

## COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

### CULTURE AND SPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

WOODHILL HOUSE, ABERDEEN, 22 JANUARY, 2020

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

**Apology:** Mr C Sutherland.

**Officers:** Interim Head of Live Life Aberdeenshire (Avril Nicol); Service Manager, Facilities & Funding (Tim Stephen); Corporate Finance Manager; Principal Solicitor, (Lauren Cowie); Arts and Heritage Manager (via Skype; and Senior Committee Officer (Niall David).

#### 1. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

In terms of Item 10, Councillor Simpson and Mr Knowles declared interests due to involvement with organisations who had previously been in receipt of Council funding. Having applied the objective test, both Councillor Simpson and Mr Knowles determined that the interest was both clear and substantial and indicated that they would leave the meeting, taking no part in the discussions on that item.

#### 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
8	8
9	8
10	4

### **3. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF 14 NOVEMBER AND 3 DECEMBER, 2019**

On consideration of the circulated Minutes of Meetings of the Sub-Committee of 14 November and 3 December, 2019, members **approved** them as correct records, after which the Minutes were signed by the Chair.

### **4. VERBAL UPDATE ON PERFORMANCE INFORMATION**

The Sub-Committee **noted** a verbal update on Performance Information provided by the Interim Head of Live Life Aberdeenshire.

### **5. LIVE LIFE ABERDEENSHIRE CATERING**

There was circulated a report dated 19 December, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children's Services which outlined the requirement for a change in the delivery model for catering in Live Life Aberdeenshire (LLA) facilities and proposed a review of the catering offered in its establishments.

The report explained that LLA proposed a review process commencing in early 2020 which would be carried out to determine the most effective and efficient catering operating model across the LLA facilities. The aim was for a further detailed report with recommendations to be provided to the Sub-Committee in April 2020.

The Sub-Committee **agreed** that:-

- (1) a review of catering across LLA establishments be undertaken;
- (2) the terms of reference of the review be provided to Members of the Sub-Cttee for information by email;
- (3) a stakeholders' project team be established; and
- (4) a review report with options for consideration be submitted to the Sub-Committee in April 2020.

### **6. LIVE LIFE ABERDEENSHIRE PITCH AND OPEN SPACE STRATEGY**

There was circulated a report dated 7 January, 2020, by the Director of Education and Children's Services which outlined progress of the Pitch and Open Space Strategy and sought endorsement for suggested future progress.

The report highlighted that the Facilities and Funding team had been overseeing a project to maximise the access to outdoor spaces for the benefit of health and wellbeing, and to look at improving the ability of organised sports clubs to access grass and synthetic pitch facilities. Key recommendations from the work included: establishment of local hubs with community involvement to plan and programme club schedules and usage with maintenance; encouraging community management and further coordinating development of a range of existing pitches; and development of a network of high quality pitches to be booked and charged through LLA.

The report concluded by explaining that the next steps included officers developing specific plans for each network and identifying the costs and funding options for future consideration.

The Sub-Committee **agreed:-**

- (1) that the following actions be implemented: the establishment of local pitch user hubs in networks; endorsement of more community management of sports pitches; and the principle of establishing high quality pitches booked and managed by LLA;
- (2) to the principle of the creation of a pitch plan for each network, following consultation with Area Committees;
- (3) that officers establish the costs associated with the proposals set out in the report, outlining the business case and funding options; and
- (4) that the Chair and Interim Head of LLA determine an appropriate way to provide detailed information of developer obligation funds to the Sub-Committee.

## **7. LIVE LIFE ABERDEENSHIRE – ACROSS THE GRAIN FESTIVAL**

With reference to the Minute of Meeting of the Sub-Committee of 14 November 2019 (Item 6), there was circulated a report dated 19 December, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children's Services which detailed the performance of the impact of the Across the Grain 2019 Festival and proposed a revised format and approach, with the aim of growing audiences and increasing the return on financial resources and staff time.

A summary report of the 2019 festival was included as an appendix. It detailed: summary of activity; analysis of key findings; lessons learned; and key measures of success.

The report went on to provide details of proposals for the 2020 festival, based upon learning from the key findings. In essence this was to continue to develop Across the Grain as a cultural brand for Aberdeenshire by programming an annual festival of high profile events in a smaller number of communities over a four day long weekend in October.

The Sub-Committee **agreed:-**

- (1) to acknowledge the performance reports for Across the Grain 2019;
- (2) to approve a revised format and approach around the promotion of Doric culture; and
- (3) that the Arts and Heritage Team provide the the Sub-Committee with the draft programme of activity for 2020 in due course, and thereafter produce a finalised programme.

## **8. PROPERTY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT AND INVESTMENT UPDATE**

There was circulated a report dated 7 January, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children's Services on progress to improve ways of working in respect of maintaining the portfolio of properties, and the principle underpinning the developing Live Live Aberdeenshire (LLA) estate Capital Plan.

The report explained that the Service was currently working two work streams related to the development of property infrastructure and planning, namely: ensuring customer facing facilities are refreshed when major work takes place and where it is required; and development of a ten year Capital Plan.

The Sub-Committee **agreed:-**

- (1) to note and endorse the processes currently being utilised to repair and refresh a range of LLA facilities in the current financial year;

- (2) that the process be further developed and expanded for the 2020/21 financial year; and
- (3) to note the ongoing development of the Capital Plan, as outlined in the report.

#### **9. LIVE LIFE ABERDEENSHIRE BUSINESS PLAN 2019 TO 2024**

There was circulated a report dated 9 January, 2020, by the Director of Education and Children's Services which presented for consideration the draft initial five year Business Plan for Live Life Aberdeenshire (LLA).

The report explained that the five year Business Plan was intended to drive forward the development and delivery of the business unit and provide clarity for staff and other stakeholders on the vision and mission of Live Life Aberdeenshire. The draft Business Plan was included as an appendix to the report.

The Sub-Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to acknowledge the draft Business Plan;
- (2) that staff consultation on the draft Business Plan be undertaken at a planned staff event on 24 January, 2020 ;
- (3) that the draft Business Plan be submitted for consultation to the meeting of the Communities Committee on 20 February, 2020; and
- (4) that a final draft Business Plan, incorporating comments and feedback from consultees, be submitted to the meeting of the Sub-Committee on 27 February, 202 for consideration and approval as appropriate.

#### **10. LIVE LIFE ABERDEENSHIRE GRANT FUNDING**

Councillor Simpson and Mr Knowles withdrew from the meeting for consideration of this item.

With reference to the Minutes of Meetings of the Sub-Committee of 14 November (Item 11) and 3 December (Item 3), there was circulated a report dated 17 December, 2019, by the Director of Education and Children's Services on Live Life Aberdeenshire (LLA) Grant Funding.

The report reminded members that the Sub-committee had previously received two reports on the future of Live Life Aberdeenshire Key Partner Core Grant Funding. The Sub-Committee had agreed that any future scheme would have a focus on impact. Therefore Members had agreed to the development of a Positive Actions Grants Scheme. The Sub-Committee also endorsed further work by officers to provide information on the impact of any withdrawal or reduction in funding to those groups currently receiving LLA grants.

The Sub-Committee **agreed** to:-

- (1) acknowledge the recommendations on the funding in 2020/21 Financial Year and note that this was subject to the outcome of the Council's budget setting process; and
- (2) instruct the Service to consult with all elected members at Ward Level and the Communities Committee at the meeting on 20 February, 2020, and thereafter a final decision regarding LLA Grant Funding to be taken at the meeting of the Culture and Sport Sub-Committee on 27 February, 2020.