

FALKIRK COUNCIL

**Subject: FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND 2013/14 MONITORING REPORT -
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
Meeting: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date: 1 DECEMBER 2014
Author: JOINT ACTING DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF PAPER

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the work of the external organisations who receive funding and who provide services in relation to community development within the Falkirk area and who fall within the Following the Public Pound reporting and monitoring arrangements. This report covers the reporting period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.
- 1.2 It should be noted that organisations were previously reported by services, however, in order to provide Members with strategic context, organisations are now being reported by category as outlined to Members during April's Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.3 External organisations are often voluntary or charitable organisations who have been provided with funding on the basis that they are able to provide services which could not readily be provided within the council, services are however provided in a way that compliments those provided by the council and other statutory partners.

2. KEY AIMS OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPEMNT

Policy Context - National

- 2.1 The 4 key policy goals of the '**Community Learning and Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013**' are:-
- To ensure communities across Scotland - particularly those that are disadvantaged - have access to the CLD support they need.
 - To strengthen co-ordination between the full range of CLD providers, ensuring that CPPs, local authorities and other providers of public services respond appropriately to the expectations set by the CLD Strategic Guidance.
 - To reinforce the role of communities and learners in the assessment, planning and evaluation processes, enabling them to shape CLD provision.
 - To make the role and contribution of CLD more visible.

- 2.2 The Regulations and recently published Guidance places Community Learning and Development as complementary to the public sector reform programme and the developing role of Community Planning. It does this through emphasising the importance of prioritising preventative measures, working to reduce inequality, targeting the underlying causes of inter-generational deprivation and low aspiration, and making the best use of resources to achieve maximum impact.
- 2.3 In addition to the above the Government have recently introduced **'The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill'** to Parliament in early Summer 2014.
- 2.4 Community Empowerment aims to support communities in being able to do things for themselves and to ensure that local people have their voices heard and can participate in the planning and delivery of local services.
- 2.5 The benefits of successful community empowerment and engagement would see:
- local democratic participation boosted
 - increased confidence and skills among local people
 - higher numbers of people volunteering in their communities
 - more satisfaction with quality of life in a local neighbourhood
 - the delivery of better, more responsive services and better outcomes for communities.

Policy Context – Local

- 2.6 By funding the local organisations, the Council is taking positive action to make sure that everyone has the chance to achieve the vision set out in Scotland's National Outcomes and Falkirk Single Outcome Agreement. The work agendas of the organisations are identified through local community audits and local community planning and, as such, they contribute to early interventions that prevent both potential harm to people and communities and the future demands on public services that might have resulted.
- 2.7 As mentioned earlier, the Community Learning and Development (CLD) Regulations (2013) place an obligation on the Council develop a 3 year Plan. The Plan will detail how the CLD sector within the Falkirk Council area intend to meet the CLD needs of individuals and communities residing within the Council area. Through funding the organisations, the Council is able to prioritise the promotion of socio-economic resilience and positive attitudes towards lifelong learning with individuals, families and communities.
- 2.8 The development of the Plan will act as catalyst for the important role that communities and learners have in shaping CLD provision. The local organisations provide a critical role in ensuring mutual development and equal partnerships with the Council in developing the Plan.

3. OVERVIEW OF FUNDED ORGANISATIONS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- 3.1. The table below shows the external organisations that received council funding during 2013/2014 either in kind or by direct financial support in order to enable them to contribute the council's goal of increasing our efforts to tackle disadvantage and discrimination.

Name of Organisation	Funding
Denny Community Support Project Support group within Denny area.	£29,536
Dennyloanhead Community Project Support for Dennyloanhead Hall	£12,561 - direct grant £20,648 - income generated from let fees £33,209
The Powerstation Community facility in Whitecross	£10,620 - direct grant £ 3,500 - in kind support £31,000 - External Income/Grant Funding (Coalfield Regeneration) £45,120 - Total
Workers Education Association	£49,635 - direct grant £ 8,000 - in kind support £57,635 - Total
CVS – Falkirk & District	£113,748 - Core Support Funding £ 19,400 - Social Work funding for Community Health and Care Support £133,148 Total
TOTAL OF FUNDING PROVIDED	£298,648

