

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Kinross-shire Committee

16 November 2023

KINROSS-SHIRE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND 2023/24

Report by Head of Culture and Communities Services

(Report No. 23/312)

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report asks Committee to homologate the decisions made by the Kinross-shire Ward Panel for the 2023/24 Community Investment Fund. The report also summarises the process for a further round of funding to be completed before the end of the 2023/24 financial year.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
- i. homologates the funding decisions taken by the Ward Panel
 - ii. notes the process and timescale for a further round of CIF funding in 2023/24
 - iii. agrees to organise and hold a further Ward Panel meeting for Kinross-shire in January 2024

3. STRUCTURE OF REPORT

- 3.1 This report is structured over the following sections:
- Section 4: Background
 - Section 5: Funding Decisions
 - Section 6: Conclusion

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Since 2018/19 the Council has committed approximately £2m to over 400 community-led projects in Perth and Kinross through the Community Investment Fund (CIF). CIF supports community-led projects which improve quality of life across Perth and Kinross and helps the Council to deliver its priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan.

- 4.2 Following the establishment of the Kinross-shire Committee in 2021/22, decision making control on CIF funding in Kinross-shire has rested with the Committee. In 2021/22, £53,000 of CIF funding was allocated to support 18 projects and in 2022/23, £35k of CIF funding was allocated to support 11 projects.
- 4.3 [Report 23/194](#) set out the process for running CIF and PB in 2023/24. For CIF the application process opened on 26 June and closed on Friday 18 August. Ward Panels met throughout September to consider the applications and agree any funding to be awarded.
- 4.4 CIF 2023/24 followed a similar process to previous rounds, with one major change. Whereas previous rounds of CIF had followed a number of manual steps from application through to the final award and project monitoring, this round utilised an on-line portal through MyPKC. This meant that the administration of CIF was contained on one system, including:
- the submission and screening of applications, with the potential for officers and applicants to make amendments or additions as necessary
 - the assessment and scoring of applications by Ward Panel members
 - the recording of decisions on funding awards by Ward Panels and Kinross-shire Local Committee
 - the issuing of award letters to successful applicants
 - the development of databases to allow for payment of grants
 - the establishment of monitoring requirements for successful projects
- 4.5 Feedback from officers is that the system has allowed for greater efficiency and released capacity for them to complete other tasks. Feedback from applicants and Ward Panel members has also been positive.

5. FUNDING DECISIONS

- 5.1 In Kinross-shire, 10 applications were received, seeking £40,000 of funding, against an available budget of £36,000. Ward Panel members assessed and scored applications, before meeting on Wednesday 27 September to determine the level of funding to be awarded to each application.
- 5.2 The Ward Panel agreed to award £27,500 to 8 separate projects, summarised below. Funding was paid out to these projects in October 2023 and Committee is asked to formally homologate these decisions.

Milnathort & Orwell Core Paths Group - £1,828.98

Funding awarded to purchase a heavy-duty self-propelled petrol wheeled flail for use on core paths in the Milnathort & Orwell Community Council area.

Kinross Bowling Club - £4,750

Funding awarded to install disability ramps to provide wheelchair access to the clubhouse and bowling green.

Glenfarg Community Transport Group - £3,000

Funding awarded to help with the development of a website to provide the user with information about the community minibus and associated walking and cycling resources.

Broke not Broken - £4,800

Funding awarded to support an infant food insecurity project, providing formula, nappies, wipes and weaning products to those in need.

Aero Space Scientific Educational Trust - £5,000

Funding awarded to support free workshops for school and community groups in Kinross-shire. These workshops focus on issues of climate change through light pollution and how to reduce their own individual and collective impact.

KYTHE - £2,000

Funding awarded as a contribution towards a larger project, which provides youth outreach activities in rural areas across Kinross-shire and elsewhere in Perth and Kinross.

Perth Autism Support - £4,047

Funding awarded to support an outreach project for young people aged 4-18 in several rural communities, including Kinross-shire. Funding will ensure that the services are delivered at low, or no cost to the families involved.

Kinross Centre - £2,130

Funding awarded to support a "ruby Anniversary" celebratory event for the Centre. A fortnight of special themed events involving local residents, volunteers, service users and schools is being offered.

- 5.3 These funding decisions left an underspend of £8,306.02 and elected members asked that the fund be reopened to allow additional groups to come forward and make use of these remaining funds. The funding portal was reopened in October and the link shared across community networks in Kinross-shire.
- 5.4 Applications will be accepted until **Friday 15 December**, with eligible applications shared with Ward Panel members for assessment thereafter. Committee is asked to agree to organise and hold a further Ward Panel meeting in January 2024 where funding decisions can be made.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Kinross-shire Committee has decision making authority over the Community Investment Fund in the Kinross-shire Ward. A Ward Panel has previously agreed to award £27,500 to 8 projects in Kinross-shire.
- 6.2 The CIF portal for Kinross-shire has been reopened for a further round of funding and will close for applications on 15 December. Final decisions on funding will be taken in January 2024 and Committee homologation sought thereafter.

Authors

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- **APPENDICES - NONE**

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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Local Outcomes Improvement Plan	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	None
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	Yes
Strategic Environmental Assessment	Yes
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	Yes
Legal and Governance	None
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

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Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement

1.1 Supporting and investing in community-led solutions to locally identified issues contributes to the delivery of the Perth and Kinross Community Plan / LOIP in terms of the following priorities:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

Corporate Plan

1.2 Supporting and investing in community-led solutions to locally identified issues contributes to the delivery of the Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan in terms of the following priorities:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

2. Resource Implications

Financial

- 2.1 Community Investment Fund in Kinross-shire has a budget of £35,500 for 2023/24 and funding decisions of £28,500 have been made, leaving an underspend of around £8,000.00

3. Assessments

Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.
- 3.2 The information contained within this report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment Process (EqIA) and has been assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.
- 3.4 The information contained within this report has been considered under the Act. However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report.

Sustainability

- 3.5 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council has to discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. Under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 the Council has a general duty to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability and the community, environmental and economic impacts of its actions.
- 3.6 The information contained within this report has been considered under the Act. However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report.

4. Consultation

Internal

- 4.1 There has been consultation with the Finance Department, Communities and the Executive Leadership Team.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 2.1 No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.