

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Aberdeen City Council
DATE	17.12.18
REPORT TITLE	Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2017-18
REPORT NUMBER	CUS/18/301
DIRECTOR	Andy MacDonald
CHIEF OFFICER	Derek McGowan
REPORT AUTHOR	Susan Thoms, Programme Coordinator
TERMS OF REFERENCE	Previous Council decision – 21.6.17

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide members with the Fairer Aberdeen Fund Annual Report 2017-18.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council:

- 2.1 Note the Annual Report for 2017-18, at Appendix 1 and instruct the Director of Customer to report the Council's feedback to the Fairer Aberdeen Board as appropriate.
- 2.2 Note that the Fairer Aberdeen Board has carried out a further Participatory Budgeting event during 2018-19.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At its meeting of 21st June 2017 the Council agreed that Fairer Aberdeen Annual Reports would continue to be reported to Full Council. This report includes the Annual Report for 2017-18 at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The Annual Report details how the Fund was used and the impact it had during 2017-18. £1,632,000 was allocated by the Council to the Fairer Aberdeen Fund, to be dispersed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board, to tackle poverty and deprivation in the priority areas of Cummings Park, Middlefield, Northfield, Seaton, Tillydrone, Woodside and Torry, and across the City with vulnerable groups and individuals. A few highlights are summarised here, further detail is available at Appendix 1.

- 3.3 At its meeting of 5th March 2018 Council agreed to request that the Chief Officer - Early Intervention and Community Empowerment ensure that future reports contain a table detailing project spend for each project with an explanation of the impact it has had in terms of the programme. This is available at Appendix 2.
- 3.4 The Fund is dispersed and managed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board, made up of representatives from the identified priority areas, the Civic Forum, the Council, NHS Grampian, Police Scotland and ACVO (Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations). The Board has identified the following priority themes:
- **Maximising Income**
 - **Getting People into Work**
 - **Improving Health and Wellbeing**
 - **Building Stronger Communities**
 - **Increasing Skills and Creativity**
- 3.5 Funding was awarded to 45 projects within the main programme, as well as a Community Support Fund to support community engagement, an Employment Support Fund to support costs associated with getting people back into work, and a Participatory Budgeting event to reduce social isolation in the communities of George Street, Castlehill & Pittodrie and the city centre.
- 3.6 Grants ranged from £200 to £155,000 in value. A total of 27,069 people were involved in, or benefited from, funded initiatives, 4,648 of them were under 16 years old. 971 volunteers contributed 126,500 hours of volunteering time with a value of over £1.9m, more than doubling the value of the Fund.
- 3.7 The **Maximising Income** theme provides access to affordable financial services and products and coordinated provision of quality advice and information services.
- 3.8 Through this theme 21,356 people benefitted from 9 funded initiatives and a total of 324 volunteers contributed 78,934 hours of volunteer time, worth £1.2m.
- 3.9 Over the year 3,196 people received money advice or income maximisation advice, with a total financial gain of £3,484,436, an average of £1,090 per person.
- 3.10 The **Getting People into Work** theme provides access to support and skills needed to return to work, including initial engagement, personal development activity and in work support.
- 3.11 Through this theme 664 people benefitted from 4 funded initiatives and 6 volunteers contributed 300 hours of volunteer time, worth £4,599.
- 3.12 Over the year 280 people moved into work. 180 young people were involved in activities designed to increase their opportunities to move into positive destinations and 95 of them moved onto employment, education or training

- 3.13 The **Improving Health and Wellbeing** theme aims to reduce health inequalities; improve mental health and wellbeing; and increase access to affordable healthy food.
- 3.14 Through this theme 1,053 people benefitted from 11 funded initiatives and a total of 259 volunteers contributed 9,831 hours of volunteer time, worth £150,709.
- 3.15 Over the year 415 tonnes of free food was distributed, 30 families in priority areas were supported to prevent further crisis and family breakdown, and 5 families moved out of Social Work support. 557 people accessed 4,809 sessions of counselling provision in 7 priority areas
- 3.16 The **Building Stronger Communities** theme aims to improve access to services in regeneration areas and support community involvement and participation.
- 3.17 Through this theme 3,409 participants were involved in 14 funded initiatives and 155 volunteers contributed 9,260 hours of volunteer time, worth £141,955.
- 3.18 During the year Community Flats in Cummings Park, Seaton and Tillydrone and Middlefield Youth Flat were funded and used by many organisations to deliver services within the areas. 2,189 people participated in activities and services provided in these facilities.
- 3.19 The **Increasing Skills and Creativity** theme aims to support learning and creative opportunities, improve literacy and encourage volunteering.
- 3.20 Through this theme 1,320 participants were involved in 5 funded initiatives and 212 volunteers contributed 28,475 hours of volunteer time, worth £436,521.
- 3.21 130 people were involved in producing community media, including community magazines in 7 priority areas, 176 young people were involved in producing youth media, 14 of them secured a Saltire Award and 3 moved on to employment, 150 people took part in classes to promote positive parenting and 150 older people were supported to use technology and engage online.
- 3.22 The Fairer Aberdeen Board held another PB (Participatory Budgeting) event in March 2018, covering the George Street, Castlehill & Pittodrie and City Centre areas. The areas chosen reflect the desire of the Fairer Aberdeen Board to allocate funding to neighbourhoods with pockets of deprivation but out with the priority areas that usually receive funding. 21 proposals were received, and £25,000 allocated to 14 projects that received most votes at the public voting event. These included George Street Farmers Market, support to LGBT groups, upgrading of Aberdeen Life Saving Club premises, Community Fridges and a variety of activities for young people.
- 3.23 £25,000 was allocated to a further PB event for 2018-19, which was held in Kincorth during October. 18 proposals were received, and funding awarded to 15 of them, including the Boys Brigade and Scouts for activities for their members, Kincorth Community Centre for equipment for the Centre, Mikey's