4. ASSESSMENT OF INDIVIDUAL ORGANISATIONS PERFORMANCE

- 4.1. An individual report is attached for all of the external organisations shown above. Each report provides an overview of the service provided, the agreed objectives or outcomes, performance information during the reporting period and a financial overview. It should be noted audited accounts for each of the organisations for 2013/14 will be required by the Monitoring Officers however some may not be currently available largely due to the timing of the annual general meetings of each organisation.
- 4.2. As part of the assessment process external organisations are allocated a risk rating based on governance arrangements, financial management and past performance. The ratings are low, medium or high and provide monitoring officers with an indication of the minimum level of monitoring and support which should be established. External organisations deemed as low risk are monitored at least annually, medium risk or external organisations should be monitored at least quarterly and high risk at least monthly. Monitoring is recommended to take the form of regular reports which measure performance against outcomes and/or objectives and provide financial monitoring information. Monitoring officers are also required to hold meetings with the external organisation throughout the year.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1. Members are invited to consider each organisations report and select from the following options for each external organisation:

- a) Approve report and acknowledged progress by the external organisation in meeting council priorities
- b) Request further information on specific aspects of the service provided.
- c) Request action with follow-up for subsequent Scrutiny Committee consideration.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 **Members are asked to consider individual reports for external organisations and select an option from those presented at 5.1.**

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Acting Joint Director of Education Services

Date: 19 November 2014

Contact Officer: Mark Meechan, ext 6692

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

FALKIRK COUNCIL : EDUCATION SERVICES
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND : ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2013/14

Organisation Name: Denny Community Support Project	Project: CLD Project
Name of Lead Officer: Mark Meechan	Current Agreement Dates: 31 March 2015

A: OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS

i. Summary of Key Aims & Objectives:

To improve the quality of life, health and well-being and opportunities available to residents with the area, in particular those residents at risk of disadvantage or exclusion.

ii. List of Agreed Outcomes:

- To provide a range of community learning and development activities to support the delivery of safer communities, reduce anti-social behaviour and promote learning and development opportunities for young people and adults including:
- To provide a range of positive opportunities for children and young people by providing children's groups, youth groups and opportunities to gain accreditation.
- To provide adult learning opportunities the promote progression to further learning, accreditation and/or involvement within the school and wider community.
- To promote and support volunteering locally.
- To provide community meeting space and local information point, including internet access.
- To raise awareness of the service with the local community.

iii. Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council:

The Project has the specific asset base, capacity, skills, knowledge and expertise to effectively deliver on the agreed performance targets, whereas the Council does not.

B: ACTUAL PERFORMANCE V's OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES
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i. Summary of Key Achievements:

Denny Community Support Group (Denny Community Flat) provide and support a range of activities in the regeneration area of Denny. They also receive funding from the community safety which contributes to their youth work and playscheme provision. Currently the Community Flat provide the following groups and opportunities:

- **Youth groups** (Junior, Senior & Consultation Group)
343 young people participated in youth provision this year, with 12 young people gaining significant accredited awards
- **Playschemes**
Last year 179 young people participated in playschemes operated by Denny Community Flat, which is nearly double the number in the previous year.
- **Family Day**
110 individuals participated in Family Activities including the Family Day Trip this year.

- **Adult Learning & Support Groups**

The flat provides a range of self-supporting and adult learning groups to promote learning and reduce social isolation. These groups last year included a work club, a men's group, a women's group, Arts & Crafts and a Develop Your Potential Course (personal development & employability skills). The flat also support the SHINE group which is a support group for parents of children with additional support needs. Over 80 individuals benefited from the free internet access offered by the Community Flat

- **Community Garden**

Working with the litter strategy team the Flat continues to develop the community garden. Another piece of land has been adopted and will be ready in the spring as a series of raised bed allotments. This project is led by a group of 12 volunteers, and they have also involved the youth clubs in its development. The Community Flat is currently undertaking consultation locally on the development of a community farm, and leads on a series of litter picks throughout the year.

- **Making Services Available Locally**

The community flat also provides space and support to local agencies to provide services within the Bridge Crescent area, including Denny CAB, Falkirk Credit Union and Signpost Forth Valley.

