

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND (FPP): PROGRESS REPORT
Meeting: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date: 12 SEPTEMBER 2013
Author: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the work of the external organisations who receive funding, in whole or in part, from Corporate & Neighbourhood Services and who fall within the 'Following the Public Pound' (FPP) reporting and monitoring arrangements. It should be noted that this grouping of organisations has previously been referred to as arms length and external organisations (ALEOs); however, we would suggest that external organisations is a more appropriate heading.
- 1.2 External organisations are often voluntary or charitable organisations and generally, will be able to provide a better range or quality of service, or to provide services that would not otherwise be provided. The common purpose is usually to offer a wider range of services, often in conjunction with other public organisations and to provide joined-up services.
- 1.3 This report seeks to provide Members with information on the funding agreements Corporate & Neighbourhood Services had with external organisations during the period 1 April 2011 - 31 March 2012 and 1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013, in line with the FPP and Council procedures. FPP reports to Members were not previously presented within a consolidated format and so in order to achieve this, in some cases reports span 2 financial years

2. OVERVIEW OF ORGANISATIONS WHO RECEIVED FUNDING

- 2.1 The table below shows the 10 External organisations that received Council support during 2011/12 and 2012/13, either via 'in kind' support or by direct financial support, for which Corporate & Neighbourhood Service was the lead monitoring Service. It should be noted that some external organisations receive more than one source of support from Falkirk Council and where this is the case, it is noted within individual reports.

App.	Organisation	Report Year/s	Funding Purpose	Total Support Received 11/12	Total Support Received 12/13
1	Denny & Dunipace CAB on behalf of CABx	12/13	Veterans Support	-	£20,000
2	CVS Falkirk & District	11/12 & 12/13	Core	£132,177	£132,177
3	Women's Aid	11/12 & 12/13	Core	£277,170	£244,170
4	Salvation Army	11/12 & 12/13	Soup Kitchen	£10,745	£10,745
5	LinkLiving	11/12 & 12/13	Smartmove	£14,114	£14,114
6	Forth Valley Drugs & Alcohol Partnership	12/13	Family Support Service	-	£20,000
7	Action Group	12/13	Real Jobs Falkirk	£90,000	£90,000
8	Falkirk Community Trust	12/13	Sport 4 Youth	£77,274	£77,274
9	Macmillan Money Advice	12/13	Forth Valley Money Advice Project	-	£50,000
10	Central Scotland Equalities Council	12/13	Core	£15,200 * additional in-kind premises £10,000	£15,200* additional in-kind premises £10,000
	Total Funding				

- 2.2 In addition to External organisations listed above, Corporate & Neighbourhood Services also provide support to Falkirk Town Centre Management's (BID) Taxi Marshalling Initiative, SACRO and Denny Community Flat. The performance of these external organisations will be reported to Scrutiny Committee within the relevant sponsor service's FPP report. It should also be noted that information regarding core Citizens Advice Bureaux services has not been included in this report as the Bureaux are currently subject to the formal Scrutiny Panel process.

3. ASSESMENT OF INDIVIDUAL ORGANISATIONS PERFORMANCE

- 3.1 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 based on audited accounts or where these have not yet been published for 2012/2013, financial monitoring arrangements that are in place.
- 3.2 As part of the support allocation 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 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.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 As set out within the report to this Committee on 13 June 'Following the Public Pound: Scrutiny Committee Role and Reporting Schedule', Members are invited to consider each organisation's report and select from the following options for each external organisation:

- A. Approve report and acknowledge progress by the external organisation in meeting Council priorities;
- B. Request further information on specific aspects of the service provided; or
- C. Request action with follow-up for subsequent Scrutiny Committee consideration.

4.2 This meeting marks the initial testing of the amended format of services based, consolidated FPP reporting. Individual Monitoring Officers were asked to populate the reporting template, which was approved by Internal Audit in terms of being fit for purpose. It would however, be helpful for Members to consider the format of the report and information provided, in allowing Members to undertake appropriate scrutiny of each external organisation. Any amendment to the format or specific further information which might enhance the process will be used to ensure that future FPP reports are directly in line with Member requirements.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- 5.1 **Consider individual reports for external organisations and select an option from those presented in 4.1; and**
- 5.2 **Note the new consolidated reporting process and request any amendment or addition to the format or content of the report templates.**

.....
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

Date: 21 August 2013

Ref: ABC0913LM – FFP

Contact Name: Fiona Campbell

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Falkirk 01324 506004 and ask for Fiona Campbell.