

REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 11TH JANUARY 2022

AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME – ALLOCATION OF RETURNED GRANT

1. Executive Summary/Recommendation

1.1 On 22nd June 2021 the Area Committee approved a grant of £2,403 to New Deer Heritage Group towards their community project. Unfortunately, group representatives have recently been in touch to advise that they are unable to move forward with their project in this financial year.

1.2 The Committee is recommended to:

1.2.1 Delegate the amount of £2,403 to the Area Manager, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Buchan Area Committee, to disburse appropriately before the end of the financial year.

2. Decision Making Route

2.1 At the Buchan Area Committee on 20th April 2021 (Item 12) Councillors agreed to make available £61,500 of the Area Committee Budget to an Area Committee Grant Scheme, similar to that run in previous years. It was further agreed that the grant scheme would be publicised and developed in tandem with the Buchan Development Partnership.

2.2 On 22nd June 2021 the Area Committee approved the first round of allocations from the Area Committee Grant Scheme 2021/2022, then on 5th October 2021 approved the disbursement of the remaining balance so that the fund was fully committed.

3. Discussion

3.1 As advised above, on 22nd June 2021 the Area Committee approved a grant of £2,403 to New Deer Heritage Group towards their community project. Unfortunately, group representatives were recently in touch to advise that they are unable to move forward with their project in this financial year and no longer require the £2,403 allocated to them.

- 3.2 The Area Manager has spoken with representatives of Buchan Development Partnership and is confident that the returned grant of £2,403 could be made available to other community projects within Buchan who will be able to make good use of the additional funds and submit the required documentation to make their claim within this financial year.

4. Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

- 4.1 This report details applications which helps deliver Council Priorities –

Our Environment – Infrastructure, Resilient Communities

Further information can be found –

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/councilplan/delivering-our-priorities-across-services/>

- 4.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed.

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

- 4.3 An Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out and is included as Appendix 1 to the report.
- 4.4 There are no staffing implications arising from this report. The management of this budget will be undertaken within existing area management resources.
- 4.5 The proposals outlined in this report are in line with the allocation of financial resources approved as part of the Councils Revenue Budget.
- 4.6 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level: Budget Pressures - ACORP001; Working with other organisations - ACORP005 [Corporate Risk Register](#).

4.7 No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level
[Directorate Risk Registers](#)

5. Scheme of Governance

5.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

5.2 The Committee can consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section B.6.3 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to the authorisation of expenditure from the Area Committee Budget.

Ritchie Johnson
Director of Business Services

Report by Theresa Wood, Area Committee Officer, 24th December 2021

List of Appendices - Appendix 1 – IIA

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME – ALLOCATION OF RETURNED GRANT

Assessment ID	IIA-000333
Lead Author	Theresa Wood
Additional Authors	Eleanor Morris
Service Reviewers	Lynne Gravener
Subject Matter Experts	Audrey Michie, Susan Forbes, Claudia Cowie, Lynne Gravener, Christine McLennan
Approved By	Mhairi Reid
Approved On	Wednesday January 05, 2022
Publication Date	Wednesday January 05, 2022

1. Overview

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

Impact of Area Committee Funding within Buchan Area

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

- Childrens' Rights and Wellbeing
- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Health Inequalities
- Sustainability and Climate Change
- Town Centres First

In total there are 27 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 0 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 0 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by mhairi.reid@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?	Yes
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?	Yes
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?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	Yes
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy reduce inequality of outcome?	Yes
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	No Negative Impacts Identified
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	No Negative Impacts Identified
Health Inequalities	No Negative Impacts Identified
Town Centre's First	No Negative Impacts Identified

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 12 - Respect for the views of the child Article 31 - Leisure, play and culture
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4.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Active	Communities, partners and services can seek funding to develop projects that encourage active travel or create or enhance community, leisure and recreational facilities which may increase physical activeness
Healthy	Exercise and physical activity: Communities, partners and services can seek funding to develop projects that encourage active travel or create or enhance community, leisure and recreational facilities
Included	Many projects that secured funding previously focused on young people and arose from feedback from young people.

4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Reducing poverty/Child Poverty Action Plan	Evidence highlights that children living in deprived areas have poorer outcomes and wellbeing levels in comparison to their non-deprived peers. The data shows that not all families living in poverty live in deprived areas. A number of children and young people experiencing poverty, with a level of unmet need will be living in the wider Buchan area as well as those parts of Peterhead defined through SIMD	Using funding to deliver positive outcomes in Buchan communities will help support wellbeing and improved socio-economic outcomes

4.5. Accounting for the Views of Children and Young People

Young people form part of our 'Local Voices' lived experience forum and contribute to discussion about service improvement. Young people also participated in the community impact assessment.

