers involved in SHMU media	125	130	167
Number of volunteer hours contributed to SHMU media	16,271	18,500	12,846