

REPORT TO GARIOCH AREA COMMITTEE – 27 SEPTEMBER 2022

AREA COMMITTEE STRATEGIC BUDGET – ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND TREE FUNDS

1 Executive Summary/Recommendations

- 1.1 On 19 April 2022, Garioch Area Committee agreed to allocate £30,000 of the Strategic Budget with a maximum award of £5,000 towards Energy Efficiency in Community Run Assets in Garioch. Committee also agreed to allocate £4,000 towards community run projects that will see an increase in tree provision within Garioch. This report is an update on applications received and makes recommendations on how this funding could be allocated.

1.1.1 Energy Efficiency Applications

Each facility that applied to the fund had a site visit by an officer from the Energy Management Team. The officer assessed each facility's current use of energy by assessing the previous 12 months' bills and reviewing areas within the building where improvements could be made.

The officers then sent each facility a detailed report with recommendations for works that could be carried out and asked for quotes to be obtained for the work. Seven facilities sent quotes totaling **£38,604.07**.

1.1.2 Tree Fund Applications

One application has been received to the Tree Fund. This is for £943.20 and is for the purchase of Tree Tubes and Square Stakes.

- 1.2 **The Committee is recommended to consider and agree one of the following options:-.**

- a1. **Agree to award the total £30,000 grant with a maximum grant of £5,000 as previously determined to the four facilities that did not receive funding from the 2021/22 budget totaling £20,000 and split the remaining funds £10,000 equally between the three facilities that did receive funding from the 2021/22 budget as follows:**

Ashdale Hall	- £4,940.00 award £3,333
AXIS Centre	- £5,849.76 award £3,333
Chapel of Garioch Village Hall	- £5,022.00 award £5,000
Hatton of Fintray Hall	- £5,145.06 award £5,000
Midmar Hall	- £5,379.77 award £5,000
Milne Hall	- £4,116.00 award £3,333
Westdyke Leisure Centre	- £8,151.48 award £5,000

Or

a2. Agree to allocate an additional £4,056 funding from the strategic budget to enable the maximum award of £5,000 to be awarded to all facilities totaling £34,056.

Ashdale Hall	- £4,940.00
AXIS Centre	- £5,849.76 award £5000
Chapel of Garioch Village Hall	- £5022.00 award £5000
Hatton of Fintray Hall	- £5,145.06 award £5000
Midmar Hall	- £5,379.77 award £5000
Milne Hall	- £4,116.00
Westdyke Leisure Centre	- £8,151.48 award £5000

b. Approve the award totaling £943.20 for the Ury Riverside Park SCIO, this will leave £3,056.80 in the fund to be spent before March 2023.

2 Decision Making Route

- 2.1 Annually the Committee agree the allocation of the Area Committee Budget. At its meeting on 19 April 2022, it was agreed that there would be an allocation of £6,200 to Small Grants Fund (£3,100 to the Tour of Britain element of the Small Grants and £3,100 to the general Small Grants fund); £25,000 to Area Initiatives Fund; and £50,000 to Strategic Budget. In relation to the Strategic Budget - £30,000 was allocated to the Energy Efficiency Fund, £4000.00 to the Tree Fund and £5000.00 towards delivery of community action plans.
- 2.2 The Area Committee is asked to consider and determine the applications to the Strategic Budget for the Energy Efficiency Fund deciding on either option a1 or a2 and Tree Fund. In relation to option a2, officers are currently considering options for the remaining £11,000 of the Strategic Budget which was made available for cycle projects. However, this project idea is yet to be progressed. If Committee wanted to allocate £4,056.00 to the Energy Efficiency Fund that is within its gift to do so. A paper with options for the remaining £6,944 of the Strategic Budget will be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.

3 Discussion

- 3.1 An invitation to apply to the Energy Efficiency Fund was sent to Aberdeenshire community facilities on 31 May 2022. Eight applications were received from facilities interested in having an assessment carried out. One facility was unable to progress with their application.
- 3.2 An officer from the Energy Management Team carried out site visits to each of the eight community facilities that expressed an interest in the project. At these site visits, a comprehensive assessment was carried out, existing energy efficiency works were reviewed, and recommendations were made. Recommendations covered energy efficiency measures such as LED lighting,

pipe/water tank insulation, upgrade of heating controls, reflective radiator panels, PV diverters, infrared heaters, draught proofing, and replacement of appliances.