Total no of volunteer positions: 80 roles fulfilled by 35 volunteers, 16 of whom are young people

Total no of staff: 1 Project Manager, 1 x part time cleaner, 9 x part time youth worker/playscheme posts (Funding split between education services and community safety team for these posts)

ii. Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation:

The project continues to develop the capacity of their committee and organisation to grow and develop including:

- Community engagement and consultation on the development of new services
- Participating in a successful local partnership with CLD, Denny WASP, CAB and Forth Valley College to develop the range of digital access and courses available locally to people looking for work
- An ongoing commitment to staff and volunteer development and training
- Successfully pulling in additional funding to the Denny area from external sources, including DWP, Robertson Trust and Scottish Community Foundation to increase the range of services available

iii. How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities:

Denny Flat's development plan links to its new Joint Working Agreement and has clear links to CLD Service Priorities. It particularly contributes to the following priorities through the activities listed above.

1. We will work with schools and other partners to improve the outcomes for children and young people
2. We will improve the outcomes for young people and adults with core skills and health and wellbeing needs
5. We will support the delivery of income maximisation initiatives such as the credit union

The Community Flat also participates in networking opportunities with other organisations in the learning community area and is developing links through the support to credit union and community garden with:

Denny High School, Denny Primary School, Bonnybridge Primary School and Bankier Primary School.

v. List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance:

The Flat has not fallen short in any area of agreed work.

i. How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer:

Meetings are held between the Project Manager and the Lead Officer every six weeks. The Lead Officer also attends committee and sub-group meetings as and when appropriate.

C: FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

i. Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions):

Grant from CLD, Education Services - £29,536

Grant from Community Safety Partnership - £22,000

External Income/Grant Funding Secured: NIL

ii. Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts:

2013/2014

iii. Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation:

Future risks to the Project would be financial in terms of a potential reduced grant from Council (Core costs). This could impact on the Projects ability to secure further external funding, and their ability to deliver core services in an area of high deprivation.

v. Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High):

If grant funding at present level is maintained there would be a low risk to the Project and in essence Service delivery.

D: CONCLUSIONS

i. Summary/Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year:

Satisfactory progress in achieving outcomes. Significant return on the amount of funding invested.

E: COMPLETED BY

Lead Officer: Mark Meechan

Date: 10/10/2014

FALKIRK COUNCIL : EDUCATION SERVICES FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND : ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2013/14

Organisation Name: Dennyloanhead Community Project	Project: CLD Project
Name of Lead Officer: Mark Meechan	Current Agreement Dates: 31 March 2015

A: OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS

i. Summary of Key Aims & Objectives:

To improve the quality of life, health and well being and opportunities available to residents with the area, in particular those residents at risk of disadvantage or exclusion.

ii. List of Agreed Outcomes:

To provide a range of community learning and development activities to support the delivery of safer communities, reduce anti-social behaviour and promote learning and development opportunities for young people and adults including:

To provide a range of positive opportunities for children and young people by providing children's groups, youth groups and opportunities to gain accreditation.

To provide adult learning opportunities to promote progression to further learning, accreditation and/or involvement within the school and wider community.

To promote and support volunteering locally.

To provide community meeting space and local information point, including internet access.

To raise awareness of the service with the local community.

iii. Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council:

The Project has the specific asset base, capacity, skills, knowledge and expertise to effectively deliver on the agreed to performance targets, whereas the Council does not.

B: ACTUAL PERFORMANCE V's OBJECTIVES/AGREED OUTCOMES

i. Summary of Key Achievements:

Dennyloanhead Hall provides a local community facility for 18 regular groups and lets. The annual footfall survey shows an increase in weekly users of the centre, up from 730 last year to 777 this year.

The hall is also the venue for a large number of children's parties throughout the year. The centre has also been successful in securing funding for the following activities:

- Digital Learning Opportunities
- Family Learning/Personal Development Courses (an open event, meeting with partners and analysis of need has already been carried out)
- A new older people's activity group
- Summer Playscheme

The hall also provides support to a new youth club that was set up with support from CLD in 2011. 6 members of this youth group have already submitted Youth Achievement Awards portfolios.

