

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education and Children's Services Committee
DATE	24 th January 2023
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Autumn in the City Programme
REPORT NUMBER	CFS/23/004
DIRECTOR	Eleanor Sheppard
CHIEF OFFICER	Shona Milne
REPORT AUTHOR	Sharon Skene
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1.1

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report shares a high level evaluation of the Autumn in the City programme and seeks delegated authority to design and deliver a programme for the Easter school holiday period using underspend from the Autumn programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 notes the high level evaluation of the Autumn in the City programme;
- 2.2 instructs the Chief Education Officer to design and deliver a programme for the Easter school holiday using underspend from the Autumn programme; and
- 2.3 instructs the Chief Education Officer to report to Committee on the impact of the Easter 2023 programme following delivery.

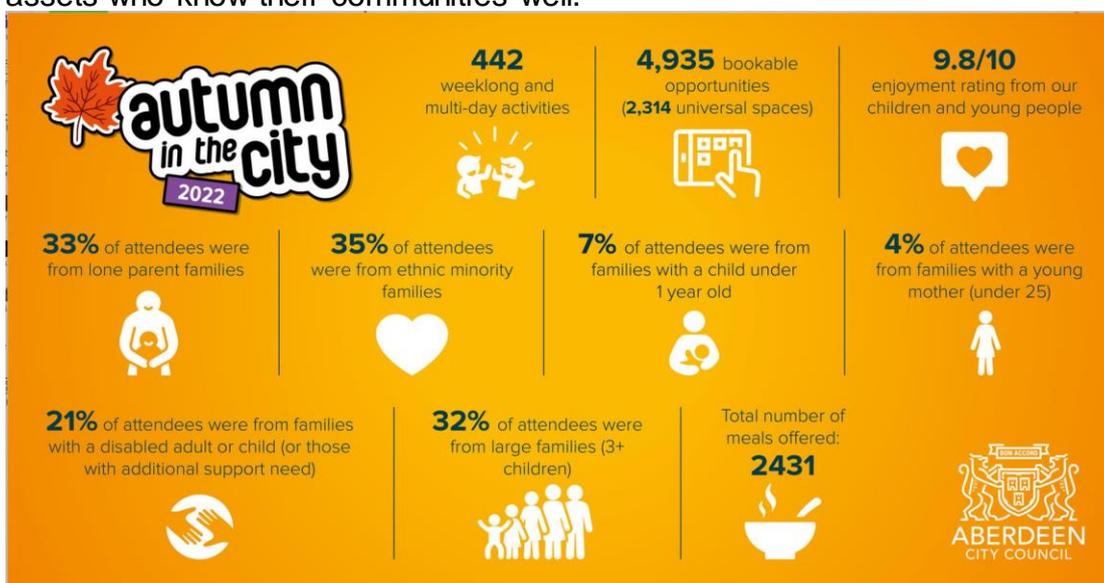
3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 An Autumn in the City programme was made available to children and young people across Aberdeen City over the school holiday period. In keeping with national guidance around summer holiday programmes, the priority groups were:
- Children from lone parent families
 - Children from ethnic minority families
 - Children from families with a disabled adult or child
 - Children from families with a young mother (under 25)
 - Children from families with a child under 1 year old
 - Children from larger families (3+ children)
- 3.2 Officers from across the organisation and wider partnership pooled resource and expertise to plan and deliver the programme. Officers took advantage of local flexibility given to Local Authorities to offer universal activities such as

swimming and ice skating to all children and young people and extended the definition of those with a disability to include those with or impacted by additional support needs given the known needs of families in the city. The full Autumn in the City programme delivered is available in Appendix A.

