

REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 15TH MARCH 2022

COASTAL COMMUNITIES BUCHAN GRANT SCHEME – ALLOCATION OF RETURNED GRANT

1. Executive Summary/Recommendation

1.1 On 1st December 2020 the Area Committee approved, in principle, a grant of £5,838 to ArtVenture towards their Peterhead Mural 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 £5,838 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 1st December 2020 (Item 10) Councillors agreed awards of £22,780 and delegated the award of a further £5838 to Artventure, to the Chair and Vice Chair.

2.2 On receipt of further information the delegated grant was awarded to Artventure completing the allocation of the Coastal Communities Fund – Buchan 20/21.

3. Discussion

3.1 As advised above, on 1st December 2020 the Area Committee approved in principle a grant of £5838 to Artventure towards their Peterhead Murals project. Unfortunately, group representatives were recently in touch to advise that they are unable to move forward with their project in this financial year due to delays with developing the design. As a result, they will no longer require the £5838 allocated to them.

- 3.2 The Area Manager has spoken with officers from the Environment Planning and Economic Development Teams, as well as representatives from Buchan Development Partnership in relation to the returned grant. Collectively they are confident that the returned grant of £5838 could be allocated to community projects within coastal Buchan or to the Coast Project which currently has active projects in the Buchan area.

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 Eleanor Morris, Area Project Officer, 3rd March 2022

List of Appendices - Appendix 1 – IIA

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Coastal Communities Buchan Grant Scheme – Allocation of Returned Grant

Assessment ID	IIA-000521
Lead Author	Eleanor Morris
Additional Authors	Mhairi Reid
Service Reviewers	Theresa Wood
Subject Matter Experts	Suzanne Rhind, Claudia Cowie
Approved By	Amanda Roe
Approved On	Monday March 07, 2022
Publication Date	Monday March 07, 2022

1. Overview

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

Crown Estate Scotland generates income from a range of marine assets (aquaculture, offshore renewables, moorings, and other coastal income). Aberdeenshire Council receives a proportion of this income annually to be used for coastal community benefit such as support for local projects or initiatives.

Each of the coastal Area Committee received an allocation to disperse through a grant award process. In Buchan, dispersal of the funds was undertaken via a competitive application process with Buchan Area Committee approving the projects to receive funding. One of the grants awarded by Buchan Area Committee has been returned. This impact assessment considered the impact of reallocating this funding.

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:

- Sustainability and Climate Change
- Town Centres First

In total there are 26 positive impacts as part of this activity. There is 1 negative impact, the impact has been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 1 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by amanda.roe@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?	No
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?	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?	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?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	No

3. Impact Assessments

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

4. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

4.1. 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			

4.2. 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			

4.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Adaptation	Coastal Communities projects may support adaptation by offering communities the opportunity to develop schemes that protect access to the coastal zone for local residents and visitors taking into account the impact of climate change. Grant awards can also promote and enable more active travel.
Quality of environment	Grant outcomes may include improvements to the Coastal Environment - for example through the improvement of footpaths and amenity areas. Environmental damage, for example to coastal infrastructure, will be identified in Coastal locations.
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 coastal 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.
Circular economy transition	The funding can support projects that aim to aid the transition of coastal economies and communities to a more circular economy.
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 coastal 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.
Waste and circularity	The funding could be used to address the impact of waste on the Coastal Environment and support projects support circular economies in the coastal communities.

4.4. 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 Buchan Coastal Communities Funding was oversubscribed	Communities are looking to develop projects that fit with the priorities of the funding.

4.5. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Funding support for communities, partners and services to take forward environmental, coastal activity will have positive impact on socio and economic outcomes

5. Town Centre's First Impact Assessment

5.1. 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		

5.2. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
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
Town centre assets	The funding could be used to improve town centre assets, within the applicable geographic boundaries. Additional investment in coastal town, 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

5.3. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Aesthetics of the town centre	<p>The reallocation of a grant is required. This grant was for public art adjacent to the Town Centre with the potential for a negative impact on the sense of arrival to the Town Centre.</p> <p>Can be mitigated Yes</p> <p>Mitigation Public Art will be Incorporated into the Buchan Commissioning Strategy for Crown Estate Funding enabling the development of a project that can deliver the positive impact in future years,</p> <p>Timescale 2022-2024</p>

5.4. Evidence

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

5.5. Overall Outcome

All Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Coastal Communities 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.

Funding is being reallocated from a project that could have enhanced the aesthetics of town centre. The outcomes that will not be achieved due to the reallocation of funds can be incorporated into the forthcoming commissioning strategy.

6. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
Ensure mitigation required by this Assessment is incorporated into forthcoming Crown Estate Commissioning Strategy	<p>Lead Officer Eleanor Morris</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Tuesday March 15, 2022</p> <p>Planned Finish Tuesday April 19, 2022</p> <p>Expected Outcome Commissioning Strategy includes required outcomes.</p> <p>Resource Implications None - Commissioning Strategy resources are allocated. The Strategy will be subject to committee separate committee approval.</p>