4.6. Promoting the Wellbeing of Children and Young People

The application process for funding is open to all communities in Buchan and there is no restriction on the types of project that can be supported

4.7. Upholding Children and Young People's Rights

All applicants seek support from BDP who emphasise the benefits of engagement, participation and inclusion in projects.

4.8. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The children and young peoples' rights and wellbeing implications are likely to close the inequalities gap and support improved quality of life.

5. Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment

5.1. Protected Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Age (Younger)	Yes			
Age (Older)	Yes			
Disability	Yes			
Race		Yes		
Religion or Belief		Yes		
Sex		Yes		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Yes		
Sexual Orientation		Yes		
Gender Reassignment		Yes		
Marriage or Civil Partnership		Yes		

5.2. Socio-economic Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Low income	Yes			
Low wealth		Yes		
Material deprivation		Yes		
Area deprivation	Yes			
Socioeconomic background	Yes			

5.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Age (Older)	Communities, partners and services can seek funding to develop projects that encourage active travel or create or enhance community, leisure and recreational facilities
Age (Younger)	Communities, partners and services can seek funding to develop projects that encourage active travel or create or enhance community, leisure and recreational facilities.
Disability	Communities, partners and services can seek funding to develop projects that encourage active travel or create or enhance community, leisure and recreational facilities
Area deprivation	The funding uses a range of set criteria and information supplied to identify opportunities for advancing equality of opportunity. Some coastal areas of Buchan (particularly Peterhead Harbour intermediate zone) experience less favourable outcomes relative to the rest of Buchan, Aberdeenshire and Scotland. These areas are included in a Locality Plan and are eligible for this fund under the geographical criteria.

Impact Area	Impact
Low income	The funding uses a range of set criteria and information supplied to identify opportunities for advancing equality of opportunity. Some areas of Buchan (particularly Peterhead Harbour intermediate zone) experience less favourable outcomes relative to the rest of Buchan, Aberdeenshire and Scotland. These areas are included in a Locality Plan and are eligible for this funding.
Socioeconomic background	The funding may increase/enhance social and recreational facilities in coastal communities (including deprived areas), many of which would be free to use. There may be increased employment and local spend.

5.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Consultation	Community Impact Assessment	It identifies the impact of Covid and gives information on what is important to communities as they recover and where improvements could be focused	It highlights where investment such as Area Committee Funding can be invested.
Internal Consultation	Area Committee	When developing the guidance for funding applications, consultation was undertaken with the Area Committee. No specific equalities issues were identified through this input.	Focusing the funding on the priorities is not anticipated to have a negative effect on any of the protected characteristics.

5.5. Engagement with affected groups

Community Impact Assessment, Online stakeholder engagement

5.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

Through partnership work with those who support marginalised groups and through community champions supporting these communities.

5.7. Evidence of engagement

Online discussions have taken place with community groups and Elected Members and the guidance for applications to the budget reflects the priorities that were identified as important through for example the Buchan Community Plan.

5.8. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The proposal is anticipated to have a neutral impact for most protected characteristics and a positive one for disability and age-related protected characteristics.

5.9. Improving Relations

Empowerment of communities to develop/deliver projects that meet their locally defined priorities

5.10. Opportunities of Equality

The funding provides an opportunity to provide direct resourcing to projects which support people with protected characteristics.

6. Health Inequalities Impact Assessment

6.1. Health Behaviours

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

6.2. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Exercise and physical activity	Communities, partners and services can seek funding to develop projects that encourage active travel or create or enhance community, leisure and recreational facilities
Mental health	Communities, partners and services can seek funding to develop projects that encourage active travel or create or enhance community, leisure and recreational facilities which in turn can promote positive mental wellbeing.

6.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Consultation	Community Impact Assessment	Over one third of respondents noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted their mental wellbeing. Around one third (35%) of all respondents indicated that their physical wellbeing had been impacted in a negative way although 12% stated that it had a positive impact.	Enabling the funding on priorities that include creating or enhancing community, leisure and recreational facilities could have a positive impact on reducing health inequality.

