



REPORT TO EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE – 7 OCTOBER 2021

LIVE LIFE ABERDEENSHIRE - ECS HOLIDAY RECOVERY PROGRAMME

1 Reason for Report / Summary

- 1.1 Provide an update on the ECS Holiday Recovery Programme – Summer of Play and plans and budget requirements for activities during the October holiday period.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Acknowledge the successes and impact of Summer of Play;**
- 2.2 Comment on the proposals for Holiday Recovery provision in the October break;**
- 2.3 Agree to the draw down of allocated budget to provide funding to Academies for use in provision of study support for senior phase pupils as set out in 4.14 of this paper;**
- 2.4 Consider provision of a 4 week holiday recovery programme in Summer 2022; and**
- 2.5 Agree to receive a further report in December 2021 on the delivery of October programme.**

3 Purpose and Decision-Making Route

- 3.1 This report is coming to ECS Committee following approval at ECS Committee on 27th May to implement a Holiday Recovery Programme for children and young people across Aberdeenshire following the Council commitment of £2 million from reserves, in addition to the additional funding provided by the Scottish Government of £560,000 for activities for children and young people under the national banner of Summer of Play.

4 Discussion

- 4.1 The first planning stage for the Summer of Play was to undertake a detailed consultation exercise to ensure that the activity offering during the holiday period was representative of children and young people and their needs across Aberdeenshire. Community Learning and Development undertook surveys with young people, parents and carers to determine their views on the types of activities and experiences that they would want to see being offered. This engagement process was expanded with young people, with engagement led

focus groups to co-produce the programme offering and how best to meet identified needs.

- 4.2 Engagement in this process achieved 1,653 online Holiday Recovery Programme surveys completed, 18 focus groups with young people and 24 focus groups combined with young people and parents. From the responses provided by parents and young people, key activities were identified with the top 10% of activities influencing the programme offer for summer activities. Key activities were categorised in 6 areas, Outdoor Activities, Physical & Sport Activities, Creative Activities, Online Activities, Developing New Skills, and Local Attractions-Places to Go. **Appendix 1** highlights the activities made available to children and young people during the Summer of Play which commenced Monday 28th June and ended on Friday 13th August 2021.
- 4.3 Programming priorities for activities focused on the key strategic priorities outlined in the targeted summer offer policy intention provided by the Scottish Government, and included targeted provision for activities for low-income families, families in receipt of child Disability Living Allowance and low-income children in Aberdeenshire as a share of the population living in rural areas. These priorities were underpinned by the requirement outlined in ECS Holiday Recovery Programme Report on 27th May, to adopt a cluster approach to activity across the 17 Networks across Aberdeenshire.
- 4.4 A short-term working group was established within ECS to take forward the key activities identified which delivered on the strategic priorities referenced and had 6 weeks to plan and implement the programme. Engagement with internal departments across Aberdeenshire Council allowed for the targeted provision of activities to reach those identified, as well as a universal provision to children and young people with opportunities for families to engage in activities during the 7-week period.
- 4.5 Recognising the challenges and pressures that the Covid-19 pandemic has placed on external partner organisations, including local groups and organisations, voluntary sports clubs, activity providers and cultural venues, a strategic decision was made which facilitated investment and delivery of activities in their own local venues as well as venues operated by Live Life Aberdeenshire. This approach was positively received and provided footfall and engagement back into services which ceased or closed due to restrictions previously.
- 4.6 In addition to the investment provided by Scottish Government and allocation from reserves, sportscotland provided Live Life Aberdeenshire with funds of £56,708 to add value to the work in delivering sport and physical activity. Live Life Aberdeenshire via the support of Aberdeenshire Clubsport directed investment into local community activities and programmes.
- 4.7 Effective partnership working both internally and externally was key to the success of the programme and has provided the platform to support the provision of activities for October and Easter and will support shared agendas

in other key service workstreams moving forward. **Appendix 2** highlights the 57 partners involved in the delivery of all summer activities.