- 3.3 Sport Aberdeen, We Too and Community Assets involved in delivering the programme operated their own bookings. Microsoft bookings was used to support Council Officers to manage all remaining bookings. Bookings opened on Tuesday 4th October and over 70% of the opportunities had been booked by the end of day. Families eligible for targeted activities were asked to book only 4 activities per child and restrict their ask to one weeklong activity to ensure that as many families had the opportunity to utilise invaluable weeklong childcare as possible.
- 3.4 The Council social media channels were used to highlight the programme and available places to maximise uptake. Colleagues in the customer function updated webpages, delivered an associated social media campaign and responded to social media enquiries. The overall campaign saw a 43,400 reach (this is the number of times customers saw our posts on their social media channels). Across the entire campaign we saw 85 likes and 100 reshares/retweets. Our autumn in the city webpages had 13,445 page views with 1,400 customers landing on our webpage directly from the links shared on social media.
- 3.5 The universal programme made 2,314 bookable opportunities available to all children and young people in the city as well as numerous drop-in activities in parks, museums, galleries, and local communities. Community assets in priority areas offered programmes to local children and young people and hundreds of children benefited from these offers.
- 3.6 The programme for priority groups made a total of 2,621 bookable opportunities available. A significant change from previous programmes was the expansion in the number of weeklong activities in keeping with the national direction of travel. 442 of the 2,621 activities were weeklong and multi-day camps/childcare clubs and this provided greater flexibility for many parents to use the programme to support their childcare needs. The remaining spaces were made up of day long activities (these activities included biking, beach days, scrambling and included lunch) and shorter activities such as dance and art. Figures from the ACC booking system showed over 97% occupancy was achieved on weeklong, multi-day and day long activities. Proactive social media coverage of available spaces is thought to have realised this high uptake figure.
- 3.7 Several bespoke arrangements were put in place to allow children with the most complex needs to benefit from time to play over the holiday period. Further, a holiday club for children who attend Orchard Brae School was delivered to offer children the opportunity to access fun sessions in a familiar environment. Activities included painting, exercise indoors and outdoors, quiet time and use of the sensory rooms. The staff team recently received Grade 5's across the board from the Care Inspectorate who paid them a visit during the Summer and the service continues to be well received by families.

- 3.8 There is clear evidence that the targeted programme benefited those in the priority groups with participation statistics as follows:
- 33% of children and young people were from lone parent families
 - 35% of children and young people were from ethnic minority families
 - 21% of children from families with a disabled adult or child (or those with additional support need)
 - 4% of children and young people were from families with a young mother (under 25)
 - 7% of children and young people were from families with a child under 1 year old
 - 32% of children and young people were from larger families (3+ children)
- 3.9 The data above does not take account of those with additional support needs/disabilities who benefited from the We Too and complex additional support needs offer.
- 3.10 The average enjoyment rating was 9.8/10 which is higher than previous programmes. This is thought to be due to the increase in offer from community assets who know their communities well.



- 3.11 Officers are extremely grateful to all of the partners listed in para 4.1 who helped deliver a varied and high quality Autumn in the City Programme.
- 3.12 It is proposed that the Chief Education Officer be given delegated authority to design and deliver a similar Easter holiday programme and report on the impact of the programme to the Education and Children's Services Committee following delivery.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Costs for the Autumn in the City programme were met from underspend from the resource allocated at Full Council, and from the Scottish Government Grant of £279,262 awarded for the summer programme. The total cost of delivery of the Autumn programme was £95,866.81.

Partner	Total Cost
Sport Aberdeen	£21,108.90
Peep	£100.00
Techfest	£1,600.00
Creative Learning	£3,200.00
CLICC	£12,600.00
Kidsize	£1080.00
AFCCT	£1,500.00
Transition Extreme	£1,200.00
ASV	£3,820.83
We Too	£4,770.00
Community Groups - (Russel Anderson Foundation, Early Intervention Aberdeen, Fersands and Fountain Community Project, Shazam Theatre Company, FaceYouth, African Women's Group Scotland, Stockethill Church of Scotland, Touch of Love Outreach, Middlefield Community project & King's Church Aberdeen)	£32,950.00
Cleaning	£11937.08 (TBC includes summer cost of £1,937.08)
TOTAL	£95,866.81 (subject to cleaning costs)

4.2 £77,596.71 remains in the programme budget and it is proposed that this underspend be used to develop a similar programme for the Easter holidays.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 No negative environmental impacts have been identified. Good use has been made of outdoor space where feasible to do so.

7. RISK

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	Risk of not fully using the	Priority access is given to those	L	Yes

	opportunity to support those in our priority groups	identified as being at risk of poverty in keeping with national guidance and local intelligence		
Compliance	Risk of not complying with national guidance	Making a small charge for families not within the priority groups will ensure that our approach is in keeping with national policy	L	Yes
Operational	Risk that parents and carers are unclear of how the national policy will impact on opportunities available to their child.	Communicate the parameters of the national guidance clearly with families. Monitor uptake carefully to determine any remedial action required.	L	Yes
Financial	No significant risks identified			
Reputational	Risk that charging will be perceived to limit opportunities for those not eligible according to national guidance	The resource allocated as part of the Council budget meeting will help provide opportunities to those not provided for in the national guidance such as those aged over 14.		Yes
Environment / Climate	No risks identified			

8. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</u>	
Impact of Report	
<p>Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement</p> <p>UNICEF Child Friendly City.</p>	<p>The proposals within this report support the delivery of 'Seek to make Aberdeen a UNICEF Child Friendly City' as the programme is fully shaped by young people giving them ownership of the services being delivered and how they are delivered.</p>