The group have an active and involved committee, have participated in training to develop and maintain their own website, and a development plan, which links to their new JWA. Members of the committee regularly take part in training and development activities, and participate in networking activities facilitated locally and by CVS Falkirk.

They have 20 regular volunteers supporting the development of the hall.

ii. Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation:

The committee carry out regular consultation and show a commitment to organisational development and volunteer support. They are heavily reliant on volunteers to run the centre, as the funding they receive allows them to employ only a part time clerical assistant and part time cleaner. The organisation would not be able to run the centre without the commitment of local volunteers.

iii. How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities:

The organisation contributes to service priorities through providing a community facility, particularly targeting those at risk of experiencing disadvantage or exclusion.

iv. List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance:

There has been no shortfall in performance.

v. How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer:

The lead officer attends a minimum of 4 committee meetings per year, and has regular review meetings in between times with the Secretary of the organisation.

C: FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

i. Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions):

Grant from CLD, Education Services - £12,561

Generated from Lets - £20,648

TOTAL - £33,209

ii. Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts:

2012-2013 (The organisation will not have their AGM until October)

iii. Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation:

Future risks to the Project would be financial in terms of a potential reduced grant from Council (Core costs).

This could impact on the Projects ability to secure further external funding, and to continue to provide the current level of service.

iv. Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High):

If grant funding at present level is maintained there would be a low risk to the Project and in essence Service delivery.

D: CONCLUSIONS

i. Summary/Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year:

Satisfactory progress in achieving outcomes. Significant return on the amount of funding invested.

E: COMPLETED BY

Lead Officer: Mark Meechan

Date: 10/10/2014

FALKIRK COUNCIL : EDUCATION SERVICES
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND : ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2013/14

Organisation Name: PowerStation (Whitecross)	Project: CLD Delivery
Name of Lead Officer: Mark Meechan	Current Agreement Dates: In Development

A: OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS	
<p>i. <u>Summary of Key Aims & Objectives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the quality of life, health and wellbeing and opportunities available to residents with the area, in particular those residents at risk of disadvantage or exclusion. <p>ii. <u>List of Agreed Outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a range of community learning and development activities to support the delivery of safer communities, reduce anti-social behaviour and promote learning and development opportunities for young people and adults including: To provide a range of positive opportunities for children and young people by providing children's groups, youth groups and opportunities to gain accreditation. To provide adult learning opportunities the promote progression to further learning, accreditation and/or involvement within the school and wider community. To promote and support volunteering locally. To provide community meeting space and local information point, including internet access. To raise awareness of the service with the local community. <p>iii. <u>Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project has the specific asset base, capacity, skills, knowledge and expertise to effectively deliver on the agreed to performance targets, whereas the Council does not. 	

B: ACTUAL PERFORMANCE V's OBEJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES	
<p>ii. <u>Summary of Key Achievements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Power Station has continued to provide a base for community activities in Whitecross, both those delivered by the Power Station and those by other external organisations such as Falkirk Council and Braes Family Centre. In addition it has been able to recruit and retain volunteers to support activities such as the junior youth club and the older peoples group. The project has helped provide a resource to provide social, recreational and educational activities reducing social isolation, contributing to health improvement and anti-social behaviour agendas and increasing the social capital of the community. The main achievement has been in addressing the challenges identified in a previous report. To do this the project engaged positively with CLD to work with other partners, namely The Coalfields Regeneration Trust and Leader, to establish and take forward the development and implementation of a Community Action Plan. As part of this process successful funding bids were submitted to support a widespread community engagement exercise and to produce and distribute the plan. In addition funding was also successfully sought to support the refurbishment and upgrading of the facility, and the programme of activities in the community. Furthermore, as part of the process agreement was reached within the community that the steering group which had been formed to take forward the community planning and engagement would morph with the changed Powerstation committee. 	

- With the support of CLD staff the committee has met to discuss and produce a development plan based on the outcomes of the community engagement and aligned with the local community plan that was produced. This is in the process of implementation.

iii. Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation:

There are several challenges that continue to face the organisation.