The table in **Appendix 1** shows the recommendations the officers made for each of the facilities.

- 3.3 Following the visits, reports were shared with each of the facilities detailing the officer recommendations. **Appendix 2** shows an example of the type of report which was sent to the facilities.

Facilities were asked to obtain quotes based on these recommendations. Seven of the eight facilities have provided quotes as detailed in the recommendations section of this report, totaling £38,604.07.

Ashdale Hall, Westhill

The opportunities identified at Ashdale Hall was pipe/water tank insulation and loft/roof/floor insulation. The quote received is for the installation of insulation board in the underside of the pitched roof and adjacent to the hall. The quote they received is for **£4,940.00**, this covers a total of 99sqm. Ashdale Hall received £2,720.58 from the 2021/22 Energy Efficiency Fund.

AXIS Centre, Newmachar

The opportunities identified at the AXIS Centre was for LED lighting and pipe/water tank insulation. The quote they received for **£5,849.76** is for LED lighting. This is part of a phased lighting replacement and will cover the purchase and installation 12 lights in the Main Hall, 6 lights in Female Changing Room, and 8 in the Male Changing Room. The quote also covers the hire of scaffolding required for working from heights. This is over the maximum award of £5,000 however the hall has indicated it has funds to cover the additional sum. The Axis Centre received £5,021.10 from the 2021/22 Energy Efficiency Fund.

Chapel of Garioch Village Hall

There were a number of opportunities identified at Chapel of Garioch Hall. This was for LED lighting/sensors, pipe/water tank insulation, reflective radiator panels, IR heaters, double glazing/draught proofing windows and doors and loft/floor insulation. The quote they have received is for **£5,022.00** for underfloor insulation up to 150mm depth covering 18m x 8.5m floor in the main hall. The hall is aware the maximum award is £5,000 and will cover the additional sum. This facility did not receive any funding from 2021/22 Energy Efficiency Fund.

Hatton of Fintray Village Hall

Opportunities identified at Hatton of Fintray Hall were for LED lighting, Pipe/Water tank insulation, IR heaters and Loft/Roof/Floor insulation. The

quote received is for **£5,145.06** for the installation of LED lighting. This will cover lights in Ladies and Gents toilets, Hall / Entrance, Kitchen, Meeting Room and Store. The hall is aware the maximum award is £5,000 and will cover the additional sum. This facility did not receive any funding from 2021/22 Energy Efficiency Fund.

Midmar Hall

The opportunities identified at Midmar Hall were for LED lighting, IR heaters, replacement appliances and loft/roof/floor insulation. The quotes they have received total **£5,379.77**, this is for the purchase of relevant items for LED lighting, IR heaters and insulation but does not include installation which the hall will cover themselves. The hall is aware the maximum award is £5,000 and will cover the additional sum. This facility did not receive any funding from 2021/22 Energy Efficiency Fund.

Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene

The opportunities identified at Milne Hall were for LED lighting, IR heaters, and double glazing/draught proofing windows and doors. The quote they received is **£4,116.00** for the replacement of 5 existing windows with energy efficient PVCU windows, this includes 4 windows on the ground floor and the dormer window on the first floor. Milne Hall received £4,858.80 from the 2021/22 Energy Efficiency Fund.

Westdyke Leisure Centre, Elrick

The opportunities identified at Westdyke Leisure Centre was for LED lighting, double glazing/draught proofing windows and doors and replacement appliances. The quote received is to replace the current 800L calorifier (an electrically heated water vessel which provides hot water) with 2 x 250L cylinders. This will replace the inefficient unit with 2 highly insulated pressurised cylinders. The quote received for this work is **£8,151.48**. The hall is aware the maximum award is £5,000 and will cover the additional sum. This facility did not receive any funding from 2021/22 Energy Efficiency Fund.

- 3.4 One application has been received for the Tree Fund. This is from Ury Riverside Park SCIO and is for 350 tree guards and stakes to be used for each of the trees being planted in 11 areas around Inverurie. The planting will take place in November 2022. The Garioch Area Office will carry out a fresh round of publicity around this budget.

The group previously were awarded £321.18 from the Small Grants fund to purchase the trees. All the trees purchased are native to Scotland and all with local provenance.

