

REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 25th June 2019

AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET: AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME

1. Recommendation

- 1.1 **That the Committee agree to approve the allocation of the Area Committee Grant Scheme as recommended in Appendix A attached to this report**

2. Background/Discussion

- 2.1 At the Buchan Area Committee of 23rd April 2019 (Item 8) Councillors agreed to make available £61,500 of the Area Committee Budget to an Area Committee Grant Scheme, similar to that run for the previous seventeen years. It was further agreed that the grant scheme would be publicised and developed in tandem with the Buchan Development Partnership.
- 2.2 The fund attempts to achieve a good spread of schemes, with broad community benefit, across the Buchan Area and to focus on local priorities. Projects where the work had been identified and prioritised by the community through the Planning for Real© process, and would help them deliver targets identified in their action plans or appears as a priority in the Buchan Community Plan, have been supported in the past.
- 2.3 The schedule of applications received, total costs and recommended awards are included as Appendix A to this report.
- 2.4 In assessing the schemes together with the Buchan Development Partnership it is clear that most of the applications meet the criteria.
- 2.5 The total grant funding requested amounts to £144,717.30. It has therefore been necessary, in order to assist as many projects as possible, to reduce the awards requested quite considerably. Members are asked to note that four projects, Apex Church, Longside Football Club, Hatton Hall and Buchanhaven Hearts JFC, have not been awarded a grant. BDP will work with these groups to advise and identify alternative funding to deliver their projects. Where an award has been given but falls short of the amount requested, Buchan Development Partnership will also work with these groups to help them identify the gap funding required.

- 2.6 Projects that are difficult to fund such as paths, core start-up funding, legal, rental and consultancy costs have been favoured. The balance of the applications cover a variety of projects ranging from property and general maintenance and improvements, tackling child poverty, equipment, tourism, training and consultancy work.
- 2.7 The communities have prioritised their projects and it is suggested that they are all worthy of support. The recommended projects allow for a balanced geographical spend, are deliverable and reflect value for money. The grants recommended for award have the potential to lever in approximately £231,287 of match funding from other sources that have either been secured or are presently being explored.
- 2.8 Unfortunately, one of last year's approved projects was not delivered by the required deadline to allow us to draw-down the funds. Buchan East Community Council was awarded £3,000 towards installing steps, a path and info lecterns at St Combs Beach. Although Officers did work with the Community Council, due to difficulties encountered whilst establishing ownership of the site and related planning delays, this project failed to meet the deadline and therefore the allocation of £3,000 was not released and has gone back to central funds.
- 2.9 This worthy project is now in a position to progress and Officers have again included it in the allocation of awards as outlined in Appendix A.
- 2.10 Officers will make each of the community groups fully aware of the need to complete their projects and submit relevant documentation, including invoices etc, before the deadline set by Finance in order to receive their grant awards.
- 2.11 The help and support of the Buchan Development Partnership has been fundamental in the development of this report.
- 2.12 It has been suggested that the awards should be made at the next Buchan Area Committee meeting.
- 2.13 The Head of Finance has been consulted and the Monitoring Officer within Business Services has been consulted and their comments incorporated within the report.
- 2.14 In discussing the Area Committee Budget priority has been given to improvement of facilities, environmental, health and wellbeing and capacity building projects.
- 3. Scheme of Governance**
- 3.1 The List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance enable the Committee to authorise expenditure from the Area Committee Budget under Finance and Procurement 6.3 of Section B.

4. Implications and Risks

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the report does not propose any change to previous allocation arrangements and there will be no differential impact, as a result of the report, on people with protected characteristics. Due regard has been given to the equalities considerations in assessing the bids for grant funding.
- 4.2 There are no staffing implication arising directly from this report. The proposals are in direct conformity with the Buchan Community Plan 2016-2019.
- 4.3 The following risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level: Budget Pressures; Working with another organisation. No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic level.
- 4.4 A Town Centre Impact Assessment (Appendix B to this report) was carried out and there is a positive impact as follows: Provision of additional training opportunities and provision or improvement of sporting facilities.
- 4.5 Provisions outlined in this report will commit the total £61,500 of the Area Committee Budget.
- 4.6 A total budget of £80,000 is available for the Area Committee Budget in the current financial year. As agreed in April this was split £61,500 to the Area Committee Grant Scheme, £16,000 to Brighter Villages Scheme, £1,000 for Buchan in Bloom prizes and £1,500 for contingencies.