- The ongoing sustainability of the Project.
- The grant provided by the Council enables the Project to pay for property costs and some caretaking hours, and what this grant can buy continues to diminish. The Project needs to find additional resources to fund these. In relation to caretaking and opening/closing the building, to make it available to the community, alternative means of funding and keyholding require to be put in place.
- The continuation of programme development to meet the needs of the community.
- The facility itself, while having been refurbished, is still limited by its size as to what can be delivered. Consideration requires to be given to the best use of all community accommodation in the village.

iv. How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities:

- It has provided directly activities for young people through a junior youth club, and it has made the facility available to Community Learning and Development to deliver a senior girls youth club. These groups have delivered social, educational and recreational opportunities and benefits, as well as contributing to the council's anti-social behaviour agenda.
- The facility has also been used to deliver a club for older people helping to reduce social isolation, which also has a positive impact on health amongst this age group.
- The Braes Family Centre has also worked in partnership with the project to deliver a parents and toddlers group which gave parents the opportunity to meet other parents and develop parenting skills, as well as giving the children the chance to develop socialisation and play skills.
- The facility also provides a base for the delivery of IT classes by CLD, helping to improve core skills.
- The facility helps to reduce isolation by enabling services to be delivered locally in an "isolated" community. Not only is it used by other community support agencies but it has been used by other organisations such as a judo club to bring services into the community.

v. List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance:

- The range of activities on offer remained quite narrow throughout 2013/14 but it is anticipated that this will change and an improving picture will develop throughout 2014/15.
- Because of some of the problems that had arisen at the Power Station it had a negative image within the village. This has and continues to be addressed.

vi. How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer:

- The project is supported frequently by the local Community Education Worker who meets with them when required and when requested. The CEW also attends Committee meetings.
- In February of this year the monitoring officer met with the newly developing committee to explain the monitoring process and the need to update the Joint Working Agreement. It was agreed that a future meeting would be held at which the committee could present the progress and achievements that had taken place. It was agreed that sufficient time be made available for all the changes and developments to be in. This meeting is being planned to take place in November 2014.

C: FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

i. Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions):

Grant from CLD, Education Services - £10,620
 Staff Support from CLD (in-kind) - £ 3,500
 External Income/Grant Funding Secured - £31,000
£ 45,170 Total

ii. Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts:

- 2013/2014

iii. Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation:

- The project is now on a sounder financial footing having been successful in attracting external funding. This funding was successful because of the current funding support from Falkirk Council. The will face challenges in the future if it is to maintain and develop activities.
- The new committee, who are receiving support and training from CLD staff and others, should also now be developing the capacity and skills to maintain tighter financial administration.
- The committee now engages a bookkeeper to assist with its financial administration.

iv. Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High):

- If current progress is maintained then the overall risk to service delivery would be low

D: CONCLUSIONS

i. Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year:

- Following the onset of the community planning process, allied to the community engagement strategy employed, there has been significant progress in the capacity of the PowerStation Committee and its commitment to take initiatives forward. While some of this occurred in 2013/14 it is anticipated that the benefits in the way of increased usage and activities will take effect in 2014/15. Indications of increased usage and community involvement are already evident through Open Days, Youth Club delivery, a Summer Programme for young people, and the start of a Work Club by CLD

E: COMPLETED BY

Lead Officer Mark Meechan

Date: 10/10/2014

FALKIRK COUNCIL : EDUCATION SERVICES
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND : ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2013/14

Organisation Name: Workers Education Assoc(WEA)	Project: CLD Project
Name of Lead Officer: Mark Meechan	Current Agreement Dates: 31 March 2015

A: OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS

i. Summary of Key Aims & Objectives:

To improve the quality of life, health and well being and opportunities available to residents with the area, in particular those residents at risk of disadvantage or exclusion.

ii. List of Agreed Outcomes:

To provide a range of community learning and development activities to support the delivery of safer communities, reduce anti-social behaviour and promote learning and development opportunities for young people and adults including:

To provide a range of positive opportunities for children and young people by providing children's groups, youth groups and opportunities to gain accreditation.

To provide adult learning opportunities the promote progression to further learning, accreditation and/or involvement within the school and wider community.

To promote and support volunteering locally.