<p>Council Delivery Plan 2022/23 - Commit to closing the attainment gap in education while working with partners across the city.</p>	<p>The provision of a programme which prioritises those impacted by poverty will help mitigate some of the wellbeing harms associated with those living in poverty and help address the attainment gap by working with partners to provide a range of activity to support wellbeing.</p>
<p>Council Delivery Plan 2022/23 - Continue to promote diversion activities for youths and adults in our city with enhanced focused on our three locality areas</p>	<p>Providing activities for those aged 14+ will help complement work to provide diversion activities to youths.</p>

[Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan](#)

<p>Prosperous Economy - 500 Aberdeen City residents upskilled/ reskilled to enable them to move into, within and between economic opportunities as they arise by 2026</p> <p>1.1 Mitigating the causes of immediate and acute poverty.</p> <p>1.3 Supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged people, families and groups.</p>	<p>The proposals in this report will help mitigate the impact of poverty on families due to those who are identified as being in poverty, or at risk of being in poverty being given priority access to the programme at no charge.</p>
<p>Prosperous People - 95% of all our children, including those living in our priority neighbourhoods, will sustain a positive destination upon leaving school by 2026</p> <p>Mitigating the causes of immediate and acute poverty</p> <p>Supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged people, families and groups</p> <p>Poverty affecting those with protected characteristics and in specific communities</p> <p>95% of children (0-5 years) will reach their expected developmental milestones by the time of their child health reviews by 2026</p>	<p>The programme has been deliberately tailored to meet the needs of those most in need and this approach will help ensure positive impacts against many of the people stretch outcomes.</p> <p>By prioritising groups who are known to be at risk of poverty and those already experiencing poverty we are able to work to ensure positive impacts on groups who most need our help including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children and young people from lone parent families • children and young people from ethnic minority families • children from families with a disabled adult or child (or those with additional support need) • children and young people from families with a young mother (under 25) • children and young people from families with a child under 1 year old • children and young people from larger families (3+ children)

<p>Ensuring that families receive the parenting and family support they need</p> <p>90% of Children and young people will report that their experiences of mental health and wellbeing have been listened to by 2026. This is reflected in interactions, activities, supports and services</p> <p>Improving health and reducing inequalities.</p> <p>Increasing children's knowledge and understanding of their own physical and mental wellbeing and take an early intervention and prevention approach.</p> <p>As corporate parents we will ensure 95% of care experienced children and young people will have the same levels of attainment in education, health and emotional wellbeing, and positive destinations as their peers by 2026</p> <p>Improving education outcomes for care experienced children and young people.</p> <p>Supporting attainment of balance of care where children are able to remain more often at home and or with kin.</p>	<p>The programme will help provide a range of supports for families which will help mitigate some of the costs associated with school holiday periods and support the wellbeing of children and young people.</p> <p>The programme has been designed to offer a range of physical activities given the close alignment between good physical health and positive mental wellbeing and will therefore support positive mental health and wellbeing in our children and young people. The programme will also offer opportunities for our children and young people to make positive choices which are not influenced by financial resources which will hopefully help establish positive health habits in the longer term.</p> <p>The continued prioritisation of our care experienced young people, and those on the edge of care, helps ensure that we effectively discharge our Corporate Parenting responsibilities and promote and support the wellbeing of those in our care. The provision of activities will also provide support for carers.</p>
<p>Regional and City Strategies</p> <p>Regional Cultural Strategy</p> <p>Prevention Strategy</p> <p>Children's Services Plan</p> <p>National Improvement Framework Plan</p>	<p>The proposals within this report support the delivery of the Regional Cultural Strategy due to close collaboration with our Museums and Galleries team. The programme is fully aligned to the city prevention strategy. Work to address poverty in both the Children's services plan, the Child Poverty Action Plan, and the National Improvement Framework Plan</p>

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	None

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None

11. APPENDICES

Appendix A – Full Autumn in the City Programme

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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APPENDIX A- Autumn in the City programme

Universal Offer available to all children and young people

Provider	Event Description	Ages	Sessions
Museums & Galleries	Drop-in sessions. Activity trail - Galloway Hoard: Viking Age Treasure	8-12	Throughout October
	Aberdeen Art Gallery Animal Trail. Drop-in self-guided trail	5–10	Throughout October