Ritchie Johnson
Director of Business Services

Report by Maureen Stephen
12th June 2019

Group Name	Project Aim	Total Project Amt	Total Requested	Sugg. Amt
Apex Church	To replace inefficient single glazed windows for double glazing and install new fire escape to make an unused part of builing accessible for commuinity groups.	£ 96,533.28	£ 10,000.00	£0
Aden Community Allotments Association	To provide a second cabin on site with fully funtioning toilets and much needed washing up facilites, shop and storage space.	£ 10,641.00	£ 9,000.00	£5,280
Trustees of Lonmay Hall	To replace old curtains in hall (they provide a potential fire and fall hazard).	£ 3,156.40	£ 3,156.40	£2,000
Stuartfield and District Community Association	To improve the condition of an existing core path to provide a circular walkway around Stuartfield and linking to Aden, Pitfour and Mintlaw.	£ 2,560.00	£ 2,560.00	£1,000
Auchnagatt Village Hall Management Committee	To replace inefficient heaters in hall with in built programmable functions that maximise energy efficiency and resolve dampness.	£ 6,909.90	£ 5,409.90	£ 3,000.00
Boddam Harbour Trustees	To provide landing daviots and CCTV at Boddam Harbour, with their priority being the landing davits.	£ 5,280.00	£ 5,280.00	£ 1,980.00

Buchanhaven Heritage Society	To upgrade toilet facilities.	£ 11,803.33	£ 9,963.33	£ 1,896.00
Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust	To provide match funding Fairer Aberdeenshire Fund to run 5 weeks summer holiday sailing for pupils at Buchanhaven (3) and New Pitsligo (2). to address child poverty issues relating to holiday hunger and lack of opportunities for children in these areas.	£ 24,958.50	£ 8,549.44	£ 5,435.00
Longside Football Club	Lawn Mower	£ 5,500.00	£ 5,500.00	£ -
HARA	To complete the last phase of their Play area.	£ 20,040.00	£ 9,600.00	£ 5,000.00
Crimond Community Centre	To upgrade Fuse box in the hall with is a Health and Safety issue.	£ 14,600.00	£ 10,000.00	£ 3,500.00
Hatton Hall	To upgrade Kitchen. Alternative fund has been identified.	£ 7,795.00	£ 6,000.00	£0
Friends of Maud Railway Museum	Start up costs to cover unit rental, electric & water costs for 2 years and chairs for the Video room relating to the deveopment of the Railway Museum and local tourism.		£ 5,973.34	£5,439.24
Strichen Bowling Club	Replacement Windows	£ 9,300.00	£ 9,100.00	£ 1,300.00

Maud Pleasure Park Committee	To cover one off costs relating to the re-opening of Maud Public Toilets, including electrical, plumbing checks, Paint etc, insurance, legal costs and Lease costs.	£ 1,450.00	£ 1,379.09	£ 1,319.09
St Fergus Village Hall	To cover the cost of sanding the wooden hall floor, treating with 3 coats of varnish and painting badminton court lines. T	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 1,250.00
Peterhead Sea Cadets	To replace their Mini Bus	£ 11,014.00	£ 10,000.00	£ 5,000.00
Modo - Circus with Purpose	To develop new training courses for young people attending Encounter Cafe (50 to 70 attendees) a manual for new volunteers to enable them to mentor others and to offer additional support and activities at Encounter - The training programme will be accredited through Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework. New Hi 5 award and Saltire awards.	£ 14,910.00	£ 4,200.00	£ 2,100.00
Buchanhaven Harbour SCIO	To install Solar Panels at the Boatshed to reduce energy bills.	£ 6,484.80	£ 5,184.80	£ 2,500.00
Mintlaw Mens Shed	To establish a Mens Shed at Gardeners Cottage in Aden including start up costs, roof cladding, timber framing and insulation for their worksheds.	£ 10,538.99	£ 8,431.00	£ 5,570.67
Buchanhaven Hearts JFC	Lawn Mower	£ 10,000.00	£ 8,000.00	£0
Strichen Town House Working Group	As part of the refurbishment of the Grade A listed Town House in Strichen the funding will be used to pay for a consultant to help them with applications to the National Heritage Lottery and Historic Environment Scotland.	£ 6,930.00	£ 4,930.00	£4,930

Buchan East CC	A resubmission of a project which, due to unexpected difficulties relating to ownership and resulting delays in planning was not delivered last year but is now in a position to progress. The project will include the construction of steps from a nearby car park and a footpath with information lecterns on St Combs Beach.	£ 7,786.00	3000	£ 3,000.00
		£ 290,691.20	£ 147,717.30	£ 61,500.00



TOWN CENTRE FIRST IMPACT ASSESSMENT (TCFIA)

Aberdeenshire Council recognises that town centres have an important role to play in the sustainable development of local economies.