- 4.8 The Summer of Play branded campaign and title was directed by the Scottish Government with Live Life Aberdeenshire Customer Development Team taking forward marketing and engagement that focussed across our digital channels (Website, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and the LLA App for mobile devices). The Summer of Play campaign launched on 9th June and continued to promote activities and announce booking release dates throughout the summer. The Summer of Play web pages received 230,449 visits, Facebook posts received 194,268 views, and the LLA App has been downloaded 18,800 times.
- 4.9 In terms of programme successes and outcomes achieved, a total of 71,534 participation opportunities in free activities was made available during the 7-week period with government restrictions and Covid-19 guidelines, placing limitations and attendance caps on programmes. Uptake in activities was as follows; 49,071 attendances, which represents a 68.5% engagement success. Recognising those activities were free of charge, this unfortunately resulted in non-attendances for booked activities and it is always a challenge when activities have a zero-charge applied to them. Early identification of non-attendances allowed Live Life Aberdeenshire Customer Development to take forward an awareness campaign highlighting that failure to attend was denying another person an opportunity of activity and the process for cancellation of bookings. In addition to this, LLA introduced the automation of waiting lists and push notification via our App for the booking of activities as well as a mechanism for cancelling attendance at activities for these to then be available for booking on our App. A breakdown of attendances is as follows;
- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 0 -11 years old - | 35,151 attendances (72%) |
| 12 – 17 years old - | 4,243 attendances (8%) |
| Adult 18+ - | 9,680 attendances (20%) |
- 4.10 The Scottish Government are providing funding towards the Summer of Play programme totalling £562,000. The total expenditure, and loss of income by providing free activities, is estimated to be £725,000, therefore the draw down required from the allocated Reserve will be around £163,000.
- 4.11 Acknowledging timescales for reporting to ECS Committee on the Summer of Play and requirements to progress with planning for October activity provision which will take place 18th to 29th October, a series of debrief sessions and evaluations on the Summer of Play has taken place and has informed programme improvements and additional activities for October. In addition to this an additional engagement programme has taken place across the 17 secondary schools and additional support need schools in Aberdeenshire with almost 1,200 responses on activities for October. Evaluations and feedback on the Summer of Play, includes participants, all staff and partners supporting programme delivery.
- 4.12 Evaluations from participants which were issued via Engage HQ highlights that 83% of participants from the Summer of Play are now more active, 75% are

reporting that they are now more confident, 73% undertook a new experience during the holiday period. 77% of parents reported the benefit of an opportunity to socialise, and 65% felt their child learned new skills.

- 4.13 As programming plans are being developed and finalised for October, budget requirements are being identified and at the time of drafting this report, are being projected at £200,000 for physical and cultural activities in October. Promotion of the October programme will commence on Monday 20th September with activities available for booking the week commencing 4th October. It is anticipated that October costs will also be mirrored for the holiday activity provision for Easter, with a draw down of £400,000 on the allocated reserves budget of £2m. The planning and provision of activities for Easter will be coordinated following an evaluation of the October programme, and additional consultations undertaken to ensure that the programme is responding to the needs and aspirations of children and young people.
- 4.14 In addition to the activities planned to support physical and mental wellbeing through sporting and cultural holiday opportunities in October 2021 and Easter 2022, young people in the senior phase of secondary education have voiced a wish to access study support in these school holiday periods. This is to support their preparation for exam diet. It is therefore proposed to create a 'study support fund', which Academy Head Teachers can bid in to. It is suggested that a draw down of a further £200,000 from allocated reserves would be necessary to enable this provision.
- 4.15 Given the very positive response to the Summer provision, and reported impact on the wellbeing of children, young people and families in this period of recovery from the pandemic, it is proposed to seek permission for the use of up to a further £500,000 from allocated reserves to put in place a 4 week holiday recovery programme during the school summer holiday in 2022.

5 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

- 5.1 Specify which of the Council's Priorities are relevant to the report.

Pillar	Priority
Our People	Education Health & Wellbeing
Our Environment	Infrastructure Resilient Communities
Our Economy	Economy & Enterprise Estate Modernisation

This report helps deliver the Strategic Priorities of “Education and Health and Wellbeing” within the Pillar “Our People”, and also supports the key underpinning principles of having the right people, in the right place, at the right time and tackling poverty and inequalities.

- 5.2 This report helps deliver against Aberdeenshire Children's Services Plan Priority – Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing

This report helps deliver on the LOIP Priority – Child Poverty

- 5.3 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendations are agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial		x	
Staffing		x	
Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland	x		
Children and Young People’s Rights and Wellbeing	x		
Climate Change and Sustainability		x	
Health and Wellbeing	x		
Town Centre First		x	

- 5.4 An integrated impact assessment has been carried out as part of the development of the proposals set out above. It is included as **Appendix 3** and there is a positive impact in that the proposals for holiday recovery will provide additional opportunities for young people during holiday periods to support their physical, social and mental health and wellbeing. These supports will be targeted at specific groups of young people who will benefit the most.
- 5.5 It is anticipated that the proposals outlined in this report will have a positive impact on children and young people’s rights and wellbeing.
- 5.6 No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate or Directorate Level.