Peep	Variety of bookable sessions that provides families and their young children opportunities to play, sing, and share stories together. It is also an opportunity for children and their grownups to socialise with others.	0-5	4 sessions throughout the holidays
ACC Library	Variety of bookable activities including Stop-motion animation, Lego club, Halloween crafts and therapets were held at variety of libraries throughout the October holidays	6 -11 (depending on activity)	22 sessions
	Halloween self-directed activities which were available during normal opening hours with no need to book. Sessions were held in a variety of libraries throughout the October holidays	All	Throughout October holidays
Duthie park Rangers	Outdoors fun with the Duthie Park Rangers with seasonal activities.	3-7	Throughout October holidays
	Outdoor workshops exploring nature with craft activities.	8-12	Throughout October holidays
	Orienteering sessions in Duthie Park.	All ages	Throughout October holidays
Sport Aberdeen	Family swimming, Ice skating and tubing sessions	All	48 sessions (throughout the October holidays)
	Leadership and Positive Destination Programme In collaboration with Sport Scotland's regional development officers, Active Schools are offering a mix of sports leadership courses across the city for secondary-aged children.	11-18 years	Throughout the October holidays
Creative Learning	Art week, designs, draw and creating at the Beach.	10-15	1 session (over 3 days)
	Theatre Week- over 3 days the beach became the young people's stage. Exploring the Beach area to Imagine - telling and sharing stories.	11-17	1 session (over 3 days)

Targeted offer for Priority Groups

Provider	Event Description	Ages	Sessions
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Community Link Childcare	Fun-filled weeklong holiday club for primary aged children.	5-12	2 sessions (full weeks)
Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust & Scottish Football Association, North Region	Summer Go Fitba sessions offering weeklong football training activities.	8-11	1 session (full week)
Aberdeen City Council Music team	Morning and afternoon musical activity sessions.	7-14	2 sessions
Aberdeen Sports Village	Weeklong multi-sports summer camp encouraging engagement in, and building confidence through, sport and physical activity.	5-15	2 sessions (full week session)
	Intensive Learn to Swim sessions	5-15	1 session (3 days)
Sport Aberdeen	Exploring a variety of activities focused around encouraging young people to get more active in these weeklong camps. Camps offered at various locations.	5-12	4 sessions (full week sessions)
Adventure Aberdeen	Biking day	8-11	1 session
		12-14	1 session
	Multi Active day session	5-7	1 session
		8-11	1 session
	Burnovat day session	5-7	1 session
		8-11	1 session
	Scrambling and sandboarding adventure sessions.	12-14	1 session
	Adventure hillwalking session.	12-14	1 session
Beach day	5-7	1 session	
	8-11	1 session	
Transition Extreme	Skate and Scran multi activity session	8-14	2 sessions
Aberdeen City Council Creative Learning Team	Engaging sessions encouraging children and young people's artistic creativity.	5-12	4 sessions (3 day sessions)
Kidsize	Full-day holiday camp.	5-12	3 sessions
Middlefield Community Project	Under 11's playscheme, available twice per week.	P1-6	Throughout October holiday
	Youth Hub for young people to enjoy activities such as swimming, skating, visits to beach, Landmarks.	P7-S4	Throughout October holidays
Russell Anderson Development School (RADS)	Fun-filled daily sport activity camp.	7-11	5 sessions
Faceyouth Skill Club	FACEYOUTH Skill Club, for children to learn new skills, develop leadership skills, self-confidence	5-17	1 session (full week)

	and make new friends through a variety of fun activities, including arts & crafts and music activities.		
TOL Young Achievers Holiday Club	TOL Young Achievers Holiday Club, engaging directly with the African community. Two weeks club with a variety of activities.	8-14	2 sessions (full week sessions)
Fersands and Fountain Community Project	October Playschemes, sport and art sessions for children p1-3 and p4-7.	P 1-3 and P 4-7.	Throughout October holiday
Shazam Theatre Company	Musical Theatre and drama workshop.	7-14	4 sessions
King's Church Aberdeen	VicTorry Summer Camp.	P1-7	2 sessions
African Women's Group Scotland SCIO.	Activities included drumming, dancing, face painting, storytelling, and singing.	5-14	1 session (full week)
Stockethill Church of Scotland	Family session include games, crafts, and lunch	All	3 sessions

Additional Support needs specialised sessions	<p>A range of activities were provided for children and young people with additional support needs and their families including specialist sessions at Orchard Brae School (application / invitation based), and a comprehensive programme delivered by We Too including session such as 'relaxed' activities and gaming based activities.</p> <p>Early intervention Aberdeen also ran drumming workshop, drama & movement, therapets and sensory play throughout the holidays.</p>
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