The planting is part of the Queen's Green Canopy programme for the Platinum Jubilee, and planting will be carried out by volunteers.

Appendix 3 gives more information on the planting plan

4 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

- 4.1 This report helps deliver the Strategic Priority “Resilient Communities” within the Pillar “Our Environment”, relating to the principles of climate and sustainability.

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

- 4.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation is 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	

- 4.5 An integrated impact assessment has been carried out as part of the development of the proposals set out above. It is included as **Appendix 4** and there is a positive impact as follows, improved quality of environment, reduced consumption of energy, increased energy efficiency, improved energy source and low carbon transition.

- 4.6 No Risks in the [Corporate Risk Register](#) have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level.

No Risks in the [Directorate Risk Register](#) have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level:

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 is able to consider this item in terms of Section B.6.3 of the [List of Committee Powers in Part 2A](#) of the Scheme of Governance as the matter relates to expenditure from the Garioch Area Committee Budget

Laurence Findlay
Director of Education and Children's Services

Report prepared by Susan Adams, Area Project Officer (Garioch)

13 September 2022

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Table of recommendations by Energy Management Team
Appendix 2 - Example of the recommendations send to each hall
Appendix 3 - Inverurie Queen's Green Canopy Proposals
Appendix 4 – II

Recommendations	Sites
	Ashdale Hall
	Axis Centre
	Chapel of Garioch
	Hatton of Fintray
	Midmar Hall
	Milne Hall
	M/
	LEGEND
High Energy	Opportunity
Pipe and/or Water Tank Insulation	Refractory
Upgrading Heating Controls	Highly Refractory
Reflective Radiator Panels	Highly Refractory
High Energy	Highly Refractory
Double Glazing or Draught Proofing Windows and Doors	Highly Refractory
Replacement Appliances	Highly Refractory
Loft/ Roof/ Floor Insulation	Highly Refractory

Appendix 2 – Example of Energy Report to Halls

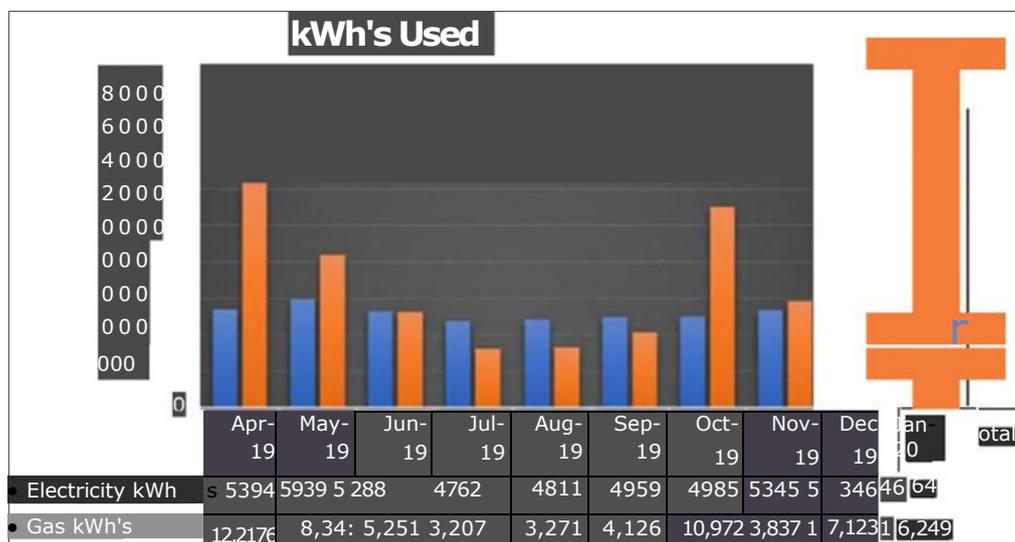


Energy Assessment

Date Visited: 16/09/2021

Aberdeenshire Council's Energy Management team carried out an onsite energy assessment at the centre earlier this year, to assess the hall's current energy usage and make recommendations to improve sustainability of the facility through the implementation of energy efficiency measures.

Energy Bills The hall uses both electricity and gas for their energy needs. The graph below details the energy used during the period April 2019 to January 2020, which can be used to



analyse future patterns of consumption, once the hall occupancy returns to ~~Item 11~~ after the recent COVID restrictions.