Charity for a fundraising event and fun day, Mark Bush Court and Margaret Clyne Court for outings for their residents, TLC Food Bank, Claire Rose for Sensory Stay and Play, and Crafty Lassies.

- 3.24 Voting in the most recent PB event was extended to include sheltered housing complexes to ensure that older and isolated people would be included.
- 3.25 The Fairer Aberdeen Board is currently in the process of aligning the Fairer Aberdeen Fund with the Locality Plans in priority areas to ensure the Fund is supporting the delivery of Locality Plans; to develop the relationship between the Fairer Aberdeen Board and the Locality Partnerships and increase community participation in decision making.
- 3.26 Following consultation with the Fairer Aberdeen Board and Locality Partnerships, it is proposed that Fairer Aberdeen criteria is aligned with the LOIP and Locality Plan themes and community representatives from Locality Partnership be asked to participate in sub groups considering applications for funding and make recommendations to the Fairer Aberdeen Board. The monitoring framework will be aligned to the Locality Plan themes and progress reported to Locality Partnerships twice a year. These proposals will be considered by Community Planning Aberdeen at its meeting in December.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Fairer Aberdeen Fund is allocated by Aberdeen City Council and is aimed at tackling poverty and deprivation; supporting partners to work together to tackle area- based and individual poverty; and to help more people access and sustain employment opportunities. Funding supports initiatives and services for the most disadvantaged communities and vulnerable people across the City.
- 4.2 In 2017-18 the Council agreed a sum of £1.63m to be managed by the Fairer Aberdeen Board. The same sum was agreed for 2018-19.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

	Risk	Low (L), Medium (M), High (H)	Mitigation
Financial	Failure to continue to address the needs of Aberdeen's most	L	Supporting people into employment, maximizing people's income, providing

	disadvantaged communities would have a detrimental effect for the individuals and communities involved and potentially increased costs in the long term for public services.		early intervention in relation to education and health is not only a better outcome for individuals but reduces the costs involved in responding to the effects of poverty in the long run.
Legal	No risks identified		
Employee	No risks identified		
Customer	Over 27,000 people benefitted from funded initiatives through the year. Many of the initiatives provide services that are preventative and addressing inequalities within the City, however there is an increasing need for support for people in crisis situations which is also being delivered for some of our most vulnerable citizens.	L	The Fairer Aberdeen programme is a positive example of partnership working, involving communities in decision making, bring a wide range of experience and knowledge to support initiatives that can respond to the needs of vulnerable people.
Environment	No risks identified		
Technology	No risks identified		
Reputational	The public may be unaware of the Fairer Aberdeen Fund and its contributions to the LOIP and Locality Plans may not be clear.	L	The Annual Report will be widely circulated, printed copies will be available in community venues in priority neighbourhoods, for those without IT access. The programme will be aligned with Locality Plan priorities.

7. OUTCOMES

Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes	
	Impact of Report

Prosperous Economy	The initiatives and programmes being funded support frontline services that are provided by the Council, Community, Voluntary and other public sector partners with 90% of the fund allocated to voluntary and community organisations. Supporting people into employment, maximising people's income, providing early intervention in relation to education and health is not only a better outcome for individuals but reduces the costs involved in responding to the effects of poverty in the long run.
Prosperous People	The Fairer Aberdeen Fund supports a range of initiatives to support vulnerable people. Many of the services are addressing inequalities within the City and responding to an increasing need for support for people in crisis situations. Fairer Aberdeen initiatives also contribute to the delivery of the Council's Locality Plans, Anti-Poverty Strategy and have an important role in responding to Welfare Reform changes.
Prosperous Place	The Fairer Aberdeen Fund provides services that tackle poverty and contribute to improving wellbeing for the city's most disadvantaged communities and vulnerable individuals. The programme responds to locally identified issues and addresses unemployment, providing financial inclusion services, improving health and literacies and enabling more sustainable and safer communities.

Design Principles of Target Operating Model	
	Impact of Report
Customer Service Design	The Fairer Aberdeen Board supports community decision making based on identified needs, and better outcomes for communities.
Governance	The Fairer Aberdeen Board takes a participatory approach to allocating funding, and supports inclusive decision making.
Partnerships and Alliances	The Fairer Aberdeen Board supports collaboration and partnership working between the Council, Partners and communities.

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment	Full EHRIA required

Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Duty of Due Regard / Fairer Scotland Duty	Not applicable

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Funded initiatives provide annual monitoring reports which are used to produce the Annual Report.

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Fairer Aberdeen Annual Report 2017-18
Appendix 2 – Funded Initiatives Impact Measures

11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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