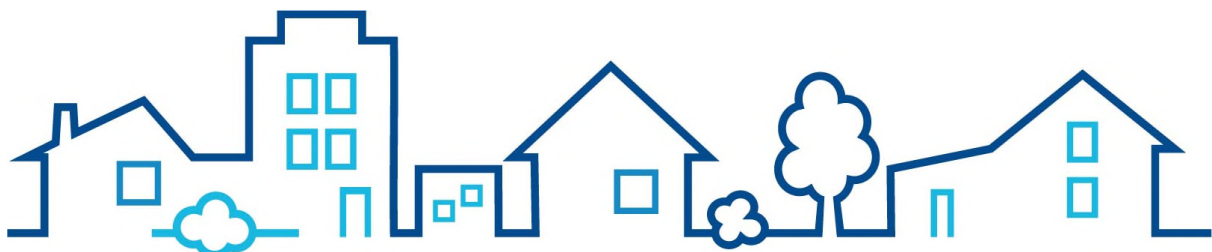
The Town Centre First Impact Assessment (TCFIA) allows officers in all services to identify the detrimental and beneficial effects that decisions we take may have on our town centres. It will allow officers to consider any implications that council decisions may have on Aberdeenshire's key town centres. Examples of this include changes to: the provision of civic and community facilities, employment land, retail, residential buildings, cultural assets, transportation, leisure and tourism.

A Town Centre Ambassador has been nominated within your service, you can locate your Town Centre First Ambassador through the Town Centre First Principle Arcadia pages.

Project Information	
Title of Committee Paper	Area Committee Budget – Area Initiatives Fund
Service	Business
Department	Area Managers
Author	Maureen Stephen
Have you consulted your Town Centre First Ambassador?	Yes

1) Could your Project Paper cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres? – Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Inverurie, Westhill, Stonehaven, Ellon, Portlethen, Banchory, Turriff, Huntly, Banff, Macduff.	
Yes – please specify	Yes - Peterhead

2) If approved would your project cause an impact (either positive or negative) with regards to the footfall of any of these town centres?	
Yes	Positive

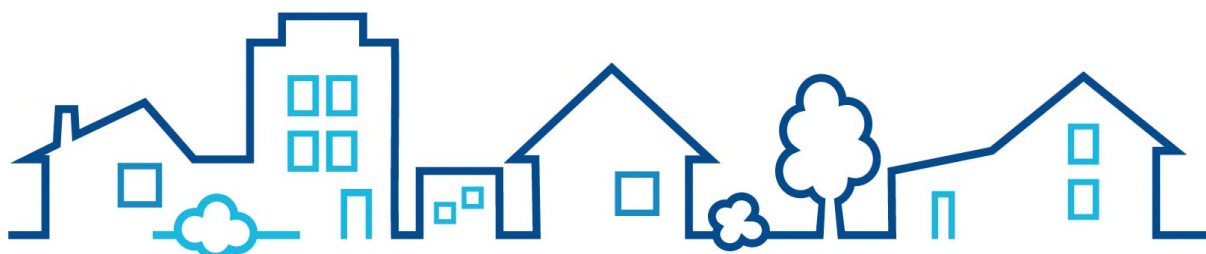




3)	
Please describe the aims of the committee paper?	To allocate the Area Initiatives Fund, amounting to £61,500 towards projects in the Buchan Area

4) What are the positive and negative impacts?		
Impact	Describe the positive impact?	Describe the negative impact?
Please detail any potential positive and negative impact the project may have on Aberdeenshire's Key Town Centres.	Organisations within Peterhead have applied under the Area Committee Budget grant scheme which could have an impact on Peterhead Town Centre by (1) providing more opportunities for volunteering and training; and (2) increasing sustainability opportunities	None

5) What mitigating steps will be taken to reduce or remove negative impacts? If none see Q6	
Mitigating Steps	Timescale





6) Set out the justification that the activity can and should go ahead despite the negative impact.

Question 7: Sign off and Authorisation

<p>a) Author: I have completed the TCIA impact assessment for this policy/ activity.</p>	<p>Name: Maureen Stephen Position: Area Committee Officer Date: 10 June 2019 Signature:</p>
<p>b) Consultation with Service Manager</p>	<p>Name: Chris White Position: Buchan Area Manager Date: 10th June 2019</p>
<p>c) Authorisation by Director or Head of Service</p>	<p>Name: Ritchie Johnston Position: Director of Business Services Date: 10th June 2019</p>
<p>d) Have you consulted with your Town Centre First Ambassador?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>e) TCFIA author sends a copy of the finalised form to: tcfia@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Date Sent:</p>