To provide community meeting space and local information point, including internet access.

To raise awareness of the service with the local community.

iii. Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council:

The Project has the specific asset base, capacity, skills, knowledge and expertise to effectively deliver on the agreed to performance targets, whereas the Council does not.

B: ACTUAL PERFORMANCE V's OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES

i. Summary of Key Achievements:

- Increased number of new and continuing literacy learners – 96 new learners.
- Increased number literacy learners achieving and working towards accreditation. – 36 learners accredited.
- Increased number of workplaces participating – 15.
- Increased number of learning options available with new courses developed.
- All literacy learners report an increase in skills, confidence and abilities. 100% of evaluations report that the learning is beneficial to working, community and personal life.
- Positive evaluations from all workplace managers/owners.
- Community Programme – 5 Programmes of learning with 53 learners participating and 7 achieving accreditation..

• Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation:

- Demand outstripping resources.

ii. How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities:

We will improve the delivery and support to inward migrants.

- 27 new ESOL learners in 2 workplaces.
- ESOL learners signposted to and taking up other CLD provision.

We will deliver family learning and parenting work to improve outcomes for children and families/carers.

- Dyslexia Awareness session deliver to family centre.
- Dyslexia awareness sessions delivered to 9 CLD staff.
- *We will improve the capacity of our CLD workforce through the delivery of continuous programme of professional development activities.*
- Counting on a Greener Scotland training course delivered to 12 staff.
- Integrating accreditation with employability support programmes course developed and delivered in early 2015..
- Dyslexia awareness sessions delivered to 9 CLD staff.
- Social Return on Investment training delivered to 14 staff (FCLDP).

iii. List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance:

None

iv. How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer:

Quarterly

C: FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

i. Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions):

Grant from CLD, Education Services - £49,635

Accommodation in Kind - £ 8,000

External Income/Grant Funding Secured - None

£57,635 - Total

ii Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts:

2012-2013

iii. Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation:

Future risks to the Project would be financial in terms of a potential reduced grant from Council (Core costs). This could impact on the Projects ability to secure further external funding.

iv. Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High):

If grant funding at the present level is maintained there would be a low risk to the Project and in essence Service delivery.

D: CONCLUSIONS

i. Summary/Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year:

Satisfactory progress in achieving outcomes. Significant return on the amount of funding invested. For example, an SROI study was carried out on this project and it identified that for every £1 invested in the project there was a social return of £9.94.

E: COMPLETED BY

Lead Officer: Mark Meechan

Date: 10/10/2014

**FALKIRK COUNCIL
CORPORATE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2013/14**

Organisation Name	CVS Falkirk & District
Project	Core Support Funding
Agreement Dates	1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014
Name of Lead Officer	David Tollick, Corporate Policy Officer
A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS	
<u>Summary of Key Aims & Objectives</u>	
To support, develop and represent Third Sector organisations so that they can participate positively in the planning and delivery of high quality services across the Falkirk Council area, for the benefit of local people and communities.	
<u>List of Agreed Outcomes</u>	
<p>A Joint Working Agreement, signed by the Council and F-CVS, is now in place for the 2014-15 period, replacing the previous one which lapsed 31st March 2013.</p> <p>The tacit outcomes, inherited from the previous agreement, for the period covered by this report 2013-14 are as follows:- .</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved mutual understanding between the Council / CPP and Third Sector organisations across the Council area. 2. Better participation by the local Third Sector in CP and partnership working, thus securing more effective contributions towards our SOA. 3. Support the sector in providing high quality services which represent Best Value. 4. Stimulate participation by the public in volunteering. 5. Develop & enhance the Community Care and Health Forum 6. Continue to develop CVS Falkirk & District so that it secures sustainable and continuous improvement. <p>The 2014-15 JWA is presently operating with a much revised set of outcomes, based on the current need for F-CVS to undergo significant development activities, beyond simply 'operations as usual'. The progress against this new JWA is referred to at times below, although it will also be fully reported against at next year's scrutiny of this organisation.</p>	
<u>Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council</u>	
This isn't an area of service the Council can directly provide, as representation of Third Sector interests needs to be undertaken by an independent and impartial organisation. F-CVS also fulfil the role as the Third Sector Interface for the area	