6.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The funding can support projects that improve physical and mental wellbeing

7. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

7.1. Emissions and Resources

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Consumption of energy	Yes			
Energy efficiency	Yes			
Energy source	Yes			
Low carbon transition	Yes			
Consumption of physical resources	Yes			
Waste and circularity		Yes		
Circular economy transition		Yes		
Economic and social transition	Yes			

7.2. Biodiversity and Resilience

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Quality of environment	Yes			
Quantity of environment		Yes		
Wildlife and biodiversity	Yes			
Infrastructure resilience		Yes		
Council resilience		Yes		
Community resilience	Yes			
Adaptation	Yes			

7.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Adaptation	The funding can be used to support communities identify and adapt to alternative sources of energy for physical assets or improve the material of an asset to increase energy efficiency and reduce consumption of energy
Quality of environment	Funding can be sought for projects that safeguard, restore or enhance the environment
Community resilience	The funding is designed to enable communities to develop and deliver projects within their locality. As part of developing projects support is available to community groups to help ensure the projects and the groups are resilient and the outcomes of the project have a wider socio-economic impact.
Wildlife and biodiversity	The funding can support projects developed by communities, partners or services that safeguard, restore or enhance the environment

Impact Area	Impact
Consumption of energy	The funding can be used to support communities identify alternative sources of energy for physical assets or improve the material of an asset to increase energy efficiency and reduce consumption of energy
Energy efficiency	The funding can be used to support communities identify alternative sources of energy for physical assets or improve the material of an asset to increase energy efficiency and reduce consumption of energy
Energy source	The funding can be used to support communities identify alternative sources of energy for physical assets or improve the material of an asset to increase energy efficiency and reduce consumption of energy
Economic and social transition	Communities, partners or services can seek funding in support of delivery of projects that developing the economy/ sustainable tourism and/ or create or enhance community, leisure and recreational facilities
Low carbon transition	The funding can support communities, partners or services transition to low carbon by supporting appropriate projects
Consumption of physical resources	The funding can be used to support communities identify alternative sources of energy for physical assets or improve the material of an asset to increase energy efficiency and reduce consumption of energy

7.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Consultation	Community Impact Assessment	Community cohesion remains strong and desire for social participation and increased community empowerment seems to be increasing	Community groups may see increase in participation and have ideas for projects to strengthen local cohesion.
External Consultation	Community Impact Assessment	When asked about changes in their local area 28% of respondents had noticed environmental improvements such as better air quality and reduction in noise	Individuals are connecting with their local environment and positive changes are noticed
Other Evidence	Previous applications for funding	Previous grant allocations from the Funding was oversubscribed	Communities are looking to develop projects that fit with the priorities of the funding.

7.5. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Funding support for communities, partners and services to take forward projects within the community

8. Town Centre's First Impact Assessment

8.1. Local Factors

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Town centre assets	Yes			
Footfall		Yes		
Changes to road layouts		Yes		
Parking		Yes		
Infrastructure changes		Yes		
Aesthetics of the town centre	Yes			
Tourism	Yes			
Public safety		Yes		
Town centre business	Yes			
Cultural heritage and identity	Yes			
Social and cultural aspects	Yes			

8.2. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Aesthetics of the town centre	The funding could be used to develop cultural/heritage projects which may enhance the town centre. Additional investment in town, creating additional economic and recreational opportunities for locals and visitors
Cultural heritage and identity	The funding could be used to develop cultural/heritage projects which may enhance the town centre, within the applicable geographic boundaries. Additional investment in coastal town, creating additional economic and recreational opportunities for locals and visitors
Social and cultural aspects	The funding could be used to develop cultural/heritage projects which may enhance the town centre, within the applicable geographic boundaries. Additional investment in coastal town, creating additional economic and recreational opportunities for locals and visitors
Town centre assets	The funding could be used to improve town centre assets, . Additional investment in towns, creating additional economic and recreational opportunities for locals and visitors
Town centre business	Additional investment in towns, creating additional economic and recreational opportunities for locals and visitors
Tourism	Additional investment in coastal town, creating additional economic and recreational opportunities for locals and visitors

8.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Consultation	Community engagement	A range of engagement has taken place over a number of years which confirms a desire to see the culture and heritage of a town being reflected within the town centre	The funding could support projects in the town centre.

8.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The funding could be used to develop cultural/heritage projects which may enhance the town centre. Additional investment in towns, creating additional economic and recreational opportunities for locals and visitors