6 Scheme of Governance

- 6.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report, their comments have been included and they are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.
- 6.2 The Committee is able to consider this item in terms of Section E1.1b of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to policy issues relating to Education that are not specifically delegated to any other Committee

Laurence Findlay
Director of Education & Children’s Services

Report prepared by Avril Nicol Head of Communities, Wellbeing & Partnerships
Date 8 September 2021

List of Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Summer of Play Activities
- Appendix 2 - Summer of Play Partners
- Appendix 3 – Integrated Impact Assessment

APPENDIX 1



Summer of Play Activity Offering

Adult and child swims	Forest Schools Campfire
Arts and Crafts	Gym sessions
ASN Swims	Hockey
Athletics	Junior Jog
Badminton	Junior Pitch Hire
Basketball	Lego
Bike Track	Movie
Boccia	Multi Sport
Body Zorbs	Netball
Climbing Wall	Outdoor Cooking
Coding	P7 lessons
Cooking	Quiz
Court Hire	Roller Blade
Craft Sessions	Roller Ski
Cross Country Ski	STEM
Cycling	Story Board
Dance	Team Building Games
Disco	Tennis
Event Academy - Cast Your Voice	Touch Rugby
Event Academy - Customer care	Trails
Experience Days	Tubing
Family Swimming	12-17 Fun Swims
Football	8-11 swims

APPENDIX 2



Summer of Play Programme Partners

Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust	Machi
Aberdeen Badminton Academy	Meadows Ellon
Aberdeen Football Club	Mel and John Wills
Aberdeen Snowsports Club	Millenium Child
Aberdeenshire Club Sport	Mitchell School of Drama
Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust	Movement Evolution
Aberdeenshire Wanderers	NEAT
Alvah Gym Club	Orienteering and Leisure Maps
Banchory Trampoline and DMT Club	OWLS
Banff Rugby Club	Panthers Basketball Club
Bennachie Leisure Centre	Peterhead Bowling Club
Bettridge Centre	Peterhead Football Club
Charlie Flint	Peterhead Prison Museum
Deeside Rugby	Peterhead Tae Kwon Do
East Aberdeenshire PC	Princess Royal Sport and Community Trust
Fire Service	Ride in Peace Adventures
Flexible Childcare Services	Royal Tarlair Golf Club
Fraserburgh Lighthouse Museum	Ruth Kent
Garioch Judo Club	Scottish Orienteering
Garioch Rugby	Sound Light sensory
Garioch Sport Centre	Spikin Autism Project
Gordon Jack	Struan Robertson
Grampian Disability Sport	Ten Foot Tall Theatre
Grampian Snowsports Club	The River Dee Trust
Grampian Transport Museum	The Windsurf and SUP Club
Horseback UK	TOADS
Huntly RFC	Vanessa Jack
Kintore Bowling Club	Vikki Paterson
Lawrence Dance Academy	

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

ECS Holiday Recovery Programme

Assessment ID	IIA-000149
Lead Author	Chris Murphy
Additional Authors	Tim Stephen
Service Reviewers	John Cornfield
Subject Matter Experts	Susan Forbes, Christine McLennan
Approved By	Avril Nicol
Approved On	Tuesday September 21, 2021
Publication Date	Wednesday September 22, 2021

1. Overview

This document has been generated from information entered into the Integrated Impact Assessment system.

To provide a holiday recovery programme across all 17 clusters in Aberdeenshire to support the mental, physical and social health and wellbeing of young people during the Covid-19 recovery phase.

During screening 3 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 2 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Childrens' Rights and Wellbeing
- Health Inequalities

In total there are 5 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 0 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 2 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by avril.nicol@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

The remainder of this document sets out the details of all completed impact assessments.