Observations

After a visual inspection of the hall the following observations were made.

Construction/Insulation

The centre is a relatively new building, built in 2014 and it is assumed will meet insulation standards for that time.

Heating

The hall has a gas central heating system that utilises underfloor heating and has the added benefit of a heat recovery system to maximise efficiency.

Hot Water

Currently supplied by a gas conventional boiler.

Lighting

Some lights have recently been changed to LED, but some remain the older fluorescent tubes and compact florescent bulbs. The bathroom / changing areas have sensors for the light's operation. The hall noted a concern of costs for running outside lights and difficulty with having bulbs replaced due to height of fixtures.

Recommendations

	What could be wasting energy?	How to reduce waste 111
Pipes	Gaps in insulation	<p>The pipes for the central heating system are currently insulated, however there are minor gaps across the valves.</p> <p>Consider installing inexpensive valve covers and jackets to maximise retention of heat.</p>
Hot Water	The centre is currently considering installing Solar Photovoltaic panels.	<p>Once installed, the PVs may generate excess electricity at certain times that is surplus to demand, this would mean exporting that electricity back to the grid.</p> <p>To help utilise more of the generated electricity you could consider installing a PV diverter. This would divert the excess electricity generated, to an electric immersion in your hot water tank, to heat your water.</p>
Lighting	The hall has started to replace some lights with LED but still has many fluorescent tubes / compact florescent bulbs. Lights in hall / exterior lights are hard to access due to height.	<p>Consider replacing your remaining interior and exterior bulbs with LEDs.</p> <p>The benefit is that LEDs are cheaper to run, will last longer and could therefore reduce your maintenance and replacement costs.</p>

Appendix 3

Inverurie Queen's Green Canopy Proposals Planting November 2022

Background

It has been agreed by the Queen's Platinum Jubilee organising group for Inverurie that the town should participate in the Queen's Green Canopy tree planting programme. It was further agreed that the planting programme using native trees of local provenance would be undertaken at 11 sites around the town with planting being carried out by members of the Inverurie community during the early to middle of November 2022. The individual sites would be registered with the QGC committee for inclusion on the registration maps for the United Kingdom as a whole. This provides a legacy for the town which it is hoped will provide benefit and enjoyment for future generations of Inverurie residents and visitors.

The following sites have been considered and assessed. The potential benefits have been set out in relation to each site and the numbers and species of each tree decided. All trees will be whips unless otherwise stated. The planting will be done by the scarfing and slot technique rather than via mounding. All the trees will need regular checks and assessment. Some extra trees have been acquired for the 'beating up' process (these can be 'healed in' at Ury Riverside Park in the meantime).

Kellands Park

Along the boundary between the park and the new health centre to fill in the spaces left by the removal of dead and wind-blown Scots pines. Also, the provision of some understory trees once the pines are mature.

10 Scots pine
5 Hazel

Along the west boundary of the playing area (Broadford/Firholme PI) to fill in spaces left by dead and recently fallen trees. Provision of leaf, structure and understory variation with Scots pine, rowan and birch:

10 Scots pine
15 Birch
5 Rowan

Kellands Park Rose Garden

Kellands Road entrance area to provide wild fruit trees to increase diversity, structure and biodiversity:

6 Gean
5 Rowan
6 Hawthorn
5 Blackthorn

The Glebe (Top/Western End)

To provide age structure and species diversity:

4 Scots pine

3 Oak

The Glebe (Lower/Eastern End)

To provide age structure and species diversity:

5 Beech

5 Rowan

4 Gean

4 Birch

5 Willow

Kellands Rise Park/Anderson Walk/Turnberry Drive

To extend the old beech boundary row of trees from the original golf course setting by adding trees at either end:

3 Beech

Turnberry Drive end/Anderson Walk consider native fruit trees along the back of the houses and down Anderson Walk:

5 Gean

5 Hawthorn

5 Blackthorn

5 Rowan

5 Hazel

Nether Davah Way/Old Course Avenue

A wet triangle of grassland next to the bus stop. This area is ideal for native trees that thrive in wetter conditions.

10 Willow

10 Alder

Middlepark

Increasing the species mix in an area of a few trees and mostly non-native grassland.

Addition of native fruit trees would add to the diversity.

