

S4. FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND: FALKIRK COMMUNITY TRUST PERFORMANCE REPORT APRIL - DECEMBER 2013

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services on the performance of Falkirk Community Trust against key objectives covering the periods during 2013:- (1) April to June; (2) July to September, and (3) October to December.

Fiona Campbell provided a general overview of the report including the Trust's significant contribution to the attainment of the priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan as undernoted:-

Corporate Plan Goal	Trust Outcome
Continuing to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens and communities	People are fitter, healthier and more active, more often
Further developing a thriving and sustainable vibrant economy	People benefit from lifelong learning opportunities
Continuing to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens and communities	People are more creative and the potential for success and wellbeing is nurtured
Enhancing and sustaining an environment in which people want to live and visit	People are involved in caring for the area's heritage and environment

This overview was followed by Neil Brown providing further detail in relation to the individual reports. He thereafter, together with his colleague Jane Clark, answered members' questions.

During discussion on the reports, members welcomed the increased number of visits to the various cultural and sporting venues and the partnership arrangements currently being developed with other organisations. Clarification was sought on the measures in place to reverse the public's reduced use of libraries.

Neil Brown, in response, confirmed that there were various challenges ahead in relation to the public use of all the Trusts venues and facilities. The use of libraries was an area which required a concerted effort to rejuvenate them and their use. Consultation with library staff was underway and innovative projects within libraries were being developed. This included the organisation of author visits and the location of social media outlets within libraries. Callendar House had enjoyed an increase in visitors and this was assisted by the location within the House of the Park Gallery and the Tea Room. In relation to the Kinneil Museum, Heritage Lottery Funding had contributed to the refurbishment of various internal areas within the museum and to new exhibitions and projects.

Members thereafter highlighted the importance of detailing with future reports the valuable work undertaken within all arts, cultural and sports facilities throughout the Falkirk Council area. This would ensure that reports were fully reflective of the wideranging work within local areas. Members also stressed the value of developing partnership working arrangements, enhancing marketing and improving the venue and facility signage for all arts, cultural, sports and library facilities. This was necessary to ensure public use throughout the day including Falkirk Town Hall.

Neil Brown confirmed that a report on the use of Falkirk Town Hall would be submitted to a future Committee.

Decision

The Committee approved the reports and the further actions.