2. Screening

Could your activity / proposal / policy cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres?	No
Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e) in the Council or community and / or the procurement, use or disposal of physical resources?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the resilience to extreme weather events and/or a changing climate of Aberdeenshire Council or community?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	No
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy reduce inequality of outcome?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	Yes

3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	No Negative Impacts Identified
Climate Change and Sustainability	Not Required
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	Not Required
Health Inequalities	No Negative Impacts Identified
Town Centre's First	Not Required

4. Childrens' Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment

4.1. Wellbeing Indicators

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Safe		Yes		
Healthy	Yes			
Achieving		Yes		
Nurtured		Yes		
Active	Yes			
Respected		Yes		
Responsible		Yes		
Included	Yes			

4.2. Rights Indicators

UNCRC Indicators upheld by this activity / proposal / policy	Article 23 - Children with disabilities Article 31 - Leisure, play and culture
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4.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Active	Increased access to opportunities with the barrier of cost eliminated. Programme was delivered throughout Aberdeenshire and supported by external partners to increase reach and choice in activities on offer.
Healthy	Improved and increased opportunities for children and young people to participate in free activities for 7 weeks.
Included	Activity offering was inclusive with specific activities made available for key individuals, groups and communities.

4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Access to Seemis/ Targeted Groups via Social Work and CLD	Holiday activities were provided across Aberdeenshire but a specific focus was given to ensuring equity of provision and also targeting individuals and groups who are at greatest risk.	A direct targeted approach for the marketing and promotion of activities on offer during the summer with a pre sign up to activities prior to the promotion and release of activities for general public.

4.5. Accounting for the Views of Children and Young People

Summer programme offering was coproduced by children and young people with the top 10% of activities influencing the programme offer for summer activities made available.

4.6. Promoting the Wellbeing of Children and Young People

The programme offering was delivered by qualified staff and partners across Aberdeenshire all of whom adhere to strict safeguarding policies and procedures. Activities took place in safe, friendly and welcoming environments. The Summer of Play focused on improving the health and wellbeing of children and young people affected by the Covid-19 pandemic with an emphasis on fun and enjoyment.

4.7. Upholding Children and Young People's Rights

The programme offering placed children and young people at the heart of the decision making process and ensured that activities were representative of their needs, asks and wishes.

4.8. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The Summer of Play and free activities on offer throughout Aberdeenshire provided children, young people and families the opportunity to reconnect together and participate in a variety of fun and new activities with positive experiences gained.

5. Health Inequalities Impact Assessment

5.1. Health Behaviours

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Healthy eating		Yes		
Exercise and physical activity	Yes	Yes		
Substance use – tobacco		Yes		
Substance use – alcohol		Yes		
Substance use – drugs		Yes		
Mental health	Yes			

5.2. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Exercise and physical activity	Recognising the challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on children and young people with the benefits that sport, and physical activity offers. A programme of 7 weeks of free activities was made available providing both formal activities and informal recreational opportunities across Aberdeenshire.
Mental health	Alternative opportunities as part of the 7 week programme ensured a greater offering was made available and enabled children and young people to participate in interests outside traditional sports activities. Examples of activities included, coding, cooking, dance, music and STEM. Activities to engage those specifically with additional support needs was made available also. This all contributed to improving the mental health of children and young people.

5.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Consultation	Children, Young People and Parent Evaluation	49,071 attendances in activities made available 83% are now more active 75% are now more confident 73% undertook a new experience 77% Parents felt opportunity to socialise 65% felt child learnt new skills	Findings taken from programme evaluations demonstrate the impact that the Summer of Play has on children and young people, with parents also recognising the impact and positive changes that the programme has had.

5.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The "Summer of Play" 7 week programme of free activities across Aberdeenshire provided children, young people and families the opportunity to engage in free activities and services with the removal of cost as a barrier to participation. This provided the opportunity for children,

families and friends to reconnect together through a programme of fun activities for all, which aimed to help improve both physical and mental health as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

6. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
Review feedback and programme evaluation from Summer of Play and ensure project team take forward improvements for October Holiday provision.	<p>Lead Officer Chris Murphy</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Monday August 30, 2021</p> <p>Planned Finish Sunday October 31, 2021</p> <p>Expected Outcome Improved activity offering for children and young people</p> <p>Resource Implications Officer time and draw down on ECS Holiday Recovery Fund</p>
Review feedback and programme evaluation from October Programme and ensure project team take forward improvements for Easter Holiday provision.	<p>Lead Officer Chris Murphy</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Monday November 01, 2021</p> <p>Planned Finish Tuesday November 30, 2021</p> <p>Expected Outcome Improved activity offering for children and young people</p> <p>Resource Implications Officer time and draw down on ECS Holiday Recovery Fund</p>