5 Rowan

3 Beech

3 Birch

5 Hazel

5 Hawthorn

5 Blackthorn

5 Gean

Market Green

Westfield and Strathburn gardens side of the green running parallel to but set back from the old poplar stump line and put in off-set rows. This would provide a visible and varied variety of native species.

9 Beech
8 Oak
6 Scots pine
8 birch

Market Green

North Street side replace missing and diseased flowering cherry trees. Consider using native species as replacements now and in future.

6 Gean

Market Square

Many trees are in a poor state with little room for the roots to grow. At least 6 replacements required. Consider significant ground preparation to allow for roots. Perhaps use Gean here as well as it is not a big tree so would fit well. Best to consider using heavy standards. This change from whips to heavy standards will provide some extra trees as required/needed on other planting sites.

6 Gean

Ury Riverside Park

This site has been planted by volunteers in the past with 9 native tree species. However, an increase in diversity by adding Blackthorn to the mix is considered advantageous. An area of wetland has been created and it is thought that the addition native fruit bearing trees in the same vicinity, creating a spinney of native fruit trees, would be of significant food value to birds and mammals using the park, likely to be in increasing numbers as the park matures.

5 crab apple (already planted)
15 Hawthorn
15 Blackthorn
10 Hazel
10 Rowan
10 Gean
10 Alder

Appendix 4 – Integrated Impact Assessment

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Strategic Budget Applications

Assessment ID	IIA-000861
Lead Author	Susan Adams
Additional Authors	Alison Cumming
Service Reviewers	Ann Overton
Subject Matter Experts	Claudia Cowie
Approved By	Ann Overton
Approved On	Friday September 16, 2022
Publication Date	Friday September 16, 2022

1. Overview

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

GAC proposes to award £30,000 towards energy efficiency measures in community facilities and £4,000 towards the Tree fund

During screening 1 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 1 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- . Sustainability and Climate Change

In total there are 6 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 0 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 1 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by ann.overton@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

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

Section 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?	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?	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?	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 impact on 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

Section 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	Not Required

4. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

Section

4.1. Emissions and Resources

Section

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Consumption of energy	Yes			
Energy efficiency	Yes			
Energy source	Yes			
Low carbon transition	Yes			
Consumption of physical resources	No	Yes		
Waste and circularity	No	Yes		
Circular economy transition	No	Yes		
Economic and social transition	No	Yes		

4.2. Biodiversity and Resilience

Section

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Quality of environment	Yes			
Quantity of environment	No	Yes		
Wildlife and biodiversity	No	Yes		
Infrastructure resilience	No	Yes		
Council resilience	No	Yes		
Community resilience	No	Yes		
Adaptation	No	Yes		

4.3. Positive Impacts

Section

Impact Area	Impact
Quality of environment	Energy efficiency will improve the quality of the environment as it will reduce the requirement for fossil fuels
Consumption of energy	The consumption of energy will reduce as energy efficiency measures are implemented
Energy efficiency	As energy efficiency measures are implemented in community facilities the energy consumption is reduce.
Energy efficiency	The implementation of energy efficiency measures will have reduce energy consumption and utility bills
Energy source	The implementation of energy efficiency measures will ensure efficiency use of energy source
Low carbon transition	Introducing energy efficiency measures will reduce the carbon footprint

4.4. Evidence

Section

Type	Sourc	It says?	It Means?
------	-------	----------	-----------

Type	Source	It says?	It Means? Item: 11 Page: 296
<small>EvidenceType:</small> External Data	<small>EvidenceSource:</small> SCARF Energy	<small>Theevidencesays:</small> Installing Energy Efficiency Measures will reduce the consumption of energy.	<small>Theevidencemeans:</small> This will be better for the environment reducing CO2 and will also reduce the energy bills for community facilities.

4.5. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

The implementation of energy efficiency measures has a positive impact on the environment and the hall

5. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
<p>Review with Community Group one year after implementation of measures for feedback and assessment of change.</p>	<p>Lead Officer Susan Adams</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Wednesday September 28, 2022</p> <p>Planned Finish Wednesday September 27, 2023</p> <p>Expected Outcome Positive impact on energy consumption and efficiencies in the community facilities that the grant has been awarded to.</p> <p>Resource Implications Dealt with within current staffing allocation.</p>