B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES
<p><u>Summary of Key Achievements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Room-hire, payroll, accountancy, admin support and graphic design provided to client organisations • Funding Fayre (20 funders, 180 attendees) and Charity Fayre (33 organisations, 250 visitors) events, signposting to and delivery of funding and capacity building opportunities, Partnership Innovation Fund activities • Large numbers of volunteers registered (877) and matched (739); events included Volunteer Recruitment Fayre and Volunteer Awards Ceremony. Individual support to organisations on volunteering issues such as policy development, identifying suitable roles, recruiting and managing volunteers etc • 18 Social Enterprise start-ups supported, engagement with the new The Helix Social Enterprise Zone, signposting of organisations to specialist business support services. • Hosting the Community Care and Health Forum, the Social Enterprise Forum and the Children's Services Forum. Representing the sector on Community Planning Partnership board, and several other local and national partnerships.
<p><u>Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The long-term sustainability of existing levels of funding and funding sources. • The growing levels of demand being placed on the sector and CVS in particular. • Service continuity in light of vacancy levels • Speaking as the voice of a sector which is varied and, of necessity, independent minded • The F-CVS organisational workplan is very much led by the national common services framework for Third Sector Interfaces, which is planned and monitored by the Scottish Government independently of the Councils JWA, even though F-CVS is jointly core-funded by both Falkirk Council and the Scottish Government. • Balancing core-funded Social Enterprise work with the funding coming to F-CVS through its involvement with the Helix Social Enterprise Zone.
<p><u>How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities</u></p> <p>CVS continues to offer services to the local community in connection with volunteering, social enterprise and developing community organisations.</p>
<p><u>List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance</u></p> <p>CVS has continued to experience staff vacancies, leading to capacity issues and delays in progressing its work across the Council area.</p> <p>Website – until this summer the organisation was beset by an inability to manage its own website, which totally undermined the web-presence of the organisation, notwithstanding work-arounds that F-CVS put in place among its contacts.</p> <p>There is a need to better evidence that F-CVS is a credible voice of the local third sector. Some significant developments have been agreed, in the 2014-15 JWA, to address this.</p>

Mapping of the Social Enterprise Sector and the development of a Social Enterprise Strategy, both jointly with Falkirk Council, have not significantly progressed.
<u>How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer</u> Once per quarter with meetings minuted.
C FINANCIAL/RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW
<u>Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)</u> <p>Excluding the £325,884 Partnership Innovation Fund income, for further distribution by F-CVS as grants, F-CVS's 2013-14 incoming resources amounted to £519,402, of which 25% was covered as follows by the JWA:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £113,748 per annum, Core Support funding • £19,400, Social Work funding for Community Health & Care Support <p>Falkirk Council awarded a further 15% of this income as contracts and other awards (£79,149). The remaining income was made up of Scottish Government Grant (36% = £185,600) and other income streams to F-CVS (24% = £122,475).</p> <p>The Falkirk Council awards have been the same for the previous two years and are on a one-year-only basis.</p>
<u>Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts</u> 2013/14 – on-going financial position is monitored on a quarterly basis.
<u>Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation</u> The organisation is vulnerable should any of its key funders significantly reduce funding. This would have a direct impact on the number of people employed by CVS and present serious challenges in being able to deliver core services within the current agreement and in line with current demand.
<u>Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)</u> Medium – reflected in the regime of quarterly meetings which continues to monitor key risks.
D CONCLUSIONS
<u>Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year</u> CVS has had considerable organisational change over the period, significantly a new CEO in post since July 2013. From March 2014 onwards, there was further vacancies and re-alignment of posts, with two key staff recently recruited. The organisation needs a period of sustained stability, while still being able to embrace the changes required to fulfil its interface role. The Board and the CEO are critical in delivering what is needed.

The updated Joint Working Agreement for 2014-15 better aligns CVS activity with the key outcomes in Falkirk's Single Outcome Agreement.

E COMPLETED BY

<u>Name</u>	Dave Tollick
<u>Designation</u>	Corporate Policy Officer
<u>Date</u>	20 October 2014