

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

CULTURE AND SPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

WOODHILL HOUSE, ABERDEEN, 3 DECEMBER, 2019

Present: Mr D Cook (via Skype); Councillor L Berry; Councillor A Forsyth; Councillor C Pike; Mr J Knowles; and Ms K Penman (via Skype).

Apologies: Councillor A Simpson; and Mr C Sutherland.

Officers: Interim Head of Live Life Aberdeenshire (Avril Nicol); Service Manager, Facilities & Funding (Tim Stephen); Service Manager, Business Development (Claire Thomson); Principal Solicitor, (Lauren Cowie); Team Manager, Finance (Shirleyann Gordon); and Committee Officer, Legal and Governance (Jan McRobbie).

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

In the physical absence of both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, the Interim Head of Live Life Aberdeenshire called for nominations for a pro tem Chair.

The Sub-Committee unanimously **agreed** that Mr Knowles Chair the meeting.

Mr Knowles took the Chair.

2. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Mr Knowles, in the Chair, asked members if they had any interests to declare, in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

In terms of Item 3, Mr Knowles declared an interest as a fundraiser for one of the organisations who had previously been in receipt of Council funding. Having applied the objective test, he determined that the interest was both clear and substantial and left the meeting, taking no part in the further discussions.

At this point of proceedings, the Sub-Committee unanimously **agreed** that Councillor Forsyth Chair the remainder of the meeting.

2A. PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

In taking decisions on the undernoted items of business, the Sub-Committee **agreed**, in terms of Section 149 of the Equality Act, 2010:-

- (1) to have due regard to the need to:-
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- (2) to consider, where an equality impact assessment has been provided, its contents and to take those into consideration when reaching a decision.

2B. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Sub-Committee **agreed**, in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the items specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the undernoted paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Item No	Paragraph No of Schedule 7A
3	4

3. GRANT FUNDING

With reference to the Minute of Meeting of 14 November, 2019 (Item 11) and the Minute of Meeting of the Education, Learning and Leisure Committee of 8 December, 2016 (Item 9), when members had agreed grant support for cultural, sport, and community learning and development functions, there had been circulated a report dated 20 November, 2019 by the Director of Education and Children's Services which requested consideration of a proposed approach with outside bodies in moving away from traditional grant funding to a specific Positive Action Grants, relating to the deliver of specific Live Life Aberdeenshire objectives.

The Sub-Committee heard further from the Head of Live Life Aberdeenshire and the Service Managers that discussions to date with the previous grant recipients, aware over a period of years of the proposed change, had not yet reached a recommended course of action for each organisation; that local needs would be taken into account when allocating funding, with the base use of Service Level Agreements to link the funding to expected outputs; and that decisions would be taken with a full understanding of implications of any changes, so that there would be no unintended consequences for bodies using the facilities.

After discussion, the Sub-Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to agree the principle of the process for releasing grant funding in 2020/21, noting that this is subject to the outcome of the Council's budget-setting process;
- (2) that officers pursue further discussion with local organisations on potential funding routes; and
- (3) that a further update report be considered on 22 January, 2020 on grant funding, including the terms, and amounts, of any award proposed, and the expectations for the outcomes of that funding in the local community.